

WHAT'S ON

Recitation and Musical Programme
Artists: Chanchal Khan and Rafika Ahmed
Venue: Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre, H-35, Rd 24, Gulshan-1
Date: Sept 16

Documentary Screening & Recitation From Gitanjali
Title: 'Bangladesh-e-Rabindranath' (Part 1)
Venue: KCC, Gulshan-1, Dhaka
Date: Sept 16

Solo Painting Exhibition
Artist: Mokheer Rahman
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, Dharmondi
Date: Sept 7-16
Time: 12-8pm

Solo Nazrul Sangeet Evening
Artist: Dr. Pradip Kumar Haldi
Organiser: Laser Vision Ltd.
Venue: Chhayasat Auditorium, Dharmondi

Celebrating 25 years of Ain O Salish Kendra
Venue: Chhayasat Samaditi Bhaban and Rabindra Sarobar
Date: Sep 23-24

Film Festival
Featuring works of French women filmmakers
Venue: Auditorium, Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, Dharmondi
Date: Sept 10-17

Solo Art Exhibition
Artist: Zebun Naher
Venue: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, 26, Mirpur Road, Dharmondi
Date: Sept 9-22

Discussion on Günter Grass
Title: Literary Encounters
Venue: Goethe-Institut, Dharmondi
Date: Sept 18

Dancing as a prayer

In conversation with Arpita Shome

ZAHANGIR ALOM

Arpita Shome is a dedicated dancer and teacher. She started her dance lessons at the age of five. Her culturally inclined parents, Rita Shome and Swapan Kumar Shome, inspired her to learn the performing art.

"You can say my siblings and I are deeply attached to the cultural scene. My sister sings, my brother plays the tabla, and I dance," said Arpita.

Abdus Sattar Kalu, a teacher at Rajbari Shilpakala Academy was her first mentor in dance. In 2003, Arpita received an Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) scholarship to study at Rabindra Bharati University in Kolkata, India where she completed her graduation and post-graduation in Bharatanatyam (in 2006 and 2008 respectively) under the supervision of Khagendranath Burman and Rajdeep Banerjee.

"I secured first class in my B.Mus (honours) examination with the highest marks in the Bharatanatyam category. During my stay at Rabindra Bharati, I performed in Madhya Pradesh, Kanpur, IIC (Institute of International Culture) Bhaban in Delhi and other parts of India," said Arpita.

Arpita joined Kalpataru, a dance school run by the cultural organisation Shadhona, as a teacher in late 2008. She also joined Chhayanaut, the leading cultural institution in the country, as a dance teacher in 2009. In late 2009, along with fellow dancers Warda Rihab and Amit Chowdhury, she formed a dance school called Dhriti.

"Shadhona arranged several workshops on dance forms like jazz, aerial (rope), chhau, raibeshey etc that were unfamiliar to us. My knowledge of pure Indian classical dance, combined with experience acquired through those workshops have emboldened me to think of undertaking innovative choreographies or even blending different forms. Such experiments are really interesting," the dancer added.

Arpita recently conducted a 10-day workshop on Bharatanatyam at Nazrul Academy. About 40 participants took part in the workshop.

She was appointed as a lecturer at the department of Dance at Shanto Mariam University of Creative Technology in January 2011. She also

worked as a guest teacher at the department of Theatre, University of Dhaka (DU), where she choreographed a DU production "Madhyam Byayog".

Dancers (South Asian) believe that they can relay emotions belonging to nine sentiments (popularly called "navras") more effectively through expressions rather than verbal communication. The nine sentiments or passions are: love, mirth, pity or tenderness, anger or wrath, heroism, terror or fear, astonishment or surprise, tranquillity or peace and disgust.

"Knowing these sentiments is very important for any artiste, be it from the spheres of theatre, dance, music or mime," said the artiste.

"Dance speaks an international language. Dancers, therefore, have to face more challenges in expressing their art form. Not only facial expressions but also a balanced corporal expertise is required to convey a thought or to depict imagery, whereas lyricists, composers, instrumentalists and music directors assist a singer in fashioning their art form. But we are still less appreciated compared to musicians. Artistes from diverse mediums should raise their voices in this regard," said Arpita.

"I regard dancing as an inseparable part of my life. It is like my everyday prayer. What I'd like to do is to take classical dance forward in our country. I look forward to working on Tagore's dance-drama 'Shyama'. Besides, I have a plan to portray the pot-chitra (craft) of Bangladesh through my dance in the days ahead," said Arpita.

Assessing the activities of Bangladesh Nritya Shilpi Shangstha (BNSS), Arpita pointed out, "BNSS has had several accomplishments but the leaders in the organisation should promote new artistes as well."

"While appearing on various TV channels, many models claim that they are/were dancers. However, a question mark hangs over their true calibre. Real dancers should protest against such fake claims. People watch live musical programmes on TV channels but we seldom see such programmes on dance. We want to see dance performances by skilled artistes so that the performing art can flourish and inspire the new generation of dancers of the country," Arpita said.



PHOTO: HUMAYT.M

Painter Nurul Islam's first death anniversary today



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Eminent painter Nurul Islam was recognised for his unique portrayal of curvaceous women with bold lines, subtle texture, as well as cubist forms.

Today marks his first death anniversary. On the occasion, a discussion and prayers will be held today at his son's residence (32 Lake Circus Road) in Dhaka. Noted scholars, critics and painters will take part in the discussion.

Nurul Islam was born in Tangail in 1933. He graduated from Dacca Art College (presently Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka) in 1956. His accomplishments included volumes of drawings, sketches, and

paintings. He was a multitasking artist working practically in all mediums -- oil, watercolor, gouache, etching, pastel, woodcut, linocut, pen and pencil.

Most of his works highlight folk elements; recurring motifs are birds, greenery, fish, pitchers and bulls. His semi-realistic and semi-abstract works of rural areas were marked by his lucid, time-consuming technique.

Islam set out as a figurative painter. During the early stages of his career, his works focused on nature and human figures. Along with natural elements, lines and varied familiar and unfamiliar forms are predominant features of his paintings. Some of his works seem to convey solitude.

Nitun Kundu's fifth death anniversary observed



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Yesterday marked the fifth death anniversary of artist, sculptor, cultural figure, entrepreneur and a hero of the Liberation War, Nitun Kundu.

Kundu graduated from Dacca Art College (at present the Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka) in 1959. Apart from being a sculptor, he was also a painter and was recognised for both his abstract and realistic works.

During the Liberation War, Kundu worked with veteran painter Quamrul Hassan for the Public Relations department of the then Bangladesh Government-in-exile at Mujibnagar. Some of his posters during the war earned him wide recognition. Most popular of these include "Shoda

Jagrato Banglar Muktibahini", "Amra Shobai Bangali" and "Banglar Bir Shuktijodha".

Among his sculptures, "Shabash Bangladesh" and "The SAARC Fountain" are much acclaimed. With his designs, Kundu wanted to present complex structures in simple atmosphere. His metal-based works have an air of modernism and the designs have enriched the Bangladeshi contemporary art scenario.

Kundu was also known for his furniture designs. Wood and metal both were main ingredients of his works. He was the founder of Otobi and received several awards throughout his illustrious career, including Ekushey Padak, National Film Award, President Gold Cup and The Daily Star-DHL Best Entrepreneur Award.

Polanski to pick up award at Zurich Film Festival



AP, Geneva

Organisers say director Roman Polanski will attend this month's Zurich Film Festival to accept the lifetime achievement award intended for him two years ago.

Festival spokesperson Claudia Wintsch confirmed Thursday he will be present at the September 27 tribute ceremony but would provide no more details.

The Oscar-winning director was freed in July 2010 from house arrest when Switzerland's government refused to extradite him to the United States where he faces charges of having sex with a minor in 1977.

Polanski also served two months in prison as the Swiss government pondered his extradition. Polanski's movements are restricted by an Interpol warrant in effect in 188 countries, but he moves freely between Switzerland and France.

DS CAFÉ



This month DS Café welcomes popular singer Kona. Get on the line with her for two minutes and fire away your questions. The best question will be highlighted in the transcription. Call 8126155, 01711623915 and 01711623917 on September 19, between 3 and 4pm, to speak to Kona!!!

Toronto film fest builds buzz, but business is off

The Toronto International Film Festival reached its midpoint on Tuesday with films like "The Descendants" and actor Michael Fassbender winning praise, but a nagging question about the future of dark dramas in Hollywood has hovered over the event.

Toronto, which along with recently wrapped festivals in Venice and Telluride, helps launch the movie awards season and industry pros gather here to build buzz for their films. Yet, while some dramas here have been praised for their stories and characters, few business deals have been made to put many of those movies into theatres.

Industry observers, such as Sony Pictures Classics head Michael Barker, said that while Toronto is "the ideal way to launch a film," there have been fewer deals made so far due to some content being considered a hard sell for consumers.

"Regarding new films that haven't been acquired, my personal belief is it's been slower than in previous years," Barker said.

Among the more popular work has been George Clooney's starring role as a soul-searching father in "The Descendants", as well as his directing and acting in political thriller "The Ides of March".

"Shame", which was acquired by Fox Searchlight before the festival but may be a hard sell in theatres for various explicit scenes, won over critics for British director Steve McQueen and

lead actor Fassbender, an award winner at last week's Venice film festival.

Fassbender, 34, has seen his acting career blossom after a performance in McQueen's first feature, "Hunger", which led to a role in "Inglourious Basterds" and another film showing at Toronto this year, David Cronenberg's "A Dangerous Method". He remained humble about a possible best actor Oscar nomination.

Brad Pitt's low key performance in "Moneyball", playing real life baseball manager Billy Beane, also earned applause, as did Glenn Close's gender-bending turn as a shy butler who passes herself off as a man in poverty stricken Ireland.

Roland Emmerich's "Anonymous" also earned early praise for its tale that questions whether Edward de Vere, the 17th Earl of Oxford, was truly the man responsible for the remarkable collection of plays and poems by William Shakespeare.

Among foreign films, Agnieszka Holland's "In Darkness" has impressed, and of the many high-profile documentaries here, early favourites have been Werner Herzog's "Into the Abyss" and the Cameron Crowe-directed "Pearl Jam Twenty".

Madonna's film "W.E." which received mixed reviews in Venice, again was complimented for its visual style but was found lacking in story. Luc Besson's "The Lady" received a standing ovation and cheers at its gala

premiere in Toronto on Monday, but early reviews of the movie have been mixed.

Coming off strong indie film markets at 2011's Sundance and Cannes festivals, Barker said that while the Toronto movies have been accomplished, they are not easy sells.

"We have seen a lot of decent movies but a lot that are a real question mark, a real risk as to how they will work in the marketplace," he said. "These movies have subject matter that you are not as confident whether they will really cross over with the public."

One film that may divide audiences is Cronenberg's "A Dangerous Method", starring Viggo Mortensen, Fassbender and Keira Knightley. It includes some harrowing scenes to depict the turbulent relationships between Carl Jung, his mentor Sigmund Freud and patient Sabina Spielrein.

Filmmakers and actors here hoped their films might convince studios that adult dramas still had a market because in recent years, box offices have favoured comedies and escapist fare.

But others had darker predictions, including filmmaker and actor Albert Brooks, who said the long-term future of offbeat, indie cinema may end up on the Web and not in cinemas.

SOURCE: INTERNET

AN ACTOR'S SPYGLASS

"Mr. & Mrs. Smith": Would you undo your marriage if you could?

OMER AIAZ OZY



When you hear "Mr. & Mrs. Smith", usually what comes to mind is the 2005 blockbuster starring Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie, but I'm referring to the 1941

Alfred Hitchcock film. We know Hitchcock as a master of thriller but this is an unusual romantic comedy.

The film revolves around three people. A husband and his wife suddenly find themselves to be "single". Though they have been living the married life,

technically renders them unmarried. The arrival of another individual in the picture further complicates things. Hitchcock has presented a rather serious query through this film: If you get a chance to undo the past, would you still marry your current spouse?

I'm not going to give away the whole story as that might ruin your movie watching experience but I would recommend this film to every couple, everyone who wants to be in a relationship, those who are single and those who want to get out of relationships. Every party would find interesting elements in the film.

In most Hitchcock films the story is the main attraction rather than the characters. For a change, in this film you'll find the characters getting the focus -- drawing you more with their eagerness. This is a romantic comedy with a thriller approach.

Many male viewers might relate to Jeff or David, some might even feel that they're a bit of both. Female viewers may or may not find similarities between themselves and Ann.

Hitchcock himself was a very romantic man but this is the rare film in which he showed love [with little dramatisation] in a realistic way. Throughout the whole movie, the director's attitude towards love is prominent.

Although the movie is in black and white, I felt like I could see the colours, and I have a feeling you'll get the same essence too.

Generally films made with contemporary backdrop represent the culture and trends of that era. The most interesting part of this film is that when you watch it, you will find elements that resemble our current social surrounding. That realisation might make you glad or apprehensive. Glad in the sense that we are walking the "same track" (courtesy of the satellite culture); but similarities between our contemporary state and 1930s' USA might be a reason for concern.

Overall, total entertainment can be guaranteed, as Hitchcock always believed in entertaining the masses primarily rather than just prescribing his ideas.



A scene from "Mr. & Mrs. Smith".

THE WRITER IS AN ACTOR AND THEATRE ACTIVIST.



Artistes of the France wing of Bangladesh Udichi Shilpi Goshthi performed dance at a cultural programme held at the International Auditorium of the UNESCO headquarters in Paris recently. The programme is a joint collaboration of Bangladesh and India that will run throughout the year. It has been initiated to commemorate the works of, among others, Rabindranath Tagore and Pablo Neruda. UNESCO Director General Irina Bokova and Saraiya Begum, secretary, Ministry of Cultural Affairs, Bangladesh, among others, spoke at the inaugural programme.



ATN BANGLA	04:30	Duranto Khobar
10:30	Flavour of Spice	Drama Serial: Chhaya
11:10	Campus Parliament	Ghatak
03:00	Bangla Feature Film	Rongpoor
05:00	Gaan Gegey Khobar	
07:55	Tele-film: Ochal	
10:02	Sorannumi Shukhe	
01:30	Hidoyee Gaan	Bangla Feature Film
02:40	Tele-film	Tanana
05:15	Kishi Shungba	Barbi Q
07:50	Khude Gaanraj	Drama: Jolchhap
12:00	Ajker Shangbadpato	Phone O Live Studio Concert
Desh TV	02:30	Idhha Gaaner Dupur
03:00	Bangla Feature Film	Adh-ghantar Ful Film
07:45	Mukh O Mukhota	Drama: Tatar Shishu
09:45	Drama: Ektu Bokami	Bondhura
11:45	Call-er Gaan	Houseful
11:00	Top of the Pop	
ntv	01:30	Mad Money
10:30	Aporaj Jigasha	The Alamo

abc radio FM 89.2	12:00	Boier Paka
06:00	Bhorer Janalya	Forti Unlimited
09:00	Mukhonto Jiboney	Bumper to Bumper
12:00	Duran Dupurey	Club Forti
03:00	Duranto Eileley	Back to Back music
05:00	Shomobhara	RADIO TODAY FM 89.6
07:00	Shager Maja	08:00
09:00	Rak-er Akashey	Good Morning Dhaka
11:00	Golper Sheeh Nei	11:00
RADIO FOORTI	05:00	Flash Back
		James Program
		Rajal Gaan
		02:15
		05:00
		Today's World Music

Tahar Shishu Bondhura
On Maasranga Television at 08:00pm
Single Episode TV Play
Cast: Aly Zaker,

The Prestige
On HBO at 06:45pm
Genre: Drama
Mystery
Cast: Christian Bale, Hugh Jackman

Gaan O Fun
On Banglavisión at 06:20pm
Adda and Musical Programme
Guest: Sandipan, Nijhu

02:30	Tele-film	07:00	The Royal Tenenbaums
05:30	Tah-er Fake	09:30	The Secret of Moonacre
06:50	Rajmashchali	11:50	India's Most Desirable
11:30	Hip Hip Hurry (Live)	09:50	Master Chef Australia
Rtv		07:00	You Again
10:10	Career Today	08:55	Dangerous Man
12:05	Behind Show	10:30	National Security
01:10	Promo Ebony Filer	12:00	Hard Corps
05:30	Ghaer Baire		
09:50	R Music		
11:30	Drama		
11:25	Ami Ekhon Ki Korbo		
BANGLAVISION			
10:10	Bhalu Thakun		
11:05	Amader Ramnagar		
05:20	Porikha Prototi		
06:20	Gaan O Fun		
11:25	Ami Ekhon Ki Korbo		
Boishakhi TV			
03:30	Tele-film		
05:15	Boishakhi-ON		
06:20	Boish-er Bangla		
08:45	Drama		
11:30	Boishakhi Bideson O Sanskriti Sanghat		
Diganta TV			
11:30	Shokal Belar Pakhi		
03:05	Musik Hour		

ATN BANGLA	Rtv
09:20pm	Masthead Commercial
10:55pm	Arca
11:30pm	Hawai Mithal
Desh TV	
08:15pm	Shoppo-bhok
ntv	
08:15pm	Rupaktha
09:45pm	Ojana Gantabho
08:30pm	Jhuran Gaan
09:50	Boishakher
BANGLAVISION	
08:15pm	Mitha Tumi Dosh
11:00	Pura Pura
Boishakhi TV	
08:10pm	Omno Shokal
ETV	

NEWS BULLETIN	
RTV	
News (Bangla) at 8:00 am	
2:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 8:00 pm, 1:30pm, 5:00pm, 7:15pm, 10:30pm,	
4:00 pm, 10:30 pm,	
News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00am, 12:00am, 4:00pm,	
News (English) at 6:00pm	
channel5	
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, 10:30 pm, 12:30 am	
ATN BANGLA	
NEWS (Bangla): 7:00 am, 9:00 am, 2:00 pm, 9:00 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:30 am	
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, 10:30pm, 12:30pm, 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	
08:30am	Islam Ki Bole Amra Ki Kori
12:30am	Lead News
09:45am	Titto Matra
11:05am	Tele Shamoy
12:05pm	Kara Akharp
Rtv	
10:40am	Tankalap
12:05pm	Meka Shatta Al-Ouran
09:05pm	Moner Kotha
11:30am	Boishakhi Sanglap
10:50pm	Sat kathon
12:00am	Zero Hour