

CULTURALFEAST

Dhaka Book Fair 2007

Organised by: National Book Centre
Venue: National Parade Square,
Sher-e-Bangla Nagar
Date: December 1-16

International Festival of Docufilms

Festival Title: 2nd International Festival of Docufilms on Liberation and Human Rights
Organiser: Liberation War Museum
Venue: Liberation War Museum

Date: December 4

3:00pm onwards Newsreel Footage from 1971, Outfoxed All & Somewhere in May
5:30 pm Tabiborgade, Mangos, Murder, Minus

Date: December 5

3:00pm onwards Surplus, Ananya Mukujuda
5:30 pm Why We Fight

Film Screening

Organiser: Dhaka University Film Society
Venue: TSC auditorium, Dhaka University

December 4

10:00am Mukti Gaan
01:00pm Notting Hill
03:30pm One Less
05:30pm My Left Foot

December 5

10:00am Life is Beautiful
01:00pm Blood Diamond
03:30pm Colour of Paradise
05:30pm Sareng Bou

December 6

09:00am Shaolin Soccer
11:00am The Namesake

Art Exhibition

Title: Nitin Kundu: The Creative Mind
Artist: Nitin Kundu
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, Bengal Shilajpatra, H 275/F, Road 27 (old), Dharmstadt

Date: December 3-17
Time: 12pm-8pm

Exhibition

Title: Jhora Shishir Gaan
Venue: Nitya Upchar, 50, Aziz cooperative super market, 2nd floor, Shahbagh

Date: December 1-10

Solo Art Exhibition

Title: Toka
Artist: Rafiqun Nabi
Venue: Gallery Chitrak, Road 4, House 21, Dharmstadt

Date: December 1-7
Time: 10am-8pm

Title: Entity: Sketches of Heritage
Artist: Sajid-Bin-Doza Bonny
Venue: Alliance Francaise de Dacca, 26, Mirpur Road, Dharmstadt

Date: December 3-16
Time: 9am-12pm & 5pm-8pm except Saturday (5pm-6pm)

Photo Exhibition

Title: Arktos-Antarktos
Photographer: Enam Ul Haque and Tareq Onu

Venue: Drift Gallery, House 58, Road 15A (new), Dharmstadt

Date: November 30-December 4
Time: 3pm-8pm

Solo Painting Exhibition

Artist: Shyamal Roy Chowdhury

Venue: Art & Soul Gallery, Road 36, House 16, Gulshan

Date: November 30-December 16
Time: 11am-8pm

"Tokai" rushes to the rescue

Rafiqun Nabi's inimitable brush strokes at Chitrak



Paintings by Rafiqun Nabi

FAYZA HAQ



PHOTO: STAR

rubbish. The young one is breezing through a lonely life and yet marching on.

Being trained by master artists like Zainul Abedin, Safiuddin and Mohammed Kibria, Nabi believes that good drawing is the basic need for fine artwork. His overseas studies at Athens added to this belief. David Hockney inspires him too. Among the drawing and painting experts, Nabi is surely nonpareil, sharing laurels only with Shishir Bhattacharya.

With swift lines of the basic colours, and pastel shades to fill the rest of the void, along with other essential inclusions of the Dhaka scenario, Nabi builds a veritable arcadia in the capital city, although some may feel that the metropolis is nothing but a 'cement jungle'.

The socio-economic and political overtures of Nabi can be seen through the poignant pieces, as "Tokai" braves through life in his checked "lungi" and his podgy bare top. He hops, skips and whistles through life as if the sun will never set on his merry existence, although trash cans, bits of reject papers and other refuses

from homes are the contents of his booty.

"These are not caricatures and I've tried to show the rhythm of Tokai's daily life. This character is familiar and I love drawing him. These delineations had me totally involved in my subject. I got rapt in this theme of the street children decades back, in 1977. These children are extremely intelligent, although they cannot go to school. These self-made and independent beings have only their quick wit and the instinct of self-preservation to guide them," Nabi said.

"Earlier I had a similar exhibition on the same theme at the same venue in 2003, on Tokai's 25th year of publication in Bichitra. Now this much-loved character appears in the weekly 2000. The hurricane has caused innumerable deaths. All artists wish to do something for the devastated nation. I too want to do my bit," he added.

Nabi spent 15 days on this collection of 35 paintings. The gallery picked up some of the bills. He used water-colour and acrylic.

Classical music convention at Chhayanat

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

To popularise and promote classical music, Chhayanat arranged a three-day music convention titled *Shuddha Sangeet-er-Anushthan* that ended on December 2. Visiting sarod maestro from Kolkata, Pandit Buddhadev Das Gupta inaugurated the event at the main auditorium, Chhayanat on November 30.

The event featured performances by Pandit Buddhadev Das Gupta as well as eminent musicians from Dhaka and other districts of Bangla-

des. Pandit Das Gupta, Ustad Amresh Roy Choudhury from Rajshahi, Anup Barua and Swarup Hossain of Chhayanat performed on the first day of the convention.

"In continuation of our endeavour to promote and uphold traditional and classical music among the masses, in particular the young generation, we have arranged this convention. This should inspire our students who are interested in classical music and understand its importance," said Khairul Anam Shakil, noted Nazrul

singer and general secretary of Chhayanat.

The second day of the convention began with Satindranath Halder's performance of Raga Puriya, Iftekhar Alam Pradhan on tabla, Bijoy Chandra Mistri on harmonium and Shukla Paul on taanpura accompanied the artiste.

The next performance was by the renowned flutist M.D. Maniruzzaman. Maniruzzaman played Raga Madhumanti and another dhun on the flute. The hour-long performance received a warm response from the audience. Providing sangat to the artiste, Syed Mehrab Hossain and Mahua Manjuri were on tabla and taanpura respectively.

Asit Dey, classical music teacher at Chhayanat and University of Development Alternative, was the last performer of the day. Asit Dey rendered Raga Puria, Dhanesree, Ratan Kumar Das on tabla, Bijoy Chandra Mistri on harmonium and Shukla Paul on taanpura accompanied him.

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