

WHAT'S ON

Channel i 16th Anniversary Celebration
 Venue: Channel i Office, Tejgaon, Dhaka
 Date: October 1
 Time: 10am onwards



Photography Exhibition
 Organiser: Drik
 Theme: Inspiration
 Venue: Drik Gallery, Dhanmondi
 Date: Oct 16-22
 Time: 3pm-8pm



Solo Painting Exhibition
 Artist: Gopal Ghose
 Venue: Bengal Shilpalaya, H-42, Rd-27 (old), Dhanmondi
 Date: Sep 26-Oct 18
 Time: 12-8pm



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



Solo Miniature Painting Show
 Title: Small is Beautiful
 Artist: Azmeer Hossain
 Venue: Shilpangan
 Date: Sep 20-Oct 1



NEWS bytes

Nicole Scherzinger lands "Cats" role



Pop singer Nicole Scherzinger is to make her West End debut in Andrew Lloyd Webber's record-breaking musical "Cats". The US star will play Grizabella in the award-winning musical, which is returning to London for a 12-week run from December 6.

The show is based on TS Eliot's "Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats".

"I am really thrilled to be making my West End debut in such an iconic show," Scherzinger said.

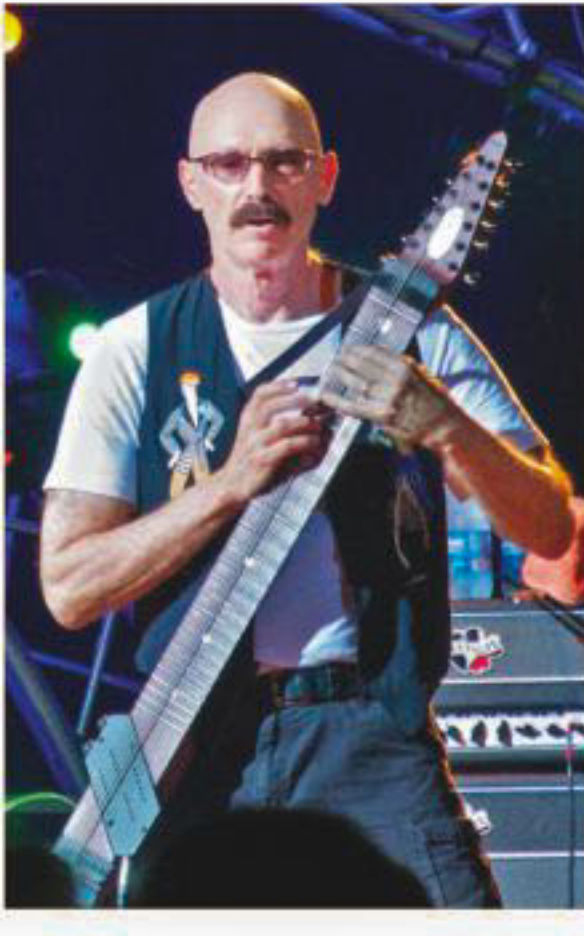
Scherzinger studied theatre and dance at the Wright State University in Ohio and joined pop band "The Pussycat Dolls" in 2003. They went on to sell 50 million records worldwide. She has also enjoyed solo chart success and spent three years working on ITV talent show The X Factor.

Cats received its world premiere at the New London Theatre in 1981, where it played for 21 record-breaking years, putting on just under 9,000 performances. It transferred to Broadway in 1983 where it ran for 18 years. Cats has been performed in more than 30 countries and been translated into 10 languages.

Source: BBC

IT'S TRUE!

The Chapman Stick is an electric musical instrument devised by Emmett Chapman in the early 1970s. A member of the guitar family, the Chapman Stick usually has ten or twelve individually tuned strings and has been used on music recordings to play bass lines, melody lines, chords, or textures. Designed as a fully polyphonic chordal instrument, it can also cover several of these musical parts simultaneously. A Stick looks like a wider, longer version of the fretboard of an electric guitar, but more strings.



Unlike the electric guitar, it is usually played by tapping or fretting the strings, rather than plucking them. For this reason, it can sound many more notes at once than some other stringed instruments, making it more comparable to a keyboard instrument than to other stringed instruments. This arrangement lends itself to playing many lines at once and many Stick players have mastered performing bass, chords and melody lines simultaneously.

MIR SABBIR'S return to the big screen

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Actor-director Mir Sabbir has so far appeared in only one movie in his long career. After a seven-year hiatus, he has now signed up a movie for which shooting is going on in London. Before leaving Dhaka, the actor spoke to The Daily Star about his new film and Eid plans.

Hasn't this been a really long hiatus since your last film?

Mir Sabbir: In 2008, I worked with Popy in the movie "Ki Jadu Korila" for the first time. After this film, I was rarely seen on the silver screen. I'm now going to act in the film "Good Morning London", directed by Tania Ahmed.

What drove you to work in the film?

Mir Sabbir: Firstly, I'm playing a key role in the film. Besides, it is being made under the direction of Tania Ahmed and the production banner of Impress Telefilms. Those were the major factors. Although I had been flooded with offers,

I lost interest after appearing in one commercial movie. Also, I could not manage time for this as I was so busy with TV plays.

Will you focus more on films from now on?

Mir Sabbir: As I'm very busy with TV plays, I'll appear in films occasionally. But it all depends on the script and character.

Do you have any plans to make films in the future?

Mir Sabbir: Yes, but I need a lot more experience for this. I want to direct more TV plays at present.

How many Eid plays do you have on hand?

Mir Sabbir: Although the audience enjoy several of my plays every Eid, this time they will get to see only three or four dramas, as I will be away in London shooting for my new film. However, "Alal Dulal", a play under my direction will be telecast with Zahid Hasan as my co-star.

How did you celebrate Eid in your

childhood?

Mir Sabbir: Those were really wonderful days and I still remember the great fun that came with Eid. As a child, I could not imagine Eid without new clothes. We used to hide them, and wear them only on the morning of Eid.

Did you visit the cattle market during Eid-ul-Adha in your early years?

Mir Sabbir: In my childhood, we would go to the haat to buy sacrificial animals. The bargaining was what I most enjoyed. The interesting thing was that we would run home shouting the price of the animal. There was also the frightening experience of seeing the bulls at the haat.

Do you get to visit the haat now?

Mir Sabbir: The problem is that people crowd around to get a glimpse of me and jostle for autographs and photographs. Even the sellers hike up the price of the cow. However, I still go to buy a cow at the haat and really enjoy the experience.



BoTala to hold major theatre fest

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Theatre troupe BoTala has chalked out an eight-day theatre festival later this month at the Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy's (BSA) National Theatre Hall, featuring productions from India and USA, along with top troupes of the country. With the title "Chhorai Swopno-beej Akash Toley: Bof'laa Rongo-Mela 2014", the festival will run from October 24-31 and will see Aranyak, Prachyanat, Theatre, Theatre Art Unit, Nagorik, Dhaka Theatre and BoTala themselves perform plays they have brought to the Dhaka stage this year, alongside performances from Rangashram (India) and a

solo performance from US artiste Kawalani Lee.

Apart from the plays, there will be other attractions for performing arts connoisseurs throughout the festival at the BSA premises, including choreography by Pooja Sengupta's troupe Turangami, songs by Geetolbongo, BoTala's street play "Jotugriho", an evening of Lalon songs, a solo installation performance by Reetu Sattar, mime performance by Nithor Mahboob, puppet show by Khalid Hasan Rumi and performance by Teerondaz Natya Dal.

A theatre workshop will also be conducted on October 29 and 30 by Kawalani Lee on theatrical works based on movements by working-class people. Members of a number of theatre groups will participate in the workshop.



FILM REVIEW

"Khoobsurat": Frothy fairytale

KAVITA, New Delhi

When bubbly physiotherapist Mili Chakravarty (played by Sonam Kapoor) enters the lives of a stifling royal family, expect an explosion of personalities. She's fun loving, dressed over the top and doesn't hesitate to speak her mind. The gloomy Rathores, by contrast, are just so -- there's wheelchair-bound father Shekhar Singh Rathore (Aamir Raza Hussain), shrill disciplinarian mother Urmila Devi Rathore (Ratna Pathak Shah) who lives by the clock, a suave, handsome and workaholic son Yuvraj Vikram

Singh Rathore (Fawad Khan) and a daughter with unrealised dreams.

Enter Mili. She's come to the oppressive household as physiotherapist to the father who is unable to walk and has already dismissed 40 doctors before her. Of course she is barely tolerated by the rani, who makes no bones about her dislike for this upstart who is breaking the rules all the time--messing about with her food at dinner, putting her foot in her mouth all the time and generally trying to have as good a time as she can in her new assignment. Predictably the young Rathore

(Fawad Khan, the heartthrob of popular Pakistani serial "Zindagi Gulzar Hai"), who is already engaged, and Mili develop a mutual attraction. Things come to a head when they are closely thrown against each other on several occasions. Soon the two are in a crackling relationship which the prince refuses to acknowledge.

Meanwhile, thanks to Mili the senior Rathore improves dramatically even while the rani remains obdurate. Naturally as every fairy tale, there comes a happy ending.

Even if the storyline is predictable and some of the characters overdone, "Khoobsurat" has much to recommend it, not the least the fine acting of Fawad Khan, its lightness and the nostalgic return to the days of sprawling palaces, handsome princes and princesses. And of course there's Mili's archetypal Punjabi mother Manju played by the redoubtable Kirron Kher, who excels in such roles.

"Khoobsurat" is loosely based on the late, renowned director Hrishikesh Mukherjee's 1980 hit film "Khubsoorat". Then it was Rekha who shook up a middle class household presided over by martinet matriarch Dina Pathak (coincidentally Ratna Pathak Shah's mother). Does Sonam Kapoor match up to Rekha? Not quite, but she's in the reckoning.



Mili snaps a selfie in front of the palace.

Mosharraf Karim turns 'almost rock star' for Puja

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In a special TV play for Durga Puja, seasoned actor Mosharraf Karim will be on screen on a new avatar --that of a rock star. Titled "Praye Rockstar", the play written and directed by Rubayet Mahmud, will air on Banglavisjon on October 4 at 9:05pm. Prova will star

opposite Mosharraf in it.

Iqbal (played by Mosharraf) is a door-to-door book hawker, who one day meets Roopkotha, who is in a band called Semester Break. Iqbal eventually gets involved with the band, to the dismay of the other band members, and one day becomes a rock star himself.



TV WATCH

Dhonni Meye on Channel 9

A CORRESPONDENT

Drama serial titled "Dhoni Meye" will air on Channel 9 tonight. Written and directed by Matiha Banu Shuku, the serial casts Abul Hayat, Dolly Zahur, Dipanwita Halder, Swagata, Intekhab Dinar and others. The plot revolves around a government

employee Anwar and his three daughters Bipasha, Manisha and Tanisha who have vastly different temperaments. Their father cannot afford to fulfill their needs so they decide to live independently. Meanwhile, their father dies leading to a crisis. The serial runs from Tuesday to Thursday at 8:30pm.



Devdas on ATN Bangla

A CORRESPONDENT

Tele-film Devdas will air on ATN Bangla at 8pm on October 3 as part of the channel's special Durga Puja programmes. Based on

Sharatchandra's classic novel, the tele-film has been directed by Dayel Rahman. DA Tayeb plays the role of Devdas while Homayra Himu and Soma Afroze play Parbati and Chandramukhi respectively.

