

## CULTURALFEAST

## National Art Exhibition

Venue: National Art Gallery, Shilpkala Academy  
Date: June 17 to July 16  
Organiser: Department of Art, Bangladesh Shilpkala Academy

## Children's Theatre Festival

Organiser: Rakhal  
Venue: Shawket Osman Memorial Auditorium, Central Public Library  
Date: June 15-29  
Time: 10:00am onwards

## Theatre

Troupe: Friday Theatre School, Alliance Francaise Dhaka  
Play: Aladdin  
Play Language: English  
Venue: Goethe-Institut Bangladesh Auditorium, House 10, Road 9 (new), Dhanmondi R/A  
Date: June 18-22  
Time: 7:00pm

## Theatre Festival

Organiser: Sanglap Group Theatre  
Venue: Experimental Theatre Stage, Bangladesh Shilpkala Academy  
Time: 7pm

June 18  
Troupe: Sanglap Group Theatre  
Play: Debolar Grash

June 20  
Troupe: Jolshiri  
Play: Three Penny Opera

June 21  
Troupe: Theatre  
Play: Meraj Fakirer Ma

## Group Art Exhibition

Artist: Mahabubul Islam Babu, Zahid Hossain Newton, Rajaul Islam Lovlu, Abdul Aziz, Syed Mohammad Shamim, Uttam Kumar Roy  
Venue: Radius Centre, Bay's Galleria (5th Floor), 57 Gulshan Avenue  
Date: June 15-30  
Time: 10am 8pm

Title: Thoh Shun  
Venue: Art Club Bangladesh Gallery, Suite 3B, House 4, Road 104, Gulshan 2  
Date: June 15-20  
Time: 11am-8pm

## Painting Exhibition

Artist: Tayeba Begum Lipi  
Title: Feminine  
Venue: Bengal Shilpalaya, House 275/F, Road 27 (old) Dhanmondi  
Date: June 15-28  
Time: 12pm 8pm

## Photography Exhibition

Artist: Shamsunnahar Lovely  
Venue: Zainul Galleria-1, Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka University  
Date: June 17-22  
Time: 11am 6pm

## 17th National Art Biennale '07 begins

## Ten artists awarded



Advisor Ayub Quadri (seated 2nd from left) seen with the prize winners of National Art Biennale '07 (back row)

## ERSHAD KAMOL

THE much-awaited National Art Biennale was inaugurated yesterday at the National Art Gallery, Bangladesh Shilpkala Academy (BSA). The month-long 17th National Art Biennale was inaugurated by Ayub Quadri, advisor to the Ministries of Education, Primary and Mass Education and Cultural Affairs. The exhibition is on till July 16 and features 373 artworks by 247 artists.

On the occasion a discussion was held at the National Theatre Stage. Ayub Quadri was the chief guest and veteran artist Aminul Islam was the special guest at the programme. The discussion was chaired by the director general of BSA.

Quamrul Hassan, Director of Department of Art, BSA, M Nazrul Haque delivered the welcome speech.

Briefing the initiatives of the department, Haque said, "Our aim is to bridge traditional with contempo-

rary art forms of the world."

Artist Aminul Islam, who is also the convenor of the jury committee, said, "It's really difficult to select the best from about 1,300 artworks in different mediums. To me all the participants deserve awards."

DG of BSA, Quamrul Hassan, said, "The National Art Biennale reflects the current scenario of Bangladeshi art. I am amazed by the potentials and innovation of our artists who are participating in the biennale. Besides, the familiar

forms, they have presented technology-based artworks like digital painting and video illustrations. I believe, the exhibition maintains the standard of any international biennale."

Ayub Quadri said, "We have made several infra-structural developments. Now, it is the time to patronise our vibrant art forms."

Ten artists were awarded by BSA and other private organisations at the 17th National Art Biennale. Debashish Pal, for his "Contemporary Portrait of Bangladesh-3", won the BSA Grand prize worth BDT 51,000. The BSA Honorable Mention Awards went to Tarique Zulfikar for "Simulacrum - 2", Amirul Mominin Chowdhury for "Nuhash" and the "Alien - 32" and Ashrafuzzaman for "Tree-man" and "Wall - 3".

The Deepa Haque Award went to Gulshan Hossain for her innovative work, "Archaeological Report of Romeo and Juliet - 2". Shahinur Rahman for his installation "Zero: The Primary Unit" received the Bengal Foundation Award. For "Justice", Khalid Mahmud Mithu won the Arab Bangladesh Bank Award. Winner of Shah AMS Kibria Award is Uttam Kumar Roy for "Target We and I - 35". Ahmed Shamsuddoha, for "Aim - 1", won the GramenePhone Award. Faruk Ahmed is the winner of Azizunnesa Fine Arts Award for "Composition - 2".

## Ibsen's 101st death anniversary observed

## CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

To observe the 101st death anniversary of Norwegian drama legend Henrik Ibsen, Bangladesh Ibsen Society (BIS) arranged a special programme at the National Theatre Stage at Bangladesh Shilpkala Academy on June 16. The programme featured discussion, recitation and a theatre performance.

The event began with a chorus song by Jatiyo Rabindra Sangeet Sammilan Parishad's Dhaka Committee. The group of artists rendered a Tagore song "Bishwabeena robe". The discussion was presided over by educationist Professor Khan Sarwar Mursid. Ingebjorg Stofring, Royal Norwegian Ambassador to Bangladesh, was the chief guest of the programme. Eminent litterateur Selina Hossain delivered the welcome speech. Dr. Sonia Nishat Amin and Dr. Kajol Bandyopadhyay also delivered speeches.

In her welcome speech Selina Hossain, who is also the Chairperson of BIS, briefed the aim of the organisation. She said that BIS is a common platform for Ibsen enthusiasts. "We intend to arrange seminars, publish books and stage shows on Ibsen's plays," said Hossain.

Dr. Sonia Nishat Amin shared her experience from her visit to Norway last year. She was part of a six-member delegation from Bangladesh that participated at the Ibsen centennial death anniversary programme in Oslo.

Dr. Kajol Bandyopadhyay presented a paper on practice of Ibsen's plays in Bangladesh.

The Norwegian Ambassador said, "For Norway, it's a responsibility to promote Ibsen's work worldwide. The arrangement of Ibsen's centennial death anniversary in Bangladesh last year was comprehensive, compared to other countries around the world. University of Oslo has come to an agreement with two universities of Bangladesh, University of Dhaka and University of Khulna--- to provide scholarships for Bangladeshi students that will enable them to study Ibsen's work in Norway."

Khondokar Ashraf Hossain and Bhaswar Bandyopadhyay recited Ibsen's poems. Khondokar Ashraf

Hossain recited three poems -- "Projapoti", "Ghumparani" and "Pakhi o balok" -- translated by him. Bhaswar Bandyopadhyay recited "Ontorhito", "Judas" and "Barita amar jibon theke", translations of Ibsen's works by Manzoor-e-Maula.

Highlight of the programme was the staging of "Resurrection" by Centre for Asian Theatre. Written and directed by Kamaluddin Nilu, "Resurrection" is a biographical sketch on Henrik Ibsen.

The play analyses the contemporary global socio-political milieu through Ibsen's eyes. An imaginary world is created through the conversation between Ibsen with his wife Susan as well as the characters from his plays to feature the playwright's biography, philosophy and approach to art. "Resurrection" also brings to light, issues like freedom and gender inequality, dealt in a way Ibsen might have, if he were alive today. If Ibsen could write "I'm free! I'm free! I'm free! My life in hostage is over" a century ago, then what might he have said considering the current scenario, when 'freedom' has become nothing more than a buzzword.



PHOTO: STAR

## Recitation programme at Natmandol

## CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Cultural organisation 'Magic Lanthan' arranged a recitation programme titled "Magic Lanthan Telepress Kabitar Adda" at Natmandol, Dhaka University on June 16. The event celebrated completion of 150 recitation programmes held every week.

The organisation also honoured 140 poets including Rabi Sankar Moi, Rezauddin Stalin, Marjuk Russell, Tokon Thakur, Kafil Uddin, Ali Imam, Tapan Bagchi and others who had attended the weekly recitation programmes before.

On every weekly recitation programme, one noted poet is invited to participate. Members of the organisation and the invited poet recite poems and exchange views. This week, noted poet Al Mahmud was invited at the event. Ratan Mahmud, secretary of the organisation presided over the programme.

## Children's Theatre Festival '07 Tagore's "Khyatir Birombona" staged

## CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

On the second day (June 16) of the 8th Children's Theatre Festival at Shaheed Osman Memorial Auditorium, Central Public Library, Dhaka Kishore Natyangan staged "Khyatir Birombona", based on a short story by Rabindranath Tagore. The play was directed by Tariq Kabir.

The story revolves around a frugal lawyer, Dukori Dutta. One day a member of a local club, Kangalicharan, asks Dukori for some donations, which angers Dukori. He humiliates Kangali. A disgraced Kangali swears revenge and hatches a plan to teach Dukori a lesson. Kangali publishes news in all leading newspapers that Dukori has made a generous donation of Taka 5000 to his club. Initially Dukori is elated as everyone starts praising him for his generosity. Dukori however, soon learns his lesson. Members of several clubs and organisations start showing up at his door asking for donations. Things go downhill from there as the wave of donation seekers do not seem to end.

Four other plays "Nagen Keshoth" by Shilpi Srishti Shangshkrity Chorchar Kendro, Jessore; "Ek Je Chhilo Raktho" by Kichchutei jay na, Pagla haowar badol din-e, Poob haowatey dey dola, Momo mon upobaney choley, Kotha je udhao, Amar nishitho raater badalo dhara and many more.

Tasnim Begum Eli, Golam Hayder, Shafiqur Rahman Khan, Anjuman Ferdousi, Nilopthal Sadhya and others sang at the programme. Besides rendition of songs Nishat Jahan Rana recited excerpts from poems and writings by Tagore.

Young actors of Kishore Natyangan perform in "Khyatir Birombona"

Chhele by Angikaar Shishu Natya Theatre, Peerganj; Mukhosh by Theatre Circle Little Unit, Munshiganj and Swapner Bhutan by People's Repertory Theatre, Dhaka were also staged throughout the day.

## Musical soiree by Nandan

## CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Cultural organisation "Nandan" arranged a musical soiree titled "Nishitho raater badalodhara" to celebrate the season of monsoon at Chhayanan Shangskriti Bhavan on June 16. The event featured Tagore songs on rain and more.

The programme started with the song "Emon din-e tarey bala jay". One after another members of the organisation rendered "Eki gabbir baan-e elo", "Chhaya ghonachhey bon-e bon-e", "Aej kichchutei jay na", "Pagla haowar badol din-e", "Poob haowatey dey dola", "Momo mon upobaney choley", "Kotha je udhao", "Amar nishitho raater badalo dhara and many more.

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## MAINUL HASSAN

The prize giving ceremony of "Oltijhya -- Gollachut Prothom Alo Golpo Lekha Protijogita 2006" was held at the Russian Centre of Science and Culture on June 16.

Hundred best entries were selected out of the thousands submitted for the contest. The president of the jury panel was writer Moinul Ahsan Saber. Each contestant received a certificate.

Oltijhya, a publication house, in association with the Gollachut page of the daily, Prothom Alo, first held a story-writing contest for children in 2005.

Entries were divided in three categories according to the sender's age group. First prize in "Ka Bibhag" (class 3 to 5) went to Sakib Ahmed Khan, a student of Khulna Public School and College, Sayma Sadia Tuba of Daud Public School,

Jessore and Shimanto Rahman from Mohammadpur Preparatory School, Dhaka secured the second and third prize.

In "Kha Bibhag" (class 6 to 8) Piyal Chowdhury Dwip from Ekrumunesa Higher Secondary School, Dhaka won the first prize.

Shujara Hassan of BAF Shaheen College and Sumayya Noor Sheen from SOS Herman Mainor College secured second and third position respectively.

The first prize in "Ga Bibhag" (classes 9 and 10) went to Anika Azhar of Mohammadpur Preparatory Girls High School. Nazmun Akhtar Piya of Rangpur Police-line School and College won the second prize while Rifat Anjan Pria from Mymensingh Girl's Cadet School won the third prize in the group.

Each winner received books worth BDT 20,000, a crest and a certificate.

The best storywriter of the year 2006 award went to Kazi Minhaz Tabassum, a student of class 8 of Kolaria Girls High School, Shakhirkha. She received books worth BDT one lakh along with a crest and a certificate.

Popular author Dr. Zafar Iqbal and Tagore artist Rezwana Chowdhury Bonna were present at the occasion. Deputy editor of Prothom Alo, Sajid Sharif and chief executive of Oltijhya, Mohammad Arifur Rahman Nayem were also present.

While handing over the prizes Dr. Zafar Iqbal congratulated the winners and said, "As a child, I participated in sports, essay writing competitions and more, but never won a prize. However, I never gave up. To excel in life one must read as many books as possible."

## TV GUIDE



## PICK OF THE DAY



## Shesh Theke Shuru

On Channel-i at 10:00pm

## Drama Serial

Cast: Aruna Biswas, George



## Grounded for Life

On Star World at 9:30pm

## TV Series

Cast: Megyn Price, Donal Logue

## STAR PLUS

08:00 Chitro  
08:00 Drama Serial: Hitlu  
08:00 Drama Serial: Bondhon

10:30 Aladdin  
10:30 Kim Possible  
11:00 Hatim

11:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii  
11:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi

11:30 Kayamat  
12:00 Paraya Dhan

STAR MOVIES

08:15 First Kid  
10:00 The River Wild  
12:00 Lockdown

01:50 Flight Of The Phoenix  
03:45 Mafia  
07:00 Night Watch  
08:55 Ginger Snaps:  
Unleashed

10:30 The Derby Stallion  
12:15 Night Watch

STAR WORLD

09:30 Third Watch  
10:30 Arrested Development  
11:00 8 Simple Rules

12:00 Malcolm In The Middle  
12:30 Koffee With Karan

01:30 Law & Order: S.V.U.  
02:30 The Ellen Degeneres Show

03:30 The Bold And The Beautiful  
04:00 General Hospital

05:00 Third Watch<br