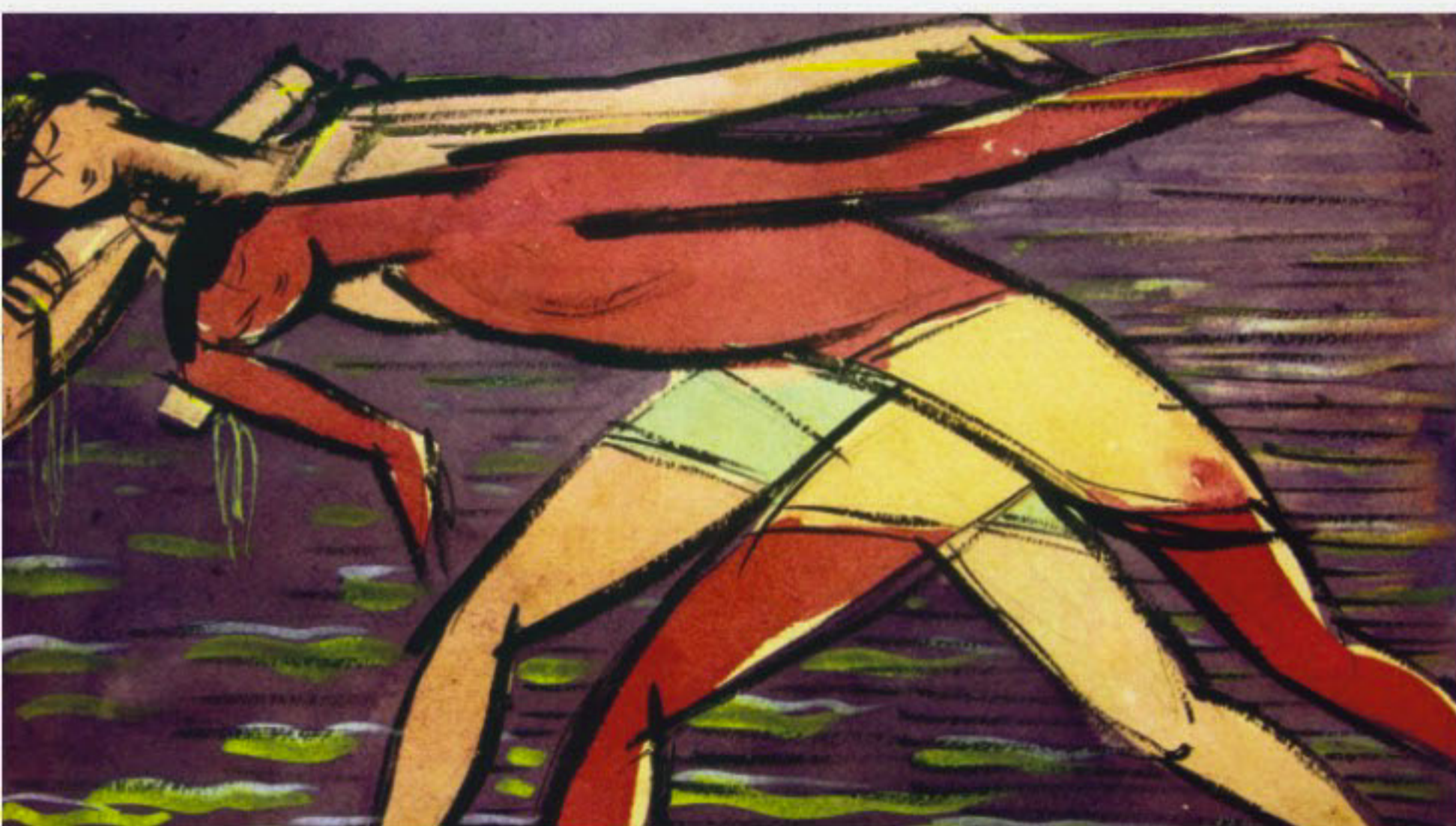


<p>WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK</p>	<p>14th Asian Art Biennale 2010 Organiser: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy Venue: National Art Gallery (BSA) and Osmani Memorial Hall Date: October 8- November 6 Time: 11am-7pm</p> 	<p>Exhibition Paintings, Installations, Photography, Films, Literature and Architecture Title: Dhaka Safe and Sound Organiser: Goethe-Institut Bangladesh Venue: Goethe-Institut, Shilpakala Gallery and Dhaka Art Centre Date: October 18-30 Inauguration: 6pm</p> 	<p>Musical Soiree Title: 109th anniversary of Abbasuddin Ahmed Artist: Mustafa Zaman Abbasi Organiser: Indra Gandhi Cultural Centre Venue: Rd 24, House 35, Gulshan 1. Date: October 29 Time: 7pm</p> 	<p>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</p> 
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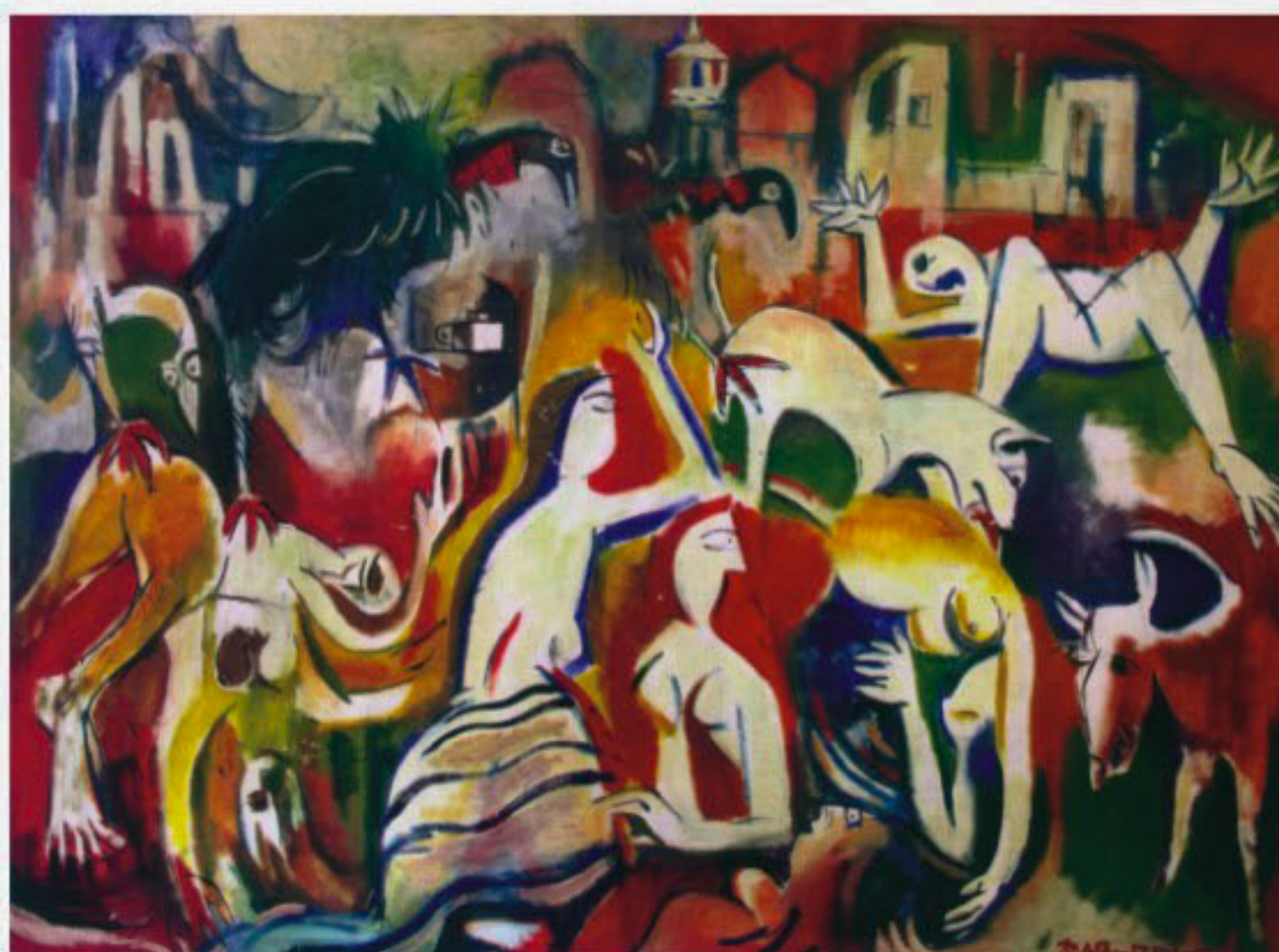
14th Asian Art Biennale 2010

Revisiting the Three Masters



Zainul Abedin

Towing



Quamrul Hassan

Bangladesh-71 (I)

Oil on canvas



SM Sultan

Harvesting

Oil on sack

TAKIR HOSSAIN

As part of the 14th Asian Art Biennale 2010, the National Museum has organised an exhibition of three legendary painters of the country-- Zainul Abedin, Quamrul Hassan and SM Sultan at Nalini Kanta Bhattashali Gallery of the museum. The exhibition features selected artworks from the collection of the museum. About 86 artworks are on display at the exhibition, which was inaugurated on October 7. The maestros were different in their working styles and themes of work, but they shared common ground in their adherence to secular and liberal principles in life.

Zainul Abedin (1914-1976) played a major role in the modern art movement in Bangladesh. He established the Government Institute of Arts and Crafts (now

Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka) in 1948 in Dacca (now Dhaka) and he was the founding principal of the institute. The institute has produced many talented painters over the years.

Abedin spent his childhood in remote area of Mymensingh and he took inspiration from lush greenery, riverine beauty of the Brahmaputra and his rustic surroundings. He went to Calcutta (now Kolkata) to study art in Calcutta Government Art School in 1933. During the period, he was famous for his superb watercolour technique and sharp line drawings.

At the exhibition, Abedin's "Santal" shows two ethnic women, with a focus on their beauty and splendor of ornamentation. His approaches are very realistic. He could easily demonstrate a simple view with a contemplative mood.

"Famine Sketch" recalls the famine

days of 1943. The painter was mainly recognised for portraying this period of work. In this series, he used Chinese ink and brush on cheap packing paper. The series is known as "Famine Sketches". His fascination for drawing clearly appear in most of his works.

"Storm in Baishakh", is a significant watercolour, portraying two women caught in a storm. The work mainly focuses on the movement of the figures and the rest of the work depicts the translucent ambience. The painter was also an expert in watercolour and many of his students learned the medium's delicate technique and process from him.

Quamrul Hassan (1921-1988) was another significant painter of Bangladesh, recognised for retrieving our folk and traditional elements through his art. He was one of the founders of Dacca Art College. Hassan was an influential

artist working in almost all media like oil, gouache, watercolours, pastel, etching, woodcut, linocut, pen and pencil. He also contemplated with woodcuts, especially after the famine of 1974, works that expressed his fury and ferocity.

Hassan's works delineated the rural Bengal and its people. He portrayed figures, natural objects, trees, snakes, owls, jackals, birds, fish, animals as well as landscape where we can see his passion about portraying rustic scenic beauty and its untainted beauty. Pastoral women and their dilemma is a recurrent theme in his works. He mingles romanticism with realism, focusing on strong curved lines, contours, and contrasted use of colour.

Hassan did several paintings on the Liberation War. The works reveal the tragedies of war and the sufferings

inflicted upon individuals, particularly impoverished people. A number of his works in the war series are on display at the exhibition like "Bangladesh-71 (III)", "Bangladesh-71 (I)" and "Clubman". The works have gained a monumental status, becoming a perpetual reminder of the catastrophe of war, an anti-war symbol, and an embodiment of peace.

SM Sultan (1923-1994) was born to impoverished parents in Narail in 1923. His father was a mason and could not give him a proper environment for his studies. At one stage he joined the Calcutta Art School but left the institute without completing the degree.

A bohemian and mystic, Sultan works plunged deep into rural life, especially peasants, fishermen, day labourers and their simple lives. His works articulate a strong message for

deprived people in our society. At the exhibition, his "Harvesting", an oil piece, shows some farmers busy harvesting, with two cows ploughing the field. Tiny house and villages are also seen in the image. Sultan was mainly recognised for his depiction of rural beauty, villagers, peasants -- their struggles and their way of life. The human forms are robust and powerful and represent the hardworking people of our countryside. This prominent artist worked with oil colours, which he felt provided him with artistic freedom.

At the exhibition, some of his watercolour-based landscape shows the pure silence of nature and panoramic beauty. Human beings are clearly absent from these landscapes, the innermost beauty of nature and its mysterious aspects are mainly tinted.

The exhibition will run till November 6.

Mime master Partha Majumder takes on new role...

Master of Mime Partha Pratim Majumder has acted in the main role in BT "British TelephonesWeb Com Publicity" which has been shot in Paris, says a press release. The publicity is organised by renowned film production house of France "ChoYou" Production.

Founded in 1995 by professionals with strong experience in IT & Telecom markets, ChoYou agency has focused on the building, the development and the execution of mix marketing programmes and tools for lead generation, channel enhancement, awareness or product campaigns and media planning through online and offline medium, says the agency's website.

Partha is a forerunner in the field of mime in Bangladesh. His skills have unfolded during the past 15 years on the Bangladeshi, European and

North American stages. Partha wrote and choreographed the mimodrama, in a record time of two months. The mimodrama was staged in Bangladesh in 1994 with the collaboration of different group theatres and professional dancers from Dhaka. The mimodrama focusing on child abuse was the first of its kind to be shown on South East Asian stages and its enormous success was acclaimed by the press and media.

Partha travels all over the world to teach the art of mime, organises workshops with young people and create productions with them.

Currently he is in the process of creating a new episode on the theme of environmental pollution.

The socially conscious Partha also teaches the art of mime to speech-impaired people.



Partha is in the process of creating a new episode on the theme of environmental pollution.

A new chapter for Oprah

There's no stopping Oprah Winfrey Inc. When the entire world thought she was headed for semi-retirement, she's back with a bang: this time with "OWN: The Oprah Winfrey Network".

The story goes back to April 2007 when David Zaslav, CEO of Discovery Communications walked in with an offer she couldn't refuse: OWN. In an exclusive interview with "Fortune" magazine she said initially she was to appear on OWN just 35 hours a year. However, launch delays, management turmoil and internal confusion about what kinds of shows to do, delayed the project.

In 2009, Zaslav returned to Chicago, he said he needed to alter the deal on account of the recession and the collapse of the TV ad market. He struck a hard deal: he demanded more of Oprah's time and insisted that she quit broadcast TV completely.

Though Oprah had strong reservations, she finally agreed to increase her presence on OWN to 70 hours annually from the 35 initially proposed by Discovery. She was also roped in to host "Oprah's Next Chapter", a globetrotting interview show.

Oprah gets the backing of high profile names to help her build OWN: Apart from Zaslav, there's Peter Liguori, hired by Zaslav to be Discovery's COO (Chief Operating Officer) and the other big names are Tom Preston, a key advisor to Oprah. Christina Norman is to be CEO of OWN. Rosie O' Donnell is to have a talk



Oprah Winfrey show on OWN.

OWN is obviously on to great things already. Oprah has recently booked the controversial Duchess of York Sarah Ferguson to star in a six-part docuseries on OWN. The programme was to have a different slant as a reverse fairy tale reality show centering on a duchess who confessed to Oprah over e-mail about her anxiety of losing her fortune, having to lay off her staff and learning to live the life of the common man.

Oprah is also to appear on every episode of "Master Class" which will feature super achievers like Simon Cowell, Jay-Z and

Condoleeza Rice. She will figure in docudrama "Behind the Scenes: Oprah's 25th Season". Other shows in the line up are "Your Own Show and "Oprah's Next Chapter".

Seems like a lot to handle. But Oprah's not complaining. "I'm so tired of the chairs," she says referring to both the seats and some of the people who have sat on them.

"The Oprah Winfrey Show". "For me, it's about getting out of the chairs and into the hearts of people's lives," she told "Fortune".

Source: Fortune



A scene from "Bhelua Sundari".

A treat for culture enthusiasts

Centre for Asian Theatre's new programmes

Centre for Asian Theatre (CAT) has treats up its sleeve for the culturally inclined. On October 30 the group's renowned production "Bhelua Sundari" based on an East Bengal ballad, directed by Saidur Rahman Lipon will be staged at Experimental Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy at 7.00 pm, says a press release.

On November 1, "Norwegian Jazz-Duo" a Norwegian Jazz Concert with the famous jazz singer Cristina Bjordal and famous pianist and composer Helge Lien will be staged at National Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy at 7.00 pm. This concert will be presented by Royal Norwegian Embassy in cooperation with Centre for Asian Theatre.