

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Painting Exhibition

of Leading Artists of Bangladesh
Venue: Gallery Chitrak,
H 21, R 4, Dhanmondi
Date: May 16-20



Theatre

Play: Rokto Karobi
Troupe: Nagarik Natya Sampradaya
Venue: Mahila Samiti Auditorium, Natak Swarani
Date: May 20
Time: 7pm



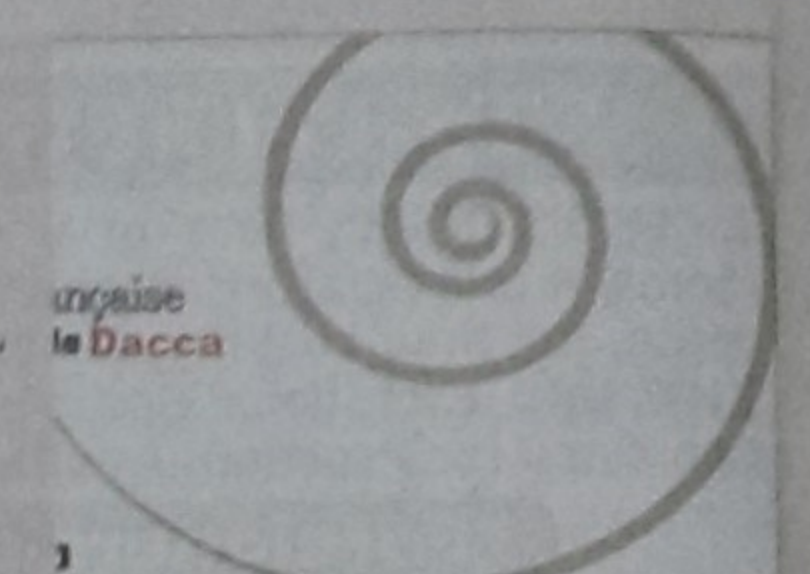
Solo Painting Exhibition

Title: The Dance of Life on the Horizon
Artist: Mahmudul Haque
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, H 285/F, R 27 (old), Dhanmondi
Date: May 16-30
Time: 12pm-6pm



Solo Painting Exhibition

Title: Rhythm & Nature
Artist: Zahir Hossain
Venue: Alliance Francaise, 26, Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi
Date: May 9-22



Saying it with clay

Tête-à-tête with ceramist Rehana Akter Nayan

NIVEDITA RAITZ VON FRENTZ

Inaugurated a little over three years ago, her shop *Clay Image* in Dhanmondi's Sunrise Plaza, teems with fabulous pieces, each one unique by virtue of being hand made. It comes as no surprise therefore, that the proprietor Nayan, reflects the art contained within.

She had always wanted to be a doctor, but followed an inner instinct to try her luck at Charukala. Specialising in ceramics, Nayan completed her Bachelors in Fine Arts in 2002, but discontinued her Masters due to pressure from her business, a venture she had embarked upon while still an undergraduate. Her first Charukala award was also responsible for her branching out into commercial ceramics.

It started with a table and a manually-operated potter's wheel in her parents' garage. She took over part of the roof terrace; her father likened her to "an occupying power," as Nayan's expansion plans continued unabated. A kiln was built behind the house and she continued to work in this studio until her final year at Charukala. Perfecting the bisquit firing technique at her home-made kiln, Nayan felt frustrated when she was unable to match this success with glaze firing. "The glaze just wouldn't melt." Undaunted, in 2003 she converted an ancestral house into a factory, where she lived for one year until she could follow the ceramics process through to completion, with high glaze firing. "It was a very emotional moment. I guess it could be compared to childbirth."

Clay bought in bulk at Old Dhaka's Mitford area is steeped in



Ceramic works by Rehana Akter Nayan

water for a month and re-worked. The piece is prepared at the wheel and left to dry at room temperature. Then comes the exciting bit the first or bisquit firing, where the piece is burnt at low temperatures (700-900°C). After its removal from the kiln, the piece is

washed, dried and hand painted using ceramics colours. Nayan concocts a special stoneware glaze from a mixture of chemicals, into which the piece is immersed before the second and final, high glaze firing at 1200-1250°C.

Winning the "Media Best Award"

three years running, in her second, third and fourth years at Charukala gave Nayan the boost she needed, and was the driving force behind her first exhibition in 2004, hectically coinciding with the September opening of *Clay Image*. "I was thrilled to have won the awards and even more amazed at the sale of my work at their first showing."

Soon after, in early 2005 her second exhibition, cleverly titled 1200 °C, opened at Galleri Kaya, followed by a private viewing at the Netherlands Embassy. 2005 was a busy year, with her last exhibition taking place in Chittagong. As expected, the rigours of upgrading her factory have made it difficult to organise more exhibitions, but Nayan is satisfied that her art has developed to her liking.

"For success in hand made ceramics, one needs the right equipment, skill and observation. Without perfection, there can only be rejection. Each piece is like an intensive care patient, needing constant nursing. It is the result of a joint effort, from the person who mixes the clay, to the ceramist."

Today, Nayan has 20 employees and three electric wheels at her disposal. She is glad to be able to support the work of a traditional potter, so that the ancient art is not lost. Ceramics is an expensive profession, requiring plenty of financial investment. Nayan has plans to streamline her factory and of course, hold further exhibitions. "Ceramics is like an addiction for me," Nayan has very capably turned her addiction into a flourishing business.

The writer is a freelance contributor

Movie Watch

"Before the Rains": No trailblazing in jungle



Rahul Bose (left) and Linus Roache in Santosh Sivan's period drama *Before the Rains*

Before the Rains, director Santosh Sivan's drama set in 1937 India, is a hodgepodge in the Raj -- a predictable patchwork of forbidden romance, English arrogance, a gun given as a gift, suicide, corruption, deception, rising Indian nationalism and a short-lived chase through the jungle.

It's a film where characters are always engaged in something symbolic, whether building roads to forge a modern India or discouraging about the "healing" power of water after committing adultery. There's also a mention of "sacred" dragonflies, an insect supposedly inhabited by our spirits after death.

Sivan, a veteran cinematographer, won justifiable praise for his 1999 Tamil-language film, *The Terrorist*, about a young woman sent on a suicide assassination mission. But the seemingly larger budget of *Before the Rains* -- it is "presented by" Merchant Ivory

Productions -- seems to prove that more does not always mean more.

The new film has several Merchant Ivory hallmarks, namely convincing use of period clothing, cars, hairdos and music. And Sivan -- given his terrific eye for cinematographic detail -- uses far more restraint than expected in the use of lush landscape to establish mood. The film starts with lovely images of early morning fog rolling through the lush hills of Kerala, in southern India, but then moves swiftly to the characters engineering the drama.

There's the married English planter Henry Moores (Linus Roache), seeking to make his fortune building a jungle road. There's his beautiful Indian housemaid, Sajani (Nandita Das), who is married to a thuggish villager and believes the Englishman's promises of a future together.

They have been trysting for a

while, but the first the audience beholds of their affair is when they spirit into the jungle under the guise of looking for honey from a beehive.

The film introduces another central character, Moores' man Friday. He is an English-educated villager, T.K. Narayan (Rahul Bose), who grows increasingly conflicted about his allegiances. He helps Moores build the jungle road and dispose of Sajani's body after she kills herself in a moment of romantic despair.

She screams at Moores, "I have risked everything, my honour, my life. And what have you risked? Does he love her? No, Bang."

The most honestly dramatic moment of the film occurs when the villagers, led by Sajani's brother, suspect Narayan of being complicit in her death. The matter is settled before a local shaman who devises a test of truth: Lick a scalding spoon three times, rinse,

and if Narayan's tongue is spotless, so is his conscience.

The film is about honour as much as anything. Sajani does not want to be the village outcast. Moores wants to prove to his wife (the Tony Award-winning stage actress Jennifer Ehle) that he is financially worthy as her rich father. And Narayan must regain his family honour after casting his lot with Moores, a corrupting relationship that acts as parable about English masters' and their Indian subjects.

Though tinged with politics, the film's potboiler aspects remind the viewer of the exotic-locale melodramas churned out by Hollywood studios in the 1940s. Bette Davis in *The Letter*, killing her lover on a Malay rubber plantation, pops to mind.

Source: Internet



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

On Air

BTV

08:40 Bishwa Bichitra
08:55 Premier Division Football League
12:30 Maa O Shishur Katha Debate
05:05 Malanchyo
07:00 Maa O Manush
07:25 Musical Programme: Geeti Madhuri
08:35 Drama Serial: Neel Konthey Konyia
09:00 Drama: Jhunu Apa
10:30 Musical Programme: Maatir Gaan

ATN BANGLA

08:15 Aikar Shanbadpoto
08:30 Drama Serial: Ochin Pakhi
09:15 Drama Serial: Amader Nurul Huda
10:30 Talk Show: Onyodrishti
11:05 Drama: Shonoloker Chhabhi
12:15 Musical Programme: Shur Chhobi
01:30 Khelaj Jogot
02:30 Take Care
03:15 Drama: Ami Tokai Na
04:30 Talk Show: Shontrasher Birudhoy Islam
05:00 Gram Gonjer Khorob
05:10 Mission To Liberia
05:45 The Sword of Tipu Sultan
06:20 Three Stooges
08:00 Drama Serial: Showa Paanch Arai Len
08:40 Drama Serial: Syed Barir Bou
09:20 Drama Serial: Orchid
11:30 Daily Soap: Doll's House
12:00 Gramphone Lead News
CHANNEL 1
08:05 Tagore Song
08:30 Shokalsar Gaan
09:30 Shangbadpotoy Bangladesh
09:45 Public Reaction

09:50 Gramphone Tritomatra
11:05 Apollo Tele Prescription
11:30 Agricultural Programme: Hridoye Mati O Manush
12:30 Citycell Taroka Kathan
01:05 Musical Programme: Ebong Cinemar Gaan
01:30 Musical Programme: Sa Re Ga Ma
02:35 Ekattor er Dinguli
03:30 BBC Bangladesh Shonglaap
04:05 Educational Programme: BSB
04:30 Channel-1 Shera Kontho
05:30 Mukhti Judho Protidin
06:00 South Asian Music
06:20 TV Series: Super Man
07:50 Mega Serial: Ghar Kulum
08:20 Drama Serial: Noukadubi
09:35 Travel Show: Banglalink Banglar Pathay
10:00 Drama Serial: Zero Point
11:30 Drama Serial: 69
12:00 Gramphone Aikar Shangbadpoto

ETV

08:30 Ekush-er Shokal
09:15 Drama Serial: Aziz Market, Shahab, Dhaka 1000
10:30 Ekush-er Business
12:00 Special Ekush-er Dupur
12:30 Ekush-er Business: Special Focus
01:30 Ekush-er Business: Shaphol Jara
02:10 Drama Serial: Pori Bibi
03:30 Shangskriti Shath Din
04:00 Explosive
05:45 Ekush-er Shondha
06:15 SMS Mania
06:30 Desh Jurey Bangladesh-er Chalachitra
07:45 Street Show: Key Ki Koy
08:15 Drama Serial: Poribibi
09:30 Drama Serial: Dur-er Manush
10:00 Drama Serial: Habib-er Shonshar
11:40 Sports Roundup
12:00 Ekush-er Raat
Rtv
08:40 Musical Programme: Saangeet Angon
09:00 Rtv Exclusive
09:05 Protidin
09:35 Documentary Programme
10:03 Drama Serial: Nirontor
10:55 News Update
11:00 Taroka Alap
12:15 Drama: College Student

01:30 Dhallywood Beats
02:30 Bangla Feature Film
06:00 Protidin
06:30 Musical Programme: Path Chaoatol Anondo
08:00 Drama Serial: Aguntaak

Bari
12:00 Shangbad Protidin
CHANNEL 1
08:40 Shuprobhaat Bangladesh
10:30 Bangla Feature Film

06:00 Nazrul Sangeet
07:30 Selected Programme
10:30 Business Hour
HBO
11:30 Young Hercules



Dhur-er Manush
On Ekush-er TV at 09:30 pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Mahfuz Ahmed, Tisha

08:35 Wide Angle
09:20 Drama Serial: Poroshpor
11:00 Borney Borney Rochito
11:30 Biz Event
12:00 Editor's Comment
BANGLAVISION
08:30 Nana Rang-er Dinguli
09:00 Cinebit
09:30 Bangla Feature Film
12:30 Amader Olithi
02:00 Daily Soap: Mohanagar
02:30 Golper Natok: Alapita
03:05 Nodi O Jibon
04:20 Drama Serial: Nogorey Nagorik
05:30 Law Chamber
06:05 Citycell Din-er Sheshey
06:20 Cinebit Shada Kalo
06:50 Sports Vision
08:25 Drama: Mohanagar
09:05 Career Show: Visa Apnar Agami
09:45 Drama Serial: Swapnochura
11:25 Drama Serial: Shohor-er Shesh

02:00 Bishwa Jurey Shath Din
03:30 Drama: Tero Haat Shari
04:00 Gaan-er Khata
04:30 Cookery Show: Shomoyer Swad
05:15 Rupantor-er Golpo
06:00 Saajbela
07:00 Shondhikhoney
08:15 Drama: Tero Haat Shari
09:00 Shomoyer Aynay Rajniti
09:30 Cine Tune
11:00 Gaaney Gaaney Bahudur
BOISHAKHI
08:05 Din Protidin
08:35 Atyo Rokhay Marshal Arts
10:05 Dance Show: Chhonhey Chhonhey Nityo
10:30 Mon-er Katha
12:05 Musical Programme: Prio Shilpi Shera Gaan
Jantey Chai
Haturin Shurey
Cartoon

01:30 Superman II
04:00 An Inconvenient Truth: An Update With Al Gore
04:35 Shooter
07:15 The Making Of The Island
07:45 Madeline
09:30 The Island
12:15 Extreme Measures
STAR MOVIES
10:45 Blood And Chocolate
12:30 King Maker, The
02:10 Step Up!
03:55 The Green Mile
07:00 Breaking And Entering
09:00 Death And Life Of Bobby Z
10:40 Saw II
STAR WORLD
10:00 Smallville
01:00 Friends
01:30 The Bold And The Beautiful
03:30 Last Comic Standing

04:30 The Ellen Degeneres Show
05:30 Beauty And The Geek
06:30 Ugly Betty
07:30 For Better Or For Worse
08:30 Life
09:30 Grey's Anatomy
10:30 Criminal Minds
11:30 Ncis
12:30 Vanity Insanity
STAR PLUS
12:00 Jo Jeeta Wohi Superstar
03:30 Kya Aap Paanchvi Pass Selezhai
04:30 Kyaa Kool Hai Hum
07:30 Saibaba
08:30 Kya Aap Paanchvi Pass Selezhai
09:30 Pithviraj Chauhan
10:00 Baa Bahoo Aur Baby
10:30 Rel Mob Star Parivar Awards 08
12:00 Shararat-Thoda Jaadu Thodi Naz

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

11:45 Telemail- Sauna Belt
12:00 Lufthansa Nat Geo Genius
12:30 On The Road
01:30 Science Of Babies
02:00 In The Womb: Twins
03:00 Predators In Paradise
04:00 Dubai's Palm Island
05:00 Chimp Diaries
05:30 Mexico City
06:00 Big Bang
06:30 Emperor Penguins
07:00 Queen Mary 2
08:00 Victims Of Venom
10:00 Inside The Super Carrier
11:00 China's Ultimate Por

12:00 Inside: World's Biggest Cruise S
THE HISTORY CHANNEL
11:30 Sherlock Holmes
01:30 Neferiti: Mummy Returns
02:30 The Big Chill
03:30 City of Caves
05:30 True Caribbean Pirates
10:15 Cambridge Spies
11:30 Story of Black Hawk Down
ZEE STUDIO
11:00 Pinocchio
01:30 Daddy Day Care
03:30 Through A Glass Darkly
05:30 El News
06:00 Sweet Home Alabama
08:30 Beach Head
11:00 Turner & Hooch

Shooter
On HBO at
04:35 pm
Genre: Action
Cast: Danny Glover, Mark Wahlberg, Michael Pena

