

Shades of Life

SHAKO's splendid cornucopia

FAYZA HAQ

SHAKO's "Shades of Life", an exhibition of 12 female artists at the Bengal Gallery began in the city yesterday. SHAKO is a local female artists' organisation that operates for both charity and commercial benefits. There are invited artists too like Rokeya Sultana, Sarkar Naheed Nipu and Denise Hudon. In the display one sees the imagination,

prowess and mastery of the SHAKO artists which have been seen thrice before.

In Farhe Zeba's "Nature", acrylic on ply-board, one finds two pensive images of a couple appearing to pray in silence and despair. The figures are done in royal blue of different shades. Shady trees, riverside bushes and the sky, the main subject being nature, are brought in with powerful strokes.

The untitled mixed media by Naima Haque has a petite owl perched on what appears to be a rock or the head of a man. The work is in stripes, lines and scratches to lend interest in the texture work. Framing the figures is the sky in variations of gent blue and white. Dots, doodles and more scratches are included in the backdrop.

"Autumn", acrylic on canvas by Farida Zaman, undoubtedly an excellent painting, has superbly presented water lilies dancing in the water. The lilies are buttercup yellow with twirling roots and they are juxtaposed with the pitch-black river below and the natural background of trees with delicate dots, done in emerald green and black.

The pristine acrylic on canvas, "Busy Path" by Nasreen Begum, brings in nature and man with superb subtlety and vivid imagination. Lush green meadow is balanced with narrow white flowing streams and more dotted meadows that are balanced in a parallel manner. Minuscule figures of rural people, going about their everyday life, are placed above the depiction of nature.

"Girl with a melon" by Rokeya Sultana in shades of brown, gray, flamingo pink present the simple image of a woman with bobbed hair, biting into a fruit. Balanced images of more watermelon form the setting for the portrait.

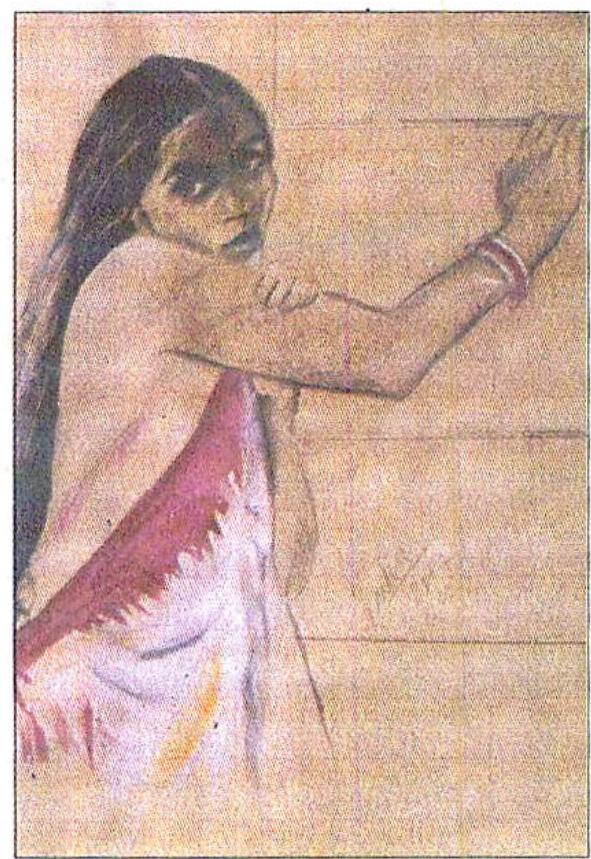
Kuhi, who excels in portrait in crayon, and who delighted the local and overseas viewers with her dynamic pictures has an untitled charcoal on paper. Here one sees a woman in a white sari with a faded red border, with simple black and white bangles on the wrists and a flowing mane of jet-black hair. The doe like eyes and pouting lips speak of anger and resentment.

The Chittagong Hill Tracts life has been delineated with brilliance by Kanak Champa Chakma. Heavy jewellery at the neck, ears, wrists and hair, plus a yellow flower deck the young woman in "Nilmai Nirongona", an acrylic on canvas. The cobalt blue sky and snowy river are included in the portrait too.

"Unknown love", acrylic on canvas by Rebecca Sultana Moly presents lithe young women in printed *shalwar*-

kameez and diaphanous *dupatta*. The angular faces remind one of portraits done by the Italian Renaissance masters. The scintillating colours on the clothes are offset by more flamboyant reds and yellows of the background.

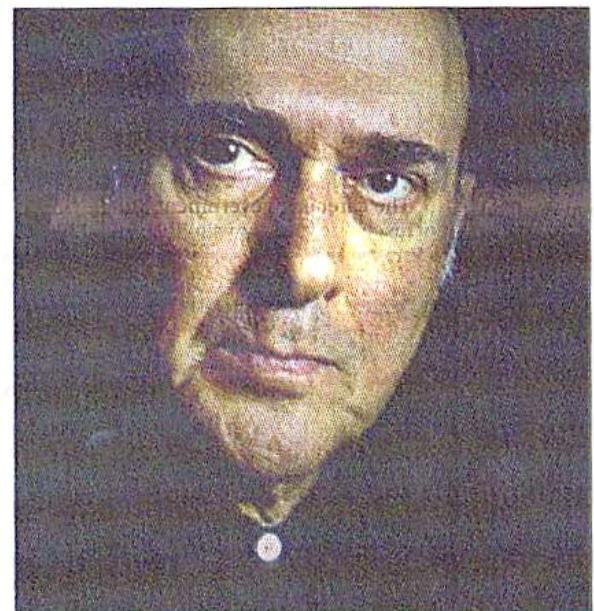
The delightful collection of works by the SHAKO artists are definitely worth viewing. The exhibit ends on October 26.



An artwork by Kuhu

ALL TIME GREATS

Harold Pinter: An absurdist playwright



intentions neither the characters nor the audience can define. The struggle for survival or identity dominates the action of his characters. Language is not only used as a means of communication but as a weapon. Beneath the words, there is a sense of fear, rage and domination, fear of intimacy.

In 1960 Pinter wrote *The Dumb Waiter*. With his second full-length play, *The Caretaker* (1960), Pinter made his breakthrough as a major modern talent, although in Dusseldorf the play was booted.

The Homecoming (1965) is perhaps the most enigmatic of all Pinter's early works. It won a Tony Award, the Whitbread Anglo-American Theatre Award, and the New York Drama

Critics' Circle Award. In the story an estranged son, Teddy, brings his wife Ruth home to London to meet his family, his father Max, a nagging, aggressive ex-butcher, and other tough members of the all-male household. At the end Teddy returns alone to his university job in America. Ruth stays as a mother or whore to his family. Everyone needs her. Similar motifs -- the battle for domination in a sexual context -- recur in *Landscape and Silence* (both 1969), and in *Old Times* (1971), in which the keyline is "Normal, what's normal?"

From the 1970s Pinter has directed a number of stage plays and the American Film Theatre production of *Butler* (1974). Closely associated with the director Peter Hall, he became an associate director of the National Theatre after Hall was nominated as the successor of Sir Lawrence Olivier. Pinter has received many awards, including the Berlin Film Festival Silver Bear in 1963, BAFTA awards in 1965 and in 1971, the Cannes Film Festival Palme d'Or in 1971, and the Commonwealth Award in 1981. In 1996 he was given the Laurence Olivier Award for a lifetime's achievement in the theatre. In 2002 he was made a Companion of Honour for services to literature.

Since the overthrow of Chile's President Allende in 1973, Pinter has been active in human rights issues, but his opinions have often been controversial. In January 2002 Pinter was diagnosed with cancer of the oesophagus. In his speech to an anti-war meeting at the House of Commons in November 2002 Pinter joined the world-wide debate over the so-called "preventive war" against Iraq: "Bush has said: 'We will not allow the world's worst weapons to remain in the hands of the world's worst leaders.' Quite right. Look in the mirror chum. That's you."

In February 2005 Pinter announced in an interview that he has decided to abandon his career as a playwright and put all his energy into politics. "I've written 29 plays. Isn't that enough?"

Compiled by Cultural Correspondent

Pinter's major plays are usually set in a single room, whose occupants are threatened by forces or people whose precise

intentions neither the characters nor the audience can define. The struggle for survival or identity dominates the action of his characters. Language is not only used as a means of communication but as a weapon. Beneath the words, there is a sense of fear, rage and domination, fear of intimacy.

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Nilmai Nirongona by Kanak Champa Chakma

TV WATCH

"Ratrir Phool" on Channel i

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Eid-special play *Ratrir Phool* will be aired on Channel i at 10:30 am. The play is written by Faria Hossain and directed by Chayanika Chowdhury.

In the play, Roni sincerely abides by his father's teachings. After his marriage with Shoma, they go to a quiet place outside Dhaka for honeymoon. There his ideals face a challenge for the first time.

Mahfuz and Tarin play the lead roles.



Tarin and Mahfuz Ahmed in the play

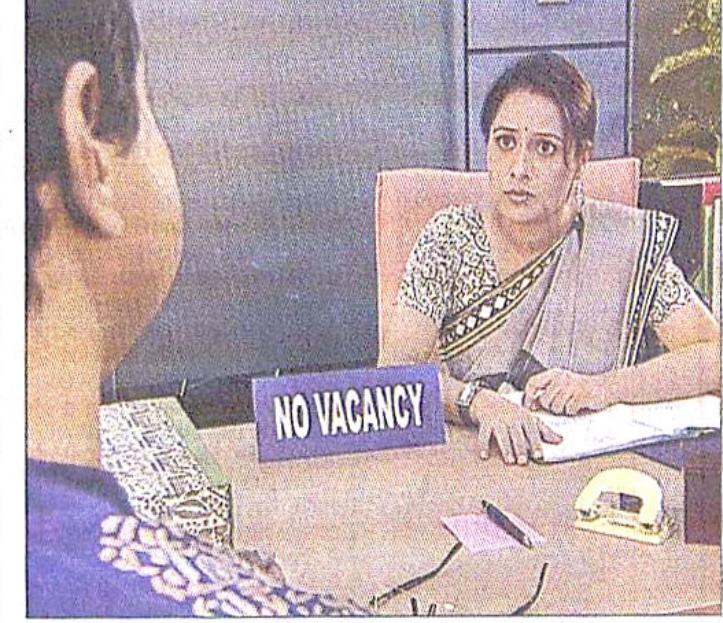
"Anurager Chhowa" on Banglavision

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Banglavision will air tele-film *Anurager Chhowa*, today at 8:15pm.

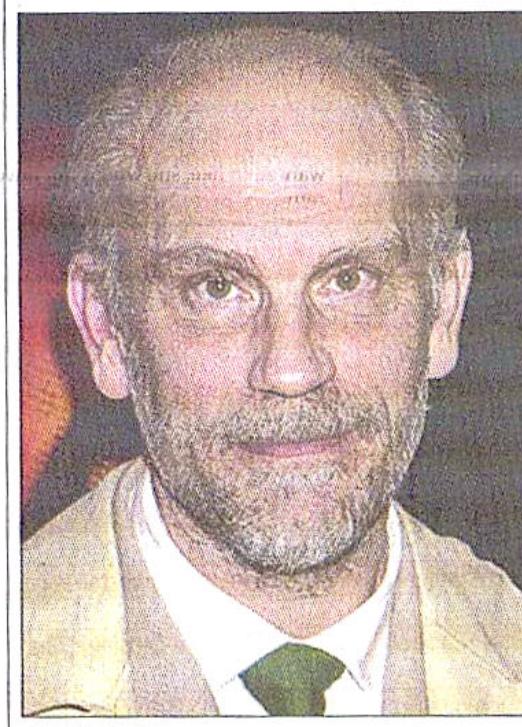
Sania Chowdhury, personal assistant to the managing director of an organisation, one day misbehaves with her boss' son Shoaib, mistaking him for a job applicant. Shoaib joins the company as the new managing director and Sania is apprehensive that Shoaib might not have forgotten the ill-treatment. But surprisingly, nothing happens. Instead, she notices that Shoaib is trying to get close to her.

Anurager Chhowa, is written by Morshed Chowdhury and directed by Komol Chakma. Aupee Karim, Tony Dais, Abul Hayat and Dilara Zaman have played the central roles in *Anurager Chhowa*.



Aupee Karim in *Anurager Chhowa*

Malkovich and Jolie in Eastwood's film



John Malkovich

John Malkovich will join Angelina Jolie in *Changeling*, a high profile project that Clint Eastwood is putting together for Universal and Imagine. According to *Hollywood Reporter*, the film follows a 1920s mother who loses her son. When the police

returns the wrong child to her, she refuses to believe it and gets cracked into an insane asylum for her trouble. Jolie, no stranger to hunting down children around the globe, is obviously perfect casting.

She will be joined by Malkovich as a priest and Colm Feore as the chief of police. With Eastwood calling the shots, one can bet this one will be a very, very long and bi-hogging the podium come Oscar time.

Source: BBC



Angelina Jolie

ON AIR



Swapnotarito
On ntv at 8:15pm
Special TV play
Cast: Dolly Zuhur, Purnima

Opoya
On Ekuhshey Television at 3:30pm
Special telefilm
Cast: Mir Sabbir, Nadia

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

ATN BANGLA

06:15 Musical Programme: *Shapnochon*

09:15 Documentary Programme: *Anunder*

10:30 Tele-film: *Pherari Mon*

11:05 Bangla Feature Film: *Jon Chabi*

05:00 *Gram Sonjer Khobor*

06:20 *Eid Arondo Gaan*

07:45 Drama: *Onyokochhu*

08:50 Drama: *Raat*

10:40 Drama: *Nemichhey Dupurey*

12:00 Gramophone Lead News

09:50 Gramophone Tirthomitra

10:30 Drama: *Ratrir Phool*

12:10 Drama: *Ekantyo*

01:05 Special Programme

02:35 Tele-film: *Je Kohla*

05:30 *Moni Moto Gaan*

06:00 *Krishshader Eid*

07:50 Drama: *Ekti Matra*

09:35 Drama: *Ek Tukro*

11:30 Special Programme

12:00 Gramophone Aikter Shangadipro

08:00 Drama: *Record*

08:55 *Rupali Porder Golpo*

10:05 *Shera Dash Ameyay*

11:00 *Shompare*

11:30 Band Show: *Rock*

12:10 *Anondoniketon*

01:05 *Amra Galley Ichhey*

12:10 *Holo*

01:25 *Jugantor Gaan*

ETV

02:30 Tele-film: *Shapnotarito*

09:30 Cartoon

10:00 Concert

02:30 *Phool Eka Eka*

07:30 *Philey*

09:30 *Opoya*

11:30 *Eksheher Shondhya*

01:00 *Band Boader Eid*

03:00 *Tim*

05:00 *Drama: Sonja*

07:30 *Dibhido*

10:00 *Onclo Jatra*

12:00 *Banshi Tarey Ban*

03:00 *Sabduq*

11:30 *Golden Moments*

09:30 *Golden Moments*

11:30 *Golden Moments*

01:00 *Golden Moments*

03:00 *Golden Moments*

05:00 *Golden Moments*

07:30 *Golden Moments*

10:00 *Golden Moments*

12:00 *Golden Moments*

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