

WHAT'S ON

Shilu Abed Craftperson Award
Venue: Brac Centre
Auditorium, Mohakhali
Date: March 5
Time: 5pm



Classical Vocal Music Recital
Artist: Vidya Shah
Venue: National Theatre
Hall, BSA
Date: March 4
Time: 6:30pm

Theatre
Play: Kama
Troupe: Prachyan
Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall, BSA
Date: March 6
Time: 7pm



Workshop & Art Exhibition
Organiser: Gallery Cosmos
Artist: Fudezuka Toshio
Venue: Cosmos Centre, 69/1, New Circular Road, Malibagh
Date: Feb-25-March 5

Bangladesh Street Theatre Festival 2011
Organiser: Bangladesh Street Theatre Parishad
Venue: Central Shaheed Minar
Date: March 1-7
Time: 4pm



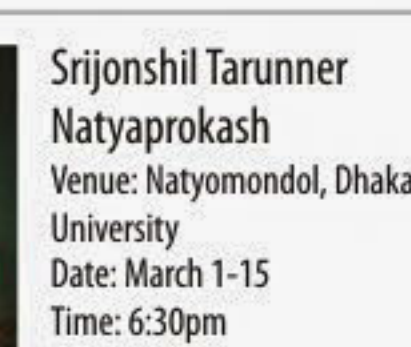
Solo Photo Exhibition
Title: Gear and Panda
Photographer: Babu Ahmed
Venue: Sonali Gallery/Fire, H275/F Rd 16/10, Dharmad
Date: Feb 27-March 8
Time: 12-8pm



Group Art Exhibition
Title: 7 Visions
Venue: Tivoli Art Gallery, DCC
Super Market, Gulshan-2
Date: March 3-12
Time: 11am-7:30pm



Srijonshil Tarunner Natyaproskash
Venue: Natyomondol, Dhaka University
Date: March 1-15
Time: 6:30pm



Tagore's 150th birth anniversary celebration
Organiser: Chayanam
Venues: Chayanam and Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Date: March 3-6
Time: 6pm



(Clockwise from top left) Hiroshi Omura (left), Kamal Lohani, Promode Mankin, Suraiya Begum and Derek Elias at the book launch; a scene from the dance-drama "Roopban"; child artist Sagar Baul performs a Lalon song at the event.

PHOTO: MUMIT M.

Songs of the Soul

A celebration of Baul music

ZAHANGIR ALAM

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in collaboration with Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) launched Baul Songs Publications (Books and CD) under the project of 'Action Plan for the Safeguarding of Baul Songs' on March 2 at Hotel Sonargaon in Dhaka.

The launching programme was a part of celebrating inclusion of the tradition of Baul Songs on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity [declared by UNESCO].

Credit also goes to the Japanese Government that supported UNESCO in bringing out the publications.

The event featured discussion, launching of the books and CD and cultural programme.

State Minister for Cultural Affairs Advocate Promode Mankin was the chief guest. Derek Elias, Head and representative, UNESCO Dhaka Office; Hiroshi Omura, First Secretary and Head of Information and Cultural Division, Embassy of Japan, Dhaka; Suraiya Begum ncd, Secretary in Charge, Ministry of Cultural Affairs as special guests spoke on the occasion. Director General of BSA Kamal Lohani presided over the discussion.

"The Bauls are mystic minstrels living in rural Bangladesh and West Bengal [India]. The Baul movement, at its peak in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, has now regained popularity and is enjoying a renaissance among the non-metropolitan population of Bangladesh. Their music and way of life have become and continue to inspire a large segment of Bengali culture," said Derek Elias.

"Baul songs were selected for their artistic, historical and anthropological values and especially for their importance in forming cultural identity. Like so many other expressions of intangible cultural heritage, Baul songs represent an important contribution to the cultural diversity of humanity," added Elias.

"Japan is interested in safeguarding the intangible cultural heritage of the world because the heritage is facing the danger of extinction. Baul songs are unique and diverse in nature," said Hiroshi Omura.

Later, the guests unveiled two books, and an audio CD. Kamal Lohani is the chief editor of 'Baul Sangeet', a collection of 500 Baul songs. Dr. Anwarul Karim, Md. Nazrul Haque, Dr. Abul Hassan Chowdhury and Saymon Zakaria are members of the editorial board that worked on the book.

Saymon Zakaria with Kamol Khalid and Susmita Chakrabarty collected the songs from Durlab Shah, Didar Shah, Hedaet Ali Shah, Karim Shah, Nahir Shah, Mahram Shah, Rawshan Fakir, Bajlu Shah, Rahela Khatun, Usuf Shadhu and many others. The collection mostly features the mystic poems of Fakir Lalon Shai (1774-1890) and several of his followers from the Kushtia region.

National Professor Kabir Chowdhury, along with Professor Anwarul Karim, Dr. Abul Hassan Chowdhury and Samyasaathee Bhowmik translated the first 100 songs in the book.

The other book includes staff notations of 150 songs. Eminent musician and exponent Sudhin Das and Debproshad Dawn worked on the notations of 140 songs, while singer and researcher Dr. Sayem Rana added staff notations to the rest of the songs (that were translated in English).

Md. Nazrul Haque, Debproshad Dawn and Dr. Sayem Rana edited the book. Director of Research and Publication Department of BSA Md. Nazrul Haque is the project director and publisher of the two books.

A CD featuring 50 songs of the bards was also launched at the event. Kamol Khalid directed the music while Saymon Zakaria selected artists for the CD.

At the cultural programme Pagla Bablu, Samir Baul and a child prodigy Sagar Baul performed Lalon numbers "Manush Chhara Khyapa Rey Tui", "Jomi Korbo Abad Ghotey Bipod" and "Boro Shongkotey Poria Doyal" respectively. The highlight of the show was the staging of the dance-drama "Roopban". Noted choreographer Deepa Khandakar adapted, choreographed and directed the dance-drama while Ali Asgar Khokon composed and directed the music. Over 55 noted and promising artistes donned different roles in the dance-drama.



The Daily Star BANGLADESH PATHO NATOK PARISHAD STREET THEATRE FEST



PHOTO: GOLAM MAHBUB

On the second day (March 2) of the weeklong Bangladesh Patho Natok Utsab 2011, six plays were staged at the Central Shaheed Minar premises. The plays were "Khabisnama" by Muktomancho Natyadal (Gazipur); "Aatkurey" by Naboshikha Natyadal (Sylhet); "Jalo Chitabagh" by Natyarthi; "The Cow" by Ekota Natya Goshti (Kishorganj); "Shakhi" by Padatik Natya Sangsad Bangladesh and "Khyapa Pagla Pyacha" by Sangsaptak Natyadal (Narayanganj). Bangladesh Patho Natok Parishad and The Daily Star have organised the festival to mark the 40th anniversary of independence. The festival features nearly 50 plays by different troupes from all over the country.



VOICE of REASON

Patha Natya Utsab in Mymensingh concludes

AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh

A four day 'Patha Natya Utsab' (street theatre festival) arranged at local Shaheed Minar premises concluded on March 2 evening. Theatre veteran Golam Rafiq inaugurated the celebration.

Mymensingh Theatre Association organised the festival that drew a huge audience at every show.

A total of 12 theatre groups of the town performed at the festival. Three groups performed each day.

"On the concluding evening, three plays, "Endara", "Daidaitiya" and "Abaro Sangram" were staged by Jhlik Natya Sangstha, Bahurupi Natya Sangstha, and

Mymensingh Lokkrishthi Sangstha. The plays were written by Mannan Heera, Moly Bhowmik and Ibrahim Khalil respectively, while they were directed by Saiful Islam, Shahadat Hossain Khan Hilu and Anwarul Kabir.

Jagroni Natya Goshti, Compass Natya Sampradaya, Chhayanat Sahitya and Sangkritik Dal staged plays, "Nijesh Kobesh", "Arati" and "Bandhu Tomay Payechi" on March 1.

The festival started with staging of "Barnachora" by Angina Sahitya and Sangkritik Goshti. Two other plays, "Barnamal Chokhe Jal" by Bidrohi Natya Goshti and "Utopather Jatri" by Shapla Theatre were staged on the inaugural day of the festival.

Natyak Sampradaya, Ensemble Theatre and Sareng Natya Sangha staged "Birangana Upakhan", "Fagun Bare Bar" and "Agher Kotha" respectively on the second day of the festival.

A discussion was held in the course of the close ceremony. Veteran theatre and media personality M. Hamid was the chief guest. Freedom fighter Md. Hafizur Rahman and Yeazdani Koraisih Kajol, among others, addressed the gathering at closing ceremony. Convener of Mymensingh Theatre Association Shahadat Hossain Khan Hilu presided over the proceedings.

The speakers told the audience that the street theatre festival should transform into a social movement against all forms

of repression and oppression prevailing in society.

However as a first step this art form needs much greater patronage from the concerned authority and affluent sections of society, said the speakers.

In the British regime and even during Pakistan rule, the then rulers clamped down heavily on drama, but after the Liberation War, the art form gained momentum, making theatre a potential tool of protest against injustice in society, the speakers went on.

The theatre groups at district level are marginalised at national level festivals on different occasions and such attitudes should be changed, the speakers asserted.

MahaShibratri Celebration in Joypurhat

KONGKON KARMAKER, from Joypurhat

An estimated 150,000 devotees from across the country gathered at the Baroshibaloy Temple in Joypurhat district on Wednesday to celebrate the major Hindu festival of MahaShibratri.

As the crowds spilled over on to the streets, the entire temple premises resounded with chants glorifying the god.

The devotees began thronging the ancient temple from 10pm onwards on Tuesday night. As its doors opened at midnight they poured in to offer milk and fruits to the deity.

Serpentine lines were seen outside the temple from the wee hours. The crowd did not get restive even though they had to traverse a distance of over 2km to reach the temple.

Amidst the recitation of 'shlokas' (Sanskrit verses) and chants, people waited for over two to three hours for their turn to enter the shrine



The devotees began thronging the temple from 10pm onwards on Tuesday night. PHOTO: STAR

complex.

The district police had made elaborate security arrangements by deploying additional personnel from law enforcement agencies.

All along the route, small shops were set up, offering varied wares including posters, trinkets and household items. Residents of the village had set up kiosks along the route, where milk and fruits were being sold.

According to the organisers, about 25,000 litres of milk is required to celebrate the festival.

The temple was decked up with flowers and colourful fairy lights to celebrate the marriage of the Hindu deity Shiba with the goddess Parvati during the Mahashibratri festival.

A cultural programme was organised inside the temple complex to entertain the devotees gathered from the different parts of the country.

61ST BERLINALE

Putting a Spotlight on Global Conscience

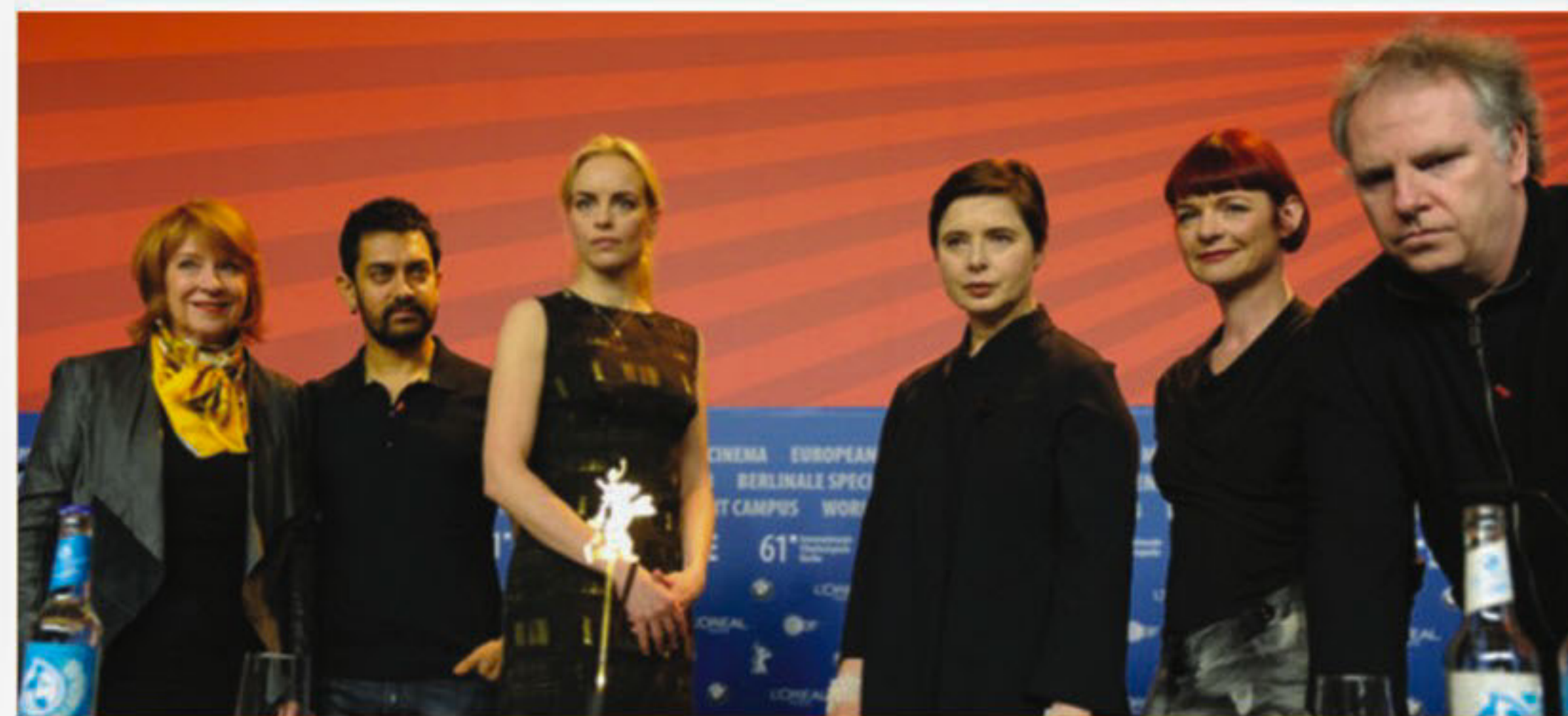
GILLIAN DELL

It may be grey and cold in Berlin in the winter months, but the city transforms itself into a cinema-goers dream in February during the 10-day Berlin film festival, the "Berlinale". The much-coveted Golden Bear for best film went to "Nader and Simin, a Separation", from the Iranian director Asghar Farhadi. That film also collected two of the other top prizes, the Silver Bear for Best Actor and the Silver Bear for best actress. The Silver Bear for best director went to German director Ulrich Kohler for his film "Sleeping Sickness", despite the film having received a few boos when it was presented. In the category of best short film, the Golden Bear was awarded to the innovative Korean film "Night Fishing", from the Park brothers. The best first feature award went to On the Ice, an Alaskan drama, which competed with 34 other films for this award.

Other Silver Bears were awarded in the categories best script, new perspectives and artistic contribution and went to contributors to the films "Forgiveness of Blood", a social drama from Joshua Marston dealing with vendetta and feuds in Albania; the German film "If Not Us Who", a story about a handful of young Germans turning to violence in the West Germany of the 1960s; and "The Prize", an autobiographical drama from Argentinean director Paula Markovitch. The jury grand prize went to "The Turin Horse", from legendary Hungarian film-maker Bela Tarr.

Many of the competition films were European co-productions. Added to these were a host of films outside the competition, with over 385 films from 58 countries showing in the 61st Berlinale.

A seven-person international jury was chaired this year by the graceful actress Isabella Rossellini and included Indian actor-director-producer Aamir Khan who was there with his wife film director Kiran, who was met by crowds of German fans. The jury also included Iranian author-



The jury at the 61st Berlinale.

director Jafar Panahi. Panahi was, however, unable to attend the festival; in December 2010 he was sentenced in Iran to six years imprisonment and a twenty year ban from filmmaking because of his critical stance on social issues in his country.

The event regularly attracts Hollywood big names, this year welcoming a steady stream of stars including Madonna, Harry Belafonte, Ralph Fiennes, William Hurt, Sean Penn and many others. This year's festival also opened its doors to about 4000 entertainment industry participants and 3900 journalists, with a film marketplace and over 50 parties during the 10-day event.

A majority of the festival's film picks focus on social and political themes, making it the world's "social conscience" or "political" film festival". It is arguably the most important European film festival thanks to its breadth, with unparalleled opportunities for young talents to present debut films. More than in the competition section, the festival's highlights can be found in the Panorama section, the Forum for young filmmakers, the Perspective on German Film and in its Retrospective section, unique to European festi-

vals and this time devoted to Ingmar Bergman. The festival also includes a Talent Campus to support gifted young artists from all parts of film production. This year there were 350 participants, including a large representation from India and Bangladesh. Among those offering their guidance was Bangladeshi director Istique (Ziko) Hussein.

Any speculation that the Golden Bear would be awarded this year on political grounds, was dispelled by the well-earned multiple prizes given to "A Separation". The film depicts a dramatic slice of life in modern Iran, examining with compassion and authenticity "the experience of guilt and sinning", as stated by one of the actors in the film. The drama in the film unfolds with the protagonists, a husband and wife with different priorities, damaging each other and their children, increasingly enmeshed in a disastrous web of lies. The film featured a group of relatively inexperienced actors, including Farhadi's daughter Sinera.

Another film taking a Bear was "The Turin Horse", a black and white film about a rural farmer, his daughter and his dying horse. It received enthusiastic praise from some critics and

was dismissed by others as too long and too dreary. After the awards ceremony, the director said this was his last film because "Everything that I believe needs to be shown comes together in this film. My filmmaking has come full circle."

The brothers Park, who took the Golden Bear for best short film, made their 33-minute fantasy film "Night Fishing" using an iPhone 4, showing what beautiful imagery you can capture without bulky, expensive cameras. The movie, which took ten days to film, is about a Korean fisherman whose only catch is a beautiful female shaman. Talking to the press, director Park Chan-wook said they'd shot as any other film, just with a smaller camera.

At the opening programme, Isabella Rossellini read out an open letter from Jafar Panahi, which included the lines: "The reality is they have deprived me of thinking and writing for twenty years, but they cannot keep me from dreaming that in twenty years inquisition and intimidation will be replaced by freedom and free thinking." The letter moved the audience to a standing ovation, some of them close to tears. The film festival's organisers placed an empty stool on stage with Panahi's name on it, to mark his absence.

Panahi's works were also spotlighted in the festival, starting with his film "Offside", which won a Silver Bear at the festival in 2006.

The Berlin film festival may face a challenge to maintaining its stature, through the effect of its timing in relation to the Oscars and to other festivals like Toronto, Venice and Sundance. But with a continued focus on social and political issues, with a continued effort to attract young talents and to offer a rich and multifaceted programme and with a greater focus on Asia, the Middle East, Africa and Latin America it should be able to achieve that. But it looks like it will be some time before the festival will be able to show a new film from Jafar Panahi.

The writer is a freelance contributor

NEW RELEASES

Baul Sangeet
A collection of Baul songs
Source: Shilpakala Academy, UNESCO

Tomar Pataka Jare Dao
A collection of poetry recitation
Source: Jagoron

Kemoney Chinho Tomarey
Documentary on Baul Shah Abdul Karim
Source: Image, Sylhet

Shurer Pathik
Documentary on Ramkanai Das
Source: Image, Sylhet

ATN BANGLA	ETV
11:15 Campus Parliament	01:30 Bangla Feature Film
02:50 Bangla Feature Film	05:30 Mukto Khabor
06:15 Ama Korbo Joy	06:30 Cine Hit's
08:00 Gaane Gaane Golpo	09:40 Drama: Cricket Crazy
10:45 Bishang Katha	12:00 Cricket: Phono Live Studio Concert
11:30 World Cup Big Hit's	12:30

CHANNEL 1	Diganta TV
01:30 Hridoy-er Gaan	12:30 Score Card
02:40 Tele-Film	02:05 Music Hour
06:00 Campus Hero	06:07 Sharal path (Live)
07:50 From the Gallery	08:05 Chena Ochena
11:30 From the Gallery	11:05 Down the Wicket
12:00 Gramphone Apher Shangkapatro	

nTv	Z Studio
10:05 Gaan-er Shomoy	10:40 Along Came a Spider
12:10 Cover Drive	01:30 Air Force One
02:30 Tele-Film	04:15 Inevitable
06:10 Shubho Shondhya	07:00 The Last Lear
06:45 Roop Madhuri	09:30 High Heels and Low Lites
09:45 Drama	11:30 Mission to Mars

abc radio FM 90.2	Radio	Forti Unlimited
09:00	Mukto Khabor	06:00 Ramper to Ramper
12:00	Damun Dugunoy	10:00 Club Four's
03:00	Duanta Bileky	01:00 Back to Back music
05:00	Shambhava	04:00 TOPIA FM 89.5
07:00	Shajer Maja	11:00 Musi Unlimited
09:00	Rak-er Akashy	01:00 Today's World
11:00	Golper Shesh Nes	04:00 Music
RADIO FOOTI		01:00 U-Turn
08:00	Adabali	08:00 Today Tai Hok
12:00	Boor Paka	11:00 Raat Ebor Gaan

Bangladesh vs. West Indies
On Star Sports at 02:30pm
ICC Cricket World Cup 2011 Live from Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium Mirpur, Dhaka

Everybody's Fine
On Star Movies at 10:20pm
Genre: Drama
Cast: Robert De Niro, Kate Beckinsale

Chhokha Char
On Boishakhi TV at 06:20pm
Entertainment Show
Guest: Khaled Mahmud Sujan, Hamim Ahmed

HBO
12:30 Species II
04:30 Drillbit Taylor
06:30 Watchmen
09:30 Friday the 13th
11:30 The Blair Witch Project

Star Movies
02:55 News In Town
07:00 Born to Raise Hell
08:40 Into the Sun
10:20 Everybody's Fine
12:05 I Am Number Four

Star World
07:30 Coffee With Karen
08:30 Walking Dead
10:30 Burn Notice
11:30 Two And A Half Men

Star Sports
12:00 ICC Cricket World Cup '11 H/As
Cricket World Cup '11: Bangladesh vs. West Indies
02:30 Cricket Extra: Post Show

BBC World
11:00 BBC World News
11:30 World Business Report
11:00 The Hub with Nik Gowling

ATN BANGLA	10:45pm Tourist
09:20pm	Haat-er Reika Katha
	Boley
CHANNEL 1	08:15pm Director
09:35pm	Mazr Chhokha
	09:05pm Case Chapter
nTv	08:15pm I am Natasha
08:15pm	Rumali
08:05am	Man Power

NEWS BULLETIN

nTv	BANGLAISON
News (Bangla) at 8:00 am	News (Bangla) at 7:30am
2:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 8:00 pm,	1:30pm, 5:00pm, 7:15pm,
News (English) at 10:00am,	10:30pm,
4:00 pm, 10:30 pm,	News Headlines (Bangla) at
Late Night News (Bangla and	10:00am, 12:00am, 4:00pm,
English) 11:30 pm, (to be	News (English) at 6:00pm
telecast on all Bangla	nTv
channels),	News (Bangla) 2:30 pm,
News (Bangla) 7:00 am,	4:30 pm, 6:30 pm, 8:30 pm,
9:00 am, 2:00 pm, 6:00 pm,	10:30 pm, 12:30 am
10:30 pm, 12:30 am	nTv
News (Bangla) 7:30am,	News (Bangla) 9:00am,
ATN BANGLA	11:00 am, 10:00 am, 3:00pm,
NEWS (Bangla) 7:00 pm,	5:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm,
10:00 pm, 11:00 pm, 1:00	am, 4:00 am
01:00pm, 3:00pm, 04:00pm	News (English) 9:00 am,
News (English) 9:00 am,	6:00 pm,

ATN BANGLA	Rtv
12:30am	Gramphone
01:00am	Islam Ki Bole Amra Ki Kori
CHANNEL 1	12:05pm
09:45am	Gramphone
12:05pm	Tittyo Matra
12:05pm	Kara Aalap
	Tankapal
	Boishakhi TV
	01:10pm
	Time to Cricket
	12:00am
	Zero Hour
	BANGLAISON
	12:05pm
	Maha Shuta Ai-Quran
	06:00pm
	How's That

DS CAFE



This month DS Cafe will have noted media personality Pijush Bandyopadhyay take your calls at The Daily Star office. Readers will have the opportunity to converse with him on the Liberation war and more. Call 8126155 on Sunday, March 6, between 12 and 1 pm to speak to him!!!

Group Exhibition at Tivoli Gallery

A CORRESPONDENT

Tivoli Art Gallery has organised a group art exhibition, titled "7 Visions", featuring the works of seven painters -- Elham Kaque Khuku, Dilruba Latif, Mohammad Jalaluddin, Mokhlesur Rahman, Laila Sharmmen, Samiran Chowdhury, Sayda Karim Mini and Uttam Kumar Karmakar.

The exhibition opened on March 3 at Tivoli Gallery in Gulshan-2, Dhaka and will continue till March 12.

Dhaka University Vice Chancellor Professor AAMS Arefin Siddique inaugurated the exhibition as chief guest. Veteran painter Quayyum Chowdhury; noted economist Debapriyo Bhattacharjee and Selim R.F. Hossain, CEO and managing director of IDLC Finance Ltd, were present as special guests.