CULTURAL FEAST

Exhibition
Title: Metaphor of Agony
Artist: Nazlee Laila Mansur
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts
Date: June 23-July 06, from 12pm to 8pm

Music Festival
Organiser: Alliance Francaise
Date: June 30-July 2, at 5pm
Schedule
July 02
12:00pm Musical soiree by the students of Dhaka University
03:00pm Music rendition by Duma
04:00pm Musical soiree by Kamol
05:00pm Pop music by Rumi
06:00pm Fusion music by Meghdal
07:00pm French and Arabian songs by Madjid Ziouane
Venue: TSC auditorium, Dhaka University

Discussion
Occasion: Death anniversary of Promila Nazrul
Discussants: Khilkhil Kazi, Ashraf Siddiqui, Asadul Haque
Venue: Nazrul Institute, Dhanmondi
Date: July 02, at 11am

Celebration
Occasion: Internation Day for Recitation of Tagore's Poem
Organiser: Rabindra Adhyan Chakra
Discussant: Anisuzzaman
Recitors: Zillur Rahman Siddiqui, Faiaz Murshid Kazi, Bhaswar Bandyapadhyay, Jayanto Chattyapadhyay, Dalia Ahmed, Shafquat Chowdhury, Reea Mahmud
Singers: Sanzida Khatun, Mita Haque, Aupala Farhat Naved, Aditi Mohsin, Azizur Rahman, Farzana Yasmeen Luna, Khondokar Khayruzzaman Qaium, Biswabeena
Venue: Goethe-Institut, Dhanmondi
Date: July 03, at 7pm

Play
Title: Metamorphosis
Group: Centre for Asia Theatre
Venue: Mahila Shamiti Auditorium, Baily Road
Date: July 24, from 7pm

Play
Title: Brand
Group: Centre for Asia Theatre
Venue: Bonomali Theatre Auditorium, Pabna
Date: July 09-10, from 7pm

Film Screening
Organiser: Dhaka University Film society
Title: Brazilian Film
Venue: Goethe-Institut, Dhanmondi
Date: July 03-04, at 3pm everyday
Schedule
July 03
The Motorcycle Diaries (Director: Walter Salles)
City of God (Director: Fernando Meirelles)
July 04
Behind the Sun (Director: Walter Salles)
Central Station (Director: Walter Salles)

Up-close

"An actor must do his homework" -- *Shahed*

NOVERA DEEPITA

THE young boy in a rocky relationship with an aging woman in *Kanamachhi Bho Bho* or the youngest son of the family struggling hard to get married in drama serial *Ebong Biye* or the long haired boy who does the salsa in a commercial of a soft drink -- are diverse characters played successfully by Shahed Sharif Khan, widely known as Shahed.

Shahed was involved with the theatre group Shubochon in 1993 but he quit the group a year later. In 1999, he got an offer for a television commercial of a ballpoint pen, through which he stepped into the entertainment world. In time, he became a popular face on TV through numerous commercials.

Meanwhile director Ringo asked him to act in the telefilm *Swapno*. The offer came as a surprise to Shahed, as he only had theatre experience. But Ringo had faith in Shahed and said, "You have a good voice and you have the potential to be a TV actor." So Shahed gave the telefilm a try and it was a breakthrough for him.

Soon Shahed got some other offers from makers Arun Chowdhury, Ringo, Ananta Hira and Arif Khan including *Ariana* and *Kanamachhi Bho Bho*. But Shahed says, "So far I think my best performance was *Sparsher Nayto Mon*, directed by Akhtar Ferdous Rana and written by Mohan Khan. I was gratified with my performance in *Shubhadrishti* by Rabindranath Tagore as well."

Shahed Sharif Khan

Shahed has worked in a couple of feature films including *Jayjatra, Juddher Phul, Hridoy Shudhu Tomar Jonno* and *Priyo Shathi*.

To quote Shahed, "When I started my acting career, powerful actors like Tauquir Ahmed, Zahid Hassan and Azizul Hakim were the most prominent names. It was quite difficult for any new comer to make room amongst these actors. Competition among the actors was also prevailing, as BTV was the only TV channel then."

About the basic qualities of an actor, Shahed says, "An actor must do his homework for a better performance in every new production. He must practise to develop his acting skills, work on voice modulation, do physical exercises to stay in shape and meditate to stay in peace with his inner self."

On typical television plays, Shahed says, "Initially the directors contact the performers and brief them on the roles. The directors usually consult the whole script in detail prior to shooting." However, Shahed thinks that the overall scenario is not professional at all. He says, "The basic problem is financial because the sponsors are reluctant to make an investment. Foreign models are being used in commercials only to reduce budget. Not all the directors are skilled even. There must be a code of conduct or a specific policy regarding such productions, which can check all kinds of disarray."

According to Shahed, "There are more opportunities for actors with the increased number of TV channels. However, while the number of productions are increasing, quality is not being assured." He is also emphatic that "There should be some restrictions about the broadcasting of the foreign channels, particularly since Bangladeshi channels are not aired abroad."

Exhibition

More forms of rickshaw art

FAYZA HAQ

In the recent residency programme of Britto, three artists -- Anura Krishantha from Sri Lanka, Malak Helmy from Egypt and Imran Hossain Piplu from Bangladesh -- worked together. The results of their work were recently exhibited at the Alliance Francaise gallery.

Anura Krishantha's first theme is love and memory and the second is a stolen wreath. Anura said that in the first case he has two chairs and a table with different designs and patterns that he saw around himself in Dhaka. There is a tiger skin replica, a crown, rickshaw designs. He said that he associates happiness with a home and so he has brought in furniture from a household. "While I've enjoyed myself very much here, I've missed my home which I've tried to depict in the chair and the table. I've tried to combine the colours that I've found here with those found back in Sri Lanka. There was someone I used to know with whom I spoke over this table and things I used to see. When I look at these things I recall the people who went with them."

Malak Helmy said, "I took elements from movie posters, designs found in the back of rickshaws and the idealistic heavenly village scenes found at the back of trucks, as they transport things from city to city. I've put them together to make my own movie posters.

"These images are new to me and yet recall the movie posters in Egypt. I see similarities in the culture that is here and what we have in Cairo. In my narrative iconography you can read the simplistic roles that have been dramatised.

"I've put myself in the roles. In the first is a woman with a PhD. There is then the president, his wife and her family. This is a romantic notion of a happy family under the mother's wing. In the dancing figure in *The age of corruption* one gets the other extreme. I have played with the three simplistic roles women are supposed to play. You see me playing the roles, responding to what I've seen around me, here, at the same time. Narrative iconography is a story told to you in a single poster. It is usually used in primitive forms of art and is sometimes also used to get a message across loud and clear. These images are often used as a form of propaganda in ads and movies. I've used my simplified literal images to tell a story of idealised desires as a woman. I'm poking fun. I'm basically having fun with the three roles. I've been here for about four weeks and I've found everything very visually stimulating."

The exhibition at Alliance Francaise gallery

Imran Hossain Piplu from Bangladesh said, "I've made a few toys with feathers, paper and wheels. The toys work with remote control. They stand for people who appear nice and friendly but who have other layers of evil qualities in them. These people put out a nice face to beguile society."

The results of the residency programme were presented at the exhibition and it was accompanied by photographs of more experimental work that the three had done earlier in Chittagong.

Event

15th anniversary of Prokash Shahitya Shangskritik Shangathan

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Cultural organisation Prokash Shahitya Shangskritik Shangathan yesterday celebrated its 15th anniversary with enthusiasm at the Nat Mandal auditorium, University of Dhaka.

The daylong celebration included discussion session, poetry recitation, musical presentation, rally and get-together of the members of the organisation. Four founder members of the group were given honorary awards for their contribution to establishing the organisation. The awardees are Dalia Ashraf, Gazi Sarwar Jahan Aupu, Muhammad Khan and Swandip Das.

Acclaimed recitor Bhaswar Bandyopadhyay inaugurated the show. Bhaswar has been involved with the organisation since it's foundation on June 26, 1990.

General Secretary of Shammilito Shangskritik Jote (SSJ) Golam Kuddus was the chief guest of the programme, while SSJ Joint Secretary recitor Hassan Arif and recitor Ahkam Ullah were special guests of the occasion.

The members of Prokash recited *Dao shoirjo dao dhoirjo* of Rebel Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam. Among the invited artistes Bhaswar Bandyopadhyay, Hassan Arif, Shimul Mustafa, Rezina Walli Leena and Ahkam Ullah also recited poems.

In the evening session, under the direction of the organisation's Secretary Fayzul Alam Pappu, the members of Prokash performed a group recitation of *Hing Ting Chhot* and *Amra Tamatey Jati* by Rabindranath Tagore and Muhammad Nurul Huda.

Other group and solo performances followed the performance. The session ended with a musical soiree participated by Menoka Sen, Proshenjit Dey, Supriya Paul, Rupu Khan, Sohana and Meera Mandal.

Blockbuster

War of the Worlds is out of this world!

In his latest movie *War of the Worlds,* Steven Spielberg marshals state-of-the-art tools of cinema and computerised imagery to mount eye-popping scenes of destruction, chaos and horror. Exploring the dark side of his old films *E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial* and *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, Spielberg more than does justice to the grandfather of all alien-invasion tales, H.G. Wells' still terrifying novel published in 1898. The real question the film raises is whether post-Sept. 11 audiences are ready to view destruction, chaos and horror as entertainment.

Most action films since that tragedy have involved either comic book characters, historic battles or ancient civilisations. But this movie on intergalactic war, starring Tom Cruise might be too realistic for its own good. The film takes perhaps a little too much glee in its abilities to manufacture mayhem. That being said, the ride is extraordinary.

Spielberg and his writers, Josh Friedman and David Koepp, opt to tell the invasion story through the eyes of Tom Cruise's character Ray Ferrier, a blue-collar guy with no plan of action other than the protection of his loved ones. It is a three-character drama with the world literally crashing down around their ears.

A scene from the film

But its how the world falls apart that amazes. At one point, an airline plunges to earth, but one can see only the heart-rending aftermath, as the protagonists have hidden in the basement next to the crash site. In another scene, a train roars past a crowd of fleeing refugees with each and every car consumed in flames. Then there is a ferry-boat, which aliens upend, spilling cars and people into the dark waters.

The writers retain several key elements from Wells' novel. An opening narration, gravely yet coolly voiced by Morgan Freeman echoes the ominous first lines from the novel, telling us that in the first years of the 21st century across the gulf of space, our world was being watched closely by intelligence greater than man's, who "regarded our planet with envious eyes."

Also the movie's death machines, the so-called Tripods, resemble the 100-foot-tall killing machines envisioned by Wells. And Spielberg's aliens, like Wells', suck blood from living humans for sustenance. This results in a startling image of a surreal, blood-sprayed, ruined landscape that is grotesque and fascinating at the same time.

The main humanising element in the movie is the team of Tom Cruise, as Ray and the young prodigy Dakota Fanning, as Ray's daughter Rachel. They play off the rise and fall of each other's emotions, each trying to coax the other into a false sense of security when the reality of their situation denies any such notion. If Ray didn't have a child to protect, he probably would be as lost as the mobs that surge haphazardly this way and that. With these two, its not always clear who is the child and who the adult, as the actors continually switch those roles in a juggling act of tense emotions.

Compiled by Cultural Correspondent

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 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 **5:30 pm.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

CHANNEL-i
09:45 *Tritiyo Matra*
10:45 *Na Bola Kotha*
11:30 *Chithi Pelam*
12:00 TVC Sky Shop
12:30 *Aj Dupurey O Citicell Taroka Kothon*
01:00 *Ebong Cinemar Gaan*
01:25 Public Reaction
01:30 *Shanbadporey Bangladesh*
02:30 *Rong Berong*
03:50 *Banglar Gaan*
04:20 *DVC Music Café Shurer Mela*
04:45 *Sa Re Ga Ma*
05:15 *Janopader Khabor*
05:30 *Sangeetmala*
06:00 Music Plus
06:30 Special Programme
07:50 Drama Serial: *Upakatha*
08:25 Drama Serial: *Nona Joler Kabya*
09:35 *Hridoye Mati O Manush*
10:00 Drama Serial: *Pothey Pothey Choltey Choltey*

ntv
08:30 *Aajker Shakal*
09:00 Drama Serial: *Kachher Manush*
09:30 Horlicks Genius Bangladesh
10:30 Bangla Feature Film
02:35 Drama Serial: *Kachher Manush*
03:15 Pepsi Music Express
03:50 Drama: *Bhalobashar Golpo*
04:25 Gallery
05:15 *Itihasher Ei Diney*
05:20 *Alokpat*
06:20 *Shubho Shondhya*
06:50 *Shangshkriti Ei Shoptaho*

08:15 Drama Serial: *Jhut Jhamela*
09:00 Special Telefilm: *Rupkatha*
11:25 *Dindarpan*

ATN BANGLA
10:30 *Annodrishtee*
11:30 *Char Deyaler Kabya*
12:15 Bangla Feature Film: *Kosom*
03:45 *Shurer Madhuri*
04:20 Children's Programme: *Cholo Gaan Gai*
05:10 Children's Programme: *Ishkul Bela*
05:45 *Islami Sawal O Jawab*
06:20 *Danish Pothey Pothey*
08:00 Drama Serial: *Jol Porey Pata Norey*
08:30 Drama Serial: *The New Shabuj Opera*
09:00 Drama Serial: *Lal Neel Beguni*
09:30 Drama Serial: *Ek Janomey*
10:35 Musical Programme: *Rock & Rhythm*
12:10 Bangla Feature Film: *Ghater Majhi*

HBO
8:30 Titanic Towin
10:30 Swept Away
12:30 21 Grams
3:00 Chill Factor
5:00 John Carpenter Presents Vampires : Los Muertos
7:00 Primal Fear
9:30 Along Came Polly
11:15 The Three Swordsmen
1:00 21 Grams

STAR MOVIES
8:05 Casper
9:50 Rocky
11:55 Stuck On You
1:55 Sabretooth
3:35 About A Boy
5:20 In Hell
7:00 Recruit, The
9:00 Random Hearts
11:15 What Planet Are You From?
12:50 Shark Zone

STAR GOLD
12:30 Chameli
4:30 Hatya
9:00 The Young Master & Dreadnaught

STAR PLUS
7:00 Geet Bahar
7:30 Aatma
8:30 Chupa Rustam
9:00 Taaza Hits
9:05 Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet
9:30 Kahani Jurrm Ki
10:00 Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet
10:30 Dharam Aur Hum
11:25 Film Topper
11:30 Jai Ganga Maiya
12:30 Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet
12:55 Taaza Hits
1:00 Star Bestsellers
2:00 Taaza Hits
2:05 Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet
2:25 Film Topper
6:00 Musafir Hoon Yaaron
6:30 Aladdin
7:00 Hercules
7:25 Film Topper
7:30 Piya Bina
8:00 Pardey Ke Peechey
8:30 Khhulja Sim Sim
9:30 Ishq Vishk

STAR WORLD
12:30 Adventure Divas
1:30 The King Of Queens
2:00 Yes Dear
2:30 Boston Public
3:30 The Kumars At No. 42
4:30 Breaking The Magicians Code 4
5:30 One Tree Hill
6:30 The X Files
7:30 Stupid Behavior Caught On Tape
8:00 Weird Tv
8:30 Tna Xplosion
9:30 The World's Greatest Hoaxes
10:30 Dog The Bounty Hunter
11:00 Cops
11:30 Stark Raving Mad
12:00 Stupid Behavior Caught On Tape

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
11:00 Serious: Desert
11:30 Backyard Science
11:45 Doc Eureka
12:00 Serious: Desert
12:30 Wildlife Detectives
1:00 Monkey Business
1:30 Storm Stories
2:30 Built For Destruction
3:30 Egypt's Hidden Treasure
4:00 Mummy Road Show
4:30 Frontlines Of Construction
5:30 Hidden Genders
6:30 Seconds From Disaster
7:30 Truth Files
8:30 Hong Kong's Big Bet
9:30 Showreal Asia
10:30 Ultimate Survivor:Mystery Of Us

ANIMAL PLANET
10:00 Monkey Business
10:30 The Planet's Funniest Animals
11:00 Amazing Animal Videos
11:30 Ultimate Killers Deadly Defenders
12:00 Predators Mass Attack
12:30 Growing up Wild.....Penguin
1:30 King of the Jungle Finale
3:30 Wildlife Specials Gorilla
4:30 Animal Planet Reveals Asia Dogs of Peace
5:30 The Most Extreme, The Monsters
6:30 Animal Miracles Saving Grace
7:30 On The Edge Mad Mike and Mark Year Elephant Crush
8:30 Animals A-Z Shadow of the Hare
9:00 Animals A-Z Wildboar King of the Wildwood
9:30 Wildlife Specials Crocodile
10:30 Land of the Tiger Mountains of the Gods
11:30 Wild Encounters Leopard Son

DISCOVERY
10:30 Discovery Showcase Secrets of the Kentucky Derby
11:30 Spy Stories Cia : Hollywood Spytek
12:30 Wild Discovery Piranha Adventure
1:30 Future Perfect Robosapiens
2:30 Unsolved History Season Kal-007
3:30 Discovery Showcase Machine Gun
4:30 Spy Stories Top Secrets of the C.I.A.
5:30 Truth or Scare 2
6:00 Living Pulse 2
6:30 Junkyard Wars 10 Jet Trikes
7:30 Wild Discovery Alaska's Great Sea Lion Mystery
8:30 Discover India Yatra
9:30 Conspiracies on Trial Rudolf Hess : The Final Flight
10:00 Great Romances of the 20th Century Amelia Earhart & George Putnam
10:30 Discovery Wings Extreme Air Speed Gliding Larissa, Greece
11:30 Supernatural Science Mysteries Atlantis Found?

STAR SPORTS
7:00 Extreme Programming Wild Spirits 2004/05 (R)
7:30 Golf Focus (R)
8:00 Icc Cricket World (T)
8:30 Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Championships London Uk Day #11 Highlights(R)
9:30 Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Championships London Uk Men's Singles Semifinals(R)
1:30 Cricket Gold (T)
3:30 Gillette World Sports Special 2005 (T)
3:57 Football Asia (T)
4:27 World Superbike Championships 2005 San Marino Highlights(T)
4:57 Formula One Qualifying 2005 Magny Cours France French Grand Prix Qualifying (L)
6:00 Cricket Classics Super Doubles (T)
6:30 Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Championships Ladies Singles/Men's & Mixed Dbles
12:00 Formula One Qualifying 2005 Magny Cours France French Grand Prix Qualifying (R)

ESPN
7:00 Sportscenter Asia (R)
7:30 Espn School Quiz 2005 (R)
8:00 World Pool Championships 2005 Kaohsiung World Pool Championship Kaohsiung City Chinese Taipei DaP1 1st Session(L)
11:30 Sportscenter Week In Review (T)
12:00 World Pool Championships 2005 Kaohsiung World Pool Championship Kaohsiung City Chinese Taipei Day1 2nd Session(L)
3:30 Hitz (R)
3:43 Tri-Series In England The Natwest Series England Vs Australia Final10th Odi1st Session(L)
7:15 Tri-Series In England Lunch Show (Icc Super Series Squad) (L)
7:45 Tri-Series In England The Natwest Series England Vs Australia

PICK OF THE DAY

Along Came Polly
On HBO at 9:30pm
Genre: Comedy / Romance
Cast: Ben Stiller, Jennifer Aniston
Directed by John Hamburg

Rupkatha
On ntv at 9:00pm
Special Telefilm
Cast: Srabonti, Murad Parvez, Inamul Haque
Directed by Shihab Shahin