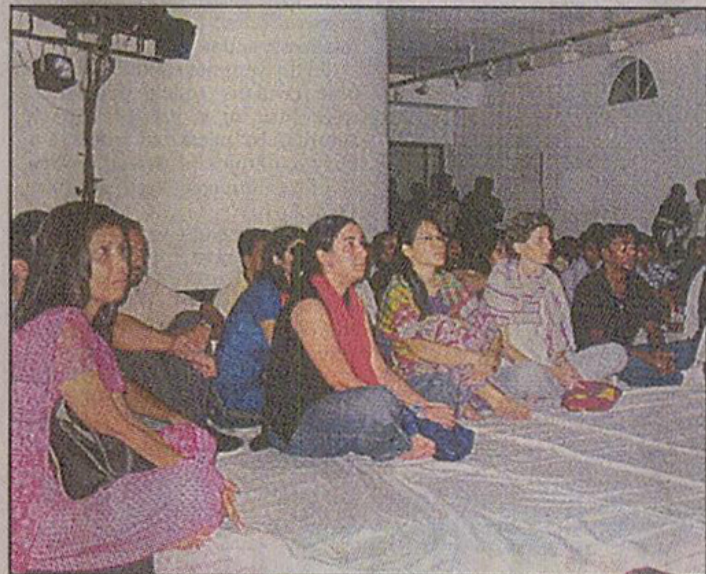


Celebrating World Music Day

A gift of ghazals at Alliance

KHALID-BIN-HABIB

ALLIANCE Française (AF) de Dacca is organising a 10-day music festival, as part of the Fete de la Musique '06 (World Music Day) at their café premises from June 21. Fete de la Musique has long been a tradition for the people of France. In France, every year on this day, thousands of musicians, both amateur and



A section of the audience at the Alliance Française

professional, gather and perform at public places to celebrate the spirit of music.

The AF Dhaka opened its doors to musicians who were free to register and perform—be it vocal or instrumental, classical or folk, contemporary or reggae. An important feature of this year's celebrations is the encouragement given to amateurs to participate. The events are dedicated to pro-

moting French language and culture and to further promote friendly relationships between Bangladesh and France. Alliance Française de Dacca is at once a language school, a cultural centre, an art gallery, a bookshop, a cultural events organiser, a resource centre and a typical French café.

On June 23, the packed hall of the AF was evidence enough that ghazal is a popular musical genre. The singer Jhon Sumit was in top form as he rendered some popular Bangla and Hindi ghazals such as *Chandi jaisa roop hai tera, Rafta rafta, Peyar bharey do sharmiley* and *Tomar oi hashitey*. He set the pattern for the evening by beginning with some couplets before launching full flow on to a ghazal, letting the audience experience his superb vocal range. Sumit is a talented singer of modern songs and ghazals. He has performed several times in Fete de la Musique in Alliance Française de Dacca. A Hindi ghazal about childhood memories and a Bangla song *Kew jodi kichhu bole, money kichhu korona* rendered by him, went down well with the audience. His songs were accompanied by tabla, guitar and harmonium. Connoisseurs and others in the audience alike appreciated the concert. The music festival will end on June 30.

Anisur Rahman Giving guidelines on voice training

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

The Bishwa Shahittya Kendra had organised a two-month course on *kontha bigyan* or voice throwing, which came to an end yesterday. The students who had enrolled for the programme, got a unique and

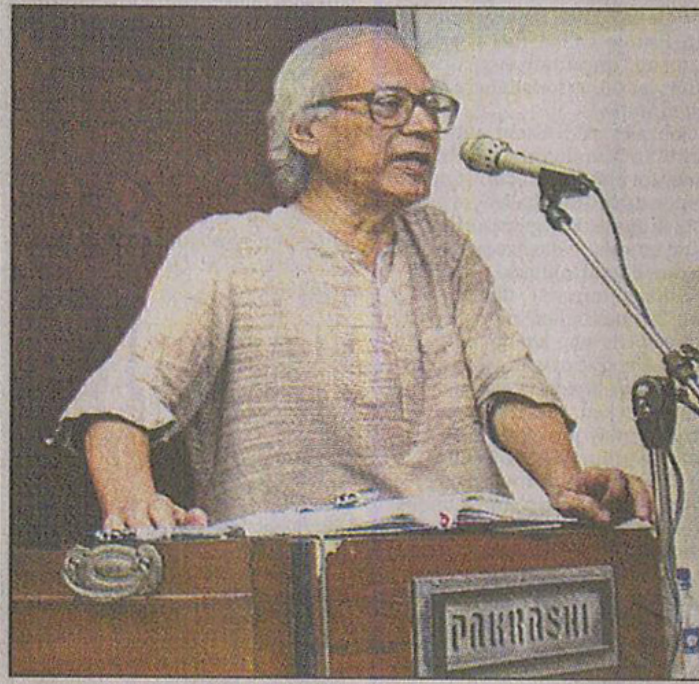
exclusive experience, as Dr Anisur Rahman, who taught them, is an authority on this technique. Rahman is also a renowned exponent of Tagore songs and a highly respected economist of the country.

Speaking to the students on their

experience of this latest form of voice 'throwing' in the country, they admitted that it was a new element and had never been tried before. According to student Nirob Shanu, "We all knew how to sing, but many of us were not aware of the scientific methods that were involved with singing. If we can apply these practically, our skills will definitely improve." Adds 15-year-old Akhila Shaha who has been practicing Tagore songs for the past nine years, "We have come across many new techniques which will help us increase the range of our voice. That this kind of science exists is amazing."

Rahman has spent several years abroad and that is how he learnt about *kontha bigyan*. Extensive research has gone into this science in the western countries where it has evolved over the past 200 years. In the words of Rahman, "The art is definitely more important than the science. However, it is very sad to see that the singers of our country do not come forward to learn new methods. Indian singers are more open to the idea."

The Tagore exponent believes in bringing out the talent in students rather than spoon-feeding them. A true artist is one who can be creative and invent something new. The students will be practicing the various aspects of this technique and will hold a concert in the future.



Dr Anisur Rahman speaks at the programme

Theatre Festival Chittagong Mrinaler Chithi to be staged today



Shubhra Das in a scene from the play

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

As part of the ongoing theatre festival in Chittagong arranged by Nandimukh to mark the 15th anniversary of the troupe, Chittagong-based theatre troupe Kalpurush will stage *Mrinaler Chithi* (Mrinal's letter).

Mrinaler Chithi is the dramatisation of Tagore's popular short

story *Streer Patra*, in which Tagore has dealt with women's issues. Mrinal's letter to her husband is not a mere means of communication rather a saga of oppression of women in a male dominated society. Shubhra Das gives a solo performance in the play.

Mrinaler Chithi will be staged today at 7 pm at Shilpakala Academy, Chittagong.

CULTURAL FEAST

Exhibition

Title: Tales of Pseudo Myth
Artist: Ronni Ahmed
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts
Date: June 21-30
Time: 12am-8pm

Book Fair

Title: Barsher Boi Meila
Venue: Bashundhara City Shopping Mall
Date: June 15-30

The World Music Day

Title: Fete de la Musique
Organiser: Alliance Française, Dhaka

June 25: 7:00pm Ahmed Mahbubul-Alam (Mouth Organ)
7:30pm Ustad Manik Sarkar (Classical Song)
June 26: 7:00pm Sheikh Ornob (Violin, Flute, Sarod)
7:30pm Yasin (Pop, Rock, Metal)
June 27: 7:00pm Baul
June 28: 7:00pm Anup Barua
June 29: 7:00pm Anil Kumar Shaha/Goutam Bhattachary
9:30pm Music Night
June 30: 6:30pm Dance Performances
Venue: Alliance Française, Dhaka
Date: June 21- July 2

Close Up 1 Talent Hunt

On its way to a new journey

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Close Up 1 is back with the sequel to its talent hunt show titled, *Gao Bangladesh Gao*. *Close Up 1* was one of the biggest talent hunt competitions in Bangladesh. The seven-month long *Close Up 1 '05* search gave the nation a group of young promising singers who could strike a chord in the hearts of millions. In keeping with a philosophy of offering innovative and distinctive content, *Close Up 1 '06* was launched yesterday to scout for a fresh set of promising musicians.

At a press conference held at

Hotel Sheraton, Sanjiv Mehta, chairperson and managing director of Unilever Bangladesh Limited announced the launch of this year's programme. Enayetur Rahman, managing director of ntv, Naushad Karim Chowdhury, brands and development director of Unilever Bangladesh Limited and CEO of Asiatic MCL, Aly Zaker spoke on the occasion. Members from the press, musical fraternity and the glamour world were present at the conference.

The preliminary selection will be carried out at 11 different locations across the nation. The audition locations are: Chittagong, Comilla, Faridpur, Barisal,

Khulna, Rajshahi, Rangpur, Bogra, Mymensingh, Sylhet and Dhaka. Selected candidates will take part in the subsequent rounds, which will be held at Dhaka.

This year, non-resident Bangladeshis can also take part in the programme. They can register through a website www.closeup1.com. Two audition panels will be set up at New York and London.

Aspiring young Bangladeshi musicians between 16 and 30 years can participate in the competition. They can register by simply calling or by logging onto the website. The last date of registration is July 10.



(L-R) Naushad Karim Chowdhury, Sanjiv Mehta, Enayetur Rahman and Aly Zaker at the event

Omni's new outlet - Studio D A new attraction for music lovers



(From right to left) Naqib Khan, Shafin Ahmed and co-artiste perform at the launching ceremony

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Omni Music, a well-known name in the music industry opened its second outlet Studio D (D standing for Dhamond) on June 22, at Genetic Plaza, Dhamond, to fulfill its greater customer demand. Their first store is in Gulshan and the other outlet is in Chittagong.

The ambassador of Germany, Frank Meyke and counselor-deputy head of mission, Embassy of Japan Yunezo Fukuda, graced the occasion as special guests. Neo G Mendes, chairperson of Omni Music and Niblet G Mendes, managing director of Omni Music and many prominent musicians and performers were present for

the inauguration ceremony.

Other prominent personalities were musicians such as Shafin Ahmed, Naqib Khan, Fuad Naser Babu, Fahmida Nabi, Suvro Dev, Tipu, Selim Haider, and Piaru Khan. Also present were band members of Feedback, Parthibo, Arcel among others.

During the first half of the event, Meyke and Fukuda gave short speeches. Neo Mendes gave a brief history of the company. He informed that Omni music had started its activities in 2001. Neo Mendes, who was the founder member of the 60's most popular and highly acclaimed band *Lightings* and his younger brother Niblet G Mendes, a graduate in sound engineering from Toronto,

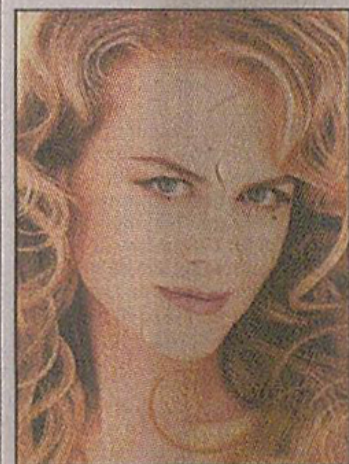
Canada have helped this organisation to flourish over the years.

A musical evening followed the first part of the formal inauguration in which some of the country's best talents came together to entertain the audience with a short but entertaining performance. Salim Haider from the band Purbo-Paschim played the flute. To the surprise and delight of the guests, Nakib Khah (Renaissance), Shafin Ahmed (Miles), Salim Haider (guitarist), Piaru Khan (Feedback) and Sascha Pinkas (Pentagon) performed together and played instrumentals for the songs *Summertime* and *In the sunshine* among many others.

Kidman visits children's hospital on eve of wedding

Oscar-winning actress Nicole Kidman shocked medical staff when she paid a surprise visit to a children's hospital in Sydney, Australia, ahead of her wedding to Keith Urban in the city recently. The star took her children Isabella, 13, and Connor, 11, and mother Janelle with her to the Sydney Children's Hospital, where they saw patients in the oncology, hematology and neurology wards. Sydney Children's Hospital Foundation CEO Elizabeth Crundall says, "I was stunned when she came in today. To actually take the time out from her own wedding for a couple of hours was stunning, extraordinary and wonderful."

Source: Internet



Nicole Kidman

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, 9:00 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, 11:00 pm.
News (English) at 8:20 am, 7:00 pm.
Telecast of BTV News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.
ntv
News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00 am, 12:00 am, 6:15 pm, 9:30 pm.
News (Bangla) at 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.
TARA BANGLA
News Headlines (Bangla) at 5:30 pm, 7:30 pm.
Tara News (Bangla) at 6:30 pm, 11:30 pm.
Tara News Bangladesh (Bangla) at 9:30 pm.
BBC WORLD
Every hour on the hour

BTV

09:05 Open University
10:00 Satellite Broadcast
12:15 Shongbadpotrer Pato Thekey
12:30 Shastho Tathyo
01:30 Prottyashar Alo
02:15 Computer Show
02:40 Educational Programme
03:05 Banshori
03:30 Tomi Miar Kitchen Jhili Mdi
04:30 Anondo Dhara
05:05 World Cup-2006 Highlights
06:35 Tagore Song
07:00 Mali O Manush
07:30 Drama Serial
08:30 Teknal Theke Tetulin
08:50 FIFA world cup 2006 (England Vs Ecuador)

CHANNEL i

09:45 Public Reaction
09:50 Grameenphone Trillogy Maatra
11:05 Tolo Prescription (Live)
11:30 Hridoye Moli O Manush
12:30 Aj Dupurey O Citycell Tarokakothon (Live)
01:05 Eboog Cineinar Gaan
01:30 Shongbadpotrey Bangladesh
01:45 Public Reaction
02:40 Selected plays of Humayun Ahmed

04:05 Bashundhara Amader Gaan
05:30 Chithi Pelam
06:00 Music Plus
06:20 Shamolki
06:40 Bishwa Cup Special
07:50 Hello Minister
09:35 Jibon Jekhene Jemon
10:00 Drama Serial: Bela Obel Golpo
12:00 Aker Shongbadpotra
10:30 Onyodrishti
11:05 Drama Serial: Ek Jonome
11:35 Animal Kingdom
12:15 Shintir Monikothay
12:50 Shomali Shadakaio
01:30 Drama Serial: Nirob Koshlo
03:10 Drama Serial: O Amar Chokhu Nai Shaplo Shaluk
03:45 Musical Programme
04:20 Special Programme on World cup-2006
05:10 ATN Music
05:45 Islami Sawal
06:25 Three Siocges
08:00 Drama Serial: Khola Duar
08:30 Drama Serial: The New Shabuj Opera
09:00 Drama Serial: Nirey Taar Neel Dheu
09:30 Drama Serial: EK Akashor Swapno
10:40 Business This Week

ATN BANGLA

04:05 Bashundhara Amader Gaan
05:30 Chithi Pelam
06:00 Music Plus
06:20 Shamolki
06:40 Bishwa Cup Special
07:50 Hello Minister
09:35 Jibon Jekhene Jemon
10:00 Drama Serial: Bela Obel Golpo
12:00 Aker Shongbadpotra
10:30 Onyodrishti
11:05 Drama Serial: Ek Jonome
11:35 Animal Kingdom
12:15 Shintir Monikothay
12:50 Shomali Shadakaio
01:30 Drama Serial: Nirob Koshlo
03:10 Drama Serial: O Amar Chokhu Nai Shaplo Shaluk
03:45 Musical Programme
04:20 Special Programme on World cup-2006
05:10 ATN Music
05:45 Islami Sawal
06:25 Three Siocges
08:00 Drama Serial: Khola Duar
08:30 Drama Serial: The New Shabuj Opera
09:00 Drama Serial: Nirey Taar Neel Dheu
09:30 Drama Serial: EK Akashor Swapno
10:40 Business This Week



FIFA World Cup 2006
On BTV at 08:50pm
England Vs Ecuador
Live from: Stuttgart

ntv
08:35 Aker Shokal
09:05 Drama Serial: Romizer Aaina
09:30 Amra Ekhan Unish Kuri
10:05 Animal Kingdom
10:30 Naloker Gaan
11:00 Baul Gaan: Mon Amar Shondhan Kori
11:30 Talk Show
12:05 World Of Arts
12:30 Hol Hullor
01:05 Muklangan
02:35 Drama Serial: Kachher Manush
03:15 Bhalo Besho Mor Gaan
04:40 Coca-Cola Award
05:10 Din Darpani Ilihasheer El Dihay
05:20 Apanar Jigyasha
06:20 Shubho Shondhya
06:50 Manobadhikar O Amira
08:20 Drama Serial: Romizer Aaina
09:00 Lux Glamour World
09:50 Drama Serial: Bibarno Bhalobasha
11:25 Dindarpan
09:00 Gopshop

PICK OF THE DAY

Super Volcano
On Discovery Channel at 08:00pm
Documentary
The effect of volcanic eruption

03:05 Boogeyman
05:00 Ladder 49
07:20 Nutty Professor II: The Klumps
09:30 Spiderman
11:55 Experience Hwood
08:00 Arrested Development
08:30 Billboard Us Countdown
09:30 Hogan's Heroes
10:00 Get Smart
10:30 The Bold And The Beautiful
12:30 Desperate Housewives
01:30 Lost
02:30 The O.C.
03:30 The Apprentice
04:30 Boston Legal
05:30 Hollywood Shoolouts
06:00 Travel Asia
07:30 Baywatch Hawaii
07:30 The Simpsons
08:00 Luxury Unveiled
09:00 Oprah Winfrey Show
10:00 Rendezvous With Simi Gare
10:30 Desperate Housewives
11:30 Lost

NATIONAL

GEOGRAPHIC

08:00 WWS
08:30 Air Crash Investigation
09:30 Dogs With Jobs
10:00 Dogs With Jobs
10:30 Nat Geo Junior
10:45 Nat Geo Junior
11:00 Nat Geo Junior
11:30 Nat Geo Junior
11:45 Nat Geo Junior
12:00 Nat Geo Junior

12:30 Human Edge
01:00 Human Edge
01:30 Save Your Planet
03:30 Travell Nat Geo Style
04:00 Travell Nat Geo Style
04:30 Travell Nat Geo Style
05:00 Travell Nat Geo Style
05:30 Megacities
06:30 FC Barcelona Confidential
07:30 The Living Edens
08:30 The Gospel of Judas
10:30 MegaStructures
11:30 Wild Sex
08:30 Sri Lanka Tour Of England
10:00 Kenya Tour Of Bangladesh
11:30 ICC Cricket World Golf Focus
12:30 Cricket Classics
01:00 Malaysian Field Hockey
02:30 Super Centuries
03:00 Malaysian Field Hockey
04:30 U.S. Open Golf Championship
05:30 Football Asia
06:00 Wimbledon Library Films
07:00 Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Championship
07:30 Sri Lanka Tour Of England
09:00 Formula One Qualifying
10:00 Race Day
11:00 Formula One
09:00 News Special

STAR WORLD

STAR SPORTS

08:30 Sri Lanka Tour Of England
10:00 Kenya Tour Of Bangladesh
11:30 ICC Cricket World Golf Focus
12:30 Cricket Classics
01:00 Malaysian Field Hockey
02:30 Super Centuries
03:00 Malaysian Field Hockey
04:30 U.S. Open Golf Championship
05:30 Football Asia
06:00 Wimbledon Library Films
07:00 Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Championship
07:30 Sri Lanka Tour Of England
09:00 Formula One Qualifying
10:00 Race Day
11:00 Formula One
09:00 News Special

09:10 Cricket Classics
09:30 Cricket Classics
10:00 ICC Cricket World
10:30 FIFA World Cup Programming
12:20 News Special
12:30 FIFA World Cup
02:30 ICC Cricket World
03:00 Cricket Classics
03:30 Cricket Gold
05:30 Hitz
06:00 FIFA World Cup Programming
07:50 Super Centuries
08:50 FIFA World Cup
11:00 Germany 2006
11:30 Cricket Classics
08:30 WWE: Experience
10:30 West Indies v India: 3rd Test Day 3 Highlights
11:00 Indian Golf Show
11:30 Winning Post
03:00 WWE: Specials: ECW One Night Stand
05:00 West Indies v India: 3rd Test Day 3 Highlights
06:00 WWE: Heat
07:30 West Indies v India: Straight Drive
09:30 West Indies v India: 3rd Test Day 4, 1st Session
10:10 West Indies v India: 3rd Test Day 4, Lunch
12:10 West Indies v India: 3rd Test Day 4, 2nd Session

TEN SPORTS

ESPN

09:00 News Special