

WHAT'S ON

Musical Soiree
Artist: Fatema Naz Zohra
Venue: Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre, H-35, R-24, Gulshan-1
Date: May 11
Time: 6:30pm

Solo Art Exhibition
Artist: Debasish Pal
Venue: Galleri Kaya, H-20, R-16, Sec-4, Uttara
Date: May 4-15
Time: 11am-7:30pm

Felicitation Ceremony for Dr. Sanjida Khatun
For her receiving prestigious "Desikottama" from Shantihetan
Venue: Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre, H-35, R-24, Gulshan-1

Birth Centenary of Kamol Dasgupta
Venue: National Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: May 12
Time: 7pm

Group Art Exhibition
Organizer: Shako
Venue: Radhanagar, 57, Gulshan Avenue
Date: May 4-18
Time: 10pm-9pm

Photography Exhibition
Title: World Press Photo 12
Venue: Diti Gallery, H-50, R-15A(New), Dhhanomdi
Date: April 26-May 18
Time: 3pm-9pm

Solo Art Exhibition
Artist: Intiaj Shohag
Venue: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, Dhhanomdi
Date: May 10-22
Time: 2pm-9pm

Group Art Exhibition
Title: Memories of Old Town
Venue: Shikhanagar Art Gallery, H-7, R-13 Dhhanomdi
Date: May 1-12
Time: 12pm-8pm

GLOBAL SHAKESPEARE

Dhaka Theatre stages indigenous tinged Tempest in London

JOHN FARNDON

Shakespeare's "The Tempest" is an extraordinary play. Written at a time when Britain had barely begun to embark on its colonial age, "The Tempest" ends with the exiled Duke Prospero choosing to end his rule over the natives of some distant isle and offer them their freedom.

Rather than focusing on Prospero's individual journey to understanding, acclaimed Bangladeshi director Nasiruddin Yousuff instead explores the play's colonial themes -- and in doing so underlines how both relevant and timeless Shakespeare is.

Dhaka Theatre is performing in London as part of the Globe's remarkable season that brings 37 productions of Shakespeare's plays to the theatre from around the world.

Almost a century ago, the great Bengali playwright Rabindranath Tagore created dance-dramas inspired by the Manipuri dance form.

The actors are not trained dancers, and some may miss the refined grace of classical dancers that takes years to develop.



PHOTO: SIMON KANE

Yousuff innovatively blends Shakespeare with the traditional dance of the Manipuri people to create a captivating style of storytelling.

Shakespeare's original theatre.

Throughout the performance, the troupe squat in a semi-circle at the back of the stage, each with his or her own colourful tin suitcase of props, costumes and musical instruments.

It took a while for the audience to get used to this way of storytelling, and it was only when the hugely comic trio of Caliban, Stefano and Trinculo (played by Chandan Chowdhury, Kamal Bayzed and Samiun Jaham Dola) begin their antics that the warmth between audience and performers began to develop on a cold May night in London.

performance drew the audience in entirely, and led to a hugely enthusiastic reception in the end, as the performers returned to caper on the stage.

Underpinning it all is the haunting music created by Shimul Yousuf, who also plays Ariel with an unusually reticent presence, drifting slowly across the stage like a lost spirit, and filling the theatre with her mournful singing from behind a blue veil.

There is no great tempest in Dhaka Theatre's production but it has the rough magic of Prospero's enchanted island.

The writer is an internationally known author, playwright, composer and songwriter.

Rabindra Utshab 1419 Chhayanaut holds two-day programme



A number of Chhayanaut and several guest artists including Swati Sarkar, Niltpal Shadhyo, Chhaya Karmakar, Fahmida Khatun, Jhuma Khandakar, Elora Ahmed Shukla, Pratik Endo (Sylhet), Samapti Roy (Faridpur), Kanchan Mostafa, Chania Mannan, Saikat Mukherjee, Shusmita Ahmed Borna and Suman Chowdhury and others staged solo performances.

ZAHANGIR ALOM

To celebrate Rabindranath Tagore's 151st birth anniversary, his works and philosophy, Chhayanaut held a two-day 'Rabindra Utshab' (festival) at the main auditorium of Chhayanaut Sangskriti Bhavan in Dhhanomdi, Dhaka.

This is the fourth 'Rabindra Utshab' by Chhayanaut. The organisation was founded in 1961, on the occasion of the Tagore birth centenary.

The festival began with a song-and-dance presentation by the young artistes of Chhayanaut. Several dancers performed to a live rendition of the song 'Momo Chitney Niti Nriyey'.

Dr. Binayak Sen presented an essay, titled "Bhinno Mot-er Rabindranath: Chithi Potrer Shakkho", on the opening day.

Dr. Binayak Sen meticulously pointed out the excerpts of the constructions of alternative that Tagore created, especially in his letters written to several literateurs, his friends and family members including Priyonth, Sudhinderanath Dutta,



PHOTO: INAMIT M

A group rendition by young artistes of Chhayanaut (top); Sharmila Banerjee led the dance performance to live music.

Buddhadev Bose, Amiyo Chakraborty, Sanjay Bhattacharya (editor of Purbasha), Kadambini Devi, Indira Devi and Hemanta Bala Devi.

"We find Tagore's viewpoints on political, social, economic, agricultural and theological opinions and philosophies in his letters. The bard was absolutely a free thinker and was never stuck to certain ideas.

Noted dancer and teacher Sharmila Banerjee, her daughter and also a Chhayanaut teacher Sudeshna Swayampabrha, and four other artistes of Chhayanaut danced to a Tagore song "Bajey Bajey Romyobeeena Bajey" at the event.

Rabindra Puroshkar-2012 announced

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

On the occasion of the 151st birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore, Bangla Academy organised a two-day programme. The programme ended yesterday. The programme featured a discussion, award giving ceremony and musical session.

Professor AM Harunur Rashid read out an essay on "Sardhoshoto Ektom Jonnobarshiki: Pochishe Boishakh". Shamsuzzaman Khan, director general of Bangla Academy, delivered the welcome speech.

Rabindra Puroshkar-2012 was conferred on economist and Tagore singer Professor Anisur Rahman, Professor Fahmida Khatun and singer Iflat Ara Dewan.

Each winner received Tk 50,000, a crest and a certificate. Professor Zillur Rahman Siddiqui and Shamsuzzaman Khan handed over the prizes to the awardees.

Earlier, a discussion was held. Eminent columnist and former president of Udichi central unit Professor Jatin Sarkar, Professor Nazrul Hayat and poet Farid Ahmed Dulal took part in the discussion.

Kumaresh Chandra Nagh, principal of Alokmoynaha Sangeet Bidyayatan presided over the programme.

Sarwar Kamal Robin, secretary of Udichi Mymensingh Sangsad, conducted the programme.

Termining Tagore as one of the best contemporary philosophers, the speakers said that Tagore was way ahead of his time.



(Back row: from left) Shamsuzzaman Khan, Anisur Rahman, Fahmida Khatun, Iflat Ara Dewan, (front row: from left) Zillur Rahman Siddiqui and AM Harunur Rashid.

devoid of inequality, superstition and communalism." AM Harunur Rashid said, "Diversity is one of the major characteristics of his works.

After the discussion and prize giving ceremony, Tagore singers Mita Haq, Adity Mohsin, Azizur Rahman Tuhin and Shamima Khatun rendered songs at the programme.

Tagore birth anniversary celebration continues

PONUEL S BOSE, Narail

A cultural programme was held here in Narail marking the 151st birth anniversary of Nobel laureate Rabindranath Tagore at Shishuharjo hall room on May 8.

Rabindra Sangeet Sammilan Parishad's Narail unit organised the programme. The three-hour programme kicked off at the break of dawn. The event saw a large crowd of artists and people.

The programme included a discussion, rendition of Tagore songs and a poetry recitation session.

Advocate Subash Chandra Bose, Administrator, Zilla Parishad, Narail inaugurated the programme as chief guest. Subhash Biswas, President of Rabindra Sangeet Sammilan Parishad's Narail unit, presided over the programme.

The artists of Rabindra Sangeet Sammilan Parishad's Narail unit rendered Tagore songs at the programme.

A short discussion was held on the occasion. Advocate Subhash Chandra Bose, Prodyut Bhattacharya, Sailendranath Saha, Shaifit Moshir Rahman, Advocate Rabindranath Biswas and Subhash Biswas spoke at the discussion.

The District Administration also organised a daylong programme marking the 151st birth anniversary of Tagore.

The programme included a rally, recitation competitions, Rabindra Sangeet competition, discussion, prizes giving and performances.

In the morning a rally led by Md. Zohirul Haque, Deputy Commissioner, Narail paraded through several roads in the town and ended at Narail Auditorium hall room at Shilpakala Academy premises.

The discussion was presided over by Hawlader Mohammad Rokibul Bari, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Narail. Md. Zohirul Haque, Deputy Commissioner (DC), Narail spoke at the meeting as chief guest.



PHOTO: STAR

Islamic History of Manikganj Government Devendra College; SM Mostofa Kamal, Upazila Nirbahi Officer of Manikganj Sadar; Basudeb Saha and Ruhul Jamal Sujan, lecturers and Romeza Akter Khan Mahin, general secretary of Manikganj Womens District Sports Association, delivered speeches at the discussion.

Udichi Shilpi Goshthi arranged a similar programme at its office premises in Manikganj on the same night to celebrate the birth anniversary of Tagore.

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU, Pabna

As the part of a countrywide celebration, Pabna district administration observed the birth anniversary of Tagore on Tuesday amidst festivity. A discussion and cultural programme were organised on the occasion.

A discussion was held at Pabna Town Hall premises, chaired by Pabna Deputy Commissioner Md. Mostafizur Rahman, veteran educationist Professor Md. Kamunazzaman, Bengali Professor and president of Bangla department of Pabna University of Science and Technology, Dr. M Abdul Alim recited two essays titled, "Wealth of Rabindra Literature" and "Rural Aspects of Tagore's Works".

Among the speakers were Pabna Police Superintendent Jahangir Hossain Matubabir, veteran lawyer Advocate Golam Hasnayen; educationalist Monwar Hossain Jahed; president of Pabna Press Club, Professor Shihobjit Nag and veteran journalist Abdul Matin Khan.



Naogaon town in 1891. He often visited Potisar and last visited Potisar in 1937.

AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh

The artistes of Udichi Shilpi Goshthi, Mymensingh unit staged "Shyama", a dance-drama by Tagore, at Town Hall Shaheed Minar premises on Tuesday evening.

The programme was organised by the cultural group to mark the 151st birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore. The programme included a discussion on the life and works of the bard, rendition of Tagore songs and staging of the dance-drama.

The dance department of Udichi Shilpi Goshthi staged the dance-drama that was directed by Elora Imam Shampa.

The artistes of Udichi Shilpi Goshthi and Alokmoynaha Sangeet Bidyayatan rendered solo and choral songs of Tagore at the programme.

Earlier, a discussion was held. Eminent columnist and former president of Udichi central unit Professor Jatin Sarkar, Professor Nazrul Hayat and poet Farid Ahmed Dulal took part in the discussion.

Kumaresh Chandra Nagh, principal of Alokmoynaha Sangeet Bidyayatan presided over the programme.

Sarwar Kamal Robin, secretary of Udichi Mymensingh Sangsad, conducted the programme.

Termining Tagore as one of the best contemporary philosophers, the speakers said that Tagore was way ahead of his time.

In many of his writings, Tagore functioned as a reformer and expressed his views on the route to free the people of this sub-continent from British colonial rule, said the speakers.

Beetle Baily by Mort Walker



Henry by Don Tranchte



Table with TV channels and their programmes: ATN BANGLA, Desh TV, CHANNEL 1, Maasranga Television, nTV, CHANNEL 9, Radio.

Table with radio stations and their programmes: abc radio FM 89.2, Morning Express, My Time, No Tension, Dhaka Calling, Radio Today FM 89.5, Good Morning Dhaka, Today's Adda, Hello Dhaka.

Priyo Maa On CHANNEL 9 at 08:30pm Single Episode TV Play Cast: Arfin Rumeey, Ahana

Merit-Prathom Alo Parushkar '11 On Maasranga Television at 08:00pm Award Giving Ceremony Host: Choudhury, Mohammar

Bibarna OnDHAKA On ATN BANGLA at 11:00pm Single Episode TV Play Cast: Subarna Mustafa, Saberi

Table with ETV, Boishakh TV, BANGLAVISION, National Geographic Channel, Rtv, Drama Serial, and NEWS BULLETIN.

Table with ATN BANGLA, CHANNEL 1, CHANNEL 9, BANGLAVISION, ntv, BTV, NEWS BULLETIN, and TALK SHOW.