

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Solo Photography Exhibition
 Title: Just For You
 Photographer: Anwar Hossain
 Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, R-8/A, Dhanmondi
 Date: August 20-29
 Time: 3-8pm



Ethnic Jewellery Exhibition
 Title: Aadi
 Artist: Amman Rashid
 Venue: Chondons, Rd 103, H 9, Gulshan-2
 Date: August 20-21
 Time: 10am-8pm



Nazrul Death Anniversary
 Organiser: Nazrul Institute
 Venue: Poet Sufia Kamal Auditorium, National Museum, Shahbagh
 Date: August 27
 Time: 4pm



Film Screening
 Film: "Ivan's Childhood"
 Venue: Auditorium, Russian Centre of Science & Culture, Dhanmondi
 Date: August 28
 Time: 5pm



Buzz

Bangladeshi short film "720 Degrees" going to Venice Film Festival



A scene from Ishtiaque Zico's short film "720 Degrees".

JAMIL MAHMUD
 Bangladesh is going to be represented at this year's 67th Venice International Film Festival by Ishtiaque Zico's short film "720

Degrees". It should be considered an achievement for Bangladeshi films, considering this is one of the most prestigious international film festivals. Zico's film is among 37 short and 45 full-length feature films from 35

countries that would be screened at the 11-day festival, starting from September 1. "720 Degrees" has been officially nominated for the segment 'Orizzonti'. The segment -- introduced in 2004 -- is dedicated to new trends in international films. It pro-

vides a wider and more dynamic outlook on emerging trends in the various languages that converge in cinema.

In the 'Orizzonti' segment, "720 Degrees" is the only film from the South Asia. The film will be screened on September 6, the sixth day of the festival, at 11:30 local time at the Sala Grande Theatre.

"720 Degrees" is an audiovisual journey to unmask the layers of relationships and our perceptions of reality.

The film is made in 35mm format with no dialogue. The original running time of the film is 5 minutes and 10 seconds. The film was shot in Cox's Bazar, while Zico was working as an associate producer for the film "Meherjaan".

The young filmmaker said that his film is a by-product of the feature film "Meherjaan". "The mise-en-scène was designed to meet the on location constraints: three unused 35mm film cans, available equipments, a limited crew, a few amateur actors, outdoor location and a single day of shooting," said Zico.

Venice Film Festival is the oldest film festival in the world, founded by Count Giuseppe Volpi in 1932. The festival has since taken place every year in late August or early September in Venice, Italy. Screenings take place in the historic Palazzo del Cinema on the Lungomare Marconi. It is also part of the Venice Biennale, a major biennial exhibition and festival for contemporary art.



PHOTO: MUMIT M.

Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) staged Selim Al Deen's play "Putra" at the Experimental Theatre Hall of BSA on August 19. The staging was part of the four-day long Selim Al Deen birth anniversary celebration, starting from August 18. Theatre troupe Swapnodol along with BSA has arranged the festival.

DVD on Al Deen, Mamun and Bulbul launched

G-Series has recently launched a DVD featuring three renowned cultural personalities -- Selim Al Deen, Abdullah Al Mamun and Bulbul Ahmed, according to a press release.

The DVD consists interviews of the late personalities from different programmes aired on ntv. Titled "Sroddhanjali", the DVD was launched on August 18, on the 61st birth anniversary of Selim Al Deen.

Al Deen, Mamun and Bulbul Ahmed appeared on the ntv talk show "Ki Kotha Tahar Shathey". Litterateur Imdadul Haque Milon was the host of the show. Clips from those episodes are included in the DVD.

The DVD also includes an episode of the talk show "Phire Dekha", hosted by Abdullah Al Mamun. The episode featured actors Afzal Hossain and Suborna Mustafa as guests.

The DVD is the brainchild of Mostafa Kamal Syed, head of programmes, ntv.



"I have had a very long history with cops"

-- Salman Khan

Salman Khan puts on a cop act once again in his forthcoming film "Dabangg". But unlike his previous outings in "Garv" and "Wanted", this one is very corrupt, and looks very interesting.

Directed by Abhinav Kashyap the film also stars Arbaaz Khan and Sonakshi Sinha, the daughter of veteran actor Shatrughan Sinha.

In a recent interview Salman revealed what to expect from his latest action film.

"You're looking very young in "Dabangg"..."

Salman: I was told I look very mature in the film!

I had lost a lot of weight and was looking really ripped when Arbaaz asked me whether I had ever seen a ripped corrupt cop. But I saw Sonu Sood working out for hours and getting a chiselled body. Arbaaz told me not to compare myself with him and that I should play my role.

I didn't agree initially but later realised that he was right. A muscular cop didn't suit the role. But I would feel bad every time I saw Sonu working out. Then I would think, "I'll see to you at another time, in another film." [laughs]

What was your reaction when Arbaaz came to you with the script?

Salman: When I heard the script, I said it was outstanding. He thought I was making fun of him. But I had really liked it and told him that we will



Salman Khan in "Dabangg".

discuss it the next day. Next day, I called him up and asked for the script and he still thought I was joking with him.

You grew a moustache for this film...

Salman: Arbaaz would come with different kinds of moustaches and ask me to grow mine like those, about six months before the "Dabangg" shoot started. I was shooting for another film then and did not want to grow a moustache. I decided to keep a small one for "Dabangg". On the first day of the shoot, I tried different moustaches but nothing worked out. So I thought

I'll shave it.

The first time I ever wore a moustache was when I was to do a Raymonds campaign. I was 15 years old then. Gautam Rajadhyaksha had shot my pictures on a terrace, and I had worn one of his jackets and a false moustache to look older. They (the ad makers) liked the photo and selected me. But when they saw me, they said "you're a child, go home."

Also, Sonakshi had this thing for her dad's moustache. If you watch closely, my moustache looks similar in some scenes.

Was it your decision to cast Sonakshi?

Salman: Yes. But she needed to be convinced. So we spoke to her father and convinced her together. She wasn't interested in acting. Even now, she is not interested and doesn't want to pursue it.

When she heard the script and read the dialogues, the assistant director said she was ready to perform. And, of course, she can dance very well.

The advantage with Sonakshi is wherever she goes, she will still be family because of her father and his relationship with the people in the industry.

You seem to have a fetish for playing a cop. You played one in "Wanted", and now in "Dabangg"...

Salman: That's maybe because my grandfather was the DIG (Deputy Inspector General) of Police. Also, I have had a very long history with cops [smirks].

You're doing a lot of action films lately. What is drawing you to them?

Salman: Heroism. The only thing about action films is the heroism. My next films are "Ready", "Love Story" and "Kick" but they are not out and out action films.

What do you mean by heroism?

Salman: Anything that is larger than life. Things that we want to do but cannot do.

Compiled by Correspondent

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Boat race in Manikganj

ZAHANGIR ALAM BISWAS, Manikganj

Kalta Bazar Committee arranged a traditional boat race on the river Ichhamoti in Manikganj district on Wednesday afternoon. Ten different kinds of boats took part in the race. Around 5,000 people, including

children, came to witness the exciting boat race. After the competition, Abdul Hashem Biswas, president of the Bazar Committee, handed over the prizes to winners. Dr. Bhabesh Chandra Mandal, secretary of the Bazar Committee, among others attended the prize giving programme.

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