

WHAT'S ON

**Amar Ekushely Book Fair '12**  
Venue: Bangla Academy  
Premises Date: February 1-29  
Time: 9am onwards

**Solo Art Exhibition**  
Title: Texture and Colour in Mindscape  
Artist: Maksud Iqbal Nipa  
Venue: Bengal Art Lounge, Gulshan-1  
Date: Feb 19-Mar 1

**Solo Art Exhibition**  
Title: Feeling Nature  
Artist: Alamgir Haque  
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, Dharmoadi  
Date: Feb 24-Mar 6  
Time: 12pm-9pm

**Group Art Exhibition**  
Title: Renewal in Serenity  
Venue: Galleries Kaya, H-20, R-16, Sector-4, Uttara  
Date: Feb 18-28  
Time: 11am-7:30pm

**Photography Exhibition**  
Title: Glorious Prints  
Photographer: Sayeed Siddiqi  
Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, H 60, Rd 7/A, Dharmoadi  
Date: February 28

**Solo Art Exhibition**  
Artist: Quamrul Hossain  
Venue: National Museum, Shahbagh  
Date: Feb 10-27  
Time: 10am-5pm

**Group Art Exhibition**  
Title: A tribute to Panam Nagar  
Organizer: The Arts Council Dhaka  
Venue: Khazana Restaurant, R-55, H-9, Gulshan-2  
Date: Feb 19-Mar 3  
Time: 12pm-10pm

**Screening of Live Cricket**  
Rest of the matches of BPL  
Venue: Cafe Mermald, Baridhara  
Every evening till the finale

# Artists representing three nations come together

## Standard Chartered hosts group art exhibition



(From left): Artworks by Shahid Kabir (Bangladesh), Wahab Jaffer (Pakistan) and Siddharth Shingade (India).

**TAKIR HOSSAIN**

Standard Chartered Bangladesh hosted a two-day art exhibition, titled "Diverse Strokes," featuring works of artists from Bangladesh, India and Pakistan. The exhibition was held at Utshab Ballroom, Radisson Blu Water Garden Hotel in the city. The exhibition was conceived and curated by Ritu Jain and Ishi Jami.

The participating Bangladeshi painters are: Murtaja Baseer, Syed Jahangir, Qayyum Chowdhury, Abu Taher, Rafiqun Nabi, Monirul Islam, Shahid Kabir, Abdus Shakoor Shah, Shahid Kabir, Ranjit Das, Mohammad Eunus, Kanak Champa Chakma and others.

Abu Taher's canvas is usually dominated by thick colours, scribbles and subtle figures. At the exhibition, his painting shows some rural women in a joyous disposition. The work looks rather rigid, as he does not leave any free space on his canvas. Strong whirling and broken lines and colours are the highlight of Taher's work. The painter is seemingly influenced by Willem De Kooning.

Rafiqun Nabi is well known for his paintings, woodcut prints and drawings. His paintings delightfully project the serene ambience of nature. Colours usually used by the artist are aze, yellow, ochre, red, black and emerald green --

representing rural Bengal. Nabi does figurative work, painting rural folk, fishermen, kingfishers, broken bridges, buffaloes, boats, crows, wild flowers, people at leisure and gossiping. His landscapes transport the viewer to a higher realm. The artist arranges motifs in different combinations of light and shade.

Shahid Kabir has lived and worked in Madrid for a long time. He has settled back in Dhaka and maintains a modest atelier at Kalabagan in the city. At the exhibition, his semi-nude figure is seen in a glowing light and mystifying setting. The painter has used emerald green against black shade. Earlier the painter attained fame for his series on Lalon. Later he concentrated on objects from everyday life. Teapots, flower vase and fruits are common subjects in his works. Brickfields, riverscape, working women also appear in his paintings.

Mohammad Eunus prefers pure abstract images where colours and forms are combined together. The painter prefers to articulate himself through abstract expressionism. At the exhibition, the upper part of his painting features scrawled lines and the lower part creates an imposing view with azure light. His abstraction refers to life and moments. Eunus always tries to focus on affluent texture and open space.

Among the participating Indian painters are: Narahari Bhawanda, Siddharth Shingade, Vinita Karim, Dayanand Karmakar and Ramesh Gorjala. Narahari Bhawanda seems to be interested in oriental art. At the exhibition his work focuses on rural beauty where women and bird get special attention. The canvas also features lush foliage.

Siddharth Shingade's work is drawing-based where subdued colours and delicate female figure are highlighted. The painter demonstrates his passion for portraying women in sombre mood. The painting's backdrop also carries a reflection of the woman.

Ramesh Gorjala paints mythological figures and themes with detail and sensitivity. His subjects include Vishnu, Buddha and other deities. His works have a decorative look where tiny objects, lines and circles are noticeable. A number of renowned Pakistani artists took part at the exposition. Among them are: A.Q. Arif, Wahab Jaffer, Farrukh Shahab, Abid Madad, Mansur Rahi, Shahzad Zar and others.

A.Q. Arif portrays historic buildings and architecture. The painter likes to go into details and wants to depict the aesthetic beauty of the place. He is very conscious about using colours. The dissimilarities of tones have been highlighted in different

portions of the painting. Wahab Jaffer's work depicts three women, and the women have similar facial expressions. The painter has made a distinction of their moods by using different colours. The birds in his painting signify peace and harmony.

Abid Madad's area of expertise seems to be portraits. The painter has portrayed a seated woman. It is no doubt that the artwork was time consuming and it conveys the painter's reflection of close study of the character. The mode of expression is photo-realism.

Farrukh Shahab portrays many faces in different perspectives. The painter draws his inspiration from myth. Fragmentation is another significant feature of the painting and the artist's experimentation with the visages has added another dimension to the painting.

At the exhibition, M.A. Bukhari's painting depicts Arabic calligraphy and abstract compositions where colours and tones get transformed. For his Arabic calligraphy, he has engraved letters into layers of paint with a specially designed pen -- giving an aesthetic and decorative depth to each word and incorporating modern cubism at the same time.

The exhibition was sponsored by Standard Chartered Bangladesh. The exhibition ended yesterday.

# LOVE BURNT BY THE FLAMES OF MELANCHOLY

Nrityanchal premieres Rai Krishna Padabali at Shilpakala



Inspired by "Bhanusingher Padabali", one of Tagore's earliest works, noted Bangladeshi poet Sheikh Hafizur Rahman wrote the dance-drama.

**ZAHANGIR ALOM**

As a tribute to Rabindranath Tagore, Nrityanchal premiered a dance-drama, "Rai Krishna Padabali", at National Theatre Hall of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy on February 24.

Inspired by "Bhanusingher Padabali", one of Tagore's earliest works, noted Bangladeshi poet Sheikh Hafizur Rahman wrote the dance-drama.

The philosophy of true love took root in Tagore's heart when he studied the sage poets Jaidev and Vidyapati. Tagore not only composed the extraordinary lyrics, but also the soulful music. The dance-



danceuse Shamim Ara Nipa is distraught prior to Krishna's (donned by Shibly Mohammad) ascension to the throne of Mathura. Rai shares unforgettable memories of Krishna with the Gopes and Gopinis (friends) -- Subal, Lalita, Bishakha, Brinda and others.

Meanwhile, Krishna's childhood friend Subal informs Rai of Krishna's intention of meeting her. Rai's longing for Krishna intensifies as she waits. The moment Krishna appears, she, however, feels awestruck. Her love, burnt by the flames of melancholy, has turned into ash.

Krishna tried to appease her by praising her beauty. Eventually after endless persuasion by Krishna, Radha manages to control her emotions. She surrenders herself to him.

A raas leela follows, where Gope-Gopinis (donned by 70 artistes of Nrityanchal) dance to celebrate Rai and Krishna's eternal love.

Renowned Bangladeshi and Indian singers -- Haimanti Shukla, Rezwana Chowdhury Bonyama, Manomoy

Bhattacharya, Antara Chowdhury, Jayati Chakraborty and Agniv Bandyopadhyay -- lent their voices to the musical. Noted Indian elocutionists Soumitra Chatterjee, Prodig Ghosh, Bratati Bandyopadhyay, Debashish Basu and Amit Roy narrated the story. Ratna Chowdhury, of India, directed the music.

Nuruddin Faruk Shubho's set design, Sabuj Bhuiyan and Nasirul Haque Khokon's impressive light design deserve praise. Multimedia direction and editing by Palash Sarkar added a dimension to the live performance.

Sukalyan Bhattacharya, who presented an incredible piece in the production, planned and directed the dance-drama. The artiste also planned the costumes and props. Saheli Mahapatra and Pralay Sarkar jointly assisted him in direction.

Sheikh Hafizur Rahman's "Rai Krishna Padabali" was edited by Shankar Talukdar to suit the presentation.

At the end of the show, the emcee of the programme, noted media personality and co-ordinator of Nrityanchal Muhammad Jahangir invited the chief guest, Information and Cultural Affairs Minister Abul Kalam Azad; writer of the dance-drama Sheikh Hafizur Rahman; seasoned singer Haimanti Shukla and other dignitaries to the stage.

# Mayor Theatre Festival in Rajshahi begins



**STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi**

The Mayor Theatre Festival started in Rajshahi on Friday evening, celebrating its 2nd anniversary with an array of plays for local theatre enthusiasts.

The eight-day festival brings eight theatre groups from around the country to Rajshahi Medical College Auditorium to present a wide variety of plays including "Noshto Neer" by Dhaka Theatre, "Uttorkhona" by Anushilon Nattyodal, and "Shasti" by Shangkritik Sangha in Rajshahi.

The fest continues with "Lal Jamin" by Shunnon, "Amena Shundori" by Theatre Art Unit of Dhaka, and "Aronney" by Rajshahi University Theatre.

On the inaugural day, Rajshahi Theatre staged its old production "Banchhito Banchhok". The play focused on the deviousness of those who dupe simple people. Renowned local theatre artist Kamrulullah Sarker, Dr. FMA Jahid and child artist Souhardo Sarker Rito performed the main roles in the play, directed by Habibur Rahman.

Another theatre group, Tarun Sampraday from Sirajganj, staged

# Promoting regional culture

**SUSHANTA GHOSE, Barisal**

Lathi khela (mock fight with sticks) was presented at Barisal Central Shaheed Minar last Friday afternoon.

The 20-member Tiger Lathi Khela Dol of Kulchar village under Babuganj upazila gave the one-hour performance as a part of a three-day cultural fair inaugurated on Thursday evening.

The fair has been organised by the district administration to promote regional culture, tradition and heritage.

Events and performances based on folk themes and literature such as lathi-khela, poetry, punthi-path; folk songs such as jari, shari, royani; dance and jatra are highlights of the programme.

Stalls at the fair carry traditional food and sweets, clothes and handicrafts.

Barisal City Corporation Mayor Shawkat Hossain Hiron led a rally from Aswani Kumar Hall to Shaheed Minar during the inauguration of the fair. Aswani Kumar Hiron, Deputy Commissioner of Barisal, presided over the inaugural function.

**Shantiniketan based musical troupe Shaptak held a cultural programme titled "Ganer Bhetor Diye" at the Chhayanaut Sangskriti Bhaban, on February 24. The programme featured rendition of Tagore songs both by Bangladeshi and Indian singers. Among Bangladeshi artistes, Papiya Sarwar, Auditi Mohsin, Laisa Ahmed Lisa, Lily Islam and Azizur Rahman rendered songs. Apart from singing solos, the Indian artistes staged a recital of the literary work "Malancha". The organisation also held a similar programme at the National Museum on February 22.**

# Tagore's European connection

**PRANABESH CHAKRABORTY, Chittagong**

The full-house auditorium of Theatre Institute, Chittagong enjoyed an exceptional programme featuring the songs of Rabindranath Tagore -- written by him during his visits in Europe.

Marking Tagore's 150th birth anniversary, Raktokarobi, a renowned cultural organisation working on music in the port city, arranged the event titled "Arup Tomar Bani" last Wednesday.

Many keen music enthusiasts had to stand outside, as there was not enough space inside the auditorium.

The programme featured a total of 20 Rabindra Sangeet that were written by the Nobel laureate poet in different countries of Europe.

A short discussion on Tagore's sojourns and his experiences in Europe was also held on the occasion.

An outstanding dance performance, by Sudeshna Swayamprabha, to the recitation seemingly enthralled the audience.

Shreyashi Roy performed "Ashim Dhon Toh Achhe", followed by a group performance -- "Sundaro Bote Tabo".

Mili and Udayshankar read out the backgrounds of the songs in between the performances.

Shubrata Das, Prianka, Banani Dutta, Farhana Nusrat, Soma Roy, Lucky Dutta performed well at the programme, though some of the renditions could not be heard clearly for poor sound system.

The programme concluded with the performance "Pantha Pakhir Rikta Kulaye".

Palash Deb, Asim Das, Ashok Sarkar, Nikhilesh Barua, Satyajit Chakraborty accompanied the singers on tabla, esraj, keyboard and sitar respectively at the programme.

# Gambhira to generate awareness on social relationships

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna**

Artistes of Proyash Folk Theatre Institute in Chapainwaganj district performed Gambhira (a sub-genre of Bangla folk music) to generate awareness among the younger generation about the importance of social relationships. The programme was organised by Bangladesh Centre for Communication Programmes (BCCP) at Pabna Edward College premises on Wednesday afternoon.

A discussion on "We can build a better Bangladesh by eliminating terrorism" was also held. Shariful Islam was the main speaker. The speakers said that we have to strengthen family relationships as well as establish closer links in society. If we can do so, we would be able to reduce crime and eliminate terrorism as well. They urged the young to generate awareness on this issue.

Later, through Gambhira, artistes enacted the role of a grandfather and grandson, and addressed the topic.



**NEW RELEASES**

**Banolata Sen**  
Recitation album by Iqbal Khorshed & Mahmuda Akhter  
Source: Laser Vision

**Porshi 2**  
Solo album by Porshi  
Source: Agniweena

**Shahin Mix**  
Mixed album  
Source: Laser Vision

**Ishara**  
Solo album by Arshee  
Source: Easy Music

<b>BTV</b>	12:35 Shukhi Paribar	12:35 Gaana Gaane
	03:05 Shudhu Gaan Noy	05:30 Bhalobachha
	07:50 Juthho Oporadh	08:20 Drama Serial: Chorkhobbo
	08:35 No Problem	09:50 Digital Bangladesh
	10:25 Digital Bangladesh	12:05 Dhrupodi Kahini
	12:05 Shimana Perley	
<b>ATN BANGLA</b>	01:25 Shurer Madhuri	04:00 Desh Jangrod
	03:45 Nilgiri	05:30 Durpath
	05:35 Dhak Dhol	06:30 Phaguner Molat
	09:20 Drama Serial: Chayanani Kayanani	07:45 Drama Serial: Mayer
	11:00 Drama Serial: Bangshal to Bandhara	09:45 Tribute to Legend
<b>CHANNEL i</b>	01:05 Ebong Cinemar Gaan	10:02 Bangla Feature Film
	02:40 Grey Greyer Gaaner Utshab	06:30 Khola Mon
	08:30 Drama Serial: Khabalaky	09:02 Tele-quiz
	06:00 Chhayahankar	11:00 Wild Music
	09:35 Tani Nostoi	
	11:30 Prokrito O Jibon	
		1:30 Con Air

**RADIO**

abcr Radio FM 89.2	07:30 Hello Dhaka
09:00 Mokshito Jibonoy	10:00 Morning Express
12:00 Darun Dupury	12:30 No Tension
02:05 The Daily Star Jiboner	04:00 Dhaka Calling
03:00 Jagan	09:30 Full Volume
03:00 Duranto Bileley	11:00 Back to Back music
05:00 Shondha Tara	RADIO TODAY FM 89.6
07:00 Shaj-er Maya	08:00 Good Morning Dhaka
09:00 Raat-er Akashy	12:00 Today's Adda
11:00 Golper Shesh No	04:00 U Tam
RADIO FORTI	07:00 Tabey Tai Hak

**Bondhu Amar**  
On ntv at 08:15pm  
Drama Serial  
Cast: Apurba, Jenny

**Cellular**  
On HBO at 11:45pm  
Genre: Crime/Thriller  
Cast: Kim Basinger, Chris Evans

**Khonikalyo**  
On Mastranga Television at 08:30pm  
Drama Serial  
Cast: Hillol, Nawshin

<b>NTV</b>	08:55 Bangla Feature Film	04:00 Crouching Tiger Hidden Dragon
	04:10 Janar Achhey Bolar	06:35 The Legend of Zorro
	Achhey	09:30 Catch Me If You Can
	06:15 Shubho Shondhya	<b>HBO</b>
	09:00 Drama: Gait	04:20 Rocky II
	11:30 Music Jam	06:55 Orphan
<b>ETV</b>	06:30 Desh Jury Oporadh	09:30 Speedy Singhs
	Porikroma	11:45 Cellular
	07:50 Gaaner Oparay	<b>Star World</b>
	08:20 Drama Serial: Ohongkar	03:30 Desperate Housewives
	12:05 Ekushey-er Raat	04:30 Supernatural
	02:00 Sunday Live	08:30 Charlie's Angels
		10:30 Panam
		11:30 Dexter
<b>Boishakhi TV</b>	10:30 Bangla Feature Film	<b>National Geographic Channel</b>
	04:15 Shorashori Doctor	03:30 Mega Bridges
	08:10 Prityo Mukh	08:30 Triumph of Life
	11:30 Praner Meha	09:30 Mega Structures
	12:30 Ekushey-er Pongkikimala	10:30 Big, Bigger, Biggest
<b>BANGLAVISION</b>	11:05 Shakal Betar Roadster	<b>Discovery Channel</b>
	01:05 Bangla Feature Film	04:30 Swords
	06:05 Ebong Class-er Baiery	08:30 2012 Apocalypse
	08:15 Drama Serial: Ladies First	09:30 Man vs. Wild
	11:25 Business Vision	

**DRAMA SERIAL**

<b>ATN BANGLA</b>	11:30pm House Number 138
08:00pm Aha Toki	ETV
08:40pm Chora Gol	10:35pm Amader Meherjan
<b>CHANNEL i</b>	10:30pm
07:50pm No Mans Land	Bostani TV
08:15pm Bondhu Amar	09:30pm Utshab
Rtv	BANGLAVISION
09:55pm Oloshpur	09:50pm Long March
	08:15pm Desh TV
	09:55pm Sat Kahon

**NEWS BULLETIN**

<b>BTV</b>	News (Bangla) at 8:00 am, 2:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 8:00 pm, 10:30pm.	<b>BANGLAVISION</b>	News (Bangla) at 7:30am, 1:30pm, 5:00pm, 7:15pm, 10:30pm.
<b>CHANNEL i</b>	News (English) at 10:00am, 4:00 pm, 10:00 pm.	<b>Bostani TV</b>	News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00am, 12:00am, 4:00pm.
<b>ETV</b>	Late Night News (Bangla and English) 11:30 pm. (To be telecast on all Bangla channels).	<b>Desht TV</b>	News (English) at 6:00pm Rtv
<b>ATN BANGLA</b>	News (Bangla): 7:00 am, 9:00 am, 2:00 pm, 9:00 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:30 am	<b>ntv</b>	News (Bangla): 7:30am, 12:30pm, 2:00pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm, 1:00am
<b>ATN BANGLA</b>	News (Bangla): 7:00 am, 9:00 pm, 11:00 pm, 1:00 am, 4:00 am	<b>ETV</b>	News (Bangla): 9:00am, 11:00 am, 1:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 6:00 pm.

**TALK SHOW**

<b>ATN BANGLA</b>	12:30am Lead News	<b>ETV</b>	07:40pm Our Democracy
<b>CHANNEL i</b>	09:45am Ritro Matra	10:10pm Media Gossip	
	12:30pm Karika	<b>Boishakhi TV</b>	12:00am Zero Hour
<b>ntv</b>	12:00am Ei Shomoy	<b>Desht TV</b>	11:45pm Shoja
<b>Rtv</b>	10:40am Tarikalap	<b>Mastranga Television</b>	Kotha