

WHAT'S ON

Group Art Exhibition
Title: Culture of Time
Venue: The Institute of Art and Culture, Gulshan
Date: Sept 7-20
Time: 12pm-8pm

Musical Soiree
Marking 36th Death Anniversary of Nazim
Organiser: Bangladesh Nazim Sanget Sangha
Venue: Shaikh Osman Memorial Auditorium, Public Library, Shahbagh

Solo Tapestry Exhibition
Artist: Tajul Islam
Venue: Asiatic Society of Bangladesh, Miral
Date: Sept 7-21
Time: 11am-7:30pm

Solo Art Exhibition
Title: REM
Artist: Rangit Das
Venue: Bengal Art Lounge, 60, Gulshan Avenue, Circle 1
Date: Sept 7-28

Group Art Exhibition
Title: 5th Friendship Art Exhibition
Venue: National Art Gallery, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Date: Sept 7-16
Time: 10am-7:30pm

Theatre
Play: Baranabhanu
Troupe: Theatre
Venue: National Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: Sept 10
Time: 7pm

Group Drawing Exhibition
Title: Darw: Taming Thoughts into Lines
Venue: Athena Gallery, Progoti Sherani, Uttor Badda
Date: Sept 15-Oct 15
Time: 10am-7:30pm

Theatre
Play: Libelati Akhyan
Troupe: Esho Nayya Dal
Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: Sept 15
Time: 7pm



Kuakata, daughter of the sea

ZAHANGIR ALOM

Kuakata, a panoramic coastal area, is located in the Patuakhali district of Bangladesh. Kuakata has an extensive sandy beach (30 km long and 6 km wide) from where one can get a full view of both the sunrise and the sunset. Locally known as "Sagar Kanya" (daughter of the sea), the long strip of dark marbled sand beach at Kuakata has an idyllic natural setting. On the eastern side of the beach, a long sandy bed of red crabs stretches out. This sandy beach has gentle slopes into the Bay of Bengal. Kuakata is also a sanctuary for migratory birds that generally appear in winter. The name Kuakata originated from the Bengali word "kua" (well) which was dug on the shore by the early Rakhain settlers. The Rakhain community landed on Kuakata coast in the 18th century after being expelled from Arakan in Myanmar by the Mughals. Beholding the full moon while roaming the Kuakata beach can be quite an extraordinary experience. The songs of the swift wind would

with the rhythmic roar of mighty waves are sure to enchant the tourists. Most locals keep themselves busy with fishing at midnight. During monsoon one gets drenched in the rain serenading the sea. The tourists can blissfully take a long shower amidst frequent waves. There is a boat permanently embedded in the sands of the beach. Locals say that this boat has been here for generations. During high tides, the tourists must be cautious as uprooted trees are often thrown on the beach by the sea. If you closely look around, you may find a rain-loving yellow bird gleaming on a jhau tree. On the eastern end of the beach is Gangamati Reserved Forest, an evergreen mangrove forest. When the Rakhains settled in the area in 1784, Kuakata was part of the larger Sundarbans. However, the Sundarbans is now at a distance of one-hour by speed boat. As a mangrove forest, Gangamati, like the Sundarbans, offers some protection against tidal surges. However it too is being threatened by logging and deforestation. The best way to reach the forest is on foot or by a bike along the beach where a flock of flag flying fishing boats can be seen trawling the coast. Late afternoon is a perfect time to watch the sun cast shadows on the strangely

shaped exposed mangrove roots. Kuakata is a place of pilgrimage for both the Hindu and the Buddhist communities. People arrive there during the festival of 'Raas Purnima' and 'Maghi Purnima'. On the two occasions, the pilgrims bathe on the bay and participate in the traditional celebrations. One may also visit the 100-year old Buddhist temple where the 36 feet-long statue of Gautam Buddha, and two 200-year old wells are located. Fishermen's village is another place one can visit and observe their simple lifestyle. Adventurous tourists may also go for fishing with them. One will find the fishermen coming back from the sea and can purchase some fresh hilsa from them and by the side of the village, there are some local restaurants where one can get the hilsa cooked. The government and local business owners have made significant developments over the years to attract tourists. Nowadays, local people are more supportive of the tourists and communications have improved notably. A new police station was built in 2007. Accordingly, the law and order situation on the open beach, even at night, has improved significantly.

Locally known as "Sagar Kanya" (daughter of the sea), the long strip of dark marbled sand beach at Kuakata has an idyllic natural setting. PHOTO: MUMIT M.

Sukumar Ray's 89th death anniversary today

Bengali poet, storyteller and playwright Sukumar Ray (1887-1923) was perhaps the most famous practitioner of "literary nonsense" in the subcontinent. He is often compared to Lewis Carroll. His works such as the collection of poems 'Abol Tabol', novella 'Ha Ja Ba Ra La', short story collection 'Pagla Dashu' and play "Chalachittrachanchari" are considered nonsense masterpieces equal in stature to "Alice in Wonderland", and are regarded as some of the greatest treasures of Bangla literature. Close to a century after his death, Ray remains one of the most popular among children's writers in both West Bengal and Bangladesh.



brilliant rhymes still remain unparalleled. He is still unique. He produced several nonsense verses and plays. It is very disheartening that he did not live long. But if he had, he could have given a new dimension to our Bengali literature. In 1906, Ray graduated with Honours in Physics and Chemistry from the Presidency College, Kolkata (then Calcutta). He was trained in photography and printing technology in England and was a pioneer of photography and lithography in British India. While in England, he also delivered lectures on the songs of Rabindranath before Tagore won the Nobel Prize. Ray also drew acclaim as an illustrator. As a technologist, he developed new methods of half tone block-making, and technical articles about storywriter

Upendrakrishna Ray Chowdhury and father of the iconic filmmaker Satyajit Ray. Sukumar Ray was also the convener of Monday Club, a weekly gathering of likeminded people at the Ray residence, where the members were free to express their cheeky opinions about the world at large. About Ray, noted poet and rhymester Asad Chowdhury said, "Sukumar was an unparalleled genius. He lived a short life but created many valuable literary pieces. It is very significant that Rabindranath Tagore was a great admirer of Ray. Ray introduced an innovative style and his approach was ground-breaking. His use of language, structure and technique gave a distinct aspect to Bengali literature. His writings are not only popular among the young, but also among adults." According to well known poet Shihab Sarkar: "Ray's

Bannya at her best

Solo performance at IGCC

A CORRESPONDENT
Indira Gandhi Culture Centre in Dhaka in association with the State Bank of India in Bangladesh, and Channel i as media partner, organised an evening of Rabindra Sangeet featuring one of Bangladesh's premier exponents, Rezwana Choudhury Bannya, on September 8, at the IGCC in Gulshan. Among Bannya's renditions were "Amolo dholebo paaley legeche", "Amar raat pohalo", "Bajao re mohono banshi" and "Shara jibon dilo alo shurjo groho chand". Accompanying instrumentalists were Bimal Howlader (on the tabla), Richard Kishor (guitar), Ruptanu (key-board), Gazal Abdul Hakim (flute) and

Dipak Paul (octopad). The remarkable melody in Bannya's voice, combined with the effortless control of the tune and perfect pronunciation of each word, makes her renditions of Rabindra Sangeet a distinct and divine experience for the connoisseurs. Trained under notables like Dr. Sanjida Khatun and Atiqul Islam at Chhayanaunt and at the Bulbul Academy of Fine Arts in Dhaka, her love and passion for Rabindra Sangeet intensified and flourished at Shantiniketan where she went to continue her music training under an ICCR scholarship. At Shantiniketan, she received training from stalwarts like Kanika Bandyopadhyay, Neelima Sen, Shudish Bandyopadhyay, Ashesh

Bandyopadhyay, Shoilajarjan Majumdar, Shantidev Ghosh, Gora Sarbadhikary and Manju Bandyopadhyay. She enjoyed a very close and special relationship with the late Kanika Bandyopadhyay in particular that transcended the guru-shishya (master-disciple) tradition. Bannya considers Kanika Bandyopadhyay as her friend, philosopher and guide. It was with her inspiration that Bannya established 'Shurer Dhara', a music school in Dhaka, in 1992. Bannya has extensively travelled to almost all parts of the globe presenting Rabindra Sangeet to the global audience. She has released innumerable CDs and albums that have attained immense popularity and recognition.



Bannya performs at IGCC.

Int'l Poetry Festival in Rangpur

MEHEDY HASAN, Rangpur

A two-day International Poetry Festival was inaugurated at Rangpur Town Hall auditorium on Friday afternoon. Over 300 poets of Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Australia took part in the festival. The programme on the inaugural day was divided into two sessions. The festival was arranged by the Rangpur-based reputed literary newspaper 'Natun Shahitya Potrika'. Shamsuzzaman Khan, director general, Bangla Academy formally inaugurated the poetry festival as chief guest. Professor Dr. Rezaul Haque former principal of Rangpur Carmichael College and noted educationist, presided over the ceremony. Poet Mahfil Haque, convener of the festival and editor of the Natun Shahitya Potrika delivered the welcome address at the inaugural ceremony. The inaugural programme was



Shamsuzzaman Khan (3-L), DG of Bangla Academy with other dignitaries at the festival.

anchored by Anwarul Islam Raju and Afifa Ishrat Chetona. Habibul Haque Sarker, renowned literary personality of Bangladesh; poets Sukumar Das Gupta, Partho Raha, Pranji Basak and Alok Bandyopadhyay from India were present as special guests at the inaugural ceremony. Ashish Sanyal, noted poet of India, formally unwrapped the cover of the special edition of the Natun Shahitya Potrika as honorary guest at the inaugural ceremony. Professor Alim Uddin, renowned educationist and literary personality presided over the second session of the inaugural day. Mostafizur Rahman, renowned literary personality, was present as chief guest in the second session in

the inaugural day. Mosaddek Hossain Bablu, president of Rangpur District Unit Command of Bangladesh MuktiJoddha Sanghad and president of Rangpur Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and poet Man Prasad Shoba of Nepal were present as special guests at the second session on the inaugural day. On the inaugural day, poets Kalyan Chattopadhyay, Ramesh Purokayostha, Satyapriyo Mukhopadhyay, Debashish Chakraborty, Sajit Saha, Tonushree Paul, Probit Sheel, Dr. Nurul Islam, Sunil Sarker, Rakesh Ranjan, Dibakar Dhakal, Abhiyog Adhikary, Ranju Giri, Arun Biswas and Sokhdum Azam Mashrafeer recited their own poems. A large number of people including poets, writers, educationists, socio-cultural activists and professionals of all ages were enthused by the poetry recitation and discussions at the festival.

Mela to celebrate Humayun Ahmed's most popular character

A CORRESPONDENT

November 13 marks eminent litterateur and filmmaker Humayun Ahmed's birthday. To commemorate the day, Channel i is going to hold 'Himu Mela' for the first time. The fair will predominantly be held at TSC, Dhaka University and across the campus. The fair will also be simultaneously held at four divisional cities -- Rajshahi, Khulna, Sylhet and Chittagong. Managing director and head of news of Channel i Faridur Reza Sagar and Shykh Seraj informed the media of the fair at a press conference that was held at Channel i's Tejoan office. A huge rally will be brought out from TSC premises on November 13. Ayesha Fayez, mother of the deceased litterateur, will inaugurate the procession.

In reply to a question, Faridur Reza Sagar said, "The entire Dhaka University campus will be decorated yellow. The daylong fair will start at 9 am. Channel i will air the event live." A street play will be staged at the base of Raju Sculpture, adjacent to TSC. Humayun Ahmed films will be screened at TSC auditorium. Artworks by Humayun Ahmed will also be displayed at Himu Fair. A daylong musical show, featuring Ahmed's favourite Tagore, Hason Raja and Lalou songs, will be held at the fair. "A proposal of forming 'Himu Foundation' will come out from the fair. Money earned from the fair will go to Himu Foundation. We want the birthday of Humayun Ahmed to be considered as Himu Day; and we would like to establish it through holding the fair," said Shykh Seraj.

Beetle Bailey by Mort Walker

Henry by Don Trachte

12:05 Musical Programme	11:02 Bangla Feature Film
Desh TV	08:30 Drama Serial: Khankhalay
03:00 Gaan R Gaan	09:30 Drama Serial: College
06:00 Kalpokoker Galpokotha	11:00 Folk Music: Shajir Baramkhana
06:30 World Music	12:02 Shamprotok
08:15 Drama Serial: Chharyamakhosh	
09:45 Cinema Express	
ATN BANGLA	Maaranga Television
11:20 Business and Finance	11:02 Bangla Feature Film
12:15 Vision 2020	08:30 Drama Serial: Khankhalay
07:25 Manir Subash	09:30 Drama Serial: College
09:20 Drama Serial: DB	11:00 Folk Music: Shajir Baramkhana
10:55 Drama Serial: Uttardhakar	12:02 Shamprotok
CHANNEL i	CHANNEL 9
04:05 Paryopojan	09:15 Bangla Feature Film
06:00 Travel On	09:15 Haat-er Kachhey Pother Khabar
07:50 Drama Serial: Chhuti Din	10:30 Drama Serial: Amander Sherlock Holmes
10:30 Alley Bhubon Bhora	11:15 Musical Show
ntv	

RADIO	10:00 Morning Express
abcr radio FM 89.2	12:00 My Time
09:30 Esh Osh	01:00 No Tension
09:35 Live Clinic	04:00 Dhaka Calling
05:30 Kacha Lanka	09:00 Night Rider
06:30 Mithu Kara	01:00 Back to Back Music
07:20 GP Lounge	RADIO TODAY FM 89.5
07:45 Megh Barata	08:00 Good Morning Dhaka
08:10 Adia	12:00 Today's Adda
11:10 Shalada Golpo Drum	04:00 U Turn
Radio Foorti	07:00 Tobey Tai Hok
07:30 Hello Dhaka	

Pipliker Pakha Gojai Moribar
On ATN BANGLA at 08:00pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Mir Sabir, Shimana

Harry Brown
On Fox Movies at 10:05pm
Genre: Crime/ Drama
Cast: Michael Caine, Emily Mortimer

Mayajal
On Gtv at 09:05pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Joyraj, Saberi Alam

08:45 Bangla Feature Film	CHANNEL 24
05:30 Apnar Jiggasha	03:05 Tele-film
09:00 Maggi Taste n Balance	08:10 Shopping & Cooking
Kitchen	10:15 Drama Serial: Jolichhobi
09:45 Drama Serial: Oshena	11:35 Sports 24
Protibimbo	

ETV	Gtv
11:30 Ekushey-er Business	11:30 Bangla Feature Film
05:25 Ichhey Ghuri	04:45 Harmony
07:50 Musical Programme	09:05 Drama Serial: Mayajal
08:20 Drama Serial: Othongkar	09:30 Gaan-e Gaan-e Adda
10:10 Cine Hits	Fox Movies
	05:30 Tucker & Dale Vs Evil
	07:00 Anaconda 3: Offspring
	08:35 Anaconda: Trail of Blood
	10:05 Harry Brown
	11:50 The Greatest Movie Ever Sold
	HBO
	02:35 The Mummy Returns
	05:05 Wild Wild West
	07:15 Goldfinger
	09:30 Ong Bak 2
	11:55 Lara Croft Tomb Raider: The Cradle of Life
	Star World
	02:30 Grey's Anatomy
	08:30 The Simpson's

ATN BANGLA	BANGLAVISION
08:40pm Jhalanta Babura	09:05pm Long March
CHANNEL i	06:15pm Side Effect
09:35pm Alice in Wonderland	06:45pm Sat Kathon
ntv	07:45pm Sat Sawdagar
08:15pm Kogojer Bari	08:40pm Oshche Baral Dana
ETV	
09:30pm Tatu Ghora	
Boishakhi TV	
09:20pm Ogojooth	

BTV	Boishakhi TV
News (Bangla) at 12pm, 2pm, 5pm, 6pm, 9pm, 10pm, 11pm	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 (English) at 9am, 6pm	News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm, News (English) at 1pm, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm
CHANNEL i	ntv
News (Bangla) at 2pm, 5pm, 10:30pm	News (Bangla) at 1:45pm, 6:45pm, 10:45pm
ETV	Desh TV
News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm	News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm
Boishakhi TV	CHANNEL 9
News (Bangla) at 1pm, 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm	Maaranga Television News (Bangla) at 7pm, 11pm

BTV	Boishakhi TV
10:25pm Oikoyamoyor Bangladesh	12:05am Ekushey-er Raat
ATN BANGLA	12:05am Zero Hour
11:30pm Ja Katha Kru Bolei	11:30pm Our Democracy
CHANNEL i	12:30pm Dech TV
12:30pm Tanika Kothan	11:45pm Shuja Kotha
ntv	CHANNEL 24
12:00am Ei Shomoy	12:05am Modhyraater Muktabak Gtv