

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Golam Mustafa Birth Anniversary
Organiser: Alokchitra Swajan
Venue: Beauty Boarding, 1, Shirish Das Lane, Banglabazar
Date: November 28
Time: 3pm



Solo Painting Exhibition

Title: Walking the Painted Pavé
Artist: Sunil Kumar
Venue: Alliance Française 26, Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi
Date: Nov 21-Dec 4
Time: 9am-12pm and 5-8pm (Saturdays 5-8pm)



Group Art Exhibition

Title: The Tools
Venue: Gallery Shilpangan, H 26, Rd 3, Dhanmondi
Date: November 23-29
Time: 10am-8pm



Solo Painting Exhibition

Title: Tales of a city
Artist: Nazib Mohammad
Venue: Gallery of Fine Art, Asiatic Society of Bangladesh, Nimtoli, Ramna
Date: Nov 24-Dec 2
Time: 12-8pm



TV Watch

Gladiator Round of Close Up 1

Three finalists to be announced tonight

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

"Gladiator Round" of ntv's mega-popular talent hunt "Close Up 1: Tomakei Khujchhey Bangladesh" will be aired tonight at 9:15 pm. From the top four contestants -- Liza, Atique, Opu and Sazu, three finalists will be chosen for the grand finale tonight.

Each contestant will perform popular songs. Saju will sing "Mon amar deho ghor", Opu will render "Jibananda," Atique will perform "Ek hridoy-heenar kache" and Liza will present "Eki shonar alo-e" on the show.

Tonight's programme will also feature the 40 contestants who were qualified for the sms round. Noted music composer Ahmed Imtiaz Bulbul, artistes Fahmida Nabi and Partha Barua will be present as the regular judges.



Top four contestants of "Close Up 1".

Buzz

Warfaze to be featured in upcoming Anjan Dutta film

JAMIL MAHMUD

Bangladeshi pioneering metal band Warfaze will be seen in an Indian film directed by Kolkata-based musician-filmmaker Anjan Dutta. Members of the band will be featured as guest artists in the film titled "Just Kolkata." The story of the film revolves around the ups and downs of a promising band, which gets to perform alongside Warfaze and Kolkata-based band Fossils at an international musical event.

"If all's well, then we are going to Kolkata in January, next year for the shooting," said leader and drummer of Warfaze, Sheikh Monirul Alam Tipu. The film will also feature some songs of Warfaze (under negotiation at present). While in Kolkata, the band will perform at some concerts.

Warfaze celebrated its silver jubilee earlier this year. On the occasion a grand concert at Hotel Sheraton was held, where all of the band's present and former members performed. About the grand celebration, Tipu said, "We didn't get a lot of time to get ready for the concert, as all former and current band members were busy."

At present Tipu is hosting an ongoing musical programme aired on Banglavisión. The programme, titled "Musicians," is planned and directed by Tipu as well. The programme fea-



(L-R): Oni, Sumon (former member of Warfaze) and Kamol perform at the reunion concert.

tures a particular band in each episode. Warfaze, LRB, Miles, Shironamhin and others will be featured in the programme.

Tipu also informed about Warfaze's upcoming projects. He said, "We are going to launch a DVD featuring the reunion concert. It would be available in the local market in January next year."

Warfaze also has plans to set up a

music school, launch a 'best of Warfaze' album and its seventh studio album next year. About the music school Tipu said, "At present, several Warfaze members -- individually -- train students. If we come together, it should be easy to run a music school."

A photography exhibition featuring the reunion is also included in the band's upcoming projects.

Last episode of Byasto Doctor tonight on Banglavisión

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

The last episode of drama serial "Byasto Doctor" will be aired on Banglavisión tonight at 8:25 pm. Written by Prasanta Hawlader, the serial is directed by Debashish Barua.

The story of this comedy revolves around a rural physician, who is known as the "byasto (busy) doctor" in the locality because of his constantly on the run attitude. Byasto doctor treats both humans and animals. He owns a bike, which has no headlight, mudguard or rearview mirrors. He always hangs a bag behind his bike where he keeps fruits, vegetables or whatever offered to him by patients and their families as visitation fee. His handwriting is so incomprehensible that no one can decipher it except the dispensary-owner.

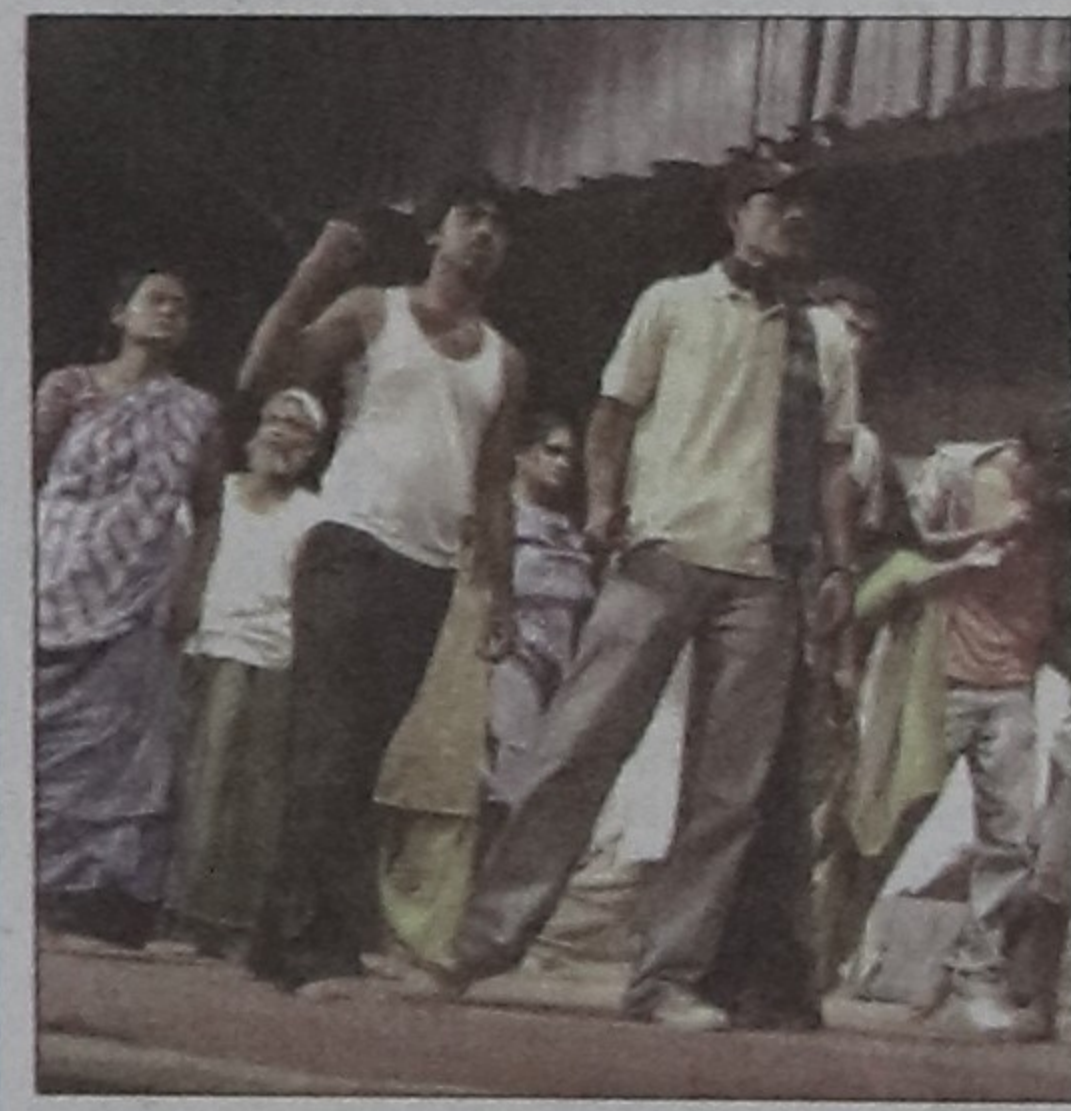
Salahuddin Lavlu, Tisha and Fazlur Rahman Babu play the lead roles in the serial.



A scene from "Byasto Doctor".

Adam Bepari

Play on exploitation of the poor and vulnerable



Actors of Faridpur Kheyali Natya Sampraday in a scene from "Adam Bepari".

REZAUL KARIM, Faridpur

Faridpur Kheyali Natya Sampraday staged its production "Adam Bepari" at Kobi Jasimuddin Hall recently.

Written by Siraj Hyder and directed by Alam Khan Kheyali, the play is the group's 24th production.

The story addresses exploitation of destitute slum-dwellers by local influential individuals and thugs, as well as crooked politicians.

Sona Mia is a 'mahajan' (money lender) and also owns a tea stall in a slum. To make money, he engages in several shady activities. One being exploiting the slum-dwellers for financial benefit. His accomplice 'mastan' (goon) Sharafat assists Sona Mia in all his dubious activities. Kasem, a driver and son of a freedom fighter, raises his voice against Sona Mia's reign of terror. A borderline "insane" Kobi Bhai, Fuli, Kulsum, Mohabbat, Gafur and Rupai -- all victims of Sona Mia's devious trade -- join Kasem in his fight.

Sona Mia is an 'Adam Bepari' (one who trades humans). They make money off of exploiting the poor, uneducated and vulnerable and the message of the play is to confront these individuals to break this vicious cycle.

The cast included Hasan Parvez, Indrani Soma, Rakibul Islam Russell, Arif Samsul, Hasibul Haque, Mir Rashed, Tuhin, Rezaul Islam, Md. Zahid Molla, Ripon Khan, Usha, Shimu and Abesh. A sizeable audience enjoyed the play.

Movie Watch

Transporter 3 stays in low gear

Frank Martin is sort of a third-party version of the international man of mystery for moviegoers who think that James Bond is too pretentious and Jason Bourne just doesn't have enough chest hair.

Previous "Transporter" films have stripped the genre down to its barest form, with simple point-A-to-point-B plots, dry humour, first-rate fight choreography, Jason Statham in action and car chases that completely disregard the laws of physics. Fans may remember -- quite fondly -- that one of the big scenes in "Transporter 2" featured Statham's Frank defusing a bomb on his car's undercarriage by launching the vehicle into a flying corkscrew, allowing a hook dangling from a construction crane to remove the device from his upside-down car.

Nothing quite that awesome happens in "Transporter 3," the weakest in the series and a rare disappointment from French action movie producer Luc Besson. Yes, Statham continues to impress with his kicks and punches. And yes, the human cargo he transports is hot. But the fight scenes are lacklustre and the plot is needlessly complicated.

The latest "Transporter" begins with, of all things, an environmental message. A company that's dealing in vats of face-melting toxic sludge tries to strong-arm a Ukrainian politician, who wants to do the right thing and make his country's waterways safe and clean. Meanwhile, Frank is forced to transport a rebellious Russian girl, Valentina (Natalya Rudakova), with both driver and passenger wearing bracelets that



will explode if they stray 75 feet away from his Audi sedan.

Thankfully, it's not a hybrid. As Frank and his passenger race across France, Germany and Ukraine, the chase sequences are as over the top as ever. In one scene, Frank gets his vehicle up on two wheels while driving at 140 miles an hour and squeezes diagonally between two semi trucks.

The previously unknown Rudakova is another positive. With her Dennis the Menace freckles, red hair and semi-crazy behaviour, she's the perfect woman for a "Transporter" movie. "Transporter" screenwriter Robert Mark Kamen has fun with the new character and her attempted seduction of the stoic and professional Frank.

Unfortunately, the simple pleasures of "Transporter 3" are mostly ruined by poor execution. It's hard to know whom to blame, so the buck will stop with the newcomer to the series, director Olivier Megaton, who, despite the explosive promise of his surname, seems to be in over his head. Noted fight choreographer and original "Transporter" director Corey Yuen returns to supervise the martial arts sequences.

Before "Transporter 3," it was pretty obvious that Martin could beat up Bond and Bourne in a fight. He might be able to take both of them, but it would have to be one at a time.

Compiled by Cultural Correspondent

Ownership fight sends a Mexican art collection into hiding

Somewhere a great collection of 20th-century Mexican art has been hidden.

The works, by Frida Kahlo, Diego Rivera, José Clemente Orozco and their contemporaries have been removed from a museum in Cuernavaca, about an hour south of Mexico City, until further notice as a legal battle unfolds over the collection's rightful ownership.

The paintings belonged to Jacques Gelman, a Russian-born producer of Mexican films who died in 1986, and his wife, Natasha, who jointly began amassing art after they were married in 1941.

Gelman, who became rich producing the films of the Mexican comedian Cantinflas, moved in glittering spheres in Mexico City and New York, socialising with artists, actors and art curators. As patrons in Mexico, the Gelmans commissioned many portraits: Rivera, Kahlo, Rufino Tamayo and David Alfaro Siqueiros all painted Mrs. Gelman.

At the time of her death the collection consisted of 95 pieces, including two well-known 1943 works by Kahlo, "Self-Portrait as a Tehuana (Diego on My Mind)" and "Self-Portrait



The Gelman collection of art includes Frida Kahlo's "Self-Portrait with Monkeys" (left) and Diego Rivera's "Calla Lily Vendor".

With Monkeys," and Rivera's 1941 "Calla Lily Vendor." In 1993 Mrs. Gelman wrote a Mexican will that bequeathed the Mexican collection to Robert R. Littman, an American curator who was a close adviser and friend in the last years of her life.

In 2004 Littman found a temporary home for the collection in a museum set up by the retailer Costco and its Mexican partner in Cuernavaca, where Mrs. Gelman had a house and spent most of her final years.

But two years ago a cousin of Mrs. Gelman who has been fighting for a greater share of her estate brought his legal battle to Mexico City.

The cousin, Jerry Jung, hired a team of lawyers who have used a quirk in Mexican law to mount a challenge to Littman's control over the collection.

One of the lawyers, Francisco Fuentes Olvera, bought the succession rights to Mrs. Gelman's Mexican estate for \$20,000 from her half brother, Mario Sebastian, in 2007 just before he died.

The transaction would give the lawyer the right to any part of the estate that was not clearly left to somebody else.

Meanwhile, Littman removed the works from the Cuernavaca museum last spring and hid them. He also cancelled a tour of museums in Europe and North America that would have begun this week at the Irish Museum of Modern Art in Dublin.

Source: Internet

Nandita Das' Firaag wins Greek award



Nandita Das

Nandita Das' directorial debut "Firaag" won a special award at the 49th Thessaloniki Film Festival in Greece, before its release in India.

"Firaag" won a special prize conferred by the Minister of Culture and given by the Mayor of Macedonia and also won a cash prize.

Autor Salman Rushdie introduced the film at all the screenings during the festival.

"I would not have thought of a better place to showcase the film. It is a festival for the movie-buffs and here I will know how the audience relate with it. Here the expectations are high and the competition is tough, as there are so many films from all over the world," Nandita said.

Source: Internet