

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

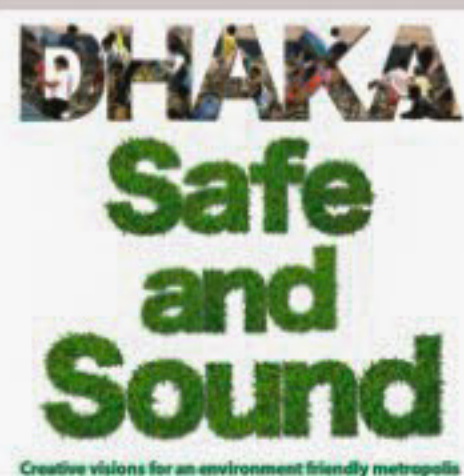
14th Asian Art Biennale 2010

Organiser: Bangladesh Shipakala Academy
Venue: National Art Gallery (BSA) and Osmani Memorial Hall
Date: October 8-November 6
Time: 11am-7pm



Exhibition

Paintings, Installations, Photography, Films, Literature and Architecture
Title: Dhaka Safe and Sound
Organiser: Goethe-Institut Bangladesh
Venue: Goethe-Institut, Shilpangan Gallery and Dhaka Art Centre
Date: October 18-30
Inauguration: 6pm



Musical Soiree

Title: 109th anniversary of Abbasuddin Ahmed
Artist: Mustafa Zaman Abbasi
Organiser: Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre
Venue: Rd 24, House 35, Gulshan 1.
Date: October 29
Time: 7pm



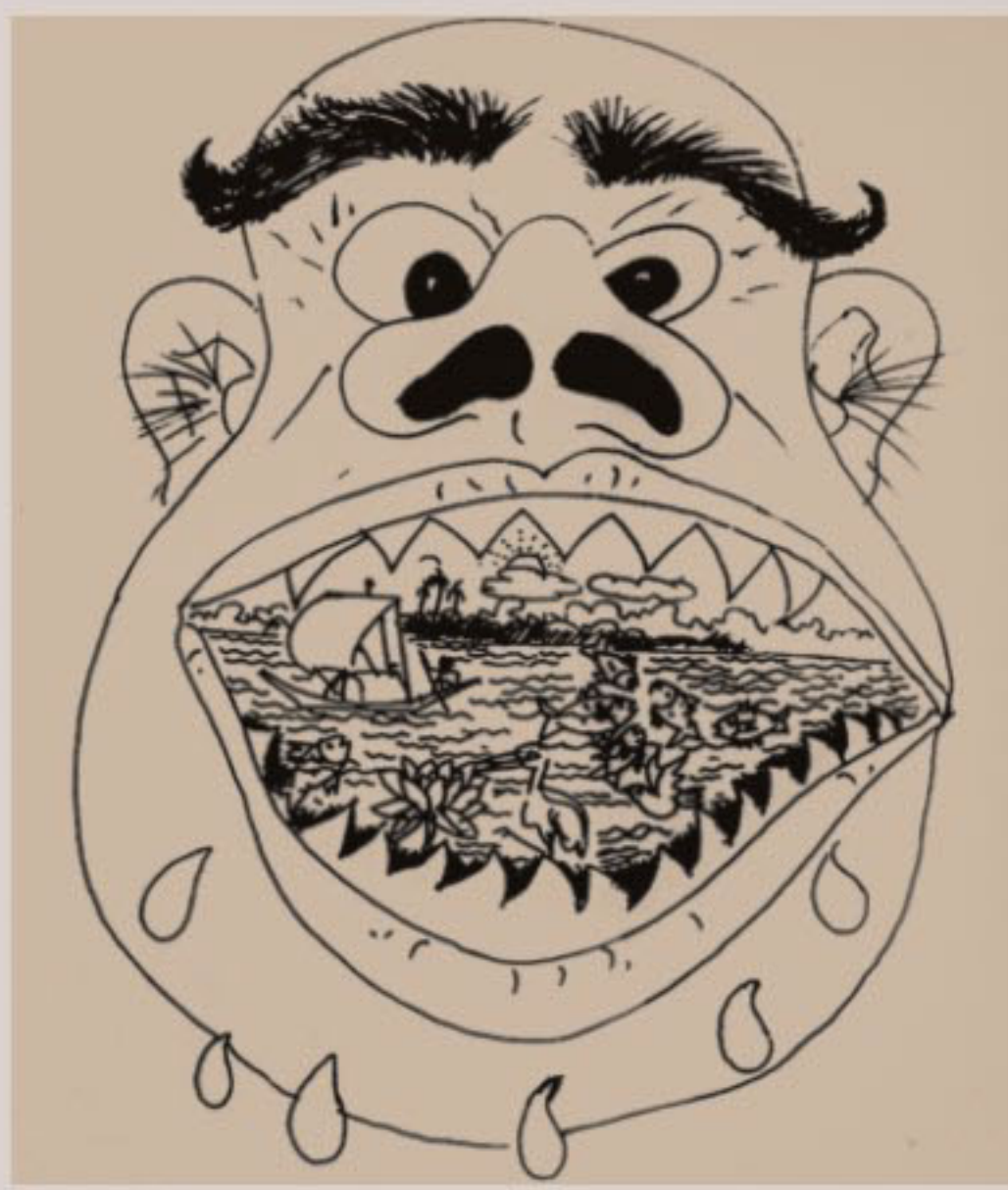
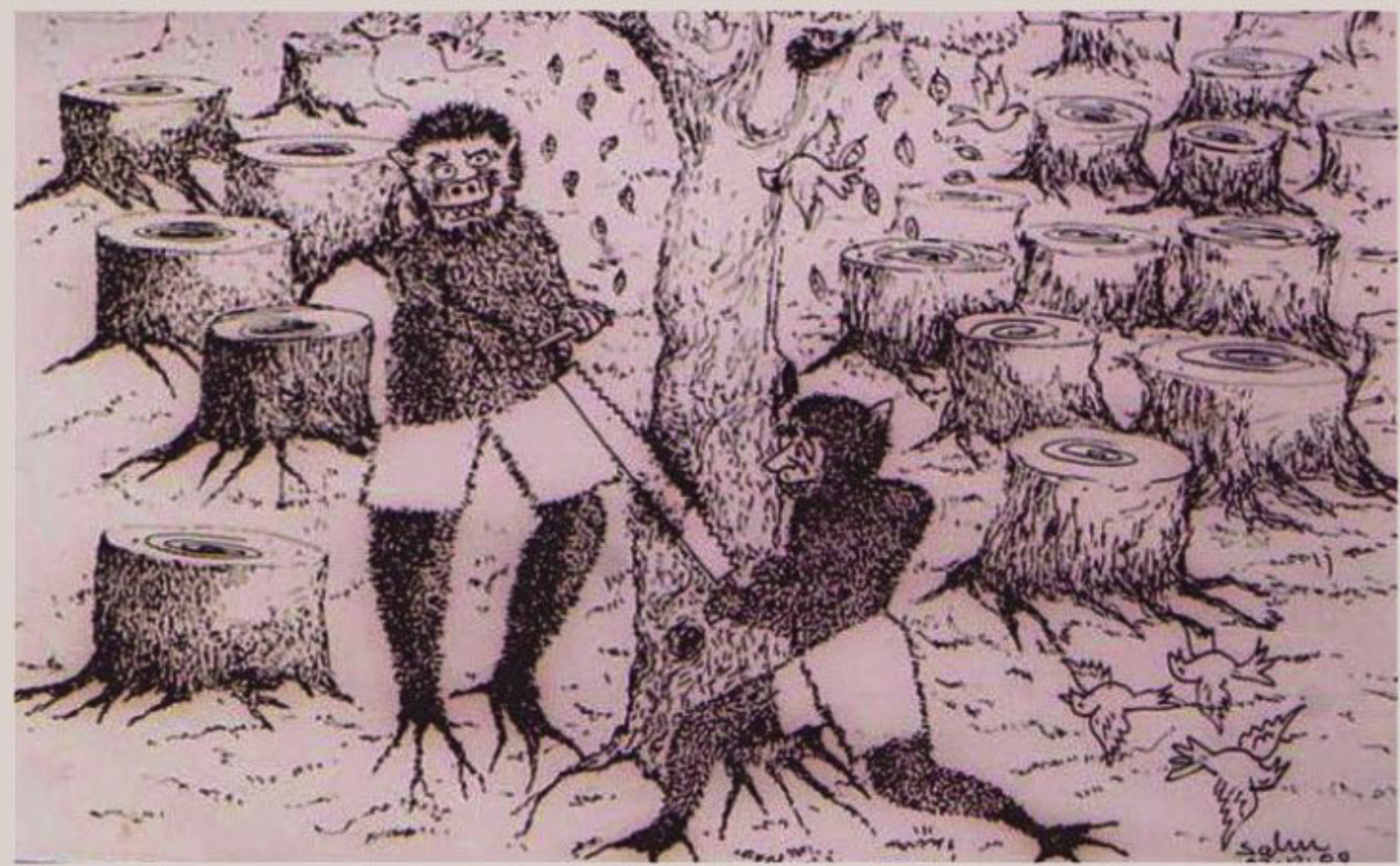
Art Exhibition

Title: Janmasthan
Organiser: US Embassy in Dhaka
Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, R-7 A, H-60, Dhanmondi
Date: October 28-30
Inauguration: 6pm



My Beloved Motherland

Tough issues, witty cartoons



Salim's cartoons deal with subjects like the reinstating of Razakars in the country, corrupt politicians, hardships in city life, devastation of the environment and more.

MAHTABI ZAMAN

Addressing issues that are holding Bangladesh back, an exhibition featuring cartoons by Mohammad Abu Salim, titled, "My Beloved Motherland", began on October 16 at Galerie Zoom at Alliance Francaise de Dhaka.

Twenty-one cartoons are on display at the exhibition that will end on October 30. Most of the cartoons highlight corruption. Others bring to light Razakars (collaborators of the Pakistani army during the Liberation War), river encroachment, leadership, hartal (strike), power cuts, election, polluting environment and more. Satires on lawmakers are also noticeable.

Abu Salim has been drawing cartoons since 2004. He feels that a

dark chapter in national history was when Razakars were re-established in politics. Calling himself non-partisan, Salim said, "Along with their [anti-Liberation War forces] re-establishment, corrupt politicians and people force me to express my opinion in symbolic form, and cartoons are the best medium for it."

Salim's cartoons make it apparent to the viewer that many of the politicians did not keep their pre-election promises. They are not bothered about improving the living standards of the masses; rather they concentrate on lining their own pockets and enjoying luxuries when elected as members of the parliament.

These "leaders" are isolated from the masses, who have elected them to power. "The corrupt people who were incarcerated during the last caretaker government regime, were

freed unpunished and now display their muscle power again and we, the common people, offer them floral tributes," according to Salim. To depict the visage of the corrupt, Salim has sketched the face of a shrewd animal like a fox.

Since 2001 the artist has been working on children's painting exhibitions. The subject of the exhibition was Bangladesh. He has arranged six exhibitions on children's paintings till 2008. He took part in nine solo exhibitions in Dhaka. Watercolour is his medium of choice and nature of Bangladesh was his subject. He also took part in several national and international painting exhibitions and received many awards.

Abu Salim was born at Aruapara, Kushtia on January 1, 1966. He

acquired a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the Faculty of Fine Arts, Dhaka University. The artist is currently working as a drawing teacher at the Khilgaon Govt. High School, Dhaka. The cartoonist is open to the idea of arranging a series of such cartoon exhibitions every year.

Professor Muzaffer Ahmed was the chief guest at the opening of the cartoon exhibition. "Cartoon is a popular medium and it is getting bolder day by day. Corruption is not only limited to bribery, it has a wider range, which is reflected in Abu Salim's cartoons," said Professor Ahmed. Director General of Bangla Academy, Shamsuzzaman Khan, and former VC of Dhaka University, Professor Moniruzzaman Mia, were also present at the opening.

A return to the silver screen

Face to face with Tomalika Kormokar

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Apart from her successful innings in "Notun Kuri", Tomalika Kormokar has proved her versatility by winning the National Film Award for her performance in "Kitton Khola". And there's more. After a long hiatus the brilliant artiste is all set to hit the silver screen again, appearing in Humayun Ahmed's latest directorial venture "Ghetu Putro Komola".

It's great to be back on celluloid, says Tomalika, going on to thank Humayun Ahmed for casting her in the film. Tomalika will play the mother of the protagonist, a character with which she has developed an affinity. Tomalika says acting helps fill a certain need for performers like her.

She also regrets not being able to play challenging roles like a transsexual or a prostitute in a recent film in the country roles she says can help satisfy her appetite for acting. Not being able to act in the film "Ghani" is her loss, she adds.

Of late, Tomalika has been on the show "Tara Duti Kemon Juti". Returning to hosting programmes after her first taste of the field in a show called "Natoker Gaan" six years ago, Tomalika says a brief change from her role as an actress is always welcome.



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Movies on the radio

Innovative programme "Double Exposure" on ABC Radio

A CORRESPONDENT

"Watching movies on Radio" -- the phrase strikes one as absurd. But absurdity takes the form of reality on "Double Exposure" -- ABC Radio's (FM 89.2) special weekly programme.

Every Wednesday at 11 pm, listeners can tune to FM 89.2 to experience a three-hour long audio delight. The show features *deshi* and internationally acclaimed movies and animated films with the purpose of providing pure entertainment. As one might have guessed, there is no visual media involved. Instead the show opens one's realm of imagination and lets the film's audio construct the imagery.

Two RJs guide the listeners, giving them a tour inside the movie, describing the scenes as the dialogues roll on. The sound effects create a dramatic environment, allowing the listeners to turn the lights off and turn the volume up to have an unorthodox yet enjoyable movie experience. Sriya-Rabbi and Shahadat-Sharmin will be the audio guides on alternate weeks, with the show also offering original soundtracks from the movies aired.



RJs Shahadat and Sharmin.

Jean-Luc Godard to skip honorary Oscar ceremony

Reclusive French-Swiss director film Jean-Luc Godard will skip a gala Hollywood dinner next month where he will be awarded an honorary Oscar, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences said on Monday.

Godard, 79, was invited to the November 13 ceremony to accept an honorary Oscar marking his 50 years as "one of the seminal modernists in

history of cinema" through films like "Breathless" and "Sympathy for the Devil".

But the Academy said that after a "two month long, cordial exchange of correspondence," Godard notified Academy president Tom Sherak that he would not be able to attend the ceremony.

"He reiterated his thanks for the award," Sherak said in a statement, "and also sent his good wishes to the other individuals being honoured the same night -- Kevin Brownlow, Francis Ford Coppola and Eli Wallach -- who he refers to as 'the three other musketeers.'"

The ceremony will pay tribute to Godard through film clips and commentary by admirers. The award will be accepted on Godard's behalf by the Academy, and the Oscar statuette will be delivered to him in Switzerland, the Academy said.

Godard, who prefers to make small budget movies, has in the past stayed away from large public events, including the 2010 Cannes film festival.

The Academy last year moved its honorary Oscars ceremony to November instead of handing them out during the main Academy Awards in February.

Source: Internet

A dark, brooding Superman

Radical makeover for the popular superhero

Superman has undergone a huge makeover -- the once squeaky clean and muscled superhero now looks more like Robert Pattinson than Christopher Reeves -- dark, brooding and lanky.

Superman now has angry smouldering eyes, straggly hair, low-slung baggy jeans and, according to his creators at DC Comics, "realises he doesn't belong anywhere and doesn't fit in".

The character is now aged 21 and physically far less imposing than the square-jawed, muscle-bound hero created 78 years ago.

"We wanted to tell a story that's hip, sexy and moody," The Daily Mail quoted Dan DiDio, DC Comics' co-publisher, as saying.

Raised by honest Kansas' farmers to have a strong moral compass, the original Superman was so squeaky-clean that fellow superheroes sneeringly dubbed him the "big blue Boy Scout".

The modern Clark Kent, Superman's alter ego, is still a Daily Planet journalist, albeit working in an age of hand-held devices and instant gratification.

"We wanted to show a



younger Superman at the early stages of his career, struggling with his identity and his place," said DiDio.

Transforming that most clean-cut and all-American of superheroes into a moody,

misunderstood urban youth is the latest example of comic book creators attempting to update classic characters for a new generation of readers.

Source: Internet

Britney's new track leaked

Britney Spears' latest track "Pleasure You" has apparently been leaked, leaving her record label Jive in a state of shock.

Britney's team has not confirmed she is recording new tracks, but it has now been reported a song from her new album has been leaked months ahead of its release date.

The singer, who has not released any new material since her 2008 album "Circus", has been apparently working with music producer Sean Garrett.

According to Radaronline, the star plans to release "Pleasure You" -- a three minute tune in which Spears stays true to form and sings about being submissive, and doing whatever it takes

to please her beloved.

Britney's representatives were apparently shocked that the new material had been made public, and appeared to confirm she is working on a new single.

"We are totally unaware of the song being leaked. We don't know how her song or any other artists' song could have been released. We're looking into the issue. We can't discuss details as to if she's working on a new album," Stuff.co.nz quoted a spokesperson from record label Jive as saying.

Source: Internet

