

## CULTURALFEAST

## Theatre Festival

**Venue:** National Theatre Stage, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy  
**Organiser:** Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation and Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy  
**Time:** 7pm

**Date:** September 5  
**Title:** Chhayanat  
**Troupe:** Nagorik Natya Sampraday

**Date:** September 6  
**Title:** Nimojon  
**Troupe:** Dhaka Theatre

## Photography Exhibition

**Title:** Bangladesh Now  
**Organiser:** Drik News  
**Venue:** Drik Gallery, House 58, Road 15A (New), Dhanmondi  
**Date:** September 4 to September 13  
**Time:** 3 pm to 8 pm

**Title:** BALIKA  
**Artist:** Aly Zaker  
**Venue:** Art Club Bangladesh Gallery, Suite 3B, House 4, Road 104, Gulshan-2  
**Date:** August 27 to September 6  
**Time:** 11am to 8pm

## Film Screening

**Title:** Soumitra Chatterjee Retrospective  
**Organiser:** Chalachchitram Film Society  
**Venue:** Shawkat Osman Auditorium, Central Public Library, Shahbag  
**Date:** September 7  
**Time:** 10 am  
**Film:** Apur Sansar  
**Director:** Satyajit Ray

**Time:** 11 am  
 Soumitra Chatterjee will exchange views with the audience  
**Date:** September 8  
**Time:** 10 am  
**Film:** Dekha  
**Director:** Gautam Ghosh

**Time:** 12 pm  
**Film:** Teen Bhuboner Parey  
**Director:** Ashutosh Banarjee  
**Time:** 3 pm  
**Film:** Aranyer Din Ratri  
**Director:** Satyajit Ray

**Time:** 5 pm  
**Film:** Charulata  
**Director:** Satyajit Ray  
**Time:** 7 pm  
**Film:** Kony  
**Director:** Saraj Dey

## Solo Art Exhibition

**Artist:** Samiran Chowdhury  
**Venue:** Saju Art Gallery, F/40-41, D.C.C North Super Market, 2<sup>nd</sup> circle, Gulshan, Dhaka.  
**Date:** August 30 to September 10  
**Time:** 10 am to 8 pm

**Title:** Oriental Art: My Style of Expression  
**Artist:** Malay Bala  
**Venue:** Zainul Gallery, Institute of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka  
**Date:** September 1 to September 5  
**Time:** 11 am to 8 pm

## Art Exhibition

**Title:** Study Works of Khulna Art College  
**Organiser:** Dots Contemporary Art Centre  
**Venue:** Dots Contemporary Art Centre, 191/A Haque Tower (2nd Floor), Tejgaon-Gulshan Link Road, Tejgaon  
**Date:** September 3 to September 12  
**Time:** 11 am to 8 pm

## "Balika": Celebrating the girl child

## Aly Zaker's maiden solo photo exhibition

NIVEDITA RAITZ VON FRENTZ

Aly Zaker needs no introduction really; he is best known as a seasoned stage and television personality. Theatre is his first passion, but photography is something that is also close to his heart. He has been taking photographs for as long as he can remember and has participated in group shows in the past.

"If I find an interesting subject, something that pleases the eye, then I take photos; it's a pleasant habit, it helps me to be at ease with myself and uncoil," Aly said candidly.



The ongoing exhibition at the Art Club gallery in Gulshan (House 4, Road 104) entitled *Balika* is his first solo foray and is a historical journey of sorts, displaying pictures taken over the last twenty seven years.

As the title suggests, *Balika* is all about girls, mostly photos of young girls in a rural setting. The subjects in some pictures were completely unaware of being in front of the lens, some however, were very much aware that they were being photographed. Despite having been in the limelight and feeling comfortable behind the lens, Aly confessed that he was nervous at the inauguration. He is quite self-critical, saying, "I'm not a professional photographer and it's really rather late in the day to turn into one."

It was the natural choice that the well-attended exhibition was inaugurated by Aly's daughter. Aly fondly recounted an anecdote from her eloquent inaugural speech. She



Photographs at the exhibition

had had childhood memories of making frequent stops on family car rides, and realised only much later that her father had been busy clicking away during these breaks! Aly was very touched by his daughter's praise of "the great job he was doing".

A member of the Royal Photographic Society (London), Aly's first major photographic breakthrough came more than a decade ago, when one of his entries (also of a child; this time, a male), was selected to be part of their 1996 exhibition. Aly received national recognition when the exhibition toured the length and breadth of the UK. Success followed in the late '90s when he contributed nine photos currently on display, to a UNICEF-organised exhibition on the girl child at the Shilpakala Academy. A joint show, *Afghanistan -- Blossoming from Destruc-*

*tion* with fellow thespian and amateur photographer Shankor Sawjal was held at the Bengal Gallery in 2004. Aly also collaborated on a book entitled *Wild Flowers of Bangladesh* by famous Bangladeshi photographer Noazesh Ahmed, contributing more than a dozen pictures.

Aly's dream is to remain alive in the Bangladeshi peoples' memories and to this end he is considering further exhibitions. He plans to have another in December on an entirely different subject. Aly's philosophy of "never considering taking photos of anything that seemed unpleasant; of capturing marginalised people in most cases" has taken him a long way.

The exhibition has been extended until September 6.

The writer is a freelance contributor

## Playwright and novelist Pranab Bhatta passes away

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Noted novelist and playwright Pranab Bhatta breathed his last on September 3 at Monowara Hospital in Dhaka. Following a cardiac arrest, he was taken to the hospital in the afternoon that day.

Pranab Bhatta was born on January 5, 1950 in Maizdi, Noakhali. He joined the Bangladesh Revenue Board as a customs officer. He retired last year.

Bhatta received recognition for his novels and plays. Several TV plays written by him including *Shirshabindu*, *Shonar Kankon*, *Bonyar Chokhe Jol* and others became popular. Among his novels, *Preyoshi*, *Bolo Tumi Kar*, *Abhimani*, *Antorey Tumi* and *Batil* are noteworthy. He also wrote the script of the film *Wrong Number* (1995).

A memorial will be held at the Bangla Academy premises tomorrow (Thursday) at 10am.



Pranab Bhatta

## Concert featuring Bombay Vikings and Artcel



Shaju was on the drums and Shahriar played the keyboard. Lincoln played the rhythm guitar.

Next on stage was Bombay Vikings. Neeraj Sridhar, vocalist of the band performed 12 songs throughout the evening. He started with their hit, *Kya soorat hai* -- a remix of a mega-popular Hindi film song, *Zaroorat hai*. Performances of *Angel eyes* and *Woh Chali* followed.

Neeraj also rendered *Jambola*, *Call me on telephone* and *Hawa mein udta jay*, a remix of the Shamsad Begum classic. *Aa raha hu mein*, *Chhor do anchal* and a remix of *Ye dosti* (from the blockbuster *Sholay*) were also performed.

DJ Rahat was the last performer of the evening.

Channel 1, Etcetera Bangladesh and Radio Today sponsored for the programme. A percentage of proceeds from ticket sales will be donated to the flood victims.

Neeraj Sridhar of Bombay Vikings sings at the concert

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Popular Indian band Bombay Vikings along with Bangladeshi progressive rock band Artcel and DJ Rahat performed at a concert organised by Creatas Communications Ltd. at Bangladesh China Friendship Conference Centre on September 3.

Artcel opened the concert with *Aniket prantor* -- the title song of their latest album. Performed with acoustic guitars, the song received a warm response from the audience. Renditions of *Dhushar shomoy* and *Onyo shomoy* followed. *Dukkha bilash*, Artcel's most popular song as of yet and *Tomakey* were also performed by the band

Other attractions included a cover of *Nothing else matters* -- a Metallica classic. The audi-

ence sang spontaneously with Lincoln, vocalist of Artcel.

The band wrapped up their performance with *Obosh onubhutir deyal* and *Poth chola*.



Artcel during a performance

## Theatre festival in aid of flood victims

## "Chhayanat" to be staged today

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

As part of the ongoing theatre festival organised in aid of flood victims Nagorik Natyasampradaya will stage *Chhayanat* today at the National Theatre Stage. The festival is jointly arranged by Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation and Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy.

Featuring the dramatic rise and fall of "heroes", Utpal Dutt's play *Chhayanaui* is a satire. The protagonist of the play, Manoj Kumar, begins his career as a side actor. Eventually he becomes a heartthrob and then vanishes from the public eye.



Actors of Nagorik Natyasampradaya in Chhayanat

A new face replaces Manoj and he is soon forgotten -- a reference to how volatile stardom is. As the sub-plot, Utpal Dutt's play satires the public obsession with scandals in showbiz, as well as the entertainment media feeding the ego factors.

*Chhayanaui* is directed by Aly Zaker. Amlan Biswas is the light designer of the play.

## Grand finale of Lux-Channel i Superstar '07 tomorrow



The Lux-Channel i Superstar '07 finalists

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Channel i will air the grand finale of *Lux-Channel i Superstar 2007* tomorrow at 7:30pm, live from Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre. The 'Superstar' for 2007 will be selected during the show. Ten young, talented women have made it to the finals from thousands of contestants who regis-

tered from all over the country. This year the show was launched in June.

Like last year's winner, this year's 'Superstar' too will get a leading role in a major feature film along with a brand new car. The first runner-up will receive a cheque for Tk 5 lakh and a role in a TV play.

## ON AIR

## PICK OF THE DAY



**Thakur Maar Jhuli**  
 On ATN Bangla at 6:20pm  
 Animation Series for children



**Ei Shob Ondhokar**  
 On Banglavisian at 9:45 pm  
 Drama Serial  
 Cast: Pijush Bandyopadhyay, Shompa Reza

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, 12:15 am.

**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 a.m, 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00pm, 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

**BANGLAVISIAN**  
 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

## BTv

11:15 Drama Serial: Shangshoptak

12:05 Maa O Shishur Kotha

12:30 Bulbul

01:30 Hijol Tomal

02:15 Golpo Theke Natok

03:05 Cartoon

03:30 Shukhi Poribar

04:00 Computer

04:30 Amader Ranna

05:05 Sisimpur

05:30 Mitthoskria

07:00 Mati O Manush

07:30 Grontho Kothon

08:30 Protidin Bangladesh

08:35 Drama Serial: Alo

Amar Alo

09:05 Drama Serial: Swapno Loker Chabi

Prothom Ontora

10:30 ATN Bangla

09:15 Drama Serial: Kath

Koylar Chhobi

10:30 Talk show: Aktel

Onyodristi

11:05 Meet the Press

Amar Computer

12:15 Gane Shure Taruney

02:30 Drama Serial: Doll's House

03:10 Drama Serial: Rupali Manush

03:45 Children's Programme

04:20 Islamic Programme

05:00 Gram Gonjer Khobor

05:20 Islamic Programme

06:20 Thakur Maar Jhuli

08:00 Drama Serial: Jege

Theko

08:35 Drama Serial: Bohemiyon

09:00 Drama Serial: Chhayamukh

Talking Point

11:30 CHANNEL-i

09:30 Special Programme

11:05 Sports Time

12:30 Citycell Tarokathan

01:05 Tax Helpline

01:15 Ebong Cinemar

Gaan

01:30 Special Programme

02:40 Mega Serial: Prio

Bash

03:05 Talk show: Microcredit

Agrogotitay

04:05 Bangladesh Music Club

05:30 Mukti Judho Protidin

06:00 Drama Serial: Shat Goenda

06:20 Desh Bideshey

Ranna

07:50 Special Programme

08:20 Mega Serial: Adbhutire

09:35 Aloye Bhubon

10:00 Bhora

10:00 Ekjon Mojnu Mia

11:30 Special Programme

ETV

08:00 Ekusher Shokal

01:30 Drishti

02:00 Drama Serial: Bondhon

03:30 Baul Baul Mon

04:00 Pathay Prantorey

04:30 Drama Serial: Jege

Biprotip

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