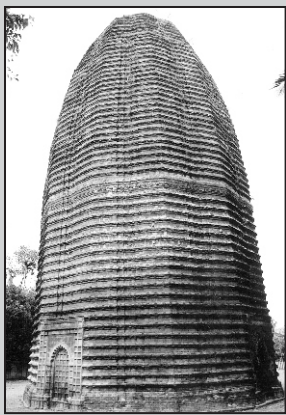


CULTURAL FEAST

Exhibition

Bangladesher Shoto Mandir



(One Hundred Temple)
Photographer: Babu Ahmed
Venue: Bengal Shilpalaya, 275/F, Road 27, Dhanmondi
Time: August 01-10, 12pm-8pm

Arts and Crafts from Switzerland
Organiser: Embassy of Switzerland in Bangladesh
Venue: Bangladesh National Museum, Shahbagh
Time: July 30-August 10, from 10 am to 5 pm

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

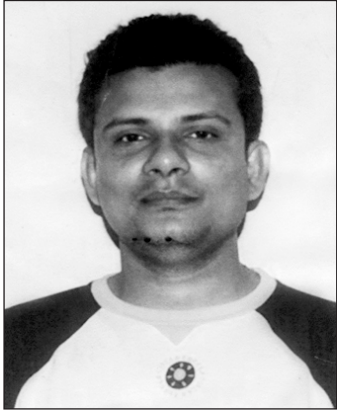
Solo Exhibition
Artist: Babul ahmed
Venue: Exhibition Hall of the Russian Cultural Centre
Time: August 02-08

Poster Exhibition on Hiroshima-Nagasaki Tragedy
Organisers: Hunger Free World & Drik Gallery
Venue: Drik Gallery
Time: August 06-08, from 3pm to 8pm

Probing into the seams of life
Abhijit's sixth solo

FAYZA HAQ

ABHIJIT Choudhury is into his sixth solo exhibition at the Alliance Francaise. He presents idylls with realism in his semi abstract works. The proceeds of the exhibition will be donated to the flood afflicted. He had been painting at the Kochi Kachar Mela and Shilpakala before he joined the Fine Arts Institute.



He had the guidance of Rafiqun Nabi, Abdul Basset and Shishir Bhattacharya. He got the support of his family, in Hobiganj, easily enough as his grandfather was a painter and his aunts were into singing. His wife, Taposhi is also quite supportive.

Abhijit has used vegetable dye with water colour in his paintings. In one of his paintings one finds a seated woman, with a cloth covering her knees. In the background are swirls of blue, grey and brown. In another we find, similarly, a barely clad woman. This too stands for a sex worker who wants to flee her world to escape to something more normal. To the side is a dull grey figure issuing fatwa against the woman. Yet another painting shows a similar woman dreaming of better days, while being confined to her present hard days. The loud colours

stand for her unrest while the muted ones represent her hope and dream. Exposed legs and breasts in the next painting bring home the same theme. She does not have a head as the world tends to believe that a sex worker has no thinking ability of her own. A powerful pimp is brought in another painting and the subject is seen before a massive table denoting his power. Abhijit has tried to draw the attention of the viewer to these women as he feels that they are one of the most neglected people in our society, and if they are recognised, they are treated with disdain.

Conflicts in a person's mind is the theme of yet another painting. His water colours have been of such a good quality that they were collected by the National Museum when Abhijit was only in his second year at the Fine Arts Institute.

The theme of the present flood has come into many of his other paintings such as the delineation of the water washed land masses presented in yellow, white and green, presented as an aerial view. Two male figures have been brought on another paper to



Fact, mixed media

depict how the people of Bangladesh have been fighting against floods,



Boat, mixed media

famines and other natural calamities for over centuries. 'A few handful of rice are doled out and some schools are designated as shelters,' Abhijit says. A boat is brought into another painting to show the important role that a boat plays during the floods in Bangladesh, as a place of refuge, normal transport and ambulance.

As Abhijit plays with light and darkness, he represents hope and despair. He plays with colour with passion but is not carried away, as he delineates human imagination, joy and sorrow.

Abhijit has attended three workshops under David Wilson of Australia, Monirul Islam from Spain, and Mustafa Monwar. He has taken part in over 25 joint exhibitions and has had six solos.

Fahim Hossain Chowdhury: The marvels of Rabindra Sangeet

NOVERA DEEPIA

FAHIM Hossain Chowdhury, a talented Tagore singer, enjoys a wide range of Tagore's songs--whether based on nature, worship and love. In the worship genre one of his favourites is *fiboney amar joto ananda*. Among the seasonal songs, his tastes run to *Madhuro bashanta eshechhe, Aj sraboner amontraney* and *Ami ki gan gabo je*.

According to Fahim, most artistes prefer to sing the songs of

the songs of eminent singers are my favourites. Besides, some songs are better than others. For instance, I prefer Chimmoy's love songs, while the devotional songs are well rendered by Sagar Sen.'

Fahim also thinks that there are a few songs that are suited for different ages. In his view, songs like *Momo dukkher shadon* and *Jotobar alo jvalate chai* are more appropriate for mature listeners.

Fahim is strongly against the remixing and remaking culture of contemporary songs. And about the Tagore songs he suggests that

Bangladesh. Despite the mushrooming of new organisations, many promising artistes are appearing in the scene. But there are certain problems, like the private channels are repeatedly telecasting a limited number of songs. It is about time, that the authority should broadcast the other uncommon songs by Tagore. Government patronage leaves a lot to be desired. For instance, theatre halls are not regularly available to stage programmes, the hall rents are high and the Tagore singers are



'Any kind of distortion should be guarded against. Only the style of singing can be changed, not the lyric or the music.'

monsoon, summer and spring. The features that attract him are the lyrics and themes of the songs. He gives pride of place to the style of singing. In his words, 'If the artiste cannot give a proper rendering of the song, the song will not be appreciated by the listeners.'

Among the different styles charted out by the mentors of Tagore songs, Fahim follows the singing style of Sagar Sen and Chimmoy Chattopadhyaya. He says he appreciates the soulful singing of these artistes. 'Not all

even if the Biswabharati copyright has been lifted, the artistes can never take full freedom in singing a Tagore song. Any kind of distortion should be guarded against. Only the style of singing can be changed not the lyric or the music. But still Fahim holds the view that modern instruments can be used to attract the young generation. These musical inputs should be given by matching the lyric and tune of the song.

According to Fahim, Tagore songs have a wide following in

less preferred as cultural representatives abroad. The artistes also have some responsibilities, for instance they should prepare themselves suitably before releasing any albums.

In comparison with the total scenario of West Bengal, the practice of Tagore songs is similar to that in Bangladesh. As Fahim says, 'The private channels of West Bengal are broadcasting programmes of our singers which is a positive sign.'

THE ART OF CIRCUS



PHOTO: AFP

Members of rock n' roll circus ensemble Circa are airborne during a performance in Melbourne on August 05. The circus embraces experimentation with improvisation and risk, to provide a very different circus act and along with physical tricks they use music and video projections to embellish the show.

Federation of film societies organises the 'First National Conference on Film 2004'

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Federation of Film Societies (BFFS) will organize the 'First National Conference on Film 2004'. The Conference Preparation Committee, in a meeting on Wednesday, 4th August, at its office at New Elephant Road, discussed the preparation for the conference. Presided by Mahubul Islam, eminent entrepreneur and former president of BFFS, the meeting was attended by the BFFS president Sadeq Khan, president of Bangladesh Film Directors Association Chashi Nazrul Islam, veteran filmmaker Soovas Dutta, director general of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy Ahmed Nozir, general secretary of Film Editors Guild Alam Quoreshi, filmmaker and film activist Morshedul Islam, film society activists Hashem Sufi, Reshmi Ahmed, Rodela Nirupoma, and BFFS officials Sabir Chowdhury, Zahirul Islam, Kazi Jahidul Islam, Humayun Kabir, Biplob Mostafiz, Rashedul Hafiz, Masoodul

Hasan and reporters from different newspapers, among others.

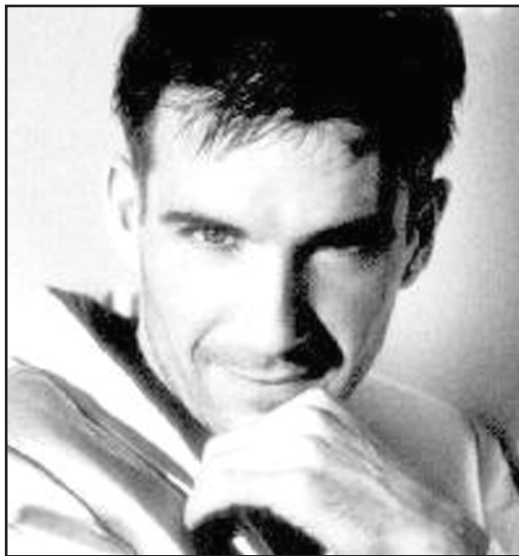
The meeting elected an organizing committee for the Conference with Mahubul Jamil as Chairman and Kazi Zahidul Islam as member secretary. Other members of the committee, who are associated with film, were also elected. The meeting approved the estimated budget for the conference, which is scheduled to be held on 7th, 8th and 9th October this year. Eight papers will be presented in the conference, focusing on a prospective National Film Policy for the country and the conditions and problems of life-oriented filmmaking. Some films will also be shown during the Conference.

The seminar topics, approved by the meeting, are as follows: 'The Necessity of a National Film Policy', 'Government Grants and Cooperation in Filmmaking', 'The Role of Bangladesh Film Development Corporation and Other Government Organisations

in Creative Filmmaking', 'The Role of Media and Press in Creative Filmmaking', 'The Importance of Film Studies at the University Level', 'The Film Society Movement and Alternative Cinema in Bangladesh', 'The Problems of FDC-based Film Production and Distribution', and 'The Ways of Controlling Vulgarly and Violence in Mainstream Cinema and the Modernisation of Film Censorship Codes' ('Film Censorship, or Film Certification/Gradation?').

The Conference, first of its kind in the country, will bring together all the personalities and organisations related to film and filmmaking, including press and media, towards the realisation of a National Film Policy. The proceedings will be published in book form by BFFS within a very short time after the Conference. The recommendations of the Conference will be sent to the government for consideration and implementation.

Fiennes named as Potter villain



Ralph Fiennes' film credits include *Red Dragon* and *Schindler's List*

BBC ONLINE

British actor Ralph Fiennes has won the role of wicked wizard Lord Voldemort in the next Harry Potter film. Filming has already begun on the fourth instalment, *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire* but Fiennes, 41, has not shot any of his scenes yet. In the first three films, only Voldemort's spirit has been visible, but he returns in the flesh for the first time in the fourth movie.

Miranda Richardson will play journalist Rita Skeeter in the 2005 release. Daniel Radcliffe returns as the boy wizard Harry Potter, along with co-stars Rupert Grint and Emma Watson, who play his friends Ron Weasley and Hermione Granger.

Brendan Gleeson, who stars in *Troy*, *Cold Mountain* and the forthcoming M Night Shyamalan film *The Village*, has been cast as Potter's new defence against the dark arts teacher, Mad-Eye Moody. Katie Leung will play Potter's love interest, Cho Chang.

Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire is being directed by Mike Newell, who also directed hit comedy *Four Weddings and a Funeral*.

Author JK Rowling recently revealed the title of the sixth book in the Harry Potter series--*Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*.

TV GUIDE

PICK OF THE DAY



Cats & Dogs
On HBO at 9:30 pm
Genre: Family / Comedy
Cast: Jeff Goldblum, Elizabeth Perkins, Alexander



Bayos Jakhon Ekush
On Channel-i at 8:25 pm
Genre: Drama Serial
Cast: Rumana, Mim, Sajal

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.
Latest News (Bangla) at 9:00 a.m, 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00 pm, 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm.

ntv

News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00 am, 12:00 am, 6:15 pm, 9:30 pm.
News (Bangla) 7:30 am, 2:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 7:30 pm, 10:30 pm.
Telecast of BTV News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 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

BTV

07:30 Bangladesher Hridoy Hote
Naton Kuri 2004
11:05 Satellite Programme
12:15 Shangbadpotrer Pata Theke

01:05 Weekly Drama
02:05 Online
02:30 Priyo Manush
03:05 Nibedon
04:00 Live Telecast of the football match between Mohamedan S C and Unmahan Club

06:10 Wrestling
07:05 Loukik Bangla
07:30 Gane Gane
08:30 Drama Serial: Swapno Bilashi Mon

09:00 Drama
10:30 Ananda Jhama

CHANNEL-i

09:45 Tritiyo Matra
10:45 Na Bola Kotha
11:30 Din Choley Jay
12:00 Chithi Pelam
12:30 Aj Dupurey O Citycell Tarakothon (Live)

01:00 Ebong Cinemar Gaan
01:25 Public reaction
01:30 Bangla Film: Shamir Adesh (Shabana, Alamgir)

04:00 Banglar gaan
04:30 Dekhar Gaan Shonar Gaan
05:00 Sa Re Ga Ma
05:45 Sharif Melamine Sangeetmala

06:10 Music Plus
06:45 Drama Serial: Abash
07:50 Drama Serial: Dui Talak

08:25 Drama Serial: Boyosh Jakhon Ekush
09:35 Hridoye Mati O Manush
10:00 Drama Serial: Anader Chhobi

ATN BANGLA

10:30 Annodishtee
11:15 Mohona
11:50 Pop Dhamaka
12:30 Drama Serial: Duranto Ghurni

01:05 Adibashi Janapod
01:35 Kabita O gane
02:30 School Bell
03:10 Drama Serial: Shreshho Bindu

03:45 Uro Cola Saat Rang
04:20 Hattima tim tim
05:10 Shurer Madhuri
06:20 Tom and Jerry
08:00 Drama Serial: Golabharati station

08:30 Drama Serial: Bajpakhi
09:00 Drama Serial: Lal Neel Beguni
09:30 Drama Serial: Baba Mile Phalok Ray

12:20 Telefilm: Dui Bon
08:00 Aajker Shakal Monihar
08:30 Shaptaher Khabor
09:00 Museum Around The World
09:30 Tiffiner Phake

10:05 Dhakar Cinema
11:00 Ronger Manush
12:30 Pepsi Music Express
03:40 Aj Robibar
04:25 Gallery
05:15 Iltihasher Ei Diney
05:20 Apnar jiggesha

HBO

11:00 Terminator 2: Judgement Day
1:45 Blue Streak
3:45 Held Up
5:30 Richie Rich
7:30 King Solomon's Mines

9:30 Cats & Dogs
11:15 Gossip
1:00 Blue Streak
3:00 Star Bestsellers

STAR PLUS

1:00 Star Bestsellers
2:30 Mirch Masala
3:00 Musafir Hoon Yaaron

STAR MOVIES

9:20 The Cable Guy

NATIONAL

12:00 Earth Pulse
12:30 National Geographic Special
1:30 Nick's Quest
2:20 People Out There
3:30 Wildlife Detectives
4:00 Hayden Turner's Wildlife Chall

4:30 Elephant Power
5:30 On Assignment
6:00 Tomorrow's World
6:30 Dogs With Jobs S3
7:00 Toyota World Of Wildlife
7:30 Earth Report
8:00 Earth Pulse
8:30 Science Of Sport

STAR WORLD

1:30 The Kids From Room 402
2:00 Roboroach
2:30 Monster Farm
3:00 X Men
3:30 The Kumars At No. 42
4:00 Cops
4:30 I Dare You
5:30 Britannia India's Child Genius
6:30 The X Files
7:30 Xena: Warrior Princess
8:30 Tna Wrestling

NATIONAL

10:30 National Geographic Special
11:30 Fat Plague
12:00 ANIMAL PLANET
12:30 Animals A-Z Wildboar King of the Wildwood
1:30 The Blue Planet Seasonal Seas
2:00 Around the world with Tippi and the Wolves
2:30 Chimpanzee Diary
3:30 Talking with Animals
4:30 Crowded Worlds
5:30 The Crocodile Hunter
6:30 Big Croc Diaries
7:30 The Jeff Conwin Experience Australia : Going Bats Down Under
8:30 The Most Extreme Body Parts
9:30 The Zoo
10:30 Wild Island More than a Zoo
11:30 Aussie Animal Roo Release
12:30 The Crocodile Hunter Diaries Acco's Cool
1:30 Animals A-Z 21
2:30 Century Safari
3:30 Animals A-Z Up with the Gibbons
4:30 The Blue Planet Coral Seas
5:30 Wild Encounters City Slickers
6:30 The Life of Birds Signals and Songs

DISCOVERY

12:00 Real Kids, Real Adventures Forest Fire
12:30 Great Hotels : Travel Special America's best beach America's
1:30 The Athens Games Death or Glory

STAR SPORTS

11:30 Asian Cup 2004 Beijing China Bahrain Vs Qatar (R)
12:00 After Midnight
12:30 STAR SPORTS
1:30 Asian Cup 2004 Beijing China Bahrain Vs Qatar (R)
2:00 Extreme Programming Wild Spirits 2004/05 (R)
2:30 Return To Athens (R)
3:00 Nba Inside Stuff (R)
3:30 Rugby Rugby Hq Asia (L)
4:00 Tri-Nations Series Rugby Australia Vs New Zealand (L)
6:00 Asian Cup 2004 Beijing China (L)

ESPN

2:30 Track & Field / Golden League Tdk Golden League France Highlights(T)
3:25 Sportscenter Week-In-Review (T)
3:55 Sportscenter Weekend (T)
4:00 UK Domestic Cricket Twenty20 Cup Birmingham England Lancashire Vs Surrey Semifinal 1(L)
8:00 UK Domestic Cricket Twenty20 Cup Birmingham England Glamorgan Vs Leicestershire Semifinal 2(L)
11:00 Sportscenter Weekend (R)
11:05 Soccer Masters League Football 2004 - Home Nations Highlights(R)
12:00 UK Domestic Cricket Twenty20 Cup Birmingham England Final(L)

ESPN

2:30 Track & Field / Golden League Tdk Golden League France Highlights(T)
3:25 Sportscenter Week-In-Review (T)
3:55 Sportscenter Weekend (T)
4:00 UK Domestic Cricket Twenty20 Cup Birmingham England Lancashire Vs Surrey Semifinal 1(L)
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