

CULTURAL FEAST

Celebration of Independence Day

Organiser: The Liberation War Museum
Venue: The Liberation War Museum, 5, Shegun Bagicha
Date: March 22-28, at 5pm everyday
Schedule
March 22-31
Programme: Book Fair themed on the Liberation War
Venue: The Liberation War Museum, 5, Shegun Bagicha
Date: March 22-28, from 10am to 8pm
March 28
Closing ceremony of the Book Fair themed on the Liberation War followed by musical session of Abhyuday Shilpi Goshthi and Ajit Roy.

Exhibition

Title: Traditional Boats of Bangladesh
Venue: Bangladesh National Museum
Date: March 19-April 06, From 10am to 5pm and 39m to 7pm on Fridays
Title: Colour of SHAKO
Artists: 13 artists of the women artists association SHAKO
Venue: Bengal Gallery of fine Arts, House 275/F, Road 27, Dhanmondi
Date: March 23-April 06, 12pm to 8pm

Title: C for Courage
Organiser: Central Kachi-Kanchar Mela
Venue: Kachi Kanchar Bhaban, 37/A, Segunbagicha
Date: March 18-April 01
Title: The Walls of Dhaka
Artist: Bruno Ruff
Venue: Alliance Francaise, 26, Mirpur Road Dhanmondi
Date: March 18-31

Title: Our Liberation War
Photographers: Students & teachers of Dhaka Photographic Institute
Venue: 400, North Kazipara, Mirpur, Dhaka 1216
Date: March 26-28

Artist: Aminul Islam
Venue: Shilpagan Gallery, House 25, Road 5, Dhanmondi
Date: March 18-April 10, from 10am to 1pm and 5pm to 8pm

16th National Art Exhibition
Artists: Eminent and promising artists of the country
Venue: National Art Gallery, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Date: March 12-April 11, from 1am to 7pm and 3pm to 8pm on weekends

Connecting Futures Festival

Organiser: Zia Shishu-Kishor Shanggathan
Venue: British Council,
Date: March 25-29, at 5pm everyday
Schedule
March 28
Cultural show by Shahjalal University Cultural Groups and play by Democracy Watch
March 29
Cultural show by students of Dhaka University and Jahangirnagar University followed by musical programme

Children's Art Exhibition

Organiser: Charuloy Academy
Venue: Goethe-Institut, House 10, Road 9, Dhanmondi
Date: March 25-31, from 3pm to 8pm (March 26-27 closed)

Children's Art Competition

Organiser: Chhotoder Patrika and Niityapahar
Venue: Lichutola, Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka University
Date: April 01, at 9pm

Exhibition

Title: Opening Exhibit
Artist: Md. Tanika Islam
Venue: Art & Soul Gallery, Road. 36 House 16, Gulshan
Time: March 25-April 4, from 12pm to 8pm.

Exhibition of works of 13 artists

Shako's rhythm of colours

FAYZA HAQ

THE Bengal Foundation is vibrant with colours and forms as Shako's 13 participants present their thought-provoking works. Farida Zaman, who heads the group, explains, "Shako, meaning bridge, hopes to build bridges of understanding between artists and people. We invite a few artists and also award a yearly scholarship to a student to promote art".

Fareha Zeba, one of the important members of Shako, says, "My paintings deal with women's problems. I point out the conflict within women when they are suppressed. On my canvas is a pregnant woman with a gloomy outlook, done in blue, gray and brown rather than the colours of joy." Zeba wanted to depict the fact when a woman is pregnant, she bears the burden and suffering all by herself. The cutting of the apple with the enormous knife brings to mind the eating of the apple by Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden and the troubles that followed. While depicting the position of women in society, Zeba has

also brought in the distorted face of an acid victim.

Nasreen Begum, like others, had given three paintings for display. In *Green water* Nasreen has brought the scene of the back of luxurious hotels where a slum type existence abounds next to the opulent luxury. Here there is water logging and the water, not being able to escape, has become green and stagnant. The offices and hotels look splendid but behind them slums abound. On another paper, she brings in the scattered petals of the fiery *krishnachura* tree that fall so often on the roads and make them so picturesque. Unable to have the luxurious sights of the villages, she has dealt with the presence of nature in the city. She works on the scenes around the University quarters where she lives. With her feminine vision, Nasreen has made the ordinary extraordinary.

Farzana Islam Milky has brought in a distraught sex worker hoping to make the onlookers become aware of their plight of being dependent on male lust. The woman is staring blankly at a piece of wire that is jutting out and counting out her days. The



Shulekha Choudhury's *My Age -14*

woman's existence in *Waiting* appears futile and confused.

Kanak Champa Chakma has dealt with the theme of the tribal people once again. Her canvases have moved away from the realistic and are larger than before. Kanak says, "The compositions present women at work and also the Muro people celebrating a festival. One depicts an old woman weaving in the moonlight so that this is washed in blue light. In the other, I've used orange, contrasting it with black and white. I've used different types of strokes and textures than what I've used before."

Naima Haque, in *Cold Steel* reflects her feelings in her red and blue forms. Naima says, "The

colours and forms speak for themselves. One is like a flattened steel form of a woman and the other blue form is a reflection of my feeling of my position in society. The painting suggests the tension and fear that abound in our existence."

Kuhu's *Girl with flower* done in red, black and beige, is dramatic indeed. "I have a sitter and I draw. I enjoy my work. I don't put much thought into what I'm doing. I love line drawing and I focus on the lines," says Kuhu.

Trina Bohan Tyrie, a guest artist from New Zealand, says that in doing the portrait of the flower seller she wanted to bring out her strength and dignity.

This exhibition too is one of Shako's success stories.



Farida Zaman's *Sufia in a rickshaw*

A new perspective
Relating to *My Brother Nikhil*

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

An uncommon story should be narrated in a distinct fashion and a new director Onir does exactly that. In *My Brother Nikhil*, the characters introduce themselves to the viewer, as if they were being interviewed and narrate the story of Nikhil, the protagonist, who is now dead.

Loosely based on Robert Epstein and Jeffrey Friedman's documentary, *Common Threads: Stories from the Quilt*, *My Brother Nikhil* confronts us with the reality of HIV/AIDS with simplicity and straightforwardness. The beauty of the film lies in the fact that the emotion builds up gradually and the layers slowly envelope and grip you.

For a film of this genre to strike a note, it has to be embellished with compelling performances and a strong emotional quotient. And *My Brother Nikhil* is rich in both departments.

Editor turned director Onir's execution of the subject is laudable. The narrative focuses on the HIV/AIDS issue and the relationships induced by

the disease: father-son, brother-sister, lovers, without going overboard. One of its key accomplishments is that it clears the misconception that AIDS is a 'gay disease'. But the director scores distinction marks in the last 20 minutes of the enterprise. The emotional sequences are sure to melt even the stone-hearted and the finale, although tragic, talks of hope, not despair.

My Brother Nikhil is perhaps the first Indian film that throws light on the gay relationship without making a mockery of one's sexual preferences. The issue is handled with utmost sensitivity and looks at relationships from a broader perspective. Clearly, Hindi cinema is coming of age and issues such as HIV/AIDS and gay relationships are being discussed with the same freedom and openness as any other issue.

My Brother Nikhil depicts the story of a man who suddenly falls from grace and is socially ostracised. His parents, friends and colleagues turn their backs on him. Suddenly, his whole world collapses. Nikhil is sent to a secluded hospital ward and kept in

solitary confinement. Reason: He has been tested HIV Positive.

Nikhil's father, who is unable to face social humiliation, abandons him. But Anu, Nikhil's sister defies her parents and stands by her brother. Another person who stands by Nikhil during this difficult phase is his friend and lover, Nigel.

My Brother Nikhil is punctuated with superior performances and topping the list is, without doubt, Sanjay Suri as Nikhil; a performance that deserves an ovation. Juhi Chawla as Nikhil's sister, is in complete form. There's no denying that her performance in this film would rank amongst the finest in her career.



A scene from the movie

Discussion

Theatre's Drama Voyage-1

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Theatre (Baily Road), a popular theatre troupe of the country, is reviving itself up with new activities. From now onwards on the last Fridays of the month the troupe will arrange a discussion session on the popular productions of the group. In this connection Theatre arranged a discussion session titled "Theatre's Drama Voyage-1" on March 25 at the office of the troupe.

Presided over by acclaimed journalist ABM Musa, in the discussion programme Dr Biswajit Ghosh and Professor Ratan Siddiqui

discussed Theatre's one time hit production *Jamidar Darpan*, an adaptation by Professor Momotazuddin Ahmed from Meer Mosharrar Hossain's novel.

Professor Ratan Ghosh basically pointed on the biography of 19th century legendary writer Meer Mosharrar Hossain on the other hand Dr Biswajit Ghosh analysed the adaptation of *Jamidar Darpan* by Professor Momotazuddin Ahmed.

Moreover, Keramat Moula, an actor of the play, recalled his feelings while performing *Jamidar Darpan* which was produced in

1983. The programme started with the presentation of two songs by the workers of the theatre troupe. To make the discussion session into an interesting event, the Theatre arranged a quiz programme with the participation of theatre workers.

Professor Momotazuddin Ahmed said, "*Jamidar Darpan*, produced in 1983, won huge popularity. Now, it is time to analyse all our productions to let the young generation know about the plays."

At the end of the programme, theatre activists read out a part of the play.

Annette Ter Meulen: Developing light design in Dhaka

ERSHAD KAMOL

German light designer Annette Ter Meulen paid a recent visit to Dhaka. She had a busy schedule, what with organising a workshop on stage lighting and design and developing a light design for a stage play *Metamorphosis*. Moreover, during her short stay here she had helped the technicians of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) to operate the modern light system of the newly opened National Theatre Stage at BSA.

Light design lecturer at Hamburg University as well as the light designer of German Theatre House, Hamburg, Annette trained Bangladeshi light designers in a 21-day long workshop. This workshop was held simultaneously at two venues--the newly opened National Theatre Stage and Goethe Institut. Says Annette, "I had previously undertaken a similar collaboration in some European countries. But, this is the first time I am in an Asian country."

Is a 21-day long workshop sufficient to become a light designer? In Annette's words, "Twenty one days is a short time for a budding designer. It would be better, if I could follow this up. This would help the participants determine how much they can practically apply the acquired knowledge."

"Light designing is the most technical and practical-oriented element of theatre. One has to take into account the culture as well as the technical facility of a country. That is why, the participants need to transform the acquired knowledge according to the context of that country. Therefore, it would be better for light designers to exchange thoughts with me after a while."

What is the ideal path to become



Annette Ter Meulen

a light designer? Annette says, "There are better institutions in UK or USA for light designers. I went to study light designing in USA. However, interested people should work under any recognised light designer. At the same, one must go to watch theatre regularly as well as view art forms such as paintings, films and others so that they can develop their aesthetic sense."

"The necessary elements for a light designer are sound technical knowledge, individual style, good communicative skills as theatre is a collaborative venture of the director, designers, choreographers and

performers. Moreover one has to understand drama and the structure of a play."

German theatre is very much contemporary theatre, she says. To quote her, "We stage plays on current global issues. At the same time, we stage classics like Shakespeare. Repertory groups, supported by the government, stage shows daily in their own theatre hall. In our group, German Theatre House, Hamburg, there are 400 workers of which 30 people work only in the light department."

Cultural show

The International Turkish Hope School arranged a children's show at its Gulshan premises on March 24. The children performed the play *Emperor's New Clothes*, dances and songs. The function was held to commemorate Independence Day.



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, 2:00pm, 7:00 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, 11pm.
News (English) 8:20am, 7:00pm
Telecast of BTV News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.
Latest News (Bangla) at 9:00 a.m, 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00pm, 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm.

ntv

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

08:40 *Bishwa Protidin*
09:00 Satellite Programme
12:15 *Shangbadpotrer Pata Thekey*
01:05 *Lal Golap*
02:05 *Computer Round*
02:30 *Grantho Bhuban*
03:05 *Shuro Lahori*
03:35 *Shukhi Poribar*
04:05 *Lekha Pora*
04:30 Open University
05:05 National School
05:05 Debate Competition
05:45 *Chhotoder Khabor*
05:55 *Shamakalin Arthoniti*
06:00 *Desh Janapad*
06:10 *Dolon Champa*
06:35 *Nrityer Taley Taley*
07:00 News Headlines, Weather forecast, Share Market

07:05 *Ei Dosh Ei Shomoy*
07:30 Drama Serial: *Akash Bhora Megh*
08:25 *Protidin Bangladesh*
08:30 *Swadhinota Mohan Swadhinota*
08:35 Drama Serial: *Swapnoloker Deshey*
09:00 Drama Serial: *Pushpahar*
10:25 *Teknaf Theke Tatulia*
10:35 *Chawa Pawa*
12:05 Satellite Programme

CHANNEL i

09:45 *Trityo Matra*
10:45 Live Educational Programme
11:30 *Chitral Pelam*
12:20 Dhaka Guide
12:30 *Aj Dupurey O Cityell Tarokakothon*
01:00 *Ebong Cenemar*

01:25 *Gaan*
01:30 Public Reaction
Shangbadpotrey Bangladesh
01:35 Bangla Feature Film: *Mukti Chai* (Diti, Rubel, Manna)
03:50 *Banglar Gaan*
04:20 Special Programme
04:45 *Sa Re Ga Ma*
05:30 X-Music
06:00 Music Plus
06:30 *Banijio O Auranthiti*
06:50 Business Show
07:50 Drama Serial: *Poribar O Ekti Company*
08:25 *Aphora Sunsilk*
09:35 Drama Serial: *Shampurna Ranganee*
10:00 Drama Serial: *Megabond*

ntv

09:30 *Ain O Jibon*
10:05 Animal Kingdom
10:30 *Dhakar*
Cinema: *Ashanti* (Shabana, Alamgir, Natun)
02:35 Drama Serial: *Jhut Jhamela*
03:15 Right Click
03:40 *Medhabi*
04:25 *Khobor Deshey Deshey*
05:20 *Aapnar Jigyasha*
06:00 *Deshor Khabar*
06:20 *Shubho Shondhaya*
06:50 *Khoboror Shandhaney*
08:15 Drama Serial: *Sporsher Bairey*
08:50 Musical Programme
09:40 Drama Serial: *Anyarakom*

PICK OF THE DAY



Swapnoloker Deshey
On BTV and BTV World at 8:35pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Najma Anwar, Aupsee Karim, Humayun Fareedi
Directed by Taher Shipon

ATN BANGLA

11:05 Drama Serial: *Ek Janamey*
11:35 Musical Progrmme
12:15 *Dekhi Nayan Melia*
02:30 Drama Serial: *Ghunpoka*
03:15 Drama Serial: *O Amar Chokkhu Nai*
04:25 Musical Programme
05:10 *Matir Shubash*
06:20 *Shobar Jonno*
08:00 Drama Serial: *Shukhnagar Apart-*

08:30 *ment*
Drama Serial: *Shimahir Shimanay*
09:00 *Sushtha Thakun Live*
10:35 *Katha Mala*
12:20 *Adibashi Janapad*

8:15 *Infested*
10:00 *Tumbleweeds*
12:00 *The Avengers*
1:45 *Dear God*
4:00 *Clockstoppers*
6:00 *HBO Sneak Peek: Men in Black II*
6:30 *The Portrait of a Lady*
9:30 *Tommy Boy*
11:30 *Men in Black II*
1:15 *Night of the Living*



India Vs Pakistan
On DD Sports and Ten Sports at 10:30am
Final Day of the 3rd Test Match
TVS Cup
Live from Bangalore, India

STAR MOVIES

8:45 *Liar Liar*
10:15 *Poltergeist II: The Other Side*
11:45 *Stone Cold*
1:15 *Check Out*
3:00 *Nicholas Nickleby*
5:10 *Murder Of Crows*
7:00 *Jeepers Creepers*
8:30 *Sonic Impact*
10:15 *Poltergeist II: The Other Side*
11:45 *Chopin: Desire For Love*
1:45 *Murder Of Crows*

ANIMAL PLANET

2:30 On the Edge Crocodile

4:30 *Hunter Diaries*
Pet Star
5:30 *Twisted Tales*
6:00 *Monkey Business*
6:30 *The Planet's Funniest Animals*
7:00 *Amazing Animal Videos*
7:30 *Ultimate Killers Speed*
8:30 *On The Edge Crocodile*
10:00 *On The Edge Mike And Mark*
10:30 *Animal Planet Showcases Monsters Of The Mind*
11:30 *Wild India Land Of The Tiger*
Tiger's Domain

11:30 *Wild India Land Of The Tiger*
Tiger's Domain

DISCOVERY

1:30 Discovery's Biggest

Shows
3:30 Night Safari Mosquito Alert
4:30 Diagnosis Unknown
Diagnosis
5:30 Popular Mechanics
For Kids
6:00 In Therapy
6:30 Life On the Edge North
Face Expeditions, The Himalaya
7:00 Wild Discovery Nature
World Of Mitsuki
Iwago
7:30 Animal Face Off
7:30 Seven Wonders Of The Industrial World
10:30 Superstitions Of The World Superstructures
11:30 FBI Files

STAR GOLD

9:15 *Dil Ke Jharokhe Main*
1:30 *Ankhon Mein Tum Ho*
4:30 *Himmat*
8:30 *Bandhan*
12:05 *Pyaar Ka Saaya*
5:00 *Maan*
6:00 *Nargis*
6:30 *Adventures Of Mickey*
7:00 *Disney's The Weekenders*
Hello Dollie
8:30 *Dekho Magar Pyaar Se*
9:00 *Kasautii Zindagi Kay Des Mein Nikkila Hog Chand*
10:00 *Kavyanjali*
10:30 *Kahaani Gaar Ghar Kii*
11:00 *Yunkai Saas Bhi Kabhi*
Bhu Thi
Kahini To Hoga
12:00 *K.Street Pali Hill*

STAR WORLD

10:30 *The Apprentice*
11:30 *The X Files*
12:30 *Parkinson*
1:30 *Magnum P.I.*
4:30 *Hollywood Squares*
5:00 *Whose Line Is It Anyway*
5:30 *Ally Mcbeal*
6:30 *The Simpsons*
7:00 *That 70s Show*
7:30 *Friends*
8:00 *Newsradio*
8:30 *The King Of Queens*
9:00 *Everybody Loves Raymond*
9:30 *Grounded For Life*
10:00 *Frasier*
10:30 *The Casino*
11:28 *Star Asia Travel*
11:30 *Newsradio*
12:00 *Cover Story*

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

3:00 *National Geographic Special*
4:00 *Dogs With Jobs S3*
4:30 *Backyard Science*
4:45 *Doc Eureka*
5:00 *Serious: Jungle*
5:30 *Ng Explorer*
6:30 *Explorations*
7:30 *Super Predators*
8:30 *Tales Of The Living Dead*
9:00 *Mummy Road Show*
9:30 *Riddles Of The Dead*
10:30 *Irak Field Athletics*
11:30 *Track Indoor International Gp 2005 Athens*
11:30 *National Geographic's Taboo*

ESPN

1:00 *Nba Basketball Auburn Hills Mi Usa Indiana Pacers Vs Detroit Pistons (R)*
3:30 *Euro Qualifiers Under 21 International England Vs Germany*

5:30 Euro Under-21 Champions Hip(R)
England International Classic Matches
England Vs Finland
World Cup Qualifier
San Miguel Asian 9-Ball
Tour Singapore Suntec City Singapore High-lights(R)
8:30 Sportscenter India (L)
9:00 Uefa Champions League Magazine Shows (R)
9:30 Australia Tour Of New Zealand 3rd Test Day 3 Highlights(S)
Toyota Football Up Close (T)
11:30 Sportscenter India (R)
12:00 Sportscenter Asia (S)

STAR SPORTS

9:30 International Motorsport News 2005 (T)
10:30 The Golf Club (R)
11:00 Magazine Show Asian Tour Weekly 2005 (R)
11:30 Golf Tournament Jacob's Creek Open Highlights(T)
2:30 Super 12 Rugby 2005
Nsw Waratahs Vs Bulls Round 5(T)
4:30 The Golf Club (R)
Track & Field Athletics Iaaf Indoor International Gp 2005 Athens
8:00 Sportsline (L)
8:30 Fa Cup Classic Matches Leicester City Vs Wycombe Fa Cup 00/01 Quarter Final(T)
10:30 Sportsline (R)
11:00 Hitz (R)
11:30 Formula One Highlights 2005 Petronas Malaysian Gran D Prix(R)