

WHAT'S ON

20th National Art Exhibition
Organiser: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Venue: National Art Gallery, Shilpakala Academy
Date: June 22-July 12
Time: 11am-8pm

Ajit Roy's Birthday Celebration

Venue: National Music & Dance Centre Auditorium, Shilpakala Academy
Date: June 29

Group Exhibition
Marking Ten-Year Journey of Galleri Kaya
Title: Glimpses
Venue: H-20, Rd-16, Sec-4, Uttara
Date: June 21-July 20
Time: 11am-7:30pm

Print Exhibition
Artist: Biren Shome
Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, Dhanmondi
Date: June 28-July 24
Time: 3pm-8pm

Painting Exhibition
Title: Book is Light
Artist: Proshanta Karmakar
Venue: Café Gallery, R-72, H-3A, Gulshan-2
Date: June 1-July 24
Time: 10am-10pm

NEWSbytes

Daft Punk single sales hits 1 million

Daft Punk's "Get Lucky" has become the first single released in 2013 to reach one million sales in the UK. The achievement makes it the biggest-selling single of 2013 so far and has reached the milestone 69 days after going on sale. The French duo is only the second French act to ever achieve a million-selling single in the UK. The achievement comes a few weeks after David Guetta was the first with his song "Titanium". However, "Get Lucky" managed the success in 69 days, while "Titanium" took 79 weeks. It is the lead single from Daft Punk's fourth studio album "Random Access Memories".

Source: BBC

Man and Nature

SHAMSUL WARES

In the solo exhibition of prints and water colour in 1985, Biren Shome provided an insight into the endless nature where man was only an integral part. This was possible for his deep concern and preoccupation with nature enhanced by his official governmental job where he was required to record details of various vegetal forms. In his water colour exhibition of 2003, he was able to transcend mundane experience into a colourful perceptive world that directly touched the spirit of the audience. His ability to distill atmosphere and filter sun through quick strokes of water colour was evident in his landscape of Bangladesh, ruins of Panamnagar and streets of Old Dhaka. In the solo exhibition of 2005 he produced a number of abstract paintings in pure colour fractured by light, which virtually eliminated all recognizable vestiges of the observed world. He abandoned even the pretence of subject creating an abstract world of vibrating colour forms with pure musical sensations. In these paintings (acrylic) the colour composition varies from monochrome to contrasts creating dynamic interaction of colour harmonies. In the solo exhibition of 2009, he had approached his works with great humanitarian commitment by depicting the Language Movement and the Liberation War. This year in January, he exhibited large acrylic paintings full of colour power, absorbing craftsmanship and meticulous composition. Biren Shome's solo art exhibition is now on at Dhaka Art Centre in Dhanmondi.



The prints not only showcase Biren Shome's pursuit of his passion for man and nature, but also document his emotional development over the decades.



The present exhibition is rather a collection of small size prints using various technical methods created over a period of not less than five decades. These assorted prints, mostly black and white, not only showcase Biren's pursuit of his passion for man and nature but also document his emotional development over the period. Biren's desire for a harmonious world for coexistence of all flora and fauna goes beyond the simple desire for an egalitarian society. This way he connects himself with the eleventh century poet Kalidas, whose concept of a "Topobon",

an ecological forest for peaceful co-existence of all living creatures, was realized by the catalytic effort of Shakuntala. Although his works are diverse, Biren seems to be working again and again on the same theme, as if the flowers, animals, birds and the female faces in his prints are a manifestation of the same eternal order or truth. Biren's works make us emotionally involved and sensitive of the world in which we live. The exhibition will continue till July 24.

The writer is an eminent architect and art critic.

Draw for youth Celebrating Life goes to Shanto-Mariam

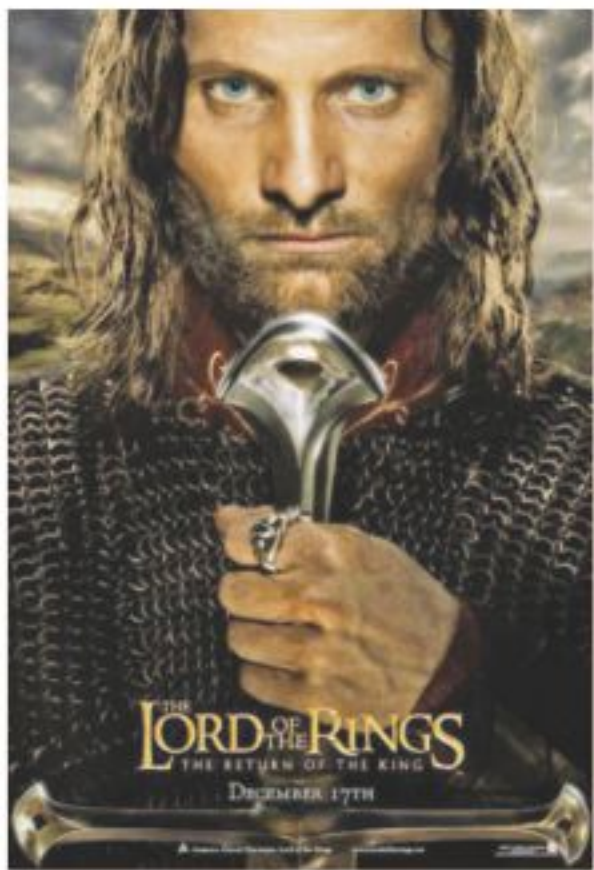
SADIA KHALID

The Daily Star- Standard Chartered Bank's "Celebrating Life" event spawned a three-day photography exhibition and film screening session from June 26-28 at Shanto Mariam University of Creative Technology (SMUCT). The films were the outcome of last year's Celebrating Life Film-making workshop and the photographs exhibited were from the Celebrating Life Photography Competition, 2012. SMUCT Director of Planning and Development, Rafique Siddiqui, inaugurated the event at SMUCT Creative Gallery. The large hall where films were screened and photographs were exhibited was full to the brim with enthusiastic students. They not only watched the shows attentively, but also stayed behind after the show to ask the Celebrating Life representatives about how they could be



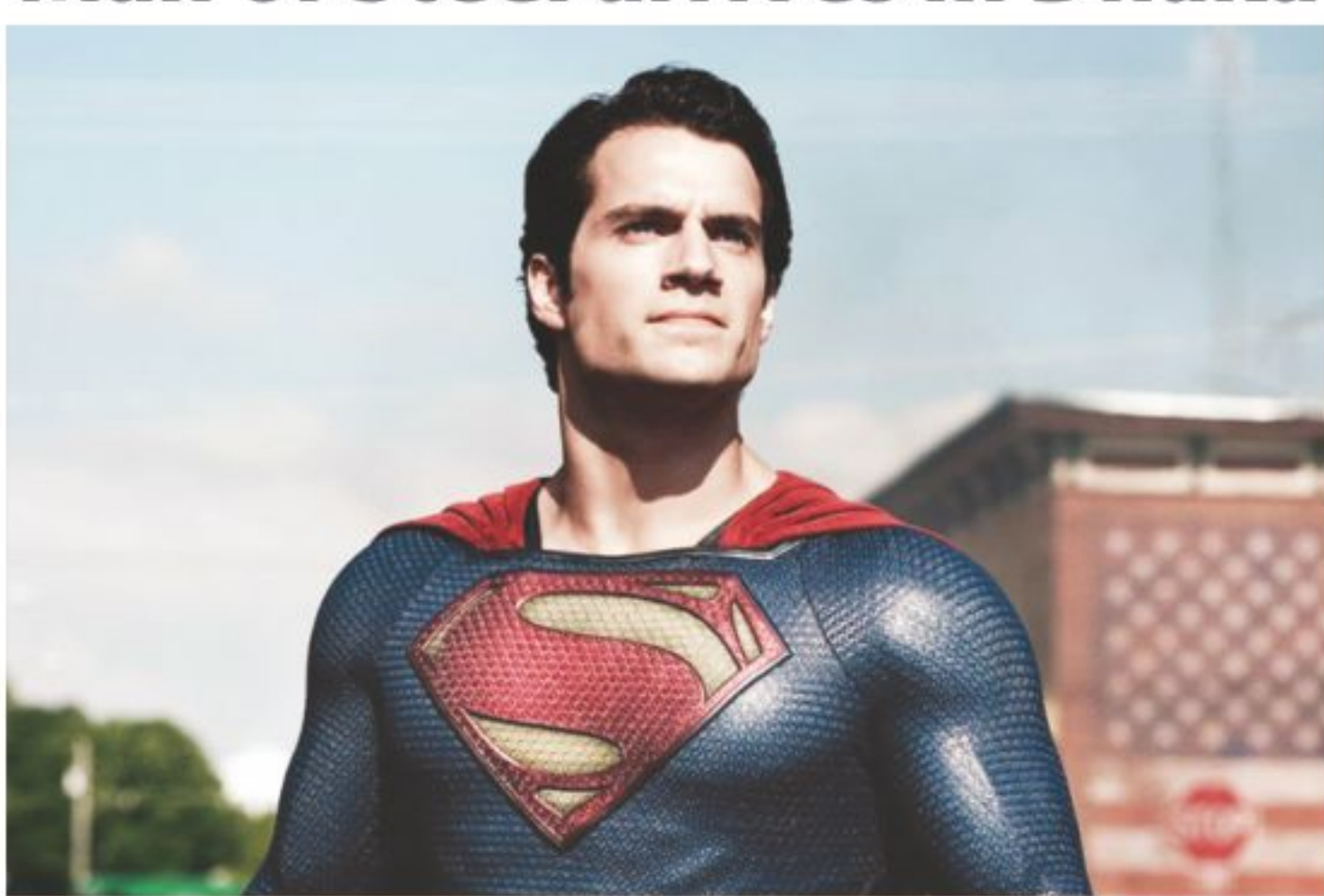
An enthusiastic bunch of SMUCT students enjoyed the film screening and exhibition.

It's True!



The final chapter in Peter Jackson's first Middle-earth trilogy, the 2003 "The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King" adapted from JRR Tolkien's immortal novel series, took home Oscars in all 11 of its nominated categories, which were: Best Picture, Best Director, Best Film Editing, Best Adapted Screenplay, Best Original Score, Best Original Song, Best Sound Mixing, Best Visual Effects, Best Art Direction, Best Costume Design, and Best Make-Up.

Out of this World Man of Steel arrives in Dhaka



FAHMIM FERDOUS

Superhero movies seem to be the new 'in' thing in Hollywood, and Star Cineplex -- the country's only multiplex -- have notched up their game in bringing newest blockbusters. After movies from the Marvel comic series took the limelight in "Avengers" and "Iron Man 3" in Dhaka, it was DC Comics' turn to bring in their A-game to the screen, and Superman fandom could not be any more thrilled to have had it at their reach less than two weeks into the USA release. Zack Snyder's "Man of Steel" has had booming openings in the global market and got solid reviews worldwide, and the premiere of it was held at the new hall of the Cineplex on Thursday. What generated anticipation about the film is that Superman has been done for screen -- small and big -- more times than any other superhero character, beginning from the late 40s up to most recently in TV's Smallville two years ago. "Man of Steel" is a reboot of the storyline, beginning from scratch when the planet Krypton is on the verge of implosion and Jor-El (Russell Crowe), superman's father a member of the planetary council, ensures that his son -- the first

natural birth in centuries -- lives on. The army, led by General Zod (Michael Shannon) attempts a failed coup and are punished, while the infant Kal-El -- who would eventually be Superman -- is thrust in a capsule to earth at Krypton faces its impending doom. He reaches earth and is adopted by the Kents, Jonathon (Kevin Costner) and Martha (Diane Lane). Under the name of Clark Kent, he learns to adapt to earth's atmosphere, harnesses his powers while carefully keeping his identity a secret. Lois Lane (Amy Adams) -- a Pulitzer Award-winning journalist has an encounter with Clark while

studying a geographical anomaly, and when her editor refuses to run a story on a man with superpowers, turns enough stones to reach Clark (Henry Cavill). Meanwhile, General Zod escapes his punishment and tracks down Kal-El (known to the world as Clark Kent), and demands to people of the earth that he be handed over. Clark complies to keep Zod from harming earth, but while in the Kryptonian spaceship, he learns Zod's plan to 'flip' earth into a habitat for Kryptonians only. Together with Lois Lane, a holographic 'conscience' of his biological father Zor-El and support from the Earth's army, Clark fights off the Kryptonian army and their

super-powerful machineries and technologies, albeit after a fair bit of destruction. What stands out about the film is its aesthetic flavours; although the storyline is not the easiest to follow, it is very vintage comic-book-like -- not too complicated, but gripping nonetheless, while the backdrop is very much 2013. The action sequences are power-packed, fast and expansive, and instead of explaining how big and complicated the technology is, the scale -- and awesomeness -- is what is at the fore. The quality of acting is also high; in a cast comprising Russel Crowe and Kevin Costner, it is Michael Shannon who makes an impression; Henry Cavill also fits in perfectly to the newly-designed Superman suit -- and the character; it is the human side of Superman that he displays skilfully that makes the film stand apart from the 2006 Brandon Routh-starrer "Superman Returns". With new films coming thick and fast on the screens of Dhaka, this is quite certainly a class apart from its recent predecessors. "Man of Steel" is silver-screen superlative; and a true taste of a superhero movie. It's a must-watch.

one of those film-makers or photographers whose works were exhibited all over Bangladesh as a part of the Celebrating Life District Tour. "We are very happy that Celebrating Life has brought these short films to us. We enjoyed all of the films. I think it tells a story that is close to our lives. Yet we don't see films made on these topics. I believe such films will pull us out of our rigid conservativeness that plagues society," said Hassan, a student of Fashion Designing at SMUCT. Rumana Ahmed of Graphic Design and Multimedia department at SMUCT said, "The film 'Exotic' was a massive hit among all the students. They could all relate to the story. It takes an acquired taste to fully appreciate 'TV Virus'. However, my favourite was 'Joker Tel'. It was Bangladesh as it is. It was entertaining to see reality portrayed so honestly on screen. We want to see such films on the big screen; we want to be able to watch these with friends and family."



Directed and choreographed by Anik Bose, students of Bangladesh International Tutorial (BIT) staged Tagore Dance drama "Tash-er Desh" at the school auditorium marking 30th anniversary of BIT. Chairperson and founding principle of BIT, Lubna Chowdhury graced the daylong event as chief guest. Teachers, students, guardians, invited guests and well-wishers of the school also attended the programme.

TV WATCH

"Chena Mukh Ochena Mukh" on ntv



Rakhi and Apurbo in a scene from the drama.

A CORRESPONDENT

Ntv is going to screen a new package drama, "Chena Mukh Ochena Mukh" on June 29 at 9pm. Scripted by Farzana Yasmin Meetu and directed by Chayanika Chowdhury, the TV play is a soft triangular love story - which revolves around Bhumi (Rakhi) falling for Megh (Apurbo) and the sudden appearance of the heroine's fiancé Masum. In the romantic storyline there is a class conflict between the classy heroine and the humorous hero and without any surprise Apurbo refuses Rakhi. Keep your eyes on ntv to watch what happens next.

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