

CULTURAL FEAST

Korean Cultural Festival

Organisers: Embassy of Republic of Korea, Bangladesh-Korea Friendship Association and Bangladesh-Korea Cultural Friendship Association
2005 Korean Taekwondo Tournament
Venue: Mirpur Sports Stadium
Date: November 18

Photography Exhibition

Occasion: History of friendship between the people of Bangladesh and Russia and activities of RCSC
Venue: Russian Centre of Science and Culture, House 510, Road 7, Dhanmondi
Date: September 29- October 15

Title: Gunter Grass: Photographs
Photographer: Nasir Ali Mamun
Venue: Exhibition Gallery, Goethe Institut, Dhanmondi Dhaka.
Date: October 14-30

Film Screening

Organiser: Alliance Francaise
Venue: La Gallery, Alliance Francaise 26, Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi
Date: October 07-28
Schedule
October 14 Le Cercle Rouge
October 21 Western
October 28 Yamakasi

Art Exhibition

Title: Les Illustres
Artist: 15 Contemporary artists of France
Venue: La Gallery, Alliance Francaise 26, Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi
Date: October 14-30

Calligraphy Exhibition

Title: 1st young artist calligraphy exhibition
Organiser: Centre for Asian Islamic Art & Culture
Artists: 13 contemporary young artists
Venue: Vashkar Novera Hall, Bangladesh National Museum
Date: October 09-19

Eid Festival 2005

Title: 1st South Asian Women Entrepreneurs Eid Festival 2005
Organiser: WEAB and High Commission of Pakistan
Items: Products from the women entrepreneurs of Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, India and Pakistan
Venue: National Shooting Federation Complex
Date: October 10-15, from 11am to 10pm

Sculpture Exhibition

Title: Duo
Artist: Tarana Halim
Venue: Zainul Art Gallery, Dhaka University
Date: October 08-13, from 11am to 8pm

World Sight Day

Today is World Sight Day. As this day is observed globally with many programmes, Standard Chartered Bank Bangladesh is featuring a documentary film. Titled Seeing is Believing, the work is part of a global campaign to restore avoidable blindness, says a press release. The film will be televised on Channel 1 at 6.10pm today. Presented by former British Prime Minister, Sir John Major, the film was earlier telecast on BBC World on October 8 and 9. Filmed in Africa, India and China, the film profiles the most destructive eye disease through moving personal stories of people living with avoidable blindness.

A curtain raiser

Chhayanaut by Nagorik Natyasampraday



Aly Zaker seen rehearsing with the members of the cast

ERSHAD KAMOL

When The Daily Star caught up with renowned theatre actor-director Aly Zaker in the rehearsal room of Nagorik Natyasampradaya he was caught up in

a frenzy of activity. On the cards at the end of November is a premiere show by popular theatre troupe Nagorik. The troupe is gearing up for a play based on Indian actor-playwright Utpal Datt's script Chhayanaut, which is the 38th production of Nagorik.

Commenting on the play, Zaker, the president of Nagorik Natyasampradaya, says, "Utpal Datt's play is set against the backdrop of the film industry scenario of 1950s Kolkata. However, the spoof is applicable even in the current scenario of fame and

glamour-based current package drama industry. One of the dialogues of the play that appeals to me is when a protagonist says, "None of us are stars, rather we are comets". This adage, with the theme of transience, reveals the reality of the glamour industry.

Chhayanaut represents the fate of the so-called stars. One glamorous star replaces another and displaces him from the viewers' mind. The aim of the play is to show that everything in the glamour world is simply repetitive."

In the course of editing the play, Zaker has simply modified a male character to a female but rest of the original script remains the same.

On his distinctive directorial approach, Zaker has given emphasis to "vocal-based acting". To quote him, "In his play the speech of the performers is more important to me than their body language."

Zaker and Nasirul Haque Khokon have jointly designed the set of the play. Zaker says, "A large part of the set remains empty. We have used a thrust stage." Set colour, props, costumes and other elements are based on the fashion scene in Kolkata in the 1950s.

Light designer Nasirul Haque Khokon says, "Light design is very simple for the play to create the ambience of the 50s."

Exhibition

Duo: An intimate experience



A portrait of Tarana Halim (R) and her works

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

When or how does an artist know what her artwork should be about? For Tarana Halim, this issue was resolved when she was doing the First Part of her Masters in Sculpture; when her teachers urged her to experiment and search for her own philosophy. She believes that nature and human figures can inspire an artist endlessly.

Her relentless search was fruitful when she began to be aware of her own surroundings. On her way to and from her dormitory (which is in the university area), she always found "couples" by the roadside. Some of them could have been couples, some just friends and some may be siblings. The fact that one can always find them together on the sidewalks and parks fascinated her. She made quick drawings on the spot, which were later transformed realisti-

cally into little clay pieces in The Fine Arts Institute. From that stage she endeavoured for simplified forms in clay, which later served as layouts for the bigger wooden sculptures. The end product is Duo, her solo exhibition; which ends today at the Zainul Art Gallery, Dhaka University.

Although this is Tarana's first solo exhibition, her boldness and commitment to the media is prominent. Solid, lifeless and unfeeling blocks of wood have been eloquently transformed into pieces of artwork that evoke an unending flow of life and emotion in the spectator's mind. To achieve that quality, this award-winning artist talked with couples to learn more about them. She focused on the nuances in the body language of couples according to different moods. She is determined to work more on couples later, when she will introduce

colour and texture; and bring out their psychological conditions.

Interestingly, sculpture was not Tarana's childhood obsession. It was only when she was getting prepared for the admission test at the Fine Arts Institute that she began to develop a fascination for this media. Learning about Novera, a pioneer sculptor of the country, she was inspired to model or cut something and create art. Tarana likes simplified and lucid forms that general people can easily understand and enjoy.

The people of Khulna, her hometown, will also get a chance to enjoy her creations from November 12 to November 16 at Khulna Press Club Seminar Hall.

For all sculpture enthusiasts, a visit to Duo either in Dhaka or Khulna promises an aesthetic encounter with pure intimacy.

John Lennon: The world still remembers...



John Lennon (C) with Paul McCartney (R) and Yoko Ono

On October 9, 1940, John Winston Lennon was born into a world he would change within the next 40 years. If he were alive, John Lennon would've turned 65 this year.

Singer, songwriter, musician, actor, activist, author, visionary, poet -- he would bear all titles on his slim shoulders, rewriting the rules of modern music and affecting a great many generations in the process.

His role in The Beatles notwithstanding, Lennon has long been recognised as one of the greatest icons of our time. When the BBC ran a

poll a few years ago to name the 100 Greatest Britons, he came in eighth. Impressive, considering Charles Darwin came in fourth, William Shakespeare was fifth and Sir Isaac Newton, sixth.

A fascination with rock n' roll, brought Lennon and Paul McCartney closer. After Lennon joined the Liverpool College of Art, he met his first future wife, Cynthia Powell, and started a band called the Quarry Men with Paul McCartney and another friend, George Harrison.

The band changed its name a couple of times. They were Johnny and the

Moondogs, then The Silver Beetles. Finally, they settled on The Beatles. In little over a decade, The Beatles -- John, Paul, George and Ringo Starr -- managed to top all kinds of charts in a number of countries, driving people to hysteria wherever they went.

The band visited India in search of peace and returned to England to create the self-titled masterpiece often referred to as The White Album.

It was somewhere around this time that Lennon fell in love with a Japanese artist called Yoko. The woman the press would blame -- wrongly -- for the break-up of The

Beatles. The band was soon finished. Lennon the peace-activist, however, was just waking up.

Following his split from The Beatles, Lennon and Yoko began a series of public protests against the Vietnam War. He returned his Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) to Queen Elizabeth II, and recorded his 'peace anthem' Give peace a chance.

In 1971, Imagine was released. While it was his most successful solo album, it is the title track that continues to adorn clothing even today. Other tracks followed, some vitriolic, like How do you sleep, others controversial, like Woman is the nigger of the world. Towards the end of 1975, he made a surprise appearance at an Elton John show in Madison Square Garden. It would be his last concert appearance.

On December 8, 1980, a deranged fan called Mark David Chapman shot John Lennon five times, a minute after getting his autograph. It happened a few steps outside his home, in New York. Lennon died on the way to hospital.

In 2000, the John Lennon Museum opened in Japan. In 2002, Liverpool airport was renamed Liverpool John Lennon Airport. Earlier this year, a musical titled Lennon was created for Broadway. A John Lennon Park has been built in Cuba. His word still sells too. In July 2005, handwritten lyrics for All you need is love were auctioned for £600,000 in London.

Compiled by Cultural Correspondent

Winds of change

North Korea opens its doors to foreign filmmakers

APP, Busan

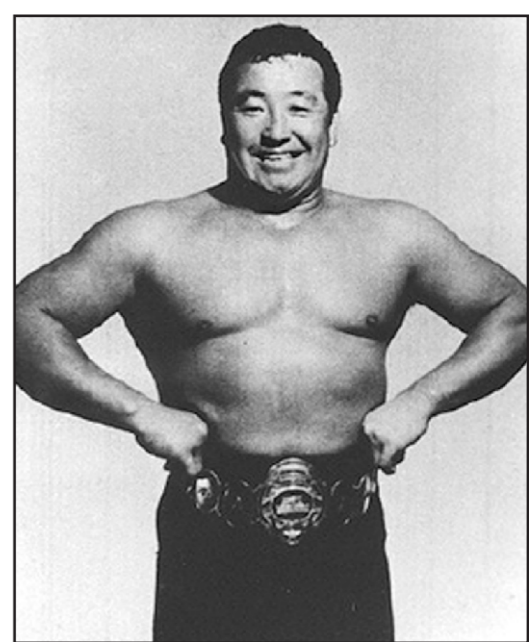
North Korea is commonly portrayed as the world's bad guy in Hollywood, but the country's movie-buff leader Kim Jong-Il is striking back by opening up Pyongyang's film industry to foreign participation.

The policy is aimed at reviving the fortunes of the Stalinist state's once thriving movie business and will also enable North Korean films to reach overseas, according to Chinese filmmaker Piao Zun Xi, the director of the first foreign feature made in the reclusive country. "North Korea is willing to participate actively in co-production activities," Piao told a meeting at the Pusan International Film Festival in South Korea's Southern Busan city.

"Kim Jong-Il is well known to be an avid film lover. (North Korea) wants to learn from other countries what is going on in the film sector," he said.

Piao, an ethnic Korean, has just finished making The Secret of Rikidozan about one of North Korea's most worshipped national heroes, champion professional wrestler Rikidozan. "This is the first film co-operation between China and North Korea," said Piao, who shot the film entirely in North Korea with Chinese and North Korean stars.

Kim Hyung-Joon, president of the Korean Motion Picture Producers Association, said he was excited about the possibilities raised for joint Korean productions. Joon said he had also heard North Korea's Dear Leader was gathering 200 foreign films for screening to audiences there who are usually denied access to overseas culture.



Champion professional wrestler Rikidozan, in the 1960s

North Korean cinema was very strong in the 1970s, churning out movies that were lapped up by entertainment-starved Chinese audiences during the Cultural Revolution, Piao said. But famine and poverty led to the neglect of the industry which no longer had enough equipment to make international standard movies on its own, he said.

North Korean propaganda proclaims Rikidozan as the world's greatest ever wrestler and his death in 1963 was surrounded by claims that he was murdered because he brought shame on America and Japan by beating their wrestlers. Countless books and documentaries have been made about Rikidozan in his native North Korea.

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. Latest News (Bangla) at 9:00 am, 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00 pm, 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm. CHANNEL-i News (Bangla) at 7:15 am, 9:00 am, 2:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 9:00 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:15 am. Telecast of BTB news (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm. ATN BANGLA News (Bangla) at 7:00 am, 10:00 am, 2:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11 pm. News (English) 8:20 am, 7:00 pm. Telecast of BTB News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm. TARA BANGLA News Headlines (Bangla) at 5:30 pm, 7:30 pm. 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

CHANNEL i 09:30 Shongbad Potrey Bangladesh and Public Reaction 09:45 Trityo Matra Sa Re Ga Ma 11:10 RC Tones and Tunes 12:00 TVC sky shop 12:30 Aaj Dupurey O Citicall Tarokakolthon (live) 01:00 Ebong Cinemar Gaan 01:25 Public Reaction 03:10 Hridoye Mati O Manusher Daak 04:00 Bashudhara Amader Gaan 04:20 Agora Shopping Guide 04:50 Qalaam O Kalom 05:05 Ramzanul Mobarok 06:10 Music Plus 06:30 Amar Chhobi 07:50 Phanush 08:25 Drama Serial: Albatross 09:35 Drama Serial: Shampurno Rangin 10:00 Drama Serial: PI 06:20 Ramzan Special Programme on Durga-puja: Agomonir Agamoney Drama Serial: Char Deyaler Chand 08:30 Drama Serial: Ferari Cyren 09:00 Drama Serial: Britto 09:30 Musical Programme Feather Touch Char Deyaler Kabbyo ntv 08:35 Aajker Shokal Drama Serial: Titumirer Bansher Kella 09:30 Naari Gharey Bairey 11:30 Bangla Cinema 01:05 Mukhtang 02:35 Drama Serial: Belabumi 03:15 Drama Serial: Rangchhut 03:50 Hridoye Ramzan 04:25 Alokaat 05:15 Din Darpan 05:20 Islami Shikhhar Ashor and Al Quran 06:20 Shubho Shondhya 06:50 Biz Week 08:25 Drama Serial: Kachher Manush 09:20 Special Programme on Durga-puja: Trinayana 10:00 Quiz Show: Medhabi Dindarpan 11:25 Shangskriti Ei Shaptaho 04:05 Ishpanhi Pure Snax Quiz Time 04:20 Islami Sawal O Jobab Live 04:45 Mobarok Ho Mahey

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PICK OF THE DAY Trinayana On ntv at 9:20pm Special Programme on Durga-puja Hosted by Dr Arup Ratan Chowdhury

Scrubs On Star World at 8:30pm Comedy/Drama Cast: Zach Braff, Sarah Chalke, Donald Faison

07:30 Hercules and the circle of fire 09:30 Soldier 11:30 Godzilla 02:15 All About the Benjamins STAR MOVIES 11:15 Million Dollar Murder 01:00 Heart Of The Storm 02:30 Sense And Sensibility 04:45 Riding In Cars With Boys 07:00 Dragon: The Bruce Lee Story 11:30 Madhouse 01:00 The Company 04:50 Buried Lies 09:35 Levity 08:15 Visitors 09:45 Armageddon 12:15 Dangerous Waters: Shark Attack STAR PLUS 10:00 Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet 11:00 Meri Saheli 10:30 Patang 11:00 Shanti 09:30 Zindagi Milke Bitayenge 12:25 Film Topper 12:55 Taaza Hits 02:00 Bhabhi 02:30 Kesar 03:00 Saarthi 05:00 Piya Bina 06:00 Zindagi Milke Bitayenge 06:30 Goof Troop 07:00 Timon And Pumbaa 07:30 Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan 07:55 Film Topper 08:00 Princess 08:30 Dollaeuruskamagibag 09:00 Mum Tum Aur Hum 09:30 Millee 10:00 Kavyanjali 10:30 Kahaani Ghar Char Kii 11:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi 11:30 Kahini To Hoga 12:00 K, Street Pali Hill STAR WORLD 10:30 Smallville 11:30 Medical Investigations 12:30 The Collector 01:30 The A Team 02:30 Oprah Winfrey Show 03:30 Bold And Beautiful 04:30 Hollywood Squares 05:00 Who Line Is It Anyway? 06:30 Buffy The Vampire Slayer 07:00 The Simpsons 07:30 The King Of Queens 08:00 Friends 08:30 Seinfeld 08:30 Scrubs 09:00 8 Simple Rules 09:30 Less Than Perfect 10:00 Arrested Development 10:30 Angel

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC 09:30 Violent Planet 10:30 Air Crash Investigation S2 11:30 When Nature Strikes Back 12:30 Violent Earth (Aka Death By...) 01:30 Tsunami: One Place Many Stories 03:30 On Assignment 04:30 Backyard Science 04:45 Doc Eureka 05:00 Serious: Jungle 05:30 Croc Chronicles 06:00 Crittercam-Wildtech Adventures 06:30 Ng Explorer 07:30 National Geographic Special 08:30 Built For Destruction 10:30 Interpol Investigates ANIMAL PLANET 10:30 Austin Stevens: Most Dangerous 11:30 Miami Animal Police 12:30 Predator's Prey 1:00 Meerkat Manor 1:30 Fun Zone 2:30 Jeff Conwin Experience 3:30 Lyndal's Lifeline 4:30 In The Wild 6:30 O'shea's Big Adventure 7:30 Wild Rescues 8:30 Natural World 10:30 Mad Mike And Mark 11:30 Animal Precinct DISCOVERY 10:00 Africa's Great Rivers 10:30 Wild Discovery 12:30 Great Palaces Of The World 1:00 Africa's Great Rivers 1:30 Science Frontieris

2:30 Real Kids Real 3:00 Healthy Living 3:30 Baby Story 4:00 Great Romances of the 20th Century 5:30 Spy Stories 6:30 Discovery Wings 7:30 World Animal Day Special 8:30 Discovery 10th Anniversary Special 9:30 Days That Shook The World 10:30 100 Greatest Discoveries 11:30 Crime Stories STAR SPORTS 12:00 A1 Grand Prix Qualifying 02:00 Berlin Germany (R) 10th laaf World Championships 2005 Helsinki Day 9 Highlights(T) 03:00 Super Spells With Wasim Akram (R) 03:30 Equestrian Fei World Cup Jumping 2005/2006 Helsinki 05:30 Yachting Swedish Match Tour - Portugal + Denmark (T) 06:00 Fifa World Cup Qualifier - England Vs Poland (R) 08:00 Tna Xplosion (R) 09:00 Sportscenter India 09:30 Sportscenter Update Legends (T) 10:30 Sportscenter Update (L) Inside The Pga Tour (T) ESPN 10:30 Asian X Games 2005 Presented By Kia - Skateboard Vert Jamsil

Indoor Stadium Highlights(R) 11:00 Open Tennis Championships 2005 Tokyo, Semifinal #1 (T) 12:30 Open Tennis Championships 2005 Tokyo, Semifinal #2 (T) 02:00 Mlb Championship Series 2005 Game #1(S) 06:00 Samsung Superskills (R) 06:30 Asian X Games 2005 Presented By Kia - Wakeboard P/L's Jamsil Indoor Stadium Highlights(T) 07:00 Bull Riding Pro Series 2005 Tacoma Wa 08:30 Sportscenter India (L) 09:00 Team India Programming India Glorious (R) 11:00 Sportscenter Asia (S) 12:00 Ice Cricket World TEN SPORTS 09:30 WWE After Burn 10:00 ATP Tennis World Rally 11:00 ATP Tennis : Ep 19 SAWQC: Uruguay v Argentina (SDD) 03:00 South American WC Qualifiers: Brazil v Venezuela 03:30 ATP Tennis : Ep 19 Cricket Classics 06:30 WWE: The Bottom Line Transworld Sports: Ep 41 08:00 Athletic World Show Presidents Cup Cricket H/Ls 11:00 World Cup Classics (1999 - India v SL Grp match)