

RECOMMENDATIONS

Literary evening

A literary evening titled 'A Rendezvous with Writers' will be held at 5:00 p.m. on March 4, on the occasion of the publication of BICHTRITA at the CIRDAP Auditorium, Chameli House at Topkhana road in the city, Manilal Tripathi, the High Commissioner of India in Bangladesh and eminent litterateur Dr. Mohammad Moniruzzaman will be present as special guests. The book is an anthology commemorating 25 years of the monthly magazine Bharat Bichitra in Bangladesh.

Chamber Music Ensemble

The German Embassy in Dhaka organizes a recital of European Classics by famous composers including Mozart, Handel, Schubert and H.M. Bhunibol Adulyadez, the king of Thailand, at Osmani Memorial Auditorium in the city today at 7:00 p.m. Ticket is available at the reception of the German Embassy and at German Cultural Center in the city.

Kite Exhibition

A Japanese Spinning top and Kite exhibition will be held at the premises of Bangladesh Shishu Academy at 4:00 p.m. on March 06, 2002.

Art Exhibition

Japan and Bangladesh will hold a joint art exhibition at the National Museum art gallery in the city from March 7 till March 20. The exhibition will feature works of renowned Bangladeshi artist Mohammad Kibria, those of Noriko Yanagisawa, a Japanese contemporary artist and works of Kazi Ghyasuddin, a Bangladeshi artist who is presently based in Japan.

Ikebana

A Japanese Ikebana workshop and demonstration will be held at Bangladesh Shishu Academy on March 7. The workshop will begin at 10:15 a.m. and will remain open for the invited guests only. The demonstration event will allow free admission that will be held at 3:15 p.m.

Film Festival

A Japanese film festival will begin at the Institute of Modern Languages in the city on March 8 and will continue till March 11. Four films will be screened during the period with two shows, from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., every day. The films are Tsuru, Faraway Sunset, Wild Daisy, Hearts and flowers for Tora. Detailed fixtures of the shows will be announced soon. Admission will remain free for all.

Exhibition

Youthful impressions

'Impression17' shows off some of the best undiscovered artistic talent in Bangladesh

EMILLE CHABAL

If 'Impression 17' is anything to go by then there is great cause for optimism on the Bangladeshi art scene. It offers a rare opportunity to

advantage of this chance. As the German ambassador, Dietrich Andreas, observes in his introduction to the exhibition, "the appreciation for so many artists from Bangladesh is a recognition of the

yet unknown, painters and sculptors.

"It is difficult to arrange young artists here in Dhaka", admits one of the participants. To try and improve this situation, all the artists involved in this exhibition took part in a five-day workshop entitled 'Self-Management for the Artist'.

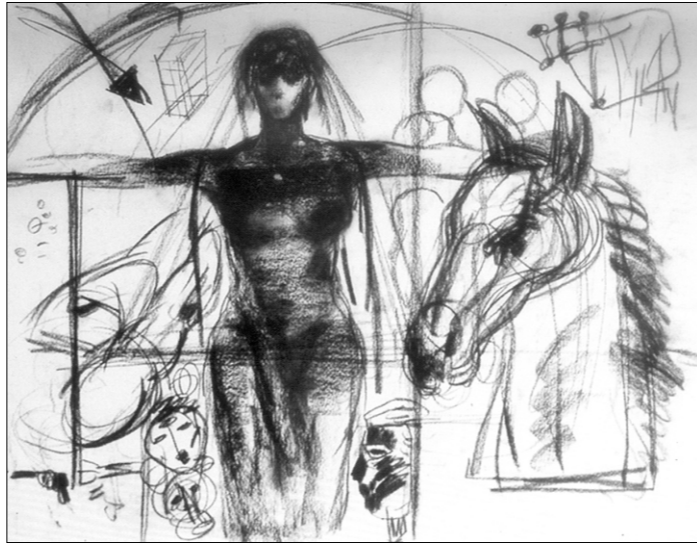
Organised by Ilse Hilpert, in collaboration with the German Embassy, the workshop was designed to make Bangladeshi artists aware of the importance of

A total of 34 works occupy two rooms at Gallery21, 765 Satmasjid Road. Going from a classic watercolor bazaar scenes and swirling black ink motifs, right through to plaster face sculptures and moody lithographs, there is a remarkable diversity in so few works. There are many interesting uses of color and a pleasing range of textures. Far from being a disadvantage, the small number of paintings ensures that there is a feeling of quality over quantity.



view some impressive work from a selection of emerging artists in well-organised surroundings. One hopes the people of Dhaka will take full

outstanding achievements of Bangladeshi modern art". Impression 17 will hopefully give healthy exposure to a group of, as



public relations in what they are doing. In the words of Ilse Hilpert herself, "they must not only have the talent and skills" but also, "maintain a continuous presence in the art market". In the catalogue, Thomas Lenferding (First Secretary, Culture at the German Embassy), expands on this theme: "In spite of all the skills required to be a true artist, creating a long-term strategy is also of the essence".

The result of this five-day seminar is the group exhibition 'Impression 17'. Though all the pieces were completed before the workshop, they have been arranged and coordinated using the skills acquired by the participants. The artists involved were from different fields, many of them completing MFA courses at Dhaka University although others are freelance artists and art teachers. The mé lange of styles and backgrounds however, means that there is no set theme to the exhibition.

The presentation of the exhibition against uncluttered white walls does much to enhance the value of the paintings though, regrettably, not all the lights available were switched on. As the workshop made clear to the artists, the organisation of the paintings and their surroundings plays a large part in improving the visual experience for the public and potential clients. They have obviously learnt their lesson and both the content and the execution of 'Impression 17' should receive well deserved praise.

"We are still finding our style", comments Shamsul Alam Azad. Nevertheless, judging by this, they have all reached adequate technical maturity. Of particular interest were Abusobhan Hira's sensitive and original reflections on Life and Time and Safin Omar's gentle and precise watercolours. The larger of Hasanur Rahman's two sculptures, aptly entitled 'Face in Problem,' grabs the

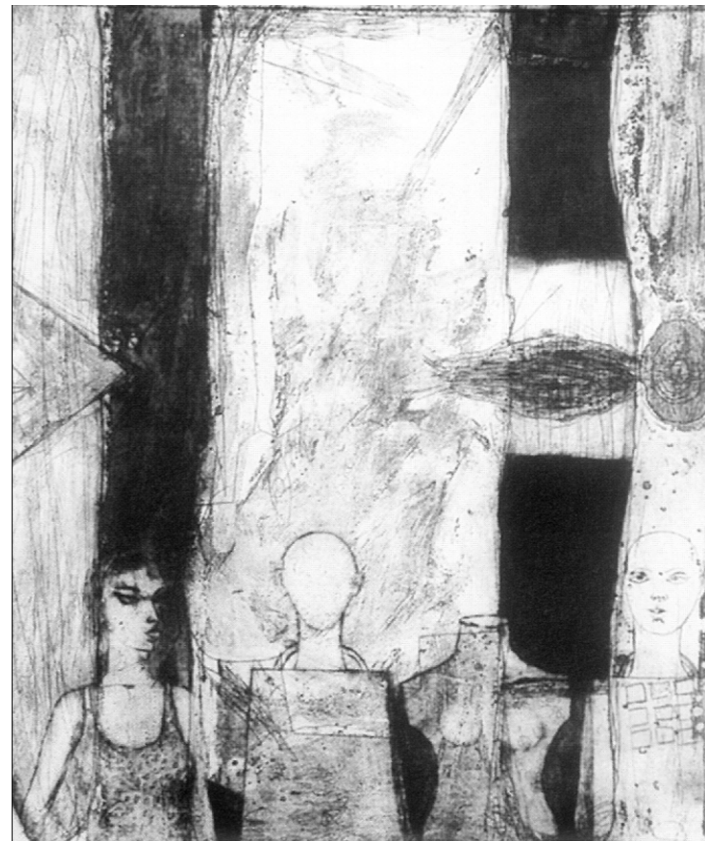


attention with its bed of nails and Sujan Chowdhury's cheeky 'Banana Eater' is great fun. 'Impression 17' draws its strength from the great assortment of works on show. What comes out clearly from the display is a wealth of potential.

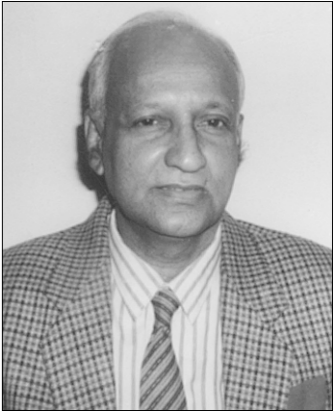
After a successful inauguration on the 28th February, we have until March 12th to appreciate these

wide-ranging works. One will probably also encounter some of the artists themselves willing to talk about their work. 'Impression 17' is definitely the kind of thing that should be taking place more often to help promote young talent and they all seem to agree.

The exhibition is open for all from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. daily.



Appointment



Mobarak Hossain Khan

New Chairman of Nazrul Institute

CULTURE DESK

Mobarak Hossain Khan, a reputed musician, distinguished litterateur and music researcher, has joined as the Chairman of the Trustee Board of Nazrul Institute.

A worthy son of illustrious musician Ustad Ayet Ali Khan and nephew of Ustad Alauddin Khan, he is also an established musicologist in his own right. Honoured with many laurels at home and abroad, Mobarak Hossain Khan is the recipient of the highest state awards 'Swadinata Dibas Purashker,' 'Ekushe Padak' and also Nazrul Gold Medal, Maulana Akram Khan Gold Medal, Shree Gyan Atish Dipankar Gold Medal, Comilla Foundation Gold Medal and many others. He is the author of about 100 books on music, juvenile literature and other subjects and a translator of repute. His article entitled 'Music of Bangladesh' has been included in the Swedish Encyclopedia. He has also contributed on music and musicians to 'Banglapedia' being published by the Asiatic Society of Bangladesh. He is the President of the Bangladesh Chapter of the International Council for Traditional Music Headquarters being in the USA.

As a leader of cultural delegation and as an expert on music, mass media, Unesco and Saarc he has visited many countries of the world.

Mobarak Hossain Khan is the former Director General of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy and prior to that he served as a Senior Director of Radio Bangladesh for long years. He is an MA in History from Dhaka University.

Music

A musical melting-pot

A recital of European Classics by a multi-cultural group takes place at the Osmani Memorial Hall in the city this evening

CULTURE DESK

A recital performance of European Classics will be held at Osmani Memorial Hall in the city today at 7 p.m. Members of the Chamber Music Ensemble 'Ibycus' from Bangkok will perform at the event that will present instrumental as well as vocal performances. The event is organised by the German Embassy in Bangladesh and sponsored by Siemens and the Bangladesh-German Business Forum.

The event will feature compositions from world-renowned composers like Mozart, Fauré, Handel, Schubert, Mendelssohn, Rachmaninov, Verdi, Katchaturyan and a new composition by H.M. King Bhunibol Adulyadej, King of Thailand.

The performers of the evening



will include all the four members of the music troupe 'Ibycus' who are based in the Thai capital and has gained quite a following among the local music lovers of Bangkok city.

One of the Ibycus performers, Sophie Tanapura (soprano) is from Thailand and the other two members are from Germany and Russia. The Ibycus violinist is Simon Stadlmair who comes from

Germany. Elvira Galioullina plays piano for the group and she is a Russian by birth.

Tickets, priced at Taka 70 each, are available at the reception of the German Embassy at 178, Gulshan Avenue and at the German Cultural Center, Goethe-Institut at road 9, house 10 of Dhanmondi in the city.

Event

A day for Language Martyrs

Podatik Natya Sangsad observes Language Martyrs Day on February 21 through various cultural events

CULTURE DESK

A daylong ceremony, titled Subarna Ekushey Podatik Shangkritik Shammlan, was held at the Bokultala at Jainul Mancha in

of several artists from the Indian states of Tripura and West Bengal.

The programs were divided in portions and it took a total of 13 hours to complete all the disciplines.

Mostafa Nurul Islam were given a hearty reception and were glorified with the title of Language Warriors.

Among the guest artists from India, singer Alok Khastogir, Srimati Balaka,



An Indian artist performs dance at the daylong event

the city on February 21 in observance of Language Martyrs Day and International Mother Language Day.

Professor Anisuzzaman, the immediate past Director-General of Bangla Academy declared the cultural fair open at 10:00 a.m. on the day.

Renowned artists and performers from groups across the country presented their expertise through various programs of songs, recitation, street drama and dance. Special attraction of the ceremony was the presence

A number of reputed poets of the country such as Belal Chowdhury, Mohammad Samad, Mahadeb Saha, Samudra Gupta, Nirmalendu Goon presented recitation of self-composed poems. Group recitation was performed by Baikuntha Abritee Academy. Eight renowned personalities of the cultural arena namely A.T.M. Shamsuddin Ahmed, A.M.A. Muhit, Mahbul Alam Chowdhury, Alauddin Hossain, Professor Anisuzzaman, Begum Gul E-Ferdousi Rahman, K.G. Mustafa and

Lagnajita, Shyamali Das Gupta and Sudipta Ghose enchanted the audience with their amazing performance.

Rezwana Chowdhury Bannya, Subir Nandi, Fahim Hossain Chowdhury, Nilufar Yasmeen, Indra Mahan Rajbangshi, Ferdous Ara, Tapan Mahmood, Laisa Islam Lisa and others too, rendered songs exceptionally well to the great delight

of the cultural connoisseurs who were patient enough to spend the whole day at the venue of Bokultala, till 9:30 p.m.

Music

Sex Pistols to re-release anthem for queen's jubilee

AFP, London

THE Sex Pistols, the British group that epitomised the punk movement, are to re-release their 1977 anti-monarchy anthem "God Save the Queen" for Queen Elizabeth's golden jubilee, Virgin Records said Friday.

A spokeswoman told AFP it hoped the single would finally secure the official number one spot in the British charts.

The song was first released to coincide with the queen's silver jubilee on the throne in 1977, and was quickly banned from all major radio stations.

Officially, it was pipped to the top of the charts by Rod Stewart, although many people believe the charts were rigged to save the queen from embarrassment.

"The aim this time round is to address that," Virgin's spokeswoman Sarah Walker told AFP.

The re-release is scheduled for May 27, just in time for the climax of the golden jubilee celebrations in early June.



Johnny Rotten of the Sex Pistols

The single, with the lyrics "God Save the Queen, she ain't no human being," will feature the original cover, a photograph of the monarch with a safety-pin through her nose.

"What we really want is it will finally gain the number one spot," a Virgin spokeswoman said.

"It will certainly be an alternative to the jubilee."

International



Aboriginal dancers perform during the opening ceremony for the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in Coolom, Australia on March 2, 2002

Movie

Chinese movies lead programme for Asian film festival in France

AFP, Deauville

CHINA is to be present in force at an Asian film festival in France next week, showing four of the nine films in competition, according to organisers Friday.

The movies "Father" by director Lou Jian, "All the Way" by Shi Runjiu and "The Marriage Certificate" by Huang Jianxin will be representing the mainland at the event to be held in Deauville next Thursday to Sunday, while "Peony Pavilion" by Yonfan will front for Hong Kong.

They will be competing against "Faihan" by South Korean director Song Hae-Sung, "Whispering Sands" by Indonesia's Nan T. Achnas, "A Woman's Work" by Japan's Kentaro Otani, "Deathrow" by the Philippines' Joel Lamangan and "The Rule of the Game" by Taiwan's Ho Ping.

The festival will also pay cinematic homage to directors Shin Sang-ok from South Korea -- who is also president of this year's jury -- and Johnnie To from Hong Kong.

Top Chinese actress Karen Mok, who starred in "All the Way", and rising Japanese performer Asak Seto, who is in "A Woman's Work", will add glamour to the festival, which is to close with Lotus prizes honouring the best film, best director, best actor, best actress, best script, best photography and public's choice.

Another 30 films are to be screened outside of the competition.