

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Group Art Exhibition

Organiser: Gallery Chittrak
Venue: Gallery Chittrak, H-21, R-4, Dhanmondi
Inauguration: April 3 at 6pm
Date: April 3-12
Time: 10am-8pm



Solo Painting Exhibition

Artist: Syeeduzzaman Sumon
Title: Rural Life
Venue: Alliance Francaise, 26, Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi
Date: April 3-17
Time: 3pm-9pm (except Sundays)



Art Exhibition

Organiser: Myth Shop
Artist: Abdus Shakoor Shah
Venue: Drik Gallery, H-58, R-15/A, Dhanmondi
Date: April 5
Time: 5pm



Boats Exhibition

Title: Traditional Boats of Bangladesh
Venue: Nalinikanta Bhattacharya Gallery, Bangladesh National Museum
Date: March 23-April 19
Time: 10am -5pm



Festival of parallels

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

Better late than never. For the first time, Delhi will host a festival of Bangladeshi feature films from April 16 to 18, showcasing the works of five leading directors of the parallel cinema movement of Bangladesh.

The three-day festival, to be held at Siri Fort auditorium II, will screen seven films with English subtitles by five directors including Tareque Masud and Catherine Masud, Enamul Karim Nirjhor and Mostafa Sarwar Farooki.

The cast of all the films feature some of the biggest names of Bangladesh TV, theatre and parallel cinema like veterans Kobori, Soobash Dutt, Abul Hayat, Humayun Faridee, Tariq Anam Khan, Jayanta Chattopadhyay, Sara Zaker along with Tauqir Ahmed, Rokeya Prachi and Bipasha Hayat.

Tareque and Catherine Masud are already known names in Indian festival circuits and their films like "Matir Moyna" (Clay Bird) and "Muktir Gaan" (Songs of Freedom) have already been screened and earned critical appreciation.

Apart from "Matir Moyna", which is set against the backdrop of the turbulent period in East Pakistan in late 1960s, leading up to Bangladesh's independence in 1971, the coming festival will screen the Tareque and Catherine-directed "Ontorjatra" (The Inner Journey)

which is about the return of a divorced woman and her son from London to Bangladesh after 15 years and their search for identity.

Another point of interest in the festival will be to watch how actor Touqir Ahmed, has done as a director with his "Joyjatra" based on Bangladesh's Liberation War and "Roopkathar Galpo" (A Fairy Tale) or actress Kobori's directorial project "Ayna" (Mirror) which shows the struggle of a poor woman, helped by a human rights activist, to get justice after she becomes the victim of an acid attack by a spurned lover.

The festival, being jointly organised by the Bangladesh High Commission here, the Directorate of Festivals and Information and Broadcasting Ministry, will be inaugurated by Information and Broadcasting Minister Ambika Soni.

An added attraction of the festival will be the presence of Kobori, Touqir Ahmed, Aupee Karim and Faridur Reza Sagar (Managing director of Impress Telefilm).

While one can always argue that many more important directors of Bangladesh parallel cinema and their works could have been included in the festival, the Bangladesh High Commission should be given credit for making a beginning by having the first such festival organised in Delhi as films constitute a key component of a country's cultural diplomacy.



17th Young Artists' Art Exhibition 2010 begins

177 works by 156 artists on display

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A fortnight-long art exhibition, featuring works of young artists from across the country began at the National Art Gallery, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy on April 2. The exhibition features 177 artworks of 156 artists in different mediums -- painting, drawing, sculpture, printmaking, graphics, and installation. Information Minister Abul Kalam Azad inaugurated the exhibition.

Organised by the Department of Fine Arts, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA), the exhibition will continue till April 19.

Eight artists received awards for their noteworthy works. Kamaluddin, a student of the Department of Paintings, Faculty of Fine Arts, DU won the 'Young Artists Award 10' for his work "In Front of Self-1".

Biswajit Goswami, Syed Tareq Rahman and Abu Naser Robii received best awards in Paintings, Sculpture and Printmaking respectively for their artworks "Quest for Soul-4", "Matsyasana" and "Searching for Missed Mystery of Happiness-5".

Yasmin Jahan Nupur, Sagor Chakroborty, Afsana Sharmin and Ruhul Karim Rumeer received Honourable Mention awards.

The awards were handed over through a ceremony at the Plaza of National Art Gallery before the inaugural of the exhibition. Chief guest Abul Kalam Azad handed over the awards to the winners. The Young Artists Award carries an award Taka 50,000 and the other three awards in three mediums carry Taka 30,000 each.

From the beginning the young artists have been encouraged with awards in three categories -- paint-

ing, sculpture and printmaking. The Department has been organising exhibitions featuring talented young artists' works biennially since 1975.

Noted artist Qayyum Chowdhury and Foreign Secretary Mijarul Quayes were the special guests at the programme. Mushfique Ahmed Shamim, director of the Department of Fine Arts, BSA gave the welcome speech.

In his speech Qayyum Chowdhury praised the organisers for arranging the exhibition. "This performs an important role in the field of fine arts. The exhibition plays an important role at the national level as the young artists get their first recognition here," said Chowdhury.

A four-member jury committee, featuring eminent artists, selected the award-winning artworks.

The exhibition will remain open from 11am to 7pm.



A scene from the film "Ontorjatra".

HSBC-Kali O Kolom Young Poets and Litterateur award '09

Three receive awards in poetry, literature and research

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The second edition of 'HSBC-Kali O Kolom Young Poets and Literature Awards 2009' was held at the Main Auditorium of National Museum on April 2. This year, three young authors received awards in three categories--poetry; literature; research and essay. Monthly literary magazine Kali O Kolom along with HSBC initiated the award last year.

Planning Minister Air Vice Marshal (Retd), AK Khandaker Bir Uttam, handed over the awards to the recipients. He was the chief guest at the programme.

The programme commenced with a welcome speech by Sanjay Prakash, chief executive officer, HSBC.

The winners for the year 2009 are: In poetry-- Ahmed Munir (for his work "Ami O Bagharu"); publication house- Oitijhya, in literature-- Ahmad Mostafa Kamal (for the novel "Andho Jadukar"; Pathsutra) and in research and essay-- Azizul Parvez (for his work "Ekatturer Ganohoty: Rajdhani Thekey Bianibazar"; Oitijhya).

Each winner received Taka one lakh along with a certificate and a two-year subscription of Kali O Kolom editions.

Eminent author, Syed Shamsul Haq, was the special guest at the programme. In his

speech, Haq urged the authorities to continue with such programmes and hoped that the award-winning young writers would contribute more to the development of society. "Such kind of recognition was unimaginable in our youth," said Haq.

Eminent Indian author, Shirshendu Mukhopadhyay, was unable to attend due to unavoidable circumstances. However, he sent a text message, which Mehedi Hasan read out for the audience at the programme. In his message, Mukhopadhyay praised the initiative by Kali O Kolom and HSBC.

Noted educationist, Professor Zillur Rahman Siddiqui, was the head of the jury committee. At the programme, he made a brief speech highlighting the reasons behind selecting the winners and their works.

Professor Emeritus Anisuzzaman, also president of the editorial board of Kali O Kolom, presided over the programme. Abul Hasnat, editor, Kali O Kolom, gave the vote of thanks.

Luva Nahid Chowdhury, director general, Bengal Foundation, was the MC of the programme.

After the award giving ceremony, a solo musical soiree featuring singer Auditi Mohsin was held at the venue.



Riveting images at Shilpakala

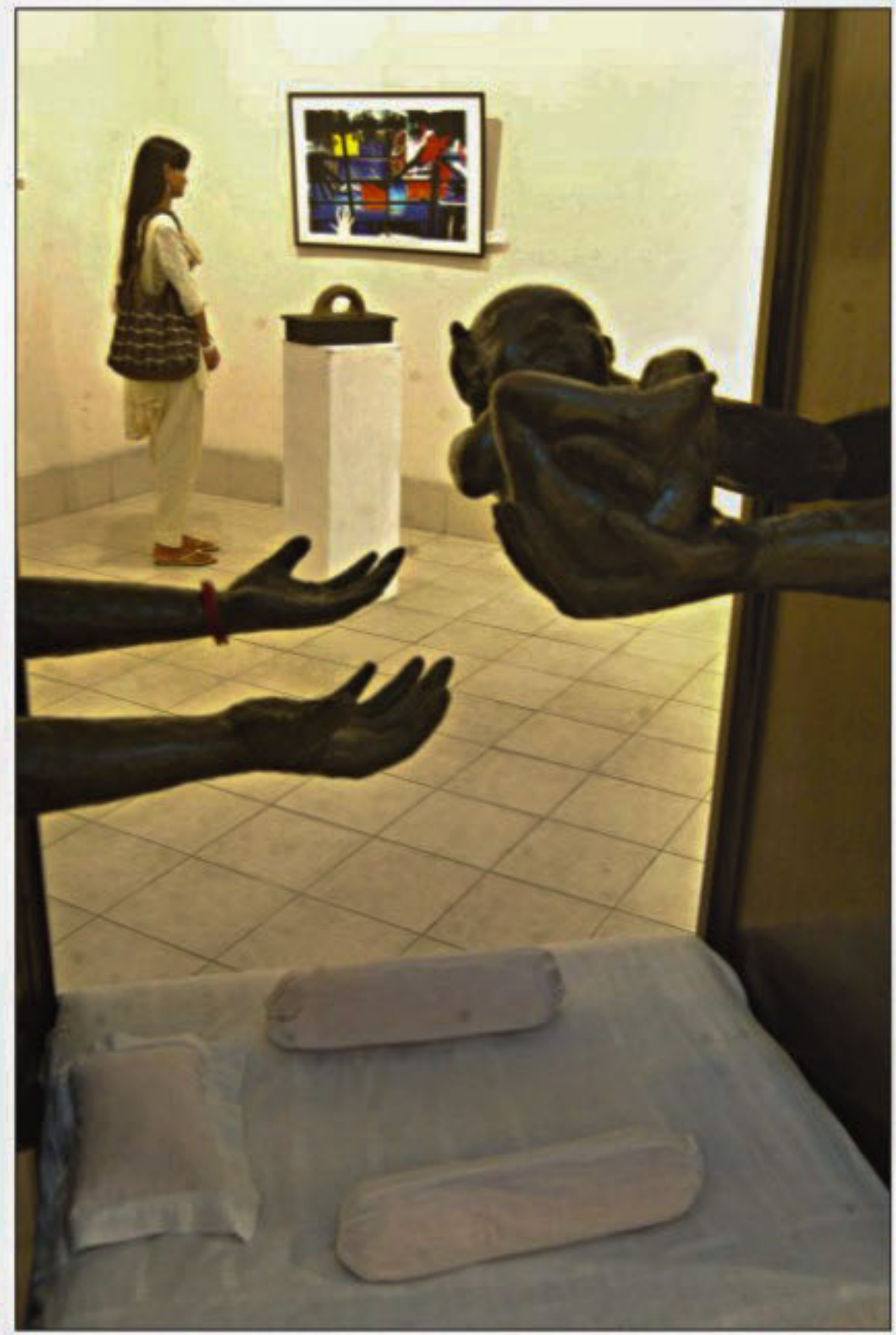


PHOTO: MUMIT M.

Solo performance at La Galerie by Mitul Dutta

A CORRESPONDENT

As part of the bi-monthly (March-April) programme of Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, noted singer Mitul Dutta (Kolkata) performed in a solo musical soiree at La Galerie on April 2.

With orientation in both classical and folk music, Mitul plays at ease in colours on the canvas of music. Inspired and guided by her parents, she learnt classical music under Gurus Sri Suprakash Chaki, Shreemati Madhuchanda Das and Pundit Kumar Roy. She also took lessons in modern Bengali song and folksongs from Sri Anal Chattopadhyay and Sri Amar Pal respectively.

Mitul is a lyricist and a poet as well. In her college days, she also acted on stage and per-

formed Gano Sangeet.

Apart from rendering her own compositions, Mitul performed Tagore and Nazrul songs and more at the event.

"Raas jehey lekha kobitar moto," "Parodeshi megh phirey esho hey," "Machh dhorte machher sathey," "Jitney tomakey hobei je," "Bondhura tariye diyechhey," "Eto megh eto rang" (a raaga based romantic song) and "Bangla ganer baganey bhalobashar phul phutuk" were her own numbers.

She also performed a Tagore number, "Dokhin hawa jago jago", followed by a Nazrul song "Prodir nibhaye dao uthiachhey chand," "Ekta gaan likho amar jonno" (a song originally recorded by Protima Bandyopadhyay) and more on the occasion.

Roadshow Cultural programme marking 'Bank Fair'

KONGKON KARMAKER, Dinajpur

A 'Banking Fair', was organised in Dinajpur recently marking the 'Roadshow of Bangladesh Bank (BB)' with the theme 'Journey to Development from Teknaf to Tentulia'.

The roadshow ended on Friday in Tetulia of Panchagarh district.

To celebrate the fair, a daylong cultural programme was also organised in Dinajpur Town Hall

premises. The performers were the officials and staff members of different banks of the district.

Jamuna Bank Ltd led the roadshow in Dinajpur town.

A discussion was also held at Dinajpur Town Hall auditorium. Rahman was the chief guest at the meeting, where the bankers of all commercial banks and business leaders of Dinajpur discussed the prospects and problems of small and medium enterprises.



Awardees (back row) with eminent personalities.

PHOTO: STAR