

CULTURALFEAST

Recitation troupe Annit launched



Professor Muhammad Yunus speaks at the programme

PHOTO: STAR

ERSHAD KAMOL

THE launching programme of 'Annit', a recitation troupe with the aim to promote global culture, was held at the National Theatre Stage on July 27.

Nobel laureate Professor Muhammad Yunus was the chief guest. Eminent educationist Professor Anisuzzaman was the guest speaker.

On the future plan of Annit, President of the organisation, Shafi Kamal informed, "We will arrange language based recitation session. Besides, the original poems in foreign languages (other than English) Bangla and English translations will be recited in those sessions."

Art Exhibition

Organiser: Buriganga Arts & Crafts
Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (National Art Gallery), Segun Bagicha
Date: July 27 to July 31
Time: 2pm to 7pm

Solo Sculpture Exhibition

Title: Branches and Twigs
Artist: Ferdousy Priyabhashini
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, House 275/F, Road 27 (old), Dhanmondi
Date: July 30 to August 10
Time: 12pm to 8pm

Art Exhibition

Venue: Shilpangan Gallery, House 26, Road 3, Dhanmondi
Date: July 27 to August 7
Time: 12pm to 8pm

Colours from Hills

Venue: Drik Gallery, House 58, Road 15A (new), 26 (old), Dhanmondi R/A
Date: July 19 to August 1
Time: 3pm to 8pm

Solo Art Exhibition

Title: The Endless Mystery
Artist: Rafiqul Islam Chowdhury
Venue: Saiju Arts & Crafts, F/28, D.C.C. North Super Market, 2nd Circle Gulshan
Date: July 23 to August 7
Time: 10am to 8pm

Theatre

"Paital": Tea garden labourers' miseries take centre stage

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Scenic beauty of the tea gardens fascinates us. But lives of the individuals, who toil everyday to keep the tea business rolling, rarely make an impact.

Though the storyline of the play is simple featuring love stories of tea garden workers who belong to different ethnic minority groups-- it throws up several issues of contemporary times.

Menoka, a Koiri girl, is in love with Gayen, who is a Munda, a less dominating ethnic group compared to Koiri. Which is why caste becomes an obstacle to love.

Based on Shah Azam Shantanu's ideas, the play is directed by Shudip Chakraborti. The directorial composition is experimental: The story maintains the form of paital, a Bengali indigenous performing art form.



Bishwabidyalaya Theatre from Rajshahi stages Paital

at the centre stage, surrounded by the audience on all four sides -- a traditional setting in paital. The style of narration by the storyteller also maintains the paital format.

ation's promotional programmes to encourage theatre troupes from outside Dhaka, Bishwabidyalaya Theatre from Rajshahi staged Paital. The show was held on July 27 at the Experimental Theatre Stage.

of globalisation, one has to devise innovative efforts to engage the audience. Since audio-visual medium is very popular these days, presenting recitation along with choreography and music may prove to be more attractive to the viewers."

The discussion was followed by a recitation programme. Child artistes presented a group recital titled Towards Humanity, a compilation of poems on humanism, edited and directed by Mahmudul Hassan.

This was followed by Abdul Aziz presenting a 'Puthi Path'. Mahmudul Hassan recited Shamsur Rahman's poem Swadhinata Tumi. The English version of the poem was presented by Fareeha Sultana.

Excerpts from Rabindranath Tagore's play Raktokorobi was also recited at the programme. Shafi Kamal, Noor-e-Hafza, Abu Zafar, Nusrat Jahan and Ziaul Hassan took part in the recital.

The programme ended with a choral presentation by the artists of Annit. They recited Bangla and English versions of Shantir Jonyo Prarthona by Noor-e-Hafza.

Remembering Abdul Alim

Programme on the maestro's birth anniversary

MAINUL HASSAN

TO observe the 76th birth anniversary of folk maestro Abdul Alim, cultural organisation Uddipto Lolitokola Academy (ULA), in association with National Association of UNESCO Clubs in Bangladesh, organised a programme featuring folk music at the Buet auditorium on July 27.



A portrait of Abdul Alim

Mohammad Mahmudul Hassan, secretary, Bangladesh UNESCO National Commission was the special guest at the event. Mintu Rahman, general secretary of Narzul Academy and folk singer Nadira Begum also spoke at the programme.

The discussion was followed by a musical programme featuring performances by Asgar Alim and Nurjahan Alim, son and daughter of Abdul Alim. The artists began with a duet, Ei jey dunia kishero lagia, one of Alim's evergreen songs. It was followed by a group performance by students of ULA. Asgar Alim also rendered Shorbonasha Padma nodi and Thakbona ei abeshey. Nurjahan Alim sang Holodia pakhi, Bohudiner pirit bondhu and a few other songs.

audience. Holudia pakhi, Naiyyarey nayer badam tulla, Rupali nodirey are some of the timeless songs popularised by him.

Born on July 27, 1931 in Murshidabad, West Bengal, Alim migrated to Dhaka after Partition and joined the radio as a staff artist. During his illustrious musical career he performed at a number of music conferences and received several awards.

The programme began with a short discussion. Dr. A.M.M. Shafiullah, vice chancellor, BUET was the chief guest. Dr.



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Exhibition

A fine blend of flora and fauna

FAYZA HAQ

Rakeeb Hassan, whose solo exhibition of oil on canvas and paper is on at Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, studied fine arts at Kenya. After holding several solo exhibitions at Kenya in the course of nine years, he went on to display his works at London and Edinburgh. In France he worked with a choreographic project at Montpellier and La Rochelle. His works have been displayed in Switzerland and Montreal.

His series Somatic Enigma combines nature and figures. Mystic Metaphor also has forms mingling with nature. Entries from Ritual of the Rock, exhibited in France earlier, are also on display at Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy. The artist finds drama in the daily germination of seeds, flowers, creepers and insects. Like many Bangladeshi artists, Jibanandadas' poetry has influenced him greatly. Although his work is stylised, he is inspired by folk art. Rakeeb is also moved by African masks. His paintings remain semi-abstract, with a penchant for both flora and fauna. His initial works, their lines and colours, were mostly created around impressions of masks. Gradually he started bringing in images of his home in Bangladesh,

with land masses combined with rivers. In his recent paintings he features himself as well.

In Mumbai his exhibition at the Jehangir Art Gallery drew around thousand viewers every day. Being in touch with Indian artists like M.F. Hussain and Adibakar increased his experience and revved up his competitive spirit in him. His 16th solo exhibition is also his first in Bangladesh and in it he has mixed his recent works with the earlier ones.

In one of the paintings, Mystic Metaphor XVI, Rakeeb has combined the trunk of a tree with a human figure. Leaves and branches of trees also come into the composition. "When I take an image, I don't take the entire form but a fraction of it and mix it with other forms around me. I also get inspired by imaginary shapes," says the artist.

Mystic Metaphor III has cubist fragments of birds symbolising the loss of our dreams. Eagle's eyes are combined with human ones. Human forms and multi-storeyed buildings are depicted as floating away. The blue painting of the male and female forms in Ritual of the Rock deals with the myth of how a woman turns to stone on being touched by her admirer. The woman turning into rock is again portrayed in the next painting which is even more abstract. This is in reds, blues and greens. In the next painting a chopped tree trunk brings in human



Artwork by Rakeeb Hassan

forms in a surrealistic way. In all Rakeeb's paintings one sees the impact of pensiveness of

masters like Picasso and Miro. The exhibition ends today.

ON AIR

Table with TV programme listings for BTV, ATN Bangla, and ETV, including show names and times.

Table with TV programme listings for Channel-i, Rtv, and other channels, including show names and times.

PICK OF THE DAY section featuring 'South Asian' talk show with Neena Gupta and 'The Chronicles of Narnia' movie.

Table with TV programme listings for STAR WORLD, HISTORY CHANNEL, and NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC.

Table with FM radio listings for Radio Foorti, including show names and times.