

WHAT'S ON

Celebrating Life Gala 2013

Venue: Shaheed Suhrawardy Indoor Stadium, Mirpur

Date: October 4

Time: 6pm

(Event is invitational. Collect)



Autumn Festival

Organiser: Chhayanaout

Venue: Bakultala, Charukala, Dhaka University

Date: Oct 4

Time: 7am



Classical Music Workshop and Film Screening

Marking Bengal Classical Music Fest 2013

Venue: Bengal Café, Dhanmondi

Date: Sep 26- Nov 16

Time: Every Thursday (3-5pm) & Saturday (10am-12pm)



Solo Painting Exhibition

Artist: Carel Richter

Venue: Gulshan Avenue, Circle 1

Date: Sep 29-Oct 9

Time: 12pm-8pm



Solo Drawing Exhibition

Title: Unseen Splendour

Artist: SM Sultan

Venue: Bengal Shilpalaya, H-42, R-16(New), Dhanmondi

Date: Sep 21-Oct 11

Time: 12-8pm



CELEBRATING LIFE GALA '13

The Film Contest

2008-2012

KHAN NAHIDA MOUSHUMI

In 2008, "Celebrating Life" awarded Shibu Kumer Shill for his documentary "Elias Er Khowari" -- based on a true short story focusing on the religious minorities in Bangladesh, something that we as individuals tend to ignore in our everyday lives. It is about Ranajit Pal Chowdhury -- a Bengali poet from a zamindar family who fled from his house with his family members from Old Dhaka to Kolkata, leaving all their belongings behind during the liberation war. The tale continues to construe how a family, once aristocrat, is now struggling to survive crumbling in the passage of time. The documentary is an illustration of the gruesome sights of reality within the minority communities and how they fail everyday to live their dreams just like normal human beings.

Since 2008, "Celebrating Life", jointly organised by The Daily Star and Standard Chartered Bank, has been giving a platform to filmmakers for creative expression. The film contest invites entries across two segments: Best Film and Best Debut Film. Each year, cash awards of Tk. 200,000, along with Tk. 300,000 for the production cost, are given to each of the two Best films from the Best Short Fiction and Best Documentary categories, and Tk. 50,000 is given to each of the two Best Debut Films.

Unlike other categories, the Film contest's theme/subject is open to the imagination of the filmmaker. To give promising filmmakers an opportunity to grow and improve, "Celebrating Life" has been hosting an annual filmmaking workshop since 2011, to enhance the quality of production and participation that contestants are encouraged to partake in.

This year's Gala of 'Celebrating Life 2013' will be held on October 4, 2013 at Shaheed Suhrawardy Indoor Stadium.

BOLD STROKES

Carel Richter's solo exhibition at Bengal Art Lounge



(From left): Garben Sjoerd de Jong, Nawshin Khair, Carel Richter, Abul Khair and Gawher Rizvi at the exhibition.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Under the title "Invitation to the Dance", a solo painting exhibition by Carel Richter of the Netherlands, was recently inaugurated at the Bengal Art Lounge, Gulshan in the capital.

Ambassador of the Netherlands in Bangladesh Garben Sjoerd de Jong inaugurated the exhibition as chief guest. Foreign Affairs Adviser to the Prime Minister Dr. Gowher Rizvi and chief executive officer of Standard Chartered Bank Jim McCabe spoke at the inaugural session. Abul Khair, chairman of Bengal Foundation and Nawshin Khair, director of Bengal Art Lounge also attended the programme.

Thirty paintings are on display at the exhibition. The painter's artworks with bold strokes of strong shades give emphasis to the rhythm of human body. The striking and thrilling moves of dance are captured with deftness on canvas. The works focus on his keen perception of dance movements, as the painter comprehends the dancer's sensitivity.

Carel Richter was born in Amsterdam, Netherlands in 1967. He joined the Royal Academy of Art and Design in 1985. He studied design and architecture at the academy. Richter had his major solo exhibitions at the National Gallery of Modern Art in Rome, Arndt in Berlin, Museum 52, Criterion in Amsterdam and many more. In recognition of his contributions, the painter was honoured with prestigious awards in the USA, Netherland and Italy.

The exhibition will continue till October 9.

Three-day CU theatre festival concludes

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Chittagong

"Tasher Desh", a play based on a dance-drama penned by Rabindranath Tagore, captivated theatre enthusiasts in the port city on Sunday evening.

The play was staged at the concluding day of the first ever three-day theatre festival organised by Dramatics Department of Chittagong University (CU) at District Shilpakala Academy auditorium.

Directed by Asim Das, noted dramatist and the teacher of Dramatics Department of CU, "Tasher Desh" depicted the story of a prince who did not like a disciplined life. In search of a utopia, the prince and his merchant- friend leave the palace for an unknown destination.

On crossing the sea, they arrive at "Tasher Desh", a kingdom where everything is determined by rigid rules. How the prince and his queen mother turn the existing rules on their head form the crux of the play.

Asim Das, dance artiste Tilottama Sengupta and Nishigandha Dasgupta choreographed the dance drama. Asim Das also designed costumes, lights and stage of the musical drama. Presented by the students of the department, the play captivated the audience.

In the drama, Lenin and Mamun enacted the roles of prince and the merchant- friend respectively. Nazmul, Imran, Nishi and Shakila and Abir also played important roles.

The choreography with the songs "Kharo bayu boye begey", "Chiriton, harton, Iskapan" was innovative.

On the second day of the festival "Rupar Kouta" was staged. Adapted from English playwright John Galsworthy's "The Silver Box" by Munier Chowdhury, the play narrates how existing laws always favour the rich while the poor remain deprived.

Supervised by Department chairman Dr. Kuntal Barua, Shakila Tasmin directed and Rakibul Hasan Dinar choreographed the play. Sanwar Hossain, Umme Rahima, Nishigandha and Talifa Yasmin enacted important roles.



A scene from Tasher Desh. PHOTO: STAR

200 child artistes get stipend in Lalmonirhat

S DILIP ROY, Lalmonirhat

Two hundred child folk singers were given stipends to support their education at a function held at District Council Auditorium Hall in Lalmonirhat on Friday. The singers from poor families are school students from 14 upazilas in two districts Lalmonirhat and Kurigram. Each of them was given stipend of Taka 1,000. It was arranged by Arshi Nagar Bangladesh, a non-government organisation for Preservation and Promotion of Folk Music and Folk Artists in Northern Bangladesh.

Lalmonirhat Deputy Commissioner Habibur Rahman, Superintendent of Police Habibur Rahman, Captain (retd.) Azizul Haque Bir Protik, president of Arshi Nagar Bangladesh, folk singer Nil Kamol Mishro and its executive director Badsha Alam spoke at the function.

Anamika Roy, 15, from Kaliganj upazila in Lalmonirhat, said she was very happy to receive the stipend, as it would enable her to continue her education.

Badsha Alam said his organisation has been promoting folk songs and singers in North Bangladesh since 2005.

Later, a vibrant cultural function was held with performances by the young singers.



PHOTO: RIDWAN ADID RUPON

Dr. Chanchal Khan to perform at IGCC

A CORRESPONDENT

Dr. Chanchal Khan, an accomplished Tagore singer balances his development professional skills with a passion for music. Chanchal has been singing, researching and teaching Tagore songs over the last three decades.

Largely a self-trained singer, Chanchal received formal lessons at Chhayanaout. During his occasional visits to Dhaka, he took lessons from his friend and mentor of many years, Sadi Mohammad. He has also had occasional lessons from Debabrata Biswas in Kolkata.

Chanchal is one of the founding members of Rabindra Shangeet Shommilan Parishad, and an Executive Committee member of Rabindra Shangeet Shilpi Shangstha.

He has three solo albums to his credit. Of late, he has taken interest in translating the songs of Tagore in English for a non-Bengali speaking audience.

At the soiree, Chanchal will present songs from Geetanjali, and also songs of autumn.

Johansson to appear in Captain America 2

Scarlett Johansson is set to make an appearance as Black Widow in "Captain America: The Winter Solider", and has revealed that the new film will take place two years after the events of "The Avengers".

"This film is in real time," says Johansson. "It's been two years since the characters appeared, and now both are agents of S.H.I.E.L.D. fighting in the streets. We are not superheroes flying side by side. They help each other because we are fighting in a similar way. It's a working relationship."

"By a series of unfortunate encounters, they will be in a situation in which their friendship becomes more intimate," continues the star. "They share many similarities because they live on the defensive without relying on anyone."

"Also, the two have been working for the government throughout their professional careers. With their friendship, they begin to question what they want and what their true identity is."

And as for playing the Widow goes, Johansson is eternally grateful for Joss Whedon's take on the character.

"To me, this character has given me a great opportunity," she says. "Joss has jumped the fence with Avengers to celebrate a female character that is not a simple ornament inside the group. He's not interested in just selling her physical attractiveness."

Directed by Joe and Anthony Russo, "Captain America: The Winter Soldier" will open in the UK on May 2, 2014.

Source: **Totalfilm**



Chhayanaout's Autumn Fest at Charukala

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

To usher in the welcome autumn season, artistes of Chhayanaout will celebrate a "Sharodotshab" (autumn festival) at Bakultala of Charukala (Faculty of Fine Arts), Dhaka University on October 4 at 7am.

The festival will feature performance of songs and dances. Noted and promising artistes of Chhayanaout will perform at the festival. Grameenphone is the sponsor of the festival.



Bengal Classical Music Festival

In association with ITC Sangeet Research Academy

Dhaka Bangladesh

Returns... this November



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