WHAT'S ON

Book Fair
Organiser: Ottijiyo
Venue: Central Library premises, Shahbagh
Date: April 24-May 20
Time: 9am-8pm

Group Art Exhibition
Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, Dhanmondi
Date: May 12-18
Time: 12pm-8pm

Film Festival
Organiser: Zahir Raihan Film Society
Venue: Alliance Francaise, 26, Mirpur Rd
Date: May 12-21
Time: 4pm onwards

Solo Painting Exhibition
Artist: Iffat Ara Dewan
Venue: Bengal Gallery, H-275/E, B-27, Dhanmondi
Date: May 5-15
Time: 12pm-8pm

Satyajit Roy Retrospective
Organiser: Indira Gandhi Culture Centre
Venue: Bangladesh National Museum
Date: May 13-16
Time: 3pm and 6pm

Celebrating Tagore's Birth Anniversary
Title: Shishu Bai Mela
Venue: Bashundhara City, Panthapath
Date: May 5-15
Time: 10am-8pm

Group Art exhibition
Title: Rabindranath Tagore
Venue: National Art Gallery, BSA
Date: May 6-15
Time: 11am-6pm

Jatio Shishu-Kishore, Adibashi Natyo Utshab
Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall, BSA
Date: May 9-19
Time: 4: 30pm

Seminar & Cultural Programme on Tagore
Venue: TSC Auditorium, Dhaka University
Date: May 14-15
Time: 11am onwards

BAPPA MAZUMDER @DS CAFÉ

Bappa Mazumder, frontman of the band Dalchhut, is one of the leading contemporary musicians in the country. His song "Pori" remains among the most popular songs of recent years. Bappa was the guest celebrity at DS Café recently and fans had the opportunity to speak to him over the phone.

Barsha, Jahangirnagar University: Where did you study?

Bappa: I passed my SSC exams from Wills Little Flower and did my HSC from Notre Dame College. I did my graduation from Dhaka City College.

Sagar Chowdhury, Sylhet: Which is your most favourite song?

Bappa: Many songs are close to my heart. But at the moment, the song that comes to my mind is Shonjibda's (Chowdhury) "Ki Amake Diyechile Bangoposhagor". I love that song!

The Daily Star (TDS): Being the son of Barin Mazumder -- a pioneering classical musician and the founder of music college, did you start off with classical music lessons?

Bappa: My first lessons were *Sa-Re-Ga-Ma*, but I learnt the ABCs of music through classical lessons. I completed a five year course at my father's music school, called Monihar Sangeet Academy. I've also learned about that genre from my family.

TDS: Did you receive further training on traditional Bangla songs as well?

Bappa: Not really. I picked up a few Rabindra and Nazrul songs from my mother. But I've never gone through any formal training. I was more of a wild child. I always hastened away before learning a whole song, saying: "I'm done!"

TDS: The songs performed by you mostly belong to contemporary genres. How did you get into that?

Bappa: The funny thing is, although classical music dominated my home-sphere, when I was young, my elder brother Partha Pratim Majumdar and his friends rehearsed songs for the Red Cross using many western instruments. And that fascinated me. If it wasn't for him, I wouldn't get the chance to sample global music. I also listened to artistes like Bhupen Hazarika, Manna Dey and Kishore Kumar. I think these are the reasons behind my musical preference.

TDS: Were you involved with any other band before joining Dalchhut?

Bappa: I had a band before, but that was just a couple of college friends getting together for jamming. It was called 'Chain'. We never performed live, but got together for the heck of it and were even able to record an album! But that was that. We were never really serious. However, I started my solo career before joining Dalchhut. My first solo album "Tokhon Bhor Bela" came out in 1995, even before I joined Dalchhut.

TDS: Which is more important to you now, Dalchhut or your solo career?

Bappa: Both are equally important to me. But sometimes I prioritise Dalchhut as I have a deep attachment to the band. I never perform live as a solo artiste.

TDS: You've done some acting as well...

Bappa: I wouldn't go as far as to call that acting. I did exactly what I'm doing now: sitting and having a little chat. That's it! I played myself.

TDS: Your take on the crises that the audio industry is facing now?

Bappa: Piracy is the biggest challenge for the industry now. Free downloading from the Internet has become a bigger threat than pirated CDs. This issue needs to be dealt with sternly. The key industry players always tell us that business is going downhill. The payments are delayed now more than ever. Their claims are somewhat justified as CD sales are seeing a slump. When a person has the option of getting something for free, he/she wouldn't likely spend any money on it. The websites that offer free downloads need to be shut down and the authorities concerned should step up to implement the law.

TDS: Free downloading is a global phenomenon. How are artistes in other countries surviving its effect?

Bappa: Producers in many other countries are honest to the system. The rightful payments are ensured to the artistes, writers and composers. But we don't have that practice here.

TDS: It seems that the music industry is fragile on the inside!

Bappa: I couldn't agree more. It's always the artiste who is cheated; composers and lyricists, who are denied.

TDS: What about royalties?

Bappa: There is no proper system for that in our country.

TDS: Do you miss Shonjibda?

Bappa: I miss him all the time.

Monir, Pangsha, Rajbari: How did you step into the media?

Bappa: It's a tough question. There is one person who needs to be acknowledged for bringing me to the media. That is Hasan Abidur Reza Jewel.

TDS: Any update on your new album?

Bappa: Work's proceeding but haven't decided on the title yet. I'm trying to bring something fresh with this latest effort.

TDS: Who do you think are the top performers of the time?

Bappa: Habib is doing tremendously well. Fuad is also excellent. I like listening to the music of Arnob too. Hridoy is also quite promising. All of these artistes are my favourites.

Shumona, Narayanganj: You have a brilliant voice. May I know your date of birth?

Bappa: Thanks Shumona. February 5.

Transcribed by Shah Alam Shazu

Theatrewala JAGGO

A retrospective of three directors

PHOTO: MUMIT M.

(Clockwise from top): Scenes from "Shylock and Sycophants", "Urnajaal" and "Kohey Birangana".

Jamil Mahmud

Theatre movement has been lauded as one of the most significant achievements in the field of culture. Theatre-based little magazine Theatrewala recently took an innovative initiative. The magazine arranged an eight-day retrospective that featured works of three talented directors -- Faiz Zahir, Azad Abul Kalam and Shuvasis Sinha.

The festival, opening on May 5 and ending on May 12, was unique. It was an effort to give the audience a chance to look at the directors' works more intensively as well as to celebrate their talents.

The festival was the brainchild of Hasan Shahriar, editor of Theatrewala. Shahriar informed that the initiative was taken to observe and understand young directors' works in a better way. "Considering the turnout at theatre venues nowadays, I thought that such kind of festival would help the audience understand the course of our theatre trends," said Shahriar. He also urged the theatre troupes to arrange such festivals more often so that interaction between the directors and the audience is ensured.

It is notable that a couple years ago Theatrewala also arranged "Rango Maton Solaiman Mela", a festival named after one of the pioneering theatre personalities, the late SM Solaiman.

The eight-day retrospective was held at the Experimental Theatre Hall of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy. The festival kicked off with the staging of the Udichi play "Half Akhrai". The play was directed by Azad Abul Kalam. Kalam's other plays staged at the festival were the Prachyanat production "Koinna" and Theatrewala Repertory production "Shylock and Sycophants".

The festival featured eight plays by the directors that were produced and staged by different troupes. Diversity and observations on society from several angles were the themes.

Azad Abul Kalam's plays deal with issues such as mysticism and rituals (in "Koinna"); the ongoing controversy regarding arts -- 'is it for the masses or only for the so called refined individuals?' ("Half Akhrai") and the consequences of a family falling prey to capitalism ("Shylock and Sycophants").

Shuvasis Sinha, who has practically initiated a theatre revolution in the remote area of Kamolganj, in Maulvibazar, attended the festival with two of his works -- "Kohey Birangana" and "Sree Krishna Kirtan". Both plays have been produced by Sinha's own troupe, Manipuri Theatre.

Manipuri Theatre mainly deals with the traditions and culture of the Manipuri community that we find in the play "Sree Krishna Kirtan". On the other hand, "Kohey Birangana" is an adaptation of Michael Madhusudan Dutta's "Birangana Kabya".

Apart from direction, Faiz Zahir is also an accomplished light and set designer. The multi-talented director's plays at the festival were "Che'r Cycle" (produced by Bangla Theatre); "Kaibarto Gatha' (Bibarton, Jessore) and "Urnajaal" (Nandimukh, Chittagong).

Curtains came down on the festival with the play "Shylock and Sycophants".

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

ATN BANGLA
01:35 Prapak
02:45 Bangla Feature Film
06:15 Shuotha Thakun
09:20 Drama Serial: Banglar Baro Vaia
10:45 Bihango Kotha
10:55 Drama Serial: Aayna Ghar
12:05 Ebong Cinemar Gaan
01:05 Bangla Feature Film
05:15 Krishi Shangba
09:35 Hridaye Mati O Manush
11:30 Fun Club Tournament
12:20 Ami Boi-er Kotha Bolchhi

ntv
10:05 Bangla Feature Film
12:50 Shuotha Protidin
04:10 Gallery
06:45 Sanskriti Ei Shaptaho
09:00 Viewers Hour
03:30 Bishay-er Bangla
05:15 Boishakhi-CNN Shara Bishwa
10:50 Nirapad Sarak Chai
11:30 Boishakhi Binodon O Sanskriti Sangbad

Z Studio
10:45 The Truman Show
01:30 How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days
03:30 Starship troopers
07:30 The Savage Five
09.30 Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest

CHANNEL i
03:30 Bishay-er Bangla
07:00 Shuvasis Sinha
09:00 Kaibarto Gatha
11:30 Urnajaal

HBO
11:30 Along Came Polly
03:15 Don Juan DeMarco
05:15 Friday the 13th

RADIO
abc radio FM 89.2
06:00 Bhoner Jandaje
09:00 Mukhorita Bhoney
12:00 Duran Dupney
03:00 Duranta Bikeley
05:00 Shonelhatara
07:00 Shajer Maya
09:00 Raat-er Akashey
11:00 Golper Shesh Nei

RADIO FOORTI
08:00 Adabazzi
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 Turn
07:00 Tobu Tai Hok
10:00 Raat Ver Gaan
12:00 Hutum Pecha

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

Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets
On HBO at 11:30pm
Genre: Adventure/ Fantasy
Cast: Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint

Close Chapter
On BANGLAVISION at 09:05pm
Drama Serial
Cast: KS Firoz, Mahfuz Ahmed

ETV
11:30 Drama: Bistri
10:02 Dehghari
01:30 Bangla Feature Film
05:50 Sports Plus
06:30 Yabu Gane Dot Com
07:50 Musical Programme: Golden Voice
12:02 Ekushey-er Raat

Rtv
10:10 Dhrupodi Kahini
01:10 Bangla Feature Film
05:00 Music R Music
05:30 Aroma Rupkotha
06:00 Look at Me
07:40 Black Truth

BANGLAVISION
10:10 Moner Kotha
11:05 Ami Ekhon Ki Karbo
12:05 Probashi Mukh
01:05 Bangla Feature Film
05:20 Islami Jibon
12:00 Shunghad Protidin

Desh TV
03:00 Bangla Feature Film
04:00 Desh Janapoth
07:45 Desh Top Chat
12:30 Total Sports

Boishakhi TV
10:30 Bangla Feature Film

Star Movies
12:15 Dragon ball: Evolution
01:45 Street Fighter
03:35 500 Days of Summer
07:00 All About Steve
08:45 Nine
10:50 Desperado

Star World
02:30 Friends
04:30 Dexter
09:30 The Good Guys
11:30 Desperate Housewives

National Geographic Channel
11:30 I Didn't Know That
02:30 Nat Geo Specials
10:30 Best of True Stories
11:30 Combating Terror

Discovery Channel
05:30 Swords
08:30 Speed of Life
09:30 Time Warp
11:30 Man vs. Wild

BBC World
11:00 BBC World News
11:30 Middle East Business Report
02:30 Earth Report
11:30 Third Eye
12.15 Sport Today

DRAMA SERIAL
ATN BANGLA
08:00pm Kak Dhaka Bhar
08.40pm Noel
CHANNEL i
07.50pm Chorita Pagol
ntv
08:15pm Chader Nijer Kon Alo Nai
Rtv
08.20pm Golla
09.05pm Ar Cora
BANGLAVISION
08.15pm Ladies First
09.05pm Close Chapter
ETV
09.30pm Pulul Kach-er Elokcha
Desh TV
08.15pm Shupno-bhuk
Boishakhi TV
09.10pm Thirty First May

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
12:30am Local News
01:00am Vision 2020
CHANNEL i
09.45am Tritiio Matra
11:05am Amader Aapna
12:30pm Tarokka Kathon
ntv
12:30am Ei Sikamoy
BANGLAVISION
11:25pm Lal Golap
Rtv
10:40am Tarokulap
ETV
10:10pm Galpo Shalpo Gaan
Desh TV
11:45pm Sheja Kotha
Boishakhi TV
12.00am Zero Hour

THE WEEKLY STRUM

Song: Dreamer
Album: Down to Earth (2001)
Artiste: Ozzy Osbourne

C……Am……
Gazing Through The Window At The World Outside
C……Am…..
Wondering Will Mother Earth Survive
F……Dm……..G..Gsus4..G
Hoping That Mankind Will Stop Abusing Her, Sometime

C……Am……
After All There's Only Just The Two Of Us
C……Am
And Here We Are Still Fighting For Our Lives
F……Dm……G..Gsus4..G
Watching All Of History Repeat Itself, Time After Time
……C……
I'm Just A Dreamer
….Am……Em…..G..Gsus4..G
I Dream My Life Away
……C……
I'm Just A Dreamer
……Am……Em….Gmaj
Who Dreams Of Better Days
…C……Am……
I Watch The Sun Go Down Like Everyone Of Us
……C……Am..
I'm Hoping That The Dawn Will Bring A Sign
…F……Dm……G..Gsus4..G
A Better Place For Those Who Will Come After Us, This Time
……C……
I'm Just A Dreamer
….Am……Em…..G..Gsus4..G
I Dream My Life Away
……C……
I'm Just A Dreamer
……Am……Em….Gmaj
Who Dreams Of Better Days
……Dm……..G..Gsus4..G
Your Higher Power May Be God Or Jesus Christ
….Dm……..G..Gsus4..G
It Doesn't Really Matter Much To Me
……Dm……G..Gsus4..G
Without Each Others Help There Ain't No Hope For Us
…..Dm……G..Gsus4..G
I'm Living In A Dream Of Fantasy,
……C……Am
Oh Yeah, Yeah, Yeah
C….Am…..C….Am….F…Dm…G..Gsus4..G

…..C……Am….
If Only We Could All Just Find Serenity
….C……Am..
It Would Be Nice If We Could Live As One
……F……Dm……G..Gsus4..G
When Will All This Anger, Hate And Biggotry, Be Gone?
……C……
I'm Just A Dreamer
….Am……Em…..G..Gsus4..G
I Dream My Life Away. Today
……C……
I'm Just A Dreamer
……Am……Em……..G..Gsus4..G
Who Dreams Of Better Days, Oh Yeay
……C……
I'm Just A Dreamer
……Am……Em……G..Gsus4..G
Who's Searching For The Way, Today
……C……
I'm Just A Dreamer
…Am……Em……..G..Gsus4..G……C
Dreaming My Life Away, Oh Yeah, Yeah, Yeah

Source: ultimateguitar.com

Album featuring recitation of Tagore Poems and Letters

A Correspondent

A recitation album featuring poems and letters of Rabindranath Tagore was released recently. Swanan, an organisation of reciters, released the album on the occasion of 150th birth anniversary of the poet.

The album was launched at the Swaparjito Shadhinota premises on Dhaka University campus. Noted poets and poetry enthusiasts attended the programme.

Titled "Rabindranath", the album features 19 poems and letters. Some of them have never been included on a recitation album, according to a member of the organisation.

Poets Asad Chowdhury, Belal Chowdhury and Habibullah Sirajee unveiled the cover of the album.

CANNES 2011

Uma Thurman and Rosario Dawson honoured for contributions to independent cinema

This year's Cannes Film Festival is filled with big-budget movies like "Puss in Boots" and "Kung Fu Panda 2," but on Thursday evening, the focus was on the realm of independent film.

Cannes judge Uma Thurman and actress Rosario Dawson were honoured for their contributions to indie cinema Also lauded were "Sleeping Beauty" director Jane Campion and the film's producer, Jessica Brentnall, and a handful of other women.

Dawson has been in plenty of mainstream films, but says she will never forget her indie roots in films like "Kids."

"I've been acting since I was 15, doing independent films and now we have all of these women directors who are being nominated and their films are being shown and put across this audience," she said. "I think it's fair and that's exciting to see that over all these years."

The event was held on the beach across from the celebrity filled Martinez hotel, and was hosted by Calvin Klein Collection and the Independent Filmmakers Project.

Vanessa Hudgens, who belongs to a younger generation of actresses, said she attended because she wanted to show her support for her fellow actresses.

"I think it's really great when somebody gives women an opportunity to come out and stand up for what they are doing, and I'm so excited to be here," Hudgens said.

Source: **Internet**

Group Art Exhibition at Dhaka Art Centre

Staff Correspondent

Painter Nasima Khanam Queenie, in collaboration with Dhaka Art Centre (DAC), has organised a group art exhibition, titled "Rejoice", featuring the works of 17 Bangladeshi painters. The exhibition, celebrating the 150th birth anniversary of Nobel laureate poet Rabindranath Tagore, is now on at Dhaka Art Centre in Dhanmondi.

Featured painters are Jamal Ahmed, Sayed Hasan Mahmud, Dilara begum Jolly, Wakilur Rahman, Nisar Hossain, Atia Islam Anne, Selina Chowdhury Mili, Syeda Mahbuba Karim, Nasima Khanam Queenie, Afroza Jamil Konka, Shamsul Alam Azad, A.H. Dhali Tomal, Anukul Chandra Majumdar, Safin Omar, Mintu Dey, Ferdows Ara and Farzana Rahman.

About 40 artworks are on display at the exhibition. Participating painters have used different mediums including pastel, acrylic, mixed media, wood cut and relief print on paper and canvas. The gathering of seasoned and emerging artists, variety of media and wide-ranging subjects have ensured uniqueness at the ongoing exhibition.

The exhibition was inaugurated by Professor Abdul Mannan, former MP and chairman, Parliamentary Standing Committee, Ministry of Cultural Affairs on May 12. Veteran painter Samarjit Ray Chowdhury and poet Asad Chowdhury were present as special guests on the occasion. The exhibition will continue till May 18.