

CULTURALFEAST

Solo Art Exhibition in aid of flood victims

Title: A Journey of Hope  
Artist: Anadi Kumar Boiragi  
Organiser: Art Club Bangladesh  
Venue: Art Club Bangladesh, Suite 3B, House 4, Road 104, Gulshan  
Date: September 3 to September 12  
Time: 11 am to 8 pm

Solo Art Exhibition

Artiste: Samiran Chowdhury  
Venue: Saju Art Gallery, F/40-41, D.C.C North Super Market, 2<sup>nd</sup> circle, Gulshan, Dhaka.  
Date: August 30 to September 10  
Time: 10 am to 8 pm

Title: Distant Skies  
Artiste: 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

Title: Drohe Nari, Nirbane Nari  
Artiste: Maksudul Ahsan  
Venue: Shilpangan, House 26, Road 3, Dhanmondi  
Date: September 7 to September 21  
Time: 12 pm to 8 pm

Film Screening

Organiser: High Commission of India in Dhaka  
Title: Uttam Kumar Retrospective  
Venue: Indian Cultural Centre, House 25, Road 96, Gulshan-2  
Time: 6:00 pm  
Date: September 10  
Film: Saptpadi

Exhibition of works by 8 artistes

Venue: Studio of Enam Ul Haque, House 11 (Apartment 4B), Road 4, Banani DOHS, Kakoli  
Date: August 19 to September 11  
Time: 11am to 8pm  
Date: September 9-11  
Works: Sculpture of Ferdousy Priyabhashini

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



Semi-abstract with pulsating motifs

Mohammad Iqbal's solo exhibition at Bengal

FAYZA HAQ

M OHAMMAD Iqbal, who is doing his PhD in fine arts, is currently holding his solo exhibition at the Bengal Gallery, Dhanmondi. Most of his works are semi-abstract oils ranging from blues to pinks. Iqbal, who has been fascinated with drawing and painting from his childhood, was encouraged by his mother.

At the Institute of Fine Arts (IFA), Kazi Abdul Baset, Rafiqun Nabi and Mahbubul Amin -- his teachers -- guided and inspired him. Iqbal is also inspired by works of Picasso, Tapis and Miro. "When I was a student at IFA, we did a lot of outdoor and home based work, a practice which I feel is relaxed somewhat these days. We enjoyed studying forms and colours in Old Dhaka, Rayerbazar and the river-side such as Kamrangir Char," says Iqbal.

The artist works in oil as it has greater longevity than most other mediums. Also he feels comfort-



Working rhythm-2 (top) and Unknown faces-2 by Mohammad Iqbal

able painting with oil rather than anything else. Staying and living in Japan, he says, he gets the opportunity to study masters who are exhibited at the galleries there. "Japan is progressive not only economically but also culturally,"



Iqbal comments. He is happy with his teachers whom he finds very encouraging, in particular, Sakata Tetsuya. Iqbal says he misses home, but is impressed with the refined taste and etiquette of the Japanese people.

There are two types of work on display at the exhibition. Some of the pieces are abstract while in some he has brought in figures, with children's faces on large canvases. The exhibition titled "Distant Skies" deals with the ruination of our environment with pollution. Although we have progressed technically, there is an overwhelming fear of destruction of nature, Iqbal says. He is concerned by the adverse affect of civilisation.

"I love villages. I was born in Chuadanga. Even when I was studying at IFA in Dhaka, I would make time to go to my village. I do the same in Japan, where peoples' lives are mechanised. Huts, cows, birds and villagers -- fishermen and farmers -- are motifs in my work. The dots on my canvases are symbols of our untainted and pure past.

One of the paintings bear the

faces of two children and a cow. According to the artist, the image recalls the '71 war when he was a child. The war in our country had stopped but it still rages in some Asian and African countries, he points out. Apart from warfare, there are diseases along with poverty and suffering in cases like natural calamities, such as floods and famines, he adds. It is the eyes of the children that reflect the insecurities, suffering and pain.

Another composition contains rural women at work, a goat and a boat. An old city is featured in the next painting and this includes more sketches of women and a horse, which is a relic of the past in our crammed urban existence. Iqbal paints directly on the canvases without any premeditated sketches to guide him. The artist has several prestigious awards to his credit including the Grand Prize at the 14th Memorial Exhibition of Aoki, Kurome City & Bridge Stone Art Museum.

The exhibition ends on September 18.

Nazrul Academy's tribute to the National Poet

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Cultural organisation Nazrul Academy arranged a programme at its Dhanmondi branch on September 8 to pay homage to our National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam.

The programme began with a discussion. Mintu Rahman, general secretary of Nazrul Academy, delivered the welcome speech.

Speaking on Nazrul, he said, "Many regard Nazrul as a romantic poet. Then again his poetry exudes fervent nationalism. He is also known as the 'Rebel Poet' but perhaps the most important aspect of him was that through his writing he always encouraged and upheld harmony among the different communities."

Nazrul artiste and principal of Nazrul Academy, Khalid Hossain and principal of Dr. Malika University College, Mohammad

Abdus Sadik also spoke at the occasion.

The session was presided over by folklorist and president of Nazrul Academy, Dr. Ashraf Siddiqui.

The discussion was followed by a cultural programme featuring Nazrul songs by students of the organisation and Nazrul artistes -- Khalid Hossain, Joseph Kamal Rodriguez and Badiuzzaman.

The programme opened with a group rendition of the familiar Nazrul Sangeet *Momero putul momir desher meye*, followed by *Choncholo shyamolo elo gogoney* and *Zarin harafey lekha*.

Solo renditions were presented by Joseph Kamal Rodriguez, Badiuzzaman, Sadia Chowdhury, Naumi Farnaz and others. Khalid Hossain rendered *Masjidore pashey amaye kobar dio bhai*.



Students of Nazrul Academy sing at the programme

PHOTO: STAR

Observation of life through TV plays

In conversation with Zeenat Hakim

NADIA SARWAT

She writes TV plays and occasionally for newspapers. Her first play *Nirjon Srot* (1995) was much appreciated by both audiences and the critics. Currently she is one of the busiest scriptwriters and a successful TV play producer. Her career of 12 years consists of several memorable plays like *Kajol Kalo Din*, *Digonto perley*, *Shesh Bikel*, *Ebong Ami*, *Din Choley Jaye*, *Jol Porey Pata Norey* and many more. The *Daily Star* recently caught up with Zeenat. Excerpts from the conversation:

"I started writing in my school days. I wrote short stories and articles for school and college magazines, dailies and so on. I inherited the habit of reading from my mother and am also a keen observer of the people around me. After I got married to actor Azizul Hakim, I used to read his scripts. Some of the scripts were disappointing and seemed very weak to me. I thought to myself, I could do better than these. My husband and my father-in-law (late) encouraged me a lot; the latter used to tell me that I should write. Abdullah Al Mamun directed my first play *Nirjon Srot* and actors Bipasha Hayat, Zahid Hassan and Ferdousi Majumdar played the lead roles. I received quite an inspiring response and won the DCRA award for best playwright for the play," says Zeenat.

Her plays usually contain social messages and are generally issue based rather than just focusing on entertainment.

"I don't believe the sole purpose of TV plays is to only entertain people. There must be some message too. If the audience can relate to the story and get a positive direction from it, then the play will certainly become popular. I also feel that a writer should have a social commitment, not that I would write to tell people how to lead their lives. There are innumerable talk shows and educational programmes to do that (jokingly). As for TV plays, there should be a message along with entertainment. Veteran director and playwright Atiqul Haque Chowdhury and Mamunur Rashid are my inspiration in scriptwriting," Zeenat says.

Where does she get the ideas for her stories? "I usually get inspired by people around me, and my surroundings. I hear about real incidents from my friends and if I find them interesting, I base my plays on them. Some of the stories are based on my personal experiences. Naturally the plays come across as relatable and very real," the writer responds.

Her plays often feature regional dialects and inner



conflicts of the characters.

"The human mind and how it interacts in the social context always fascinate me. What we term as dramatic incidents, mostly happen when we cannot control our emotions, Zeenat continues.

Does she contemplate directing plays? "Well, yes. As a writer I sometimes feel that the characters are not effectively expressing what I tried to convey in my story. If I could direct, I would communicate with the actors and try to work on the depiction of the role more effectively. However, I do realise that direction will further take away the time I spend with my family. Maybe when my daughter grows up, I will give direction a shot," she says.

Ang Lee wins second Golden Lion for "Lust, Caution"

AFP, Venice

Taiwanese director Ang Lee picked up his second Venice Film Festival Golden Lion for best picture for his new erotic spy thriller *Lust, Caution* on September 8.

Lee, who won the Golden Lion and an Oscar for his groundbreaking 2005 movie *Brokeback Mountain*, dedicated his win to Swedish film legend Ingmar Bergman who died this year.

Australian Cate Blanchett and US star Brad Pitt won the awards for best actress and actor while veteran US director Brian De Palma won a special Silver Lion award for his hard-hitting Iraq war film *Redacted*.

The best screenplay prize went to British director Ken Loach for his depiction of exploited immigrants in London in *It's a Free World*.

Lee's victory established a growing Asian dominance at the Venice festival. Directors from the continent have won six of the last 10 Golden Lion awards.

Lee said however he was accepting the prize "in the shadow of the passing of two great giants, Michaelangelo Antonioni and Ingmar Bergman, I realise how huge this festival has become."

The movie, called *Se, Ji* in Chinese, is a tense drama set in Japanese-occupied Shanghai in the 1940s. Newcomer Tang Wei plays a resistance spy who slowly lets her target, a powerful political figure played by Tony Leung, take over her heart.

Brian De Palma's *Redacted* is based on the actual March 2006 rape and murder of a 14-year-old Iraqi school-girl by US soldiers who also slaughtered her family.

The film is a reaction to what De Palma sees as sanitised media accounts of the Iraq war presented in the United States. *Redacted* was honoured last Friday with the Future Film Festival Digital Award, for the best use of animation or visual effects.

De Palma, who is best known for the psychic thriller

*Carrie* and the gangster movie *Scarface* (1983), turns 67 on Tuesday.

Blanchett won her award for playing one of seven characters representing different phases of Bob Dylan's life in the kaleidoscopic biopic by Todd Haynes, *I'm Not There*.

Pitt got his award for his role in *The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Harold Ford*.

The jury bestowed a special 75th anniversary Golden Lion on legendary Italian director Bernardo Bertolucci, 67, who was given a standing ovation lasting more than 10 minutes.

In accepting the best screenplay award, Loach paid tribute to his cast, which starred upcoming British actress Kierston Wareing as a gritty single mother and entrepreneur.

Set in a down-and-out section of London plagued by gangs and full of job-hungry migrants, the film starts with Angie, played by Wareing, trying to make a better life for herself with apparent empathy for the workers who come to her recruitment agency in search of work.



Ang Lee with his Golden Lion

ON AIR

PICK OF THE DAY



Chondro Karigor  
On Channel-i at 9:35pm  
Drama Serial  
Cast: Badhon, Dr Ezaz



Future Weapons  
On Discovery Channel at 9:30 pm  
Documentary programme on weapons development

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, 12:15am.

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 9:00 a.m, 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00pm, 6:00 pm and 8:00 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 10:00am, 12:00am, 4:00pm.  
News Headlines (English) at 8:05pm

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

BTv

08:45 World Roundup  
11:15 Documentary  
12:00 *Maa O Shishur Kotha*  
12:30 *Onu Poromani*  
01:30 *Shukhi Poribar*  
03:05 Cartoon  
03:30 Musical Programme  
05:05 Debate  
06:10 *Matir Bhasha*  
06:40 Selected Programme  
07:30 Dance Programme  
08:35 *Chhayachhondo*  
09:30 Agricultural Programme  
10:30 *Kori O Komol*

ATN BANGLA

10:30 Musical Programme  
11:05 Talk Show  
11:35 Musical Programme  
12:15 *Matamot*  
01:25 *Cocola Choloচিত্র*  
02:30 *Doll's House*  
03:10 *Onirban*  
04:20 *Matir Shubatabash*  
05:00 *Gram Gonjer Khobor*  
05:10 *Shushtho Thakun*  
05:45 Business Week  
06:20 *Ashay Pasher Manush*  
08:00 Drama Serial: *Kath Koylar Chhobi*  
08:45 Selected Programme

CHANNEL-i

09:30 Selected Programme  
11:05 Special Programme  
11:30 *Amar Chhobi*  
12:30 *Citycell Tarokakothon*  
01:05 Talk Helpline

ETV

08:00 *Ekusher Shokal*  
02:00 *Dekha Na Dekha*  
02:30 *Priotomashu*  
03:30 *Kotha ar Gaan*  
04:00 *Dhinak Dhinak Ta*  
04:30 Drama Serial: *Shukhi Manush Project*  
05:15 *Ei Shoptaher Bishwa*  
06:30 *Bishwa Jurey Chal Chitro*  
08:30 Drama Serial: *Hittu*  
09:30 Drama: *Dukho Dohey Dui Jon*  
10:30 Drama Serial: *Bodhon*  
11:45 Reporter's File  
12:00 *Ekusher Raat*

CHANNEL 1

08:40 *Shuprobhat Bangladesh Chokhmele Dekhi*  
09:30 *Bangla Feature Film Padmorag*  
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Radio Foorti

07:00am Hello Dhaka (Apu)  
11:00am Amar 98.4 (Nusrat)  
03:00pm Dhaka Calling (Sakib)  
07:00pm Seven Eleven (Sadia)  
11:00pm Late Night Show (Shuvo)  
03:00am Back to Back music

HISTORY

08:30 Sauna Belt  
00:15 Global Pendant  
09: