

WHAT'S ON
Group Art Exhibition
 Title: Wings of Imagination
 Venue: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, Dhanmondi
 Date: 5-15 June
 Time: Monday-Thursday 9-9pm
 Friday and Saturday 9-12am
 and 5-8pm



Group Art Exhibition
 Title: Remixing Illusion
 Venue: Gallery Cosmos-2
 Date: June 1-15
 Time: 11am-7pm



Banshi-te Rabindra Nazrul
 Organiser: Government Music College
 Venue: National Theatre Hall, BSA
 Date: June 14; Time: 6:30pm



Title: Elsewhere
 Artist: Alamgir Haque
 Venue: Mrinmoy Art Gallery, Chittagong
 Date: May 25th - June 15th
 Time: 4pm-8pm



Musical Soiree
 Title: Praner Khela
 Artists: Mohiuzzaman Chowdhury & Shama Rahman
 Venue: Bengal Shilpalaya, H-42, Rd-27, Dhanmondi
 Date: June 9; Time: 7pm



NEWS bytes

Alchemy acquires "The Runner"

Film studio Alchemy has acquired North American rights to "The Runner", a political drama starring Nicolas Cage. Written and directed by Austin Stark, the film co-stars Sarah Paulson, Connie Nielsen, Wendell Pierce, Bryan Batt and Peter Fonda.

In the film, scheduled for release later this year, Cage plays a politician whose career is destroyed by a sex scandal in the wake of the 2010 BP oil spill.

"With 'The Runner',



Austin Stark has crafted a captivating drama through a personal lens while tackling an event that resonated globally and remains very relevant in today's environment," Brooke Ford, Alchemy's Executive Vice President of marketing said.

Source: THR

IT'S TRUE!

The EGOT is a prestigious club of entertainment geniuses who have won all four major American Entertainment Awards - the Emmy, Grammy, Oscar and Tony (that recognize outstanding work in TV, music, film and theatre respectively), and the achievement is called the grand slam of show business. Only 12 people have achieved the feat, with Robert Lopez doing it in quickest time (10 years) and Helen Hayes the longest (45 years). Other recipients include Audrey Hepburn, Mel Brooks, Whoopi Goldberg, Rita Moreno and Mike Nichols.



NOBEL & MOU PAIR UP
 "Love Finally" set for Eid telecast

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Ishan is a musician, and Nandini is a fashion designer. Despite being in a relationship for eight long years, both of them have been so busy with their careers that they never managed to find enough time for each other, let alone think about

getting married and settling down. At one point, the relationship became so complicated that the two decide to break things off. But it is then that things start to happen in their lives that make them rethink their decision.

Nobel and Mou were a formidable on-screen couple of the

nineties, and still have a special appeal to the TV audience. The duo has paired up once again after a long hiatus, as Ishan and Nandini in "Love Finally", a single-episode TV play set to air this Eid on Rtv. Kaushik Shankar Das has written and directed the play that also casts Nawshaba, Diana, Daud Nur and Nijhum.

Jolly Rahaman's KENO JE MON BHOLE
 in audio bazaar



A CORRESPONDENT

Singer Jolly Rahaman's Rabindra Sangeet album "Keno Je Mon Bhole", under the label of G-Series, is now in audio bazaar.

The album starts with the title song "Keno Je Mon Bhole", while other featured tracks of the CD are melodious and profound. The artiste has recorded several lesser-popular songs of the bard. "Tumi Je Amarey Chao," "Tomar Gopon Kathati," and "Na Bole Jaye Pachhe Shey" are such examples.

The artiste has beautifully lent her voices to popular songs -- "Pagla Hawar Badol Diney," "Ke Jabi Parey", "Labonye Purno Pran" and "Nidra Hara Raater E Gaan" in the album.

Jolly Rahaman, younger sister of renowned Tagore singer Papia Sarwar, seems very choosy (much like her sister) in terms of recording and rendering songs. The artiste's singing quality and style uncannily resemble that of her sister's. The album ends with a melancholic track "Swapone Dohe Chhinu Ki Mohey". Produced by G-Series, the album is being marketed by Geetanjoly.



TV WATCH

Lucky Akhand in "Raat Biraate"

A CORRESPONDENT

Veteran singer Lucky Akhand will be present in tonight's episode of Banglavisn's popular street show "Raat Biraate", where he speaks about different

chapters of his life and shared many experiences with the audience. He also presents a number of songs in the show. Hosted by poet Asad Chowdhury and produced by Kaonain Sourav, the show will air tonight at 11:25pm.



An artiste performs on the second day of the four-day (June 5-8) National Nazrul Conference, organised by Nazrul Institute, Ministry of Cultural Affairs. Held at the main auditorium of Bangladesh National Museum, the conference with the theme "Ekush Shotokey Nazrul", featured discussion, presentation of essays by Nazrul scholars and cultural performances including, solo and choral songs, group dances, recitations and staging of a play. PHOTO: STAR

"Nazrul's music is like an ocean" --- Nazia Toma

NAHIN TAHER

Nazia Toma, a rising singer of Nazrul Sangeet and daughter of popular singer Fatema Tuz Zohara, spoke to The Daily Star about her passion for music.

"The gift of singing was passed down from generation to generation in my family. My inspiration was my mother who taught me the ropes of singing. She is my first teacher. Everyone in my family is culturally inclined and that prompted me to take up singing as a career. After that I learnt classical music from Dr. Krishnapada Mondal. There is no end to learning music. It will continue throughout your life. That is what my mother told me and I will always remember her words.



"I will never be able to quite fathom the depth of Nazrul's songs. I love every genre of his songs; it is like a deep blue ocean which a person cannot fully explore. I am doing my level best to find out what is in this ocean. He was never constant. His music, lyrics and their meaning touches me deep within. There are so many forms of songs that Nazrul did, but I am more comfortable in singing the classical forms of his songs. It's not that I will never sing the other genre of the songs; I need to be more versatile. And I have trained in this direction and am constantly growing in this field."

NIPUN
 busy ahead of Eid

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

National award-winning actress Nipun is passing busy times shooting a film and a number of television plays. She is currently working in Tauquir Ahmed's latest film "Oggyatonama".

In the film, Nipun will be seen as an ambitious woman who dreams of going abroad with the help of a human trafficking agent.

About the film, Nipun said "My character in 'Oggyatonama' requires hard work and I am working with devotion. I have never played such a character before; it is the first of its kind in my career."

Meanwhile, the actress is going through a tight schedule ahead of Eid. She recently finished shooting a six-episode TV play titled "Forma Informal", directed by Masud Shezan. The play is a sequel where Nipun will be seen alongside Zahid Hasan.

On the other hand, today is Nipun's birthday, which she will be celebrating with near and dear ones at her own residence.



PHOTO: STAR

"Queen" wins top honours at IIFA

Vikas Bahl's directorial "Queen" bagged the Best Picture, Best Story and Best Performance in a Leading Role - female awards at the three-day long 16th edition of the International Indian Film Academy (IIFA) Weekend and Awards in Malaysia on Sunday.

The Kangana Ranaut-starrer was up against "2 States", "PK", "Haider", "Highway" and "Mary Kom" for the Best Picture trophy.

Bahl, however, lost the award in the Direction category to Rajkumar Hirani, who took home the trophy for "PK".

In the Leading Role Male category,

Shahid Kapoor, who also performed at the award ceremony hosted by Ranveer Singh and Arjun Kapoor, walked home with the award for his performance in "Haider". He had strong contenders including Aamir Khan ("PK"), Hrithik Roshan ("Bang Bang!"), and Shah Rukh Khan ("Happy New Year").

Deepika Padukone, meanwhile, was felicitated with Woman of the Year award. She was also nominated in the Best Performance in a Leading Role - Female.

Riteish Deshmukh grabbed the award for Best Performance in a Supporting Role - male for his villainous act in "Ek Villain",

Kay Kay Menon received the award for Best Performance in a Negative Role for "Haider". His co-star Tabu won Best Performance in a Supporting Role - female.

There was also an award for Best Regional Film, which went to Riteish Deshmukh-starrer Marathi film "Lai Bhaari". "Main Tera Hero" star Varun Dhawan won an award for the Best Performance in a Comic Role.

The Best Music Direction trophy went to the popular trio Shankar-Ehsaan-Loy for "2 States". Other contenders included Mithoon ("Banjara", "Zaroorat" and "Hamdard") and Ankit Tiwari

("Galliyan"), for which he won Best Playback Singer - Male.

In the female category of the award, the "Baby doll" singer Kanika Kapoor (for "Ragini MMS 2") defeated Sultana and Jyoti Nooran for "Patakha guddi" ("Highway") and Shreya Ghoshal for "Samjhawan" ("Humpty Sharma Ki Dulhania").

It was a big night for "Heropanti" actors Tiger Shroff and Kriti Sanon, who both won trophies for Best Debut.

National Award-winning director Omung Kumar got the Best Debut Direction award for "Mary Kom". He shared it with popular producer Sajid Nadiadwala, who made his directorial debut with "Kick".

It was an emotional moment when the award for Outstanding Contribution to Indian Cinema was announced. Subhash Ghai got on stage to receive it from Anil Kapoor and Jackie Shroff, whom he worked with in the 1989 movie "Ram Lakhani". Shradha Kapoor also paid tribute to Ghai by performing on songs from his films. Other performers included Parineeti Chopra, Anushka Sharma and Sonakshi Sinha.

A special tribute to Shah Rukh and Kajol-starrer "Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge", which completed 1,000 weeks of screening last year, was paid by the show's hosts, who also cracked jokes on their controversial AIB Roast video for which they got into trouble earlier this year.

Held at Putra Indoor Stadium, the award ceremony was attended by thousands of screaming fans, some of which had flown from different countries just to see their favourite stars at the gala.



Ranveer Singh goes down on one knee to Deepika, who received the Woman of the Year award.

PHOTO: IIFA / TWITTER

"Dhushor Otithi" on Maasranga

A CORRESPONDENT

New drama serial "Dhushor Otithi" goes on air on Maasranga Television from Sunday to Wednesday every week. Written and directed by AD Dulal, the story circles Probal and Madhuri. One day Madhuri gets to know that Probal was beaten to death by angry mob.

Meanwhile, a youth named Chopol arrives at the scene trying to impress Madhuri.

Shoyeb, Deepa Khandakar, Shahriar Nazim Joy and others are in the cast.



Source: IANS