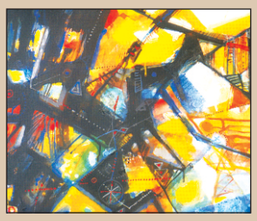
CULTURAL FEAST

Solo Art



Exhibition
Title: In Quest of Truth and Beauty
Artist: Samarjit Roy Choudhury
Venue: Bengal Shilpalaya, House no-275/F, Road no-27 (Old), Dhanmondi
Date: January 28-February 10
Time: 12:00pm-8:00pm

Classical Dance and Instrumental Music Evening
Organiser: Department of Production, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
January 28 Classical Dance
January 29 Classical Dance
January 31 Classical Music
February 1 Classical Music
Time: 6pm
Venue: National Theatre Stage, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy

Musical Soiree
Organiser: Ustad Momtaj Ali Khan Sangeet Academy
Venue: Sufia Kamal Auditorium, National Museum, Shahbag
Date: January 31
Time: 5pm

Film Screening
Organiser: Indian Cultural Centre
Venue: House# 25, Road# 96, Gulshan 2
Date: January 28
Title: Legend of Bhagat Singh
Date: January 29
Title: Fanaa

Exhibition

Stark lines that tell a romantic tale

PHOTO: STAR

Viewers at the exhibition

FAYZA HAQ

TO celebrate the 35th anniversary of Russian-Bangladesh friendship, an exhibition of paintings by Kamrul Islam Nadim is being held at the Russian Cultural Centre. Yury Makarov, the first secretary and head of the Russian Cultural Centre, said that Nadim's paintings were simple and sincere, and that he had presented local landscapes and experi-mental figure compositions with the bright hues of Bangladesh. He added that Nadim's works included oil, acrylic and mixed-media on canvas and paper.

Hamiduzzaman Khan said, "He has an innovative way of his own and expresses his personality well in his lines and colours, in his paintings of his trees and his sketches of dancers. The oils too have some deep, spiritual, inbuilt compositions. His individuality should be praised. Apart from that, he is known for his modern western dance lessons. I have great expectations in him." Ranjit Das added, "The forms and colours of his landscape appeal to me."

In his *Figure Study- 1and 2*, done in mixed-media, with rhythm as its theme, he presented female forms, resting between dances. The torsos, limbs and skimpy clothes are done in flat colours and sketches with purple, brown, red and gold. The backdrop of dark swirls of earthy colours complete one composition. The other sketch has the poised women sitting and standing, with pink and black outlines for figures where the faces have been left to the imagination to work upon. *Festival*, done in acrylic on canvas in an Impressionistic way, has figures with swirling *lungis* and shirts, with *dhols* and draping buntings to usher in a festive mood.

Nadim's nature oriented works bring in tree trunks, branches and swirls of earth and grass covered spaces with a dream-like effect where the vibrant images are simplified in geometrical forms. Despite the stark lines, there is an element of romanticism in his works.

In his works the artist expresses his personal experiences as a teacher of dance and a student of the Fine Arts Department, Dhaka University.

Event

'Pitha Utsab' creates enthusiasm in Bogra

HASIBUR RAHMAN BILU, *Bogra*

Thousands of enthusiastic people thronged the day-long *Pitha Utsab* (winter cake festival) at the century-old Edward Park in Bogra town, on Friday last. The event was organised by Bogra Theatre, along with its front organisation Bogra Little Theatre.

This was the first *Pitha Utsab* in the district organised by a social organisation.

A huge quantity of delectable *pithas* were sold within a few hours at the festival. A total of seven *pitha* shops named 'Prothoma Pitha' 'Bahari' and 'Azizul Haque College Theatre'" were set up at the park premises. A delicious array of *pithas* were on sale at the *Ustab,* including *bhapa pitha*, *pati shapta*, *dud pitha* and *phul pitha* at a reasonable price ranging from Taka 3 to 15, which attracted the attention of the masses.

Sabeda Bewa, mother of freedom fighter Saidur Rahman, inaugurated the festival by lighting the *Aila,* an earthen pot, used by the rural people as a room heater. She was appreciative of the initiative of the organisers.

The *Pitha Utsab* is an age-old rural tradition which has made gradual inroads to the urban areas. Now the tradition is spreading to the urban areas as well.

The second phase of the festival included a prize distribution among the participants of the cultural programme as well as art competitors on various *pithas.*

PHOTO: STAR

Visitors at the 'Pitha Utsab'

Channel i will air another episode of popular rural-based drama serial *Bhober Hat* tonight at 7:50pm. Written by Masum Reza and directed by Salahuddin Lavlu, the serial revolves around two estranged brothers

International Bangla Poetry Festival kicks off

Bangladeshi poets take part

A group of renowned poets and writers led by Syed Shamsul Haque are taking part in the 1st International Bangla Poetry Festival being held at Purbanchal Sanskriti Kendra in Kolkata, India, says a press release. The festival opened yesterday and will continue till January 29.

Around 200 Bengali poets and writers from all over the world are invited to the festival. Robiul Hossain, Nirmolendu Goon, Sajjad Kadir, Nasir Ahmed, Anowara Syed Haque among others from Bangladesh will participate in the festival. Information and Broadcasting Minister of India Priyaranjan Dasmunshi inaugurated the festival and the chief minister of West Bengal Buddhadeb Bhattacharya was present as the chief guest. Eminent poet Sunil Gangopadhyay presided over the inauguration of the festival.

Theatre

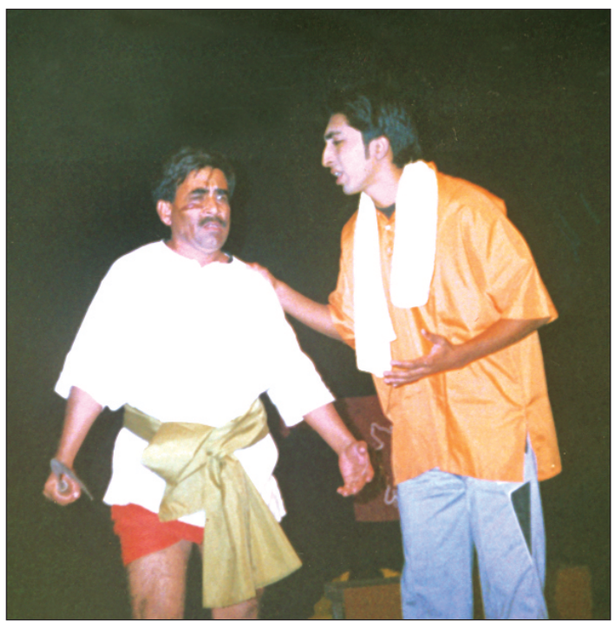
'Boba Manusher Galpo': Story of oppressed peasants

ERSHAD KAMOL

Sirajul Islam Siraj's play *Boba Manusher Galpo* is not the story of the mute, rather the tale of the peasants in rural Bangladesh who cannot protest against oppression. Siraj in his play has created a fantasy world where the poor peasants rebel against the landlords to defend their rights. However, like many such movements, their rebellion is ineffective.

Interestingly Siraj in his play has also criticised the politicians, social workers and intellectuals for their ineffectiveness in bettering the lot of the peasants. Moreover, *Boba Manusher Galpo* asserts that the oppressed community should effectively change their fate. That is why Rahmat, the protagonist, encourages the oppressed peasants to rebel against Talukdar, the landlord.

However, Siraj's craftsmanship and his directorial compositions need to be refined so that the audience can empathise with the strong theme. Most of the 'scene makings' are haphazardly done, as if the sole aim of the play is to deliver a message--at the expense of the aesthetic element.



A scene from the play

Set designer Zahid Hossain Jemi has used a scarecrow bearing the flag of Bangladesh on its chest at the middle of the stage to recreate the tragic story of oppressed peasants all over the country. The rest of the stage remains empty.

Most of the actors need to develop their potential. Haidar Mohammad Titu as the rebellious Rahmat needs to be more convincing.

As part of 'staging plays of the district level troupes in Dhaka', jointly arranged by Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation and Bengal Foundation, Sarathi a theatre troupe from Rangpur, staged *Boba Manusher Galpo* at Mahila Samity Stage. The play was staged on January 26.

Buzz

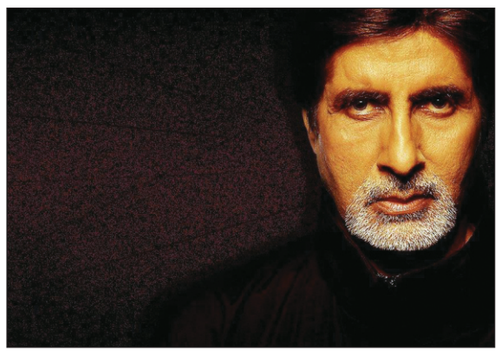
Amitabh signs Rituparno's next project

After working with Jaya Bachchan in *Sunglass*, filmmaker Rituparno Ghosh is all set to direct Amitabh Bachchan for his forthcoming film. Ghosh has been trying to sign Bachchan for two years now and finally he will be directing the veteran actor in his untitled English film.

According to Ghosh, Bachchan will play an aged, passionate, fading Shakespearean actor. He is planning to start this film in February. This will be Amitabh Bachchan's first full fledged English film.

Bachchan's releases this year include Vidhu Vinod Chopra's *Eklavya-The Royal Guard*, Ram Gopal Verma's *Nishabd* and Balakrishnan's *Cheeni Kum*.

Source: Internet



Amitabh Bachchan

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.** (To be telecast on all Bangla channels).

CHANNEL-i
News (Bangla) at **7:15 am. 9:00am, 2:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 10:30pm, 12:15 am.**

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**
Latest News (Bangla) at **9:00 a.m,10:00 am, 11:00 am.1:00pm.3:00 pm. 4:00pm.6:00 pm and 8:00 pm.**

ntv
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.**

CHANNEL 1
News (Bangla) **at 8:00am. 12:00pm. 2:30pm. 6:30pm. 7:30pm. 10:00pm. 12:30am**

BANGLAVISION
News (Bangla) at **8:00am. 2:00pm. 6:00pm. 7:15pm. 10:30pm.**
News Headlines (Bangla) at **9:00pm**
News Headlines (English) at **9:05pm**

RTV
News (Bangla) at **7:00am. 3:00pm. 7:15pm. 10:00pm.**
News Headlines (Bangla) at **10:30am**

BTV
08:40 *Bishwa Protidin*
09:05 *Shomapti*
12:30 *Swapno Shonar Gaon*
01:00 *Maa O Shishur Kotha*
01:30 *Mati O Manush*
02:15 *Ongikaar*
02:40 Cartoon
03:30 Children's Programme
04:00 *Protidin Com-puter*
04:30 *Krira Diganto*
05:05 Debate
06:40 *Gitanjoli*
07:30 *Nritter Taley Taley*
08:30 *Protidin Bangladesh*
08:35 Drama Serial
09:00 *Shoptodinga*
10:30 Musical Programme

ATN BANGLA
10:30 Talk Show: *Anyodrishti*
11:15 Drama: *Oporanho*
12:15 *Smritir Monikothay*
01:30 *Shornali Shadakalo*
02:30 Telefilm: *Bishwash Obishwash*
05:10 Documentary Programme: *Prapok*
05:45 Three Stooges
06:25 Talkshow: *Aktel Protidin*
08:00 Drama Serial: Outdoor
08:40 Drama Serial: *Nirey Tar Neel Dheu*
09:20 Drama Serial: *Pichhutan*
11:30 *Ki Kotha Tahar Shatey*
01:05 Japan Video Topic
02:30 Drama Serial: *Megh Bolechhey Jabo Jabo*
03:15 Musical Programme
04:25 *Apon Aloy*
05:10 *Shadha Moner Manush*
05:20 *Apnar Jigyasha*
06:50 *Ogroz*
08:15 *Shada Moner Manush*
08:20 Drama Serial: *Ramizer Aaina*
09:00 *Shomoshomoy*
09:45 Drama Serial: *Bhalo Basha Mondo Basha*

CHANNEL-i
09:30 *Shanbad Potrey Bangladesh*
09:45 Public Reaction
09:50 *Tritiomatra*
11:05 *Apolo Tele Prescrip-tion*
11:30 *Hridoye Mati O Manush*
12:30 *Citycell Taroka Kothon*
01:05 *Ebong Cinemar Gaan*
01:30 *Shanbad Potrey Bangladesh*
01:45 Public Reaction
02:40 Selected Drama of Humayun Ahmed
03:05 *Amar Health*
03:30 *BBC Bangladesh Shanglap*
04:05 *Amader Gaan*
04:25 *Niorbachoni Olympiad*
04:35 *Sa Re Ga Ma*
05:30 *Chithi Pelam*
06:00 *Rupantor*
06:20 Miror
07:50 Drama Serial: *Bhober Haat*
09:35 *Jibon Jekhaney Jemon*
10:00 Mega Serial: *Jog Beyog*
12:00 *Grameenphone Ajker Shanbadpotro*

ntv
08:35 *Ajker Shokal*
09:30 Drama Serial: *Ramizer Aaina*
10:05 Animal Kingdom
10:30 *Natoker Gaan*
11:00 *Mon Amar Shondhan Kori*
11:25 *Din Darpan*

Rtv
08:00 *Ei Shokal*
09:05 *Aj Potrikay*
09:10 Citycell R Music
10:00 *Prithibir Pathey Pathey*
10:30 English Debate
12:00 Talkshow: *Prashongik*
01:35 Islamic Programmme
03:45 Drama Serial: *Modhyoborti*
04:20 *Aktel Gopshop*
05:10 *Bishwa Jurey*
05:30 *Gaan Ar Gaan*
06:00 *Ajker Bangladesh*
06:35 *Antorango Alap*
08:00 Drama Serial: Black and White
10:45 Rtv Exclusive

BANGLAVISION
08:35 *Shubho Shokal*
09:05 *Desher Pathey*
09:30 Bangla Feature Film
02:30 Drama Serial: *Krishno Pokho*
03:05 *Amar Ami*
03:45 Drama Serial: *Shukher Kanta*
04:20 *Shamol Bangla*
05:00 Cartoon
05:30 *Din Er Sheshey*
06:30 Cinebit
08:10 *Apnar Agami*
09:15 *Maik Master*

PICK OF THE DAY

Pichhutan
On ATN Bangla at 9:20pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Abul Hayat, Chitrolekha Guho

The Kumars at No. 42
On Star World at 8:00pm
Meet the newest Asian family in Showbiz
Cast: Sanjeev Bhaskar, Meera Syal

HBO
09:30 The Making of the Manchurian Candidate
10:15 Balto 3: Wings of Change
12:00 The Interpreter
02:30 Little Black Book
04:45 When Angels Come to Town
06:30 Beverly Hills Cop II
08:30 Mona Lisa Smile
11:00 Body Snatchers
12:45 The Interpreter

STAR MOVIES
08:30 Librarian 2, The: Return To King
10:05 Elektra
11:45 Star Wars: Ep. V - The Empire Strikes Back
02:00 American Pie 2
03:40 Fat Albert
05:15 Never Been Kissed
07:00 Bee Season
08:45 Cinderella Man
10:35 Desperado
12:30 Man On Fire

STAR PLUS
08:30 Saans
09:00 Yatra
09:30 Krishna Kathaiyen
10:30 Khichdi
11:00 Khichdi
11:30 Greatindian laughter challenge 2
12:30 Ji Pradhan Mantriji
01:00 Swades.... We The People
05:30 Mickey Mouse And Friends
06:00 The Legend Of Trazan
07:00 Shararat
07:30 Ek Se Badhkar Ek
08:30 Saibaba
09:30 Prithviraj Chauhan
10:00 Baa Bahoo Aur Baby
10:30 Thodi Si Zameen Thoda Sa Aasma
11:30 Kaboom

STAR WORLD
08:30 Hope & Faith
09:00 According To Jim
09:30 The Simple Life
10:00 The Simple Life
10:30 Commander In Chief
11:30 Heroes
12:30 Criminal Minds
01:30 Law & Order: S.V.U.
02:30 Falcon Beach
03:30 The Apprentice
04:30 Grey's Anatomy
05:30 Hollywood Shootouts
06:00 Travel Asia
06:30 Commander In Chief
07:30 Malcolm In The Middle
08:00 The Kumars At No. 42
08:30 Table For Three
09:30 Oprah Winfrey Show
10:30 Criminal Minds
11:30 To Be Assigned

DISCOVERY CHANNEL
08:30 Wild Discovery
09:30 Discover India
10:30 Sacred India
11:30 Honey We're Killing The Kids
12:30 Man Made Marvels Asia
01:30 Wild Discovery
02:30 Serengeti Is Alive
03:30 Extreme Engineering
04:30 Wild Discovery
05:30 Mean Machines
06:00 Building The Ultimate
06:30 Meerkat Manor
07:00 Animal Camera
07:30 Wild Discovery
08:30 Discovery's Biggest Shows
10:30 Night Safar
11:30 Seven Wonders Of The Industrial World

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
08:30 The Living Edens
09:30 Spider Power
10:30 Intriguing India
11:30 Crashing in Himalayas
12:30 Stigmata
01:30 Apeman
02:30 Temple Of The Tigers
03:30 Hijacked
04:30 NG Junior Hunt 2006
05:00 Nat Geo Junior
05:30 Big Bang
06:00 Nat Geo Junior
06:30 Super Rigs
07:30 Super Predators
08:30 The New Mafia
09:30 The Godfathers
10:30 Speed Week
11:30 Crime Night

ESPN
08:30 Great Finishes (Cricket)
09:00 Commonwealth Bank Series 2006-07
02:00 Great Finishes (Cricket)
02:30 Commonwealth Bank Series 2006-07
06:30 Castle Test Series (Jip) (Cricke
09:30 Sportscenter Weekend (Sport News
09:35 Pakistan Legends (Cricket)
10:30 Pakistan Legends (Cricket)
11:30 Commonwealth Bank Series 2006-07

STAR SPORTS
09:00 Malaysia Airlines Football Extra
10:00 Australian Open 2007 Presented B
05:00 Malaysia Airlines Football Extra
06:00 Pakistan Open (Golf)
07:00 Wrc Highlights Show (Auto Racing
08:00 Gillette World Sport 2006 (Inter
08:30 Cricket Crazy (Cricket)
09:30 Super Centuries (Cricket)
09:50 Fa Cup 2006/07 (Soccer/Futbol)