

WHAT'S ON
Solo Art Exhibition
Artist: Biren Shome
Title: "Date Down Memory Lane"
Venue: Shilpakala Gallery, H-7, Rd-13 (New), Dhamondi
Date: Dec 27-Jan 10
Time: 12-8pm



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

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বই উৎসব
২০১৫
শিল্পকলা একাডেমী

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



Solo Painting Exhibition
Artist: Jamal Ahmed
Venue: Athena Gallery of Fine Arts, AJ Heights, Cha 72/1/D, Progoti Shorani, Uttar Badda
Date: Jan 9-31
Time: 10am-8pm (Closed on Mondays)



NEWS bytes

Ringo Starr to release new studio album



Beatles member Ringo Starr has revealed he is to release a new album in 2015. Starr made the announcement via YouTube recently: "I've finished my record, mixed the record and, next year, it will be out on Universal Records," said Starr before hinting that he may tour with his All-Starr Band this February and March. The album will be the 74-year-old's 18th studio LP and first since "Ringo 2012". The title for this latest record has yet to be revealed.

In an interview with NME in September, Starr asserted his belief that the rock genre will never disappear, and that bands will always "come through in the end." "The saving grace for me - I have to admit I'm not a big fan of the boybands dancing and that stuff - but the thing that saves me is there's always bands out there," he added.

Source: Internet

IT'S TRUE!



The first recorded attempt at building a digital camera was in 1975 by Steven Sasson, an engineer at Eastman Kodak. The camera weighed 8 pounds (3.6 kg), recorded black and white images to a cassette tape, had a resolution of 0.01 megapixels (10,000 pixels), and took 23 seconds to capture its first image in December 1975. The prototype camera was a technical exercise, not intended for production. The first commercially available digital camera was the 1990 Dycam Model 1. It used a CCD image sensor, stored pictures digitally, and connected directly to a computer for downloading images.



Nandimukh South Asian Theatre Fest Sanglap Kolkata's "Nirasroy" fascinates Chittagong audience

PRANABESH CHAKRABORTY, Chittagong
On the third day of the nine-day Nandimukh South Asian Theatre Fest, eminent Kolkata-based playwright and theatre researcher Kuntal Mukhopadhyay's highly regarded play "Nirasroy" drew a full house at the auditorium of District Shipakala Academy on Sunday. The theatre troupe Sanglap Kolkata from India staged the play directed by the playwright himself, based on a story of Sujit Sen. To celebrate its silver jubilee, Nandimukh organ-

ised the fest in which nine theatre troupes from India, Bangladesh and Nepal are participating. The head of Sanglap Kolkata, Kuntal Mukhopadhyay spoke to The Daily Star: "I am moved by the emotion, passion and spontaneity of the audience of the region. I think this region is also becoming a glowing example in the arena of Bangla theatre." Sometimes, human life goes through different curves of complexity and psychological warp. When some smooth, but unexpected developments occur in a

human being's life, their established beliefs are turned upside down. Depicting such a situation, the play unveils a different colour and aspect of the human mind. Couple Subinoy Sen and Kanta Sen are living contentedly with their offspring, but things change when Satya Mitra, a member of the central detective branch, reveals that Joyanta Roy, the former husband of Kanta who was believed to be dead, has returned. This causes much agony to the family that ends with the tragic death of Joyanta, who was earlier confined for 25

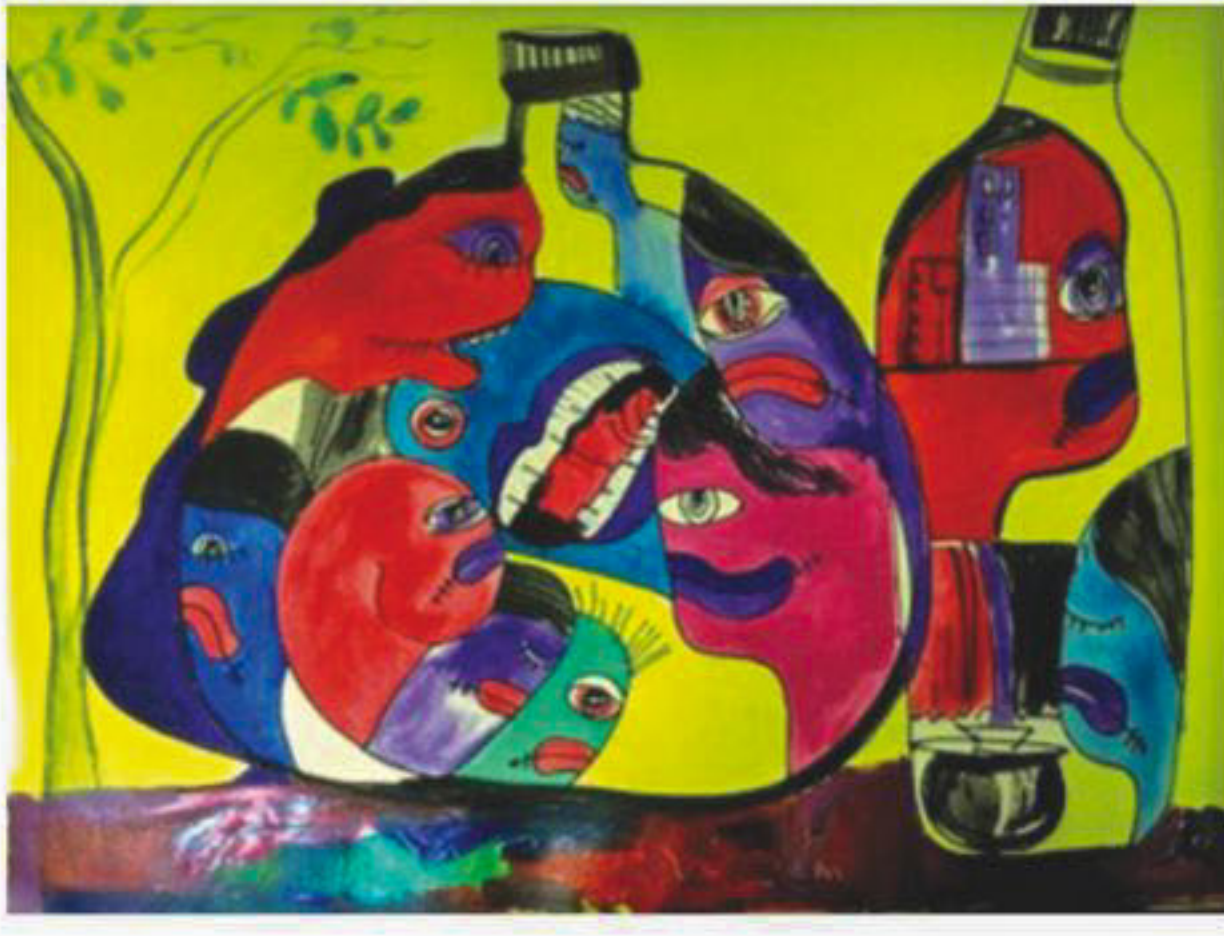
years in a jail abroad. Using simple sets with excellent use of light, the storyline is very moving. The roles of Joyanta, Subinoy and Kanta were enacted by Gurupada Mitra, Shankar Ganguly and Sharmila Basu respectively. Deb Chowdhury and Sharmila Basu designed the music and costumes. Abhijit Sengupta, chief of Nandimukh said that South Asia, India and Nepal have made enormous steps in theatre. The Daily Star is a partner of the festival.

Bangali Bishwamoy Suchitrita on Gtv

A CORRESPONDENT
The last episode of the documentary series titled, Bangali Bishwamoy "Suchitrita", will air on Gtv tonight at 8:05pm. This is the third and last installment of "Suchitrita" that features the actress' childhood, life and works. A number of big names of Tollywood, including Ranjit Mallik, will talk on the actress over telephone. "Bangali Bishwamoy", a regular programme of Gtv, features the lives and works of famous personalities who glorified the nation with their contributions. Arindam Mukherjee Rinku has produced the programme.



Tanvirul Islam Mithu's web show "Life on Line" on display



A CORRESPONDENT
Artist Tanvirul Islam Mithu's 3rd solo web show "Life on Line" is currently on display on his website <http://www.artistmithu.com>. The show, themed on life's lines, features 43 artworks by the artists, and was launched on December 16, 2014 in line with the Victory Day. Through his drawings, the artist has depicted the lives in motion. About the arts, Mithu said, "The lines, I have drawn for one person is different from that of another. I tried to draw the lines so that the dynamics of life are visible. They are not confined by any particular plan, they flow spontaneously."

ART CRITIC MAREK BARTELIK speaks at Shilpakala Academy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Internationally acclaimed art critic Marek Bartelik gave his first lecture on "The Emerging Paradigm in the Asian Biennales" at the National Art Gallery auditorium of Shilpakala Academy recently. Marek, a globetrotting critic based in New York and also the President of International Association of Art Critics (AICA), gave three lectures in Dhaka as part of "The Visiting Art Critic Talk Programme" of Depart, a biannual art magazine. Marek's lectures are part of an ongoing series of seminars Depart has conceived with the aim of expanding the disciplinary knowledge in the context of today's global art practices. His talks revolved around the idea of a biennale as an enlight-



enment project, which he believes, has been replicated across Asia without much thought. Marek concluded his session with the resolve that in

order to benefit the emerging artists, Asia must learn from the best examples for creating a balance between the local knowledge and the global surge for new art. Though this is Marek's first ever visit to Bangladesh, he is familiar with the region. He has been in Colombo, Sri Lanka, in 2013, as part of the organizing team and a critic presenting a paper during the international AICA seminar on art and gender representation. The second lecture took place at the Goethe Institut on January 6, where he shared his experience as an art critic writing for 'Artforum' and covering exhibitions for that publication from over 25 countries. The 3rd lecture of the series will take place today at Sufia Kamal Auditorium of Bangladesh National Museum. The lecture, being arranged in collaboration with the Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka, is centered on the state of the Biennales in Asia.

Bhola Theatre celebrates silver jubilee



A scene from Dui Je Chhilo Ek Chakor. PHOTO: STAR

JAYANTA KUMAR BISWAS, Bhola
A six-day theatre festival arranged by Bhola Theatre, a leading theatre organisation of the district, concluded recently, with staging of Dhaka-based troupe Natyakendra's "Dui Je Chhilo Ek Chakor".

Bhola Theatre held the festival celebrating their 25-year anniversary. At the fest, the other plays were Barisal Theatre's Tagore dance-drama "Chitrangada", Bhor Holo Shishu Theatre, Bhola's "Upanak Samachar", Barisal Shishu Theatre's "Otoppor: Hattimatim Tim", Bhola Govt. College Theatre Team's "Birpala", Natyam, Barisal's "Tilak" and Bhola Theatre's "Madhob-Malonchi Koinya". Before the show, thespian Tariq Anam Khan and Jhuna Chowdhury, presidium member of Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation, spoke at the closing ceremony. Nasir Liton, president of Bhola Theatre presided over. Deputy Commissioner of Bhola, Md. Selim Reza, present as chief guest, thanked Bhola Theatre for organising the colourful theatre festival in the district.

Are item songs on their way out?

Last week, it was reported that Kareena Kapoor Khan will be doing an item song in film-maker Karan Johar's next film, starring Akshay Kumar and Sidharth Malhotra. Apart from Kareena, nearly every other A-list female actor--Sonakshi Sinha, Shraddha Kapoor, Katrina Kaif, Vidya Balan and Priyanka Chopra -- have done such special numbers in films. However, industry experts now feel that item songs are losing steam, and are not as effective as publicity tools as they used to be. Filmmakers believe that such songs are announced to promote the film, but a few feel that they don't always work. "Announcing a collaboration with a big star for an item song -- even before people know about the film's subject -- is meaningless publicity," says director Anees Bazmee, who himself had an item song in "Ready" (2011). However, Bazmee also points out that it makes more sense if a star is roped in to do an item song. "People won't bother if a regular artiste does one. But when a star is engaged, the song becomes the talking point and a potential marketing tool."

Trade experts feel that sometimes lack of quality content creates the requirement for an item number in a film. "When a film-maker does not have much to promote a film, such an announcement is made. Interestingly, some film-makers, after shooting the song, struggle to find an appropriate space to add it in the film, and eventually play it during the rolling credits," says trade expert Vinod Mirani. The fan following of the star featuring in the item number is also kept in mind to boost footfalls in theatres, says



director Amit Sharma. "Big stars have huge fan following, and you never know how many fans of that particular artiste turn up in theatres just for the song," he says. Since adding item songs to a film is not a new trend, do people really look forward to them anymore? "No. That's the reason why so many big films are failing to succeed at the box office even if they have such songs. It has been overdone and does not excite the audiences. It is an illogical and senseless publicity effort," says Mirani.



Taking forward from Mirani's stance, Sharma believes that the trend will die out. "I believe it peaked with 'Kajra Re' (Bunty Aur Babli; 2005). Then it became a trend, and now it is overdone. Soon it will be gone," he says. Till the trend lasts, it will benefit the actors. "Even if the song fails to help the film at the box office, actors can demand huge amounts to perform the song at events," says trade expert Komal Nahta.

Source: Hindustan Times