

WHAT'S ON

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



Tribute to Suchitra Sen
Organiser: The Daily Star
Title: Gaane Mo'r Kon Indrodhonu
Venue: Art Gallery Auditorium,
Shilpakala Academy
Date: Jan 30
Time: 6:30pm



Celebrating 50 years of
Chhayanaout
Musical Soiree
Venue: Chhayanaout Bhavan,
Dhanmondi
Date: Jan 31



Private Collector's
Exhibition
Collector: Durjoy Rahman Joy
Venue: Bengal Art Lounge,
Gulshan
Date: Jan 24-Feb 3



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



NEWS bytes

Jackman to play Blackbeard in Peter Pan



The casting news for Warner Bros' new live-action Peter Pan movie keeps on coming; the studio has announced that Hugh Jackman has said "aye-aye" to playing Blackbeard in the film. The Wolverine star joins Garrett Hedlund, who it was announced last week will be playing Captain Hook in the Joe Wright-directed adaptation of JM Barrie's classic tale. In this version of events, Peter Pan is an orphan who is swept away to Neverland and goes on to become a hero among the natives there as he leads a rebellion against a band of evil pirates, led by Blackbeard. The studio has also announced that the film, which has previously been referred to as Pan, is actually untitled. Whatever it ends up being called, the movie is set to be released on 17 July 2015.

IT'S TRUE!



In June 2008, rock band Thirty Seconds to Mars joined charity Habitat for Humanity to work on a home being repaired and renovated through the Greater Los Angeles Area's "A Brush With Kindness" programme. In advance of the build, the band organised an auction of 'build slots' to give fans the opportunity to volunteer alongside them. In less than a week, six extra workers were enlisted and over \$10,000 was raised to fund additional Habitat for Humanity projects. Thirty Seconds to Mars fans, termed as the Echelon, started several philanthropic organizations and projects with the purpose of supporting various charities and humanitarian causes.

The entrancing self-portraiture of Kyle Thompson

There are 'selfies', and then there are self-portraits. Make no mistake; these are two very different things, in the same way that a photograph differentiates itself from a snapshot. So while the word 'selfie' might be in the midst of experiencing its 15 minutes of fame, it would be an injustice to call photographer Kyle Thompson's gripping self-portraits 'selfies.'

Thompson, incredibly, is 21 years old and only got into photography at age nineteen. Plagued by anxiety his entire life, photography has become a sort of therapy, a way for him to express himself to the world... and the world seems to enjoy listening.

The majority of his photography actu-



ally doesn't feature other people. The brunt of Thompson's work consists of beautiful, striking and surreal self-portraits in which Thompson is bending reality to his will. "I started taking self-portraits because I enjoyed going out alone," Thompson recently told The Daily Beast website. "It was easiest because I am always available and... I wanted some way to channel my emotions. I felt self-portraits were the most personal."

His work is often set in abandoned houses or deep inside forests where he creates scenes of solitude that, on occasion, require that he set himself on fire.

Source: **Petapixel**

Remembering a Cultural Icon

Chhayanaout's Homage to Waheedul Haq

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A memorial programme marking the seventh death anniversary of eminent cultural personality, journalist and one of the founders of Chhayanaout, Waheedul Haque was held at Chhayanaout Shangskriti Bhavan on January 27.

Artists of Chhayanaout performed choral and solo songs on the occasion. General secretary of Chhayanaout, Khairul Anam Shakil delivered the welcome address. Eminent theatre personality Aly Zaker delivered the memorial speech at the event.

Chhayanaout artistes set off the memorial soiree with a choral song "Anandey Akul Jobey", originally composed by Dwijendranath Thakur. This was followed by another choral song "Deho Gyan Dibya Gyan", written by Debendranath Thakur.

Rendition of solo songs came next. Mahua Manjuri presented a song "Hey Bijoney Otithi", written by Saroladevi Chowdhurani. Mahmudul Hasan rendered a Bolendranath Thakur song "Ashim Rohoshyo Majhey Ke



Tumi". Noted singer Iffata Ara Dewan performed a Tagore song "Tobu Mon-e Rekho". Laiba Ahmed Lisa rendered a Jyotirindranath Thakur song "Oi Je Dekha Jaye" at the event.

Among others Tania Mannan, Sifatetullah Mukul, Nilyotpal Sadhya, Partha Sarathi Sikdar and Sukanta Chakrabarty rendered solo songs at the programme.

Chhayanaout artistes also performed several other choral songs including "Koro Taar Naam", "Oi Mohamanob Ashay" and "Shono Bangla Jono Samudrey" written by Dwijendranath Thakur, Rabindranath Tagore and Saumendranath Thakur respectively. The event wrapped up with a rendition of the National Anthem.

Waheedul Haque was born on March 16, 1933 at Bhawal Mohonhariya village in Keraniganj, Dhaka. He was a major organiser of the Tagore birth centennial celebration in 1961. The same year he founded Chhayanaout, now one of the leading cultural organisations in Bangladesh. He was also a founder member of other renowned cultural organisations including Rabindra Sangeet Sammelan Parishad, Kanthosheelan, Anandadhoni and more.

Waheedul Haque --- music maker, scholar, aesthete, cultural guru --- died on January 27, 2007.

BBC Sanglap: Policy makers in the hot seat

BBC Bangladesh Sanglap, a debate programme on current affairs on Channel 1 and Bangladesh Betar, completed the first year of its 3rd season on November 17 last year, says a press release.

Sanglap has enabled ordinary people to question policymakers face to face about issues that matter to them. Each week, four panellists face questions from the studio audience. In more than 90 percent of the episodes, either ministers or prominent leaders from both government and opposition parties have attended as panellists.

Along with current affairs discussions, Sanglap also arranges for episodes focusing on important issues of the day, such as the caretaker government system and the Rana Plaza collapse.



The discussion continues outside of Dhaka as well, reaching people in different parts of the country.

Sanglap has made a huge contribution in engaging Bangladeshi women in political and governance discussions. Thirty eight percent (13 million) of Sanglap viewers are

women which is the highest female viewership for any programme in this genre in Bangladesh.

It has also involved Bangladeshi youth in discussing governance issues. Its success has gone beyond urban boundaries, as 69 percent of the Sanglap audience lives in rural areas.

BBC Bangladesh Sanglap is jointly organised by BBC Media Action and BBC Bangla. It is broadcast every Sunday on BBC Bangla radio at 8pm and on Channel 1 every Monday at 7.50 pm. A special phone-in programme on the topics discussed in the latest Sanglap, is broadcast on BBC Bangla radio every Monday at 10.45 pm.

BBC Bangladesh Sanglap is hosted by Akbar Hossain and produced by Waliur Rahman Miraz.

Kailash Kher's third playback in Bangla



Kailash Kher
A CORRESPONDENT

Zahid Akbar

Eminent Indian singer Kailash Kher has sung his third playback song for Bangladeshi films, once again the lyrics penned by Zahid Akbar. A song titled "Manush" was recently recorded at the Kailasa studio in Andheri, Mumbai, for MA Jalil Ananta's upcoming film "Most Welcome 2". The song has been composed and arranged by Akash, a young music director from Kolkata.

Kailash Kher warmly praised Akash and said that the lyrics and tune touched him deeply.

Lycrist Zahid Akbar, meanwhile, said he was honoured that an artiste of Kailash Kher's stature has sung his song yet again.

Kher had previously voiced songs in "Most Welcome" and "Kachhe Eshe Bhalobasho".

WINTER wonder

PONUEL S BOSE, *Narail*

To celebrate winter, a daylong Pitha Utsab (cake festival) was held at Amada Adorsha College premises in Amada village, Lohagara upazila of the district on January 25.

Organised by the College, the event was inaugurated by Lawmaker Adv. Sheikh Hafizur Rahman, Narail-2 as chief guest.

Around 50 varieties of scrumptious pitha were on display at 10 stalls. Foodies were pleased to be able to sample bhapa, bhapa puli, chittoi, jamai, phool, chandrapuli, chamcham, saj, mukhsala, patishapta and other delectable pitha at the festival.

The speakers spoke on the significance of pitha in our culture, emphasising the importance of preserving and popularising the delicacy. Lawmaker Adv. Sheikh Hafizur Rahman in his speech said that Pitha occupies an important place in our tradition. It has been a long tradition to make varieties of pitha, particularly in winter among Bengalees.

Later, a cultural programme featuring poetry recitation, dance and folk songs was held much to the delight of visitors.

MAMUN-UR-RASHID, *Bogra*

A daylong annual winter Pitha Utshab was held by the students of Victoria Memorial (VM) School of Bogra town recently.

At the festival, 22 stalls were erected by the students for the display of the different Pithas made by the students of the school. Tal, Pudding, Khoi, Kamranga, Lobongalota, Shataranji, Shagu, Golap, Golap Dudh, Pakhon, Jhinuk and Puli pitha were displayed at the festival.

The programme was inaugurated by Additional Deputy Commissioner (Education) Shufia Nazim.

The three best stalls were given prizes for making different items. The speakers praised the interest of the students in Pitha making activities and urged the audience to uphold the past tradition of Bangalee culture.



PHOTO: RIDWAN ADID RUPON

Jatiyo Pitha Utshab (National Cake Festival) 1420 is on at the open premises of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy. Information Minister Hassanul Haq Inu inaugurated the festival on January 24 as chief guest. Among others, Sammlito Sangskritik Jote president Nasiruddin Yousuff and veteran actor-director Ataur Rahman were present as guests. President of Jatiyo Pitha Utshab Uddapan Parishad and noted theatre personality M Hamid presided over the inaugural event. A number of stalls are displaying and selling traditional cakes at the festival. The festival is open from 3pm to 9pm every day and ends on January 31. Besides, a cultural programme featuring music, theatre, dance, recitation and a magic show is being held from 4pm-9pm everyday at the Coffee House Angan of Shilpakala Academy.

"Gaane Mo'r Kon Indrodhonu"

TDS' musical tribute to Suchitra Sen

To pay homage to Suchitra Sen, the iconic artiste of Bangla films, The Daily Star has organised a special musical tribute titled "Gaane Mo'r Kon Indrodhonu". The programme is scheduled to be held at the new Art Gallery auditorium of the Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, from 6:30pm onwards on Thursday, January 30. Noted singers will perform selected songs from Suchitra Sen's films at the event.

A limited number of invitation passes are available at The Daily Star Centre, which can be collected in person from Administration Department, (level 5) until the day of the programme.

Muttalib Bishwas' album launched



Bengal Foundation launched an audio album of devotional songs by veteran music teacher and artiste, Muttalib Bishwas. Titled "Osrul Nodi'r Teer-e", the album features 12 tracks -- of Chandidas, Ramprasad, Rajanikant, Atulprasad, Nazrul and some unknown devotees. Music exponent Sudhin Das unveiled the album in a programme on Saturday at the Bengal Gallery, says a press release. The artiste also rendered a number of songs from the album at the event.



TÊTE-À-TÊTE

The many firsts of Mim

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Lux Superstar Bidya Sinha Mim has hit the spotlight as a model and actress on TV and celluloid, that too in a very short span of time. In a recent interview, The Daily Star spoke to the versatile talent about the many firsts in her life:

Your first school?
Mim: Bhola Surjomukhi Biddyaloy where I studied till class four. My father was a teacher of Bhola Government College.

What was your first TV play?
Mim: "Cholo Na Bristite Bhiji" was aired on Channel i. I was very excited to act in the drama.

Tell us about your debut film..
Mim: I made my debut in the film "Amar Achhey Jol" directed by Humayun Ahmed. I was thrilled to get the opportunity as Humayun was my favourite author even as a child.

What was your ambition in your early years?
Mim: I aspired of becoming a doctor. But, I'm happy to be an actress.

When did you first travel abroad?
Mim: I first travelled to India with my family in my childhood.

Which was your first story book?
Mim: "Thakurmar Jhuli". As a child I loved reading and collecting comic books as well.

Which was the first book you penned?
Mim: "Sraborner Bristite Bheja" was published at Ekushe Boi Mela in 2012. The readers received it warmly.

Which was the first movie you watched?
Mim: "Rajlakhhi Srikanta" was aired on BTV. Later, I watched "Antore Antore" featuring Salman Shah and Moushumi in a theatre for the first time.