

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Theatre

Play: Amputation
Troupe: Centre for Asian Theatre
Venue: National Theatre Hall, BSA
Date: October 11
Time: 7pm



Photography Exhibition

Title: Heresies
Photographer: Pedro Meyer (Mexico)
Venue: Drik Gallery, H 58, Rd 15A (New), Dhanmondi
Date: October 9-20
Time: 3pm-8pm
Inauguration: October 8 at 5pm



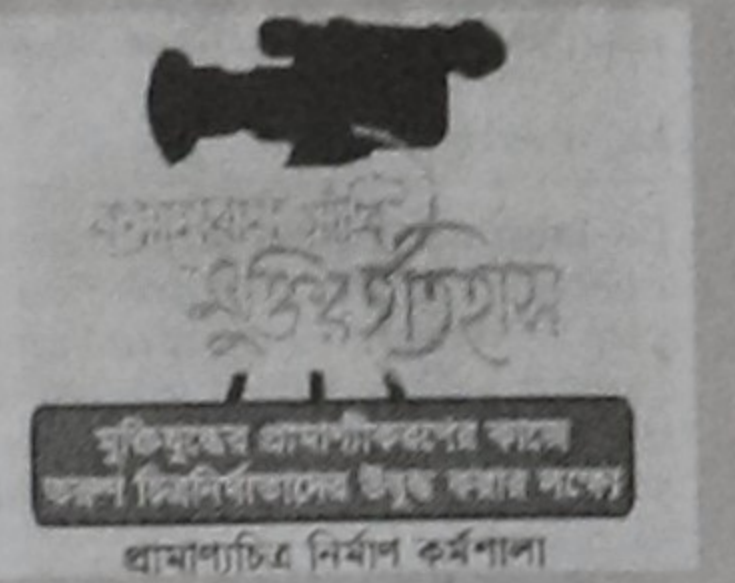
Film Screening

Films: "Unaditya" and "Balughori"
Director: Razibul Hossain
Venue: Shawkat Osman Auditorium, Central Public Library, Shahbag
Date: October 11
Time: 2pm onwards



Workshop

On documentary filmmaking
Organiser: Liberation War Museum
Inauguration: October 11
Time: 5pm



Remembering Hiralal Sen

A pioneering Bengali filmmaker

In the undivided Bengal as well as in the Indian sub-continent, Hiralal Sen (1866-1917) was the first ever filmmaker. Hiralal was a photographer as well. He is also credited with creating India's first advertising films and quite possibly India's first political film.

Hiralal Sen was born in the Bogjuri village, Manikganj, approximately 80 kms from Dhaka. His father, Chandromohan Sen, was a reputed lawyer, first at the Dhaka Zilla Court and later in the Calcutta High Court.

Although Hiralal was the scion of a zamindar family, he was passionate about science, photography in particular. Hiralal learnt a lot about art and culture from his cousin Dinesh Chandra Sen, who later became a renowned folklore researcher.

Hiralal grew up in Calcutta. While a student, he started practicing photography. In 1890, he inaugurated a photography studio named "H. L. Sen and Brothers". Within a short time, his expertise in photography gained much exposure in Calcutta.

In July 1896, the first film screening in India was held at the Watson Hotel in Bombay. Several days after that, a film screening took place in Calcutta. Two foreigners, Stevens and Father Lafo, led the way to screening films.

Stevens screened films commercially at the Star Theatre and Father Lafo screened films for students. Hiralal Sen enjoyed the films at the Star Theatre along with younger brother Motilal Sen. Later the siblings went to Stevens to learn more about films. But Stevens refused as he thought Hiralal might become his business rival.

A keen Hiralal learnt about films by reading journals and



newspapers. Then he borrowed Tk 5000 from his mother and bought necessary equipments for projection.

In 1898, Hiralal established "The Royal Bioscope Company" to screen films. Younger brothers - Motilal Sen and Devkial Sen - and nephew Kumar Shankar Gupta were along with him in the Bioscope Company. They arranged a first film screening on April 4, 1898.

Eventually Hiralal became a

filmmaker and distributor. In 1900, he imported necessary equipments for filmmaking. For this purpose he communicated with then renowned theatre activist Amarendranath Dutta. At that time Amarendranath was the owner of Classic Theatre. Hiralal took snaps of a Classic Theatre production, *Sitaram*, which made him the first ever-Bengali filmmaker.

Throughout his career, Hiralal Sen made over 40 films. Between 1900 and 1912, Hiralal made 12

feature films, ten docu-films and three advertisements.

Most of the films he made depicted scenes from theatrical productions played at Amarendranath Dutta's Classic Theatre. At that time raw film was imported into the country. Between 1901 and 1904, he produced many films for Classic Theatre including *Bhramar*, *Hariraj*, and *Buddhadev*. His longest film, produced in 1903, titled *Alibaba and the Forty Thieves*, was also based on an original Classic Theatre performance. However, not much is known about this feature film since it was never screened.

Hiralal also produced a number of advertising films. Having made two films advertising *Jabakusum Hair Oil* and *Edwards Tonic*, he may have been the first Indian to use film for advertising purposes.

His film documenting the anti-Partition demonstration and "Swadeshi" movement at the Town Hall, Calcutta on September 22, 1905 is considered India's first political film.

Royal Bioscope made its last film in 1913. Hiralal Sen's later years were marked with disappointment and economic hardship. Jamshedji Framji Madan of the Elphinstone Bioscope Company had long surpassed him in terms of success. Hiralal was also suffering from cancer. A few days before his death in October in 1917, a fire broke out destroying every film he ever made.

Not much is known about his family and children. It is believed that legendary Bengali actress Suchitra Sen is related to Hiralal's daughter Prabhabati Devi.

Compiled by Cultural Correspondent

Palin may appear on "Saturday Night Live"

AP, New York

It seems like the inevitable comedic summit of this fall's US presidential campaign: the real Sarah Palin coming on "Saturday Night Live" to meet her look-alike impersonator, Tina Fey.

"All in good time," said a cagey Lorne Michaels, long-time executive producer of NBC's "Saturday Night Live," which has been rejuvenated this fall by Fey's three skits as the Republican vice presidential candidate.

Michaels said on Wednesday he wasn't actively seeking Palin, but that the McCain campaign called after the first skit, when Fey's Palin appeared with Amy Poehler's Hillary Clinton on the show's September 13 season premiere, to say they enjoyed it.

"Saturday Night Live" has a long history of political walk-ons. Michaels prefers keeping this sort of news a surprise until it happens, an opinion reinforced when word leaked that Barack Obama would be on that same show and the Democratic presidential candidate had to cancel at the last minute. "I think we looked stupid," he said.

There are three more first-run "Saturday Night Live" episodes before the election. Palin told reporters last Tuesday she'd love to appear on the show with Fey.

"I love her, she's a hoot and she's so talented," Palin said. "It would be fun to meet her, imitate her and keep on giving her new material."

From the moment Palin was selected as John McCain's running mate, Michaels said he barely had time to consider the idea of Fey impersonating her. Others did it for him.

"The next day the doorman in my building said, 'What a gift, you're going to have so much fun with Tina Fey,'" he said.

Fey needed some convincing, primarily because she was busy with her Emmy Award-winning role as harried late-night show producer on "30 Rock." The day of "SNL's" season premiere, she was shooting an episode of "30 Rock" with Oprah Winfrey as guest.

"There are certainly people here who could have played her and played her well," Michaels said. "But the audience would have been disappointed if it had not been Tina. They cast her."

During that first impersonation, Fey got laughs simply by nailing Palin's accent. She described global warming as "just God hugging



Tina Fey (left) portrays Sarah Palin during an SNL skit. (Right) Palin waves to the crowd.



us closer."

Michaels knew he wanted Fey back for the October 4 show, two days after the vice presidential debate. But Palin's interview with CBS' Katie Couric was so priceless, they had to write a sketch around that, he said.

In one answer to a question by Couric, played by Poehler, Fey gives a circular response of campaign clichés that reaches a dead end. Asked for specifics on how a McCain administration would spread democracy, Fey's Palin said, "Katie, I'd like to use one of my lifelines."

Through the first three weeks of the season, "Saturday Night Live" has averaged 8.3 million viewers, or 49 percent more than last year, according to Nielsen Media Research. The skits have also drawn tremendous Web traffic, with 9.3 million people watching an online clip of the "Clinton-Palin" segment. The "Couric interview" has been seen by nearly 7 million people, NBC said.

Fey has been off "Saturday Night Live" for two years, but was the guest host last winter in the first show back from the writers strike,

where she made a vivid defence of Hillary Clinton.

While the comic impersonation is tough, Fey's character is likable, much like Will Ferrell was in his days talking about "strategy" as George W. Bush, he said.

Richard Greene, a public speaking coach and author of "Words That Shook the World: 100 Years of Unforgettable Speeches and Events," said if he were a Democratic official, he'd be pulling any favour he could to keep Palin off "Saturday Night Live."

"She is so charming and so media savvy," Greene said. "When she has a script, she will completely seduce America."

Michaels is enjoying the ride, letting Fey know that she only has to impersonate Palin through November 4.

But what if she is elected the next vice president?

"I think we'll find somebody else to play Sarah Palin," he said. "I don't think she's going to be playing Sarah Palin for the rest of her life."



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

On Air

BTV

08:15 Shuprobhat
08:40 Bishwa Bichitra
08:50 Cricket Match
09:05 Sisimur
09:30 Bangla Feature Film
09:30 Wrestling
09:35 Drama Serial: Shangshaptaak
09:40 Drama
10:30 Tarana
11:00 Shur Torongo

ATN BANGLA

08:15 Aiker Shanbadpotro
08:30 Nupur-er Chhondey
09:15 Drama Serial: Amader Nurul Huda
10:30 Talk Show: Onyodrishti
11:15 Top Spin
12:15 Shesh Okhkor
01:30 Prapok
02:40 Bangla Feature Film
05:30 Char Deyal-er Kabyo
06:25 Health Show
08:00 Drama Serial: Sagai
08:40 Drama Serial: Chor Kuthuri
09:20 Drama Serial: Ek Jonomey
11:30 Daily Soap: Doll's House
12:00 Grameenphone Lead News

Channel- i

08:30 Shokaal-er Gaan
09:30 Shangbadpotro Bangladesh
09:45 Public Reaction
09:50 Grameen Phone Tritomatra
11:05 Amader Aaina
12:30 Citycell Taroka Katha
01:05 Musical Programme: Ebong Cinemar Gaan
01:30 Shobaar Jonyo Shoroboshesh Bigyan Dharona
02:30 Musical Programme: Hridoyer Gaan

04:30 Sholyer Shondhaney
05:25 Muktiudho Protidin
06:25 Rupantor
07:50 Mega Serial: Ghar Kutum
08:20 Drama Serial: Shagotom Bhalobasha
09:35 Hridoyer Mali O Manush
10:00 Drama Serial: Shongshar
11:30 Mega Serial: 69
12:00 Grameenphone Aiker Shangbadpotro

ETV

08:30 Ekush-er Shokal
09:30 Drama Serial: Aziz Market, Shahbag, Dhaka 1000
10:02 Deho Ghoru Jurey

10:10 Explosive
11:40 El Shopta
12:00 Ekush-er Raal

ntv

08:30 Aiker Shokal
08:55 Bangla Feature Film
12:10 Talk Show: El Shomoy
01:05 Cartoon
02:30 Drama Serial: House Full
03:20 Close Up 1 2008
04:25 Golpo Kathar Natok
05:25 Alok Paat
06:15 Shubho Shondha
06:45 Joto Modhur Bhulguli
08:15 Drama Serial: Aim In Life

11:00 Taroka Alap
11:30 Fashion Show
12:35 Bomey Bomey Rochito
01:05 Protidin
02:30 Bangla Feature Film
05:20 Net Fun
06:00 Protidin
06:30 El Amar Bangladesh
08:00 Street Show
08:30 R Music
09:40 Drama Serial: Apon Ghorey Porobash
11:30 Drama Serial: Dohon
BANGLAVISION
08:30 Praner Gaan
09:00 Cinebit Shadakalo

06:50 Shamol Bangla
08:25 Drama Serial: Nogirey Nagonk
09:05 Amar Ami
09:45 Drama Serial: Swapno Chura
11:25 Law Chamber
12:00 Shangbad Protidin
CHANNEL 1
10:30 Drama: Out of Network
02:00 Aaina Ghar
03:30 Drama: Bondhu O Bhalobasha
04:00 Selected Programme
04:30 Music One
05:15 Selected Programme
07:00 Shomoyer Swad
08:15 Drama Serial: Duroto Pathik
09:00 Gaan-er Khata

04:45 Grendel
06:30 Hollywood One On One 10
07:00 Dreamcatcher
09:30 Superman Returns
ZEE STUDIO
11:00 Problem Child 2
01:00 Tuck Everlasting
03:00 Remember The Titans
05:30 The Hitchhikers Guide To The Galaxy
08:00 The Hollywood Reporter - Org
08:30 Lords Of Dogtown
11:00 Heat & Dust
STAR MOVIES
08:55 Hocus Pocus

Vip Access: Eagle Eye

STAR WORLD

08:30 Beauty And The Geek
09:30 How I Met Your Mother
10:00 Samantha Who?
10:30 Jimmy Kimmel Live
11:30 Are U Smarter Than 5th Grader
12:30 Blood Ties
01:30 The Unit
02:30 Beauty And The Geek
03:30 Last Comic Standing
04:30 Nois
05:30 Most Daring
06:30 Jimmy Kimmel Live
07:30 Smallville
08:30 Prison Break
09:30 Bones
10:30 Criminal Minds
11:30 Most Daring
12:30 Nois

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

CHANNEL

08:30 Odyssey In Western Oz
09:00 Snake Savior
09:30 NG's Amazing Moments
10:30 Telemall- Sauna Belt
11:30 Inside The Forbidden City
12:30 Taboo S4
01:30 Search for the Supersnake
02:30 Inside The Forbidden City
03:30 Preserve Our Planet
04:30 Street Monkeys
05:30 Ultimate Vipers
06:30 Rough Trades
07:30 Street Monkeys
08:30 Crocodiles Under The Skin
09:30 Naked Science
10:30 Food Lovers Guide To The Planet
11:30 Hidden Worlds
12:30 Street Monkeys

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

09:00 Creative Vision
09:30 Ancient China
11:30 Grace Kelly
01:30 Environmental Tech II
02:30 Biography
03:30 Human Weapon
04:30 9/11 Hijackers
05:30 Al Gore
06:30 Jekyll & Hyde
08:30 Longitude
11:00 Karan Johar
11:30 Enzo Ferrar
12:30 Jacqueline Kennedy



Chor Kuthuri
On ATN Bagla at 8:40 pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Zahid Hassan, Kushum Shikdar

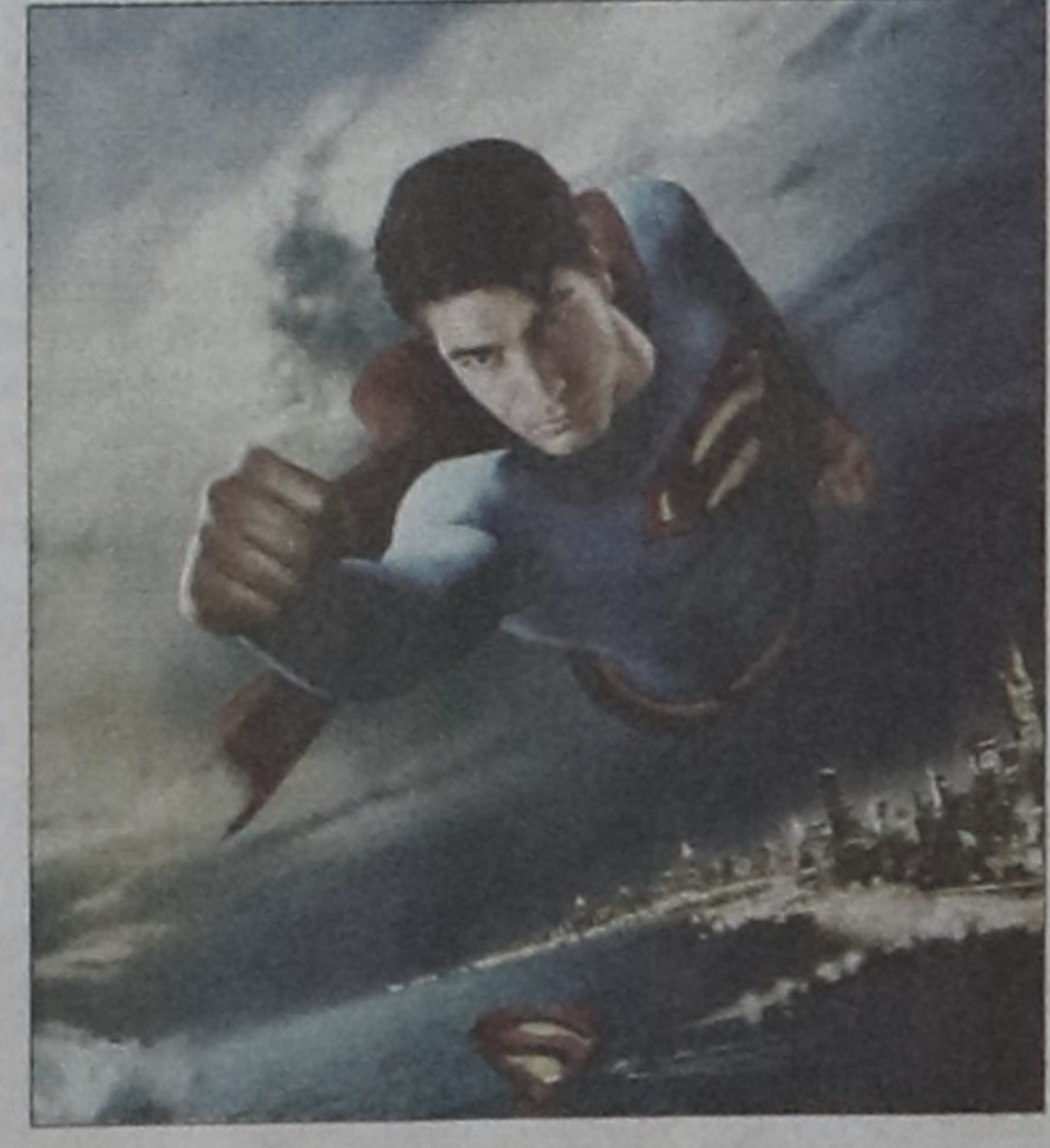


Radio Foorti 88.0 FM

07:00am Hello Dhaka
11:00am Amar 88
03:00pm Dhaka Calling
07:00pm Celebrity on the hot seat
10:00pm Back to Back Music

Radio Today 89.6 FM

07:15am Good Morning Dhaka
11:00am Masti Unlimited
01:00pm Saturday World Music
04:00pm U-turn
08:00pm Top of The Week
11:00pm Raat Vor Gan
2:00 am Back to Back



Superman Returns
On HBO at 9:30 pm
Genre: Action/Sci-fi
Cast: Brandon Routh, Kate Bosworth, Kevin Spacey

10:50 Financial Bulletin
12:30 Bhoboghurey Dot Com
01:20 Talk Show: Aaina Ghar
02:10 Bangla Feature Film
05:30 Sports Plus
06:30 Desh Jurey Oporadh Porikroma
07:50 Dhum Ta Na
09:30 Drama Serial: Aziz Market

09:30 Drama: Bishwas Ebong Onnanyo
11:35 Talk Show: El Shomoy
Rtv
08:40 Net Fun
09:30 Drama: Brishti Tomake Dilam
09:30 Musical Programme: R Music

09:30 Bangla Feature Film
02:00 Media Bhubon
02:30 Drama Serial: Mondo Bhala Shadakalo
03:05 Drama Serial: Gulshan Avenue
04:20 Sports Vision
05:15 Street Show: Raat Biraatey
06:20 Amader Otithi

09:30 Selected Programme
HBO
08:35 Chameleon II: Death Match
10:30 Wild Wild West
12:45 Save The Last Dance 2
Stepping Up
02:30 Red Planet

10:35 Sharpshooter
12:05 Behind Enemy Lines
01:55 Because I Said So
03:35 Next
05:15 Eragon
07:00 Tmnt
08:35 Tremors
10:15 Deja Vu