

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

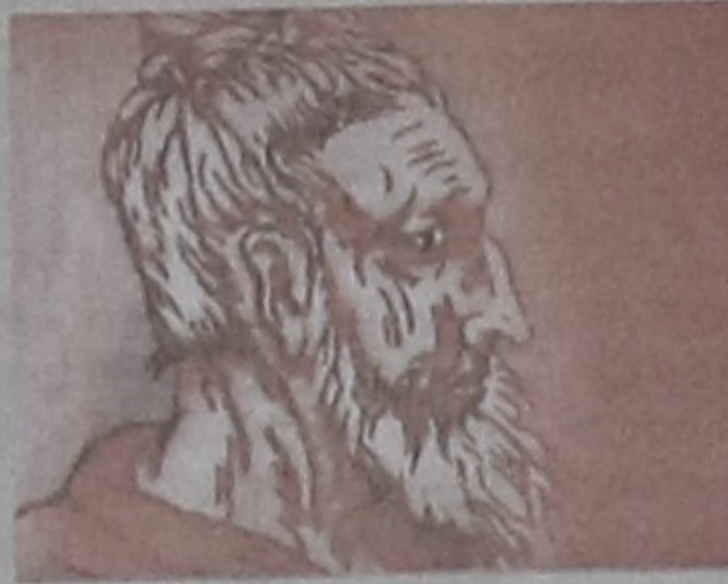
Solo Art Exhibition

Artist: Abdur Razzaque
Title: Rhythms of Figures, Forms and Nature
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, H. 275/F, Rd 27 (old), Dhanmondi
Date: October 10-29
Time: 12pm-8pm



Lalon Death Anniversary

Organiser: Lalon Academy, Kushtia
Venue: Lalon Academy premises, Chheuria, Kushtia
Date: October 16-18
Time: 7pm everyday



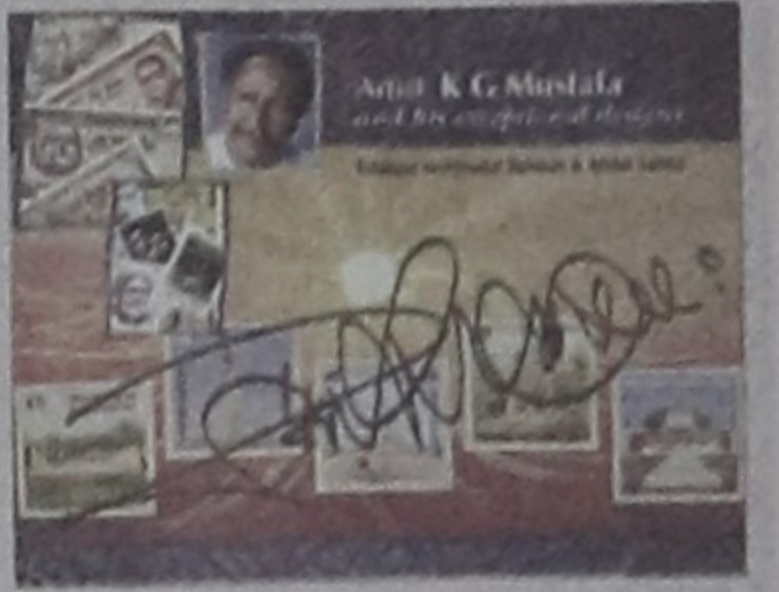
Solo Painting Exhibition

Title: Beauty of Nature
Artist: Kantideb Adhikari
Venue: Zainul Gallery, Faculty of Fine Arts, DU
Date: October 17-22
Time: 10am-8pm



Publication Ceremony

Title: Artist K G Mustafa and his exceptional designs
Organiser: Theme-O-Graph
Venue: CIRDP Auditorium, 17, Topkhana Road
Date: October 21
Time: 5pm



Concert celebrating Warfaze's 25th anniversary

A reunion of former members



Performances by former members of Warfaze were major attractions at the concert.

PHOTO: MUMIT M.



ERSHAD KAMOL

It was a treat for the metal and alternative music fans. The pioneering metal band of the country Warfaze performed their popular songs back-to-back at a concert titled "Union concert of Warfaze". The concert was organised on October 15 at the Winter Garden of Hotel Sheraton to observe the 25th anniversary of the band.

Warfaze was formed in early 1984 by a group of young talents with the view to present metal and alternative rocks featuring unique music and lyric.

The main attraction at the concert was performances by former Warfaze members who do not perform with the band any longer for personal reasons.

After 10 years the former lineup of Warfaze appeared together on the stage.

The concert began with a



performance by the current lineup: Mizan as vocalist, Kamal and Oni on guitars, Shams on the keyboard, Tipu on drums and Roger on the bass guitar.

The band performed their popular metal numbers such as *Hotasha*, *Bewarish*, *Jibondhara*, *Alo* and *Maharaj*. The renditions were cheered on by the audience.

After five songs, Balam replaced Mizan, but the singer was not received warmly by the

audience. Balam rendered *Jato durey* and *Shamay*.

Famed rock star Sumon appeared on the stage next. Sumon was the bassist and vocalist for Warfaze for a while and still maintains a close relationship with the band, though he has his own band (Aurthoheen) at present.

Sumon presented the hit song *Pratichhobi* and played with the band during several other songs till the end.

Former keyboardist-guitarist of Warfaze, Russell, who at present plays with a US band, took the stage amidst applause. With Russell, the band had three guitarists displaying a more aggressive, hard-hitting style. Russell was on the guitar and played the keyboard with the song *Abak bhalobasha*.

A highlight was an instrumental piece in which Tipu was replaced by guest drummer Nadim. Kamal, Russell and Oni played furious riffs in fast tempo which seemed to move the audience. "Bass Baba" Suman also displayed his superior skills on the instrument.

Former vocalist-composer-bassist Babna, who lives in US at present, was another attraction at the concert. Babna rendered three popular songs of the band - *Brishti nemechey*, *jokhon* and *Obak bhalobasha*.

But the main attraction at the concert was perhaps performances by the once leading metal vocalist of the country, Sunjoy, whose vocals changed the rock music scenario of Bangladesh in the early 1990s.

This was Sunjoy's first performance in ten years. The singer performed seven popular songs of Warfaze and British band Deep Purple's popular number *Highway Star*.

Fans of Sunjoy swayed in awe as the vocalist sang mega-popular songs including *Shadhikar*, *Boshey achihi*, *Jibon amar* and *Mon-e-porey*.

The last song at the concert was the band's anthem, *Ekti chhele*. All current and former members of the band played together in the song.

Rock star Maksud congratulated the band at the concert.

However, problems regarding the sound setting towards the beginning of the concert, which continued for quite a while, was frustrating.

"Celebrating Life '08" grand finale to be aired on Channel i



The group dance performance at the "Celebrating Life '08" grand finale.

PHOTO: STAR

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

The film, photography and lyrics contest "Celebrating Life '08" organised by Standard Chartered and *The Daily Star* generated an amazing response from all corners of the country. The gala finale took place on October 18 at 3:05 pm in the Bangladesh Friendship Centre. Chief Advisor Dr. Fakhruddin Ahmed was present at the event that featured performances by Subir Nandi, Samina Chowdhury, Fahmida Nabi, Shafin

Ahmed, Sayed Hasan Tipu and Mashiur Rahman Rinku.

The event also included a photo exhibition featuring selected entries. Noted artistes performed songs based on the award-winning lyrics.

The event well attended by around 2,000 guests, will be aired on Channel i on October 18 at 3:05 pm.

The "Celebrating Life" contest will be travelling to 12 districts of the country. Selected photographs and four winning films will be showcased along with songs fea-

ture the award-winning lyrics performed by renowned singers.

The aim of the contest was to promote young, aspiring talents who can take our culture and arts to a positive direction. The contest will be back next year with the same, if not more, gusto.

Highlights of the grand finale were a dance piece "Celebrating Nature", choreographed jointly by Munmun Ahmed, Minu Haque, Kobirul Islam Ratan, Dipa Khandaker and songs "Cry", "Bangladesh o Bangladesh" and "Ki ghor bandoo ami."

"Antoraley" on Rtv

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

As part of Rtv's weekly drama, single-episode play *Antoraley* will be aired tonight at 9:00 pm. Jointly written by Eraz Ahmed and Russell O'Neil, the play is directed by Ashrafur Alam Ripon.

The play starts with Toa, who lives on her own. One night, her drunken husband Sabbir, from whom she has separated, shows up at her place. A violent argument ensues between the two and in a moment of fury, Toa hits Sabbir. After Sabbir becomes unconscious, Toa calls up her boyfriend Asif for help. According to Asif's suggestion, Toa attempts to dispose her nearly dead husband's body. However,



A scene from the play.

when senses dawn on her, she realises that Asif has taken her for a ride.

Shahriar Nazim Joy, Srabanti and Shams Sumon play the lead roles.

"Gangkhachhimee" observed in CHT

Buddhists release some thousand fanush in the sky

JASIM MAJUMDER, Khagrachhari

Devotees of Buddha observed the *Gangkhachhimee* festival at several locales in the Chittagong Hill Tract (CHT).

Gangkhachhimee, a Marma word means 'light of the sky'. Interestingly, Buddhists observe this festival by releasing some thousand balloons (locally known as *fanush*) in the sky.

Some dedicated Buddhist leaders said they release the balloons as a symbol of the sorrows, pain, sins and sufferings that are inevitable for human beings. These go a long way in making society more compassionate and creating a peaceful environment more tranquil for people, they said.

Inside the *fanush* is a candle. Once again the candle



Fanush of different sizes were release in the air by devotees.

PHOTO: STAR

epitomises the sufferings of humankind. The *fanush* is also believed to enhance the knowledge of Buddhists and is

a step towards enlightenment. The devotees of Buddha observe *Gangkhachhimee* on all *punima* (full moon) nights,

including *Buddha Punima*, *Maghi Punima*, *Bashakhi Punima* and *Pravarana Punima*, they said.

Bon Jovi complains over Republican rally song

REUTERS, Los Angeles

Rocker and Democratic supporter Jon Bon Jovi on Wednesday became the latest musician to complain about Republican John McCain's presidential campaign using songs without the artistes' approval.

Bon Jovi, who threw a \$30,000-per-person, fund-raising dinner for Democrat Barack Obama at his New Jersey home in September, said he was surprised to hear that his band's song "Who Says You Can't Go Home" was used during rallies held by Republican vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin this week.

"We wrote this song as a thank you to those who have supported us over the past 25 years. The song has since become a banner for our home state of New Jersey and the de facto theme song for our partnerships around the country to build homes and rebuild communities."

"Although we were not asked, we do not approve of their use of 'Home,'" Bon Jovi



Bon Jovi

said in a statement.

The rock group Heart sent a cease and desist letter to the Republican campaign in September asking them not to use the

song "Barracuda." The song was the early unofficial theme song for Palin, playing off the "Sarah Barracuda" nickname the Alaska governor earned on the basket-

ball court in high school.

In August, rocker Jackson Browne sued McCain, the Republican National Committee and the Ohio Republican Party, accusing them of using his 1977 hit "Running on Empty" in a campaign ad without permission.

Musicians often have little control over how their music is used because of the system that licenses songs for public performance under a blanket fee paid by venues to ASCAP, the firm that collects royalties on behalf of composers and copyright owners.

The Heart song "Barracuda" and Bon Jovi's "Who Says You Can't Go Home" are both licensed for public performance on the ASCAP site.

Stevie Wonder, Kanye West, Sheryl Crow and other musicians last month released an album of songs that have been used at Obama rallies. Called "Yes We Can: Voices of a Grassroots Movement," the album is being sold to raise money for Democrats before the November 4 election.