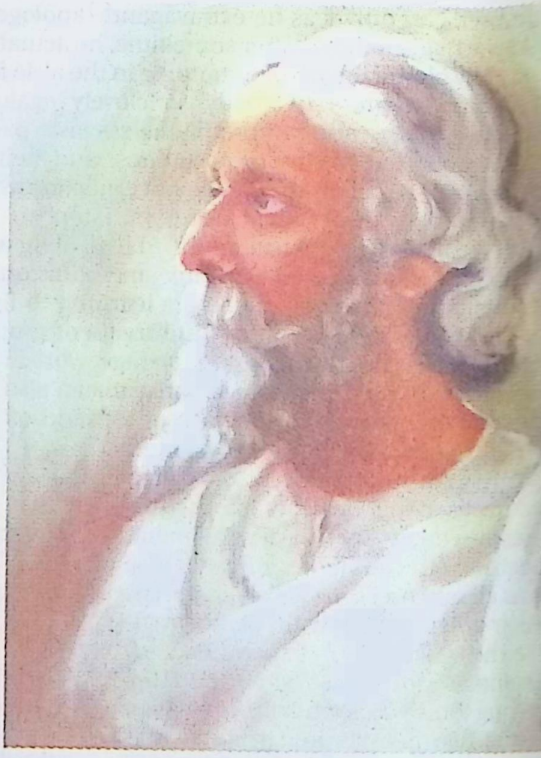
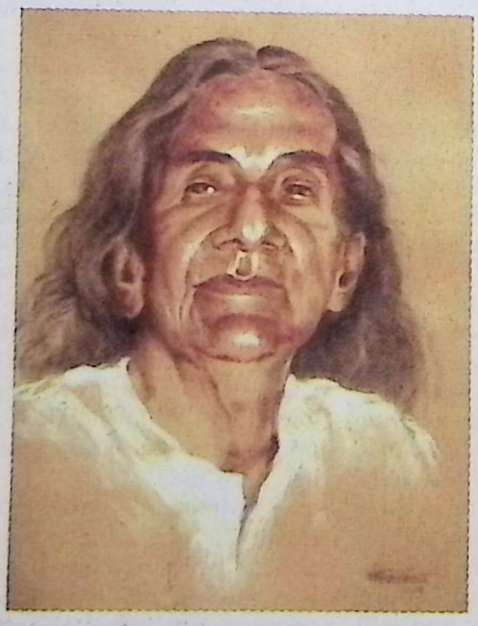
Portraits of Pride

FAYZA HAQ



Rabindranath Tagore

Portrait painting requires precision and perseverance. Kiriti Ranjan Biswas has about 40 large portraits of personalities who have contributed to Bangladeshi individuality and culture over the years. These are seen at "Shilpangan" in the exhibition entitled "Onupreronar Oboyob", which began on March 25th and runs till the 1st ofApril.



SM Sultan



Jibonananda Das

When he was about three, Kiriti copied portraits of characters like Nawab Shirazuddaula, done by his elder brother as doodles on brown paper covers of books. As he belonged to a Hindu family, Kiriti was familiar with figures of deities like Saraswati, and personalities from the Mahabharata, which he copied as a start of his career of portrait painting. In his school days he always carried a sketch- book in which he did portraits of people he liked. Working at an ad agency to make a living today, he has had to do a lot of figurative work, after he completed his Masters in Fine Arts in 1995 from India.

Asked which artists had influenced him most, Kiriti says he was inspired and motivated by Qayyum Chowdhury and SM Sultan. Michelangelo has been his favourite since he was a teenager, when he often visited