

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



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



Star Melodies
Title: Tagore Melodies on Silver Screen
Organiser: The Daily Star
Venue: The Daily Star-Bengal Arts Precinct, 64-65, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue



Solo Cartoon Exhibition
Title: Time Line
Cartoonist: Sharier Khan
Venue: Galleri Kaya, H-20, Rd-16, Sec-4, Uttara
Date: June 14-27



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



NEWS bytes

Franco's short story features Lindsay Lohan



Actor and director James Franco has penned a short story for the fiction issue of Vice Magazine, which features a central character called "Lindsay Lohan". The story, Bungalow 89, reads a lot less like fiction and a lot more like vignettes from his own life. In the story, the character James Franco visits Lohan in the Chateau Marmont hotel. He reads her Salinger stories, listens to her ramble about her memories, and zones out on a giant Gucci billboard of himself outside. However, he still plays with the idea of whether the entire encounter is made up. The story is published on Vice's website.

Source: **The Guardian**

IT'S TRUE!

Justin Timberlake's mother was Ryan Gosling's legal guardian while they filmed "The Mickey Mouse Club". Ryan moved to Orlando, Florida, at the age of 12 and signed a two-year contract for the show. He spent part of his second year living with fellow cast member Timberlake



after his mother had to go back to Canada for work reasons. He became particularly close friends with Timberlake as they lived together for six months. Justin's mother even signed on to be Ryan's legal guardian so he could finish out his time on the show.

A film is just a string of memories -- Goutam Ghose

FAHMIM FERDOUS

Goutam Ghose, one of the more prominent names in Indian Bangla cinema, began his career with a documentary, "New Earth", but has since gone on to make a number of remarkable features and documentaries, bagging 16 National Awards and international recognition as well. The director is in Dhaka for a fundraising film festival, and The Daily Star caught up with him.

Every filmmaker has his own reason for making films. What is yours?

Ghose: As a social being, I have some responsibilities. I spiritually express myself through films. And also, it's my profession. I have learnt it, and am still learning.

You have a close connection with Bangladesh. Tell us about that.

Ghose: I don't say my family used to live here; my family is from here, from Faridpur. They have been here for five generations, so the connection I feel is from very deep within. Let me tell you a story; when I decided to make "Padma Nadi'r Majhi", I was an established director by then. But when my father heard about it, he was more excited than usual. "Eto dine ekta kaamer kaam korchos! ("Finally, you've done something great!"). I have numerous friends here, I have roamed remote places of

this country, and its history and culture is entwined with my life.

Your film "Abar Aranye" is an adaptation of the characters of the Satyajit film "Aryaner Dinrati", based on a novel by Sunil Gangopadhyay. So there's a kind of multi-layered perspective. How did the idea occur to you?

Ghose: I believe there is nothing really called 'present'. It's a mere bridge between the bygone



PHOTO COURTESY: RAJIBUL ISLAM

and the upcoming. And a film is just a string of memories. When we sit in a hall and watch a film, we're watching the past: the script was written, it was directed by a person and acted by others; it was edited, released and distributed, and then you're seeing it. I found this very interesting. And it's somewhat true for our lives too. What has happened cannot be brought back, but it triggers and develops our creative faculties. And even when I have

done films from other literary classics, Manik Bandyopadhyay's "Padma Nadi'r Majhi" or Samresh Majumdar's "Kalbela", my experiences and findings added to it, and it is transformed in films.

How do you look at the current market of Bangla films?

Ghose: It's unfortunate that the flourishing of Bangla films has not reached its potential. You'll see the Bangla-speaking

make films. Both the industries have to understand and act on it. If films from Bangladesh release on the same day in India and vice versa, the market for both sides will grow. When I made "Moner Manush", our distributors released the film somewhat callously in the USA, but the shows in Jackson Heights and Queens overflowed with an audience! There are Bangla-speaking people everywhere in the world now, and we must reach them with our films. Having said that, there also needs to be a filter there about what films will be released.

What are you working on right now?

Ghose: I'm just finishing up on a documentary on renowned painter KG Subramanyam right now. Next in line are two joint venture films that I've signed: one is an Indo-Bangla project (in Bangla), and the other is Indo-Italian (in Hindi and English).

If you could get a chance, would you like to remake any of your films?

Ghose: I don't think a film can be remade like that. If you write a poem and don't like it, you can chuck it in the bin, but once you make a film, you cannot erase anything from there (chuckles). When I watch my films now, I find countless defects, and I regret them. But I can't do anything about it. The best I can do is to learn from that mistake and not repeat it.

Documentary on BANGABANDHU



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The launching ceremony of a documentary, "Bangabandhu O Bangladesh" was held at the National Press Club on June 10. The documentary features rare video footage on the leader's life, politics and times. Deputy Director of Bangladesh Television (BTV), Baharuddin Khelon has conceptualized and directed the documentary. About his work, the director said, "Through the 110-minute documentary, I tried to introduce the new generation to the leader's ideology and aspirations."



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bengal Foundation and the American Center of the US Embassy in Dhaka have jointly been organising a series of three workshops on printmaking and poetry. Calvin Hayes, Cultural Affairs Officer of the American Center in Dhaka, inaugurated the first workshop at the Bengal Centre Khilkhet in the capital on June 9. The organisers thanked Andrew Saftel (master printmaker) and Whitney Baker (litterateur) who conducted the workshops, for their commitment to the development of arts in Bangladesh.

Both visiting from the United States, Andrew Saftel and Whitney Baker are leading these workshops, of which two will take place in Dhaka and one in Rajshahi. The three workshops will unite printmaking and poetry artists around the common theme "The Urban Experience", a defining feature of contemporary life in Bangladesh.

Luva Nahid Choudhury, DG, Bengal Foundation, delivered the welcome address on the occasion. She described Bengal Foundation's efforts in conservation of the arts and culture of Bangladesh over the past 25 years and highlighted the long-standing friendship between Bengal Foundation and the American Center. Master printmaker Andrew Saftel and litterateur Whitney Baker also spoke on the occasion. Whitney Baker recited a poem by noted Bangladeshi poet Kaiser Haq. The director of Safiuddin- Bengal Print-making studio, Professor Mahmudul Haque, welcomed the participants and wished the event every success.

The first workshop is being held at Safiuddin Bengal Printmaking Studio, Bengal Centre, Khilkhet, Dhaka from June 9-11. Fifteen printmakers together with 15 aspiring poets are participating at the workshop.

The second workshop, to be held at the same venue from June 13-15, will have 25 arts students and 15 aspiring poets while the

Poetry and printmaking workshop at Bengal Centre

third and concluding workshop will be held at the Faculty of Arts, University of Rajshahi, from June 17-19. Fifteen artists and arts students along with 15 aspiring poets will participate in the workshop that will encourage artists to home in on the positive and negative aspects of urban life.

Regarding printmaking, the workshop will bring together Bangladeshi printmakers and Andrew Saftel, a visiting printmaking artist from Tennessee, USA. Saftel is a professional printmaker, painter and provides training in arts. He holds a degree in Fine Arts from the San Francisco Art Institute. His works have been displayed at solo and group exhibitions throughout the US.

The workshop on poetry will bring together 15 aspiring poets from Bangladesh and Whitney Baker, a visiting poet from Tennessee, whose work has featured in various literary publications, including in the renowned Holler Poetry Series (2009). The duo have also conducted several workshops in Bangladesh over the past few years.



Teerondaz stages Kanthanalite Surjo at Shilpakala Academy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Theatre troupe Teerondaz staged their latest production "Kanthanalite Surjo" at the Studio Theatre Hall of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy on June 9 evening. Written by Mohit Chattapadhyay and directed by Rajib Dey, the play satires the harsh realities of a materialistic society through an absurd story depicting the sun being stuck in the throat of the protagonist. The play deals with realism, surrealism and existentialism.

The cast of the play included Deepak, Sumon, Mitai, Shafikul Islam, Sharif Avi and many others, while Kazi Rakib, Amlan Biswas and Rifat Ahmed Nobel designed the stage, light and sound respectively.

EBL employee photo contest

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The second season of photo contest "EBL Simple Pleasures of Life" concluded on June 9 at the EBL head office in Dhaka. The jury panel--Shafikul Alam Kiron, Jannatul Mawa and Munem Wasif, selected 12 best images from among 73 entries for the 2015 calendar of EBL.

They also picked up three best images on this year's theme "My City." Mohammad Shahadat Hossain won the title of the contest, while Riasat Rakin and Md. Raihan Parvez won the second and third position respectively. The contest was arranged as part of EBL's employee engagement programme.



Students of Ati Bhawal High School of Keraniganj upazila in Dhaka perform at a reception to the GPA-5 achievers of the school, held at the open stage on the school campus on June 7.

Organized by
The Daily Star

life

CELEBRATING LIFE 2014

Theme: LIVING IN HARMONY



Express yourself & share your Films, Photographs and Lyrics
Deadline: 30 July 2014

Send your application on or before 30 July 2014 to:
Rafi Hossain
THE DAILY STAR
64-65, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka 1215

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