

WHAT'S ON

Group Art exhibition
Title: Water Rhymes-2
Venue: Galleri Kaya, Uttara
Date: Apr 26-May 7
Time: 11am-8pm



International Dance Day
Programmes & Fair
Organisers: Bangladesh Nritya Shilpi Sangstha & Shilpakala Academy
Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy



Rabindra Utsab
Venue: Chhayanaut Bhawan, Dhanmondi
Date: May 8-9
Time: 6:30pm



Group Art Exhibition
Venue: Zainul Gallery, FFA, Dhaka University
Date: Apr 30-May 6
Time: 11am-8pm



Mask Exhibition
Venue: Bronia Café & Gallery, Niketan
Date: April 11-30
Time: 10am-8pm



NEWS bytes

Zack Snyder to direct Justice League



After weeks and months of rumours, The Wall Street Journal is reporting that Zack Snyder will be directing "Justice League" for Warner Bros.

The reports quotes Warner's president of worldwide production, Greg Silverman, as confirming Snyder's appointment, before explaining that, "it will be a further expansion of this universe... Batman vs. Superman will lead into Justice League."

According to The Hollywood Reporter, the two films will also shoot back-to-back, with a view to "Justice League" opening in cinemas in 2017.

Meanwhile, The Wall Street Journal's report also suggests that the studio is also turning over the idea of a potential Wonder Woman spin-off, depending on how Gal Gadot's performance is received. Directed by Snyder and co-starring Ben Affleck, Henry Cavill and Jesse Eisenberg, "Batman vs. Superman" is set for release in mid- 2016.

Source: Totalfilm

IT'S TRUE!



Etching is the process of using strong acid or mordant to cut into the unprotected parts of a metal surface to create a design in intaglio in the metal (the original process—in modern manufacturing other chemicals may be used on other types of material). As an intaglio method of printmaking, it is, along with engraving, the most important technique for old master prints, and remains in wide use today.

Three-day film festival opens in Gopalganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gopalganj

A three-day film festival began in Gopalganj yesterday, at the Sheikh Fazlul Haq Moni memorial auditorium. With the theme "Only films can prevent terrorism and narrow-mindedness", the festival has been organised by the Gopalganj Information Office. Although it is mainly aimed at the students of various educational institutions of the district, screening of some of the films will be open for all to attend.

A total of 11 films will be screened at the festival -- that closes tomorrow.



...the rain it raineth every day

Gallery Kaya's "Water Rhymes-2"

FAYZA HAQ

Till the 7th of May, Gallery Kaya will present watercolour ecstasies of the finest of our painters.

There is, for instance, Hamiduzzaman Khan who has brought in endless creations in cobalt blue, aquamarine and traces of yellow and sap green, along with the magic of houses and barges. The royal-blue and black give the element of the gathering storm, lashes of white and pale yellow form fragments of the land, and multi-coloured symphony in red and green portray the growth of trees and houses on the beech.

Alokesh Ghosh has played with crimson and blue to bring in the sails of boats. Even the sails of his boats appear to be made of water -- such is the touch of Alokesh's brush. The background appears locked in black and gray. The water images in front are also drenched with water, in umber, red and grey. His other "Untitled" is also a crowd of men in a boat. There are about seven of them and miniscule in size. Bars of gray, sap green and black lines make

the water in front. A flow of black water brings in the watery backdrop.

The women, partially clothed, remain Jamal Ahmed's forte. The limbs are delicate and in her bare body, the sari looks exotic, as she fixes a crimson flower to her hair. His "Untitled" carries two horses, one black and the other white -- as they speed on the turf.

Kazi Raqib has two untitled pieces, both being acrylic on paper. One bears two love birds, kissing and cuddling, against a backdrop of blue. The other is a face of a woman, with delicate painted lips. Her face is partly white and partly ink-blue.

Ranjit Das, in his watercolours, has painted many trees with greenish sky at the back and waters of a lake in front. His other creation is that of five temples, with a tea-stall at the side. Purple and dark blue bushes are seen in the foreground.

Shishir Bhattacharjee's piece has two boats on the river at the back, and has some wild shrubs with their aerial roots, growing on the bare sand, in front. His other creation has a vendor, following a dog. There are

boats on the sea and a red and yellow sun- umbrella on the sand, in front.

Goutam Chakraborty, with his trunks of elephants and teeth, appear to create idylls out of the blue and gold mélange of the animal's trunk and teeth wrapped up with red and orange streaks and the gold and black of a leopard's back.

"Maheshkhali" and "Old Dhaka-2" by Kamaluddin are beautiful images in pearly white and black. One shows three boats being built, and the other is a narrow passage with rickshaws, a bullock cart and some people making their way on foot.

Shohag Parvez's "Hills of green" and "Boats of Bangladesh" are buoyant with their riot of colours. His "Hills of green" have trees and hills at the back which vary from dark blue to pale blue. That patches of green have scarlet flowers in them in front. His "Boats" has red, green and brown covers, where the boatmen keep their food and instruments to sail with. Orange, purple and green form the sail of the mighty boats, which have multiple decks and appear to be crammed with passengers.



PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

Greek classical tragedies staged

Recreation of ancient times

PRANABESH CHAKRABORTY, Chittagong

The staging of the three Greek classical tragedies -- "Oedipus", "Oedipus at Colonus" and "Antigone"--penned by famous ancient Greek tragedian Sophocles drew hundreds of theatre enthusiasts at Chittagong Shilpakala Academy premises on Friday evening.

Chittagong's high-flying theatre troupe Fame staged the four and a half hour "Greek trilogy" on the open stage of the Academy.

This was the second staging of the three tragedies, most commonly known as Theban plays by Fame. The troupe first staged the trilogy on the open stage of DC Hill premises in 2005.

Adapted by noted writers Syed Ali Ahsan and Shudhangshu Ranjan Ghosh, the three tragedies are sagas of the misfortune that dogs Oedipus, the king of Thebes, and his inheritors.

An oracle prophesied that Oedipus would be the cause of his father's death and become his mother's husband. The oracle's prediction came true though Oedipus remained in the dark about the prophecy.

Chittagong University Dramatics Department teacher Ashim Das, who is also the chief of Fame, designed and directed the plays.

Talking to The Daily Star, Das said only seven of over 100 plays of Sophocles survived the test of time. The three tragedies are widely popular as a trilogy though the plays were not written as a series.

"The staging of the Theban plays of the master play-

wright Sophocles was a challenge for us but all of us, with limited resources presented the plays before the audience and made the programme a success," he added.

In ancient Greece, the audience enjoyed the plays staged on a gallery-like open place from dawn to dusk, he added.

"As this was not possible in the present context of the country, we staged the three plays consecutively on a open stage from dusk to 10.30pm in an effort to recreate Greek theatre with the use of masks," said Mubidur Sujat, an activist of Fame, adding that they had practiced the dialogues for six months and during that time they had not performed in any other production.

"The background music and the intelligent use of the lights had me spellbound," said Dulal Dasgupta, a well-known theatre activist of the city. He also appreciated the sincere effort of the troupe.

"It is a good sign that the entire Shilpakala Academy premises were teaming with people all the way up to 10:30pm" said Anisur Rahman Nasym, a theatre connoisseur. He, however, criticised the poor sound projection of the choruses.

Mubidur Rahman Sujat and Poly Chowdhury Bobby played the roles of Oedipus and Antigone respectively. Swanupama Sengupta, Rumal Barua, Saifur Rahman Parvej, Tapas Chakraborty, Nazia Tabassum Nancy, Shahriar Md. Shiblee and Khadijatul Kubra Rishika also played important roles. Ashim Das designed the music and costumes of the plays.

Ddhoni-Chitra enters the film industry

Media Production Company Ddhoni Chitra and Monforing are going to co-produce their first full length feature film "Chhuye Dile Mon". The announcement was made at an event held at the Zahir Raihan Color Lab Auditorium in FDC on April 27. The film, directed by Shihab Shaheen, is the first full length feature film produced by Ddhoni Chitra, says a press release.

Managing Director of Ddhoni Chitra and producer of the film Sara Zaker, noted cultural personality Mamunur Rashid, director of the film Shihab Shaheen attended the event along with the cast and crew of the film and noted personalities from the film industry.

Arefin Shuvo, Momo, Iresh Zaker and Ali Raj will play the lead roles. Habib Wahid and Sajid Sarkar will produce the music for the film.

Sara Zaker said, "This is a small endeavour from us to contribute to the iconic film industry of Bangladesh. We request cooperation and best wishes from the film fraternity as we start our journey."

The shooting of the film is due to begin early next month.



Artistes and guests at the event.

Subir Chowdhury critically ill

A CORRESPONDENT

Under the title "Songs of the Land", a group art exhibition was recently held in Australia. A number of prominent Bangladeshi painters along with Subir Chowdhury, director of Bengal Gallery was on a visit to Australia on the occasion. Chowdhury unexpectedly fell sick there, and has been diagnosed with complications in the brain. He is now under treatment at the Westmead Hospital in Sydney.



Bhaag Milkha Bhaag sweeps IIFA 2014

Rakeysh Om Prakash Mehra's "Bhaag Milkha Bhaag", which has already garnered several awards, claimed nine technical awards at the International Indian Film Academy (IIFA) Awards 2014, in a grand ceremony held in Tampa, Florida in the USA. The biopic based on India's most celebrated sprinter Milkha Singh bagged the awards for best cinematography, best screenplay, best dialogue, best editing, best sound design, best sound mixing, best background score, best costume designing and best make-up. Director Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra dedicated the prize to the now 84-year-old Singh, who took the stage and said: "This goes to the boys and girls of India, who deserve to win the gold." Farhan Akhtar, one of the hosts of the awards ceremony, won best actor for the role. Singh said that watching the movie marked one of the three times in life that he cried along with his parents' death and his Olympic failure.

Best leading actress went to Deepika Padukone, who was nominated for three films. She won for "Chennai Express", an action film in which she stars opposite Shah Rukh Khan -- who skipped the awards to concentrate on a movie shoot.

The Lifetime Achievement Award was conferred on Shatrughan Sinha, while best entertainer award was taken by Deepika.

Dhanush took best male debutante for "Raanjhanaa", with Vaani Kapoor winning it for "Shudh Romance". Best performances in supporting roles went to Aditya Roy Kapoor for "Yeh Jawani Hai Deewani" and Divya Dutta for "Bhaag Milkha Bhaag" and Arshad Warsi took best performance in a comic role for "Jolly LLB", while the best performance in a negative role went to the veteran Rishi Kapoor for "D Day".

The romantic musical sequel "Aashiqui 2" swept all the prizes for music -- best playback singers (Arijit Singh and Shreya Ghoshal) and best lyrics (Mithoon).

Singer Mika Singh sang some of his hit songs, and also got Hrithik Roshan on stage, who grooved to his "Agal Bagal" song from "Phata Poster Nikla Hero". Sonakshi Sinha, Bipasha Basu and Priyanka Chopra performed to a few dance numbers. The presence of Hollywood stars Kevin Spacey and John Travolta also lit up the event.

Rakesh Roshan's "Krrish 3" won two awards -- best action and best special effects-visuals. Rohit Shetty's blockbuster hit "Chennai Express" won for best song recording and best sound mixing along with "Bhaag Milkha Bhaag".

Source: Hindustan Times



John Travolta shakes a leg with Priyanka Chopra.