

HEADLINERS

Art in motion

When Kathak maestro Fasihur Rehman performed at the much-awaited Sheraton Artfest on August 22, even regulars felt that they were watching him



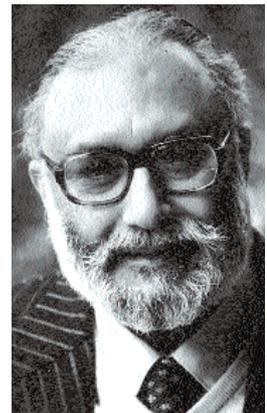
dance for the first time. Each *ang bhao* held the audience in thrall while Fasih's *thumri* on *Choro Bihari* was intense. But above all, Fasih's androgyny was spellbinding: with each *tha thai* he gracefully transitioned between masculine assertiveness and feminine charm to enact tales of love and despair for an all-too-enamoured audience. ■

Fahim Siddiqi

Saluting Salam

Science and art are slated to come together for a great cause. Illuminocity, a California-based art gallery, will be funding a long overdue documentary on the life and work of Pakistani theoretical physicist Dr Abdus Salam, to be produced by Omar Vandal and Zakir Thaver.

Before dishing out the moolah, the gallery is hoping to gauge the Pakistani public's level of interest in Dr Salam's work through web-based initiatives. If the *desis*



prove to be appropriately inquisitive, the greatest hits of Dr Salam's life – his 1979 Nobel Prize for electroweak unification, the establishment of an intellectual sanctuary in Trieste and several humanitarian projects – will finally be documented and celebrated in a manner befitting Pakistan's perfect but short-changed prodigy. ■

The Herald, September 2004

Size matters

On August 13, Pakistanis were given yet another reason to celebrate 57 years of independence: our flag is bigger than America's. Karachi's National Stadium couldn't accommodate the 510-by-340-foot Pakistani flag that took a whopping 500 kilograms of paint and 300 Shell employees to complete. As 200 volunteers struggled to unravel the über-flag that has managed to upsize America's 1992 Super Flag, Shell sponsors anxiously awaited certification from the Guinness Book of World Records. ■

