

WHAT'S ON

Odmmo Chattagram
12-day festival by The Daily Star
In Chittagong
Date: March 30-April 10

Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Peace in Times of Disquiet
Artist: Mohammad Ismail
Venue: Bengali Gallery of Fine Arts, Dharamdhi
Date: April 6-17

Bhawalaya Festival
Venue: Shawkat Osman Auditorium, Central Public Library, Shubhag
Date: April 8
Time: 11am onwards

Inauguration of Institute of Art and Culture
Venue: H-2, R-1/A, Gulshan-1
Date: April 7
Time: 9pm

Chaitro Sankranti Boli Utshab
Organiser: Adom Publication
Venue: Public Library Premises
Date: March 31-April 12
Time: 10am-5pm

Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Song of the United Heart-River
Artist: Mahabul Hossain
Venue: National Art Gallery, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Date: March 30-April 8

Theatre Festival
Organiser: Padatik Natya Sangshodh (TSC)
Venue: Shilpakala Academy
Date: April 4-9
Time: 7pm

Concert
Band: Miles
Venue: Indra Gandhi Cultural Centre, H/24, Rd 2, Dharamdhi
Date: April 7
Time: 6:30pm

NEW RELEASES

Muktilr Gaan
DVD of the Tareque and Catherine Masud documentary
Source: Laser Vision

Muktilr Kotha
DVD of the Tareque and Catherine Masud documentary
Source: Laser Vision

Ekush Theke Bijoy
Mixed album
Source: Deadline Music

Neel Chhoa
Mixed album
Source: Agniaveena

Curtains come down on Chittagong Theatre Fest with Muktodhara



The play is Tagore's observation on the human greed and exploitation. PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

ARUN BIKASH DEY, Chittagong

Hundreds of theatre enthusiasts here in the port city, on Wednesday, were enthralled by the performance of the artistes of Ganayan Natya Sampraday, as this theatre group presented the Tagore play "Muktodhara" at District Shilpakala Academy, Chittagong on the concluding day of the "Odmmo Chattagram Theatre Festival" organised by The Daily Star.

The play is the Nobel laureate poet's observation on the human greed and exploitation generated by machine and how this greed is linked to imperialism.

In the play, although there is appreciation of the boons of the machine, Tagore reminds us that it is arrogance and the misuse of machine that leads to the sufferings of man.

The plot zooms in on a dam. The King of Uttarkut, Ranjit, has ordered the royal engineer Bibhuti to build a dam on Muktodhara (a forceful waterfall). The intention is to teach the people of Shibtarai a good lesson, since they often disobey the King. Bibhuti does so but the kind and compassionate Prince Abhijit does not agree with his father's plan. His love for the freedom of the waterfall and his refusal to allow the King to exploit the people of Shibtarai, prompts him to demolish the machine and let loose the force of the waterfall.

The play was directed by Dr. Kuntal Barua, an assistant professor of the department of Dramatics, University of Chittagong. He said that the troupe tried to adhere to the original Tagore essence in the play.

"From costume to stage-design, also the style of dialogue -- we have tried to imagine how Rabindranath Tagore would have wanted it to be," he said, adding that it is the 30th production of Ganayan Natya Sampraday.

Ganayan Natya Sampraday started its journey in 1975 and it is the first theatre group in the country to stage a street play or in other words, 'open-stage' drama.

Feigned madness from overwhelming grief

Anya Theatre, India stages Hamlet

JAMIL MAHMUD

Anya Theatre, India staged the William Shakespeare classic "Hamlet" at the National Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, on April 5. The show was part of the ongoing theatre festival arranged by Padatik Natya Sangshodh (TSC).

The King and Queen do not understand why Hamlet still mourns his father's death. Laertes, the son of Polonius, gives his sister Ophelia some brotherly advice. He warns her not to fall in love with Young Hamlet; she will only be hurt. Hamlet meets the ghost of his father, King Hamlet, and follows it to learn more...

The lengthy play at times seemed unnecessarily stretched. For instance, there was a sequence featuring Hamlet, Horatio and a funeral undertaker. The sequence seemed to contradict the seriousness of the play.

The sudden appearance of a mime troupe, which is about to stage a play after receiving an invitation from young Hamlet, also seemed kind of gimmicky.

As Hamlet, Surojit Bandyopadhyay was brilliant. As the protagonist, his lines, gestures and engagement with the other characters were apt. Among others, Gautam Dey as Claudius, Dyuti Ghosh as Ophelia and Shyamol Chakravarty as Polonius did well. The cast also included Nandini Bhounick and Surojit Ghosh.

Joy Sen's light design sometimes worked well with the actors' appearances, moods and gestures. The use of light during the appearance of the ghost of Hamlet's father was brilliant. At times though, it seemed to be overpowering. Shomik Pial did the set and art direction.

The huge set suggests that the play is a big-budget production by the troupe.



The play is a story of failed revenge that explores themes of treachery as well as destruction of morality. PHOTO: STAR

Mingling dance with theatre

In conversation with Proma Abanti



Proma Abanti (centre) with her troupe during a performance. PHOTO: MUMIT M.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, writes from Chittagong

Proma Abanti is a classical dancer (Odissi) and choreographer. She is a lecturer at the department of Dramatics, Chittagong University. The artiste also runs a Chittagong-based dance school called Odissi and Tagore Dance Movement Centre. Proma is a dance teacher as well, at District Shilpakala Academy, Chittagong.

Odissi is one of the eight Indian classical dance forms, originated in the 2nd century BCE. It is known for graceful movements, sculptural postures, rhythmic footsteps, lively expression and intricate choreography. The dancer looks like a moving sculpture and the lyrics are deeply rooted in philosophy.

On the occasion of The Daily Star's "Odmmo Chattagram" celebration, a four-day theatre festival was held at District Shilpakala Academy, Chittagong where Proma choreographed three productions -- "Jalkonya", "Mrityupakshi" and "Nandanpur Mela-e Ekjon Kamala Sundari O Ekti Bagh Ashey" -- staged by Arindam Natya Sampraday, Uttaradikhar and Tirjok Natya Goshthi respectively. Proma also designed costumes for a Tagore play "Muktodhara", staged by Gonayon Natya Sampraday on the concluding day (April 4).

"I'm excited to be a part of the 'Odmmo Chattagram' celebration. I'm also glad that I could work for the plays staged at the theatre festival. Folk elements are noticeable in the first three productions among the four plays, while 'Muktodhara' is purely Rabindrik," said Proma.

Marking 150th birth anniversary of Tagore, Bangladesh Rabindra Sangeet Sammilan Parisad, Chittagong arranged a Tagore Festival in the port city where the dancer-choreographer along with artistes of her school staged three Tagore dance dramas -- "Chitrangada", "Chandalika" and "Shapmochon". She choreographed all the dance dramas.

Questioned on her future projects, the artiste said, "We are going to stage 'Balmiki Protibha' marking 151st birth anniversary of Tagore."

Rihanna would "love" to portray Whitney Houston in biopic

Rihanna has officially thrown her hat in the ring for the role of Whitney Houston if there is ever to be a biopic and a role to be played.

Reports recently abounded that record label executive Clive Davis was heading up efforts to make a biographical film to honour his close friend, but Davis has since denied the rumours.

Rihanna was reportedly being considered for the role, but she recently revealed that she would "love" to portray the legend.

"That would be something that I would have to give my entire life to do because I would want to really pull it off," Rihanna told The Press Association.

"That's a huge, huge role and whoever does it has to do a good job."

Rihanna was on the short list of contenders for the role, along with Jennifer Hudson, Vivica Fox and "Sparkle" star Jordyn Sparks. Brandy was also mentioned in some reports.

Though Rihanna may lack acting experience compared to the other candidates, she's not completely new to the industry. The "Talk That Talk" singer is set to debut her acting abilities in her first film, "Battleship", alongside Alexander Skarsgard, Brooklyn Decker and Liam Neeson. The sci-fi thriller will be released in the US in May.

But for Rihanna, portraying Whitney is not so much about acting experience, but about the chance to represent her musical inspiration on the big screen.

"My first song that I remember falling in love with was a Whitney Houston song -- 'I Will Always Love You,'" Rihanna said. "It was really inspiring and it made me develop a passion for music, so really she's partly responsible for me being here in this industry."

Source: **Internet**

Suchitra Sen turns 81

Celebration in her hometown

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU, Pabna

Bengali screen legend Suchitra Sen, originally from Pabna, turned 81 yesterday. Sen was born on April 6 in 1931 at her maternal grandfather's residence in the greater Pabna. She grew up in Pabna town. To mark the occasion, daylong programmes were held in Pabna.

According to the elderly of the district, Sen's father Karunamoy Dasgupta left Bangladesh (then East Bengal) with the family just before the Partition in 1947. Suchitra Sen's first film was "Shesh Kotha" in 1952. She had performed in at least 63 films, including seven Hindi films. Suchitra was famed for her histrionics and magnetic charms. Paired with another legend, Uttam Kumar, Suchitra delivered numerous classics.

Suchitra's 81st birthday was observed amid much festivity in Pabna yesterday. Discussion and cultural programme were held at Pabna Press Club.



Mort Walker's beetle bailey

1. "BURRRP!" "ANGIE! WHAT'S WRONG?!" "BURRRP!" "I'M TAKING YOU TO THE DOCTOR!"

2. "I'LL HAVE TO GIVE HIM A SHOT." "MRS. HALFTACK!"

3. "POOR DEAR. I ALWAYS KNEW HE WAS FULL OF HOT AIR." "I'LL INFLATE HIM AGAIN! AND I'LL DRIVE HIM HOME." "I FEEL KINDA BLOATED." "JUST DON'T BURP!"

Henry

1. "White is the light that shines through the dress that you wore." "She lay in the shadow of the wave." "Hazy were the visions of her playing." "Sunlight on her eyes but moonshine made her blind every time." "Green is the colour of her kind." "Quickness of the eye deceives the mind."

THE WEEKLY STRUM

Song: Green is the Colour
Album: More (1969)
Lyrics and tune by Roger Waters

Registration Fees Tk. 2,000
All participants will be given certificate

Contact for Registrations:
9116314, 017 111 87555,
019 116 58435

Organized by:
Bangladesh Astronomical Association &
Russian Centre of Science and Culture in Dhaka

In cooperation with:
Theoretical Physics Dept., University of Dhaka &
The Daily Star

Source: CHORDIE.COM

Astronomy & Astrophysics Workshop

April 12- June 14, 2012
Every Thursday 5.30 - 8.30 p.m.

Registration Fees Tk. 2,000
All participants will be given certificate

Contact for Registrations:
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019 116 58435

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Join us to celebrate

The Daily Star

আদ্য চক্রাভা উৎসব

Current Events:

- ফিল্ম ফেস্টিভাল (Film Festival) - 7 to 9 April 2012
- ফুড ফেস্টিভাল (Food Festival) - 5 to 7 April 2012
- BRANDS EXPO - 7 to 10 April 2012
- CHILDREN FESTIVAL - 7 April 2012
- আলপসিক্কা (Alapsikka) - 7 to 9 April 2012

Upcoming Events: Economic Conference: "Future Bangladesh Future Chittagong" - The festival will be held till 10 April, 2012. Check The Daily Star for regular updates.

11:30 Jejey Aicho Ki	Desh TV
11:10 Shobar Jono	Bangla Feature Film
01:25 Prapak	Amra Dujon Dekhitey
03:05 Bangla Feature Film	Kenon
09:20 Drama Serial: Dolchhut	08:15 Pothey Jejey Jejey
Chayanani Kayanani	12:30 Total Sports
11:00 Drama Serial: Dolchhut	02:30 Bangla Feature Film
Pakhira	09:02 Arshinagar
CHANNEL i	11:00 Rajneetir Baiery
12:05 Ebong Cinemar Gaan	12:00 Top of the Pop
01:05 Bangla Feature Film	Competition
06:20 Fourth Citi Financial Quiz	09:35 Hirdoye Mati O Manush
11:30 Fun Club Tournament	11:15 Mars Needs Moms
ntv	01:45 Everything Must Go
03:10 Bangla Feature Film	05:00 The A-Team
Drama Serial: Ronger	09:35 Limitless
Manush	10:35 Homeland
09:00 Drama: Nobobibi	10:35 Love & Other Drugs
Bilash	12:00 HBO
	12:00 Superman Returns

RADIO

abc radio FM 89.2	02:00	Fourty Unlimited
06:00	06:00	Bumper to Bumper
09:00	10:00	Back to Back Music
12:00	12:00	16:00 TODAY FM 89.8
03:00	06:00	Green HA
05:00	08:00	Good Morning Dhaka
07:00	11:00	World Music
09:00	04:00	U Turn
11:00	07:00	Take It All
RADIO FOURTH	10:00	Rat Ror Gaan
08:00	12:00	Hutum Pecha

Chora Goli
On ATN BANGLA AT 08:40pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Fakrul Hasan, Baliragi, Humaira, Himu

Limitless
On Fox Movies at 07:00pm
Genre: Mystery/Thriller
Cast: Bradley Cooper, Anna Friel

Lal Golap
On BANGLAVISION at 11:25pm
Talk Show
Host: Shafiq Rehman

11:30 Viewers Hour	03:10 Step Up
12:30 Chhobir Gaan	05:25 Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls
ETV	07:25 Mean Girls
10:02 Dehshari	09:30 Rocky IV
01:30 Bangla Feature Film	11:30 2 Fast 2 Furious
06:30 Vobo Gure Dot Com	12:05 Ekushey-er Rait
12:05 Ekushey-er Rait	Star World
Boishakh TV	11:30 Friends
10:30 Bangla Feature Film	03:30 Missing
05:30 Musical Programme	09:30 The River
06:20 Manush Manusher Jono	10:30 Desperate Housewives
11:00 Nirapad Sarak Chai	11:30 Supernatural
BANGLAVISION	National Geographic Channel
01:05 Bangla Feature Film	03:30 Snake Wranglers
06:25 Front Line	08:30 Big, Bigger, Biggest
09:45 Drama Serial: Gulshan Avenue	09:30 Banged Up Abroad
11:25 Lal Golap	11:30 Taboo
Rtv	Discovery Channel
10:10 Dhruopadi Kahini	02:30 Man Vs. Wild
12:35 Bangla Feature Film	03:30 2012 Apocalypse
07:40 Thik Bolchen To	08:30 Stan Lee's Superheroes
09:50 Drama Serial: Dhan Shalik-er Gaan	10:30 I Shouldn't Be Alive
	11:30 Tattoo Hunter

DRAMA SERIAL

ATN BANGLA	09:30pm	Ringla
08:00pm	Poramaty Golpo	Boishakh TV
08:40pm	Chera Goli	08:10pm
CHANNEL i	08:10pm	Ishtikum
09:20pm	Utsah	09:20pm
BANGLAVISION	09:20pm	Utsah
10:00pm	No Mans Land	08:15pm
10:00pm	Koinya	08:15pm
10:00pm	Rupoboti	08:15pm
ntv	08:15pm	Oturkabbu
08:15pm	Bondhu Amar	08:00pm
ETV	08:00pm	Oshpor
		Maasranga Television

NEWS BULLETIN

BTV	News (Bangla) at 12pm, 2pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm
12:30pm	News (English) at 10am, 4pm, 10pm
ATN BANGLA	News (Bangla) at 11am, 12pm, 2pm, 7pm, 10pm
News (English) at 9am, 6pm	
CHANNEL i	News (Bangla) at 2pm, 9pm, 10:30pm
ntv	News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm
10:00pm	News (Bangla) at 1pm, 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm
BANGLAVISION	News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7pm, 9pm, 10:30pm
News (English) at 9am, 6pm, 9pm	
RTV	News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7pm, 9pm, 10:45pm
1:45pm, 6:45pm, 10:45pm	
Death TV	News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm
10:10pm	Gojpo Sholpo Gaan
11:45pm	Shoja Kotha
Boishakh TV	Maasranga Television
12:00am	Zero Hour
07:30pm	Prime Issue

TALK SHOW

ATN BANGLA	12:30am	Lead News
CHANNEL i	09:05pm	Amar Ami
11:05am	Amader Asyna	10:40am
12:30pm	Tarka Kothon	08:10am
ETV	07:50pm	Bela Obeta
07:50pm	Otoppor Ami	09:45pm
10:10pm	Gojpo Sholpo Gaan	11:45pm
Boishakh TV	12:00am	Sharabeta
		Shoja Kotha
		Maasranga Television
		Prime Issue