

CULTURALFEAST

Photography Exhibition

Title: Bangladesh Now
Organiser: Drik News
Venue: Drik Gallery, House 58, Road 15A (New), Dhanmondi
Date: September 4 to September 13
Time: 3 pm to 8 pm

Film Screening

Title: Soumitra Chatterjee Retrospective
Organiser: Chalachitram Film Society
Venue: Shawkat Osman Auditorium, Central Public Library, Shahbagh
Date: September 7
Time: 10 am
Film: Apur Sansar
Director: Satyajit Ray
Time: 11 am
Soumitra Chatterjee will exchange views with the audience
Date: September 8
Time: 10 am
Film: Dekha
Director: Goutam Ghosh
Time: 12 pm
Film: Teen Bhoboner Parey
Director: Ashutosh Banerjee
Time: 3 pm
Film: Aranyer Din Ratri
Director: Satyajit Ray
Time: 5 pm
Film: Chanchal
Director: Satyajit Ray
Time: 7 pm
Film: Kony
Director: Saraj Dey

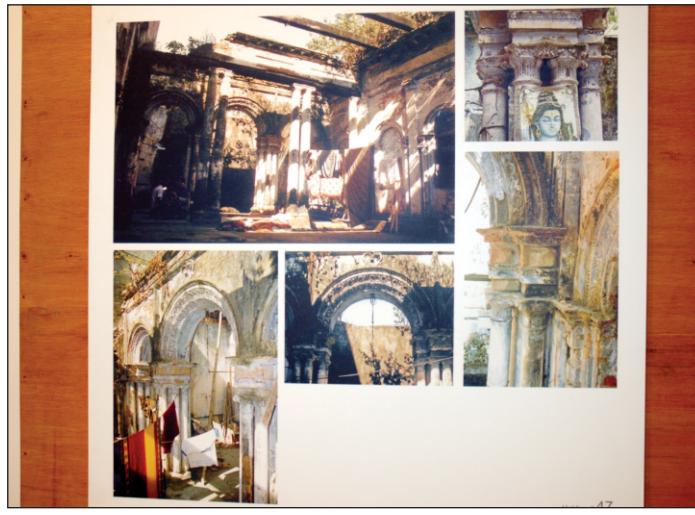
Title: Dhoje Nari, Nirbene Nari
Artist: Maksudul Ahsan
Venue: Shilpangan, House 26, Road 3, Dhanmondi
Date: September 7 to September 21
Time: 12 pm to 8 pm

Title: Oriental Art: My Style of Expression
Artist: Malay Bala
Venue: Zainul Gallery, Institute of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka
Date: September 1 to September 5
Time: 11 am to 8 pm

Title: Distant Skies
Artist: Mohammad Iqbal
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, Bengal Shilpalaya, House 275/F, Road 27, Dhanmondi
Date: September 4 to September 18
Time: 12 pm to 8 pm

Drawings and photography exhibition at Shilpakala

Campaign to restore heritage of Shakhari Bazar



Photographs on display

ERSHAD KAMOL

THE narrow street of Shakhari Bazar is unique in the sense that the buildings on both sides of the road represent architectural and cultural heritage, said the discussants at the inaugural programme of the four-day photography and drawing exhibition titled "Drawings and Images of the Architectural Heritage of Shakhari Bazar and Seven Kotwali Mohalla in Puran Dhaka". The exhibition was inaugurated on September 4 at the plaza of National Art Gallery of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA).

Urban Study Group (USG), a non-registrar research organisation, and Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy have jointly arranged the exhibition. The exhibition has been arranged concurrently with a workshop titled "Challenges of Area Conservation: Lessons from Shakhari Bazaar, the Oldest Mohalla in Puran Dhaka."

Professor Anisuzzaman was the chief guest at the opening ceremony. Team leader of USG, Taimur Islam said, "Ground floors of most of the 151 existing buildings at Shakhari Bazar were constructed in 18th century. Most of the people living in these buildings are conch shell artisans, who have been practicing this craft for generations. All these features of Shakhari Bazar maintain the criteria required

Grants Commission, Professor Nazrul Islam; former DG of National Museum, Dr. Enamul Haque; DG of BSA, Quamrul Hassan, ndc; Head of Department of Archaeology of North South University, Harunur Rashid and Founder Member of Ain-O-Shalish Kendra, Dr. Hamida Hossain delivered speeches at the opening ceremony.

According to the discussants architectural heritage of different ages such as Mughal style, late Mughal style, colonial style and Raj style had been followed during the construction of the existing structures at Shakhari Bazar and seven adjacent areas -- Tati Bazaar, Kotwali Road, Panitola, Gowalnagar, Radhika Mohan, Boshak Lane and Jhulnabari.

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by UNESCO to be announced as a world heritage site.

"We are campaigning to prevent these architectural heritage sites from the demolition process initiated by Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) in 2004. In fact, it's the duty of the government and organisations like Department of Archaeology under Ministry of Cultural Affairs, DCC, Rajuk and others to renovate the buildings, maintaining the authenticity."

Among the hurdles to restore the heritage sites, Taimur Islam pointed out financial constraints, lack of government interest, development programmes by locals and lack of technical knowledge. The buildings were constructed using lime masonry; the technique is not studied any more.

Claiming Shakhari Bazar "a unique place", Professor Nazrul Islam said, "Many cities of the world like Singapore, Beijing and others have taken initiatives to preserve areas of historic interest. We should chalk out plans to restore the historic buildings and ensure smooth continuation of the conch-shell craft. This can make

the place appealing to tourists."

Photographs on display, mostly taken by Joyoborto, a resident of Shakhari Bazar, feature the historic buildings. Two photographs present panoramic views of houses at Shakhari Bazar. Outdoor decorations and structures of these buildings portray the uniqueness of the architecture. Moreover, an image of a wrongly renovated building (holding number 32 on Shakhari Bazar) on display features distortion.

Drawings of restoration plans of the buildings presented by the students of universities such as BUET and BRAC under guidance of the experts of USG are also on display.

Moreover, the exhibition features some models of "Heritage Programme" initiated by Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation, India. These photographs can be guidelines for the similar organisations in Bangladesh to preserve the archaeological heritage sites.

Another attraction at the exhibition is a multimedia presentation of Shakhari Bazar.

ALL TIME GREATS

Velazquez Diego: A portrait of the legendary artist

One of the leading lights of his time, Spanish painter Diego Rodríguez de Silva y Velázquez (June 6, 1599-August 6, 1660), was a noted painter in the court of King Philip IV. He displayed a knack for his individualistic works of the contemporary baroque period and gained importance as a portrait artist. His paintings in Madrid include landscapes, mythological and religious subjects and scenes from common life, called genre pictures. The portraits of court notables, say the cognoscenti, rank with the portraits by Titian and Anthony Van Dyck. His famous paintings include *The Surrender of Breda*, an equestrian portrait of Philip IV, *The Spinners*, *The Maids of Honour*, *Pope Innocent X*, *Christ at Emmaus* and a portrait of the Infanta Maria Theresia.

His magnum opus, is of course *Las meninas* (The maids of honour, 1656). The subject appears to be one of the *infantas*, Margarita. However, when one looks at the work from various viewpoints, one is unclear as to the identity of the subject: Is it the royal daughter or perhaps the painter himself? Many other questions have cropped up and the answers remain elusive as ever.



Self portrait by Diego Velazquez

His other major work was *La Venus del espejo* (Venus at her mirror, 1644-1648) also known as *The Rokeby Venus* the only surviving female nude by Velazquez.

Velazquez' forte of merging colour, light, pace, rhythm of line and mass in such a way that all have equal value, earned him the sobriquet of "the painter's painter."

Velazquez's works left a lasting impression on realist and impressionist painters such as Edouard Manet. They have also been recreated by more modern artists, including Spain's Pablo Picasso and Salvador Dali, as well as the Anglo-Irish painter Francis Bacon. Picasso went so far as to recreate *Las meninas* in his characteristically cubic form. Likewise, Salvador Dali, in anticipation of the centennial of Velazquez' death, created in 1958 a work titled *Velazquez painting the Infanta Margarita with the lights and shadows of her own glory*. Others who have been influenced by him are Francisco de Goya, Camille Corot and James McNeill Whistler. Velazquez earned much recognition along the way. Described as "the noblest and most commanding man among the artists of

the country", his "men and women seem to breathe...his horses are full of action and his dogs of life."

In the art scenario of that time in Spain there were essentially two patrons of art, the church and the art-loving king and court. Bartolome Esteban Murillo was the artist favoured by the church, while Velazquez was patronised by the crown. While the former toiled for a rich and powerful church, with little funds to pay for his burial, Velazquez lived and died amidst material comfort.

Velazquez' life was cut short when he was stricken with fever. Feeling that his end was near, he signed his will, appointing as his sole executors his wife Juana and a close friend Fuensalida, keeper of the royal records. He died on August 6, 1660 and was buried in the Fuensalida vault of the church of San Juan Bautista. Within eight days his wife followed him to the grave. Unfortunately, this church was destroyed by the French in 1811, so his place of interment is now unknown. Nevertheless the great artist continues to cast his shadow on the art world.

Compiled by Cultural Correspondent

ON AIR

PICK OF THE DAY



Grand Finale of LUX Channel-i Super Star'07
On Channel-i at 7:30pm
Beauty Contest



First Snow
On Star Movies at 9:00pm
Genre: Drama/Thriller
Cast: Guy Pearce, Piper Perabo

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; 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; 6:00pm and 8:00pm.

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 10:00am; 12:00am; 4:00pm.

Rtv
News (Bangla) at 10:15pm. and 12:15am.

ntv
News (Bangla) 7:30am, 12:02pm, 2:00pm; 7:30pm; 10:30pm; 1:00am

ETV
News (Bangla) 1:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:00pm; 7:00pm; 9:00pm; 11:00pm

BTB
11:15 Documentary Programme
11:40 Ongona
12:05 Maa O Shishur
12:30 Bhabbar Bishoy
01:00 Nritter Talei Talei
01:30 Shukhi Poribar
02:40 Esho Gaan Shikhi
03:05 Oltithi Shilpider
03:30 Ashor
04:00 Sangeeta
04:30 Apon Bhumi
05:05 Sisimpur
05:30 Ityadi
06:40 Dhormo O Jibon
07:00 Computer
07:30 Drama Serial: Hiraphool
08:30 Protidin Bangladesh
08:40 Drama: Nayok Na
10:30 Phle Asa Din

ATN Bangla
10:30 Talk Show: Aktel
06:00 Tarzan
06:20 Amar Chhobi
07:30 Grand Finale of LUX Channel-i Super Star'07
11:30 Drama Serial: Aste Aste
12:00 GrameenPhone
12:45 Shundor Jiboner Jonno
03:45 ETV
04:20 Educational Programme
08:00 Ekusher Shokal
05:00 Gram Gonjer
06:00 Khobor
01:30 Dishti
02:00 Islamic Programme
06:20 TV Serial: Mugly

08:00 Drama Serial: Shokal Shondha
08:45 Drama: Koto Chena
Koto Ochena
09:20 Drama Serial: Amader Nurul Huda
11:30 Drama Serial: Doll's House
12:00 GrameenPhone
Lead News
09:30 Selected Programme
10:00 Drama Serial: Selected Programme
11:05 Selected Programme
12:30 Citycell
12:30 Tarokakathan
01:05 Tax Helpline
01:15 Ebong Cinemar
01:30 Drama Serial: Gaan
01:30 Special Programme
01:30 Hridoye Mati O
03:05 Hridoye Mati O
04:05 Sa Re Ga Ma
04:50 Samoeki
05:30 Mukti Juddho Protidin
06:00 Dhinak Dhinak Ta
06:20 Amar Chhobi
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07:30 Shangkri Shatdhin
08:00 Shongsharer
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10:30 Digonto
11:45 Reporters File
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Celebrating 100 years of "Charyapada" discovery

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT