

WHAT'S ON

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



Photography Exhibition
Title: War and Colonies 1914-1918
Venue: La Galerie, Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, Dhanmondi
Date: Feb 25-Mar 9
Time: 3pm-9pm



Duet Art Exhibition
Title: Dui Bangal
Artists: Hashem Khan and Mohammad Iqbal
Venue: Gallery Twenty One, Dhanmondi
Date: Feb 6-Mar 1



Film Screening and Photo Exhibition
Venue: National Art Gallery Auditorium, Shilpakala Academy
Date: Feb 25-27
Time: 11am-7pm



Theatre
Play: Prometheus
Troupe: Mohokol Nattyto Samproday
Venue: National Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: Feb 27, Time: 7pm



NEWS
bytes



Marty Friedman, a former member of heavy metal giants Megadeth, will release his latest solo album "Inferno" on May 27 in North America.

"I'm extremely proud of the work we've done with Cacophony and Megadeth, but I was never interested in looking back or stopping there," Friedman says. "'Inferno' is the album that fans of my work with those two bands have always wanted me to make. I've finally made it, and completely on my own maniacal terms."

The album features numerous guest appearances, including Danko Jones, Children of Bodom frontman Alexi Laiho, guitarists Rodrigo y Gabriela, Skyharbor's Keshav Dhar, the Shining's Jurgen Munkeby and Revocation axeman David Davidson.

Friedman will also embark on a European tour with fellow guitarist Gus G beginning in May.

Source: **Loudwire**



At the 2013 Cannes Film Festival, actresses Adèle Exarchopoulos and Léa Seydoux were also awarded the Palme d'Or -- as the stars of "Blue Is the Warmest Colour", alongside director Abdellatif Kechiche, in an unorthodox move by the Steven Spielberg-headed jury. These choices were due to a Cannes policy that forbids the Palme d'Or winning film from receiving any additional awards, which would prevent the Jury from rewarding the film's two main actresses. According to Spielberg, "Had the casting been 3% wrong, it wouldn't have worked like it did for us."

Bangla Film festival at TSC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

To mark the International Mother Language Day, Dhaka University Film Society (DUFS) has organised a six-day film festival. The festival, titled "Amar Bhasha'r Cholocchitro", is currently being held at the TSC auditorium of Dhaka University. The festival began on February 22 which was inaugurated by AAMS Arefin Siddiqui, vice-chancellor of Dhaka University.

The festival features 25 Bangla films of prominent Bangladeshi and Indian filmmakers. The festival demonstrates different genres of films like Shahidul Islam Khokon's "Bangla", Rokeya



Prachi's "Baonnor Michhil", Morshedul Islam's "Agami", Satyajit Ray's "Ghore Baire", Ritwik Ghatak's "Bari Theke Paliye", Mrinal Sen's "Kolkata 71", Amit Ashraf's "Udhao", Mostofa Sarwar Farooqi's "Television", Giasuddin



Selim's "Monpura", Srijit Mukherjee's "Baishe Sraban", Basu Chatterjee's "Hotath Bristi", Redoan Rony's "Chorabali", Sohanur Rahman Sohan's "Keyamat Thekey Keyamat", Abdul Jabbar Khan's "Mukh O

Mukhosh", Morshedul Islam's "Dipu Number Two" and others. Four films -- at 10am, 1pm, 4pm and 6:30pm are being shown everyday till Thursday.

The festival also pays tribute to recently-demised film personalities like Anwar Hossain, Suchitra Sen and Rituparna Ghosh through screening of films like "Nabab Siraj-ud-Daula", "Sare Chuattur" and "Chokher Bali". DUFS has been organising film festivals annually since 2002, with the current name and format prevailing since 2007. This is the 13th edition of the festival, with some 307 screenings of more than 250 Bangla films held over the years.

Hasan Imam's six decades on screen



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Amra Surjamukhi, a socio-cultural organisation recently celebrated 60 years of acting career of veteran actor Syed Hasan Imam. The programme was held at the Sufia Kamal Auditorium of National Museum in the city.

Several cultural organisations of the country -- Bangladesh Nriya Shilpi Sangstha, Bangladesh Sangeet Sangothan Sammanoy Parishad, Khelaghar, Jatiyo Nabanno Utsab Udjapan Parishad -- among others wished him with flowers, books, sweets and others gifts for his immense contributions to the cultural arena of the country.

Cultural personalities, political and social activists including president of Communist Party of Bangladesh Mujahidul Islam Selim, chairman of National Human Rights Commission Mizanur Rahman, Barrister Amirul Islam, actor Dr Enamul Haque, former army chief Lt Gen (ret'd) Harunur Rashid, rights activist Ayesha Khanom, and Imam's wife Laila Hasan delivered speech on the life and contributions of Hasan Imam. The discussion was presided over by Shafiqul Islam Selim, president of Amra Surjamukhi. The discussion session was followed by solo musical performance by singer Biswajit Roy.

Indian painter Prokash Karmakar no more

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

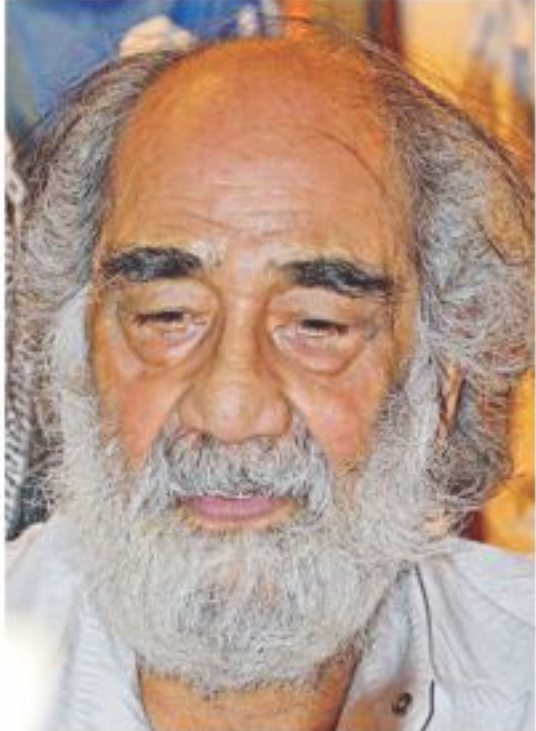
Veteran Indian painter Prokash Karmakar passed away on February 24, from old age complications, at the age of 81. Kolkata-based artist Sukhamoy Majumder confirmed the news over telephone to this correspondent. The painter was best known for his landscapes and nudes.

He participated in a number of art camps and group exhibitions in Dhaka.

Karmakar's nudes and landscapes, done in vivacious colours with bold lines, have been highly praised by art aficionados for long. He also painted shades of rural and urban lives, and his personal perceptions of nature and surrounding atmospheres. His paintings reflected the deteriorating of society and the uncertainty that happens in contemporary India.

Karmakar had won many prestigious awards including the Lalit Kala Akademi National Award. His works are permanent collections of the National Gallery of Modern Art, Lalit Kala Akademi in Delhi and Lucknow Academy of Fine Arts in Kolkata.

Born in 1933, the painter was inspired by the works of Picasso and other masters of the 19th century Impressionism. He came into limelight after 1956 when he started holding street exhibitions.



TV WATCH

"Khororer Khoror Achey" on Channel 9

A CORRESPONDENT

A unique satire show titled "Khororer Khoror Achey" will be aired tonight at 10pm on Channel 9. A humorous take on news analysis, in the format of a talk show, will feature Alisha Pradhan and Ishtiaq Nasir as guests. Produced by Rahul Tapash, the programme is hosted by Iqbal Khandakar.



Hobbit sequel dominates Empire Awards nods



Jennifer Lawrence has two nominations at the awards.

The Empire Awards are known for being more fan-focused than the Baftas and the Oscars, and the 2014 nominees make no exception. "The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug" dominates proceedings with seven nominations, beating Oscar favourite "12 Years A Slave", which has six.

Peter Jackson's series has been ignored outside the technical categories by the bigger awards shows. The first instalment had won best fantasy at last year's Empire awards. It also gained a best actor prize for its Martin Freeman, who plays Bilbo Baggins.

The Empire awards are chosen by readers of the monthly film magazine, allowing big budget blockbusters to rub shoulders with more serious awards fare. Real-life piracy thriller "Captain Phillips" has an equal number of nominations to action movie "The Hunger Games: Catching Fire" -- five.

Captain Phillips director Paul Greengrass will also pick up an inspiration prize, in recognition of his work on films like "The Bourne Supremacy", "Bloody Sunday" and "United 93".

This year's shortlist sees the introduction of best supporting actor and actress categories, with "12 Years" stars Michael Fassbender and Lupita Nyong'o among those in the running, along with Hobbit's Richard Armitage and Evangeline Lilly.

Jennifer Lawrence, meanwhile, gets a nomination for her scene-stealing turn in "American Hustle", alongside a best actress nomination for "The Hunger Games".

Sci-fi thriller "Gravity" received four nominations, including best film, best director and best actress for Sandra Bullock.

The awards will be presented at a star-studded ceremony in London on Sunday, March 30. The public can vote for the shortlisted nominees at the Empire website.

Last year's big winner was Bond movie "Skyfall", which received best film and best director for Sam Mendes, while Dame Helen Mirren was handed the Empire Legend award.

Source: **BBC**

Cultural news from across the country

PONUEL S BOSE, Narail

Marking the 89th birth anniversary of legendary artist SM Sultan, a eight-day long Sultan Mela began on the premises of Government Victoria College at Sultan Mancha in Narail town yesterday.

SM Sultan Foundation and Narail district administration have jointly organised the fair with support from Grameenphone and the cultural affairs ministry.

Asaduzzaman Noor, Minister for Cultural Affairs inaugurated the fair as chief guest. Among others, Kobirul Haque, MP Narail-1; Sheikh Hafizur Rahman, MP, Narail-2 and Adv. Subash Chandro Bose, administrator, Narail zilla parishad, were present as special guests.

The fair has been taking place annually for more than a decade, not only to celebrate the birth anniversary of the artist, but also to patronise indigenous art and culture. The seven-day programmes include art exhibition, art competition, children's art camp, local artists' art exhibition, bullfight, horse-cart race and other sports. The village area is decorated in festive mood due to the fair.

MAMUN-UR-RASHID, Bogra

A painting competition, discussion and prize-giving ceremony were held on International Mother Language Day, by several cultural organisations and the Press Club of Bogra town recently.

The event was presided over by the president of Bogra Press Club, Rejaul Hasan Ranu, with lawmaker Abdul Mannan present as chief guest.

Later, the guests also unveiled a book on Ekushey, titled "Swaran Patra".

AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh

Alokchitra Shilpi Sangsad (Ashis) organised a two-day photography exhibition at Mominunnesa Govt. Mohila College in the town recently.

The exhibition titled "Ekusher Chetona" was organised marking Amar Ekushey and

International Mother Language Day.

Mustakim Billah Faruqui, Deputy Commissioner of Mymensingh inaugurated the exhibition.

Over 150 photographs on the Language Movement, War of Liberation, nature, environment and daily life of the common people were displayed at the exhibition, which saw attendance in hundreds.

A discussion was also held

with principal of the college Khorshed Uddin Thakur in the chair. Such exhibitions organised at educational institutions will surely benefit the young generation, opined the speakers.

MAMUN-UR-RASHID, Bogra

The National Children's Task Force (NCTF) of Bogra arranged a painting competition for underprivileged children on Shaheed Dibosh and International Mother



Clockwise (from top): Children take part in writing competition; awardees with guests at the programme and visitors at the exhibition.