

CULTURAL FEAST

**Korean Cultural Festival**  
*Organisers:* Embassy of Republic of Korea, Bangladesh-Korea Friendship Association and Bangladesh-Korea Cultural Friendship Association  
*Programme:* 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 Cultural Centre , 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

*Occasion:* 150th birth anniversary of Russian Scientist-Orchard Selectionist Ivan V. Micurin  
*Venue:* Russian Cultural Centre  
*Date:* October 20-26

**Book Exhibition**  
*Occasion:* 135th birth anniversary of Russian writer Ivan A. Bunin  
*Venue:* Russian Cultural Centre  
*Date:* October 27-31

**Nepalese Artists' Exposition**  
*Organiser:* Art Club  
*Artist:* Four leading Nepalese artists  
*Venue:* Zainul Contemporary Art Gallery, Dhaka University  
*Date:* October 14-18, from 2pm to 8pm

**Art Exhibition**  
*Title:* Les Illustrets  
*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

**Film Screening**  
*Organiser:* Russian Cultural Centre in cooperation with Dhaka University film society  
*Occasion:* 60th anniversary of film director and actor Nikita Mikhalkov  
*Venue:* Russian Cultural Centre  
*Date:* October 16-17  
**Schedule**  
**October 16**  
3:00pm Slav of Love  
4:30pm Unfinished Piece for the Piano  
**October 17**  
3:00pm A Railway Station for Two  
4:30pm URGA-the territory of love  
*Organiser:* Alliance Francaise  
*Venue:* La Gallery, Alliance Francaise, Dhanmondi  
*Date:* October 07-28  
**Schedule**  
October 21 Western  
October 28 Yamakasi

Mostofa Sarwar Farooki

On his directorial approach and future plans

ERSHAD KAMOL

MOSTOFA Sarwar Farooki is a busy director of TV serials. His unique telefilms, drama serials and single episode TV plays have won him wide appreciation. The versatile Farooki also directs full-length films. After his first film, *Bachelor*, he has completed his second feature film *Mad\_e in Bangladesh*, which will be released during Eid.

On his latest venture Farooki says, “*Mad\_e in Bangladesh* is more varied than *Bachelor*. Through the story of a deranged person I have presented the contemporary social milieu of Bangladesh. The film features incidents that can occur only in Bangladesh. That is why the title of the movie is *Mad\_e in Bangladesh*, not *Made in Bangladesh*. As the movie is full of frenzy and chaos, I have abjured from using any background music to give the film a realistic flavour. Earlier, popular filmmakers like Braso and others have made similar experimental films without any background music.

“Cinema is not a stylish medium like theatre. For a movie that reflects reality, the presentation must be natural. As my cinematic venture *Mad\_e in Bangladesh*, represents a realistic picture of our society, the cinematography, actions and dialogue delivery of the artistes are very natural. The presentation of the movie is not exaggerated like most of the mainstream films.”



When it comes to TV plays, Farooki has a distinctive directorial approach. To quote him, “I don’t think that the artistes should memorise verbatim

from a script. I prefer to see performances with natural acting. I brief the artistes about the sequence and they perform in their own way after assess-

ing the character.

“I don’t claim that I have introduced this directorial technique. Earlier I didn’t even know that many of the directors do similar experiments in other countries. I used this technique first in a popular TV play made by me, titled *Kanamachhi*. During the shooting the artistes failed to deliver the dialogues as per the script. Then I told them to deliver the dialogues in a way they would have spoken in real life. I did not have to cut any sequence and the artistes proceeded with their improvisation. Further, in the course of editing the play, I got outstanding out put. From then onwards, I believe the script of the play is a kind of ‘shape’ or ‘structure’ but the artistes should deliver the improvised dialogues for natural performance on the screen”, adds Farooki.

Once his ongoing TV serial 69 ends, Farooki is reluctant to direct any TV serial at least for a year. During this period, he plans to make commercials, cinema and single episode TV plays. Farooki says, “I hate making drama serials. To me, making mega-serials is a pretty monotonous job. But, I do it as it is my profession. Besides, this profession is bread and butter to a team of 12 people who work with me. My plan is to direct three films a year and make commercials. Besides that, I’d like to make more single episode TV plays.”

Photo Exhibition

Images from “The Land of Gods”

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Starting a journey from Varanasi, a very important place in India for Hindu pilgrims, twenty-one photographers from North South University clicked their cameras for fifteen days, through Dehradun, Missourie, Hrishikesh and Nainital; some awe-inspiring places that represent India's Uttarpradesh and other northern areas. Focusing on the ongoing Puja festival in dominant religious spots, these young photographers also captured slices of nature, life-style and landscape which were later framed elegantly within black rectangles at an exhibition titled “Window on Devbhumi (Land of Gods)”.

NSUPC, which is North South University Photography Club, arranges a field trip abroad each year as a part of their photography activities. This year's trip yielded well-composed images bursting with life and colour; the overall quality of the images regarding creativity are remarkably consistent and it demonstrates that photography for this young group is not a profession, but rather, a hobby.

Through a gateway adorned with a bell overhead, the viewers entered the gallery which featured other modest



attempts (through potteries, strips of colourful fabric and more bells) to recreate the look and feel of a Hindu temple. The idea was to create a total ambience, and not just a display of some good images.

So what makes them tick? Photography for the members of this club is a means of creative expressions. To inspire newcomers into this wonderful field they not only try to design appropriate shows, but also arrange workshops on basic and advanced level each semester which are followed by field trips each year both within the country and abroad.

This show would perhaps never have come to life if it were not for the strong bond between the juniors and seniors. As many as fifteen new members, who are not quite into photography yet nevertheless clicked away happily, with cameras borrowed from the senior members. For many of the members, the time spent for photography proved to be very rewarding indeed. This show alone features talented photographers Mira, Shuva and Faria, who are the proud winners of Special Prize: Jury Award, 1st Prize: Portrait and 1st Prize: Still Life, respectively at the 'International Inter University Photography Exhibition' two months earlier.

Even though the show ended at the BTA Tower on 12th October, photography enthusiasts can enjoy an online treat at [www.nsupc.org](http://www.nsupc.org), the website where the members will soon upload the exhibit.



A week-long theater training workshop was conducted at Rajshahi University (RU) dean complex recently. Center for Communication and Development (CCD), British Council and Connecting Future jointly organised the workshop. RU vice chancellor Professor Altaf Hossain was present as chief guest and distributed certificates among the participants. RU students' advisor Professor Zahid Hassan Milky, CCD executive director Golam Murtoza and Australian youth ambassador for development Laura Martina Bos were present as special guests at the workshop.

Stevie Wonder returns with love

AP, Los Angeles

When Stevie Wonder returned to the studio after a 10-year hiatus to record *A Time to Love*, he was doing more than getting back to work. He was getting back to the message that has formed the cornerstone of his legendary career.

“Of all the needs that we have right now, more than anything, we need a time for love,” Wonder said recently, sitting in front of a mixing board in his Wonderland Studios, where his new album was recorded.

The 15 tracks touch on love in all its forms, from physical to unrequited to family affection to the way people treat strangers on the street. Sensing a lack of respect coming “from people in their relationships as well as our leaders in government,” Wonder hopes his latest effort will give them all something to think about.

“We need to have more respect for each other,” Wonder says, leaning forward for emphasis. “Things have just gone really crazy, out of control. We’re on a very weird kind of cycle.”

Wonder has recorded more than 30 Top 10 hits, won nearly two dozen Grammys, including one for lifetime

achievement, and been inducted into both the Rock and Roll and Songwriters halls of fame. But at 55, he hasn’t had a hit record in more than a decade.

Some critics have implied his creative powers have receded since the 1970s, when he recorded four legendary albums -- *Talking Book*, *Innervisions*, *Fulfillingness First Finale* and *Songs in the Key of Life*, the last of which included his classic single *Love*



in need of love today.

Not surprisingly, Wonder disagrees. “For however long it’s been, I’ve just been enjoying my life,” he says of his hiatus. It’s been a life filled with both joy and sorrow, which he also captures on the latest album.

Self-taught on piano, harmonica and other instruments, Steveland Morris was just 12 when he first wowed the American television audiences on shows like Dick Clark’s *American Bandstand*. He was “Little Stevie Wonder” back then, a name he says someone at Motown Records, he can’t remember exactly who, came up with.

From his earliest days as a prodigy covering Bob Dylan’s *Blowin’ in the Wind* through such songs of his own as *You are the sunshine of my life*, *My Cherie amour* and *Signed, sealed, delivered*, *I’m yours*, his music has sought to uplift and inform as well as entertain.

The new album’s sound, while unmistakably Stevie, ranges from pop to R&B to occasional nods to the hip-hop that has influenced Wonder in recent years. The overarching lyrical theme, though, is making time for love. The album is due October 18.

Celina to play modern day Anarkali

After being in the industry for a couple of years, Celina Jaitley has finally tasted success with *No Entry* being declared a hit. The petite actress has quite a few releases lined up. In 2005 itself, the audience will see her in movies like *Tom*, *Dick and Harry*, *Zinda* and *Jawani Diwani*. But the most interesting character that she is all set to play is that of Anarkali.

She is part of the modern day remake of *Mughal-E-Azam*. She has been preparing for the role by doing the right kind of research. According to her, “It is easier to be someone in a period film because you know what that period and era is all about. But to recreate a character from the past in today’s time and date is a very difficult



job.” Although Celina is quite nervous and excited, she surely is going to give it her best shot.

Source: Internet

TV GUIDE