

WHAT'S ON

Hay Festival Dhaka 2014
 Venue: Bangla Academy, Dhaka
 Date: Nov 20-22
 Time: 8am-8pm



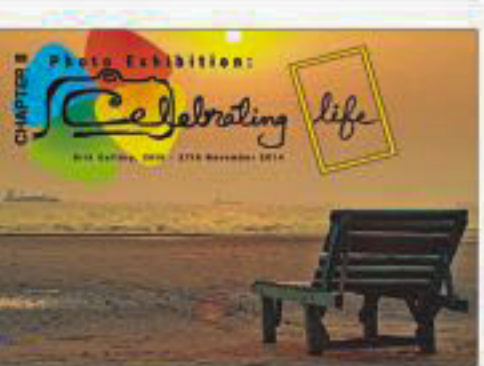
Bengal Classical Music Fest 2014
 Organiser: Bengal Foundation
 Venue: Army Stadium, Dhaka
 Date: Nov 27-Dec 1
 Time: 5pm -5am



Group Art Exhibition
 Artworks by 40 Eminent Artists
 Venue: Bishwo Shahitto Kendro Art Gallery, Dhaka
 Date: Nov 14-28
 Time: 3pm-8:30pm



Photography Exhibition
 Celebrating Life Chapter II
 Organiser: BMSS
 Venue: Drik Gallery
 Date: Nov 26-27
 Time: 3-8pm



Solo Painting Exhibition
 Title: Life is Here
 Artist: Kanak Champa Chakma
 Venue: Bengal Art Lounge, 60, Gulshan Avenue, Circle 1
 Date: Nov 15-Dec 6
 Time: 12pm-8pm



NEWS bytes

Wahlberg to play Six Billion Dollar Man



Mark Wahlberg is set to re-team with "Lone Survivor" director Peter Berg for a big-screen adaptation of classic TV show "The Six Million Dollar Man". Wahlberg will follow in the footsteps of original star Lee Majors in playing Steve Austin, a test pilot who is kitted out with bionic limbs and various implants in order to transform him into a super spy.

The title has been adjusted to "The Six Billion Dollar Man" and it is anticipated that Wahlberg will be even more technologically enhanced than his predecessor.

He will also produce the film alongside Bob Weinstein for Dimension Films, while the studio is currently seeking a writer to get a script ready to go for release in 2016.

IT'S TRUE!



Legendary tabla artiste Alla Rakha began his career as an accompanist in Lahore and then as at All India Radio in Bombay in 1940, playing the station's first ever tabla solo and elevating the instrument's position in the process.

He played as an accompanist for soloists like Bade Ghulam Ali Khan, Allauddin Khan, Vilayat Khan, Vasant Rai, Ali Akbar Khan, Hariprasad Chaurasia and most notably, Ravi Shankar. His spellbinding performances with Shankar at the Monterey Pop Festival in 1967 and the Woodstock Festival in 1969 served to introduce classical Indian music to general Western audiences. He also passed on his genes to his sons, one of whom, Ustad Zakir Hussein, is possibly the most renowned table virtuoso.

The wonder of the wordsmith Exhibition to pay tribute to Humayun Ahmed



The writer is gone, but his memories are not.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

To pay tribute to celebrated litterateur Humayun Ahmed on his 66th birth anniversary, Bangladesh National Museum (BNM) arranged a special exhibition "Humayun Ahmed Exhibiiton-2014" at the Nalini Kanta Bhattasali Exhibition Hall of Bangladesh National Museum.

The fortnight-long exhibition on the late writer opened on November 12 in presence of distinguished guests including Dr. Gowher Rizvi, advisor to the Prime Minister and Cultural Affairs Minister Asaduzzaman Noor. In addition, Humayun Ahmed's family members, including his wife Meher Afroz Shaon and brothers Dr. Muhammad Zafar Iqbal and Ahsan Habib were present at the inaugural evening.

As the event opened, fans of the wordsmith, donning yellow panjabi, gathered at the venue to pay tribute to their favourite writer in guise of his most popular fictional character, Himu. Humayun's portrayal of Himu made it the most popular character in contemporary Bangla literature that created a long-lasting impact on the readers. Inspired by the Himu, scores

of youngsters tried to mimic him and adapt to his bohemian lifestyle.

The exhibition enabled Humayun Ahmed fans to get a view of memorabilia such as his used tea-cup, spectacles, punjabi, his correspondence, manuscripts and heirlooms along with a rare collection of photographs which depict him at different stages in his life.

The overwhelming response of fans at the exhibition is reflective of the immense popularity of the writer among the younger generation.

Apart from the exhibition, screening of Humayun Ahmed's films is also taking place every day at the BNM, courtesy of Impress Telefilm Limited.



Those who are interested to take a peek at the writer's personal life can drop by at the National Museum. The exhibition runs as per the schedule of BNM and will close on November 26.

PHOTO: RIDWAN ADID RUPON



Eminent Litterateur Syed Shamsul Haq delivered the fourth Rabindranath Tagore Memorial Lecture organised by Bangalee Shamagra Museum (BSM) at the Poet Sufia Kamal Auditorium of Bangladesh National Museum. Professor Emeritus Dr. Anisuzzaman presided over the program while music composer Azad Rahman also attended. BSM introduced the lecture in 2011 on the occasion of the Nobel Laureate poet's 150th birth anniversary.



Nabanna Utshab observed by AKJSG



PHOTO: STAR

MAMUN-UR-RASHID, Bogra

Amra Kajan Shilpi Goshthi (AKJSG), one of the leading cultural organisations of Bogra, arranged a century-old traditional festival of the country, Nabanna at Wood-burn Government Public Library in Bogra town on Saturday evening.

On the outset of the cultural programme, a short discussion was held in the venue, following which it was inaugurated.

Dances performed by local artistes followed, after which sweets were distributed among the guests at the event.

Folk festival in Mymensingh

AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh

A folk-culture festival (Lokosangskriti Utsab) was held at Phulbaria central Shaheed Minar premises in Phulbaria upazila on Saturday.

The festival with the theme "Folk-culture is a bond of harmony" was organised by Parbon, a cultural organisation.

The festival included Lathi Khela, Ekdil Gaan (a new version of Kichha Pala), Behula Nachari (based on Behula Lakhindar), Jari Gaan and Puthi Path. Ekdil Gaan and Behular Nachari, by a lone performer supported by dohar, entertained the audience the most.

The festival has given the younger generation a taste of an old form of entertainment, said the organisers. Ekdil Gaan was once prominent in Mymensingh and Tangail.

Wearing flamboyant dresses, the artistes of Lathi Khela went through their moves to the rhythm of rare traditional musical instruments like -Boom, Kara, Joydhak, Konet and Patar Banshi.

Earlier, Dr. Aminur Rahman Sultan, deputy director of Bangla Academy inaugurated the festival.

Engineer turned music composer Tête-a-tête with Avipriyo Chakraborty



MD MIZANUR RAHMAN HIMADRI

Though his father wanted him to be an engineer, the BUET graduate was more interested in music. A passionate music lover, Avipriyo Chakraborty, chased doggedly after his dream and after facing many obstacles he finally realised his dream with the release of his debut album. The Daily Star recently caught up with the promising composer-cum-singer for a chat.

How did you become a musician?
 Avipriyo: From my childhood, I have dreamed of being a musician. As a mentor my mother helped me in pursuing this dream which is now coming true. My first music teacher was Pintu Ghosh and I trained in classical music under his tutelage for eight years. I also took lessons on Nazrul Sangeet from him. I am still training under my guru Rezwan Ali.

Tell us about your achievements.
 Avipriyo: When I was in BUET, I got the opportunity to write a song "Somoy Thomke Geche" for a music video. I was a bit nervous then as I was working with some noted musicians in the country. Inspired by them, I started learning the keyboard from Mansoor Ghani, keyboardist of the band Warfaze.

Who inspires you the most?
 Avipriyo: First of all, my mother and then Pandit Ajay Chakraborty whom I had been listening since my childhood. I am also influenced by acclaimed singers Pandit Ulhas Kashalkar, Pandit Bhimsen Joshi and Pandit Hariprasad Chaurasia. My favourite singers are Kabir Suman, Anjan Dutta, Arnob and Bappa Mazumder.

Tell us about your album?
 Avipriyo: It is a mixed album named "Avipriyo Ebong Murchhona" where I worked as a composer, musician and singer simultaneously. It features seven tracks and an instrumental. I penned six songs for the album and I also lead the instrumental. The album released under Incurtion Music on November 13. Besides, I am now working on my solo album "Avipriyo" to be released next year.

What is your aspiration?
 Avipriyo: I want to be established as a composer and musician and stay in people's minds through my creations. I also plan to go abroad to study music.



Paoli Dam in Dhaka

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Popular Indian actress Paoli Dam is set to act in a Bangladeshi film for the first time. She had only worked in a Bangladesh-India joint venture film, "Moner Manush".

Paoli is currently in Dhaka, where she will stay for a week as part of her work in the film "Shotta", directed by Hasibur Reza Kallol. She will be cast opposite Shakib Khan in the film.

She arrived in the city on Saturday, where the Mahurat of the film was held in a city hotel.

"Shotta" is being made under the banner of Taranga Entertainment, based on Sohani Hossain's novel "Ma". Bappa Mazumdar will direct music for it.

Meanwhile, Paoli's latest film "Parapar" was released in Kolkata last week. The Dhallywood audience will be waiting in anticipation to see what she delivers for them, after creating much stir both in Tollywood (through "Bedroom") and Bollywood ("Hate Story").

Erratum

The news-story titled "Musical on Tagore creations at National Museum" published in Star Arts & Entertainment on November 16 cited Prakash Chandra Das as DG of Bangladesh National Museum. In fact, it would be Faizul Latif Chowdhury. We deeply regret the error.

The students of BRAC's "Medha Bikash" participate in different co-curricular activities as part of the scholarship programme. Students recently attended a three-hour music class with eminent singers Akramul Islam and Sadya Afreen Mallik at BRAC Learning Centre in the capital's Uttara. The class comprised basic lessons on singing and interactive sessions with the participants. Medha Bikash aims at supporting underprivileged students, who received golden GPA 5 in SSC Examinations, continue their education by providing them with stipend and hands on training computer, mathematics and English. As part of the programme, higher secondary students from different parts of the country come to BRAC Learning Centre and stay there for two weeks for specialised training.



PHOTO: RIDWAN ADID RUPON