

CULTURAL FEAST

Solo Art Exhibition

Media: Terra Cotta and Pottery
Artist: Nagen Paul
Venue: Heritage Restaurant, Road 106, 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: Shipangan Gallery, House 25, Road 5, Dhanmondi
Date: September 17-October 01, from 10am to 7pm 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: 16 contemporary artists
Venue: Gallari Kaya, House 20, Road 16, Sector 4, Uttara
Date: September 23-October 03, from 11am to 6pm

Musical Soiree

Organiser: Shudoha Sangeet Proshar Goshhi
Artists: Students of the organisation from Dhaka and Chittagong
Venue: Biswa Shahitya Kendra auditorium
Date: September 27-29, at 8:30pm

Title: Bulbul

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

Title: Tomar Byakul Banshi Ki Je Boley

Organiser: Nandan
Venue: Bangladesh YWCA auditorium, 3/23, Iqbal Road, Muhammadpur
Date: September 30, 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: BIAN Foundation auditorium, 63, New Eskaton
Date: September 25-26, from 4:30pm everyday

Schedule

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

Theatre

Title: Karma Katha
Group: Abayaj Natya Dal
Venue: Mahila Samity Stage
Date: September 27, at 7pm

Title: Mukhosh

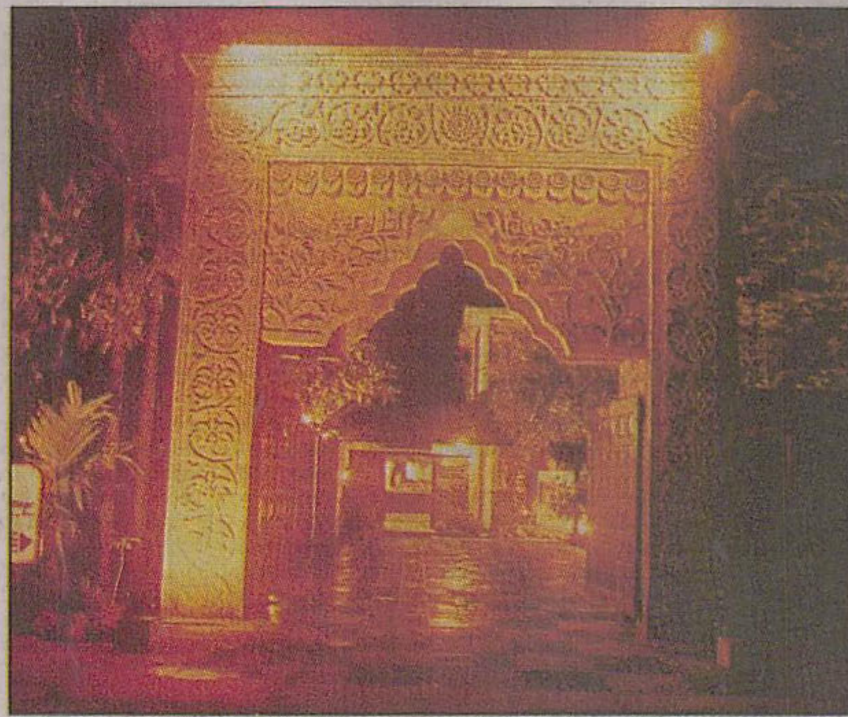
Group: Centre for Asian Theatre
Venue: Goethe-Institut, Dhanmondi
Date: September 26, at 7pm

Title: Taming of the Shrew

Group: Ubra Bachan Natok
Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: September 27, at 7pm

Wonders in terracotta

Nagen Paul's first solo exhibition



The terracotta gate by Nagen at Heritage

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

A solo exhibition of emerging sculptor Nagen Paul is being held at Heritage Restaurant, Gulshan 2. The exhibition was inaugurated by renowned artist Hamiduzzaman Khan on September 23.

Before one steps into the restaurant, an exquisite terracotta gate with engraving meets the eye. Enter the

restaurant and you will find pillars with coloured mosaics (broken tiles).

The credit for these eye-catching works goes to clay artist Nagen Paul. The artist's works--ranging from terracotta, lamp bases, vases, masks and tiles--are on display at the restaurant. This is his first solo pottery and terracotta exhibition, where he focuses on formal shapes using two types of clay--

one normal and the other is the high temperature clay that has a glazed finish. His products are perfect for decoration as well domestic use.

So what is Nagen's USP? To quote the artist, "Unlike other such works, my clay works are not always uniformly shaped. Some of the vases, for instance, have hands, figures and flowers on them while some are shaped like sea-shells and

corals."

It is precisely this quality that appeals to artist Jamal Ahmed, who was special guest at the inauguration of the exhibition. In his words, "What is remarkable about Nagen's works is his unique style and techniques."

Sculptor Hamiduzzaman Khan, chief guest, says about Nagen, "I'm glad that an exhibition has been held highlighting Nagen's best works. His exhibition is a special addition to Bangladesh art and craft. Nagen is young and talented, I wish him all the best."

How Nagen crafted the gate and interior of the restaurant is an interesting story by itself. As the owner of Heritage Restaurant, Rizwan Bin Farouq says, "I met Nagen when I was looking for an expert potter who could work on a terracotta gate for the entrance of the restaurant. I saw photographs of the

mehraab of Gaur Mosque on The Daily Star. The floral pattern on the mehraab was astounding."

Rizwan wanted something similar on the gate. He met quite a few artists in regard to the project but liked Nagen's samples best. In August, 2003 Nagen began working on the gate and it took almost six months to finish the project. Nagen, along with his family members worked on the gate night and day to achieve the magnificent specimen that is in a sense a rarity in Dhaka's architecture.

Nagen Paul comes from a traditional potter family. He has grown up in Dhamrai, an area where pottery industry has been thriving for ages. However, this talented artist has a BBA degree from Dhaka International University. He has done a diploma in Arts from the Bulbul Academy of Fine Arts (BAFA). Nagen's studio is also in Dhamrai.



Works on display at the exhibition

The Mission: A cry against globalisation

ERSHAD KAMOL

As part of the ongoing theatre festival titled 'Contemporary Theatre in Bangladesh', Centre for Asian Theatre (CAT) staged German contemporary playwright Heiner Muller's postmodern play The Mission at Goethe Institut on September 24. The other plays included in the three day festival are Franz Kafka's Metamorphosis and puppet play Mukhosh. The festival is jointly arranged by Goethe Institut, Dhaka and CAT.

Oppression has been a common phenomenon in the world through the ages. Even today, the superpowers have been oppressing the developing nations of Asia, Africa and Latin America in the name of globalisation. Globalisation, according to The Mission is a kind of 'neo-imperialism'.

The Mission does not deal with the problems of any particular nation or society, rather it depicts fragmented stories of oppression, revolution and imagination. The playwright has dealt with a universal problem: the inherent oppressive tendency of human beings.

Based on Anna Segher's novel The Light on the Tullahoma, Muller's play is set against the backdrop of the French colonisation of Jamaica

during the French Revolution. However, The Mission is not only a story of colonisation, rather is a saga where freedom is often an illusion. The fragmented structures and

beings to be oppressors. In the contemporary world where 'free market' has become the key factor, there is no scope of uninhibited 'freedom' or 'revolution' for human

tempo and pace to represent brutality, torture and revolution. The interesting part of his directorial work is the use of 'masks' and animalistic gestures of the artists to symbolically present the inherent cruelty of human beings. The 'woman' in the play symbolically represents 'imperialism'. The coital scene between the 'man' and 'woman' character is an analogy of the human thirst for power. Moreover, indigenous dances of Latin America have been used in the play.

Sardar Aftabuddin has designed an innovative set using huge mirrors, set at the three corners of the stage. The remainder of the stage remains empty in his design. The reflection of the performance on the mirror creates an illusion on the stage.

The symbolic colour-effects of M Badal's light design co-ordinate well with the directorial compositions of the play. The Mission demonstrates good teamwork. The dialogue delivery as well as the body movements of the artists deserved plaudits.

Before the show Torsten Oertel, director of Goethe Institut, said, "I have just arrived in Bangladesh. I'd like to work in the cultural field of Bangladesh. This festival is just the beginning. At the show -- Mukhosh -- we will invite children from different corners of the city to enjoy the puppet theatre."



Actors in the play The Mission

grotesque imageries of violence make the onlooker feel the intensity of the inevitable brutality of history.

According to Muller, it is not the issue of 'race' but 'business' and 'trades', which provoke human

beings.

Translator Saidus Saqlain's work deserves plaudits. Kamaluddin Nilu's directorial compositions are noteworthy. Throughout the play he has successfully maintained the mood,

Rabiraag's musical soiree



Artists of Rabiraag performing a chorus

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Cultural organisation Rabiraag held a musical soiree recently at the Shaheed Zia Auditorium. The event titled Nabo Nandantany was a melange of songs and dance presentations.

The programme started with choral renditions of Mor shondhaye tumi and Daar rajanir swapon. Next in line were performances: Path akhono shesh by Amina Ahmed Shakoroon benu by Swapan Dutta Amar milan by Shama Ali and Hey Khaniker atithi by Lily Islam. Shandhya Bhattacharya rendered Ei asha jaiwar, while Shaifur Rahman performed Morey barey barey. Ayesha Farid sang Swapan Donhe. Popular Tagore artist Sadi Muhammad's rendition of Ami tho shei was a treat for the audience.

Artists of Nrittyanchal performed dance presentations in between the songs. Sadi Muhammad was in charge of music direction; Sibli Muhammad and Shamim Ara Nipa directed the dance presentations.

Theatre's drama voyage-5

Discussion on Roopphan

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

As part of its discussion programme on the plays which are not frequently staged these days, Theatre (Natok Saroni) arranged a programme on its folk-based drama Roopphan, recently.

After the premiere show in 1996, Theatre staged 53 shows of the play in different corners in Bangladesh and in a few Bangla-speaking states in India. Heeren De's folk-based drama Roopphan represents the influence of 'fate' in human life. Through the love story of Roopphan Heeren has depicted our rural life and the mindset of the people. Kamuruzzaman Chowdhury Runu is the director of the play.

Professor Abdullah Abu Sayeed was the chief guest at the programme. Jatra legend Jyotsna Biswas, actress Kabori Sarwar, dramatists Heeren De and music composer Enayet E Moulia Jinnah and Abdur Rashid Khan, director finance were the other participants in the discussion.

Jyotsna Biswas said, Alomoti, Gunai Bibi, Roopphan and others are wonderful examples of Jhumur Jatra, a musical drama based on performing art form, which in some places in Bangladesh is known as Letu Jatra. This form is known to the urban people as 'Opera' or 'Melo-drama'.

Kabori Sarwar said, "I have not seen the theatrical presentation of

Roopphan, but saw the film. In our cinema, our wonderful folklore has not been presented adequately. We should take initiatives for the artistic and aesthetic presentation of our rich heritage."

Abdullah Abu Sayeed said, "In the global world only the perfect presentation of our rich culture can create a 'positive image' of Bangladesh. The compositions of our rural bards are remarkable. High-tech presentation of these folklores can create a new trend. However, the government funds allocated for culture is not adequate"

Professor Mumtazuddin Ahmed was the moderator of the programme.

UNESCO Cultural Award'05

The National Association of UNESCO Club in Bangladesh has handed the UNESCO Cultural Award 2005 to 11 promising and popular artists of radio and television. The award giving ceremony was held at the VIP Lounge of the National Press Club Saturday last. The Science and ICT Minister Abdul Moyeen Khan handed over the awards to the

winners on the occasion.

The awardees are popular small screen actress Bijori Barkatullah and Umayya Shiimu, Nurjahan Alim for folk songs, dancers Mita Afrin Badhon, Irin Parvin, Tahmina Anwar Anika and Aporajita Mustafa, Tamanna Binte Rahman for modeling, radio artiste Monika Nashat Nijhum, Masum Hossain and Badhon Sarkar Puja for special

talent in Tagore and Nazrul songs. Special guest of the programme, UNESCO representative in Bangladesh Wolfgang Vollman, said, "Although UNESCO's main focus is on basic education in Bangladesh, one of the main programmes is to develop cultural activities." The prize giving ceremony was followed by a cultural session staged by the artists of the organisation.



PHOTO: STAR

TV GUIDE

All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme.

News Bulletin

BTB 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.

ATN BANGLA

News (Bangla) at 7:00 am, 10:00am, 2:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 11:00 pm, 11pm.

News (English) at 8:20am, 7:00pm. Teletext of BTB News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

TARA BANGLA

News Headlines (Bangla) at 5:30pm, 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

08:45 Shamprotik Bistwa Satellite Programme

10:00 Shinghad Parjatochona

12:30 Shasthya Tithya

01:05 Laal Goolap

01:50 Sisimur

02:30 Nakshotrar Alo

03:05 Shur Lohori

04:00 Dolon Chanpa

04:30 Protashar Alo

05:05 Debate Programme

05:55 Shomokalin Arbonoti prescription

06:10 Abdul Alim Shoroney

09:35 Drama Serial: Shampurna Rangeen

10:00 Drama Serial: Aarshree

10:30 Agrojo

10:00 Grammen Phone

10:05 Zoo Adventure

10:30 Dhakar Cinema

01:05 Muktagganj

01:30 TVC

02:35 Drama serial: Jhur Jahemela

03:15 Closeup Tomake

05:10 Khujche Bangladesh

06:00 Desher Khobor

10:10 Shubho Shondhaya

06:20 Khoborer Shandhanay

06:50 Drama serial: Bela Bhumi

08:25 Shaighar

09:20 Drama serial: Akash Chhonya

10:00 Dindarpan

11:25 ATN BANGLA

10:30 Annotidishi

11:05 Drama Serial: Ek Janamey

11:35 Shaptaho Jurey

12:15 Drama Serial: O Amor

03:45 Drama Serial: Dhan

12:15 Shaikher Deshe

04:15 Chhotoder Pritibhi

04:45 Quiz Show

05:10 Matir Shubash

05:45 Islami Sawwal O Jawab

06:20 Education Zone

08:00 Drama Serial: Shukhringar

08:00 Apartment

08:30 Drama Serial: Flat Number Forty

09:00 Drama Serial: Visa

10:40 Uptown Girls

12:15 Hitched

6:30 The Simpsons

7:00 King Of Queens

7:30 Friends

8:00 Seinfeld

8:30 Married To The Kellys

9:00 Still Standing

9:30 Yes Dear

10:00 Becker

10:30 Wonderfalls

11:30 Friends

12:00 Seinfeld

ANIMAL PLANET

10:30 Crocodile Hunter

11:30 Diaries

11:30 Honda Presents: Animal Planet Insights

12:30 Attenborough Presents

01:30 Fun Zone

2:00 Fun Zone

02:30 Animal Planet Showcase

3:30 Showcase

04:30 Animal Icons

05:30 Fun Zone

6:00 Fun Zone

06:30 One Planet

09:30 Engineering Wonders

10:30 From History

10:30 What Went Wrong

11:30 FBI Files

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

10:30 Ng Investigat

11:30 Indyeah

12:30 Chase WHutch

1:30 Green Car

2:30 Ng Investigat

3:30 Ng Wild

4:30 Backyard Science

10:30 Sportcenter India

10:32 Sportscenter Update (L)

11:00 Hitz (R)

11:00 English Premier League

12:00 Highlights (T)

12:00 Pga Tour Highlights (T)

ESPAN

09:00 Cricket Classics Super

09:30 Doubles (R)

09:30 English Premier

11:30 Football League Birmin

12:00 Gham City Vs Liverpool

11:30 Final Score (R)

12:00 Bull Riding Pro Bull

13:00 Riders (T)

13:00 Motorsport Asia (R)

13:30 Asian X Games

14:30 X-Game X

16:30 Brazilian Football

18:30 Uefa Champions

19:00 League

19:00 English Premier League

20:00 Sportscenter India (L)

20:30 Cricket Gold (R)

21:30 Cricket Classics Super

22:00 Doubles (T)

22:00 Super Spills Super

22:30 Sportscenter Asia (S)

23:00 Sportscenter India (R)

23:30 I'd Do Anything (R)

TEN SPORTS

6:00 WWE Heat

9:00 Total Rugby

9:30 MotoGP

11:30 Gamer TV

12:09 Trans World Sports

1:00 Gillette World Sport

1:30 Legends: Andrew

2:30 Fintoff

2:30 WTA Sunfast Open

3:30 H/Ls: Day 7

4:30 FIM