



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



Photography Exhibition
 Title: Ramadan in the Middle East
 Photographer: Christel Becker-Rau
 Venue: Goethe-Institut Bangladesh, H-10, Rd-9, Dhanmondi
 Date: August 9-September 9
 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



No compromise on quality

Mir Sabbir in 20 Eid-special TV plays

A CORRESPONDENT

TV actor Mir Sabbir says he will appear in at least 20 TV plays during this Eid. He is busy shooting for numerous plays, to be aired on different channels including ATN Bangla, ntv, ETV, Banglavision, Rtv and BTV. Sabbir will also direct a play to be aired during the Eid celebrations.

Among the plays in which he will feature are Saidul Anam Tutul's "Megh Bhora Roud"; Salahuddin Lavlu's "Tin Geda" and a yet-to-be-titled Hanif Sanket play to be aired on ATN Bangla. Humayun Ahmed's "Tara Tinjon" and Nurul Alam Atique's "Dalim Kumar", featuring Sabbir, will be aired on ntv. An Ekushey Television in-house production "Amader Meherjan" too is on Sabbir's long list. Viewers who switch on to Banglavision, Rtv and BTV will also get to see the popular actor.

When asked whether quality will be diluted by quantity, Sabbir said "I will not act in all the plays in one particular day. I am striving to put my best efforts. I believe that if I work with passion, I will not let my fans down."

In addition, Sabbir will direct a play for the upcoming Eid. The play, titled "Kancha Gaab, Paka Gaab", will be aired on ATN Bangla. Sabbir has scripted the play, which has been dramatised by Kamrul Ahsan. The cast includes Sabbir along with Nadia, Masud Ali Khan, Dr. Enamul Haq, Dr. Ejaz and Sazu Khadem.



"I am striving to put my best efforts."

"I am not famous in India" -- Freida Pinto

"Slumdog Millionaire" actress Freida Pinto hails from the seaside city of Mumbai, hub of the Indian entertainment industry and home to Bollywood.

So perhaps it's a little ironic that Pinto, who has quickly become one of Hollywood's hot young stars, hasn't yet received any major Bollywood offers.

Since "Slumdog", Freida has acted in Woody Allen's "You Will Meet A Tall Dark Stranger", alongside stars like Naomi Watts, Josh Brolin, Anthony Hopkins and Antonio Banderas, and starred in the politically-charged film "Miral". She will soon appear in Tarsem Singh's new movie "Immortals", alongside "The Wrestler" star Mickey Rourke, "Twilight" star Kellan Lutz and English actor Henry Cavill.

At one point, there were even rumours that Freida would star opposite Daniel Craig in the next "James Bond" movie!



All of that, and she's still yet to sign a Hindi-language project. In a wide-ranging interview with The New York Times Style Magazine Women's September edition, Freida opened up on her future career plans and her love life, and gave a little peak into the Hollywood/Bollywood gulf. "I have done no film in India, so it is very hard for

not famous in India. I don't get chased around," she said.

In the interview, Pinto also discussed her controversial break-up with fiancé Rohan Antao, whom she dumped before becoming romantically linked with "Slumdog" co-star Dev Patel.

"I feel what I did was right. There were no two ways about it," she said. "Everyone is going to write you off for one thing or another, but you know what? It's my life, and if I didn't go through it, I wouldn't be the person I am today, sitting here talking about what happened back then and being a little more knowledgeable about what happens in relationships."

For the past few months, rumours have cropped up suggesting an impending wedding date for Patel and Pinto, but thus far both camps have denied the gossip.

Compiled by Correspondent

The question of goodness

Play "Ramkali"



The play is a modern parable of how to be a good and honest person in a materialistic world driven by greed and class division.

KAVITA, New Delhi

"We live in a world where succeeding at any cost monetarily is lauded. Scruples have no place in our world, nor has shame or ethics. Is that right? Is that what we want? Can a person who wishes to remain honest and kind survive in today's world? Or does corruption and greed demand like minded behaviour to

survive?" These posers by actor Mallika Sarabhai form the heart of the play "Ramkali" in which she plays the eponymous role of an attractive, kind hearted sex worker.

Adapted from playwright Bertolt Brecht's "The Good Person of Schezwan" the play is directed by Arvind Gaur, who head the Asmita Theatre Group. As in the original, the play is a modern parable of how to be a

good and honest person in a materialistic world driven by greed and class division.

"I identify very much with the character of Ramkali and the seduction of her alter ego Ramlal as he gains power and wealth through corrupt practices. These are questions that I live on a daily basis as I see the corrupt and inefficient getting hugely rewarded. And I cling to the belief that good will ultimately be its own reward, that helping people gives us a kick that is itself the reward," says Mallika, daughter of the late Vikram Sarabhai, a renowned Indian scientist regarded as the father of India's space programme. Mallika is well known for playing Draupadi in Peter Brooke's "Mahabharata".

Though "Ramkali" advances many uncomfortable questions, the theatrical work has a lighter side as the characters lampoon the politicians, the Commonwealth Games, and other ills that rend the fabric of Indian polity. Explains Gaur, "We believe in entertaining people with theatrics and songs to keep them engaged but watchful, planting seeds of doubt to shake complacency."

Despite its serious message, the play ends on a note of hope and renewal.

Britney Spears on working with Lady Gaga: "Anything's possible"

From schoolgirl to toxic temptress, Britney Spears has played many characters throughout the years. But the singer took a very different approach for her photo spread in the upcoming issue of the UK's Pop magazine by channelling her inner manga character. In the issue, the pop princess dished about the possibilities of a Lady Gaga collaboration and working with Japanese artist Takashi Murakami for the anime-inspired cover.

Despite Gaga overthrowing Spears as the most-followed celebrity on Twitter, the singer had no hard feelings toward pop's newest sensation. "I'm a big fan of hers," she said when asked about working with Gaga. "Anything's possible!"

A collaboration between the pop stars doesn't seem out of the question, as Gaga's mega-hit "Telephone" duet with Beyoncé was originally offered to Spears. Donning a white wedding dress and a veil with matching gloves, Spears



Britney Spears on the cover of Pop. innocently poses in a field of flowers on the cover. In another photo, the singer trades the dress for a leg-baring getup accessorised with a red backpack. Spears' manga-style shoot was shot

by Todd Cole with art direction from Takashi Murakami, who is often referred to as the "Andy Warhol of Japan." While the spread strays from the singer's typical styling, the pop star enjoyed working with the artist. "I loved working with Takashi," she said. "I especially liked how he took high-end fashion and incorporated it with Japanese manga."

The singer's tour to Japan was what originally piqued her interest in Japanese culture. "We looked at a lot of characters and artwork before we shot, so I could get a feel for what he was looking for," she explained. "I was in Japan on my past promo tour, and I loved it."

Aside from gracing the cover of Pop magazine, the singer has already filmed a cameo for her "Glee" tribute episode and is working on completing the follow-up to 2008's "Circus". Source: MTV

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