

RECOMMENDATIONS

Exhibition

June 29-July 12

Shilpangan has arranged a special fourteen-day watercolour exhibition of reputed sculptor and painter Hamiduzzaman Khan starting from June 29. In the function, Shilpangan will honour two famous art-critics Rabiu Hossain and Moinuddin Khaled for their outstanding contribution to the country's art movement. Shilpangan will also honour Faiza Haq of The Daily Star and Ashishur Rahman Shuvo of The Daily Janakantha for cultural reporting. The programme starts at 5.30pm. The exhibition is open for visitors everyday from 10am to 9pm.

June 30

To commemorate the birth of renowned poet Begum Sufia Kamal, Gallery Chitrak is holding a painting exhibition titled Twilight Magic by artist Fareha Zeba from June 20-30, from 10am to 8pm everyday. Venue: House # 21, Road # 4, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka 1205

Crystal Fair

June 20-26

A weeklong Russian Crystal Fair has begun at the Exhibition Hall of the Russian Cultural Centre. The exhibition will remain open from 10:00 am to 7:00 pm till Thursday June 26th, 2003. Venue: Exhibition Hall of the Russian Cultural Centre House # 510, Road # 7, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka 1205.

Theatre

June 27-30

To mark the fourth Biannual Conference of Shattwick Natya Somproda, the theatre group arranges a drama festival at the Shawkat Osman auditorium of Begum Sufia Kamal Library. Entitled Moliere Drama Festival, the festival features staging of Moliere's drama by four reputed theatre groups of Dhaka. Besides, a seminar titled Moliere's Drama in Bangladesh will also take place during the 4-day long conference of Shattwick.

Folk-art

Commemorating Jasimuddin's birth centennial

Abdus Shakoor talks about his exhibition at Shilpkala Academy

FAYZA HAQ

ABDUS Shakoor Shah, talking about his ongoing exhibition said, "It was Shubir Chowdhury of the Shilpkala Academy who decided the subject. I spent three months over it. There is some experimentation here for I had to deal with Jasimuddin's 'Shojon Badhier Ghat' and 'Nakshi Kantha Math' as there are characters here like the go between in a marriage and protagonists like Dulali and Sujon and their love affairs. There is the presentation of the 'lathial' and other important personalities called Saju and Rupa. The subject has differed somewhat while I used water, acrylic and oil as before. Thus it is the composition of his particular style, Shakoor said, "For six years now I've been bringing in the impact of folk art in my work. I did this to bring a variation in my work. However, the vastness of the poems is such that I felt I could not do justice to them in the short time given to me. It would require about seven years to treat the subject adequately. I have treated the subjects briefly and with the help of symbols."

Asked to elaborate on his symbols, Shakoor said, "I have presented the ways the poetry has described the girls such as with dark skin but inimitable beauty, the birds have come in standing for freedom, the thatched huts are there with banana trees standing for peace and harmony. The influence of older relatives like uncles and aunts have come in to show strong family bonds that characters like Saju and Rupa enjoyed in their lives and which is there even today in rural existence."

The plot of 'Nakshi Kantha Math' however is a vast canvas that requires at least a year from an artist like myself."

Speaking his treatment of his subjects, Shakoor said, "Nakshi Kantha Math' deals mostly with love affairs. It brings in the setting of a vast area which I've been unable to bring in. Saju for instance is seen speaking with her father discussing her love and marriage. Again, in 'Shojon Badhier Ghat' there are important characters like Dulali and her friend talking together which I've delineated in a red circle along with leaves and birds. I've used black and blue to bring in the complexion of the bronzed beauties in the villages."

Touching on how he formulated his particular style, Shakoor said, "For six years now I've been bringing in the impact of folk art in my work. I did this to bring a variation in my work. However, the vastness of the poems is such that I felt I could not do justice to them in the short time given to me. It would require about seven years to treat the subject adequately. I have treated the subjects briefly and with the help of symbols."

Asked to elaborate on his symbols, Shakoor said, "I have presented the ways the poetry has described the girls such as with dark skin but inimitable beauty, the birds have come in standing for freedom, the thatched huts are there with banana trees standing for peace and harmony. The influence of older relatives like uncles and aunts have come in to show strong family bonds that characters like Saju and Rupa enjoyed in their lives and which is there even today in rural existence."

fear that the work might be illustrative which I didn't want. In order to bring in the quality of painting I've maintained my old style keeping in mind the surface and the composition. As for the lettering it is a part of the poems that the paintings are about. I do not consider it as calligraphy as in that one plays with the shapes of the lettering, and forms designs and motifs with them. The writing, however, is an integral part of the composition of the paintings. Calligraphy, on its own, can be an



Shojon Badhier Ghat

art by itself."

Continuing about the use of flat colours with the contrasting blues and reds, the delineation of the clothes and jewellery, Shakoor said, "I want the viewer to straight away say that he is viewing a Bangladeshi work when he/she sees my painting. I want to maintain my Asian identity and revel in the flat surfaces. The colours are bright while the heroes and heroines are black or blue or even brown and gray. I've been influenced by the works of Jamini Roy, Quarmi Hassan, Qayum Chowdhury and Rashed Chowdhury. My teacher in India, K G Subramania also painted in this flat surface style. I chose folk art for my work by an incident in my life.

"My painting won a prize in Japan in 1991 when I was dealing with the problems of the third world countries. I had used four entries with motifs taken from the 'shital pati', and out of 22,000 five countries won the prizes. I was basically influenced by the Bengal School of Art but I did not use any religious overtures. I've tried to present my human figures and the accompanying motifs of birds, fish, animals and flowers in the simplest possible way. There are six canvases and 34 drawings and paintings on paper.

Abdus Shakoor has had ten solo exhibits and has participated in over 25 international and national exhibitions in India, Italy, France, Russia, UK, Japan, Denmark, Czech Republic, Brazil and Bangladesh.

He has won nine awards including the Best Prize at the Lalitkala Academy, Gujarat, India in 1977. He is the head of the department of the Crafts, Institute of Fine Arts, DU.

What's on

Family dramas to bring back crowds

Bollywood banks on sex, suspense

AFP, Bombay

INDIA is waiting more breathlessly for the monsoons than for new films, much to the chagrin of Bollywood, which is banking on the age-old formula of sex, suspense and family drama to lure crowds back in.

Trade analysts believe two big-budget family dramas -- "Main Prem Ki Diwani Hoon" (I Am Crazy About Love) and "Chalte Chalte" (While On a Stroll) -- will delight massive crowds over and over again. Skin-showing thriller "Bhoot" and the sultry "Andaz" (allure) have already begun pouring badly-needed rupees into the industry's coffers.

"Main Prem Ki Diwani Hoon" and "Chalte Chalte" are scheduled for nationwide release this month, while "Bhoot" was responsible for 80 per cent of cinema revenues when it opened last Friday.

"Andaz" looks to power its way



Shrukh and Rani featuring in Chalte Chalte, a romantic family drama.

Bollywood.

India's formulaic film industry is in desperate need of a blockbuster after losing more than three billion rupees last year on a string of rote and predictable pictures that failed

The romantic family drama "Chalte Chalte" from superstar Shahrukh Khan features movie star Rani Mukherjee alongside Khan in the lead role.

Directed and produced by ace director Ram Gopal Varma, "Bhoot" tells the story of a young couple played by Ajay Devgan and Urmila Matondkar who move into a duplex unaware that its previous occupant committed suicide within its walls.

"Bhoot" had a full opening in states like Uttar Pradesh and Bihar and drew 80 percent initials in Bombay."

"Not only that, it also saw the revival of Bombay's black market for tickets after a long period. Bombay's Gaiety theatre had tickets for the film selling at double the price."

The success of films featuring skimpily-clad beauties will likely usher in more just like them, with directors and studios eager to seize on something, anything, that will keep the crowds coming.

"Andaz" looks to power its way into the number one spot at the box-office, collecting 9.28 million rupees (198,000 dollars) in its opening week in Bombay at the heart of

Main Prem Ki Diwani Hoon comes from the legendary Rajshri Productions. to hold audiences through one screening.

Only "Jism," a titillating flick was a bankable hit for the industry last year.

The hallmark of success for a Bollywood film is an audience that can sing along to the musical numbers and quote line after line of dialogue -- proof they have seen the picture multiple times.

"Main Prem Ki Diwani Hoon" revolves around a love triangle of three friends and boasts megastars including heartthrob Hrithik Roshan, ingenue Kareena Kapoor and Abhishek Bachchan, son of legendary actor Amitabh Bachchan.

Andaz hit the box office in its opening week in Bombay.

Bhoot a thriller is played by Ajay Devgan and Urmila Matondkar.

TV GUIDE

CHANNEL-i

06:10 Islamic Programme

5:00 Ei Prithivi

5:30 Tara News Headlines

HBO

7:00 Mad Max Beyond Thunderdome

9:15 In not Rappaport

12:00 Dinner with Friends

2:00 The Ticket

3:45 The Flintstones in viva rock Vegas

5:45 The Blob

7:45 Attack on the Queen

9:30 The Frighteners

11:45 The Patriot

1:30 The Flintstones in Viva Rock Vegas

3:00 Dinner with Friends

AXN

6:30 Movie : Cold Harvest

7:30 Rescue 911

9:00 Who Dares Wins

9:30 Profiler : Inheritance

TARA BANGLA

10:30 Drama Serial: Grohan

11:30 Drama Serial: Bhuloo

1:30 Fear Factor

2:30 Movie: Cold Harvest

4:30 Rescue 911

5:30 Pacific Blue

6:30 Beastmaster the Legend Reborn

7:30 Rollerjam

8:30 Profiler : Heads, You Lose

9:30 Ripleys Believe It or Not!

11:30 Wild On

1:30 Ripleys Believe It or Not!

MGM

6:30 Strangers

9:00 Miracles

11:30 Welcome Home

2:00 Great Train

3:00 Robbery

4:30 East is East

6:30 Cohen & Tate

9:30 Zee MGM Select

11:30 Crazy Joe

STAR WORLD

7:00 Friends

7:30 Dharma & Greg

8:00 Sound of Music

8:30 Life in the word

9:00 Bhakti Bhaav

9:30 Yoga for life

10:20 Yaadein Radio

11:00 Cartoon Network

1:00 TVC

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS



HBO: 11:45 p.m. The Patriot. The movie takes place in South Carolina in 1776. Benjamin Martin, a French-Indian war hero who is haunted by his past, is a patriot who wants no part in a war with Britain. Meanwhile, his two eldest sons, Gabriel and Thomas, can't wait to go out and kill some Redcoats. When South Carolina decides to go to war with Britain, Gabriel immediately signs up to fight...without his father's permission.

STAR MOVIES: 8:30 p.m. Species. A group of four specialists are given the task of tracking down Sil. She's part human, part alien, beautiful, strong, very dangerous and desperate to mate with a human. In 1993, the Search for Extra Terrestrial Intelligence Project receives a transmission detailing an alien DNA structure,

PICK OF THE DAY



The Frighteners

On HBO at 9:30 p.m. A psychic private detective who consorts with deceased souls becomes engaged in a mystery as members of the town community begin dying mysteriously. While investigating, he is aided by a friendly doctor who believes in his psychic abilities and is hindered by a crazed G-Man, a woman involved in

Day 2 London UK First

12:00 Sportsline Tonight

Sportsline (L)

SONY

7:30 Amit Varsha

8:00 Sant Asaram Vani

8:30 Om Narmath Shivay

9:30 Good Morning Disney

10:30 Chartbusters

11:00 Music Mantra

11:30 Indian Holiday

12:00 Cook it up with Tarla Dalal

12:30 Heena

1:00 Kkusum

1:30 Ab Ayeza Mazaa

2:00 Naam Gum Jayega

2:00 Kutumb

2:30 Dhadkan

3:00 Ghar Ek Mandir

4:30 Alpaviram

4:30 Kaun Apna Kaun Paraya

5:00 Majgudi Days

5:30 Dekh Bhai Dekh

6:00 Just Mohabbat