



(From left) Mohammad Iqbal, Asaduzzaman Noor, MP, with guests at the exhibition.

PHOTOS: COURTESY

Mohammad Iqbal's solo exhibition in Japan

ZAHANGIR ALOM

Renowned artist Mohammad Iqbal's 44th solo exhibition is underway at Gallery APA, Nagoya, Japan. The show was inaugurated on August 24, and will run till September 1. Eminent actor, elocutionist and cultural personality Asaduzzaman Noor, MP, attended the inaugural ceremony of the exhibition as an honourable guest.

Dr Mohammad Iqbal, an Associate Professor at the Department of Drawing and Painting, Faculty of Fine Art, University of Dhaka, is a contemporary painter. His canvases feature various enigmatic and shadowy faces. The backgrounds of most of his compositions contain abstract forms, soothing colours and mellow tones and textures.

For the ongoing show, the artist is exhibiting around 28 oil paintings, representing feminine visages along with portrayals of the skies and hills. Shattered dreams, desires, and the deprivation of children, especially girls, are recurrent themes in some of his works. The eyes of the children, portrayed by Iqbal, speak of their suffering and the society's maltreatments and unjust attitudes towards them.

According to the artist, children are the worst victims of wars. In his paintings, he brings out children's emotional eyes, that express the longing for better days to come. "I haven't always maintained one particular method, style, or technique. I like to articulate



the process of thinking, and then incorporate emotions and personal experiences in my works," he explains. During the exhibition, he attracted the audience by doing live paintings.

Iqbal's oil paintings are famous for featuring eight to ten layers of colours. He puts them on empty spaces of the canvas to denote the imaginary icon of the non-visual agents that cause environmental pollution.

Iqbal is a MONBUSHO Scholar. He has a PhD in Oil Painting from the Tokyo National University of the Arts and Music, Japan. His paintings have been exhibited in many renowned galleries of Japan and Bangladesh. In 1993, he was a post-graduate student at

the Faculty of Fine Art, University of Dhaka. That year, he participated in the Osaka International Triennial and won a prestigious award. He received a scholarship in Japan during his visit.

"Japanese art is known for its soft colours, minimal expressions and meticulous lines and forms. The country's serene environment has hugely influenced many painters' works over centuries," said Iqbal. "Japanese painters' works are frequently done in subtle tones and carefully chosen textures. They always search for perfection. Their works are more technique-based and demonstrate a sense of artistry."

KHURSHID ALAM accomplishes 50 years in playback

MINAM HAQ

Born in 1946, Khurshid Alam is one of the most prominent artistes to have ever graced the Bangladeshi music industry. His melodious prowess began to win the hearts of the masses from the early sixties.

"First of all, I want to thank the Almighty for blessing me as an artiste," mentioned Khurshid Alam. "I would also like to express my gratitude towards all those who were involved and made an impact on my journey - all those in the industry, and all my devoted fans. I wish to give my very best, till my last breath."

To celebrate Khurshid Alam's musical milestone, Channel i organised a TV show titled, *Samoyiki* which will be hosted by renowned journalist, Abdur Rahman, and is scheduled to air today at 6:25 pm. In the programme, Khurshid Alam will share many memorable moments from his musical career.

He made his debut as a playback singer on August 1, 1969, in the film *Agontuk*, with the song, *Bondi Pakhir Moto*. Azad Rahman was the music director, while Dr Sajedur Rahman penned the lyrics. Ever since, Khurshid Alam has been entertaining music aficionados with his songs. He has voiced over 500 songs, mostly for films, throughout his illustrious career and is optimistic to continue honing his craft. *Chupi Chupi Bolo Keu Jeney Jabe*, *Chumki Choleche Eka Pothe* and *Jodi Bou Shajo Go*, are amongst some of the evergreen classics voiced by the eminent artiste.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED



Two thrilling films at Star Cineplex today

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Dora and the Lost City of Gold is an American adventure comedy film directed by James Bobin. It is a live-action adaptation and continuation of Nickelodeon and Nick Jr's television series, *Dora the Explorer*. It stars Isabela Moner as the title character, with Eugenio Derbez, Michael Peña, Eva Longoria, and Danny Trejo in supporting roles. On the other hand, *Angel Has Fallen* is an American action thriller film directed by Ric Roman Waugh. It is the third installment in the *Fallen* film series, following *Olympus Has Fallen* (2013) and *London Has Fallen* (2016). The film stars Gerard Butler, Morgan Freeman, Jada Pinkett Smith, Lance Reddick, Tim Blake Nelson, Piper Perabo, Nick Nolte, and Danny Huston. The plot follows United States Secret Service agent Mike Banning, who must race against time to clear his name after being framed for an attack on the US President, Allan Trumbull. The two films are set to release at Star Cineplex today.



Konal playbacks for Sunny Leone

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Talented Bangladeshi singer Konal has given voice to a song that will be enacted by Bollywood superstar Sunny Leone. *Sunny Sunny*, a party song for the film *Bikhhobh* by

Shamim Ahmed Rony, will feature Sunny Leone in the music video. The high-profile song has been composed by Akassh Sen. "I am very happy to lend my voice to Sunny Leone, as she is a huge star in both Bollywood and in the West," says Konal.

"This, again, proves that music has no language or nationality."

The singer hopes that the audience will like the song, and has asked for earnest blessings from them for her future endeavours.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED



PHOTO: COLLECTED

TV WATCH

Written and directed by Zeenat Hakim, the telefiction 'Gaang Mainee' will air today at 9:30 pm on Channel 9. Renowned actors Azizul Hakim, Sarika, Golam Farida Chanda, along with various other indigenous artistes will feature in *Gaang Mainee*. Produced by Roots Audio Visual, the shooting took place across multiple scenic locations in Rangamati.



PHOTO: COURTESY