

SEEING THE WORLD THROUGH LIZA'S BRUSHES

FAYEKA ZABEEN SIDDIQUA

The goal of Liza Hasan's art is not solely confined to aesthetics; there is a far bigger purpose than that. Her art is shaped by her urge to bring to fore the emotions of her subjects, while commenting in her own quiet way on the society and culture that encircle her.

Her art, she says, is her voice that helps bring out the emotions of her subjects. "I am not involved in politics, thus my voice might not be heard by many," she says, "But I try to portray the issues I am deeply concerned about and things that disturb me through my paintings. Each stroke presents my words, my speech."

Apart from being an artist and running her own art blog called Liza's Brushes, Liza Hasan is the marketing director of HMBR Tools and Chemicals Ltd. She is also the mother of a beautiful toddler.

A tour into Liza's world of water color paintings will leave you stunned, as you realise that one's passion doesn't necessarily need to be decided by their academic pursuit. Liza is a marketing major with no academic training in art, and yet her incredible artwork betrays her lack of experience in the field.

They say watercolour is a difficult medium to work with, as there is no second chance in it. Despite the lack of formal training, Liza decided to pursue this art form, and her work is proof of her expertise in this medium. Liza's artworks are a visual delight. There is no hesitation in the way she uses colours, in fact, she has a spontaneous, ceaseless way with them. "Patience is the keyword for me. You need to play with the paints. The way these colours respond to the cartridge is magical; it is not a medium that you manipulate all by yourself, the paint on the dry and wet surface do their own magic- that is the beauty of watercolour."

A mostly self-taught artist, 32-year-old Liza's journey with art was an interesting one. "I was never a good student when I was in school. But I started painting when I was 13, under the supervision of artist Saiful Islam," she says. As a teacher, Saiful Islam played an important role in shaping Liza's interest in art, boosting her confidence in her abilities. Being the youngest student in his class, he would always take pride in this particular student's skills and show her work to every new student. Like many other people who take art as a hobby in their childhood and never think of becoming an artist in their professional life, Liza fell into a similar



cycle, as she left art to get her Bachelors and Masters in Marketing.

"I did not know what I wanted to do with my life until 2010 when I finally decided to take up art seriously. Only then did I realise that I wanted to do this all my life," she says. Since then, her work has been featured in a number of international platforms- Huffington post, Bored Panda, Culture and Lifestyle, and Talenthouse are just a few media portals that highlighted her work.

She has also recently unraveled another talent – that of a successful organiser. As one of the initiators, she has helped set up an amazing platform called Milkshake



Collective that promises to bring together different types of artists – painters, illustrators, graphic designers, pop artistes, photographers, architects and many others under the same umbrella. "As a part of that, we recently had a three day event that



STAR PEOPLE |

Liza Hasan

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

form, style and quantity the artist wanted to present in." says Liza, excitement evident in her eyes. The first of its kind in Dhaka, the show was a huge success.

Being a mother influences different aspects of Liza's art. "I try to touch upon social issues, such as the concerns of children trapped in refugee crises around the world, or the perils of child abuse in Bangladesh. For me, borders don't matter; a child from any part of the world is similar to my own child."

Liza dreams of taking the contemporary art scene to the next level. The platform that she, along with her artist friends, initiated in Bangladesh's art scene has the potential to thrive and grow into a global entity if proper attention is given.

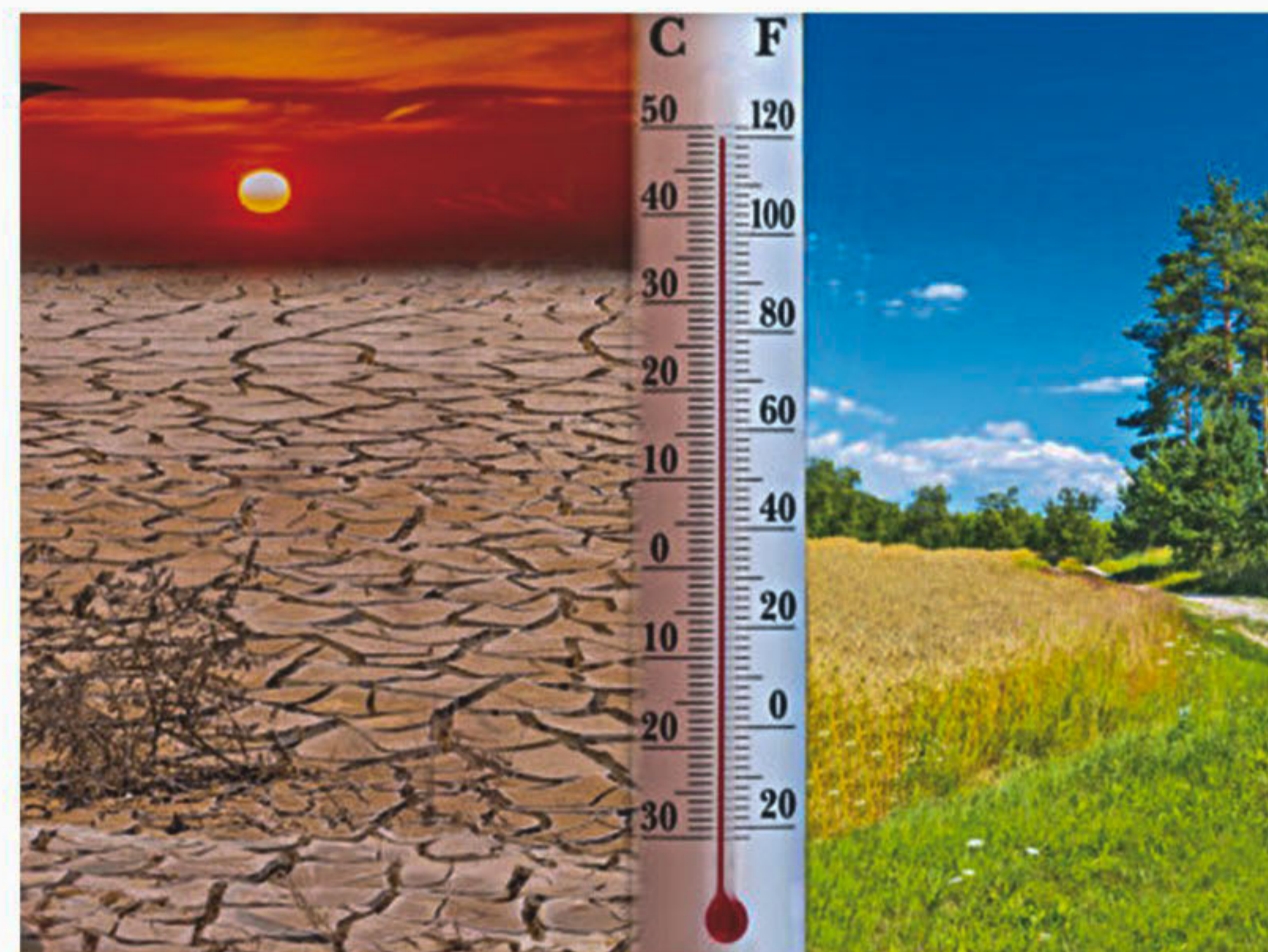
As we bid goodbye, Liza concludes by saying that if given the opportunity, the art world of Bangladesh can be given the boost that it so desperately needs. "Our local art scene is evolving and all our talented artists have incorporated different mediums, styles and approaches here. I think these artistes should be nurtured to reach their full potential. A platform like Milkshake Collective will prime the pump for our contemporary art world." ■

attempted to showcase the individuality of each of these artists. We believe in artistic freedom, so we did not have any set rules and regulations imposed on these artists, neither did we go to any sponsor to fund this show. We welcomed art in whichever

QUIRKY SCIENCE |

FINAL KYOTO ANALYSIS SHOWS 100% COMPLIANCE

All 36 countries that committed to the Kyoto Protocol on climate change complied with their emission targets, according to a scientific study released today. In addition, the Kyoto process and climate-related policies, represented a low cost for the countries involved – up to 0.1 percent of GDP for the European Union and an even lower fraction of Japan's GDP. This is around one quarter to one tenth of what experts had estimated after the agreement was reached in 1997, for delivering the targets set 15 years ahead. The US never ratified the Treaty and Canada withdrew, but all the rest continued and Kyoto came into force in 2005.



The results, reported in the Climate Policy journal, are the first published results to use the final data for national GHG emissions and exchanges in carbon units which only became available at the end of 2015. They show that overall, the countries who signed up to the Kyoto Protocol surpassed their commitment by 2.4 GtCO₂e yr⁻¹ (giga-tonnes of CO₂ equivalent per year).

"There is often skepticism about the importance of international law, and many critics claim that the Kyoto Protocol failed. The fact that countries have fully complied is highly significant, and it helps to raise expectations for full adherence to the Paris Agreement," said Prof. Michael Grubb, Editor-in-Chief of the Climate Policy journal and co-founder of research network Climate Strategies.



FISH OF THE FUTURE

A 3-inch monogamous hermaphrodite proves the saying "there's plenty more fish in the sea" isn't always the case.

For the tiny fish found in the coral reefs off Panama, a lifelong relationship with its partner doesn't come without some give and take. In fact, the faithful pair owe their evolutionary success to trading male and female roles: According to an April 2016 University of Florida study in the journal of Behavioral Ecology, the fish switch genders at least 20 times each day.

This reproductive strategy allows individuals to fertilise about as many eggs as they produce, giving the neon-blue fish a reproductive edge. Its mating habits may, at first, seem complex and unusual, but UF scientist

Mary Hart said the loyal chalk bass offers humans in relationships this simple wisdom: You get what you give.

"Our study indicates that animals in long-term partnerships are paying attention to whether their partner is contributing to the relationship fairly – something many humans may identify with from their own long-term relationships," said Hart, lead author and an adjunct professor in UF's biology department.

In fact, the duo motivates one another to contribute eggs to the relationship because if one partner lacks eggs, the other will simply match whatever it produces. The only way for a partner to convince its mate to produce more eggs, is to pick up the slack and generate more itself, Hart said.

Source: Sciencedaily.com

PEARLS OF WISDOM

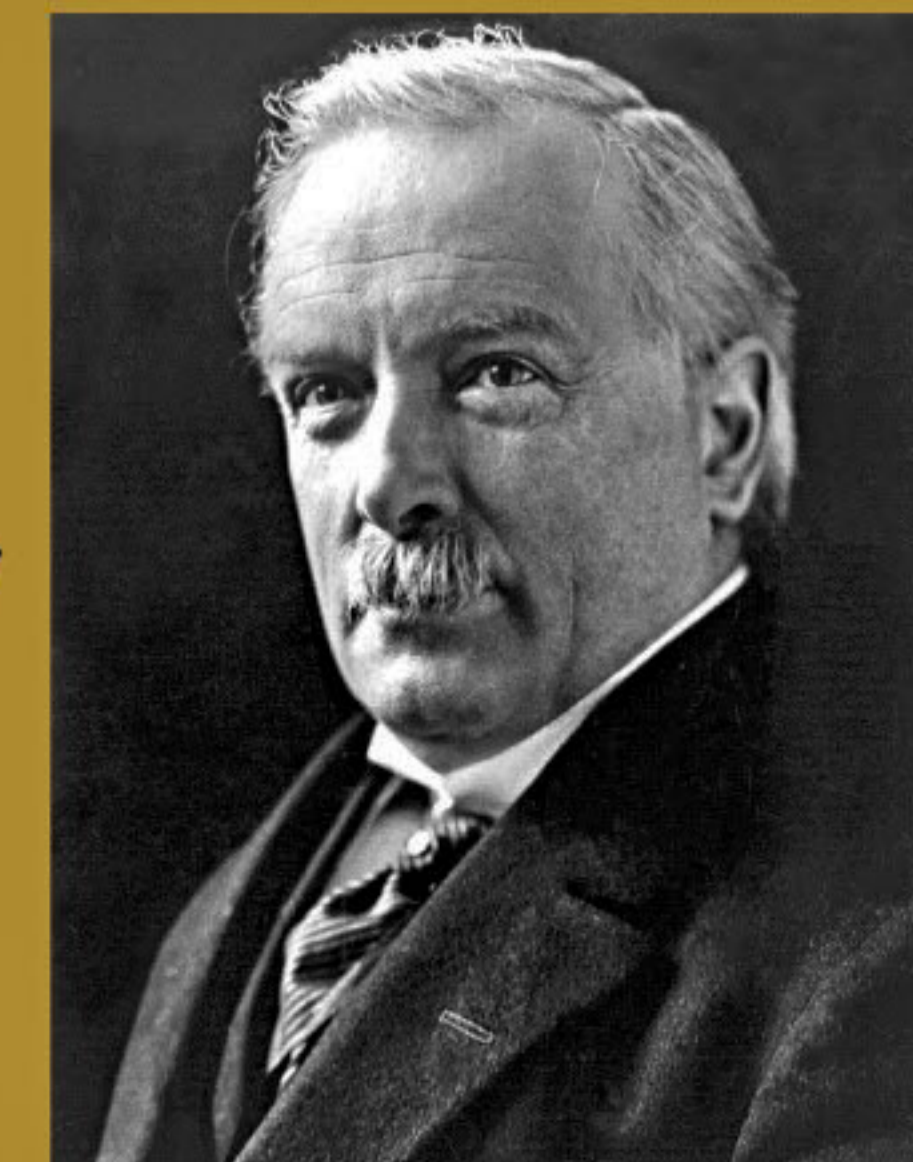


"IF YOU CAN'T FEED A HUNDRED PEOPLE, THEN FEED JUST ONE."

MOTHER TERESA
Roman Catholic religious sister and missionary

"YOU CANNOT FEED THE HUNGRY ON STATISTICS."

DAVID LLOYD GEORGE
British Liberal politician and statesman



"WHO FEEDS A HUNGRY ANIMAL, FEEDS HIS OWN SOUL."

CHARLIE CHAPLIN
English comic actor, filmmaker, and composer

