

WHAT'S ON

Solo Art Exhibition
Artist: Gopal Ghose
Venue: Bengal Gallery
Date: Sep 26 – Oct 18
Time: 12-8pm



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

Spanish Week 2014
Photography Competition and Exhibition
Theme: Inspiration

Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Known Unknown
Artist: Farzana Ahmed Umi
Venue: Dhaka Art Center
Date: Oct 16-23
Time: 3pm-8pm



Unmad Cover Exhibition
Organiser: Unmad
Venue: Drik Gallery
Date: Oct 16-18
Time: 12-8pm



Solo Art Exhibition
Title: The Macabre World
Artist: Subrata Das
Venue: EMK Center, Dhanmondi
Date: Oct 12-23
Time: 9:30am-8pm



“Spread Lalon's philosophy in society” Speakers urge at Lalon mela opening



AMANUR AMAN, Kushtia

Speakers urged for efforts to spread Lalon's philosophy in the society irrespective of boundaries, while speaking at the five-day programme marking the death anniversary of the great baul Lalon Shah, at Cheuria of Kushtia on Thursday night.

“Lalon's non-violent philosophical doctrine can bring the present argumentative society to a peace,” they observed.

Professor Dr. Gowher Rizvi, International Affairs Advisor to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, inaugurated the event as chief guest.

“We can include Lalon's philosophy in the national curriculum and in separate discipline at the higher study levels, to unfurl the ideology of the thinker,” he said.

With the Kushtia Deputy Commissioner (DC) Syed Bealal Hossain in the chair, the programme was addressed by lawmaker of Kushtia-4 (Khoksa-Kumarkhali) Abdur Rouf, Kushtia police superintendent Proloy Chisim and Assistant Manager of communication of private mobile operator Banglalink Khondokar Ashik Iqbal, among others.

Professor Dr. Anwarul Karim was chief discussant in the event.

In his speech, Professor Dr. Gowher Rizvi said he achieved a different experience through this programme.

“The present government will do what should be done to disseminate the thinking of the bard,” he said.

He said Lalon is inspiration for humanity irrespective of caste, creeds and boundaries.

As other years, a large number of people have gathered at the site, including foreigners.

The programme will continue till October 20.

Through the eyes of a thespian Bivash Chakraborty talks about theatre in Kolkata and Dhaka

SAURAV DEV

Bivash Chakraborty is a veteran theatre personality based in Kolkata, India.

Entering into theatre arena as a young actor, he has come a long way to establish himself as one of the most influential theatre directors of Kolkata. He has seen the evolution of Kolkata's theatre scene very closely and played an active role in the process. The Daily Star caught up with the thespian during his recent visit to Dhaka to attend Loko Natyadal Banani's theatre fest. Excerpts:

How did you begin as a theatre activist?
Bivash Chakraborty: When I completed my BA in 1957 from Presidency College, I wanted to learn theatre production. Then I entered *Bohuruipi* for one-year training on theatre to master the art from Sombhu Mitra. But I quit it after six months because Sombhu Mitra was busy and he barely trained me. In 1963, Ajitesh Bhandopadhyay called me to perform in Pirandello's “Six Characters in Search of an Author”. Then I entered his troupe *Nandikar* and that was my formal beginning.

Tell us about theatre in Kolkata at that time?
Bivash Chakraborty: Theatre was witnessing its golden age at that time with people like Sombhu Mitra and Utpal Dutta in the lead. Not only theatre but also the overall cultural scenario, especially film experienced a revolution in the 1950s, owing to a global change following the Second World War. However, the trend continued: new generation followed older generations. When that generation stepped aside, Mohit Chattopadhyay, Rudra Prasad, Monoj Mitra, Ashok Mukhopadhyay and I came forward.

How was the cultural bonding between Kolkata and Dhaka at that time?
Bivash Chakraborty: Before the liberation war, cultural relations between Kolkata and Dhaka were not so warm. But after Bangladesh achieved independence, it fostered tremendously. In 1974, Bangabandhu



arranged a cultural fair and many cultural personalities, poets, writer and intellectuals and organisations from India came to Dhaka. My troupe Theatre Workshop then came here and we staged *Chakbhangha Modhu* at Bangla Academy premises. We were supposed to stage one show but the response was massive and we staged a number of shows. We also recorded the show at BTV under Abdullah Al Mamun's supervision.

What's your take on the influence of Kolkata's theatre on Dhaka?
Bivash Chakraborty: Kolkata's group theatre movement tremendously influenced Bangladeshi theatre. I first met Aly Zaker, Asaduzzaman Noor, Ramendu Majumdar at a party at our cultural attaché's house in

Kolkata.

Theatre personalities from Dhaka used to visit Kolkata to watch plays that influenced the cultural exchange. In 1971, a publication from Bangla Academy mentioned that theatre in Dhaka was inspired by *Chakbhangha Modhu* and *Rajrokt* – two major productions in Kolkata.

Do you see any change in the form of storytelling today?
Bivash Chakraborty: There are different kinds of drama and it doesn't necessarily have to tell stories. There are abstract types, but primarily its storytelling. It is a kind of presentation and being a performing art it includes a lot of things: art, performance, stage design, choreography, set design, story and acting. As the language of people changes with time, a certain change obviously take place in art -- and theatre, like everything else, goes through a natural change, though it is not always conspicuous.

How do you see the change of theatre in Bangladesh?
Bivash Chakraborty: At that time, there were both outstanding plays and mediocre plays and at present, it is still the same. But some troupes are pioneers in Bangladesh. Nagorik staged classics, while Aranyak focused on people and their struggles, and Selim Al Deen and Nasiruddin Yousuff brought a new trend in Bangladeshi theatre with Dhaka Theatre. I don't know much about young directors in Bangladesh, though.

Is it possible to take theatre as a profession in Kolkata?
Bivash Chakraborty: Like Dhaka, theatre is not professional in Kolkata.

Unless investors are investing money here and forming a structure, it can never be a profession. Theatre needs investment so that it takes the shape of an industry. Publication, music and film have become industries, but theatre is not, because no one invested here.

NASHID KAMAL to perform at IGCC



A CORRESPONDENT

Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre (IGCC) is organising an evening of Nazrul Sangeet by noted singer Dr. Nazrul Kamal at 6:30pm tomorrow at IGCC, Gulshan-1.

Nashid Kamal, granddaughter of the legendary Abbasuddin Ahmed, trained under music legends like Ustad PC Gomes, Ustad Akther Shadmani, Ustad Quader Zameere and Pandit Jasraj of India. She has been a reputed exponent of Nazrul Sangeet, semi-classical and folk music and Urdu ghazals in Bangladesh for over four decades.

Asian Paints, IRCON and Marico Bangladesh are partnering with IGCC in arranging the event.

“Wild is the hardest film I've ever done” – Reese Witherspoon

Hollywood star Reese Witherspoon has said her new film “Wild” was the most challenging of her career to date.

The Oscar-winning actress plays a young woman who goes on a 1,100-mile hike across the Pacific Crest Trail after the break-up of her marriage.

Based on the memoir by Cheryl Strayed, Witherspoon's role involves scenes of explicit sex and drug taking.

“It's the hardest I've ever done for many different reasons,” Witherspoon told reporters in London. “The physicality was really difficult, but after that was the emotional part of it,” she continued ahead of the film's European premiere.

“The sex scenes were the hardest thing for me to do. I've never had to do anything like that in my entire life. I had to do all the parts of the movie, the parts that made me feel uncomfortable too, because it is about emotional honesty,” the 38-year-old went on.

The actress, who also co-produced the film, has been tipped as a frontrunner for next year's best actress Oscar.

She previously won the award in 2006 for her role as Johnny



Witherspoon plays a young woman who takes an 1,100-mile hike after her marriage breaks up.

Cash's wife in “Walk the Line”.

“Wild” shows Witherspoon's character carrying a heavy backpack on a grueling 94-day journey of self-discovery across hot desert and icy mountains.

The actress revealed the backpack had originally been filled with newspaper, only for director Jean-Marc Vallée to exchange it for a heavy load to make her movement look more realistic.

Witherspoon told the BBC News website that she had benefited from having the real Cheryl Strayed on set during filming.

“In some ways I was a little scared that she would be watching and judging me. But it would actually help me get into the scene,” she said.

Strayed said that many of the conversations she had with Witherspoon had not been about

the making of the film.

“They were about our lives, our childhoods and relationships, talking about ourselves as mothers - everything from the mundane to the extraordinary,” she told the BBC.

“There was some [talk] about how to hook up the backpack, but the more important work was opening ourselves up to each other.”

British novelist Nick Hornby, who wrote the film's screenplay, said “Wild” could not be described as a so-called ‘chick flick’.

“It's about grief and heroin addiction and promiscuity and being really tough physically and mentally,” said the author. “So it's not really like any chick flick I've ever seen.”

“Wild” has its European premiere at the BFI London Film Festival later this month, and is released in the UK on January 16.

Director Jean-Marc Vallée's previous film, “Dallas Buyers Club”, won Matthew McConaughey and Jared Leto acting Oscars earlier this year.

Source: BBC

NEWSbytes

Foo Fighters unleash new single



Foo Fighters are officially back with new music, as the band unleashed the brand new single “Something From Nothing” to the delight of many on Thursday.

The song starts off innocently enough, with a sombre opening reminiscent of ‘Skin and Bones.’ But the song definitely picks up more attitude as it progresses.

“Something From Nothing” is featured on the band's upcoming “Sonic Highways” album, which is due in stores next month.

The band recorded the “Sonic Highways” album in eight US cities, visiting some of America's music capitals along the way. The group then used the interviews they did with local artists and the history learned while visiting each city to help craft the songs on the album. The band documented the process along the way and their HBO “Sonic Highways” series premiered last night.

Source: Loudwire

IT'S TRUE!



Aamir Khan is known in Bollywood (and beyond) for being selective in his works. He is said to work only on finalised scripts, and doesn't shoot for two movies in parallel. Films he has let go that have received acclaim (at the box office and/or critically) include Josh (replaced by Shah Rukh Khan), Nayak (Anil Kapoor), Taal (Akshay Khanna), Saajan (Sanjay Dutt) and Swades (Shah Rukh Khan). However, he was the first Bollywood actor to have had a film cross 100 crore mark with Ghajini, before he himself broke it with 3 Idiots.

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OCTOBER 18 & 21, 2014 OCTOBER 19, 2014 OCTOBER 20, 2014

STEPS Premises The Daily Star Center A.S. Mahmud Seminar Hall

Syed Grand Centre (7th Floor) Hall Room 2, Gulshan 2 64-65, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka

Uttara 7, Dhaka Dhaka, Dhaka

Time: 10am-6pm Time: 10am-6pm Time: 10am-6pm

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NEW Lifebuoy

A small change in habit can help a child reach the age of 5

Every year in Bangladesh thousands of children under the age of 5 die from diarrhea and other diseases. A small change in the habit of washing hands regularly with soap can reduce this mortality rate. You can bring in a change by adapting this habit and inspiring others.

Not as difficult as developing new characters in a story, a simple habit can reduce unwanted death.

- Selina Hossain

Global Handwashing Day October 15, 2014

For details log on to: f/lifebuoybangladesh

