

WHAT'S  
ON THIS  
WEEKPhotography  
Exhibition

**Title:** Climate Change  
**Venue:** Drik Gallery, H 58,  
Rd 15A (new), Dhanmondi  
**Date:** June 5-11  
**Time:** 3pm-8pm



## Art Exhibition

**Title:** Two Men's Painting  
Show  
**Artists:** H. R. Tutul and  
Ayan Mazumder  
**Venue:** Zainul Gallery,  
Institute of Fine Arts, DU  
**Date:** June 3-9  
**Time:** 10am-8pm

Solo Art  
Exhibition

**Title:** The Enchantment of  
the Transcendental  
**Artist:** Nurul Islam  
**Venue:** Bengal Gallery of  
Fine Arts, H 275/F, Rd 27  
(old), Dhanmondi  
**Date:** June 7-18  
**Time:** 12pm-8pm



## Film Screening

**Films from:** Raja Sen and  
Rituparno Ghosh  
**Venue:** Alamgir Kabir  
Chalachchitra Kendra, 62,  
Science Laboratory Road  
**Date:** June 6-7  
**June 7**  
"Rain Coat" at 5pm,  
"Antarmahal" at 7pm



## Subtle prints in sombre colours

Exhibition at Bengal Gallery

FAYZA HAQ

A print exhibition, comprising the works of students and teachers -- who were guest participants -- was recently held at the Bengal Gallery. This was the result of the classes held by Professor Sen and Professor Barua from Santiniketan at the IFA last month. Most of the works are in black and white or monochrome but they all reflect skill,

imagination and dedication.

Shubho Shaha's work brings in leaves, ferns, blades of grass and an unfurled net at the back. This is in black, white and grey. Mohammed Iqbal presents a semi-clad angel. She has sculpted figure, beautiful face and long hair. The angel appears to be sitting and waiting. Tuli Mandal's untitled intaglio brings in a woman's hands holding on to what appears to be a piece of silver jewellery. The print includes

her hands, shoulders and part of her neck.

Parvez Hossain's untitled lithograph has a leaping unicorn, with swishing tail and a trailing mane. It is in turquoise, with spots of black at the back. Nahid Rukhsana's print brings in two birds that are billing and cooing. The work in brown and black is very realistic, as each feather has been worked upon in detail. Sabbir Ahmed's "Untitled", etching, aquatint, has a still life of vase with leaves, and chopped apples scattered in front.

Muniruzzaman Shipu's "Amar Japan", intaglio, presents Mt. Fujiyama at the back, tall electric poles and a figure with a cap and coat. This is done in sketches of short, grey lines. "A tale of a river" by Mona Mahmud depicts two figures whizzing about in what appears to be a space ship or a giant walnut shell. The humans are surrounded by a scalloped wave of water, while all around are pink high-rise buildings. Ujjal Prabha's work introduces figures with triangular and rectangular faces held up in a background of more geometrical shapes.

"Untitled" by Arifur Rahman introduces a hut surrounded by lush trees and shrubs. This is in black and white. Kamruzzaman's "Untitled" has a nude woman with long hair falling in front, with bangles at her wrists. She appears to be just getting up from sleep. Sadekh Ahmed's untitled lithograph has swirls of black and red presenting a rickshaw. Yellow-ochre is also included in the picture of the resting rickshaw-puller and his vehicle.

Nasreen Begum's lithograph "Sea girl" has a young woman with beautiful features that include her face and neck. Seashells and other underwater creatures surround her curly hair. The untitled work by Ranjit Das has a woman fixing her hair. This is done in splashes of black on white. Sheikh Afzal's grey and white lithograph depicts a beggar and her child, seated on a footpath.

Abdus Sattar's "Face", lithograph, has a traditional beauty with



Lithograph by Sadekh Ahmed (top) and intaglio by Md. Abdul Gaffar



delicate nose, cupid lips, gazelle eyes with heavy jewellery at her neck. Dainty boats, swinging fishing nets and ripples of water are to be found in Farida Zaman's "My country". Abdus Shakoor Shah

depicts his traditional woman -- with a bird perched on her head -- from the folklore.

Although using a minimum of colours, the exhibit was delightful indeed.

## A veteran music trainer's views on the current trends

In conversation with Sanjib Dey

AUREEN AHSAN

Born into a family of musicians, it was natural for Sanjib Dey to take up the same profession. Son of Mithun Dey, who had trained prominent singers such as Shabnam Mushtari and Mitali Mukherjee, Sanjib said that he pursued a career in music primarily to preserve a family tradition. "My grandfather was also associated with music. It was my responsibility to carry on the tradition," he said.

Sanjib has been teaching music for almost 34 years now, and has trained artistes including Shakila Zafar, Alam Ara Minu, Dolly Shayantoni, Jhuma Khan, Waqar A. Chowdhury and Parvin Sultana. A former trainer at Chhayana, Sanjib spoke to *The Daily Star* recently about his passion for the art form and the current music scenario in the country.

On an optimistic note, the music guru asserts that there is significant number of potential artistes. However he cautions, "We have several remarkably talented young musicians but I believe their skills are not properly nurtured." His suggestion: The government should take the initiative to train financially insolvent artistes under skilled trainers, and devise a programme to monitor their progress. The media can also help promote these aspiring artistes.

Sanjib perceives the student-mentor bond as an intimate relationship. According to him, while the tutor should be perceptive about his student, the latter should possess the virtues of patience and eagerness to learn, along with a good voice and ability to pick things up fast. "There is no end to learning," he says.

The music enthusiast has high hopes for the younger generation. He has observed that the youngsters are showing interest in classical music as the foundation, for



Sanjib Dey

whatever genre of music they want to pursue. "However it is important that they acquire an in-depth knowledge about music first, be it pop, classical or rock." When asked about the current trend of talent hunts aired on the various TV channels, he says, "Obviously, it is a good platform for newcomers, but I feel that the evaluation should be proper; a balance between what the judges and the

viewers think." Sanjib enjoys listening to music and spending time with his family. A successful and dedicated trainer, Sanjib believes that it is the teacher's duty to direct young artistes towards the right track -- which requires considerable sacrifice. "People have to be more loyal to their professions, only then they can reach the desired positions in life," he concludes.

## Movie Watch

## "Kung Fu Panda": Fuzzy outsider, kicking his way toward his dream

At once fuzzy-wuzzy and industrial strength, the tacky-sounding "Kung Fu Panda" is high concept with a heart. Even better, this animated feature from DreamWorks is so consistently diverting and visually arresting that it succeeds in transcending its storybook clichés.

The panda of the title is Po, a generously proportioned mound of roly-poly black-and-white fun voiced with gratifying restraint by Jack Black. You know the next turn in the road as well as any Disney-and-Pixar-weaned 7-year-old: Po is different, Po has a dream, Po has

to struggle and so forth. Po also has a loving father, naturally (and no mother, predictably), Mr. Ping (James Hong), who runs a noodle shop that he hopes his son will take over one day. Po's unlikely passion for kung fu intervenes, leading him out of the noodle shop and into the metaphorical hot pot, whereupon he kicks, grunts and groans toward his destiny amid the usual clutter of colourful sidekicks and one nasty foe (Ian McShane).

For an ostensible outsider, Po conforms very much to familiar animated-movie type. Like Nemo and the rest of his cartoon brethren,

he needs to embark on the hero's journey, which he does with help from a miscellany of pals voiced by the usual A- and B-listers. Among those nudging and guiding Po is Master Oogway (Randall Duk Kim), an ancient turtle with a mellifluous voice and long, liquid neck who invented kung fu and now serves as the spiritual adviser (think Yoda) to an elite squad, including a kung fu master, the moustachioed red panda Shifu (Dustin Hoffman), and his students, the Furious Five: Tigress (Angelina Jolie), Viper (Lucy Liu), Monkey (Jackie Chan),

Crane (David Cross) and Mantis (Seth Rogen).

The screenplay by Jonathan Aibel and Glenn Berger is ho-hum without being insulting, a grab bag of gentle jokes, sage lectures, helpful lessons and kooky fights. There is none of the self-conscious knowing that characterises the Pixar factory, which makes the whole thing seem either winningly innocent or terribly cynical, depending on your mood and worldview. The bottom line of Pixar's "Incredibles" can be difficult to argue with -- namely, if everybody is special, no one is -- but the heroic outsider has his own durable appeal, particularly if he's a great big bouncing ball of fat and fuzz.

That outsider is even more irresistible when nestled amid so much lovingly created animation, both computer generated and hand drawn. The main story, executed via 3-D animation and directed by John Stevenson and Mark Osborne, fluidly integrates gorgeous, impressionistic flourishes with the kind of hyper-real details one has come to expect from computer-generated imagery: photorealistically textured stone steps, for instance, and fur so invitingly tactile you want to run your fingers through it. One of the pleasures of "Kung Fu Panda" is that instead of trying to mimic the entirety of the world as it exists, it uses the touch of the real. The character designs may be anatomically correct, but they're cartoons from whisker to tail.

Source: The New York Times



A scene from Kung Fu Panda



Artist RA Kajol was recently invited to create traffic art for UN's Bio Diversity Conference in Bonn, Germany. Artists Maruf Ahmed and Omar Farooq assisted him in this project along with nearly 350 school students of Bonn. On the pavements grey elephants, a polar bear with her cubs, a royal Bengal tiger, penguins, blue dolphins, a giraffe, a monkey, swans, a brown bat, sea horses, a flamboyant peacock, exotic butterflies, a snake, doves, crocodile and endless flowers were brought in bright colours. The multicoloured subjects merged with one another. The painting was called "Heaven on Earth." Students of the Bonn Ballet School performed using the painting as a stage; the bodies of the young dancers were painted with the bright motifs of the traffic art. This summer Kajol is doing three more traffic art projects in Denmark.

