

WHAT'S ON

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

Sri Lankan Musical Show
Vocalist: Viharada Deepika
Priyadarshini
Date: October 19
Venue: Shilpakala Academy.

Solo Art Exhibition
Title: "Nunna & Time"
Artist: Ashraful Haan
Venue: Galati Kaya, H-20, Rd-16, Sec-4, Uttara
Date: Oct 12-22
Time: 11am-7:30pm

Poetry Session
Participants: Ross Sutherland and 10 young Bangladeshi 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-1A, 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: Vanita Karim
Venue: Bengal Art Lounge, 60, Gulshan Avenue, Circle-1
Date: Oct 12-25
Time: 12-8pm

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



"Keep an eye on emerging Bangladeshi talents"

-- Farooqi, at Busan Int'l Film Festival

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA

For Mostofa Sarwar Farooqi, the partying over the huge response to his film "Television", watched by a packed audience of 6,000 people on the closing night at Busan International Film Festival, South Korea, continued till the early hours of last Sunday, as he and his actress-wife Nurat Imrose Tisha walked along the sea beach and were chased by young girls seeking autographs and photographs.

But for Farooqi, "all this was surpassed by one man -- Kim Ki Duk. I am a huge fan of this Korean filmmaker. Though I knew that he is moody and he rarely goes to screenings, to my utter surprise, he came to my screening, and dragged my jacket from the back to let me know that he was watching my film. And after screening, he repeated the act with a much warmer hug and love for my film."

achievement for Farooqi, he has a wider vision for cinema in Bangladesh. "Apart from personal achievement, I think it has a long-term effect on Bangladeshi cinema. To be very honest, the world will love to watch some other interesting films from Bangladesh made by younger filmmakers. In all my interviews and in the closing speech, I felt proud to tell the world that we have lot more interesting talents. Please keep an eye on us," said the Bangladeshi director.

While none can grudge the sense of personal

FERDOUS @DS CAFÉ

Film star Ferdous rode his way into popularity with a bang -- with the film "Hothat Brishti". Over the years, Ferdous has cemented his position in the film industry, both in Dhaka and Kolkata. A journalism graduate from Dhaka University, Ferdous went on to work with Bibi Russell on the ramp, which eventually led him to the world of movies. The actor is also a producer now -- with his film "EK Cup Cha" awaiting release. Ferdous recently cleared out his schedule for his fans and admirers and came to DS Café to take calls from across the country.

Kolkata is also seeing many talented people joining the film industry, unlike Bangladesh. We started a trend, which saw many educated people joining films, but the practice eventually faded out. In India, young, educated people watch, make and act in films but in Bangladesh there is no such culture. Technically, they are also very rich. When I did "Hothat Brishti" in 1998, Kolkata movies had a budget of Taka 12-16 lakh, compared to contemporary Dhaka productions of over Taka one crore. But now we see Kolkata movies with Taka 6-7 crore budgets, while our filmmakers are shooting with only 20-30 lakh. When the whole world is moving forward, only we are on the reverse gear.

Mohsin, Sylhet: Do you want to do anything regarding your social responsibilities? Ferdous: I want to build an old home. When I get tired of working, I will make some time to work on that project.

Lonnie, Dhaka: What is the main problem of Dhaka city? Ferdous: I think traffic congestion is the main headache for Dhaka residents. It is hard to get an appointment when one has to travel across the city.

Kamrul, Dhaka: Which actresses have you been paired up with the most? Ferdous: Moushumi, Shabnoor and Rituparna. Tamanna, Gazipur: What do you do in your leisure hours? Ferdous: I stay at home. I'm mostly busy with my work in Kolkata or Bangladesh. So when I'm free, I stay home and give my children some time.

TDS: Why is it that no Bengali actor has ever been able to build a strong foothold in Bollywood? Ferdous: Some Bengali actresses have had successful careers in Bollywood. However, their families had already been settled in Bollywood. Their entry in the Bollywood industry was made easy by family connections (Rani Mukerji for example).

Kolkata actors who went to Bollywood, made the switch after being established in their hometown. I didn't go into Hindi films as I felt that it was not worth starting fresh. I know many accomplished actresses from Kolkata, who failed to shine in Bollywood. We only know about a handful of actors, out of thousands who travel to Bollywood in search of fame. Even Shahrukh Khan has to audition in Bollywood, as is the custom there.

TDS: Have you seen any change after movies were declared an "industry"? Ferdous: Where will the change come from? Films are not being made. There was a time when a hundred films were made each year, compared to only 30 movies that are now made annually. Now FDC hosts reality show shooting. When we started, around 10 or more movies were shot each day at FDC. That announcement will bring positive results when the theatres are fixed, more theatres are built and a greater number of quality films are made.

Deepa, Dhaka: What's your opinion of Ananta Jalil? Ferdous: I find him to be an interesting character. TDS: If you were exiled to an island, what would you take with you? Ferdous: A speedboat.

Transcribed by Shah Alam Shaha

Koli, Sylhet: I only have one demand -- that is for you to work in more Kolkata films. Ferdous: I'm busy working on films in both Dhaka and Kolkata. I will be nothing without your admiration. Since you are asking, I will try to work in more Kolkata movies.

Sagar Chowdhury, Sylhet: What is the secret behind your successful career? Ferdous: I've been blessed with love from the audience. I also believe that my honesty, hard work and commitment have helped me gain a strong foothold in the industry.

Rakhi, Dhaka: Do you have any recurring dream? Ferdous: I often dream that I'm going back to my childhood.

Sarmila, Dhaka: How did you arrive in media? Ferdous: I used to be a ramp model with Bibi Russell. From my exposure there, I got offers in the movies. Since then, I've been a part of filmfdom.

Tithi, Chittagong: Will "EK Cup Cha" -- your maiden production -- be released this Eid? Ferdous: No, it will not be released after Eid-ul-Azha. But I'm sure you'll hear about it when it's released.

Md. Sultan, Teknaf: I'm a Rohingya refugee. Do you have any plans on making a movie about us? Ferdous: If any director ever comes up with a story about the refugees and offers me a role in it, I will be happy to do it.

Murad, Chittagong: I always go to the theatres whenever a movie of yours is released. Ferdous: Thank you. But I urge you to go and see films by others as well.

Raisa, Dhaka: If you weren't a film star, what would you have been? Ferdous: A pilot.

Rupa, Rajshahi: Is your wife really a pilot? Ferdous: Yes, she is.

Sumon, Savar: Do you like to collect anything? Ferdous: Watches and sunglasses.

TDS (The Daily Star): On the whole, what are the differences between Bangladeshi and Indian films? Ferdous: What I believe is that in India, everyone -- from the audience to the filmmakers, are passionate film lovers. But our movie-watching culture is yet to grow. Maybe the lack of good cinema halls or environment is to blame. It is necessary for the movie theatres to have an appropriate environment, when one goes there with friends or family. Only a handful of cinema halls in Dhaka maintain a standard. This is the primary field where we lag behind in Bangladesh. But even in the rural parts near Kolkata -- for example, Shantiniketan or Bolpur -- have decent movie theatres.

Rashid Talukder, photographer

He captured the memento photograph related to the Liberation War, the portrait of Bangabandhu with raising index during his March 7, 1971 speech at the then Race Course Maidan. Talukder's another familiar photograph is of a street child who leads a procession during the 1969 upsurge. Soon after capturing the photo, the child was shot dead in the spot by the then EPR personnel. During his childhood, his father used to call him 'Kanchon', finding an allusion to the mountain Kangchenjunga. Talukder won the 2010 Pioneer Photographer Award in the All Roads Photography Programme, arranged by National Geographic. His photograph of Bangabandhu's historic speech on March 7, 1971 was nominated for the Encyclopaedia on Southeast Asia, published by Cambridge University, England. The iconic photographer died on

The Amazing Spider-Man in 3D, at Cineplex



Star Cineplex offers film lovers with the latest blockbuster from the "Spider-Man" franchise, "The Amazing Spider-Man". The 3D movie that features Andrew Garfield as Peter Parker/Spider-Man releases from today. The film, directed by Marc Webb, is based on the Marvel Comics character Spider-Man. It is a reboot of the "Spider-Man" film series, portraying the character's origin story and his development into a superhero while a high school student. Emma Stone as Gwen Stacy and Rhys Ifans as Dr. Curt Connors are the other lead actors in the film. The film premiered on June 30, 2012 in Tokyo and was released in the United States on July 3 in 2D, 3D and IMAX 3D. Critical reaction was mostly positive, with a 73 percent "certified fresh" score from review aggregator Rotten Tomatoes. The film was also a box office success, becoming the 43rd highest-grossing film of all time and the fourth highest-grossing film of the year, although not matching its predecessors.

The Stilled Journey of Life

An exhibition addressing the traffic troubles in Dhaka



"De still" by Nazia Andaleeb Preema.

Most of the artists successfully projected their imagination to depict the stillness of life caused by traffic congestion by incorporating imagery in their works. Moniruzzaman Shipu's acrylic on canvas piece depicts Dhaka traffic in the style of expressionism, using a riot of colours that hints at the chaotic nature of the

artist Gollam Rabbani's paintings -- titled "Jam 1", "2" and "3". Through her abstract work titled "Nature", Maksudha Iqbal Nipa depicted the bedlam on Dhaka streets.

Bipasha Hayat tried to depict the pointlessness of the entire situation through her painting, using the form

surface. In his chaotic caricature, Sajid Bin Dozo used sign pens to depict the traffic scenario in cartoon format.

Another piece of art that was pivotal in conveying the message of the exhibition was Nazia Andaleeb Preema's installation project "De Still". In this work of art, the predominant use of primary colours and the relationship between positive and negative elements in an arrangement of ten square forms create movement through illumination. The installation was set up as a reference to which is to generate movement and stillness at the same time. The artist expressed that through her installation, which consisted of traffic cones, LED illumination and wires with sound proponents, she "sought to express a new utopian ideal of spiritual harmony and order."

Prior to the exhibition a roundtable was conducted by IAC on "Awareness Building on Traffic Situation in Dhaka". The panel was formed of local art and culture luminaries and prominent figures from other fields. The session was open to all and attendees were able to share their views and recommendations as to abating the situation. The exhibition so far has been attended by interested city dwellers, art lovers and foreign dignitaries.

Art connoisseurs and enthusiasts alike can attend this exhibition from 12 pm to 8 pm every day until October 30 at the Institute of Art and Culture premises.

This exhibition has been able to further establish the significance of art in addressing key social issues and the contribution of the art community in their eradication.

Artist Proshanto Karmakar applied a graffiti style to acrylic on canvas media, formed through the imagery of a number of wheels. In his abstract work, Jamil Akbar Shamim used small references of vehicles and some text that reflect his impression of traffic and stillness, as if he were doodling on his canvas

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Beetle Baily

by Mort Walker

LISTEN TO HIM WHISTLE. NOBODY WHISTLES ANYMORE

YEAH, IT USED TO SHOW HOW HAPPY WE WERE

I'M HOME!

HAVE YOU BEEN DRINKING AGAIN?!

ICE CREAM

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Artists of Kalpotaru perform a group dance during a programme held at the Chhayanaout Sangskriti Bhaban, Dharmamandi in Dhaka, on October 17. This was the 20th instalment of "Nupur Beje Jaye", a monthly dance recital by Shadhona (A Centre for Advancement of South Asian Culture). The programme featured performances by Nrityashohi (Sylhet), Kalpotaru, Shanto-Mariam University of Creative Technology and Children's Theatre Art Academy.

Theatre troupe Prangane Mor staged its latest production "Aurangzeb" at National Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, on October 17. Written by Mohit Chattopadhyay, the play has been directed by Ananta Heera, who also dons the role of the protagonist. The play is a narration of history against the backdrop of contemporary socio-political changes.

Farooqi (left) and Tisha in Busan.

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