

CULTURAL FEAST

Japanese Cultural Festival

Organiser: Embassy of Japan in Bangladesh
Programmes: Ikebana and Bonsai exhibition and competition; Judo, Kendo and Karate demonstration; seminar on Study in Japan
Venue: Ball Room of Dhaka Sheraton Hotel
Date: September 09, from 9am onwards

Theatre

Play: Shonai Bibir Pala
Group: Centre for Asian Theatre
Venue: National Theatre Satge, Shilpakala Academy
Date: September 10, at 7pm

Musical Soiree

Organiser: Dakkhini Rabindrasangeetayan
Performers: Tapon Mahmud, Rizwana Chowdhury Bonnya, Fahim Hossain Chowdhury, Nargis Chowdhury
Venue: National Theatre Stage, Shilpakala Academy
Date: September 09, at 7pm

Solo Exhibition

Title: The Sweet and The Sublime
Artist: Hashem Khan
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, Dhanmondi
Date: September 04-17

Photography Exhibition

Title: Smiles of Vietnam
Occasion: 60th anniversary of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam
Organiser: Shilpakala Academy
Venue: National Museum Gallery
Date: September 02-08, 11am to 5:00pm

Group Exhibition

Title: The Sweet and The Sublime
Artist: Hashem Khan
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, Dhanmondi
Date: September 04-17

Group Exhibition

Title: Shomokal-1
Artists: Monsur ul Karim, Rokeya Sultana, Kazi Rakib, Tarun Ghosh, Dilara Begum Joly, Towfiqur Rahman, Shishir Bhattacharya, Fokhrul Islam, Goutam Chakraborty, Bipul Shah
Venue: Gallery Kaya, House 20, Road 16, Sector 04, Uttara
Date: September 02-15, 11am to 8pm

Film Screening

Title: German Films
Organiser: Goethe-Institut in cooperation with Jahangirnagar Film Society
Venue: Goethe-Institut, Dhanmondi
Date: September 04-08
Schedule
September 08
4:40pm The Rose Garden
6:30pm Europa Europa

Organiser: High commission of India
Venue: Indian Cultural Centre, House 25, Road 96, Gulshan 2
Time: 6pm
Schedule
September 08 Shathi Hara
September 09 Ogo Badhu Shundari

Play that catchy tune...

Surge of youngsters at Jal's concert



Jal performing to a cheering crowd

KARIM WAHEED

UNLESS you've been living under a rock, you've heard the song Woh lamhe being played a zillion times on several music channels or rocking the CD players of cars plying through the urban streets. Woh lamhe and another song Aadat created a hype among the young music lovers in India, Pakistan and Bangladesh, thus catapulting the band Jal to stardom.

Jal's first concert in Bangladesh was held on September 6 at Winter Garden, Dhaka Sheraton Hotel, courtesy of the Pakistani High Commission and JPR Events.

The band was formed in Lahore, Pakistan and although Atif Aslam's euphonic voice is to be credited in making the first single Aadat an instant international phenomenon, Atif soon went solo. His version of Woh lamhe which was used in the Hindi film Zeher with a different title Bheegi yaaden, fueled controversy and attracted extra attention to the Jal version of the song

as well. Meanwhile, Gohar Mumtaz, the brain behind the composition, lyrics of Jal's songs and lead/rhythm guitarist changed the line up of the band. Farhan Saeed is the current vocalist of the band while Amir Shazi is the bass guitarist.

The venue was packed as it often happens at concerts of popular bands. An added attraction was the '256 colour laser show' by Sound Storm, a first ever in Bangladesh. The crowd seemed to be taken aback by the

dazzling images and shapes created with laser, prior to the performance of the band. The Pakistani High Commissioner to Bangladesh, Alamgir Babar Khan also spoke on the occasion.

Jal kicked off their performance with Woh lamhe. The vocalist Farhan Saeed, tries to demonstrate skills similar to Atif Aslam and he tries hard. Unfortunately Farhan does not have a wide range like Atif and that showed when he was struggling with the high notes that Atif makes look like a cakewalk. However, the singer shows promise in soft rock numbers like Teri Yaad, Rangon mein and Dil haley.

Next in line was a rendition of Dama dam mast Kalandar, a classic made famous by the acclaimed diva Runa Laila, the 'qawwali queen' Abida Parveen and the immensely popular band Junoon. Fahran's version lacked the passion demonstrated in the Runa version, the spirituality displayed in the Abida version or even fresh appeal of the Junoon version. It was quite flat. The crowd however went wild. Part of the cheering audience got off their seats and huddled near the stage. Gohar, Shazi on the guitars and Salman Albert on drums were superb. The concert wrapped up with the band performing a fast paced version of Woh lamhe.

The concert was followed by a fashion show organised by JPR events.

Getting to know Brownia

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

The success of the entertainment game show Citycell Let's Move has put anchor Farzana R. Brownia's career in top gear.

Farzana began performing in school stage shows at the age of seven. The Channel i Performance Award 2003 giving ceremony programme was her first major break as a host on channel i. She has also modeled for a commercial.

In an interview with The Daily Star, Farzana R Brownia, marketing manager (Event) of the Channel i speaks of her evolution as an anchor and her plans for the future.

Talk to Farzana about her career and the requirements of an effective anchor and she says, "I don't believe in readymade scripts. All my performances have been impromptu. I know and love to make people laugh and will continue to do so. An effective anchor needs to be quick witted, observant and adaptable to unforeseen situations. One needs to be abreast of what's happening around, to be in sync with the latest fashion accessories and the prevailing dressing trends. Basically, one needs to imbibe and absorb a lot more than what one normally does."

About the factors she takes into consideration before taking up a new assignment she says, "I look at two factors. First, how much does an assignment appeal to me and can offer me in terms of creative satisfaction. The second factor is obviously the financial package it gets me."

She recommends certain steps for aspiring TV anchors: "Primarily, I feel they should be well-read, more knowledgeable and have a more rounded worldview. Besides, one needs to work on his or her looks because in this day and age appearance definitely matters. Knowing the camera angles and having an idea of when a break is going to be called, obviously facilitates a better performance. It is unfortunate that good avenues for formal training in TV anchoring do not exist in our country. I'm trying to do my bit on this front through a series of workshops."

The conversation veers to her hopes and aspirations. Farzana states, "I am trying to explore



Farzana Brownia

as many different genres as I can. I don't want to limit myself to only one field. I'm thinking about make a mark in the media. I want to be a part of a winning team rather than caring about only my score. Unfortunately, I could not carve a niche in the Bangla films. However, I guess everything happens for the best and in its own time."

ALL TIME GREATS Ella Fitzgerald: And all that jazz

When Ella Fitzgerald was 15 years old, she went on stage for amateur night at the famous Apollo Theatre on New York's 125th Street with dreams of dancing her way to stardom. But she was so nervous her legs wouldn't move. Eager to cover up her embarrassment in front of an unforgiving crowd, she began to sing the songs she'd learned from her mother's recordings of Connie Boswell. She won first prize -- a grand sum of \$25.

That evening, the music industry gained a singer whose technical brilliance and perfect pitch would dazzle audiences around the world and earn her a coveted title -- America's "First Lady of Song."

Fitzgerald, who had rudimentary musical education, quickly built a reputation among musicians and singers for her clarity of tone, her rhythmic perfection and a range that ran from sombre lows to tinkling highs. She soon became a celebrity of the swing era with performances such as A-tisket, A-tasket (1938) and Undecided (1939).

She developed a technique known as scat singing, in which she improvised wordlessly with her voice to give the effect of an instrumental soloist. While the style in itself was not unique, she perfected it. She also became known for her renderings of ballads.

In 1946 she began touring the United States as part of the Jazz at the Philharmonic company. These tours eventually were extended to include Europe and Asia.

Fitzgerald's first featured film performance, in Pete Kelly's Blues in 1955, only made her more popular. Critics disagreed about Fitzgerald's place in history as jazz singer and creator; Nat Hentoff called her a "peerless popular singer" rather than a great artist.

But she never lost the appreciation of her audiences. Her series of annual tours of Europe, often in the company of virtuoso pianist Oscar Peterson, drew huge crowds.

Since her early days, she was consistently rated top female vocalist in a variety of polls, winning 10 Grammy awards for her performances. Even her colleagues in the music industry adored her; Frank Sinatra once hailed her as the best singer in the world.

A New York benefit in early 1990 attracted stars ranging from opera great Jessye Norman to jazz trumpeter Dizzy Gillespie and pop singer Linda Ronstadt to pay her homage.

During the latter part of 1986, Fitzgerald underwent open-heart surgery and was forced to cancel all performances for the next several months. But a year later, she returned to the stage, as vivacious as ever. But her health progressively worsened. In 1993, complications from diabetes led to the amputation of both her legs.

Her death in 1996 brought to a close a glorious career that spanned nearly six decades and a golden chapter in jazz.

Compiled by Cultural Correspondent

Songs of yesteryears So long, Gilligan



An upcoming artiste rendering a song at the programme

ERSHAD KAMOL

Who does not hum the wonderful kabyageetis of yesteryears? To present these magnificent songs to the younger generation, Bangladesh Performing Art Centre arranged a musical soiree titled 'Purono Diner Bangla Ganer Ashor' at Biswa Shahita Kendra on September 6.

The singers who rendered songs in the soiree are young artistes with the exception of Nashid Kamal and Moloy Kumar Ganguli. All of the young singers rendered popular kabyageeti, earlier rendered by eminent Indian singers like Lata Mangeshkar, Hemanta Mukhopadhyay, Chitra Singh, Arati Dhar and others.

The musical programme started with the rendition of promising singer Moslema Akhtar. She sang Chineechi chineechi tomay and Ei

mon jochhonay. Her rendition particularly in the latter song was enjoyable. However the other singers got a lukewarm response from the audience.

Eminent folk singer Molay Kumar Ganguli performed well. In a resonant voice, Molay began with his popular folk song Amar monto boshe na greha kaje. Called on by the audience for an encore, he sang Amar para moner dukkho go. The audience was moved by his presentation of the staves of mystic folk songs.

Minhazul Abedin, a viewer, said, "The aim of the Bangladesh Performing Art Centre is appreciable. However, the lukewarm presentation of the old Indian Bangla songs by mediocre singers will not have any impact on the young generation. The soiree should have featured quality singers."

For a generation of kids as well as adults, there was no better supplemental TV friend than Gilligan. Gilligan was Bob Denver, who died Friday last at age 70 of complications from cancer treatment.

It's not hard to believe Denver is gone. Everyone dies. But it's difficult to grasp that Gilligan grew old enough to expire. On TV, Denver remains immortalised as the youngish and naive boating first-mate on Gilligan's Island, which still airs in reruns on some channels.

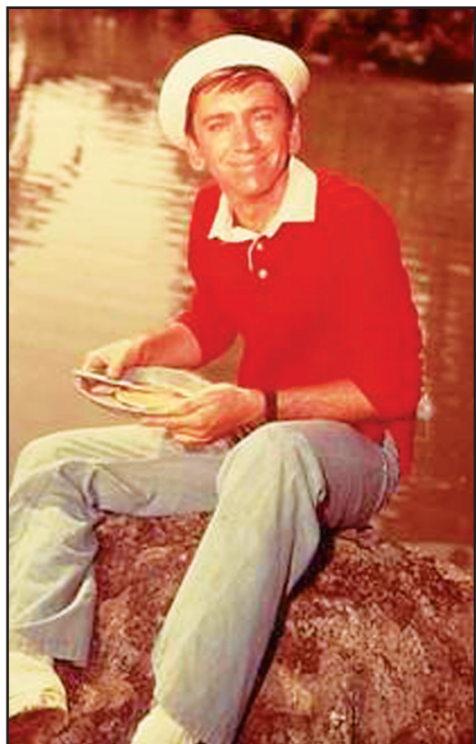
Gilligan's Island lasted for just three years -- 98 episodes in 1964 to 1967, on CBS -- but survived in syndicated perpetuity for decades afterward. Largely because reruns swamped daytime TV back in the days when there was no real cable television.

The linchpin of Gilligan's Island was, of course, Denver, stuck in the same outfit every day (white floppy hat, red shirt), engaging in physical comedy and silly dialogue that fit the times. Pop comedy was almost exclusively lowbrow and unironic back then.

Denver took to the part a lunacy from his acting past. From 1959 to 1963, he'd portrayed the flighty sidekick Maynard G Krebs in the sitcom The Many Loves of Dobie Gillis. The show relied more on verbal comedy than the slapstick of Gilligan.

It's interesting to consider that Denver grew up before the TV age. Denver who never saw TV as a kid was a virtual friend to a global audience as an adult.

Source:Internet



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., 1:0:0:0 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 1:0:0:0 p.m., 3:00 p.m., 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 9:30 pm, 7:30pm. Tara News (Bangla) at 8:30 pm, 11:30 pm. Tara News Bangladesh (Bangla) at 9:30 pm.

Table with TV channels (BTV, CHANNEL-i, ATN BANGLA, CHANNEL i, ntv) and their respective programmes and times.

PICK OF THE DAY



Britto On ATN Bangla at 9:00pm Genre: Drama Serial Cast: Mamun-ur-Rashid, Tarin, Tony Dayes
Black Rain On HBO at 09:30pm Genre: Suspense/Thriller Cast: Michael Douglas, Andy Garcia, Kate Capshaw

Table with movie titles and times for ntv and HBO channels.

Table with TV channels (ANIMAL PLANET, STAR WORLD, GEOGRAPHIC, DISCOVERY CHANNEL, STAR SPORTS) and their respective programmes and times.