

CULTURALFEAST

Inauguration

Organiser: Liberation War Museum
Venue: Jalladkhana Badhyobhumi, Block D, Avenue 1, Pallabi, Mirpur
Date: June 21
Time: 4pm

Musical Soiree

Organiser: Chhayanat
Venue: Chhayanat Sangskriti Bhavan
Date: June 20
Time: 7pm

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
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 20

Troupe: Jolshiri

Play: Three Penny Opera

June 21

Troupe: Theatre

Play: Meraj Fakirer Ma

Group Art Exhibition

Artists: Mahabubul Islam Babu, Zahir 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: Shamunnahar Lovely
Venue: Zainul Gellery-1, Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka-1
Date: June 17-22
Time: 11am-6pm

An evening of songs by popular bands

Concert at Shilpkala

ERSHAD KAMOL

On the evening of June 17, leading and promising bands of the country rocked the audience at the National Theatre Stage, Bangladesh Shilpkala Academy (BSA). The event was a part of a two-day programme initiated by the Department of Dance and Music, BSA. This is for the first time that rock bands performed at BSA.

LRB, Feedback, Face to Face, Parthib and Stellar performed on the first day of the show.

The event began with the promising rock band Stellar. The band performed two original numbers - *Tomar chokher angiraye* and *Raatri amar phirey esho* - both romantic tunes. The compositions were influenced by the popular Latin musician Santana. Stellar also performed Happy Akhanda's evergreen number *Abar elo jey shondhya* and fusion-based compositions *Orey neel doroya* and *Notun premey mon mojaya*. Masudul Haque Liton's vocals were impressive.

Performance by the band Face to Face was next. Vocalist SI Tutul presented his popular compositions - *Keu prem korey*, *Amar e jibon keno emon holo*, *Ranger manush* (title song of the popular mega-serial *Ranger Manush*), *Jaye din* and *O pashani*. Desolation of the soul and frustration were expressed in an aggressive, hard-hitting



Bands LRB (top) and Face to Face perform at the concert

Learning with "Meena"

Educational programmes for children in Sylhet

MOHAMMAD SHAFIQUL ISLAM

Bangladesh Shishu Academy, Sylhet, began a four-day programme based on "Meena", the popular cartoon character, to generate awareness among children on various issues, including the importance of education. The event was held at the Saifur Rahman Auditorium recently.

The academy chalked out the programmes with the assistance of Unicef. District Commissioner of Sylhet, Md. Harun-ur-Rashid, was the chief guest. "Children are the architect of our future; they will lead the nation with the knowledge they are provided with now. They should be nurtured in a congenial atmosphere so that they can grow up to be assets to the nation," Rashid said.

The chief guest also stressed on the importance of education programmes like "Meena", aimed to generate awareness among the children. The character Meena is conscious of the rights to education, healthcare, issues related to early marriage, discrimination between a male and female child and other social foibles and superstitions. The character can play a decisive role in bringing about changes in the society, he said.

Mahbubuzzaman Chowdhury, district organiser of Shishu Academy, presided over the function. Renowned cultural personality Hemchandra Bhattacharya

attended the programme as the special guest.

Hemchandra Bhattacharya said that all children are equal, irrespective of religion, colour, caste and gender. "Meena" identifies the dark sides of society and also suggests solutions.

Mahbubuzzaman Chowdhury said that "Meena" is very popular among the children. She is intelligent, liberal, well-informed and aware of human rights. She points out the discriminations young girls often face and educated people on social shortcomings.

The chief guest also handed out prizes and certificates among the



winners of an art competition. A street theatre titled "Jibon O Srom" (Life and Labour) was staged by the children of 'Protection of Children at Risk'. The programme ended with the screening of an episode of "Meena".

The writer is a Lecturer at Department of English, Metropolitan University, Sylhet



Children receive prizes at the programme



his vocals to achieve the standards set by Maksud, the first vocalist of Feedback.

The last band to perform was LRB. Ayub Bachchu's band began their performance with an instrumental, *Waiting*. One of the best musicians in the country, Bachchu rendered a guitar solo, which reflected barrenness of a soul. Performing *Neel Nayona*, *Ekhon onek raat*, *Amito prem-e porin*, *Shei tumi and Bangladesh*, LRB moved the audience.

A discussion was held prior to the concert. Director general of BSA Quamrul Hassan, ndc; director of Department of Theatre and Film, Abul Kamal Shafi Ahmed and director of Department of Dance and Music, Sunil Chandra Das spoke at the programme.

Speakers at the programme said that apart from the classical music forms, many music genres have attained popularity. They said that the rhythm of the younger generation should be recognised and healthy music practice should be encouraged. Discussants also claimed that concerts like this might be able to rescue the current band music scene from a lingering 'negative impression'. Rockstars, during their performances, also appreciated the endeavour by BSA and hoped to perform regularly at programmes arranged by the institution.

However, a major flaw of the event was the sound system. Sophisticated acoustics is not an ideal one for a band show. According to the audience it could have been arranged at the open space at BSA premises.

and raw style. The blazing tune *Amar e jibon keno emon holo* featured intricate work on the rhythm guitar. Bassist Partho Majumdar demonstrated his skills in *Ranger manush*. *Jaye Din* opened slowly and moved into a riff.

Parthib performed *Koto din ketey gelo*, *Chander aloy-e*, *Durneeti* and *Nijhum raat-e esho* re

bondhu. Their country music-influenced performance received lukewarm response. Parthib was followed by the popular band Feedback. They sang their familiar compositions - *Moushumi 1*, *Chithi*, *Abar shobai melaye jai*, *Jonmechhi e jugey* and *Melaye jai*. It was evident that the current vocalist Shahnur Rahman Lumin has been working hard on



India's costliest film "Sivaji" opens

REUTERS, Mumbai

Rioting for tickets to the first show, frenzied fans bathing their hero's cut-out in milk -- India's most expensive film *Sivaji* -- *The Boss* opened to huge anticipation last Friday, and it's not from Bollywood.

Made at a cost of over \$15 million, a huge budget by Indian standards, the Tamil film *Sivaji*, has generated enormous interest with tickets sold out for weeks in the south.

The hero of the film is Rajinikanth, a regional star whose flamboyance is unequalled by Bollywood actors and who may have even more fans than India's best-known star Amitabh Bachchan.

The story of the film was kept a closely guarded secret, further piquing the curiosity of the 57-year-old actor's millions of followers.

Fans milled around cinemas screening *Sivaji* from early morning with cut-outs and posters of the dark-skinned, heavy-lidded hero whose unique acting style is characterised by a trademark gesture: toss a cigarette in the air, catch it in his lips, then light it with a match stuck on a shirt sleeve.

Posters show the actor sporting various hairdos, including a blonde one, standing in a strutting pose beside a much younger heroine.

"First day, first show. Nothing less when it is Rajinikanth's film," said Mayilraj, a middle-aged fan of the actor waiting to watch the new film.

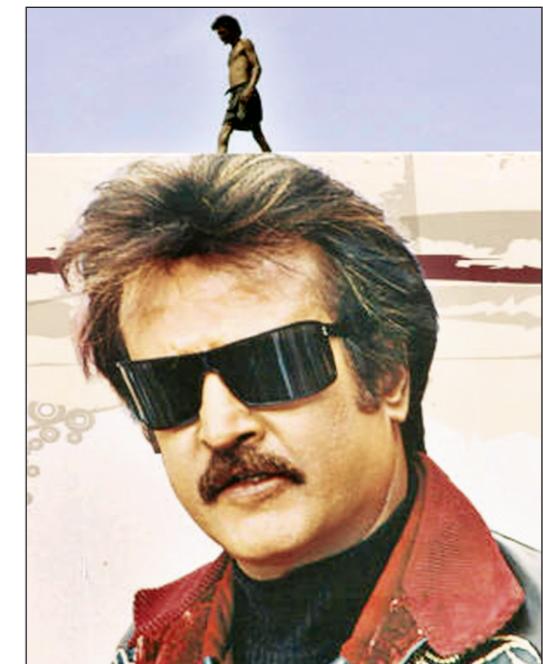
"I have tickets for every day for the next one week. I have different sets of friends to watch the film with."

But Rajinikanth's popularity remains largely restricted to southern India, partly because in the north the language of his films is not understood. He has acted in some Bollywood films as well, but he has never been able to replicate the success of his Tamil films in the Hindi language.

In southern India, fans collect opening day ticket stubs of his movies, which change hands for exorbitant prices. Directors cannot kill off his character in films because angry fans have threatened to burn down the theatres.

Even his personal life reads like a movie script -- he started as a poor bus conductor in Bangalore with a penchant for acting before making it big. The movie king has also dabbled in politics and once strongly influenced an election in Tamil Nadu.

His last film released in 2005 called *Chandramukhi* is completing 800 successive days in a theatre in south India.



A worker walks past a cutout of Rajinikanth after the release of his new movie *Sivaji* in Chennai

TV GUIDE

All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme.

BTV

08:15 Musical Programme
08:40 Bishwa Bichitra
11:15 Shukhi Porbar
11:40 Desher Gaan
12:05 Maa O Shishu Kotha
12:30 Selected Programmes
01:00 Talk show
01:30 Mafli O Manush
02:15 Dhrupadi
02:40 Geet Bitan
03:05 Cartoon
03:30 Educational Programme
04:00 Amader Angina
04:30 Band Show
05:05 Monek Kotha
05:30 Anushilon
06:10 Computer based Programme
06:40 Selected Programme
07:00 Quiz
07:30 Drama
08:30 Protidin Bangladesh
08:35 Drama Serial: Rahu
09:00 Drama Serial: Shongshotok
09:30 Protikhon
10:30 Talk Show: Aktel
11:00 Satyer Sandhaney

06:20 Talk show: Kothamala
08:00 Drama Serial: Moner Janala
08:45 Drama: Matibori
11:30 Weekly Cultural Programme: Rong Moroncho Tal
12:00 Gramophone Lead News

CHANNEL-i

09:30 Shongbad Potrey Bangladesh
09:45 Public Reaction
09:50 GrameenPhone
10:00 Tritiyonmota
11:05 Cricket Online (Live)
11:30 Amar Chhobi
12:30 Citycell Tarokathon

01:05 Ebong Cinemar Gaan
01:30 Shongbad Potrey Bangladesh
02:40 Public Reaction
03:00 I Sports
03:30 Special Programme
04:00 Sa Re Ga Ma
04:30 Musical Programme
05:30 Muktiyuddho Protidin
06:00 Drama Serial: Kanto

06:20 Shomyo
06:30 Shamoeki
07:50 D Rockstar-2
09:35 Drama Serial: Kobi Bou
10:00 RCT Travel on RCT

11:30 Ekanya Barti
12:00 Gramophone Aijker Shongbadpotro

04:25 Gallery
04:50 Aponar Jigyasha
05:30 Gaaner Mala
06:20 Shubho Sandya
06:45 Key Taharey Chintey Parey

08:30 Aijker Shokal Chokkor

09:30 Crime Watch

10:05 Bhimo Swader Khobor

10:30 Shomoshamolk

11:00 Drama Serial: O Amar Chokhi Nai

11:30 Gambhra

12:10 Talk Show: Ei Shomoy

03:15 Kichhu Kotha Kichhu Gaan

04:00 Shobadil Alo

04:30 Pathey Pantrey

05:30 Baul Baul Mon

06:15 Ekusher Sandya

07:30 Chhondhey Shurey Desh Jurey

08:00 Drama Serial: Biprotip

08:30 Amar Mukti Aloye Aloye

09:00 Reporter's File

09:30 Suprabhat Bangladesh

10:00 Chokhe Mele Dekhi

10:30 Bangla Movie

11:00 Sukharta

11:30 Drama Serial: Tahader

05:00 Desher Pathay

05:40 Din-er Sheshey

06:35 Shudhu Gaan

07:15 Drama Serial: Tahader