

CULTURALFEAST

Musical Soiree

Organiser: Alliance Francaise
de Dacca
Venue: Alliance Francaise

Date: June 24
Time: 5:30pm
Artist: Nilufar Banu

Time: 7:15pm
Artist: Mesbah Ahmed

Date: June 25
Time: 6:00pm
Artist: Anup Barua

Mask Exhibition

Organiser: Department of Fine Art and
Prakritajon Projonmo
Venue: Art Club Bangladesh, House
No. 4, Road No. 104, Gulshan 2

Date: June 25-29

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

Art Exhibition

Artist: Bipul Shah

Title: Journey with Wreckage

Venue: Galleri Kaya

House 20, Road 16, Sector 4, Uttara

Date: June 21-July 4

Time: 11am-8pm

Then and now

In conversation with Latifa Helen

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Latifa Helen became a familiar voice and face in the early '80s with her skilled renditions of folk and *aduhnik* songs. Between 1979 and '84 she sang many popular songs. Her songs have been aired on BBC Radio, Manchester Radio, DW and she has performed in many countries like India, England, Germany, North Korea and others. She has been an enlisted artiste of both Bangladesh Television and Betar since 1968. *The Daily Star* caught up with the artiste. Excerpts from the interview:

What attracted you to the world of music?

I was born in Barisal. When I was a child I used to listen to musical programmes on *Akashbani*, which ignited a deep interest in music in me. Shawkat Anwar from "Khelaghar" (a cultural organisation in Barisal), my uncle and Narayan Chandra Shah -- my first music instructor -- all inspired me to take music seriously.

How did your music career begin?

In 1968, I participated in "Pakistan Arts Council", a district level music competition where I competed in three categories and secured the first position in two of them. Following that I competed at the divisional level, which was obviously difficult. I was content with my performance in the presence of judges like Nina Hamid and Farida Yasmin. That year I also auditioned at Radio Pakistan and was enlisted as a regular singer. In 1969 I started performing on TV.

You have worked with quite a few noted lyricists and composers...



I have worked with Satya Saha, Subai Das, Abdul Latif, Ustad Barin Majumder, PC Gomez, Sheikh Sadi Khan, Debu Bhattacharya, Khurshid Khan, Anwar Parvez and several other noted lyricists and composers. Since the '80s I worked with Selim Ashraf, Ali Akbar Rupu, Lucky Akhand, Abu Taher and others.

Are you working on an album currently?

I'm busy with BTV and Betar. I have also performed on ATN Bangla, Channel 1 and Rtv. I'm currently

working on a music album and it's in the preliminary stage.

Some of your popular songs...

Amakeen dukkha na diye, Antobikeen raatri amar, Tomar asha na ashaye, Tomaye jetey debo na, Jiboner bahu path periye eshey are some of my favourite aduhnik songs, while folk songs -- Shona bondhur khabar, Ghar-e amar mon the boshey na, Ashtey nodi jetey nodi, O mon majhi rey -- rendered by me became quite popular.

Who are your favourite singers?

I love to listen to Lata

Mangeshkar. In our country late Nilufar Yasmin, Samina Chowdhury, Kanakchapa, Bappa Majumder, Habib, Monir Khan and Asif are my favourite singers.

What is your impression of today's singers and the music scene?

Nowadays upcoming artistes are getting more opportunities that we did when we started. They now have a certain platform. In 1969, when I was enlisted in Radio Pakistan, I used to come all the way from Barisal for recordings.

"Shukhi Manush Project": Drama serial on Ekushey Television

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

TV serial *Shukhi Manush Project* will be aired tonight on Ekushey television at 8:00pm.

The story revolves around four elderly individuals -- a businessman, a lawyer, a police officer and a professor. They have all earned substantial amount of money and have enjoyed power throughout their career. However, now they somehow feel empty. One day they come up with an interesting plan: They would pitch in to help one particular individual accomplish all goals.

Saidul Anam Tutul is the director and Sadia Swati has written the script for the serial. Jamal Uddin Hossain, Masud Ali Khan, ATM Shamsuzzaman, Sirajul Islam, Amirul Islam, Doli Zahur, Tauquir Ahmed, Mahfuz Ahmed, Aupi Karim and Tanya play the lead roles.



Aupi Karim plays one of the lead roles in the serial

In Focus

Puspa Ranjan Acharya: A sculptor in need of patronage



The artist at work

JAHANGIR ALAM, Netrakona

Puspa Ranjan Acharya is a sculptor living in Netrakona, who despite being talented has never received the kind of exposure he deserves. Acharya's sculptures reflect Bangladesh, the masses, the Liberation War and our culture on the whole.

Out of the 50 sculptures that he has completed so far, the artiste has repeatedly declined to sell his creations, with the hope that some day these will be displayed at national exhibitions.

After learning about Acharya's works, the authority of National Museum in Dhaka contacted him, and acquired one of his sculptures, to be displayed at the museum.

Acharya has a small museum of sorts at his home and believes that some day his works will attain nationwide recognition. His workstation is at a rented shop near 'Bangla' rail station, half a kilometer away from his village home in Sahlipur.

Puspa Ranjan Acharya was



Some of Acharya's artworks

Jude Law and Forest Whitaker to team up in new movie



Forest Whitaker



Jude Law

Jude Law and Forest Whitaker are teaming up for *The Repossession Mamb*. It's a futuristic morality tale based on a novel by Eric Garcia. He also co-wrote the script, exploring a world where artificial organs can be bought on credit. The catch is that anyone who defaults on payment is subject to a fatal "repossession".

British filmmaker Miguel Sapochnik will make his big screen directorial debut with this, but he faces competition from *Saw II* helmer Darren Lynn Bousman. The latter is directing *Repo! The Genetic Opera* which is basically the same story set to music.

Source: Internet

Exhibition

Nadim's rhythmic lines and vibrant colours

FAYZA HAQ

Kamrul Islam Nadim, in his recent exhibition at the Alliance Francaise, brought in experimental figure and nature paintings and drawings. In his mixed-media works he has tried to capture the

expression of figures and faces with quick sketches and then the addition of colours.

In one of the works he had put overlapping figures, using both opaque and transparent layers of colours. The modelling was done in a brief period, hence the lines and hues had to

be applied quickly. The models were students from his dance classes, poses being taken when they were resting. The colour balance of green, black and red added to the beauty of the composition. At times he had left the paper free on purpose. *Latin fever-1* and *Latin fever-2* feature different rhythms of dance. They had the effect of collage. In them he had used blue, vermilion, pink and black. Pen, pencil and crayon had been used in one and acrylic in the other.

In *Festival* he had brought in the riotous colours of rejoicing in the villages along with the play of light and shade. One saw fluttering, joyous bunting, *dhol* and people in bright *lungi*. One work, done under the guidance of artist Ifthikaruddin Ahmed, had figures from the working-class, showing some as labouring and others as resting. In another painting he had brought in people resting under trees, surrounded by idyllic nature.

In his landscapes he had used acrylic on canvas, experimenting with different colours, giving the subject a dream-like effect. The trees and their branches were done in flamboyant vermilion and steel blue. The ground was depicted as vibrant emerald and burnt sienna.

Nadim has been involved in arts since 1995, doing figure work, experimental drawing, and compositions of nature. He tried to bring in the rhythm of dance and music in his work. His elements of nature were like dancing figures, swaying, circling and pirouetting against the sky.

Nadim's aesthetic balance and vibrant colours found appreciation among many.



A painting by Nadim

ON AIR

PICK OF THE DAY



Bhober Haat
On Channel-i at 7:50pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Humayun Faridee, Bonna Mirza



Koffee with Karan
On Star World at 9:30pm
Talk Show hosted by Karan Johar
Tonight's Guest: Madhuri Dixit

STAR WORLD

09:30 Desperate
Housewives

10:30 Prison Break

11:30 Heroes

12:30 On The Lot

01:30 Life As We Know It

02:30 Falcon Beach

03:30 The Apprentice

04:30 Grey's Anatomy

05:30 Hollywood Shootout

06:00 Travel Asia

06:30 Koffee With Karan

07:30 The Simpsons

08:00 Malcolm In The Middle

09:30 Falcon Beach

10:30 Koffee With Karan

11:30 Law & Order: S.V.U.

12:30 Third Watch

00:30 Psych

01:00 Elvis Has Left The Building

01:30 Proof

02:00 Speed 2

02:30 Robots

03:00 Madagascar

03:30 Die Hard With A Vengeance

04:00 Hollywood Shootout

04:30 Travel Asia

05:00 Koffee With Karan

05:30 Big Bang

06:00 Humpack Whales

06:30 MegaStructures

07:00 Dens of Danger

07:30 Pompeii Uncovered

08:00 Is It Real?

09:30 Interpol Investigates

10:00 Extreme

11:30 Baby Story

FM radio

Radio Foorti

07:00am Hello Dhaka (Apu)
11:00am Amar 98.4 (Nusrat)
03:00pm Dhaka Calling (Sakib)
07:00pm Seven Eleven (Sadia)
11:00pm Late Night Show (Shuvo)

03:00am Back to Back music

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

09:30 Bit Force
10:30 Killer Leopard
11:30 Killer Tigers of India
12:30 Australia
01:30 Africa
02:30 Thailand
03:30 Hijacked
04:30 Mad Labs
05:00 Cooper, Wasabe, Frito
05:30 Big Bang

06:00 Humpack Whales

06:30 MegaStructures

07:00 Dens of Danger

07:30 Pompeii Uncovered

08:00 Is It Real?

09:30 Interpol Investigates

10:00 Extreme

11:30 Baby Story

ESPN

10:00 Standard Bank One Day International
12:30 Caribbean Kings (