

WHAT'S ON

Group Painting Exhibition

Title: Human Being for Humanity

Venue: Gallery Chitrak, H-4, R-6, Dhanmondi

Date: June 8-12

Time: 10am-8pm



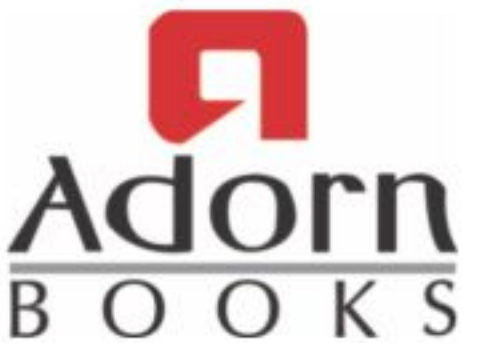
Book Fair

Organiser: Adorn Publication

Venue: Seminar Room, Central Public Library, Shahbagh

Date: June 1-15

Time: 9am-8pm



Group Print Exhibition

Title: Awakening

Venue: Bengal Shilpalaya, H-42, Rd-16 (New), Dhanmondi

Date: June 8-19

Time: 12-8pm



Solo Drawing Exhibition

Artist: Mainuddin

Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, H-60, R-7/A, Dhanmondi

Date: May 31-June 12

Time: 3pm-8pm



Theatre


Play: Shesh Shonglap

Troupe: Shomoy Natyadal

Venue: National Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy

Date: June 16

Time: 7pm



The sporting actor

Saga of Nature

Getting to know Liza

Art exhibition of Warrior Rahman Sami



PHOTO: ATL AAKASH

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Liza was a music buff from a very early age, but had her first share of stardom after winning the 2008 edition of Closeup 1. After that, there was no turning back for the singer, who recently spared some time from her busy schedule for a one-on-one with The Daily Star.

Tell us about your new album.
Liza: I'm working on my second solo album, the name of which is still undecided. There will be nine songs in total, including a couple of commercial songs. Most of the songs are soft melodies.

You recently did a live show abroad. Tell us about it.
Liza: I recently went to London to perform. During my 13-day stay, I did two live shows. SI Tutul, Kona and I went from Bangladesh, while Bappi Lahiri from India performed at the show.

Are you busy with stage shows in the country as well?
Liza: I prefer doing less live shows, never exceeding three or four shows a month. I have to spend a lot of time on my studies.

Have you worked in playback?
Liza: So far, I've done playbacks in five or six films. I recently sang two songs for the film "Sholo Ana Prem". Shafiq Tuhin and Rajib accompanied me in the two songs.

Who was the most excited when you signed up for Closeup 1?
Liza: My father. I took singing casually and never expected such a big surprise. But my father always wanted me to come to limelight. I registered in the competition just for his sake.

Can you share any secret dream of yours?
Liza: I want to do something for the development of Sangeet Niketan in Mymensingh's Gouripur. Facilities available over there are scanty, as the place is located in a remote place-- far from the city. I hope to contribute to the school's development in the future.

You are also busy hosting shows?
Liza: The proposal to host a music show for SA TV came out of the blue. I never planned on this. But after it was aired, people have been praising my performance.

You are also a sportsperson?
Liza: Yes, I play badminton. I even won silver in the National level. I was also the champion, while playing for the greater Mymensingh team. I'll start practicing again before winter, and participate in next year's National Badminton competition.

FAYZA HAQ

Warrior Rahman Sami hopes to go to China on a Chinese government scholarship for three years. He has already taken part in a group show in Beijing where he exhibited scenes from Bangladesh and China along with other young artists from Bangladesh. Hamiduzzaman Khan, the renowned sculptor-painter inaugurated Sami's exhibition at Shilpangan. The eight day event ends on June 16.

The paintings are mostly in water-colour, a popular medium in both Bangladesh and China. The collection includes one large oil, with fishing nets, boats, water reflecting hyacinths and gathering clouds in the sky.

There are trees and human beings in his painting of "Panamnagar." One can see the arches, pillars, balconies and steps that speak of an age old civilisation. Sami has painted Old Dhaka too, but the subject is not in this collection.

Asked what he had chosen for his first exhibit, he said that he had selected the scenes from the villages, and opted for boats in the river. Sami said that he used mostly blue, in harmony with black. In one of his water-colour paintings we see orange blossoms, as in Chinese and Japanese paintings and prints. There is a sun image in the painting which cuts through the morning fog. In another piece he has brought in a scene of heavy rain--where everyone uses an umbrella for protection, But this is



A painting by Warrior Rahman Sami.

not his interpretation of "Kalboishaki". The raining each day is part of Bangladeshi life and living. On top there are washes of gray and black. The painting is sketched mostly on gray and green paper. The right side of the water-colour is left pale.

Another piece brings in train tracks, with people walking in "lungi" and "sari". The houses with tin sheds and little tea-stalls are a part of our village culture, says Sami. At the back are clumps of trees and the train line and electric poles in front of the composition. Another piece depicts "Luter Char", not far from Dhaka. Trees and bushes add to the lustre of the thatched huts.

The different shades of emerald and jade have seeped into the paper.

Boats in a cloudy, and lonely environment are often seen in Bangladesh, says the artist about his next work. Some trees and bushes are included in the work. In the delineation of the bull, struggling to be free of the farmer who tries to get a firm grip on it is symbolic of rebellion. In a foggy morning the artist depicts an old woman taking out her goats and children for a walk. All along the pathway are tall trees, done with gray-green washes.

Sami is a BFA drawing and painting student of the University of Development Alternative UODA at, Dhaka. He has attended three workshops and many art camps. He has participated in many joint ventures, among them two in Beijing.

BACHCHAN GOES FICTIONAL

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, *New Delhi*

Age does not wear down or deter Bollywood veteran Amitabh Bachchan when it comes to experimenting with his career as an actor as also a co-producer.

And he is all set to tread into an unexplored territory: he will be making his debut as actor in a fiction show on the Sony channel. His decades of experience on the big screen and huge popularity notwithstanding, Bachchan, 71, is anxious about his TV debut with the fiction series directed by Anurag Kashyap.

"Whenever we do something different, there is always pressure, anxiety and danger. We are scared of expectations", said the 71-year-old actor who had made his small screen

debut 15 years ago with a hugely popular game-show "Kaun Banega Crorepati" on Sony.

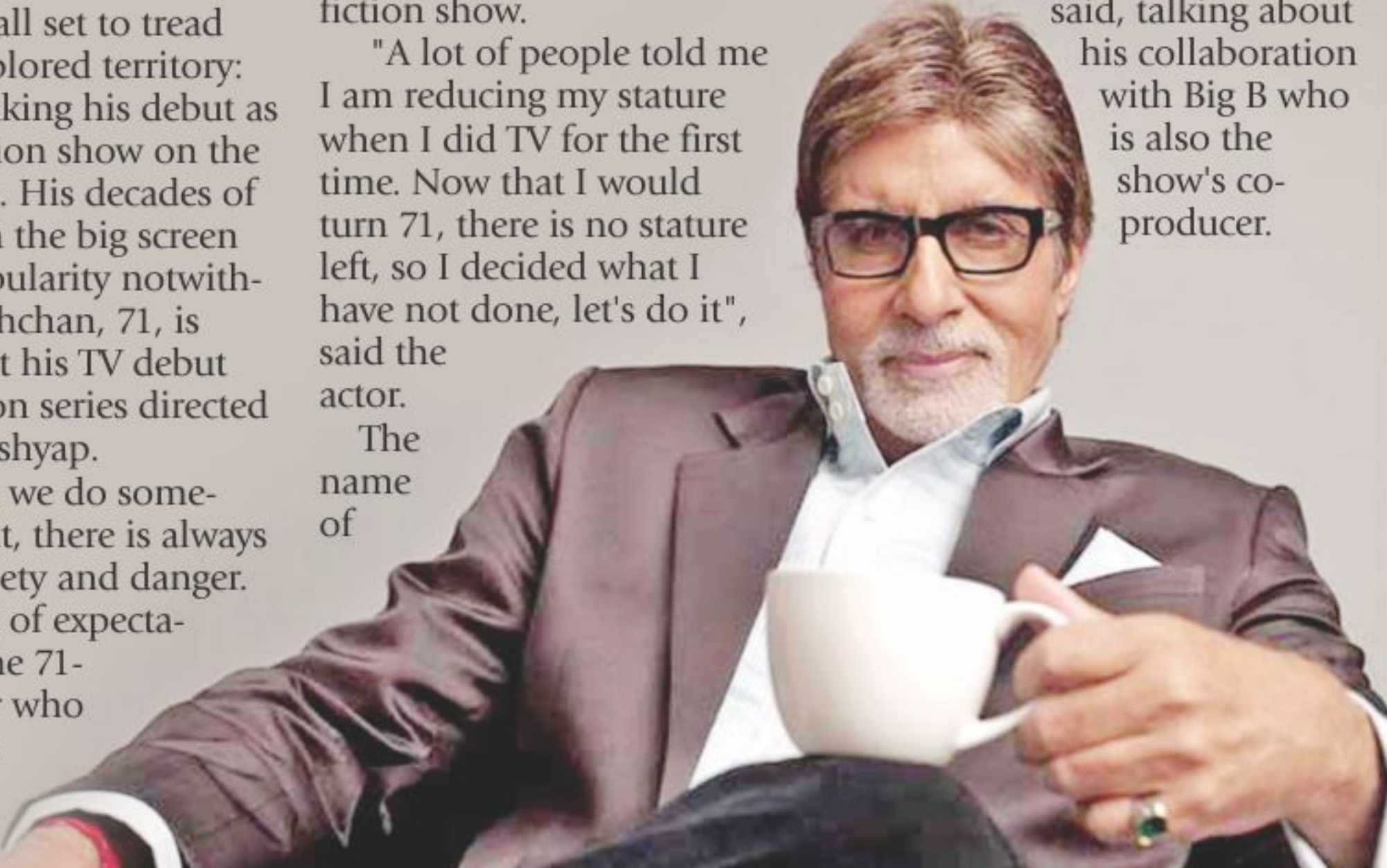
Asked what prompted him to do a fiction show on TV, he told reporters that "I was looking to do something different on TV. I was keen on doing a fiction show.

"A lot of people told me I am reducing my stature when I did TV for the first time. Now that I would turn 71, there is no stature left, so I decided what I have not done, let's do it", said the actor.

The name of

the fiction show has not yet been decided but is said to be on social issues.

Kashyap says Bachchan is very demanding when it comes to work. "If he has decided to do something, then he is behind it. He will ask many questions," Kashyap said, talking about his collaboration with Big B who is also the show's co-producer.



Daniel Day-Lewis: The Total Actor

SYED MAQSUD JAMIL

Daniel Day-Lewis, British-Irish actor, has reached new heights with his third Oscar Award for Best Actor, this time in Spielberg's recent movie "Lincoln". His realistic portrayal of Lincoln brought him worldwide acclaim. He won his first Oscar Award for Jim Sheridan's movie "My Left Foot" in 1989, seven years into his acting career. The second Oscar Award for Best Actor came in 2007 for Paul Thomas Anderson's movie "There Will Be Blood". In 2013, "Lincoln" made it three.

Daniel was born in Greenwich, England in 1957 to illustrious parents Cecil Day-Lewis -- the British poet laureate -- and Jill Balcon. He went to a boarding school where he developed a passion for acting and also thought of becoming a furniture maker. He drifted for some time in labouring jobs but ultimately settled on acting.

Daniel's acting talent drew attention in 1982 when he appeared on the London stage with popular drama "Another Country". Two diverse exposures followed in films "My Beautiful Laundrette" as a gay punk and as a priggish Edwardian suitor in the James-Ivory production "A Room with a View". Within a few years, the Oscar Award for Best Actor came in 1989 for Jim Sheridan's "My Left Foot".



He was warrior Hawkeye, a Red Indian in Michael Mann's "The Last of the Mohicans" in 1992. He acted in two other Jim Sheridan movies: "In the Name of the Father" (1993) and "The Boxer" (1997).

In 2002 came Martin Scorsese's "Gangs of New York" and Daniel's blood-curdling performance as Bill 'The Butcher' put him in a class apart. Rebecca Miller -- his wife -- directed him as a dying environmentalist writer in "The Ballad of Jack and Rose" in 2005. The explosive intensity of Daniel's transformation into what the character demanded brought him more

acclaim in "There Will Be Blood" in 2007. His chilling performance as the brutal and greedy oilman Daniel Plainview brought him the second Oscar Award.

Daniel is distinctive for his unrelenting focus on immersing himself totally into the demands of the character. It is the highest commitment of a total actor. Such commitment is powered by integrity.

In the movie "My Left Foot", an adaptation of a true story, he played the role of spastic quadriplegic writer Christy Brown. During the shooting, the director rolled him on to the set in a wheelchair. He was

fed by those on the set. Sometimes, his voice was unintelligible. He wanted it that way, for Christy Brown learnt to mumble out his words with great difficulty from a speech therapist.

In "Gangs of New York", Daniel used to sharpen knives during shooting breaks. Michael Mann, director of "The Last of the Mohicans" recalls how Daniel prepared for the role of noble Indian Hawkeye in the vast wilderness of Alabama. In "There Will Be Blood", Paul Dano played the role of an inexperienced young priest against a brutal greedy oilman possessed by ambition -- played by Daniel. He was cautiously formal with Daniel because of the many morbid indignities he would suffer at his hands in the movie, and knowing how committed he was to the role.

In "Lincoln", he addressed his fellow artistes by the name of the characters they played, and always arrived on set fully dressed in character. Daniel has a rich sonorous voice while Lincoln had a reedy cracked voice. Daniel persevered to modulate his voice to that of Lincoln. In the movie, he sounded and moved around conveying the impression that Lincoln has been resurrected. That is the mark of a great actor; a total actor.

The writer is a movie buff.

A Repertoire of Nazrul's Classics

Shakil's Benuka launched at Bengal Shilpalaya

ZAHANGIR ALOM

Bengal Shilpalaya observed National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam's 114th birth anniversary with the launch of a Nazrul Sangeet album titled "Benuka". Noted Nazrul Sangeet artiste and general secretary of Chhayanaut Khairul Anam Shakil has recorded 12 tracks for the album. Eminent Nazrul Sangeet exponent Sudhin Das accompanied by the featured artiste and director general of Bengal Foundation Luva Nahid Chowdhury unveiled the album at the event.

While delivering the welcome address, Luva Nahid Chowdhury informed music aficionados of the upcoming second Bengal- ITC SRA Classical Music Festival scheduled to set off on November 28 this year. The audience was only too delighted at the announcement.

Unveiling the album, Sudhin Das said, "Exploiting



Khairul Anam Shakil sings at the soiree.

Nazrul's illness in 1942, some vested interest quarters in then West Bengal (India) reaped benefits of *Swaralipi* by distorting Nazrul's compositions. They paid no heed to our frequent pleas to end such underhand actions. I along with Talim Hossain of Nazrul Academy took the initiative to formulate *Swaralipi* of Nazrul Sangeet for the first time. Bengal Foundation has so far produced many albums of Nazrul Sangeet. I think there are no hindrances to practicing the genre in our country. Yet, some ignorant people say that Nazrul Sangeet has become archaic and lost its appeal in rendition. I urge you all to practice Nazrul Sangeet, maintain proper notations and inspire forthcoming generations to do likewise."


Following the launch, Khairul Anam Shakil performed tracks from the album, his favourite numbers and songs on request from the audience at the programme. Shakil rendered ghazal, kabya-geeti, shyama sangeet, Islami gaan and raga-based Nazrul Sangeet.

The singer started off with the familiar Nazrul classic, "Tomar Aa(n)khir Moto Akasher Duti Tara". The artiste's presentation of a Khamaj genre "Musafir Mochhrey Aa(n)khi Jal" moved the audience.

Shakil's rendition of a ghazal "Keno Dile E Kanta", a mingling of Raga Raga "Behag" and "Khamaj", seemed an apt musical height. He also offered another ghazal "Pashaner Bhangali Ghum" on audience request. Later, he rendered one of his favourite covers "Abar Bhalobashar Sadh Jagey". Shakil showed his musical prowess with a Raga based classic "Ore Nishith Samadhi Bhangiyon Na" (Darbari Kanara) while he inspired the devotional Rasa in his rendition of the song "Ogo Antorjami Bhokter Tabo".

Accomplished instrumentalists Asit Biswas (on esraj), Roptanu (key board), Enamul Haque Omar (tabla) and Pradip Roy (percussion) accompanied the singer.

Bengal Foundation has worked ceaselessly over the last few decades to promote traditional Bangla songs. Besides producing albums, the organisation also arranges regular musical programmes and festivals throughout the year as well as on special occasions.



DS CAFÉ

Popular TV actor **Hasan Masood** is the featured celebrity of this month at DS Café. He will be on the hot seat and take your calls at The Daily Star Centre on June 10, between 4 and 5pm. Readers, fire away all your questions at him! The best question will be highlighted in the transcription. Call 01711623915, 01711623917 to speak to Hasan Masood.

IT'S TRUE!

Paul Schrader wrote the all-time classic film "Taxi Driver" at the age of 26, when he was destitute and in a particular low of his life -- in five days. It is rumoured he had a loaded gun by his desk for "inspiration and motivation". The Martin Scorsese film starring Robert De Niro and Jodie Foster went on to win the Palme d'Or at the 1976 Cannes, got four Oscar nods and won three BAFTAs.

