

CULTURAL FEAS

Ekushey Book Fair

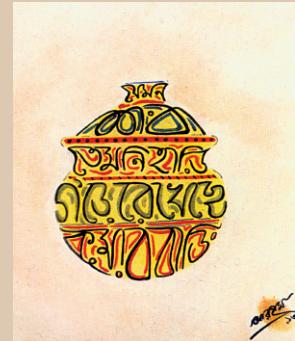
Organiser: Bangla Academy
Venue: Bangla Academy premises
Date: February 1-28
Month-long book fair

Ekushey Cultural Programme

Organiser: Sammilito Sangskritik Jote
Venue: Central Shaheed Minar Premises
Date: February 9-19
Time: 4:00pm

Organisers: Sammilito Sangskritik Jote
Venue: Rabindra Sarobar Amphitheatre (Dhanmondi)
Date: February 15-21
Time: 4:00pm

Bangla Calligraphy Exhibition



Artist: Arham-ul-Huq Choudhury
Venue: British Council, 5 Fuller Road, Dhaka
Date: February 17-28
Time: 10:00am-8:00pm

Children's Painting Exhibition

By Russian and Bangladeshi school children-winners and participants of the 4th International Children Art Biennale Bangladesh-2006
Venue: Exhibition Hall, Russian Centre of Science & Culture
Date: February 15-20
Time: 10am-7pm

Solo Painting Exhibition

Title: Alluvial Dream & Reality
Artist: Kalidas Karmakar
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, Bengal Shilpakala, House no-275/F, Road no-27 (Old), Dhanmondi
Date: February 16-23
Time: 12:00pm-8:00pm

Title: Obstacle of Life
Artist: A S M Rashidul Alam (Manik)
Venue: Institute of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka
Date: February 17-23
Time: 11:00pm-8:00pm

Helmut Käutner Retrospective

Venue: Goethe-Institut Dhaka
Organiser: Zahir Rahan Film Society and the Goethe-Institut Dhaka

February 19th:
Romance in a Minor Key and The Devil's General
February 20th:
The Affair of Julie and Sky without Stars

Poetry on canvas

Painting exhibition on poetry at Gallery Chitrak

KARIM WAHEED

Ut pictura poesis...
(As is painting, so is poetry)

-- Horace, Roman poet
(circa 13 BCE)

It is often said that paintings are poetry on canvas. Correspondingly, poets create visions and images with words. The two arts have been wedded in the critical mind for ages. Poets and painters have turned to each other for inspiration and the result has been mutually beneficial; for instance, Allen Ginsberg's *Cezanne's Ports*, inspired by Paul Cezanne's oil on canvas *L'Estaque*. A sizeable number of artwork, inspired by literature, has been produced over the centuries.

As part of the two-day National Poetry Festival 2007, National Poetry Council and Gallery Chitrak are holding a painting exhibition. The exhibition was opened on February 17 at Chitrak's Dhanmondi gallery and features 37 paintings by noted and upcoming painters. Each painting deals with, tries to visualise or explores a rousing poem.

The exhibition is dedicated to the memories of poet Shamsur Rahman and artist Nitin Kundu. Veteran journalist, writer Faiz Ahmed was the chief guest at the inauguration. Special guests were Zohra Rahaman and Falguni Kundu. The event was presided over by Rabul Hossain, president of National Poetry Council. Among others speaking on the occasion were eminent poets Belal Chowdhury, Rafiq Azad, Habibullah Siraji (convenor of the poetry festival's organising committee), Samudra Gupta (general secretary of the poetry council) and artist Muniruzzaman.

Speaking on how the exhibition came about, artist Kanak Champa Chakma said, "Rabul Hossain, on behalf of National Poetry Council, presented the idea in late January

and we were keen on it. We were given around 15 days to get the paintings done. I chose *Ohey Shakuntala* by Muhammad Samad, mainly because my favourite subject is life in the hill tracts and the poem mentions hills and nature."

Kanak Champa's painting (acrylic on canvas) shows an indigenous woman looking across the distance. Cobalt blue sky and blue-grey hills define the horizon.

The highlight of the exhibition is perhaps a painting by Nitin Kundu paired up with Shamsur Rahman's *E Shohor*. Lines like *E Shohor khudhakei nihshonga bastob jeney dhulayre goraye, e shohor p a l a t a n - e r m a t h e y chhotey... protokhko lorai korey bohuroopi nekrer shathey...* are accompanied by overlapping geometric shapes in blue, light

words are visualised through decaying brown facades of the city that has a witness a few centuries.

Ranjit Das' painting on Hasan Hafiz's *Hridoybashihi Dhaka* highlights the artist's familiar swirling movements and shades -- subtle orange, vermillion yellow and white. Accompanying excerpts read *Ehono hawni tumi tilottoma... tao tumi ontorgoto labonye ujjo!*

Other works by seasoned artists include Hashem Khan's take on poet Rabul Hossain's *Priyo Brikhhkhogulo*, Rafiqul Nabi's painting inspired by Syed Shamsul Haq's *Amar Shohor*, Abdus Shakoor Shah's artwork on Faiz Ahmed's *Bidrohi Ek Rudro Dhaka* and Farida Zaman's vision of Khaleda Edib Chowdhury's *Modhyoraaat-er Dhaka Tumi*.



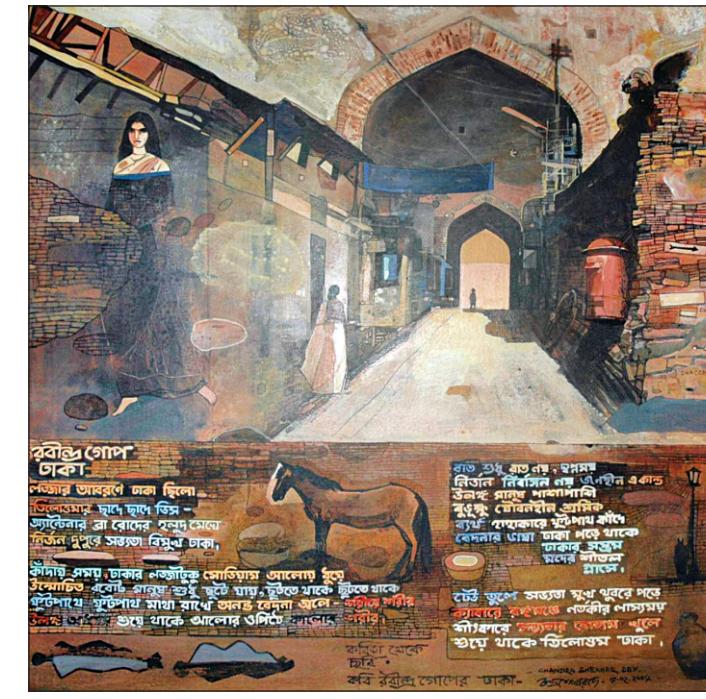
Clockwise (from top-right): Paintings by Chandra Shekhar Dey, Farida Zaman and Hashem Khan

green and orange.

A good number of the paintings are inspired by poems on Dhaka. Chandra Shekhar Dey has used excerpts from Rabindra Gope's poetic ode to our city. Riveting

Mayabi Shohor. The exhibition will continue throughout this month.

The National Poetry Festival was inaugurated yesterday at Dhaka University by celebrated poet and playwright Syed Shamsul



Haq. National Poetry Council has been organising the festival for last 20 years. This year around 200 Bangladeshi poets and a number of poets from other countries including Narendranath Chakrabarti, Samarendra Sen Gupta, Kamol De Sarkar, Syed Hasnat Jalil, Arne Johnson, Niklas Soderberg, Henrik C Enbom and Clara Diesen are taking part in the festival.

Officials of Department of Theatre and Film informed that the festival is a part of a fortnight workshop on indigenous performing art form arranged by the department. The participants of the workshop are the students of theatre departments at university level. And the festival has been arranged to showcase the performances of the folk artistes.



Chakrabarti, Samarendra Sen Gupta, Kamol De Sarkar, Syed Hasnat Jalil, Arne Johnson, Niklas Soderberg, Henrik C Enbom and Clara Diesen are taking part in the festival.

TV play 'Biborton' on Banglavision tonight

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Biborton is set to air tonight at 9:15pm on Banglavision's slot of drama of week.

Written by Masum Shahriar and directed by Ziaul Zia, the play revolves around a married couple. The wife is docile by nature and the husband always pushes her to be more outgoing and spontaneous. Though reluctant initially, she too wants to change her sedate ways eventually and asks her vivacious younger sister for help. The sister, incidentally, has her share of melodrama going on regarding her love interest.

Litu Anam, Farah Ruma, Chandni and Apurbo play the major roles in *Biborton*.



Apurbo and Chandni in *Biborton*

Clint Eastwood receives top French honour

Hollywood star Clint Eastwood has been presented with the highest civilian distinction in France, Legion d'honneur, at a ceremony in Paris. The private ceremony was held at the winter garden of the presidential Elysee Palace.

President Jacques Chirac told the 76-year-old actor -- known for films such as *Dirty Harry* -- that he embodied "the best of Hollywood".

He also paid tribute to Eastwood's "immense talent as an actor" and "genius as a director". The veteran actor occupied an "exceptional place" in the world of cinema, he said.

Eastwood's latest work as a director, *Letters From Iwo Jima*, has received four Oscar nominations, and received its European premiere in Berlin Film Festival last week.

The film tells the story of the bloody Battle of Iwo Jima, in 1945, from the perspective of Japanese forces. It is a Japanese-language companion piece to the director's other film of 2006, *Flags of Our Fathers*, which tells the story from the US perspective.



Clint Eastwood receives the medal of the Legion d'honneur from French president Jacques Chirac

TV GUIDE

PICK OF THE DAY



Ontorer Katha
On Channel i at 6:15pm
An insight in the lives of
victims of violent crimes



Flight of the Phoenix
On Star Movies at 10:15pm
Genre: Action / Adventure
Cast: Dennis Quaid, Miranda Otto

4" x 6

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

News Bulletin

BTW
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, 12:15am.

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 9:00am; 10:00 am, 11:00 am; 1:00pm; 3:00 pm; 4:00pm; 6:00pm; 8:00pm and 8:00pm.

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; 10:00 pm; 12:30 am.

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.

RTV

News (Bangla) at 7:00am; 3:00pm; 7:15pm; 10:00pm.

ATN

News (Bangla) at 10:30am.

News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:30am.

TV

08:40 Bishwa Protidin
09:05 Shompati
11:15 Musical Programme

12:00 Maa O Shishir Kotha
12:30 Swapno Shonar

01:00 Shukhi Poribar
01:30 Mati O Manush

02:15 Sisimpur
02:40 Shilpo O Shashitto

04:00 Onu Poromana
04:30 Desh O Bigyan

05:05 Debate
06:10 Amader Muktiuddho

06:40 Dolon Chapa
07:30 Shafolyo Gatha

07:30 Shurer Shurbohi

08:35 Ekush Amar Ahonkar
09:00 Chhayancho

10:30 Talk Show:
Ornodrishti
Motamot

01:25 Cholochitra Golpo

02:30 Drama Serial: Nirob
Kosto

04:20 ATN MUSIC

05:00 Gram Gorjer Khobor

05:45 Business Week

06:20 Ashey Pasher

08:00 Drama Serial:
Kathkoylar Chhobi

08:45 Meet the Press

05:20 Shokaler Gaan
06:50 Shangbadpote

08:20 Drama Serial: Money
Bangladesh

09:45 Public Reaction

09:50 Grameenphone

11:05 Educational
Programme

12:30 Citycell Tarika
Kathan

01:05 Ebong Cinemar Gaan
Gaon

01:30 Shangbadpote
Bangladesh

02:15 Public Reaction

04:05 Citycell Medha
Bikash

04:50 Sa Re Ga Ma
Boimela Protidin

05:30 Onu Poromana

06:00 Star gate SG one

06:15 Ontorer Katha

06:40 Business Show

07:30 Shangbadpote

08:35 Ekush Amar Ahonkar

09:00 Chhayancho