

WHAT'S ON

Solo Art Exhibition
 Title: Dawn of Black
 Venue: Edge Gallery, Gulshan 2
 Date: April 27 – May 18
 Time: 10 am – 8 pm

Solo Art Exhibition
 Title: Antobihin Poth by Parveen
 Venue: Gallery Chitrak, Dhanmondi
 Date: April 19 – 29
 Time: 10 am – 8 pm

Art Exhibition
 Title: The Work of Creation – Kazi Ghayasuddin
 Venue: Bengal Shilpalay, Dhanmondi
 Date: April 5 – May 18
 Time: 12 pm – 8 pm

Art Exhibition and Workshop
 Title: Art for the soul: Summer splash
 Venue: The create space, Baridhara
 Date: May 3; Time: 12 pm – 6 pm

Fountain Exhibition
 Title: Duets in Metal and Water
 Venue: Gulshan Society Lake Park
 Date: April 20 – May 4
 Time: 10 am – 7:30 pm



PHOTO: SHANTO LAWRENCE COSTA

DIGONTO

An exhibition by three women

MADIHA ATHAR KHAN

Digonto, a group exhibition by three women, concluded recently at Drik Gallery. The three artists, Enakshi Saha Ray, Habiba Ashraf and Ishrat Parveen Leena have been students of Nondon Art School for several years. Under the guidance of Shwapan Chowdhury they have been motivated to explore their own styles and put together a body of work to be displayed at this exhibition.

For Enakshi and Leena, this is their first ever exhibition. Today, they feel that they have the confidence to pursue art more professionally, as a career. They also said that putting together the works for this exhibition has helped them to identify their personal styles and has given them ideas of how to break out of the influence of their art class alone.

As children, all three women loved drawing and painting. But as years passed on, other responsibilities took centre stage in their lives which is a very common case. Yet

these individuals' stories are set apart by the comeback they have been able to establish even after finding themselves in unrelated fields or immersed in household and family duties. They pursued art as a hobby but their dedication to the craft has allowed them to reach a stage that they can be proud of.

Enakshi and Habiba joined Nondon while admitting their daughters to the art school. Instead of waiting out the whole class period, Habiba was inspired to draw on her childhood memories of her love-affair with art and started to learn the skills and techniques from scratch. She feels that there are many women who are in the same phase of life that she was in. They end up spending a lot of time waiting, whether it is for their husbands at home or for their children at schools. Habiba hopes that through her personal journey and artworks, other women will be encouraged to form groups and specialise on a craft. She feels that through the practice of the arts, many of the societal negatives can be gotten rid of.

Even children may be prompted to follow suit and resist other toxic temptations prevalent in our communities.

The artworks displayed featured a variety of mediums, textures and styles. They used pen sketches, watercolour, acrylic and also assemblages. It was apparent that even though these work the outputs of a class curriculum, their teacher facilitated the expansion of their imaginations. Leena said that her comfort zone lies in realism but she portrayed a deft ability to incorporate surreal, impressionistic and surreal styles as well in her artworks. Many of the artworks were done in similar subjects or media, yet each artist has matured enough to reflect their individuality through the pieces.

Each day at the end of the exhibition, a music circle was arranged. The exhibition was inaugurated on April 19 by the former Minister of Cultural Affairs, Asaduzzaman Noor, MP. Prominent artist Monirul Islam was also present.

A hero in dance

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Renowned dance artiste and dance director, Anisul Islam Hero has an extremely tight schedule ahead, after recently coming back from a dance tour abroad. Ahead of the International Dance Day on April 29, the artiste talks to *The Daily Star* about his recent endeavours, projects and more.

How do you view the concept of an International Dance Day?
 I think this is a very important day for not only dancers, but everyone in the cultural arena. It is a festive day for the ones who consider dance to be their love, passion and livelihood. When I was in the committee for Bangladesh Dance Artistes' Association, we organised a seven-day festival at Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy.

What are your plans this year regarding this day?
 I have shot for programmes on ATN Bangla and BTv, as well as a talk show

on Gazi TV. Dance is everything to me, and I'll spend International Dance Day doing what I love.

What are your views on dance, as a means of communication and conveying emotions?
 That is an excellent question. There are countless languages being spoken in countries worldwide, but dance has only one language. A person can't understand all languages, but he or she will understand the language of dance, as it is a universal language. This is why every country, regardless of the culture it harbours, loves dance.

What are your plans in the future regarding dance?
 I will soon travel to Kolkata to receive an award. As I am the president of the World Dance Alliance, Bangladesh Chapter, I am looking forward to its AGM in November. More than 500 dance artistes from all over the world will be present there. We are busy in preparation for now, as we want to make it a grand event.



PHOTO: COURTESY



PHOTO: MONONMUNTAKA

Kanai Chakraborty's book launched

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

A book by theatre activist Kanai Chakraborty titled, *Anander Mukti Chai O Anyanya Natok*, was launched at a programme held at the Experimental Theatre Hall of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy recently.

Information minister Hasan Mahmud was present as the chief guest while founding member of Mohakal Natya Sampraday, Afzal Hossain, information ministry secretary Abdul Malek, Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha managing director Abul Kalam Azad and Sammilita Sangskritik Jote president Golam Quddus were present as special guests at the event which was organised by Mohakal Natya Sampraday.

Anander Mukti Chai O Anyanya Natok includes six plays.

Thespian Ataur Rahman, poet Asad Mannan, Professor Dr Ratan Siddiqi and others spoke at the event.

Following the discussion, artistes of Mahakal Natya Sampraday staged a musical titled, *Jokhon Amar Pitar Naam Sheikh Mujibur Rahman*.

AVENGERS ENDGAME

QUIZ CONTEST

The Daily Star | STAR Cineplex

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Email your answer to starquiz@outlook.com by 4.00 pm today with your name, DOB, mobile number and address. The winners of the quiz will be announced tomorrow in this newspaper and through email.

Winners are requested to follow the instructions given in email

QUIZ - 01

Who are the remaining Avengers?

The Bijouterie Collection

Hazoorilal
 BY SANDEEP NARANG

SINCE 1952

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