

WHAT'S ON

Tagore Film Retrospective
Organiser: Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre
Venue: Main Auditorium, National Museum, Shahbagh
Date: Sept. 23-26

Film Screening
Organiser: Zahur Rahman Film Society
Films By Contemporary German Women Filmmakers
Venue: Goethe Institut, H-10, Rd-9, Dharmond
Date: Sept 19-21
Time: 3, 5 & 7pm

Dance Performance
Title: The Gitanjali Journey
Venue: Chhayaprat, Dharmond
Date: Sept 22
Time: 7:00pm - 8:30pm

Film Screening
Title: Matir Meina
Venue: Mirpur-12, Block-D, Edgah math, Dhaka
Date: Sept 23

Group Art Exhibition
Title: Rhythm of Art
Venue: Asiatic Society Gallery, Nimitoli
Date: September 16-30
Time: 11am-8pm

Solo Art Exhibition
Artist: Dravid Saikot
Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, Dharmond
Date: Sept 16-23
Time: 10am-8pm

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

Solo Art Exhibition
Artist: Binmash Chandra Bhowar
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, Dharmond
Date: Sept 20-29
Time: 12pm-8pm

Harmony and melody

Raga-based Tagore song evening held in Chittagong

PRANABESH CHAKRABORTY, Chittagong

To pay homage to Nobel Laureate poet Rabindranath Tagore a raga-based evening of Tagore songs was held here on Saturday at the auditorium of Alliance Française de Chittagong.

As part of a year long programme to celebrate Tagore's 150th birth anniversary Alliance Française de Chittagong in association with Sangeet Parishad, an organisation promoting music in the port city, arranged the event.

The programme featured the recital of Tagore's favourite ragas, rendering of raga-based Tagore songs and a short discussion on Tagore songs.

Director, Alliances Française de Chittagong, Samuel Berthet inaugurated the event as the chief guest.

Assistant High Commissioner of India, Somnath Ghose addressed the programme as special guest.

In his speech, Berthet said that music is a universal language and has a great impact on the mind of human beings.

Referring to Tagore's universal contribution to music, Berthet expressed the hope that such events would play an important role in spreading the inner meaning of Tagore songs and philosophy.

Ghose said Tagore songs linger in the hearts of the people due to a perfect concord of the lyrics and melodies.

The programme started with the Tagore's favourite raga "Bhimpalashri" by Ustad

Swarnamoy Chakraborty, followed by raga "Bhairabi".

In a short break in his performance, Ustad Chakraborty described how Tagore learned sub-continental classical music from noted mentors like Bishnu Chakraborty and Jadu Bhatta from his very childhood.

"Many maestros of Bishnupur gharana and Seni gharana came regularly to his residence", he said adding that Tagore experimented greatly with music.

"Tagore used the normal note 'dha' in lieu of 'komol dha', a note in the subdued scale, in raga 'Purabi' which follows the style of Seni gharana. Again Rabindranath used the traditional note 'Ni' in raga 'Bhimpalasi' breaking the main tradition," he said.

Later, Manisha Roy successively rendered the songs "Bipula taranga re" in raga 'Bhimpalashri', 'Bela gelo tomar patha' in raga 'Purabi', and in raga 'Yaman' "Bipode more raksha koro".

Artiste Subhodra Sengupta rendered "Tomar grihe" in raga Khambaj, "Ananda dhara bohichhe" in raga 'Malkoshi' and "Tomaro aashime" in raga 'Behag'.

The programme ended with the performance of a Tagore song "Natun pran dao" in raga 'Nachari tori' by Ustad Chakraborty.

Rajib Chakraborty, Shymal Chandra Das, Babul De, Litan Das, Kanak Champa Khastagir and Hasan Milan accompanied the singers on the tabla, violin, guitar, harmonium and tanpura respectively at the programme.

Bobita working for underprivileged children



A CORRESPONDENT

Seasoned Bangladeshi actor Bobita has been selected as the Goodwill Ambassador for Distressed Children and Infants International (DCI). DCI works to generate awareness in the member states of the United Nations and raises funds for underprivileged children. Bobita is now in New York to attend a conference organised by the non-profit, US-based organisation.

On September 10, at Yale University, a five-minute documentary, titled "Genesis of Bobita" -- highlighting some basic information on Ban-

gladesh and the career of Bobita -- was screened as the conference began. In her speech, Babita called on international organisations to extend their support to Bangladeshi underprivileged children. The veteran thespian also declared that she would spend the rest of her life working for the betterment of impoverished children.

Bobita plans to travel around the world and meet expatriate Bangladeshis to raise funds for the cause. She is currently attending different conferences in North America, aiming to generate funds for the underprivileged Bangladeshi children so that they can go to school instead of work.

Submerged in Blue

Solo watercolour exhibition of Gopal Chandra Saha

ZAHANGIR ALOM

"Me in My Inner Soul", the first solo water-colour exhibition of Gopal Chandra Saha, began on September 13 at Zainul Gallery, Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA), University of Dhaka.

Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University, AAMS Arefin Siddique, inaugurated the exhibition as chief guest. Dean of FFA, Professor EHM Matlub Ali, and Chairman of the Department of Oriental Art, Nasreen Begum, were special guests. Professor Abdus Satter, Department of Oriental Art, FFA presided over the opening programme.

Gopal explained his work: "Each of the forms used in my artworks represents an identity; a relationship. We often become unattached with our surroundings, which we call 'artistic detachment'. This is necessary for artistic growth. Our search for beauty determines our tastes and enriches the bouquet of our experiences. Our eyes and mind primarily help in this regard. I have tried to depict beauty in an ocean of art."

Tranquil, bright blue is the colour that Gopal has chosen as the highlight of most of his artworks. Blue is the symbol of quietude and the blissful, brilliant autumn sky that reinvigorates mind. The mesmerising power of blue easily makes an impact on the viewer. With minimal expressions, meticulous lines and forms, Gopal's depiction of three iconic personalities -- Mahatma Gandhi, Rabindranath Tagore and Mother Teresa -- in blue is worthy of much appreciation. The artists are titled "The Man of Light", "Where I Believe" and "The Woman of Light".

His experimental work "Manan Gantha 3" uncannily reminds one of the styles of master painter Pablo Picasso, though an expert eye may find a characteristic oriental approach in the work.

"Illusion," on display at the exhibition, reveals the power of mingling crimson, light yellow and black. The artist has painstakingly sketched several snails, dry leaves and other natural elements to form a sleeping mother with her baby. The light looks impressive on a relaxed ground. Gopal's colours denote a poetic imagination.

Other works like "Searching Beauty 1, 2, 3 & 4" (done in blue) showcase oriental female figures, while "Wings Beauty 1 & 2" subtly display several geometric shapes. "Shikorer Ontorale 2" shows an ash-



"Searching Beauty" by the artist.

encircled light yellow portrait with some simple lines. The lines symbolise the serenity in nature and its lyrical aspects. Beige has been superbly magnified on the ground of this work.

Two of his calligraphies read "Chokh shobkichhu dekhey paye kintu nijeke dekhey paye na" and "Bonototinir kunjotirey phutchhey joto jui-er rashii..." Colour (blue and red) is the focal point in the works, and the vision engages the viewer to contemplate the power of metaphors and romanticism.

Gopal's works predominantly feature nature and subdued expressions of emo-

tions. The images are contemplative and balanced. The artist has tried to grasp yearnings and personal perceptions through his art.

Gopal Chandra Saha is an MFA student at the department of Oriental Art, FFA, Dhaka University. He stood first, securing first class, in his BFA (Honours) examination. Earlier he had taken part in several group art exhibitions including this year's National Art Exhibition organised by Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy.

The exhibition is open from 11am to 8pm everyday and ends today.



PHOTO: GOLAM MAHBUB

Bangladesh Rabindra Sangeet Shilpi Shangtha held a memorial programme in honour of three recently deceased noted singers -- Ajit Roy, Dr. Mridulkanti Chakraborty and Bilkis Nasiruddin -- at Shawkat Osman Memorial Auditorium of Central Public Library, Dhaka on September 17. Besides choral and solo renditions of Tagore songs, the programme also had several Dhaka University Professors, and singers (including Khalid Hossain and Fakir Alamgir) as discussants.



PHOTO: GOLAM MAHBUB

Marking the second death anniversary of Baul Shah Abdul Karim, members (disciples of Karim) of Bhatibangla Baul Academy and Research Centre, Ujandhol, Sunamganj performed baul songs at the Central Shaheed Minar, in the capital, on September 17. Apart from holding a discussion, the organisers also screened part of "Mohajon-er Nao", a documentary on Karim's philosophy of life.

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 today, between 3 and 4pm, to speak to Kona!!!

Parvez Hossain and Mum Rahman bag Gemcon Literary Award 2011

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Parvez Hossain and Mum Rahman were awarded the Gemcon Literary Award 2011. The prize giving ceremony was held at Hotel Ruposhi Bangla in the city on September 17.

Parvez Hossain received the award for his book "Je Jibon Phoring-er", and Mum Rahman for his book "Andhokarer Golpoguchho". Hossain received a crest, Taaka 2 lakh and an honorary certificate, while Rahman received Taaka 50,000, a crest and an honorary certificate.

Kazi Shahed Ahmed, chairman of Gemcon Group, presented the prizes to the authors. Dr. Kazi Anis Ahmed, director and chief strategy officer of Gemcon Group, delivered the welcome speech at

the programme.

Noted educationists Mustafa Nurul Islam, Zillur Rahman Siddiqui and eminent writer Hasan Azizul Haq, among others, spoke at the programme.

"This award will inspire me to write more," said Hossain.

Rahman in his speech said that Gemcon's contribution to the promotion of literature would encourage young writers of the country.

Dr. Kazi Anis Ahmed said, "The award plays a valuable role in recognising and rewarding diverse literary talents. Gagoj Shahitya Puroshkar (2000) was renamed Gemcon Literary Award (in 2007)."

The Gemcon Award jury included poet Mohammad Rafiq and Hasan Azizul Haq from Bangladesh and writer Divesh Roy from Paschim Banga, India.

THEATRE

Prangane Mor premieres Tagore's "Shesher Kobita"



Nuna Afroz in a scene from "Shesher Kobita".

JAMIL MAHMUD

Theatre troupe Prangane Mor set off on its journey with a mission to produce and stage Tagore plays regularly. In keeping with its objective, the troupe recently brought another adaptation of Tagore's work on stage. Adaptation of the classic novel "Shesher Kobita" has

The oft-read tragic-romantic story "Shesher Kobita" zooms in on Amit Roy and Labonya Debi, who meet each other after a minor collision of their respective vehicles on a hilly road in Shillong. Amit and Labonya gradually fall for each other. There are other important characters in the story, such as Shobhonlal and Ketoki.

Ananta Hera and Ramij Raju alternatively acted as Amit, while Nuna Afroz, Shubhechcha and Shumi played Labonya in different scenes. Ramij Raju and Nuna Afroz also donned the roles of Shobhonlal and Ketoki respectively. Perhaps, because of this role-swapping, none of the performers were able to reach a level where they could really draw the audience. The director herself took upon a tough challenge of doing justice to a classic.

Faiz Zahir designed the set, which featured a couple of windows located at two corners of the stage. The windows were used to depict Amit and Labonya's loneliness. Whenever there was a gloomy moment, the audience found either Amit or Labonya by one of the windows.

Taufique Azim designed the lights.

Apart from acting, Ramij Raju also did the music direction. The music featured a number of Tagore songs. A group of performers danced to the songs throughout the play.

"Shesher Kobita" is the 6th production by the troupe.

Dravid Saikot's solo exhibition at Dhaka Art Centre

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka Art Centre has organised a solo painting exhibition, titled "Something Like God" featuring the works of emerging painter Dravid Saikot.

Saikot uses the horse motif in many of his artworks as a symbol of vigour, strength and success. The horses appear well built and brawny in his paintings. His approach is semi-realistic and semi-abstract. The artist prefers working on large canvases, according to the requirement of his themes and styles. Most of his themes are intimately connected with each other. The artist uses space to gradually interact more with the figures (horses). His figures (especially movement) are always the most noticeable aspect of his canvas.

The exhibition was inaugurated on September 16. Noted cultural personality Asaduzzaman Noor (MP) was present as chief guest and inaugurated the exhibition. Abul Barq Alvi, Professor of the Printmaking Department, Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA), University of Dhaka; Shishir Bhattacharjee, Professor of Drawing and Painting Department, FFA and Nisar Hossain, Professor of Drawing and Painting Department, FFA spoke on the occasion.

The exhibition will continue till September 23.



Yesterday once more

Actors Farooque Shaikh and Deepti Naval return to the big screen



PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

It's yesterday once more. Actors Farooque Shaikh and Deepti Naval, who had together delighted the audience in some highly enjoyable movies in the 1980s, are returning on the big screen after a break of about quarter of a century.

One has seen the duo becoming a hit in films like "Chashme Buddoor" (1981), "Saath Saath" (1982), "Katha" (1983), "Kisisey Na Kehna" (1983), "Ek Baar Chale Aao" (1983) and "Bang Rangli" (1983). Now they are set to mark their comeback with Hema Malini's "Tell Me Oh Khuda", and next year with Avinash Singh's "Listen Amaya".

The opportunity of working with Shaikh was what convinced Naval to take up the role of



Esha Deol's mother in "Tell Me Oh Khuda".

"The role isn't very powerful. I play a regular on-screen mother but Hema Maliniji told me that she wanted to recreate the nostalgia of the Deepti-Farooque team and that is what excited me," Naval told The Indian Express newspaper. Shaikh, too, cites similar reasons for doing the film. He signed it because of the credibility Hema Malini brings to the fraternity and the rapport he shares with Naval.

It was "Chashme Buddoor" which had brought Shaikh and Naval in a movie for the first time and their last pairing was in "Kisisey Na Kehna".

Thereafter the two did act in films separately and subsequently went off the big screen for a long time as Naval took to writing and photography while Shaikh switched over to television.

Parusha Dhaka Bridal Show

CHANNEL I

09:45 Tritio Matra

01:05 Ebhong Cinema Gaan

06:00 Jibon Jekhane Jemon

09:35 Drama Serial: Jogajog

11:30 Travel On

BANGLAVISION

01:05 Bangla Feature Film

05:20 Poriksha Prostuti

11:25 Probashi Mukh

12:25 Cinema Gaan

ETV

04:30 Probashe Bangladesh

07:50 O Bandhu Amar

09:30 Drama Serial: Lolita

10:10 Cine Hits

12:05 Ekushey-er Raat

Desh TV

04:00 Desh Janopod

04:30 Durpath

09:45 Ke Hote Chay Katipoti

12:30 Total Sports

Boishakhi TV

10:30 Bangla Feature Film

04:15 Shorashori Doctor

10:30 Black Hawk Down

HBO

03:30 Crocodile II: Death Roll

05:25 Commando Squad

07:15 The Promise

09:30 Dinocroc vs. Supergator

11:20 The Last Airbender

Star World

03:30 India's Most Desirable

07:30 Master Chef Australia

10:30 Bones

12:00 The Simpson's

National Geographic

Channel

05:30 Don't Tell My Mother

08:30 Dog Whisperer

10:30 Nat Geo Rush

11:00 Mega Bridges

12:00 Nat Geo Wild

Discovery Channel

04:00 Monsters Inside Me

07:30 Dual Survival

10:30 Man Woman World

11:30 Medical Anomalies

BBC World

11:30 World Business Report

DRAMA SERIAL

ATN BANGLA

08:00pm Adorsho Mess Bari

10:55pm Uttardahakar

Rtv

09:05pm Boyra Paribar

11:30pm Rangser Shongshar

CHANNEL I

07:50pm Shokai Shondha Raat

BANGLAVISION

08:15pm No Problem

09:05pm Long March

Desh TV

07:45pm Gohiney

08:15pm Sat Kalon

Boishakhi TV

08:10pm Ecaruser Dana

08:45pm Tokhon Hemanta

Maasranga Television

NEWS BULLETIN

RTV

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

ntv

News (Bangla): 7:30am,

10:30 pm, 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

RTV

10:25pm Digital Bangladesh

ATN BANGLA

11:30pm Je Kotha Keno Bolei

12:30am Lead News

Rtv

10:40am Tarokalap

07:40pm Our Democracy

CHANNEL I

12:30pm Tanika Kothan

BANGLAVISION

06:25pm Front Line

Desh TV

11:45pm Shuja Kotha

Boishakhi TV

12:00am Zero Hour

Maasranga Television

07:30pm Prime Issue