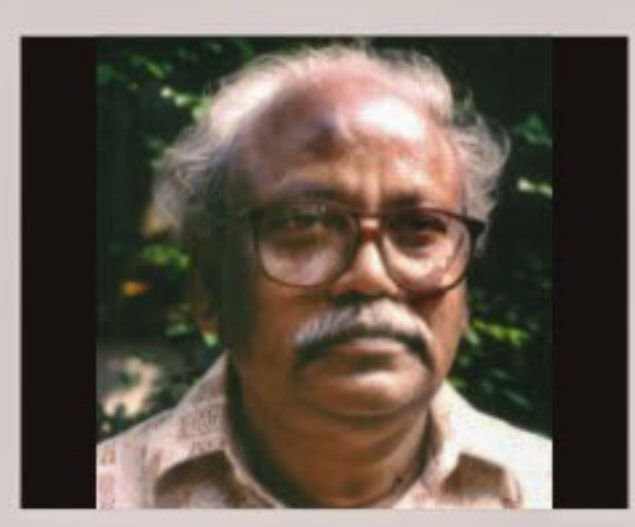


WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK


Korean Film Fest
 Organiser: Embassy of the Republic of Korea
 Venue: Main Auditorium, National Museum, Shahbagh
 Date: December 5-11
 Time: 11am onwards




Drawing Exhibition
 Artist: Rafiqun Nabi
 Venue: Gallery Chitrag, H-21, R-4, Dhanmondi
 Date: December 3-20
 Time: 10am-8pm



Solo Musical Soiree
 Artist: Dr. Shama Ali
 Venue: Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre, H-35, Rd-24, Gulshan-1
 Date: December 11
 Time: 6:30pm



Sculpture Exhibition
 Title: The Dialogue of Nature
 Sculptor: Ferdousy Priyabhashini
 Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, H-60, R-7/A, Dhanmondi
 Date: December 9-13
 Time: 11am-8pm



Songs of awakening

Jagoroner Gaan 2 pulls in enthusiastic crowd



Music and poetry played a vital role in the movement for freedom against repression, inequality and colonial domination.

AKRAM HOSEN MAMUN
 Jagoroner Shangkriticharcha O Gobeshona Kendra (JSOGK) unveiled a collection of albums "Jagoroner Gaan 2", a follow up album to the original "Jagoroner Gaan" published earlier this year, through a daylong programme at the Shikha Chirontan premises, Suhrawardy Udyan yesterday. Sponsored by Banglalink, the programme was overseen by StepMedia.

history of struggle against the colonial domination. The album comprises a total of 101 songs, 30 of which are from the previous album. Professor Dr. Abdul Khaleque, the President of JSOGK said, "Gano Sangeet has always created a platform for people to unite in times of national struggles. These songs have made brave warriors and freedom fighters of apparently ordinary people." He added, "These songs not only reflect the spirit of popular struggles, but also give voice to the hopes, dreams, and disillusionment of ordinary people."



Cheering crowd at the album launch. PHOTO: MUMIT M.

Mostafa Zahid Khan, general secretary, JSOGK, observed that the songs that

inspired so many in the past, were now consigned to oblivion. "Our concern is not only to collect and preserve the songs, but gather information of the original writers and composers as well," he added. The event started in the morning with an art competition for children. Later, chief guest at the programme, Minister of Information and Culture, Abul Kalam Azad formally launched the albums. Veteran Gano Sangeet singer Fakir Alamgir, Faridur Reza Sagar, managing director, Impress Telefilm Ltd and Channel i among others, were present at the programme. "Gano Sangeet have always played a key role in inspiring people during major national movements," said the minister. At the closing ceremony held in the evening, Finance Minister Abul Maal Abdul Muhit, was present as chief guest.

For enriching nation's art



Murtaja Baseer
 STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Syed Abdullah Khalid

Bangladesh Arts Council Award was conferred on two eminent artists Murtaja Baseer and Syed Abdullah Khalid for their immense contribution to Bangladeshi art. Sir Fazle Hasan Abed handed over the crests to the recipients on December 9. Maheen Khan, chairman of Bangladesh Arts Council; noted archaeologist Dr. Enamul Haque; directors of the organisation, prominent artists and cultural activists were present at the award giving ceremony. This is the first time the organisers have introduced the award. Murtaja Baseer is one of the distinguished painters in Bangladesh. He is also a poet, short story writer, novelist, researcher, numismatist

and filmmaker. Throughout his illustrious career, he has painted several styles and mediums. At the age of 78, he is still actively exploring the diverse world of art. He has done a series of works symbolic of the contemporary life, time and issues. His works delve deep into figurative and abstract styles. Syed Abdullah Khalid is simultaneously a sculptor and painter. He was born in 1945 in Sylhet. He completed his BFA in 1969 from East Pakistan College of Arts and Crafts (presently Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka) and did his MFA in 1974. He is well known for his monumental work on Liberation War "Aparajeyo Bangla". His other noteworthy works are "Abahaman Bangla", "Ankur", "Eternal Bengal", "Angikar", "Dolphin", "Mother and Child".

No boundaries

Kaartik talks about his liberated approach to music

JAMIL MAHMUD

Musician Kaartik has become a familiar name thanks to his association with the fusion band Bangla, though in recent times his creative efforts in other mediums are also getting recognition. Kaartik's initiation to the music scenario happened through Bangla's debut album "Kingkortobyobimur". His guitar leads in two of Bangla's albums demonstrated his potential. Of late, the musician has been working as a theatre music director. Kaartik's music direction for Prachyanat's "Raja... Ebong Onnanyo" and "Baramkhana" has been lauded by many. "Raja...Ebong Onnanyo" is an adaptation of a Tagore classic, while "Baramkhana" is an inter-



PHOTO: MUMIT M.

"I joined Prachyanat with a vision -- to be a part of a progress that changes the musical aspect of theatre, particularly, instruments used in background scores"

pretation of Fakir Lalon Shai's life and philosophy - both understandably challenging themes for a music director. Nevertheless, Kaartik has accomplished what he set out to do, and both plays have earned plaudits for their apt music. He is a former member of Prachyanat. He was with the troupe for over three years. Kaartik said that he joined Prachyanat to explore and learn more about music. "I joined Prachyanat with a vision -- to be a part of a progress that changes the musical aspect of theatre, particularly, instru-

ments used in background scores," said Kaartik. About his involvement with "Raja... Ebong Onnanyo", Kaartik said that director of the play (Azad Abul Kalam) approached him regarding music direction. "Pavelda (Kalam) has greatly inspired me when I was with Prachyanat," said Kaartik. "Raja...Ebong Onnanyo" features 10/12 songs. The musical arrangement is theatrical and relevant to the story. Kaartik said that for the production, he did some extra scores. "Theatre is a medium where you have a lot of scopes to play with human

emotions," said the musician. "Baramkhana" (directed by Traupa Majumder) was another challenge for him. The production features 12 songs. Kaartik said that for "Baramkhana" he created music that reflects the Baul way of life. To execute the theme, he has used several instruments that bauls usually play with Lalon songs. Kaartik thanks the musical teams of both "Raja...Ebong Onnanyo" and "Baramkhana" for supporting and assisting him. Though Kaartik works in theatre and contemporary music, he considers himself to be a freelance artiste. His opinion is: "musicians should not limit themselves to a particular field; they should have no boundaries." About identifying with genres, the artiste said, "We should listen to all kinds of music, and once familiarised, we can decide on genres to work on."

Plunging into geometrical shapes

Brazilian artists display works



TAKIR HOSSAIN
 The Brazilian Embassy in Dhaka has organised a weeklong painting exhibition titled "Four Geometrical Brazilian Painters", featuring the works of four contemporary Brazilian painters: Carlos Muniz, Luiz Dolino, Manfredo de Souza Netto and Ronaldo Macedo. Luiz Dolino is the curator of the exhibition. The exhibition is now on at Symphony Building (Road-142) in Gulshan-1. The painters' works delve deep into pure geometric

forms and compositions. It is noticeable that the painters have been continuously experimenting with their preferred geometrical shapes to establish a personal hallmark through their paintings. The participating artists' have divided their canvases into a number of fragments and use a number of two or three kinds of kaleidoscopic compositions. The colours look very tranquil in their smooth brushing and mellow textures. The symbolic language of geometric abstraction is based on the use of simple geometric

forms positioned in non-illusionistic space and mingled into non-objective compositions. Space, plays a significant role in the geometrical based paintings and the artists always enjoy their artistic freedom through this genre of art. At the exhibition, Carlos Muniz's works depict a fascinating composition where colours and geometric forms exist harmoniously and their presence is inspiring. Blue, red, black are predominant aspects in his works. The composition recalls the artistic finesse of acclaimed geometric

abstract painters Piet Mondrian and Josef Alberts. Different colours carry an ambiguous function in the composition. Straight lines create a number of poles in his canvases. Warm hues of gold, crimson, black, azure and brown collide into harmonious contrasts that exude dramatic energy in Luiz Dolino's works. His works plunge deep into a number of geometric compositions which makes a subtle appearance as Dolino paints with impassioned force and meticulous care. Working with acrylics,

Dolino creates textures that lure and mesmerise with his illusory presence. Ronaldo Macedo's works focus on uneven textures and very few compositions. His colours seem very strong and vibrant. It is clear that his works symbolise transformation, transmutation and imagination, as well as the first moments of happiness and romance. Non-smooth textures reveal the artist's impassioned mind and his painful artistic journey. The exhibition ends on December 15.



Clockwise (from top left): Artworks by Luiz Dolino, Carlos Muniz and Ronaldo Macedo.