

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Sensation Within
Artist: KMA Quayyum
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, H 275/F, Rd 27 (old), Dhanmondi
Date: July 24-August 4
Time: 12-8pm



Theatre
Play: Rakto Karobi
Troupe: Nagark Natyasampraday
Venue: Mahila Shamili Auditorium, Natok Sharani
Date: August 1
Time: 7:30pm



Musical Soiree
Organiser: Prottaya
Venue: National Music and Dance Centre, Shilpakala Academy
Date: August 1
Time: 7:05pm



Art Exhibition
Title: Shishu Chitro Prodorshoni 2009
Organiser: Zainul Abedin Art School
Venue: National Museum, Shahbag
Date: July 24-August 4
Time: 12-8pm



Folk music at Dhaka University

Two-day music festival ends

JAMIL MAHMUD

The two-day music festival arranged by recently opened Department of Music, Dhaka University ended on July 30 at the TSC auditorium. The second day's programme featured folk songs. Students and teachers of the department along with invited artistes, including Farida Parveen and Chandana Majumdar, performed different genres of folk songs at the programme.

Among the folk genres of the country, songs of Lalon are considered to be the most refined -- in terms of lyrics and compositions. The mystic, philosophical songs take the listener to another realm. The programme naturally started with a chorus of a Lalon song. DU students rendered "Emon manob janamaarki hobey."

Students also sang some solos. Songs of rural bards, including Lalon, Radharaman,



Idris Boyati (centre) and his troupe during their performance.

PHOTO: MUMIT M

Hason Raja, 'Polli Kobi' Jasimuddin and Jalaluddin Khan, were rendered.

Enamul Haque performed a Lalon song, "Emon shamaj kobey go srian hobey." Razia Sultana sang "Jarey chherey elam shey ki abar ashbey

phirey," a song composed by Jasimuddin.

Other choruses performed at the programme included a Hason Raja number "Hason Raja'e koy ami kichhu noy" and a Jalaluddin Khan song "O amar darodi."

Noted music researcher and teacher of the department, Professor Mridulkanti Chakrabarty rendered a Radharaman song "Amar bondhu doyamoy tomarey dekhbar mon-e loy." The bards of rural Bengal have delved deep into the mystery of creation. The Radharaman song would be an example of that. Through the song, the Vaishnav poet wanted to trace the link between the absolute and relative.

Accomplished folk singer Chandana Majumdar rendered two popular Lalon songs -- "Itorpana karjo amar" and "Aar amarey marishneya."

Lalon exponent Farida Parveen rendered three songs, including "Barir pashey arshinagar" and "Milon hobey koto diney." Her last performance was "Shomoy geley shadhon hobey na." In recent times, the veteran artiste has been

performing the song differently from her previous recorded cover. At the programme, the rendition featured only one instrument -- a bamboo flute by Gazi Abdul Hakim.

In between Majumdar and Parveen's performances, Kamol Khalid rendered "Shona bondhurey ami tomar naam loiya kandi." Among the invited artistes, Idris Boyati and his troupe (from Madaripur) performed at the programme.

Prior to the musical programme, a discussion was held where Professor Nazrul Islam, chairman, Bangladesh University Grants Commission was the chief guest. Professor Harun-ur-Rashid, pro-vice chancellor, DU and Professor Sadrul Amin, dean, Faculty of Arts, DU were the special guests. Kuheli Islam, chairperson of the department, gave the welcome speech.

The programme was held to mark the 100 years of the ever-familiar patriotic song "Dhano dhanya pushpey bhora" by Dwijendra Lal Roy. The first day's programme featured performances of classical music.



Farida Parveen rendering a Lalon song at the programme.

Michael had a fourth child, Joe Jackson claims

Joe Jackson has confirmed that a 25-year-old aspiring rapper from Norway, is actually Michael Jackson's fourth child.

In an interview posted on NewsOne.com, Joe (Michael's father) talked about Omer Bhatti and said that he knew Michael had another child.

"Yes, I knew he had another son, yes I did," Jackson said in the video.

He also discussed Bhatti's dancing abilities and his resemblance to the Jackson clan. "He looks like a Jackson, acts like a Jackson, can dance like a Jackson," he said.

As a child, Bhatti often travelled with Jackson and even lived at the singer's Neverland ranch.

Court records show Bhatti was living at Neverland when authorities raided the estate in 2003 looking for evidence of child molestation.

Bhatti was briefly interviewed by



A recent photo of Omer.

investigators and was initially on the defence's list of prospective witnesses.

But he was never asked to testify. At Jackson's memorial at Staples, Bhatti was prominently seated in the front row next to the pop star's children and siblings. Bhatti is also said to be

seeking a DNA test to determine whether Jackson is in fact his father.

Jackson's brother Jermaine has said Bhatti would be welcomed into the family, if he's proven a Jackson.

"If Omer's his son, he's his son," Jermaine told Britain's the Daily Mail. "We won't deny it. We are going to give him the same love and care that we give Prince and Paris and Blanket. I can't clearly say if he is Michael's but I saw this kid around him."

In 2004, Us Weekly reported that Jackson did, indeed, acknowledge that he was the father.

A source told the magazine that Jackson had told his closest associates Omer's mom was a Norwegian with whom he had a brief affair.

Source: Internet

Bhabi: New serial on Ekushey TV

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

A new drama serial, "Bhabi," goes on air tonight on Ekushey TV. The first episode of the serial, directed by Debasish Barua, will be telecast at 9:30 pm.

As the title suggests, the story revolves around a housewife -- her dreams, struggles and challenges she faces at her in-laws. The story is by Abdus Salam and script has been done by Manosh Pal.

Momota Ahmed aka Momo grew up in a middle class family; her father is a teacher. She is married to Abir, eldest son of affluent parents. Momo moves to her new home with high hopes of befriend her in-laws. Her dreams are shattered as she discovers that Abir's mother and his elder sister do not like her at all. Other members of the family -- Abir's brother Nibir, his younger sister and Abir's father -- gradually take Momo's side.

The cast includes Bonna Mirza, Shojal, Shoaeb, Jyotika Jyoti, Nafiza, Dr. Inamul Haque and others.



A scene from the serial.

Shibli, Nipa on Amar Ami tonight

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Celebrated dancer duo Shamim Ara Nipa and Shibli Mohammed are the guests on tonight's "Amar Ami." The celebrity talk show will be aired tonight on Banglavisian at 9:05 pm.

In the Bangladeshi dance scene, Shibli and Nipa need no introduction. For years the duo have been tirelessly promoting classical and indigenous dance forms with utmost devotion. Their performances at home have been lauded and they have won laurels overseas for Bangladesh. The duo was much appreciated for their performance at the Nobel prize-giving ceremony for Dr. Yunus.

On tonight's show, Shibli and Nipa will discuss the current state of dance in the country and their future plans regarding the art form. The artistes will also talk about their personal lives and friendship.

"Amar Ami" is produced by Anonto Zahid and hosted by Munmun.



(From right) Shibli and Nipa with the host of the show.

Uttaran, Pabna celebrates first anniversary

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Uttaran Shahitya Ashor, Pabna -- a local organisation for poets and reciters -- recently celebrated its first anniversary at its district headquarters. A recitation competition, discussion along with a reception and cultural programme were held at Pabna Zila Parishad auditorium premises on July 25.

Veteran educationist Abdul Karim chaired the programme. Noted educa-

tionist AK Mirza Shahidul Islam was the chief guest, while the chief executive officer of Pabna Zila Parishad Sadar Ali Bishwas was the special guest. President of Uttaran Alamgir Kabir Hridoy presented the inaugural speech on the occasion.

The speakers emphasised the significance of poetry and poets. There are many local poets and budding talents who should be encouraged, they said. They went on to add that reading is key to promoting quality

writings. Unfortunately however, there are not enough outlets to encourage literary practices in the area, they remarked.

Earlier a recitation competition was held in which children from different schools of the district took part. Later, local poets recited their own poetry. A reception was accorded to 25 poets and writers in the course of the programme.

Noted folk artiste Abdul Halim Bayati also performed at the event.

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