

CULTURAL FEAST

Solo Art Exhibition
Artist: Syed Jahangir
Venue: Shaju Art Gallery, Gulshan
Date: September 25-October 04, from 10am to 8pm

Media: Terra Cotta and Pottery
Artist: Nagen Paul
Venue: Heritage Restaurant, Road 109, House 10, Gulshan 2
Date: September 23-30

Photography Exhibition
Artist: Lino Dalle Vedove
Venue: Alliance Francaise, Dhanmondi
Date: September 21-October 07

Artist: Hamiduzzaman Khan
Venue: Shilpgraman Gallery, House 25, Road 5, Dhanmondi
Date: September 17-October 01, from 10am to 1pm and 5pm to 8pm

Title: The Life of Mahatma Gandhi
Organiser: High Commission of India
Venue: Indian Cultural Centre, House 24, Road 2, Dhanmondi
Date: September 23-29, from 10am to 5pm

Mask Exhibition

Title: Mukh O Mukhosh
Artists: 10 contemporary artists
Venue: Galleri Kaya, House 20, Road 16, Sector 4, Utara
Date: September 23-October 03, from 11am to 8pm

Musical Soiree

Organiser: Shuddha Sangeet Proshkar Goshthi
Artists: Students of the organisation from Dhaka and Chittagong
Venue: Biswa Shabtiya Kendra auditorium
Date: September 27-28, at 6:30pm

Title: Bulbul
Organiser: Nazrul Sangeet Shilpi Parishad
Venue: Nazrul Institute auditorium, Dhanmondi
Date: September 28, at 6:30pm

Film Screening

Programme: Discussion on the documentaries followed by screening of six documentaries created by promising women directors
Organiser: Steps Toward Development
Venue: BIAM Foundation auditorium, 63, New Eskaton
Time: September 25-26, from 4:30pm everyday

Schedule

September 25 The Beauty Worker, From Strength to Strength, In Quest of Life
September 26 Begum, Dapannita: A Lady with Versatile Talent, Motherhood: Women's Perspectives

Theatre

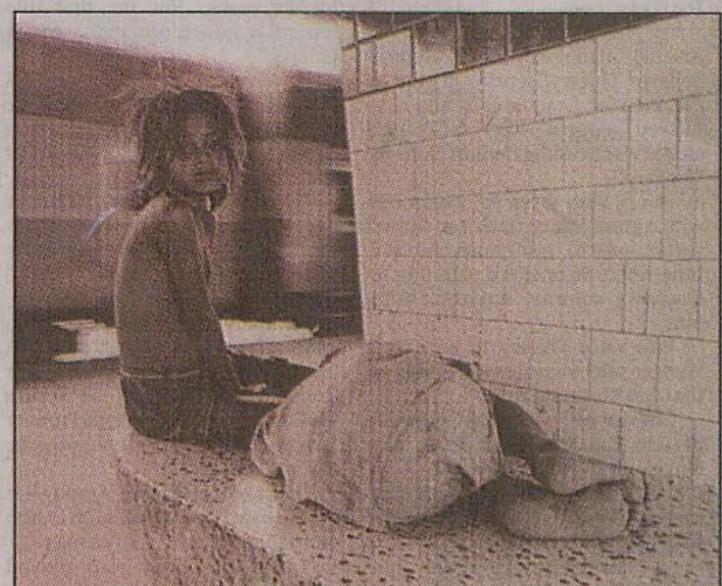
Title: Metamorphosis
Group: Centre for Asian Theatre
Venue: Goethe-Institut, Dhanmondi
Date: September 25, at 7pm

Title: Mukhosh
Group: Centre for Asian Theatre
Venue: Goethe-Institut, Dhanmondi
Date: September 26, at 7pm

Title: Taming of the Shrew
Group: Ubra Bachan Natok
Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall, Shilpkala Academy
Date: September 27, at 7pm

When camera is the narrator

Tales from a Globalising World



A photograph by Shehzad Noorani



One of Ziyi Gafic's works

across borders.

The exhibition was inaugurated by eminent economist Professor Muzaffer Ahmed, trustee, Transparency International Bangladesh on September 22. Dr Dora Rapold, Ambassador of Switzerland to Bangladesh was present as the special guest and Dr Shahidul Alam, Managing Director of Drik presided over the inaugural programme. The exhibition is a part of Drik's 16th year celebration.

The project, *Tales from a Globalising World* is an initiative launched in 2002 by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). As part of the Swiss Ministry of Foreign Affairs, SDC focuses on humanitarian aid and cooperation of developing countries.

Swiss photographer Daniel Schwartz, also the curator/producer of SDC, commissioned 10 photographers from different countries to illustrate selected aspects of globalisation in Asia, North America, Africa, Europe and Latin America. The photographers are: Andreas Seibert, Thomas Kern, Cristina Nunez, Stephen Vanfleteren, Shehzad

Noorani, Ziyi Gafic, Tim Hetherington, Bertien van Manen, Philip Jones Griffiths and Akinbode Akinbiyi.

The exhibition begins with an exploratory trip through the urban expanse of the Pearl River Delta in China, where Swiss photographer Andreas Seibert documented the hazardous living and working conditions of migrant workers from the rural vicinity. Spanish photographer Cristina Nunez's works bring to light the shadowy aspect that coexists with the glamorous fashion arena in Milan and Naples.

Bangladeshi photographer, Shehzad Noorani's photographs follow the lives of the underprivileged, struggling to survive in Nepal, India and Bangladesh. The subject of one of his black and white photographs is an HIV positive sex-worker, sitting on a pushcart outside a brothel in Mumbai. The caption reads: "I'm no one you want to know. I don't have a name any more. I have been thrown out of the brothel. I am too sick and people are afraid of me. I just sleep here awaiting my death." Another photograph shows a traumatised young girl, Nusrat with her brother sleeping next to her at a

railway station. The caption reads: "My mother left us here two days ago. I ate a piece of bread yesterday morning. I'm very hungry and cold. I don't know when my mother will come back." The jadedness in the girl's stare is arresting.

Bosnian photographer Ziyi Gafic's works display the recovery from war in Bosnia-Herzegovina, while Philip Jones Griffith's photographs cover the economic opening-up of Vietnam. Incidentally, Griffith's *Vietnam Inc.* was instrumental in mobilising western opinion against American involvement in the Vietnam War.

Akibude Akinbiyi, a Nigerian living in Berlin, rounds off the exhibition with an assemblage of works on primitive African religions which, through the transatlantic slave trade in an earlier phase of globalisation, spread all the way from Nigeria to Brazil, where they are practised to this day with undiminished vigour.

After Dhaka, the exhibition will

tour Cracow, Vienna, Cairo, Brussels, Strasbourg, Rome and New York. The exhibition at Drik Gallery will remain open till November 30.

Hassan Azizul Haque honoured

NOVERA DEEPIKA



(L-R) Hasan Azizul Haque, Khan Sarwar Moshid, Bazlur Rahman and Selina Hossain

The Centre for Bangladesh Culture organised a reception for the celebrated author Hassan Azizul Haque at the VIP Lounge of the National Press Club Friday last. The chairperson of the programme, Professor Khan Sarwar Moshid, handed over a crest to the author on the occasion.

Eminent and popular literary personalities spoke on the life and literary works of Hassan Azizul Haque. Born in 1939 in Bardwan of West Bengal, Haque was associated with the Rajshahi University for 31 long years. Among his acclaimed books *Shamudir Swapno Shiter Aranya, Atmaja O Ekti Karobi Gachhi, Jibon Ghoshey Agun, Namhin Gotrohin, Pataley Haspatal, Football Thekey Shabdhan, Brittan and Socrates* are note worthy. He has received Admiree Literature Award 1967, Bangla Academy Literature Award 1970, Lekhok Shirib Puroshkar 1973, Alao Puroshkar 1983, Aloko Shahi Puroshkar 1981, Agrani

Bank Literature Award 1984, Philips Literature Award 1988 and Ekushey Padak for his immense contribution to Bangla literature.

After the welcome speech by Ata

Sarkar, Professor Zillur Rahman Siddiqui said, "Hassan Azizul Haque deals with the darker sides of the human mind and the shadowy sides of the society in his literature. He

questions the disorders, inconsistencies and injustices of the society. He does not adopt an ostrich approach. He makes people think about the problems that we usually overlook or avoid."

Shahadat Hossain Neepu read from his book *Shonito Shetu* while popular actor Khayrul Alam Shabuj read from the story *Khancha*. Popular author Selina Hossain said, "It is an established fact that Hassan Azizul Haque, the successor of eminent writers of Bengal, including Syed Waliullah, Shawkat Osman and Syed Shamsul Haque, is one of the most powerful writers of Bangla literature. The most extraordinary features of his write ups are the brilliant selection of topics, creative language and progressive ideology."

Among others, the editor of *Daily Sangbad* Bazlur Rahman, writer Hayat Mamud, Professor Anisuzzaman, Fazle Hossain, Shawkat Ali and Mahmud Shah Koreishi were also present on the occasion.

Discussion and play

SM Solaiman remembered

ERSHAD KAMOL

September 22 is the fourth death anniversary of theatre personality SM Solaiman. In commemoration, Theatre Art Unit arranged a discussion programme at Mahila Samity Stage on September 23.

Presided over by Rokeya Rafiq Baby - the chief of the theatre troupe-theatre personality Mamunur Rashid, Professor Syed Jamil Ahmed, Dr Biplob Bala and Azad Abul Kalam held discussions on the programme.

SM Solaiman was the founder of many theatre groups of the country such as Padatik, Dhaka Padatik, Theatre Art Unit and others. Elected twice as the general secretary of the Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation, Solaiman played a vital role in the cultural field. He was the dramatist of 30 stage plays. The successful stage play director created a new trend in theatre- presenting plays through music and dance compositions. His plays like *Ingil, Hi Deshe Ei Beshe, Inspector General, Court Martial, Golapjatra* and others have received a warm response. He was also the founder member of Sammito Sankskritik Jatra.

Azad Abul Kalam said, "Music is a common device in theatre and SM Solaiman is one of the few directors who have successfully reintroduced it in the neo-theatre movement in Bangladesh." Dr Biplob Bala said, "He was the representative of 'youth' in our theatre."

Professor Syed Jamil Ahmed said, "In a third world country like Bangladesh, only two playwrights-SM Solaiman and Mamunur Rashid successfully represent political consciousness in their plays, how-



(L-R) Prof Syed Jamil Ahmed, Dr Biplob Bala, Azad Abul Kalam, Mamunur Rashid and Rokeya Rafiq Baby at the event

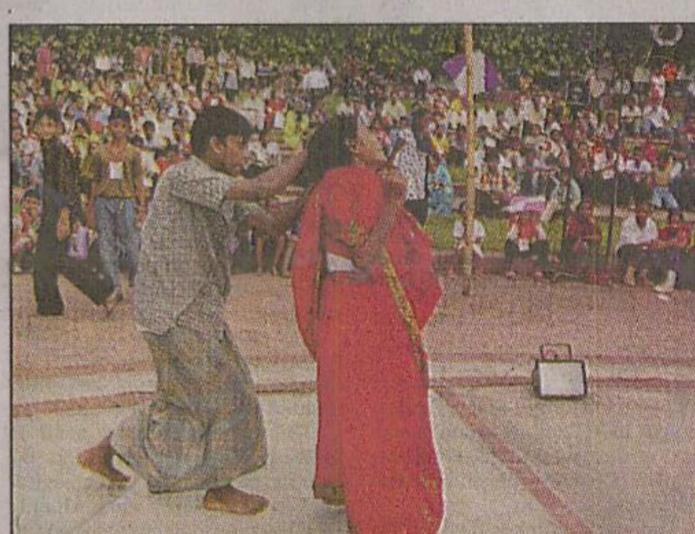
said, "To encourage theatre activists, this year we have introduced a scholarship in memoriam of SM Solaiman. In future, we have plans to do a fellowship."

The recipient of "SM Solaiman Smriti Britto - 2005" is young theatre talent Aminur Rahman Mukul. Chief of theatre troupe Palakar, Mukul, is a dramatist, director and designer. Syed Jamil Ahmed handed over the laurel to Mukul.

After the discussion, activists of Theatre Art Unit presented dramatic songs written and composed by SM Solaiman. M Bari was the host of the programme.

Later, Dhaka Padatik staged *Ingil*, a popular play written and directed by SM Solaiman.

Children's Theatre Festival '05



towards injustice. School attendance is compulsory and free in our country, but working children mostly drop out after five years. We are trying to provide rural and working children with access to education, health facilities and other services. The aim is to develop children's self-confidence, self-esteem and their skills in communicating and negotiating as a means of gaining their rights."

The programme officer of the Save the Children Sweden-Denmark, Shamsul Alam stated, "All people are equal, children have special rights, everyone has a responsibility but the government has a special obligation. We influence public opinion and support children at risk. We arouse public opinion and spread knowledge about children's needs and rights. Our vision is a world in which all children's rights are fulfilled."

Theatre groups, consisting of working children from different organisations like BPF, Ain O Shishol Kendra, BITA, Jinrik Mala, Agnikontho, Bhorer-Alo, Nari Maytree, Children Forum, CSD, INCIDIN, CPD, UCEP, SUF and BNWLA are presenting a good number of plays that deal with the violence against children and the social-awareness issues for the children.

The festival will have presented a total of 15 plays, when it ends today, beginning at 4:00pm everyday.

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

A three-day children's theatre festival titled *Stop Violence Against Children*, jointly arranged by a children media group Ichhey and Save the Children Sweden-Denmark began on September 23. *We want a violence free world* is the slogan of the festival. In the children's theatre festival, held in the premises of the Rabindra Sarobar in Dhanmondi, 15 organisations will present plays, focusing on the existing socio-

cultural issues in the country.

The festival also included a discussion session. In his speech, Professor Shahidul Islam (MP) chairperson of the Parliamentary Standing Committee for Cultural Affairs, said, "Theatre plays an important role in bringing about social changes through reformation. It poignantly hints at social evils and incongruities prevalent and practised in different forms. The objective is to bring forth unjust practices of all sorts and society's indifference

04:30	Showcase	11:30	India Tour Of
05:30	Growing Up Wild	12:00	Zimbabwe Royal Stag
06:30	Amazing Animal Videos	01:00	Cup Harare Zimbabwe
07:30	Animal Planet Insights	02:00	Zimbabwe Vs India 2nd
08:30	Animal Planet Showcase	03:00	Test Day 5 Highlights
09:30	Animal Planet Icons	04:00	Ts(S)
10:30	TV with Teeth	05:00	Team India Programming India
11:30	Animal X	06:00	Glorious (R)
12:00	Animals Planet's Funny Animals	07:00	Icc Cricket World (R)
01:30	Qualifying	08:00	A1 Grand Prix
02:30	Formula One Qualifying	09:00	Qualifying
03:30	2005 Formula One	10:00	Formula One 2005
04:30	Saturday Qualifying	11:00	Saturday Qualifying
05:30	Sao Paulo Brazil	12:00	Sao Paulo Brazil
06:30	Brazilian Grand Pri	01:00	X
07:30	Qualifying(R)	02:00	Qualifying(R)
08:30	Discovery Wings	03:00	Grand Prix A1
09:30	Super Sunday	04:00	Grand Prix Sprint Race (L)
10:30	Discover India	05:00	Hit (R)
11:30	Junkyard Wars	06:00	72 Hours
12:30	Discovery Wings	07:00	Cesho Djaries
01:30	Travel Asia	08:00	Amazing Baby Videos
02:30	Baywatch Hawaii	09:00	Healthy Living
03:30	Wild Discovery	10:00	Wild Discovery
04:30	Endurance	11:00	Shark Night
05:30	Adventure Crazy	12:00	America's Most Haunted Places
06:30	African Adventures	01:00	5Formal One 2005
07:30	Wild Discovery	02:00	Formula One World
08:30	Desperate Housewives	03:00	Championship Sao Paulo Brazil
09:30	Haunted Places	04:00	Grand Prix(L)
10:00	Dogs With Jobs	05:00	5Formal One 2005
11:00	Ng Junior	06:00	Final Score (L)
12:00	Jal Gangi Maiya	07:00	Team India Programming India
01:30	Shanno Ki Shaadi	08:00	Glorious (R)
02:30	Meri Mrs Chanchala	09:00	TEN SPORTS
03:30	Goof Troop	10:00	MotoGP: Grand Prix
04:30	Team Supreme	11:00	FIM Speedway Grand Prix: Sepang Malaysia
05:30	Baa Bahoo Aa Baby	12:00	FIM Speedway Grand Prix: Italy
06:00	Shanno Ki Shaadi	01:00	WTA Sunfeast Open
07:00	Sharrar - Thoda Jadiu	02:00	Hockey Magazine
08:00	Todi Naz	03:00	WTA Sunfeast Open
09:00	2	04:00	WWE Heat: WTA Sunfeast Open: Day 7
10:00	T		