

WHAT'S ON
 Shilu Abed Craftperson Award
 Organiser: NCCB
 Venue: BRAC Centre Inn
 Date: March 5
 Time: 5pm



Concert
 Concert for the Burned
 Bands: Arbovirus, Powesurge, Owned + more
 Venue: National Library Auditorium
 Date: Mar 14
 Time: 11am-9pm



Solo painting exhibition
 Artist: Laila Anjuman Ara
 Title: Joy of Nature
 Venue: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka
 Date: Feb 27-March 9
 Time: 3pm-9pm



Solo Art Exhibition
 Artist: Shiro Sadoshima
 Venue: Zainul Gallery-2, FFA, DU
 Date: Mar 2-7
 Time: 12pm-8pm



Street Theatre Festival
 Organiser: Bangladesh Street Theatre Council
 Venue: Shaheed Minar
 Date: Mar 1-7
 Time: 5pm



NEWS bytes

Madonna announces new tour dates



Pop icon Madonna will begin an international tour to promote her new album "Rebel Heart" with a concert at the American Airlines Arena in Miami in August. The show will kick-start the North American leg of her tour that will include shows in New York, Boston, Chicago, Philadelphia, Vancouver and San Juan, and Puerto Rico. The 56-year-old pop star will begin the European and British segment of the tour with a concert in Cologne, Germany on November 4 followed by dates in London, Paris, Barcelona and other cities. Concerts in Australia and Asia will be announced at a later date, according to Madonna's website.

Source: Reuters

LALON memorial festival begins



Visitors through the Lalon akhra on the occasion. PHOTO: STAR

The five-day Lalon Smaran Utsab (Lalon memorial festival) at the Lalon Akhra, began at Chheuria in Kushtia, yesterday. The annual festival, also called Dol Purnima Utsab, has been organised by the Lalon Academy that oversees the upkeep of Lalon's shrine. The akhra saw an influx of Lalon devotees and admirers from Bangladesh and overseas. As always the big attraction of the event, organised through donations from Lalon's exponents, is a Baul Mela and rendition of baul songs. Apparently, Lalon used to organise the event himself at his akhra. After his demise, his shishyas (disciples) carried on with the tradition. The programme aims to highlight the philosophy of Lalon that he introduced around 200 years ago. After the death of the bard, the celebration is held in memory of the saint. Lalon's philosophy lies in his songs he wrote. These songs fuse two streams of spiritual thought -- Sufism and Vaishnav (the Krishna cult). Among others, Information Minister Hasanul Haq Inu, several lawmakers and senior government officials are slated to address the gathering.

AMANUR AMAN, Kushtia

"Acting runs in my blood" ...Putul

A CORRESPONDENT

Putul, a theatre, TV and film actress was thrilled to receive a national award for her role in Humayun Ahmed's "Agun er Poroshmoni". She shared about her association with Ahmed and many other subjects.

How many films have you done so far?
 Putul: There is no one like Humayun Ahmed. I did three of his movies. Later, Khalid Mohammad Mithu, offered me a cameo role in "Jonakir Alo". Sadly, I don't see any good movies coming my way these days. Times have changed so fast and it is difficult for me to visualise myself in the roles being offered to me.

Do you go for TV plays or movies?
 Putul: I love doing TV plays. It's not that I will never do movies but as I



have stated earlier, times have changed. Moreover, there are hardly good writers on the horizon who can write interesting film scripts.

Who is your inspiration?
 Putul: My family was behind me all the way. And without them I would never have been here. The best part is that post marriage, I thought of quitting the media but my husband took the unusual stance or encouraging me to continue my work. So all in all, I must say that, my entire family was my inspiration and encouraged me to start work from the time I was 14.
 What is your biggest driving force?
 Putul: I was born in a family that has members mostly from the theatre world. Acting runs in my blood. Every time I thought of opting out of from my career, I ended up being pulled back towards it.
 Any memories from "Kothao Keu Nei"?
 Putul: The experience of working with Humayun Ahmed made me achieve dream goals. I will never forget when Humayun Sir appreciated my role in the acclaimed TV play.

Dilara Zaman in new TVC

A CORRESPONDENT

The impeccable Dilara Zaman has left many of her contemporaries behind with her seamless, natural acting, and even at this age is not shy of lending her on-screen skills to TVCs. The veteran actress was seen in a new TVC, endorsing a multinational company's plastic utensils, directed by Maksud Hossain. Said Zaman, "The advertisement has a touch of uniqueness and the dialogues are interesting. I believe viewers will enjoy it."

Dilara Zaman is currently seen on the small screen in Afsana Mimi's TV serial "Saat'ti Tarar Timir" and Sabur Khan's "Daag" on ATN Bangla and Ekram Tojo's "Family Pack" on ntv.



IT'S TRUE!



In "Ora Egaro Jon" (1972) -- the first movie released on our Independence War, most of the lead roles were played by actors who actually fought against the Pakistani armed forces. Directed by Chashi Nazrul Islam, the movie is considered to be one of the best feature films based on the Liberation War. Khasru, Sumita Devi, and Shabana portrayed the lead roles in the film.

Shuvo releases song for **BANGLADESH TEAM**



A CORRESPONDENT

To cheer the Bangladesh cricket team along for the ICC World Cup, singer Moidul Islam Khan Shuvo has released a new song called "Ora Aschhe". Shuvo says the song, sung by him along with Baul Shafi Mondal, Tumpa, Chandana Majumdar and Adnan, is a tribute to our cricket heroes. Inspired by Bangladesh's national team jersey, which is based on the Sundarbans, the song is accompanied by a video depicting the cricket-loving nation's uncompromised love for the game. Shuvo hopes it will add to the already rife cricket-craze in the country.

The song is now playing on various television and radio stations. The lyrics of the song are penned by Shuvo and Mehedi, while the composition is done by Amjad. "Bangladesh cricket jersey designer Shejan Lincon played an instrumental role in conceptualising the video," says Shuvo. The visual production of the video has been done by Prekhhagriho.

Bangladesh, who were in the third position on the points table until yesterday, are facing Scotland in their fourth group match today at Nelson, New Zealand.

Music College artistes to perform at Shantiniketan

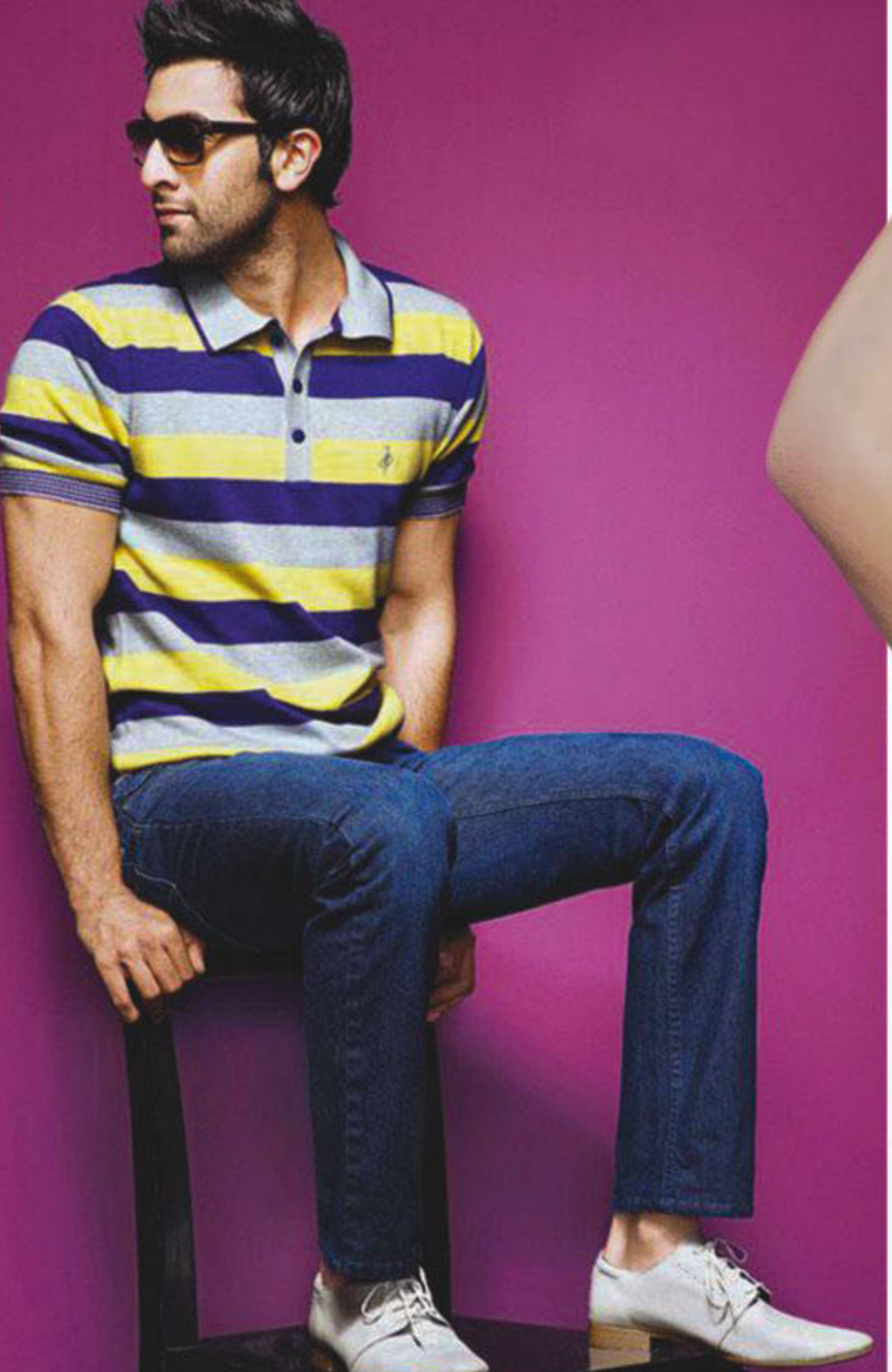
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A 20-member team of Government Music College, Agargaon went to Visva-Bharati University, Shantiniketan, India yesterday to perform there in Dol Utshab (Holi Festival). Professor Shameema Parveen, principal of the college, along with several teachers and students of the institution, will present Bangladeshi music on March 6 evening in a programme titled "Bosontey Baul Utshab 2015", arranged by Kolkata-based organisation Intravenous Entertainment.

"We have planned to perform diverse songs including classical music, Rabindra Sangeet, Nazrul Sangeet, songs of Language Movement, Shadhin Bangla Betar Kendra, patriotic numbers and folk songs composed by Fakir Lal Shah, Hason Raja, Radha Raman, Bijoy Sarkar, Shah Abdul Karim and Abbasuddin. Keeping the prevalence of Spring in mind, we have specially rehearsed for a medley piece comprising two songs -- "Ononter O Bani Tumi Bosonter O Anando Utshab-e" (Composed by Tagore) and "Bosonto Elo Elo Elore" (composed by Kazi Nazrul Islam). Lily Islam will render solo Tagore songs at the event," said Shameema Parveen.

The team will also perform at Rabindra Tirtha, Kolkata on 7 March evening and will be back in Bangladesh on March 8.

Assisting Bhansali on "Black" changed my life ...Ranbir



Ranbir Kapoor, who started his career as an assistant director to filmmaker Sanjay Leela Bhansali, said if he has to pen down a portion of his life, then it would be the time when he assisted Bhansali on the film "Black". He also said that phase transformed him completely from an "aimless slacker boy to a worthy person". "I have not thought about writing a book at all. I have miles to go before I can think of something like that," the 32-year-old actor said. "But if I had to, then it would be the time when I assisted Bhansali on 'Black', because that was the time I really switched from just being an aimless slacker boy to somebody who wants to do something in his life related to films," he added.

Source: IBN



J-Law to play war photographer in Spielberg's next

It is now confirmed that Jennifer Lawrence will star in Steven Spielberg's "It's What I Do: A Photographer's Life of Love and War". Warner Bros. won an auction Monday for the rights to the memoir by Lynsey Addario, the award-winning international photojournalist. "American Sniper" producer Andrew Lazar is on board the drama. The project attracted multiple offers after an excerpt of Addario's memoir appeared in the The New York Times Magazine. Addario, who has traveled to war-torn countries like Afghanistan, Libya and Iraq, won the MacArthur Fellowship in 2008 and was part of the New York Times team that won a Pulitzer Prize in 2009 for International Reporting for her work in Waziristan. She was jailed for several days in Libya in 2011.

Source: Variety