

CULTURAL FEAS

Exhibition



Title: Kishorer Chokhey Muktiyuddho
Artist: Rasha
Venue: Arka Art Gallery, 1st floor, Banani City Corporation Market
Date: March 31-April 14, 2006
Time: 10am to 8 pm

Title: 'Of Angels and Chariots' by Fida Haq
Organiser: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts
Venue: Bengal Shilpalaya, House 275/ F, Rd 27 (old), Dhanmondi R/A
Date: March 27-April 7, 2006
Time: 12 noon to 8 pm

Title: Pata Chitra
Artist: Shambhu Acharya
Venue: Gallery Kaya, H#20, R#16, Sector 4, Uttara
Date: April 7-16 from 11 am to 8 pm

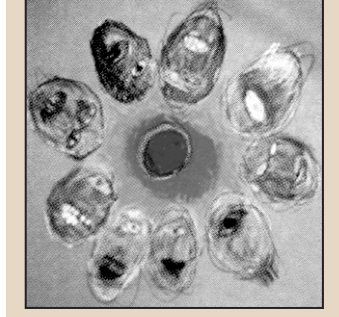
Title: 'Empreintes--Traditional techniques revived through contemporary art'
Organiser: Alliance Francaise
Venue: Alliance Francaise, 26 Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi
Date: March 30- April 12

Solo exhibition on Potteries (Shora)

Artist: Shukumar Paul
Venue: Art and Soul Gallery House 16, Road 36, Gulshan 2
Date: April 7-16
Time: 11am to 8pm

Print Exhibition

Artist: A Rahman
Venue: Gallery Chittrak House# 21, Road-4, Dhanmondi R/A
Date: April 7-16
Time: 10am-8pm



Film Screening

Title: Film shows to commemorate Satyajit Ray's death anniversary
Organiser: High Commission of India
Venue: Indian Cultural Centre, House No 25, Road No 96, Gulshan-2
Date: April 23-25
Movie: Pather Panchali (April 23) Kanchan Jangha (April 24) Parash Pathar (April 25)
Complimentary passes available at the Indian High Commission and the Indian Cultural Centre

We want to link our music with the rest of the world ---

Azad Rahman

FAYZA HAQ

AZAD Rahman had music in his family, with his father being a singer. When he was born, in the pre-Partition days there were songs, *jatra*, *leto* (a folk drama) the playing of *dhol* during Moharram, Saraswati and Durga puja songs and dances throughout the year. He has acted danced and sung on these memorable occasions. In his birthplace, Bardhaman, classical songs flourished, patronised by the raja of the place, with Gopeshor Bandyopadhyay to lead them. Rahman studied at the Rabindrabharati University. Along with classical music, he learnt folk songs, *kirtan*, *dhrupad*, *khayal*, *toppa*, *thumri*, songs of Tagore, Atul Prasad, DL Rai and Rajani Kanta. At the same time he learnt the piano from a Christian priest. Thus, says, Azad Rahman, there was practice of both classical and western music in Kolkata during his time.

He embarked on his career as a music director in the film *Miss Priyongboda* in 1962. After the Kolkata riots, he came away to Dhaka and joined the Radio as a composer and music director. In time he became the Director General of the Shilpakala Academy. In this role, he had to supervise the painting, music and literature departments of the Academy. He sought to bring in permanency in the posts of artistes so that they had a better status than those on contract basis. He also began the Shilpakala Academy bureaus at the *upazilla* basis. In addition he also organised the Asian Biennials of those times. He retired in 2000 from the Shilpakala Academy.

Currently he works for the Centre for Education Creative and Performing Arts. Along with UNESCO, the Centre organised the National Music Festival at the end of January 2006. Last year they had held an international music festival, comprising Indian, Pakistani and Bangladeshi artistes.

"We want to link our music with the rest of the world," said Rahman, adding, "In particular I'm concentrating on Bangla *khayal*. Earlier *khayal*, *thumri* and *dadra* were all in Hindi, Tamil, Telegu, Gujarati and Punjabi. *Khayal* is a classical form that came down from Amir Khusrro's time and is a reflection of Muslim



Azad Rahman on the piano

Azad Rahman has maintained the raag and raagini and introduced the Bangla flavour into the khayal, evoking particular thoughts and emotions.

culture. Under Persian and Turkish influence, *dhrupad* was transformed into *khayal*. I'm trying to work on this and there are two books on *khayal* from the Bangla Academy. We create songs, teach them and try to reach out to the rest of the world by releasing them from BBC, VOA and even Deutsche Welle. This has been recorded in NHK in Japan too. I've done workshops on this in Shantiniketan. When the musicians come to the music festivals they can sing in their own language," Azad Rahman said.

The Bangla *khayal* that Azad Rahman is concentrating on is not a translation of the Hindi *khayal*. In his view, the regional flavour is essential. This, says Azad Rahman, is akin to

Chinese cuisine, which differs from New York to Shanghai. Thus one sees that Ghulam Ali and Ajal Chakrabarti's *khayals* differ. Azad Rahman has maintained the *raag* and *raagini* and introduced the Bangla flavour into the *khayal*, evoking particular thoughts and emotions.

Apart from this, Azad Rahman is also working on 'Raga on Piano' in which he tries to reach out to the western world by introducing them to the innovative work of the East. The piano he plays is a blending of the East and West. Even in Bonn they have heard the piece called 'Azad Rahman', a composition in the form of a symphony orchestra.

Yet another award for Kanakchanpa

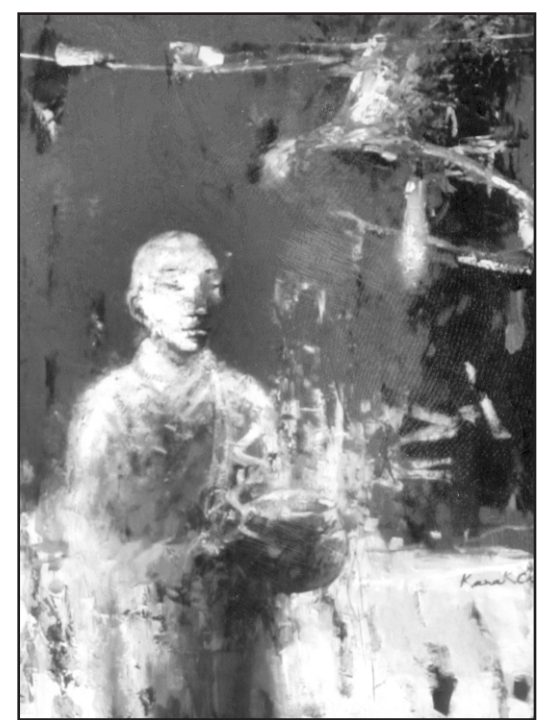
CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Kanakchanpa Chakma won the best prize in the recent exhibition at the American Museum of Art, Florida. This was to mark International Women's Day. The painting that won the award is called *Searching for Peace*. It has a Buddhist priest moving away from a background of red that stands for conflicts, bloodshed and disorder. Nearby is the large gleaming bell that rings gently and ushers in peace. The world over we need peace. This has been done with acrylic on canvas, two feet by two and a half in measurement, done in 2006.

Kanakchanpa had won a similar prize in 2001. She says that she is happy not only because she won the prize but because once more Bangladesh has come into the limelight. "The world thinks of our country as a poor nation, devastated by floods, famines and over-population. I want them to know the positive side of Bangladesh too -- that the country inspires creations that surpasses others in thought, imagination and beauty. We are very rich in our culture as our roots go back to thousands of years, and this is something that cannot be minimised," Kanakchanpa says.

She has won many national and international awards. She says that it has not been easy for her to reach the pinnacle. "People sometimes say that I represent the ethnic and so I'm different. As a consequence people buy my work. There are other Chakma artists too but their work has not won the popularity that I've been lucky to get. I believe that I'm working as a mainstream artist bringing up subjects of international importance."

Kanakchanpa has just returned from Karachi, where she had been invited by a women's charity organisation. There she painted with Farida Parveen singing in the background and donated the money from the sale of the painting to the earthquake victims. Donating to



Kanakchanpa Chakma's prize winning artwork *Searching for Peace* charitable funds has always been her passion.

Aamir and Kajol to sing in Fanaa



Kajol and Aamir in a scene from *Fanaa*

Yashraj Film's first release of the year *Fanaa* is undoubtedly one of the most awaited releases of 2006. What makes it more interesting is that the lead pair of the film Aamir Khan and Kajol have lent their voice for a couple of songs. Now we have heard Aamir go behind the microphone earlier too in *Ghulam*, *Mangal Pandey* and *Rang De Basanti*. What would be interesting is to see Kajol experiment with her vocal chords.

Apparently both Aamir and Kajol have lent their voices for two songs in the film. The songs, *Mere Haath Mein* and *Chanda Chamke* have been sung by them along with other known singers like Sonu Nigam, Babul Supriyo, Mahalaxmi Iyer and Sunidhi Chauhan. Jatin-Lalit directs the music while Praseon Joshi has penned the lyrics.

Source: Internet

Mehraj Haque Dance is a way of life

KAVITA CHARANJI

Upcoming Bharatnatyam and Kathak dancer, Mehraj Haque (Tushar) has recently returned from Australia. Back from a dance performance in Canberra, as part of a Bangladeshi cultural delegation, he participated in another show recently in Dhaka.

The 17-year-old Tushar is currently doing his O levels at Adroit International School, Dhanmondi. However, he does manage to balance academics with dance. Currently studying under Shibli Mohammad (kathak) and Shamim Ara Nipa (folk), he is a member of their organisation, Nrityanchal. He has also completed a course in Bharatnatyam from Tajo Art under Belayet Hossain and learnt Bharatnatyam from Indian guru CV Chandrashekar.

Tushar estimates that he has done around 100 performances. His first performance (a folk dance) was at the age of six and the choreographer was the late Habibullah Chowdhury. Tushar's traces his interest in dance to his mother Halima Haque, a former

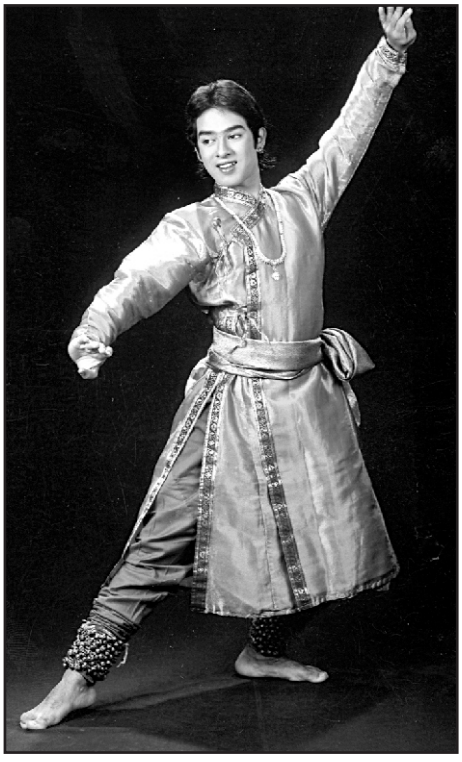
folk dancer. "My mother initiated me into dance," he says.

Since then, Tushar has scored many a win. He bagged the first prizes in Divisional and National categories in classical dance at the National Literature and Cultural Functions (1998-1999).

At a very young age, Tushar is widely traveled through his dance. He has performed in Japan, Dubai, Thailand, Korea, Germany, France, India and Kuwait, among others. He has taken home first prizes from India (Nikhil Banga Competition), Korea, Japan, Kuwait and Australia.

Why did he opt for dance? Tushar's response: "Like all art forms, the environment for dance is congenial. There is a great camaraderie, which attracts me to this medium." Along the way he has developed a strong leaning towards dance. He traces this attitude to his membership of Nrityanchal, which has around 20 boys as students.

As for his long-term goals, he aspires to join the army. "I like the discipline of the army," says Tushar.



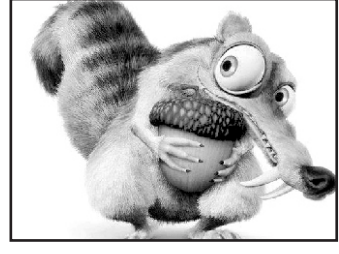
Mehraj Haque performs a Kathak dance

Ice Age: The Meltdown

A cool treat for all ages

In the energetic sequel *Ice Age: The Meltdown*, youngsters may fret over whether the animal heroes will reach their new home safely, parents may wonder how all this melting ice parallels the current concerns about global warming, and 20th Century Fox Animation may have to figure out what to do with the bounty undoubtedly flowing its way from box office and DVD coffers. Ray Romano again heads the voice cast, reunited with John Leguizamo and Denis Leary from the original 2002 *Ice Age*.

The story gets under way with the zany sloth Sid (Leguizamo) running a day camp for young animals. His old buddies -- the mature woolly mammoth Manny (Ray Romano)



Scratt, one of the characters in *Ice Age: The Meltdown*

and the dryly witty saber-toothed tiger Diego (Leary) -- make Sid realise that he is really quite unsuitable as any kind of role model. Con artist armadillo Fast Tony (Jay Leno) alerts the various breeds that a global warming will immi-

nently melt the enormous glacial dam that protects their valley. Oceans of water will flood the landscape, thus they must embark on a trek toward safety.

The charm of the original film was its endearing character development, mixing humor with personality traits with real dimension.

In most respects, this sequel is better than the original. No human characters appear this time, so it's a more seamless animal tale. The film's overall story line, complete with predatory prehistoric alligator creatures, is more involving.

Director Carlos Saldanha has made a vivid, entertaining and educational family film that never flags.

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) at 11:30 pm.

CHANNEL-I
News (Bangla) at 7:15 am, 9:00am, 2:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 10:30pm, 12:15 am.
Telecast of BTV news (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

ATN BANGLA
News (Bangla) at 7:00 am, 10:00am, 2:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11pm.
News (English) 8:20am, 7:00pm.

ntv
08:35 Aajker Shokal
09:05 Drama Serial- Labonno Prova
09:30 Khoborer Sondhane
10:30 Music Express
11:00 Cine Gaan
11:30 Gambhira
12:02 Old Single Episode
01:00 Muktagon
03:15 Tiffner Fakey
04:25 Gallery
05:20 Apnar Jigyasha
06:20 Shubho Shondhya
06:50 Frankly Speaking
08:25 Drama Serial: Labonya Prova
09:10 Dance Programme: Nupur
09:50 Drama Serial:

CHANNEL-i
09:30 Shongbad Potrey Bangladesh
11:05 Trityomatra
11:05 Cricket Online
11:30 Amar Chhobi
12:30 Aaj Dupurey O
01:05 Ebong Cinemar
01:45 Public Reaction
02:40 Selected Drama
04:05 Bashundhara
04:50 Amader Gaan
05:30 Sa Re Ga Ma
06:00 i-Sports
06:35 Chhaya Jhankar
07:50 Antoraler Kotha
08:20 Shera Radhuni 1412
10:00 Drama Serial: Chokrey Akranto
10:00 Drama Serial: Shei Tumi Ei Tumi

ntv
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09:10 Dance Programme: Nupur
09:50 Drama Serial:

Amader Anondobari
11:25 Din Dorpon
ATN Bangla
10:30 Anyodrishti
11:05 Drama Serial: Ek Akasher Swapno
12:15 Amar Computer
12:50 Musical Programme
01:30 Cine Gaan
02:30 Drama Serial: Teen Tekka
03:15 Drama Serial: O Amar Chokkhu Nai
03:45 Aha Ki Anando
04:20 Talk Show: Somosomoyik
04:45 Ispahani Pure Snax Quiz Time
05:10 Talk Show: Nari
05:45 Islami Sawal O Jobab
06:20 Aynar Samney
08:00 Drama Serial: Shukhnagor Apartment
08:30 Drama Serial: Ferari Syren
09:00 ATN Taroka
10:40 Tarokader Taroka (Acting)
10:40 Mukto Shonglap
Rtv
08:00 Shokaler Shur
08:30 Drishti
09:30 Documentary Programme
10:00 Aaj Potrikay
11:00 Drama Serial: Rater Galpo
12:00 Drama Serial: Kala Koitor
01:00 Drama Serial: Aguntak
02:30 Islamic Programme

3:30 Air Combat
4:00 Tomar Bina Tarer Geeti
5:30 Aajker Bangladesh
6:00 Rtv Exclusive
6:35 Sonali Rupali
8:00 Drama Serial: Borai Parer Shittai Gaon
8:50 Jibon Charcha
10:50 Weddings of the world
CHANNEL 1
8:40 Shuprobhat
9:30 Sangbad Patra
10:00 Cartoon

01:30 Bangla Feature Film
02:00 Shikara
02:00 Bioscope
03:00 Panch Diner Golpo
03:30 Drama Serial: Nakol Poshak
04:00 Drama Serial: Rode Jabo
05:00 Zila Bulletin
05:30 Music Show
06:00 Ei Diney Shei Khoney
07:00 Akar Ikar Shuktara
08:30 Drama Serial: Nakol Poshak
09:00 Drama Serial: Rode Jabo
09:30 Ganer Kotha Kothar Gaan

HBO
10:15 Threshold
12:00 Jumanji
02:15 Superbabies: Baby Geniuses 2
04:00 No Way Up
05:45 Rugrats Go Wild
07:30 Street Fighter: The Ultimate Battle
09:30 American Splendor
11:30 Welcome to the Jungle
01:45 Black Rain
STAR MOVIES
09:00 In America
10:45 Starzky & Hutch
12:30 Nature Unleashed: Volcano
02:00 Veronica Guerin

03:30 Personal Effects
05:15 Barbershop 2: Back In Business
07:00 Mr. 3000
08:45 Rocketeer The
11:00 Jill Rips
12:30 Brave New Girl
STAR PLUS
10:30 Meri Saheli
02:00 Bhabhi
02:30 Kesar
03:00 Saarrthi
04:00 Kahini To Hoga
04:00 K.Street Pali Hoga
06:25 Bolly V - Star Plus
06:30 Lilo & Stitch
07:00 Goof Troop
08:00 Akkad Bakkad

Bambey Bo
09:00 Kasautii Zindagii Kay
09:30 Milee
10:00 Kavyanjali
10:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii
11:30 Kahini To Hoga
STAR WORLD
11:30 Monk
12:30 Still Standing
01:00 Frasier
01:30 The A Team
02:00 Bold And Beautiful
04:30 General Hospital
05:30 Angel
06:30 The Simpsons
07:00 The King Of Queens
07:30 Friends
08:00 Seinfeld
08:30 Kevin Hill
09:30 The O.C.
10:30 North Shore
11:30 Seinfeld
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
09:30 Secret Bible
11:30 Murder Dolls
12:30 Sleeping Beauties - The Incorrupt
02:30 Air Crash Investigation
03:30 Be The Creature
04:30 Backyard Science
04:45 Doc Eureka
05:00 Croc Chronicles
05:30 Crittercam-Wildtech Adventures
06:00 Snake Wranglers The
06:30 Storm Stories
07:30 Be The Creature
08:30 Taboo
09:30 Secret Bible
10:30 Interpol Investigates
11:30 Built For The Kill
04:30 Personal Effects
05:15 Barbershop 2: Back In Business
07:00 Mr. 3000
08:45 Rocketeer The
11:00 Jill Rips
12:30 Brave New Girl
STAR PLUS
10:30 Meri Saheli
02:00 Bhabhi
02:30 Kesar
03:00 Saarrthi
04:00 Kahini To Hoga
04:00 K.Street Pali Hoga
06:25 Bolly V - Star Plus
06:30 Lilo & Stitch
07:00 Goof Troop
08:00 Akkad Bakkad

ESPN
10:30 Icc Cricket World (R)
11:00 English Premier Football League
2005/06 Manchester England Manche Ster City Vs Middlesbrough (T)
01:30 Australia Tour Of South Africa Castle Lager/Mtn Test Series 2006 Johannesburg South Africa South Africa Vs Australia 3rd Test Day 4 High-lights(R)
02:28 Test Series 2006 Johannesburg South Africa South Africa Vs Australia 3rd Test Day 5 1st Session (L)
04:30 The Football Quiz Kick-Off Round 2(T)
05:00 Test Series 2006 Johannesburg South Africa South Africa Vs Australia 3rd Test Day 5 2nd & 3rd Session (L)
11:30 Cricket Classics Sehwa's Best (T)
STAR SPORTS
09:30 Irl Racing St. Petersburg Indy F1 Usa (T)
12:00 Asian Tour Magazine Show Asian Tour Weekly 2006 (R)
12:30 English Premier Football League 2005/06
02:30 Brazilian Football 2006
04:30 Tna Wrestling Programming Tna

05:30 Wrestling (T)
International Motorsports News
International Motorsport News 2006 (T)
06:30 Tna Wrestling Programming Tna Wrestling (R)
Hitz (R)
07:30 Cricket Classics Sehwa's Best (T)
08:30 Test Series - 2006 Wellington New Zealand Vs West Indies 2nd Test Day 3 Highlights(T)
10:00 Sportscenter India Sportscenter Update The Fifa World Cup Stories (T)
10:30 Tna Wrestling Programming Tna Wrestling (R)
Sportscenter India Sportscenter
TEN SPORTS
10:14 WWE: Raw
12:30 Sri Lanka v Pakistan:2nd Test, Day 2 (1st Session)
03:10 Sri Lanka v Pakistan:2nd Test, Day 2 (2nd Session)
05:30 Sri Lanka v Pakistan:2nd Test, Day 2 (3rd Session)
07:30 WWE: Smackdown
08:00 Gamer TV
10:00 Sri Lanka v Pakistan:2nd Test, Day 2 Highlights
11:00 German League Highlights:Round 28