

CULTURALFEAST

Theatre
Short Drama Festival
Plays by Ashish Khondokar
Venue: Natmondal, Dhaka University
Time: 7pm on April 29-30
Plays: Jantob, Platform and Shanki

Grand Group Art Exhibition
145 artworks by renowned Bangladeshi artists
Venue: Saju Art Gallery, F/40-41, D.C.C. North Super Market 2nd Circle, Gulshan
Date: April 28-May 28
Time: 9:00am to 7:00pm (Friday closed)

Swadesh Properties Nriitya Utsab 2007
Organisers: Naba Nriitya and The Embassy of the People's Republic of China
Venue: Shaokat Osman Auditorium, Public Library, Shahbagh
April 30: Kushumer Shapno' by Ballet group
May 1: Shonai Madhab' by Ami's Workshop
Time: 5-9pm

Photography Exhibition



By the members of Muktachokh, Pathshala, 2007
Title: Balyati Prashade
Venue: Alliance Francaise Gallery Zoom, 26 Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi
Date: April 20-May 3
Time: Saturday-Friday 9am-12pm, 5pm-8pm

Digital Art Exhibition
Artist: Rabi Khan
Venue: La Galerie, Alliance Francaise de Dacca
Date: April 26-May 2
Time: 9am-12pm and 5pm-8pm

Ikebana Exhibition
Artist: Jonaky Mahmud
Venue: Conference Hall of BNCU, BANBESIS Bhaban, Palassy-Nikhet
Date: April 30

Solo Art Exhibition
Title: The Forms and Poetry of Nature
Artist: Alakesh Ghosh
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, House 275/F, Road 27 (old) Dhanmondi
Date: April 21-May 5
Time: 12pm-8pm

National Dance Festival '07

Celebrations in Chittagong



Artistes of Odissi and Tagore Dance Movement Centre perform at the programme

PHOTO: STAR

DWAIPAYAN BARUA, Chittagong

A dance programme was held in the port city on Saturday (April 28) evening as part of the weeklong country-wide celebration of the 3rd National Dance Festival.

Deputy Commissioner of Chittagong, Al Nuri Faizur Reza, was the chief guest at the event organised by the Chittagong unit of Bangladesh Nriitya Shipi Sangstha (BNSS). The Programme was held at the Theatre Institute of Chittagong (TIC) auditorium. President of BNSS Chittagong,

Sharmin Hossain presided over the programme while general secretary Shubhra Sen Gupta delivered the welcome speech. BNSS central general secretary Shaju Ahmed was present as special guest. Al Nuri, in his speech, emphasised on continuous practice in order to develop the ancient

medium of culture in the midst of satellite culture. He said thoughts and tastes of a nation are reflected through culture, as it is the mirror of a society.

Shaju Ahmed urged parents to encourage their children to get involved in cultural activities.

Twelve troupes from Dhaka, Khulna and Chittagong performed different forms of dance including *Bharatnatyam*, *Kathak*, *Manipuri* and *Odissi* as well as folk and other contemporary styles.

Four institutions of Chittagong, including School of Oriental Dance, Odissi and Tagore Dance Movement Centre, Fame School of Dance Drama and Music and Gurukul Nriityakala Academy presented *Bharatnatyam*, *Odissi*, *Kathak* and *Manipuri* respectively.

Dance exponents of Chittagong -- Shubhra Sen Gupta, Prama Abonti, Tilottama Sen Gupta and Gargi Majumder -- choreographed the recitals respectively.

Other troupes participating at the event were Hungur Nriityakala Kendro, Nataraj Nriityangan Academy, Sanchari Nriityakala Academy, Surangama Nriityangan, Nupur Nikkon and Charuta -- all from Chittagong. Midanga from Dhaka and Abbasuddin Academy of Khulna also participated at the programme.

Renowned dancer Belayet Hossain Khan of Jago Art Centre, Dhaka delivered a performance titled *Naborash* -- demonstrating the different human emotions -- that received a hearty response from the audience.

Poetry festival in Rajshahi

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

A regional poetry recitation festival was celebrated with much enthusiasm featuring a rally, recitation, discussion and workshops in Rajshahi on April 27 and 28.

The two-day celebration, jointly organised by Bangladesh Abritti Samannoy Parishad, Rajshahi Abritti Parishad and cultural organisation Swanan, was held at Ghoramara Padma Mancha with the slogan "Jai, Alok Arunodoy, Jai".

Individuals and different recitation forums from Naogaon, Bogra, Rangpur, Sathkira, Rajshahi and adjacent districts, participated in the programmes.

Renowned litterateurs Professor Hasan Azizul Haq and Ruhul Amin

Pramanik inaugurated the festival.

"It is cultural identity that divides people into nations around the globe. People get a new lease of life observing festivals, celebrating their own cultures and heritage," Professor Hasan said in his inaugural speech.

Professor Hasan then led a rally going through city streets heralding the celebration.

The festival celebration committee convener Mohammad Kamal presided over the session. Among others attending the festival were Hasan Arif, assistant general secretary of Dhaka Sammilito Sangskritik Jote; Ahkamullah and Sharif Ahmed Bintu, secretary of Bangladesh

Abritti Samannoy Parishad.

Later in the afternoon, Swanan units at Rajshahi University and Rangpur, Kathak of Nageswari and several individuals recited poems at the Padma Mancha.

Dristy of Bogra, Abritti Parishad of Naogaon, Sampratik Abritti Sangsad and Protiddhoni of Sathkira, Sundorom and Abritti Parishad of Rajshahi and others also presented recitals on April 28.

Some 70 participants took part at workshops during the two-day festival.

Similar poetry festivals were held at Monishura in Khulna division, Narayanganj in Dhaka division and will be held at Comilla in Chittagong region soon.



A view of the rally brought out on the occasion of the poetry festival

PHOTO: STAR

Indonesian melodies take centre stage

Cultural fiesta at Shilpakala Academy

MAHMUDA AFROZ

The weeklong programme by the 'Indonesian Culture and Tourism Promotion Week 2007' came to an end with a splendid performance that took place at the National Theatre Stage, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy on April 28. The evening titled 'Indonesian Cultural Night' was organised by the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia and the Shilpakala Academy, Dhaka.

The evening was divided into three segments. The first part included short speeches by the Director General of the Shilpakala Academy Quamrul Hassan, ndc and Warmas Hasan Saputra, Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia to Bangladesh. In his speech the Ambassador mentioned that the main focus of the episode was outlined by the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the government of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh and the government of the Republic of Indonesia, signed in 2004.

A cultural delegation consisting of thirty members from the city Pemantangsiantar in North Sumatra arrived in the Dhaka several days back, aiming to promote and develop cultural relations and understanding between the two countries. At the programme they performed the traditional *Tortor Sombha*, a dance that used to be performed to welcome kings and their courtiers in earlier times. Continuing with their soothing numbers and delicate steps the dance troupe performed the *Martonun* dance or the weaving dance, which depicts the life of a weaver girl.

Next on stage was Indonesian singer Arlin Tobit who rendered two popular numbers *Lee cho* (on friendship) and *Ching ching cho* (a father crossing the river to meet his daughter). Following the songs



PHOTO: STAR

Indonesian artistes perform the Piring dance

was a fashion show highlighting the different religions and traditional garb of Indonesians.

The *Piring* dance or the plate dance was performed with two plates balanced on the performers' hands. This dance form is common among the ethnic groups in Male and Sumatra islands. The last dance of the evening was the *Malenggang* dance.

The third part of the programme featured performances by artistes of the Shilpakala Academy and their Indonesian counterparts. Zakir Hossain from the Shilpakala Academy sang a popular Indonesian

song *Aloo Siya* and Arlin rendered Habib's current hit *Bhalobashbo bashbo re bondhu* along with dance performances by Deepa Khandokar, Irene Parvin, Mahatri and Julie. The programme came to an end with dancers from both sides performing the *Anondo Nriityo* or the 'Happy Dance'.

Distinguished guests from home and abroad, government and non-government organisations, diplomatic missions, executives from renowned companies and other high officials were present at the occasion.

AP, New York

The sixth annual Tribeca Film Festival opened last Wednesday at a gala hosted by former US Vice President Al Gore as the festival expanded its social mission with a slate of global warming-themed films.

The festival, which was founded after the September 11 attacks to rejuvenate Lower Manhattan, opened with the premiere of nine short films produced by SOS (Save Our Selves), an organisation to raise awareness on climate change.

The night signified not only the opening of this year's festival, but also the growing connection between filmmakers and the issue of global warming. Gore, who starred in the Oscar-winning documentary *An Inconvenient Truth*, said artists play an important role in the movement. "Art, music, film, dance, poetry -- all the arts -- have long been our greatest tools to explore the regions of imagination that defy our efforts to think rationally about subjects that our emotions tell us are too painful to contemplate," he said.

Tribeca, which held its first festival in 2002, was founded by Robert De Niro, his producing partner, Jane Rosenthal, and her husband, the entrepreneur Craig Hatkoff.

Though festivals customarily

open with the premiere of a high-profile feature film, Rosenthal told *The Associated Press* ahead of Tribeca's opening that the decision was easy.

SOS founder Kevin Wall said the organisation has commissioned 60 short films. The nine shown last Wednesday night generally ran about five minutes long and sometimes felt like public service announcements.

They included visions of a flooded New York City, an animated hippo and turtle talking about changing temperatures, footage from a giant landfill in

Brazil and a reminder of the especially harsh effect global warming is expected to have on Africa.

Directors Heidi Ewing and Rachel Grady, whose documentary *Jesus Camp* played at Tribeca last year and went on to land an Oscar nomination, showed a film entitled *One Less Car* that showed the benefits of riding a bike in New York City.

Martin Scorsese, Petra Nemcova, Jimmy Fallon, Diego Luna, Christopher Walken, Paul Haggis and Josh Lucas were among who attended the festival.



Al Gore talks to actor and festival founder Robert De Niro on the opening night of the Tribeca Film Festival

TV GUIDE

PICK OF THE DAY



Kath Koylar Chhobi
On ATN Bangla at 8:00pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Tauquir Ahmed, Bipasha Hayat



Obosheshey
On Banglavisation at 8:55pm
Single episode TV play
Cast: Tinni, Intekhab Dinar

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 a.m, 11:00 a.m, 1:00pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00pm, 6:00 pm and 8:00 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

BTV

08:40 Bishwa Protidin
09:15 Shomapti
11:15 Phele Asha Din
12:05 Maa O Shishur Kotha
12:30 Swapno Shonar Gaon
01:00 Mati O Manush
01:30 Shukhi Poribar
02:15 Sisimpur
02:40 Selected Programme
03:05 Cartoon
03:30 Football Shekha Anu Porumanu
04:00 Selected Programme
04:30 Debate
05:05 Selected Programme
06:10 Dolon Chanpa
07:00 Shapholyo Gatha
07:30 Selected Programme
08:30 Protidin Bangladesh
08:35 Musical Programme
09:00 Talkshow
10:30 Drama

ATN Bangla

08:30 Musical Programme
09:15 Mega Serial: Laal
Neel Beguni
10:30 Talk Show: AKTEL
Onyodrishti
11:15 Mega Serial: Ek Jonomey
Mota Mot
01:25 Chochilitrer Golpo
Drama Serial: Nirob Kosto
03:15 Drama Serial: O Amar Chokhu Nai
03:45 Children's Programme

04:20 Shornali Din
05:10 Shushtho Thakun
05:45 Business week
06:20 Ashyepasher Marush
08:00 Drama Serial: Kath Koylar Chhobi
Meet the press
08:45
CHANNEL-i
09:30 Shongbad Potrey Bangladesh
09:45 Selected Programme
09:50 Public Reaction
03:05 Grameenphone Trilipi matra
11:05 Educational Programme
12:30 Citycell Tarokathothon
01:05 Ebong Cinemar Gaan
01:30 Shanghabad Potrey Bangladesh
01:45 Public Reaction
02:40 Selected Drama of Humayun Ahmed
03:05 Educational Programme
04:50 Sa Re Ga Ma
05:30 Muk juddho Protidin
06:00 Stargate SG one
06:20 Antoraler Kotha
06:40 Business Show
07:50 BBC Bangladesh Shanglep
09:35 Drama Serial: Tin Tin
Drama Serial: Shadha Ranger
10:00 Swapno
12:00 Grameenphone Aiker Shanglep
Channel 1
08:40 Shuprobhath

09:30 Bangladesh Chokh Mele Dekhi
10:00 Cartoon
10:30 Bangla Feature film
03:30 Drama Serial: Shunney Boshobash
04:00 Ekti Tara Duiti Tara
04:30 Shomoyer Shad
05:15 Cinetune
06:00 Saaj Bela
06:45 Iltishasher Path
Dhorey
07:00 Shukhtara
08:15 Drama Serial: Shomrajjo

Rtv

06:15 Musical Programme
06:30 Japito Jibon

07:00 Prio Mukh
07:30 Cinema Ar Cinema
08:00 Drama Serial
08:40 Look at Me
09:30 Drama Serial: High Tension

BANGLAVISIO

08:35 Shubho Shokal
09:05 Agamir Kontho
10:10 Article Thirty-Nine
11:10 Sports Vision
11:40 Cinebit
02:40 Drama Serial: Choitali jochonay Eka Meyeti

STAR PLUS

09:30 Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan
10:30 Aladdin
11:00 That's So Raven
11:30 V Trailers - Star Plus
12:00 Kasturi
12:30 Meri Awaz Ko Mil Gayi Roshni

08:30 Karam Apnaa Apnaa
09:00 Kasauti Zindagii Kay Meri Awaz Ko Mil Gayi Roshni
10:00 Kasturi
10:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii
11:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi
11:30 Kayamath
12:00 Paraya Dhan
STAR MOVIES
08:00 Rookie Of The Year
09:45 Undercover Brother
11:15 Thunderball
11:30 A Lot Like Love
03:15 Vizontele
05:15 Junebug
07:00 Octopussy
09:10 Englishman Who Went Up A Hill...
10:45 Moscow Heat
12:30 Red Sonja
02:00 Truth

STAR WORLD

09:30 Oprah Winfrey Show
10:30 The Apprentice
12:00 8 Simple Rules
12:30 Koffee With Karan
01:30 Angela's Eyes
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 Sr 8
08:00 Seinfeld
08:30 My Wife And Kids
09:00 Still Standing
09:30 Grounded For Life
10:00 Frasier

11:30 Fashion House
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
09:30 The Combatants
11:00 Sauna Belt
11:15 Global Sky Shop
11:30 Inside Jerusalem
Holiest
01:30 China
02:30 Cass, Buddy, Mercedes
03:00 Lesser Flamingos
03:30 The Combatants
04:30 Mad Labs
05:00 Saving The King Of Snakes
05:30 Nat Geo Junior
06:00 Lizard Kings
06:30 The Combatants
07:30 At Close Range With NG
08:30 Air Crash Investigation
09:30 Seconds From Disaster
10:30 Innovation
11:30 Rated W

DISCOVERY CHANNEL
09:30 Discovery Biggest Shows
11:30 Junkyard Wars
12:30 Ten Years Younger
01:30 Wild Discovery
02:30 Detective Stories
03:30 Planet Earth
04:30 Africa Week
05:30 Wild Safari
06:30 Extreme Machines
07:30 Wild Europe Special
08:30 Colours of India
09:30 Everest: Beyond the Limit

10:30 Million 2 One
11:00 Everything you need to know
11:30 Life on the edge
STAR SPORTS
08:30 Pro Bull Riders Association Bull
09:30 Paris-Nice 2007 (Cycling)
10:30 English Premier Football League
12:30 Guinness Premiership 2006/07
04:30 English Premier Football League
06:30 Destination X
08:30 Castle Test Series
10:00 Full Toss? Haste
10:30 Pro Bull Riders Association Bull
11:00 Engine Block
12:00 A1 Grand Prix

ESPN
08:30 Asian X Games 2005
Presented By Final Score
10:00 Nba Playoffs 2006/07 (Basketball)
12:30 English Premier Football League
02:30 Kansas City Indy 300 (Auto Racin)
05:00 Espn Great Outdoor Games
06:30 Asian X Games Vi
Presented By To English Premier League Highlight
08:30 Sportscenter India
09:00 Sportscenter Asia
09:30 Rocky Marciano - Vs Jersey Joe W