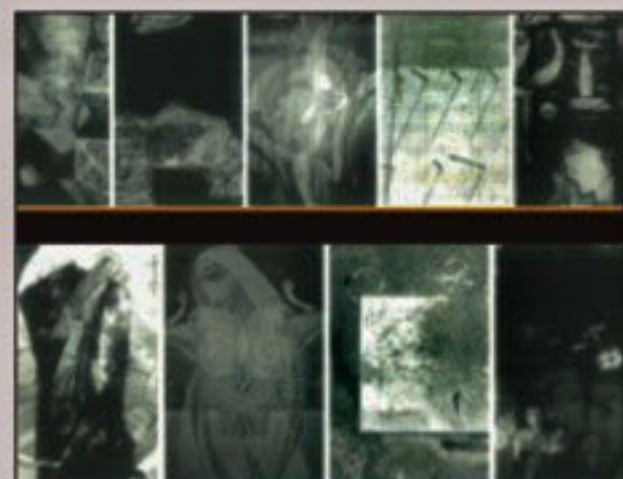


WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Group Art Exhibition

Organiser: Gallery Chittrak
Venue: Gallery Chittrak, H-21, R-4, Dhanmondi
Inauguration: April 3 at 6pm
Date: April 3-12
Time: 10am-8pm



Solo Painting Exhibition

Artist: Syeeduzzaman Sumon
Title: Rural Life
Venue: Alliance Francaise, 26, Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi
Date: April 3-17
Time: 3pm-9pm (except Sundays)



Solo Painting Exhibition

Artist: Murshida Arzu Alpina
Title: Drinking Bottle Water and Breathing Dust Only
Venue: Goethe Institut Bangladesh H-10, R-9, Dhanmondi
Date: April 5-22
Time: 10am-8pm



Boats Exhibition

Title: Traditional Boats of Bangladesh
Venue: Nalinikanta Bhattacharya Gallery, Bangladesh National Museum
Date: March 23-April 19
Time: 10am -5pm



Five-day theatre festival by Padatik Natya Sangsad begins



Actors of Padatik in the murder mystery "Mousetrap".

JAMIL MAHMUD

To commemorate the birth anniversary of its founder president Syed Badruddin Hossain, Padatik Natya Sangsad (TSC) has arranged a five-day theatre festival at the National Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy. Titled "Syed Badruddin Hossain Smiti Natyatshab O Smarak Shammanona 2010," the festival began on April 7. Five troupes, including the organiser and one from Kolkata, are staging their productions at the festival. On the inaugural day, Padatik staged its production "Mousetrap".

Former Chief Justice Muhammad Habibur Rahman was the chief guest at the programme. In his speech, Habibur Rahman termed Syed Badruddin Hossain as "one of the leading cultural personalities" of his time. He hoped that the theatre movement in Bangladesh would continue focusing on mass interest.

The inaugural session was presided over by Syed Tasnin Hossain, president, Padatik. Nasiruddin Yousuff, president, Shammilito Shangskritik Jote and Liaquat Ali Lucky, chairman, Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation were special guests at the programme.

Festival convener Nihad Kabir, among others, spoke at the inaugural programme.

On the opening day Padatik staged its production "Mousetrap". The murder mystery play is an adaptation of British playwright Agatha Christie's work with the same title.

The play follows a young couple, Mollie and Giles Ralston, who have converted the Monkswell Manor into a hotel. They are snowed in, together with four guests and an additional traveller, who ran his car into a snowdrift. Detective Sergeant Trotter arrives to the hotel to inform the group that he believes a murderer is on his way to the hotel, following the death of Maureen Lyon in London.

When one of the guests -- Mrs Boyle -- is killed,

the group realises that the murderer is already amongst them. The suspicion falls first on Christopher Wren, an erratic young man who fits the description of the supposed murderer. However, it quickly transpires that the killer could be any one of the guests, or even the hosts.

Mir Mehbub Alam Nahid directed the play translated by Abdus Selim. Shamsi Ara Sayeka, Sayem Samad, Sumon Ahmed, Kaniz Fatema and Shafiqur Rahman played the lead roles in the play. Md. Saiful Islam was the light and set designer of the play.

Other troupes participating at the festival are Nagarik Natya Sampradaya, Aranyak Natyadal, Loko Natyadal and Theatre Workshop (Kolkata).

At the closing programme, the organisers will felicitate two noted theatre personalities with "Syed Badruddin Hossain Smiti Shammanona". The awardees are Mamunur Rashid and Shimul Yousuf.

Today, Theatre Workshop will stage "Jodio Galpo".



Former Chief Justice Muhammad Habibur Rahman speaks at the inauguration.

PHOTO: MUMIT M.

All about balance

Saberi Alam's comeback to TV

NUSRAT JAHAN PRITOM

A dedicated mother, accomplished actress and a charming TV show host -- Saberi Alam is a familiar face to the small screen viewers. In the midst of the interview, her eight-year-old son Taskeen approached his mother, asking her to play with him. Gently, she asked her son to wait 15 minutes until the interview was done, to which he gladly consented.

Saberi returned to the spotlight in 2007 after a hiatus of 13 years. Her comeback vehicle was an ad for Banglalink on the occasion of Independence Day. Her fans obviously missed her, but did she miss the media?

"Not really. I think in life, what matters is which particular aspect you give priority to," said Saberi. "I had been involved with theatre since 1979.

When I got married and had a son, I got so engrossed in my family life that it wasn't possible for me to look beyond. To me, the role of a mother is very important; I tried to give as much as I could to my kids. And I really have no regrets. Sometimes, when I saw a good play, I thought, 'Ok, I could have done that.' But that was Saberi Alam



a momentary thought."

"When my kids started going to school, and coincidentally I got the offer from Banglalink, I considered it a good offer. Also I have a lot of flexibility. I have to be on it for certain days of the month. If somehow, a particular role is not possible -- I may back away from that offer. The choice could be made, so I opted for it. As a housewife, getting completely involved in a career is not possible, at least I think so. I try to make sure that there is a balance between all the roles that I play."

After the TV Commercial, Saberi appeared in several drama serials like "Doll's House", "Shopno Mongol" etc as well as single-episode plays.

Currently she is in "Gent's Tailor" (on Channel 1), "Shimanto" (Desh TV), "Jolkona (ATN Bangla) "Gorbhodharini" (Channel 1) "Ghorar dim" (Ekushey TV), "Naame Naame Chokkor" (a talk show on Desh TV) and many more.

Does she have plans to get back to theatre?

"When I was in that medium, I was a student and did not have much responsibilities. But now it is a different case. Probably no, I won't go back because it is just not possible as it requires a lot of time and attention."

Works of 101 Bangladeshi painters under one roof



A CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka Art Centre is holding a group art exhibition featuring 101 painters of Bangladesh. The exhibition will begin on April 10 at Dhaka Art Centre, Dhanmondi and is the outcome of a two-day art camp held on January 1 and 2, 2010, as

part of the inauguration of the centre.

Dr. Dipu Moni, Minister for Foreign Affairs, will be present as chief guest at the inaugural session. Rafiqun Nabi, Dean of the Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka and Sanjay Prakash, CEO of HSBC, will attend the programme as special guests. The exhibition will continue till April 20.

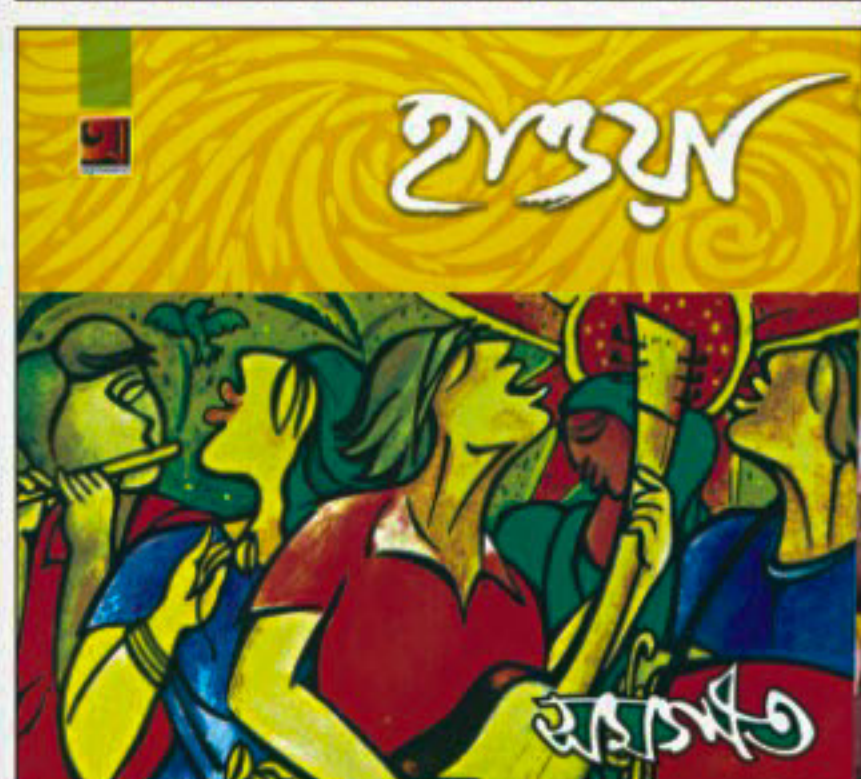
NEW RELEASES

Pagla Majhi
Solo album of folk songs by Ram Kanai Das
Source: Laser Vision



Tumi Amar Chiro Kaler
Duet album of Rabindra Sangeet by Sajed Akbar and Salma Akbar
Source: Commitment Products

Hawa
Debut album of the musical troupe Shamogheet
Source: Bahirana, Agniveena



Durbin 3.01
An album of the band Durbin
Source: Laser Vision

Taiwan scouts out next Susan Boyle -- or was that Whitney?

Susan Boyle needs to look out -- there's another YouTube singing sensation shooting up the popularity charts.

Lin Yu Chun is short, fat, has a bowl-cut hairstyle and wears a red bow tie, but the Taiwanese youngster sings exactly like Whitney Houston.

Which explains why a clip from the karaoke TV show "Super Star Avenue" has become a massive hit on YouTube and Twitter.

His pitch-perfect rendition of the Whitney Houston/Dolly Parton mega-hit "I Will Always Love You" blew a panel of judges away.

The amazing performance recalled the way Susan Boyle surprised "Britain's Got Talent" judges with her version of "I Dreamed A Dream."

The clip of her stunning Simon Cowell and Co. with the song from "Les Miserables" has now clocked up 90m hits on YouTube alone.

Her subsequent album has gone on to sell millions worldwide and last week



Lin Yu Chun

netted her a £4m royalties cheque to coincide with her 49th birthday.

But now it seems Lin is ready to take her crown as the year's most unlikely music star and he is the bookies' favourite to win the talent contest.

The grand prize on "Super Star Avenue" is almost as jaw-dropping as Lin's performance -- a chance to release an album, as well as \$1 million (£650,000).

Source: Internet