

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Solo Art Exhibition

Title: The Wing
Artist: Murtaja Baseer
Venue: Galleri Kaya, H-20, R-16 Sector 4, Uttara
Date: September 25-October 10
Time: 10am-8pm



Painting and Installation Exhibition

Title: Dhaka Traffic: the City Can't Wait
Artist: Sulekha Chowdhury
Venue: Goethe-Institut Bangladesh, Dhanmondi
Date: October 4-28



Solo Painting Exhibition

Title: Nepotism
Artist: Srijon Chowdhury
Venue: La Galerie, H-7B, Rd 13, Gulshan
Date: September 24-October 8
Time: 12-8pm



Solo Art Exhibition

Title: Innocence and Experience
Artist: Mohammad Iqbal
Venue: Gallery Chittrak, H-21, R-4, Dhanmondi
Date: September 24-October 12
Time: 10am-8pm



Malleable texture

Mohammad Iqbal's solo exhibition at Gallery Chittrak



31st Night



Original Space -2



Language -3

TAKIR HOSSAIN

Mohammad Iqbal is a committed painter recognised mainly for his theme-based paintings. His canvases are engrossed with various visible and shadowy figures. The background of most of his compositions is occupied by abstract forms, delightful colour and soft tones. All of his paintings are

oil-based as he is comfortable in the medium and had his higher education in Fine Arts on Oil Painting. Before going to Japan for his higher studies, the painter's works focused on saints and Bauls.

Iqbal is one of the leading painters of the '80s and his current solo exhibition, titled "Innocence and Experience" is now on at Gallery Chittrak, Dhanmondi in Dhaka. His

subjects are children whom he regards as neglected and mistreated.

At the exhibition, children's faces gaze intensely from the canvas. Their eyes are the predominant aspect of the paintings. The eyes express surprise, pain, longing, puzzlement and panic. The artist feels all children look the same and their desires and expressions are also similar.

"Children are a symbol of hope,

peace and future. Their survival depends on a world devoid of war, brutality and violence. Many children die every year in conflicts and famines. Child abuse, trafficking, killing and abuse are now regular incidents in the world. It causes me immense pain when I see children in inhuman conditions," says Iqbal.

Some of the other motifs in Iqbal's paintings are middle-aged figures, animals, ancient edifice, rivers, vessels, hills and sky. Some of his paintings clearly highlight pure composition. The compositions convey his fondness for translucent lines and tiny forms. His mode of expression is figurative, symbolic, abstract, semi-abstract and conceptual.

Iqbal says, "I haven't always maintained one particular method, style or technique. I like to articulate the process of thinking and then add sensation, emotion and personal experience."

Iqbal invests considerable time on each painting. He is very meticulous about creating the ground of the canvas. At first, the painter applies colours directly -- piling them up thick, and at times thin -- on the canvas, and tries to create an image that is dynamic and has appealing texture and sensuous tones.

One of his paintings, "Language-1", depicts the faces of two children and a cow. The children are the focal point of the painting and the artist has tried to touch on the subject of Liberation War through the work. The lower part of the painting is occupied by scribbles and some unusual forms.

Another painting "Unfettered Life-2" shows some rural men occupied in their daily chores. A red house and a blue landscape are noticeable features in the work. The painting bears force, power and unity. The work includes some sketches of ambiguous forms and a horse as well. The painting is purely figurative and its upper part looks interesting on account of its malleable texture and open space.

"Language -2" is evocative of the present world. Three children's faces and a contemplative sitting figure are the main features in this painting. The painting is dominated by red and numerous white dots. The faces look very inquisitive.

The exhibition continues till October 12.

Anisur Rahman performance at Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre

Indira Gandhi Culture Centre, High Commission of India, Dhaka is going to hold a musical soiree, featuring Rabindra Sangeet, along with screening of the documentary "Bhubon Bhora Shur". The programme will be held tomorrow (October 8) at the Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre, Gulshan-1, according to a press release.

"Bhubon Bhora Shur" is a 53-minute documentary on the interpretation and rendering of Tagore songs by noted economist and music exponent Professor Anisur Rahman. Directed by Shabnam Ferdousi, the film was released last year. Meghna Guhathakurta and Shipra Bose are the producers of the film.

Professor Rahman's principal aesthetic pursuit has



Anisur Rahman in "Bhubon Bhora Shur".

been to sing Rabindra Sangeet in a style of his own. He has performed and lectured on Rabindra Sangeet in Bangladesh, India and the United States, and has written on the subject.

His book "Rabindra

Sangeet Bodh O Shadhona" is a notable treatise on Rabindra Sangeet singing. Another book by him, "Songs of Tagore", contains English translations of 65 Tagore songs and an elaborate discussion on the genre.



Cultural organisation Nandan recently took part in the Fukuwaka Asian Month Festival held in Fukuwaka, Japan. During its stay in Japan, the Bangladeshi team performed three times at the festival and also took part at a separate cultural programme. The Nandan team had 11 members, including dance artistes Shaju Ahmed, Shoma Bose, Nilanjana Das and Benazir Mohaimen. They attended the festival after receiving an invitation from the Fukuwaka city mayor.

Profile Upcoming musician Tito goes places



Tito Mahmud Tito

AZIBOR RAHMAN, Jhenidah

Twenty six year old Tito Mahmud Tito has earned fame for his mastery over a wide range of musical instruments: tabla, drums, mridanga, kortal, dotara, harmonium and flute. Today he is invited to most local musical functions and plays alongside reputed singers like Nazrul Boyati, Rathindranath Mitra, Aruj Bayati, Shahida Pervin and Shahanaj Pervin.

Ananta Biswas, a music teacher of Shibnagar village, under Kaliganj upazila, said, "Tito is an all rounder in playing musical instruments. At the young age of 26

he has acquired a deep understanding of musical instruments."

Khulna Betar artiste, Shahjahan Siraj Shaheb, described Tito as a conscientious learner. He added that Tito had the potential to emerge as an accomplished musician.

Describing his early years and his motivation in learning music, Tito said, "I could not study because my father was very poor. There were many times that we had to starve. To maintain my family I took up playing music." He added that he would stay the course and undertake better training in the musical instruments of his choice.

A comical observation on the state of school-teachers

Rishi Kapoor and Neetu Singh staging a comeback with "Do Dooni Chaar"

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

Bollywood's debutant director Habib Faisal says he has drawn liberally from his personal experience as the son of a village school teacher to make his feature film "Do Dooni Chaar" (two times two, four) that sees the husband-wife duo of former stars Rishi Kapoor and Neetu Singh staging a comeback on the big screen after three decades.

The film, which is a story about the state of middle class school teachers in India and is releasing later this week, portrays many of the filmmaker's personal experiences.

"I, along with my father, would often run into some former student of his, all grown up, in a swanky car. The student

would be gushing, thanking my father for all the good things he taught, which made him successful. My father, riding his old scooter, would be pleased by the gratitude, thrilled selflessly to see his student doing so well. And I, a teenager, would be sitting on the pillion cursing him for having opted for such a low-salary profession.

"Such and other anecdotes found their way in the screenplay," the director said.

Faisal says "Do Dooni Chaar" deals with two universal truths...everybody wants to buy a car and that a car is not just a mode of transport, it is a status symbol. Secondly, teaching is a thankless profession.

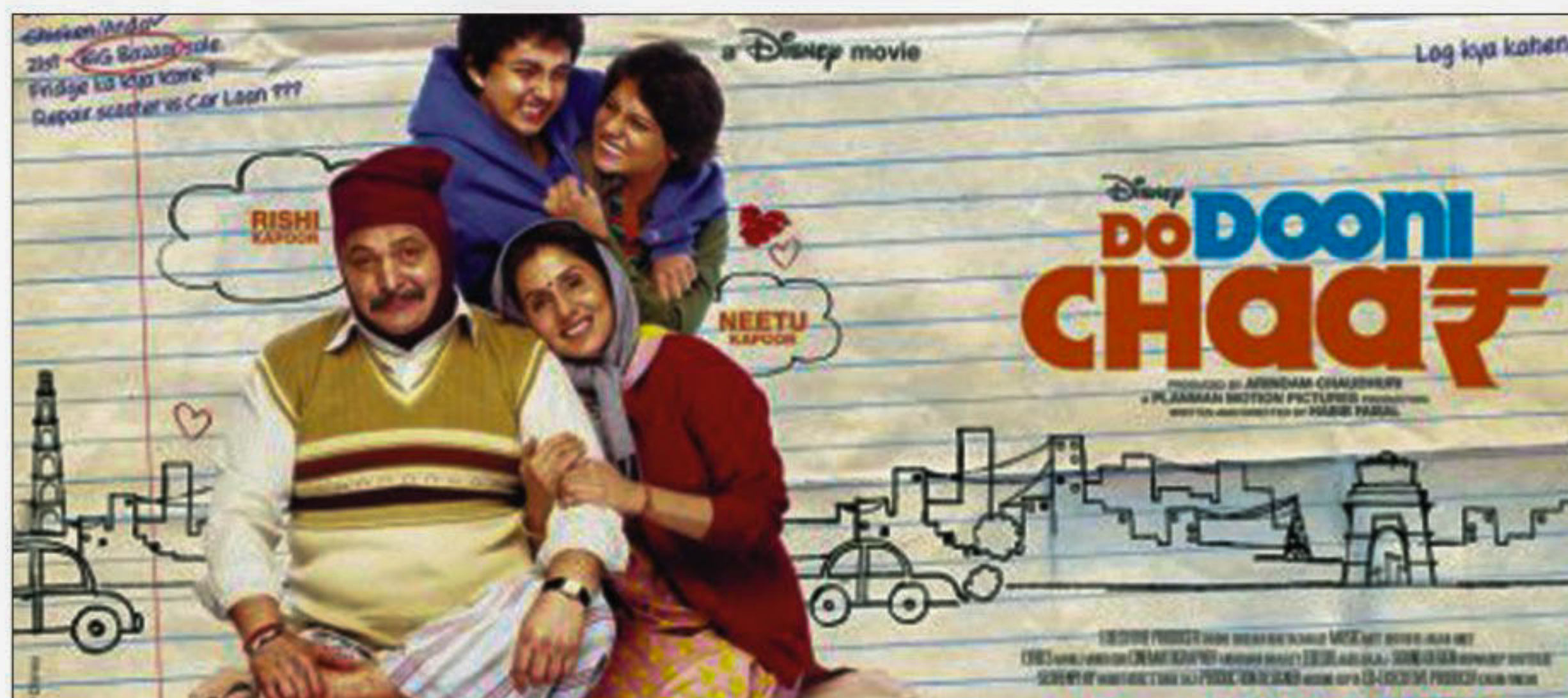
The idea to make the movie took shape when India's automobile maker Tata Motors launched the idea of the

world's cheapest car Nano. "What struck me was that even with petrol prices escalating, massive traffic jams and pollution that can kill you, there was so much excitement at the prospect of becoming car-owners," the filmmaker said.

Instead of looking for reel-life drama and making the characters look gorgeous, Faisal says he cast Rishi Kapoor and Neetu Singh as very lower-middle class middle-aged parents and challenged them to transform themselves.

"They are brilliant and their presence in the film surely qualifies it as a mainstream entertainer," he said.

It remains to be seen how film critics and the audience react to the performances by Rishi and Neetu, once a hot pair in Bollywood.



Jennifer Aniston, world's most eligible single woman



She may have a reputation for being unlucky in love, but it seems Jennifer Aniston is still a pretty good catch.

The 41-year-old actress, who was formerly married to Brad Pitt, has been named the most eligible single woman in the world in a new poll.

The poll, by 60 Minutes and Vanity Fair magazine, puts the "Friends" star in the top spot just ahead of Halle Berry. Aniston gained 29 per cent of the vote to Berry's 21 per cent.

Tiger Woods' Swedish born ex-wife Elin Nordegren came third with 15 per cent.

The poll appeared to favour a slightly more mature single woman with 88-year-old Betty White beating out Lady Gaga, 24, into fifth place.

Aniston has been linked to a number of men, including singer John Mayer and actor Vince Vaughn, since her five-year marriage to Brad Pitt came to an end in 2005.

But she has poured scorn on her 'unlucky' romantic reputation.

"This whole 'Poor lonely Jen' thing, this idea that I'm so unlucky in love?" she told Vogue back in 2008.

"I actually feel I've been unbelievably lucky in love. I feel good. I don't feel like I'm supposed to be any further along or somewhere that I'm not. I'm right where I'm supposed to be."

Meanwhile, the other ladies on the list have had varied fortunes in the love stakes.

Back in August, Nordegren received a divorce settlement of at least \$60 million from golfer Woods after he was found to have cheated on her with a bevy of women.

Berry was recently split from her model boyfriend Gabriel Aubry, while "Golden Girl" Betty White has been single since her husband Allen Ludden passed away in 1981.

Source: Internet