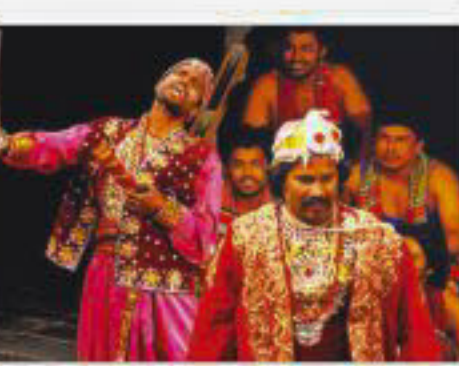


WHAT'S ON

**ITI Theatre Fest**  
Venue: National Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy  
Date: March 13-21  
Time: 7pm



**Theatre**  
Play: Shey Raat-e Purnima Chhilo  
Troupe: Arshinagar  
Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall, BSA  
Date: Mar 17; Time: 7pm



**Theatre**  
Play: Poramati  
Troupe: Padatik Bangladesh  
Venue: Studio Theatre Hall, BSA  
Date: Mar 17  
Time: 7pm



**5th Oriental Painting Exhibition**  
Organiser: Oriental Painting Study Group  
Venue: Zaimul Gallery-1&2, FFA, DU  
Date: March 17-23  
Time: 11am-8pm



**International Women's Film Festival**  
Organiser: Women's Film Society  
Venue: Central Public Library  
Date: March 14-17  
Time: 11am, 2pm, 5pm



**NEWS bytes**

**Sally Field in leading role in SXSW romance**



Sally Field took the South by Southwest (SXSW) by storm on Saturday afternoon with "Hello, My Name is Doris," a dramedy from director Michael Showalter that will certainly be one of the big discoveries out of this year's festival.

Field plays the titular character, a 60-something hoarder from Staten Island who develops a crush, which quickly escalates into an obsession, on her much younger co-worker (Max Greenfield). The movie is based on a 2011 short by the script's co-writer Laura Terruso, called "Doris & the Intern." "Certainly I've never read anything as unique as this character," Field said at an audience Q&A session following the screening, where she received a standing ovation. Field was struck by how the story played with so many different genres. "We are very dramatic sometimes and then literally off the charts screwball comedy," Field said.

It's the first time in almost two decades that Field, 68, has anchored a theatrical film.

Source: Variety

**IT'S TRUE!**



An influential metal guitarist who was a founding member of Pantera and Damageplan, Dimebag Darrell was shot and killed while performing with the latter group in Columbus, Ohio on December 8, 2004. The killer fired 15 shots in total, three hitting Darrell and the remaining killing three other people — the band's head of security, a club employee, and an audience member who attempted CPR on Darrell — while wounding seven others.

**"The festival ushers in a new horizon of Bangladeshi theatre"**

... Nasiruddin Yousuff

ZAHANGIR ALOM

The second Dhaka International Theatre Festival is being held against the backdrop of social and political unrest. About the festival, President of ITI Bangladesh Centre Nasiruddin Yousuff said, "Hundreds of general people are becoming victims of violence every day. That's why we are holding the festival with the theme 'Theatre Against Violence'. We want to unite people against violence and attract the audience with the power of theatre."

"Besides, Bangladeshi theatre

activists will get to understand the contemporary theatre language, dialogue and discourses through the festival and workshops with their foreign counterparts," he added.

He further said, "A cultural activist should have a political ideology along with an artistic ideal. If these two ideals merge, an artiste's commitment to society and the state gets ascertained. I firmly believe that the Bangladeshi theatre and cultural activists have this quality. We dream of building a democratic, non-communal state. The role of theatre and cultural activism is crucial in

keeping peace and harmony."

About the present state of theatre, he observed, "Bangladesh has been representing its theatre in the international arena for a decade. Bangladesh has a place in international theatre scene, though the international audience knows less about our productions. In this regard, the government should take theatre as a tool of cultural diplomacy. South Asia is expected to become a hub of economic, political, cultural and sports activities within a decade. Since we have a rich heritage of culture, art and



theatre, we can usher in a new horizon of Bangladeshi theatre to the world. We can make the best use of Bangladesh's natural, cultural and folk heritage to achieve our cherished goals. I think the exchange of Bangladeshi theatre and culture must reach at its highest level. The entry of Bangladeshi productions into International theatre festival should be more frequent. Cultural diplomacy should be taken seriously to achieve our economic and political benefits.

"Living in an era of digital technology, you cannot ignore social media. You have to incorporate newer things into your own life and arts. Theatre is an exchange of your own life; it is your dream, your passion. An accomplished director will represent both classical and contemporary languages through dialogues, body languages and text. It carries a different value in theatre, but theatre too will carry forward its artistic flow in line with the present and modern time."



**Upholding an art heritage of Bangladesh**

**BSA holds Gaudiya Nritya Workshop**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) organised a three-day (March 12-14) "Gaudiya Nritya" workshop with a solo dance recital and demonstration by the lone Gaudiya dancer of Bangladesh, Rachel Priyanka Perris. About 40 dancers from different troupes of Bangladesh took part in the workshop.

On the concluding day Liaquat Ali Lucky, director general of BSA; noted dancer Sharmila Banerjee, Sohrab Uddin, director of Music, Dance and Recitation Department of BSA and the workshop conductor attended a certificate giving ceremony, a lecture demonstration and dance performance by the participating artistes.

The workshop entailed Gaudiya Nritya genres -- anga shadhona,

nriyanga, nati rangana, madhura, bishak chauk chal and more.

Priyanka delivered a lecture demonstration titled "Classical Dance of Bengal: Gaudiya Nritya". She proved Gaudiya Nritya as a classical dance form of Bangladesh showcasing the dance form's conspicuous base on the four pillars -- literature and text book, sculpture, architecture and painting of ancient Bengal. She also asserted Gaudiya's link with the timeless folk heritage and guru-shishya parampara of Bangladesh.

"The workshop is a beginning of a luminous movement of establishing Gaudiya Nritya as a classical dance form. BSA attempts to represent a timeless art heritage of our own in the world cultural forum. I hope Bangladeshi dancers will form a Gaudiya Nritya Repertory



PHOTO: RIDWAN ADID RUPON

Troupe, under the leadership of Priyanka. For which, more practice, performance, lecture demonstration and research work must be carried out in the days ahead. We plan to invite Priyanka's Guru, Professor Mahua Mukherjee, the pioneer of the classical form, to conduct a 15-day or a month long workshop on Gaudiya Nritya," said Liaquat Ali Lucky.

The participating dancers presented several dance pieces. Mingling the myth of Prakriti and Purusha with the unique choreography of Gaudiya Nritya, Priyanka also showcased a solo piece titled "Ardha-Nariswar".



**"Big Hero 6" becomes 2014's top animated film worldwide**



"Big Hero 6" has reached yet another milestone. The heartwarming Disney feature has become 2014's biggest animated release worldwide.

The Oscar-winning movie has earned \$221 million in the US. It will pass the \$400 million mark at the international box office this weekend, raising its worldwide cumulative to \$620 million and thereby surpassing Fox's "How to Train Your Dragon 2's" global haul. Last weekend, it overtook "Tangled" as the third biggest Walt Disney Animation Studios

release ever globally, behind only "Frozen" and "The Lion King". It's also the studio's third largest domestic release of all time.

"Big Hero 6" continues doing strong business in China, where it opened just two weeks ago. After reeling in over \$51 million, it's already surpassed "Frozen" to become the highest-grossing Disney or Pixar animated release in the country. Baymax, the film's marshmallow-like robot character, is a big hit in China.

Source: Internet

**Best of Russian films in Dhaka**



A CORRESPONDENT

To commemorate the 70th anniversary of its victory day (May 9), The Russian Embassy in Dhaka is organising a festival of "Best Russian Movies". One film will be shown at 7:30pm on every Saturday, at the Cinema Hall of the Russian Embassy - House NE (J)9, Road 79, Gulshan-2, Dhaka. The first film to be screened on March 14 was G. Chukhrai's classic "Ballad of a Soldier". In the coming weeks, the films to be shown are: "The Dawns Here Are Quiet", "Father of a Soldier", "Ivan's Childhood", "They Fought for Their Country", "Officers", and "The Cranes Are Flying" -- all dubbed in English or having subtitles. Seating at the hall is limited.

**Mizan-Mehzabien pair up, Irfan joins in**

A CORRESPONDENT

Wasim Sitar's new drama "Unmarried" written by Imraul Rafat, sees Mehzabien and Majnun Mizan pair up on-screen, with Irfan Sajjad playing an important role. The play, targeting an air date on Pehela Boishakh (April 14), saw its shooting wrap up on Friday. Mizan and Mehzabien both remained boisterous about the play's success, while Irfan went a step ahead and termed it one of the highlights of his career.

While Mizan and Mehzabien are both focused more on the small screen, Irfan has just wrapped up shoot for Tania Ahmed's "Good Morning London", and is also working on "U-Turn", where she will be seen sharing screen-space with Moutushi Biswas.



**Vidya Balan to star in Suchitra biopic**

After completing the shoot of her upcoming release, which co-stars Emraan Hashmi, Vidya Balan has been taking her time to pick her next project.

The actor has been offered four scripts, two of which are biopics -- one of late actor Suchitra Sen, and the other of late Pakistan Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto. Vidya has agreed to star in the Suchitra Sen biopic, and will begin working on it soon.

Interestingly, the actor will train in Kathak before the film goes on the floors. It is set to roll next month.

Vidya, who has been briefed about her character, said she admires the late legendary actor, and since it's a biopic, she wants her portrayal to be authentic.

Source: Hindustan Times



**IGCC celebrates 5th anniversary with 'Badi-Bandar Roopkatha'**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

On the occasion of its 5th anniversary, Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre (IGCC) presented Srishti Cultural Centre's much-acclaimed dance drama "Badi-Bandar Roopkatha" at National Theatre Hall on Saturday evening.

Kolkata-based dance artiste Sukalyan Bhattacharya planned and directed the dance-drama, with a witty, entertaining script by Sankar Talukdar. Joy Sarkar has written the lyrics and arranged music for the production.

The lead characters of the dance drama include Shibli Mohammad, Shameem Ara Nipa, Anisul Islam Hiru, Sukalyan Bhattacharya and Golam Rabbani Imran.

Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh, Pankaj Sharan; Cultural Affairs Minister Asaduzzaman Noor; cultural personalities Ramendu Majumdar, Nasiruddin Yousuff and director of IGCC Siddhartha Chattopadhyay were present at the ceremony among others.

