

Exhibition

Samarjit's revival of folk art



FAYZA HAQ

MARKING 50 years of painting and celebrating his 70th birthday, Samarjit Roy Choudhury, holds his fifth solo at the Bengal Gallery. The ongoing exhibition of 86 entries bring in raw colours and basic forms as introduced by the Cubists and combines them with the favourite themes of folk artists of Bangladesh. His oils, acrylics, water-colour, crayon and pastel on paper portray the striving farmers, flamboyant peacocks, iridescent butterflies, sun-drenched fish, fragrant flowers, billowy clouds and emerald tree-tops. In these positive images Samarjit reflects on his carefree and happy childhood days in Comilla.

He is aware of the pains of life as well as the pleasures but highlights

the *joie de vivre* and the picturesque aspects of rural existence. "Even in the drooping of a flower there is a beauty. Just as there is sunrise there is the following sunset, and one must accept all aspects of our existence while one is on the quest for 'truth and beauty'", comments Samarjit. "I present the joys and festivities to capture the lively moments of the simple Bangladeshi," he adds. "There is wonder and poetry in the flitting birds and insects, just as there is hope and joy in the labouring tillers of the land who come for village, festivities of buntings and merry-go-rounds. In their *lungis* and amulets is a reflection of their sun-drenched days of mynas and cuckoos," he believes.

He was inspired by his teacher Guvenshar Chokroborty from Calcutta, his maternal uncle, Jotindra



Samarjit Roy Choudhury's artworks on display

Kar, a sculptor on wood, and his mother who did fine embroidery, bringing in motifs of flora and fauna. At the Art College in Dhaka he trained under Zainul Abedin, Quamrul Hassan, Anwarul Huq, Mohammed Kibria and Safiuddin Ahmed. He recalls that in his days artists did not have access to the world outside through the internet nor the access to numerous books as do the art students today. However, as their number was limited there was great rapport between them and their teachers.

His subjects are taken from scenes around him. Even the birds around us have such a colourful variety, he remarks. Similarly there are different types of trees and all these simple elements of nature are dear to him. Attractive women forms are also aplenty around him, in his

family, he elaborates. He blends what he sees around him with folk motif of *Lakhi-shoras* and other forms of local painted pottery of the rural Bangladesh. These are painted over with the primary colours of red, blue and yellow, which he introduces repeatedly in his paintings. He is also inspired by the colours in the ceramics section of the Fine Arts Institute of Dhaka University. Fishing nets too recur on his canvases as it is an integral part of the riverine existence. Samarjit's choice of hues and lines have also been influenced by Picasso, Braque and Matisse.

Choudhury has exhibited in USA, Canada, Europe, India, Iran, Japan and Zimbabwe among others. He has had five solos and numerous group exhibitions.

Classical dance and instrumental programme begins at Shilpakala

ERSHAD KAMOL

"Dance gurus of Bangladesh, acquiring higher degrees from India in different classical dance genres such as Bharatnatyam, Kathak, Odissi and Manipuri, are subsequently going on to develop quality disciples. I hope they will soon introduce other popular classical genres such as Puripuchi and Mohiniattam," said Zinnat Barkatullah, director of Department of Production, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA), in her welcome speech at the inauguration ceremony of a classical dance and instrumental programme.

The two-day classical dance and two-day classical instrument concert with a one-day break on January 30, began at the National Theatre Stage, (BSA) on January 28. Presided over by Director General of BSA, Quamrul Hassan, NDC, Secretary of Ministry of Cultural Affairs, ABM Abdul Haque Chowdhury was the chief guest of the inauguration ceremony.



Munmun Ahmed (C) performs a Kathak piece with her disciples

In his speech the chief guest said, "Because of a limited budget

allocation, we can't take proper steps for the development of our rich cultural heritage. We have already undertaken a bilateral cultural exchange programme with some developing countries. But, in near future we hope to broadcast the collaboration with the developed European and North American nations."

Disciples of six renowned gurus presented various classical dance genres including Bharatnatyam, Kathak, Odissi and Manipuri on the opening day.

Guru Munmun Ahmed and her disciples demonstrated Kathak *mudras* (stances) such as *thaat*, *aman*, *poron*, *tukras*, *tehai* and *jugalbandi*. The Kathak dance performances were followed by Bharatnatyam presented by guru Belayet Hossain Khan and his disciples. The troupe staged *joggisharam* and *tillana*, two popular forms of

Bharatnatyam genre. Later, guru Sharmila Bandyopadhyaya's disciples performed Manipuri dance forms such as *maibjaggoi*, *jugan nartan*, *puncholong* and Manipuri acrobats.

Moreover, guru Minu Haq, Shaju Ahmed and Shukla Sarkar's disciples performed different forms of Odissi, Kathak and Bharatnatyam genres respectively on the opening day.

On the second-day of the programme, 21 disciples of renowned gurus from different corners of the country performed solos. The dance session is a significant arrangement by Shilpakala Academy. But, the audience would surely welcome an even more comprehensive programme including all leading gurus of the country.



Students of Belayet Hossain Khan present a Bharatnatyam recital

Small screen

'Tara Tin Jon' goes on air



(L-R)Shadhin Khasru, Dr Ejazul Islam and Faruk Ahmed in the TV play

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Tara Tin Jon (Tea-master) a single episode drama, will be aired today on ATN Bangla at 8:45 pm. Based on a literary work by Humayun Ahmed, the play revolves around three unemployed friends and their desperate quest for money. One day the trio go to a park and decide to sell tea there. To attract custom-

ers, they introduce new and aggressive methods of selling tea. At one point they manage to attract a huge number of customers at the park. Seeing a threat to their business, the other tea sellers unite against them and the story takes a new but rather interesting twist.

The cast includes Dr Ejazul Islam, Faruk Ahmed, Maznun Mizan and others.

Music giant OP Nayyar passes away

Legendary music director O P Nayyar, best known for classic songs like *Jhumka Gira Re* and *Pukarta Chala Hoon Mein*, died of cardiac arrest at his home on January 28 in Thane. He was 81.

Born on January 16, 1926 in Lahore (now in Pakistan), Omkar Prasad Nayyar got his first break as a music composer in the film *Kaneez* (1949).

Director Guru Dutt's *Aar Paar* (1954) was his first major success. This led to his successful partnership with Dutt on films like *Mr And Mrs 55* and *CID*.

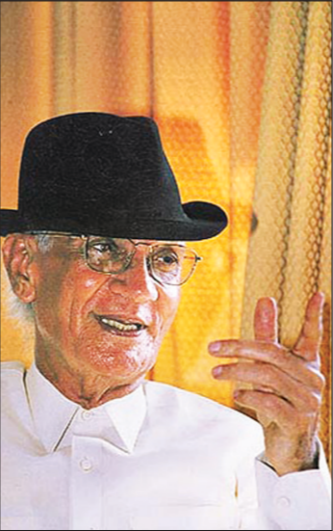
As news of his death spread, a pall of gloom descended on Bollywood, where Nayyar was regarded as one of the greatest composers of all time even though he had not been in the limelight for close to three decades.

Filmmaker Mahesh Bhatt described Nayyar -- who was always seen in public in white attire and a hat -- as "an audacious man who was a king in his time".

"Asha Bhosle owes whatever she is to him. The distinct sensuality that was injected into Asha's singing was the contribution of this extraordinary man," Bhatt said.

Extensive use of the typical Punjabi rhythm was the main characteristic of Nayyar's music, and among his evergreen tunes were *Kahin Pe Nigahen Kanhi Pe Nishana* (CID), *Mang Ke Saath Tumhara* (Naya Daur) and *Eilo Main Hari Piyan* (Aar Paar).

Nayyar worked extensively with singers Geeta Dutt, Asha Bhosle and Mohammed Rafi but never



with Lata Mangeshkar. Though he mostly composed music for north Indian films, he also did the score for some southern films, including *Neerajanam* (Telugu).

Before fading from the Bollywood scene in the early 1970s, he did the music for hits like *Naya Daur*, *Ek Musafir Ek Hasina* and *Kashmir Ki Kali*. He attempted a comeback in the 1990s with the film *Andaaz Apna Apna* and recently appeared in the musical TV show *Sa Re Ga Ma*, on which he was accorded a standing ovation during a programme dedicated to his songs.

Actress and Censor Board chief Sharmila Tagore, who starred in *Kashmir Ki Kali*, said, "We will remember him and his name will be there as long as there is the history of music."

Singer Manna Dey said he was saddened by Nayyar's death as no one could replace him. Actor Rajesh Khanna said "originality was the symbol" of Nayyar, whom he described as a "charismatic personality".

Source: PTI

Shilpa Shetty wins British TV show after race row

The 31-year old Bollywood star Shilpa Shetty, at the centre of a raging race row, has been crowned the winner of British reality television show 'Celebrity Big Brother'.

The Indian actress burst into tears on hearing she had won the public vote.

Asked about the race row by host Davina McCall, Shilpa insisted ringleader Jade Goody "didn't mean to be racist".

Shilpa was the firm favourite to win the contest, considered the most controversial in the show's history after she became the victim of alleged racist bullying by fellow contestant Goody.

The Bollywood actress profusely thanked the public for a "fantastic opportunity to make my country proud". Former beauty queen Danielle Lloyd, one of the contestants implicated in the racist abuse, earlier apologised for her remarks to Shetty.

Lloyd, 23, and fellow evictee Jack Tweed were greeted with heavy booing as they left the house in the first round of evictions held during the final show last night.

Both model Lloyd and Tweed were implicated in the race row, alongside singer Jo O'Meara. Lloyd immediately apologised for her behaviour towards Shilpa in an interview with host Davina McCall. Lloyd said her remarks had been made "in the heat of the moment."

"I wasn't laughing at Shilpa... it was just nerves," said Lloyd. "I hate confrontation."

The contestants had been locked up in a house since

January 2 and were filmed on how well they handle the frictions of daily life and get their fellow housemates' votes of confidence.

The race row on the show had subsided since viewers overwhelmingly voted last week to evict Jade Goody, 25, seen as the ringleader in the alleged bullying of Shilpa Shetty.

Media watchdog Ofcom received more than 40,000 complaints about the alleged racist bullying in the current series of the Channel 4 reality TV show.

British lawmakers lined up to condemn the programme when the row was at its height last week.

The show triggered a major controversy in Britain with Prime Minister Tony Blair saying in the House of Commons that he was opposed to racism in all its forms when NRI MP Keith Vaz raised the issue.

Meanwhile Shilpa's career has received a huge boost. Offers have poured in for endorsements, a cricket show and maybe even some movies. In fact, the response has been so favourable that her mother flew to London last week to hire UK's leading publicist and media professional Max Clifford to handle Shilpa's future career. The PR guru has already managed to sell the actresses' first exclusive interview with the *Daily Mirror* for reportedly 100,000 pounds.

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 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.

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 9:05pm

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

BTV
08:40 Bishwa Protidin
09:05 Shomapi
11:15 Shukhi Poribar
11:40 Desher Gaan
12:05 Maa O Shishur Kotha
12:30 Drama Serial: Swapno Shonar Gaon
01:00 Shobar jonno Shikha
01:30 Mati O Manush
02:15 Musical Programme
02:40 Cartoon
03:05 Cartoon
03:30 Tagore Song
04:00 Educational Programme
07:00 Quiz Quiz
07:30 Special Programme of Holy Ashura
08:30 Protidin Bangladesh
08:35 Special Programme of Holy Ashura
10:30 Special Programme of Holy Ashura

ATN BANGLA
10:30 Aktel Anyodrishti
12:15 Amar Computer
01:30 Shur Chhobi
02:30 Talk Show
03:15 Drama Serial: O Amar Chokkhu Nai Aha Ki Anondo
04:20 Musical Programme
05:10 Ainar Shamney
05:45 Perakirtir Bangladesh
06:20 Aktel Protidin
08:00 Drama Serial: Shokal Shondha
08:45 Drama: Tara Tin Jon
09:30 Shongbad Potrey

Bangladesh
09:45 Shada Public Reaction
09:50 Grameenphone Tritiy omatra
11:05 Cricket Online (Live)
11:30 Amar Chhobi
12:30 Citycell
Tarokathoth Ebong Cinemar Gaan
01:30 Shongbad Potrey Bangladesh
01:45 Public Reaction
02:40 Selected Drama
04:05 Amader Gaan
04:25 Nirbachoni Olympiad
04:35 Sharif Melamine Shangeetmela
04:50 Sa Re Ga Ma
05:30 Special Programme
06:00 Drama Serial: Klanto Shomoy
06:20 Drama Serial: Ochhena Adhar
07:50 Talkshow: Aktel Shaf Kotha
09:35 Rup Rohoshyo
10:00 Drama Serial: Shada Ranger Swapno
12:00 Grameenphone
Ajker Shangbadpotro

ntv
09:30 Ajker Shokal
Khoboror
Shondhaney
Bhinno Swader
09:30 Khobor
10:30 Music Express
Cine Gaan
12:02 Ei Shomoy
01:00 Japan Video Topic
03:15 Kichhu Kotha
Kichhu Gaan
03:50 Drama Serial: Bhalo Basha Mondo Basha

Shonar Phool
On Banglavisian at 8:10pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Raisul Islam Asad, Tania

04:25 Gallery
05:15 Shada Moner Manush
05:20 Apnar Jigyasha
06:20 Shubho Shondhya
06:50 K Taharey Chinitley Parey
08:25 Drama Serial: Mon-e Mon-e
09:00 Joyitar Joy Jatra
09:50 Drama Serial: Neer
11:25 Din Dorpon

Rtv
09:10 Talk Show: Khola Money
10:00 Look At Me
10:30 Praner Manush
Aachhey Praney
12:00 Cinema Ar Cinema
01:00 Aj Potrikay

Public Forum
12:05 Drama Serial: Guest
02:30 Amader Ranna Ghar Drama
03:05 Dasher Pathay
05:00 Cinebit Shada Kalo
05:30 Diner Sheshey
08:10 Drama Serial: Shonar Phool
09:15 Agamir Kontho
12:00 Bolly V - 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 Kahani Ghar Ghar

STAR PLUS
12:00 Kii V Trailers - Star Plus
12:30 Karam Apnaa Apnaa
01:00 Kasauti Zindagii 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 Kahiin To Hoga
04:30 Karam Apnaa Apnaa
05:00 Thodi Si Zameen
05:30 Thoda Sa Aasma
06:00 V Trailers - Star Plus
06:30 Mickey Mouse And Friends
07:00 The Legend Of Trazan
07:30 Prithviraj Chauhan

08:00 Baa Bahoo Aur Baby
08:30 Karam Apnaa Apnaa
09:00 Kasauti Zindagii Kay
09:30 Kaun Banega Crorepati- Sri
10:00 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii
11:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi
11:30 Kahiin To Hoga
12:00 Paraya Dhan
09:45 Final Fantasy: The Spirits within
12:00 Hudson Hawk
02:00 The Pelican Brief
04:45 Tales from the Crypt
27: People Who Live in Brass Hearses
05:30 Resident Evil: Apocalypse
07:30 50 First Dates
09:30 Matilda
11:30 Rome 09: Utica
12:45 Rome 10: Triumph
09:15 Broken Lizard's Club Dread

STAR MOVIES
08:45 An Unfinished Life
10:45 Enemy Of The State
01:00 The Big White
02:45 Imaginary Heroes
05:35 indelible Man
07:00 Star Wars: Ep. Vi - Return Of The Jedi
09:15 Jumanji
11:00 Broken Lizard's Club Dread

04:00 General Hospital
05:00 Table For Three
06:00 Arrested Development
06:30 The Simpsons
07:00 Cheers
07:30 Friends
08:00 Seinfeld
08:30 Falcon Beach
09:30 Ghost Whisperer
10:30 Commander In Chief
11:30 Table For Three

DISCOVERY CHANNEL
09:30 Massive Engines with Chris Barrie
10:00 Mean Machines
10:30 Future Perfect
11:30 Extreme Machines
12:30 Honey We're Killing The Kids
01:30 Africa Week
02:30 Detective Stories
03:30 Future Perfect
04:30 Wild India Week
05:30 Extreme Engineering
06:30 Life on the Edge
07:30 Africa Week
08:30 Honey We're Killing the Kids
09:30 Bringing Home Baby
10:00 Amazing Baby Videos
10:30 Man Made Marvels Asia
11:30 I Shouldn't Be Alive

05:00 Nat Geo Genius
05:30 Big Bang
06:00 Nat Geo Junior
06:30 The Real Serengeti
07:30 Triumph Of Life
08:30 Naked Science
09:30 Is It Real?
10:30 The Real Serengeti
11:30 Rated W
12:00 Insects From Hell

STAR SPORT
09:30 Commonwealth Bank Series 2006-07
02:00 Laxman (Cric
Commonwealth Bank Series 2006-07
06:30 Tna Archive (Wrestling)
07:30 Hitz (Cricket)
08:00 Sports Yatra (Cricket)
08:30 Ashes Heroes (Cricket)
09:00 Master Stroke - Vvs Laxman (Cric
Cricket Crazy (Cricket)
10:30 Tna Archive (Wrestling)
11:30 Scoop - Phil Special (Field Hocke

09:30 The Simpsons
09:30 The Oprah Winfrey Show
10:30 My Wife And Kids
11:00 The King Of Queen
11:30 Grey's Anatomy
12:30 Everybody Loves Raymond
01:00 Frasier
01:30 Commander In Chief
02:30 Oprah Winfrey Show
03:30 The Bold And The Beautiful

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
09:30 The Real Serengeti
10:30 Telemali: Sauna Belt
11:00 Bhagyashali Ratna
11:15 Global Sky Shop
11:30 Nat Geo Encores
12:30 Crash Scene Investigation
01:30 End Game
02:30 Be The Creature
03:30 The Real Serengeti
04:30 School of Hard Cross

ESPN
10:00 Nba Action (Basketball)
10:30 Nba Basketball (Basketball)
01:00 Castle Test Series (Cricket)
02:28 Castle Test Series (Cricket)
04:30 Close Encounters (Cricket)
05:00 Castle Test Series (Cricket)
09:30 Sportscenter India (Sport News)
10:00 Great Finishes (Cricket)
10:30 Sportscenter India (Sport News)
11:00 Sportscenter Asia