

Borshoboron 1422
 Organiser: Chhayanaout
 Venue: Ramna Botomul, Dhaka
 Date: April 14
 Time: 6am



Solo Art Exhibition
 Title: Destination & Departure
 Artist: Professor Monsur Ul Karim
 Venue: Galleri Kaya, H-20, Rd-16, Sec-4, Uttara
 Date: Apr 11-21; Time: 11am-8pm



Mongol Shobhajatra
 Venue: Charukala, Dhaka University
 Date: April 14
 Time: 9am



Group Art Exhibition
 Jatra - by contemporary Bangladeshi women artists
 Venue: Gallery Twenty One
 Date: Mar 28-Apr 12
 Time: 12-8pm



Theatre
 Play: Champak Nogorer Upokatha
 Venue: Natmandal, Dhaka University
 Date: April 13-16
 Time: 7pm



NEWS bytes

ScarJo offered lead in classic horror remake

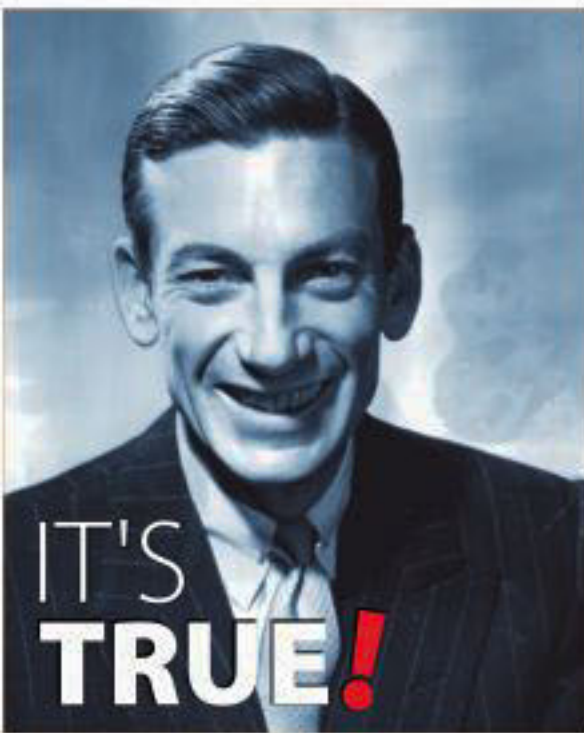


After playing Black Widow in three "Avengers" movies (and a fourth and fifth on the way) in the Marvel universe, the actress is now being eyed for one of Universal's remakes of a classic monster: "The Creature From The Black Lagoon".

According to a report on Tracking Board, ScarJo is Universal's top choice for the leading role in the remake. The 1954 original from filmmaker Jack Arnold is considered a horror movie classic and saw a group of scientists on an expedition through the Amazon who discover a human-fish hybrid. Julie Adams played the leading female role of Kay Lawrence, and her portrayal helped define the scream queen genre.

However, just because Universal reportedly wants Johansson to be involved, doesn't mean she'll sign up. In addition to being a first-time mom, she also has to fulfill her Marvel obligations. She also has leading roles in the "Ghost in the Shell" movie adaptation, "The Jungle Book" and the Coen brothers' new movie "Hail, Caesar!" on the docket.

Source: **Cinemablend**



Hoagy Carmichael wrote a song in 1943 titled "I'm a Cranky Old Yank in a Clanky Old Tank on the Streets of Yokohama with my Honolulu Mama Doin' Those Beat-o, Beat-o Flat-On-My-Seat-o, Hirohito Blues", making it the song with the longest title ever. He later claimed the song title ended with "Yank" and the rest was a joke.



Tea garden workers gather around the hawkers to buy colourful Pohela Boishakh attires. PHOTO: STAR

BOISHAKHI breeze blows across 156 tea gardens

MINTU DESHWARA, Moulvibazar
 Thursday was a day of heavy rains in the Moulvibazar area. Like the new tea leaves blooming on every plant, an air of festivity lingered in the tea estates.

Tea garden workers were cleaning their houses to welcome the Bangla New Year, Pohela Boishakh, while also picking up on their Boishakhi shopping of colourful attires -- not from the showrooms but from hawkers at the village.

The seller did not need to call too much

after entering into these rural areas in the morning. He was surrounded by the women residents. Prices are reasonable: every item of clothing was between BDT 250 to 450. As a result, the market is quite thrilling.

These scenes were of the Chatlapur Tea Estate, on the outskirts of the Moulvibazar. Aside from the clothes shopping, other preparations were also on to welcome the New Year.

Tea garden workers lead a life of labour and hardships, so Boishakh brings joy to their monotonous lives.

Colourful festivals are organised to welcome Boishakh in 156 tea gardens under Sylhet division, starting from the last day of Bangla Chaitra month - Chaitra Sangkranti. Charak Puja is held at the Lakkatura Tea Estate, with the air festive on either side of the airport road in Sylhet.

The following day is the welcoming day of Pohela Boishakh. Rural youth take the centre-stage in the celebrations, said Bikash Ranjan Das, the convener of the Bangladesh Tea-Student Youth Council.

Gulshan Hossain's artistic sensitivity

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Well-known visual artist Gulshan Hossain has developed a style of abstraction by exploring variations with different materials and techniques. She has 16 solo exhibitions in UK, Belgium, India and Bangladesh to her credit, and has participated in numerous group shows in Egypt, USA, Germany, Switzerland, Japan, UK, UAE, Iran, Sri Lanka and Canada.

Gulshan depicts nature and its elements, the adverse consequences on our earth due to greenhouse effects, ecological imbalance and environmental pollution. She has a sensitive heart both as an artist and as a citizen, and reveals her empathy for the victims, especially women. She has portrayed the burnt, pale and painful faces of women workers who became victims of the Tazrin Garments tragedy. The Liberation War is also a favourite subject of the artist. She showcased a rape victim of 1971 in one of her shows held in UK. "I have done several painting-based large installations. I use light in the installations to augment them. The pain of suffering women or the faces of victims haunt me and I try to depict them true to my imagination and experiences," the artist asserts.

The artist has a deep affinity

with nature and the seasons of Bangladesh. Monsoon and its fresh beauty, the shades and colours of spring, Boishakh and its intense beauty recurrently appear on her canvas. "I compare the advent of Boishakh with the powerful Devi Durga. The visage of enduring womanhood comes to my mind while visualizing Boishakh," said the artist.

How does she celebrate Pohela Boishakh? The artist says, "I first focus on my family, pay my respects to my mother, wear a new saree and have fried hilsha with kedgeree.

Then I go to my workplace UODA, meet colleagues and students. Later, I visit Chhayanaout's borshoboron programme at Ramna Botomul and Charukala's Mongol Shobhajatra, where I have the opportunity to meet fellow artists. In the evening, I visit my

friends. This time I plan on going to Gallery Twenty One where a Boishakhi baul song performance will be held in the evening."

A multi-award winner, including Grand Award at the 16th Asian Art Biennial, Bangladesh; Bengal Foundation Award at the 20th National Art Exhibition, Bangladesh and more, Gulshan Hossain is an Assistant Professor of MFA Department of Painting at UODA. She is also a member of International Miniature Art Society of Florida, USA.



Indian theatre troupe "Rangakarmi" staged their much-acclaimed production "Antaryatra" at the Experimental Theatre Hall of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy on Thursday evening. The play, directed by noted Indian thespian Usha Ganguly, was staged as part of the ongoing theatre festival -- Syed Badruddin Hossain Smriti Natyotsab and Sharok Sommanona -- organised by Padatik Natya Sangsad (TSC) from April 7 to 11. The festival features 10 productions by seven theatre troupes from Bangladesh and India.

Vidhu Vinod's Hollywood quest

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

Did you know that Bollywood's leading filmmaker Vidhu Vinod Chopra owes his name to Bengali director Ritwik Ghatak?

Chopra told reporters in Kolkata this week that when he went to study at Film and Television Institute of India (FTII) in Pune, his name was Vinod Kumar Chopra.

Ghatak, his teacher at the Institute, did not like his name and suggested that he add 'Vidhu' to his name.

"He (Ritwik Ghatak) said you put Vidhu Vinod Chopra. That's a good name. I owe my name to him," said Chopra, who is making his Hollywood debut with the English film "Broken Horses". Set in the shadows of US-Mexico border gang wars, "Broken Horses" is a thriller about the bonds of brotherhood, laws of loyalty and futility of violence. Its principal cast features Vincent D'Onofrio, Anton Yelchin, Chris Marquette and Maria Valverde.

Chopra said he learnt from Ghatak that if one chased excellence, success would follow. "This is what I said in '3 Idiots', and that's what I say in real life," he said.

On his experience in Hollywood, Chopra said "They look down upon Bollywood film thinking we are loud people who make only song-and-dance films. They really don't respect (Bollywood). After Satyajit Ray, they don't even know Ritwik Ghatak," he said, adding he wanted to prove that Bollywood can do it as good as Hollywood -- if not better.

Directed by Chopra, Amitabh Bachchan-



The director at the trailer launch for "Broken Horses".

starrer "Eklavya-The Royal Guard" was India's 2007 Oscar entry. His 2009 film "An Encounter with Faces" was also nominated for an Academy Award in the documentary short subject category.

Asked about his dream for the Oscars, Chopra said he did not care about the Academy Awards any more. "Nowadays, awards have become more of a marketing and television show-off. Unfortunately even the Oscars," he said.

On his future projects in Hollywood, Chopra said he is already in talks with two studios. "If I have a script that is challenging, I will do it," he said.

MIB-Gaan Mela inaugurated

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Noted singers, lyricists and musicians inaugurated Gaan Mela at Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) premises on April 9. Music Industries Owners Association of Bangladesh (MIB) has organised the 10-day music fair.

Music director Sheikh Sadi Khan, lyricist Shahidullah Farayazi, Nazrul singer Shabnam Mushtari, popular singer Kumar Bishwajit, Hasan Matiu Rahman, senior vice-president of MIB, Sajed Fatemi, singer and coordinator of Gaan Mela and Liaquat Ali Lucky, director general of BSA spoke at the inaugural event. Sheikh Shahed Ali Pappu, secretary general of Gaan Mela, delivered welcome address while AKM Arifur Rahman, president of Gaan Mela, presided over the programme.

The speakers emphasised on formulating various work plans for bringing back the good days for the audio industry. Sheikh Sadi Khan urged the singers to practice good



Artistes at the inauguration.

music. Kumar Bishwajit declared the music fair to the memories of the martyrs of Liberation War and the artistes of Shadhin Bangla Betar Kendra.

Liaquat Ali Lucky mentioned the government's sincere intent and assistance to flourish Bangladeshi music. AKM Arifur Rahman sug-

gested the audience to listen to Bangladeshi music by buying audio CDs. He said, "The audience's consciousness of saying 'No' to the pirated copy of audio CDs can bring back the glory and good days for the music industry." He also elaborated the programme details of Gaan Mela.

Kurt Cobain's daughter breaks silence about father

Frances Bean Cobain spoke exclusively with Rolling Stone in her first public interview about her father, Nirvana's Kurt Cobain, opening up about her quest to discover who her dad was, her rocky (but recovering) relationship with her mother Courtney Love, and the film that brought them all back together — director Brett Morgen's new Cobain documentary "Montage of Heck".

"What really surprised me was watching my parents' love story," Frances, now 22 years old, says of the film. "Because they were so close to my age now. It was like friends falling in love — I did not expect that."

The interview is part of a three-hour conversation with Rolling Stone's David Fricke — who profiled Cobain for Rolling Stone's January 1994 issue and spoke with him several times — for the magazine's new cover story about the making of "Montage of Heck". Frances, who was barely two years old when her father died in April 1994, serves as executive producer and had a big impact on the shape of the film. "For 20 years, my dad has been



like Santa Claus, this mythical figure," Frances was quoted as saying: "People come up to me and say, 'Your dad's so cool,' and I don't know him. I want to present Kurt the man," she said. The film, which airs May 4 on HBO, is an intimate exploration of the musician

through his personal recordings, an archive of collected ephemera provided by friends and family, and interviews with those who knew him. The film was also a way to bring her closer to her mother, who attended a private screening with Frances days before the film's Sundance premiere. After watching a powerful scene where Kurt was visibly intoxicated while holding his daughter, Love was moved to tears.

"My mother held me, cried on me and just said, 'I'm so sorry, I'm so sorry, I'm so sorry,'" Frances tells Rolling Stone. "Just kept saying it over and over. But then she said, 'Do you realize how much your father loved you?' And I said, 'Yeah, I do.'"

Even though Frances is aware of all the similarities she shares with her famous father, she never really found herself drawn to his music. "I don't really like Nirvana that much," she tells Fricke with a grin. "The grunge scene is not what I'm interested in." Still, she cites "Territorial Pissings" and "Dumb" as her favorite Nirvana songs, and says her musical leanings tend more towards bands like the Brian Jonestown Massacre and Mercury Rev.

Source: **Rolling Stone**