WHAT'S ON

Children's Art Exhibition
Title: Mitsubishi Asian Children's Enikka Festa
Venue: National Art Gallery, Shilpakala Academy
Date: March 18-23

Painting Exhibition on Bangabandhu
Venue: Sufia Kamal Milonayoton, National Museum
Date: March 16-23

Dol Utshab
To commemorate the life and works of Fakir Lalon Shai
Venue: Chheuria, Kushtia
Date: March 18-22

Exhibition
Title: Peace Women Across the Globe, Peace Women Across Bangladesh
Venue: Alliance Fracaise de Dhaka, Dhamondi
Date: March 8-19

Solo Photography Exhibition
Photographer: Naymuzzaman Prince
Venue: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, Dhanmondi
Date: March 25-April 6

Photography Exhibition
Title: In Search
Venue: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, Dhanmondi
Date: March 25-April 6

Group Installation Show
Title: Dhaka Seeks Solitude
Venue: Goethe Institut, H-10, R-9, Dhanmondi
Date: Mar 10- Apr 7
Time: 11am-8pm

Painting Exhibition
Artist: D. D. Mollick
Venue: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, 26, Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi
Date: April 8-21

Group Art exhibition
Title: Women in Nature
Venue: Drik Gallery, H-58, R-15/A, Dhanmondi
Date: March 17-23
Time: 3pm-8pm

Desperately **Seeking** Breathing Space

Exhibition at Goethe Institut highlights a distraught Dhaka

AKRAM HOSEN MAMUN

Walking into Goethe Institut in Dhanmandi, Dhaka, one notices a fairly large structure of whitened bamboos -- with shoes and mirrors hanging randomly from the intricately positioned arms. What is more unsettling about this piece is that little plants with tiny green leaves are sprouting out of these shoes. Little cups and kettles put on an accompanying table are also growing plants. Ronni Ahmed, in whose work absurdity is a constant feature, created this installation, titled "Mirror Image of Grassroots Green Activism and Safe Future for the Mass People".

The exhibition, "S.O.S-Dhaka Seeks Solitude!", features installations, paintings and digital prints by Ronni Ahmed, Rokeya Sultana and Mustafa Zaman. The artworks all over the institute will be on display till April 7.

Ronni's installation and digital prints manifest his keen sense humour, artistic playfulness and are ripe with symbolism. "Since we have destroyed or used up every space that could be used for growing trees, why not try planting seeds in our shoes?" -- he suggested, laughingly. His installations and images where iconic places and art objects of Dhaka have been playfully incorporated into classic masterpieces of art, may suggest overtones of Dadaism (the early 20th century cultural movement that challenged conventional art forms). The artist, however, is reluctant to let his works be labelled as "Dadaist". "My work sharply differs from the kinds of works that are called 'modern'. Rather, there are elements of avant-garde post-modernism in my work," Ronni said. Case in point: he has used Madhu's Canteen (on Dhaka University campus) as the background of "The Last Supper" with a serpent slithering on the table.

Clockwise (from top): "Mirror Image of Grassroots Green Activism and Safe Future for the Mass People" by Ronni Ahmed; "Zero Level Delirium III" by Rokeya Sultana and "Caught between Smoke and Air" by Mustafa Zaman. PHOTO: MUMIT M.

The concept, "Dhaka Seeks Solitude!", is prevalent in all the works on display. The issues of ever-growing lack of serenity, open space, and green in the city have been engaged in the artworks.

Mustafa Zaman's installations titled, "Caught between Smoke and Air" and "Constructing Openings According to Dhaka Underground" are efficient forms of spectacle. "My work maps the zeroness of existence by tracking the physical structures of the city that we have so tactfully named Dhaka," said Zaman. He has cut holes on canvas and put black round stickers on the floor that create illusions of holes to a startling effect. "I tried to create a sense of absence, gap and emptiness that has disappeared from our lives." Because we are "full of us and, we as us are destabilising reality by robbing it off its moments of oblivion."

Zaman evidently tried to relate the physical existence with essence of his work by referring the voids in the nether regions of Dhaka. "We have apparently occupied every inch of this city. The only place that has not been properly utilised (pun intended) and has emptiness is the underground," he said.

The images, titled "Zero Level Delirium I and II" by Rokeya Sultana, Professor of Printmaking at the Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka, are strictly minimalist and capable of communicating with the audience easily. Her works mostly speak of the "prevailing monstrous situation in Dhaka," in her words. "There is no space between two subjects or any two mediums. And when you look up into the sky all you can see are high-rises; the trees are all gone." Referring to the pollution and choking atmosphere, she says that she can "visualise Spiderman creeping up the walls, or King Kong walking over the lined up cars on the streets." Her reference to the tremendously busy space of the media that incessantly bombards viewers with images of celebrities is splendidly satiric.

The exhibition, curated by Murshida Arzu Alpana, opened on March 10. Helmut Holzheuer, the Chancellor, Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany, inaugurated the exhibition. Also present as special guest was prominent art critic Mainuddin Khaled.

Baul Festival in Kushtia

AMANUR AMAN, *Kushtia*

A three-day Baul Utshab (festival) concluded at Daulatpur upazila in Kushtia last Thursday.

The festival is the second largest event of its kind in the region; the biggest being Lalon Smaran Utshab (Lalon memorial festival) at the mystic bard's shrine in Cheuria, Kushtia. Baul Utshab has been organised for the last two years by Daulatpur Upazila Shilpakala Academy.

A rural fair was also held at Daulatpur Upazila Parishad ground. Chairman of Daulatpur Upazila Parishad, Hares Uddin inaugurated the festival last Tuesday evening.

The festival was dedicated to the philosophy and music of Fakir Lalon Shai. On the inaugural day, a rally was brought out from the upazila headquarters. Baul artistes, cultural activists and people from all walks of life participated in the rally.

A discussion was held on the opening day. The theme of the discussion was "Upholding Lalon's Philosophy and Present State of Bauls in Contemporary Bangladesh."

Kushtia Deputy Commissioner Abdul Mannan was chief guest at the discussion.

Deputy Secretary to the Establishment Ministry, Aktar-uz-Zaman was present at the programme as chief guest.

The event rounded off with the distribution of the Abdur Razzak Stipend among the underprivileged and meritorious students of Daulatpur upazila.

Arma group of company supported the event.

Classical Music Workshop by Fulki

Sheela Momen (2-R), head of Fulki, with the classical music exponents. PHOTO: STAR

PRANABESH CHAKRABORTY, *Chittagong*

Leading cultural organisation and institute of the port city, Fulki, held a workshop on classical music. The training was conducted by renowned classical music exponent of the Agra Gharana and former Director of Sangeet Research Academy [of Kolkata], Pandit Bijoy Kichlu, along with an accomplished artiste of the same gharana, Shubhra Guha at the institute of Fulki and Raktakarabi in Chittagong.

The artiste duo has been conducting the workshop for classical music enthusiasts since March 17.

The two artistes will perform for the music connoisseurs of the port city at Theatre Institute, Chittagong this evening.

They will also speak on the characteristics of the Agra Gharana at the programme.

Revving Up to Rhythm

Palan Sarker honoured at Rajshahi University

RU CORRESPONDENT

Students, teachers, guests and the audience at Rajshahi University (RU) swung to the rhythm of folk songs at a musical programme organised recently by Muktijoddha Shangshad Shontan Command's RU unit on the occasion of the reception to Ekushey Padak winner Palan Sarker.

The organisers also accorded a reception at Folklore Chattar on the campus to the first year students of the university who are freedom fighters' sons and daughters.

The programme started in the evening with Hasan Azizul Haque, an eminent litterateur of the country and main speaker at the programme, handing over a crest to Palan Sarker.

Later at a discussion, recalling the people who had sacrificed their lives in the Liberation War, Sarker said, "If the country had not been freed from the Pakistani rulers we would have had to live as their slaves."

He urged the daughters and sons of freedom fighters to work for the country, while recalling their parents' sacrifices in 1971.

Hailing Sarker as a "pioneer of knowledge", Haque urged the younger generation to learn from the lives of those who dedicate their lives to humanity.

RU Pro-Vice Chancellor Professor Muhammad Nurullah; student adviser Professor Golam Sabbir Sattar; Rajshahi University unit of Muktijoddha Shangshad Shontan Command convener SM Aktarul Kabir; member secretary Abdullah Al Kafi, among others, spoke at the discussion. Later 80 students from the 2009 and 2010 batches, who are the sons and daughters of freedom fighters, were awarded crests by the guests.

The main attraction of the event was popular folk songs rendered by several Baul artists.

Baul Shafi Mandal performed several songs on repeated requests from the audience: among them "Raat Pohale Pakhi Boley", "Cholo Jai Anondo Bazarey", "Agey Ki Shundor Din Kataitam" and "Doyal Baba". Revving up with the music, the audience danced in front of the stage.

Upcoming folk artiste Munna won appreciation of the audience for his soulful performance of "Amar Mondo Shobhab Jeneo Tumi", "Kon Pothey Jabo Mona" and more.

Baul Shadhon Khepa, Hashu Mia and Dalar Baul performed several folk songs including "Jedin Hindu Musalman Buddho Christian", "Kobey Shadhur Charan Dhuli", "Ghumaile Shopne Dekhi" and " Bhed Bidhir Por", "Din Duniar Majhe Dekhlam" that had the audience on their feet till midnight.

Grand Finale of Talent Hunt for RMG Workers Today

A CORRESPONDENT

The grand finale of the musical talent hunt for garment workers, "Premier Bank Gorbo" (by BGMEA), will be held today at 5:30pm at the Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel, Dhaka. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has consented to grace the programme as the chief guest. Commerce Minister, Faruk Khan; State Minister for Labour and Employment, Munnujan Sufian and LGRD Minister Syed Ashraful Islam will also be present at the event.

Hosted by Munmun and Tania, the programme will be broadcast live on Banglavision.

Prisoner of Azkaban Voted Film of the Decade by Young Fans

"Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban" has been named the Film of the Decade at the First Light Awards in London.

The prize, voted for by the public in association with the BAFTA Kids' Vote, was chosen by children aged 5 to 15.

The film was up against other favourites including "Shrek", "Whale Rider", "Happy Feet" and "Up".

Producer David Heyman said it was an "honour and a privilege" to receive the award at a ceremony at Odeon Leicester Square.

"It's especially exciting and moving to be voted Film of the Decade by children aged 5 to 15," the BBC quoted Heyman as saying. "We made the film for children of all ages from 10 to 105 really, but clearly a core part of our audience is young people and to be honoured is a privilege," he added.

Source: Internet

A Field Day for Children

KONGKON KARMAKER, *Dinajpur*

'Shisu Ananda Mela', a three-day long elaborate programme to celebrate talented youngsters, in Joypurhat ended last Thursday evening.

The festival started on March 15, at Abul Kashem Complex in Joypurhat town. Joypurhat Shisu Academy organised the programme.

At least 13 cultural organisations of the district participated at the festival. Authorities of Joypurhat Shisu Academy claimed that around 4,000 children -- aged between four and six -- visited the festival with their parents.

"Such events are helpful in developing a child's inquisitive mind and talents," said Md. Rafiqul Islam, father of a four year old boy.

Monzur Hasan Bhuiyan, Acting Deputy Commissioner of Dinajpur, inaugurated the event as chief guest on March 15.

Cultural programmes were held every night at the three-daylong festival. Performances by the tiny tots moved the audiences.

THE WEEKLY STRUM

Song: Alo Pho(n)ta Khub Pho(n)ta,
Album: Alor Pithey A(n)dhar (2011)
Band: Gaaner Dol O Krishnokoli,
Lyric and tune: Krishnokoli

C Am G
Alo Pho(n)ta Khub Pho(n)ta Ek Pho(n)ta
Bhorey
C G C
Aamar Dukh Du'Chokh Jurey.
G C G C
Tobuo Aamra Chhilem E Prithibi Jurey
C G
Tobuo Keu Bolini
G
Bhalobashi
C G C
Boro Bhalobeshey.

Taan: G C

D F D F
Bhijey Matir Mithey Poli
C G C G
Mongora Ghar Tultey Tultey
Dm C
Bhabi Boli Boli
F G C G
Bolbo Ki Aar Bhabtey Aamar
D C
Nei Badha Tai Bhabi
F G C G
Bolbo Ki Aar Bhashtey Aamar
D C
Nei Badha Tai Bhashi
C G
Boro Bhalobashi
C G C
Bhabtey Bhabtey Bhashi
C G
Boro Bhalobashi
G GC
Bheshey Bheshey Bhabi.

WHAT TO WATCH

DEXTER THE LOVEABLE SERIAL KILLER

RAISAA TASHNOVA

Like blood? Like murders? Love serial killers?

If you haven't answered in the affirmative to the following questions, then "Dexter" can change all that. "Dexter" (not the whiz lab cartoon kid) is a new show on Star World which relays the story from the other side.

Dexter is a psychopath with an uncontrollable urge to kill and because of adequate guidance from his adoptive father -- a police officer -- he evolves to be less spiteful. He works as a forensic 'blood splatter' expert for the Miami homicide department and through work comes in contact with many thoroughly evil killers. If any of these killers and rapists gets away because of some technicality, Dexter doles out his own brand of justice.

Dexter cleans off the criminals not to be a 'hero' but to satisfy his primal urges, all the time following a code, which makes his vampire like thirst an advantage for the society. His code, known as "Harry's Code" [Harry was his adoptive father] guides him through the whole process of selection, dissection and disposal of his prey. The code also tells him how not to ever get caught -- code number 1.

From one episode to another, Dexter evolves from an empty shell of a human -- devoid of emotions -- to growing a strong conscience. It is his fight with his monstrous urges and human conscious that makes the story so interesting.

This is one show that is difficult to stop watching; absolute guilty pleasure.

All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme.

BTV
09:10 ICC Cricket World Cup'11: Bangladesh vs. South Africa
05:30 Bangla Feature Film
08:35 Documentary: Banglar Pothey Prantorey
09:05 Cricket Highlights

ATN BANGLA
02:45 Bangla Feature Film
06:15 Shustha Thakun
10:45 Bihango Kotha
11:30 World Cup Big Hits
01:00 Campus Parliament

CHANNEL i
01:05 Bangla Feature Film
05:15 Krishi Shangbad
09:35 Hridoye Mati O Manush
11:30 From the Gallery
11:50 Art Show: Laal Golap

Desh TV
03:00 Bangla Feature Film
04:00 Desh Janopad
07:45 Shongskriti Sharadesh
12:30 Total Sports

Boishakhi TV
10:30 Bangla Feature Film
01:10 Time to Cricket
05:15 Boishakhi-CNN Shara Bishwa
08:45 Onno Alor Gaan
12:30 Shudhu Cinemar Gaan

Diganta TV
12:30 Score Cards
01:30 School Angina
05:30 Aparajita
09:25 Drama Serial
11:05 Down the Wicket

Z Studio
10:45 Sky High

RADIO

abc radio FM 89.2
09:00 Mukhorito Jiboney
12:25 Standard Chartered-The Daily Star Jiboner Jryjaun
03:00 Duranto Bikeley
05:00 Shondhatara
09:00 Raat-er Akashey
11:00 Golper Shesh Nei

RADIO FOORTI
08:00 Addabazi
02:00 Foorti Unlimited
06:00 Bumper to Bumper
10:00 Back to Back music

RADIO TODAY FM 89.6
06:00 Green FM
08:00 Good Morning Dhaka
11:00 World Music
04:00 U Turnx
07:00 Tobe Tai Hok

Bangladesh vs. South Africa
On BTV at 09:10am
ICC Cricket World Cup 2011 Live from Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium Mirpur, Dhaka

Meet the Fockers
On Z Studio at 12:00am
Genre: Comedy/ Romance
Cast: Ben Stiller, Robert De Nirox

Hridoye Mati O Manush
On CHANNEL i at 09:35pm
Documentary programme
Host: Shykh Seraj

12:00 Grameenphone Ajker Shangbadpotro

ntv
12:50 Shastha Protidin Gallery
04:10 Shongskriti Ei Shaptaho
06:45 Sholoana Bangaliana
07:20 Busy-der Easy Show
09:00 Joke Performance
11:30 Show: Ha-Sho

ETV
01:30 Bangla Feature Film
05:25 Vobo Gure Dot Com
05:50 Sports Plus
06:30 Cricket Extra
10:10 Golpo Solpo Gaan
11:50 Cricket Crazy

Rtv
12:05 Protidin-er Gaan
04:30 Drama Serial: Ebong Bhola
06:00 Extra Inning
08:30 Dhupadi Kahini
11:15 Cricket Highlights
11:25 Jegey Achho Ki

BANGLAVISION
01:05 Bangla Feature Film
05:20 Garbo: Gao Pran Khuley Gao
11:20 Rivers Swing
01:30 Meet the Parents
03:50 The Terminal
06:40 Mystery, Alaska
09:30 Oscar
12:00 Meet the Fockers

HBO
09:45 Monsters vs. Aliens
01:00 Shorts
03:00 The Hangover
04:45 American Pie: The Wedding
07:00 Two Brothers
09:30 The King of Fighters

Star Movies
10:30 Meet Dave
01:40 Shadow Man
03:20 Bad Boys
07:00 The Fourth Kind
08:45 Drag Me To Hell
10:30 Born To Raise Hell
12:10 Slow Burn

Star World
10:30 Castle
09:30 The Good Guys
10:30 The Walking Dead
11:30 White Collar

National Geographic Channel
10:30 A Traveler's Guide to the Nei

DRAMA SERIAL

ATN BANGLA
08:00pm Kak Daka Bhor
08:40pm Neel
10:55pm Aayna Ghor

CHANNEL i
07:50pm Choita Pagol
10:00pm Ural Ponkhi Mon

ntv
08:15pm Chader Nijer Kon Alo

ETV
09:30pm Putul Nach-er Etikotha

Rtv
10:40pm Life Is Beautiful

BANGLAVISION
08:15pm Ladies First

Desh TV

NEWS BULLETIN

BTV
News (Bangla) at 8:00 am 2:00 pm.5:00 pm.8:00 pm. News (English) at 10:00am, 4:00 pm, 10:00 pm. Late Night News (Bangla and English) 11:30 pm. (To be telecast on all Bangla channels).

CHANNEL-i
News (Bangla): 7:00 am, 9:00 am, 2:00 pm, 9:00 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:30 am

ATN BANGLA
NEWS (Bangla): 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11:00 pm, 1:00 am, 4:00 am
01:00pm, 3:00pm, 04:00pm
News (English): 9:00 am, 6:00 pm.

BANGLAVISION
News (Bangla) at 7:30am. 1:30pm. 5:00pm. 7:15pm. 10:30pm.
News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00am. 12:00am. 4:00pm.
News (English) at 6:00pm

Rtv
News (Bangla): 2:30 pm, 4:30 pm, 6:30 pm, 8:30 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:30 am

ntv
News (Bangla):7:30am, 12:02pm, 2:00pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm, 1:00am

ETV
News (Bangla): 9:00am, 11:00 am, 1:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 11:00pm

TALK SHOW

ATN BANGLA
09:20am Top Spin
10:30am Grameenphone Lead News

CHANNEL i
11:05am Amader Aayna
12:30pm Citycell Taroka Kothan
06:00pm Cricket World

ntv
12:10pm Ei Shomoy

ETV
12:05am Banglalink Ekushey Raat

Rtv
10:45am Bashudha Tarokalap

Desh TV
06:00pm How's That