









Kanak Chanpa Chakma to hold solo exhibition after a hiatus



Paintings by Kanak Chanpa Chakma. STAFF CORRESPONDENT

After a long hiatus, noted artist Kanak Chanpa Chakma is holding a solo painting exhibition. The exhibition, titled "Dreams-Sowing", will open at Gallery Chitrak in Dhanmondi, Dhaka on January 28, and will continue till February 12. Her last solo art show was held at Bengal Gallery in 2005. The USF of Kanak Chanpa's paintings is an indepth observation of the indigenous lifestyle in Chittagong Hill Tracts.

Minister for Foreign Affairs, Dr. Dipu Moni, is set to inaugurate the exhibition as chief guest. Singyong MRO, writer and social worker, will be present as special guest. Artist Qayyum Chowdhury will preside over the opening ceremony.

At the exhibition, Kanak Chanpa's paintings on display will highlight the Mru community. Over the last three years, the artist has frequently visited Mru settlements in Bandarban, Thimphu and Thanchi.

"I had an opportunity to observe their way of life, and I found it incredibly interesting. The Mru way of life is quite different from that of other indigenous communities. Mrus maintain an isolated and quiet life. They appreciate and enjoy the gifts of nature -- hills, forest, rivers, flora and fauna. The community observes several festivals throughout the year and they have many interesting customs and rituals. I have tried to highlight these in my paintings. This is almost a method of documentation for

me," said Kanak Chanpa.

Most of the paintings depict the lush green and untainted ambiance of the Hill Tracts, Mru homes and lifestyle. Kanak Chanpa said, "Mrus prefer to live on top of hills. They live in large and thatched roof cottages. They are very clean, intelligent and aware of their surrounding. They usually don't wear shirts or tops, and adorn themselves with wild flowers; hair is usually done

Mrus love music, as depicted in some of Kanak Chanpa's paintings. Young men are seen playing bamboo flutes and mouth organs. The artist said, "Music is their passion. Music flows in their blood. Mrus sing all day while cooking, farming and caring for their children."

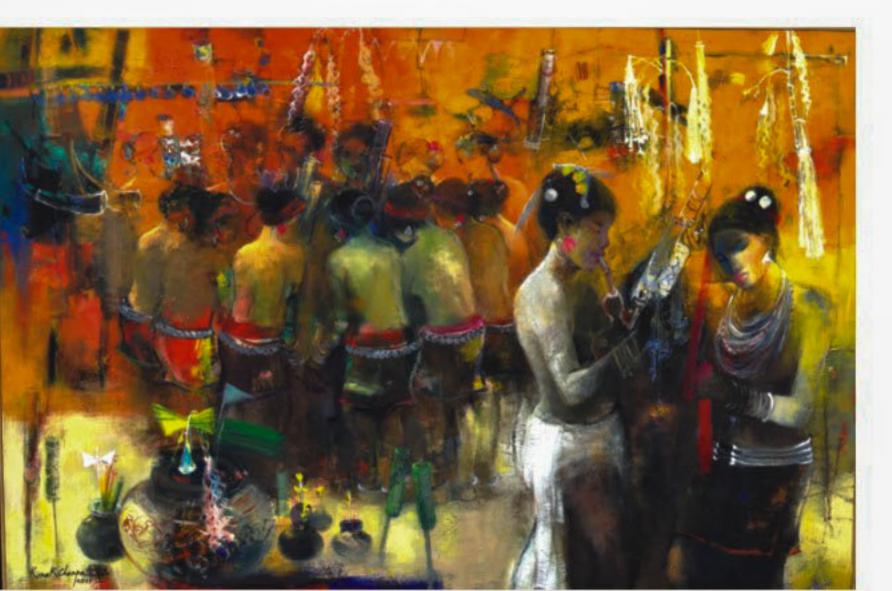
Wic ki's work stands in a category of

its own within German

post-war photography.
The exhibition will

everyday from

3pm to 8pm





Prothom Alo awards best books of last year

Widely circulated Bangla daily Prothom Alo conferred the '8th Prothom Alo Borsho Shera Boi 1417' (best books of last year) award at a gathering of writers and readers at Hotel Ruposhi Bangla in Dhaka on Janu-

Professor Sanat Kumar Saha received the award in Contemplative category for his book "Kobita-Akobita Rabindranath" (essays), while Aditi Falguni received recognition for her book "Apourusheyo 1971" (stories) in the Creative category.

Professor Emeritus Anisuzzaman was the president of the jury board, which included Poet Belal Chowdhury, Professor Begum Akter Kamal, litterateur Abdus Shakur and Professor Hayat Mamud.

Welcoming all at the event, managing editor of Prothom Alo, Sajjad Sharif said, "This time 400 books were submitted for awards in two categories. Two important events -- 150th birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore and 40th anniversary of our independence -- marked last year. Coincidently enough, the jury board selected two books on Tagore and the Liberation

the Pakistan era, while the spirit of Libera

a just, liberal nation. The programme was divided into two sessions -- live performance and award giving ceremony. Marking 90 years of National Poet's "Bidrohi", Jayanto

Chattopadhyay started off the cultural ses-

tion War teaches us to continue the fight for

Noted Tagore singer Audity Mohsin rendered two songs -- "Anandadhara Bohichhev Bhuboney" and "Eto Alo Jaliyechho Ei Poboney", while Shadhin Bangla Betar Kendra artiste Timir Nandi performed "Rokto Dive Naam Likhechhi Bangladesh-er Naam" and "Tir Hara Ei

sion with reciting the poem.

Dheu-er Sagor Pari Debo Rey" at the even The award giving session started with a speech by Professor Anisuzzaman. Highlighting the two books, he said, "Sanat Kumar Saha's essays in 'Kobita-Akobita Rabindranath' goes beyond the conventional way of thinking. Aditi Falguni's 'Apourusheyo 1971' feature stories of wounded freedom fighters, indigenous people and urban issues against the back-

Professor Anisuzzaman handed over a winner. Members of the jury board adorned

Rabindranath Tagore is being worshipped as the torchbearer and pre-eminent Bengali, I doubt, he [Tagore] would've been comfortable with this. On the other hand, there is a tendency to reject Rabindranath If Tagore's creation doesn't stand relevant, we'd move forward leaving the poet behind with honour. But we have to understand Tagore first. I tried to articulate this idea in my book."

Sanat Kumar Saha said, "The way

Aditi Falguni demanded the acceleration of the trial of war criminals during her speech. Her speech also highlighted issues like unending poverty and gender violence.

A documentary featuring Prothom Alo's 13 year-long journey was screened at the event. Thanking all, editor of Prothom Alo, Matiur Rahman said, "Bangladesh will go forward despite countless problems and obstacles. Prothom Alo has committed itself to fulfil its duties towards that triumphant

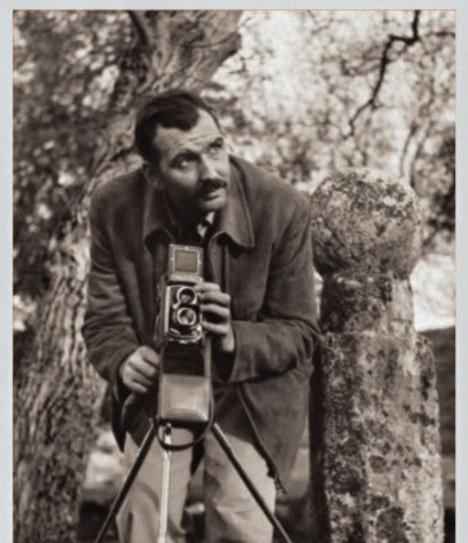


Potente, Matt

change in the programme

TRAVELLINGIMAGES

Bernhard Wicki exhibition at Drik Gallery



JAMIL MAHMUD

In his photographic expeditions, humar

Wicki focused primarily on people and their seemingly mundane activities, and painted a haunting picture of the aftermath of World War II.

hope somehow survived. Visionary German photographer ernhard Wicki's (1919-2000) astounding images are on display at Dirk Gallery in Dhanmondi, Dhaka at present. Goethe-Institut Bangladesh, in association with Drik Gallery, presents the travelling photography exhibition that started on January 22. The exhibition comes from Prague and will travel to other countries afterwards.

Wicki made his mark as a director and actor as well. His best-known cinematic work is "The Bridge". One of his major sources of inspiration [in photography] was Italian neo-realist cinema. The masterpieces of De Sica and Rossellini like "Bicycle Thief" and "Rome, Open City" made lasting impact on his photography

life takes centre stage. People are ubiqui and, later, on his filmmaking. tous even when they are out of focus in a At the age of 50, Wicki created a frame; modest objects and indistinct marks represent their presence. His pho tos outline a period profoundly shaken by the catastrophic events of World War France, Italy, Bosnia, Morocco and II, during which all visions of utopia were snuffed out, yet humanity and

and their seemingly mundane activities, and painted a haunting picture of the aftermath of World War II. The exhibition at Drik features 40 such images.

concentrated on the individual. The

women, men and even children he por-

trayed seem rapt in an utterly hopeless state of solitude. The subjects are somehow stylised without being clichéd; their personalities unveiled through careful and sensitive mise-enscène far from the conventions of star por-Wicki took up photography in a

city whose magical lure entangles pher -- the city of love, Paris. He was self-taught. Paris' realm of shades and famous squares and boulevards captivated him. He took hundreds of photos of the city but printed only a few. He sought the commonplace, random and seemingly incidental aspects of

tion. They are fleeting glimpses, snapshots as

unique artistic style of photography. He photographically documented his trips. He worked in many countries including Tunisia.

Wicki focused primarily on people Bosnia and Morocco or on holiday in Italy and France. He seldom photographed in Munich where he lived. A crucial criterion for the photographer was the uninhibited openness to new When photographing people, Wicki visual impressions.

The photographs taken by Wicki are seemingly guided by intuition, albeit with a distinct sense of composi-

In later years, he photographed mostly when he was away from home for longer periods, whether shooting in

A new world Fifth Int'l Children's Film Festival in Barisal wraps up OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

The four-day Fifth International Children's Film Festival in Barisal ended last Tuesday at Bangladesh Development Society auditorium

In association with UNICEF, Children's Film Society Bangladesh organised the festival, titled "Future in Frames". The festival hosted free film shows for children and adoles-

Tanjilur Rahman Rafi, president of

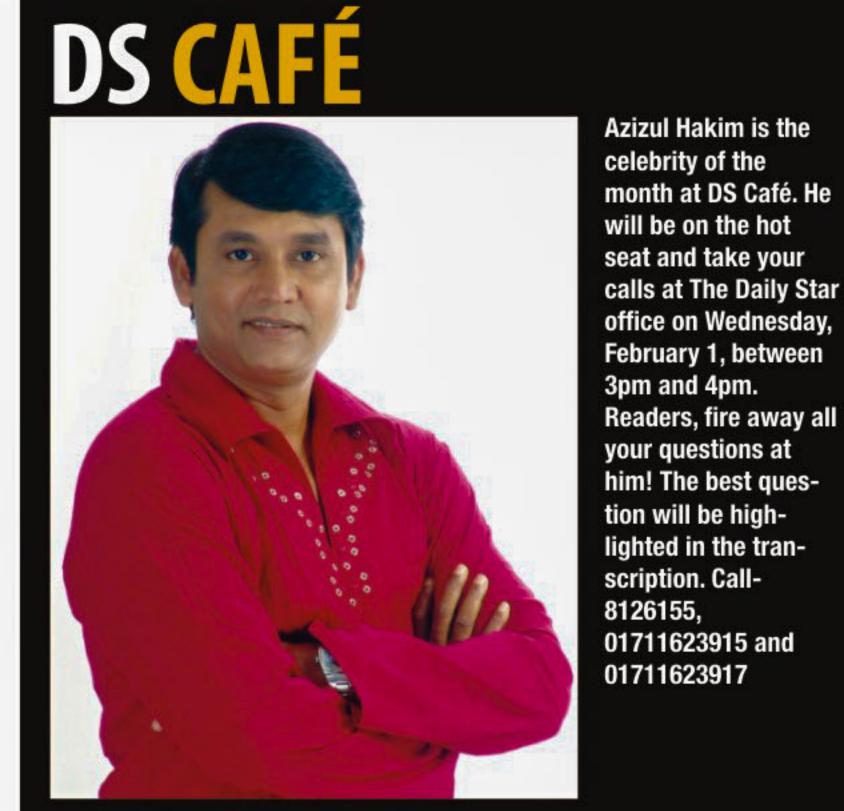
Children's Film Society, Barisal unit said that more than 25 short, full length feature and animated films produced by children from Bangladesh, UK, USA, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Zambia, Italy, Iceland, Germany, India, the Netherlands, France, Japan, Peru, Argentina, Malaysia and Iran were screened at the Barisal festival every



day at 11 am, 2 pm, 4 pm and 6 pm. The objective of the festival was to "open a new world of cinema to Bangladeshi children and to give them an exposure to the cultures and traditions of different countries through the powerful medium of films," said Rafi.

A huge audience, mainly groups of children and students from differer schools, came to the festival and

enjoyed the film shows every day. Professor Md. Hanif, former principal Govt. B.M. College, inaugurated the festival at the Barisal venue on last



office on Wednesday February 1, between Readers, fire away all your questions at him! The best question will be highlighted in the tran-01711623915 and

by Mort Walker

WUPS! YOU GOT THE

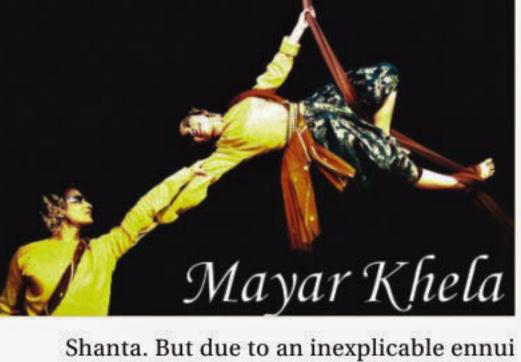
ROSE-COLORED ONES

Shadhona to premiere Mayar Khela tomorrow

A CORRESPONDENT

Shadhona will premiere its latest dance drama "Mayar Khela" (The Play of Illusions) tomorrow (January 27) at the National Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy. The Tagore drama has been choreographed by Sabbir Ahmed Khan and Amit Chowdhury. Nirjher chowdhury and Rokon Emon jointly directed music for the drama.

In "Mayar Khela", Tagore employs colexpressive contribution to Bengali story of a man, Amar, who is in love with office in Banani.



that he experiences, he decides to see what the world has to offer first.

Tickets are available at Jatra (Banani Literature, Rabindra Sangeet. It is the and Dhanmandi outlets) and Shadhona

Beetle Baily SEE ANYTHING?

Henry



by Don Tranchte

News (English) at 10:00am, 4:00 pm, 10:00 pm.

Music at Fun Dot Cor

Cinema R Gaan

Ananda Dhara

05:30

09:20 Drama Serial:

ate Night News (Bangla a nglish) 11:30 pm. (To be telecast on all Bangla News (Bangla): 7:00 am, 9:00 am, 2:00 pm, 9:00 pm, 0:30 pm, 12:30 am ATN BANGLA NEWS (Bangla): 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11:00 pm, 1:00

m, 4:00 am 01:00pm, 3:00pm, 04:00pn News (English): 9:00 am,

12:00am Zero Hour 2:30am Lead New 09:45am Tritio Matra 05:30pm Amader Sthaniyo

10:30pm Desh E Golpo 07:30pm Prime Issue

The Scorpion King Enter the Dragon The Bourne Identity Ninja Assassin

Herbie: Fully Loaded

The Bong Connection

Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone

The Big Bang Theory Two And A Half Men

Star World

DRAMA SERIAL

09:30pm Dilur Golpo

NEWS BULLETIN

News (Bangla) at 7:30am.

News (English) at 6:00pm News (Bangla): 2:30 pm 4:30 pm, 6:30 pm, 8:30 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:30 am News (Bangla):7:30am,

TALK SHOW

11:25pm Talk of the Week