

Exhibition

Brimming with colours and lines

FAYZA HAQ

THE art exhibition that was recently held at Saju's Art Gallery was to mark International Women's Day by the Society for Promotion of Bangladesh Art (SPBA) and Banglalink. Women artists ranging from the age of 18 to 35 participated in the exhibition. 192 artists took part in it.

As Eltham Kabir of SPBA put it, "The entrees included young artists ranging from high school students to professional doctors and architects. There was recognition of six works of equal ranking. There was an independent panel of judges, which consisted of Farida Zaman, Naima Haque, Nazli Laila Mansur, Dilara Begum, Jolly, Nasreen Begum and Fayza Haq.

"The artists who were successful were Kausar Parvin Dalai from Chittagong (Apon Onubhotee), Reema Sabiba from Dhaka (Mask), Ummy Salma Shawon from Khulna (Life), Ferdous Ara Islam Dhaka (Loneliness), Kaniz Husna Akbori from Rajshahi (Relation-4) and Fahmida Elahi Borna from Chittagong (Amaar Dhorma). The distinguished guests on the occasion were Aud Lise Norhjem, Norwegian Ambassador, Veena Sikri, Indian High Commissioner, Barbara Richardson, Canadian High Commissioner and Judith Chammash, the Charge D'Affaires, American Embassy."

One of the winning paintings had the picture of a new bride in red, being taken home in a boat to her in-laws. The bridegroom too



Viewers looking at the prize winning paintings

was bright in blue top and green "lungi". The media is oil on canvas. The river and sky could be seen beyond the boat. This is a traditional picture of a festive mood. Dalia's *Apon Onubhotee* was a woodcut that presented a holiday by the riverside where young women played at will. This was in black, white and gray, with a touch of blue and yellow.

Borna's *Amar Dhormo* had dealt with human emotion and had used oil with octane. The theme was secularism. The artist wanted to show that it was goodness in man that was important and not the religious belief, which

has come down through family traditions. Salma Shawon's painting depicted the figure of a man and woman in orange and black. The lines were simple and the figures geometrical in their simplicity. Reema Sabiba had worked on handmade paper and had done a collage of photographs that had been painted over. This was a social satire protesting against the lack of freedom of expression for women. *Loneliness* had been done by a doctor, Ferdous Ara, and the large amount of gray that had been used expressed her emotions. The green frame brought in an ele-

ment of hope.

Other paintings too captured one's fancy like Rebecca Sultana Molly's delineation of a woman set in a background of flowers was also delightful. Nahid Nizai Nipu had used wood instead of canvas, and had worked on her subject by painting over it, burning it, making holes through it, etc. Farzana Ahmed Shanta had brought in flowers and leaves in the manner that Nasreen Begum does.

It was heartening to see so many young women artists doing original work.

PHOTO: STAR

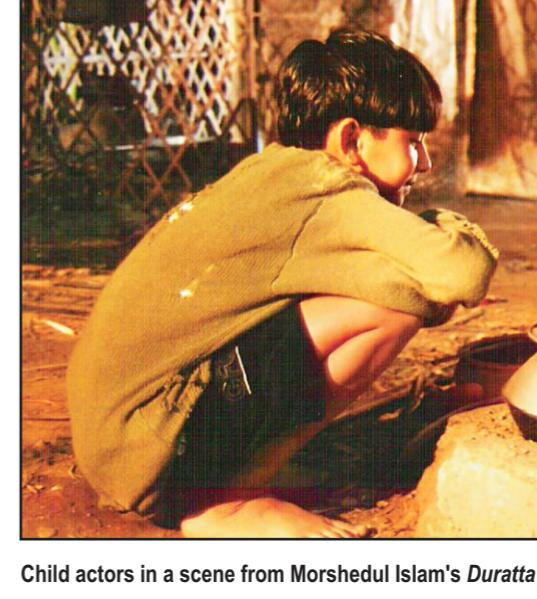
ERSHAD KAMOL

In the presence of hundreds of enthusiastic children from Shishu Academy and Khelaghara, the 'Children's Film Showcase' of the 3rd International Film Festival, Bangladesh began on March 4 at the Shishu Academy Auditorium.

10 films including two local movies are being showcased in the festival. The participating Bangladeshi movies are -- *Duratta*, directed by Moshedul Islam and *Shahoshi Chele*, directed by Hafizuddin. Moreover, eight films from France, China, Denmark and India have been included in the festival. Except three French animated movies -- *Kirikou, Les Prophet* the *Granulose* and *Dexas Fares* -- all are feature films.

The 'Children's Film Showcase' was inaugurated by Azad Rahman, president of Bangladesh Federation of Film Societies (BFFS). Dr Ali Asgar, chairperson of children's organisation Khelaghara was the special guest, while Rahman Mustafiz, the convenor of 'Children's Film Showcase' delivered the welcome speech.

The discussants focused on the importance of making quality films for children for their intellectual development and recreation.



3 International Film Festival Bangladesh

Child actors in a scene from Moshedul Islam's *Duratta*

They sought patronage of the government and private sectors.

After the discussion, French animated movie *Kirikou* directed by Michel Ocelot was screened. The 70-minute-long film recounts the tale of tiny Kirikou born in an African village, Karaba, a sorcer-

ess puts a terrible curse on Kirikou's village. Kirikou sets out on a quest to free his village from the curse.

A blend of African folk tales, the film appeals to the inner-child among us and generates the eternal strive against ignorance and evil. The stunning visuals are

accompanied by traditional African music by talented musician Youssou N'Dour of Senegal.

Rahman Mustafiz informed that children from selected schools are invited to watch movies free of charge; underprivileged children will get priority.

Today's attractions

Venue: Central Public Library

Movie: *Days of Santiago* (Peru)

Time: 5:00 pm

Synopsis: 23-year old Santiago Roman returns to Lima after years of fighting terrorist subversion and drug trafficking in Peru and the war against Ecuador. He is part of a lost generation, those who paid the consequences of political irresponsibility of their government. Santiago finds

Lima hostile, chaotic and decadent. He tries to adapt to the civil life but his memories won't let him be at peace with himself. Santiago still has the mindset of a soldier and wants to establish his own sense of order. Society and people, however, move at their own pace.

Directed by Josue Mendez, the movie has been submitted for Oscar 2006.



Scenes from Days of Santiago (Top) and The Night of Truth

Venue: National Museum Movie: *The Night of Truth* (Burakina Faso/ France)

Time: 7:00 pm

Synopsis: In an African country, a brutal 10-year-long ethnic war is about to end, with the signing of the peace treaty by the President and Colonel Theo, leader of the rebel forces. Colonel Theo holds a feast to signal the end of the conflict, where the President and his wife are

the chief guests. The evening is characterised by deep tension, as the President's wife cannot stop thinking about her son's murder. A simple act, the beating of a drum, could end the peace process and the climax can be shocking.

Directed by Fanta regina Nacro, the film has won an award for Best Script at the Aeiemine International Film Festival 2005.



A scene from Gibson's film, Apocalypto

Gibson to speak ancient tongue at Oscars

AP, New York

"I wanted to shake up the stale action-adventure genre," Gibson said in an interview. "So I think we almost had to come up with something utterly different like this."

Apocalypto is set in pre-Columbian Mexico and is being shot on the fringe of southern Mexico's rain forests. It addresses the end of civilisations and contains warnings about environmental degradation and political fear mongering.

TV GUIDE

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

News Bulletin**BTB**

09:05 *Mati O Manush*
09:25 *Shashwato Jibon*
10:00 Satellite broadcast

ntv

12:30 *Shastho Tathy*

02:15 *Sisimpur*

02:40 *Lekha Pora*

03:05 *Amor Poromanu*

03:35 *Ritter Taley Taley*

05:05 National Television

School Debate

Completion

06:10 *Apon bhumi*

06:35 Programme On

Cricket

07:00 *Hridoy O*

Mukitijuddho

07:30 Drama Serial

07:50 *Mohan Swadhinota*

08:35 *Protidin Bangladesh*

08:45 Drama Serial:

Enechi Shurjer Hashi

09:25 Drama Serial: *Atopor*

Nurul Huda

10:25 *Teknaf Thekey*

10:35 *Teletua*

Shindhu Hindol

09:10 Drama Serial:

Godhulir Aloy

09:50 Drama Serial:

Apni Jiggyasha

06:20 *Shubho Shondhya*

06:50 *Crime Watch*

07:20 *ntv Dekhe Bolun*

08:25 Drama serial:

Labonya Prohba

09:10 Drama Serial:

Bari Ghar Thik Thak

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