**Book Launch** Book: Abhinetar Rangamancho (Featuring Life and Works of Ferdausi Majumdar) Venue: National Theatre Hall Shilpakala academy Date: June 19; Time: 7pm







**Group Print Exhibition** Title: Awakening Venue: Bengal Shilpalava. H-42, Rd-16 (New),





Theatre Play: Shesh Shonglap Troupe: Shomoy Natyadal Venue: National Theatre Hall



# bytes

Schwarzenegger back as

**Terminator** 



Earlier this week, there was word that Paramount is in talks to secure the distribution rights for "Terminator 5", and now there's further good news for fans of the series, with Arnold Schwarzenegger confirming his on-screen return. Speaking to fan-site TheArnoldFans, the star revealed that he would be appearing in the fifth film, and that production is set to begin at the beginning of next year.

"I'm very happy that the studios want me to be in Terminator 5 and to star as the Terminator," confirmed Schwarzenegger. "We start shooting in January."

Actor Amjad Khan was

'Sholay' (1975) because

scriptwriter Javed Akhtar

found his voice weak for

almost dropped from

Gabbar Singh's role.

Danny Denzogpa was

approached for that role

initially. Needless to say,

his portrayal of Gabbar is

considered by many to be

the first depiction of pure

evil on the screen in

the cast boasting

Indian Cinema. In an

all-time classic film with

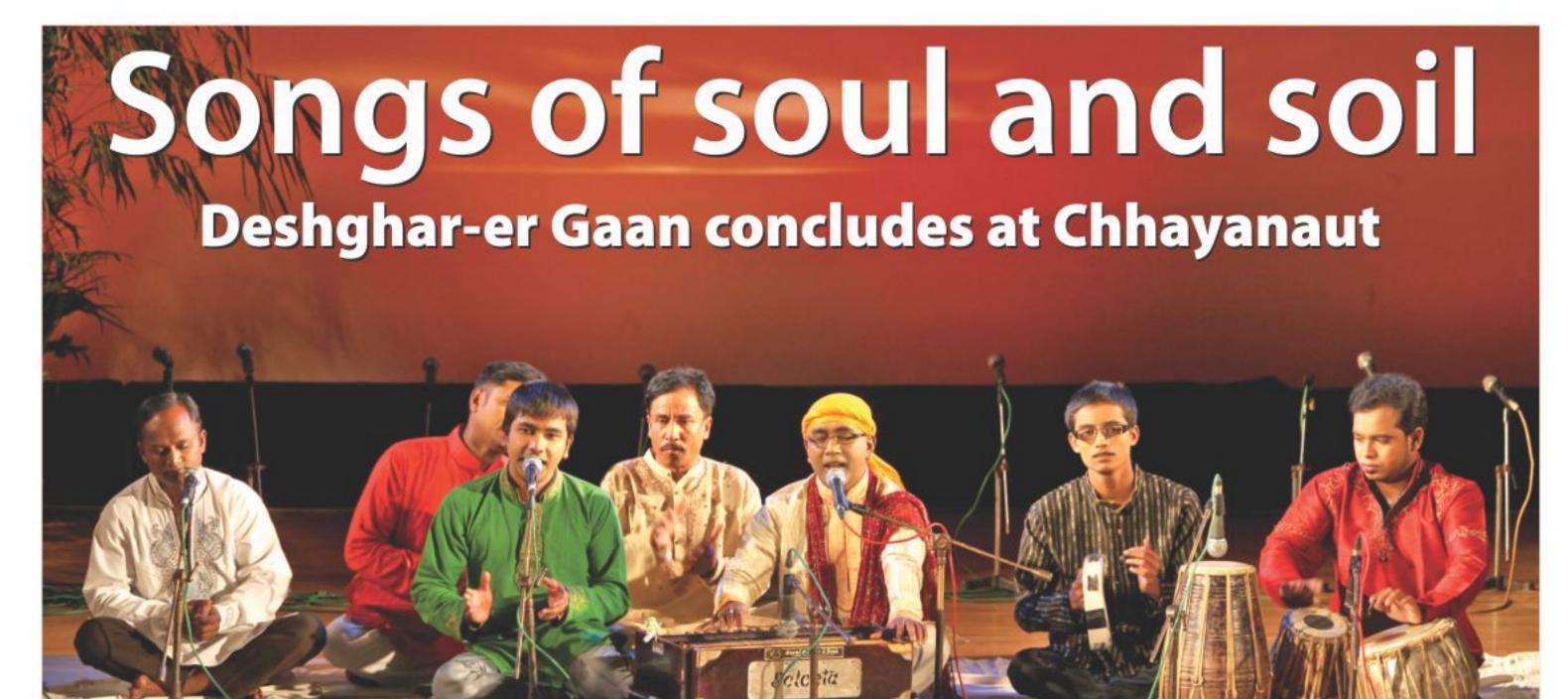
Amitabh, Dharmendra

Amjad stole the thunder

with his unorthodox and

eerie dialogue delivery.

and Sanjeev Kapoor,



Shimul Sheel (3-R) leads a Maijbhandari chorus.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A two daylong folk musical programme titled "Deshghar-er Gaan" wrapped up at the main auditorium of Chhayanaut Shangskriti Bhaban yesterday. As a tribute to eminent cultural activist and Tagore exponent Waheedul Haq -- a driving force behind the nationalist cultural movement for decades --Chhayanaut has been holding the event for the last seven years. Waheedul Haque believed that it would not be possible to form a complete impression of our culture, divorced from our heritage. Upholding the ideal, Chhayanaut has been arranging this programme highlighting various forms of folk songs practiced in different parts of the country.

Veteran cultural personality Md. Hashem inaugurated the event, featuring several folk music genres from across the country. Chhayanaut general secretary Khairul Anam Shakil also spoke at the event presided over by Dr. Sarwar Ali, Vice-president of the organisation. On the opening day (June 13), individual artistes and troupes including an indigenous Oraon troupe performed Baroshia Gaan, Bhandari Gaan, Padabali Pala Kirtan, Hason Rajar Gaan and Biyae and Karam Dance (Oraon).

Malay Chakrabarty Raju and Urmi Das from Sunamganj set off the event with several Hason Raja compositions including "Apemike Gaan Amar Shunbe Na" and "Nesha Lagilo Rey" while Kazi Bachchu and his troupe from Rajshahi presented Baroshia Gaan. Baroshia Gaan refers to perennial song of joys and sorrows of life. Capturing village stories, the genre depicts extreme pain smattering of wit. Baroshia has a similarity with bhawaiya with regard to expressing pain and pathos in the songs sung by women.

Shimul Sheel and his troupe from Chittagong enthralled the audience with spirited offerings of Maijbhandari songs. Shimul Sheel, a grandson of noted mystic bard Ramesh Sheel of Fatikchhari, Chittagong, led a vibrant chorus "Aajob Shane Kheley". The troupe basically performed Bhandari numbers composed by Ramesh

Sheel and Abdul Gafur Hali.

Shimul Sheel was on a musical high while making the packed audience sway to his rendition of Ramesh Sheel songs "Ishkul Khuilachhey Rey Mawla" and "Gausul Azam Baba Noor-e Alam" and a Gafur Hali number "Kashther Upor Chamra Diya Ke Banailo Dhol". Mridul Sheel and Jasim Uddin of the troupe also performed solos of Bhandari

PHOTO: RIDWAN ADID RUPON

Oraon troupe came next to showcase their traditional Karam and marital dance at the event. Mangal Chandra Mandal from Faridpur led his troupe in presenting Padabali Pala Kirtan on the opening day.

Baul Sunil Karmakar and Baul Sirajuddin Khan Pathan from Mymensingh performed Maaljora Gaan while Masum Chowdhury and his troupe from Laxmipur staged Roopban Jatra on the concluding day (June 14) of the programme.

Mobile phone operator Grameenphone and Square Group have assisted in the programme with Maasranga Television as media partner.

## Shahid Qadri gets Mazharul Islam Poetry Award

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Shahid Qadri -- considered one of the leading contemporary Bengali poets -- has received the Mazharul Islam Kobita Puroshkar (poetry award) 2012. The award was conferred on Qadri on June 12 at Poet Shamsur Rahman Seminar Hall, Bangla Academy in the city.

Bangla Academy confers the award in memory of its first director general, noted poet and folklorist Dr. Mazharul Islam.

On behalf of the poet, Professor Kaiser Haq (a close relative of Qadri) of Dhaka University received the award. Shahid Qadri, who lives in the USA, could not attend the ceremony due to ill health.

Professor Emeritus Anisuzzaman, president of Bangla Academy presided over the programme. Shamsuzzaman Khan, director general of the academy and Professor Mahmuda Islam, on behalf of Mazharul Islam's family, spoke on the occasion.

Haq received the award, a crest and a cheque worth Taka one lakh from Professor Anisuzzaman and Shamsuzzaman Khan. Anisuzzaman said, "Mazharul Islam made a significant

contribution to society as a poet, teacher and devoted organiser. He would always be remembered for his contribution to the field of folklore research.

Qadri's poems highlight our urban, contemporary life and our history of struggle. His verses are always refreshing." Earlier, poets Abul Hossain and Syed Shamsul Haq

received the awards in 2010 and 2011 respectively. Qadri was born in 1942. He brought in a touch of fresh air in the realm of Bengali poetry by introducing urbanism and a sense of modernity. His poetry is imbued with patri-

otism, cosmopolitanism and universalism. His books include "Uttaradhikar", "Tomake Abhibadan Priyotoma", "Prem Biraha Bhalobasar Kabita", "Kothayo Kono

Krondon Nai" and "Aamar Chumbongullo Pouchhaya Dio".

#### Surupa Dhar Apu wants to scale

greater heights

AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh

Surupa Dhar Apu, a dedicated Nazrul artiste, wants to go further in the classical music world by taking lessons from eminent classical maestros of the country.

"The depth of Nazrul Sangeet charms me. It is a masterful art, and a lot of hard work goes into learning Nazrul songs," says Surupa. Brought up in a music environment, Surupa took

taleem on different ragas from her father and classical artiste Jagadananda Barua, the founding president of Bangladesh Dhruba Parishad -- a forum of classical mas-

Surupa passed every stage of Bangladesh Dhruba Parishad in her student life. "I participate in the national level Nazrul celebrations at Darirampur in Trishal here every year. This year, I also joined choruses scheduled to be performed by artistes of Bangladesh Nazrul Sangeet Shilpi Parishad," she adds.

A regular artiste of Bangladesh Betar and Bangladesh Television, Surupa also took lessons under the tutelage Sudhin Das.

"The practice of classical music is on the wane in the country as the younger generation is addicted to Western culture," says Surupa. The paucity of classical masters is also another problem in teaching children classical music, says the artiste. "Classical music competitions should be organised regularly at the district levels to attract young



## Prakriti Gallery

### hosts charity auction

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prakriti Gallery of Art and Photography are hosting a two-day silent charity auction, to help the families of the victims of the tragic Rana Plaza collapse. Artworks by noted artists Mohammad Kibria, Jogen Chowdhury, Shahabuddin, Sunil Das, Shyamal Dutta Roy, Hashem Khan and Monirul Islam will be up for sale, alongside antiques, art objects and some household goods and decoration pieces.

In the auction -- claimed by organisers to be the first of its kind in the country, interested participants will place written bids for the item of their choice, and the highest bidder will take it home.

The gallery will donate the entire commission from the auction to the welfare of the affected families of the tragedy.

The auction -- being held at House 29, Road 12, Sector 4, Uttara -- ends at 4pm today.

#### Spontaneous acoustic delight Musical adda at Daily Star Café



Good music doesn't need a setting; it creates its ambience.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Music unequivocally mesmerises music aficionados. An impromptu and informal musical adda can go even further with its spontaneity and verve. An adda on these lines was recently held at Daily Star Café, where my Guruji Aloke Kumar Sen along with his Guru Anil Kumar Saha came visiting to invite us to the latter's latest album launch titled "Chandra Chakor".

Executive Editor, Syed Badrul Ahsan and others joined us over coffee. Aloke Sen set off the musical adda with a ghazal "Hum Tere Sheher Mein Aayen Hain Musafir Ki Tarha", originally recorded by Ghulam Ali. Though Sen's forte is Hindustani classical music, he renders ghazals with expertise -- in this instance winning exuberant appreciation from the small crowd.

Soon after, music lovers Sadya Afreen Mallick, (Editor Arts and Entertainment), Selim SH Chowdhury (General Manager,

Production and Event), Rafi Hossain (Star Insight Editor), Shayera Moula and Sadia Khalid (Sub-Editors) joined the session.

On a request from Syed Ahsan, Sen rendered the romantic song "Pyar Bhare Do Sharmeele Nain", originally recorded by Mehdi Hassan. The artiste also performed another Mehdi Hassan cover "Kya Tuta Hain Andar Andar" and wrapped up with a Ghulam Ali record "Chamakte Chand Ko Tuta Huya Tara Bana Dala".

"In an unplugged session, one can improvise melody and get completely transported to a melodic realm. The instant response inspires me a lot," said Aloke Sen.

Ustad Anil Kumar Saha performed "Bashi Bajey Jogiaye Jamini Holo Je Bhor", set on Raga "Jogia".

Star Arts and Entertainment organises a bi-monthly live musical programme titled "Daily Star Melodies", where musicians and dancers give informal performances and build bridges with readers.

## Spielberg, Lucas predict 'meltdown' of film industry

Two of the biggest names of Hollywood -- directors Steven Spielberg and George Lucas -- are warning that the US film industry is in danger of "meltdown".

They say it will become increasingly difficult for them to get smaller films into theatres because Hollywood is relying on big budget releases. In a speech reported by the

Hollywood Reporter, Spielberg said "Lincoln" was nearly made for TV network HBO because of struggles getting it in cinemas. "The pathway to get into

theatres is getting smaller and smaller," he said.

"You're gonna have to pay \$25 for the next Iron Man, you're probably only going to have to pay \$7 to see Lincoln."

George Lucas added that he could see a model similar to theatre pricing, where fewer films were released, they stayed longer in the cinema (up to a year) and ticket prices increased depending



Long-time friends: Lucas and Spielberg.

on the film.

In an interview with Newsbeat, the president of the Film Distributors' Association -- which represents the UK distribution arms of Hollywood studios --Lord David Puttnam, agreed that

change was needed.

He said: "Every film has its own marketing challenge and to try to pretend that one size fits all, in any aspect of marketing, be it the poster, be it the media buy and be it the window, is flying in

the face of reality."

Lord Puttnam says the film industry should "not place artificial barriers between a film and its audience" and said some of the current methods were "not sustainable".

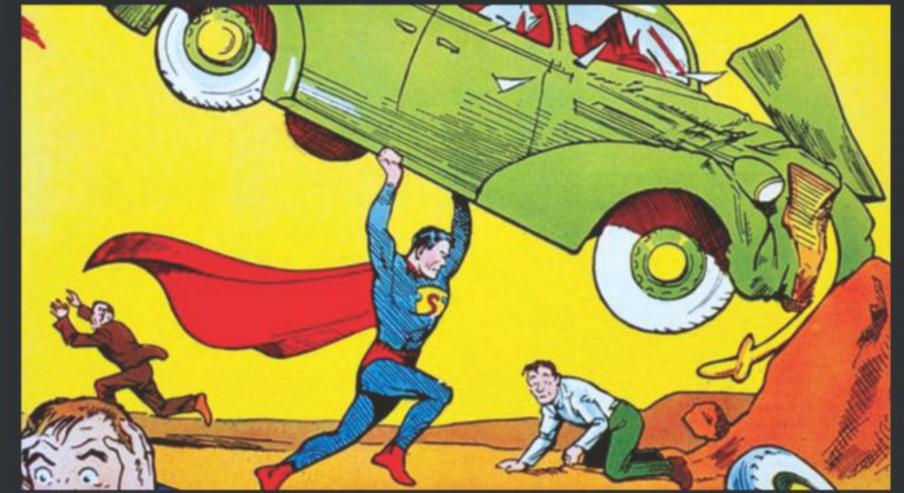
He added: "The film industry shouldn't have rules which by their very nature disadvantage individual product in individual movies.

"The whole point is to optimize the revenue of that particular movie and to somehow allow film X to suffer because films Y and Z have got a particular window just doesn't make a lot of sense.

"Our job is to satisfy the customers. I think a perfectly legitimate requirement is that they can see the film that they want to see and where they want to see it."

............... Source: BBC

Rare Superman pictures fetch \$175,000



A comic containing the first pictures of Superman -- from 1938 -- has been sold for \$175,000 at auction in the US. The rare copy, found being used as insulation in a wall at a home in Minnesota, was discovered by a building contractor. In mint condition, the comic could have fetched \$3m but the back cover was accidentally torn. PHOTO COURTESY: GUARDIAN UK