

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Centenary of Khudiram's execution

Organiser: Bangladesh Liberation War Museum
Venue: Bangladesh Liberation War Museum premises
Date: November 27, Time: 4pm onward



Solo Painting Exhibition

Title: Walking the Painted Flute
Artist: Sunil Kumar
Venue: Alliance Francaise, 26, Mirpur Road, Dharamondi
Date: Nov 21-Dec 4
Time: 9am-12pm and 5-8pm (Saturdays 5-8pm)



Experimental Theatre Festival

Organiser: Palakar
Venue: Palakar Studio, 133, Nalok Swarni
Date: November 21-30
Time: 6:30pm everyday
Today: Dakghar (Palakar)



Punk Rock Concert

Organiser: Echoes Production House
Troupes: Nulltarif (Germany) and Black (Bangladesh)
Venue: Goethe-Institut Bangladesh, H 10, Rd 9, Dharamondi
Date: November 24, Time: 6:30 pm



Palakar's theatre fest in full gear

Bhelua Sundari and Daak Ghar staged

NADIA SARWAT

At the ten-day studio theatre festival by the troupe Palakar, mostly experimental plays are being staged. The festival, beginning on November 21 at Palakar's theatre studio on Nalok Shoroni, celebrates five years of the troupe's studio theatre performances. Within a limited space and with a professional approach, Palakar has been staging plays every Thursday and Friday at its studio.

Nine groups from Dhaka and other districts including Centre For Asian Theatre (CAT), Manipuri Theatre of Maulavi Bazar, Space and Acting Research Centre and Department of Music and Drama, DU are participating.

"We consider it a great success to be able to continue with our initiative for the last five years. We have invited troupes at this festival who have, despite all their limitations, produced some outstanding experimental plays," said



A scene from Palakar's production "Daakghar"

Monirul Islam's exhibition at Bengal begins today

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

To art enthusiasts, internationally acclaimed Bangladeshi artist Monirul Islam does not need an introduction. He has been living in Madrid since 1969 and is known as one of the pioneering artists of the 1960s. Apart from printmaking, Monir is also renowned for his watercolours and mixed media works.

Monir's solo art exhibition on Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts begins today. On the occasion a press conference was held at Bengal yesterday. The artist, Luva Nahid Chowdhury (managing director of Bengal Foundation) and Sarwar Jahan (assistant manager of Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts) spoke at the conference.

Justice Muhammad Habibur Rahman has consented to inaugurate the exhibition. Eminent artist Professor Emeritus Mohammad Kibria and Arturo Perez Martinez, the Spanish Ambassador will be present as special guests.



(From left) Sarwar Jahan, Monirul Islam and Luva Nahid Chowdhury at the press conference

Rafiquzzaman and Shakila on "Gaanalap"

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Music based programme "Gaanalap" will be aired tonight on Banglavisian at 9:05 pm. Produced by Nahid Ahmed Biplab, the show is hosted by noted singer/musician Nakib Khan.

Tonight's episode features

eminent lyricist Mohammad Rafiquzzaman and artiste Shakila Zafar as guests. Shakila will sing some of her popular songs written by Rafiquzzaman. The guests will also share their memories and thoughts regarding the songs and the time when they were written/ recorded.



Rafiquzzaman (left) and Nakib Khan in tonight's episode

"Rajneeti O Shushashon-e Nari" on ATN Bangla



S.M. Shamim Reza (centre) anchors the show

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Second episode of the TV show titled "Rajneeti O Shushashon-e Nari" (Women in Politics and Good Governance) will be aired this evening at 6:20 pm on ATN Bangla. Anchored by S.M. Shamim Reza, the programme focuses on women's role in politics, leading to good

governance in Bangladesh. Tonight's episode includes a discussion on the reserved seats for women in the parliament, woman's position within the political parties, significance of women's participation in politics in general etc. The show is directed by Sabina Bari Lucky and produced by Fuad Chowdhury.



Actors of Centre for Asian Theatre in the play "Bhelua Sundari"

Shahriar Khan, convenor of the festival committee.

On the second day of the festival, CAT staged their much-acclaimed production "Bhelua Sundari." Directed by Saidur Rahman Lipon, the play is based on a ballad from "Mynensingh Geetika." Kamaluddin Nilu is the directorial advisor of this experimental play.

A musical which is presumed to have originated in 16th century East Bengal (included in an early 20th century collection of ballads known as "Purbo-Bango Geetika"), "Bhelua Sundari" is a tragic love story. Performed in a style similar to that of 'pala gaan', the play narrates the eternal love between Bhelua and Amir Saudagar. In death, Bhelua becomes immortal and Amir embraces the life of a mystic baul.

The cast of the play included Shahadat Hossain, Sabina Sultana, Mezbaul Karim, Rahmatullah Basu, Mohammad Rafi, Raihan Akhter and Abul Kalam Azad. Shafiqur Rahman Bipul, Biplab Sarker and Ahsan Reza Khan were on 'dhol,' harmonium and flute respectively.

Poet Mohammad Rafiq was the chief guest at the second day's programme. Rafiq conferred the festival souvenir on the general secretary of CAT.

Palakar's production "Daakghar" was staged on the third day of the festival. Directed by Shamim Sagar, the play is an experimental adaptation of a short story (with the same title) by Rabindranath Tagore. In the play, Amol, the protagonist is not an adolescent boy as mentioned in the original story, but rather a young girl who dreams of spiritual liberation.

"Gidaler Akhra", a theatre troupe from Gaibandha will stage their play "Madhumala Madankumar" today at 6:30 pm at the festival. The festival is dedicated to the memory of poet, playwright Professor Zia Hyder.



Artistes of Bangladesh Rabindra Sangeet Shilpi Sangstha (BRSSS) organised a musical soiree at Dance and Music Centre, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) on November 22. The programme titled "Srotar Ashor" featured renditions of Rabindra Sangeet by members of the organisation including Abdul Wadud, Saida Hossain Pappi, Ranjit Roy, S.M. Khalid and others.

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