

# National Music and Dance Centre opens



A hall with splendid facade but with broken seats (inset)

ERSHAD KAMOL

THE much-awaited National Music and Dance Centre, the new auditorium of Department of Music and Dance, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA), was opened on June 21. This is the only auditorium that has been built exclusively for music and dance. Ayub Quadri, advisor to the

Ministries of Education, Primary and Mass Education and Cultural Affairs, was present at the inauguration.

The auditorium with three hundred and thirty seats that provides modern sound and light equipments for dance and music recitals. Though the small stage of the auditorium is ideal for musical programmes, it may not be spacious

enough for events on a grand scale, like group dances. Work on the auditorium did not seem to be finished properly; several chairs were found broken on the opening day.

Noticing the problems, Director General of the academy, Quamrul Hassan, ndc, said, "There may be some flaws with the newly built National Music and Dance Centre,

but we have to take effective measures to promote the dance and music of our country overcoming the limitations."

Leading artistes of the country performed at the inauguration. The event began with a group dance titled *Shororitu*, directed by Deepa Khondaker. Accompanied with music by Ali Asgar Khokon, the composition featured the distinct changes in nature in Bangladesh throughout the six seasons. Space constraint of the stage was evident during the group dance.

Papiya Sarwar's rendition of Tarore song *Oi maloti lata doley* followed. Ferdous Ara sang a Nazrul song *Prothomo prodip jalo*.

After the songs, staff artistes of BSA presented an acoustic of folk music. Artistes of Bulbul Academy of Fine Arts (BAFA) presented a group dance titled *Shur Jhankar*, directed by Kabirul Islam Ratan. Artistes of Nrittam Dance Teaching

Centre performed a Manipuri dance and Mridanga Sanskritik Shongothan staged a "tribal dance".

The dance recital was followed by seasoned singer Syed Abdul Hadi's rendition of the patriotic song *Shurjodoya tumi shurjastea tumi*. Abu Bakar Siddiqui sang the popular folk song *Tujjodijamar hoite*.

Other attractions of the evening were Lalon song *Shatya bol shotpotech chol* rendered by Lalon exponent Farida Parvin, *adhnunik* song *Tumi amar prothom shokal* by Shakila Zafar and baul song *Loke boli amar ghorey naki* by Arif Dewan and his troupe.

The evening wrapped up with a group dance titled *Gramyo Mela*. Kabirul Islam Ratan directed the dance composition.



Papiya Sarwar renders a song at the programme

# Zahir Raihan and Alamgir Kabir remembered



The discussion was followed by screening *Anwara*, starring Razzaq and Shuchanda.

On the following day (June 21), a discussion was held on renowned filmmaker Alamgir Kabir. The discussion was presided over by the director of the department of Theatre and Film Abul Kamal Shafi Ahmed. Theatre personality Professor Momotazuddin Ahmed, a friend of Kabir, was the key discussant at the programme. Zafar Ahmed Chowdhury, secretary of Planning Commission, Bangladesh Government was the chief guest. ANM Badrul Amin, the managing director of Film Development Corporation (FDC) also spoke at the programme. Claiming Kabir as one of the best filmmakers of the country, discussants said that, after the Liberation of Bangladesh, Kabir made a number of feature films that set a standard, yet to be matched. Some of his most memorable films are *Dhire Bahe Meghna*, *Shurjokona*, *Shimana Periy*, *Rupali Shaikate*, *Mohona*, *Mahanam* and *Parnita*. Kabir made a good numbers of short films.

After the discussion, *Shurjokona* was screened. Jaisree Kabir, Rajasree Bose and Bulbul Ahmed played the central characters in the film.

Rajasree Bose and Bulbul Ahmed in *Shurjokona*Shuchanda and co-artist in *Anwara*

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

To pay homage to the film legends of the country -- Zahir Raihan and Alamgir Kabir -- Department of Theatre and Film, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) arranged a two-day programme at the National Theatre Stage. Besides discussions, two films -- *Anwara*, directed by Raihan and *Shurjokona*, directed by Alamgir Kabir -- were screened.

On the first day (June 20) of the programme, a discussion on Zahir Raihan was held. His once associate, filmmaker Amjad Hossain was the key speaker of the discussion. Chief guest at the programme was Khurshid Alam, secretary of Ministry of Post and Telecommunications. The discussion was chaired by the Director General of BSA, Quamrul Hassan, ndc.

Discussants pointed out that litterateur-filmmaker Zahir Raihan was a pioneer in our cinema. Starting his career in 1956, Raihan had several prolific and critically acclaimed films to his credit, including *Kancher Deyal*, *Jibon Theke Neya*, *Anwara*, *Sangam* and *Banana*. He started working on a film (in English) *Let There Be Light*, which he could not finish as the Liberation War broke out. After March 25, 1971, he went to Calcutta and made a documentary film *Stop Genocide*, highlighting the massacres carried out by the Pakistani Army.

# A medley of flamboyant paintings

FAYZA HAQ

The group exhibition at Radius brings together some fine works by upcoming experimental artists-- all of them being influenced by nature.

Rajau Islam Lovelul has sculpture in wood containing a deer, surrounded by birds and other animals in the forest. All around *Bird and goat* are motifs taken from the flora and fauna of nature. On top is a shining disc of the sun. The wood is carefully carved. *Lady and a bird* has flowers on her hair and jewellery for her ears and throat. Flowers and birds decorate the three dimensional background. A disc of silver and bronze

brings in the sun and the stars to complete the sculpture.

Mahabub Islam Baabu's painting depicts a human hand, running feet, an eye, along with flowers and fish is his characteristic surrealistic fashion. Plants with roots, flowers and ladybugs form the decorative element of the painting. The motifs of the bubbles and insects are carried onto the frame. His *Life circle* brings in heads of two horses and the skull of a third. These are mounted on a crescent shaped disc. There are bubbles of blue at the back and two tiny human figures in front.

*Birds-1* by Zahir Hossain Newton brings in exotic birds, flowers and



Life Circle by M Mahabub Islam

sweeping multicoloured waves of a river. The swirls of blue, green and red gives a dream-like effect. His *Birds and woman* presents a female form, painted in brown, orange, gold and yellow. A bird is perched on her head and there are flowers all around her.

Uttam Kumar Roy's *Targal* brings in a blue and black form set on red, containing spiders and their webs. The head of the figure has geometric motifs in it. The rest of the canvas has blue splashes.

Syed Mohammed Shamim's *Searching for peace* presents abstract splashes in white and pink, along with a touch of yellow and

texture work in black. Tiny figures intersperse the mixed medium work on canvas. His other painting with the same title has blue on one side, green on the other, with sweeps of white on the bottom and top of the painting.

Md. Abdul Aziz's *Lady with nature*, water colour, introduces an intricately done portrait of a woman surrounded by leaves and flowers. His *Lady with a bird* is similarly ornate and decorative. The details of her eyes and lips are intricate. His *Lady with the mirror*, similarly has influence of Oriental Art.

The paintings are buoyant and thought-provoking in their style.

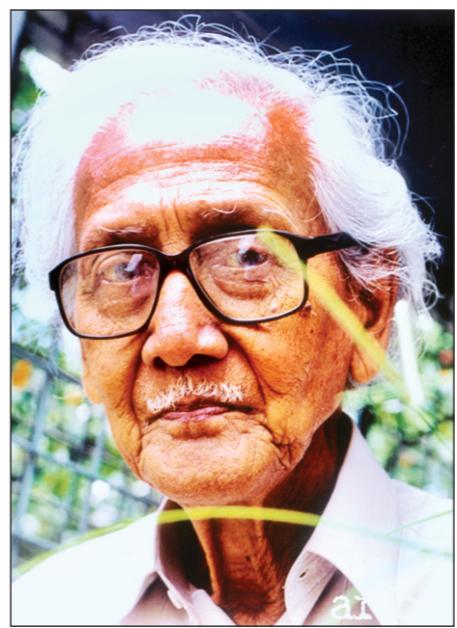
# Artist Safiuddin Ahmed's 85th birth anniversary today

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Veteran artist Safiuddin Ahmed's 85th birth anniversary is being celebrated today. On the occasion the artist will be greeted by artistes and his colleagues at his apartment, Urban Chitranner, Flat 4/C, House 21/1, Road 4, Dhammori.

Safiuddin Ahmed was born on June 23, 1922. He was a contemporary student and teacher of Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin at Calcutta Government Art School. Well before 1947 he stunned art enthusiasts by receiving a number of all India and international awards. Some of his outstanding achievements as a young artist included 'President's Gold Medal' (1945) by Academy of Fine Arts, Calcutta, first prize in the category of black and white in International Contemporary Art Exhibition, New Delhi (1946), first prize in the category of black and white (etching and drawing) in Inter-Asian Art Exhibition in New Delhi (1947), Patna Maharaja's Gold Medal (1947). In 1948, he helped to establish government Art Institute in Dhaka. During both Pakistan and Bangladesh period he received highest state honours in fine arts. He is a pioneer in printmaking in Bangladesh. His grandiose works in oil painting and printmaking secured for him one of the most respected places in the field of fine arts in Bangladesh.

The culture team of *The Daily Star* wishes the artist many happy returns of the day.



# Programme celebrating works of Tagore, Nazrul and Sukanto

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khagrachari

Speakers at a recent discussion in Khagrachari said, Rabindranath Tagore, Kazi Nazrul Islam and Sukanto Bhattacharya are creative titans in our literature. The common element in works by these three greats is the universal message of peace and harmony.

Apart from the discussion, prize distribution and cultural programme were also part of the two-day event, paying homage to Rabindranath Tagore, Kazi Nazrul Islam and Sukanto Bhattacharya. The programme was held at the Tribal Cultural Institute (TCI) in Khagrachari district town marking birth anniversaries of the three poets.

The function was organised by Khagrachari Theater, and jointly sponsored by Khagrachari District Administration and Khagrachari Hill District Council.



An artiste performs at the programme

Birds 1 by M Zahir Hossain

# ON AIR

All programmes are in local time.

The Daily Star will not be responsible

for any change in the programme.

## News Bulletin

### BTV

11:15 Musical Programme

11:40 Shukhi Poribar

12:05 Drama Serial:

Shubarni Lota

01:30 Mati O Manush

01:00 Bishwa Bichitra

02:15 Sisimpur

02:40 Bangla Feature Film

05:05 English Debate

06:40 Mati Basha

07:05 Laukik Bangla

07:30 Shilpo O Shahityo

08:35 Documentary

Programme: Amar

Bangladesh

Drama: Shey Ashey

10:30 Mati Gaan

11:05 Na Bola Kotha

11:30 Mukti Bazaar

Orthoniti

12:30 Citycell Taroka

Kathan

01:05 Ebong Cinemar

Gaan

01:30 Shangbadpotre

Bangladesh

Kotha

01:45 Public Reaction

Special Programme

02:40 Dhaka Guide

Educational

Programme

04:00 Shoyer Shondhane

Muktijuddho Protidin

06:00 Harano Shoishob

Harano Shompol

06:20 Amar Bangladesh

Mega Serial: Bhaber Haat

07:50

Hridoye Mati O

Manush

10:00 Drama Serial: Niloy

GrameenPhone

Ajker Sharabot Potro

12:00

Nari

03:45 Prijon

04:20 Shesh Khobar

05:00 Gram Gorjer Khobor

05:30

Talk show:

GrammenPhone

Cine Aha

08:00 Mega Serial: The

New Sobuj Opera

08:40 Mega Serial: Laal

Nir Beguni

09:20 Mega Serial: Ek

Jonomey

10:30 Bagan Bilash

11:00 Drama

Film: Nimognotay

12:05 Closeup 1 Desher

Gaan

02:00 Music Station

03:30 Drama: Two in One

Nupur

04:50 Alok Paat

05:15 Fusion for Baul

06:00 Saaj Bela

06:45 Itihaser Path

Dhorey

07:00 Music Net

08:15 Olpo Sholpo Golpo

09:00 Shomoyer Swad

09:30 Shondhikhoney

10:50 Expression

01:30 Drishti

Banga Feature Film:&lt;/div