

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

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

Classical Music Recital
 Artist: Pt. Santanu Bandyopadhyay
 Venue: AS Mahmud Seminar Room, The Daily Star Centre
 Date: Dec 21
 Time: 6:30pm

Solo Painting and Drawing Exhibition
 Title: Shifting Sands
 Artist: Nasima Khan
 Venue: Bengal Art Lounge
 Date: Dec 13-27
 Time: 12pm-8pm

Photography Exhibition
 Title: On Boarders
 Organiser: Bengal Foundation and Goethe Institute Dhaka
 Venue: Daily Star-Bengal Art Precinct
 Date: Dec 10-January 04
 Time: 12pm-8pm

IT'S TRUE!



On June 7, 2003, when she was 19 years old, US actress Olivia Wilde married Tao Ruspoli, an Italian filmmaker and musician, on a school bus with only a pair of witnesses. She later said the marriage occurred in an abandoned school bus because it was the only place where they could be completely alone, as the marriage was a secret at the time. On February 8, 2011, she and Ruspoli announced that they were separating.

Charukala wears festive look

Birth Centenary of Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin

ZAHANGIR ALOM
 Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA) of University of Dhaka has worn a festive look marking Birth Centenary of Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin (December 29, 1914 – May 28, 1976), the pioneer of fine art and art education in Bangladesh. In celebration of the occasion, a three-week (December 11-31) Annual Art Exhibition has got many new dimensions and surprises. The exhibition, dedicating to the recently deceased eminent artist Qayyum Chowdhury, is a unique experience for the art audience, as they can view all the processes of art creations and productions by the seven departments. The departments are showcasing art pieces by the students while Zainul Gallery -1 and 2 are displaying artworks by the teachers. A big installation is



Guests and artists at the opening of the exhibition.

also placed at the bottom of Charukala pond. "We should go down memory lane to have a close look at our respective artistic efforts and contributions to judge what Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin did single-handedly for fine art, fine art education, and overall culture of this part of the world. Have we collectively carried forward the rich legacy that he left? We have to think of the country's citizens, fine art, art education and culture with a sacrificing mind beyond mere personal interests and pursuits," said Professor Nisar Hossain, Dean of FFA, DU. Amongst a total of 442 artworks excluding 10 installations, 35 awards including seven best media awards and seven experimental works awards have been declared. This year's "Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin Swarnapadak" (gold) has been awarded to two works -- one print and another sculpture

installation. Apart from this, Professor Samarjit Roy Chowdhury and Golam Mohammad Sheikh, a professor of Baroda University, India have been selected for Zainul Sammanona. On the birth centenary day (December 29) of the master artist, they will be conferred all awards and certificates. Professor AAMS Arefin Siddique, Vice Chancellor of University of Dhaka, will inaugurate a three day (December 26-29) Fine Arts and Crafts fair at 9am on December 26. Around 20 stalls have been invited to the fair for display of folk-themed works, aside from eight stalls by the departments. Starting at 4:30pm, many folk and cultural troupes will perform at Bakultala everyday during the fair. After the exhibition is over, two international seminars, zooming in on folk art and indigenous art of Bangladesh, will take place at FFA -- on January 5-6 and 11-12.

Pt. Santanu Bandyopadhyay to perform at The Daily Star Centre

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
 Noted Indian vocalist Pandit Santanu Bandyopadhyay will perform Indian classical music at AS Mahmud Seminar Hall of The Daily Star tomorrow (December 21) at 6:30pm. The artiste may perform khayal based on ragas -- Behag and Jog at the event.

Pandit Santanu Bandyopadhyay is the sixth generation artiste of the legendary Vishnupur Gharana. He is the son of the illustrious musician Pandit Amiya Ranjan Bandyopadhyay, who is the scion of the gharana. The artiste recently conducted a classical music workshop at the District Shilpakala Academy, Mymensingh where he gave lessons to 250 students on rare ragas and styles of his gharana. "The participants at the workshop were very interested to know about famous Vishnupur Gharana, the lone gharana of the sub-continent belonging to Bengal. My experience at Mymensingh was very good. I thought I had been conducting workshop and performing music at my own country," said Pandit Santanu Bandyopadhyay.



Music in its purest form | Classical Music Fest at Chhayanaut

ZAHANGIR ALOM
 A two-day classical music festival was set off at the main auditorium of Chhayanaut Shangskriti Bhaban through the rendition of National Anthem on Thursday evening. Eminent music guru Azad Rahman inaugurated the eighth Shuddha Sangeet Utshab. Khairul Anam Shakil, general Secretary of the organisation delivered welcome address. The festival, comprising three sessions, comes to an end this morning (December 20). Artistes of Chhayanaut began the music festival through performing kheyal based on a sweet Raga Madhuvanti. The rendition, set on teentaal, enthralled the audience. Iftekhar Alam Prodhan accompanied the performance on tabla. Chhayanaut guru Rezwan Ali directed the performance. Ebadul Haque Shaikat came next on stage to recite an evening Raga Puria Dhaneshree on sitar. Shaikat's jhala and tehal presentations were marvelous. Classical vocalist Bizon Chandra Mistry also rendered an evening Raga Hansadhwani at the festival. His vilambit bandish "Jay Mata" was on vilambit ektaal. The artiste beautifully performed a tarana "Tanum Ta Na Na Na" on teentaal. Later, he presented a popular thumri "Yaad Piya Ki Aaye", originally rendered by Bade



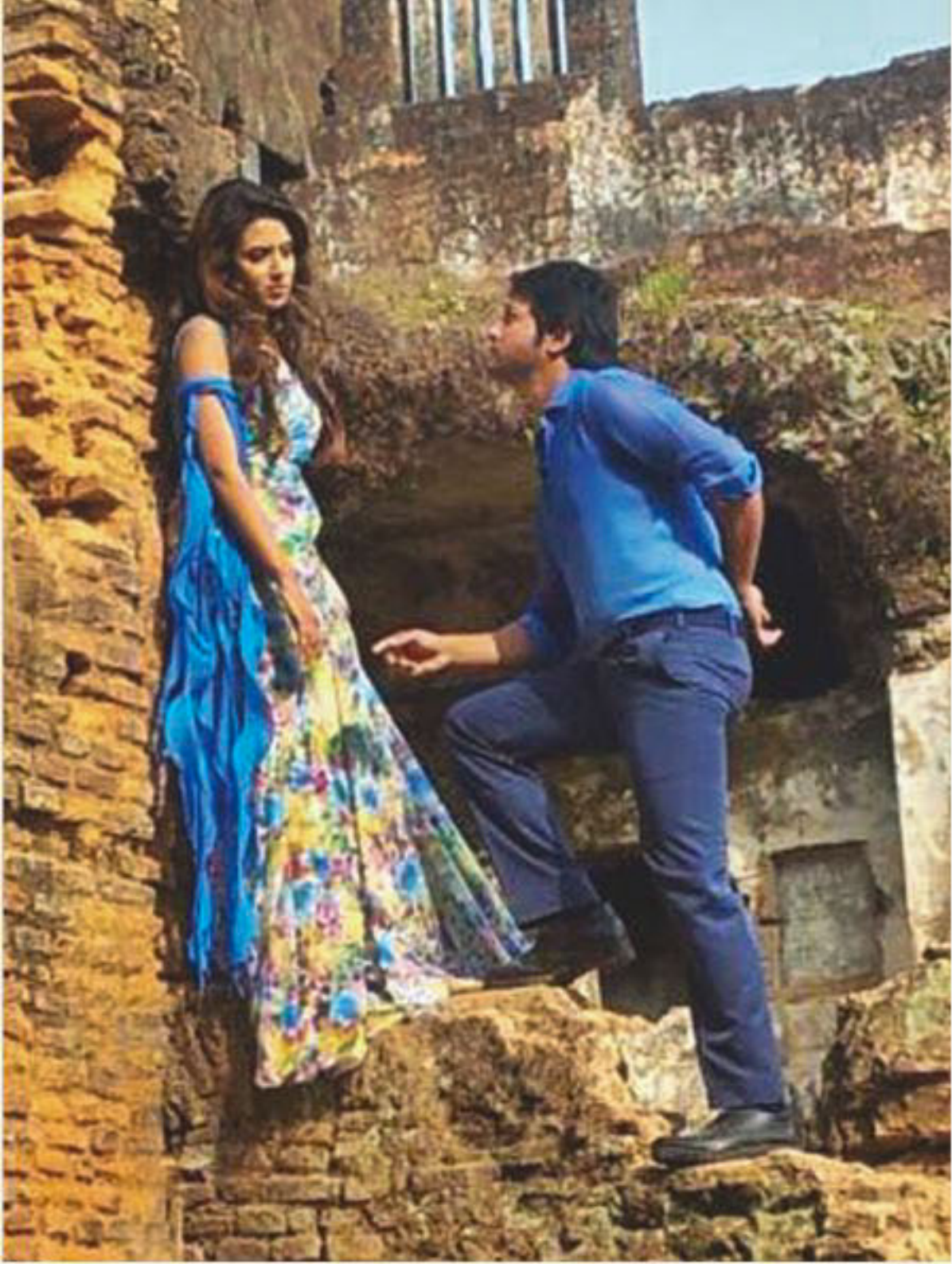
The evening began with a choral recital; (below) Amlan Halder (R) on the violin. PHOTO: RIDWAN ADID RUPON

Ghulam Ali Khan. Accomplished artiste Priyanka Gope performed a South Indian Raga -- Saraswati at the event. Priyanka started off her part with a vilambit bandish "Eri Mero Laal", composed by her Guru Pandit Arun Bhaduri. Her drut bandish "Khila Rahi Balana Balana Kalita" performance on teentaal evoked a romantic euphoria. Her speedy sargam and akar taan in three octaves, different-rhythm making taan and pukar won hearts of many. Later, the singer rendered a dadra "Rasia Mohe Bulaye" set on raga Kaushik Dhvani. Iftekhar Alam Prodhan accompanied both the performances on tabla. Satindranath Halder rendered vilambit and drut kheyal on Raga Madhukauns at the festival. Goutam Sarker on tabla and Bizon Chandra Mistry on harmonium accompanied the noted vocalist. Indian violinist Amlan Halder was the last performer of the first session. The artiste first recited a charming Raga -- Abhogi. His slow alap recital seemed like a butterfly coming out of its cocoon. His showcasing of ragadari, meend and pukar-ang was outstanding. Later, he performed Raga Jog and Raga Mishra Shivrjanjani.

Swarup Hossain on tabla embellished the performance. The second session of the festival started at 9 am and continued till 1pm on December 19. The session began with a choral dhruwad (based on Raga Bhairav) performance by artistes of Chhayanaut. Noted classical vocalist Sumon Chowdhury was the standout performer of the session. The artiste, first gripping the apt mood and majesty of the Raga Mian Ki Todi, enthralled the audience. The raga, created by Mian Taansen, is thought to be the best piece of musical prayer in late morning. He performed his vilambit bandish "Sab Nisa Barajari Karata" (on jhumra taal) and drut bandish "Ab Morey Naiya" (on teentaal). His weaving of the bandish together with gamaki taan, aakar taan, pukar and raagdari were fascinating. Later, he performed a popular Bhairavi piece "Baju Band Khul Khul Ja" at the session. Murtaza Kabir Murad recited raga Brindabani Sarong on his flute while Amin Akhtar Sadmani rendered raga Bhairav. Promising vocalist Supriya Das superbly performed a kheyal based on raga Bairagi. Mobile Phone Operator Grameenphone sponsored the festival.

"Charm of Korea VI" in Dhaka and Chittagong

As part of the cultural exchange programmes between Korea and the Bangladesh, "Charm of Korea VI" is being performed by the musical team consisting of nine musicians, on December 17, 18 and 20. This is the sixth event of the music series since last year to celebrate the long-standing friendship between Korea and Bangladesh. The music teams, consisting renowned pianist Lim Dong-chang, Korean traditional music group Noreummachi, soprano Park Sung-hee and pop star Maronnier, performed a variety of beautiful international, Korean and Bangla music including "Ami Banglay Gann Cai", at the Korean Ambassador's residence (December 17) and TSC of the University of Dhaka (December 18). The group will perform today at the Shah Amanat Auditorium in Chittagong, says a press release.



Bidya Sinha Mim and Emon seen shooting for songs for their upcoming film "Poddo Pata'r Jol", directed by Tonmoy Tansen. Emon informed that the big-budget project is being shot at the most scenic filming locations across the country, including Teknaf, Rangamati and various other places. The film is expected to release next Eid.



Even before the afternoon set in, the Concert for Kombol -- a unique initiative to collect blankets as tickets to a concert -- saw a huge crowd assembling at the Kalabagan Krira Chakra field. Dreek (top) was one of the earlier bands on the lineup, with the pile of blankets and warm clothes continuing to gather as the evening wore on and bigger bands took the stage.

PHOTO: RIDWAN ADID RUPON

