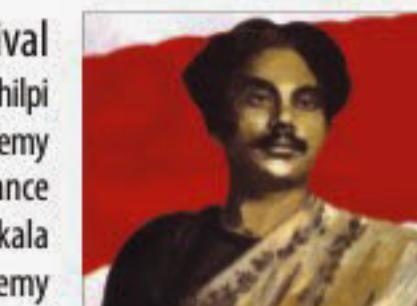


WHAT'S ON



Solo Art Exhibition
Artist: Monirul Islam
Venue: Gallery Chitrak,
Dhannondi
Date: May 27-June 15
Time: 10am-8pm



Nazrul Festival
Organisers: Nazrul Sangeet Shilpi
Parisad & Shilpkala Academy
Venue: National Music & Dance
Centre Auditorium, Shilpkala
Academy



Theatre Festival
Organiser: Bangladesh Group
Theatre Federation
Venue: Shilpkala Academy
Date: June 3-17
Time: 7pm everyday



19th National Art
Exhibition
Organiser: Shilpkala Academy
Venue: National Art Gallery,
Shilpkala Academy
Date: May 28-June 17



Solo Painting Exhibition
Title: Esence of Mystery
Artist: Tarak Mahadi
Venue: La Galerie, Alliance
Française de Dhaka, Dhannondi
Date: June 3-16



Solo Art Exhibition
Artist: Mostapha Khalid Palash
Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, R-7 A
H-60, Dhannondi
Date: June 17-July 1
Time: 11am-8pm



Solo Photography
Exhibition
Title: In Search
Photographer: Nizamuzzaman Prince
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts,
Dhannondi
Date: June 3-14; Time: 12-8pm



Photography Exhibition
Title: Bay of Bengal in Focus-1
Venue: Drik Gallery, H-58, Rd-
15/A, Dhannondi
Date: June 5-8
Time: 3-8pm



CIRCUS IN THE CITY

Though lately, the urban, educated class is seemingly uninterested in circus, the shows at BSA have generated interest among people from all walks of life.

PHOTO: MUMIT M.

A CORRESPONDENT

The exotic acrobatics and caricatures by two circus troupes are drawing more crowds than Bangladesh Shipkala Academy (BSA) premises can possibly accommodate. Organised by the Department of Dramatics & Motion Picture, BSA, the eight-day circus festival features performances by The Lion Circus of Dhaka (June 1-4) and The Rowshan Circus from Nilphamari (since June 5).

Though lately, the urban, educated class is seemingly uninterested in circus, the shows at BSA have generated interest among people from all walks of life. The crowd seemed amused by the tricks of the dwarfs and jesters, while a balancing act on a rope had them thrilled with apprehension of an accident.

A common feature of both circus

troupes is the pranks and comic acts by a dwarf and a jester. The tricksters had the audience break down in laughter. The Lion Circus Troupe's act, titled "Loose Rope Balancing", had a man demonstrating several skills while maintaining balance on a rope, tied seven feet high across the stage. It was probably the most exciting part of the show.

The Rowshan Circus troupe's performance was truly entertaining although some of the acts seemed a little crass at times. The bellowing crowds seemed incredulous when a member of the troupe swallowed gallons of water without a pause and then filled empty jugs with the water coming out of his mouth.

"Chinese Latin Balance", "Fire Dance" and "Roller Skating on the Table" are among the most enjoyable acts by the Rowshan Circus.

The festival ends on June 8.



Nazrul Festival at Shilpkala Academy



Artists of Nazrul Sangeet Shilpi Parisad during a chorus (top); Bhaswar Bandyopadhyay reads Nazrul's speech "Jodi Aar Bansi Na Baje" at the festival.

PHOTO: MUMIT M.

ZAHANGIR ALOM

Marking 112th birth anniversary of the National Poet, Nazrul Sangeet Shilpi Parisad (NSSP), in collaboration with Bangladesh Shipkala Academy (BSA), has arranged a five-day Nazrul Utsab (festival) at the National Music and Dance Centre auditorium of BSA. Nazrul exponent and head of trustee board of Nazrul Institute, Professor Rafiqul Islam, inaugurated the festival as chief guest on June 5.

President and general secretary of NSSP, Ferdausi Rahman and Sujit Mustafa respectively, spoke at the opening programme.

Sujit Mustafa informed the audience on the current activities and upcoming projects of NSSP. Ferdausi Rahman demanded a Nazrul Practice Centre where artistes can rehearse and practise the creations of the National Poet throughout the year.

Among seasoned artistes, Nashid Kamal rendered "Prem Katarai Laag Gayi" while Yasmin Mushtari performed "Shokhi Bandh-lo Bandh-lo Jhulon".

Reciter Bhaswar Bandyopadhyay read out Nazrul's speech "Jodi Aar Bansi Na Baje".

Badrunessa Dalia, Faizul Haque Bijoy, Chowdhury Mostak Hossen Sharmin Shathi Islam, M.A. Mannan and others performed "Shanjeri Pakhira Phirilo Kulaye", "Ami Jadi Arab Hotam", "Gul Bagichar Bulbuli Ami", "Keno Kandey Poran Ki Bedonay", "Amina Dulal Nacheh Halim Koley" and more on the first day of the festival.

Warda Rehab presented two dances at the event, and Alaudin Mian played tunes of Nazrul Sangeet on his violin. The festival features instrumental renditions of Nazrul compositions: saxophone, guitar, flute and sitar on each day.

Gazi Abdul Hakim on flute, Firoz Khan on sitar, Almas Ali on violin, Pallab Sanyal on tabla, Bindu Roy on keyboard and Tafmin Khan on guitar instrumentally assisted the singers.

The event was hosted by Dr. Nashid Kamal.



54TH VENICE BIENNALE

Old Gleam Encircles Fresh Art



Untitled wax sculptures by the Swiss artist Urs Fischer burn slowly at the 54th Biennale in Venice.

Turrell's dreamy installations, in which changing light creates an alternate universe of space and color. Nearby the Swiss artist Urs Fischer caused something of a sensation with a monumental functioning wax candle in the full-scale form of Giovanni Bologna's 16th-century sculpture "The Rape of the Sabine Women."

Even video art had a historical story line. Pipilotti Rist, also Swiss, showed three framed LED screens with engravings of 18th-century Venice overlaid with 21st-century moving images of the sky and sea. And in the Japanese pavilion the artist Tabaimo created vast projections -- melding animated manga with traditional ukiyo (floating world) wood-block-inspired illustrations -- that cascade down curved and mirrored walls. The project, the artist has said, was about "receding into isolation in the face of globalisation."

More personal was the German pavilion, this year's winner for best national pavilion, which displayed work by Christoph Schlingensief, the artist and filmmaker. The entire space was transformed into a replica of the church where he spent his teenage years as an altar boy, with videos he made relating to his battle with cancer.

The artist Thomas Hirschorn, whose environmental installation consumed the Swiss pavilion, also dealt with time. He created a science-fiction-like setting out of a mishmash of stuff -- old cell phones and televisions, computer screens, magazines, dolls and plastic chairs -- much of it wrapped in plastic foil; it was a world of high-speed obsolescence.

As the title "Illuminations" implies, the theme of light is ubiquitous. In the Arsenale lines formed to see one of the American artist James

Programme highlighting Nazrul's life and works

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

Marking the 112th birth anniversary of National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam, a programme highlighting the secular, humanist ideology of the poet, was held on June 4 in the district.

Bangladesh Uddhi Shilpi Goshthi's Satkhira unit organised the programme that included a discussion, recitation of poems, play, songs and dances. The discussion was held at Satkhira Officers' Club auditorium with Uddhi Satkhira unit's president Maniruzzaman Chhhatu in the chair.

Satkhira deputy commissioner Md Kefayetullah was the chief guest.

Nazrul researcher Sheikh Karimul Alam; Professor Abdul Hamid; Professor Nimai Mandal; poet Paltu Basbar, among others, took part in the discussion on the life and literary works of Nazrul.

Paying homage to Nazrul, the speakers said that the nation is indebted to him for his immense contribution to Bangla literature and music. They were of the view that the "rebel poet" enlightened the society through his inspiring poetry, songs, novels and plays.

Nazrul's anti-imperialist and revolutionary writings inspired people to take part in nationalist movements, they said.

After discussion, the cultural programme was held at the venue.

Spirit of Liberation War in Focus
Three-day theatre festival in Pabna

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU, Pabna

A three-day street theatre festival ended in Pabna on Saturday amid much festivity. In association with Bangladesh Shilpkala Academy and Bangladesh Pathan Natach Parishad, leading theatre troupe of Pabna, Darpan Sangskritik Goshthi, organised the festival held at Pabna Town Hall premises.

Plays staged at the festival were: "Shadhinota Dirghoshishash" by Darpan; "Shironamh" by Gonoshilpi Sangstha, Pabna; "Mahabidya" by Manobadhirak Natyo Parishad, Pabna; "Ponta Okali" by Railway Artists Group, Ishwardi; "Koilollo" by Opera Natyo Dal, Dhaka; "Rajai Rajai" by Nondon Theatre, Kushtia; "Mohonoy" by Chiknal Theatre, Chatmohar; "Royal Bengal Tiger" by Anushilon Ashi and "Shadhinota Juddho" by Theatre 77.

The speakers stressed on the role of street theatre in generating awareness on various social issues among the masses. Theatre is a powerful weapon to combat the bleak reality, they added.

Street theatre is more significant as it

reaches people from all walks of life who don't have the opportunity to attend proscenium-based performances, they were of the view.

Ten plays were staged during the three-day festival. Troupes from Pabna and adjoining districts staged their productions at the festival.

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"All plays staged at the festival reverberated the spirit of the Liberation War. Through this festival we have tried to inspire people to keep the values of our freedom movement alive," A.N.M. Hadi Hadi, president of Darpan, said.

National Theatre Festival '11
Natyakendra stages "Aroj Charitamrita"

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Theatre troupe Natyakendra staged its production "Aroj Charitamrita" on June 5 at the Experimental Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpkala Academy. The show was part of the ongoing fortnight-long National Theatre Festival, organised by Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation.

Aroj Ali Matubbar died in 1985. His writings "Shotyer Shandhaney" (The Quest for Truth) and "Srishtir Rahashya" (The Mystery of Creation) are widely acclaimed.

The play depicts the hardship that the philosopher suffered throughout his life because of his values and convictions.

Aroj Ali, a self-taught philosopher, was born in 1900 in the village of Lamchari, Barisal district. He studied for only a few months at the village madrasa (religious school). He acquired most of his knowledge on varied subjects, including

science and philosophy, through his own efforts. He shunned conventional religious traditions, and for this, he was treated as a blasphemer by his neighbours.

Aroj Ali Matubbar died in 1985. His writings "Shotyer Shandhaney" (The Quest for Truth) and "Srishtir Rahashya" (The Mystery of Creation) are widely acclaimed.

The play narrates the philosopher's life, starting from his early childhood.

Lincoln Abhi played the adolescent Aroj, while Abid Rehan played the adult Aroj. Lucy Tripti Gomes played Aroj's wife. The cast also included Jhuna Chowdhury, Yusuf Hassan and Sangeeta Chowdhury.

Mosharraf Karim directed the music. Taequir Ahmed designed the set of the play.

The same day, Barisal Natok staged Manik Bandopadhyay's "Pragoitihash" at the National Theatre Hall.

The National Theatre festival will continue till June 17. Today, Theatre Art Unit will stage "Amina Shundori" at the National Theatre Hall, while Aranyak Natyadali will stage "Raraang" at the Experimental Theatre Hall.



ATN BANGLA

12:15 Off Time
01:25 Drama
06:15 Katha Mala
08:00 Mokbul
10:45 Bihanga Kotha
10:55 Nandini

CHANNEL 1

01:05 Ekong Cinemar
01:30 Gaan
01:45 Hridoyer Gaan
04:05 Business Talk
07:50 Khuday Gaanaj
12:00 Ajker Shangbadro

ntv

10:05 Android Master
04:10 Janar Achhey Bolar
Achhey
Ajker Joggasha
Crime Watch
06:45 Manabjami

Z Studio

04:30 25th Hour
07:30 Wedding Daze
09:30 Remember the Dantes
12:00 Reign of Fire
Star Movies

RADIO

abc radio FM 89.2
06:00 Bhor Janay
09:00 Mukhor Joibey
12:00 Duran Dupurey
03:00 Duranto Bikley
05:00 Shondha Tara
07:00 Shar-e-Subh
09:00 Rax er Achhey
11:00 Galper Shech Nei
Radio Foote

Poush

Phaguner Pala
On ATN BANGLA at
09:20pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Shamili
Ahmed, Afroza
Banu

Carriers

On HBO at 11:30pm
Genre: Drama/Horror
Cast: Chris Pine,
Piper Perabo

Raat Biratey

On ATN BANGLA
at 11:25pm
Street Show
Guest: Asad
Chowdhury

ETV

11:00 Gone in Sixty Seconds
03:35 Everybody's Fine
07:00 Letters to Juliet
08:50 No Tension
10:35 District 13 Ultimatum
11:30 Shadow Man

HBO

12:30 Bait
03:00 Case 39
05:15 Yes Man
09:30 Event Horizon
11:30 Carriers

RTV

01:10 Bangla Feature Film
05:00 Protidin-er Gaan
05:30 Amader Ward
12:00 Protidin-er Potrika
12:05 Crime Focus

BANGLAVISION

09:05 Shudhi Gaan
01:05 Bajet Protidin
06:30 Style File
09:05 Shurer Bhaba
11:25 Raat Biratey

Desh TV

04:00 Desh Janapad