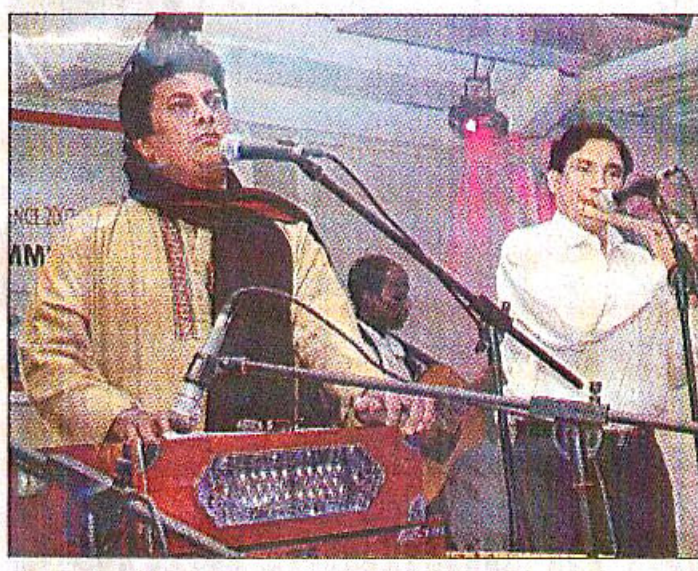


First Non-Resident Bangladeshi

Conference '07

An evening of Tagore and Nazrul songs



Khairul Anam Shakil sings, expatriate artiste Subarna Khan performs a dance at the cultural show



PHOTO: STAR

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

ON the second day of the First Non-Resident Bangladeshi Conference '07, a cultural programme was held at the Ball Room, Hotel Sheraton on December 28. The programme featured Tagore and Nazrul songs, recitation and dance performed by expatriate and noted Bangladeshi artists.

The programme started with a

solo dance performed by expatriate artiste Subarna Khan. The New Jersey based artiste is a scientist in her professional life. She performed a dance with the patriotic song *Aji Bangladesh hridoy hoye*.

Noted Nazrul singer Khairul Anam Shakil rendered a ghazal -- *Nohey nohey priyo e nay ankhi jol, a kahyogiti -- Noyon bhora jol go tomar* and a folk song *Padmar dheure* and more.

Mahidul Islam recited Tagore's poem *Hoithat dekha* and excerpts from Kazi Nazrul Islam's *Abhishasan*.

Next to perform was Tagore singer Shama Rahman. She rendered *Mon-e ki didha rekhey geley choley, Je chhilo amar shaponocharini* and *Krisnokoli*.

Michigan based expatriate artiste Dr. Nawshen performed a solo dance.

The programme wrapped up

with a group dance performed by artistes of the cultural organisation Nityam. Directed by Tamanna Rahman, the dance was accompanied with the patriotic song *Khanjani*.

The Daily Star, the Prothom Alo and television channels ATN Bangla and Channel i are the media partners of the event. Shopper's World sponsored the cultural programme.

MAINUL HASSAN

On December 28 the band music aficionados in Dhaka were in for a treat at the 'Warid Caller Tunes Concert'. The event was jointly organised by Antar Showbiz and Warid Telecom and pulled in about 10,000 music lovers at the Kalabagan field.

The event brought together some of the big names in the band music scene on a single platform including Ayub Bachchu of LRB, James with his band Nagar Baul, Sumon with

his band Aurthobin, singer Hyder Husyn, Black and Fud Almuqtadir. Upcoming bands and artistes -- Mila, Tishma, Radio Active and Deshi MCs also performed at the event.

The event kicked off at 3:30 pm with the Drockstars runner-up band Radio Active on the stage. Radio Active opened their performance with *18 & Life*. Other songs presented by the band included *Shomoy, Rock you like a hurricane, Swadesh* and *Swapanokatha*.

A performance by Black fol-

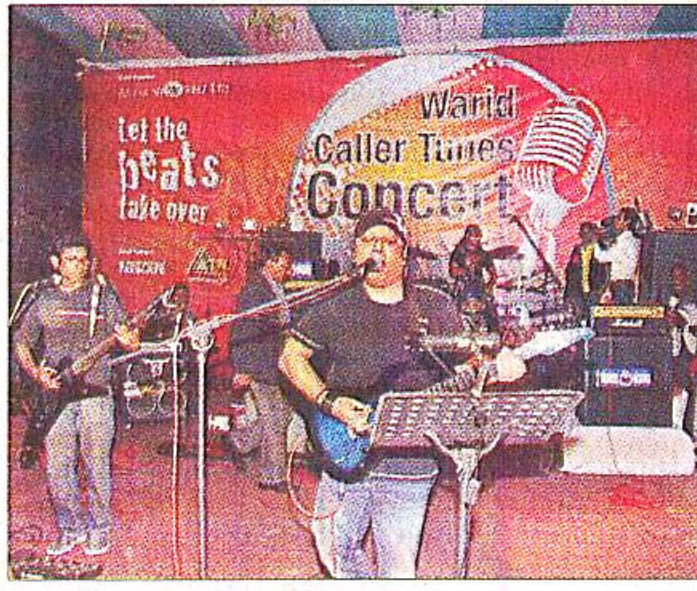
lowed. Black presented three songs -- *Amra, Obhiman* and *Blues & Roud*. That was followed by Mila and Deshi MCs.

Next was a joint performance by Sumon of Arthobin and Fud. This was their first ever live performance together -- with Sumon on the bass guitar and Fud on the keyboard. The duo presented four songs -- *Adhuti shei chheleti, Tomar jonno, Chaitai paro* and *Nitol paye*. James performed five songs -- *Dewanu deewana, Goponey priar kachhey, Mira Bai* and *Bheegi bheegi*. Next

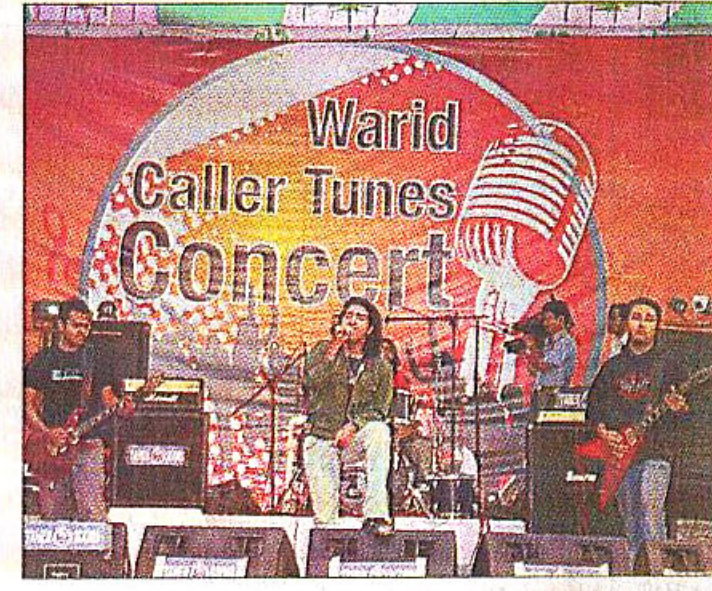
to perform was Tishma.

Hyder Husyn performed five songs -- *Mukhtijoddhara, Swadhinata, Mon kije chay bolo, Sari* and the famous *Ami phaisa gecchi*.

Last to perform was Ayub Bachchu with his band LRB. Bachchu opened his performance with the song *Dukhini dukkho korona*. Other songs presented by him included -- *Sporsho, Mehe, Mon chailay mon, Ural dibo akashey, Shei Tumi, Shob bhala tui ekai bashish ney* and *Bangladesh*.



Ayub Bachchu with his band LRB and Black perform at the event



Bengal Foundation launches

regular musical programme

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

As part of its efforts to promote traditional music, Bengal Foundation launched a new programme on December 28 at the Bengal Shilpalaya in Dhanmondi. Bengal Foundation announced that from now on it will arrange a three-day musical programme titled *Praner Khela* every month.

On the opening day renowned artiste Chandana Majumdar and two promising singers Shyamol Paul and Halima Parveen performed folk songs. Tonight Sharmin Sathi Islam and Mhiuzzaman Chowdhury will render songs and on the last day, on January 2, Aditi Mohsin and Bulbul Islam will perform at the programme. Each evening the

soiree starts at 7pm.

On December 28, Chandana Majumdar entertained the audience with songs including *Kobey shadur chorandhuli mor lagibey gaay, Koi holo mor machh dhora, Monchorarey kotha pai, Mayere bhajiley hoy tur baper thikana* and *Ami tomar kol-er gari*. The audience seemed engrossed in her songs.

Shaymol Paul performed a *bhawaiya* number and songs of Kanai Lal Sheel and Jasimuddin. Among the songs performed by Shaymol were *Ami kainda kainda hoilam shara, Amaye eto ratey kene dak dili, Jodi bondhu jabar chao*. Halima Parveen sang Bijoy Sarkar's *Amar moner dukkho*. All in all, the soiree was a treat for the urban music enthusiasts who crave for soulful rustic tunes.



Chandana Majumdar sings at the programme

PHOTO: STAR

Ferdous Ara's solo musical

soiree at Shilpakala



PHOTO: STAR

Ferdous Ara renders a song at the musical soiree

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) arranged a solo musical soiree featuring performances by renowned Nazrul singer Ferdous Ara at the National Theatre Stage on December 28. The soiree featured renditions of *bhawaiya*, patriotic tunes, songs of yesteryears and Nazrul sangit.

Ferdous Ara started the programme with the patriotic song *Oi je dekha jai re*. Next she performed several Nazrul songs including *Anjali loho mor, Amay nohey go, Kuhu kuhu koyelia*,

*Padmar dheure* and more.

The artiste also rendered *bhawaiya* songs *O ki o bondhu kajal bhamara* and songs of yesteryears -- *Banshi keno gaye, Kotha bolo na bolo* and others.

Before the musical programme a discussion was held at the venue. Comptroller and Auditor General, Asif Ali was the chief guest at the session. Director General of BSA, Kamrul Hassan nde presided over the programme. Among others, litterateur Abdus Shakur and Director of Music and Dance Centre of BSA, Sunil Chandra Das also spoke at the programme.

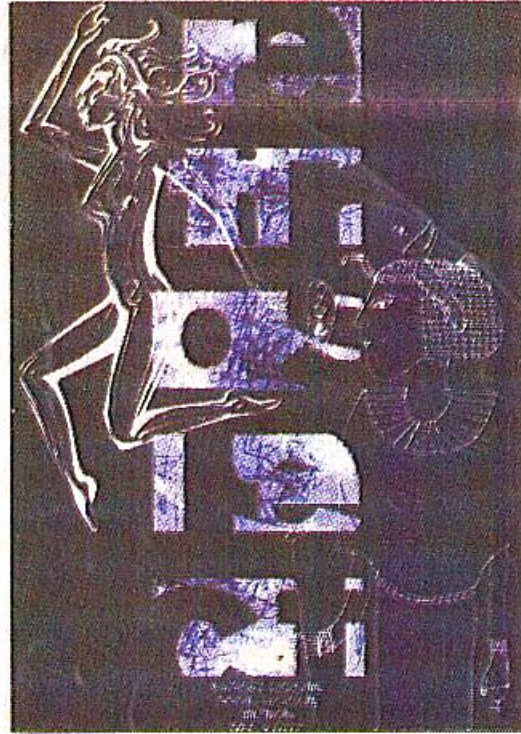
Merging prose and poetry with

paints

Shaoli and Adil's buoyant, undaunted artworks

FAYZA HAQ

Teen-aged, gold medal winner Adil Hoque, an autistic painter, has won the hearts of Dhaka art lovers years back with his repeated solos and joint ventures. Now, along with his elder sister Shaoli, here for a while from Oxford, Adil, with his vivid imagination and tales of Egyptian past, builds a world of dreams and recorded



A cover picture in the brochure of artworks by Adil Hoque and Shaoli Hoque

history. In them Tutenkhamun, Shakespeare and Shelley are well blended together in scintillating colours and moving images.

This time, at a recent exhibition at Shilpangan Gallery, Adil prefers to play the second fiddle, while his sister Shaoli -- with her rich treasure trove of mixed media, acrylic, prints and sketches -- is more in the limelight. This is although the superb images from the Egyptian past fill numerous rooms in the gallery, and delight the onlooker with flora and fauna as well as architectural feats of centuries back.

Shaoli, who hopes to be a dress designer some day, has an unusual repertoire in which several mediums come together, and where her western education has her socially and economically aware of poetry, philosophy, of global existence. She, like her brother, often juxtaposes the imagination with reality, facts with fiction, creating a kaleidoscope of colours and rhythmic lines that blend and flow into one another.

Using paints behind glass, wire meshes under silver metal sheets, seeing herself as an integral part of lines and cadences of poetry, Shaoli weaves a magic charm -- with iris flowers, dreamy nymph-like images. She now bombards the art-lovers' vision with a mix of myriad hues, and next lulls it to sleep with grays and whites. Well aware of her socio economic surrounding, whether in England or in Bangladesh, she hops over the confining bars of urban life, and brings in pleasant dreams simply taking photographs or sketching in Tibetan features.

Prose, poetry and drama cascade from her brush and pen. Indulging in various mediums, she keeps the viewers' attention span in her power -- by her seductive lines and her delving deep in shades of purple. No, hers is not a purple passage.

Equally lyrical, symbolic and flamboyant -- perhaps even more so -- 18 year-old Adil's acrylic works hark back to the past, with an eye for details. This is as well as a superb panoramic vision. Pyramids, obelisks, pillars, barges, chariots, gods, goddesses, slaves and reigning sovereigns walk into the gallery. They are seen with their entourage of horses, birds, animals and serpents. They appear like some reels from MGM Hollywood production of past history.

"Jolbalika"

goes to India

Padatik Natya Sangsad's popular production *Jolbalika* will be staged at the 'Joychandi Pahar' Tourism Festival, Purulia, West Bengal on January 1, 2008, says a press release. There will be two more shows of the play near Purulia on January 2 and 3. The last show will be staged in Kolkata on January 4, at Modhusudhan Mancho.

Masum Reza's play *Jolbalika* depicts the story of the village dwellers whose lives are interwoven with the river. The playwright also lashes out against the ills of rural society such as gender inequality. The question he raises is: Who is more important for a rural family -- a son or a daughter?

*Jolbalika* is directed by Shamsul Alam Bakul.



A still from Jolbalika

ON AIR

PICK OF THE DAY

Prothom Shokaal

On ATN Bangla at 09:20 pm

Drama Serial

Cast: Tony Dais, Nadia

X-Men: The Last Stand

On Star Movies at 07:00 pm

Genre: Action/Sci-fi

Cast: Hugh Jackman, Halle Berry

09:45 Public Reaction	09:50 Gramophone	11:05 Apollo Tele	11:30 Prescription	11:30 Hridoye Mail O	12:30 Citycell Taroka	01:05 Ebong Cinemar	01:30 Sa Re Ga Ma	02:40 Mega Serial: Prio	03:05 Chance 50-50	03:30 BBC Bangladesh	04:15 Hridoye Gaan	05:00 Swapneel Agami	06:30 South Asian	07:50 Mega Serial: Ghar	08:20 Drama Serial: Alok	08:40 Drama Serial: 420	09:35 Drama Serial: 420	10:00 Drama Serial: Ochoha	06:30 Desh Jurey	07:30 Nishikutum	08:30 Drama Serial: Chena Manusher	09:30 Ekusher Shomoy	10:30 Musical	01:30 Dhaliwood Beats	02:30 Bangla Feature	03:00 Film	06:00 Protidin	06:35 Tarzaan	08:00 Drama Serial: Modhyoberdi	08:40 Wide Angle	09:20 Drama Serial: Akash	11:30 News Watch	08:35 Shubho Shokal	09:05 Mini Series: Bager	09:30 Bangla Feature Film	01:00 Drama: Amader	02:30 Dosh Amader Gaan	02:30 Six Degrees	04:00 Neis	04:30 Boston Legal	05:30 Hollywood Shootout	06:00 Travel Asia	06:20 Brothers & Sisters	07:30 Country Music	08:30 Awards 2007	09:30 Desperate House	10:30 The Closer	11:30 J.A.G.	09:15 Sauna Bell	09:30 The Aztecs	10:30 The Byzanlines	11:30 A Scandal in	12:30 Eagles	01:30 1967 VW Beetle	02:30 The Other	03:30 Nostradamus	04:30 Werner Von Braun	04:30 Search for Life on	05:30 Mars	06:30 Alien Hunters	07:30 St. Peter	11:30 Alien Engineering #2	09:30 Peru Hidden	10:30 Rainforest	11:30 Gods & Goddesses	12:30 Masters & Madmen	02:30 The Face Of Genius	03:30 Desperate Dive	04:30 Washington D.C	05:00 Zoro, Suzy Q, Sven	05:30 Big Bang	06:00 Monk Seals	06:30 Panama Canal	07:30 The Living Edens	08:30 Dances of the Jinni	09:30 Nectar of Life	10:30 Hollywood Science	11:30 The Serpent
-----------------------	------------------	-------------------	--------------------	----------------------	-----------------------	---------------------	-------------------	-------------------------	--------------------	----------------------	--------------------	----------------------	-------------------	-------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------	-------------------------	----------------------------	------------------	------------------	------------------------------------	----------------------	---------------	-----------------------	----------------------	------------	----------------	---------------	---------------------------------	------------------	---------------------------	------------------	---------------------	--------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------	------------------------	-------------------	------------	--------------------	--------------------------	-------------------	--------------------------	---------------------	-------------------	-----------------------	------------------	--------------	------------------	------------------	----------------------	--------------------	--------------	----------------------	-----------------	-------------------	------------------------	--------------------------	------------	---------------------	-----------------	----------------------------	-------------------	------------------	------------------------	------------------------	--------------------------	----------------------	----------------------	--------------------------	----------------	------------------	--------------------	------------------------	---------------------------	----------------------	-------------------------	-------------------