

Art Exhibition
 Title: Serenading Suchitra
 Venue: Shilpakala Gallery, Dhanmondi
 Date: April 6-19
 Time: 12pm-8pm



Theatre
 Play: Outsider
 Troupe: Dhaka Theatre
 Venue: National Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
 Date: April 5; Time: 6:30pm



Art Exhibition
 Organiser: Pintu's Fine Art School
 Venue: School premises, 61/2 Lake Circus, Kalabagan
 Date: April 3-15
 Time: 3:30pm-6pm

Prize & Cultural Program 2014
 4th April - 1st Friday at 5.00 pm. to 8.00 pm.



Theatre
 Play: Shey
 Troupe: Padatik Natya Sangshad
 Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy



An Evening of Nazrul Sangeet
 Artist: Shahid Kabir Polash
 Venue: Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre, Gulshan 1
 Date: April 5; Time: 6:30pm



NEWS bytes

New Lana Del Rey song surfaces



A new Lana Del Rey track, "Meet Me in the Pale Moonlight" has surfaced, and while there's no indication that it will appear on the singer's still-in-the-works second LP, "Ultraviolence", the song could hint at a new sonic direction for the singer. The finds Del Rey ditching the languid ballads that marked her debut "Born to Die" for serene, mid-tempo disco, her vocals buoyant and flirtatious, but still heavy with melodrama. Details about Del Rey's new album have been scarce, though recently the singer tweeted a photo of her and the Black Keys' Dan Auerbach in the studio, writing "Me and Dan Auerbach are excited to present you Ultraviolence."

Source: **Rolling Stones**

IT'S TRUE!



"Rhein II" is a photograph made by German visual artist Andreas Gursky in 1999. In 2011, a print was auctioned for \$4.3 million, making it the most expensive photograph ever sold. The photograph was produced as the second (and largest) of a set of six depicting the River Rhine. Extraneous details such as dog-walkers and a factory building were removed by the artist via digital editing. Justifying this manipulation of the image, Gursky said "Paradoxically, this view of the Rhine cannot be obtained 'in situ' -- a fictitious construction was required to provide an accurate image of a modern river."

Laila Sharmeen to showcase works at Artexpo



STAFF CORRESPONDENT
 Artist Laila Sharmeen will showcase her recent works in watercolour and print at the three-day Artexpo New York '14, beginning on April 4. Set to be held at the 55th Street and the West Side Highway in New York, Artexpo features more than 400 innovative exhibiting artists, galleries and publishers from across the globe, showcasing exciting original artwork, prints, paintings, drawings, sculpture, photography, ceramics, lithographs, glass works and more. For more than thirty-five years, Artexpo brings the biggest publishers, galleries and collectors face-to-face with hundreds of established

and emerging artists. This year, Artexpo includes three shows under one roof: Artexpo New York, the world's largest fine art trade show; [SOLO], highlighting new and emerging artists; and DECOR Expo Showcase, a trade-only show featuring the latest art and framing industry trends. Laila Sharmeen is represented at Artexpo by Argentine art dealer and editor of the Argentina Art Yearbook, Maria Elena Beneito. Her works demonstrate an artist whose sole concern is about devising playful cultural codes that are intrinsically related to the stories emanated from essential Bengali hearts and psyche. She is keenly conscious of many of

social changes of modern times that are not healthy or natural. They do not have the essentials for sustenance of humanity. She feels that the corrupt politicians and the religious bigots have contaminated our view of the world. At the same time, the artificiality of modern life is equally to be blamed. Deeply perturbed by the materialistic greed and alienation of modern man, she has tried to capture the hollowness of modern civilization, the clash of civilization, apartheid, religious bigotry rendering our planet unlivable. But at the core of her heart she is romantic dreaming about a utopian world amidst obscurantisms, hypocrisy and deceit.

David's solo sculpture exhibition in Chittagong



Visitors at the exhibition. PHOTO: STAR

SHAHADAT HOSSAIN, Chittagong
 A three-day solo sculpture exhibition of young artist Sharefuas Al Mahmud David, titled "Concrete", is being held at Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin gallery of Chittagong Shilpakala Academy. The ongoing indiscriminate deforestation, environmental pollution in the country, and human relationships featured in the exhibit that closes today. A total 22 sculptures namely are on display, where the artist used Rod, sand and concrete to produce the sculptures with unique shape and colours. Through the works, the artist -- a masters' student of the Institute of Fine Arts, Chittagong University (CU) -- looks to express men and women and their thinking and lifestyle, people's acting in their everyday life, image of Bangladesh to the outer world, industrial pollution and deforestation for which the birds are losing foods and their habitats. CU Pro-Vice Chancellor Prof Iftekhar Uddin Chowdhury inaugurated the exhibition as chief guest on Thursday. Nasima Masud Rubi, director of Institute of Fine Arts, presided over the inaugural ceremony of the exhibition where other CU teachers were also present.

Harry Potter spin-off 'will be a film trilogy'

JK Rowling's Harry Potter spin-off "Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them" is to be made into a film trilogy. The book, published in 2001, was originally billed as one of Harry Potter's Hogwarts textbooks. Warner Bros chief Kevin Tsujihara persuaded author Rowling to adapt the book for the big screen. Last week, he told the New York Times there would be a trilogy of films based on the book, which follows a 'magizoologist' named Newt Scamander. Scamander is the author of a guide to magical creatures. Set in New York, the book is neither a sequel nor a prequel, but an 'extension' of Harry Potter's 'wizards world', Rowling said. Last month, Rowling told actress Emma Watson -- who played Hermione Granger in the Harry Potter films -- that she completed the draft script in 12 days. Rowling herself told the newspaper that it was Tsujihara - who took over the role of CEO at Warner Bros last year - who persuaded her to adapt the book. "We had one dinner, a follow-up telephone call, and then I got out the rough draft that I'd thought was going to be an interesting bit of memorabilia for my kids and started rewriting," she

told the New York Times. The project, which was first announced in September 2013, will be produced by Harry Potter regular David Heyman, whose recent successes include "Gravity". "I always said that I would only revisit the wizarding world if I had an idea that I was really excited about and this is it," said Rowling

when the film was announced last year. The book was written by Rowling between the publication of the fourth and the fifth books in the Harry Potter series. It is set 70 years before we first meet Harry. More than 450 million copies of Rowling's seven Potter books have been sold worldwide. Aside from "Fantastic Beasts and

Where to Find Them", she also wrote the short book "Quidditch Through the Ages" - another of Harry's schoolbooks. They were published in aid of Comic Relief. Another Potter spin-off book, "The Tales of Beedle the Bard", followed in December 2008.

Source: **BBC**



'Buckbeak the Hippogriff' was one of the few magical creatures shown in the Harry Potter films.

Three-day fundraiser theatre fest ends

AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh
 A three-day charity fundraiser theatre festival was recently organised by Onsamble Theatre at Mymensingh Zila Shilpakala Academy auditorium and Town Hall premises to help raise funds for the medical treatment of an ailing artiste. Nattiyam Dhaka staged "Domer Madar" on the opening day. Written by Sadhana Ahmed and directed by Dr. Irin Parveen Lopa, the play drew a capacity packed audience at the venue. Theatre and Performance Studies of Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University staged "Ferari Nishan" at the festival. The play was written and directed by Mannan Hira and Syed Mamun Reza respectively. On the concluding day, Onsamble Theatre staged "Court Marshal". The cast of the play were Abul Monsur, Asaduzzaman Sarker, SM Wares Hossain, Asaduzzaman Rubel, Tanjina Piyash and Shirin Siraj Sathi.

Marking the inauguration of the festival, a discussion was held. Fayzur Rahman Fakir, Sarwar Chowdhury, Nurul Amin Kalam, advocate Abul Kashem, District Cultural Officer Shamsul Haque and secretary of Bidroh Natya Ghoshthi Ali Azhar Hablu were the discussants. Cultural organisations Sandhipon Sangskritik Sangstha, Udhay Digangan Abrittii Poribar, Naksha Multimedia, Ranger Baul and Onsumble Orchestra performed at attractive cultural shows during the festival. President of Onsamble Theatre Abul Monsur said Hafizur Rahman Rajib, 23, a college student and a member of Onsumble Orchestra -- has been suffering from a kidney disease for three months. The talented folk singer lost his father five years ago and his mother is mentally challenged. "We have been supporting his treatment for the last three months and have organised the festival to raise further funds for Rajib," said Abul Monsur.



A scene from play "Domer Madar". PHOTO: STAR

Manipuri Nababarsha Utshab held

MINTU DESHWARA, back from Kamalgonj
 The Manipuri community in Kamalgonj observed 'Manipuri Nababarsha Utshab-2014' recently with a call to save and undertake research on Manipuri culture. People from different areas of Moulvibazar district joined the daylong event. The event began with the hoisting of the national flag and the rendition of the national anthem at the Tetoygaon premises. Kongkham Nilmoni Singha, Joint Secretary, Land Record and Survey department formally inaugurated the event as chief guest.

A colourful procession was then taken out at the Adompur area. A discussion and cultural function were also held, chaired by poet AK Sheram, president of Bangladesh Manipuri SahityaSamity. Speakers at the discussion said Manipuri culture has rich historical roots. However, institutional efforts are much-needed to preserve the language, they asserted. They demanded that the government save Manipuri and other local dialects. In addition to Manipuri songs, artistes also presented dances at the cultural programme.



A colourful rally parades the streets. PHOTO: STAR

Indigenous Cultural Festival in Rangamati

SHANTIMOY CHAKMA, Rangamati
 Jum Aesthetic Council (JAC), a Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT)-based indigenous cultural organisation in Rangamati has organised a three-day Indigenous Cultural Festival at the compound of Rangamati Small Ethnic Cultural Institute in the town. Indigenous poet Chitra Mohon Chakma inaugurated the fair on Thursday, with advocate Mihir Baran Chakma, president of JAC, in the chair. Speakers at the discussion said the government as well as the wealthy should come forward and extend their helping hands in preserving the varied culture of the indigenous people for the interest of enriching the national culture of the country. Chief of Chakma Circle Devashis Roy

and renowned playwright Mamunur Rashid were the special guests. To mark the festival, elaborate programmes have been chalked out by JAC, including staging of indigenous plays, cultural show, folk songs, art competition, chorus and solo songs and dance. Three persons were also honoured by the JAC at the programme: Late Suhrid Chakma, founder secretary of JAC and late Surendra Lal Tripura were honoured posthumously, while Biro Kumar Tangchangya was also honoured for his role in developing ethno culture. JAC has been playing a significant role in upholding age-old traditions and culture of the jumbo people in hills, through organising this festival every year. It is a prelude to the 'Biju Festival' celebrated from April 12-14 by the indigenous people.

