

## documentary

# Documenting the Creative Lives of Women Artists

*Perception: The Other Canvas* premiered

By Fayza Haq

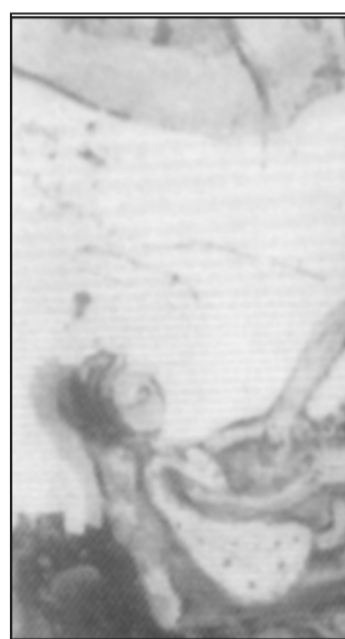
**P**ERCEPTION The Other Canvas, a 58-minute documentary directed by Fauzia Khan, and supervised by Manzare Hassin, with Tarun Karmakar doing the camera work, was premiered at the National Museum on January 20.

Based on the lives and works of six female painters of Bangladesh.



Nasreen Begum

The documentary features Nasreen Begum, Farida Zaman, Rokeya Sultana, Nazlee Laila Mansur, Dilare Begum Jolly and Niloofar Chaman.



Rokeya Sultana

The gender experience is reflected in the works of the women artists. In this film the artists talk about their upbringing, their efforts to become artists and their inspira-



Rokeya Sultana works at her studio.

tion from their daily lives to go on creating paintings. They have spelt out how the conflicts of what you want and what you don't get is reflected on their canvases.

The film tries to find the source of happiness, sorrow, fantasies, protests and dreams of these artists, and presents the status of women in the socio-economic context of Bangladesh.

Farida Zaman in the film says "We faced many problems in our student days. It was difficult to draw outdoors, we had to go in groups. I would accompany a classmate as a junior student. Boys would go out to practice figure paintings in the railway station or bazaar in the evenings. We were barred from this. Consequently while travelling in a rickshaw by day I would continuously paint pictures if pencil and



Nasreen Begum works on her cactus series.

no way less capable than a boy. My gender did not matter."

Farida adds, "I have seen many couples trained in art where the wife has given up painting. I wonder why.



Dilare Begum Jolly

I get encouragement but I have to create my time myself. I do not like to paint at the cost of my family which means a lot to me. I don't feel happy if my children are neglected. But if social attitudes change and men share in household chores, creative women will benefit in future."

Narin Begum says, "After my marriage there was no proper environment for me to continue painting. Nobody was there to encourage my work. I could not laugh or speak out. I had married a man I knew and loved. The trouble begins when one's friend or lover becomes the husband. After my marriage I realised that my husband had ceased to be a friend although I wanted him to remain one. When love dies, the source of inspiration dies out as well. My 'Door' series



Niloofar Chaman contemplates about her work.

reflect the conflict in my life. Today



Niloofar Chaman

very good grades and awards, my parents' attitude started to change. I did not want to get married and wanted to go Shantiniketan instead to study art but my parents were determined to see me married."

She adds, "Women have a host of problems. If a simple village woman wants to choose her own husband or wants to work outside, 'fatwa' is pronounced against her. Even though an urban woman is privileged in comparison, she cannot step out alone."

She continues to say, "My 'Madonnas' could be my mother and I, or my child and I."

Nazlee Laila Mansur says, "A girl is denied varied experiences even freedom to go out and paint landscape. However, this results in an inner ability or richness a woman is more introspective and this lends a different sensitivity to her work, an eye for detail and a more cerebral quality of work."

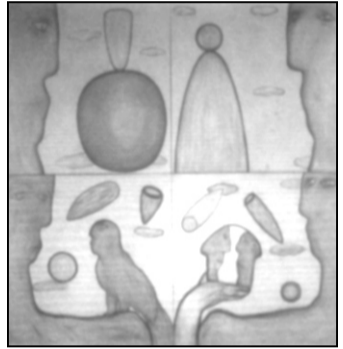
Nazlee adds, "I often see the world from the window, or from a rickshaw as I go to work. In my work a girl views the world from a window or a balcony all random events unfold before her like a cinema in a frame she is just an onlooker to the events of life."

Niloofar Chaman, in her turn in the film, says, "Women are minori-



Farida Zaman engrossed in her work.

ties in our country. At one level there are no problems they have access to education. But when they enter a profession, things get tough. Men face competition too, but often women have to sacrifice their entire careers to take up family duties."



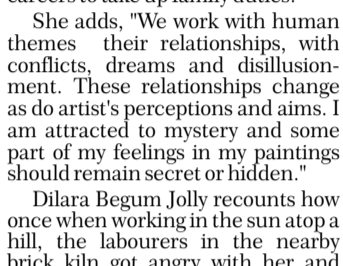
Farida Zaman

asked her to leave the premises. They said, "Women are not allowed to climb brick fields their presence spoils the bricks." Again while painting outside a "maulvi" asked her to cover her head. Such incidents made her conscious about the conventional image of women in

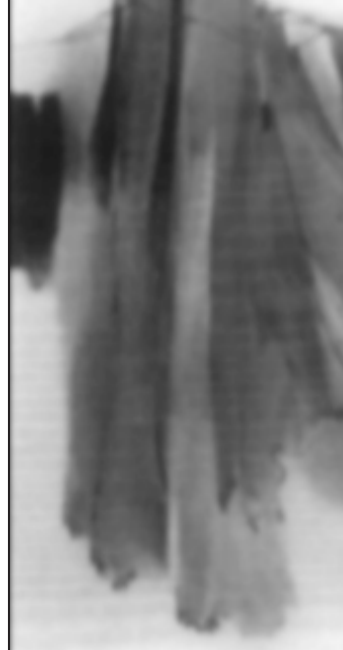


Dilare Begum Jolly concentrates on her composition.

the film "Perception The Other Canvas" does a splendid job and is full of searching truths in the life of our women painters. Both their personalities and their work are brought before us with impact.



Dilare Begum Jolly



Dilare Begum Jolly



Nazlee Laila Mansur gives final touches to her painting.

Bangladesh.

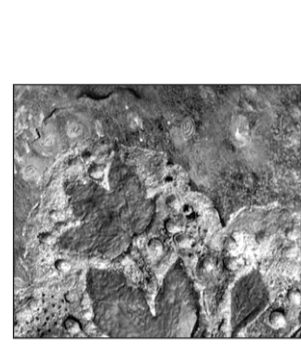
Dilare adds, "I have not thought consciously about altering the image of women. What is working within me at the moment is a deep-seated depression. This is reflected in the images of both humans and nature in my painting. The ultimate source of my art is society and nature. When I use a bird, a butterfly or a flower the feelings portrayed have something to do with the inner language of women existence."

## Recommendations

**14th National Art Exhibition.** Three-week long Fourteenth National Art Exhibition 2000, organised by Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, will be inaugurated on January 23, 2001 at the Academy auditorium at 4:00 afternoon. The exhibition will go on till 12th February daily from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. From 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Friday. The exhibits will be on display at Bangladesh Shilpa Academy and Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy Gallery.

**Musical evening** Muktiyudha Jadugar (Liberation war museum) presents a fund raising winter evening of musical soiree.

Pranila Chakrabarti's solo musical recital will be held at the Cafe Theatre of the Museum--5, Segun Bagicha, on January 26 at 6. Snacks will be served in the tea-break.



**Art exhibition** Alka Mathur and Naresh Kapuria's joint show opens at Bengal Gallery on January 18. Alka Mathur is a familiar name in the Dhaka art circle. These two artists together promise a mind stirring show for the city's gallery-goers.

**The War We Forgot**

A photography exhibition on the history of country's Liberation War has opened at the Drik Gallery. The show displays historic images of the internationally renowned press and other photographers who were in Bangladesh during the War in 1971. The works of Abbas, Barbey, Henri Bureau, David Burnett, Horst Faas (Associated Press), Michel Laurent (Associated Press), Raghu Rai, Rashid Talukder, among others, have been kept on display. The exhibition is open for all from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. daily and will come to an end on February 2.

## TV GUIDE

### PICK OF THE DAY



### 58th Annual Golden Globe Awards

**Tonight on Star World at 10**

The Annual Golden Globe Award is one of the most popular worldwide entertainment award shows. The Golden Globes has for more than 50 years, honoured outstanding achievement in film and television. It features film clips and stars from some of the most important motion pictures and television programmes of the past year. Voted on by the Hollywood Foreign Press Association, the Golden Globes was an enormous critical and rating success, dazzling with superstars from motion pictures and television industry.

Chhupa Rustam 8:30  
Good Morning India 9:30  
Star Morning Show 12:30  
Hit Ya Fit 1:00  
TSN 1:30  
Small Wonder 2:00  
Meri Saheli 2:30  
Saans 3:00  
Shagun 3:30  
Kalash 4:00  
Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi 4:30  
Cine Jharokha 5:00  
Yit Ya Fit 5:30  
Shrimati Sharma Na Kehi Thi 6:00  
Small Wonder 6:30  
Fox Kids 7:30

Saans 5:30 Meri Saheli  
6:00 BBC News 6:30 Asia Today/Reporters  
7:00 BBC News/Asia Today/Asia Business Report  
8:00 BBC News 8:30 30 Asia Today/Reporters  
9:00 BBC News 9:30 Asia Today/Asia Business Report  
10:00 BBC News 10:30 Earth Report  
11:00 BBC News 11:30 Jancis  
12:00 BBC News 12:30 India Business Report  
1:00 BBC News 1:30 Hardtalk  
2:00 BBC News 2:30 Correspondent  
3:00 BBC News 3:30 Hardtalk  
4:00 BBC News 4:30 Top Gear  
5:00 BBC News 5:30 Correspondent  
6:00 BBC News 6:30 Face To Face  
7:00 BBC News 7:15 World Business Report  
7:30 Jancis  
8:00 BBC News 8:30 Hardtalk  
9:00 BBC News 9:30 Asia Today  
10:00 BBC News 10:30 Mastermind  
11:00 BBC News 11:15 World Business Report  
11:30 Click Online  
12:00 BBC News 12:30 World Business Report  
12:45 World Sport  
1:00 BBC

### BBC WORLD

6:00 BBC News 6:30 Asia Today/Reporters  
7:00 BBC News/Asia Today/Asia Business Report  
8:00 BBC News 8:30 30 Asia Today/Reporters  
9:00 BBC News 9:30 Asia Today/Asia Business Report  
10:00 BBC News 10:30 Earth Report  
11:00 BBC News 11:30 Jancis  
12:00 BBC News 12:30 India Business Report  
1:00 BBC News 1:30 Hardtalk  
2:00 BBC News 2:30 Correspondent  
3:00 BBC News 3:30 Hardtalk  
4:00 BBC News 4:30 Top Gear  
5:00 BBC News 5:30 Correspondent  
6:00 BBC News 6:30 Face To Face  
7:00 BBC News 7:15 World Business Report  
7:30 Jancis  
8:00 BBC News 8:30 Hardtalk  
9:00 BBC News 9:30 Asia Today  
10:00 BBC News 10:30 Mastermind  
11:00 BBC News 11:15 World Business Report  
11:30 Click Online  
12:00 BBC News 12:30 World Business Report  
12:45 World Sport  
1:00 BBC

### CNN

4:00 CNN This Morning  
4:30 Asia Business Morning  
5:00 CNN This Morning  
5:30 Asia Business Morning  
6:00 CNN This Morning  
6:15 Asia Business Morning  
6:30 Asian Edition  
6:45 Asia Business Morning  
7:00 CNN This Morning  
7:30 Business Unusual  
8:00 CNN & Time  
9:00 World News  
9:30 World News  
10:00 World News  
10:30 World News  
11:00 World News  
11:30 Best of Q&A  
12:00 World News  
12:30 World News  
1:00 World News  
1:30 World News  
2:00 World News  
2:30 World News  
3:00 World News  
3:30 World News  
4:00 World News  
4:30 World News  
5:00 World News  
5:30 World News  
6:00 World News  
6:15 Asian Edition  
6:30 Biz Asia  
7:00 World News  
7:30 CNN Hotspots  
8:00 Asia Tonight  
8:30 World Sport  
9:00 World News  
9:30 CNNdotCOM  
10:00 World News  
10:30 Biz Asia  
11:00

### Toyota World of Wild Life on Ekushey television today at 7 in the evening

World News 11:30  
Q&A South Asia 12:00  
World News 1:00  
CNN India/otcom 1:30  
World Business Today 2:00  
World News 2:30  
Q&A 3:00  
World News Europe 3:30  
CNN

Newsroom  
6:00 Dark Skies/Hostile Convergence  
7:00 Walker's World/Walker's World  
Dares Wins 6:00 World Most Amazing Video II  
7:00 Farscape I/Crackers Don't Matter  
8:00 Movie: You're Under Arrest  
10:00 Charlie's Angels I/Dirty Business  
11:00 Farscape II/Crackers Don't Matter  
12:00 Movie: You're Under Arrest  
2:00 Dark Skies/Hostile Convergence  
3:00 Silk Stalkings V/Body Electric

### DISCOVERY CHANNEL

6:30 Eyewitness II  
7:00 In Care Of Nature  
7:30 Outer Bounds I & II  
8:00 Without Warning I  
8:30 Lonely Planet VI  
9:30 Beyond 2000  
10:00 Next Step  
10:30 Go For It!  
11:30 Intimate Escapes  
12:30 Medical Detectives I  
2:00 Medical Detectives II  
3:30 Vital Breakthroughs  
4:00 Animal Survivors  
4:30 ECU  
5:00 Outer Bounds I & II  
5:30 Without Warning I  
6:30 Crocodile Hunter's Croc Files  
7:00 Splat II & III  
7:30 Wild Discovery  
8:30 Wild Asia  
9:30 Medical Detectives II  
10:00 Ultrascience II  
10:30 Amazing Worlds  
11:30 Discovery Profile Series  
12:30 Wild Discovery  
1:30 Wild Asia  
2:30 Medical Detectives III  
3:00 Ultrascience II  
3:30 Amazing Worlds  
4:30 Discovery Profile Series  
5:30 Vital Breakthroughs

### Friends on Star World tonight at 9

8:00 Cyberteam in Akihabara/Flame of Recca  
9:00 Slam Dunk/Samura X  
10:00 Charlie's Angels I/Dirty Business  
11:00 Walker's World/Walker's World  
12:00 18 Wheels of Justice  
1:00 Wheelie: Blue Thunder  
3:00 Who Dares Wins/Cyberteam in Akihabara  
4:00 Flame of Recca/Slam Dunk  
5:00 SamuraiX/Who Dares Wins  
6:00 World Most Amazing Video II  
7:00 Farscape I/Crackers Don't Matter  
8:00 Movie: You're Under Arrest  
10:00 Charlie's Angels I/Dirty Business  
11:00 Farscape II/Crackers Don't Matter  
12:00 Movie: You're Under Arrest  
2:00 Dark Skies/Hostile Convergence  
3:00 Silk Stalkings V/Body Electric

### ZMGM

6:30 Nicholas Nickleby  
9:00 Sticky Fingers  
11:30 Chams Of Gold  
2:00 Final Approach  
4:30 Candillac Man  
7:00 The Couch Trip  
9:30 Colors 11:30  
Blame it On Rio 1:30  
Bay Boy 4:00  
Free Fall

**BTV**  
3:20 Open University  
4:00 Khabar  
4:05 Educational Programme  
4:30 Mother & Child Health

**EKUSHEY**  
12:00 Ekushey News  
Headlines 12:05 Ajker Potrikay  
12:15 Bangla Movie: Somman  
2:40 Drishti  
3:00 Ekushey

**CHANNEL-i**  
6:15 Special Programme on Cholochitto Ustab  
6:50 Akattorer Dinguli  
7:00 I Close Up  
7:40 Sai Sur Sai Gane  
8:00 Din Protidin  
8:25 Job Line  
9:00 Amar Chobi  
9:50 I Focus  
10:00 Reciting from Holy Quran  
10:10 Frames of Changes  
10:40 Addar Table  
11:15 Special Programme on Cholochitto Ustab  
11:50 Akattorer Dinguli  
12:00 I Close Up  
12:40 Sai Sur Sai Gane  
1:15 Job Line  
2:00 Amar Chobi  
2:50 I Focus  
3:00 Bangla Cinema: Sajano Bagan  
6:00 Reciting from Holy Quran  
6:10 Aker Vitore  
Paunch  
6:40 Addar Table  
7:15 Special Programme on Cholochitto Ustab  
7:50 Ekattorer Dinguli  
8:00 Kat Sat  
8:40 Anondo Dhara  
9:15 Business File  
9:50 I Focus  
10:00 Bangla Film: Tumi Sudhu Tumi

**STAR WORLD**  
6:00 Murder Call  
7:00 58th Annual Golden Globe Awards  
9:30 Whose Line Is It Anyway  
10:00 Nash Bridges  
11:00 The Oprah Winfrey Show  
12:00 Dr Quinn Medicine Woman  
1:00 Grace Under Fire  
1:30 The Bold & The Beautiful  
2:00 Mork & Mindy  
2:30 Happy Days  
3:00 Baywatch  
4:00 The Simpsons  
4:30 Home Improvement  
5:00 STAR News Asia  
5:30 Friends  
6:00 58th Annual Golden Globe Awards  
6:55 STAR News Asia  
7:00 58th Annual Golden Globe Awards  
8:30 Whose Line Is It Anyway  
9:00 Friends  
9:25 STAR News  
10:00 58th Annual Golden Globe Awards  
12:30 Whose Line Is It Anyway  
1:00 That '70s Show  
1:30

**STAR MOVIES**  
6:00 Action: Rambo First Blood  
2 8:00 Thriller: Without Malice  
9:45 Comedy: Ernest Scared Stupid  
11:15 Action: The Thin Red Line  
2:00 Thriller: Snake Eyes  
4:00 Action: The Contract  
6:00 Celebrity Profiles: David James Elliott  
7:00 Action: The Puppet Masters  
9:00 Action: Total Recall  
11:00 Thriller: Without Malice  
1:00 Action: Silicon Towers  
3:00 Action: Rambo First Blood  
2 5:00 Drama: The Outsiders

**STAR PLUS (INDIA)**  
6:00 Tu Tu Main Main  
6:30 Star Geetmala  
7:30 Hit Ya Fit  
8:00



Bengali Movie Shonman on Ekushey television today at 12:15p.m.

Care 4:45 Sports Programme  
5:20 Uttaran  
5:45 Facts About Nutrition  
6:00 Khabar  
6:10 Unmesh  
6:35 Programmes of the Chittagong Centre  
7:00 Dolan Champa  
7:25 Barta Prabaha  
8:00 News in Bangla  
8:20 Drama: Manuser Jannya Manus  
9:30 Jadu Nagari  
10:00 News at Ten  
10:20 Programme on Nazrul Song  
10:30 Khabar  
11:45 Closing

**HBO**  
6:30 Michael  
8:45 The Presidio  
10:45 Eraser  
1:00 Swing Shift  
3:15 Surviving Picasso  
6:00 The Long Island Incident  
8:00 Major Payne  
10:00 City Hall  
12:15 Policy Academy 2: Their First Assignment  
2:15 Michael  
4:30 The Long Island Incident

**STAR GOLD**  
8:30 Beete Hue  
Din 9:00 Sangram (Ashok Kumar, Nalini Jaywant)  
12:00 Geet Bahar  
12:30 Chor Machaye Shor (Shashi Kapoor, Mumtaz, Danny)  
3:30 Geet Bahar  
4:00 Baba Taraknath (Biswajit, Sandhya Roy)  
7:00 Geet Bahar  
7:30 Monday Magic Sargam (Raja Kapoor, Rehana)  
10:30 Bollywood News  
11:00 Kanoon Ki Zanjeer (Dharmendra, Jaya Prada)  
12:30

**Dharma & Greg**  
2:00 Everybody Loves Raymond  
2:30 Frasier  
3:00 Crello Dollar Daily  
3:30 Kenneth Copeland Ministries  
4:00 Life In The World With Joyce Meyer  
4:30 World News  
5:00 Grace Under Fire  
5:30 Mork & Mindy



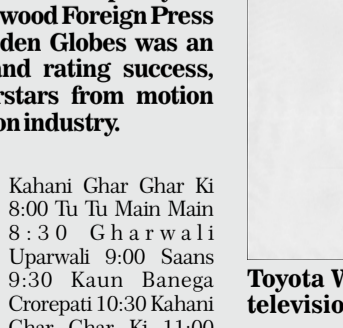
**City Hall on HBO tonight at 10.** Academy award winner Al Pacino stars as New York City Mayor John Pappas whose office comes under fire when a shoot-out between a hero cop and mafia-connected drug dealer leaves a small child dead in the taut political thriller City Hall.

**HBO**  
6:30 Michael  
8:45 The Presidio  
10:45 Eraser  
1:00 Swing Shift  
3:15 Surviving Picasso  
6:00 The Long Island Incident  
8:00 Major Payne  
10:00 City Hall  
12:15 Policy Academy 2: Their First Assignment  
2:15 Michael  
4:30 The Long Island Incident



Dharma & Greg on Star World at 1:30a.m.

**STAR PLUS (INDIA)**  
6:00 Tu Tu Main Main  
6:30 Star Geetmala  
7:30 Hit Ya Fit  
8:00



**Toyota World of Wild Life on Ekushey television today at 7 in the evening**



**Everybody Loves Raymond on Star World at 2:00a.m.**