

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Theatre Festival 2010

Title: Srijonshil Tarunner Tatyapokash
 Organiser: Department of Theatre, Dhaka University
 Venue: Natmondol, DU
 Date: August 11-18
 Time: 7:30pm



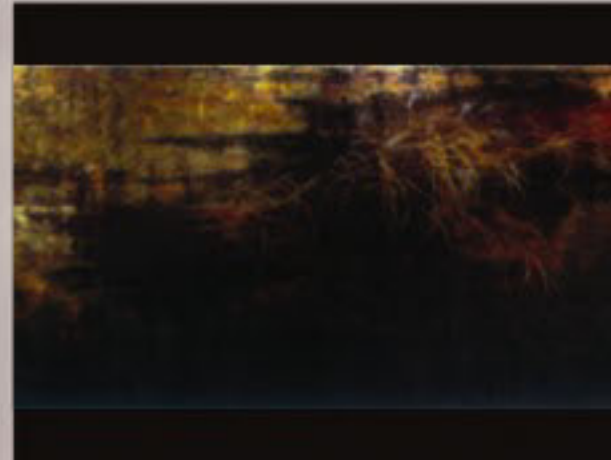
Film Screening

Film: "Summer Things"
 Venue: Auditorium, Alliance Française De Dhaka
 Date: August 13
 Time: 6pm



Solo Art Exhibition

Artist: Noriko Naito
 Venue: Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka
 Date: August 9-14
 Time: 2pm-8pm



Contemporary Norwegian Glass and Ceramics

Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, R-16, H-275F, Dhanmondi
 Date: August 6-20
 Time: 12pm-8pm



Regenerating nationwide interest in a Bengali martial art

Workshop for 'lathi khela' trainers



The training session included 14 *lathiya* from Sirajganj, Netrakona, Kushtia, Manikganj and Narail.

A CORRESPONDENT

As part of the second phase of the year-long, nationwide project 'Robi Cholo Lathi Kheli,' to revitalise and expand the horizons of *lathi khela* (a traditional martial art of Bangladesh), Shadhona -- A Centre for Advancement of South Asian Dance and Music and the Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) held a 10-day long 'Training for Trainers.' The training session included 14 *lathiya* from Sirajganj, Netrakona, Kushtia, Manikganj and Narail.

On the concluding day (yesterday) of the training, a press conference was held at 4 pm at the Rehearsal Room, 7th floor of National Auditorium, BSA.

Martial arts expert Mamunur Rashid Rana and dancer Shabbir Ahmad Khan Biju conducted the training. Martial arts expert Imran Rahman also joined the camp. The *lathiya* were also given a demonstration of *Raibeshe* dance by artistes Mithun and Nayan.

For the martial art session, the *lathiya* were shown how karate prac-

tioners train their body and analyse various moves. Based on that experimental work was done to include these concepts in the training. Also, an attempt was made to come up with consolidated rules and regulations for combat within *lathi khela* to enable



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lathiya from different regions to compete with each other.

During the dance sessions, the *lathiya* were taught various concepts of choreography to help them enhance the presentation of *lathi khela*.

A discussion was held with renowned designers of Dhaka to come up with a costume for *lathi khela* as a national martial art. Designers from 'Deshi Dosh' -- Tahsina Shaheen, Lipi Khondokar, Imdad Hoq; from Jatra -- Shyamoli and Sayeda Sultana; independent designer Shoibal Saha and dancer Warda Rihab participated in the discussions.

The organisers are planning to hold a countrywide competition on designing costumes for *lathi khela*.

The third phase of the project will include training at divisional level in Dhaka, Rajshahi, Khulna, Chittagong, Barisal, Rangpur and Sylhet throughout October, November and December.

Lathi khela competitions are scheduled for February 2011.

The project is being sponsored by Robi. The Daily Star, Channel i and abc radio are media partners of the event.

Tagore's humanism in focus

Speech and cultural programme at National Museum

A CORRESPONDENT

Marking Tagore's 69th death anniversary, Bangladesh National Museum arranged a speech on the bard followed by rendition of Rabindra Sangeet at Poet Sufia Kamal auditorium of the museum on August 10.

Tagore exponent Dr. Sanjida Khatun delivered a speech on Rabindranath Tagore, titled "Rabindra Biswas-e Manob Abbhudoy," on the occasion. State minister for Cultural Affairs Advocate Promode Mankin was present as the chief guest.

In her speech, Dr. Sanjida Khatun Produced excerpts from Tagore's classical novels -- "Gora" and "Rajorshi." She explained the religions of



Dr. Sanjida Khatun speaks at the programme.

man in light of Tagore literature. "The universal religion or humanism shows the right path to its followers while institutionalised religions appear to be mechanisms of enchantment. Rabindranath

over by M. Azizur Rahman, chairman of Bangladesh National Museum Projotno Board.

Singer Anima Roy rendered Tagore songs at the event. Anima started off with the song "Ei Lobhinu Shongo Tabo." "Ami Ki Gaan Gabo Jey" was the next song performed by the artiste. She then performed a song in *baul* style, "Tomar Khola Hawa." The artiste also performed "Sawono Gaganey Ghor Ghanaghata" from "Bhanushingher Padaboli" -- a song which highlights nature in monsoon.

Enamul Haque Omar on tabla, Ashit Biswas on esraj and Nazmul Alam on mondira accompanied the singer.

6th Citycell-Channel i Music Awards in December

A CORRESPONDENT

Like previous years, this year too Citycell-Channel i Music Awards will honour artistes and musicians of the country.

A press conference was held in this regard yesterday at the office of Channel i. Kafil H.S. Mueed, chief marketing officer of Citycell and Faridur Reza Sagar, managing director, Impress Telefilms Limited informed the media on this year's Citycell-Channel i Music Awards. Taslim Ahmed, head of marketing communications of Citycell, gave a detail overview of the categories and rules of this year's contest.

This year, the awards will be conferred in 16 categories.



Faridur Reza Sagar speaks at the conference.

The categories are: Classical (instrumental), Classical (vocal), Rabindra Sangeet, Nazrul Sangeet, Folk Songs, Adhunik Songs, Motion Picture Soundtrack, Band Music, Underground Band (unreleased), Songwriting, New Artiste (male/female), Sound Engineering, Cover Design, Music Direction, Music Video and Lifetime Achievement Award.

cassettes, CDs and VCDs from individuals and production houses released in 2009.

In addition, there will be awards based on popular choice or viewers' votes through SMS.

Entries for the 6th Citycell-Channel i Music Awards can be submitted to Channel i office, 40, Shahid Tajuddin Ahmed Sarani, Tejgaon, Dhaka from today to September 20, 2010

The gala programme of the 6th Citycell-Channel i Music Awards will be held in December this year.

Anando Alo, Radio Today and bdnews24.com are the media partner of the 6th Citycell-Channel i Music Awards.

Living arts

Three-day Chinese acrobatic show at Shilpakala Academy



The Chinese acrobatic troupe, consisting mostly of teenagers, enthralled the full-house audience during its hour-long performance.

JAMIL MAHMUD

Showcasing extraordinary feats of balance, agility and endurance, a three-day Chinese acrobatic show began at the National Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy on August 10. A Chinese acrobatic troupe, consisting mostly of teenagers, enthralled the full-house audience during its hour-long performance.

The Chinese troupe is on a weeklong visit to Bangladesh. The three-day performance is part of a celebration of the 35th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Bangladesh and China as well as the regular cultural exchange programme between the two nations.

back to 475 BC. Starting age for these performers are as young as six. The visiting troupe has 20 members of whom 17 are performers. Fourteen of them are aged below 20. The youngest performer of the troupe, Sun Jingyi, is 13.

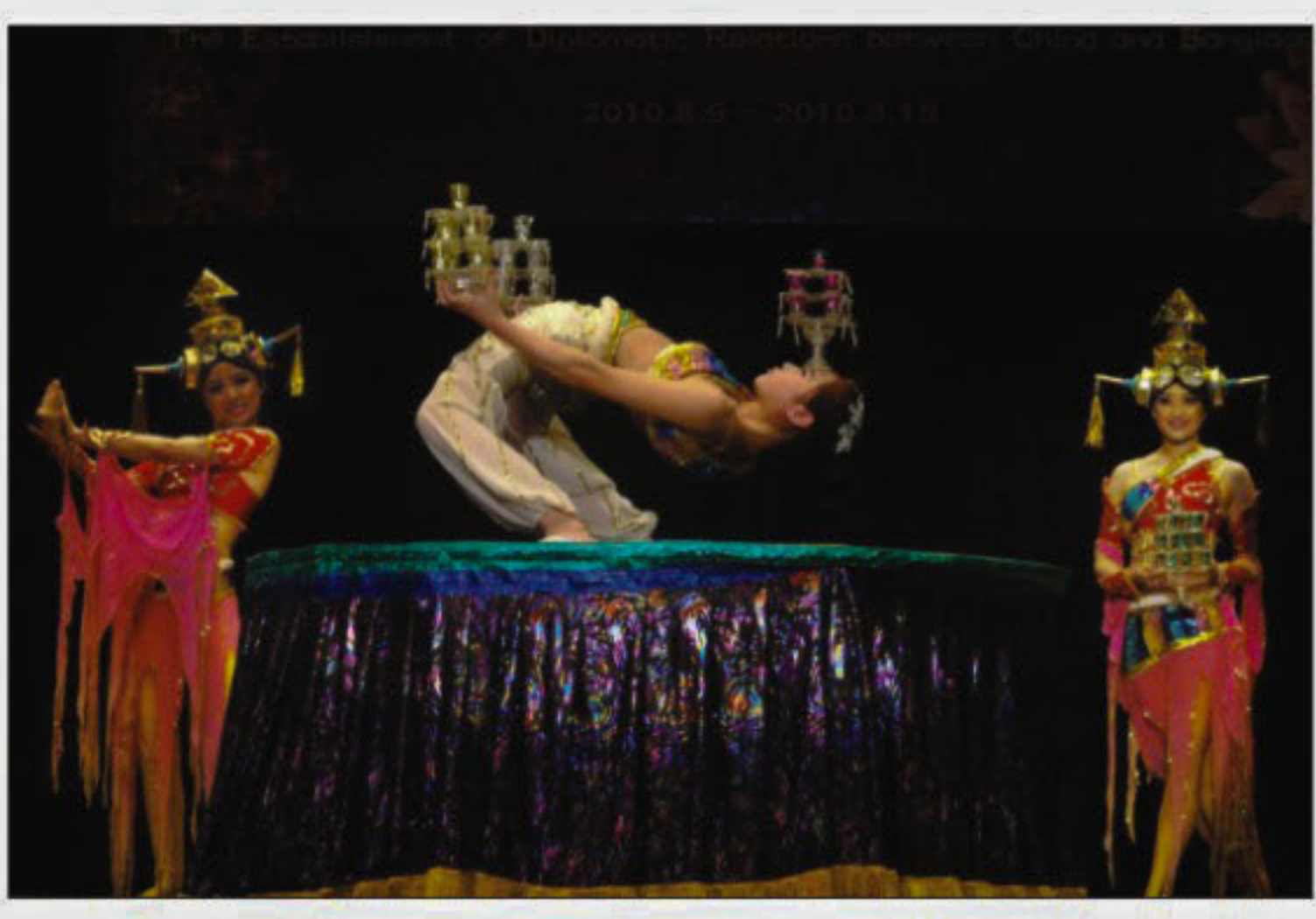
The Chinese troupe performed 10 items including "diabolo," "balancing jar on the head," "skipping" and "balancing umbrella." The show opened with a group performance that featured 11 members. The performance combined martial art, dance and gymnastics. The second performance was "diabolo," a 2000-year old tradition that emerged during the Han Dynasty.

"Diabolo" was a solo act that featured a performer tossing an object -- which seemed like two cups, facing away, joined to each other -- on a

string tied to two sticks; kind of like an edgy version of a yoyo.

Skipping rope featured 10 male performers, who demonstrated their sense of rhythm and balance. The female performers staged pieces such as "balancing umbrella," "rolling cups" and "balancing mug and spoon while riding on a unicycle." "Rolling cups" was a solo performance, in which a young acrobat showed unimaginable flexibility.

Prior to the show, Information Minister Abul Kalam Azad formally announced the inauguration of the three-day programme. Azad was present as the chief guest. Among others, State Minister for Cultural Affairs Promod Mankin; Chinese Ambassador to Bangladesh Zhang Xiany; leader of the visiting troupe Zhang Yusheng and Director General



of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy Kamal Lohani were present at the programme. Cultural Secretary Hedayetullah Al Mamun presided over the inaugural session.

Many Bangladeshi and Chinese high officials were among the audience. The guests hoped the bond between the two nations would further strengthen through cultural exchange programmes.

The show will end today.

Britney Spears set to appear on "Glee"

Lady Gaga: Check. Madonna: Check. "Glee" has featured the music of the pop stars to acclaim in its first season. However, the show has yet to get high-profile singers Madonna and Gaga to appear in person on the show. But another diva is about to change that.

On August 10, show creator Ryan Murphy confirmed that Britney Spears will make an appearance on "Glee." Now, fans are anxious to see what they'll do with the Spears discography in an episode set to air next season.

And the cast seems just as excited as the Gleeeks about what's to come. Heather Morris (who plays Brittany on the show) couldn't wait to have Spears on set.

"I get to do Britney Spears! I'm hearing rumours from other people that she's supposed to be coming ... that'd be so nerve-racking," she said. "I like 'Toxic' the best or the 'Slave' video. It was always her best performance. She's rocking! I don't care what I do."

"I mean I can't really give away songs, but I know we've seen pictures of Lea [Michele] in a Britney mode," Jenna Ushkowitz (Tina on "Glee") added, confirming online reports that Michele would sing the classic Britney tune "... Baby One More Time."

"Some old Britney, some new Britney, some Brittany from the Glee club. So it should be funny," Ushkowitz teased of featured songs. "We're really excited. I love Britney Spears."

Fans also want to know whether Matthew Morrison (Will Schuester) will go all the way and shave his head as rumoured for the episode. But the only thing he would confirm is that he couldn't confirm anything.

"All rumours," Morrison said. "I think you might be surprised. I don't think I'll be performing any [songs]. I might sing a little bit of 'Toxic,'" he shared. "I'm not sure. We haven't really got too far in the script yet, which is why I don't know too much about the head-shaving thing."

Morrison's castmate Amber Reilly (Mercedes) is already convinced the episode will be great.

"I can tell you it's going to be a really great episode and you're going to love it," she said. "And they're doing the big hits from Britney."

Source: MTV