







Solo Art Exhibition
Artist: Hoshina Toyomi (Japan)
Venue: Bengal Shilpalaya, H275/F, Rd-27 (old), Dhanmondi
Date: 17-25
Time: 12-8pm



Street Show of Doodles
Artist: Mustapha Khalid
Palash
Venue: Hotbread, R-11,
Banani, Dhaka
Date: Aug 6-Sep5
Time: 7pm-10pm



NEWS bytes

"Bishkabyo" and "Hartal-nama" at FSA-13

A CORRESPONDENT

Two documentaries by Ekattor TV, titled "Bishkabyo" and "Hartalnama" have been selected for screening at Film South Asia-2013, an international film festival. The biennial festival will be held at Nepalese capital Kathmandu from October

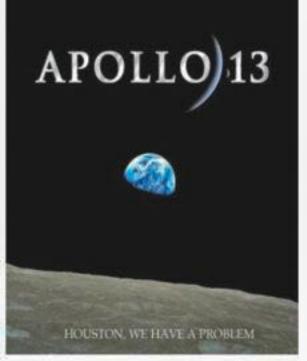
Of the 382 films in contention, "Bishkabyo" and "Hartal-nama" were



two of the only 35 films selected for the festival. Shabnam Ferdousi's

"Bishkabyo - The Poison
Teller" is the story of daily
lives of the hawkers who
sell rat and roach poisons,
and an analogy of the
insects to the impoverished
populace in the capital.
Farid Ahmed's "Hartalnama" is a satirical take on
how hartals are called in
the name of political rights,
and how it violates human
rights altogether.





"Apollo 13", "Armageddon", "Around the World in 80 Days" and rather surprisingly, "So I Married an Axe Murderer" are films kept at NASA's International Space Station.



ZAHANGIR ALOM

A 14-day (August 8-21) photography exhibition featuring a biographical documentary of internationally famed Bangladeshi painter Shahabuddin Ahmed is on at Zainul Gallery of Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA), University of Dhaka. The exhibition is open from 10am to 10pm everyday.

Inspired by eminent photographer Nasir Ali Mamun's unique work on legendary artist SM Sultan, talented photographer Iftekhar Wahid Iftee caught a number of beautiful images of the Paris-based artist through the last seven years.

Under the title "Shahabuddin The Painter, The Fighter", the exhibition showcases over 50 images of the painter in 42 frames. The 42 frames including a big collage actually symbolise 42 years of our achieving Independence, according to the photographer.

Bold strokes, vibrant colours and figurative expressions are the hallmark of Freedom Fighter
Shahabuddin Ahmed's works. The conscience and the indomitable spirit of Liberation War have frequently appeared as prominent connotations on
Shahabuddin's canvas. Images at the exhibition depict the artist's diverse moods, expressions, blissful moments, inner joys and many more. Several images stand out as those arrest the artist's intimate affinities with nature. Kashphul, a dominant flower of the season Autumn, appears to be a favourite of the artist in two brilliant images. Rapture reigns supreme in a rare image where smiles of an artist (Shahabuddin Ahmed) and an actress (Shabana Azmi) seem never ending. Iftee has tamed the art of silhouette in an

image that captures Shahabuddin Ahmed and Nasir Ali Mamun together. Another image shows Shahabuddin's throwing of dance mudra with his two daughters.

Iftee, a disciple of noted photographer Imtiaz Alam Beg, has a photographic career spanning over two decades. This is Iftee's fifth solo photography exhibition. In his previous four solo exhibits, the photographer showcased both creative and portrait photographs including one focusing on renowned media personality Shykh Seraj under the title "Son of the Soil".

Shahabuddin Ahmed inaugurated the exhibition by depicting a painting on canvas at the entrance of the gallery. Presidium member of Bangladesh Awami League Nuh-Alam-Lelin graced the inaugural as chief guest while Dhaka University Vice Chancellor AAMS Arefin Siddique, Dean of FFA Abul Barq Alvi, cultural personality Nasiruddin Yousuff and poet Belal Chowdhury were present as special guests.



Highlighting urban alienation in poetry

Shamsur Rahman's 7th death anniversary observed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

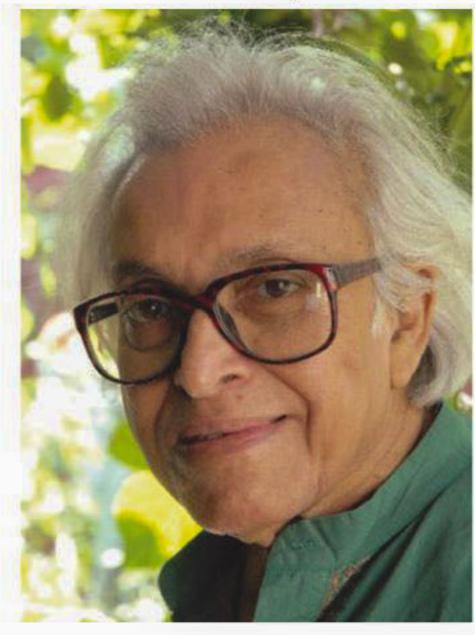
Shamsur Rahman was noted as an urban poet, essayist and journalist. He emerged into the literary scene in the latter half of the 20th century, wrote more than 60 books of poetry and is considered a key figure in Bengali literature. Major themes in his poetry and writings include urban alienation, liberal humanism, natural beauty, human relations, romanticism, democracy, religious fundamentalism and more. The bard was deeply influenced by Jibanananda Das and Sudhindranath Datta.

Yesterday marked the 7th death anniversary of the pre-eminent poet Shamsur Rahman.

Different socio-cultural organisations arranged programmes to observe the day. On the occasion, Jatiya Kabita Parishad and cultural and educational institutions placed wreaths at the grave of the poet at Banani. Milad Mahfil was held at the poet's residence at Shyamoli yesterday.

Rahman was born on October 23, 1929 at his grandfather's residence at Mahut Tuli in Old Dhaka. He was the fourth of 13 children. He studied at Pogose High School, Dhaka College and Dhaka University. Among his famed works are "Roudro Korotite", "Biddhasta Nilima", "Buk Tar Bangladesh-er Hridoy", "Hridoy Amar Prithibir Alo", "Prothom Gan Ditio Mrittur Agey", "Bondi Shibir Theke" and others. Besides poetry, he also contributed to the realms of essays, stories, novels, translations and columns. Through a career spanning over six decades, he wrote numerous poems and published over a 100 books. His poems have been translated in many languages.

Veteran poet Mahadev Saha recalled: "Rahman was undoubtedly one of the foremost Bengali poets. I met him in the late '60s in Dhaka. I had spent a fair share of time with him at seminars, recitations, tours overseas and cultural programmes. I fondly remember our times together. In 1972, we went to Kolkata to attend



"Bharat Bangladesh Moitri Mela". Laila Samad (noted writer) and her husband were also with us. We stayed at South Point School dormitory. The school was renowned for having some veteran writers as teachers, including Komol Kumar Majumdar and Ashish Shanyal. We stayed up the whole night, and exchanged views on various issues."

The poet had a long career as a journalist and served as the editor of a national daily, Dainik Bangla and the weekly Bichitrain the 1980s. An introvert by nature, he became an outspoken liberal intellectual in the 1990s against religious fundamentalism and reactionary politics in Bangladesh.

The poet received many prestigious awards in his life time. Rabindra Bharati University and Jadavpur University of India conferred honorary D.Lit. degrees on him. He was a recipient of Swadhinata Padak, Ekushey Padak, Adamjee Puroshkar, Bangla Academy Puroshkar, Jibanananda Puroshkar, Kabitalap Purosker, Abul Munsur Gold Medal, Bhasani Puroshkar and more.

Chittagong audience transported to a magical world

PRANABESH CHAKRABORTY, Chittagong

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Magic, or the art of illusion, has fascinated audiences across the world for centuries. While the spectator knows that there is no supernatural power behind it, the magician's craftsmanship and presentation make their acts works

of wonder.

"Mega Magic Festival-2013", a
well-attended two-day magic festival at Theater Institute, Chittagong
(TIC) began on Friday, organised
by Bangladesh Jadu Charcha
Kendra. Renowned magician Ulfat
Kabir inaugurated the festival.

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New generation of artistes pre-

sented their performances in the first session of the festival while the second session featured the performances of magicians from abroad.

A total of 88 magicians took part in the festival. Of them, 12 were from India, one from France and one from Germany.

Friday's second session started with the performance of B. Supriya from India. Turned out in royal finery, he hurled an object in the air. Before the audience could realise, the stage was strewn with flowers. Later, he performed another item titled "An amazing platform".

Following his performance, magic son and magic daughter Tanhan and Tanzin gave performances.

Noted magician, Salam Sikdar captivated the audience with his illusion of a magical rope.

Later, with a mere touch of his hand, JP Banerjee turned water into flags. He was followed by other illusionists.

Rajib Basak, convener of the festival committee, said that he had never expected such a favourable response from city dwellers.

The inaugural programme of the festival was addressed by Dainik Azadi editor MA Malek as the chief guest with Sakhawat Hossain, managing director of Western Marine as special guest.

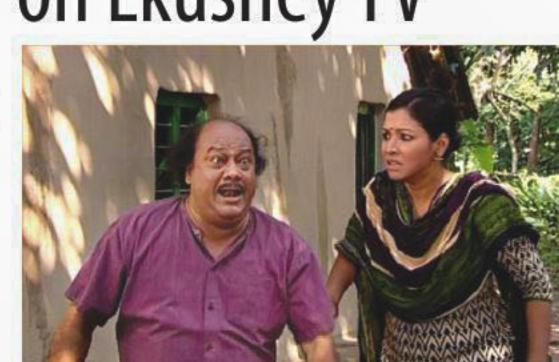


TV serial "Choturongo" on Ekushey TV

A Correspondent

TV plays with rural settings are well received by the audience. The latest serial "Choturongo" based on rural denizens and different aspects of their daily lives--their arrogance, professional jealousy, woes, happiness and more will be telecast from tonight on Ekushey TV.

Written by Anwar Hossain Anu and directed by Kaiser Ahmed, the cast includes Anisur Rahman Milon, Shoshi, Rana Khan, Wahida Mollick Jolly, Fazlur Rahman Babu, Shaju Khadem, Shamim and others. The serial will be aired every Sunday and Monday at 9:30 pm.



Barbara Cartland complete works to be published



All 883 of Barbara Cartland's novels, including 57 previously unseen works, are to be published as a result of a new distribution agreement.

The collection includes 160 manuscripts the prolific romance novelist left behind when she died 13 years ago. Branded "The Pink Collection", 103 of those works have already been made available via the author's website.

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Publisher M-Y Books has worked with her son Ian McCorquodale to "expand the reach" of the collection.

It will be accompanied by "The Eternal Collection", made up of dozens of existing titles, and a Spanish language collection.

All of the novels will be made available as e-books, with paperback editions printed on-demand. Jonathan Miller, managing director of M-Y Books,

said: "Barbara Cartland is a unique author known worldwide for her pure romance writing and novels that are perfect for family reading."

Dame Barbara published an unprecedented 723 books in her lifetime. Her "Who's Who" entry claimed she had achieved sales of 750 million. Her books were translated into 38 languages.

The author, who was step-grandmother of Diana, Princess of Wales, lived at Camfield Place country estate, near Hatfield, Hertfordshire. She died, aged 98, a year after completing her final novel.

Source: BBC

Deepti Samadder's passion for musical numbers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Promising singer Deepti Samadder Dipu started learning music at the age of eight under the tutelage of noted Guru Patit Paban Natto. She took lessons from the guru for eight years. Besides, the artiste completed a four- year course in Nazrul Sangeet and Classical Music from

Chhayanaut.

"I have also taken lessons in classical music from a
Chhayanaut Guru Anup Barua. At present I am taking lessons
from another Chhayanaut Guru Rezwan Ali," says Dipu.

Under the label of Laser Vision, Dipu's first solo audio album "Money Porey Aaj", featuring several Nazrul songs, has hit the audio market. Noted Indian musician Durbadal Chattopadhyay arranged and directed music for the album.

"Music is a great source of recreation. I have taken it as a challenge too. I was first baptized in Nazrul Sangeet and loved the genre a lot! Having conspicuous connotations of raga music in the genre, I try to seek harmony in it," asserts the artiste.

Dipu, a banker (senior officer of Standard Chartered Bank) by profession, has a great passion for music. An enlisted Nazrul artiste of BTV, Dipu performs music on other private channels too.

The artiste feels that music is a vast ocean. "It is difficult to quit if one gets the taste of pure music. The way I serve customers through my banking profession, I want to help the lesser-fortunate with whatever little earnings I can make through music, as I am not a professional singer."

Dipu thinks that Bangladesh is a fertile ground for promoting talent in classical music. Artistes have remarkably developed their skills in classical music over the generations. Bengal ITC-SRA Classical Music Festival 2012 was a great boost for classical artistes and the audience as well, she points out.

ell, she points out. Born in Pirojpur, Dipu was raised in a musical family.



Her parents -- Maya Samadder and late Chandra Kanta Samadder, along with her siblings, encouraged her greatly to enter the realm of music. Initially, Dipu faced a huge struggle; but now she is content with her musical progress. She acknowledges her husband Nabadwip Chandra Biswas' support in helping her pursue her passion for music. Her other interests are driving, cooking and entertaining near ones with delicious recipes and helping autistic children and the ultra poor.