

WHAT'S ON

Victory Day Celebration
Organiser: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Venue: Shilpakala Academy premises

GongMyong Concert
Organiser: Embassy of the Republic of Korea
Venue: Auditorium, National Museum, Shahbagh
Date: Dec 11

Victory Festival 2011
Venue: Liberation War Museum, Segunbagicha
Date: Dec 10-16
Time: 5pm

Album Launch & Cultural Programme
Album: Japson-er Gaan-3
Venue: Shikha Chiranton, Suhrawardy Udyan

Photography Exhibition
Celebrating 40 years of Independence
Venue: La Galerie and Galerie Zoom
Date: Dec 9-22
Time: 3-9pm

Exhibition
Title: Tagore and Kantha
Venue: Art Gallery, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Date: Dec 2-10
Time: 11am-7pm

Group Art Exhibition
Title: Masters of Bangladesh Art '11
Venue: Radius Centre, Gulshan-1
Date: Nov 25-Dec 17

NEW RELEASES

Oshomapt-2
Album of the band Aurthohin
Source: Deadline Music

Kothae Pabo Tarey
Solo album by Shitol
Source: Agniaveena

Tritio Jatra
Album of the band Nemesis
Source: Deadline Music

Play it Now
Band Mixed Album
Source: G-Series

ERRATUM
In "Shafeen Ahmed @DS Cafe", published in yesterday's issue of Star Arts & Entertainment, the Miles frontman's name was spelled as "Shafeen Ahmed". In the same write-up, he was also mentioned as "Shafeen Chowdhury". According to the artist, his name is spelled "Shafin Ahmed". We deeply regret the errors.

Travels through Liberty

In conversation with Ramendu Majumdar



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Neo-Theatre Movement is nearly as old as our independence. I'm very happy with what we have achieved during these four decades. We almost started from zero but have been able to create a receptive audience. We have also successfully established theatre as an active and important part of our culture. I want to give credit to those who helped us through this journey. There is a misconception that theatre has lost its popularity. The fact is in the 1970s and '80s, troupes and plays were lesser in number. So, their presence made a strong impact. If a new play came to the stage, people knew right away, as it was talked about widely. However, I have to admit that we have failed to substantially encourage the growth of the audience. There are few reasons behind this. For one, Dhaka suffers from severe traffic jams, and prior to the stag-

ing of plays at Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy and other venues, in the evening, people get stuck in gridlocks. We need to open up more theatre venues across the city. From a regular citizen's point of view, achievement in theatre over the last four decades is not exactly astounding. Yes, it's true that we are recognised as a developing nation with a thriving cultural heritage across the globe, but the political intolerance and corruption constantly tarnish our image. We need able governance and mutual understanding among political parties. During the Liberation War, I mainly stayed in Kolkata. I worked at the Shadhin Bangla Betar Kendra. I compiled Bangabandhu's speeches and other important notes, titled as "Bangladesh, Amar Bangladesh" (Bangladesh, My Bangladesh), which was later published from Delhi (in English) and from Dhaka (in Bengali).

Goethe-Institut: Rising to new challenges

ANDREE STOESSEL

Goethe-Institut, the cultural institute of the Federal Republic of Germany, has been present in Bangladesh for 50 years now. Recently, German President Christian Wulff visited the institute located in Dhanmondi, Dhaka. For Judith Mirschberger, Director of Goethe-Institut (GI), it was a great honour to hear from the German President that GI has made significant contribution to the German-Bangla cooperation. Mirschberger shared her views with The Daily Star recently. What does Goethe-Institut do to bring Bangladesh and Germany closer? Mirschberger: The Goethe-Institut promotes the German language abroad, fosters cultural exchange and tries to convey a comprehensive picture of modern Germany by providing information on the cultural, social and political life. Could you elaborate on this? Mirschberger: Our main task is teaching German language. We count nearly 1000 inscriptions for the courses per year and around 300 tests are completed. The cultural

events at the Goethe-Institut include music performances, theatre and exhibitions. We regularly invite German artists and experts and bring them in contact with local artists and experts. Furthermore our library offers a wide range of information on German literature and electronic media. Is the German Language Programme successful in Bangladesh? Mirschberger: Many who enroll in the programme are students who intend to study in Germany. A proof of language skills is necessary to receive a residence permit from the German state. In addition, the GI cooperates with five schools in Dhaka and Chittagong, where German classes have recently been introduced. But the Goethe-Institut is not only open to students, right? Mirschberger: Our doors are open to everyone, seven days a week. We have two cafes where students, employees, neighbours and everyone else can meet. Also the cultural programmes are open to the public. Only access to some workshops is limited. The cultural centre cooperates with national and internal institutions?

Mirschberger: That is correct. Several institutions contact us with a project draft or even just ideas. We usually sit together if we like the project and try to find a way to realise it. Some of our partners are: Drik Gallery, Sriшти Cultural Centre, Dhaka University, University of Liberal Arts, Pathshala and many more. We're also trying to improve our collaboration with European governmental institutions such as the Alliance Francaise in order to strengthen European cooperation. What's in the pipeline for Goethe-Institut? Mirschberger: Our greatest challenge is to generate enough German speaking teachers and keep the number on a constant level. It will take a while for German language to have a strong foothold in the literary circuit of Bangladesh. We want to keep experimenting. We are planning several projects in public space for next year. Goethe-Institute is a platform, an open space, where new things can happen. For further information, please go to www.goethe.de/dhaka.

The author is working as an intern for The Daily Star.



Judith Mirschberger

Bengal Art Lounge opens today



(From left) Katerina Don, Monirul Islam, Nawshin Khair, Subir Chowdhury and Sarwar Jahan at the press conference.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bengal Foundation is going to open Bengal Art Lounge today at 60, Gulshan Avenue, Dhaka. Besides the formal opening, the gallery will also hold a painting exhibition, titled "Of Rupture and Continuity", featuring the works of noted Bangladeshi expatriate painter-printmaker Monirul Islam. The exhibition opens today as well, and will continue till December 23. Dr. Dipu Moni, Minister for Foreign Affairs, will inaugurate the exhibition as chief guest. Eminent artist Qayyum Chowdhury will be present as the special guest. On the occasion, Bengal Foundation held a press conference yesterday at Bengal Art Lounge. Artist Monirul Islam; Abul Khair, chairman of Bengal Foun-

ation; Subir Chowdhury, director of Bengal Gallery; Nawshin Khair, director of Bengal Art Lounge; Katerina Don, assistant manager of Bengal Art Lounge, among others, spoke at the programme. Sarwar Jahan, manager of the Bengal Gallery, read out an essay on the artist and his works. Monirul Islam was born in 1943. After graduating from Govt. College of Arts and Crafts (now faculty of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka), he joined the college as a teacher (from 1966 to 1969). He went to Spain with a scholarship provided by the then Spanish Government, as part of a cultural exchange programme, in 1969. The artist received the Accésit Nacional Award of Spain from the Calcografía Nacional in 1993. He has conducted many workshops in several countries. His works have been exhibited not only in Madrid, but also other prominent galleries in Europe and beyond.

Organisers deny hiring fans to cheer for Tom Cruise

The organisers of Hollywood star Tom Cruise's recent visit to India have denied reports that they hired 200 fans to welcome the star at Mumbai airport.

A spokesman for Wizcraft said they were "not aware of this" and that the "information is incorrect". Cruise arrived last week for a special screening of his latest film, "Mission Impossible: Ghost Protocol".

Media said the "fans" were paid from \$3.87 (\$2.5) to \$7.73 (\$5). Cruise was at the airport for less than 10 minutes.

The star waved at the cheering crowds and posed for photographs before being taken to his hotel. The Times of India newspaper said a few of the "fans" were not sure who they were welcoming, despite carrying placards reading, "We love Tom Cruise", "Tom -- chak de India", and "Tom Cruises". It said three girls who were among the most vocal members of the crowd did not even know what Cruise did.

"We're not certain, but 300 rupees for an hour outside the airport is not one of them as saying. A Wizcraft spokeswoman told the Wall St Journal's India Real Time that the story was "sensationalist", adding: "We are not aware of



Tom Cruise in Mumbai.

any such arrangement." The Hollywood star came to India on a two-day visit to promote the film ahead of its global release. Bollywood actor Anil Kapoor, who also stars in the film, joined Cruise and 1,500 Indian fans in the suburb of Wadala last Sunday for the special screening. "I wanted to come to India my whole life, so I am very excited," he told the Press Trust of India news agency. He was accompanied on this promotional tour by his co-star in

the film, Paula Patton. The screening was attended by several Bollywood stars, including Sonam Kapoor, Abhishek Bachchan, Aamir Khan and Farhan Akhtar. During his trip, Cruise visited the famous monument to love, the Taj Mahal in Agra. The fourth instalment of the "Mission Impossible" films is directed by Brad Bird and will be released in India on December 16.

Source: BBC

GUNS N' ROSES inducted into Rock and Roll Hall of Fame



Guns N' Roses are to be inducted to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame next year. Red Hot Chili Peppers and The Faces also made the cut from the 15 shortlisted artists. They will be honoured alongside The Beastie Boys, Scots folk singer Donovan and late singer Laura Nyro on April 14, 2012. Faces member Rod Stewart, who was inducted to the Rock Hall in 1994 as a solo artist, said it was "a thrill and honour to make it in the Hall of Fame a second time". The British group are being recognised in both their guises -- as The Small Faces with lead singer Steve Marriott, and as The Faces fronted by Stewart. Nominations for the performers category are selected by a small committee and are then voted on by around five hundred experts across the world.

Guns N' Roses and The Faces were inducted on their first time in the ballot, while The Chili Peppers had to wait until their second try. The Beastie Boys and Nyro were also denied the honour twice before making it this time around. However, the nominations process has been criticised for a lack of transparency. Other inductees include Freddie King for early influence, the late rock promoter Don Kirshner, who will receive the Ahmet Ertegun award and Tom Dowd, Glyn Johns and Cosimo Matassa will be honoured for musical excellence. The induction ceremony will take place in Cleveland this year, just the third time in its 27-year history that the event has taken place in the museum's home city instead of New York.

Source: Internet

THE WEEKLY STRUM

Song: Akash Meghe Dhaka
Band: Meghdol

Lyrics and tune by Shibu Kumer Shill

C#.....Ab.....
Akash Meghe Dhaka
.....C#.....Ab.....
Dheke Jay Shob Rod
Bbm.....F#.....
Chhaya Chhaya Ondhokare
.....Ab.....Ebm.....
Ure Jay Shob Rod
F.....Bbm.....C#.....
Ure Jay Bishonno Pakhi
.....Bbm.....F#.....Ab.....

Ami Eka Jege Thaki
.....Bbm.....Ab.....F#.....
Ondhokar Gan Phuray Na Obhiman
.....Bbm.....F#.....
Ondhokar Raat Phuray Na Obhiman
.....Bbm.....F#.....
Amra Tobu Jege Thaki
F#.....Ab.....C#.....E.....B
Ure Jay Bishonno Pakhi
.....C#.....
Ure Jay Bishonno Pakhi

C#.....
Chokher Jole Agun Jole
.....Ab.....
Dristi Tani Jomo Ki
C#.....Bbm.....
F#.....C#.....
Stobdho Shomoy Bojho Ki
C#.....Ab.....
Akash Meghe Dhaka
.....Ebm.....Ab.....

ATN BANGLA	Sanskriti Sangbad
01:25 Prapok	Maasranga Television
03:05 Bangla Feature Film	01:02 Bangla Feature Film
05:00 Gram Gonjer Khabor	06:30 Bangladesh Priyo
11:30 Drama Serial: Shikhandi Kotha	08:00 Drama Serial: Bondhuta
	Houseful
CHANNEL i	Rajneeti Baire
09:45 Tritio Matra	
12:05 Ebong Cnemar Gaan	Z Studio
01:05 Bangla Feature Film	11:10 Friday the 13th Part III
09:35 Hirdoye Mani O Manch	02:00 Cast Away
11:30 Fun Club Tournament	05:05 Beverly Hills Cop
	07:20 Beverly Hills Cop II
Rtv	09:30 Beverly Hills Cop III
10:10 Dhruopdi Kahini	11:45 Anchorman: The Legend of Ron Burgundy
12:35 Bangla Feature Film	
07:40 Thik Bolchen To	Star Movies
09:50 Drama Serial: Ponditer Mela	03:30 Skyline
11:30 Jegey Achho Ki	05:05 The Sorcerer's Apprentice
	07:40 The Walking Dead S2
ETV	Marathon
10:02 Dehghari	Predators
01:30 Bangla Feature Film	

Houseful
On Maasranga Television at 09:02pm
Quiz Show
Host: Alamgir

Anchorman:
The Legend of Ron Burgundy
On Z Studio at 11:45pm
Genre: Comedy/
Romance
Cast: Will Ferrell,

Moira Todorito
On ETV 09:30pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Kuchi Khandokar, Lutfur Rahman George

06:30 Voho Gure Dot Com	HBO
07:50 Ottogor Ami	12:10 Whiteout
12:05 Ekushey-er Raat	02:20 Red
BANGLAVISION	06:50 Valentine's Day
01:05 Bangla Feature Film	09:30 Gamer
06:25 Front Line	11:30 Treasure Guards
09:45 Drama Serial: Gulshan Avenue	StarWorld
Cnemar Gaan	11:30 Love2 Hate U
12:25	03:30 The Devarists
ntv	08:30 Master Chef USA
08:45 Bangla Feature Film	10:30 Necessary Roughness
12:35 Japan Video Topic	11:30 Dexter
06:45 Sanskriti Ei Shaptaho	National Geographic
09:00 Drama	Channel
11:30 Viewers Hour	11:30 Killer Shots
Desh TV	02:30 Situation Critical
03:00 Priyojoner Gaan	Compilation
04:00 Desh Janapod	07:30 Secrets of the Lost Gold
06:30 Nupur Bejei Jai	10:30 Africa's Deadliest
07:45 Anna Dujom Dekhite Kemon	11:30 In the Worm
12:30 Total Sports	Discovery Channel
Boishakhi TV	11:30 Curiosity
05:30 Shudhu Cnemar Gaan	09:30 Extreme Bodies
08:45 Bijoy Prane Prane	03:30 Man vs. Wild
10:50 Nirapad Sarak Chai	10:30 I Shouldn't Be Alive
11:30 Boishakhi Bindoon O	11:30 Real Wolf Kids

ATN BANGLA	Oishikur
08:00pm Bondhu Ebong Ottogor	ETV
08:40pm Pustol Khela	09:30pm Moira Todorito
09:20pm Coming Soon	BANGLAVISION
CHANNEL i	08:15pm Ladies First
07:50pm Chaita Pagol	ntv
10:00pm Koinya Rupoboti	08:15pm Bondhu Amar
Rtv	Desh TV
08:20pm Konkabati	08:15pm Shogno-bhuk

RTV	BANGLAVISION
News (Bangla) at 8:00 am	News (Bangla) at 7:30am.
2:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 8:00 pm.	1:30pm, 5:00pm, 7:15pm.
News (English) at 10:00am, 4:00 pm, 10:00 pm.	10:30pm.
Late Night News (Bangla and English) 11:30 pm. (To be telecast on all Bangla channels).	News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00am, 12:00am, 4:00pm.
NEWS (Bangla): 7:00 am, 9:00 am, 2:00 pm, 9:00 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:30 am	News (English) at 6:00pm
ATN BANGLA	Rtv
NEWS (Bangla): 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11:00 pm, 1:00 am, 4:00 am	News (Bangla): 2:30 pm, 4:30 pm, 6:30 pm, 8:30 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:30 am
01:00pm, 3:00pm, 04:00pm	ntv
News (English): 9:00 am, 6:00 pm.	News (Bangla): 7:30am, 12:00pm, 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

ATN BANGLA	Lal Galap
12:30am Lead News	ETV
CHANNEL i	10:10pm Galpo Shapo Gaan
11:05am Amader Aayna	Desh TV
12:30pm Taroka Kothon	09:45pm Bela Obela Sharabela
Rtv	11:45pm Shoya Kotha
10:40am Tarokalap	Boishakhi TV
11:10am Boishakhi Sanglap	Maasranga Television
09:05pm Amar Ami	