

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



Domestic Film Festival
 Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, Segunbagicha
 Date: July 3-10
 Time: 5pm



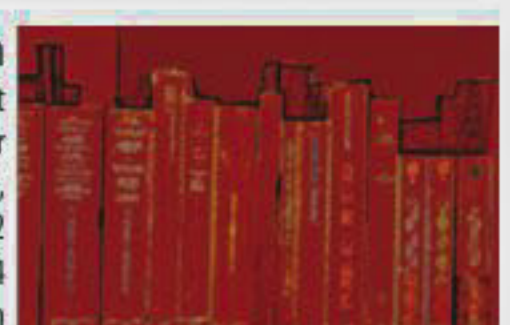
Painting Exhibition
 Title: Passion for Blue
 Artist: Gopal Chandra Saha
 Venue: Institute of Asian Creatives, Gulshan-2
 Date: July 5-15
 Time: 12pm-8pm



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



NEWS bytes

Matt Damon in new "Elysium" trailer

"Elysium" has released a new trailer, in which Matt Damon sets about trying to save humanity in a dystopian future where the poverty gap between rich and poor is wider than ever.

When radiation poisoning begins to decimate the Earth-bound majority, Damon sets about breaking into Elysium in the hope of curing himself and the rest of his fellow sufferers.

The new trailer doesn't give too much more away in terms of plot, but there are some great new sequences of footage, including Jodie Foster's ruthless security chief dealing with would-be interlopers with extreme prejudice. Directed by Neill Blomkamp and co-starring Sharlto Copley, Alice Braga and William Fichtner, Elysium will open in the UK on August 9, 2013.

Source: Internet

**Film Festival begins in city
 Shilpakala to screen 21 local films**



Stills from "Lalon" and "Third Person Singular Number".

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A seven-day film festival titled "Samakalin Deshiyo Cholochitro Utsab 2013" (Contemporary Domestic Film Festival 2013) was inaugurated at the National Art Gallery auditorium of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA).

Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy and Moviyaan Film Society have jointly organised the festival. Dr. Gowher Rizvi, International Affairs Advisor to the Prime Minister inaugurated the festival as chief guest while Liaquat Ali Lucky, director general of BSA presided over the programme. Professor AAMS Arefin Siddique, Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University; seasoned filmmaker Moshuiddin Shaker and poet Syed Shamsul Haq also attended the event as special guests.

On the occasion of the festival, a press conference was held at National Art Gallery auditorium of BSA on July 2. Liaquat Ali Lucky, Belayet Hossain Mamun, president of Moviyaan Film Society; Begum Sara Ara Mahmud, director of the Department of Film and Theatre, BSA; artist Savyasachi Hazra; Sabrina Sultana

Chowdhury, professor of Mass Communication and Journalism of Dhaka University spoke at the conference.

After the inauguration, Tareque Masud's acclaimed film "Matir Moyna" was screened at the venue.

A total of 21 contemporary films will be screened on the occasion. The films include "Guerrilla" (directed by Nasiruddin Yousuff), "Lalon" (Tanvir Mokammel), "Hajar Bochhor Dhore" (Kohinoor Akhter Suchonda), "Monpura" (Giasuddin Selim), "Doob Satar" (Nurul Alam Atiq), "Runway" (Tareque Masud), "Shyamol Chhaya" (Humayun Ahmed), "Third Person Singular Number" (Mostofa Sarwar Farooki), "Shobha" (Chashi Nazrul Islam), "Adhlar" (Saidul Anam Tutul), "Chandra Grahana" (Murad Parvez), "Shopnodana" (Golam Rabbani Biplob), "Joyjatra" (Tauqir Ahmed) and "Ghani" (Kazi Morshed) and others will be screened at the event.

Besides, a seminar on contemporary Bangla films will be held at the National Art Gallery auditorium of BSA on July 6. Noted filmmakers, critics and directors will take part at the programme.

The festival will continue till July 10.

**Film, TV and stage,
 Shamed Ali does it all**

SAURAV DEY

Shamed Ali is a popular name in the country's theatre scene. He has been involved in acting and organisational activities with Prachyanat since the troupe's inception in 1997. Starting his journey as a theatre activist, he has established himself as a TV and film actor as well. In a recent chat with The Daily Star, the multi-dimensional actor talked about his journey into theatre, his achievements and more.

acting in drama serials allow second chances for making corrections as we can retake a shot if something goes wrong. However, what is common to theatre and TV serials is that both require the artist to play particular roles. In both cases, I play theatrical characters before the audience.

You've also acted in films. Among theatre, TV serials and the silver screen, which medium is your favourite?

Shamed: I'm an actor and I love acting. Theatre is in my heart, but I prefer acting in films as people can watch me act even



Shamed Ali's (L) association with Prachyanat has been for over a decade and a half.

How did you step into the theatre sphere?

Shamed: From my student life, I regularly watched plays and in 1985, when I watched "Kirttonkhola" by Dhaka Theatre, I decided to stick to the stage. I've watched all Dhaka Theatre plays; the works of Selim Al Deen, Humayun Faridee and Nasiruddin Yousuff never ceased to amaze me. I inherited the passion from my jatra artiste grandpa; my father also worked on stage.

What is the most special thing -- according to you -- about being an actor?

Shamed: There's no feeling better than performing for an audience. While playing a character, I enter into my role completely. In fact, when I take a bow with the other artistes after the last scene, I feel a vacuum as I emerge from the character I am playing.

Tell us about your experiences of working in TV serials.

Shamed: Unlike stage performances,

hundred years after my death.

How would you evaluate your achievements?

Shamed: I've played key roles in most of Prachyanat's plays. Some of the much-acclaimed productions are: "Raja Ebgong Onyanno," "Koinna," "Circus Circus," "A Man For All Seasons" and I am lucky to have appeared in these plays. Apart from theatre, I did many TV serials, two films: "Monpura" and "Udhao" (currently in post-production) -- and all these achievements are a blessing.

Tell us about your aspirations.

Shamed: At the time of its inception, we wanted Prachyanat to be the best troupe in Asia, but our dream didn't come true. Though Prachyanat now has its own identity, I dream one day it'll be the best troupe in the continent. I'm an artiste, and evoking joy and entertainment is my duty; I want to live on in the hearts of the audience for a thousand years.

It's True!



Chinese contemporary artist Ai Weiwei's installation "Sunflower Seeds" was placed at the Tate Modern Turbine Hall, London in October 2010. The work consisted of one hundred million porcelain "seeds", each individually hand-painted in the town of Jingdezhen by 1,600 Chinese artisans, and scattered over a large area of the exhibition hall. The artist was keen for visitors to walk across and roll in the work to experience and contemplate the essence of his comment on mass consumption, Chinese industry, famine and collective work. In February 2011, a 220-pound (100 kg) pile from "Sunflower Seeds" sold for \$559,394 at a Sotheby's auction in London.



Solo sculpture exhibition ends at Zainul Gallery

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A five-day solo sculpture exhibition titled "Brand Culture" featuring the works of promising artist Imam Hossain Sumon closed at Zainul Gallery, Faculty of Fine Arts of Dhaka University on Monday. Renowned art critic Professor Burhanuddin Khan Jahangir inaugurated the exhibition as chief guest on June 27. Eminent sculptor Professor Hamiduzzaman Khan was present as a special guest while Chairperson of the Department of Sculpture, Professor Lala Rukh Selim delivered the welcome address on the opening day of the exhibition.

Brand plays a pivotal role in fashioning a new lifestyle, belief, taste and thought. The artist tried to portray his visual experience prior to producing the exhibited works by completing several case studies in

Old Dhaka. As "Urban Culture" was the focal point of Suman's academic discourse, he thought deeply about the subject alongside studies.

According to Suman, Neo-colonialism and corporatisation have intruded in our culture with the advent of globalisation. He has found various uses of language and authoritarian experiences of diverse brands that are dominating our life. With a saturation of brands, our local products and contents are facing heavy setbacks everyday in the market. We are losing our identity and getting detached from nature.

The artist used papier-mâché, brass, aluminum and wood to produce 16 sculptures. Though the sculptures are two dimensional and flat in shape, it has unique texture, colour and tones. Apart from sculptures, the artist also displayed 10 pen drawings at the exhibition.



Sculptures by Suman (top); Professor Burhanuddin Khan Jahangir (C) inaugurates the exhibition.

Tell us about your experiences of working in TV serials.

Shamed: Unlike stage performances,



(L-R) ATM Shamsuzzaman, Hanif Sanket, Dhaka University (DU) Vice Chancellor AAMS Arefin Siddiqui, Zahid Hasan, Sadia Islam Mou and Professor Shibli R. Islam cut a cake on the 92nd anniversary of DU. On the occasion, the business faculty of the university organised a cultural function titled "Mukto Mon'er Anonde" at their premises on July 1, where Shamsuzzaman, Sanket and Hasan were awarded special honours.

Musical fiesta at IGCC



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre (IGCC) in Dhaka regularly organises various cultural programmes and film shows.

Starting from today (July 4), noted and popular Bangladeshi singers will perform music for five days at IGCC auditorium, house-35, road-24, Gulshan 1.

Partha Barua together with Fahmida Nabi will rock the audience today while Shakila Zafar will



perform adhunik songs tomorrow (July 5). Presentation of folk music by Abdul Kuddus Boyati will be the featured performance on July 6. Popular singers -- Habib Wahid and Nancy -- will perform on July 8 while Bappa Mazumder and Dilshad Nahar Kona will sing on July 9. Everyday the programme will start at 6:30pm.

Meanwhile, a Rituparno Ghosh film "Khela" starring Prosenjit Chatterjee, Monisha Koirala, Raima Sen and Shankar Chakrabarty will be screened on July 7 at 6:30pm.

A return to nature

"Raktakarabi" staged in port city

PRANABESH CHAKRABORTY, Chittagong

Monsoon evenings make for the perfect setting to watch a good play on stage; more so if it is a Tagore play. On Sunday evening, amidst a continuous pattering of rain, theatre enthusiasts of the port city enjoyed theatre troupe Tirjak's production of "Raktakarabi", -- Tagore's timeless classic -- at the Theatre Institute, Chittagong (TIC) auditorium.

The play was staged on the first day of the four-day festival titled "Badal Sanjher Natak". Poet-journalist Arun Dasgupta inaugurated the festival by Ritu Bhittik Natya Mela Parishad to celebrate the



Abdul Gafur Hali (2-L) receives the Sukhendu Smriti Natya Padak.

arrival of monsoon. Chaired by TIC director Ahmed Iqbal Haider, the inaugural programme was addressed by eminent social scientist Professor Dr. Anupam Sen and Indian Assistant High Commissioner to Chittagong, Somnath Ghosh.

Veteran folk song collector and composer Abdul Gafur Hali was conferred the prestigious Sukhendu Smriti Natya Padak at the festival.

In his speech, Dasgupta said that the ancient performing art of theatre has the power to transform mindsets. Tagore's "Raktakarabi", he said, makes the audience return to nature, creating the understanding that our mechanical world cannot give people full freedom.

Earlier, a cultural programme was held where artistes of Tirjak rendered Tagore's monsoon songs.

Following the discussion, Chittagong's noted troupe Tirjak staged Raktakarabi. Directed by Ahmed Iqbal Haider, Shaila Sharmin enacted the character of Nandini while the roles of Bisu and Professor were performed by Sujit Chakraborty and Ripan Barua respectively. Ramiz Ahmed essayed two roles: Palowan and Fagular. Haider donned the characters of Raja, Gowsai and Moral. Mahabubul Islam Rajib enacted the role of Sardar.

Nayla Azad Nupur oversaw the costumes and Haider was light designer of the play.