

WHAT'S ON



**Solo Art Exhibition**  
Title: Truce - Juddhobiroti  
Artist: Ata Mojlish  
Venue: Dwpj Gallery, Lalmitia  
Date: January 25 - February 1  
Time: 3 pm - 9 pm (Except Mondays)



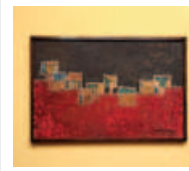
**Winter Festival**  
Title: Heem Utshab  
Venue: Jahangirnagar University  
Date: February 6-7  
Time: 10 am onwards



**Music Conference**  
Title: Shurey Milay Guru Tomay, Tumi Milao Praney Pran  
Venue: Bandar Girls' High School and College, Narayanganj  
Date: January 27-30  
Time: 12 pm onwards



**Group Art Exhibition**  
Title: 7  
Venue: Galleri Kaya, Uttara  
Date: January 24 - February 7  
Time: 11:30 am - 7:30 pm



**Group Art Exhibition**  
Title: Breaking Ground: Modern Art in Transition  
Venue: Subir Choudhury Exhibition Hall, Bengal Shilpalay, Dhanmondi  
Date: Dec 17 - Feb 15  
Time: 1 pm - 8 pm (Except Sundays)

# PORI MONI'S 'Puff Daddy'

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Ever since her debut, Pori Moni has been one of the staples of the Bangladeshi film industry. The charming diva has been busy with new projects, one of which is an exciting web series. Her upcoming film, *Bishwa Shundori*, is also on the cusp of release. *The Daily Star* catches up with the actor for a chat.

**Tell us about your latest projects.** I am working on a new web series, called *Puff Daddy*. Directed by Shahed Un Nabi, it features Sajal and me as the lead characters. The shooting is likely to be finished within this lot.

**Which character are you portraying in this series?** I have multiple roles, including one of a police officer. It was a challenging undertaking, but I have thoroughly enjoyed working on it. I love

overcoming challenges, and this was no exception.

**Your upcoming film, 'Bishwa Shundori', has created quite a buzz. What are your expectations from it?** This is the first time I have worked with Siam Ahmed, and it was an amazing experience. The director, Chayanika Chowdhury, has given a lot of attention to detail in the film. I am hopeful that *Bishwa Shundori* will bring audience to the theatre!

**Do you have an ultimate goal in your career?** All I want is to earn the love and adoration of my audience. In 2015, I decided that I will not commit to another film unless I finish my existing one, just so that I can deliver my best performances for the people who come to watch my film. I want to make sure that they always have me in their hearts and prayers.



PHOTO: SHAHREAR KABIR HEEMEL

# Mustafa Monwar on the value of art

SHARMIN JOYA

EMK Centre, in collaboration with Brihatta Foundation, initiated art talks, providing a space for different artists to express their thoughts. This is a new monthly initiative by the organisations.

Their first art talk, *Oshanti Je Aghat Korey Taito Bina Bajey*, was led by renowned artist, educator and cultural activist, Mustafa Monwar.

His talk focused on the importance of art in our lives. He discussed how art can help people to cope with their pain and sufferings, and mentioned that art is generally discouraged at educational institutions. Keeping in mind that these institutions are static and overlook creative activities, the organisers intended to create a platform where people can gain insights into the field of art.

The second session of the art talk, focusing on how to conduct research in the 21st century, will be held on February 12.



PHOTO: MONON MUNTAKA



PHOTO: COURTESY

# 'Trinayan' underway at Gallery Cosmos

ZAHANGIR ALOM

*Trinayan*, a group art exhibition organised by Gallery Cosmos featuring Outdoor Community Artists Group, is currently underway at its premises in New DOHS, Mohakhali. The exhibition, showcasing 39 'en plein air' paintings on diverse media by 20 artists, will conclude on February 15.

Eminent artist Shahid Kabir and renowned art critic Moinuddin Khaled were present as special guests at the opening ceremony held recently.

The participating artists at the exhibit are Shahid Kabir, Afrozaa Jamil Konka, Azmeer Hossain, Sahid Kazi, Bishwajit Goswami, Sumon Wahed, Juton Chandra Roy, Manik Bonik, Pervaj Hasan



Rigan, Rumana Rahman, Arifa Sultana, Jannatun Nahar Ava, Abu Tamim, Adil Mahamud Hasnat, Mrinal Banik, Md. Rafiqul Islam, Auntora Mehrukh Azad, Jayanta Mondal, Sharifa Akter Liza and

Helal Shah. 'En plein air' painting denotes the act of painting outdoors. This method contrasts with studio painting or academic rules that might create a predetermined look.

Artists have long painted outdoors, but in the mid-19th century, working in natural light became particularly important to the Barbizon school, Hudson River School, and Impressionists. Gallery Cosmos, over the course of the last decade, have dedicated its space and platform to various media of arts rooted in Bangladesh, as well as art forms influenced from far-off regions. In order to justify this objective, the gallery has strived to provide a state-of-the-art facility that is unique in Bangladesh. Through various initiatives such as the ongoing exhibition, they aim to break new ground by acting as an incubator for the emergence of various art forms, including plein air painting, in Bangladesh.

# CARTOON PEOPLE'S interactive graffiti on road safety for World Bank Bangladesh

RASHEEK TABASSUM MONDIRA

Syed Rashad Imam Tanmoy, founder of Cartoon People and his team of seven cartoonists -- Arham Habib, Rakeeb Razzaq, Mahatab Rashid, Abdullah Al Zunaid, Rehnuma Proshoon, Mohammad Shahadat Hossain and Syed Nafis, created a 7 foot long and 15 foot wide Dhaka street graffiti at the World Bank Bangladesh headquarters, recently. The World Bank and United Nations in Bangladesh organised an event to announce the Road Safety Champion Video Competition winners, where the top five teams were awarded.

Along with the graffiti, the team of Cartoon People arranged an interactive game for the audience, focusing on the positive and negative aspects of the transport system of Bangladesh. In the game, the audience gets to decide who are breaking traffic rules and who are following traffic rules, based on the graffiti.

Every character in the graffiti has a life bar, which indicates their level of cooperation. The green life bar is for law abiding citizens, whereas the red life bar is for citizens who are not following the laws. The audience gets to choose each character's life bar, depending on their actions. The cartoonists made the entire wall art in just five hours, which was a challenge in itself. "I was surprised by how quickly we were able to pull off this project. It was spontaneous and we experimented with instant ideas, which turned out to be a fun experience for me," said Mahatab.

"Through the interactive wall art, we wanted to convey that every citizen has a role to play in the road safety of our country and we should all be aware of the traffic rules and act accordingly," shared Tanmoy. The graffiti will be up at the World Bank Bangladesh premises for the next two weeks.



PHOTO: COURTESY

# Milia Islam to perform today on My TV

Noted expatriate singer Milia Islam Sabed is set to perform on My TV's popular programme, *Amar Gaan* today at 8 pm.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Hosted by Shampa Reza, Milia will sing melodies of yesteryears like *Ei Shundor Prithibi Chherey*, *Abar Hobey To Dekha*, *Mone Agun Joley* and *Lokey Boley Prem Ar*. She will also perform some of her original songs from her albums. Milia's solo performance on Deepto TV last month was acclaimed by many.

Milia is the coordinator of Bangladesh Language and Cultural Foundation in Singapore. She plays a great role in observing special Bangladeshi days such as December 16, March 26 and February 21 with songs, plays and dance performances and art competitions in Singapore.



PHOTO: COURTESY