

## NEWS bytes

Oscar hopefuls for foreign film unveiled



A record 83 countries have submitted titles for next year's foreign language film Oscar - seven more than 2014's previous record number. The entries include four countries - Kosovo, Malta, Mauritania and Panama - that have not submitted a film before. Notable titles include Turkish entrant "Winter's Sleep", Palme d'Or winner at this year's Cannes Film Festival. Belgian siblings Jean-Pierre and Luc Dardenne are among the high-profile directors to have had their films submitted by their country's national film body. The Philippines' submission - "Norte, the End of History" is an epic drama partly inspired by Dostoevsky's Crime and Punishment. The 83 titles will be narrowed down in January to a shortlist of nine, from which five nominees will be selected for the 2015 award. For the first time the award will have the winning director as well as the submitting country engraved upon it, following an amendment to the Academy's rules.

Source: BBC

## IT'S TRUE!



The Beatles' classic "While My Guitar Gently Weeps" is listed as #7 on the Rolling Stones Magazine's list of 100 Greatest Guitar Songs, and #10 on "100 Greatest Beatles Songs". The solo in the song, however, is played by Eric Clapton, but he wasn't credited in the album for it.



# Dance away your blues

"Essence of Nature" held at AFD

FAYZA HAQ

NS Chowdhury Dancy has an affinity for working on metal and portraying women. She did this in her home so she did not have to travel to a kiln. Her solo exhibition "Essence of Nature" ended recently at the Alliance Francaise de Dhaka (AFD) Gallery. There is a woman's visage in the first entrée. Her body is diminutive, and she is surrounded by stars. She has an elongated mouth, which is only partly visible -- as is the case on many modern representations. The entire piece is fashioned of brass, shaded by the artist in places to give it the appearance of bronze. In the second work is a subtle display of jewellery. The anchal of the sari is suggested, and her face and her curly hair are like that of dancing women. The work is carved from brass and shaded in parts like bronze. There is another brass sculpture which idealises the dancing girl. Here she dons earrings and hair embellishments. We are confronted with the figure of a belly dancer with jewellery. We also find a collection of flowers on three panels. The display of flowers done in panels on the walls fresco -- with different colours ranging from aquamarine blue -- to lend the flowers an aquatic effect -- to bright carmine and beige ones are exotic and unique. The large scale display is a commentary on the harmony of nature and its manifold beauties. There are three leaves and spindly growth, an effect achieved by twisting of materials, in white, blue and black. Images appear like frozen, preserved flowers. It has suggestions of sculpture on the walls of AFD. Dancy said she learned her work technique from a student of the Faculty Fine Arts, DU. "I used the base of brass. The copper effect was obtained by burning the metals with acid. The effort was to present various ornate ornaments like the 'nath', tiara, necklace etc. The 'bichha' is used by the belly dancer too. My other media is flowers. I like flowers immensely as they allows for many variations and colours. The metal pieces took seven days. The tools are in my collection at home," she said. "Seated in one place, I can complete my work with the help of these tools. My entire home is used for this purpose. In the wall frescoes, there is smashed acrylic paper and gum. The thickness is obtained by applying layers of the medium. These are murals or frescos. The flowers have been done in an abstract way. The faces too follow an abstract form. Each work of flowers takes at least 20 days to complete and the metal pieces take a week each."

# "Pipra Bidya" trailer contest launched

Opportunity to work with Farooki



A CORRESPONDENT

Ahead of the release of Mostofa Sarwar Farooki's much-anticipated latest feature "Pipra Bidya", an interesting contest has been organised, providing a great opportunity for filmmakers, writers and actors. The trailer has been screening at cinema halls through the initiative of the film's distributors Jaaz Multimedia, and has been released online too. Participants should closely observe the trailer, and the casts' stills and character names to the end -- to imagine the plot of the film. The synopsis, in 200-300 words, should be submitted to the Facebook page of Chabial, Farooki's production house. Of the entries, five stories closest to the original plot and the five new but most creative stories, will earn their writers a chance to watch the premiere on October 24 with the film's cast and crew. The other prizes are optional, and will be decided by the winners' and Chabial's guidelines. Those interested in filmmaking can work as Farooki's assistant director for a year; those who choose to write scripts will be part of Farooki's next film's script team, and aspiring actors will get a chance to feature in his next film. Cine lovers have a chance to win specially signed souvenir t-shirts of Pipra Bidya. The last date for submissions for the contest is October 20, and results will be published on October 22. Bangladesh Protidin is the media partner of the contest.

## CAT to stage Macabre tomorrow

A CORRESPONDENT

Centre for Asian Theatre (CAT) will stage their 21st production "Macabre" at the National Theatre Hall of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy tomorrow at 6:30pm. Cultural Affairs Minister Asaduzzaman Noor will inaugurate the show, while Chairman of Bengal Group, Abul Khair will attend the show as special guest. Scripted by Anika Mahin, "Macabre" is directed by Kamaluddiin Nilu. The story is themed on freedom, equality and the importance of rights and dignity. The kernel of the story is penetration of death, which is a part of dystopia, where a society is characterised by human misery, squalor, oppression and disease.



A CORRESPONDENT

Drama serial "Shodh" goes on air on GTV at 9:25pm from Saturday to Tuesday every week. Written by Sourav from Saturday to Tuesday every week. Written by Sourav and directed by Shahdat Hossain Sujon, the drama moves around three families whose lives become interconnected through a series of incidents. Al Mamun, Nima Rahman, Mousumi Nag, Shoyeb, Farzana Chobi, Munia, Snigdha, Arman Parvez Murad and others are in the cast

## BTV Calling

Eid programmes offer varieties of entertainment

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The high point of Eid programmes on BTV were games by villagers, an annual endeavour by agriculture expert Shykh Seraj to include rural areas in festival celebrations. These had mass appeal and even urbane viewers were glued to their sets to see who would clamber up a greased bamboo pole first and take home a colour TV. Similarly, they were keen on learning which woman could guide her partner to throw the maximum vegetables into a basket and then smash them with a stick. Similarly, many enjoyed the programme on October 10 that featured games at CRP. The games included throwing ball, cricket and racing, among others. What made the programme remarkable was that the participants were all physically handicapped. The melodious backdrop was provided by talented singers like Fakir Alamgir. The simply-clad young woman who introduced the programme was a welcome change from the norm. The suspenseful "Ochena Mukh" had a middle-aged woman sauntering into a young woman's apartment. The young woman with only the faintest idea of cooking engaged in a guessing game with the older woman who had dropped in to her apartment to ask for tea and

sympathy. In fact it was her mother-in-law sizing up her daughter-in-law's cooking ability. Eid had begun with the young ones with the play of Shuo-Rani and Duo Rani and the fattening the cow in an unfair way by the young actor. The teenager singing on earlier, with the water, greenery and image of goofy around her brought in the joy of Eid with "Aakash Rang Hoye Jao". The songs brought in by Abida Sultan with her "Alga Katha No Koi Bhai," wearing gold braided flowered sari and net on her 'anchal' was an attractive change for the day. Quddus Bayati, with the backdrop of the big sunflower in the centre, wearing a red lungi and white top was good; the girl singing "Tui Manush Bhala Na" had a definite charm. And so did the singer of "Ai Jai Rangoon Shahar" who brought in the allure of the local dialect. Shubro Dev's "Ontorey Tai Bedhey Rakhi" was moving; Fahmida Nabi singing "Moyurpannkhi Bhalobasha Tey" had a poetic presentation. Anghi Alamgir in her black sari with "They Priti Amar Antarey" was as charming as ever. The film "Boroloker Jamai" with Manna as Agun, and Nila was like Shakespeare's "Taming of the Shrew" with the girl turning to her husband when a cockroach comes into their bed.



## Shawkat Osman throws down the gauntlet

Rupchanda-Star Lifestyle Super Chef heats up



Shawkat Osman demonstrates his dish to contestants.

OSAMA RAHMAN

After two weeks of elimination rounds, the Rupchanda-Star Lifestyle Super Chef 2014 has seen its 24 finalist whittled down to 12. This week, more elimination will follow as we wind down towards the final of the competition. As usual, none of the participants are quite sure of exactly what to expect. This week, the plan is to take the participants out of their comfort zones. Having been given to freestyle cook their favourite dishes, the participants had fared well. But the judges observed that each participant showed a certain affinity towards local cuisine or had one ingredient that they always needed. Thus, this time a different plan was made. The panel of judges comprising culinary experts Shawkat Osman, Shaheda Yesmin and Afroza Banu were ready to see how the participants fared outside their comfort zones. This week will see Shawkat Osman prepare one of his specialties in front of the participant. The dish will not be strictly traditional and will make use of some common ingredients but it is the technique and the timing that will matter. The participants will be asked to see how the dish is being prepared and they will then have to prepare the same dish using whatever they have learned during the demonstration. Since it will be a 30-minute demonstration, participants will not get the time to take notes but must concentrate on ensuring that they know all the steps. This week, four more participants will be eliminated. With a lot more challenges upcoming, the Rupchanda-Star Lifestyle Super Chef will only be who really deserves it. Tonight's episode airs at 9pm on ntv.

WATCH THE NEXT EPISODE OF  
**RUPCHANDA-STAR LIFESTYLE  
SUPERCHEF 2014,**  
AT 9 PM TONIGHT ONLY ON NTV

CATCH THE SHOW'S REVIEW ON STAR LIFESTYLE, PUBLISHED ON TUESDAY.

**STAY TUNED!**