

RECOMMENDATIONS

Exhibition

October 04-16
The Saju Art Gallery holds a solo painting exhibition of noted artist Syed Jahangir.

October 10-16

A solo art exhibition of artist Alamgir Kabir will begin at the Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka University, at 4.00 pm.

Woodcut Print

October 03-14

Alliance Francaise holds a solo woodcut print exhibition by Selina Chowdhury Mili at its La Galerie.

Nakshikantha

October 06-10

A Nakshikantha exhibition is going on at the BSOIC Design Centre (137/138 Motijheel C/A) which is open for all from 10 am to 7 pm everyday.

October 08-12

La Galeria is presenting an exhibition by German artist Ina Rolshoven. This exhibition had begun on October 8 and will go on till Sunday.

Venue: La Galeria, 54 Kamal Attaturk Avenue, 4th floor Banani.

Anniversary

October 10

To mark the seventh founding anniversary of the only music-based monthly magazine Sargam a get together and a musical programme will take place at the VIP Lounge of the National Press Club at 4 pm.

Film Show

October 20

The film 'War and Peace' will be screened at the auditorium of the Russian Cultural Centre to mark the birth anniversary of great Russian film director and actor Sergei Bondarchuk in cooperation with Sergei Bondarchuk film club, at 3 p.m.

October 27

A documentary film show dedicated to the international tourism day will be held at the library of the Russian Cultural Centre. The films are 'Architectural Monuments of the Old Moscow' and 'Russian Museum', at 11 a.m.

Drama Lane

Table with columns: Group, Plays, Date. Lists drama groups like People's Little Theatre and Lok Natyadal.

Craft

"Karika" rushes to the rescue

Experts speak on need for sale drive of handicrafts

FAYZA HAQ

Speaking at a recent press conference of an exhibit of folk art at "Karika" and stressing on the need for protecting our dying handicrafts, Parveen Ahmad, the convener and chairperson of the Arts and Crafts Exhibit 2003, spoke along with three other of her associates.

scroll called 'Ghazir pott'. Ghazi is a 'pir' recognised both by the Hindus and Muslims, by the woodcutters, honey gatherers, fishermen and boatmen in the Sundarbans.

Ahmed said that the 'Ghazir pott' is a series of folk stories told by the village men of the bravery of this man who protected them from tigers. Ghazi, she said, is sacred to the Hindus too as they have a similar personality whom they called 'Shatta pir' but he rides a leopard

there one or two from private collections. Ahmed added that one important reason for the diminishing of crafts is that the metropolis dwellers are not paying according to the demand of the producers.

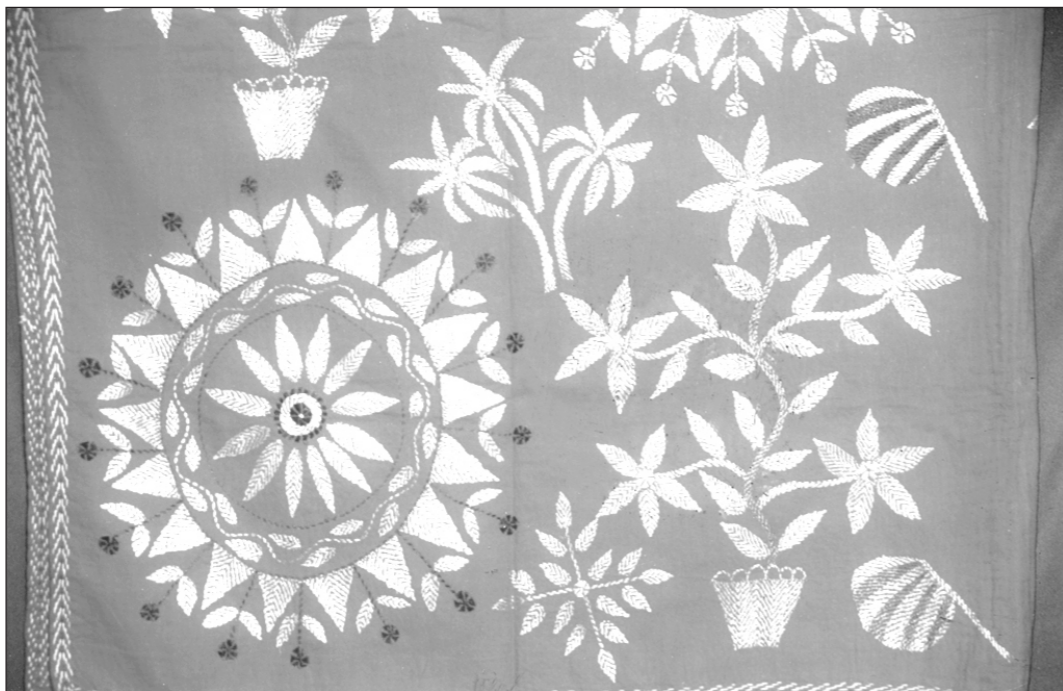
collector's items. Ahmed said with vehemence, "People are ready to pay a high price for painting but they are not ready to pay for a craft that has taken six months whereas the painting may have been done in three days.

There were nine categories of items of which only one or two were totally neglected such as the "Ghazir pott" and the "kanthas". These included terracotta/clay crafts, printed ports ("Shokh-hari"), plant pith craft ("Sholar kaj"), painted scrolls ("Ghazir pott") and "chitra pot", metal crafts, "nakshikantha", carved wooden crafts, hand fans, mask and puppets, we were told in Ahmad's conclusion.

Chandan, a curator assistant at "Karika", once a student of the Crafts Department at the Institute of Fine Arts, DU, told that one did not feel that "Karika" had progressed much in the last 30 years, said in defense. "Yes, the work found here was much better, more in number. I've toured the most in the 'karika' committee trying to focus on the different folk crafts. The reason why our standard has fallen is because the rural artisans have difficulty in marketing their products.

Abdur Shakoor, the reputed artist, famed for his folk based paintings, said on the occasion stressed on the need for holding the exhibition to encourage our tradition so that the ordinary people can comprehend our rich cultural heritage. Asked if our city dwellers had become more westernised, Shakoor said, "We have tended to forget our roots. In the city we are not even aware of the traditions of the villages. This he said included the wooden dolls and 'nakshikanthas'."

The press conference was mind-expanding indeed and undoubtedly an interesting one. The exhibition that followed shortly was even more interesting and breathtaking for craft connoisseurs.



Nakshikantha from Chapainawabganj - lotus and tree of life motif

Sonargaon village doll, hewn from a single piece of wood



marketing for general genre of handicrafts. As time is passing and we're realising that the commercialisation of our products is going from bad to worse so that, it is overpowering our original purity of design. For this reason this project has been undertaken and in this we have presented a large range of authentic rural crafts."

Again, Ahmad said, that besides the religious element in the crafts, there is a very deep cultural link the Indo-Gangetic civilisation, such as that of terra-cotta, cloth and natural fibre like jute, "shola" and beetle nut bark fibre, which are on the verge of extinction. These items go back to as much as 12 centuries. The Moenjodaro link which is visible in our terracotta dolls and toys go back to 3,000 years. Not only has that history been forgotten but the realisation that they are diminishing is that within two decades they'll be there no more.

while Ghazi rides a tiger and both carry symbols in their hands," Ahmed said that this is a vital craft, and when organising the exhibition they went to the well-known parts of Bangladesh where the 'Ghazir pott' was being made i.e. Munshiganj, Rajshahi, Khulna etc.

"Karika" had been able to collect only three authentic pieces, and

"Karika" has tried to do during the exhibition was to focus of crafts which have already died.

Coming to the topic of 'nakshikanthas', they have been badly "battered" by commercialisation, Ahmed said. Here too "Karika" had included items done in the villages in the last 25 years but these could not complete with the

Theatre

All My Sons and others

Drama festival ends

CULTURE DESK

NAGARIK Nattayangan Ensemble arranged a 9-day long drama festival recently at the Public Library auditorium. Several theatrical groups of our country as well as from India such as Bohrupi and Rangakarmee took part in the festival.

Chaired by Kalim Sharafi, the concluding ceremony was also attended by Mustafa Monwar as the chief guest, Liakat Ali Lucky and Usha Ganguli from India as special guests.

In his speech, General Secretary of the group Jamaluddin Hussain said it is definitely a positive sign that we are moving ahead without the government's help. Otherwise, he said we would not have the freedom that we are enjoying right now. In his speech, Liakat Ali Lucky focussed on the problems that the cultural activists are facing at the moment. Usha Ganguli talked about the progress of theatre in the Indian sub-continent and Kalim Sharafi, chairman on the occasion, wished for the progress of theatre artists.

The programme concluded with the display of Nagarik Nattayangan Ensemble's production 'All My Sons'



Jamaluddin Hussain, the director of the play.

by Arthur Miller, a translated version of the play. The canvas of this play is based on the social feature during post Second World War. Responsibility, question of applying reason and the impact of greediness are the themes of the play. In the social structure of the play follies, covetousness and selfishness stood out. The costume designing was adequate and so were the setting and lighting effects.

COMING UP

The pioneers themselves...

Music being one of the most imaginative genres among the popular arts of all time, it is hard to know precisely why some bands succeed and others fall short. Nevertheless, the most popular ones survive. A pioneering group made its way and introduced the rock scene in Bangladesh.

They did not mean to create an uproar in the music industry, just wanted to perform out of passion. However, the icons of today were born in the late '60s: Rafiq, the rhythm guitarist, Alamgir (today's idol in Pakistan) on the bass, and Panni on the electric organ were jamming to make an instrumental band in 1964, and they eventually became the veterans of band music. Today we can cherish the treasure of the Windy Side of Care, the first ever musical rock band in Bangladesh.

The boys were practising hard enough to be branded very quickly. Fazle Rab joined as the lead guitarist, Shabbir Qadir as the drummer and Fahmi Omar took the bass, and it was then that the talented Alamgir took the lead as the front man. Soon, they were asked to perform in gigs...

Look out for an exclusive interview with two of the band members on tomorrow's issue.

Interview

Carving up a career

CONTINUED FROM YESTERDAY

Reminiscing once again on his favourite topic of the Art College during his time, filled with nostalgia, Jahangir elaborated once more with feelings, "It is definitely very different from the present Institute of Fine Arts. The atmosphere in the Art College used to be very friendly and the teachers never kept the students at an arm's distance by any chance. We used to work together, chat together but at the same time we used to respect our teachers enormously. Zainul Abedin meant Zainul Abedin even though we gossiped with him at times. I believe these element of respecting the elders and having camaraderie with them, at the same time, is totally missing of late. We were also close to the contemporary poets and other literateurs and musicians of the time. We were a small group of artists and consequently we clung together. Naturally we were completely aware of our cultural environment as we had a lot of interaction with others in the cultural scene. These days, I believe that the Fine Arts Institute is too big and has too many students."

Continuing to talk about how different his student days were from that of the young artists today, Jahangir said, "However, they are more advanced in the knowledge of fine arts as they have many more knowledgeable people around them. Again, they have more books and are allowed to be more experi-

mental. We used to come from the village and were not well versed in English in which the arts books are written. We had to struggle with the books. Jeffrey Hedley from the British College helped me a great deal in learning the English vocabulary and its pronunciation. We would borrow books and open the dictionaries to get ahead. Nowadays the art students are quite educated as a lot of them can read the necessary books in English. At a young stage they get a lot of scholarships and they are exposed to workshops and cultural exchanges. Consequently their horizons are broader. Today a number of 2" and 3" year students are having solo exhibits which were unheard of in our days. Again, there are so many more galleries from which they can learn so much. In our time there was just the Art Gallery and even the Shilpakala Academy came into existence in 1974."

Asked to say a few words about his Shilpakala days, where he had worked as Director, Fine Arts Department, "Having come back in 1973, being delayed in Pakistan, where I had got held up against my will, I was working as a free lance here and held my solo in 1978. In the meantime, Shilpakala Academy needed someone to run its Fine Arts Department and they needed someone to run it. Only Subir Chowdhury was doing some work there with the help of Aminul Islam. Aminul Islam and Qamrul Hassan insisted that I take up the job. I wasn't interested in doing a bureau-

cratic job. However, the authorities talked me into it. The man behind my final decision was my friend Asafuddin, who was then a Joint Secretary, Ministry of Education/Ministry of Culture. I planned to establish the department and go back to my free lancing days. I felt that I could create an adequate atmosphere for other artists, specially the young ones, and ended up working there for fourteen years. My decision was very satisfactory for me as my experience there for 14 years was extremely pleasant" (The Ekushey Padak that Syed Jahangir got was for his work at Shilpakala Academy).

Comparing the Shilpakala Academy today with that in his time, Jahangir said, "I would say that it has not improved in the ways that I had hoped and it should have been. The biennials now are the same things as before excepting that more countries are participating and more countries are coming forth. The quality of work has not improved."

Syed Jahangir, in his recent exhibition at Saju Art Gallery, has gone back to impressionism with the theme of "Sonar Bangla". He has heaped gold and blue colours in his oil on canvas pieces, in his presentation of his vision and thoughts of Bangladeshi sun-washed fields, farmers, fishermen and their wives. F. H.

TV GUIDE

All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme.

News Bulletin

BTB
News Headlines(Bangla) at 9:40 am. 12:10 pm. 2:00 p.m. 3:10 pm. 4:00 pm. 7:00 pm.
News(Bangla) at 8:00 am 1:00 pm. 5:00 pm. 8:00 pm.
News (English) at 3:00 pm. 10:00 pm.
Late Night News(Bangla and English) 11:30 pm.
CHANNEL-i
Breakfast News 07:15 am. 9:00am
News(Bangla) at 7:15 pm, 9:00, 10:30, 12:15 am.
Telecast of BTV news(Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.
Latest News(Bangla) at 09 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 1 pm, 2:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00pm, 6:00 pm. and 8:00 pm.
ntv
05:05 Potrikar Khabar
05:20 Ithasher Ei Diney
05:25 Cartoon-Alice In Wonderland
06:00 Cartoon-Remie
06:32 Shubho Shandhya
06:52 Music Watch
08:00 Drama Serial: Ronger Manush
08:35 Rupali Jhalak
09:10 Tarar Shathey
09:47 Drama Serial: Khama
10:22 Shapthalar Khabar
10:50 Ithasher Ei Diney
11:30 Din Darpan
11:35 Tele Film: Anshita (Ep-2)
12:30 Cine Gaan
TARA BANGLA
09:30 pm.
BBC World
2:00 Taka Na Sona

2:30 Tara News Headlines
2:33 Live Angana
3:00 Live Angana Rpt.
3:30 Tara News Headlines
3:33 Serial/Peyer Talai Sorsho
4:00 Antakshari Rpt.
4:30 Tara News Headlines
4:33 Music
5:00 Ei Prithivi
5:30 Tara News - District
5:45 Tara News Bangladesh
6:00 Nonte Fonte
6:30 Tara News Headlines
6:33 Taka Na Sona
7:00 Sree Ramkrishna
7:30 Tara News Headlines
7:33 Hoi Hullor
8:00 Tara News
8:15 Tara News Bangladesh
8:30 Antakshari
9:00 Syllebusy Nei
9:30 Tara News Headlines
9:33 Serial Katy
10:00 Ghare-O-Baire
10:30 Tara News Headlines
11:00 Live Doshtai
11:30 Tara News
11:45 Aiker Bishoy
BBC WORLD
8:30 Asia Today/World Business Report
9:30 Asia Today/Asia Business Report
10:30 World Business Report
11:30 World Business

2:30 Tara News Headlines
2:33 Live Angana
3:00 Live Angana Rpt.
3:30 Tara News Headlines
3:33 Serial/Peyer Talai Sorsho
4:00 Antakshari Rpt.
4:30 Tara News Headlines
4:33 Music
5:00 Ei Prithivi
5:30 Tara News - District
5:45 Tara News Bangladesh
6:00 Nonte Fonte
6:30 Tara News Headlines
6:33 Taka Na Sona
7:00 Sree Ramkrishna
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7:33 Hoi Hullor
8:00 Tara News
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8:30 Antakshari
9:00 Syllebusy Nei
9:30 Tara News Headlines
9:33 Serial Katy
10:00 Ghare-O-Baire
10:30 Tara News Headlines
11:00 Live Doshtai
11:30 Tara News
11:45 Aiker Bishoy
BBC WORLD
8:30 Asia Today/World Business Report
9:30 Asia Today/Asia Business Report
10:30 World Business Report
11:30 World Business

12:30 Report World Business
1:30 Talking Movies
2:30 Hardtalk
3:30 Simpsons World Directs
4:00 BBC News
4:30 Asia Today/World Business Report
5:30 Hardtalk
6:30 World Business Report/Short Today
7:30 Talking Movies
8:30 Asia Today
9:30 Hardtalk
10:15 World Business Report/Question Time India
11:30 World Business Report/Short Today
HBO
8:30 Darkman III: Die Darkman Die
10:15 She Creature
12:00 Heaven's Prisoners
2:30 The Tenant
5:00 Dunegons & Dragons
7:15 The Devil's Own
9:30 The Fast and the Furious. Thriller/Action/Crime; Paul Walker, Vin Diesel, Michelle Rodriguez, Jordana Brewster. Loosely based on an article in a magazine about street clubs that race Japanese cars late at night.
Domenic Toretto (Vin Diesel), the leader of a street gang that is under suspicion of stealing expensive electronic equipment. Paul Walker plays an undercover police officer that attempts to find out who exactly is stealing the equipment, while falling for Domenic's younger sister (Jordana Brewster).

PICK OF THE DAY
Brotherhood of the Wolf
On Star Movies at 7 pm.
Genre: Horror/Fantasy/Mystery
Samuel Le Bihan, Vincent Cassel, Émilie Dequenne, Monica Bellucci.
In 1765 something was stalking the mountains of southwestern France. A beast that pounced on humans and animals with terrible ferocity. Indeed they beast became so notorious that the King of France dispatched envoys to find out what was happening and to kill the creature.
11:45 Furious Split Images
1:15 Heaven's Prisoners
STAR MOVIES
8:00 The Rich Man's Wife
9:45 Complicity
1:30 Mad Love
1:15 Waiting For Guffman
2:45 Wolf
4:55 The Rock
7:00 Brotherhood Of The Wolf
9:15 Night Of The Living Dead
10:45 The Puppet Masters

4:30 Aur Phir Ek Din
5:05 Tanha
6:00 Mr Saath Aath
6:30 Fox Kids
7:30 Sonpari
8:00 Karishma Kaa Karishma
8:30 Kucch Kar Dikhana Hai
9:30 Shararat- Thoda Jaadu Todni Naz Jeet
10:30 Ssshhhh...Koi Hai...
11:00 Sannewali Khidki
STAR WORLD
12:30 Nypd Blue
2:00 Cops
2:28 Star Asia Travel
2:30 Oprah Winfrey Show
3:30 Bold And Beautiful
4:30 Sabrina The Teenage Witch
5:00 2 Guys A Girl & A Pizza Place
5:30 Knight Rider
6:30 The Simpsons
7:00 Home Improvement
7:30 Friends
8:00 Just Shoot Me
8:30 Tna Wrestling
9:30 World's Wildest Police Videos
10:30 Nash Bridges
11:28 Star Asia Travel
11:30 Baywatch
DISCOVERY
10:30 Planet Plastic The 4th Kingdom
11:30 Spotlight Gadgetmania
12:30 Madhur Jaffrey's Flavours of India
1:00 Great Holes The Broadmoor
1:30 Body Challenge

2:30 New Detectives
3:30 Ancient Tides
4:30 Truth or Scare Castle
5:00 Ghosts of England
5:30 Zach's Ultimate Guide Snakes
5:30 Globe Trekker Portugal & Azores
6:30 Sea Legends/Sailing The Wings of Fisherman
7:00 Hiking the Oklahoma Plains
7:30 Night Underwater
8:30 Spotlight Future Avalanches
9:30 Spotlight Future Storm: Hell on Earth
10:30 Future Perfect Body Parts
11:30 New Detectives Shreds of Evidence
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
10:30 Cheating Death
11:30 Dogs With Jobs
12:00 Toyota World of Wildlife
12:30 Hayden Turner's Wildlife Chall
1:00 Insects From Hell
1:30 Scientific American Frontiers
2:30 Tomorrow's World
3:00 Human Edge
3:30 Science Frontiers
4:30 National Geographic's Taboo
5:30 Animal Edens
6:00 Mission Wild
6:30 Dogs With Jobs
7:00 Toyota World of Wildlife
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ESPN
7:57 Australia 3 Test
Series Australia Vs Zimbabwe 1st Test Day 2 (L)
3:00 Streetball: And 1 Mix Tape Tour (T)
3:30 Lpga Golf Safeway Classic Portland Final Round(T)
5:30 Motorsport Asia (R) Goals! (R)
6:30 Western Union World Football (T)
7:00 Australia 3 Test Series Australia Vs Zimbabwe 1st Test Day 2 Highlights (S)
8:30 Sportscenter India (L)
9:00 Football Focus (R)
10:00 The Espn Cricket Show (T)
12:00 New Zealand Tour of India Best of the Day India Vs New Zealand 1st Test Day 3 Highlights (S)
STAR SPORTS
10:55 Formula One Qualifying 2003 Japanese Grand Prix Qual (L)
12:00 Inside The Pga Tour (T)
12:30 English Premier Football League 2003/04 Aston Villa Vs Bolton Wanderers