

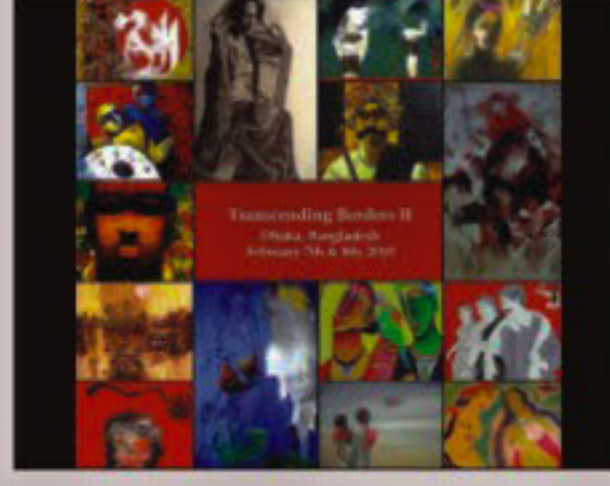
WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Ekushey Book Fair
Venue: Bangla Academy
Date: February 1-28
Time: 3pm-9pm



Group Art Exhibition

Title: Transcending Borders II
Venue: Radisson Water Garden Hotel, Airport Road, Dhaka
Date: February 7-8
Time: 11am-10pm



Film Screening

Title: Film For Fresher
Organiser: Jahangirnagar Students' Film Society
Venue: Central Auditorium, JU
Date: February 7-8
Time: 3pm onwards
Today: 'Kebab Connection', 'In Bruges' & 'Love Me If You Dare'



Art Exhibition

Artists: Tajuddin Ahmed and Kamal Kabir
Venue: Tivoli Art Gallery, F-33, Second Circle, DCC Market, Gulshan,
Date: February 8-21
Time: 10am-8pm



Boi Mela thoughts

Anisul Hoque has reservations about the venue

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Litterateur-journalist Anisul Hoque is of the opinion that to continue the Amar Ekushey Book Fair at the Bangla Academy premises will be practically impossible in the near future. Hoque argues that people's spending power has increased which explains the larger turnout at the book fair. As a result, it will be impossible for the authority to manage the rush of book lovers. "The other day I was at the mela. The number of visitors was encouraging but I was thinking about Fridays and other holidays," said Hoque. Moreover, the mela premises are gradually becoming inadequate for many publication houses. Hoque suggests that the authority shift the fair to a more suitable place. When the question crops up of the rich heritage of the fair and the annual event being synonymous with the Bangla Academy premises, Hoque remains defiant. "I think people's sentiment is not that diminutive that they cannot understand the practical situation. If the 'mela' is transferred to the other side of the road it wouldn't harm the heritage," he said. Six books by Hoque will be available throughout the month-long fair. Of those, five are already available at different stalls. Among the six works, three are novels, two are compilations of the regular columns that he wrote for the Bangla daily Prothom Alo and one is a work of fiction. His Liberation War based novel "Janani Shahoshini 1971" is available at the Shomoy Prakashani stall, while "Shudurtama" is published from Prothoma. Ananya Prakashani has also published his books. During the fair, his will be a regular presence at the stalls of the three publication houses.

Munmun: Lighting up the small screen

NUSRAT JAHAN PRITOM

Apprehensive under the glare of the spotlight, she took a deep breath to ease the tension and anxiety that had taken hold of her. And why not? It was only natural for a five-year-old girl to be nervous as she spoke to millions of viewers with the camera hovering above her. That very same girl, Rumana Malik Munmun now has a confident, smiling persona. Anchoring, acting, organising, whichever arena you consider, Munmun has made it big. Although she had appeared in advertisements, acted in the film "Chhana O Muktijodho", by Anwar Syed Haq, and directed by Badol Rahman when she had just entered her teens, or been in countless dramas, she first caught the public eye in 2006 through Lux-Channel i Superstar. "After that year, for three consecutive years I was involved with this show, not as a participator but as an organiser," she recalled.

After that milestone, there was no stopping Munmun. Suddenly she was a conspicuous face on almost every channel, either acting or anchoring. In an interview, she said, "There is no shortcut to accomplishment. One has to work hard consistently and continue to learn during that process." And she proved it with TV plays like "Dainik Tolpar", her first TV play (after participating in Lux Channel-i Superstar), "Batasher Khancha" written by Dr. Muhammad Zafar Iqbal and others. She anchored Lakme-Next Gen Designers search soon after becoming a superstar in 2006. Subsequently Munmun has appeared in variety of shows as an anchor. Munmun anchored the recent SA Games. She was also anchor along with Ravi Shastri at the launch of the ICC World Cup. Though Munmun confesses to being nervous at first as an anchor, has she ever been scared?



Rumana Malik Munmun

"Scared, yes, many times. Like as we were working on *Daruchini Dwip*, based on a popular book by Humayun Ahmed; there was a part when I had to stand just at the edge of this launch-steamer and emote with the actor. That was rather scary." As she was studying in a private university and just

about to cross the threshold of her career, her mother, a constant source of inspiration, passed away. "She was everything to me. Four years ago, when she left me, I was torn apart. Whatever I get in life, I will not get back my mother," she laments.

Munmun said that after her mother passed away, her sister took care of her. "I have found my family very supportive. They were always by me like a shadow. Without them by my side, I couldn't have stepped forward." "What puts a smile on my face is when my family says

they are proud of me, and when I get the appreciation for my work from so many people." Interestingly, Munmun is an introvert who in her words "likes to be extrovert." Munmun will now be seen in the TV play "Dhupchhaya" to be aired on ntv, and two upcoming works on ATN "Batpaar" and "Looking Glass". On Channel-I she will appear in the TV play "Dighir Jole Kar Chaya Go" written by Humayun Ahmed. She has two other programmes coming up, "Shubho Bibaho" and "Look At Me". Munmun's birthday is on May 14. Her hobby is to read and especially to spend time with her family. However, Munmun says she hardly has any free time, as she has hectic schedules that demand round the clock work. But she's not complaining. As her motto goes: "Make your existence meaningful. That's what makes an ordinary person extraordinary."

Back on track

Sachchu directs telefilm after two years



Sachchu plays a special character in the telefilm.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Actor-director Shahidul Alam Sachchu is busy directing his latest telefilm "Bhetorer Manush", after a two year hiatus. The shooting of the telefilm began recently at diverse locations in greater Sylhet. Rubel Sankar has written the telefilm. The telefilm's plot: Rakhil Babu, the banker, suddenly disappears. After several

anxious days, his family members and colleagues discover his corpse at the morgue. When, they want to take away the corpse, the morgue authorities say that it is a case of mistaken identity. The incident perplexes Rakhil Babu's colleagues and the story takes a twist. The cast includes Jayanta Chattopadhyay, Rokeya Prachy, Elora Gawhar, Shams Sumon and Farhana Mili. Sachchu himself plays a special character.

Selim Al Deen Fair in Sonagazi

A CORRESPONDENT, Feni

The Natyacharya Selim Al Deen Fair began at Mongalkandi High School ground in Sonagazi upazila of Feni on February 4. Dr. Alauddin Ahmed, adviser to the Prime Minister, inaugurated the three-day fair as the chief guest. Dr. Selim Al Deen's village home is at Senerkhil under Sonagazi upazila. He attended Mongalkandi High School near his village home. Hundreds of people from Senerkhil village as well as remote areas of Sonagazi thronged the fair. Noted actress Rokeya Prachi presented the inaugural function. Feni Deputy Commissioner

Mohammad Abdul Quddus Khan presided over the event. Feni Police Super Mallick Fakhrul Islam was the special guest. Convener of the fair committee noted drama personality Nasiruddin Yusuff delivered the welcome address. Sammlito Sangskritik Jote general secretary Hasan Arif, Bangabandhu Abriti Sangsad general secretary Sahadat Hossain Nipu and Feni Sadar Upazila Parishad chairman Abdur Rahman spoke among others. The speakers focused on different aspects of Dr. Selim Al Deen's creative works. They said he gave Bangla theatre a modern perspective. His plays have been rendered into seven languages and staged in several countries. The organisers said, that the Selim Al Deen Fair will be held annually in his village.



Dr. Alauddin Ahmed addresses an august gathering.

Emma Watson is named Hollywood's highest paid female actor

There was little doubt that Emma Watson had come a long way since playing the bespectacled swot Hermione Granger in Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone, the first blockbuster hit featuring the boy wizard. But just how far she has progressed in financial terms was revealed today when the 19-year-old was named Hollywood's highest paid female actor. Towering above more seasoned performers such as Sarah Jessica Parker and Angelina Jolie, the star raked in £20m last year in Vanity Fair's list of Hollywood's top 40 earners. She came 14th in the overall list, and alongside

Cameron Diaz was one of only two women in the top 20. She reportedly earned £10m for the final two instalments of the Potter films, The Deathly Hallows parts 1 and 2. Co-star Rupert Grint came just behind her in 15th position. A regular sight on the front rows of fashion shows in London and Paris, Watson last year won a lucrative advertising deal with Burberry and this year launched a clothing collection in collaboration with the ethical label People Tree. Meanwhile Daniel Radcliffe, who played Harry in the films, made £26m, putting him sixth in the table, and bestowing upon him the honour of being the highest



Emma Watson

paid actor on Vanity Fair's list, the top five positions all taken by directors. His earnings are also likely to be higher than

estimated, as other sources of income, such as a promotional deal with Orlando's new Hogwarts theme park, were not counted. The title of top earner went to Michael Bay, the maker of the latest Transformers film, Revenge of the Fallen, with an income thought to exceed £78m, while Steven Spielberg was in second place with more than £53m estimated earnings. It's been a good year for James Cameron, whose record-breaking Avatar could sweep the floor at this year's Oscars, having been nominated for nine awards. Avatar recently overtook his last film, Titanic, to become the highest grossing movie ever made. His earning, estimated at £31m, put him at number four in the list.

Tom Hanks, Ben Stiller, Owen Wilson, Nicolas Cage and Russell Crowe all made it into the list, compiled by the magazine after a process of interviewing agents, lawyers, studio executives, and sometimes stars themselves, about earnings. It takes into account other revenue sources than filmmaking, such as modelling contracts and sponsorships. According to the annual Forbes rich list, published last July, Angelina Jolie was the highest-paid actress in Hollywood, making \$27m (£17.2m) between June 2008 and June 2009.

Source: The Guardian

Coming soon! fan mail

We know that our readers would like to know more about their favourite artistes and celebrities. To take our readers closer to the stars a fortnightly (once every two weeks) feature, starting from February 14, will be based on questions sent by you.

Readers are invited to send questions right away! Write to:

fan mail
Arts and Entertainment
The Daily Star
19 Karwan Bazaar
Dhaka 1209
or
culture_dailystar@yahoo.com
[subject should say "fan mail"]

Training programme on classical music ends

AMANUR AMAN, Kushtia

A five-day training programme on classical music ended at Kushtia Shilpakala Academy on Thursday. Twenty four students of the Shilpakala Academy from Kushtia and Iswardi in Pabna took part in the programme that began on January 31. Kushtia Shilpakala Academy (KSA) sponsored the programme. Sajju Ahmed conducted the training. After the training programme, Amirul Islam, general secretary of KSA handed over the certificates to the trainees. Among others, vice-president of KSA Abul Kasem, Sheikh Mohiuddin, Akram Hossain were present at the programme.