

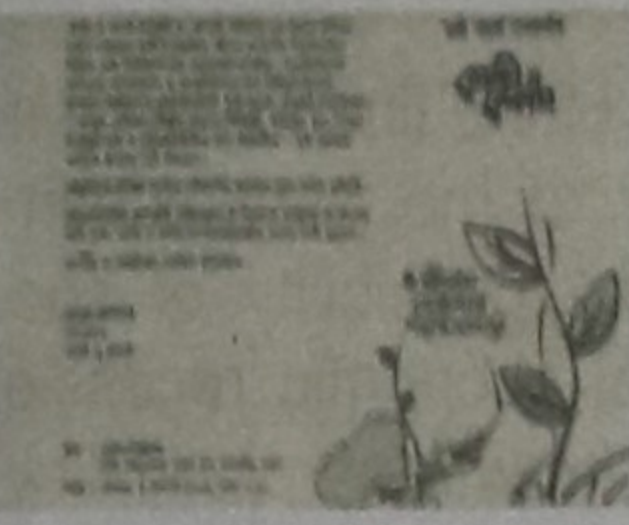
WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Inter-religious Film Session and Seminar
 Organiser: The Embassy of Italy, Goethe-Institut & Rainbow Film Society
 Venue: Goethe-Institut, H 10, Rd 9, Dhanmondi
 Date: August 10-12
 Inauguration at 5pm



Recitation

To celebrate 6th anniversary of 'Kali O Kolom'
 Title: Jibon Chetonar Pangtimala
 Venue: Bengal Shilpalaya, 275/F, Rd 27, Dhanmondi
 Date: August 8
 Time: 7:30pm



Group Photography Exhibition

Title: Perspectives
 Organiser: Pathshala
 Venue: Drik Gallery, H 58, Rd 15A (new), Dhanmondi
 Date: August 7-12
 Time: 3-6pm



Group Art Exhibition

Title: Orchestra
 Venue: National Art Gallery, Shilpakala Academy
 Date: August 2-10
 Time: 10am-7pm

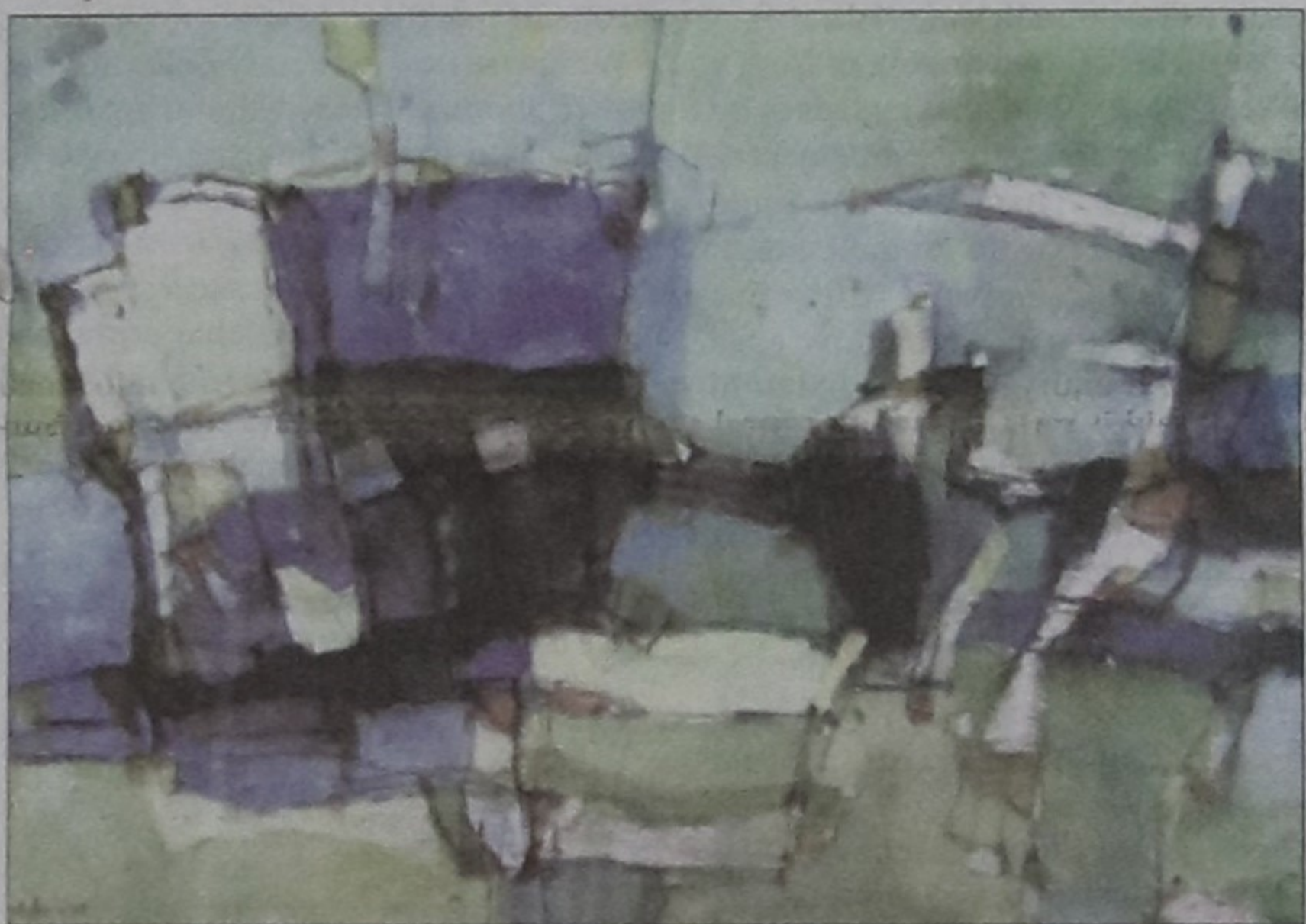


A cornucopia of visions

Group exhibition at Galleri Kaya



"Song of Trees" by Hashem Khan (top) and "From the Nature-1" by Abul Barq Alvi.



TAKIR HOSSAIN

Galleri Kaya has organised a group art exhibition, titled "Shomokal-2," featuring the works of Hashem Khan, Rafiqun Nabi, Abul Barq Alvi, KMA Quayyum, Alok Roy, Chandra Shekhar Dey, Mohammad Eunus, Jamal Ahmed, Nisar Hossain and Rashedul Huda.

Hashem Khan is the senior-most painter in the group. Abundant green,

blue and white are dominant shades in his work. In "Song of Trees" Khan has used contrasting emerald and pale yellow to create the essence of nature in rural Bengal. Shadow, used in the painting, makes the composition interesting. Thick brush strokes and bold lines are key characteristics in the veteran artist's works. Women, boats, ploughs, dreams and visions -- mother nature in all her glory -- create a hallmark.

Rafiqun Nabi is simultaneously a

painter and printmaker. Through watercolours and wood engraving, Nabi established himself in the leading rank of Bangladeshi artists decades ago. At the exhibition, his "Kingfisher" (watercolour) shows the brightly coloured birds eagerly waiting for their prey. The painter has captured a moment in time.

Nabi's "Evening Trains" features a locomotive passing through a dense forest. His subjects are simple, but combined they create a comprehensive image.

Abul Barq Alvi is another senior painter participating in the exhibition. Alvi's formal arrangement with forms and compositions are noteworthy. He draws inspiration from nature and its various aspects. His compositions appear uneven and are engrossed with geometrical forms. The painter's "From the Nature" features azure, white and pale yellow shades, creating a kaleidoscopic vision.

Jamal Ahmed is a realist painter. His colours and tones are soothing and easily depict his passion. At the exhibition, his "Buffalos" depicts two buffalos grazing in a green field. The scenic beauty and the muted environment offer a distinct look. "Rest," another work by Ahmed, is a bird's eye view of a gypsy family on a boat.

Chandra Shekhar Dey prefers to go into details and his lines are provocatively stimulating. Scribbles, lines, hazy figures and unfamiliar objects are noticeable in his works. The agony of struggle, the power of desire and the strength of joy, pulsate throughout his works.

KMA Quayyum is a romantic and naturalist painter. His works highlight greenery, flora and other wonders of nature. He is known for his subtle approach. Vivid colours and delicate tonal effects are the main features of his paintings. Quayyum's works are rich with varied lines, tree trunks, shrubs, wrinkled bark, wild flowers, fish, leaves, ropes, papers, stones, boats, snails and much more.

Mohammad Eunus delves into pure abstract images. He frequently changes the arrangement of his forms and compositions. At the exhibition, his works reveal silence and emptiness. The beauty of simplicity shines in his works. Blue, yellow, ochre and white are predominantly used in his paintings.

Alok Roy is the only sculptor participating at the exhibition. Roy is celebrated for his highly sensitive moulding of clay into terracotta sculptures. His sculptures are figure oriented. Facial expression is the focal point of his works. The exhibition ends on August 11.

Documentary on Shaheed Abul Barkat premiered

JAMIL MAHMUD

A documentary on the life of Language Movement martyr Shaheed Abul Barkat was premiered at Shaheed Zia Auditorium, National Museum on August 5. Noted actor Rokeya Prachy is the director of the documentary, titled "Bayanno'r Michhiley." Bangladesh Federation of Film Societies (BFFS) was the organiser of the premiere.

Prior to the screening, a brief discussion was held at the venue, where Justice Muhammad Habibur Rahman was the chief guest. In his speech Justice Rahman applauded Prachy for her work and said that it is a big move for her, making her debut as a filmmaker through the documentary.

Noted litterateur Selina Hossain was the special guest. In her speech Selina Hossain said, "Prachy's work once again reminds us of our roots. This is certainly an accomplishment for a debutant filmmaker."

Habibur Rahman Khan, president, BFFS presided over the session.



(From left) Selina Hossain, Justice Muhammad Habibur Rahman and Habibur Rahman Khan at the premiere of the documentary.

The 52-minute documentary features the early life of Barkat as well as interviews of noted personalities. Abul Barkat was born in Murshidabad, West Bengal on June 16, 1927. After completing his higher secondary education from a local college he moved to Dhaka.

He got admitted in the Department of Political Science, Dhaka University and

graduated in 1951. On February 21, 1952, he embraced martyrdom to establish Bangla as the state language of the then East Pakistan. He was a Masters student at that time.

The documentary features several footage of Shaheed Barkat's village, where an annual fair is held prior to 'Ekushey February' in his honour.

Part of the documentary

also features interviews of renowned personalities. Artist Murtaza Baseer, Professor Rafiqul Islam, Dr. Mirza Mazharul Islam, among others, talked about Shaheed Barkat and his contribution.

Prachy researched for the documentary as well. M.R.A. Taha, a relative of Shaheed Barkat, is the producer of the film. Asaduzzaman Noor provided the narration.

Memorial postcard to be launched on Santosh Gupta's death anniversary

A memorial postcard will be launched on the 5th death anniversary of renowned journalist Santosh Gupta. The postcard, featuring twelve portraits of Gupta by veteran artists, will be launched at a commemorative programme arranged by Santosh Gupta Smriti Parishad, says a press release.

The programme will be held at the Conference Lounge, National Press Club today at 6pm.

The postcard titled "Santosh Gupta-A Legendary Journalist" features portraits by Murtaja Baseer, Qayyum Chowdhury, Hashem Khan, Kalidas Karmakar and Shishir Bhattacharya.

National Professor Kabir Chowdhury, noted educationist Dr. Anisuzzaman, artists Qayyum Chowdhury, Hashem Khan and journalists Golam Sarwar and Abed Khan will speak on Gupta at the programme.

The postcard features portraits of Santosh Gupta by renowned artists of the country.



IN MEMORIAM

John Hughes (1951-2009): Master of teen angst

AP, New York

Writer-director John Hughes, Hollywood's youth impresario of the 1980s and '90s who captured and cornered the teen and pre-teen market with such favourites as "Home Alone," "The Breakfast Club" and "Ferris Bueller's Day Off," died Thursday, a spokeswoman said. He was 59.

Hughes died of a heart attack during a morning walk in Manhattan. He was in New York to visit family.

A native of Lansing, Michigan, who later moved to suburban Chicago and set much of his work there, Hughes rose from ad writer to comedy writer to silver screen champ with his affectionate and idealised portraits of teens, whether the romantic and sexual insecurity of "Sixteen Candles," or the J.D. Salinger-esque rebellion against conformity in "The Breakfast Club."

Hughes' ensemble comedies helped make stars out of Molly Ringwald, Anthony Michael Hall, Ally Sheedy and many other young performers. He also scripted the phenomenally popular "Home Alone," which made little-known Macaulay Culkin a sensation as the 8-year-old accidentally abandoned by his vacationing family, and wrote or directed such hits as "National Lampoon's Vacation," "Pretty in Pink," "Planes, Trains & Automobiles" and

"Uncle Buck."

"I was a fan of both his work and a fan of him as a person," Culkin said. "The world has lost not only a quintessential filmmaker whose influence will be felt for generations, but a great and decent man."

Steve Martin played lead character Neal Page in the 1987 hit "Planes, Trains & Automobiles."

"John Hughes was a great director,



but his gift was in screenwriting," Martin said. "He created deep and complex characters, rich in humanity and humour."

Other actors who got early breaks from Hughes included John Cusack ("Sixteen Candles"), Judd Nelson ("The Breakfast Club"), Steve Carrell ("Curly Sue") and Lili Taylor ("She's Having a Baby").

Actor Matthew Broderick worked

with Hughes in 1986 when he played the title character in "Ferris Bueller's Day Off."

"I am truly shocked and saddened by the news about my old friend John Hughes. He was a wonderful, very talented guy and my heart goes out to his family," Broderick said.

Ben Stein, who played the monotone economics teacher calling the roll and repeatedly saying "Bueller? Bueller? Bueller?," said Hughes was a towering talent.

"He made a better connection with young people than anyone in Hollywood had ever made before or since," Stein said. "It's incredibly sad. He was a wonderful man, a genius, a poet. I don't think anyone has come close to him as being the poet of the youth of America in the postwar period. He was to them what Shakespeare was to the Elizabethan Age."

"You had a regular guy -- just an ordinary guy. If you met him, you would never guess he was a big Hollywood power."

As Hughes advanced into middle age, his commercial touch faded and, in Salinger style, he increasingly withdrew from public life. His last directing credit was in 1991, for "Curly Sue," and he wrote just a handful of scripts over the past decade. He was rarely interviewed or photographed.



PHOTO: BANGLARCHOKH.COM

Theatre staged its acclaimed production "Meraj Fakir-er Ma" at the National Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy on August 5. Written and directed by the late Abdullah Al-Mamun, "Meraj Fakir-er Ma" zooms in on the fact that religion has always played a key role in our society. In most cases the essence of religion has been misinterpreted, to the benefit of some in the society. In the play, these are the questions a young man, Meraj Fakir, is forced to ask himself when his mother is dragged into a conflict. The play featured theatre icons Ferdousi Majumdar and Ramendu Majumdar.