

CULTURAL FEAST

Fusion of art & music

The changing colours of Ragamala



Dr Karunamaya Goswami

AFSAR AHMED
A dancing prince with his flute, wearing a regal attire and a glittering crown, is accompanied by three colourfully clad beautiful ladies. One of them plays on the drum, the other plays a cymbal to the rhythm, while the third boisterously engages in sprinkling colours at the others as a part of Holi, the festival of colours. Flowers and tender leaves are found all around to complement the dancing foursome. This is just the visualisation of Raga Vasant, which depicts all the shades of joy that colour the wind. By following the raga versions created by the poets, the painters visualised them on canvases and created the genre called Ragamala paintings.

The display of a few reprints of the miniature Ragamala paintings and a splendid keynote presentation on it with a slide show by Dr Karunamaya Goswami, captivated the audience at the Indian Cultural Centre on June 3. Organised by the High Commission of India, the programme also featured a classical soiree by Kalpana Bhattacharya.

"Rabindranath Tagore on many occasions pointed out to one of the basic traits of the Indian mind--as what philosophers would term as a continuous move from form to formlessness and then again from formlessness to form. This observation proves to be amazingly true when we view Ragamala paintings, which are visual interpretations of the ragas commonly inherited by the Indian classical music genres: Hindustani (Northern) and Carnatic (Southern)," said Karunamaya Goswami.

In Ragamala paintings sounds are interpreted through shapes. As Goswami explained, "Painting schools to interpret sounds on canvas in colours developed in India over several hundred years." Goswami used the terms ragachitra, and raga icon interchangeably with Ragamala in an amazing attempt at fusing a fine art with performing arts.

Entranced by the lure of Ragamala paintings Goswami said, "This is almost a cosmos in miniature. When you look into it you have the sensation of penetrating into the cosmos.

"The earliest extant Ragamala paintings which are illustrations in a palm-leaf manuscript of the Kalpasutra are found in the Jain tradition. The Ragamala painting genre flourished in different regions in India. Although most of the paintings are largely drawn from the Radha-Krishna story, they have also absorbed all the traditions from Hinduism, Islam, Jainism and others and developed a secular entity. Ragamala paintings are unique

works of art in the sense that they are visualisations of auditory art which continuously flourished in different schools over 500 years, such as Moghul, Rajput, Kangra, Murshidabad, Bijapur and others.

"Today this genre of art enjoys the status of glorious World Heritage Property. Great care should be taken about their preservation."

After the discussion, Agra-Atrauli gharana singer Kalpana Bhattacharya rendered a few ragas with her stylised voice. Started with a Bandish on Bhairav depicting the devotion towards God, she also performed a few other ragas such as Ramkeli, Gunkeli, Ashavari, Dhanshri and others. With the rendition of each song, the related paintings were projected on the back-screen, making this art more comprehensible to the audience.

Above all, the audience was charmed by the unique presentation of the programme.



Visitors at the programme



Kalpana Bhattacharya rendering a classical number

Exhibition

Title: Dhaka Art Circle Paintings 2005
Organiser: Society for Promotion of Bangladesh Art with association of Saju Art Gallery
Artists: 14 contemporary artists of Bangladesh
Venue: Saju Art Gallery, DCC Super Market 2nd Circle, Gulshan II
Date: June 04-14

Title: Miniature Art
Artists: 105 artists
Venue: Shilparag, House 15, Road 16, Dhanmondi
Date: June 03-30, from 11:30am to 2pm and 4:30pm to 9pm

Occasion: 206th birth anniversary of Alexander S. Pushkin
Venue: Russian Cultural Centre, Dhanmondi
Date: June 01-09

Artist: Nazmul Ahsan
Venue: La Gallery, Alliance Francaise
Date: June 03-June 16, from 19am to 12am and 5pm to 9pm

Title: Image of Nature
Artists: Khurshid Alam Saleem
Venue: Gallery Chittrak, House 21, Road 4, Dhanmondi
Date: May 27-June 05, from 10am to 8:30pm

Title: From the Ashes
Artist: Arham-ul-Huq Chowdhury
Venue: Bengal Shilpalaya, House 275/F, Road 27, Dhanmondi
Date: May 27-June 05, From 12pm to 8pm

Costume Display

Title: Summer Collection
Boutique: Ananya
Venue: 60, Kemal Ataturk Avenue, Bonani
Date: June 01-30

Festival

Title: Tonatuni Utsah 2005
Organiser: Tonatuni production house
Venue: National Theatre Stage, Shilpakala Academy
Date: June 02-06, at 7pm everyday
Schedule: June 05

Musical recital by Kironchandra Roy and staging of Kabor by Tonatuni
June 06

Musical recital by Kironchandra Roy and Shakila Zafar and staging of Dui Pakhi by Tonatuni

Film Screening

Title: Krzysztof Keisowski
Retrospective
Organiser: Zahir Raihan Film Society
Venue: Alliance Francaise
Date: May 23- June 08

Title: Germany in the Crosshairs
Organiser: Zahir Raihan Film Society
Venue: Goethe-Institut
Date: June 13-21

June 13
4:30pm Taxi in Leipzig
6:15pm The Delicatessen Shop
Owner

Organiser: High Commission of India
Venue: Indian Cultural Centre Auditorium, Road 96, House 25, Gulshan 2
Time: June 06-27, at 6pm everyday
Schedule: June 06Mughal-E-Azam
June 10Munna Bhai MBBS
June 13Padosan
June 17Abar Aranye (Bangla)

Instrumental album 'X Factor' and mixed album 'Agontuk-3' released



(L-R) Jewel, Maqsoodul Huq, Hamid Ahmed, Khaled, Sumon, Duray and Sharif Amin at the event.

FAIZUL A TANIM

After the tragic road accident that left the members of the band, Black severely injured and cost the life of a talented musician, Mobin; the band music arena is still in mourning. Yet, we realise that life goes on, regardless of all the hazards that befall us.

Sharing that sentiment, a crowd cheering for their favourite musicians, turned out at Multiplex Center, Elephant Road, where two highly anticipated albums were officially released.

The event became memorable as the first-ever instrumental rock album in Bangladesh by Jewel was released. Simultaneously, mixed album Agontuk-3, coordinated by Sumon of Aurthohin was another super treat.

others took the stage. Almost all the musicians grieved the loss of Mobin and sympathised with the band Black, who were also affected by the fatal accident.

The album Agontuk-3 is dedicated to the memory of Mobin and the first song of the album was well received with a round of applause.

Agontuk-3 comprises rock numbers by leading bands Aurthohin, Artcell, Black and Cryptic Fate along with newcomers Zefyr, Icons, Dripping Gore, 666, Shade, Fulbanu's Revenge, Aashor, Echoes, Bivishika, Nagorik and Stentorian featuring Bassbaba. This is the first time two death metal bands introduced themselves to our music scene through the album.

Several music enthusiasts spoke of the instrumental album by Jewel as one of the most promising musical works of this year. Tracks like Ethnic trance, Funk Off and Spiritual High entranced the audience.

The two albums from G-Series were sponsored by ajuice of Grameen Phone.

Pantene You Got The Look '05 Model hunt dazzles Dhaka night

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

The 2005 edition of the Pantene YGTL (You Got The Look) competition was held in the ballroom of the Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel, Friday last. It was an event full of glitz and glamour and surpassed previous such functions by a considerable distance.

The show attracted the well known personalities and renowned members of tinsel town. The judge's panel alone consisted of eminent artistes Runa Laila, Shampa Reza and writer Emdadul Huq Milon. The show was hosted by popular young artiste, Tahsan and ravishing Indian actress, Raina Sen.

After the initial introductions, the programme got underway with each of the contestants (11 females and 12 males) introducing themselves in a pre recorded video clip. Each then proceeded to flaunt his/her qualities, both physically and mental.

Presently the show moved on to the "Western" round where contestants paired up and danced to popular classical and modern tunes that included Carlos Santana's Maria,



Winners (L-R) Adnan, Shagota, Sarah and Russell

Chris De Burgh's Lady in Red and Shaggy's Angel.

The show flowed smoothly and highlights of the evening were performances from mainstream artistes, Arnab and Mehreen. The latter sang a second number with another young

performer Layla who wooed the audience with her wonderful voice.

The third round was the much dreaded but equally anticipated Q & A round. Although aspirations were high, this round proved to be a let-down as the judges themselves

seemed as nervous, if not more than the contestants themselves.

However, the best part of the evening was when DJ Sandeep and his brother Sanjeev rocked the audience with some electrifying music. Sandeep proved his multi lingual mettle by singing in four languages that included a rendition of Runa Laila's famous Shadher Lau. Needless to say, it had a powerful impact on the audience.

The show drew to a close and Tahsan and Raina called on the previous winners to crown the current winners. Awards were distributed in seven different sponsored categories that included Best Hair and Best Figure and a Mr & Ms Congeniality. However, the main awards of the night, the YGTL Best Look Male & Female went to Russell and Shagota, respectively.

The evening ended amidst rapturous applause from the crowd, while the winners of the night took their customary bow. Amidst tears of loss and winning smiles, all in all it proved to be one of the most talked about events.

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, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 10:30pm, 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 a.m, 1:00pm, 3:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 7:30pm, 10:30 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, 7:30pm, 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
07:30 Shubhechha Nin
01:05 Bashori
04:30 Cartoon Show
04:30 Selected Programme
05:05 Television Debate
06:00 Competition
06:00 Khabor: Dosh
06:35 Janapad
06:10 Geetanjali
06:35 Programme From Chittagong Centre
07:00 News (Bangla) at 8:00 am 1:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 8:00 pm.
07:00 News (English) at 3:00 pm, 10:00 pm.
07:05 Mati O Manush
07:30 My Three Sisters
08:30 Drama Serial: Teroi April
09:00 Drama Serial: Swapno Shonar Gaon
10:30 Shubarno Atit
10:30 Telecast of BTV news (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

CHANNEL-i
10:30 Tele Prescription
11:30 Hridoye Mati O Manush
12:30 Aj Dupurey O Citycell
01:00 Ebong Cinemar Gaan
01:30 Special Programme
03:50 Banglar Gaan
04:20 Aim in Life
04:45 Sa Re Ga Ma
05:30 Business Talk
06:00 Music Plus
06:30 Flop Show
07:50 Shanchita
08:25 Rupkatha
09:35 Drama Serial: 69
10:00 Drama Serial: Pothey Pothey Cholley

ntv
09:20 Shanskriti Ei
09:20 Shoptaho
10:05 Alankar

11:00 Mon Amar Shandhan Kori
11:30 Ki Kotha Tahar
12:05 Pandemic: Facing AIDS
02:35 Drama Serial: Kachher Manush
06:20 Shubho Shondhya
06:50 Ain O Jiban
08:15 Drama Serial: Jhut Jhamela
08:50 Right Click
09:40 Medhabi

ATN BANGLA
11:05 Drama Serial: Ek Janomey
11:35 Cine Aha
12:15 Documentary Programme
12:50 Smritir Monikothay
02:30 Drama Serial: Ghunpoka
03:15 Drama Serial: O Amar Chhokhu Nai
05:00 Gram Ganjer Khabor
05:45 Islami Sawal O Jawab
06:25 Three Stooges
08:00 Drama Serial: Jol Porey Pata Norey
08:30 Drama Serial: The New Shabuj Opera
09:00 Drama Serial: Nirey Taar Neel Dheu
09:30 Drama Serial: Mohona
10:35 Business Time

HBO
8:30 The Foreigner
10:30 Mr Deeds
12:30 Little Secrets
2:30 Clockstoppers
4:30 Kingpin
6:45 Guardian
8:30 Rush Hour 2
10:15 Superman II
12:45 Sphere

STAR GOLD
3:30 Desh Premee
1:00 Anari No 1
5:00 Satta
9:00 Oprah Winfrey Show
10:00 Titanic (Hindi)

PICK OF THE DAY

Teroi April
On BTV at 8:30pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Subarna Mustafa, Ahmed Rubel, Humayun Fareedi
Directed by Aranya Anwar

Meet Joe Black
On Star Movies at 8:40pm
Genre: Fantasy / Mystery / Romance / Drama
Cast: Brad Pitt, Anthony Hopkins, Claire Forlani
Directed by Martin Brest

3:30 Malibu's Most Wanted
9:10 Liberty Stands Still
11:45 Out For A Kill
12:15 Starship Troopers
2:25 Snow Falling On Cedars
4:35 Recruit The
6:30 Opening Night
7:00 Sylvia
8:40 Meet Joe Black
11:45 Liberty Stands Still
1:20 Hitched

STAR PLUS
1:00 Musafir Hoon Yarron
1:30 Mirch Masala
8:30 Disney's Mickey Mouse Works
7:00 Marsupilami
7:30 Ssshhhh... Koi Hai...
8:30 Parineeta Curtain Raiser
9:00 Biwi No 1

STAR WORLD
3:30 Charmed
3:30 The Apprentice
4:30 Miss Match
6:30 Baywatch Hawaii
7:30 Malcolm In The Middle
8:00 Parkinson
9:00 Oprah Winfrey Show
10:00 One Tree Hill

11:00 The Kumars At No.42
11:30 Rendezvous With Simi Garewal

CARTOON NETWORK
10:00 Spiderman
10:30 Sabrina Animated Series
11:00 Winx Club
11:30 Richie Rich
12:00 Adventures of Chhota Birbal
12:30 Hot Wheels Acceleracers
04:30 The Grim Adventures of Billy And Mandy
05:00 Imaginary Friends

05:30 Hot Wheels Acceleracers
07:00 Tom and Jerry Show
07:30 The Mummy
08:00 Megas XLR
08:30 Johnny Bravo
09:00 The Grim Adventures of Billy And Mandy

NICKELODEON
01:00 Dum Dum-A-Dum
01:30 Hey Arnold
02:00 Double Decker Boys vs Girls
03:00 Rocket Power
03:30 Yakkity Yak
04:00 My Dad The Rock star
04:30 Fairly Odd Parents
05:00 Invader Zim
05:30 The Adventures Of Jimmy Neutron

06:00 All Grown Up
06:30 SpongeBob SquarePants
07:00 J bole to Jadoo !!
07:30 GAS
08:30 Dum Dum-A-Dum
09:00 CatDog
09:30 Yakkity Yak
10:00 The Amanda Show
10:30 All That

AXN
12:30 The Fast And The Furious
03:00 Days Of Thunder
05:30 Hollywood's Greatest Stunts
06:00 E Buzz
06:30 Fear Factor
07:30 Guinness World Records
08:30 Back To The Future
11:00 E Buzz
11:30 Uncovered

SONY
01:30 Movie:Aamdani Athani Kharacha Rupaiya
5:30 Fancy Lala Cartoon
8:00 UFO baby Cartoon
8:00 The Making of Parineeta Film Based Movie: Kaho Naa Pyar Hai

06:00 Conspiracies on Trial
3:00 Great Romances of the 20th Century
3:30 Discovery Wings
4:30 Supernatural Science
5:30 Mystery Hunters
6:00 Kitchen Chemistry Salt
6:30 Wind Driven
7:00 Speed
7:30 Wild Discovery
8:30 Discovery's Biggest Shows
10:30 Night Safari
11:30 Diagnosis Unknown

ANIMAL PLANET
2:30 Girls Night In Animals
3:30 The Natural World
4:30 Animal Planet Reveals Asia
5:30 The Most Extreme
6:30 Animal Miracles
7:30 King of the Jungle
9:30 The Natural World
10:30 Beyond the Jaws of Death
11:30 TV With Teeth

STAR SPORTS
8:00 The Golf Club (T)
8:30 Itu Mazatlan Triathlon World Cup Event Highlights(T)
9:30 Asian Tour Weekly 2005 (R)

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
2:30 Interpol Investigates
3:30 Air Crash Investigation
4:30 Seconds From Disaster
5:30 Interpol Investigates
6:30 Showreal Asia
7:30 Frontlines Of Construction
8:30 Riddles Of The Dead S3
9:30 Built For The Kill
10:30 Deep Jungle
11:30 Deep Jungle

DISCOVERY
2:30 Cup 3rd & 4th Placing(L)
5:30 14th Sultan Azlan Shah Cup - Highlights (T)
6:00 14th Sultan Azlan Shah Cup Final(L)
7:30 14th Sultan Azlan Shah Cup - Post Show (L)
8:00 Bangladesh Tour Of England, 2nd Test Day 3 2nd & 3rd Session(L)
11:00 Hitz (T)
11:30 Formula One Highlights European Grand Prix(T)

ESPN
10:30 Icc Cricket World (R)
11:00 Motorsport Asia (R)
11:30 Cricket Gold (T)
1:30 Hitz (R)
1:57 I'd Do Anything (T)
2:57 Motogp World Championship 2005 Mugello Italy
7:00 Icc Cricket World (R)
7:30 Sportscenter Weekend (T)
7:35 Cricket Gold (R)
9:30 U.S. Figure Skating Original Dance(R) School Quiz 2005 Review (R)

TEN SPORTS
07:30 WWE Specials
Judgment Day
10:30 South American WC Qualifiers:Ecuador v Argentina
12:30 FrenchTennis:Day13 Highlights
01:30 MotoGP: Grand Prix Italy - Mugello
04:30 WWE Heat
05:30 FrenchTennis:Day14(mens singles final)
08:30 WI v PAK: 2nd Test, Day 3 (1st Session)
09:30 WI v PAK: 2nd Test, Day