

WHAT'S ON

Concert

Marking World Music Day

Artists: French-Lebanese singer & songwriter ABALI & Traditional Bangladeshi Bauls

Venue: La Galerie, AFD, 26 Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi.

Solo Art Exhibition

Title: Of Man and Earth II by Syed Jahangir

Venue: Bengal Art Lounge, 60, Gulshan Avenue, Rd-131, Circle -1

Date: May 31-June 21

Time: 12pm-8pm daily

Solo Classical Soiree

Artist: Khairul Anam Shakil

Venue: Daily Star-Bengal Arts Precinct, 64-65, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue

Date: June 20

Time: 6pm

Borsha Utshab

Organiser: Chhayanaout

Venue: Main Auditorium, Chhayanaout, Dhanmondi

Date: June: 20

Time: 7pm

Solo Musical Soiree

Artist: Lily Islam

Venue: IGCC Auditorium, H-35, Rd-24, Gulshan-1

Date: June 20

Time: 6:30pm

# NEWSbytes

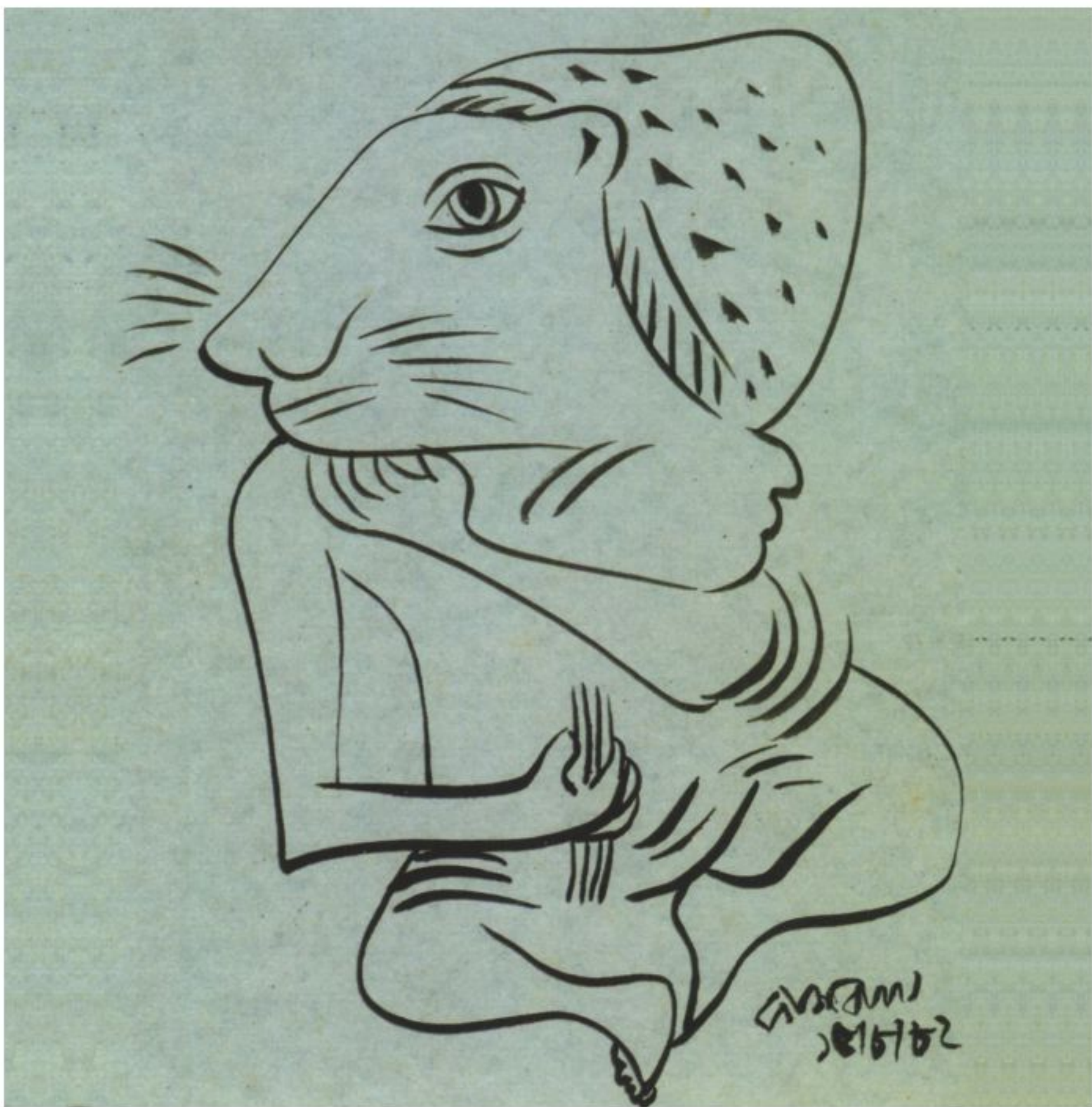


## Jazz pioneer Horace Silver dies

One of the most highly regarded pianists and composers in jazz, Horace Silver, has died aged 85 in the US. He was one of the pioneers of a rhythmic jazz style known as hard bop. Many of his compositions became jazz standards, including "Sister Sadie", "The Preacher" and "Filthy McNasty". His family came from Cape Verde, and Silver was influenced by the folk music from the Portuguese-speaking islands off of Africa. His first album is regarded as a milestone in the development of hard bop - a style Silver continued to explore during his 25-year relationship with Blue Note records. Horace Silver also performed with many jazz greats such as Lester Young, Miles Davis and Art Blakey. His bands have consistently been a training ground for great soloists, and his sidemen have included a host of subsequently famous names.

Source: BBC

# Nasir Ali Mamun's art collection on display



Artworks by Quamrul Hassan, Mustafa Monwar and Quayyum Chowdhury from the collection.

ZAHANGIR ALOM

Under the title "Artistic Musings of the Greats", Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts has organised a drawing exhibition featuring the works of 54 great artists, poets, writers, actors and eminent personalities of Bangladesh and India.

The works on display are selected from the private collection of celebrated Bangladeshi photographer Nasir Ali Mamun. Professor Emeritus Anisuzzaman inaugurated the exhibition as chief guest on June 14. Eminent artist Qayyum Chowdhury attended as special guest with renowned artist Monirul Islam was present as honourable guest.

The exhibition is based mainly on drawings collected by Mamun at different periods when he visited the artists, poets and personalities to take their photographs.

The soft spoken, modest and amiable Mamun is considered to be "The Poet of Camera". His subjects are renowned creative figures and personalities and he has been photographing them for over the last four decades. He was the first to introduce the concept of portrait photography in our country in 1972.

Mamun requested many artists to depict Tagore's portrait.

Noted artist Shambhu Acharya, mingling patchitra with modernity, depicts Tagore on canvas while sculptor Ferdousi Priyabhashini, portrays Gurudev on acrylic. Her work uncannily resembles the Tagorean style. Qayyum Chowdhury's Tagore is on watercolour with minimal yet magical black lines that easily attract the viewers while Abul Barq Alvi depicts Tagore with ink on paper. Abdus Satter seeks to capture the essence of Baul Rabindranath in his drawing while

Hamiduzzaman Khan, Farida Zaman, Syed Iqbal, Sheikh Afzal, Abul Mansur and Ranjit Das also beautifully depict Tagore in their distinctive styles.

One of the showpieces of the exhibition is late artist Abdur Razzaque's depiction of his friend Rashid Chowdhury (a watercolour done in 1951). SM Sultan's drawing "Kishani" (1980) is another priceless work. Sultan portrayed several portraits of Nasir Ali Mamun. Those are also being exhibited at the show. Pioneer Quamrul Hassan's drawing has embellished the gravity of the exhibition.

Mustafa Monwar's watercolour titled "Blue Sky" highlights the monsoon-time crimson sky with the silent landscape of scenic beauty of our country. Translucence and simplicity are the main traits of his works, while panoramic beauty, rural life and seasonal change are recurring themes. The watercolours by Syed Jahangir and Monirul Islam are outstanding.

Murtaja Baseer's meticulous drawings of his self portrait enrich the exhibition. Some of his line-based drawings depict realistic portraits where one could easily comprehend the flavour of visual rendering.

Monirul Islam is mainly recognised as a printmaker. However, currently he has focused more on painting. His application of paint is intense and the lines are more minimised; colours seem to be bold and vivacious.

Some seasoned Indian painters' drawings have added to the significance of the group show. The artists - Jogen Chowdhury, Dhiraj Chowdhury, Shuvaprasanna, Ganesh Haloi are well known for their individual style and technique. Mamun collected their works at different

times. Dhiraj Chowdhury's watercolour titled "Rabindranath and Faces" evokes the bard's close affinity to the nature of feminine grace. Purnendu Pattra's drawing of "Horse 1 and 2" (ink on paper) seems fantastic lines evocative of works of Jamini Roy. Ramananda Bandhyopadhyay line based work -- a female face -- infuses poetic myth and memory. Suhas Roy's print titled "Radha" tells the romantic tales of euphoria.

Noted Indian artist Jogen Chowdhury is well known among Bangladeshi artists and critics. At the exhibition, his feminine face with a Bengali calligraphy, floral imagery and organic forms depict the uniqueness of nature. The painter is widely acknowledged as the master of the unbroken line. Most of his works has been stirred by the linear Kalighat pat tradition, but his lines are sensitive and used to express and suggest the character of a person.

The exhibition is unique as drawings of as many non-painters are also on display. Doodles and sketches of a number of writers, poets and professors have been included. Professor Anisuzzaman depicted an innocent face, Nobel Laureate Professor Muhammad Yunus depicted Nasir Ali Mamun's camera, Nirmalendu Goon portrayed red tip with a female face and Bangladeshi writer Humayun Ahmed's watercolours splendidly feature the freshness and simplicity of nature as well as its mystifying setting. Their works are purely realistic with a touch of impressionism. Meticulous balancing of light and shade is another trait in their works.

The exhibition, that is open from 12 noon to 8pm everyday, ends on July 5.

## IT'S TRUE!



In 1976, Pro Arts Inc. pitched the idea of a poster of actress Farrah Fawcett. According to friend Nels Van Patten, Fawcett styled her own hair and did her makeup without the aid of a mirror. Her blonde highlights were further heightened by a squeeze of lemon juice. From 40 rolls of film, Fawcett herself selected her six favourite pictures; eventually, the choice was narrowed to the one. The resulting poster is one of the most iconic glamour posters of all time -- it broke records, selling 12 million copies, and making Fawcett a pop culture icon of the eighties.

## Theatre fest inaugurates at BSA

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A seven-day theatre festival, marking the birthday of veteran theatre personality Ataur Rahman began at Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) on Thursday evening. BSA and Mancha Sarathi Ataur Rahman Karma-Udjan Parishad are jointly holding the programme.

The festival began with a brief inauguration ceremony where Ataur Rahman, along with Cultural Affairs Minister Asaduzzaman Noor, prominent writer Syed Shamsul Haque, and noted thespian Dr. Enamul Huq cut a cake to celebrate Rahman's birthday.

Later, Syed Shamsul Haq came on to the dais to inaugurate the festival. He recalled his experiences of working with Ataur Rahman saying, "My creativity in theatre flourished because of Ataur. My experimental works had a new dimension with the touch of his genius."

Following his speech, theatre personality Ramendu Majumdar gave the welcome speech. He said, "Ataur is equally skilled as an actor, director, organiser and theatre critic. However, I enjoy his company more than anything because of his light-hearted spirit."

Rights activist Sultana Kamal, once a popular face in theatre, walked down memory lane to talk about her experience of working with Rahman. She recalled playing Rahman's mother in a play the 1970s.

Asaduzzaman Noor said, "Ataur can easily communicate with people. We have spent great times together and are members of the same theatre fraternity. I have worked in a number of plays under Ataur's direction. Even my first role was under his direction."

Among others, theatre personalities Sara Zaker, Jhuna Chowdhury, Dr Enamul Haque, Lucky Enam and writer Anwara Syed Haque addressed the programme. They remembered their youthful days with Ataur Rahman.

Following the inauguration, Nagorik Natya Sampraday came on stage with Tagore masterpiece "Raktokorobi". The play is considered one of the classics of world drama. Nagorik Natya Sampradaya has won the heart of audiences both at home and abroad with this production.

Set in a materialistic world called "Joggopuri" (sacrificial ground) the play

depicts the lives of people in a lifeless kingdom, which is wealthy but devoid of humanity. Young maiden Nandini comes to the kingdom one day in search of Ranjan, her love. Every man of the kingdom, even the king wants her but she is out of everyone's reach. This turns the emptiness of the human soul into cruelty. However, Nandini brings life to a society bereft of its soul and the play ends on a sacrificial note.

Today, theatre troupe Palakar will stage Syed Shamsul Haque's "Banglar Mati Banglar Jol" at the National Theatre Hall.



A scene from "Raktokorobi".

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS



## Nekabborer Mahaprayan set for release

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Masud Pathik's film "Nekabborer Mahaprayan" will release countrywide today. The film, based on Nirmalendu Goon's poetry, received financial aid from the government. With its innovative poster and melodious soundtracks, there has been much hype about the film. Initially the film will be screened in three movie theatres and in the next week it will run in 12 other cinema halls across the country.

"Nekabborer Mahaprayan", a blend of fiction and documentary, zeroes in on human life, love, nature and our Liberation War with a focus on the Krishak Andolan. Filmed in rural areas of Bangladesh, the film has some idyllic landscapes.

## Bhalobashi Tomay on Maasranga



A CORRESPONDENT

Drama "Bhalobashi Tomay" will air tonight on Maasranga television. Written and directed by Asif Iqbal Jewel, the story's central figures are Joy, Tania and Shubhro. Joy loses his eyes in an accident and his eyes are replaced by those of a donor who happens to be Shubro. One night, Shubhro's spirit comes to Joy and relates the story of how Shubhro's girlfriend Tania's father had killed him. Joy traces Shubhro's girlfriend and tells her about the brutality of her father. Tania refuses to believe him. To watch what happens to Joy and Tania keep your eyes on Maasranga at 8 pm.



## Subachan to stage Rupoboti

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

After a long hiatus theatre troupe Subachan Natya Sangsad is back again, bringing their popular production "Rupoboti" on the stage. Scripted by Nasreen Khan and directed by late Khaled Khan, the play will see its 49th staging on June 21 evening at the Experimental Theatre Hall of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA). Rupoboti is the last play directed by Khaled Khan. It will be the first show of the play since the director passed away last December.

Sonia Hasan will play the lead role, while Sohel Khan, Ansar Ali, Saiful Imam and many others will appear in the production.