

Understanding Event through Event Reports

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Abstract

Since my childhood, I preferred reading reviews of movies, books, different types of features and cultural events. That is why I chose to do my internship in the popular supplements of The New Age i.e. “Life” and “Trends”. During my internship, I had to write some reports on events, which were held for the first time in Bangladesh. Instead of avoiding them, I wrote them so that my reports could be helpful for the audiences who like to read the news of different events. As some of the events were held for the first time, I decided to compare these events to other events so that their similarities and dissimilarities could help those audiences to understand the significance of these events.

Introduction

During my internship in the prominent daily English newspaper, of Bangladesh, The New Age, I wrote quite a few reports on various events, exhibitions and fairs. I also wrote reports on a fashion journalism workshop and a drama show. My write-ups were published in two supplements of the newspaper called “Life” and “Trends”.

“Life” is published every Thursday and news of exhibitions, events, drama shows and one specific cover story comprise different issues. It has a segment named “Sketches”, which is about one or more than one individual’s life style, works and accomplishment. Many of my reports were published in this section.

Similarly, the first page of “Trends” generally covers the interview of a famous person. This segment is called “Up Close and Personal” and this segment includes the popular icon’s personal information, his/her views on life and his/her upcoming works. “Trends” comes out every Tuesday and it is a very different magazine from “Life”; both in their content and approach. “Life” often covers events related to arts and crafts, book launch ceremonies, whereas “Trends” is all about fashion trends, fairs and cultural events.

The cover stories of the respective magazines are also based on different themes. All of my reports on art exhibitions, drama shows, and photo exhibitions were published in “Life”. All my reports on trade fairs, tourism fairs, cultural events and summits were published in “Trends”.

Applying My Academic Knowledge to My Internship

Before my internship I completed a number of media courses like 'Editing', 'Copywriting', 'English for the Print Media', 'Translation Studies', 'Cultural Studies' and 'Globalization and the Media'. Among these courses, 'English for the Print Media', 'Editing' and 'Translation Studies' helped a lot when I was writing the reports for "Life" or "Trends". For example, in 'Editing' and '*English for the Print Media*', I learned how to use the 'lead' while writing any report. The 'lead' actually refers to five Ws and one H which are who, what, when, where, why and how. Wynford Hick's wrote in his book, *Writing for Journalists*,

Kipling's six questions- who, what, how, where, when, why- are a useful checklist for new stories, and it's certainly possible to write an intro that includes them all. . This is facetiously called the clothesline intro-because you can hang everything on it (Wynford 15).

When I was doing my reports on exhibitions or other events, I had to use five Ws for a perfect intro for each of my reports. Often I had to use- what, who, where when and I did not use how in my reports. As all of my reports based on persons or a event so I found what, who, where, when quite useful for the intro, so I do not have to use how or why in my most of the reports. Here is one example that I used in my US trade fair's report which was published in Trends:

The 21st U.S Trade Show 2012 was held in Hotel Ruposhi Bangla, Dhaka from 16 to 18 February, 2012. Both American Chamber of Commerce and the US Embassy in Bangladesh were co-sponsoring the 21st US trade show. Then I used the 'Inverted Pyramid' style of news reporting in some of my reports while working with The New Age magazines.

Wynford in *Writing for Journalists* stated that,

The purpose of the pyramid is to show that the points in a news story are made in descending order of importance. News is written so that readers can stop reading when they have satisfied their curiosity-without worrying that something important is being held back. To put it another way, news is written so that sub-editors can cut stories from the bottom up-again, without losing something important.

'Inverted Pyramid' means that the vital information comes at the top, the less important information comes at the middle, and the least essential information comes at the bottom of a news article. However, the beauty of the news report is in keeping it short while providing all the relevant information with as less details as possible. Zinsser puts it nicely in *On Writing Well: The Classic Guide to Writing NonFiction* as, "But keep your notebook out of sight until you need it".

During my internship, I met many people, some of them were very keen for an interview and some of them seemed a bit awkward when I interviewed them. When I went to the venues of trade shows or exhibition, I took my notebook and pen for note down the information. When I asked them questions straightaway, the representatives did not react negatively and they answered all my questions calmly. During interviews, I always kept Zinsser's words in mind: "Make a list of likely questions- it will save your vast embarrassment of going dry in mid- interview".

Whenever I visited the exhibitions, I made up some questions so that I could do my works easily. Most of the artists including new artists were quite professional so no awkward things had happened when I met them. I always kept in my mind that my questions do not make them uncomfortable and they remain relevant in my reports. When I met artist Sigma Haque I asked questions about her education, exclusive works in this exhibition, what kind of media she used and whose work inspired her much etc.

Before I took her interview, I visited her exhibition twice and talked about her works and hobbies that during interviewing session she could answer my questions comfortably. That is why how I took interviews of artists so that I could gather information about exhibitions.

The course on translation studies helped me too, when I was writing my report on the premier show of Shakespeare's *The Tempest*. This drama was performed by Dhaka Theatre at the National Theater Hall of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy. I was quite surprised that how translator of this drama, Rubayet Ahemd translated Shakespearean drama into Bangla language amazingly. I read *A Handbook of Translation Studies* by Bijoy Kumar Das and I found certain problems of dramatic texts. Writing this report, I was reminded of Das quoting Anne Ubersfeld, "The task of the director, therefore, to 'translate into another language' a text of which he has a prime duty to remain 'faithful'".

Nasiruddin Yousuff acknowledged that directing a Shakespearean play was quite difficult for him. The theme, performance, dialogues of a Shakespearean play is unique. That is why translating a Shakespearean drama into a something new that represents Bangladesh towards foreign audience. However, director Yousuff determined that they would stage *The Tempest* in Bangla language and this drama would represent Bangladesh in the 'Globe to Globe' festival. This experience resonates Das's point from his book *A Handbook of Translation Studies*, as, the dialogues, performance, including stage-craft create problems for the translator. The colloquial and conversational language, intonation and accent including dialogue-delivery make the translation of dramatic texts difficult.

The uniqueness of Shakespearean drama caused lots of problem for Yousuff and Ahmed, that is why it comes challenge for both of them. Yousuff combined traditional dramatic form of 'Nobbopachali' and Manipuri dance style so that audience could find essence of Bengali culture through dances, songs, dialogues and music.

However, Yousuff did not change the climax, characterization, storyline but costumes, choreography reminded the audience that it is a Bangla drama. Instead of script, Yousuff emphasized change of performance which means the story will follow the original styles of Shakespeare but the actors will follow the traditional Bengali drama style in the case of performance.

According to Shakespeare's *The Tempest*, Miranda and Ferdinand got married but in Yousuff's 'Tempest', the marriage scene looked like a traditional marriage scene of Bangladesh. By changing the style of performance, Yousuff preserved the naturalness of Shakespearean drama in his 'Tempest' and ensured that foreignness of Shakespearean drama would be minimized as it will represent Bangladesh in front of people from different culture. When I wrote report on Yousuff's play 'Tempest' I had to mention what parts of this drama represent the essence of Bengali in my report. I point out these elements because of my *Translation Studies* course. On top of that, I had to translate some information that I gathered from different people during my internship.

Person Profile vs. Event Reports

Some may confuse the reports I wrote on different events with person profiles as I often interviewed many people and wrote about them in my reports. However, these interviews and background information on these people were a part of my report, not the whole of it. So, I would like to clarify how the reports I wrote cannot be called person profiles.

Generally, a written profile on a person is like a non-fiction, semi-biographical feature on a person, who could be a well-known artist, politician, musician or celebrity. Person profiles only cover those people, whose recent achievements are newsworthy. Such profiles are often featured in magazines and newspapers. However, the reports I wrote on different people at different occasions were not person profiles.

While writing reports on art exhibitions, I felt the necessity to include the background of the artists in my feature. To highlight the whole exhibition, it is important to include some academic or personal achievements of the artists in their event reports so that the readers understand how qualified that person is or what the specialties of that artist are and become interested in visiting his/her exhibition.

Thus again when I wrote about the works of an artist, I had to give some information about the artist him/herself. For example, topics like how these artists got inspired to do these works, if these works give any message to the viewers or not and if these works reflect any certain event or moment from the artist's life—these were the areas that I highlighted in my articles.

Sometimes in covering any event, interviewing the artist becomes necessary to gather information about the artist or the theme or any such issues related to the event. For example, when I

wrote a report on sculptor Sigma Haque's first solo sculpture exhibition, I asked her some questions about herself. Since this was Haque's first solo exhibition, I added how her father very much, who was also an artist, and had decided to become an artist herself inspired Haque. I believe that this personal detail about the artist gave depth to the report by bringing in her inspiration behind becoming an artist.

However, this does not mean that the focus of my report shifted, and had become a person profile; but had worked as a relevant piece of information regarding the event I was covering. Most of the exhibition reporters emphasize on artworks over the artists, whereas person profiles concentrate on how that prominent individual achieved something newsworthy and that individual's personal lifestyle. So, I would like to ensure that even though parts of my reports on exhibitions focused on the artist's background, they cannot be considered person profiles as the reports I wrote on art exhibitions contained less personal details and more information on the exhibitions themselves.

Comparison between Two Art Exhibitions from the reports for “Life” and “Trends”

During my internship, I found out many similarities between the nature of the events and exhibitions that I reported on in “Life” and “Trends”. I observed that the famous artist Quamrul Hassan’s art exhibition and Qayyum Chowdhury's exhibition were both organized on the occasion their birth anniversary. The exhibition of Quamrul Hassan was held on his 90th birth anniversary and the solo exhibition of Qayyum Chowdhury was held on his 81st birth anniversary.

As both of them are legendary artists, sponsors and the media try to make sure that, their exhibitions get more attention from all the people. Especially, the newspapers published the news of their exhibition with great importance and they brought out special supplements on the opening day of their exhibitions. Moreover, many newspapers published that the masterpieces would be displayed in these two exhibitions and the large number of visitors proves that the newspapers were successful in bringing many people to the exhibitions.

After the opening day of both Quamrul Hassan and Qayyum Chowdhury's exhibitions, the newspapers published the names of the media icons, political leaders and celebrities who attended the inauguration programs. It proves that the media has the power to make any event seem like a national event and it depends on the media, which people it chooses to advertise.

I also attended other exhibitions, but I never saw the media putting so much effort to make the opening events of any exhibition so successful. Especially the presence of the Finance Minister, Abul Kalam Abdul Muhith and artist Hashem Khan along with the photos in both exhibitions ensured that the media would definitely cover that news as national level news. From their contribution in language movement and the War of Liberation, their exhibition news deserved to be big news. I also observed

this approach towards Qayyum Chowdhury's exhibition report. The presence of the Finance Minister was given importance rather than the artistic creations. However, it did not happen in the case of Quamrul Hassan's exhibition, as the media gave importance to the news that some incomplete works of Quamrul Hassan would be showcased in this exhibition. According to the media, these incomplete works along with the complete works of Quamrul Hassan came from his daughter, Sumona Hassan's collection, which was never showcased in other exhibitions of this brilliant artist.

As a result, people visited this exhibition to satisfy their curiosity. In the case of Quamrul Hassan and Qayyum Chowdhury, the media provided some interesting news which grabbed the attention of the people who knew about them or were interested to know about them.

On the other hand, the organizers also put much effort to make these exhibitions successful; that's why they used billboards, newspapers, posters and banners to advertise these two exhibitions. For example, the Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts was the organizer of Qayyum Chowdhury's exhibition, which put a banner at the entrance of the gallery and the banner covers a poem by artist Qayyum Chowdhury.

Quamrul Hassan's exhibition was held at Nolinikanto Bhotoshali Auditorium within Bangladesh National Museum and visitors would find Quamrul Hassan's drawings and poems about the war criminals at the entrance of the auditorium.

“Artists have become brand names, identified with specific subjects and styles and unable to advance or change” comments Pamela Fletcher and Anne Helmreich, in their article titled, “The Periodical and the Art Market: Investigating the “Dealer Critic System” in Victorian England. In the case of artists like Quamrul Hassan and Qayyum Chowdhury, they become brand names for Bangladeshi artists for their selfless dedication for contemporary Bangla arts. However, they earned

Comparison between Two Trade Shows from the reports for “Life” and “Trends”

Among the commercial events I covered, were the 21st UK Trade Show and the Second Canada Showcase 2012, which had many similarities and a few dissimilarities. The organizers of both these events had used newspapers, posters and banners to advertise these events. The Canadian High Commissioner Heather Cruden inaugurated the Second Canada Showcase, whereas Nicolas Dean, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of the United States, Dhaka inaugurated the UK Trade Show 2012.

Both these events' news was published in “Trends” and it showed how even if these two events represented two different countries but they share some common features. Beauty products, agricultural products, agricultural supplies, banking services, consultancy services and other products were displayed in both the UK Trade Show and the Canada Showcase.

The turnout at both the UK Trade Show and the Canada Showcase was also similar. I observed a large number of visitors gathering around the stalls of educational institutions and the embassy. In case of the UK Trade Show, the stalls of educational institutions followed an effective strategy to attract the visitors. For example, Daffodil University put up a slide show to attract visitors and North South University offered shirts priced 500 taka. It seemed that their strategy worked because many young visitors visited their stalls, got the university application forms and some visitors bought the shirts as well as filled up the application forms from the stall of North South University.

Many visitors also visited the stall of the US embassy to get information about the visa procedure, higher studies in the USA and other stuff. In a similar way, many visitors in the Canada Showcase 2012 visited the stall of the Canadian International School and Daffodil University. As expected, a large number of visitors gathered around the Canadian University Application Centre for student visa applications and other academic things.

These two events varied from each other in that the Canada Showcase 2012 organized four seminars but the UK Trade Show did not organize such seminars. In the UK Trade Show, the cosmetic brand, Jordana, offered discount on their exclusive products, whereas in the Canada Showcase, the stalls of beauty products only displayed their products, as they were not for sale.

The Canada Showcase was free for everyone, but at the UK Trade Show, the entrance fee was only free for the students and not for general people, as they had to pay 20 taka to enter the show. It seemed that the organizers of the UK Trade Show targeted students, women and executives, as there were large gatherings around stalls of educational institutions, Jordana, Persona, food stalls and other corporate stalls.

On the contrary, the corporate firms, IT firms, stalls of energy plants and agricultural firms were given more importance in the Canada Showcase 2012, rather than students or women. Therefore, visitors preferred the UK Trade show 2012 over the Canada Showcase as people of Bangladesh visited those fairs which could provide them something which could be useful in their everyday life, so they could prefer something they could consume. Therefore, they found scopes for consumption in the UK Trade Show, but as the Canada Showcase was only for display, people lost their interest as they could not use things that were only for display.

Comparison between the Thai Trade Fair and SAARAC Tourism Mart

Among all the event reports I had wrote for New Age, I found out that Thai trade fair is one of the successful trade fair compare to other trade fairs on the points of promotion, marketing and other tuff.

All the fair shows had specific objectives. For example, the objective of Thai trade fair 2012 is to promote Thai product and services. The huge crowds and sell proved that Thai trade show played excellent role by selling products and services in reliable price to Bangladeshi people. Unlike Thai Trade Fair, SAARAC Trade also had specific objectives and creating friendly business among SAARAC countries is one of them. Compare to Thai trade fair, the SAARAC Tourism mart did not follow specific marketing plans but many organizations made business by participating in this SAARAC trade mart.

According to the online site of trade-show-advisor, a personalized letter is needed to introduce information about products, booth location so that potential buyers to visit the exhibition. In the case of Thai Trade show, people from business organization registered for attending Thai trade fair and that is why the organizers of Thai trade fair kept one day only for registered people not general people have allowed there. In the case of SAARAC Tourism mart, the first day was open for everyone only visitors who want to attend the seminars, they had to register for seminars. In both Thai trade fair and SAARAC Tourism mart, exhibition information was available in their websites.

The online site of trade-show-advisor thinks that marketing activities including live entertainment, hands-on activities, audio-visual programs or foods could make a successful trade show. SAARAC tourism mart is much bigger fair than Thai trade show but there were no such marketing activities in there. However, Thai trade Show Fair organized dance performance by Thai Dancers in all the remaining days of the fair and some stall also displayed Thai food. That is why no wonder Thai Trade Fair got much attention from the Bangladeshi audience than SAARAC Tourism Mart. However, both fairs, displayed foods, different products, holiday packages and other services but it is the Thai Trade Show who got the success. Even if both trade shows used colorful banners and billboards for advertisements but people, prefer Thai Trade fair most among other foreign trade shows. In addition, there was mismanagement in SAARAC Tourism Mart but the Thai Trade Fair went smoothly and well planned.

Comparison between Fashion Journalism and Fashion and Beauty Summit

My First report that published in Life was report on fashion journalism workshop. On the other and, my report on Fashion and Beauty summit was quite special for me because for the first time I attended such big event. I was excited to participate both events. This Workshop was held on from February, 3 to February, 4 and this summit was held on March, 17.

Both Fashion Journalism workshop and Fashion and Beauty summit were held for the first time in Bangladesh. In Fashion Journalism workshop, most of the participants were journalists, designers and students who were studying in fashion Designing. In Summit, the journalists, designers and students of fashion designing participated along with entrepreneurs. In both events, participants talked about fashion, designs, ways of promoting design and trends, needs of marketing and branding as well as development of our fashion industry.

Even if these two events had common features but they had some differences too. For example both events might focus on fashion industry but one difference was that participants of fashion journalism workshop viewed fashion industry from journalist's point of view where in Fashion and Beauty Summit, participants viewed fashion industry from a designer's point of view or an entrepreneur's point of view. Fashion Journalism was organized by British Council where Fashion and Beauty Summit was organized by Go Brand and ARRIVAL Marketing communication and it was held at BRAC Centre Inn, Auditorium.

In the Fashion journalism workshop, there were only two speakers and they were Rachael Oku who was the instructor and Farzana Yusuf was present there as Guest speaker on second day of workshop. In contrast, there were sixteen speakers in Fashion and Beauty summit and among them, six of them

were speakers and ten of them were guest speakers who participated in panel discussion.

Most large corporations now employ a business-driven approach to contributions as they seek to attach “value,” “strategic vision,” and “mission” to their charitable activities” (King 118).

In case of Fashion and Beauty Summit, speakers introduced strategic vision, value and mission in their speech. For example, there was a theme instead of mission which were to innovation fashion for next generation, the value was to protect our tradition and heritage and summit itself was a strategic vision for promoting the entrepreneurs from fashion industry in Bangladesh. Especially, Laser medical center, Ittadi, Persona, Gitanjali, Raffles Design Institute and Azzara got opportunity to advertise their services and products by this summit.

On the other hand, the fashion journalism was quite different case. The instructor of Fashion Journalism Workshop, freelancer blogger Rachael Oku did not came here for business purposes but throughout her presentation it seemed her mission was to promote fashion blogging to Bangladeshi participants. Her whole presentation covers the point that how fashion industry could be promoted properly by blogging.

Reasons for Organizing Such Events

“Fashion isn’t always about glamour, and while most of us usually get to see and enjoy the end product, there’s usually a lot more going on at the back in terms of planning and consumer markets”(Isaac 1). The reason for organizing such events is to educate young designers, journalists and students who wants to be entrepreneurs or simply curious about fashion business.

Furthermore, Fashion Journalism not always about fashions. In fact it is about reporting different fashion or designer events. Moreover a fashion journalist could write features about fashion shows and a report on upcoming trends. Fashion journalists could write a report that covers all aspects of fashion industry from celebrity fashion list to hot lists for the readers who love news about world of fashion. Perhaps they could write feature or report for the magazines which cover their analysis about design variation, patterns, color, and technology they used in products. Not only for global fashion trends but fashion journalists could write about new designers and unsolved problems in Bangladeshi fashion industry.

“The role of these consultants is to develop appropriate strategies and research methods to decide how and where to distribute goods and other resources and help corporation” (King). In Fashion and Beauty Summit, consultants like Design consultant, Shaibal Shaha, Design consultant of Bangal, Najib Tareque, consultant of Laser Medical Center, Dr. Jahanara Khan maintained some strategies to promote their services, elaborate their marketing strategies and brand management schemes. From the response of audience in question answer session proved that presentation of consultants were helpful for students of fashion marketing and management as well as it good response from the audience could earn good promotion of their organization . It seemed summit was a good place for them where they can advertise their services.

As this summit was not only about beauty or fashion but also about fashion business so participants who wanted to open their own brand or introduced himself/herself as next entrepreneur, they had find useful information about fashion marketing and advertising products from these consultants. After this summit, may be young participants could apply valuable tips of consultants in branding their own product, organizing promotional activities and follow some effective marketing strategies to bring profits.

Economy of Bangladesh is not in good position and at that point, fashion journalists could write out problems of Bangladeshi fashion industry and other problems that remain in fashion industry. Not only journalism but also the summit is necessary to give these young designers or entrepreneurs to be part in fashion business and innovate some new ideas to make perfect use of the participants in our industry.

Advertisement of the Fashion Journalism Workshop and Fashion and Beauty Summit

In the case of Fashion Journalism Workshop, the participants came from specific fields as most of them were came from either newspaper, magazines or from different fashion houses. Therefore, most of them came here only for their editor's order so there is no specific advertisement for promoting this workshop. Besides this workshop is not for general people so organizers do not advertise this workshop in press media. By contrast, newspapers, blogs highly advertised this Fashion and beauty summit as it was a big show for specific people such as designers, students from fashion designing or business studies. In addition, organizers used colorful billboards as part of advertising this summit.

In Fashion Journalism workshop, all participants remained busy on different assignments. For example, participants were assigned to make comparison between design of seven designers and design of three Bangladeshi designers based on field trip at main auditorium of The National Museum where the Fashion exhibition was held. Participants had to analyze technology, textiles, designs, presentation of heritage, folk art and ethnicity in that fashion exhibition. Instructor of Fashion Journalism workshop, Rachael Oku told participants to find out inspiration of artists if they have it, combination or contrast of two different types of designs and unique styles of designers. After observing all of things, participants read out their report and discussed similarities and dissimilarities in group discussion. Truly it was one funny, unforgettable memory for me and I felt lucky that I become a part of that Fashion Journalism workshop which was held for the first time in Bangladesh.

On the second day of the Fashion Journalism Workshop, Oku talked about writing features on fashion shows and she pointed out some points including using observation on fabrics, colors, combination of east and west designs, sponsors, response of spectators, interviewing choreographer or designers and look through other optional things like music, lighting as well as what makes this show

special from other fashion events. Oku also informed that entertaining languages could be used in writing reports on fashion events and finishing features by giving own opinion about fashion event.

After that, participants had to take interviews of renowned designer Farzana Yusuf and participants had to make some questions to interview her. Taking interview of fashion designers is one of the important tasks for a fashion journalist. By taking interview of designers, fashion journalists could get information about current fashion trends, what is the hot in fashion markets now and what will be the exclusive items in upcoming fashion week. That is why, networking with fashion designers is important job for fashion journalists and it is important because by doing this journalists could update news about fashion industry. As Kristi Carter said,

Fashion journalists often have great contacts inside the fashion industry from those that work closely with designers to the designer themselves. These journalists often conduct interviews with these contacts, as well as tracking the potential trends, in order to get their information.

In contrast, there were no assignments for the participants in summit. In both events, different issues had been brought up by the speakers. For example, issues about conflict between editors from fashion magazines and bloggers had been brought up in Fashion Journalism workshop. According to the instructor of this workshop Rachael Oku, fashion editors branded bloggers as 'fake' as bloggers possess no critical opinions, no integrity or respect for journalism. In media like newspapers or magazines, journalists could not give their opinion freely because they had to obey the command of editors. Even they could not raise their voice when editors gave them unethical orders. On the other hand, people can give their opinion freely in blogs. There is no authority to control any blogger's freedom of speech.

In the summit, issues like fashion marketing, responsibilities of young designers to protect handloom and upgrade the fashion standard and experimenting with designs and trends had been brought up by speakers. Then some speakers accepted the fact that our products did not have the global quality. They also criticized some fashion magazines which only covers pictures rather than valuable information about fashion industry.

Before the end of both events, there was a discussion where participants were welcomed to ask questions to speakers. Only difference was that last discussion was called group discussion in Fashion Journalism workshop where organizers of summit called the last discussion as panel discussion. In both events, last discussion was started with definition of fashion and what fashion really means to the speakers. When the discussion turned in to next level, speakers of both events started talking about different topics. For example, speakers of Fashion Journalism Workshop talked about how fashion journalists could promote positive image of fashion industry among the audience at next where speakers of the summit talked about innovation fashion industry after they talked about definition of fashion.

In addition, speakers of the summit came to the decision that designers have to think commercially and by doing that they can successfully brand their products and bring tradition into new level. They have to make sure that the products could fulfill the needs of consumers. Designers had to bring out something more challenging within limited resources. By improving themselves, they could bring revolution in Bangladeshi fashion industry.

In the workshop, Rachael Oku introduced some formal formats of blogs. However, some organizations displayed their products and services. For example, there were short fashion queue of Maria's design, Itadi fashion and Persona presented a five min beauty show. "However, rather than

witnessing conceptual pieces of sustainable fashion, the catwalk flowed with outfits that were made to impress” (Lennon 1).

The fashion queue was not only for promotional activities but also for impressing the audience so that speech of guest speakers does not bore them. All those models were women, so no wonder these promotional activities only for the amusement for the audience.

In the case of the Fashion and Beauty summit, consultant at the Laser Medical Center, Dr. Jahanara Khan (Jhumu Khan) started her discussion on ‘Anti –aging steps towards the fountain of youth’ and introduced latest services of Laser Medical Center including Dracula Therapy and Hair Restoration. Before that, Jhumu Khan talked about the reasons of aging, effect of sleep deprivation, melatonin and ways of preserving youth.

“Material Wealth is decreasingly relevant to personal happiness as the desire for ‘belonging’, ‘self-esteem’ and ‘self-realization’ becomes more important”(King 126).

Jhumu Khan started a new way of advertising beauty services. First Jhumu Khan advised audience careful about vitamin tablets, fruits and vegetables in market because seller put poisonous chemicals in the food products like fishes, fruits or vegetables. Then she gave them some common advises like drinking 7-8 glass of water, importance of early sleep and and role of vitamin E in preserving youth. When Khan talked about those stuffs, she got full attention from audience and made sounds like she is much concerned for their health. Then Jhumu Khan talked about her institution providing anti- aging services for everyone.

Limitations of the Fashion Journalism Workshop and Fashion and Beauty Summit

Both events were highly educative not to mention enjoyable but there were some limitations which raise questions about these events. For example, most of the fashion journalism workshop covered about blogging where blogging has been showed as alternative source of journalism for new media.

In the case of Bangladesh, bloggers not really considered as journalists. Instructor of Fashion Journalism workshop, Oku acknowledged that in both UK and Bangladesh, editors of old media (newspapers, magazines) will never consider fashion bloggers as journalists. Blogging and reporting in newspapers or other part of old media is different thing in Bangladesh.

In the case of the Fashion and Beauty Summit, one of the participant from audience complained that entrepreneurs from fashion organization never give chance to young designers let alone promote their designs. Instead of encouraging the works of young designers, owners of fashion house displayed designs from India and Thailand. However, guest speakers totally ignored the statement of that participant and continued the panel discussion. Most of the guest speakers and majority of participants were from Raffles Design Institute so the whole event seemed like a conference of Raffles Design Institute not a summit. Compare to this summit with fashion summit in Denmark, there were A lists quality of speakers. "Key Speakers were A-list quality, including supermodel Erin O'Connor, H&M, Prada and the United Nations and European Commissioner for climate Action" (Lennon 1). Even Her Royal Highness Crown Princess Mary of Denmark also present in Copenhagen Fashion Summit.

Therefore, it raises the question if the Fashion and Beauty Summit consisted enough guests in A list as majority of the speakers came from the Raffles Design Institute.

Despite all the limitation, participants of both events were satisfied with the arrangements and services from the organizers. Speakers and participants from both event hoped that next time there will bigger event so that more issues related to fashion industry would be addressed.

Comparison between Sigma Haque's Solo Sculpture Exhibition and Shazzad Khan's Solo Art Exhibition

According to Ben Davis, "Women artists are shockingly underrepresented in the art world" (Stein

In the case of patriarchal society like Bangladesh, some women artists successfully displayed their works and Novera Ahmed, Konok Chanpa Chakma, Nazia Andaleeb Preema and Ferdousi Iyabhashini are one of them who are considered pioneers of women artists in male dominated world art. In my case, I think sculptor Sigma Haque has a very promising future if she keeps exhibiting outstanding works to the audience. Sigma Haque showed her best performance in her first exhibition which outdone other exhibitions by male artists including Shazzad Khan and Artist Nazmul Haque whose reports I wrote for New Age. Therefore my report on Sigma Haque's exhibition 'Inheritance of Women' was published in AFD not other male artists whose reports I wrote for Life. By comparing the exhibition of Sigma Haque and Shazzad Khan I am going to show how Sigma Haque remains in good position than Shazzad Khan.

One of the similarities between Sigma Haque and Shazzad Khan is that both of their exhibitions were held at Alliance Franaise de Dhaka. Both of them completed their education in Institute of Fine Arts of Dhaka University. Both of them used different media in their exhibition.

similarities between Sigma Haque and Shazzad Khan Exhibitions:

One of the differences in this case is that sculptures playing big role in Sigma Haque's solo sculpture exhibition 'Inheritance of Women' where paintings played dominating role in Shazzad Khan's solo art exhibition titled 'Fins and Feathers'.

Does a female artist who submits work for an exhibition receive the same careful and serious evaluation as her male counterparts? Can it still be true that the gender of an artist comes into play in determining recognition and success" (Stein, 1)?

When I asked Sigma Haque if she is facing any sort of discrimination, she replied that she did not experience any discrimination. Instead of that, she got many positive responses from male collectors and visitors about her sculptures. Even many visitors who never see a sculpture were showing interest in buying them. From sculptor Haque's statement it seemed she was getting good responses from visitors who did not bother about gender. Large number of art buyers and general people visited Sigma Haque's exhibition 'Inheritance of Women' and such crowd never been seen in Shazzad Khan's exhibition 'Fins and Feathers'.

In the case of Shazzad Khan, I observed that only few visitors were interested in buying paintings though they were costly compare to the price of the sculptures or paintings in Sigma Haque's exhibition.

In case of the media, newspapers like Daily Sun, The New Nation and the Independent published works of Shazzad Khan. On the other hand, the Daily star, the Financial Express, the New Nation not to mention New Age published the news of Sigma Haque's exhibition.

A large part of the problem lies with the fact that it is, unfairly, the male collectors and gallerists, who determine what is "hot" in the art world, and they are less inclined to throw their support to women artists and, arguably, less prone to buy overtly "feminine," let alone feminist, work, or take women seriously (Stein 1).

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It is true that art galleries most of the showcase the works of male artists but they also exhibit works of women artists. Only two or three women artists get opportunity to display their works in a whole year even if it would be a solo exhibition or group exhibition. However, the presence of busy art buyers in Sigma Haque showed that people have much interest in buying the works of women artists. Most of the art works of Sigma Haque were about representation of women, relationship between mother and son, activities of women and natural beauty of Bangladesh. This claim about women artist is true as exhibition of Sigma Haque proved that buyers actually wanted to buy artworks of women artists even though they are quite feminine.

“Also, selling too much art is not possible. It happens only with the customer making frequent visits” (Murthy, 1). In Shazzad Khan’s exhibition, the highest cost of a painting was 45,000 taka where the highest cost of sculpture in Sigma Haque’s exhibition was 25,000 taka. Even if Haque’s sculptures or paintings seemed cheap compare to the cost of Shazzad Khan’s painting people chose Haque’s artworks not because of cheap price but for Haque’s marketing strategies. First Sigma Haque’s father Nurul Haque was an artist too. As Nurul Haque’s daughter, Sigma Haque was familiar with some of the buyers who bought her father’s art works. When the exhibition ‘Inheritance of Women’ was started, she contacted all those buyers who were familiar with her father’s works. As a result, along with the familiar buyers, other new buyers also visited her exhibition and appreciated her works.

It seemed both Shazzad Khan and Sigma Haque was busy being selling their works rather than displaying them. However, Haque exhibited some works which not for sale where all the paintings of Shazzad Khan were on sale. It proves male artists were much desperate and commercial compare to the female artists. It is true that most of the art galleries showcase the works of the artists for non-commercial aim but in order to survive in male dominated art world artists have to advertise themselves

also create art works which not only bring joy or happiness but also lots of money. If artists being commercial than more people would know about their artistic works as well as themselves.

In the case of buyers in both Sigma Haque's exhibition and Shazzad Khan's exhibition, most of them want to decorate homes and office spaces. In Bangladesh most of people are not that interested in visiting art galleries let alone buying them. Many people rather spent time in TV or watch drama shows in Shilpokala Academy instead of going to art galleries as those art works seemed so complex to understand. That is why, Sindhu Murthy said, "Commercialization in a way, actually aids art" (Murthy,).

In Shazzad Khan's solo art exhibition 'Fins and Feathers', writer and former foreign secretary Faruq A Choudhury attended the inauguration program as chief guest and artist Rafiqun Nabi present there as special guest. In Sigma Haque's solo sculpture exhibition 'Inheritance of Women, Mohamed Hajarul Quayes, Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, inaugurated the exhibition as chief guest. Poet and Architect Rabiul Husain and Lala Rukh Selim, associate professor, Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka were present there as special guest and guest of honor.'

According to Terrie Sultan, "I am more sensitive to the fact that there are many very creative woman artists who have made substantial contributions to the advancement of art who have not received the credit they deserve" (Stein 1).

Sultan's claim about women artists is not true as new artists like Sigma Haque are giving chances to showcase their works as gender do not decide the fame and success of an artists. Patriarchal society like Bangladesh, new artists like Sigma Haque trying their best to be in part of artists and press media encouraging their works by publishing them.

Among Sigma Haque and Shazzad Khan's exhibition report, only my report on Sigma Haque's exhibition was published in Life as performance of Shazzad Khan as an artist does not seemed to be promising so my supervisor did not published his exhibition report.

Final Thoughts

I wrote many reports during my internship. Among them, my report on the drama show 'Tempest' by Dhaka Theater and world press photo exhibition by Drik Gallery were my favorite. I enjoyed a lot when I watched the drama show 'Tempest' and World press photo exhibition in Drik Gallery. Due to my internship in New Age I got an opportunity to watch this drama show and photo exhibition.

Suggestions

Role of the Press in Promoting Art Education

During my internship I observed that art exhibitions do not advertise their exhibitions like trade shows. As a result, only few people visit the art galleries. In that case press could promote the real aim behind art exhibition. They could bring out art journals which only about artist, reviewing exhibitions and biography of artists etc. These art journals could teach role of art in modern civilization.

Promoting Art Buyers Economy

One group of people appreciates art that is why they visit the exhibitions. By contrast some people only came to exhibitions only to buy artistic things for decorating home or office place. Other people visit exhibitions as they see exhibitions as investment. At present lots of people visit exhibition not only for buying these artistic things. Recently, art buyers have grown in number, so the art buyers economy could play important role in improving our economy.

Increasing the Participation of Women Artists

Women artists actually survive in patriarchal society like Bangladesh. Art galleries should organize more exhibitions on women artists so they could continue their works in male dominated art society. Newspapers could bring news supplement about women artists every week not only the men day.

With these recommendations, I would like to conclude my report by saying that I enjoyed my work at The New Age. During my internship, I learned so many things when I was working as an intern for The New Age. For example, I learnt how to cope with people, how to take interviews and face challenges of journalism. As a journalist, it is important to submit works at a time. As an intern in The New Age I learnt one of the important things and that is submitting works within time. My background of media studies helped me a lot in my journey as an intern journalist and I look forward to working in this field more.

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EVENT

Quest for life

by Shegufta Behtarin

Celebrating the 80th birth anniversary of Qayyum Chowdhury, Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts inaugurated 'Quest for Life', a solo art exhibition at their premises on March 9. Artist Murtaja Baseer, author Syed Shamsul Haq, Professor Anisuzzaman and theatre personality Ramendu Majumdar inaugurated the exhibition.

Qayyum Chowdhury, who is one of Bangladesh's famous artists after Zainul Abedin, was part of the great art movement that hit Dhaka in the 50s. Posters, banners, leaflets and pictures by him inspired people during the liberation war. Chowdhury has done a variety of work in this field of art – book covers, layouts, posters, logos, record sleeves and even designed saris. Besides being an artist, Chowdhury is also a poet.

People from all classes attended this ceremony to wish artist Qayyum Chowdhury with flowers and gifts. Finance Minister Abul Maal Abdul Muhith, art critic Abul Monsur, director of Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts Subir Chowdhury, educationist Borhanuddin Khan Jahangir, artist Hashem Khan, editor of Kali O Kolom Abul Hasnat, artist Samarjit Roy Choudhury, Kalidas Karmakar, editor of The Daily Star Mahfuz Anam, Ashok Karmakar, actress Bipasha Hayat and her husband Toukir Ahmed were among the guests who came to wish artist.

Prime minister's special assistant on media Mahbubul Haque wished artist Qayyum Chowdhury on behalf of Sheikh Hasina. In this ceremony, Chowdhury stated that he is lucky to have friends who have always supported him.

In the ongoing exhibition, 80 of Chowdhury's artworks are on display. He has used acrylic, oil, print and other media in his art works. His use of space, bright colors and geometric forms make him different from other artists. While talking about these works, Qayyum Chowdhury stated that memories of his youth have inspired him in these. Chowdhury has also used motifs from Bangladeshi folklore in his art works, which has always been his favourite theme. The exhibition will continue daily from 12:00pm till 8:00pm until March 22.

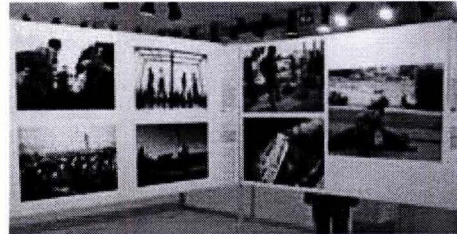


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World Press Photo exhibition at Drik Gallery

by Shegufta Behtarin

The World Press Photo exhibition kicked off at the Drik Gallery on April 26 where 160 photos were displayed. Professor of BRAC University Afsan Chowdhury and Ambassador to the Kingdom of Netherlands Alphons Hennekens inaugurated the exhibition. Femke Van Dar Valk, World Press Photo's project manager from Netherlands and Shahidul Alam, managing director of Drik Gallery and photographer, were also present in the opening ceremony.



This exhibition is aimed at helping Bangladeshi photographers to understand the high professional standards of photojournalism. Besides this, the exhibition will also give them a chance to explore the works of the world's best photographers. With this in mind, Drik Gallery organised the show and while creating a platform for photojournalists of our country and photographers from around the world.

The photographs varied in contexts. There were categories like politics, arts and entertainment, animal life, nature stories etc., that were all presented at the exhibition.

Samuel Aranda's photo that won the World Press Photo of the year 2011 has been exhibited here.

The photo shows Fatima al-Qaws who cradles her son Zayed (18), who is suffering from the effects of tear gas after participating in a street demonstration in Sanaa, Yemen. Ongoing protests against the 33-year-long regime of authoritarian President Ali Abdullah Saleh had escalated that day.

There was a photo of Vincent Boisot, who won second prize in Arts and Entertainment singles category and the photograph that was exhibited here was of a model, posing in front of a tailor's stall in the center of Dakar, Senegal during the ninth edition of the Dakar Fashion Week. Emiliano Larizza's photo was about the Saut d' Eau's sacred waterfall in Mirebalais. Every year from July 14 to July 16 pilgrims gather to beat drums, dance, invoke spirits, and wash themselves in the purifying waters of the Saut d'Eau sacred waterfall, in Mirebalais, Haiti. The religious festival combines both Christian and voodoo beliefs, and Saut d'Eau is one of the most important pilgrimage destinations in the country.

There were photographs of animal life and some photos showed how the greed of human beings

is costing the life as well as existence of some endangered animals. Brent Stirtor's photo shows a woman grinding rhino horn for her own consumption in Baoloc, Vietnam for the cure of her kidney stones despite the fact that rhinoceros horn is illegal worldwide.

This exhibition will be open from 10:00am to 8:00pm and will continue till May 16.

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EVENT

Canada Showcase 2012

by Shegufta Behtarin

After the first successful Canada Showcase in 2011, this year Canada Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CanCham) and High commission of Canada jointly organized the second Canadian trade show titled 'Canada Showcase 2012' in Dhaka on March 4 at the Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel.



The reason behind organizing the Canada Showcase was to promote Canadian products and services. Another reason was to promote the two way trade and investment between Canada and Bangladesh. Heather Cruden, Canadian high commissioner to Bangladesh and Masud Rahman, president of CanCham Bangladesh were present in inauguration ceremony of Canada Showcase 2012. Additional secretary for commerce, Manoj Kumar Roy was also present in the ceremony.

Thirty one business organizations from Bangladesh and Canada took part in this two day long event along with twelve business representatives from Canada. Visitors visited stalls of the Daffodil University to gather information about higher education, tuition fees etc. Some visited the stall of the Canadian International School to know about admission process, fees and other facilities of this educational institution. However, Canadian University Application Centre seemed to be crowded compared to other stalls as many visitors gathered there to get information about Canadian universities, the admission process and requirements including academic documents, tuition fees etc.

Flora Telecom showed their exclusive BlackBerry handsets and IP Telephony products to attract attention among visitors. The stalls of the Canadian Wheat Board (CWB) which is the largest wheat and barley marketer in the world also participated in the event. There were stalls of other Bangladeshi organizations including BTC Limited, CITY Group, GETCO Group, Sabir Limited and Meghna Group of Industries who were providing both products and services including grain

and commodities, power and Machinery division, consultancy services and others.

There were some stalls of garment and textile sectors that carry on business of all sorts of garments, import, spinning, export, trading and other garments related business. For example, companies like Imperial Sweater Bangladesh Ltd and Rashid Composite textiles Ltd provided garment products and facilities related to the technical area of garments sectors. There was a stall of the largest technology distributor named Computer source Ltd who provided products and services from Dell, HP, Logitech and Norton. Stalls of First Security Islami Bank Limited and Prime Bank Limited were providing banking services to the visitors of this event.

There was a stall of one of the world's best service providers and mobile device makers named Eyeball Network Inc in the event and a stall of a Canadian firm named TelcoBridges who designs and manufactures telecommunication equipments.

Four seminars were held in the Surma Hall of the Sonargaon Hotel and they were related to topics like Canadian agriculture, business development in Bangladesh, energy plant, outsourcing and export diversification in the case of Bangladesh. This trade show ended on March 5.

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GUIDE

EVENT

Dhaka Theatre goes to London with The Tempest

by Shegufta Behtarin

On the occasion of the 'Globe to Globe' festival, Globe theatre of London invited director Nasiruddin Yousuf for staging the play 'The Tempest' in the Bengali language. This drama will be performed on May 7 and May 8 at the Globe Theatre of London. The fest is part of the London 2012 Festival, which ties in with the summer Olympics and this festival will see 37 Shakespeare plays performed in different languages.

The premier show of The Tempest was performed by Dhaka Theatre at the National Theater Hall of Bangladeshi Shilpakala Academy on April, 27.

Nasiruddin Yousuff shared in his welcome speech about the difficulties of directing a Shakespearean play. As this drama will be staged in front of an international audience, he decided that he will not follow the Elizabethan or Shakespearean style to perform and instead give it the treatment of that of a modern Bengali play and that is the real challenge for him.

Nasiruddin Yousuff decided that he would follow the dramatic movements of Selim- Al- Deen and Tagore who are the pioneers of modern Bengali dramas. That is why he combined dramatic form of traditional Bengali 'Nobbopachali' and the Monipuri dance style so that spectators can find the essence of Bengali through the songs, dances, music and dialogues. Two Manipuri artistes Nil Moni Singha and Bidhan Chandra Singha trained the Dhaka Theatre members over the last few months.

Even though the names of the characters, the storyline and the climax is the same, the costumes, choreography and songs remind the spectators about it being directed by a Bengali director. Especially, the marriage scene of Miranda and Ferdinand looked like a traditional Bengali marriage scene. Shimul Yousuf, Nilmoni Sinha and Bidhan Sinha choreographed all the songs and dances.



In the case of characterization, all the actors and actresses performed brilliantly and enthralled the audience. The performance of Rubel Lodi, Shimul Yusuf, Shahiduzzaman Selim, Esha Yousuf, Khairul Islam Pakhi, Kamal Bayzid, Samiun Jahan Dola, Shazzad Rajib, Rafiqul Islam and others played an excellent role in making this show a huge hit.

When the drama was finished, director Nasiruddin Yousuff thanked the producer of this drama, Imogen Butler-Cole and the translator of this play, Rubayet Ahmed. He also thanked Globe Theatre and United Commercial Bank for their support.

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EVENT

Beauty and Fashion Summit 2012

by Shegufta Behtarin

Go Brand and ARRIVAL Marketing Communications jointly organized the first ever fashion and beauty summit titled as 'Fashion Innovation for Generation' on March 17 at BRAC Centre, Mohakhali.

The summit was all about contemporary fashion and beauty related issues, latest trends of the global fashion along with Bangladeshi fashion industry. It was a helpful event for the participants to get an opportunity to learn about the effective strategies for growth in their own fashion businesses from expert fashion professionals and entrepreneurs.

After a short introduction of guest speakers, the platform was free for the guests to interact with the professionals present there which included a question answer session. This gave the participants a chance to gain more ideas and knowledge on different issues addressed by the from guest speakers at the session.

Lorena Mariscal Pagola, lecturer at Riffles Institute started this summit as first guest speaker and her topic was 'Social & Cultural Dimension of Fashion-A Forecast of Local Trends in the Globalised world'. A 2.5 min long live snapshot fashion queue by Maria's design followed by Shaibal Saha's speech on 'Export marketing'. Then there was another 2.5 minute live snapshot fashion queue by Maria's design. Artist and design consultant Najib Tareque shared his views on Bangladeshi fashion industry based on his topic 'T-shirt in Bangladesh, politics and me'. After Najib Tareque's speech, the live fashion queue by Ittadi Fashion continued for 2.5 minutes. Farah Anjum Bari of Institute of Designing Limited continued a discussion on the topic 'Green Chic Fashion and Fashion Recycling'. Before the tea break there was a live fashion queue by Ittadi Fashion.

After the tea break, consultant at the Laser Medical Center, Dr. Jahanara Khan (Jhumu Khan) started her discussion on 'Anti-aging: steps towards the fountain of youth'. Consultant Jhumu Khan talked about reasons of aging, steps of preventing early aging and about way to look young



for the rest of the life among other things.

A five minute beauty show was organized by Persona preceding the last speaker Manuel Vertiz Mou of Raffles Institute of Higher Education who discussed about 'Fashion Marketing, Consumer Behaviour and Facing Multi-Cultural Trends' and emphasized on bringing out traditions and cultures by designs and patterns.

Then an interactive session was held among the panelists and the participants to shed light on different issues through interactive session. The panel comprised of guests like Terence Tan, director Raffles Institute of Higher Education, Chandra Shekhar Shaha, design advisor Aarong, Mohammad A. Momen, director, Pride Group, Kaniz Almas Khan, beauty expert & fashion editor, Sohana Rouf Chowdhury, MD, Sash Ltd, Nayar Amin, model and entrepreneur, Azzara, Maheen Khan, fashion designer- Mayasir and two fashion journalists Syed Saifur Rahman along with Syeda Samara Mortada. In the panel discussion, guest speakers talked about definition of fashion innovation in the case of Bangladeshi fashion industry, role of entrepreneurs to promote young designers and how to improve the quality of Bangladeshi products, promoting the products and branding with participants in very interactive atmosphere.

The guest speakers suggested that the next generation designers should think commercially, develop their own fashion trends and upgrade their fashion trends in to new level. The event ended with Chandra Shekhar Saha and other guest speakers thanking the organizers and Gitanjali for hosting the first time ever Beauty and Fashion summit. They hoped that next summit would be a bigger event with more participants and new issues relates to fashion and beauty addressed. Finally, organizers gave gift bags to guest speakers and the summit came to an end with a raffle draw.

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Engraved wood, watercolour drawing & woodcut print

By Ratan Majumder

Gallery Kaya in Uttara, a contemporary art centre, organised the sixth solo art exhibition by freelance artist Ratan Majumder, titled 'Engraved Wood Water Colour Drawing Woodcut Print'.

Sixty artworks by artist Ratan Majumder were displayed at the exhibition. The artist uses engraved wood, water colour, pencil and woodcut print in his works to portray nature, animals, birds and faces of human beings, particularly women.

In the case of his paintings, it seemed, Majumder adopted traditional Bengali geometrical forms and lines found in nakshikatha, and combined them with western geometrical forms, as he utilised space, forms, horizontal and vertical lines in his works. With his technique and style, Majumder is really successful in bringing out something both inventive and artistic in his creations. For example, in 'Partition' artist Majumder carefully uses



different geometrical shapes, dots, forms and lines while in 'God of Wind' Majumder adeptly brings out ancient Indian mythical themes. In 'Nature-4' Majumder creates an atmosphere of nostalgic childhood by including lonely nature, dreamy landscape with floating clouds, waves of rivers. Another aspect of Majumder's paintings was that he always left details for the viewers. Especially, the painting 'Nature-3' gave details of floating birds, swans, waves of river, tiny trees with bushy tops conveying to viewers the kind of image the artist wants to create.

In the case of his other paintings like 'Face-1' and 'Face-3', artist Majumder shows the expressions of different people, using colour pencil on paper. Majumder also shows feminine delicacy in 'Make-up' where he uses water colour on paper.

People from different places, classes and ages came to the inauguration program including Reja Amin, Afjal Hossain, Mohammad Yunus, artist Kazi Rokib, artist Masuda Kazi, painter Nagarbashi Barman, artist Devdas Malakar, among others.

'Slumber after a fight' is an artistic creation where artist Majumder uses water colour on paper and skilfully combines rich bright colours with different geometrical shapes and forms.

Artist Ratan Majumder was born in Feni on March 31, 1954. In 1978, Ratan Majumder completed his diploma at the Ceramics Institute of Fine Arts at University of Dhaka. He received membership at the Australia Print Council in 1979. He won a prize for Graphic Print at the 4th National Art Exhibition at Shilpakala Academy, Bangladesh.

The exhibition began on April 6 and will continue till April 17, 2012, from 11am to 7.30pm daily.

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GUIDE

Anarchy and the Blue by Shuvaprasanna

by Shegufta Behtarin

Bengal Art Lounge, in collaboration with Akar Prakar Gallery, Kolkata, jointly hosted a solo art exhibition of multi talented Indian artist Shuvaprasanna, titled 'Anarchy and the Blue' at the Bengal Art Lounge in Gulshan on March 16.

Bangladeshi Foreign minister Dipu Moni inaugurated the exhibition as chief guest while renowned artist Qayyum Chowdhury, Indian filmmaker Gautam Ghosh, Professor Anisuzzaman, Kolkata's Akar Prakar Gallery director Rina Lath, Bengal Foundation director general Luva Nahid Chowdhury and Bengal Shilpalaya director Subir Chowdhury were also present.



Seventy one artistic works of artist Shuvaprasanna were displayed in this exhibition.

Urban life, happy animals, struggle of human beings and suppressed feeling of agony were the subjects in most of the art works by the artist. Shuvaprasanna brought out different types of paintings in this exhibition for example, the portraits of Rabindranath Tagore and Gandhi were displayed with paintings of animals, icons and other objects.

Urban motifs were the dominant theme in this exhibition. Paintings of animals such as owl, crows, fish, donkey, goat, street dogs, bull, cats, ant, fly, bee were shown in this exhibition and he used mixed media on canvas, paper and ply wood in his exhibition. For example, in 'The Dance' the artist has used mixed media on canvas and in the portrait of 'Rabindranath Tagore 1' and 'Gandhi 1' he used mixed media on paper. He has used mixed media on Ply wood in each paintings of 'Icon 1' to 'Icon 15'.

This exhibition was ended on March 25, 2012. It was opened from 12.00pm to 8.00pm and free for everyone.

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