

WHAT'S ON


Group Art Exhibition

Title: Rhythm of Xylography

Venue: Gallery Cosmos 2, R-6, H-115, New DOHS, Mohakhali

Date: Oct 25-Nov 5

Time: 11am-7pm



Classical Music Workshop and Film Screening

Venue: Bengal Café, Dhanmondi

Date: Sep 26- Nov 16

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



Solo Painting Exhibition

Artist: Shabekun Nahar Noushin

Venue: Alliance Française de Dhaka, 26 Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi

Date: Oct 25-Nov 7

Time: 3pm-9pm



Urban Youth Festival II

Organiser: Goethe-Institut Dhaka

Venue: Goethe-Institut, House 10, Rd 9, Dhanmondi

Date: Oct 24-31

Time: 11am-8pm



Theatre

Play: The Tempest

Troupe: Dhaka Theatre

Venue: National Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy

Date: Oct 28

Time: 6:30pm



NEWS bytes

Tom Hardy to play Elton John in biopic



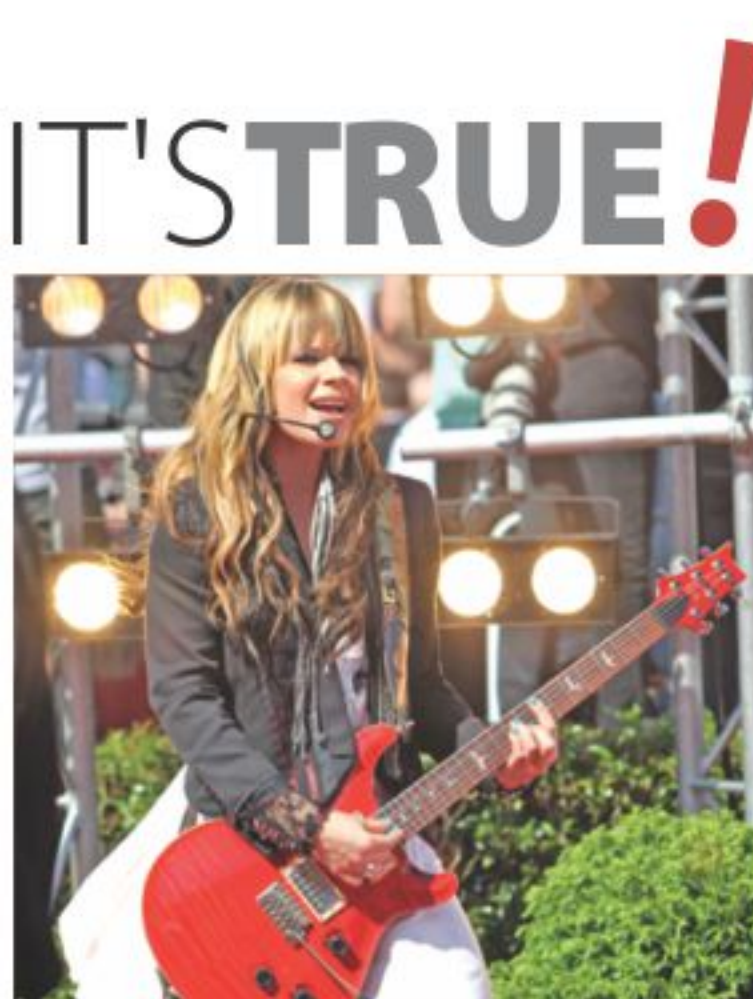
"The Dark Knight Rises" star Tom Hardy will play Sir Elton John in a biopic of the singer's life called "Rocketman", it has been announced.

The 36-year-old British actor previously played Bane in "The Dark Knight Rises" and has starred in films such as "Inception", "Lawless" and "Bronson".

"Rocketman" is being made with the co-operation of Sir Elton, 66, who is an executive producer on the project. It will begin shooting in late 2014, Focus Features said. It follows Reginald Dwight's journey from childhood piano prodigy to global superstar, under his stage name Elton John.

Hardy is respected for his wide-ranging talent, but his brawny, tattooed frame makes him an unconventional choice to star as the flamboyant musician.

Source: BBC



Orianthi Panagaris, better known by her mononym Orianthi, is an Australian musician, singer-songwriter and guitarist best known for being Michael Jackson's lead guitarist for his ill-fated "This Is It" concert series, and as the lead guitarist in Alice Cooper's live band. She was picked up by MJ's management after she performed as Carrie Underwood's guitarist at the 51st Grammy Awards. The 28-year old has collaborated prolifically, including with A.R. Rahman in the track "Saadda Haq" for the Bollywood film "Rockstar".

Tribute to Manna Dey

Musical soiree at Square Hospital auditorium

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

To pay their musical homage to legendary singer Manna Dey, doctors and staffs of Square Hospital organised a musical soiree yesterday at the hospital's auditorium in Panthapath in the capital. Classical music vocalist and adhunik singer Dr. Jagadananda Roy set off the event with performing the song "Amar Bhalobashar Rajprashad-e".

Dr. Ruma Jhumjhum rendered a nostalgic number "Kotodin Dekhini Tomaye" while Dr. Gulshan sang a sweet melody "Shobai To Shukhi Hotey Chaye". Dr. Sharmin's performance of the song "Poush-er Kachhakachhi" was an evocative of a distant romantic bliss. The packed audience seemed to receive the rendition in their hearts.

Two staffs—Suman and Sukanto presented "Bondhu Janina Tumi" and "Ei Kuley Ami" respectively. Sukanto also performed another song "Menechhi Go" on request.

Professor Zahidul Hassan entertained the audience with two of his lively presentations "Jibone Ki Pabona" and "Ami Kon Poth-e Je Choli". Dr. Zahid really acted out with the funny filmy scenes in amusing gestures.

Professor Dr. Khalilur Rahman



PHOTO: RIDWAN ADID RUPON

Professor Dr. Khalilur Rahman sings at the soiree.

rendered four songs at the soiree. He started off his part with the song "Dorodi Go". The singer's repertoire included a Bengali song and two Hindi Film songs. His performance of the number "Aye Meri Zohra Jabeen" seemingly earned hearts of many.

Dr. Jagadananda Roy performed several songs at the event. His repertoire included "Hridoyer Gaan Shikhey Tho Gaye Go Shobai", "Teer Bhanga Dheu", "Ke Tumi Tondra Horini", "Jodi Kagoje Lekho Naam" and "Coffee House-er Shei Adda Ta".

Gautam Sarkar on tabla,

Binod on keyboard and Jagadananda Roy on harmonium accompanied the singers. MA Jalil emceed the event.

Chairman of Square Group, Samuel S Chowdhury along with his friends, was in the audience to enjoy the musical soiree.

It was an inspirational afternoon, to see the doctors paying their musical homage to the versatile Manna Dey, who salvaged the Bengali Music at its crisis, and established his idiosyncratic position in the film world in line with legends like Kishore Kumar and Mohammed Rafi.

Suman Chowdhury's new album set for launch

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Virtuoso singer Suman Chowdhury's latest studio album titled "Mono Diyechhi Mele" is all set to be launched at the main auditorium of Chhayanaught on November 1. The album titled 'Mono Diyechhi Mele',



featuring 12 Tagore songs, will be unveiled at 6:30pm on the day. The artist will also perform followed by the launching.

The album, under the label of SS Products, contains both familiar and lesser-known Tagore songs like "Aaj Jemon Kore Gaichhey Akash", "Jakhon Eshechhile Ondhokar-e", "Nibir Megher Chhaye Mon Diyechhi Mele", "Boro Bedonar Moto Tumi Bejchho Hey", "Chitto Amar Haralo Megher Majhkaney" and "Tumi Robey Nirobey".

Suman Chowdhury has arranged and directed music for the album that was recorded at the Chhayanaught studio. "I have taken acoustic sounds of sarod, sitar, violin, flute, esraj, guitar, keyboard, tabla and percussion for arranging music. I have done a bit

of musical experimentation mingling western melodies and Indian classical tunes in harmony with the picturesque words of lyrics so that the audience can have a continuation of imaginative contemplation while listening to the album," said Suman Chowdhury.

Hedayetullah Al Mamoon, a member of the Planning Commission, as chief guest and music composer Azad Rahman as a special guest, will unveil the album with Tagore exponent Professor Nurul Anwar who will preside and speak on the distinctive rendition style of Suman Chowdhury at a short discussion.

Classical vocalist, Nazrul artiste and teacher Suman Chowdhury performs Tagore song, thumri, bhajan, kirtan, Shyama Sangeet, golden oldies and adhunik with expertise.

10th Fazlul Haque Memorial Award conferred

A CORRESPONDENT

Renowned actor Razzak and cine-journalist Rezanur Rahman were honoured with the 10th Fazlul Haque Memorial Award '13. The award giving ceremony was held at Ruposhi Bangla Hotel in the city on October 26.

Fazlul Haque Smriti Committee conferred the awards on Razzak for his outstanding contribution to Bangladeshi cinema and Rezanur Rahman for cine-journalism.

Prof Abdullah Abu Sayeed handed over the awards at the programme as chief guest while novelist Rabeya Khatun presided over the event. The awardees received Tk 25000 each, alongside a crest and citation.

Acclaimed actors Afzal Hossain, Farid Ali, filmmaker Amzad Hossain, late Fazlul Haque's brother -- Nurul Alam and his daughter Keka Ferdousi, Mohammad Jahangir, convener of Fazlul Haque Smriti Committee and cine-journalist Abdur Rahman spoke at the programme.

Fazlul Haque was born in 1930 in Bogra. He is the father of Faridur Reza Sagar, managing director of Channel i. Haque was the editor of "Cinema", the first newspaper on film of the country. He was also the director of "President", the first film for children of the country. Rabeya Khatun, widow of Fazlul Haque and a noted litterateur of the country, initiated the award in 2004. Every year the awards are given to two individuals for cine-journalism and filmmaking.



Guests with the awardees.

Group art exhibition at Gallery Cosmos-2



Jon F. Danilowicz (C) speaks at the inauguration.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Under the title "Rhythm of Xylography", Gallery Cosmos-2 in Mohakhali New DOHS has organised a ten-day long group art exhibition. The exhibition was inaugurated on October 25.

Jon F. Danilowicz, deputy chief of mission, Embassy of the United States of America in Bangladesh inaugurated the event as the chief guest. Renowned artist Professor Syed Abul Barq Alvi, dean, Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka and Anis A. Khan, managing director and CEO of Mutual Trust Bank Ltd graced the event as guests of honour. Enayetullah Khan, chairman of Gallery Cosmos and Cosmos Atelier 71 and Tehmina Enayet, director of

Gallery Cosmos was also present at the event.

The exhibition showcases water and oil base woodcuts and screen prints by 17 artists, which are the outcome of a printmaking workshop held at Cosmos Atelier 71 Printmaking Studio, conducted by the artist Professor Amirul Momanin Chowdhury.

Participant artists are Afrozaa Jamil Konka, Altafunnesa Rita, Azadi Parvin, Emdadul Hoque Topu, Quazi Iffat Newaz, Lamia Azad, Lutfun Nahar Liza, Musfique Akhtar, Mehedi Hasan, Nadira Akhter, Professor Md. Amirul Momanin Chowdhury, Rahima Afroz, Raisa Akhtar Maniza, Sadia Sultana Bony, Samaun Hasan, Sourav Chowdhury and Tania Sultana Bristy.

A Fairytale heroine finds her magic tree

Christopher Wheeldon updates 'Cinderella'

In his ambitious "Cinderella," performed by San Francisco Ballet on Wednesday at the David H. Koch Theatre, British choreographer Christopher Wheeldon discards the magic pumpkin. Instead of a fairy godmother, Cinderella has four male Fates, who have the aura of the Blue Man Group, even though their faces are painted gold. Among other duties, they tidy the kitchen.

When it comes time to hand out invitations to the ball, Prince Guillaume and his friend Benjamin trade places as a lark. (In the end, of course, this tactic proves a thing or two about true love.) Cinderella's stepmother, Hortensia, gets so drunk at the ball that she vomits into the breakfast porridge. One of the stepsisters, Clementine, not Edwina, turns out to be sweet. Benjamin has his eye on her.

Where is Cinderella in all of this? She's sad and withdrawn, but it's hard to pinpoint what she's thinking or feeling through dance or characterisation. The details and plot twists — some witty, some overdone — rarely stop in this co-production with the Dutch National Ballet that features a libretto by Craig Lucas drawing on Charles Perrault, the Brothers Grimm and Rossini.



Sadly, the enchantment isn't in the choreography but in Julian Crouch's scenic and costume design, particularly in a sequence directed by the master puppeteer Basil Twist in which a tree is turned into a carriage, and Cinderella, seated atop with the silky train of her dress billowing behind her, is led by a team of puppet-headed horses that seem to be galloping straight toward the audience. It's breathtaking.

The ballet, set to the Prokofiev score, begins in nature, as animated birds fly across a scrim that

gradually reveals a young Cinderella with her parents just before her mother dies. Later, Cinderella sobs over her grave; those tears produce a magical tree filling the stage with lush, green leaves. The contrast between the freedom of the natural world and the constricted frippery of balls and arranged marriages is imperative in Wheeldon's version; when that opposition is present, his "Cinderella" achieves a rare kind of harmony.

Yet the choreography often exposes itself as an afterthought.

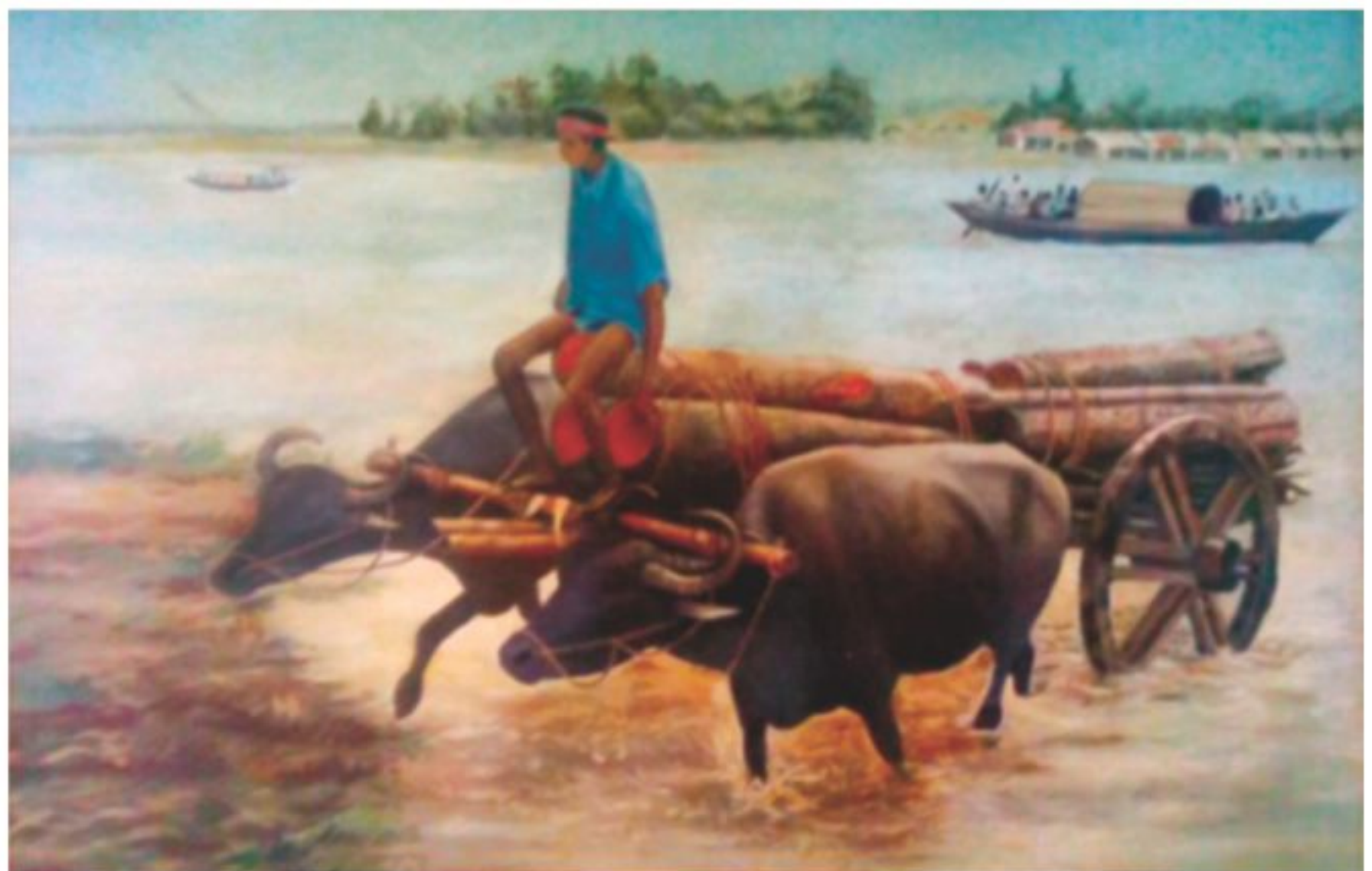
Romantic duets, like one for Maria Kochetkova's Cinderella and Joan Boada's Prince Guillaume in the ballroom, fight for expansiveness, but travel back and forth in acrobatic lifts that don't exactly give the heart a reason to soar. What's most jarring is the movement that ends up on the floor — and it happens often — showcasing ballet dancers at their most awkward: dipping into qualities of modern dance and hip-hop without an understanding of weight or emphatic pulse.

Despite the unevenness, moments certainly stood out. In the Spirits variations honouring the four seasons, Jaime Garcia Castilla led Summer/Generosity with scrupulous brio, and Clara Blanco, in Spring/Lightness, handled the part with nimble poise. Kochetkova brought a lovely delicacy to much of her footwork.

And even though he was playing the sidekick, Taras Domitro, as Benjamin, was charming, valiant and spirited. The role, the sort that Wheeldon would have danced himself back in the day, has the kind of nuance that was wanting in the heroine. When you think about it, isn't Cinderella the ultimate outcast?

Source: NYTIMES

Weeklong art exhibition closes



An artwork at the exhibition.

PHOTO: STAR

AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh

A weeklong painting exhibition held at Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin art gallery in the town concluded on Monday last.

A total of 53 young talents took part in the exhibition, organised by Chapal Smriti Parshad in memory of Noor-e-Elahi Chapal, a painter and art teacher who died recently. Chapal was a teacher at Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin Fine Arts Institute (SZAFAI) in Mymensingh.

The paintings -- depicting nature, environment, traditional items of Bengal and struggles of human life -- drew a good number of visitors at the venue every day.

Artist Jamal Ahmed, chairman of Fine

Arts Department of Dhaka University inaugurated the exhibition as chief guest.

Vice-chancellor of Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University (JKNIU) Prof. Dr. Muhit-Ul-Alam, Deputy Commissioner of Mymensingh Mustakim Billah Faruqui, founder principal of SZAFAI Md. Joynal Abedin, lecturer Farhad Tarafder, convener of the exhibition Mohammad Rajan and its coordinator Mainuddin Ahmed Mahi were present at the inaugural session, among others.

"We need many more talented artistes like Chapal to enrich the fine arts field in Mymensingh, the birth place of world famous maestro Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin," Mainuddin Mahi said.