

WHAT'S ON



**Solo Painting Exhibition**  
Title: Mukhtjudha O Naisargik  
Bangladesh  
Artist: Akhtar Mahmud Kajal  
Venue: Gallery 6, National Art Plaza, BSA  
Date: March 2 - 16  
Time: 11 am - 8 pm; 3 pm - 8 pm  
(Fridays)



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



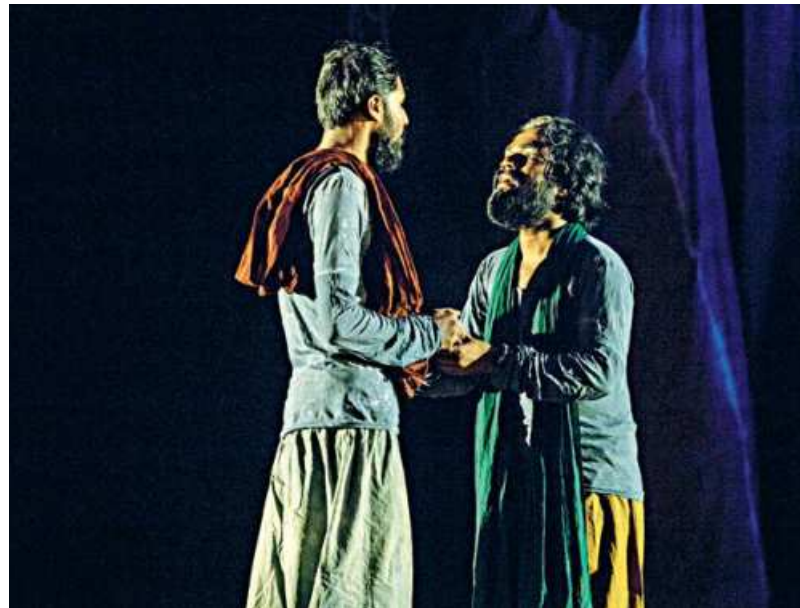
**Solo Photography Exhibition**  
Title: Joy Bangabandhu  
Artist: Nasir Ali Mamun  
Date: March 6 - March 24 (Closed on  
March 13 and 14)  
Time: 3 pm to 9 pm (Mon - Thurs); 9 am  
to 12 noon and 5 pm to 8 pm (Fri-Sat)



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



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



Khoabnama



Pulsiraat



Kalo Joler Kabbo

## New theatrical productions to look out for

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy and Bangladesh Mahila Samiti organise stage plays regularly, with a largely positive response from the audience. Bearing that in mind, several theatre troupes have come up with new productions.

Recently, Nagorik Natya Sampradaya released their play, *Kalo Joler Kabbo*. Directed by Pantho Shahriar, Apeep Karim plays one of the lead roles in the production, which also marks thespian Asaduzzaman Noor's comeback to the stage after a long time.

Last month, Desh Natok inaugurated their play *Jolbhashor*, written and directed by Masum Reza. They have staged the play several times since then, and are currently busy with another production.

Aranyak Natyadal recently introduced their play, *Kohe Facebook*, during Mamunur

Rashid's birthday celebrations at Shilpakala this year. Directed by Mamunur Rashid, the play highlights the negative aspects of the internet.

*Akashey Phuitechhey Phul*, is the latest play by Nagorik Natyangan. Written by Ratan Siddique and directed by Hridi Huq, the play revolves around a rural Leto music troupe, hailing from Churulia village. The play premiered three months ago. Hridi Huq also plays a key character in the production.

Directed by Kamaluddin Nilu, Centre for Asian Theatre recently introduced their play, *Stalin*.

Based on a novel by Buddhadeb Basu, Upstage Theatre recently staged their play, *Raat Bhore Brishti*, directed by Saif Sumon.

Manipuri Theatre introduced their new play, *Happy Days*, which is produced by the French Embassy. Directed by Shubhashish Sinha, the play is staged in both Bengali and

English.

*Asharosso Prothom Diboshe*, by Theatre Factory is another new play directed by Alok Basu.

Taru Natyadal's *Let Me Out* has gained wide popularity recently.

Prachyanat's latest production is *Pulsiraat*, based on Akhtaruzzaman Elius' novel. *Khoabnama*, was staged by Prachyanat at the end of last year. Both *Pulsiraat* and *Khoabnama* are directed by Kazi Toufikul Islam Emon.

Prangonmore's newest production, *Potaka Pagol* is set to launch this month.

Tariq Anam Khan's Natyakendra is currently busy with their production, *Ondhokar*. Directed by Tauquir Ahmed, the play is scheduled to launch this year.

Dhaka's different theatre troupes are busy preparing for their latest projects and soon, the audience will be introduced to several new productions.



Stalin

PHOTOS: STAR &amp; COLLECTED

## Sur Saptak celebrates two decades

ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT DESK

On the 20th anniversary of Sur Saptak, founded by noted Nazrul sangeet exponent, Ferdous Ara, eminent singer Ferdausi Rahman was honoured with a lifetime achievement award at the National Museum Auditorium, recently. National Professor Rafiqul Islam inaugurated the programme. Tajul Islam, Minister of Local Government and Rural Development, attended the event as the chief guest, while Dr Murad Hasan, State Minister for Information, was present as the special guest.

Ferdous Ara welcomed the guests with an opening speech. "We arranged a tribute for the gems of Nazrul Sangeet, whom we have lost," says Ferdous Ara. "The children of artistes Shudhin Das, Sohrab Hossain, Firoza Begum, Nilufer Yasmin and ABM Abdus Shakur came to receive crests in honour of their parents," she said. "Ferdausi Rahman is one of the finest Nazrul



Ferdausi Rahman

artistes that we have. She is an inspiration for the forthcoming generation. This award is a tribute to her, recognising her efforts in preserving Nazrul Sangeet and inspiring young artistes to practice



Ferdous Ara

PHOTO: COLLECTED

Nazrul Sangeet." The programme was followed by performances by the students and artistes of Sur Saptak and a dance recital by Warda Rehab and her team.

## Shah Rukh Khan to play a scientist in 'Brahmastra'



PHOTO: COLLECTED

ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Shah Rukh Khan will be seen in a cameo in Ranbir Kapoor and Alia Bhatt starrer *Brahmastra*. According to reports, the actor will play a scientist in Ayan Mukerji's fantasy drama.

As per recent reports, *Brahmastra* is designed in such a way that each actor plays a key role in the narrative. Ranbir's character meets each of them at different times of his quest to find the all-powerful 'Brahmastra'. Nagarjuna, Shah Rukh and Dimple Kapadia are all aids to Ranbir's character at specific points in the plot and push the story ahead. All of them have clues leading Ranbir to the 'Brahmastra'. In fact, the film opens with Shah Rukh's sequence. It also stars Amitabh Bachchan and Mouni Roy in important roles.

*Brahmastra* has been in the making since 2018 and has been shot in places like Bulgaria, Mumbai, Varanasi and Manali. The film was to release around Christmas in 2019 but was delayed, owing to its extensive VFX works.

It scheduled to release in December 2020. However, the final leg of the film's shoot, which was to take place in Mumbai, has been pushed to April, owing to the rapidly spreading coronavirus.

## Ispahani Mirzapore Banglabid Chattogram auditions held

ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT DESK

*Ispahani Mirzapore Banglabid*, one of the most popular knowledge-based TV reality shows of Bangladesh, has begun their fourth season, with the promise of introducing Bangla to a wider audience. Recently, they handed over the tickets to the studio round at the Chattogram divisional audition to 12 contestants.

Abu Hasan Siddique, additional deputy commissioner (Education & ICT) of Chattogram and Shah Moinuddin Hasan, managing director of Ispahani Tea Limited, handed over the prizes among the winners.

Assistant Professor of Chittagong University

Kushal Baran Chakraborty and eminent elocutionist Mahidul Islam were the judges for the audition of Chattogram division.

After primary selection, the participants from eight divisions will be brought to Dhaka for the studio round and they will compete against each other in multiple rounds to prove their competency over Bengali language.

The winner of *Ispahani Mirzapore Banglabid* will receive BDT 10 lakh, while the first and second runners up will receive BDT 3 and 2 lakhs, respectively. In addition, the top ten participants of the contest will be given laptops and books worth BDT 50,000 for their personal libraries.



PHOTO: COURTESY

## MAMO'S upcoming ventures

ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Celebrated actor Zakia Bari Mamo is preparing for a number of television ventures as of now. She recently wrapped up Shajin Ahmed Babu's Eid special tele-fiction, *Uchhotar Bhalobasha*. Besides, she is set to appear in *Ek Boishakhi Bhore Bonlata* and *Jonakir Golpo*, two one-hour television shows, directed by Sagor Jahan. *Uchhotar Bhalobasha*, *Ek Boishakhi Bhore Bonlata* and *Jonakir Golpo* all feature popular actor Mosharraf Karim opposite Mamo. "Mosharraf Karim is a brilliant artiste, and it is always a pleasure to share screen space with him," says Mamo.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED