CULTURAL FEAST

Exhibition
Title: Places, spaces
Artist: Kashef Mahboob Chowdhury
Venue: Goethe-Institute, Dhanbmondi
Date: June 29-July 14

Artist: 12 artists who participated in Watercolour Artist Camp held at Khagrachhari
Venue: Shilpakala Academy, Shegun Bagicha
Date: July 12-21, from 11am to 7pm on weekdays and 3pm to 8pm on Fridays

Film Screening
Organiser: High Commission of India
Venue: Indian Cultural Centre, House 25, Road 96, Gulshan-1
Date: July 4-22
Schedule

July 15	Nazar
July 18	Biyallish
July 22	Zeher

Title: German Feature Film
Venue: Goethe-Institute, Dhanbmondi
Date: July 17-25
Show-times: 3:30pm, 5:30pm, 7:30pm

Play
Title: Roktokarobi
Group: Nagorik Nattya Shamproday
Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: July 12, from 7pm

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

Group Exhibition
Artist: Eleven artistes from Chittagong
Venue: Alliance Francaise, 26, Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi
Date: July 08-14

CD Release
Title: Trishna Amar Hariye Gechhey
Lyricist: KG Mustafa
Organiser: Panchashwar
Guests: Kalim Sharafi, Robin Ghosh, Subal Das, Mobarok Hossain Khan
Venue: Goethe-Institute, House 10, Road 09, Dhanmondi
Date: July 15, at 6:30pm

Drama Festival
Occasion: Staging of plays directed by the students of Dramatics Department of Dhaka University
Organiser: Department of Theatre and Music, Dhaka University
Venue: Nat Mandal Auditorium, Dhaka University
Date: July 10-17

Photography Exhibition
Title: Quest for Harmony
Artist: Noazesh Ahmed
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, Dhanbmondi
Date: July 11-24, from 12pm to 8pm

Musical Soiree
Title: Rabindranather Borshar Gaan
Artiste: Anisur Rahman
Programme: Musical soiree followed by a CD release programme
Organiser: Weekly Annanya and D Net
Venue: National Museum Auditorium, Shahbagh
Date: July 15, at 7pm

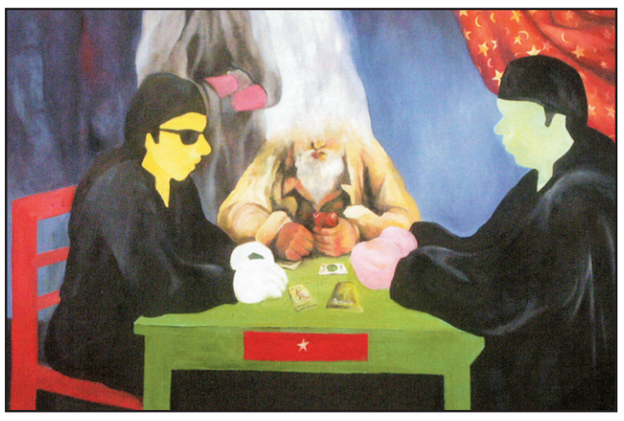
Cultural Programme
Title: Dhakay Nazrul
Discussants: Begum Selima Rahman, Sadek Hossain Khoka, ANM Ehsanul Haque, Khilkhil Qazi
Programme: Discussion session followed by prize distribution among the winners of children's competition and musical soiree
Venue: Nazrul Institute, Dhanmondi
Date: July 14, at 4pm

Display

Dialogue between two cultures

Zahed Ali Chowdhury's interpretation of Georges Seurat's *La Grande Jatte*

Ashraful Hasan's version of Eugene Delacroix's *La Liberte Guidant le Peuple*



Sanjib Barua's transformation of Paul Cezanne's *Les Joueurs De Cartes*

FAYZA HAQ

DHALI Al Mamoon explained that he had recently run a workshop in painting to create a dialogue between French and Bangladeshi culture. The result of the workshop was recently on view at the Alliance Francaise gallery.

"We decided to reconstruct some well-known French paintings, according to the needs of the 21st century. The young artists interpreted the masterpieces in their own way and created canvases based on these well-known paintings. They had transferred the main idea according to the local concept, in terms of the technique and the content. We told the artists that they could not change the basic composition, although they could change the language and the treatment. One should be able to understand that the painting is based on *Luncheon on the grass* or *Liberty leading*," said Dhali Al Mamoon.

Toufiq took *Luncheon on the grass* and showed how Bangalees love going to Chittagong for holidays. In the background, an ethnic character is put in a hazy manner. This is to show the rift between the Hill Tracts people and the Bangalees. The green, shadowy version of the picnic presents a night scene with local sex workers.

Shaila Sharmeen has worked on Delacroix's painting on liberty connected with the French Revolution. She has also brought in the Statue of Liberty and the situation in the Middle East along with the images of the burning twin towers of USA and two paper boats. Ancient Babylonian civilization has also been included in the canvas. The main figure is wearing a sari instead of a skirt and blouse. A third interpretation by Nupur showed lack of order in the cities with kidnapping, theft and murder being rampant. Ashraful Hasan had interpreted the same Delacroix painting by bringing in branches, trunks and roots of trees where there were human figures in the original. The flag of Bangladesh had been subtly included too.

Georges Seurat's *Grande jatte* has been converted into Patenga beach by Hasna Hena. She brought in her own experiences of how she had to wear a *burkha* when she was in a school. The artist had included religious zealots with round caps and beards. Osman Pasha had his own interpretation of the painting. He had included the plight of physically handicapped people in his adaptation of Seurat's work. Zahid Ali's interpretation of the same painting by Seurat included animals, birds and fish along with deities and mermaid-type creatures. The border of the canvas was made to appear like garish rickshaw art in orange, green and yellow. Dots had been included in a big way on the entire canvas.

Tasadduk Hossain Dulu had taken Cezanne's *Card players* and put his own characters in *gamchcha* and *genji*. A female figure had been included which was not there in the original. One of the characters had his own face with the walrus moustache and very little hair on the head.

"It was not easy to select the masterpieces to be adapted by our own artists. It is also not easy to assimilate a painting going by local elements found in it. The park and card players could have their counterparts, I had thought. Similarly, the theme of the revolutionary war and the picnic could be adapted too," said Dhali Al Mamoon.

The artists who had taken part in the workshop were Asraful Hasan, Goutom Paul, Hasna Hena, Toufiqul Islam Bhuiyan, Saem Hossen, Osman Pasha, Sajib Barua, Shaila Sharmin, Tasadduk Hossain Dulu, Yasmin Jahan Nupur and Zahed Ali Chowdhury.

Q&A

" I would like to enact a cold-blooded killer in a 'whodunit' thriller. "
-- Ferdousi Majumdar

Calling Ferdousi Majumdar 'the first lady of Bangladeshi theatre' would not be an overstatement. Very few young women from educated-conservative families dared to be a part of theatre when she stepped in. Her performances in Meraj Fokirer Ma, Payer Awaaj Paowa Jai *and* Akhono Kritodash *will always keep her alive in the hearts of theatre aficionados. She played all the characters in the play,* Kokilara, *a first of its kind in the history of Bangladeshi theatre. She is also one of the pioneers among TV actresses. TV audiences still remember her performances in drama serials such as* Shongshaptak *and* Ami Tumi Shey.

What is Ferdousi like in real life? Here's a glimpse:

What is your most treasured possession?
My daughter Tropa.

A character you desperately want to play…
I would like to enact a cold-blooded killer in a 'whodunit' thriller.

Something about you that your fans might not know…
I don't opt for characters who resemble me. It's just not challenging enough.

Who are your favourite actors?
Golam Mustafa, Abdullah Al Mamun, Humayun Faridee, Subarna, late Najma Anwar and Aly Zaker. I must mention here that I was often amazed by Najma's seriousness when it came to acting. She had everything, including costumes and make up, down to the last ***note.***

Best compliments you have received…
I play a basti *(slum) dweller in* Akhono Kritodash. *After a show in Chittagong, a man asked me, "Did you live in a* basti *at some point of your life?"*

My character in Payer Awaaj Paowa Jai *commits suicide after some dialogues. Actor Al Mansur used to say, "I attend every show just to see this particular scene."*

After being to a show of Dui Bon, *late Jahanara Imam said to me, "I thought your tears would never stop."*

You are widely recognised as…
Hurmoti from Shongshaptak, *even after all these years.*

A shocking experience…
At a performance staging of Tomrai *at the Mahila Samity stage, a dog, out of nowhere walked up to the stage. Abdullah Al Mamun and I were in the middle of a very seriou s scene and I was so startled to see the dog, I couldn't think straight. To help me, Mamun kicked the dog gently so it would go away.*

Any regrets?
None whatsoever.

Where do you see yourself 10 years from now?
I don't believe in planning. I live in the present and that's what I'm always concerned about.

A New Testament of Romeo and Juliet staged in Dhaka

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

It's back to the grassroots for Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation (BGTF). The two organisations have undertaken a joint initiative to reinvigorate theatre at the district level. As part of the promotional activity of the theatre practice, each month a district level troupe performs at the Mahila Samity Stage, the nucleus of theatre activities in Bangladesh.

A scene from the play

Swabdabali Group Theatre, a troupe from Barisal, staged *A New Testament of Romeo and Juliet* recently at the Mahila Samity Stage.

The presentation of Shakespeare's classics with a new approach is a popular genre in global theatre. Most of the European directors have staged Shakespearean plays with a unique interpretation. Director of *A New Testament of Romeo and Juliet*, Saidur Rahman Lipon, said, "What is the relevance of staging Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* today in Bangladesh? The main focus of the tragedy is the social barrier that comes in the way of love. The theme has universal appeal. If we present *Romeo and Juliet* as per the text of Shakespeare, the Bangladeshi audience may not receive the universal message. It would be closer home for them to see familiar characters delivering the same message. Moreover, we have raised a few questions on secularism."

Playwright Simon Zakaria has added new characters and sequences to familiarise the audience with the play. Simon said, "*A New Testament of Romeo and Juliet* is the output of our teamwork. I have drawn from the philosophies of Rabindranath Tagore, Lalon Shah, Durbin Shah and my own interpretation for the play. That is why the title of the play is *A New Testament of Romeo and Juliet*."

Wasim Hawlader performed in the role of Romeo while Nabila Nasrin enacted the role of Juliet.

Final round of Close up 1 'Tomakai Khujche Bangladesh' begins in Dhaka

After covering 11 districts, the first round of musical talent search, Close up 1 'Tomakai Khujche Bangladesh' began in Dhaka on July 10 and will continue till July 17 at the Biam Auditorium, says a press release. About 22, 000 enthusiasts have registered so far for the contest. In Dhaka a record number of 1,100 aspirants have faced the audition, out of which 49 have made the grade.

An aggregate of 15,000 young talents (in the age group of 16-30) have competed from 10 centres. So far, 75 promising talents have been chosen in the second round.

The selection round of Dhaka will begin on July 16 and continue till July 19. The final round will be in Dhaka, from where the most talented singer will emerge. There will be 11 judgement panels, comprising 22 eminent musical personalities of the country. In the selection round, the main judges are Imtiaz Bulbul, Shakila Zafar and Kumar Biswajit.

A contestant facing the judges at the audition round (above) and a partial view of the record number of participants in Dhaka

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

BTV
08:40 *Bishwa Protidin*
09:00 Satellite Programme
12:30 *Shasthya Tathya*
01:30 Educational Programme
02:05 Computer round
02:30 *Darpan*
03:05 Open University Programme
04:05 *Shangeeta*
04:30 *Shukhi Paribar*
05:05 *Probash Mela*
06:35 Chittagong Programmes
07:00 News Headlines, Weather forecast, Share Market
07:05 *Quiz Quiz*
07:30 Musical Programme
08:25 *Protidin Bangladesh*
08:30 Home Circus
09:00 Drama Serial: *Arshinagar*
10:25 *Teknaf Theke Tatulia*
10:30 *Sonali Shokal*
12:05 Satellite Programme

CHANNEL i
09:30 *Shongbad Potrey Bangladesh*
09:45 *Tritio Matra*
10:45 Grameen Phone Cricket Online
11:30 *Aamar Chhobi*
12:00 *Chithi Pelam*
12:30 *Aaj Dupurey*
01:00 *Ebong Cinemar Gaan*
01:25 Public Reaction
01:35 Special Programme
03:50 *Banglar Gaan*
04:20 Musical Programme
04:45 *Sa Re Ga Ma*
05:30 i Sports
06:00 Music Plus
06:30 *Amader Adibashi*
07:50 Drama Serial: *Poribar O Ekti Company*
08:25 Drama Serial: *Ek Akasher Tara*
09:35 Drama Serial: *Chalchhe Chalbey*
10:00 Close-up Juke Box

ntv
08:30 *Aajker Shakal*
09:05 Drama Serial: *Bela Bhumi*
09:30 *Khaborer Shondhyane*
10:05 *Bhinyo Swader Khabor*
10:30 *Alochon*
11:00 *Chhobir Gaan*
11:30 *Ei Amader Gram*
12:02 Single Episode Drama
02:30 Drama Serial: *Jhut Jhamela*
03:15 *Tifiner Fankey*
03:40 *Swarbarno Theatre*
04:25 Gallery
05:15 *Itihasher Ei Diney*
06:20 *Shubho Shondhya*
06:50 *Shiray Shonity*
08:10 Drama Serial: *Bela Bhumi*
08:50 *Nupur*
09:40 Drama Serial: *Rangchhut*
11:25 *Dindarpan*

ATN BANGLA
10:30 Talk Show: *Annodrishti*
11:05 Drama Serial: *Mohona*
11:35 Business this Week
12:15 *Amar Computer*
12:50 Musical Programme
01:25 *Cine Gaan*
02:30 Drama Serial: *Ghunpoka*
03:15 Drama Serial: *O Amar Chokkhu Nai*
03:50 Drama Serial: *Bhawal Raja Shannyashi*
04:25 *Shomoshamoyik*
05:10 *Nari*
05:45 *Islami Sawal Jawab*
06:20 *Aynar Shamney*
08:00 Drama Serial: *Shukhnagar Apartment*
08:30 Drama Serial: *Shikor*
09:00 Drama Serial: *Shukher Lagiya*
09:30 *Ek Dui Teen*
10:35 Law Based Programme

HBO
10:00 Tommy Boy
12:00 Juwanna Mann
2:00 When Strangers Appear
4:00 Joe's Apartment
5:45 Beetlejuice
7:45 Billy Madison
9:30 Sleepy Hollow
11:45 Sex and the City 53 : Ghost Town
12:30 The Core
3:15 Joe's Apartment

STAR MOVIES
10:30 About A Boy
12:15 Evelyn
2:00 Shadow Of Fear
3:30 Mixed Nuts
5:10 Sister Act 2
7:00 Stuart Little
8:30 Madonna: Truth Or Dare
10:30 About A Boy
12:15 Unshackled

STAR GOLD
7:10 Sharada
10:10 Kuch Hit Kuch Superhit
5:30 Kachche Dhaage
9:00 Tezaab

STAR WORLD
11:00 Yes Dear
11:30 Boston Public
12:30 Still Standing
1:00 Frasier
1:30 Magnum P.I.
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 Buffy The Vampire Slayer
6:30 The Simpsons
7:00 That 70s Show
7:30 Friends
8:00 Newsradio
8:30 Ed
9:30 Rockst ar
10:30 Tru Calling
11:28 Star Asia Travel
11:30 Newsradio
12:00 Friends

STAR PLUS
11:30 Shararat-Thoda Jaadu Thodi Naz
12:00 Karishma Ka Karishma
12:30 Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet-20 M
1:00 Kasautii Zindagii Kay
1:30 Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan
2:00 Bhabhi
2:30 Kesar
3:00 Saarrthi
3:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bhu Thi
4:00 Kahiin To Hoga
4:30 K.Street Pali Hill
5:00 Telebrands
5:30 Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet-20 M
6:00 Tedhe Medhe Sapney
6:30 Aladdin
7:00 Hercules
7:30 Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan
8:00 Princess Dollieauruskamagicbag
8:30 Dekhho Magar Pyar Se
9:00 Kasautii Zindagii Kay
9:30 Miilee
10:00 Kavyanjali
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

DISCOVERY
10:30 Wild Discovery Goats of Canada
11:30 Great Leaders Mandela The Living Legend
12:30 Colour of War Triumph and Despair
1:30 Space and Universe 95 Worlds and Counting
2:30 FBI Files Dangerous Cause
3:30 Kitchen Chemistry Jellies
4:00 Fat Free
4:30 Wild Discovery Snow Monkeys
5:30 Operation Junkyard Water Bike
6:00 Splat Cartoon Crossover
6:30 Man and Machine Reno Air Races
7:30 Wild Discovery Snow Monkeys
8:30 Ten Years Younger Face Off
9:30 Classic Discovery Quest for the True Cross
10:30 Extreme Machines Daring Aviators
11:30 New Detectives Raw Greed

ANIMAL PLANET
10:30 The Jeff Corwin Experience
11:30 Growing up Wild..... Camel
12:30 The Planet's Funniest Animals
1:00 Twisted Tales The Parrot
1:30 Pet Star
2:30 The Protectors Labrador Life Savers
3:30 Animal Precinct
4:30 Growing up Wild... Camel
5:30 The Jeff Corwin Experience
6:30 The Planet's Funniest Animals
7:00 Twisted Tales The Parrot
7:30 Pet Star
8:30 The Protectors Gator Sabotage
9:30 Animal Precinct
10:30 Growing up Wild... Walrus
11:30 Animals A-Z Squirrels Under Siege
12:00 Little Brother of the Elephant

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
11:30 Unlocking Da Vinci's Code: The Full Story
1:30 Showreal Asia
2:30 Air Crash Investigation S2
3:30 Top Cat
4:30 Backyard Science
4:45 Doc Eureka
5:00 Serious: Arctic
5:30 Snake Wranglers
6:00 Planet Wild
6:30 Ng Explorer
7:30 Wild Dogs: Biting Back
8:30 Made In Hong Kong
9:30 Taboo
10:30 Seconds From Disaster
11:30 Velvet Killers
12:00 Vultures On The Verge

STAR SPORTS
8:30 Gymnastics Fig World Cup 2005/06 Paris France (R)
11:30 Hitz (R)
12:00 Cricket Classics Super Doubles (R)
12:30 Diving Fina Grand Prix
3:30 Fim World Motorcycle Championship
4:30 Tna Xplosion (T)
5:30 Extreme Magazine
6:00 The Rugby Show (T)
6:30 Gillette World Sports Special)
7:00 Golden League- Meeting Highlights (T)
8:00 Sportsline (L)
8:30 Motorcycle Programming
9:30 Wrestling Real Highlights(T)
10:30 Sportsline (R)
11:00 Tna Xplosion (R)
12:00 Hitz (R)

ESPN
9:00 Kiana's Flex Appeal (R)
9:30 Motorsport Asia (R)
10:00 Sportscenter India (T)
10:01 U.S. Women's Open Golf Champs
1:00 Ecb International Cricket Highlights(R)
2:30 Sportscenter Asia (T)
3:00 School Quiz Show (T)
3:30 Motorsport Asia (R)
4:43 The Natwest Challenge 2005 England Vs Australia 3rd Odi (L)
11:30 Sportscenter India (R)
12:00 School Quiz Show

TEN SPORTS
8:00 Gamer TV
10:00 WWE Raw
10:30 This Week in Sport
2:30 Tour De France, Day 9
3:30 Champ Car World Series H/Ls: Toronto , CAN
4:30 Trans World Sports
4:45 Gamer TV
6:45 WWE Smackdown

PICK OF THE DAY

Rangchhut
On ntv at 9:40 p.m.
Genre: Drama Serial
Cast: Subarna Mustafa, Pijush Bandopadhyaya, Srabonti
Playwright: Nasrin Jahan, Director: Shahiduzzaman Selim
New drama serial Rangchhut will be aired on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Adapted from Nasir Zahan's novel Jokhon Charpasher Batigulo Nive Ashchhe, Rangchhut deals with the dark side of society. The play begins with a murder and portrays the stories of different characters, such as a family, office workers and a group of friends.