

Satyajit Ray's 84th Birth Anniversary

Remembering the magician behind the camera

AFSAR AHMED

SATYAJIT Ray, the legendary filmmaker, is known for his unique approach to cinema. Though he made his films in Bangla, his works are of universal interest and reveal a remarkable humanism, elaborate observation and subtle handling of characters and situations.

director, Anisuzzaman said, "The cinema of Satyajit Ray is a rare blend of intellect and emotions. He is controlled, precise, meticulous, and yet, evokes a deep emotional response from the audience."

Dr Rajeev Humayun, president of ABSI said, "There was a time when we used to talk for hours on Ray's films during the 1960s and 1970s. The four generations of the Ray family, from Upendra to today's Sandeep, are dedicated to enriching Bangla literature and culture."

A nostalgic children's literature, Ali Imam reminisced on his 10-minute encounter with Satyajit in 1986 and said, "Satyajit utilised every second of his life. Apart from writing and making films he has earned a niche in

typography and graphics art. His commendable touch is visible in his portrayal of children and old people in his cinema and his detailed sketches of costume, set design and planning of screenplays."

Dr Shoumitra Shekhar presented a keynote address on "Satyajit Ray's literature for children" and said, "Besides the family tradition of writing, Satyajit has his unique style which generates pure entertainment. His tremendously intelligent detective Feluda or the genius scientist Professor Shanku and many other characters are precious contributions to Bangla literature. In 1961, he revived and continued to publish the Bangla children's magazine Sandesh, which was funded by his grandfather Upendrakishore Ray."

Deputy High Commissioner of India in Bangladesh Sharbajit Chakravarty, poet Sabir Ahmed Chowdhury, Dr Neem Chandra Bhoomik also spoke at the programme while Dr Mridul Kanti Chakravarty, Acting Chairman of Department of Theatre and Music, Dhaka University presided over the programme.

The second part of the programme exemplified the music sense of this great director in his films and the rendition of songs by the student of the Department of Theatre and Music.

"In the beginning of his career, Ray worked with some of the greatest music maestros of Indian classical music; Pandit Ravi Shankar for the Apu Trilogy and Parash Pathar (1958), Ustad Vilayat Khan for Jalsaghar (1958) and Ali Akbar Khan for Devi (1960). Since Teen Kanya (1961), he began composing the music for his films," said Mridul Kanti.

Mridul continued, "He would start working on music in the very early stages of a production - sometimes as early as in the script stage. He would keep notes of the music ideas as they evolved. He meticulously wrote the scores in folk, raga and western notation depending on musicians and the screenplay."

Beginning with the song Aha ki anondo akashy batashy from the movie Gupi Gain Bagha Bain the singers also performed the



Ray in different phases of his life

songs Maharaja tomarey selam (Gupi Gain Bagha Bain) and Paye pori bagh mama (Hirok Rajar Deshey) to the delight of the audience. The two Tagore songs from the movie Charulata, Ami chinigo chini tomarey by the students and Phuley phuley dholey dholey by Lilly Islam were entertaining. The last performance of the programme was by the guest artiste from India, Sharathi Chatterjee with Prasun Chatterjee on tabla performing raga Puria Dhanesri.

Exhibition

Culling of colourful cartoons

FAYZA HAQ

The spontaneous putting together of cartoons by artists of Unmad, and other well-known cartoonists, is well worth visiting and examining. The exhibit is at the Alliance Francaise and brings together experts such as Rafiqun Nabi and Shishir Bhattacharya, and remarkable newcomers in this genre of arts. The focus is more on the lesser-known artists, as the more famous ones didn't wish to be in the limelight.

The exhibit which began recently has been put on walls, in a straight line, so that if one examines them, even at one go, they are easy to comprehend and are undoubtedly witty. The cartoons have been put on the floor too, in a neat geometrical design so that the exhibit appears like some nouveau installation. They are not only satires on the socio-political situation but also on the economy - without fear or favour. A few critics felt that there could have been more eye-rest, but who can expect a curator in a local project of upcoming entrepreneurs? Mostly in black and white, touched with pastel and muted shades, the cartoons combine pen-and-ink sketches with poster and water-colour washes.

Cartoons began with black and white sketches during the late 19th century in France and England. In Bangladesh the Liberation War brought in experts like Rafiqun Nabi, who lampooned the life around him and worldwide. The vision of the young cartoonists was also mind-boggling. The message is instantaneous; no stone is left unturned in the search for subjects to delineate. The cartoons make one smile, if not hold one's sides with laughter. Each time one pauses to drink deep of the treasure trove of fun and banter. The wit and humour range from the caustic to the mild. One laughed and one felt that the world laughed with one. As a mark of appreciation of the promising cartoonists' unmitigated



A 3D cartoon at the exhibition

effort and vibrant imagination, a prize-giving ceremony was included at the opening on May 2.

The exhibit includes cartoons by Asiful Huda (Amar Desh/ Jai Jai Din), Ahsan Habib editor (Unmad), Tariqul Islam (Unmad), Nazrul (freelancer/ Bela), Shahriyar (freelancer), Rezaun Nabi (Proshika), Ahmed Kabir (Amar Desh), Munir Hassan, Tariq Saifullah (Ajker Kagaj), Rocky (Naya Digonto/Unmad), Zahid Hassan (Inqilab), Obaidur Rahman (Observer), Manik and Ratan (Alpin).

Mehdi Huq (Unmad), said, "The editorial cartoons are a direct political attack whereas in Unmad one finds an evaluation of the prevailing socio-economic scenario. They are there to tickle your sides and no more. During the post-Liberation time the preoccupation was overtly political."

Ahsan Habib (Unmad), added that today there is more of light humour. Suppose there is a TV serial or there is the inevitable price hike, he said, there are then the slanted attacks on that - rather than an important character. Earlier on, there were no such thing as recognised cartoonists; painters like Rafiqun Nabi and Shishir Bhattacharya filled the need.



Artistes performing at the show

CULTURAL FEAS

Poetry in any other language...

Exhibition Title: Charon Artists: Mazarul Islam Khan, Sudipta Mallick and Subir Obayed Venue: Drik Gallery, House 58, Road 15/A, Dhanmondi Time: April 26- May 05, from 10am to 8pm

Artists: Md Akhtaruzzaman Shamol, Syed Mohammad Shamim, Shyamal Roy Chowdhury, Salina Haque Lina, Uttam Kumar Roy, Abul Khayer Venue: Zainul Gallery-2, Institute of fine Arts, University of Dhaka Time: May 01-07, from 11am to 8pm

Satyajit Ray Film Festival 2005

Organiser: High Commission of India Venue: Indian Cultural Centre Auditorium, Road 96, House 25, Gulshan 2 Time: May 02-14, at 6pm everyday Schedule: May 04 Nayak May 05 Sonar Kella May 06 Seemabaddha May 08 Teen Kanya

KARIM WAHED

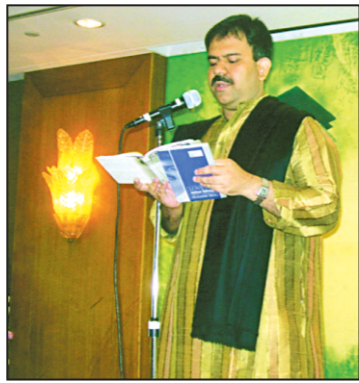
"What's in a name? That which we call a rose by any other word would smell as sweet," said Romeo in Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet. Poetry invigorates us just like that although some elements maybe lost in translation. However, the essence is captured altogether.

Poet Aminur Rahman is well aware of this phenomenon, since his Bangla poems have been translated in several languages and well received among poetry buffs. Aminur Rahman embarked into the arena of poetry way back in 1980. His first book, Bishashikorotole, was published in 1989 and the readers seemed to be smitten with his penmanship. Hidoypre Dubshatar, published in 1991, was one of the bestsellers in the Ekushey book fair that year.

Rahman believes in 'romanticism' and that is the style prominent in his poetry.

In 2001, Indian literary personality Sudeep Sen edited and translated some of Rahman's poems and AARK Arts in Britain published the collection titled, Love and other Poems.

According to Sen, "Upon my



Aminur Rahman

request, he (Rahman) would repeatedly read his poems out aloud in Bangla while I took copious notes, notations on syllabics, cadence, rhyme and structure. The goal was to make the English versions as rich and textured as the Bangla originals, not to lose the intended meaning."

In 2002, Colombian poet Carlos Bedyoya translated Rahman's poems in Spanish on the occasion of Medellin poetry festival. The collection is called La Escultura. Rahman's poems were

translated in German by renowned Austrian poet Manfred Chobot in 2003. Last year, Rahman's love poems were translated in Japanese. His confidant, Japanese poet, Kazuko Shiraiishi, edited the poems and they were translated in Japanese by Yusuke Keida. The same year, at a Malaysian poetry festival, Hazi Hamdan Yahiya, ex-director of a literary organisation Dewan Bahasa Don, translated Rahman's poetry in Malay. Furthermore, his poem, Bhashkorjo has been translated in English, German, Russian, Chinese, Arabic, Spanish, Malay, Japanese and Urdu this year.

Rahman believes his Bangla poetry does not lose much of its essence when translated in other languages because he has direct contacts with the poets and literary personalities who have translated and edited his poems.

In recognition of his talent, Rahman was recently invited to attend the 2005 World Poetry festival in Taiwan. He read his poems and participated in the seminar on 'Aesthetics of Reading and Translation of Poetry' along with other renowned poets from different countries.

Benegal in trouble

The depiction of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's marriage in a new film on the legendary figure of undivided India, has landed its director Shyam Benegal in controversy.

Five researchers on Bose in West Bengal plan to take Benegal's, Bose - The Forgotten Hero to court for showing Netaji married in the film. They claim they have proof that Netaji never married Austrian Emilie Schenk, as shown in the movie.

According to researchers, Netaji's application for a visa to visit China on November 23, 1939, mentioned his marital status as 'single'. Netaji's family says he married Schenk secretly in 1937. Researchers also urged Benegal to desist from showing that Netaji died in the 1945 air crash.

Source: Internet



A scene from the film, Bose - The Forgotten Hero

Cher: "This truly is it"

The diva wraps up farewell tour

Belly dancers, a dancing elephant and a video montage of her lengthy career marked the end of Cher's three-year farewell tour.

Cher, 58, played to a sold-out crowd last Saturday at the Hollywood Bowl and insisted this final concert on her 325-stop tour really was the end.

"I'm approaching 80," she joked to the crowd, "There are two reasons people come back. Because, like the Stones, they're broke. Again. Or they're old divas who can't wait to be out among their adoring fans. But this, this truly is it."

Video clips broadcast on four giant screens showed the Sonny Bono years, shots from her solo career and clips of Cher with Carol Burnett, Ray Charles, Elton John, David Bowie and the Muppets.

Her final show was vintage Cher, who made her entrance from above, decked out in a silver coat and hood. She kicked off the evening with her standard opening song, a cover of U2's I Still Haven't Found What I'm Looking For, and ditched the coat as she hit the stage to reveal a skimpy outfit.

The show, which included about a dozen costume changes, ended with fireworks.

Source: AP



Cher in full regalia at her final concert

TV GUIDE

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

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

BTV 12:15 Shangbadpotrer Pata Thekey 12:30 Shasthya Tathya 01:05 Kathamala 02:05 Sesamepur 02:30 Hijol Tomal 03:05 Open University 03:35 Geeto Bitan 04:05 Shukhi Poribar 04:30 Angikar 05:05 Mati O Manush 05:30 Apon Bhumi 06:00 Desh Janapad 06:10 Maloncha 06:35 Special bulletin for the hearing impaired 07:00 News Headlines, Weather Forecast, Share Market 07:05 Barta Probaho 07:30 Special Programme 08:25 Protidin Bangladesh Drama Serial: Alo Chhayar Golpo 09:00 Teknaf Theke 10:25 Tatulia 10:35 Kemon Achhen 11:00 Anandadhara 12:05 Satelitte Programme 09:45 Tritiyo Matra 10:45 Sports Time 12:00 TVC Sky Shop 12:30 Aj Dupurey O Citycell 09:45 Tarokakothon 10:00 Ebong Cinemar Gaan 01:25 Public Reaction

02:30 Citycell Medhabikash (Live) 03:50 Banglar Gaan 04:20 Boi Ebong Boi 04:45 Sa Re Ga Ma 05:30 Special Programme Music Plus 06:00 Gillette Sports Programme 07:55 RC Travel On 08:25 Drama Serial: Ek Akasher Tara 09:35 Drama Serial: Din Choley Jay 10:00 Drama Serial: Megabond 10:30 Onnodrishti 11:05 Shobar Jonnyo 11:35 Drama Serial: Shimahin Shimanay 12:15 Special Programme Gaaney Shurey Tarunney 01:25 Motamot 02:30 Drama Serial: Nil Akasher Nichey 03:15 Drama Serial: Nana Ronger Din 03:50 Drama Serial: New Files 04:25 Cinema Cinema 05:10 Education Zone 06:20 Manoshi 08:00 The Sword of Tipu Sultan 08:30 Drama Serial: Alo Chhaya 09:00 Drama Serial: Bayoscope 09:30 Drama Serial: Ek Akash Nil 10:30 Health Show 12:10 Amar Computer

PICK OF THE DAY Bayoscope On ATN Bangla at 9:00pm Drama Serial Cast: Dolly Zahur, Bonya Mirza, Litu Anam

ntv 08:30 Aajker Shakal 09:05 Drama Serial: Sposher Bairey 09:30 Shiray Shanito 10:05 Science Workshop 10:30 Arshinagar 11:00 Transworld Sports 12:05 Millenium 02:35 Sposher Bairey 03:15 Nupur 03:50 Drama Serial: Sheola 04:25 Cartoon: Fardi 05:20 Apnar Jigyasha 06:20 Shubho Shondhya 06:50 Nari Gharey Bairey 08:15 Siddika Kabir's Recipe 08:50 Kichhu Katha Kichhu Gaan 09:40 Drama Serial: Shyaola Dindarpan 11:25 09:15 Forest Gump 12:00 Bean 1:45 New Best Friend 3:30 Empire 5:30 Jaws III 7:30 Beethoven's 4th 9:30 Executive Decision 12:15 Hollywood Homicide 2:30 New Best Friend

Jeepers Creepers 2 On Star Movies at 9:05pm Genre: Horror / Thriller Cast: Ray Wise, Jonathan Breck, Garikayi

STAR MOVIES 8:30 Dudley Do Right 9:45 Good Girl The 11:15 Buried Lies 1:15 Vampire's Kiss 3:00 Newsies 5:10 Double Impact 7:00 Rising Sun 9:05 Jeepers Creepers 2 10:45 Good Girl The 12:15 Children Of The Corn Ili STAR GOLD 9:00 Vijeta 1:00 Coolie No.1 4:30 Maya 5:00 Kurukshetra 8:30

Se Kasauti Zindagi Kay 9:30 Millee 10:00 Kkavyanjali 10:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii 11:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bhu Thi 11:30 Kahiin To Hoga 12:00 K.Street Pali Hill STAR WORLD 1:30 Koffee With Karan 2:28 Star Asia Travel 2:30 Oprah Winfrey Show 3:30 Bold And Beautiful 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 American Idol 9:30 The Practice 10:30 J.A.G. 11:28 Star Asia Travel 11:30 Newsradio 12:00 Cover Story NATIONA GEOGRAPHY 2:00 Basketball Diplomacy: From Mao To Yao 2:30 From The Heart 3:00 Insects From Hell 3:30 On Assignment 4:00 Dogs With Jobs 4:30 Backyard Science 4:45 Doc Eureka 5:00 Serious: Desert 5:30 Ng Explorer 6:30 Interpol Investigates 7:30 Insects From Hell 8:00 On Assignment 8:30 Adventure Challenge 9:30 Cheating Death 10:30 Air Crash Investigation 11:30 National Geographic's Taboo DISCOVERY 2:30 Classic Discovery Holy Grail 3:30 Hollywood Superstars Reputations John Wayne 4:30 The Lone Witness 5:30 Mystery Hunters Bell Witch/Anne Boleyn 6:00 Living Pulse 2 6:30 Great Cars 7:00 Massive Engines With Chris Barrie Airliners 7:30 African Wild Dogs 8:30 Motorcycle Mania 9:30 Days That Shook The World 10:30 What Killed the Mega Beasts? 11:30 The Case Studies in Forensic Scie M.E.'s Casebook ANIMAL PLANET 12:30 Pet Nation 2:30 Jungle Orphans 3:30 Biggest Nose In Borneo 4:30 Biyou's Icy Rescue 5:30 Animal X Chupacabra 6:00 Monkey Business 6:30 The Planet's Funniest Animals 7:00 Amazing Animal Videos

7:30 Animals of the Chinese Zodiac 8:30 Swimming Elephants 9:30 Eye of the Tiger 10:30 Supernatural Close Encounters 11:00 Secret World of Gardens 11:30 Tall Blondes ESPN 10:00 X Games Preview(R) 11:00 Uefa Champions League 2004/05 England Liverpool Vs Chelsea Semifinal #2 Leg 2(R) 1:30 Nba Playoffs First Round Game 5(R) 4:00 Football Focus(R) 5:00 Euro Beachsoccer League 2004 Italy Highlights(R) 6:00 English Premier Football League 2004/05 Charlton Athletic Vs Manchester United (R) 8:00 Hitz(T) 9:00 Sportscenter India(L) 9:30 Goals(T) 9:30 Uefa Champions League 2004/05 England Liverpool Vs Chelsea Semifinal #2 Leg 2(R) 11:30 Sportscenter India(R) 12:00 Sportscenter Asia(S) STAR SPORTS 9:30 San Miguel Asian 9-Ball Tour Kaohsiung Quarterfinal #3(R) 11:00 Extreme Magazine Downunder(T) 11:30 Tna Xplosion(R)