

## WHAT'S ON

**MURTAJA BASEER** Solo Art Exhibition  
Artist: Murtaja Baseer  
Venue: Galleri Kaya, H-20, Rd-16, Sec-4, Uttara  
Date: Sep 13-25  
Time: 11am-8pm

**Solo Art Exhibition**  
Title: Montage  
Artist: Samrajit Roy Chowdhury  
Venue: Bengal Shilpala, Dharmadhi  
Date: Sep 6-22

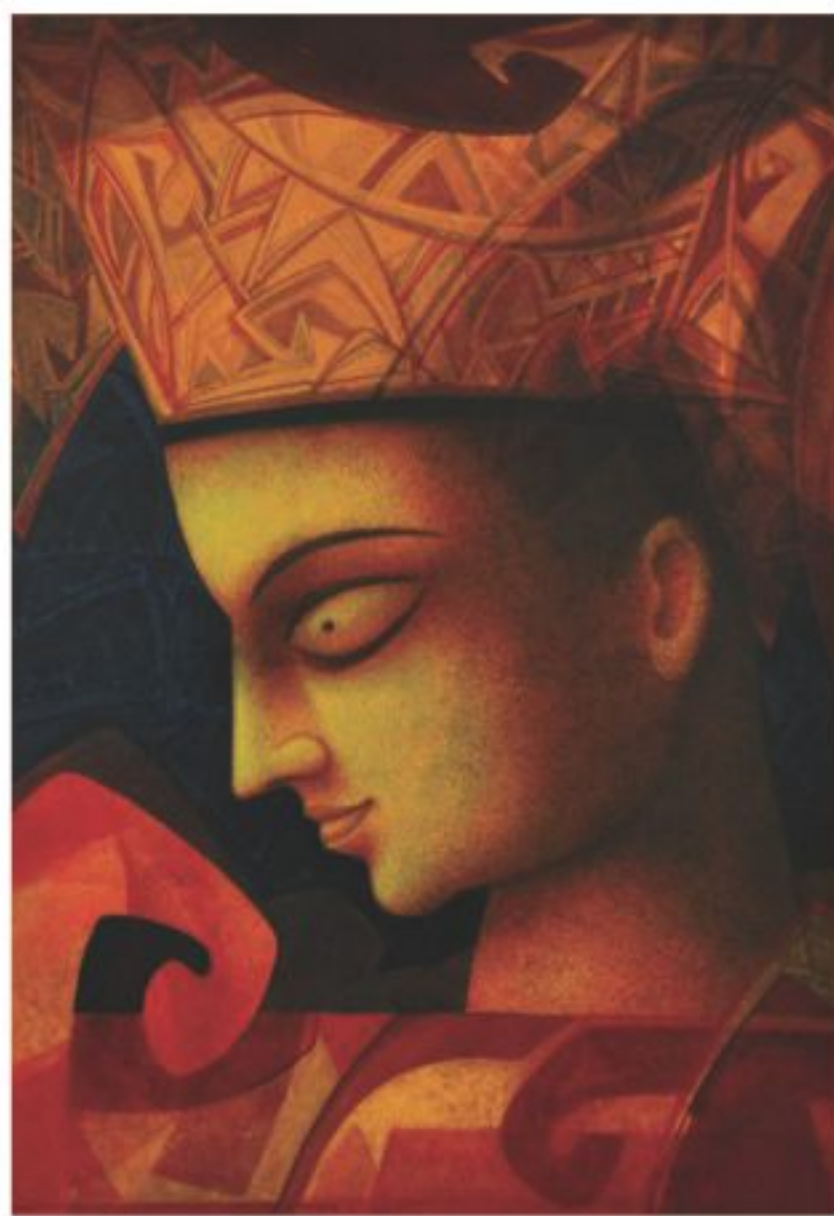
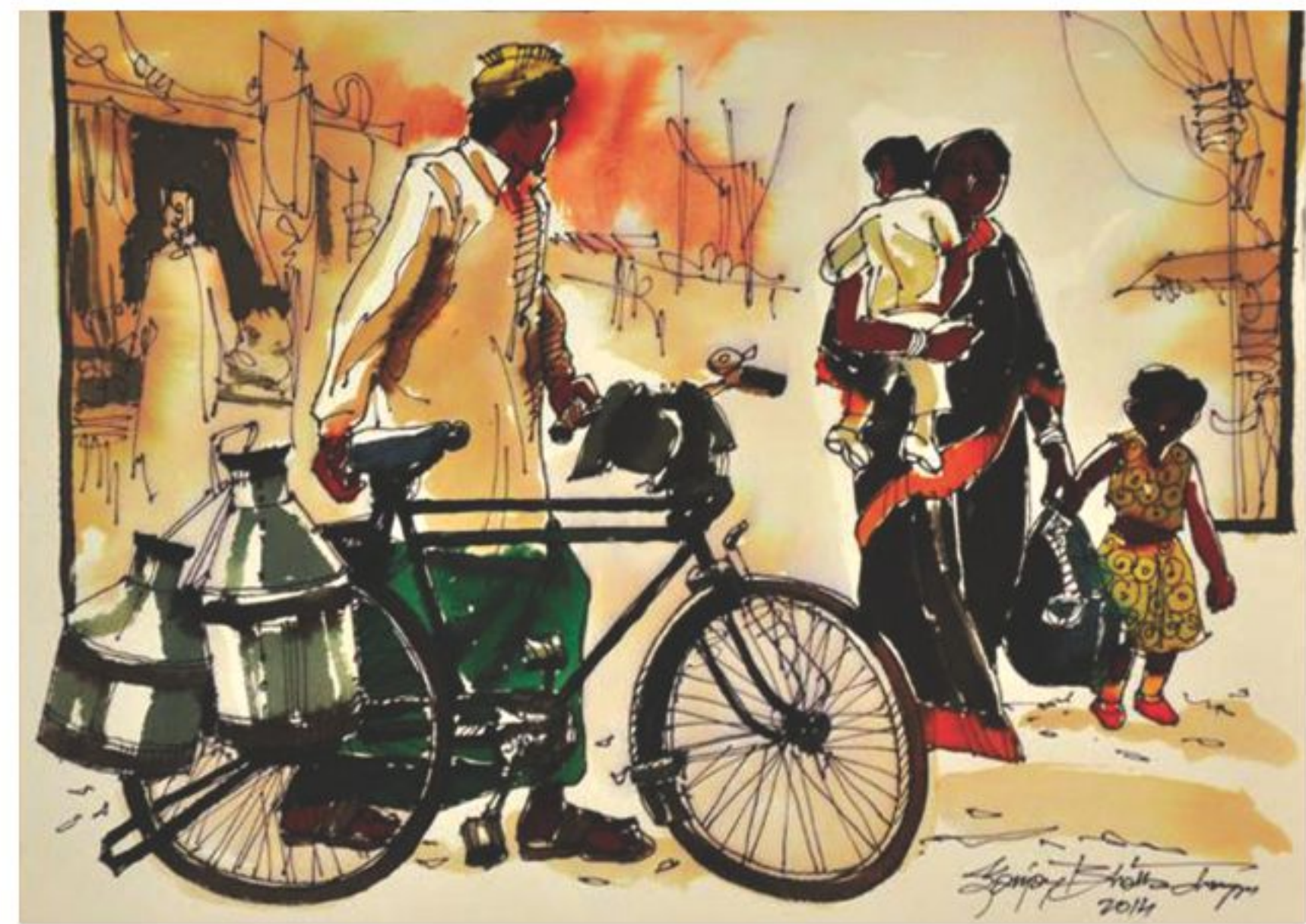
**Solo Dance Show**  
Production: DESH by Akram Khan  
Company: Organisers: British Council & Bengal Foundation  
Venue: National Theatre Hall, Shilpaka Academy

**Group Exhibition**  
Only Connect Edition One  
Venue: Daily Star-Bengal Arts Precinct  
Date: Sep 14-23  
Time: 12-9pm

**Group Art Exhibition**  
Title: Shengshu by 11 women artists  
Venue: Gallery Twenty One, 11th Floor, 751 Samsard Road, Dharmadhi  
Date: Sep 12-Oct 4  
Time: 12-9pm

**Gaan-e Gaan-e Gunjan Shongbordhona**  
Organiser: Citi Bank, NA  
Venue: Uthah Hall, Rabindra Bhawan, Water Garden Hotel  
Date: September: 19

**Autumn Festival 2014**  
Organiser: Jatiyo Rabindra Sanghet Samanantar Parishad  
Venue: Shukanta Prangan, Rabindra Sarobar, Dharmadhi  
Date: September 19  
Time: 7am



# COLOURS OF FRIENDSHIP

## Indian Art Extravaganza held at DAC

FAYZA HAQ

A weeklong Indian Art extravaganza, titled "Colours of Friendship" complete with 70 artworks, closed on September 18 at Dhaka Art Centre. It includes major Indian artists -- Laxman Alley, Kazi Anirban (relative of Kazi Nazrul), Babu Xavier from Kerala, Dhiraj Chowdhury, Krishnendu Gupta from Kolkata and Prakash Karmaker. All of them are well-known artists in Bangladesh, as they frequently visit the country on cultural exchanges. Laxman Alley presents his "Song of the Village", acrylic, pen, ink on canvas. A woman with her shopping passes by dressed in a sari with floral lotus motifs. Alongside her is a man with a hitched up lungi, bearing a white cane. Atanu Bhattacharya "Mind in red" is an abstract work in acrylic and ink on paper. There are red, blue and green forms crossing over, mixing with blue and white. The lines appear to have a life of their own. Babu Xavier has a mother and child in acrylic on canvas. With baby pink backdrop there is an elephant in green and orange. A tiny bird in blue and black forms

the eye of the elephant. The baby elephant with curls and loops design forms its body. This linked with the mother. This unframed artwork is from Kerala. Kazi Anirban uses mixed media on acid free paper. Here is a woman with a piece of cloth between her lips. Pink cheeks and lipstick plus her jewelry speak of her being an actress. The three guns at the back—red white and ochre—tell of a movie. She must resort to makeup to get away from the world that bothers and bewilders her. Krishnendu Gupta from Kolkata uses mixed media, bringing the head of a pale horse and a fair woman with a necklace and a red sari. Manoj Matara with "White lotus" has mixed media on papers. There are four lotus flowers -- seen from all angles. A beautiful girl merges with the flowers. Her beaded necklace in orange and green mingles well with the rest of the composition. Viakuntam has "Telengana Woman," charcoal on canvas, chocolate brown on yellow, in mature strokes that delineate portraiture. Prakash Karmaker's "Untitled" is mixed media on paper. The face has a large "nath" (nose pin), "teep" (decoration for forehead), while the image of a horse

has the tongue and teeth exposed. In his work, Wasim Kapoor brings in the face of Christ. It is charcoal on paper and the artist is a celebrity from Kolkata. There are two twigs of thorny sprays, with suggestion of beard and hair. Jayashree Chakravarty art work is acrylic and ink on paper. There are faces with a bird. The artist is well-established. Malay Das reveals sunrise on acrylic paper. There is the night shadow with black clumps of trees. There is white iridescent light and dots of white, where the light filters in through the leaves and branches of the trees at night. There is then the bridge and the arc of the green trees. Zargar Zahoor brings in the Kashmir Valley with his acrylic on canvas. The yellow and purple, with their floating, fleecy clouds, skies are impressionistic. The flower in bloom is present in a way that turns Constable's "Hawaiian" to mind. Turner is also remembered in the swamps of the artist's strokes. Shayamal Mukherjee from Kolkata is here with the "Babu and Bibi" oil on acrylic sheet, which are much in demand. The couple is presented with glasses, gold necklace, finger rings, vanity bag and

painting nails. This is sported with bright green black "kurta", dotted red, green and yellow sari. Dhiraj Krishna has mixed media on printed canvas. There is "Maa" with a lotus flower, fish, cranes and cat, at the left side. There is the tree and moon at the back to heighten the romantic and idyllic effect. The mother is shown as nursing a dark but cute baby wearing a talisman. In "Krishna and Radha" there are white flowers in the delicate hands of Radha. While Krishna is green Radha is fair, wearing two sets of necklaces, green and black, which set off her black polka dotted sari. Bratin Khan has "She" in mixed media on canvas. There is a hint of red on her full lips. Her eyes are large and luminous. Her hair is like a black fountain; there are bubbles of white all over the grey and black. Bibhuti Chakravarty has "Conversation" where people are out of an Aztec painting in yellow ochre, with blue bangles and necklace. The individuals have thick lips and big teeth. The painter's "Footnotes" has a man crouching on the ground with blue and red on the body and buildings rising at the back.

## Gautam Ghosh goes on-screen for Chatuskone

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

Acclaimed filmmaker Gautam Ghosh has once again gone in front of the camera, leaving his familiar position of behind it, in noted director Srijit Mukherjee's Bangla thriller film "Chatuskone". This is the for the second time in his long cinematic career that Ghosh has appeared in a film as an actor after making his debut in that role in Mukherjee's film "Baishey Srajan". In "Chatuskone", Gautam Ghosh will be teaming up with actress-director Aparna Sen. According to Ghosh, it was not quite easy for him as a director to act in a film by another director. "When I first posed before the camera in another director's work, there is that discomfort which slowly goes away as the shooting progresses. I have to alienate myself, which means that I can't comment on the shots," Ghosh said.



PHOTO: STAR

"Rina (Aparna) and I are the two angles and we are part of the same film after years, after 'Mr and Mrs Iyer' -- where was the cinematographer and I had to follow what Rina said. So, the alienation process was there in one way" he said. Srijit Mukherjee, whose direction of "Hemlock Society" drew critical acclaim, said he had thought of casting the four directors -- Gautam Ghosh, Rituparno Ghosh, Aparna Sen and Kaushik Ganguly together, but "unfortunately, Kaushik couldn't give dates and Rituda left us for good," he said. Mukherjee said he had to coax and cajole Gautam and Aparna at least 20 times before they agreed to work in the film. "I had worked as an assistant director in Rina's 'Iti Mitrinini'. We share a special bond. So once we got Rina on board, she completely followed me. While Ghosh helped a lot with his inputs about the shots of 'Chatuskone', Aparna had interesting suggestions about art direction and dialogue delivery," added Mukherjee. "Chatuskone" also stars Payel Sarkar, Barun Chanda, Neel Mukhopadhyay and Biswajit Chakraborty, among others.



# DESH STAGING RESCHEDULED

Due to unavoidable circumstances, the date of the first scheduled show of internationally celebrated choreographer-performer Akram Khan's DESH has been changed from September 18 (today) to September 20 (Saturday). The time and place will be the same. The performance of tomorrow (September 19) remains completely unchanged. The invitation card for September 18 can be used for September 20. Meanwhile, as part of his tour to Dhaka for DESH, Akram Khan took part in a number of events and activities. On April 16, Akram and Jose Agudo, rehearsal director for DESH, conducted a Dance Masterclass at the Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA). On the same day, he -- along with Bengal Foundation DG Luva Nahid Chowdhury, Cultural Affairs Minister Asaduzzaman Moir and The British Council's South Asia Regional Director Stephan Roman -- took part in a panel discussion at The British Council on "The Importance of the Arts in Developing Countries, including Bangladesh". On April 17, Akram Khan gave a sneak peek of his performance, in a brief Press Preview, at the National Theatre Hall of the BSA.

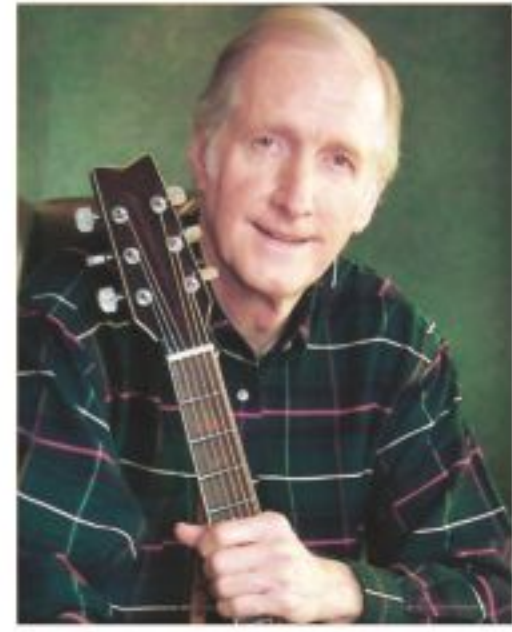
PHOTO: BRITISH COUNCIL / RIDWAN ADID RUPON



## NEWS bytes

### Country music star George Hamilton dies

US country music star George Hamilton IV has died in Nashville, Tennessee at the age of 77. The singer and guitarist, who began performing as a teenager in the 1950s, had suffered a major heart attack at the weekend. After an early foray into pop, Hamilton became a country stalwart, scoring 40 hits in the 1960s and 70s. He was inducted into Nashville's Grand Old Opry in 1960 and continued to work until shortly before he was taken ill. His most recent album, made in 2010, was a gospel-influenced collection featuring a host of guest artists. At the start of his career in 1956, Hamilton had a top five hit in the US with A Rose and A Baby Ruth, which led to tours with pop idols Buddy Holly and the Everly Brothers. But he was steered into the world of country music, after being mentored by Chet Atkins.



Source: BBC

## IT'S TRUE!

Matt Damon co-founded of the charity Water.org, which helps provide clean water to developing countries. He is moreover a supporter of ONE Campaign that helps fight AIDS and poverty in third-world countries. Matt Damon also associated with fellow Ocean's Eleven cast-mates and founded the advocacy organisation Not On Our Watch, which concentrates on supporting and bringing attention to human brutalities in third-world countries.

## Short film on horses A mirror on human cruelty

MD MIZANUR RAHMAN HIMADRI

Barring the animals used by the police and armed forces, horses have generally been ill-treated in third world countries by their profit-hungry owners. The short film "Uchchhoi Shrobar Uchchhabhilash" (Great expectation of the horse) uses the horse to symbolise the cruelty of human beings, bound by lust, ambition and desire. The film is the brainchild of noted filmmaker Jean-Neser Osman, son of noted novelist and short story writer Shawkat Osman. The film addresses contemporary issues like the volatile national and international political situation through the symbol/theme of horses. For instance in the film, two horses are seen pulling a cart crowded with passengers from Gulistan to Sadarghat in Old Dhaka round the year even in inclement weather by their brutish owners.



Apart from all that, nails are driven into the horse's hooves, while latest technology could easily be used to spare them from such agony. At the end, the horse is not allowed to travel to USA when it arrives at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in the capital. Soon after the incident, the male voice over says, "Why are such border lines created for animals like us while god has created the world without boundaries". The film also calls on society to prevent cruelty to animals and a world without borders. Questioned on his unusual choice of theme, Jean-Neser, who has made over 300 TVCs, said he perceived the film as a weapon for societal change. "Why are we being oppressed and repressed every moment even though we have enormous resources? The issue strikes me deeply. At one point, I felt a responsibility towards society, the country and world. From that realisation, I planned to make the film as it is the only way we can easily awaken the conscience of people about the future of mankind," he said. The film, tries to speak to those who want a world without boundaries where they should have their rights and freedom, the filmmaker concluded on a ray of hope.

## "It's high time anchoring is taken up as a profession" ... Pariha

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Pariha Lima is widely recognised as a TV anchor, emcee and model. The Daily Star recently spoke to Pariha on her zooming career: When did you enter the media world? Pariha: As a child, I dreamt of working in the field. Then in 2004 I took part in the 2004 Lux Channel i Superstar pageant and was judged the second runner up in Dhaka. However, I did not work in the media till later on as I had to finish my studies. Finally after some years I emerged as a TV anchor. How did you become an anchor? Pariha: I came across an Rtv ad for an anchor. I applied for the job. I was picked up after stiff competition as there were 40 competitors who had been selected out of 9,000 applicants. They started training us and finally I was selected as emcee for "Tarokhaalap". It is now four years since I signed on with Rtv. What are your other interests? Pariha: Modeling and acting. I appeared in a TV drama. Though I'm interested in doing TV plays, I just can't manage the time for them as I am busy

emceeing the TV programme and stage shows. You also modeled for a TVC of Banglalink? Pariha: Yes, that was a hit and got me noticed. Later, I modeled for TVCs of Vim bar and Orange Candy. What is your dream on the professional front? Pariha: I want to be established as an artiste. Also, I want to work the rest of my life and be appreciated by people. I think it is high time for anchoring to be taken up as a profession. What are the pros and cons of presenting live programme? Pariha: As there is room for improvisation it allows for artistic freedom. However, there is no script. Also there is no possibility of correcting mistakes. On the flipside, I get a lot of unsolicited phone calls which can be very annoying. Every day, you face a new guest on your show. Who stands out in your memory? Pariha: Shirshendu Mukhopadhyay. How do you prepare to face new guests? Pariha: Before interviewing the guests, I learn about them by browsing the internet. It is very tough to face guests without adequate preparation.



PHOTO: SURAV DEY

## ALBUM LAUNCH

### Priyanka Gope's Raga Delights unveiled

ZAHANGIR ALAM

Talented classical music vocalist Priyanka Gope's latest audio album "Raga Delights" was recently launched at Bengal Shilpala, Dharmadhi. Noted artiste Khairul Anam Shakil unveiled the album. The album, produced by Bengal Foundation, contains tracks of a kheyal with a tarana set on Raga Jog Kauns; a thumri on Raga Mishra Khamaj; a Kabir bhajan based on Raga Ahir Bhairav, and a Chaiti. "The album is one of my long-cherished dreams with which Bengal Foundation is associated. I eagerly await the feedback of the audience, especially classical music lovers," said Priyanka Gope. Pandit Abhijit Banerjee on tabla and Uday Shankar Malakar on Harmonium accompanied Priyanka on the tracks. Following the launch of the album, the vocalist, belonging to the Kirana Gharana, performed a kheyal set on Raga Patdwip. Her presentation of vilambit Bandish "Atahi Suhani" was on madhyalaya Roopak Taal and drut ektal bandish was "Ja Rey Ja Rey Ja Kagav". The special feature of her performance was excellent layakari on ektal. Priyanka's efforts of making the audience take the



essence of the excerpts of the bandish were appreciable. The artiste's second performance was a Chaiti that features in the album. She also rendered a chhota kheyal on Raga Kaushik Dhvani. The presentation of the bandish was "Main To Shehzad Ko Dhuran Chalia". Priyanka wrapped up her performance with a Meera Bhajan "Kahiyo Rey Prabhu Awan Ki", set on a morning Raga Bhairavi. Iftekhar Alam Pradhan on tabla, Bizon Chandra Misty on harmonium and Monira Islam Pappu on tanpura accompanied the artiste. Bengal Foundation produced Priyanka's other raga-based Bangla songs album "Sur-e Sur-e Dekha Hobey" in 2011. She has received many national and international awards and honours. Apart from studying at Rabindra Bharati University of Kolkata, India, Priyanka took khayal lessons exclusively from Pt. Arun Bhaduri at ITC Sangeet Research Academy. She also learnt thumri from Pt. Urmi Das Gupta and Pt. Purnima Chowdhury, and dhrupad from Falguni Mitra. Priyanka is now a lecturer at the Department of Music, Dhaka University and a part-time classical music teacher at Chhayanaut Sangeet Bidyayan.

## "Panchanari Akhyan" to be staged today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka Theatre will stage their 37th production, "Ponchonari Akhyan" today at 7pm at the Experimental Theatre Hall of Bangladesh Shilpaka Academy. Written by Harun Rashid, the play has been directed by Shahiduzzaman Selim. Rosy Siddique plays five different roles in the monodrama. Stories of five girls are woven into the plot of the play. Jolekha, Antora, Monoroma, Morium and Momtaz -- all confined to a boundary

created by a rigid patriarchal society. Women are not recognised as individuals and they are subjugated by their male counterparts. The play speaks for women through portraying their agencies in different social contexts. "Panchanari Akhyan" combines stories from different social settings and times but in every story women are neglected. Afzal Hossain has done the stage design while Shimul Yousuff and Chandan Chowdhury have jointly done the background scores. Nasrin Nahar and Wasim Ahmed have done costume design and light design respectively.



## TV WATCH

### "Kanamachhi Sangbad" on Maasranga

A CORRESPONDENT

Single-episode TV play "Kanamachhi Sangbad" airs tonight at 7:40pm on Maasranga television. Written and directed by Anjan Aich, the play revolves around a youth

who worships ghosts. One day, he goes to a haunted house where he meets a young girl. Gradually a connection grows between them and the boy falls for the girl. Sensing this, the girl stops communication and the story takes a different turn. Sajal and Trisha are the lead casts in the play.



## Creinse becomes distribution partner of Sony DADC

Creinse Limited has become the Exclusive Marketing and Distribution Partner of Home Entertainment Services by Sony DADC for the region of Bangladesh, according to a press release. Under the joint working platform, Creinse will market and distribute the licensed Home Video products of Walt Disney Studios Home Entertainment, Warner Brothers (WB), Sony Pictures Home Entertainment (SPHE) and National Geographic in Bangladesh. As part of the tie up, Creinse will also market and distribute the licensed products of Sony Music, Warner Music, Saregama and Times Music in Bangladesh. Creinse will soon launch a special e-commerce portal where movie and music enthusiasts of the country will be able to buy original, special edition products of the above labels. In addition, consumer brands from Bangladesh will also be able to tie up with leading movie and music properties as part of integrated consumer campaigns using the Home Video and Music portfolio that this alliance seeks to expand in Bangladesh.

Release Today - 19 September 2014



Now Showing : Dhaka - Star Cineplex, Balaka, Blockbuster, Shyamoli Digital Cinema, Upohar (Rajshahi), Purobi (Mymensingh)