

WHAT'S ON

- Solo Art Exhibition**
Title: Watercolours and Paintings
Artist: Humayun Kabir Khan
Venue: Galleri Kaya, Uttara
Date: May 24-June 6
Time: 11pm-8pm
- Theatre**
Play: Shylock and Sycophants
Troupe: Theatrewala
Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: June 8, Time: 7pm
- Cultural Programme**
Participant: China Disabled People's Performing Art Troupe
Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Date: June 9-10
- Solo Photography Exhibition**
Title: Shatobosher Potik
Photographer: Shahadat Parvez
Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, H 60, Rd 7/A, Dhamondi
- Film Festival**
Venue: Russian Centre of Science & Culture, Dhamondi
Date: June 4-9
Time: 5pm-6:30pm
- Group Drawing Exhibition**
Title: Freefall
Venue: Bangladeshi Art Lounge, 60 Gulshan Avenue, Gange-1
Date: May 24-June 11
- ITI Theatre Fest**
Venue: Shilpakala Academy, Shyambaghda
Date: May 27-June 3
Time: 7pm everyday
- Solo Photo Exhibition**
Title: Heritage & Panoramic Beauty of Bangladesh
Artist: Abdur Rob Djalil
Venue: La Galerie, Alliance Francaise de Dhaka



TAGORE REIGNS SUPREME



"Achalayatan" is an allegorical play that speaks against fundamentalism. PHOTO: JAMIL MAHMUD

JAMIL MAHMUD

As the ongoing "International Theatre Festival, Seminar and Workshop" reaches its end, impact of Rabindranath Tagore's literary works reigned supreme. All the three plays staged on the fifth day (May 31) of the festival were either adaptations of Tagore literature or work based on the poet's life.

Nagarik Natyasampraday staged the resurrected version of its acclaimed play "Achalayatan" at the Experimental Theatre Hall of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy. Pallabi Dance Centre staged "Shapmochon" at the National Theatre Hall, while Bangla Theatre staged the monodrama "The Distant Near" [at the Studio Theatre Hall] that incorporates presence of Rabindranath Tagore and William Shakespeare.

Nagarik's "Achalayatan" is directed by Aly Zaker. It is an allegorical play. We see a monastery that houses a school, 'Achalayatan', for religious education. The young students are subjected to very strict dictates of fundamentalism. They are not allowed to mingle with outsiders. Panchak, a young man, breaks the rule

often and spends time with a group of people who belong to a lower caste. He along with Guru, an elusive character, and others try to break free from the bindings of Achalayatan.

Rawnak Hasan, Pantha Shahriar, Ziaul Hasan, Salek Khan and Mahfuz Rizvee played the major roles.

Pallabi Dance Centre's "Shapmochon" was directed and choreographed by Minu Haque. The enthralling story sees two lovers who are banished from heaven. Dancers Kosturi Mukharjee, Anik Bose, ABM Shahidul Islam and Salma Begum performed in the dance-drama.

Bangla Theatre's "Distant Near" has been written by Shahidul Mamun and directed by Faiz Zahir. Mamunur Rashid, as the protagonist, articulates an imaginary conversation between Rabindranath Tagore and William Shakespeare throughout the play. Faiz Zahir also did the set, light and costume designing.

The international seminar was held yesterday morning at the Seminar Hall of the academy. Divided into two sessions, theatre activists from home and abroad discussed on the topic "Theatre in Asia, Asia in Theatre".

"This festival can be a platform for cultural exchange"
-- Nasiruddin Yousuff, president, ITI Bangladesh Centre

Nasiruddin Yousuff, president of the Bangladesh Centre of International Theatre Institute (ITI), believes that events like the ongoing "International Theatre Festival, Seminar and Workshop" can play an important role in promoting cultural exchange among nations.

According to him, governments should also play their parts in these initiatives. Admitting that the participation of troupes from overseas is inadequate, Yousuff said that the reason behind this was lack of time and sponsorship. "We had plans to invite at least ten troupes from other Asian countries. In future we will go for greater arrangement but the government has to play an active part. If the government can arrange Asian Art Biennial successfully then why can't it provide patronage to theatre?" -- wondered Yousuff.

An open forum that is held on the following day, after each show, has been appreciated by the audience. It creates an opportunity to exchange views between



Nasiruddin Yousuff theatre activists and the audience. "It is important to take into account the audiences' reactions and views. I think this forum is successful," said Yousuff. Yousuff thinks that more events should be included in the festival. An exhibition featuring theatre history had been a common feature over the years but due to lack of time, the organisers could not accommodate it. According to Yousuff, the festival was originally scheduled to be held three months earlier.

Classical music at Bishwa Sahitya Kendra

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

To mark its 38 years of holding regular classical music presentations, Suddha Sangeet Proshar Goshthi (SSPG) held a classical music soiree at the study circle room of Bishwa Sahitya Kendra (BSK) on May 31. Finance secretary of SSPG Usha Rahman welcomed all, while educationist and founding president of BSK Professor Abdullah Abu Sayeed spoke at the event.

"We, the authorities of BSK and SSPG, have been holding this event for over three decades. The practice of classical music is below par in our country. At present there is a dearth of accomplished and consummate artists, poets, painters and even professors. If the state doesn't provide ample patronage to cultural practices, nothing can find a niche in a country," said Professor Abdullah Abu Sayeed.

Accomplished vocalist Priyanka Gope started with performing vilambit and drut khayal on Raga Jog. The melancholic melody blossomed remarkably.

Veteran Pakhwaj artiste Patit Pabon Natto of Barisal joined his son, tabla artiste Bishwajit Natto, at the programme. The duo presented a lahora on teen taal. Bishwajit Natto's presentation of a shurwaat, peshkar and an amod of Benaras Gharana earned rounds of applause while his father's untiring effort was truly appreciable. Basudev Chakrabarty accompanied the artiste duo on naghma.

Noted vocalist and Chhayanaut guru, Asit Dey, was the last performer at the soiree. The artiste first performed a khayal based on Raga Malkauns. The vilambit bandish of the raga seemed to articulate a relaxed melody, while the poetic drut bandish had an eternal plea. Asit Dey wrapped up his rendition with a chhota khayal set on Raga Desh. Iftekhar Alam Pradhan and Badal Chowdhury assisted the vocalist duo on tabla.



Patit Pabon Natto (C) joins his son Bishwajit Natto (L) in performing the lahora. PHOTO: MUMIT M.

Lux-Channel i Super Star '12 National Premiere Show held

A CORRESPONDENT

National premiere show of "Lux-Channel i Super Star '12" was held at Star Cineplex of Bashundhara City Mall in Dhaka on May 20. Twenty best contestants among several thousands have participated in the premiere show. The theme for this year's "Lux-Channel i Super Star" is "Live beautiful". The show was organised to give an overview of this year's competition.

Cultural personality Asaduzzaman Noor MP; Geeti Ara Safia Chowdhury; three judges -- magician Jewel Aich, actor Tauquir Ahmed and actress Tarin -- of this year's competition and officials of Unilever Bangladesh Ltd and Impress Telefilm Ltd were present at the event.

"This competition started with the magazine Anandadhara. Lux joined hands and it was named 'Lux-Anandadhara Photo Shundori'. The competition is now renamed as 'Lux-Channel i Super Star'. We hope to see some bright, young talents to emerge from this competition," said Asaduzzaman Noor.

"There are many talents in our country. We just need to highlight them. Lux is doing that job," said Jewel Aich.

"There is no alternative to this competition if we want to groom talented, young artistes," said Tauquir Ahmed.

"We hope real talents will emerge from this contest," said Tarin.

At the end of the show, a documentary made by Masud Hasan Ujjal was screened at the venue. Mummum exceed the entire event.

Discussion on Ram Mohon Roy



Syed Abul Maksud (right) speaks at the programme. PHOTO: STAR

IQBAL SIDDIQUEE, Sylhet

The ideology of Raja Ram Mohon Roy is still relevant for a modern, democratic and secular Bangladesh. Politics without social justice, morality and other ethical pillars can never have a positive outcome for citizens, said veteran researcher and columnist Syed Abul Maksud at a discussion held recently at the Srihatta Brahma Samaj center in Sylhet city's Bandabazaar area.

As chief speaker at the discussion on social reformer Raja Ram Mohon Roy, organised in observance of the birth anniversary of the great personality, Maksud said, Roy initiated significant reforms at the beginning of the 19th century that led to an upsurge towards a secular Bangladeshi society. He picked up liberal elements from the Vedas, Islam and Christianity, Maksud added.

Sylhet Metropolitan University Vice Chancellor, Professor MA Aziz, and Brahmo Samaj Secretary, Asit Bhattacharya, also addressed the gathering. Pankaj Kumar Roy chaired the discussion. The discussion was followed by a cultural function by local artistes.

Srihatta Brahma Samaj was established in the Bengali year 1265. Rabindranath Tagore also visited the institution and addressed a gathering.

NEW RELEASES

- Pothe Jeto Dekechhile Morey**
Solo album of Rabindra Sangeet by Kalim Sharafi
Source: Commitment Products
- Anjali Laho Mor Sangeetey**
Solo album of Nazrat Sangeet by Parveen Sultana
Source: Laser Vision
- Bhalobashini**
Solo album by Rana
Source: Laser Vision
- Dekhona**
Solo album by Siam
Source: Agniwoena

Homage to Tagore in Chittagong



Members of Raktakarabi sing at the programme. PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

PRANABESH CHAKRABORTY, Chittagong

Raktakarabi, a leading cultural organisation of the port city, paid homage to Nobel laureate poet Rabindranath Tagore by arranging a programme featuring music and recitation at Fulki Auditorium recently.

Marking the 151st birth anniversary of the poet, the programme titled "Rabindranath: Gaane, Kobita" featured timeless songs and poems of the bard.

Noted elocutionist Rashed Hasan first took the stage and briefed the audience on the programme.

The programme started with a group rendition of "Jaya Probolo Meghaboti Sureswari" followed by its adaptation by Tagore, "Jai Tabo Bichitra Ananda".

Poet Abul Momen delivered the welcome speech at the event. Indian Assistant High Commissioner to Chittagong, Somnath Ghosh, addressed the programme as the chief guest.

Abul Momen in his speech said, in these turbulent times, Tagore's philosophy represents the path of humanity.

Quoting a Tagore song, "Apon Hoye Bahir Hoye", he said that to realise one's identity, one should look within.

"It is a matter of joy that appreciation of Tagore is spreading far and wide," said Somnath Ghosh.

"The older generation should encourage children to study Tagore," he added.

With the recitation "Amar chokhe Rabindranath", a poem written by Joy Goswami, Mubidur Rahman Sujat began his performance.

Purabi Barua started her performance with the Tagore song "Je Raatey Mor Duarguli" followed by "Shudhu Tomar Bani".

Uday Sankar Das recited an English version of Tagore's acclaimed poem "Krishnokali" which was transformed into a song by the poet after 30 years.

Following the performance, Kristi Barua and Ferdous Russell respectively offered "Gaaner Bhor Diya" and "Aaro Kato Durey" at the event.

Rashed Hasan recited "Sandhya O Prabhat", from Tagore's "Lipika".

Jayita Chakraborty and Satyajit Ghosh respectively rendered the songs "Hridoye Tomar" and "Aaj Jemon Korey" following a recitation by Kankan Das.

Later, Shila Momen, the chief of Raktakarabi, rendered two songs. Her performance "Chokher Joley" moved the audience. Later she sang "Chander Hashir Bandh Bhengechhe".

The programme ended with the two choruses -- "Prothom Aadi Tabo Shakti" and "Hey Nutan Dekha Dik".

Library honouring Language Martyr Rafiq, observes 7th anniversary

ZAHANGIR SHAH, Manikganj

Shaheed Rafiq Smriti Pathagar, a library in memory of Language Martyr Rafique Uddin Ahmed, celebrated its seventh anniversary with a discussion, cultural function, film screening, rally and 'fanush' festival in Manikganj recently.

The daylong programme began with a discussion on 'Role of young organisers and

youth organisations in present times' at the Captain Abdul Halim Chowdhury Auditorium.

Atia Ferdousy Chaiti, president of Shahid Rafique Smriti Pathagar, presided over the discussion where Professor and writer Anu Mohammad of Jahangirnagar University, and cultural personality and singer Krishnakali Islam were the discussants.

Later, the film "Phirey Esho

Behula" directed by Tanim Nur, was screened at the auditorium. A cultural function followed. Krishnakali Islam rendered her songs; local artistes performed dances, rendered songs and recited poetry.

Later, a rally was brought out from the auditorium premises. Hundreds of people including the members of the organisation took part in the rally.

THE WEEKLY STRUM

.....G.....C.....
I am a man of constant sorrow
...../B.....D.....G
I've seen trouble all my days
.....G.....C.....
I'll say goodbye to Colorado
...../B.....D.....G.....
Where I was born and partly raised.

But there's one promise, darling
.....D.....G.....
I'll see you on God's golden shore

.....G.....C.....
I'm going back to Colorado
...../B.....D.....G
The place that I started from
.....C.....
If I had known how bad you'd treat me
honey
.....D.....G.....
I never would have come.

Song: Man of Constant Sorrow
Album: Bob Dylan (1962)
Artist: Bob Dylan
Traditional American song rearranged by Dylan

Mort Walker's beetle bailey

EVERYONE UP! LINE UP OUTSIDE!
I THOUGHT THIS WAS A HOLIDAY
HE CAN ALWAYS THINK OF A WAY TO MESS THINGS UP

MEN, THIS IS MEMORIAL DAY. I WANT YOU TO LOOK AT OUR FLAGS AND THINK ABOUT IT
THIS IS THE DAY TO REMEMBER THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO FOUGHT SO THAT WE COULD LIVE IN FREEDOM
ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO SACRIFICED THEIR LIVES OR WERE WOUNDED BY OUR ENEMIES

WE ARE THE FRESHEST COUNTRY IN HISTORY AND WE OWE IT TO THOSE BRAVE PEOPLE
ALWAYS REMEMBER THAT
I'LL ALSO ALWAYS REMEMBER WHAT A BIG HEART OLD SARGE HAS
ESPECIALLY IN THAT BIG OLD MONSTER BODY!

Henry
BY DON TRACHTÉ

Dimples Darling

ATN BANGLA	12:30 Total Sports
11:10 Shobar Jonno	Diganta TV
11:45 Dul Kobi Ek Mon	12:30 Duranto Khobor
01:25 Prapok	03:05 Music Hour
03:05 Bangla Feature Film	06:30 Ektra Dotara
09:20 Drama Serial: Chhayani Kayanari	08:40 Lime Light
	10:00 Prime Time
CHANNEL 1	Maasranga Television
12:05 Ebong Cinepar Gaan	10:30 Bangla Feature Film
12:30 Taroka Kothon	06:30 Binodon Sharadin
01:05 Bangla Feature Film	08:00 Drama Serial: Sat
06:10 Manusher Jonno	Sawdagar
Shonglap	09:02 Tele-quiz
09:35 Hridoye Mati	11:00 World Music
O Manush	CHANNEL 9
Special Programme	09:15 Bangla Feature Film
ETV	06:00 Classic Cartoon
10:02 Delighari	07:45 Drama Serial: Dead and
01:30 Bangla Feature Film	10:20 Dhulo Khela
06:30 Vobo Gure Dot Com	Gen X
07:50 Musical Programme	Fox Movies

abc radio FM 89.2	02:00 Fourth Unlimited
06:00 Bhoer Jonday	06:00 Bumper to Bumper
09:00 Makhoris Jiboney	10:00 Back to Back
12:00 Damin Dapany	How
03:00 Dreams Bakery	RADIO TODAY FM 89.6
05:00 Shondhata	06:00 Gevns FM
07:00 Shajer Maya	08:00 Good Morning
09:00 Raat-er Akushey	Dhaka
11:00 Gopur Shesha Nei	11:00 World Music
RADIO FORUM	04:00 Utm
08:00 Adabait	07:00 Tabu Tai Hok

Manusher Jonno Shonglap
On CHANNEL 1 at 06:10pm
Talk Show
Host: Golam Murtaza

Blade
On HBO at 11:35pm
Genre: Action/Horror
Cast: Wesley Snipes, Stephen Dorff

Amar Ami
On BANGLAVISION at 09:05pm
Celebrity Talk Show
Guest: Brindaban Das, Shahnaz Khushi & Chandhal Chowdhury

12:05 Ekushey-er Raat	11:25 Once Upon A Time
	01:15 Made of Honor
	03:00 The Mask of Zoro
	05:20 Unstoppable
	07:00 Treasure Island (Part 1 of 2)
	09:35 Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby
	11:25 Never Let Me Go
Boishakh TV	HBO
10:30 Bangla Feature Film	11:30 Hop
06:20 Sakhjan	01:35 Small Soldiers
08:00 Music Train	03:55 Jonah Hex
08:35 Amra Duti Kemon Juti	05:35 Torque
11:00 Nitagad Sarak Chai	07:25 Mean Girls
BANGLAVISION	09:30 Rush Hour
11:05 Ami Ekhon Ki Korbo	11:35 Blade
10:10 Bangla Feature Film	Star World
08:00 Musical Programme	11:00 The Big Bang Theory
06:25 Front Line	05:30 Castle
08:35 Amra Duti Kemon Juti	08:30 Touch
09:45 Avenue	09:30 Jr Master Chef
Rtv	10:30 Desperate Housewives
11:05 Dhrupadi Kahini	11:30 Two and a Half Men
10:10 Bangla Feature Film	Discovery Channel
06:30 Special Talk Show	
07:45 Amra Dujan Dekhitey Kemon	
08:15 Pathey Jety Jety	

ATN BANGLA	09:30pm Rangila
08:00pm Poramatir Golpo	08:15pm Harikritya
08:40pm Chora Goli	
CHANNEL 1	
05:30pm Murtajin	08:15pm Chokkhabo
07:50pm Noorjahan	09:05pm Oloshor
ntv	09:50pm Mon Rangila
08:15pm Bondhu Amar	Maasranga Television
ETV	08:30pm Khamakaly

BTV	Boishakh TV
News (Bangla) at 12pm, 2pm, 5pm, 8pm.	News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7pm.
News (English) at 10am, 4pm, 10pm.	News (English) at 9am, 9pm.
ATN BANGLA	BANGLAVISION
News (Bangla) at 11am, 12pm, 2pm, 7pm, 10pm.	News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm.
News (English) at 9am, 5pm.	News (English) at 1pm, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm.
CHANNEL 1	Rtv
News (Bangla) at 2pm, 5pm, 10:30pm.	News (Bangla) at 1:45pm, 6:45pm, 10:45pm.
ntv	News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm.
News (Bangla) at 1pm, 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm.	News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7pm, 9pm.
ETV	News (Bangla) at 1pm, 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm.

ATN BANGLA	BANGLAVISION
12:30am Lead News	09:05pm Amar Ami
CHANNEL 1	11:25pm Lal Golap
09:45am Trilo Matra	Rtv
11:05am Amader Aajna	10:40am Tarokalp
ETV	Desht TV
10:10pm Golpo Sholpo Gaan	09:45pm Beta Beta Sharabela
Boishakh TV	11:45pm Shajjo Kotha
12:00am Zero Hour	Maasranga Television