

WHAT'S ON

Exhibition
Organiser: Androm
Venue: The Nest, H-24, Rd 2, Gulshan 1
Date: July 23
Time: 11:30am-9pm

Art Exhibition
Title: Tribute to Mohammad Kibila
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, Dhanmondi
Date: July 22-31
Time: 12pm-8pm

Album Launch
Title: Bangladesh-er Hridaya Hriday
Venue: Poet Sufia Kamal Auditorium, National Museum
Date: July 24
Time: 6:30pm

Tapestry Exhibition
Artist: Tajul Islam
Venue: Gallery Cosmos, Malibagh
Date: July 22-Aug 5
Time: 11am-7pm

Nazrul Sangeet Evening
Artist: Khairul Anam Shakil
Venue: Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre, H 35, Rd 24, Gulshan 1
Date: July 22
Time: 6:30pm

Musical Soiree
Organiser: Handan
Title: Emon Badoloy Tumi
Venue: Chhayachart Auditorium, H-72, Rd-15/A, Dhanmondi
Date: July 21, Time: 7pm

Exhibition on Heritage Architecture
Organiser: IAS and Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Venue: National Museum
Date: July 17-22, Time: 10-7pm

Album Launch
Title: Shikha Tonary Paley
Artist: Auditi Mohsin
Venue: Bengal Shikha, H-42, Rd-16 (West) Dhanmondi
Date: July 21
Time: 7pm



Emerged from Unknown III

Art by autistic children at Drik

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

HANS (Hello's Association of Neophyte Students), in association with Surf Excel, has organised a weeklong exhibition featuring artworks by autistic youngsters. Through this exhibition, HANS intends to generate awareness in autism among the masses. The exhibition, titled "Emerged from Unknown III", is on at Drik Gallery in Dhanmondi, Dhaka. HANS, a non-profit organisation, has been working to raise awareness in autism since 2005. This is the third time they have held a painting exhibition featuring these gifted youngsters. The exhibition started from July 15. Abul Barq Alvi, Professor, printmaking department, Faculty of Fine Arts, Dhaka University, inaugurated the exhibition as chief guest. Professor Alvi, who also judged the artworks, highly appreciated the effort and assured help whenever needed. Chairman of HANS, Meer Sohrabul Hossain, was also present at the opening

of the exhibition. Parents of the young artists were moved to see the encouragement their children were receiving. They hoped that their children would no longer be alienated in the society. The turnout at the exhibition was impressive. A total of 70 paintings, out of about 300 pieces submitted initially, by these differently-abled children from various schools are on display at the gallery. The exhibited artworks feature various themes, some of which are imaginative, like the Liberation War, the National Memorial in Savar, traditional boat race, sunrise, flowers, birds, landscape, rural life, conversation between a frog and a bird, a flute player, rainfall in a distant place and much more. The young artists' choice and use of colour are quite interesting. Most of them have used bright colours (pencil, pastel and poster) to produce their works. Participating youngsters are: Al-Fahim, Rayeed, Farsin Anan, Ferdous Mahi, Namia, Arnob Aich, Nirjhor, Arafat Amlan, Tahsin, Prianto, Poulomi, Srishti, Fagun,

Rushmina, Zarin Tasnim, Radif Aaryan, Adiba Poshla, Nafi, Aritra, Sami, Roddur, Tanisha Ananta, Tausif, Pritam, Diplo, Tamanna Tima, Likhon, Rafid Ahsan, Anindya, Dodul, Khaleda and others. Several slogans -- "Autism is not a puzzle, nor a disease; autism is a challenge"; "Autism is about developing differently, in a different pace and with different leaps"; "Autism can be defined

as 'Always Unique Totally Intelligent Sometimes Mysterious'; "They do not suffer from autism, but they do suffer from the way people treat them" and "Autism is about having a pure heart and being very sensitive" -- are also noticeable at the gallery. Proceeds from sales of the paintings will go to the gifted young artists. The exhibition ends today.



Musical homage to Nelson Mandela

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

To celebrate the 93rd birth anniversary of iconic South African anti-apartheid leader Nelson Mandela, cultural organisation Wishij Shilpi Goshti arranged a discussion and musical programme at the Liberation War Museum, in Segunbagicha, Dhaka on July 19. Among others, Industry Minister Dilip Barua; Liberation War Museum trustee Mofidul Haque; General Secretary of Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) Mujahidul Islam Selim and cultural activists Golam Kuddus and Professor Afsar Ahmed spoke on the life and achievements of Mandela. President of Wishij and noted Gano Sangeet (inspirational songs) artiste Fakir Alamgir presided over the discussion. In his speech, Dilip Barua called Mandela "a leader of the world". The minister called upon everyone to follow Mandela's philosophy to ensure a better society. Fakir Alamgir announced that his organisation would arrange programmes on other iconic global leaders as well. Alamgir opened up the musical programme through singing his tribute to Mandela -- "Kalo Kalo Manusher Deshey".

Among invited organisations, Swabhumi, Bibartan, Kranti and Udichi performed several group renditions of Gano Sangeet. Member of the groups sang "Jiboner Jai-gan Gai", "Tolo Awaj", "Aro Bashanta Bahu Bashanta" and "Shedin Aar Koto Durey". Folk singer Fakir Shahabuddin performed a couple of solos. Mandela was born as Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela on July 18, 1918. He served as President of South Africa from 1994 to 1999, and was the first South African president to be elected in a fully representative democratic election. Before his presidency, Mandela was an anti-apartheid activist, and the leader of Umkhonto we Sizwe, the armed wing of the African National Congress (ANC). In 1962 he was arrested and convicted of sabotage and other charges, and sentenced to life in prison. Mandela served 27 years in prison, spending many of these years on Robben Island. Following his release from prison on February 11, 1990, Mandela led his party in the negotiations that led to multi-racial democracy in 1994. In South Africa, Mandela is known as "Madiba", his Xhosa clan name; or as "Tata" (Xhosa: father). Mandela received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1993.



Catching up with Kushum Shikdar

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Although her lifelong aspiration has been to become a vocal artiste, fate had other plans for Kushum Shikdar. Through turn of events she found herself in the media as an actress -- both on the small and big screen. The talented actress recently shared her views with The Daily Star (TDS). TDS: What are your current projects? Kushum: TV plays and films are keeping me busy these days. I recently finished working on "Lal Tip" -- a joint production that is set to be released in November. Editing is now underway for the movie. TDS: You also appear in some TV serials... Kushum: Channel i is telecasting "Jogajog" by Nahid Ahmed Piyal. It's based on a Rabindranath Tagore novel. Boishakhi TV is airing the Hridi Haq direction "Icarus-er Daana". TDS: What are some of the characters you've played of late? Kushum: In "Jogajog", I play Kumudini who comes from an aristocratic family. Although her family has lost its previous glory, they remain true to the tradition of their ancestors. The story progresses as Kumudini follows the footsteps of her brother and continues her studies. Only five episodes have been shot so far. My role in "Icarus-er Daana" is also a very unique one. TDS: Apart from "Jogajog", you've also worked in several productions based on literary canons? Kushum: My repertoire includes performances in adaptations of Tagore's "Noukadubi". I've also worked in adaptations of the works of Nazrul. TDS: Can you name some of the key performances of your career? Kushum: I've worked in numerous dramas

that deserve mention. The names that are coming to mind at the moment are "Bagh Putul", "Jyotsnakaal", "Jolpori", "1920", "Ek E Shunno Dosh", "Meyeti Ekhon Kotha Jabe" and "Aim in Life". TDS: Does the frequency of appearances force the decrease in quality of performance? Kushum: No. I don't think I've done that many plays and serials to be affected as such. I work 15 days out of a month, whereas many others choose to work 25 days. TDS: What are the factors you focus on before taking on the challenge of a new TV play? Kushum: I always consider three things important: the script, the director and the location. TDS: You're continuing your music practice? Kushum: Even though my arrival in the media was through music, I had to put it on hold. There is no specific reason for this decision, but just that my love for acting has grown greatly. Sometimes, however, I think that I should resume my music. TDS: One of your movies has already been released... Kushum: "Gohine Shobdo" -- my silver screen debut -- has received much applause from the critics and audience. It was directed by Khalid Mahmud Mithu and I acted opposite Emon. TDS: How much different is "Lal Tip" from "Gohine Shobdo"? Kushum: The audience will see different sides of Kushum Shikdar in the respective movies. In "Lal Tip" I play the role of Nidhi, who grew up in Paris. So my attire will be a bit different in the film.



Raising voice against social bullies

"Roopkotha" on ntv



A CORRESPONDENT

TV serial "Roopkotha" will be aired tonight at 8:15pm on ntv. Written and directed by Aranyo Anwar, the cast of the serial includes Azzul Hakim, Salahuddin Lavlu, Shahiduzzaman Selim, Fazlur Rahman Babu, Mahfiz Ahmed, Syed Hasan Imam, Wahida Mallik Jolly and newcomer Nawshaba. The story zooms in on a local political leader Khalil Sardar who wants to build a

mall on a piece of land owned by Kapotkakh Theatre, a local cultural organisation. Sardar assigns his main henchman, Bikash, to ensure the dealings go down smoothly. Bikash, who bullies and intimidates everyone in the area, cannot seem to shake Roopkotha, a young theatre activist and member of Kapotkakh. Roopkotha doesn't budge and refuses to yield to the goons. The serial is aired every Thursday and Friday at the same time.

Matt Damon says Pitt and Jolie are like prisoners



Matt Damon and his wife, Luciana Barroso (left) and Brad Pitt with Angelina Jolie.

It's no secret that Matt Damon keeps company with some pretty famous friends -- Ben Affleck, George Clooney, Brad Pitt among them. But unlike the others (and especially in the case of Pitt), Damon is able to maintain a fairly normal life. "I have friends who are like prisoners. Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie for instance," Damon told German television TELE 5 over the weekend. "They can't just go someplace. If they go for a walk, it turns into an international incident." Damon, on the other hand, has it sort of easy. "I'm really lucky, because I have the best of both worlds. I do the work that I love and need, but don't need paramilitary troops to protect me when I walk out my front



door." For Damon, life revolves around family, and that might have something to do with his ability to maintain a low profile. "Ever since I found my wife (Luciana) and we had children, my whole life revolves around that. It gave my life a dramatic change in direction. I'm not as crazy as most of the other stars. I don't really know why, probably because I married a woman who isn't an actress. And we live in New York," he said. "As long as we don't show up in typical tourist spots, we can walk the streets without being noticed. New Yorkers are very cool, they don't flip out if they see me." Source: Internet

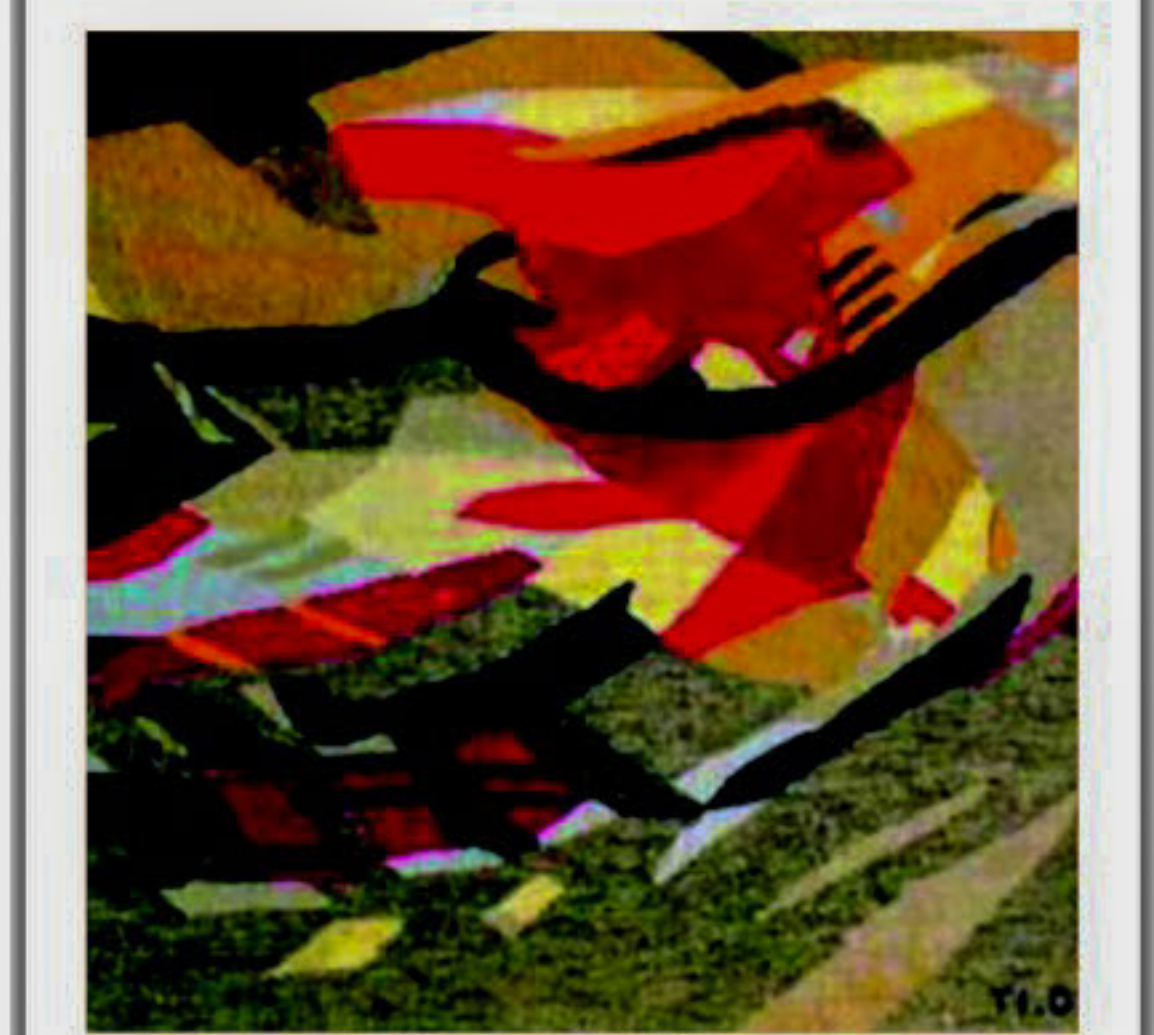
Amitabh and Sridevi to share screen space after 19 years

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

Bollywood megastar Amitabh Bachchan and veteran actress Sridevi will be sharing screen space with each other after 19 years for their upcoming film "English Vinglish". The film, being touted as Sridevi's Bollywood comeback, will see her essay the role of a housewife who joins a spoken English course to impress her husband and family. The two were last paired in the 1992 hit film "Khuda Gawah". Earlier, they were seen together in films like "Inquilaab" and "Akhree Rasta". Sridevi was last seen in a full-fledged role in the 1997 film "Judaai" with Anil Kapoor and Urmila Matondkar. The senior Bachchan, who will be seen making a special appearance in the film, tweeted that the actress is "still spontaneous and lovely".



Tajul's tapestry exhibition at Cosmos



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Gallery Cosmos will host a solo tapestry exhibition featuring the works of Tajul Islam, one of the leading artists in this particular field. The exhibition will open tomorrow and continue till August 5. Tajul Islam started out by assisting renowned tapestry artist Rashid Chowdhury, after the latter returned from France. Tajul continued working under his guru till 1979. At present, Tajul is one of the very few artists working in this elegant, expensive and laborious medium. Tajul's personal hallmark involves novel images (particularly different organic and abstract forms) and presenting them with a unique approach. This inclination has helped him hold his position at the forefront of the Bangladeshi art scenario. Tasanawadee Miancharoen, Thai Ambassador to Bangladesh; Anjumara Ara Jamil, former Member of Parliament and architect Rabiul Hussain will inaugurate the exhibition.

Table with TV program listings for ATN BANGLA, CHANNEL i, and BANGLAVISION.

Table with radio program listings for abc radio FM 99.2, Radio Fori, and Hedio Dhaka.

Advertisement for Neelkonthi on ATN BANGLA at 11:00pm.

Advertisement for The Count of Monte Cristo on Z Studio at 09:30pm.

Advertisement for Mittha Tumi Dosh Pipra on BANGLAVISION at 08:15pm.

Table with TV program listings for Rtv, ntv, Desh TV, and Boishakhi TV.

Table with drama serial listings for ATN Bangla, CHANNEL i, and BANGLAVISION.

Table with news bulletin listings for RTV, BANGLAVISION, and ATN BANGLA.

Table with talk show listings for ATN BANGLA, CHANNEL i, and BANGLAVISION.