

Diverse artworks by Abdur Razzaque at Gallery Chitrak

ZAHANGIR ALOM

With the title "Artist Abdur Razzaque", a solo art exhibition is on at Gallery Chitrak in the capital's Dhanmondi. The exhibition showcases around 120 artworks including some rare ones by late eminent artist Abdur Razzaque.

Abdur Razzaque, one of the greatest sculptors of our country, founded the Department of Sculpture at the then Dhaka Art College (now Faculty of Fine Art) University of Dhaka. As a versatile artist Abdur Razzaque was not only adept in the media of sculpture; printmaking and painting were among his favourite media of expressions. He had shown outstanding evidence in both creativity and skill in every art form.

Passionate and introverted, Abdur Razzaque, shied away from a society preoccupied with acquiring fame, wealth and power. In his long and chequered life, Razzaque gradually transformed himself into an



abstract expressionist painter. His works were form and colour-oriented and nature was a recurring leitmotif in his works. His water colours exude serenity and tranquillity which was one of the hallmarks of his works. He always enjoyed creating new forms and shapes that represented unfamiliar and unconventional elements. This avant-garde painter had associated with the modern art movement in Bangladesh from its very early days.

The themes of the displayed works are also diverse. The artworks portray urban and rural landscapes, human faces, simple village life, beauty of women, rivers, trees and others.

Razzaque was a cosmopolitan artist who travelled to many countries. He went to the United States with a Fulbright Scholarship in 1955 for post-graduate education at the Iowa State University.

A number of displayed paintings depict foreign countries and foreigners. The images of different European cities including Istanbul, Turkey and Bennington, USA have also been depicted in several displayed works. A displayed watercolour titled "Philip Thompson" shows a man reading a book.

A number of woodcut and etching prints are also on display at the show. One of the prints titled "Village" shows a calm and quiet

village with foliage and huts.

Etching including "Kheya Ghat-1 and 2" and "Boat Race" shows the eternal imagery of Bangladesh. A pastel work at the show titled "Mirpur" shows boats plying in the water body of the Mirpur Beri Bandh area in the capital.

The exhibition also features pen and ink portraits of cattle, men and women and others. A self-portrait of the artist (pencil sketch on paper), has also been displayed at the show. Inaugurated by cultural affairs minister Asaduzzaman Noor as chief guest on October 31, the exhibition will remain open from 11am to 8pm daily till November 15.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

Mim goes for a spin on her birthday

SHAH ALAM SHAZI

National Film Award winning actress Bidya Sinha Mim usually has her hands full with one movie venture or another. However, the much in demand actress has kept her schedule free today to celebrate her birthday, with her family.

The day took off to a splendid start for the actress, when her parents unveiled a brand new, pearl-coloured car for their daughter. The colour happens to be Mim's favourite. "My parents have lovingly showered me with many presents over the years, and this time they got me a beautiful car. This was a wonderful surprise," she said.

For the remainder of the day, the actress plans to take her parents and sister out for a spin in town in the new car.

The actress also revealed that despite the attention and presents, she yearns for earlier birthday before she took the plunge into showbiz. Her father had been a professor at a government college, and the family was usually on the move around the country. Mim had spent part of her life in Bhola and Comilla, celebrating birthdays along the way. Friends always turned up on her big day, taking part in the merriment. Having lost touch with them over the years, Mim misses her friends dearly today. "Childhood birthdays were spent quite differently, and each celebration was different from the other. It was always fun," she said.

With such a large fan following, Mim's birthdays are never forgotten by her admirers. A few years ago the actress received a large flower bouquet signed -- "Your Fan". On her next birthday she received a large cake from another anonymous fan.

The actress shared that what makes her feel most special, is the plethora of wishes that come her way. "So many people that I know, and don't, come forward to extend birthday greetings; it is truly what I look forward to the most," she said. In the same vein, the actress said that her birthday hopes rest only on the love of the audience.

Sazu Khadem in on BPL action

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

With Bangladesh Premier League (BPL) T20 cricket league being held in the country at the moment, TV channels are coming forward with innovative ideas based on the sport. One such programme sees actor Sazu Khadem hosting a special live programme on Gazi TV titled "Cricket Tokko". The programme will continue till the end of the cricket bonanza.

In each programme Sazu will masquerade as popular personalities on the small and big screen such as Nawab Sirajuddowla, ATM Shamsuzzaman, Humayun Faridee, Omar Sani and Shakib Khan, and have drawn the attention of the audience through his act.

In one of the episodes, Sazu Khadem will appear as the popular character Baker bhai. "The character is well admired and I am enjoying impersonating him on the show," he says. Then again he put an impressive act, geared as Dev Das in one of the programmes.

A concept developed by a few people, the programme is fast gaining popularity. Besides, Sazu will soon fly off to Thailand to shoot for a new TV serial.



Jennifer Aniston-Reese Witherspoon TV drama ordered

Apple enters the scripted series market

Apple has lifted the veil on its first scripted series efforts: a drama set in the world of a network morning show, and a revival of anthology "Amazing Stories" shepherded by Steven Spielberg and Bryan Fuller.

The straight-to-series orders for both projects are the first fruits of the effort to rev up Apple Video's entry into the premium TV arena. The tech giant recruited former Sony Pictures TV presidents Jamie Erlicht and Zack Van Amburg in June to head the production push, which aims to target a global audience.

One big question surrounding Apple's video effort is the distribution plan. It's unclear if Apple will make the shows available by iTunes or another platform, and whether access will be based on a subscription or advertising-based model.

The untitled Aniston-Witherspoon drama hails from Michael Ellenbergs's Media Res studio, Aniston's Echo Films and Witherspoon's Hello Sunshine banner. The stary project was highly sought after by a number of

outlets and landed a two-season order (10 episodes per season) from Apple.

The series is based on an idea from Ellenberg and will draw background material from CNN senior media correspondent Brian Stelter's 2013 book "Top of the Morning", which recounted the recent rivalry between NBC's "Today" and ABC's "Good Morning America". Jay Carson ("House of Cards") is writing the pilot and will serve as showrunner.

"Amazing Stories" hails from Universal Television and Amblin Television. Spielberg, Fuller, Amblin's Darryl Frank and Justin Falvey and "Bones" creator Hart Hanson are exec producers. Spielberg spear-headed an earlier edition of "Amazing Stories" that ran from 1985 to 1987 on NBC.

The Apple iteration aims to enlist notable filmmakers and creative talent for each episode.

Source: **Variety**

WHAT'S ON



Solo Art Exhibition
Artist: Abdur Razzaque
Venue: Gallery Chitrak, H-4, Rd-6, Dhanmondi
Date: Oct 31-Nov 15
Time: 10am-8pm

Group Art Exhibition

Title: A Delightful Journey by Art Stories
Venue: La Galerie, AFD, Dhanmondi
Date: Nov 3-10
Time: 3-9pm (Mon-Thurs) and 9am-12noon & 5-8pm (Fri-Sat)



Dhaka International Folk Fest
Organiser: Sun Communications
Venue: Army Stadium
Date: November 9-11
Time: 6pm onwards

Solo Art Exhibition

Hamiduzzaman Khan
Retrospective (1964-2017)
Venue: Nalinikanta Bhattacharya Gallery, Bangladesh National Museum
Date: Oct 27-Nov 10
Time: 9:30am-5:30pm



Historical Theatre Fest
Organiser: Universal Theatre
Venue: National Theatre Hall, BSA
Date: Nov 4-10
Time: 7pm

Group Print Exhibition

Title: Nature Quest
Venue: Gallery Cosmos, H-115, L-6, New DOHS, Mohakhali
Date: Nov 10-23
Time: 11am-8pm



Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Jungle of Humanity by Mahbub Zamil Shamim
Venue: Gallery-2, (2nd floor), National Art Gallery, BSA
Date: Nov 10-24
Time: 11am-8pm

NEWS bytes

HARRY POTTER

mobile AR game coming in '18

"Harry Potter: Wizards Unite" is the next augmented reality (AR) game coming from Pokemon Go developer Niantic, Warner Bros. and Niantic announced this afternoon. The game is expected to launch sometime next year.

The game will be co-developed by Niantic and Warner Bros. Interactive Entertainment under the Portkey Games Label. Warner Bros. Interactive Entertainment's Portkey Games is a new games label dedicated to creating video game and mobile experiences inspired by JK Rowling's Wizarding World, according to the press release.

The game will have players exploring real-world neighborhoods and cities across the globe, go on adventures, learn and cast spells, discover mysterious artifacts, and encounter legendary beasts and iconic characters, according to the press release.

The new game, Niantic CEO John Hanke says, will give "players that have been dreaming of becoming real life Wizards will finally get the chance to experience JK Rowling's Wizarding World."

Source: **Rolling Stone**

