

**WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK**

**Solo Art Exhibition**

**Abdur Razaque Retrospective**  
 Title: Rhythms of Figures, Forms and Nature  
 Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, H 275/F, Rd 27 (old), Dhanmondi  
 Date: October 10-29  
 Time: 12pm-8pm



**Solo Water Colour Exhibition**

Title: My Country My Love  
 Artist: Md. Abu Salm  
 Venue: Drik Gallery, H 58, Rd 15A (New), Dhanmondi  
 Date: October 18-21  
 Time: 3pm-8pm



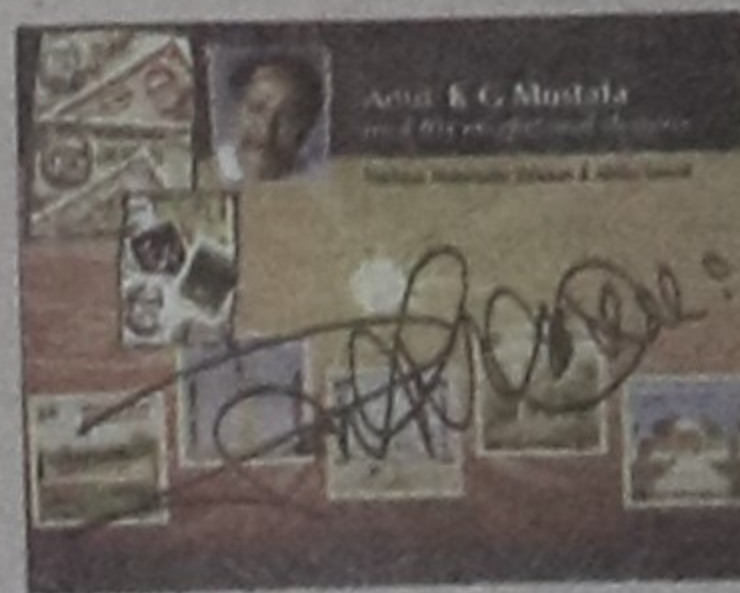
**Solo Painting Exhibition**

Title: Beauty of Nature  
 Artist: Kandeep Adhikari  
 Venue: Zainul Gallery, Faculty of Fine Arts, DU  
 Date: October 17-22  
 Time: 10am-8pm



**Publication Ceremony**

Title: Artist K G Mustafa and his exceptional designs  
 Organiser: Theme-O-Graph  
 Venue: CIDRAP Auditorium, 17, Topkhana Road  
 Date: October 21  
 Time: 5pm



## Lalon death anniversary observed at Chheuria

AMANUR AMAN, from Kushtia

To mark the 118th death anniversary of Fakir Lalun Shah, a three-day programme was held at the Lalun Akhra at Chheuria in Kumarkhali, near Kushtia town.

Lalon Academy, an organisation consisting of elected people to look after Lalun's shrine, arranged the programme that ended yesterday in association with the Ministry of Cultural Affairs. Banglalink was the sponsor of the programme.

The three-day programme included a 'Lalon Mela', discussion and rendition of baul songs by artistes of Lalun Academy and other bauls from across the country. Renowned artiste Farida Parveen also performed at the programme.

Cabinet Secretary Ali Imam Majumdar inaugurated the programme with Kushtia Deputy Commissioner (DC) Sarkar Abul Kalam Azad in the chair.

Participants at the discussions held throughout the three-day event included Secretary to the Ministry of Cultural Affairs, Md. Sarful Alam; Divisional Commissioner Khulna, Yunusur Rahman; Vice-Chancellor of Kushtia Islamic University (KIU), Professor Foyaz Mohammad Serajul Haque; Dr. Anwarul Karim, treasurer of KIU; noted folk researcher and Professor, Bangla department, KIU, Dr. Abul Ahsan Chowdhury; Chief Executive Officer of Kushtia Zila



Bauls perform at the Lalun death anniversary programme at Chheuria.

PHOTO: STAR

Parishad, Dharendraanath Sarkar; Dr. Shahinur Rahman of English department, KIU; ADC, Kushtia, Alamgir Hossain; M. Moniruzzaman, vice-president of Lalun Academy; Head of Public Relations and Communication, Banglalink, Solaiman Alam and Regional Commercial Head of Banglalink, Md. Babul Haque.

Taizal Ali Khan, secretary of Lalun Academy and the Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) of

Kumarkhali delivered the welcome addresses.

On the occasion, the akhra was decorated in a fitting manner. Temporary stalls were set up at the premises as well.

The occasion attracted a huge number of Lalun devotees from different parts of the country and abroad. They stayed at the shrine and took part in the programmes on all three days.

Jatindranath Roy, president of

West Bengal State Lalun Mela Committee, attended the event. He said that Lalun was a preacher of humanity. Roy expressed his delight, observing the major event celebrating Lalun in Bangladesh. He also invited all to a four-day Lalun festival to be held from November 1 at West Bengal, India.

**Nine bauls honoured**

Nine bauls were honoured by Lalun Academy at this year's

festival. Three of them were post-humous -- Nizam Uddin Fakir, Golam Rahman Mia and Alhaj Kalimuddin. The others honoured are Durlabh Shah, Bader Shah, Golap Shah, Samir Baul, Baul Rabiul Islam and Baul Azmol Shah. Cabinet Secretary Ali Imam Majumdar handed over the crests to the recipients.

**Controversy still on**

'Lalon Mazar O Seba Sadan Rakkha Committee,' (LMSSR) an organisation formed just after the death of Lalun, arranged a separate programme to observe the mystic's death anniversary at 'Akhra Bari' near the Lalun shrine. Deputy Director (DD) of Anti-Corruption Commission's Kushtia coordinating office, Mizauil Islam inaugurated the programme. With Fakir Anwar Hossain Mantu Shah in the chair, the programme included Dr. Rezaul Karim and Ahkam Uddin among others as speakers.

According to experts, the real torchbearers of Lalun's spiritual legacy are the fakirs who have held regular programmes to commemorate the bard's life.

According to some, Lalun Academy has had a chequered history. The academy's mandate was to oversee the akhra. In 1982, the academy chased the fakirs belonging to LMSSR out of the akhra. Since then the bauls observe the different occasions related to Lalun at a location near the shrine, naming it 'Akhra Bari'.

## A celebration of cultures in motion

ACCU Asia-Pacific ESD photo exhibition held in Dhaka



Participating photographs at the exhibition.

ERSHAD KAMOL

A weeklong travelling photography exhibition titled "ACCU Asia-Pacific ESD Photo Message Contest: Celebration of Our Living Culture" was held recently at the National Museum.

The contest and the travelling exhibition is planned to contribute to the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD). ACCU stands for Asia-Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO.

The exhibition featured 80 selected works from over 3,200 entries submitted from 38 Asia-Pacific Countries.

Nine photographs from India; seven from Vietnam; six photographs each from Japan and Thailand; five each from China and Myanmar; four each from Bangladesh and Indonesia; three from

Iran; two photographs each from Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Malaysia, Philippines, Papua New Guinea and Timor Leste and one photograph each from Nepal, Maldives, Lao P.D.R, Mongolia, Micronesia, Palau, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Singapore, Tajikistan, Tonga, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Cambodia and Fiji were featured at the exhibition.

The aim of the exhibition and contest was to highlight the diverse traditional elements of these regions. Besides depicting traditions of the aboriginals of the Pacific countries, the exhibition features the heritage of Southeast Asian, South Asian and Middle-Eastern countries.

People who are engaged in traditional music, theatre and dance, folklore and myth, social practices, rituals and festive events, traditional handicrafts,

cultural spaces such as those for prayers, rituals and congregations have been featured in the photographs.

Main attraction of the exhibition was award-winning photographs. Three Grand Prix winning photographs were Japanese photo-artist Kobayashi Masaru's 'Praying to the Gods', Chinese Ma Weiwu's 'Happy Music' and Thai Thanavich Kumsopha's 'Nang Ta Lung'.

Adviser to the Ministry of Cultural Affairs, Rasheda K. Chowdhury inaugurated the weeklong international photography exhibition. The show was jointly organised by Asia-Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO (ACCU) and the Japanese embassy in Dhaka. Among the distinguished guests were Japanese Ambassador Masayuki Inoue and ACCU Director General Kunio Sato.

**TV Watch**

### "Jochhna O Jananir Galpo" on BTV

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Drama Serial *Jochhna O Jananir Galpo* will be aired tonight after the 8 pm news at on Bangladesh Television. The serial is an adaptation of Humayun Ahmed's historic fiction with the same title.

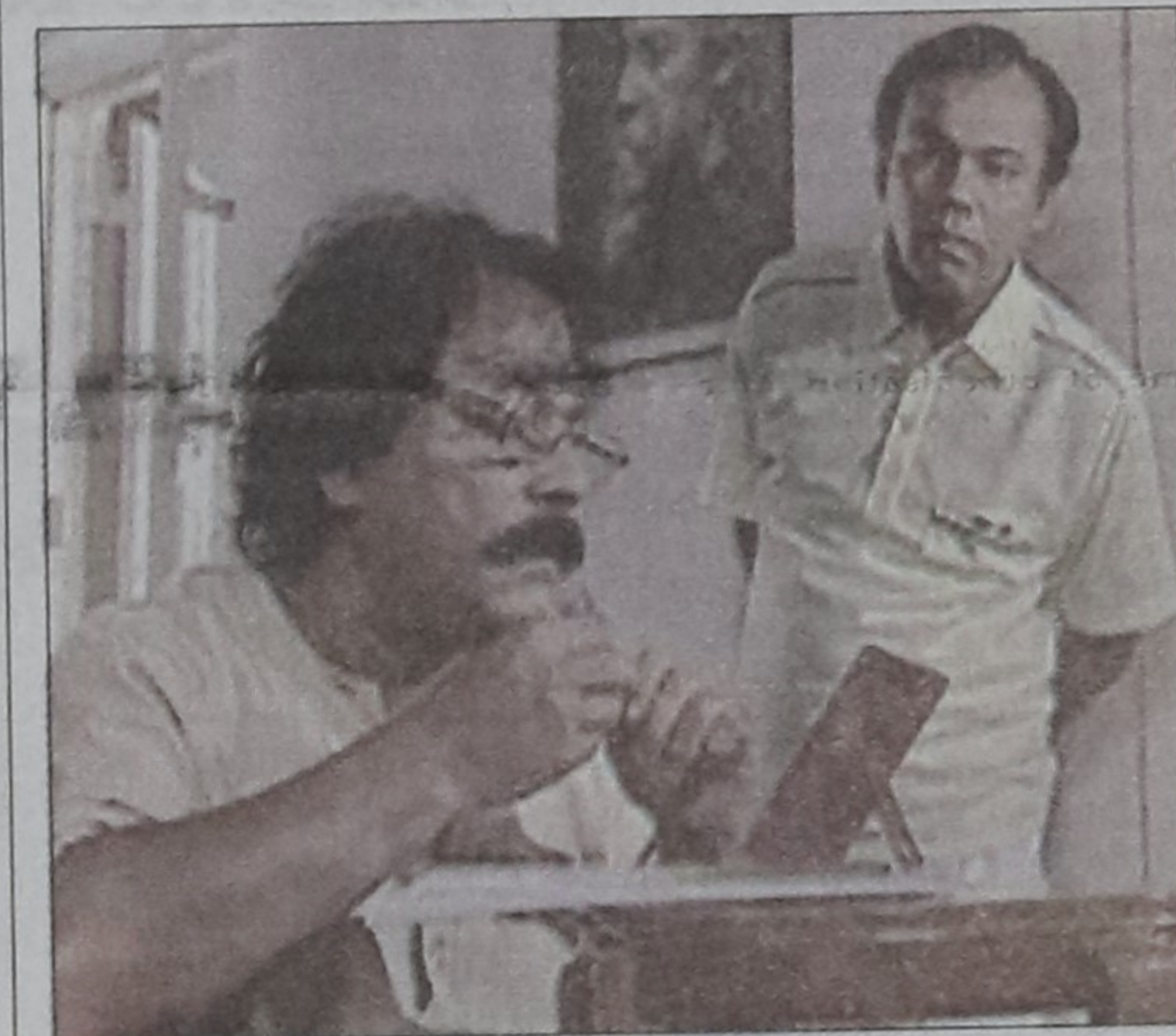
Set against the backdrop of the Liberation War, the serial features interactions between real and fictional characters. The cast of the serial includes Tania Ahmed, Ahmed Rubel, Jayanto Chattopadhyay, Meher Afroz Shaon, Majnun Mizan, Naznin Akhter and others.

The serial is produced by Kamrunnesa Hasan.



Ahmed Rubel and Tania Ahmed in *Jochhna O Jananir Galpo*.

### Drama serial "Shoa Paanch Arai Lane" on ATN Bangla



A scene from the serial.

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Drama serial *Shoa Paanch Arai Lane* will be aired tonight at 8:00 pm on ATN Bangla.

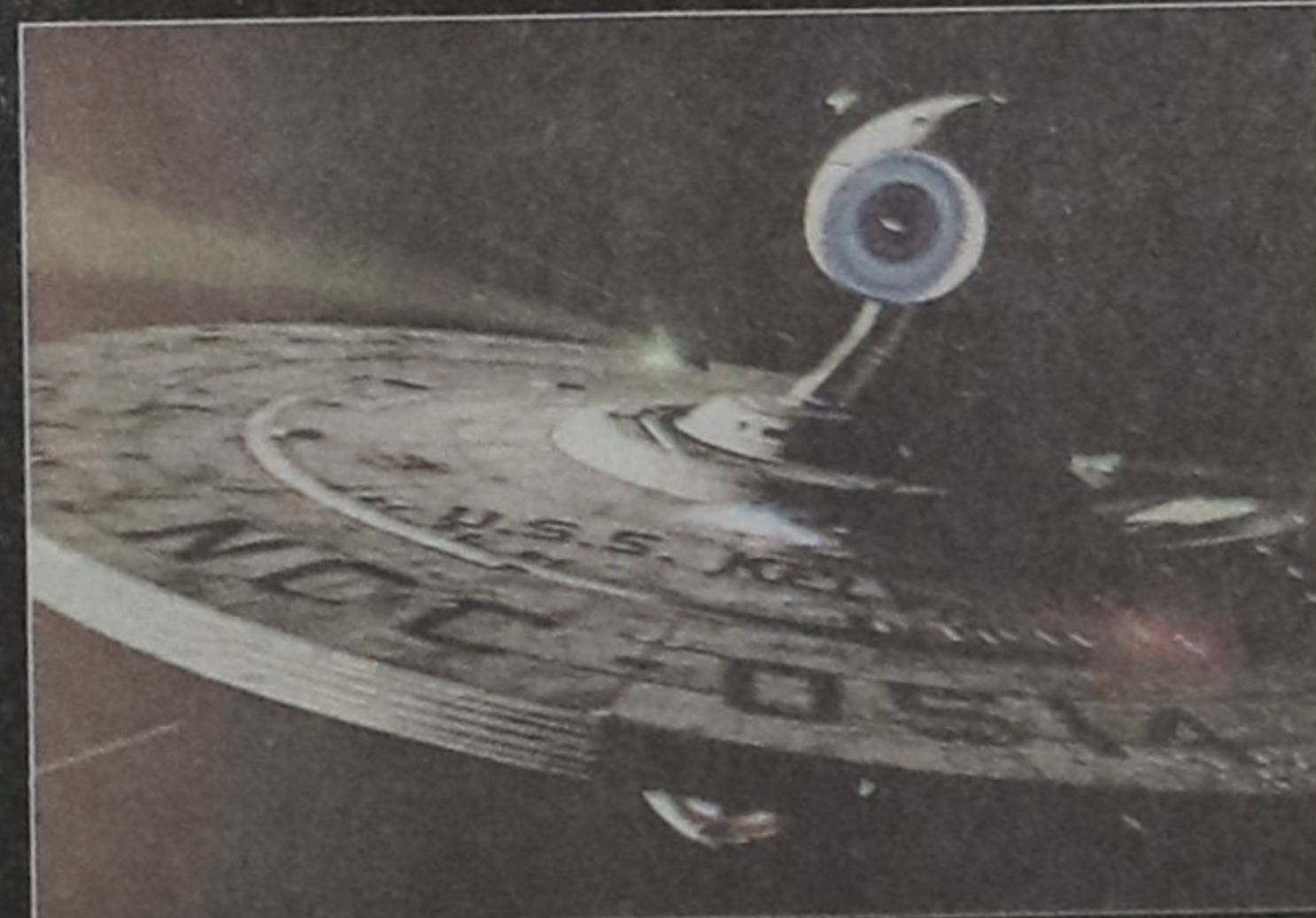
The serial revolves around a hundred-year old hostel in Old Dhaka and its occupants. Everyday the hostel is visited by people of different ages and backgrounds. As the story unfolds, the interactions between the tenants are brought to light. The day-to-day events often lead to hilarious consequences and the story proceeds on.

Written by Mominul Islam, *Shoa Paanch Arai Lane* is directed by Golam Sohrab Dudul. The cast includes Dr. Enamul Haq, Challenger, Shirin Alam, Mosharraf Karim, Fazlur Rahman Babu, Chitralekha Guha, Wahida Malik Jolly, Chanchal Chowdhury, Al Mansur, Tazin Ahmed, Tisha, Mamo, Tushar Khan, Rahmat Ali, Ahsanul Haque Minu, Eresh Zaker, Joyraj and Tania.

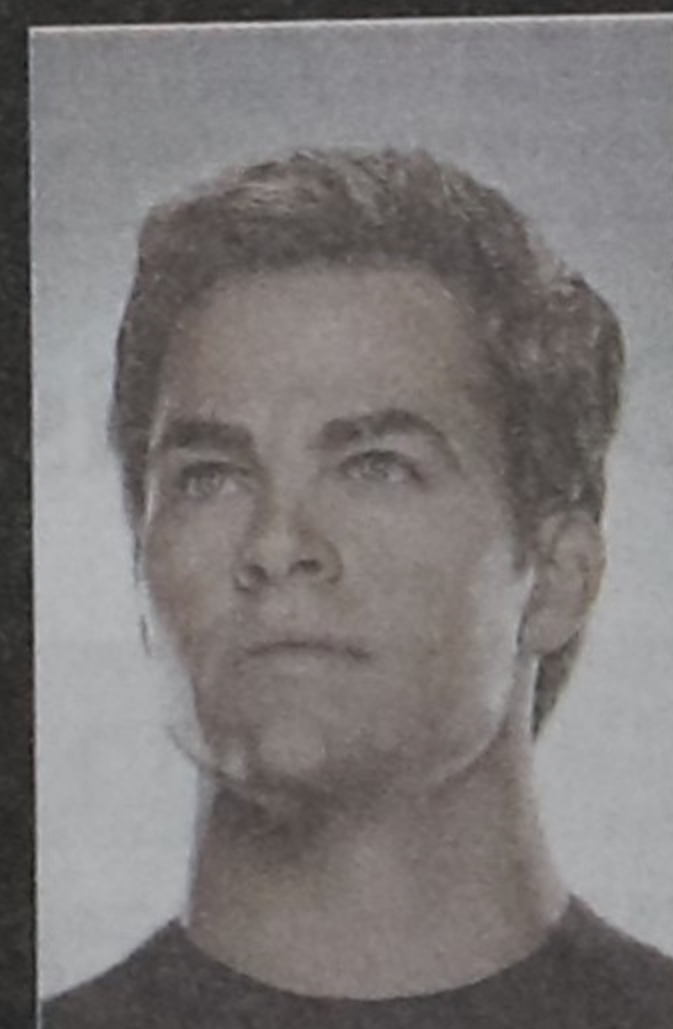
**Sneak Peek**

### The new "Star Trek"

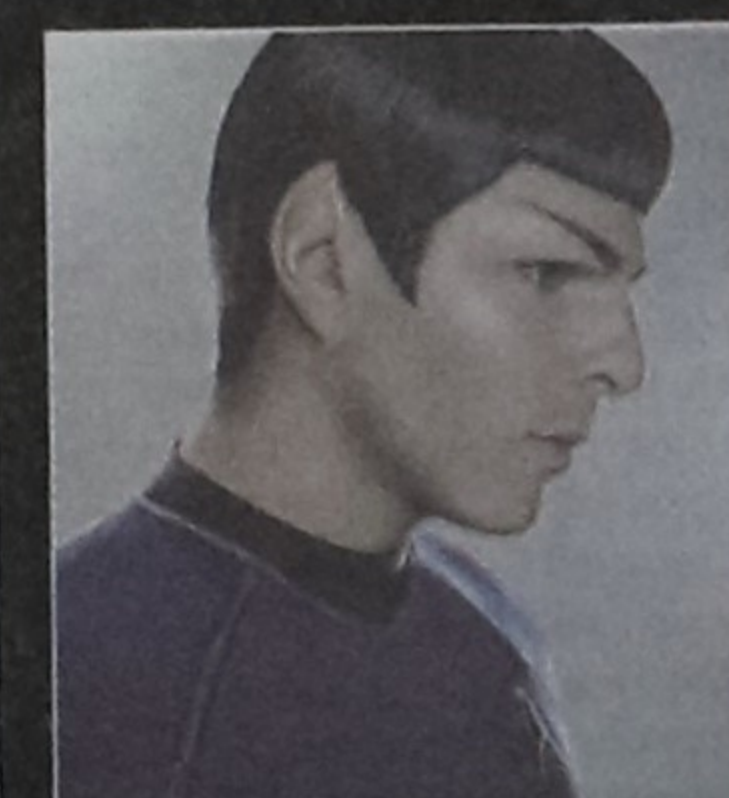
An early look at the new crew of the Enterprise and their Romulan nemesis from the summer 2009 J.J. Abrams franchise reboot:



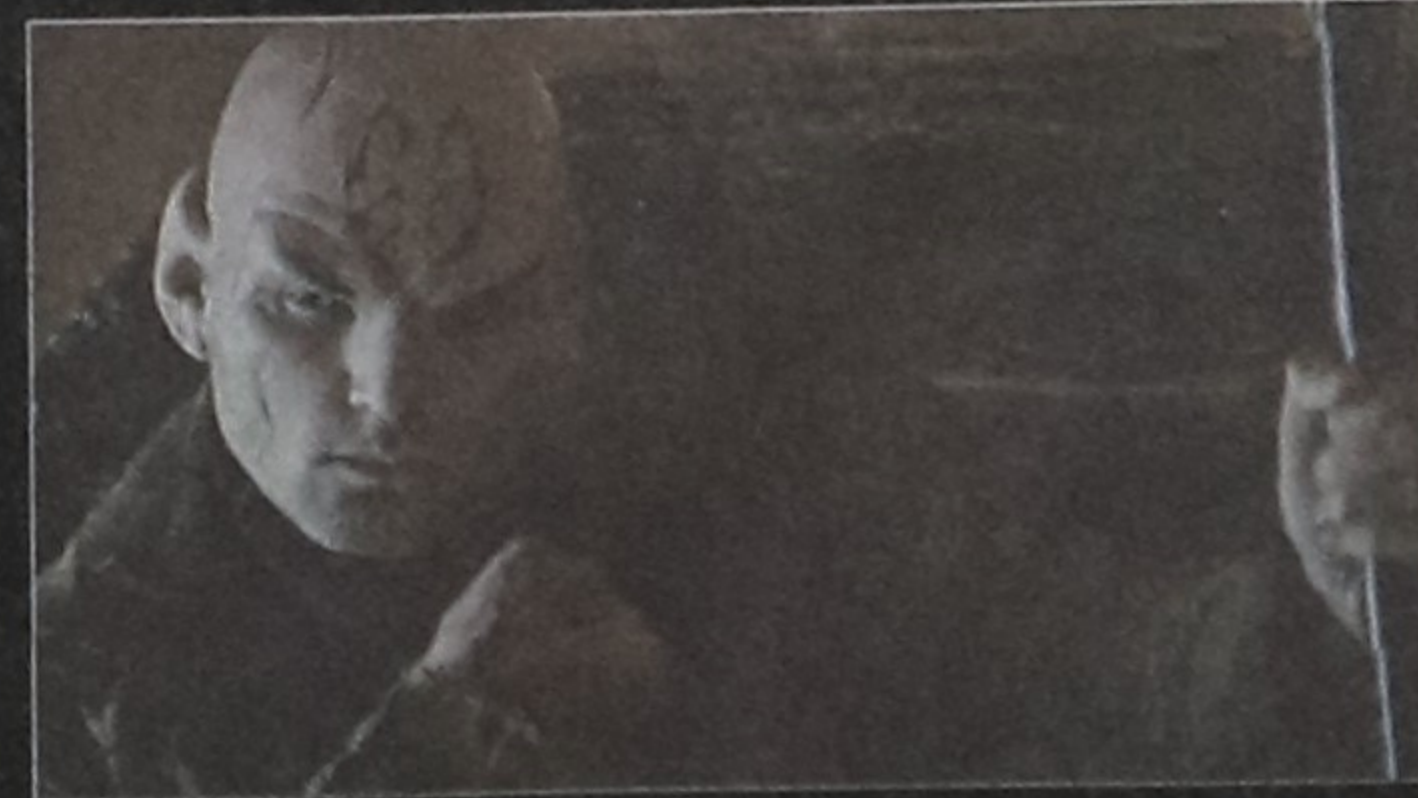
USS Kelvin: Before Kirk is even born, this ship comes under Romulan attack, launching the plot for the new movie.



Chris Pine as Capt. James T. Kirk.



Zachary Quinto as Spock.



Eric Bana as the Romulan villain Nero.

Compiled by Cultural Correspondent