

RECOMMENDATIONS

Solo painting

A weeklong art exhibition of late artist Junabul Islam is being held at Zainul gallery of the Institute of Fine Arts in the city. Rokeya Islam, wife of the artist, hosts the display. Exhibition remains open from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. daily till April 28.

Swadhinata-r Utsav

A get-together of students who have visited Liberation Museum will take place on April 27 at the Sultana Kamal Mahila Kira Complex as part of the 'Outreach program' undertaken by the museum authorities. Entitled 'Swadhinata-r Utsav', the event will start at 2:00 p.m. which will continue till 6:00 p.m. The event will include song, raffle draw, Instant quiz competition, Mobile Liberation Museum. The event will allow only invited guests.

Group art exhibition

Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy and Bangladesh Institute of Labour Studies are organising a weeklong art exhibition of 10 contemporary artists of the country from April 23. The exhibition is a preview of another display scheduled to be organised jointly by the Danish Trade Union Council for International Development Cooperation LO-FTF Council and BLS in Denmark from November 2002. The present exhibition remains open from 11:00 a.m. (Friday 3 p.m.) to 7 p.m. daily till April 29.

Syed Jahangir's solo

Featuring recent artworks, the 32nd solo art exhibition by Syed Jahangir started at the Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts on April 18. The exhibition will continue everyday from 12 - 8 p.m. till May 9.

Art exhibition

Works of six noted contemporary print makers, Shafuddin Ahmed, Mohammad Kibria, Mahmudul Haque, Abul barq Alvi, Rokeya Sultana and Anisuzzaman, are being showcased at the city's Alliance Francaise de Dhaka gallery. Exhibition ends on April 26.

French cinema

'Une affaire de gout de Bernard Rapp', a film in French directed by Bernard Giraudan will be screened at the auditorium of Alliance Francaise de dhaka in the city on April 26 at 10:00 a.m. A second feature film from France, 'Ascenseur pour l'echafaud' directed by Louis Malle will be screened at the same venue later on in the evening at 6:00 p.m. These two are in part of Alliance Francaise's weekly film exhibition schedule.

Art

Reaching art to the commoners' doorstep

Painters' organisation, Samakal offers art enthusiasts a unique opportunity to collect works of fine arts from a Baishakhi Mela stall in the city

TAWFIQUE ALI

VISITORS at a Baishakhi Mela (traditional art & crafts fair) to welcome Bengali new year that was held at the city's Dhanmondi playground marking Bengali New Years' Day festivity, appreciated the novel effort of making art works accessible within the commoners' means. Samakal, an organisation of amateur and professional painters appeared at their stall with a reduction sale of their paintings at the fair.

During the weeklong event, group of inquisitive crowd was a frequent feature in front of the Samakal stall at the fair premises. People of varied tastes and senses spontaneously showered their admiration for art inspiring Samakal activists who work for a movement to create an art market among the country's layman.

Any visitor passing by, had a peep into the stall, admired the pieces on display and enquired about price of their choice. On each of three successive visits to



Samakal painters at a glance



A section of inquisitive art enthusiasts sorting out pieces of their taste

the stall, this correspondent found the organisers and stalls keepers joyfully busy in showcasing pieces and answering various queries made by art lovers. "Sale is satisfactory, and more important is that people's enthusiasm is inspiring," the organisers said.

Matiar Rahman is one of those established and emerging painters who belong to Samakal. While talking to The Daily Star, he said, "Our principal aim is to help commoners' dormant enthusiasm for art bloom and let them have an access to the world of art bringing it within their affordability. If you can arouse a sense of art and beauty, ugliness of different forms will gradually disappear from human society. Another vital aspect in this respect is that fine art has multiple languages to speak to any people of any land. On our can-

vas we depict ingredients of our own tradition, heritage, culture and history, which are quintessentially Bangali. Our aim is to acquaint our indigenous tradition with the world as our master painters did." He also added that during last four years they have been highly encouraged by common men's response made to Samakal's initiative. Samakal's activities include organising sale particularly on New Year's day celebrations and other traditional occasions.

Samakal's member painters, among others, include Ranjit Das, Rammen Saha, Abdus Shakur, Nasir Bishwas, Farida Zaman, Shawkatuzzaman, Zinat Wahid, Selima Hedaeyt, Anisur Rahman and Israt Jahan.

Reminiscing his days as an art student, Matiar said that a significant change has taken

place in the country's art arena.

Ranjit Das termed the initiative as a "movement." "There are lot of art enthusiasts in our country but art works remain beyond their means. We intend to make it easy for them to avail," he remarked.

In the fair common art lovers availed themselves of an opportunity to pick some pieces of their own fancy.

Lopa Hanif, an art enthusiast and resident at Dhanmondi, appeared to be one of rather earnest visitors at Samakal's stall in the fair who, being impressed by the initiative, collected one or two art pieces. "In view of popularising art, it is a pretty good endeavour which deserves to be duly appreciated and promoted," she observed while exchanging her views with this correspondent. She thought such effort could expedite the

mode of arousing aesthetic sense among the general people.

On Friday morning, Manzoor Hossain of Fakirpool paid a visit to Samakal/stall of paintings with his daughter an avid art lover, and compiled five pieces of paintings to adorn his newly bought residence.

Paintings for the sale have been done in oil; water and acrylic on paper except some pencil and ink sketches.

There was also some pottery paintings on the list. Folk designs and motifs have commonly found room in almost all the pieces capturing a resonant rural landscape of beautiful Bengal. Works are mostly realistic with panoramic views except a few abstract and semi-abstract pieces with vibrant forms and figures in brilliant colours. Matiar Rahman's pieces have been found pre-occupied with pasto-

ral sights composed of small boats casually lying tied to the stake, showpurn walkway by the riverbank, dilapidated houses, grassy field and surrounding greenery. Other works portray rural bride; village women faces; sailing boat; twilight on the riverbank; a raging storm and playful children suggesting mythical phenomena of rural Bengal. One piece by Ranjit Das interprets an exquisite woman face shrouded in delicate mystery of virginal beauty, with great affection. In other pieces also painters have dealt affectionately to delineate representative rural beauty and aspects of our own tradition.

The fair came to an end on Saturday last.



A view of the paintings at the stall

TV GUIDE

BTV

- 3:00p.m. Opening
3:10 News headline Bangla
3:20 Open university
3:45 Health related program
4:00 News in Bangla
4:05 Cartoon
4:20 Family planning
4:40 Khetley khelley computer
5:00 News headline in Bangla
5:20 Jibon O Jibika
5:45 Geetbitan
6:00 News in Bangla
6:10 Nutrition related program
6:35 BTV: Chittagong center
7:00 News headline in English
7:05 Prashangik
7:25 Mati O Manush
8:00 News in Bangla
8:30 Drama serial
9:00 News headline in Bangla
9:05 Drama serial
9:30 Film songs
10:00 News at ten
10:20 Protideen
11:00 Ujjibon
11:30 News (Bangla/English)
11:45 Closing

ATN BANGLA

- 5:30 Islamic prog:
7:00 Musical prog: ATN Music
7:35 Dance prog: Dance
8:00 ATN Bangla Evening News
8:25 Computer Based prog.: ATN Computer
9:00 Projekte
9:10 Drama: Naeka
10:10 Musical Prog
10:50 Bengali Feature film: Aer-e-Nam Pream
12:00 ATN Bangla News
6:07 Sustha Thakun
6:45 Film Songs Prog: Surchobi
7:00 ATN Bangla Evening News
7:35 Musical Prog.
8:10 Dhallywood Bichitra
8:45 Drama: Babak
9:20 Musical Prog: Ruposhe
10:00 ATN Bangla News
10:35 Film magazine: Filmy Bazar
11:15 Bengali Feature film: Chaitbaz
11:30 ATN Bangla News

EKUSHEY TV

- 12:00pm Ekushey Midday
12:30 Deho Tore
1:00 Ekushey Headlines
1:05 Expedition to the Animal Kingdom
1:30 Documentary
Programmed: Japan Video Tropic
Classic Cartoons
1:50 Deho Tore
2:10 Deho Tore
2:40 Drishti
3:00 Ekushey Headlines
3:05 Drama Serial: Ek Cup Cha
3:30 Surma Parer Gaan
4:00 Expedition to the Animal Kingdom
4:30 Wildlife on One
5:00 Drishti
5:50 Ajker Potriky
6:00 Ekushey Headlines
6:05 Classic Cartoons
6:30 Deshjure Songlap
6:55 Ekushey Headlines
7:00 Bolte Chai
7:30 Ekushey Shongbad
8:00 Ekushey News
8:05 Drama Serial: Bondhon
8:30 Pop Show
9:00 Choto Golper Shombhar
9:30 Pother Pachile
10:00 News: Simulcast from BTV
10:30 Chittogetee
11:00 Ekushey Late Night Shongbad
11:30 Sumptroque
12:00 Ekushey Headlines

CHANNEL-i

- Morning
7:30a.m. Music Plus
8:10 Alokito Bangladesh
8:40 Drama serial: Simana
9:10 Drama serial: Joar bhata
9:40 Anubhabey
Anukhaney
Documentary program
10:10 Goto satdin
11:10 Music Plus
12:00 Alokito Bangladesh
12:30 Drama serial: Simana
1:00 Drama serial: Joar bhata
1:30 Anubhabey
Anukhaney
Bangla feature film
2:00 Opening

- 5:10 Documentary
5:40 Chithi pelaam
6:10 Music Plus
6:50 Songs
7:15 Channel-I news
8:00 Face to face
8:30 Drama serial: Joar bhata
8:50 Ispahani telequiz
9:00 Channel-I news
9:35 Shongbadpotrey Bangladesh
9:50 Ispahani telequiz
10:00 Sanchita
10:30 Channel-I news
11:30 Bangla feature film

BBC WORLD

- 6:00am BBC News
6:30 World Business Report
7:00 BBC News
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 World Business Report
11:00 BBC News
11:30 World Business Report / Sports Today
12:00pm BBC News
12:30 World Business Report / Sports Today
1:00 BBC News
1:30 Clarkson
2:00 BBC News
2:30 Hardtalk
3:00 BBC News
3:30 Reporters
4:00 BBC News
4:30 Asia Today/World Business Report
5:00 BBC News
5:30 Hardtalk

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

- Ekushey 9:30 p.m. Protidin ekti golap
STAR WORLD: 6:00 & 9:30 p.m. The Drew Carey Show
STAR MOVIES: 7:00 p.m. Freejack

PICK OF THE DAY

Escape From L.A.
On HBO at 10:00 p.m.
The year is 2013 and Snake Plissken is back from Escape From New York. An earthquake has separated Los Angeles from the mainland. In the New Moral America, all citizens not conforming to the new laws are deported to L.A., now a penal colony. The President's daughter has stolen a doomsday device and has fled to L.A. It's up to Snake Plissken to find the President's daughter.