

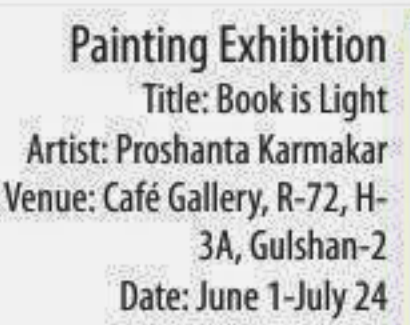
WHAT'S ON
Print Exhibition
 Artist: Biren Shome
 Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, Dhanmondi
 Date: June 28-July 24
 Time: 3-8pm



Tagore Film Week
 Organiser: EMK Center
 Venue: Midas Centre (9th Floor), House 5, Road 16 (New), Dhanmondi
 Date: July 20-25
 Time: 4pm



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



Charity Art Exhibition
 Title: Fida'r Jonno
 Venue: Zainul Gallery-2
 Date: July 14-30
 Time: 10am-8pm



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



NEWS bytes

Tom Hanks back as Langdon

Actor Tom Hanks is to reunite with director Ron Howard for the film version of Dan Brown's latest best-selling novel, "Inferno". Hanks will reprise his role as Harvard professor Robert Langdon in the mystery thriller, according to film industry website Deadline. Howard previously directed the 2006 adaptation of "The Da Vinci Code" and its prequel, "Angels and Demons", in 2009.

The new film is due to be released in December 2015.

David Koepf, who penned the script for Angels and Demons, is also set to return to the franchise.

Hanks is expected to take on the role of Langdon for a forthcoming adaptation of "The Lost Symbol", the third novel in Brown's book series, but Howard opted out of the project.

Source: BBC

BEHIND THE SCENES
Deep into the night with Mosharraf Karim



SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Mosharraf Karim is the most wanted man in the media, being the top choice for both the audience and the directors. Characters and dramas are even created, with Karim in mind.

After trying for weeks, I found out that Karim would be shooting in a house at Uttara one night, and I arrive on time. After he's done with a shot, Karim comes and greets me and leads me towards the makeup room. He introduces me to his wife Jui—who is also an actress. He tells me that shooting is likely to go on deep into the early morning, so the question-answer sessions will need to be taken during the breaks.

Karim tells me that he has done around 15 TV plays for Eid so far. His wife reminds him of the titles, as he struggles to come up with all the names. He also informs me that some of his works this Eid are extraordinary. One drama will show Karim playing three different roles. "It was tough playing the role of twins and their father. I'd never done three characters in a single drama before," he says.

He is called by the director for the next shot—where he acts with Marzuk Russell. The duo rehearses before the scene. The rather long sequence takes a while to shoot.

The director rushes the crew for the next scene. The rehearsal itself, however, takes around 30 minutes. By the time the scene is shot, the clock has hit midnight. Karim sits with me again at the makeup room. The interview resumes, as he tells me about his character in the Eid play "Cha Khor"—where he plays a man who is addicted to tea.

Karim also mentions that he will have to work till three in the morning. Although the shooting for "Red Signal" is done for the night, he and his wife will now have to shoot for a different Eid drama—the shooting for which will take place inside a bus. Nostalgia hits Karim as he talks. He reminisces on his days with Nattya Kendra, and the 17 years he spent on the stage. Karim also informs that he is working with his wife on a serial he wrote himself—"Bishesh Droshtobdyo", which is being aired by SA TV.

"Taking on too much is not a good idea. I don't want to do so much work, but the directors don't leave me alone," says an exasperated Karim as I prepare to wrap up the session.

As the night wears on, Karim starts donning the makeup of an old man. The next shoot is for a story from the Pakistan period. Although it is dark outside, the night is still young for the actors.

WAQEEL sets his own course

FAHMIM FERDOUS

To those who remain updated with Dhaka's music scene, the name Waqeel is not unfamiliar. This young singer-songwriter-composer has been in the circuit for years, and has made a name for himself with his creativity and melodies. The Daily Star caught up with the ever-smiling Waqeel recently.

Did your musical journey begin with an academic background?

Waqeel: As a matter of fact, yes. I had a music teacher at home when I was very young. I also joined Nazrul Academy and received training there. However, for most of my journey, I have set the course myself; I was in a band, composed my own music, and then I spent a lot of time with Bauls and was very influenced by their philosophies and music as well.

And how did that interest come about?

Waqeel: I realised that the music that we call ours, is rooted in it. Be it Eastern classical music or folk, it's all very intertwined to Baul music. I was fascinated by Lalon's music—back in 1996-97. I spent some time in Kushtia, and got the unadulterated taste of Lalon's music. I realised that his works, lyrically, are at the pinnacle.

And how did you delve into the depths of Baul music?

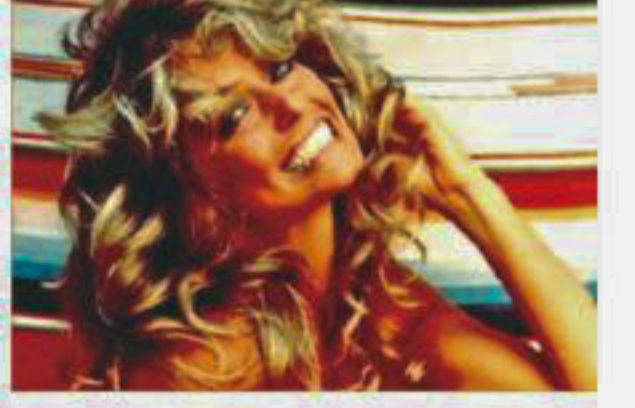
Waqeel: I personally spent a lot of time with Bauls. Be it going to their native homes or being with them when they come to Dhaka, I observed them closely. I performed with them at various places. I was also involved with social and awareness programmes and in a theatre troupe (Loko Natya Dal) that allowed me to be in close proximity to them.

What about your long term plans?

Waqeel: I want to be with music, whatever form it may be. As I said, I have some 1,500 songs of my own; most of these songs have a message. They are of various musical styles: from rock mellow to folk. I want to keep writing, composing and singing. I hope to have an album or two coming out this Eid. I have composed and done jingles, and have worked in film soundtracks, with Indian composers as well.

In the long term, I want to take Baul music to greater heights in Bangladesh. I also have plans to work with children. I don't know how far I will go; only time will tell where this journey will take me, but I know what path I have chosen.

It's True!



In 1976, Pro Arts Inc. pitched the idea of a poster of actress Farrah Fawcett. According to friend Nels Van Patten, Fawcett styled her own hair and did her makeup without the aid of a mirror. Her blonde highlights were further heightened by a squeeze of lemon juice. From 40 rolls of film, Fawcett herself selected her six favourite pictures; eventually, the choice was narrowed to the one. The resulting poster is one of the most iconic glamour posters of all time -- it broke records, selling 12 million copies, and making Fawcett a pop culture icon of the eighties.

Happy 95th, Madiba
 Nelson Mandela's birthday celebrated at Liberation War Museum

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Cultural organisation "Wrishij Shilpi Goshthi" celebrated the 95th birth anniversary of Nelson Mandela, the undisputed leader and former president of South Africa, at Liberation War Museum (LWM) on July 18. The event featured discussion, poetry recitation and rendition of songs as tribute to the great leader.

Artists of "Wrishij Shilpi Goshthi" set off the event with presenting several choral songs written on Nelson Mandela. Information minister Hasanul Haq Inu graced the occasion as chief guest while Adviser of Bangladesh Communist Party (CPB) Manzurul Ahsan Khan were present as a special guest at the programme. Cultural personality, essayist and one of the trustees of LWM Mafidul Haq, vice president of "Shammilito Shangkritik Jote" Golam Kuddus, secretary general of Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation Jhuna Chowdhury and actor Nader Chowdhury spoke on Nelson Mandela at the event. President of "Wrishij Shilpi Goshthi" and noted ganosangeet artiste Fakir Alamgir presided over the function. Fakir



Artistes of Wrishij render a chorus.

Siraj and Jharna Alamgir emceed the event.

Discussion, recitation and rendition of songs come one after another on stage. Wrishij artistes performed "Kalo Kalo Manusher Desh-e", "Ashubhokey Tumi Hariye Diyechho" and more. Singers of Satyen Sen Shilpi Goshthi rendered a choral Tagore song "Aguner Porishmoni" while Udichi art-

istes performed "Amaye Akjon Sada Manush Dao". Artists of "Kranti", "Boinhishikha" and Anandan also presented songs while elocutionists Rafiqul Islam and Rezina Wali Leena recited poems at the event. The celebration programme came to an end with seeking Nelson Mandela's getting well soon.

The entire life of Mandela bears testimony to how as an

individual imbued with high moral principle and conviction, can change the fate of his people by freeing them from the chains of subjugation, oppression and racial hatred. He accomplished the near-impossible task of dismantling the oppressive system of apartheid, and brought all South Africans regardless of their colour and creed under the same roof.

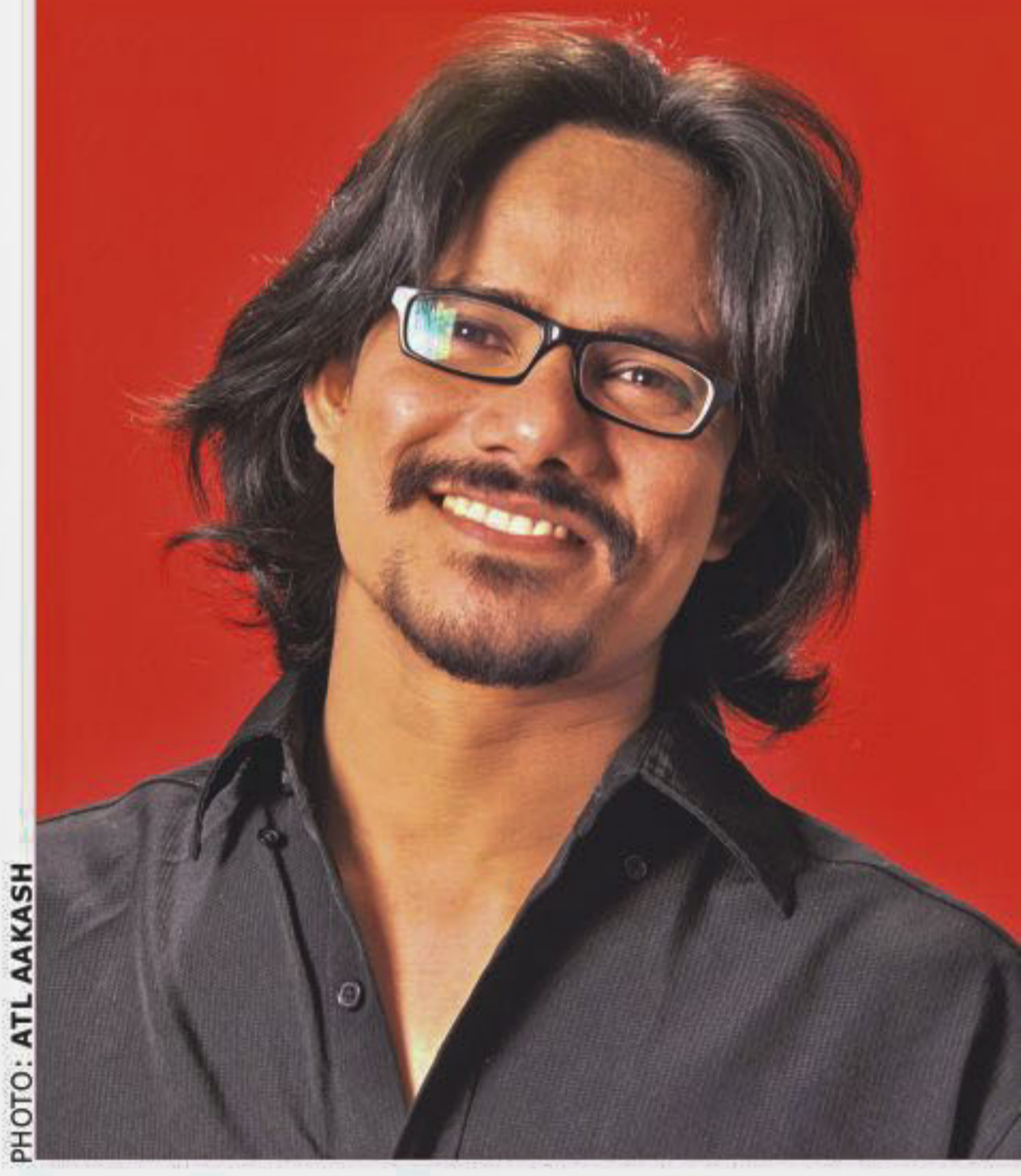


PHOTO: ATLA AKASH

ON THE SCREEN

Fast & Furious 6: A thrill-a-minute ride

SAURAV DEY

Fast & Furious 6 has arrived recently -- it is the latest film in a franchise that began in 2001. Most of the familiar faces have returned in this newest riot of reckless driving, car-crash, insane action sequences that deny physics, and spectacular stunts.

Paul Walker and Vin Diesel are back as Brian O'Conner and Dominic Toretto, but the ultra-rich international criminals have now retired as their past is seemingly gone. We see Brian as an affectionate father, while Toretto passes free time living off the big scores of his past life. Things run smoothly until Dwayne Johnson appears as Luke Hobbs, the federal agent -- and calls back Toretto and his band into service to help Hobbs chasing Owen Shaw (Luke Evans).



Here we watch two types of cars—the bad guys have modified flip cars with armour-plated front ends specially designed to strike other vehicles. In the final chase, Shaw and his gang pulls out a tank from a military convoy and chase counter chase follows until a plane-crash finishes the insane action scene. Director Justin Lin tried to produce it fast as the name suggests but he ended up in making a not-so-fast one; it rather seems a bit slow -- movie buffs might find the 130-minute runtime unnecessarily stretched.

However, there are spices to hold the audience -- display of top-notch

vehicles, car-crash, amazing chase and counter chase and heavily dramatized action sequences make it a worthwhile watch. Cinematography is pretty good -- nice depth of fields, excellent sound and graphics with eye-popping effects and spectacular stunts are combined together to hide the weakness of acting, except for the part of Owen Shaw; Luke Evans excels as the villain.

Fast & Furious 6 is a package of a thrill ride -- two hours and 10 minutes of adrenaline rush is a must if you watch it in HD. A hint is there at the final scene that the franchise is not done.

The Simpsons and Family Guy set for crossover episode

Great news for the fan of the animated TV series; two of the biggest names in the game are set for a crossover.

The Griffin family of "Family Guy" is set to meet their counterparts on "The Simpsons" in a special episode of the former, to be aired in the US in autumn 2014, according to an announcement by FOX Entertainment.

Called "The Simpsons Guy", the episode will see the New England clan embark on a road trip that ends up in Springfield -- where they'll encounter -- and swiftly bond with -- Homer, Marge and co.

Dads Peter Griffin and Homer

Simpson will debate the merits of particular beers; son Stewie will be impressed by Bart's pranks; while wives Lois and Marge jointly decide to ditch all housework.

Simpsons cast-members Dan Castellaneta, Julie Kavner, Nancy Cartwright, Yeardley Smith and Hank Azaria will lend their voices to the episode.

"Family Guy" and "The Simpsons" are both part of Fox's Sunday night line-up and return in September for their 11th and 25th seasons respectively.

Source: Telegraph



TV WATCH

Faruque on Amar Ami



A CORRESPONDENT

Film star Faruque will be tonight's featured guest at Banglavisn's celebrity talk show "Amar Ami". He talks about various facets of Bangladeshi cinema, stories and experiences from his personal life, and his future plans on the show.

Produced by Sajjad Hussein and hosted by Rumana Malik Munmun, the show will air tonight at 9:05 on Banglavisn.