

WHAT'S ON

Exhibition
Featuring Life and Works of
Mishuk Munier
Venue: Dhaka Art Centre,
Dharmoadi
Date: July 22-31

Theatre
Play: Hall Akhrai
Troupe: Uddichi
Venue: Experimental Theatre
Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: July 28

Film Screening 2
Film: Dabidha Uddi Rai & Nazim
Filmmaker: Moni Kaul (India)
Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, H-60,
Rd-7A, Dharmoadi
Date: July 27-28
Time: 5 & 7 pm Everyday

Mahurat of the film
Sohagpur
Venue: Bangladesh Film
Development Corporation
Date: July 28
Time: 11am

Film Screening
Film: The Scarlet Flower (Fairy
Tale)
Venue: Auditorium, Russian
Centre of Science & Culture,
Dharmoadi
Date: July 28

Film Screening
Film: War and Peace (Part 1)
Venue: Auditorium, Russian Centre
of Science & Culture, Dharmoadi
Date: September 9
Time: 6pm

Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Heavy Metal
Artist: Dr. Lambert Shambhu
Venue: Bengali Art Lounge, 60,
Gulshan Avenue, Dhaka
Date: July 12-29
Time: 12-6pm

Theatre
Play: Target Platoon
Written & Directed by: Mamunur
Rashid
Venue: National Theatre Hall,
Shilpakala Academy
Date: July 27 & 28

NEW RELEASES

Mahua Bone
Solo album
of Nazrul
Sangeet by
Yasmin
Mushtari
Source:
Bengal
Foundation

Hey Mohajiban
Solo album
by Ajit Ray
Source:
Bengal
Foundation

Shuttle Train
Solo album
by Touhid
Shimul
Source:
Ringer

Ratry
Self-titled
album by
Ratry
Source:
Laser
Vision



Master of technique

In conversation with artist **Monirul Islam**

TAKIR HOSSAIN

"I am enjoying freedom working on a big canvas; it offers me opportunities where I can easily apply my thoughts through lines, forms and colours. Small space cannot give me such an opportunity. I think each medium has an individual demand and personal trait. Art can be enriched by changing medium.

"When I am thinking about a new image, a new idea comes to my mind. Trauma and frustration are also part of my paintings," said Madrid-based Bangladeshi artist Monirul Islam at his atelier in Dharmoadi.

Islam now splits his time in two cities-- Dhaka and Madrid. In his kaleidoscopic journey of over 45 years in art, he has developed his unique style, which is known as "Monir's School" in Spain.

"Colour, tenor and texture can be transformed according to location and moment. I think location is one of the most dominant aspects in any artist's life. When I'm engrossed in painting, I lose myself. Without any fear and hesitation, I might even destroy my created image, as the painting takes over me; I believe each painting has a life and a unique appearance of its own," says Islam.

Without much care and consideration, Islam applies colours and creates forms, lines and compositions. He puts layer upon layer of paint, until he feels that he has achieved what he's determined. The outcome is a thoughtful, subtly balanced arrangement of colours and meticulous space.

The artist likes to work in different mediums. But print is his favourite, and he excels in the medium. The painter feels that an artist should enjoy his or her creative sovereignty. "An able artist can work in several mediums. There shouldn't be a set medium for an art-

ist, and the method to articulate an artistic vision should depend on his/her mood and temperament. The practice of art differs from one individual to another, nation to nation, and period to period. This concept can be understood from Picasso's paintings. His style of drawing, lines, figures, movements -- all constitute his signature style. Picasso worked in different mediums, such as painting, drawing, sculpture, ceramics and printmaking. But his personal style was consistent," said Islam.

In 1969, when Islam was only 27- years- old, he went to Spain on a scholarship. For nine months, during his student days there, Islam worked on murals and frescos and won an award from the Spanish government. This allowed him to stay in Madrid for another year. During that period, he studied Goya's paintings (of the Black period) and tried to comprehend the significance of light, colour and composition.

After settling in Spain, the artist has been using paper as a medium. The artist believes paper has a mystical quality. It gives his works a different appeal and look. "After I started making my own paper, it gave my work a certain distinctness. During my early years in Spain, I did many watercolours, which mainly focused on the bucolic beauty of Bangladesh. I couldn't get over missing Bangladesh. My childhood, my teenage years -- significant stages of my life involve Bangladesh," Islam recalled.

In his leisure, the veteran artist attends museums and different exhibitions -- featuring classic art as well as to contemporary works. Velázquez, Goya, Leonardo da Vinci, Michael Angelo and other master painters continue to inspire him. Islam often finds himself fascinated with the interplay of light, colours, figures, compositions, lines and themes in their works.

ABDUL MATIN

Litterateur Humayun Ahmed was laid to eternal rest on Tuesday at his favourite retreat at Nuhash Polli in Gazipur even though most of his family members desired to bury him at Mirpur Intellectuals' Graveyard. The family's decision must have been taken in view the last wishes of Humayun Ahmed as expressed by his wife Shaon.

Personally, I would have been happier if Ahmed were buried on the Dhaka University campus. This would have been a more appropriate place for his burial in view of his popularity as a writer, a dramatist and a filmmaker. Shaon made it clear that the door of Nuhash Polli would remain open to his fans and admirers who would like to visit his grave.

The intention of this article is not to evaluate the literary value of Ahmed's works. I shall evaluate him by his success as a writer. He created a new generation of readers among the Bengali communities at home and abroad. It will be no exaggeration to state that by virtue of his popularity, Humayun is perhaps next only to Rabindranath Tagore and Kazi Nazrul Islam. Tagore's popularity is limited mainly to the educated class. Nazrul went a step further by being popular among the common people through his revolutionary songs. Ahmed's popularity spread further, even among the illiterate people in the rural areas, through his dramas.

Humayun Ahmed is admired by people of all ages, though his younger fans outnumber the elder ones. We should be proud that a writer of his calibre was born in



PHOTO COURTESY: MASUD AKHAND

Bangladesh. I am particularly proud because he was born in the same municipal town of Mohanganj in Netrakona where I was born. When I was in school, during mid 1950s, I heard from his maternal grandfather that both Ahmed and his brother Zafar Iqbal had been very meritorious students even during their early childhood.

I recollect that Ahmed once competed in an essay

competition on East Pakistan (now Bangladesh) while he was a child and got the first prize. This was perhaps the first recognition of his talent as a writer.

I remember to have seen Ahmed when he was about four years old. His maternal uncle Nazrul and I travelled together by train from Mohanganj to Sylhet in 1952. From the Sylhet railway station, we went straight to

Shelu Barua performs on Tara Muzik

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Well-known Bangladeshi singer Shelu Barua won the hearts of many spectators by performing at a solo musical programme "Aaj Shokaler Amontrone" aired on a Kolkata based popular music channel Tara Muzik on July 24 and hosted by Mallika.

Shelu Barua loves to sing the Hemanta Mukherjee numbers that evokes memories of the legendary singer. As the monsoon set in, the singer started off the programme, rendering a song "Ei Meghla Din-e Ekla", originally recorded by Hemanta Mukherjee. A number of spectators instantly phoned in to the live programme to hear more of Hemanta numbers. He then performed "Ami Dur Hotey Tomarey" Dekhechhi" and "Olor Katha Shuney Bokul Hashey".

Shelu Barua also performed five Nazrul songs at the programme. Prior to performing the songs, Shelu said, "We are yet to discover the full range of our National Poet's work. Today, I am going to perform a few numbers of the poet which the audience are not very familiar with."

The singer started with "Shonar Meye Shonar Meye Tomar O Roop-er Mayar" followed by "Jobey Tushitolaye Priyo"; "Abar Ki Elo Rey Badal", a monsoon melody, set on Raga misra Joyjyanti; "Kanon Giri Shindhu Paar", a ghazal and "E Kon Madhur Sharab Diley", an Islamic number.

The singer also performed another song, "O



Nadirey Ekti Katha Shudhai Shudhu Tomarey" (originally recorded by Hemanta) on request from a viewer.

"Many spectators from Dhaka, Kolkata and USA phoned at the programme. I was quite surprised to receive a phone call from a girl of Kolkata who was born in Chittagong, my birthplace," mentioned Shelu Barua.

Shahidul Islam Babu: A dancer with artistic talent

SYEDA SHAMIN MORTADA

Shahidul Islam Babu has created an aura of exquisite dancing in the sphere of Manipuri and folk dance. In each of his performance he tells wonderful stories with the help of his graceful body movements. Abhinaya or expressional acting plays a very important role in his style. He states, "Dance is a type of acting. It is through these expressions that we can reach the audience and explain the whole theme. That is why perfection during limb movements and facial expressions is significant."

The dancer says, "I have been involved with Bulbul Lalitkala Academy for about a decade. I passed out from the institution and am presently an instructor there. I mastered the art of Manipuri dance from Chayanaut and my teachers were Sharmila Bandyopadhyay, Tamanna Rahman and Shantibala Sinha. Minu Haque guided me to master the techniques of Odissi." Contemplating his love for folk dance, Babu states, "It is through this medium that we can showcase the rich cultural heritage of our country internationally. Moreover, we can keep our tradition alive through folk dances which will help to bring people together from all parts of our country to a single platform on which they can perform and help promote national cohesiveness."

Talking about trinkets and costumes he says "Ghungur (ankle bells) is very important for any dancer. It is required for taal. You can tap your foot for taal but the tinkle of the bell makes all the difference. I am usually comfortable with simple panjabi, pajama and dhoti. I try to avoid zari works. Sometime a small ornament might also be necessary. Basically one has to wear what the performance demands."

Conversing about his schedule he said "We usually have a heavy schedule during winter. What makes it more hectic is that I am also a music and dance instructor in a school and have to give sufficient time



to our Pallavi Dance Centre in Gulshan. Senior dancers like Minu Haque and Anik Bose are a crucial part of the Centre. Bharatanatyam, folk, Manipuri, Odissi classical almost all types of genres are taught here." Talking about his students he says, "I have a very good relationship with them. My dream is to make them proficient so that they can create a realm of sophistication through dance not only in the country but in foreign lands as well."

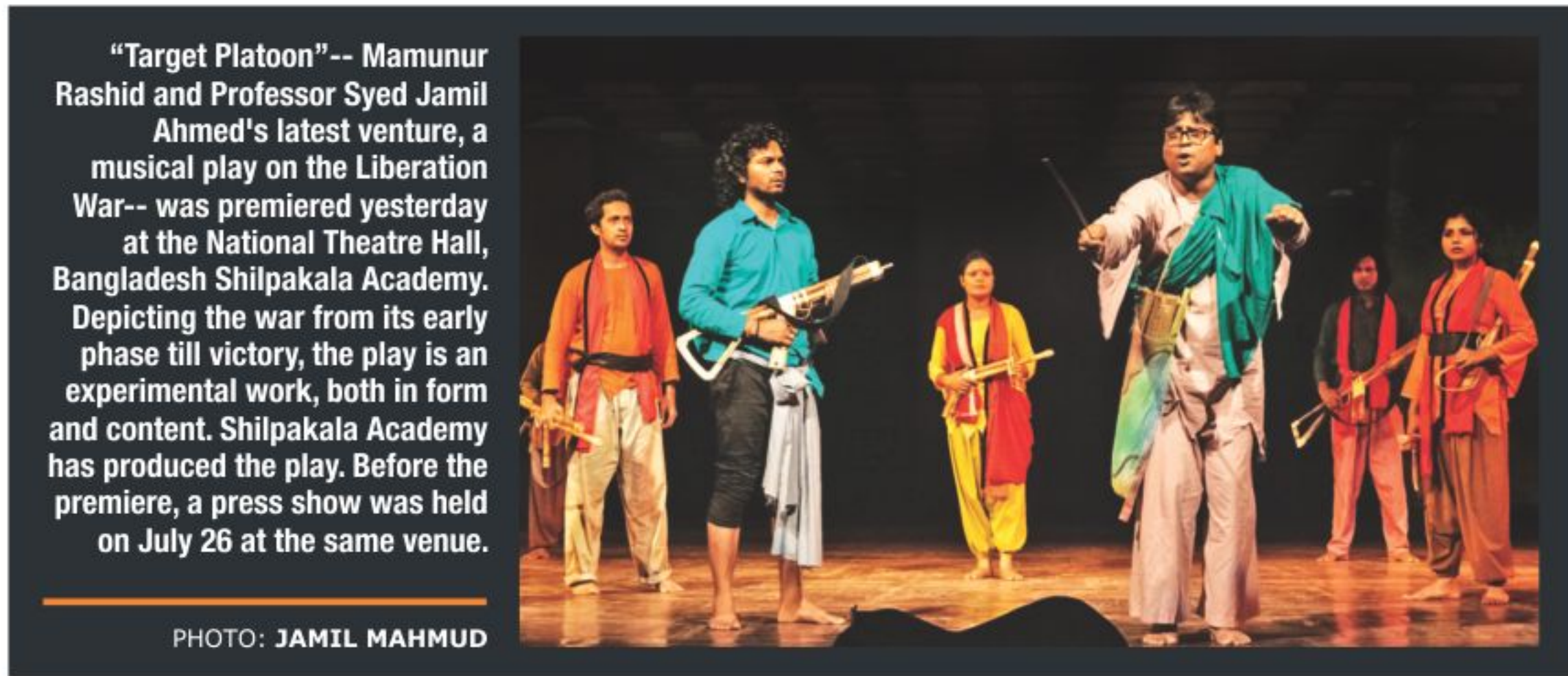


PHOTO: JAMIL MAHMUD

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eco tip

Bring your own re-useable grocery bag when doing grocery shopping. Each person consumes hundreds of bags each year!

eco ideas

Together, we save.

ATN BANGLA
10:40 Bangla Feature Film
04:45 Jhatpat Itlar
06:10 Islam Sawa O Janab
08:40 Drama Serial: Chazgali
10:55 Drama Serial: Dekhchut Pakhira

ntv
08:45 Bangla Feature Film
03:10 Drama Serial: Ronger Manush
07:00 Gallery
09:00 Drama
11:30 Apunar Jiggasha

ETV
10:02 Dehghari
12:30 Bangla Feature Film
06:20 Drama: Rojadar
07:50 Siyam O Shushastha
12:05 Kushey-er Raat

Boishakhi TV
08:30 Bangla Feature Film

Maasranga Television
11:02 Bangla Feature Film
06:10 Mahey Ramzan
07:25 Ti for Tin
09:00 Houseful
12:02 Shamporkit

CHANNEL 9
09:15 Bangla Feature Film
05:30 Alakia Ramzan
09:25 We are the Band
11:45 Islamic Jiggasha

CHANNEL 24
09:30 Housewife
01:05 Down out with us
08:10 Eito Jibon
09:30 Drama Serial
12:00 Unplugh

Gtv
04:20 Jiggasha O Janab
06:00 Mahey Ramzan
09:05 Agamiir Bhabna
12:00 Shongbad Shonglad

RADIO

abc radio FM 89.2	02:00	Forti Unlimited	
06:00	Bhorer Janjaly	06:00	Bumper to Bumper
09:00	Mukhorito Jiboney	10:00	Back to Back Music
12:00	Damin Duguney	RADIO TODAY FM 89.6	
03:00	Doronto Boley	06:00	Gulshan FM
05:00	Shondhata	08:00	Good Morning Dhaka
07:00	Shajer Maya	11:00	World Music
09:00	Raat-er Akashay	04:00	U Turn
11:00	Golper Sheli Nei	06:00	Robe ki Hot
RADIO FORUM	10:00	Rat Shor Gan	
08:00	Addabai	12:00	Hutum Peha

Housefull
On Maasranga Television at 09:00pm
Quiz Show
Guest: **Morshedul Islam**

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1
On HBO at 09:30pm
Genre: Adventure/ Drama
Cast: **Daniel Radcliffe, Emma**

Amra Duti Kemon Juti
On Boishakhi TV at 08:35pm
Celebrity Adda
Guest: **Emon & Bidya Sinha Mim**

08:15	Tasar Ramna	Fox Movies
08:35	Amra Duti Kemon Juti	03:25 Knight & Day
11:00	Nirapad Sarak Chai	05:15 Invidious
11:30	Amar Chokhe Ami	07:00 The Crazies
BANGLAVISION		08:45 Dylan Dog: Dead of Night
04:05	Ramzan O Amader Jibon	10:35 X-Men: First Class
05:15	Qu'ar-er Alo	HBO
07:00	Style File	11:20 The Mask
09:45	Drama Serial: Gulshan Avenue	09:35 The Scorpion King: Rise of a Warrior

Desh TV		06:55 Bridesmaids
03:00	Bangla Feature Film	09:30 Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows
06:20	Ramzan Probidin	
07:40	Sun Fashion	National Geographic Channel
08:15	Pothey Jetey Jetey	11:30 Mega Factories
12:30	Total Sports	08:30 Caught in the Act
Diganta TV		10:30 In the Worm
01:30	Duranto Khebor	11:30 Taboo: Body Modification
04:30	Shorol Path	Discovery Channel
05:30	Islamic Talent Search	05:00 Destroyed in Seconds
10:15	Prime Time	09:30 I Shouldn't Be Alive
11:15	Shobar Upore Desh	

DRAMA SERIAL

ATN BANGLA		Jadugar
08:00pm	Cheta Mukh	BANGLAVISION
09:20pm	Jhalonto Babura	08:15pm Harkiptey
CHANNEL i		08:15pm Chorkabbo
ntv		Maasranga Television
08:15pm	Bondhu Amar	08:00pm Bondhuta
ETV		CHANNEL 9
09:30pm	Joyal	08:40pm Opashe Baraf Dana Gtv

NEWS BULLETIN

BTV		Boishakhi TV
News (Bangla) at 12pm, 2pm, 5pm, 6pm,		News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7pm,
News (English) at 10am, 4pm, 10pm,		News (English) at 9am, 6pm,
ATN BANGLA		BANGLAVISION
News (Bangla) at 11am, 12pm, 2pm, 7pm, 10pm,		News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7-30pm, 10-30pm,
News (English) at 9am, 6pm,		News (English) at 1pm, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm,
CHANNEL i		Rtv
News (Bangla) at 2pm, 5pm, 10-30pm,		News (Bangla) at 1:45pm, 6-45pm, 10-45pm,
ntv		Desh TV
News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7-30pm, 10-30pm,		News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm,
ETV		Maasranga Television
News (Bangla) at 1pm, 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm,		News (Bangla) at 7pm, 1am,

TALK SHOW

ATN BANGLA		12:00am Zero Hour
12:30am Lead News		BANGLAVISION
CHANNEL i		09:05pm Amar Ami
09:45am Tritto Matra		11:25pm Lal Golap
11:05am Amader Aayna		Rtv
ETV		10:40am Tarokalap
10:10pm Golpo Sholpo		Desh TV
Gaan		09:45pm Bela Obela Sharabela
Boishakhi TV		11:45pm Shoja Kotba