

**WHAT'S ON**

**9th Annual Theatre Fest**  
Organiser: Dept of Theatre and Performance Studies, DU  
Venue: TSC  
Date: Dec 1-12  
Time: 6:30pm



**Solo Art Exhibition**  
Artist: Proshanta Karmakar Buddha  
Venue: Café Mango Gallery, H-3/A, Rd-72, Gulshan  
Date: Nov 14-Jan 14  
Time: 10am-10pm



**Painting Exhibition**  
Title: Monochrome  
Organiser: Bengal Foundation  
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts  
Date: Dec 3-Dec 14  
Time: 12pm-8pm



**16th Asian Art Biennale Bangladesh**  
Venue: National Art Gallery, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy  
Date: December 1-31  
Time: 11am to 8pm except Fridays (3-8pm)



**Swiss Film Exhibition**  
Organiser: Swiss Embassy  
Venue: Goethe-Institut Dhaka  
Date: Dec 5-7  
Time: 6pm



# NEWS bytes

## The Script save woman from car crash



Members of band The Script rescued a woman from her car after she crashed on the M40 motorway in Buckinghamshire, UK. The pop rock group was on their way from London to a gig in Manchester when they saw the car hit the central reservation and spin out of control. Singer Danny O'Donoghue said the band ran to help, and pulled the woman out of her car once they saw smoke coming from the engine. O'Donoghue told Manchester radio station Key103 they pulled the woman out of the car once they spotted smoke coming from the engine. "The girl said she couldn't feel her legs. She was so weak, so we helped her to the side of the road, sat her down, put a jacket around her, gave her some drink and waited for the ambulance," he added. The band said the woman was a fan of The Script and asked for a photo before she was taken away in an ambulance.

Source: BBC

## IT'S TRUE!



Shooting for the Coen Brothers' film "No Country For Old Men" was interrupted for a day due to a smoke-cloud from the set of another film -- Paul Thomas Anderson's "There Will Be Blood" (starring Daniel Day-Lewis), which was also filming in the area.

# Depicting fabulous tales through a dance-drama

## Srishti premieres Badi-Bandar Roopkatha



The vibrant, entertaining play made many in the audience nostalgic.

PHOTO: RIDWAN ADID RUPON

**ZAHANGIR ALOM**

In our childhood, many of us have listened with rapt attention to the fabulous tale of "Ali Baba and Forty Thieves". Based on the legendary tale, Srishti Cultural Centre produced and premiered a dance drama titled "Badi-Bandar Roopkatha" at National Theatre Hall of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA). Renowned Kolkata-based dance artiste Sukalyan Bhattacharya planned and directed the dance-drama, with a witty, entertaining script by Sankar Talukdar.

A number of artistes of Srishti Cultural Centre and Nrityanchal joined hands to display the magic of dance; their movements, expressions and ingenious artistic caliber portraying the production fabulously. There were excellent uses of novelty as exemplified by dazzling costumes and props, apt use of 3D animation, fantastic set and light designs and great music. The Dhaka audience thor-

oughly enjoyed the production that took them down memory lane.

The myth of "Ali Baba O Chollish Chor" took on new shapes and dimensions in the dance drama "Badi-Bandar Roopkatha" that eventually highlighted the comedy of love between two slaves free from bondage. The central character Ali Baba, enacted by Shibli Mohammad, depicted the role of an honest person while Marzina, donned by danseuse Shameem Ara Nipa, was as beautiful as she was intelligent. She used her wiles to save lives. Abdulla, played by Anisul Islam Hiru, is an epitome of a frustrated lover whose melancholic manifestation leads us to the market of Baghdad where the slave trade flourishes. Kashem's (Sukalyan Bhattacharya) selfishness turned his brother Ali into a pauper who later found the gems and jewels hoarded by the robbers. The dance drama exposes the charisma of Baba Mustafa (enacted by Golam Rabbani Imran) and Marzina who steals the show.

Several celebrated Indian singers -Srikanta Acharya, Nachiketa, Jayati Chakrabarty, Raghav Chatterjee, Monomoy Bhattacharya, Lopa Mudra Mitra, Arijit Chakrabarty, Indrani Halder, Anwesha and others have lent their voices in rendition and elocution to bring alive the characters of the dance-drama.

Sukalyan Bhattacharya planned the stage while the artiste with Sudeepa Chakrabarty, Divya Kanti Sen and Ayub Ali designed costumes. Khirad Prasad Bidyabinodh, Salil Chowdhury and Joy Sarkar wrote songs for it while Joy Sarkar arranged music for the production.

At the end of the show, the cast and crew of the production along with noted litterateur Syed Shamsul Haq, Professor Abdullah Abu Sayeed, thespian Mamunur Rashid, actors Alamagir and Ferdous, actress Indrani Halder and musician Joy Sarkar came on stage and highly appreciated the efforts of those associated with the production.

## For the love of films ISIFF draws huge crowd on second day

SAURAV DEY

A day after its inauguration on Thursday afternoon, the 13th International Short and Independent Film Festival Dhaka saw a large crowd on Friday. Film enthusiasts and seasonal movie-goers alike thronged the venues to be a part of the short film extravaganza. People of all ages were seen standing on long queues at the Public Library Auditorium to buy tickets.

The festival ran simultaneously at five venues: Bangladesh National Museum, Central Public Library auditorium and the National Music and Dance Centre Auditorium of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, while the Russian Cultural Centre hosted a day-long film-screening session for children along with another venue being Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB).

Starting from 11 in the morning, three shows are being held every day. The second day saw screening of Swedish documentary "The Ice Dragon", Siberian tale "While the Wind Blows", Indonesian fiction "Thieves", Polish documentary "Cotton Dreams", South Korean animation "The Path of Wind", Russian animation "Stul", Bangladeshi documentary "Bangladesher Hridoy" and many more.

In the evening, the first ever Bangladeshi film made in Chakma language premiered. The film, titled "Mor Thengari" ("My Bicycle") has been directed by Aung Rakhine. Chakma king Raja Debashish Roy; filmmaker Nurul Alam Atique, many film critics, litterateurs and cultural personalities attended the premiere show at the Shawkat Osman Auditorium.

The film depicts the struggles of the indigenous Chakma community, living in the far-flung hill tracts. The 64-minute film puts marginal man Komol as the protagonist who returns to his village after failing to find a job in the city to support his family. Komol starts passenger transportation in the hills with his bicycle to earn money but faces many difficulties. Once he overcomes all the obstacles and starts earning, he faces a new obstacle as influential villagers demand an extortion fee. When Komol refuses their demand, they break his bicycle, shattering his dreams. In a country like Bangladesh, where many indigenous groups are on the verge of extinction, the film is a bold step to bring their lives to light.

Films from different parts of the world are being staged at the largest event of this region. The festival will run till December 11.



## Lalon Geeti ashor in Sirajdikhan



MUNSHIGANJ CORRESPONDENT

Lalon enthusiasts, bauls and people from different strata of life gathered at the Padmahem Dham in Sirajdikhan Upazila of Munshiganj to participate in the Lalon Geeti ashor that began on Friday night. In line with the previous years, Padmahem Dham has arranged the ashor this year. Eminent columnist Syed Abul Maksud inaugurated the event on Friday night. Film star Ferdous, Padmahem Dham founder Kabir Hossain, and large number of disciples and Lalon enthusiasts from Bangladesh and India gathered at the venue.

The festival has been taking place for the last ten years at the area, and now it has become a fair of Lalon enthusiasts. Lalon artistes and baul singers from different parts of the country participate in the festival.

## GRAMMY 2015 nominations announced

Ed Sheeran and Pharrell Williams kicked off the 57th annual Grammy Awards nominations by unveiling contenders in four categories on "CBS This Morning" on Friday. Both acts heard their names called, too. Sheeran peaked at the ballot -- so he wasn't too surprised upon hearing it, but seemed happy nonetheless.

It was an early start for Sheeran and Williams, who were on the West Coast to announce the nominations. Between 9 am and 2 pm ET, more categories were announced by the Recording Academy via Twitter, with various celebrities doing the unveiling throughout the day.

Beyonce, Williams and Sam Smith lead the pack of nominees this year with six nods each, including album of the year. Iggy Azalea, Beck, Eric Church, engineer Tom Coyne, Drake, Gordon Goodwin, Jay Z, Miranda Lambert,

Sia, Usher, and Jack White are not far behind with four nominations each.

Beyonce also made history by becoming the most-nominated



Beyonce

female artist in Grammy history. U2 is now the most-nominated group in history after receiving a nomination Friday for best rock album for "Songs of Innocence".

Miley Cyrus, meanwhile, received her first nomination this year -- "Bangerz" is up for best pop vocal album. The late Joan Rivers posthumously received a nod for best spoken word album for "Diary of a Diva".

Nominees for the biggest Grammy category, album of the year, were announced on "A Very Grammy Christmas", Friday night on CBS. The holiday special featured performances by Smith, Ariana Grande, Big Sean, Mary J Blige, Maroon 5, Williams and Tim McGraw.

Winners for the 2015 Grammy Awards will be announced February 8.

Source: CBS



Pharrell Williams



Miranda Lambert



Sam Smith

## Raima to star in "Ishq Kabhi Kario Na"



Breaking away from the 'serious' mould, Raima Sen will now be seen in a Bollywood romantic thriller. The actress has been roped in for Rana Bhatia's debut film, "Ishq Kabhi Kario Na", starring opposite Prateik Babbar.

"I play a filthy rich homemaker, Priya, who is happily married to Shekar and settled in Goa. A happy-go-lucky character, her life takes a turn once she meets Ra," said Raima. What has added to Raima's excitement is the fact that Prateik and she are good friends. "Both of us are looking forward to the movie. I loved his performance in Dhobi Ghat and think he is one of the finest actors today," said the actress.

The film, which will be shot in Mumbai and Goa, goes on the floors from first week of December.

Source: TOI