

Exhibition

Deadly; yet the show must go on

Photography exhibition 'Circus Life' by Indian photographer Saibal Das starts

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STRIKING lights, beaming from every corner of the arena, reflecting on the dazzling skin-huggers flashes before the eyes of the viewers at the circus. Their mesmerising feats on trapeze gradually give rise the tension among the thrilled audience. Their supple bodies float, swirl and swing in the air with the music reaching to its climax; and then applause adore them. Meet the 'Circus Woman' the indispensable part of the 'Circus Life'.

An exhibition titled 'Circus Life' by reputed Indian photographer Saibal Das started on September 20 at the High Commission of India Cultural Centre (754, Satmasjid Road, Dhanmondi, Dhaka). Renowned photographer Dr. Noaresh Ahmed inaugurated the exhibition as chief guest while Mani Lal Tripathi, High Commissioner of India in Ban-



Saibal Das



gladesh was also present as guest of honour. Born in 1960, Saibal Das is a photojournalist working with India Today.

Chobi Mela, the first festival of photography on Asia, held during the end of last year and earlier this year had a number of exhibitions by Indian photographers in its long list. One of them was 'Circus Woman' by Saibal Das, which started on December 17, 2000 and took the view-

ers through the unknown world of a group of women with a very risky profession - Circus.

The risk factors involved in

the Indian local circus scenario

are major. It's almost similar to

that of Bangladesh. Lack of

proper safety measures can

result in serious damages. For

those who work there, it is just

walking on a tightrope, in a fine

balance between life and death.

Photographer Saibal Das



glanced beyond the glamour of the shows and picked up the glimpses of their joy as well as misery, their agony and amusement entwined in their everyday life. These on-display self-explanatory photographs revealed many aspects of those who work in this field.

After completing a breathtaking performance they are adored by the audience. They bow, not so much to receive the praises from the thundered watchers, but possibly unto the Almighty, for having yet another successful completion of nerve-wrecking performance. Sunil tracked along these nomads right from their rigorous training days to the deathbed where they wait for a final rest, and captured them in his camera.

Working for the circus and being a vagabond is almost the same thing. Travelling throughout the country, the circus girls perform in different places. One photo shows such a lonely circus woman sitting with all her belongings in a huge circus arena, where she must have given a breathtaking performance the previous night. But now it is time to hit the road and go to a new place.

At the same time, some of the circus women are also mothers and have to raise their children. Sunil had many shots of these mothers. In one of photos, a baby is sleeping in a hanging

sari of the mother, while the mother sits beside and looks after during her time off. Another picture shows a mother, having fun with her child.

Maybe the worst part about

being a circus girl is when any

fatality jolts them if a single

move of indiscretion, a momentary lack of synchronisation

leads to a crash. If one survives

such accident, she has to live in

exile from the haloes of the

arena, in her hell of disability.

Sunil has also pictured some

victims of such mishaps. Where

some lie in pain, all alone, no

one to look after, some are

seriously injured surrounded by

her circus mates who are in

deep shock and are praying for

their friend. Actually what drives

them to get exposed to such a

risk of an uncertain and dark

future and to overcome the fear

of feeling the paws and nails of a

lion poised over their shoulders,

is nothing but hunger. This pre-

cisely compels some of the

finest acrobats in India to per-

form in the ring for only a meagre

sum.

Saibal also pictured the circus girls while they were practising and performing some authentic aerobic skills. One of these photos shows a lioness standing on a tool keeping her paws on the shoulders of a woman. Another one shows three men standing on a little girl. Saibal also took a couple of photographs while these circus girls were practising, putting on makeup and getting ready for the big show.

All in all, in this extraordinary exhibition Saibal Das tried to capture the lives of the circus girls behind the curtain, who are living their lives on the edge and Saibal was able to do it very successfully.

The exhibition will continue everyday from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. till September 27.

RECOMMENDATIONS

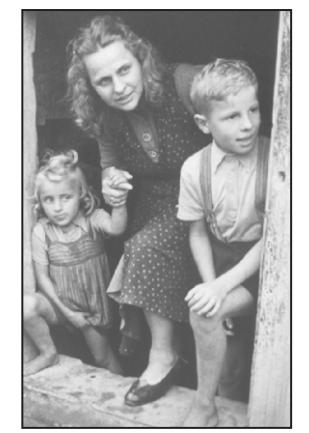


Photo-Exhibition : Germany 1945-1995.

Goethe Institute Dhaka holds a photo exhibition titled 'Germany 1945-1995' (Deutschland seit 1945), featuring fifty years of German history at House # 10, Road # 9, Dhanmondi R/A. The show runs from 2 to 8 p.m. every day, (except Fridays & Saturdays) till September 30.

Solo exhibition

A solo painting exhibition by Ali Akbari is being held at the Gallery 21 (765 Satmasjid Road, Dhanmondi, Dhaka). The exhibition will remain open to all everyday from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. till September 30.

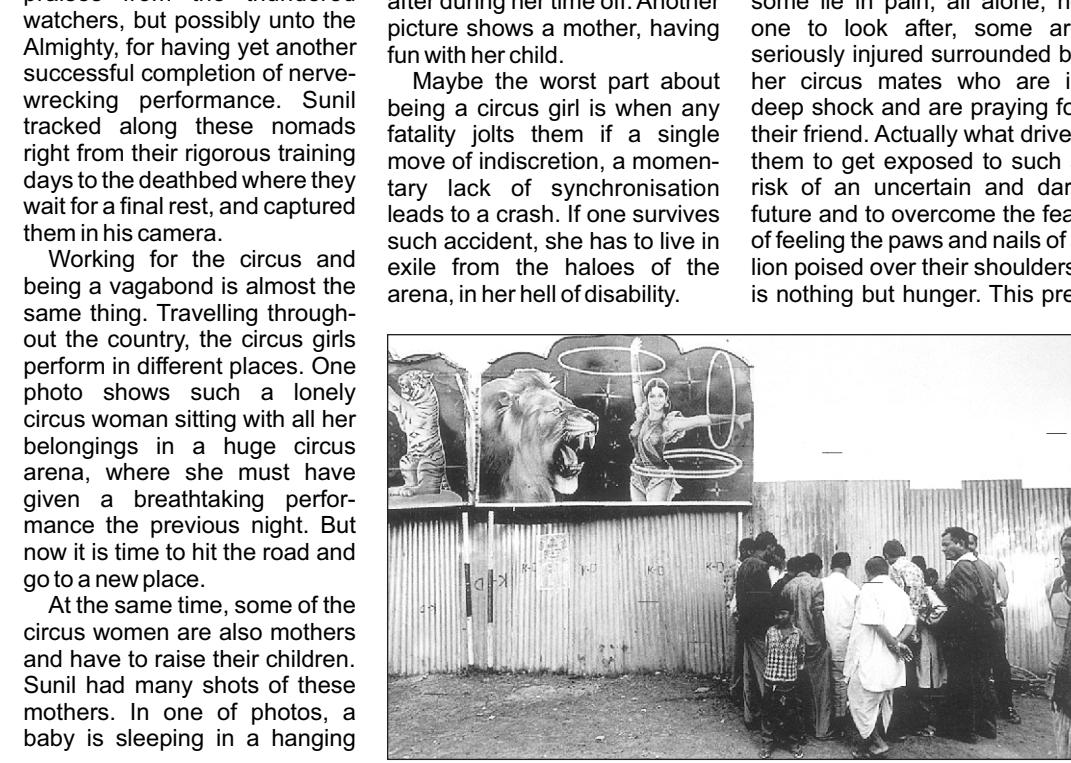
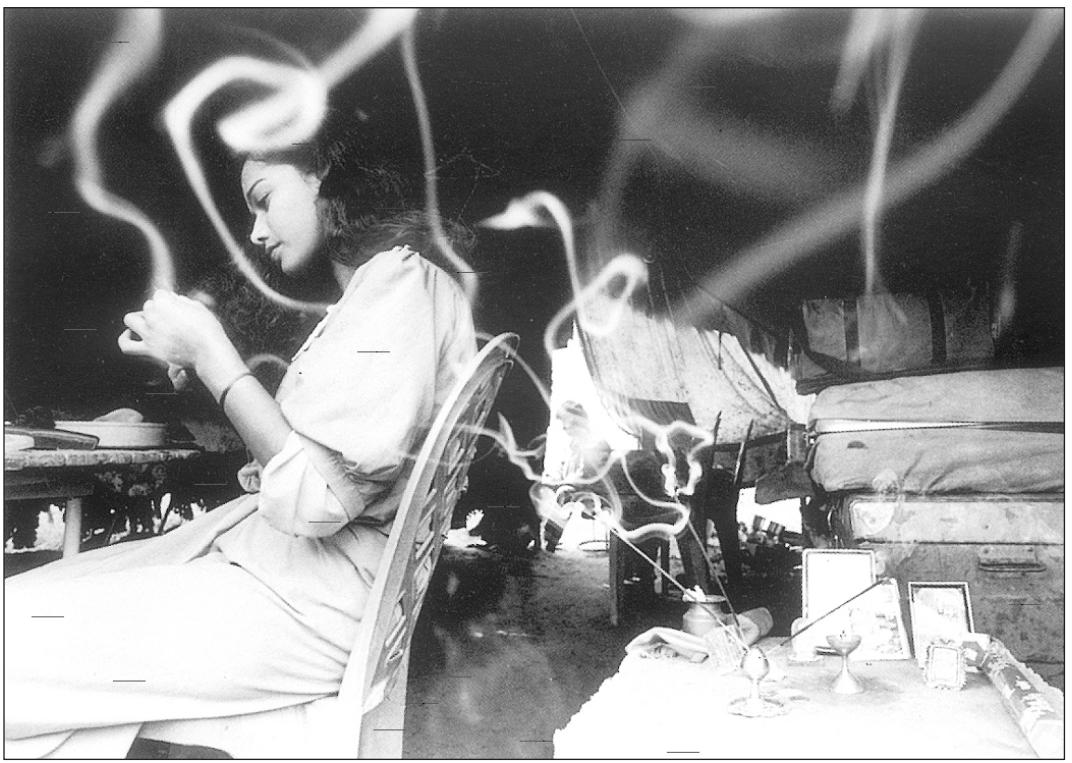


Sculpture show

The 3rd solo sculpture show by Maynul Islam Pal is being held at the La Galerie l'Alliance Francaise de Dhaka. The exhibition will remain open to all everyday from 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. till September 30.

Six Seasons

Shilparag Gallery at Dhanmondi (House # 15, Road # 27 old) presents an exhibition on the theme six seasons. Leading artists of the country have captured in their canvas the rich variety of our seasons and their ambience. The month-long show will continue till October 14 everyday from 11 am to 8pm.



TV GUIDE

BTV

3:20 Open University
3:45 Shukhi Porbar
4:00 Khabar
4:05 Cartoon: Totally Tuned In
4:30 Pushtithya
4:45 Amra Korbo Joy
5:10 Special on the National Day of Saudi Arabia
5:25 National Television Debate
6:00 Khabar
6:10 Taruchaya
6:35 Programme from Chittagong station
7:00 News Headlines
7:05 Mati O' Manush
7:25 Barba Probha
8:00 News in Bengali
8:30 Drama: Ochena Oitthi
9:00 News Headlines
9:30 Musical Programme
10:00 News in English
10:25 Kobi O' Kobita

EKUSHEY TV

12:00 Ekushey Midday
12:20 Bangla Film: Mir Jafor
2:40 Drishi
3:00 Ekushey Headlines
3:05 Drama Serial: Oitthi Apon
3:30 Kena Kata
4:00 Sur Prodeep
4:30 Expedition to the Animal Kingdom
5:00 Drishi
5:20 Ajker Potrikay
5:30 Muktomoncho
6:00 Ekushey Headlines
6:05 Muktomoncho
6:30 Deshrije
6:55 Ekushey Headlines
7:00 Chat Show Ispahani Ek Cup Cha
7:30 Ekushey News
7:58 Ek Minute
8:00 Nirbachon Songlap
8:30 Drama Serial: Falguner Rater Andhre
10:00 News: Simulcast from BTV
10:30 Ekushey Business
11:00 Ekushey Nightly News
11:30 Nirbachon Songlap

ATN

9:20 Special prog: Saber Hossain Chowdhury
9:55 Sapner Dhaka-Samriddho Dhaka
10:35 Magazine prog: Ispahani Ayanje
11:05 Nirbachon-2001 'Prarthan Moushi'
11:15 Joy Banglar Banglar Joy
11:45 Bengali Film: Bodyguard
6:07 Anurodher Assor
6:45 Film prog: Cine Songlap
7:20 Drama serial Uttarjan
8:00 Nirbachon-2001 ATN, Banglar Mukhomukhi
8:35 Special prog: Saber Hossain Chowdhury
9:10 BNP produced election prog: Sabass Bangladesh
10:00 ATN Bangla News

STAR GOLD

10:30 Geet Bahar
11:00 Geet Bahar
11:30 Beete Hue Din
12:00 Rahein Na Rahein Hum
1:00 Sunday Noon Show:
Kuchcha Papad Pucca Papad

6:00 Star Geetmala
6:30 Kaala Sona (Feroz Khanna, Parveen Babu)
7:00 Geet Bahar
7:30 Sunday Blockbusters Albar (Raj Babbar, dimple Kapadia, Suresh Oberoi)

STAR PLUS

11:00 Beete Hue Din
11:30 Barkha Bahar (Navin Nischol, Rekha)
12:30 Barkha Bahar (Contd...)
3:00 Geet Bahar
3:30 Raaz Ki Baat (Srimi Garewal, Sujit Kumar)

STAR WORLD

7:00 Albar (Raj Babbar, Dimple Kapadia, Suresh Oberoi)

HBO

7:00 Spiders
9:00 Dracula Dead and Loving It
10:45 The War
1:15 Greedy
3:30 Rattled
5:15 My Best Friend's Wedding
7:30 Kull The Conqueror

STAR MOVIES

6:45 Action: Rambo-3
8:45 Comedy: Pushing Tin
11:15 Sunday Best : Last Dance
1:15 Comedy : Chapter Zero
3:15 Star Kids Club : D2: The Mighty Ducks
5:30 Thriller: Amnesia
7:30 Action: Space Marnes
9:30 STARbiz

DISCOVERY

6:30 Untamed Australia
7:30 Wild Asia
8:30 Wild Discovery
9:30 Real Kids, Real Adventures
10:00 Bonehead Detectives of the Paleoworld

SPLIT IV

11:00 Magic Movie: Magic II
12:30 Untamed Australia
1:30 Land of the Tiger
3:30 Saturday Night Fever
5:30 Health Showcase
7:30 Medical Mysteries
9:30 Lonely Planet V
5:30 Crime Night
7:30 Science Mysteries
9:30 Discovery Sunday
1:15 Drama: Last Dance
3:15 Action : Rambo-3
5:15 Comedy: Chapter Zero

ZEE TV

7:30 PO [V]
8:30 [V] Sunday Stack
9:30 [V] Weekend Spl
11:00 [V] Mainstage
2:00 Billboard US Count-down
3:00 [V] So Long Gone
4:00 [V] Hit Machine

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

ESPN: 7, 9 a.m. & 7, 9 p.m. English Premier League. The season is in its early days but the theme is bound to be the same as in recent years can anyone stop Manchester United? Champions seven times in nine years, three times double winners and memorably the treble winners in 1999, United have been an unstoppable force.

STAR WORLD: 4:00 p.m. Baywatch Hawaii. Baywatch O'Hana: The team arrive at the cave in Maui overlooking the ocean. A tourist tells Sean that group of people maybe four or five are trapped inside the cave. Sean calls Jason for backup.

EKUSHEY: 9:00 p.m. Phalguner Rater Adhore. Just-married Kaisul Karim is lecturer in Shabtai private college. His sister-in-law Sabina has come to visit them in a mafussil town. The newlywed couple and Sabina go to a local cinema one day. At the cinema one pervert Fazlu teases and abuses Sabina. Enraged cinema goers give Fazlu a good beating.

ZEE NEWS

6:30 News in Hindi
10:00 Cyber Zee
1:00 Hip Hip Huray
1:30 Ateet
2:00 Dollar Bahu
2:30 Zee & You
3:00 Cinema Hits
6:00 Ek Nazar
6:30 Nickelodeon On Zee
7:30 Neelaam Char
8:30 Sansara
9:30 Baazi Kiski
10:30 Rishtey
11:30 India's Most Wanted

ZEE SPORTS

12:27 Intermission
6:30 News in Hindi
8:30 News in Hindi
9:00 Metro News
9:30 News At 9
10:00 News in Hindi
12:30 News in Hindi
1:00 Zee Premier Show
4:00 Beyond Headlines
6:00 News in Hindi
7:30 Cyber Zee
5:30 News in Hindi
6:30 Sports News
7:00 Business News
12:00 Sports News

ZED TV

10:30 Funda Kya Hai
11:00 Drishi
11:30 Cyber Chat
12:00 Business Quotient
12:30 Jadoo & His Magic Word

PICK OF THE DAY

7:00 Business News
7:30 News in Hindi
8:30 NR Eye's
9:00 Metro News
9:30 News At 9
10:00 News in Hindi
12:30 Encounters
1:00 Zee Premier Show
11:00 News Round Up
11:30 Zee Premier Show
12:00 Sports News

ZED TV

10:30 Funda Kya Hai
11:00 Drishi
11:30 Cyber Chat
12:00 Business Quotient
12:30 Jadoo & His Magic Word

ESPN

6:30 Sportcenter: International Edition
7:00 English Premier Football League 2001/02 Leeds, England Derby County @ Leeds United Afc
9:00 English Premier Football League 2001/02
9:00 English Premier Football League 2001/02
9:00 English Premier Football League 2001/02
11:00 Pakistan Cricket New Zealand Tour Of Pakistan Lahore, Pakistan New Zealand @ Pakistan 2nd Odi, Highlights
12:00 Cricket Programming Super Selector October

STAR SPORTS

7:30 Asian Basketball Show
8:00 NBA Inside Stuff
2000/01 NBA Inside Stuff
8:30 FIBV World C'ship of Beach Volleyball Klagenfurt, Austria
4:30 Firm World Motorcycle C'Ship Motogp 2001 Com. Val. Ricardo Torro, Spain
7:00 South Africa Cricket India v Zimbabwe 1997 Paar, South Africa India @ Zimbabwe 3rd Odi
12:00 Spanish Football League 2001/02 Spanish Football League
2:00 PGA Tour golf Marconi Pennsylvania Classic Ligonier, PA USA Third
12:30 Gillette World Sports Special Gillette World Sports
1:00 Five/Six Nations Championships Six Nations Championships 2001 Edinburgh, Scotland Ireland @ Scotland
4:00 World Grand Prix Badminton Brunei, Brunei Finals Highlights
5:00 Fim World Motorcycle C'Ship Motogp 2001 Com. Val. Ricardo

SPORTS