

Dhaka Day by Day

A Print-Maker Pointing the Way to Pax

by Fayza Haq

Rafi Haq, a soft-spoken print-maker, held a solo exhibition of his 56 works at 'Jojon Contemporary Art Gallery', which presently, has more experimental and promising works than most other art galleries at Dhaka.

In his 'As I Remember Her', has a male and two female figures seen in reclining positions, in the main square print, whose theme is carried over to a rectangular one on the left (the two framed as a single union). These figures hark back to the drawings of Leonardo da Vinci, who has influenced Rafi, like innumerable other aspiring painters, the world over. Yet da Vinci has left such an indelible mark on the mind of the graphic artist that his continues with the same style in nearly all his major entries at the solo exhibit. He even imitates the master's reverse-mirror hand-writing technique in his various experiments, thus making his pieces more thought-provoking, as regards the style — comparing Rafi's work with that of local contemporary ones.

The theme of the piece consists of mankind's dilemmas in life, such as being emotionally involved in an eternal triangle. The artist experiments with creating space in pastel hues of the sea and the sky, as he believes that peaceful environment (symbolised by the sea and sky) is what modern man lacks basically, despite all his scientific and commercial progress. Rafi's 'As I Remember Her' (water-colour)

In the last item in the same frame are chillies which are faintly done in vermilion, touched with green, and shaped in an elegant realistic manner. Here Rafi wishes to remind his viewers that even humdrum elements of our life must be valued and guarded jealously.

The symbol of womanhood caught in the web of complexities, is seen once again in 'As I Remember Her-III'. The head, torso and upper limbs are seen as if caught in a semicircle of a motion-picture reel, while the rest of the voluptuous figure remains the same. The texture work is also similar to that of the entries in the rest of the exhibit. He has brought in bars in crayon and pen, as Rafi's preoccupation with the search for a better environment essentially includes the sea and sky, which he believes has bars on them, if seen from a distance. The theme is carried over to two rectangular pieces, of different width, placed on the right of the main square paper, to bring in a collage-like effect.

Rafi who has worked for eight years as a book and newspaper illustrator, wishes to combine etching with lithography, to project his themes of mankind's intermittent death-wishes and penchants.

The next piece shows the possibilities of

man avoiding depressions and disasters by taking decisive steps. Here Rafi has brought in his childhood, depicted by a steamer and the motherly, gypsy-like water-carrier figure that he accosted while in Pabna, as a youth. These are delicately sketched in the right background and foreground. Geometrical lines on the texture divide the past from the present. Onwards, in the fourth piece are two apples, a large and more realistic one in the front portraying the artist himself, while the smaller one, lyrically entwined with it, stands for his fiancée, who is constantly in Rafi's mind, despite the geographical distance between his beloved and himself. Geometrical forms in soft shades and suggestions of butterflies and floral patterns in the embossed texture lend depth to the integral theme.

The fifth piece contains a rectangular grey patch, held by almost hidden-away strings, which the artist explains stands for a swing, a vital element of his contented past. One also spots a flight of winging birds, soaring towards the top of the composition from its centre. The question mark beside the central image, which I have used in many of my pieces, stands for our bewilderment, when confronted with the task of differentiating the truth from the false elements in our society, the artist adds about this creation.

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Jatiya Party leader Mizanur Rahman (3rd from right) leading the *padajatra* (march) to the capital from Tongi yesterday to back Opposition's demand for caretaker government. — Star photo

What's on today . . .

Drama Circle: The Drama Circle will stage its 17th production — *Dristi*. Venue: Guide House auditorium. Time: 6:30 pm.

Mobile photo exhibition: A mobile photo exhibition of the awarded photographs in 17th photo contest of the Asian Cultural Centre for UNESCO will be inaugurated. The show will remain open for all from 2 pm to 7 pm everyday till December 31. Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy gallery. Time: 4:30 pm.

Painting exhibition: A week-long painting exhibition titled 'Homage to Dhaka' by some well-known artists will be inaugurated. Venue: Bangladesh National Museum auditorium. Time: 4:00 pm. Chief guest: Speaker Shaikh Razzak Ali. Guest of honour: DCC Mayor Mohammad Hanif.

Recital evening: A recital session titled *Ananta Ziban Jodi* will be held. The Muktakatha Abrethi Academy has organised the programme. Venue: Children's Auditorium of the National Museum. Time: 6:00 pm.

Sitar evening: Nandani Chakra of Biswashahitya Kendra has organised a session of classical music as part of its regular programme. Performer: Shamsul Alam. Time: 7:00 pm. Venue: Auditorium of the Biswashahitya Kendra.

Rly computerised reservation: The inauguration of the computerised reservation and ticket booking of the Bangladesh Railway will be held. Venue: Kamalapur Railway Station. Time: 10 am. Minister for Communications Oli Ahmed will inaugurate.

Chalachitram and Ritwik Film Societies: The curtain closing of its year-long film session titled 'Films From A Continent: Europe' will be held. Venue: GCC auditorium, Dhanmondi. Time: 5:00 pm. Chief guest: Chief of European Commission in Dhaka, M Drury. Syed Hasan Imam will preside.

Zahir Raihan Film Society: A two-day Lindsay Anderson retrospective will commence with the films — *This Sporting Life* at 4:00 pm and *Lucky Man* at 6:45 pm. The Zahir Raihan Film Society in collaboration with the German Cultural Centre has organised the session. Venue: Goethe-Institut auditorium.

Rotary Club of Dilkusha: The club's weekly meeting will be held. Venue: Hotel Purbani. Time: 5:30 pm.

Rotary Club of Shahbagh: The club's weekly meeting will be held. Venue: Sheraton Hotel. Time: 5:30 pm.

Samaj Chetana: The third founding anniversary of the *Samaj Chetana*, a monthly magazine, will be observed through discussion and musical programme. Venue: TSC seminar room, DU. Time: 4 pm.

ABC AGM: The annual general meeting of the Assistance for Blind children (ABC) will be held. Venue: ABC head office at 167, Green Road. Time: 4 pm.

ICAB council polls results

The following members have been declared elected to the next council of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh (ICAB) from the Dhaka, Chittagong and Khulna regional constituencies of the institute, says a release.

Dhaka Regional Constituency: Md Jainul Abedin, Abbas Uddin Khan, A B M Azizuddin, Akhtar Sohel Kaseem, Jamal Uddin Ahmad, Badrul Ahsan FCA, Anil Chandra Nath FCA, A K M Mosharraf Hossain, A N Altaf Hussain Siddiqui, Anwaruddin Chowdhury, Kazi Kamrul Huda, Muhammad Mashur Rahman, A K M Rafiqul Islam, Zahir Uddin Ahmed, Howlader Mahfel Huq, and Md Anisur Rahman.

Chittagong Regional Constituency: Mohammed Abdul Baree, Abul Khair Chowdhury and A K Shamsuddin Ahmed. Khulna Regional Constituency: Md Mosharraf Hossain.

Int'l theatre troupe due today

A twenty-member international theatre group arrives in the city today from Calcutta on a week-long visit to Bangladesh, said a USIS press release yesterday.

The group comprises among others director Dan Chumley and playwright Joan Holden of the celebrated San Francisco Mime Troupe.

Sponsored by the Aranyak Natya Dal, a local theatre troupe, the group will present its international collaboration *Big Wind* at the National Museum auditorium tomorrow and at the Central Shahid Minar on December 2.

Chumley and Holden will conduct a USIS-sponsored two-day workshop on 'collaborative playwriting and popular theatre performance'.



Leaders of the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal placing wreath at the Dr Shamsul Alam Khan Milon memorial near TSC in the city yesterday on the occasion of fourth death anniversary of the physician. Dr Milon was assassinated on the height of agitation against Ershad regime. — Star photo

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GROUP HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER
APEX TANNERY GROUP
65-66, Motijheel Commercial Area, Dhaka-1000

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Project Director

ADB Assisted Second Health & Family Planning Services Project
House No. 80, Road No. 11, Block-E, Banani, Dhaka-1213

Notice Inviting Tender

Memo No. PD/ADB-2/CW/201/94/1054 Date: November 15, 1994.

Sealed Tenders are hereby invited by the undersigned from the Prequalified Contractors of ADB Assisted Second Health & Family Planning Services Project for the under noted works, the particulars of which are mentioned below:

Sr. No.	Package No.	Name of work	Eligible Prequalified Contractors	Time of Completion
01.	I	Dhaka Medical College Hospital- (Operation Theatre-Civil Works)	Category A	15 Months
02.	AVI	Renovation & Upgradation of Feni District Hospital & Staff Quarters	Category A & B	15 Months

Tender documents (except drawings) will be sold from the Office of the undersigned on all working days, from 2nd November, 94 upto 1st December, 94 during office hours on cash payment of Tk.1,500.00 (Take one thousand in a hundred) for each Package of Category A & B per set (non-refundable) and Tk.2000.00 (Take two thousand) for each package of Category A per set (non-refundable).

Drawings may be seen and other information may be obtained from the office of the Consulting Engineers, M/S. Development Design Consultants Ltd. (ADB Assisted Second Health and Family Planning Services Project) House No. 33/A, Road No. 9/A, Dhanmondi Residential Area, Dhaka-1209 during office hours.

The tenders should apply in their letter head pad along with certified photocopy of prequalification letter to the undersigned prior to getting permission to purchase the tender documents.

The tenders must submit the VAT (Value Added Tax) registration certificate from the concerned authority along with the Tenders failing which the tender will be rejected.

The tenders must submit a list of attachments submitted by them duly marked along with the tender in their letter head pad.

The Authority reserves the right to increase or decrease the number of Packages tendered for as above, particular of which may be obtained from the office of the undersigned or the Consulting Engineers.

Each tender shall be accompanied by an Earnest Money amounting to 2.0% of the total quoted amount of the work/package in the form of Bank Draft or Pay Order from a Scheduled Bank of Bangladesh in favour of Project Director, ADB Assisted Second Health and Family Planning Services Project, Dhaka.

The tender(s) shall have to be dropped in the specified box kept in the office of the Project Manager, M/S. Development Design Consultants Ltd. ADB Assisted 2nd Health and Family Planning Services Project, House No. 33/A, Road No. 9/A, Dhanmondi Residential Area, Dhaka-1209 for the above Packages on or before 12:00 hours on 15th December, 1994 and will be opened on the same day at 12:15 hours in the presence of the tenderers if any.

The acceptance of the tender(s) will rest the authority, who does not bind himself to accept the lowest tender and reserves the right, to reject any or all the tenders received and distribute the work(s) to any one or more than one Contractor without assigning any reason whatsoever.

The tender(s) may bid for any number of packages in this project but in the event that a tenderer becomes lowest in more than 2(two) packages he/they will be awarded contract for only 2(two) packages in this Second Health & Family Planning Services Project, including the packages already tendered, the choice of which will be made by the authority.

This tender notice will also form a part of the contract and will be binding upon the tenderers.

DPP-10803-22/11
C-1851

Md Abul Hossain
Project Director

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