



NEWS bytes

Coldplay album coasts to number one

"Ghost Stories", the latest album by Coldplay, has topped the UK chart and become the fastest seller of 2014 so far. The band's sixth album sold 168,000 copies in its first week on release. The previous fastest seller was Paolo Nutini's "Caustic Love" on 109,000.

In the album chart, "Xscape", the posthumous album from Michael Jackson, dropped one place to number two while reunited Beautiful South bandmates Paul Heaton and Jacqui Abbott entered at number three with their new album, "What Have We Become". Paloma Faith's "A Perfect Contradiction" climbed to number four. The 20th anniversary edition of Oasis' debut album "Definitely Maybe" charted at five.

Source: BBC



IT'S TRUE!

The classic Steven Spielberg film "Catch Me If You Can" is based on the life of Frank Abagnale Jr, who -- before his 19th birthday -- successfully performed cons worth millions of dollars. Abagnale himself is seen in the film, as the French policeman who arrests Leonardo DiCaprio -- who plays the role of Abagnale in the film.



Tagore-Nazrul anniversaries observed in Bogra

MAMUN-UR-RASHID, Bogra

Uccharan Academy, a leading cultural organisation of Bogra, held a celebration programme on the birth anniversary of the two great bards of Bangla literature, Rabindranath Tagore and Kazi Nazrul Islam, at Romena Afaj Mukta Mancha in Shaheed Titu Millenayan in Bogra town recently.

A short discussion on the glorious

lives of the duo, and a cultural function were held, where young artistes of the academy took part in poetry recitation, singing and dance performances. The audience, in hundreds, enjoyed the cultural programme.

The discussion was presided over by the main coordinator of the Academy Atiqur Rahman Mithu. Discussants mentioned the significant works of the two great literary giants in the sub-continent.

TV WATCH

"Bhalobashar Chotushkon" on ntv today

A CORRESPONDENT

Drama serial "Bhalobashar Chotushkon" will air on ntv tonight at 9:45pm. Written jointly by Shihab Shaheen, Mesbah Uddin Sumon and Arefin Tonni, the serial has a star-studded cast including Apurbo, Momo, Shahriar SHUro, Moutushi, Saju Khadem, Moushumi Hamid, Masum Aziz and Sabbir. The plot revolves around the stories of three couples that are linked,



and are affected by one another.

The play airs on Mondays and Tuesdays.



AISHWARYA to do her own stunts in "Jazbaa"

It's the news fans of Aishwarya Rai Bachchan all over the world have been waiting for. After many false reports, comes news that Aishwarya has finalised her comeback movie. Surprisingly enough, she has chosen a full-fledged action film, "Jazbaa", directed by Sanjay Gupta. For a while it seemed Aishwarya's first director Mani Ratnam would be helming her comeback film. But that project has been put on hold. Talk of Aishwarya being in a film directed by adman Prahil Kakkad also proved to be just talk.

Confirming these developments, Gupta said: "We start 'Jazbaa' in January 2015. We'll be showcasing the film at the Cannes film festival that year."

The filmmaker clarified that it's not a woman-centric

drama. "Just because Aishwarya is in it, we should not label the film female-centric. To me, she's the hero of the film," he said.

Ash had done some action scenes in "Dhoom 2", but she didn't have the kind of stunts that Hrithik Roshan had. In Gupta's film, she will do all the stunts without the help of a body-double. She has already started training for the role.

"There is no gender-specificity in what she does in the narrative. I've cast her in a role like any of the heroes in my films. She could be John Abraham in 'Shootout At Wadala' or Sanjay Dutt in 'Zinda'. It's that kind of a role where her gender plays no role in the proceedings."

Two prominent male actors are yet to be cast alongside Aishwarya.

Interestingly, Gupta is also work-

ing with Abhishek Bachchan in "Khottey Sikkay", which he will make immediately after "Jazbaa".

"After a year's gap, when I was scripting, I am now doing three back-to-back films, beginning with 'Mumbai Saga' starring Anil Kapoor, John Abraham, Vivek Oberoi and Manoj Bajpayee. This will be followed by 'Jazbaa' featuring Aishwarya and then Khottey Sikkay." The prolific filmmaker says he won't compromise.

"There will be no breaks in the storytelling for item songs. I will tell the stories heedless of extraneous demands. Though 'Jazbaa' will star Aishwarya, it won't use her ultra-glamorous personality to light up the frames," said Gupta.

Source: Internet

FAHMIDA set to release Nazrul album

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Fahmida Nabi, a noted adhunik singer, is a household name in the music industry. She won a National Film Award for the playback song "Lukochuri Lukochuri". She is now set to release a solo album "Amare Chhuiya Chhile", featuring Nazrul songs, on the occasion of the birth anniversary of the National Poet.

Fahmida expressed hopes that Nazrul fans will receive the album warmly.

"The music composition of the tracks was done by Partha Mazumder and the selected songs focus on Nazrul's best love songs," she said.

Before working on Nazrul, she did much research into the life and creations of the poet. She even listed many of Nazrul songs on her Facebook page from where her fans chose the best nine tracks.

The songs include "Kemone Rakhi Ankhi Bari Chapia", "Abar Bhalobashar Shaad Jage", "Jarey Haat Diye Mala", "Bulbuli Nirob" "Amar Jabar Somoy Holo" and more.

For the popular singer, the album on Nazrul is "a dream come true," said Fahmida.

Earlier, she released a solo album "Amar Bela Je Jay", featuring Tagore songs in 2007.



Uttam Ghosh portrays Bengal's womanhood

FAYZA HAQ

Uttam Ghosh has superbly presented traditional and nouveau Bangladeshi womanhood at an art exhibition held recently at the Yeart Gallery in Gulshan.

Uttam is better known for his songs and drama. His works follow in the footsteps of Jamini Roy and more recently, Abdus Shakoor, the delineator of myths of Mymensingh. His guru from India remains KG Subramanyan. He is inclined towards acrylic along with yellow to display the beauty of the maidens he presents, along with the flowers and birds with whom they appear to merge. Women, in fact, appear timeless on Uttam's canvas. He gives equal importance to men, in his creations as he believes in gender equality.

In one of his creations he has a maiden in a dotted "choli" (blouse), complete with earrings and bangles to heighten the elegance of the picture. His other composition has a woman's profile. In yet another titled "Amar Sonar Bangla", the focus is on a lady with dark, long tresses. This work emphasises her connection with nature, which proves a healer on many occasions.

There are four delineations of women. One has two maidens immersed in conversation. Another one, beautiful in proportions, has a woman in a yellow sari, which matches her ornate jewellery. A delineation of another woman has the appearance of a Hindu idol--such are the decorations around her in gold and red, along with blue.

The three figures, which form the end of the brochure are certainly pleasant, and worth pondering over. In another of his creations, Uttam depicts a happy and contented couple. The whiskered man sports a dark singlet. The woman is in indigo blue, with a pearl and a pink blouse to match her green sari. Bangla letterings in burnt sienna form a part of the backdrop, as with Shakoor.

Uttam has graduated in music from Viswa Bharati Santiniketan.

