

Amar Ekushey Book Fair 2015  
Venue: Bangla Academy Premises, Dhaka  
Date: February 1-28  
Time: 3-8pm & 11am-8pm (Fridays)

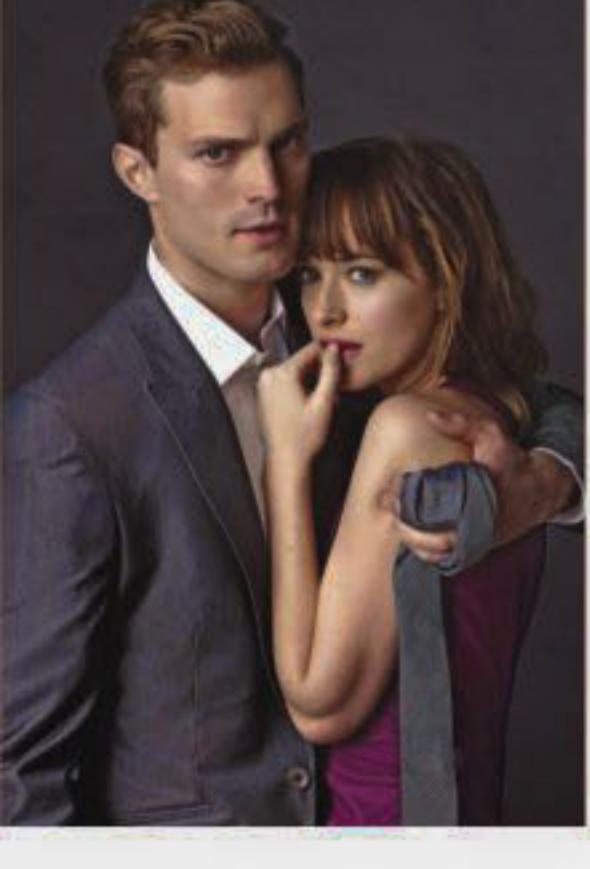
Concert Jatratronica  
Artist: Perera Elsewhere  
Venue: Jatra Banani Outlet  
Date: Feb 19  
Time: 6-10pm

Group Painting Exhibition  
Title: The Paradoxical Now  
Venue: Bengal Shilpalya  
Date: Feb 10-23  
Time: 12pm-8pm

Group Painting Exhibition  
Title: Taste of Light and Darkness  
Venue: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka  
Time: 6pm  
Date: Feb 7-22

## NEWS bytes

### Fifty Shades on Fire



"Fifty Shades of Grey" is dominating the North American box office, with early estimates pointing to a launch as high as \$85 million at 3,646 locations.

The film is on track to set studio records in nearly every market as Universal's highest-grossing late-night preview ever.

"Fifty Shades" appears to be outperforming even rival predictions of a weekend in the \$70 million to \$80 million range.

Marketing has been massive for "Fifty Shades," starring Jamie Dornan as a billionaire with a twisted mind and Dakota Johnson as a smitten college student.

The onscreen adaptation of EL James' novel is directed by Sam Taylor-Johnson from Kelly Marcel's script and produced by Michael De Luca and Dana Brunetti alongside EL James.

Source: Variety

### LADY GAGA to perform at Oscars

Lady Gaga is to make her Oscars debut with a "special tribute performance" at this year's ceremony.

"Lady Gaga is a once in a lifetime artiste whose musical evolution keeps growing," producers Craig Zadan and Neil Meron said. "We are proud to have her perform on the Oscars for the very first time."

Earlier this week, they announced that Jennifer Hudson would perform in one of "several musical sequences" at the ceremony on February 22.

The list of presenters also keeps growing. Here are the latest: Ben Affleck, Jennifer Aniston, Jessica Chastain, Viola Davis, Chiwetel Ejiofor, Chris Evans, Kevin Hart, Dakota Johnson, Jennifer Lopez, Shirley MacLaine, Sienna Miller, Chloe Grace Moretz, Eddie Murphy, David Oyelowo, Chris Pine, Chris Pratt, Margot Robbie, Miles Teller, John Travolta, Kerry Washington and Naomi Watts.

Source: BBC

## Reflection of beauty and heritage

### Mirror exhibition at Zainul Gallery

ZAHANGIR ALOM

Standing in front of a mirror, one looks forward to space to look for beauty. The reflection of beauty together with manifestation of our own heritage is on display at Zainul Gallery, Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA), University of Dhaka. Vertical Art and Craft Research organised the exhibition.

Flautist Md. Labu Mian, a flute seller and teacher couldn't resist the temptation to play Raga Basant, viewing the beautiful exhibition. Nissar Hossain, Dean of FFA, Professor Samirajit Roy Chowdhury and Professor Bulbon Osman attended the inaugural ceremony as guests on February 13. The co-

founders -- Dr. Azharul Islam Sheikh Chanchal and Md. Masudur Rahman of Vertical have depicted the crafts. Several wooden masks are also on display to diversify the exhibition contents.

These might be called fusion works as the traditional forms have been reshaped. The colours of the mirrors designed with traditional musical instruments evoke an aesthetic melody. The making processes include burning of wood, applying of various media and ornamentation with brass, stone and many more.

"Inspired by motifs, designs and vivacious colours of rickshaw painting, we have incorporated forms like birds, flowers, fishes,

shrubs, buffalo's head, peacock and several musical instruments including ektara, dotara, kartal, tanpura, flute and sarod in designing 61 unique mirrors that represent our opulent heritage and culture. As mirror is a utility object, we tried to portray those conferring with furniture and generalized ambience of a drawing room, living room and balcony. We used the best mirrors to complete the works, and yet kept the prices reasonable" said Dr. Azharul Islam Sheikh Chanchal, Chairman of Department of Ceramics of FFA.

The exhibition, open from 12pm to 8pm every day, will conclude on February 22.



PHOTO: STAR

## AMITABH joins the commentary box

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

Bollywood veteran Amitabh Bachchan yesterday made his debut as a cricket commentator in the high-voltage match between India and Pakistan in the World Cup Cricket match at Adelaide, Australia

Bachchan, 72, joined the likes of former Indian cricketers Rahul Dravid, Kapil Dev and Arun Lal and ace commentator Harsha Bhogle in the commentary box.

The credit for the idea of presenting Bachchan in this new role goes to filmmaker R Balki who has directed the actor in films like 'Cheeni Kum', 'Paa' and 'Shamitabh'.

Before entering the commentary box, Bachchan had been practicing for the opening match of the two countries.

Bachchan's impressive debut in a new role as a cricket commentator earned him plaudits from several Bollywood stars.

While it is quite common to see film stars in Indian subcontinent

going to the stadium to watch cricket matches, this is the first time an actor has commented.

Bachchan started his stint with the airwave with former India cricket captain Kapil Dev and ex-Pakistan fast

bowler Shoaib Akhtar in the pre-match show. He then made his way into the commentary box with Akash Chopra, another former Indian cricketer, and Akhtar.

Trying to get his field placements right and making sharp comments about opener Shikhar Dhawan's technique against the short ball, Bachchan seemed to pick up the ropes of commentary pretty quickly.

Kapil soon joined the Bollywood legend in the box and the Haryana hurricane egged on the actor to keep up the good work.

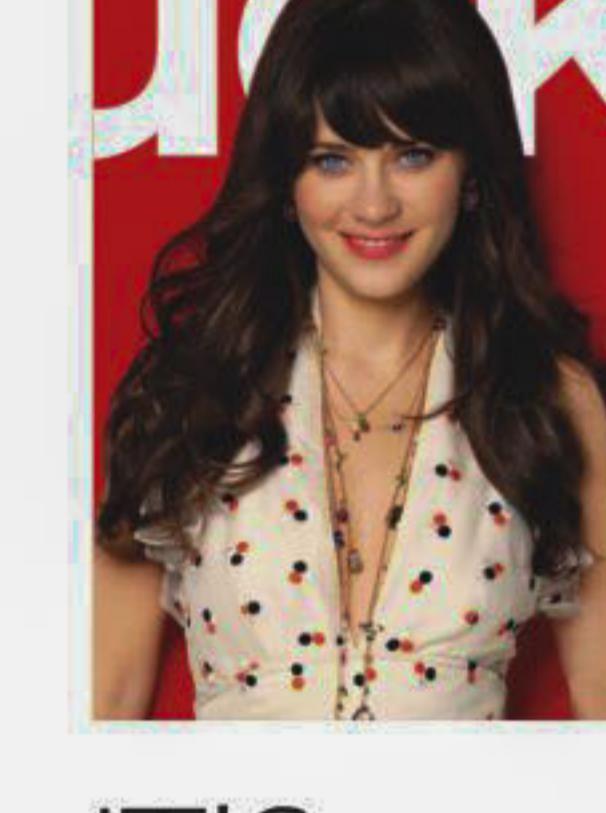
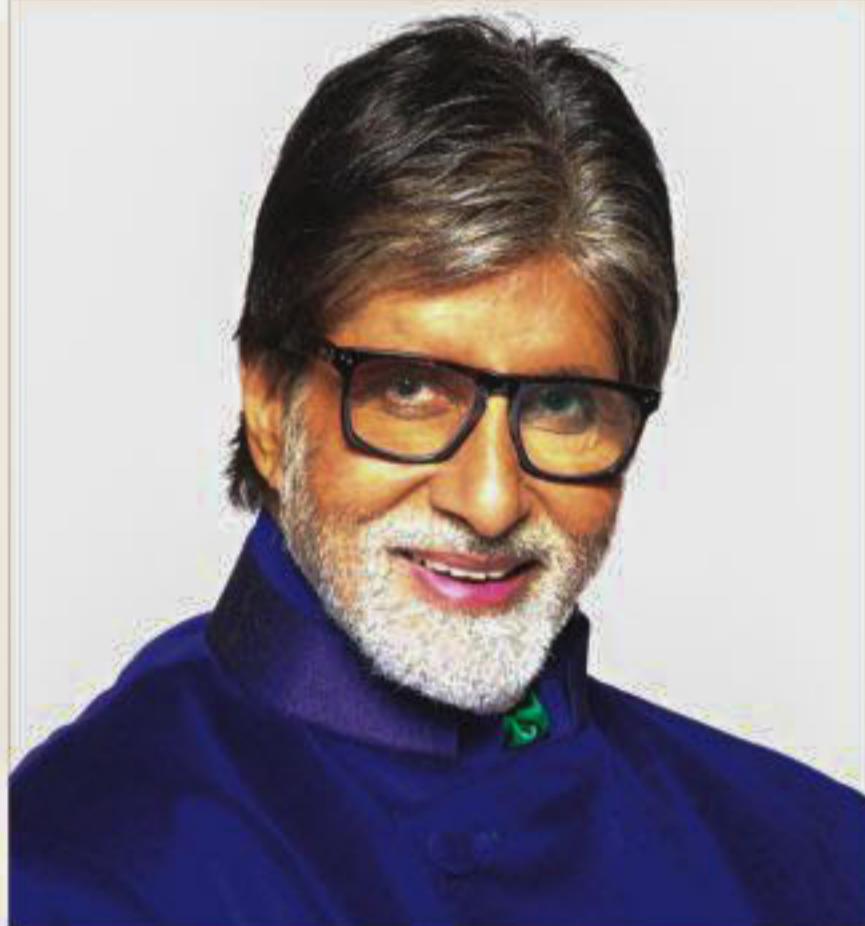
Bachchan discussed with other Indian commentators India's winning moments in the World Cup.

Sitting in the Hindi commentary box for the first half-hour of the match, Bachchan not only saw a six from the bat of Indian opener Shikhar Dhawan but was also witness to fall of Rohit Sharma's wicket in the eighth over off Sohail Khan.

Amitabh, who seemed to have enjoyed his first-ever commentary stint, was ironically rejected for his baritone by All India Radio (AIR) in late 1960s before he became an actor.

Like any superstitious sportsman, Bachchan also revealed that India seldom won a game with him watching. The veteran actor thanked the experts and the fans for providing him a unique opportunity.

"Thank you for having me here. It was a unique opportunity for me and I thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Hope India wins," Amitabh (who spoke in Hindi) signed off.



IT'S TRUE!

One of the rare artistes to be nominated for Grammys, Golden Globe and Emmy awards, Zooey Deschanel is the daughter of Academy Award-nominated cinematographer-director Caleb Deschanel and actress Mary Jo Deschanel. Deschanel attended Crossroads, a private preparatory school in Santa Monica, California, where she befriended future co-stars Jake Gyllenhaal and Kate Hudson. Many people don't know this, but the role of Dr. Temperance Brennan on popular TV series "Bones" is played by her elder sister, Emily Deschanel.



A CORRESPONDENT

Actress-model Maria Nur will host Ekhanei.Com Cricket Extra 2015 on Gtv. Thirty-six episodes of the show are airing from February 14 to March 29. Each episode of the show is segmented in three parts, and the show will feature former cricketers, media personalities and showbiz stars.



## Mymensingh Shilpkala Academy welcomes Spring

AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh

Through a musical soiree and dance sequences, artistes of Mymensingh Shilpkala Academy welcomed Spring at a programme at its auditorium Saturday evening.

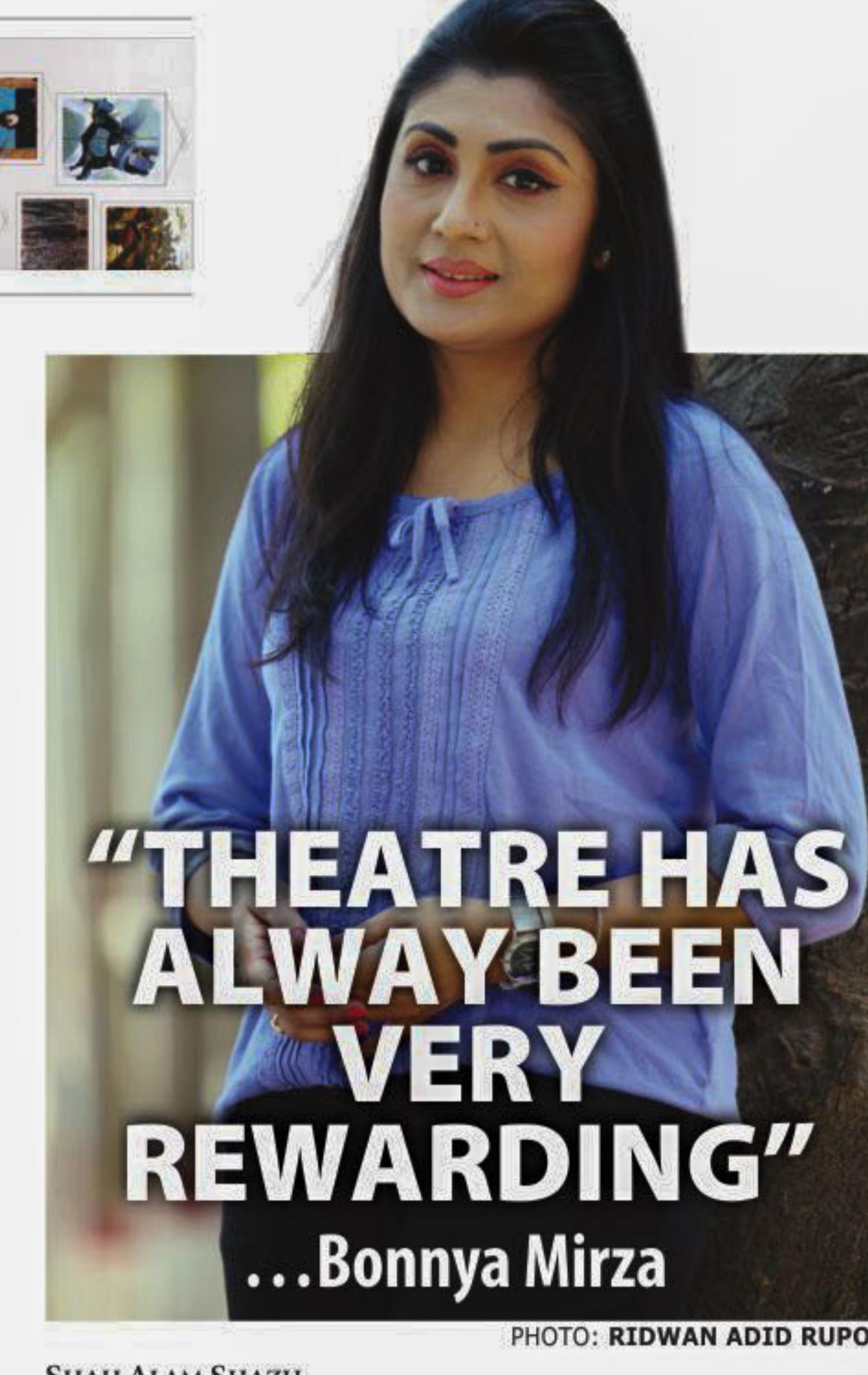
Artistes, dressed in bright clothes, enthralled the audience with their performances of songs of Tagore and Nazrul, and dances set to popular Bengali songs.

Deputy Commissioner of Mymensingh, Mustakim Billah Faruqui was the chief guest at the opening session of the festival.

Speakers termed the event a celebration where people irrespective of caste, creed, religions and sections participate to go back to their roots. Such festival is a part of our traditional culture and heritage, they added.



An emotional Hana Saeidi accepts the Golden Bear on behalf of his uncle Jafar Panahi, who is unable to leave Iran since his 2010 conviction on charges of 'making propaganda' against the country's ruling system.



"THEATRE HAS ALWAYS BEEN VERY REWARDING" ...Bonnya Mirza

PHOTO: RIDWAN ADID RUPON

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Celebrated actress Bonnya Mirza has taken to the stage again, even as a new TV serial keeps her busy. In an informal chat with The Daily Star, Bonnya talks about her comeback to theatre, the TV scene in the country and opens up about herself.

How does it feel to be back in the theatre world?

Bonnya Mirza: After four years I have returned to the arena with Desh Notak's play "Dorpone Sharatshashi". It's a good feeling to be back to my favourite medium. Theatre has always been very rewarding.

Do you plan to be a regular on the stage?

Bonnya Mirza: I hope audiences will see more of me on the stage.

Tell us about your new drama serial...

Bonnya Mirza: "Saat Ti Tarar Timir" has a very strong plot. It is always a great experience working with a director of the calibre of Afsana Mimi. The series has greatly entertained audiences.

What else is keeping you busy at the moment?

Bonnya Mirza: I'm emceeing a programme "Ekattor er Shokal" on Ekattor Television, and a culinary show on Rtv. Besides acting, I'm really enjoying the role of an anchor.

Is the country's current political situation throwing a damper on the TV industry?

Bonnya Mirza: Not a lot of outdoor shooting can be held now, due to the political situation. As a result shooting schedules for TV plays often go haywire.

How do you spend your leisure time?

Bonnya Mirza: When there is no shooting, I spend the day with my family. Sometimes I read my favourite books or hang out with friends.

What are you reading at the moment?

Bonnya Mirza: "Selected works of Rumi".

## Maria to host CRICKET EXTRA



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