

Tareque Masud Festival

Venue: National Art Gallery Auditorium, Shilpokola Academy

Date: Dec 6-7

Time: 3:30pm



Handicraft Exhibition

Organiser: Bangladesh National Museum

Venue: Nalini Kanta Bhattachali Gallery, National Museum

Date: Dec 1-7



Discussion and Film Screening

Films: Mukti Gan and Narosundar

Venue: Chhayanaout Auditorium, Dhanmondi

Date: December 7

Time: 4pm



Solo Art Exhibition

Artist: Kazi Salahuddin Ahmed

Venue: Institute of Asian Creatives, Gulshan-2

Date: Dec 6-15

Time: 12pm-8pm



Solo Painting Exhibition

Artist: Nurun Naher Supti

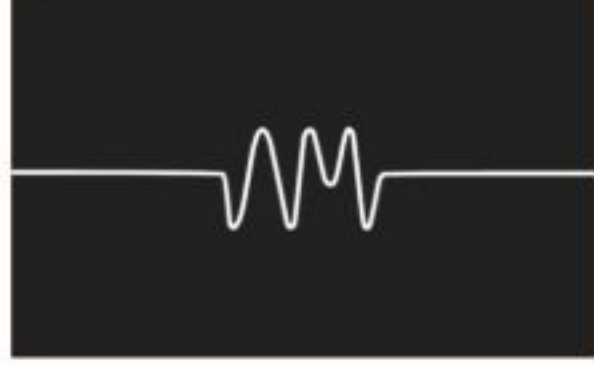
Venue: Galerie Zoom, Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, Dhanmondi

Date: Dec 5-19



NEWSbytes

Arctic Monkeys win NME's best album of 2013



Arctic Monkeys' fifth album, "AM", has been chosen by NME as its best album of 2013. They beat US rapper Kanye West, who was in second place with his latest album "Yeezus". Completing the top three was Queen's of the Stone Age with "...Like Clockwork".

The music magazine also named its top track of the year, which was won by Daft Punk for their single "Get Lucky", featuring Pharrell Williams and Nile Rodgers. Arcade Fire's "Reflektor" was in second place, while Arctic Monkeys came in third with "Do I Wanna Know?".

The awards are part of NME's list of the 50 best albums and tracks of 2013, which appear in this week's online and magazine editions.

Along with Katy Perry, Arctic Monkeys were the first acts to be announced for the Brit Awards 2014 line-up.

Source: BBC

IT'S TRUE!



US rock musician-singer-songwriter Jon Bon Jovi is a credited actor in the movies "Moonlight and Valentino", "The Leading Man", "Destination Anywhere", "Homegrown", "Little City", "No Looking Back", "Row Your Boat", "Vampires Los Muertos", "U-571", "Cry Wolf", "National Lampoon's Pucked", and "New Year's Eve". His TV series appearances include "Sex and the City", "30 Rock", "Las Vegas", "The West Wing" and an extended stint on "Ally McBeal". He also had a brief, uncredited role in the 1990 film "Young Guns II".



Farewell, Madiba

Lamenting the demise of Nelson Mandela

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela (July 18, 1918 – December 5, 2013) was arguably the most iconic global figure alive until two days ago. The apartheid revolutionary not only changed the face of South Africa, but became a global symbol of non-violent movements against discrimination and oppression. His life and deed has inspired millions across the globe, who will keep his voice alive for centuries to come. Two eminent personalities from our arts and entertainment arena, who were ardent fans of 'Madiba', shared their thoughts with The Daily Star, on his demise.

Shamsul Wares, architect and art critic
Nelson Mandela's death is not only a loss for South Africa but for the whole world. Many political and social leaders were significantly influenced by his selfless struggle for human dignity, integrity, impar-

tiality and liberty. He made us all comprehend that nobody should be punished for the colour of his/her skin, for the conditions into which and where he is born. The leader also made us understand that we can change the world. Though the legendary personality has physically departed, his spirit and courage will go on. Mandela touched our lives in deeply personal ways.

Fakir Alamgir, singer-songwriter
I am one of those very fortunate people who had the privilege to meet Nelson Mandela in person, when he visited Bangladesh in 1997. He has always been an inspiration to me; I wrote two songs about him, and many other songs of mine were driven by his thoughts and ideals. He was suffering from cancer and has lost that battle, but I believe greats like Mandela have no death. Wherever in the world there is inequality, discrimination and oppression on people, Mandela's voice will echo against it.

Bollywood "No country for old women", says Sharmila Tagore

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

Does the Indian film industry have no place for ageing actresses? Yes, felt veteran actress Sharmila Tagore who said the film industry is the bastion of male actors and scripts are especially written for them.

According to the 68-year-old national-award winning actress, actors like Amitabh Bachchan, Anupam Kher and Naseeruddin Shah are still ruling Bollywood but their female counterparts are lost somewhere as there are no films for these ageing actresses.

"It is not uncommon to see heroes in their late forties romancing women just out of their teens... scripts are specially written for an Amitabh Bachchan or even an Anupam Kher and Naseeruddin Shah but the same is not true for an ageing actress," said Sharmila, who participated in a discussion on 'Representation of Women in Indian Cinema and beyond' at the 19th Justice Sunanda Bhandare Memorial Lecture on Wednesday.

She says that in today's world, the portrayal of



women in mainstream films is merely cosmetic. "Films continue to brandish an image of women which is largely decorative and secondary. Of course, there are exceptions as parallel cinema and some regional cinema present women in an entirely different, more equal and realistic light."

"But the mainstream Hindi cinema, which is the dominant film industry in the country, changes are merely cosmetic," she added.

Having started her career in Satyajit Ray's 1959 Bengali film 'Apu'r Sangsar', Sharmila Tagore recalled that she was asked

by her principal to leave the school as she would be a bad influence to other girls. "No woman from any strata of society was prepared to work in such a lowly profession," she said.

But she feels that her marriage to legendary cricketer Mansoor Ali Khan Pataudi changed the perception of the media and society towards her.

Sharmila feels women are still not on par with their male counterparts irrespective of the fact that 'women empowerment' is one of the main slogans of every political party.

TV WATCH



Hridoye Mati O Manush

A CORRESPONDENT

Zooming in on rice harvest, a special episode of "Hridoye Mati O Manush" will air on Channel i at 9:35pm. Four students of two private universities will follow the harvest process of rice that they planted four months ago.

Director-anchor Shykh Seraj started the project in December 2010, shedding light on life of farmers and processing of rice.

OUR PICK

Chena Jogot

The quintessential Bangla rock

FAHMIM FERDOUS

Weekends are a great time to catch up on music, films or reading. While exploring for new material to watch, listen to or read can be fun, it's equally rewarding to go back a few notches and revisit something from the yesteryears. "Chena Jogot", the debut (and only) album of now-defunct Bangladeshi rock band Vibe could be a great option for that.

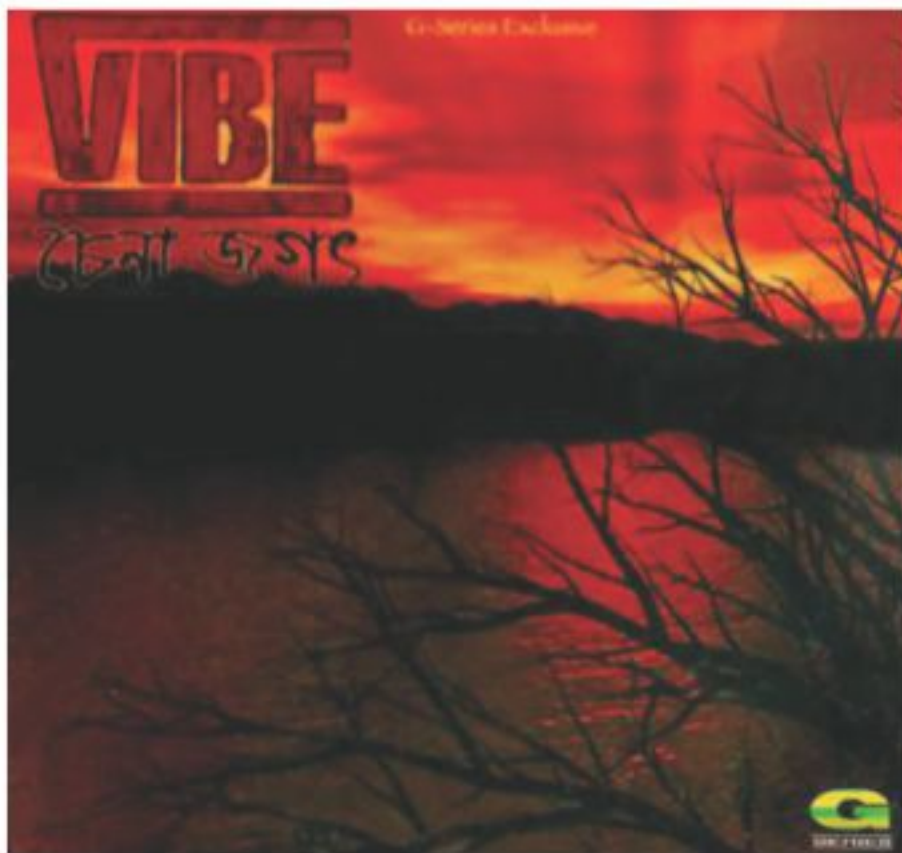
When it was released in October 2007, the listeners were no stranger to them, particularly through their track "Durey Durey" (released in mixed album Agontuk in 2003). However, they took a lot of people by surprise, with the punch they packed in it. Despite being predominantly prog-rock (which is why some said they sounded a lot like Artcell), the album was balanced with generous portions of melody and emotions, causing for its success. It stood out for its intricate yet neat, and most importantly catchy instrumental sound, coupled with a vocal (Shuddho Fuad Sadi) who did equal justice to the heavy numbers to the entirely-acoustic soft tracks and lyrics rich in imagery and poetic expressions.

The first two tracks, "Shopnodeb" and "Shesher Opashe" pump up the listener with typical triplet-heavy drumming and dark lyrics, before "Bidhatar Ronge Aaka" switches to an entirely different mode, featuring fantastic keyboard work and the lyrics talking of a misty moonlit night. Title track "Chena Jogot" is once again typically energy-infusing, including a catchy chorus, followed by one of the most popular songs of the album, a ballad titled "Odhora", and another sweet, melodic number "Mone Pore". "Asha'r Propid Jwele" is next, another song that displays the band's tightness as an instrumental unit. Next track "Urey Chole Jai", is a sequel to "Durey Durey", starting off from where the first song left off and taking it to a much happier and upbeat note. "Amar

Shongbidhan", the next track, is one of the standouts of the album, in terms of lyrics, vocal throwing and composition.

"Obak Shob Shopno", at the far end of the album, comes as an example of the band's versatility. The depressing, soft song sung almost entirely on a plucked acoustic guitar reflects regrets, frustration and a deep sense of loss inside. The track ends with "Nostalgia" (credited as a Bonus Track), a lovely song in uncharacteristically simple words (it's written by the father of Shuddho Fuad Sadi, the vocal) that narrates an expatriates longing to come back to the country as he reminisces the happy, carefree days before going abroad.

Shuddho does not only provide excel-



lent vocal, but is also the riff guitarist and plays some awesome pieces all across the album. Saleh Hasan Oni on lead guitars (who went on to play for Warfaze later) is also absolutely brilliant, as is Sabbir Hasan Turjo on drums, Saber Ahmed Khan on bass guitar and Wali Md Akbar on keys.

In essence, the album reflects the best of Bangla rock music; it has melody, great lyrics, ample energy and some very fine, technical instrument playing that -- when it falls in place -- can make for very pleasurable listening.

A muscular breakout

"Escape Plan" premieres at Cineplex

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Action thriller films are always fun to watch on the big screen. Star Cineplex, the country's first multiplex cinema theatre, realises that fact, and are doing well in providing Dhaka's film buffs with a regular dose of adrenaline rush.

The first thing to know about "Escape Plan" is enough to get the action junkies running to the halls; it features two of the most-celebrated action heroes of the past couple of decades -- Sylvester "Rambo" Stallone and Arnold "The Terminator" Schwarzenegger -- tag-teaming in a seemingly unattainable quest.

Without giving too many spoilers, Rey Breslin (Stallone) is a structural-security expert who detects flaws in high-security prisons -- by being deliberately sent in and escaping. He is contacted by a CIA official to test a



Jose Antonio Abreu, Venezuela's musical visionary

In a country as polarised as Venezuela, it is hard to think of a public figure that can work for nine different administrations over four decades and come out at the other end unscathed. But Jose Antonio Abreu is such a man.

A musician, economist and former cabinet minister, Abreu is best known as the founder of the internationally acclaimed music programme El Sistema that has, over 38 years, provided free music education to three million children - to international acclaim.

Despite receiving many international prizes, the man known as Maestro Abreu has not lost his humility. "The orchestra holds within itself its own capability to exist, live and perpetuate itself," he told BBC News during the Japan tour of one of El Sistema's renowned youth orchestras.

Music runs deep in Maestro Abreu's family. His maternal grandparents moved from Italy to Venezuela in the 19th century where his grandfather founded a local orchestra. His mother played the piano, and his father the guitar. Abreu pursued music studies, but later moved to



Caracas to study economics in order to help support his family. He worked as an economist for the government and was elected as a substitute member of parliament in the 1960s, but music was never far from his mind.

"I had a deep frustration because I lived in a country that only had one orchestra, where 70% of musicians were

foreign. Other countries such as Argentina, Brazil or Mexico had reached great musical development," he recalls. It was 1975 and Abreu was 35.

At the first meeting, 11 students showed up in a garage where he had set up 25 music stands. "They were so determined and so enthusiastic that I understood from that very moment that success was guaranteed," he remembers. What started as an experiment has become the most successful and praised music education programme in the world, with spin-offs across the globe. The idea is simple; children are taught from the age of three to play music for free during afternoon classes, with a focus on orchestral practise. There are now 285 nucleos (teaching centres) around the country, often located in poor and violent neighbourhoods.

"It's very much a product of Mr Abreu himself," says Tricia Tunstall, a music educator and author of "Changing Lives", a book about El Sistema. "I think he is one of the great visionaries of the 20th Century."

According to Frank Di Polo, one of the

co-founders of El Sistema, Abreu leads an almost ascetic life with books his only belongings, and the children he teaches are like a family to him.

Edicson Ruiz is one of El Sistema's many success stories. He came from a poor family and it was thanks to Abreu that he kept up his music studies. El Maestro bought him a double bass, tutored him personally and gave him a chance to earn a living. In 2002, when he was 17, he became the youngest musician ever admitted to Berlin's Philharmonic Orchestra.

At 74, Maestro Abreu's health is deteriorating. He often has to hold onto the arm of a colleague when walking. But he says he does not worry about El Sistema's future without him.

"El Sistema will keep faring wonderfully well because it is educating hundreds of thousands of youngsters, all with a great musical vocation, willing to work hard, knowledgeable of their mission and capable of carrying it out," he says.

Source: BBC