

RECOMMENDATIONS

Exhibition

August 19-21
A 3-day-long photography exhibition 'Bangladesh in Photography' by the teachers and students of the institutes is going on from 19 August at the office of Dhaka Photography Institute at 400 North Kazipara, Mirpur.

August 18-22
A solo painting exhibition of Farida Shilpi is going on at the Drik Gallery from 18 to 22 August.

August 17-28
Shilpanang GALLERY has arranged a 12-day-long solo etching and drawing exhibition of artist Monirul Islam. The show will be open for the visitors daily from 10 am to 9 pm.

August 18-28
An exhibition of artist Mostafa Kamal is going on from 18 August at the Gallery of Alliance Francaise.

Poster Exhibition

August 17-28
Goethe Institut holds a poster exhibition at its Exhibition Hall featuring works by Pierre Mendell and Klaus Oberer. Entitled 'L'art pour l'art', this is the first part of a two-session poster exhibition on graphic design. The display is open for visitors from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. except weekends and holidays. The second part of the show will start on August 31.

Theatre

August 22
The BA (Hons) final-year students of the Department of Music and Dramatics will present an enactment of the classic 'absurd' play 'Waiting for Godot' by Samuel Beckett at the Naat Mandal. The presentation is, however, a part of the students' practical test on direction and acting.

Drama Lane

Bangladesh Mahila Samity 4 Natok Soroni, New Baily Rd.

Table with 3 columns: Group, Plays, Date. Lists drama groups and their performance dates.

Exhibition

Black, beautiful and bold

Obata Takashi's exhibition at Zainul Gallery

FAYZA HAQ

THE recent exhibition of the visiting Japanese artist, Obata Takashi, at Zainul Gallery was amazingly powerful indeed. In it one saw the mastery of strokes of a superb print maker who had used only black on his white paper to create idylls. He had brought in human forms and figures from nature, often giving his favourite owls the power of humans.

Asked why he had chosen woodcut for his form of printing, Obata Takashi said he had met a famous print maker in Japan, Shiko Manukata, and had been influenced by him. This was during his formative years as a student. He went into this genre of print making as he was greatly impressed and influenced by the master and he felt that he could make his mark in the fine art world if he stuck to print-making and abandoning work in all other forms of art. Delving on why he had kept his work as realistic was because, "I wanted to reach out to everybody and not just to a few art lovers, connoisseurs and critiques. Also, I can best express myself in realism rather than in abstraction, symbolism, allegory etc." as Takashi put it.

Speaking about the materials that he used during his work as a print-maker, Takashi said, "I use four types of tools to dig into the wood to create forms and shapes on Japanese hand-made papers. I utilize poster ink, called 'sumi iro' or black colour, which is not to be confused with Indian ink. Water is also used to dilute the simple dramatic black colour. I apply the paint onto the wood with a brush once the wood

plate has been cut after the paper is adjusted. I rub a heavy plate on to the paper from the top after which the print is completed."

Touching on why he preferred to use only black on the white paper, Takashi said that he could best express his feelings and aspirations in the black and white images even though this is not easy. He said that he left it to the viewers to use their



Albatross woodcut print

imagination and put in any colours along with the black and white images. He said that he did colour prints too although he had restricted himself to black and white in August exhibition at Zainul.

Delving on his subjects, Takashi said that he was born at Fokuoko city in Japan, where one can see hills and the sea. There are many birds and animals here and one is not cut off from nature. Thus one sees the different animals and birds there which he has included in his forms along with that of female forms, specially nude ones. Thus he

has tried to capture the environment around him. Sometimes he has given his bird forms the qualities of human beings and at times he made them a part of the hills surrounding the living beings. He said that in one of his woodcuts he has included a lion, birds, fish, a goat, a pig, a buffalo and a bear along with an enormous seated owl which has larger proportions than the cliffs on

western artists that might have affected him subconsciously, if at all, Takashi said that he had been to USA, Canada, France, Italy and UK and there he had the opportunity to specially study the traditional religious forms of art. Thus we found Noel scenes blended with subtly as regards the singing and the stars. He felt that the western themes will in future be more readily adapted by Asian artists with time just as eastern motifs and subjects have influenced artists from the west such as Matisse and Delacroix.

He added that as far as he could see, the use of modern images in print-making was fast making a vital impact on the east, along with that in the west. He said that even in the works of the younger generation in Japan, prints were taking decisive steps and were progressively greatly in demand.

In one of the prints one could see the seated figure of a woman in contemplation. There were birds at the back and front, some in white and others in specks of black and white. The images were outlined with black while the main nude figure was a rhapsody of black and white with streaks of white flecks going throughout the body. Another print had a female figure with her curling hair floating like some poet's dream about her. Birds of different shapes and sizes intermingled with the hair.

Obata Takashi, whose exhibition at Zainul Gallery had been partly sponsored by GS Kabir, has been an art teacher at Soka city, Japan from 1963 to 1998. At present he is a free lance artist with more than 20 exhibitions to his credit from 1963 to 2003.

Asked to compare the works of

Movie

Humayun Ahmed with his new film: Chandra Katha

Another emotional stereotyped tragedy

KAUSAR ISLAM AYON

WHenever Humayun Ahmed releases his film, both the middle and the upper class audience is drawn to the cinema hall in the hope of getting some pure family entertainment. It will be the same in case of his fourth feature film Chandra Katha, where viewers will look forward to some well-spent time. In a press show held at a local theatre, maker of commercial films, Humayun Ahmed said, 'I don't know how much successful it will be commercially and how the audience will accept it on the whole but the team has worked very hard to make it a good movie.'

The story of Chandra Katha revolves around the life of a typical young village girl named Chandra (Shawon). The girl and her cousin

Jalli (Ferdous) fall in love with each other as they grow up under the care of Chandra's mother. But Chandra's mother fixes her marriage with Amin (Ahmed Rubel), the servant of an ex-zamindar. On the wedding day, the two lovers run away from home. But ultimately fate divides their path of love and Chandra's tragedy begins when she is forced to marry the zamindar, Amin's master. She has to endure mental and



Director Humayun Ahmed in action



Shawon and Ferdous in a scene from Chandra Katha

physical torture inflicted by her husband. The emotional and tragic love story comes to an end with the murder of the landlord.

Viewers, who expect something new from Humayun Ahmed, the leading filmmaker of the industry, will be quite disheartened by the movie. There is nothing special for the audience to carry back home, the entertainment fades as soon as the curtain drops. This is nothing but a typical Humayun Ahmed film, with the same stereotyped love story and style.

Skillful and adept performance of all the artistes might help Humayun Ahmed to captivate the audience for a couple of fleeting hours. Asaduzzaman Noor in the character of the landlord and Champa in the character of a paralyzed man's wife are brilliant.

The movie is releasing publicly on August 22.

Kalidas Karmakar and Enam Ul Haque in Singapore and Indonesia

ARTIST Kalidas Karmakar and Photographer Enam Ul Haque visited Singapore and Indonesia from 22 July to 9 August, says a press release. During their visit two exhibitions and slide/video-shows of their works were held in those countries. That was the first time joint exhibitions

and slide/video-shows of a painter and a photographer of Bangladesh were held in the South-East Asia. Kalidas Karmakar and Enam Ul Haque also delivered lectures at the art academy, visited museums and galleries, and exchanged views with renowned artists, art-lovers and teachers.



Cinema in advertising

ADCOMM Ltd, one of the largest ad agencies in the country has just started the Adcomm Cine Club, which kicked off at the Adcomm Audio-Visual Hall recently says a press release. The Adcomm Cine Club aptly showcased a Bangladeshi film

'Matir Moyna' by renowned director Tarek Masud for the premiere. Along with the Director, Producer Catherine Masud, and one of the stars of the film, Rokeya Prachi were present among others during the premiere. Tarek Masud gave a brief introduction to the film during

the premiere. The Cine Club team says that this is going to be a weekly affair with an international array of films to be shown at Adcomm. The Adcomm Cine Club is open for all Adcomm personnel including their spouses and special guests.

TV GUIDE

Table with 3 columns: Time, Channel, Program Name. Lists TV schedules for various channels.

Table with 3 columns: Time, Channel, Program Name. Lists TV schedules for Channel-i.

Table with 3 columns: Time, Channel, Program Name. Lists TV schedules for BBC World.

Table with 3 columns: Time, Channel, Program Name. Lists TV schedules for Star Movies.

Table with 3 columns: Time, Channel, Program Name. Lists TV schedules for Tara Bangla.

Table with 3 columns: Time, Channel, Program Name. Lists TV schedules for AXN TV.

Table with 3 columns: Time, Channel, Program Name. Lists TV schedules for Animal Planet.

Table with 3 columns: Time, Channel, Program Name. Lists TV schedules for National Geographic.

Table with 3 columns: Time, Channel, Program Name. Lists TV schedules for Star Gold.

Table with 3 columns: Time, Channel, Program Name. Lists TV schedules for Star Sports.

Table with 3 columns: Time, Channel, Program Name. Lists TV schedules for ESPN.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

Star Movies: Double Take (7:00 pm), Hush (8:30 pm). Includes descriptions of the films.

PICK OF THE DAY

Gladiator (9:00 pm). Description: Maximus is a powerful Roman general, loved by the people and the aging Emperor, Marcus Aurelius. Before his death, the Emperor chooses Maximus to be his heir over his own son, Commodus, and a power struggle leaves Maximus and his family condemned to death.