

## WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

**Film Screening**  
 Title: Importance of Wim Wenders: A Retrospective  
 Organiser: Dhaka University Film Society and Goethe-Institute Bangladesh  
 Venue: Goethe-Institut, Bangladesh, H 10, Rd 9, Dhamondi  
 Date: September 15-17  
 Time: 2pm onwards



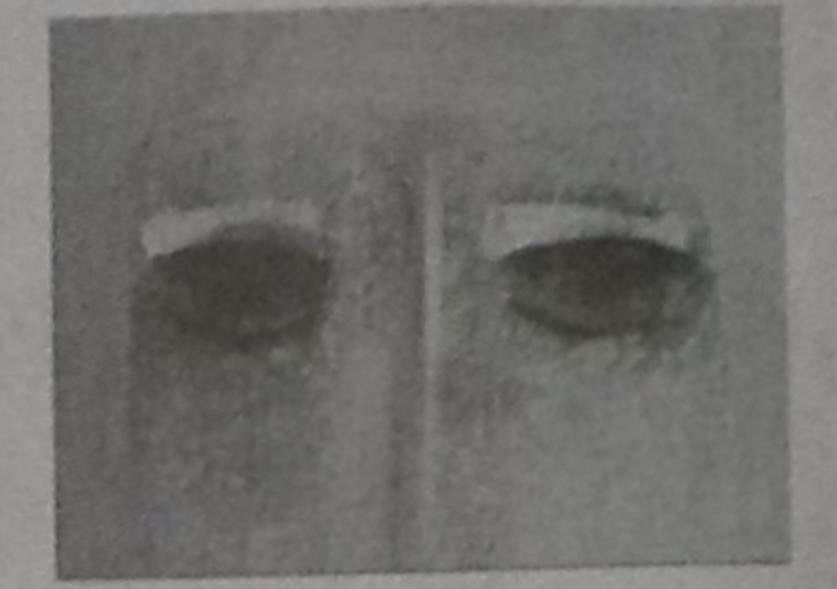
**Group Art Exhibition**  
 by 19 artists from Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka  
 Title: Off the Beaten Path  
 Organiser: Britto Art Trust  
 Venues: Britto Art Trust, Dhamondi; Galleri Kaya, Uttara; Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, Dhamondi  
 Date: September 2-9  
 Time: DG: 3pm-8pm, GK: 11am-8pm, BGFA: 11am-8pm



**Jamdani Mela**  
 An exhibition of Jamdani Sarees  
 Venue: Britto Art Trust, H 58, Rd 15A (new), Dhamondi  
 Date: September 3-7  
 Time: 3pm-8pm



**Solo Exhibition**  
 Title: The Intimate World of Colour  
 Artist: Hamiduzzaman Khan  
 Venue: Asiatic Society of Bangladesh Gallery of Fine Art, Nirmoli, Ramna  
 Date: August 23-September 9  
 Time: 12pm-8pm



## Becoming "Shera Kontho"

In conversation with Zhilik

MAINUL HASSAN

Zanita Ahmed Zhilik won the top spot at the popular talent hunt *Channel i Shera Kontho 2008*. A student of class IX at Mohammadpur Preparatory High School, success seems to have favoured her at an early stage. *The Daily Star* caught up with the young singer. Zhilik talked about her journey through *Shera Kontho*, future plans and more.

Born into a culturally oriented family, Zhilik was introduced to music at an early age. Her father M.A. Jalil, an enlisted artiste of Bangladesh TV and Radio, was her first mentor and teacher. Zhilik's initiation in music happened when she was only three.

"My father has always been my biggest source of inspiration. If it wasn't for him I could have never made it this far," said Zhilik.

When she was seven, Zhilik trained under Bashanti Gomez. From 2006 Zhilik has been taking music lessons from Manindra Nath Roy, a family friend.

Talking about her first experience on *Shera Kontho*, Zhilik said, "I remember the day very well. I woke up at 5 in the morning, did *reyaaz* till 6 and then went to the Channel i office at Tejgaon for the auditions. At the audition my judges were Shafiq Tuhin and Shammi Akhter. I was a bit nervous but confident nevertheless. After singing six songs, I was given the 'yes card'."



Zanita Ahmed Zhilik

"Music is my passion and I'm always up for a challenge. When I came to know about the contest I felt that I must take part in it as it

would be a great opportunity for me to have my skills evaluated," she said.

Apart from that another reason

was to meet the two main judges - Runa Laila and Sabina Yasmin - considered legends in our country.

On the contest Zhilik said, "Shera Kontho was a huge platform for young singers. I have learnt so much at the camp. I had the opportunity to sing in front of Runa Laila and Sabina Yasmin. In the 'Band Round' I had the chance to perform with LRB and Ayub Bachchu. I was ecstatic!

"Also, thanks to the contest, I could interact with Runa Laila ma'am and Sabina Yasmin ma'am. Runa Laila ma'am even gave me a nickname, 'Bijli!'" said a smiling Zhilik.

Speaking of the grand finale, Zhilik said, "The final was aired live so I was nervous. There were so many people in the audience! I tried to stay composed and give the best performance I could."

"At the finale, I performed the song *Oki bondhu kajol bhomorarey*. Coincidentally at my first audition, I performed this song," Zhilik added.

About her future plans Zhilik said, "Music is something without which I don't feel complete, at the same time I want to complete my studies as well. I would try to pursue both -- carry on with my singing without hampering my studies. I have full support of my family so I think I will be successful. I will try my best not to disappoint those who have made me *Shera Kontho* with their support and votes."

## Toronto film festival gets off to a romantic start

REUTERS, Toronto

The curtain rose on the Toronto International Film Festival on Thursday night with romance "Passchendaele" playing to a packed theatre and starting a 10-day parade of films and stars at one of the world's top movie gatherings.

In keeping with tradition, the event opened by shining its spotlight on a Canadian movie, but Hollywood invades in the days ahead with the likes of George Clooney, Brad Pitt and even Paris Hilton in town.

Before the festival ends on September 13, more than 300 films will screen here as filmmakers hope to gain attention that earns box office bucks and movie fan buzz ahead of Hollywood's upcoming Oscar season. Last year's Toronto darling, teen pregnancy comedy "Juno," went on to win wide acclaim.

But Thursday belonged to Canadian actor Paul Gross, who wrote, directed and starred in "Passchendaele," a love story set against the backdrop of Canadians fighting in World War I.

"In the end, love is all that can counter the implacable brutality" of war, Gross told the opening night audience.

*Beyond the Romance*, "Passchendaele" explores class and ethnic clashes in the country and serves up a healthy amount of Canadian patriotism.

Gross told Reuters that seeing his movie selected for opening night at a festival that has long promoted Canadian filmmakers was particularly gratifying.

"This film took an uncommonly long time to get around to making, and hundreds of people

Gerard Butler and Thandie Newton in *RocknRolla*, one of the most anticipated films at the festival.

were involved," he said of the labour of love that took more than 15 years from idea to movie. "This is a great tribute to the people involved."

But even as the red carpet rolled out for the Canadians, British director Guy Ritchie on Thursday also screened his newest gangster movie "RocknRolla," starring Thandie Newton, Gerard Butler and rapper Chris "Ludacris" Bridges. And the "RocknRolla" cast will not be the only Hollywood stars in town.

Actor-winning directors Joel and Ethan Coen ("No Country for Old Men") screen their latest

comedy "Burn After Reading" starring Brad Pitt and George Clooney, telling the story of a gym instructor who tries blackmail a former CIA agent.

Fourteen-year-old Dakota Fanning, who won the hearts of moviegoers as a child actor in films such as "War of the Worlds," grows up in front of audiences in coming-of-age tale, "The Secret Life of Bees," and directors including Spike Lee and China's Wong Kar Wai also bring their movies to Toronto.

Paris Hilton, who has earned a reputation for grabbing the media spotlight, did it again on

Thursday when a report in the *New York Post* said she had asked festival organisers to cancel two screenings of a documentary about her, "Paris, Not France," in favour of just one showing that would garner greater attention.

Meanwhile, audiences looked forward to upcoming movies ranging from 18th century romance "The Duchess" with Keira Knightley to cop drama "Pride and Glory" starring Colin Farrell and Edward Norton -- all leading to the festival's final gala film, "The Good, the Bad, the Weird."

All programmes are in local time.  
 The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme.

On Air

BTV

09:05 Selected Programme  
 09:30 Smritimoy Geetimoy  
 10:05 Swastho Sheba

10:30 Holdey Pakhir Palok

11:20 Desher Gaan

12:10 Shukhi Ponbaa

12:30 Amader Mukti Juddha

01:30 Nari O Shihu

02:15 Sisimpur

02:45 Bangla Feature Film

05:45 Islamic Programme

07:00 Geeti Mayo

07:25 Amader Katha

08:25 Drama Serial: Shangshaptaak

09:20 Drama Serial: Koshti

10:10 Chhuyechhoy Amay

10:30 Selected Programme

ATN BANGLA

08:15 Ajker Shanbadpolo

08:30 Nupurer Chhondoy

09:15 Top Spin

10:30 Talk Show: Magic Teen

11:30 Chaakaar Taroka

11:30 Shabdhan

12:15 Musical Programme: Anondo Oshru

03:45 Cookery Show: Vim Jhaf Pot Iftar

04:10 Islamic Programme

05:00 Gram Gorjer Khabar

06:20 Health Show: Square Hospital

08:00 Shushnoi Thakun

08:00 Drama Serial: Orrono Boshonto

08:40 Drama Serial: Chor Kuthuri

09:20 Drama Serial: EK Jonomey

10:00 Mukto Shonglaap

11:30 Daily Soap: Doll's House

12:00 Grameenphone Lead News

01:30 Talk Show: Citycell Taroka

Kathan

01:05 Musical Programme: Ebong

Cinemas Gaan

01:30 Shobaar Jorjo Shorboshey

Bigan Dharana

02:35 Mon Amre Deho Ghor

Shameek

05:15 Mukhijudhro Protidin

Selected Programme

06:25 Pushit Monhaar Iftaar

Drama Serial: Ghar Kutum

07:50 Drama Serial: Amader Swapno

Lokey

09:35 Agricultural Programme:

Hindoye Mati O Manush

Drama Serial: Shonshar

10:00 Drama Serial: 69

Grameenphone Ajker

Shangbadpotro

11:30 Drama Serial: 69

Grameenphone Ajker

Shangbadpotro

12:00 Drama Serial: Shonshar

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24:00 Drama Serial: 69

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25:00 Drama Serial: 69

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