

CULTURAL FEAST

Photo Exhibition

Title: Visible
Organiser: Bangladeshi Street Children
Venue: National Museum
Date: January 22-February 4

Cultural Programme

Title: Shahshor Pochish Bacchor
Organiser: Nijera Kori

Venue: Rabindra Sarobar (near Dhamondi Lake)

Date: January 27-28 from 3 pm

Featuring Patho Natok, Gono Sangeet and Poter Gaan

Title: Muktiuddha O'Nari

Organiser: Woman Studies Department

Venue: Liberation War Museum

Schedule:

Jolalka (theatre) on January 30

Palagan on January 31

Kathak Dance

Troupe: Shovana Narayan and her troupe

Organiser: High Commission on India

Venue: Osmani Memorial Hall

Date: January 31 at 7:00 pm

Theatre Festival

Venue: National Theatre Stage, Shilpkala Academy

Schedule:

Play Troupe Date

Binodin Dhaka Theatre Feb 1

Nityanupur Desh Natok Feb 2

Chhoy Theatre Feb 3

Beharar Feb 4

Korjush Loko Natyadal Feb 4

Shyamaporn Prangone Mor Feb 5

Samayer Theatre Art Feb 6

Proyone Unit Feb 7

Rasering Aranyak Natyadal Feb 7

Proyapati Niyakendra Feb 8

Circus Circus Prachyanaut Feb 9

Chhayanaut Nagonk Feb 10

Exhibition

Title: Aniruddhikhan

Artist: Swapan Chowdhury

Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts

Date: January 22-February 5

National Music Festival

Bangladesh

Organiser: Centre for Education, Creative and Performing Arts, Unesco Dhaka and Bangladesh National Commission for Unesco

Venue: Bangladesh National Museum

Schedule:

Folk songs on January 29 at 6:00 pm

Classical, semi-classical and instrumental music on January 30 at 6:00 pm

Tagore songs, Nazrul songs, songs by Atuprasad, DL Roy, Rajanikanta Sen and modern Bangla songs on January 31 at 6:00 pm

Exhibition

An introspective Swapan Chowdhury

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

SWAPAN Chowdhury, whose exhibition of watercolour and mixed media titled *Introspection*, is on at the Bengal Gallery, says, "I came into the field of fine arts on my own volition, but I did get the economical support of my family. My inspiration to work freelance at full pitch can be traced to the Liberation War. The war has a profound effect on my subjects and style." Swapan continues, "I believe in art for art's sake. I've tried to portray the war that took place 35 years ago, as well as the socio-political upsurges. I'm also influenced, like most modern artists are, by the beauty of nature around me, and some lyrical forms, even though I simplify my subjects. I blend my feelings and vision with nature found in my environment."

When it comes to human forms, Swapan does not paint the entire image but perhaps the nose or the lips, along with other images. Thus to the viewer, the items on the paper or canvas appears like new forms. He values forms and texture a



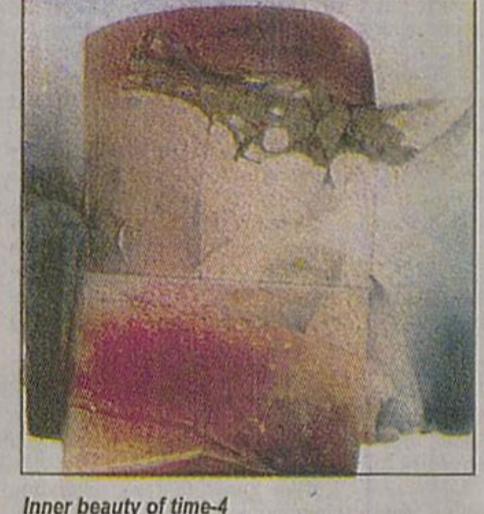
Inner beauty of time-5

great deal. He was not after photographic reality or similarity.

Asked about his guides at the Institute of Fine Arts Dhaka University, Swapan says that his teachers, Mohammed Kibria, Hashem Khan, Rafiqun Nabi and Abul Baset encouraged and egged him on. The works of the renowned modern artists of the West such as Modrian, Modigliani, Picasso and Klee also went into molding his vision and style, although not consciously. He was also influenced by Indian artist Somnath Hora. "It's impossible to say that I've reached this level without the impact of artists of world fame," Swapan says.

The present solo exhibit at the Bengal Gallery has 61 paintings on hand-made paper. He says that he loves working on paper "as it has a surface that one can play on; one may twist and turn it, fold it, burn or tear it and make something interesting for the viewer after having treated it in whatever manner desired."

Swapan also runs a school for painters called Nandan, at Dhamondi. He has recently retired from government service and now paints with unsurpassed dedication.



Kidman named UN goodwill ambassador

Actress Nicole Kidman was appointed a goodwill ambassador last Thursday for a UN organisation that fights for women's rights.

"I have been given many, many blessings in this life, and so much of it is about now, a time and a place about giving back," Kidman said.

In her work for the UN Development Fund for Women, or UNIFEM, Kidman said she hopes to focus attention on violence against women.

Noeleen Heyzer, head of UNIFEM, called Kidman "a gift because she will use her visibility, her voice, her connections."

Heyzer said there had been some progress for women but said, "Progress is too slow when we look just at the range of violence that has affected women's lives, be it rape, be it abuse in the household, trafficking, because of traditional practices."

Kidman will start her work in a few weeks by traveling with UNIFEM to "educate herself" to hear firsthand from women about the problems they face.

Her possible stops include Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Liberia.

Kidman said it was her own "passion toward helping women" that motivated her to first call the United Nations and said she hoped it would "result in lifelong commitment."

Source: Internet



Oprah rips author into A Million Little Pieces

CNN, Chicago

Last Thursday author James Frey admitted he lied and embellished events about himself and other characters in his best-selling book about substance abuse and recovery.

"I made a mistake," he told Oprah Winfrey during Thursday's show. "I made a lot of mistakes in writing the book and promoting the book."

Did you lie or did you make a mistake? "I think probably both," he said.

Winfrey, whose endorsement of *A Million Little Pieces* turned it into one of the top-selling books of 2005, retracted her support of the author, saying she felt "conned" by him. "It's embarrassing and disappointing for me," the talk-show queen said.

And even while Frey admitted altering information that he presented as facts, he maintained his book is a memoir.

"I don't think it's a novel. I still think it's a memoir," he said. "I don't feel like I conned you. I still think the book is about drug addiction and alcoholism and no one is disputing that I was a drug addict and an alcoholic, and it's about the battle to overcome that."

Among the facts he admitted to embellishing: he was jailed for only a few hours, not 87 days; and each character in the book wasn't wholly represented.

Winfrey also apologised to viewers for calling CNN's Larry King two weeks ago and lending her support to Frey.



James Frey with Oprah on the show

TV GUIDE

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

News Bulletin

BTB
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, 2:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 9:00 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:15 am.

Telecast of BTB News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

Latest News (Bangla) at 9:00 am, 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, 8:30 pm.

News (Bangla) 7:30 am, 2:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 7:30 pm, 10:30 pm.

Telecast of BTB 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

08:15 Shubhchhha Nin
08:45 Shamprok Biswa
09:25 Shashwato Jibon
09:35 Open University
12:30 Shasthalatya
01:00 Nibedita
01:30 Cartoon
02:15 Sisimpur
02:40 Bangla Feature Film
05:05 English Debating Competition
06:10 Wrestling
07:00 Shoto Phool Phuttey
07:30 Drama Serial: Deo
08:35 Magazine
Ayojon
09:00 Drama: Ekai Shajon
10:25 Tekraf Theek Teluha
10:35 Bodle Jachhey
11:00 Chhaya Paowa

08:20 Drama Serial: Ekush
Er Porey
09:35 Hrodoye Mati O
Manush
10:00 Rexona Challenge
01:00 Bulbul
08:45 Drama Serial: Feran
Siron
09:25 Drama Serial: Britto
11:05 Drama Serial: Hontorer Bibi
12:15 Chor Deyaler
Kabyo
12:45 Bangla Feature Film: Megher Orik
Raing
03:45 Shurer Madhuri
Chhoro Gaan Gaal
04:20 Tekraf Theek Teluha
05:10 Iskul Bela
05:45 Islami Sewai O Jobob (Five)
06:20 Travel Show: Amar
Danish Amar
Bangladesh
Drama Serial: Jol
Porey Pata
Norey
08:00 Drama Serial: The
New Shabuj
Opera
12:30 Ebong Cinemar Gaan
09:00 Drama Serial: Lal
Neel Beguni
10:40 Rtv Exclusive
10:45 Dance-drama: Chhiringada (Part 3)
11:00 HIV
12:10 Bashundhara Amader
Gaan
04:20 Hey Tarunyo
05:15 Janapader Khabar
05:30 Cholochchitra
06:00 Music Plus
11:00 Drama: Iye Noy Biye
01:00 Sindobod O Tar
Proroh
01:30 Drama Serial: Dui
Sonali Rupali
07:50 Drama Serial: Shawpnoloker

08:20 Shubhchhha Nin
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