

CULTURAL FEAST

Book Exhibition

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

Film Screening

Organiser: Alliance Francaise
Venue: La Galerie, Alliance Francaise
26, Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi
Date: October 07-November 02
Schedule
November 01 The Taste of Others
November 02 Fat Girl



Title: Hybrid Forms, New Trends in the Documentary Film
Organiser: Goethe-Institut with cooperation with Zahir Raihan Film Society
Venue: Goethe-Institut, House 10, Road 9, Dhanmondi
Date: November 08-10
Schedule

November 08
4:30pm Buenos Aires, My History
6:00pm Hans Wams. My 20th Century

November 09
4:30pm The Last Documentary Film
5:45pm Divine Obsession
6:15pm Master Game

November 10
4:30pm The Housewife's Flower
6:00pm Vacancy
6:20pm Vagabonding Images

Book Exhibition

Occasion: 70th birth anniversary of Russian poet and writer Larisa N Vasileva
Venue: Library, Russian Cultural Centre
House 510, Road 7, Dhanmondi
Date: November 06-14

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



Classical Music
Organiser: Goethe-Institut with cooperation with Panchaswar
Venue: National Museum Auditorium
Date: November 20, at 6pm

Passion for melody

In conversation with Shelu Barua

NOVRA DEEPIKA



Shelu Barua performing at a show

Shelu Barua is popular for his skillful rendition of Nazrul songs. However, he is reluctant to be typecast by a single genre of music. It is for this reason that he has a wide repertoire -- classical, modern, folk and patriotic-- in his programmes.

Shelu has released two audiocassettes: songs of yesteryears and a collection of Nazrul songs.

Among the favourite songs he has rendered are *Jobey tulshi tolay priyo shondhya belay* and *Shonar meye shonar meye*. He likes to perform melodious songs, including modern, Lalon, Atul Proshad, folk, ghazal, pure classical, semi-classical and also songs in other languages. He says, "I like melodious songs of any discipline. My favourite singers are Bade Gulam Ali, Salamat and Nazakat Ali Khan, Mehdi Hassan, Jagit Singh, Lata Mangeshkar, Hemanto Mukhopadhyay, Mania Dey, SD Burman, Subir Nandi, Mita Haque and Rezwana Chowdhury Bonny."

Shelu began to pick up the elements of music from his brother Anupam Barua and learned classical music under

Ustad Abdul Latif for several years. His other mentors are Phul Muhammad Khan, Nani Boshak and Mithun Dey. He gained admission at Chhayanaut to learn more about music but didn't continue till the end. He won the gold medal in the junior group in the category of Nazrul songs at the East Pakistan

Music Competition in 1969. Eminent singers like Mitali Mukherjee, Subir Nandi, Farida Perveen, Abida Sultan and others also took part in the competition in different categories.

He has been performing songs on TV and radio since his childhood. However, according to Shelu, "Among all the

media, I prefer the stage because I get a direct feedback from the audience. In one sitting, I usually perform about 20 songs."

On the occasion of Eid, Shelu will release two other albums: *Shaibal Cottager Balcony*, containing modern songs, and *Amarey proshno korey neel drubata*, an album containing songs of yesteryears.

At present he is the Organising Secretary of Bangladesh Sangeet Parishad and the Vice President of a private bank. "The former organisation strives to promote promising singers by giving them a platform in various programmes," he says.

About the pivotal role that music plays in his life, Shelu asserts, "Maybe I do not live on music, but I don't render songs amateurishly. I believe in efficiency and perfection. Music should be worshipped and I wouldn't be able to survive without it."

Home decor

The wonder of flowers

KAVITA CHARANJI

Gladioli, tuberoses, roses, orchids--all these and more are visible in many corners of the city. With their beauty and heady fragrance, flowers are an all time favourite for any occasion--be it a birthday, marriage, Christmas, New Year, Valentine's Day, Pahela Baishakh, Eid or just a simple get together.

This Eid, flower sellers are readying their shops for brisk sales at every corner of the city. Go to a roadside flower vendor and you will find an array of flowers. Take Orchid Corner on Kamal Ataturk Avenue, which stocks roses, gladioli and orchids (in the range of Taka 5-Taka 20 each). According to Muhammad Hanif, propri-

etor of the shop, the business will pick up when Ramadan comes to an end and people get caught up in the Eid spirit.

Meanwhile, Hanif's neighbouring stall Paramona Flowers Corner, also expects good business as the countdown begins to Eid. "I am happy with the response from buyers. Flowers have become an all time favourite, especially as gifts to friends or as a decoration in offices and restaurants," says Mohammad Amin Khan, who runs the shop.

For those in search of exclusivity, there are the upmarket flower outlets in Dhaka. Take the case of home-based orchid grower Zeba Rasheed Chowdhury, artist, entrepreneur, and

author, who has 1,000 pots of orchids on her rooftop garden. She received her first introduction to the flowers on her travels in the country with her husband who was a forest officer. Later, Zeba began to import them from Bangkok.

Though sales are picking up, says Zeba, "Over the last two years there are many other orchid growers in the market and competition has increased." However, flowers are a popular gift for Eid, birthdays or any special occasion, she maintains. Her fondness for orchids stems from the fact that they grow all year round.

Another entrepreneur at the top end of the market is Tootli Rahman. Her firm Interflora undertakes the supply of



flowers and floral arrangements for special occasions such as Eid. Tootli experiments with a variety of flowers and colours-- roses in exquisite shades of peach, pink and lemons, orchids and gladioli. She also uses seasonal flowers.

Tootli draws heart from the growing market for flowers. As she says, "The aesthetic appeal of flowers make them a popular gift on many occasions." Her floral table arrangements range from Taka 200-Taka 1,000. Her works, she says, are a class apart as they have unique designs and colour schemes. Another distinctive feature is her use of cane and wrought iron containers which can be reused for plants. The flowers in containers go for Taka 200-Taka 500.

As most people in the business testify, flowers sell like hotcakes. They are relatively inexpensive giveaways by students for their friends, parents and teachers. They are a great way to celebrate Eid and other festivals, at any age. So what are you waiting for? Go in for flower power this festive season.

Shyamalan said a speech he made at the ShowEast convention in Orlando, Florida recently, was intended to address "the human factor". According to him: "When I sit down next to you in a movie theatre, we get to share each other's point of view. We become part of a collective soul. That's the magic in the movies."

He was addressing some 800 theatre operators and suppliers. "Nobody has benefited more from DVD sales than me. I bought my house on DVD sales from *The Sixth Sense*," he said. "But take

away my house. That's not why I do what I do."

He added: "If this thing happens, you know the majority of your theatres are closing."

Source: Internet



Raisul Islam Asad and Afzal Hossain in Aponchhaya

Eid Attraction

Nasiruddin Yousuff on his tele-film Aponchhaya

ERSHAD KAMOL

Theatre personality Nasiruddin Yousuff has made a tele-film titled *Aponchhaya*, which will be aired on TV on the occasion of Eid. Once popular TV play director, Yousuff has directed the tele-film in the setting of a ship on river Buriganga.

Yousuff says, "Imdadul Haque Milton's script is an analysis of human psychology. *Aponchhaya* portrays that human beings may be classified on the basis of occupation, social status and other elements. However, in regards to humanism, all human beings act the same."

"82 artists, including Raisul Islam Asad, Afzal Hossain and others, have performed in the tele-film."

Yousuff points out that he had made two short TV plays a couple of years ago. However, it is after 20 years that he has made such a large scale production.

The current tele-film has been an arduous experience for Yousuff

because of the short-cut technique of package drama. To quote him, "The budget is a major hurdle in Bangladesh. I had to complete the tele-film within five days. Moreover, I had to shoot in a ship on the noisy riverbed with 82 artists in autumn. In this season, the skies are generally cloudy. So cinematography outdoors was tricky."

Famous portrait 'not Shakespeare'?



men between the 15th and 17th centuries.

The inscription on the top of the painting records the age of 24 and the date as 1588, which would make the sitter the same age as Shakespeare.

Dr Tanya Cooper, 16th Century curator at the National Portrait Gallery, said: "We believe that Shakespeare left Stratford-upon-Avon following the birth of twins in 1585."

"One possibility is that he joined a travelling theatre troupe and it is very unlikely that in 1588, Shakespeare would have been able to afford a costume of this type."

Source: BBC Online

Shyamalan opposes quick DVD releases

In comments with a distinct resonance for the Indian situation, Manoj Nigam Shyamalan, the American filmmaker of Indian descent, says a move in the United States to eliminate the gap between a film's theatre release and its debut on video would diminish the artistic integrity of movie-making. Part of what makes movies an art form is that they are viewed on a big screen with a big audience, he said in an interview to the *Los Angeles Times*.

"If I can't make movies for theatres, I don't want to make movies," the 35-year-old writer-director said. "I hope this is a very bad idea that goes away."

The proposal to release movies in theatres and on DVD simultaneously is the most pressing issue facing the exhibition industry today, with the discussion focusing on the need to increase studio revenues.

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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, 9:00 am, 2:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 9:00 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:15 am.

Telecast of BTV 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, 11pm.

News (English) 8:20 am, 7:00 pm.

Telecast of BTV 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, 11pm.

News (English) 8:20 am, 7:00 pm.

Telecast of BTV News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

TARA BANGLA
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.

BBC WORLD
Every hour on the hour

CHANNEL i

09:45 Tritiyo Matra
10:45 Live Educational Programme

12:00 TVC sky shop

12:30 Aaj Dupure O

01:00 Ebong Cinemar

01:25 Public Reaction

01:30 Shangbadpotrey

02:40 Special Programme

03:00 Music plus

03:20 Saa Re Gaa Maa

03:40 Channel-i viewers' forum

04:00 Bashundhara

04:15 Business Show

05:05 Ramadan

05:48 Hamd O Naat

05:55 Hardom Manohar

06:10 Banijo O Orthoniti

06:30 Drama Serial: Star gate SG-1

07:50 Let's Move

09:35 Drama Serial: