

Zainul Quamrul  
Exhibition  
Venue: Nalini Kanta  
Bhattacharya, National Museum  
Date: Dec 22-Jan 31  
Time: 10am-8pm



Private Collector's  
Exhibition  
Title: Ways of Seeing  
Collector: Durjoy Rahman Joy  
Venue: Bengal Art Lounge, Gulshan  
Date: Jan 24-Feb 3  
Time: 12pm-8pm



Dance Drama  
Play: Chompaboti (A Shadhona  
Production)  
Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall,  
Shilpakala Academy  
Date: Jan 26  
Time: 7pm



Solo Exhibition  
Title: Gravity-Free World  
Artist: A. Rahman  
Venue: Bengal Gallery  
Date: Jan 18-31  
Time: 12pm-8pm



Photography Exhibition  
Title: Life and Struggle of Padma  
Photographer: Sumon Yusuf  
Venue: Alliance Française de  
Dhaka, Dhanmondi  
Date: Jan 24-Feb 6  
Time: 3pm-9pm



# NEWS bytes

## Beyonce and Jay Z top Billboard power list



Beyonce and Jay Z have been jointly recognised as the most powerful people in music by Billboard. The celebrity couple were voted top of Billboard's Power 100 list by the magazine editors who analysed market share, revenue and other data.

The pair have been married since 2008 and have one child together, a daughter named Blue Ivy.

Universal Music Group CEO Lucian Grainge and Red Light Management founder Coran Capshaw follow the performers on the annual list of most influential people in America's music industry.

The third annual Billboard Power 100 list took place on Thursday night at the Emerson Theatre in Los Angeles.

Source: **BBC**

# A gamut of graceful Gaudiya Nrityanchal's workshop concludes

ZAHANGIR ALOM

Nrityanchal organised a weeklong (January 17-23) Gaudiya dance workshop with solo dance recital and demonstration by the lone Gaudiya dancer of Bangladesh, Rachel Priyanka Perris. The performance was held at Studio Theatre Hall of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy on January 23. Rachel's solo Gaudiya dance pieces were directed by her guru Dr. Mahua Mukherjee, present dean of the Faculty of Fine Arts of Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata, India.



Young participants of the workshop; (right) Rachel Perris in her element.

With the event, Nrityanchal re-launched its bimonthly dance programme.

Gaudiya, a classical dance form of Bengal, is an exciting blend of mythology, music and dance that Dr. Mahua Mukherjee revived with her 30-years of artistic perseverance. Back in 2004, Nrityanchal arranged the first Gaudiya dance workshop, conducted by Professor Mahua Mukherjee. Rachel Perris conducted

the workshop for this year. The gifted dancer directed four demonstrative performances by the 80 workshop participants categorised in four groups. The presentations entailed Gaudiya dance genres including anga shadhona, nrityanga, nati rangana, madhura and bishak chauk chal.

Rachel, with 10 workshop participants of Nrityanchal, set off the event with an alapchari. Based on Raga "Mishra Bilawal", the piece was set on jhaptal and portrayed Raasleela circling the connotations of Krishna. Presentation of an alapchari nritya (pure dance) was followed by the artiste.

Rachel's graceful gestures and devotional expressions sparked like myriad pearls while she performed Kali Statra. The dance piece superbly revolved around a devotional song eulogising Devi Kali with lyrical excerpts that began with 34 consonant letters of Bengali alphabet.

Mingling the myth of Prakriti and Purusha with the unique choreogra-

phy of Gaudiya dance, Rachel showcased another solo piece titled "Ardha-Narishwar" that won many hearts. Depicting the grace and glamour of Gaudiya Nritya, the artiste immersed in speedy yet immaculate throwing of mudra, expressions and emotion while acting out Rakkhushi Putona, who falls dead to kill Krishna with order from Kangsa. Her next offering was dasha nritya where the artiste poured all passion to portray her virtuous dancing self and devotional soul.

Five female artistes of Nrityanchal danced to a Tagore song "Nabobashonto" while another group dance by 11 artistes was performed with the Tagore song "Pinakete Lagey Tongkar". Both the pieces were choreographed in Gaudiya style.

At the beginning of the event, directors of Nrityanchal Shibli Mohammad and Shameem Ara Nipa addressed the audience. Shameem Ara Nipa, who emceed the entire event, said, "Rachel has an artistic body language that superbly goes with the essence of Gaudiya Nritya." Coordinator of Nrityanchal and noted media personality Muhammad Jahangir delivered vote of thanks.

An ICCR-scholar, Rachel initially completed both Honours and Masters in Bharatnatyam and is currently doing her M. Phil in Gaudiya dance under the supervision of Dr. Mahua Mukherjee. Rachel dreams of establishing the Gaudiya Dance in Bangladesh.



PHOTO: REDWAN ADDI RUPON

# Keeping Suchitra's memories alive Shilpakala Academy takes up yearlong programmes

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Suchitra Sen went into seclusion right after her popularity somehow went into a decline, possibly because she wanted to be remembered as her on-screen persona only. And she succeeded. Decades after she appeared on screen, her appeal remains in her earlier glow, to those who watched her films in the 60s, and later. To honour the memories of one of the most special daughters of the soil, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) has taken a wide array of programmes. Director General of BSA, Liaquat Ali Lucky informed that a nationwide programme spanning a whole year has been taken to keep Suchitra Sen's memories alive. One of the plans includes acquisition of her ancestral residence in Pabna and turn it into an archive, with film screening facilities. The Prime Minister has assured of providing necessary support in this regard, Liaquat Ali Lucky informed, adding that minister for cultural affairs, Asaduzzaman Noor is scheduled to travel to India early next month to meet with Suchitra's family about it.

A 20-day festival of Uttam and Suchitra's films, meanwhile, is on at the BSA, Liaquat Ali Lucky said, adding that yearlong programmes of screening of Suchitra's films in all 64 districts of the country -- due to begin next week -- were also announced from a memorial meeting on the artiste, held on Friday at BSA. An archive of Suchitra Sen's films will be established in Dhaka as well, facilitating screening of her other films throughout the year.

Other plans on the yearlong programme include musical programmes organised by BSA on the songs picturised on Suchitra, paintings of Suchitra done by noted artists, seminars and discussions.



# The life of river Padma Photography Exhibition at AFD

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Under the title "Life and Struggle of Padma", Alliance Française de Dhaka (AFD), Dhanmondi has organised the first solo photography exhibition of young photographer Sumon Yusuf.

The exhibition was inaugurated on January 24th. Professor Abdullah Abu Sayeed, chairperson and chief executive of Bishwa Shahittya Kendra graced the occasion as chief guest while renowned filmmaker Morshedul Islam and Quadrat E Khoda, managing director of Systech Unimax Ltd were present as guest of honour and special guest respectively at the inauguration.

Sumon Yusuf tries to depict the universal relationship between the river Padma and the life and struggle of people surrounding it. Around twenty documentary photographs are on display at the two-week exhibition. Yusuf wishes that his photo-

graphs will not only be an object of aesthetic delight for the viewers but also help raise awareness amongst people to come forward to save Padma.

Sumon graduated in English literature and studied Visual Literacy at Asian Centre for Journalism of Ateneo de Manila University, Philippines. He also attended a one-year diploma programme on Photojournalism at South Asian Media Institute, Pathshala. His works have been exhibited in USA, Australia, Japan, Cambodia and others.

The photographer is the recipient of numerous awards for his work including Top Prize of IREX Photo Contest in Washington DC, Winner of the 1st Prize in the "Creation" category of the 1st JP's Prize for Contemporary Photography Competition in Bangladesh and more.

The exhibition will continue till February 6.

# Madhu Mela begins in Jessore

MOKAMMEL SHUVO, Jessore

To mark the 190th birth anniversary of great poet and originator of Bangla sonnets Michael Madhusudan Dutt, a "Madhu Mela" began on the bank of Kapataksha River at Sagardari in Kashobpur in Jessore yesterday. The birthplace of the great poet has taken a colourful look for the weeklong festival, the largest of its kind in the south-western region.

Ismt Ara Sadique, state minister for Public Administration and Jessore-6 lawmaker inaugurated the festival as chief guest. Deputy Commissioner Mostafijur Rahman and other local administration high-ups spoke on the occasion. Jessore District Administration and Madhu Birth Anniversary Organising Committee jointly organized the festival.

This year, Madhu Mela has been expanded with different programmes, including discussion meeting on the life, literatures and works of Madhusudan, cultural programmes and drama. Two hundred stalls of traditional products, handicraft and agricultural products are set up in the ground of Madhu Mela. Alongside, jatra, magic show and circus are also available at the festival.

Michael Madhusudan Dutt was born in a zamindar family at Sagardari on January 25, 1824, to Rajnarayan Dutt and Jhannabi Devi. He passed away at Kolkata General Hospital on June 29, 1873, only three days after his wife Henrietta breathed her last.

The poet was buried at Park Street in Kolkata.

# Search for the sharpest family tag-team

## "Dettol Shera Ami Shonge Maa" concludes



"Dettol Shera Ami Shonge Maa" embarked into its second season in 2013 in search for the best mother-child pair of the country. Reckitt Benckiser's flagship brand Dettol, which for the last fifty years has worked tirelessly to ensure healthy development of mother and kids through its activities, partnered with RTV to bring to life this unique concept where mothers and their children pair up to showcase their talents on stage. The judge's panel included Shampa Reza, Munmun Ahmed and Saberi Alam, while Rumana Malik Munmun anchored it.

Over 5000 entries were received in initial registration round from where 250 mother-child duos were called for the audition rounds. The pool of contestants was more diverse than last season with contestants from as far as Rangamati, Khagrachhari and Kishorganj, and they performed in music, dancing, stage acts and recitations.

The finale gala of the programme was recently aired live on RTV, says a press release. The winners' prizes were handed over by Reazul Chowdhury, GM of RB Bangladesh-Sri Lanka Cluster and CEO of RTV Ashik Rahman. Nitra and her mother Shaheda Yasmin were crowned winners, while Rhythmm Namrata and Abrar -- along with their mothers -- took the next places.

# "Bhaag Milkha Bhaag" outruns all others at Filmfare

If there was any fear that India's sporting legends have been forgotten, the 59th Idea Filmfare Awards 2013 demolished that notion. "Bhaag Milkha Bhaag", the commendably realistic biopic of sprint champion Milkha Singh, scored three out of the top four awards -- best actor, best director and best film. The picture won a total of six prizes. The star-studded awards ceremony was held at YashRaj Studio in Andheri on Friday.

Farhan Akhtar shook off other nominees in the race for best actor while Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra gained winning position as best director. Deepika Padukone, who was expected to win best actress given she had two nominations, won for "Goliyon Ki Raasleela, Ramleela".

Leading the list of nominations were films that pleased the box office in 2013. "Chennai Express" shared space with "Yeh Jawaani Hai Deewani", "Ramleela" and "Ranjhanaa".

The jury also acknowledged the popularity of "Kai Po Che", "Aashiqui 2", "Lootera", "Krrish 3" and "The Lunchbox".

Dhanush, whose performance



(Clockwise) Madhuri performs at the ceremony; Farhan and Deepika took home the Best Actor awards.

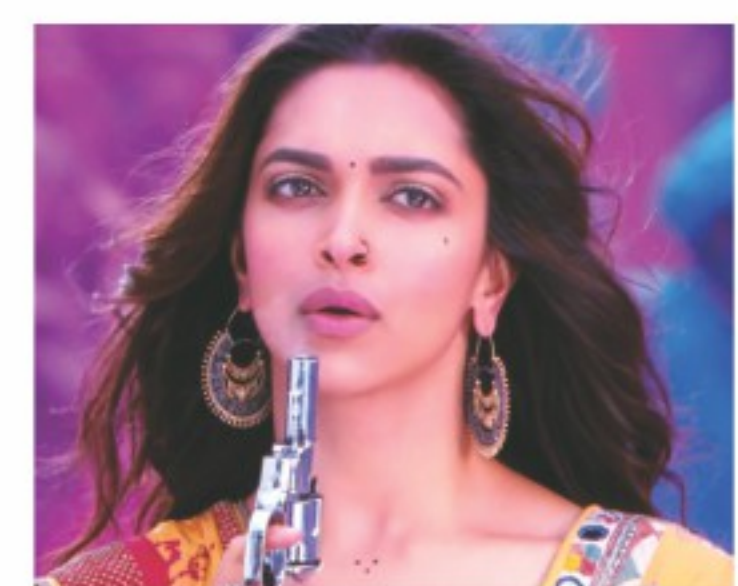
in "Ranjhanaa" won him the best debut award, said earlier on the red carpet, "It feels good to be nominated at Bollywood's biggest award ceremony. But honestly I don't expect to win."

With Indian cinema having turned a century old, this year's awards ceremony looked towards a futuristic theme. Host Ranbir Kapoor wore an outfit designed in metallic colours

offset with small cubes, as a robot with jerky movements kept him company.

The glitter of the Rs 100-crore club rubbed off on stage as well. The evening derived its charm from medley performances by Madhuri Dixit, Salman Khan, Katrina Kaif, Shahid Kapur, Ranveer Singh and Priyanka Chopra.

Glamour earned sepia high-



lights as actors Kamini Kaushal and Tanuja arrived. Tanuja, who won the lifetime achievement award, came flanked by her two daughters Kajol and Tanisha on the red carpet, and thanked her producers, directors, hairdressers and make-up artists for having contributed to her career.

Receiving her award from Amitabh Bachchan, Tanuja dedicated her award to all technicians,

spot boys and others whom she worked with over the years, saying, "During my time it was a family."

Lyricist Prasoon Joshi, who was adjudged best lyricist for "Zinda" in "Bhaag Milkha Bhaag" said he had done his best to give a mix of fun songs as well as philosophical musings in the film.

Other awards of the night included Vaani Kapoor in Best Debut (Female) for "Shuddh Desi Romance", Supriya Pathak for Best Supporting Actress (Female) for "Goliyon ki Raasleela: Ram-Leela", Best Playback (Female) to Monali Thakur for "Sawaar loon" from Lootera. Best Playback Singer Male went to Arijit Singh for "Tum hi ho" in "Aashiqui 2", which also saw its composers win Best Music. Sidharth Mahadevan, meanwhile, won the RD Buman Award, for the song "Zinda" in "Bhaag Milkha Bhaag". The Trendsetter of the Year Award went to "Chennai Express", while Ritesh Batra expectedly took Best Debut Director for "The Lunchbox".

Source: **TOI**

# IT'S TRUE!

English actress Kate Winslet set the mark as the youngest actor to receive five nominations, at age 31, for "Little Children" (2006), surpassing Bette Davis. Winslet also received Academy Award nominations as the younger versions of the characters played by fellow nominees Gloria Stuart, as Rose, in "Titanic", and Judi Dench, as Iris Murdoch in "Iris". These are the only instances of the younger and older versions of a character in the same film both yielding Academy Award nominations, thus making Winslet the only actor to twice share an Oscar nomination with another for portraying the same character. When she was not nominated for her work in "Revolutionary Road", Winslet became only the second actress to win a Golden Globe for Best Actress (Drama) without getting an Oscar nomination for the same performance.

