

Exhibition

Biggest ever Asian show

Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy arranges a press conference prior to the inauguration of 10th Asian Art Biennale

AZIZ AMIRUL

As the invitees started arriving, daylight was gradually fading away round the corner of the office building of the Director-General of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy. A press conference was called by the authorities of the national cultural institute on January 2, 2002 to brief the media on preparation and related information prior to the hosting of 10th Asian Art Biennial 2002. The month long event is scheduled to be inaugurated by the Prime Minister on January 9 at the gallery of the Osmany Memorial Hall in the city.

Mostafa Zaman Abbasi, who had recently been appointed as the Director General of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, chaired the assembly. News reporters and cultural correspondents, belonging to various national dailies, weeklies and electronic media, attended the preview meeting in the presence of other high officials and staffs of the academy.

The occasion turned out to be a memorable one for many as the Director General, also a well-known veteran folk-singer, delivered a

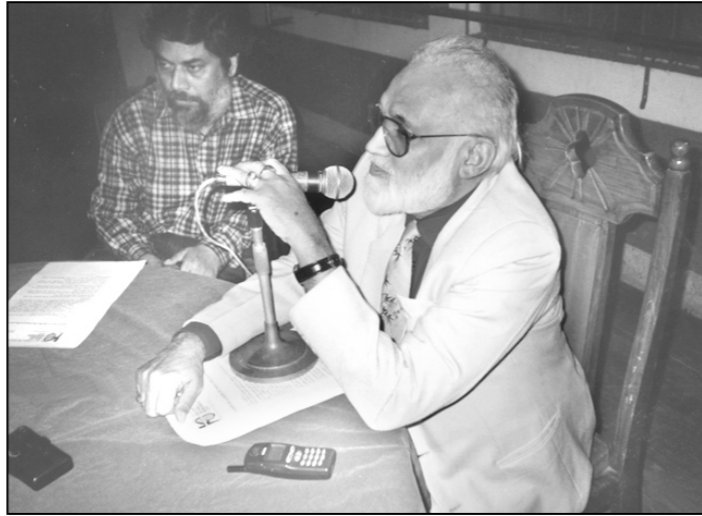
highly valuable and informative speech that seemed to evolve instantly from his mind rather being a note of memorised version. Diverse aspects and traditional values of our cultural tradition came up as Abbasi continued with revelation of his real-life experiences with great maestros of the past.

Subir Chowdhury, Director of the academy's Fine Arts department, appeared to be a truly fine assistant to the elderly chief in helping to recollect exact happenings, events or sometimes matters of statistical importance.

The Biennial will present artworks and sculptural installations of an assorted form done by artists of 42 countries from across the continents of Asia, Africa and the Pan-Pacific. Foreign artists, who are to number at around 70, would start arriving in the city from today.

Nobuho Nagasawa and Yuri Mitsuda, the first one a sculptor and the other a art critic and Event Commissioner from Japan, have come in advance to conduct and manage works of preparation at the Osmany hall.

Three foreign delegates of the five-member Jury Board are expected to arrive on January 5 of



Mostafa Zaman Abbasi, Director-General of Shilpakala Academy, is seen addressing the press conference

who includes Professor Jin Shangyi from China, Professor Hassan Bourkia from Morocco and Professor Emmanuel Torres from the Philippines. The other two members of the board have been selected from the host country to join the panel that would complete activities of judgement by the evening of

January 8. Awards will be presented to the artists in three categories and each winner of the grand prize would receive an amount of taka one lakh.

Three venues have been selected for display of works that would include the gallery of Osmany Memorial Hall, the art gallery of National Museum at Shahbagh and a block of JATIYO CHITRASHALA, a national art gallery inside the academy premises that is undergoing works of construction. The massive architectural chateau of ultimate 8-story design is presently being made fit for accommodation of display on first floor. The huge building of ours would finally appear as one of the largest art galleries of the world', mentioned the Director-General.

An allocated budget of taka 35 lakh would finance the hosting of the entire event including a two-day international seminar on January 10 and 11, titled **Indigenous Art: Traditions, Identity and Challenges**.

Mostafa Zaman Abbasi, a confident character, provided a lot of serious wits in his fruitful exchanges that not only proved his multi-talented official capacity but a common man's richness in humour as well as in positive criticism of cultural endurance.

Scenes of preparation

As the 10th Asian Art Biennial nears inauguration, a visit to a venue reveals various interesting issues and incidents

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

An unusually busy scene prevails inside the Osmany Memorial Hall, where scores of workers are seen performing different manual activities. Large paintings and sculptures are being carried at the art gallery of the hall from where the 10th Asian Art Biennial begins its inaugural journey for this year on January 9, 2002. One finds large rectangular boxes of wood and steel scattered all over the ground floor. Hundreds of precious artworks and sculpture works are coming to the Academy premises in such sealed boxes every day from the airport after being cleared by the customs authorities.

Nobuho Nagasawa, a sculptor and Yuri Mitsuda, a commissioner from Japan have arrived in the city a couple of weeks back who can be seen working at the Osmany Memorial Hall hands-on with the local supervisors in setting up an installation work of unique formation.

Hundreds of egg-shaped solid objects come in view in the middle of the room as one crosses the wide floor of the dome-shaped hall. Made by rural artisans of Savar, in collaboration with faculty students of Fine Arts Dhaka University, earth and later on, iron oxide paint have become the chief ingredients of these egg-shaped pieces that are being arranged in a pyramid formation, one over the other.

It was only after September 11 last year that she decided to create this sculptural formation to respond to the tragic incidents of the Twin Towers of New York.

*'Let your life lightly dance on the edges of Time
Like dew on the tip of a leaf'* The Gardener xiv

--- from Rathindranath Tagore's memoir of his father

The title of Nagasawa's Dhaka work is 'On the edges of Time' that she derives from the lines of a memoir written to Rabinranath Tagore by his son Rathindranath. As she explains, it is a sort of inspirational force that she has received from the brief quotation.

'The terra-cotta eggs, numbering up to 5,000, symbolize the nature of



An art commissioner from Japan helps a staff of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy in installation work

life, death and rebirth. The number of the eggs corresponds to ten times the approximate number of ova a woman released during her reproductive lifetime', says the artist.

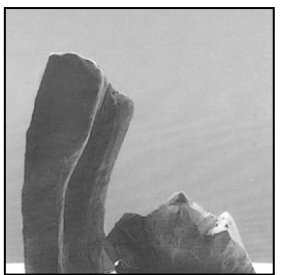
Each of the eggs has their own quality and calibre that make every individual piece equally precious. There has been a matter of interrelationship between one egg and the rest of the mass. It can be interpreted by viewing each egg or a whole mass as female figures. An individual woman can then be visualised through the symbolic form that perhaps resides among a group of female figures, hands joined.

Round the edges of the heap of eggs are found some remnants of red earth ready to be sprinkled with water. Through creation of this particular portion of the form, the artist wants to exhibit the dominant contribution provided by water in Bangladesh. At this particular stage, the artist brings together a symbolic closeness between Dhaka and New York. Nagasawa's goal crosses the limit of geographical and social boundary to create a bond of close relationship among communities



Two painters renovate an interior wall of Osmany Memorial Hall

RECOMMENDATIONS



Sculpture show

A group sculpture show is now being held at the gallery of National Museum at Shahbagh. The show showcases recent work by Hamiduzzaman, Ivy Zaman and Rowen Aziz. Open to all, the show runs till January 15.

Opening ceremony of musical albums

Bengal Foundation presents an opening ceremony of 14 CD & cassette albums by both prominent and new artists on January 4 and 5 at House # 275/F, Road # 27, Dhanmondi R/A. Eminent music master Azad Rahman released a Nazrul song album by Masuda Nargis Anam yesterday and eminent journalist Mahfuz Anam releases a Nazrul song album by Khairul Anam Shakil on January 5.

Dhaka Art Circle

Dhaka Art Circle, an informal group of artists, holds its latest art show at Gallery Chitrah (house # 21, Road # 4, Dhanmondi) now. The exhibition open to all from 10 am to 8 pm everyday will run until



January 6, 2002.

Nityanchal Festival 2002

Nityanchal, a front ranking organisation in the country to institutionalise dance as a popular form of art, is organising a five-day long dance festival from January 10 to 14 at Bangladesh Shishu Academy Auditorium.



The planned 8-floor 'Chitrahshala' in the premises of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy

TV GUIDE

EKUSHEY TV

- 12:00 Ekushey Headlines
- 12:05 Aker Potrikay
- 12:20 Mukto Khobor
- 12:50 Bolte Chai
- 1:20 Classic Cartoons
- 12:00 Ekushey Headlines
- 2:05 Ei Shoptaho
- 2:30 Jatra Pala
- 3:00 Ekushey Headlines
- 3:05 Jatra Pala
- 5:00 Circus Circus
- 5:30 Shoptaho Ghura
- Deshjure
- 6:00 Ekushey Headlines
- 6:05 Serial: Alif Laila
- 6:55 Ekushey Headlines
- 7:00 Kena Kata
- 7:30 Ekushey News
- 7:58 Ek Minute
- 8:40 Bangla Film: Mohot
- 9:00 Ekushey News (English)
- 9:05 Bangla Film: Mohot
- 10:00 News: Simulcast from BTV
- 10:30 Bangla Film: Mohot
- 11:00 Ekushey Late Night

CHANNEL-i

- 6:10 pm Music Plus
- 6:50 Documentary
- 7:15 News
- 7:30 Charlie Chaplain
- 8:00 Drama serial Spwarsha
- 8:30 Ispahani Tele Quiz
- 8:35 Music Horizon
- 9:00 News
- 9:20 Sangbadparay Bangladesh
- 9:30 Results of Ispahani Tele Quiz
- 9:45 Discussion programme Na Bala Katha
- 10:00 Quiz programme 60 seconds
- 10:30 News
- 11:00 Bengali feature film Jantar Mantar. Starring Faroque, Rozina

ATN BANGLA

- 5:30 Islamic prog.
- 7:00 Child's prog.: Cholo Gan Gai
- 7:35 Viewers opinion prog.: Motamot
- 8:00 ATN Bangla News
- 8:25 Musical prog.
- 9:00 Musical prog.: Merial Tumar Janne Gan
- 9:35 Musical prog: Protibha
- 10:10 Pakistani feature film: Ahsas
- 12:00 ATN Bangla News
- 3:00 Indian feature film: Sadhannader Mela
- 6:07 Child's prog.: Shapla Saluk
- 6:45 Viewers request film songs prog.: Anurodher Assor
- 7:00 ATN Bangla Evening News
- 7:35 Musical Prog
- 8:10 Reporting magazine: Gotona Probhah
- 8:45 Drama serial: Chomok Vila
- 9:20 Musical prog.: Sreter Pata Theke
- 10:00 ATN Bangla News
- 10:30 Pakistani feature film: Baje
- 11:30 ATN Bangla News

HBO

- 6:30 Dad
- 8:45 Get on the Bus
- 11:15 Beverly Hills Cop
- 1:15 the Untouchables
- 3:45 Balto
- 5:15 Implicated
- 7:15 As Good as it Gets
- 10:00 Outbreak
- 12:30 Dragnet

2:45 The Untouchables

5:15 Mad Dod and Glory

BBC WORLD

- 6:00 BBC News
- 6:30 World Business Report
- 7:00 BBC News
- 7:30 Asia Today/World Business Report
- 8:00 BBC News
- 8:30 Asia Today/World Business Report
- 9:00 BBC News
- 9:30 Asia Today/World Business Report
- 10:00 BBC News
- 10:30 Talking Movies
- 11:00 BBC News
- 11:30 Hospital
- 12:00 BBC News
- 12:30 Click Online
- 1:00 BBC News
- 1:30 Correspondent
- 2:00 BBC News
- 2:30 Road to Riches
- 3:00 BBC News
- 3:30 People's Century
- 4:00 BBC News
- 4:30 Holiday
- 5:00 BBC News
- 5:30 This Week
- 6:00 BBC News
- 6:30 Road to Riches
- 7:00 BBC News
- 7:30 Click Online
- 8:00 BBC News
- 8:30 The Planet
- 9:00 BBC News
- 9:30 People's Century
- 10:00 BBC News
- 10:30 Mastermind India
- 11:00 BBC News
- 11:30 This Week
- 12:00 BBC News

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS



STAR WORLD: 8:00 pm. Water Rats. A former lover of Alex's becomes a suspect in a murder investigation and she is devastated when she becomes convinced that he is guilty.



STAR WORLD: 9:00 pm. Third Rock from the Sun. Tired of spending all her time with the Solomons, Mary suggests she and Dick go on a double date with her tennis partner Gwen, and Gwen's husband Larry.



EKUSHEY: 7:00 pm. Kenakata. A shopping guide magazine Kenakata informs about what is there to grab or to avoid.

12:30 Earth Report

- 1:00 BBC News
- 1:30 Road to Riches
- 2:00 BBC News
- 2:30 Talking Movies
- 3:00 BBC News
- 3:30 The Planets
- 4:00 BBC News
- 4:30 Hospital
- 5:00 BBC News
- 5:30 This Week

STAR MOVIES

- 6:30 Family in Crisis
- 8:30 Thursday
- 10:00 Possessed
- 12:00 Wild America
- 1:45 First Blood
- 3:15 Me Myself and Irene
- 5:15 Managua
- 7:00 Exorcist III
- 8:45 Warlock 3
- 10:30 Thursday
- 12:30 Exorcist III
- 2:30 Me Myself and Irene
- 4:30 Family in Crisis

STAR GOLD

- 7:00 Kati Patang (Rajesh Khanna, Asha Parekh)
- 10:30 Amul Bollywood News

11:00 Geet Bahar

- 11:30 Ghar Ki Izzat (Dilip Kumar, Mumtaz, Shanti)
- 3:00 Amul Bollywood News
- 3:30 Krishna (Sunil Shetty, Karisma Paoor)
- 7:00 Geet Bahar
- 7:30 Saturday Special Khuda Gawah (Aitabh Bachchan, Sridevi)

PICK OF THE DAY



Outbreak
On HBO at 10:00
A lethal virus has wiped out an African village. Now, it has broken out in a small California town and, if it isn't stopped, it could devastate America... and the world. Dustin Hoffman stars in this tense techno-thriller as the leader of a team of dedicated scientists assigned to assess the damage.

SPORTS

ESPN

- 6:00 Western Union World Football
- 6:30 Sportscenter Hindi
- 7:00 English Premier Football League English Premier Football League
- 2001/02 Leeds, England West ham United @ Leeds United
- 9:00 World Rugby The Irb's World of Rugby
- 9:30 Racehorse Digest
- 10:00 English Premier Football League English Premier Football League
- 2001/02 London, England Manchester United @ Fulham
- 12:00 South Africa Cricket Tri Series Johannesburg, South Africa India @ South Africa 1st Odi, Highlights
- 1:30 Western Union World Football
- 2:00 Cricket Programming Super Selector December Winners
- 3:00 Soccer the Mach of the Century: Beckenbauer

3:30 Pool World Pool League 2001

- 4:30 Golf Classics Us Open Official Films for Years 1994
- 5:30 Goals!
- 6:00 World Cup Mix
- 6:30 Bloopers
- 7:00 Pro Billiards 2001 Trick Shot Magic Baltimore, MD USA
- 8:00 English Premier Football League 2001/02 Southampton, England Chelsea @ Southampton
- 10:00 English Premier Football League 2001/02 Liverpool, England West Ham United @ Liverpool
- 12:00 South Africa Cricket Tri Series Johannesburg, South Africa India @ South Africa 1st Odi, Highlights
- 1:30 Western Union World Football
- 2:00 World World Pool League 2001
- 3:00 Atlantic Coast Conference Basketball Chapel Hill, NC USA Wake

5:00 Forest @ North Carolina

- Asian Bowling Tour Cgu Asian Bowling Tour Hong Kong Men's Highlights
- STAR SPORT**
- 8:30 Australia Cricket Orange Test Series Sydney, Australia South Africa @ Australia 3rd Test, Day 4, 1st Session
- 8:00 World Cup Mix
- 8:30 Australia Cricket Orange Test Series Sydney, Australia South Africa @ Australia 3rd Test, Day 4, 2nd & 3rd Session
- 1:00 Nba Inside Stuff 2001/02 Nba Inside Stuff
- 1:30 Nba Basketball Los Angeles, CA USA Phoenix Suns @ Los Angeles Lakers
- 4:00 Rally Racing Total Dakar 2002 Day 7 Highlights
- 4:30 Australia Cricket Orange Test Series Sydney, Australia South Africa @ Australia 3rd Test, Day 4, 1st Session

11:00 Rahein Na Rahein Hum

- 11:30 New Wave Cinema
- Aghaat (Om Puri, Deepa Sahi)
- 12:30 Aghaat (contd)
- 3:00 Geet Bahar
- 3:30 Krishna (Sunil Shetty, Karisma Paoor)

STAR WORLD

- 6:00 Water Rats
- 7:00 The Simpsons
- 7:30 Things People Do
- 8:00 The Bold & The Beautiful
- 10:00 Rendezvous with Simi Garewal
- 10:30 Travel Asia
- 11:00 Fox Kids Starn
- 1:00 World's Wildest Police Videos
- 2:00 Mission Impossible
- 3:00 Baywatch
- 4:00 Hercules
- 5:00 Xena

6:00 Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's

- the Lost World
- 7:00 First Wave
- 8:00 Water Rats
- 9:00 3rd Rock From the Sun
- 9:30 Baywatch Hawaii
- 10:30 First Wave
- 11:30 Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's The Lost World
- 12:30 Xena
- 1:30 Hercules
- 2:30 Cops
- 3:00 Key of David
- 3:30 Morris Cerullo
- 4:00 Benny Hinn
- 4:30 Small Wonder
- 5:00 Mr Belvedere
- 5:30 Doogie Howser

STAR PLUS

- 6:30 Star Geetmala
- 7:30 Jubilee Plus
- 8:00 Aatma
- 9:00 Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet
- 9:30 Fox Kids
- 10:30 National Geographic Special
- 11:30 Chalti Ka Naam Antakshari
- 12:30 Eena Meena Deeka
- 1:00 Tu Tu Main Main
- 1:30 Gharwali Uparwali
- 2:00 Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet
- 2:30 National Geographic Special
- 3:30 Tea Time Cinema:
- 7:30 Jannat
- 8:30 Star Superhit
- Parampara (Aamir Kha, Saif ALI Khan, Neela, Raveena Tandon)
- 11:30 Aaj Ki Baat
- 12:00 Parampara (contd.)
- 12:30 Kundali
- 1:00 Kalash

1:30 Kahani Jurm Ki

- 2:00 Gharwali Uparwali
- 2:30 Tu Tu Main Main
- 3:00 Kashmirakash
- 3:30 National Geographic Special
- 4:30 Musafir Hoon Yaroon
- 5:00 Sshhhh ... Koi Hai

STAR NEWS

- 9:30 Star News English
- 10:00 Star News Hindi
- 11:30 Star News English
- 12:00 Star News Hindi
- 7:30 Saat Baje
- 8:00 Limelight Hindi
- 8:30 The Big Fight
- 9:30 Star News English
- 10:00 Reality Bites
- 10:30 Star Business Week
- 11:00 Limelight (Eng)
- 11:30 Star News English
- 12:00 Star News Hindi
- 12:30 The Big Fight

AXN

- 6:30 Close Calls 1
- 7:30 Grander Musashi RV
- 8:30 Curiousu Play
- 9:30 Rollerjam
- 10:30 The Right Stuff
- 11:30 The Amazing Race
- 12:30 Ripley's Believe It or Not!
- 1:30 Close Calls 1
- 2:30 Movie: 12 Monkeys
- 4:30 Walker's World
- 5:30 The Amazing Race
- 6:30 Who Dares Wins II
- 7:30 Ripley's Believe It or Not!
- 8:30 Close Calls 1
- 9:30 Premiere Movie: Predator
- 11:30 Movie: Predator
- 1:30 World's Most Amazing
- 2:30 Rollerjam
- 3:30 High Action Adrenalin