

WHAT'S ON

Art Exhibition of Underprivileged Children
Title: Chhota Desar Ural
Venue: Nalini Kanta Bhattacharya Gallery, Bangladesh National Museum

Theatre Fest for Underprivileged Children
Title: Chhota Desar Ural
Venue: Main Auditorium, Bangladesh National Museum

Group Art Exhibition
Participants: 80 Nominated Artists
Venue: Sijai Art Gallery, F-40, 41, DCC North Super Market, 2nd Circle Gulshan
Date: April 19-May 20

Solo Drawing Exhibition
Artist: Syed Jahangir
Venue: Shilpanjali Gallery, Dhanmondi
Date: May 1-7
Time: 12pm-8pm

Solo Painting Exhibition
Artist: Rafiqun Nabi
Venue: Dhaka Art Center, H-60, Rd-7/A, Dhanmondi
Date: April 12-30
Time: 3pm-8pm

Group Art Exhibition
Title: Swapnajatra
Venue: 30A, Concord Panorama, H-7, Rd-51, Gulshan-2
Date: April 26-May 4

Group Art Exhibition & Inauguration of the Gallery
Gallery 21
Venue: Sarmajit Road, Dhanmondi
Date: April 5-30
Time: 12pm-9pm

INTERNATIONAL DANCE DAY Solidarity amongst Dancers

NAZIBA BASHER

International Dance Day was introduced in 1982 by the International Dance Committee of the International Theatre Institute (ITI), a UNESCO partner NGO, and is celebrated on April 29 of every year. The date was suggested by the International Dance Committee of ITI to commemorate the birthday of Jean-Georges Noverre, creator of modern ballet.

This year, like every other, Bangladesh is also celebrating the day with programmes to be held in the National Theatre Hall of Shilpakala Academy.

"The celebrations this year will be toned down due to the tragedy that happened in Savar; we will only have an award ceremony," said eminent dancer Minu Haque, president of Bangladesh Dance Artist's Association (BDAA) and founder of Pallavi dance center.

"Even though we cannot celebrate on a grand scale at this grave time of the country, I believe it is something that has the ability to bring light into people's lives. BDAA will be handing out awards to those dancers who have brought light into peoples' lives," said noted dance exponent Belayet Hossain.

The International Dance Festival has played a big role in the community of dancers for years now. "Four or five of us started the celebration in Bangladesh back in the 90's.



PHOTO: RIDWAN ADID RUPON

Slowly, people started becoming more aware of the significance of dance as an art. And that is what we wanted for Bangladesh," eminent dancer Sharmila Banerjee, founder of dance troupe Nritya Nandan and dance instructor of Chhayanaut Institute of the Arts told the Daily Star. "Celebrating dance all over the world on the same day brings a certain kind of unity among all dancers. Makes us all feel like it is our day! And because of this very day, dance is a respected art now, not just in our country but all over the world. The value of dance has increased", she added.

Dance exponent and researcher Lubna Marium said "Everyday is a celebration of dance for us. But on this very day, we know that everyone of us is respecting and celebrating the art form like no other. The International Dance Day builds a global solidarity among all dancers. Dance greatly facilitates an exchange in culture, an exchange in dialogue, and for all of that to happen on this day unites those who are practitioners of this form of art. Just knowing that fact is a beautiful thing, let alone experiencing it," Lubna Marium asserted.

International Dance Day message

Message from Lin Hwai-min, Founder/Artistic Director, Cloud Gate Theatre of Taiwan:

It is said in the Great Preface of "The Book of Songs," an anthology of Chinese poems dating from the 10th to the 7th century BC: "The emotions are stirred and take form in words.

If words are not enough, we speak in sighs. If sighs are not enough, we sing them. If singing is not enough, then unconsciously our hands dance them and our feet tap them."

Dance is a powerful expression. It speaks to earth and heaven. It speaks of our joy, our fear and our wishes. Dance speaks of the intangible, yet reveals the state of mind of a person and the temperaments and characters of a people.

Like many cultures in the world, the indigenous in Taiwan dance in circle. Their ancestors believed that evils would be kept out of the circle.

With hands linked, they share the warmth of each other and move in communal pulses.

Dance brings people together. And dance happens at the vanishing point. Movements disappear as they occur. Dance exists only in that fleeting instant. It is precious. It is a metaphor of life itself. In this digital age, images of movements take millions of forms.

They are fascinating. But, they can never replace dance because images do not breathe.

Dance is a celebration of life. Come, turn off your television, switch off your computer, and come to dance.

Express yourself through that divine and dignified instrument, which is our body. Come to dance and join people in the waves of pulses.

Seize that precious and fleeting moment. Come to celebrate life with dance.

Bengal Foundation to work for development of films

Investment in production, distribution and cinema halls planned

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bengal Foundation, one of the biggest institutions working for the country's cultural progress, has taken up an elaborate project for the development of Bangladeshi cinema. The plans in the pipeline include investment in film production, distribution and establishing cinema halls.

Under the "Young Filmmaker Project", Bengal Entertainment is looking to invest in 15 to 20 quality films every year.

A discussion of the newly-formed Bengal Film Development Forum with eminent personalities of the cultural fraternity was held at the Bengal Shilpalaya Cafe in Dhanmondi on Saturday.

Chairperson of the forum's project management council, Luva Nahid Chowdhury said there was no alternative to making more films, in order to place the film industry on a strong footing and



Abul Khair speaks at the discussion.

bring audiences back to the movie halls. Convenor of the Forum, Chairman, Bengal Foundation Abul Khair said there were numerous young talents who dream of making films to create a signature style

of Bangladeshi cinema, but are pulled back by lack of funding. Bengal is making films with established and new directors alike on the one hand, while establishing 400 cultural centres across the country

with film-projection facilities on the other. The forum will also organise training, workshops and discussions with national and international experts on various aspects of the art, he added.

Discussions at the programme decided to invite scripts from young filmmakers next month through a press conference, and expressed the hope that work on some of the selected films could begin within September.

The advisory council of the forum includes Asaduzzaman Noor MP; Syed Shamsul Haq; Morshedul Islam; Luva Nahid Chowdhury; Sajjad Sharif; Manzare Haseen Murad; Shamim Akhter; Shahidul Islam Khokon; Robin Davis; Catherine Masud and Afiana Mimi.

Among others present at the discussion were artist Qayyum Chowdhury; Rafiqun Nabi; Information secretary, Hedayetullah Al Mamoon, ndc; FDC Director General Pijush Bandopadhyay; Giasuddin Selim and Nurul Alam Atiq.

AB back with a bang An evening of rock with LRB



PHOTO: SAURAV DEY

Ayub Bacchu marked his return to the mic and amps with covers of a number of rock classics.

A CORRESPONDENT

Bangla rock music legend, Ayub Bacchu, along with his band LRB made their first public performance since his recovery from a serious illness. The Indira Gandhi Cultural Center (IGCC) arranged the programme at their Dhanmondi premises, on Saturday evening.

With Swapan on bass, Romel on drums and Masud on guitar, Ayub Bacchu opened the concert with "Gotokal Ratey" followed by "Khoniker Jonno". The veteran then moved on to a number of his hit tracks, including "Ghum Bhanga Shohorey", "Mon Chaille Mon Pabe". The audience came to life when the band

played their most popular hit numbers "Shei Tumi" and "Neel Bedona".

The band also received much applause from the crowd when they covered Eric Clapton's "I Shot the Sheriff", followed by "Cocaine". AB's guitar groove was also at the fore during their renditions of Bob Marley's "Stir it up" and "Smoke on the Water" by Deep Purple.

Through the programme, the icon enchanted the audience with his humorous asides. And at one point, an emotional AB said, "It's not just my comeback to the audience; it feels like I've gotten back my life." He also promised to continue to entertain people with his music as it music-lovers who give life to musicians.

Three Poets and the Piano at Chhayanaut

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Ornith events organised a musical soiree featuring songs of three poets (DL Roy, Atul Prasad and Rajanikanta Sen) at Chhayanaut auditorium, Dhanmondi on April 27.

Promising singers Nirjher Chowdhury and Joyeeta performed both duets and solos while pianist Ehsanul Huq played tunes of a DL Roy and Rajanikanta composition "Oi Maha Shindhur" and "Pagla Mon Ta Re" at the event. Ifekhar Dollar on tabla accompanied the entire event.

Noted artist Deepa Khandakar emceed the event. The event began with the observance of one-minute silence to mourn the deaths in the Savar tragedy. The organisers also said that the proceeds of the programme would go to Savar victims.



Nirjher Chowdhury and Joyeeta singing at the programme.

The singer duo Nirjher and Joyeeta started off and wrapped up with the patriotic songs "Bongo Amar Jononi Amar" and "Dhano Dhanno Pushpa Bhora", composed by DL Roy.

Their other duets included an Atul Prasad song "Moder Garob Moder Asha" and a Rajanikanta number "Mayer Deya Mota Kapur". Nirjher's repertoire included "Aaji Nutano Ratone", "Ke Abar Bajaye Bashi" and "Preme Jol Hoye Jao" while Joyeeta performed "Amra Enni Eshey", "Ke Tumi Boshi Nadi Kule" and "Ami Okriti Odhom" at the event.

"We presented Tagore songs with Piano in November, last year. The audience gave us a very good response. That's why we were inspired to hold this event," said Nirjher. Al-Hassan Diamond Galley sponsored the event with SA TV as media partner.

BTV	02:00	TM: Bangladesh Vs Zimbabwe (Live)	03:30	Bridal Show
	08:40	Krishti Dibashini	05:00	Desh TV
	09:30	Drama Serial: Shonali	06:30	Gaan R Gaan
		Ala	09:45	Durpath
	11:30	Drama Serial: Kothao Kua Nei		World Music Cinema Express
ATN BANGLA	11:20	Business and Finance	10:02	Maaranga Television
	01:25	Mamun Subash	02:00	Bangla Feature Film
	09:20	Drama Serial: DB Onodrishti		TM: Bangladesh Vs Zimbabwe (Live)
	01:00		09:20	University
CHANNEL i	05:30	Jibon Jekhane Jemon	09:00	Bangla Feature Film
	07:50	BBC Bangladesh	08:15	Drama Serial: Nagorik
		Shanglap	09:00	Zen-X
	09:35	Drama Serial: Probash	10:15	Drama Serial: Idiots
		Porbashe		CHANNEL 24
	11:30	Khola Akash	01:00	Beyond the Gallery
ntv	08:45	Bangla Feature Film	08:15	Musical Show
	05:30	Aponar Jigajigsha	09:55	Je Shishu Bhumista
	09:00	Comedy Show		GTV
	09:45	Drama Serial: Ocheni Protibimbo	11:30	Bangla Feature Film
ETV	03:30	Cine Hits	08:55	Bhalabashi Gaan
	04:30	Ichchhe Ghuri	11:05	Aponi Kichhu Bolun
	07:50	Music Station		Fox Movies
	10:10	Drama Serial: Megher Khoya	07:00	Zimbabwe
			08:30	The Hunger Games
			11:00	The Whistleblower
Boishakhi TV	04:00	Rush Hour 3		HBO
	07:20	Blue Crush 2		

Kutum Ashchhe On Rtv at 09:05pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Pran Roy, Bhabna

The Whistleblower On Fox Movies at 11:00pm
Genre: Biography/Drama
Cast: Rachel Weisz, Vanessa Redgrave

Metro Life On ntv at 08:15pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Moharrar Karim, Nazifa

10:15	Bangla Feature Film	09:30	Ong Bak 3: The Final
04:00	Shorashori Doctor		Warrior
08:00	Drama Serial: Boro Barir Chhotto Boro	11:41	Troy
11:00	Drama Serial: Shonghat		Star World
01:05	Bangla Feature Film	03:30	Revolution
06:25	Front Line	07:30	Mad Men
08:15	Drama Serial: Ladies First	09:30	Packed to the Rafters
11:25	Prabashi Mukh	10:30	One Tree Hill
			Discovery Channel
Rtv	10:40	02:30	Wildest India
	12:35	04:30	Survivor Man
	09:05	10:30	Ten Days
		11:30	Dual Survival
			Human Prey

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Partners:

DS Readers' Forum celebrates anniversary of English Language Club

S DILIP ROY, Lalmonirhat

The first anniversary of Lalmonirhat English Language Club (ELC) was observed at its temporary office at Collectorate Collegiate School in the town on Friday noon. Current and former High Schools in Lalmonirhat sadar and Aditmari upazila became members of

district took part in the function. The programme included a discussion on shared experiences in the learning and teaching of English.

The Daily Star Readers' Forum members formed the club last year. Twenty six English teachers from 26 High Schools in Lalmonirhat sadar and Aditmari upazila became members of

the club. The club members gather at its temporary office every Friday.

Among the speakers at the function were the convener of the Lalmonirhat Daily Star Readers' Forum and chairman of the Club Animesh Baidya, its secretary Probit Kumar Bishwas and English teachers from various schools in the district.



"Narigon", a production of Palakar, closed the Syed Shamsul Haq Theatre Fest '13 at the Experimental Theatre Hall of the Shilpakala Academy on Saturday. The nine-day festival, organised by Prangone Mor, featured plays by six theatre troupes, special performances by theatre veterans of Syed Shamsul Haq's most famous characters, discussions and recitation.

PHOTO: RIDWAN ADID RUPON

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