


WHAT'S ON

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



Solo Art Exhibition
 Title: Of Man and Earth II by Syed Jahangir
 Venue: Bengal Art Lounge, 60, Gulshan Avenue, Rd-131, Circle-1
 Date: May 31-June 21
 Time: 12pm-8pm daily



Group Art Exhibition
 Organiser: Bangladesh National Museum (BNM)
 Venue: Nalinikanta Bhattachali Hall, BNM
 Date: May 18-June 17
 Time: 10:30am-5:30pm



Solo Art Exhibition
 Title: Unconsciously Conscious
 Artist: Abdul Guffar Babu
 Venue: La Galerie, Alliance Francaise de Dhaka
 Date: June 4-18
 Time: 3-9pm; 9am-12pm & 5-8pm (Fri and Sat)



Film Festival
 Title: Dui Bangla's Cholochchitro, Maa-er Jonno
 Venue: National Museum Auditorium
 Date: June 8-10
 Time: 10am-4pm



NEWS bytes

Dreamworks considers two more HTTYD films



Dreamworks Animation is reportedly mulling over the possibility of making two more films in the "How To Train Your Dragon" series, according to comments made by composer John Powell. The series had initially been conceived as a trilogy, but the wild popularity of the first film, plus a batch of positive early reviews for its follow-up has apparently got the studio looking further down the track.

"It might be good because he's got a lot of story left to tell," Powell said, "so maybe splitting it into two will work, but I just don't know about that yet."

Directed by Dean DeBlois and co-starring vocal talents of Jay Baruchel, Gerard Butler and Cate Blanchett, "How To Train Your Dragon 2" will release later this month.

Source: **Totalfilm**

A pioneer of recitation
Ranjit Raskhit draws full house in port city



Proma Abanti dances to Rakshit's recitation.

PHOTO: STAR

PRANABESH CHAKRABORTY, Chittagong

Veteran recitation artiste Ranjit Rakshit's solo recitation performance drew a full house at Theatre Institute, Chittagong (TIC) in the port city on Friday.

Bodhan Abritti Parishad, Chittagong organised the programme titled "Sadhre Ajike Praner Sadhan" where eminent personalities of the city, recitation enthusiasts and connoisseurs were present.

The programme featured 25 recitations by the noted elocutionist that captivated the audience.

Rakshit, founder of Bodhan Abritti Parishad, is one of the pioneering recitation artistes in the country who has worked to revive recitation as a strong and modern art form, incorporating audio-visual inputs. Rakshit is also a famous theatre activist who

performed in the country's first street play "Jaye din fagun din" penned by playwright Milan Chowdhury.

He is also an activist of the reputed theatre troupe Ganayon.

The programme started with the recitation of "Antoro momo bikoshito karo" written by Tagore.

Following the performance, noted social scientist Professor Anupam Sen gave a brief speech. "I knew Ranjit from his childhood. His father Jatindra Mohan Rakshit was imprisoned for 15 years under the British regime as he was a follower of Master Da Suya Sen," he said.

While appreciating Rakshit for entertaining urban audiences for over three decades through recitation, Sen said recitation uplifts people by inspiring them to surpass the limitations of their daily life.

"When I returned to the country in 1979, I found the cultural arena of the port city was kept alive by a few personalities; Ranjit is one of them," he said.

Later, Rakshit successively rendered Michael Madhusudan Dutt's "Kapotaksha Nad", Shantanu Das' "Dalim Fuler Moto Shishu", Syed Shamsul Haque's "Keu Kandchhilo" and Tagore's "Nirjhorer Swapna Bhanga".

"Jharnar gaan" and "Fideler Jonye Gaan" lent an added flavour to the performance.

Accompanying a dance performance by Proma Abanti, Rakshit's recitation of "Nirjhorer Swapna Bhanga" was warmly received by the audience.

Expressing his appreciation of Rakshit, prominent artiste Mansurul Karim said, "Though I am an artiste of another medium, Dada's (Ranjit Rakshit) recitation holds me spellbound."

IT'S TRUE!



Hollywood superstar Anne Hathaway is a trained stage actress and has stated that she prefers performing on stage to film roles. A soprano, Hathaway performed in 1998 and 1999 with the All-Eastern US High School Honors Chorus at Carnegie Hall and has performed in plays at Seton Hall Preparatory School in West Orange, New Jersey. Three days after her 1999 performance at Carnegie Hall, she was cast in the short-lived Fox television series "Get Real" at the age of 16.

Shabnam Mushtari's solo musical at National Museum

Staff Correspondent

Socio-cultural organisation Amra Surjamukhi is holding a solo musical soiree by noted artiste Shabnam Mushtari at the Poet Sufia Kamal auditorium of Bangladesh National Museum on June 9 at 6pm. The event, titled "Phiria Esho Esho Hey Phirey", will also feature a discussion.

Vice Chancellor of University of

Dhaka AAMS Arefin Siddique will attend as chief guest while Chief Editor and Managing Director of BSS Abul Kalam Azad and Sadya Afreen Mallick, Editor, Arts and Entertainment of The Daily Star will be special guests at the event.

Though Shabnam Mushtari's forte is Nazrul Sangeet, the versatile artiste will render patriotic numbers, Tagore, Nazrul, adhunik songs and golden oldies at the soiree.



Cinema halls out of business in Kurigram

ABDUL WAHED, Kurigram

Film shows in all the five cinema halls in Kurigram town have recently been stopped, due to lack of audience.

There were 22 cinema halls in nine upazilas of the district, while six cinema halls were in Sadar upazila. Film screening in the halls have been halted for five years. Most of these have been tuned into other businesses or community centres.

Shirajul Islam Tuku, freedom fighter and owner of Shimanto cinema hall in Bhurungamari, said, "I stopped the business five years ago, as viewers did not come to the hall."

Jobayer Hossain Bibbue, owner of Mitali cinema hall in Kurigram town, that went out of business, said, "Audience capacity of my hall is about 800. But I got attendance of 25-30 people in recent times. The audiences have gone to television and VCD."

"Our films cannot draw audiences, because the stories and making are not good. But Indian films are the opposite. As a result, Indian films are being enjoyed by the audience. The government and film producers should take initiatives to make standard films," Bibbue said.

Azizur Rahman Tuhin performs at IGCC

A CORRESPONDENT

Tagore artiste Azizur Rahman Tuhin performed at a music recital held on June 6 at IGCC, Dhaka.

Tuhin presented several songs, including "Ami Toamaye Joto", "Ei To Tomar Prem", "Majhe Majhe Tobo Dekha Pai" and "Tumi Ki Keboli Chhobi".

Tuhin is currently an executive body member of Shurer Dhara and a teacher in the Department of Music, University of Dhaka. He did his Masters of Music and Bachelors of Music in Rabindra Sangeet from Visva Bharati University in Shantiniketan in 1998. He is a regular performer in popular satellite channels of Bangladesh and India, including the Tara Muzik Channel of Kolkata.

Tuhin is a recipient of



CityCell Channel i Music Award in Rabindra Sangeet (2012). He has released several music albums on Rabindra Sangeet: "Gane Tomar Porosh Khani" (2002), "Akash Ami Bhorbo Gane" (2007), "Jagoroner Gan" (2009), "Fera"

(2010), "Troyee" (2010) etc. Tuhin's latest music album, "Amar Priyar Chhaya Akashe" was released by Bengal Foundation in 2012.

The event was held in association with Asian Paints, IRCON and Marico Bangladesh.

BotTala to conduct theatre workshop

A CORRESPONDENT

Theatre troupe BotTala is organising a special production-based workshop, to recruit new activists. The workshop, to be held on Fridays and Saturdays from June 14, will produce a play, titled "Khacha", written by Bratto Amin. A number of noted theatre personalities, including Mamunur Rashid, Sara Zaker, Nayla Azad Nupur, Fayez Zahir and Tauqir Ahmed will facilitate the workshop.

Those interested can apply online can download the application form from www.bottala.com and submit by June 12.

GNR concert film to release in 3D



Axl Rose and DJ Ashba live on stage.

Guns N' Roses may be in the middle of a new residency in Las Vegas, but the band's first Vegas residency that took place back in 2012 forms the basis for a new 3D concert film titled "Appetite for Democracy 3D: Live at the Hard Rock Casino - Las Vegas".

Before the disc drops in stores and online, fans will get a chance to see it in movie theatres, as Rock Fuel Media has selected DRK Productions to distribute the theatrical premiere of the concert film. Screenings will take place in 100 cities across the US on June 14.

The film includes performances of such longtime GN'R staples as "Welcome to the Jungle", "Paradise City", "Sweet Child O' Mine", "Patience", "Don't Cry", "November Rain" and more. The band also incorporates some of their newer tracks like "This I Love", "Street of Dreams" and the title track from the "Chinese Democracy" album.

"Appetite for Democracy 3D: Live From the Hard Rock Casino - Las Vegas" will be released on Blu-Ray on July 1. The offering provides viewers with both 2D and 3D versions, as well as bonus interviews.

Source: **Loudwire**

Swopnobhumi to be screened in Malaysia



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Tanvir Mokammel's documentary "Swopnobhumi", on the Urdu-speaking Muslims and Geneva camps, will be screened on June 16 and 17 in Kuala Lumpur. The screenings will be held at the initiative of the UN High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR).

The 90-minute film's cinematography has been done by Anwar Hossain, background scores by Syed Sabab Ali Arzu and research by Shafiqur Rahman. Uttam Ghosh is the assistant director.

TV WATCH
"Mamlabaz" on Maasranga TV



A CORRESPONDENT

Drama serial "Mamlabaz" airs at 8pm on Maasranga TV tonight. Written by Brindaban Das and directed by Syed Russel, the show's cast includes Chanchal Chowdhury, Mir Sabbir, Nadia, Al Mansur and Dolly Zahur. The play revolves around 'Mofiz Barrister', a crooked villager who makes a living by dragging people into legal cases. Two of his married daughters live with their worthless husbands at Mofiz's house.



Films for a cause
Fundraising festival begins today

A CORRESPONDENT

A three-day charity film festival, titled "Dui Banglar Cholochchitro Utsab, Maa-er Jonno" begins today at the National Museum auditorium in the city. The festival has been arranged to support the medical treatment of television ad-maker Shah Fazole Rabbi's mother Shahan Ara Begum.

The festival will feature films by noted directors Goutam Ghose and Buddhadeb Dasgupta (from Kolkata), alongside Nasiruddin Yousuff Bachchu, Mostofa Sarwar Farooki and Morshedul Islam. The directors, including Goutam Ghose and Buddhadeb Dasgupta, will be present at the festival.

Information Minister Hasanul Huq Inu will be present at the inaugural ceremony as chief guest, while Dhaka University Vice Chancellor, Professor AAMS Arefin Siddique will be special guest. The festival features nine movies, including "Moner Manush", "Shunno Onko", "Anowar Ka Ajab Kissa", "Lal Dorja", "Amar Bondhu Rashed", "Television", "Guerilla" and "Shunte Ki Pao".

The festival closes on June 10.