

WHAT'S ON

Group Print Exhibition  
Venue: Gallery Chitrak, R-6, H-4, Dhanmondi  
Date: July 28-August 3  
Time: 10am-8pm



Group Print Exhibition  
Title: Under Pressure  
Venue: Bengal Art Lounge, Gulshan-1  
Date: July 5-August 10  
Time: 12pm-8pm



Group Exhibition  
Title: Finding A Voice  
Venue: Athena Gallery of Fine Arts, Cha-72/1/D, Progoti Shorani, Uttar Badda  
Date: July 5-31  
Time: 10am-8pm



Solo Sculpture Exhibition  
Title: Shekor-er Gaan  
Artist: Samiran Dutt  
Venue: Shilpangan Gallery, H-7, R-13, Dhanmondi  
Date: July 29-August 10  
Time: 10am-8pm



## NEWSbytes

### Robin Williams to star in new US sitcom

Robin Williams is returning to TV screens for the first time since starring in the 1970s show "Mork & Mindy" with a new comedy, "The Crazy Ones". Williams, 62, who rose to fame as the alien Mork in the hit series, will play an eccentric advertising agency boss in the sitcom. Sarah Michelle Gellar from "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" will play his daughter. The show, from Ally McBeal creator David E Kelley, is due to air in the US in September. The show is one of a number of new shows added to the autumn TV line-up in the US.

Source: BBC

## It's True!



Sridevi, an iconic figure of Bollywood of the 90s, left the industry in 1997 with "Judaii", and returned in 2012 after 15 years with "English Vinglish", following which, she has been having a memorable year. This year, Sridevi received seven nominations for English Vinglish (one win), NDTV Entertainer of the Year, a Filmfare Special Award and the Padma Shri -- India's third highest civilian honour.

## Modern Iranian Art exhibit in New York

A new exhibition of modern Iranian art will showcase the work of 26 artists from the 1950s to the 1970s, when Iranian artists were connected to the rest of the world and influenced by global art movements, the Asia Society Museum in New York announced yesterday. The show will include more than 100 works that focus on what the museum calls the little-known pre-Islamic-revolution era. The exhibition will show the extent to which Tehran was what the museum calls a cosmopolitan arts center, with artists participating in the Venice Biennale and other international festivals, and their work collected widely. The exhibition includes artists still at work in Tehran, like Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarmaian, known for her mirror mosaics. Another, Nicky Nodjoumi, is described as a more politicized artist who now lives in New York. Other prominent artists included are Siah Armajani, a sculptor residing in the United States, and Parviz Tanavoli, a sculptor well known in pre-revolutionary Iran. The museum's director, Melissa Chiu, said the artists' themes varied: some explored abstraction and wanted to be part of an international movement; others were more interested in focusing on politics in Iran; and some were critical of forces at work before and after the 1979 Islamic revolution. She added that "artists have found it hard to show their work." Chiu said the exhibition would be the first to examine the pre-revolutionary period on this scale by drawing together works lent from public and private collections around the world. The exhibition runs from Sept. 6 to Jan. 5.

Source: NYTIMES



A mirror mosaic by Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarmaian.



TAKIR HOSSAIN

Samiran Dutt is an emerging sculptor who is committed to wielding a hammer and chisel. His works are intimately connected with nature. Dutt's 8th exhibition, titled "Shekor-er Gaan" is now on at Shilpangan Art Gallery, Dhanmondi in Dhaka. Poet and architect Rabiul Husain was chief guest at the inauguration on July 29. Noted cartoonist cum painter Shishir Bhattacharjee was special guest.

Dutt discovers possibilities and beauty even in insignificant objects. His creations remind us of the bounties of nature. Nature is his treasure trove. He collects raw materials in the course of his daily activities as he goes about his routine work, and sometimes even collects them from remote areas. He lives in Sonargaon, in the outskirts of Dhaka, and maintains a tiny atelier. A number of assistants help him with hammer, saw and axe. The artist uses timber, twigs, branches, trunks, dry shrubbery, roots, coconut shells,

# Dead wood given a novel life

## Samiran Dutt's solo exhibition at Shilpangan Gallery

brushwood and varied natural fibres in his sculptural works. Dutt's works depict birds, human figures, varied artistic furniture, aquatic species etc. Some of his creations include household objects like chair, table, book-shelf, almirah, mirrors, windows and more.

The works on display at the exhibition are not shaped appropriately; neither do they have a fine finishing. For the most part, the artist has kept the objects as they were found in nature -- one of his main traits. He is a

collector with an impressive eye; finding pieces of wood that have huge potential.

The exhibition features works of all sizes and shapes. Also included are everyday items like penholders, flower vase, bench, TV stand, candle stand and more.

The distinctiveness of Dutt's works is that though the pieces have an incomplete appearance and uneven surface, they have an eternal touch of novelty, where he represents his beliefs, impressions and views.

The exhibition ends on August 10.



Sculptures by Samiran Dutt.

## ENCOURAGING ENTREPRENEURSHIP



Judges of TV programme 'Future Leaders' -- Taslim Ahmed, Abdul Muktadir and Shykh Seraj on set of the show. The objective of the programme is to encourage entrepreneurship and business leadership among business graduates. The show, directed by A.K. Reza Galib, airs on Channel i at 9.35pm every Tuesday and Friday.

## Talk on "Making Cultural Archives Meaningful" at IGNCA

KAVITA, New Delhi

Housed in an imposing building in the heart of Lutyens' Delhi is The Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA). Recently, the government-funded arts organisation hosted a talk on "Making Cultural Archives Meaningful: Why and How". The speaker: former academic-turned-media professional Pratik Joshi.

The layperson would be forgiven for giving what sounded a sleep-inducing event a go by. But when one eventually made it to the talk, it was an afternoon well spent. Joshi peppered his talk with so many examples of successful archiving that attention did not pall. To start with Joshi distinguished libraries and museums from archives. "Archives are repositories of expressive traditions in the form of sound, photographs, video, audio, literary and oral traditions," he said.

Pointing out that archives should not be regarded as sacrosanct and out of the reach of the layperson, he made the point that "Archives should be available to people who are sincere." When it came to oral traditions, he said that hundreds of languages are being lost the world over and were therefore in need of careful preservation.

The emphasis throughout Joshi's talk was that people were becoming visually literate so the visual medium of images, documentaries would work well in the contemporary world. One example, he quoted was combining Rabindranath Tagore's poetry as recited by the bard himself with interviews and photographs from the late Shambu Saha collection. During his stint at Shantiniketan, Saha documented



One of Mathew Brady's photos from the civil war.

Tagore and the activities of Shantiniketan by capturing several rare and poignant moments of Tagore and his associates.

Another possibility, he said could be to juxtapose famous French photographer Henri Cartier-Bresson's images of socio-political life in India with Sunil Janah's photo documentation of tribal life in India.

From the West, Joshi drew on examples of the visual approach pioneered by the late American late Mathew B. Brady (1822-1896), regarded as the father of photo journalism. Brady built up a huge collection of over 16,000 photographs of the American Civil War taken by him and his assistants. Today thousands of the photographs are preserved in Washington-based US National Archives and

Records Administration and the Library of Congress.

Much later, said Joshi, came American director and celebrated 20th century documentary filmmaker, Ken Burns (born July 29, 1953), greatly inspired by Brady. Burns has used archival footage and photographs to make documentary films such as "The Civil War", "Baseball", "Jazz" and "Prohibition". Even today his technique known as the "Ken Burns' Effect" with its panning and zooming effect is used in video production from still imagery.

And digitisation of archives "with its endless possibilities" Joshi concluded, was the only solution to disasters such as the loss of precious footage due the accidental erasure of videos in government-owned television channel Doordarshan some time ago.



PHOTO: ATL AAKASH

## Sumaiya Shimu Eid excitement builds up

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Shumaiya Shimu stands among the very few popular TV actresses who has her idiosyncratic style in current TV media. She has been acting for more than a decade. Though she is a professional actress; she continues modeling and has gained much popularity in this field too. The Daily Star caught up with Sumaiya Shimu on her Eid plans.

Do you remember the first day of your fasting?

Sumaiya Shimu: Yes, I do. I must have been in class two or three and it was worth an experience as the hours seemed to stand still until it was time for a hearty iftar that we shared with the family. I have been fasting round the month of Ramadan since class six and I continue the tradition.

What's usually on the list for your Eid shopping?

Sumaiya Shimu: During Eid it's fun shopping not only for myself, but also for my family. Apart from that, I receive a lot of gifts on every Eid.

What sort of gifts do you usually buy?

Sumaiya Shimu: It ranges from dresses to different household items that I think would be useful for them. Both giving and receiving gifts are a great fun during such festivities.

How do you spend the day before Eid?

Sumaiya Shimu: Usually, I am free from shooting schedule the day before Eid. The night before Eid -- the 'Chand Raat', something special is cooked at our house. Deep into the night we go out to visit the city together. I enjoy it all greatly.

What special item are you planning to cook on Eid day?

Sumaiya Shimu: Cooking is not my idea of having fun. However, since my mother and my elder sister are experts in culinary delights, it is automatically delegated to them. I do cook occasionally, but I am more into decorating the house.

Do you enjoy 'Eid Salami' as a tradition?

Sumaiya Shimu: It's fun indeed. Even today I get 'Eid salami' from the elders, while I give salami to the younger ones. After touching the feet of elders everyone receives the salami, and it makes everyone happy.

Will you wear a sari this Eid?

Sumaiya Shimu: I prefer wearing a sari the day after Eid. I have managed to make time to buy a sari, which I may wear when I go visiting people.

How many dramas featuring you are being aired this Eid?

Sumaiya Shimu: I have worked in seven or eight plays for this Eid. I don't want to comment on a specific work. I want the audience to watch my plays and if they think it is good, that's my success because, I work for the audience.

## TV WATCH Shomi Kaiser to host "Ananda Alap" on Gtv

A CORRESPONDENT

Noted actor Shomi Kaiser will host a special TV programme "Ananda Alap" that will go on air on Gtv on the day of Eid-ul-fitr at 12:20am.

Corporate celebrities, associated with the print or electronic media, will participate in an adda with Kaiser, focusing on the lesser-known aspects of their lives.

Produced by Sohel Hasan, the guests of "Ananda Alap" include Mass Communication Chief of "Gramophone" Aman Ashraf Fayez; General Manager of "Mindshare" Morshed Alam and Director of "Matra" Sanaul Arefin.



## Rihanna wins Topshop T-shirt court case

Barbadian pop singer Rihanna has won a legal battle with Topshop over a T-shirt bearing her image. The star sued Topshop's parent company Arcadia for \$5 million over the T-shirts, which featured a photo taken during a video shoot in 2011. Her lawyers told the High Court in London the fashion chain duped fans and may have damaged her reputation.

Judge Justice Birss ruled that a "substantial number" of buyers were likely to have been deceived into



buying the T-shirt because of a "false belief" that it had been approved by the singer, and said it was damaging to her "goodwill".

Source: BBC