

CULTURAL FEAST

Film Festival

Title: International Short and Independent Film Festival 2005

Participating Countries: Germany, Netherlands, France, USA, England, Russia, India, Iran, Pakistan, Hungary, Australia, Canada, Argentina, Sri Lanka, Slovakia, Sweden, Estonia, Azerbaijan, Italy, Malaysia, Indonesia, Norway, Poland, Lithuania, Austria and Mexico.

Venue: National Museum Auditorium, Shishu Academy Auditorium and Goethe Institut Auditorium

Theatre

Play: Chayanut

Troupe: Nagorik Natya Shapradaya

Venue: Mohila Shamity Auditorium

Date: December 28 at 6:30 pm

Play: Padmo Gokkhra

Troupe: Swapno Dal

Venue: Experimental Theatre Stage

Date: December 30 at 6:30 pm

Play: Behular Bhashan

Troupe: Theatre and Music

Department, Dhaka University

Venu: Natmondal Auditorium, DU

Date: January 1-4, 2006 at 6:30 pm

Group Photography Exhibition

Title: Nature's Fury

Participating Country: Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka, Iran, Pakistan

Venue: Drik Gallery

Time: December 26- January 8

Title: Mukti Juddho O Nari

Organiser: Anondo Alo

Venue: Liberation Museum

Time: December 27-31

উড়ার স্বাধীনতা
Right to Fly

Title: Right to Fly

Organiser: MuktiJuddho Smriti Trust

Venue: Bangladesh Photo Journalists Association

Time: December 26-28

Art exhibition

Flora and fauna from Aussie deserts



Authentic aboriginal art on display

FAYZA HAQ

THE recent authentic Australian aborigine art display at Shilpangan transports one far away from the fever and fret of cosmopolitan existence. It speaks of kangaroos, emus, iguanas, snakes and dancing men and women. Added to this are the other gorgeous wild flowers, seen against the backdrop of bright skies, gliding rivers, trees and deserts with multicoloured hues. Also included, at times, are the weapons used by the desert inhabitants of the Down Under continent.

The integral beauty of the reptiles and other God's creatures in the Australian deserts are focused upon as if they had been etched upon by some master painter. The tiny flecks, the bold dots and dashes, the curls, twirls and cascading lines bring forth carefully composed creations on fabric and paper. The dots have symbols and

the final effect is much more overwhelming than many post-modern creations that one finds in the capital cities the world over. The balance of lines and colours, in each painting has a pristine impact. Skill, know-how, imagination and mastery of paints and brushes are obvious.

These aborigine paintings are to be found in Paris, London, and other metropolises in the West. In them the medium of lines and dots have been undoubtedly been mastered. Lyricism and tranquillity are the byword of such art despite the bold lines and the buoyant colours like black, white, burn-umber, cobalt blue, vermilion and Prussian blue. This art is fairly different from the rest of Australian art, as seen in the Melbourne Museum of Fine Arts, which on the whole, displays works based on British art. The majority of the paintings there tend not to come up to the post-modern art period, as one recalls. Many an art enthusiast

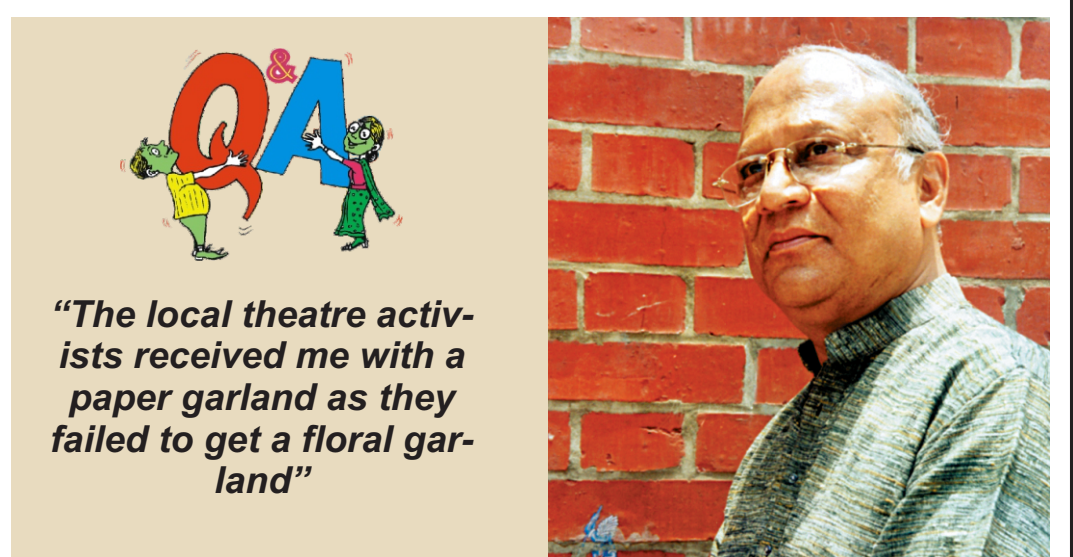
came away from the display totally rejuvenated by the treasure trove of the overwhelming paintings. The exhibit, Desert Voices, was unique in its conception and presentation.

Among the works was *Rainbow snake dreaming* by Welleavan. Here one saw a curling, twirling, gliding snake. It went from one end of the paper to the other, while on top was another such serpentine creature -- with its head turned to the right instead of the left. The details of the snakes' skins were scalloped on a reddish brown background. They were outlined with white and gray. The fangs, nose and the scales of the tails had been done with immaculate precision. In the centre was a twirling disc of a sun, along with pale blue lilies and morning-glory buds, and accompanying leaves and tendrils. Vertical bars of butterflies in gold, earthy colours, highlighted by black and white, completed this radiant dream of another world. Dramatic motifs of

aboriginal existence had been neatly included in the painting. The result is poised and sophisticated, with the poetic vision.

Goanna coming to drink from a water hole, by M. Moke showed two reptiles done in burnt umber, dotted over with yellow. The desert creatures were balanced on either side and had designs of sea-shells, large silken larvae cocoons, utensils, boomerangs, and other weapons. These were minutely worked upon, as the rest of the superb paintings and every other art work on display.

This exhibition was inaugurated by Richard Rodgers, Charge D' affaires of the Australian High Commission. Mustafa Monwar was the chief guest; while Mahmudul Huq and Shamsuzzaman also graced the occasion.



“The local theatre activists received me with a paper garland as they failed to get a floral garland”

Director-actor Ataur Rahman is a popular name in our theatre arena. Founder General Secretary of Nagorik Natya Sampradaya, Ataur is the special honourable member of Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation (BGTF) and secretary general of International Theatre Institute, Bangladesh Centre.

Ataur has adapted many stage plays and has directed stage plays for his troupe Nagorik Natya Sampradaya and other troupes as well.

Plays directed by Ataur Rahman such as *Buro Saliker Gharar Ro*, *Shajahan*, *Galileo*, *Irsha*, *Himmati Ma*, *Rakto Karabi* and *Troyee* have won appreciation.

In addition, Ataur is a special grade actor of Bangladesh Television. He is also the winner of many prestigious awards, including Ekushey Padak -- 2001 and Martyr Muneir Chowdhury Award -- 2000.

The Daily Star had a chitchat with him recently.

What is the current theatre scenario in Bangladesh?

From the late '90s onwards, theatre has lost its momentum. There are many reasons behind this phenomenon. Many quality theatre activists are now involved with TV plays. Nowadays, theatre exponents do not have discourses as they used to earlier because of groupism and personality clashes.

What role do you visualise for BGTF?

I think BGTF should forsake coteries and politics.

Theatre festival in Chittagong

Chhayabrita: A story of injustice

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Shabda Natyacharcha Kendra will stage *Chhayabrita* as part of the ongoing theatre festival arranged by Group Theatre Forum at Shilpakala Academy, Chittagong, today at 7 pm.

Bijoy Bhattacharya's play depicts the dark side of our society -- gender inequality in a male-dominated social structure. Through the story of a couple in a metro, *Chhayabrita* depicts how society blames the tormented woman rather than punish the tormentor. And at the end of the day the woman is expected to compromise with gross injustice.

Khorsedul Alam is the director of the play.



A scene from the play

A noteworthy event in the city

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Yesterday was eventful for culture and photography enthusiasts. One highlight of the day was a presentation, *iranDiary* 1971-2005, by Magnum photographer Abbas at Bengal Shilpalaya. Abbas, an Iranian now in Paris, has dedicated

his work to the political and social coverage of the developing South.

Since 1970, his major works published in world magazines, include wars and revolutions in Ulster, Bangladesh, Vietnam, Biafra, Middle East, Chile, Cuba and South Africa with an essay on apartheid, among others.

Currently he is working on the Clash of Religions, defined as culture rather than faith, replacing political ideologies in the strategic struggles of the near future.

Abbas has been a member of Magnum Photos since 1981.

Amader Ananda Bari

A new mega serial depicts a family saga



Tarana Halim (fourth from left) with co-actors

ERSHAD KAMOL

TV mega serials have a huge fan following. A recent such serial is *Amader Ananda Bari*, which ntv airs

on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Popular actress Lucky Enam directs the mega serial based on a novel -- *Greehobashi Galpo* -- by Dr Enamul Haque.

Explaining the genesis of the serial, Enam said, "It was my long cherished desire to make a mega serial based on the novel written by Dr Enamul Haque. Hridy Haque has dramatised the novel."

Popular actors such as Sharmili Ahmed, Dr Enamul Haque, Tarana Halim, Jayanto Chattopadhyay, Ahmed Reza Rubel, Hreedy Haque, Litu Anam and others are the major cast members of *Amader Ananda Bari*, a 104-episode serial. Most current mega serials are single family oriented. Enam's serial is not an exception to the current trend. Amplifying on the story line of *Amader Ananda Bari*, Lucky said, "The serial centres around the story of a big family -- parents and children. By scripting the story of their happiness, problems, wrath and crises, we have tried to give an overview of the family structure in a metro."

"The curtains go up with the depiction of a family crisis: the youngest son of the family has married a divorced woman with a child. Later on we will show other problems created by the children in a big family as well as the means to solve the crises. The serial will not only reveal problems but also will touch on the joys of a large family. Moreover, the serial will also feature the lifestyle of the younger generation," added Lucky.

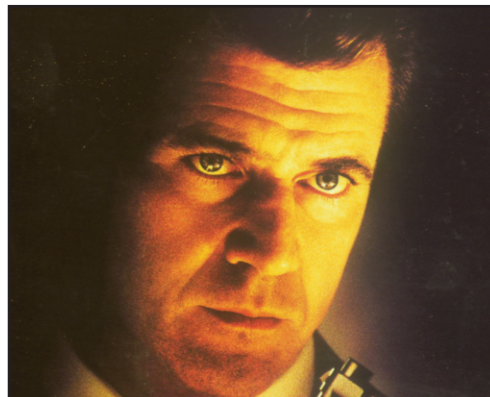
Lucky Enam is upbeat about the mega serial. As she said, "Earlier I had made two drama serials. This is my first mega serial and I am excited about the challenge. A definite plus is the support from technical hands and actors, which has helped me immensely to overcome hurdles."

TV GUIDE

PICK OF THE DAY



Shukhnagar Apartment
On ATN Bangla at 08:00 pm
Genre: Drama Serial
Cast: Raisul Islam Asad, Eishita



Payback
On HBO at 9:30 pm
Genre: Suspense/Thriller
Cast: Mel Gibson, Lucy Liu

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) at 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, 11 pm.

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

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

Latest News (Bangla) at 9:00 am, 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00 pm, 4:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 8:00 pm.

Telecast of BTV 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

Rtv

06:30 *Deshar Gaan*

07:30 *Hridoye Shur*

07:45 *Ashey*

07:45 *Shukhey Thakun*

07:45 *Deho Money*

09:00 *Baul Gaan*

03:30 *Bangla Feature*

Film: *Premar*

06:30 *Tajmahal*

06:35 *R-Ranna*

07:45 *Special Drama-*

Palla Pathor

09:00 *Musical*

Programme

09:30 *Apon Shimanay*

10:30 *Jibon Charcha*

12:00 *Special Musical*

Programme

09:30 *Shongbad Potrey*

Bangladesh

09:45 *Tritio Matra*

10:45 *Grameen Phone*

Cricket On Line

English) at 11:30 pm.

12:30 *Aaj Dupurey*

01:00 *Ebong Cinemar*

Gaan

01:25 *Public Reaction*

01:30 *Shongbadpotrey*

Bangladesh

04:00 *Bashudhara*

Amader Gaan

04:15 *Cambrian Hey*

Taronna

04:45 *Saa Re Gaa Mae*

05:30 *i-Sports*

06:00 *Musical Plus*

06:20 *Antoralar Katha*

07:50 *Shera Radhuni-*

1412

08:20 *Drama Serial: Ek*

Akasher Tara

09:35

D Rock star

Drama Serial

ntv

08:35 *Aajker Shokal*

09:30 *Crime watch*

10:05 *Mukto Chalochitro*

10:30 *Bari Ghar Thik*

Thak

11:00 *Cin gaan*

11:30 *Ganbhira*

12:02 *Single Episode*

Drama

02:30 *Drama Serial:*

Ramizer Ayna

Tifiner Fakey

03:15 *Akash Chhonya*

03:50 *Gallary*

04:25 *Apnar Jiggasha*

05:20 *Shubho Shondhya*

06:20 *Frankly Speaking*

Drama Serial:

08:25 *Labonna Prova*

09:20 *Nupur*

09:50 *Drama Serial:*

Amader Anondo

Bari

11:25 *Dindarpan*

10:30 *Talk Show:*

Annodrishti

11:05 *Ek Akasher Taara*

11:35 *Bussiness This*

Week

12:15 *Amar Computer*

12:45 *Musical*

01:30 *Cine Gaan*

02:30 *Drama Serial:*

Ghumpoka

03:15 *Drama Serial: O*

Amar Chokkhu Nai

03:45 *Aha Ki Anondo*

04:20 *Somosamoik*

04:45 *Quiz Show*

05:10 *Nari*

05:45

Islami Swal Jawab

06:20 *Aynar Shamney*

08:00 *Drama Serial:*

Shukhnagar

Apartment

08:30 *Ferari Siren*

09:00 *ATN Taroka*

(acting)

10:40 *Mukta Shonglap*

09:15 *Tales from the*

Crypt 44: Staired in

Horror

09:45 *Gotti*

12:00 *Tremors*

02:00 *A Night at the*

Roxbury

3:45 *Love and a Bullet*