

CULTURAL FEAST

National Theatre Festival

Organiser: Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation in association with Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Time: 7pm

At National Theatre Stage

March 20
Cox's Bazar Theatre: Neel Shomudrer Jhor

March 21
Dhaka Theatre: Binodini

March 22
Uttoradhikar: Shampannaiya

March 23
Biborton Jessor: Koiborto Gatha

March 24
Nagorik Natyangan Ensemble: Khanchar

March 25
Bhitor Achin Pakhi

March 26
Shwattik Natya Shomprodye: Kusum Kabyo

March 27
Udichi: Chilekothar Sepoy

March 28
Shanlap Group Theatre: Debolar Grash

Experimental Theatre Hall

March 20
Faridpur Theatre: Matial

March 21
Oboyob Natyadol: Jolpori

March 22
Kheyali Group Theatre: Montong Kothon

March 23
Nagorik Natya Shomprodai: Chhayanaut

March 24
Theatre (Baily Road): Mukti

March 25
Kothok Natyo Shomprodai: Muchiram gur

March 26
Oikik Theatre: Thikana

March 27
Natyokendra: Projapati

The schedule is subject to change

Abstraction with raw colours

Exhibition of Tarafder's works at Alliance Francaise



Paintings by Tarafder

FAYZA HAQ

THOSE into abstract paintings have just to see Tarafder Meraj's ongoing exhibition, *Rhythm in water colour*, at the Alliance Francaise. Commenting on his work, Abul Barq Alvi, professor of Institute of Fine Arts, DU, says, "Most of his work are from images in nature. He has portrayed what he saw and felt with his inner eye. I have great confidence in his ability and potentiality." Rokeya Sultana, associate professor of the same institution, adds, "He depicts the modern world in a very thorough way, using his washes and lines."

Laurent Jalicous, the Deputy Director, Alliance Francaise, remarks, "One is genuinely delighted by the way Tarafder plays with material and subject. He combines the lightness of subject with the massiveness of metal. His fresh audacity is not the only characteristic of his approach. Many of his paintings are based on virtual geometric shapes that intertwine and overlap one another. Some bold choices of colours add visual interest and dimension to his work. His art evokes an emotional response through loose patterns to create visual accents within his colour fields. Tarafder's work is very

much like visualisation of sounds and words."

Tarafder is a student of printmaking. However, finding it difficult to do prints for lack of technical support he has moved on to water colour. In *Death and infinity* there is a red figure that is lying down with blue figures around it. A corpse covered with a shroud lies ahead. In it the artist plays with form and space.

In a landscape highlighting bars of blue and black, red and yellow splashes are in the background. Geometric forms are seen in his next painting where one is confronted with a circle that is divided into red, pink and green.

Rhythm in landscape features a round circle at the bottom in gray and yellow and a rectangle in pink, with dots and lines. *Image of landscape* is a red circle surrounded by zigzag lines; specks of gray are introduced in the backdrop. In another painting of the *Death and infinity* series one sees a running man.

"In my choice of colours I'm influenced by the Fauvists and the flat colours of the cave artists," Tarafder says. He is also inspired by works of Kandinsky and Paul Klee.



National Theatre Festival '07

'Katha Ekattur': Liberation War in limelight



Actors of Dhaka Padatik in Katha Ekattur

PHOTO: STAR

Usually, Liberation War appears in Bangladeshi theatre through a fragmented story of that time and shows the rage and valour of the freedom fighters in the post-Liberation country. However, Protish Kumar Baul's play *Katha Ekattur* departs from its ilk as it presents direct events of the Liberation War.

The play starts with a procession scene in post-Liberation Bangladesh, where prominent figures of the society publicly speak out against the Pakistani collaborators. Focus shifts to one such character, who realises that his son is influenced by western lifestyle. The spirit of Liberation War comes alive through a debate between the father and son. Through their dialogues, victims of the War appear on stage in flashback scenes.

As *Katha Ekattur* portrays events in Dhaka during 1971, the play shows the struggle for independence from the vantage point of "Operation Search Light" -- the

master plan of Pakistani Army to kill each and every Bengali in sight during the first hours of March 26.

Baul, in his play has depicted the fractional stories of genocide by the Pakistani Army and their collaborators. The playwright has raised several pertinent questions: What should be done with the Pakistani collaborators? Should they be punished or pardoned? The play ends optimistically through a message to the younger generation to wake up to the reality and grasp the spirit of the war.

Director Debashish Ghosh has tried to offer the audience an intimate theatrical experience. Utilising half of the stage as well as the balcony of the Experimental Theatre Hall, actors performed amidst the audience. Throughout the play Debashish has composed more than one sequence to create a credible ambience of war. Moreover, clips from Kawsar Chowdhury's acclaimed docu-

mentary *Shei Rater Kotha Bolte Eshechhi* and another clip by Sayeed Kajol are projected. All the indoor sequences are created at different corners of the balcony while the outdoor scenes are created on an empty stage.

However, it can be difficult for the audience to keep track of all the events that take place simultaneously on different parts of a spacious stage. Moreover, several questions surface: Can a realistic ambience be created on the stage? If the answer is negative, should so many murders and torture scenes be presented? Many renowned theatre experts and theorists all over the world have denied the application of the second possibility.

Katha Ekattur, a Dhaka Padatik production, was staged on March 18 as part of the ongoing National Theatre Festival arranged by Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation in association with Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy.

Album of D Rockstars launched

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

The youth brand of Grameenphone (GP), djuice, has released an album featuring participants of last year's *D Rockstars* (a talent hunt) on March 18. The long awaited music album includes songs by ten finalists of *D Rockstars*. The album contains 20 songs, two of each finalist and was released under the supervision of rock star,

Ayub Bachchu. It has been released under the banner of Impress Audio Vision.

GP's head of marketing, Rubaba Dowla Matin; Channel i managing director, Faridur Reza Sagor and Ayub Bachchu jointly launched the album at Spectra Convention Centre, Gulshan.

D Rockstars was an initiative by djuice to encourage and promote young talented musicians. From thousands of participants

across the country djuice picked only 30 from audition rounds. Ten finalists made it to the top through a combination of SMS voting and scores provided by an expert panel of jury. Ayub Bachchu was the leading judge of the talent hunt.

This year djuice will launch *D Rockstars* 2 in April. This time around the talent hunt intends to find a band -- an ensemble of talented musicians and a singer.



(L-R, front row) Faridur Reza Sagor, Rubaba Dowla Matin and Ayub Bachchu with the D Rockstars (in the back) at the album launch

PHOTO: STAR

Dancers greet the SAARC Car Rally at the Kantaji Temple, Dinajpur last Sunday



PHOTO: STAR

Cate Blanchett could be Indiana Jones' next love

AP, Los Angeles

Cate Blanchett is in negotiations to star opposite Harrison Ford in the long-awaited fourth instalment of the *Indiana Jones* series, her publicist confirmed last Saturday.

"She is in negotiations, yes," publicist Lisa Kasteler told *The Associated Press*. She did not elaborate.

Filming is scheduled to begin later this year, with Steven Spielberg on board to direct. The movie is being produced by *Star Wars* creator George Lucas' Lucasfilm Ltd.



'Eksho Bosta Chaal' staged

On the same evening *Eksho Bosta Chaal*, a Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy production, was staged at the National Theatre Stage.

The play is set against the backdrop of the transitional period of 'Shogunate era' to 'Meiji' resurrection. *Eksho Bosta Chaal* features a chaotic scenario of the post 'Boshin War' (1868-69) when the legendary Japanese warriors, popularly known as Samurai, had to constantly struggle to be financially solvent. As a result, like many other Japanese domains, people of Nagaoka became corrupt.

Abdus Selim has translated *Eksho Bosta Chaal* from the Japanese original -- a play by Yuzo Yamamoto. Optimistically the play concludes with the fact that human beings can keep alive a dream even under the harshest of circumstances.

Directed by Golam Sarwar, Faiz Zahir and Zunaid Eusuf are the set designers of the play. Thandur Raihan is the light designer and Ahsan Reza Khan Tushar is the music composer.

The play performed by young actors from different troupes from Dhaka, is an output of a 10-day workshop on Samurai style conducted by Japanese instructor Kimura Shinji. It is a joint produc-

tion by Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, Embassy of Japan, The Japan Foundation and Japan Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

by Ershad Kamol



A scene from Eksho Bosta Chaal

PHOTO: STAR

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, 9:00 am, 2:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 9:00 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:15 am.

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

CHANNEL 1

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

BANGLAVISION

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

BTV

08:40 Bishwa Protidin
09:05 Shomapti
11:15 Shukhi Poribar
11:40 Desher Gaan
12:05 Maa O Shishur Kotha
12:30 Swapno Shonar Gaon
01:00 Shobar Jonno Shikha
01:30 Mati O Manush
02:15 Musical Programme
03:05 Cartoon
03:30 Educational Programme
04:00 Amader Angina
04:30 Band Show
05:05 Moner Kotha
05:30 Quiz Quiz
06:10 Swadhinota
06:40 Cricket Cricket
07:15 ICC World Cup 2007: South Africa Vs Scotland

ATN Bangla

08:15 Aiker
08:30 Shangbadpotro
Drama Serial: Pichhu Taan
09:15 ATN Commentary Box
Talk Show: AKTEL
09:30 Onyodrishti
Drama Serial: Out Door
11:05 Amaar Computer
11:30 Shur Chhinhob
12:30 Talk show
03:15 Drama Serial: O Amar Chokhu Nai
03:45 Aha ki Anondo
05:10 Aainar Shamney
05:45 Documentary
Programme: Bangla Naamer Desh
06:20 Talk show: Kothamala

08:00 Drama Serial: Shokal Shondha
08:45 Drama: Dui Mutho Bhalobasha
09:30 Shongbad Potrey Bangladesh
09:45 Public Reaction
09:50 Grameenphone Tritymatra Cricket Online (Live)
11:05 Amar Chhobi
11:30 Citycell
12:30 Tarokakothon
01:05 Ebong Cinemar Gaan
01:30 Shangbad Potrey Bangladesh
01:45 Public Reaction
02:40 Selected Drama
04:05 Cricitalk Bishwa Cup Special
04:50 Sa Re Ga Ma
05:30 Mukti Juddho
06:00 Protidin
06:00 Drama Serial: Klanto Shomoy
06:20 Drama Serial: Ochen Adhar
07:50 RC Travel on
08:20 Drama Serial: Nater Guru
09:35 Drama Serial: Tin Tin
10:00 Shadha Ranger
12:00 Swapno
06:50 K Taharey Chinitay
07:50 Rangor
08:15 Mon-e Mon-e
09:40 Drama Serial: Neer
10:30 Shongshoy
12:10 Kichhu Kotha Kichhu Gaan

PICK OF THE DAY

ICC World Cup 2007
On BTV at 7:15pm
South Africa Vs Scotland
Live from Warner Park, St Kitts

Channel 1

08:40 Shuprobhat Bangladesh
09:30 Chokh Mele Dekhi
10:00 Cartoon
10:30 Bangla Feature Film
12:00 Shukh Tara
03:30 Drama Serial: Shomrajjo
04:00 Gaaner Khata
04:30 Bioscope
05:15 Stop n Rock
06:00 Saaj Bela
06:45 Mukti Juddho
07:00 Bagan Bilash
08:15 Drama Serial: Shomrajjo
09:00 Rupantoror Golpo
09:30 Fusion Biz
10:50 Expression

BANGLAVISION

08:35 Shubho Shokal
09:05 Ebong Classer
09:30 Shubho Shokal
10:10 Music Moment
10:40 Krishna Pokho
11:10 Amar Ami
11:10 Public Forum
12:40 Drama of the week
04:20 Agni Jhora Dinguli
05:00 Desher Pathay
05:40 Diner Sheshe
06:15 Talk Show
08:15 Drama Serial: Shonar Phool
09:00 Agamir Kontho

STAR MOVIES

08:00 Smothered
09:35 Johnson Family Vacation
11:15 Aviator, The
12:00 Murder On Pleasant Drive
03:35 Sleeping With The Enemy
05:15 Like Mike 2
07:00 Thir13en Ghosts
08:30 Operation Delta Force
10:40 Krishna Arjun
11:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii
12:00 V Trailers - Star Plus
12:30 Kayamath
01:00 Kasautii Zindagii Kay
01:30 Kumum - Pyara Sa Bandhan
02:00 Bhabhi
02:30 Kesar
03:00 Saarthi
03:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi
04:00 Kayamath
04:30 Karam Apnaa Apnaa
05:00 V Trailers - Star Plus
06:30 Mickey Mouse And Friends
07:00 Ducktales
07:30 Prithviraj Chauhan
08:00 Baa Bahoo Aur Baby
08:30 Karam Apnaa Apnaa
09:00 Kasautii Zindagii Kay
09:30 Kaun Banega

10:30 Crorepati- Srk
11:00 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii
11:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi
11:30 Kayamath
12:00 Paraya Dhan
11:30 STAR WORLD
08:30 Cheers
09:00 The Simpsons
09:30 The Oprah Winfrey Show
10:30 My Wife And Kids
11:00 The King Of Queen
11:30 Grey's Anatomy
12:30 Still Standing
01:00 Frasier
01:30 Commander In Chief
02:30 Oprah Winfrey Show
03:30 The Bold And The Beautiful
04:00 General Hospital
05:00 Fashion House
06:00 Less Than Perfect
06:30 The Simpsons
07:00 Cheers
07:30 Friends
08:00 Seinfeld
08:30 Falcon Beach
09:30 The O.C.
10:30 Commander In Chief
11:30 Fashion House
11:30 AXN
08:30 Amazon
09:30 Pensacola
10:30 Numb3rs
12:00 Maximum Exposure
01:00 The Amazing Race: All-Stars
02:00 St: Miami
03:00 St: Miami
04:00 Maximum Exposure
05:00 Ultimate Guinness
05:00 World Records
05:30 Andromeda
06:30 Amazon
07:30 Numb3rs
08:30 Maximum Exposure

10:30 House
11:30 House
12:30 Guinness World Records: Primitime
11:30 DISCOVERY CHANNEL
08:30 Wild Discovery
09:30 Million 2 One
10:00 Everything You Need to Know
10:30 Future Weapons
11:30 Extreme Machines
12:30 Honey We're Killing The Kids
01:30 Wild Discovery
02:30 Detective Stories
03:30 Future Weapons
04:30 Wild Discovery
05:30 Extreme Engineering
06:30 Life on the Edge
07:30 Tiger Week
08:30 Honey We're Killing the Kids
09:30 Bringing Home Baby
10:00 Amazing Baby Videos
10:30 Man Made Marvels Asia
11:30 Engineering Tomorrow's World
11:30 NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
08:30 Girl Power
09:30 Spunky Monkey
10:00 Tiger's Eye
10:30 Telemal
11:30 Kid in the Cockpit
12:30 Motorway Plane Crash
01:30 The FBI
02:30 Be The Creature
03:30 Spunky Monkey
04:00 Tiger's Eye
04:30 Arizona Rattlers
05:00 Nat Geo Genius
05:30 Big Bang
06:30 Saving The King Of Snakes
06:30 Spunky Monkey

07:00 Tiger's Eye
07:30 Winning Teams
08:30 Naked Science
09:30 Is It Real?
10:30 Eternal Enemies
11:30 Invaders
11:30 STAR SPORTS
09:30 Race Day
10:30 2007 Formula One World Champions
12:00 Chequered Flag
12:30 Guinness Premiership 2006/07
02:30 English Premier Football League
04:30 Tna Archive
05:30 International Motorsport News 20
06:30 Tna Archive
07:30 Hit
08:00 India'S Best With Sunil Gavaskar
08:30 Ashes Heroes
09:00 Remember The Titans
09:30 Cricket Crazy
11:30 Women's World Cup Of Golf
11:30 ESPN
08:30 Dubai X Games - Day 1 (Extreme S
09:00 Taking Guard - West Indies Special
09:30 European Badminton Championships
11:00 The Natwest Series
12:30 English Premier Football League
02:30 Nba Classic Games
04:00 The Prince Of Kolkata
04:30 English Premier League Highlight
05:30 Nba Special: The Run-Elton Bran
06:00 Taking Guard - West Indies Special
06:30 2006 Expn 2 day
07:30 Football Focus With