

**WHAT'S ON**  
 Visiting Art Critic Talk  
 By Marek Bartelik  
 Venue: Goethe Institut Auditorium, Dharmondi  
 Date: January 6  
 Time: 5:30pm

**Selected Nakshi Kantha Exhibition**  
 Collection of Zainul Abedin  
 Venue: Bengal Gallery  
 Date: Dec 23-Jan 10  
 Time: 12-8pm

**Book Festival**  
 Venue: Public Library, Shahbagh  
 Date: Jan 1-14  
 Time: 11am-8pm

**Art Exhibition**  
 Alluvial Return  
 Artist: Kalidas Karmakar  
 Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy  
 Date: Jan 4-16; Time: 11am-8pm

**Lecture on "Renewal of ancestral tradition"**  
 Guest: Heisnam Kanhaijal  
 Organiser: IGCC and Sadhona  
 Venue: IGCC, Gulshan-1  
 Date: January 6; Time: 5pm

**NEWS bytes**

**The Interview makes Razzies shortlist**

As the film business gears up to honor the best films of the year at the Academy Awards, the worst are getting recognized, too. The shortlist for the Razzies, which names the worst films of the year, has been obtained by awards site Gold Derby, listing some of the biggest grossers of the year, like "Transformers: Age of Extinction", and others that didn't do so well. The shortlist isn't a concrete list of the nominations — rather it's a preview of the contenders for the dubious honor.

Seth McFarlane's "A Million Ways to Die" looks



Like it could be the frontrunner for the awards, popping up eight times. "Sex Tape", which garnered mostly negative reviews, is listed six times. Seth Rogen and James Franco are both on the list for worst actor for "The Interview", as well as worst onscreen duo. Others who pop up several times include Kirk Cameron's "Saving Christmas", Darren Aronofsky's biblical epic "Noah" and Nicolas Cage starrer "Left Behind".

Voting for the awards end January 10, and nominations will be announced January 14.

Source: Variety



"Past, Present, Nature" is one of the films to be screened at the festival.

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

The eighth edition of the International Children's Film Festival will be held this year from January 24-30. Organised by Children's Film Society (CFS) Bangladesh, the weeklong festival will be held simultaneously in Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi, Sylhet, Barisal, Rangpur and Khulna and will feature over 200 films from 46 countries.

A press conference was held in this regard at the Liberation War Museum auditorium, where festival director Rayeed Morshed chalked out the details of the

festival. CFS Bangladesh chairman Dr. Muhammad Zafar Iqbal spoke on the occasion, as did General Secretary Munira Morshed Munni and filmmaker Morshedul Islam.

In Dhaka, the Shawkat Osman auditorium at the Central Public Library will be the main festival venue, where four screenings will take place every day — at 11am, 2pm, 4pm and 6pm. A total of 14 venues across the country will be hosting the festival this year. Each screenings will show multiple movies, all of which are open to children and their guardians.

The competition section for

Bangladeshi children filmmakers had 80 submissions, of which 30 are being screened, and five will be awarded by a five-member jury board comprising of children. A new category of Young Bangladeshi Talent has been introduced — where filmmakers aged 19-25 are participating, while an international competition has also been introduced, the jury of which will be headed by noted Indian filmmaker Buddhadeb Dasgupta.

A new section of the festival has also been introduced in association with the Canadian High Commission in Dhaka, on

social films. This year's theme for the category is child marriage. About eight films were submitted in the category, of which five have been selected and the best one will be awarded. A seminar on child marriage, with the High Commission's assistance, will be held as part of the festival at the Sufia Kamal Auditorium of the Central Public Library, on January 27.

The Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, Canadian High Commission in Dhaka, Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, Daffodil University and Somoy Television are partners of the event.



**Artists honoured by Mymensingh art gallery**

AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh

Four eminent artists of the country were honoured on the second day of six-day celebrations taken by Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin Sangrahashala (art gallery) in the town, marking the birth centenary of Zainul Abedin.

The artists were: Qayyum Chowdhury, Mustafa Monowar, Hashem Khan and Rafiqun Nabi.

The celebrations began on December 29 concluded on January 3, sources said. The six-day programmes included painting competition, discussion, handicraft fair, pitha utshab and cultural shows of traditional songs.

Asaduzzaman Noor, MP, minister for cultural affairs, was the chief guest on the second day.

Vice-chancellor of Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University (JKNIU) Prof. Dr. Mohit Ul Alam; National Museum Trustee Board chairman Azizur Rahman; director general of National Museum Fayzul Latif Chowdhury; and deputy keeper of the art gallery Dr. Bijoy Krishna Banik addressed the inaugural ceremony, among others.

Deputy Commissioner of Mymensingh, Mustakim Billah Faruqui presided.

**Manush Bhoot staged at Nandimukh Fest**

MINHAJ UDDIN, Chittagong

Theatre troupe Mangolik from India mesmerised Chittagong audience with their play "Manush Bhoot" on the second day of Nandimukh South Asian Theatre Fest. The comedy, directed by Samir Biswas based on the story of Syed Mustafa Siraz, was enjoyed by a houseful of audience at the Chittagong Shilpakala Academy on Saturday evening.

The play begins with a distressing scene where the family members of Botokeshto are seen waiting as his death news has just reached home from hospital. His son Ghonoshyam cremates the body in the city, as per the suggestions of village bigwigs, without even bringing it home for the last view of the family members. As soon as the funeral ends, Nibaron, Honna and Mandal, the three big shots of the village plan to misappropriate the assets of Botokeshto



A scene from the play. PHOTO: STAR

by tricking his naive son.

But a month later, at a night, Botokeshto returns home to the utter surprise of his family members—wife, son and daughter in law. He says he left the hospital without telling anyone, as he was not feeling good there.

Meanwhile, failing to find his father in the hospital bed, Ghonoshyam had mistaken a decomposed body in the morgue as his father, and cremated it. Family members keep Botokeshto confined in the house so that the return does not

create a scandal. Meanwhile, the village bigwigs come to their house one by one, tell Ghonoshyam his father owed them money and demand assets like land and gold-ornaments.

Hearing their false claims from his hideout, Botokeshto plans to scare the frauds as a ghost, and redeem his properties for his son. He appears before the three frauds and threatens them with dire consequences if they don't return the properties. When the trio complies with the order, Botokeshto leaves the house for good so that the villagers could never know what actually happened.

Samir Biswas and Somu Biswas played Botokeshto and Ghonoshyam respectively, while the Ujjal Biswas, Asim Bosh, and Habul Saha were also among the cast.

The Daily Star is a partner of the event.

**Afzal Hossain on "Raat Birate"**



A CORRESPONDENT

Tonight's episode of the off-beat street show "Raat Birate" will feature eminent actor-director Afzal Hossain. Walking through the streets of Dhaka rich with his memories, he speaks of various aspects of his life.

Hosted by poet Asad chowdhury and produced by Kaonain Sourav, "Raat Birate" will air at 11:25pm on Banglavision.

**IT'S TRUE!**



Identical twins James and Oliver Phelps auditioned for playing the mischievous twins Fred and George Weasley for the first Harry Potter film, "Harry Potter and the Philosophers Stone", without any prior acting experience. They eventually got selected after about six auditions, and portrayed the roles for the entire series of films. Taking a leaf out of their characters' books, the duo would often switch roles on-set without telling anybody. In January 2003, the twins also planted trees at the National Forest, in Leicestershire, to replace the wood that helped make the Harry Potter broomsticks, with the trees being birch and ash.

**Siblings Shruti and Akshara set for box office clash**

Last year, star cousins Priyanka Chopra and Parineeti Chopra clashed at the box office when their films "Zanjeer" and "Shuddh Desi Romance", respectively, released on September 6. Now, in all probability, another case of sibling rivalry is set to take place next year. This time, the Haasan sisters — daughters of the iconic Kamal Haasan — will fight it out at the box office. Shruti Haasan's next -- that has been directed by Nishikant Kamat, will release on February 6, 2015, while her sister Akshara Haasan's debut film "Piku" -- also featuring Dhanush and Amitabh Bachchan, will hit the big screens on the same date, as per the

studio backing the film. However, trade experts feel that even if such a clash does take place, it won't affect the business of the two films involved. "Unless two big stars' movies collide, such things hardly matter," says trade analyst Amod Mehra.

Interestingly, Priyanka and Parineeti were set for another clash a few months ago, when their films "Mary Kom" and "Daawat-e-Ishq" were scheduled to release on the same date. But to avoid the collision, the release of the latter was pushed at the last minute.

Source: Hindustan Times



**শীত জুড়ে মশার হাওয়া**

মশার কোনো খবরই থাকবে না

কারণ Xpel-এর জিরো মসকুইটো ফর্মুলা নিশ্চিত করে প্রতিটি মশার মৃত্যু। তাই মশার যন্ত্রণা ভুলে এই শীতের দিনগুলোও আপনার জন্য হয়ে উঠুক উপভোগ্য।

SQUARE TOILETRIES LIMITED

**Xpel**  
 AEROSOL  
 Leaves no mosquito alive  
 ZERO MOSQUITO FORMULA