

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



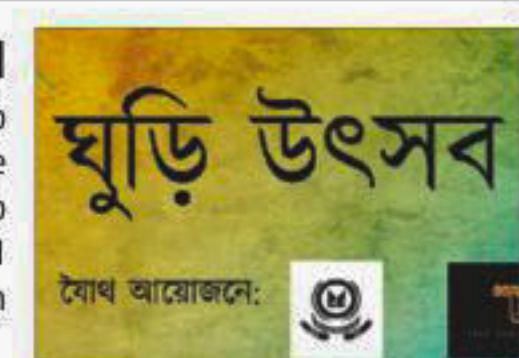
Group Painting Exhibition
Title: The Paradoxical Now
Venue: Bengal Shilpalaya
Date: Feb 10-23
Time: 12pm-8pm



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



Kite Festival
Ekushey Ghuri Utsab
Organiser: Project Be
Venue: Gulshan Youth Club
Date: Feb 21
Time: 3-6pm



NEWS *bytes*

Deadpool casts
Gina Carano

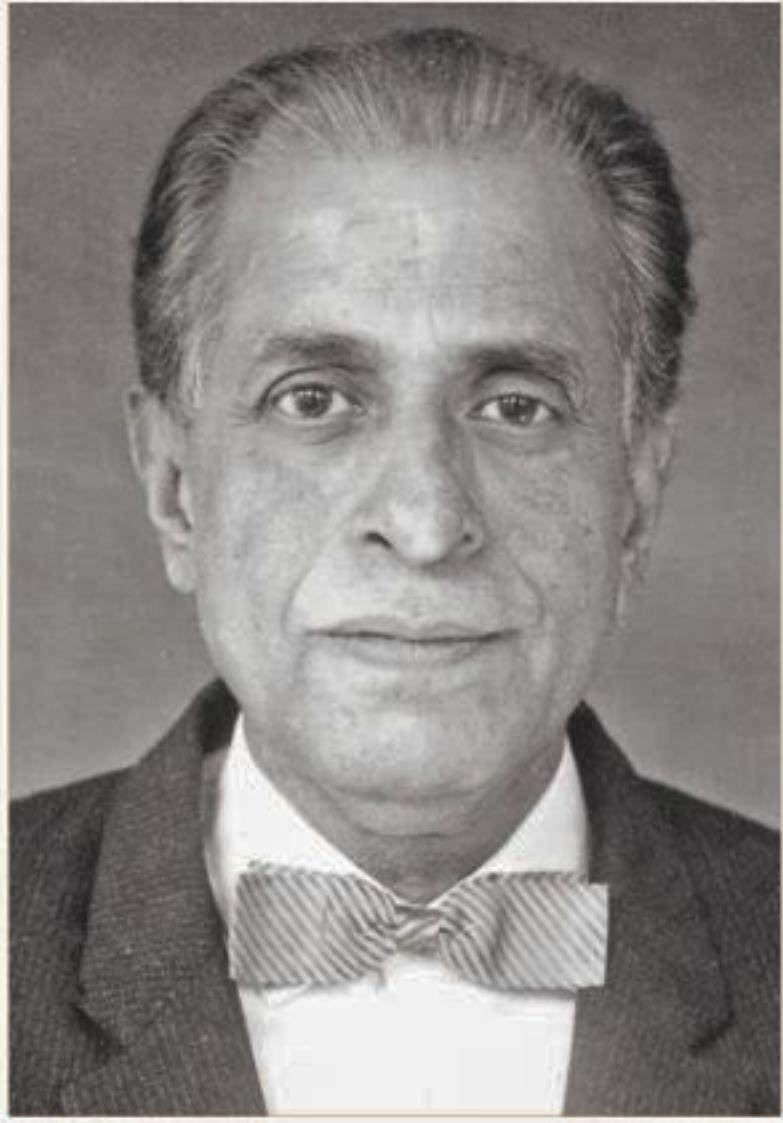


After being years in development, "Deadpool" is finally heading to the big screen next year and giving Wade Wilson a second chance to impress the audience. With production set to begin next month, more news has been coming out about the film recently. Earlier this week, Ryan Reynolds, who is reprising the role of the titular mercenary, teased the mask he'll be wearing in the film, and now it's known that "Haywire" star and mixed martial artist Gina Carano will be appearing alongside him.

According to THR, Carano will play Marvel character Angel Dust. It hasn't been revealed how significant her role will be, but she is the second actor to be cast after Reynolds and TJ Miller, the latter of whom is said to bring 'comic relief'. Carano is also known for playing Riley Hicks in "Fast & Furious 6", and she'll be starring in "Bus 657" and "Kickboxer" later this year. Deadpool will release in theatres on February 12, 2016.

Source: Cinema Blend

REMEMBERING Natyaguru Nurul Momen A pioneer of modern Bangla theatre



The 25th death anniversary of Nurul Momen, known as 'Natyaguru' for his pioneering roles in modernising theatre in Bangladesh, was observed on February 16. This month also marks the 70th anniversary of modern world-class drama in the country.

To commemorate the two occasions, Aurony Mohona International Foundation and Department of Theatre and Performance Studies, Dhaka University jointly organised a three-day programme starting from February 16 at Natmondal, according to a press release.

The event, "70th Anniversary of World-Class Theatre" includes discussions on the life and works of Nurul Momen, 70 years' history of Bangladeshi theatre, video screening, photography exhibition and stage plays.

Noted personalities will discuss on the life and works of the Natyaguru. The president of Aurony Mohona International Foundation, Dr. Mahmud N Momen will preside over the discussion sessions.

A theatrical performance of "Nemesis", the first experimental modern drama written by

Nurul Momen will be staged during the programme. Dr. Mahmud N Momen directed the play, produced by Mohona Natyam.

Critics from home and abroad have hailed Nurul Momen as the Father of the Theatre of Bangladesh. He was a lawyer, essayist, philanthropist & educationist as well. Nurul Momen was born on November 25, 1908 in Alphadanga of the then Jessor district and breathed his last on February 16, 1990 in Dhaka. In his early 20s while he was a student of Dhaka University, Nurul Momen popularised Bangla drama among the Bangalee

Muslim community. His popularity as a playwright reached its apex when his plays "Rupantor" and "Nemesis" came out.

Professor Nurul Momen, besides being a playwright, is also the pioneer of humorous and satirical essays in Bangla. He inspired some of the most prominent figures of Bangla literature, including his disciples Syed Waliullah, Munier Choudhury, Ashker Ibne Saikh, Sikander Abu Zafar, Sayeed Ahmed, Abdullah Al Mamun, Momtaj Uddin Ahmed and Selim Al Deen.



Bhaswar Bandyopadhyay's new book released

A CORRESPONDENT

The second book on theatre by noted elocutionist Bhaswar Bandyopadhyay was recently launched at the Amar Ekushey Book Fair 2015. The book, "Obhigyan Natyokotha" contains 18 articles on theatrical art, which the author thinks will equally help theatre enthusiasts and professionals. The book, which discusses different forms of theatre and pioneering playwrights of world theatre, is available at the stall of Sahitya Prakash.

TABU to play a cop

Bollywood actress Tabu is playing an important role in the Hindi remake of Malayalam film "Drishyam". She will be seen opposite Ajay Devgan in award winning director Nishikant Kamat's next.

Talking about the cast, Kamat said, "The hero is intense and intelligent, and Ajay fitted the bill. Tabu plays a cop who is pivotal to the story, but the leading lady is yet to be finalised."

The yet-untitled drama-thriller will go on floors in Goa in the last week of February, in a start-to-finish schedule.

Source: Indian Express



A voice on the airwaves Sharmeen talks about life as an RJ

A CORRESPONDENT

Gazi Sharmeen Ahmed is a familiar voice to regular listeners of FM radio. One of the most popular radio jockeys of ABC Radio, she has been in the field for quite while now, and has a strong fan following. The ever-smiling RJ (Radio Jockey) spoke to The Daily Star about the qualities needed to succeed in the business, and what makes it rewarding.

"I have been working in ABC Radio (89.2 FM) since its early days. FM is a concept that has been targeted for the young listeners. For years, radio had lost its appeal among the younger generation, and I guess the FM radio stations triggered a change. But, it



would be wrong for me to say that FM is just for youth! People of all ages like to

listen to FM stations these days. We air a wide range of genres of music, and differ-

ent shows appeal to different people.

"Making a listener pay attention to a show can be a challenge. Good music is a key component, but to keep their listener 'hooked', the RJ not only needs to have a good voice, but it's also one's personality, humor and wit that can bring warmth to the show. Establish a connection with the listener is the hallmark of a good RJ."

"People make friends all the time. For me, my listeners are my friends. It's one of the biggest reasons I enjoy my work. I get to know people's opinion and feelings through their messages."

"To be an RJ, 'glamour' in the voice is an essential criterion. Apart from that, what the RJ needs in knowledge about the world. It's easy to keep your listeners entertained if you are knowledgeable about your surroundings."



Courteney Cox, best known for her work in the hit TV show "Friends", was initially chosen for the part to play Rachel Green, but writers and producers later thought that she is best suited for Monica Geller. She eventually became close friends with her Jennifer Aniston, who ended up playing the character of Rachel. Aniston later became the godmother of Cox's daughter.



Sajal-Chadni pair up for Mother's Day drama

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Actress and model Chadni is gradually making a comeback to the circuit, after a hiatus. One of her latest projects is "Bala", a single-episode play being made for Mother's Day. Written by Kamona Seema and directed by Nuzhat Alvi Ahmed, it casts popular actor Sajal Nur opposite her.

The duo first worked in Taher Shilon's serial "Boyosh Jokhon Ekush" and appeared as an on-screen couple for a number of projects, the most recent of which was five years ago in "Haruner Mongol Houk".

About his co-artist, Sajal said the industry lacks attentive actresses, and the return of Chadni was a welcome sign for everyone. Chadni, on the other hand, also rated Sajal highly as a colleague and said the two have excellent mutual understanding.



The highs and lows of being Krishnokoli

A CORRESPONDENT

Quazi Krishnokoli Islam, aka Krishnokoli is a renowned singer-songwriter. Born and raised in Khulna, her mother inspired her to join the world of music. Trained by Shadhon Ghosh (Rabindra Sangeet) and Basudeb Biswas (classical music), Krishnokoli believes that fame has its positives and negatives.

The Daily Star engaged her in a conversation about the perks and perils of being an artiste: What do your fans generally say about your performances? Krishnokoli: There will always be good and bad feedback. However, I am honoured that my fans root for me to continue singing and says that my lyrics are different and deeply touch their hearts.

A negative remark that disheartens you...

Krishnokoli: Being a woman is difficult, be it in any profession. Once I had a caller who com-



pletely disheartened me with a negative remark. My reply to that caller was, "I probably don't know anything about you. How would you feel if I responded by saying that I would dislike you for the rest of my life?" A couple of months later, that person called me back to apologise. You don't get to see this everyday. Not everybody repents or understands their mistakes.

Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre (IGCC) organised a musical evening by Mehreen at its Gulshan premises on February 14 evening. Mehreen performed her popular tracks at the event, entertaining the audience.

PHOTO COURTESY: IGCC

