

Exhibition

A brave attempt by the young shutter enthusiasts

"Through the lens" being held at Drik gallery

FAYZA HAQ

THE first annual Photographic Exhibition by the Dhaka University Photographic Society, proved a fair success considering the inexperience of the participants. Their enthusiasm, choice of subjects and skill proved pleasurable. The themes and techniques of the exhibit were laudable. The young lens enthusiasts had done a remarkable job of putting together the works of over 21 young amateur photographers who played with colour and shapes bringing in various subjects in several ways so that the viewer was not biased at all after the round of the gallery. Yes, they still had "miles to go" but whatever they had presented to the viewer with their collection was remarkable, considering the background of the young participants, with their other more serious and time consuming preoccupations.

These young photographers have basic photographic training twice a year. They have attended workshops on photography and photo exhibitions both inside and beyond the DU campus so that they get better opportunity to exhibit their works as often as possible. They try to have regular monthly competitions among the members of DUPS. They go for outdoor photography according to their convenience. Since 1999, after the inception of DUPS, there have been four basic photography training programmes and they have taken part in 20 outing programmes at various places within Bangladesh. They have exhibited 200 photos at the TSC in December 2000. The members have taken part in a fair number of competitions at home and overseas. Incidentally, the members get regular help from the Drik club.

Late Md. Abdullah Shafique's "Alor Pothey" presented an unusual angle of a staircase so that the weatherbeaten flight of steps appears like some stupas that sit up from within. The play of light and



Gaurab by Mohammad Mostafizur Rahman

shade is indeed remarkable and admirable for a newcomer to the lens world.

Md. Farhad Hossain's "Nishongo" brings in a lonely crowd sitting atop a cross bar. The presentation of the composition of the object on the photo and the theme are both compelling. The use of scarce forms and the impact of the image is soul-stirring.

Abu Nasir Siddique's "Manush Tumi Boma Kheyey Abong Moro" depicts a corpse sans legs with mutilated arms and the skull askew next to a poster held within a mesh of sticks that carries the same words as the title of the picture. The backdrop of the road and the monstrosity of the vicious police or miscreants is apparent notwithstanding the fact that the picture may shock some viewers for its grotesque and bizarre quality. This is a depiction of an integral part of our socio-political life in Bangladesh and cannot be put aside. It must have taken Abu Nasir considerable amount of courage to have gone out to the scene and have taken this photograph.

"Mullobodher Bondhitto" by Syed Zainul Abedin brings in the political posters that flood the country during elections and mouth "bon mots" that preach a lot of pompous mouthing by politicians but which ultimately lead to little achievement. One would have appreciated a sharper focus of the lens here



Apony by Abanti Antara

although one appreciates the subject of the political goings on around us in Bangladesh. Like Abu Nasir, Syed Zainul has not gone after the apparently picturesque.

Farzana Khan's "Diba Shopna" is in the same vein. It brings in an old bearded man, barely clad, with spindly limbs and craven face, with little hope in his eyes as he sits beside a building on a heap of cloths, possibly begging for a living. The abject poverty of the subject talks of our economic and social conditions with an impact.

Yes, some of the photos do bring in beautiful images but they too have a message behind their work. In Md. Sarwar Bin Anis's "Shamuk Phul" or Abanti Antara's "Apon". These photos are bursting with the oft seen colours of the villages, stately homes of the well to do not commonly seen in the countryside, complete with statues and pillars. A little nouveau, but with an eye for bouncing colours is Md. Sarwar Bin Anis's "Binnash" which is a collection of chopped logs appearing like beige and gray leaves in a motif.

Drik should be lauded for giving an opportunity of a group of amateurs to present their works before the Dhaka gallery goes rather than saving its space only for heavyweights in photography and fine arts. This would also give impetus to other amateur camera enthusiasts to come forward and have more such group exhibitions.

and scintillating water in the foreground. There is also the depiction of the shades of gleam on the river with the pale gold gathering clouds and shimmering columns of waves seen against the setting of tiny land sections. Indranil Kishor's "Shonali Shupan" which brings in the farmers bending down to plant the saplings on a strip of land before and behind which one finds massive sweeps of water, with the conventional treetops for the background.

"C'est la meme chose", one observes as one comes across Md Mostafizur Rahman Nomain's "Gaurab", Kaniz Fatema's "God's Canvas", Indnil Kishor's "Shapla Phul" or Abanti Antara's "Apon". These photos are bursting with the oft seen colours of the villages, stately homes of the well to do not commonly seen in the countryside, complete with statues and pillars. A little nouveau, but with an eye for bouncing colours is Md. Sarwar Bin Anis's "Binnash" which is a collection of chopped logs appearing like beige and gray leaves in a motif.

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Theatre

Theatre enthusiasts to savour another festival in the city

A five day long theatre festival organised by Indian High Commission Dhaka in collaboration with Centre for Asian Theatre and Indian Council for Cultural Relations opened yesterday at the National Museum Auditorium.

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

PRESENTLY Dhaka has turned into a city of cultural festivals. Very consistently cultural wing of the Indian High Commission in Dhaka has come up with a festival of dance dramas from January 12 to 16. The festival includes staging Kahan Kabir, a Hindi play by Rang Vidushak; Karma Manipuri play; Chhau Dance of Bihar; Urubhangama Sangskrit play by Centre for Asian Theatre and Meghnath Badh Kabya. A show of Meghnath Badh Kabya will be held at Muslim Institute Auditorium in Chittagong on January 17.

Seraikella Chhou Dance
Based on Marital Arts, the Seraikella Chhou follows tenets of "Natyashastra" as propounded in the ancient texts of India. The use of masks are a speciality and the dancer uses these to clarify and depict the theme of the dance. The dancer expresses different emotions, notions and ideas with the movement of his limbs at different stages in harmony with the drum beat (Tal) and musical rhythms. The dance runs in three phases,

Sthayee (permanent posture), Madhyalaya (intermediate movements) and Drut (faster movements). Various themes from the Ramayana, Mahabharata, abstract ideas and common social incidents form the subject matter of these dances. This is what makes these performances so popular and so interesting. Drawing from the Martial Art called "Parojnanda" this dance acquired a new form since the 1920s under the guidance of Kumar Bijoy Pratap Singh. This dance form is very popular in India and has traveled abroad extensively ever since its debut in England in 1937.

Kahan Kabir
The play speaks neither of Kabir as a protagonist, nor does it develop as a linear story around his personal life. It draws its force from his verses which picture the times he lived in, depict his resistance against social customs forced onto the masses, speak of the philosophy and the truth he fought for till his very last. His verses mirror his disbelief in every kind of religious sect. His philosophy speaks of the omnipresent formless Absolute, devoid of all attributes. He shuns outward symbol and seeks the Absolute within

himself. In order to see his philosophy as a reality, it has been necessary to view Kabir beyond the cycle of birth and death.

Karna
Karna is the great warrior, who fights his pre-ordained fate, rejecting divine inspiration and blessing the adversary and opponent of the dharma of Aryan integration. The text throws open issues that question the relevance of his suffering and sacrifice, while locating the protagonist close to the roots of his people the exploited, the oppressed, the unrecognised the shudras. Tracing the story of Karna from the Mahabharata, the play seeks to define anew the emergence of the brave, indomitable human spirit putting up a heroic resistance against all odds. Relocating, transforming, fusing history, myth and reality, the play works through contradictions to give Karna the epic dimension of a hero who becomes a symbol of the martyr.

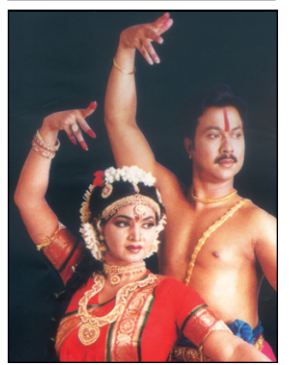
Karna was produced in February 1997 and designed for the Mandapa space, with the audience sitting around the performance area. The Mandapa is no longer necessarily a site for the Rasleela and the Natasaankeeratan. Performance in this space had to be withdrawn after five shows, because it became increasingly difficult to grapple with the logistics. The present performance, redesigned for the proscenium, has been critically acclaimed in Mumbai and Kolkata.

The play has been conceived, designed and shaped into performance text to sustain the spirit not so much the form, of the sportie theatre tradition which may be externally categorized as total theatre. A fresh look at this tradition seeks to explore the function of ritual and healing in addition to the entertainment in a contemporary context.



Kahan Kabir

RECOMMENDATIONS



Nriyanchal Festival 2002

Nriyanchal, 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.

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, Iy Zaman and Rowen Aziz. Open to all, the show runs till January 15.

Art show of three Bengali pioneers

An exhibition showcasing works of pioneer artists Zainul Abedin, Kamrul Hassan and S.M. Sultan--of Bangladeshi art movement is being held at the Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts at Dhankandi. This show is the second of a series presented from the collection of Abul Khair, chairman of Bengal Foundation.

Asian Art Workshop

Bengal Foundation will hold a three-day art workshop involving the participants and delegates of the 10th Asian Art Biennale at BRAC Centre, Rajendrapur on January 14 at 12:00 p.m. The workshop will be inaugurated by Fazle Hassan Abed, chairperson of BRAC as chief guest while noted artist Safiuddin Ahmed and Professor Anisuzzaman will be present as special guests.

Group Art Show

The 45th Grand Group Art Exhibition of leading Bangladeshi artists organised by Saju Art Gallery is now being held at its gallery space at Gulshan, North Super Market 2nd circle. The month-long show, open to all, will run until February 7 from 10 am to 8:30 pm barring Fridays.

TV GUIDE

EKUSHEY TV

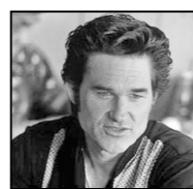
- 9:30 Coca-Cola Test Series-2002
- 12:00 Ekushey Midday
- 12:30 Shoplaha Ghura Deshjure
- 1:00 Expedition to the Animal Kingdom
- 1:30 Documentary Programme: Japan Video Tropic
- 1:50 Classic Cartoons
- 2:10 Surer Prodeep
- 2:40 Driшти
- 3:00 Ekushey Headlines
- 3:05 Drama serial : Ekti Bibaher Attokahini
- 3:30 Kena Kata
- 4:00 Surer Prodeep
- 4:30 Expedition to the Animal Kingdom
- 5:00 Circus Circus
- 5:30 Driшти
- 5:50 Aikjer Potrikay
- 6:00 Ekushey Headlines
- 6:05 Classic Cartoons
- 6:30 Charidike
- 6:55 Ekushey Headlines
- 7:30 Ekushey News
- 7:58 Ek Minute
- 8:00 Drama
- 9:00 Ekushey News
- 9:05 Samprotique
- 9:30 Test Special
- 10:00 News : Simulcast from BTv
- 10:30 Ekushey Business
- 11:00 Ekushey Nightly News
- CHANNEL-i**
- Morning**
- 6:30 Charlie Chaplin
- 7:00 Drama Serial: Sparsha
- 7:35 Shei Theke Shuru
- 8:00 Din Protidin
- 8:25 Konnya Jaya Janani
- 10:10 Music Plus
- 11:30 Charlie Chaplin
- 12:00 Drama Serial: Sparsha
- 12:35 Shei Theke Shuru
- 1:45 Konnya Jaya Janani
- 2:50 Bengali Movie: Bou-rani
- Evening**
- 6:10 Music Plus
- 7:15 Channel i News
- 7:30 Calendar 2002
- 8:00 Jibon Theke Jamon
- 8:30 Ispahani i Tele-quiz (Question)
- 8:35 Mukta
- 9:00 Channel i News
- 9:20 Shonbadpote Bangladesh
- 9:30 Ispahani i Tele-quiz (Answer)
- 9:45 Amar Chobi
- 10:00 60 Seconds
- 10:30 Channel i News
- 10:50 Bengali Movie: Dhon Doulat

HBO

- 7:00 How to Make an American Quilt
- 9:15 Philadelphia
- 11:45 Prehysteria! 3
- 1:30 Dream House
- 3:15 Good Burger
- 5:15 Cape Fear
- 7:45 Beethoven's 2nd
- 9:30 Barb Wire
- 11:30 As Good as It Gets
- 2:15 The Out of Towners
- 4:00 Cape Fear
- STAR GOLD**
- 7:00 Jal Bin Machli Nitya
- Bin Bijli (Sandhya, Abhijit)
- 10:30 Geet Bahar
- 11:00 Geet Bahar
- 11:30 Geet Gata Chal
- 12:00 Rahein Na Rahein Hum
- 1:00 Sunday Noon Show
- Gambler (Govinda, Shilpa Shetty)
- 3:30 Parvarish (Amitabh Bachchan, Vinod Khanna)
- 7:00 Geet Bahar
- 7:30 Sunday Blockbuster
- AMar Prem (Rajesh Khanna, Sharmila Tagore)
- 11:00 Geeta Gata Chal
- 11:30 Preetam (Shammi Kapoor, Leena Chandavarkar)
- 12:30 Preetam (contd)
- 3:00 Geet Bahar
- 3:30 Jai Bin Machli Nitya
- Bin Bijli (Sandhya, Abhijit)
- BBC WORLD**
- 6:00 BBC News
- 6:30 This Week
- 7:00 BBC News
- 7:30 Simpson/Directs ex
- Mars Weekend World
- Review
- 9:00 BBC News
- 9:30 Correspondent ex
- World Rev
- 10:00 BBC News
- 10:30 Mastermind India
- 11:00 BBC News
- 11:30 India Business Report
- 12:00 BBC News
- 12:30 Commando!
- 1:00 BBC News

- 1:30 Face to Face
- 2:00 BBC News
- 2:30 This Week
- 3:00 BBC News
- 3:15 Stephen Hawking's Universe
- 3:30 Horizon
- 4:00 BBC News
- 4:30 Click Online
- 5:00 BBC News
- 5:30 Simpson's World
- Directs ex World Review
- 6:00 BBC News
- 6:15 Leprosy
- 7:00 BBC News
- 7:30 Dateline London
- 8:00 BBC News
- 8:30 The Car's The Star ex Top Gear
- 9:00 BBC News
- 9:15 The Firing Line
- 10:00 BBC News
- 10:30 India Business Report
- 11:00 BBC News
- 11:30 Holiday
- 12:00 BBC News
- 12:15 Stephen Hawking's Universe
- 12:30 Horizon
- 1:00 BBC News
- 1:30 Simpson's World
- Directs ex World Review
- 2:00 BBC News
- 2:30 The Car's The Star ex Top Gear
- 3:00 BBC News
- 3:30 The Car's The Star ex Top Gear
- 4:00 BBC News
- 4:30 Asia Business Report/Asia Today
- 5:00 BBC News
- 5:30 Asia Business Report/Asia Today
- STAR WORLD**
- 6:00 JAG
- 7:00 Billboard
- 7:00 Fashion TV
- 9:00 Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's The Lost World
- Review
- 10:00 Ally McBeal
- 11:00 The Practice
- 12:00 The 2002 29th Annual American Music Award
- 3:00 Crown And Country
- 3:30 Travel Asia
- 4:00 Family Fortunes
- 10:30 Bol Baby Bol
- 11:00 Yeh Hai Right Price
- 11:30 Chalti Ka Naam Antakshiri

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS



AXN: 9:30 p.m. Backdraft. In this chronicle of the life and death struggles of the city's firefighters, flames and volatile gases swirl, ready to burst into a raging inferno, waiting for that sudden gasp of air ... waiting for a backdraft.



EKUSHEY: 10:30 p.m. Ekushey Business. In this week's ultimate business guide of Ekushey television brings you all the latest information and news you need to know about current business policies. Directed by Shamsuddin Hayder Dalim the programme is hosted by Mustafizur Rahman.



STAR WORLD: 10:30 p.m. The X Files. Mulder and Scully are called in to investigate a series of murders where the victims are all, in some way, related to a wealthy, well-educated doctor.

PICK OF THE DAY



BARB Wire
On HBO at 9:30p.m.
The irony is hard to miss Baywatch babe Pamela Anderson Lee playing a tough-as-nails, gun-toting, action heroine whose tagline is.... "Don't call me 'babe'. Based on the cult comic strip of the same name, Barb Wire (Lee, Baywatch: Forbidden Paradise) is the owner of the Hammerhead Bar and Grille when she isn't out smashing bad guys to a pulp.

- 6:30 IHT World
- 7:00 The X Files
- 8:00 Star Trek The Next Generation
- 9:00 Rendezvous With Simi Garewal
- 9:30 Star News Focus Asia
- 10:00 IHT World
- 10:30 The X Files
- 11:30 Star Trek The Next Generation
- 12:30 Star News Focus Asia
- 1:00 IHT World
- 1:30 The X Files
- 2:30 3rd Rock From The Sun
- 3:00 Creflo Dollar Daily
- 3:30 Keeneth Cope land Ministries
- 4:00 Joyce Meyer Ministries
- 4:30 World News
- 5:00 Fashion TV
- 5:30 Mork And Mindy
- STAR PLUS**
- 6:00 Mirch Masala
- 6:30 Star Geetmala Aatma
- 7:30 Dharam Aur Hum
- 9:30 Amul Best of Surabhi
- 10:00 Family Fortunes
- 10:30 Bol Baby Bol
- 11:00 Yeh Hai Right Price
- 11:30 Chalti Ka Naam Antakshiri

- 6:30 Fox Kids Sunday
- 7:30 Son Pari
- 7:55 Jubilee Plus
- 8:30 Star Event Best of Screen Awards
- 11:30 Raymond International Fashion Awards
- 12:30 Shagun
- 1:00 Sonpari
- 1:30 Kalash
- 2:00 Kaahin Kissii Roz
- 2:30 Eena Meena Deeka
- 3:00 Pal Chhin
- 3:30 Saahil
- 4:00 Sansar
- 4:30 Jubilee Plus
- 5:00 Meri Saheli
- 5:30 Hit Filmlein Hit Sangeet
- HALLMARK**
- 6:00am Ronnie and Julie
- 8:00 Ghostwriter
- 8:30 Wishbone
- 9:00 Sesame Street
- 10:00 Redwood Curtain
- 12:00 Bridesmaids
- 6:00 Naturequest
- 6:30 Gulistan
- 7:30 Discovery Sunday
- 10:30 Awr Winning Programme
- 11:30 Night Safari
- STAR NEWS**
- 8:30 Star News English
- 9:00 Star News Hindi
- 11:30 Star News English
- 12:00 Star Business Week
- 12:30 Star News English
- 1:00 Reality Bites
- 6:00 World Youth Sailing
- 8:00 Tennis Adidas International Open 2002
- 10:00 World Cup Mix
- 10:30 Nba Inside Stuff 2001/02
- 11:00 Australian Open Highlights 2002 Preview
- 12:00pm Asia Sport Show
- 12:30 Sports Indias
- 1:00 Table Tennis Itf Pro Tour 2001 Grand Finals Men's Doubles & Women's Singles Sf
- 4:00 Rally Racing Total Dakar 2002 Day 15 Highlights
- 4:30 Cricket Programming Super Selector
- 5:00 Table Tennis Itf Pro Tour 2001 Grand Finals Ms Sf & Final & Wd Final
- 8:00 Spanish Football League 2001/02 Spanish Football League Bilbao, Spain Real Sociedad @ Athletic Club Bilbao
- 10:00 Boxing Series World Class Championship Boxing San Juan Pueblo, NM USA Roger Gonzales Vs Juan Jose Beltran
- 12:00 Australian open Highlights Australian Open Highlights 2002 Preview
- 1:00 Spanish Football League 2001/02 Spanish Football League
- 3:00 Table Tennis Itf Pro tour 2001 Grand Finals Ms Sf & Final & Wd Final

- 2:00 Ronnie and Julie
- 4:00 Sublet
- 6:00 Touched by Anangle v
- 7:00 Jackie Back
- 9:00 My Son is Innocent
- 11:00 The Killing Mind
- 1:00 Redwood Curtain
- 3:00 Bridesmaids
- 5:00 Sesame Streets
- DISCOVERY**
- 6:30 am Assignment Discovery
- 7:30 Land of the Tiger
- 8:30 Great Books
- 9:30 Friday Showcase
- 11:30 Travel Time
- 12:30 Science Frontiers
- 1:30 Wings
- 2:30 FBI Files
- 3:30 Born Winners
- 4:00 Popular Mechanics for Kids
- 4:30 Real Kids
- 5:00 Let's Dance & Eat
- 5:30 Going Wild With Jeff Corwin
- 6:00 Naturequest
- 6:30 Gulistan
- 7:30 Discovery Sunday
- 10:30 Awr Winning Programme
- 11:30 Night Safari
- STAR NEWS**
- 8:30 Star News English
- 9:00 Star News Hindi
- 11:30 Star News English
- 12:00 Star Business Week
- 12:30 Star News English
- 1:00 Reality Bites
- 3:00 Soni Robi Mojar Chobi
- 11:30 Choto Chutir Phake
- 12:00 Bideshini Bodhu
- 12:30 Trintyo Purush
- 1:00 Ranna Ghar
- 1:30 Antraaley
- 2:00 Goyenda Paribar
- 2:30 Alo Amar Alo-- Feature Film
- 5:00 Surer Ei Jharnadhara
- 5:30 Amra Probasi
- 6:00 Alpha Khabor
- 6:30 Mojar Khel Kobitay
- 7:00 Ekuse Paa
- 7:30 Googly
- 8:00 Alpha Bangla
- 9:45 Purobi
- 10:15 Talk Jhal Misti
- 10:45 Ek Palake
- 10:50 Bangla News Bulletin
- 10:55 Ek Palake
- 11:00 News
- 11:30 Nijei Nayak
- 11:55 Ek Palake
- 12:00 Dai Baddha
- 12:55 Ek Palake
- ANIMAL PLANET**
- 7:00 Natural World
- 8:00 Battersea Dogs Home
- 8:30 Zoo
- 9:00 Wild Rescue III
- 9:30 Save On Sunday
- 11:00 Animal Planet Safari
- 12:00 Animal Doctor III
- 12:30 Vets On The Wild
- 1:00 K-9 to 5
- 1:30 Wild On The Set II
- 2:00 Crocodile Hunter's Croc Files
- 2:30 O'Shea's Big Adventure II
- 3:00 Animals A-Z
- 3:30 Animal People
- 4:00 Planet's Funniest Animals
- 4:30 Monkey Business
- 5:00 Horse Tales
- 5:30 Saved on Sunday
- 7:00 The Aquanauts
- 7:30 Twisted Tales
- 8:00 Zookeepers
- 8:30 ParkLife: Africa
- 9:00 Animal Planet Safari
- 10:00 Planet's Funniest Animals
- 10:30 Monkey Business
- 11:00 Horse Tales
- 11:30 Saved on Sunday