



Preparing for International Mother Language Day

Students of the Faculty of Fine Art, University of Dhaka, repaint and redecorate the Shaheed Minar, in preparation of International Mother Language Day.

PHOTOS: COURTESY

International Art Festival 2020 to set off at Nilsagor, Nilphamari

ZAHANGIR ALOM

The 3rd International Art Festival 2020 will set off at Nilsagor, Nilphamari on February 26. The prime purpose of the annual four-day (February 26-29) event is to diffuse the flow of art to the remote countryside of Bangladesh. Under the supervision of eminent cultural personality and former Cultural Minister Asaduzzaman Noor, MP, Vision 2021 Nilphamari and Art Bangla are organising the festival.

A press conference was held in this regard at the Department of Graphic Design, Faculty of Fine Art (FFA), University of Dhaka (DU) on February 19. Professor Mohammad Eunos, the convener, Md Harun-Ar-Rashid Tutul, the curator, Rashedul Islam Rana, the joint convener and Dinar Sultana Putul, the co-curator of the festival were present, as they elaborated on the diverse aspects of the grand art event.

"Alongside pledging a contemporary art scenario, renowned artists -- from both home and abroad, will share their experiences to the local school students, in order to enhance their views on art, culture and creative expressions," said the convener Mohammad Eunos, also a Professor at the Department of Graphic Design, FFA, DU.

"The festival aims to decentralise art practice, and to inspire artists to indulge in creating art beyond the chaotic city life," said the curator Harun-Ar-Rashid Tutul, also an Assistant Professor at the Department of Graphic Design, FFA, DU. "Set in a natural environment, the festival will include an international art camp, art exhibitions, curated contemporary art projects, artists' talk, seminar, cultural programme, folk art and craft fair, camp fire and sightseeing."

KM Khalid, MP, State Minister of Cultural Affairs, will grace the opening ceremony of



From left: Rashedul Islam Rana, Dinar Sultana Putul, Professor Mohammad Eunos and Md Harun-Ar-Rashid Tutul at the press conference.

PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

the festival as the chief Guest on February 27. Eminent artist Professor Rafiqun Nabi and eminent art connoisseur Abul Khair, also the Chairman of Bengal Foundation, will jointly inaugurate the international art festival at 11 am on the same day. Hafijur Rahman Choudhury, Deputy Commissioner, Nilphamari, and Md Moklesur Rahman, BPM, PPM and SP, Nilphamari, will be present as special guests. Eminent cultural personality Asaduzzaman Noor, MP, also the chief adviser of the Art Festival 2020 Nilphamari organising committee, will preside over the programme.

Over 500 artists from around the world, including Bangladesh's renowned artists -- Rafiqun Nabi, Monirul Islam, Syed Abul Barq

Alvi, Farida Zaman, Ranjit Das, Afzal Hossain, Mohammad Eunos, Jamal Ahmed, Mostafizul Haque, Rokeya Sultana, Ahmed Shamsuddoha, Nisar Hossain, Sheikh Afzal, Shishir Bhattacharjee, Torun Ghosh, Mohammad Iqbal, Md. Anisuzzaman, Shameem Subrana, Mustapha Khalid Palash, Susanto Adhikari, Reza Asad Al Huda Anupom, Anukul Mojumder, Nazia Andaleeb Preema, Bishwajit Goswami and Sourav Chowdhury -- will participate in the festival.

Several Bangladeshi contemporary artists and art organisations will produce and display contemporary art projects, while around 50 promising artists from various art educational institutes of Bangladesh will work with 200 local school students of Nilphamari.



Bangla



Jhutum Pakhir Kotha



Bhashajoyita



Bhul Golpo

TV specials on International Mother Language Day

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

As the world celebrates linguistic and cultural diversity on International Mother Language Day, The Daily Star has compiled a list of television programmes set to be aired in the country today.



Ekusher Jonno



Laal Ronger Golpo

Telefilm *Bangla*, directed by Taslima Mukta, will be aired on Maasranga Television at 10:30 pm. It stars renowned actors Abul Hayat and Nusrat Imrose Tisha, among others.

The Language Movement laid the foundation of nationalism and paved the way for the birth of Bangladesh. Women actively participated in the movement, at a time when the society was largely conservative. Deepto TV's documentary, *Bhashajoyita*, shines a light on the lives of activists Rawshan Ara Bachchu, Halima Khatun, Sufia Ahmed, Sofia Khan, Rani Bhattacharya and Pratibha Mutsuddi. Directed by Shabnam Ferdousi, it will be aired on the channel at 10 am.

Bhul Golpo, directed by Tuhin Hossain and starring Afran Nisho and Mehazabein, among others, will be aired on BanglaVision at 9:05 pm. *Ekusher Jonno*, a poetry recital show, will be aired at 6:05 pm on the channel as well. Shimul Mustapha, Ahkam Ullah, Sharmin Lucky, Naznin Naaz, Mehedi Hasan and other artistes will recite heartfelt



Raat Jaga Niye

poems on the show.

On Duronto Television's *Ekusher Golpo*, prominent journalist and Language Movement veteran Kamal Lohani will be answering queries about the martyrs of the Language Movement. Helmed by Monirul Hossain Shipon, the show is based on a group of children in a village who have built a Shaheed Minar out of clay. Featuring child actors Joyeth Kolyan, Rizia Sultana Rafia,

Mehraz Rahman Swapnil, Arika Hossain Labonno, Sudipto Sharan Sikder and Tasrin Munni, *Ekusher Golpo* will be aired on the channel at 5 pm. Furthermore, an International Mother Language Day special episode of *Sisimpur* will be aired on Duronto Television at 5:30 pm.

This episode of the popular children's show will focus on the significance of the Shaheed Minar, literature, music, usage of libraries as well as nutrition and wellness among other topics. Another Monirul Hossain Shipon directorial, *Jhutum Pakhir Kotha*, about a girl who has a pet parrot, will be aired on the channel at 8 pm. It stars Syed Hasan Imam, Sabiha Zaman, Jitu Ahsan, Sushama Sarker and Mugdhoti Morshed Riddhi.



Ekusher Golpo

The telefilm, *Laal Ronger Golpo*, starring Tauquir Ahmed and Bipasha Hayat, will be aired on NTV at 11:30 pm. It is helmed by Mahmud Didar.

The telefilm, *Raat Jaga Niye*, written and directed by Shahiduzzaman Selim, will be televised on Channel i at 7:50 pm. Shahiduzzaman Selim also stars in the telefilm, alongside Ashna Habib Bhabna and other prominent actors.

Kaushik Sankar Das to start shooting for 'Punch'

Tele-fiction director Kaushik Sankar Das is set to start shooting for his first film, 'Punch', on March 4. The film, produced by Mominul Haque under the banner of Zero Aowaj Films, features Niloy Alamgir and Meghla Mukta in lead roles, among others.



ASHLEY SHOPTORSHI SAMADDAR

The story of the film revolves around Kabir, a national boxing champion, who gets involved in malpractices in this industry. Inspired from the existing mixed martial art practices around the world, the action film also shows Kabir's inner conflict and how this affects his marital life with his wife Asha.

"I am known for directing romantic films throughout my career spanning since the last decade. However, I wanted to break out of this categorisation, which was very challenging and exciting at the same time," shares Kaushik Sankar Das who has also written the story and dialogues for the film. "We have invited 5 specialised stunt directors from JAIKA Stunts Team, a stunt direction company based in Thailand, for special action scenes."

Along with direction, Kaushik Sankar Das is also the cinematographer of the project. "I believe that *Punch*, with its unique storyline and the fresh onscreen duo, will be an amazing watch for the audience," he concludes.

Shunno perform in 'NESCAFÉ Presents Shunno Unplugged'

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Shunno will be releasing unplugged versions of four of their mega hits -- *Bedona*, *Jhoriye Dao*, *Sritir Chera Pata* and *Rajahin Rajjo* in the programme, *NESCAFÉ Presents Shunno Unplugged*. The first song, *Bedona*, was released on February 14 on their official YouTube page.