

**WHAT'S ON**

**Concert**  
Marking World Music Day  
Artists: French-Lebanese singer & songwriter ABALI & Traditional Bangladeshi Bauls  
Venue: La Galerie, AFD, 26 Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi.

**ABALI & Bauls**

**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

**Art Exhibition**  
Title: Artistic Musings of Greats  
Collector: Nasir Ali Mamun  
Venue: Bengal Gallery, Dhanmondi  
Date: June 14-July 5  
Time: 12pm-8pm

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

**Print & Art Exhibition**  
Artists: Ahmed Nazir and Some Renowned Artists of 30's & 40's  
Venue: Gallery Chittrak, H-4, Rd-6, Dhanmondi  
Date: June 20-July 5  
Time: 10am-8pm

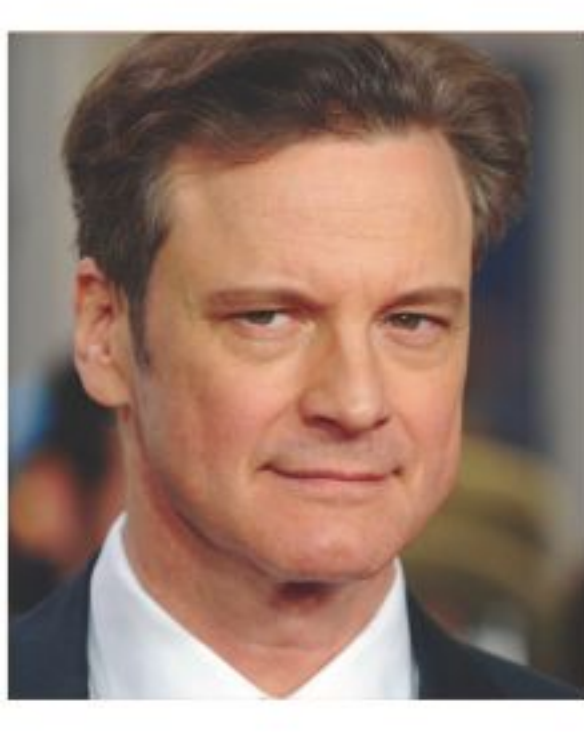
**NEWS bytes**

**Firth leaves Paddington Bear film**

Oscar-winning actor Colin Firth has pulled out of voicing the upcoming Paddington film. "The King's Speech" star said he has been unable to find the right voice for the Peruvian bear. "After a period of denial, we've chosen 'conscious uncoupling'," Firth said in a statement.

Based on the books by Michael Bond, the film is due to be released in November.

Paul King, the film's director, said the star's exit had been amicable. He said a replacement would be announced in the coming weeks, promising the new actor would ensure Paddington's "big screen



debut is magnificent." The movie also stars Nicole Kidman as an evil museum taxidermist who has Paddington in her sights, and Julie Walters and Hugh Bonneville as Mr and Mrs Brown - the marmalade-loving bear's adopted parents.

Source: BBC

**International Folklore Workshop opens at Bangla Academy**  
**Folklore needs a niche, say speakers**



Guests at the inauguration ceremony.

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

Under the title "Folklore Summer School", a ten daylong International Folklore Workshop is on at Bangla Academy. Cultural Affairs Minister Asaduzzaman Noor, MP, as chief guest, inaugurated the workshop at Abdul Karim Sahitya Bisharad auditorium of Bangla Academy on June 17.

Noted Indian folklorists Professor Jawaharlal Handoo and Professor Soumen Sen graced the occasion as special guests. The Director General of Bangla Academy, Professor Shamsuzzaman Khan, delivered the welcome address at the event. Shahida Khatun, director of the folklore museum and archive of Bangla Academy, spoke on Folklore Summer School while Dr. Firoz Mahmud presented the concept

paper. Professor Emeritus Anisuzzaman, Chairman of Bangla Academy, presided over the inaugural ceremony.

"Folklore is part of a nation's culture and heritage. Theoretical practice and field research on folklore are very essential; without it, we cannot comprehend our modern culture. The place of folklore in respect to higher studies in our country is not satisfactory, compared to our neighbouring country. I hope the workshop will enrich the folklore researchers of our country to a large extent," said Professor Shamsuzzaman Khan.

"Folklore calls for a detailed analysis against the socio-cultural backdrop of Bangladesh. It is very imperative to set up an idiosyncratic folklore institute to inspire formulated research works on folklore," commented Dr. Jawaharlal Handoo.

"Folklore upholds the cultural identity of a nation, simultaneously highlighting the past, present and future. Bangladesh is very rich in regard to folklore. Bangladeshi folk music, folk drama, folk jatrappala and folk art are internationally acclaimed. The Bauls of Bangladesh are quenching the soulful thirst of mystic song lovers among an international audience. On the other hand, Jamdani of Bangladesh has recently attained the recognition of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity by UNESCO. The important role that Bangla Academy has been playing in folklore for years will gain a new dimension through this Folklore Summer School," said Asaduzzaman Noor.

Thirty five researchers are taking part in a ten-day long workshop and seminar.

**FOCUS ON Sultan's genius**  
**The Daily Star-Bengal Arts Precinct organise discussion**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

On June 17 at The Daily Star-Bengal Arts Precinct, a discussion was held on "Sultan's philosophy and artistry". The discussion was a segment of the Precinct's current exhibition, 'Second Sight', an exhibition of selected works by SM Sultan from the private collection of Abul Khair.

The conversation on "Sultan's philosophy and artistry" was initiated by Enam A. Chaudhury, noted collector; Mahbub Jamil Shamim, of Charupeeth, Jessore and Jeevan Mozai Safori, an artist from Jessore. The trio knew Sheikh Mohammed Sultan personally.

In the course of the discussion, Chaudhury recalled Sultan and his exhibitions that were held in Jessore and Khulna. Chaudhury had the rare distinction of viewing Sultan's artworks of Kashmir. Sultan dropped out of Calcutta Art School without

completing his degree, said Chaudhury who asserted that Sultan wanted to explore the world and was not attracted to fame or a degree from art school. Chaudhury played a vital role in establishing Sultan's Shishu Swarga in Narail.

Mahbub Jamil Shamim was Sultan's student. Shamim talked of Sultan's philosophy: "Our life is an art and the farmers are the artists". He also pointed out that Sultan's exhibition at Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (1976) was inspired by the Liberation War.

Artist Jeevan Mozai Safori believes that Sultan's art was for the masses.

The conversation was followed by question-time with the audience. Hanif, who is currently at the helm of SM Sultan-Bengal Art College, attended the event.

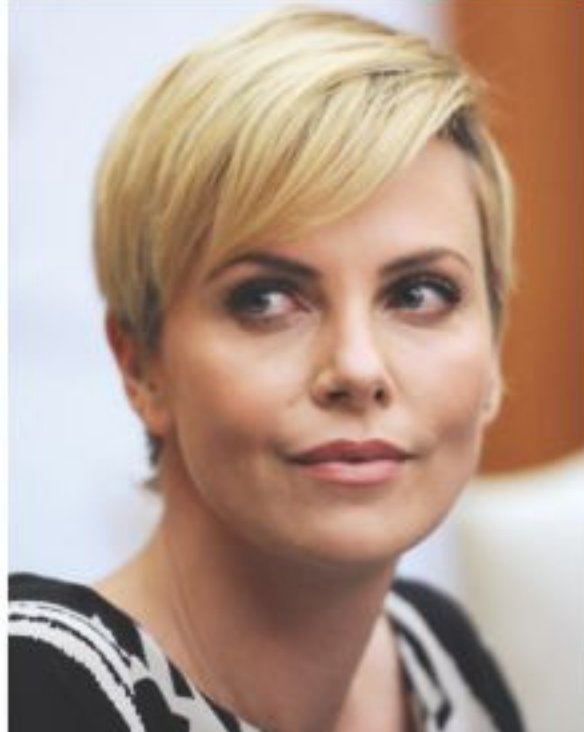
The exhibition, "Second Sight" is on view until 8 pm on July 13, 2014. The Arts Precinct will remain closed on Sundays.



(L-R) Mahbub Jamil Shamim, Enam A. Chaudhury and Jeevan Mozai Safori at the discussion.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

**IT'S TRUE!**



The Charlize Theron Africa Outreach Project (CTAOP) was created in 2007 by Academy Award winning South American-US actor Charlize Theron in an effort to support African youth in the fight against HIV/AIDS. Theron is also involved in women's rights organisations, and has marched in pro-choice rallies. She is also a supporter of animal rights and active member of PETA, and has appeared in an ad for its anti-fur campaign.

**Bachchan roots for TV**  
**Small screen, big ambitions**

**PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi**

For someone who has spent his entire acting career on the big screen, a shift, albeit briefly, to television is a challenge of a different sort. Equally daunting could be the task for the actor to compare the big screen and the small screen. But not for Bollywood veteran Amitabh Bachchan.

Bachchan, who is all set to make his fiction debut on TV with 'Yudh', feels that TV has better reach and it needs to be given more importance.

"I also feel TV is better than films. My knowledge on this is very limited but the little that I know is that the turnover of TV in India is three times more than cinema. Like approximately, if the turnover of cinema is Rs 10,000 crore, then TV is about Rs 30,000. The reach, effect and the affect of TV has just about started," the 71-year-old actor told reporters in Mumbai on Tuesday.

In a novel way of promoting "Yudh" where he will be seen playing a real estate baron, Bachchan rang the bell at the Bombay Stock Exchange on Tuesday. In fact, the actor is actively involved in its marketing

along with the producer.

The megastar seemed surprised that a whopping 300 million people watch TV. There are 800 TV channels in this country, there are 300 other applications lying with the Government of India wanting licenses to operate, he said which he thinks is an "incredible" number.

Bachchan feels TV needs to be given more weightage. "It (TV)



needs to be given more importance, looked at more seriously. I understand content is the king on TV and whoever has the best content is going to succeed. When you have 800 channels, each of them competing, it gives us impetus to do our best and do something different," according to him.

Asked if he thinks TV is a safer proposition than films, he said

"Nothing is safe in this world when you are doing creativity. Any kind of art...how do you know the result until you put it out. We take precautions, there are times when you succeed and fail as well. This is a gamble that you have to take when you are in this field of art."

"I don't think there is a formula (for success) as the greatest of directors and production houses all over the world have seen failure. It is uncertain as it deals with emotions and people's reaction. We all take risk like any other business we put it across and hope people like it," Bachchan said.

Does a shift from cinema to TV mean a compromise in Bachchan's stature as an actor?

"I don't think about all this. For us, what matters is audience reaction. I never thought if I will become big or small by coming on TV, for me doing work matters. I want to contribute in all areas in this field," pat came the reply from Bachchan.

Directed by acclaimed director Anurag Kashyap ("Udaan", "The Lunchbox"), the series features other high-rated actors Nawazuddin Siddiqui and Kay Kay Menon.

**Tales from the South**  
**TheatrEX premieres "Dokkhina Sundari"**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

Theatre troupe TheatrEX Bangladesh premiered its latest production "Dokkhina Sundari" at Natmandal, Dhaka University.

The play presented an epic canvas of primordial living and eternal aspirations in the pristine Sundarbans that lie in southern Bangladesh.

The performance gave unique expression to narrations, conversations, location-specific choreography, prose, poetry, lyrics and musical dynamics. It explored the theatrical aesthetics of fusion of local myths, legends, fairy tales, parables, and contemporary performance idioms that unfold amidst the existential crisis caused by corporatised globalization.

The cast of the play includes Nusrat Sarmin, Syeda Ifat Ara, Mahjabin Islam, Atikur Rahman and Jumman Sadiq. Wahida Mollick Joly has supervised the design, conducted by Nila Saha, Atiqul Islam, Shusanta Kumar Sarkar and Khan Md Rafiqul Islam.

Written by Shahman Maishan and directed by Sudip Chakrabarthy, the play portrays the rich culture, heritage and beliefs on Bengal, against the backdrop of the Sunderbans.

The play saw its premiere staging on June 13-15 at Natmandal in Dhaka University campus, following which TheatrEX -- formed by former students of Dhaka University's Theatre Department.



The play has been created with the National Theatre of Scotland for The Tin Forest Theatre Festival, part of the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games Cultural Programme. This is the first time a Bangladeshi theatre production has been selected to be performed at the cultural event of the Commonwealth Games.

"Dokkhina Sundari" will travel next to England's Manchester where it will participate at the Contacting The World Theatre Festival and the Shedlink Celebration at London's Chickenshed Theatre in July.

**Cultural programme on Tagore and Nazrul**

**KONGKON KARMAKER, Dinajpur**

An entertaining cultural programme and discussion was organised in Dinajpur recently, in memory of National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam and Nobel Laureate Rabindranath Tagore.

Dinajpur Nattyasamity organised the programme at its auditorium.

Speakers at the discussion said that Tagore and Nazrul's contribution to the literary world gave Bangladesh an international identity. The creations and ideologies of the two stalwarts continue to inspire readers, they added.

The speakers were Mirza Anwarul Islam, president of Dinajpur Nattyasamity; GS of the organisation Rezaur Rahman Rezu and Mozammel Biswas, Professor of Dinajpur Government Women's College.

Tagore and Nazrul songs, recitation and a short play followed after the discussion, in which local artistes participated.

Nurul Motin Soikat, convener of Dinajpur unit Bangladesh Rabindrasangeet Sammilon Parishad, directed the function.



Artistes perform at the event.

PHOTO: STAR

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**The Daily Star | STAR Cineplex**

**X-MEN QUIZ CONTEST**

10 winners everyday! 2 Premium tickets for each winner

**Quiz 02**

- Who is the director of X-men: Days of Future Past?
- Who played the character named Wolverine?

**Answer of quiz 01**

- 13th June 2014; 2. Huge Jackman

**Quiz 01 winners:**

- Fahim bin Afzal, Dhanmondi; 2. Farzana Fida Upoma, Banani; 3. Rumana Akther, Farmgate; 4. Shubarna Ahmed, Mohakhali; 5. Nafisa Bari, Mohammadpur; 6. Saadi Islam, Dhaka University; 7. Arif Khan, Kollanpur; 8. Anwar Kabir, Old town; 9. Rajib Ahmed, Shewrapara; 10. Fahmima Khanom, Uttara.

email your answers to [marvels.xmen@gmail.com](mailto:marvels.xmen@gmail.com) by 4.00pm today with your name, DOB, mobile number and address. The winners of the quiz will be announced tomorrow in the newspaper and through email.