

Workshop

A platform for creative interaction

Iftikharuddin Ahmed conducts art workshop at Alliance Francaise

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I FTIKHARUDDIN, a brilliant artist of the 70s, recently conducted an art workshop with 17 fine art students at French cultural centre, Alliance Francaise, in the city.

Speaking on the need to hold his recent workshop with fine arts students, Iftikharuddin says, "It was very important to hold this experiment of working together under a guidance as this had inspired the artists to express themselves freely more than what they were able to do during their academic years at any art institute or school in Dhaka."

The participants of the workshop were all students of Fine Arts Dept. DU or were learning under some teachers at some art centres.

"Artists learn more with the interaction with the senior artist and his fellow artists in the free environment of a workshop. They discuss openly with the workshop conductor who passes on his own experience to the young enthusiasts and explains and elaborates continuously and directly leading to definite improvement on the part of the participant. Thus a workshop is a place from where a lot of knowledge is to be gleaned."

After having done his Master of Fine Arts here in Dhaka, Iftikhar studied at France between 1993 and 1995 and had eight solo exhibitions to his credit - two at Europe and six at Bangladesh (at Alliance Francaise, La Galerie, Goethe Institut and at other centres). He had the experience of holding six solo displays at USA (Chicago) and South Africa.

"When the Alliance Francaise approached me to help them by making a project proposal. Incidentally, the workshops at Goethe Institut and Alliance Francaise, so far, have been on films and photography, as far as my knowledge goes. I proposed conducting a workshop and suggested an exhibition of the works at the end of it and that there would be one 'best award' and two 'honourable mention awards'. There would be a judge and a jury board. And it was accepted."

The art equipment, including paints, brushes and scalpels, as

well as the cost of the catalogue were borne by the Alliance Francaise. There was an entrance fee of Tk1,500 to supplement the cost of the venture.

The workshop was held from 26th November to 14th December. The exhibition with works of the workshop begins on 4th January 2002.

Dwelling on the students at the workshop and his own earlier experience with workshops, Iftikhar says, "I myself had participated in a workshop at the Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy under a German artist in 1999. However, at his workshop I did not quite learn what I had intrinsically wanted to. We were given paper and paints but there was no analysis of the paintings that we had done. In this particular workshop included 22 students five of which were young women. I called the workshop 'Adhonik Chitrokala' and I tried to teach the essentials of modern art. When they made mistakes I corrected them, guiding them through the tech-

niques of applying colour and using texture. Beginning from materials and technique I taught them the manner in which to pack their paintings for overseas display. It was through the analysis of their paintings that I tried to correct their mistakes. At times I tried to give them examples by bringing in about a dozen of my own creations apart from narrating my own experiences in Paris."

Touching on whowhad provided the themes, subjects and styles, Iftikhar says, "They were given the liberty of working on nature, landscape, figurative creation or pure imaginative compositions. There were no bindings of any sort, however, they had to confine their endeavour to the workshop premises. Having done their work, they would come to me themselves for correction after the initial guidelines. Whatever mistakes they had made according to my knowledge, after years of experience, I tried to rectify them to the best of my abilities. I also

tried to teach them some techniques by demonstration. Canvas preparation and framing were also included in the training.

His aim, as he said, was to remove the taboos imposed at the fine art institutes and centres at Dhaka and so his instructions were different and nouveau e.g. how was a figure exaggerated, how an object was broken and recreated, the making of combination of forms and figures, how to put in lines and textures, how to decide when to thicken the strokes, how to decide on strong and mild colours keeping balance of textures and compositions.

Elaborating further on the achievements of the workshop, Iftikhar says, "Some of the participants were influenced by the American Pop Art and expressed their themes and moods in different manner. They used sacking cloth or pieces of fabrics for pasting on canvas. Sand and gritty stones were also pasted on. Some used the spatula for putting on thick layers of paint in the manner introduced by Van Gogh and known as 'impasto'. It is only after seeing this exhibition that you can comprehend the numerous ways in which experimentation have taken place."

Why he felt that modern art is essential for young painters to learn at an early stage in their career?

"The subjects varied from landscape to figurative work and pure imaginative compositions. Individual dreams recurred on the canvases. Pure abstractions were also included. By now there is a dependable market for even pure abstraction in Bangladesh. There are two types of art today for two different types of people. Modern art is slanted at a limited group of viewers and the other that is contrary to that. There are the art lovers who have some knowledge of art criticism and there are the other larger group of the run of the mill art gallery goers and buyers. Consequently the average art lover cannot easily go deep into modern art per se. The common man is easily attracted say by an average, attractive landscape. It is not expected that they can appreciate and wish to spend on a conceptual painting. For him



The beaming 17 with their conductor (in black turtle-neck pullover) pose for a family photo

symbolism, for instance means little."

Asked why his workshop aimed at a special clientele and how the artists will earn by their paintings, Iftikhar says, "It is necessary for the art critiques to approach us before and during the exhibition and via the

mass media make art lovers more aware of the intricacies of modern art. They should analyze the paintings in such a manner that will appeal to one and all."

"The experience was sheer joy and involved no strain whatsoever. This was because the participants

were sincere and extremely active. At times, after work, we chatted and joked together and this too lent leisure and delight to the venture.

This involved my experiences in Paris and the nostalgia was undoubtedly a pleasurable one," says Iftikhar in conclusion.



Guiding the participants to express themselves freely



An experimental work by workshop participant Arif Al Karim Bhuya titled Mountain

RECOMMENDATIONS

Film Festival

Today's screening schedule of the 7th International Short and Independent Festival at the Central Public Library Auditorium

- 11:00 am
- We have the Same Kind of Bond (Doc) 41 min, Nepal/Denmark
- The Moment (Fic) 8 min, Bangladesh
- Motorcycle (Fic) 14 min, Spain
- 3:00 pm
- The Dhaka that was the Buriganga that was (Doc) 25 min, Bangladesh
- Is it the Design on the Wrapper (Fic) 8 min, UK
- I could have been Human (Fic) 14 min, Poland
- Anis (Fic) 28 min, Iran
- 5:00 pm
- Hillari (Fic) 13 min, UK
- The Chorus (Fic) 10 min, Iran
- The Offering (Fic) 10 min, Canada
- Motorcycle (Fic) 14 min, Thailand
- The Quest (Fic) 8 min, Bangladesh
- Egglady (Doc) 30 min, Sweden
- 7:00 pm
- Ava Maria (Exp) 7 min, Canada
- Eduardo Pelace (Fic) 25 min, Spain
- Guttural (Fic) 11 min, UK
- Bread and Alley (Fic) 10 min, Iran
- The Black House (Doc) 29, Bangladesh

Liberation War Museum

Liberation War Museum has chalked out a 7-day schedule of cultural programs to celebrate the 30 years anniversary of the Victory and Liberation of Bangladesh. The weeklong programs at the Museum's Café Theater includes:

December 27, Thursday: Dance performance by Sharmila Bandhopadhyay and her troupe at 6:00 pm

December 28, Friday: Tagore song by artist Shama Rahman at 5:30 pm

December 29, Saturday: Children's recitation by the group 'MUKTAKANTHA' at 5:00 pm

Drama Festival

For upholding the Bengali heritage at the end of this year Nataraj is holding a 5-day long Theatre Festival (December 25-30) at the Guide House auditorium.

Schedule of the theatrical shows is as follows:

December 27: Rakta Karabi by Nagarik Natya Sampraday at 6:30 p.m.

December 28: Sandya Tara by Nataraj at 6:30 p.m.

December 29: Nitya Puran by Desh Natak at 6:30 p.m.

December 30: Alal Dulalera Pala by Dhaka Padatik at 6:30 p.m.

TV GUIDE

BTV

3:10 Sangbad Shironam
3:15 Deshr Gaan (Patriotic song)
3:20 Open Unversity
4:00 Khabar
4:05 Cartoon picture
4:20 Sukhi Paribar
4:30 Dance teaching programme for children
5:00 Sangbad Shironam
5:05 School debate competition
5:45 Religion and Life: Islam in everyday life
6:00 Khabar
6:10 Swadhinata Tomar Jonya
6:35 Transmitted programme from Chittagong station
7:00 Sngbad Shironam (English)
7:05 Youth development programme
7:30 A Nazrul song programme
8:00 News in Bangla
8:30 Movie: Ocean Girl
9:00 Sngbad Shironam
9:05 Drama serial: Shubha Buddi
9:30 Geeti bichitra: Musical programme
10:00 News in English
10:55 Ujiban: Islam in everyday life
11:30 Khabar/The News
11:45 Closing

EKUSHEY TV

12:00 Ekushey Midday
12:30 Chardike
1:00 Expedition to the Animal Kingdom
1:30 Documentary Programmed : Japan Video Tropic
2:10 Surer Prodeep
2:40 Drishti
3:00 Ekushey Headlines
3:05 Drama serial: Gras
3:30 Chips & Bites
4:00 Surer Prodeep
4:30 Expedition to the Animal Kingdom
5:00 Circus Circus
5:30 Drishti
5:50 Akjer Potrikay
6:00 Ekushey Headlines
6:05 Classic Cartoons
6:30 New programme : Radhuneer Rannaghor
6:55 Ekushey Headlines
7:00 Desjhure
7:30 Ekushey News
7:58 Ek Minute
8:00 Drama : Rohosomoyee
8:00 Ekushey News (English)
9:05 Serial: Alif Laila
10:00 News: Simulcast from BTV
10:30 Drama: Protidin Ekte Golap
11:00 Ekushey Nightly News
12:00 E Shoptaler Bishho
12:30 Ekushey News Headlines

ATN

5:30 Islamic prog:
7:00 Health care prog: Sustha Thakun
7:30 Film songs prog: Surchobi
7:00 ATN Bangla News
8:25 Drama serial: Rang Beronger Din
9:00 Dance teaching prog: Gane Gane Kechukhon
9:35 Cooking prog: Ranna Banna
10:10 Drama Serial: Brettyer Bhalobasha
10:50 Drama serial: Bondon
11:20 Bengali feature film: Nay Bichar
12:00 ATN Bangla News
6:07 Islamic prog: Sundor Jebanar Jannee
6:45 Film prog: Goto Saptahr Chobi
7:00 ATN Bangla Evening News
7:35 Musical prog. Gun Sudu Gan
8:10 Drama serial: Samoy Pareya
8:45 Musical prog: Kumar Bishowjit
9:20 Reporting prog: Prekha Pot
10:00 ATN Bangla News
10:35 Band Songs prog: Band by Demand
11:15 Bengali feature film: Chapa Dangar Bou
10:30 ATN Bangla News

BBC WORLD

7:30 Asia Today/Asia Business Report
8:00 BBC News
8:30 Asia Today/World Business Report
9:00 BBC News
9:30 Asia Today/Asia Business Report
10:00 BBC News
10:30 Click Online
11:00 BBC News
11:30 EUR DIR
12:00 BBC News
12:30 Hardtalk
1:00 BBC News
1:30 Top Gear
2:00 BBC News
2:30 Life
3:00 BBC News
3:30 Hardtalk
4:00 BBC News
4:30 Talking Movies
5:00 BBC News
5:30 Life
6:00 BBC News
6:30 IT: India Tomorrow
7:00 Mastermind India
7:30 World Business Report
7:15 World Business Report
8:00 BBC News
8:30 Life
9:00 BBC News
9:30 Asia Today

10:00 BBC News
10:15 World Business Report
10:30 Hardtalk India
11:00 BBC News
11:30 World Business Report/World Sport
12:00 BBC News

HBO

6:30 Mixed Nuts
8:30 Stop! Or My Mom Will Shoot
10:15 Billy Madison
12:00 The Little Rascals
1:45 Philadelphia
4:15 Problem Child 2
6:00 Reality Bites
8:00 Cabin by the Lake
10:00 X-Change
12:15 Murderous Vision

STAR MOVIES

7:00 Action : First Blood
9:00 Thriller : Dentist 2
11:00 Comedy : Part the Movie
12:45 Thriller : On the Q T
2:30 Action : High Explosive
4:15 Action : Illegal Entry
6:00 Drama : Harlan County War
7:45 Thriller : Hide And Seek
9:30 Thriller : Mighty Joe Young
11:30 Thriller : Prime Target
1:00 Comedy : Fart the Movie

STAR GOLD

10:30 Amul Bollywood News
11:00 Geet Bahar
11:30 Abhi To Jeen Lein (Kiran Kumar, Jaya Bahaduri)
3:00 Amul Bollywood News
3:30 Chalte Chalte (Simi Garewal, Vishal)
Geet Bahar
7:00 Lamhe Pyaar Ke : Mehboob Ki Mehndi (Rajesh Khanna, Leena Chandavarkar)
11:00 Amul Bollywood News
11:30 Navrang (contd)
12:30 Shanti
1:30 Hit Filmcin Hit Sangeet
2:00 Fox Kids Daily
3:00 Small Wonder
10:30 Pal Chhin
11:30 Saahil
12:30 Hit Filmcin Hit Sangeet
1:00 Hum Saath Aath Hain
1:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii
2:00 Sanskruti
2:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Kabhi Bahut Thi
3:00 Shagun
3:30 Kasauti Zindagi Kay
4:00 Kabhi Sauten Kabhi Sahel
4:30 Kaahin Kissii Roz
5:00 Meri Saheli
5:30 Hit Filmcin Hit Sangeet

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

EKUSHEY: 8:00 p.m. *Rahasyamoi*. Lili lost both of her parents in childhood inheriting a vast parental property. Her uncle brings her up and marries her off to Majnu whom she dislikes for his rusticity and simplicity. Majnu abandon Lili when they fall in an accident.

EKUSHEY: 10:30 p.m. *Protidin Ekti Golap*. Written and directed by Ferdous Hasan, 11th episode of this serial features Raisul Islam Asad, Shami Kaisar, Shahiduzzaman Selim and Dolly Zahur among others.

STAR WORLD: 11:30 pm. *Temptation Island*. The contestants finalise arrangements for their final dates: yossie and taheed resolve their relationship; and the remaining contestants go on their final dates with mixed results

PICK OF THE DAY

X-Change on HBO at 10:00 pm
The year is 2008-Stefan Toffler (Baldwin, the Usual Suspects. The Flintstones in Viva Rock Vegas) is about to give someone a piece of his mind. literally, when he transfers it into the body of a head terrorists in San Francisco to investigate the assassination of a powerful CEO. If he doesn't make the mental trip back to his body within two days, he dies.

STAR NEWS

07:00 Breakfast News
Star Khel

STAR SPORTS

3:30 Cricket Magazine India's Greatest Cricket Moments Cochin, Ke India Australia @ India 98 Pepsi Triangular Series 3rd Odi H/Ls
4:30 Cricket Magazine India's Greatest Cricket Moments Cochin, Ke India Australia @ India 98 Pepsi Triangular Series Final Odi H/Ls
5:30 Italian Serie A Football 2001/2002
7:30 Cricket Programming Super Selector January Launch
8:30 Sportscenter Hindi
9:00 World Cup Mix
9:30 Game of the Week
11:30 Sportscenter Hindi
12:00 English Premier Football League 2001/02 London, England Chelsea @ Arsenal
2:00 Boxing Series Friday Night Fights Philadelphia, PA USA
3:30 Sportscenter Hindi
4:00 World Cup Mix
4:30 Sportscenter Hindi
5:00 Sportscenter Bristol, CT

AXN

4:00 High Action Adrenalin
4:30 The Net
5:00 Pacific Blue II
6:30 Movie: Scissors
8:30 The Amazing Race
9:30 CSI
10:30 Amazon
11:30 Sheena
12:30 The Amazing Race
1:30 CSI
2:30 Movie: The Birds
4:30 Movie: Universal Soldier II: Brothers in Arms
6:30 High Action Adrenalin
7:30 Sheena
8:30 CSI
9:30 World's Most
10:30 The Horror Premiere
Movie: Bram Stoker's Dracula
12:30 Pacific Blue II

ZEE TV

7:00 Yoga For Life
7:20 Jagran
7:50 Zee Gym & Eat Healthy
8:20 News
8:30 Ardhangini
8:45 Yaaden Radio Ceylon Ki
9:00 Nickelodeon On Zee
10:00 Guldasta
10:30 Do Aur Do Paanch
11:00 Ek Tukdaa Chaand Ka
11:30 Ek Nazar
12:00 Mehndi Tere Naam Ki

ZEE MUSIC

7:30 Tara Rum
8:30 Hit Pe Hit
9:30 Hit Pe Hit
10:30 Hit Mix
11:00 Just Jammin
11:30 Zee Music Box
12:00 Zee Music Plus
1:00 Hit Pe Hit
2:00 Tara Rum
2:35 Zee Music Box
3:05 Tara Rum
3:30 Tara Rum
4:00 Hit Pe Hit
5:00 Zee Music Box
5:30 Hit Mix
6:00 Blue
6:30 Zee Music Plus
7:30 Hit Pe Hit
8:30 Fillers
9:00 Artist of the Fortnight
9:30 Zee Music Box
10:00 Sizzlers
10:30 Jharokha
11:05 Di Se
11:35 Phoren Maal
12:00 Phoren Maal

ZEE ENGLISH

7:00 Family Pride
7:30 Heartbreak High

STAR NEWS ENGLISH

12:00 Star News Hindi
12:30 Sports Tonight

STAR NEWS HINDI

12:00 Star News Hindi
12:30 Sports Tonight

STAR NEWS ENGLISH

12:00 Star News Hindi
12:30 Sports Tonight

8:30 For Your Love
9:00 Three's Company
9:30 Kate & Allie
10:00 Capitol
10:30 ER
11:30 Full House
12:00 Fresh Prince of Bel Air
12:30 Family Pride
1:00 Royal Canadian Air Force
1:30 Benny Hill Show
2:00 Three's Company
2:30 Friends
3:00 ER
3:30 Homicide-Life on the Street
4:30 For Your Love
5:00 Benny Hill Show
5:30 Heartbreak High
6:30 Fresh Prince of Bel-Air
7:00 Full House
7:30 Seinfeld
8:00 Three's Company
8:30 Fresh Prince of Bel-Air
9:00 Living Single
9:30 La Femme Nikita
10:30 Seinfeld
11:00 Friends
11:30 Full House
12:00 Fresh Prince of Bel-Air

ALPHA TV

7:00 Nayantara
7:30 News
8:00 Surer Ei Jharna Dharay
8:30 Choker Smriti Kuchu Gaan
9:00 News
9:05 Bharat Bhromon
9:30 Nijei Nayak
10:00 Talk Jhal Misti
10:30 Tritiyo Purush
11:00 Nayantara/Asian Sky Shop
11:30 Ebar Jombe Moja
12:00 Jhara Samayer Upa Katha/ Asian Sky Shop
12:30 Chena Mukher Shari
1:00 Ingeel/ Asian Sky Shop
1:30 Ek Akasher Niche
2:00 Pratibimbo/ Asian Sky Shop
2:30 Feature film/ Asian Sky Shop
3:00 Surer Ei Jharna Dharay
5:00 Gandharb
5:30 Alpha Khabor
6:05 Jhankar-Exposure
6:30 Choker Bali/Football
7:00 Nayantara
7:35 Jhankar-Exposure
7:30 Ki Likhi Tomai
7:55 Jhankar
8:30 Pratibimbo
9:00 Ek Akasher Niche
9:20 Chena Mukher Shari
9:45 Ingeel
10:15 Footbal
10:55 Ek Palake
11:30 Tritiyo Purush
11:55 Ek Palake
12:00 Choker Bali/Football