

CULTURAL FEAST

Exhibition

Title: Paint and Pixel
Artist: Nazia Andaleeb Preema
Venue: La Gallerie, 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: Utam Kumar Roy

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

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

Folk Festival

Title: Lokakarushila 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, Dhanmondi

Schedule

March 06
 04:00 pm Kidnapping Caucasian Style
 06:00 pm Operation I And Other Adventures of Shuruk

March 07

04:00 pm The Diamond Arm
 06:00 pm Evan Vassilyevich Changes His Profession

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

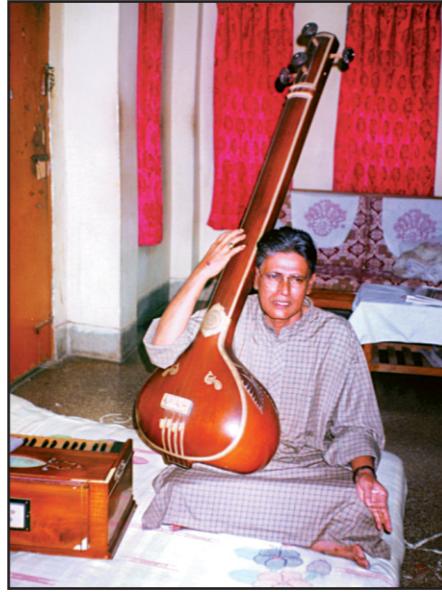
NOVERA DEEPIKA

BANGLADESHI 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 Khrisolal 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 Kotti Shochchar Swar and Chhutre Shobai Bandh Bhanga Ban.

Anup became popular by composing the tune of Boishakhi Megher Kachhey Jal Cheye Tumi Kandbher 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 Nately gachh muray na and Ora chhobi ankar pathshalatey, written by Abid Anwar and Kanhopa thekey Lalon Phakir by Rafiquzzaman.

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 censor board 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

Abas 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 surrealistic 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 destitution 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 names 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.

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 Baser. The two-day exhibition took place at the Emmanuel's restaurant at Gulshan. The ten-day workshop with artist Murtaja Baser 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-



Where are we going? by Abdus Sattar

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, 9:00 am, 7:15 pm, 9:00 pm, 10:30, 12:15 am.

Telecast of BTV news (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

ATN BANGLA

News (Bangla) at 7:00 am, 10:00 am, 2:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11:00 pm.

Telecast of BTV news (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

ATN BANGLA

News (Bangla) at 10:00 am, 12:00 am, 6:15 pm, 9:30 pm.

News (Bangla) 7:30 am, 2:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 7:30 pm, 10:30 pm.

Telecast of BTV news (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

TARA BANGLA

News (Bangla) at 5:30 pm, 7:30 pm.

Tara News (Bangla) at 8:30 pm, 11:30 pm.

Tara News Bangladesh (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

12:15 Shangbadpater Pata

12:30 Health Bulletin

01:05 Nibedon

02:05 Online

02:30 Shukhi Poribar

03:05 Selected Drama

04:05 Moner Shorothi

04:30 Prokrito Jibon

05:05 Nabo anandey Jago

05:55 Shamakalin Arthony

06:00 Desh Janapad

06:10 Wrestling

07:00 News Headlines,

Share Market,

Weather Forecast

07:05 Loukif Bangla

07:30 Shurey Shurey

08:25 Protidin Bangladesh

08:30 Drama Serial:

09:05 Drama: Hajar Ajanta

10:25 Teknaf Thekey Tetula

10:35 Ananda Jharna

11:00 Rangdhanu

12:05 Satellite programmes

CHANNEL-i

09:45 Tritiyo Matra

10:45 Naa Bola Kotha

12:00 Chithi Pelam

12:20 Dhaka Guide

12:30 Aaj Dupure O Citycell

13:35 Tarokothon

01:00 Ebong Cinemar Gaan

01:25 Public Reaction

03:15 Bangla Film:

05:10 Mahaguru (Rubel, Kobra)

06:20 Auto Man

08:00 Drama Serial: Lodhiya

08:30 Drama Serial: The New Shabu Opera

09:00 Drama Serial: Lal Neel

ntv

08:30 Cine Music

06:00 Music Plus

06:30 Drama Serial:

Dalchhut

07:50 Drama Serial:

Anubhabey Tumi

08:25 Drama Serial: Nona

Joler Kabyo

09:35 Drama Serial: Mati O

Marush

10:00 Drama Serial: Ekhanei

Megher Ghanaghata

10:30 Bangla Feature Film:

Amar Bou

02:30 Drama Serial: Ei

Borschay