

WHAT'S ON

Amor Ekushey Book Fair

Organiser: Bangla Academy

Venue: Suhrawardy Udyan and Bangla Academy

Date: Feb 1-28

Time: 3pm-9pm

Film Screening

Film: Jibondhuli

Venue: Bangladesh Film Institute Auditorium, Lake Circus, Kalabagan

Date: Feb 22-28

Time: 3pm-7pm

Duet Art Exhibition

Title: Dul Bangal

Artists: Hashem Khan and Mohammad Iqbal

Venue: Gallery Twenty One, Dhanmondi

Date: Feb 6-Mar 1

Photography Exhibition

Title: War and Colonies 1914-1918

Venue: La Galerie, Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, Dhanmondi

Date: Feb 25-Mar 9

Time: 3pm-9pm

Film Screening

Title: Amar Bhashar Chalachitra

Venue: TSC Auditorium, Dhaka University

Date: Feb 22-27

Time: 10am-6:30pm

NEWSbytes

Fantastic Four cast set to be finalised



Fox looks to have completed its casting for "The Fantastic Four", with Jamie Bell, Miles Teller and Kate Mara all in final negotiations to join the project. According to TheHollywoodReporter, discussions with the trio are at an advanced stage, with Michael B. Jordan already on board Josh Trank's franchise reboot. Mara is set to play Sue Storm, alias Invisible Woman, while Teller will play Reed Richards, otherwise known as Mr. Fantastic -- provided some potential scheduling hurdles can be overcome. Jamie Bell is the surprise name in the equation, with the report claiming he was contacted for the role of Ben Grimm (The Thing) after no suitable candidates presented themselves during testing. Michael B. Jordan will complete the foursome as Johnny Storm (Human Torch) when the film opens in the UK on June 18, 2015.

Source: Totalfilm

IT'S TRUE!



Elton John started playing the piano at the age of three, and within a year, his mother heard him picking out Winifred Atwell's "The Skater's Waltz" by ear. After performing at parties and family gatherings, at the age of seven he took up formal piano lessons. He showed musical aptitude at school, including the ability to compose melodies. At the age of 11, he won a junior scholarship to the Royal Academy of Music. According to one of his instructors, John promptly played back, like a 'gramophone record', a four-page piece by Handel that he heard for the first time.

First cop thriller underway DMP to assist in the making of "Dhaka Attack"

A CORRESPONDENT

Police-based thriller films are not uncommon in other parts of the world, but in Bangladesh, the law enforcers are almost exclusively shown in villainous or even comic roles. A new film, titled "Dhaka Attack", will take a closer, more realistic look into the life and works of the policemen of the city. An agreement of assistance between the production house of the film, Three Wheelers Limited, and Dhaka Metropolitan Police, was signed at the Telecom Auditorium of the Rajarbag Police Line yesterday. The story of "Dhaka Attack" will show the teamwork, social values, sacrifices, familial conflicts and humane appeal of the lives of police, through a realistic, fast-paced story that the audience will thoroughly enjoy. Diponkor Dipon -- the director of the film -- expressed hopes. The film will have a special SWAT team of the police at the centre of the story, with the entire force at work behind it. The cast of the film will be trained by police officials, he added.

Written by Sunny Sanwar, the film has Mohammad Ali Haider and Khaledur Rahman Jewel as executive producers. Shooting is expected to begin in May, with targeted release date in September this year. The film is being funded by the Bangladesh Police Welfare Trust.

SPLENDOURS of ORIENTAL ART

Group art exhibition at Zainul Gallery

ZAHANGIR ALOM

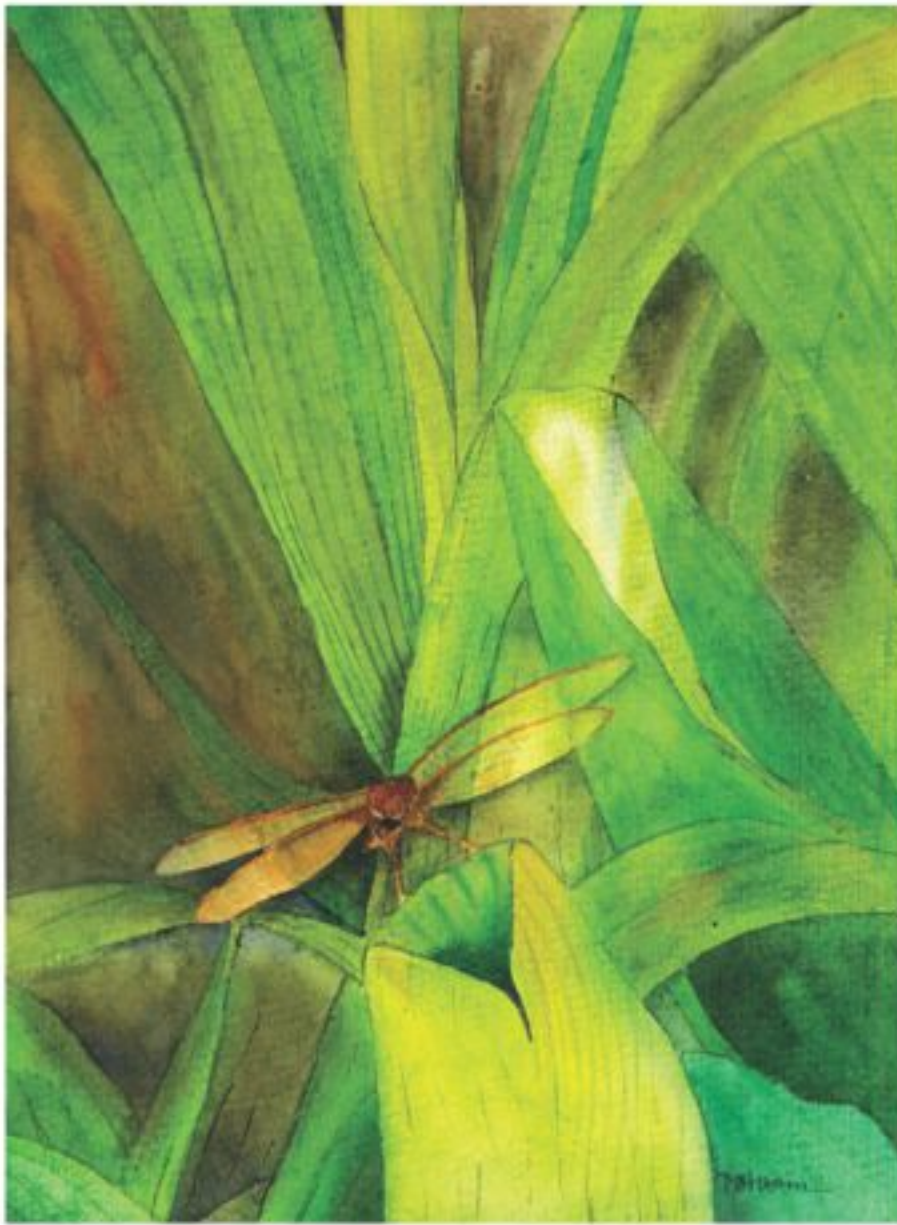
A weeklong group Oriental Art exhibition, titled "Sadanga", featuring watercolours of six promising artists is on at Zainul Gallery, Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA), University of Dhaka. Dean of FFA Professor Abul Barq Alvi, inaugurated the exhibition as chief guest on February 22. Associate Professor of the Department of Printmaking, Anisuzzaman Anis and Assistant Professor of the Department of Oriental Art, Artist Malay Bala were present as special guests at the opening.

The participating painters -- Mustakina Tarin, Mohosin Kabir, Iskandar Mirza, Irin Sultana Liza, Nahida Akter Nisha and Tanjima Tabassum Easha -- (MFA students at the Department of Oriental Art) are exhibiting their 33 of their watercolours.

The artworks displayed at the exhibition feature nature in its artistic diversity, floral motif, insects, animal, figurative and a miniature painting. Works on nature and calligraphy have stood out while the figurative ones fell flat creating the true appeal of Oriental Painting, originally styled by Abanindranath Tagore, Nandalal Bose and other pioneers.

One of Tanjima Tabassum Easha's works, titled "composition", illustrates an illusion of colours like crimson and yellow. Her depiction of several oriental eyes coupled with artistic lines deserves accolades. Her other works includes "Shokhi", "Baul", "Arpon" and "Mughal Miniature".

"Re-cycle of Nature" is an outstanding artwork that Nahida Akter Nisha portrayed. The watercolour, demonstrates her impetuous talent in oriental expressions, with minute plant motifs. The artist's depiction of several figures and faces in natural settings has a fantasy of strong yellow mingled with illusion of Prussian blue and Burnt Sienna. She focuses on the female visage and various aspects of nature in symbolic manner capturing dreams, beliefs and desires. Warm colours, technical detail and mellow textural inten-



Artworks by Mohosin Kabir and Mustakina Tarin.

sity are common traits of her works. It seems that the light and shade are the symbols of tranquility and have a heavenly touch. Her other works are titled "Shiter Pitha", "Study", "A Dancer" and "Altaranga".

Mustakina Tarin's calligraphic work titled "Okkhordani" attempts a difficult conciliation between lyrical abstraction and pictorial articulation where line and colour are vital ingredients. The artist has brilliantly played with subtlety in using balanced subdued colours, amorphous forms and amazing textures with a game of light and shadow. Her other works at the exhibition include "Shapla Tular Din" "Ful", "Somporko" and "Bormomala".

Mohosin Kabir superbly depicted one of his works "Green Touch". The art work delineates a blissful dragonfly sitting amid the celebrating fresh greenery. The work has nice tonal gradation and texture. His other works include "Evergreen", "Root Searching", "Shojibota", "Destroy" and "Fulel".

Iskandar Mirza deftly used mature colour with textures in depicting "Horse



of old Dhaka-1 and 2". "Horse of old Dhaka-2" showcases the minute details of the head of a horse. His other works are "Memory of two Women" and "Flower Study-1, 2 and 3".

Irin Sultana Liza portrayed one of her works titled "Sesh Porinam". The work, immersed in blue, apparently denotes the unknown and untold feminine pain and pathos. Her other works include "Protikkha", "Protiroop" "Adhar-er Roop" and "Nature-1".

The main intention of practicing oriental art is to divulge the splendid and affluent traditional art of Asia to save and nurture the continuity of our own art trend. Following the objective and principles of Bengal school, which was initiated in opposition to western academic realism, the students of Oriental Art Department of FFA have been practicing this genre of art since the mid fifties of the last century.

The exhibition is open from 10 am to 8 pm everyday and will continue till February 28.

Kobial Bijoy Sarkar's 112th birth anniversary observed Follower's demand preservation of Bijoy's songs

PONUEL S BOSE, Narail

Noted Kobial Bijoy Sarkar's 112th birth anniversary was observed at his village Dumdi under sadar upazila in Narail district on February 20.

Marking the day, Bijoy Sarkar Foundation and district administration organised a two- day programme.

The programme saw the placing of wreaths on the portrait of the late poet, discussion and renditions of the bard's songs by artists. Bayati Parimal Sarkar from Bagerhat district and Gorachad Sarkar from Magura district rendered Jari Gaan in the evening. A village fair was held at adjoining areas of the birth place of Bijoy Sarkar.

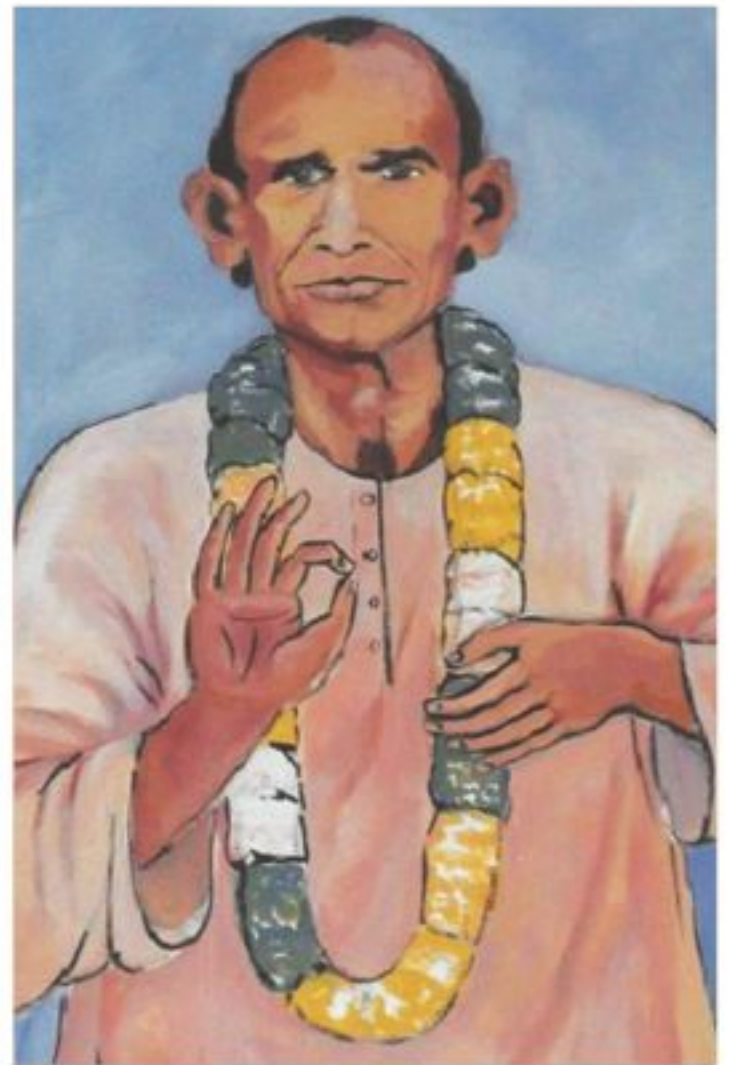
"Ei prithibi jemon achhe temoni thik robe, shundor e prithibi chhere ek din choley jete hobe" goes the lyrics of one song. Bijoy Sarkar wrote nearly 1,800 spiritual, patriotic, and love songs," said Bamini Mohon Roy, a follower of Bijoy.

He further said that though 600-700 songs were published, around 700-800 hundreds songs are in a vulnerable condition and need immediate preservation.

Biplob Biswas, another follower, called on the government to preserve the songs and take initiatives to disseminate Bijoy's philosophy to the next generation.

Kobial Bijoy Sarkar was awarded the Ekushey Padak- '13 posthumously for his contributions in modernising 'Kabigan' and thereby fulfilling a long cherished desire of the people of Narail and millions of his fans from Bangladesh and West Bengal.

Abdul Gaffar Khan, Deputy Commissioner, Narail said that the administration would take necessary steps to preserve the songs of Bijoy Sarkar.



Cultural evening in Chittagong

Shrutiangon celebrates its first anniversary

PRANABESH CHAKRABORTY, Chittagong

Marking its first anniversary, Shrutiangon Bangladesh, an organisation to promote classical and Nazrul Sangeet, arranged a cultural evening at AK Khan Auditorium of Fulki in the port city on February 21.

Tagore exponent Shila Momen inaugurated the programme by lighting candles.

In her inaugural speech, Shila Momen said that the new generation of artistes should play a key role in encouraging the youth to learn classical music and Nazrul Sangeet.

The programme started with a choral rendition of "Dake Shudhu Piya Piya" on Raga Patadip led by Noton Prasad Ghosh.

Following the performance, Shaikat Dutta performed a kheyal on raga "Bhupali" followed by a Nazrul song "Ghumiye Gecche Sranto Hoyer" performed by Niloy Dutta.

Later, Litan Dutta performed a kheyal on raga Bhimpolsri. Sarina Farha Oishi and Muntahin Rahman performed Nazrul



Shila Momen inaugurates the programme.

songs "Ashe Boshonto" and "Allahji Allaji" respectively.

Kheyls on Ragas Shivrangani and Megh -- performed by Malobika Das -- won appreciation.

Sudip Sengupta, Rajesh Saha and Dr. Chandana Nandi accompanied on tabla

and tanpura.

Paying homage to the language heroes who sacrificed their lives in 1952 for establishing Bangla as a state language, the programme ended with the performance of "Amar Bhai'er Rokte Rangano Ekushey February".

PHOTO: STAR

CISD pays tribute to Language Martyrs

On February 21, International Mother Language Day, Cardiff International School Dhaka (CISD) arranged a cultural programme and art competition at its auditorium in Dhanmondi, says a press release.

To start with, students of Cardiff along with their parents paid tributes to the Language Martyrs by placing floral wreaths at Shaheed Minar followed by songs and dances on the theme of Language Movement at its premises.

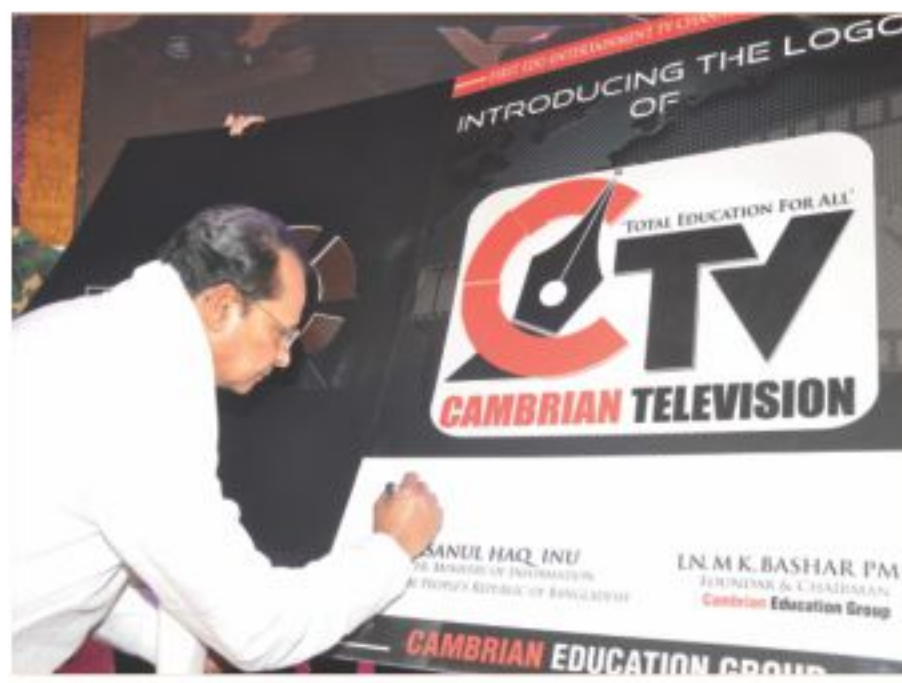
Next followed a competition based

on the history of Language Movement. Principal GM Nizam Uddin, in his welcome speech said that Cardiff is committed to highlighting the language, culture, heritage and outstanding history of Bangladesh. At the art competition, students drew scenes of the 1952 Language Movement. The 10 best artworks were placed in different popular Bangla mobile applications.

The partners of the programme were Grameenphone and Wintel.



Cambrian TV logo unveiled



Hasanul Haq Enu unveils the logo.

A CORRESPONDENT

The first educational TV channel, Cambrian TV (CTV), began its journey on Saturday through the unveiling of its logo. Organised by BSB Foundation and Cambrian College, a grand programme at Savar's Nandan Park saw Information Minister Hasanul Haq Enu unveil the logo. Chairman of CTV and Cambrian Education group, Lion MK Bashar, pmjf, presided over the programme.

Hasanul Haq Enu termed the not-for-profit channel as a challenging initiative, and expressed hopes that the channel will be a milestone in the country's education sector.

MK Bashar said the channel aims to turn every living room into a classroom through using entertainment as a medium for learning.

Hero catches attention Ekushey February celebrations in Delhi

KAVITA, New Delhi

Dancer-choreographer Aminul Islam Hero has a close relationship with India. A disciple of Leela Samson, one of the leading exponents of Bharatanatyam, India beckons him time and again. Recently, Hero was in New Delhi to give a performance at the Bangladesh High Commission on Ekushey February.

An evening of dance and poetry was the fare for the evening. Hero, accompanied by three dancers from his Srishti Cultural Center -- Sabrina Nisa, Tamimul Haque and Kaspia Punni -- put some fine steps together in contemporary, fusion and folk dance. While the dancers captured the agony of the martyrs of the Language Movement, they also presented the ultimate revolt against oppression and the joy of freedom from Pakistani rule. The final contemporary piece had the foursome in a celebratory mode as they waved the national flag and the symbolic national flower--water lilies--with abandon.

One of the highlights of the performance was a patriotic dance set against the poem "Ami Joddha Hobo", composed by the versatile Deputy Bangladesh High Commissioner in Delhi, Mahbub Saleh.

At the conclusion of the evening, Hero and his troupe were showered with compliments from members of the audience who had turned out to see the performance. Twenty-six year old Punni received her share of attention. "I am a professional dancer, I started learning dance from the age of eight at Srishti Cultural Center," she explained more than once to the people who had crowded around her.

Meanwhile, basking in the success of the performance, Hero took time off to talk about his upcoming projects. "I plan to go to Chennai to meet my Guru Leela Samson. Soon I will take my "Ali Baba and 40 Thieves" production to Kolkata," said Hero. He also has a show lined up in Beirut on March 26, Bangladesh's Independence Day, besides performances in Dhaka on Pahela Baishakh.

And as founder-chairman of NGO Bandhu Social Welfare Society, along with the team, he is a keen advocate on issues related to HIV/AIDS and the promotion of human rights for vulnerable groups such as transgenders, using dance as a medium whenever he can. He says, however, that he never plans for the future. "As a dancer, I believe in living in the present moment," he signs off.



Hero and his team at the event.