WHAT'S ON

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

Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Of Rupture and Continuity
Artist: Monirul Islam
Venue: Bengal Art Lounge, 60 Gulshan Avenue
Date: Dec 10-23

UPL Book Festival
Venue: UPL Bookstore, Shahjadpur
Date: Dec 9-23
Time: 10am-7pm

Solo Art Exhibition
Artist: Shahabuddin Ahmed
Venue: National Museum, Shahbagh,
Date: Dec 18-28
Time: 10am-8:30pm
(Friday: 3-8:30pm)

Musical Soiree
Artiste: Shreya Guhathakurta
Venue: Main Auditorium, National Museum
Date: Dec 23
Time: 6:30pm

Group Art Exhibition
Organiser: Artist Club Bangladesh
Venue: Asiatic Gallery of Fine Arts, 5, Old Secretariat Road, Nimtali
Date: Dec 17-26
Time: 12-8pm

National Folk Music Fest 2010-2011
Organiser: Bangladesh Lok Sangeet Parishad
Venue: Chittagong & Dhaka.
Date: Dec 24, 30, 31

Art Workshop
Organiser: Depart
Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, Dhanmondi
Date: Dec 19-23
Time: 10am onwards

OF EXPERIMENTS AND CREATIVITY

Monirul Islam's solo painting exhibition at Bengal Art Lounge

Artworks by Monirul Islam.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

"When I'm engrossed in painting, I lose myself. Without fear, I might even destroy the image or create a new pattern, as the painting takes over me; I believe each painting has a life of its own," says Monirul Islam, renowned Bangladeshi painter. Islam's latest painting exhibition, titled "Of Rupture and Continuity", is now on at Bengal Art Lounge in Gulshan, Dhaka.

Without much deliberation, Monir applies colours and creates forms, lines and compositions. He puts layer upon layer of paint, until he feels that he has achieved what he's striving for. The outcome is a contemplative, subtly balanced arrangement of colours and space that draws an art enthusiast's eyes.

Islam is mainly recognised as a printmaker. However, currently he has focused more on painting. His application of paint is intense and the lines are more minimised; colours seem to be bold and vivacious. These works simultaneously display technical finesse and mature intellect.

At the exhibition, his paintings on display often feature surprising elements. He believes art can be enriched through changing mediums. Each medium has a special quality. As part of experimentation and developing new features, Islam has used oxide colours, smoked black, different types of soil, coffee, marble dust, brick dust, burnt ground rice, acramin and natural pigments. The painter has used special glue that bonded the materials.

The artist knows where to stop -- which is a strong suit of his paintings. He avoids rigid forms and over-embellishment. As a result, a good sense of proportion is noticed in his works. He has a fascination with local materials. The materials are easily available and cheap. One remarkable feature of his works at the exhibition is that he has pasted paper (grimy, uneven and torn) on corrugated board for a number of his works. Corrugated board is another medium that enables him to portray his illusions and fantasies.

"The materials' rough texture and rutted surface give me some advantages; I can easily apply colours and create lines. Most of the time, the paper encourages me to create something novel," he says. The artist has worked on them in acrylic, oil, pencil and other mediums to portray varied surrealistic, geometric patterns and symbolic images. His relationship with geometric abstraction has made him one of the pioneers of abstract painting in our country. Some of his works feature scribbles and clean compositions -- articulating fantasy, longing and melancholy.

The exhibition will continue till December 25.

Bhawaiya Gaan-er Dol turns three

Musical soiree at Shilpakala Academy

Tapash and Suranjana dance to Shafiul Alam Raza's (L) rendition.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

It was a makeshift rural scene with a tree, under which traditional instruments -- dhol, tabla, dotara and mondira -- mingled with the western guitar and octapad. The city dwellers, on a chilly evening, got the taste of traditional Bhawaiya songs of North Bengal at a musical soiree that was held at the National Music and Dance Centre Auditorium, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy on December 19.

Bhawaiya Gaan-er Dol arranged the programme, marking the third anniversary of the organisation. Led by Shafiul Alam Raza, the troupe started its journey on April 22, 2008. Titled "Garial Bhai", the event featured Bhawaiya song performances that addressed patriotism, love, longing and more.

President of ITI (International Theatre Institute-Worldwide), Ramendu Majumdar; poet Asad Chowdhury; vice president and general secretary of Sammilito Shangskritik Jote, Golam Kuddus and Hasan Arif respectively, delivered speeches and wished the organisation success. The guests also inaugurated the programme by ringing a bell that usually dangles around a cow's neck.

As par tradition, the organisers greeted the guests with a gamchha. In his speech, Raza urged all cultural enthusiasts to help construct a Bhawaiya institute at Chilmarir Bandar in Kurigram district. Chilmarir Bandar appears in many timeless Bhawaiya songs, including "O Ki Garial Bhai".

On the theme of Liberation War, a chorus, "Dyashot Juddho Nagilo", kicked off the musical soiree. Another chorus, "Tista Paar-er Koinya Tumi Hey" was next. Zakir Hossain performed a solo, "Bhab-er Chholey Mojailey Mon".

Shafiul Alam Raza performed several songs at the programme. To one of his solo performances, "O Tui Dhirey Dangao Tor Dhak", two artistes -- Tapash Dev and Suranjana Barua of Nrityalok Shangskritik Kendra -- presented a dance, choreographed by Kabirul Islam Ratan.

Kaushik Saha, Aminul Islam, Namita Deb Barman, Chando Mia, Arifa Aktar, Rupu Majumdar and others performed "Baukumta Batash Jemon", "Mui Honu Housher Garial", "O Shona Bondhudhon", "Oh Ki O Bondhu Kajol Bhomora Rey", "Bondhu Tomar Kiba Hoichhey Rey", "Dhik Dhik Dhik Moishal Rey", "O Ki Garial Bhai", "Arey O Nidoyar Bondhudhon" and more at the event.

Moment for poets of Bangladesh and India

S DILIP ROY, *Lalmonirhat*

Lalmonirhat Circuit House Hall Room turned into a concord for the poets of India and Bangladesh on Monday night, as poets, literatures and journalists joined in a reception arranged by Lalmonirhat Swornamoti Nondini Shahitto and Path Chokro.

The five-hour long function featured recitation, dance, songs and discussion.

Poets Kamol Chakroborty from Kolkata; Dhurjoty Prosad Chattopadhyay from Kolkata; litterateur Zakir Hossain from Tangail; poet Khandoker Nazim Uddin from Tangail; litterateur and journalist Ayub Hossain from Tangail; poet and journalist Mahmud Kamal from Dhaka; litterateur Nihar Sarker from Tangail and poet Saroj Dev from Gaibandha were accorded reception at the event. DC of Lalmonirhat, Mokhlesur Rahman Sarker; president of Swornamoti Nondini Shahitto and Path Chokro, poet Ferdousi Rahman Beauty; Lalmonirhat Shahitto Parishad members and others were present at the function.

Poet Kamol Chakroborty said, "Poetry is like a breath of fresh air. Poets pen their poems for the betterment of humanity."

"People of Bangladesh and Paschimbanga (India) speak the same language and we share a common heritage," he said.

He added that he has already visited many places in Bangladesh and noticed the healthier practice of culture in this country.

Lalmonirhat DC, Mokhlesur Rahman Sarker, said, "Poets can envision an ideal society through their creation."

"Our organisation Swornamoti Nondini Shahitto and Path Chokro has been working for our literature and culture since long. It was our initiative to invite the poets from India," poet Ferdousi Rahman Beauty said.

BONNA MIRZA @ DS CAFÉ

The gorgeous and talented actress Bonna Mirza is the celebrity of the month at DS Café. She will be on the hot seat and take up your calls at the Daily Star office on Thursday, December 29, between 2:30 and 3:30 pm. Fans can ask about her life on and off screen! The best question will be highlighted in the transcription. Call 8126155, 01711623915 and 01711623917.

Sonata comes back to Dhaka

A scene from the play.

A CORRESPONDENT

Stage One Dhaka, in association with Mukul and the Ghetto Tigers and Dhaka Film Society is bringing back "Sonata" -- a one-act play by Mahesh Elkunchwar -- to three Dhaka venues. "Sonata" was translated and adapted into a bilingual (Bangla and English) play by Leesa Gazi and staged in London in 2008. The play was staged in Dhaka in 2010. The highly successful performances in London were extremely significant for the British Bangladeshi actors since it was the first time that actors of Bangladeshi origin worked professionally in mainstream English theatre. Two years later, in January 2010, "Sonata" received critical acclaim in Dhaka.

"Sonata" is about three women who have left Bangladesh to make England, and more specifically, London, their home. The play explores the psychological and physical impact of displacement and the bonds of friendship between the three single women. The action takes place in Bipasha and Dolon's shared flat during a typical Sunday evening. Their lively, entertaining and frequently challenging exchanges reveal their relationship with each other and the world outside. The three friends -- Bipasha, Dolon and Ria -- are being played by Mita Chowdhury, Shormymala and Quazi Nawshaba Ahmed. The play is directed by Mukul Ahmed.

Sonata was staged recently at Chhayanaut auditorium and at Probortona Adda, Mirpur. It was staged yesterday at Studio Theatre, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy.

Welles' "Citizen Kane" Oscar sells for $861,542

Orson Welles' Oscar for writing "Citizen Kane"-- regarded as one of the best films ever made -- sold for $861,542 on Tuesday as a hot market for Hollywood memorabilia helped erase memories of an unsuccessful auction four years ago.

The best screenplay statuette awarded in 1942-- the only Oscar given to Citizen Kane-- failed to meet its undisclosed reserve price when it was last up for auction at Sotheby's New York in 2007. At that time it was expected to sell for around $1 million.

Although tarnished by age, the Oscar, sold by Los Angeles auction house Nate D. Saunders on behalf of its anonymous seller, carried a reserve price of between $600,000 and $1 million. Bids came in from around the world in what the auction house termed an "exciting" sale.

"This is a testament to the popularity of Orson Welles and his magnum opus Citizen Kane," said Nate D. Saunders, owner of the auction house, in a statement.

The Oscar has a story worthy of a Hollywood movie in its own right. Welles had lost it, but it resurfaced after his 1985 death when it was put up for auction in 1994 by a cinematographer, who claimed Welles had given it to him as a form of payment.

The best screenplay statuette awarded in 1942-- the only Oscar given to "Citizen Kane".

Welles' daughter Beatrice sued and won back ownership of the statue, but she was sued in turn by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, which gives out the awards, when she tried to auction it in 2003.

After a legal battle, Beatrice Welles was given the right to dispose of the Oscar. She sold it to a California non-profit organization called the Dax Foundation, who tried unsuccessfully to auction it in 2007.

In a bid to stop public sales, the Academy in 1950 introduced an agreement that banned winners from selling their Oscars to anyone but the Academy for the nominal sum of $1.

But several pre-1950s Oscars have gone under the hammer in recent years, including the best picture Oscar for the 1939 film "Gone with the Wind," which was sold for a record $1.54 million in 1999 to Michael Jackson.

"Citizen Kane," a 1942 drama about the ruthless pursuit of power, which Welles also directed and starred in, regularly tops U.S. and British lists of the greatest film of all time.

Source: Reuters

Bindu: From glam to de-glam

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

In a career spanning four years, Bindu has already witnessed a lot of success. She is acting in several TV serials. Her journey in the media started with winning the "Lux Channel i Superstar" contest.

"I want to be recognised as a deft actress, and that's what I'm working on at the moment," she said.

Some of the serials featuring Bindu that are currently on air are: "Hawai Mithai", "Ikarus-er Dana", "Pother Dabi", "Kalo Chaya", "Akasher Niche Manush". When asked about them, Bindu commented, "They are all quite different from each other, I really enjoy working in them."

Speaking of characters that stand out, Bindu said, "In 'Kalo Chhaya', aired on Masranga Television, I had to put on very dark makeup. I could hardly recognise myself. I play the role of a Christian girl in 'Pother Dabi', which is an adaptation of a novel by Sharatchandra Chattopadhyay. In 'Hawai Mithai', I portray a rural girl."

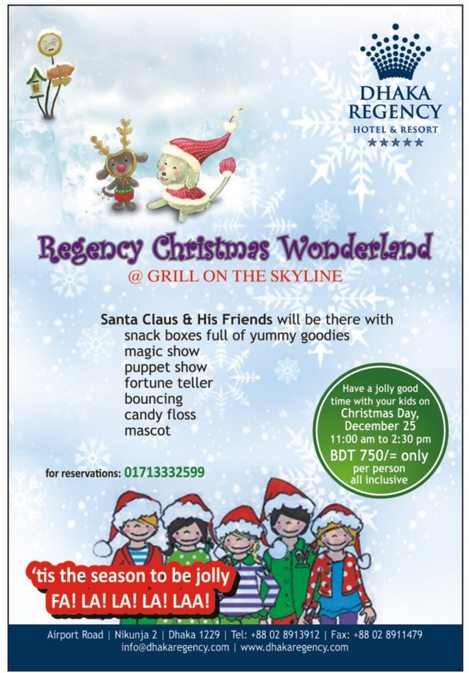
Bindu added, "Many predicted that I couldn't pull off deglamourised roles. I took that as a challenge. I'm happy that the viewers are noticing my efforts."

Bindu has not restricted herself to TV; she has also ventured into movies. Her first film was "Daruchini Dwip" by Tauquir Ahmed. She also acted in "Jaago" and "Piriter Dokandari". At present, she is working on "Ei Toh Prem" by Sohel Arman. The film also features Shakib Khan. "Ami Tomar Mon-er Bhetor -- a song from the film -- has already gained popularity.

Some of Bindu's popular TV serials include "Makbul Bibartan", "Chhotobela", "Breaking News", "Ekmutho Roddur", "Chhobir Deshe", "Kobitar Deshe", "Lilaboti", "Amar Kothati Furalo" and "Bhalobashi Ashchorjo Meghdol" etc.

Recently, she acted in "Iti, Tomar Bon" -- written by Anisul Haque and directed by Himel Ashraf. "My role had some really moving dialogues, it would definitely be on the list of my favourites," she said.

Alongside her work, she has also kept her education steady. She is currently completing her BBA at Jahangirnagar University.



All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme.

ATN BANGLA
10:40 Bangla Feature Film
11:30 Business and Finance
02:50 Drama: Breaking News
06:15 Amra Korbo Joy
11:00 Drama: Biyer Por Arnob-er Ki Hobey?

CHANNEL i
01:05 Ebong Cinemar Gaan
01:30 Hridoyer Gaan
02:40 Hridoye Mati O Manusher Daak
03:30 Bangla Feature Film
11:30 Swapno Orar Din

BANGLAVISION
11:05 Shokal Belar Roddur
02:20 Cinebit
05:20 Porikkha-Prostuti
06:05 Shyamol Bangla
10:50 Reporters' Diary
11:30 Boishakhi Shangskriti O Binodon Sangbad

Maasranga Television
10:02 Bangla Feature Film
05:30 Amazing Animals
06:30 Bangladesh Priyo Bangladesh
08:00 Tele-film: Virus
11:00 Tomay Gaan Shonabo: Ram Kanai Das

ETV
11:30 Ekushey-er Business
05:40 Sports Plus
07:50 Neel Paerar Gaan
09:30 Ekushey-er Chokh
10:10 Drama: Na Bola Bhalobasha

Diganta TV
01:30 Business Time Live
05:30 Mele Dhori/Shokal Belar Pakhi

RADIO

abc radio FM 89.2
06:00 Bhoner Janalay
09:00 Mukhorito Jiboney
12:00 Darun Dupurey
03:00 Duranto Bikeley
05:00 Shondhatara
07:00 Shajer Maya
09:00 Raat-er Akashey
11:00 Golper Shesh Nei

Radio Foorti
07:30 Hello Dhaka
10:00 Morning Express
12:00 My Time
01:00 No Tension
04:00 Dhaka Calling
09:00 Night Rider
01:00 Back to Back music

RADIO TODAY FM 89.6
06:00 Green FM
08:00 Good Morning Dhaka
12:00 Today's Adda
04:00 U Turn
07:00 Tobey Tai Hok
10:00 Rock the Station

Surathal
On Desh TV at 11:55pm
Single Episode TV Play
Cast: Jayonto Chattopadhyay, Lutfar Rahman

The Godfather
On Z Studio at 09:30pm
Genre: Crime / Drama
Cast: Marlon Brando, Al Pacino

Bipashar Otithi
On BANGLAVISION at 09:05pm
Celebrity Talk Show
Guest: Lubna Mariam

09:05 Bipashar Otithi

Rtv
01:05 Bangla Feature Film
05:30 Ananda Dhara
08:20 Drama Serial: Kongkaboti
11:30 Drama: Keu Karey Nahi Chharey

ntv
10:05 Kichhu Kotha Kichhu Gaan
04:10 Janar Achhey Bolar Achhey
06:15 Shubho Shondhya
09:00 Amaro Gaite Ichchhe Holo
11:30 Music Euphony

Desh TV
03:00 Gonit Bhabna
04:30 Durpath
06:30 Dur Durantey
09:45 Style & Fashion
11:55 Drama: Surathal

Boishakhi TV
10:30 Bangla Feature Film
04:15 Shorashori Doctor
06:10 Music at Fun Dot Com
08:00 Jiboner Jolchhobi
09:25 Pothey Prantorey
11:05 Diganta Music Hour (Live)

Z Studio
11:00 Vantage Point
01:30 Reindeer Games
04:10 The Hot Chick
06:30 Kill Bill Vol. 2
09:30 The Godfather (Part I)

Star Movies
01:40 Unstoppable
03:25 Cyrus
05:05 The New Daughter
07:00 Mighty Joe Young
09:00 Predators
10:50 The Lost Future

HBO
12:40 Enid
02:25 Semi-Pro
04:10 The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants
06:45 Why Did I Get Married Too?
09:30 Devil
11:25 The Twilight Saga: Twilight

Star World

DRAMA SERIAL

ATN BANGLA
08:00pm Not Out
08:40pm Chand Phul Anubhoshya
09:20pm Motiphool CA

CHANNEL i
07:50pm Kaushar Phona
08:25pm Lorai

BANGLAVISION
08:15pm No Problem
09:45pm Gulshan Avenue

Rtv
09:05pm Oloshpur
09:50pm Dhan Shaliker Gaan

ntv
08:15pm Rupkotha
09:45pm Shobuj Nikkhobro

Desh TV
07:45pm Gohinoy
08:15pm Sat Kahon

Boishakhi TV
08:10pm Fourth Class Society
08:45pm Talbetal

ETV
04:02pm Dhongkar

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, 10:30 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

TALK SHOW

ATN BANGLA
12:30am Lead News

CHANNEL i
09:45am Tritio Matra
12:30pm Tarinka Kothon

BANGLAVISION
11:25pm Talk of the Week

Rtv
10:40am Tarokalap
07:40pm Our Democracy

ntv
12:10pm Ei Shomoy

Boishakhi TV
05:30pm Amader Sthaniyo Shankar
12:00am Zero Hour

Desh TV
10:30pm Legends Re-made Unplugged

Maasranga Television
07:30pm Prime Issue

ETV
12:05am Ekushey-er Raat