

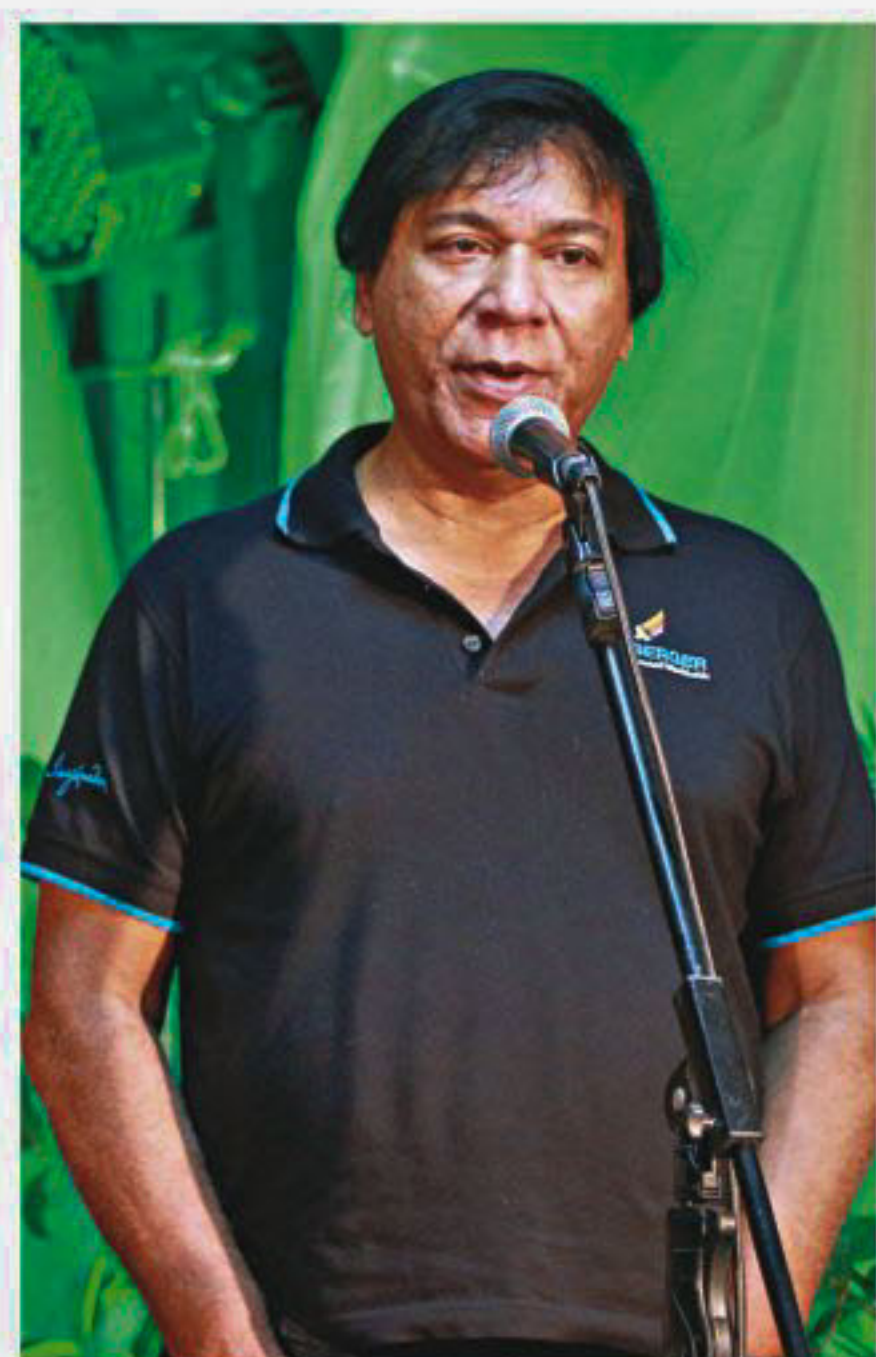
Friendship, in music and musings

"Acoustica: Episode 01" at The Daily Star Centre on Friendship Day



Leemon, Moitry and Moon perform at the event; (below) Rafique Muzhar Islam and Omar Khalid Rumi speak.

PHOTO: STAR



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

There aren't too many forms of creative expressions that celebrate friendship in a way music does. "You need two things to do sangeet (music) - songi (companion) and sangat (accompaniment)," said Moon, between his performances at The Daily Star Centre on August 2, where a small audience had gathered to celebrate Friendship Day. The unplugged concert, titled "Acoustica: Episode 01 - Ek Nirjhar'er Gaan" was held at the AS Mahmud Seminar Hall by Star Arts & Entertainment, to give the audience a taste of freshly-released contemporary music in the voices of three talented musicians - Leemon, Moon and Moitry.

The first Sunday of the month is not exactly ideal for an afternoon concert, and the traffic jam did keep

the audience waiting by a little while. One of the scheduled performers, Sovvota, remained stuck in India as her flights kept getting cancelled due to bad weather, but the performers that arrived made sure the absence was not felt too much. "Jehetu Sorasori Parbo Na Bolte, Gaane Gaane Karsaji" - began Leemon, a familiar name to those following Bangla music over the last few years. Moon has also been around in the circuit for a fair while, and is a bankable music arranger. Moitry, on the other hand, is a discovery of the "Ek Nirjhar'er Gaan" project, a doctor by profession and singer by calling. Armed only with two acoustic guitars and a harmonica, the trio set a minimalistic musical ambience as they presented songs from the compilation album, including "Moner Ojon" (by Leemon, originally sung

by Labik Kamal Gaurob), "Gopon Kotha Ta" (Moitry), "Muche Jacche Daag" (Leemon), "Eksho Bosta" (Moon), "Bondhu Toder" (Leemon), "Swopner Ghore" (Moon), "Jani Na To" (Leemon/Moon), "Ma Chara Prothom" (Moitry) and "Ish" (Moon), among others. The songs showed a wide range of emotions in free-flowing lyrical rhythm and expressive vocal work of the artistes.

In her welcome address, Star Arts & Entertainment Editor Sadya Afreen Mallick said friendship transcends age, gender and social barriers, adding that those who live among music stay forever young. Two musicians from Bangladesh's earliest band music days - Rafique Muzhar Islam (from the '60s) and Omar Khalid Rumi (from the 80s), also came on stage and shared memories of trying to break out of a

musical mold in those days. Rafique Muzhar Islam recalled performing in shows and trying to find their musical identity, while Rumi shared how he was inspired by bands like Windy Side of Care, The Lightnings and Rambling Stones etc.

Enamul Karim Nirjhar, the lyricist and composer of all the songs of "Ek Nirjhar'er Gaan", also spoke at the event, and on behalf of his initiative Gaanshala, expressed hearty gratitude to The Daily Star for the 'pat on the back' for his efforts. He also shared how the project began and how it has come thus far, adding that bigger dreams are ahead.

The event was held in association with Gaanshala, GaanBangla TV and ABC Radio as partners. Selim SH Chowdhury designed the set and lights for the event, which was recorded by GaanBangla TV and will

Big B, Salman, Akshay in top-earning actors' global list



PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

Bollywood superstars Amitabh Bachchan, Salman Khan and Akshay Kumar feature among the world's 10 highest-earning actors, in a list released by the Forbes magazine.

As per the data computed between June 2014 and June this year, 50-year-old Robert Downey Jr tops the list with earnings of 80 million dollars while Bachchan and Salman Khan share the seventh spot with each earning 33.5 million dollars. Akshay Kumar is ranked ninth with 32.5 million dollar earning.



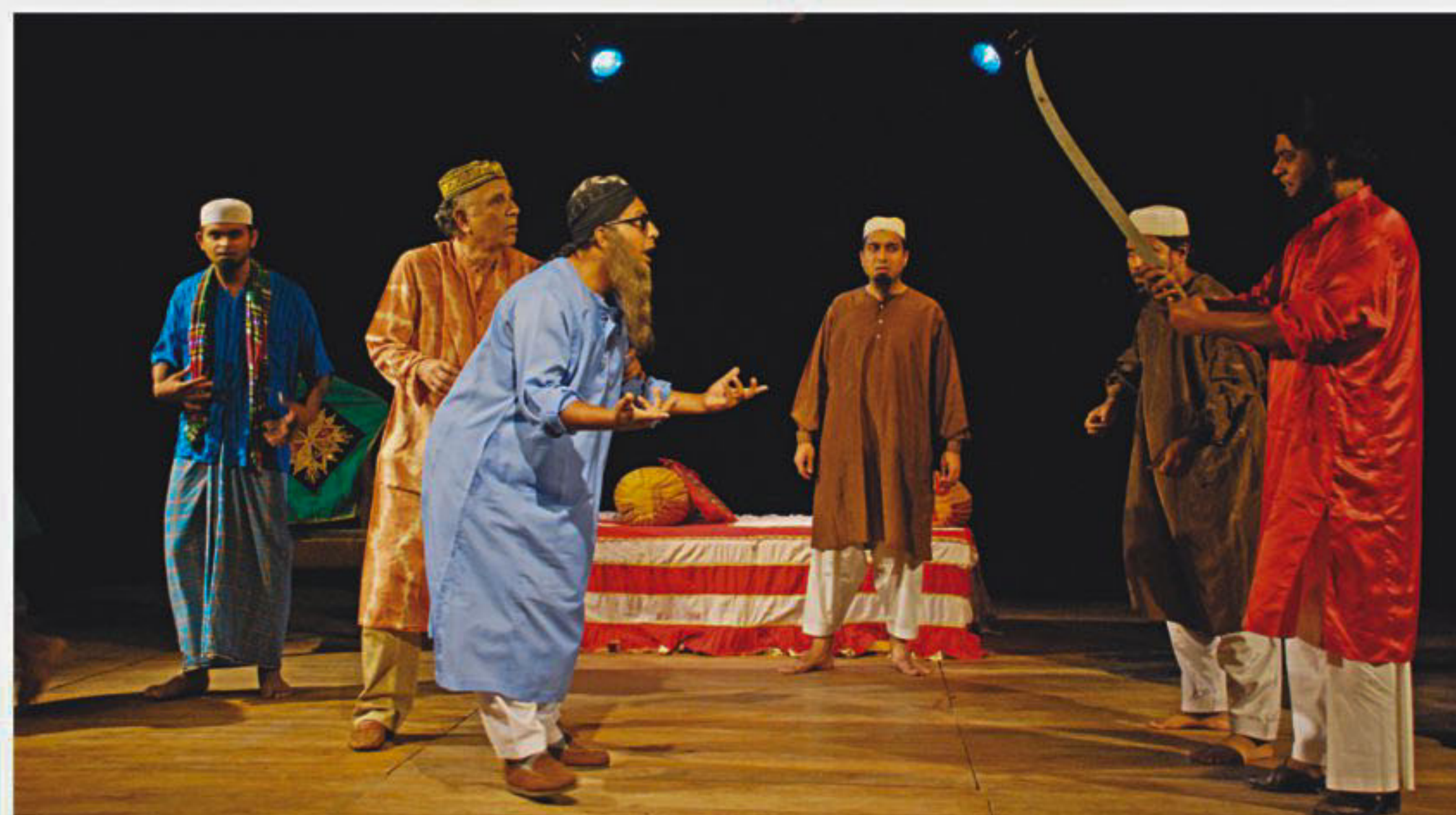
The top ten is rounded up by Jackie Chan, Vin Diesel, Bradley Cooper, Adam Sandler, Tom Cruise and Mark Wahlberg.

Two more Bollywood superstars - Shah Rukh Khan and Ranbir Kapoor - are placed in 18th and 30th spots with earnings of 26 million dollars and 15 million dollars respectively, according to the list.



Akshay Kumar boasts of a film production schedule which is busier than most Hollywood or Bollywood actors--an average of four movies every year, says the magazine.

This is the first time that Forbes has included actors outside Hollywood.



A scene from "Meraj Fakirer Maa".

Theatre to celebrate Abdullah Al-Mamun's birthday

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The 158th show of Abdullah Al-Mamun's play "Meraj Fakirer Maa" will be held today at 7pm at the National Theatre Hall of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA). July 12 was the 73rd birth anniversary of the playwright, the eminent founder of the troupe Theatre.

Theatre will stage the play in celebration of the birth anniversary of the theatre legend. Theatre holds the record of staging the highest number of Abdullah Al-Mamun's plays. Abdullah Al-Mamun, during his lifetime, directed 23 plays for the troupe.

Prior to the staging of the play, eminent educationist and author Dr. Syed Manzoorul Islam will



deliver Abdullah Al-Mamun Memorial Speech at the Seminar Room of National Theatre Hall.

Abdullah Al-Mamun was not only a playwright but also an adept actor and filmmaker. His literary works boldly depict the contemporary issues of Bangladesh.

He was one of the pioneers of the theatre movement in post-Liberation Bangladesh. In his lifetime, he wrote many popular

yet thought-provoking plays including "Subachan Nirbashone", "Ekhn Dushomay", "Shenapati", "Ekhn Krittadas", "Kokilara", "Sardha" and "Meraj Fakirer Maa". He successfully led Bangladesh Television (BTV) for a long time. "Sangshaptak" produced and directed by Abdullah Al-Mamun is one of the most famous TV plays of all time.

As a filmmaker, he ushered in a new era in Bangladeshi films. His notable films include "Sareng Bou", "Ekhn Somoy", "Sokhi Tumi Kaar" and more.

He received numerous awards including the prestigious Ekushey Padak, National Film Award and Bangla Academy Award in recognition of his creative works.

Nadia

busy with "Niamat on the way to Pattaya"



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Popular actress Nadia had a tight schedule ahead of Eid. Recently, she flew to Bangkok to shoot a six-episode Eid play "Niamat on the way to Pattaya" directed by Aniruddho Russel.

"The audience will see me in a humorous role in the series," the actress said, adding that she will also shoot for a yet to be named tele-film under the direction of the same director in Thailand.

A play titled "Niamat-er Keyamat" was aired on SATV during Eid-ul-Fitr. "Niamat on the way to Pattaya" is its sequel.

Seasoned actor Shaduzzaman Selim plays the title role of Niamat in the play.

Sony announces release date for 16 films



Sony Pictures has set its slate through 2017 that include two more films in the "Bad Boys" franchise, a remake of "Jumanji," the first installment in "The Dark Tower" franchise and sci-fi romance "Passengers," starring Jennifer Lawrence and Chris Pratt.

"Bad Boys 3" is set for Feb. 17, 2017, with "Bad Boys 4" slated to bow July 3, 2019. The first two pics starred Will Smith and Martin Lawrence, though it's unknown whether those two actors are on board for the next two movies.

The first installment in the adaptation of Stephen King's "The Dark Tower" franchise will bow on Jan 13, 2017. Nikolaj Arcel is directing.

Sony is hoping for an award season push for "Passengers" by slating the film to bow on Dec. 21, 2016. Besides starring Lawrence and Pratt, "Imitation Game" director Morten Tyldum is on board to direct.

Other major films that have received release dates include Edgar Wright's "Baby Driver", which will open on March 17, 2017, and "Resident Evil 6", which will open on Jan 27, 2017.

Source: Variety

MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE
Rogue Nation

The Daily Star | STAR Cineplex

10 Winners Everyday! 2 Premium Tickets For Each Winner

Mission: Impossible - Rogue Nation is a 2015 American action spy film written and directed by Christopher McQuarrie. It is the fifth installment in the Mission: Impossible series and preceded by Mission: Impossible - Ghost Protocol (2011). It stars Tom Cruise, who reprises his role as IMF Agent Ethan Hunt. It is produced by Cruise, J. J. Abrams, and David Ellison of Skydance Productions. The Daily Star together with Star Cineplex will host a quiz for the movie lovers in the Arts & Entertainment Section. So keep your eyes on this Newspaper.