

<p>16th Asian Art Biennale Bangladesh Venue: National Art Gallery, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy Date: December 1-31 Time: 11am to 8pm except Fridays (3-8pm)</p>	<p>Solo Art Exhibition Artist: Proshanta Karmakar Buddha Venue: Cafe Mango Gallery, H-3/A, Rd-72, Gulshan Date: Nov 14-Jan 14 Time: 10am-10pm</p>	<p>Kathak Dance Festival Organiser: Kathak Nritya Sampradaye Venue: Chhayanaut Auditorium, Dhanmondi Date: Dec 24-26 Time: 6:05pm everyday</p>	<p>Solo Painting and Drawing Exhibition Title: Shifting Sands Artist: Nasima Khan Venue: Bengal Art Lounge Date: Dec 13-27 Time: 12pm-8pm</p>	<p>Photography Exhibition Title: On Borders Organiser: Bengal Foundation and Goethe Institute Dhaka Venue: Daily Star-Bengal Art Precinct Date: Dec 10-January 04 Time: 12pm-8pm</p>
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NEWS bytes

Kate Winslet eyed for female lead in "Jobs"



Kate Winslet is in negotiations for the female lead in Universal's "Jobs," the biopic of the late Steve Jobs. Michael Fassbender is set to play Jobs, while Seth Rogen is on board to play Apple co-founder Steve Wozniak. Danny Boyle will direct. Aaron Sorkin penned the script with Scott Rudin, Mark Gordon and Guyton Casady producing. The film is based on the Walter Isaacson biography and was originally set up at Sony before Universal picked it up out of turnaround when Sony let it go. Jeff Daniels is also circling the role of former Apple president John Scully, though no offer is in place. Given the pedigree of the project, it's no surprise Winslet was drawn to the role. She's already garnered six Oscar nominations and one win for best actress for her performance in "The Reader".

Source: Variety



Shilpacharya's birth centenary celebrations
A son of the soil remembered

AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh
Hundreds of visitors and young painters crowded Charutola at Brahmaputra Park of the town as a 13-day elaborate celebration programme marking the birth centenary of Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin began on December 19. The celebrations are aptly in Shilpacharya's home town of Mymensingh and will conclude on December 31. Brammahshaily, an art movement of young painters here organised the programmes on the banks of Brahmaputra River. Brammahshaily has constructed a first of its kind open art gallery at Charutola. The birth centenary celebrations include a colourful rally, discussions, an art exhibition and workshop, painting competition, photography exhibition

and screening of a documentary on Shilpacharya. A reception for eight eminent artistes of Mymensingh region will also be held for their contribution to the fine arts. Teachers and students of nine universities, including Dhaka University; Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin Fine Arts Institute and other colleges are participating in the open art exhibition, said artiste Hossain Muhammad Farook, joint convener of the celebrations. Eminent artistes Aloptogin Tushar, Shahjahan Ahmed Bikash and Biswajit Goswami will conduct an art workshop on December 25. Jahanara Abedin, wife of Shilpacharya inaugurated the 13-day programme. A discussion was held marking the opening session. Minister for Religious affairs principal

Motiur Rahman was present as chief guest. Terming Shilpacharya a pioneer of the Bangladeshi modern art movement, the speakers said Shilpacharya used art as a mode of expression on a range of subjects, focusing primarily on scenes of rural Bangladesh, the War of Liberation of 1971 and the Bengali famine of 1943, encouraging people to fight against oppression. Zainul was not only a promoter of modern art, he also worked tirelessly to encourage folk art in Bangladesh, the speakers said. "Zainul is the son of this fertile soil and we want to spread Zainul's works throughout the country from Mymensingh through various activities including establishing open art galleries," said artiste Saidul Islam, convener of the celebration committee.

A melodic game of gamak and meend
Pt. Santanu Bandyopadhyay performs at The Daily Star

ZAHANGIR ALOM
The Daily Star organised a solo classical music soiree at its AS Mahmud Seminar Hall on December 21. Pandit Santanu Bandyopadhyay was the featured vocalist who set off the soiree with a khayal set on a romantic raga Madhuvanti. Pt. Bandyopadhyay's vilambit bandish "Eri Mero Peyaro" and drut bandish "Manat Nahi Rasia" performances were embellished with soothing melody, speedy akar and sargam taan, pukar-ang murki, meendkhand, tehai and a harmonious game of gamak and meend. The maestro showcased unpredictable movements of melody comprising three octaves. Eminent music exponent and editor of Star Arts and Entertainment Sadya Aftreen Mallick delivered the welcome address. She called upon the editor and publisher of the newspaper Mahfuz Anam to greet Pandit Santanu Bandyopadhyay and other accompanying artistes with bouquets. Later, the editor also addressed the gathering. Pt. Bandyopadhyay presented another khayal based on raga Jog. He also wove the bandish "Sajan Morey Char Aayo" with mellifluous bahelwa and beautiful murki. Pt. Bandyopadhyay ended up with a tarana performance set on another romantic raga Behag. Kirity Bhusan Adhikary on tabla, Krishna Kanta Acharjee on harmonium and Dr. Fakir Sumon on tanpura accompanied the maestro. Later, an interactive Q & A session followed where noted Nazrul singers --Sadya Aftreen Mallick, Shelu Barua and Maidul Islam took part and the vocalist corroborated some issues, including vocal science. Pandit Santanu Bandyopadhyay is the sixth generation artiste of the legendary Vishnupur Gharana, the lone gharana of the subcontinent belonging to Bengal. He is the son of the illustrious musician Pandit Amiya Ranjan Bandyopadhyay who is one of the scions of the gharana. One of the most authentic exponents of khayal, Pandit Bandyopadhyay follows a distinctive rendition style of his own.



Santanu Bandyopadhyay gives a mellifluous performance. He is accompanied by Dr. Fakir Sumon on the tanpura.

Birth Centenary of Shilpacharya
Bengal exhibits selected Nakshi Kantha collections from Zainul Abedin



STAFF CORRESPONDENT
To mark the birth centenary of Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin, Bengal Foundation with the support of the artist's family, has been presenting a series of celebratory events. The foundation's celebration of this pioneer of modern art in South Asia and leading figure in the fields of art and culture of Bangladesh was launched with the release of a monograph, "Great Masters of Bangladesh: Zainul Abedin", jointly published by Bengal Foundation and Italian publication house Skira Editore. In addition, an exhibition was held at the Bengal Gallery that showcased the paintings by other artists of Zainul Abedin's family. Bengal Publications also released the Bengali-language book "Zainul Abedin" by

Abul Mansur. The monthly magazine Kali O Kalam has issued a special birth centenary volume. Working with the artist's family, Bengal Foundation has been preparing a series of exhibitions that will be shown at the Foundation's three exhibition spaces in Dhaka. The first of this special series exhibition will take place at Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, Dhanmondi, featuring selected Nakshi Kantha from the personal collection of Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin. Abul Maal Abdul Muhith, Minister of Finance, as chief guest and Jahanara Abedin, wife of Shilpacharya, as special guest, will inaugurate the exhibition at 6pm on December 23. The exhibition will remain open from 12pm to 8pm everyday till January 10, 2015.

Dividing lines, marking boundaries

FAYZA HAQ
Photography exhibition "On Borders" was inaugurated on December 10 at The Daily Star-Bengal Arts Precinct, jointly organised by the Goethe-Institut and Bengal Foundation. The show features the works of 10 photographers from Ostkreuz Agency, Germany. Every participant of the exhibit has been honoured with international or national prizes. The unusual perspectives show the lives of people along the borders. The display will be on till January 4. The border is an imaginary line drawn to mark geographical differences. Once the border is constructed, it can only be crossed at a checkpoint. In one of the photos, Lina Schroeder shows a Roma person wearing a reptile suit. There are two paradoxical symbols in one body: life and death, with only a few centimetres to divide them. The woman was deported from Germany in 2011. The Roma people were nomads who apparently had

their origins in India eons ago, and travelled aimlessly for reasons long forgotten. They have no country of their own. They are driven out of their homes, persecuted and relocated. Many live in poverty in Europe, in Italy, Hungary, Germany, Slovakia and Hungary. Two-thirds of them do not finish school. The representatives of the Romas are depicted in the photos as living in precarious conditions. There is one of them out



PHOTO: JOERG BRUEGGEMANN

Photography exhibition "On Borders"

of trees. More than 30 years ago, Catholics and Protestants in Belfast (Ireland) built walls to separate themselves from each other although they lived in the same city. In Korea, the communist north and capitalist south have been living in separate demilitarised zones, although they have the same culture that go back many thousands of years. In Sudan, the south broke off forming a state of its own, after 25 years of civil war. The wall in Germany that divided the country into two parts fell 28 years ago. In Germany, walls were not only boundaries, and those who went against the values of humanity were not able to contain themselves. Calcutta (present-day Kolkata) was once one, until the great force of Britain partitioned it in 1947, when villages were halved in two. In West Bengal, 30 percent inhabitants come from Bangladesh. The photos were taken by Anette Hauschild, Frank Bruggemann, Jordis Schlosser, Linn Schroder, Thomas Meyer, Ute and Werner Mahler.

Katrina-Ranbir Kapoor go geek for "Jagga Jasoos"



The first look of Ranbir Kapoor and Katrina Kaif-starrer "Jagga Jasoos" was finally revealed by none other than the lead actor himself, when Ranbir posted the picture of his upcoming movie on instagram, in which the duo seems to don a geeky look. They lead couple is seen with certain props in the picture. Where Katrina has the same hairstyle as "Ajab Prem Ki Gazab Kahani", Ranbir holds a prop that gives the look of a moustache on him, both in nerdy spectacles. The film directed by Anurag Basu, shows Ranbir's journey from the age of 19 to 40. The actor will be seen playing the role of a detective, who is in search of his lost father (played by Govinda) with his trusty aide Katrina. Slated for a mid August release, the movie is eagerly awaited by all Katrina-Ranbir fans.

Source: Indian Express

Oraq, Santal people celebrate their culture

KONGKON KARMAKER, Dinajpur
Students from the Oraq community celebrated their culture through a three-day programme in Panchbibi upazila of Joypurhat, which concluded on Sunday. Bangladesh Oraq Student Association (BOSA) organised the show at Panchbibi Jerka Adivasi High School. Nearly 300 students of Oraq community from different schools, colleges and universities of 10 northern districts participated in the festival. Dr. Tuhin Wadud, professor of Begum Rokeya University, Rangpur as chief guest, inaugurated the festival.



Proshanta Kerketar, president of BOSA, chaired the discussion. Victor Lakra director of Northern Foundation, Andrew Solomon and Dwejendranath Sarker emphasised the need to have an addition free society. Proshanta Kerketar said the aim of the programme was to promote the culture of indigenous communities. The students performed enthralling Oraq dances, song and poem recitation in their own dialect. Students from Rajshahi, Sirajganj, Naogaon, Natore, Rangpur, Dinajpur, Shylhet, Habiganj and Moulavibazar attended the programme and gave performances. Away in Dinajpur, students of the Santal community celebrated with a programme to promote their culture and tradition. Humayun Kabir DIG of Rangpur as chief guest inaugurated the programme at Santal Education Centre in Dinajpur on Saturday. Roni Hembram president of Santal Student Union said the daylong programme included cultural programmes.

Momtaz gives a fascinating performance



STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Celebrated folk singer Momtaz Begum, MP enthralled music lovers at a solo cultural event titled "Popular Life Insurance Seemanta Oikataan", held at BGB (Border Guard Bangladesh) Headquarters in Dhaka on December 20. BGB in association with ATN Bangla arranged the event marking BGB Day. The singer's repertoire included "Akashta Jodi Honto Amar Diary 'r Pata", "Agey Jodi Jantam Rey Bondhu", "Khairon Lo", "Nantu Ghatok" and "Bukta Phaitya Jaye" among others. Major General Aziz Ahmed, director general of BGB and Dr. Mahfuzur Rahman, chairman of ATN Bangla spoke at the event.