

International artists display their works at Dots Gallery

Thought-provoking installations

FAYZA HAQ

THE installation exhibition at Dots Gallery, which opened on July 25, brought together artists from Nepal, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Pakistan and Bangladesh. This followed a residency programme arranged by Britto, in which the artists stayed and worked together.

Sunil Sigdel from Pokhara, Nepal, holds a BFA degree from Kathmandu, and has been painting professionally for six years. "Coming to Dhaka I saw workers in garages, tea-shops and small metal industries. I decided to give them some rest by doing their work for two hours every day," Sunil said. The four white shirts with long sleeves and hoods that are exhibited stand for the artist and the three workers whom he replaced. Since he was

taking the place of the workers, these low-grade workers felt that they were not mere underlings after all. "I wanted to focus on the dignity of labour," he said. Another installation piece by Sunil shows cushions piled on one another and by this he represents the rule of dynasties in his country.

Johan Thom from Johannesburg, South Africa, took flying as a metaphorical subject. It stood for human dreams. The various success of our dreams in the past and present are reflected in the man in his floating position as captured by the video in the image reflected on four sheets of glass. The subject of the chicken and duck in the hands of the man came to him when he saw them aplenty in Dhaka markets. Johan often uses video, sound and performance to explore the close link between human being, their socio-political and eco-



Clockwise (from right): Artworks by Sulekha Chaudhury (Bangladesh), Hasnat Mehmood (Pakistan) and RM Vijita Bandara (Sri Lanka)

nomic environment and spirituality.

His installation, *The theory of flight* is a commentary on the failures and success of humans who are in search of mental and spiritual enlightenment. Johan has taken part in various exhibitions such as the Venice Biennale (2003, 2005), the International Computer Arts Festival in Slovenia (2004) and various national festivals in South Africa. He has a master's degree from South Africa.

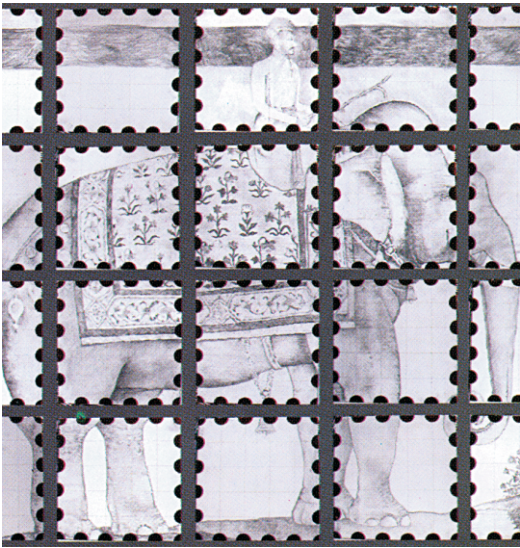
Sulekha Chowdhury, from Bangladesh, calls her work *Which is your path*. Sulekha says, "There is good and bad in our society and we may move on to one path," she says. Her many canvases put together make one work. The apple with the snake in one of the paintings stand for greed. The canvases, at times, are covered with images of cockroaches, human hands and eyes. The two

praying figures stand for peace. The colours applied are flat and raw. Two sand pits carry footprints.

Sulekha, a freelance artist, has held a solo exhibition in Dhaka and has taken part in many joint exhibitions at home and overseas. She has participated in workshops and residencies.

Vijita Bandara from Sri Lanka had numerous dramatic masks made from paper pulp, clay, jute, straw and beads. He has also used bird feathers and *gamcha*. They are reflections of his impression of people back home and in Bangladesh. Vijita holds a bachelor's degree in Fine Arts from Colombo.

Hasnat Mehmood, a miniature artist from Pakistan, who lives and works in Lahore, has a huge depiction of an elephant and its *mahout* (keeper) from Mughal days. He has exhibited his work in Europe, USA, Iran and Japan.



CULTURAL FEAST

Classical Music
Title: Monthly Protibha Sondhan
Organiser: Shuddha Sangeet Proshar Gosthi
Date: July 27
Venue: Biswa Sahitya Kendra
Time: 7:00pm

Dance-Drama
Title: Shapmochoh
Organiser: Rabirag
Venue: Shishu Academy Auditorium
Date: July 28
Time: 7:00pm

Film Screening
Title: Ontorjatra
Venue: British Council Auditorium
Date: Running 2nd week from July 17
Time: 5:00pm and 7:00pm (except Sundays)
Title: Cyrano
Venue: Alliance Francaise de Dacca
Date: July 28
Time: 10:30am and 6:00pm

Title: The Hours
Organiser: Ananya Film Club
Venue: Noton House, 10/14 Iqbal Road
Date: July 29
Time: 5:00pm

Exhibition
Artist: Laila Sharmin
Title: Truth, Beauty and Me
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts
Date: July 19-28

ALL TIME GREATS

Komol Dasgupta: An unparalleled composer

July 28 marks the birth anniversary of brilliant singer, Nazrul Sangeet composer and music director Komol Dasgupta. A versatile musical genius, he sang modern songs in Bangla, Urdu, Hindi and Tamil. Another feather in his cap was his composition for about 8, 000 songs. His work was based on classical music and veered towards the *thumri* style, although he also drew from other sources.

In the course of his 15-year career, Dasgupta also composed music for about 80 Bengali films, including *Tufan Mail*, *Shyamaler Prem* and *Ei Ki Go Shes Dan*. His last film as a music director was *Badhu Baran*. In addition, he also composed the background score for an American film, titled *War Propaganda*. According to some reports, he composed as many as 45 songs a month. Particularly popular are songs such as *Prithibi Amarey Chai*, *Gumer Chaya* and numerous other songs, which are still recorded by a new generation of artistes. Apart from this, he made a mark with film songs in Hindi, Tamil, Bangla, Tamil and English documentary films.

Born on July 28, 1912, in Narail, Jessore, he married Feroza Begum, the renowned exponent of Nazrul songs.

At the very young age of around 22 years, he transformed into a capable successor of Ustad

Zamiruddin Khan as a trainer at HMV Recording Company, Kolkata. The turning point in his

musical career was his first modern Bangla song, *Ami Sanjher Taroka*. This all time hit at HMV led to many other superb compositions.

In 1935, Dasgupta joined the Gramophone Company of India as a music director. In the course of this assignment, he developed a close association with Kazi Nazrul Islam and composed the music for as many as 400 of his songs. The gramophone records for which he composed music reached their peak of popularity in the 1950s and 1960s. Among his evergreen songs are *Sanjher taraka ami* (I am the star of the twilight), *Prithibi amare chay* (The world needs me) and *Ami bhorer yuthika* (I am the jasmine of the morning).

His musical works ranged from *kirtan* to Mira's *bhajan* and modern songs in both Hindi and Bangla. His repertoire included Nazrul songs, *ghazals*, *Naat* and *Shyama Sangeet*. In the ranks of these acclaimed songs were *Projapoti Projapoti*, *Ami Jar Nupurero Chondo*, *Jobey Tulsi Tolai Prio* and many others.

Dasgupta's life ended at the age of 62, on July 18, 1974. To the talented composer goes the credit for inspiring both upcoming and established artistes.

Compiled by Cultural Correspondent



Musical soiree at Nazrul Institute

Ferdausi Rahman receives Nazrul Padak

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Nazrul Sangeet Shilpi Parisad (NSSP) organised a musical programme at Nazrul Institute on July 25. The programme, titled *Bulbul* was divided into two sessions. In the first session, eminent singer and chairperson of NSSP, Ferdausi Rahman received the Nazrul Padak.

MA Mannan, general secretary of the organisation; Latifa

Chowdury, vice president of (NSSP); noted artistes Sudhin Das and Khaled Hossain, advisors of NSSP; veteran Nazrul artiste Sohrab Hossain and member of the organisation Ahsan Morshed spoke at the event. The speakers felicitated Ferdousi.

Said an exultant Ferdausi, "I am very happy with the warmth that has come my way. A function such as this helps me realise just how much I am appreciated."

The second session began with a musical event. The event started with a rendition of *Iranier Roommahaler Shahzadi* by Gulsan Ara Roxy, followed by *Aay Bonophool Dakichhe Moley*. Chowdhury Mustak Hossain, Soheli Sattar and Najmun Nahar Moon also performed at the event. Each artiste performed four songs. The event wrapped up with *Bodhu Mitilo Na Shadh* by Najmun Nahar Moon.



Ferdausi Rahman speaks at the event

Theatre

Palakar's latest venture 'Project Hundred Plus' on stage

Palakar's latest production, a thriller, *Project Hundred Plus* will be staged at Palakar's new Theatre Studio at Natok Soroni at 7:00pm on July 26 and 27, says a press release. The play is written by Aminur Rahman Mukul and directed by Farhad Limon.

After eloping, a newly married couple take shelter in their friend's house in a village. There they face a mystery as many familiar faces are killed one after another. However, the identity of the killer is revealed only at the end of the play.

Shahnaz, Limon, Faisal, Iktarul, Shahin, Zahid and Ashikuzzam Suman are the major cast members of the play.



A scene from the play

Bollywood stars for sale

Bollywood fans in Britain will be able to buy 12-inch dolls of the film industry's leading stars Shah Rukh Khan, Kajol, Hrithik Roshan and Priyanka Chopra from August 1.

The dolls will be launched, under the brand name 'Bollywood Legends', by toy manufacturer and distributor Spin Master Toys UK, along with entrepreneur Shameen Jivraj, who had come up with the concept four years ago. She

recently approached Spin Master Toys UK to handle the UK distribution of the dolls.

Shameen has headed the 'Shiny Doll' development team as well as many other well-known children's brands such as 'Star Wars' and 'Teletubbies'.

She says, "I became intrigued by Bollywood and was drawn into the movies with their mix of fun, fashion, music and dance. It's such a magical and emotive arena and I

wanted to create something that would allow the audiences to be able to take some of that magic home to treasure and enjoy in a unique and new way."

Amazon.uk is already taking orders for the doll. They each weigh less than half a kilogram. Priyanka and Kajol wear saris while Shah Rukh Khan and Hrithik sport trendy western outfits.

Source: Internet

TV GUIDE

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

Telecast 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, 11pm.

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

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, 1:00pm, 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 BTV News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

TARA BANGLA

News Headlines (Bangla) at 5:30pm, 7:30pm.

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

09:05 Open University

10:00 Satellite Broadcast

12:15 Sangbad Potrer Pata Theke

12:30 Shashtho Tathya

01:30 Selected programme

02:15 Khelte Khelte Computer Shekha

04:00 Rup Kothar Deshey

04:30 Ai Dhaka Sei Dhaka

05:05 Prottyashar Alo

05:30 Drupadee

06:10 Talk Show

06:35 Jiboner Alo

07:05 Grantha Bhubon

07:30 Agiye Cholar Pothey

08:35 Protidin Bangladesh

08:45 Weekly Drama

10:25 Teknaf Thekey Tetulia

10:30 Apnar Shawsthya (Live)

ATN BANGLA

08:45 Mukto Shonglap

09:25 Drama Serial: Tushar Rohoshyo

10:30 Anyodrishti

12:20 Bangla Feature Film

03:45 ATN Rannaghar

04:20 Shundor Jiboner Jonyo

05:10 Amader Joto Kotha

05:45

Islami Sawaal O Jobab (Live)

06:20 Prapok

08:00 Hortoner Bibi

08:30 Drama Serial: Ferari Siren

09:00 Musical Programme

09:30 Drama Serial: Mon Tui Badhahin

CHANNEL i

09:45 Public Reaction

09:50 Grameen Phone Tritiyomatra

12:30 Aaj Dupurey O Citicell Tarokakothon

01:05 Ebong Cinemar Gaan

01:30 Shongbadpotrey Bangladesh

01:45 Public Reaction

02:40 Tritiyo Matray Apni

03:05 Hridoye Mati O Manusher Daak

04:05 Bashundhara Amader Gaan

04:25 Sa Re Ga Ma

05:30 X Music

06:00 Music Plus

06:20 Amar Chhobi

07:50 Drama Serial: Akashi Ronger Rumal

08:20 Drama Serial: Shutoy Badha Projapoti

09:35 Lux Channel i Super Star

Rtv

10:30 Grihoshaili

11:30 Bishwa Jurey

12:05 Antoronyo Alap: Jugolbandi

02:30 Islamic programme

04:20 Heart Beat

05:05 Swapno Diner Gaan

05:30 Children's Programme

06:00 Ajker Bangladesh

06:35 Shaptaho Jurey

08:00 Drama Serial: Biyer Golpo

08:50 Cookery Show

09:20

Drama Serial: Shure Aka Chhobi

10:45 Rtv Exclusive

08:40 Shuprobhat Bangladesh

10:00 Cartoon

10:30 Bangla Feature Film

02:00 Expression

04:00 Drama Serial: Kanone Kushum Koli

04:30 Kalkotha

05:15 Small Ville

06:00 Saaj Bela

PICK OF THE DAY

Shurey Aka Chhobi

On Rtv at 09:20pm

Drama Serial

Cast: Humayun Faridee, Diti, Agun

The Street Fighter: The Ultimate Battle

On HBO at 09:30pm

Genre: Action/ Adventure

Starring: Jean-Claude Van Damme, Raul Julia

07:00 Shombhabonar Bangladesh

08:15 Amar Nayokera

09:00 Drama Serial: Kanone Kushum Koli

09:30 The One

11:00 Expression

BANGLAVISION

09:05 Cartoon

09:30 Drama Serial: Gaurochandrika

10:00 Media Bhuban

10:30 Drama Serial: Hashuli Begumer Upakotha

11:00 Cine Bit

12:00 Amader Atithi

Drama Serial: Shonar Phool

03:00 Cookery Show

03:30 Game Show

04:00 Ki Jado Bangla Gaane

04:30 Cine Bit Shada Kalo

05:00 Ichhey Ghuri

05:30 Get Set Fit

08:10 Golper Natok

09:20 Article Thirty-nine

12:05 Apnar Agami

HBO

09:15 Unforgiven

12:00 The Player

02:30 Creepshow

05:00 A man Apart

07:15 Timeline

09:30 Street Fighter the Ultimate Battle

11:30 Batman

02:00 Dead Calm

STAR MOVIES

08:15 Next Stop: Wonderland

10:25 Spy Game

12:55 Sharkman

02:50 Undermind

05:05 Shark Tale

07:00 Runaway Jury

09:30 Crimson Tide

11:45 Black Mask

STAR WORLD

08:30 Cheers

09:00 The Drew Carey Show

09:30 The Oprah Winfrey Show

10:30 Rockstar: Supernova

11:30 Boston Legal

12:30 J.A.G.

01:30 Knight Rider

02:30 Oprah Winfrey Show

03:30 The Bold And The Beautiful

04:30 General Hospital

06:30 The Simpsons

07:00 Cheers

07:30 Friends

08:00 Seinfeld

08:30 Rockstar: Supernova

09:30 Scrubs

10:00 Arrested Development

10:30 Less Than Perfect

11:00 The Drew Carey Show

11:30 Seinfeld

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

10:00 Nat Geo Junior

10:30 Hunter Hunted

11:30 Seconds from Disaster

01:00 Mummy Road Show

01:30 Asia To The World

02:30 Wild Nights

03:00 Totally Wild

03:30 The Sea Hunters

06:00 Nat Geo Junior

06:30 The Sea Hunters

07:30 Animals Like Us

09:30 Megastructures

10:30 The Sea Hunters

11:30 Secrets of Turtle Tomb

ESPN

08:00 Kardio Knockout

08:30 Winter X Games Classix

09:30 The Open Championships

01:30 Escape From Alcatraz Triathlon

02:30 Pakistan Tour Of England

03:58 Pakistan Tour Of England

06:00 Cricket Classics

06:30 Pakistan Tour Of England

11:00 Sportscenter

STAR SPORTS

08:30 Tna Impact

09:30 Track & Field/ Athletics

12:30 Swimming

03:30 Samsung Nations Cup

04:30 Tna Xplosion

05:30 Cricket Classics

06:00 Cricket Classics

06:30 Tna Xplosion

08:30 Cricket Classics

08:59 Sportscenter India

09:00 The Senior Open Championships

TEN SPORTS

09:00 WWE: After Burn

09:30 Martini World Circuit

10:30 Trans World Sports

11:00 NFL Superbowl

06:00 SA Tour to Sri Lanka: 1st Test Day 1

07:00 WWE: The Bottom Line

07:45 Martini World Circuit

09:45 Sahara Hockey

ChampTrophy (MEN): Ger v Netherlands

11:45 Sahara Hockey Champ Trophy (MEN): Pak v Spain