

WHAT'S ON

Omor Ekushey Book Fair  
Organiser: Bangla Academy  
Venue: Surawardy Udyan and Bangla Academy  
Date: Feb 1-28  
Time: 3pm-9pm

Dhaka Art Summit  
Venue: Shilpakala Academy, Segunbagicha  
Date: Feb 7-9  
Time: 10am-8pm  
[www.dhakaartsummit.org](http://www.dhakaartsummit.org)

Album Launch & Solo Musical Soiree  
Artist: Fahim Hossain Chowdhury  
Venue: Bengal Shilpalaya, Dhanmondi  
Date: Feb 6  
Time: 7pm

Private Collector's Exhibition  
Collector: Durjoy Rahman Joy  
Venue: Bengal Art Lounge, Gulshan  
Date: Jan 24-Feb 10

Classical Music Conference  
Organiser: Lakshyapar  
Venue: Convention Centre, NCL, Narayanganj  
Date: Feb 6

NEWS bytes

Marvel sets writers in place for Thor 3



The Marvel juggernaut shows no sign of slowing down anytime soon. Not long after word was out about the directors for "Captain America 3", there are now plans in place for "Thor 3". According to Variety, Craig Kyle will be writing the screenplay for the Asgardian 'threequel', alongside Christopher Yost, who did a script polish on "Thor: The Dark World". Craig Kyle has previously written and produced several of Marvel's animated films, as well as served as producer on both Thor films to date. There is no word yet on any plot details for the film, but Kyle has previously hinted in interviews that Ragnorak – a cyborg clone of Thor – may make an appearance at some time in the future.

Source: Totalfilm



DHAKA ART SUMMIT BEGINS FEBRUARY 7

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The second edition of Dhaka Art Summit, one of the largest platforms for South Asian art, will take place from February 7 to 9 at Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy in the city. An initiative of the Samdani Art Foundation in collaboration with Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, and in partnership with Airtel Bangladesh and Golden Harvest Group, the event will present over 250 artists from the region aiming to support the development of South Asian art, bring museum-quality exhibitions to Bangladesh and promote international artistic exchange.

On the occasion of the festival, a press conference was held at the auditorium of National Art Gallery of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, yesterday. Nadia Samdani, director of Dhaka Art Summit; Rajnish Kaul, chief operating officer of Airtel Bangladesh Limited; Anwar Hossain, director of Fine Arts Department of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy and Mohius Samad Chowdhury, chief operating officer of Golden Harvest Agro Industries were present at the event.

The summit will present the works of artists from South Asian countries including Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, the Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Noted internationally acclaimed artists Jitish Kallat, Runa Islam, Rana Begum, Shilpa Gupta, Shahzia Sikander, Rashid Rana, Nikhil Chopra, Rathin Barman, Tsherin Sherpa and others will present their projects.

A range of group exhibitions will include--- Liberty (title of the exhibition), Bangladeshi modern and



Speakers at the press conference.

contemporary art, curated by Md. Muniruzzaman; emerging Bangladeshi contemporary art curated by Deepak Ananth; Pakistani contemporary art curated by Ambereen Karamat; emerging Indian Art curated by Veeranganakumari Solanki; LifeBlood (title of the exhibition), Bangladeshi Photography, curated by Rosa Maria Falvo.

A number of recognised critics, thinkers will participate in a series of talks about institutional collecting and support for art from South Asia including: Richard Blurton (Head of South Asian Section of the British Museum's Asia Department), Aurélien Lemonnier (Curator, Centre Pompidou), Sandhini Poddar (Adjunct Curator, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum), Jessica Morgan (The Daskalopoulos Curator, International Art, Tate Modern) and Dr Ziba Ardan (Director/Curator, Parasol Unit). Further international curators: Beatrice Ruf (Director, Kunsthalle Zurich), Lauren Cornell (Curator 2015 Triennial, New Museum, New York) and Milovan Farronato (Director, Fiorucci Art Trust) will lead a panel on the theme of 'curatorial

innovation'.

This year, the Samdani Art Foundation has collaborated with the Delfina Foundation (UK) to award an outstanding young Bangladeshi artist the opportunity to attend a three-month residency at the Delfina Foundation in London as part of the bi-annual Samdani Art Award.

A ground-breaking public art initiative created by New-Dehli based Raqs Media Collective, and curated by Diana Campbell Betancourt, will take over 160 road signs and billboards across the city of Dhaka as part of the Summit. The piece, entitled "Meanwhile Elsewhere", presents a series of clocks where numbers are replaced with Bengali words, registering a subjective experience of time and duration.

Several Bangladeshi art galleries like Gallery Chitrak, Galleri Kaya, Athena Gallery of Fine Arts, Dhaka Art Centre, Drik Gallery, Gallery 21, Gallery Cosmos, Institute of Asian Creatives, Radius Centre, Tivoli Art Gallery, Saju Art Gallery and others will take part with artworks of their preferred artists' at the festival.

The exhibition is open for all on February 8 and 9.

PUBLISHER'S CORNER

Annesha looks forward to Boimela

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

With the theme 'Srijonshilotar Sandhane' (in search of creativity), Annesha has had a strong foothold in the publishing industry for over a decade. It published a section of books including poems, novels, articles, science, literature, children and juvenile during the period. Meanwhile, the leading publication house made especial effort towards the books based on Bangalee culture, Language Movement and Liberation War to present the country's history and glory to the next generation. "Apart from all that, we want to show our creativity in every field of literature," said its proprietor Sahadat Hossain.

Annesha has published over 500 books, including 23 novels penned by famed litterateur Humayun Ahmed, including books from the Himu series. It has also published the books of eminent authors Syed Shamsul Haq, Hasan Azizul Haque, Sirajul Islam Chowdhury, Selina Hossain, Imdadul Haque Milon, Sarder Fazlul Karim and Abul Ahsan Chowdhury.

In addition, Annesha has been publishing books of many upcoming writers like Andalib Rashdi. At this year's Ekushey Book Fair, 40 new books will be published.

Sahadat Hossain is very hopeful about this years Boimela, as the bigger portion of it is being held at the Suhrawardy Uddan this time. "Due to the new set up, the readers can buy books in a relaxed mood this year", said Sahadat.

"Ekushey Boi Mela is a get-together of readers, writers and publishers. Such fairs should also be held in division and district levels," he added. Besides this, the proprietor insisted on increasing the number of libraries across the country. He also demanded the book fair be freed from piracy.

"The absence of Humayun Ahmed is keenly felt because of the prolific amount of his writing in past years and the vast sales of his works," said Sahadat. However, he is hopeful that the readers will flock to buy the old books of the acclaimed writer.



Sahadat Hossain



Saraswati Puja was celebrated yesterday with zeal as devotees, teachers and students poured in to Jagannath Hall premises of Dhaka University to pay their respect to goddess Saraswati, the deity of knowledge and the arts. As one of the biggest Saraswati Puja celebrations of the sub-continent, the event featured different Departments of Dhaka University organising a grand celebration of idols with grace and grandeur.

PHOTO: RIDWAN ADDID RUPON

In loving memory ... Stars pay tribute to Philip Seymour Hoffman

Stars pay tribute to Philip Seymour Hoffman

Tributes are pouring in following the death of actor Philip Seymour Hoffman at his home in New York on Sunday. Robert De Niro was among many fellow actors expressing their sorrow, describing him as "a wonderful actor." Jennifer Lawrence, who starred with Hoffman in "The Hunger Games", described him as "such an incredible actor." Julianne Moore, who co-starred with Hoffman in "Boogie Nights", "Magnolia: and "The Big Lebowski", said: "I feel so fortunate to have known and worked with the extraordinary Philip Seymour Hoffman, and am deeply saddened by his passing." George Clooney, who appeared alongside Hoffman in "The Ides of March", said: "There are no words... It's just terrible."



The actor Ken Stott, who became friends with Hoffman while making "Charlie Wilson's War", described the actor as "compelling". Director Mike Nichols, who directed Hoffman in "Charlie Wilson's War" and in "Death of a Salesman", said: "No words for this. He was too great and we're too shattered." Kevin Costner told the Associated Press: "Philip was a very important actor and really takes his place among the real great actors. It's a shame. "Who knows what he would have been able to do? But we're left with the legacy of the work he's done and it all speaks for itself," he added. Comedian and actor Steve Martin praised Hoffman's 2012 Broadway performance in Arthur Miller's "Death of a Salesman". The Oscar-winning actor, 46, was found by a friend who called emergency services. He was declared dead at the scene. A police spokesman said investigators found two small plastic bags and a substance suspected of being heroin. Hoffman is survived by his partner Mimi O'Donnell, and their three children.

Source: BBC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In memory of recently deceased legendary actress Suchitra Sen, popular Nazrul Sangeet artiste Parveen Sultana launched a solo audio album at AS Mahmud Seminar Hall of The Daily Star Centre on February 3. The singer also performed songs featured in her latest album at the programme.

Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University Professor AAMS Arefin Siddique unveiled the album as chief guest, while renowned singer Syed Abdul Hadi, classical music artiste Ustad Sanjib Dey, Star Arts and Entertainment Editor Sadya Aftab Mallick, proprietor of "G-Series- Agniveena" Nazmul Ahsan Bhuiyan, Shafiqul Islam Selim of Amra Surjamukhi and the featured artiste spoke at the launch.

"Music has immense power. It is an effective communication medium and instantly reaches the heart and soul. I thank G-Series-Agniveena for releasing the beautiful album. I hope music lovers will receive the album well," said AAMS Arefin Siddique.

Legendary singer Sandhya Mukherjee immortalised the film songs lip-synched by Suchitra Sen in several of her super hit films. It's tough to render the numbers that has timeless appeal. Parveen Sultana has taken keen interest in rendering the songs of Sandhya Mukherjee and has earned wide popularity. I am proud of her endeavour," said Sadya A Mallick.

The album will be available at Amor Ekushey Book Fair from February 10 and in the audio bazaar from February 11.

Agnivee has published the album. The albums contain 13 songs including, "Ghum Ghum Chand", "E Shudhu Gaan-er Din", "Gaan-e Mor Kon Indradhonu", "Ei



The artiste immersed in melody while performing the timeless numbers.

Modhuraat", "Phuler Kaan-e Bhromor Aney" and "Ei Shundar Shornali Shondhaye". The songs of Parveen's seventh solo album were recorded by legendary singers Sandhya Mukhopadhyay and Geeta Dutt for many timeless Bengali films including, "Shobar Oporey", "Hospital", "Poth-e Holo Deri", "Harano Sur" and "Sagarika" those Mahanayika Suchitra Sen immortalised with her immaculate acting. Eminent Bengali lyricist Gouri Prasanna Majumdar penned these songs composed by Robin Chattopadhyay, Anup Ghatak, Hemanta Mukhopadhyay and Amol Mukherjee. A solo musical soiree by the featured artiste followed. Parveen Sultana set off the

soiree with a Geeta Dutt record "Ei Shundar Shornali Shondhaye". The artiste was immersed in melody while performing a Sandhya Mukherjee record "Kichhukhon Aro Na Hoy Rohitey Kachhey". The rendition of Sandhya's songs by Parveen including, "Ami Swapne Tomaye Dekhechhi" and "Eito Amar Prothom Phaguno Bela" had an impressive effect along with the romantic lyrics. Her other repertoire included "Ke Tumi Amare Dako", "Tabo Bijoy Mukut" and "Gaan-e Mor Kon Indradhonu".

Noted instrumentalists Roothanu on keyboard, Bashir Ahmed on tabla, Sadek Ali on octopad and Dipan on guitar accompanied the singer at the event.



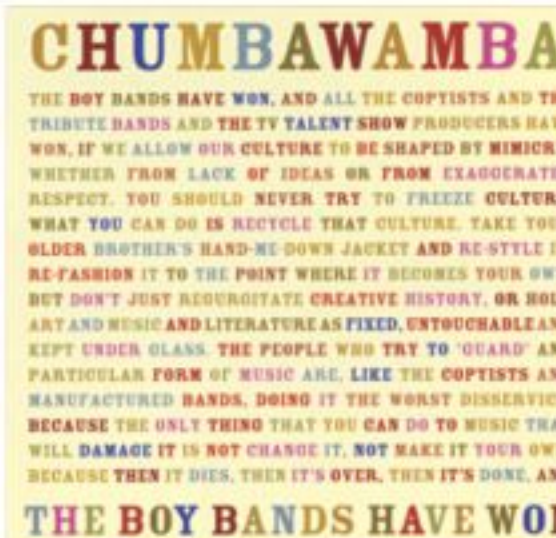
Folk music by Indra Mohan Rajbongshi

A CORRESPONDENT

Noted artiste Indra Mohan Rajbongshi presented folk songs on February 1 at the IGCC, Gulshan-1. A versatile singer and researcher with expertise in the genres of classical and folk music, Rajbongshi is closely associated with the Bangla film industry; he has been a play-back singer and lyricist in many short films and feature films produced in Dhaka and Kolkata. He won the Shilpakarya Zainul Abedin award in 2007 and the World Master Certificate award the same year at Seoul, South Korea.

Rajbongshi has released nine albums and has performed as part of Bangladeshi cultural delegations in many countries. He established Bangladesh Lok Sangeet Parishad in 1998 with the aim to collect, research and preserve the folk songs of Bangladesh.

IT'S TRUE!



"The Boy Bands Have Won, and All the Copyists and the Tribute Bands and the TV Talent Show Producers Have Won, If We Allow Our Culture to Be Shaped by Mimicry, Whether From Lack of Ideas or From Exaggerated Respect. You Should Never Try to Freeze Culture. What You Can Do Is Recycle That Culture. Take Your Older Brother's Hand-Me-Down Jacket and Re-Style It, Re-Fashion It to the Point Where It Becomes Your Own. But Don't Just Regurgitate Creative History, or Hold Art and Music and Literature as Fixed, Untouchable and Kept Under Glass. The People Who Try to 'Guard' Any Particular Form of Music Are, Like the Copyists and Manufactured Bands, Doing It the Worst Disservice, Because the Only Thing That You Can Do to Music That Will Damage It Is Not Change It, Not Make It Your Own. Because Then It Dies, Then It's Over, Then It's Done, and the Boy Bands Have Won" is the 13th studio album by British music group Chumbawamba released in 2008. Its full title contains 865 characters, and holds the record for the longest album title. The album is usually referred to by its shorter version, which is simply "The Boy Bands Have Won".