

WHAT'S ON

Women's Film Festival

Venue: National Art Gallery Auditorium, Shilpakala Academy

Date: Oct 6-11

Time: 3, 5 & 7pm everyday

Solo Painting Exhibition

Title: Joddha

Artist: Shahabuddin Ahmed

Venue: Gallery 21, 751, Satmasjid Road, Dhanmondi

Date: Sep 20-Oct 11

Classical Music Festival

Marking 400th Instalment of Shuddha Sangeet Proshar Goshthi

Venue: Bishwa Shahitya Kendra (4th floor), Banglamotor

Date: Oct 9-10

Solo Painting Exhibition

Artist: Jamil Akbar Shamim

Venue: Institute of Asian Creatives, Gulshan-2

Date: Oct 4-Oct 26

Time: 12pm-8pm

Solo Painting Exhibition

Artist: Goutam Chakraborty

Venue: Galleri Kaya, H-20, R-16, Sector 4, Uttara

Date: Sep 28-Oct 11

Time: 11am-7:30pm

Puja mandaps wear festive look in Pabna

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU, Pabna

With Durga Puja round the corner, temples in the district wear a festive look. As every year, idol-makers are busy ahead of Durga Puja and business is at its peak.

"I have made statues for five temples in the district headquarters this year," Bishnu Pada Pal, an idol maker of Faridpur upazila told The Daily Star. "I have no income round the year, so this season is very important," he said, adding that the idol makers have begun decorating the idols.

"We want to ensure the highest quality decoration in the mandaps to attract viewers," said Binoy Jati Kundu, secretary of Joy Kali Mandir.

President of Ishwardi upazila Puja Udzapan Parishad, Ramendranath Chakrabarti said that the decorations are near completion.

Gonesh Chandra Ghosh, president of Pabna district Puja Udzapan Parishad said that Durga Puja will be held in 317 Puja mandaps this year.



PHOTO: STAR



PHOTO: RIDWAN ADDI RUPON

Powerful, purposeful dancing

Nrityanchal concludes Raibeshe workshop with demonstration performance

FAHMIM FERDOUS

Nrityanchal, one of the most active dance schools of the country, have been conducting dance workshops for their students since their inception. As part of that, a weeklong workshop on the traditional dance form of Bengal, Raibeshe, was held at the Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) from September 29. To mark the end of the workshop, Nrityanchal organised a dance programme at BSA's National Theatre Hall on Sunday.

Noted dancer Shibli Mohammad, one of the cornerstones of Nrityanchal, welcomed the guests, before Mohammad Zahangir, coordinator of the workshop spoke on the school's activities and recent successes. Shamim Ara Nipa, an acclaimed dancer herself and co-founder of Nrityanchal, then spoke on the workshop's motive and how it was held. Dr. Tarun Pradhan, a professor of Theatre at Bisva Bharati University (West Bengal), who conducted the workshop, then spoke on the Raibeshe dance form. He said the form, invented and developed by Gurusaday Dutta, is one of the most glorious



dance forms of the region, citing Rabindranath as saying that such a macho dance-form was rare. Dr. Pradhan, along with his associates Koustav Bhakt, Shambhu Soren, Monira Parveen Happy and Shaktipad Maiti were also accorded a floral reception, followed by token certificate-giving to two youngest participants of the form -- since handing certificates to all 125 participants would be time-consuming.

The demonstration began with the students coming on stage, meditating and warming up. With flute, folk drums and chants and bols in the background, the artists gave a preview of the basics of the form; sharp, bursting movements in sync on firm poise with screams akin to martial-art forms, swift, acrobatic movements in aggressive choreography and some teamed-up stunts.

The next performance was of the youngest students of Nrityanchal -- a thematic presentation of the agricultural heritage of Bengal fusing dance styles Raibeshe, Pata and Paik to children's needs. The bright costumes, uses of props and simple yet well-done choreography made it a pleasant performance.

Choreography on Pata dance was next in cue. In tight-would 'chains', two groups of students in tribal-like bright and leaves-adorned costumes used the stage fairly well, as dhol player Shaktipad Maiti took centre-stage in energetic movements and a song. It displayed the quintessen-

tial villagers dance and expressions, simple and unrefined but expressive and uninhibited.

The next presentation, titled "Man but Machine" -- by Dr. Pradhan's associates from India Koustav Bhakt and Shambhu Soren -- was a mimetic action presentation on a story-line and contemporary and western dance-forms like robotics and locking-and-popping. Although executed very well by two talented artistes, it seemed inconsistent with the ambiance of the evening.

A Paik dance was next; the dance-form, also a very traditional to Bengal, was also executed well, with fluent movements, good use of stage and compact choreography. Spears and shields were used well as props, and the performance overall was nice.

The evening's performances came to a close with a full-fledged demonstration of Raibeshe. Energy oozed on stage as the dancers moved around in groups with great agility in poses of archery and sword-fighting. The acrobats were also eye-catchy; be it the human tower or the 'man on an elephant', the essence was Raibeshe was commendably portrayed.

World Children's Day Cultural festival held

Bangladesh Children's Theatre Federation organised a two-day cultural festival at Central Shaheed Minar premises to mark World Children's Day, says a press release. October 5 was the concluding day of the festival. Senior vice-president of Sammilito Sangskritik Jote, Golam Kuddus; noted poet Moinuddin Kajal; chief human resource officer of HAQUE Group M Shamsul Arefin and president of Bangladesh Children Theatre Federation Shafiqur Rahman Taqdir distributed certificates among the winners who participated at HAQUE Genius Children Art competition at Law faculty premises of Dhaka University on the first day of the festival.

Photofee hosts fine art photo exhibit



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Photofee, a fine art photography-based organisation founded in 2011, has celebrated a photography festival and exhibition titled "Srishti Sukh'er Ullash" since last year, the second edition of which was held at the Dhaka Art Centre from October 4-6.

Renowned artist Monirul Islam was present as chief guest at the inauguration, while noted photographer Nasir Ali Mamun, photographer SA Shahriar Ripon and rhymester Anik Khan were also present, among others.

The 'Photofee Award 2013' was also awarded to Nasir Ali Mamun at the ceremony. Artistic photographs of 50 young photographers were on display at the exhibition, the top 10 of which were also given awards.

The festival -- with Sheltech Ltd, Together Communications & Platinum Suites as sponsors, also had photography workshops, book and camera exhibitions.

A Titanic arrival

Legendary film opens in 3D at Star Cineplex



A CORRESPONDENT

To celebrate its 10th anniversary and marking Eid-ul-Adha, Star Cineplex, the country's first multiplex cinema hall, is releasing the re-rendered in 3D version of "Titanic", one of the most iconic films in global cinema of all time. The James Cameron film -- a fictionalised account of the 1912 capsizing of the then largest ship in the world was originally released in 1997, and won a whopping 11 Oscars and remained the highest-selling film of all time for 14 years. On the centenary of Titanic's sinking last year, the film was re-released in 3D, and has been successful at the global box office again.

The film premieres today at Star Zone, and will be on regular schedule from October 11.

TÊTE-À-TÊTE

SIMLA

"My dream has come true"

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Simla's first ever film "Madam Phooli" won her a National Award and she was adjudged as the best actress in 1999. After a long hiatus her film "Roop Gawal", has been released. Simla talked to The Daily Star recently:

"Roop Gawal" hit the cinema halls recently. A long hiatus?

Simla: Yes, you're right. "Bhool" was the last of my 30 films. "Roop Gawal, directed by Habibur Rahman Habib, was released recently to an appreciative audience.

What's the storyline of "Roop Gawal"?

Simla: I play an indigenous girl, Niruta, who lives in a hilly region. The movie is unique. We have shot in places like Sylhet, Sherpur, Birishiri and Lawachara.

What was it like playing opposite Govinda in a film?

Simla: Bollywood actor Govinda is vastly experienced. I had the opportunity to act opposite him in "Shomadhi" in Kolkata. This

was the most memorable experience in my acting career.

How did your begin your journey in the film industry?

Simla: Acting wasn't easy for me in the beginning. My family wasn't that supportive. Anyway, later on the journey started with "Madam Phooli". My first movie received much viewer attention. I even got a national award for the film.

What are your upcoming movies?

Simla: I have done an item number in "Na Manush", directed by Animesh Aich. However, I have no plans to do other item numbers. Then there is "Nekabborer Moha Proyan" directed by Masud Prothik set for release soon. The director has created the movie from a poem by Nirmolendu Goon. I am awaiting the release of these two movies.

Why such few films?

Simla: I am very selective about my roles. You have also directed a play?

Simla: Yes I have and acted in the drama.



Selection of Bengal's screenplay moves ahead

A CORRESPONDENT

Bengal Cinema Development Forum (BCDF) has received about 125 proposals from new and upcoming directors, for its recently-launched "Young Cinema Directors' Project". The selection process will take some time, sources at the forum said. The selection committee includes Syed Shamsul Haq, Manjare Hasin Murad, Morshedul Islam, Sazzad Sharif, Shamim Akhter and Nurul Islam Atik.

The "Young Cinema Directors' Project" was launched recently by Bengal Foundation's latest endeavour BCDF, appreciating the need for positive contribution to the Bangladesh film industry. The project aims to produce at least 20 movies a year by talented young filmmakers, and will invest a maximum of Taka Sixty Lacs for each movie.