

WHAT'S ON

Theatre Festival
Organiser: Swapnadal
Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: August 1-6
Time: 7:30pm

Fashion Exhibition
Title: Colour of Festival
Organiser: Farica and her colleagues
Venue: Alliance Française de Dhaka, Dharmadi
Date: July 27-Aug 10
Time: 5pm-8pm

Theatre
Play: Mahajana Nid
Troupe: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: August 4; Time: 7:30pm

Theatre
Play: Target Paton
Written & Directed by: Mamonur Rashid
Venue: National Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: August 9-11
Time: 7:30pm

Theatre
Play: Akshita
Troupe: Desh Natak
Venue: National Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: August 5
Time: 7:30pm

Film Screening
Film: War and Peace
Venue: Auditorium, Russian Centre of Science & Culture, Dharmadi
Date: September 9
Time: 9pm

Group Print Exhibition
Title: Monsoon Vernissage
Venue: Bengal Art Lounge, 60 Gulshan Avenue, Gulshan
Date: August 3
Time: 7:30-9:30pm

Theatre
Play: Banglar Mati Banglar Jol
Troupe: Paklar
Venue: National Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: August 6
Time: 7:30pm



Artworks by Ranjit Das.



TAKIR HOSSAIN

After a hiatus, noted artist Ranjit Das is holding a solo painting exhibition. The exhibition, titled "Rim", will be held at Bengal Art Lounge in Gulshan, Dhaka in September. His last solo art show was held at Galleri Kaya. The USP of Das' paintings is an in-depth observation of the socio-political and economic aspects of the society. "For a long time, I have been working on a theme. But I have had always made an attempt to present the subject with diverse forms, colours, shapes and compositions. "At the upcoming exhibition, my figurative works will have a touch of realism but a bit of a distorted look. I am now devising the figures, visages and various parts of the forms. You can say it is an intense journey through experimentation. I am certainly searching for a new look for my paintings," said the seasoned artist. Das' working style gradually changed after he completed his masters from MS University, Baroda, in India. He was a direct disciple of famous artist KG Subramanian. With the passage of time, he has refined himself as a dedicated

works. A number of familiar connections between art and the functions of the mind are the ways in which artists express their own thoughts, feelings, and mental anguish. Several notable artists have expressed their unconventional thoughts and moods through their paintings. Paul Cézanne, Vincent van Gogh, Jackson Pollock, Mark Rothko, Edvard Munch and Bernard Buffet openly stated that their artwork reflected their depressed mood," said Das. In the past, Das predominantly worked with oil. Now he is quite adept in acrylic -- a medium that allows him to create a sense of quietness and joy of freedom. For the upcoming exhibition, the artist has also worked with pen and ink. Das feels comfortable working on a large canvas, as his themes and compositions demand space. The upcoming exhibition will not be an exception. All his works have in the background a story -- often familiar to us. The images give us a real picture of social structure and various contemporary issues in the country. Figures in his paintings are resonant and eloquent. Das' works are distinguished for their meticulously chaotic, reflective and imposing use of colour. He is also frequently searching the boundaries of expressions with various geometric and architectural shapes. Light is another noticeable feature in his works and it focuses especially the facial expression of the figures. "Depression, conflict, instable emotional state are often highlighted in my paintings. I try to provide a psychological narrative. I want to produce paintings that not only describe how we look physically but also capture mental, emotional and spiritual states. I feel continuity is very significant for a painter. Without persistence, painting cannot be considered art. "The thoughts, beliefs, values, and emotions of artists are unavoidably represented in their



works. A number of familiar connections between art and the functions of the mind are the ways in which artists express their own thoughts, feelings, and mental anguish. Several notable artists have expressed their unconventional thoughts and moods through their paintings. Paul Cézanne, Vincent van Gogh, Jackson Pollock, Mark Rothko, Edvard Munch and Bernard Buffet openly stated that their artwork reflected their depressed mood," said Das.

Gifts that brighten up the season



FAYZA HAQ

Gifts, as such, maybe bought at Aarong by the well to do, and from many of the shops on Dhanmandi 2 all along the Mirpur Road. There is Gyankosh where a gift such as a doll or a book or paint box set maybe bought at a reasonable price. A gift has to be liked. It should be useful. It doesn't have to be expensive. There are gift shops in and around Dhanmandi Road 5 and 3, Usha Silk and Shamsi's Collection for example. Here, cute and practical items from Bangkok, rather than China, are available. Similarly, Rachana is good for readymade clothes and accessories like bags, shoes, and toiletries like soaps and perfumes ranging from Yardley to Gucci. New Market is ablaze with costumes for Eid, yet these may be pricey. Small items like picture frames with sea shells, ornate boxes and inlaid trays may be obtained even on the way to the Airport from Captain's Table; the prices are reasonable.

For Eid, and always, items from here and ARA Plaza, are in vogue, and not beyond the upper middleclass pocket. Outlets here have painted saris and shalwar-kamis sets with muted colours. Mrs. Haq, originating from Kolkata, has a fascinating outlet selling intriguing items from India, like necklaces of shells for Tk 100, and beaded ones with pendants for Tk 500. Beautifully embroidered kameezes in pastel shades are here too. The Anam Rang's Plaza at Dhanmandi sells real and imitation jewelry sets, readymade clothes. Saris and panjabis along with shoes (if one knows the size) with buckles, patent leather, imported toys make adorable Eid gifts. With the chilly weather ahead, with the scorching heat hopefully left behind, cardigans and embroidered stoles, wrap-pers, and shawls are here -- these come from Kashmir, as do treasured items at Priyo that beckon one and all during the festival season.



PHOTO: MUMIT M.

Lovely's solo photography exhibition in Bhutan



Guests at the inauguration of the exhibition.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Nehru-Wangchuck Cultural Centre, Thimphu, Bhutan in collaboration with Bangladesh Embassy in Bhutan recently organised a weeklong photography exhibition, featuring the images by Lovely Shamsunnahar. The exhibition was held at the main gallery of Nehru-Wangchuck Cultural Centre. Lyonpo Minjur Dorji, Minister for Home and Cultural Affairs, Royal Government of Bhutan inaugurated the exhibition as chief guest. Ambassador of India to Bhutan, Pavan K Varma; ambassador of Bangladesh to Bhutan, Imtiaz Ahmed; director of Nehru-Wangchuck Cultural Centre, Padam Talwar; and diplomats of different countries attended the inaugural session. About 83 images were on display at the exhibition. The exhibition showcased the places where Rabindranath Tagore lived, wrote and visited on many occasions. The images also focused on household articles and furniture, including bed, chairs, bookshelf, writing table, boat, private car and kitchenware. The exhibition highlighted places like Dakkhin Dithi, Fultola, in Jessore; Tagore Lodge in Kushtia; Shilaidaha Kuthibari, Shahjadpur; Shantiniketan; Thakur Bari of Jorashako and other significant places. "As a Tagore enthusiast, I have been researching on his works. I visited different locations in Bangladesh and India that bear the poet's memories. Browsing through history, I took photographs of the sites with great enthusiasm," said the photographer. Earlier the exhibition was held at National Art Gallery of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy and Nepal Academy of Fine Arts (NAFA) Gallery in Kathmandu.

At the inauguration ceremony, the chief guest, Ambassador of India to Bhutan, Pavan K Varma, said that the exhibition was a wonderful opportunity to showcase the life and works of the great poet Rabindranath Tagore. He expressed his admiration for Tagore's contributions to Indian literature and culture. The exhibition was inaugurated by Lyonpo Minjur Dorji, Minister for Home and Cultural Affairs, Royal Government of Bhutan. Other dignitaries present included the Director of Nehru-Wangchuck Cultural Centre, Padam Talwar, and several diplomats from various countries. The exhibition showcased a collection of 83 photographs capturing the essence of Tagore's life, from his childhood in Tagore Lodge, Kushtia, to his later years in Shantiniketan and other significant locations. The photographs highlighted the poet's deep connection with his birthplace and the places where he lived, wrote, and visited. The exhibition also featured household items and furniture that were used by Tagore, providing a glimpse into his daily life. The exhibition was a great success and received a warm reception from the audience.

Theatre festival on Rabindranath, Al Deen, Badal Sircar begins



Swapnadal stages "Festoon-e Lekha Smriti".

JAMIL MAHMUD
The weeklong theatre festival featuring plays of Rabindranath Tagore, Selim Al Deen and Badal Sircar began at the Experimental Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, on August 1. Theatre troupe Swapnadal has arranged the festival that features six plays by three troupes. On the first day of the festival, Swapnadal staged Al Deen's "Festoon-e Lekha Smriti". ITI Worldwide President Ramendu Majumdar inaugurated the festival as chief guest. Among others, veteran theatre personality Ataur Rahman and Director General of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy Liaquat Ali Lucky spoke at the inaugural ceremony. Al Deen's widow Begumjodi Meherunnesa presided over the inaugural programme. "Festoon-e Lekha Smriti" depicts Al Deen's Liberation War memories, and is an adaptation of an article published in the Bangla daily Aajker Kagaj, in 1993. Zahra Ripon has dramatised the play, while Samad Bhuiyan and Rawmak Laboni jointly directed it. The cast included Shonali, Sharif, Emon, Shishir, Laboni and Anu. Prior to the staging of the play, theatre personality M Hamid and chief of Swapnadal, Zahid Ripon, spoke to the audience. A musical presentation by Swapnadal members was staged at the venue as well. The six-day festival will also feature plays by Dhaka Theatre and Shilpakala Academy. Today, Dhaka Theatre will stage Al Deen's "Nimonojion", while a seminar on the three creative titans will take place at the Seminar Hall of the academy. The festival is being arranged to mark the death anniversary of Rabindranath and birth anniversaries of Al Deen and Sircar. Apart from this, the festival will also commemorate the Hiroshima Day, on August 6. The festival also features exhibition of posters and photographs related to theatre.

Tippi Hedren: Hitchcock ruined career, not life

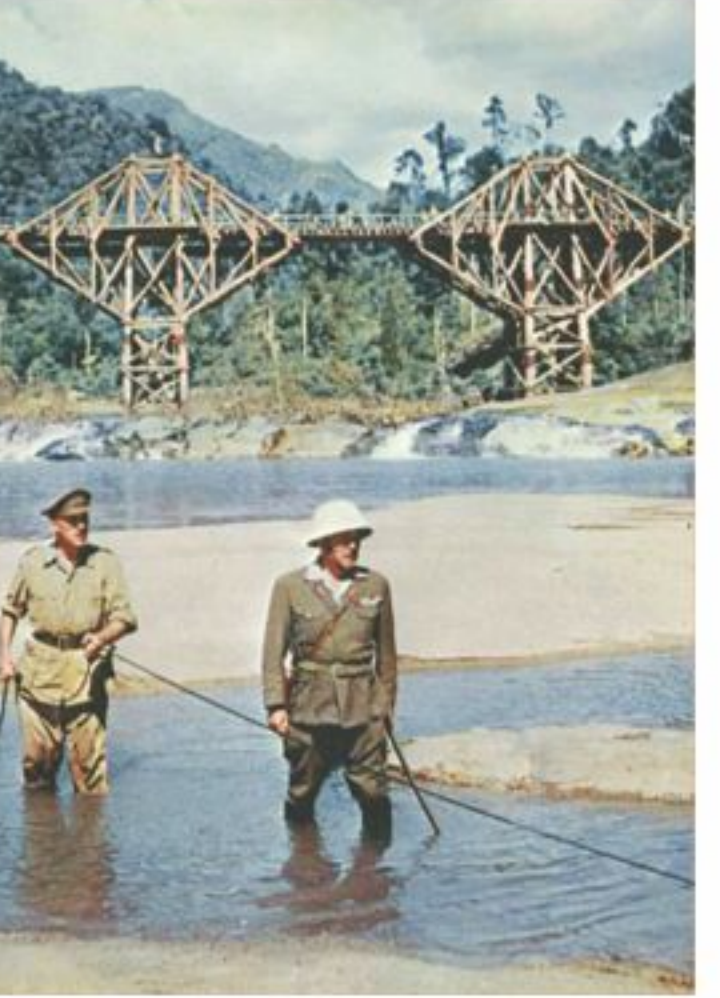
Tippi Hedren said Wednesday she survived working with Alfred Hitchcock, but her career was another matter. The story of Hitchcock's obsession with, and mistreatment of, Hedren during the filming of "The Birds" and "Marnie", is told in the HBO movie "The Girl". Based on the book by Donald Spoto, it stars Sienna Miller as Hedren and Toby Jones as Hitchcock. Hedren says she seldom spoke about Hitchcock's "fantasies" to her friends and family, which explains why many of them were shocked when she screened "The Girl" for them. No one said anything when it was done, "until my daughter, Melanie Griffith, jumped up and said, 'Now I have to go back into therapy.'"

film makes it appear -- not because "The Girl" exaggerates it, but because the movie focuses only on the negative. "I learned so much from that man about motion pictures ... It wasn't a constant barrage of harassment to me. There were times of delight and joy... That is the fault of any film. It can't constantly have everything in it." While Miller says it's a "different world for women in films today," Hedren still thinks there's a message here for women everywhere, that they don't have to put up with this kind of treatment. And that's true, even though she survived it. "I can look at myself in the mirror and I can be proud. I got through it, beautifully. He ruined my career, but he did not ruin my life." Hedren says she seldom spoke about Hitchcock's "fantasies" to her friends and family, which explains why many of them were shocked when she screened "The Girl" for them. No one said anything when it was done, "until my daughter, Melanie Griffith, jumped up and said, 'Now I have to go back into therapy.'"



SOURCE: INTERNET

DID YOU KNOW?



The Bridge on the River Kwai (1957)

The title of the English translation of the French novel "Le pont de la rivière Kwai" was "The Bridge over the River Kwai". After the final scene was shot, producer Sam Spiegel shipped the film footage on five different planes to minimise the risk of loss. The bridge cost \$250,000 to build; construction began before anyone had been cast. The real life construction of the bridge over the River Kwai used about 100,000 conscripted Asian labourers. Around 12,000 prisoners of war died on the project. SOURCE: IMDB

Beetle Baily by Mort Walker



Henry by Don Tranchese



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Table listing TV programmes for ATN BANGLA, CHANNEL I, ETV, and BANGLAVISION.

Table listing radio programmes for abc radio FM 89.2, 96.0, 99.0, 12.00, 13.00, 14.00, 15.00, 16.00, 17.00, 18.00, 19.00, 20.00, 21.00, 22.00, 23.00, 24.00, 25.00, 26.00, 27.00, 28.00, 29.00, 30.00.

Joynal Jadukor On ETV at 09:45pm Drama Serial Cast: Zahid Hasan, Monalisa

The Fighter On Fox Movies at 11:00pm Genre: Biography, Drama Cast: Mark Wahlberg, Christian Bale

99, Shaheb Ali Lane On ntv at 09:45pm Drama Serial Cast: Joynto Chattopadhyay, Saberi Alam

Table listing various TV programmes including Ami Ekhon Ki Korbo, Ocean's Thirteen, Cytec, True Justice: Brotherhood, etc.

Table listing drama serials including ATN BANGLA, Chhayabrita, Scandal, ETV, etc.

Table listing news bulletins for ATN BANGLA, CHANNEL I, ntv, etc.

Table listing talk shows including ATN Bangla, Zero Hour, BANGLAVISION, Moba Shatta Al-Ouran, etc.