

CULTURAL FEAST

Art Exhibition

Title: Mukti
Organiser: Liberation War Museum
Venue: Liberation War Museum
Date: May 7-20
Time: 10:00am- 8:00pm

Title: Reviving Traditional techniques through contemporary art
Organiser: Art Club Bangladesh
Venue: Art Club Bangladesh Gallery
Suite: 3B, House: 4, Road: 104,
Gulshan: 2
Date: May 12-18
Time: 11:00am- 8:00pm

Theatre

Play: Shikondi Kotha
Troupe: Nayadhabra, Chittagong
Venue: National Theatre Stage,
Bangladesh Shilpkala Academy
Date: May 17
Time: 6:30pm

Remembering Shawket Osman

Organiser: Shawket Osman Smriti
Parishad
Venue: Bishwa Sahitya Kendra
Date: May 16
Time: 5:00pm

Classical and Folk music evening

Organiser: The Royal Norwegian
Embassy, Dhaka
Venue: The British Council
Bangladesh, 6 Fuller Road, Dhaka
Date: May 18
Time: 6:30pm

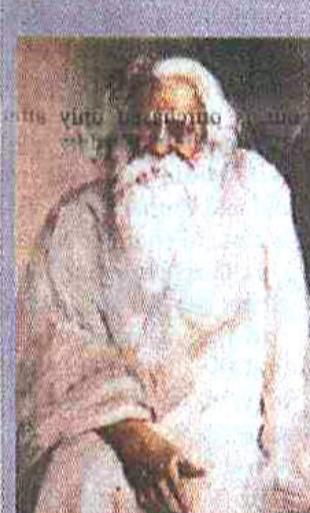
European Union Cultural Festival

Title: Celebrating EU-Bangladesh
Relations Through Culture
Organiser: European Commission, in
association with partner organisations
Date: May 3-16

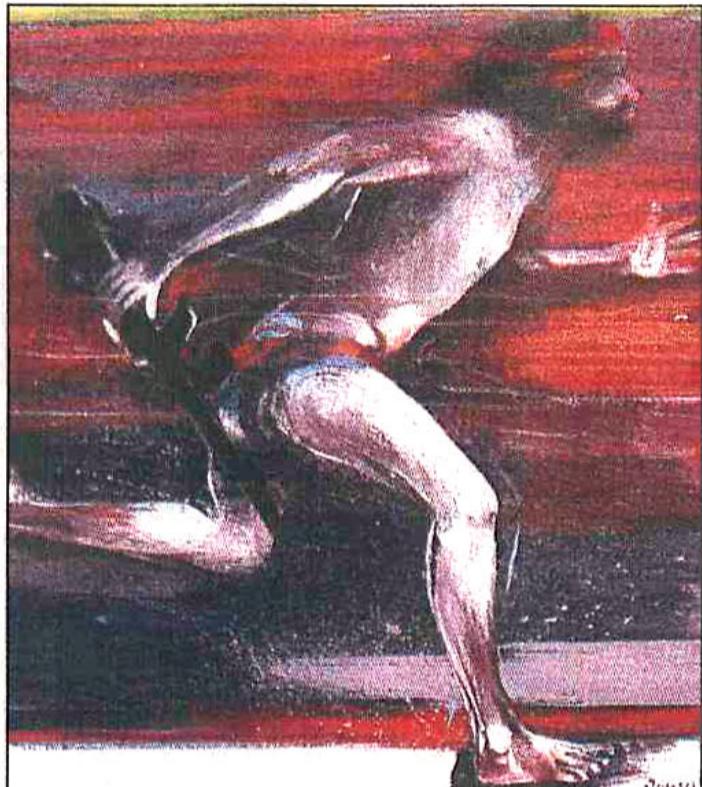
Pata painting exhibition

Artist: Shambhu Acharya
Venue: Alliance Francaise
Date: May 3-16

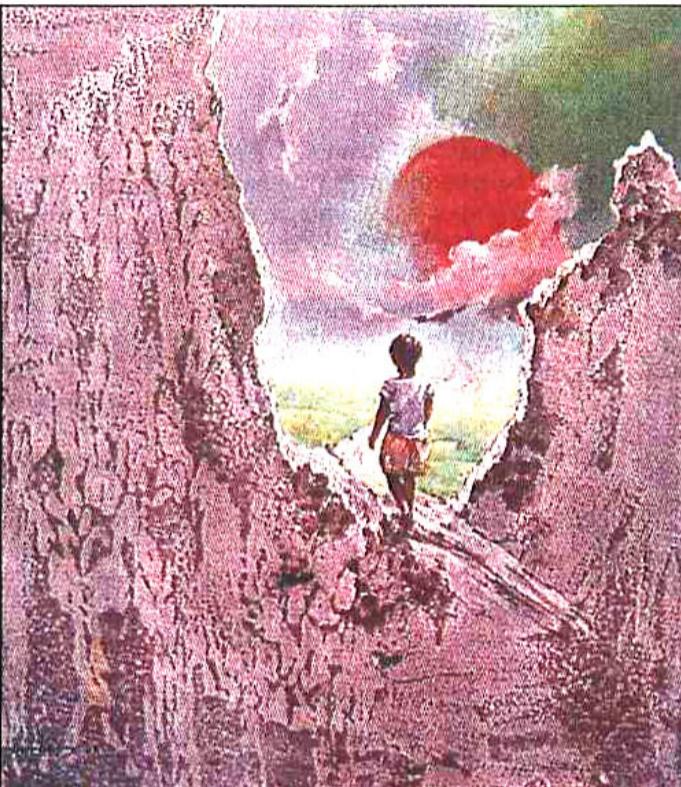
Grand Group Art Exhibition



'Mukti': Group art exhibition at Liberation War Museum



Artworks by Jamal Ahmed (L) and Shamsuddoha



Chowdhury, Hashem Khan, Rafiqun Nabi, Hamiduzzaman Khan, Abdus Shakoor, Abdul Mannan, Biren Shome, Alakesh Ghosh, Farida Zaman, Nasim Ahmed Nadvi, Naima Haque, Mohammad Eunus, Jamal Ahmed, Ranjit Das, Ruhul Amin Kajal, Rezaun Nabi, Shamsuddoha, Saidul Haque Juise, Sheikh Afzal, Shishir Bhattacharjee, Khalid Mahmud Mithu, Nisar Hossain, Atia Islam Anne, Kanak Champa Chakma, Ahmed Nazir, M Zohiruddin, Nisar Ahmed, Farzeha Zeba and Shahjahan Ahmed Bikash.

Alakesh Ghosh has set an analogy between the joys of being liberated with a beautiful ambience ornate with flora and fauna. The composition of vibrant colours in the semi-abstract canvas features the serenity of sovereignty.

"Freedom" also appears on Shamsuddoha's canvas through the image of a child enjoying serenity after treading a hilly track.

Zohiruddin's canvas features black shades on a green field next to a lake full of lotuses. The use of white shades at the top right corner suggests a state where freedom is imminent. Ruhul Amin Kajol has imagined freedom in the velocity of wind in his work.

red, green, blue, black, burnt sienna and orange -- artists have presented the urge for freedom in their distinctive styles. Most of the compositions are figurative and a few are semi-abstract.

Some of the works highlight "the urge for freedom", with typical motifs related to the Liberation War like pigeons as the backdrop, triumphant Freedom Fighters carrying rifles and others. There are also some innovative canvases at the exhibition.

Participating artists at the exhibition are: Qayyum Chowdhury, Samarjit Roy

ARTWORKS by 30 prominent and promising artists of the country are on display at the Liberation War Museum. The paintings were created at an art camp arranged by the museum as part of an annual programme. The exhibition, titled 'Mukti', opened on May 7 and will continue till May 20.

In the booklet published by the museum reads that the idea of arranging an annual programme to mark the Independence Day of Bangladesh was conceived by artist Rafiqun Nabi.

With strokes of vibrant colours --

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'Horlicks Genius Bangladesh' back on ntv

Horlicks Genius Bangladesh is back again on ntv after a successful run of four years, says a press release. The objective of the programme is to discover budding geniuses from across the country. Till date the programme has brought forth over 300 young talents in its comprehensive nationwide search. This year's talent search will include the participation of 100 schools from different regions. Twenty-seven of them will go through to the final round. ntv will air the final round of the contest.

The show will be aired every Thursday at 6:50pm.

'Nacholer Rani' acclaimed in Kolkata

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Based on the tumultuous years (early 1950s) of Ila Mitra's life, *Nacholer Rani*, directed by Syed Wahiduzzaman Diamond was released in theatres in Bangladesh last year (June 30).

Ila was a veteran communist leader in the subcontinent. She was popularly known as 'Nacholer Rani', as the landless peasants and Santals christened her as their uncrowned queen for her altruistic contribution

to the 'Tebhaga Movement'.

The film drew national and international attention when the Bangladesh Film Censor Board demanded that certain scenes be removed. The Censor Board also declared that permission from the Indian Government was needed as Ila was elected four times as a member of the West Bengal Assembly between 1967 and 1978. The film eventually got the green signal from the Censor Board in early 2006.

"The Santal Rebellion" took place

in Chapinawabganj where I'm originally from and I've heard these stories since childhood. All actors in the film are newcomers and belong to different theatre groups. Ramin Mitra is played by Saif Ripon; Ila Mitra is acted by Shahana Shumi; Azhar's role is played by Kajal Majumdar; Horek is played by M M Morshed," says Diamond. He felt that by using new faces the historical characters would appear more real.

In his next film, titled *Ganga Jatra*, Diamond will be dealing with a family of Dom (a caste that has been discriminated against for ages). The family story is intertwined with the life of a sex worker. Poppy, Ferdous, Shrimla and others will be acting in it.

Nacholer Rani was recently shown at Kolkata and Mrinal Sen attended the screening, among other dignitaries. The screening was to mark 60 years of Indo-Russia friendship and it was shown at Gorky Sadan. Mrinal Sen sat through the entire film, as he found the presentation of the information quite remarkable," says an ecstatic Diamond.

The filmmaker received an ivory statue as an award at the event.

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