

Exhibition

The Other Voice



singing and photography. This exhibition at the Bengal Gallery showcases paintings that have been done specially for this occasion."

At the exhibition we had Fareha Zeba's presentation of a hapless woman surrounded by tiny images of running soldiers. *War and women* was in streaks of grays, blues and ochre. In front was a clown playing with balls, a contrast against the images of fear and suspense. A teacher at Scholastica, Zeba had her MFA from the Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka University. Kanak Champa Chakma's works were of ethnic figures. One of them was blowing a traditional horn and was bedecked in traditional heavy silver jewellery to match the red and black blouse and lungi. The background was awash with vermilion. Kanak, who has studied at the Institute of Fine Arts, is a Fellow of the Penn State University, USA.

Rokeya Sultana's *Untitled* brought in a gorgeous bird in blue seen against a background of shades of green. The land and water was included in strokes of yellow and lime. This was done in tempera. Rokeya has done her MFA from Visva Bharati University, Shantiniketan. Farida Zaman in her *Fisher woman in the morning* played up the role of the poor working women and presented the theme in an irresistible combination of bright oranges and yellow. Boats, moon, flowers with long stems and 100 red dots added to the fairy tale-like ambience.

Kuhu's *Father and daughter resting* was a charcoal pasting drawing. This work, done in a few fine strokes, depicted a dark, sultry woman with long hair resting and waiting for her father. Kuhu's realistic work is always welcome after the abstract and semi abstract work of her counterparts. Kuhu has done her MFA from the Institute of Fine



(Clockwise) *War and woman* by Fareha Zeba, *Gracious Time* by Ferdousi Priyobhashini, *Story of bricks* by Nazlee Laila Mansur, *Father and Daughter resting* by Kuhu

Arts, Dhaka University. Laila Sharmeen, also a freelance artist like Kuhu, had a presentation of her idyllic vision with boats, birds, houses and flowers scattered on black images in *Nature-1*.

Nazlee Laila Mansur had her *Story of bricks* in mixed media. In this she depicted a woman carrying bricks to build houses, which she depicted as eventually collapsing and bringing death and destruction. The pain and suffering etched on the face of the female labourer is moving indeed. Nazlee has an MFA from Chittagong Uni-

versity. Naima Haque's mixed media brought in a simple delineation of a safety pin and a clip in her *Composition*. This was in shades of purple, mauve and yellow. Naima has an MFA from the University of Baroda.

Atia Islam Anne's surrealist composition, *Present situation* is a play on women's position in contemporary society. Anne has an MFA from the Institute of Fine Arts, DU. Women artists should bond together and have such fine displays more often.



ERSHAD KAMOL

Over 3,000 films have been made in the last 50 years since Bangla 'talkies' made its debut with Abdul Jabbar Khan's *Mukh O Mukhosh*. But, how many of these movies have achieved the international standard of aesthetics? Renowned film critic and cine journalist Anupam Hayat, who is also the author of *Bangladesher Chalachitritr Lihash*, a brief history of Bangladeshi cinema, discussed the issue in a seminar titled "50 years of Bangladeshi Cinema: The aesthetic achievement".

The seminar was held at the Begum Sufia Kamal Auditorium, National Museum, as part of the ongoing 3rd International Film Festival, Bangladesh, on March 6.

Hayat used two quotes of film critic Lui Buluel and Abdul Jabbar Khan respectively prior to the discussion: "80 percent contemporary movies should not have been made" and "Nowadays filmmaking is a kind of business. None dare to make films for the welfare of the country, society and the masses, rather they seek personal benefits."

Anupam's paper included several sections: The standard of Bangladeshi cinema in the context of the international movie arena, an overview of the aesthetic value of Bangladeshi films and the present scenario of the film industry.

"In the 110 years of the global cinema, with the introduction of modern technology, presentation and preservation have become innovative and easier. Films are now dealing with diversified subjects for the films. And these movies can now be seen on satellite TV channels and the Internet. Our films deal with a few stereotypical subjects and in most cases these films are made haphazardly, often because of lack of technical know how. In this context, what are the prospects for our film industry?" questioned Hayat.

He further added, "Cinema has a

Seminar 50 years of Bangladeshi Cinema: An overview

unique quality which is different from other art forms. However, because of the paucity of knowledge on cinematography many of the popular films made by the Bangladeshi filmmakers cannot be considered 'cinema' at all. Most of the films are akin to plays made in 35 mm format. The filmmakers regard movies as a means of storytelling, rather than creating visual magic. Hardly any Bangladeshi movie demonstrates the touch of modern techniques such as intellectual montage, expressionism, avant garde, surrealism and others. Most of the filmmakers do not even have social commitment and aesthetic sense to make quality movies.

"In the history of our film industry

Corporation (FDC) was established in 1957 and National Award on filmmaking was introduced in 1975, only a few Bangladeshi films – *Jago Huwa Saver* (1959), *Shutorang* (1964), *Abirhab* (1968), *Shurja Deeghal Bari* (1979), *Dahon* (1985), *Agami* (1985), *Chaka* (1993), and *Matir Moina* (2003) have bagged awards in the International Film Festivals.

Hayat feels that there has been a gradual decline in the standards of our contemporary films. Many popular movie theatres are being transformed to shopping malls. To prevent vulgarity in movies, law enforcement agencies have taken some initiatives. However, Hayat finds room for hope in talented directors such as Sheikh



Anupam Hayat (2nd-L) speaks at the seminar

we can mention only a handful of films which have attained aesthetic value – *Jago Huwa Saver*, *Aasia*, *Je Nadi Maru Pathe*, *Shurjosnan*, *Dharapat*, *Kokhono Asheni*, *Kancher Deyal*, *Anwara*, *Jibon Theke Neya*, *Stop Genocide*, *Shurja Kanya*, *Shimana Pariye*, *Shurja Deeghal Bari* and others."

Niamat Ali, Morshedul Islam, Tanvir Mokammel, Tareque Masud, Abu Sayeed and others. Chinmoy Mutsuddi was the moderator while Rafikuzzaman was the panel discussant at the seminar.

Though the Film Development

FAYZA HAQ

To celebrate International Women's Day, 21 women artists brought together their paintings and sculpture to an exhibition, 'The Other Voice', at Bengal Foundation. Speaking at the press conference on the occasion, Khushi Kabir, who heads Nijera

Kori, said, "Eighth March has always been celebrated in Bangladesh by women activists and organisation. The focus is on women's issues, women's equality and a protest against pressure and injustice. We celebrate not merely formal women activists but also those who are active in other spheres such as painting, writing,

CULTURAL FEAST

Group Exhibition
Title: The Other Voice
Date: March 8-19
Time: 12pm to 8pm
Venue: Bengal Gallery Of Fine Arts House 275/F, Road 27(Old), Dhanmondi RA

Title: Spring Art Festival
Date: March 3 to 13
Time: 11am to 8pm
Venue: Art & Soul Gallery House # 16, Road 36, Gulshan Avenue

Theatre
Play: Jolbalika
Troupe: Padatik Nattya Sangsad
Venue: Bangladesh Mohila Samity Stage
Date: March 09
Time: 6:30pm

Musical Soiree
Title: Rebecca Sultana's 45 years in music
Organiser: Amra Surjomukhi
Venue: National Museum Auditorium, Dhaka
Date: March 10
Time: 6:00pm

Whither ghazals of Ghalib?

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Enayat-e-Moula Jinnah, is a singer of *ghazals* and modern Bangla songs, apart from being a music director of the Shilpakala Academy for decades. Amplifying on the music scene, he says, "*Ghazals*, which have come down from Amir Khusru and Ghalib, are popular at clubs, and private houses. However, they are not heard on our local TV or radio. This also applies to Rabindra Sangeet that includes words referring to Hindu mythology."

At present Jinnah is an enlisted singer of Nazrul Sangeet, and modern Bangla songs on radio and TV. He had his initial training in music under Ustad Siddiqui Rahman and next with Ustad Saimud Ali Khan, of Banaras *gharana*, who himself was a student of Pandit Bishek Shebak Misra. He began with *sargam*, went into classical training and then progressed to Nazrul Sangeet. In Dinajpur, in his youth, he was attracted to the songs of Mehdi Hassan, which were popular in the homes of his friends of the then East Pakistan Rifles. This saw an ebb even though the *ghazals* originated from Mirza Ghalib and Bahadur Shah Zafar, who were from India.

Dwelling on this genre of songs, Jinnah says that these *ghazals* are a combination of Persian and Urdu. Today in India, he says, people sometimes confuse *bhajans* of Anup Jalota – which include tales of Krishna and Ram, for *ghazals*. The famed *ghazal* writer, Amir Khusru, was originally Turkish. Mirza Ghalib's family, in India,



Enayat-e-Moula Jinnah

too had its roots in Turkey. Ghalib combined Persian, Arabic and Urdu, he says. "Modern writers of this genre include Mazrul Sultanpuri and Javed Akhter from India. But these writers have not, in any way, been able to surpass Amir Khusru, Bahadur Shah Zafar. Mirza Ghalib or

even Allama Iqbal. "I like the *ghazals* of Bahadur Shah Zafar best because of their poignancy and passion. Their lyricism and moving lines can't help but touch your heart. Their rhythm and clarity communicates with the listener without any effort," says Jinnah.

Ghazals, he says, are not necessarily love poems. "Like *qawwalis*, they were immersed in Sufism and had a religious nature, as in the case of the early *ghazals* of Amir Khusru," he says. "They were always based on a *raga*. In India they are confusing *ghazals* with *bhajans* and *thumris*, such as in the case of Bare Ghulam Ali's *Ae na balam, keya kare sajni* (a *thumri*) or Begum Akhter's *Jochhona korechhi ari, asheyina amar bari* (a *dadra*). Kazi Nazrul Islam also wrote a large number of *Bangla ghazals*," he adds.

Jinnah's future plans are to provide musical scores for stage plays and tele-films. He has already provided background music and tunes of songs for *Hajar poshaki rajar golpo*, *Tey bhagar pala*, *Rupban*, *Lelii Majnu*, *Saadi Serajer pala*, *Komola Shundori*, *Shopnagiri*, *Gopa bagan* and *Gunai bibi*, among others. At present, he takes classes at the International Theatre School. For several years he has been the assistant director of Music and Dance at the Shilpakala Academy.

Int'l Film Festival Bangladesh Today's attractions



Venue: Central Public Library
Movie: *Do Aankhen Barah Haath* (India)
Time: 10:30 am

Synopsis: A stylised parable about human virtue, *Do Aankhen Barah Haath* follows an idealistic cop, Adinath who believes virtues are inherent in every human being. Adinath relocates six murderers to a desolate area and sets up a farming commune. Despite facing the hostile neighbours on a regular basis, the ex-convicts excel in farming business. The villagers see their economic interests threatened and reveal themselves as the real baddies.

Do Aankhen... is considered to be one of Indian cine-legend RV Shantaram's most memorable works. The film was screened at the Berlin and San Francisco Film Festivals in 1958 and earned accolades.

Movie: *Moolaade* (Senegal/ Cameroon/ Tunisia)
Time: 05:00 pm

Synopsis: *Moolaade* brings to light the still common African practice of forced mutilation of females in the name of 'purification'. The plot of the movie is set in a small African village where four young girls facing their 'purification' rituals flee to the household of Colle Ardo Gallo Sy, a strong-willed survivor of mutilation. Colle applies the custom of *moolaade* (sanctuary) to protect the fugitives. She is confronted by the villagers – both men and women. The film features a colourful, vibrant tapestry of village life and employs an imaginative array of emblematic metaphors, mythic overtones and musical numbers.

Directed by Ousmane Sembene, *Moolaade* was selected by several prominent critics as the best film at the Cannes Film Festival 2004.



TV GUIDE

All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme.

News Bulletin

BTV
 News Headlines (Bangla) at 8:55 am, 12:10 pm, 2:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00 pm, 7:00 pm.
 News (Bangla) at 8:00 am 1:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 8:00 pm.
 News (English) at 3:00 pm, 10:00 pm.
 Late Night News (Bangla and English) 11:30 pm.

CHANNEL-i
 News (Bangla) at 7:15 am, 9:00am, 2:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 10:30pm, 12:15 am.
 Telecast of BTV news (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

ATN BANGLA
 News (Bangla) at 7:00 am, 10:00am, 2:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11pm.
 News (English) 8:20am, 7:00pm
 Telecast of BTV News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

TARA BANGLA
 News Headlines (Bangla) at 5:30pm, 7:30pm.
 Tara News (Bangla) at 8:30 pm, 11:30 pm.
 Tara News Bangladesh (Bangla) at 9:30 pm.

BBC WORLD
 Every hour on the hour

ATN BANGLA
 08:45 Mukto Shanglap
 10:30 Anyodishti
 11:05 ATN Taroka, Tarokader Taroka (Acting) 2nd Round (group F)
 12:20 Bangla Feature Film: Shoshur Bari
 03:45 ATN Rannaghar
 04:20 Shundor Jiboner Jonyo
 04:45 Ispanahi Pure Snax Quiz Time
 05:10 Film For The People
 05:45 Islami Sawaal O Jobab (Live)
 06:20 Prapok
 08:00 Rock Link
 08:30 Drama Serial: Ferari Siren
 09:00 Drama Serial: Hortoner Bibi
 09:30 Drama Serial: Britto
 10:35 Char Deyaler Kabyo

CHANNEL i
 09:30 Shongbadpotrey Bangladesh
 09:45 Public Reaction
 09:50 Tritiyomatra
 12:30 Aaj Dupurey O Citicell Tarokakothon
 01:05 Ebong Cinemar Gaan
 01:45 Public Reaction
 02:40 Tritiyo Matray Apni
 03:05 Hridoye Mati O Manusher Daak
 04:05 Bashudhara Amader Gaan

04:45 Sa Re Ga Ma
 05:30 RC Tones and Tunes
 06:00 Music Plus
 06:30 Amar Chhobi
 07:50 Drama Serial: Akashi Ronger Rumal
 08:20 D Furti
 09:35 Drama Serial: Shampurno Rangin
 10:00 Drama Serial: Pothey Jetey Jetey

ntv
 08:35 Aiker Shokal
 09:00 Siddiqua Kabir's Recipe
 09:30 Amra Chholi Abiram
 10:05 Ain O Jibon
 11:30 Bangla Future Film Mukangan
 01:05 Drama Serial: Labonyaprobha
 02:35 Special Talk Show: Road
 03:50 Drama Serial: Amader Anondo Bari
 04:25 Shapla Kuri Contest 2005

05:15 Dindarpan
 05:20 Smritir Janalae
 06:20 Shubho Shondhya
 06:50 Biz Week
 08:25 Drama Serial: Kachher Manush
 09:10 Music Express
 10:00 Drama Serial: Chithi
 11:25 Dindarpan
 12:10 Shangkriti Ei Shaptaho

Rtv
 02:30 Shoto Proshno
 03:30 Aiker Bangladesh
 04:00 Musical Programme:

PICK OF THE DAY



Kachher Manush
 On ntv at 08:25pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Alamgir, Huamyun Faridee, Subarna



Matilda
 On HBO at 9:30 pm
Genre: Family
Cast: Danny Devito, Mara Wilson, Embeth Davitz

05:00 Human Nature
 06:00 Wide Angle
 06:30 Rtv exclusive
 06:35 Antorongo Alap
 08:00 Drama Serial: Biyer Golpo
 08:50 R Rama
 09:20 Drama Serial: Kala Koir
 10:50 Drama Serial: Bhorer Swapno

HBO
 10:00 Austin Powers in Goldmember
 12:00 The Matrix Reloaded

02:45 Radio
 05:00 For Love or country: A True Story
 07:30 Once Upon a time in Mexico
 09:30 Matilda
 11:30 The Chronicles of Riddick
 02:00 Malibu's Most Wanted

STAR MOVIES
 09:15 Country Bears The
 10:45 The 78th Annual Academy Awards
 03:15 Newton Boys The
 05:20 Alex & Emma
 07:00 Out For A Kill
 08:30 Braveheart

STAR WORLD
 09:30 Oprah Winfrey Show
 10:30 Kevin Hill
 11:30 The O.C.
 12:30 North Shore
 01:30 The A Team
 03:30 Bold And Beautiful
 04:30 General Hospital
 05:30 Angel
 06:30 The Simpsons
 07:00 The King Of Queens
 07:30 Friends
 08:00 Seinfeld
 08:30 American Idol
 09:30 Medical Investigations
 10:00 Charmed
 11:00 Seinfeld

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
 09:30 Showreal Asia
 10:30 Violent Investigations
 11:30 Intelpert Earth (Aka Death By...)
 12:30 Air Crash Investigation
 01:30 National Geographic Special
 02:30 Intelpert Investigations
 03:30 Species Hunter
 04:30 Backyard Science
 06:00 Maan
 06:30 The Proud Family
 07:00 Goof Troop
 08:00 Akkad Bakkad Bambe
 08:30 Mum Tum Aur Hum
 09:00 Kasautii Zindagii Kay
 09:30 Miilee
 10:00 Kavyanjali
 10:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii
 11:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi

Bangladesh Bangladesh
 Vs Sri Lanka 2nd Test Day 4 1st Sessi
 11:30 Nock Out World (R)
 12:00 Bangladesh Bogra
 Bangladesh Bangladesh Vs Sri Lanka 2nd Test Day 4 2nd & 3rd Session (L)
 04:30 Tna Xplosion (T)
 05:30 Cricket Classics Caribbean Kings England Vs West Indies (T)
 06:30 Tna Xplosion (R)
 07:30 Cricket Classics Great Finishes (R)
 08:00 Goals! (R)
 10:00 Sportscenter India India World C'ship Of Cricket
 06:30 Cricket Classics David: The Wall (R)
 10:30 Tna Xplosion (R)

ESPN
 09:30 Cricket Classics India Down Under Sydney Australia India Vs England World C'ship Of Cricket
 11:00 Football Premier League English Premier Football League 2005/06 Manchester England Manche Ster City Vs Sunderland (R)
 01:30 Cricket Classics Caribbean Kings England Vs West Indies (R)
 02:30 Uefa Champions

TEN SPORTS
 09:30 Martini World Cup
 10:30 Golf Highlights
 11:30 Legends
 12:30 Trans World Sports
 01:00 Volvo Race
 01:30 Inside Grand Prix: Bahrain
 02:00 Great Centuries: Dilip Vengsarkar
 04:00 Carbean Classics
 05:00 This is the PGA Tour
 05:30 Gillette World Cup Football Preview
 06:30 WWE: The Bottom Line
 07:30 Trans World Sports
 08:30 This is the PGA Tour