

WHAT'S ON

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



Solo Painting Exhibition

Artist: Shahabuddin Ahmed

Venue: Gallery Chitrak, Dhanmondi

Date: Sep 28-Oct 12

Time: 10am-8pm



Group Exhibition

Title: Unity of Souls

Venue: Athena Gallery of Fine Arts, AJ Heights, Cha-72/1/D, Progoti Shorani

Date: Sep 27-Oct 26




Solo Painting Exhibition

Artist: Carel Richter

Venue: Gulshan Avenue, Circle 1

Date: Sep 29-Oct 9

Time: 12pm-8pm



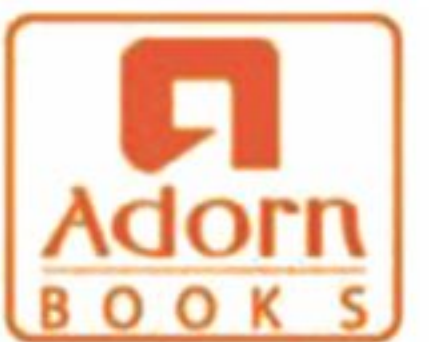
Autumn Book Fair

Organiser: Adorn Publication

Venue: Public Library, Shahbagh

Date: Sep 28-Oct 12

Time: 9am-8pm



# Celebrating Autumn in full fervour

## Chhayanaut holds a rainy-Sharat-Utsab



PHOTO: RIDWAN ADID RUPON

**SAURAV DEY**

With the drizzling rain and dark clouds floating in the grey sky, it was rather unusual for an autumnal morning. Though it was a bit less-saturated, Chhayanaut's Sharat Utsab brought out the essence of autumn with their mellifluous renditions highlighting the nature of Sharat -- the third season in the cycle of six. The programme took place at the premises of the Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka University -- better known as Charukala -- on October 4 morning.

Adorned with the gentle and snowy Kash flowers and women in bright attires, the Bokul-tala was lively with the presence of audiences who thronged the place to sing together with the performers, sitting under the large tree. Along with the vibrant attires, multi-coloured

umbrellas also covered the venue, even part of the stage; another uncommon scene at Bokul-tala.

Choral rendition of Tagore song "Dekho Dekho, Dekho Shuktara" in sync with a group dance, set the programme in motion, followed by another Tagore number "Shubhro Ashoney Biraj" by Sukanta Chakraborty. A number of songs -- fitting perfectly to the mood -- came one by one, insinuating into the audience; sometimes taking them down the memory lane.

"Kaar Banshi Nishibhorey Bajilo", set on raga "Aashabori" and "Amolo Dhobolo Paa-e", based on Raga "Behag", explicitly articulated the feel-good gentleness of autumn atmosphere. "Sheuli Phool, Sheuli Phool," "Tomra Ja Bolo Tai Bolo," "Hey Khoniker Otithi" "Je Chhayare Dhorbo Bole", "Ami Chanchalo Hey" "Amare Dak Dilo Ke" --

# Invoking the Mother Goddess

## Mahalaya programme held at Dhakeshwari temple

**ZAHANGIR ALOM**

Yesterday dawn resonated with the holy *ulu* and *Shankho-dhwani* coupled with the rhythms of *dhak* at Dhakeshwari National Temple in Dhaka. Marking Mahalaya, noted elocutionist Bhashwar Bandyopadhyay recited the immortal verses from the "Chandi" while several noted artistes performed devotional songs and dances at the event.

Mahalaya ushers in the aura of Durga Puja. From the day of Mahalaya, the preparations for the Durga Puja reach the final stage. It is an auspicious occasion observed seven days before the Durga Puja, and heralds the advent of Durga, the goddess of supreme power. It's an invitation to the mother goddess to descend on earth to ward off all evils. This is done through the chanting of mantras and singing devotional songs.

Based on Raga "Bageshree", noted singer Khairul Anam Shakil beautifully presented a Nazrul Sangeet "Ma-go Chinmoyi Roop Dhorey Aaye" at the event themed on "Dhormo Jaar Jaar, Utshab Shobar". Alope Kumar Sen performed a Bhairvi Sandra "Bhavani Dayani". The artiste's rendition seemingly touched the hearts of the audience as he emotively produced *pukar* with apt devotion.

Accomplished vocalist Priyanka Gope offered a

Mahalaya traditional song "Yea Chandi" while singer Bizon Chandra Mistry presented a devotional track from his latest album "Matir Protima". Another devotional piece by promising singer Shimu Dey followed. Talented singer Sanjay Kabiraj performed a Nazrul Sangeet "Jago Jogomaya Jago Mrinmoyi", set on Raga "Jogia". Choreographed by renowned dancer Sharmila Bandyopadhyay, several artistes presented a group dance along with three solo pieces at the event.

Autumn is the season of softness and silkiness. The constantly-changing beauty of clouds; freshness and fragrance of sheuli-bokul; sunlight-glittering dewy pearl on the web of spider and the joyful advent of Devi Durga all are the features of the season. Music, themed on the season, has a nostalgic plea. A Tagore composition "Oi Bhubono Monomohini" reminds of the ushering in of "Durga". The crux of the song focuses on getting rid of scarcity, poverty and dearth and bringing in food, wealth and energy. Another Tagore composition "Aaji Bangladesh-er Hridoy Hotey Kokhon Aponi, Tumi Ei Oporoop Roop-e Bahir Holey Janoni; Ogo Maa, Tomaye Dekhe Dekhe Aankhi Na Phirey, Tomar Duar Aaji Khule Gechhey Shonar Mondirey..." superbly depicts the season autumn and Devi Durga.



Artistes perform at the programme. PHOTO: RIDWAN ADID RUPON

# NEWS bytes

## Jolie to direct second film in Australia



Australia will supply the locations for "Unbroken, a World War II" drama, marking Angelina Jolie's second foray behind the camera.

The actress-director will shoot her follow-up to 2011's "Land of Blood" and "Honey in Sydney" and parts of rural New South Wales.

Based on the book by Laura Hillenbrand, "Unbroken" tells of Louis Zamperini, the Olympian runner-turned-bombardier who spent two years as a prisoner of war after being shot down in the Pacific.

"Skins" star Jack O'Connell will play Zamperini in a cast that also includes Garrett Hedlund and Domhnall Gleeson.

According to the Hollywood Reporter, the film will start filming on October 21 at Sydney's Fox Studios Australia and the Village Roadshow Studios on the Gold Coast.

The Universal Pictures title is scheduled for release in the US on December 25, 2014.

Source: BBC

# IT'S TRUE!



Mayim Bialik, who plays the role of neuroscientist Amy Farrah Fowler in popular US TV show "The Big Bang Theory", has a PhD in neuroscience in real life. After portraying the lead character in 90s TV show "Blossom", she attained degrees in Neuroscience, Hebrew and Jewish studies at the prestigious University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). Although she was also accepted in Harvard and Yale, she stated that she wanted to stay close to her parents. She eventually got her PhD from UCLA in 2007.

# The week gone by

## Cultural news from across the country

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogra**

**Seasonal cultural programme**

Amra Ka'Jan Shilpi Goshthi, a cultural organisation of Bogra, arranged a season-based cultural programme at Zila Parishad Auditorium in Bogra town on Monday evening. Prior to that, a short discussion was held, presided over by the president of the organisation, Abdus Samad Polash.

The discussants emphasised the key role of cultural activities in cutting across age-barriers and looking on the bright side of life. Culture was an important part of the ideology of the freedom struggle; the nurturing of culture can enable the country to march ahead, they added.

The discussion was followed by a refreshing presentation by the artistes of the organisation, enjoyed by a 100-strong audience.

**Writers' association Silver Jubilee**

Meanwhile, Bogra Lekkhok Chakro recently held its two-day Silver Jubilee programme with a turnout of hundreds of poets from different regions of the country at Woodburn Public Library in the town. The event was inaugurated by poet Mukid Haidar and poet and Joint Secretary to the Bangladesh government Aminul Islam, and presided over by the president of the organisation, Islam Rafiq. Secretary of the organisation Amir Khosru Selim delivered the welcome speech.

The inauguration programme was followed by a colourful rally in the town, children's painting competition, recitation of poetry, discussion, honouring six personalities for their contribution in respective arenas.

**"Shikhandi Katha" staged**

Earlier in the week, Bangladesh Gram Theatre and Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation arranged a cultural exchange between Bogra and Noagaon districts by staging "Shikhandi Katha" at Zila Parishad Milanayatan on Saturday. The play was staged by Noagaon Coronation Hall Society, with the aim of eliminating gender discrimination and improving the theatre movement.

Before the play, a short discussion was held on the effective exchange of cultural activities.

The discussion was presided over by noted dramatist of the town Khandakar Golam Kader.

As part of the programmes, Bogra

Theatre will stage the play "Court Marshal" -- based on the Liberation War -- at Coronation Hall Society Mancha of Noagaon town tomorrow.

**AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh**

**Idol makers get busy**

Around 700 puja mandaps will be set up in Mymensingh, up from 660 last year. As demand for idols for Durga Puja gathers momentum, artisans are working round the clock to complete the orders. They are also busy making idols for Vishwakarma Puja.

"The shortage of workers has



(Top) Artistes of Sandipon (Mymensingh) sing at the programme. Children participate in art competition marking Bogra Lekkhok Chakro's silver jubilee.

thrown a damper on Puja preparations. We could not take more orders for this reason," said Joyonta Ghosh, an idol artiste of the town. "As the price of materials used to make idols has increased several times in recent years, we cannot meet the monetary demands of workers," added the young artiste.

Other leading artistes of the town like Shambhu Das, Sanjoy Das, and Ajoy Kar said that they work all year

with a few interregnums and are happy with the increasing demand for idols. However, there is disinterest of the younger generation in the profession, and a shortfall of idol makers, he added.

**Dance-drama staged**

Elsewhere, dance drama "Mewa Chander Pala", adapted from "Mahua", a prominent chapter of "Mymensingh Geetika" enthralled the audience at a capacity filled Mymensingh Zila Shilpakala auditorium last Friday evening.

Sandipon Sangskritik Sangstha, a prominent cultural group of the

# BENGAL CLASSICAL MUSIC FEST '13



# 'Bombay' Jayashri sets the tune

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

As the Bengal Classical Music Festival 2013 approaches, Star Arts & Entertainment continues to introduce some of the maestros set to participate in the event. The second installment of the series features Jayashri Ramnath:

Jayashri Ramnath (popularly known as 'Bombay Jayashri') is an Indian Carnatic music vocalist and 'Academy Award' nominated music composer. She is a disciple of violin maestro Lalgudi Jayaraman.

Jayashri gave her first concert in 1982. Since then, she has performed at various festivals and venues in India and abroad.

Jayashri's jugalbandi with Ronu Majumdar and Shubha Mudgal were very well received. The artiste sang Thirukkural and an Annamacharya verse in the prestigious audio autobiography "Wings of Fire" of former Indian President Abdul Kalam. She performed in "Bhaire Baanvari", the story of Meera, conceptualised and directed by Gowri Ramnarayan. Jayashri also performed at the MTV Coke Studio (India) Season 1 with Ustad Rashid Khan and Richa Sharma.

The ever-innovative Jayashri has collaborated with various eminent global artistes, among them Egyptian singer Hisham Abbas and Senegalese singer Thione Seck. In 2008, she was part of an Indo-Finnish venture "Red Earth and Pouring Rain", where she sang "Kuuntokai", an ancient poem from Sangam literature with Avanti, a Philharmonic Orchestra from Finland and set to music by Eero Hämeenniemi. In 2012, she sang the poetry of Mirza Ghalib composed by Eero Hämeenniemi at the Vantaa festival, Finland.

Jayashri is also a much sought-after playback singer and her limited foray into film music has won her the Filmfare award for the popular number "Vaseegara" for the Tamil film "Minnale" which later was remade in Hindi as "Rehna Hai Tere Dil Mein".

She sang in Mahesh Dattani's "Morning Raga" for the music of Amit Heri. Jayashri worked with Oscar-winning director Ang Lee on "Life of Pi". She wrote and performed the lyrics for "Pi's Lullaby", which was nominated for the 2013 Oscars in the Best Original Song category.

Jayashri featured in the first full length Carnatic music film "Margazhi Ragam", conceptualised by Director P Jayendra. Along with T. M. Krishna and YACM, she initiated "Svanubhava", a week-long annual Music Festival, exclusively for students of music.