

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 Jallil and Rebecca Sultana Molly, held a workshop. This was at the Netherland Ambassador's residence, and the artists were guided by the Rembrandt expert Rene 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 21th 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 canvases, 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 lilting browns in his flamboyant lines and sweeps.

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 Chanpa Chakma and others.

Awards

11th Berger Young Painters' Art Competition



Award recipients (bottom row) with eminent artistes and guests (top row-from left): Abdus Shakoor, Professor Aminul Islam, Masih UI 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 auditorium teemed with prominent personalities.

The programme kicked off with a wonderful dance after which Samia Zaman came on stage as the Master of Ceremony. Professor Hashem Khan, chairperson, Jury Committee, 11th BYPAC gave the opening speech, after which Masih UL Karim, managing director of Berger

Paints asserted, "The company has set a distinguished standard in corporate social responsibility. Artists are not often understood in their own reality but are valued in the reality of tomorrow. They are responsible in shaping tomorrow's thoughts, tomorrow's beliefs and tomorrow's hopes...We are responsible to nurture them and help sustain them in today's reality, so that they can lead us to a better reality of tomorrow."

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 BYAPAC 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 station-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 (a 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 *Psallite*, *Break forth*, *O beauteous, heavenly light*, the next to follow were the students 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

directors Dawne Warkentin and Jill Chowdhury of Cantemus and Morning Sky respectively.

Though the evening performance attracted a huge audience, one would have liked to sing along with old carol favourites such as *Silent night*, *O come all ye faithful* and *O little town of Bethlehem*.

The proceeds of the show go to a component of a project of Social and Economic Enhancement Programme (SEEP), a local NGO, whose mission is to work for the empowerment of deprived children as well as their parents and community.



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 stinging 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) barbers 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 connection. 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 bracingly 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.

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

08:10 Desher Gaan

08:30 Open University

09:15 Satellite Broadcast

12:30 Maa O Shishur Kotha

01:30 Mati O Manush

02:15 Sisimpur

02:40 Children's Drama

03:05 Cartoon

03:30 Football Shekha

04:00 Onu Poromanu

04:30 Dosh O Bigyan

05:05 Debate

06:10 Apon Bhumi

06:40 Dolonchapa

07:00 Shafolyo Gatha

07:30 Musical Programme

08:35 Protidin Bangladesh

10:25 Teknaf Theke Tetulia

12:15 am

ATN BANGLA

09:20 Mega Serial: Laal

Neel Beguni

10:30 Talk Show: Anyodrishti

11:05 Drama Serial: Jol

Pore Pata Norey

11:35 Ek Jonome

12:15 Motamot

01:25 Colocitrer Golpo

02:30 Closeup 1 Tomakei

03:10 O Amar Chokhu Nai

03:45 Chotoder Prithibi

04:20 ATN Music

05:10 Matir Shubash

05:45 Islamic Programme

06:20 Ashay Pasher Manush

07:50 Drama Serial: Kath

Koylar Chhobi

08:20 Drama Serial: Udhav

08:50 Meet the Press

10:40 Talk Show: Protidin

Channel i

08:30 Shokaler Gaan

09:30 Shangbadpotre Bangladesh

09:45 Public Reaction

09:50 Tritinomatra

12:30 Citycell Taroka

Kathan

01:05 Ebong Cinemar Gaan

01:30 Shangbadpotre Bangladesh

01:45 Public Reaction

04:05 Amader Gaan

04:45 Sa Re Ga Ma

05:30 Banijo O Orthonti

06:00 Stargate SG One

06:20 Ontorarer Kotha

07:50 BBC Bangladesh

Shanglad

09:35 Drama Serial: Shemana

Shadha Ranger

Swapno

10:00

ntv

08:35 Aajker Shokal

09:05 Ramizer Aaina

09:30 Medhabi Banglailr Golpo

10:05 Zoo Adventure

10:30 Dhakar Cinema

01:05 Muktagang

02:35 Closeup 1 Tomakei

Khujichhey Bangladesh

03:15 Somoshomoy

03:50 Ramizer Aaina

04:25 Bhimno Swader

Khobor

05:10 Din Dorpon/Itihashe

Ei Diney

05:20 Apan Jigyasha

06:20 Shubho Shondha

06:45 Crimewatch

08:15 Labonya Proba

09:00 Music Express

09:50 Bibarno Bhalobasha

PICK OF THE DAY

Kath Koylar Chhobi

On ATN Bangla at 7:50pm

Drama Serial

Cast: Tauquir Ahmed, Bipasha Hayat

09:30 Bioscope

11:00 Olpo Sholpo Golpo

09:05 Aj Potrikai

09:10 Talk Show: Prio Mukh

09:35 Cinema Ar Cinema

10:00 Jugpl Bondi

12:00 Bishwa Jurey

01:00 Human Nature

01:35 Islamic Programme

03:40 Drama Serial: Black and White

04:20 Praner Manush

Achhey Praney

05:10 Khola Chokhey

05:30 Tagore Song

06:00 Aajker Bangladesh

06:30 Rtv Exclusive

06:35 Cinema Ar Cinema

08:00 Drama Serial: Black and White

08:50 Magazine Programme: Purush

Rtv Exclusive

BANGLAVISION

10:00 Apan Agami

10:30 Amar Ami

11:00 Drama Serial: Sukher Kanta

11:30 Article Thirty-Nine

12:30 Drama Serial: Kachhey Durey

03:00 Cinebit Shadako

03:50 Ebong Shada Kalo

04:00 Drama Serial: Uro Chithi

04:30 Drama Serial: Guest

Drama Serial: Kachhey Durey

05:00 Bagumer Upokotha

Din Er Sheshey

05:40 Amader Ranna

Ghar

06:30 Desher Pathay

Drama of the Week: Shopner Ulto Pith

STAR PLUS

09:00 Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan

10:00 V Trailers - Star Plus

10:30 Shaka Laka Boom Boom

11:30 Karam Apnaa Apnaa

12:00 V Trailers - Star Plus

12:30 Kyaa Hoga Nimmo Kaa

01:30 Kasautii Zindagii Kay

02:00 Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan

02:30 Kesar

03:00 Saarthi

03:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi

STAR MOVIES

09:45 Marked For Death

11:15 Raising Helen

01:15 Unberged

03:00 Ightmare Before Christmas

Licence To Kill

04:45 Alexander

07:00 Dr. Dolittle

11:15 Licence To Kill

STAR WORLD

09:30 The Oprah Winfrey Show

11:30 Ncis

12:30 The Scholar

13:30 Law & Order: S.V.U.

01:30 Criminal Minds

02:30 Oprah Winfrey Show

The Bold And The Beautiful

04:30 General Hospital

05:30 Desire: Table For Three

06:30 The Simpsons

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 Thode Khushi Thode

Gham Drama

08:30 Kaajjal - Sabbki

Ankhon Mein Basi

Drama

09:00 Ek Ladki Anjaani Si

Drama

09:30 Aisa Des Hai Mera

Drama

10:00 Thodi Khushi Thode

Gham Drama

10:30 Bigg Boss Reality

Based

11:00 Vaidehi Drama

11:30 Music Beats Music

12:00 Kaajjal - Sabbki

Ankhon Mein Basi

Drama

Bahu Thi

04:00 Kahiin To Hoga

04:30 Karam Apnaa Apnaa

05:00 Prithviraj Chauhan

05:30 Antarksh

06:00 V Trailers - Star Plus

06:30 Aladdin

07:00 The Emperor's New

Groove

07:30 Sonpari 19:25

Bolly V - Star Plus

08:00 Kaishma Ka Kaishma

08:30 Antarksh

09:00 Kasautii Zindagii Kay

Viraasat

09:30 Karam Apnaa Apnaa

10:00 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii

11:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi

Bahu Thi

11:30 Kahiin To Hoga

12:00 Saibaba

09:45 Marked For Death

11:15 Raising Helen

01:15 Unberged

03:00 Ightmare Before Christmas

Licence To Kill

04:45 Alexander

07:00 Dr. Dolittle

11:15 Licence To Kill

08:30 Cheers

07:30 Friends

08:00 Seinfeld

08:30 My Wife And Kids

09:00 Everybody Loves

Raymond

09:30 The King Of Queen

10:00 Becker

11:30 Desire: Table For

Three

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

10:30 Ngorongoro

11:30 Forces Of Nature

Science Safari

01:30 Forces Of Nature

02:30 Forces Of Nature

04:30 Nat Geo Junior

05:30 Forces Of Nature

07:30 Triumph of Life

08:30 Nat Geo Encores

09:30 Seconds From

Disaster

10:30 Evolution

11:30 Rated W

DISCOVERY CHANNEL

08:30 Wild Discovery

09:30 Discovery's Biggest

Shows

11:30 Man And Machine

12:30 Baby It's You

01:00 Yummy Mummy

02:30 Detective Stories

03:30 Mystery Hunters

04:00 Great Moghuls

04:30 Wild Discovery

05:30 Life In The Under-

growth

06:30 Extreme Machines

07:30 Wild Discovery

08:30 Discovery Marquee

10:30 Samsung Ultra Life