

CULTURAL FEAST

Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Down Memory Lane
Artist: Rafiqun Nabi
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, Bengal Shilpalaya, House no-275/F, Road no-27 (Old), Dhanmondi
Date: November 20-December 3
Time: 12:00pm-8:00pm

Artist: Jalilur Rabbi Tamim
Venue: Alliance Française de Dacca, 26 Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi
Date: November 24-December 7
Time: Sunday to Friday 9:00am-12:00pm and 5:00pm-9:00pm, Saturday 5:00pm to



Artist: Hasibur Rahman Kiron
Organiser: Alliance Française de Dacca
Venue: La Galerie, 26 Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi Dhaka
Date: December 7-13
Time: 9:00am to 12:00pm and 5:00pm-8:00pm
Except Saturday 5:00pm-8:00pm

Artist: Samiran Chowdhury
Venue: Art & Soul Gallery, Rd No 36, House 16, Gulshan
Date: November 24-December 4
Time: 11:00am-08:00pm

Movie Watch

'Nativity Story': Not a miraculous conception

The Nativity Story comes across more like a tedious morning in Sunday school than a compelling biblical account.

Far from a magical version of the story of Christ's birth, it is unlikely to inspire the ardent following among Christians that *The Passion of the Christ* did. And while there is unquestionably an audience for this film, *Nativity* is not bound to become a holiday classic.

While focusing on Mary (Keisha Castle-Hughes of *Whale Rider* fame) and Joseph (Oscar Isaac) is an intriguing idea, this retelling doesn't offer much insight into her character.

The angel Gabriel (*Syriana*'s Alexander Siddig) informs Mary that she is to be the mother of Jesus, but Castle-Hughes plays Mary as one-dimensionally as a student in a school Christmas pageant might. It can't be easy for a teenage actress to take on such a lofty role, but Castle-Hughes seems to have lacked critical input from director Catherine Hardwicke.

Hardwicke has taken a fascinating topic and presented it at a glacial pace and without much of the insight she showed in previous films. The movie just feels dreary.

However, this version seems fairly faithful to the biblical narrative, with two striking exceptions: the wrongheaded decision to turn



Oscar Isaac and Keisha Castle-Hughes in *The Nativity Story*

the Magi into comic foils and having Mary react as a contemporary young woman would to the notion of an arranged marriage.

She is depicted as being about 13 and initially resistant to marrying Joseph, as she barely knows him. Though her behaviour may seem understandable to modern audiences, it seems out of step with the rest of the film's adherence to the traditional story. Weren't arranged marriages common in those times?

Castle-Hughes has some of her best scenes with Shohreh Aghdashloo (*House of Sand and Fog*), who plays her cousin Elizabeth, the mother of John the Baptist.

Their respective pregnancies are miraculous -- Mary's because it is the immaculate conception and Elizabeth's because she is beyond child-bearing age.

The multi-ethnic casting is a nice touch: Castle-Hughes is from New Zealand, Isaac is Guatemalan, Aghdashloo is Iranian and Siddig is Sudanese.

It's not exactly the dullest story ever told, but it's certainly not the greatest.

Source: Internet

TV Watch

'Jibon Jekhaney Jamon': Taking up the cause of the vulnerable

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

AMONG busy actor and lawyer Tarana Halim's works in hand is a fortnightly show on Channel i, titled *Jibon Jekhaney Jamon*. The programme, at 9.20 pm is aired on two Sundays a month.

The focus in *Jibon*, conceptualised and directed by Tarana, is on a gamut of social issues ranging from children's rights, women's rights, domestic violence, prostitution and more. The programme often features live footage.

The last episode featured the plight of underprivileged children, often driven in the wrong direction by terrorists, drug dealers and pickpockets. "In my programme I don't want to cast the blame on the children but people who are using them for nefarious activities," says Tarana. "The aim is to let such criminals know that they will be exposed," she adds.

Tarana has bagged acclaim for *Jibon*... both within the country and overseas. Two national awards that have come her way are from BACHSAS and Tenashinas. In the international arena, she has won an award from the London Documentary Forum.

Next on the horizon is an episode on child abuse. Being a hush hush subject which needs to be taken out of the closet, this episode is challenging, says Tarana. "The need of the hour is to sensitise children and guardians on this issue. We must be more progressive and frank on this subject otherwise children will continue to be abused while the offenders will try to conceal such heinous acts," asserts Tarana.



Tarana (R) with street children in the show

'The New Shobuj Opera' crosses 200 episode

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

The 200th episode of the mega serial *The New Shobuj Opera* will be aired tonight at 8:30 pm on ATN Bangla. The channel airs the programme on Saturdays and Sundays.

The mega serial features the lives of *jatra* artists. *Jatra* is a local tradition that has been practiced for centuries. The art form had played a vital role in protest against the British colonial rulers. The serial not only portrays the struggles of the *jatra* artistes but also the production styles using professional *jatra* artistes. The idea of the story is derived from Mamunur Rashid and Brindaban Das is the script-writer.

On the recent success of the serial, director Mamunur Rashid said, "It's true that the serial had

lost its momentum temporarily but it is happening because of the storyline. At present the serial is at a turning point. And I'm hopeful that it will pick up again when we focus on reformation of the *jatra* troupe as well as the background of the artistes."

On upcoming episodes, Rashid said, "The total number of episodes of the play has not been finalised yet. Our plan is to run 1000 episodes. Our goal is clear -- through the play, we will try to portray the ins and outs of a *jatra* company, not in its contemporary but original form. Because of lack of interest it has become a decaying art form. I intend to bring the rural art form to the city dwellers."

Popular artistes Mamunur Rashid, Zahid Hassan, Tamalika, Fazlur Rahman Babu, Tushar Khan and others perform in the mega serial.

Event

Concert to generate awareness on political crisis

KHALID-BIN-HABIB

Bangladesh faces threats to its democracy and political stability. Apart from recurrent natural disasters, the list of worrying trends is lengthy: the non-functional parliament, entrenched corruption, ongoing violence -- both political and non-political, weak judicial and law enforcement agencies, poverty and others. Most importantly, problems are multiplying in connection with the forthcoming general election.

"Take Back Bangladesh" (website: www.takeback-bangladesh.org) was echoed by thousand of youngsters who vowed to launch a nationwide movement against the political crisis gripping Bangladesh.

The group launched its endeavour with the black badge initiative on November 20. Inspired by success of the campaign, recognising the need for continued efforts, the group organised an open-air concert and fire-spinning show at the Rabindra Sarobar

Amphitheatre (Dhanmondi) on December 1.

Among the distinguished personalities present were SM Shahjahan, Rokia Afzal Rahman, M Hafiz Uddin -- advisers to the last caretaker government, Debopriyo Bhattacharya, Khushi Kabir, Geetiara Safiya Chowdhury, Dr Hamida Hossain, Barrister Sara Hossain, Habibur Rahman Bhuiyan, father of Sony who was brutally killed by terrorists patronised by a political party and convener of Bangladesh Obhivhabok Parishad (BOP), Bijoy Talukder, member secretary of BOP and others.

Performances by bands Renaissance, Artcel, Cryptic Fate, Watson Brothers, Metal Maze, Parthibo, Arbivorus and singer Hyder Hussain, as well as a fire-spinning show by Naur were major attractions at the concert.

Cryptic Fate began their performance with *Bolo Bangladesh* followed by *Bhoboghurey* and *Shada ronger bhoitor*.

Arbivorus took the stage next.

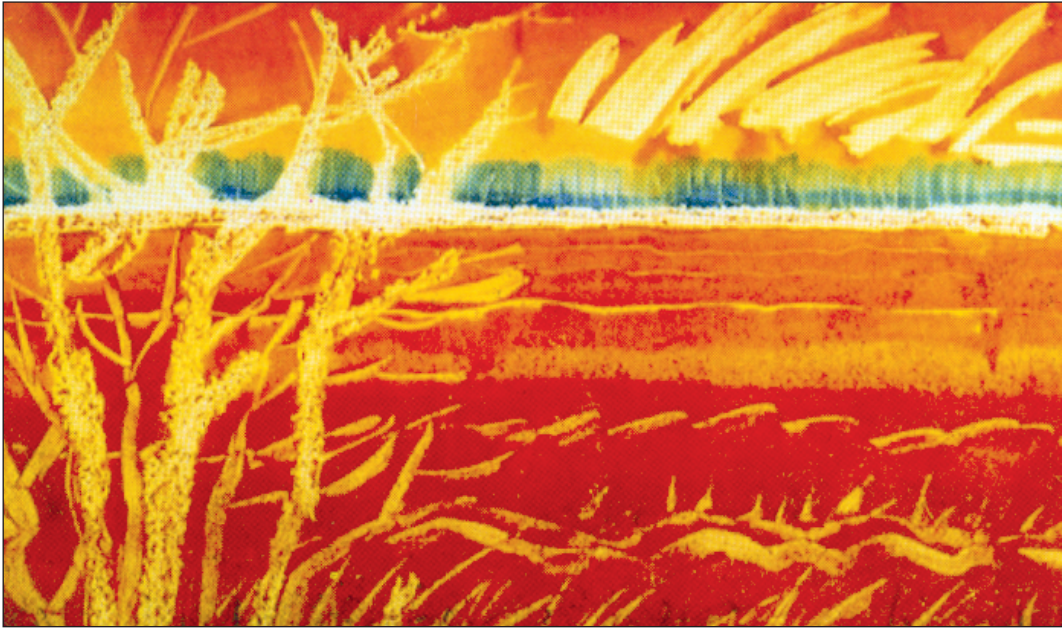
They performed their popular numbers but the crowd seemed to expect more. Popular band Renaissance performed a song based on recent hard-hitting issues titled *Rajnitir eki halchal* and *Unnoyoner jowarey bhashchhey desh*. Then they performed their familiar numbers *Bhalo lagey jochhna ratey* and *O nodirey tui jash kothay rey*, which was appreciated by the audience.

Then came Parthibo -- an underground metal band. Their number *Chhi!! Chhi!!!* was evident of their distinctive style. They also performed *Baunduley*, *Chander aloye laglo grahan* and a Bon Jovi's hit *Its my life*.

After an exciting fire spinning show by Shayan and Namirah along with some popular folk songs, Hyder Hussain rocked the crowd with his solo performance. Songs performed by Hyder included *Tirish bochhor*, *Gonotontro* and *Phaishya gecchi*. The event wrapped up with his performance.

Exhibition

Vivid landscapes by Tamim



Artwork by Jalilur Rabbi Tamim

ERSHAD KAMOL

Landscapes of different dimensions have been portrayed in the first solo exhibition of artist Jalilur Rabbi Tamim.

As landscapes are the main theme of Tamim's exhibition, logically he has used watercolour as the medium. The distinctive feature of his compositions is the use of vibrant colours such as red, blue, green, violet, yellow and golden of his experimental works. Tamim has created visible reality and reconstituted through his inner eye. That is why he has emphasised on aesthetic value rather than depicting realistic nature.

In the landscape series titled

The Green Landscape, Red Forrest, Landscape with Yellow, The Red Bush, Yellow Landscape and others Tamim has depicted not only the natural fauna and flora but the barrenness and pathos of life also. He is influenced by the works of his teachers like Rafiqun Nabi and Hashem Khan. Romanticism and impressionism are mingled in his presentations. Another aspect of his style is using of rhythmic lines to portray the material world. Nature here always provides 'sequels' (transition over a period) of changing colours. He seizes the rhythmic expressions of the flora and fauna of a transitory moment with the vibrant use of watercol-

ours.

In the oil on canvas titled *Beginning*, Tamim depicted the big bang through golden, blue, black, red and brown colours.

Interestingly, the canvases such as *Last Prayer* and *Death of a Poet* have two characters. The sharp lines of the figures in the palettes successfully depict the ambience just before an assassination and the death of a lover in the lap of his beloved respectively.

Professor Burhanuddin Khan Jahangir inaugurated the 14-day long exhibition at the Café and Gallery Zoom. Laurent Jalicious, deputy director of Alliance Francise, Dhaka, was the guest of honour. The exhibition ends on December 7.

TV GUIDE

PICK OF THE DAY



Bangladesh Vs Zimbabwe
On BTV at 1:30pm
Second match of the five one-day matches



Lost Ship of Venice
On Discovery Channel at 8:30pm
The unique example of the first Two Thousand years of navigation

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. (To be telecast on all Bangla channels).

CHANNEL-i
News (Bangla) at 7:15 am, 9:00am, 2:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 10:30pm, 12:15 am.

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

CHANNEL 1
News (Bangla) at 8:00am, 12:00pm, 2:30pm, 6:30pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm, 12:30am

BANGLAVISION
News (Bangla) at 8:00am, 2:00pm, 6:00pm, 7:15pm, 10:30pm.
News Headlines (Bangla) at 9:00pm
News Headlines (English) at 9:05pm

RTV
News (Bangla) at 7:00am, 3:00pm, 7:15pm, 10:00pm.
News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:30am

BTV

08:30 Open University
12:30 Mae O Shishur Kotha
01:00 Bansori
01:30 One Day Cricket Match Bangladesh Vs Zimbabwe
10:25 Teknaf Theke Tetulia
10:30 Musical Programme

CHANNEL-i

08:05 Tagore Song
08:30 Shokaler Gaan
09:50 Tritiomatra
11:05 Tele Prescription
11:30 Hridoye Mati O Manush
12:30 Aj Dupure O Citycell Taroka Kathan
01:05 Ebong Cinemar Gaan
01:30 Shanghbadpotre Bangladesh
02:40 Selected Drama
04:05 Amader Gaan
04:25 Sa Re Ga Ma Fct Business
05:30 Talk
06:20 Anondodhara Chayer Ashor
07:50 Mega Serial: Bhober Haat
09:35 Ekhon E Shomoy
10:00 Mega Serial: Jog Biog

ATN BANGLA

10:30 Onnodrishti
11:05 Hortoner Bli
11:35 Ek Jonomey

12:15 Shath Din
01:30 Shormali Shadakalo
02:30 Telefilm
05:10 Britter Bairy
05:45 Islamic Programme
06:25 Three Stooges
08:00 Drama Serial: Khola Duar
08:30 Mega Serial: The New Sobuj Opera
09:00 Drama Serial: Nire Tar Neel Dheu
09:30 Drama Serial: Pichhutan
10:40 Protidin

ntv

10:05 Animal Kingdom
10:30 Natorke Gaan
11:00 Mon Amar Shondhan Kori
11:30 Talk Show: Ki Kotha Tahar Shathhey
12:05 World of Arts
12:30 Hoi Hullor
01:05 Muktangon
02:35 Drama
03:15 Single Episode Drama
03:50 Drama Serial: Megh Bolechhe Jabo Jabo
04:25 Apon Aloy
05:10 Din Dorpon
06:50 Agroz
08:20 Ramizer Aaina
09:00 Closeup1 Tomakei Khujchhey Bangladesh
09:45 Shomoshomoy
11:25 Din Dorpan

Rtv

10:00 Gaan Ar Gaan

10:30 Debate Programme
12:00 Talk Show: Prasongik
01:00 Aj Potrikay
01:35 Shoto Proshno
03:45 Drama Serial: Modhyoborti
04:20 Gopshop
05:10 Drishokolpo
05:30 Gaan Ar Gaan
06:00 Ajker Bangladesh
06:35 Bishwa Jurey
08:00 Drama Serial: Black and White
08:50 Jugal Bondi
10:45 Rtv Exclusive

CHANNEL 1

08:40 Shuprobhat Bangladesh
09:30 Chokh Mele Dekhi
10:00 Cartoon
10:30 Bangla Feature Film
02:00 Bishwa Jurey Shath Din
03:30 Shunney Bosobash
04:00 Shondhikhone
04:30 Drama Serial: Godhuli Belay
05:15 Chokh Mele Dekhi
06:10 Shaaj Bela
06:45 Itihasheer Pothe
07:00 Padmoraag
08:15 Drama Serial:

09:00 Sunye Boshobash Bangladesh
09:30 Kichhu Chai Ei jiboney
11:00 Music Music
BANGLAVISIO
N
08:35 Shubho Shokal
09:05 Cartoon
09:30 Drama Serial: Krishno Pokkho
10:00 Bangla Feature Film
02:30 Shuker Kanta
03:00 Amar Ami
03:30 Ebong Classer Bairey Raat Birete

04:30 Drama Serial: Dokhinayan
05:00 Cartoon
05:40 Diner Sheshey
06:30 Cinebit
08:10 Drama Serial: Magno Chaitonney Shish
09:15 Apnar Agami
09:50 Drama Serial: Uro Chithi

SONY

08:30 Om Namah Shivay
09:00 Spiritual
09:30 Telebrands
09:00 Teleshopping
09:30 Chart Busters Movie
09:30 Based

10:00 Music Mantra Music
10:30 Music Beats Music
11:00 Cadburys Bournvita
11:30 Quiz Contest Quiz
12:00 Current Bollywood Others
12:00 CID Thriller
01:00 Boogie Woogie
02:00 Dance
02:00 Bigg Boss Masala
02:30 Reality Based
02:30 Contd. Contd.
03:00 Sunday Matinee - Lucky - No Time for Love Movie
06:00 Ji Behenji Comedy
06:30 Music Beats Music
07:00 Music Mantra Music
07:30 Chartisters Movie Based
08:00 Current Bollywood Movie Based
08:30 Indian Telly Awards Event
09:00 Contd. Contd.
12:00 Music Beats Music

STAR PLUS

09:00 Yatra
09:30 Krishna Kathaiyen
10:30 Instant Khichdi
11:30 Greatindianlaughterch allenge 2
12:30 V First Day First
12:35 V Trailers - Star Plus
01:00 Ghar Ghar Ki Kahani.
04:30 Musafir Hoon Yaaron
04:55 Bolly V - Star Plus
05:00 V Trailers - Star Plus
05:25 V First Day First

05:30 Show-Starplu
06:00 Aladdin
06:00 The Emperor's New Groove
06:25 Bolly V - Star Plus
06:30 Aek Chabhi Hai Padoss Mein
08:30 Saibaba
09:30 Prithviraj Chauhan
10:00 Baa Bahoo Aur Baby
10:30 Thodi Si Zameen
11:30 Kaboom

STAR MOVIES

08:35 Licence To Kill
10:45 Goldeneye
12:45 Tomorrow Never Dies
02:45 The World Is Not Enough
04:50 Die Another Day
07:00 Lord Of War
09:05 Enemy Of The State
11:15 Method

STAR WORLD

09:00 According To Jim
09:30 Hogan's Heroes
10:00 Get Smart
10:30 The Bold And The Beautiful
12:30 Criminal Minds
01:30 Law & Order: S.V.U.
02:30 One Tree Hill
03:30 Ncis
04:30 Grey's Anatomy
05:30 Hollywood Shootouts
06:00 Travel Asia
06:30 Commander In Chief
07:30 Malcolm In The Middle
08:00 Desire: Table For Three

09:00 Oprah Winfrey Show
10:00 Rendezvous With Simi Gare
10:30 Criminal Minds
11:30 Law & Order: S.V.U.

DISCOVERY CHANNEL

09:30 One Night In Bhopal
10:30 Destination India
11:30 Great Moghuls
12:00 How Do They Do It?
12:30 Life In The Undergrowth
01:30 Wild Discovery
02:30 Discovery Marquee
04:30 Wild Discovery
05:30 Finest Hotels In The World
06:00 Mean Machines
06:30 IDEA
07:30 Wild Discovery
08:30 Discovery's Biggest Shows
10:30 Night Safari
11:30 Life On The Edge

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

08:30 The Living Edens
09:30 Ant That Ate America
10:30 Indyeah!
11:30 Sunset Bollywood
12:30 Relentless Enemies
02:30 Unwind
03:30 Fire on Board
04:30 Serious Amazons
05:00 Dogs With Jobs
05:30 Nat Geo Junior
06:30 MegaStructures