

## 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 Bhawan  
Date: June 20  
Time: 7pm

## National Art Exhibition

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

## Children's Theatre Festival

Organiser: Rakhal  
Venue: Shawkat 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 Shilpakala Academy  
Time: 7pm

## June 20

## Troupe: Jolshiri

## Play: Three Penny Opera

## June 21

## Troupe: Theatre

## Play: Meraj Fakirer Ma

## Group Art Exhibition

Artist: 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: Tabea 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 Gellery-1, Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka University

Date: June 17-22  
Time: 11am-6pm

## An introduction to Chhow dance

Workshop and dance recital by Nrityanchal



Students demonstrate different steps of Chhow dance at the programme

## KARIM WAHEED

THE classical Indian dance forms -- Kathak, Odissi, Manipuri and Bharatnatyam -- are widely practiced in Bangladesh. Certain dance forms however, have remained underexposed. Among the ancient dance forms, "Chhow", is not familiar to Bangladeshi. Cultural organisation Nrityanchal recently held a two week-long workshop on Chhow dance; talented Indian Chhow dancer Swapan Majumder conducted the workshop.

On June 18 Nrityanchal organised a dance recital at the Shishu Academy auditorium where students demonstrated different mudra (steps) of Chhow and performed compositions based on the dance form. Performances by Swapan and his wife Sucheta Majumder, a for-

mer student of Nrityanchal, were highlights of the programme.

Prior to the performance, coordinator of Nrityanchal, Muhammad Jahangir said in his speech, "There was a Performing Arts Academy in the country. However, it was merged with Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy. Watching performances by visiting artistes from Korea, Russia or China, once can easily detect the level of advancement they have attained. One measly department in Shilpakala Academy can never achieve that standard. I'd like to request the Government to establish an independent performing arts centre that would provide our aspiring singers, dancers and instrumentalists with training as per international standards."

Apart from the workshop on Chhow dance, Nrityanchal has previously held workshops on Gaudiya dance (conducted by Dr. Mahua Mukhopadhyay) in 2004, western contemporary dance forms (conducted by London-based Chinese artiste Mi Hi Chin), Kathak (conducted by Maalti Shyam) and Odissi (conducted by Kavita Trivedi) in 2002.

Chief guest at the programme, Ramendu Majumder (chairman, ITI Bangladesh) said, "Nrityanchal always makes efforts to present something new -- both to aspiring dancers and the audience." Shamim Ara Neepa and Shibli Muhammed, on behalf of the organisation, also spoke on the occasion.

Around 100 students who attended the workshop received certificates.

It is difficult to determine the antiquity of Chhow. The three forms of Chhow are named after the regions where they are performed -- Purulia

Chhow of West Bengal, Seraikella Chhow of Bihar and Mayurbhanj Chhow of Odisha. Ancient scriptures refer to the dance form's martial base and the derivation of the word by suggesting that the term "Chhow" is derived from the local dialect meaning an army camp. Apparently warriors, in their leisure, developed this dance form as an expression of jubilation or celebration. Often dealing with gods, goddesses and other mythic characters, Chhow dance features steps called "Chali" and "Dhara" (Mayurbhanj style) and is accompanied with shanai, dhol and dhamsa.

During the first few performances, students in groups demonstrated different steps of Chhow. The movements and mudras are bold and at times raw, often using kicks and sweeps. The acrobatic fluidity seems to be the forte, reminding one of the Brazilian fight-dance "Capoeira".

Swapan Majumder performed a composition, "Nataraj". The dancer's authority on balance seemed to fascinate the audience, who lauded the performance repeatedly. The evening however belonged to a performance by Swapan and his wife Sucheta. The composition was a fusion of bold Chhow steps and lyrical agility of ballet.

Dancers of Nrityanchal also staged a composition employing the Gaudiya style, based on Kazi Nazrul Islam's familiar poem, "Chal Chal Chal". The evening ended with a charged performance highlighting the popular folk song "Nao chhadiya de".

Nrityanchal's endeavour to introduce unfamiliar and underexposed dance forms is commendable. These efforts will not only benefit dancers of the country but also introduce the audience to new, interesting art forms.

## ERSHAD KAMOL

As band music has become a popular genre amongst the younger generation of the country, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) should take initiatives to promote the music, said discussants on the closing evening (June 18) of the two-day concert, held at the National Theatre Stage. The programme was arranged by the Department of Dance and Music, BSA. Director of Department of Theatre and Film, Abul Kamal Shafi Ahmed and director of Department of Dance and Music, Shunil Chandra Das were the discussants at the closing programme.

Like the first evening, five promising and leading bands of the country presented fusion, metal, jazz and several styles of rock music including Latin melo, progressive and alternative. Pantagon, Warfaze, Obscure, Daichut and Maksud O Dhaka performed on the last day.

The show began with Pantagon's presentation of Latin mellow rock and Latin funk. Romantic song "Shondhya akash" was the first number the band performed. Pentagon also performed "Ushno abegey".

Brishiti and Your honour. The compositions seemed to be influenced by that of popular American rock band Eagles. Your honour follows the Latin funk rock style. The drummer of Warfaze, Sheikh Manirul Tipu, played percussions with pentagon as a guest member. His improvisation of percussions with drums by Shamim Ibrahim was interesting in the song Brishiti.

Warfaze presented metal and progressive rock songs "Nei proyojon", "Joto durey", "Mone porey" and "Boshey achhi". Desolation, frustration and social turmoil were expressed in an aggressive, hard-hitting and raw style in their performance. There were some lead guitar parts here and there by guitarists Faysal and Balam, but not one solo of 'normal' length of riffs, which have fitted nicely in the untamed pace and aggressive parts in their recorded albums. Audience missed the blazing riffs the band's former lead guitarist Kamol used to play. The raw metal style of Warfaze's first vocalist Sunjoy that made the song "Boshey achhi" popular, was missing in Balam's rendition.

Obscure, the band that has been absent from concerts, performed

Tumi, Tumi amar, Majh raatey, Tomar amar mon and Banshi shuney ar kaaj nai. Most of these songs were fusion.

Daichut performed five songs: Brishiti porey, Pori, Bajh kholo, Baji and Bioscope. Vocalist Bappa Majumdar presented the alternative and soft rock based songs (Brishiti, Pori and Baji) and Sanjib Chowdhury rendered fusion songs Bajh kholo and Bioscope.

Last band of the evening was Maksud O Dhaka. Besides his popular songs as a vocalist of Feedback, Maksud also rendered songs from his current albums.

First two songs Chithi and Geetikobita 1 -- earlier included in Feedback's albums, which were written and composed by Maksud belong to the soft rock style. Maksud also rendered fusion song Roshik amar and jazz influenced Abar juddhey jete hobey. The last song of the evening was Maksud's hit number Melay jai re.

## Concert at Shilpakala ends

Five bands perform on closing evening

## PHOTO: STAR



Bappa Majumdar and his band Dolchut perform at the concert

PHOTO: STAR

## Shakespeare's Globe Theatre on first tour in 400 years

## REUTERS, London

Shakespearean actors from London's Globe Theatre are going on tour for the first time since the Black Death stalked Europe.

A company of actors based at the Globe -- rebuilt not far from the spot where the original theatre stood in Elizabethan times -- will pack up props, costumes and musical instruments to tour Britain this summer in a blue camper van.

The group of eight actors will perform "Romeo and Juliet" at Glasgow's West End Festival, Leeds Castle in Kent, an Oxford University college and 13 other venues.

"The Globe was born out of a touring company culture, and that culture remained vital to it," Globe Artistic Director Dominic Dromgoole said in a statement.

"We are delighted to be exploring again the tradition of taking Shakespeare into non-theatrical spaces."

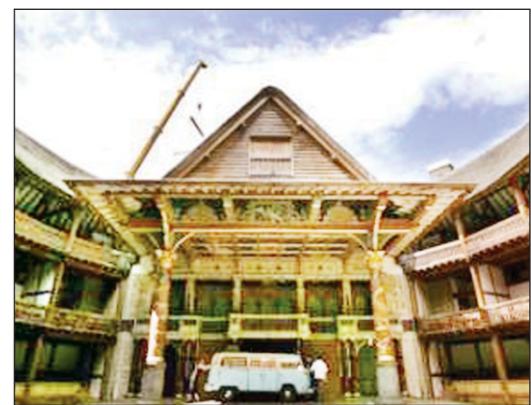
The tour of this stripped down version of Shakespeare's classic love tragedy is not motivated by the threat of plague or disapproval of the city's authorities as was the case in the 16th and 17th centuries when troupes of actors went on tour to get away from the capital.

Instead the group hope to "spread the Globe's ethos of making Shakespeare an event", producer James Erskine said.

Erskine, who would like to make touring theatre a

repeated feature of the Globe's repertoire, expects the outdoor settings will make the productions more informal and attract a crowd rather than an audience.

The production, directed by Edward Dick, will climax with a performance at Lord's Cricket Ground in London on September 2, known as the spiritual home of the summer game the British Empire gave the world.



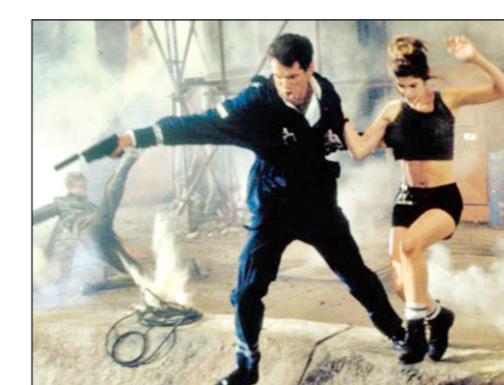
A camper van is placed on the stage at London's Globe theatre

## TV GUIDE

## PICK OF THE DAY



Nari  
On ATN Bangla at 4:20pm  
Programme on Sufia Kamal's birth anniversary  
Host: Falguni Hamid



The World is Not Enough  
On Star Movies at 7:00pm  
Genre: Action  
Cast: Pierce Brosnan, Denise Richards

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

## BTV

11:15 Drama Serial: Shong  
Shoptok  
12:05 Maa O Shishur Kotha  
12:30 Selected Programme  
01:00 Musical Programme

## CHANNEL-i

01:30 Shukhi Porbar  
02:15 Sisimur  
02:40 Quiz Quiz  
03:05 Cartoon: Bananas in Pyjamas

03:30 Cricket Shekha  
04:30 Hujol Tomal  
05:05 Amader Ranna  
05:30 Selected Programme

06:40 Shondha Maloti  
07:00 Mati O Manush  
07:30 Jibon O Jibika  
08:30 Protidin Bangladesh

08:35 Prothom Antora  
09:05 Drama Serial:  
Shoproloker Chabi  
09:30 Talk Show: Alor  
Pather Jatri  
10:30 El Pritibhi  
11:00 Shur Lohori

06:20 Cooking Programme  
07:50 Special Programme:  
Shahoshika Jononi  
09:30 Drama Serial:  
Debotar Grash

10:00 Drama Serial:  
Bhagabati  
10:30 Drama Serial:  
Chhayanat

11:00 Drama Serial:  
Kotha Kichhu  
12:00 GrameenPhone Ajker  
Shangbadpotro

12:30 Shapla Shaluk  
04:20 Special Programme:  
Nari

10:05 Kothare Chirite Parey  
10:30 Science workshop  
11:00 Gallery

11:30 Drama Serial:  
Thakur Mar Jhuli  
08:00 Drama Serial:  
Noyontara

10:00 American Cinema  
12:10 Talk Show: Ei Shomoy  
01:05 Japan Video Topic

02:30 Chhayanat  
09:20 Musical Programme  
11:30 Talking Point

12:00 GrameenPhone Lead  
News

06:50 Ki Kotha Tahar Shately  
08:15 Cooking Programme  
08:50 Kichhu Kotha Kichhu  
09:45 Drama Serial: Neer  
11:30 Ei Shomoy

04:20 Prachir Ghera China  
05:10 Bormey Bormey  
06:00 Rochito  
06:35 Din Protidin  
06:35 Kacher Janala Durer  
08:15 Drama Serial: Janala  
08:55 Media Bhuban  
09:30 Drama Serial: Rupantor  
11:30 Amar Ami

09:00 Rtv Exclusive  
09:05 Aj Potrikay  
09:20 Drama Serial: Bridya  
11:00 R Rama  
10:30 Ei Desh  
11:00 Praner Marush  
Achhey Praney

12:00 Drama Serial: Boyer  
Golpo  
12:30 Drama Serial: Phera  
Manush  
01:00 Travel Show  
02:40 Conan  
01:30 Aj Potrikay  
04:35 Apran Jigyasa

05:00 Cinebit Shadakalo  
05:40 Diner Sheshey  
06:00 Nana Rangor Din Guli  
06:00 Mouse TV  
06:30 Drama Serial: Shey To  
Chironti  
09:15 Drama Serial: Rokkhakoti  
09:30 Drama Serial: Rupantor  
09:45 Talk Show: Prio Jon

11:15 The Thin Red Line  
02:05 The Mistress of Spices  
04:15 Fantastic Four  
06:00 On the Lot  
09:00 The World Is Not  
Enough

09:15 Excess Baggage  
11:00 Fantastic Four  
12:45 Ginger Snaps: Unleashed  
02:20 Excess Baggage

05:00 Scrubs  
06:30 The Simpsons  
07:00 My Wife and Kids  
07:30 Friends  
08:00 Seinfeld  
08:30 On The Lot  
09:30 Heroes

05:00 Cartoon  
05:30 Amar Bangla Gaan  
06:00 Mouse TV  
06:30 Drama Serial: Shey To  
Chironti  
09:15 Drama Serial: Rokkhakoti  
09:30 Drama Serial: Rupantor  
09:45 Talk Show: Prio Jon

11:15 Kayamat  
02:30 Saarathi  
03:00 Bahu Thi  
04:00 Kayamat  
04:30 Saibahi  
05:00