

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

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



Cultural Programme

To mark Amar Ekushey
Organiser: Shamllito Sangskritik Jote
Venue: Central Shaheed Minar premises
Date: February 8-21
Time: 4pm onwards



Travelling Film South Asia

Organiser: Beginning
Venue: Shawkat Osman Auditorium, Central Public Library
Date: February 11-13
Time: 4pm onwards



Theatre

Play: Half Akhrai
Troupe: Udichee
Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Date: February 15
Time: 7:00 pm



Boi Mela thoughts



Bappa and Fahmida's musical offering for Valentine's Day

A CORRESPONDENT

Bappa Majumder and Fahmida Nabi's latest studio album "Ekmutho Gaan 2" will be launched at Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, in the city, today.

The album comes on the eve of Valentine's Day -- from G Series -- and is the second duet album by the artistes. All songs have been composed by Bappa.

Speaking on the album, Fahmida said, "This latest album follows the success of our first duet album 'Ekmutho Gaan' [released in 2006]. Our fans and well

wishers have been asking us to bring out a second duet album."

"On the occasion of Valentine's Day, I would like to dedicate this album to all our fans," she added.

The album features ten tracks -- six duets and four solos. The song "Bhalobeshy Diney Raatey" has been covered by both artistes.

Other songs in the album are: "Nishsho Keno Lagey", "Bishal Akash Hobo", "Hukum", "Jokhon Tokhon", "Majhey Majhey Tomakey", "Shashon" and "Ami Tomar Joggo Kina".

"I hope this album will be able to satisfy music enthusiasts' expectations," Fahmida said.



"Boi Mela should be turned into an international event"

-- Bhaswar Banerjee

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Noted reciter Bhaswar Banerjee is of the opinion that the month-long 'Amar Ekushey Book Fair' is a great chance for young reciters to be introduced to new poems. He thinks that the mela also offers publications for those who are associated with performing arts such as theatre.

"Every year along with compilations and new editions of previously published poems, a good number of new poems -- by both noted and upcoming poets -- are unveiled at the fair. So, it is a good opportunity for reciters to browse, and get acquainted with new arrivals," said Banerjee.

The seasoned reciter is concerned that our reading habit is on the wane significantly, though he is hopeful that the book fair will encourage all to read more. "It is obvious that our passion for books is somewhat less than our previous generations. But one thing we have to realise is that books are irreplaceable sources of information and knowledge. Particularly for those, associated with arts, reading is necessary. If you cannot gather proper information and education on your field of interest, you cannot articulate yourself efficiently," he said.

He emphasises on publishing more books on essays and translations of world classics.

The latest edition of Banerjee's book on recitation and theatre titled "Naty: Swar O Sanglap" is available at the Shahitya Prakash stall.

Banerjee also thinks that the fair should be expanded in future. He feels that it should be transformed into an international fair.

"There is a Dhaka International Book Fair, which generates very little interest among the masses. On the other hand Ekushey Book Fair is extremely popular. So, why not turn it into an international event?" he wondered.



National Film Awards '08 announced

National Film Awards for the year 2008 were announced on February 11. An eleven-member jury, chaired by the additional secretary to the Ministry of Information, selected the winners in different categories, says a press release.

For the year 2008, 24 awards in 23 categories are being conferred. Young filmmaker Murad Parvez's "Chandragrahan" bagged the best film award.

Poppy won the best actress award for her role in "Megher Koley Roud". Shams Suman received best supporting actor award for the film "Swapnopuron" and Zahiruddin Piar received best actor in a negative role for "Chandragrahan". Dilara Zaman and Champa jointly won the best supporting actress award for "Chandragrahan".

Awards also went to: Andrew Kishor (best male playback singer for the film "Ki Jadu Korila"), Kanak Chapa (best female playback singer for "Ek Takar Bou"), Kabir Bakul (best lyricist for "Megher Koley Roud") and Alam Khan (best composer for "Ki Jadu Korila").

The other Alexander the Great

Iconoclastic fashion designer found dead



McQueen's unconventional designs often challenged the perception of beauty.

Alexander McQueen, the fashion world's reigning provocateur who helped elevate British fashion to the international stage with his unconventional and sometimes macabre designs, was found dead Thursday at his home in London. He was 40.

The police have not released an official report on the cause of death, but his press representatives at KCD Worldwide said it appeared to be suicide.

As a designer, McQueen was not only a technical genius but a creative genius as well. His theatrical runway productions were often controversial, casting models as witches and mental patients, challenging the notions of what is beautiful and what is grotesque.

He was known for rigorously tailored jackets, second-skin repeating-pattern leggings and dresses, gravity-defying lobster-claw shoes -- which Lady Gaga daringly donned in her "Bad Romance" video -- and a fascination with the macabre that lent itself to suits-cases with rib-cage motifs and sweaters with cable-knit skulls and crossbones.

"A gifted iconoclast, who could just as easily be creating art as fashion," was how former Times fashion editor Mimi Avins described McQueen upon seeing his clothes for the first time in 1996.

Eric Jennings, vice president and men's fashion director of Saks Fifth Avenue who was among the buyers and media members attending McQueen's Milan menswear show last month, described the designer Thursday as an icon.

"It's a tragedy; Alexander McQueen has been a tremendous resource for us," Jennings said.

Death seemed never to be far from McQueen's mind both on the runway and off. In a 2008 interview with The Times the day before his 39th birthday, he said the suicide of his longtime friend and mentor, the eccentric stylist Isabella Blow, had a profound effect on him.

McQueen's death comes days after his mother Joyce's death on February 2, and weeks before he was due to present his fall women's collection in Paris.

Source: Internet

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

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Only short listed candidate will be called for interview. Any persuasion will disqualify the candidate for consideration for appointment.

Application Deadline: 28 February 2010.

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EXHIBITION/ SEMINAR

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SATURDAY & SUNDAY
FEB 13th & 14th

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