

WHAT'S ON

Musical Soiree
Artist: Fatema Tuz Zohra
Venue: Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre, H-35, B-24, Gulshan-1
Date: May 11
Time: 6:30pm

Solo Art Exhibition
Artist: Debashis Pal
Venue: Galleri Kaya, H-20, R-16, Sec-4, Uttara
Date: May 4-15
Time: 11am-7:30pm

Felicitation Ceremony for Dr. Sanjida Khatun
For her receiving prestigious "Desikottama" from Shaantilakshmi
Venue: Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre, H-35, B-24, Gulshan-1

Birth Centenary of Kamol Dasgupta
Venue: National Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: May 12
Time: 7pm

Group Art Exhibition
Organiser: Shaka
Venue: Radius Centre, 57, Gulshan Avenue
Date: May 4-18
Time: 10pm-8pm

Photography Exhibition
Title: World Press Photo 12
Venue: Drik Gallery, H-58, R-15A (New), Dhanmondi
Date: April 26-May 18
Time: 3pm-9pm

Solo Art Exhibition
Artist: Intiaj Shohag
Venue: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, Dhanmondi
Date: May 10-22
Time: 2pm-9pm

Group Art Exhibition
Title: Memories of Old Town
Venue: Shilpakalpa Art Gallery, H-7, R-13 Dhanmondi
Date: May 1-12
Time: 12pm-8pm

Making it big Golam Farida Chhonda

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

It was back in 1996 when Golam Farida Chhonda saw a theatre school's advertisement in a newspaper, calling for aspiring actors. Although she had no interest in joining, it was her brother who pushed her into taking the acting course. Thus Chhonda's journey in acting began.

Eminent theatre personality Ramendu Majumdar was impressed by Chhonda's performance and encouraged her to join a theatre group. She took his advice and simultaneously gained admission in Dhaka University's Department of Theatre.

She appeared in her first BTV drama in 1997, but was able to do only a single play before she became busy with studies. After a two-year hiatus, she returned to BTV with the drama "Kajol Kalo Din", an immediate hit among viewers. Chhonda says it was "Kajol Kalo Din" that boosted her confidence and helped her concentrate more on developing her acting skills.

Since then, Chhonda has not taken any more breaks. Theatre has become her sole profession, Chhonda says, adding that it is what she wants to do for the rest of her life. Asked about her studies at Dhaka University, Chhonda said that studying in the Theatre Department has helped her a great deal in honing her acting skills. Thanks to her studies, she can interpret characters by looking at scripts. The theatre school, meanwhile, gave lessons on punctuality and commitment towards work, Chhonda adds.

Most actresses from Chhonda's generation came from a modeling background, and some from dancing. Chhonda remains the only one who relied on academics and acting lessons from theatre school to arrive on the scene. Chhonda proudly claims that she has done more quality works than her contemporaries who have come from modeling or dancing backgrounds.

Asked when she first started receiving appreciation for her work, Chhonda says it was around the time when she acted in "The Doll's House" at Dhaka University. She got further recognition after her work for BTV -- "Nilkontho Pakhi" and "Kajol Kalo Din". Chhonda says that she had done around 200 single-episode plays and many serials on TV. But it was her performance as Minalini in Rabindranath Tagore's "Strir Potro" that brought her much acclaim from viewers. "Ekjon Aynal Loshkor" was also a massive hit, she adds.

Working in "Strir Potro" -- which was directed by Mustafa Monwar -- was also the best experience of her acting career, Chhonda says. Mustafa Monwar also praised her acting during the shooting; something that Chhonda says is her most cherished memory.

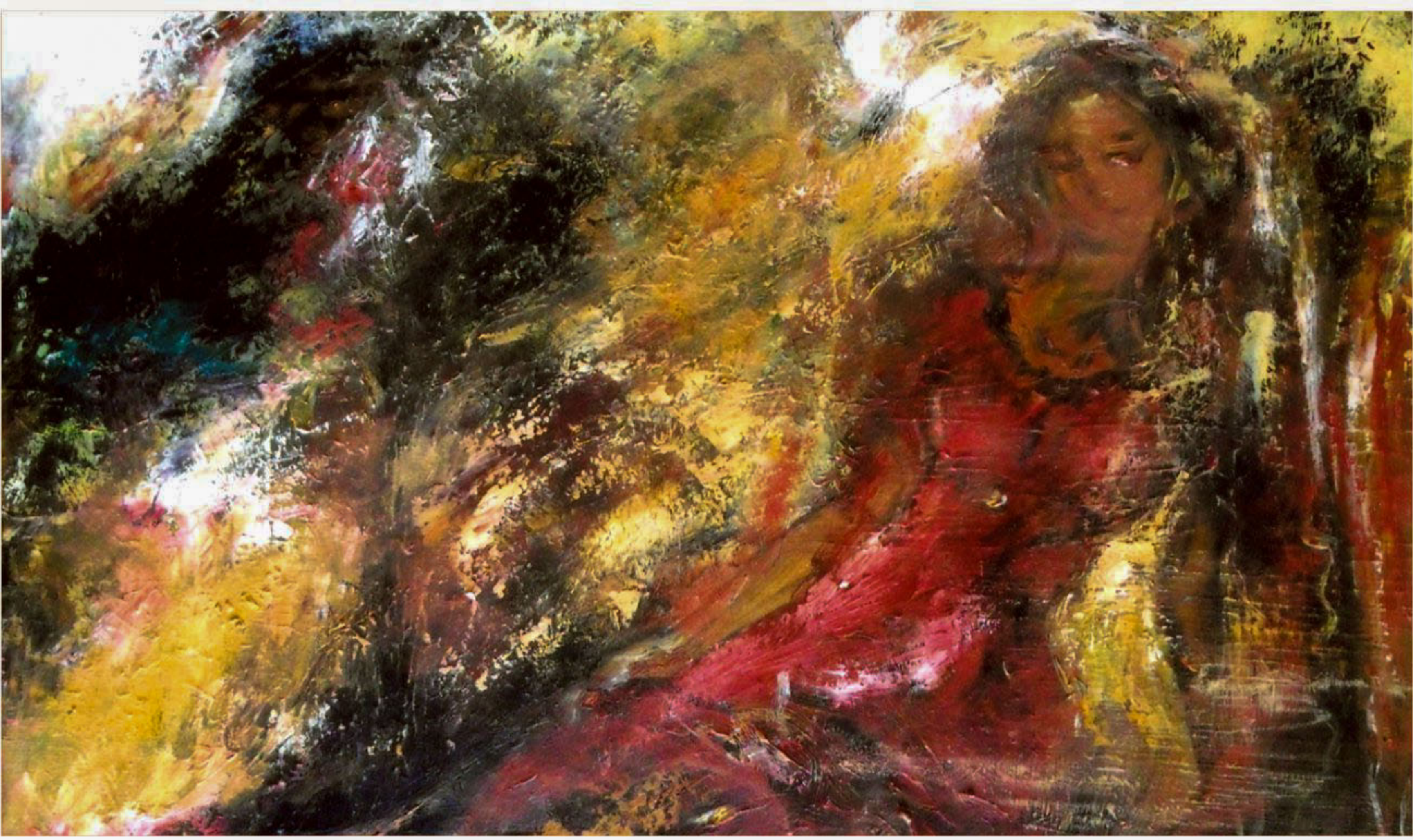
Asked about regrets, Chhonda says she was once cast for a role and was later dropped, after she became a mother. She was very hurt after being told that she couldn't portray the role.

After the birth of her child, she took a break and began working again, even working under the director who had initially dropped her from the role. But she still harbours that disappointment, she says.

Chhonda has also emerged as a director, going behind the camera in a one-hour-play titled "Prem Torko". However, she says only time will tell whether she will take on the role of a director seriously.

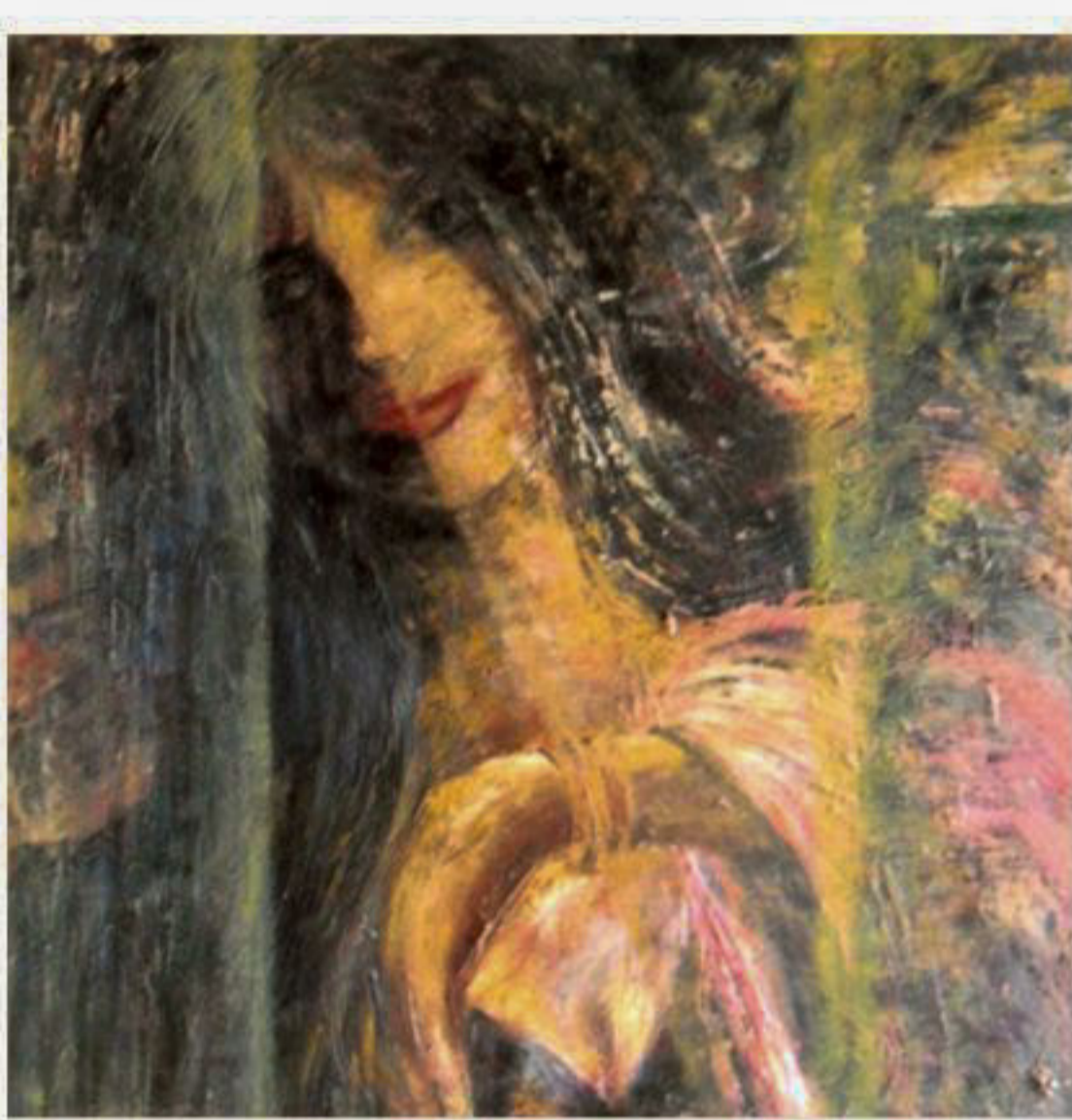
Chhonda is currently busy with several dramas and serials. The serials that are being aired now are "Ladies First", "Dhan Shaliker Gaon", "Alokito Aangina", "Terminal", "Shokal Shondhya Raat" and two other untitled serials are being readied for airing. She also finished working on a one-hour-play by Anjan Aich. She recently completed shooting for a serial in England titled "Colour of Cambridge".

PHOTO COURTESY: TAKIR HOSSAIN



Seeking solitude in nature

Rezwan Pilow's solo painting exhibition at Dhaka Cantonment Public Art Gallery



TAKIR HOSSAIN

Dhaka Cantonment Public Art Gallery has organised a solo painting exhibition featuring the works of promising artist Rezwan Pilow. The exhibition opened on May 5. Brigadier General Imamul Huda psc (Commander of Signal Brigade) inaugurated the exhibition as chief guest. Lt. Colonel Imrul Kais, principal of Dhaka Cantonment Girls Public School and College, was present as special guest.

The paintings on display highlight panorama, serene landscape, women busy with their daily chores and more. The themes range from sublime visions of nature to expres-

sions of solitude.

The painter was born and brought up in a remote village of Rajshahi. He studied Drawing and Painting at Rajshahi University. He has not had a breakthrough in the Dhaka art circuit yet. Though at present the artist lives and works in Dhaka, his umbilical cord with Rajshahi remains attached.

Rezwan has used acrylic and oil on canvas. Some of his paintings set women and nature simultaneously. The painter seeks to express that women and nature have a spiritual connection. Perhaps he likes to imagine the feminine traits in nature. Without women, nature, to him, seems lifeless and unappealing.

It is noticeable that Rezwan's in-depth observation helped him explore the details of his preferred themes.

Quiet nature and its mysterious aspects, women chatting and combing hair in rural setting, two birds on a tree, a pond teeming with lilies, a woman walking in the woods, romancing couples, women plucking flowers and many more are subjects of his paintings on display at the exhibition. He uses a technique -- a kind of pointillism and textured background mixed together, and out of that desired forms like sky, clouds, emerald foliage etc come on spontaneously in his paintings.

The exhibition ends on May 20.

ATN BANGLA	11:10 Children's Programme: Aalo Chhayer Khela Bangla Feature Film Single Episode TV Play Amar Gutar Amar Gaan Shomey Katuk Gaan-e Gaan-e
CHANNEL i	03:00 Prokriti O Jibon 02:40 Tale-film: Metropolitan 05:00 Janapader Khorob 07:50 Shera Nachaye 2012 11:30 Spot light
ETV	10:02 Sonamoin Shukh-e 03hah-e 01:30 Bangla Feature Film 06:30 Musical Programme: Tanana 12:05 Phone O Live Studio Concert
BANGLAVISION	10:10 Bhalo Thakun 11:05 Amader Ramnaghar
Maasranga Television	02:30 Phone and Concert: Ichchhey Gaan-er Dupur 05:02 Square Hospital Doctor's Chamber Art & Craft Programme: Shoili Musical Programme 02:50 Bio-Dome 04:30 Tangled 06:15 Once Upon A Time 07:00 The Resident 08:00 Haunted Changi 09:30 Xtinction: Predator X
Fox Movies	

abc radio FM 89.2	12:00 Boier Polka 06:00 Bhowe Jan'ay 09:00 Mukhorito Jiboney 12:00 Darun Dupury 03:00 Daranta Bheley 05:00 Showkatura 09:00 Raat-er Akashy 11:00 Goljer Shesh Nei	02:00 Forts United-ed 06:00 Bumper to Bumper 10:00 Club Four 01:00 Back to Back music RADIO TOBA (FM 89.5) 08:00 Good Morning Dhaka 11:00 Flash Back 12:30 Islamic Program 02:15 Rupai Gaan
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Roopkatha
On ntv at 08:15pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Ishita, Fazul
Rahman Babu

Open Water
On HBO at 11:30pm
Genre: Drama,
Thriller
Cast: Blanchard
Ryan, Daniel Travis

Kha(n)cha
On Desh TV at
09-15pm
Single Episode TV
Play
Cast: Touquir
Ahmed, Nadia

06:15 Gaan O Fun 11:25 Ami Ekhon Ki Korbo (Live)	10:55 Superman Returns 02:05 The Core 04:50 Sanctum 07:10 Happy Feet 09:30 Paranormal Activity 2 11:30 Open Water
ntv	12:35 Bamba Concert 06:15 Shubhoshoondhya 06:45 Roommadhuri 11:30 Musical Programme: Katha O Gaan-e Kichhukhon
Rtv	10:10 Doctor's Prescription (Live) 03:45 Natuner Jayogaan (Live) 05:30 Game Show: Ghar-e Bailey R Music
Desh TV	03:02 Live Musical Programme: Priyojor-er Gaan 12:53 Sinsapur 08:15 Bindu Thekey Britto 11:45 Call-er Gaan
Boishakhi TV	09:30pm Rangla 08:15pm Harkiptey 09:45pm Gulshan Avenue
	RTV 08:15pm Roopkatha 09:45pm Kobi
	Discovery Channel

ATN BANGLA	09:20pm Red Dragon To Rajganandha 11:00pm Hawai Mithai	ETV 09:30pm Rangla 08:15pm Harkiptey 09:45pm Gulshan Avenue
ntv	08:15pm Roopkatha 09:45pm Kobi	RTV 08:15pm Chorkalyo

BTV	News (Bangla) at 12pm, 2pm, 5pm, 8pm, News (English) at 10am, 4pm, 10pm, News (Bangla) at 11am, 12pm, 2pm, 7pm, 10pm, News (English) at 9am, 6pm	Boishakhi TV News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7pm, News (English) at 9am, 5pm, BANGLAVISION News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7-30pm, 10-30pm, News (English) at 1pm, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm, RTV News (Bangla) at 2pm, 9pm, 10-30pm, ntv News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7-30pm, 10-30pm, ETV News (Bangla) at 1pm, 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm.
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ATN Bangla	12:00am Zero Hour BANGLAVISION 12:05pm Maha Shatto CHANNEL i 01:00am Trio Mastra	TALK SHOW 09:05pm Moner Kotha RTV 10:40am Tarokulp Desh TV
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Depp, Burton bring light comedy to Dark Shadows

REUTERS, Los Angeles

Working with director Tim Burton, Johnny Depp has played many eccentric characters in the movies, from lonely monster Edward Scissorhands to eccentric filmmaker Ed Wood and the Mad Hatter of "Alice in Wonderland."

But there was at least one strange being they hadn't tried -- a vampire -- and that's about to change.

The odd couple of Hollywood can check that character off their list on Friday with the debut of comedic thriller "Dark Shadows," based on the classic TV soap opera that ran from 1966-1971 about vampires, werewolves and witches populating a ghostly manor house in the countryside. In an era that seems made for sexy

bloodsuckers with six-pack abs -- TV's "True Blood" and "The Vampire Diaries" as well as the "Twilight" movies -- Depp and Burton took an opposite approach. They hark back to the 1970s with a tongue-in-cheek homage to the original TV show that, among its many storylines, told of a vampire in a dark and never-ending search for his long-ago love, Josette.

"Tim and I talked early on a vampire should look like a vampire," Depp told reporters recently. "It was a rebellion against vampires that looked like underwear models."

Depp plays well-dressed, well-heeled vampire Barnabas Collins who is turned into an otherworldly being in 1750 from a curse by spurned lover Angelique Bouchard (Eva Green), a witch who then

buries him alive.

He wakes up in 1972 to learn his family home has fallen into disrepair and the lives of his descendants -- played by Michelle Pfeiffer, Johnny Lee Miller and Chloe Grace Moretz -- are in disarray. He is determined to restore them all to their former glory when he learns his old nemesis, now named Angie, rules the town in which they all live.

Depp said he used to watch the TV show when he was a boy and always dreamed of bringing it to the big screen. It wasn't until he and Burton worked together on the macabre musical "Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street" that Depp discovered Burton also was a fan of the show. There was no question that "Dark Shadows" would be yet another collaboration.



Aung San Suu Kyi inspires classical music piece

Burmese opposition politician Aung San Suu Kyi is to be celebrated in a newly commissioned piece of classical music, BBC Radio 3 has announced.

The piece - the work of the station's "composer in residence" Jonathan Dove - will be broadcast later this year.

Dove said he was "delighted" to depict "someone so influential and admirable" in his as yet unnamed composition.

"Her peaceful and powerful demeanour has already allowed me to imagine how a musical form might portray her."

Suu Kyi was selected by the British composer after listeners were invited to nominate suitable candidates.

Director Quentin Tarantino, actress Meryl Streep and scientist Tim Berners-Lee were among other names suggested.

Earlier this month Suu Kyi was sworn in as a member of Burma's parliament following her party's sweeping victory in by-elections.

The 66-year-old's efforts to bring democracy to the country has seen her spend most of the last two decades in some form of detention.

Source: BBC



Beetle Baily by Mort Walker

WHO DID YOU VOTE FOR IN THE LAST ELECTION?
IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS. I DON'T DISCUSS POLITICS!
HE LOST, HUH?
GEEZ! NOT WALKER!

Henry by Don Trachte

HENRY, PLEASE JUST THE BLACKBOARD ERASERS!
HOW TO GET AWAY WITH MURDER

Learn more about **Celebrating Life**
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