

WHAT'S ON

Amor Ekushey Book Fair

Organiser: Bangla Academy

Venue: Suhrawardy Udyan and Bangla Academy

Date: Feb 1-28

Time: 3pm-9pm

Film Festival

Venue: National Art Gallery Auditorium, Shilpakala Academy

Date: Feb 12-20

Time: 3pm-7pm

Solo Art Exhibition

Artist: Sanjib Datta

Venue: Bengal Shilpaya, H-42, R-16, Dhanmondi

Date: Feb 11-20

Time: 12pm-8pm

Solo Art Exhibition

Artist: Proshanta Karmakar Buddha

Venue: Shilpangan, H-7, R-13, New Dhanmondi (Sobhanbagh)

Date: Feb 14-23

Time: 12pm-7pm

Duet Art Exhibition

Title: Dui Bangal

Artists: Hashem Khan and Mohammad Iqbal

Venue: Gallery Twenty One, Dhanmondi

Date: Feb 6-Mar 1

Time: 12pm-8pm

NEWSbytes

Tarzan 3D to release in 2016



Warner has confirmed an official release date for forthcoming blockbuster "Tarzan 3D", with the film set to hit US cinemas on July 1, 2016.

Having been mired in development for over a year, the film was recently paused by Warner on account of budgetary concerns, but is now up and running once again.

Alexander Skarsgard is on board to play the titular jungle-dweller, with "Wolf Of Wall Street" breakthrough star Margot Robbie signed up to play his Jane. Samuel L. Jackson and Christoph Waltz are also confirmed to co-star, with David Yates set to step behind the camera for the first time since his marathon stint directing the last four Harry Potter films.

Source: Totalfilm

IT'S TRUE!



Jatra, a popular form of folk theatre in Bangladesh (and West Bengal), are usually epic four-hour-long plays preceded by a musical concert used to attract audiences. Jatra plays are usually performed on stages that are open on all sides in open-air arenas. The stage often had minimal or no furniture or props, it was rather seen as a neutral space, free to be given a meaning befitting the scene. Sets, props and lighting came in much later, when it started interacting with Western theatre in late 19th century, as educated youth started joining the jatra tradition.

Kibria print fair begins in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

As part of fifth founding anniversary of Dhaka art Centre (DAC), the centre has organised a weeklong Kibria print fair that began yesterday. DAC has been organising the fair since 2011 to pay homage to the late abstract painter Mohammad Kibria.

Both eminent and young printmakers have exhibited their works at the festival. Besides, students from several art institutes and printmaking studios also showcase their prints at the fair. The participating institutions are --

Printmaking Department, Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA), University of Dhaka; Printmaking Department, Institute of Fine Arts, Chittagong University;



Prints on display at the fair.

Printmaking Group, Fine Arts Department, Rajshahi University; Printmaking Studio, Fine Arts Department, University of

Development Alternative (UODA); Cosmos Atelier '71; Shunno Art Space, Dhaka; Bornika Print Studio, Dhaka; Bangladesh

Printmakers Association; Kibria Printmaking Studio, Dhaka Art Centre and others.

Professor emeritus Anisuzzaman inaugurated the programme as the chief guest, while artist Monirul Islam and art collector Durjay Rahman Joy were present at the programme as special guests. Poet-playwright Syed Shamsul Haq presided over the inauguration ceremony. Abul Barq Alvi, convener of Kibria Print Fair Udjapon Committee and members of trustees of Dhaka Art Centre were also present at the programme.

At the programme, veteran printmaker-painter Rafiqun Nabi was honoured with the lifetime award for his significant contribution to the medium.

The fair will continue till February 22.

Ornob & Friends and Tahsan enthrall audience at IGCC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre (IGCC) organised a musical evening by noted Bangladeshi band, Ornob & Friends at the IGCC auditorium on February 15.

Ornob set off the evening with a Tagore song "Ami Marer Sagor". His solo repertoire included another Tagore song "Majhey Majhey" and his popular album tracks "Tomar Jonyo", "Hok Kolorob" "Se Je Bosey Achhey".

Ornob with Pantha Kanai and Buno rendered a popular folk number "Mon Torey" while Pantha Kanai performed a Lalou song "Jaat Gelo", RD Burman records "Mon Dilon" and "Dokhin Hao", and a film track "O Rey Neel Doriya".

Nazrul Islam sang two songs, "Bhab Toronge" and "Moner Manush". Ornob wrapped up the musical event with a Poet Jasimuddin number "Nao Chharia Dey".

The day before, IGCC organised a musical evening by Tahsan Khan and the Sufis' on Friday. The band performed 12 songs, including Tahsan's hits "Irsha", "Megher Pore", "Prematal", "Prottyaborton", "Alo" and covers of "Leaving On A Jet Plane", "Annie's Song" and "Wonderful Tonight".



Ornob sings at the programme.



Farhan is enjoying on-screen space

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

He may have shot into prominence by being behind the camera, but director-actor Farhan Akhtar is enjoying every bit of his stint in front of it. Having received critical acclaim for his role in his latest film "Bhaag Mikha Bhaag" last year, Farhan said he was having an exciting time as an actor and will continue to focus on acting.

Farhan, 40, who directed and produced films before moving onto acting, made his acting debut in 2008 with "Rock On" and went onto feature in films like "Luck By Chance", "Karthik Calling Karthik" and "Zindagi Na Milegi Dobara". His last release, "Bhaag Mikha Bhaag", a biopic on former Indian athlete Milkha Singh, fetched him critical appreciation and awards.

"I am grateful for receiving interesting roles and films. I am enjoying doing

them. The next film that I am doing is with Zoya Akhtar (his sister, also a director) and then a film with Mr (Amitabh) Bachchan by the year-end. For me, it is very exciting time ... so I'm focusing on that," Farhan said.

He, however, insisted he was not looking to compete with the Khans (Aamir, Shah Rukh and Salman) and was focused on creating his own space in the Hindi film industry. "I believe there is space for everyone," he said.

Farhan's next film as an actor is "Shaadi Ke Side Effects" in which he shares screen space with Vidya Balan. Directed by Sanket Chaudhary, the romcom will hit theatres on February 28.

He will be seen in the Zoya Akhtar-directed film alongside Ranveer Singh, Anushka Sharma and Priyanka Chopra. The shooting is likely to begin from May-June.

The art of attire Young Designer Festival-'14 begins in port city

PRANABESH CHAKRABORTY, Chittagong

The five-day Young Designer Festival-2014 kicked off at District Shilpakala Academy in the port city on Saturday. Young Designers Association organised the festival to give fashionistas in the port city a taste of the latest designs in attire.

State Minister for Land, Saifuzzaman Chowdhury Javed inaugurated the festival as chief guest, by releasing colourful balloons.

The festival will feature an exhibition of the latest fashions, fashion show, music, dance and award giving ceremony, said the organisers.

In his address, Chowdhury said that the country cannot go forward without harnessing the creativity and artistic talent of youth. He also urged young designers to capture different themes based on the port city.

Chittagong Chamber of Commerce and Industries (CCCI) director and former BGMEA vice president Mainuddin Ahmed Mintu and The Daily Star bureau chief Raisul Huq Bahar also delivered speeches. Chittagong's renowned designer Ahmed Nawaz and famed photographer Shueb Faruque were present, among others, at the programme.

Following the discussion, the minister visited the stalls where young fashion designers showcased their latest designs.



Visitors check out the fabrics and designs at the festival.

Delhi International Arts Festival underway

KAVITA, New Delhi

The two-week high profile Delhi International Arts Festival (DIAF), that began recently, has prompted Delhi-ites to scurry between multiple venues to take in an array of music, dance, theatre performances from India and abroad. They also look forward to an exciting fare of international visual arts, films, traditional arts and crafts.

On the opening this year, the historic Purana Qila took on an otherworldly appearance as Manipuri dancers performed Pung Cholam and the ever-popular Langas & Manganiars from Rajasthan staged some fusion numbers with Hety & Zambo from Columbia, also known as the "Kings of Creole". Besides, there are traditional dances from Sri Lanka, Roud Dance from Kashmir and dancers from Egypt who are rarely seen in this part of the world.

The rare and unseen seems to be the selling point of the seventh edition of the festival. We have traditional music and dance groups from remote parts of India like Singari Melam & Chavinattakam from Kerala, Karma & Sarfa dance from Jharkand and Fakiri songs and Mamore Puja and Rampa dance from West Bengal. From far flung Berhampore in Himachal Pradesh comes a Padma Shri-awarded performer who plays an ancient copper drum also known as Shiva drum.

Classical music too has a firm place at the fest. A Dhrupad festival is slated for February 21-22 which features internationally acclaimed musicians like Ustad

Wasiffudin Dagar, Ustad Hussain Sayeeduddin Dagar and Pandit Uday Bhawalkar -- to name just a few.

Besides, there are literary events and crafts demonstrations. For Hollywood film addicts, there is a flurry of films like "Wolverine", "Elysium", "White House Down" and "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty".

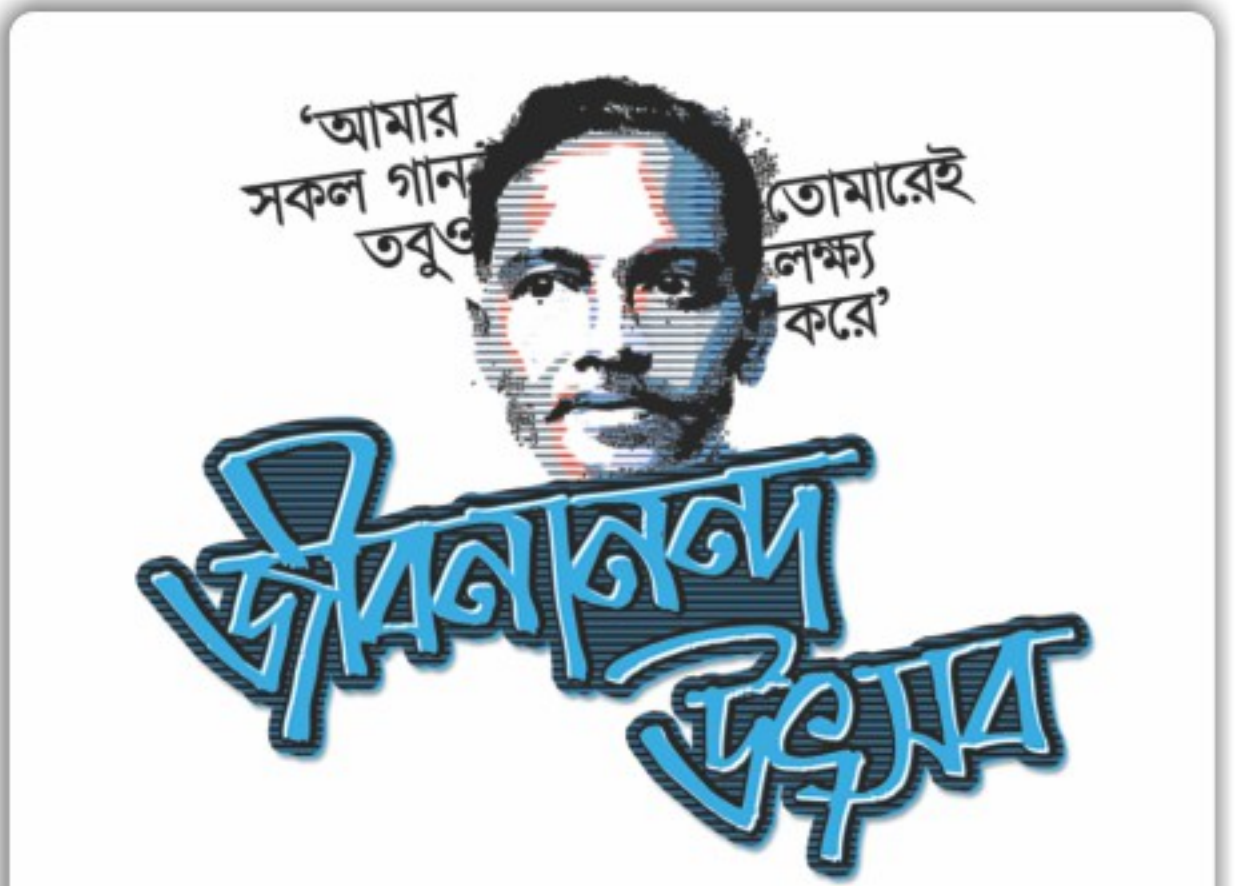
The curtains come down with a Sufi-Qawwali night on February 23.

At the helm of DIAF is founder-festival director, Prathibha Prahlad, a Bharatanatyam dancer and choreographer. "I want people to be

touched by art. In fact, the concept of a huge cultural festival never existed in the past; there was never a one festival branding that swept the entire city, just pockets of culture. We have been successful because we have introduced the concept of an arts festival and brought it to a level of recognition where everyone has an instant connect with the logo," she says.

While it may seem like a pretty picture, the reality is different. Sponsors for traditional and classical art forms are hard to come by.

Bollywood and cricket, says Prathibha, are the hot favourites for government organisations and corporates to sink their money in. "The entire country does not define itself by Bollywood actors and actresses. In our country, we have a huge depth and diversity of art in every nook and corner; if we don't appreciate our art forms if we don't identify them if we don't give our energy to supporting them then who are we on the world stage?" She asks the question that perplexes every serious art lover in the subcontinent. The festival ends on the 23rd of this month.



Jibanananda Utshab in Barisal today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

With the theme "Amar Shokol Gaan Tobuo Tomarei Lokkhyo Korey", a daylong Jibanananda Utshab will be set off today at BM College in Barisal commemorating the poet's 115th birth anniversary.

"Jibanananda Das was both a student and a teacher of Government BM College, Barisal. That's why we have chalked out an elaborate programme commemorating Jibanananda Utshab in the college premises, for the first time," said an organiser of the festival.

The daylong programme will feature discussion, film screening and a cultural event. Local cultural organisations of Barisal will take part at the festival. In association with "Dhrupadi Dot Com", a concert will follow in the evening. Popular bands -- Maksud O Dhaka, Soloist Kafil Ahmed, Chitkar and Shohojia will perform at the concert as well.

Organised by Jibanananda Utshab Udjapon Parishad, VP Md. Moyeen Tushar and GS Md. Nahid Sherniabad of Government BM College will jointly inaugurate the cultural programme and concert on the day.

Art and writing competition in Jessore



Children participate in the drawing competition.

MOKAMMEL SHUIVO, Jessore

On the occasion of International Mother Language Day, Charupit, an art school and Fhore, a fashion house of Jessore arranged an "Art and Hand Writing Competition" titled "Draw and Write in Mother Tongue" on Friday evening. Seventy three children in three groups participated in the competition held at Charupit Art School.

All the winners and participants in four groups were given colour pencils.

District Magistrate Sabiha Yesmin distributed prizes as the chief guest of the programme.



AGNEE takes box office by storm

A CORRESPONDENT

Much hyped film "Agnee" has made quite an opening across the country since its release this Friday, raking in huge returns on the box office in the very first two days. Released in 92 cinema theatres, it swooped 1.25 crore taka on the first day, and another 1.15 crore on the second, according to the film's production house Jaaz Multimedia. Distribution director of the company, Enamul Karim said they attracted huge interest among viewers not only in Dhaka, but Narayanganj, Jessore, Sylhet, Mymensingh and Rajshahi, tumbling sales records in a number of theatres.

Directed by Ifthakar Chowdhury, the film features Arwefin Shuvo, Mahiya Mahi and Misha Showdagar as the central cast.