

CULTURAL FEAST

Dhaka Book Fair 2007

Organised by: National Book Centre
Venue: National Parade Square,
Sher-e-Bangla Nagar
Date: December 1-15

International Festival of Docufilms

Festival Title: 2nd International
Festival of Docufilms on Liberation
and Human Rights
Organiser: Liberation War Museum
Venue: Liberation War Museum

Date: December 4
3:00pm onwards Newsreel Footage
from 1971, Outfoxed Ali &
Somewhere in May
5:30 pm Tabogrande, Mangos,
Murder, Minus

Date: December 5
3:00pm onwards Surplus, Ananya
Muktijuddha
5:30 pm Why We Fight

Film Screening

Organiser: Dhaka University Film
Society
Venue: TSC auditorium, Dhaka
University

December 4
10:00am Muktir Gaan
01:00pm Notting Hill
03:30pm Not One Less
05:30pm My Left Foot

December 5
10:00am Life is Beautiful
01:00pm Blood Diamond
03:30pm Colour of Paradise
05:30pm Sareng Bou

December 6
09:00am Shaolin Soccer
11:00am The Namesake

Art Exhibition

Title: Nitun Kundu: The Creative Mind
Artist: Nitun Kundu
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts,
Bengal Shilpalaya, H 275/F, Road 27
(old), Dhanmondi
Date: December 3-17
Time: 12pm-8pm

Exhibition

Title: Jhora Shishirer Gaan
Venue: Nitya Upahar, 50, Aziz co-
operative super market, 2nd floor,
Shahbagh
Date: December 1-10

Solo Art Exhibition

Title: Tokai
Artist: Rafiqun Nabi
Venue: Gallery Chittrak, Road 4,
House 21, Dhanmondi
Date: December 1-7
Time: 10am-8pm

Title: Entity: Sketches of Heritage
Artist: Sajid-Bin-Doza Bonny
Venue: Alliance Francaise de Decade,
26, Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi
Date: December 3-16
Time: 9am-12pm & 5pm-8pm except
Saturday (5pm-8pm)

The event featured performances
by Pandit Buddhadev Das Gupta as
well as eminent musicians from
Dhaka and other districts of Bangla-

Photo Exhibition

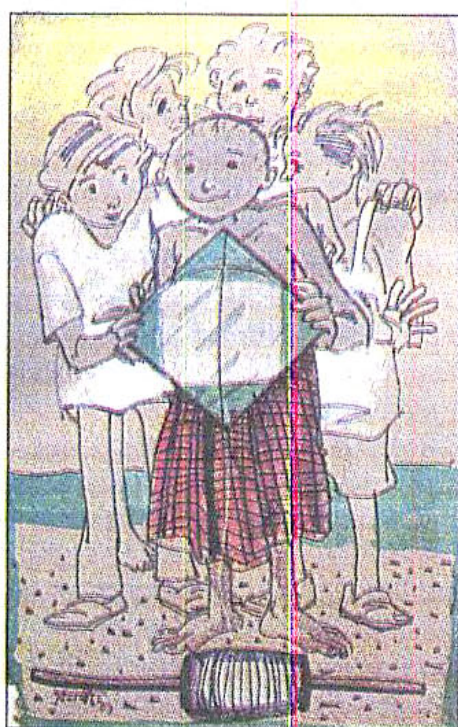
Title: Arkos-Antarkos
Photographer: Enam U Haque and
Tareq Orui
Venue: Drik Gallery, House 58, Road
15A (new), Dhanmondi
Date: November 30-December 4
Time: 3pm-8pm

Solo Painting Exhibition

Artist: Shyamal Roy Chowdhury
Venue: Art & Soul Gallery, Road 35,
House 16, Gulshan
Date: November 30 - December 16
Time: 11am-8pm

"Tokai" rushes to the rescue

Rafiqun Nabi's inimitable brush strokes at Chittrak



Paintings by Rafiqun Nabi

FAYZA HAQ

IN aid of the Sidr victims, Rafiqun Nabi is holding his current exhibition of paintings on his popular theme of "Tokai", the little street urchin who has crows and dogs for company and yet works and smiles on. This is at Gallery Chittrak and most of the works have already been sold. The patrons for Nabi are teachers, architects, engineers and other intellectuals of the city with limited funds but fine taste.

The paintings, socio-political in nature, done with Nabi's inimitable quick, dramatic brush strokes are pulsating with life in Dhaka. The poignancy and optimism of the child labourer, with a bright smile and a job of his own to follow -- surrounded by dogs, crows, carts, human beings as well as trees and park benches -- is delightful and soul-wrenching at the same time.

These are delightful paintings that take one's thoughts out to the simple pot-bellied kid waving the national flag, and snoozing on park benches, trudging with his overwhelming bag of



PHOTO: STAR

rubbish. The young one is breezing through a lonely life and yet marching on.

Being trained by master artists like Zainul Abedin, Safiuddin and Mohammed Kibria, Nabi believes that good drawing is the basic need for fine artwork. His overseas studies at Athens added to this belief. David Hockney inspires him too. Among the drawing and painting experts, Nabi is surely nonpareil, sharing laurels only with Shishir Bhattacharya.

With swift lines of the basic colours, and pastel shades to fill the rest of the void, along with other essential inclusions of the Dhaka scenario, Nabi builds a veritable arcadia in the capital city, although some may feel that the metropolis is nothing but a 'cement jungle'.

The socio-economic and political overtures of Nabi can be seen through the poignant pieces, as "Tokai" braves through life in his checked "lungi" and his podgy bare top. He hops, skips and whistles through life as if the sun will never set on his merry existence, although trash cans, bits of reject papers and other refuses

from homes are the contents of his booty.

"These are not caricatures and I've tried to show the rhythm of Tokai's daily life. This character is familiar and I love drawing him. These delineations had me totally involved in my subject. I got rapt in this theme of the street children decades back, in 1977. These children are extremely intelligent, although they cannot go to school. These self-made and independent beings have only their quick wit and the instinct of self-preservation to guide them," Nabisaidd.

"Earlier I had a similar exhibition on the same theme at the same venue in 2003, on Tokai's 25th year of publication in Bichitra. Now this much-loved character appears in the weekly 2000. The hurricane has caused innumerable deaths. All artists wish to do something for the devastated nation. I too want to do my bit," he added.

Nabi spent 15 days on this collection of 35 paintings. The gallery picked up some of the bills. He used water-colour and acrylic.

Bangla performs at SAARC festival

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

If the idea was to draw South Asian Regional Cooperation (SAARC) out of diplomatic boardrooms and take it to the people, then the coming together here of bands ranging from heavy metal to electronic from eight countries of the region was an instant and big hit.

Bangla, leading fusion band of Bangladesh, was one of the bands which perked up hundreds of people who assembled in the chilly evenings from November 30 to December 2 at the beautiful Central Park in Delhi's famous Connaught Place.

Performing folk songs written by Lalou and Ghisauddin Shain, Bangla drew an enthusiastic response from the audience which swayed to their numbers. What added to the people's delight was when Amir of Indian Ocean band joined the fusion for a couple of numbers.

"There are no boundaries for music and it has the power to bring the world together," said Bangla's lead singer Anusheh Anadil.

Loud applause greeted all the bands, which performed a wide range of folk and contemporary songs in Bhutanese, Bengali, Pushto, Persian and Hindi and other languages of SAARC countries.

Pakistani group 'Strings', already popular in India, brought the audience on its feet when its singers



Anusheh Anadil of Bangla

treated the audience to songs like "Duar", "Na jaane kyun" and "Chhaye chhaye".

The Aryan, the band from war-ravaged Afghanistan, mesmerized the audience, making one forget they come from a country whose rich music tradition was stifled by years of Taliban rule.

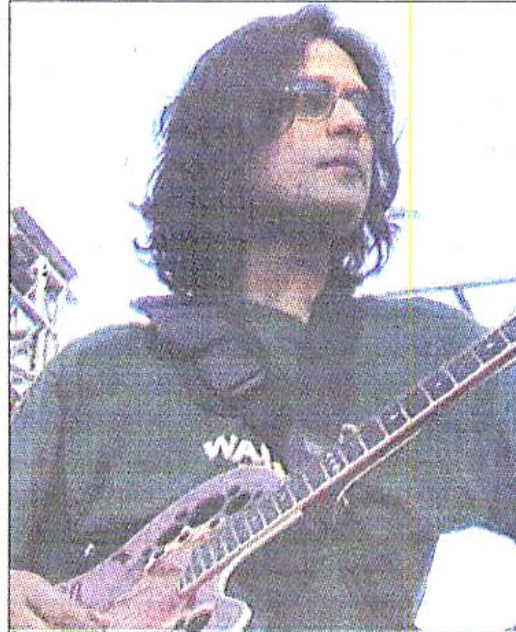
The four-year-old Afghan band, which faces severe constraints like lack of adequate infrastructure for practice and experiment, was delighted with the festival organised by Sehr, an NGO, Indian External Affairs Ministry and Indian Council For Cultural Relations because it provided the group with a platform to perform abroad, said its lead vocalist Mehdyar.

In all, 14 bands from all the eight SAARC countries took part in the three-day festival organized to disseminate the message of peace and brotherhood.

"It is a great initiative and platform for people-to-people contact. Nobody can stop us if we come together as one," said Bilal, a singer of 'Strings'.

Another great attraction of the festival was the presence of MTV veejay Nikhil Chinappa who was the compere.

As the festival closed on the night of December 2, the notes of all the band groups continued to echo long after it ended for they belted out the songs from the soul of SAARC.



Bilal Maqsood of Strings

Classical music convention at Chhayanat

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

To popularise and promote classical music, Chhayanat arranged a three-day music convention titled *Shuddho Sangeet-er Anushthan*, that ended on December 2. Visiting sarod maestro from Kolkata, Pandit Buddhadev Das Gupta inaugurated the event at the main auditorium, Chhayanat on November 30.

The event featured performances by Pandit Buddhadev Das Gupta as well as eminent musicians from Dhaka and other districts of Bangla-

desh. Pandit Das Gupta, Ustad Amresh Roy Choudhury from Rajshahi, Anup Barua and Swarup Hossain of Chhayanat performed on the first day of the convention.

"In continuation of our endeavour to promote and uphold traditional and classical music among the masses, in particular the young generation, we have arranged this convention. This should inspire our students who are interested in classical music and understand its importance," said Khairul Anam Shakil, noted Nazrul

singer and general secretary of Chhayanat.

The second day of the convention began with Satindranath Haldar's performance of Raga Puriya. Iftekhar Alam Pradhan on tabla, Bijon Chandra Mistri on harmonium and Shukla Paul on taanpura accompanied the artist.

The next performance was by the renowned flutist Md. Maniruzzaman. Maniruzzaman played Raga Madhumanti and another dhun on the flute. The hour-long performance received a warm response from the audience. Providing sangat to the artists, Syed Mehrab Hossain and Mahua Manjuri were on tabla and taanpura respectively.

Asit Dey, classical music teacher at Chhayanat and University of Development Alternative, was the last performer of the day. Asit Dey rendered Raga Puriya Dhanesree. Ratan Kumar Das on tabla, Bijon Chandra Mistri on harmonium and Shukla Paul on taanpura accompanied him.

Pandit Buddhadev Das Gupta, Ustad Ramkanai Das from Sylhet and Rezwan Ali Lavlu of Chhayanat performed on the closing day of the convention.



Artists perform at the programme

PHOTO: STAR

Special play "Koborer Maa" on ATN Bangla

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Set against the backdrop of the Liberation War, ATN Bangla will air special TV play titled *Koborer Maa* tomorrow at 8:45 pm. Written by A.D. Dulal, the single episode play is directed by Taher Shipon.

The play centres around an old woman, whose three children were freedom fighters who died in the Liberation War. The woman found her children's corpses along with 15 other freedom fighter's dead bodies. She buried all of them, and since then has been waiting to build a monument over them.

Sharmilee Ahmed, Aruna Biswas and Tanjika among others play the lead roles in the play.



Sharmilee Ahmed in the play

Mirren wins European film award

Actress Dame Helen Mirren has won best actress at the European Film Academy awards in Berlin for her portrayal of Queen Elizabeth II in *The Queen*.

However, the movie - which had been up for six awards - lost out to Romanian drama *4 Months, 3 Weeks and 2 Days* in the best film category.

Cristian Mungiu, who made the low-budget production, said he was "honoured" to win best director.

Israeli actor Sasson Gabai won best actor for his role in *The Band's Visit*.

The comedy, which was directed by Eran Kolirin, is about an Egyptian police band lost in an Israeli city.

The People's Choice Award went to Italian director Giuseppe Tornatore's *La Scorsciutta* (The Unknown).

Mungiu's *4 Months, 3 Weeks and 2 Days*, which follows the harrowing journey of two women as they seek an illegal abortion in Communist Romania, also won the Palme d'Or at this year's Cannes Film

Festival. French filmmaker Jean-Luc Godard was honoured with a lifetime achievement award.

Next year the ceremony will be held in Copenhagen.

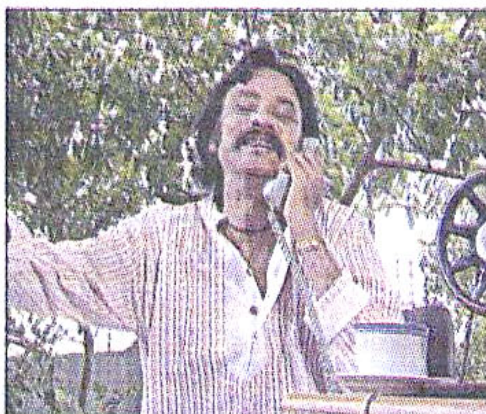
Source: Internet



Helen Mirren

ON AIR

PICK OF THE DAY



Mouchakey Dhill
On ATN Bangla at 08:00 pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Salauddin Lavlu, Azizul Hakim



The Green Mile
On Star Movies at 07:00 pm
Genre: Drama
Cast: Tom Hanks, Michael Clarke Duncan

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-1
News (Bangla) at 7:15 am, 9:00 am, 2:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 9:00 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:15 am.
ATN BANGLA
News (Bangla) at 7:00 am, 10:00 am, 2:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11 pm.
News (English) at 8:20 am, 7:00 pm.
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 8:00 am, 12:00 pm, 2:30 pm, 6:30 pm, 7:30 pm, 10:00 pm, 12:30 am.

BANGLAVISION
News (Bangla) at 8:00 am, 2:00 pm, 6:00 pm, 7:15 pm, 10:30 pm.
News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00 am, 12:00 am, 4:00 pm.
News Headlines (English) at 8:05 pm

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

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

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

BTV

11:15 Desher Gaan/Nobo Diganta

11:40 Heritage

12:00 Me O Shishur Katha

12:30 Islamic Programme

12:30 Mali O Manush

02:15 Musical Programme: Shurer Shurobbi

03:05 Cartoon

03:30 Shukhi Poribar

04:05 Amader Angina

04:30 Geet Bitan

05:05 Mon-er Kalha

05:30 Agricultural Programme

06:40 Sholyer Onneshoney

07:00 Jonater Katha

07:45 Bijoy Amar Bijoy

08:30 Prodidin Bangladesh

08:35 Drama Serial: Modhyo Rastey Oshayari

09:00 Drama Serial: Shongshaptik

09:30 Protidhin

10:30 Laukiki Bangla

11:00 Talk Show: Date Line Dhaka

ATN BANGLA

09:15 Drama Serial: Alokogor

10:30 AKTEL Onyodrishti

11:05 Three Stooges

11:35 Drama Serial: Nirub Kasto

12:15 Cinema Cinema

01:25 ATN Music

02:30 Drama Serial: Dolls House

05:10

Talk Show: Nari Obhobashon

05:40 Entertainment Show: Shobar Joniya

06:20 Katha Mala

08:00 Drama Serial: Mouchakey Dhill

08:45 Drama: Koborer Maa

11:30 Rang Manchyo Tael

12:00 Gramphone Lead News

CHANNEL-1

09:30 Shangbadpotrey Bangladesh

09:45 Public Reaction Programme

09:50 Gramphone Trilio Matra

11:05 Cricket On Line

11:30 Amar Chhobi

12:30 Citycell Torokakathan

01:05 Eboni Cinema Gaan

01:30 Se Re Ga Ma

02:40 Drama Serial: Pric Besh

03:05 i-Sports

04:05 Hindoyr Gaan

04:30 Shangeet Mala

05:30 Mukhi Judho Protidin Tarzan

06:00 Drama Serial: Ocheno Adhar

07:50 Musical Programme: Amer Prio Gaan

09:35 Drama Serial: Chondro Kangor

10:00 Drama: Dhaka 71

11:30 Drama: 69

12:00 Gramphone Aker Shangbadpotrey

ETV

08:00 Ekusher Shokal

12:00 Ekusher Dupur

01:30 Drishti

02:30 Ei Shoptaher Bishwa

03:30 Shornali Shadokalo

04:00

Cartoon

04:30 Drama Serial: Hittu Cholar Pathay

05:15 Ekusher Shondhya

06:15 Quiz Show: SMS

06:30 Chondro Shurya

07:30 Amar Mukhi Aloy-o Aloy-o

08:00 Cookery Show: Tomi Mishi Recipe

08:30 Shurchal

10:30 Drama Serial: Bandhon

11:45 Reporters File

12:00 Ekusher Raat

Rtv

09:00 Rtv Exclusive

09:05

Heart Beat

09:35 Sports Carnival

10:00 Apon Shimany

10:30 Protidin

11:30 Drama Serial: Dohon

12:15 Jugal Bondi

12:35 Drama Serial: Black and White

01:00 Gaanchil Ei Din

01:30 Dhallywood Beats

02:30 Bangla Feature Film