

WHAT'S ON

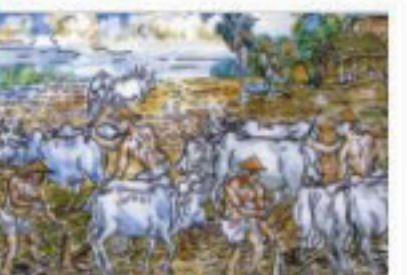
Group Art Exhibition
Title: Standard Chartered Sreejoni 2010
Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, H-60, R-7/A, Dhamondi
Date: April 1-10



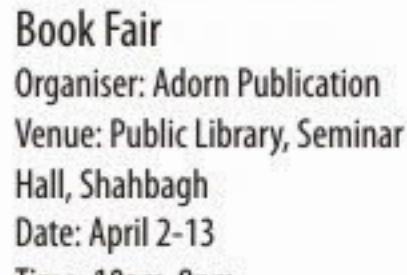
Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Symphony of Colours
Artist: Syed Abdullah Khalid
Venue: Galleri Kaya, H-20, R-16, S-4, Uttara
Date: April 12-29



Grand Group Art exhibition
Venue: Saju Art Gallery, DCC Market, Gulshan-2
Date: April 1-30
Time: 10am-8pm



Book Fair
Organiser: Adorn Publication
Venue: Public Library, Hall, Shahbagh
Date: April 2-13
Time: 10am-8pm



Documentary Screening
Title: Bangla-e Rabindranath
Organiser: Surlok
Venue: Bangladesh National Museum Auditorium



Syed Badaruddin Hossain Smriti Natyo Utshab
Venue: National Theatre, BSA
Date: April 6-12



Group Installation Show
Title: Dhaka Seeks Solitude
Venue: Goethe Institut, H-10, R-9, Dhamondi
Date: Mar 10-Apr 7
Time: 11am-8pm



BALGO Contemporary Australian Art Exhibition
Title: BALGO
Venue: Gallery Cosmos, 69/1, New Circular Road, Mollbagh
Date: April 1-13



Rediscovering Tagore songs Nobo Gaane Nobo Prane on Channel i

A CORRESPONDENT

As a part of its four month long festival, titled 'Rediscovering Tagore' [organised by British Council], a singing contest commenced last night on Channel i. The programme is designed to draw the attention of youngsters to Tagore songs and will continue for ten weeks [aired every Wednesday]. The series will conclude with a finale at which the winner will secure a deal with a record company and a trip to the UK.

Speaking at a press conference on April 5, Charles Nuttall OBE, director of the British Council in Bangladesh, said, "Tagore is a global figure who drew on many cultural influences in his work. At an early stage in his career he spent some time in the UK and we will make a similar opportunity available to the winner of this exciting competition."

Renowned Rabindra Sangeet artiste Rezwan Chowdhury Bonnya will lead the panel of judges on the show. Soumik Datta, a young British musician, will mentor the young singers. Rezwan Chowdhury Bonnya expressed her hopes that "this programme will be groundbreaking and will have a far-reaching impact on the music scene of Bangladesh."



Watercolour Supreme

Standard Chartered Sreejoni 2010 Exhibition

TAKIR HOSSAIN

Standard Chartered Bank (SCB) Bangladesh recently organised a 45-daylong art workshop, titled "Standard Chartered Sreejoni 2010". The theme of the workshop was watercolour. Around 43 artists participated at the workshop.

The current exhibition at Dhaka Art Centre is the outcome of the workshop. Artists -- belonging to different age groups, working on diverse themes -- came together and exchanged views at the workshop. A workshop creates an atmosphere where an artist can experiment and share his/her perceptions with others.

At the exhibition, Samarjit Roy Chowdhury has changed his style. His works are now engrossed with pure forms, compositions and textures. In his student days, the painter was known for his excellent watercolour techniques. At the exhibition, his work depicts some vessels on a small river. Muted colours and insight into the subject make the image remarkable.

Solitude and tranquillity are two vital components in Shohag Parvez's works. The subjects of his works are usually in a solemn mood. At the exhibition, illumination is a noticeable feature in his watercolours and the artist generally prefers a lucid, mystifying setting. The artist's technique is particularly based on flat wash and use of thin colour.

Biren Shome's watercolours are splendid in terms of individual technique and constructing watery effects. He began his career as a realist painter, depicting rural landscape with its rich abundance of colours,

silhouette and serenity. At the exhibition, one of his watercolours shows different sizes of clay pots. The painter likes to work in fast wash technique where the subject becomes overly focused.

From the beginning of his career, Alokes Ghosh has highlighted pastoral life; green horizon, riverine splendour, forests and boats of Bangladesh. Flat wash is a common technique demonstrated in Ghosh's works.

In recent times, Samiran Chowdhury has changed his style. His works are now engrossed with pure forms, compositions and textures. In his student days, the painter was known for his excellent watercolour techniques. At the exhibition, his work depicts some vessels on a small river. Muted colours and insight into the subject make the image remarkable.

Mamun's works are lyrical and spontaneous. Meticulous balance of light and shade is another trait of his works.

Sohely Hasan's watercolour on display at the exhibition depicts villages from a distance.

Villages and mundane chores have been articulated in Shahnoor

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Alam Sabrina Afrin's work shows a muddy road where some trees provide an impressionistic view.

Sapan Chhurshi's watercolour on display at the exhibition depicts villages from a distance.

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Clockwise (from top-left): Watercolours by Samarjit Roy Chowdhury, Samiran Chowdhury, Shohag Parvez, Jashim Uddin Sarker and Biren Shome.

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Avant-garde watercolourists Biren Shome and Samiran Chowdhury conducted the workshop. Senior painters Samarjit Roy Chowdhury, Alakesh Ghosh and Rezaul Karim were instructors. Participating painters visited several sites in the city for inspiration.

The workshop's aim was to popularise the watercolour medium among promising painters of the country. Participating painters are the students of Faculty of Fine Arts (University of Dhaka), Narayanganj Fine Arts Institute, Bulbul Academy of Fine Arts and University of Development Alternative in Dhaka.

The exhibition ends on April 10.

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LRB: Two decades and still going strong

On April 5, one of the leading rock bands of the country, LRB celebrated its 20 years. Ayub Bachchu and his band LRB performed at Cafe Thirty3 on Bailey Road, Dhaka to celebrate the landmark occasion, according to a press release.

Guitarist and vocalist Ayub Bachchu formed the band on April 5, 1991 with his friend Saidul Hasan Swapan (bass), Shahidul Islam Tutul (keyboard and backup vocals) and Joy (drums and backup vocals). The line-up changed several times. The current line-up (since 2003) retains Bachchu (vocals and lead guitar) and includes Swapan (bass), Masud (guitar), and Romel (drums). Shamim Ahmed is currently the band manager.

LRB released its first double album in 1992 and has released 10 albums so far. Frontman Ayub Bachchu has recorded six solo albums. These albums include "Amader Bishwa", "Ferrari Mon" (unplugged), "Ghumonto Shohore", "Hawkar", "Ochena Jibone", "Mon-e Achhe Nai Nai", "Shopno", "Shukh", "Tobuo" and the band's last album "Sphosho". LRB's top hits are "Cholo Bodde Jai", "Ghumonto Shohore", "Rupali Guitar", "Ghum Bangha Shohore", "Hawkar", "Mahdobi", "Ekhon Onek Raat", "Hashto Dekho", "Ghor Chhara Ek Shukhi Chele", "Mon Chain Mon" and "Baro Mash". The band addresses contemporary urban issues -- love, being lost and harsh reality. Recently, LRB composed two songs in English that will be released soon.

LRB has performed over 1,000 gigs at home and abroad. Their first show outside the country was in India (at Jadavpur University) in 1997. Over the years, the band has performed in United States, Qatar, Japan, Germany, Vienna, United Kingdom, Australia and Italy.

LRB also uses its music to support social causes in conjunction with other Bangladeshi rock groups. LRB has performed in support of campaigns -- Say No to Drugs, Save Motherhood Project (Organised by Northern Light), and Victims Against Nonviolence.

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