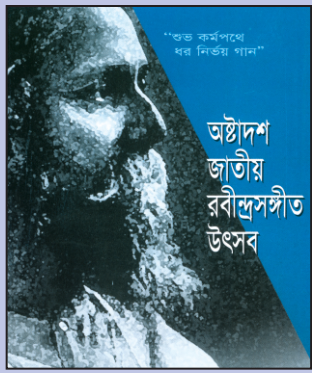


CULTURALFEAST

18th National Tagore Song Festival



Organiser: Bangladesh Rabindrasangeet Shilpi Sangstha
Venue: Shawkat Osman Memorial Auditorium, Central Public Library
Date: May 5, 6, 7 & 8

Grand Group Art Exhibition

145 art works of renowned Bangladeshi artists on display
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)

Group Theatre Festival 2007

Organiser: Group Theatre Forum, Chittagong
Venue: Chittagong Shilpakala Academy Auditorium
Date: May 6
Play: Koroti
Troupe: Kathak Theatre

Date: May 7
Play: Ekti Obastob Golpo
Troupe: Gonayon Naty Shomprodoy

Date: May 8
Play: Modhuchokro
Troupe: Theatre Workshop Chittagong

Date: May 9
Play: Daybhar
Troupe: Angon Theatre Unit

Date: May 10
Play: Pagla Ghora
Troupe: Protinidhi Naty Shomprodoy

Date: May 11
Play: Chhayabrita
Troupe: Shobdo Naty Chorch Kendro

Date: May 12
Play: Chader Omabosya
Troupe: Theatre Guild

European Union Cultural Festival

Title: Celebrating EU-Bangladesh Relations Through Culture
Organiser: European Commission, in association with partner organisations
Date: May 3-16

Pata painting exhibition
Artist: Shambhu Acharya
Venue: Alliance Francaise
Date: May 3-16

Photographic display
Title: Bangladesh Matters: Capturing the EU's Development Co-operation
Venue: Drik Gallery
Date: May 8-12

Solo Art Exhibition

Title: Cryptic Reality
Artist: Abdus Sattar Taufiq
Venue: Zainul Gallery, Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka University
Date: April 30-May 6
Time: 11am-8pm

18th National Rabindra Sangeet Festival begins



Artists of BRSSS render songs, Atiqul Haque Chowdhury speaks at the programme

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

The eighteenth National Rabindra Sangeet Festival organised by Bangladesh Rabindra Sangeet Shilpi Sangstha (BRSSS) began on May 4 at the Shawkat Osman Auditorium, Central Public Library at Shabbagh.

The seven-day festival will feature solo performances by around 150 noted and upcoming Tagore artists and group presentations by 10 cultural organisations from all corners of the country.

At the inaugural programme Tagore artiste and general secretary of BRSSS, Tapan Mahmud emphasised on the proposals BRSSS made at the previous Rabindra Sangeet Festival. The

proposals include: (1) Birth anniversaries of Rabindranath Tagore and Kazi Nazrul Islam should be commemorated by declaring them as National Holidays, (2) Organising special programmes on Tagore and Nazrul anniversary should be mandatory at educational institutions starting from primary schools to universities, so that our youth are well aware of our national heritage and culture, (3) Dhaka City Corporation should name major streets after Tagore, Fakir Lalon Shah and Hason Raja, (4) Establishing a Rabindra Academy for research and high studies on Tagore's work, (5) Local and multinational organisations should spend at least half of the funds intended to be used to support cultural activities, on activities related to authentic Bangladeshi

traditions, (6) Shilaidaha Kuthibari should be remodelled and should look the way it initially did. The changes made to the edifice during the last government's tenure are not acceptable. Obstructions to the entrance of Kuthibari should be removed so that the site is easily accessible to tourists, (7) Locations at Patishor and Dakkhindhi that can be of great interest to Tagore researchers and enthusiasts should be preserved.

This year the festival is dedicated to the memory of noted Tagore exponent Waheedul Haque. BRSSS hopes it can carry on the movement initiated by Haque to encourage young talented Tagore singers from all over the country.

At the programme, BRSSS honoured renowned media personal-



PHOTO: STAR

ity Atiqul Haque Chowdhury for his contribution in promoting quality TV plays. An ecstatic Chowdhury said, "My work has been recognised nationally quite a few times but I'll always cherish this honour BRSSS has bestowed upon me."

The inaugural programme was presided over by Tagore exponent and singer Kalim Sharafi. Noted educationist Professor Anisuzzaman was the chief guest.

The speeches were followed by music. Artistes Azizur Rahman Tuhin, Sajed Akbar, Pijush Barua, Fahim Hossain Chowdhury, Sukanto Mitra, Rana Sinha, Kazi Md. Zakaria, Ashoke Saha and others performed Tagore songs.

Ekushey Television is the media partner of the festival.

Satyajit Ray's 86th birthday celebrated

AHSAN HABIB

To observe the 86th birth anniversary of legendary filmmaker Satyajit Ray, Bangladesh Film Institute Alumni Association (BFIAA) organised a seminar titled *Shimar Opore Satyajit: Ekti Onuprerona (Satyajit Beyond Boundaries: An Inspiration)* and a film screening on May 4. The programme was held at the Bangladesh Film Archive Auditorium.

Shabin Ashfarah Khondokar and Rafael Ahsan presented a paper in the seminar. Eminent filmmakers Tarique Masud and Tanvir Mokammel along with Dr. Mohammad Jahangir Hossain, president of BFIAA were the discussants at the programme.

"Satyajit showed us the tools to transcend structural shortcomings such as technological or monetary barriers to produce international standard films. He remains an inspiration for filmmakers all over the world who have limited resources to work with-- yet committed to go beyond boundaries," noted Shabin and Rafael. They also examined the 'economy of expres-



Tanvir Mokammel speaks at the seminar

PHOTO: STAR

sion' in Ray's films, sets and motifs. The discussants considered some of earlier criticisms of Ray's films now seem misplaced and premature.

Tarique Masud focused on handling the actors in Ray's films and his ability to move the audience without melodrama. Tanvir

Mokammel emphasised on Ray's strong presence on the Bengali cultural scene all throughout his life with works in different mediums.

The programme ended with the screening of Ray's *Shakha Proshakha*.

Silver jubilee staging of 'Samayer Proyojone'

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Twenty-fifth show of Theatre Art Unit's 10th production *Samayer Proyojone* was staged at the Mahila

Samity Stage on May 4. Adapted and directed by Mohammed Bari from Zahir Raihan's well-known short story with the same title, the play belongs to the school of thought that believes nothing in



A scene from the play

this world can be achieved by a premeditated mindset. Time, is the deciding factor.

Samayer Proyojone is set against the backdrop of a camp in 1971 where the Freedom Fighters from different corners of the country have taken to arms against the Pakistani military regime and the collaborators. Reading the diary of a missing Freedom Fighter, named Mamun, his comrades analyse the logic behind their role in the Liberation War. They realise that it is neither leadership nor patriotism, rather changed times that have propelled them to fight for the nation.

Kamaluddin Kabir is the set designer and Nasirul Haque Khokon is the light designer of the play.

On eve of the 25th show, three freedom fighters-- Mamunur Rashid, Nasiruddin Yousuff and Ferdousi Priobhashini gave their feedback on the play.

Aranyak Natya Dal stage 'Swapno Nagar'

Theatre troupe Aranyak Natya Dal staged special programmes at the Central Shaheed Minar premises to mark the May Day, says a press release. For the last 24 years the organisation has been holding such programmes.

Chief guest, eminent artist Mustafa Manowar, in his speech emphasised the importance of safeguarding the rights of the workers.

"The ordinary workers of our country are very often neglected. Despite their immense contribution to economy, they live in extreme hardship and poverty," he said. Actor Mamunur Rashid, founder, *Aranyak Natyodol* also spoke at the event.

The programme featured recitation by Poet Nirmalendu Goon, Hassan Arif and Mahidul Islam. Jannati Ferdousi rendered songs.

The day wrapped up with the staging of a street theatre *Swapno Nagar*. The play directed by Amanul Haq was based on the disaster at the Spectrum Garment factory at Savar that led to the death of several garment workers.

Potters as seen through a child's eyes

FAYZA HAQ

The library of Alliance Francaise was recently overflowing with visitors. They had come to see four-year old Prottoy Karmakar's photography on the life of potters. One has seen the child, earlier, in many art galleries and public places shooting with the little camera slung from his neck.

When his mother was posted in Mymensingh, his father, Proshanto would go there too accompanied by Prottoy. A couple of years back, the child playing with his father's camera, took a promising picture of the people in Mymensingh. It had good composition sense and pleased the father. After that he was given an auto Yashika camera with which Prottoy took pictures of the countryside. His father chose the topic of the potters (pals) and he used five reels on that subject. This is the background of the exhibition.

"Many people in our family are into art like me and his uncle Kalidas Karmakar. My father, when he retired, drew many pictures while our mother did 'nakshikantha'. When I paint at night, Prottoy sits at my side and works with paintbrush and paints," says Proshanto, an

acclaimed photographer and artist himself.

Laurent Jalicous, Deputy Director of Alliance Francaise adds, "It appears that art runs in the vein of the Karmakar family. We had Kalidas's exhibition a few days back and now we present Prottoy in the library. With a little help from the father and good framing, the pictures are amazing."

One of the pictures present a family of potters surrounded by pottery pieces.



A potter's family

The children wear shorts, except for the girl at the back, and their legs are covered with dust. The mother is surrounded by clay utensils. Another photograph shows an old woman surrounded by upturned utensils almost as large as herself. Children studying in the village home also make an interesting composition. So does the picture of the mother combing the daughter's and that of another female potter putting the finishing touches to her work.

TV GUIDE

PICK OF THE DAY



Bhober Haat
 On channel i at 7:50pm
 Drama Serial
 Cast: Wahida Mallick Jolly, Humayun Faridee



Hannibal
 On Discovery Channel at 8:30pm
 Story of general Hannibal who took on the might of Rome

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 am, 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 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

08:45 Bishwa Protidin

11:15 Drama

12:30 Swapno Shonar

Gaon

01:00 Maa O Shihur

Kotha

01:30 Mati O Manush

02:15 Laukik Bangla

Cartoon

02:40 Educational

Programme

03:05 Shobar Jonno

Cinema

04:00 Shotorupa

Kheladhula

04:30 TV debate

05:05 Tagore Song

06:40 Tagore Song

07:30 Drama Serial:

Shukh Shur

08:35 Talk Show/ Maga-

zine

10:30 Musical

Programme

ATN Bangla

09:15 Drama Serial:

Hortoner Bibi

10:30 Talk Show:

Onnodrishti

11:05 Drama: Kolom

12:15 Shushtho Thakun

01:30 Shornali Shadakalo

02:40 Tele film

05:00 Gram Gonjer

Khorob

05:10 Documentary

Programme

05:45 The Sword of Tipu

Sultan

06:25 Three Stooges

Drama Serial:

Outdoor

08:40 Drama Serial:

Nirey Taar Nil Dheu

09:20 Drama Serial:

Pichhutan

Channel i

08:30 Shokaler Gaan

Shangbadpotre

Bangladesh

09:45 Public Reaction

Grameenphone

09:50 Tritiomatra

11:05 Apollo Tele Pre-

scription

11:30 Hridoye Mati O

Manush

12:30 Citycell Taroka

Kathan

01:05 Ebong Cinemar

Gaan

01:30 Shangbadpotre

Bangladesh

01:45 Public Reaction

02:40 Selected Drama of

Humayun Ahmed

03:05 Educational

Programme

03:30 BBC Bangladesh

Shanglap

04:50 Sa Re Ga Ma

05:30 Muktiudho Protidin

06:00 Rupantor

06:20 South Asian

07:50 Mega Serial:

Bhober Haat

09:35 Drama Serial: Mon

Chhutey Jay

10:00 Drama Serial:

Shada Ranger

04:30 Expression

05:15 Gaaner Kotha

Kothar Gaan

06:00 Saaj Bela

06:45 Ithasher Path

Dhorey

07:00 Ekti Tara Duiti Tara

08:15 Drama Serial:

Shunney Boshobash

09:00 Shomoyer Swad

09:30 Cine tune

11:00 Musical Programme

BANGLAVISION

09:05 Drama Serial:

Krishnopkho

09:30 Bangla Feature Film

Drama Serial:

Bachelor Dompoti

03:10 Talkshow

04:15 Musical Programme

05:40 Diner Sheshey

06:25 Sports Vision

06:45 Bishwacup Protidin

08:15 Drama Serial:

12:00 Kasauti Zindagii Kay

STAR MOVIES

09:00 K-9

10:45 Flatliners

01:45 The Pacifier

02:20 Fat Albert

03:55 Elvis Has Left The

Building

05:25 Robots

07:00 The Greatest Game

Ever Played

09:00 Alexander

11:50 Moonraker

03:00 Kids In America

STAR WORLD

09:00 Scrubs

09:30 Desperate House-

wives

10:30 Prison Break

11:30 Heroes

12:30 Angela's Eyes

01:30 Third Watch

02:30 Falcon Beach

03:30 The Apprentice

05:00 Grey's Anatomy

06:00 Travel Asia

06:30 Koffee With Karan

07:30 The Simpsons

08:00 The Kumars At no.

42

08:30 Wills India Fashion

Week

09:30 Koffee With Karan

10:30 Angela's Eyes

11:30 Third Watch

DISCOVERY

CHANNEL

09:30 Discover India

10:30 Future Weapons

11:30 Baby Story

12:00 Baby Whispere

12:30 Wildest

01:30 Wild Discovery

02:30 Mega Builders

03:30 Future Weapons

04:30 Wild Discovery

05:30 How Do They Do It?

06:30 Wildest