

Zainul Quamrul

Exhibition

Venue: Nalini Kanta Bhattacharya Gallery, National Museum

Date: Dec 22-Jan 18


Time: 10am-8pm



In Memory of Sohrab Hossain

Title: Tobu Amarey Debona Bhulitey

Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy




Group Art Exhibition

Title: Shilpacharya and his Outer World of Art

Venue: Bengal Shilpalaya, H-42, R-16, Dhanmondi

Date: Dec 28-Jan 8

Time: 12pm-8pm



Concert

Band: Nagar Baul

Venue: Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre, H-35, Rd-24, Gulshan-1

Date: Dec 28

Time: 6:30pm



Musical Soiree

Organiser: Sreezon

Venue: Sufia Kamal Auditorium, National Museum

Date: Dec 28

Time: 6:30pm



NEWS bytes

Gravity director wins effects award

"Gravity" director Alfonso Cuaron is to be honoured by Hollywood's Visual Effects Society (VES). He will receive the society's visionary award at the 12th annual VES ceremony on 12 February in Los Angeles. "Alfonso pushes the known boundaries of film-making," VES chairman Jeffrey A Okun said. "Gravity is expected to be among 2014's Oscar contenders. Cuaron's other films include "Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban" and "Children of Men". He has been at the forefront in using visual effects to tell remarkable, highly nuanced stories that change the way we think about what is possible to achieve," Mr Okun said.



Most Oscar experts agree that Cuaron's 3D film about astronauts adrift in space starring Sandra Bullock and George Clooney, will get a best picture nomination when the shortlist is announced in mid-January.

Source: BBC

PROFILE Anukul's whimsical world

TAKIR HOSSAIN

Celebrated experimental painter, Anukul is known for portraying inner conflict through his remarkable paintings. The central theme of his work often focuses on facial expressions and the human body. His latest collection depicts motherhood, the six seasons and their impact on nature, childhood and rustic ambiance.

His paintings are accentuated with lots of curves and twisted lines, often featuring bold, brutal and horrifying imagery. He does not hesitate to draw what is conventionally considered "ugly". Unattractive appearance, obese figures, languid eyes and unshapely forms feature heavily in his paintings. People running towards an unknown destination, embracing figures, sleeping women, awe-inspiring forms, nature in an unadulterated state, broken rickshaw, and foliage in abandon are other recurring subjects. His roots for the life force and power in the abstract. His images are prominent, determined, and capture forceful motion -- almost in its rawness -- and at times are unmindful of directions. His desires, emotions, hopes and aspirations are strongly allied with the masses of our country. He wants to focus especially on masses' strengths, their dreams and love for the country.

Anukul traces his roots to a very remote area of Bagherhat. Swimming, fishing or roaming around the village were regular activities that occupied his childhood days. He reminisces on his childhood with the paint brush on canvas. Compared to



the village, the city seemed dull and inanimate. So he created a language for his paintings, where he focused on struggles, pain and isolation.

Anukul now lives in a small but artistically laid out house-atelier at Mohammadpur. He draws from his imagination rather than employing models. Figures in motion and incomplete human forms are noticeable elements in his works. His subjects have a semi-realistic and surrealistic quality about them. He also marks coarse lines with his fingers to add his sense of poetry to the paintings. He favors acrylic, oil, mixed media, pastel and charcoal medium. The

colours black, blue, yellow, vermilion and crimson dominate his work.

"Passionate Woman", one of his favourite paintings depicts detailed visages of women. The work also features smooth ground and carries varied tones on different parts of the canvas. The painter has taken considerable time to create the foundation of this piece. Another of his pet paintings "Love and Affection" reveals twisted figures in black. One part of the painting is elaborate with numerous curves and blurred shapes. Appearing in motion, his subjects have a realistic attachment with lines -- articulating sorrow and profound romanticism.



Space and momentum for artists

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A six-day international art camp titled "Crack International Art Camp 2013" is on at Smaran Matsyabeej Khamar at Rahimpur in Kushtia. The camp was inaugurated on December 25. This is the seventh edition of the art camp.

The first edition of the camp was the brainchild of artist Shawon Akand in association with artist Delowar Hossain in Kushtia in 2007.

The current edition involves a multi-disciplinary art camp with international participants alongside art aficionados from across the country. Besides Bangladeshi artists, a number of artists from India, Nepal, Philippines and North America are taking part in the camp.

The participating artists are Santous Seekdel, Provin Sreshtho, Ryan Bernardino, Darrell Roberts, Protap Morey, Debashish Barua, Neelanjana Nandi, Bhupesh Kumar, Shakti Noman, Shaheen Mahmud Reza, Tanzeem Ahmed Bijoy, Karishma Chowdhury, Raihan Rafi, Sabbir Alam and others. Rahul Anand is the curator of the camp.

The organiser of the camp believes that every form of art has an inter-relationship and it is necessary to develop these connections to create a favourable environment for the progress of artistic practice.

The organiser invites not only visual artists but also theatre activists, photographers, filmmakers, poets, writers and people from many other disciplines to their camp.

The camp focuses on promoting young artists and thinkers by giving them space and momentum for furthering their talent on an international platform. The exchange of thoughts, ideas, concepts, and beliefs have accelerated flawlessly through this camp.

The camp will continue till December 30.

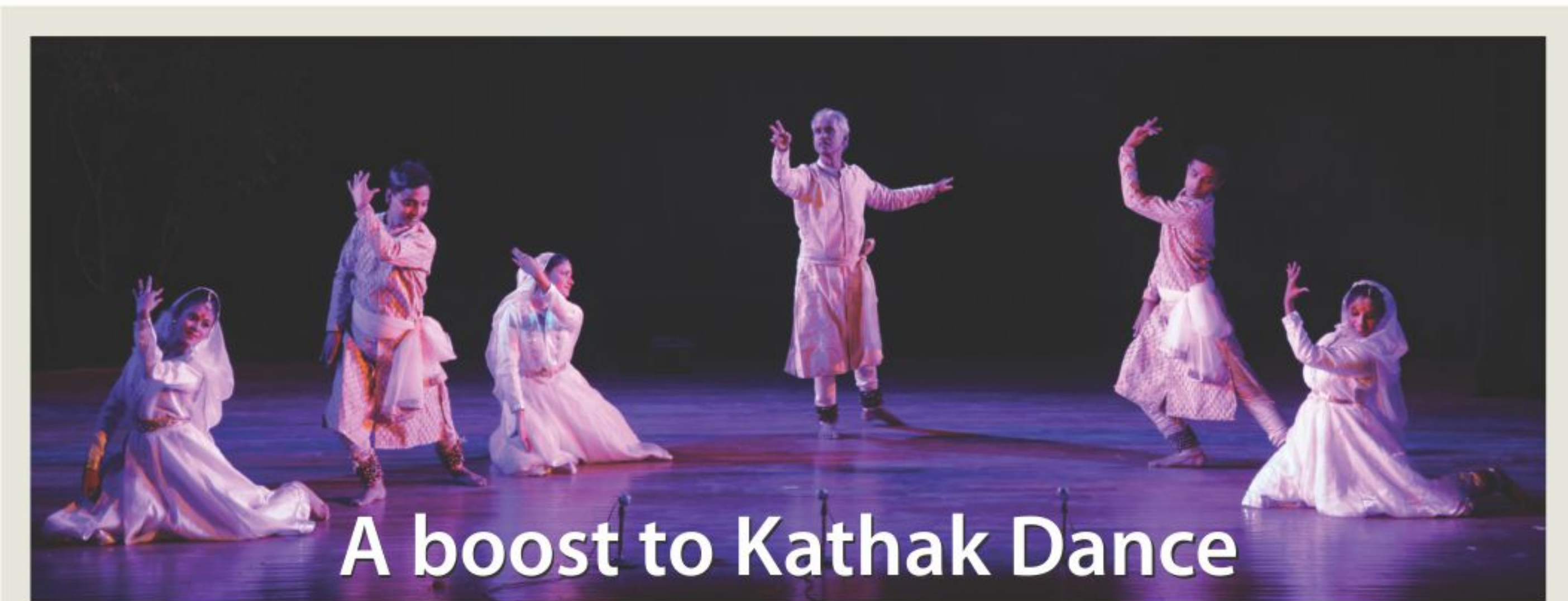


PHOTO: RIDWAN ADID RUPON

Kathak Dance Community (KDC) organised a three-day (December 24-26) Kathak Dance Festival at the main auditorium of Chhayanaut, Dhanmondi. The festival featured an array of solo and group performances by noted and promising dancers, along with several dance schools. Dance artistes displayed a number of Kathak styles including bandana, chhandamalika, gautmalika, meghmalika, composition, nritya nirmity, and tarana at the festival. Director of KDC Saju Ahmed with Munia, Emon, Pappu, Suparna, Tattwika and Jyoti wrapped up the festival with a Tarana set on Raga Basant Bahar. The piece, titled "Boshontey Noishobdo", was dedicated to the memory of legendary cultural personality Waheedul Haq.

"Trial of Mallam Ilya" set to premiere

A CORRESPONDENT

Theatre troupe BotTala is all set to bring their fifth production to stage. "The Trial of Mallam Ilya" will see three back-to-back shows at Dhaka University's Natmandal on January 1-3. Originally an African play by Mohammad Ben Abdallah, it has been translated by Soumya Sarker & Directed by Mohammad Ali Haider. The story revolves around Mallam, a fallen leader who faces trial after a revolt, and narrates his past at court, through depositions of the deceased. The story swings back and forth in time, showing the political changes interlaid between. The central cast of the play includes Pankaj Majumdar, Toufiq Hasan Bhuiyan, Kazi Roksana Ruma, Samina Luthfa, Sheyuti Shahgufta, Imran Khan Munna and Humayra Akhter.



SHAH ALAM SHAZU

With around 70 films to her credit, Apu Biswas is one of the busiest and most popular Dhalliwod actresses of our time. The Daily Star recently interviewed the acclaimed artiste of the silver screen.

Mid-career you took a brief break from the film industry. Why so?

Apu: Frankly, I took the break to lose weight by following a strict diet regime. The audience will get to see my new look in my upcoming films.

What was your last movie?

Apu: "Premik Number One", released last Eid-ul-Azha, was a box-office hit. Shakib Khan was cast opposite me in that film. A few days before its release, "My Name is Khan" with Shakib also made it to the limelight.

What's on your plate now?

Apu: I recently signed up for "Shodh", "Chirodin Tumi Je Amar", "Raja Handsome", "Salam Malaysia" and "Moner Motho Manush Pailam Na". I am flooded with offers to do more films. Soon, I will play a role in a movie produced by Shakib Khan.

Could you amplify on your on-screen link-up with Dhalliwod heartthrob Shakib?

Apu: Many of my movies with Shakib Khan became hugely popular. Our on-screen chemistry has been warmly received by audiences.

Which movie has made you a household name?

Apu: Definitely "Debdas", where I played the role of Parboti. It was a great breakthrough.

Any memorable moments while viewing your films in a movie hall?

Apu: I usually go to watch every movie of mine. I worked very hard for "Bhalobesa Ghar Badha Ji Na". When I went to view the film at Madhumita Cinema Hall, I was so overcome that tears rolled down my cheeks. That was an unforgettable moment.

What else is in store?

Apu: I have recently opened a gym named "APS Ladies Fitness" about which I have many plans. I regularly visit the gym.

Anything else besides acting?

Apu: I love travelling. My hometown Bogra is my favourite destination. I like to visit Bogra as I can catch up with my childhood friends and move around freely away from the public gaze.

Any assignments at hand?

Apu: I am now busy shooting for "Red" at Jaminder Bari in Tangail. The shoot will take a few more days.

ZAHANGIR ALOM

The second installment of the Bengal Classical Music Festival (BCMF) 2013 concluded recently. Alongside many evocative performances by music maestros, several Bangladeshi artistes showcased their music (either vocal or instrumental) on the prestigious platform.

Goutam Sarker, Swarup Hossain, Iftekhar Alam Prodhan and Md. Zakir Hossain performed a tabla quartet on the opening night of the festival. Based on teentaal, they started off the tabla lahara with the kayda "Dhin Kre Dhindha" accompanied by a South Indian Raga "Kiwani". The accomplished artistes showcased a variety of kayda, tukra, chakradar and chakradar tehai. They presented traditional compositions of renowned gharanas -- Benaras, Delhi, Ajrara and Farrukhabad in their respective solo and group recitals. Among the quartet, Goutam Sarker and Swarup Hossain stood out as performers. The packed audience responded with enthusiasm to the presentation.

On the second night, renowned Bangladeshi classical vocalist and Guru Asit Dey first gripped the mood of the raga "Puriya Kalyana" by rendering aalap of the raga. A disciple of Pandit Amarnath who was the senior-most disciple of Ustad Amir Khan -- started off his vilambit bandish "Aj So Bana" performance, set on jhumra taal. The vistar ang of his performance was decorative and followed by bahelawa, khatka, meend and ragdari with some difficult application of the raga. He beautifully showcased the two ang -- Puriya and Yaman -- of the raga which reminded one of the setting sun and the rising of the full moon. A tarana on teentaal and a drut ekaal bandish "Maan Abodh Mora" followed.

The penultimate night of Bengal Classical Music Festival '13 began with an immaculate sarod rendition by noted Bangladeshi artiste Rajrupa Chowdhury.



Tabla quartet (top), Rajrupa Chowdhury (left) and Reenat Fauzia at the festival.

The artiste started off her performance with an aalap based on Raga "Shyam Kalyan," an opening tribute to the musical evening. The artiste styled different rhythmic jod breaking down the conventional recital. Pandit Yogesh Shamshi accompanied Rajrupa's performance with tistra (3/3) and seven-beat (3/2/2) rhythms that superbly caught the attention of classical music connoisseurs. Her skillful aalap and fast gamaki jod performance in lower octave was evocative. Later, Rajrupa played vilambit teentaal bandish on Raga "Rageshree".

Another Bangladeshi artiste, Reenat Fauzia -- granddaughter of legendary Ustad Ayet Ali Khan, beautifully presented her recital set on a romantic Carnatic Raga "Kiwani".

The fourth and the final night began with Manipuri dance recital by noted Bangladeshi artiste Tamanna Rahman and her dance troupe. Tamanna Rahman's presentation began with a "Gouranga Abahan" that embodies the invocation of Lord Chaitanya and describes his graceful dance. She was later accompanied by two other artistes

-- Joyonti Samantha and Subrata. Her second presentation was based on the mythological story of how Lord Krishna subjugated the demon snake Kaliya, with the piece called "Kaliya Daman." Ending her performance for the evening, "Dashavatara" conjured up the 10 forms that Lord Krishna took on to save the world from impending doom. The items were choreographed and directed by Tamanna's Guru Kalavati Devi, who was honoured alongside all the performers at the end of the performance.

PHOTO: RIDWAN ADID RUPON