

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Solo Painting Exhibition
 Title: Jai Bangla
 Artist: Shahabuddin
 Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, H 275/F, Rd 27 (old), Dhanmondi
 Date: Sep 27-Oct 10
 Time: 12-8pm



Exhibition
 Title: Poshakey Ronger
 Utshab
 Venue: Gallery Nitya
 Upahar, Aziz
 Cooperative Super Market, Shahbagh
 Date: August 28-September 19
 Time: 10am-8pm



Photography Exhibition
 Title: Heritage Inspiration
 Photographer: M. Shamsuzzaman
 Venue: Drik Gallery, H 58, Rd 15A (new), Dhanmondi
 Date: September 15-19
 Time: 3-9pm



Film Screening
 Celebrating 50 years of Alliance Francaise de Dhaka (AFD)
 Venue: AFD, 26, Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi
 Date: September 27-30
 Time: 5pm onwards
 September 27: 'Quest for Fire' & 'Diva'



Eid fashion according to the experts

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Fashion trends change with the flow of time. Eid is a special occasion when everyone wants to look good. Adorned in silk saree, kurta panjabi as well as those heavy accessories -- colourful bangles, stylish scarves et al -- are in vogue this season. The Daily Star talked to three of the top Bangladeshi designers and a beautician to get an insight on what's hot and happening this Eid.

"Everyone has several programmes on Eid day, starting from the morning," says designer Emdad Haque (of Banglar Mela). "Traditional shalwar kameez, short panjabi, and occasionally saree get the preference. People like to be noticed



Emdad Haque

on Eid day. Youngsters like to wear clothes that are trendy and casual. Fotua or kurta with jeans is very in. A diversity of colours gives this an 'outgoing' look. Gone are the times when most people were content with one set of clothes for Eid."

Designer Shahrugh Shahid says, "Short pants, mid length kurta or kameez -- basically this is the fusion style that is dominating now. In my collection there is mostly white and black. For the young,



Shahrugh Shahid

what's in is synthetic stuff. Simple yet trendy shirts are what young men are going for this season. Anything long or baggy is out. Our country is seeing a blend of Western and Eastern styles." About accessorising with scarves, he says, "Yes they are becoming fashionable, but are not yet ubiquitous. Scarves go well with fotua." Shahrugh Shahid strongly endorses local material and designs over imported items.



Kaniz Almas

Beautician Kaniz Almas shares a tip on Eid make-up: "Your look should be natural. Eid day mainly involves family get-togethers and hanging out with friends, so you want to look laid back. But of course, there is a spirit of festivity, so you can put on a bit extra. The attire can be more flamboyant than usual. Gloss, eyeliner and kajol work best in every atmosphere. You should also wear make-up keeping the weather in mind. If it's too hot or humid, excess make-up can be a mess."

Designer Anila Haq gives an overview on the subject: "There seems to be an influence of Indian fashion on the current trends in our country, as Indian get-ups, jewellery etc are constantly being pushed through soaps



Anila Haq

and other shows on satellite TV channels. Fashion has its own statement. Gold, metallic, beaded jewellery work well. There are also big rings and bangles that create an exotic look. On Eid, as expected, clothes are usually a tad flashy. Make-up should be minimal. Eye-shadows of different shades of green and blue work well with thick lines of kajol. Choose a light shade of lipstick to go with that."

14th Asian Art Biennale to be held next year

The 14th edition of Asian Art Biennale, a grand art exhibition and competition for noted and emerging artists of the Asia-Pacific region, will be held in October-November next year, according to a press release.

The decision was made at the first official meeting of the festival organising committee. The meeting was held at

the Seminar Room, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy on September 16. Information Minister Abul Kalam Azad chaired the meeting.

At the meeting, the committee decided to invite over 50 countries from the Asia-Pacific region at the upcoming exhibition. The exhibition will be held for one month. To arrange the grand

event successfully, several committees and sub-committees will be formed as well.

Among others, State Minister for Cultural Affairs Promod Mankin; Md. Sharful Alam, secretary, Ministry of Cultural Affairs and renowned artist Rafiqun Nabi were present at the meeting.

Eid Special

Shurer Jhorna: Highlighting the irresistible melody of ghazals

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Special musical programme "Shurer Jhorna" will be aired on tv on the third and fourth day of Eid at 6:45pm.

Five adept singers -- Yasmin Mustari, Shakila Zafar, Anup Barua, Swani Zubayeer and Ariful Islam Mithu -- will perform popular ghazals in an informal setting on the show.

Artists will converse among themselves with renditions in between.

The programme has been jointly planned and produced by Shikriti Prashad Barua and Hasan Yusuf Khan.



Swani Zubayeer (left) and Anup Barua on the show.

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The curious lives of RJs

Adda at abc radio

NUSRAT JAHAN PRITOM

RJs have a special place in the hearts of the younger radio listeners. Most fans stay up till late to hear the voices of their favourite RJs.

The Daily Star went behind the scenes to explore the lives of and get feedback on a range of issues from five abc radio RJs: Shawon, Samy, Rabbi, Kebria and Pampa. The one-hour adda got so interesting that it spilled over by another half an hour.

Plans for Eid

Samy: No scheduled plans. Just unlimited fun

and unlimited food. We will be making a lot of hullabaloo right here at our office. On every festive occasion there is a special adda of all the RJs and we enjoy that tremendously. This is another special moment in our little world at abc radio. So special that even those who don't fast, join in to keep the spirit alive -- and, of course, to enjoy a good meal.

Pampa: The upside of being an RJ is that we don't have to fuss about make-up. I can come in any get-up -- on Eid too, I will probably do

the same.

Kebria: I will get my 'enormous' panjabi altered and turn out in this attire on Eid day. I will be taking a holiday after a long span of 16 months and fly home. Actually Eid for us is of two kinds: one here with our colleagues and the other, quieter one, at home. Like last year on Eid I was here. This year it would be the other way around.

Rabbi: You might find me lounging on the sandy beaches of Cox's Bazar right after the second day of Eid.

On life as an RJ

Shawon: Basically our lives

revolve around the studio and home. Uff! Life! There is only one thing to say here: Believe in yourself. That's the rule of thumb. And create those breathers even if you are busier than a bee.

Samy: I totally agree with Shawon; life is cool!

Kebria: Life is simple. Make at least someone happy and your life is successful. The goal is as simple as that.

Pampa: To me life is love. If I could read a poem and experience its meaning and the message behind it, then at that moment, the purpose of my life is accomplished!

Humorous anecdotes

Samy: There was this particular fan, who somehow got hold of all the numbers of female RJs and began talking about his tragic life. It turned out that the mysterious abc radio fan actually came to the studio to meet the female RJs; he even waited for three hours! All of us got really creeped out when we found out that he was texting all of us.

Kebria: One day I got a call from this guy; at first I thought I knew him because of the casual manner in which he asked me to meet him. He insisted that I have tea with him. It turned out that he had a sister who was a fan of mine. So right there, he took a photo, when I was in my big, loose T-shirt.



The RJs of abc radio.

The writer is a freelance contributor