

Painting exhibition

'Speechless': Coming together of avant-garde artists

FAYZA HAQ

An interesting collection of avant-garde paintings is currently on at the exhibition titled *Speechless*, held at the gallery of Alliance Francaise.

Najma Akhter, one of the artists, says, "Colours are like alphabets and by arranging them together we express our feelings, emotions, hopes and fears in the form of a vision." Having studied Oriental Art, she had teachers like Abdus Sattar and Hashem Khan. Apart from them, she also had the guidance of Rafiqun Nabi. From overseas her sources of inspiration have been Miro and Matisse. She has broken the forms and only the colours



remain. In *Sailing* she shows a boat moving out into the distance with a backdrop of gray and black. In the painting *From the distant past* she brings in the memories of her childhood.

Nasima Khanum Queenie's paintings have been inspired by nature although earlier she had dealt with figures. Her teachers had been Mahmudul Haque, Shahid Kabir, Qayyum Chowdhury and Abdur Razzaque. *Moon and the woods* has its roots in Robert Frost's poem *The road not taken* and it has a brown paper collage to represent tree trunks lining a gray path lit up by a partially visible moon. *Marsh* brings in the marshy lands in layers of yellow, orange and gray. Queenie enjoys putting in washes of water colour, adding and subtracting hues at will with strokes of her brush on handmade paper.

Shahadat Hossain, who is based in Paris and visits Dhaka from time to time, has some of his paintings included in the exhibition. He had held his third solo in Bangladesh recently. His paintings in water colour, oil and mixed media have been including more and more figures and images with the passage of time. The paintings deal with the conflicts of a tormented soul. In his work the figures are simplified and made abstract to present suffering in a metaphorical tone. He does not go in for poetic imagery or pleasant colours. His presentations are geometrical and solid. At the same time he uses symbolic and metaphorical imagery.

Qamrul Islam Nadeem has acrylic on canvas in his depiction of the courtyard in the Institute of Fine Arts, DU. Here he has used crimson red instead of green grass and startling blue where there was gray cement, along with black trees to bring in experimentation with sunset. *Expression* presents a mixed



Marsh by Queenie (top) and painting by Shahadat Hossain

media study of lounging women with pen and crayon. The figures appear to be at repose after a dance class. Those who have influenced him most are Shishir Bhattacharya and Nisar Hussain.

Arup Kumar Borua has geometrical shapes which are dear to him and which represent a changing lifestyle for the artist. He plays with texture, bringing in a collage and deals with innumerable flamboyant contrasting colours

like startling reds, browns and greens. Arup deals with oblongs, squares, circles and rectangles. Certain lettering that go with the composition have been added too.

Fakhrul Islam had his bold landscapes that he had done with press ink and mustard. They appeared like symphonies in lines and dots. Nadir Shahrier's depictions of birds are also moving.

Talent hunt

Selection round of Closeup1 ends in Dhaka

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

The ongoing *Closeup1* musical talent hunt has created a buzz, like it did last year. Selection rounds of *Closeup1 '06* were held at the Bangladesh Institute of Administration and Management (BIAM) auditorium, New Eskaton from August 18 to 21.

In the selection rounds held in Dhaka the panel of judges narrowed down the participants and finally awarded only 40 candidates with the 'Yes Card' out of over 29,000 entries to enable them to go for the next round. The expert panel of judges, recognised for their work and contributions in their respective

fields, made the shortlist entries. The list of the judges includes Ahmed Imtiaz Bulbul, Fahmida Nabi and Kumar Bishwajit.

Fifty-nine candidates from outside Dhaka (Chittagong, Comilla, Faridpur, Barisal, Khulna, Rajshahi, Rangpur, Bogra, Mymensingh and Sylhet) have already been selected. The 40 selected candidates from Dhaka will take part in the subsequent rounds along with candidates from outside Dhaka, which will be held soon in the capital.

The selected candidates will be groomed by experts. They will provide tips on various aspects, including outfit, hair, diction, stage presence, etiquette, stress man-

agement and others.

Talking about this year's *Closeup 1*, Roni Das from Chittagong who also participated in last year's talent hunt, says, "There are some new elements introduced in *Closeup1 '06*. With an innovative selection system, the judges selected the contestants to get the 'Yes Card'. It is an extremely detailed process, which was absent in last year's contest. The selection process is rigorous to ensure that only contestants with music skills of a certain standard make it to the finals."



Contestants eagerly await their turn at BIAM

CULTURAL FEAST

Solo Art Exhibition

Artist: Nilufar Jahan
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, Bengal Shilpalaya
Date: August 23-29
Time: 10:00 am- 1:00 pm

Artist: Abdus Shakoor
Venue: Shilpangan, Road 3, House 13/A, Dhanmondi
Date: August 24-September 07
Time: 10:00 am- 1:00 pm and 5:00 pm-8:00 pm

Classical Musical Soiree

Artist: Shaheer Reza and Rezwana Ali
Organiser: Shuddha Sangeet Prosar Goshthi
Venue: Bishwa Shahitya Kendra, Dhaka
Date: August 31

Photography Exhibition

Title: Cha Garam
Organiser: Pathshala: South Asian Institute of Photography
Venue: Alliance Francaise-Gallery Zoom
Date: August 10-23
Time: 9 am-12 pm and 5 pm-9 pm

On the move

Laila: All that jazz...

KAVITA CHARANJI

Enter the candle lit environs of Le Saigon in Gulshan and the recorded music of jazz greats Louis Armstrong, Nat King Cole and others remind one of what is in store. Yes it is upcoming jazz vocalist Laila Plamondon who captured many a heart at her performance on August 21.

Laila's bold, confident and chatty style belied her 20 years. Beginning with the energetic Frank Sinatra song *Fly me to the moon*, the young singer went on to perform other jazz classics such as *New York New York*, *I left my heart in San Francisco* and *All of me*. Laila also rendered *It had to be you* and *Home* by Canadian artiste Michael Bubl , the evergreen *Fever* by Peggy Lee, *I will always love you* and *Saving all my love for you* of Whitney Houston.

A high point of the evening was a song where a guest joined in. The number, the famous *Unforgettable*, showcased a near perfect rendition of an all time favourite by the duo. In addition, Laila did an a cappella rendition of *Prayer*, originally featuring Celine Dion and Luciano Pavarotti.

Laila, a psychology major and music minor at Smith College, Massachusetts, has truly had a memorable homecoming.

Laila had a conversation with this correspondent at The Daily Star office recently. Talking about her music career, Laila said, "I began with



Laila Plamondon

pop songs because that is what most audiences want to hear. Now that I have earned a name, achieved what I was capable of, I prefer to stick to jazz." Among her favourite 'jazz standards' are Billy Holiday, Ella Fitzgerald, Frank Sinatra and Sara Vaughn. In the world of pop there's Celine Dion and no she is not abashed by syrupy music. "We need quite a buzz."

Laila has made appearances in New York's Carnegie Hall and the West Point Academy. Back home she has performed in Sylhet and Chittagong in addition to Dhaka. Overseas she has also captivated audiences in Bangkok and Kolkata.

As if university and singing at various functions were not enough, Laila is in the thick of other activities. She is a member of the South Asian Students' Association which has done a number of fundraisers for victims of the Tsunami and Pakistan earthquake. She is also involved with the Jazz Ensemble where she practices once a week and performs every now and then.

At Smith College, she has won acclaim. In March she was adjudged the first Smith Superstar.

And no, Laila is not basking in the glory of her latest performance. With one eye on the future, she plans to fuse her distinctive style of jazz with Bengali classical music.

Buzz

Does the new 'Don' stick to the original?

Filmmaker Farhan Akhtar's upcoming remake of the 1978 blockbuster *Don* starring Amitabh Bachchan, is creating quite a buzz.

The music from the original *Don* will be recreated in the new version featuring a remixed, club-ish take of the classic theme tune.

The new *Don* is set to be a futuristic action/thriller, with a very stylised look. The director has so far redefined Bollywood faces like Saif Ali Khan in *Dil Chahta Hai* and Hrithik Roshan in *Lakshya* by offering them roles that extend beyond their traditional box-office image.

Amitabh Bachchan was 36 when *Don* was made in 1978; his dual roles of Vijay and The Don are still remembered. Shah Rukh Khan, 40, has acknowledged being massively influenced by the cult film. Which might prove prophetic for the film itself. Then again, Khan also admits this version is a fun tribute, and can't be compared to the original.

Priyanka Chopra takes up the Bond-girl style role done imitatively by Zeenat Aman in the original. Zeenat was stunning as Roma, breaking down men with her fierce glare -- not to mention flying kicks. Kareena Kapoor tries to sizzle on the

dance floor and enact steps made unforgettable by the legendary Helen.

Don is set to release for Eid/Diwali.

Source: Internet



Shah Rukh Khan as Don

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.
Teletext 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
Teletext 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 pm, 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.
Teletext of BTV news (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

TARA BANGLA

News Headlines (Bangla) at 5:30pm, 7:30pm, 9:30pm.
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

09:15 Satellite Broadcast
12:15 *Shangbadpotrer Pata Theke*
12:30 *Maa O Shishur Kotha*
01:00 *Shukhi Poribar*
01:30 *Hijol Tomal*
02:15 *Sisimpur*
02:40 *Khelte Khelte Computer*
03:05 *Cartoon*
04:00 *Esho Computer Shikhi*
04:30 *Quiz Quiz*
05:05 *Prokiti O Jibon*
05:30 *Cartoon*
06:40 *Sondha Maloti*
07:00 *Mati O Manush*
07:30 *Grontho Bhuban*
08:35 *Proditin Bangladesh*
08:45 *Drama Serial: Shap Ludu*
09:25 *Drama Serial: Krantikal*
10:25 *Teknaf Thekey Tetulia*

ATN BANGLA

10:30 *Onnodrishti*
12:15 *Cinema Cinema*
01:30 *Ganey Shurey Tarunnye*
02:30 *Drama Serial: Anondo Bedona Gantobyo*
03:10 *Drama serial: Bhalobashar Rong*
03:50 *Shapla Shaluk*
04:20 *Islam Ki Boley Amra Ki Kori*
05:10 *Musical Programme*
06:20 *The Sword Of Tipu Sultan*
08:00 *Drama Serial: Sharabela*
08:30 *Drama Serial: Shukher Lagiya*
09:00 *Amader Kobi*
10:40 *Talk Show*

CHANNEL-i

09:30 *Shongbad Potrey*

Bangladesh

09:45 *Public Reaction*
09:50 *Tritiyomatra*
11:05 *Sports Time (Live)*
12:30 *Aj Dupurey O Citycell Tarokakothon*
01:05 *Ebong Cinemar Gaan*
01:45 *Public Reaction*
02:40 *Selected Drama*
04:05 *Amader Gaan*
04:25 *Sa Re Ga Ma*
05:30 *Alokito Bangladesh*
06:00 *Music Plus*
06:20 *Music Club*
07:50 *RC Travel On*
08:20 *Drama Serial: Klanato Shomoy*
09:35 *Talk Show: Aloy Bhuban Bhora*
10:00 *Drama Serial: Bela Obelar Golpo*
12:00 *Grameenphone Ajker Shangbadpotro*

ntv

08:35 *Ajker Shokal*
10:05 *Colours*
10:30 *Galaxy*
11:00 *Circus Lights*
12:05 *Shurer Jolsha*
01:00 *Muktangan*
02:35 *Drama Serial: Labonya Probha*
03:15 *Drama Serial: Ronger Manush*
03:50 *Drama Serial: Amader Anondo Bari*
04:25 *Tepantor Er Matthey*
05:10 *Iltashar Ei Dine / Din Dorpon*
05:20 *Aparn Jiggasha*
06:20 *Shubho Shondhya*
06:50 *Talk Show: Ki Kotha*
08:25 *Siddiqua Kabir's Recipe*
09:10 *Kichhu Kotha Kichhu Gaan*
09:50 *Drama Serial: Amader Anondobari*

Rtv

09:30 *Talk Show: Ei mon*
10:30 *Char Deyal*
12:05 *Amar Desh*
02:30 *Shoto Proshno*
03:40 *Drama Serial: Raja Bhawal Shanyashi*
04:20 *Prachir Ghera China*
05:05 *Praner Manush*
06:00 *Ajker Bangladesh*
06:35 *Cinema Ar Cinema*
08:00 *Drama Serial: Raja Bhawal Shanyashi*
08:50 *Griho Sholli*
09:20 *Drama Serial: Nawab Khanone Kushum Koli Gaan*
09:30 *Expression*
11:00 *Sports Star*

CHANNEL 1

08:40 *Shuprovat Bangladesh*
10:00 *Cartoon*
10:30 *Bangla Feature Film*
02:00 *Nongor*
03:30 *Drama Serial: Daar Kaak*
04:30 *Ekti Tara Duti Tara*
05:15 *Small Ville*
06:00 *Saaj Bela*
06:30 *Top News*
06:45 *Janotar Ishthar*
07:00 *Baker Pathay*
08:15 *Drama*
09:00 *Drama Serial: Khanone Kushum Koli Gaan*
09:30 *Expression*
11:00 *Sports Star*

PICK OF THE DAY



Amader Kobi
On ATN Bangla at 09:00pm
Discussion on poet Shamsur Rahman
Host: Mukaddem Babu

Sky Captain and The World of Tomorrow
On HBO at 09:30pm
Genre: Action/Adventure
Starring: Jude Law, Gwyneth Paltrow, Angelina Jolie

SONY

08:30 *Shree Ganesh Spiritual*
09:00 *Telebrands Tele Shopping*
09:30 *Chartbusters Music*
10:00 *Musical Mantra Music*
10:30 *Music Beats Music*
11:00 *Yeh Meri Life Hai Drama*
11:30 *Kkusum Drama*
12:00 *Jassi Jassi Koi Nahin Drama*
12:30 *Kaisa Yeh Pyar Hai Drama*
01:00 *Thodi Khushi Thode Gham Drama*
01:30 *Kabbhie To Nazar Milao Drama*
02:00 *Rishton Ki Dor Drama*
02:30 *Aisa Des Hai Mera Drama*
03:00 *Ek Ladki Anjani Si Drama*
03:30 *Matinee Movie - Khoon Bhai Maang Movie Contd. Movie*
06:30 *Music Mantra Music*
07:00 *Chartbusters Music*
07:30 *Rishton Ki Dor Drama*
08:00 *Kaisa Ye Pyar Hai Drama*
09:00 *Ek Ladki Anjani Si Drama*
09:30 *Aisa Des Hai Mera Drama*
10:00 *Thodi Khushi Thode Gham Drama*
10:30 *Khabhie To Nazar Milao Drama*
11:00 *Rishton Ki Dor Drama*
11:30 *Kaisa Ye Pyar Hai Drama*

STAR PLUS

08:30 *Kyun Hota Hai Pyarr*
09:00 *V First Day First Show- Starplu*
09:05 *V Trailers - Star Plus*
09:30 *Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan*
10:00 *V Trailers - Star Plus*
10:30 *Shaka Laka Boom Boom*
11:00 *Shaka Laka Boom Boom*
11:30 *Des Mein Nikla Hoga Chan Chan*
12:25 *Bolly V - Star Plus*
12:30 *V Trailers - Star Plus*
12:55 *V First Day First Show- Starplu*
01:20 *Kasauti Zindagi Kay*
01:30 *Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan*
02:00 *Bhabhi*
02:30 *Kesar*
03:00 *Saarthi*
03:30 *Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi*
04:00 *Kahin To Hoga Pyar Ke Do Naam*
04:30 *Prithviraj Chauhan*
05:00 *V Trailers - Star Plus*
05:55 *V First Day First Show- Starplu*
06:00 *Mum Tum Aur Hum*
06:25 *Bolly V - Star Plus*
06:30 *American Dragon: Jack Long*
07:00 *Buzz Light Year Of Hatim*
07:30 *Bolly V - Star Plus*
08:25 *Bolly V - Star Plus*
08:30 *Pyar Ke Do Naam*
09:00 *Ekradhakshyam*
09:30 *Kasauti Zindagi Kay*
10:00 *Viraasat*
10:00 *Kavyanjali*

HBO

08:30 *Forbidden Sins*
10:00 *The Nugget*
12:00 *Twelve Monkeys*
02:30 *The Perfect Score*
04:30 *The Last Samurai*
07:30 *Bad Apple*
09:30 *Sky Captain and The World Of Tomorrow*
11:45 *The Bone Collector*
02:15 *Carnival 20: Outskirts, Damascus, Ne**

STAR MOVIES

09:40 *Body Count*
11:05 *Employee Of The Month*
12:40 *Raging Sharks*
02:15 *Sleepover*
03:45 *Chupacabra: Dark Seas*
05:20 *Taxi*
07:00 *Agent Cody Banks 2: Destination*
08:40 *Out Of Reach*

DISCOVERY CHANNEL

08:30 *Wild India Week*
09:30 *Sci Zone*
10:30 *Mythbusters*
11:30 *Risk Takers*
12:30 *Yummy Mummy*
01:00 *Runway Moms*
01:30 *Tiger Week*
02:30 *Detective Stories*
03:30 *Endurance*
04:00 *Real Kids, Real Adventures*
04:30 *Wild India Week*
05:30 *Mega Builders*
06:30 *Junkyard Wars*
07:30 *Tiger Week*
08:30 *Stunt For Speed*
09:30 *Need Junkies*
10:00 *African Adventures*
10:30 *Man Made Marvels Asia*
11:30 *Scary Night: Vampires*

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

08:30 *Nat Geo Junior*
10:00 *Nat Geo Junior*
10:30 *Kalahari Supercat Is It Real?*
11:30 *From The Heart*
01:00 *5 Weddings & A Funeral*
01:30 *Going To More Extremes*
02:30 *Totally Wild*
03:00 *Built For Destruction*
04:30 *Nat Geo Junior*
06:00 *Built For Destruction*
07:30 *Nat Geo Junior*
08:30 *Inferno*
09:30 *Mystery of the Dakar*
10:30 *Nature Strikes Back*
11:30 *NG's Most Amazing Moments*