

CULTURALFEAST

National Art Exhibition

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

Musical Soiree

Organiser: Chayanat Shangskriti Bhaban
Venue: Chayanat Shangskriti Bhaban
Date: July 19
Time: 7pm

Theatre

Title: Abimisra Ashundar
Venue: National Theatre Stage, Shilpakala Academy, Shegunbagicha
Troupe: Natukay
Date: July 12
Time: 6:30pm

Art Exhibition

Title: River and the Flow of Life
Artist: Mona Mahmud Chowdhury
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, House 275/F, Road 27, Dhanmondi
Date: July 4 to July 15
Time: 12pm to 8pm

Solo Print Exhibition

Artist: Rashid Amin
Venue: Shilpangan Art Gallery, House 26, Road 3, Dhanmondi
Date: July 10 to July 24
Time: 12am to 9pm

Film Screening

Title: Film Within A Film
Organiser: Zahir Raihan Film Society
Venue: German Cultural Centre, House 10, Road 9, Dhanmondi
Date: July 11
2:00pm: Shadow of the Vampire (Germany)
3:30pm: Contempt (France)
5:15pm: Slow Motion (Switzerland)
7:00pm: Lost in La Mancha (UK/Spain)

Organiser: High Commission of India in Dhaka
Venue: Indian Cultural Centre, House 25, Road 96, Gulshan 2
Date: July 13
Time: 6:00pm
Film: Krish

Date: July 16
Time: 6:00pm
Film: Madhosh
Date: July 21
Time: 6:00pm
Film: Shubho Muhurat
Date: July 23
Time: 6:00pm
Film: Dooriyan
Date: July 27
Time: 6:00pm
Film: Bandini
Date: July 30
Time: 6:00pm
Film: Baksha-Rahasya

Profile of a flutist

In conversation with M Moniruzaman

ERSHAD KAMOL

M Moniruzaman is one of the leading flutists in the country at present. A staff artist of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, Monir has acquired mastery over several wind instruments including banshi, silver flute, saxophone, supra-saxophone, recorder and Chinese flute. Besides performing at solo classical recitals he provides sangat (accompaniment) to singers. He also likes to experiment with fusion music.

Passion for flute is a family tradition to Monir. His father Ustad Abdur Rahman was a renowned flutist, who played a key role in establishing the use of banshi in modern music. Ustad Abdur Rahman worked with veteran music composers including Khan Ataur Rahman, Shujeeb Shyam, Debu Bhattacharjee and Alahuddin Ali. M Moniruzaman took flute lessons from his father for 17 years since 1973. To quote him, "My father wanted at least one of his offspring to master the art of flute-playing. He used to teach banshi to students and I would learn without him knowing or his consent. However, when he got to know about my growing keenness for banshi, he was glad."

His father showed Monir the proper distribution of 10 that in North Indian classical music, employing which anyone can



create new raga. Monir said, "Because I have a profound understanding of that and ragas, my

renditions appeal to the audience." So far Monir has released three solo albums -- Shomokal, Egaro

and Destination -- produced by Tonatuni. Shomokal is based on classical music in which Monir has fused different ragas including jog, emon, bagesree and madhubondi. In Egaro, Monir has played the instrumental versions of eleven popular patriotic songs. Destination features Sufism based folk music.

The artiste said, "I'm grateful to Tonatuni, especially Mahbubur Rahman Joinal for producing these albums, as most major production houses consider instrumental music 'unprofitable'."

As far as performances are concerned, Moniruzaman is a busy flutist. Almost everyday he accompanies singers at programmes -- classical or folk music. Articulating his passion for the instrument, Monir said, "I play wind instruments because it entertains me and satiates my creative craving. I'm fascinated by the variations in tones of different instruments."

Monir also likes to experiment with the instruments. Currently he performs in a fusion music based programme, aired on Channel 1. On the programme, Monir said, "Usually folk artistes begins a song and I along with other instrumentalists play the interlude to add a western flavour."

As a member of delegates, Moniruzaman has performed in several countries including Russia, Germany, China, Denmark and Yugoslavia.

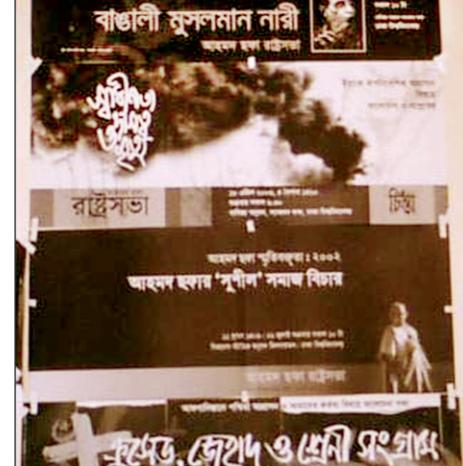
Centre for Asian Art and Culture: Working towards cultural decolonisation

AHSEN HABIB

While most cultural organisations carry out their activities around programmes and performances, Centre for Asian Art and Culture (CAAC) is a specialised organisation that works at the discourse level. Here practical as well as theoretical aspects of culture are put into perspective to provide the budding enthusiasts and thinkers with intellectual contents.

CAAC was established in 2001, when 'Eurocentrism' was still dominating thoughts in every areas of culture. "The art history that was presented to us was that of the West. Many people still take the West as the 'world'. In these circumstances, with the view to engage critically with the discourses of enlightenment and to sincerely represent our part of the world we started the centre," Zahirul Islam Kochi, president of CAAC, says.

The organisation has been working for cultural decolonisation and national self-determination with a multidisciplinary approach



Professor Anisuzzaman speaks at a lecture organised by CAAC (top), publications by the organisation

to generate discourses on language, history, religion and other multidimensional issues. "So far we have tried to provide an exposure and to conduct an investigation into the contemporary epistemological discourses. We also have tried to redefine the identity politics," Kochi says.

Itiash Karkhana (a series of workshops on history), Monobisheshan Karkhana (workshop on psychoanalysis), Jacques Lacan Bidyalaya, Dhaka Music Conservatory, Philosophy Festival, Ahmed Sofa Pathagar O Mohafezkhana, publications of Rastroshobha Potromala and workshops on imperialism studies are some of the significant initiatives by CAAC.

CAAC also emphasises on increasing visual literacy. Issues in visual culture are also among the active interest of the centre. So far the centre

has conducted four film appreciation courses, four foundation courses on photography, and three Asian Film Festivals. Dhaka Film Society is a sister concern of CAAC. Since its inception (also in 2001), Dhaka Film Society is working to encourage a healthy film environment in the country.

About future plans, Kochi says that they wish to establish CAAC as a resource centre for extensive research and to establish it as a giant publishing house. The centre also hopes to provide long-term fellowships.

Kochi stresses on the need for patronisation from the state, civil society and media in particular, to take their initiatives forward.

Certificate giving ceremony of Prachyanat School "Muntasir" staged



(From left) Azad Abul Kalam, Selim Al Deen, Dr. Enamul Huq and Shahidul Mamun at the programme

PHOTO: STAR

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Students of the 12th batch of Prachyanat School of Acting and Design staged noted playwright Selim Al Deen's comedy *Muntasir* on the occasion of their certificate giving ceremony at the Mahila Samiti Stage on July 9. Earlier, the play was staged on two occasions by Dhaka Theatre: In early 1980s when the military rule was imposed and in 2001.

Like the Dhaka Theatre production of Al Deen's comedy, which is basically a political satire, young theatre director Heera Chowdhury has presented the play in the form of a musical.

Mimetic gestures appear as the key means of the presentation in Heera's production. Music used in the production is a fusion of rock and classical. Young artistes of the school have performed aptly when it comes to rock music. However, they could not maintain the standard while performing classical-based music, specifically when dealing with *taal*. The actors need to practise more to hone their skills.

Prior to the performance, a discussion was held. Azad Abul Kalam, chief secretary of theatre troupe Prachyanat (mother organisation of the school), presided over the discussion. Playwright Selim Al Deen and noted actor-director Dr. Enamul Huq were present as special guests. Shahidul Mamun, director (academics) of Prachyanat School of Acting and Design, delivered the welcome speech.

Discussants pointed out the limitations of running a school that provides theatre education in an era of globalisation and media aggression. They commended the school for its endeavour to continue the six-month certificate course on theatre for 12 consecutive batches, overcoming limitations. The newly enrolled students of the 13th batch were also welcomed at the programmed.



Artistes of the cultural organisation Centre for Education, Creative and Performing Arts (CECPA) are seen with the Norwegian Ambassador Ingebjorg Stoebring (4th from left) and Azad Rahman (2nd from left), president of CECPA. The troupe left Dhaka to participate at the "Forde Folk Music Festival", held recently in Norway

Author 'devastated' at Potter end

Author J.K. Rowling said she felt euphoric but "devastated" as she penned the last words of the final Harry Potter book, *The Deathly Hallows*.

She said: "When I finished one chapter near the end I absolutely howled."

She also revealed the character of Harry was "totally imaginary" and not based on anyone else, while Ron Weasley was a lot like her oldest friend Sean.

She was in a hotel room alone as she finished writing the book. "I was sobbing my heart out, that was really tough," she said.

When asked about whether "scar" was the last word in the book as had been reported, she said: "Scar? It was so for ages, and now it's not. Scar is quite near the end, but it's not the last word."

She also said it had been a "hell of an achievement" to keep the cast of all the Potter films British.

Nearly 1.6 million copies of the final Harry Potter book have been pre-ordered online ahead of its release on 21 July.

The latest film in the series, *The Order of the Phoenix*, had its European premiere in London on Tuesday.

The film opens worldwide today.

Source: Internet



J.K. Rowling

ON AIR

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

News Bulletin

BTV
News Headlines (Bangla) at 8:55 am; 12:10 pm, 2:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00 pm, 7:00 pm.
News (Bangla) at 8:00 am 1:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 8:00 pm.
News (English) at 3:00 pm, 10:00 pm.
Late Night News (Bangla and English) 11:30 pm. (To be telecast on all Bangla channels).

CHANNEL-i

News (Bangla) at 7:15 am, 9:00am, 2:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 10:30pm, 12:15am.

ATN BANGLA

News (Bangla) at 7:00 am, 10:00am, 2:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11pm.
News (English) 8:20am, 7:00pm.

Latest News (Bangla) at 9:00 am, 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00 pm, 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm.

CHANNEL 1

News (Bangla) at 8:00am, 12:00pm, 2:30pm, 6:30pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm, 12:30am.

BANGLAVISION

News (Bangla) at 8:00am, 2:00pm, 6:00pm, 7:15pm, 10:30pm.

News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00am, 12:00am, 4:00pm.

News Headlines (English) at 8:05pm

Rtv

News (Bangla) at 10:15pm, and 12:15am

ntv

News (Bangla) 7:30am, 12:02pm, 2:00pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm, 1:00am

ETV

News (Bangla) 1:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 11:00pm

Shahidul Mamun

News (Bangla) 1:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 11:00pm

Dhaka Star

News (Bangla) 1:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 11:00pm

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