

CULTURAL FEAST

Cultural Programme

Organisation: Autism Welfare Foundation
Venue: National Theatre Stage, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Time: April 28, at 3:55pm

Film Screening

Title: Russian War Films
Organiser: Jahangirnagar University and the Russian Centre of Science and Culture
Venue: TSC auditorium, Jahangirnagar University
Time: April 27-28
Schedule: April 27: 3:00pm Soldier's Father, 4:30pm At Down it's Quite Here

Exhibition

Title: Boichin
Artists: Ferdousy Priyobhoshini, Ra Kajol, Tayebuzzaman Topu
Venue: British Council, 5, Fuller Road
Time: April 13-30, 10am to 7pm
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 Francaise, 26, Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi
Time: April 22-30, from 9am to 12pm, 5pm to 9pm
Artist: Biren Shome
Venue: Shilpanagari Gallery, House 25, Road 5, Dhanmondi
Time: April 15-30, from 10am to 1pm and 5pm to 8pm
Title: Elifil Tower
Photographer: Proshanto Kamakar Buddha
Venue: Alliance Francaise, 26, Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi
Time: April 15-30, from 9am to 12pm and 5pm to 8pm
Title: Three Great Masters
Artists: Zainul Abidin, Quamrul Hassan, SM Sultan
Venue: STM Hall, Second floor, Scholastic Senior Section, Uttara
Time: April 24-26

Monthly programme of Nazrul Parishad

Organiser: Nazrul Sangeet Shilpi Parishad
Date: April 27 at 6:00 p.m.
Venue: Nazrul Institute
Play
Title: Kamola Shundari
Group: Natya Tirtha
Venue: Nilima Ibrahim Auditorium, Bangladesh Mahila Shamiti, Baily Road
Time: April 29, at 7pm

BAMBA's tribute to Mobin

The members of the Bangladesh Musical Band's Association (BAMBA) express their condolence at the untimely demise of Imran Ahmed Chowdhury Mobin, says a press release. He was one of the leading sound engineers in the music industry of the country. He died in a tragic road accident recently. They extend their sympathy to the other members of Black, Tony and Meraj and hope that they will recover soon.

"I am committed to an individual style of music" -- Khandokar Nurul Alam

NOVERA DEEPTA

REMINISCING on his long tryst with music, eminent music composer Khandokar Nurul Alam says, "It was way back in 1956. As a student of Dhaka University, I used to secretly keep a harmonium in my room at Fazlul Haque Hall. This was because we were not allowed to keep musical instruments."

Professor Muhammad Maniruzzaman, a lyricist, shared this secret and appreciated Alam's passion for music. Once Alam asked Maniruzzaman to show him how to compose a song. Maniruzzaman took him to the radio station and wrote a lyric instantly. To Alam's astonishment, the renowned lyricist asked Nurul Alam to compose the song for him. "Out of curiosity", as Alam says, he did so. The song was well rendered and marked the beginning of a remarkable career for the composer.

Born in 1936, Khandokar Nurul Alam got involved with the HMV recording company in 1960 and joined Bangladesh Betar the following year. He was also a lecturer at the National Broadcasting Academy as a music specialist. He has been involved with Bangladesh Television since its launching in 1964.

Alam is the proud recipient of a number of awards, including the National Film Awards and the BACHSHASH Award three times each, the Film Producers' Association Award and the Asian Broadcasting Union Awards. Alam has composed many popular playback and modern songs since the 1960s.



Nurul Alam (R) explains a composition to Runa Laila (L), while Chashi Nazrul Islam looks on

His most popular songs include Chokh je moner kotha bole, Paharer kanna dekhey, Nadir majhi bole, Amar baul moner ektarata, Ei raat dakey and many more.

Alam is not altogether happy about the current musical scene. To quote him, "In our time, we were committed to music composition. Amidst all the restrictions imposed in the Pakistan period, we practised good music and dreamt of composing better music in an independent Bangladesh. But now, after Independence, things have gone from bad to worse. With the irresistible invasion of foreign

music, our own music industry is in a vulnerable position now. We are gradually losing our own identity in music."

Alam welcomes the changing trend in music. As he says, "I believe in the saying 'Monotony in music is a crime.' But in the name of bringing changes you cannot distort music; you must create a new style on the basis of the old and traditional one. One must make music artistic, and not treat it as a mere means of entertainment. Lately, young people tend to imitate the foreign music."

According to Alam, "The young artists do not practice music and they perform without proper rewarz of the classical music. Another reason behind the lack of quality music and good artists is that there is a dearth of proper coaching."

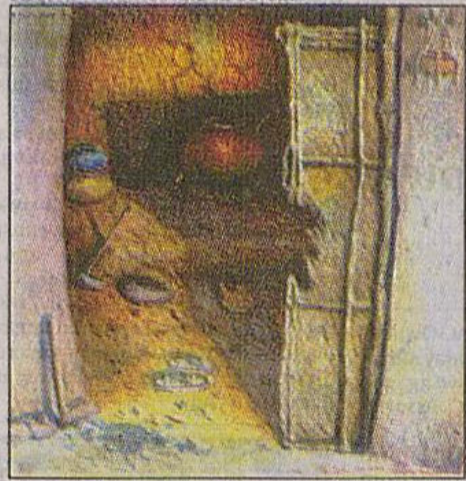
However, Alam does not give up hope of a brighter future in music. He says, "When a strong wave comes, people cannot face it easily, but they can at least protect themselves from drowning in different ways. Likewise, I am committed to an individual style of music. For I know that when the storm blows over, I will stand once more and prepare for a better future."

Exhibition

Nostalgic watercolours that cull our cultural roots

FAYZA HAQ

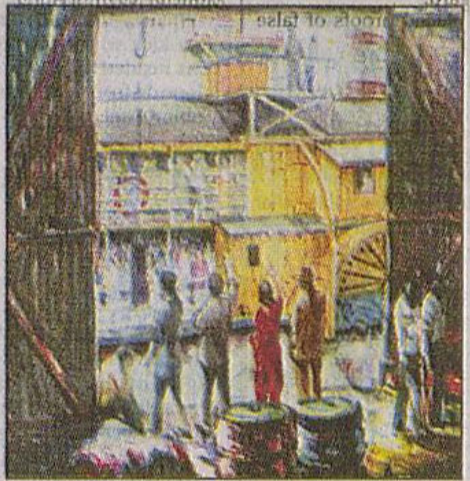
Muniruzzaman, Director Chitrag Kuthi, summing up the current watercolour display at his gallery, said, "Here are four artists who once studied at the Department of Fine Arts Dhaka University, then went their own way, and now they have



Memory-1 by Fokrul Alam

joined hands once again. Fokrul Alam Tofa, who has got his Masters from Shantiniketan, is the team leader. They have all done experimental work in different ways, earlier on. The organiser Chitroner's display contains realistic watercolour, 32 pieces in all, each artist contributing eight

pieces. This is a development of the academic work that they've done as students. It's not easy to hold on to realism, as you develop your style along the way. The work here might not be mind-boggling, as the artists' other works -- seen elsewhere and earlier in Dhaka. The paper mould by Mahmoodul Islam is something new: Paper



Departure by Md. Samsul Arafin

has been cut and assimilated to create a 3-D effect. To create realism in this media is not easy. "The artists have dealt with nature, still life, landscape, figures of beautiful women and boats among others. These subjects are all taken from Bangladeshi villages. They bring images such as

cane fences, thatched and mud houses; the artists have often played with light and shadow. Just as the British painter Dolly preserved the culture of Dhaka in his pen sketches (during the British Raj) these four artists have tried to capture our rural roots -- for all posterity -- in their works."

The exhibits, Muniruzzaman said, were remarkable for their aestheticism. The dock scenes by Shamsul Arafin Mithu, he said, brought in the Rivers Krittankhola and Buriganga in an idyllic manner; Barisal town has been included in one of the compositions. The artists had stepped their abstract and semi-abstract work, and continued in the realistic stream. This may be seen as a renaissance of realism. There has been a gap between the viewers and the artists in the art scene, Muniruzzaman pointed out. This is made up by realism: although some feel there is not much thought behind realistic art. The success is ushered in by the fact that the run of the mill viewer can easily comprehend the subject.

Fokrul Alam Tofa added that the artists had done works on a small scale, as they felt that this would fit in with the cramped existence in the Dhaka metropolis. They also wanted the price of paintings to fit the pocket of the average buyer. As none of the artists were freelancers, they had to take time out from their professional work, as artists of a Bengal Foundation project of rugs.

Shamsul Arafin Mithu explained each watercolour in depth. "What is unique about this play is that the paintings reflect our urban existence: these are our efforts to reflect our childhood, now lost in the rat race of Dhaka existence. Each piece is worth viewing and taking pleasure in. There is an idyllic undercurrent in every painting."



"People often take me as arrogant and reclusive, which I'm not" -- Sweety

Tanvin Sweety is a popular model-turned-TV actress, who has also performed in several popular stage plays, such as Payer Awaj Pawa Jay, Meraj Fakirer Ma, Ekhoon Kritodash and Meherjan. Of late she has acted in mega serials; Jol Porey Pata Norey, Cholchhey Cholbey, Pothey Pothey Chalthey Chalthey and The New Shabuj Opera -- all of which have received rave reviews. Here is a piece of Sweety's mind:

If you had the chance to bring about changes in the cultural scenario of the country, what would they be?

I would change the total scenario of theatre drastically. I would give theatre and theatre activists a boost at every step of the way. For example, they would be given the privilege to express themselves artistically without restrictions. I would also like to ensure their economic solvency at any cost.

What are the basic requirements of a quality actress?

Glamour and talent are a must for lead actresses. To meet the criterion of a true actress, one must have a good style of delivering dialogues in the right accent. An actress must also be knowledgeable about current social issues.

Do you think beauty contests are important for women?

It is not so much about importance, as it is about popularity. To my knowledge, at beauty contests, women are not only judged by their physical attributes; their intellect is tested as well. I am not against any such contests. Regarding the feminists frowning upon



women participating in beauty contests, I would like to point out that there are similar contests for men too.

If you were told to choose between talent and beauty, what would you opt for?

Talent and beauty are equally important for a performer. One is incomplete without the other. However, beauty fades but talent doesn't.

Which was your breakthrough performance? In the television serial Shundari, I played the role of a Bawali girl named Deepmoni. I was acknowledged widely as an actress rather than just a performer.

Your dream role is?

Joyita of Garbhodharini by Shamaresh Majumdar. Whenever I read that novel I always identify with the character and I would love to see myself as Joyita.

What your fans don't know about you?

People often take me as arrogant and reclusive. But in reality I am just the opposite. I am very jolly, extrovert and friendly.

What do you think about the recent trend of making music videos?

I have no reservations against music videos but if they are vulgar or sub standard then I have strong objections. There are many videos that hardly have any artistic appeal. The makers should be taken to task.

What is your idea about remix or remake music?

Sometimes these remix songs are enjoyable, but sometimes they are simply irritating. The classic and soothing numbers should not be spoiled by the so called remakes.

Who is your idol? Mother Teresa.

Ben and Jen again...

Call it "Benifer: part 2". After almost making it to the altar with Jennifer Lopez, actor Ben Affleck has been engaged to actress Jennifer Garner.

Affleck got engaged to Jennifer Lopez in 2002, but they called it off in January 2004. As opposed to the ridiculous amount of publicity Affleck got with J.Lo, he and Garner have stayed on the down low.

They met while shooting the action flick Daredevil but didn't begin dating until 2004. Their lone public appearance together has been a trip to the 2004 World Series in Boston.

The marriage would be Garner's second. The 33-year-old Alias star was divorced from actor Scott Foley in March 2004.



Source: AP



The Teachers Students Centre of Dhaka University was humming with activity recently. The Nescafe-sponsored cultural programme, welcoming the Bangla New Year, was marked by songs, dart-board games and great live band performances.

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) at 11:30 pm. CHANNEL-i News (Bangla) at 7:15 am, 9:00 am, 2:00 pm, 7:00 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. News (English) at 8:20 am, 7:00 pm. Latest News (Bangla) at 9:00 a.m., 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00 pm, 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 5:30 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

CHANNEL i 09:30 Public Reaction 09:45 Trio Matra 10:45 Gramene Phone Cricket Online 11:30 Aamar Chhobi 12:00 Chithi Pelam 12:30 Aaj Dupurey 01:00 Elong Chimerar Gaan 01:25 Public Reaction 01:35 Special Programme 03:50 Banglar Gaan 04:20 Special Programme 04:45 Sa Re Ga Ma 05:30 I Sports 06:00 Music Plus 06:30 I Speed 07:50 Drama Serial: Poribar O Ekti Company 08:25 Drama Serial: Ek Akasher Tara 09:35 Drama Serial: Chulchho Chalbey 10:00 Drama Serial: Shakkhi Kutum ntv 08:30 Aajker Shakal 09:05 Drama Serial: Sposher Balrey 09:30 Khoboror Shondhane 10:05 Tarar Shathe 11:00 Chhobir Gaan 11:30 Deshey 12:02 Drama Serial 02:30 Drama Serial: Jhul Jhamela 03:15 Tifner Fankay 03:40 Drama Serial: Anyorokom 04:25 Hoi Hullor 05:15 Itihasher Ei Diney 06:20 Shubho Shondhya 06:50 Shray Shonity 06:10 Drama Serial: Sposher Balrey 08:50 Nupur 09:40 Drama Serial: Shaola Dindaran ATN BANGLA 10:30 Talk Show: Anodishli 11:05 Drama Serial: Mahona 11:35 Business this Week 12:15 Amar Computer 12:50 Shustho Thakur 01:25 Cine Gaan 02:30 Drama Serial: Ghunpoka 03:15 Drama Serial: O Amar Chokhu Nai 03:50 Drama Serial: Bhowal Raja Shannyashi Shomoshamoyik 04:25 I Speed 05:10 Nan 05:45 Islami Sawal Jawab 06:20 Aynar Shammey 06:20 Drama Serial: Shukhnagar Apartment 08:30 Drama Serial: Ek Akash Neel 09:00 Drama Serial: Shukhar Lagiya Ek Dul Teen 09:30 Law Based Programme 10:35 Programme HBO 8:30 Beverly Hills Ninja 10:15 Diagnosis Murder 12:00 America's Sweethearts 2:00 Cobra 3:45 Absence of the Good 5:45 Cheats 7:45 Friday the 13th Part II The One 11:15 Carnivale 07 : The River 12:30 Carnivale 08 : Lomigan, Texas 1:45 Saint Sinner STAR MOVIES 9:00 Replacement Killers

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PICK OF THE DAY



Ek Akash Neel On ATN Bangla at 8:30pm Drama Serial Cast: Shahed, Romana, Kushum Sikdar, Riya, Joy



Frasier On STAR World at 10:00pm Genre: Comedy Cast: Kelsey Grammer, David Hyde Pierce, John Mahoney

10:30 Wrong Turn 12:00 Opening Night 12:30 Dawg 1:55 Long Time Dead 3:30 Dragon: The Bruce Lee Story 5:30 Johnny English 7:00 Snow Dogs 8:40 Agent Cody Banks 10:30 Wrong Turn 12:00 Sonny STAR GOLD 9:55 Majhdhaar 1:30 Dance Dance 4:45 Bandish STAR WORLD 11:00 Frasier 11:30 Boston Public 12:30 Everybody Loves Raymond 1:30 Magnum P.I. 2:28 Star Asia Travel 3:00 Oprah Winfrey 3:30 Bold And Beautiful 4:30 Hollywood Squares 5:00 Whose Line Is It Anyway 5:30 Ally Mc Beal 6:30 The Simpsons 7:00 That 70s Show 7:30 Friends 8:00 Newsradio 8:30 Charmed 9:30 Wild Card 10:30 Miss Match 11:30 Newsradio 12:00 Cover Story STAR PLUS 11:30 Tedhe Medhe Sapney 12:00 Shanti 12:30 Hit Filmeln Hit Sangeel-20 M 1:00 Kasauti Zindagi Kay 1:30 Kulkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan 2:00 Bhabhi 2:30 Kesar 3:00 Saarthi 3:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bhi Thi 4:00 Kahin To Hoga 4:30 K.Street Pali Hill 5:00 Tedhe Medhe Sapney 5:30 Hit Filmeln Hit Sangeel-20 M 6:00 Meal Hai To Taal Hai 6:30 Adventures Of Mickey Anndonald 7:00 Disney's The Weekenders 7:30 Kulkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan Hello Dollie 8:00 Dekho Magar Pyaar Se 9:00 Kasauti Zindagi Kay Milee 9:30 10:00 Kkavyanjali 10:00 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Ki 10:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bhi Thi 11:00 Kahin To Hoga 11:30 DISCOVERY 11:30 FBI Files, The Dark Woods 12:30 Wild Discovery Great Bears of North America 1:30 Egypt Week Sphinx Unmasked 2:30 Seven Wonders of the Industrial World 3:30 Superstructures of the World 4:30 FBI Files, The Price of Greed 5:30 Splat 4 Miles, Clay Art 6:00 Healthy Living Healthy Mother, Healthy Child 6:30 Man and Machine Secret 7:30 Wild Discovery Platypus - World's Strangest Animal 8:30 Egypt Week Mysterious Death of Cleopatra 9:30 Classic Discovery Lost City in the Clouds 10:30 Hollywood Superstars Jack Nicholson 11:30 Prosecutors, The Every Parent's Nightmare ANIMAL PLANET 11:00 Amazing Animal Videos 11:30 Animal Planet Showcase Unexplained, Unexplored 12:30 Breed All About It German Short-haired Pointer 1:00 Water Rescue, Geese, Chaser, Construction Dog 1:30 Emergency Vets Lhaso Aspo Ipso Facto 2:00 Wild Rescues 2:30 The Protectors Cell 3:30 Dogs Kt Carson 3:30 The Protectors Animal Precinct 4:30 Pet Star 5:30 Animal X Maryland Goat Man 6:00 Monkey Business 6:30 The Planet's Funniest Animals 7:00 Amazing Animal Videos From Cradle to Grave 7:30 Gorillas The Greatest Apes 8:30 The Protectors Cell 9:30 The Protectors Animal Precinct 4 10:30 Deep into the Wild Bears 11:00 Wild And Dangerous Rhino Patrol 11:30 Wild Encounters Nypd Animal Squad NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC 4:00 Dogs With Jobs 4:30 Backyard Science 5:00 Serious: Arctic 5:30 Ng Explorer 6:30 Seconds From Disaster 7:30 Prosecutors, The Every Parent's Nightmare 8:00 Precious Cargo 9:30 Across The Line 10:00 From The Heart 10:30 Interpol Investigates 11:30 Taboo STAR SPORTS 10:00 Cricket Classics Asian Tour Asian Tour: Visa Dynasty Cup Highlights(R) 11:30 International Motorsports 12:30 Football Premier League Football League Crystal Pa Lace Vs Liverpool 2:30 Super 12 Rugby 4:30 Extreme Magazine 5:30 The Golf Club (R) 5:30 Extreme Programming Wild Spirits 2004/05 (T) 6:00 The Rugby Show (T) 6:30 Atp Tennis Us Men's Claycourt 8:00 Sportsline (L) 8:30 English Premier Football League Arsenal 10:30 Vs Tottenham Hotspur Sportsline (R) 11:00 Asian 9-Ball Tour 12:00 Cricket Classics Super Doubles (R) ESPN 10:30 Icc Cricket World (R) 11:00 Born To Play: Masters Of Football (R) 11:30 Great Outdoor Games Winter X-Games ) 1:30 Fa Classic Matches Cardiff City Vs Leeds United 5:30 English Premier League Highlights 6:30 Football Focus (L) 7:30 Football Up Close Toyota Football Up Close (R) 8:00 Uefa Champions League Magazine Shows (R) 8:00 Sportscenter India (L) 9:00 Cricket Gold (R) 11:30 Sportscenter India (R) 12:00 Sportscenter Asia (S) TEN SPORTS 10:00 WWE Raw 12:00 Wl v SA 3rd Test, Day 5 Highlights 2:00 German League: Werder Bremen v Hertha 2:30 UEFA Cup Extra 4:30 Wwe Raw 5:30 Irb Rugby 7s Highlights :Singapore 5:30 Giletta World Sport 7:30 WWE Smackdown 8:00 Gamer Tv 10:00 Wl v SA 3rd Test, Day 5 Highlights 11:00 German League Highlights