

Workshop

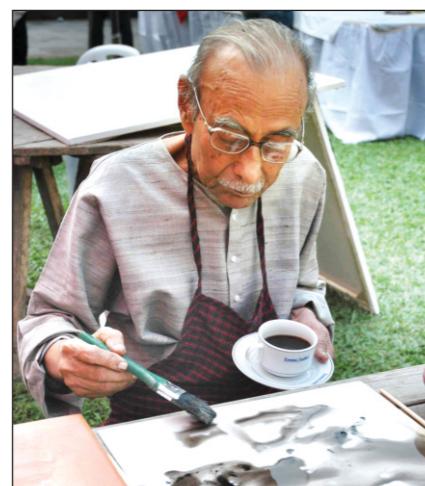
Remembering Rembrandt with aplomb

FAYZA HAQ

Celebrating Rembrandt's 400th birth anniversary, 20 senior artists ranging from Mohammed Kibria, Murtaja Baseer and Hashem Khan, to Javed Jali and Rebecca Sultana Molly, held a workshop. This was at the Netherland Ambassador's residence, and the artists were guided by the Rembrandt expert René Klarenbeek, who had flown down from the Hague. This was sponsored by the Society for Promotion of Bangladeshi Art. Using acrylic, the artists presented their concept of the famed 17th century Dutch artist, whose influence is world wide even today, in the 21st century. Some presented abstract work like Mohammed Kibria, some semi-abstract while others like Murtaja Baseer, amalgamated the master's lines and colours with those of Bangladeshi ones, with aplomb and alacrity.

Kibria's dark browns, black and the contrast of colours, with a fleck of scintillating muddy on the top of the large canvas, with the swirls and curls, done in quick decisive strokes brought in Rembrandt's superb selection of colours, which are basically remembered as variations of gold, brown, black and white. Influenced by El Greco, Van Gogh, Gauguin, Picasso and other modern artists, Kibria said that Rembrandt was one of his best beloved painters of the past. He said that 400 years after the master's birth, he can still learn from his paintings. "It was perhaps Rembrandt, who first played with the impact of light and shade in painting. His knowledge of art materials was vast. His vast wealth of paintings deserves the universal admiration of artists through the ages."

Hashem Khan, on the occasion, said, "I've tried to use Rembrandt's style of brush work, which I've used before, as I love the master's work since the beginning, having copied his works innumerable times as a student. I've brought in his portrait, with Bangladeshi boats at the back. "Khan wanted to invoke the idea of the master rowing in the Bangladeshi rivers and included a local Baul in his other



painting. Abul Barq Alvi, who had just put on his first layer of paints, had used pre-abstraction in grays, whites and other jubilant colours to bring in the festivity of the occasion.

Murtaja Baseer, in turn used figurative forms of Saskia, the master's wife, celebrating spring inspired by the portrait of Saskia and a woman walking in the stream. In the latter painting, he included the portrait of the master, in the forefront. This was done in the joyous colours of sunny Bangladesh. Naima Haque had used the lines and strokes of grays and whites, the muted colours being held together by the bright lines, sweeps, and curls – done in buoyant hues. The final impact reminded one of the hardship of the common people of Bangladesh, as Haque explained.

Farida Zaman, in turn, brought in light browns in his flamboyant lines and sweeps.



PHOTO: STAR
Clockwise (from Top-left) Noted artistes Mohammad Kibria, Hashem Khan and Murtaja Baseer at the workshop

The painting depicted a young, romantic Bangladeshi couple. The subtle lines and colours, which Zaman has often used before, emulated the master, while presenting a Bangladeshi scene. Iftikharuddin Ahmed added his own perceptive and mind-blowing remarks.

Klarenbeek said that Bangladeshi artists were "sitting on a gold mine of colours and forms", going by the figures and ships that he had seen at the Bangladeshi harbours, in his short stay.

The participating artists were Mohammad Kibria, Hashem Khan, Abul Barq Alvi, Murtaja Baseer, Chandra Shekhar Dey, Naima Haque, Farida Zaman, Nasreen Begum, Rokeya Sultana, Ranjit Das, Iftikharuddin Ahmed, Sheikh Afzal, Jamal Ahmed, Kuhu Plamondon, Kanak Champa Chakma and others.



Award recipients (bottom row) with eminent artistes and guests (top row from left): Abdus Shakoor, Professor Aminul Islam, Masih Ul Karim, Rafiqun Nabi, Hashem Khan and others

Recently a veritable troupe of talented painters, veterans and apprentices alike gathered for the 11th Berger Young Painters' Art Competition (BYPAC) Award Ceremony. The venue was the Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre. The venue was abuzz with the excitement and festive feel that went with this national scale event through 10 eventful years, says a press release. Along with eminent artists and neophytes, the auditio-

nium teemed with prominent personalities. After his speech Karim conferred Professor Aminul Islam with the first ever BYPAC Lifetime Achievement Award for his outstanding contribution in the field of art and culture in Bangladesh. Notably, it is from this year onwards that this award has been initiated as a permanent feature of this event.

Subsequently, distinguished

artist Professor Qayyum Chowdhury announced six winners of the 11th BYPAC and along with Karim handed over their respective certificates and trophies. This year's first prize went to Sanjib Barua Sykat. The other winners include Nayan Kumar Adhikary (second), Nazifa Zabeen Siddiqua (third), Mohammad Arifuzzaman Chowdhury (fourth), Sohel Rana (fifth) and Sharmila Quader (sixth).

The second half of the ceremony was engaging. Popular pop singer of the '70s Ferdous Wahid, along with this generation's pop sensation Habib Wahid, wowed the audience with a mélange of their hit numbers. The father and son duo lit up the stage with their performance.

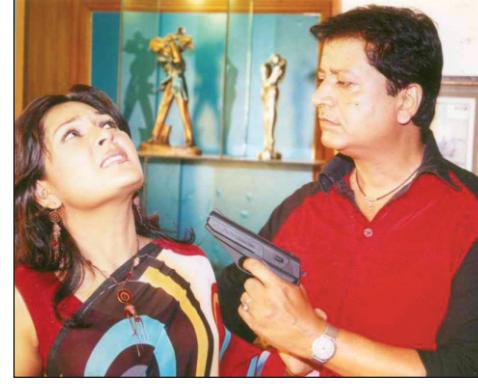
Channel Click

Drama serial 'Biborno Bhalobasha'

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Popular drama serial on ntv, *Biborno Bhalobasha* is set to air tonight at 9:50pm. The programme features many popular artistes of the small screen, Dilara Zaman, KS Firoz, Touqir Ahmed, Bijori Barkat Ullah, Shams Shumon, Mir Sabbir, Richi Solaiman, Tushar Khan, Sohana Saba and others. Written and directed by Murad Parvez, the serial has gained popularity for its distinctive story line.

Storyline: Tonight's episode revolves around the adventures of a young couple in a village. Bijori and Tauqir elope to an old railway station. They have no fixed destination or plan. In the meantime the train-master Tushar Khan comes with bad news that due to political circumstances the train will not come for 48 hours.



Sharmin Shila and Manas Bandyopadhyay in a scene from the serial

The harried couple seek help from Khan. While there is no hotel or good lodging in this isolated area, Tushar manages to arrange a bungalow for the couple. Meanwhile the couple realises that they have fallen into a trap engineered by a wrong doer. The story then takes a dramatic turn. The audience must wait to find out what happens next.

Christmas tunes in the wind

KAVITA CHARANJI

There's more to Christmas carols than just *Jingle bells*, *Rudolph the red nose reindeer* or *We three kings of Orient are*. This was the obvious conclusion of anyone who had a chance to attend an evening of carols at the International School Dhaka on December 2. Ranging from carols of medieval times, to traditional and international carols, there was something for everyone.

Centre stage at the delightful event were the two choruses of Cantemus and Morning Sky along with performances by Stephen Arrastia (the faculty member) and the students of the American International School of Dhaka's (AISD) Brass Ensemble.

Beginning with a musical rendering of old carols by Cantemus such as *Psalms*, *Break forth, O beauteous, heavenly light*, the next to follow were the students of AISD under the direction of Arrastia. The young ones of the middle school gave instrumental renderings of well-loved carols such as *Jingle bells*, *We wish you a merry Christmas* and *Rudolph the red nose reindeer*.

Then came Cantemus with carols from different parts of the globe such as Spain, Mexico, Japan and Canada. A memorable point of the evening was Morning Sky's rendering of

the Japanese carol *Yu Ki*. Another moving piece was *Perhaps love*, originally by popular country singer John Denver.

Stephen Arrastia regaled the audience with his saxophone renderings of *The Christmas song* and *Go tell it to the mountain*, among others. The curtains came down on Cantemus once more – this time with *The Christmas song*.

Brilliant performances were put in by piano accompanists Saad Chowdhury (Cantemus) and Anne Reed (Morning Sky). Ably coordinating the remarkable musical effort were



Members of Cantemus during a performance

Movie Watch**'3 Needles': Confronting an unyielding epidemic**

For a movie about the grim subject of the AIDS epidemic, Thom Fitzgerald's *3 Needles* is mighty entertaining. The film was released on World AIDS Day.

With a cast of brilliant actors – Stockard Channing, Lucy Liu, Olympia Dukakis and Sandra Oh – roaming over three continents, Fitzgerald's segments never mesh in the manner of *Babel*. Their impact comes, as the film concludes, with the dreadful realisation of how implacable and pervasive the disease is, no matter how picturesque or remote the setting.

An American filmmaker living in Canada, Fitzgerald offers a stirring Montreal segment that tells of a distraught mother (Channing) whose son (Shawn Ashmore) secretly stars in porn films and has infected several women. The mother is determined to find in this calamity some kind of balm.

In rural China, a hardworking pregnant mother (Liu) barters with a border guard, offering sex in exchange for free passage with her cart's illegal cargo. She takes her deadly goods, black-market blood, from village to village; unknowingly spreading AIDS to everyone she



A scene from the film

recruits. Only when she returns to the villages months later and discovers sick and dying people does she fathom that her work is the fatal contagion. And only then does she realise she, too, is infected.

At a picturesque, sun-drenched African mission, a small group of nuns led by Hilde (Dukakis) assists doctors battling an AIDS epidemic. They are often thwarted by ignorance or superstition. Equally ignorant

children steal discarded needles from garbage piles, rewrap them in their containers and sell them. Only when a resourceful postulant befriends the local plantation owner and finds a surprising answer to their problems, does hope begin to match the promise of each day's sunrise.

3 Needles is bravely adult, provocative and skilfully performed.

Source: Internet

TV GUIDE

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

BTV

08:10 Desher Gaan
08:30 Open University
09:15 Satellite Broadcast
12:30 Maa O Shishir Kotha
01:30 Mati O Marush
02:40 Children's Drama
03:05 Cartoon
03:30 Football Shekha
04:00 Onu Poromana
04:30 Desh O Bighyan
05:05 Debate
06:10 Apon Bumi
06:40 Dolonchapa
07:00 Shafolyo Gatha
07:30 Musical Programme
08:35 Protidin Bangladesh
10:25 Teknaf Theke Tetulia

09:30 Shangbadpore
Bangladesh
09:45 Public Reaction
12:30 Tritiomatica
Citycell Taroaka
Kathan
01:05 Ebong Cinemar Gaan
01:30 Shangbadpore
Bangladesh
01:45 Public Reaction
04:05 Amader Gaan
04:45 Sa Re Ga Ma
05:30 Banjijo O Orthoniti
06:00 Stargate SG One
06:20 Ontorarel Kotha
07:50 BBC Bangladesh
Shanglap
09:35 Drama Serial:
Shemana
Shadha Ranger
Swapno

11:05 Drama Serial: Jol
Pore Pata Norey
11:35 Ek Jomone
12:15 Colochittra Golpo
01:25 Nirob Koto
02:30 Closeup 1 Tomakei
03:10 O Amar Chokh Nai
03:45 Chotoder Prithibi
04:20 ATN Music
05:10 Mati Shubash
05:45 Islamic Programme
06:20 Ashey Pasher
Manush
07:50 Drama Serial: Kath
Koylar Chobi
08:20 Drama Serial: Udhar

10:20 Mega Serial: Laal
Neel Beguni
10:30 Talk Show:
Annyodrishti
11:05 Drama Serial: Jol
Pore Pata Norey
11:35 Din Dorpon
CHANNEL 1
08:40 Shuprobhat
Bangladesh
09:30 Chokh Mele Dekhi
10:00 Cartoon
10:30 Bangla Feature Film
02:00 Padmarg
03:30 Drama Serial:
Shunney Boshobash
05:15 Chokh Mele Dekhi
06:00 Saaj Bela
06:30 Top News
11:25 Din Dorpon/Ithasher
05:20 Apon Jigysa
06:20 Shubho Shondha
06:30 Top News
06:45 Ithasher Path Dhorey
07:00 Shuktara
08:15 Drama Serial:
Labanya Proba
09:00 Music Express
09:30 Shokaler Gaan

09:30 Bioscope
11:00 Olpo Sholpo Golpo
Rtv
09:05 Aj Potrikai
09:10 Talk Show: Prio Mukh
09:35 Cinema Ar Cinema
10:00 Jugil Bondi
12:00 Bishwa Jurey
01:00 Human Nature
01:35 Islamic Programme
03:40 Drama Serial: Black
and White
04:20 Praner Manush
05:10 Chokh Mele Dekhi
06:00 Saaj Bela
06:30 Top News
06:45 Ithasher Path Dhorey
07:00 Shuktara
08:15 Drama Serial: Daar
Kaak
09:00 Gaaner Khata

06:35 Cinema Ar Cinema
08:00 Drama Serial: Black
and White
08:50 Magazine Programme:
Purush
10:45 Rtv Exclusive

06:35 Cinema Ar Cinema
08:00 Drama Serial: Hashli
Bagumer Upokotha
05:40 Din Er Sheshey
06:30 Amader Ranna
Ghar
Desher Pathay
09:15 Drama of the Week:
Shopner Ulti Pith

BANGLAVISION
10:00 Apan Agami
10:30 Amar Ami
11:00 Drama Serial: Sukher
Kanta
11:30 Article Thirty-Nine
12:00 Drama Serial: Kachhey

02:30 Drama Serial: Kachhey
Durey
03:00 Cinebit Shadakalo
03:50 Ebong Shada Kalo
04:00 Drama Serial: Uro
Chithi

04:30 Drama Serial: Guest
05:00 Drama Serial: Hashli
Bagumer Upokotha
05:40 Din Er Sheshey
06:30 Amader Ranna
Ghar
Desher Pathay
09:15 Drama of the Week:
Shopner Ulti Pith

SONY
09:30 Chartbusters Music
10:00 Music Mantra Music
10:30 Music Beats Music
11:00 Cinebit Shadakalo
11:30 Ebong Shada Kalo
12:00 Drama Serial: Uro
Chithi

02:30 CID Thriller
03:00 Kumkum - Pyra Sa
Bandhan
03:30 Kasutti Zindagi Kay
04:00 CID Thriller
04:30 Kesar
Ankhon Mein Basi
05:00 Drama Serial: Guest
05:30 Saartri

12:30 Ek Ladki Anjaani Si
Drama
01:00 Thodi Khushi Thode
Gham Drama
01:30 Vaidehi Drama
02:00 Bigg Boss Others
03:00 Matinee Movie - Aashiq
Aawara Movie
06:30 Music Beats Music
07:00 Music Mantra Music
07:30 Chart Busters Movie
Based

08:00 Thodi Khushi Thode
Gham Drama
08:30 Kasutti Zindagi Kay
09:00 Viraasat
Ankhon Mein Basi
10:00 Karam Apna Apnaa
10:30 Kahaani Ghar Kii
11:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi
Bahu Thi
11:30 Aisa Des Hai Mera
Drama
12:00 Thodi Khushi Thode
Gham Drama
12:30 Bigg Boss Reality
Based

13:00 Vaidehi Drama
13:30 Music Beats Music
14:00 Kaajjal - Sabkki
Ankhon Mein Basi
Contd.
15:00 Ek Ladki Anjaani Si
Drama
15:30 Bigg Boss Reality
Based

16:00 Vaidehi Drama
16:30 Bigg Boss Others
17:00 Matinee Movie - Aashiq
Aawara Movie
18:30 Music Beats Music
19:00 Kaajjal - Sabkki
Ankhon Mein Basi
Contd.
20:00 The Emperor's New
Groove
20:30 Sonpari19:25 Bolly V -
Star Plus
21:00 Karishma Ka Karishma
Gham Drama
21:30 Kasutti Zindagi Kay
Viraasat
Ankhon Mein Basi
22:00 Karam Apna Apnaa
22:30 Kahaani Ghar Kii
23:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi
Bahu Thi
23:30 Aisa Des Hai Mera
Drama
24:00 Thodi Khushi Thode
Gham Drama
24:30 Bigg Boss Reality
Based

25:00 Vaidehi Drama
25:30 Matinee Movie - Aashiq
Aawara Movie
26:00 The Emperor's New
Groove
26:30 Sonpari19:25 Bolly V -
Star Plus
27:00 Karishma Ka Karishma
Gham Drama
27:30 Kasutti Zindagi Kay
Viraasat
Ankhon Mein Basi
28:00 Karam Apna Apnaa
28:30 Kahaani Ghar Kii
29:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi
Bahu Thi
29:30 Aisa Des Hai Mera
Drama
30:0