

RECOMMENDATIONS

Exhibitions

January 15-31
The 11th Asian Art Biennale is being held at Osmani Memorial Hall, Shilpa Kala Academy and National Museum. The show will remain open for all from 11 am to 7 pm everyday.

January 08-22
The Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts holds a solo exhibition, titled *Evidence* of artist Mohammad Eunus, featuring his works on oil, acrylic paints and acrylic sheets at the gallery premises. The show will remain open for all from 12:00 pm to 8:00 pm everyday.

January 04-February 04
Russian Cultural Centre holds a month-long children's book exhibition dedicated to the 100th birth anniversary of the prominent Russian writer A P Gaidai at the centre's library.

January 13-February 12
Saju Art Gallery is holding the 50th Grand Group Art Exhibition of reputed Bangladeshi artists with 128 art works by 87 artists at the gallery premises (F40-41, DCC, North Super Market 2nd Circle, Gulshan). The display will remain open for all from 10 am to 8:30 pm everyday except Fridays.

January 09-29
DRIK Gallery is holding prestigious photojournalistic exhibition titled *World Press Photo* from January 4. The display remains open for all from 3 to 8 pm everyday.

January 18-27
Dhrupad Gallery inaugurates an exhibition titled *Solo Oriental Painting* by Cacoly today at 5:30 pm at the gallery premises (House- 36, Road-5, Block- G, Banani). The display will remain open for all from 10 am to 8 pm everyday.

January 19-29
Goethe-Institut will hold an exhibition titled *Along the Rivers* by German artist Hans Benda, starting from Sunday at the exhibition hall. The display will remain open from 2pm to 8pm everyday except Fridays and Saturdays.

Celebration

January 18-21
Drama group Theatre holds a 4-day long celebration of the 70th birthday of one of the most celebrated dramatists Mamtazuddin Ahmed today at the Mohila Samity at 7 pm. Theatre will stage two plays- *Shatgaher Kanakon* and *Dubon* on January 19 and 20, and a seminar on January 21 at the same venue and time.

Drama Lane

Bangladesh Mahila Samity
4 Natok Sonori, New Baily Rd.

Evening show at 7:00 pm

Group	Play	Date
Theatre	Festival	18,19,20
(Arambugh)		
Shomoy	Shada Ghora	21
Dhaka Theatre	Festival	22
Dhaka Theatre	Festival	23, 24
Mancha		
Natyachakra	Festival	25
Naty Kendra	Festival	26
Aronyak	Festival	27
Natyadal		
Shwagatam	Festival	29
Theatre		
Desh Natya	Anniversary	30
Shangshad	special	
Batikram	Phire Dekha	31

Exhibition

Harvesting of high hopes

Offerings at Eighth Asian Biennale

FAYZA HAQ

It is heartening to know that Bangladesh won one of the Grand Prizes in Tayeba Begum Lipi's "My Childhood-2" in oil. It has the portrait of a tired and wan Bangladeshi woman's bronzed face looking through a veil of scattered plastic dolls. The woman's face is a still as that made from terracotta while her eyes and eyebrows contain the blue of the veil through which she peers. The simple earthy features of the woman contrast with the tiny forms of the blonde and brunette dolls with their blue and white dresses. Lipi has known to question social norms over the years. Another woman to win a Grand Prize is Simin Keramati from Iran with her video "Rising or Falling." Here we are presented with a figure falling helplessly in a well with no one to save her as she struggles to escape. This video is shown in a claustrophobic area so as to arouse the atmosphere of congestion and fear.

Australia's Michael Riley with his "18 Cloud (Feather)" Ink jet on banner paper, and Lyndell Brown and Charles Green with their "Arcadia" won another Grand Prize and a memorable mention. They explore several themes: fine art traditions and the popular culture of the Australian suburbs, the constriction of meaning and the formation of identity. They present the consumer/cultural and the personal/political. The intersection of the two dynamics marks a key point in the journey of the Australian psyche from the past to the future. Riley's entry has a gray feather seen against pale blue and white clouds while Brown and Green's digital photograph has the scene of a sunset seen against a river with a jetty seen in silhouette, with the gray backdrop of the city in the distance, in gray set against the gold sky. Within the photo are insets



Lyndell Brown & Charles Green's "Arcadia". Honourable Mention Award.

of four idyllic scenes taken from book illustrations.

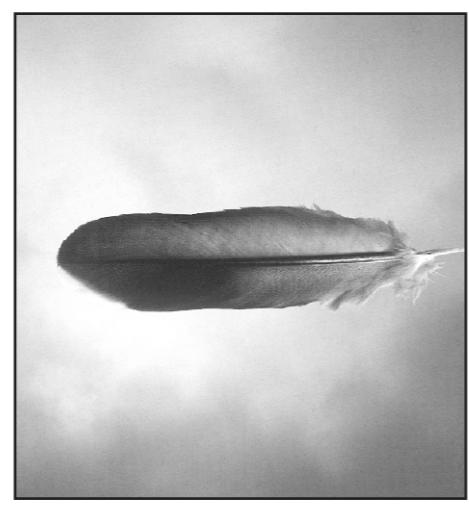
Jamshed Haghigat Shenas, who has also won an Honourable Mention for his "Board Sketch: Imagination", has sketches from daily life of men and women, going about their work, along with mythical figures from past history, done in simplistic sketches of blue, gray and black done on a beige backdrop. This is in mixed media. Retaining a national and cultural identity is a growing concern with the modern Iranian painters. Shenas is influenced by the Fauvists and Expressionists. Creating modern works of art with Iranian identity with contemporary art expression is his aim as is the preoccupation of his counterparts.

Ashmina Ranjita's "Buddha Mandala: Icon of Compassion and Peace" a mixed media installation won an Honourable Mention Award too. This Nepalese creation has hundreds of bottles containing Buddha's images, arranged in a spiral form on sand, to be given away to anyone who asked for one of the tiny bottles, with the sacred image done in screen print.

The other prize winners are Mohammed Al

Atiq from Qatar, with his "The miss 2" in mixed media, Saleh Bin Juma Bin Muslim al Shukairi from Oman, with "Out of time, Out of place" in mixed media, Japan's Tsubaki Noburu with his hydraulic aluminium "Penta- UN application No 7", and UAE's Mohammad Youssouf Ali's installation, "From nature to nature."

The Indian artists have a lot to offer although they haven't won any prizes. Contemporary Indian art has come a long way during the last hundred years. After their experimentation in the artistic techniques, Indian works show dynamic and rich face in various approaches and styles ranging from the figurative to the abstract. Bonoy Varghese's "No red lights on the way to hell", in acrylic, shows attractive sex

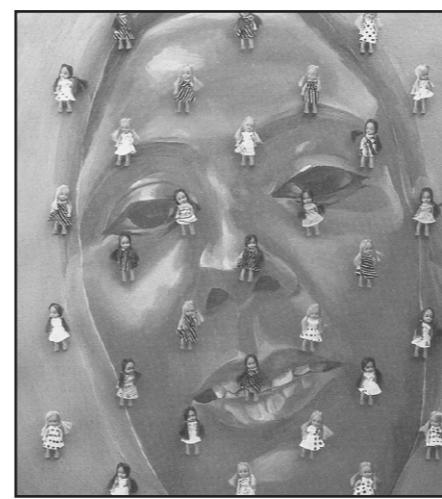


Michael Riley's "Cloud (Feather)". Grand Prize.

workers sitting and gossiping between their work. K Murleedharan's minimized work brings in a white elephant with doodles on it and behind it in red yellow, blue and gray. Alok Sarker's "Way to school", in brass, brings in action and humour. Rameshwar Singh's "Ring master" in acrylic has human figures, animals, birds, fish and butterfly all amalgamated into a single frieze like image. Sukhvinder Singh's woodcut, "Inner reflection of human world" is full of intrigue and mystery presenting images from human form, fauna and flora.

One comes across plenty of abstract and semi abstract works in the paintings of Pakistani artists as in the case of RM Naeem's "Flower as Veil", and acrylic, which has a floating nude female form held in cubes and Ghulam Rasul's "Jacarandas playing with winds" and "Autumn" (both in oil). Farah Mahboob's "Ethereal echoes" mindscapes is even more mind-blowing.

Although Nepal is a small country often disturbed by political unrest, yet its artists have not succumbed to negative pressures. Shahi



Tayeba Begum Lipi's "My childhood". Grand Prize

Shaha's "Thanking Liberty", Vijay Thapa's "Deviation-111" in mixed media, and Kiran Manandhar's "Painting-3" are all cascading with vibrant colours.

The host country Bangladesh too has a treasure trove of fascinating art works. Mohammed Kibria's oil, "untitled" has one lost in its layers of mauve mists of washes. Mahmudul Haque's "Untitled", oil, has fascinating texture work in red, beige and black. Nitun Kundu's "Rhythm of life" has cascading contrasting shades of blue, green, mauve and red colours forming geometric shapes entwining with one another. "Fallen vase" by Rafiqun Nabi is a curious creation in simplified forms.

Qayyum Chowdhury's "Waiting" is a pastoral idyll, complete with a female form and birds. Murtaza Baser's "My lady" in oil is a stylised portrait while Abdur Razzaque's "Environment" has flecks of geometrical shapes in earthy colours. Surrealistic work can be seen in plenty as in Shishir Bhattacharjee's "The picture", in mixed media, which is a sharp comment on society. Atia Islam Anne's "Burn", in acrylic, and Dilara Begum Jolly's "Embryo" also intend to shock the viewer, while carrying across messages of resentment against fixed ideas. Tapestry and wood carvings have been brought too. These include Mahmudur Rahman's "Memory create" in wood and paper. Farzana Islam Milky's "Childhood", twisted forms in iron, and Pintu Chandra Deb's eye-catching "Childhood, pain and hope". Saidul Haque Juise's "Untitled" in paper folding is similarly mind-boggling. Konok Chanmpa Chakma's "Shadow in mind" idolises women's world while Nasreen Begum's "Creation" and Rokeya Sultan's "Earth, water, air" prove once more the power of women's brushes.

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8th Dhaka International Film Festival

Schedule for today

Central Public Library auditorium

Bank Ban by Saba Kael of Hungary at 10:30 am
Zakir and His Friends by Lutz Leonhardt of Switzerland at 12:30 pm
The Spiral by Krzysztof Zanussi of Poland at 3:00 pm
Nishab by Shaji N. Karun of India at 5:00 pm

National Museum auditorium

Elling by Petter Naess of Norway at 10:30 am
Okay by Jesper W. Nielsen of Denmark at 12:30 pm
Summer Time and The Knowledge of Healing of Switzerland at 3:00 pm
Jalla/Jalla by Josef Fares of Sweden at 5:00 pm



Synopsis

SPIRALA (The Spiral)

Director: Krzysztof Zanussi

Synopsis: Tomasz suddenly discovers that he is terminally ill and attempts suicide in the mountains. He is saved and taken to hospital. His illness interrupts a successful professional career. Tomasz is only 30; he has always believed in his unrestrained vitality. He has never thought about death before. He cannot accept the situation.

SUMMERTIME

Director: Anna Luif

Synopsis: 13-year-old Nadja is spending her summer vacation at home. She is bored to death until a new tenant moves in with whom she falls in love. But what she doesn't know yet is that he is her mother's new boyfriend. Nadja begins to spy on him, taking photographs of him and secretly forcing her way into his apartment. Eventually she can't take it anymore and feels compelled to confess her love to him. But then she discovers that he is seeing a woman.

Fashion show

Thunder Bolt presents winter outfits

KAUSAR ISLAM AYON

IT'S better late than never! Thunder Bolt, a western bowling and fitness centre, is about to take the centre stage in the fashion arena in Bangladesh. As part of its latest initiative of arranging seasonal fashion shows, the first one highlighted the winter collection on January 15 at its booth in the Rifles Square. Although it was considerably late for this winter, the initiative was worth it.

This season's attires were inspired by the need for warmth during cold winter nights. The designers laid out the outfits keeping that in mind. Not only the winter, the designers also had to note the upcoming Eid and the season for marriages in Bangladesh. A 'bridal queue' as such was also included in the show.

Shaukrish Shahid's saris designed with acrylic are now popular in Bangladesh. His designer saris with colourful layout came on stage as the first queue of the show. The panjabis, saris, fatuas and shalwar-kamizies attracted the viewers' attention. A number of jeans outfits were presented in colourful stripes and shades for both men and women.

Emdadul Haque of Banglar Mela has been working for quite some time for the promotion of Khadi in Bangladesh. Khadi has been popular among the fashion-conscious people this winter. The saris designed in block print, tie-dye, and sequin, and the use of scarves with saris gave it a new look. Bright colours were used in the designs of the shalwar-kamizies.

Male models came on stage wearing fatua with lungi and



The sporty look

in the fashion arena in Bangladesh with their simple but excellent outfits.

The last queue of the show was the bridal collection. Bridal-wears was jointly sponsored by Rupahali Sari and Menz Club. Bridal collection displayed remarkable pieces in a combination of satin, chiffon, gold trim and colourful silk. Gorgeous bridal fashion trends attracted many soon-to-be brides looking for the best in bridal wear for the new millennium.

The show opened a wide range of winter outfits to the fashion conscious audience with the hip-hop beats, attractive models and the fashionable clothes too. The organiser promised to arrange such shows round the year on seasonal fashions.

About 300 people filled the bowling floor in the show titled *Kiwi Nite*, focusing specially on the designers, which provided a breath of fresh air.



Heavy bejewelled effect for the bride

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 pm, 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-1

Breakfast News 07:15 am, 9:00 am.

News(Bangla) at 7:15 pm, 9:00 pm, 10:30, 12:15 am.

Telecast of BTV news(Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

ATN BANGLA

News(Bangla) at 8:00 am, 12:00 pm.

7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11:00 pm.

Telecast of BTV News(Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

Latest News(Bangla) at 09 a.m, 10:00 a.m, 11:00 am, 1pm, 2:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00 pm, 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm.

TV

News Headlines(Bangla) at 10:00 am, 12:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 6:30 pm, 9:45 pm.

News (Bangla) 7:30 am, 2:00 pm, 7:30 pm, 10:30 pm.

TARA BANGLA

News Headlines(Bangla) at 5:30 pm, 7:30 pm.

Tara News(Bangla) at 8:30 pm.

11:30 pm.

Tara News Bangladesh(Bangla) at 9:30 pm.

BBC World

Every hour on the hour

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS



MGM: 11:30 pm. *Midaq Alley*. Genre: Drama. Salma Hayek, Ernesto Gomez Cruz, Maria Rojo. The story narrates the life of the members of the neighbourhood and the connection between them. Don Ru, the owner of the local pub, Eusebia, his wife, Guicho, his son and Abel his friend, who emigrate to USA in search of fortune. Susana, the single landlady always dreaming to marry a good man; Jimmy, the pub's employee, who finally marries Susana; Alma, the very good looking girl, the Abel's dream, who becomes a luxury pr.

07:35 Suprohat Bangladesh
08:30 Selected Tagore songs
09:15 Anyo Bhutan: Sensitive Samurais
12:15 Sangbad Potrer Pata Theke
01:05 Pyro Manush
01:30 Cartoon Show: Totally Tooned In
02:05 Kheladhula
02:30 Amader Ranna
04:05 Bans