

**WHAT'S ON**

**Group Art Exhibition**  
 Title: Us Women 2020  
 Venue: EMK Centre, Dhanmondi  
 Date: March 8 - 19  
 Time: 9:30 am - 7:30 pm

**Solo Exhibition**  
 Title: Parables of the Womb  
 Artist: Dilara Begum Jolly  
 Venue: Bengal Shilpalya, Dhanmondi  
 Date: February 4 - March 28  
 Time: 2 pm - 8 pm (Except Sundays)

**Solo Photography Exhibition**  
 Title: Joy Bangabandhu  
 Artist: Nasir Ali Mamun  
 Date: March 6 - March 24 (Closed on March 13 and 14)  
 Time: 3 pm to 9 pm (Mon - Thurs); 9 am to 12 noon and 5 pm to 8 pm (Fri-Sat)

**Cartoon Exhibition**  
 Title: Shjonghathi Rekha  
 Venue: Kala Kendra  
 Date: February 21 - March 17  
 Time: 4:30 pm - 8:30 pm

**Group Art Exhibition**  
 Title: Ora Egro Jon  
 Organiser: Bangladesh Art Week  
 Venue: Dhaka Gallery, Banani.  
 Date: March 7 - 14  
 Time: 12 noon - 8 pm

# Chanchal Chowdhury returning to his roots

National Award-winning actor Chanchal Chowdhury began his journey in theatre, before carving a space for himself in television and films. He recently made his comeback to the stage after a hiatus. We caught up with the actor to learn about his experiences of acting in the plays, his forthcoming ventures and more.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

**You recently acted in a couple of plays after a long gap from theatre. How did you feel upon returning to the stage?**  
 I learned acting through theatre. I acted in plays regularly when I started out, and have fond memories of acting on stage. Eminent actor Mamunur Rashid, who spearheads Aranyak Natyadal, is my mentor. I acted in the play, *Cher Cycle*, on the occasion of his birthday this year. I also recently acted in a production of *Rarang*. It was a fantastic experience. Initially, I was nervous about taking up the plays, but I gradually regained my confidence.

**Do you plan to appear in plays more frequently from now on?**  
 I have no such plans as of yet, since I am quite busy with my television projects and films. However, I would love to work on a few plays at some point in the near future, as theatre is very close to my heart.

**Commemorating 'Mujib Barsho', a number of artistes read out letters by Bangabandhu in a special video. You read out one of the letters. How was the experience?**  
 I had the honour of reading out a letter Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman wrote to Tajuddin Ahmed in 1966. It was one of the best moments of my life. I believe the *Mujib Barsho* celebrations will play a pivotal role in educating the younger generations about the history of Bangladesh and about Bangabandhu, who was a national hero.

**What can you tell us about your upcoming films?**  
 Gias Uddin Selim's *Paap Punno* and Mejbaur Rahman Sumon's *Hawa* are two of my upcoming films. I have teamed up with Gias Uddin Selim for *Monpura* before and I admire him immensely. On the other hand, *Hawa* is based on the life of boatmen and their struggles at the sea. It is an exciting film and Mejbaur Rahman Sumon is a brilliant director.



PHOTOS: PIYAS BISWAS

# 'Us Women' portrays the innate pleas of women

PRACHETA AHANA ALAM

At a time when appreciation towards women is capitalised towards consumerism, it would not have been unusual to cascade an exhibition meant for women with stereotypical tropes. Thankfully, 'Us Women' mostly delivers, facilitating the diversity of representation of women of all walks of life, in the exhibition. Bishwajit Goswami and Gulshan Hossain deserve praise curating the exhibition, which inaugurated on March 8 at EMK Centre, Dhanmondi.

Among 500 artworks from all over the country, 40 paintings were selected, many of which highlighted aspects such as child abuse, sexuality, queer politics, safety, security, virginity, domination, harassment, domesticity, sexism, identity - all the roadblocks to being a woman in this day and age.



The exhibit further consists of visual art pieces -- some celebrating feminine beauty, and others depicting female sources of agony, all painted with blotches of memory and grates of fiction. While there is an emotional dissonance and disharmony created from the disparate voices, it is heartening to know that such spaces, for

women to be women, exist. *Us Women* is fantastic in both concept and execution. It is a picturesque depiction of worlds colliding, threading truth and beauty. Whether it has done justice to the innate pleas of a woman is up to the perception of the viewers. The exhibition is open till March 19.

**Marking the birth centenary of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and the completion of the 16th year of 'Hridoye Mati O Manush', hosted by Shykh Seraj, Channel i will telecast a special episode of the series today, titled Krishi Budget Krishoker Budget at 9:40 pm.**

PHOTO: COURTESY



# Teaser of 'Mission Extreme' out now

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

The much anticipated Arefin Shuvoo starrer *Mission Extreme*, co-directed by Sunny Sanwar and Faisal Ahmed, has released its official teaser on social media recently. Alongside Shuvoo, Jannatul Ferdous Oishee, Taskeen Rahman and Sadia Nabila

star in the film. Prominent actors Raisul Islam Asad, Fazlur Rahman Babu and Shahiduzzaman Selim, Shatabdi Wadud and Iresh Zaker also make important appearances. *Mission Extreme* is a police action thriller by Dhaka Attack team based on the operations done by the special police force.

Sunny Sanwar, a senior member of the special police force, is the scriptwriter of the film. He also handled the screenplay of the project. In association with Dhaka detective club, produced by COP Creation and Mime Multimedia, *Mission Extreme* is expected to release in the coming Eid-ul-Fitr.

# Coronavirus concerns delay the release of 'Neel Mukut'

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Acclaimed director Kamar Ahmad Simon's forthcoming film, *Neel Mukut*, received an uncut censorship as well as an approval from the Producers-Distributors Association to be released on March 27, 2020.

However, the director has decided to delay the film's release, due to public health concerns over the rapidly spreading coronavirus. "We planned to unveil the film's teaser on March 12, fifteen days before the release of the film on March 27. As things are quite uncertain at the moment, we have decided to observe the situation, before making the final decision," says Sara Afreen, the producer. "We hope to release *Neel Mukut* on April 3, but that is just an assumption at this point." Quite On Set Production is the distribution partner of the film.

