

WHAT'S ON
Photography Exhibition on Tajuddin Ahmad
Venue: Gallery 21, 751 Satmasjid Road, Dhanmondi
Date: July 23-August 8
Time: 12pm-8pm



Selim Al Deen's Festival
Organiser: Swapnadal
Venue: Shilpakala Academy
Date: Aug 17-18
Time: 6pm



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



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



Street Show of Doodles
Artist: Mustapha Khalid Palash
Venue: Hotbread, R-11, Banani, Dhaka
Date: Aug 6-9
Time: 7pm-10pm



NEWS bytes

Three sequels to Avatar



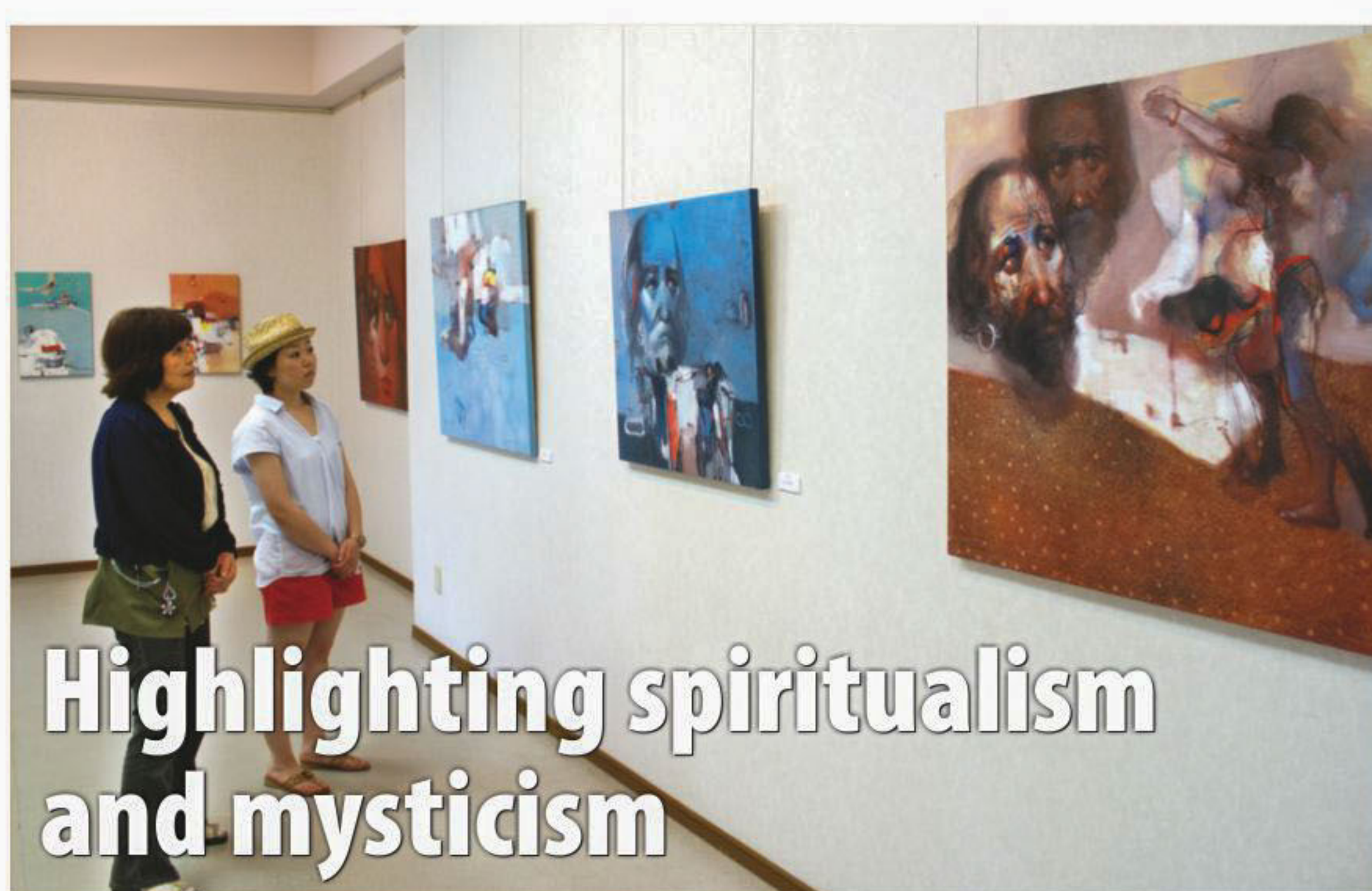
Fox Studios have announced there will be three sequels to Avatar, after director James Cameron found two films "would not be enough". The three sequels will be filmed simultaneously beginning in 2014, and will be released respectively in December 2016, 2017 and 2018. The 2009 3D film is the highest grossing movie of all time. It told the story of a paraplegic soldier sent to the alien planet of Pandora. "In writing the new films, I've come to realize that Avatar's world, story and characters have become even richer than I anticipated," Cameron said in a statement. "It became apparent that two films would not be enough to capture everything I wanted to put on screen," he continued.

Source: BBC

It's True!



Co-stars of "The Great Gatsby", Toby Maguire and Leonardo Di Caprio have been close friends for 25 years now, after meeting in an audition in the '80s. The two share and discuss their films, characters, acting to totally personal interests like basketball and adventure sports. The two had also shared a few moments of screen-time earlier in "This Boy's Life" in 1993 and co-starred in 1995's "Don's Plum".



Highlighting spiritualism and mysticism

Mohammad Iqbal's solo exhibition in Japan

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Mohammad Iqbal is one of the dedicated painters of Bangladesh. His latest solo painting exhibition titled "Peace in the Times of Disquiet" was held at Machi Kado Art Museum in Japan. This was his 35th solo exhibition.

Iqbal is an Associate Professor at the Drawing and Painting Department, Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka. His current mode of expression is considered to be semi-realism and figurative expressionism. At the exhibition, human figures take a prominent place in Iqbal's paintings. Anguish and suffering seem to get the focal point. The painter has been working on the lives of Bauls and spiritual personalities in our society. The artist first concentrates on his theme, than he puts himself entirely to other technical aspects of his oil-based paintings. The Baul way of life and the philosophy attract him the most as he finds mysti-



cism and purity in them. At the exhibition, he has painted bearded faces, contemplative faces, along with red clothing, beads, horns of buffalo, horses, talisman and Bauls.

Iqbal believes as a painter he has a responsibility to society and he strives to open the eyes of the people around him. The artist also likes to paint children, whom he regards as overlooked and neglected. The painter has portrayed many children's faces in approximately the same temperament. Through the oval and round shaped visages, the artist seeks to express children's imaginations, longings and the artist focuses on eyes.

Iqbal did his Ph.D in oil painting and most of his paintings are oil-based. He has held several solo and group exhibitions in different parts of the world and has received a number of prestigious awards. His works are more technique-based and demonstrate a sense of craftsmanship.

**Those were the days
Shibli Mohammad's childhood memories of Eid**

ZAHANGIR ALOM

Noted dancer-choreographer Shibli Mohammad shared his childhood memories of Eid with The Daily Star. The artiste also talked about his recent performance in Japan. Excerpts:

"Just before Eid, Amma would make new dresses for all of us 10 siblings (six brothers and four sisters). I would collect and hide bits and pieces of the fabric of my new dress so that no one could see it before Eid.

"I would walk on the bed in my new shoes to avoid them getting dirty. I would also make a list of houses to visit for Eid 'salami' when we would hurriedly fall at the feet of our elders.

"I cannot forget the moment when my Nani (maternal grandma) gave me a new one taka note as 'salami' one Eid day. I was thrilled to receive that one taka. Today's children get 8-10 dresses, which is more than they actually require, as gifts during Eid; that's why they may not realise the real charm of getting new dresses during Eid festivities. But we would get only one dress on Eid-ul-fitr which we treasured. While on Eid-ul-Azha dresses weren't a must have. We would roam around different houses on Chand Raat.

"Sleeplessness reigns supreme on the night before Eid. Now it is our turn to give 'salami' to younger ones. Untainted joy lies in giving gifts to someone. I prefer to give gifts to the poor. I experience great inner joy when I see their content and happy faces.

"I don't celebrate Eid without my mother, as I think those who do celebrate the day without their mothers are unfortunate. I totally dislike the idea of those who celebrate Eid abroad, leaving their mothers alone at home."

Director duo of Nrityanchal -Shibli Mohammad and Shameem Ara Nipa -along with four dancers --



Parvin, Jhinuk, Tapan and Limon of the troupe went to Japan for a performance, marking 40 years of diplomatic relations between Bangladesh and Japan. Noted folk singer Chandana Majumdar and Sarod artiste Shahadat Hossain Khan also gave a performance at the same locale. Starting from July 19, the event was held at Takamatsu city located in central Kagawa prefecture on the island of Shikoku, Japan.

"After Eid-ul-fitr, I'll go to London to attend the marriage ceremony of my friend's daughter. Later, I'll visit my younger brother in Denmark. Following the visit, I'll go to USA to visit my elder sister-in-law who has unfortunately been diagnosed with cancer. I do want to stay beside her in her agonising days."

**Joining hands to promote culture
The Daily Star and Bengal Foundation to launch Art Gallery and Music Lounge**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Daily Star and Bengal Foundation have signed an agreement to jointly launch "Daily Star-Bengal Art Gallery" and "Daily Star-Bengal Music Lounge" at the Daily Star Centre. Under the agreement, Bengal Foundation will organise round-the-year exhibitions of eminent artistes and hold musical

soirées of famous singers and musicians of Bangladesh.

The art gallery and music lounge will be launched in October 2013. This joint effort by The Daily Star and Bengal Foundation is aimed at promoting Bangladeshi artists, musicians and singers. It is planned to hold musical performances of eminent singers every week, and also organise regular art exhibits round the year.



PHOTO: SK. ENAMUL HAQ

Luva Nahid Chowdhury -- Director General, Bengal Foundation and Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed -- Managing Editor, The Daily Star exchange agreement of mutual cooperation. Also seen in the photo (L-R) Sher Ali -- General Manager, Advertising, The Daily Star; Aasha Mehreen Amin -- Editor, Star Weekend Magazine; Mahfuz Anam -- Editor, The Daily Star; Abul Khair -- Chairman, Bengal Foundation; Sadya Afreen Mallick -- Editor, Star Arts & Entertainment and AFM Jamaluddin -- General Manager, Administration, The Daily Star.



Popular programme on Channel i, "Grameenphone Ajker Shongbadpotro" steps into its 9th year today. The unique concept of giving TV viewers a glimpse of top headlines of the day's newspapers at midnight -- has been accepted well. Noted personalities from various fields have been guests at the programme at different times as well. Today's episode of the programme, as usual, begins at one minute past midnight.

Le Reve brings out bright Eid collection

A CORRESPONDENT

Le Reve, a popular fashion brand of the country, has brought out their line of Eid apparels for men and women of all ages. The collections are available at the various fashion outlets in the country.

The Salwar Kameez line of Le Reve has brought out bright colours like red, orange and magenta and purple, in combination with softer colours. Le Reve has also done traditional pattern Panjabis for men this Eid. Different sewing designs have been used on a wide range of colours. The fashion house has also included a Kid's Corner, with a wide range of stylish clothes for the younger ones.



Beautification with Henna



FAYZA HAQ

What with Eid approaching, people are going helter skelter to touch-up their hair and hands with "mehdi"--both to look at their best and keep with an old tradition of Bangladesh.

Along with the ground "henna", one puts coffee or tea, and sometimes curd and lime juice to make the "henna" paste richer in colour.

The henna has to be carefully applied to the palms and fingers. Some even decorate their arms and the back of their hands with henna. The designs are traditionally floral.

There is always a rush at beauty parlours at Eid to get hands and hair coloured with henna.

Among the wealthy Babylonians and Assyrians, henna reigned supreme in the courts. This was with incense and perfumes. In the subcontinent, it is a part of every celebration, especially during the two Eids, and weddings. The henna paste is made from leaves and water, and perhaps a bit of sugar, to deepen the colour. It is applied with a narrow bit of stick on the finger nails and palms. The floral and geometric designs are in the shapes of circle, lines and dots. Along with music and rich food, it is an integral part of celebrations in our country.

After the leaves are plucked, it is ground. The flower, tendrils and paisley patterns are then formed not just on the palm, wrist and hands -- but also on the upper part of the feet. Some avoid this as a rule as it is not in keeping with our tradition.

Henna is sold as a paste in cellophane cones in super markets. It is even imported under some cases. Henna is a part of everyday toiletries. Women use it on their long hair to add lustre.

During Eid, even men are not immune to the attractions of henna.

Star FASHION Eid 2013

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