

CULTURAL FEAST

Exhibition

Title: Places, spaces
Artist: Kashif Mahboob Chowdhury
Venue: Goethe-Institute, Dhanmondi
Date: June 29-July 14

Video Screening

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

CD Release

Title: Patar Bhela Bhashai
Artist: Shahnaz Nasreen Ila
Guest: Professor Anisuzzaman
Venue: Bengal Shilpalay, 275/F, Road 27 (Old), Dhanmondi
Date: July 07, at 7pm

Live Concert

Title: Live Now
Organiser: Shabab Murshid Foundation (SMF)
Venue: National Museum, Shahbagh (opposite to Aziz Super Market)
Date: July 7, from 1pm
Bands: Artcell, Cryptic Fate, The Watson Brothers, Breach, dNA, Fulbanu's Revenge, Birodh, Nemesis, Bivishika, Delude, CnG, Baahznougt, and CCCCP

Film Screening

Organiser: High Commission of India
Venue: Indian Cultural Centre, House 25, Road 96, Gulshan-1
Date: July 4-22
Schedule: July 6 Koshish, July 7 Mausam, July 8 Dadar Kirti (Bangla), July 11 Junoon, July 15 Nazar, July 18 Biyallish, July 22 Zeher

Play

Title: Kanjush
Group: Loko Natya Dal
Venue: Mahila Shamiti Auditorium, Baily Road
Date: July 6, from 7pm

Title: Metamorphosis

Group: Centre for Asia Theatre
Venue: Goethe-Institute, Dhanmondi
Date: July 7, from 7pm

Title: Brand

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

Title: Binodini

Group: Dhaka Theatre
Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: July 09, from 7pm

Title: Prachya

Group: Dhaka Theatre
Venue: Mahila Samiti Auditorium, Baily Road
Date: July 16, from 7pm

Remembering Khondokar Faruq Ahmed

NOVERA DEEPITA

NEEL akasher nichey ami rasta cholechhi eka--there would be hardly any moviegoer of the 1960s-70s who has not heard the song by the late Khondokar Faruq Ahmed. A very popular singer of the time, Faruq was one of the pioneers of the golden era of modern Bangla songs, especially film songs.

Many other songs by Faruq Ahmed became instant hits and attained similar popularity and are still very prominent to this date. Indeed, songs like Kachhey asho jodi boli from Abirbab, Ami kar jonno patho cheye robo from Amar Prem, and Tomari upohar ami chirodin from Upohar still play in the minds of the elderly as well as allure the young generation by the inherent romanticism of their lyrics and melody.

Today is the 65th birth anniversary of Khondokar Faruq Ahmed. Born in 1940 in Bogra, Faruq was passionate about singing since his school days. It was as early as in the 1950s when he developed interest in music--the soundtracks of the movies he used to watch at the local movie theatre Indrapuri in his hometown.

He took his primary lessons in music under Ustad Bimalendu Dewan. His other mentors of classical music were Ustad Yusuf Khan and Ustad PC Gomez. But it was not until he came to Dhaka and met great singers like Anwar Uddin Khan and Najmul Huda Bachchu that he took music seriously and cherished to build a career. These musicians, especially Anwar Uddin Khan, paved his musical career by promoting him in radio and TV. Tuned by Anwar, Faruq's debut song on radio was Joarer gaan shagor shonar in 1961. His first hit on radio was Shohagi go ki debey bolo. Soon Faruq was enlisted in television.

It was in the early 1960s when Faruq stepped into the celluloid world with his melodious voice. In Narayan Ghosh Mita's film Chawa Pawa he



Khondokar Faruq Ahmed recording a song

marked his debut performance with the song Rikto hatey jarey phirney diley tuned by eminent music composer Satya Saha.

As Faruq's voice was very melodious and appealing, many romantic hit songs in movies of the time followed. Ami nijer mane nijei jeno goponey dhora porechhi, Dhaka shohor aisha amar and Amar bou keno kotha koy na are some of his hit numbers from different movies including Ashikkhito, Bahram Badshah, Alor Michhil, Shamadhanand Malika Banu.

Faruq was chosen the best singer by Express, an exclusive periodical by Zahir Raihan in 1969. The same year, he was also voted the best singer by the TV. He received a gold medal from proletarian leader Maulana Bhashani in 1970 for his song Rickshawala bole karey tumi aj koro ghrina. In 1974,

Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman awarded Faruq as the Best singer of the year for Faruq's performance in Alor Michhil and Malika Banu.

As a singer Khondokar Faruq also used to inspire his wife Parveen Begum. "It was Faruq who motivated me as a singer in the media," says Parveen. "I still remember our first meeting. I was a student of the Department of Political Science in Dhaka University. I went to his house to request him for a performance in our department's cultural programme. He was pleased to know that I was also interested in singing. Later, he guided me to develop my singing career." Parveen still reminisces their first duet Tumiar amon TV in late '60s.

A memory that Faruq always cherished in his heart was his first

meeting with music maestro SD Burman. As Parveen says, "It was in 1972, Faruq performed in a cultural show held in Bombay, where SD Burman was also present. Faruq's soulful singing as well as his catchy dialect of Brahmanbaria amused Burman." And after that performance, SD Burman was so moved that he instantly blessed Faruq, saying, "You are bound to go distances as an artiste."

Those words had always inspired Faruq for the rest of his life. And as a popular singer of our golden era of music, he will hold a special place in the hearts of the Bangla music lovers. Khondokar Faruq Ahmed passed away on July 11, 2001.

Piano enthusiasts from Ecole de Musique Bringing Chopin and Bach for an evening's treat

FAYZA HAQ

It was heartening to have the fresh young faces of the Ecole de Musique opening the recent Fete de la Musique with their tinkling notes. Even though the pianists at Alliance Francaise were so young, they handled Mozart, Beethoven and Chopin with aplomb. This was because of the careful training under Mahjabeen Rahman.

Tabassum Mahjabeen, a BBA student, the oldest of the group, said that she took up the piano as she liked the different variations of the scales. She has been studying piano music for nine years and hopes to carry on with it in future. So far she has had four teachers. She played Pecetti and CPE Bach, Chopin being her favourite. She usually practices after dinner for half an hour.

Aditya, a teenager, took up the

piano because of the melody and says, "It will always be a part of my life." Asked who his favourite composer was, he said, "It's Chopin. I adore his style, rhythm and melodies. I play one of the pieces in the concert." His parents encourage him at home. Asked if he regarded his music as some fun type pass time or something serious, he said, "It's a bit of both. You've to enjoy it in order to play it well."

Sadia Zaman said, "I hope to take up piano music even when I'm grown up. Now I devote an hour every day to the piano, and play extra during the concert comes up. I'm lucky that my parents encourage me." Mahsima Kamal said, "I began learning at the Yamaha school in Malaysia. I hope to take the piano seriously when I'm older too. I prefer it to other music such as that of the guitar or flute. For the concert I play 'Gavort' by John Alcock and two

other pieces by Mozart and Bartok. Marilyn Shirley Louis was another eager debutante on that day of replete piano music. She too puts in a fair measure of time for her music. She played "Romeo and Juliet" by Charles Gounod and "Expectation Waltz" by Stephen Foster.

Five-year-old Ayaz, who played "Yankie Doodle" and "Nonsense Song" said that he loved the piano. His father, who used to play in a band at one time, helps him pick up the notes.

Mahjabeen Rahman began the Ecole de Musique five years back, with the encouragement of the then Alliance Francaise Director Christophe Steyer. She said, "I prefer to teach students below the age of 16 as they tend to continue with their piano classes. I plan to study piano overseas myself in the future."



Mahjabeen Rahman (L) seen with her students

Mujibur Rahman Dilu in coma

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Actor-director Mujibur Rahman Dilu is in serious condition at Woodland Hospital in Kolkata. A few days earlier he went to Kolkata and suddenly came down with GBS Syndrome. He is now in coma.

He was acclaimed for his portrayal of the role, Malu in the TV drama serial Shangshoptak. A popular name in the theatre arena in Bangladesh, he has worked for different theatre troupes. His is currently with Dhaka Drama Natyadal. Mujibur Rahman Dilu has adapted, directed and acted in several stage plays. Among the plays adapted and directed by Dilu, Aami Gadhha Bolchhi, Janotar Rangoshala, Nana Ranger Dinguli received plaudits from both critics and the audience.

He is the coordinator of Tonatuni, a popular children's organisation. Tonatuni's production Toray Bandha Ghorar Dim has received rave reviews in Bangladesh and India. Dilu is 53.



Lalan and Lalshalu to participate in Indian Film Festival



Lalan and Lalshalu, directed by renowned film maker Tanvir Mokammel has been invited to the 10th Trivandram International Film Festival to be held from July 29-August 4, says a press release. Lalan will be screened in the Asian Films section and Lalshalu will be screened in the World Films section. Trivandram International Film Festival is the most significant film festival held in India. Lalan had been screened at film festivals held in London, Fufuoka and Goa and eight National Award winner Lalshalu has been screened at film festivals in London, Rotterdam, Belgium, South Korea, Montreal, Vancouver, Rome, Fufuoka and Delhi. A scene from Lalan is seen in the photograph.

Up-close "Every actor does good and bad films" -- Shilpa

After silencing her critics by her remarkable performance as an HIV positive woman in Revathi's Phir Milenge, Shilpa has finally stepped out of her nymph image. The sultry siren refuses to go back to the stereotypical roles and is on the look out for more meaningful characters. After experimenting in Deepak Tijori's Khamosh, Shilpa is back with Fareb. This is the first time she appears on screen with her sister Shamita and the talented Manoj Bajpai. Here's what Shilpa had to say about her recent movies and experiences.

About her upcoming movie Fareb, Shilpa shares, "My character is of a doctor named Neha, who is also a devoted wife. If I have to describe this woman in one line, she is the ideal Indian woman. I think I would love to be someone like Neha, she is a very simple and thoughtful person. She is someone very humane and that is something her husband also admires her for."

"It was a fun experience working with my sister in the film. The strength of the film is definitely the performances of all the artistes. It was a difficult role for Shamita, but she has carried it off beautifully. Manoj, as always has given an astounding performance. I, to an extent have tried to match up to his performance."

On the process of learning, Shilpa says, "Everyday I try to learn something from people



around me. What I have learnt from Shamita is that patience and craving for perfection pay off big-time. Also, I am someone who to a certain extent would compromise but she believes that one shouldn't compromise in life."

About the story line of the movie, Shilpa says, "There are a lot of emotions projected on different levels, which make this film very interesting. It's about a husband who is betraying his wife and he is also feeling bad while doing so. His wife is totally unaware of what is happening and it also depicts emotions of the other woman who wants this man completely."

What are her upcoming projects? Shilpa says, "After Fareb, Dus will be released, after which I have not signed anything new. However, I am going through scripts. I just don't want to do mediocre work anymore."

"I will do good films and entertain the audiences and that's what I want to keep in mind. After Phir Milenge, my perspectives have changed and now I want to do movies that satisfy me as an actress. I want to play characters I have never played before, so I am searching something that interests me," says a radiant Shilpa.

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, 12:15am. 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 5:30pm, 7:30pm. Tara News (Bangla) at 8:30pm, 11:30pm. Tara News Bangladesh (Bangla) at 9:30 pm. BBC WORLD Every hour on the hour

BTV 07:30 Shubhechha Nin 09:00 Satellite Programme 12:15 Shongbad Potrer Pata Thekey 12:30 Shastho Tathya 01:05 Jibon Bangladesh 02:05 Moron Bangladesh Children's Programme: Sisimpur 02:30 Hijol Tomal 03:05 Open University 03:35 Geeto Bitan 05:05 Mati O Manush 07:00 News Headlines, Share Market, Weather Forecast 07:30 Amra Shobai Jantey Chai 08:25 Protidin Bangladesh 09:00 Drama Serial: Shantikunjo 10:25 Teknaf Theke Tetulla 11:00 Band Show 12:05 Satellite Programme CHANNEL i 09:30 Shongbad Potrey Bangladesh and Public Reaction 09:45 Tritiyo Matra 10:45 Sports Time 11:30 Agora Shopping Guide 12:30 Aaj Dupurey O Citicell Tarokakothon (live) 01:00 Ebong Cinemar Gaan 04:20 Boi Ebong Boi Sa Re Ga Ma

05:15 Janapader Khobor 06:00 Music Plus 06:30 Campus 07:55 RC Travel On 08:25 Drama Serial: Ek Akasher Tara 09:35 Drama Serial: Din Choley Jay 10:00 Drama Serial: Mega Bond ATN BANGLA 10:30 Onnodrishti 11:05 Kotha Mala 11:35 Drama Serial: Flat No. 40 12:15 Musical Programme 12:50 Band Show: Ganey Shurey Tarunye 01:25 Motamot 02:30 Drama Serial: Jol Mohol 03:15 Drama Serial: Nana Ronger Din 03:50 Drama Serial: New Files 04:25 Cinema Cinema 05:10 BSB Education Zone 05:45 Islami Sawal O Jawab (live) 06:20 The Sword of Tipu Sultan 08:00 Drama Serial: Tanaporen 08:30 Drama Serial: Shukher Lagiya 09:00 Drama Serial: Bayoscope 09:30 Drama Serial: Shadakalo

PICK OF THE DAY



Kichu Kotha Kichu Gaan On ntv at 8:50pm Musical programme hosted by Syed Abdul Hadi Tonight's guests: Fatema Tuz Zohra, Rafiqul Alam



Swordfish On HBO at 9:30pm Genre: Action/Adventure Cast: John Travolta, Hugh Jackman, Halle Berry

ntv 08:35 Aajker Shokal 09:30 Frankly Speaking 10:05 Images of Lights 10:30 Gallery 11:00 Transworld Sports 12:05 Shurer Jolsha 01:00 Muktagon 01:25 TVC 02:35 Drama Serial: Belabhumii 03:15 Dance Programme: Nupoor 04:25 Cholochchitro Kotha 05:15 Din Darpan 06:20 Shubho Shondha 06:50 Ain O Jibon / Nari 08:20 Siddiqua Kabir's Recipe 08:50 Kichu Kotha Kichu Gaan (Today's guests: Fatema Tuz Zohra and Md Rafiqul Alam) 09:40 Drama Serial: Sheola (Last Episode) HBO 8:30 The Godfather 12:00 It Takes Two 2:00 Consequence 4:00 Friday The 13th Part VII- The New Blood

05:45 Beethoven 7:30 Detroit Rock City 9:30 Swordfish 11:30 Along Came Polly STAR MOVIES 12:15 Blind Horizon 2:00 Slammed 3:40 Sabretooth 5:20 Dick 7:00 Face/Off 9:20 Shadow Of Fear 10:55 Opening Night STAR GOLD 9:25 Sarhad Par Urmila Ke Sang 10:25 Kuch Hit Kuch

6:30 Aladdin Hercules 7:00 Hercules 7:30 Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan Princess Dollieauruskamagibag 8:30 Dekkho Magar Pyar Se 9:00 Kasautii Zindagii Kay 9:30 Miliee 10:00 Kavyanjali 10:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii 11:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bhu Thi 11:30 Kahini To Hoga 12:00 K. Street Pali Hill STAR WORLDw 10:30 Ed 11:30 Extreme Bloopers 12:30 Miss Match 1:30 Breaking The Magicians Code 4 2:28 Star Asia Travel 2:30 Oprah Winfrey Show 4:30 Hollywood Squares 5:00 Whose Line Is It Anyway 5:30 Buffy The Vampire Slayer 6:30 The Simpsons 7:00 That 70s Show 7:30 Friends 8:30 Newsradio 8:30 The Practice 9:30 Breaking The Magicians Code 1 10:30 J.A.G. 11:28 Star Asia Travel STAR PLUS 12:30 Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet 12:55 Taaza Hits 2:00 Bhabhi 2:30 Kesar 3:00 Saarrthi 5:25 Film Topper 6:00 Tedhe Medhe Sapney

Extremes Downunder (R) 12:30 Track & Field/ Athletics laaf Outdoor Gp 2005 - Prefontaine Classic Eugene Or Usa (R) 2:00 Pga Europro Tour Pga Europro Tour 2005 Cambridgehire United Kingdom Highlights(R) 4:30 Tna Wrestling Programming Tna Wrestling (T) 5:30 Samsung Nations Cup Samsung Nations Cup 2005 Hamina Finland Highlights(T) 9:00 Inside The Pga Tour (T) 9:30 Wrestling Real Professional Wrestling 2005 Highlights(T) 10:30 Sportsline (R) 11:00 Tna Wrestling Programming Tna Wrestling (R) 12:00 Golf Focus (T) ESPN 8:00 Sportscenter India Sportscenter Update 11:30 Sportscenter India (R) 8:30 Gymnastics Fig World Cup 2005/06 Cottbus Germany (T) 11:00 Tour De France Tour Stage #4(S) 11:30 Tri-Series In England The Natwest Series Cardiff Wales Australia Vs Bangladesh 2nd Odi Highlights(R)

2:30 World Pool Championships 2005 Kaohsiung World Pool Championship Kaohsiung City Chinese Taipei Day 5 1st Session(L) 5:30 School Quiz Show Espn School Quiz 2005 (T) 6:00 X Games Invitational Legends Of The X - Eito & Takeshi Yasutoko Rajamangala Thailand (T) 6:30 World Pool Championships 2005 Kaohsiung World Pool Championship Kaohsiung City Chinese Taipei Day5 2nd Session(L) 9:00 World Pool Championships 2005 Kaohsiung World Pool Championship Kaohsiung City Chinese Taipei Day 5 2nd Session(L) 11:30 Sportscenter Sportscenter India (R) 8:00 Gamer TV 10:00 WWE Raw 1:00 Tour De France, Day 3 2:00 Golf Highlights 2:30 Red Bull Air Race World Series 3:30 Champ Car World Series H/Ls: Cleveland, USA