


WHAT'S ON

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



Photography Exhibition  
Simple Pleasures of Life  
Organiser: Eastern Bank Limited  
Venue: Drik Gallery  
Date: August 14-16  
Time: 3-8pm



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

## Norwegian duo claim UK chart top spot



Norway's Nico and Vinz has become the first all-Norwegian band to have a UK number one single since A-ha in 1986. The Scandinavian duo achieved the feat after their single "Am I Wrong" climbed 51 places to wrestle the top spot from last week's number one, Magic!s "Rude". Nicolas Sereba (Nico) and Vincent Dery (Vinz) said it was "completely surreal" to top the UK singles countdown.

On the album chart, Ed Sheeran's record "X" stayed at number one for the seventh consecutive week. If the 23-year-old's second album remains there for another week, it will equal the eight-week run James Blunt's "Back to Bedlam" enjoyed in 2005.

OneRepublic is another new entry in this week's top five, with the US band making their debut at number three with "Love Runs Out". Bristol-based singer George Ezra occupies fifth place in both charts -- climbing one place with his single "Budapest" and holding steady in the album chart with "Wanted on Voyage".

Source: BBC

# IT'S TRUE!



Rodrigo y Gabriela (Rodrigo and Gabriela) is a Mexican musical duo who specialise in playing fast, rhythmic acoustic guitars. Both live a vegan lifestyle and support animal rights. They regularly dismiss being classified in a particular genre of music, preferring to say they play a fusion of many influences. Rodrigo y Gabriela has sold in excess of 1.2 million albums. In 2011 they collaborated with Hans Zimmer on the "Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides" soundtrack while also contributing to the soundtrack for the Shrek prequel "Puss in Boots".

## Cholo Hariye Jai on ntv



A CORRESPONDENT

Drama serial "Cholo Hariye Jai" is airing on ntv on every Tuesday and Wednesday at 11.30pm. Saiful Islam Masum has written and directed the drama.

The story moves around a bunch of playful youths belonging to well-off families. They hang out together, roam around aimlessly and celebrate life by all means. They are indifferent towards their families and have no plans for their future. "Cholo Hariye Jai" depicts their carefree celebration of life.

Mamunur Rashid, Dolly Zohur, Azizul Hakim, Mishu Sabbir, Shams Sumon, Nayeem and others are in the cast.

# REMEMBRANCE Tareque Masud, filmmaker extraordinaire



"Matir Moyna", Masud's magnum opus, was inspired from his own childhood.

SAURAV DEY

On this day in 2011, the film fraternity of Bangladesh was shell-shocked by the news of filmmaker Tareque Masud's untimely death. Masud, along with cinematographer Mishuk Munier were killed in a road accident, as they were returning to Dhaka from Manikganj after finalising the shooting location of Masud's next venture "Kagojer Phool".

Masud was among the brightest filmmakers of Bangladesh. As an independent filmmaker, he stood out from the crowd and set the stage for a new era of filmmaking. He looked deeper into his subjects and began a sophisticated film movement, a dire necessity against the declining standards of our film industry. Masud's greatest strength was that he made socially relevant films which viewers could relate to.

His notable productions include "Sonar Beri" (1985), "Adom Surat" (1989), "Muktir Gaan" (1995), "Muktir Kotha" (1999), "Matir Moyna" (2002), "Ontarjatra" (2006), "Runway" (2010) and the unfinished project "Kagojer Phool" (2011).

Masud was the first Bangladeshi director to receive the Critics Award at the Cannes Film Festival. His "Matir

Moyna" ("Clay Bird") received the International Critics' Award (Fipresci) for its "authentic, moving and delicate portrayal of a country struggling for its democratic rights" at Cannes 2002. In the film, Masud shed light on the complexities and diversities of life in Bangladesh, along with its conservative religious norms and its impact on common people.

Masud was born in 1956 at Nurpur village under Bhanga upazila in Faridpur. He began his education in a madrasa but the outbreak of Liberation War in 1971 put an end to his education. Following the country's independence, he did his Honours and Master's in History from the University of Dhaka.

Masud became involved with the film movement in his university days. In 1982, he began shooting his first project "Adom Surat" ("The Inner Strength"), a documentary on celebrated Bangladeshi artist SM Sultan and finished shooting it in 1989. Meanwhile he had completed his first project "Sonar Beri", a film on the oppressed condition of women in Bangladesh.

His documentary "Muktir Gaan" (The Song of Freedom) was released in 1995. Tareque Masud and his wife Catherine Masud made the film using original footage by American

film-maker Lear Levin. Masud discovered the footage in the basement of Lear Levin's house in New York. Later he made another documentary in the series, titled "Muktir Kotha".

His first full-length feature film "Matir Moyna" was released in 2002 and brought him recognition as an outstanding filmmaker. The film contains biographical elements of Masud's life. "Matir Moyna" tells the struggle of a nation struggling to establish its democratic rights on a broader canvas, while depicting the influence of religious beliefs on a family during the country's pre-liberation era. In the film, a boy is sent to a madrasa by his rigid conservative father despite his mother's apprehensions (like Masud himself was, as a child). Masud and his wife Catherine jointly wrote the script and co-edited the film which Catherine produced, and the couple invested all their savings in making it.

Masud is not only a filmmaker who has taken Bangla cinema to the global stage, but also a powerful songwriter. He wrote the songs for his films "Matir Moyna", "Runway" and "Ontarjatra". Throughout his life, Tareque Masud promoted Bangla cinema and established a distinct style of his own, and continues to inspire aspiring filmmakers.

# Tareque to be remembered in Faridpur

REZAUL KARIM, Faridpur

Marking the third death anniversary of internationally acclaimed filmmaker Tareque Masud, the Tareque Masud Memorial Trust (TMMT) will hold a memorial meeting, milad mahfil and film screening today afternoon at his village home in Nurpur under Bhanga upazila in Faridpur.

Catherine Masud, the Chairperson of the Trust, renowned personalities, friends, fans and local well-wishers will attend the programs, informed Sayeed Masud, younger brother of Tareque Masud.

Mishuk Munier and Tareque Masud Smirity Sangshad, a local organisation, will place floral wreaths at 10am at the grave of the filmmaker at his village home.



## TV WATCH

# "Obak Sriti'r Manush: Tareque Masud" on Channel i

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Marking the death anniversary of acclaimed filmmaker Tareque Masud, a special commemorative programme titled "Obak Sriti'r Manush: Tareque Masud" will air at 5:30pm today on Channel i. The programme will feature clippings of Tareque Masud's films, his

and his wife Catherine Masud's interviews and a documentary on him. Khushi Kabir, social worker and a trustee of Tareque Masud Memorial Trust and actress Rokeya Prachi will also talk about the director on the show. Renowned filmmaker Morshedul Islam has hosted the programme, directed by Raju Alim.

# "Finding Fanny" — Deepika's de-glamourised challenge

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

Just a few among the reigning queens Bollywood heroines would dare take the risk of doing an off-beat film or appear in a de-glamourised role in the high noon of their career, for fear of losing box office or star appeal. Deepika Padukone is not one of them.

Deepika has already done the role of Pritilata Waddadar in Sanjay Leela Bhansali's "Khelna Hum Jee Jaan Se" based on Chittagong uprising and she has now done an off-beat English language film, "Finding Fanny" which she considers a challenge and not a risky proposition.

As someone who has been part of typical Bollywood stuff such as "Om Shanti Om", "Love Aaj Kal", "Cocktail", "Race 2", "Yeh Jawaani Hai Deewani", "Chennai Express", "Ram Leela" and others, it is perhaps a bit unusual that Deepika seems keen to explore the off-beat genre with "Finding Fanny", directed by Homi Adajania.

"A lot of people told me it's a risk. I did not think of as a risk but a brave move on my part to do it. I went with my instinct, what my heart said. I trust Homi and his vision," Deepika told reporters on Monday at a promo of the film.

Deepika had earlier worked with Homi in his last directorial venture "Cocktail".

"For me, the story of a film comes first, and character next. I was looking to do something different and I am glad I did this film. As we work in a Hindi language film, we are used to it. But when you do an English language film, it is a different experience and it takes time to get into this space. The challenge



was to perform in English language," Deepika said.

"Finding Fanny", which hits the screens on September 12, is set in the coastal Indian state of Goa and required Deepika to speak in her mother tongue Konkani language, an experience the actress said she loved.

The film has a star cast that besides having Arjun Kapoor also brings together veterans Naseeruddin Shah, Pankaj Kapoor and Dimple Kapadia.

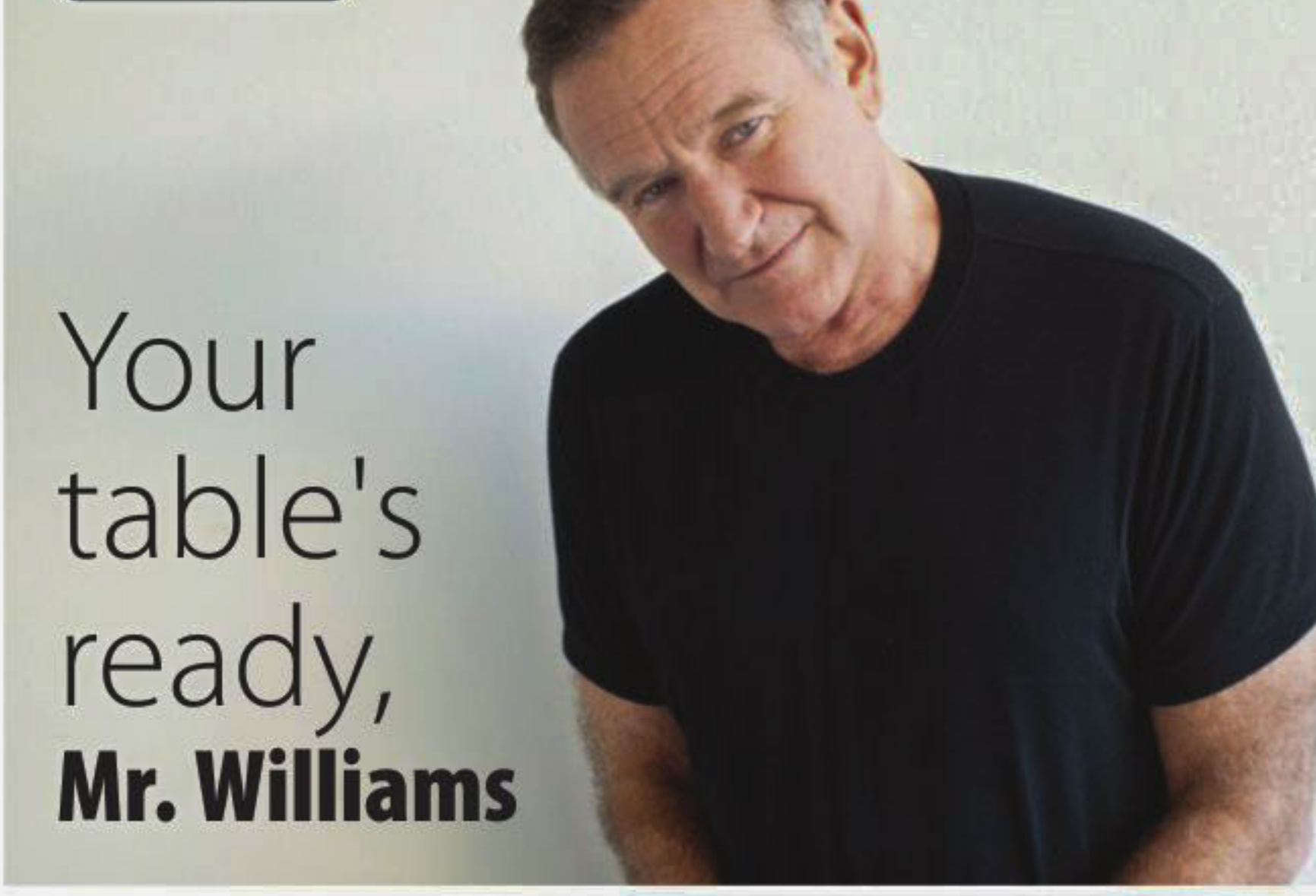
Homi Adajania said he was happy to see the two talented actors

Naseeruddin Shah and Pankaj Kapoor in the same frame.

"It was easy to work with them. They both are thorough professionals and have different approaches towards acting. They are brothers-in-laws in real life and I enjoyed watching them in the same frame, he said.

The film is a comical story about five people who venture out to find Stefanie Fernandes (Fanny) and in the process discover a strange sense of solace and love for each other, and end up seeing a point to their previously pointless lives.

## ELEGY



FAHMIM FERDOUS

Robin Williams was found unresponsive at his California residence on August 11, and later declared dead in a possible suicide, at the age of 63. As tragic as the news was, the fact that he was said to have been suffering from 'severe depression' is all the more ironic; Dr. Sean Maguire ("Good Will Hunting"), John Keating ("Dead Poets Society"), Alan Parrish ("Jumanji"), Dr. Hunter Adams ("Patch Adams") or even Andrew the android ("Bicentennial Man") or the Genie ("Aladdin") surely could not have killed himself, because of depression!

Beginning his career with hit TV series "Happy Days" (1978), his portrayal of the alien Mork was so successful that it spiraled into a spin-off show, "Mindy and Mork". Over the next four decades, he would keep coming back to television, be it as a comedian on HBO shows, guest starring in hit series, or as the leading man in 2013's "The Crazy Ones". But it was for his films that the world will never be able to shake off Robin Williams. Although he debuted in "Can I do it Till I Need Glasses?" (1977), it was through "Good Morning, Vietnam" (1987) that the world took notice (with an Academy Award nod) of his prowess. Then in 1992 he voiced Genie in "Aladdin" that marked the beginning of a number of notable voice characters (in "Fern Gully", "A.I.", "Robots" and Oscar-winning "Happy Feet"). His improvisational skills and animated voice range made him special as a voice actor; it's said most of his dialogues as Genie were improvised. But that was just one shade of him. For playing psychologist Sean Maguire in "Good Will Hunting", Williams picked up an Academy Award for Best Supporting Actor, and was nominated twice more: for his roles in "Dead Poets' Society" (as unorthodox English

teacher John Keating, immortalising the catchphrase "O Captain! My Captain" from a Walt Whitman poem) and "The Fisher King" (as a homeless man). Although the film was criticised, his titular role in "Patch Adams" was another memorable one. His role as vagrant musician Maxell 'Wizard' Wallace in "August Rush" also comes to mind.

One thing that made Williams special, especially to the young audience, was the roles he played for them. Aside from Genie, he played the titular role in "Pop-eye" (1980), an adult Peter Pan in "Hook" (1991), the trapped-in-board-game adventurer Alan Parrish in "Jumanji" (1995), Professor Philip Brainard in "Flubber" (1997) and a coming-to-life Theodore Roosevelt in the "Night at the Museum" movies, where he will appear one final time in the third installment of the series this December.

But despite being a comedian and doing all those optimistic roles, he never shied away from playing darker ones, like in "Insomnia" and "One Hour Photo" (both from 2002), where he played a killer, and a disturbed and obsessive photo-development technician. At one point, he was in running to play The Joker in "The Dark Knight" (and later as Riddler in the eventually-scrapped project "Batman Forever").

Despite his issues with addiction, fallout with Disney and three marriages, Robin Williams has been a sparkling presence and a towering figure in Hollywood for decades. One of his better-known quotes "You're only given a little spark of madness. If you lose that, you're nothing," perhaps best describes the ideals he lived by. "Death is nature's way of saying 'Your table's ready,'" Robin Williams said, and for those of us whose childhoods would be incomplete without him, that call came too soon.