

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



Art Exhibition
Chronology
Artist: Kazi Rakib
Venue: Galleri Kaya
Date: Jan 17-30
Time: 11am-7:30pm

Premiere of a Dance Theatre
Title: Watermess by Turongomi
Repertory Dance Theatre
Venue: National Theatre Hall,
Shilpakala Academy
Date: Jan 21, Time: 7pm

Group Art Exhibition
Title: Different Strokes
Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, H-60, Rd-
7/A, Dhanmondi
Date: January 17-22
Time: 3-8pm
Inauguration: Jan 16 at 4pm

Solo Art Exhibition
In Motion
Artist: Bishwajit Goswami
Venue: Bengal Art Lounge
Date: Jan 11-24
Time: 12-8pm

NEWS bytes

Coen brothers to chair Cannes jury



The Cannes Film Festival has announced that Joel and Ethan Coen will be presidents of the 68th edition of the festival. It's the first time two people will head the jury. The duo will be co-presidents of the panel of filmmakers and actors who will judge films in the main competition event of the festival. "We look forward to returning to Cannes this year," the brothers said. "We welcome as always the opportunity to watch movies there from all over the world. Cannes is a festival that has been important to us since the beginning of our career," they added. The fest is slated to run from May 13-24.

Source: Deadline

Dusky beauties and fishermen as muses
Exhibition of Jamal Ahmed at Athena Gallery



An artwork by Jamal Ahmed.

FAYZA HAQ
Well known artist Jamal Ahmed's muses are the dusky beauties and fishermen that people his works. His talent lies in quick sweeps that capture the beauty of the sand, distant horizons, the sea and fishermen. There is also the miracle of alluring beauties, which he sketches on paper. They take on realistic tones as they frolic with pigeons, beautify themselves with single flowers or wait for their beloved, in a tense, crouched fashion. Athena Gallery, in South Badda, presents the wonder of the crayons

and paints of Jamal Ahmed. The exhibition ends at the end of this month. In one work is a gypsy girl with a flower in her hair. She awaits her beloved against a vast expanse of sky and the land makes you dream and hope of a bright tomorrow with rain filled days. There is another young bare breasted woman clad in a cream sari with a red border. This dark figure stands out against a pale backdrop. Another bare breasted dusky woman is stunningly beautiful as she views two black pigeons on the floor. The sketch is in black and white.

There are women gathered at the water's edge - some are bare bodied, while others wear colourful blouses and saris. They are ready to take a dip in a river. Behind are yellow mustard fields which are poetically inspiring. Beyond are bushes and brilliantly blue sky. "From the River" has fishermen returning from the river. There is a sandy beach, a boat at sea, and a winding river beyond. This work too is an epitome of realism. Another work has Baul singers who appear to joyfully sing "Ochin pakhi kemney aashy jae" in the wilderness.



"Books give me a sense of epiphany"

... KOLPONA
A CORRESPONDENT

Masuda Anam Kolpona, a singer and teacher at Chhayanaut, has a whirlwind schedule. However, she does manage to snatch a few precious hours in which she reads voraciously or takes in a good movie. "I love to watch movies by my favourite actors and directors. I never miss watching a movie that is on my wish list," she says. Anam is also an avid reader. Writers like Buddhadeb Guha, Suchitra Bhattacharya, Sunil Gangopadhyay, Dan Brown and Jhumpa Lahiri are very appealing to her. "Reading books can make life beautiful but to find connections with real life stories is another facet that I enjoy," says Anam adding that Tapan Raychaudhuri's "Bangla Nama" holds her attention. She thinks there is a chasm between our perception of reality and actual reality. Plus to her the definition of life is hidden under those moments where an individual can differentiate between reality and expectations. She had learned this by reading variously. "I get a sense of epiphany when I read some books," she concludes.

HABIB lends his voice to a TV serial

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Popular singer Habib Wahid has recorded a song for a TV serial "Meghe Dhaka Shohor", written and directed by Rudra Mahfuz and Sakhawat Manik. Lyricist Zahid Akbar has penned the song, titled "Keu Bona Arakey Mukhosher Ghar, Jochhona Andharey Meghey Dhaka Shohor" that Habib recorded with singer Nirjhar. Eight years back, Habib recorded another song for the TV serial "Romijer Ayna". "I was inspired to record the song because it has a contemporary tone. There is a unique element to the song and I instantly started working on it. I hope the audience will enjoy the song," said Habib Wahid. "The story of the TV serial is really interesting. It captures present time. I took quite a bit of time to write the song according to the sequence of the serial. I worked with Habib Wahid five years later. If we get a positive response from listeners, we will be happy," said Zahid Akbar.

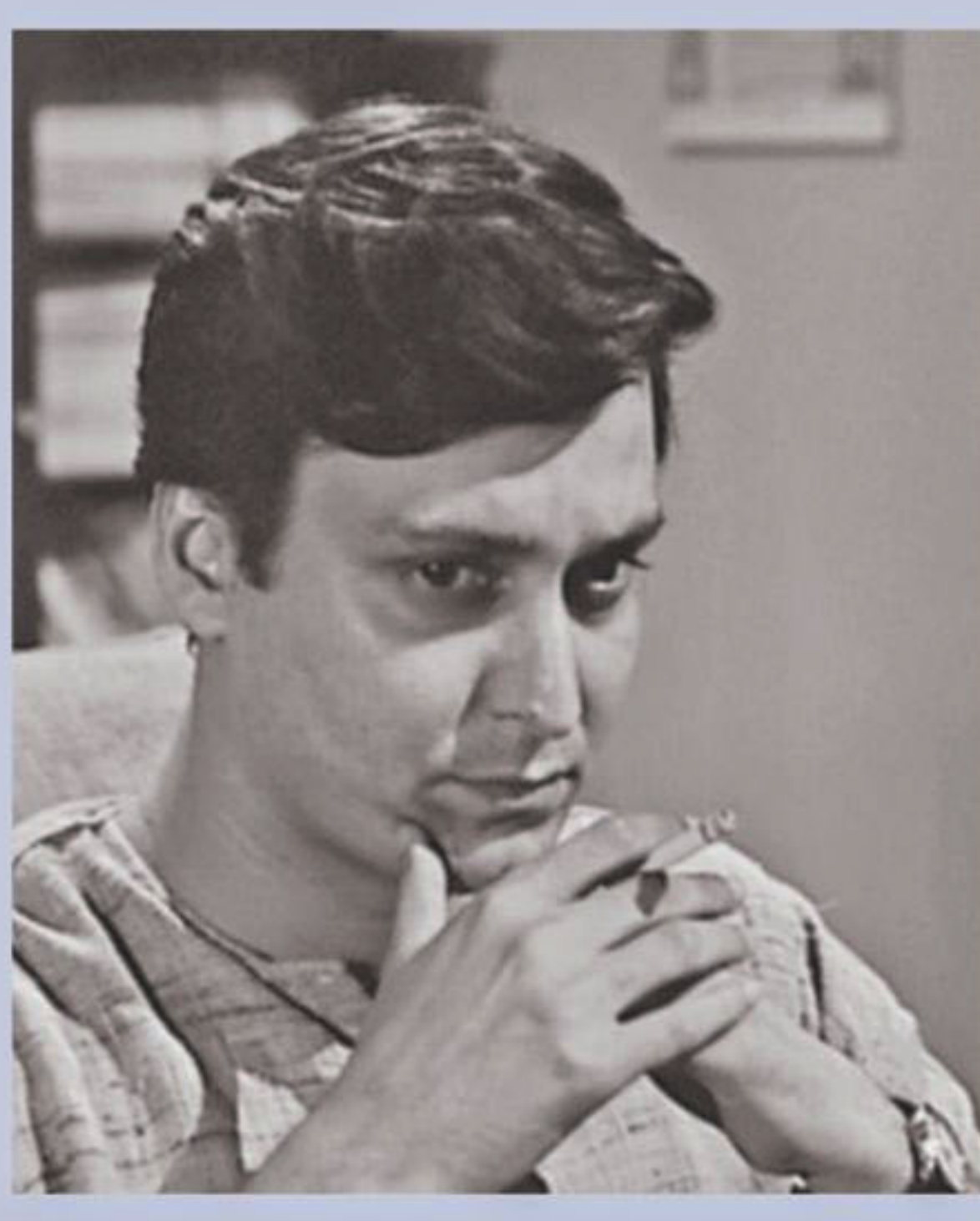
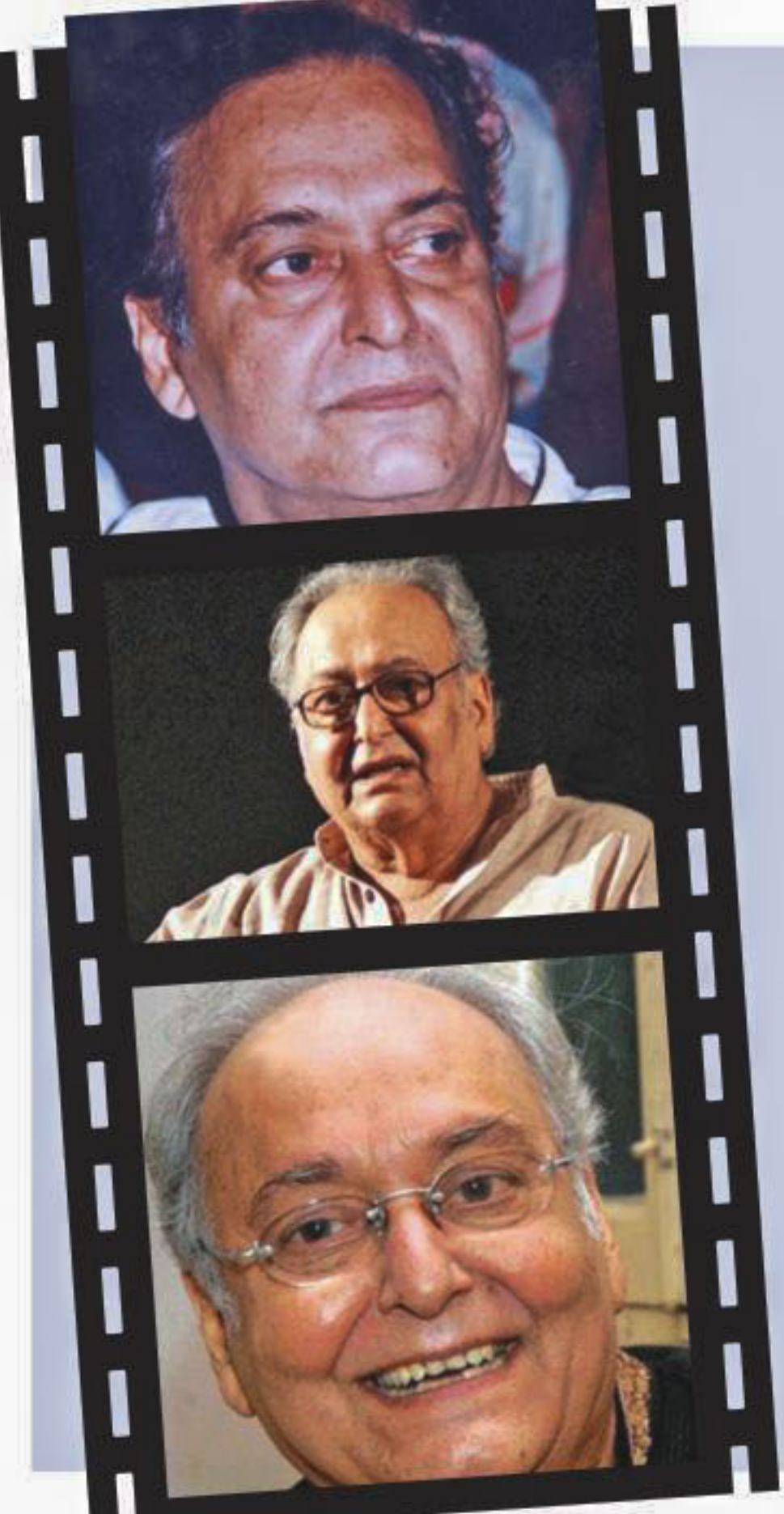


IT'S TRUE!



Emma Stone's real name isn't Emma; it's Emily Jean Stone. She chose the name "Emma" when she joined the Screen Actors Guild because "Emily Stone" was already taken. While she was an infant Emma used to scream hoarse every day which made her voice husky. Despite starring in the popular high school movie "Easy A," high school experience is alien to her. She was homeschooled from age 12 onwards and convinced her mother to move to LA when she was 15. To convince her parents about her Hollywood career, she made a PowerPoint presentation with Madonna's song "Hollywood".

Soumitra Chatterjee: Inspiring generations



Soumitra Chatterjee, a living legend of Bangla cinema, turned 81 years on January 19. Born in Krishnanagar, West Bengal, Chatterjee's father and grandfather were actively involved in theatre. Later, he moved on to Kolkata, and did his graduation in Bangla Literature from Calcutta University. While doing his post graduation, Chatterjee developed a fascination for theatre and appeared in a cameo role in a theatre production. Later, when he was working as an announcer with All India Radio, he met Satyajit Ray who was casting for "Aparajito". Ray was looking for new faces, and thought Chatterjee had the right appearance but was too old to play the role of the adolescent

Apu. Ray was impressed enough by Chatterjee and two years later approached the surprised latter to play the role of adult Apu. Chatterjee made his film debut in 1959 in Ray's "Aparajito". From then he never looked back. He went on to become the most popular actor of all time after legendary actor Uttam Kumar with whom Chatterjee had appeared in eight films. In an interview a few years ago, Soumitra said no other actor in India was as lucky as him. He collaborated in 15 films with Satyajit Ray; some of them opposite Sharmila Tagore. Chatterjee was featured as Feluda in "Sonar Kella" and "Joy Baba Felunath", and was the lead actor in "Ghare Baire".

Chatterjee's story does not end there. As an actor he kept on inspiring succeeding generations. He has a whopping number of credits in his bag; and of them nearly 40 films are memorable. Besides films, Chatterjee continued acting in Kolkata-based Bengali theatre, and even published over 12 poetry books. Entering the 1980s and 1990s, he started working with contemporary directors, like Goutam Ghose, Aparna Sen, Anjan Das and Rituparno Ghosh, and even acted on television. He is also a painter, a mentor and a man of great stature to whom the audience and the film fraternity of Bengal is greatly indebted. Compiled by cultural correspondent

Lakshyapar's 6th Conference
Aspiration to transform into a City of Music

A CORRESPONDENT
The 6th Annual Classical Music Conference of Lakshyapar was held on January 14-15 in Narayanganj. Asit Kumar, coordinator of the event, concluded the programme with his speech describing the city dwellers love for classical music. The programme took place at Narayanganj High School and College compound in presence of around 1,500 students. The conference was opened by chief advisor of Lakshyapar, Kashem Jamal, and was dedicated to Pandit Ramkanai Das. The first day, titled "Baahiraanaa", was based on a folksy theme. The programme included traditional Lathi Khela performed by a Kishorganj-based group, popular rural sports Dariyabanda and Ha-du-du with participation of students from the school. Later, a Dhaak playing competition was held featuring 10 dhaakis from Bikrampur, Faridpur and Madaripur districts. The venue of the second day shifted to Narayanganj Club Convention Centre. The programme was chalked out to celebrate the sub continental heritage of classical music. The programme, dedicated to Ustad



Sharmila Majumder performs at the event. PHOTO COURTESY: TALHA BIN ALI

Allauddin Khan, began with a classical vocal competition among the students of Lakshyapar Parampara, a free school of classical music. Twenty students, divided into two groups, vied for six spots offered by Haradhan-Sukhen Scholarship Scheme. The next event was Lakshyapar Lifetime Achievement Award that was awarded to

Maharman Ali Khan, a veteran trumpet player discovered by Lakshyapar from a remote village under Muradnagar of Comilla. While the crest was handed over by the District Commissioner Anisur Rahman Mian, a cash prize of Taka 20,000 was handed out by Abdul Hai, administrator of Narayanganj Zilla Parishad. The all night session of vocal and instrumental music performed by eight artistes from Bangladesh and India began with Alamgir Parvez from Rajshahi. The other artistes included Tapas Datta (raag Behag) from Chittagong, Supriya Das (raag Bairagi) and Sharmila Majumder (raag Jayjayanti) from Sylhet. Dolan Kanungo's recital of raag Yaman on Mohan Veena was special with an apt tabla accompaniment from Mir Naqibul Islam. Then there were Md. Maniruzzaman, sitar player Supratik Sengupta. In tabla accompaniment Sabuj Ahmed surpassed himself. Kasturi Bandopadhyay's kheyal on raag Bilaskhani Todi was soothing. Sweater garments factory FB Fashion continued to be the leading patron of all Lakshyapar ventures with Knit Concern. Substantial support also came from the district administration of Narayanganj.

Deepika and Ranbir reunite in Tamasha



Deepika Padukone and Ranbir Kapoor, whose crackling onscreen chemistry became a huge success in "Bachna Ae Haseeno" and "Yeh Jawaani Hai Deewani" will yet again be seen together in "Tamasha". Deepika along with director Imtiaz Ali recently visited Kolkata as the shoot of her upcoming film was underway in the suburbs. The film revolves around a nomad played by Ranbir Kapoor who bumps into a comic book lover portrayed by Deepika Padukone. The movie is slated to release around Christmas of 2016. Source: Indian Express