

WHAT'S ON
 Celebrating 50 years
 Architect Mustapha Khalid
 Palash
 Venue: Lakeshore Hotel, R-41,
 H-46, Gulshan-2
 Date: September 11
 Time: 7pm



Solo Watercolour Exhibition
 Artist: Anisuzzaman
 Venue: Institute of Asian Creatives,
 Gulshan
 Date: Sep 6-17, Time: 10am-9pm



Theatre
 Play: Dui Je Chhilo Ek Chakor
 Troupe: Natyakendra
 Venue: National Theatre Hall,
 Shilpakala Academy
 Date: Sep 11
 Time: 7pm



Short Film Screening
 Title: Let's Talk
 Organiser: Goethe-Institut
 Bangladesh
 Venue: Goethe-Institut
 Date: Sep 12; Time: 7:30pm

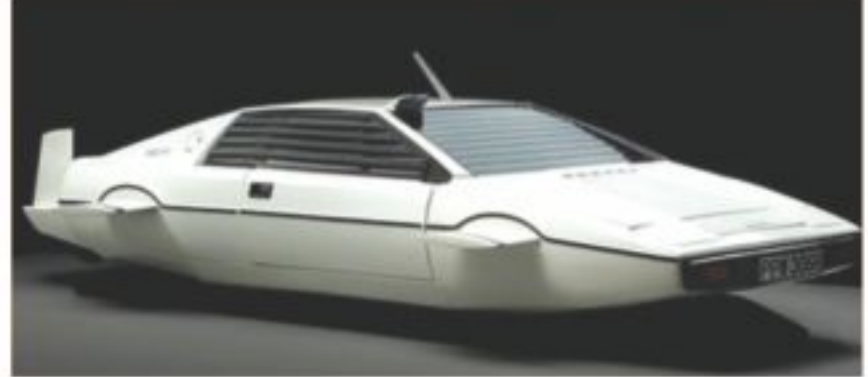


An Evening of Rabindra Sangeet
 Artist: Mita Haq
 Venue: Indira Gandhi Cultural
 Centre Auditorium, H-35, Rd-24,
 Gulshan-1



NEWS bytes

James Bond's submarine car sold at auction



A submarine car used in the James Bond film "The Spy Who Loved Me" has been sold for £550,000. The Lotus Esprit sold for less than the guide price despite a bidding war between a woman in the auction room and a telephone bidder who took the prized collector's piece. The car, said to be fully operational, was used in the underwater scene of the 1977 film starring Roger Moore as 007. After filming it toured various car shows before being stored in New York. It was sold at RM Auctions in Battersea, south-west London, for less than the estimated price of between £650,000 and £950,000. It had previously been auctioned as a blind lot in 1989. Peter Haynes, from the auction house, said: "Bearing in mind it is not a car that can be driven on the road, the price just goes to prove the draw that all Bond-related memorabilia has."

Source: BBC

IT'S TRUE!



A woman from Indiana, USA, discovered that her son had taken rubber bands from around the house and stretched them across the handles of his dresser drawer to pluck out music he had heard her play on the piano. His parents got a scaled-to-size violin for their then five-year-old son and started giving him lessons. That kid was Joshua Bell, one of the most noted classical violinists of current times. He appeared as a soloist with the Philadelphia Orchestra at age 14, debuted at Carnegie Hall three years later in 1985, and has since collaborated with many noted artistes.

Highlighting sundry facial expressions
 Hamiduzzaman's solo exhibition at Hot Breads

TAKIR HOSSAIN

Hot Breads in Banani kicked off a street show last month, wherein every month it will display paintings, watercolours and crafts of eminent artists of the country. It also strives to make art within the reach of art collectors while offering gourmets a delectable range of confectionary. In continuation of the venture, the outlet has organised a watercolour exhibition titled "Expression of Faces", demonstrating the works of renowned sculptor and watercolourist Professor Hamiduzzaman Khan.

Khan is recognised for his metal-based works, where he focuses on forms and geometrical shapes. He is also adept in watercolour and painting. At the ongoing exhibition, Hamiduzzaman has done a number of visages. Some faces seem to be primitive, tribal, and unfamiliar. The faces are not identical and each face expresses a unique explanation and look. The face is the most significant part of the human body and can express the language of the mind vividly. At the exhibition, the facial expressions denote pleasure, horror and melancholy. His overall composition is styled with curves and many hues. Some of his compositions are styled with geometric shapes and



Guests at the inauguration.

lines. In creating so many faces in different perspectives, Hamiduzzaman has again demonstrated his unrivalled creativity.

At the exhibition, the artist's semi-abstract and semi-realistic of portraits, and the lucidity of the watercolour technique, boosts his use of the background as romantic view. His using of space is significant in that the most important feature takes precedence by position rather than by perspective, resulting in semi-abstract relationships. Sensual colours and remarkable theme give a distinctive look to his watercolours.

Though Hamiduzzaman is an urban artist who mostly

resides in Dhaka, he likes to spend his time away from the city's chaos. He frequently visits rural areas, and that is why his work (particularly watercolours) highlight greenery, rural panorama, cloudy sky, deep forest and hills. His tranquil and intensely contemplative landscape carries a symbolism that denotes harmony and hope in nature. He produces serene watercolours and focuses his attention on impressive phenomena such as soft light and drizzle, which reflects his study on landscape.

By nature, Hamiduzzaman is a workaholic and always strives to create something novel and phenomenal. By

inventing new forms and exploring novel themes, he has acquired a distinguished position in our local art milieu.

The exhibition was recently inaugurated by noted art enthusiast and chairman of Summit Group M A Aziz Khan. Nusrat Bari Asha, managing director of Hot Breads and organiser of Street Show; Mustapha Khalid Palash, founder of Delvistaa Foundation and engineer Mainul Abedin (son of Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin) alongside other renowned dignitaries and art lovers were present at the inauguration.

The exhibition will continue till September 22.

"Pancha Narir Akhyan" staged in Mymensingh
 Women and men as unequals

AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh

Dhaka Theatre staged "Pancha Narir Akhyan" at Mymensingh Shilpakala Academy auditorium on Friday evening.

The over one-hour play was based on the sufferings of women caught in oppressive relationships with men. Rosy Siddique, a popular TV and theatre artiste, drew a loud round of applause with her spontaneous solo performance.

This was the 37th staging of the play written by Harun Rashid and directed by prominent actor Shahiduzzaman Selim. Sareng Theatre, a renowned theatre troupe of the town organised the programme.

Afzal Hossain, Shimul Yousuff, Chandan Chowdhury, Nasreen Nahar, Sayeed Rinku, Rubayet Ahmed, Samiun Jahan Dula, Atik Shams, Saidul Hoque, Shanta Chowdhury and Mustafa Ratan assisted the play.



Rosy Siddique performs in the play. PHOTO: STAR

Earlier, a discussion was held with theatre activists and cultural personalities taking part. Mamunul Haque Biplob, president of Sareng Theatre, delivered the welcome speech. Deputy Commissioner of Mymensingh Mustakim Billah Faruqui, secretary of Bahurupi Natya Sangstha Shahadat Hossain Khan Hilu, Ali Azhar Hablu of Bidrohi Natya Ghosthi, Chhayanat Sahitya and Sangskritik Dal president Sharif Mahfuzul Haque, district cultural officer Md. Shamsul Haque and Nizam Mollick Nizu were present, among others at the discussion.

The speakers said that from ancient times there prevails a serious chasm in many man-woman relationships. However, in many cases women continue their relationships for the sake of their children.

In such a scenario, many women have to go leave their home and are then at the mercy of the society, said the speakers.



Members of "Sargam Sanskritik Dol" performed a choral song at an event held on September 6 at National Press Club, in the capital. Poet Asad Chowdhury graced the launching ceremony of the troupe as chief guest while lyricist KG Mustafa and folk singer Indra Mohan Rajbongshi attended the event as special guests. Monthly Sargam editor and president of the troupe Kazi Rannaq Hossain presided over the programme.



ZUBIN MEHTA
 The global citizen

KAVITA, New Delhi

Famous international music conductor, the 77-year-old Zubin Mehta, never loses creative form despite advancing years. His latest coup was a concert called "Ehsaas-e-Kashmir" (The feel of Kashmir) at the 400-year-old sprawling Shalimar Bagh in Srinagar, Kashmir, the politically troubled Indian state.

While Mehta has directed some of the world's best-known orchestras, this time around he wielded the baton for the large Bavarian State Orchestra. Western instruments such as cellos, violins, clarinets and horns hit just the right notes as Mehta led the orchestra through a repertoire that included the works of Beethoven, Haydn and Tchaikovsky.

The opening attraction was a Kashmiri-western instrumental fusion, "Haft e Rang", that had 1,500 select guests glued to their seats. While Abhay Sopori led a 15-member troupe with typically Kashmiri instruments, Mehta's orchestra members seemed completely at ease playing to the exotic strains of the sarangi, matka and rabaab.

The concert was telecast live in many European countries and India. But then again, Mehta has a deep connect with India. Not only has he brought the world's leading orchestras to many Indian cities, the Parsi conductor of western classical music was born in Bombay (now Mumbai) in 1936. He received his early musical education from his father Mehli Mehta, a renowned concert violinist and founder-conductor of the Bombay Symphony Orchestra.

Leaving for Vienna in 1954 after short period of pre-medical studies in Bombay, Mehta entered the conducting programme under Hans Swarowsky at the Akademie für Musik.

As recognition rapidly came his way, by 1961 he had conducted the prestigious Vienna, Berlin and Israel Philharmonic Orchestras. An important milestone which he has reached recently is 50 years of musical collaboration with the three ensembles. Mehta has also been the guiding force



behind Montreal Symphony Orchestra and the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra. In 1981, the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra awarded him the title of Music Director for life. Zubin Mehta has conducted over 3,000 concerts with this ensemble including tours spanning five continents. In 1978, he took over the post of Music Director of the New York Philharmonic kicking off a tenure of 13 years, the longest in the orchestra's history. Since 1985, he has been chief conductor of the Teatro del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino in Florence.

Mehta has made an imprint as opera conductor too. Starting with the historic production "Tosca" in Montreal in 1963 he, later conducted the Metropolitan Opera New York, the Vienna State Opera, the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, La Scala Milan, and the opera houses of Chicago and Florence as well as at the Salzburg Festival. Between 1998 and 2006, he was Music Director of the Bavarian State Opera in Munich. He is the President of the annual Festival del Mediterrani in Valencia.

No wonder multiple awards came his way. The list includes "Nikisch-Ring" bequeathed to him by Karl Böhm. He is an honorary citizen of both Florence and Tel Aviv and was made an honorary member of the Vienna State Opera in 1997, of the Bavarian State Opera in 2006 and of the Gesellschaft der Musikfreunde Wien in 2007.

Though a truly global citizen and a permanent resident of the US, Mehta keeps his Indian citizenship. While in Delhi, he was conferred the Tagore Award for Cultural Harmony by President Pranab Mukherjee. This follows the Indian government's prestigious Padma Bhushan and Padma Vibhushan awards. He received Kennedy Center Honors for his lifetime contributions to American culture.

It isn't just his brilliant musical career that drives Mehta. Now his mission is to support endeavours to discover and hone musical talents globally. Along with his brother Zarin, he is a co-chairman of the Mehli Mehta Music Foundation in Bombay where over 200 children train in western classical Music.



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