

WHAT'S ON

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
 Ekusher Ghuri Utshab
 Organiser: Project Be
 Venue: Gulshan Youth Club
 Date: Feb 21
 Time: 3-6pm



NEWS bytes

Cumberbatch confirms Valentine's Day marriage



Benedict Cumberbatch has confirmed his marriage to Sophie Hunter. The actor's spokeswoman told BBC the couple got married on Valentine's Day, and added that "it was a magical day". The couple tied the knot in a private ceremony with family and close friends on the Isle of Wight. Guests at event are said to have included Tom Hiddleston and Cumberbatch's Sherlock co-star Martin Freeman. Sophie Hunter first met Cumberbatch when they appeared together in the 2009 film "Burlesque Fairytale". They shunned the token celebrity Instagram post to announce their engagement in an eight-line notice in the Times newspaper in November. The "Sherlock" star has been shortlisted for an Oscar for his role as mathematician and Second World War code breaker Alan Turing in "The Imitation Game". Sophie Hunter has appeared in "Torchwood" and "Midsomer Murders" in the past.

Source: BBC

WORLD CUP CRICKET

"I have faith in the Tigers" ...APURBO



PHOTO: RIDWAN ADID RUPON

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

From congested alleys to the glitz and glam of showbiz, the World Cup craze is everywhere. Like hardcore cricket fans sitting in front of TV sets, actors who spend a bulk of their time on shooting sets are also following the tournament and rooting for our cricket team. Actor-model Aparbho spoke to The Daily Star about the ICC Cricket World Cup.

What's your expectation from the Tigers?
 Aparbho: I expect a lot from them. And I have faith that the team will make a difference. There's no harm in hoping that we will win the tournament.

What are your predictions this time?
 Aparbho: My heart remains with Bangladesh. Tigers are always my favourite and I cannot imagine any other team holding up the cup. So, I am not predicting anything other than wishing our team good luck.

What is your plan for watching the World Cup?
 Aparbho: I am a hardcore cricket follower. But as I have a busy schedule every day it is difficult to keep one's eyes on television. Nevertheless, I stay updated on scores through radio, television and other mediums. When I am on the shooting set, I follow the match on the sets along with co-artists and the production team, and when I am home I watch it on TV.

How does the cricket craze touch showbiz?
 Aparbho: I feel the way other Bangladeshis do. To me and all of us, it is big celebration. And when Tigers win a match our joy crosses every limit and we dive into celebrations.

POSERS Golam Farida goes candid...

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Popular actress Golam Farida Chhanda began her career as an actress way back in 1996, and has been around ever since. Her TV debut was in 1997 in a BTW drama. The Daily Star recently caught up with the artiste. Excerpts:

What quality do you value most in a person?
 Chhanda: I value humanity. It is how people learn to love, connect and be a good human being.

One thing that you hate most ...
 Chhanda: I hate hypocrisy and hypocrites. They are treacherous and ungrateful.

The first compliment that you got for your work ...
 Chhanda: When I was selected for a tele-film by Mostafa Monwar named "Stri'r Potro", I asked him why he chose me amongst all the suitable candidates. His answer was, "I can mold you into any character I want to, because you are like clay." It was a very special compliment.



"My prayers are through my melody" ... Badrunnesa Dalia

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Badrunnesa Dalia, a versatile singer renders Rabindra Sangeet, Nazrul Sangeet, Adhunik and folk songs with deftness. Born in a musical family, her talent for music flowered early and she received several awards for music. In a recent conversation, she shared her musical vision and passion. Excerpts: "I am quite emotional and I believe, without pouring precise emotion into lyrics, tune and notations, a performance will be below par. I offer a prayer through my melody."

"Tagore songs and Nazrul compositions are two rich genres of Bangla music. The depth, philosophical nuance and unique delineation of nature in Tagore songs inspire me as do raga-based melodies, folk-ang songs and diverse genres of Nazrul Sangeet. While genius is god's gift, the rest is hard work. I believe, musical passion is a prerequisite to performing well. All my concentration is on the music whether I



am practicing or performing. I even internalise notations for a new song when I am not performing." "Apart from singing Panchokobir gaan, golden oldies and adhunik songs, I render folk songs, especially compositions by Lalon Shah and Radharaman. At present I am inclined towards ghazals. Ustad Mehdi Hassan and Ustad Ghulam Ali are my favourite ghazal singers." The singer's solo audio albums --

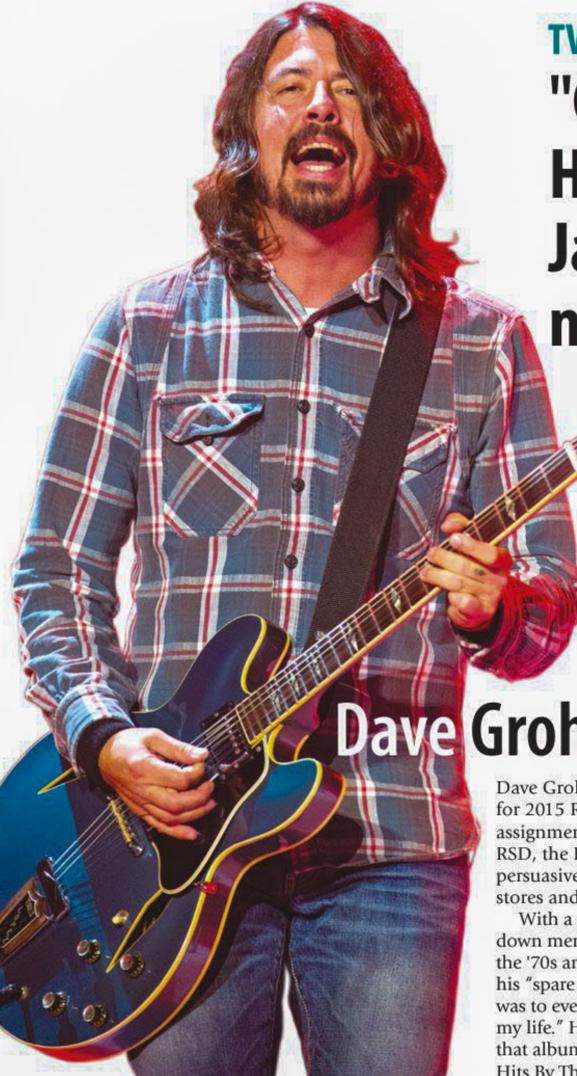
"Swarnali Sondhaye" (golden oldies), "Ektuku Chhnoya Lagey" (Tagore songs) and several mixed albums - "Laal Golap" (Adhunik songs); "Oshru Jhora February" and "Jonmohumi Ma" (Patriotic songs) are available in audio market. Badrunnesa Dalia aspires to bring out albums on Nazrul Sangeet and folk album featuring Lalon and Radharaman songs. Dalia began her musical lessons with Abinash Goswami [of Jamalpur] while she was a school student. Later, she learnt under-- Sohrab Hossain and Sudhin Das at Nazrul Institute, Dhaka. The singer is a regular on stage and TV.

Varun Dhawan gets shady in Badlapur



Varun Dhawan, who has essayed only romantic roles so far, is all set to play his first grey character in Sriram Raghavan's "Badlapur". While his rugged look in the revenge drama has piqued the interest of the audience, his onscreen chemistry with the four actresses — Yami Gautam, Huma Qureshi, Divya Dutta and Radhika Apte — is another highlight. Varun is rumoured to have intimate scenes with each of the actresses in the film. Calling the film "a twisted entertainer", producer Dinesh Vijan says that it will show the young actor in a new light. About the face-off between Varun and Nawazuddin Siddiqui, he adds, "Varun plays Raghu and Nawaz is Liak. They both are a match made in hell." "Badlapur", presented by Eros International and Maddock Films, releases this Friday.

Source: TOI



TV WATCH "Cholo Hariye Jai" on ntv

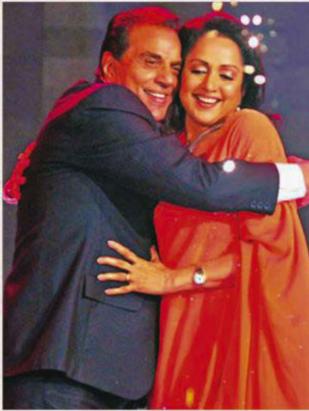


A CORRESPONDENT

Drama serial "Cholo Hariye Jai" is airing on ntv on every Tuesday and Wednesday at 11.30pm. Saiful Islam Mannu has written and directed the play. The story's pivot is a bunch of playful youths from affluent families. They hang out together, roam around aimlessly and celebrate life in every way. They are indifferent towards their families and have no plans for their future. "Cholo Hariye Jai" depicts their carefree celebration of life. Mamunur Rashid, Dolly Zohur, Azizul Hakim, Mishu Sabbir, Shams Sumon, Nayeem and others are in the cast.

IT'S TRUE!

Dharmendra was keen to play the character of Thakur Baldev Singh in Bollywood classic "Sholay", and he was told that Sanjeev Kumar would then play Veeru. Finally it was Dharmendra who got to romance Hema Malini in the film. Hema Malini had no scenes with Thakur Baldev Singh played by Sanjeev Kumar, as she had just turned down his marriage proposal and didn't want to be anywhere near him.



Dave Grohl named ambassador for Record Store Day

Dave Grohl has been tapped as ambassador for 2015 Record Store Day (RSD). In his first assignment ahead of this year's April 18 RSD, the Foo Fighters frontman presented a persuasive argument for supporting record stores and the vinyl format. With a post on YouTube, Grohl takes a trip down memory lane to Springfield, Virginia in the '70s and '80s when the rocker spent all of his "spare time and money in finding what was to eventually become the soundtrack of my life." He holds-up the original copy of that album, K-Tel's Blockbuster 20 Original Hits By The Original Stars and recalls the track that made it all happen, Edgar Winter's instrumental "Frankenstein". "This is what made me want to join a band, jump on stage and play music. If it weren't for that record store, I don't think I'd be here today," Grohl says. "I think it's important for everyone, kids and adults, to celebrate that kind of discovery by going into a little record store in your town that you've never been before and spend some time there and discover stuff you never knew existed because those discoveries can wind-up changing your life." Grohl, of course, did his bit to change the musical landscape with the grunge-era titans Nirvana, which was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2014, and his Foo Fighters is today's standard-bearer for stadium rock bands. Since being founded in 2007 to help heighten the awareness of independent music stores around the world, RSD has boasted numerous rock star ambassadors to help spread the word. The cadre until now has included Eagles of Death Metal singer Jesse Hughes (2009), Queens of the Stone Age frontman Josh Homme (2010), Ozzy Osbourne (2011), Iggy Pop (2012), Jack White (2013) and Public Enemy leader and co-founder Chuck D (2014).

Source: Loudwire