

CULTURAL FEAST

Exhibition

47th Solo Exhibition
Artist: Jamal Ahmed
Venue: Jamal's Gallery, Husain Plaza, Dhammendi 15 (New)
Time: July 09-30, 11am to 08pm

5th Solo Painting Exhibition
Artist: Iftab Ara Dewan
Venue: Shilpgram, Road 5, House 25, Dhammendi
Time: July 23-August 01, From 10am to 1pm and 5pm to 9pm

Abhijit 6th solo Exhibition
Venue: Alliance Francaise, 26, Mirpur Road, Dhammendi
Time: July 30-August 15, From 9am-4pm, 5pm-8pm

Musical Soiree

Title: Achin Pakhi
Performer: Farida Parvin
Organiser: Orchestra
Venue: All Community Club, Gulshan 2, Dhaka
Time: July 30, at 6:00 pm

Bristi Neshi Bhora

Shondhyabala
Organiser: Nandan, a cultural group
Venue: Bangladesh YWCA Bhaban, 3/23, Iqbal Road, Mohammadpur
Time: July 30, at 6:00 pm

Music Night

Organiser: Srijan
Artistes: Shelly Rouf, Nabeela Fairuz, Rahman, Masud Ahmed, Suhaili Perveen, Ruma and Prakash Kumar Banik
Venue: Bisho Shahitto Kendro
Date: July 27
Time: 06:30 pm

Film Screening

Title: A River's Story: The Quest for the Brahmaputra
Director: Jahnu Barua
Venue: Hotel Saina, Banani
Time: July 27 at 5pm

A posthumous exhibition for Sanatan

HARUN UR RASHID

HE made all arrangements for his first ever solo exhibition. Just prior to the event, he went home to his village of Hurka in Bagerhat--to see his parents, maybe to get their blessings. But fate had something else on the cards. Within 12 days of a brain hemorrhage, Sanatan Biswas died on December 24 last year. In his brief lifetime of 37 years, artist Sanatan could not hold a single solo exhibition.

To cover this gap, Sanatan's friends and well-wishers have organised *Ekbar Paay Tarey*, an exhibition of his works. The display is being held at the Zainul Gallery of the Institute of Fine Arts (IFA), Dhaka University.

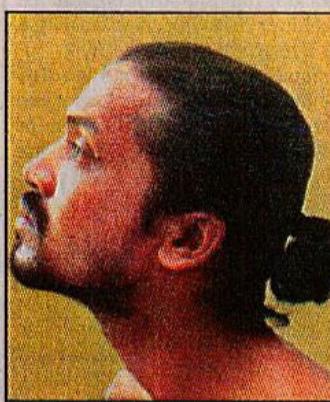
Born in a remote village in Bangladesh, Sanatan showed interest in painting at a very early age. However, regular lessons began later. In 1990, he went to Khulna Art College and took admission in the pre-Bachelor of Fine Arts course. In 1994, he received the certificate from Rajshahi University and came to the capital to study at the IFA. Here he got admission in the Department of Oriental Arts. Sanatan completed his course in 2003.

Meanwhile, Sanatan participated in a few workshops under eminent artists of the country. In 1993, he took part in a watercolour workshop in Khulna conducted by SM Sultan. After coming to Dhaka, he participated in a workshop conducted by the now defunct Artists' Guild. There he learnt watercolour from artists like Mustafa Monwar, Rafiqunnabi, Nasrin Begum and Shishir Bhattacharya.

The exhibition includes about 40 paintings from over 500 art works Sanatan completed during his student life. 'It is amazing that an artist could have done so many paintings before he completed his MFA,' says Tokon Thakur, Sanatan's friend, poet and one of the organisers of the exhibition.

Sanatan's paintings at the exhibition are mostly in acrylic on paper. There are also a few watercolour pieces. Sanatan's skills in watercolour especially reached such a height that he often could bring the acrylic effect through the medium. He did not have many oil paintings, for the cost of the colours and canvas was beyond his ability.

A series of 16 pen-sketches have been put on the display that encompass Sanatan's reaction at the brutal attack on the boarders of



Artist Sanatan Biswas

His acrylics, however, are a compensation.

Long brush strokes and the use of somewhat unconventional colours remain the striking features of Sanatan's paintings. His human figures, especially those of women, project sharp body outlines. Besides, other works often display a dream-like confusion about the subject of his drawings.

A series of 16 pen-sketches have been put on the display that encompass Sanatan's reaction at the brutal attack on the boarders of

Shamsunnahar Hall by the Police in 2002. The small sketches bring out the horror and absurdity of the heinous incident that took place in the dead of night.

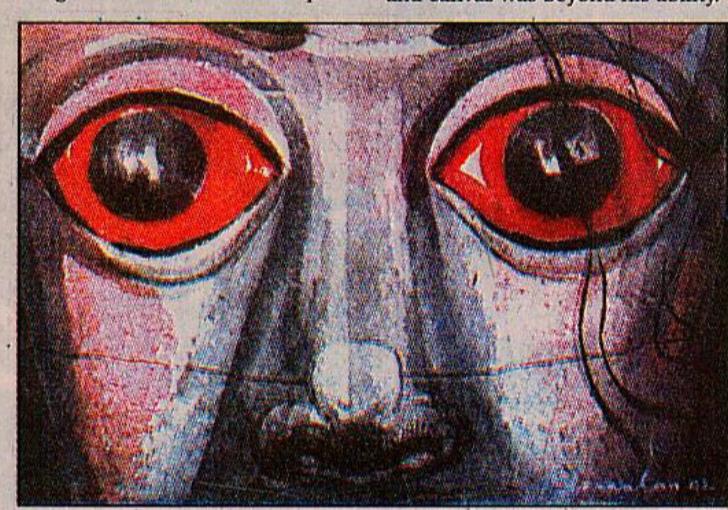
Sanatan's brilliance spoke out for him during his lifetime. Besides taking part in the annual art exhibitions of IFA, he earned award for the best medium in 1996. He travelled to the universities of Rabindra Bharati and Shantiniketan and other parts of India to observe the nature of oriental art.

A memorial book, containing memoirs of Sanatan's friends, teachers and followers has been published on the occasion of the exhibition. The proceeds from the exhibition and the book will be used for establishing an art school in Sanatan's village.

The exhibition was inaugurated by Sanatan's father Shyamapada Biswas. The poor father, clearly overcome with emotion, cried, 'Please, forgive my son.'

Sanatan will not draw any more paintings; nor will he hold any more exhibitions. He trod the earth just once, as poet Jibanananda Das wrote in his poem *Ekbar paay tarey/Paay nako ar*. But Sanatan's works and memories will remain forever.

The exhibition runs until July 30.



Two of Sanatan's paintings done in acrylic on paper

Music

Star Search Dhaka auditions

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

OVER the years, the Benson & Hedges Star Search has become an important music event, especially with the younger generation of musicians. The programme has produced a number of promising solo and band performers. However, the auditions held so far do not seem up to the mark this year. Further, it seems that the participants do not have a correct understanding of the event. Nevertheless, the Dhaka auditions took place at the Dhaka Billiard Centre on July 25 with much enthusiasm.

Seven band groups and 13 solo performers participated in the

regional live auditions for Dhaka. Popular musician-singer Kumar Biswajit and music director Foad Nasir Babu were the judges.

Solo performer Mitra Kabir won an award for being the best performer. Her folk rendition of *Heri mukh chandey thekiyachhi fandey* and modern Bangla song *Ok eshechhey* had good lyrics and tune. The music compositions were also wonderful.

Besides Mitra, a few other performers displayed their immense musical potential. Solo singer Samira Zuberi Himika's songs had ordinary lyrics but the music was quite good. Especially the tabla with the guitars produced good effect.

Himika, however, is an epitome



Left: Samira Zuberi Himika, another participant at the Dhaka auditions of the B&H Star Search 2004

Right: Mitra Kabir rendering the much applauded number *Heri mukh chandey*; she was accompanied on the guitar by Rezaul Karim Limon, the winner of best composition and lyrics at the Star Search last year.

Marks of talents and confusion



of the confusion among the participants at the Star Search. In answer to judge Kumar Biswajit's question whether she wants to do music seriously, the young girl sounded confused. She said, that if she had only won the contest, she would consider the possibility of becoming a singer! Similarly, the vocal of band Amra surprised the audience saying that he sang just to give his band a backup rather than to become a vocalist in his own right. The question then is: Why are these young boys and girls participating in such a contest when they do not have any specific goals?

It's time Benson & Hedges and the judges took steps to bring together committed musicians for

whom music is a passion. Kumar Biswajit was annoyed by another feature of the singers, especially of the band performers: an unavoidable problem in pronunciation. He asked the participants to correct their pronunciations first. Singer Milon Kanti Mistry, for example, had tremendous problems in pronouncing 'cha' and 'chha'. Otherwise, his lyrics were good, the tunes had good twists in the manner of ghazal. Milon's voice is also in its way to maturity.

The B&H Star Search is no doubt an exemplary event in the cultural field of the country. One hopes that it will go further to draw out the talents of the generations to come by ironing out a few glitches.

TV GUIDE

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

News Bulletin

BTV
News Headlines (Bangla) at 8:55 am; 12:10 pm, 2:00 pm, 3:00 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

News (Bangla) at 7:15 am, 9:00 am, 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 7:00 am, 10:00 am, 2:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11:00 pm.
Telecast of BTV News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

STAR 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

CHANNEL-i

09:30 Shongbad Potrey Bangladesh and Public reaction
09:45 Triloy Mastra Grameen Phone Cricket Online

11:30 Chithi Pelam 01:00 Aaj Dupurey 01:30 Ebong Cinemara Gaan

01:30 Sangbadpatrey Bangladesh
02:00 Feature film: Shagor Bhasha (Kabon)
03:40 Amar jibon amar dash

05:00 Sa Re Ga Ma 05:35 Jonopoder Khobor i Sports
06:10 Music Plus 06:45 i Speed

07:25 Close up Juke Box 08:50 Band music
08:25 Drama Serial: Sharayi Tin Tala

09:35 Drama Serial: Shonai Danar Chil

10:00 Drama Serial: Taka

10:30 Talk Show: Anndrojiti

11:15 Drama Serial: Mohona Adibashi Janepod

12:30 Bangla Feature Film: Dayee Ke

03:45 Uro Cole Saat Rang 11:45 A Knight's Tale

04:20 Shamoshamoy 2:30 Big Fat Liar

05:45 Islamene Sawal O Jawab

06:20 Aynar Sharmey

08:00 Drama Serial: Dhai Gulshanbar

09:00 Drama Serial: Shapno Nir

HBO

12:00 Ghostbusters II
12:00 Big Fat Liar

11:25 Dindarpan

7:00 Air Bud: Seventh

8:30 Sesame Street
9:30 Shadow Zone: My Niner

10:00 Best in Show

11:30 The Bourne Identity

9:30 Wild Wild West

10:00 The Bourne Identity

11:00 The Bourne Identity

12:00 The Bourne Identity

1:00 The Bourne Identity

2:00 The Bourne Identity

3:00 Play With Me Sesame

4:00 Sesame Street

5:00 Bewitched

6:00 The Guardian-Season

HALLMARK

9:30 Shadow Zone: My Niner

10:30 Best in Show

11:30 The Bourne Identity

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2:00 The Bourne Identity

3:00 Play With Me Sesame

4:00 Sesame Street

5:00 Bewitched

6:00 The Guardian-Season

7:00 The Guardian-Season

8:00 The Guardian-Season

9:00 Kumkum - Pyara Sa

10:00 Uncle Buck

11:00 Uncle Buck

12:00 Uncle Buck

STAR GOLD

8:30 Maya

9:30 Aaj Kie Aurat

10:00 Do Qaidi

5:00 Parampara

6:00 Kumkum - Pyara Sa

7:00 Dil Vil Pyar Vyar

8:00 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Ki

9:00 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Ki

10:00 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Ki

11:00 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Ki

12:00 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Ki

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