

WHAT'S ON

Solo Art Exhibition
Artist: Monirul Islam
Venue: Gallery Chitrah, Dhanmondi
Date: May 27-June 15
Time: 10am-8pm

Solo Nazrul Sangeet Evening
Singer: Dr. Fakir Shohedul Islam
Venue: Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre, Gulshan 1
Date: June 3, Time: 6:30pm

Film Screening
Film: Go Fast
Venue: Auditorium, Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi
Date: June 3
Time: 6pm

19th National Art Exhibition
Organiser: Shilpakala Academy
Venue: National Art Gallery, Shilpakala Academy
Date: May 28-June 17
Time: 11am-8pm

Solo Painting Exhibition
Title: Essence of Mystery
Artist: Tarak Mahadi
Venue: La Galerie, Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, Dhanmondi
Date: June 3-16
Time: 3-9pm

Solo Art Exhibition
Artist: Mustapha Khalid Palash
Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, R-7 A J-46, Dhanmondi
Date: June 17-July 1
Time: 11am-8pm

Photography Exhibition
Title: Fusion in Time
Venue: Goethe-Institut Bangladesh, H 10, Rd 9, Dhanmondi
Date: May 26-June 4
Time: 10am-8pm

Ceramic Art Exhibition
Organiser: Harappa
Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, Dhanmondi
Date: May 28-June 4
Time: 3pm-8pm

1st DHAKA INT'L THEATRE FESTIVAL ENDS

Manipuri adaptation of **Dakghar** rivets Dhaka audience



The highlight of the play was Heisnam Sabitri, a thespian in her 60s, donning the role of Amol.

JAMIL MAHMUD

The 1st Dhaka International Theatre Festival ended on May 30 through the staging of Rabindranath Tagore's "Dakghar". Kalakshetra Manipur, a theatre troupe from the Indian state of Manipur, staged the play at the National Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy.

Department of Drama and Dramatics, Jahangirnagar University, staged an adaptation of Tagore's "Tota Kahini" on the same day at the Experimental Theatre Hall.

The Bangladesh Centre of International Theatre Institute (ITI), with the support of Ministry of Cultural Affairs and Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, arranged the ten-day festival. The festival featured 25 plays, including five from overseas.

"Dakghar" achieved appreciation both in the east and west just after it was written by the Nobel laureate poet in 1912. W.B. Yeats produced an English version of the play. Juan Ramón Jiménez translated it into Spanish. "Dakghar" was translated into French by André Gide and read on the radio the night before Paris fell to the Nazis during World War II; a Polish version was performed under the supervision of Janusz Korczak in the Warsaw ghetto.

The storyline is seemingly simple, with a rather strong, mature undercurrent. It is full of narratives, which at times get very imaginative.

The protagonist of the play, a young boy, Amol, is condemned to seclusion and immobility because of his illness. He makes up a world for himself, through his imagination and insatiable curiosity, as people passing by his window link the outside world to him. When a new post office

opens in the village, Amol believes the King will send him a letter, promising that his royal physician will come to cure him.

Amol represents every individual whose soul has received the call of the open road. He seeks freedom from the rigid walls of prudence erected by the society.

Padma Shri Heisnam Kanhaail, chief of Kalakshetra, has directed the play. Though it was mainly in Manipuri, some Bangla dialogue throughout the play made it a multi-lingual production.

The highlight of the play was Heisnam Sabitri (wife of Kanhaail), a thespian in her 60s, donning the role of Amol. The veteran actress was so engaging and engrossed in her portrayal that the casting didn't seem odd even for a moment. Aptly designed set defined Amol's world in the middle



of the stage through a circle.

Manipuri dance and singing added further dimensions to the production.

Among others, Ahanthem Upendra, Swapam Brojen, Dhananjay Rabha, Gugu Koken and Bidyutjit Chakraborty played different roles.

"Tota Kahini" was directed by Dr. Yusuf Hassan. The play is a satire of the conventional education system, depicted through the symbolic story of training a parrot to speak.

The ten-day festival that started on May 21 featured several Tagore plays. Two Indian troupes and Theatre, Theatre Art Unit, Palakar and Anushilan (of Bangladesh) staged adaptations of the Nobel laureate poet's works.

The 2nd Dhaka International Theatre Festival will be held in 2013; the organisers promise that it will be more colourful and diverse.

National Museum's Tribute to National Poet



Dr. Mohammad Abdul Kaiyum speaks at the event (top); Sujit Mustafa and Shaheen Samad perform a duet.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Marking 112th birth anniversary of National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam, Bangladesh National Museum (BNM) arranged a discussion and musical programme at Poet Sufia Kamal Auditorium of BNM on May 30. Noted Nazrul exponent and Vice Chancellor of University of Liberal Arts, Bangladesh, Professor Rafiqul Islam, was the chief guest at the programme.

Director general of BNM, Prokash Chandra Das, welcomed the audience. Former Professor of the department of Bangla, Jahangirnagar University, Dr. Mohammad Abdul Kaiyum, elaborately discussed on the life and contributions of the 'Rebel Poet'.

President of Restoration Board of BNM, M. Azizur Rahman, presided over the discussion.

In his speech, laden with references, the chief guest said, "Nazrul had the ability to prophesise the forthcoming reality. Some might think that he (the poet) wrote the song 'Karar Oi Louho Kopat' after he was incarcerated. But not! He wrote it before going to jail. He wrote the song 'Ei Shikol Pora Chhol Moder' while he was in Hooghly Jail."

"Kazi Nazrul Islam was severely misunderstood while he was alive. Misinterpretation of the poet continues -- distorting his ideas, values and universal love for humanity," Professor Rafiqul Islam regretted.

The musical part of the programme featured lively performances by noted singers Sujit Mustafa and Shaheen Samad. Sujit

Mustafa was the first to take the stage.

"Nazrul's contribution to the realm of classical music is remarkable. As far as I know, the poet created 19 distinctive ragas. Through my performance I'll provide a demonstration," Sujit said.

He then ascended and descended the Saptak of Raga Bageshree and Raga Rageshree.

"Based on these two ragas, Nazrul created Raga Malgunja. I am now rendering a song based on that raga," Sujit continued. A rendition of "Kunjamala Goley Kunjey Esho Hey Kala" followed.

A devotional Sufi composition "Modir

Aankhir Shudhaye Saqi Dubao Amar E Tanuam", covered by the artiste, received rounds of applause from the audience.

Veteran singer Shaheen Samad started with a rendition of "Uchaton Mon", which according to her, she learnt from her guru Sohrab Hossain. Hossain was in the audience.

Samad then performed the number "Ei Shikol Pora Chhol Moder" that inspired freedom fighters during the Liberation War. A Shiyama Sangeet, "Thir Hoyo Tui Bosh Dekhi Ma" by the artiste followed. Samad and Sujit performed a duet: "Jato Phool Talo Bhul". Sabuj Ahmed on tabla and Binod on keyboard instrumentally assisted the singers.



Celebrating Life Concert in Pabna



Subir Nandi and Mohammad Moniruzzaman at the programme.

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPPU, Pabna

Celebrating Life Concert, organised by The Daily Star and the Standard Chartered Bank, was held at Pabna Edward College Auditorium on Monday. The concert featured a performance by Subir Nandi, one of the leading Adhunik singers of the country. Lyricist Mohammad Moniruzzaman discussed on the evolution of Bangla songs on the occasion.

A discussion was held prior to the performance, focusing the Celebrating Life contest initiated by The Daily Star and Standard Chartered Bank. Rafi Hossain, editor of Star Insight, spoke on the contest.

"The aim of Celebrating Life is to discover and encourage talents across the country. Through this we intend to inspire young lyricists, photographers and filmmakers," Rafi Hossain said.

"The theme of this instalment of the contest is 'nature and environment'," Hossain added.

Teachers, students and cultural enthusiasts of the district attended the event.

Artists performed choruses of the winning songs from Celebrating Life 2010.

"Adhunik Bangla songs have gone through some changes over the years but the classic elements are still popular. Although we tend to rush to the newest, we should never ignore our origin," Moniruzzaman said.

Subir Nandi urged everyone to listen to more Bangla songs. "We often hear music but fail to 'listen' to and fully grasp it. We should appreciate the melodies and the messages of the songs," Nandi said.

The seasoned artiste performed 12 songs on the occasion.

"Subir Nandi's songs are evergreen. This truly was a delight!" - Professor Md. Fakrul Islam Sujia, teacher of English department, Pabna Edward College, said.

Folk Melodies at **Praner Khela**

A CORRESPONDENT

This month's instalment of Bengal Foundation's musical programme "Praner Khela" highlighted the opulence of Bangla folk music. The solree was held on May 30 at the Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, Dhanmondi in Dhaka.

Faizur Rahman's rendition of Raga Bhupali on dotara started the main programme.

The featured artistes were veteran singer Bidit Lal Das and Biman Chandra Biswas (a finalist of Bengal Foundation's talent hunt "Bengal Bikash").

Although Bidit Lal Das' ancestors were zamindar (landlords), he preferred reigning over the arena of music. His grandfather Banka Bihari Das was a renowned pakhawaj player. Growing up in a culturally oriented family, Bidit Lal learnt the ABCs of music from Ustad Sur Sagar. He also took lessons from Paresch Chakravarty and Ustad Ful Muhammad Khan for 20 years.

Bidit Lal began his performance with "Doyal Nabijee O Tomar Ranga Charan" and went on to render classics like "Bhromor Kojoya Gia" and "Morlie Kandis Na".

Biman Chandra Biswas started with Lalon's "Ami Aupar Hoyo Boshe Achi". He also rendered the Hason Raja song "Nisha Lagilo Re" and other popular folk ditties.

Eastern Bank Limited sponsored "Praner Khela".



Bidit Lal Das sings at the programme.

Generating awareness through theatre



Anomalies in the local government, education and health sectors were highlighted through the performance.

ABDUL WAHED, Kurigram

Theatre group Youth Engagement Support (of the district Committee of Concerned Citizens), under Transparency International Bangladesh, held a public performance on anti-corruption recently. Titled "Hurka" (local name for storm), the production was staged at the Kurigram Shilpakala Academy.

A total of 21 members of Youth Engagement Support (YES) performed in the production. The YES members took a five-day (May 22-26) training on acting. Md. Rezaul Kabir and Ruksana Parvin Rupa of the central YES wing conducted the training.

Anomalies in the local government, education and health sectors were highlighted through the performance. The presentation will be staged at several remote areas of the district for a year, to generate awareness among people who bear the brunt of corruption. Through this initiative, the group wants to enable the masses to raise their voices against corruption.

The first show was on May 26, directed by convener of the local YES group, Md. Yousuf Alamgir. About 500 people attended the show.

The cast of the play includes Badol Chandra, Ranjit Kumar, Alamgir Kumum, Sirajuddaula, Mizanur Rahman, Solaiman, Nasrin Aktar, Akram Hossen and Al-Hakimuzzaman.

X-Men prequel takes leap of faith

It was watching Matthew Vaughn's 2004 crime thriller "Layer Cake" that made producer Barbara Broccoli think Daniel Craig could make a great James Bond.

Seven years on, the Bondian trappings of Vaughn's latest project are making some wonder if one of its stars might also have a future playing the suave secret agent.

In dress, manner and tactics, the driven character the German-Irish actor Michael Fassbender plays in "X-Men: First Class" has much in common with Ian Fleming's suave super-spy.

For the time being, though, the 34-year-old is content to focus on his own film and let the Bond series take care of itself.

"They dressed me in bespoke suits that were pretty cool and that harked back to the early Bond films," says the actor, best known to audiences for playing IRA hunger striker Bobby Sands in 2008 drama "Hunger".

"But in terms of what I expect or hope for the future, I never plan anything. Daniel is doing a fantastic job, so let's just deal with this movie and see how it does."

With the previous four instalments in the X-Men series making more than \$786 million at the global box office, there can be little worries on that front.

Yet "First Class" does require a certain leap of faith, presenting as it does younger versions of superhero characters already closely associated with other actors.

Fassbender, for example, plays Erik Lehnsherr, a Holocaust survivor with special powers who appeared in the first three X-Men blockbusters in the villainous guise of Magneto.

In those films the role was portrayed by Sir Ian McKellen. His successor, though, opted not to base his portrayal too closely on what went before.

"When I got the job I thought about studying McKellen -- getting my hands on everything I could of him as a young man on screen, studying his voice and physicality and what not."

"And then I sat down with Matthew and he decided that wasn't the way he wanted to go. So I ditched that idea totally and just used the comic book material that was available."

British actor James McAvoy had a similar



quandary. In playing the young Charles Xavier, aka Professor X, how closely should he cleave to Sir Patrick Stewart's version?

"There was no point playing him the same way in a different suit," shrugs the 32-year-old star of "Atonement" and the first Chronicles of Narnia film.

"It was important that we started at a different place while still taking cues from his performance. So I looked at Sir Patrick's performance and saw how to make it different. Where he was wise I would be foolhardy; where he was chaste I'd be randy."

"By the end of three films -- if we make three films I'll end up doing something much more like Patrick Stewart."

As McAvoy's remarks suggest, "First Class" is unlikely to be the final big-screen outing for Marvel's band of occasionally fractious "mutants".

There is the potential, for example, for its heroes to feature in one or more of the other Marvel-based feature films currently in production.

The studio's over-arching concept is for the likes of Iron Man, Thor, Captain America and the Incredible Hulk to come together as a

single fighting force.

For the moment, however, the X-Men will continue to exist in their own distinct universe -- one that, according to McAvoy, subtly mirrors the real world we live in.

"One of the things that runs through all the movies is they're about people who feel like outsiders," he says.

"They're people who don't like themselves, who are afraid of themselves, who want to be normal or who rejoice in the fact they're not normal."

"Aside from the powers the characters have, they are all really human," reflects US actor Kevin Bacon, whose role as criminal mastermind Sebastian Shaw sees him with his fellow mutant outcasts to pursue his own villainous ends.

"They feel things, they get jealous, they hate and fear and get drunk together."

"That was the challenge from an acting standpoint -- to forget about the powers and constantly bring it back to the human side."

"I've also never played a billionaire playboy megalomaniac, so that was cool as well."

SOURCE: BBC

BTV	12:35 Shukhi Paribar	07:50 Fashion and Twin
02:05 Cartoon	10:10 Trinamool Sanglap	
04:05 Maa O Shishur Kotha		Desh TV
06:10 Maa O Manush	04:00 Desh Janopahar	
07:00 MacGyver	04:30 Durgath	
09:10 Drama	06:30 Dur-er Janala	
	07:45 Ekoi Brintey	
ATN BANGLA	10:30 Ranna Ghar	
12:15 IT Zone	12:30 Total Sports	
01:25 Band View		Boishakhi TV
06:15 Take Care	10:30 Bangla Feature Film	
08:00 Destination Unlimited	04:15 Shorashon Doctor	
10:45 Bihanga Kotha	Boishakhi-CNN Shara	
10:55 Bibekter Kache Proshno	Bishwa	
CHANNEL i	06:20 Drama Serial: Alokit	
11:05 Sports Time (Live)	Angina	
01:05 Ebong Cinemar Gaan	Reporters Dairy	
04:30 Apunar Shuchastha	Boishakhi Binodon O	
06:20 Desh Bidesh Ranna	Sankshiti Sangbad	
09:35 Nobo Gaane Nobo		Diganta TV
		Prane
12:20 Ami Rabindranath-er	09:05 Shomoy-er Sanglap	
Kotha Bolchhi	03:35 Jibon Onmeha	
	06:30 Chitra Bichitra	

abc radio FM 89.2		RADIO	
06:00 Bhoore Samaj	12:00 No Tension		
09:00 Mukhonto Jiboney	04:00 Dhaka Calling		
12:00 Daman Dugury	09:00 Knight Riders		
03:00 Duronto Boleky	RADIO TODAY FM 89.6		
05:00 Shomukhi Tara	06:00 Green FM		
07:00 Shaj-er Maya	08:00 Good Morning Dhaka		
09:00 Raat-er Akashy	12:00 Today's Adda		
11:00 Gajper Shesh Nei	04:00 U Turn		
Radio Foorti	07:00 Rober Nei Hak		
10:00 Morning Express	10:00 Raat Rer Gaan		
	12:00 Hutum Pecha		

Busy for Nothing
On Rtv at 08:20pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Faruk
Rahman Babu,
Golam Farida
Chhanda

Bringing Out the Dead
On 2 Studio at 11:40pm
Genre: Drama/Thriller
Cast: Nicolas Cage, Patricia Arquette

Poush
Phaguren Pala
On ATN BANGLA at 8:30pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Shohana Saba, Trupda Majumdar

ntv	11:30 Grammar World	09:25 Diganta Onushandhan
04:10	Janar Achhey Balar Achhey	Shanti Poth
05:30	Apunar Jigasha	12:30 Probache Bangladesh
06:10	Shubho Shondhya	
08:15	Siddika Kabir Recipe	03:30 The Village
09:00	Kichu kotha Kichu Gaan	06:10 The Hurricane
		09:30 Bruce Almighty
		11:40 Bringing Out the Dead
Rtv		Star Movies
12:35	Tawheed-er Marshid	03:50 Great Buck Howard
01:10	Bangla Feature Film	05:25 Post Grad
05:00	Protidin-er Gaan	08:55 Sniper 3
06:00	Drama Serial: Mohallar Bhai	10:30 Fight Night
12:00	Protidin-er Pottika	
		HBO
BANGLAVISION		02:30 Transporter 3
09:05	Shudhui Gaan	07:45 The Goods: Live Hard, Sell Hard
10:10	Gaan O Fun	
01:05	Bangla Feature Film	09:30 Species
04:30	Drama Serial: Alokit	11:30 Ghost Ship
09:05	Shondhorjo Kotha	
11:25	Ghure Darao Bangladesh	Star World
		11:30 Two And A Half Men
		05:30 Castle
		09:00 The Simpsons
ETV		11:30 How I Met Your Mother
11:30	Ekushey-er Business (Live)	BBC World
04:30	DN Global 3000	11:00 BBC World News
05:50	Sports Plus	02:30 World Business Report
06:30	Round on the Top	02:30 HARD talk
		11:45 Sport Today
		12:00 World News Today

ATN BANGLA	DRAMA SERIAL
08:40pm Ogniroth	Rtv
09:20pm Poush Phaguren	08:20pm Busy for Nothing
	BANGLAVISION
	08:15pm Dyrestar
CHANNEL i	ETV
07:50pm Hridoy-er Kacher	09:30pm Ghatat Baki Bhai
Bishoy	Desh TV
	09:45pm Sat Kahon
ntv	09:45pm Shobuj Nekkhotro
11:30pm Terminal	08:45pm O Chand

NEWS BULLETIN

BTV News (Bangla) at 8:00 am 2:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 8:00 pm. News (English) at 10:00am, 4:00 pm, 10:00 pm. Late Night News (Bangla and English) 11:30 pm. (To be telecast on all Bangla channels). CHANNEL-I News (Bangla): 7:00 am, 9:00 am, 2:00 pm, 9:00 pm, 12:00 pm, 12:30 am ATN Bangla News (Bangla): 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11:00 pm, 1:00 am, 4:00 am 01:00pm, 3:00pm, 04:00pm News (English): 9:00 am, 6:00 pm.	BANGLAVISION News (Bangla) at 7:30am. 1:30pm, 5:00pm, 7:15pm, 10:30pm. News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00am, 12:00am, 4:00pm. News (English) at 6:00pm Rtv News (Bangla): 2:30 pm, 4:30 pm, 6:30 pm, 8:30 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:30 am ntv News (Bangla): 7:30am, 12:02pm, 2:00pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm, 1:00am ETV News (Bangla): 9:00am, 11:00 am, 1:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 11:00pm
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TALK SHOW	
BTV	ntv
10:25pm	12:10pm
Ghure Daraner	Ei Shomoy
Bangladesh	
ATN BANGLA	Rtv
10:30am	07:40pm
Lead News	Our Democracy
11:15am	BANGLAVISION
Vision 2020	06:30pm
	Front Line
CHANNEL i	Desh TV
09:45am	11:45pm
Intito Matra	Shoja Kotha
12:30pm	Boishakhi TV
Taroka Kothon	
11:30pm	12:00am
Alloy Bhudon Bhora	Zero Hour