

WHAT'S ON

Amar Ekushey Book Fair '12
Venue: Bangla Academy Premises
Date: February 1-29
Time: Sun onwards

Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Texture and Colour in Mindscape
Artist: Makshika Agha Nisa
Venue: Bengal Art Lounge, Gulshan-1
Date: Feb 24-Mar 1
Time: 12pm-8pm

Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Feeling Nature
Artist: Alamgir Haque
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, Dharmoad
Date: Feb 24-Mar 6
Time: 12pm-8pm

Group Art Exhibition
Title: Renewed in Serenity
Venue: Gallei Kaya, H-20, R-16, Sector-4, Uttara
Date: Feb 18-28
Time: 11am-7:30pm

Photography Exhibition
Title: Glorious Pasts
Photographer: Sayeed Siddiqui
Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, H 60, Rd 7/A, Dharmoadi
Date: February 28
Time: 3-9pm

Musical Soiree
Title: Beshay Phera Damar Shobho
Venue: Chayanar Sangkriti Bhavan, Dharmoadi
Date: Feb 28
Time: 6:30pm

Album Launch
Artist: Akhter Jahan
Venue: Conference Lounge, National Press Club
Date: March 1
Time: 6pm

Dance-Drama Chandalika
Organiser: Nityashobli, Sybet
Venue: Sybet Auditorium, Ribhabazar, Sybet
Date: March 1
Time: 6:30pm

Bangladeshis shine at ADFEST 2012

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

ADFEST is Asia Pacific's largest annual regional advertising festival celebrating and raising the standard of creativity in the region. It is a platform designed not only to promote and recognise creative excellence in the region, but also provides a unique learning opportunity for participants through looking at the best works in the region, listening to inspiring speakers, and exchanging ideas with other participants.

The Fabulous Four is a unique category within the New Director Lotus, with the aim of promoting the up-and-coming directors in the region. The four directors, whose scripts are voted as the jury favourites, will become what ADFEST affectionately calls, the Fabulous

Four. This year's theme is 'Fast Forward'.

ADFEST 2012 received 24 short film scripts this year, including five scripts from Dhaka, four from Tokyo, three from Shanghai, three from Sydney, two from Melbourne, two from Beijing as well as others from Jakarta, Hong Kong, Hangzhou, Quezon and Selangor Darul Ehsan.

Of the selected 'Fabulous Four' scripts, two are from Bangladesh. One ('The shooting Star') of the scripts is by Hasib Chowdhury, and the other ('The Strange Life') by twins -- Manik and Ratan. Hasib Chowdhury is the Associate Creative Director at Cogito Creatives. Manik and Ratan are freelance cartoonists who have worked with some of the biggest names in the country.

The scripts were submitted in January and the selections were announced this month. Based on the selected

scripts, four short films should be submitted by March 5, and those will be screened on the concluding day (March 20) of the festival.

The 15th Asia Pacific Advertising Festival, better known as ADFEST 2012, will be held in Pattaya, Thailand during March 18-20, 2012.

The president of the jury board of ADFEST 2012 is Bob Greenberg who has been a pioneer in the advertising and communications industry for over three decades. He leads the vision for R/GA, an agency that serves as the digital partner for Fortune 500 companies and world-renowned brands, including Ameriprise, Johnson & Johnson, L'Oréal Paris, MasterCard, Hewlett-Packard, Nike, Nokia and Verizon.

Safiuddin Bengal Printmaking Studio opens



Veteran artists, participating printmakers and organisers at the inaugural ceremony.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bengal Foundation has opened a printmaking studio on February 25. 'Safiuddin Bengal Printmaking Studio' is situated at Bengal Centre at Khilkhet, on New Airport Road, Dhaka.

Eminent painter and illustrator Quayyum Chowdhury inaugurated the studio as chief guest. Professor Emeritus Anisuzzaman; Abul Khair, chairman of Bengal Foundation; Luva Nahid Chowdhury, director general of Bengal Foundation; Subir Chowdhury, director of Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts; Enayetullah Khan, editor in chief of UNB and chairman of Cosmos-Atelier, among others, spoke on the occasion.

Veteran artist Rafiqun Nabi is the president of the steering committee of the studio. The members include artists Monirul Islam, Mahmudul Haque, Kalidas

Karmakar, Shahid Kabir, Wakilur Rahman, Ahmed Nazir and Anisuzzaman.

Bengal Foundation has also organised a printmaking workshop on the occasion. Bangladeshi expatriate printmaker Alamgir Haque is conducting the workshop. Leading and upcoming artists are taking part in the workshop.

Safiuddin Ahmed is a pioneering figure in printmaking. He was born in 1922 in Calcutta (now Kolkata), India. He was a student of Calcutta Government School of Art and graduated from the institute in 1942. After Partition (1947), Safiuddin left Calcutta for Dhaka, and was involved in a movement to set up the first art institute in the then East Pakistan. He was a friend and colleague of Zainul Abedin, one of the founders of Dhaka Art College. The maestro is now bedridden and has been ailing from age-related complications.

Aly Zaker's new books at the Boi Mela



SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Eminent media personality Aly Zaker -- the winner of the prestigious Ekushey Padak -- has released two books at this year's Ekushey Book Fair, with Shobdoshilpo Prokashoni publishing 'Dhoro Nirbhoy Gaan' and Ittadi Prokashoni publishing 'Shei Arunodoy Theke'. Aly Zaker says 'Dhoro Nirbhoy Gaan' is a compilation of articles he regularly writes for the daily Shomokal, under the same title. The best pieces have been selected from

the Friday column, he adds. Saying that the articles were his responses to contemporary events or news, the author urges all not to seek any deep philosophy or literary grandeur in its words.

Zaker dedicated the book to the late Waheedul Haq, writing, 'He inspired us to be unique.' Among the columns finding their place in the book, some titles are -- '71 Ebong Amader Aajker Torunera', '26 March-er Shahoshi Probbate', 'Abar Eshchhe Aashaar', 'Ondhokarer Thabake Rukhtei Hobo', 'Alo Diye Alo Jala' and 'Rabindranath: Shashwoto Shokha Amader'.

Meanwhile, 'Shei Arunodoy Theke' is a memoir, featuring many aspects of Aly Zaker's childhood, school life, youth, the Liberation War and the independence of Bangladesh. A sequel of the book has already been written and will be published soon, hopes the author.

Aly Zaker informs that he took up the pen for the sake of theatre, as he had to adapt several plays. His first book 'Nirmol Jyotir Joy' was published almost 10 years ago. The book also consisted of articles from a regular column, written at the time by Aly Zaker for the daily Sangbad.

The Artist earns best-picture, lead-actor Oscars



Meryl Streep accepts the Oscar for best actress in a leading role for 'The Iron Lady' during the 84th Academy Awards.

AP, Los Angeles



Sacha Baron Cohen, centre, arrives before the 84th Academy Awards on Sunday.

AP PHOTO/MARK C. TERRILL

AP PHOTO/MATT SAVILES

making movies together," said Streep, the record-holder with 17 acting nominations.

It was a night that went as expected, with front-runners claiming key prizes. Streep's triumph provided a bit of drama, since she had been in a two-woman race with Viola Davis for "The Help."

The biggest surprise may have been the length of the show, which clocked in at about three hours and 10 minutes, brisk for a ceremony that has run well over four hours some years.

The 82-year-old Plummer became the oldest acting winner ever for his role as an elderly widower who comes out as gay in "Beginners."

"You're only two years older than me, darling," Plummer said, addressing his Oscar statue in this 84th year of the awards. "Where have you been all my life? I have a confession to make. When I first emerged from my mother's womb, I was already rehearsing my Oscar speech."

Completing an awards-season blitz that took her from Hollywood bit player to star, Spencer won her role in "The Help" as a headstrong black maid whose wilful ways continually land her in trouble with white employers in 1960s Mississippi.

Spencer went throughout her breathless speech, in which she apologetically between laughing and crying for running a bit long on her time limit.

"Thank you, academy, for putting me with the hottest guy in the room," Spencer said, referring to last year's supporting-actor winner Christian Bale, who presented her Oscar.

Dujardin became the first Frenchman to win an acting Oscar. French actresses have won before, including Marion Cotillard and Juliette Binoche.

"Oh, thank you. Oui. I love your country!" said Dujardin, who plays George Valentin, a silent-film superstar fallen on hard times as the sound era takes over.

If George Valentin could speak, Dujardin said, 'He'd say ... Wow! Merci beaucoup! Genial! Formidable!'

Claiming Hollywood's top-filmmaking honour completes Hazanavicius' sudden rise from popular movie-maker back home in France to internationally celebrated director.

Hazanavicius, known in his home country for the "OSS 117" spy comedies but virtually unheard of in Hollywood previously, won a prize that eluded half a dozen of France's most-esteemed filmmakers, including Jean Renoir, Francois Truffaut and Louis Malle, who all were nominated for directing Oscars but never won.

Filmmaker Alexander Payne picked up his second writing Oscar, sharing the adapted-screenplay prize for the Hawaiian family drama "The Descendants" with co-writers Nat Faxon and Jim Rash. Payne, who also directed "The Descendants," previously won the same award for "Sideways."

Woody Allen earned his first Oscar in 25 years, winning for original screenplay for the romantic fantasy "Midnight in Paris," his biggest hit in decades. It's the fourth Oscar for Allen, who won for directing and screenplay on his 1977 best-picture winner "Annie Hall" and for screenplay on 1986's "Hannah and Her Sisters."

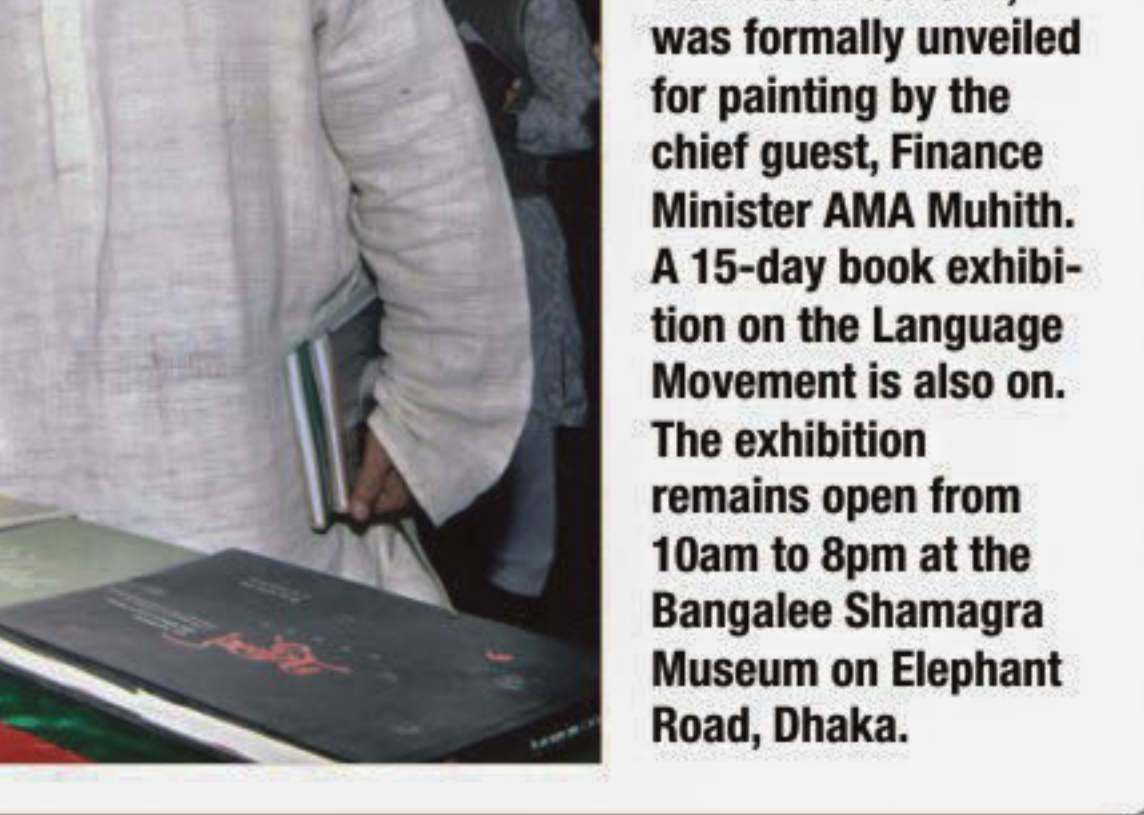
No fan of awards shows, Allen predictably skipped Sunday's ceremony, where he also was up for best director and "Midnight in Paris" was competing in vain for best picture.

"Rango," with Johnny Depp providing the voice of a desert lizard that becomes a hero to a parched Western town, won for best animated feature.

"Someone asked me if this film was for kids, and I don't know. But it was certainly created by a bunch of grown-ups acting like children," said "Rango" director Gore Verbinski, who made the first three of Depp's "Pirates of the Caribbean" movies.

Saving Face

Documentary on acid victims wins Pakistan its first Academy Award



Directors Sharmeen Obaid-Chinoy (left) and Daniel Junge, winners of the Best Documentary Short Subject for the film "Saving Face".

PHOTO: REUTERS

Pakistan won its first Oscar on Sunday night for a documentary that chronicles the work of a British plastic surgeon who rebuilds the faces of women disfigured by acid attacks.

"Saving Face" was produced and co-directed by Sharmeen Obaid Chinoy and won the Academy Award for Best Documentary Short.

In her acceptance speech, she dedicated the award to the women of Pakistan.

"All the women in Pakistan working for change, don't give up on your dreams, this is for you," she said, clutching her Oscar trophy.

The victory highlights the terrible number of women disfigured by acid attacks. More than 100 are reported each year although charities say many more go unreported.

Attacks are frequently the work of a jilted lover or a jealous relative. In one recent case, a row over doing the dishes ended with a woman being doused in acid.

In the film, one girl describes being burned after rejecting the advances of her teacher. She was 13 at the time.

Victims are often blinded, and scar tissue can

become infected with septicaemia or gangrene. The subject is seldom discussed in Pakistan and the film has yet to be screened publicly in the country where it was filmed.

Some commentators have criticised it for portraying Pakistan in a negative light, but its makers say it is a story of resilience and hope.

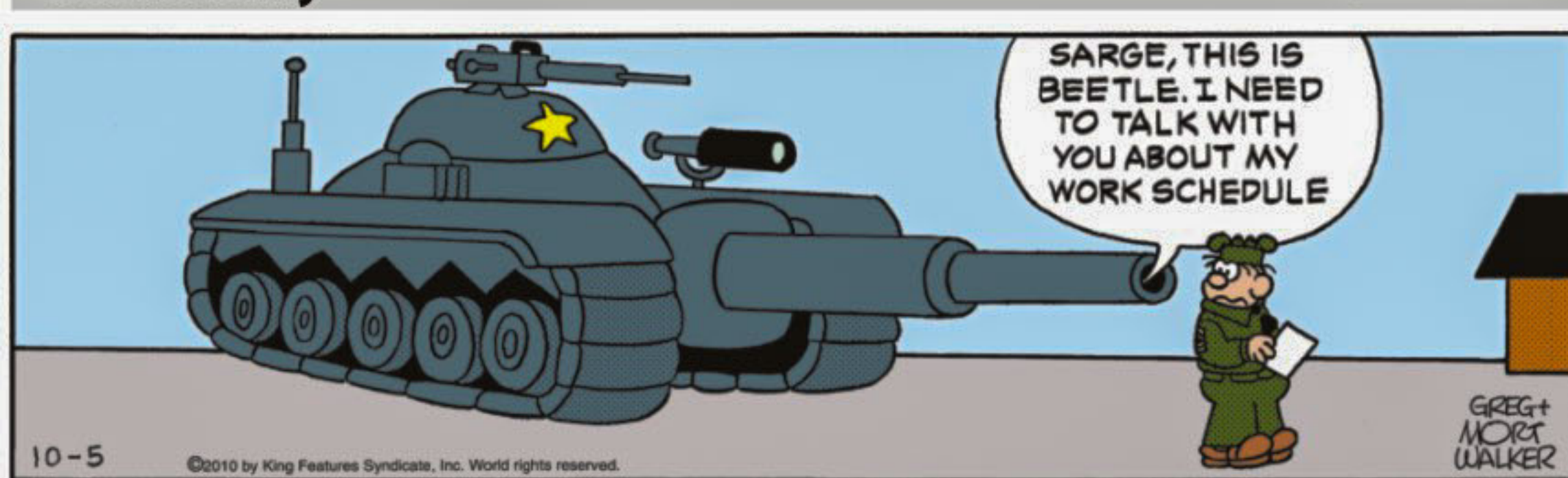
The 40-minute film follows Dr. Mohammad Jawad, previously best known for restoring the face of model Katie Piper, who was also hurt in an acid attack, and his work to help 20 Pakistani women.

"The women who decided to be a part of the documentary did so because they wanted to make their voices heard and wanted to bring attention to this form of assault," said Chinoy in an interview before Sunday's ceremony.

"The main reason that they are in 'Saving Face' is to make their stories heard and have an impact." Her film beat off movies about last year's Japanese tsunami and James Armstrong, one of the heroes of the US civil rights movement.

Source: The Telegraph

Beetle Bail



by Mort Walker

Henry



by Don Trachte

SUNSIK CALLS YOU TO EXPLORE THE STYLE OF PARIS... Buy a 200ml or 400ml pack of Sunsilk and you could be one of 10 lucky winners to win an amazing trip to Paris. Includes image of a woman in Paris and Sunsilk products.

Table with TV channels and program listings. Columns include channel names (e.g., ATN BANGLA, CHANNEL i, ntv, ntv, ETV, Boishakhi TV, BANGLAVISION, ntv, ETV, Desh TV) and program titles (e.g., Business and Finance, Vision 2020, Chitram Bangladesh, Drama Serial: Ei Shahory, Drama Serial: Cafeleia, Drama Serial: Kamol, Drama Serial: Bibi Orithi Shaha, Q Kana Sirajudala, Banglar Pothey, Music Jam, Jamar Achhey Bolar, Achhey, Shubho Shondhya, Crime Watch, Drama Serial: Poth, Gechhey Beley, Glamour World, No Temion, Dhaka Calling, Knight Riders, RADIO TODAY FM 89.5, Green HA, Good Morning Dhaka, Today's Adda, U Turn, Roney Fu Roney, Raat Bar Ghan, Hurum Pecha, Priyo, Shahiduzzaman Selim, Hillol, True Grit, On HBO at 07:10pm, Genre: Adventure/Drama, Cast: Jeff Bridges, Matt Damon, Porikha Prottiti, On BANGLAVISION at 05:00pm Educational Programme, Host: Dr Soumitra Shekhar, Star World, Desperate Housewives, Supernatural, Pusan, The Shield, The Big Bang Theory, National Geographic Channel, Animals: Gone Crazy, Outback Wanderer, Mega Cities, Big, Bigger, Biggest, Mad Scientists, Discovery Channel, Man vs. Wild, Prehistoric, Deception With Keith Barry, One Man Army, Walking the Amazon, BBC World, BBC World News, HARD talk, Impact Asia with Mihal Hasain, The Hub with Nik Gowing, Sport Today, DRAAMA SERIAL, ATN BANGLA, BANGLAVISION, CHANNEL i, ntv, ETV, Desh TV, NEWS BULLETIN, ATN BANGLA, BANGLAVISION, CHANNEL i, ntv, ETV, Desh TV, TALK SHOW, ATN BANGLA, RTV, CHANNEL i, Boishakhi TV, Desh TV, ntv, ETV, Desh TV, 10:10pm, Golpo Shalpe Gaan, 12:00am, Shamprik