

WHAT'S ON

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 Buddha
 Venue: Café Mango Gallery, H-3/A, Rd-72, Gulshan
 Date: Nov 14-Jan 14
 Time: 10am-10pm

Musical Soiree
 Artists: Sanjay Roy and Eric
 Organiser: Amra Surjomukhi
 Venue: The Daily Star Centre
 Date: Dec 22
 Time: 5pm

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

NEWS bytes

Mirren looks for lost art in "Woman in Gold"



Upcoming film "Woman in Gold" is based on the fascinating true story of a woman's journey to retrieve a Gustav Klimt painting that belonged to her family before it was seized by the Nazis during World War II. The Hollywood Reporter exclusively revealed the first poster for the film, which stars Helen Mirren and Ryan Reynolds. Directed by Simon Curtis, the drama stars Mirren as the woman who teams up with a young lawyer (Reynolds) to battle for her family's possessions, which include the famous Klimt painting, "The Lady in Gold". The film also stars Daniel Bruhl and Katie Holmes. The Weinstein Co. will release "Woman in Gold" in 2015. Source: THR

IT'S TRUE!



While still living in her native land Colombia, Sofia Vergara used to watch the Spanish-dubbed version of the US sitcom "Married with Children" featuring her co-star-to-be Ed O'Neill. After she landed the role as Ed's wife Gloria Delgado-Pritchett in "Modern Family" nearly two decades later, she was disappointed to learn that Ed 'spoke' no Spanish. Sofia's role as Gloria in the vastly popular comedy series has earned her four successive Emmy nominations for Best Supporting Actress.

Message of communal harmony

Morshedul Islam's talks about "Anil Bagchir Ek Din"



PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi
 It is not the first time acclaimed director Morshedul Islam is making a feature film based on Humayun Ahmed's novel. He has done so earlier with "Durotto" (2004) and "Priyotomeshu" (2009). But what has primarily motivated the director to make his third film "Anil Bagchir Ek Din", whose shooting was completed recently, based on yet another story written by Ahmed set in the midst of the 1971 Liberation War is the message of communal harmony that saw people of all faiths fighting shoulder to shoulder against the occupational Pakistani forces for the emergence of a new independent country.

"Anil Bagchir Ek Din" is set in the middle of 1971. Fighting rages during the liberation war. Anil Bagchi, who works in an insurance company in Dhaka besieged by Pakistan occupation army, gets a letter from the headmaster of a high school in his native village where he studied, that broke the news that his father has been killed by Pakistani troops. Anil's sister Atasi, who has kept her affair with a Muslim boy under wraps, has taken shelter in the headmaster's house. The headmaster, however, asks Anil not to visit his house as the village is still not safe for young people. But Anil, breaking from his image of a person lacking courage, decides to risk his life and takes a bus to

the village. Morshedul Islam, who has 12 feature films to his credit since taking the Bangladeshi parallel cinema by storm with his two documentaries "Aagami" (1984) and "Chaka" in 1993, told The Daily Star what inspired him to make "Anil Bagchir Ek Din", expected to be released next March, was the humanitarian appeal and message of communal harmony emerging from Humayun Ahmed's story. He said the fight for liberation of Bangladesh itself is the greatest symbol of communal amity as Bengalis cutting across religious affiliations were equal victims of Pakistani army's atrocities and fought against it in unison. Anil Bagchi's story is just one of the

many examples of that. Replying to a question, the director said there were several real-life instances of Muslims either saving or attempting to protect the Hindus from marauding Pakistani troops during the liberation war. Produced under the banner of Bengal Creations Limited, "Anil Bagchir Ek Din" features Aref Syed, Gazi Rakayet, Toufique Emon, Jyotika Jyoti and Farhana Mithu in the lead roles. The cinematography is by L. Apu Rozario, editing by Ratan Paul and music has been composed by Swani Zubayer. Morshedul Islam has also used a part of famous Tagore song "Aaj Jyotsna Raatey Sobai Gechey Boney" in it.

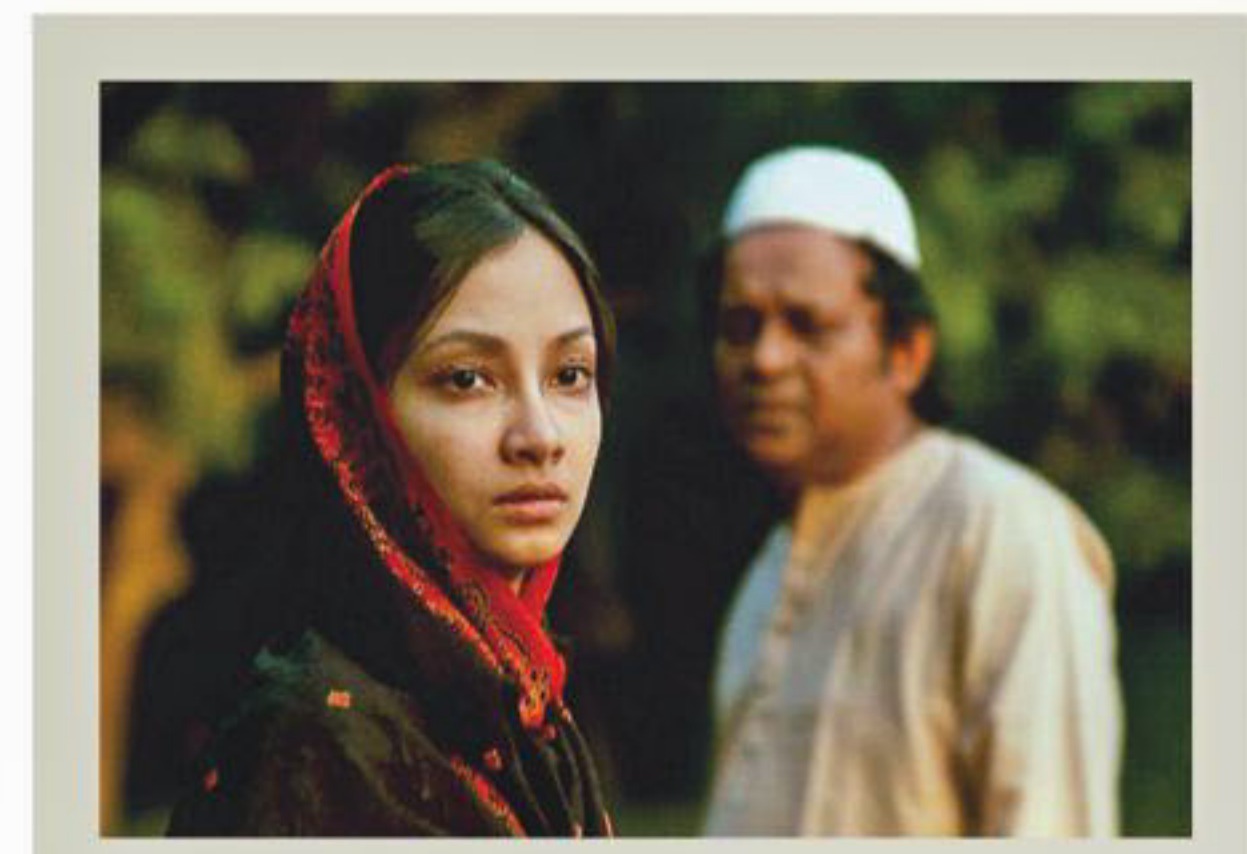
Homage to Juboraj

Bengal Foundation launches recitation album "Megh Balika"

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
 Bengal Foundation launched a duet recitation album, "Megh Balika" at its Café in Dhanmondi on December 20, as homage to celebrated theatre activist and elocutionist Khaled Khan Juboraj on his first death anniversary. Juboraj and Shyama Hye had recorded selected poems of Purnendu Potree, Joy Goswami, Sunil Gangopadhyay, Subhash Mukhopadhyay, Birendra Chattopadhyay and Nirmalendu Goon for the album. Noted singer-musician Bappa Mazumder arranged music for the album, produced by Bengal Foundation. Eminent thespian Aly Zaker with singer-musician Bappa Mazumder, Khaled Khan's Daughter Joyeeta, Bengal Foundation DG Luva Nahid Choudhury and others unveiled the album. Elocutionist Hasan Arif recited several poems featured in the album while Juboraj's favorite singers -- including his wife renowned Tagore singer Mita Haq -- rendered choral songs at the event, emceed by Luva Nahid Choudhury.



Guests at the CD launch.



As part of the "Wheel Liberation War Film Festival" on Channel i, Bodrul Anam Soud's film "Khondo Golpo '71", will be telecast today at 3:05pm. The film casts Subarna Mustafa, Raisul Islam Asad, Intekhab Dinar and Arnila Guha.

Korean artistes captivate Chittagong audience

ARUN BIKASH DEY, Chittagong
 When Maro and Para, the singer couple of Marronnier -- a pop musical troupe from Korea -- concluded their famous song "Cocktail Love", they were received by an ovation. There was more in store at a fascinating cultural evening on Saturday at Shah Alam Bir Uttam Auditorium of Chittagong Medical College in the port city. The artistes gave musical and instrumental performances that captivated the packed auditorium. Although the lyrics of the songs were not clear to most in the audience, the essence of the melody cut across linguistic barriers. The Embassy of Korea organised the programme titled "Charm of Korea VI" to mark the 41st anniversary of diplomatic relationship between Bangladesh and Korea. Apart from "Cocktail Love", Marronnier also presented songs



The audience thoroughly enjoyed the duo's performance. performances of the singers were appreciated by the audience. After Marronnier, Lim Dong

Chang, a famous pianist and composer, took the stage to enthrall the audience with his superb performance. Park Sung Hee performed songs while Lim played the piano. Noreum Machi, a Korean traditional percussion group, later came on the stage and played musical instruments including the flute, saxophone and drums. Ambassador of Korea to Bangladesh Lee Yun-young said that cultural exchanges will promote greater understanding between the people of the two countries. Last year, the Korean Embassy had organised five cultural events in Dhaka, he said, adding that the hospitality of the people of Chittagong heartened him. The Korean Ambassador urged the people of Chittagong to support the development of the Korean Export Processing Zone (KEPZ) in Chittagong. PHP Family sponsored the programme.



Madonna releases six songs from new album

One Madonna surprise follows another, as the Queen of Pop has dropped her forthcoming album, "Rebel Heart" -- with six new songs immediately available for purchase -- onto iTunes for pre-order well ahead of schedule. The arrival of the pre-order and its songs on December 19 follows a flood of leaks earlier in the week, where over 10 demo tracks from the album's sessions found their way to the Internet. "I was hoping to release my new single 'Living For Love' on Valentine's Day with the rest of the album coming in the Spring," Madonna said in a statement. "I would prefer my fans to hear completed versions of some of the songs instead of the incomplete tracks that are circulating. Please consider these six songs as an early Christmas gift." Among the six new tracks are "B***h I'm Madonna" (featuring Nicki Minaj), the reggae-ish "Unapologetic B***h" and "Illuminati". The diva has been working on the album for most of 2014, collaborating with an array of songwriters and producers. "Rebel Heart" is scheduled for release on March 10 through Interscope Records, and is Madonna's 13th studio album. It follows 2012's "MDNA", which debuted at No. 1 on the Billboard 200 chart. Source: Billboard

Banglalink announces "Bangladesh Utshab 2014"

Telecom operator Banglalink has announced a major cultural showcase, titled "Banglalink Bangladesh Utshab", to be held on December 26 at the Ramna Park. The announcement came on December 18, according to a press release. The festival will feature Tagore songs, poems and drama, Nazrul songs and poems and Baul songs of Lalou Shah to Gombhira and Bhawaia songs, Shah Abdul Karim and Hason Raja songs. There will be the traditional Jobborer Boli Khela, along with book fairs, putul nakh, nagordola and many elements of the traditional village fair. This festival is targeted to people of all ages. Present at the press conference were Sharfuddin Ahmed Chowdhury, Head of PR and Communication, Banglalink and Mr. Shafayet Alam, Director Marketing and Corporate Affairs, Huawei Technologies (Bangladesh Limited).



MALAIKA in new item song

Malaika Arora Khan, the quintessential item girl of Bollywood, will be seen in her umpteenth item number in upcoming drama comedy "Dolly Ki Doli", directed by her husband Arbaaz Khan. The song, "Fashion Khatam Mujh Pe" is composed by Sajid-Wajid, has been sung by Manta Sharma and Wajid Khan. Remo D'Souza has choreographed the number, which also features Rajkuamr Rao. Source: TOI