

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Exhibit of Wood Engravings
 Title: Palashi Thekey
 Ekshur
 Carpenter: Nareh Kumar Sutrachar
 Organizer: Shudha
 Venue: National Museum
 Date: April 3-10
 Time: 9:30am-4:30pm (Fridays 3:30-7:30pm)



Solo Art Exhibition

Title: Recent Works
 Artist: Fareha Zeba
 Venue: Galleri Kaya, H 20, Rd 16, Sec 4, Uttara
 Date: March 21-April 3
 Time: 11am-8pm



Solo Art Exhibition

Title: Lyrics of Line
 Artist: Sanat Kar
 Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, H 275/F, Rd 27 (Old), Dhanmondi
 Date: April 3-14
 Time: 12-8pm

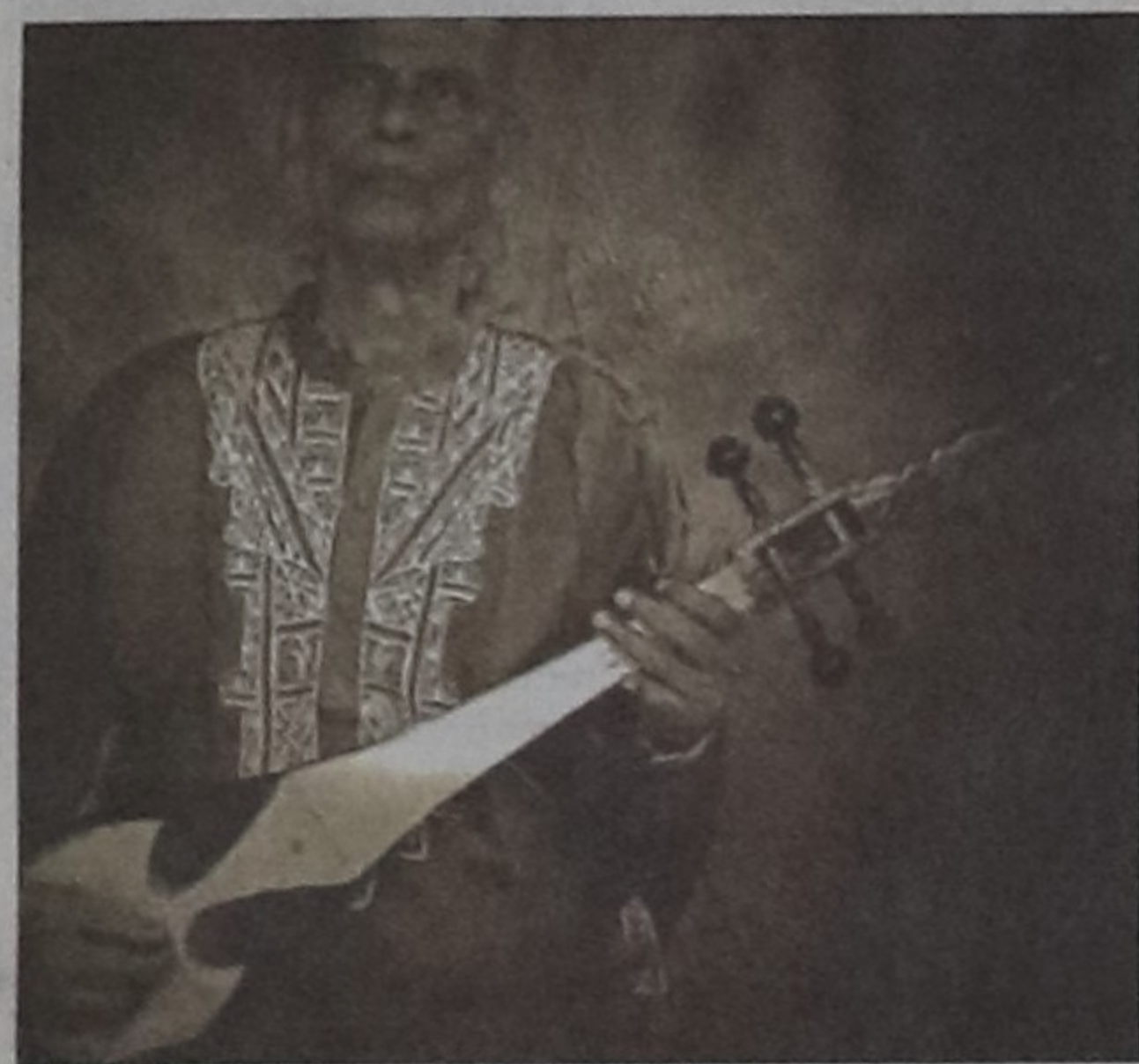


Art Exhibition

Artists: Jupiter Pradhan & Sauganga Darshandhari (Nepal)
 Venue: La Galerie, Alliance Francaise de Dhacca, 26, Mirpur Rd, Dhanmondi
 Date: March 27-April 5
 Time: 9am-12pm, 5-8pm (Saturdays 5-8pm)



Shah Abdul Karim Festival at Ujandhal begins today



A two-day music festival marking the 94th birth anniversary of the living legend Baul Shah Abdul Karim begins today at Ujandhal under Dirai upazilla of Sunamganj, according to a press release. The festival has been held annually (during the first week of April) for the last 10 years.

Shah Abdul Karim is considered an icon in Bangladesh. He has written and composed about 1,500 songs. Bangla Academy has translated his songs into English and he was honoured with the prestigious Ekushey Padak in 2001.

Karim's songs such as "Agey ki shundor din kataitam," "Bashonto batashey," "Krishno aaila" and "Maya" have gained enormous popularity among a cross section of music lovers. Several urban singers have also shot to stardom by re-arranging and remixing the maestro's compositions.

Karim's songs follow the tradition of Sufism and stand out for their extraordinary metaphors, message of secularism and depiction of divine love in simple words -- explaining the mass appeal of his music.

This festival is a chance for the rural folk as well as the Bauls to pay their respects to the bard. This year the organisers of the event expect over 50,000 visitors.

Telecommunications provider bangalink is the sponsor of the festival.

Baishakhi Celebration: Music Mela by Nokia

To celebrate 'Pahela Baishakh' (Bengali New Year), Nokia will be organising a grand musical event on April 14.

Nowfel Anwar, head of marketing, Nokia EA Ltd. made the announcement at a press conference held at a city hotel yesterday. Among others, Hamin Ahmed

of Miles, Ershad of Artcell, Bappa Majumder of Dolchhut and Tipu of Warfare were present at the conference.

This is the third concert by Nokia on the occasion of 'Pahela Baishakh.' Nokia has been holding special concerts on the Bengali New Year since

2007. The title of this year's event is 'Nokia Baishakhi Music Mela,' and it will feature performances by popular bands -- Warfaze, Miles, Artcell, Dolchhut and singer-musician Arnob.

The concert will be held at Banani Society Ground, Kemal Ataturk Avenue.



Nowfel Anwar speaks at the press conference. Hamin Ahmed and Bappa Majumder are on his right.

A treat for movie buffs Director and actor of "Monpura" meet audiences in Pabna



PHOTO: STAR

Giasuddin Selim (3-L), Chanchal Chowdhury (next to him) and Brindaban Das (2-R) at a reception in Pabna.

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Chanchal Chowdhury, who played the protagonist in "Monpura," and director of the film, Giasuddin Selim, along with renowned TV dramatist Brindaban Das visited Pabna last Wednesday. The trio watched "Monpura" in Rupkatha movie theatre that day and interacted with the audience. They also urged all to come to the movie theatres and encourage the film industry to produce quality films.

With the support of avid movie fans, the Bangla film industry has been its golden days, they conveyed.

The director, dramatist and actor trio stressed on the need to restore the heritage of Bangladeshi cinema so that the directors are encouraged to put their best efforts and the actors get opportunities to satiate their creative urge.

"Monpura" has been running successfully at Rupkatha Cinema Hall. Audiences thronging at the theatre is a clear indication that a quality movie never fails to draw interest among the masses. Keeping the local interest in the movie in mind, the theatre authorities decided to invite the artistes in Pabna, sources told.

Earlier the trio were accorded a reception.

Abdur Rauf, founder-curator of Bangladesh Film Archive, remembered

JAMIL MAHMUD

A memorial programme on the 9th death anniversary of the founder-curator of Bangladesh Film Archive (BFA) A.K.M Abdur Rauf (1935-2000) was held at the auditorium of BFA on April 1. 'Muktijoddha, Shilpi Abdur Rauf Smriti Shangshad' was the organiser of the event, which featured discussion on life and works of Abdur Rauf by noted film personalities and Rauf's near and dear ones.

Muhammad Jahangir, director general of BFA, gave the welcome speech. Samar Chandra Paul, secretary, Ministry of Information was the special guest, while film actor turned lawmaker Sarah Begum Kabori graced the programme as the chief guest.

Noted filmmaker and convenor of Abdur Rauf Smriti Shangshad,

Chashi Nazrul Islam, presided over the programme.

Filmmakers Morshedul Islam, Tareque Masud and Badal Rahman; poet Kazi Rosy; film historian Anupam Hayat; media personality Syed Hasan Imam and widow of Abdur Rauf, Shabanara Rauf, who is also joint secretary of the Smriti Shangshad, reminisced about Rauf.

Molla Mosharraf Hossain, member secretary of the organisation, read out a brief biography of Rauf.

A.K.M Abdur Rauf was born in Khulna. Rauf started his career as a Bangladesh Civil Service (Information) cadre. He was the typographer of the constitution (1972) of People's Republic of Bangladesh.

During his role as the curator (equivalent to director general now) of BFA, Rauf visited several film archives across the world and collected some priceless documents and

prints of films. His collection included a print of "Mukh O Mukhosh"; photographs of the first silent film made in Dhaka, "The Last Kiss"; a print of "Dhrubo," (1934) directed by National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam; Pramathesh Barua's "Devdas" (1935) and a print of the first silent film made in the sub-continent, "Raja Harish Chandra."

Abdur Rauf was also a notable cover designer. He designed covers of nearly 2800 books. A.K.M Abdur Rauf died on April 1, 2000.

FILE: PHOTO

The first Bangladeshi flag hoisted overseas (London) was designed by Abdur Rauf.



Weeklong theatre festival by Natyalok in Sylhet

IQBAL SIDDIQUEE, Sylhet

A weeklong drama festival, organised by the theatre troupe Natyalok, Sylhet, began at M. Saifur Rahman Auditorium in the city last Monday. Eminent cultural activist, Barrister Arshad Ali, formally inaugurated the festival, paying tribute to the late Abdullah Al Mamun. Veteran theatre personality Abdur Rahim was awarded with the 'Natyalok Shommanona' at the function.

On the first night of the festival, Abdullah Al Mamun's play "Meraj Fakirer Ma" was staged.



PHOTO: STAR

Actors of Natyalok in a scene from "Meraj Fakirer Ma," staged on the first day of the festival.

Mahbub Chowdhury directed the play -- 13th production of the group.

The cast included Goutam Chakraborty Ripon, Kadir Ahmed Chowdhury, Mahbub Chowdhury, Lokman Ahmed, Abdus Shahid Dulal, Abdullah Ayon, Farhana Jahan Tarin, Kaberi Roy Pinky, Anamika Roy Keya and others.

On the second night, Babul Ahmed's "Shapludu" was staged and renowned theatre personality Rabeya Khatun Dulu was honoured. A sizeable audience enjoyed the show.

The festival has generated much interest among the locals.

Amader Swadhinata staged in Khagrachhari



PHOTO: STAR

Students of Natun Kuri High School enact brutalities of the Liberation War in the play.

JASIM MAJUMDER, Khagrachhari

Young students of Natun Kuri High School staged a play "Amader Swadhinata" at Khagrachhari Stadium to mark the 38th Independence Day.

In the play, the young performers enacted the brutal onslaught by the Pakistani army on unsuspecting civilians in the then East Pakistan on March 26, 1971. The play also featured the heinous, planned murders of Bengali intellectuals and students, abuse of women, and destruction and plunder of property by the collaborators of the Pakistanis.

Young actors also acted out how the valiant Bengalis united and confronted the Pakistani forces under the able leadership of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and how Bangladesh earned its sovereignty.

Assistant teacher of Natun Kuri High School, Mohammad Dulal Hossain, wrote and produced the play. The cast included some 50 students, sources said.

X-Men pic Wolverine leaked online

"X-Men Origins: Wolverine" made an unauthorised debut online last Tuesday, even though the film is not set for release until May 1.

Web sites described the illegal download as a nearly complete, high-quality copy, but 20th Century Fox, the studio behind the film, said Wednesday that it included temporary sound and music and was missing effects and some scenes, with other scenes unedited.

The studio issued a statement saying, "We immediately contacted the appropriate authorities and had it removed," though once a film begins circulating online, it can be difficult to stamp it out.

Because of forensic marks, the studio said it would be able to determine the source of the leak, though it did not immediately disclose it, saying: "The FBI and the MPAA (Motion Picture Association of America) also are actively investigating this crime. We are encouraged by the support of fansites condemning this illegal posting."

"Wolverine," a spin-off of the Fox/Marvel "X-Men" franchise, stars Hugh Jackman and is directed by Gavin Hood. Its international rollout kicks off April 28, and it will have opened in most territories worldwide by May 1.

Source: Internet

