



WHAT'S ON

Photography Exhibition
Marking Tajuddin Ahmed's 90th
Birth Anniversary
Venue: Gallery 21, 751, Satmasjid
Road, Dhanmondi
Date: July 30-Aug 1
Time: 12-8pm



Prokriti O Rabindranath
er Borshar Gaan
Organiser: Padatik Bangladesh
Venue: National Music and Dance
Centre Auditorium, BSA
Date: July 31
Time: 7:15pm



Recitation Evening by
Tanveer Mokammel
Organiser: Platform
Venue: Bangladesh Film
Institute
Date: August 1, Time: 5pm



Concert
Charm of Korea VII
Organiser: Korean Embassy
Venue: International
Convention City, Bashundhara
Date: July 30; Time: 7pm



Solo Painting Exhibition
Colliding Collages
Artist: Harun-ar Rashid Tutul
Venue: La Galerie, Alliance
Francaise de Dhaka
Date: July 27-August 5
Time: 3pm-8pm



NEWS bytes

Diane Keaton joins Vatican drama



Oscar-winner Diane Keaton will star opposite Jude Law in a new drama series about the Vatican.

"The Young Pope" will feature the "Annie Hall" actress as an American nun living in the Vatican City, alongside fictional Pope Pius XIII, played by Law.

The series focuses on the controversial beginning to the Pope's tenure. Producers have not yet released details of Keaton's character, but Pius XIII is said to be 'stubbornly resistant to the Vatican courtiers', among whom she resides.

Keaton shot to fame in "The Godfather", playing the girlfriend of Al Pacino's mafia boss, and her career includes hits such as "The First Wives Club", "Red", "Marvin's Room" and "Father of the Bride".

"The Young Pope" is her first regular role on a TV show and her first job on the small screen since 2006 TV movie "Surrender, Dorothy".

The eight-part series will be directed by Italian filmmaker Paolo Sorrentino.

A co-production by Sky, HBO and Canal +, "The Young Pope" is due on screen in 2016.

Source: BBC

IT'S TRUE!

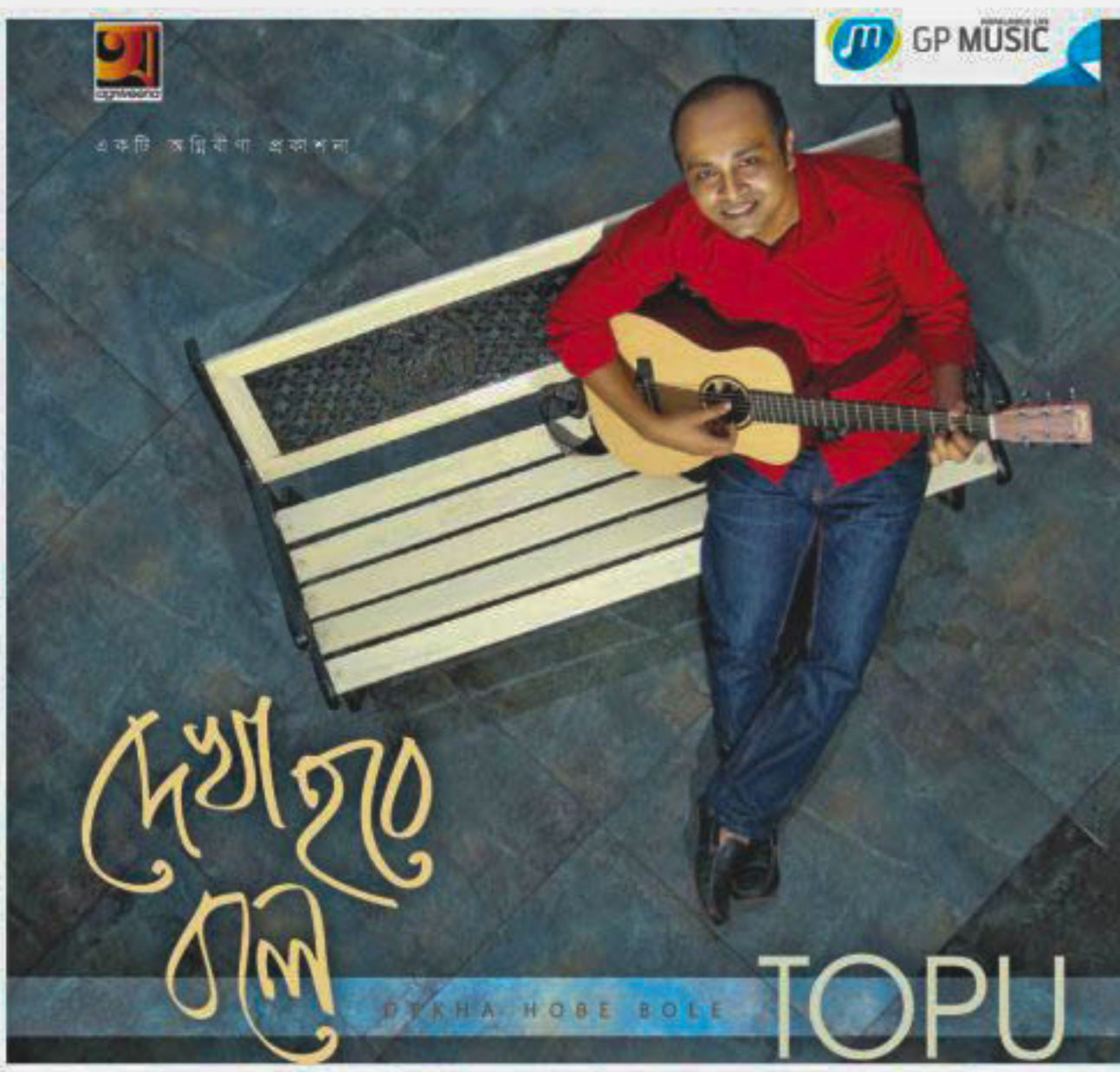
Scarlett Johansson auditioned for the role of Lisbeth Salander in "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo", but didn't get the role because she was considered too attractive for it. Alongside acting, Johansson has also ventured into singing. She recorded the single "Before My Time" for the documentary "Chasing Ice", which was nominated for Best Original Song at the 2013 Oscars.



"Bangla pop music is evolving with its own identity" ... Topu

A CORRESPONDENT

Topu has had a loyal fan following ever since the release of "Daak", the first album of Yaatri. Simple, relatable lyrics and catchy melodies are at the core of his musical philosophies, and Topu has made a style of his own with that. His latest album, "Dekha Hobe Boley", came out just ahead of Eid from the Agniveena banner, and is also available on the GP Music Platform.



Why the long hiatus between albums?

Topu: Music is a very serious matter to me. I don't want to release any albums without giving proper time for my lyrics, tune and composition. That is the reason behind this gap between albums. I hope listeners will hear the effort in the album.

What's special about this album?

Topu: I would say the sound of this album is special; it has been done by very talented sound engineer and composer Pavel Areen.

How do you see the evolution of pop music in Bangladesh?

Topu: Bangla pop music is evolving diversely, but with its own identity. There are a lot of immensely talented musicians who are creating outstanding music, who can really uphold our music in the international music scene.

Your thoughts on GP's digital music platform...

Topu: As a listener, this is the easiest way to get the songs of my choice legally. I am proud to be a part of this initiative.



PRANER KHELA held at Bengal Shilpalaya

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Noted Tagore artiste Bulbul Islam along with Shreyashi Roy performed at a musical soiree titled 'Praner Khela' at Bengal Shilpalaya, Dhanmondi on July 28. Bengal Foundation organised the programme as homage to Tagore's 74th death anniversary.

The singer duo presented a diverse genre of Tagore songs at the soiree. Shreyashi Roy set off the event with the song "Koto Ojanarey Janailey Tumi", and offered several other songs, including "Ashim Dhon Toh Achhey Tomar", and "Pran Bhoirye Trisha Horiye".

Bulbul Islam mostly performed monsoon melodies composed by the bard. His repertoire included "Saghano Gahono Ratri", "Timir Obogunthoney", "Chhaya Ghonaichhey Bon-e Bon-e" and "Ketchhey Ekela Biroher Bela".

Director General of Bengal Foundation Luva Nahid Choudhury hosted the programme.



Bobita celebrates her birthday in Canada

A CORRESPONDENT

Celebrated film actress Bobita observed her birthday today (July 30) with her son Anik in Canada.

Over the phone Bobita happily said, "I spent my birthday with my son. I also spent Eid with him in Canada. I have many accomplishments and there's nothing more to expect from life. I pray to the Almighty to give me the courage to stand beside the people the rest of my life."

Meanwhile her elder sister Suchonda and younger sister Champa wished Bobita over the telephone.

Starting from the 1970s till 1990s, Bobita's strong onscreen presence established her as one of the leading actresses of Bangladeshi cinema. Her notable films include "Shukhe Thako", "Taka Ana Pai", "Shorolipi", "Manusher Mon", "Pitch Dhala Poth", "Anarkoli" and "Golapi Ekhon Train-e".

Bobita's appeal as an actress extends to India and Pakistan as well. She appeared in several Bangladesh-India and Bangladesh-Pakistan joint venture films in the mid-1980s.

Bobita was also cast in Satyajit Ray's 1973 critically acclaimed film "Ashani Sanket" alongside celebrated Indian actor Soumitra Chatterjee.

Michael Bay releases intense "13 Hours" trailer

Michael Bay's "13 Hours: The Secret Soldiers Of Benghazi" dropped its trailer on Paramount Pictures' official YouTube page yesterday, and thankfully, it doesn't look completely terrible. The first comforting sign is the fact that James Badge Dale and John Krasinski actually look pretty badass as the leads in the picture.

Another good factor about the trailer for "13 Hours" -- based off of Mitchell Zuckoff's book of the same name, is that Michael Bay's action looks as kinetic and explosive as per usual.

However, if the sensitivity and lack of gravitas that Bay's World War II picture

"Pearl Harbour" lacked is still absent in "13 Hours", there's going to be a field day with people claiming that Michael Bay is doing nothing more than cashing in on a controversial subject. While "Pearl Harbour" had a good couple of decades separating the reality from the cinematic equivalent, the Benghazi attack is still somewhat of a fresh wound in the American psyche.

"13 Hours: The Secret Soldiers Of Benghazi" opens in theaters on January 15, 2016.

Source: Cinemablend



Maasranga TV steps into fifth year

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Maasranga TV completes four years of transmission and steps into its fifth year today. Marking the occasion, the channel will air a number of special programmes, including special tele-film "Germophobicman" at 7:50pm, a look-back at the channel's journey in "Pechon Firey Dekha" at 9:20pm and Anupama Mukti performing in live musical show "Tomaye Gaan Shonabo".

Beginning its journey on this day in 2011 with the theme "Rangatey Elo Maasranga", the channel has been trusted for bringing tasteful entertainment and news to the TV audience. Apart from its family-friendly TV serials and tele-films, it gained accolades by broadcasting live sports action during the football and cricket world cups.

The channel looks to add diversity and innovation to its news and programmes in the coming years, to better serve its audience.

Celebrating Friendship WITH MUSIC

ACOUSTICA EPISODE 01

at The Daily Star Centre

STAR ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Friendship is a bond that cannot be defined or circumscribed. Friendship can only be celebrated, and maybe that's why Friendship Day is celebrated across the world every year. The first Sunday of August is not far off, and Star Arts & Entertainment brings you the opportunity to share some great moments with your friends by listening in to some lovely live music.

On August 2, four immensely talented musicians from Gaanshala -- Sovvota, Leemon, Moon and Moitree -- will perform



Sovvota



Moitree



Leemon



Moon

at "Acoustica Episode 01: Ek Nirjhor'er Gaan" at the AS Mahmud Seminar Hall of The Daily Star Centre, from 6pm. No big booming sounds, no flashy lights; just an up-close and personal 'unplugged' musical experience. Bring your friends along for an evening of fresh music and a hearty adda. Seating is limited (and first-come first-serve), so send an email to culturetds@gmail.com with your name and contact information and we will keep some seats for you and your friends.

GaanBangla TV and ABC Radio are partners of the event.



Sabina Yasmin to inaugurate DCI Free Eye Camp

A CORRESPONDENT

Noted singer Sabina Yasmin is to inaugurate DCI Free Eye Camp in the capital's Kallyanpur on August 1. Distressed Children & Infants International (DCI), a US-based non-profit child rights organisation, will hold the eye screening camp.

In addition to chief guest Sabina Yasmin, the eye camp will be attended by a number of guests including Dr. Muhammad Abdul Mazid, chief coordinator of Diabetic Association of Bangladesh; Tasik Ahmed, vice president of ATN Bangla; Dr. Nina Hoque, director of DCI and Salma Qadir, coordinator of DCI Bangladesh.

The eye camp opening ceremony will be held at Kallyanpur Health Clinic on Saturday morning.