

WHAT'S ON

Celebrating Life 2012 Grand Finale
Highlight: Classical Music by Pt. Ajay Chakrabarti & Kausiki Desikan
Venue: Indoor Stadium, Mirpur
Date: November 2, Time: 6pm
(Don't miss out only)

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

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

Solo Art Exhibition
Artist: Tajuddin Ahmed
Venue: Venue: Institute of Art and Culture, B-1/A, H-2, Gulshan-1
Date: Oct 31-Nov 10
Time: 11am-7:30pm

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

Musical Soiree
Artist: Jayati Chakrabarti
Organizers: ICC & Bengal Foundation
Venue: Main Auditorium, Bangladesh National Museum, Shabbagh
Date: November 2, Time: 7pm

Solo Painting Exhibition
Title: Explore, Dream, Discover
Artist: Nisita Khatun
Venue: Bengal Art Lounge, 60, Gulshan Avenue, Circle-1
Date: Oct 13-25
Time: 12-8pm

Book Fair
Venue: Public Library Premises, Shabbagh
Date: Oct 17-23
Time: 11am-8pm

Ruhi: Unafraid of challenges

SHAH ALAM SHAZI
Ruhi launched her career in the media with ramp modelling, but has since shifted her attention to acting in movies. She is currently working in British filmmaker Mansur Ali's latest movie, the shooting for which began on October 8 at Sylhet's Jogonathpur and will continue till October 25.

Ruhi informs that the shooting for the first lot will be done by the 25th, while the rest of the movie will be shot at different locations after Eid. In the film, titled "Songram", Ruhi plays the role of a Hindu widow. The story revolves around the oppression of a Hindu family by the ruthless Pakistani army during the Liberation War.

The actress asserts that she is doing her best to portray the role. She also expresses the hope that the film will be noteworthy. Ruhi further informs that "Songram" will be released in 32 countries, including Bangladesh. It will also have dialogues in both Bengali and English. Ruhi claims that it is an international film.

Asked what makes the movie special, Ruhi says, "First of all it's a film on the Liberation War and it maintains international standards. My character is very challenging and it gave me a lot of scope to display my acting skills."

Ruhi has recently signed a Kolkata movie as well, titled "Glamour", to be directed by Mohua Chakrabarty. The pre-production for "Glamour" is already underway, while shooting will begin in Kolkata from December 10.

Ruhi says, "I thought I would make my debut with a Kolkata film. I also have another offer for a Kolkata movie, which is still to be finalised." She adds that currently all of her thoughts are occupied with acting in cinema. The future will reveal itself in time, Ruhi says.

One of the leading ramp models of the country, Ruhi has also appeared in several TV commercials as a model. Her first commercial was for Parachute Hair Oil, directed by Amitabh Reza. Later she also worked in TV commercials for Grameen Phone, Diamond World, Elite Paint, Moon Light, Hyundai Refrigerator, while her latest work was for Nova Television. Ruhi says she prefers to be selective about her modelling assignments, adding that she is okay with modelling for products that suit her taste.

Although she had not worked in many TV dramas, Ruhi's work in Giasuddin Selim's "Obogonthon" put her under the spotlight. Her portrayal of a rural married woman came as a surprise to many. On the character, Ruhi says, "It was a very challenging role. Many of my close friends and relatives could not recognise me when the drama was aired. The makeup and the costume totally changed my appearance."

Asked about her love for the silver screen, Ruhi promptly answers that she has always favoured working in films.



PHOTO COURTESY: TUHIN HOSSAIN

Abul Hussain to receive Shamsur Rahman Memorial Award

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Economics from Calcutta Presidency College and University.

The Shamsur Rahman Smriti Puroshkar (memorial award) 2012 will be conferred on veteran poet Abul Hussain. Professor Anisuzzaman, president of Shamsur Rahman Smriti Parishad, recently informed the poet about the award at his Dhanmondi residence in Dhaka.

On the occasion of the 83rd birth anniversary of Shamsur Rahman, Bangla Academy will organise the award giving ceremony tomorrow at the seminar room of the academy. Abul Hussain will receive Tk one lakh and a crest as part of the award. Prominent poets will recite poems and singers will perform at the programme.

Hussain was born at Doyara village, in Khulna district, in 1922. He grew up in Krihsnanagar and Calcutta (now Kolkata). He did his Honours and Masters in

poetry books include "Birosh Sanglap", "Shob Boshonto", "Hawa Tomar Ki Dushshahosh" and "Dushshapno Theke Dushshapno". The poet has been honoured with several awards, including Ekushey Padak, Bangla Academy Award, Padabali Award, Nasiruddin Gold Medal, Mazharul Islam Kobita Puroshkar and more.

Ila Mitra's 87th birth anniversary observed in Chapainawabganj

RABIUL HASAN, Chapainawabganj

The 87th birth anniversary of the leader of Nachole Uprising, Ila Mitra, was observed with much fanfare at Shaheed Satu Hall in Chapainawabganj town on Friday.

Jago Nari Banhi Shikha, a local organisation of women, held a discussion, rally and cultural programme featuring traditional Santal dance.

Faruka Begum, local leader, presided over the discussion while Professor Mesbah Kamal of Dhaka University was present as chief guest.

Among others, Professor Sultana Razia, principal of Chapainawabganj Government College; Dr. Ummei Salma Abdullah; Monwara Khatun; and Rabindranath Saren, president of Jatiya Adivasi Parishad's central committee spoke at the discussion.

Ila Mitra was born in Kolkata on October 18, 1925. Her forefathers hailed from Bagotia of Jhenaiddah. She began her political activities when she was a student at Bethun College in Kolkata.

In 1945, she married Ramendra Mitra, scion of the zamindar family of Chapainawabganj and an active member of Communist Party. She came to her husband's village home Krishnagobindapur in Chapainawabganj and became a teacher at the local girls' school. Later, Ila Mitra became a leader of the

local peasantry in their movement. She played a key role in the Nachole Uprising and the Santal Rebellion between 1946 and 1950. Police arrested her in 1950 while she was trying to escape and tortured her. She was sentenced to life imprisonment.

In 1954, she fell very sick in jail. The government sent her on parole to Kolkata for treatment. To avoid arrest, she did not return home. She became involved in politics in Kolkata. She died in Kolkata on October 13, 2002.

The speakers also discussed the sacrifices and role of indigenous people who were involved during the Nachole Uprising and Santal Rebellion with Ila Mitra.

Speakers expressed the view that while the Nachole uprising and Santal Rebellion led by Ila Mitra were mass upsurges against tyranny, the lesson learnt are invaluable. The history of the movement teaches us the lesson of speaking out against any kind of repression, they said.

After the discussion, indigenous men and women performed their traditional dances and songs.

Earlier, a procession was brought out from Shaheed Satu Hall premises and paraded different roads in town. At least 300 people including indigenous men and women with different traditional musical instruments participated in the rally.

Wahiduzzaman takes part at Int'l exhibition in Delhi

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Grand prize winner of 14th Asian Biennale, Mohammed Wahiduzzaman, has been invited to participate at a month-long international exhibition in Delhi. The exhibition was inaugurated on October 13. Under the title, "Tactile", the exhibition features latest works by artists from India, Germany, Sri Lanka and Pakistan. Two works from Wahiduzzaman's "Image+Experience=You" series are on display at the group exhibition.



Image+Experience=You

The theme 'tactile' explores the realm of senses to highlight perceptions, ideas and memories. The demonstration of tactility is thus significant to the artists as a mode of exchange.

The transcendence to new meanings plays a part to the arena of post-medium, which this exhibition displays.

The artists' connotative understandings are reflected in the artworks involved to evoke a unique combination between different mediums. The theme of Wahiduzzaman's "Image + Experience = You" is that of the gestation and connection of fantasy and reality.

Homeland angers minister over depiction of Beirut

A Lebanese minister has threatened to sue the makers of hit US TV series "Homeland" for misrepresenting Beirut in a recent episode of the show.

"Back to Beirut", the second episode in the new series of "Homeland" showed a terrorist meeting on Hamra Street - an apparent Hezbollah stronghold. The episode was actually shot in Israel.

Lebanese Tourism Minister Faddy Abboud said filming "did not depict reality".

"It was not filmed in Beirut and does not portray the real image of Beirut."

"It showed Hamra Street with militia roaming in it," he told the Associated Press, adding that the real Hamra Street was actually a popular neighbourhood of shops and cafes.

Abboud believes the depiction of the city could have a negative impact on tourism.

"This kind of film damages the image of Lebanon -- it is not fair to us and it is not true," he told Beirut's Executive magazine.

"We want to take action, we want to write to the filmmakers and producers and demand an apology. And we are planning to raise a lawsuit against the director and the producer."

Twentieth Century Fox, which produces the Emmy-winning US series, has declined to comment.

Abboud was also offended that filming for the episode, which is based on an Israeli series called "Hatufim" (Prisoners of War), took place in Israel rather than Beirut itself -- especially given the history between the two territories.

But filming in Beirut would have been difficult since Homeland's co-creator, Gideon Raff, is Israeli and Israel's citizens are barred from visiting the city.

Lebanon's leading LBC TV carried a report on the controversy on Thursday, saying the show disparaged Arabs and that its setting in Israel was "a double insult."

"Homeland", now in its second series, has proved a ratings success in the US, and has aired in more than 20 countries.

THEATRE Natya Teertha premieres Chalanbil



While the core aspect is tragedy, some important issues like folk culture, celebrations, communication system and way of life are introduced at times.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

During the colonial era, a severe recession hit the population of the greater Chalanbil area. History has it that that failing to meet the steep taxes to the East India Company, some zamindars (landlords) of the area took to robbery as their alternative occupation.

Theatre troupe Natya Teertha brings a new play, "Chalanbil", based on this dark chapter in history but in general the play is a socio-cultural representation of the lowland population. The play premiered at the Experimental Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shipakala Academy, on October 19. Written by Rabiul Alam, the play has

been directed by Tapan Hafiz. The playwright took elements from real life. He also borrowed references from two books written on the socio-cultural aspects of the lowlands.

Tragedy surpasses cultural identity in the play, as the story follows a young woman's painful fate. Haimabala, daughter of zamindar Satyendranath Sanyal, is married off to the highly educated Kashinath. As Sanyal takes to robbery as his alternative occupation, one night his men fail to recognise Haima and Kashinath and kill the latter while robbing the couple.

A distraught Haima tries to commit suicide by throwing herself into the water, but somehow, a family saves her and gives her shelter. Her

enraged father wants her back at home but the dejected Haima prefers to lead a more honest life. While the core aspect is tragedy, some important issues like folk culture, celebrations, communication system and way of life are introduced at times.

A group of young actors including Mahmudur Rahman, Sadia Islam, Ismail Ahmed, Md. Rafiqul Islam, Moushum Parveen, Abdullah Heera and Nurjahan Rahman performed in the play.

Experienced designer Faiz Zahir did the set and light, while Parimal Majumdar directed the music, incorporating traditional songs from the northern locality.

CELEBRATING LIFE 2012



GALA NIGHT & Award Giving Ceremony

6:00 pm 2nd November (Friday), 2012 Shaheed Suhrawardy Indoor Stadium, Mirpur Entry is free with card!

Collect your entry card from The Daily Star Centre (11am-6pm) 64-65 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1215 Look for Zia Nazmul if any inquiries

Beetle Baily by Mort Walker



Henry by Don Trachte

