

Exhibition and workshop

Kalidas' clever craftsmanship

FAYZA HAQ

KALIDAS Karmakar, one of our most renowned print-makers, is conducting a fortnight-long workshop in collaboration with Bengal Foundation on printmaking at Alliance Francaise, Dhaka. Along with the workshop is an exhibition of Kalidas' prints.

Kalidas has always used new methods and materials, bringing in the familiar forms with the surreal. He is also influenced by Tantric philosophy. He searches for holy symbols, looking for them in Hindu and non-Hindu beliefs. He works with both symbols and abstractions. Highly skilled in drawing, he has also worked with mixed media and collages. He is one of the first to introduce installation art to Bangladesh.

Eduted in Poland, France and Japan, Kalidas had his basic training in Fine Arts in Kolkata. Kalidas says, "My primary training in print was under Professor S W Hayter. Hayter is known as the father of colour viscosity, which is a new technique of applying colours to etching. Known methods before him required different plates for each colour. The process is labour, cost and time consuming. Hayter also introduced a workshop-based work system with artists from all over. Earlier artists used to work on their own in their studios. By exchanging ideas and views among themselves they developed new trends in their works."

Tracing the history of graphic art, Kalidas says that printmaking was regarded as second class art before World War I, though artists like Rubens, Raphael,



A collage of Kalidas' works

Goya and Rembrandt did engraving, etching and aquatint. He adds that all major artists up to Pablo Picasso worked in this medium at some stage or another.

Kalidas had established his studio at Atelier -17 where eminent artists like Samarjiti Rai Chowdhury, Hamiduzzaman Khan and Biren Shome participated.

Going through his works on reality and dreams in the prints on display at the Alliance Francaise gallery at the exhibition titled *Soul, Soil, Symbols* one sees a creation with sweeps of red, yellow, brown and black, with strips of curling white in between. Kneeling, seated and bent figures come together in another brown and white composition with a giant figure in the centre, which appears like a massive tree. In the next composition is a butterfly fluttering over an outstretched palm of a hand, with curls and wiggles on the rest of the paper. This is in burnt umber, black and pale yellow ochre and brings out his mastery over details.

Two more prints are pulsating with buoyant colours and abstract images of circles, loops, lines and the formation of an eye in the centre. Flecks of white add harmony to the compositions. Bright orange and brown are balanced with blues and greens. Another moving one has a goddess, with symbols, images and figures surrounding it. On top is a chimney from which floats a burst of leaves and a pale dragonfly. In another work, a peacock is presented with variations of black lines of calligraphy.

Talent hunt by Palli Baul Shamaj Unnayan Shangtha



Young contestants at the talent hunt



second round. The programme aims to find ten talented folk artists and six skilled instrumentalists. The event was inaugurated by cultural personality Mobarak Hossain Khan. In his speech he emphasised on the importance of preserving our folk songs.

The

contest

started with a Lalon song *Ami opar hoye boshey achhi* by one of the participants, Badhon. Throughout the day the programme featured several folk numbers including songs of Lalon, Hasan Raja, Duddu Shah, Panju Shah, Kalu Shah

Fakir, Abdul Karim, Radha Raman, Jalal Uddin Khan, Kari Amir Uddin and other rural bards.

Among the judges were noted

folk artistes Kangalini Sufia, Himangshu Biswas and Abinash Chandra Sheel.

The programme went well into the night till 9pm. The event came to an end with a speech by folklorist Dr Ashraf Siddiqui.

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CULTURAL FEAST

Theatre Festival

Organiser Ethnic-Diversity Council & First Adivasi Theatre Festival 2007 Celebration Committee

Inauguration: April 2 at 4:00pm

Venue: National Theatre Stage, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy

Play: Kania

Troupe: Sadra Theatre

Venue: National Theatre Stage, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy

Date: April 2

Time: 7:00pm

Play: Tuanya

Troupe: Hor Gayan Dol

Venue: National Theatre Stage, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy

Date: April 3

Time: 7:00pm

Play: Sri Krishna Kirtan

Troupe: Manipuri Theatre

Venue: National Theatre Stage, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy

Date: April 4

Time: 7:00pm

Play: Hokkhan Dhorpana

Troupe: Jum Aesthetic Council, Rangamati

Venue: National Theatre Stage, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy

Date: April 4

Time: after the staging of Sri Krishna Kirtan by Manipuri Theatre

Play: Mangula

Troupe: Palakar

Venue: Experimental Theatre Stage, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy

Date: April 5

Time: 7:00pm

Play: Rangar

Troupe: Aranyak Natyadol

Venue: Experimental Theatre Stage, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy

Date: April 6

Time: 7:00pm

Jatiya Rabindra Sangeet Sammilan Parishad's annual conference ends

MAHMUDA AFROZ

One of the country's largest and renowned cultural organisations -- Jatiya Rabindra Sangeet Sammilan Parishad's 26th annual conference wrapped up on April 1. To commemorate the event, the Parishad (council) had organised seminars and cultural programmes at the Chhayanat Sangskriti Bhavan. The 3-day event featuring performances by talented Tagore artistes from all

corners of the country attracted thousands of music enthusiasts.

A new working committee was formed for the working calendar 2007-2009. Members from all 49 branches of the organisation were present at the conference. Professor Zillur Rahman Siddiqui was elected as president, Dr Sanjida Khatun as the executive president and Bulbul Islam as the general secretary.

In a joint announcement the

Parishad stated that, "Though Bangladesh as a nation is still new, its trade and commerce, rivers, people and culture are ancient. People are the breathing soul of a nation. Unless we learn to respect and appreciate everything about our language and heritage, as a nation we will not progress. Yes, there have been obstacles over the years but we'll continue our struggle to overcome these impediments."

The Parishad has also put for-

ward its proposals for the coming years. To name but a few: to imbibe values of patriotism amongst the younger generation, to improve quality of the education system, to build Shaheed Minar at all major educational institutions, unity among cultural figures to confront the evils in society, to appoint at least one teacher at every educational institute who'll oversee cultural activities, to use and pronounce Bangla in its purest form in the media etc.

The third and final day of the conference saw the Parishad announcing its most prestigious award 'Guri Shommonona'. The award went to folk singer Abdus Sattar Sarkar from Jaipurhat. The Parishad also distributed prizes among winners (in two categories -- youth and general) of its competition.

During the cultural programme in the evening, the Chhayanat Sangskriti Bhavan was brimming with people from all walks of life. Among the forty artists performing songs in the evening were Shifayetullah, Shama Rahman, Lily Islam, Kanchona Mustafa, Moiuddin Nazir, Shumon Chowdhury, Laisa Ahmed Lisa, Neelotpal Shadhdho, Tanya Mannan, Mita Haq, Fahim Hussain Choudhury and Aditi Mohsin. Orno Komolika performed dance. The event came to an end with a choral rendition of our National Anthem.



Tagore artistes perform at the conference

An upcoming artiste performs at the 56th monthly programme of yesteryear songs organised by Srijon at the Sufia Kamal Auditorium, National Museum. The organisation arranges the programme once a month (last Saturdays)



Jennifer Hudson gets her wings

Oscar winner Jennifer Hudson is on board for *Winged Creatures*. The singer-actress will play the daughter of fellow Oscar winner Forest Whitaker in this ensemble drama by *Little Fish* helmer Rowan Woods. *Winged Creatures* is based on a novel by Roy Freirich following the survivors of a murderous restaurant stick-up.

Kate Beckinsale, Guy Pearce, Dakota Fanning, Jeanne Tripplehorn and Oscar nominee Jackie Earle Haley are set to be in the movie as well.

Source: Internet

Tv GUIDE

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

BTV

08:40 Bishwa Protidin
09:05 Shomapti
11:15 Shukri Porbar
11:40 Desher Gaan
12:05 Maa O Shishur
Kotha

12:30 Swapno Shonar

Gaon

01:00 Talk Show

Mati O Manush

02:15 Musical Programme

02:40 Cartoon

03:05 Educational

Programme

04:00 Amader Angina

04:30 Band Show

05:05 Moner Kotha

05:30 Anushilon

06:10 Nobo Anondey Jago

06:40 Cricket Cricket

07:15 ICC World Cup

2007: Ireland Vs

South Africa

04:05 CricTalk Bishwa Cup

Special

04:50 Sa Re Ga Ma

05:30 Muk Juddho Protidin

06:00 Drama Serial:

Shongshoy

09:00 Kanto Shonha

11:05 Cricket Online (Live)

13:30 Amar Chhobi

15:00 Public Reaction

17:00 Grameenphone

19:00 Tritiyomatra

21:00 Citycell

23:00 Tarokakothon

00:30 Ebong Cinemar

02:00 Gaan

04:00 Shangbad Potrey

06:00 Amar Chhobi

08:00 Drama Serial:

Shomoy

10:00 Drama Serial:

Ochena Adhar

12:00 Adventure Bangladesh

14:00 Shomprabhat

16:00 Chhok Mele Dekhi

18:00 Mon Monroe Amar

20:00 Shuktara

22:00 Amader Kotha

24:00 Chhito Geeti

00:00 Drama Serial: Neel

02:00 Bioscope

04:00 Stop n Rock

06:00 Saaj O Chhobi

08:00 Ranger

10:00 Manush

12:00 Itihaser Path

14:00 Dhorey

16:00 Kemon Tara

18:00 Shophol Jara

20:00 Swapno

22:00 Kemon Tara

04:15 Cookery Show

CHANNEL-i

09:30 Shongbad Potrey

11:15 Bangladesh

13:00 Grameenphone

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17:00 Citycell

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