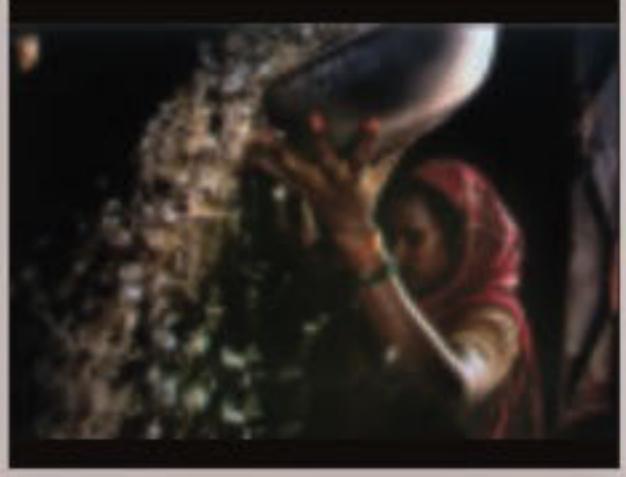


WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

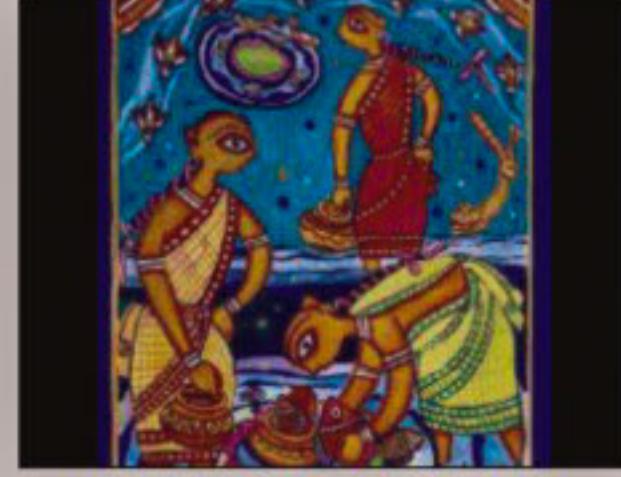
Photography Exhibition
Title: Rural Exodus
Venue: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka,
26, Mirpur Road,
Dhanmondi
Date: May 28-June 12
Time: 5pm-8pm



Street Theatre Festival
Organiser: Centre For Asian Theatre
Venue: Rabindra Sarobar, Dhanmondi
Date: June 11-12
Time: 4pm-7pm



Art Exhibition
Painter: Nikhil Chandra Das
Title: The story of lost painting
Venue: Art Gallery, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Date: June 12-26
Time: 11pm-7pm



Solo Art Exhibition
Artist: Masuda Kazi
Title: Small is Beautiful
Venue: Gallery Kaya, H-20, R-16, Sector-4, Uttara
Date: June 4-15
Time: 11am-8pm

MASUDA KAZI
SMALL IS BEAUTIFUL

DHAKA SATURDAY JUNE 12, 2010 culture_dailystar@yahoo.com

Badal Rahman, director of the first Bangladeshi children's film, passes away



Badal Rahman

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Eminent filmmaker and film society activist Badal Rahman passed away yesterday. A major cardiac arrest caused the death. The veteran filmmaker died early Friday morning (at around 4:30 am) at BIRDEM. He was 61. Rahman left behind two daughters and a son.

Rahman was the director of the first full-length feature film for children in Bangladesh, "Emiler Goenda Bahini" (1980). Till his demise, he was the president of the Federation of Film Societies

of Bangladesh (FFSB).

Rahman's colleagues and fellow activists informed that Rahman was taken to BIRDEM Thursday evening after he was feeling unwell. Doctors advised to get him admitted instantly. After a while he was feeling better and decided to get admitted later. At around 3:30 am on Friday he was feeling ill again. His son and daughters rushed him to BIRDEM, where he breathed his last.

The first namaz-e-janaza for Rahman was held at the Ramna mosque. The second janaza was held at FDC. Today,

Rahman's body will be kept at the Central Shaheed Minar premises (from 10 to 11am) for the public to say their last goodbyes. He will be buried next to his wife at the Banani Graveyard today.

"Rahman's demise is a great loss for us who are still dreaming of a society of film enthusiasts," said Sabbir Ahmed Chowdhury, who was the senior vice president of FFSB. Chowdhury will serve as the acting president of the organisation following Rahman's demise.

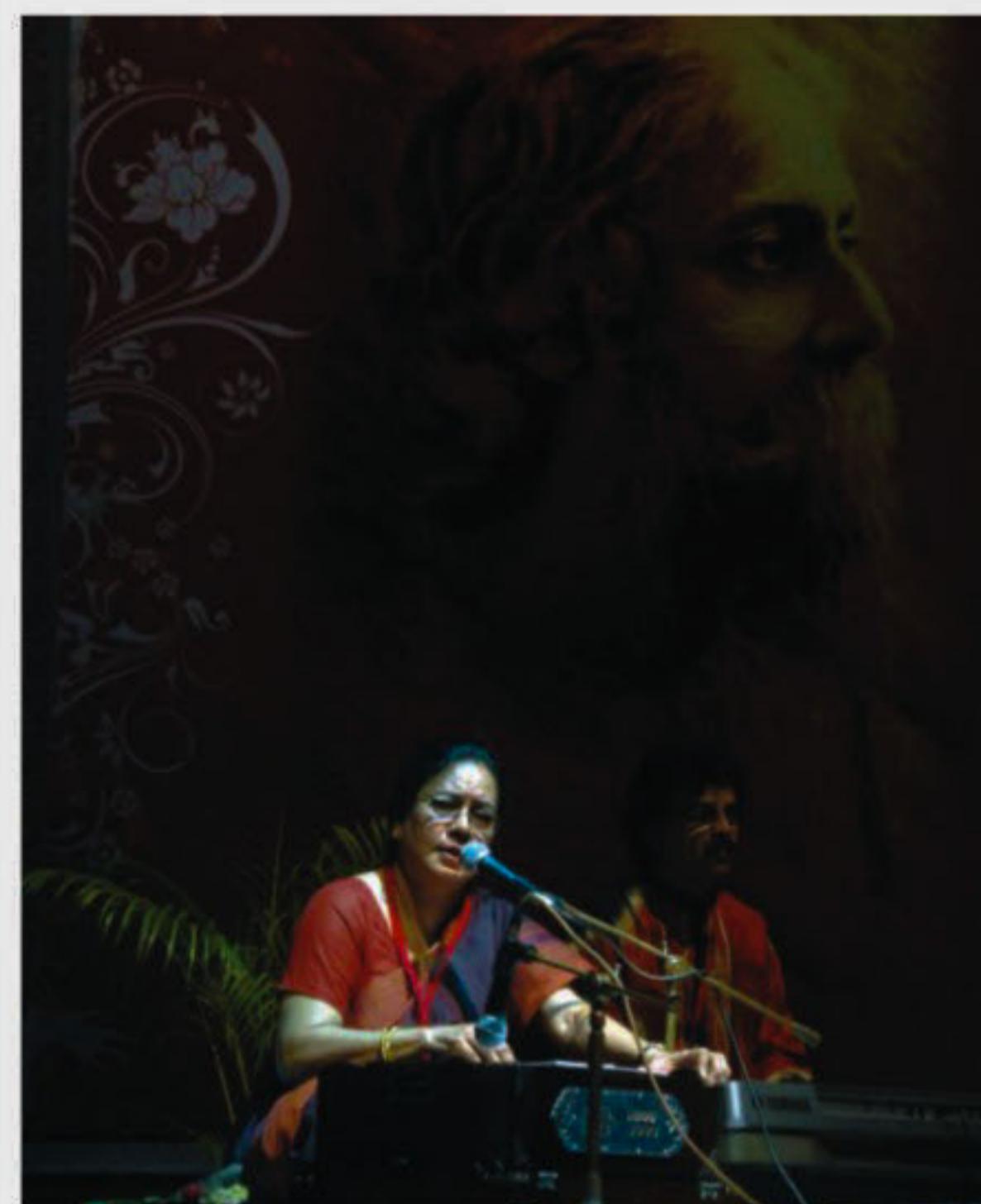
Born on June 4, 1949, Rahman completed his diploma in Film Editing from National Film and Television Institute of India, widely known as Pune Film Institute. He was amongst the first Bangladeshis to earn a film-related degree. After returning to Bangladesh, he, along with Syed Salahuddin Zaki, made his first film "Prottashar Shurjo" in 1974.

Rahman was actively involved with the film society movement in Bangladesh from its beginning. He also served as the president of FFSB from 1986 to '90. He was the convenor of the present movement to establish the national film policy. "Self Portrait" and "Shilp Shilpo" are amongst his other notable films.

"When making a film for children, one cannot but get inspired by the work of Badal Rahman, as he was a pioneer. He was a leading activist in the film society movement in Bangladesh. He was congenial in nature," said filmmaker Moshedul Islam.

Noted filmmaker Tanvir Mokammel echoed Islam's views and said, "We are deeply shocked by the news. Badal Rahman was a frontrunner in the movement for better films in Bangladesh. Films on and for children are few and far between in Bangladesh. Rahman's 'Emiler Goenda Bahini' was a groundbreaking work. Bangladesh film industry will definitely miss him."

Artistes of Bangladesh and India come together to celebrate Tagore



Iffat Ara Dewan (left) and Lily Islam sing at the afternoon session of the programme.



PHOTO: MUMIT M.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Through various programmes the mega-celebration of Rabindranath Tagore's 150th birth anniversary (May 8, 2011) has begun in both Bangladesh and India. Cultural organisations from both countries are arranging programmes in this regard.

As part of the celebration, a daylong cultural programme, titled 'Bishwe Bangali,' was held at the National Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) yesterday. Cultural organisations Shurolok (Bangladesh) and Nabopratirishi (Kolkata, India), along with BSA, arranged the event, where noted signers, reciters and dancers from both countries performed.

National Professor Kabir Chowdhury inaugurated the event yesterday morning. Director General of BSA Kamal Lohani presided over the session. Secretary to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Mizarul Kayes and secretary to the Cultural Ministry Hedayetullah Al Mamun were special guests.

In his speech, Professor Chowdhury emphasised on the need for all Bangla-speaking people to work together to further promote Rabindranath internationally. He said, "Bengalis have to fully embrace internationalism. We have to work together to present Rabindranath as a poet of the world."

The cultural programme was divided into two sessions. After the inauguration, the first session began and continued till noon. Selected artistes, from Bangladesh

and India, performed at the morning session of the programme.

The morning session featured Mita Haq, Rokaiya Hasina Nili, Himadri Shekhar and Mujibul Quayum from Bangladesh and Mohon Singh, Tithi Dev Barman and Supratik Das from Kolkata.

Each singer rendered two songs. Mita Haq sang "Aloker Ei Jharna Dharay" and "Ke Boshiley Aaj." Himadri's performance included "Pub Hawatay". Mohon Singh sang "Kobey Ami Bahir Holem" and "Megh Bochhey Jabo Jabo".

Dahlia Islam recited "Udbodhion," while Sharmila Bandopadhyay and her troupe Nrityandan staged a dance.

A similar event will be held in Kolkata later this year, leading towards the actual celebration in May 2011.

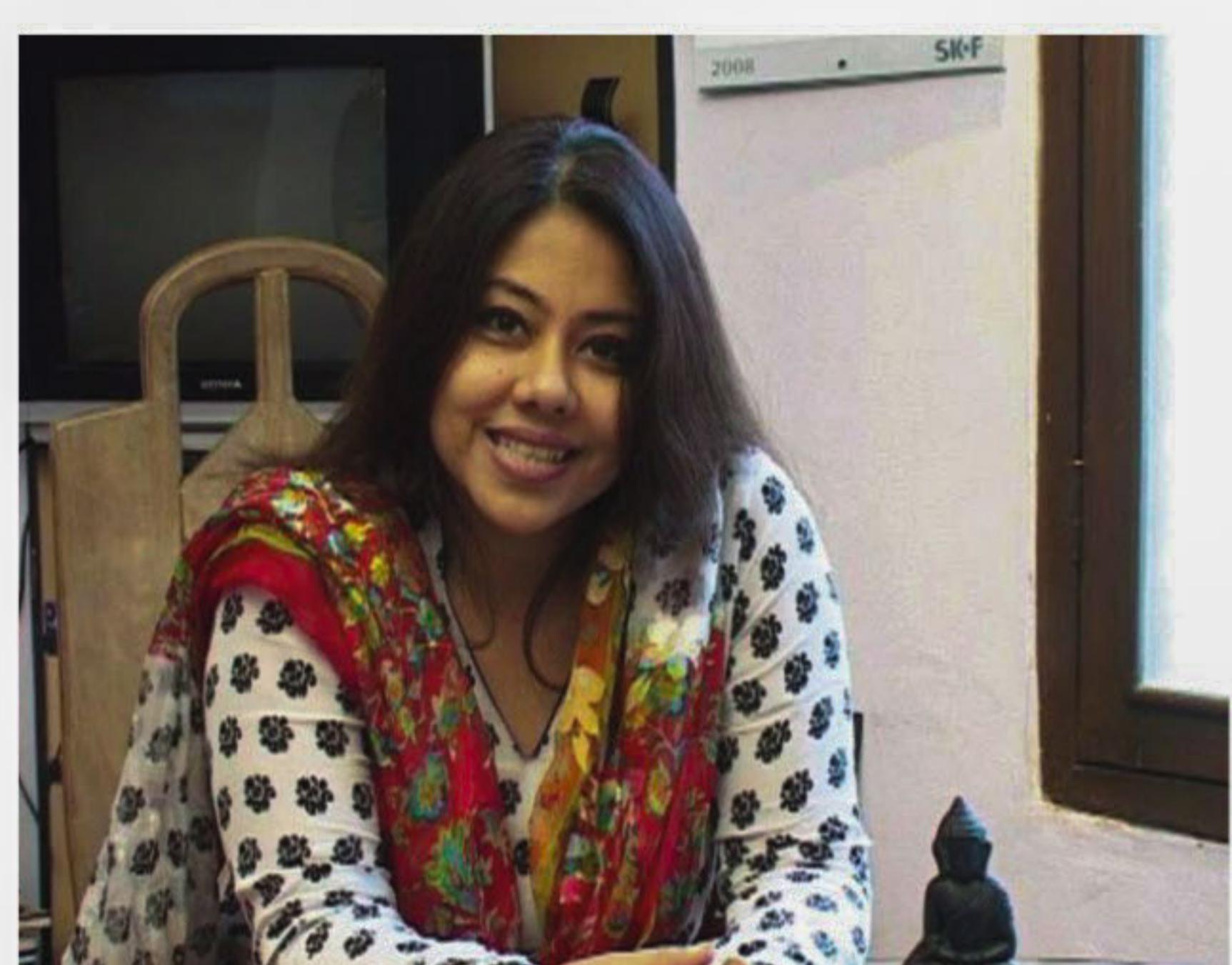
FOOTBALL FEVER

Celebrities on World Cup 2010



Shomi Kaisar

I've always been a supporter of Brazil. I love sports, particularly football. Don't want to miss any of the matches. The whole world has got football fever now! I want Argentina and Brazil in the final.



Angelina Jolie, Cleopatra?

Now here's a casting match made in movie heaven.

Oscar winner Angelina Jolie is attached to star in the "Cleopatra" movie that Oscar-winning producer Scott Rudin has been developing since 2006, according to USA Today.

This week in Manhattan to promote Pulitzer Prize-winning biographer Stacy Schiff's new book, "Cleopatra: A Life," publisher Michael Pietsch said Rudin envisions Jolie starring as the Queen of Egypt.

Rudin's office then confirmed that the project "is being developed for and with Jolie," who Schiff describes as having "the perfect look" to play the character.

As for who would play Julius Caesar in the movie, Schiff was stumped, but she did say that Jolie's partner Brad Pitt would be a "no-brainer" to play Marc Antony.

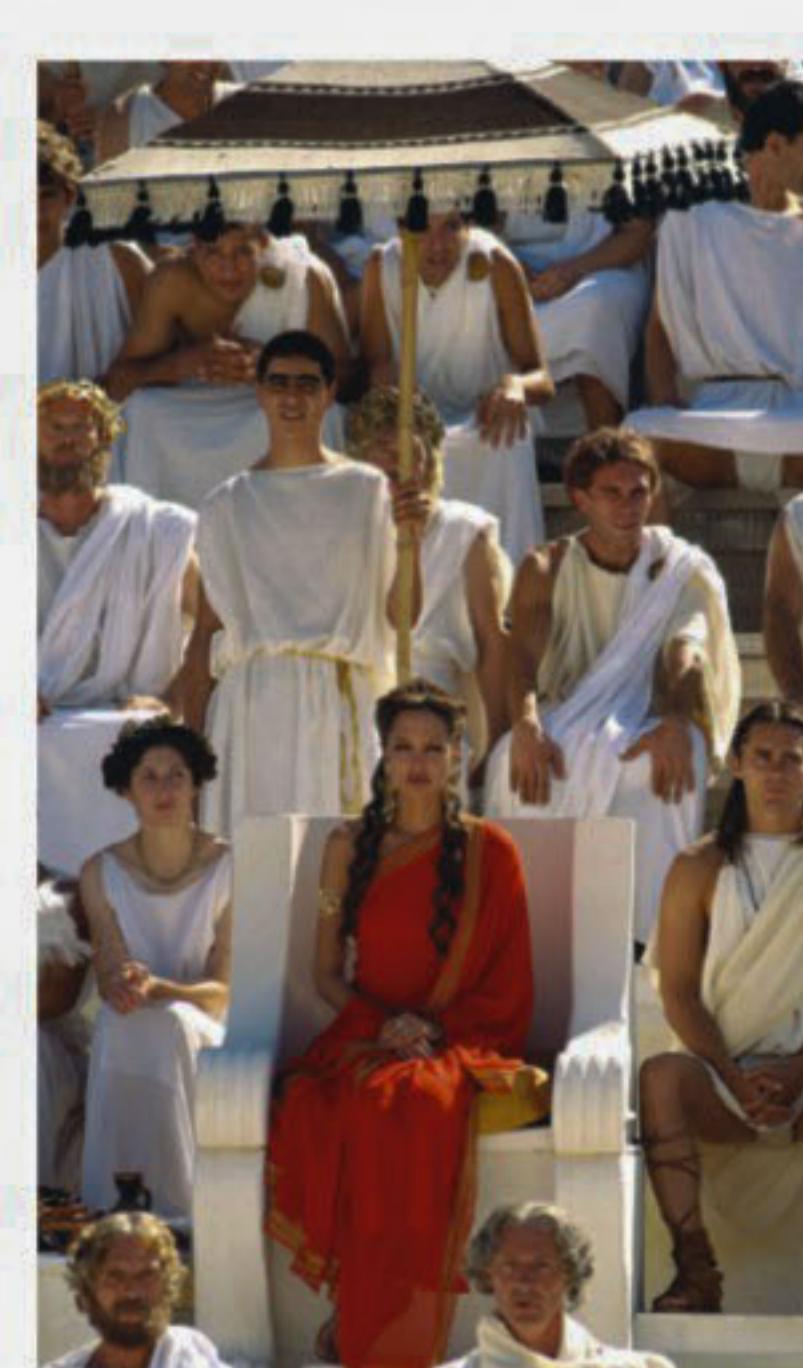
Rudin acquired the rights to Schiff's tome back in 2006 after reading a 10-

page proposal.

The closest the "Salt" star has come to playing this kind of part was her regal turn as Colin Farrell's mother (despite a one-year age difference) in Oliver Stone's "Alexander."

Elizabeth Taylor most famously played the regal role in Joseph L. Mankiewicz's "Cleopatra," which was the highest grossing film in 1963 yet lost money for 20th Century Fox due to its then-enormous \$44 million budget.

More recently, director Steven Soderbergh was developing a 3D musical version with Catherine Zeta-Jones, Hugh Jackman, Ray Winstone and a score from Guided by Voices, but that production was put on the back burner when Sony pitched "Moneyball" to the Oscar-winning filmmaker, who swung and missed the chance to direct.



Source: Internet



The new 'A-Team': (from left) Bradley Cooper, Quinton Jackson, Sharlto Copley and Liam Neeson.

Source: Internet