


WHAT'S ON

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



Seminar

Title: Road to 1947 Partition and Intellectual Narratives
Venue: Conference Room PPG, North South University
Date: August 13
Time: 11:30pm



Solo Watercolour Exhibition

Title: "Jol Chobi" by Shahanoor Mamun
Venue: La Galerie, Alliance Française De Dhaka



Solo Painting Exhibition

Title: "Momentary History" by Niamul Bari
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts
Date: August 12-30
Time: 12-8pm



Art Exhibition

Transitions, Trajectories and Turning Points
Organiser: ULAB
Venue: National Art Gallery, Shilpakala Academy
Date: August 9-14



NEWS bytes

Megadeth, CeeLo cancel Israel gigs

Thrash metal band Megadeth and singer CeeLo Green have cancelled concerts in Israel amid the ongoing conflict in Gaza. Megadeth's website said its 6 August gig in Tel Aviv was cancelled because "passage" for the band and its gear could not be "guaranteed". CeeLo's concert in Jerusalem on August 19 would have been his first in Israel.



A number of other artists have pulled out of concerts in recent weeks. CeeLo's promoter in Israel, Carmi Wurtman, said "The artist and his crew really wanted to come, but unfortunately we were the ones who had to postpone it because this is not the right time to advertise and push a concert." Other performers who have cancelled concerts recently include veteran singer Neil Young and American boyband Backstreet Boys.

IT'S TRUE!



Celebrated Bollywood actress Zeenat Aman got the role of Janice in Dev Anand's "Hare Rama Hare Krishna" (1972) after Zaheeda, Dev Anand's first choice, opted out because she thought the role was not significant. Aman went on to win the Filmfare award for Best Supporting Actress, while her performance in the song "Dum Maro Dum" turned her into one of the most desired women in India.



Promising Odissi dancer Tamoghna Dey performs in a solo recital at Chhayanaud auditorium, held on August 9. Dance troupe Nritya Nandan organised the event titled "Parampara". Tamoghna, a Bangladeshi born 14-year artiste, lives in Muscat, Oman and receives tutelage from eminent dance maestro Guru Kelucharan Mahapatra's disciple, Guru Deepak Roy.

Pran-er Majhey Aaye

Group exhibition at Shilpakala ends today

ZAHANGIR ALOM

Just as the spectator enters the Gallery-2 of National Art Gallery of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA), they are greeted with piano record of popular Tagore song "Purono Shei Din-er Kotha" amid a number of artworks, installations, sculptures, photographs and designs. Themed on the song, a six-day group exhibition by the Honours first batch (1992-93) students of Institute of Fine Arts (Now Faculty of Fine Arts), Dhaka University, ends today.

The classes of Honours first batch commenced on August 7, 1993, which, coincidentally, falls around the Tagore death anniversary. On the same day 21 years later, the exhibition was opened by Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University AAMS Arefin Siddique, while teachers from different departments of Charukala, who initiated the honours classes, attended as special guests. Dean of the faculty, Abul Barq Alvi presided over the inaugural session.

Bibekananda Roy's mixed media work "Rabindranath" is one of the catchiest pieces of work at the exhibit. Roy has used



Qayyum Chowdhury (L) visits the exhibition.

numbers of small clay pots adorned with colours and texture to 'collage' a unique Tagore portrait. Md. Atiqul Islam displayed a beautiful female visage made of bronze, seemingly engrossed in thoughts; it is beautified with textures and fine detailing. Nasima Akter's floral tapestry is rhythmically composed. A combination of multiple mature and balanced colours on the work deserves accolades.

Soumik Das' installation "Question" gives a fascinating view of religious sacred symbols reflected into a mirror, while Kamruzzaman Shadhin displayed his performance art titled "To each their own faith, one with nature".

Marufa Akther portrayed creative crafts of Bangladesh in mixed media. The collage work is an assimilation of diverse forms including windows of yesteryears, impression of a palm with fingers, a hanging net and a blissful kingfisher sat beneath it. The work, symbolic in nature, generates nostalgia in silence.

Masud Mizan's "waterfall" (mixed media) serenades the muttering songs of untainted nature while Abbas Uddin's acrylic "Nrittagni" immerses in the celebration of vibrant colours coupled with aesthetic

rhythms. Ronni Ahmed's charcoal titled "Do not open your window to the eggs" is experimental in style. Salma Zakia Bristy depicted an abstract acrylic image titled "Frame of Mind". The colour maturity of the work is praiseworthy and uncannily resembles the work of artist Md Tokon.

Tahsina Shahin's acrylic "Biroho Dohon Lage" is a walk down memory lane of love and melancholy. The colour she used for the work is terrific while lines and some semi-abstract forms in the work have inspired poetic imageries. Aszad Hossain Khan's oil "The First Boat" is superb in colour balance.

Among others, Sukanta Kumar Bhowmik's "Nature" (oil), Tanzia Islam Khan's realistic work "Water Lily" (Watercolour), Tanzida Nabi's mixed media work "Unification", Rashidul Hasan's wood cut "Memories of Old Dhaka", Khaled Mahmud Rajan's colourful acrylic composition, Dolon Chapa's "Pecha" (acrylic on sora) and Nazia Andaleeb Preema's "Cosmopolitan" (Shoes and Fabloc) are beautiful example of visual arts.

The exhibition has been dedicated to the artist group's missing batch-mate and friend Imran, two beautiful works of whom are also on display at the exhibition.

"Bangladesh'er Ridoy" at Montreal World Film Fest

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Documentary "Bangladesher Ridoy", directed by Saiful Wadud Helal, is set to be screened at the Documentaries of the World section of the 38th Montreal World Film Festival (MWFF), to be held from August 21 to September 1.

The film, shot in Dhaka during the Shahabagh movement in 2013, follows a 10-year old boy named Ridoy during the 'Gonojagoron' movement and after. Ridoy joined Shahabagh, escaping from his parents who wanted to send him to Madrasa. "Bangladesher Ridoy" is among one of the 34 documentaries which is selected to be showcased at the festival, of the total of 350 films from 74 countries.

MWFF is one of the most significant North American film festivals, held every year in Canada's most culturally diverse city of Montreal. The MWFF is also the only competitive Film Festival in North America recognized by the FIAPF (International Federation of Film Producers Associations). The 38th edition of the festival will be dedicated to the memory of Gabriel García Márquez, a beacon of the 20th century world of literature who died earlier this year.

The latest film of by celebrated French director Claude Lelouch "Salaud, on t'aime" ("We Love You, You Bastard") will open the festival, which will close with Alain Resnais' latest film "Aimer, boire et chanter" ("Life of Riley").



JOL CHHOBI at La Galerie

Shahanoor Mamun's 2nd solo exhibition

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Artist Shahanoor Mamun's second solo painting exhibition "Jol Chhobi" is currently on at La Galerie, Alliance Française de Dhaka. Inauguration ceremony of the exhibition took place on Friday evening amid the presence of artist Samarjit Roy Chowdhury, sculptor Hamiduzzaman Khan, watercolorist Alakesh Ghosh and writer Anisul Hoque.

Samarjit Roy Chowdhury said that the source of watercolour painting is the combination of light and shadow.

Hamiduzzaman Khan described artist Shahanoor Mamun as one of the promising artists of his generation. Watercolourist Alakesh Ghosh advised Shahanoor Mamun to concentrate more on outdoor work.

Shahanoor Mamun said his love for watercolour is endless.



He is very much inspired by Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin. He dedicated this exhibition to the master painter.

Shahanoor Mamun has so far participated in 31 group exhibitions and received several awards. His paintings highlight nature and different seasons of Bangladesh. His favorite river Brahmaputra has been the focus on his canvas. His works also depict everyday struggles of hard working people living in the narrow streets of Old Dhaka.

The artist's fascination for monsoon and rain-soaked city streets are visible on his canvas. The depiction of running boats on Brahmaputra, people walking on the riverbank and city life in monsoon deserve admiration.

The exhibition runs till August 26.

Abir Abdullah wins Leica Reportage



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Renowned Bangladeshi photographer Abir Abdullah has won the prestigious Leica Reportage Award in the Vevey International Photography Award 2013/2014. His series "Deadly Cost of Cheap Clothing" bagged the Leica prize among 750 applications from 63 different countries. His works will be displayed along with other exhibitions at Vevey, Switzerland from September 13 to October 5. He has been invited with his family to attend the award ceremony and the exhibitions by the Festival Images authority.

Abir Abdullah, in his series, highlights the constant insecurity which four million garments workers in and around Dhaka live in, documenting the Tazreen factory fire, Rana Plaza building collapse rescue operation and following some of the survivor's daily life.

"This is very important for me as a photographer to show this series to foreign buyers to consumers, especially in European countries, so that they can see and understand how Bangladeshi workers make cheap clothes for them risking their lives", said Abir.

SRK's "maddest dream"

A film that everyone in the world would be proud of

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan says his biggest dream is to make a film that everyone would be proud of. The actor said he is yet to make the most beautiful film which everyone should be proud of.

"My maddest dream is to make the most beautiful film before I die, which everyone across the world should watch and be proud of," Shah Rukh told reporters in Mumbai on Friday night.

The 48-year-old actor says his upcoming film "Happy New Year" has all the ingredients of a Bollywood potboiler. The trailer of the will be unveiled on Thursday, and is expected to be a star-studded event. "Everybody is invited... Please come. The trailer is really good. I hope you all like it. We are trying to create an evening... the film is about dance, music, glamour. I am not nervous. I do my best and leave the rest," Shah Rukh said.

"When I go abroad, people tell me Bollywood is about dance and music. We wanted to make an ultimate Bollywood film. I tried to produce a film that has everything in it -- romance, drama, action, revenge, sensuality, happiness... it has everything about Bollywood. It is an entertainer," he said.

"The whole team has done their best. This is our best and hopefully you like and enjoy it. One doesn't know what will happen to the film but if the start is good, then everything will be good," Shah Rukh said.

The first look of the film will be revealed at a hotel in Mumbai with its entire cast -- Shah Rukh, Deepika Padukone, Abhishek Bachchan, Sonu Sood, Boman Irani and Vivaan Shah - along with director Farah Khan and composer duo Vishal-Shekhar, in attendance.

