

CULTURAL FEAST

Exhibition

No More War, Make a Green World



Artist: Mohammed Younus
Venue: Gallery Dhrupad, House # 36, Road # 5, Block # G, Banani

Title: Appointment 2004
Artists: Hamiduzzaman Khan, Abdus Shakur, Ranjit Das, Ifrat Ara Dewan, Ivy Zaman, Rashid Amin, Javed Jalil, Anukul Chandra Majumdar

Title: Saree Exhibition
Designer: Nahida Sharmeen
Venue: Chitraneer, Gallery Chitrak, Road 4, House 21, Dhanmondi

Title: Even the Walls Have Ears
Artist: Tayeba Begum Lipi
Venue: Alliance Francaise, 26, Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi

Title: Exhibition of 12 Contemporary Young Artists



Organiser: Nadim's Cultural Education Development Organization
Venue: Russian Cultural Centre, House 510, Road 7, Dhanmondi

Applique
Title: Sholio
Artist: Sahell
Venue: Drik Gallery, House # 58, Road # 15A, Dhanmondi

Drama
Title: Boubashanti
Group: Udichi
Venue: Mahila Shamiti Auditorium

TRIBUTE

Lalon, the mystic poet

SADYA AFREEN MALICK

THE mysticism of Lalon songs largely remains unrevealed and unexplored till date. This is so because Lalon's songs, which are countless, were passed on orally through his disciples and were mostly unwritten.

Fakir Lalun Shah (1774-1890), the most illustrious Baul poet of Bengal, was born in Chapra, Kushtia. It is said that when Tagore came to Shilaidaha of Kushtia to look after his zamindari, he invited Lalon to his place.

The Baul songs of Lalon with its simplistic tune and in-depth philosophical lyric had a profound impact on Tagore. Later, Tagore used the style extensively in his Baul trends and even termed Lalon as Kabhya Lakkhi. Tagore took the initiative and published some of the songs in the monthly Prabasi of Kolkata.

Baul is a mystical cult with a spiritual discipline relating to philosophical thoughts. The inner meaning of Lalon songs caters for peace and tranquility, and is akin to Sufism calling for the purity of soul. It highlights the intricate relation between the body and the soul. Baul songs glorify humanity. Although spiritual, the style and words testify the Bauls' inherently secular beat.

Lalon's life, however, remains shrouded in mystery. Professor Mansuruddin, a scholar of folklore, writes that Lalon was Hindu by birth. Some say he was called



Lalon Chandro Rai, while others say he was called Lalun Chandro Das. His mother was known as Padmabati Devi.

Once, Lalun had been to Bahrapur in Murshidabad. On his way back, he was seriously ill with smallpox. His accomplices thought him to be dead and abandoned him in a critical condition. Destiny took Lalon to a nearby village where a Muslim family of a weaver community saved him and took care till he recovered fully. Here he met Shiraj Sai, the spiritual guide of the family. His preaching left a permanent mark on Lalon.

After Lalon recovered from illness he went back to his village only to be humiliated by his own community for taking

shelter amongst Muslim family. This was the turning point in Lalon's life. He felt terribly shocked and let down and took refuge in a nearby jungle in Souria. From then on he devoted himself to meditation and sought for divine mercy and salvation. Later, Lalon set up an akhda at Chheuriya, where he lived with his wife and a few disciples.

Lalon was a humanist who completely rejected all distinctions of caste and creed. Lalon wrote songs on Guru or the spiritual guide, the central idea depicting that emancipation of the soul is not possible without guidance. The song Shob toke koi Lalun ki jaat shongshary indicates his strong belief in humanity. His songs were a unique example of ascetics, mysticism and divinity.

After he passed away on the 17th of October 1890, at Chheuriya, at the age of 116, he was laid to rest at the place of his meditation.

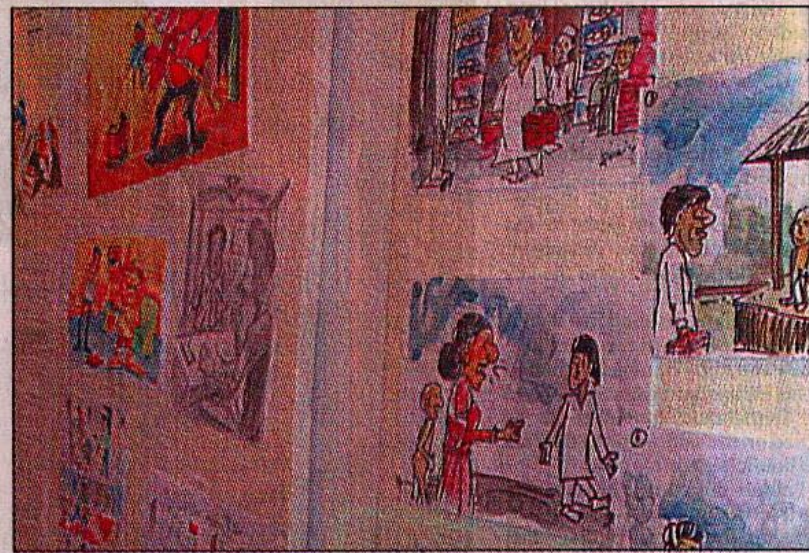
Lalon geeti or songs contain high lyrical value and is considered as the finest asset in our line of folk music. In 1963, a mausoleum and a research centre were built at the site of his akhda. Thousands of Bauls come to the akhda twice a year--Dol-Purnima, in the month of Falgun (February-March) and in October, on the occasion of his death anniversary. During these three-day melas, Bauls pay rich tributes to their spiritual leader.

A two-day programme featuring reminiscence and discussion on Lalon and presentation of his songs has started at Chheuriya from October 16.

Illustration-works of eight artists displayed

FAYZA HAQ

TIAN Keu from Cambodia, recently held a five-day workshop, the results of which are currently on display at the Alliance Francaise Gallery. Based in Lyon, Tian had been inspired to come to work with our local artists by the French post-modern sculptor, Awna Cozzonnet, who had worked twice before in the recent past with Bangladeshi artists.



Illustrations of eight artists seen at Alliance Francaise

The illustrators of the exhibition included Mustafa Zaman and Ronni Ahmed (who illustrated their own work and those of others) and eight others, like Abhijit Chowdhury, Kawar Ahmed, Manik Ratan. The text is in Bangla and French, while the illustrations are in delectable water-colour washes, sharp pen-and-ink and dramatic crayon sketches.

Ronni and Mustafa, the leading artists, at first illustrated their own works. Ronni's Selimer Dukker Kahini had the storyline of relationship of power in a family and a workplace introduces one to the world of the absurd and alienation of individuals. A nervous employee presents his retarded

son's discarded childhood garments. The absurdity of the tale begins from here. Instead of files, the boss has been given baby clothes; the journey of the story emanates from there. As the main character had lost the files, he gets sacked from office.

However, when the protagonist of the narrative returns home, he finds his estranged son (who had been lost for 12 years) waving the lost garments; later he flaunts a box of sweets--which are normally offered in our eastern society as a gesture of felicitation. Selim goes to retrieve the clothes and discovers that his boss is trying to wear the baby chemise. The ending of the series of illustrations is in sweeps of black with intertwining fine gray strokes.

Different episodes have been presented in different mediums--gray pencil, blue, red and yellow water-colour washes, felt and etched pen strokes. The one with the predominating pink and scarlet ones are done by Mustafa, the black-and-white

portion being that by Srabon, while the cute, cuddly and crazy, potato-like images are Ronni's own overworking Surrealistic contributions. The effect is certainly out of this world in the context of Dhaka. Three other artists' works went into Ronni's story.

Parato Bon and Golito Bhai by Dantasha Rowshan, is about our social crises, where neighbouring young men get on drugs and alcohol; and eventually end up becoming a menace for the simple and conservative young women in our urban society. Unwanted offering of flowers, the sticking out of tongues by the local Casanova-turned-street-bully has the finale of the mastan lying helplessly drunk and dissipated on a dark lane--with no one visible at the overlooking window--as a frog brings in a tiny glass of wine. The story line is to stir up our social consciousness, as Ronny explains.

Tian says that Alliance Francaise hopes to make a book out of this different and unusual attempt at comic illustra-

EXHIBITION

Exploring the creativity of the young



Artworks by Amlan Faruque, Syed Rashid Imon and Dqdul

AFSAR AHMED

Ronger Khelay Srishtir Anondo, an abstract artwork by Amlan Faruque, a 14-year old mentally challenged boy, reminds one of the joyous creation through the splashes of colours. A composition of a hand fan, fish and red hyacinth in bright colour created by an eight-year old Down-syndrome patient Pinky gives a glimpse of her wildest imagination. The whirling seven colours by Suman astound the spectators with its harmonious array.

Not only Amlan's, Pinky's or Suman's, there are many magnificent creations by the physically and mentally challenged children and youths which resolve that they are not 'the burden' of the society; rather through proper assistance and sympathy, they can also turn into our precious wealth.

Using flinging colours blended with the imagination, the creators depict their loneliness, social rights, lyrical beauty of Bangladesh, flood, Liberation War and

many more. The three-day exhibition has been organised by the National Forum of Organisations Working with the Disabled (NFOWD). With the title 'National Arts and Crafts Exhibition and Competition of Children and Youths with Disabilities' the exhibition is going on at the Nolinikanto Bhattashali gallery of the National Museum.

To celebrate the World White Cane Safety Day, this venture of NFOWD is the first of its kind, introducing the creative potentialities of children and youth with disabilities at the national level as well as to ensure proper recognition of their skills and talents. Participants for the competition and exhibition were divided into two categories--one with physical, intellectual, hearing and speech disabilities, and the other with visual impairments. The categories are further segregated in three age categories--up to 12 years, 13-18 years, and 18-30 years.

The first category was allowed to participate in the arts while the latter group was allowed for the crafts. 161 pieces of arts and

46 pieces of crafts are being exhibited with a majority of the artworks (numbering 64) done by the physically challenged children and youths. 55 artworks are submitted by the children and youths with the hearing and speech disabilities while 42 came from the intellectually challenged group. Participants from almost 30 organisations like CSID, CRP, Gram Bikash Shasthya Sangstha, High Care from different districts of the country like Dinajpur, Chittagong, Jhenaidah, Manikganj, Tangail, Narsingdi, Satkhira, Savar and Gazipur took part in the exhibition.

An expert panel of judges comprising famous artists Masuma Khan, Naznin Yusuf Nelly, Tarun Ghosh and Kmar Mushtari selected three winners in each category. The prize giving ceremony will be held today at 11:00 am at the Begum Sufia Kamal Auditorium of the National Museum. Today is the last day of the exhibition and will remain open from 9am through 3pm.

Bulbul and Lisa's albums released at bengal

HARUN UR RASHID

Artist Qayyum Chowdhury recently said that artiste Bulbul Islam fills the scarcity of male vocalists in the field of Rabindra Sangeet, which has been dominated by female artistes until recently. The eminent painter said this while launching the latest album of Bulbul at the Bengal Shilpalaya recently. The upcoming music house organised a two-day ceremony of two new albums of Rabindra Sangeet by Bulbul Islam and Laisa Ahmad Lisa.

Bulbul's album Shudurer Piyashi is the third of his career while Laisa's Bondhu Hey Phirey Esho is the fifth but the first one



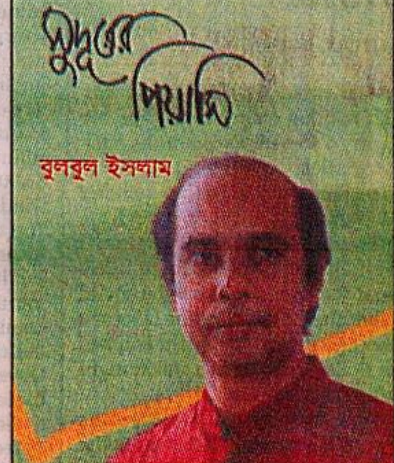
to be released in the country. Both the albums contain 14 songs each.

The songs of Shudurer Piyashi include Tumi daak diyechho kon shokaley, Godhuligoney, Amar praner majhey, Akash bhora shurjo-tara, Ogo pother shathi, Prothom adi tabo, Krishnakoli ami tarei boli, Amar lotar prothom, Shokal belar aloy, Amar nikhil bhuban, Akash hotey akash pothey, Mon je boley chini, Hey madhobi didha keno and Ami chanchal hey.

Bulbul's voice has matured over his previous album. The passion for Rabindra Sangeet has deepened even more. A number of songs have found attractive rendition from Bulbul. In a few songs, however, he has not been able to surpass his predecessors. For example, the song Krishnakoli ami tarei boli has had so many memorable presentations by maestros like Hemanta Mukhopadhyay, Kanika Bandyopadhyay and others that Bulbul has remained in their shadows. Yet, in some cases he has created his own spell of passionate style like in the song Ami chanchal hey, Tumi daak diyechho and Amar lotar prothom.

Bondhu Hey Phirey Esho is Laisa Ahmad Lisa's first album produced in the country. Previously, she released four albums abroad: in 2000 Amar Shurguli Paay Charan from Kolkata, in 2002 Geeto Shudhar Torey from the USA and Chitto Pipashitorey from Kolkata, and in 2003 Probh Amar Priyo Amar from Kolkata.

The songs of the album are Dao hey hriday bhorey, Tumi kon bhanganer



pothey ele, Helaphela sharabela, Asrubhara bedona, Aj shraboner purinathey, Amar mollkaboney, Esho esho phirey esho, Bhujanjora ashomkhani, Na go ei je dhula, Tumi dhonyo dhonyo hey, Tomar khola haoua, Je ratey mor duarguli, Kishur bajey and Pantho tumi.

Laisa's rendition of the songs is different from others. Although her voice has the typical voice modulation, in places she has excelled the limitation of her voice by the passion she can create. Songs like Amar mollkaboney, Tomar khola haoua, Je ratey mor duarguli have found originality in Laisa's voice. The album will surely be accepted with warmth.

TV GUIDE

PICK OF THE DAY



Keboli Raat Hoyer Jay
On Channel 1 at 7:50pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Dolly Zahur, Mahfuz Ahmed, Tisha, Sumaila Shimu



Spiderman
On HBO at 9:30 p.m.
Genre: Action/Adventure
Cast: Toby Maguire, Illem Dafoe, Kirsten Dunst

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, 6:00 pm.
News (English) at 3:00 pm, 10:00 pm.
Late Night News (Bangla and English) 11:30 pm.
CHANNEL-1
News (Bangla) at 7:15 am, 9:00am, 7:15 pm, 9:00pm, 10:30, 12:15 am.
Teletext of BTV news (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.
ATN BANGLA
News (Bangla) at 7:00 am, 10:00am, 2:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11:00 pm.
Teletext of BTV News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.
CHANNEL-i
News (Bangla) at 7:15 am, 9:00am, 7:15 pm, 9:00pm, 10:30, 12:15 am.
Teletext 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 Hota
09:00 Satellite Programme
12:15 Shinghad Potrer Pata
12:30 Health Bulletin
01:05 Musical Programme
01:30 Laukik Bangla
02:05 Proidin Computer
02:30 Anu Paramanu
03:35 Shukhi Panibar
04:05 Bantshori
04:30 Open University
05:05 Mahe Ramadan
06:10 Dolan Champa
06:35 Selected Programme
07:05 Sur Aannand
07:30 Bishwa Bassali Dibash
08:25 Proidin Bangladesh
08:30 Drama Serial: Ajana Saikate
09:00 Drama Serial: Nurul Huda Ekada
10:30 Shanchhita
11:00 Ummayin Agrajitra
11:00 Shindhu Hindal
12:05 Satellite Programmes
CHANNEL-i
09:45 Triloyo Matra
11:30 Shanchhita
12:00 Chitthi Pelam
12:30 Aaj Dipurey
01:00 Ebong Cinema: Gaan
01:30 Public Reaction
01:35 Bangla Feature Film
04:00 Bangla Gaan
05:00 Sa Ra Ga Ma
05:15 Janapoder Khobor Alokit Bangladesh
06:00 Music Plus
06:30 Baniyo o Arthonali
07:50 Drama Serial: Keboli Raat Hoyer Jay
08:25 Drama Serial: Bijli Boarding
09:35 Film Show: Beast Master
10:00 Drama Serial: Amader

Chhota Nodi
09:20 Khabor Deshey Deshey
10:05 Nil Paharer Gaan
10:30 Dhakar Cinema
02:30 Drama Serial: Adekha Bhuben
03:05 Righti Oick
03:40 Drama Serial: Chena Dukkha Achna Shukh
04:25 Ritidoy Ramadan
05:20 Aapnar Joyasha
06:00 Khabor Deshey Deshe
08:15 Sparsher Baitry
08:50 Sunaik Opshora
09:40 Drama Serial: Chena Dukkha Achna Shukh
11:20 Dindarpan
ATN BANGLA
10:30 Annordishi
11:15 Drama Serial: Baba Sritir Mankothay
11:50 Bangla Feature Film: Snehir Badhon
12:30 Uro Cole Saat Rang
03:50 Flying House
04:30 Mobarak Ho Mahe Ramadan
06:20 Shobar Jonyo
08:00 Shongshar Ubon
08:30 Drama Serial: Sparsher Baitry
09:00 Drama Serial: Chena Dukkha Achna Shukh
11:20 Dindarpan
HBO
9:45 Being John Malkovich
12:00 Urban Legends: Final Cut
2:00 First Show
4:00 Buying The Cow
5:45 Taboo
7:30 Momentum
9:30 Spiderman
12:00 Carnivale 03: Tipton

STAR MOVIES
9:15 Barbershop
10:00 Rambo: First Blood Part II
11:40 Bird On A Wire
1:30 Hollywood One On One
2:00 White Gold
3:30 Great Balls Of Fire
5:20 Abandon
7:00 E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial 20th Anniversary
STAR GOLD
1:25 Kuch Hit Kuch Superhit
1:30 23rd March 1931
5:00 Shaheed
6:30 Yeh Dil Aashiana Hai
7:30 Game
STARPLUS
1:30 Kummum - Pyara Sa

7:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Kabhi To Hoga
AXN
1:30 Worst-Record Setters
2:30 Boomtown
3:30 Rescue 911
5:00 Rescue 911
5:30 Girl Interrupted
6:00 24 (Season 2)
8:30 Fear Factor
10:30 Night Falls On Manhattan
1:00 Fear Factor
Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Kabhi To Hoga
Walter and Henry
Judging Amy
Family Law
Walter and Henry
Bewitched
CARTOON NETWORK
2:00 Baby Looney Tunes
2:30 Scooby-Doo
3:00 The Legend of Snow White
3:30 The Powerpuff Girls
4:00 Codename: Kameo
4:30 He-Man and the Masters of the Universe
5:00 Justice League
5:30 Pokemon
6:00 Digimon
6:30 Tom and Jerry Show
7:00 All New Popeye
7:30 Richie Rich
8:00 Dexter's Laboratory
8:30 Pokemon
9:00 Digimon

ZEE TV
1:30 Pancham
2:00 Turnhar Disha
2:30 Piya Ka Ghar
3:00 Reth
3:30 Sallaab
4:30 3 Ka Show Contd
6:30 Cartoon Network On Zee
7:30 Hip Hip Hurray
8:00 Reth
8:30 Turnhar Disha
9:00 Piya Ka Ghar
9:30 Astiva - Ek Prem Kahani
10:00 Kareena Kareena
10:30 Bollywood Dreams
11:00 Tum Bin Jaason Kahan
STAR WORLD
1:30 Mac Gyver
2:30 Oprah Winfrey
3:30 Bold And Beautiful
4:30 Hollywood Squares
5:00 Whose Line Is It Anyway
5:30 Miami Vice
6:30 The Simpsons
7:00 Home Improvement
7:30 Friends
8:00 Just Shoot Me
8:30 That '70s Show
9:00 Everybody Loves Raymond
9:30 Yes Dear
10:00 Becker
10:30 Boston Public
11:30 Baywatch
ZEE CINEMA
1:00 Military Raj
4:30 Main Hoon Geeta
9:30 Zara Halke-Om Puri-Drohkal
1:00 Maa
5:30 Sabse Bada Khiladi
9:00 Paisa Vasool
DISCOVERY
1:30 Living With Tigers
3:30 Night Safari

STAR SPORTS
12:30 English Premier Football League
2:30 Extreme Programming
3:00 Tennis Masters Series
5:00 Cricket Gold
8:00 Sportsline
8:30 Spanish Football League Sportsline
11:00 Hitz
ESPN
11:00 Pool/Snooker
12:00 Cricket Show
12:30 Pga Tour Golf
3:00 Final Score (R)
3:30 English Premier Football League
7:30 English Premier League Highlights
8:30 Sportscenter India (L)
9:00 Uefa Champions League Magazine Shows
9:30 English Premier Football League
11:30 Sportscenter India
12:00 Sportscenter Asia
TEN SPORTS
9:00 WWE:Heat
9:00 Gamer TV
12:00 TATA Racing -World Series (Valencia, Spain)
2:00 Portuguese League (Benfica Porto)
4:00 Final Highlights
4:30 ICC Cricket World History of Football
7:30 WWE: Raw
8:00 Gillette World Sport
9:00 Indoor Cricket World Cup H/Ls
9:30 Speed
10:00 ICC Cricket World
11:00 Italian Serie A - High-lights