

WHAT'S ON

18th Young Artists' Art Exhibition
Venue: National Art Gallery, Shilpakala Academy
Date: March 2-16
Time: 3-8pm

Tagore Dance Drama
Title: Chandalka
Organiser: High Commission of India, Dhaka
Venue: Main Auditorium, Bangladesh National Museum

Group Art Exhibition
Title: Vision -5
Venue: Gallery Cosmos-2, New DOCS, Mohakhali
Date: March 10-29
Time: 11am-8pm

Japan Film Festival
Venue: Main Auditorium, National Museum, Shahbagh
Date: March 3-7
Time: 3pm onwards
Inauguration: 10:30am

8th Solo Tapestry Exhibition '12
Artist: Tajul Islam
Venue: Gallery Jolanta, 11-54, B-11, Block F, Banani, Dhaka
Date: March 2-9

Street Theatre Festival
Organiser: Felio Nank Parishad
Venue: Central Shaheed Minar premises
Date: March 1-7
Time: 4pm onwards

Swiss Film Session
Organiser: Rainbow Film Society & Embassy of Switzerland in Dhaka
Venue: Post Saffa Kamal Auditorium, National Museum
Date: March 4-7
Time: 3pm Everyday

Duet Painting Exhibition
Title: Title Unidentified
Artist: ASM Mustafa Jamil
Venue: Bengal Art Lounge, 60 Gulshan Avenue, Circle 1



A painting by Qayyum Chowdhury.

"Quest for Self"

Qayyum Chowdhury on 80th birthday

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Artist Qayyum Chowdhury is an outstanding figure in the domain of art in Bangladesh. To celebrate his 80th birthday, Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts will organise a two-week art exhibition, titled "Quest for Self". The exhibition will open on March 9 at Bengal Gallery in Dhanmondi, Dhaka. About 80 new artworks by the veteran artist will be displayed at the exhibition.

Noted artist Murtaja Baseer, author Syed Shamsul Haq, Professor Emeritus Anisuzzaman and theatre personality Ramendu Majumdar will jointly inaugurate the exhibition.

Chowdhury's works highlight rural Bengali life and traditions. The countryside and the lives of the villagers inspire the artist. Women, farmers, fish, flowers and greenery are recurring themes on his canvases.



Chowdhury was born in 1932 in Feni. He graduated from Govt. Institute of Arts (now Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka) in 1954. He held four solo exhibitions and has participated in many group exhibitions at home and abroad.

A star-studded 62nd Berlin Film Festival

KAMAR AHMAD SIMON

On Valentine's Day, Hollywood icon Meryl Streep was up on the podium at the Hyatt Hotel taking questions from the press. She was attending the 62nd Berlin Film Festival. The room was packed and a crowd outside was pressing to get in. Cameras were poised at the front of the room taking shots from every angle. Streep was gracious and smiled benevolently. She had come to Berlin for the award of an Honorary Golden Bear for lifetime achievement. In the middle of questions about her latest movie "The Iron Lady" about British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, a young Austrian journalist stood up and announced that the bunch of white roses he was holding were for her. Then he jumps onto the podium, hands them to her and kisses her on both cheeks. She takes it in stride and laughs saying, "Oh my husband didn't send me flowers."

Talking about the Golden Bear award, she said, "It's like a dream." Speaking about "The Iron Lady" she said it's a film that seeks to address the themes of power, loss of power and the costs of "the big life." "What did she think about playing the controversial 1980s' politician? 'I learned a lot of things that surprised me," she said. "Yes, she was unreasonable, autocratic and had hubris...but she followed her beliefs. And though she would not have admitted it, she was a feminist." Then a Russian journalist walked forward to present Streep with a Matroschka doll painted by a Siberian artist with images of her in some of her iconic roles. And another journalist took the mike and told Streep "I love you Meryl!" Now she looked amazed and the crowd applauded. It looked like the 2012 Berlinale was Meryl Streep's festival.

But the festival this year was also being called the "Jolanta" reflecting the impact of megastar Angelina Jolie who had spent several days here, together with partner Brad Pitt and some of her children. She was in town to present her debut film as director -- "In the Land of Blood and Honey". The film is a heart-breaking tale set in wartime Bosnia in the early 1990s and relentlessly transmits the horrors, cruelty and senselessness of that war, of all wars. It zeroes in on a young couple whose budding love is thwarted and poisoned by the conflict, in which they find themselves on opposite sides.

Speaking to the press, Jolie said about the film: "We wanted to learn what happens to societies, to human beings in war, how they're changed by war. The couple's love could have been beautiful but it wasn't because war changed everything." The film is harrowing because as Jolie put it, "We had a responsibility to show that war is truly horrible." The audience, the press loved Jolie's commitment to making the world a better place knowing that she could be relaxing in the lap of luxury if she chose. And there was an award for Jolie at the



The Changing Perspective panel from an unusual perspective.

PETER HUPPERT/BERLINALE 2012

The Changing Perspective panel from an unusual perspective.

The Berlinale is known as a "political" film festival and this was underlined in the speech of German Cultural State Minister Naumann at the opening ceremony when he pronounced, "The film festival is more political than ever. It reflects our time of upheaval and change. It unifies in an exemplary way different cinema, political reflection and openness to the world." Noting the role of film as a motor for change, he said this meant that courageous filmmakers, activists and artists working in the Middle East / North Africa and elsewhere faced persecution. He emphasised the importance of the festival showing solidarity with democracy, human rights and artistic freedom. "Democracy needs culture and culture needs freedom," he said. A theme of the conference was the Arab Spring with documentaries, feature films and podium discussions featuring outstanding writers, journalists and filmmakers including the Moroccan author Tahar Ben Jalloun and Spanish actor and producer Javier Bardem.

The eight-person international jury this year was chaired by British film director Mike Leigh and included stars like Jake Gyllenhaal, Charlotte Gainsbourg, Barbara Sukowa and Algerian writer Boualem Sansal, who were introduced at the opening ceremony. Like last year, there was an Iranian representative on the jury, director Asghar Farhadi, whose 2011 film "Nader und Simin -- Eine Trennung" won the Golden Bear at last year's Berlinale. Last year his fellow Iranian film director Jafar Panahi was a jury member but was not permitted by the Iranian government to attend the festival.

The French film, "Farewell My Queen", which was a contender in the competition section opened the festival. German actress Diane Kruger starred in this slow-moving film in the role of Queen Marie Antoinette, who was beheaded during the French Revolution. The story covers a period of time leading up to and immediately following the storming of the Bastille in Paris when the royal court was in confusion and disarray about what the events outside meant for them. Kruger, the director and fellow cast members were on hand for the screening.

French actress Isabelle Huppert was here to promote another contender, "Captives", together with Philippine director Brillante Mendoza. The film is based on the true story of a kidnapping of tourists and missionaries in 2001. According to Huppert, Mendoza's approach as a director was to use the script only as a general guideline and to keep the actors in suspense from day to day, just like the experience of hostages. "It's not a classical movie," she said. "It was the most incredible and extreme experience I've ever lived!"

At the Berlinale too each day was a little different than expected. An estimated 60,000 visitors were in town for the festival, braving freezing temperatures and snow. They had a choice among nearly 400 films screened at the festival during its 10 day run, from February 9 to 19.

THE WRITER IS A DOCUMENTARY FILMMAKER.

Celebrating Life in Khulna



Tapan Chowdhury sings at the programme.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

"Celebrating Life", cultural programme organised by The Daily Star, was held on March 1 on Khulna University campus. The programme included an open-air concert followed by a short film show.

The Vice Chancellor of Khulna University, Dr. Md. Saifuddin Shah, inaugurated the programme as chief guest.

Supported by Standard Chartered Bank, the concert and film show were held also in cooperation with the 35 MM Khulna University Movie Club.

Executive editor of The Daily Star, Syed Badrul Ahsan, and director of KU Student Affairs, Dr. Anirban Mostafa, were also present as special guests.

The chief guest in his inaugural speech said that the young are the architects of a nation.

The Vice Chancellor of KU claimed that Khulna University is an exception as there is no session Jan, unhealthy student politics or campus terrorism.

The executive editor of The Daily Star, Syed Badrul Ahsan, and director of KU Student Affairs, Dr. Anirban Mostafa, also addressed the inaugural function of the programme.

The inaugural function was followed by the concert and short film show that were enjoyed by a large number of students of Khulna University, ignoring scorching heat.

Celebrated vocalist Tapan Chowdhury kept the audience spellbound with eight songs.

The entire programme was conducted by editor of Star Insight magazine, Rafi Hossain.

Anya Prokash turns 16

A CORRESPONDENT

This year, Anya Prokash, a leading publishing house, turned 16. On the occasion, Anya Prokash has organised a 10-day book fair at the premises of Central Public Library, Shahbagh, Dhaka. The fair opened on March 3.

Professor Emeritus Anisuzzaman inaugurated the fair as chief guest. Syed Manzoorul Islam, Professor of English Department, Dhaka University; rhymester

Alam Talukdar, director of Central Public Library and a number of poets, authors and publishers attended the programme.

New publications from Anya Prokash are being offered at this fair. Popular novelist Humayun Ahmed's "Rochonaboli-Paach" was launched at the fair on the opening day.

This year, the house brought out nearly 50 new publications at the Ekushey Boi Mela. The fair also features poetry recitation, street plays and cultural events.

The fair will continue till March 12.

Workshop on elocution in Barisal

SUSHANTA GHOSH, Barisal

Kobitar Class Abriti Charcha O Proshikkhan Kendra (elocution training centre) of the city organised a programme at Barisal Aswani Kumar Hall on Friday evening.

The programme was designed, directed and conducted by renowned elocutionist Sonia Al-Kas in collaboration with Anjumana Ara Keya, Sharmin Akhtar and Suchi Mandal on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the organisation.

Cynthia Tazrin, secretary to the organisation, said that they trained 65 orphans and under-privileged boys and girls of Barisal district in elocution and the programme was attended by the former and present students and teachers of the centre.

Advocate Shawkat Hossain Hiron; Barisal City Corporation mayor; Talukder Md Younus MP; Balram Poddar, director Janata Bank; Mahbulul Islam, deputy director District Social Welfare Office; Saïdur Rahman Rintu, president of Barisal Chamber of Commerce and Industries; Bijoï Krishna Dey, social worker; Azmal Hossain Labu, presidium member of Abriti Samannay Parishad; leading cultural activists Syed Dulal and Kajal Ghosh addressed the audience.

Entertaining fare

Scholastica students stage "Gupi Gayen Bagha Bayen"



Students of the senior section of the school perform in the play.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

As part of its annual presentation, Scholastica Senior Section Drama and Music Club staged an adaptation of Upendra Kishor Roy Chowdhury's popular literary work for children, "Gupi Gayen Bagha Bayen". The play was staged on March 1 and 2 at the STM Hall, Uttara, Dhaka.

Kazi Toufikul Islam Emon, a member of Prachayanat and teacher of the school, directed the play.

Students of the senior section of the school performed on stage with enthusiasm. On the first day, veteran actor-director Mamunur Rashid enjoyed the play as guest of honour.

The story of the popular fiction follows two young men, Gupinath from Amlokigram and Baghanath from Uttarkut village. Gupi has a great passion for singing, while Bagha loves to play the dhol. However, neither of them has the talent nor training to excel and are ridiculed by their neighbours.

As fate would have it, the two meet in a forest and to their good fortune, have an audience with the Ghost King who surprisingly enjoys their music and grants them three wishes.

Gupi and Bagha start their new life with the awesome power of the three wishes that have been granted. They travel to the kingdom of Shundi to participate in a singing competition.

Amitabh Bachchan is recovering well

Amitabh Bachchan who underwent two abdominal surgeries at Mumbai Sevenhills hospital is recovering well at home. He informs his fans that he is repairing gradually but will take time. His ardent fans are very conscious about his health.

"Many ask how I am doing... I am repairing well and gradually, but it does take time, is all I can say...will persevere to hasten it," the 69-year-old tweeted.

Big B was operated on February 11 and was under observation for 12 days long. Post operation, his condition deteriorated and following which doctors assumed another surgery but gradually he showed sign of improvement. After operation, he was in acute pain.

Though doctors advised him complete rest, Amitabh Bachchan makes it a point to meet his fans every Sunday morning who stands in front of his gate to have a glimpse of the megastar. With a smile on his face, Big B waves his hand to his fans.

"Gosh! Another Sunday? But we just had one the other day! Surprising how time flies even when you do nothing...will attempt to meet the fans and well wishers like all Sundays at the gate... if they come," he further posted.



SOURCE: INTERNET

31st National Rabindra Sangeet Conference to begin on March 8

AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh

The three-day 31st Jatiyo Rabindra Sangeet Sammelan (National Rabindra Sangeet Conference) will begin at Shilpacharya Zaimul Abedin Auditorium of Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) on March 8. Jatiyo Rabindra Sangeet Sammelan Parishad (JRSP) is the organiser of the event.

This is the first such national conference in Mymensingh.

The programme with the theme "Bondhon Hok Khoï" (destruction of bondage) includes discussions, informal gatherings of Tagore songs, rendition of Tagore songs, staging of dance-drama, recitation from Tagore's poetry and felicitating eminent personalities.

Veteran Tagore artiste Kazi Shahjahan Hafiz will inaugurate the conference. Motiur Rahman MP will be the chief guest at the inaugural session.

Marking the conference, a seminar will be held at Shilpacharya Zaimul Abedin Sangrahashala (art gallery) premises on March 9. Professor Md. Rafiqul Hoque, the vice-chancellor of BAU, will attend the seminar as chief guest.

Professor Asitbaran Ghosh will present the keynote paper at the seminar.

Eminent artiste of the country, Mustafa Monwar, will be the chief guest at the concluding session of the programme. Zillur Rahman Siddiqui, president of Sammelan Parishad's central unit, will preside over the conference.

Some 200 artistes from Dhaka will attend the conference. Besides, some 300 artistes and organisers from 76 branches of Jatiyo Rabindra Sangeet Sammelan Parishad throughout the country will attend the conference.

Veteran cultural activist Professor Jatin Sarker from Netrakona and artiste Shamsuzzaman from Rajshahi will be honoured on the concluding day of the three-day programme, said Sohrab Uddin, secretary, Sammelan Parishad's central unit.

Atiqul Alam, member secretary of the celebration committee, said, "It is a great achievement for us to organise such a programme in Mymensingh."

DS CAFÉ

Film actor and model Emon is the featured celebrity of this month at DS Café. He will be on the hot seat and take your calls at The Daily Star Centre on March 7, between 4 and 5pm. Readers, fire away all your questions at him! The best question will be highlighted in the transcription. Call 8126155, 01711623915 and 01711623917 to speak to Emon.



Beetle Baily by Mort Walker

TELL ME YOUR PROBLEMS AGAIN I NEED TO TAKE SOME NOTES

MY SON IS WRITING A BOOK ON LOONEY LOSERS

Henry by Don Trachte

NOW SHOWING CRIME DOES NOT PAY

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BTV	10:05	Campus	11:05	Nacho Bangladesh
	11:05	Gaan-e-Gaan-e	11:25	Nacho Raat Biraty
	03:05	Bangladesh Bangladesh Premier League (Live)	12:35	Bangla Feature Film Cinema R Gaan
	08:35	Amader Ei Boshundora	05:00	Drama Serial: College Road
	10:25	Ekhoni Bolbar Shomoy	08:15	Business Talk
ATN BANGLA	12:05	Business and Finance	12:05	Desh TV
	12:15	Vision 2020	04:30	Durpath
	05:15	Obiram Bangladesh	06:30	Obak Pritibi
	08:40	Drama Serial: Ei Shohory	07:45	Drama Serial: Mayer Doa Poribahan
	11:30	Drama Serial: Cafeteria	09:45	Follow the Leaders
CHANNEL 1	01:05	Ebong Cinemar Gaan	10:30	Total Sports
	04:20	Amar Chhobi	10:32	Maasranga Television
	07:50	Drama Serial: Kamal Bibi Othri Shala O Kana	05:30	Amazing Animals
	11:30	Sirajdala	09:02	Shastha Kotha
		Banglar Pathoy	11:00	Gaanpoka
ntv				Z Studio

RADIO

abcr radio FM 89.2	10:00	Morning Express	
06:00	Bhorer Janajay	No Tension	
09:00	Mukhorito Jibonoy	Dhaka Calling	
12:00	Darun Bapney	Pragati Riders	
03:00	Dreams Bristley	RADIO 70 FM 89.5	
05:00	Shondha Tara	Green FM	
07:00	Shaj-e-Maja	Good Morning Dhaka	
09:00	Raat-er Akashy	Today's Adda	
11:00	Gajper Sherak Ne	U Turn	
Radio Fori	07:30	Today's Hook	
		10:00	Raat Bhor Gaan

Nacho Bangladesh Nacho
On BANGLAVISION at 09:05pm
Dance Reality Show
Judges: Shibli Muhammad, Meher Afrooz
Shawon & Ferdous

The Mummy
On HBO at 11:35pm
Genre: Adventure/Action
Cast: Brendan Fraser, Rachel Weisz

Ei Shohory
On ATN BANGLA at 08:40pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Azimul Hakim, Kishum Shikdar

11:30	Music Jam	04:10	See No Evil
04:10	Janar Achay Bolar	05:50	Scary Movie 2
06:10	Shubho Shondhya	07:35	Shaolin Soccer
06:50	Crime Watch	09:30	Alice in Wonderland
08:15	Drama Serial: Poth	12:00	Gone in Sixty Seconds
09:00	Gechhey Bekey	02:45	Transporter 3
09:00	Glamour World	05:00	Cop Out
11:30	Ekushey-er Business	07:15	Enter the Dragon
04:30	Gaaner Opore	09:30	Kull the Conqueror
05:30	Binodoner Bichwa	11:35	The Mummy
07:50	Music Station	11:30	Star World
08:20	Drama Serial: Ohongkar	11:30	Desperate Housewives
10:30	Bangla Feature Film	02:30	Supernatural
04:15	Shorashon Doctor	03:30	Panam
08:45	Drama Serial: Pathorer Kama	10:30	Person of Interest
09:20	Drama Serial: Batpar	11:30	The Big Bang Theory
11:00	Reporters Dairy	02:30	Discovery Channel
		08:30	Man vs. Wild
		03:30	Clash of the Dinosaurs
		08:30	Deception with Keith Barry
		10:30	Dual Survival
		11:30	Tattoo Hunter
		11:00	BBC World News

DRAMA SERIAL

ATN BANGLA	BANGLAVISION
05:00pm	08:15pm
09:20pm	09:05pm
CHANNEL 1	11:30pm
09:35pm	11:30pm
ntv	11:30pm
09:45pm	11:30pm
11:30pm	09:30pm

NEWS BULLETIN

BTV	News (Bangla) at 8:00 am, 2:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 8:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 10:30 pm, 11:00 pm
CHANNEL 1	News (Bangla) at 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 2:00 pm, 9:00 pm, 10:30 pm, 11:00 pm, 1:00 am, 4:00 am, 01:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 11:00pm
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, 12:30pm, 2:30pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm, 1:00am, 10:00 pm, 11:00 pm, 1:00 am, 4:00 am, 01:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 11:00pm

TALK SHOW

ATN BANGLA	07:40pm	Our Democracy	
12:30am	Lead News	ETV	
CHANNEL 1	10:10pm	Golpo Shajjo Gaan	
09:45am	Trilo Matra	Boishakhi TV	
12:30pm	Taroka Kothon	12:00am	Zero Hour
ntv		Desh TV	
12:10pm	Ei Shohory	11:45pm	Shuja Kotha
Rtv		Maasranga Television	
10:40am	Tankapal	07:30pm	Prime Issue