

## WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

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



### Solo Art Exhibition

Artist: Rashid Amin  
Venue: Shilpangan Gallery, H-26, R-3, Dhanmondi  
Date: February 18-March 1  
Time: 12pm-8pm



### Cultural Programme

Organiser: Amra Surjomukhi  
Venue: Bangladesh Shishu Academy  
Date: February 25  
Time: 5pm



### Film Festival

Title: Amar Bashar Chalachitra  
Organiser: Dhaka University Film Society  
Venue: TSC Auditorium, DU  
Date: February 22-28  
Time: 10:30am onwards



## In Conversation

### Bobita talks her upcoming movies

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Seasoned actress Bobita is busy with several upcoming films at present. She is working in seven to eight films simultaneously, Bobita informed. Acclaimed filmmakers like Kazi Hayat, Maleque Afsari and Nargis Akhtar are helming the films.

Among the projects, Nargis Akhtar's "Abujh Bou" is ready to be released. Maleque Afsari's "Moner Jala", Gazi Mahub's "Shurjo Khan" and Naser's "Ma-er Jonno Pagol" are being shot at different locations. Other films featuring the actress are "Ek Janamer Bhalobasha" and "Putro Amar".

Bobita is working with almost all leading actors and actresses of the industry, including Shakib Khan, Ferdous, Apu Biswas and Purnima.

Most of the films see Bobita as either a mother or a sister in law. The once-heartthrob of Dhaka cinema says that she enjoys working with actors belonging to different generations.

Three of her recent films -- "Sramik Neta", "Bhalobasha Laal Golap" and "Ek Buk Jala" -- are being screened at theatres across the country.

The actress stays abroad -- three to four months -- with her son Anik Islam, who is studying engineering in Canada. "As I have to go to Canada shortly, I have to finish shooting my films," she said.

## Generating awareness through plays

Three-day Street Theater Festival ends in Pabna



Actors of Pabna Drama Circle in the play "Ojha".

PHOTO: STAR

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU, Pabna

A three-day Street Theater Festival -- held in Chatmohar upazila -- ended last Tuesday. Chiknai Theatre, one of the leading cultural groups of the district, organised the 4th Street Theatre Festival at Chiknai High School in the district.

The festival was inaugurated on February 21. Lawmaker of Pabna-3, Md. Mokbul Hossain, formally inaugurated the event. He attended the concluding programme as well.

The festival stressed on generating awareness against social injustice. Speakers at discussions -- held during the festival -- focused on the impact of theatre on social life. Theatre mirrors life. Social ills are movingly portrayed through plays that can educate the masses -- they were of the view.

Throughout the ages, theatre has played a vital role in social reform, they added.

The play "Khoab" was staged on the opening day (February 21) of the festival. Actors of Chiknai Theatre, the host organisation, staged the play. Four other plays were performed that day.

On the second day, Pabna Drama Circle staged "Ojha" and Shomonnoy Theatre staged "Bathan". Pabna Theater 77 staged the play "Khek-shial" and Chiknai Theatre staged "Shekol" on Tuesday, wrapping up the festival.

All plays staged at the festival urged the audience to take a stand against social injustice. "Khoab" addressed false promises made by political leaders prior to elections, "Shekol" depicted restraints faced by the middle class, while "Khek-shial" and "Ojha" demanded the trial of war criminals.

"We have tried to present different aspects of social evils through the plays. We hope that these plays have encouraged the audiences," said Md. Abdus Salam, president of Chiknai Theatre.

The festival also included music and dance performances. Competitions on dance and music, as well as renditions of patriotic and folk songs were part of the daily programmes.

Chiknai Theatre was formed in 1994. The organisation has produced 20 plays since its inception. Of them "Ek Ajla Rokto", "Ekush Ajo Rokto Chay", "Dui Bhai" and "Mohabidya" are popular plays, according to the group.

## A medley of folk songs at Shishu Academy

Solo performance by Rinku

A CORRESPONDENT

One of the "Close-up" finalists, up and coming folk singer Rinku staged his first solo concert at Bangladesh Shishu Academy, in the city, on February 23.

Rinku performed a number of folk songs from his four albums -- "Baul Mon", "Kanan Haat", "Gaan Pagla" and "Hawar Gari" -- at the programme. The artiste made a vow to popularise baul songs in the national and international arena when he got his big break on TV.

Rinku started off with the song "Poran pakhi", written and composed by Iqbal

Haidar. A rendition of "Baul Mon", written by Zahid Ahmed, followed. The singer also performed a Lalon song, "Eshob Dekhi Kanan Haat-bajar"; a Bijoy Sarkar composition "Janitey Chai"; two folk songs "Jontronar Makorsha" and "Poran Bandhu"; "Pagla Ghonta", written and composed by Munshi Wadud and Alauddin Ali respectively; "Hawar Gari", written by Bangali Rokon; "Gaan Pagla" and "Naak Chhabhi" both written and composed by Asif Iqbal and Suman Kalyan respectively and more at the event.

Mobarak on dhol, Shobhon on tabla, Dipu on octopad, Shaheed on flute and others on banjo, mandira, lead guitar, bass guitar, keyboard, harmonium and khanjani, accompanied the vocalist.



Rinku sings at the concert.

PHOTO: MUMIT M.

## A host of programmes for Ekushey February

AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh

To observe International Mother Language Day, Alok Chitra Shilpi Sangsad (Ashis) organised daylong programmes at Baishakhi Mancha at Shaheb Quarter Park area in the district town on February 21. The programmes included a discussion, photography exhibition, poetry recitation for children and the screening of a short film on the

Liberation War.

The short film titled "Al Badar" drew the attention of the younger generation. The photography exhibition with hundreds of photos of the Liberation War and the Language Movement, the only such exhibition in the district, also drew a huge audience.

Earlier, a discussion titled "Our War of Liberation" was held with Ashis Vice-president Subodh Chandra in the

chair. Principal Motiur Rahman, MP was the chief guest.

Among others, Proctor of Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) Professor Mohammad Shamsuddin; former Vice Chancellor of BAU Professor Shah Mohammad Faruq; Mayor of local municipality Ekramul Haque Titu; Professor Lutfur Rahman Khan; Professor Nusrat Jahan Hossain of Teacher's Training College and journalists Sultan Uddin Khan

and Ziauddin Ahmed spoke at the discussion.

The speakers asserted that Bangla should be introduced at every level to uphold the spirit of the Language Movement.

We should take the lessons of February 21st very seriously to show due respect to the Language Martyrs as well as to reach the goal of this movement and its historical importance to the nation, they went on.

## What's next for DiCaprio and Scorsese after "Shutter Island"?

Now that Leonardo DiCaprio and Martin Scorsese have booked their return trip from "Shutter Island" -- following a weekend getaway that nabbed \$40.2 million -- where will the A-list actor and the Oscar-winning director head next? Both men have a bevy of projects in various states of production for 2010 and beyond.

**Leonardo DiCaprio**  
Next up for DiCaprio is "Inception," Christopher Nolan's sci-fi mindbender that is part "Matrix," part "Memento" and part ... well, we really don't know at this point. Nolan has successfully kept the secrets of "Inception" locked away, while at the same time thrusting his film into the coveted category of the year's most anticipated films. Co-starring Joseph Gordon-Levitt and Ellen Page, the movie focuses on an elite team, led by DiCaprio, that's charged with a mysterious mission. To say any more would be to ruin the fun. "Inception" will be out on

July 16. From there, we'll have to wait and see. Last December came word that Leo is set to star in an as-yet-untitled film focused on Vikings and directed by Mel Gibson, which is expected to begin filming in the fall of 2010. But that's just one project he's got in the works.

In January, Variety reported that DiCaprio is attached to star in "The Chancellor Manuscript" as a writer whose novel about political blackmail turns out to be more real than he ever imagined. He's also eyeing a starring role in Ridley Scott's adaptation of "Brave New World." And then there's the possible re-teaming of DiCaprio with Scorsese for a biopic of Frank Sinatra with Leo starring as Ol' Blue Eyes. Which of these projects he takes up next remains an open question.

**Martin Scorsese**  
The next Scorsese project audiences will catch after "Shutter Island" will be on the small screen: He's executive-



Leonardo DiCaprio and Martin Scorsese

producing HBO's "Boardwalk Empire" and directed the pilot episode. Starring Steve Buscemi and Michael Stuhlbarg ("A Serious Man"), the series tells the story of the Prohibition-era rise of Atlantic City. Scorsese's also bringing a documentary about George Harrison of the Beatles to British TV.

So when will we see the next made-for-the-big-screen production from Scorsese? There's no timeline as of yet, but the project appears to be "The Invention of Hugo Cabret," based on the best-selling children's book about a young orphan in 1930s Paris. Directing "Hugo" will probably necessitate pushing back the Sinatra biopic, a project announced last May. Other Scorsese-directed projects in the works include "Silence" with Daniel Day-Lewis and Benicio del Toro and "The Irishman," another collaboration with Robert De Niro.

Source: MTV

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