CULTURAL FEAST

Film Screening Title: Karl Valentin films 1913-1936 Organiser: Goethe-Institut and Chalachitram Film society Venue: Goethe-Institut, House 10. Road 9. Dhanmondi Time: April 17-20, starting at 6pm

Schedule April 20 Sound Films: The Confirmation Candidate, At the Record Shop, A Disastrous

Violin Shop, The Inheritance Organiser: Muldhara International

Venue: Muldhara Zakia Alam Auditorium, House 15, Road 7, Dhanmondi

Schedule 3:30pmLucky (Hindi)

6:30pmDouble Team (English)

Exhibition

Date: April 22

everyday

Title: Boichitri Artistes: Ferdousy Priyobhashini, Ra Kajol, Tayabuzzaman Topu Venue: British Council, 5, Fuller Road Time: April 13-30, 10am to 7pm

Title: War Time Film Poster Exhibition Occasion: 60th anniversary of Victory over Fascism Venue: Russain Cultural Centre, House 510, Road 7, Dhanmondi Time: April 17-21

Title: 5th Vertical Ceramics and Wood Art Exhibition Artist: Masudur Rahman, Azharul Islam, Nurul Amin

Venue: Zainul Gallery, Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka University Time: April 11-20, From 12pm to 8pm

Title: A Kaleidoscopic Journey Artist: Mohammad Fakruzzaman Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, House 275/F, Road 27, Dhanmondi Time: April 11-25, From 12pm to 8pm

Artist: Babul Mahmood Venue: Russian Centre of Science and Culture, House 510, Road 7, Dhanmondi Time: April 24-30

Title:Rejection Artist: Abdus Salam Venue: Alliance Française, 26, Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi Time: April 22-30, from 9am to12pm, 5pm to 9pm

Musical Soiree

Artistes: Shushmita Debnath Shuchi, Saloat Semanti, Tasmia Sithi, Faria Tasnim, Maliha, Bandhon, Shekhor, Organiser: Commitment Products Venue: Biswa Shahitya Kendra Time: April 21, at 7pm

Cultural Programme

Title: Brihoshpatibar: Kobi O Kobitar Organiser: Muldhara International Centre

Venue: Muldhara Zakia Alam Auditorium, House 15, Road 7, Dhanmondi Time: April 21, at 6:30pm

Dfusion Jhakanaka: A treat for the youngsters

KARIM WAHEED

XTENSIVE queues at the Sultana Kamal Women's Complex, Dhanmondi were ample indicators that people were eager to be a part of the Dfusion Jhakanaka concert held on April 18. The major attractions of the programme were two emerging artistes who shot to fame with Indian Idol -- Amit Sana and Rahul Saxena. Besides them, local bands Black, Miles -- and Indian band Silk Route entranced the audience with

Although there were complaints that the venue was not spacious

enough for the number of people that showed up, the sound systemwas not satisfactory and the stage was not high enough for the artistes to be visible; most agreed that the performances of the artistes were

The show began with Black's rendering of popular numbers, such as Obhiman, Amar Prithibi, Miththa, Parahito, Blues and Roud. It was around 4:45 in the afternoon but the music lovers did not seem to be bothered by the scorching summer sun. They swayed and rocked with the music.

Indian Idol finalist Rahul Saxena took the stage and received a warm



Rahul entertaining the crowd

Sana performing at the concert

welcome from the audience. Rahul performed popular Hindi songs like Kal Ho Na Ho, Chanda Ve Ghar Aaja, Zindagi Hain Chaar Din and Jogiya. Rahul seemed ecstatic with the response he received from the audience and exclaimed, "You guys are awesome'

The next artiste to take the stage was the runner up Indian Idol, Amit Sana. Dressed in a leather jacket in the unbearable heat, Sana seemed very composed and confident. He rendered the Indian Idol song Mohabbatein Lutaaunga and the crowd went wild. Sana received rounds of applause as he performed Yamma Yamma, Ishq Kabhi Kariyo Na. An interesting incident: when Sana began singing Suno Suno Duniyawalo...Sabse Aage Hongey Hum Hindustani and the crowd didn't react positively to the song. Sana quickly changed the lyric of the song to Sabse Aage Hongey Hum Bangladeshi and the crowd sang along cheerfully.

Miles captivated the crowd with their immensely popular songs Chaand Tara Shurjo, Neela, Dhiki Dhiki and Silk Route performed their 'claim to fame' Dooba Dooba.

The concert marked the launch of Grameen Phone's new package, 'djuice' and was coordinated by

In Conversation

Shameem Akhtar: Filmmaking is her forte

KAVITA CHARANII

"When making films, my twin obsessions are women and the Liberation War," says Shameem Akhtar, who is also an advisor in the fortnightly Anannya magazine. A director, scriptwriter and journalist, two of her feature films based on these sensitive issues are Itihas Konya (The Daughters of History) and Shila Lipi (The inscription). In her words, "Women's issues are related to the War--when you talk about a liberated country you talk about a country where there are women. When you look at the status of women, you have to take history into account.'

She has won recognition for excellence in filmmaking. She was the recipient of the Anannya Award in 2000 for Itihas Konya.

Shameem hit the film world in 1991 with the short feature film Shey, as co-director with Tareque Masud. She also did the scriptwriting for the film. The storyline: A single mother brings up her child as her husband has gone abroad. There has been no news of him for seven long years and his wife has almost given up the hope of seeing him. In the meantime, she lives with an elderly uncle and tends to him as well.

Subsequently the husband returns home. The whole film deals with what happens next. Though Shey is a joint production, in a lighter vein, Shameem says, "Tareque fathered the film much better than I mothered it."

In 1994 Shameem made a



Shameem Akhtar

documentary film, The Eclipse, on the fatwas that were being hurled against women. The other people who worked on the film were Shaheen Akhtar from the Ain o Shalish Kendra and Makbool Chowdhury.

The audience's response to her works has been fairly good, says Shameem, "These are films which deal with reality. They have been admired, " she says. Among her favourites in the filmworld are Ritwik Ghatak, Satyajit Ray, Aparna Sen and Shabana Azmi.

There have been several technological changes in the filmmaking process, believes Shameem. For one,

she cites the examples of the digital camera, which has revolutionised film

Explaining why women's issues hold her interest, she says, "It is not just emancipation, it is much more than that. It is also liberation -- my freedom of choice, freedom of expression, everything all combined. A man is born to be free but women aren't --. '

And what's in store for Shameem in the near future? More feature films, she says unequivocally and maybe documentaries. The theme, as always, will be about women and their socio-cultural aspirations.

Daniel Craig: The new **James Bond**



The producers of the hugely successful James Bond film franchise have chosen British actor Daniel Craig to take over the role of the suave super-spy. The 37-year-old has been offered a three-film deal by Bond producer Barbara Broccoli and is expected to sign up formally soon, The Sun newspaper reports.

Craig, a tough-looking character actor who has mixed up appearances in many arthouse titles with roles in blockbusters such as Lara Croft: Tomb Raider, just beat fellow -- Clive Owen for the Briton role.

Craig would be the sixth Bond in the official series of films based on the novels by Ian

Fleming, following Sean Connery, George Lazenby, Roger Moore, Timothy Dalton and most recent incumbent Pierce Brosnan While Craig remains relatively unknown outside Britain, he is well

respected as an actor and also has the necessary reputation for being something of a Bond-esque ladies man, having recently dated supermodel

Brosnan's last film as Bond was Die Another Day in 2002. Since then a string of possible replacements has been mooted, including Britons Jude Law and Ewan McGregor and Australian actors Hugh Jackman and Eric



A team of cultural representatives, flanked by the State Minister for Cultural Affairs, Salima Rahman (C) left for Indonesia recently. The team included artistes SD Rubel, Shahnaz Baily, Marufa Akhtar Mimi and others



Magsood O' Dhaka recently performed a two-day show at a local restaurant, broadcast live on line, arranged by Bangladeshi musical web-portal and

Ancient wonder Axum Obelisk returns home

AXUM, Ethiopia - A teenage Abebe Alenayehu watched Italian soldiers haul away Axum's revered obelisk nearly seven decades ago and never thought he would live to see its return. But if the weather cooperates, he will see the dream he shares with his nation come true on April 19, when a giant cargo plane returned the monument's 82-feet top section to this wind-swept town that was the scat of the incient Axumite Kingdon

The Italian Foreign Ministry said Monday that the two other pieces of the 176-ton obelisk should be back by the end of April. Lattanzi, an Italian company organising the return, says no one has attempted to fly such a massive monument before.

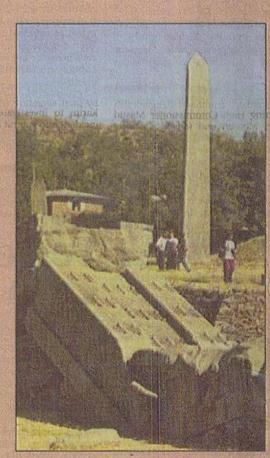
Abebe recalls, "All the adults in the town were under curfew but we, the children played with the soldiers who gave us sweets and sugar. We didn't realize what was happening, but our parents were

hiding their faces and crying."

The huge stone was raised long ago to commemorate Axumite dead, but it had broken into three pieces when it was toppled during a 16th century Muslim rebellion. After his troops overran Ethiopia, Italian dictator Benito Mussolini ordered the monument moved to Rome in 1937.

Axum, now home to about 60,000 people, was the capital of a kingdom established between 200 and 100 B.C. and that at one time stretched across the Red Sea into parts of the Arabian Peninsula. The Queen of Sheba reigned in the region eight or nine centuries earlier, and her bathing pool and substantial remains ofher palace can be seen in Axum.

"We are just happy to get it back," says Abebe, After all this time my body is a little weary, like the obelisk. But this is its home.



TV GUIDE

PICK OF THE DAY

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

News Bulletin

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) 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. 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

Every hour on the hour

News Headines (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 **BBC WORLD**

Shubhechha Nin Programme From BTV Archive Bishwa Protidin 09:00 Satellite Programme Shangbadpotrer Pata Shasthya Tathya

Amar Gaaner Bhuban Computer Programme Hijol Tomal 03:05 Shukhi Poribar Geeto Bitan Open University Mati O Manush Apon Bhumi 06:00 Dash Janapad Maloncha

Special bulletin for the 07:00 News Headlines. Weather forecast, Barta Probaho The World's Greatest Protidin Bangladesh Drama Serial: Kharer

Putui 09:00 Drama Serial: Teknaf Theke Tatulia Kemon Achhen Gaaner Bhela Satellite Programme CHANNEL i

Shongbad Potrey Bangladesh and Public Reaction 09:30 Tritiyo Matra Sports Time

AJ Dupurey O Citycell 01:00 Ebong Cinemar Gaan 01:25 Public Reaction Banglar Gaan Boi Ebong Boi

Sa Re Ga Ma 05:30 Special Programme Music Plus 06:30 Gillette Sports RC Travel On 08:25

Drama Serial ATN BANGLA 10:30 Onnodrishti 11:05 Shobar Jonnyo 11:35 Drama Seria

Choley Jay

Shimahin Shimanay Musical Programme 12:50 Gaaney Shurey Motarnot 02:30 Drama Serial: Nil Akasher Nichev 03:15 Drama Serial: Nana 03:50 Drama Serial: New

Cinema Cinema Education Zone 08:00 The Sword of Tipu Sultan 08:30 Drama Serial: Alo

12:10 Amar Computer ntv Aajker Shakal 08:30 09:05 Drama Serial: Sporsher Baire Shiray Shanito 10:05 Science Workshop 10:30 Arshinagar Transworld Sports

Megh Kichhu Roddur Drama Serial: Din

02:35

03:50

08:50

11:25

HBO

9:30

12:00

Drama Serial:

Nupur

Sporsher Bairey

Cartoon: Fardi

Drama Serial; Sheola

Dennis The Menace

1 Love You to Death

Route 666

09:30 Drama Serial: Ek Akash Nil

Bayoscope On ATN Bangla at 9:00pm Drama Serial Cast: Bonya Mirza, Khayrul Alam Shabuj

Friday The 13th Part II Ballistic: Ecks vs 7:30 Sever Enter The Dragon 9:30

1:15 Apnar Jigyasha Shubho Shondhya Nari Gharey Bairey Siddika Kabir's Recipe Kichhu Katha Kichhu 11:45 Drama Serial: Shyaola Dindarpan 3:00 HBO Sneak Peek: 4:35 Bad Boys II Of July 7:00 Tremors It Aftershocks Intrepid

8:40

10:25

11:30 National Security Tremors II Aftershocks Friday The 13th part II STAR MOVIES Le Divorce Gang Related Replacement Killers People I Know Tooth Born On The Fourth

Gang Related

Intimate Stranger

4:45 12:00 STAR PLUS 4:00 4:30 5:00 6:00 6:30 Anddonald 7:00 Disney's The Weekenders 7:30 Femme Fatale

9:00

1:30

10:10

Sheola

Drama Serial

STAR GOLD

On ntv at 9:40pm

The Ticket

Aithear

Daag The Fire Kahiin To Hoga K.Street Pali Hill Tedhe Medhe Sapne Maal Hai To Taal Hai Adventures Of Mickey Kumkum - Pyara Sa Helio Dollie Dekho Magar Pyaar Se

Kasautii Zindagii Kay

Cast: Tarin, Hakim, Sumaiya Shimu, Litu Anam Millee 10:00 Kkavyanjali Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii 11:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi 11:30 Kahlin To Hoga 12:00 K.Street Pali Hill STAR WORLD 12:30 Miss Match

Koffee With Karan Oprah Winfrey Bold And Beautiful 4:30 Hollywood Squares 5:00 5:30 Ally Mc Beal 7:00 That 70s Show 7:30 Friends 8:00 Newsradio

American Idol

J.A.G. Newsradio 12:00 Cover Story DISCOVERY 1:30 Science Frontiers

Future Storm Classic Discovery Hollywood Superstars Prosecutors 5:30 Mystery Hunters 6:00 Living Pulse 6:30 Great Cars 7:00 Massive Engines with Chris Barrie 7:30 Wild Discovery 8:30 Extreme Machine Days That Shook

Past is Wild New Detectives ANIMAL PLANET 11:30 Deep into the Wild

Penguins Wild and Dangerous Shark Seas 12:30 Pet Nation Animal Planet 2:30 4:30 Animal Miracles 5:30 Animal X Kidnapping 6:00 Monkey Business 6:30 The Planet's Funniest Animals Amazing Animal Videos 7:30 Animal Planet Supernatural Outer Limits

11:00 Secret World of Wild Encounters NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

4:00

Interpol Investigates Ng Special Dogs With Jobs Backyard Science

Doc Eureka Serious: Jungle Ng Explorer Interpol Investigates Insects From Hell

7:30 8:00 Totally Wild Adventure Challenge 8:30 9:30 Cheating Death Air Crash Investigation National Geographic's Taboo

9:30

STAR SPORTS laaf Indoor International Gp 2005 Lievin France World Superbike Phillip Island Australia

Highlights(R) English Premier Football League 2004/05 Botton Wanderers Vs Southampton (R) Motogp World Championship 2005 Estoril PortugalHighlights(R)

Hitz (R) Extremes Downunder 5:00 Outdoor Quest 2004 Malaysia Day One laaf Track & Field Highlight Programming laaf World Cross Country Championships Sportsline (L

Max Power 2005 (T) Tiger Skins Golf 2005 Sportsline (R) Golf Focus (T) The Second Abu Dhabi World Sand Golf Championship Highlights(T) Sportsline (R)

ESPN 9:30 Icc Cricket World (R) English Premier Football League 10:00 2004/05 Mid Diesbrough Vs Fulham

Winter X Games Ix-Day 1 Parl 1 Mt. Aspen Co Usa (T) Hitz (R) Beach Soccer Mundialito Figueira De Foz Beach Portugal (R) Football Focus (R) Fa Cup 2004/05 Arsenal Vs Blackburn Rovers Semi-Final 1(T) English Premier Football League 2004/05 Mid Diesbrough Vs Fulham

Hitz (T 8:30 Sportscenter India (L) 9:00 Goals! (T) Cricket Gold (R) 11:30 Sportscenter India (R) **TEN SPORTS** 10:30 Gamer TV

11:00 United Stongman 12:00 2:00 Highlights Legends 5:30 Highlights 6:30 7:30 8:00

WWE After Burn German League WWE After Burn German League Highlights

History of Football ABF Tour :Kuwait Gillette World Sport Paris Marathon Italian Serie A Highlights Gillette World Sport Carribean Classics Portugese League H/Ls: