WHAT'S ON

Recitation Programme
Title: Tomar Aakash Dao
Organiser: Tepantor
Venue: National Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: March 10 at 7:30pm

Children's Painting Competition
Venue: Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre, Rd 2, H 24, Dhanmondi
Date: March 11
Time: 10am

Noazesh Knowledge Centre
Organiser: Wildlife Trust of Bangladesh
Venue: Cosmos Centre, 69/1, New Circular Road, Malibagh
Date: March 12; Time: 4pm

Exhibition
Title: Peace Women Across the Globe, Peace Women Across Bangladesh
Venue: Alliance Fracaise de Dhaka, Dhamondi
Date: March 8-19

Solo Photography Exhibition
Photographer: Naymuzzaman Prince
Venue: Alliance Francase de Dhaka, Dhanmondi
Date: March 25- April 6

Film Screening
Film: Arsene Lupin
Venue: Auditorium, Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, Dhanmondi
Date: March 11 at 6pm

Group Art Exhibition
Title: 7 Visions
Venue: Tivoli Art Gallery, DCC Super Market, Gulshan-2
Date: March- 3-12
Time: 11am-7:30pm

Srijonshil Tarunner Natyaprokash
Venue: Natyomondol, Dhaka University
Date: March 1-15
Time: 6:30pm

Solo Art Exhibition
Artist: Murshida Arzu Alpana
Title: Contemplation
Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, H-60, R-7/A Dhanmondi
Date: March- 4-16

A Mirror on Society

Murshida Arzu Alpana's solo exhibition

The artist.

Artworks by Murshida Arzu Alpana.

TAKIR HOSSAIN

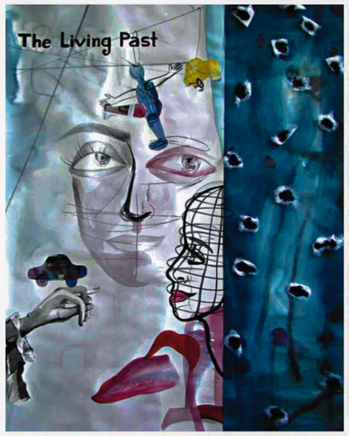
Dhaka Art Centre has organised a solo painting and installation exhibition, titled "Contemplation", featuring works of Murshida Arzu Alpana. The exhibition features 32 artworks.

The exhibition opened on March 4 and will continue till March 16. Mohammed Mijarul Quayes, secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, was present as chief guest at the programme. The Ambassador of Italy to Bangladesh, Giorgio Guglielmino and director of Goethe Institut Bangladesh Angela Gruenert were present as special guests. The inaugural was chaired by veteran painter Rafiqun Nabi. Noted cultural personality Ramendu Majumdar, president of Dhaka Art Centre, delivered the welcome speech at the programme.

Alpana has been working in Berlin since 1993. She frequently comes to Dhaka and her last solo exhibition was held at Goethe Institut in the city. She is considered a conceptual artist whose works focus on the state of women in society. A woman is a symbol of grace, peace and harmony, feels Alpana.

Alpana is a socially aware painter and her themes mirror various social, political and environmental issues. She has employed various mediums and techniques to express her views on the subject.

Mingling of eastern and western motifs is recurrent in Alpana's works which explore women's standing in our society. Her artworks demonstrate her experiences gathered in both Bangladesh and Germany. In Dhaka and Berlin, she has clearly observed people's lives, manners and their wants and feelings.



Alpana also addresses the subconscious. Some of her works randomly feature seemingly meaningless motifs like a fragmented human body. It is often difficult to determine what is important in her works. She explains their significance in her own way.

Alpana studies landscapes too, and frequently combines figures with landscapes in the background. She studied under KG Subramanian at Shantiniketan, India and then went to Berlin in 1993 on a scholarship. Her paintings also put human forms with inanimate objects like furniture and electronic appliances like computer, mobile phone etc. Her preferred mediums are silkscreen printing, oil, mixed-media, acrylic, acrylic-glass, pencil, crayon, oil sticks and charcoal.

Most of the works at the exhibition are acrylic, ink, charcoal and mixed media on canvas. Sizes of the canvases vary according to themes and compositions. The modes of expression are realistic, semi-realistic and abstract expressionistic. Nude and semi-nude figures, birds, pitcher, babies, cars and water lilies are recurring motifs. The drawing-based works are engrossed with meticulous lines and forms.

"I left Dhaka almost 17 years ago. But my intense love for this city and my identity keep bringing me back here," said Alpana.

Qayyum Chowdhury Turns 79

Birthday celebration at Bengal Gallery

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Qayyum Chowdhury is one of the most renowned painters of our country. He has made an enormous contribution to the enrichment of Bangladeshi art. He is also a social activist. On his 79th birthday [today], Bengal Foundation is hosting a celebration programme at Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, in Dhanmondi, Dhaka.

Chowdhury was born in 1932 in Feni. He graduated from Govt. Institute of Arts (now Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka) in 1954.

Chowdhury's works delve deep into rural Bengali life and traditions. Most of his paintings highlight folk elements, especially rural women. The artist incorporates the essence of folk motifs in most of his works. Animals, birds, fish, wild flowers and greenery are recurring objects on his canvas.

In his works, the skillful handling of colours and movements of the subjects are exceptional and the canvases are marked with diversity.

Chowdhury is also recognised for his illustrations and has done many illustrations for books, newspapers, literary journals and little magazines.

The artist has held four solo exhibitions and he has participated in many group exhibitions at home and abroad.

New Horizon Opens for Bangladeshi Artists

Bengal Foundation and Skira Editore ink a 10 year deal

ZAHANGIR ALOM

Bengal Foundation opened up a new horizon for Bangladeshi art and artists through inking a 10 yearlong deal with Skira Editore [Milan, Italy], one of the oldest and most prestigious publishing houses that specialise on fine arts related books.

Skira's International Commissions Editor Rosa Maria Falvo, on behalf of the institution, and Abul Khair, Chairman of Bengal Foundation, signed the deal at Bengal Shilpalaya, in Dhanmondi, Dhaka on March 6.

As part of the deal, a high quality series of books showcasing artworks of both master and contemporary artists of Bangladesh will be gradually published by Skira. International publishers Rizzoli, Random House (New York) and Thames & Hudson (London) will distribute these books all over the world.

Founded in 1928 by Albert Skira, Skira Editore's earliest editions are legendary: Ovid's "Metamorphosis", illustrated with 30 original engraving By Pablo Picasso (1930) and "Poésies" by Stéphane Mallarmé, illustrated with 29 original etchings by Henri Matisse (1932). Its first office in Paris became a creative hub for many. This gave birth to the legendary art review Minotaure, which published the works of numerous legends such as Pablo Picasso, Henri Matisse, and Salvador Dalí, and included the early writings of Jacques Lacan and the photographs of Man Ray and Brassaï.

Director General of Bengal Foundation Luva Nahid Chowdhury welcomed all and emceed the event. Chief guest of the programme was Sir Fazle Hasan Abed, founder and chairperson of BRAC. Special guests were Begum Jahanara Abedin, widow of Shilpacharya Zaunil Abedin; Giorgio Guglielmino, ambassador of Italy to Bangladesh and Mahfuz Anam, editor of The Daily Star.

Rosa Maria Falvo and Abul Khair (right) sign the contract. Mahfuz Anam (back row-left), Sir Fazle Hasan Abed, Begum Jahanara Abedin and the Italian Ambassador Giorgio Guglielmino are also seen in the photo.

"I believe this will be a breakthrough for Bangladeshi art and culture. The west will begin to explore the opulence of the art and cultural heritage of this country," said Rosa Maria Falvo, also the manager of Skira's Asia Pacific region.

"Today is a very special day for all of us who are associated with Bengal Foundation. Bangladeshi art will be promoted in the international arena through a series of 40 volumes over the next 10 years," Abul Khair said. "This involves commitment, dedication and most of all vision. This initiative exemplifies its origin when Zainul Abedin founded the first art school in Dhaka in 1948," he added.

"I have three goals -- to see Bangladesh as a thriving cultural hub; to represent Bangladeshi art, theatre, literature, architecture and music both at domestic and global levels and to establish Bangladeshi cultural centres in some of the most important cities like New York, Rome, Paris and London. These can be achieved if we have everyone's support, including the Government's," he continued.

"I think this is a win-win situation for both Skira and Bengal Foundation. It will truly be a landmark for Bangladeshi art and artists as from now on they will be showcased at museums throughout the world," said Giorgio Guglielmino.

"My childhood friend Abul Khair has been a devoted patron of art for several decades. Arts, especially paintings, have had an amazing evolution in the post-independence Bangladesh. I think, we are all convinced that art is an effective ambassador of Bangladesh's cultural heritage," said Mahfuz Anam.

"I congratulate both Skira and Bengal Foundation for forming this partnership. No one can deny the contributions of art connoisseur Abul Khair and Bengal Foundation," said Sir Fazle Hasan Abed.

The Daily Star-Patho Natok Parishad Street Theatre Festival Ends

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The weeklong Bangladesh Street Theatre Festival 2011" -- jointly organised by Bangladesh Patho Natok Parishad and The Daily Star -- ended on March 7 at the Central Shaheed Minar premises. The festival was arranged to celebrate the 40th anniversary of independence, where nearly 50 plays by different troupes from all over the country were staged.

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid inaugurated the festival, attending the programme as chief guest. Mahfuz Anam, editor and publisher of The Daily Star, was special guest at the opening ceremony.

The Education Minister urged theatre activists to use the platform of street theatre to generate awareness against social evils like eve teasing.

Six to eight plays were staged at the venue each day and entertained major turnouts. Several troupes such as Aranyak Natyadal, Dhaka Theatre, Subachan Natya Sangsad, Padatik Natya Sangsad Bangladesh, Theatre (Bailey Road) and Prachyanat staged their plays at the festival.

On the last day, eight plays were staged at the venue starting from the afternoon. Among the troupes, Theatre (Bailey Road), Padatik, Drishtipat, Natya Kutir and Bianibazar Sangskritik Command (Sylhet) staged their respective plays "Amra Shobai Chor", "Shakkhi", "Jora Tali", "Odrishya Jantrona" and "Rajakarer Ek Odhyay".

Dhaka Theatre staged its play "Jiyontakal" on March 6.

Eight plays were staged on the last day. PHOTO: GOLAM MAHBUB

The closing ceremony was held prior to the plays. Among others, Shah Hussain Imam, associate editor of The Daily Star; theatre personalities Lucky Enam, Golam Kuddus and Selim SH Chowdhury (also GM, events and production, The Daily Star) were present.

Patho Natok Parishad President and General Secretary Mannan Heera and Mizanur Rahman also spoke at the ceremony.

James Bond Walks in a Woman's Shoes

He's romanced, rescued and lost his fair share of women over more than half a century, but has James Bond ever paused to consider the rates of sexual assault of young girls going to school in the developing world?

That's one of a number of startling questions posed by a new short film by the artiste and director Sam Taylor-Wood, released to coincide with International Women's Day and starring Bond actors Daniel Craig and Judi Dench.

"We're equals, aren't we 007?" asks Dench as M, opening the film in voiceover, as Craig walks towards the camera. "Yet it is 2011 and a man is still likely to earn more money than a woman, even one doing the same job."

It is the only explicit reference to his role as Bond, though the film hints at some of the character's womanising ways in comparing his situation to that of a woman.

"As a man you are less likely to be judged for promiscuous behaviour, which is just as well, frankly ... There would be virtually no risk to your career if you chose to become a parent ... or became one accidentally.

"For someone with such a fondness for women, I wonder if you have ever considered what it might be like to be one?"

At this point Craig walks off-screen, to return in a blonde wig, dress and heels, while Dench rattles through a grim list of statistics detailing continuing inequality of the sexes worldwide. "Every year 70 million girls are deprived of even a basic education and a staggering 60 million are sexually assaulted on the way to school."

The film concludes: "So are we equals?

Until the answer is yes we must never stop asking."

The film, commissioned by a coalition of charities campaigning on equality issues and produced by Bond producer Barbara Broccoli, is the first film featuring the character to be directed by a woman, even if it runs only to two minutes.

"Bond is challenged by M to think about gender inequality, and I hope that the film encourages viewers to do the same," said Taylor-Wood.

Source: Internet

Indigenous Performers Hold Sway over Audience

QUAMRUL ISLAM RUBAIYAT, *from Thakurgaon*

A vibrant cultural programme was held at the concluding session of the recent Digital Mela (fair) at Freedom Fighters' Memorial premises in Panchagarh.

Performances of indigenous artistes from the hilly and plain areas enthralled the audience.

The programme started off with a group of indigenous artistes of Panchagarh performing their traditional dances.

Next, local artistes performed Rabindra Sangeet, modern Bangla and folk songs.

A group of indigenous artistes from Rangamati district performed their traditional songs and dances. They performed a bottle dance that received rounds of applause from the locals.

Deputy Commissioner Banamali Bhoumick distributed prizes and certificates among the participants at the fair.

State Minister for Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs, Depankar Dewan, inaugurated the two-daylong 'Digital Mela' last Friday amidst much enthusiasm and firm commitment towards ensuring a digital Bangladesh.

Panchagarh district administration organised the fair which sought to inspire people towards innovative activities through the use of path-breaking information and communication technologies (ICT) at all levels.

National Director of Access to Information Project and also personal secretary to the Prime Minister, Nazrul Islam Khan, was special guest at the inaugural session.

Nazrul Islam Khan said in his speech that the 50,000-page national 'E-koshe' (information bank) has been launched and the digitalised population registration will begin in next July from Panchagarh to further ease the service providing process to the people, he said.

Some 100 stalls including those of the Union Information Service Centres (UISCs) have been set up at the fair showcasing automated digital services like e-governance, e- education, e- agriculture, e-health and other e-services using the ICT and digital technologies.

International Artistes Regret Performing for Gaddafi Clan

Singer Nelly Furtado has said that she will give away $1 million (£615,000) she was paid to perform for the family of Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi.

The star said on Twitter she had given a private 45-minute show for Gaddafi's "clan" in 2007 at a hotel in Italy.

The 32-year-old did not say which charity she would donate the money to.

Meanwhile, Beyonce has revealed money she earned from a 2009 gig was donated to charity when it emerged the promoter was linked to the Gaddafi family.

In a statement the star's publicist said: "The money paid to Beyonce for her performance at a private party at Nikki Beach, St Barts on New Year's Eve 2009, including the commissions paid to her booking agency, were donated to the earthquake relief efforts in Haiti, over a year ago."

Once it became known the third party promoter was linked to the Gaddafi family, the statement went on, "the decision was made to put that payment to a good cause".

Another artiste, US singer Usher, is reportedly facing music industry calls to surrender fees earned from performing for Gaddafi's family.

According to Rolling Stone, the singer received an undisclosed sum for performing at the same party as Beyonce Knowles in 2009.

Mariah Carey, the magazine went on, accepted $1 million to perform for Gaddafi's son Muatassim in 2008, while rapper 50 Cent gave a show for him at the 2005 Venice film festival.

On Thursday, Carey said she had been "naive and unaware of who I was booked to perform for."

"I feel horrible and embarrassed to have participated in this mess," she said in a statement. "This is a lesson for all artistes to learn from."

Managers for Usher and 50 Cent have so far declined to comment.

Colonel Gaddafi is facing international condemnation for using violence to quell the mass uprising in Libya.

Source: Internet

"I feel horrible and embarrassed to have participated in this mess... This is a lesson for all

All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme.

ATN BANGLA
12:15 IT Zone
01:25 Band View
06:15 Cricket Cricket World Cup
08:00 Destination Unlimited
10:45 Bihongo Kotha

CHANNEL i
11:05 Sports Time (Live)
01:05 Ebong Cinemar Gaan
01:30 Hridoyer Gaan
04:05 Aponar Shushastha
12:00 Aajker Shongbadpotro

ntv
04:10 Janar Achhey Bolar Achhey
05:30 Apnar Jiggasha
06:45 Bajo Ebong Bajao
09:00 Kichhu Kotha Kichhu Gaan
11:30 Cover Drive

ETV
05:15 Boishakhi-CNN Shara Bishwa
11:30 Boishakhi Binodon O Shongskriti Sangbad

Diganta TV
12:30 Score Cards
05:30 Lime Light
06:08 Shorol Poth
09:25 Diganta Onushandhan
11:05 Down the Wicket

Z Studio
10:30 Shortcut to Happiness
01:30 Sky High
03:30 The Peacemaker
09:30 Top Gun
11:50 Two Lovers

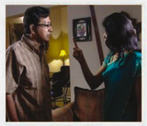
Star Movies
11:35 Shrink
01:25 The Honeymooners
03:30 Slow Burn
05:10 Desperado

RADIO

abc radio FM 89.2
06:00 Bhorer Janalay
09:00 Mukhorito Jiboney
12:00 Duran Dupurey
03:00 Duranto Bikeley
05:00 Shondha Tara
07:00 Shaj-er Maya
09:00 Raat-er Akashey
11:00 Galper Shesh Nei

Radio Foorti
10:00 Morning Express
12:00 No Tension
04:00 Dhaka Calling
09:00 Knight Riders

RADIO TODAY FM 89.6
07:15 Good Morning Dhaka
11:00 Masti Unlimited
01:00 Today's Adda
04:00 U-turn
08:00 Tobe Tai Hok



Hridoy-er Kachher Bishoy
On Channel i at 07:50pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Mou, Jitu Ahsan

Rendition
On HBO at 09:30pm
Genre: Drama/ Thriller
Cast: Reese Witherspoon, Jake Gyllenhaal

Cricket Rongo
On Rtv at 10:40pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Fazlur Rahman Babu, Farah Ruma

ATN BANGLA
04:30 Agun Pathor-er Kabbo
05:30 Ride on the Top
05:50 Sports Plus
06:30 Cricket Extra
11:40 Crazy Cricket

Rtv
02:30 Bangla Feature Film
06:00 Extra Innings
09:15 Drama Serial: Bagh Putul
11:25 Drama Serial: Naam-e Bhari Jomidari

BANGLAVISION
09:05 Shudhui Gaan
01:05 Bangla Feature Film
05:45 Googly
09:05 Shoundarjo Kotha
11:25 Reverse Swing

Desh TV
04:00 Desh Janopath
05:00 Durpath
06:00 How's That
07:45 Ekoi Brintey
12:30 Total Sports

Boishakhi TV
07:30 Bhor Holo Bibhabori
10:30 Bangla Feature Film
01:10 Time to Cricket
07:00 A Few Good Men
09:20 Everybody's Fine
11:05 Death Warrior

HBO
09:00 Amusement
10:45 Obsessed
01:00 Bloodsport
03:00 The Paper
05:45 The Indian in the Cupboard
07:45 The Barbarians
09:30 Rendition

Star World
02:00 Friends
03:30 Detroit 187
07:30 Koffee With Karan
08:30 How I Met Your Mother
09:00 Modern Family
09:30 Las Vegas
10:30 Dexter

National Geographic Channel
04:30 Fight Science
05:30 Nat Geo Amazing!
07:30 I Didn't Know That
08:30 Nat Geo Wild
10:30 World's Deadliest Animals
11:30 Great Migrations

DRAMA SERIAL

ATN BANGLA
09:20pm Pusoh Phaguner Pala

CHANNEL i
07:50pm Hridoy-er Kachher Bishoy
09:35pm Maar Chhokka

ntv
09:45pm Shobuj Nokkhotro

Rtv
10:40pm Cricket Rongo

BANGLAVISION
08:15pm Dynectaar

ETV
09:30pm Ghotak Baki Bhai

Boishakhi TV
09:15pm Ekarus-er Dana

Desh TV
11:45pm Shoja

NEWS BULLETIN

BTV
News (Bangla) at 8:00 am 2:00 pm.5:00 pm.8:00 pm. News (English) at 10:00am, 4:00 pm, 10:00 pm.
Late Night News (Bangla and English) 11:30 pm. (To be telecast on all Bangla channels).

CHANNEL-i
News (Bangla): 7:00 am, 9:00 am, 2:00 pm, 9:00 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:30 am

ATN BANGLA
NEWS (Bangla): 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11:00 pm, 1:00 am, 4:00 am
01:00pm, 3:00pm, 04:00pm
News (English): 9:00 am, 6:00 pm.

BANGLAVISION
News (Bangla) at 7:30am. 1:30pm. 5:00pm. 7:15pm. 10:30pm.
News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00am. 12:00am. 4:00pm.
News (English) at 6:00pm

Rtv
News (Bangla): 2:30 pm, 4:30 pm, 6:30 pm, 8:30 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:30 am

ntv
News (Bangla):7:30am, 12:00pm, 2:00pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm, 1:00am

ETV
News (Bangla): 9:00am, 11:00 am, 1:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 11:00pm

TALK SHOW

ATN BANGLA
10:30am Lead News
11:10am Top Spin

CHANNEL i
09:45am Tritiyo Matra
12:30pm Taroka Kathon

ntv
12:00pm Ei Shomoy

Rtv
10:45am Tarokalap
08:30pm Our Democracy

BANGLAVISION
06:05 Front Line

Desh TV
11:45pm Shoja