



SHORT-TAKES

Madonna set to make a tell all movie

Pop diva Madonna will have a bevy of beauties playing the roles of supermodels Naomi Campbell, Linda Evangelista, Cindy Crawford and Christy

Turlington in her new movie.

The enterprising singer's labels Maverick Films has bought the

film rights of Michael Gross's book *Model*, which revealed the behind-the-curtains life of the fashion world.

The movie is slated for a 2005 release.

A 'dare bare' performance

Kareena Kapoor's kiss in *Dev* has raised many eyebrows and the most prominent one was from Mallika Sherawat. The verbal spat between the two arose when, vindicating her dare bare performance, Mallika took refuge in Raj Kapoor's way of movie making, which oozed sexuality.

She's reportedly said that as Raj Kapoor films oozed only sexuality and the heroine dared to bare, Bebo was keeping the R-

banner flying. Bebo was not amused and said that while she found Mallika's performance in *Murder* commendable 'there was too much over-exposure. 'Mallika doesn't realise what she is talking about. Raj Kapoor always presented a woman gracefully and tastefully. She is talking about a legend. By saying such things, she has made a laughing stock of herself,' said Kareena. Post *Dev*, Mallika is up in arms again and raising questions on Kareena's double standards on exposure.

But Bebo, as we know her, is hardly interested in lending any ear to Mallika's hue and cry.

SOURCE: INTERNET

From Milan to Berlin

Alpana's painting exhibits travel afar

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

MURSHIDA Arzu Alpana, the well-acclaimed and internationally renowned Bangladeshi artist, held two painting exhibi-

tions in Italy and Germany recently. The exhibition, titled 'InterKultur Art' at Gallery Bianca Maria Rizzi in Milan, Italy, began from June 17 and will run till July 6.

A total of Alpana's 20 paintings are on display. Furthermore, the solo exhibition of her eight paintings, titled 'All Nations Festival Forum' at the Bangladesh Embassy in Berlin, Germany was inaugurated on June 19 along with her Classical Music Concert at 'Potsdamer Platz Arkaden' which is the most important venue in Berlin for

multicultural happenings. About 28 Embassies of various countries took part in the programme.

In addition, another exhibition of Alpana has been running in Milan since May 13. Under the title 'Giorgio Gaber' (drawn from the

influenced and encouraged her to choose a new subject to paint. In Shantiniketan, the discussion about painting and theory had broadened her view of art.

There were many international streams of contemporary arts such as Expressionism, Abstract Expressionism (German, American) and Abstract Art. These trends gave her the chance to change her style of painting and prints in terms of using colour, form, line, composition, graphic quality and gestures of figures. The techniques like *Tachisme*, silkscreen printing influenced her works greatly. The other mediums she uses are oil, mixed media, acrylic, pigments, papers, textile, Acrylic-glass, pencil, crayon, oil sticks and charcoal.

Her recent works can be considered as a message to the world of this millennium through the *Cybernetic language of Art* (which refers to the science of systems of control and communication among living beings and machines. This is also considered as the developed Kinetic Art).

Mostly 210-300cm to 8-12cm in size Alpana's paintings depict figures and faces of people. Though most of her paintings concentrate on human portraits, they also include some high tech objects like computer, mobile, mouse, wire as well as the words of many technical terms like digital signs, code-numbers and computer commands.

Her involvement with classical music add extra nuance to her painting and operate on both sensual and intellectual levels.



Artist Alpana before one of her art works

great Italian multifaceted artiste Giorgio Gaber), the exhibition is popular with art lovers. Alpana also performed classical music at the opening ceremony.

Born in Bangladesh in 1961, Alpana has had a successful career as a singer mostly in classical genre as well as a lecturer at the Institute of Fine Art in Dhaka, before settling in Berlin. In 1986 she got a scholarship to study at Shantiniketan; which changed her basic motif in painting. The untouched natural surroundings

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Soft and tinkling piano notes

Bach and Beethoven from young enthusiasts

FAYZA HAQ

A group of young pianists recently presented this year's selection of piano music at Alliance Francaise's Fete de la Musique. Though the young musicians only had a few years' practice to their credit, they played with confidence and expertise.

One of the pianists was Tabassum Mehjaeben. She took up the piano as she was better acquainted with it than any other instrument. A BRAC University student of BBA, she plays in the afternoon and at night, after her dinner. As she says, 'For the concert I've chosen *Allegro Molto* by Kuhlau and *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring* by JS Bach. I chose them as their melody and technical appeal.' She hopes to take up music seriously later on.

Ehtesham Shafiq is another piano enthusiast, who enjoys presenting the grandeur of western classical music. He has been learning music for over three years, and plans to continue the piano as long as he can, practicing at night or in the evenings. Ehtesham played a traditional piece, *Expectation Waltz*, *Beautiful Dreamer* by Steven Foster, *Rondino* by Antonio Diabelli and *Minuet* by Bizet. He feels that the pieces would go down well with the audience and that he could handle them appropriately. He says, 'Tony has a keyboard at home, but it helps me practice.' Apart from conventional classical music, Ehtesham likes pop and rock.

Syeda Tasnim, an O Level student, says that she was influenced into learning piano by her mother. The latter had loved that genre of music as a child but had no piano of her own to practice with. She says that at school she has free periods and a piano and so she catches up with her required practice. Syeda chose *Fur Elise* by Beethoven, *Small Fountain* which is anonymous and the *Boat Song* by Beethoven.

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IV, manages to fit in her music despite the other academic pressures of subjects like Maths. She chose *Go Tell Aunt Rhody* and *Clair de la lune, Musette*, and *Long long ago* by Baily. Sadia says, 'I practice at least one hour every day and hope to continue with my piano even when I'm grown up.'

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