

fashion

Festivity in Simplicity

Leading fashion designer Shahruk Shahid opens his own boutique

By Fayza Haq

SHAHRIK Shahid has recently opened a permanent gallery at Dhanmondi Rd 27 for the display of the clothes he designs. This new venue is partially to raise funds for acid victims every month. He says, "Anyone could be an acid victim. We should have the awareness that an acid victim is not a diseased person. It is the acid thrower who is sick. This is a protest against the evil doers. As an artist I have some commitments to my society and this is my way of fulfilling it. Models like Tarin have not taken money for their photo session, donating the proceeds to the acid victims instead. They will also be spending time with these hapless victims."

Shahruk's "Henry's Heritage" will also provide training in sewing and embroidery to these victims so that they can be employed by different boutiques in the city. In other places not enough room was given to exhibit the clothes properly. After the Eid collection, we will have shows of different collection each month in

new patterns and colours with the designer deciding the colours and motifs as they do abroad. Designers from other boutiques will be invited to talk about fashion in the gallery premises."

Asked what was new about his latest collection, Shahruk says, "I go in for simplicity. There is the festive mood but there is no extravaganza as seen in my earlier work. Take the blue sari, which has intricate 'zardosi' work on the border and 'anchal'. There is 'hazabut' all over. There is excess of decoration. The black georgette with the block print and embroidery is also sober."

Speaking about the problems that he faces in his work, Shahruk says, "Whatever funds I have invested are that of my own and this is not enough. I help from government and other financial institutions to go in a bigger way. They can sponsor the shows and so create new dimensions for the fashion world. It is difficult to do this individually. The weavers don't get loans from the banks and so cannot provide us with diverse items. I can pay for my 'saris' but for mass production outside help has to be obtained. The embroidery work

does follow the patterns that we give but this has taken since 92. I have 350 to work for me off and on, who are paid piece wise and our regular employees on our pay-role are limited to 20. Now we have institute for designers but there are none for those who do the weaving, cut, sew and embroider."

Asked if he has not abandoned his profession as a painter who has qualified from Delhi, Shahruk says, "I am still painting and the sari are my canvas. I have to make a living. When I began in 92 I did not feel in any way that I was abandoning my profession."

Shahruk's new collection has a black georgette 'sari' with silver and gold leaf patterns, with paisley pattern on the 'anchal' in gold, silver and blue, with dots on the body. The work is in brown, beige and mostly in gray and black. Another eye-catching creation is a beige and gold sari with geometrical patterns. The highlight work is done in silver and black forming paisley patterns and flowers (the motifs intertwining each other. The body has embroidery in geometrical shapes in black and gray bringing



A splendidly embroidered sari.

in more sophistication.

Another has machine embroidery all over in black and gold with massive flowers in gold. Half the 'sari' is painted over while the other part has block print on it. It is peacock blue and in the 'anchal' are leaves and flowers in which the orange and green paint have been laid on heavily to give it a 3-D effect. It has self print in geometrical shapes in black and purple surrounded by 'alpona' motifs in turquoise, gray and purple. Its 'anchal' is gorgeous with beige, blue and gray motifs. Yet another 'sari' is half in spray paint with red, green and yellow flowers and leaves. At the side are leaves in a horizontal form with embroidery in geomet-

rical shapes. Equally attractive is a black 'sari' with 'alpona' designs on the border done in orange, silver and gold containing patterns of starburst, paisley and flowers. This is complete with a border of orange and gray geometrical patterns with interspersed leaves.

The collection also contains "punjabis" and "kameezes" with delightful patterns and colours.

There is "punjabi" with "shervani" cut and cloth-covered buttons marching along the side in a partially diagonal manner. In the collar, shoulder and front are printed fabrics with squares, rectangles and oblong shapes in green and orange. Another "punjabi" is in pale gray with



A delicately hand printed sari.

block prints all over it. The back, shoulders and front have heavier motifs in green, brown and beige.

Basically it has intertwining block motifs all over it. A white one has embroidery in brown and beige in squares, circles and dots on the shoulder, round neck and the front. This is simple but attractive and good for daily use.

One of the "kameezes" is of Tangail muslin and has large embroidery in it presenting flowers growing in diagonal manner.

The colours are pale peach, biscuit, emerald and mint. Another ladies' wear includes an applique, tie-dye and block work all combined into one. It has floral motifs in pink, gray, beige and gold at the neck.

In this Shahruk has ambitiously taken up a project with high hopes. After his eight years of dedication to the field of festive apparel, one hopes that he will proceed and progress with success.

Recommendations

Shatabdi's Eid collection

Shatabdi's eid collection will be put on display at a four-day show beginning on December 7 at Aerial Centre at Dhanmondi. Designer Nadira, well known for her creative design, will bring her latest sari and salwar-kameez ensemble to the show. The show will remain open from 11 in the morning to 9 in the evening until December 10.

Bangla Faces

The Goethe Institut, Dhaka and Drik gallery have jointly organised a workshop on photography with renowned German photographer Thomas Lütte at the Goethe Institut.

This is the second workshop of this kind by Lütte in Dhaka. This year he will be conducting the workshop within the framework of the 'Chobi Mela', the first photography festival in Asia. The workshop will come to an end on December 11.

Exhibition on Liberation

On the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the Liberation War, the Liberation War Museum has put up a month long exhibition titled 'Gourabmoy Atmadan Chirojagor'.

The remains found in the killing fields of Jalladkhana and Nuri Masjid and some photographs are being exhibited.

Friday Movies

The following movies will be screened at the Alliance Francaise de Dhaka Friday movies session:

documentaries on mathematics at 10:30 in the morning, as the year 2000 has been declared as the year of mathematics, various documentaries on mathematics will be screened throughout this month.

Crime by Coline Serreau with Vincent Lindon, Patrick Timsit, Zabou at 6 in the evening. In this movie the same day, Victor's wife is leaving him and he is losing his job. Only Michou, a looser he met, is offering help.

Saving The Flood Victims

Organised by Bangladesh Charushilpi Sangsad a five day long exhibition by eminent artists of the country will start at the Gallery Chitrak today at 3:30 p.m. All the money collected from the exhibition will go for the flood victims of the country.

Mohammed Farashuddin, governor Bangladesh Bank will inaugurate the exhibition, while the ceremony will be presided over by Professor Rafiqul Nabi, president Bangladesh Charushilpi Sangsad.



Tarin: modeling for charity.



A hand embroidered blue sari.

TV GUIDE

PICK OF THE DAY



Drop Zone

Tonight on HBO at 10

U.S. Marshall Wesley Snipes believes, if you want to bring in a criminal, you have to stay on his trial. But if he wants to capture Grey Busey, he will have to learn to sky dive and so he takes to the skies and falls into non-stop action and adventure. Drop Zone stars Wesley Snipes and Gary Busey.

2:00 Geet Bahar 2:30 Barkha Bahar

2:30 STARGOLD

8:30 BOLLYWOOD NEWS

9:00 Saathi (Rajendra Kumar, Vyjayanthimala)

12:00 Geet Bahar 12:30

Mr. & Mrs. 5:5 (Guru Dutt, Madhubala)

3:30 Boardwalk/ Bharat Bhroman 9:30 Bahari

Aahar 10:00 Griha Saja 10:30 Chokher Bali 11:00 Kapurush 11:30 Sa Re Ga Ma 12:30

Geet Bahar 7:30 Shakaandar Shukrawar Film

Show: Naya Zamana (Dharmendra, Hema Malini) 10:30

Serial: Amra Probashi 1:00 Serial: Shyasha 1:30 Serial: Ek Akasher Niche 2:00 Serial: Nayanatra 2:30 Feature Film 5:00 Serial: Foot

Shradhanjali (Rakhee, Suresh Oberoi) 12:30

5:30 Muk Achen Manush Shradhanjali (Contd)

6:00 Arghya 6:30 Serial: Power

AXN 6:00 You're Under Arrest/ Who Dares Wins 7:00 PSI Factor IV/ Shocking 8:00

Boardwalk/ Space Warship Yamamoto Yoko 9:00 Curious Play/ Shadow Skills 10:00 You're Under Arrest/ Who Dares Wins 11:00 PSI Factor IV/ Shocking 12:00 Profiler III/ What's Love Got to Do With It 1:00 Movie: Guncrazy 3:00 Who Dares Wins/ Space Warship Yamamoto Yoko 4:00 Curious Play/ Shadow Skills 5:00 You're Under Arrest/ You're Under Arrest 6:00 PSI Factor IV/ Sacrifices 7:00 The Net/ Chem Lab 8:00 Movie: Hong Kong 9:7 10:00 Silk Stalkings V/ Body Electric 11:00 Movie: Hong Kong 9:7 1:00 Silk Stalkings V/ Body Electric 2:00 Nightman II/ Revelations 3:00 Highlander VI/ To Be

BBC WORLD

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