

WHAT'S ON

Solo Art Exhibition Title: Tribute to Great Master Sayfuddin Ahmed Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, H-42, R-16(New), Dhaka Date: June 5-16

Theatre Play: Sheher Kobita Troupe: Theatre Art Unit Venue: National Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy Date: June 11, Time: 7pm

Cultural Programme Participant: China Disabled People's Performing Art Troupe Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy Date: June 9-10 Time: 6:30pm

Group Art Exhibition Featuring over 60 Bangladeshi Artists Venue: Ashena Gallery of Fine Arts, Cha-727/10, Uttar Badla Date: June 9-July 9

Film Festival Venue: Russian Centre of Science & Culture, Dhanamdi Date: June 4-9 Time: 5pm-8:30pm

Group Drawing Exhibition Title: Freefall Venue: Bengal Art Lounge, 60 Gulshan Avenue, Circle 1 Date: May 24-June 11 Time: 12pm-8pm

Solo Art Exhibition Title: Beautiful Bangladesh Artist: Shohag Parvez Venue: Galleri Kaya, H-20, R-16 Sector-4, Uttara Date: June 15-27 Time: 11pm-8pm

Solo Photo Exhibition Title: Heritage & Panoramic Beauty of Bangladesh Artist: Abdur Rob Dulal Venue: La Galerie, Alliance Francaise de Dhaka Date: June 1-14 Time: 3pm-9pm

NEW RELEASES

Jaadu Solo album by Komal Source: Deadline Music

The Tagore Treasury Solo album of Rabindra Sangeet by Shwapnil Shojib Source: Agniaveena

Pherari Jonaki Solo album by Sajed Fattami Source: Laser Vision

Protima Solo album by Sufian Source: Agniaveena

Saymon Zakaria: Generating interest at home and broad in Bangladeshi folk traditions

JAMIL MAHMUD Folk researcher Saymon Zakaria recently came back to Dhaka. He was in the United States as a visiting scholar and talked on Bangladeshi folk practices at a few universities. During his month-long stay in the US, he carried out some research as well. Recently Zakaria talked to The Daily Star about his trip and upcoming plans. Zakaria was invited by the Department of South Asian Languages and Civilization, University of Chicago. There he delivered a lecture on the Bangladeshi folk tradition and its artistic aspects on April 19. It was part of a regular initiative by the university called "South Asia Seminar Series, 2011-2012". Zakaria presented his paper on the topic "Saifulmuluk Badiujamal: The Journey of a Story into Bengal's Poetical and Dramatic Traditions". Zakaria informed that his friend and an Assistant Professor at the university, Thibaut d'Hubert, assisted him at the seminar. "As an expert on Bengali literature, d'Hubert delivered a lecture on the poetic aspect of the folk ballad, while I spoke on the dramatic aspect, especially the present day performance style of the ballad," said Zakaria.



Zakaria (R) speaks at Chicago University; Thibaut d'Hubert assisted him.

PHOTO: FACEBOOK

Washington University. She first arrived in Bangladesh in 1974 and worked on Fakir Lalon Shai for over two decades. Professor Salomon collected rare songs and manuscripts during her stay in Bangladesh. Zakaria informed that he would take the initiative to publish Professor Salomon's works. "Professor Salomon closely followed the lives of Lalon disciples such as Moksed Ali Shai, Khoda Boksh Shai and Karim Shai, as well as the works of Bijoy Sarkar. She wrote nearly 10,000 pages on Lalon and his philosophy. She collected numerous Lalon songs rendered by bauls of Kushtia and adjacent areas. These works by Professor Salomon remained in dark for many years. The Ethnomusicology Department of Washington University has preserved her works so far," said Zakaria. According to Zakaria, during his recent visit he got the authorisation from Professor Carol Salomon's husband, Professor Richard Salomon, to work further on the manuscripts and songs. He will soon start work to publish book on these works. In association with d'Hubert, he will further work on publishing Bengali traditional manuscripts that he found at the Washington University.

Remembering Mohammad Kibria



Guests at the discussion on Mohammad Kibria.

PHOTO COURTESY: BENGAL SHILPALAYA

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

To mark the first death anniversary of artist Mohammad Kibria, Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts in Dhanmondi, Dhaka organised a memorial meeting yesterday. Professor Moinuddin Khaled; Professor Nazrul Islam, former chairman of University Grants Commission; human rights activist Khushi Kabir; artists Qayyum Chowdhury, Syed Jahangir; Professor Abul Monsur, Institute of Fine Arts, Chittagong University; National Professor Mustafa Nurul Islam, among others, spoke at the event. Art critic and architect Shamsul Wares; artists Monirul Islam, Hashem Khan, Samarjit Roy Chowdhury, Abul Barq Alvi, Shahid Kabir; and Subir Chowdhury, director, Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, attended the programme. Abul Monsur said, "Kibria was highly influenced by abstract expressionism. Mark Rothko and Antoni Tapes were his favourite artists. He was sophisticated and modest by nature. He maintained an isolated and quiet life." Moinuddin Khaled said, "After returning from Japan, Kibria started a new trend of expression with non-

objective and non-figurative works. Texture is a notable feature in his works. He was an artistic genius who should be honoured with more publications on his life and works." Qayyum Chowdhury said, "I was first introduced to Kibria at Zainul Abedin's home in the 1950s. He was an introvert. He was also a voracious reader and movie buff. He was a source of inspiration in many ways." Syed Jahangir said, "Mohammad Kibria was the most prolific artist of our time. He had been working for decades -- oil painting and various kinds of prints." Khushi Kabir said, "Kibria Sir was a workaholic and was always searching for something new. He was extremely cordial. He was a source of knowledge." Mohammad Kibria was born in 1929 at Birbhum of West Bengal in India. He graduated from the Government School of Art, Calcutta (Kolkata) in 1950. Kibria moved to Dhaka in 1951 and started his career as a school teacher at Nawabpur High School. In 1954, he joined the Government College of Arts and Crafts as a teacher (currently Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka). He received a scholarship from the Japanese government and studied painting and printmaking there.

Sufia Kamal birth anniversary celebration in Dinajpur

KONGKON KARMAKER, Dinajpur

A daylong cultural programme and discussion were held here yesterday morning, marking the 101st birth anniversary (June 20) of poet Sufia Kamal. Jatiyo Rabindra Sangeet Shammilon Parishad's Dinajpur unit organised the cultural programme and competition at Dinajpur Shilpakala Academy. Sultana Kamal, human rights activist and daughter of the poet, inaugurated the programme as chief guest. Md. Jamal Uddin Ahmed, Deputy Commissioner of Dinajpur, and Aminul Haque Babul, vice president, Dinajpur unit of Jatiyo Rabindra Sangeet Shammilon Parishad, were present as special guests. Music and recitation competition were held on the occasion for school-going children. Children recited poems including "Jonmekhhi Ei Deshe" and "Taharey Mon-e Porey" authored by Sufia Kamal. About 100 participants from across the district participated at the programme. A discussion was held in the evening. Azadi Hye, president of Jatiyo Rabindra Sangeet Shammilon Parishad, chaired the discussion. Sultana Kamal spoke as chief guest at the discussion. After the discussion, a book on Begum Sufia Kamal was launched. Later the chief guest gave away the prizes among the winners of the competition. The programme wrapped up with performances by the artistes of Jatiyo Rabindra Sangeet Shammilon Parishad.



FILE PHOTO

THE WEEKLY STRUM Song: Tell Me Why Album: After the Gold Rush (1970) Artist: Neil Young Lyrics and tune by Neil Young

Magic Lanthan honours poet Rafiq Hasan

Literary organisation 'Magic Lanthan' gave a reception to young poet Rafiq Hasan recently. Around 50 young and leading poets of the country gathered at the reception and poetry recitation session at Concord Emporium, says a press release. Poet Muhammad Nurul Huda was the chief guest at the event. Poet Kamruzzaman presided over the programme. Emerging and veteran poets highlighted various aspects of poems composed by Rafiq Hasan. Muhammad Nurul Huda pointed out that Hasan has managed to demonstrate an individual style. Only time will tell whether his style or language would survive, he added. The speakers observed that patriotism, politics and nature of Bangladesh are the recurring themes in Rafiq Hasan's poetry. Among other subjects are: frustrations of urban life. The young poet has also successfully used Islamic and Hindu mythology in his poems. At the event, Hasan recited a number of his poems. Other poets present at the event were: Jahangir Feroze, Rezauddin Stalin, Ratan Mahmud, Syed Lutful Haque, Farid Ahmed Dulal, Dildar Hossen, Fariduzzaman, Tapan Rashid, Aminul Ghani Titu, Shabnam Rahman and Zubayer Suman.

A Minute With: Neil Young on his new album, film

REUTERS, Los Angeles

At an age, 66, when many of his peers have either slowed down or retired from the spotlight, Neil Young is busier than ever. On Tuesday, the iconic Canadian singer-songwriter and his longtime band Crazy Horse released a new album titled "Americana" with their particular take on classic folk songs. It is the first album from Young and the group in nearly nine years. Live shows follow in August. Later this month, movie studio Sony Pictures Classics will release "Neil Young Journeys," a documentary about the singer directed by Oscar-winner Jonathan Demme. And then there's his new book, "Waging Heavy Peace". Young recently spoke to Reuters about the new album, film, book and upcoming live shows. Q: What was the impetus for making "Americana"? A: Simple. I didn't have any of my own songs I wanted to do, and I was ready to play with Crazy Horse again. They take it on much like a newspaper would take it on, as this group. Q: Are you and Crazy Horse going on tour for "Americana"? A: Yes. There's going to be a string of shows, starting on August 10, in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park. That'll go for just a couple of weeks. We'll also be playing in New Mexico and Colorado. I still love touring, and I'm really looking forward to doing the shows with Crazy Horse. Q: In the film, you drive around your old hometown talking about your childhood. You also have your new memoir coming out. A: It's not really a memoir, at least not in the traditional sense. It's not chronological and it covers a lot of areas - from the past to the present day, so it's like a diary. But it is a memoir, and part of it's a projection and a fantasy. It's a hippie dream reality.



PHOTO: REUTERS

Comic strip featuring Mort Walker's Beetle Bailey and Henry by Don Trachte. Panels include: Mort Walker's beetle bailey, Henry, and various humorous scenarios.

CELEBRATING LIFE FILM WORKSHOP PRESENTS Shanto-Mariam 9th June 2012 Screening (2pm - 4pm) & (4pm-6pm) Photo Exhibition (1pm - 6pm)

Table with TV programmes: ATN BANGLA, Channel 9, Channel 24, ntv, and various show titles and times.

Table with RADIO programmes: abc radio FM 89.2, Radio Today FM 89.6, and other radio show details.

Forgotten Roots On ATN BANGLA at 08:00pm Reality Show Directed by Pradip Bhattacharya

Penelope On HBO at 07:30pm Genre: Comedy/Romance Cast: Christina Ricci, James McAvoy

Amar Ami On BANGLAVISION at 09:05pm Celebrity Talk Show Guest: Pothik Nobi & Don

Table with TV programmes: Boishakhi TV, Fox Movies, Banglavisoin, Desh TV, Diganta TV, and various show titles.

DRAMA SERIAL ATN BANGLA, BANGLAVISION, CHANNEL 1, ntv, and various drama titles.

Table with NEWS BULLETIN: ATN BANGLA, Channel 1, ntv, and various news show details.

Table with TALK SHOW: ATN BANGLA, Channel 1, ntv, and various talk show details.