

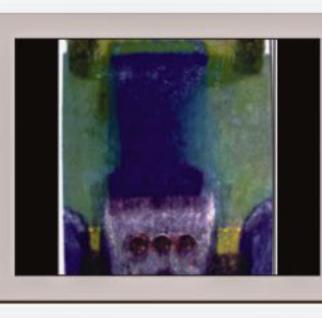
Nazrul Shammelan 2010 Organiser: Nazrul Academy Venue: Music and Dance Centre, BSA Date: May 18-20 Time: 5:30 pm



French Drama **Festival** Organiser: Alliance Française de Dhaka and Natukay Theatre Group Venue: National Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy Date: May 15-21 Time: 5pm onward



Solo Art **Exhibition** Artist: Samiran Chowdhury Venue: Gallery Kaya, H- 20, R- 16, Sector 4, Uttara Date: June 15-30 Time: 10am 8pm



**Group Art Exhibition** Title: Rooted Creativity-2 Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, R-16, H-275/F Dhanmondi Date: May 18-29 Time: 12 pm-8 pm



Celebration of Bengal Gallery's 10th anniversary

## "Rooted Creativity-2": Exhibition featuring feted artists

canvas. The selection of

colours makes it a bit gloomy.



Clockwise (from top-left): Artworks by Shahid Kabir, Samarjit Roy Chowdhury and Farida Zaman.

lines crisscross over the can-

vas. Figures -- both male and

female -- intimately appear in

his works. His pure geometric

compositions and delicate

spatial arrangements denote

fantasy, reality and nostalgia.

His use of colour is both

is widely recognised for his

folk motifs and visual ballads.

At the exhibition, most of his

works predominantly show-

case collages. The artist has

pasted pieces of colourful

saree and gamchha on his

canvas. These pieces give his

works a more decorative

quality. The canvas appears

more vibrant and lively for its

slightly cracked surface. His

works have always been in oil,

acrylic and watercolour. At

the exhibition, his

"Kajolrekha" shows a woman

whose face is surrounded by

wild flowers. Four birds are

placed at the corners of the

Artist Abdus Shakoor Shah

meaningful and ornamental.

TAKIR HOSSAIN

A group art exhibition, featuring the works of 10 painters, titled "Rooted Creativity-2" is now on at Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, Dhanmondi. The exhibition is a part of the gallery's 10th anniversary celebration. Participating painters are Samarjit Roy Chowdhury, Abdul Muqtadir, Kalidas Karmakar, Shahid Kabir, Abdus Shakoor Shah, Kazi Ghiyasuddin, Farida Zaman, Mohammad Eunus, Rokeya Sultana and Dhali Al Mamun.

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Samarjit Roy Chowdhury is the senior-most painter in the group. Karmakar, Kabir and Shakoor belong to the same generation.

Samarjit Roy Chowdhury has been active in the art scene since the mid 1950s. His canvas features tiny fish, cats, snakes, birds and animals. His

AP, Cannes

bells and whistles.

Barcelona.

**63rd Cannes Film Festival** 

tale on death

Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu is keep-

ing it simple for once. The master of

intersecting storylines on Monday

delivered a pared-down new movie

with a linear plot, stripped of all its

father of two making ends meet by

acting as business middleman for

African and Chinese immigrants in

Unlike Inarritu's previous efforts --

including critical favourites "Amores

Perros" and "Babel," which divided

on-screen time between the protago-

nists of the various tangled plotlines

"Biutiful" focuses unblinkingly on

Bardem. It doggedly follows the

Oscar-winning Spanish actor's char-

acter as he coddles and cajoles his

children, struggles to keep a healthy

distance from his estranged, bipolar

wife and alternatively defends and

menaces the immigrants he works

"I was exhausted with, and thought

I had explored enough multiple lines

and structures of narratives and I was

tired of that," Inarritu said at a news

conference that followed Monday's

screening at the Cannes Film Festival,

where "Biutiful" is one of 19 movies

competing for the festival's top Palme

d'Or prize. The movie is also Inarritu's

first effort without Mexican screen-

long-time collaborator.

"Biutiful" stars Javier Bardem as a

Folk ballads from the "Mymensingh Geetika," "Nakshi Kanthar Maath," "Gazir Pot" and "Manosha Pat" are recurring themes of Abdus Shakoor Shah's paintings. Shahid Kabir has lived and worked in Madrid for a long time. He has settled back in

Dhaka and maintains a modest atelier at Kalabagan in the city. Kabir attained fame for his series on Lalon. Later he concentrated on objects from everyday life. Water vessels, teapots, flower vase and fruits are common subjects in his works. Brickfields, riverscape, working women also appear in his paintings. The overall look is faded and unembellished, suggesting a sense of nostalgia.

Farida Zaman has been focusing on riverine life in Bangladesh, beautifully articulating the community of fishermen. Her acrylic works provide an insight into the lives of fishermen and their hard knock life. Occasionally, cats, nets and petite girls appear in her paintings. She prefers using crimson, blue and yellow on her spacious canvases.

Rokeya Sultana's earlier works mostly featured female figures and she tried to highlight the link between humans and nature. Nude, semi nude figures and elements of nature were common elements in most of her works. In her later works, abstraction has become more familiar. Bright and subdued colours as well as amorphous forms and compositions are noticeable.

Abdul Muqtadir graduated from the Graphic Design Department, of the College of Arts and Crafts (now Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka) in 1960. At the exhibi-

"Biutiful": Inarritu delivers straightforward

"I want now to go into the rigor that

the linear story demands for you as a

story teller. It was really a challenge.

Basically, 'Biutiful' is everything that I

haven't done before in a way, but is

exactly the same, (about) the same

things that obsess me," said the Mexi-

complexities of our intersecting,

Bardem delivers a remarkable

performance as Uxbal -- a man

His obsessions? Death and the headlines.

can-born director.

globalised lives.





tion, his works delve deep into the local flora and fauna. His compositions are a celebration of colours, light and simple forms -- inspired by nature. His works are suggestive and resonant. He pursued promotion and development of traditional crafts during the 14 years of his tenure at the Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation. Later he joined Bitopi. He is now a freelance artist.

Mohammad Eunus prefers May 29.

plagued by death. An orphan from

early childhood, he earns extra cash

by visiting funeral homes and com-

municating with the recent dead. As if

that didn't suffice, he's diagnosed

with terminal cancer and finds him-

self obliquely responsible for a terrible

tragedy plucked from the newspaper

It's a devastating movie but man-

"This character, (Uxbal) is tender-

ness, he's compassion, he's forgive-

ages to be oddly life-affirming.

pure abstract images. He frequently changes the arrangement of his forms and compositions. In his works, abstraction comes into an interaction with suggestiveness and expresses many meanings of life, time and space. Eunus always tries to focus on rich texture and open space. From his work at the exhibition, it is difficult to identify a personal hallmark.

The exhibition ends on

# "Praner Khela"

Mita and Bulbul sing at

A CORRESPONDENT

This month's instalment of the musical programme "Praner Khala" featured renowned Rabindra Sangeet artistes Mita Haque and Bulbul Islam. The programme was held at Bengal Gallery in Dhanmondi, Dhaka on May 17.

Bengal Foundation has been continually working to promote traditional Bangla songs for the last two decades. Besides producing albums the organisation also arranges regular musical programmes throughout the year as well as on special occasions. "Praner Khela" is a part of this initia-

"Ki Bhoy Abhoydhamey," "Jetey Jetey Chay Na Jetey," "Praney Khushir Toofan Uthechhey," "Akash Bhora Shurjo Tara" and "Dhay Jeno Mor Shokol Bhalobasha" were the Rabindra Sangeet that Mita Haque performed at the programme.

Bulbul Islam rendered "Tomaye Gaan Shonabo," "Tai Tomar Anando Amar," "Tomar Amar Ei Biroher," "Je Raatey Mor Duar Guli," "Tomaye Amaye Milon Hobey Boley," "Hridoy Amar Prokash Holo," "Shudhu Tomar Baani," "Jodi Prem Diley Na Praney" and more on the occasion. Daulatur Rahman on key-

board, Enamul Haque Omar on tabla, Ashit Biswas on esraj and Nazmul Alam Jharu on percussion instrumentally assisted the singers.

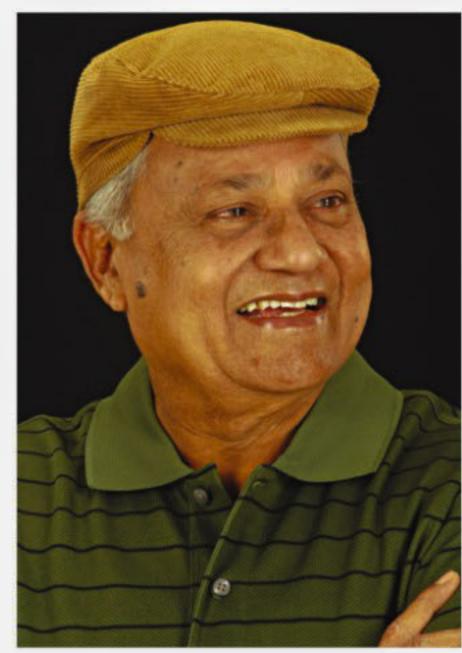
Eastern Bank Limited sponsored the programme.





Mita Haque (top) and Bulbul Islam sing at Bengal Gallery.

## **Veteran actor Ariful Haque** publishes a book



**Ariful Haque** 

While most of us know Ariful Haque as a noted TV and film actor, many are not quite familiar about his latent talent as an author. The veteran actor went overseas in 2000 and now resides in Canada with his family. Before leaving the country, he wrote four books. His first book was "Sangskritik Agrashon O Protirodh". His second book, "Natyakar Nazrul Islam", features our National Poet as a playwright. The other books by Haque are "Hyderabad Tragedy O Ajker Bangladesh" and "Sangskritir Manchitra". All his books are research-based, according to a press release.

Recently the actor-author published his fifth book "Desh Shamaj Sangskriti O Rajneeti". According to the author, the book focuses mainly on the country, society, culture and politics.

Ariful Haque's latest film is Khalid Mahmood Mithu's "Gahiney Shabdo". The film is set to be screened in Canada from July 21 to 25, where Haque will watch the film for the first time. His other film "Prem Bishad" will be released soon.

### Mallika steals the show

And she did it again last Sunday when she chose a snake to promote her forthcoming

Dutta. Besides "Hisss", the provocative actress is also promoting Barack" which will be screened

The bold actress sure knows how to grab attention.

movie, "Hisss" at the ongoing 63rd Cannes Film Festival.

The actress plays a snakewoman in the film directed by Jennifer Lynch. The film also stars Irrfan Khan and Divya

her other new film "Love, at the festival.

Source: Internet

writer Guillermo Arriaga, his former Javier Bardem in "Biutiful".

point of view ... the most hopeful of my films, by far," said Inarritu, who won the Best Director prize at Cannes in 2006 for "Babel," four intense intersecting stories set in Morocco, Japan, Mexico and the U.S. Like "Babel" and 2000's "Amores

Perros" -- a critical favourite at Cannes that catapulted Inarritu from relative obscurity into the top ranks of contemporary filmmakers -- "Biutiful" also looks at globalisation's effects on

ness, to himself first and to everyone

"I found that really hopeful, in my

around," said Inarritu.

those living on the margins of society. Set in the dilapidated Barcelona neighbourhoods where the city's newest arrivals, immigrants from Africa and China, have largely replaced the local poor over the past decade, the movie documents their daily lives: the days spent in insalubrious sweatshops stitching endless cheap counterfeit bags or dodging cops to peddle them on the streets; the nights in dank apartment blocks, sleeping dozens to a room.

Inarritu said it was precisely that unsugarcoated take on life that makes the film optimistic, in its way.

find it so," he said.

"The fact that the film is human, and talks about human things that are real, it's already a hopeful film," he said. "Why? Because we don't find that very often now. ... Explosions, cynicism, killing people and violence in a very superficial way, is that life? Is that hopeful? Is that funny? I don't