

WHAT'S ON

Art Exhibit

Title: Poradrishti
Featured Artist: SM Sultan
Venue: Daily Star-Bengal Arts Precinct
Date: May 23-July 13
Time: 12pm-8pm



Theatre

Title: Bhager Manush
Troupe: Somoy
Venue: Experimental Theatre, Shilpakala Academy
Date: May 27; Time: 7pm



Solo Art Exhibition

Artist: Khalid Mahmood Mithu
Venue: Athena Gallery of Fine Arts, Progoti Shorani, Uttar Badda
Date: April 18- May 31
Time: 10am-8pm



Theatre

Title: Dog, Woman, Man
Director: Reetu Sattar
Venue: Goethe-Institut, Dhanmondi Rd. 9
Date: May 20-31
Time: 7pm



Solo Painting Exhibition

Title: Bornil Pandulipi
Venue: Shilpangan Gallery, H-7, Rd-13, New Dhanmondi
Date: May 17-30
Time: 12pm-8pm



NEWSbytes

Batman v Superman shooting underway



Batman v Superman has finally been blessed with an official title, with the new film going by "Batman v Superman: Dawn Of Justice". The film has also released a new logo, featuring the new title, in which the Batman and Superman insignias are welded together in grungey, industrial style.

The announcement of the new title comes as cameras begin rolling on the film, with principal photography taking place in Michigan.

Directed by Zack Snyder and co-starring Ben Affleck, Henry Cavill and Jesse Eisenberg, "Batman v Superman: Dawn Of Justice" will open in the UK on April 29, 2016.

Source: **Totalfilm**

IT'S TRUE!



At the age of 14, US actress Jodie Foster starred in five films in 1976: "Taxi Driver", "Bugsy Malone", "Freaky Friday", "The Little Girl Who Lives Down the Lane" and "Ech-oes of a Summer". She was nominated for the Academy Award for Best Supporting Actress for her performance in "Taxi Driver", won two BAFTAs in 1977: for Best Newcomer and the Best Actress in a Supporting Role for her performances in "Bugsy Malone" opposite Scott Baio and "Taxi Driver" opposite Robert De Niro. She received a nomination for the Golden Globe Award for Best Actress for her performance in "Freaky Friday". For the title character (opposite Martin Sheen) in "The Little Girl Who Lives Down the Lane", she received the Saturn Award for Best Actress at the age of 15, the youngest actress to receive the award. The film also won the Saturn Award for Best Horror Film.

Mighty Sultan and the latest arts hub in town



The opening saw a large turnout, including eminent artists; (right) Abul Khair, Sir Fazle Hasan Abed and Professor Anisuzzaman at the inauguration.

FAYZA HAQ
Bengal Foundation's new cultural centre, the Daily Star-Bengal Arts Precinct, opened on May 23 at The Daily Star Centre with an exhibition titled "Poradrishti". The exhibit features works by master painter SM Sultan from the personal collection of Bengal Foundation Chairman and art collector Abul Khair. Founder and Chairperson of BRAC, Sir Fazle Hasan Abed and Professor Emeritus Anisuzzaman jointly inaugurated the centre and the exhibition in the evening.

On display at the exhibit are 18 paintings and 15 drawings by the legendary SM Sultan. During the exhibition that runs until July 13, discussions on the varied aspects of Sultan's works will also be held.

Large panels of canvases and hessian reveal men on the move, with old men, women and children on carts, and men safeguarding them. "Untitled" (1987) has two men smoking under leafy green trees. This is an image of repose. We see a large oil painting called "Untitled" (1991). Here is a melange of trees and roots with figures of men, women and children. "Oil on Canvas" (1991) show people at rest, the women wearing bangles, and necklaces. Apparently this is a jungle area with thick grass all over. In one panel of paintings, we see the men resting with their children and possessions. There are women and children visible too. Another oil on canvas piece captures a field of people. Here is the only

picture of Sultan where the mighty are lifeless. In the centre is the body of an old man who resembles a sage. Around him are the corpses of women and children. There is an idyllic painting where three women disembark from a boat. In a huge panel of another canvas, we see elderly men with women and children on carts. Of the two paintings which made Sultan most popular --- one is the First Plantation --- and the other is the land grabbing. Some writers have also used the word "attack" for the land confiscation, with bows and arrows and men rippling with muscles. The work is allegoric. The colours used by the artist are burnt umber, yellow ochre and jet black. With this is the emerald and jade of the grass of the jungles. Sultan

does not leave a tiny bit of canvas free. The opening of the centre was attended by a number of artists of repute, including Quayyum Chowdhury, Rafiqun Nabi and Hashem Khan. Of them, Biren Shome said artists' expectations are high from such a centre that is collaboration between two organisations that nurture and appreciate art. Madrid-based Bangladeshi artist Monirul Islam, present at the opening, said he feels every big office should have a space for arts and culture, and that more such centres will give people more exposure to fine arts. Mohammad Iqbal said tasteful galleries are still not very common in Dhaka, and it's great to see a new one opening doors. He also expressed hopes that it will host works not just

by master artists, but contemporary painters, and maybe even exhibits of foreign artists. Kanak Chanpa Chakma heartily praised the gallery as well, on its aesthetics and location, terming it "much-needed". She said it could only be good news for artists, art critics and enthusiasts alike. Khalid Mahmood Mithu said having such a centre at its own office building meant The Daily Star has opened its heart and given fine arts a place in it, adding that it could not have been a more fitting beginning, than to start its journey with works of a master like Sultan. Artist Gulshan Hossain said she was excited about the precinct, and congratulated Mahfuz Anam and Abul Khair's vision in making it happen.

PHOTO: STAR

Celebrating Nazrul

Chhayanaut hosts 2-day festival

ZAHANGIR ALOM

It was much welcoming rain that serenaded with large numbers of Nazrul aficionados in celebration of the bard's 115th birth anniversary, as Chhayanaut organised a two day-long Nazrul Utshab 1421 at its main auditorium on May 24 and 25, for the sixth consecutive year. Artistes of Chhayanaut began the festival with a choral rendition of the song "Hey Partha Sarathi", while a number of artistes, with mangal pradiap, presented a lively dance to the patriotic number "Eki Oporoop Roop E Ma Tomaye". General Secretary of Chhayanaut, Khairul Anam Shakil, delivered the welcome address while Professor Siraj Salekin of Dhaka University delivered the Nazrul memorial lecture at the festival. Dr. Sarwar Ali presented the vote of thanks over the session. Artistes of Chhayanaut performed a choral rendition of songs, "Nobin Asha Jaglo Rey Aj", "Chandramollika, Chandramollika" and "Rumjhum Jhumjhum Nupur Boley" next. The performance received rounds of applause. Several noted artistes rendered solos at the event. They prominently performed ghazal-ang songs and shyama sangeet. Khairul Anam Shakil soothed the hearts of the Nazrul enthusiast through letting the melody of kavyageeti "Pashaner Bhangley Ghum"



Young Chhayanaut students perform a chorus; (below) a dance number being presented.

flow free. Sumon Chowdhury's presentation of a shyama sangeet "Shoshaney Jagichhey Shyama" coupled with a rhythmic tehai by Iftekhar Dollar generated a musical high. True to her reputation, eminent Nazrul exponent Sadya Afreen Mallick performed an uncommon song, "Bideshini Chini Chini", at the festival. Ferdous Ara also rendered a shyama sangeet, "Aye Ma Uma". Priyanka Gope offered a melodious song, "Nilambori Shari Pore", set on a Nazrul-created raga "Nilambori". Shaheen Samad, Yakub Ali Khan, Kalpana Anam, Nashid Kamal, Leena Tapashi Khan and Maidul Islam were among others who rendered solos at the event. Chhayanaut artistes Bizon Chandra Mistry, Anindita Chowdhury and Latifun Julio performed "Tomar Banirey Korini Grohon", "Morey Dekey Lou Shei Desh-e" and "Tomar Aakhir Moto" at the event. Promising artistes -Didarul Karim, Shukla Paul Setu and Nahian Durdana Shuchi beautifully per-

formed "Porodeshi Bodhua", "Mor Prothom Moner Mukul" and "Sedin Nishithey Mor Kaan-e Kaan-e" respectively. Sanjay Kabiraj, Mohua Monjory Sunanda and Tanveer Ahmed also performed solos at the event. Noted elocutionist Mahidul Islam captivated the audience with recitations from a Nazrul Obhimbhashon, "Jodi Ar Banshi Na Bajey". Violinist Shomal Ali and keyboard player Iftekhar Hossain Shohel gave an artistic touch to the performance with their instrumental accompaniments. Artistes of Nazrul Institute rendered two spirited choral songs, "Ei Amader Bangladesh" and "Jhorna'r Moto Chonchol". Chhayanaut artistes wrapped up the opening day's festival with a choral patriotic song, "Shyamla Boron Bangla Mayer Roop Dekhe Ja". Recitation, rendition of songs and dance followed on the second day (May 25) of the festival yesterday. Mobile phone operator Grameenphone assisted in the festival.

PHOTO: RIDWAN ADID RUPON

CANNES DIARY

Adieu, Cannes

RAFI HOSSAIN and ZIA NAZMUL ISLAM, write from Cannes

After days of speculations, Nuri Bilge Ceylan's "Winter Sleep" won the prestigious Palme d'or in the main competition at the Cannes. The Istanbul-based director is not new to Cannes. In 1995, he was nominated for the Palme d'Or for Best Short Film. "Winter Sleep" is about Aydin, a former actor who runs a small hotel with his young wife. The couple doesn't have a good relationship. In winter as the snow begins to fall, the hotel becomes theirs, and it becomes place that fuels their animosity. The award was presented by actress Uma Thurman and director Quentin Tarantino.

After the feature film awards, The Grand Prix award, is bestowed by the jury of the festival on one of the competing feature films. It is the second-most prestigious prize of the festival after the Palme d'Or. It was won by Italian film "Le Meraviglie" ("The Wonders") by Alice Rohrwacher. Best Director Award went to Bennett Miller for his work in "Foxcatcher". "Mommy", a Canadian French film by Xavier Dolan won the Jury



Director Nuri Bilge Ceylan accepts the Palme d'Or.

Prize along with Jean-Luc Goddard's "Goodbye to Language". There were more glamorous awards too. The Best Actress Award went to Julianne Moore in "Maps To The Stars" by David Cronenberg, while Timothy Spall in "Mr. Turner" won the best actor award. Short film awards were handed over too, to "Leidi" by Simón Mesa Soto. "Aïssa" by Clément Trehin-Lalanne along with "Ja Vi Elsker" ("Yes we love") by Hallvar. The evening was full of stars. Lambert Wilson hosted Uma Thurman and Quentin Tarantino on the stage of the Grand Théâtre Lumière to award the Palme d'Or to the best of the 18 films in Competition. Sergio Leone's "Per Un Pugno Di Dollari" ("A Fistful of Dollars") presented by Quentin Tarantino, was screened at the end of the ceremony. For some those who have been attending the event over years, this year's event was not the best, but it had its moments.

Editor of Star Showbiz Rafi Hossain, and sub-editor Zia Nazmul Islam have been keeping readers updated on the happenings of the 67th Cannes Film Festival, right from the heart of the festival at the French Riviera City of Cannes.

Channel i holds Nazrul Mela

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Channel i hosted a Nazrul Mela for the ninth time yesterday, marking birth anniversary of our National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam. Eminent Nazrul exponent Sudhin Das, along with senior channel i officials Faridur Reza Sagar, Shykh Seraj and other notable personalities, namely Dr. Karunamoy Goswami, Syed Hasan Imam and others opened the fair, where Lifetime Achievement Award was conferred on reputed Nazrul Sangeet artiste and teacher Nilima Das.

Two music CDs of Ferdous Ara were launched at the fair, along with two DVDs, released by Impress Audio Vision. Dance performances were presented by Bhorer Pakhi Dance Academy and finalists of Channel i Shera Nachiye contest, while Khalid Hossain, MA Mannan, Ferdous Ara, Sadya Afreen Mallick, Dr. Nashid Kamal, and Sujit Mostafa also performed solos at the event and Syed Hasan Imam recited the Nazrul poem "Manush".

Apart from the performances, an open children's art programme was held at the premises, alongside a photo gallery on Nazrul. Some 20 stalls were set up at the fair.

Opu Mahfuz and Mousumi Barua emceed the event, directed by Amirul Islam and Shahidul Alam Sachchu. Channel i and Radio Bhoomi broadcast the event live. Banglalink was the telecom partner for the fair while it was sponsored by AB Bank.



Nilima Das receives the award.