

WHAT'S ON

Akira Kurosawa Film Week, Dhaka
Organisers: IAFM & Embassy of Japan
Venue: Main Auditorium, Bangladesh National Museum
Date: September 19-24
Time: 11am & 6pm (Sep 19-22) & 11am, 3pm & 6pm (Sep 23-24)

Simple Pottery Exposition

Artist: Dr. Azharul Islam Sheikh Chanchal
Venue: Zainul Gallery-1, Faculty of Fine Arts, DU
Date: Sep 24-30; Time: 12-8pm

Solo Art Exhibition

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

Stand Up Comedy

by US Comedian Charles Burks
Organiser: Naveed's Comedy Club
Venue: Baridhara DOHS Convention Centre
Date: Sep 26-27; Time: 7:30pm

Group Art Exhibition

Title: Shreyoshi by 11 women artists
Venue: Gallery Twenty One, 11th Floor, 751 Satmasjid Road, Dhanmondi
Date: Sep 12-Oct 4
Time: 12-8pm

NEWS bytes

Bryan Singer to direct X-Men: Apocalypse

Film-maker Bryan Singer is to direct X-Men: Apocalypse, the next movie in the long-running blockbuster franchise. The film, which is due for release in May 2016, will be the eighth in the



comic book series and the fourth directed by Singer. He took the helm for the first two X-Men releases and returned for this year's Days of Future Past. Apocalypse is set 10 years after Days of Future Past and will star Hugh Jackman as recurring character Wolverine, James McAvoy and Nicholas Hoult. The superheroes have to face their most unrelenting foe yet. The X-Men franchise - seven films to date - has so far taken more than 3 billion USD in box office receipts around the world.

Source: BBC

IT'S TRUE!



Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan's first salary was Rs 50 which he earned by working as an usher at a Pankaj udhas concert in Delhi. He used the money to take the train to Agra and see the Taj Mahal. He also sold tickets at the booking window of a Mumbai cinema on the opening day of his 1994 movie Kabhi Haan Kabhi Naa, directed by Kundan Shah. SRK was paid a sum total of Rs 25,000 for the film.

STATE CAN UPHOLD FATHER'S LEGACY

... Nurjahan Alim

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Daughter of legendary folk singer Abdul Alim, Nurjahan Alim is walking in her father's footsteps. Immersed in folk music since her childhood, she recently released her debut album to a warm response from music lovers. The folk singer spoke to The Daily Star about her new project in a recent conversation. Tell us about your new album... Nurjahan Alim: My album, titled "Majhi", features seven tracks. Although music lovers of our time don't receive such albums warmly, it has hit the audio market on a positive note. Moreover, I have tried to sing the songs with dedication. Why has it taken so long to release your debut album? Nurjahan Alim: As it has a classical touch, it took time to put the album together. Besides, I wanted my album to reflect my father's devotion to music. Do you a plan to release an album of your



father's songs? Nurjahan Alim: Definitely, for my own solace. As the daughter of such an illustrious father, it is also my duty to spread his songs among the new generation within and outside the country. How did you learn to sing? Nurjahan Alim: I grew up listening to my father's songs and entered the music world encouraged by my elder brother Zahir Alim. I participated in Natun Kuri and Kalakakoli of Bangladesh Betar. I trained with Zahir as he taught music those days. I also learnt classical music from Anup Barua of Chhayanaaut. What is the one thing that your father told you that you still carry with you? Nurjahan Alim: In his lifetime, he said in an interview, "No one can be a real artiste without proper practice," and I believe this philosophy with my heart and soul. At what stage did you decide to become a singer? Nurjahan Alim: I dreamt of being a dancer as a child. Later, I decided to

become a singer as all my family members are involved in the world of music. Have all of your father's songs and music been preserved? Nurjahan Alim: He rendered over 500 songs, half of which was in Bangladesh Betar and the rest in Pakistan Radio. We tried to collect these songs. The government can definitely help preserve my father's songs. I hope that his songs continue to be heard for centuries to come. What is your dream as a singer? Nurjahan Alim: I want to sing all my life. Besides folk music, I hope to render modern songs. Also, I want to sing my father's songs and do some good works inspired by him. I wish to win everyone's hearts through music. To whom do you attribute your success? Nurjahan Alim: Definitely my family. Today I'm known to people because of them. I also want to thank my husband Hisab Khatib Khan Babu, in particular, for my album seeing the light of day.

Artisans busy making clay idols ahead of Puja

AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh

Artisans are now busy making clay idols ahead of Durga Puja. "As Mymensingh has acquired a reputation for its beautiful clay idols, we are receiving orders from other districts, including Netrokona, Jamalpur, Sherpur, Gaibanda, Pabna and Sirajganj," said one artisan from the town. Still better news is that business may look up for owners of idol making units as puja mandaps are on the increase in the district. The most colourful puja mandaps will be set up at Daal Patti, Jilapi Patti, Biswanath Mandhir, District Transport Owners Association and Raghunath Geur Akhara of the town. However all is not well. Said leading artisan Joyota Ghosh, "Over the last few days there has been incessant rain which spells trouble as it will delay the delivery of idols to the puja mandaps." "The lack of workers is a major hurdle and we have to get idol makers from different places of the district to meet demand," informed artisans Ajoy Kar of Boro Kalibari area. Meanwhile, a discussion in the run up to



Puja was organised at the Deputy Commissioner's conference room on September 15. Deputy Commissioner of Mymensingh Mustakim Billah Faruqui; police superintendent Moinul Haque; mayor of Mymensingh municipality Ekramul Haque Titu; upazila nirbahi officers and president of Mymensingh District Puja Celebration

Parishad advocate Pronab Kumar Saha Roy; Swapon Sarker and advocate Rakhal Chandra Sarker addressed the gathering. Shankar Saha, organising secretary of the parishad, said the administration is monitoring the workplaces of the artisans. Six hundred and eighty one puja mandaps will be set up in the district this year - an increase from last year.

Port city celebrates autumn

PRANABESH CHAKRABORTY, Ctg

Music lovers of the port city were enthralled at a soiree at Theatre Institute, Chittagong (TIC) on Friday. To celebrate autumn, Swarit Lalitkala Kendra, had organised an evening of raga-based songs, featuring five promising artistes of the port city. In his welcome speech, Dibakor Kanungo, organising secretary of the organisation, said to make classical music more appealing among the youths, it will regularly arrange such events. One minute's silence was observed prior to the programme in memory of the recently departed Nazrul exponent Feroza Begum and Pandit Ramkanai Das.



Subrata Das Anuj then took the stage and rendered "Nahi Surya Nohi Joyti" in raga Bageshri composed by Swami Bibekananda. Later, he rendered "Ami Fulke Jedin Bhalobeshe", composed by Jatileswar Mukherjee and a Nazrul song "Uchatono mon".

Sangjukta Das performed "Ghoro Ghanoghata" in raga Miya Ki Malhar followed by "Jhar Jhara Bari Jhare" in raga Shuddha Sarong. Ritan Kumar Dhar performed "Chhalona Jani Tabu" in raga Kalabati. Next he rendered his own composition "Biroher Din Kete Jai" in raga Darbari Kanara. Artiste Biren Dey rendered the raga based song "Aj ei Brishtir Kanna Dekhe". The programme ended with "Megh Eshe" by Md Helal Uddin. Ranodhir Das, Ratan Bonik and Sunny Dey accompanied the artistes on the harmonium and tabla respectively while Madanmohan Ghosh played the esraj. Abul Mansur Azad Hillol emceed the programme.

Shobdo Natyotsab from September 25



A scene from the play "Tritio Ekjon".

A CORRESPONDENT

Theatre troupe Shobdo Natyacharcha Kendra is set to hold a three-day theatre festival at the National Music and Dance Centre auditorium of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy from September 25-27. The troupe started its journey in 1995 in port city Chittagong and arrived on the Dhaka theatre scene in 1997. Throughout the three days, Shobdo will stage their five plays "Tritio Ekjon", "Thikana" "Rifle", "Darpan Shakkhi" and "Informer".

Cultural programme on "Uniting young friends overseas"



Japanese students perform at the cultural ceremony.

MAMUN-UR-RASHID, Bogra

A cultural programme titled "Uniting young friends overseas" under the banner of the Japan-Bangladesh Students Union was held at the auditorium of Bogra Police Lines School and College in Bogra on Saturday morning. The programme was presided over by Superintendent of Police of Bogra Mozammel Haque PPM and conducted by the principal of the college Shahadat Hossain. A team from Ritsumeikan Uji High School, Kyoto, the old capital of Japan, took part in the cultural programme after visiting a school--run by Japan-based NGO Hunger Free World (HFW) at Boda upazila of Panchagarh district. Country director of HFW of Bangladesh Ataur Rahman Miton said that the group visited the school to support the school in the remote area of Panchagarh. The Japanese team leader, teacher of the school and assistant director of International Education Centre Dr. Tomonori Kotake expressed confidence in the cultural prosperity of Bangladesh.

Dinat Jahan Munni at Music Club

A CORRESPONDENT

Popular singer Dinat Zahan Munni will perform as guest in today's episode of Banglavisian's phonolive studio concert Music Club. Audience can participate in the programme and phone in to their favourite singer. Nirob Khan will host the programme, produced by Nahid Ahmed Biplab.



Chinese Degree on Ekushey Television

A CORRESPONDENT

A special TV play "Chinese Degree" will air on Ekushey Television during Eid-ul-Azha. Written and directed by Jibon Shahadat, the play revolves around Selim Bepari also known as Selim Khan an illiterate youth from Old Dhaka. Selim, a die-hard fan of Shahrukh Khan, is in love with Rini, an educated girl. Rini manipulates Selim to start his education saying that her brother would not accept their relationship if he did not do so. With no way out, Selim decides to obtain a degree from China. He starts learning Chinese and emulates the Chinese attire and lifestyle. Shotabdi Wadud, Mousumi Hamid, Kochu Khondokar and others don key roles in the comedy.



Finding Fanny: Anticipation

KAVITA, New Delhi

Naseerudin Shah, Pankaj Kapur, Dimple Kapadia, Deepika Padukone and Arjun Kapoor — what could make for a better cauldron in a film? It's precisely the high expectations that are the major trouble with dark comedy "Finding Fanny". You go in into the movie hall with great anticipation and come away with bemusement. For the film meanders just like the sleepy Goa village in which it is set. Neither can one discover the humour, except for a few uneasy laughs when a cat is thrown out of the window or Naseer howls in the dead of the night. And the heavyweights of filmdom disappoint, barring Padukone and Kapoor who set the screen on fire with their understated relationship.



postman Ferdie (played by Naseerudin). There's Pedro (Pankaj Kapur), the sleazy artist who chases the buxom Rosie (Dimple Kapadia) in

search of his perfect painting, Angie (Deepika Padukone) the lissome heroine who loses her husband on her wedding day and is thrown into a

claustrophobic existence with her mother-in-law Rosie. Bringing up the cast is Savio, the angst-ridden hero (Arjun Kapoor) who is in love with Angie but can't garner the courage to tell her. It is in Savio's broken-down car that the odd group set off on their quirky adventure. As the plot unravels, the five characters, thrown against each other, begin to bond. Yet they carry the burden of their past that must be purged before they can go ahead with their lives. And it is in their catharsis in the second half of the film that the strength of the movie lies. Though the latter half of "Finding Fanny" does evoke emotion and a lump in the throat, one is left wondering why the film has raked in an astonishing Rs 28.09 crores in its very first week.