

CULTURAL FEAS

Exhibition

Bangladesh art captivates Delhi

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

DELHI glitterati turned up in huge numbers at the recent inauguration of the weeklong art exhibition of seven Bangladeshi artists organised by the Society for Promotion of Bangladesh Art (SPBA) according to The Times of India.

The exhibition of 43 paintings by Rokeya Sultana, Nasreen Begum, Dilara Begum Jolly, Kalidas Karmakar, Ranjit Das, Chandrashekhar Dey and Iftikar Uddin Ahmed covered a variety of subjects including nature, man-woman relationships, spirit of adventure, human tendency for nostalgia on a wide range of art forms like oil on canvas, watercolour, acrylic on canvas, mixed media and wood blocks.

Iftiqar Uddin Ahmed's paintings explore "spaces of nature", the space created by man and the space created for imagination and his work is rich in symbolism. For instance, the pillar reflects strength, the wall symbolises limitations and land and sky are images of boundless space, explained the artist.

Rokeya Sultana's paintings bring out the status of women in Bangladesh society and speaks of the need for freedom. They also focus on relationships between man and woman in a nuanced manner.

"Women are predominant in my works as they are the most oppressed section of society," says the 47-year-old painter. However, she deals with women-related issues in a positive way, a trait she says she has developed during her training in Vishva Bharati University in Shantiniketan. Sultana points out that the images of bird in her works symbolises freedom for women.



(L-R) Rafi Huque, general secretary of SPBA, Nasreen Begum, Elthem Kabir, chairman of SPBA, eminent Indian artist Satish Gujral, Iftikar Uddin Ahmed, Rokeya Sultana, owner of Art Junction Mrs Suri and Farooq Sobhan, former foreign secretary, seen at the opening ceremony

For Nasreen Begum, whose work is mainly in watercolour, nature is her romantic space and she says her paintings reflect her own mood and the seasons. "My search is always through nature because human beings are a part of it," she says.

She too depicts the status of women through the painting titled Cactus in which a cactus is shown growing on a head. "It exhibits how a woman has to keep smiling even when she is under a lot of pressure," says Nasreen Begum.

Ranjit Das' paintings deal with the serious issues of life as evident in the gloomy face looking out of the canvas.

Dilara Begum Jolly's works

brings to life abstract images and inverted figures and Chandrashekhar Dey's depicts the place of nostalgia in human life.

The exhibition at the Art Junction of Hotel Intercontinental near Connaught Place in Delhi was inaugurated by Satish Gujral, well known artist and brother of former Indian Prime Minister Inder Kumar Gujral.

The latter was the chief guest at the launching of the book Bangladesh Art: A collection of Contemporary Paintings.

The former prime minister, who is also a strong proponent of strong India-Bangladesh relations, said the exhibition provided an opportunity to bring the two countries

closer through art.

Among those present at the opening of the exhibition were former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah, a regular face in Delhi's art and party circuits, and former Bangladesh Foreign Secretary Farooq Sobhan.

The Society for Promotion of Bangladesh Art must be given credit for organising the exhibition, its maiden venture in the Indian capital.

The display provided a glimpse into the rich artistic culture of Bangladesh and the depth and passion of the artists.

Grameen Phone and GMG Airlines provided extensive support for the exhibition.

In conversation with Mok Chiuyu

Theatrical collaboration with Hong Kong ahead

ERSHAD KAMOL

There's a new face on the theatre circuit in Dhaka. The Hong Kong-based Congress Director of International Drama/Theatre Educational Association (IDEA), Mok Chiuyu along with his five teammates has arrived in the city. The objective is to do two collaborative works—a TV film and a stage play—with his Bangladeshi counterpart Mamunur Rashid.

Mok seeks to generate awareness about social issues through stage plays in Hong Kong. Moreover, he is involved with a few remarkable theatre activities such as theatre in education and theatre for the disabled. Besides his theatrical activities, Mok acts in films.

Talking about his interesting theatre activities with the disabled in Hong Kong, Mok says, "I have produced many stage plays with disabled performers. Of those productions, the plays with speech-impaired performers have won laurels both at home and abroad. In fact, speech-impaired performers stage nonverbal theatre, which has the power to overcome the language barrier. I have visited USA, Canada, Japan and other European countries with my artists."

For his lifelong contribution in theatre Mok Chiuyu has won the Drama Achievement Award in 1999 given by the Hong Kong Arts Development Council.

On his Bangladesh visit, Mok says, "We are here to do two collaborative works with Mamunur Rashid and his troupe. We will jointly present a play on Colombian revolutionist Ernesto Guevara, known to us as Che Guevara, who became a legend during 1970s in Latin America for his bold stand against oppression and inequality. And we will also make a TV film."

The conversation veers to the reason behind a stage play on Che Guevara. Mok says, "In the era of globalisation, we badly need a powerful figure such as Guevara to fight against all forms of injustice. I think, we can take many cues from Guevara's life."



Mok Chiuyu talks about his upcoming project

"His execution in Vallegrande at the age of 39 only enhanced Guevara's mythical stature. I visited Latin America to garner more information on the legend. We also staged five plays over there on him. We will perform the prelude—our search for Che Guevara—to Mamun's script on the play, which will be directed by Faiz Zahir. This multilingual production will be staged in Dhaka as well as in Hong Kong."

The Mok-Mamun duo is also making a TV film on the struggle of the Chinese civilians in Chittagong during the Liberation War of Bangladesh in 1971. Mok says, "It is not a film on politics, rather the struggle of people borne out of flawed politics. This will also be a multi-lingual production, which will be aired in the both countries—Bangladesh and Hong Kong. I will play a shoemaker in the film. Mamunur Rashid is the screen playwright and director. I will translate the Chinese dialogues and the roles will be performed by artistes from Hong Kong."

Cultural event in aid of tsunami victims

Organiser: Chhayanaat Venue: National Theatre Stage at Shilpakala Date: February 03-04

Book Publication Ceremony

Title: Diner Sheshey Ghumer Deshey (on renowned composer AbdulAhad) Guests: Muhammad Habibur Rahman, Mustafa Nurul Islam, Prof. Anisuzzaman, Prof. Zillur Rahman Siddique, Manzur-e-Mowla, Prof. Serajul Islam Chowdhury, Prof. KarunamoyGoswami Venue: Begum Sufia Kamal auditorium, National Museum Time: February 04, at 4:30pm

Title: Meena Shamagra Guests: M Shamsul Islam, Begum Selima Rahman, Enayetullah Khan Venue: VIP Lounge, National Press Club Time: February 03, at 10:30am

Film Screening

Title: New German Feature Films Organiser: Dhaka University Film Society Venue: Goethe-Institut, House 10, Road 9, Dhanmondi Time: February 01-03

Schedule February 02 4:00pm Lichter 6:00pm Der alte Affe Angst February 03 4:00pm Punkitchen und Anton 6:00pm Das fliegende Klassenzimmer 8:00pm Emil und die Detektive

Space Exhibition

Title: Exploring the Solar System Organiser: British Council Venue: Novo Theatre Time: January 16-February 15, from 10am to 6pm

Art Exhibition

Title: Painting Show 2005 Artist: Javed Jalil Venue: Shilpangan, House 25, road 5, Dhanmondi Time: February 04-09, from 10am to 1pm

Title: Les Jours de Jean-Jacques Rousseau Venue: Alliance Francaise, 26, Mirpur Road, Dhaka Time: January 27-February 10

Title: Exposition Artists: Ronni Ahmed Venue: Alliance Francaise, 26, Mirpur Road, Dhaka Time: February 18-26

Title: Sylhet: On Its Own Artists: members of North South University Photography Club Venue: Room no 100, BTA Tower, 29, Kamal Ataurk Avenue, Banani Time: February 01-03

Title: Reflection & Revelation Artists: Kazi Rakib Venue: Gallery Kaya, House 20, Road 16, Sector 4, Uttara Time: February 01-07, from 11am to 8pm

Solo Concert

Artist: Kumar Biswajit Organiser: Fusion Venue: Bangladesh Shishu Academy Auditorium Time: February 10

ATN Bangla launches 14 new programmes in February

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

February is a significant month for Bangladeshis. It is the month to recollect the heroic tales of the martyrs of the Language Movement of 1952 and to return to our roots. To this end, satellite TV channel ATN Bangla launches a brand new feast of programmes with glimpses into our heritage and culture. A press conference held at one of the studios of ATN Bangla presented clippings of these programmes yesterday.

"ATN Bangla is about to launch a series of programmes focusing on our heritage and culture," said, Saiful Bari, chief advisor of the channel.

In its latest venture, ATN Bangla has embellished the schedule with 14 new programmes, ranging from documentary shows, cookery shows, educational shows, musical shows, children shows, drama serials and shows on interior decoration.

A documentary show, Bangla Namer Desh, gives viewers a glimpse of the culture and heritage of the villages of Bangladesh. Purakirtir Bangladesh is ready to unveil the archaeological sights to the viewers. In



Black performs in Ganey Shurey Tarunney

Aamader Jotokotha, people will learn about their roots, traditions and rituals. Cookery show ATN Rannaghar will go down well with the gourmets. Likewise Chardewaler Kabbya, will give tips for better living and developing the aesthetic sense. Chhotoder Prithibi will entertain the children while Education Zone (e-Zone), will open a gateway of

opportunity to the students. For music lovers Ganey Shurey Tarunney will appeal to the younger generation. Cine Gaan and Chobir Galpo give a vivid idea of filmdom. Four new drama serials O Aamar Chokkhu Nai, Nil Akasher Nichey, Shukhnagar Apartment and Nana Ronger Din are also in a line to telecast on this month. Most of the new programmes will be telecast on the early hours of the day.



A glimpse of Chardewaler Kabbya

Tinseltown Incredibles sweeps 10 cartoon awards



REUTERS, Los Angeles

The retro-futurist superhero cartoon The Incredibles dominated the 32nd annual Annie Awards, honouring the year's best animation, sweeping all 10 feature film categories in which it was nominated.

Director Brad Bird's Disney/Pixar project captured prizes for best animated feature, directing, writing, production design, voice acting, character animation, character design, animated effects, music and storyboarding. Prizes in 21 categories were presented by ASIFA-Hollywood, the International Animated Film Society, presented Sunday at the Alex Theatre in Glendale.

Nickelodeon's SpongeBob SquarePants picked up best animated television production. DreamWorks Animation and NBC's Father of the Pride won best character design in an animated television production.

Fox's King of the Hill picked up two Annie prizes; one for voice acting in an animated television production for Brittany Murphy.

Walt Disney Pictures won best animation short subject for Lorenzo.

Keanu Reeves gets star on Hollywood walk

AP, Los Angeles

Keanu Reeves, who travelled through time in Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure and took on humanity's machine conquerors in The Matrix flicks, has received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

Reeves, 40, was honoured with the star Monday for a career that includes such films as the action thrillers Speed and Point Break, the romances Something's Gotta Give and A Walk in the Clouds and the dramas Little Buddha and My Own Private Idaho. His star was placed along Hollywood Boulevard near the spot where some action scenes in Speed were filmed.

The honour came two weeks before the release of Reeves' next movie, Constantine, adapted from the DC Comics series. Reeves stars as the title character, a man with visions of angels and devils on Earth who battles to dispatch demons back to the underworld.



TV GUIDE

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

News Bulletin

BTW 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) at 11:30 pm. CHANNEL-i News (Bangla) at 7:15 am, 9:00am, 7:15 pm, 9:00pm, 10:30, 12:15 am. Telecast of BTW 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. Telecast of BTW News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm. Latest News (Bangla) at 9:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 1:00pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00pm, 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 BTW News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm. TARA BANGLA NewsHeadlines(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

BTW 07:30 Shubhechha Nin 08:15 Programme From Btv Archive 08:40 Bishwa Protidin 09:00 Satellite Programme 12:15 Shangbadpotrer Pata Thekey 12:30 Shasthya Tathya 01:05 Jibon Bangladesh 02:05 Moron Bangladesh 02:30 Computer Time 02:30 Hijol Tomal 03:05 Saarc Programme 03:30 Telefilm 06:00 Desh Janapad 06:10 Saarc Programme 07:00 News Headlines, Weather Forecast, Share Market 07:30 The World's Greatest Show 08:25 Protidin Bangladesh 08:40 Saarc Music 09:00 Drama Serial: Krishnakali 10:25 Tknal Theke Tattula 10:30 Saarc Symphony 11:05 SaarcAlchon 12:05 Satellite Programme CHANNEL I 09:30 Shongbad Potrey Bangladesh And Public Reaction 09:45 Triljo Matra 10:45 Sports Line 10:45 Ebong Cinemar Gaan 12:30 Aj Dupurey O Cityell Tarokakothon 01:00 Bangla Feature Film: Koto Je Apori (shakil Khan, Tamanna) 05:30 Gaaner Oparey 06:00 Music Plus 06:30 Gillette World Sports Special 07:50 Rc Travel On 08:25 Drama Serial: Kichhu Megh Kichhu Roddur

09:35 Drama Serial: Din Choley Jay 10:00 Drama Serial: Arai Tola Bari ntv 08:00 Aajker Shakal 08:30 Drama Serial: Sporssher Bairey 09:25 Band Badidi 10:05 Science Workshop 11:00 Transworld Sports 12:05 Millenium 02:35 Drama Serial: Sporssher Bairey 03:15 Deho Ghari 03:50 Drama Serial: Sheola 04:25 Cartoon: Fardi 05:20 Apnar Jigyasha 06:20 Shubho Shondhya 06:50 Saarc: New Decade New Vision 08:15 Siddika Kabir's Recipe 08:50 Kichhu Katha Kichhu Gaan 09:40 Drama Serial: Shyaola Dindarpan ATN BANGLA 10:30 Onnodishti 11:05 Poraner Gaan 11:35 Drama Serial: Shimahin Shimany 12:15 Musical Programme Gaaney Shurey Tarunney 01:25 Motamot 02:30 Drama Serial: Nil Akasher Nichey 03:15 Drama Serial: Nana Ronger Din 03:50 Drama Serial: New Files 04:25 Cinema Cinema 06:20 Manoshi 08:00 The Sword Of Tipu Sultan 08:30 Drama Serial: Khowab 09:00 Drama Serial: Bayoscope

PICK OF THE DAY Kichhu Katha Kichhu Gaan On ntv at 8:50pm Musical Programme Hosted by Abdul Hadi Participated by Alam ara Minu and Abul Bashar Life On Star Movies at 10:35pm Genre: Comedy / Drama / Crime Cast: Eddie Murphy, Martin Lawrence Directed by Ted Demme

Table with TV programme listings for STAR MOVIES, STAR PLUS, STAR WORLD, NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC, STAR SPORTS, and ESPN.