

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Solo Painting Exhibition

Artist: Javed Jalil
Venue: Exhibition Hall, Russian Centre of Science and Culture, H 510, Rd 7, Dhanmondi
Date: November 16-23
Time: 11am-7pm



Solo Painting Exhibition

Title: Pata-Chitra
Artist: Raghunath Chakroborty
Venue: Drik Gallery, H 58, Rd 15A (New), Dhanmondi
Date: November 14-21
Time: 11am-8pm



13th Asian Art Biennale '08

Organiser: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, Osmani Memorial Hall and National Museum
Date: October 21-November 19
Time: 11am-7pm (Fridays 3pm-8pm)



Solo Art Exhibition

Title: Expression of Life
Artist: Kamal Kumar Das
Venue: Zainul Gallery, Faculty of Fine Arts, DU
Date: November 10-15
Time: 12pm-8pm

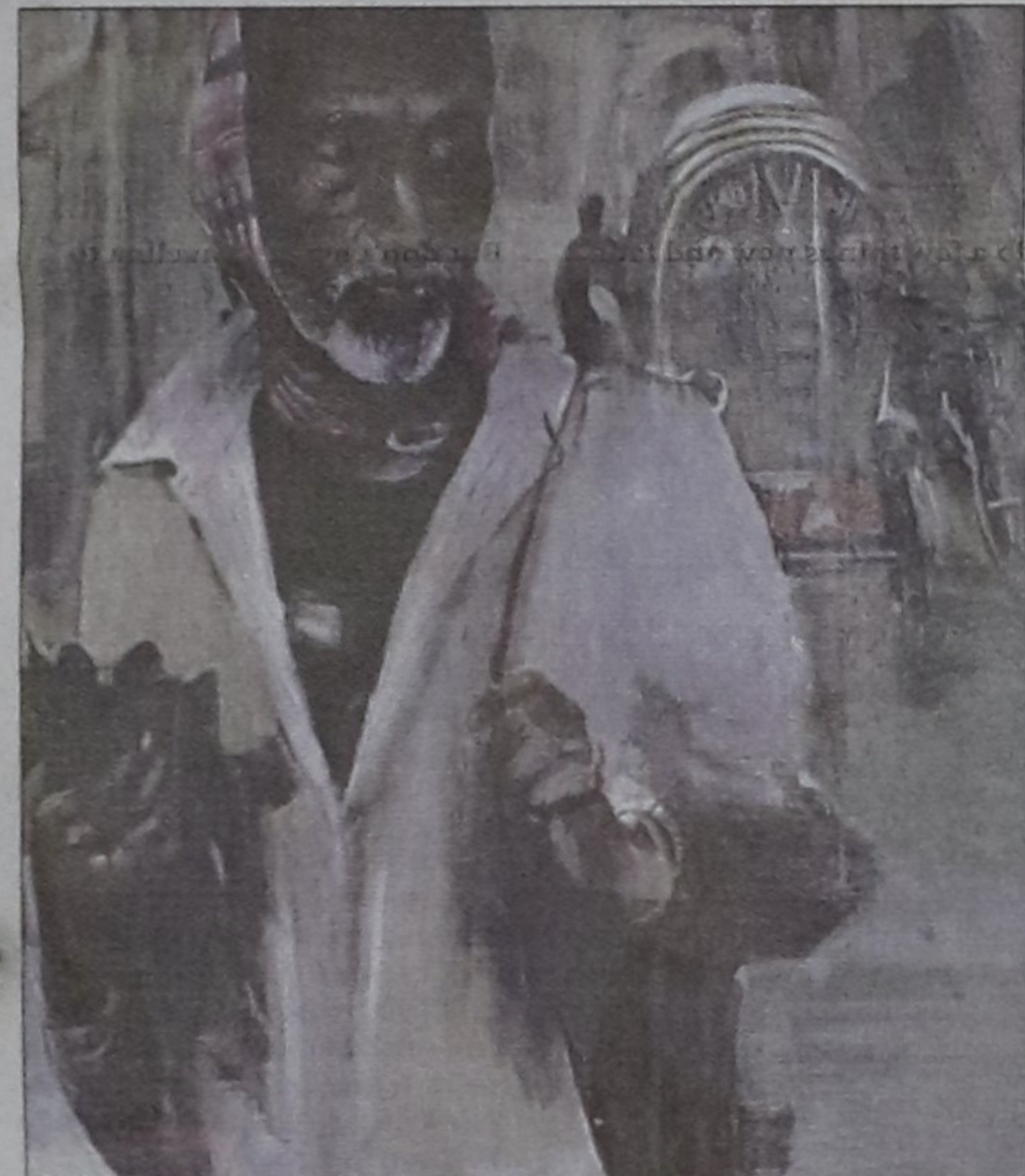


Exhibition

Jamal's romantic and pensive journey



Artworks by Jamal Ahmed



TAKIR HOSSAIN

For a long time, Bengal's scenic beauty as well as nubile women in all their curvaceous beauty, bucolic panoramic view, metropolis, bauls, mendicants, working class and more have been supremely depicted by the avant-garde painter Jamal Ahmed. The artist portrays the moving and remarkable sights around us.

Jamal Ahmed is one of the leading painters from the '70s, a time when the nation was caught up in the freedom movement. During the time, the country faced many crises and crossed a number of dilemmas...a time when our art, literature proceeded with a new dream and novel vision. Jamal closely observed the changing socio-political and economical condition of the country.

The artist is distinguished for his portraits of fishermen, gypsy women, flood-affected people,

countryside landscapes and more. There is a meditative look in his portraits. He has demonstrated his talent and creativity during his studying days that persuaded him to go to Japan and Poland.

A socially conscious artist, Jamal paints people, capturing the diverse moments of their social bindings. He portrays both rural and urban people -- their sufferings, torments, bliss and ecstasies.

In his ongoing solo exhibition at Gallery Chittrak, Jamal has used charcoal, pastel, pencil, watercolour and acrylic on paper and canvas. Observing his works critically, one gets the feeling that his acrylic follows the typical watercolour tonalities -- soft and seemingly transparent. He tries to express his feelings through simple compositions and colours. His colours are romantic and dreamy, which is why his paintings are admired by art connoisseurs and viewers.

Jamal's works on canvas reveal the celebration of triumph and broad-spaced vision.

He gets pleasure by painting what moves his creative soul and enables him to translate an individual language, colour and composition. His themes are always upholding the greatness of life and time. He clearly wants to focus the present. In the process, the viewer also gets to know the artist's individuality and mental state of that moment.

Jamal's work expresses the aesthetic beauty of our Bengali women and their varied moods. By means of his sweeping brush strokes and bold colours, the canvas gets a vivacious and spirited look. His sketches are powerful in their tone of lines and serenity. The charcoal sketches, in particular, are very lively and thought provoking. His intimate study of human beings and nature allows him to get to the core of his theme. The works prove his keen surveillance and adoration of nature, people and the mystic lives of bauls and sages.

Jamal Ahmed's solo exhibition at Gallery Chittrak ends on November 23.



Juanes crowned new king of Latin Grammys



Juanes holds his five awards backstage at the 9th annual Latin Grammy Awards.

Colombian rock star Juanes emerged as the new king of the Latin Grammys on November 13, sweeping the five awards for which he was nominated and becoming the new record holder.

"It really has been an amazing night," Juanes said on accepting his fifth award for Record of the Year for his mega hit "La Vida... Es Un Ratico."

November 13's wins bring the heartthrob's total Latin Grammys to 17, topping Spanish balladeer Alejandro Sanz who has 14.

Mexican alt-rockers Café Tacvba, which came in as front-runners with six nods took home two awards for Best Rock Song for "Esta Vez" and Best Alternative Song for "Volver a Comenzar."

Puerto Rican newcomer, singer-songwriter Kany

García was the night's other surprise, taking Best New Artist and Best Female Pop Album for her debut CD, "Cualquier Día."

"A year ago I was seeing this at home," the 26-year-old García said. "And now I'm here seeing this dream come true."

Juanes kicked off the ninth edition of Latin music's biggest night in Houston with an energetic rendition of the catchy single "Me Enamora," which later took Song and Short Video of the Year.

The singer-songwriter from Medellín also won Album of the Year and Best Male Pop Vocal Album. He was joined onstage by soul singer John Legend for a bilingual rendition of "If You're Out There."

The three-hour event, which was broadcast live on Univision, highlighted the richness and diversity of Latin music, with a strong accent in Mexican regional music.

The predominantly Mexican-American audience cheered at the performances of Banda El Recodo, Los Tigres del Norte and Alejandra Guzmán.

Gloria Estefan had a captivating performance of her hits "Mi Tierra" and "Oye Mi Canto," with Carlos Santana and José Feliciano.

Estefan, who was honoured as the 2008 Latin Recording Academy Person of the Year, picked up awards for Best Tropical Song and Best Traditional Tropical Album for her "90 Millas."

The urban categories went for two reggaeton artists: Flex from Panama for Best Song and Puerto Rico's Wisin & Yandel for Best Album.

In the pre-show awards, Mexican pop star Julieta Venegas picked up two Latin Grammys for her "MTV Unplugged" and New Yorker Marc Anthony won Best Salsa Album for "El Cantante."

Juanes thanked his fans, his mother, his two daughters and his wife in his various acceptance speeches. "This goes for Colombia," he repeated.

But the advocate for peace in Colombia and against land mines around the world ended his last acceptance speech on a political note.

"To all the Spanish speaking community in the US, congratulations," he said, "You have chosen the correct president. It's time for change."

Source: Internet

"The Mysterious Equation" on ntv tonight

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Single-episode TV play "The Mysterious Equation" will be aired on ntv tonight at 9pm. Written and directed by Shafayet Mansur Rana, the play features actors Sweetie, Azad Abul Kalam, Hillol, Nova and others.

The plot follows the life of Anubhab, an outstanding student of mathematics. Mathematics is his passion and his days involve

solving complex equations. Nausheen is Anubhab's classmate and fiancée, and is just the opposite of Anubhab. Indeed, their relationship stands on the fact that opposites attract. Zahid is a teacher of the department, who has a complicated relationship with his wife Mili. Mili does not approve of Zahid's profession. The play progresses, delving into the equations among these characters.



A scene from the play

'Rash Mela' in Manikganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj

"Rash Mela," a major local event and a tradition that goes back 500 years, began here last Thursday.

Police Superintendent of Manikganj, Sheikh Muhammad Maruf Hasan, inaugurated the 15-day long fair at Betila Bazar ground in Sadar upazila, Manikganj Municipality.

Mayor, Ramzan Ali, presided over the inaugural function attended by thousands of Hindu devotees from home and abroad. Highlights of the event are 'jatrपाला' and 'putul naach' performances.

The 'mela' includes around 100 stalls with different kinds of food items, toys, musical instruments, clothes and more. The fair opens at 10 am and continues throughout the night.



Justice Muhammad Habibur Rahman (front row, 2-L) and Nasiruddin Yousuff (front row, R), president, Bangladesh Gram Theatre (BGT), hoist the National Flag and BGT's flag respectively prior to the daylong 6th National Convention '08 of BGT. With the slogan "Lalon Aamar Praner Spondon," the programme started yesterday morning at the Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy premises and ended this morning. Thousands of members from all over the country took part at the event.

Members of Pratibimba Theatre from Comilla (seen in the accompanying photo) brought out a procession on the occasion of the inaugural. Bangladesh Gram Theatre was initiated by the late theatre icon Selim Al Deen.



PHOTO COURTESY: SAIKAT MOJUMDER

Manipuris in Maulvibazar celebrate 'Rash Leela'

RAJAT KANTI GOSWAMI, Maulvibazar

The Manipuri communities living in Madhabpur and Adampur under Kamalganj upazila of Maulvibazar district celebrated their major religious and cultural festival 'Maha Rash Leela' on November 13. Celebrations were held at Manipuri Jora Mandaps in Adampur and Madhabpur.

Manipuris have been celebrating this event on the 'purnima tithi' (full moon) of the Bangla month Kartik every year. This was the 166th celebration of 'Maha Rash Leela.'

There are two factions in the Manipuri Hindu community -- 'Meitheis' and 'Vishnupuria.' Besides these, there is another faction, who call themselves 'Pongol.'

The Meitheis celebrated 'Rash Leela' at the Adampur Jora Mandap and the Vishnupurias arranged their programme at Madhabpur.

The celebration included "Rakhal Nritya" (the dance of Sri Krishna), dance of Radha, "Pala Kirtan," discussion on 'Rash Leela' and other Manipuri traditions. The programme started from 11 am on Thursday and ended yesterday morning.

'Mela' (fairs) were also held at the two festival venues. The range



Young Manipuris in Sri Krishna costume at the 'Rash Leela.'

of products included Manipuri handicrafts, household items, toys and such. Thousands of people irrespective of caste and creed from different areas of the country attended the festival.



PHOTO MUMIT M

Dhaka Theatre staged its production "Nimojon" on November 12 at the Experimental Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy. Written by the late theatre icon Selim Al Deen, the play highlights a virtual place where humanity is devastated by genocides. Noted theatre personality and President of Dhaka Theatre Nasiruddin Yousuff has directed the play.