

Workshop

Tickling the imagination of young learners

Children's painting workshop by Masuma Khan begins at the Alliance Francaise on Friday

AZIZ AMIRUL

MASUMA Khan is once again back among a fresh batch of children with her paintbrush. Associated with Alliance Francaise De Dhaka for the last 15 years, Masuma Khan conducts four painting workshops for children annually. The last course of this year, having a duration of 12 weeks, begins at the French cultural centre in Dhaka Friday, October 12.

Masuma fell in love with her paintbrush when she was three and almost immediately began to feel the magical power of colour. Her eyes lit up to be able to describe the playful days of her infancy.

"I began to show interest in coloured pencil and drawing books, as I am told, when others of my age were being prepared for school. Instead of trying to write or scribble, I started to play with colour. In fact, right from the younger days of my life I began to nurse a dream of becoming a professional artist", reveals Masuma.



The subconscious mind of a child is brilliantly depicted in this painting by a student of Masuma Khan

Masuma graduated from Institute of Fine Arts in 1972. Having had almost a dozen solo exhibitions since 1976, Masuma Khan has a unique record of conducting a special 20 feet scroll children painting

war of liberation in 1971 and the bravery of the Bengali people created an indelible impression in Masuma's mind. Many of her works is actually a narration of the pain and sufferings of the war. The bird's nest with three chicks about to be devoured by a devilish serpent is suggestive of the fate of the unfortunate Bengalis of this part of the world during those nightmarish days of 1971.



Beauteous Bengal by a student

in 1988 with the support of UNICEF.

With an initial liking in boutique print and etching, Masuma, at the early stage of her career was interested in realistic form, composing rural scenario of Bengal. Gradually with more exposure to international art she started working with forms of impressionism that finally led her towards abstraction.

In her earlier realist works one would find scenes of rural Bengal focusing mostly on simple and hardworking farming community. She feels the nature is the prime source of life formation on earth therefore comprehensiveness in a painting can only be achieved through a shared presence of human and nature.

The bloodshed during the

round the corner. She waits for the light to flash: the start of a morning full of hope, vitality and optimism.

However, the universal presence of the morning sun in most of the assignments of her young students is probably, symbolically speaking, the final episode of her own series of portfolios, once left incomplete with a decided intention, to be concluded by the children but through a new composition!

It seems that the caring and pampering Masuma has a deep understanding of child psychology through her long association with the minors whilst bringing out their hidden talent.

"I strongly believe that a child should always be given a



This picture is a fine depiction of rural life in Bangladesh

personal preference of choosing ones' own likes and dislikes. Passing a brush, paint or a box of crayon to the child would certainly create confidence and creativity in the mind which is extremely important for a youngster while crossing the transitional period of childhood and pre-adolescence", expresses the spirited art teacher.

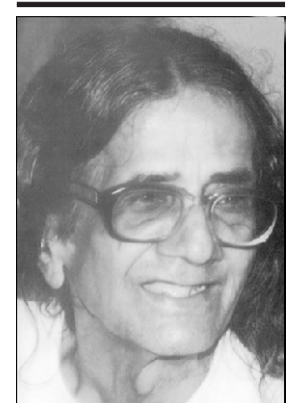
Masuma Khan feels that a child should never be imposed with a choice rather be treated with flexibility and encouragement to accumulate interest, even if his or her present performance is not up to the mark.

The painting workshops conducted by Masuma Khan, split into different age groups, are held once a week, every Friday.



This landscape is by a young learner from the past workshop

RECOMMENDATIONS

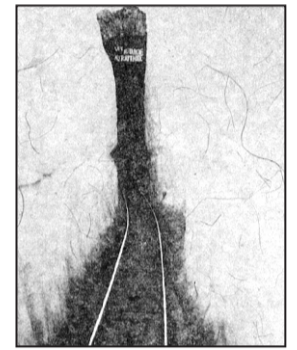


SM Sultan and Realism

To mark the seventh death anniversary of noted artist SM Sultan, Bangladesh Shipkala Academy has organised a discussion entitled SM Sultan and Realism at the academy gallery on October 10 at 5 in the evening. The main paper of the discussion will be presented by Moinuddin Khaled while artist Syed Jahangir, professors Bulbon Osman, Syed Manzoorul Islam and Azizul Haq will take part in the discussion.

Renowned artist Mustafa Manwar will be present as chief guest.

Graphic prints



show

Noted French artist Jean-Michel Alberola's solo exhibition of graphic prints is now being held at the French cultural centre, Alliance Francaise, at Dhanmandi.

Six Seasons

Shilparag Gallery at Dhanmandi (House#15, Road# 27 old) presents an exhibition on the theme six seasons. Leading artists of the country have captured in their canvases 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

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Table with TV channels and programs: Men of Respect, STAR GOLD, STAR WORLD, STAR PLUS (INDIA).

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Table with TV channels and programs: ESPN, STAR SPORTS.

Table with TV channels and programs: STAR MOVIES, STAR SPORTS.

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