

## exhibition

## A World of Countless Cats



MARION Bloem's startling exhibition of naive art is on at the Shilpkala Academy. Marion has used raw colours and arresting images to present her frank delineation of society in which she feels that humans behave like animals.

Marion was born at Arnhem in the Netherlands in '52. Her parents, who are Eurasians migrated to Holland from Indonesia in the early 50s. After her

by Fayza Haq

high school she studied clinical psychology at the State University of Utrecht. During her study she wrote her first children's book, and she soon started to write, direct and produce short feature films.

In Amsterdam, in '87, Marion had her first exhibition as a visual artist. Since then she has frequently exhibited her paintings, etchings and sculptures in the Netherlands and abroad. Like her literature and her films, her visual art is thematically connected with her culture and social background. Being a daughter of a migrant and a non-white person in a

white community, her awareness is expressed in all her work. In her paintings she shows a great fascination of the problem of the blending process of the non-whites with the whites.

"I want to show that we are not perfect. We push each other and try to tell each other how to live our lives. I want to delineate the confusing motives of the people and their contradictory ways. In denoting cats with people I want to depict that the drives and needs of the people are sometimes that of animals," Marion explains.

"Certainty of Orange" has a sea of faces in shades of blue with eyes and lips done in red. Sometimes the teeth are focused upon. In the midst is an orange woman's figure being dropped on the canvas.

"Certainty of Living-3" has birds, cats and an upside down figure in a cap and blue casual clothes. The faces of the people are done with quick sketch-like strokes which are almost like a child's doodles.

In "Certainty of Cats" one finds cats sketched in with shades of yellow, red, blue, or-

ange and purple. There is a little baby floating among their midsts. The cats all appear to be slyly grinning and peeping here and there.

In "Certainty of Blue and Red" there is once more the barrage of orange faces with curious eyes. The people appear to originate from many places and all appear to be gazing with a sense of shock or horror. In their midst are thrown two pot-bellied naked babies — one is done in shades of blue while the other is done in pink, brown and orange.

"Certainty of Space" depicts two Negro women, both wearing beach-wear: red shoes along with purple swimsuits. Besides them is a third woman holding on to a huge fish. Birds, fish and human heads fill the rest of the canvas.

Marion has recently exhibited in Tokyo, Belgium, South Africa and Budapest. Apart from painting, Marion has written 10 novels, two books on poems and two anthologies of short stories.

She has been to Bangladesh before with her husband and her brothers on different occasions.

## festival

## A Festive Boyati Evening

By Nafid Imran Ahmed

THE sixth day of the National Folk Music Festival '99 took a laughing and shouting look when the famous Boyati of Bangladesh gathered for their "Boyatiader Ashor". Organized by Bangladesh Shilpkala Academy the week long festival at Bangladesh Public Library Auditorium was house-full almost everyday of the festival, but not like the sixth day.

The famous Boyaties of Bangladesh gathered at the Public Library Premises before the show started. The place was filled with Boyaties with their long hair, colorful costume and various musical instruments.

The program started at 6:30pm with a well-known "Jari Song" singer Md. Shomsher Ali and his group. Shomsher Ali started the program with his jocose song "Torir bhab deikha pran akul hoise...". The message in the song was about the daily comic life of our country. The song contains loads of small dialects containing funny tales. In his song he talked about the modern culture and how funny the dresses look now a days, and what really the University students do when they go to their classes. The crowd loved his song.

The audience gave Abdur Rahman Boyati a very warm welcome when he walked on stage. The living legend started his song after a small singing speech where he talked about the New Year and the essence of boishak. Then he started his song "Kolski kadhie kon Ruposhi?" a love song. The crowd loved his song and cheered all the time he was on stage.

The cooling system and the fans at the auditorium wasn't working properly, but that didn't stop the crowd, people enjoyed the whole show standing and sweating. Among the other singers at the program Rowshan Akhtar Talukdar, Idris Ali Boyati, Abdul Kuddus Boyati and many others performed.

## music

## Concert for Life

E BON has to face the reality of death at the age of 15, when most children are too busy to even think of it. This was supposed to be the time to play, the time to enjoy life, to live without a thought for anything else other than having fun, without worries and pain... but fate had other things in mind. As cancer closed its wry hands on him, he had to struggle to live... and the worst part of the struggle is not over yet.

By Nadine Murshid

To raise money for this child, who needs immediate attention by the doctors so that she can live like any other child of her age, LRB, Souls and Feelings staged a performance in the Winter Garden, Sheraton, yesterday, 23rd April 1999. The charity show began exactly at 4pm and continued till 8pm after a series of songs and there was even a bit of a tiff between James (of Feelings) and Ayub Bachchu (of LRB) since LRB was supposed to perform last and James objected and Bachchu felt a little offended.

Anyway, Souls was the first band to perform they did! Souls is probably the oldest band of the country... they have been in this arena for decades and it was really a treat to see them perform after so long. They were their own magical selves and even at four in the afternoon, they were able to transform the audience into another world. As they sang, Kano ei nishnogota, Ricky Martin's Cup of Life, Michael Learns to Rock's Someday, the people in the auditorium sang along. The loud applause and wolf cries which followed Nasim Ali and Partho Boruva's songs proved that they are still well remembered.

Then LRB started with a new song, the name of which I cannot recall, but this much was pretty obvious they are here, and they will be here for a long time to come. The new percussionist of the band Hablu gave LRB's music a new rhythm and this new look gave the audience something different to enjoy. They jammed in every song and their ten songs took quite a while to finish. The bandleader Ayub Bachchu called for Ebon on stage and told everyone to pray for him, he then added that this was the last joint charity concert they will do since they don't want problems like the ones they have had. He said that after this concert all the charity concerts would have to be solo. The band dedicated their new song 'Bangali Bangladeshi' to Ebon and wished him all the best.

The crowd enjoyed the bands performance immensely. As



Ayub Bachchu, lead singer of LRB, giving a performance at Concert for Life.

they left the stage singing "Bangladesh", they crowd broke out into a loud applause.

The last band to perform was Feelings. The band came on stage and the self-proclaimed legend of band music, James, apologised to the audience for their delay. He said, "The reason behind this is a sad story. The bands drummer Fanta's relative died and it took him a while to come from there."

After a long wait the band started performing with their super popular song, 'Dukhini Dukhni Koro Na...'. The bands performance wasn't what the crowd expected... after all, they

were supposed to be the best. They sang a few songs of their new album, 'Thikachhey Bondhu', which were pretty good, but did not live up to the expectations of the populace. But then, some are good, some are not... it really doesn't matter.

All in all, it was a good show and Ebon is lucky to have the support of so many people. May he get what he deserves: a happy, healthy life with the people he loves. There are many more Ebons out there who deserve just the same.

May we do something for them too?

## TV Guide

Saturday 24th April  
(All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme)

BBC

6:00 BBC World News  
6:05 USA Direct 6:30  
World Living: One Foot In the Past #2/3-One Foot In The Continent

7:30 BBC News Headlines  
7:30 Asia Today 8:00 BBC News 8:30 World Focus: USA Direct/Asia Today

9:00 BBC World News 9:30 Hard Talk 10:00 BBC News 10:30 World Focus: Panorama 11:00 World News 11:30 World Focus: Talking Movies 12:00 World News 12:30 World Living: Question Time India 1:00 BBC News 1:30 Hard Talk 2:00 BBC News 2:30 World Focus: Correspondent 3:00 World News Headlines 3:05 World Week-end: People's Century #17/26 - 1959 Endangered Planet 4:00 BBC World News 4:30 World Living: Holiday 5:00 BBC News 5:30 This Week 6:00 World Headlines 6:05 World Weekend: Panorama Special: When Good Man Do Nothing 7:00 BBC World News 7:30 Wild World: Land of the Tiger #4/12 - Sacred Waters Pt-2 8:00 BBC News 8:05 World Weekend: Crossing The Lines #3/3 - War Rules 9:05 World Weekend: Peoples Century #17/26 - 1959 Endangered Planet 10:00 World News 10:30 Style 11:00 BBC World News

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11:30 World Cup Magic Moments 7:15 Dress Circle 7:30 Saphat Ki Baat 8:30 Apradhi 9:00 Serial: Ek Mulaqat 9:30 Star News 10:00 Star Super Hit: Dil To Pagal Hai (Shravuk Khan, Madhuri Dixit, Karishma Kapoor) 2:00 Newhart 2:30 Dangerous 3:30 Snowy River McGregor Saga 4:30 5:30 Class Act 5:30 Lovejoy

5:05 Medicine 5:25 Computers 6:10 Sunheri Yeodoon 7:00 English News 7:20 PTV Music Library 7:30 Virsa Pakistan 7:55 Ghazal Uss Naye Saaree 8:25 Dentonic World of Sports 8:45 Drama 9:00 Break for Headlines News 10:00 Khabarnama & Commercial News 10:45 Drama: Laaj 11:45 Do Sitaree 1:15 Urdu Feature Film: Khas Khabrain — Close Down

STAR WORLD

6:30 Rewind VJ Sophiya 9:30 Turn On T [V] 11:30 Rewind Special 1:30 Hot Seat 2:00 Mainstage 3:00 Turn On T [V] 4:00 The Drum 5:00 Billboard US Countdown 6:00 Speak Easy 6:30 Turn On T [V] 7:00 Lunch Pad 7:30 Top Of The Pops 8:00 The Juice 8:30 Over the Edge 9:00 The Ticket 9:15 AZ Profiles 9:30 Sophia's Choice 10:00 House of Noise 10:30 Banned at Bedtime 11:30 Turn On T [V]

STAR PLUS

6:30 Nainaa 7:30 Good Morning India 9:30 Travel Asia 10:00 Eak the Cat 10:30 Story Teller 11:00 Pothi Baba Ki 11:30 The Great Escape 12:00 Eureka 12:30 Living on the Edge 1:00 Pal Chin 1:30 Saboot 2:30 Bakermans Ooh La La 3:30 Tea Time Cinema: Chor Machaye Shor (Shashi Kapoor, Danny Denzongpa, Montaz) 6:30 Colgate To-

ZEE INDIA TV

7:00 Jagran 7:30 AM to 11:30 PM Every Half Hour

- Zee News: Hindi 12:00 India's Most Wanted

12:30 Disha Samawad 1:00 Mystery Unfolds 1:30 Question Hour 2:00 Zee World 2:30 Insight 3:00 The Diplomacy Show 3:30 Beech Shahr 4:00 Teer Kaman 4:30 Jaanch Ya Aanch 5:00 The Tech Show

7:00 Spiderman 6:30 G 1 Joe 7:00 Crystal Maze 8:00 Mr Belvedere 8:30 Only Fools & Horses 9:00 The Good Life 9:30 Murder Most Horrid 10:00 TV Com 10:30 Travel Asia 11:00 Ally McBeal 12:00 Mystery Movies — Prime Suspect 2:00 Space Above and Beyond 3:00 The Adventures of Sindbad 4:00 Hercules 5:00 WWF Shotgun Challenge 6:00 Xena 7:00 Baywatch 8:00 Lovejoy 9:00 Soldier Soldier 10:00 The Adventures of Sindbad 11:00 Xena 12:00 Hercules 1:00 Tropical Heat 2:00 Baywatch Nights 3:00 Serial: Soldier Soldier 4:00 Aerobics Oz Style 4:30 World News 5:00 The Animals of Farting Woods 5:30 Eek! The Cat

MTV INDIA

7:00 MTV Asia Hit List VJ Mike/Sarah 9:00 MTV Fresh VJ Sarah 9:30 MTV-U 10:30 Non-Stop Hits 12:30 MTV Hit Film Music 1:00 MTV Housefull V Nafisa 1:30 MTV-U VJ Cyrus 2:30 MTV In Control 3:30 Thums-Up Non-Stop Hits 4:00 MTV Unplugged 5:00 Essential 5:30 MTV Recycled 5:30 Non-Stop Hits 7:30 MTV Fresh VJ Rahul 8:00 MTV & Smirnoff 'Mega Mix' VJ Nafisa 9:30 MTV Hit Film Music 10:00 Old Housefull VJ Nafisa 10:30 MTV-U VJ Cyrus 2:30 MTV In Control 3:30 Thums-Up Non-Stop Hits 4:00 MTV Unplugged 5:00 Essential 5:30 MTV Recycled 5:30 Non-Stop Hits 7:30 MTV Fresh VJ Rahul 8:00 MTV & Smirnoff 'Mega Mix' VJ Nafisa 9:30 MTV Hit Film Music 10:00 Old Housefull VJ Nafisa 10:30 Non-Stop Hits 11:30 The Grind 12:00 Old Tavern Sizzlers 1:00 Sa Re Ga Ma 1:30 Jharkha 2:00 Bajal Music Box 2:30 World Premiere 2:45 Pop Re Pop 3:00 Geeton Ki Bahar

7:00 Star Movies

7:00 Ei CP: Martin Scores 8:45 Comedy: Re-

possessed 10:00 UK Top Ten 10:30 Thriller: Heavens

Prisoners 12:30 Action: Volcano 2:30 Star Kids Club: Licence to Drive 4:30 Ei CP: Michael J Fox 5:30 Wild West: Dead or Alive 7:30 Great

Movies: Blame It on the Bell Boy 9:30 Movie Television 10:00 Saturday

Mega Movie Island of Dr Moreau 12:00 Action: Volcano 2:30 Western: Dead or Alive 4:00 Comedy: Blame It on the Bell Boy 5:30 Comedy: Repossessed

PTV-2

8:00 Tilwat aur Tarjuma/Hamid/Naz 8:20

Cartoons 8:30 Khabrain 8:45 Visitors Book 9:10

Phool Khushbo 9:25

Dastarkhwan 9:40

Mehman 10:05 Aap Ki Anwar Maqsood 10:30

English Film 10:55 Milli Nagma 11:00 Khabrain 11:10 Meri pasand 11:35 Janun 12:55 Quran-E-Hakeem 1:02 Bismillah 1:15 Grind 2:00 Drama Serial 2:55 Husein-E-Insaf & Sports Coaching 3:20 TV Encyclopaedia 3:40 Sports Time 4:05 Serial

8:00 Aalaap 8:00 B&W Gems 8:30 All Time Hits 9:00 Hit Parade 9:30 World Premiere 10:30 Hit Mix Choice 11:00 Colgate Zig Zag Best Of The Day 11:30 Bajaj Music Box 12:00 World Premiere 12:15 Medimix Madhur Moments 12:30 Bakeman's Star Ek Mood Anek 12:55 Pop Re Pop 1:00 Jharkha 1:30 Best Of The Best 2:15 World Premiere 2:30 Mix Masala 3:30 Medimix Madhur Moments 3:45 Bakeman's Star Ek Mood Anek 4:00 World Premiere 4:15 Pop Re Pop 4:30 Bajaj Music Box 5:00 House Of Choice 5:30 Hit Mix 6:00 Brake Fall 6:45 Parade 7:30 Teen Interact 8:00 Bakeman's Star Ek Mood Anek 8:15 Medimix Madhur Moments 8:30 Hum Ta Ra Rum 9:00 Mu-

MUSIC ASIA

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Pop