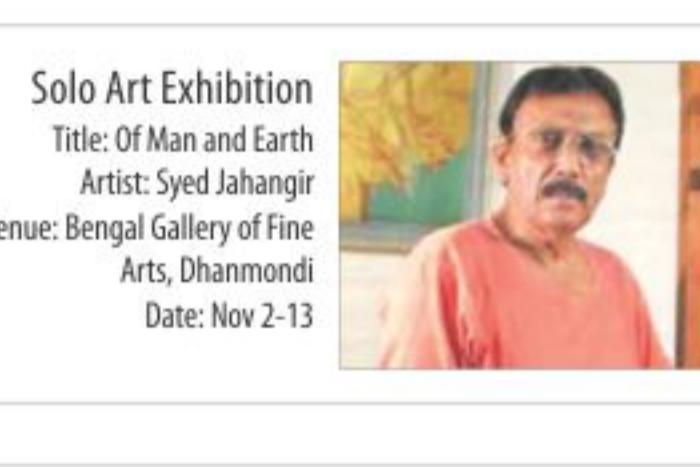


WHAT'S ON



DOCUMENTARY

"Fear, Force & Fabrication": Revealing what goes on behind closed doors

FAHMIM FERDOUS

In an era of supposed "freedom of media", the masses are fed a lot of information from supposedly credible sources that have a labyrinth of darkness lying beneath. And those who act as gatekeepers to that information -- journalists, purposefully or not -- often tell stories that deviate from the truth. "Fear, Force & Fabrication" -- an investigative documentary by a young representative of the media fraternity, has made a gallant attempt to look beyond the stories that we see and hear. With research and investigation by Imran Hossain Emon, and support from the Albatross Film Collective, journalist Shahid Siddique Anik put through a penetrating insight into the real stories behind what we see and read on issues like forceful mutilation of children to use them as beggars, and how stories are molded before being presented to the masses. The mutilation of the organs of a slum-child by his own peers, and how others -- vaguely even connected to the incident -- were made scapegoats and forced to confess the stories that a particular law enforcement agency wanted people to see, hear and read, came up in the 75-minute documentary.

Not shot and produced with a lot of technical prowess, but the documentary unfolds in an authoritative manner, as the filmmaker reaches out to the victims, visits the scenes, and provides sufficient resources to back up his perspective. The statements of the victims, a poor, powerless father running from court to prison and back, begging lawyers to get his son justice, while the son is in custody, and is electrocuted periodically just because he does not agree to confess to the crimes he never committed -- all construct a vivid, albeit dark and grave picture of what goes on behind closed doors in the system. Human rights activists, eminent social personalities and renowned crime reporters also feature in the film, with their insights in between the footage, to make a clearer overall picture

Biennial conference of Udichi Shilpi Goshthi

AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh

Artistes of Aloknay Naha Sangeet Bidayatan enthralled the huge audience gathered at Mymensingh Shilpakala Academy Auditorium on the concluding day of a two-day biennial conference of Udichi Shilpi Goshthi, Mymensingh on Friday evening. It was the 15th biennial conference of Udichi's Mymensingh unit. The concluding day's cultural programmes included rendition of songs and dance sequences.

For their contribution to the field of classical music, Rabindra Sangeet Professor Sumita Naha and Ustad AKM Shahabuddin Khan, a flute maestro and a folklorist, were also honoured with crests on the concluding day with Advocate AHM Khalequzzaman, president of Mymensingh Udichi, in the chair.

Among others, vice-president of Udichi central unit, Ashrafuzzaman Selim; joint-secretary of Udichi's central body Probir Sarder; and Udichi Mymensingh unit secretary Sarwar Kamal Robin addressed the gathering. Swapna Sarker and Saiful Islam Babul conducted the programme.

Marking the conference, a rally paraded the important thoroughfares of the town.

Professor Latif Sarker, a veteran columnist and former president of Udichi central unit, inaugurated the conference at Shilpakala Academy Auditorium in the afternoon.

HM Hamid, director general of Bangladesh Television, was the chief guest.

The discussants at the conference said that Udichi, a prominent cultural group, has worked tirelessly to uphold the traditional culture and heritage of the town.

This group always raises its voice against fundamentalism, oppression and discrimination.

SUSHANTA GHOSH, Barisal

The 16th biennial conference and 44th foundation ceremony of Udichi Shilpi Goshthi Barisal unit was held here on Friday with a daylong programme that included a rally, discussion and cultural event.

Vice president of central Udichi, Professor Badur Rahman, along with Narayan Saha, senior leader of Barisal Udichi, inaugurated the conference as the chief guest and special guest at Barisal Awami Kumar Hall premises of the city in the morning.

A rally from Udichi office that went through the city roads ended at the conference venue after paying tribute to Shaheed Minar the martyrs.

A discussion and cultural function to accept a reception from Udichi activists Abdul Matin and Barisal



Artiste of Udichi Mymensingh sing at the programme.

tution of the organisation

HOSSAIN SERAJ, Mymensingh

The 9th conference of Magura district unit of Bangladesh Udichi Shilpi Goshthi held on Friday at Surjumukhi Kindergarten School Auditorium in Magura town was dedicated to Malala Yousafzai, a humanitarian and secular Pakistani girl.

Bangladesh Udichi Shilpi Goshthi central committee's treasurer Mamunur Rashid was the chief guest at the conference while Baul devotee and researcher Monoranjan Bose formally inaugurated the daylong programme of the conference.

Bangladesh Udichi Shilpi Goshthi central committee's executive member Jasimuddin and famed inspirational singer Siddik Molla attended the programme as special guests.

The inaugural session was followed by a rally that made its way through the main thoroughfares of the town.

In the afternoon a vibrant cultural programme was held at the venue with a performance by the artistes of the Magura district unit of Udichi Shilpi Goshthi.

Such steps, they added, would be a homage to the martyrs of the Liberation War, uphold humanity, establish rule of law, safeguard Bangladesh's sovereignty and independence by ending communal politics, terrorism, corruption and moreover enable the country to keep its head high in the world community.

The end of the conference a 33-member new executive committee was announced with the re-election of Biswanath Das Munshi as president and Biswajit Chakrabarti as the secretary was formed.

A discussion and cultural function to accept a reception from Udichi activists Abdul Matin and Barisal

Creating grooves, synthesising oldies

Habib performs at IGCC

JAMIL MAHMUD

When Habib returned home in the early 2000s after having a degree in Music and Audio Engineering from London, his ability of giving old compositions a fresh sound initiated a kind of debate among listeners. The older, conservative faction took a stand that he is distorting the essence of original compositions, while liberal, young listeners welcomed his ability to innovate and his measured musical sense.

Habib produced some brilliant sounds on three synthesisers, and gave classics a brand new sound during a one and a half hour show at the Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre (IGCC) in Dhaka, on November 10. The centre in association with the State Bank of India in Bangladesh arranged the concert at its Gulshan premises.

Starting with one of the much-covered folk songs, "Keno Piriti Baraila", Habib soon took control and kept the audience engaged.

The cosy autumn evening got a perfect start with Habib's soft playing on the synthesiser with the Shah Abdul Karim number. Changed tempo [comparatively softer than the original composition], mellow percussion and surprising yet matched melody on guitar by Emon [of the band Chirkut] reverberated inside the modest hall.

Emon on acoustic guitar; Jalal and Mithun Chakraborty on bamboo flute and percussions respectively, accompanied Habib. Jalal's small flute pieces and Chakraborty's constant rhythm helped produce the complete soundscape.

Together, the group of musicians performed around 15 songs.

Towards the end, the organisers regretted not holding the show at its Dhanmondi centre, which is bigger. However, they said that



perhaps the cosier setting helped the artiste interact more with the small audience.

Habib chose to perform some of his better-known numbers such as "Din Gel" and "Elomele Mon".

He continued to go for such popular items, as he sang his first playback "Bhalobashbo", before inviting his father and pop icon Ferdous Wahid to the stage. The father-son duo, along with the three musicians, took the audience down memory lane for a brief span with the oldies "Agye Jodi Jantam" and "Mamonia".

Before wrapping up the show, Habib went for a medley of the Shah Abdul Karim number "Agye Ki Shundor Din Kataitam", "Swapne Tar Shathe" and "Maya Lagaise" -- mainly on request.

The most memorable rendition was perhaps the Hason Raja composition "Baula Ke Baulao Re".

Before Habib started singing the song, the quartet jammed nearly

for five to seven minutes and created a superb rhythm.

The rendition, however, was far from the original and was faster.

Painting and handicraft exhibition by Japanese Embassy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Under the title, "Embracing the Richness of Chittagong Hill Tracts Ethnic Handicrafts and The Art of Kanak Champa Chakma", the Embassy of Japan in Bangladesh organised a two-day exhibition at the residence of the Japanese Ambassador, at Baridhara in Dhaka. The exhibition was inaugurated on November 9. The exhibition featured paintings of artist Kanak Champa Chakma and an impressive collection of handicrafts made by the ethnic communities of Bangladesh. A reception was also held at the venue.

On the opening day, the embassy also organised a cultural programme where several artistes from the indigenous communities performed dances and participated in a musical soiree. The programme began with a song by a Marma artiste. Other attractions of the evening included Marma dance, Chakma songs, "bottle dance" by members of the Tripura community and a Jhum dance by members of the Chakma community.

Japanese Ambassador to Bangladesh, Shiro Sadoshima; US Ambassador to Bangladesh, Dan W Mozena; Surya Begum, Secretary, Ministry of Cultural Affairs; artists Kanak Champa Chakma, Khalid Mahmud Mithu, Nazia Andaleeb Preema and others attended the inauguration programme. The opening ceremony was also attended by ambassadors, foreign dignitaries and heads of different foreign missions in Bangladesh.

The exhibition featured 12 paintings of Kanak Champa Chakma and a total of 100 handicraft items.

At the exhibition, Kanak's works featured indigenous people and their lifestyle. She is motivated by the vibrant colours of indigenous attire, the hills, forests, jhum cultivation, pristine blue waterfalls, expressive traits.

The displayed items included different handicrafts such as handmade fans, different products of bamboo and wood, traditional fishing traps, bamboo tray, container, cotton processing basket, masks and more.

The event aimed at promoting the cultural opulence of the ethnic communities of Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT).



Kanak Champa Chakma's paintings were on display at the exhibition.

social and cultural activities. Several of her paintings focus on indigenous women in the dim light of sunset, scenes of the waterfall on a moonlit night and more. Her works also capture the serene moods connected with Buddhism and various spiritual aspects. The semi-realistic and the abstract mingle in her artworks. The figures in her paintings are lively and easily communicate with the viewers for their expressive traits.

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Humayun Mela at Channel i premises

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Noted litterateur Humayun Ahmed's 64th birth anniversary is on November 13. This is the first time Humayun Ahmed's birthday is being celebrated without him, as the litterateur-filmmaker passed away this year.

To mark the occasion, Channel i will hold "Humayun Mela 2012" at its premises. The channel also declared Ahmed's birthday as "Humayun Day", at a previous press conference.

Humayun's mother Ayesha Fayed will inaugurate "Humayun Mela". Other members of Ahmed's family will be present at the fair. A press conference was held yesterday in this regard.

An art competition for youngsters, dance performances, reminiscences will also be part of the fair. DVDs, CDs and VCDs of TV plays and films directed by Humayun Ahmed will be found at stalls at the fair. A book fair showcasing Humayun Ahmed's masterpieces will also be part of the fair.

"Humayun Mela" will start at 10 am on November 13. Channel i will air the fair live. Managing director of Channel i, Faridur Reza Sagar, and CEO of Imma Marketing Solutions, Intekhab Mahmud, were present at the press conference. Intekhab Mahmud answered to the queries of the journalist at the press conference. He also said that he had proposed Channel i to hold the fair.

"Humayun Mela" will start at 10 am on November 13. Channel i will air the fair live. Managing



Faridur Reza Sagar speaks at the conference.

character Humu. Bangladeshi character Yellow has sponsored the panjabis.

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Partha Pratim Majumder's thriving film career

ZAHANGIR ALOM

Internationally famed Bangladeshi mime maestro Partha Pratim Majumder acted with Oscar-winning French actor Jean Dujardin in a French film, titled "Les Inéfides". Directed by Oscar winner Michel Hazanavicius, the film is now being screened in France.

"Being Michel Hazanavicius' latest film, just after bagging an Oscar this year for the film 'The Artist', the French film enthusiasts are showing much interest in 'Les Inéfides'. Every show is houseful in Paris," said Partha Pratim Majumder over the phone.

Majumder recently donned a lead role in the upcoming British film "The Love Punch" that will be released during Christmas. Partha acted with Pierce Brosnan and Emma Thompson in the film.

"I am elated to get the opportunity to work with them. Three of us worked together all over the day on July 23 at Paris railway station called 'Gare de l'est', informed the artiste on an email.

The romantic comedy "The Love



Partha Pratim (left) in "Les Inéfides".

affair induces depression and frustration in the lead characters," said Majumder.

Apart from mime, Partha Pratim Majumder has been acting in French, American, Canadian and British films for the last 15 years. Majumder's featured films include "Lemming", "One Dollar Curry", "Doctor Dassin", "Le Pharmacien de Garde", "Janis et John", "Joker", "Cabaret Paradis", "OSS 117", "Le livre des morts de Belleville" and more. He also acted in several TV series and tele-films.

Press show of another film featuring Majumder, "Ouf", was held at MK-2 hall in Paris last week. The director of the film is Yann Corbier. Italian-born actress Valeria Golino has donned the main role in "Ouf".

"I've played one of the main roles in the film that will be released next February. 'Ouf' highlights the psychological predicament when a love

Beetle Baily



Henry

