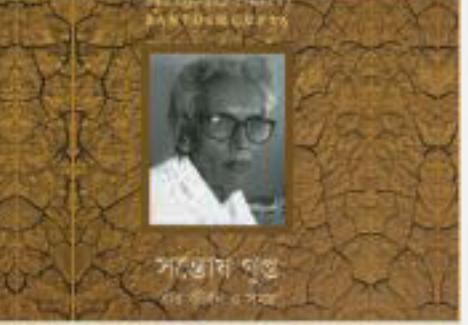


Photography Exhibition
Life and works of Tajuddin Ahmed
Venue: Gallery 21, Dhanmondi
Date: July 19-September 8
Time: 12pm-8pm



Book Launch
Book: The Life and Times of
Santosh Gupta
Venue: Poet Shamsur Rahman
Seminar Room, Bangla Academy
Date: August 9, Time: 6pm



Musical Programme
Artists: Aditi Mohsin, Luva Nahid
Chowdhury and Bhaswar
Bandyopadhyay
Venue: Bengal Shilpalya
Date: August 9
Time: 6:30pm



Musical Programme
Organisers: Amra Shurjomukhi
Artists: Swapan and Rukhsana
Muntaz
Venue: Poet Sufia Kamal
Auditorium, National Museum
Date: August 9; Time: 6pm



Theatre
Trial of Mallam Ilyas
Troupe: BotTala
Venue: Studio Theatre Hall,
Shilpakala Academy
Date: August 12
Time: 7:30pm



NEWS bytes

"Frozen"

director set for next Disney assignment



"Frozen" writer and co-director Jennifer Lee is to adapt children's novel "A Wrinkle in Time" as her next project for Disney, according to Variety. The 1962 Madeleine L'Engle book centres on a teenage girl who travels through time and strange worlds to find her missing scientist father.

It will be the third film Lee has written for Disney, after "Frozen" and "Wreck-It-Ralph". It has not yet been announced if she will also direct the movie.

A big screen adaptation of "A Wrinkle in Time" was first announced in 2010, but it failed to get off the ground. It is understood Lee convinced Disney to revisit the book - which was one of the film-maker's favourites as a child.

"Frozen" earned Lee an Oscar earlier this year for best animated film. The movie has taken \$1.3bn at the box office worldwide, making it the highest-grossing animated film ever.

Source: BBC

IT'S TRUE!



Deep Purple's timeless classic "Smoke on the Water" refers to a Frank Zappa show in Montreux, Switzerland in 1971, where someone lit a flare gun and supposedly "burned the place to the ground". Deep Purple had set up a camp adjacent to the place to record an album, with a mobile recording studio rented from The Rolling Stones (referred to in the song as "Rolling truck Stones thing").

"Pavilion"

on Channel 9



A CORRESPONDENT

Drama serial "Pavilion" will air tonight at 8:30pm on Channel 9. The drama has been written and directed by Ishraq Ahmed Rumel.

The drama revolves around two brothers who become strangers due to a quarrel centering property issues. Stories of the two families move separately. At one point it comes out that Majharul's daughter Toma and Kamrul's son Mishu are in a love affair.

Masud Ali Khan, Laila Hasan, Touqir Ahmed, Jenny, Marjuk Russel, Tanjika, Sohel Khan and others are in the cast.

"I prefer playing action and romantic roles" ... Milon

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Popular face on the small screen, Anisur Rahman Milon, is now very busy shooting a number of films. He came into the spotlight with negative role in the movie "Dehorokkhi". In a recent conversation, the actor spoke to The Daily Star about his film life.

Which projects are keeping you busy at present?

Milon: I'm scheduled to go to Nepal to shoot a song for the film "Blackmail", directed by Anyana Mamun. Moushumi Hamid and Bobby are my co-stars in it.

What other work have you done recently?

Milon: Directed by Iftekher Chowdhury, the movie "One Way" is based on underworld life. Shooting is almost over, where Bobby is starring opposite me. The plot of the film impressed me. I have also recently signed --director Sayeed Chandan's "Target". The last film of mine that was released, "Poromon", has also been received well by the audience. Apart from these, two films are awaiting release. Director Rakibul Alam Rakib's "Prem Korbo Tomar Sathe" -- an action based film with Lux Superstar Momo while the other is "Onek Sadher Moina", directed by Zakir Hossain Raju.

What was your debut film?

Milon: It was director Suchanda's "Hajar Bochor Dhore", based on the novel of legendary filmmaker-writer Zahir Raihan. I played the character of Karim Sheikh in the cinema. It was an exciting experience. After that, I have also appeared for a movie titled "The Last Tagore", which was released in different countries of Europe.

What is your dream involving cinema?

Milon: In our film industry, I want to see a person who has the skills of playing a romantic hero and an insane person at the same time. I want to see myself as an established actor in the near future, and of course I'm interested to play different types of roles.

What kind of roles do you feel most comfortable with?

Milon: I would say, both action and romantic roles.

When was the first time you watched a movie at a theatre?

Milon: At the age of 10, I went to Mukti Cinema Hall at Rayer Bazar in Dhaka, with my mother.

What's your observation about the state of the current films?

Milon: The present condition of our film industry is quite satisfactory. I am optimistic about the audience gradually returning to the theatre halls to watch the quality movies made once again by the directors.



In observance of the 73rd death anniversary of Tagore, Bangla Academy held a programme featuring discussion and cultural event at Poet Shamsur Rahman Seminar Room of the academy on August 6. Planning Division Secretary Bhuiyan Shafiqul Islam delivered a speech titled "Chirongeeb Rabindranath" while DG, Bangla Academy, Shamsuzzaman Khan delivered the welcome address. Chairman of Bangla Academy Professor Emeritus Anisuzzaman presided over the discussion. Elocutionist Laila Afroz recited while noted singers Lily Islam, Fahim Hossain Chowdhury and Aditi Mohsin rendered songs at the programme.

127 HOURS

When adventure turns into nightmare

SAURAV DEY

Based on the true story of mountain climber Aron Ralston, the film "127 Hours" is an adventure tale that soon turns into a hellish experience for the protagonist. Apart from depicting Aron Ralston's gruesome struggle for survival, it lets the audience realise the value of life. Sometimes people make mistakes and realise that there is no chance of going back. It's a tale of the same sort.

Ralston (played by James Franco) is an upbeat and adventurous youth who goes on weekend hiking in the isolated canyons in Utah without informing anyone about his whereabouts. Initially his adventure goes well and audiences see awe-inspiring landscapes of the dreary canyons. He goes on to swim in an underwater cavern with two women hikers and leaves past them to head for some serious adventures.

But his adventure soon becomes a nightmare as boulders start crashing down on him and his forearm gets stuck between the canyon wall and a boulder. He remains there for more than five days, a total of 127 hours. James Franco's natural acting and Danny Boyle's mastery with the camera let the audience enter into the scene. They start experiencing the sheer horror and unbearable pain that Ralston is going through.



The most striking characteristic of the movie is that it preys on the audiences' deep fear of being trapped somewhere and understanding that there is no way out. The audiences feel like they are cutting through their own flesh to get out of the crevice. When Ralston stumbles out to safety after cutting his right hand with a small Swiss knife, the audiences feel like they have escaped the trap with their forearms intact but hearts terrified.

The movie mostly includes one place except for some flashbacks, which also centre on Franco. The cutting scene is graphic but is Franco's screaming that

terrifies the audience. It is not an ordinary tale of heroism that would simply make Ralston a hero; rather the movie sheds light on his will-power to be free. It shows a person can do anything if he wishes to. Equally it unveils the two aspects of Ralston's character. Firstly he is a bold and enthusiastic adventurer who trusts his skills and loves to take chances, and secondly his bloody-minded determination to cut through his own skin and bone to save his life.

The movie is a must-watch for adventurers and thriller lovers. This dramatic thriller will take one to the spot and put him/her in place of Ralston.

Nritya Nandan's Odissi dance at Chhayanaut today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Noted dance troupe Nritya Nandan is holding a solo Odissi dance recital titled "Parampara" today at 7pm at Chhayanaut.

Dance is one of the exclusive carriers of art, music and culture. Practice of classical dance enriches the body language. Nritya Nandan has always been dedicated to the practice and advancement of classical dance. Keeping with the age-old tradition, eminent dance maestro Guru Kelucharan Mahapatra's disciple, Guru Deepak Roy's expatriate disciple Tamoghna Dey will perform today at a solo Odissi recital.

The footwork and chouka by Tamoghna Dey is splendid. Last year, in Chittagong, I was fascinated by her dance display for which I advised her to showcase her performance here. Bangladeshi-born Tamoghna lives in Oman. She is only 13 and is lucky to receive tutelage from Deepak Roy there," said Sharmila Bandopadhyay.

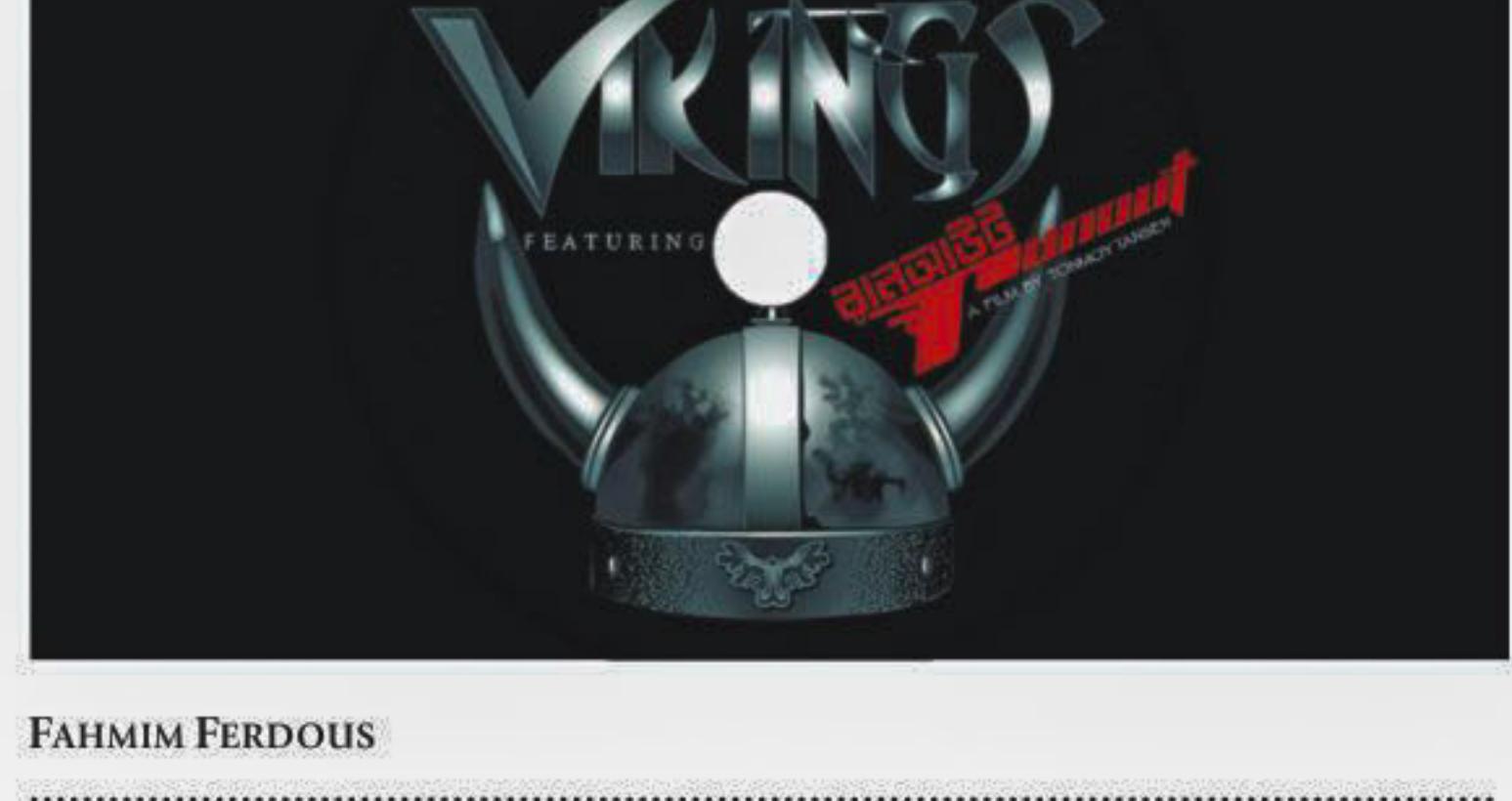


Tamoghna Dey

Nritya Nandan is relentless in widening the practice of classical dance in Bangladesh. Tagore singer Lily Islam and Kaushik Shankar Das will jointly host the programme with overall management by director of Nritya Nandan Sharmila Bandopadhyay.

ALBUM REVIEW

"Vikings featuring Runout": Not your average film soundtracks



FAHMIM FERDOUS

Vikings are a familiar name to the avid follower of the country's contemporary music scene, or at least they used to be. Winner of the Star Search in 1999, the first Bangladeshi version of 'battle of the bands', they found their place in young listeners' hearts with their debut album "Jiboner Kolahol". After a second album "Din Joto Dukkho Toto" in 2002, the band sort of vanished, only to resurface ten years later, announcing a new project in December 2012. The album -- essentially the soundtrack of the film "Runout" directed by the band's front-man Tonmoy Tansen, released ahead of Eid, and makes for some very good listening.

The album opens with a guitar-plucked intro, fast-panning through the ears for an eerie effect. "Opekkha" builds up slowly, before bursting into an energetic chorus. Tonmoy's voice gets into gear in the second chorus after another subdued verse, followed by an authoritative guitar solo, setting up the album nicely. The familiar verse-chorus-verse-chorus-interlude-chorus works excellent, with a neat piece of bass-wok by Jony.

While "Opekkha" is miles away from sounding like a film track, "Totota Durey" compensates for that, with a soft, melodic keyboard intro. The vocal projection is also more modulated and emotional. Babu on keys is the man-in-charge on the track, with the others complementing him well. Saimon's versatility behind the kit also shows on the track.

"Janala Khule Dao" is the first of the two duets of the album, with Kona lending her voice on this one. The chorus, sung in unison by Kona and Setu, sets the romantic tone, although Kona's voice in her solo parts sounds more expressive, and gets lost behind his male counterpart's in the chorus. Another version of the song is added as a 'bonus' track at the end of the album, which Setu sings himself to a keys-and-shakers track, bringing in a nice falsetto in places.

"Elomelo (Kromoshho)" brings the album back to gear, with a grungy, riffy intro, before Tonmoy throws in the lyrics in a brooding, coarse voice. The song pumps in guitar and drums work throughout, with bass and keys solos in between. Despite being nearly eight minutes in duration, the song does not get boring, with superb transitions. The angst-ridden lyrics is also possibly the best of the lot; overall, one of the standouts of the album.

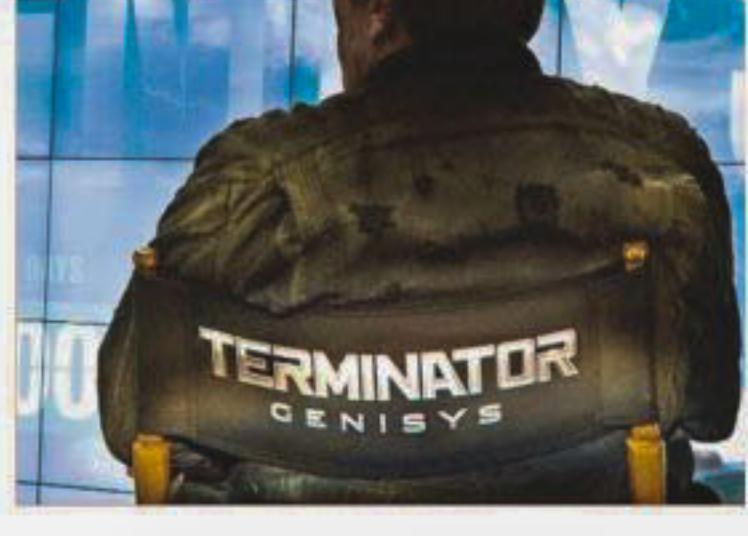
"Ekbar Bolo" dials down all the energetic build-up in a sombre intro, with guest vocal Rinty singing the first verse. The vocals are at the fore of this song, with Tonmoy joining in. Rinty, however, fails to live up to the lyrics and arrangement, and sounds kind of feeble. This song also has a solo version as a bonus track, with a strumming acoustic guitar in the background. The bonus version actually sounds quite better.

"Opekkha (Dwitiyo Porbo)" the final track of the album, is an absolute gem of a rock ballad. Oozing feel in every second, not a single element on the track is overdone, and once more it's the lyrics that pack the strongest punch. Tonmoy's voice is almost Mizan-like (Warfaze), and the best of bands of the country would be proud of this number. The chaotically-melodious final part of the song continues to linger even after it's over.

In terms of sound engineering, the entire album is spot-on. Lyrics have always been Vikings' strength, and they played to it brilliantly. If it were not film soundtracks, the female vocals would probably not be needed to be called on, who really don't add a lot to it. Most importantly, the album does what any film soundtrack album should do; it creates interest about the film.

Laser Vision has marketed the album.

Arnold Schwarzenegger has revealed the new title for the forthcoming Terminator sequel, which will now be officially known as "Terminator: Genisys". Along with the new title, he also posted an image of himself on set on photo-sharing social site Instagram, along with a brief message to the many fans of the franchise. "Hasta la vista, baby," reads the caption. "I want to thank the cast and crew of @TerminatorGenisys for a fantastic shoot. It was challenging, it was fun, and it was rewarding."



SOURCE: TOTALFILM