

WHAT'S ON

**Engraving Exhibition**  
Artist: Francisco Goya  
Venue: Bengal Gallery, Dharmamandi  
Date: Oct 9-23  
Time: 12pm-8pm

**Classical Musical Soiree**  
Organiser: Uchchanga  
Sangeet Shilpi Parishad  
Venue: Rabindra, Faculty of Fine Arts, Dhaka University  
Date: October 16

**Solo Art Exhibition**  
Title: "Trauma & Time"  
Artist: Ashraful Hasan  
Venue: Galleri Kaya, H-20, Rd-16, Sec-4, Uttara  
Date: Oct 12-23  
Time: 11am-7:30pm

**Poetry Session**  
Participants: Ross Switzerland and 10 young Bangladeshis poets  
Venue: EMK Centre, Midas Centre, 5, 9th floor, Rd 27, Dharmamandi  
Date: Oct 20

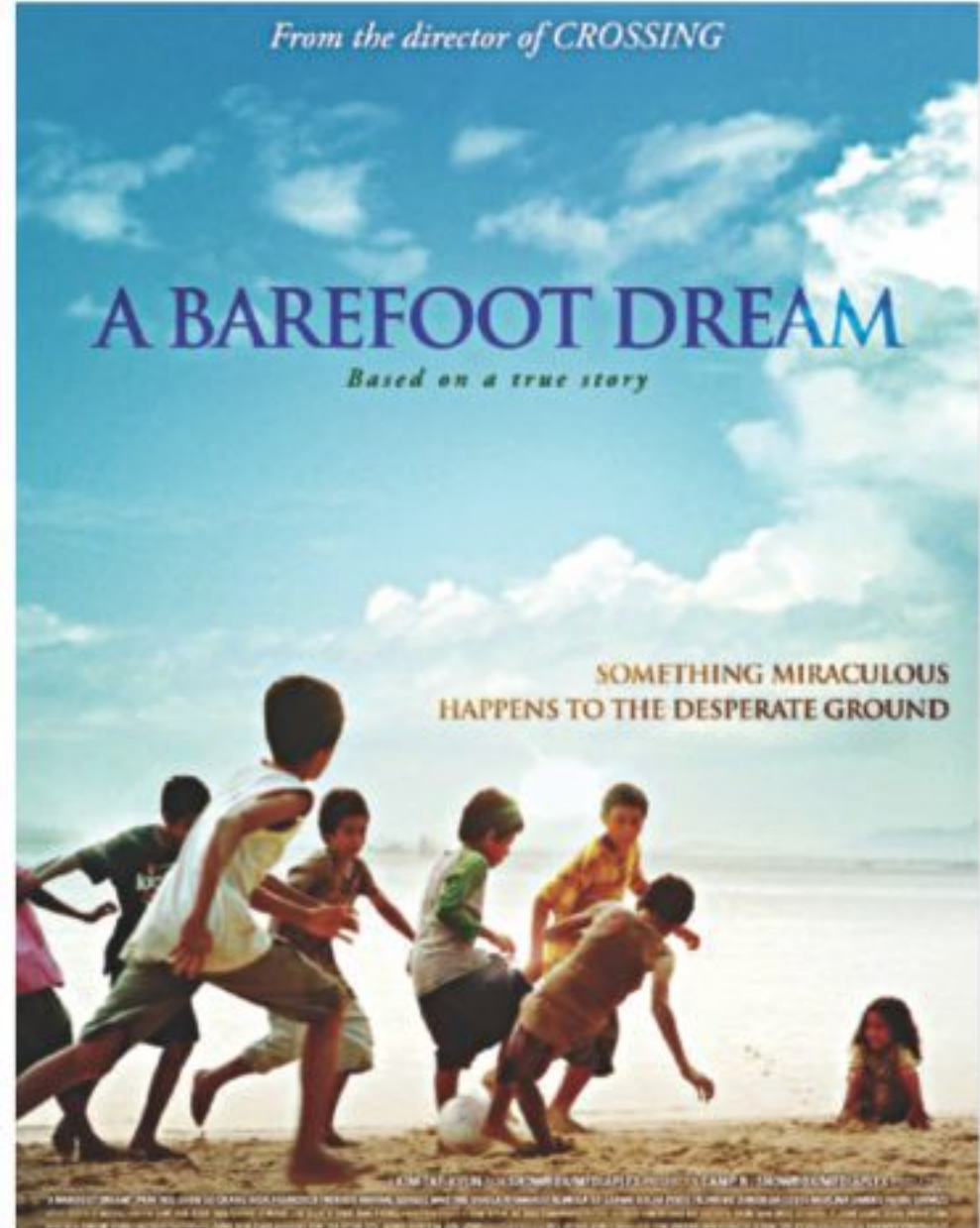
**Group Art Exhibition**  
Title: The Stilled Journey of Life  
Venue: Institute of Art and Culture R-1/A, H-2, Gulshan-1  
Date: Oct 12-30  
Time: 11am-7:30pm

**Art Exhibition**  
Title: Rivers of the World  
Venue: Rabindra Sarobar, Dharmamandi Lake, R-7A, Dharmamandi  
Date: Oct 14-19  
Time: 10:30am-6pm

**Solo Painting Exhibition**  
Title: Explore, Dream, Discover  
Artist: Venita Karim  
Venue: Bengal Art Lounge, 60, Gulshan Avenue, Circle-1  
Date: Oct 12-25  
Time: 12-8pm

**Photography Exhibition**  
Title: Voices of Empowerment  
Venue: Drik Gallery, H-58, R-15A(New), Dharmamandi  
Date: Oct 12-20  
Time: 3pm-8pm

Korean films at National Museum



A CORRESPONDENT

The Embassy of the Republic of Korea in Dhaka is holding a festival featuring Korean films at the Main Auditorium, National Museum in Dhaka. The festival began on October 14 with an aim to promote Korean culture and language in Bangladesh.

The films to be screened include "Le Grande Chef", "A Barefoot Dream", "Arrest King Pace-maker", "Papa" and "A Reason to Live". Among the films, the 2007 production "Le Grande Chef" was much acclaimed. It is based on a popular comic book by Huh Young-man. The film tells the story of two chefs competing for the title of heir to the last Royal Chef of the Joseon dynasty. "A Barefoot Dream" is another popular film, which is based on a true story about a former soccer player who heads to East Timor, looking for opportunities. One day, he sees a group of street kids playing ball bare feet. So he opens a sports equipment store but the kids cannot afford those fancy shoes or jerseys. Ultimately he decides to teach the kids how to play football. Everyday three films will be screened at 11am, 2:30 pm and 6 pm. The festival will continue till October 19. No show on Thursday. The festival is open to all.

122nd death anniversary of Lalon

Commemoration at the bard's den

AMANUR AMAN, Kushtia

A five-day programme has been chalked out on the occasion of the 122nd death anniversary of mystic bard Lalon at the Chheura Lalon Akhira in Kushtia. The programme begins today.

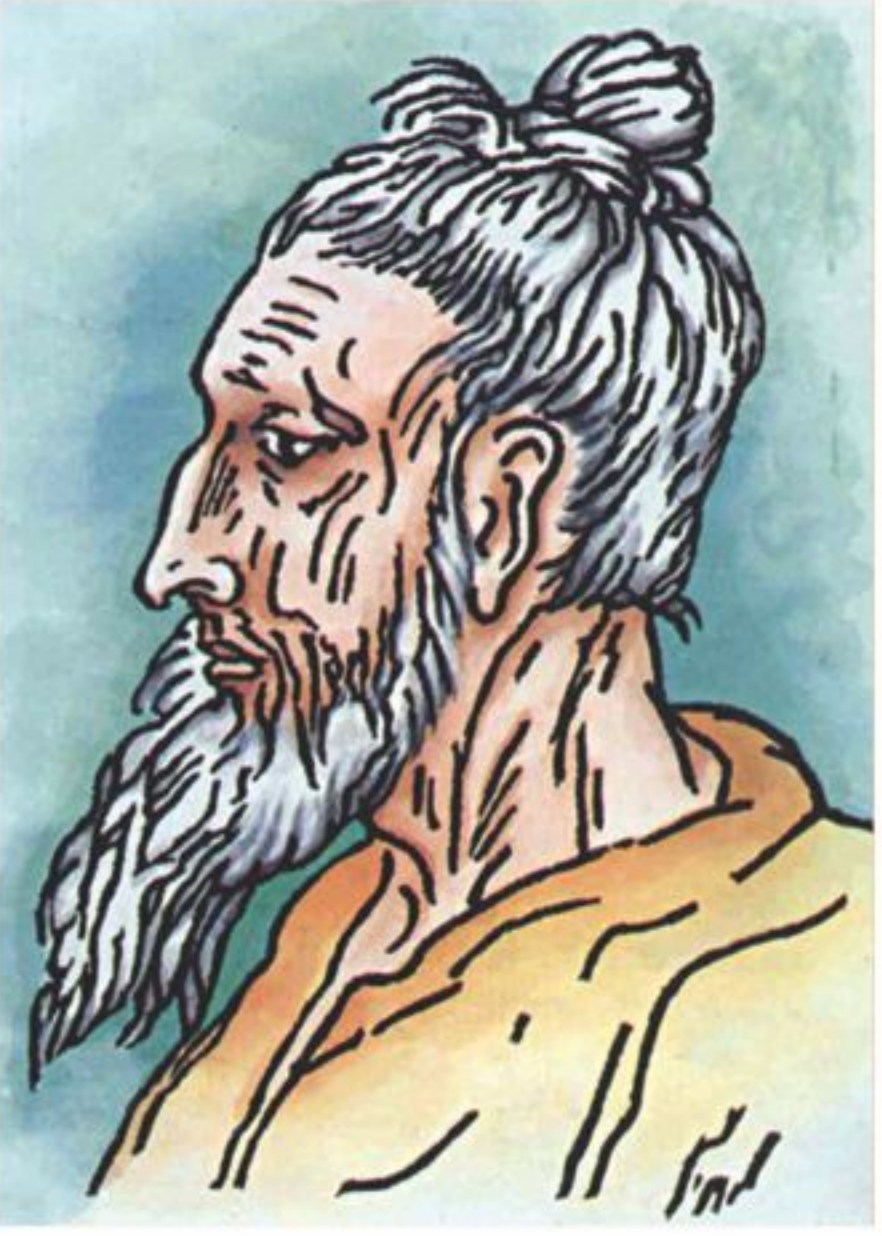
Lalon Academy is holding the programme in association with the Ministry of Cultural Affairs. Kushtia district administration is supervising the event.

The programme includes a monthlong 'Lalon Mela', discussion and rendition of songs by artistes of Lalon Academy and bauls from across the country.

Mahbubul Alam Hanif, joint general secretary of Bangladesh Awami League and also special assistant to the Prime Minister, will inaugurate the programme as chief guest. Other guests at the programme include State Minister for Social Welfare, Advocate Promod Mankin; State Minister for Housing and Public Works, Advocate Abdul Mannan; and director general of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, Liaquat Ali Lucky. Professor Abul Ahsan Choudhury; Professor Sarwar Murshed Ratan of Bangla Department, Islamic University and several others will be chief discussants. Banamali Bhoumik, Deputy Commissioner of Kushtia and also convener of Lalon Academy, will preside over the programme.

A Lalon mural will be unveiled at the event. The DC of Kushtia said that this is the first time that bauls are being offered meals 10 days before the start of the programme and this will continue till Sunday. Free medical treatment for the bauls has also been arranged.

"We are hopeful that the programme will be held in a peaceful atmosphere," said Banamali Bhoumik. Bangalink is the sponsor of the programme. Bauls from different areas have already assembled at the Akhira.



Recreating scenes of genocide

Tanvir Mokammel begins shooting for "Jibondhuli"

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA

Director Tanvir Mokammel has begun shooting his upcoming feature film "Jibondhuli" (The Drummer), a story about the plight of a 'dhaki' against the backdrop of Bangladesh's Liberation War, near Savar, on the bank of Bangshi river.

The first phase of the shooting began on October 10 and ended on October 13 while the second part will be hosted at Pubail from October 16, Mokammel told The Daily Star.

Funded by a Bangladesh government grant, the films features Shatabdi Wadud in the title role. Among other members of the cast are Ramendu Majumdar, Tabitull Islam, Uttam Guha, Chitrakleha Guha, Pran Roy, Jyotika Jyoti, Iqbal



A scene from the film.

Hossain, Rahim Khandaker and Jamilur Rahman. Mahfuzur Rahman Khan is the

cinematographer and Uttam Guha, who has also acted in Mokammel's "Chitra Nadir Parey", is the art

director of "Jibondhuli".

Thirty former and present students of Bangladesh Film Institute are also involved in the making of this new film so that they can get a hands-on experience of the nitty gritty of filmmaking, said the director.

"Jibondhuli" will be shot in Nasim Nagar in Brahmanbaria and Khulna district's Baithaghat and Chup Nagar where one of the worst genocide was carried out by Pakistani army leaving 1,000 people dead on a single day during the Liberation War, said Mokammel. "We will try to recreate the horror of that genocide," added the director.

The shooting of the film is expected to be completed by February next year.

In a realm of music and poetry

Amra Surjamukhi holds programme at National Museum

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Cultural organisation Amra Surjamukhi organised a programme, titled "Gaan Kobitar Chhayatoley" -- featuring a discussion and rendition, recitation of Tagore's songs and poems -- at the main auditorium of Bangladesh National Museum in Dhaka on October 13. The featured artistes at the event were Dr. Chanchal Khan and Dalia Ahmed.

Coordinating secretary of Amra Surjamukhi, Shafiqul Islam Selim, delivered the welcome address at the event. Noted singers Sadi Mohammad and Shakila Zafar spoke highly about the featured artiste duo of the programme.

Vice Chancellor, University of Dhaka, Professor AAMS Arefin Siddique was the chief guest. Former state ministers HN Ashikur Rahman and Abul Hasan Chowdhury were special guests at the programme.

The event featured rendition of Tagore's songs by Dr. Chanchal Khan and bilingual (Bengali and English) recitation of several poems by the bard. Added attraction were presentation of two poems -- "Rabindra Sangeet" by Nirmalendu Goon and "Pronomi" by Dinesh Das.



Dr. Chanchal Khan sings at the programme. PHOTO: ATL AAKASH

esraj together with the flautist produced a balanced harmony of melody during her presentation of poems.

Dr. Chanchal Khan performed other songs including "Shedin Dujoney", "Amar Praner Porey Choley Gelo Ke" and "Jakhon Porbe Na Mor Payer Chinho" to an appreciative crowd. The artiste duo also presented several numbers from Tagore's Nobel winning literary piece "Geetanjali". Subir Ghosh on tabla, Daulatur Rahman on keyboard and Pradip Roy on percussion instrumentally assisted the singer.

Dalia Ahmed set off the event by reciting "Paye Cholar Poth" from "Lipika". Next, Dr. Chanchal Khan rendered two songs -- "Aaji Pronomi Tomaye" and "Tumi Amaye Dekechhiley".

Dalia Ahmed recited "Amaye Jodi Monta Debey" while Chanchal Khan performed two Rabindra Sangeet -- "Eshechhile Tobu Asho Nai" and "Tumi Ektu Kebol Boshtey Dio".

The auditorium teemed with dignitaries, expats and Tagore enthusiasts. To enable the non-Bengali members of the audience to comprehend Chanchal Khan's renditions, Dalia Ahmed recited the lyrics in English.

Traffic congestion as seen through art

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Institute of Art and Culture (IAC) in Gulshan, Dhaka has organised a group art exhibition, titled "The Stilled Journey of Life". The exhibition opened on October 12.

Communications Minister Obaidul Quader inaugurated the exhibition as the chief guest. The featured artists are Maksuda Iqbal Nipa, Nazia Andaleeb Preema, Proshanto Karmakar, Bipasha Hayat, Sajid Bin Doza, Marufa A. Chowdhury, Moniruzzaman Shipu, Jamil Akbar Shamin, Golam Rabbani, Nazir Hossain and Mrinal Haque. The artists have depicted the traffic congestion in Dhaka with individual interpretations, using different mediums and styles. Along with paintings, the show includes two installations. The exhibition will continue till October 30.

On the opening day of the exhibition, IAC also organised a roundtable on "Awareness Building on the Traffic Situation in Dhaka" at the centre's premises. The discussants were: Shymol Dutta, editor of the Bangla daily Bhorer Kagoj; Asraf Sarkar, transport economist; Ali Reza Iftikhar, CEO of Eastern Bank Limited; FR Khan, managing director of Building Technology and



Communications Minister Obaidul Quader at the exhibition.

Ideas; Mahboob Alam, development member of Rajdhani Unnayan Karttripakkha (Rajuk); Barrister Mahbubur Rahman, Joint Commissioner (Traffic) of DMP; Dr. Hasan Imam, Trustee of IAC; Manjurul Ahsan Bulbul, editor-in-chief and CEO of Boishakhi TV; Mohammad Ali (taxi driver), among others. Development consultant and singer Dr. Chanchal Khan was the moderator of the discussion.

The speakers stressed on the need for better public transportation system to reduce traffic congestion in the city. They suggested that the government take proper initia-

tives to control the number of rickshaws, old vehicles and fake driving licenses. Proper initiatives should also be taken to ensure adequate parking facilities and the masses should be encouraged to use river and rail routes which definitely can reduce traffic congestion in the city. Ishrat Akhond, director and founding trustee of IAC, said, "IAC is a social advocacy institution, which uses visual art as a tool of communication. The appeal of using art forms, which is a powerful medium, is to raise consciousness of our collective and individual obligations."

Sound of Music

In conversation with Professor John Howard

On his recent visit to Bangladesh, Professor John Howard (director of London College of Music Examinations, University of West London) spoke to Fawzia Chowdhury (principal, Sound of Music School, Dhaka) on a variety of subjects. Excerpts from the interview:

Can you give us your background, that of your organisation and the reasons for your visit here?

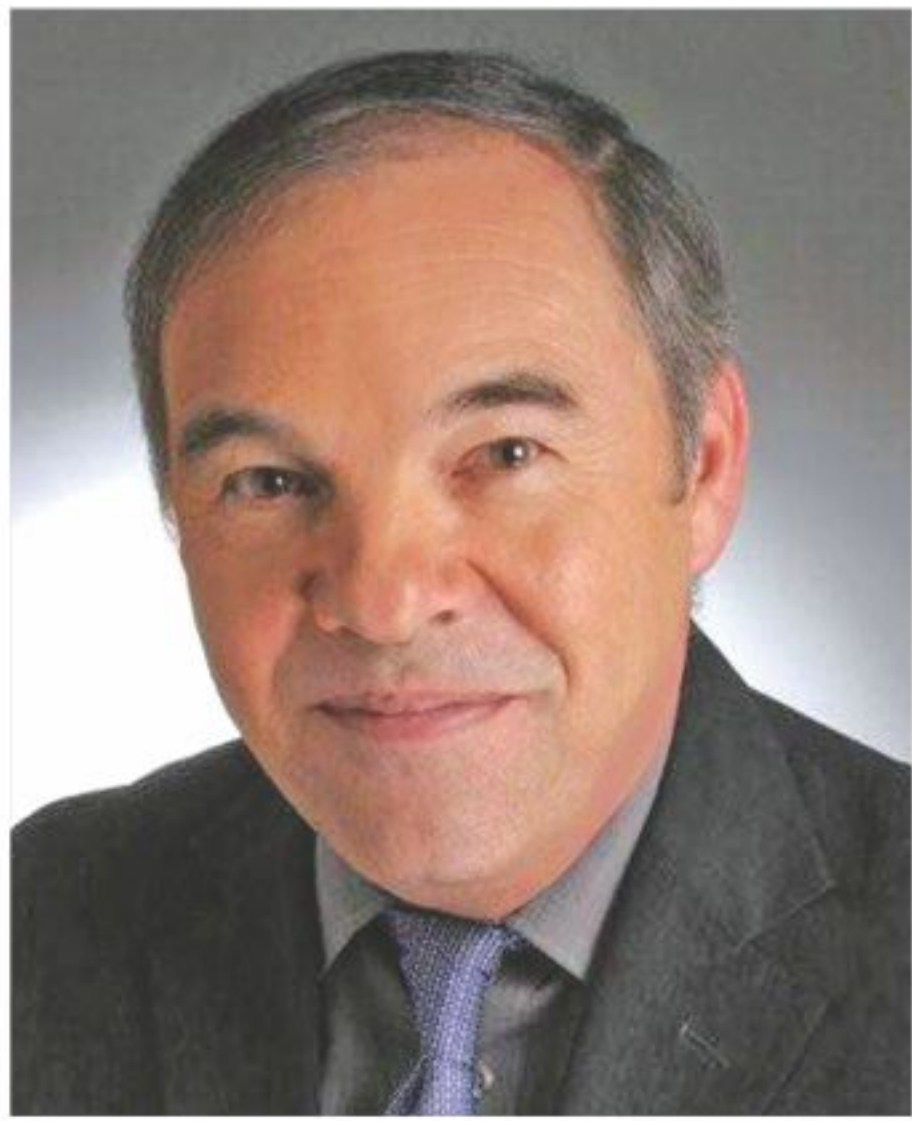
John Howard: I am the director of London College of Music Examinations, which has been in existence since 1887, and is the second oldest music grading board -- the only one fully integrated within a university. I am a composer, a music educator, and author of a number of books. I came to your country on a fact-finding visit, to look at the Sound of Music School in Dhaka, and to investigate the launch of our examinations here.

Why choose Bangladesh?

John Howard: We were asked by the British Council in Dhaka whether we would like to launch the exams here, and it was helpful that they introduced us to you and your school, Sound of Music. Our exams are popular in Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Brunei, Sri Lanka, India, China, Hong Kong, Philippines and South Korea, and it is logical that we operate in Bangladesh.

Does your institution only grade music?

John Howard: We also offer drama and communication exams, including spoken English, which would also be relevant here. All our qualifications are awarded



Why did you choose Sound of Music as your partner?

John Howard: Wherever we work, we rely closely on local representation, since this is educational teamwork, not a UK organisation imposing on your country. Teaching and learning is the responsibility of local teachers, such as those who teach at your school; assessment and the awarding of the qualifications is the responsibility of the examination board. We will be sending examiners from UK in due course to deliver the assessments.

My visit has enabled me to see the Sound of Music and meet the teachers, and I am happy with its approach. I know that we can work together fruitfully into the future, giving excellent opportunities to people in Bangladesh.



REUTERS

James Bond is back and better than ever, according to early reviews on Friday, as the latest movie featuring Britain's smooth-talking, martini-drinking super-spy soared with critics and audiences after an advance screening in London.

Newspaper critics rushed to print and celebrities took to Twitter after seeing "Skyfall," with many calling it the best Bond film in the franchise's 50-year history. Reviewer Robbie Collin at British newspaper The Telegraph said director Sam Mendes' Bond was comparable to Christopher Nolan's darker, grittier "Batman" from the "Dark Knight" franchise.

"Mendes is unafraid to let the quieter dramatic moments breathe ... and ace cinematographer Roger Deakins makes the wildly ambitious action sequences the most beautiful in Bond's 50-year career," Collin said.

Geoffrey McNab at the Independent gave "Skyfall" four out of five stars, criticizing the film for being "occasionally... repetitive." But he praised Mendes for "throwing in far greater depth of characterization than we're accustomed to in a series of films that are often proudly superficial."

"Skyfall," the 23rd film in the Bond franchise,

chise, opens in UK theatres on October 26 and in the United States on November 9. It is Mendes' first time directing a Bond film. The British filmmaker won a best director Oscar in 2000 for "American Beauty."

The 22 Bond films have to date amassed \$5.1 billion at the worldwide box office according to The-Numbers.com, which tracks box office performances. The last film, 2008's "Quantum of Solace," grossed nearly \$600 million globally.

"Skyfall" sees actor Daniel Craig return as the suave agent, on a mission to bring down a dangerous villain, played by Javier Bardem. Judi Dench returns in the role of "M" along with co-stars Ralph Fiennes and Ben Whishaw, while Naomie Harris and Berenice Marlohe became the latest Bond girls.

Baz Bamigboye at the Daily Mail gave "Skyfall" five stars on Friday, calling it "pure classic 007 fare, back on form footing after the less than memorable "Quantum of Solace."

Reviewers on Twitter praised the explosive action scenes, Mendes' directing, Dench's darker portrayal of "M" and Bardem's turn at playing a Bond villain. BBC Radio 1's film critic Rhianna Dhillon tweeted: "WOW! You have a massive treat in store for you! Don't want to review it on air in case I give anything away! It's just so good!"

Chobir Haat: A haven for artists

A CORRESPONDENT

Noted artists including Shishir Bhattacharya, GC Trivedi Gupu, Tarun Ghosh, Wakilur Rahman, Saleh Mahmud, Rabi Khan, Masudur Rahman, Kamruzzaman Shadhin and Israt Jahan Kakon are busy on their artworks at 'Chobir Haat', an art market just opposite Charukala (Faculty of Fine Arts) on Dhaka University campus.

The alumni of Charukala, freelance painters, poets, literateurs and performing artistes assemble and organise Chobir Haat that usually runs only on Fridays. But marking an upcoming joint public art camp (between Bangladesh and Tripura of India) that is to be held at the location on November 8 everyday to do their painting. Proceeds from sales of the artworks will be put aside for the art camp. Several Bangladeshi artists belonging to Chobir Haat group went to Tripura, India on August 21 to participate in a weeklong art camp. They also invited their counterparts to attend the forthcoming art camp.



PHOTO: ATL AAKASH

Boat race on Kirtonkhola river

SUSHANTA GHOSH, Barisal

A colourful boat race, popularly known as 'Nouka Baich', was held recently on Kirtonkhola River.

The event was organised by Barisal City Corporation (BCC) in cooperation with mobile phone operator Banglalink and Bangladesh Rowing Federation under the title 'Bangla Link- Mayor Nouka Baich' to popularise indigenous sports, culture and amusement traditions and save river, waterways, water bodies from siltation and extinction.

The 5 kilometre long Nouka Baich started from Shahid Abdur Rab Semiaab Bridge at Dapdapia and ended an hour later at Charkawa Ferry Ghat.

BCC Mayor Advocate Shawkat Hossain Hiron as chief guest of the programme said BCC will continue to patronise the rich culture of the country and expressed his solidarity with local and regional traditions.

Bangalink regional commercial head Babul Haque and Saidur Rahman Rintu, president Barisal Chamber of Commerce and Industries, were also present in the ceremony.

Thirteen racing boat teams from Barisal, Gopalganj, Madaripur, Faridpur, Pirojpur districts participated in the competition. BCC Mayor distributed Taka 30,000 with a 14 inch colour TV as



PHOTO: STAR

first prize, Taka 20,000 and a 14 inch color TV as 2nd prize and Taka 15, 000 with a 14 inch color TV as 3rd prize among the racing boat teams led by Rafik Khan of Hizla, Barisal; Goutam Bhakto of Gopalganj and Sukumar Bain of Rajoir, respectively, at the end of the race.

Besides the entire participant teams were awarded 14 inch color TV sets as consolation prizes.

Thousands of people including senior officials of district and divisional and police administration, local government representatives enjoyed the race and encouraged the participant teams, crowding the river banks on the racing route.

11:30 Ekushey-er Business	05:25 Binodindor Bishwa	06:30 Deshi Jurey Shanglep	07:50 Taiti	08:15 The Business Show	04:15 Shorashori Doctor	08:35 Boon Bhulabulshi Gaan	11:00 Reporters Dairy	01:05 Bangla Feature Film	05:20 Poraksha Protosti	06:30 Shoundarji Kotha	11:25 Raati Biratey	01:05 Bangla Feature Film	05:20 Poraksha Protosti	06:30 Shoundarji Kotha	11:25 Raati Biratey
09:05 Bangla Feature Film	09:05 Drama Serial: Boyra Paribar	09:50 Look at Me	12:05 Business Talk	03:00 Gaan R Gaan	05:00 Durpath	07:45 Drama Serial: Set Kathon	11:45 Shoja Kotha	03:00 Gaan R Gaan	05:00 Durpath	07:45 Drama Serial: Set Kathon	11:45 Shoja Kotha	03:00 Gaan R Gaan	05:00 Durpath	07:45 Drama Serial: Set Kathon	11:45 Shoja Kotha
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ATN BANGLA 08:40pm Jhulanta Babura	08:15pm Side Effect	08:15pm Radio	08:15pm Chocolate
CHANNEL 1 11:30pm Roshni	08:15pm Radio	08:15pm Chocolate	08:15pm Chocolate
ntv 09:45pm Ochena Protimbho	08:15pm Radio	08:15pm Chocolate	08:15pm Chocolate
ETV 09:30pm Karnini	08:15pm Radio	08:15pm Chocolate	08:15pm Chocolate
BANGLAVISION 08:15pm Generation Next Dot	08:15pm Radio	08:15pm Chocolate	08:15pm Chocolate
Rtv 09:05pm Bangla Feature Film	08:15pm Radio	08:15pm Chocolate	08:15pm Chocolate

BTv 10:25pm Shombabonar Bangladesh	12:02am Ekushey-er Raat	12:02am Zero Hour
CHANNEL 1 12:30pm Taroka Kothon	12:02am Ekushey-er Raat	12:02am Zero Hour
ntv 09:45pm Ei Shomoy	12:02am Ekushey-er Raat	12:02am Zero Hour
Desh TV 09:45pm Chitrak Tomar	12:02am Ekushey-er Raat	12:02am Zero Hour

BTv 10:25pm Shombabonar Bangladesh	12:02am Ekushey-er Raat	12:02am Zero Hour
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