

12th Asian Art Biennale '06

Sedaghat Jabbari Kalkhoran and the "Holy Names"

ERSHAD KAMOL

RANJAN artist Sedaghat Jabbari Kalkhoran is one of the winners of the 'Grand Prize' at the 12th Asian Art Biennale, Bangladesh '06. He received the prestigious award for his mixed media work titled *Holy Names*.

A professor of Iran Association of Calligraphers and also a faculty member of Department of Fine Arts, Tehran University, Kalkhoran has

created a new dimension in the composition of *Holy Names*, for which he thinks he has been awarded the prize amongst several deserving art works.

Kalkhoran says, "The aim of the exhibition is to create the interaction between traditional and modern approach to art. An artist must be contemporary in views, ideas and presentation, which gives the art a unique tone. The composition of the calligraphy *Holy Names* is

presented like a canvas of contemporary painting."

The traditional environment, decoration and architecture of Iran are created with the golden background on the canvas. The different shades of green, blue and chocolate have created a wonderful composition in *Holy Names*. Kalkhoran says, "Colour composition is the primary stage of work in an art piece. Delivering messages is important. Iranian art



Holy Names by Sedaghat Jabbari Kalkhoran, the artist (Top)



PHOTO STAR

characteristics are evident in my work, but even a non-Iranian can perceive the messages delivered. The messages are relevant to the present world scenario." The alphabets often appear as the images of human beings.

Kalkhoran likes to portray the magnificence of Allah by decorating His names repeatedly on the canvas. In this sense his approach to art is a kind of 'Sufism'. He says, "I like to address spirituality by writing the 'Holy Names' repeatedly in different styles and shades. I never do any 'exercise' before my final work. It comes spontaneously and I won't be able to make copies of my work."

Sedaghat Jabbari Kalkhoran is ecstatic not just because he has won the Grand Prize but rather for his participation in a standard international competition and exhibition. Earlier he has won several prestigious awards in different international exhibitions. He is also the author of many articles on art.



FAYZA HAQ

Jayantha Chandrasin's film "Guerilla Marketing" is a participant of the 3rd International Film Festival, Bangladesh. Jayantha is the writer as well as the director of the play "Aith" (Hands) which caused a great stir in the eighties. His next creation "Mora" (Shark) won seven national awards in the Stage Drama Festival in 1988. He is the producer of tele-film "Vedaha mine" (Lady Physician). He has also directed the TV serials "Vesmu-huna" (The mask) in 1993 and "Dandubasnamanya" (Range of arrows) in 1995, which received two awards.

He made "Akalsandya" (Untimely dusk) which won two awards in 1996. His fifth production was "Rajana", his debut in films and for this he received nine awards (including the Best Film, Best Director and Best Script) at the Sigris Award Ceremony in Sri Lanka.

He got the opportunity to train

Jayantha, a director with a powerful vision

under the German actor Dr Norbert J Mayer. In 1990 he received a scholarship to study acting in the then East Germany.

In "Guerilla Marketing" we get the story of Surmya Mahakelwala and Thisara Dissanayake who are cousins and childhood sweethearts. In the beginning of the film they are both working in an advertising agency. Their love for each other is kept a secret. However, Thisara leaves Surmya to marry Rangi, an upperclass urban woman to deny and flee from his rural roots. Surmya knows that Thisara was diagnosed as schizophrenic. Thisara, who shows exceptional creativity, rises to the top of the advertising industry soon.

Gregory Mahadikaram, a prominent politician, gets Thisara to design his presidential campaign. Thisara proposes a novel campaign strategy. His strategy is to train a group of young men and women and employ them to spread outrageous rumours that show Mahadikaram in



Scenes from *Guerilla Marketing*

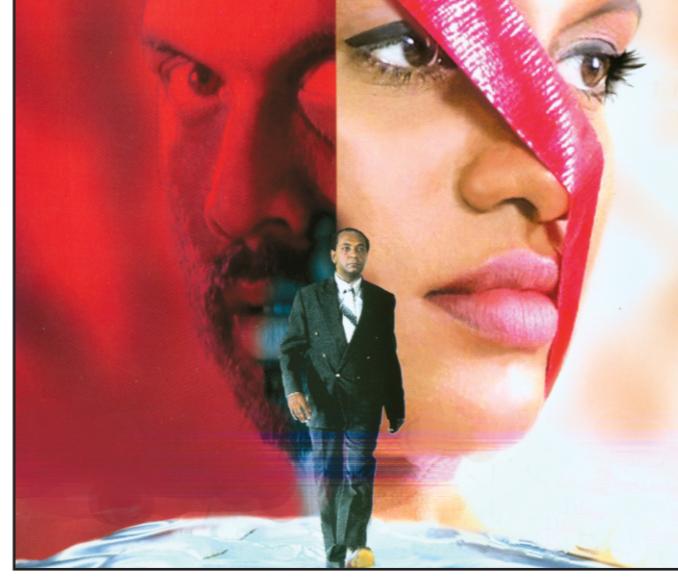
the most positive role. Thisara overworks and this takes a toll on him in the height of the election campaign. Negative expression of hallucinatory conditions makes Thisara helpless.

The one image that dominates his hallucination is Gregory Mahadikaram, who "comes out of the television" and talks to him, walks into his bedroom etc. Thisara is soon admitted to a mental hospital.

A psychiatrist identifies the source of the illness and replaces the negative hallucinations associated with Gregory with the positive feelings for his childhood sweetheart Surmya and the romantic past associated with her. One day Mahadikaram visits his friend Thisara in the hospital. Thisara, who is struggling to overcome his negative hallucinations, chases the real-life Gregory from the hospital, thus chasing the negative elements of his

hallucination. He then leaves the hospital partially recovered with the positive hallucinations he retains about Surmya and everything she represents.

Jayantha's favourite films are Satyajit Ray's "Ponther Panchali", Kurosawa's "Rashomon", and Bergman's "The Silent". He also enjoyed Tanvir Mokammal's "Chitra Nadir Parey" and Tareq Masood "Ontorjatra". In particular he enjoyed the story lines and the characterisation. He said that his experience at the current film festival has been a pleasant one and that the organisers here are warm and understanding.



Poets Rafiq Azad, Mahadev Saha, Muhammad Samad, Anisur Rahman, Sadia Arman and Amirul Arham received their poems at the Alliance Francaise, Dhaka on March 9.



Kylie becomes an author



Kylie Minogue appears set to add 'children's author' to her impressive list of creative achievements. The cancer-stricken singer is tipped to release *Showgirl Princess* in UK this September.

Aimed at young girls (ages six and over), the book's central character is called Kylie, whose dream of becoming a star is realised. Publisher Puffin tried to keep a lid on the plot when questioned, but insisted the book was "not autobiographical". "Kylie does draw on her experiences. The book is for young girls who dream of dressing up and going on stage, and it's written in a tone that's suitable for children," a spokeswoman said, "the main character just happens to be (a) Kylie."

Source: Internet

Ontorjatra

A saga of self realisation

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Title: 12th Asian Art Biennale, Bangladesh
Venue: National Art Gallery, National Museum, Osmani Auditorium
Date: March 5-31

Title: The Other Voice
Date: March 8-19
Time: 12pm to 8pm
Venue: Bengal Gallery Of Fine Arts House275/F, Road 27(Old), Dhanmondi RA/A

Title: Spring Art Festival
Date: March 3 to 13
Time: 11am to 8pm
Venue: Art & Soul Gallery House # 16, Road 36, Gulshan Avenue

Film Festival

Title: 3rd International Film Festival, Bangladesh
Venue: Public Library
Date: March 11
The Forest of Gods at 12:30 pm
The Tale of Three Jewels at 3 pm
15 Park Avenue at 5 pm
Kantart at 7 pm
Venue: National Museum
Date: March 11
Canticle of the Stone at 10:30 pm
Curfew at 1:30 pm
Page 3 at 3 pm

A scene from the movie



his motherland after receiving the news of his father's death. The story follows the transforming experience of Sohel as well as his divorced mother Shireen (Sara Zaker) as they, in their different ways, try to come to terms with this loss.

For the son, the return to Bangladesh is a journey of self-actualisation and rediscovery. For the mother the journey is a mix of nostalgia and anxiety in anticipation of a difficult reunion. Generations of family members holding diverse cultural and social values face each other.

In this sense Tareque and Catherine Masud's latest movie *Ontorjatra* is an intimate exploration of the complex issues of dislocation and identity in a chaotic world.

As the subplot *Ontorjatra* deals with issues such as oppression of women in the family life, change of lifestyle as an impact of unplanned urbanisation of Old Dhaka, the 'Bihari crisis' and others.

Best part of the movie is its splendid cinematography to portray the colours and chaos of Old Dhaka and the lush greenery of Sylhet. The symbolic shots, camera framing has made the movie unique amongst hundreds. Moreover, Dolby digital 5.1 surround system gave a realistic touch to the cacophony of Old Dhaka as well as serenity of the tea gardens.

Sara Zaker, Rokeya Prachi, Harold Rasheed, Rifaqat Rasheed and Raisa Nawar were impressive in the major roles. However, Abdul Momen Choudhury, Jayanto Chattopadhyay and Nasrine R Karim could have been more convincing.

Ontorjatra was screened recently at the inauguration of the 3rd International Film Festival, Bangladesh.

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 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.

News (English) 8:20 am, 7:00 pm.

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

Latest News (Bangla) at 9:00 a.m., 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00 p.m., 3:00 pm, 4:00 pm, 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm.

ntv

News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00 am, 12:00 pm, 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 BTV News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

TARA BANGLA

News Headlines (Bangla) at 8:30 pm, 10:30 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

Shobhang Potrey

Bangladesh

Public Reaction

New Shabuj

BTB

Shubhechchha Nin

Shamproti Biswa

Swhswato

Jibon

Cricket: Bangladesh

Vs Sri Lanka Test

Sisimpur

Bangla Feature Film

English Debate Competition

Wrestling

Special Programme

Drama Serial: Antoraley Anurag

Drama: Ostito

Teknaf Theke Tetulia

Chowa Paowa

Rexona Challenge

Ajker Shokal

Drama Serial: Kachher Manush

Talk Show: Ki kotha

Taher Shathe

Magic Magic

Dhakar Cinema

Muktangan

Tepantorer Mathey

Snapshots Of Change

Din Darpam

Alokpat

Shubho Shondha

Gauner Shomy

Drama serial: Romizer

Aaina

Single Episode

Drama: Tourist

Dindarpam

Shobhang Potrey

Bangladesh

Public Reaction

New Shabuj

Shobhang Potrey

Bangladesh

Public Reaction

New Shabuj

Shobhang Potrey

Bangladesh