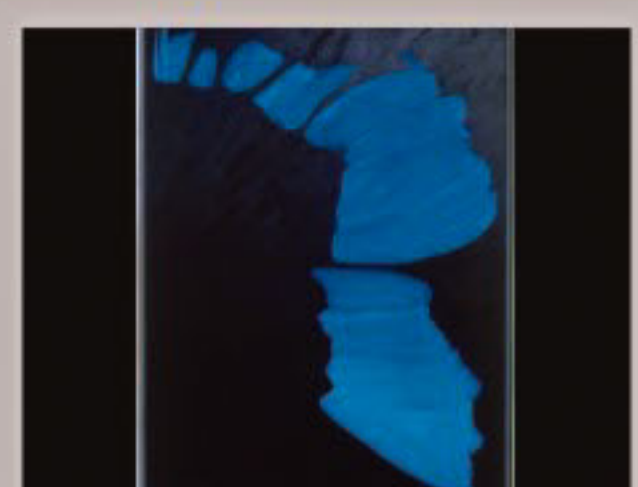


WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

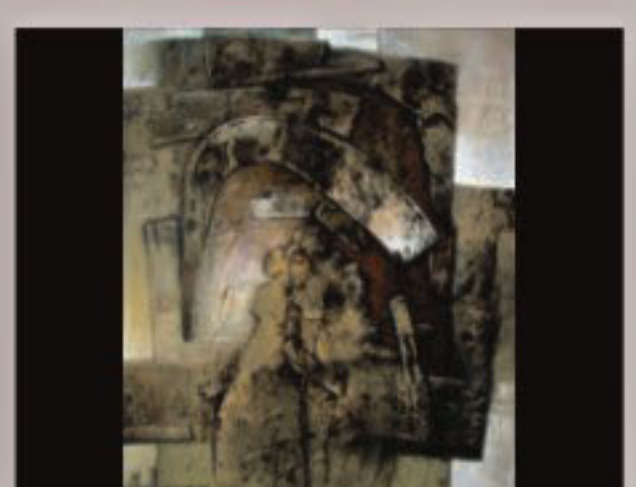
Solo Art Exhibition
 Title: The Wing
 Artist: Murtaja Baseer
 Venue: Galleri Kaya, H-20, R-16 Sector 4, Uttara
 Date: September 25-October 10
 Time: 10am-8pm



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



Group Art Exhibition
 Venue: Radius Centre, Bay's Galleria
 Date: September 24-October 15
 Time: 10am-8pm



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



Premiere Show of Telefilm Proshnobodhok

Mass awareness essential to reduce irregular migration

In order to create greater awareness to reduce irregular migration overseas, International Organization for Migration (IOM) organised the premiere show of its telefilm "Proshnobodhok" at the Star Cineplex auditorium, Basundhara City, on October 7.

Is your migration safe or unsafe? "Proshnobodhok" raises this question before the audience. The chief guest at the premiere, Minister, Eng. Khandker Mosharraf Hossain, Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment said, "While the country has benefited immensely from overseas migration, there are some challenges to be addressed as well. One of the greatest challenges is the lack of information and awareness among the people about the rules and procedures, benefits and problems related to going abroad for work." He urged the different departments of the government, NGOs, international organisations and donors to come forward in making such telefilms, drama and coordinate their efforts to create mass awareness on migration.

In her welcome address IOM Regional Representative Rabab Fatima said, "We are extremely pleased that young celebrity cultural icons have joined us in the campaign for safe migration through the making of this telefilm." She also said that IOM plans to screen this telefilm in schools, colleges and universities across the country, as well as on television, so that the young people do not have their dreams shattered when they seek to go abroad.

Also present at the telefilm premiere were Joseph Guntern, Head of Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation; Dr. Kamal Abdul Naser Chowdhury, Secretary, Ministry of Information; popular singer Momtaz



Begum, Member of Parliament and IOM Goodwill Ambassador for Migration and Milko Van Gool, of the Delegation of the European Union in Bangladesh.

The film has been produced by IOM with the financial assistance of the government of Greece and the European Commission. The premiere was supported by the Government of Switzerland. The event was managed by Asiatic MCL.

Two young activists receive SM Solaiman scholarship

JAMIL MAHMUD

Young theatre activists Shahadat Hossain and Anowarul Haque received the SM Solaiman Motivation Scholarship for the year 2009 and 2010 respectively. Shahadat is one of the leading actors of noted troupe Centre for Asian Theatre (CAT), while Anowarul is a front-liner of Udichi's theatre wing. Solaiman's troupe Theatre Art Unit has been inspiring young theatre activists with this scholarship since 2005.

The scholarships were handed over to the actors at a ceremony held on October 8, at the Experimental Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy. ITI Worldwide president Ramendu Majumder handed over crest and Taka 10,000 each to Shahadat and Anowarul. Majumder was special guest at the programme, which was presided over by Rokeya Rafique Baby, chief of Theatre Art Unit.

"This scholarship will encourage me to do even better," Shahadat responded. Anowarul said that the achievement was special as it was a recognition of his talent for theatre.

Shahadat has performed in some of CAT's popular plays such as "The Communicator", "Bhelua Shundori" and "The Lady from the Sea" and



Anowarul Haque receives a crest from Ramendu Majumder, while an elated Shahadat Hossain (right) looks on.



A scene from the play "Court Martial".

Shilpakala Academy production "Eksho Bosta Chaal". He has also directed plays for his troupe.

On the other hand, Anowarul's repertoire includes

Udichi's acclaimed productions "Bou Basanti", "Chiley Kothar Sepai" and "Half Akhrai". Anowarul has also written and directed Aikik Theatre production "Drop

Out".

The programme also featured the SM Solaiman Memorial Lecture. Professor Ratan Siddiqui of Udichi delivered the lecture. The lecture

revolved around Solaiman's life and works. "Solaiman narrates the tale of marginalised people through his plays," said Siddiqui in his lecture.

To start with, members of Theatre Art Unit rendered songs written and composed by Solaiman. The songs include "Manush Bolo Ki Upay", "Swapno Amar Mukto Biswa" and "Ek Jonomer Jibon".

Mohammad Bari of Theatre Art Unit anchored the ceremony.

After the ceremony, the troupe staged its acclaimed production "Court Martial".

"Court Martial" is Theatre Art Unit's first production. SM Solaiman had adapted the play from Salil Sarkar's translation of Indian playwright Swades Dipak's work. Solaiman was also the director of the play. After his demise, Mohammad Bari has been directing the play.

The play poses a complex question to the audience: Is it possible for human beings to avoid inherent jealousy or cruelty? In "Court Martial" the playwright has tried to discover the truth about one of the most disciplined institutions of the state---the army.

Mohammad Bari, Selim Mahub, Prashanta Halder, Chandan Reza and Ezzad played the lead roles. Hemayet Hossain Tapan and Thandu Raihan were the set and light designers of the play.

The voice of a woman

"Nati Binodini" staged in Indian capital

KAVITA, New Delhi

A prostitute by birth, one of the first women in theatre by profession. Capturing the life and times of controversial 19th century Bengali actress Binodini, can be a steep challenge for even the most seasoned theatre director. Dhaka Theatre's Nasiruddin Yousuff deploys the soliloquy technique to depict Binodini's complex personality in his eponymous play. On the contrary, well known Indian theatre personality Amal Allana in her "Nati Binodini" uses a multi-layered approach where action shifts between the aged Binodini and four other actresses who depict her early days.

"I didn't want the play to be a linear narrative. I wanted it to have jagged edges, much like Binodini herself," says Amal, chairperson of the prestigious New Delhi-based National School of Drama.

No wonder a packed Delhi audience watched spellbound as the recent Theatre and Television Associates production "Nati Binodini" unravelled. Based on the actress' autobiography "Amar Katha", the play begins on a sombre note, as the old Binodini, the narrator, addresses her wheelchair bound mentor Girish Ghosh. Questioning her very existence, she bewails her fate, her loss of faith in humanity and the Almighty. She requests him to be the sounding board for an autobiography which she is writing.

Binodini's story could be that of many an exploited woman in our society. Can one remain unmoved as the young Binodini clutches on to theatre as a lifeline that will rescue her from the degradation of joining the sex trade like the other women in her impoverished family? Or her plight as she is forced to be a kept woman when even the theatre fails to provide her a living?

In a memorable scene, an anguished Binodini falls at her feet in



desperation and rails against society for creating prostitutes. "Stop this theatre!" she cries at one point, even as the audience shifts uneasily when

the lines of stage acting and reality get blurred.

Though the epilogue shows her painfully recalling the circumstances

under which she left the theatre, she has a spiritual awakening which enables her to rise Phoenix-like from the ashes of despair. She has come to terms with her tumultuous life.

Amal believes "Nati Binodini" is extremely relevant even today.

"The right of women to voice what they really think is unacceptable to a large section of our society," she says. Scripting the play was a major challenge, she adds, since the actors were roped in to write the play along with her.

After many stops within India, "Nati Binodini" is all set to travel to other parts of the world. In March next year it will be staged at the Kennedy Centre in Washington as part of the Festival of India, followed by Poland and other European countries.

Amal expresses the hope that "Nati Binodini" will get an invite from Bangladesh as well.



"Nati Binodini" uses a multi-layered approach where action shifts between the aged Binodini and four other actresses who depict her early days.

Workshop on the cards

Two American artists in town

A CORRESPONDENT

The American Centre, US Embassy in Dhaka and Gallery Cosmos have jointly organised a three-week art project titled "Janmasthan". The project inaugurates today at Cosmos-Atelier, Malibagh. It will run till October 28. Two American painters, Andrew Saftel and Whitney Baker, are conducting the workshop.

The main aim of the project is to explore collagraph printmaking with new technique and method. Their aim is to popularise printmaking in our art scenario. Artists will learn several methods, techniques and imagery through the project. The guest artists will visit the local galleries and will make observations on our art market and scenario as well. The project will also feature workshop on



Andrew Saftel (left) and Whitney Baker at Cosmos-Atelier 71.

collagraph printmaking with 10 local and visiting senior artists at Cosmos-Atelier 71, training on collagraph printmaking with 30 students of Department of Printmaking, the Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka. The artists will also participate in a number of poetry and cultural programmes.

Andrew Saftel is a professional printmaker, painter and educationist. He has received

a degree in Fine Arts from the San Francisco Art Institute. His works have been displayed in solo and group exhibitions throughout the US. He has received many awards for his remarkable achievements on printmaking.

Whitney Baker is an artist, poet, landscape designer and filmmaker. He is an expert in mixed media. He took his degree in Studio Art from Lincoln Memorial University.

RAHIMAFROOZ

অবলম্বিত
বেসিট
এগেট

রহিমআফরোজ থেকে সিএনজি
কনভারশন করলেই আপনি পাচ্ছেন
১৫ মাসের পরিবর্তে
৩০ মাসের ওয়ারেন্টি।
আজই এ সুযোগ গ্রহণ করুন।

হটলাইন
০১৯১৪-০৭৭৭৭৭-৮

RAHIMAFROOZ your intelligent choice

ঢাকা: তেজগাঁও, ধানমন্ডি, মিরপুর, টিঙ্গী। চট্টগ্রাম: হালিশহর

ISO 9001:2008 Certified