

WHAT'S ON

**Classical Music Fest**  
Organiser: Chhayanaat  
Venue: Chhayanaat Auditorium, Dhanmondi  
Date: December 20-21  
1st day from 6pm, 2nd day from 9am

**Tagore Dance-Drama**  
Title: 'Maya Khele'  
Organiser: Shadbona  
Venue: National Auditorium, Shilpakala Academy  
Date: December 23  
Time: 7pm

**15th Asian Art Biennale**  
Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, Segunbagicha  
Date: December 1-31  
Time: 11am-8pm

**Int'l Short Film Fest**  
Organiser: Bangladesh Short Film Forum  
Venue: Central Public Library, Shahbagh  
Date: December 13-19

**Solo Painting Exhibition**  
Title: Journey of Ali Akbar  
Artist: Ali Akbar  
Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, H-40, R-7A, Dhanmondi  
Date: December 14-21

**Solo Art Exhibition**  
Artist: Kallides Karmakar  
Title: 'Alkaloid Faces and Diary'  
Venue: Institute of Art and Culture, Gulshan  
Date: Dec 1-20

**Solo Art Exhibition**  
Artist: Kalu  
Title: The Making of Kalu Art-2  
Venue: Radius Art Gallery, Gulshan  
Date: Nov 30-Jan 15

**Group Drawing Exhibition**  
Title: His Light, His Shadow  
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, H-42, Rd 16 (new), Dhanmondi  
Date: December 18-25

Poetry book on Liberation War published

The publication ceremony of a poetry book- 'Muktijuddhaya-Priotama Aamar', authored by poet Mashuk Chowdhury and published by Shahos Publications, Dhaka was held at the National Press Club auditorium in Dhaka on December 16, says a press release.

Poet Asad Chowdhury, Poet Ashim Saha, Poet Sohrab Hassan, Poet KG Mostafa, Poet Shamima Chowdhury, Poet Anjana Saha, Journalist Jakaria Kajo, Journalist Shamsuddin Ahmed, Jatiya Press Club president Kamaluddin Sobuj and writer Shahjada Basunia spoke on different aspects of the poems written by Poet Mashuk Chowdhury.

Theatre Court Marshal staged in Patuakhali

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

"Court Marshal", the much-acclaimed drama, was staged at Shilpakala Academy auditorium in Patuakhali last Saturday. It was staged at the week-long drama festival that begun on Thursday. The event has been arranged by Shahoshika, a local cultural organisation.

"Court Marshal", a Theatre Art Unit (Dhaka) production, has been written by Sadeshp Dikol, translated by Salil Sarker, and directed by SM Solaiman. The cast included Mohammad Bari, Tarekul Islam, Ferdous Amin Biplob, Abul Hasanat Prodip, Selim Mehbub, Saif Sumon, Chandon Reza, Ejaz, Shimul Khan, Reaz Hossain, Kamruzzaman, Syed Alok and Prasanto Halder. It is the 119th presentation of Theatre Art Unit.

"Bason", the first drama staged on Wednesday, was presented by Barguna Theatre. The drama was written by Selim Al Deen and directed by Advocate Muniruzzaman. On Friday, "Nishimon Bishorjon" was staged by Mohakal Natya Sampraday.

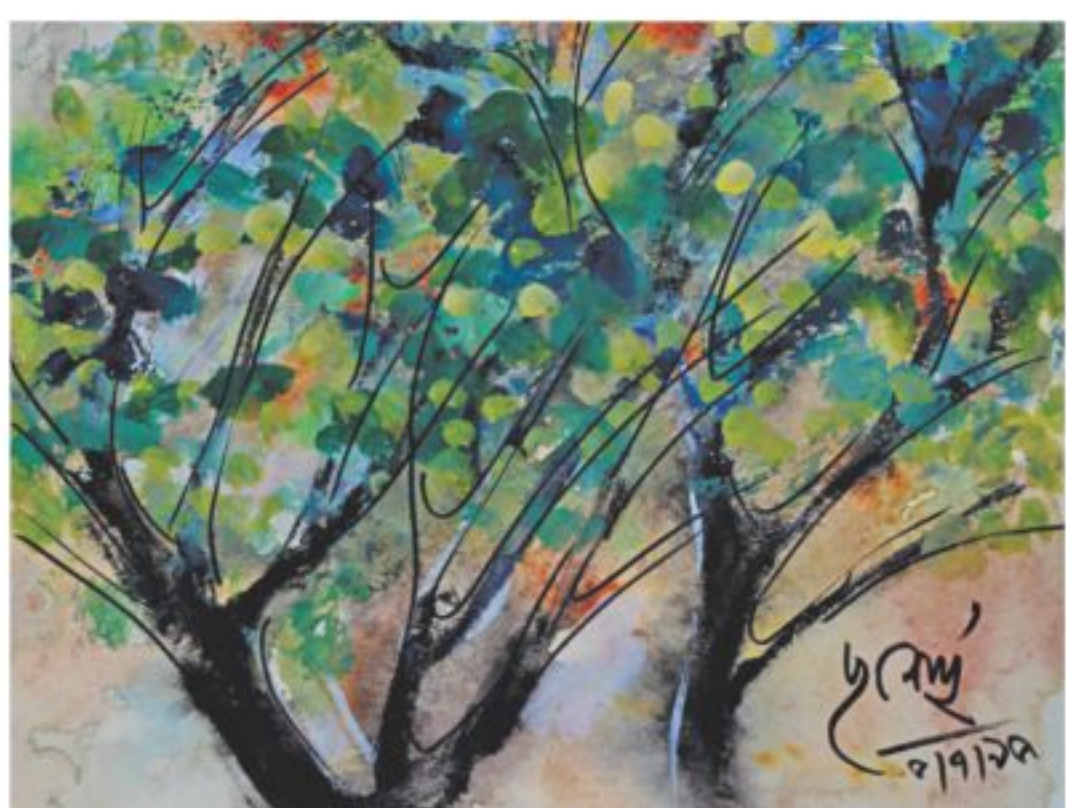


Nasir Ali Mamun speaks at the press conference.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts has organised an eight-day long group drawing exhibition titled "His Light, His Shadow", featuring the works of Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin, Qamrul Hassan, SM Sultan, Mohammad Kibria, Paritosh Sen, Shamsur Rahman, Humayun Ahmed, Mrinal Sen, Jogen Chowdhury, Ganesh Pyne and many other renowned Bangladeshi artists, poets and writers. The works displayed in the exhibition are selected from the private collection of noted photographer Nasir Ali Mamun. Part of the sales proceeds will be used for organising Nasir Ali Mamun's Photoseum (photo museum).

The exhibition opens today, and will continue till December 25. Eminent educationist Professor Anisuzzaman will be present as chief guest and inaugurate the



Artwork by Purnendu Pattrea.

exhibition. Renowned artist Qayyum Chowdhury will be present as special guest.

On the occasion of the exhibition, a press conference was held yesterday at Bengal Café in Dhanmondi. Nasir Ali



A watercolour by Humayun Ahmed.

Mamun, Subir Chowdhury, director of Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts; art critic Moinuddin Khaled; and Sarwar Jahan, manager of Bengal Foundation spoke at the press conference.

First Sarwar Jahan read out a paper on

the exhibition and Mamun's private collection. Subir Chowdhury said, "Mamun has been capturing rare moments of many illustrious painters, writers, intellectuals, social and cultural activists through his camera for the last 40 years. He was the first to introduce the concept of portrait photography. He has also collected artworks of many renowned artists. For the first time, the exhibition is showcasing the private and rare collection of Mamun." At the press conference, Mamun revealed how he had collected the artworks from the artists and writers, and his passion for photography.

Mamun was born in Dhaka in 1953. He embarked on his journey just after the Liberation War. He has to his credit a number of publications on poet Jasimuddin, artist SM Sultan, poet Shamsur Rahman, essayist Ahmed Sofa, German Nobel Laureate Gunter Grass and others.

Chhayanaut Celebrates Victory Day



Artistes perform at the programme.

A CORRESPONDENT

Chhayanaut, the reputed school of music and fine arts celebrated Victory Day through a cultural evening titled "Bangali'r Mukti-Shangram". The presentation was a beautifully balanced combination of solo and choral renditions of powerful "gono-sangeet" numbers and other inspirational songs from the pre-liberation and liberation-war era, and poetic narrations in between, taking the audience through from the country's language movement that originated in 1948, to the uprising of '69 and the liberation war to victory, and ending in hopes of overcoming all obstacles to build a happy and prosperous country.

PHOTO: ATL AAKASH

The Ray-Ravi Shankar connection

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

Remember the music in shots from maestro Satyajit Ray's "Pather Panchali" in which Durga and Apu run through 'the filled with kaash' flowers towards a speeding train? Or when mother Sarbojaya breaks down after Durga's death? Or Durga and Apu run after the village sweet vendor?

If Ray's was an epoch-making movie so was Pandit Ravi Shankar's music in it. It was Shankar's magic on the big screen.

However, Shankar came to film music much before he was roped in by Ray for "Pather Panchali" (1955) and its two sequels "Aparajito" and "Apu Sansar".

Shankar's music in the Apu trilogy has considerably heightened the beauty of some of the key sequences of the three films. Even before "Pather Panchali" happened, Ray was an admirer of Shankar and at times used to listen to the latter playing sitar till 2am. Shankar also composed the music in Ray's "Debi" and "Jalsagar".

Even though Panditji's first foray into cinema came in Chetan Anand's "Neecha Nagar" (1946) during his association with Indian People's Theatre Association move-



Satyajit Ray

ment (IPTA), he was largely ignored by Hindi cinema. It was only directors like Khwaja Ahmed Abbas, Hrishikesh Mukherjee and Gulzar who used Shankar's music in "Dharti Ke Lal", "Anuradha" (1961) and "Meera" (1979) besides Chetan Anand and Abbas.

In "Anuradha", Shankar composed the music for songs sung by Mohammed Rafi, Lata Mangeshkar and Mukesh which went on to be big hits at that time.



Ravi Shankar

It was Shankar's music in the Apu trilogy that had catapulted to the spotlight his magic on the big screen. After associating with Ray in the trilogy, Shankar also composed the music in Tapan Sinha's "Kabuliwala".

Another high point of Shankar's stint with cinema music was his composition for Sir Richard Attenborough-directed film "Gandhi" (1982) for which he earned an Oscar nomination.

Bangladeshi documentary awarded in Kolkata

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Mustaque Ahmed's documentary "Die Million '71" recently received the International Bangla Film Critic Award 2012. The award giving ceremony was held at Science City, Kolkata. The documentary was first screened at Dhaka Art Centre in Dhanmondi in 2011. Ahmed is also the founder trustee of the Dhaka art Centre.

The 10-minute documentary addresses the subject of genocide during the Liberation War.

About the documentary, Ahmed said, "I collected the footage of the Liberation War from archives. It's

tough to make a film on the 1971 genocide, as we don't have enough video footage. You just can't make a documentary without enough video footage."

The filmmaker feels that credibility of documentation, acceptance without any controversy and a global perspective are important dimensions of the documentary.

"I made the documentary because the international community is yet to know much about the mass killings in 1971. I believe immigrant society will also know about the cruelty of the war through the documentary. I have used Joan Baez's 'The Song of Bangladesh'. The singer was greatly touched by the Liberation War. Her name is also well-recognised for her contribution to

the anti-Vietnam war. Exposing her feelings for the people of Bangladesh, she wrote the song and presented the song," the director added.

The film is dedicated to the Freedom Fighters. The documentary includes an NBC report televised on July 1, 1972 about the Dhaka University Massacre of March 26, 1971. Joan Baez's "The Song of Bangladesh" has added a different dimension to the film. Baez wrote and performed the song at the Concert for Bangladesh, Madison Square Garden, New York in 1971.

As a part of the International Short Film Festival, the documentary was screened at Shawkat Osman Auditorium at Central Public Library on December 16.

An artist's journey of life

FAYZA HAQ

Speaking to Ali Akbar (from the US) who is currently having his solo exhibition at Dhaka Art Centre in Dhanmondi, I learnt of the painter's latest feats. Film-maker and activist Manzare Haseen Murad was also present at the exhibition.

What are the materials he has used and what elements have influenced or egged him on? This is his largest solo exhibition, the artist says; his 18th. He was inspired when he got a scholarship to study at the Californian College of Arts and Crafts. As he matured, the paintings became more autobiographical and symbolic. The current show presents his entire life, his parents, his child and his wife. He keeps painting his inward images and portrays his journey of life on the Bangladeshi boat, and birds of Canadian origin. His ideas and the images he sees, remembers and experiences are presented before us on the canvas or linen. One can even see and admire the moon over the Dhanmondi lake.

Having also travelled to India, Nepal etc, his work remains a mixture of eastern and western philosophies. He combines landscape with parts of human figure, such as the face and the limbs. He paints glitches as one sees on the silver screen or on the small screen of TV. The lines of the glitches convey the mad world that we live in -- with natural and manmade disasters. Black, grey, green and multicoloured canvases represent mountains that one can investigate and discover.

In one of the paintings we find a couple's face along with a Bangladeshi boat, which represents the journey of life. Boats and kites are symbolic, and represent the artist



A painting by Ali Akbar.

himself, who sails through life, moving here and there, collecting experiences. The landscape has green, blue and yellow -- the colours of joie de vivre. They are primary colours and we find carmine and blue as well everywhere, as the painter puts it. The style, in which the visage has been painted, is essentially Oriental Art. Sand

used in the painting has been collected from Dallas, USA. He began working on these paintings in 1999 and he finished it recently.

Ali Akbar plays with lines -- just as much as he dabbles in colours. The glitches on one occasion form a rose pattern. Red stands for the evening, blue is the water, and green is brought just to make the artist happy, as green is desired by all around the world. The artist also wishes to make his work minimal.

As an artist, he often feels alone, and believes he is in a boat by himself. The faces around him are imaginary. There are lines, colours, and suggestions of movement. Spontaneity is also aimed at.

When he travels, the painter draws and doodles. The collection of sketches, about a dozen in one collection, represent a crying baby in the background, and his experience at a tea stall. The work features writing in Bangla, where the artist brings in the importance of mother language. He has also done aerial view of landscapes.

He brings in a collective picture of his family with its parents, himself and his siblings. The works also contain an image of his son, who was born in the US. He also depicts his wife, Sara Cardona. He put the National Anthem on his son's face, as he does not speak Bangla, but rather Spanish and English. A cinema banner artist did the painting of his parents, over which Ali Akbar put his brush and paint. He did this to give the painting a dramatic touch.

Ali Akbar is an admirer of Mark Rothko, David Hockney and Francis Bacon. Among Bangladeshi artists, he has penchant for the works of Mohammed Kibria, Monirul Islam, Abdul Basset and GS Kabir. Akbar has had group and solo exhibitions at Dallas and Dhaka.

Liberation War in images

Harun Habib's solo exhibition at Dhaka University

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

On the occasion of Victory Day, a two-day photography exhibition began at TSC on the Dhaka University campus on December 15. Dhaka University Photographic Society organised the exhibition, titled "Muktijoddhar Camera-i Muktijuddho 1971". A total of 45 photographs snapped during the war by journalist Harun Habib were on display at the exhibition. Dhaka University Vice-chancellor Professor AAMS Arefin Siddique inaugurated the show as chief guest.

Most of the photos depict destruction and atrocities during the war. Habib's

photos cover a wide range starting from freedom fighters on operations to farmers celebrating the news of victory. Looking at the photographs is like travelling back in time. Most of the photos were taken at Sector 11 camp. Habib is not a professional photographer and some of the pictures are blurry.

Harun Habib, a journalist, writer and columnist has retired from Bangladesh Shagbad Shangstha (BSS) as chief editor and managing director. Born on January 1, 1948 in Dewanganj, he completed his masters in journalism from Dhaka University and post graduation from Indian Institute of Mass Communication, New Delhi.

The exhibition ended yesterday.

Theatre festival begins in Patuakhali

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

A seven-day theatre festival began in Patuakhali on Thursday at Patuakhali district Shilpakala Academy. The festival was arranged by Sahoshika, a local cultural organisation. The festival was formally inaugurated by Advocate Shahjahan Mia, State Minister for Religious affairs as the chief guest while Khan Mosharrar Hossain, administrator of Patuakhali district council; Shah

Alom Sardar, acting DC of Patuakhali were special guests at the function. Renowned dramatist Nirmol Kumar Das Gupta opened the programme by lighting candles.

Advocate and cultural enthusiast Soumendra Lal Shailen, also addressed the gathering. Artists of

Dokhina Khelaghor Ashor performed at the event.

Artists of Uddichi Shilpi Gosthi began with an opera named "Bijoy", followed by a play "Bason" presented by Barguna Theatre, written by Selim Al Din and directed by Advocate Muniruzzaman. This is the 19th presentation of Barguna Theatre.

The festival focused on protests against British rule by local farmers cutting across communities.

The festival will end on December 19 with one play presented each day. The plays include "Nishimon Bishorjon", by Mohakal Natyoo Sampraday; "Court Marshal" by Theatre Art Unit; Aroj Chharitarnito by Loknayok; "Aurangzeb" and finally "Payer Awaj Paowa Jaye" would wrap up the fest.

Beetle Bailey by Mort Walker

Henry by Don Trachte

04:10	Janar Achhey Bolar Achhey	11:30	Bangla Feature Film
08:15	Drama Serial: Metro Life	08:15	Drama Serial: Bagha Sher
09:00	Glamour World	09:35	Sher
ETV		09:35	Straight Line
11:30	Ekushey-er Business	09:35	Fox Movies
05:25	Lobby Ghazi	03:30	What's Your Number?
06:30	Dech Jury Shinglap	05:15	Bruce Almighty
07:50	Taal	07:00	National Treasure
Boishakhi TV		09:15	National Treasure: Book of Secrets
12:15	The Business Show	11:20	The Beach
04:15	Shorashori Doctor		
08:00	Drama Serial: Boro Bari		
	Chhot Bou	02:20	The Matrix
11:00	Reporters Dairy	04:55	Shall We Dance?
BANGLAVISION		07:00	The Matrix Reloaded
01:05	Bangla Feature Film	09:30	Thor
06:30	Shoundarja Kotha	11:55	The Bourne Identity
09:05	Nacho Bangladesh Nacho		
11:25	Raat Biraley		Star World
Rtv		02:30	Grey's Anatomy
12:35	Bangla Feature Film	04:30	Alcatraz
09:05	Drama Serial: Boyra Paribar	09:30	Packed to the Rafters
09:50	Look at Me	11:30	Two And A Half Men
12:05	Business Talk	02:30	Discovery Channel
Desh TV		06:30	Tattoo Hunter
			Next World

DRAMA SERIAL	
ATN BANGLA	08:15pm Generation Next Dot
09:20pm	To To Company
CHANNEL i	08:15pm The Side Effect
11:30pm	Roshni
ntv	07:45pm Sat Kahon
09:45pm	Ochena Protimbibo
ETV	08:40pm kholokalya
09:30pm	Kasmini
BANGLAVISION	08:15pm Nagark

NEWS BULLETIN	
BTV	Boishakhi TV
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,
CHANNEL i	Rtv
News (Bangla) at 2pm, 9pm, 10:30pm,	News (Bangla) at
ntv	1:45pm, 6:45pm, 10:45pm,
News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm,	Desh TV
News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7:30pm,	News (Bangla) at 2pm,
ETV	7pm, 9pm, 11pm,
09:30pm	News (Bangla) at 1pm, 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm,
BANGLAVISION	News (Bangla) at 7pm, 1am,

TALK SHOW	
BTV	12:00am Zero Hour
10:25pm	Shombhabonar
Bangladesh	Rtv
CHANNEL i	11:30pm Our Democracy
12:30pm	Tanoka Kothon
ntv	11:45pm Shujo Kotha
12:00am	Et Shomoy
ETV	12:02am Shampurito
12:02am	Ekushey-er Raat
Boishakhi TV	12:05am Modhyraater Muktabak