

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Nazrul Sangeet

Artist: Dr. Nashid Kamal
Venue: High Commission of India Cultural Centre, H-35, R-24, Gulshan-1
Date: July 31
Time: 7pm



Exhibition

To commemorate Dr. Muhammad Shahidullah's Birth Anniversary
Organiser: Bangalee Shamagra
Venue: Bangalee Shamagra Museum, Khair Mansion, 235/2, Elephant Road
Date: July 10-31
Time: 10am-8pm



Solo Art Exhibition

Artist: Ranjit Das
Venue: Galleri Kaya, H-20, R-16, Sector-4, Uttara
Date: July 30-Aug 12
Time: 11am-8pm



Solo Art Exhibition

Title: Music from an Unknown Source
Artist: Sigmar Polke
Venue: Goethe-Institut H-10, R-9, Dhanmondi
Date: July 15-August 2
Time: 10 am-8 pm



In Conversation

"Acting always draws me"

-- Bonna Mirza

A CORRESPONDENT

Actress Bonna Mirza has been busy lately with several TV series. The Daily Star recently caught up with the actress. Excerpts from the interview:

TDS: What are the positive and negative aspects of frequently going on air?

Bonna: I won't disagree that many of series I'm acting in are on air at this moment. Desh TV is airing "Shimanto," directed by Badrul Anam Soud. Several other channels are airing plays including "Onno Rokom Brishti," "Lucky Thirteen," "Manobjomin," "Bhabi," "Batasher Ghor" and "Shopnobajar."

Being featured in so many series has its ups and downs. But I would say the gains carry more weight, as frequent airtime gives me the chance to stay closer to the viewers.

TDS: What can the audience expect from you this Eid?

Bonna: I have already completed work for some TV plays. For instance, work on a telefilm, titled "Raag," written by Masum Reza and directed by Salahuddin Lavlu, was wrapped up two weeks ago. I also have plans to act in other Eid productions, which will be directed by Suborna Mostafa, Badrul Anam Soud and others.

TDS: Tell us more about your current projects...

Bonna: In "Bhabi," I play the role of a simple, modest



woman, who endures unfairness silently. In "Manobjomin," however, I play an urban, married woman. In the play, my character's husband is ill and she is having an extramarital affair. In "Shimanto," I play the role of Rinuk who changes dramatically after her marriage. Single-episode plays offer me the chance to play diverse characters.

TDS: A Salahuddin Lavlu production is always a class apart. Can you give us an idea of his Eid-special telefilm "Raag"?

Bonna: "Raag" has a very unique storyline. In this production, Chanchal Chowdhury plays my neighbour who is a musician. However, his practice sessions irritate my father, and he forces Chanchal's character to

leave the house. I have a feeling viewers will like the telefilm.

TDS: You are also involved with theatre...

Bonna: I have been a member of the troupe Desh Natok for the last 16 years. I have worked in the productions "Nittopuran," "Birsa Kabbo," "Ghor Lopat" and several others. Theatre has taught me so much and I don't think I'll ever leave the stage for good.

TDS: Many of your contemporaries are moving towards direction nowadays. Do you have such plans?

Bonna: I don't have any plan to be a director; neither do I have plans to be a model. I want to stick to acting only.

TDS: Did you undertake formal studies on theatre?

Bonna: I studied in the Department of Theatre at the University of Dhaka. Sometimes I feel that it's only acting that I have ever learned, and sometimes I feel the exact opposite. Nevertheless, acting always draws me. Studying theatre has definitely helped.

TDS: What is your take on the emerging crop of directors?

Bonna: To be honest, despite the scarcity of deft actors and actresses, the television media has no shortage of directors. Many newcomers in the field have made their mark by proving their skills. Some of them are doing noteworthy work.

Justin Timberlake, Elton John to judge on "American Idol"?

As they gear up for American Idol's tenth season next year, producers are prepping big changes to boost declining ratings and the loss of longtime judge Simon Cowell. The show is reportedly close to a deal to bring back producer Nigel Lythgoe (who left in 2008) in an executive producer role while targeting new candidates including Justin Timberlake and Elton John as potential replacements for Cowell, according to the Hollywood Reporter.

Replacing Cowell is the biggest obstacle for the show, but Lythgoe seems up to dealing with this challenge should he return. Lythgoe, one of the show's original producers who left to work on "So You Think You Can Dance," has said that should Cowell ever leave, he would uproot the entire "Idol" panel. Lythgoe has also gone on record as saying that the show's current roster of judges -- Randy Jackson,

Ellen DeGeneres and Kara DioGuardi -- isn't very compelling and that he would be open to bringing back Paula Abdul, although she has since signed on with CBS' upcoming "Got to Dance."

Chris Isaak and Harry Connick Jr. have been approached about replacing Cowell -- and personalities as diverse as Howard Stern and Perez Hilton have expressed interest in the position -- but Lythgoe is critical of having a fourth judge at all, saying that it distracts from viewers' attention. With Randy Jackson the lone original "Idol" judge and DeGeneres in the midst of a multi-year contract, DioGuardi appears most likely to get the boot should producers replace Cowell and revert back to a three-judge format -- and that's the most likely scenario if Lythgoe doesn't simply replace the entire

judges' table, as the Reporter speculates.

So who would take Cowell's spot? Elton John is reportedly on both Lythgoe's and executive producer Simon Fuller's wish list of potential replacements, but the show has been unable to come close to a monetary agreement with the singer-musician. Timberlake would be an even harder catch: While the pop star currently tops Fuller's wish list, it's unlikely he would have time due to his busy acting schedule and music career. One other possibility is Lythgoe himself, who presently serves as a judge on "So You Think You Can Dance" and who has earned the nickname "Nasty Nigel" from the British press for his harsh Cowell-esque criticisms on the U.K. show "Popstars".

Source: Rolling Stone

Toronto Film Festival line-up loaded with Oscar hopefuls

The 35th annual edition of the Toronto Film Festival is scheduled to include the world and North American premieres of a slew of awards contenders. This year's festival is to kick off on September 9 and run for 11 days.

Among the 50 titles announced Tuesday are the following films that could well figure in the contests for kudos this year:

"Another Year" -- The latest domestic drama by Mike Leigh ("Happy Go Lucky") is centred on a middle-aged couple (Jim Broadbent, Ruth Sheen) and their assorted friends and family, including a saucy alcoholic (Lesley Manville).

"Biutiful" -- Oscar champ Javier Bardem won best actor at Cannes for his portrayal of a dying father looking for redemption in this film from Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu ("Babel").

"Black Swan" -- Darren Aronofsky's psychological thriller revolves around a dancer (Natalie Portman) in competition with a young upstart (Mila Kunis) for the prima ballerina position.

"Casino Jack" -- Two-time Oscar champ Kevin Spacey portrays jailed lobbyist Jack Abramoff in this political drama from George Hickenlooper.

"The Conspirator" -- Robert Redford's film about the assassination of Abraham Lincoln features James McAvoy as a war hero defending a mother (Robin Wright) accused of aiding her son in the plot to kill the president.

"Conviction" -- Tony Goldwyn's stirring biopic stars two-time Oscar winner Hilary Swank as the crusading Betty Anne Waters, who worked tirelessly to free her wrongfully imprisoned brother (Sam Rockwell).

"The Debt" -- Oscar champ Helen Mirren joins forces with "Avatar" star Sam



A scene from "Biutiful" which won Javier Bardem a best actor award at Cannes 2010.

Worthington for John Madden's thriller about Israeli agents on the hunt for a Nazi in 1965.

"The King's Speech" -- Colin Firth plays King George VI and Helena Bonham Carter his supportive wife, Elizabeth, in Tom Hooper's historical drama, which focuses on the work of a speech therapist (Geoffrey Rush) who boosts the king's confidence.

"Never Let Me Go" -- Mark Romanek directs this adaptation of the acclaimed novel by Kazuo Ishiguro about a trio of school friends -- Andrew Garfield, Keira Knightley and Carey Mulligan -- who grow up and apart.

"Rabbit Hole" -- John Cameron Mitchell helms the screen version of David Lindsay-Abaire's Pulitzer Prize-winning play about parents (Nicole Kidman, Aaron Eckhart) coming to terms with

their son's accidental death.

"The Town" -- Ben Affleck's second film as a director follows the aftermath of a bank robbery gone wrong as the gang leader falls in love with the bank manager.

"The Way" -- In his first feature since "Bobby," Emilio Estevez directs his father (Martin Sheen) as a man trying to find answers during a pilgrimage on Spain's famed Camino de Santiago route.

"You Will Meet A Tall Dark Stranger" -- Woody Allen's latest film focuses on infidelity and features a cast that includes Antonio Banderas, Josh Brolin, Anthony Hopkins, Naomi Watts and a buzzed-about supporting turn by Lucy Punch.

Source: Los Angeles Times

Single-episode play "Mukh" on Desh TV



Tarin (left) and Shahiduzzaman Selim in the play.

A CORRESPONDENT

Single-episode play "Mukh" will be aired today on Desh TV at 11:55 pm. Written and directed by Pantha Shahrir and Shahiduzzaman Selim respectively, the cast includes Selim, Tarin, Naznin Chunki and others.

The story of the play revolves around a car accident. Careless driving by Rayna Asif causes the accident. Seeing people rushing to the spot, Rayna hurriedly takes off. But she notices the face of the dying person.

That face continues to haunt her. Rayna gets stressed further when her husband Asif Iqbal brings the news that the victim was pregnant. What will Rayna do now? Will she look for the victim?



All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme.

Table with columns for channel and program details (ATN BANGLA, CHANNEL i, ntv, DESH TV)

Table with columns for time and program details (06:45, 09:00, 11:30, 02:30, 03:30, 05:25, 05:45, 06:00, 07:50, 10:10, 11:30, 12:30, 03:45, 04:10, 04:30, 06:00, 06:20, 10:05, 01:05, 03:20, 04:10, 06:10)

Table with columns for time and program details (09:45, 11:55, 02:30, 03:35, 04:15, 05:25, 06:00, 06:30, 09:05, 11:20, 11:30, 12:00, 02:00, 04:30, 07:30, 09:30, 11:30, 11:10, 11:40, 01:35, 05:00, 07:00)

Table with columns for time and program details (12:20, ZEE STUDIO, STAR WORLD, DISCOVERY CHANNEL, 05:30, 08:30, 09:30, 10:30)

Table with columns for time and program details (11:30, TRAVEL AND LIVING, CNN, BBC WORLD, 11:00, 02:30, 05:00, 07:00, 10:00, 11:30, 11:45)

Table with columns for program name and time (Talk Show, Drama Serial)

Table with columns for program name and time (News Bulletin)

Table with columns for program name and time (ATN BANGLA, CHANNEL i, ntv, BANGLAVISION)

Table with columns for program name and time (ETV, abc radio)

Advertisement for Subarno Swapno featuring a photo of the actor and show details.

Advertisement for Wanted featuring a photo of the actor and show details.

Advertisement for abc radio fm 89.2 featuring a photo of the host and show details.