

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

Musical Soiree
Artists: Labik Kamal Gaurob and Nobonita Chowdhury
Venue: Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre, H-35, R-24, Gulshan 1
Date: Nov 2

Duet Exhibition
Title: When Silence Eats Sound
Venue: Bengal Art Lounge, 60 Gulshan Avenue, Circle 1
Date: Oct 30-Nov 13
Time: 12pm-8pm

NEWS bytes

James Blake takes home Mercury Award



Electronic artist James Blake has won this year's Barclaycard Mercury Prize with his second album, "Overgrown".

Blake defeated stars like David Bowie, Arctic Monkeys and Laura Mvula to the £20,000 prize. Judges called his record "inventive, poetic and poignant", adding "James Blake makes music like no-one else".

The Mercury Prize, for the best British or Irish album of the year, was handed out at the Roundhouse in north London.

Dance acts "Disclosure and Rudimental", as well as Nottingham teenager Jake Bugg, were also on the shortlist. Folk band "Villagers", female punk group "Savages", Oxford rockers "Foals: and dance musician "Jon Hopkins" rounded off the 12 nominees.

Blake had previously been nominated for the Mercury Prize in 2011 for his self-titled debut album.

Established in 1992, the Mercury Prize has been known to unpredictable, with the judges remaining anonymous until after the prize-giving ceremony.

Source: BBC

IT'S TRUE!



American animated sitcom "The Simpsons", a satirical parody of a middle class American culture, society, television, and many aspects of the human condition, is the longest-running American sitcom, the longest-running American animated program, and in 2009 it surpassed Gunsmoke as the longest-running American primetime, scripted television series. Since its debut on December 17, 1989, the show has broadcast 532 episodes and the 25th season began on September 30, 2013. "The Simpsons" is widely considered to be one of the greatest television series of all time. Time magazine's December 31, 1999, issue named it the 20th century's best television series, and on January 14, 2000, the Simpson family was awarded a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. It has won dozens of awards including 27 Primetime Emmy Awards, 30 Annie Awards and a Peabody Award, while Homer's -- a central character -- exclamationary catchphrase "D'oh!" has been adopted into the English language.

Registration opens for Bengal Classical Music Festival '13

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The online and SMS-based registration process for the Bengal Classical Music Festival has begun, as promised by Bengal Foundation last month. Like last year, the second edition of the biggest classical music festival in the world -- set to be held from November 28-December 1 -- can be experienced for free, and is open to anyone aged above 12. Anyone can log on to www.bengalfoundation.com/reg and fill out a simple registration form to sign up for the festival. A copy of the ticket will be sent to the email address provided, which can be printed out directly for access to the festival. Alternately, one can send "Bengal" as an SMS to 6969 to begin registration process.

In association with the ITC Sangeet Research Academy (SRA) in Kolkata, the festival will feature



some 50 prominent names in music and dance, with new names including sitar maestro Rais Khan, Carnatic music vocalist Bombay Jayashree, rudra veena player Bahauddin Dagar, Begum Parveen Sultana and Pandit Swapan Chaudhri on tabla, alongside the big names who entranced audiences last year, including Vidushi Girija Devi, Pandit Shiv Kumar Sharma, Pandit Hariprasad Chaurasia, Ustad Rashid Khan, Pandit Ajoy Chakravarty, Vidushi Kaushiki Chakravarty, Pandit Rajan and Sajan Mishra, and Purvayan Chatterjee. The artistes from Bangladesh will include Asit Dey on vocal, Rajrupa Chowdhury on sarod, Tamanna Rahman and her troupe in Manipuri dance and a tabla quartet performance by four artistes. The performances will continue from evening till dawn on all four days of the festival.

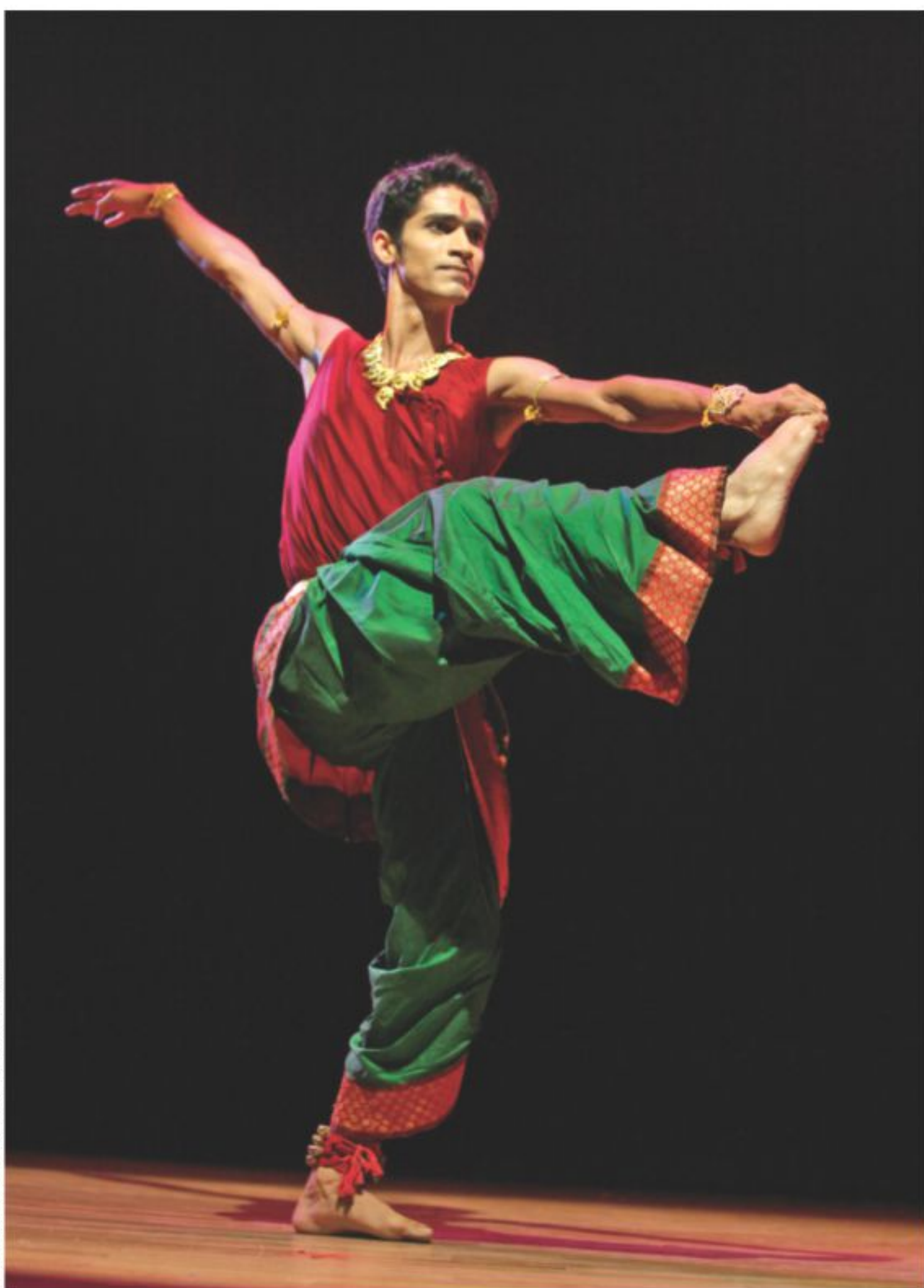


PHOTO: RIDWAN ADID RUPON

DANCER IN FOCUS

Amit Chowdhury's divine inspiration

LAMIA SAIYARA MELA

"I felt closer to God", states Amit Chowdhury when asked why he chose the world of dance. He explains how he has always wanted to demonstrate his talent to the audience, as a performer on stage. Chowdhury, born December 14, 1980 in Chittagong went on to amplify on how his dance journey was not accidental, rather it was the outcome of intensive training and education at Rabindra Bharati, Kolkata, where he completed his Honours and Masters in Bharatnatyam. He performed at several festivals like Uday Shankar festival and Kalki Kalakar festival where he received Sringhar Moni award. He also was associated with the West Bengal Dance Group Federation.

Presently, Amit is a lecturer at Shanto Mariam University and guest teacher at Dhaka University. He has also been working extensively with "Shadhona-A Centre of Advancement of South Asian culture".

With the experience of a long dance career behind him, Amit has his own take on the force that should drive young dancers in the country. He asserts, "The urge to learn should be immense; they should be able to put in their utmost and be willing to tire themselves and sweat it out." He also mentions an epiphany he had after he was done with his Masters, where he perceived the semblance of closeness to the Creator as he performed. When asked about his starting point as a dancer, he says he started dancing while only in the third grade, and though till HSC he had a hiatus, he explains he instinctively made his way to Rabindra Bharati to 'explore' what was around the corner. Amit then amplifies on his view of the reality of dance, and of dancers in general. "Dance is something that reflects my dedication, my attitude and my labour." He goes on to point that he feels it is his duty to convey his experience and his past, his struggle and his reality of dance to his students.

Amit is intrigued and inspired by

dancers he has observed in Kolkata, and their ability to carry dance forward. Among his inspirations is his wife, Mou Das, who also studied Manipuri dance at Rabindra Bharati. Of course at the top of the list is his Guru at Rabindra Bharati, Rajdeep Banerjee.

Among the productions Amit has given chorographical assistance to, are "Bishwarja", "Shiddhanto" and "Jaatra" for Dhaka University. With Shadhona, he has directed and performed for a host of productions including "Fireflies", "Mayar Khela", "Aye Amader Ongoney", "Hey Ananta Purnya", and "Tasher Desh".

With an exceptional instinct for choreography and direction, Amit plans on breaking out of the stereotypes to which the audience has been accustomed for long, because he firmly believes the audience nowadays tend to have broader horizons and are more discerning.

As an observer, his techniques and spirit on stage make him a profoundly remarkable dancer. With dance leading his way, Amit has the charisma of a true performer.

Nobonita-Gaurob to perform at IGCC



Nobonita

A CORRESPONDENT

Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre is organising a musical evening by two popular artistes, Labik Kamal Gaurob and Nobonita Chowdhury, at 6:30pm today at the Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre, Gulshan-1, Dhaka.

Gaurob has graduated in Audio Engineering and Music Production from the SAE Institute, London. He has collaborated with jazz pianists Zoe Rahman and pianist-composer Kishon Khan. He has sung and composed for internationally renowned dance choreographer Akram Khan's production "Desh" which won the prestigious Olivier Awards 2012 for Best New Dance Production. He has also collaborated with Sam Mills and Idris Rahman among many other world-renowned musicians. He is the founder

member and lead vocalist of the rock fusion band Ajob, formed in 2001. Gaurob has also worked as a composer for "Sisimpur", the Bangladeshi version of "Sesame Street."

Nobonita Chowdhury was initiated into Tagore songs and philosophy by Tagore exponent Waheedul Haque at an early age. She found philosophical resemblance between the works of Tagore and Bengali folk mystics like Lalon Shai, Hason Raja and others and has started practicing and performing folk songs. Nobonita's first album "Ami Jontro Tumi Jontree" -- a compilation of Lalon songs -- was released in 2007. She has studied human rights law and is a journalist by profession.

The event is being held in association with Asian Paints, IRCON and Marico Bangladesh.



Gaurob



Fred Durst to develop autobiographical TV drama

In addition to his career as a musician, Fred Durst has also ventured into TV projects over the past few years. Now, the Limp Bizkit frontman will develop a one-hour TV drama called "The Noise" for The CW. The show will be based on his real-life experiences.

"The Noise", created by Durst, is the story of a musician in the 1990s who forms a band that becomes very successful. That, of course, is what happened with Limp Bizkit. Durst is a co-executive producer along with Eric and Kim Tannenbaum.

The trio also previously worked on a show about Durst's life for CBS. The sitcom "Douchebag", which was about a rock star balancing his wild lifestyle with a young family, never made it to air.

Durst's other TV appearances include guest spots on "House" and a role in the

mini-series "Revelations". He has also directed a couple of movies: 2007's "The Education of Charlie Banks", which featured Jesse Eisenberg and 2008's "The Longshots", starring Ice Cube.

In addition to his TV work, Durst is keeping busy with Limp Bizkit activities. The band signed with Cash Money Records earlier this year and released a video for "Ready to Go", which features Lil Wayne. It's from the album "Stampede of the Disco Elephants", which is set to be released in January.

Limp Bizkit are currently on tour in Australia. In early November they head to Europe for a month's worth of shows. They also have a European trek slated for February of 2014.

Source: Loudwire

A taste of horror and sci-fi Riddick opens at Star Cineplex

A CORRESPONDENT

"Riddick", the third instalment of the sci-fi saga that began in 2000 with "Pitch Black", has just released in Star Cineplex, Dhaka. The premiere of the film was held at the multiplex on Thursday, with the film in the schedule from Friday.

David Twohy's film stars Vin Diesel in the title role, and also has Jordi Molla, Matt Nable, Katee Sackhoff and Karl Urban.

The movie brings Vin Diesel back as Richard R. Riddick, a dangerous, escaped anti-hero wanted by every bounty hunter in the known galaxy. Stranded in a sun-scorched and apparently lifeless planet, far away from his home planet of Furya, Riddick struggles to survive as he fends off bloodthirsty predators and bounty hunters in an unrelenting, inhospitable environment.

The film has received mixed to positive reviews worldwide, and been generally successful in the box office. It opened at No.1 in the North American Box Office, pushing out "The Butler" from a three-week stay at the top.

