

# Cloisonne

## An exquisite Chinese handicraft

AFSAR AHMED

EVER wondered what a Cloisonne is? In Beijing, people like to decorate their homes with Cloisonne articles. Young women love trinkets made from Cloisonne, like bracelets and earrings. Cloisonne articles are the most commonly used as gift items too. Most shops in hotels as well as tourist resorts sell Cloisonne articles, which range from big sacrificial utensils, screens, tables and chairs to small chopsticks, earrings, candy boxes, toothpicks and even the smoking items. They are works of art as well as articles with usage value. Moreover, the traditional bluish tinge and glittery thin copper strips attract people most.

The history of Cloisonne, a tradi-

tional enamelware, dates back to over 600 years. And Beijing is the cradle of Cloisonne technique. It is called the 'Blue of Jingtai' as blue is the dominant colour adopted for enameling. Cloisonne became prevalent during the reign of Jingtai (1426-1456) in the Ming dynasty, though the earliest extant Cloisonne was made in the Yuan Dynasty (1271-1368). During the Jingtai period handicraftsmen found a dark-blue enamel which gave Cloisonne a gorgeous, solemn look and is still used today. Designs of chrysanthemums, grapes, flying cranes, lions and dragons were added to the flowers and foliage of the earlier period. In the Qing Dynasty, larger pieces like screens, tables and chairs,



Alluring cloisonne pot seen from different angles

even beds and couches were made from the enamel.

While visiting the famous Beijing Cloisonne Factory this correspondent got a vivid idea of this craftsmanship. The Beijing Cloisonne Factory, established in 1958, employs a staff of around 2,000 in both the mass production of consumer items and the creation of personalised art forms such as vases, boxes, lamp stands, ashtrays and dishes, as well as jewellery and other trinkets that are popular today.

An exquisite piece of Cloisonné must have colours that are moist and glossy, fresh and bright, a body that is substantive and sturdy, a wire inlay that is neat and well-proportioned, and gold plating that glitters. Its delicate appearance and splendid patterns should emit a classical warmth that rivets the gaze, and leaves one too infatuated to part with it. The making of Cloisonne integrates bronze and porcelain-working skills, traditional painting and etching. It is the pinnacle of traditional



A Chinese girl painting a cloisonne vase

## Recalling wide open spaces

Tomoko Ogoshi's solo at Zainul gallery

FAYZA HAQ

Tomoko Ogoshi, who had her recent exhibition of prints at the Zainul Gallery, like most printmakers was once confined to paintings but moved over to printmaking when she realised that she could best express herself in prints. Tomoko is now an assistant lecturer in the Joshibi University of Art and Design. The teachers who guided her through her career as a student included Kiyomi Kato. In the west she names San Francis as the source of inspiration. In her childhood she traveled to London, Spain and China, and the vast expanses that she came across there still linger in her memory and affect her work. She went to school in London for a short period, and this she said, had a very relaxed atmosphere. She went to China after her master's degree, and there the Great Wall had overwhelmed her. In Spain, the great castle's filled her with great wonder. The wide open spaces that she accosted during her travels still influences her work, which she had brought to Bangladesh.

Tomoko was lucky to have her family support in her choice of a career, and in fact, her mother guided her with her drawing and colouring when she was a girl. In her work, Tomoko says, she brings in her own feelings and those of others around her. What she presents, in particular, is touch of the breeze, which we cannot see but can only feel, and which delights our mind and our senses.

As she goes about her work, Tomoko takes a readymade aluminium plate on which she works

with oil colour pencils. After that she gives the metal plate a water-colour wash. Next she gives her work a coating of Arabic gum. Then, with a roller she applies colours. The press machine then absorbs the colour on the paper. If she wants an impression of four colours she would have to use four plates. Since she teaches at the university she can avail of the facility of the university printing machine and so has no problems in doing even large prints. Before she goes about the actual work she makes a sketch for it and then she works on the image on

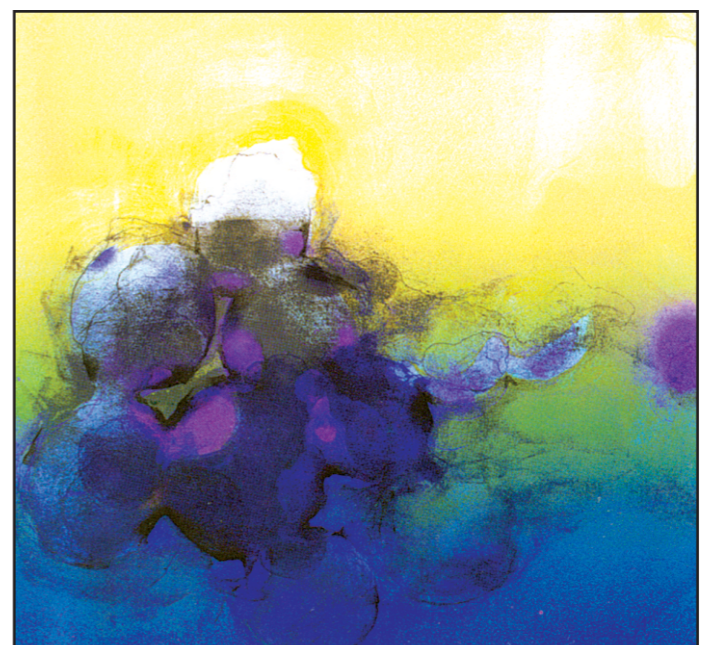
the metal plate. She says that she does not force any image or colour to appear but works on what comes from within her.

Tomoko finds a good response to her work in her own country. She recently got the Yamaguchi Gen Newcomer Award at the 72<sup>nd</sup> exhibition of the Japanese Print Association at the age of 26. She hopes to have more achievement in future. The exhibit at Dhaka too has had a warm response. As an artist she has faced no difficulty. On the other hand, her work



has got her in contact with many interesting people which has coloured her life. As for her prints, which were exhibited, she made them according to the measurements that her Bangladeshi mentor, GS Kabir, gave and had them flown. The 22 frames of metal and wood were waiting for her in Dhaka beforehand. These frames are used repeatedly as other artists come from Japan, under GS Kabir's guidance.

When she had a joint exhibit at Japan with two other colleagues, the person in charge of the Bangladeshi section in Chua Gallery, liked her work and invited her to come to Bangladesh. She says that her impression of Bangladesh has certainly changed in coming here. She finds the people energetic and communicative, characteristics which she couldn't have known just being in Japan. She found the women's traditional dress very aesthetic and enjoyed the food too.



Like a Cancer, lithograph

## Mock debate show raises funds for flood victims

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

ON the evening of August 9 Bangladesh Debate Federation (BDF) organised an exhibition debate at the Bishwashahitta Kendra Auditorium. Buying tickets pricing at Tk. 100.00, people of all ages gathered to watch this novel effort held to raise funds for the flood victims.

Three debates in three different formats and on three different motions were presented in this programme. Eminent poets of the country Rafique Azad and Mahadev Shaha along with famous actor-turned-politician Asaduzzaman Noor and editor of the *Dainik Bhorer Kagaj* Abed Khan were the debaters of the first debate. "Tis time for the politicians not the poets to walk against the wind" was the motion. Speaker of this parliamentary-styled round was Kazi Tinni Binte Zinnat, a student of class ten from Viqarunnisa Noon School & College.

Interestingly, the two poets had to speak in favour of the topic while politician Noor and political observer Abed Khan had to stand against it. Rafique Azad cited from the prehistoric days that poets were never

considered to be a part of the nation. 'Plato banished the poets from his ideal state. Even today when millions live in terrible misery caused by drastic flood, a poet has much more to do than writing verses,' he said.

The second speaker Noor however opposed the poet. He raised the question that if asked who is to blame for the present state of the country, undoubtedly everyone would point at the politicians. 'Politicians have little sense in serving the people and keeping words,' he said. Assessing himself as a politician Noor said, 'Look at me-- I was supposed to arrive by 5pm whereas I reached at 6:15pm. This is our sense of being punctual! I used to act in front of the camera; now I act in the parliament with other politicians. Poets are not like that.'

Poet Mahadev Shaha assessed once again how wrong it is to consider the poets as leaders of the nation. 'Poets and politics can never mix. Poets seek isolation and long for alienation. Therefore it is impossible and unrealistic to hope for their leadership,' he argued.

The last debater Abed Khan spoke of a hopeful dream. He foresees the poets as 'the lighthouse amid the sea of hopelessness'. 'In the darkest hour



Abed Khan (front) presenting his arguments; sitting behind him are (from left) Asaduzzaman Noor, Mahadev Shaha and Rafique Azad

they are the healing power,' he said. He pointed out how the simple verses lifted the spirits of the freedom fighters in the country during 1971. 'Therefore, they alone can guide us through the turmoil which we badly need at present, he concluded.

Credits should go to the young Speaker who conducted the mock parliamentary debate with these eminent figures. Though ended without any result, the debate was an

enjoyable one.

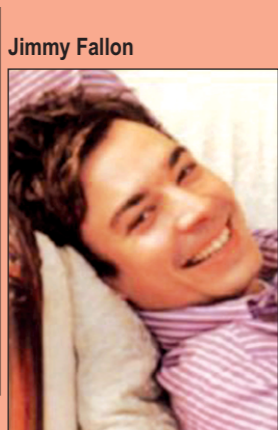
The second debate was presented on 'Neutrality in our country is synonymous to hypocrisy', while 'Dreams come to life only in dreams today' was the topic of the final debate.

The money raised from this charity show will be donated for the flood affected people.

## J-Lo heads list of presenters at MTV Video Awards



Jennifer Lopez



Jimmy Fallon



Gwyneth Paltrow



Will Smith



Hilary Duff

Jennifer Lopez, Hilary Duff, Gwyneth Paltrow, Jimmy Fallon, and Will Smith are to present the 2004 MTV Video Music Awards.

And Nelly, featuring Christina Aguilera, and Alicia Keys join list of performers at the 21st annual awards

show on August 29 in Miami. Nelly, featuring Christina Aguilera, will be performing *Tilt Ya Head Back*, a song from *Sweet*--one of the two albums Nelly will release simultaneously in September. His music video, *Shake Ya Tailfeather*, is nominated in the Best

Hip-Hop Video category. Christina Aguilera is nominated for two MTV Video Music Awards for *The Voice Within* in the Best Female Video and Best Cinematography in a Video categories. Alicia Keys will be performing her

massive hit song *If I Ain't Got You* which is nominated for three awards--Best Female Video, Best R&B Video and Best Art Direction in a Video. Source: Internet

## 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.  
Latest News (Bangla) at 9:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 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) at 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

#### CHANNEL-i

09:45 *Tritiya Matra*  
10:45 *Na Bola Kotha*  
11:30 *Din Choley Jay*  
12:30 *Chithi Pelam*  
12:30 *Aj Dupurey O Citycell*  
12:30 *Tarokakothon (Live)*  
12:30 *Ebong Cinemar Gaan*  
01:00 Public reaction  
01:25 *Bangla Film: Dosti*  
01:30 *(Kobita, Faruk, Jasim)*  
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: Dr Mahtabbar Swapano*  
08:25 *Drama Serial: Boyshor Jakhon Ekush*  
09:35 *Hridoye Mati O Manush*  
10:00 *Drama Serial: Amader Chihobi*

#### ATN BANGLA

10:30 *Annohishtee Mohona*  
11:15 *Rock & Rhythm*  
11:50 *Chaloman Desh Business Show*  
12:30 *School Bell*  
01:05 *Duranto Ghumi*  
01:35 *Chaloman Desh Business Show*  
02:30 *School Bell*  
03:10 *Drama Serial: Shirsho Bindu*  
03:45 *Uro Cola Saat Rang*  
04:20 *Chalo Gaan Gal*  
05:10 *Shurer Madhuri*  
06:20 *Tom and Jerry*

08:00 *Drama Serial: Kajjar Ghatte Agni Utshab*  
08:30 *Drama Serial: Anto*  
09:00 *Drama Serial: Lal Neel Beguni*  
09:30 *Drama Serial: Baba Chanchallokar Mamla*  
10:30 *Bangla Film: Jid*  
**ntv**  
08:00 *Aajker Shakal Monihar*  
08:30 *Shaptakher Khabor*  
09:00 *Expedition To Animal Kingdom*  
10:05 *Natoker Gaan*  
11:00 *Dhakar Cinema*  
12:30 *Ronger Manush*  
03:05 *Pepsi Music Express*  
03:40 *Pratibimba*  
04:25 *Gallery*  
05:15 *Iltashar Ei Diney*  
05:20 *Apnar jiggesha*  
06:20 *Shubho Shondhya*  
06:55 *Shangshkriti ei Shoptaho*  
08:15 *Drama Serial: Tin Purush*  
08:50 *Drama Serial: Achin Ragini*  
11:25 *Dindarpan*

#### TARA BANGLA

1:00 *Filmi Furti*  
2:00 *Taka Na Sona*  
2:30 *Bengali Feature Film Bastab*  
5:00 *Hanrir Khabar*  
6:00 *Taka Na Sona*  
6:30 *Sree Ramkrishna*  
7:00 *Drama Serial: 7-30*  
7:30 *Shirsho Bindu*  
8:00 *Tele Film*  
9:30 *E To Noi Sudhur Gaan*  
10:30 *Post Mortem*  
11:00 *Fully Fatalati Fantasi*

#### PICK OF THE DAY



**Panic Room**  
On HBO at 9:30 pm  
Genre: Drama / Thriller / Crime  
Cast: Jodie Foster, Kristen Stewart, Forest Whitaker



**Hridoye Mati O Manush**  
On Channel i at 9:35 pm  
Programme on agriculture and economic development  
Hosted by Shykh Siraj

**HBO**  
10:15 *Balto 2: The Wolf Quest*  
11:45 *The Avengers*  
1:30 *Three Kings*  
3:45 *Solo*  
5:45 *Andre*  
7:45 *Body Snatchers*  
9:30 *Panic Room*  
11:45 *Rush Hour 2*  
**STAR MOVIES**  
9:15 *Sabretooth*  
11:00 *Driven To Succeed*  
12:30 *In Hell*  
2:15 *Hollywood One On One*  
2:45 *Dragonheart*  
4:30 *The Ticket*  
5:00 *8mm*  
7:00 *Psycho*  
8:45 *Crossroads*  
10:15 *Mojave Moon*

11:50 *Midnight Mass*  
1:25 *Three Of Africa*  
**SONY MAX**  
9:30 *Agnee (Mithun, Amrita Singh)*  
1:30 *Chal Mere Bhai (Salman, Sanjay Dutt)*  
5:45 *Andre*  
7:45 *Body Snatchers*  
9:30 *Panic Room*  
11:45 *Rush Hour 2*  
**STAR PLUS**  
1:00 *Star Bestsellers*  
2:05 *Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet*  
2:30 *Mirch Masala*  
3:00 *Musafir Hoon Yarron*  
3:30 *Arzoo - (Col) Rajendra Kumar*  
6:30 *Meri Mrs Chanchala*  
7:00 *Yatra*  
7:25 *Film Topper - 301 Series*  
7:30 *Pya Bina*  
8:00 *Pardey Ke Peechey*  
8:30 *Hera Pheri - Movies*  
12:00 *Yatra*  
**STAR WORLD**  
12:30 *Rendezvous With Simi Garewal*  
2:30 *Monster Farm*  
3:00 *X Men*

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 *National Geographic Special*  
9:30 *Hunt For The Death Star*  
10:30 *Born Wild*  
11:30 *National Geographic Special*  
**ANIMAL PLANET**  
1:30 *Around the world with Tippi and the Lions*  
2:00 *Elephant Trilogy The Search for Virgo*  
2:30 *Wild Encounters City Slickers*  
3:30 *The Crocodile Hunter Last Primates of Madagascar*  
4:30 *The Jeff Corwin Experience Cambodia: Snakes on the Menu*  
5:30 *The Most Extreme Predators*  
6:30 *The Zoo*  
7:00 *Wild Island Trying Times*  
7:30 *Aussie Animal Rescue*  
8:00 *New Beginnings*  
8:30 *The Crocodile Hunter Diaries Zoo Babies*  
9:30 *Animals A-Z City of the Wild Cats*  
9:00 *Animals A-Z Night of the Leopard*  
9:30 *The Blue Planet Tidal Seas*  
10:30 *Wild Encounters 50 Outrageous Animal Facts*  
11:30 *The Life of Birds Finding Partners*  
**DISCOVERY**  
3:30 *History Weekends Colour of War: The*

4:30 *American Story Wrath*  
5:30 *History Weekends Frontiers of Flight Rocket6 Power*  
6:30 *History Weekends The Mistresses The mist and The Public*  
7:30 *History Weekends Terra X Curse of Oak Island Ultimate Guide Ultimate*  
8:30 *The Athens Games The Real Olympics Playing to Win*  
9:30 *Discover India Akash Yodha*  
10:30 *Drama on Discovery Sherlock Holmes: The true Story: Dodging the Bullet*  
12:00 *After Midnight*  
**STAR SPORTS**  
2:00 *World Strongman Cup 2004 Austria Austria Highlights(R)*  
2:30 *Tennis Masters Series Western & Southern Financial Group Masters*  
3:30 *Nba Inside Stuff Sounds Of The Season: Destination Finals (R)*  
4:00 *Football Asia (T) Gillette World Sport 2004 (T)*  
4:55 *Formula One Qualifying Hungarian Hungary Hungarian Grand Prix Qualifying(L)*  
7:00 *Tennis Topspin - The Now Generation (R)*  
7:30 *Tennis Topspin - The Women: Just Say Slam! (R)*  
7:54 *English Premier Football League 2004/05 Manchester England*

Manchester City Vs Fulham  
10:00 *Epl Saturday Premiership Saturday (T) English Premier Football League 2004/05*  
10:10 *Middlesbrough England Middlesbrough Vs Newcastle United (L) Final Score (L)*  
**ESPN**  
2:00 *West Indies Tour Of England 3rd Test Day 2 Highlights(R)*  
2:23 *Sportscenter Weekend (T)*  
2:28 *West Indies Tour Of England 3rd Test Day 3 1st Session(L)*  
5:30 *Sportscenter Week-Review (R)*  
6:00 *West Indies Tour Of England 3rd Test Day 3 2nd & 3rd Session(L)*  
10:30 *Hitz (R)*  
11:00 *English Premier Football League 2004/05 London England Tottenhamhotspur Vs Liverpool (S)*  
**TEN SPORTS**  
12:30 *SL v SA: 2nd Test, Day 4- 1st Session*  
1:10 *SL v SA: 2nd Test, Day 4- Lunch*  
5:30 *SL v SA: 2nd Test, Day 4- 2nd Session*  
6:00 *SL v SA: 2nd Test, Day 4- Review*  
7:00 *WWE: Heat*  
9:00 *88th PGA Champs: Day 2*  
11:00 *SL v SA: 2nd Test, Day 4 H/Ls*  
12:00 *WWE: Heat*  
12:30 *European Tour Weekly*