

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Dance Recital
Swapan and Suchita Majumdar
Jari of Netrokona and Chhau Nityo
Organiser: Bangladesh Shilpkala Academy
Venue: National Theatre
Stage
Date: June 15, Time: 7pm



Exhibition
Title: Sound of Weaving
Organiser: Anjans
Venue: Nalinikanta Bhattacharya
Bhattacharya
National Museum
Date: June 8-16



Barsha Utsab
Organiser: Satyen Sen Shilpi Sanghata
Venue: Hakim Chattar, Central Library
premise, Dhaka
University
Date: June 15
Time: 7am onwards



Theatre
Play: Rashadhar Sudhagar er Rajyo
Troup: Bangaranga
Natyadal
Venue: Mahila Samiti Auditorium
Date: June 16
Time: 7pm



Ushering in monsoon

Songs of Tagore at Shilpkala Academy

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Dakkhini Rabindra-sangeetangan, a cultural organisation of Tagore singers, organised a musical soiree ushering in the Bengali season 'Barsha' (monsoon). Noted Tagore artistes Fahim Hossain Chowdhury, Lily Islam, Chanchal Khan and Rokaiya Hasina presented Tagore songs that eulogise monsoon with the themes of love, passion, separation, longing and frustration, fired up by the season.

The event, titled "Gogoney Gogoney Apnar Mon-e," was held at the Music and Dance Auditorium of Bangladesh Shilpkala Academy on June 13. Fahim Hossain Chowdhury welcomed the audience. The first performance of the evening was a chorus rendition by all four artistes. The song was "Esho shyamoloshundaro."

Lily Islam was the first to perform solo. She started with "Abar esechhey Ashad akash chhaye." She also presented songs "Gahono ghanao



Clockwise (from top-left): Fahim Hossain Chowdhury, Lily Islam, Chanchal Khan and Rokaiya Hasina perform at the programme.

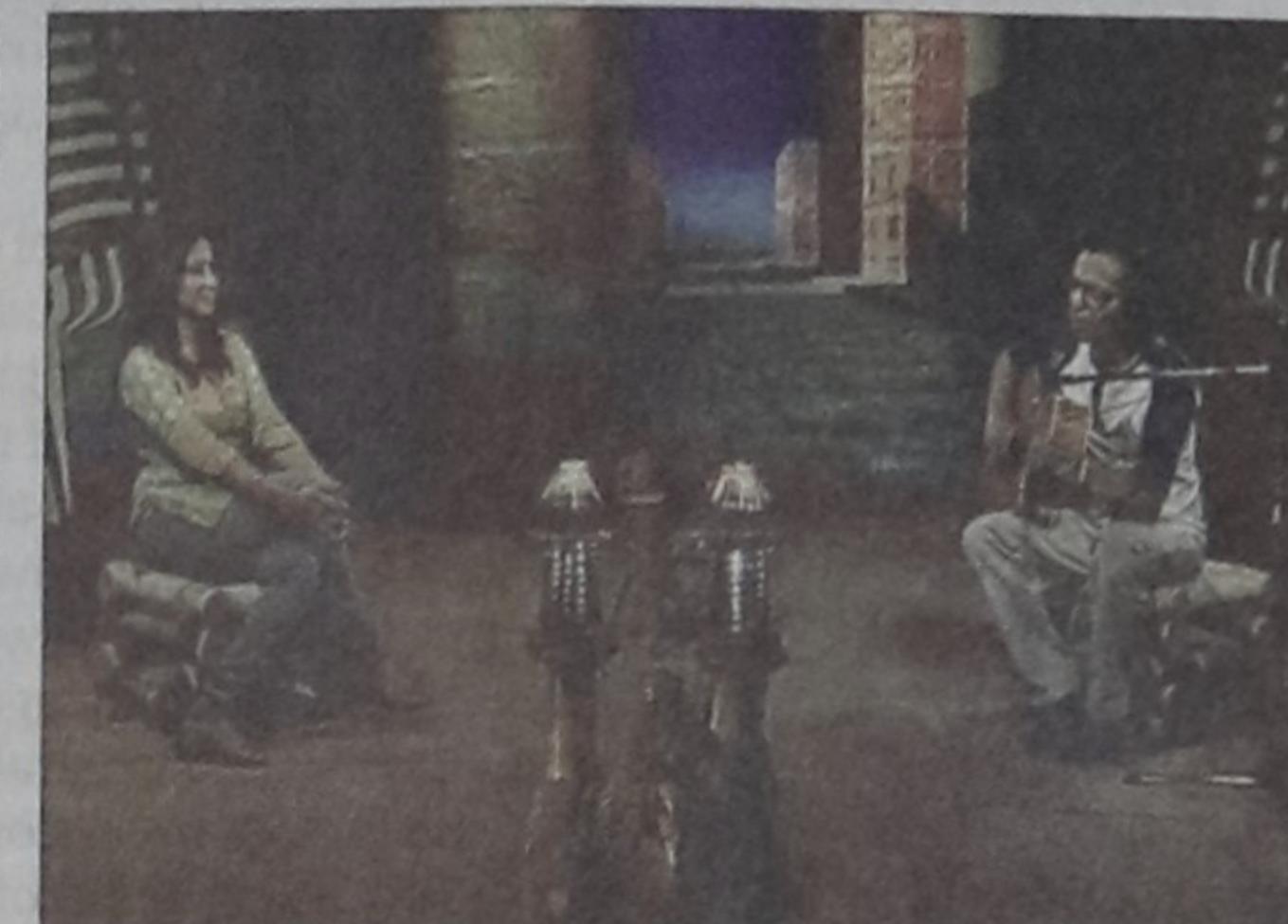
chhailo," "Bajro manik diey gantha" and more, expressing the varying beauty of the season.

Chanchal Khan performed a song that has become deeply integrated with the image of a rainy day to Bengalis, "Badoloi din-er prothom kadom phool." His performance also included "Chhaya ghonaichhey bon-e, bon-e," and "Aaj saborer amontroney." The artiste will have his next album "Amar E Poth" launched this month.

Next was a duet by Rokaiya Hasina and Chanchal Khan, "Oi malotilata doley." Rokaiya Hasina then performed solo: "Megher porey meghe jomechhey," "Utal dhara badal jhorey," "Shaono gaganey" and more.

Another duet was by Fahim Hossain Chowdhury and Lily Islam. Fahim Hossain Chowdhury, president of Dakkhini Rabindra-sangeetangan was the last performer at the event. The auditorium was packed with music enthusiasts till the end.

Bappa Majumder on ntv tonight



Bappa Majumder with host of the show, Farah Ruma (left).

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Popular singer-musician and leader of the band Dolchhut, Bappa Majumder, is the guest on tonight's "Amar Gaitey Ichchhoy Holo," a musical show on ntv.

Bappa will perform some of his familiar songs, and share personal experiences and future plans with the TV audience.

"Amar Gaitey Ichchhoy Holo" is hosted by Farah Ruma and aired every Monday at 9 pm. The programme aims at providing the audience with an insight into the lives of artistes.

Shashee: Impressive histrionics, emerging star

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Law student Sharmi Zoha Shashee from Rangpur, a new face in the media, has conquered many a heart with her impressive acting skills.

Starting up as numero uno in the Lux Anandadhara Photoshondori contest in 2003, she later bagged the female lead in Suchanda's film "Hajar Bochhor Dhorey." She has also acted in plays "Haimanti," directed by Kaonain Shourav and "Ekjon Porshi Ebong Otohpor," directed by Tonmoy Tansen, apart from many others.

Shashee has been playing the role of Samia in the popular daily soap "Gulshan Avenue," directed by Nima Rahman – a role that made her a public figure. In her words, "I feel elated when people recognise me. Most of my fans do not know my actual name but they identify me as Samia. It's gratifying when you can lose yourself in a character." Even little ones, she says, can place

Hundreds honour David Carradine at funeral

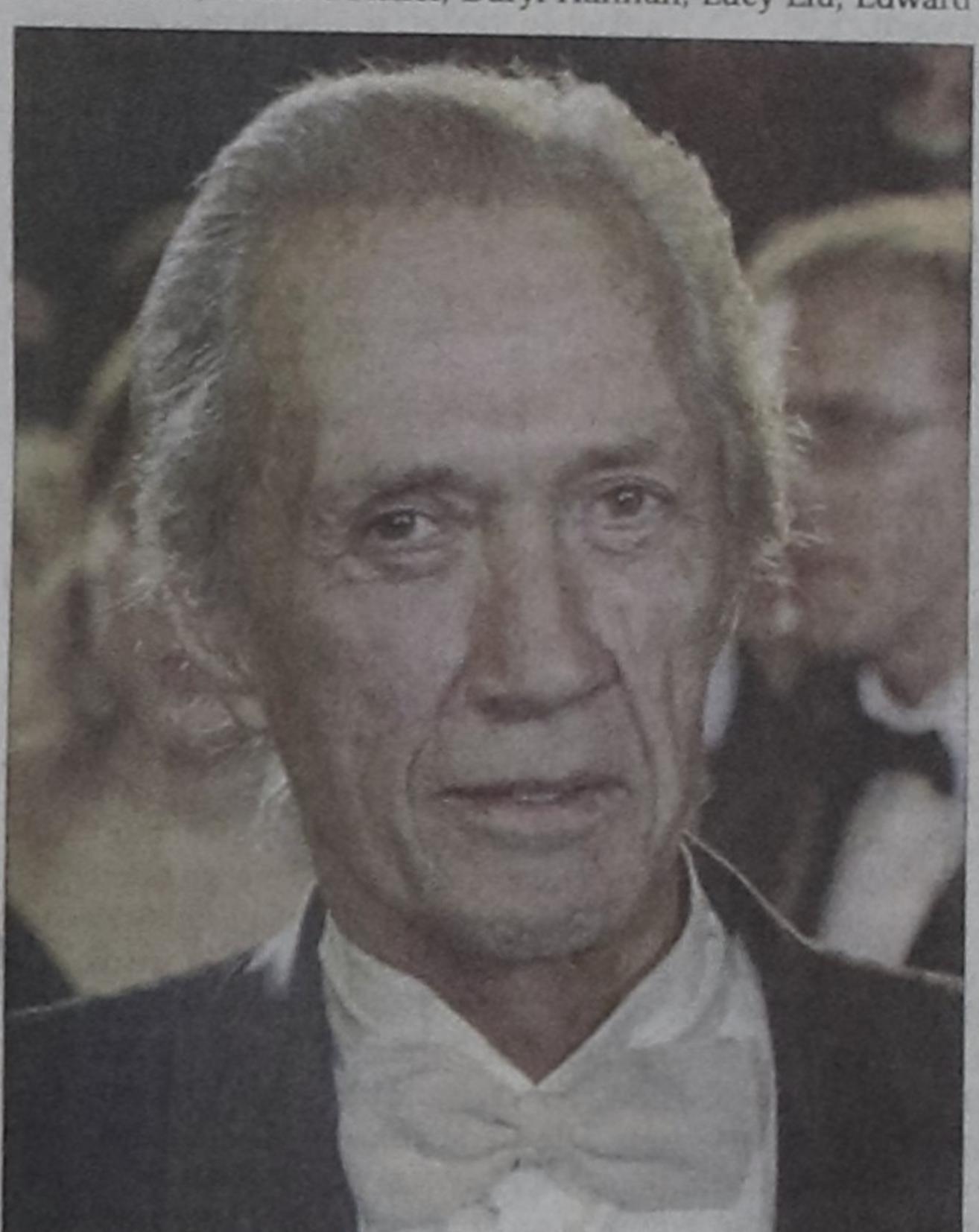
AP, Los Angeles

Hundreds gathered to honour David Carradine at a sprawling hillside cemetery on Saturday during a funeral that was attended by family, former co-stars and other Hollywood friends.

The invitation-only services were held indoors at the Hall of Liberty at Forest Lawn-Hollywood Hills, a 400-acre cemetery laid out adjacent to Los Angeles' Griffith Park.

Friends and well-wishers gathered more than a week after Carradine, 72, was found hanging in a Bangkok hotel room on June 4. Thai authorities continue to investigate his death. A statement released Thursday by a private pathologist said suicide had been ruled out as a cause of death.

Carradine's family stayed out of sight from a small group of reporters and cameras. Among the hundreds of guests were numerous actors, including Michael Madsen, Jane Seymour, Tom Selleck, Frances Fisher, Daryl Hannah, Lucy Liu, Edward



David Carradine

James Olmos, Ali Larter, and James Cromwell. Madsen and Liu both starred alongside Carradine in Quentin Tarantino's two-part "Kill Bill" saga.

Carradine is perhaps best known for his role as Kwai Chang Caine on three seasons of the 1970s hit show "Kung Fu." His role in popular culture was cemented by the time he left the show after three seasons in 1975.

He later went on to star in the cult flick "Death Race 2000" and in Ingmar Bergman's "The Serpent's Egg" in 1977, but by the 1980s his career had moved to lower-budget fare.

He continued to foster interests in Asian herbs, exercise and philosophy, and made instructional videos on tai chi and other martial arts.

Tarantino's "Kill Bill" films offered Carradine a career resurgence. The titular character earned Carradine a Golden Globe nomination for best supporting actor.

Carradine's father, John, was a character actor whose 50-year stage and screen career began during Hollywood's early years.

Spotlight on Udichi

Cultural programme by Sreekamol Sangeet Biddyalay



Artists of Sirajgan sing at the event.

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajgan

Sreekamol Sangeet Biddyalay, the lone music institution in Sirajganj, directed by the local Udichi unit, arranged its annual certificate giving ceremony and a cultural function at Shaheed M. Mansur Ali Auditorium in the town last Friday evening.

Fisheries and Livestock Minister Abdul Latif Biswas was the chief guest at the programme. Dr. Ashraful Islam,

president of Sreekamol Sangeet Biddyalay and the local Udichi unit, presided over the event.

Deputy Commissioner Humayun Kabir, Police superintendent Mosharraf Hossain, Udichi Central Unit's general secretary Habibul Alam, district unit secretary Tapu Siraji, Upazila chairman Golam Kibria and others spoke on the occasion.

The speakers appreciated Udichi's contributions to upholding the values and traditions of a secular Bangladesh.

They added that many activists of Udichi sacrificed their lives as the organisation has been attacked repeatedly by forces working against a sovereign Bangladesh. But Udichi remains strong.

Certificates were given among the activists of the organisation and a special award was given to cultural personality Anwar Hossain Ratu at the programme. Later, songs and dances were performed by artists of the institution.



Theatre troupe Bahubalan staged the play "Devi" on June 13 at the Experimental Theatre Hall of Bangladesh Shilpkala Academy. Adapted from a popular Humayun Ahmed mystery (with the same title) by Iqbal Hossain, the play has been directed by Arham Alo.

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Shashee

her whenever she encounters them and call her "Samia aunty." She also adds that good teamwork has turned the tide for "Gulshan Avenue."

Shashee has a busy schedule. Besides "Gulshan Avenue" she is working on mega serials such as "Naksha" directed by Mamanur Rashid on ATN Bangla; a comedy serial "Mess Member Aboshshok" by Tommoi Tansen; "Chirakhana" directed by Sayed Shakil and others. A new drama serial "Nona Bali Teer" on BTV goes on air today in which she plays the lead role. She says quite frankly that she is keen on one-hour plays but it is very difficult to squeeze in time for long plays.

Shashee used to be a passionate dancer till she was in Class X. However of late she has devoted all her time to acting. She loves to read, especially the works of Rabindranath Tagore and Humayun Ahmed. She also has her eyes set on modelling in TV commercials. As if that weren't enough, she wants to take on scriptwriting. Her long-term ambition is to refine her skills as an actor.