

WHAT'S ON

Group Art Exhibition
Title: Standard Chartered Sreejoni 2010
Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, H-60, R-7/A, Dhanmondi
Date: April 1-10

Mukh O Mukhosh 3
Venue: Galleri Kaya, H-20, R-16, S-4, Uttara
Date: March 26-April 6
Time: 11am-7:30pm

Grand Group Art exhibition
Venue: Saju Art Gallery, DCC Market, Gulshan-2
Date: April 1-30
Time: 10am-8pm

Book Fair
Organiser: Adorn Publication
Venue: Public Library, Seminar Hall, Shahbagh
Date: April 2-13
Time: 10am-9pm

Documentary Screening
Title: Bangladesh-e Rabindranath
Organiser: Sarkat
Venue: Bangladesh National Museum Auditorium

Photography Exhibition
Title: In Search
Venue: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, Dhanmondi
Date: March 25-April 6

Group Installation Show
Title: Dhaka Seeks Solitude
Venue: Goethe Institut, H-10, R-9, Dhanmondi
Date: Mar 10- Apr 7
Time: 11am-9pm

Contemporary Australian Art Exhibition
Title: BALGO
Venue: Gallery Cosmos, 69/1, New Circular Road, Malibagh
Date: April 1-13



In several countries, actors can work for a couple of days a month and rest. But in our country, an artiste has to work 30 days a month to earn a decent living. We also have a shortage of really talented actors.

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Accomplished actor turned director Afsana Mimi is full steam ahead directing TV plays. Following the success of "Bondhu", "Share Tin Tola", "Griho Golpo", "Kacher Mamul", and "Doll's House", Mimi has garnered much praise for her ongoing directorial efforts with "Poush Faguner Pala".

Mimi recently gave The Daily Star (TDS) a glimpse into her latest plans: **TDS: After crossing the 50-episode landmark, does "Poush Faguner Pala" offer more surprises?** Mimi: We had earlier said that Zahid Hasan and Sadiya Islam Mou may join the cast soon, which they have already done. The serial started with a bang, uniting a wonderful cast featuring Ferdousi Majumder, Hasan Imam, Raisul Islam Asad, Ramendu Majumder and Keya Chowdhury. Now there is a possibility that I might also appear in the serial. **TDS: How long will the audience have to wait to see that materialise?** Mimi: Pretty soon. My character will be an affluent Hindu urbanite, named Ratan, who is

Life Behind the Lens

Face to face with Afsana Mimi

apparently happily married. However, after the arrival of another man in the house, it is revealed that the whole family lives on the earnings Ratan makes as his mistress.

TDS: Which way will the story twist?
Mimi: A lot of things will happen. After the death of the matriarch, the family will be plunged in chaos with conflicting claims for the house; Humayun Faridi's character will play a huge role in this. Saju Khadem's character will fall sick and Sanjida Preeti's character will get married. **TDS: Have your expectations from the serial been fulfilled?** Mimi: I'd say 99 percent of it has been fulfilled. **TDS: At a press brief you said that Ferdousi Majumder may return to the serial. Is that a possibility?** Mimi: She was with us till the 50th episode. If the story demands it, she may return. **TDS: What role is Mou playing?** Mimi: Mou is playing the role of a Muslim woman who lives with Zahid Hasan's character. In the serial, Zahid's role leaves his wife, played by Tropa, to be with Mou, a woman he is in love with. **TDS: What did you achieve through "Poush Faguner Pala"?** Mimi: The original novel, from which the serial has been adapted, is a very old text. Funny thing is that like most other people, I also read the book when I was in college. I borrowed the book from my father and was so enguaged in it that I hid it inside my math textbook and kept reading it in my study hour. I was so absorbed in the story that I didn't notice when my father came and stood behind me. I faced some scolding that day for ignoring my math. It is strange to direct scenes from that same book. People from Sagar Publishers have told me that a lot of young people are buying the novel after the serial began airing. I consider this to be a great success.

TDS: Do you face any problem, while working with several major stars? Mimi: Not at all. On the contrary, it is their cooperation that has kept the serial alive. I can't sum up in words how much hard work the artistes put into their outdoor shootings. We can't even pay them a generous amount due to our budget constraints. In several countries, actors can work for a couple of days a month and rest. But in our country, an artiste has to work 30 days a month to earn a decent living. We also have a shortage of really talented actors. Sometimes we hear complaints about actors messing around

with schedules or putting directors in trouble. To me, these people are not artistes at all. I think it is better not to work with people like these and I always try to form a team where the artistes will be dedicated to the cause, work sincerely and work with the team.

TDS: How long will "Poush Faguner Pala" stretch? Mimi: Two hundred episodes. After all, it's an adaptation of a novel. **TDS: Who is your favourite character in the serial?** Mimi: It is hard to single out a favourite among so many roles. But as an actor I would have to say my pick would be Tropa's role. If Tropa was the director casting me, I would've asked her for the role of Uma. **TDS: How did you locate Belishwor village, the shooting spot for the serial?** Mimi: Back in 2009, we were making "Ebong Bonolota Sen" under the direction of Tanvir Hossain Probal, with assistance from Rakesh. We needed a large pond for shooting, so Rakesh went out to scout for a suitable site. He found the perfect pond with a 'ghaat' and we shot the drama there. **TDS: How did you get involved with the show "Moner Kotha"?** Mimi: Although I'm the host, the total credit for the programme goes to Shamim Shahed. It was his concept. He made all the necessary preparations and convinced me of his plans. I was doubtful at first due to my time constraints. **TDS: Any plans of making movies?** Mimi: I will make an announcement soon. I want to make a film based on Mohammad Zafar Iqbal's novel "Camp".

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Hashem Khan felicitated after Independence Day Award win

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts held a reception on April 3 at the gallery in Dhanmondi, Dhaka to honour veteran painter Hashem Khan on being conferred the Shadinota Padak (Independence Day Award 2011). The award was conferred on March 24 at Osmani Memorial Hall.

Khan is famed for his Liberation War-themed works and depiction of the serene landscape of Bengal. His figures and colours are bold and dynamic. His canvases are vast and the use of space in his artworks is outstanding. His paintings usually highlight rural panorama, rustic people and their way of life. Khan makes a great attempt to connect the contemporary themes with the Liberation War. Acclaimed educationist Borhanuddin Khan Jahangir; fellow artists Quayyum Chowdhury, Rafiqun Nabi, Monirul Islam, Shahid Kabir, Ranjit Das, Mohammad Iqbal; Indian art critic Pranab Ranjan Roy; Shamsuzzaman Khan, director general of Bangla Academy; Subir Chowdhury, director of Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts and publisher Mofidul Haque, among others, spoke on the occasion at the Bengal Café.

The speakers cited the artist's immense contribution to Bangladeshi art and culture. Khan actively participated in the Liberation War as a freedom fighter. He was wounded in the war. From the beginning of his career, he has been actively involved with various social and cultural movements in the country. After independence, the artist expressed his experiences through his art.

Khan was born and raised in Chandpur. The artist completed BEA in 1961 from Government Institute of Arts, Dhaka (presently Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka). He was a research scholar in Ceramics, Government Institute of Arts, Dhaka from 1961 to 1963. He trained in cover design and illustration from ACCU, Tokyo in 1979. He taught at the Government Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka for 44 years and retired as Professor in 2007.



Quayyum Chowdhury (left) greets Hashem Khan at the programme. Parveen Khan (wife of Hashem Khan) and Subir Chowdhury are also seen in the photo.

Padatik's weeklong theatre festival begins today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Scenes from "Joldash" (left) and "Majhrater Manushera". The plays will be stage at the festival.

A weeklong theatre festival by Padatik Natya Sangsad (TSC) begins today at Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy. The festival marks the 88th birthday of the troupe's former president, the late Syed Badruddin Hossain. The festival features 14 plays by 13 troupes -- from Bangladesh and India.

State Minister for Cultural Affairs, Advocate Promod Mankin, will be present as chief guest at the inaugural ceremony. Kamal Lohani, director general, Shilpakala Academy; Ramendu Majumdar, president, ITI Worldwide and Liaquat Ali Lucky, chairman, Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation, will be present as special guests. The inaugural ceremony will also feature an award (named after Badruddin Hossain) giving ceremony.

Plays will be staged at two venues everyday, at National Theatre Hall and Experimental Theatre Hall.

On the first day, Dhaka Theatre will stage its production "Dhaboman" at the National Theatre Hall and Padatik will stage "Janomanko" at the Experimental Theatre Hall.

Among other local troupes, Natyachakra, Dhaka Padatik, Theatre (Bailey Road), Shilpakala Academy, Loko Natyadal, Subachan, Aranyak, Theatre (Arambagh) and Shomoy Sangskritik Goshthi will stage their productions.

The participating Indian troupes are Theatre Workshop and Ha Ja Ba Ra La. Theatre Workshop will stage two plays -- "Buro Shaikher Gharey Ro" and "Boshikaran" -- at National Theatre Hall, on April 8. Ha Ja Ba Ra La will stage "Hashey Osru Nodi" the following day at the same venue.

The festival will end on April 12 through staging of the Shilpakala Academy production "Shapath".

Senses & Sensuousness

Group art exhibition at Zainul Gallery



ZAHANGIR ALAM

A 10-daylong group art exhibition, titled "Senses" opened on March 28 at Zainul Gallery, Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA), Dhaka University.

The inauguration of the exhibition was presided over by Professor Matlub Ali, Dean of FFA. Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University AAMS Arefin Siddique inaugurated the exhibition as the chief guest. Art critic and architect Rabul Hussain; organising secretary of Bangladesh Awami League Ahmad Hossain; Professor Jamal Ahmed of Drawing and Painting Department, FFA and Professor Rokeya Sultana of Printmaking Department, FFA were present on the occasion as special guests.

The eight participating artists are MFA students -- Arif Haque, Sharmin Borna and Sadiya Nasrin of Drawing and Painting Department; Sumaiya Sharif, ABM Taimur Hannan and Ruhul Amin Tarek of Printmaking Department; Sinthia Arefin Mou of Oriental Art Department and Nahida Akhter Mily of Graphic Design department. A number of artworks on various media titled "Protikkha" and "Street Boy" (oil); "Jol

Arif Haque's "Street Boy" asks numerous questions with his astonished eyes. The artist hopes to carry on a series with the title in the days ahead. Featuring a sea port and capturing still life, Ruhul Amin Tarek has showed his dexterity over pen and pencil. Sadiya Nasrin's artworks are geometric in theme, highlighting abstract expressions of female figures. Sinthia Arefin Mou has stretched her artistic domain through showcasing "series of social obstacle." Feminine perspective is apparent in her works. Sumaiya Sharif's lithography along with several folk themed mirrors is also on display. The exhibition dedicated to Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, four national leaders and all the martyrs of Liberation War, ends today at 8 pm.



Clockwise (from top-left): "Street Boy", "Protippokkha" and "Tale of Dilemma" by Arif Haque, Taimur Hannan and Nahida Akhter Mily.



Call for wholesome entertainment for children

Three-day Barisal Divisional Children's Theatre Festival

SUSHANTA GHOSH, Barisal

A three-daylong children's theatre festival, titled 'Barisal Bibhago Shishu Natya Utshab 2011' (Barisal divisional children's theatre festival), began at Barisal Aswani Kimar Hall on Monday evening with a call for wholesome entertainment for children.

The festival has been arranged jointly by Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy and People's Theatre Association. Liaquat Ali Lucky, secretary general People's Theatre Association, inaugurated the festival.

Advocate Talukdar Md. Yunus, AL lawmaker; SM Arifur Rahman, deputy commissioner, Barisal and president of district Shilpakala Academy; Sahar Ara Begum, cultural organizer; KM Mohsin, former director, Drama of Shilpakala Academy and Faruk Hossain, member secretary of the festival organising committee addressed the gathering at the inaugural ceremony. The programme was presided over by Syed Dulal, convener of the festival organising committee.

A rally also made its way through the city roads as part of the inaugural ceremony Monday evening.

Speakers and participants of the festival pressed for the implementation of their 11-point demands, including regular financial grants; available theatre stage in the upazila and educational institutions; arranging annual national and biannual international theatre festivals for youngsters in the country; allotment of a plot in Dhaka for the office complex of People's Theatre; assistance in organising country-wide scholarships; training and workshops for organisers, performers and directors of children's theatre; introducing national medals for this sector and construction of a children's theatre institute in the country.

Six theatre groups and two cultural organisations from Dhaka, Barisal, Patuakhali and Barguna will stage six dramas and two dance-dramas at the Aswani Kumar Hall in the city from Monday to Wednesday.

"Bikoshito Shishu, Alokito Agami" (flourishing children, enlightened future) was the slogan of the festival, calling for the children, encouraging them to become good citizens, said the convener of the festival committee.

Peoples Theatre of Dhaka, Barisal Shishu Theatre, Prantik Sangeet Bidyalaya, Khelghar of Barisal city, Natun Mukh of Barisal, Sundarom Children's Theatre of Patuakhali and Barguna Little Theatre will stage plays at 6:30pm everyday at the festival, said the organisers.

Dylan fans welcome hero for first-ever China gig

In a hot and cramped room in one of Beijing's more fashionable districts, four musicians meet regularly to blast out rock classics.

As their style and sound suggest, The Power Powder have been influenced by some of the great names in rock 'n' roll -- including the US legend Bob Dylan.

When he plays in Beijing today, they will be in the audience, revelling in the singer's first gig in mainland China.

Hundreds of fans will turn out for the performance, including those inspired by what Bob Dylan came to represent.

Getting permission for the US musician to play in China was not easy. The authorities have been wary of foreign performers, particularly since the Icelandic singer Bjork signalled her support for Tibetan independence at a concert in Shanghai in 2008.

Since then officials appear to have tightened the rules surrounding performances by foreign artists. Bob Dylan's two gigs -- the other will be in Shanghai -- had to be approved by the national ministry of culture.

Officials said the singer would have to strictly abide by an agreed playlist. The musicians who make up The Power Powder seem unconcerned; they are just glad that they are getting the chance to see their idol in the flesh.

And they are prepared to pay a hefty sum to see him. Their tickets cost 980 yuan (\$150; £93) each.

"We just really want to go see him," said the band's lead singer and guitarist Xiao Men, who bears more than a passing resemblance to The Rolling Stones guitarist Keith Richards in his

style. "We've listened to Bob Dylan's music for a long time and have been hugely influenced by him."

The band, who usually play gigs every week, are also looking for a few tips from one of the world's best performers.

"It's a great opportunity to learn," said Xiao Men.

The Power Powder are among Dylan's younger fans in China. There are those though who have been following him for decades. Professor Teng Jimeng is one of them.

He first heard about Bob Dylan in the 1980s when teachers from the United States arrived at the university where he was studying in Liaoning province.

They used some of Dylan's lyrics in their English classes. At the time, Professor Teng, who now teaches American studies at Beijing Foreign Studies University, did not understand their political message.

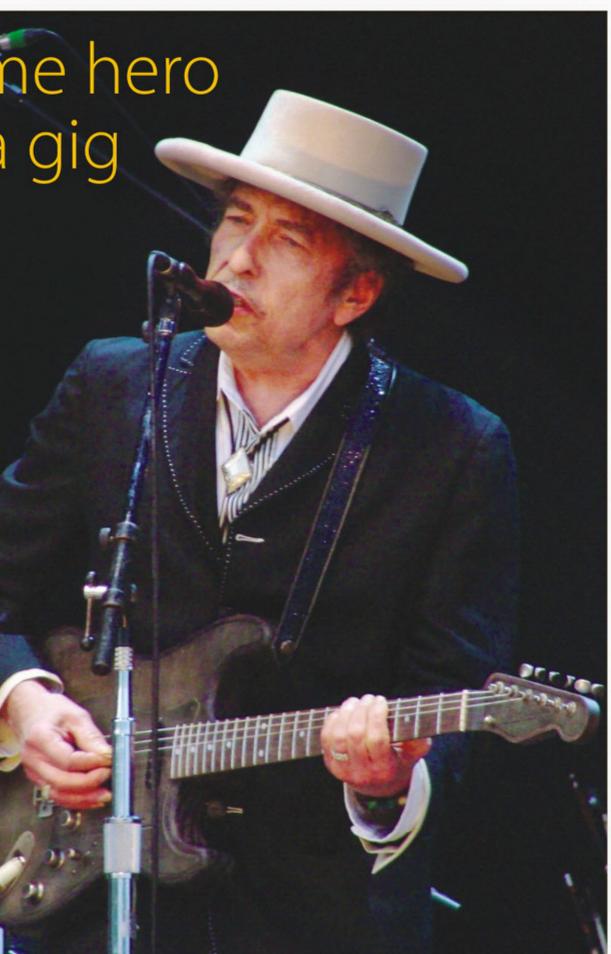
Songs like "The Times They Are a-Changin'" had influenced the protest movement in the United States in the 1960s.

Two decades later China was going through its own transformation, as major changes in society ushered in a period of genuine debate and openness.

Bob Dylan's songs become anthems for a new generation of youngsters seeking change.

"Dylan represents freedom, youthful rebelliousness and participation in the socio-political life of the country," said Professor Teng as he played some of his favourite songs.

Source: BBC



ATN BANGLA	10:30	Bangla Feature Film
12:15	IT Zone	Boishakhi-CNN Shara
06:15	Band View	Bishwa
	Cricket Cricket World Cup	Boishakhi Biondon O
	Destination Unlimited	Shongkhri Sambad
10:45	Bihongo Kotha	Shudhu Cnemaar Gaan
		Diganta TV
		Score Cards
		05:30 Lime Light
CHANNEL i	11:05	Sports Time (Live)
	01:05	Ebong Cnemaar Gaan
	01:30	Hridoyer Gaan
	04:05	Aponar Shushastha
	09:35	Nabagaane Nabagraha
	12:00	Aajker Shongbadpatri
		Z Studio
		04:10 Signs
		01:30 Life is Beautiful
ntv	04:10	Dark Water
		06:30 The Chronicles of Namia
		09:30 Picnic at Hanging Rock
		11:50 High Heels and Low Lites
		Star Movies

abc radio FM 99.2	07:30	Helo Dhaka
06:00	Bhorer Janjaly	10:00
09:00	Mukhorito Jhoney	12:00
12:00	Darun Dipurey	04:00
03:00	Duanta Bikerey	09:00
05:00	Shomha Tara	10:30 TOBY FM
07:00	Shay-er Maja	08:00
09:00	Rak-er Akashay	12:00
11:00	Galper Shesh Nei	04:00
Radio Footi	07:00	Toby Tai Hok

Poush Phaguner Pala
On ATN BANGLA at 09:20pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Afroza Banu, Sanjida Preeti

Rush Hour 2
On HBO at 11:30pm
Genre: Action/Comedy
Cast: Jackie Chan, Chris Tucker

Shobuj Nokkhotro
On ntv at 09:45pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Humayun Faridee, Tisha

ETV	04:30	DW Global 3000
	05:30	Music Bit
	05:50	Sports Plus
	06:30	Round on the Top
	12:05	Bangalink Ekushay
		Raat
	01:10	Bangla Feature Film
	05:00	Boishakha Protidin-er Gaan
	05:30	Look at Me
	12:00	Protidin-er Pottika
	12:05	Trade Talk
	09:05	Shudhu Gaan
	10:10	Gaan o Fun
	11:05	Garbo
	01:05	Bangla Feature Film
	09:05	Shondhorjo Kotha
	04:00	Desh Janopath
	05:00	Durpath
	07:45	Ekai Binitrey
	09:45	Ramanghar
	12:30	Total Sports
	07:30	Bitor Holo Bibhaboni

HBO	11:30	Multiplicity
	03:15	Thunderbirds
	07:15	Pacific Heights
	09:30	Hachuko: A Dog's Story
	11:30	Rush Hour 2
	09:15	Snake Eyes
	11:00	6th Day

BANGLAVISION	10:30	Community
	02:30	Las Vegas
	07:30	I Didn't Know That
	08:30	How I Met Your Mother
	10:30	Dexter
	11:30	Community

Desh TV	04:00	National Geographic Channel
	02:30	Nat Geo Wild
	07:30	I Didn't Know That
	09:30	Big, Bigger, Biggest
	11:30	The Eternal Arms Race

Boishakhi TV
07:30 Bitor Holo Bibhaboni

ATN BANGLA	08:40pm	Ghar Jamai
	09:20pm	Poush Phaguner Pala
CHANNEL i	06:00pm	Chhey Jubok-er Shongar
	07:50pm	Hridoy-er Kachher Bishoy
ntv	09:45pm	Shobuj Nokkhotro
	08:30pm	Baigh Futul
	08:20pm	Ohongkar
	09:30pm	Gatak Baki Bhai
		BANGLAVISION