

NEWS bytes

HELLO KITTY is getting a movie

Imported from Japan, the Hello Kitty brand is one of the most popular around the world - and now its reach will be extending to the big screen. This is because it has been officially announced that a Hello Kitty movie is in development.



It seems as though things are still in the early stages, though Deadline is reporting that there is a plan in place to have the finish product in theatres worldwide some time in 2019. It's unclear at this point which medium the movie will be made in - be it animation or possibly an animation/live-action hybrid - but financing is all set up thanks to the Japanese lifestyle company Sanrio.

Existing for more than 40 years now, Hello Kitty centres Kitty White - an anthropomorphized cat who lives in London with her family. She goes to school, bakes, collects things, and enjoys playing with her twin sister, Mimmy. The character has been adapted into multiple television shows that have been produced since 1987.

Source: Cinemablend

RAMADAN CHRONICLES



PHOTO COURTESY: SHIHAB KHAN

"BEST THING ABOUT IFTAR IN DHAKA IS HALIM"...Armeen

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Armeen Musa, who broke into the Bangladeshi music scene with "Bhromor Koio Giya" over a decade ago, is a full-fledged musician these days, recently back to Dhaka with a degree from the Berklee College of Music and forming her own band here. In a conversation with The Daily Star, she opened up about spending Ramadan in Dhaka after a decade, and her new venture to spread the message of healthy living:

How has Ramadan been this year for you?

Armeen: Spending it here, back home -- after so long has been an interesting experience. I mostly observe Ramadan because it's a great physical and mental cleanse, but that seems to be a little difficult in Dhaka (chuckles), because there is just so many temptations on the table in the form of deep-fried beguni and piyaju. Fasting is much harder when eating such oily things everyday! I have been trying to have salads and lighter food, but one of the best things about iftar in Dhaka is Halim -- something I dearly missed while living

abroad.

Tell us a little more about your mission with healthy living...

Armeen: I have maintained a food photography blog for years (Delicacies from a Dhaka'ite) now, and it is quite popular. After I came to Dhaka, I wanted to share my practices of healthy living with the followers, and started a series. But I got so many requests to do a video blog that I eventually decided to go forth with it. After my father's recent passing, I really needed something to cheer me up, and this has been it. The

first video goes up July 6 (last night) on my YouTube channel.

Did you do your Eid shopping?

Armeen: I had a great time shopping for my family this year. I went in the early parts of Ramadan so it was not too crowded, and I loved the designs on the shelves, and it wasn't all that expensive either, and fit well into my 'musician' budget.

Where will you be spending Eid?

Armeen: I will be visiting my sister (in London); this is our first Eid without my father, so I thought of spending some time with family.

Abul Hayat in never-seen-before avatar

A CORRESPONDENT

Veteran actor Abul Hayat takes on a never-seen-before avatar for single-episode television play "Portrait". Scripted by Urmi Mostafa and directed by Golam Sohrab Dodul, the play casts Abul Hayat as an artist alongside his daughter Bipasha Hayat who will be seen as a corporate employee.

The character played Abul Hayat paints all night long which disturbs his neighbour (played by Bipasha Hayat). One day Bipasha comes to him to complain about the disturbance. However on learning that Abul Hayat paints portraits of famous dead men who come to him at night, Bipasha wants to see them.

"Portrait" will go on air on Rtv during Eid.



"Khorbor-walader Khorbor" on BTv

A CORRESPONDENT

Eid special magazine programme "Khorbor-walader Khorbor" featuring news personalities will go on air on BTv during Eid.

Produced by Mohammad Nasir Uddin and hosted by Iqbal Khondker, the show features senior journalists Monjurul Ahsan Bulbul, JI Mamun, Samia Rahman and Farzana Rupa. Also the show will have two songs sung by Lopa Hossain and Rauma, and six small plays performed by a bunch of news presenters and reporters.



"Cholo Ontoheen" releases today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

"Cholo Ontoheen", the sequel to the album "Ontoheen" is releasing today, six years after the first album was out. Written and planned by Asif Iqbal, the album brought out by Gaanchill music features Adit as the arranger, and Samina Chowdhury, Elita, Shoeb and Mahadi -- alongside Adit, lending their voices.

The album will be available on mobile phone operator Grameenphone's digital portal from today.

Semi-classical, jazz, soul and



fusion are the musical elements of the album, with emphasis on melody. Aside from Adit, Tushar and Nawshad, prolific keyboard-

ists Manam Ahmed and Romel have played keys for it. Renowned Indian accordion player Suraj Sathe has also

recorded for the album. Aupee Karim has done narration in a song "Esho Aj Tumi", and was confirmed to be featuring in the music video as well. Music videos for four other songs of the album have also been made.

Besides, another album, "Ami Chhuye Dilei", is also releasing on the same platform. The songs are written by Asif Iqbal, and composed by Naquib Khan and Mainul Islam Khan. The album features Samina Chowdhury, Fahmida Nabi, Shakila Zafar, Kanak Champa and Nancy.



KAREENA sizzles in "Brothers" item teaser

After giving a special appearance in Akshay Kumar's "Gabbar Is Back", Kareena Kapoor Khan is all set to sizzle in an item song in his soon to be released film, "Brothers". The song has been in the news for a while now and finally the first teaser of Kareena in the song was out yesterday. The actress looks drop dead gorgeous in a shimmering silver outfit in the image, with the song title "Mera Naam Mary" across it. The song is reported to be choreographed by Ganesh Acharya.

The film -- that depicts the emotional journey of brothers - David Fernandes (Akshay Kumar) and Monty Fernandes (Sidharth Malhotra), is a potpourri of action, romance and intense emotions. It also stars Jackie Shroff and Jacqueline Fernandez in other central roles in the Bollywood remake of 1979 film "The Warriors". Directed by Karan Malhotra and co-produced by Karan Johar under the banner of Dharma Productions, "Brothers" will release August 14.

Source: TOI

IT'S TRUE!



Rock legends Led Zeppelin's last live performance as a band was in London back in December of 2007, which was a tribute to legendary music executive Ahmet Ertegun. The concert is thought to have had the most-desired tickets of any show in history, as when it was announced, 20 million requests were submitted online for passes.

Iresh-Siddique- Babor in "Proshno"



A CORRESPONDENT

Iresh Zaker, Siddique and Babor have paired up for Iftekhar Ahmed Fahmi's Eid telefilm "Proshno". Written and directed by Iftekhar Ahmed Fahmi, the story surrounds Iresh Zaker and two robber kingpins. As Iresh arrives in Dhaka from abroad, Babor abducts him and robs him of all his belongings.

About working in the telefilm Iresh said, "I'm working with Fahmi after three years. Fahmi's works are always good and I hope this telefilm will be similarly appreciated."

Siddique said, "This telefilm will entertain the audience during Eid. I'm thankful to Fahmi for offering me such a challenging role."

The telefilm will go on air on Channel 9 during Eid.

Mark Wahlberg set for "Mile 22"

Mark Wahlberg and Peter Berg are in negotiations with STX Entertainment, the newly launched film and TV studio, to team up for action movie "Mile 22". UFC champion-turned-actress Ronda Rousey and Iko Uwais, who starred in the acclaimed martial-arts movies "The Raid: Redemption" and its sequel, are also starring in the movie. Berg will direct while Wahlberg toplines.

The Graham Roland-written CIA agent (Wahlberg) stationed in Indonesia who is tasked with transporting a compromised informant from the center of the city to an awaiting getaway plane at an airport 22 miles away. While en route, they must battle corrupt police, criminal overlords and heavily armed locals, all hell-bent on taking them out before they reach their plane.

Wahlberg and Berg are currently shooting "Deep-water Horizon", the disaster drama based on the April 2010 oil-rig explosion. The two also worked together as star and director, respectively, on 2013's action drama "Lone Survivor".

Source: Cinemablend



script tells of a

Prachyanat School of Acting to stage "Gupi Gyne Bagha Byne"

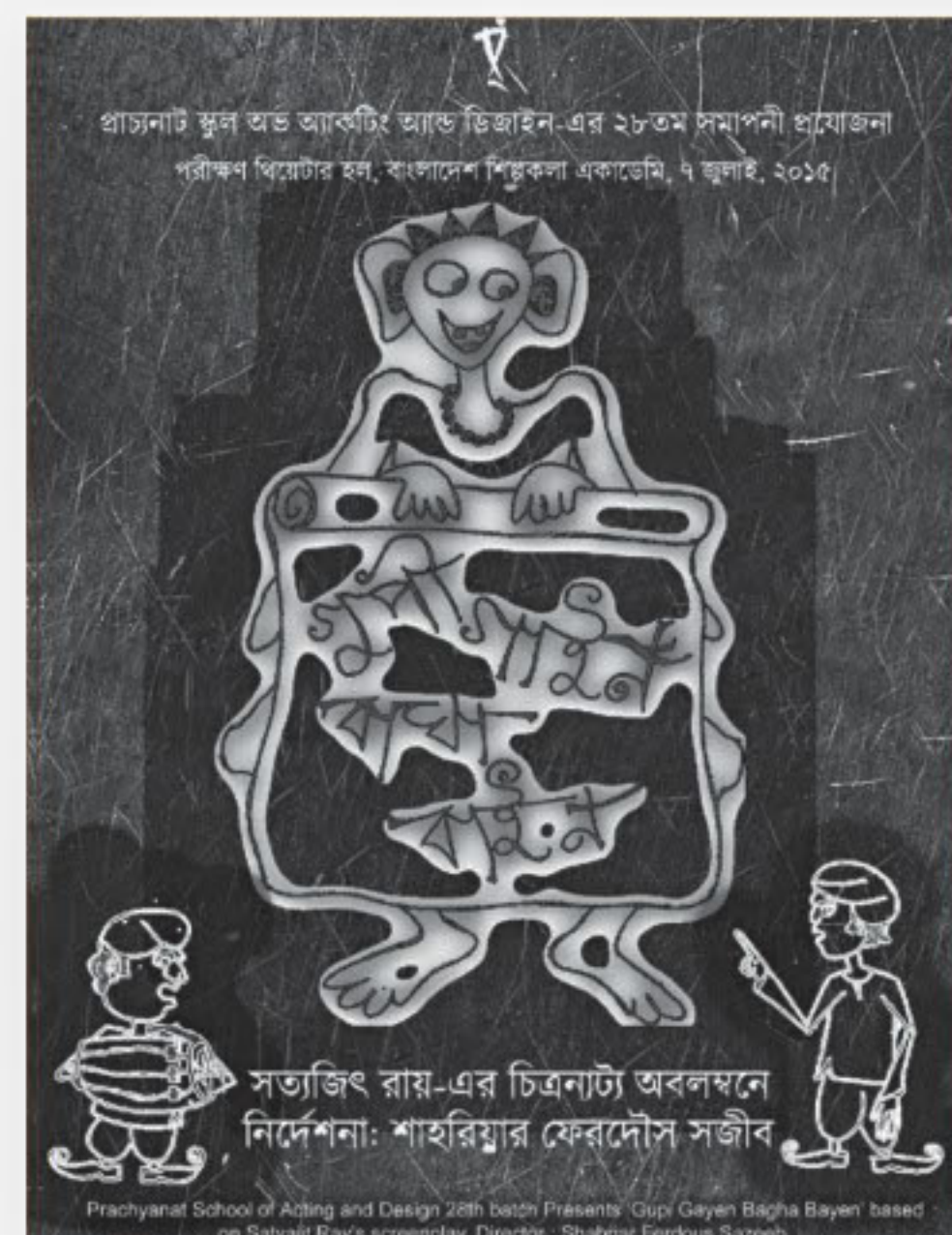
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Students of Prachyanat School of Acting and Design will stage "Gupi Gyne Bagha Byne" at the Experimental Theatre Hall of Bangladesh Shilpakal Academy today at 7:30pm. The play, adapted from Upendra Kishore Roychowdhury's eponymous classic, is directed by Shahriar Ferdous Sajib.

Aside from the play, a poster exhibition will be held on the open premises of Shilpakala.

The story encircles Gupinath, the son of a grocer from Amloki village. Gupi dreams of becoming a singer but has a hoarse voice. Persuaded by village elders to sing for the king, Gupi goes to the king's palace but is exiled to a forest for waking up the king with his terrible singing. In the forest Gupi encounters Bagha, another man driven out from nearby Uttorkut village for his bad drum playing. Gupi-Bagha start a band to scare away tigers but in the process they attract a group of ghosts. The ghosts are fascinated by Gopi-Bagha's music and grant them three boons.

The play casts Nur Muhammad Munna,



Ashraful Alam, Tanjim Imran Mahmud, Krishti Reza, Rakibul Hasan and others in the lead roles.