

CULTURAL FEAST

National Theatre Festival

Organiser: Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation
In association with Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Time: 7pm
Venue: National Theatre Stage

March 6
Konthoshilon
Raja-Rani

March 7
Padatik Natya Sangshad (Bangladesh), Jolbaika

March 8
Padatik Natya Sangshad (TSC) Mousetrap

March 9
Prachyanat
Mandar

March 10
Natyachakra
Cyclewala

March 11
Natyakok
Dhibor Gatha

Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall

March 6
Theatre Unit
Rater Otithi

March 7
Bohurupi Natya
Shongstha
Ekhone Mirzafar

March 8
Chottola Theatre
Mahabidya

March 9
Onushilon Natyadol
Chena Gayer Kechchha

March 10
Tirjok Natyagosthi
Shottandho

March 11
Dhaka University
The Dwarfs

The schedule is subject to change

Music Festival

Organisers: Centre for Education, Creative & Performing Arts, UNESCO Dhaka
Venue: Shaheed Zia Auditorium, Bangladesh National Museum

March 6
Folk and Lalon
Time: 6:30pm

Film Festival

Organiser: Chalachitram Film Society

March 06
3:00 pm Life is Beautiful (Italy)
5:00 pm Nirantar (Bangladesh)
7:00 pm Shanji Batir Rupkotha (India)

March 07
3:00 pm Stop Genocide and Mukti Gaan (Bangladesh)
5:00 pm Incident at Owl Creek Bridge (France)
7:00 pm Ballad of a Soldier (Russia)

March 08
3:00 pm Mr and Mrs Lyer (India)
5:00 pm Shorot '71 & Chaka (Bangladesh)
7:00 pm The Pianist (Poland)

Filmmaking at CRP: A giant step for the differently abled

KAVITA CHARANJI

TRULY as the visually and hearing impaired Helen Keller once said, when one door of happiness closes another opens. This thought comes to mind when one visits the Savar-based Centre for the Rehabilitation of the Paralysed (CRP). Over the years the residents, despite their impairment have acquired a range of skills such as painting, jewellery making, drama, administration, computers, electronics and shop management.

And there's more -- filmmaking. When *The Daily Star* correspondent dropped in at Savar a seven-member crew was busy discussing the nitty gritty of a series of three documentary films on CRP and its members. Under the able guidance of London-based filmmaker Jibunnessa Abdullah, the group is to interview, shoot and edit the film. The group was in the process of firming up questions for an interview with Mahiuddin Babul, who fell from a mango tree in 1985 and became paralysed. The enterprising Babul makes a good subject for the film since he has set up a small electronics business in Dhaka after a degree in electronics from Polytechnic Institute, Dhaka.

Among the questions that will come the way of Babul are how long he has been at CRP, why he is in a trolley, the training he has received, life after the accident, his marriage and the problems he faces. As Jibunnessa says, "Even if some buildings have lifts, the wheel chair users have to negotiate steps. We will be looking at Babul's home in Dhaka which has been adapted to his needs -- as for example a ramp, an accessible toilet. Often rented homes have no wheelchair access, narrow doors, the kitchen stove is too high or low



and the electric switches may be too high."

The film that is in making is geared to generate awareness about disability, discuss the achievements of CRP residents and try to erase the taboos and myths that surround such wheelchair users.

Apart from Babul, the other interviewees will be mouth painter Ibrahim, security guard Bazlu, wheelchair trainer Asma (with her husband), and in the pipeline are interviews with Hosneara, who is in charge of the pediatrics department at CRP and Dr Fazlul Haque, director of the medical department.

The members of the crew are highly enthusiastic about their project, which will give them fresh

skills and develop their potential. Says the wheelchair-bound Sabiha, who makes jewellery and is assistant supervisor and store-keeper at CRP's Gonokbari centre, "I enjoy all the aspects of editing. It opens up new horizons for me." Likewise, Joyti Rani Taylor, who has completed her HSC from Open University, Savar, subscribes to the same view.

This is not CRP's first foray into filmmaking. The one of its kind institution in the country has made two full-length feature films (by other groups) named *Bihongo* (which was inspired by the story of late mouth painter Lovely and the ability of the paralysed to develop their potential in an enabling environment) and *Radio Bhai*, in con-

junction with the UK-based Purple Field Productions (revolving around a wheelchair bound protagonist and geared to combat the fear and superstitions that surround disability in Bangladesh).

CRP has also produced documentaries about the range of problems faced by the differently abled, including road safety and accessibility. Notable documentaries are *Glorious 25 Years*, *Ochena Phuler Mela* and *Angkar*. Such documentaries can be taken around villages and serve as catalysts for change in the social attitudes to the differently abled.

National Theatre Festival '07
Satire and comedy for viewers

ERSHAD KAMOL

Today *Rater Otithi* and *Raja-Rani* will be staged at the Experimental Theatre Stage and the National Theatre Stage, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, respectively. *Rater Otithi* and *Raja-Rani* will be staged as part of the ongoing National Theatre Festival '07, arranged by Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation in association with Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy.

Due to unavoidable circumstances, instead of the scheduled Anirban Theatre (Darshana, Kushtia) production *Muchiram Gunr*, Theatre Centre's production *Rater Otithi* will be staged. Utpal Dutta's play *Rater Otithi* is a social satire on corruption. Be it politics, business, media, literature, even social work, corruption seems to have crept into every sphere of life in the country. Utpal



Scenes from *Raja-Rani* (Top) and *Rater Otithi*



Dutta's *Rater Otithi* unveils such widely prevalent corruption.

Utpal Dutta wrote his play some 46 years back. However, the work, set against the backdrop of social milieu of Kolkata, still ranks as a social satire on corruption. Shafiqul Islam Sohel is the director of *Rater Otithi*. The play will be staged at 7:00 pm.

Another Indian litterateur Sunil Gangopadhyaya's play *Raja-Rani* is a typical 'Comedy of Errors', which is highly influenced by 'Shakespearean Theatre', still very popular in Kolkata. Through the story of confusion of identity of a young couple, humour is created in *Raja-Rani*. Directed by Mir Barkat *Raja-Rani*, a Kanthashilon production, will be staged at 7:00 pm.

Showcasing artistic skills of the young



Artworks on rural lifestyles, fairs and festivals on display



CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

On March 3, several excited children and their proud parents thronged the Sufia Kamal Auditorium, National Museum, for the inauguration ceremony of a group art exhibition of 35 young children. Titled '2nd Children Art Exhibition -2007' the exhibition is in progress at Nalini Kanta Vattasally Exhibition, National Museum and will end tomorrow. Charuloy Academy, a children's art school, has arranged the show with an intention of showcasing the works of its talented pupils. Nearly 100 art works of children, ranging from four to 12 years old, have been put on display. Each painting has been carefully selected among hundreds of works by the children during 2005 and 2006.

The exhibition was inaugurated by prominent artist and special guest, Professor Shishir Bhattacharjee. He expressed his gratitude towards both the parents and the school for their endeavor of promoting art for young children.

The atmosphere at the opening day was one of elation, with scores of excited children eager to view their works. The displayed art ranges from oil pastel to water colour, pencil sketches and oil painting. The event is an opportunity to study the mindset of the young. Most the works depict the Liberation War and atrocities by the Pakistani regime during 1971. The other works include portrayals of rural lifestyles, fairs, festivals and religious cerebrations; while a handful reflect the poverty and struggle of the poor. The exhibition is aimed at inspiring the young artists and channelising their talent.

Small screen

'RC Travel On' at Shakespeare's birthplace

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Tonight *RC Travel On* visits Stratford-upon-Avon, the birthplace of William Shakespeare. The place is possibly the most famous and most visited literary landmark in Britain where Shakespeare was born and spent his formative years.

The travel show is scripted and directed by Shahriar Shakil. The show will be aired tonight on Channel i at 7:50pm.

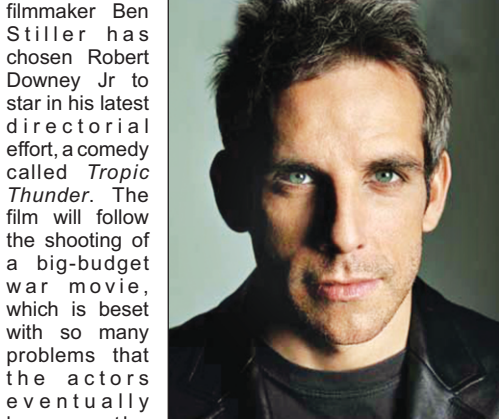


Shahriar Shakil at Stratford-upon-Avon

Movie watch

Ben Stiller to direct Robert Downey Jr

Actor turned filmmaker Ben Stiller has chosen Robert Downey Jr to star in his latest directorial effort, a comedy called *Tropic Thunder*. The film will follow the shooting of a big-budget war movie, which is beset with so many problems that the actors eventually become the commandos they were impersonating.



Ben Stiller

The indubitably talented Downey Jr has three movies in the pipeline, and will soon be seen in, among others, *Fur*, *Zodiac* and *A Guide to Recognising Your Saints*.

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

BTB
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, 12:15am.

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

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

ATN Bangla

08:15 *Ajker Shingbadpotro*
08:30 Drama Serial: *Pichhutan*

09:20 Drama Serial: *Nirey Taar Neel Dheu*
10:30 Talk Show: *AKTEL Onyodrishti*

11:05 Drama Serial: *Out Door*
11:15 *Three Stooges*

12:15 *Amaar Computer*
01:30 *Shur O Chhhobi*

02:30 Talk show
03:15 Drama Serial: *O Amar Chokhu Nai*

03:45 *Aha ki Anondo*
05:10 *Aainar Shamney*

05:45 Programme: *Bangla Neemer Dosh*
06:20 Talk show: *Kothamala*

08:00 Drama Serial: *Shokal Shondha*
08:45 Drama: *Pagol Mon*

CHANNEL-i
09:30 *Shongbad Potrey Bangladesh*

09:45 Public Reaction
09:50 *Greenphone Trityomatra*

11:05 Cricket Online (Live)
11:30 *Amar Chhobi*

12:30 *Citycell Tarokakothon*
01:05 *Ebong Cinemar Gaan*

01:30 *Shanghabad Potrey Bangladesh*
01:45 Public Reaction

06:20 *Shomoy*
Drama Serial: *Ochena Adhar*
07:50 RC Travel on
08:20 Special Programme
09:35 Drama Serial: *Tin Tin*

10:00 *Shadha Ranger Swapno*
12:00 *Grameenphone Ajker Shingbadpotro*

Channel 1
08:40 *Shuprobhat Bangladesh*

09:30 *Chokh Mele Dekhi*
10:00 Cartoon

10:30 *El Mon Tomake Dilam*
02:00 *Shukh Tara*

03:30 Drama Serial: *Shomrajjo*
04:00 *Gaener Khata*

04:30 Bioscope
05:15 *Stop n Rock*

06:00 *Saaj Bela*
06:45 *Mukti Judho*

07:00 *Nongor*
08:15 Drama Serial: *Shomrajjo*

09:00 *Rupantoror Golpo*
BANGLAVISIO

N
08:35 *Shubho Shokal*

09:05 *Ebong Classer Bairey*
09:30 Music Moment

Drama Serial: *Krishno Pokho*
10:40 *Amar Ami*

PICK OF THE DAY



Shokal Shondha

On ATN Bangla at 8:00pm

Drama Serial

Cast: Tazin, Ahmed Rubel



Shonar Phool

On Banglavisio at 8:15pm

Drama Serial

Cast: Shahed, Tonima

Phool Agamir Kontho	10:30 Shaka Laka Boom Boom	06:30 Mickey Mouse And Friends	10:30 My Wife And Kids
STAR MOVIES	11:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii	07:00 The Legend Of Trazan	11:00 The King Of Queen
09:30 The Ticket	12:00 V Trailers - Star Plus	07:30 Prithviraj Chauhan	12:30 Grey's Anatomy
10:00 Total Recall	12:30 Kayamath	08:00 Baa Bahoo Aur Baby	01:00 Still Standing
12:00 Woodsmen, The	01:00 Kasautii Zindagii Kay	08:30 Karam Apnaa Apnaa	01:30 Commander In Chief
01:30 Road House	01:30 Kumkum - Pyara Sa	09:30 Kaun Banega Crorepati- Sk	02:30 Oprah Winfrey Show
03:30 Chasing Ghosts	02:00 Bandhan	10:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii	03:30 The Bold And The Beautiful
05:20 Clearing, The	02:30 Bhabhi	11:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi	04:00 General Hospital
07:00 Ladder 49	03:00 Kesar	11:30 Kayamath	05:00 Fashion House
09:00 Fantastic Four	03:30 Saarthi	12:00 Paraya Dhan	06:00 Less Than Perfect
10:45 Snakeman	04:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi	09:30 The Oprah Winfrey Show	07:00 The Simpsons
STAR PLUS	04:30 Kayamath		08:00 Friends
08:30 Krishna Arjun	04:30 Karam Apnaa Apnaa		08:30 Seinfeld
09:30 Kumkum - Pyara Sa	05:00 Thodi Si Zameen		09:30 Falcon Beach
10:00 Bandhan	05:00 Thoda Sa Aasma		10:30 The O.C.
10:30 V Trailers - Star Plus	06:00 V Trailers - Star Plus		10:30 Commander In Chief

11:30 Fashion House	06:30 Life on the Edge	04:30 Tna Archive
AXN	07:30 Wild Discovery	05:30 International Motorsport News 20
08:30 Amazon	08:30 Honey We're Killing the Kids	06:30 Tna Archive
09:30 Pensacola (Season 3)	09:30 Bringing Home Baby	07:30 Hitz
10:30 Numb3rs (Season 2)	10:00 Amazing Baby Videos	08:00 Sports Yatra With Harsha
11:30 Ultimate Guinness World Records	10:30 Man Made Marvels Asia	08:30 Ashes Heroes
12:00 Maximum Exposure (Season I)	11:30 Dangerman Adventures With Geoff Mackley	09:00 Remember The Titans
01:00 The Amazing Race: All-Stars		09:30 Cricket Crazy
02:00 CSI: Miami (Season 4)		10:30 Tna Archive
03:00 CSI: Miami (Season 4)		11:30 Scoop - Phi Special
04:00 Maximum Exposure		ESPN
05:00 Ultimate Guinness World Records		08:30 Champions Of The World
05:30 Rockface (Season II)		09:00 Shaz & Waz Caribbean Special
06:30 Amazon		09:30 Debutants
07:30 Numb3rs (Season 2)		10:00 Nba Basketball
08:30 Maximum Exposure (Season I)		12:30 English Premier Football League
09:30 Guinness World Records: Primetime (Season III)		02:30 Indian Premier Hockey League
10:30 House (Season 1)		04:30 English Premier League Highlight
11:30 House (Season 1)		05:30 Nba Special: The Run - Lebron Ja
12:30 Guinness World Records: Primetime (Season III)		06:00 The Prince Of Kolkata
DISCOVERY CHANNEL		06:30 X Games 11 Classix - Shaun White
08:30 Wild Discovery		07:30 Football Focus With John Dykes
09:30 Million 2 One		08:30 Sportscenter India
10:00 Everything You Need to Know		09:00 Sportscenter Asia
10:30 Future Weapons		09:30 2006/07 Spanish League Highlight
11:30 Extreme Machines		10:30 Sportscenter India
12:30 Honey We're Killing The Kids		11:00 Sportscenter Asia
01:30 Wild Discovery		11:30 Shaz & Waz Caribbean Special
02:30 Detective Stories		12:00 Bangladesh Tour Of Zimbabwe
03:30 Future Weapons		
04:30 Wild Discovery		
05:30 Extreme Engineering		