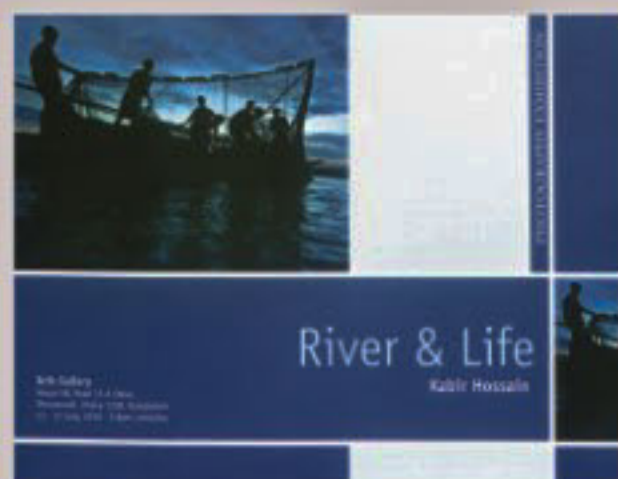


## WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

### Solo Photography Exhibition

**Title:** River and Live  
**Photographer:** Kabir Hossain  
**Venue:** Drik Gallery, H 58, Rd 15A (new), Dhanmondi  
**Date:** July 12-17  
**Time:** 3-8pm



### Chhayanat Rabindra Utshab

**Organiser:** Chhayanat  
**Venue:** Main Auditorium, National Theatre, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy  
**Date:** July 16-17  
**Time:** 6.30 pm-9.30 pm



### Solo Art Exhibition

**Painter:** Samiran Chowdhury  
**Title:** Connecting with Nature  
**Venue:** Galleri Kaya H-20, R-16, Sector-4, Uttara,  
**Date:** July 2-15  
**Time:** 10am-8pm



### Solo Lalon Evening

**Singer:** Farida Parveen  
**Venue:** Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre, H 35, Rd 24, Gulshan 1  
**Date:** July 16  
**Time:** 7pm



## Riverine life through Kabir's lens



Photographs by Kabir Hossain.

A CORRESPONDENT

A solo exhibition of Kabir Hossain's photographs is now on at Drik Gallery, Dhanmondi, in Dhaka. Hossain is a photojournalist working for the daily Prothom Alo. His vibrant images highlight the riverine areas of Bangladesh and communities that depend on the water sources. The photographer has tried to depict the lives of these people through his images. His photographs capture moments on and around the Ichhamoti and other major rivers of the country.

The exhibition was inaugurated by Hasan Mahmud, State Minister for Forests and Environment on July 12. Kilmeny Beckering Vinckers, acting Australian High Commissioner; Anisul Haque, deputy editor of Prothom Alo and Tarique E. Haque, chairman and director of Bangla Trac Limited were present as special guests at the inaugural session.

Hossain was born in the village

Doshorpara, under Munshiganj district. His village is close to the river Ichhamoti, where he spent his leisure time in childhood.

Hossain said, "To me, photography is an expression of emotions. My favourites subjects are rivers, sailing boats, rural beauty and green horizons. The beauty of nature attracts me the most. I have tried to portray nature's splendour in our country in my own way."

Hossain graduated in photography from Pathshala South Asian Media Academy (formerly Institute of Photography). He learned various techniques and styles of photography from veteran photographers of the country. His first solo photography exhibition was held in 2003 at the National Gallery of Bangladesh Photographic Society.

Currently Hossain is involved in photographic documentation, thus combining stories with pictures on four diverse topics -- rivers, *kabadi*, mysterious people (particularly focusing on bohemians), nature and the philosophies of Lalon.

The exhibition at Drik ends on July 17.



## Taking on Osama Bin Laden

Pakistani singer-actor Ali Zafar on his debut film



Ali Zafar (right) and co-actor in the film.

Pakistani singer Ali Zafar is making his debut as an actor with the film "Tere Bin Laden." Directed by Abhishek Sharma, the film takes a comical look at the world's most wanted terrorist Osama Bin Laden.

In a recent interview Zafar talked about the film.

**What made you sign up for "Tere Bin Laden?"**

**Zafar:** Abhishek Sharma and I met through a common friend. We dis-

cussed the project and I liked the idea. So I decided to do the film.

I was very cautious when I signed the film. I didn't want to hurt anyone's feelings or prove detrimental. When I read the script, I realised it was a hilarious comedy.

**Why acting?**

**Zafar:** I used to act on and off before singing happened. I was a model and did television for a while. After that, I took to music videos.

**Did you ever face any problem in India because you're a Pakistani?**

**Zafar:** No. I have always had a great time here. People have accepted me with open arms. I think such is the case with other Pakistani talent like Atif Aslam.

**What is the film about?**

**Zafar:** It is a bizarre madcap comedy. I play a journalist, who desperately wants to go to the US for better prospects. But he's having visa problems as this is just after 9/11. He finally finds someone, who looks like Osama

Bin Laden and makes a fake video with him as Osama and sends it to the US.

**Have you sung or composed for the film?**

**Zafar:** I like to compose, arrange and sing my own songs in my albums. Here, the music is composed by Shankar-Ehsaan-Loy and they have done a wonderful job. I have sung two songs -- "I love Amrika" and "Ullu da Patta."

**Do you fear certain political parties might create a problem for the release of the film?**

**Zafar:** India is known for its hospitality and rationality. They respect every artiste and I'm sure the film will be released without any problem.

**Has singing taken a backseat to acting?**

**Zafar:** No. I will soon come out with my third album Jhoom.

Compiled by Correspondent

## Oscar-winning couple Penélope Cruz and Javier Bardem get hitched

After collaborating on screen, Hollywood stars Penélope Cruz and Javier Bardem have made their off screen collaboration binding. Cruz's rep confirmed to E! News that the Oscar-winning actress tied the knot in the Bahamas earlier this month. The pair got hitched in front of family members in a small ceremony at a friend's place, with the bride exchanging vows in a John Galliano gown.

According to People magazine, the Spanish actors first met in 1992 during the filming of "Jamón, Jamón." More than a dozen years later, the two teamed up on screen again for Woody Allen's sensual romp "Vicky Cristina Barcelona." Cruz scored a Best Supporting Actress Oscar for her role in the 2008 film, playing Bardem's needy, disturbed ex-wife. (Bardem snagged the Oscar for

Best Supporting Actor the previous year for his work as a creepy murderer in "No Country for Old Men.")

While Cruz had previously been romantically linked to Hollywood heavyweights (and tabloid favourites) Tom Cruise and Matthew McConaughey, her relationship with Bardem has played out relatively low-key.

Up next, Cruz will appear in "Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides," playing Johnny Depp's love interest in the seafaring franchise. Bardem will soon be bringing some big-screen heat of his own when he stars in this summer's Julia Roberts vehicle, "Eat, Pray, Love."

Source: Internet



Javier Bardem and Penélope Cruz.

## 150th birth anniversary of Tagore

## Chhayanaut's yearlong celebration begins tomorrow



PHOTO: MUMIT M.

(From left) Khairul Anam Shakil, Kazi Monirul Kabir, Dr. Sanjida Khatun, Dr. Sarwar Ali and Abul Hasnat at the press conference.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chhayanaut has planned an elaborate initiative to commemorate the 150th birth anniversary [May 8, 2011] of Rabindranath Tagore. The celebration begins tomorrow through a two-day programme at the National Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy.

Divided into seven phases, the yearlong programme will feature every aspect of Tagore's creation, including songs, plays, poetry and artworks. Chhayanaut students and teachers as well as leading Tagore artistes of the country will participate in the programmes.

Titled "Rabindranath-er Haatey Haat Rekhey Bangladesh," the programmes will be held at different venues including Shilaidaha, Kushtia. At a press conference held yesterday at Chhayanaut Shangkriti Bhaban in Dhanmondi, Dhaka, the organisers informed on different aspects of the celebration.

Dr. Sanjida Khatun, president, Chhayanaut; Abul Hasnat, editor of literary magazine Kali O Kolom and convenor of the celebration committee; Khairul Anam Shakil, Chhayanaut general secretary; Dr. Sarwar Ali, treasurer and trustee board member of Chhayanaut and Kazi Monirul Kabir, chief communications officer, Grameenphone spoke at the press conference. Grameenphone is sponsoring the yearlong programme.

The first phase will feature songs, recitation, a short play and a lecture. Dr. Sanjida Khatun will deliver the lecture, titled "Mukti Shangram O Shangkriti." A solo musical programme

featuring songs belonging to the *prem parjay* (theme of love) rendered by Rezwana Chowdhury Bonna is part of the two-day programme. Satyajit Ray's documentary "Rabindranath" will also be screened at the programme. Children will stage the short play "Tota Kahini."

The second phase will be held on September 24 at Chhayanaut Auditorium. The programme will also mark the 100th anniversary of "Geetanjali". Every phase will feature a lecture by an exponent. Professor Sanat Kumar Saha will give the lecture in the second phase programme.

The third phase will be held in Shilaidaha on November 5. The Kushtia branch of Jatiyo Rabindra Shangeet Shammilan Parishad will assist Chhayanaut in holding the programme. The fourth phase will highlight dance and will be held on January 21-22 next year. Noted danseuse Sharmila Badyopadhyaya will deliver a lecture on the occasion.

The fifth phase will feature a weeklong exhibition featuring artworks by Tagore. Eminent Indian artist KG Subramanian will inaugurate the exhibition and deliver the lecture. The sixth phase will feature film and plays -- adaptations of Tagore's works. Professor Jamil Ahmed will deliver a lecture titled "Bangladesh-e Rabindra Natyacharcha." The programmes will be held on March 4-5, 2011.

The seventh and final phase will be held on May 7-9, 2011 at the Shawkat Osman Auditorium, Central Public Library, Shabbagh. Apart from songs, dance and recitations, two lectures by Dr. Atiur Rahman and Abul Momen are parts of this phase.

## Rituparno wants Bipasha to be his Draupadi

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

So, it is not just director Prakash Jha who wants to create buzz with his casting choice of Draupadi (Jha wants to cast Angelina Jolie in the role). Internationally acclaimed Bengali director Rituparno Ghosh too wants to recreate Draupadi and wants Bollywood glamour girl Bipasha Basu in that role, according to the actress.

Ghosh is reported to have said "I wanted my Draupadi to be dusky and attractive. Not a sex symbol but she has to have the oomph factor. I saw all these qualities in Bipasha."

Asked about the inside story, Bipasha told the Times of India newspaper that "Yes he wants me to play Draupadi and I also want to play the role...but I don't know when. He's been casting me as Draupadi for about six years now."

The actress says she was "very impressed" by Rupa Ganguly's portrayal of Draupadi in the popular TV serial of the 1980s and had always wanted to essay that role.

"Draupadi is a woman with many layers -- an engaging, fascinating character," says Bipasha.

Asked about her de-glamorised role in Rahul Mahadevan's movie "Red



Bipasha Basu

Dholakia-directed film "Lamhaa" and other glamazons like Katrina Kaif and Sameera Reddy doing such roles in Prakash Jha's "Rajneeti" and Anant Mahadevan's movie "Red

Alert -- the War Within" on Maoists, Bipasha says "It's not just political storylines. There is more cinema happening than just potboilers. So, we have the options to do different things."