

CULTURAL FEAST

Exhibition

Title: Paint and Pixel

Artist: Nazia Andaleeb Preema

Venue: La Gallery, Alliance Francaise

Date: March 03-14, From 9am to 12pm and 5pm to 8pm

Title: Faces

Artist: Arhamul Huq Chowdhury

Venue: Essentials, House 20, road 24, Block K, Bonani

Date: March 03-11, from 10am to 6pm

Title: Endangered Mind of Five Years

Artist: Uttam Kumar Roy

Venue: Zainul Gallery, Institute of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka

Date: March 01-07, From 11am to 8pm

Folk Festival

Title: Lokokarushipa Mela O Lokojo Utshab 2005

Organiser: Ministry of Cultural Affairs

Venue: Sonargaon at Narayanganj

Date: February 25-March 17

Film Screening

L Gaidai Retrospective

Organiser: Dhaka Film Society

Venue: Russian Centre of Science and Culture, House 510, Road 7, Dhammondi

Schedule

March 06

04:00 pmKidnapping Caucasian Style

06:00 pmOperation I And Other Adventures of Shurik

March 07

04:00 pmThe Diamond Arm

06:00 pmEvan Vassilyevich Changes His Profession

# "Bangla songs belong to the Kirtan Gharana"-- Anup Bhattacharya

NOVERA DEEPIA

"B ANGLADESHI music is very appealing, just like the inherently sweet and gentle nature of our people. We should never forget that the songs of this region are basically rooted in the soothing folk tunes," says Anup Bhattacharya, a well-known singer of the country.

Born in 1944 in Sylhet, Anup displayed keen interest in music right from his childhood. He took the basic lessons of music under Guru Khirudlal Ray in 1952 and later under Shamsuddin. Popular musician Haripado Das of North Bengal had also been Anup's teacher for five years. During the Liberation War, he joined the Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra (SBBK). He composed two songs for SBBK:Sharey Shat Koti Shochchar Swar and Chhutre Shobai Bandh Bhanga Ban.

Anup became popular by composing the tune of Boishakhi Megher Kachhey Jai Cheye Tumi Kandbey rendered by Rafiqul Alam in 1976. His hit songs, including Shukpakhirey and Dhar Aj Amra, were rendered by Mitali Mukharjee in the late 1970s. Among the songs inspired by the spirit of the Language Movement, Anup composed the tune of Natey gachh muray na and Ora chhobi ankar pathshalatey, written by Abid Anwar and Kanhopa thekey Lalon Phakir by Rahquzzaman.

At 61, Anup still performs with passion. As he



Anup Bhattacharya

says, "Music is my religion. When I concentrate on reaz four-hours a day, music begins to resonate in my heart and I feel an incomparable ecstasy."

Anup is however very disappointed with the

current trend of music. To quote him, " Music has become visual now and the music companies promote cheap songs only to boost their business."

According to Anup, "Instead of recording with the entire musical back ups, track recording has been introduced. The trend of reaz is also no more a must for the singers. This leads to decrease of quality vocalists. To check such disorder, there should be a censorship in music. The government television and radio can play a vital role here. However, the popular trend of remaking and re-mixing songs proves that people still admire songs of yesteryears."

About the style of his composition Anup says, "When I tune a song I try to feel the essence of the lyrics and start to work on it with a harmonium. I usually blend classical tunes with modern ones. I am extremely influenced by Tagore songs because Rabindranath has created the timeless tunes that are borne inside the hearts of Bangalees.

He thinks that there many be many gharanas of songs in different genres, but Bangla songs belong to only one gharana and that is kirtan, which he considers nearest to his heart. He added, "My raison-de-etre is to present the songs well and follow a style befitting the time. I follow this rule in both rendering and composing the songs. I also want my listeners to appreciate my songs and give them a place in their hearts."

## Metamorphosis

A play representing the human psyche in a materialistic social structure

ERSHAD KAMOL

Ahsan Reza Khan's flute and Subrata Prasad Barman's xylophone create the surrealistic atmosphere in which Azad Abul Kalam as Gregor talks with his unstable inner mind that has transformed into a giant insect because of unbearable pressure created by materialism. This is how Centre for Asian Theatre's play *Metamorphosis* starts.

Center for Asian Theatre (CAT) staged the experimental bilingual play at Goethe Institut on March 3. Adapted by Anisur Rahman from Franz Kafka's surrealist fiction *The Metamorphosis*, the play shows the existential imprisonment of a character by social and economical demands.

It was common with Kafka to present an impossible situation, such as a man's transformation into an insect, and develop the story from there with perfect realism and intense attention to details. The style seems to ground the story in reality, cutting off any possibility of its having been a dream, and yet the story itself is of an impossible occurrence. As a result, the reader is forced to look for deeper meanings within the story.

*The Metamorphosis* begins as the story's central figure, Gregor Samsa, becomes a giant insect. His family depended on the income he earned as a travelling salesman, and is now almost forced into destitute upon his transformation. The family members gradually become more independent and capable even as their former source of support becomes completely



Azad Abul Kalam and Rahmatullah Basu in the play Metamorphosis

reliant on their love and care which they become less willing and able to provide.

*The Metamorphosis* can be effectively explored theatrically in any number of ways. The way chosen by Kamaluddin Nilu and Annette ter Moulen focuses on the psyche of Gregor's mind—the internal and external conflicts because of the extreme pressure created by the materialistic social turmoil, rather than focusing on the relationship between Gregor and other characters. Gregor's father and sister have been avoided by narration. And, through an interesting choreography using a black fabric-made image

on the empty stage, the transformation into insect and surrealism have been shown.

Annette has set an example of brilliant light set up by overcoming the limitations of Goethe Institut. To catch the mood and tempo of the play she has used shadow-light effects.

With slow, almost anaesthetic speech patterns and almost indicative natures from the very beginning of the play, Azad Abul Kalam as Gregor Samsa performed well. Rahmatullah Basu as the inner mind of Gregor played even better as the most unreal, inhuman character.

## Channel click

# Kachher Manush: A story of two women

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

The launching of the new mega serial *Kachher Manush*, the latest venture of actress-turned-director Afsana Mimi, was held at the Xindian restaurant Thursday last.

"Apart from reflecting the present socio-cultural scene, the serial mainly deals with relationship between people. It focuses on the psychological dilemma people have to go through in their everyday life. We wanted to portray the reality based on relationship that every single human being faces today. The subject is absent in most of the television plays of the time," said Afsana Mimi about the theme of the serial.

Mustafa Kamal Syed of ntv and Muhammad Moniruzzaman Munir of Deshi Music and Entertainment also spoke on the occasion. The actors and background artistes of the serial were present at the event.

Made under the banner of Krishnachura and Deshi Music & Entertainment, the all-star-cast serial features Subarna Mustafa, Sanjida Priti, Humayun Fareedi, Alamgir, Mamunur Rashid, Fazlur Rahman Babu, Salauddin Lavlu, Shams Shumon, Intekhab Dinar, Farhana Mithu, Bonya Mirza, Rozi Siddiqui, Amirul Haque Chowdhury, Jamal Uddin Hossain, Sharmili Ahmed, Dilara Zaman, Saleh Ahmed, Al Mamun, Zahid Hossain Shobhon, Shirin Bakul, Tanima Ahmed, Romana Khan and



Priti and Subarna Mustafa, the two women of Kachher Manush

ome upcoming artistes including the members of the underground band, Black--Tahsan, John and Tonny, Sumaya, Azra, Bona and Promit.

Based on the novel of the same name by Shuchitra Bhattacharya, Afsana Mimi and Nazrul Islam jointly wrote the script for the serial. The panel of directors includes Amlan Biswas apart from the two scriptwriters. The theme song is written by Debashish Kankon and composed by Bappa Majumdar. Popular singer Samina Chowdhury has rendered the theme song.

The story revolves around two women from two different generations: a mother and her daughter. People involved with these women are different

interesting characters who are also related to each other. Gradually the characters become more and more detached from one another. They find themselves all alone at the end of the day. The play is a saga of self-actualisation of these lonely people.

About selecting the story Mimi said at the launching, "I have found all the elements in the novel a mega serial should have in its story."

Afsana Mimi added, "Subarna Mustafa plays the central role as the mother and Sanjida Priti the daughter; both their lives revolve around the same two men, played by Alamgir and Humayun Fareedi."

The 150-episode mega serial will be telecast on ntv from March 11 every Thursday and

## Young artists and their mentor

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

The first phase of the Benson & Hedges initiative, Ampart, ended on yesterday with an exhibition of the artworks done by the 11 participants of the first "Mentor and Protégé" session conducted by noted artist Murtaja Baseer. The two-day exhibition took place at the Emmanuel's restaurant at Gulshan. The ten-day workshop with artist Murtaja Baseer was held at the BRAC Centre for Development and Management at Rajendrapur.

The display projected series work by each participant. The noteworthy aspect of the exhibition is the use of bright colours in these oil-on-canvas works of the young artists. Espe-

cially red and yellow predominate the canvases that depict different themes--*Women* by Safin Omar, *Living with Nature* by Zakir-us-Salam, *My Love* by SM Saiful Islam, *Ei Pothey...* by Prasanta Adhikary, *Ampart* by Hossain Muhammad Farook, *Elements of Nature* by Imran Ali and *Sakuntala with friends* by Malay Bala.

The other series in the display were *Where are We Going* by Abdus Sattar, *Just Feel It* by Pintu Chandra Deb, *Be Gold* by Mehedi Hasan and *Compartment* by Aowlad Hossain. The display also contained Murtaja Baseer's paintings done during the workshop for his famous *Wings* series.



Where are we going-2 by Abdus Sattar

## Indian Idol--the saga

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

*Indian Idol*—a show so entertaining that it claims the audience will forget everything else. Packed with drama, excitement, humour, emotion, music and much more, this immensely popular show comes to an end tonight. Millions of people in India and around the globe, who have been ensing *Indian Idol* for the last few months, will witness one of the finalists winning the title of 'Indian Idol'. The viewers in India have been voting since February 25 for their preferred finalist and the suspense encircling the show has caused huge turnout in the number of audience viewing the final episodes of the show.

Can any everyday Joe be an Indian Idol? The judges, each renowned in their domains, Farah Khan—a talented choreographer and film director, Anu Malik—a popular music composer and Sonu Nigam—a versatile vocal artiste, harmonise while answering this question—the basic attribute one needs is to be able to sing. In addition, a great personality, ability to vibe with the audience and sing one's way into the heart of every viewer will certainly go a long way in enhancing the contestant's chances. For it is not about the one who sings the best but the one who makes the audience sing along. After all, along with the jury the contestants will have to convince the entire nation.

In search of a singer who embodies all the traits that an idol requires, *Indian Idol* started its journey arranging auditions in major Indian cities—Mumbai, Kolkata, Delhi, Ahmedabad. People poured in at the locations where auditions were being held. While some were ridiculed by the judges for their lack of singing aptitude, some were applauded for their display of talent. In the course of following weeks, eleven finalists emerged and became the focus of a mass hype.

From the very beginning, *Indian Idol* has never had a lack of drama, like Priyanka who was supposed to be one of the finalists backed out, making way for Amit Tandon, who is more popular among the young female crowd. Ravindra Ravi, in spite of not accomplishing the calibre that defines an idol was left unharmed, while more deserving contestants like Rahul Saxena or Auditi Paul were voted out. Rahula Saxena's departure affected judge Farah Khan so much, she broke into tears and promised she would sing Rahul Saxena to sing for her next movie *Happy New Year*. Auditi Paul, the Bengali diva in the making, who captivated



The contestants of Indian Idol

the audience with her unique flair, graciously parted when she was voted out. Word on the street is, renowned music composer and a judge of the show, Anu Malik is so smitten with Auditi's vocal skills that he has signed her to sing for one of his albums. Rahul Vaidya after being voted out, has signed a contract for Rs. 20 lakhs.

After incidents like these one wonders has *Indian Idol* really achieved what it claimed it would? The fact remains, that anyone in India can send an SMS to vote for his/her idol and everyone can vote as many times as they want. This really precreated a dilemma as a single fan can cast unlimited votes for his/her idol while some fans probably have not been able to vote even once.

Regardless of these shortcomings, *Indian Idol* has presented the audience with two seasoned finalists Abhijeet Savant and Amit Sana. Both are pretty diverse. If Abhijeet is the perfect choice for doing the playback for the lead actor in Hindi movies, Amit has an unconventional voice that can move the audience and can make them sing along. The lucky winner will sign a contract worth Rs 10 million with Sony Entertainment, besides being awarded a recording contract with a major Indian music label. So, who gets to be the first ever Indian Idol? We will all know tonight.

## TV GUIDE

All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme.

### News Bulletin

#### BTV

News Headlines (Bangla) at 8:55 am, 12:10 pm, 2:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00 pm, 7:00 pm.  
News (Bangla) at 8:00 am 1:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 8:00 pm.  
News (English) at 3:00 pm, 10:00 pm.  
Late Night News (Bangla and English) 11:30 pm.

#### CHANNEL-i

News (Bangla) at 7:15 am, 9:00am, 7:15 pm, 9:00pm, 10:30, 12:15 am.  
Telecast of BTV news (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

#### ATN BANGLA

News (Bangla) at 7:00 am, 10:00am, 2:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11:00 pm.  
Telecast of BTV News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

#### TARA BANGLA

News-Headlines(Bangla) at 5:30 pm, 7:30 pm.  
Tara News (Bangla) at 8:30 pm, 11:30 pm.  
Tara News Bangladeshi (Bangla) at 9:30 pm.

#### BBC WORLD

Every hour on the hour

#### BTV

08:15 Quiz Quiz  
08:40 Bishwa Protidin  
09:00 Satellite Programme  
09:00 Shangbadpatrer Pata Thekey  
12:15 Health Bulletin  
01:05 Nibedon  
02:05 Online  
02:30 Shukhi Poribar  
03:05 Selected Drama  
04:05 Moner Sharothi  
04:30 Prokriti O Jibon  
05:05 Nabo anandey Jago  
05:55 Shamakalin Authority  
06:00 Desh Janopad  
06:10 Wrestling  
07:00 News Headlines, Share Market, Weather Forecast  
07:30 Loukik Bangla  
07:30 Shurey Shurey  
08:25 Protidin Bangladesh  
08:30 Drama Serial: Ashapota  
09:05 Drama: Hajar Ajanta  
10:25 Teknaf Thekey Tetulia  
10:35 Ananda Jharna  
11:00 Rangdhanu  
12:05 Satellite programmes

#### CHANNEL-i

09:45 Tritiyo Matra  
10:45 Naa Bola Kotha  
12:00 Chitthi Pelam  
12:20 Dhaka Guide  
12:30 Aaj Dupure O Citycell  
01:00 Tarokakothon  
01:25 Ebong Cinemar Gaan  
01:35 Public Reaction  
01:35 Bangla Film: Mahaguru (Rubel, Kobita)  
03:20 Banglar Gaan  
04:20 Special Programme  
04:45 Sa Re Ga Ma  
05:15 Janopader Khabor

05:30 Cine Music  
06:00 Music Plus  
06:30 Drama Serial: Dalchhut  
07:50 Drama Serial: Anubhabey Tumi  
08:25 Drama Serial: Nona  
09:35 Joler Kabyo  
10:00 Hridoye Mati O Manush  
10:00 Drama Serial: Ekhanai  
Megher Ghanaghata

#### ntv

08:30 Aajker Shakal  
09:05 Drama Serial: Ei Borshay  
09:30 Amra Ekhon Unish Kuri  
10:30 Bangla Feature Film: Amar Bou  
10:30 Drama Serial: Ei Borshay  
03:15 Pepsi Music Express  
03:50 Drama: Porichoy Gallery  
04:25 Ithasher Ei Diney  
05:15 Alokatap  
06:20 Shubho Shondhya  
06:50 Shonkskity Ei Shoptaho  
08:15 Drama Serial: Jhut Jhamela  
08:50 Telefilm: Kobi Dindarpan  
11:25 Annodrishtee  
11:35 Drama Serial: Mohona  
12:15 Bangla Film  
03:45 Musical Programme  
04:20 Hatima Tim Tim  
05:10 Ishkul Bela  
06:20 Auto Man  
08:00 Drama Serial: Lodiya  
08:30 Drama Serial: The New Shabuj Opera  
09:00 Drama Serial: Lal Neel

PICK OF THE DAY

09:30 Beguni  
Drama Serial: Ek Janomey

10:25 Rock & Rhythm

12:10 Bangla Feature Film

8:30 Not Another Teen Movie

10:15 Martin And Lewis

12:15 The Portrait of a Lady

3:15 Charlie's Angels : Full Throttle

5:30 Swordfish

7:30 Striking Distance

9:30 I Spy

11:30 Tales From The Crypt

23 : Death of Some Salesmen

12:15 Black Hawk Down

3:00 Pet Sematary

8:55 It Runs In The Family

10:45 Hollywood One On One.

11:15 Me Myself And Irene

1:15 Snow Job

2:55 I Dreamed Of Africa

4:50 12 Monkeys

7:00 Kaena: The Prophecy

8:30 Beast The (Part 1)

10:00 Beast The (Part 2)

11:30 Bollywood Queen

3:00 STAR GOLD

9:30 Deewana Mujhsa Nahin

1:00 Joshilaay

4:30 Angrakshak

8:30 Warriors Two (Hindi)

11:00 Jhankar Beats

9:30 Kahani Jurm Ki

10:30 Dharam Aur Hum

11:30 Jai Ganga Maiya

12:30 Hit Filmeh Hit Sangeet- 20 M

1:00 Star Bestsellers

2:00 Taaza Hits

2:30 Vardi

6:00 Musafir Hoon Yaaron

6:30 Disney's Mickey Mouse Works

7:00 Marsupilami

7:30 Piya Bina

8:00 Pardey Ke Peechey

8:30 Jaadu Hai Nasha Hai

10:30 Hero No 1

9:30 Fashion Tv

10:00 Top Drive Getaway

10:30 The Bold & The Beautiful

12:30 The Virtual Magician

1:00 Travel Asia

1:30 The Kids From Room 402

2:00 Roborach

2:30 Monster Farm

3:00 Action Man

3:30 The Kumars At No.42

4:00 Cops

4:30 Koffee With Karan

5:30 Briannia India's Child Genius

6:30 The X Files