

WHAT'S ON

**Liberation War National Theatre Festival**  
Organiser: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy  
Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy  
Date: July 2-14

**Group Art exhibition**  
Title: "The Voice of Time-2"  
Venue: Institute of Art and Culture, H-2, R-1/A, Gulshan-1  
Date: July 7-20  
Time: 3pm-8pm

**Celebrating Life Photo Exhibition**  
Venue: University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh, Campus R, H-84, R-7/A, Dharmondi  
Date: June 27-July 5

**Film Screening**  
Film: Endless Journey, Faith & Rhythm of Bangladesh  
Filmmaker: Khalid Mahmood Mithu  
Venue: Indra Gandhi Cultural Centre, H-35, R-24, Gulshan 1  
Date: July 7

**Group Art Exhibition**  
Featuring over 60 Bangladeshi Artists  
Venue: Athena Gallery of Fine Arts, Cha-72/1/A, Progoti Shonati, Uttor Badda  
Date: June 9-July 20

**Group Art Exhibition**  
Title: Color of Time  
Venue: Radius Art Gallery, Bay's Galleria, 57 Gulshan Avenue, Gulshan 1  
Date: June 29-July 21

**Solo Print Exhibition**  
Title: Living with the Expressions  
Artist: Rahul Karim Runee  
Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, H-60, R-7/A, Dharmondi  
Date: June 30-July 10  
Time: 12pm-8pm

**Film Screening**  
Film: The Japanese Wife  
Artist: Taniro Mohammad  
Venue: Shawkat Osman Auditorium, Central Public Library, Shahbagh

# Artists, young and old, come together

## Group art exhibition at Athena Gallery

TAKIR HOSSAIN

Athena Gallery of Fine Arts, a newly opened art gallery in North Badda, Dhaka, has a great collection of paintings. The collection comprises works by master artists of the country. Nilu Murshed, CEO of the gallery, is a well-known art collector. She has been collecting artworks for over 40 years. Nilu recently set up the gallery with an intention to promote Bangladeshi art and artists on a global scale. As part of its inauguration, the gallery has organised a group art exhibition, featuring works of both prominent and young Bangladeshi painters.

The exhibition displays some rare pieces by master artists like Zainul Abedin, Quamrul Hassan and Rashid Chowdhury. The show offers 150 paintings, drawings, prints, ceramics, installations and tapestry -- by 67 artists.

Among the participating painters are: Murtaja Baseer, Mustafa Monowar, Syed Jahangir, Samarjit Roy Chowdhury, Monirul Islam, Syed Abdullah Khalid, Ranjit Das, Mohammad Eunus, Kanak Chanpa Chakma, Mohammad Iqbal and others.

Samarjit Roy Chowdhury's canvas features small fish, birds and familiar folk motifs. The painter is seemingly fascinated with folk patterns where broken lines crisscross over the canvas. The geometric compositions denote fantasy, reality and nostalgia.

Monirul Islam has been using large canvases of late where lines and forms appear on a huge scale. Space has been aptly used with refreshing expressions. His earlier (smaller) works are more organised and tactful. His "Green Heaven" has lights and tones that are visualised more boldly and expressively. His featured artwork at the exhibition uses corrugated board, and the board's uneven texture helps in portraying the mind-boggling images.

As a devoted sculptor, Syed Abdullah Khalid doesn't have a sizeable collection of painting. However, he concentrated on painting in the beginning of the 1980s. Throughout the '80s and '90s, he produced several floral images, highlighting nature, in both realistic and semi-realistic styles. At the exhibition, Khalid's two big canvases showcase blossoming flowers and dense forest. Colours (particularly crimson) and variation of tones give the works an impressive view.

Biren Shome has frequently participated in group exhibitions. His mode of expression is diverse, yet the painter still has not really demon-



Clockwise (from top-left): Artworks by Monirul Islam, Mohammad Eunus, Syed Abdullah Khalid and Mohammad Wahiduzzaman.

strated a unique personal language. His usual themes include the Language Movement, Liberation War and pure abstraction (mainly colour and texture-based). At the exhibition, his featured work, "Untitled", focuses on the centre of the canvas; its vivid colours, rough texture and the surrounding space bear a smooth look.

Abdus Shakoor Shah has pasted pieces of a colourful sari and gamchha on his canvases. These pieces give his work a decorative look. The canvas appears more vibrant and lively because of its slightly cracked surface. The artwork shows a number of female faces surrounded by wild flowers. It seems that the artist has swiftly drawn the visages. The work showcases his drawing skills.

Mohammad Eunus is one of the leading painters from the '70s, when the nation was caught up in the freedom movement. His current preferred style is abstract expressionism, but the painter occasionally portrays objects and animal forms with a realistic approach. The images have indisputably proven his expertise at drawing.

Mohammad Iqbal's canvases are engrossed with various visible and shadowy figures. The background of most of his compositions is occu-

ried by abstract forms, delightful colours and soft tones. Most of his paintings are oil-based as he is comfortable in the medium. Before going to Japan for his higher studies, the painter's works focused on saints and Bauls. Some of the other motifs in Iqbal's paintings are middle-aged figures, animals, ancient edifice, rivers, vessels, hills and sky.

Kanak Chanpa Chakma usually stays away from photographic realism or detailing when painting. When she does detail, she usually focuses on particular parts of the subject. It depends on perception or composition of the painting. Layers of colours and density of texture are noticeable features of her works. She frequently changes the backdrop of her paintings but most of the time the figures have similar gestures.

Shishir Bhattacharjee's works signify socio-political and economic crises in the society. At the exhibition, his featured work concentrates on lines and drawings. Dogs, sandals, telephone wires, knives, stoves, reclining figures and distorted faces are recurring elements in his works. His cartoons and caricatures are truly reflective of the society.

Among the young participating artists, works of Rashid Amin, Mohammad Wahiduzzaman, Maksuda Iqbal Nipa, Anisuzzaman and Nagarbashi Barman are noticeable.

Rashid Amin is seemingly inspired by landscapes and nature. The painter gets the inspiration from his surroundings, and does not present them in a realistic way. The painter feels abstraction develops from reality. "In Search of Infinity" (etching), with minimal use of colours and lines -- both vertical and horizontal -- suggests dreams, sensitivity and sensuality.

Mohammad Wahiduzzaman is the Grand Prize Winner of the 14th edition of Asian Biennale. His works plunge deep into varied social, political and cultural dilemmas. The artist is greatly inspired by Pop Art.

Nagarbashi Barman has depicted lifestyle of the fishermen in his prints. The artist has provided minute details that create a sense of perfection. He brings in subjects like fish, fishing tools and boats.

The exhibition ends on July 20.

# Eventful innings

## In conversation with Apurba

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

*Apurba's career in TV plays and modelling spans only a few years, but during this period, he has carved a niche for himself as a romantic hero. Apurba has worked with every popular actress on the scene. Although acting takes up most of his time, he is also preparing to become a director. His primary goal will remain acting, while the direction gigs will be undertaken out of personal interest.*

*Apurba recently met with The Daily Star (TDS) at an Uttara shooting house for an interview:*

**When did you plan to take on the challenge of direction?**  
**Apurba:** Photography has always been my hobby. I was also a graphics animator in the past. I made presentations. Since then I developed an interest in direction. I studied the use of light for my animation projects. I also received practical lessons after joining the media. Theoretical practices came from books, as I studied framing, lighting and shots. I began my preparations since then.

**How will you go about making a reality of your plan?**  
**Apurba:** The tele-film that I will direct is titled "Back-dated", and I wrote it myself. When the story first popped into my mind, I had visualised a plan on how to do what. That was three years back. I took plenty of time to prepare myself, so that the end results are good. I will be making the tele-film for the next Eid-ul-Azha. The cast will be finalised within a few days.

**Do you plan on taking direction seriously?**  
**Apurba:** I cannot answer that now. For the time being, I'm working out of my own interest. But everyone with whom I've shared the story of "Back-dated" tells me that it deserves to be made into a movie. But I feel that I should gather more experience as a director, instead of jumping into movies. I'm not considering becoming a fulltime director at the moment.

**What are your career plans?**  
**Apurba:** My acting career spans just six years. I feel that I have gained massive support from the audience in this short time, and I want to keep on working with that admiration and support. I don't want to plan too much, as it never works out. I love my work and I plan on continuing the job I like so much, so that the viewers get something new from me.

**You've portrayed many characters. Name some of your favourite roles in recent times.**  
**Apurba:** I love the character Orko in an ongoing project based on Shirshendu Mukhapaddhay's novel "Durbin". It will be one of the best characters I have ever portrayed. I also liked portraying an introvert in a Dipankar Dipon drama. I like the character of Opu in Ferdous Hasan's ongoing drama "Bondhu Amar".

**Critics say that you are more successful as a romantic hero. What's your take on this?**

**Apurba:** To be honest, I am more flexible and comfortable in romantic dramas. Maybe that's why the audience enjoys my romantic roles more. When people say that Apurba is a romantic hero, I tell myself that it's my luck. I'm comfortable with it.



Many of your contemporaries are working in movies. What are your plans?

**Apurba:** I wish my contemporaries, who are working in movies, all the best. I do get regular offers for movies but have to turn them down, as I don't find the stories or characters appealing. I will work in films if it is interesting and worth being enjoyed by the entire family.

**How was your recent trip abroad?**

**Apurba:** Recently I went to the US with my wife and stayed there for one and a half months. We had plenty of fun. My wife never complains about my packed shooting hours. The US trip was planned to give my wife some quality time. We visited 13 states, including New York, New Jersey, Florida and Miami.

# Performance highlighting rituals by DU students



Students of the first semester, Department of Theatre, University of Dhaka gave a performance highlighting rituals, on campus, on July 1. This marked the University Day as well. The performance, titled "Shang Gro Paye", highlighted the funeral rituals of indigenous communities -- Tanchangya, Marma and Tripura. The students completed fieldwork and organic research on the people of the communities in Bandarban, under the supervision of Dr. Israfil Shaheen. The performance included acting, demonstration, Power Point presentation and interaction with the audience. It ended through a procession that started from Natmandal TSC and returned to the same point where the students burnt an effigy to ashes.

PHOTO AND TEXT: JAMIL MAHMUD

# Srotar Ashor celebrates monsoon in Melbourne



The programme featured Bengali songs and poetry, set to a symphonic arrangement of guitar, piano, keyboard and tabla.

A CORRESPONDENT

On June 23, Melbourne's 'Srotar Ashor' organisation staged the third of its annual events, presenting music and poetry to commemorate the arrival of the Borsha season. As the curtain was raised at the Chandler Community Centre for the commencement of 'Badol Din-er Prothom Kodom Phul', the audience was treated to a digital display of torrents, which made up the backdrop to a stage decorated with umbrellas and floral arrangement. What followed was a two and a half hour presentation of much-loved Bengali songs and poetry, set to a symphonic arrangement of guitar, piano, keyboard and tabla. The theme of the evening was monsoon, and the programme served not only as a celebration of the rainy season, but also as a tribute to Bangladesh's rich culture. Complimentary hot tea was provided during the intermission, as well as enough jhalmuri to feed 300 patrons, contributing to the festive mood.

The programme featured songs of popular contemporary artists such as Sheikh Ishtiaq and Habib, in addition to such luminaries as Rabindranath Tagore, Kazi Nazrul Islam, Atul Prasad and Kamol Das Gupta. As one of the oldest and most progressive Bengali cultural organisations active within Melbourne's

active within Melbourne's expat community, Srotar Ashor, has achieved a position of eminence and respect through its popular periodical programmes. The organisation stages three major events a year, in addition to one more intimate presentation, each of them featuring performances which illuminate a particular central theme, and showcasing performers well known, not only in Melbourne, but also within Bangladesh.

The programme was put together under the able direction of artiste Chanchal Mandal, with vocal performances by Kakon, Aungshu, Simin, Zaki, Poonam, Himani, Myesha, Anindo, Kanti, and Abonti, which were received with rapturous applause and feedback from the audience. Their renditions were augmented by proficient instrumental work from Saif, Reza, Rafael, Shaugoto and Polish, with Litu presiding over the sound engineering. The musical segments were framed by selected poetic readings by the programme's emcee, Atique.

It was yet another successful evening of songs and music staged by Srotar Ashor, with the spirit of the performers sweeping over an enthralled audience, and proving that no amount of distance can act as an obstacle when passionate people get together to express their love



and kinship for their motherland.

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## Beetle Bailey

by Mort Walker



## Henry

by Don Trachte



# ntv turns ten

A CORRESPONDENT

Satellite channel ntv turns ten today. To mark the occasion, several special programmes will be aired on the channel throughout the day. Highlights of some of the programmes:

A variety show "Amader Alo" will be aired at 12:10 pm. Produced by Wahidul Islam, the show will feature promising singers and actors. Featured artistes include former "Closeup 1" contestants Sabir and Nishitha Barua; "Marks All Rounder" Maisha and Pranob; "Super Hero" Nelay and "Super Heroine" Mimo. Samia Zaman will host the programme.

Mini serial "Faand O Bogar Golpo" will be aired at 9 pm. The play has been written and directed by Redowan Rony. The cast includes Mosharrar Karim, Faruk Ahmed, Sumaiya Shimu, Mithila and Dr. Inamul Haque. The serial began yesterday and will conclude tomorrow (same time everyday).

A musical programme, "Paanch Taroka-r Gaan", will be aired at 6:15 pm. Produced by Nuruzzaman, the programme will feature actresses Diti, Moushumi, Ishita, Mithila and Mim.

Tele-film "Money for Nothing" will be aired at 2:30



A scene from "Amader Alo".

pm. Written by Musfiqur Rahman Manju and directed by Ali Fida Ekram, the cast of the tele-film includes Zahid Hasan, Shagota, Rosy Siddiqui, Tania Ahmed and Kanta Masud.

A musical programme, "International Asha", will be aired at 11:30 pm. Produced by Wahidul Islam Shuvra, the programme will feature eminent Indian singer Asha Bhosle. Anita will host the programme.

ATN BANGLA	06:30 Jibon Onnesha
11:20 Business and Finance	08:40 Chitra Bichitra
12:15 Vision 2020	10:15 Prime Time
05:15 Obitram Bangladesh	12:05 News of the Day
08:00 Drama Serial: Palabar	10:02 Maasranga Television
Poth Nei	05:30 Amazing Animals
11:30 Drama Serial: Cafeleia	08:30 Drama Serial: Khonikaly
CHANEL i	09:30 Drama Serial: Iskul
01:05 Elong Cinemar Gaan	11:00 Modhyraater Train
04:20 Amar Chhobi	12:00 Shamprotik
06:20 Robin Hood	CHANEL 9
07:50 Shera Nachiy	09:15 Bangla Feature Film
11:30 Banglar Pothey	06:00 Classic Cartoon
ntv	10:30 Drama Serial: Apon
12:10 Amader Alo	11:15 Moner Ronge
01:00 Ekal Shekal	11:30 Drama Serial: Janani
06:15 Pach Tarokar Gaan	09:05 Je Shur Pranay Momo
06:45 Akkellgurum	
11:30 Internal Asha	
ETV	Gtv
11:30 Ekushey-er Business	11:30 Bangla Feature Film
04:30 Gaaner Opore	08:30 Drama Serial: Janani

abc radio FM 89.2	07:30 Hello Dhaka
06:00 Bhoier Janabai	10:00 Morning Express
09:00 Makhonto Bhooney	12:00 No Tension
12:00 Duran Dupany	04:00 Dhaka Calling
03:00 Duranto Bakiy	09:00 Knight Riders
05:00 Shomela Leta	06:00 RADIO TODAY FM 89.6
07:00 Shay-e-Maja	06:00 Green HA
09:00 Raat-er Alashy	08:00 Good Morning Dhaka
11:00 Galper Shesh Nei	12:00 Today's Adda
Radio Foorti	04:00 U Turn

**Modhyraater Train**  
On Maasranga Television at 11:00pm  
Thriller Story  
Guest: Ahsan Habib

**Ice Age**  
On Fox Movies at 07:00pm  
Genre: Animation/  
Adventure  
Cast: Denis Leary, John Leguizamo

**Chaichhi Tomar Bondhuta**  
On Desh TV at 09:45pm  
Special Talk Show  
Host: Abdullah Al Mamun

05:25 Birsodoner Bishwa	11:00 Star Light
07:50 Taal	12:00 Shongbad Shonglap
09:30 Drama Serial: Kamini	Fox Movies
Boishakhi TV	10:40 George of the Jungle
10:40 The Business Show	01:55 Charlie's Angels
04:15 Shorashori Doctor	03:35 Step Up 3
08:00 Drama Serial: Istikutum	05:25 Glastonbury 2011:
08:35 Dollywood Korch	07:00 Coldplay
11:00 Reporters Dairy	08:25 Ice Age
BANGLAVISION	10:05 Rio
01:05 Bangla Feature Film	12:00 Scream 4
06:05 Sports Time	02:30 White Collar
06:30 Shoundarjo Kotha	04:30 The Simpson's
09:05 Nacho Bangladesh	07:30 Two and a Half Men
Nacho	09:30 Master Chef Australia
11:25 Raat Biratey	12:00 How I Met Your Mother
Desh TV	National Geographic Channel
03:00 Gaan R Gaan	03:30 Caught in the Act
05:00 Durpath	07:30 In the Worm
06:00 123 Simsurpur	08:30 Mega Factories
06:30 Obak Prithibi	10:30 India
12:30 Total Sports	11:30 Taboo
Diganta TV	
01:30 Business Time Live	

ATN BANGLA	BANGLAVISION
08:40pm Rupaantar Manush	08:15pm Bokulpurer Jatri
09:20pm Poush Phaguner Pala	Rtv
CHANEL i	09:45pm Boyra Paribar
09:35pm Longkaland	Desh TV
ntv	08:15pm Radio Chocolate
08:15pm Kagajer Bari	CHANEL 9
09:00pm Phad O Bogar Golpo	08:40pm Bachelor the Family
Boishakhi TV	09:20pm Ggnipath
	08:00pm Bagha Sher

BTv	NEWS BULLETIN
News (Bangla) at 12pm, 2pm, 5pm, 8pm,	News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7pm,
News (English) at 10am, 4pm, 10pm,	News (English) at 9am, 6pm,
ATN BANGLA	BANGLAVISION
News (Bangla) at 11am, 12pm, 2pm, 7pm, 10pm,	News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7-30pm, 10-30pm,
News (English) at 9am, 6pm,	News (English) at 1pm, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm,
CHANEL i	Rtv
News (Bangla) at 2pm, 5pm, 10-30pm,	News (Bangla) at 1:45pm, 6:45pm, 10:45pm,
ntv	Desh TV
News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7-30pm, 10-30pm,	News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm,
ETV	Maasranga Television
News (Bangla) at 1pm, 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm,	News (Bangla) at 7pm, 1am,

ATN BANGLA	Lead News	ETV	Our Democracy
12:30am		12:30am	Ekushey-er Raat
CHANEL	Trilo Matra	12:30am	Boishakhi TV
09:45am	Taraka Kothan	12:00am	Zoro Hour
ntv		10:10am	Front Line
12:00am	Et Shomoy	Desh TV	
Rtv		09:45pm	Chaichhi Tomar
10:40am	Tarokalap		