WHAT'S ON

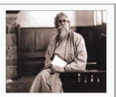
Group Art Exhibition
Title: Standard Chartered Sreejoni 2010
Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, H-60, R-7/A, Dhanmondi
Date: April 1-10

Mukh O Mukhosh 3
Venue: Galleri Kaya, H-20, R-16, S-4, Uttara
Date: March 26-April 6
Time: 11am-7:30pm

Grand Group Art exhibition
Venue: Saju Art Gallery, DCC Market, Gulshan-2
Date: April 1-30
Time: 10am-8pm

Book Fair
Organiser: Adorn Publication
Venue: Public Library, Seminar Hall, Shahbagh
Date: April 2-13
Time: 10am-8pm

Documentary Screening
Title: Bangladesh-e Rabindranath
Organiser: Surlok
Venue: Bangladesh National Museum Auditorium



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

Contemporary Australian Art Exhibition
Title: BALGO
Venue: Gallery Cosmos, 69/1, New Circular Road, Malibagh
Date: April 1-13

Worthy Words

Discussion on Tagore's paintings

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

On the occasion of the approaching 150th birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore, Indian art critic Pranab Ranjan Roy articulated his views on Rabindranath's paintings and their various aspects on March 31 at Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts in Dhanmondi, Dhaka. Bengal Gallery organised the programme. Subir Chowdhury, director of Bengal Gallery, delivered the welcome speech. Veteran painters, writers, academics attended the event.

Pranab Ranjan Roy said, "Rabindranath Tagore started painting at the age of 70. The drawings of Tagore confirm that the poet, though a master of words, felt that certain things can be better expressed with brush-strokes. Possibly he then decided to express his visions through the language of line, tone and colour.

"Tagore was humble about his own artworks. He said 'I have no formal training in any school of art. Maybe my paintings are not absolute in the sense they should have been.'

"Many critics claim that Tagore was influenced by German Expressionism. This is not true. He was unique in his style and developed a special technique. Landscapes often appear in his paintings. Most of his landscape paintings feature two certain times of the day -- late afternoon and early morning. He used black lead pencil, colour pencil, pastel, ink, water colours and coloured ink.

"Golden yellow was Tagore's favourite colour as it bears a resemblance to the golden rice fields. Dark chocolate and black have also been prolifically used in many of his paintings. He has drawn perhaps 20 portraits which are marked by mystery and enigma. Eyes are noticeable features in his works. The thoughtful, oval (a tad elongated) face of a woman with large, poignant eyes was also a recurrent feature in his paintings."

Pranab Ranjan Roy concluded by saying, "I love Tagore's paintings for their inward perspectives, natural rhythm and the reflection of an artistic splendour."

(Top-right) Pranab Ranjan Roy speaks at the programme. Paintings by Tagore.

Beauty in Diversity

Ethnic Minority Drama Festival 2011 at National Theatre Hall

A CORRESPONDENT

Curtain came down on the four-day long Ethnic Minority Drama Festival 2011, organised by Khudra Nri Goshthi Cell [Cell for ethnic minority groups] of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA), at the National Theatre Hall, BSA yesterday.

The festival was a part of BSA's endeavours to facilitate the practice of languages, culture, and heritage of ethnic minority groups. The programme was an opportunity for the ethnic groups as well as Bengalis to celebrate the rich diversity of the country. At the discussions, issues relating to nationality, religion and prospects for linguistic diversity were focused.

At the festival, theatre troupes representing ethnic groups from Rajshahi, Khagrachari, Dinajpur, and Rangamati staged their plays.

The plays shed light on the issues of gender inequality and rights of the ethnic groups.

The festival began with a staging of "Ditom" by Manwa Natyadal, Rajshahi on March 30. Jum Shamajik-Shangskritik Samshad, based in Khagrachari, staged "Chandobi" on the second day of the festival. The tragic tale of Chandobi, based on a true story, engaged the issues of discrimination against women in the Chakma community.

Dinajpur based troupe Oraon Shishu-Kishore Theatre's "Mandi Amnkhi" and Rangamati based troupe Rangdhang Theatre's "Ban" also drew interest of the audiences.

The festival was inaugurated by Kazi Keramat Ali, chairman, Parliamentary Standing Committee of the Cultural Ministry. Kamal Lohani, director general, BSA presided over the event.

Oraon Shishu-Kishore Theatre stages "Mandi Amnkhi". PHOTO: MUMIT M.

Standard Chartered Bank's Art Camp Exhibition begins

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Standard Chartered Bank (SCB) Bangladesh recently organised a 45-daylong art workshop, titled "Standard Chartered Sreejoni 2010". The theme of the art camp was watercolour. The workshop's aim was to popularise the watercolour medium among promising painters of the country. Around 42 artists participated at the workshop.

Veteran watercolourists Biren Shome and Samiran Chowdhury conducted the workshop. Senior painters Samarjit Roy Chowdhury, Alakesh Ghosh and Rezaul Karim were instructors.

The current exhibition of Dhaka Art Centre (DAC) is the outcome of the art camp. The exhibition opened on April 1 and will continue till April 10. Sandeep Bose, head of consumer banking, SCB in Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka inaugurated the exhibition as chief guest. Seasoned painters Samrjit Roy Chowdhury, Biren Shome; Gitanka D. Datta, head of cards, consumer banking of SCB; Manzar-e Hasin Murad, one of the trustees of DAC and participating artists attended at the programme.

About 90 artworks are on display at the exhibition. Participating painters are the students of Faculty of Fine Arts (University of Dhaka), Narayanganj Fine Arts Institute, Bulbul Academy of Fine Arts and University of Development Alternative in Dhaka.

(From left) Gitanka D. Datta, Biren Shome, Sandeep Bose and Samarjit Roy Chowdhury at the inauguration of the exhibition.

Fair and cultural programme by the river Korotoa

QUAMRUL ISLAM RUBAIYAT, *Panchagarh*

Starting April 1, the three-day-long historic 'Baruni Snan', a religious ritual of the local Hindu community, began at Boalmari Baruni village in Panchagarh.

Devotees cutting across all age groups are flocking to the venue to take a dip in the Korotoa river, a symbolic gesture believed to wash away sins.

Along with the religious event, a seven-day mela (fair) also began on the river banks the same day.

Around 500 stalls, displaying handicrafts, household items, pottery and handmade toys, among other articles, have been set up at the venue. Traders from adjacent districts including Thakurgaon, Dinajpur and Nilphamari have set up stalls with their products.

A number of puppeteers and circus teams have descended from different parts of the country including Jessore and Khulna to give performances.

Cultural programmes, showcasing local groups and artistes, are also being held every evening at the mela.

President of Boalmari Baruni Ganga Temple, Ajit Kumar Singh, told this correspondent that the Baruni Snan is an annual event that begins here on Chaitra 13, in the Bangla calendar.

About five lakh devotees from different parts of the country take a holy dip in the river every year, he added.

To celebrate its 12th anniversary, cultural organisation Sur Shaptak arranged a programme at Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy on April 1. At the programme, music exponent Sudhin Das was honoured with a lifetime achievement award. Noted dancer duo Shibli Mohammad and Shamim Ara Nipa staged a performance at the programme. Artistes of Sur Shaptak and guest musicians performed popular songs on the occasion.

PHOTO: MUMIT M.

FIRST LOOK

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows 2

The first look of the last film in the Harry Potter series is out. "Harry Potter And The Deathly Hallows 2" will reportedly be the shortest among all of the Potter movies, and is set to release on July 13.

The end begins as Harry, Ron, and Hermione go back to Hogwarts to find and destroy Voldemort's final horcruxes but when Voldemort finds out about their mission, the biggest battle begins.

Central characters Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint, Emma Watson, Helena Bonham Carter and Ralph Fiennes, who plays Lord Voldemort, will reprise their roles in the movie.

Source: Internet

MOVIE REVIEW

Amar Bondhu Rashed

Young Courage Under Fire

JAMIL MAHMUD

We often hear teenagers these days show less interest in reading; rather, they are always busy with browsing the web, playing virtual games and watching films. Keeping that in mind, adaptation of Liberation War themed stories, novels and other fictional works into films is a way of encouraging the youngsters to get acquainted with the history of the nine month-long brutal war that freed the country.

Filmmaker Morshedul Islam has tried to accomplish that with his latest film "Amar Bondhu Rashed". Based on a fictional work [for adolescents] by Dr. Mohammad Zafar Iqbal, the film highlights the valour a teenage freedom fighter who embraces martyrdom.

What makes this film a much welcome endeavour is that it has been made particularly for children and adolescents, future nation-builders, who need to be aware

Films, of a certain standard, on the theme of Liberation War are not that many in number. Considering that, Islam's "Amar Bondhu Rashed" certainly enriches that genre.

What makes this film a much welcome endeavour is that it has been made particularly for children and adolescents, future nation-builders, who need to be aware of our history. Though it is a fictional work, through its articulation of emotions and ability to inspire empathy, this film can communicate with every teenager.

The director, who has made films for young audiences before, claimed that he saw much of himself in the protagonist of the film.

The film narrates the story of Rashed, a student of class eight, living in a small town when the war breaks out. He along with his friends gets involved with the war and start helping freedom fighters in many ways.

Rashed is unlike his classmates and friends. When his classmates are usually busy with typical juvenile activities, fun and games, Rashed remains aloof and shows no interest in such activities. He is preoccupied with the political turmoil the country is embroiled in.

When a neighbour asks Rashed and his friends if they're familiar with what's happening around them, it becomes apparent that Rashed is well aware.

When the war breaks out and everyone is encaged by utter fear, Rashed roams around and keeps himself updated with the ongoing incidents around him.

Though the film highlights the war, the story is being narrated in present time, by one of Rashed's friends, Rokibul Hasan aka Ibu to his teenage son.

The storytelling, involving a father and his son, signifies the educative aspect of the film -- parents or elders who had witnessed the war firsthand should share their experiences with post-war generations.

The film, in some cases, lacks momentum though. For instance, it does not show how Rashed is captured by collaborators of the occupying Pakistani army. The last few scenes seemingly wrap up abruptly and in haste.

The cast of young actors' lack of experience and depth is also apparent throughout the film. Seasoned actors such as Raisul Islam Asad, Wahida Mallick Jolly and Pijush Bandyopadhaya provide what's expected of them but none of them have a major role in the film.

Chowdhury Joyit Afnan played the protagonist. The group of young actors also included Raihan Iftesham Chowdhury, Rifayet Zinnat, Faiyaz Bin Zia, Likhon Rahi, Kawsar Abedin and Kazi Raihan Rabbi.

L. Opu Rosario is the cinematographer of the film. Emon Saha directed the music. The editing of the film was done by Ratan Paul.

"Amar Bondhu Rashed" was released nationwide on April 1.

Recitation programme on Kanthabithi's 13th anniversary

HOSSAIN SERAJ, *Magura*

Kanthabithi, an organisation of reciters in Magura, held a two-day long programme featuring poetry recitation to mark its 13th founding anniversary that ended on Friday evening.

The programme, titled "Dukkhey Jokhon Milon Hobey, Anondolok Milbey Tobey" began last Thursday evening at the Asaduzzaman auditorium in Magura town.

On the first day of the programme, Kanthabithi's child artistes presented group recitations. Among others, Abdur Romim, Jewel Ahmed, Shibli Faruk Ripon, Mita Saha, Sultana Zahan and Selim performed solo and duets. Reciter and news presenter of the TV channel Banglavision, Shams-us-Zoha, as well as Biplob Majumder, Shilpi Mitra and Mahmuda Akhter from Dhaka were invited performers.

Performers from the cultural group Abriti Abriti, of Kushtia Islamic University, also recited poems at the programme.

Penelope Cruz Receives Star on Hollywood Walk of Fame

Oscar-winning actress Penelope Cruz received a coveted star on Hollywood Boulevard's Walk of Fame last Friday, becoming the first Spanish actress to earn the honour.

Cruz, who won her Oscar for supporting actress playing a fiery artist in Woody Allen's movie "Vicky Cristina Barcelona", called the unveiling of her pink granite star "a very special day that I will always remember.

"Every time I look at that star, I will see the names of all the people that have helped me make many of my dreams a reality," she said at the unveiling attended by a large crowd, including her husband Javier Bardem and friend, Johnny Depp.

Cruz, 36, thanked her parents, siblings, Bardem and their newborn son, "for making me happy every day."

The Spanish beauty made her acting debut on television when she was just a teenager and began her feature film career under the direction of Pedro Almodovar in his 1992 movie "Jamon Jamon", in which she starred opposite Bardem.

She was featured in several Almodovar films before making the move to Hollywood where she has worked in movies such as "Blow", "Vanilla Sky" and "Nine", Next up, she stars opposite Depp in "Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides".

Source: Internet

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

ATN BANGLA
01:25 Shurer Madhuri
03:15 Khelar Jagot
05:00 Gram Gonjer Khabor
05:35 Boshudha Dhak Dhol
10:45 Bihongo Kotha
11:30 Big Hit's

CHANNEL i
01:05 Ebong Cinemar Gaan
05:15 Krishi Shanbad
06:00 The Daily Star Standard Chartered Jibon-er Golpo
11:30 Prokriti O Jibon
12:00 Grameenphone Ajker Shangbadpotro

ntv
10:05 Bangla Feature Film
04:10 Janar Achhey Bolar Achhey
05:30 Apnar Jiggasha
Sharabishwa
05:30 Shudhu Cinemar Gaan
06:20 Rabindho Bhubon
10:50 Reporters Dairy

Z Studio
10:30 Just Like Heaven
01:30 My Boss's Daughter
03:30 The 13th Warrior
06:30 Last Action Hero
09:30 Falling in Love
11:30 Mystery, Alaska

Star Movies
10:30 Alien Hunter
01:55 National Security
03:30 Glitter
05:20 Over The Top
07:00 The Ghostwriter
09:10 6Th Day
11:20 Children Of The Corn

HBO
07:20 Sholo Ana Bangali Ana
09:00 Drama: Aah! Balika

ETV
05:50 Sports Plus
06:30 Desh Jure Oporadh Porikoma
07:50 Ta Na Na
10:10 Media Gossip
11:50 Cricket Crazy

BANGLAVISION
09:05 Shudhui Gaan
01:05 Bangla Feature Film
06:05 Ebong Class-er Bairey
11:30 Business Vision
12:30 Shangbadh Protidin

Rtv
08:30 Our Democracy
02:30 Bangla Feature Film
11:30 Diplomatic Zone

Desh TV
04:00 Desh Janopad
05:30 Durpath
07:45 Amra Dujon Dekhte Kemon
12:30 Total Sports

Boishakhi TV
10:30 Bangla Feature Film
05:15 Boishakhi-CNN
11:15 Invisible Target
03:15 Bean
05:15 Billy Madison
07:30 A Cinderella Story
09:30 Semi-Pro
11:15 The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring

Star World
11:30 American Idol
02:30 Friends
09:30 Koffee With Karan
10:30 Detroit 187
11:30 Desperate Housewives

National Geographic Channel
11:30 Nat Geo Amazing
02:30 World's Deadliest Animals
08:30 Weird & Wonderful Hotels
10:30 Best of Wild
11:30 Nat Geo Wild

Discovery Channel
10:30 Ganesh, Boy Wonder
02:30 Snakes, Sumo and Bocks
08:30 The Blue Planet

RADIO

abc Radio FM 89.2
06:00 Bhorer Janalay
09:00 Mokhurito Jiboney
12:00 Darun Dupurey
03:00 Duranto Bikeley
05:00 Shondha Tara
07:00 Shaj-er Maya
09:00 Raat-er Akashey
11:00 Golper Shesh Nei

RADIO FOORTI
10:00 Morning Express
12:30 No Tension
04:00 Dhaka Calling
09:00 Full Volume
11:00 Back to Back music

RADIO TODAY FM 89.6
08:00 Good Morning Dhaka
12:00 Today's Adda
04:00 U Turn
07:00 Tobey Tai Hok

Aah! Balika
On ntv at 09:00pm
Single Episode TV Play
Cast: Mahfuz Ahmed, Richi Solaiman

The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring
On HBO at 11:15pm
Genre: Action/ Adventure
Cast: Elijah Wood,

Amar Ami
On BANGLAVISION at 09:05pm
Celebrety Talk Show
Guest: Hasan, Ashikuzzaman Tulu

DRAMA SERIAL

ATN BANGLA
08:40pm Neel

CHANNEL i
09:35pm Maar Chhokka

ntv
08:15pm Chader Nijer Kon Alo Nei

ETV
09:30pm Lalita

BANGLAVISION
08:15pm Ladies First
09:45pm All Rounder

Rtv
07:50pm Neel Jonnaay Kalo Saap
10:40pm Life Is Beautiful

Desh TV
09:45pm Nikamal-er Bioscope

Boishakhi 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
10:30am Grameenphone Lead News
11:05am Asian City Topspin
12:10pm Promito Bangla

CHANNEL i
09:45am Grameenphone Tritiomatra
12:30pm Taroka Kathan

BANGLAVISION
09:05pm Amar Ami

Rtv
10:45am Tarokalap

Desh TV
11:45pm Shoja Kotha

Boishakhi TV
01:10pm Time to Cricket
12:00am Zero Hour