

**WHAT'S ON**  
Solo Painting Exhibition  
Melancholy of Urban Life  
Artist: Sultan Ishtiaque  
Venue: La Galerie, Alliance Francaise  
Date: September 4-18,  
Time: 3pm-9pm



Selective Artworks  
Exhibition  
Title: Figuration  
Collector: Abul Khair  
Venue: Bengal Shilpalaya,  
Dhanmondi  
Date: Sep 4-20, Time: 12-8pm



Tapestry Exhibition  
Artist: Tajul Islam and Laxman Sutradhar  
Venue: Gallery Chitrak  
Date: September 11-20  
Time: 10am-8pm



Solo Art Exhibition  
Artist: Sultan Ishtiaque  
Venue: La Galerie, AFD, Dhanmondi  
Date: Sep 4-18  
Time: 3-8pm



Solo Painting Exhibition  
Title: Gods and Beasts  
Artist: Ronni Ahmed  
Venue: Bengal Art Lounge  
Date: Sep 12-Oct 7  
Time: 12pm-8pm



NEWSbytes

JACKSON 5 SCORE UK NUMBER ONE

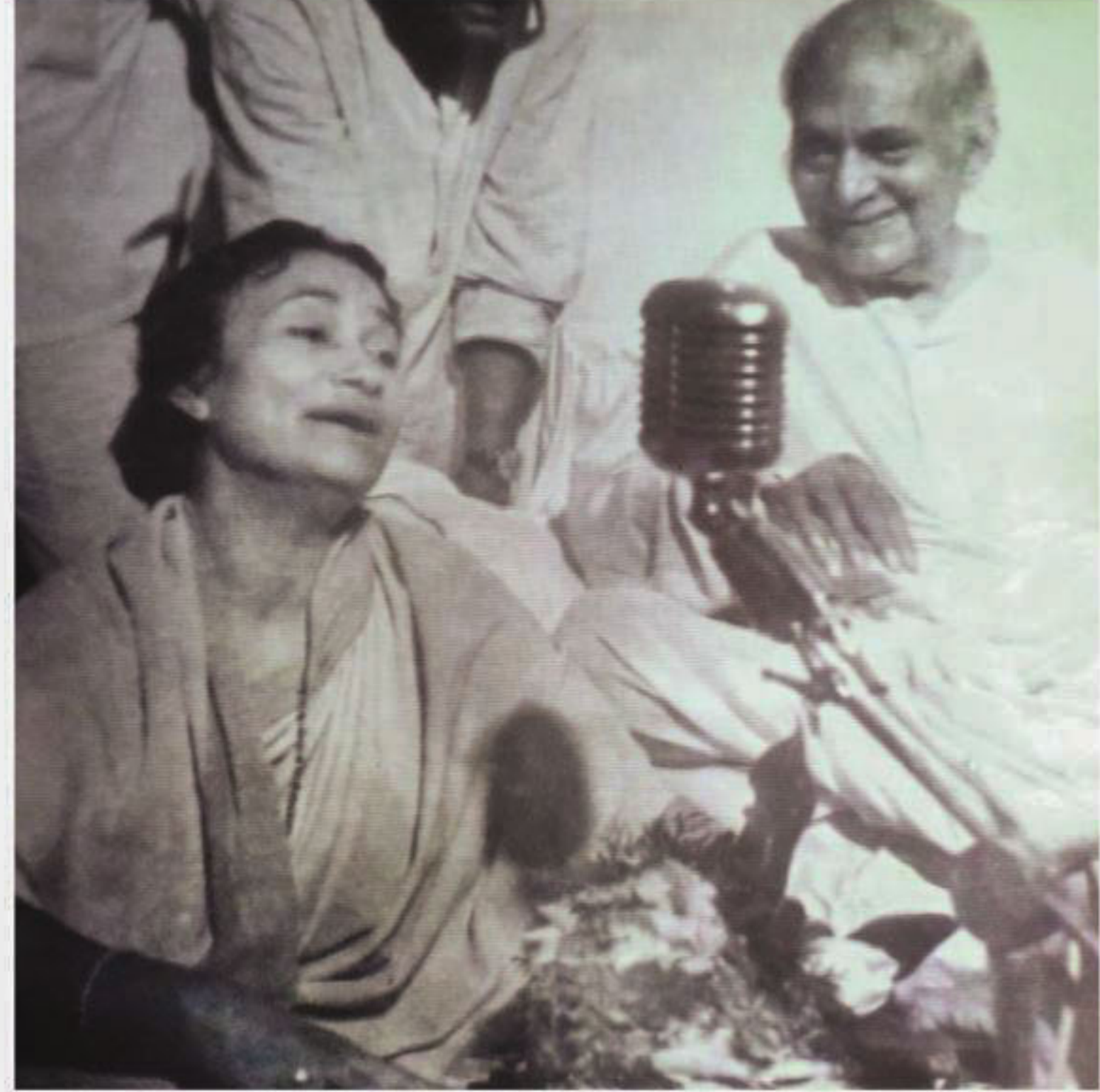
The Jackson 5 went up at number one in the UK singles chart, after their 1970 hit single "ABC" was sampled by a British DJ. Sigala's song "Easy Love" welds Michael Jackson's vocals to a summery house beat.

It has beaten the original song's chart peak of number eight. The track even has the seal of approval from Tito Jackson, who said he "loved the track", according to Sigala.

Meanwhile, in the album chart, Iron Maiden scored their fifth number one with "The Book Of Souls". The heavy metal icons' 16th studio album had combined sales of more than 60,000 copies - almost double that of its

In reverence and reminiscence

Feroza Begum Foundation launched at commemoration programme



Feroza Begum sings in front of Nazrul.

PHOTO: STAR

FAHMIM FERDOUS

It has been a year since Feroza Begum, the uncrowned queen of Nazrul Sangeet, left the earth for a better place, but her memories are ever so fresh in the hearts of those who were fortunate enough to be in her close quarters. Marking the first death anniversary of the legend (September 9), a memorial programme was held at the Bishwa Sahitya Kendra on September 12. Family members of Feroza Begum and noted personalities from various fields of arts congregated to share their memories with the artiste.

The first of the speakers at the event, Feroza Begum's brother M Asaf-ud-Doula, outlined the struggles the artiste had to go through her entire life, regarding her music and beyond. He also lamented that artistes in this country will be forgotten, no matter how great they were, because there is no proper way to preserve their memories. M Anis-ud-Doula, another brother of the great artiste and the Chairman of ACI Limited, then announced the initiative to form the Feroza Begum Foundation, through a committee convened by M



Anis-ud Doula, Asaf-ud Doula and Mosih-ud Doula talk at the programme.



Asaf-ud-Doula. He further said a 50 lac taka fund will be donated from the artiste's family to the Foundation.

Noted singer Mustafa Zaman Abbasi read out a page from a book on Nazrul that he wrote ("Puribo Ekaki"), where he narrated the first meeting of Feroza Begum with Kazi Nazrul Islam and Kamol Dasgupta at the HMV studio.

Eminent artist Mustafa Monwar shared experiences of when he was the Director General of BTV and produced the musical programmes of Feroza Begum. He also fondly recalled of a Surmandal which he had that Feroza Begum really liked, and received it as a gift.

Masih-ud Doula, brother of Feroza Begum, recalled of the backlash their father had to endure when she first began singing, because they were a conservative Muslim family. He also shed light on the impact Feroza Begum had, with how she performed Nazrul Sangeet at Santiniketan which the Visva Bharati was first reluctant of, and how in a place like Saudi Arabia where music by women is strictly restricted, they performed to raise funds for a school and

filled and entire indoor stadium with audience. Feroza Begum donated money for that school, the Bangladesh International School, which is one of the top schools of Riyadh today, he mentioned.

Quamrun Nesa Hasan, former Deputy Director General of BTV, also shared precious personal memories with the great artiste, including the last time she performed in public, on the Pahela Boishakh programmes by Channel i at the BICC.

An emotional Sadya Afreen Mallick, eminent Nazrul Sangeet exponent, reminisced the first time she had met Feroza Begum at a very young age. She was performing the opening song of BTV's first special programme on Nazrul, and performed a Nazrul song composed by Kamol Dasgupta. She also proposed a scholarship or an award for promising Nazrul artistes every year, from the Feroza Begum Foundation.

Reputed composer Sheikh Sadi Khan also spoke at the event, terming Feroza Begum an example for artistes of today and saying for as long as Nazrul and his works will live on, so will Feroza Begum.



"I'M NOT CUT OUT FOR THE RAMP" ... Shahtaj Monira Hashem

NAHIN TAHER

Young, beautiful, bold and talented, Shahtaj Monira has bowled over countless people with her childlike charm and on-screen charisma. She has worked in numerous TV and ad campaigns for Banglalink, and acted in TV plays and tele-films -- most notably "Chini Gura". In a chit-chat with the Daily Star, she talked about her journey to the world of glam and glitz.

**What sparked your interest in modelling?**  
Shahtaj: I wasn't too into modeling, to be frank. My dream was to go to Japan and dub for anime series -- something I enjoy greatly. Even in my spare time, the only thing that I do is watch anime. But I guess I was destined to do something else. My journey in this career began when my mother submitted my photograph as a contender for a modeling contest, Pantene Cover Girl. Since then, I have kept on working. I haven't done a great number of TVCs or dramas, mostly because I am very picky about my work and who I work for.

**How viable is a career in modeling?**  
Shahtaj: I don't think modeling is yet a full-fledged profession here. People get carried away when a spotlight is focused on them, and I am not an exception. I know that there were times I had to miss classes for shoots. But it is an unwise decision to give up education for any sort of work.

**Do you aspire to be a ramp model someday?**  
Shahtaj: I don't mean to disappoint anyone, but I don't see myself as a ramp model. I don't think I am up for the exposure yet. Plus, the stringent diet regime that they follow is way different from us TVC models, and I am happy with mine right now (laughs).

**Who is your inspiration?**  
Shahtaj: I wouldn't see myself here at all if it wasn't for my mother. My mother is my inspiration. She really wanted me to be in show business. She believed in me and guided me throughout. If she hadn't given my picture for that contest -- which I won (in 2013), I wouldn't be here talking to you (smiles).



PHOTO: RIDWAN ADID RUPON

IT'S TRUE!



When Sushmita Sen decided to participate in the Miss India beauty pageant in 1994, Aishwarya Rai, another contestant, was a big threat. But Sushmita remained composed and confident, eventually winning the Miss India title while Aishwarya became the first runner-up. Also the actress was the first Indian woman to bring the Miss Universe crown home in the same year. What's interesting is that Sushmita did her schooling from a Hindi medium institution and learnt English only post the age of 16, two years prior to winning the Miss Universe title.

Melancholy of Urban Life

Sultan Ishtiaque talks about his solo exhibit

FAYZA HAQ

"I started painting in my childhood and since then I have taken part in many competitions, including international/national competitions, in Egypt, India and Japan. I have collected around 100 international awards," says Sultan Ishtiaque, whose second solo exhibition "Melancholy of Urban Life" is currently on at the La Galerie of Alliance Francaise de Dhaka (AFD).

"I have dealt with the beauty of nature, rivers, seascapes and still life, but over the years the theme has changed somewhat. Against the beauty of nature and harsh

labourers and rickshaw pullers. I paint Old Dhaka and its people observing the city through the paintings. Most of my work is based on experimentation of various themes. I stress on downtrodden people, the daily chores of the rickshaw pullers, and the narrow lanes, wrecked buildings, cluttered and bursting with inhabitants."

Says the Director of Alliance Francaise, Bruno Plasse: "His choice of colours is fascinating. His inspiration comes from his surroundings, where the layman sees nothing but street scenarios. He is a master of techniques, and is very precise with his watercolours, as



reality there is a search for society. Unplanned urbanisation, traffic jam of Dhaka, the daily life of Old Dhaka... There is a study of old buildings like Panamagar along with diverse nomads as in dockyards, with focus on the shipbuilding process. People are definitely included as my subjects," he goes on.

"The complexity of life in Old Dhaka, what it is like to wake up to narrow streets, broken buildings come up in my paintings. There is a bird's eye view of the Mughal period with the Buriganga and the Chawk Bazar. There are the famous Ruplal House mosques,

he paints the Buriganga. He has a longing for loneliness and transforms his insights into mind-boggling emotions. He uses crayon, watercolour paints and acrylic."

Noted artist Shahid Kabir also spoke about the artist: "I developed a friendship with him while still a student and know him to be wise, honest and affectionate. He will be a great artist and contribute to the country's art."

The exhibit is on till September 18, from 3pm-9pm (Monday to Thursday) and 9am-12pm and 5:00pm to 8:00pm (Friday and Saturday).



Rahul and Tarin pair up for GAANWALA

A CORRESPONDENT

Television actress Tarin has paired up with singer, composer and lyricist Rahul Anand for single Eid special television play "Gaanwala". Written and directed by Ezzaz Munna, the play casts Rahul as Angshu while Tarin as Snata.

About working with Tarin, Rahul Anand said, "She is an actress of great stature. It was a pleasure to work with her."

The play also casts Khalekuzzaman, Wasim Khan, Shyamol Maola and others.

"Gaanwala" will go on air on a satellite channel during Eid.



The fifth season of children's reality show "Khude Gaanraj" concluded on September 11 with the grand finale taking place at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in the capital. Nuzhat Sabiha Pushpita was crowned as "Booster Energey Biscuit-Channel i Khude Gaanraj", while Raya Sharmila Islam Rafti and Mahfuz Ahmed Mahin become the first and second runner up respectively. Channel i also honoured legendary singer Runa Laila celebrating 50 years of her singing career.

Disney drops stunning live-action Jungle Book footage

When Disney dropped the first good look at what's to come in Jon Favreau's live-action "Jungle Book" at the D23 Expo, a few people were left with jaws dropped. They have now just shared the first footage into the stunning jungle setting of the upcoming feature.

In a short 'Vine' video, Disney showed how they have balanced the realistic look and dreamy, surreal aura of the setting, including a glimpse of little Mowgli.

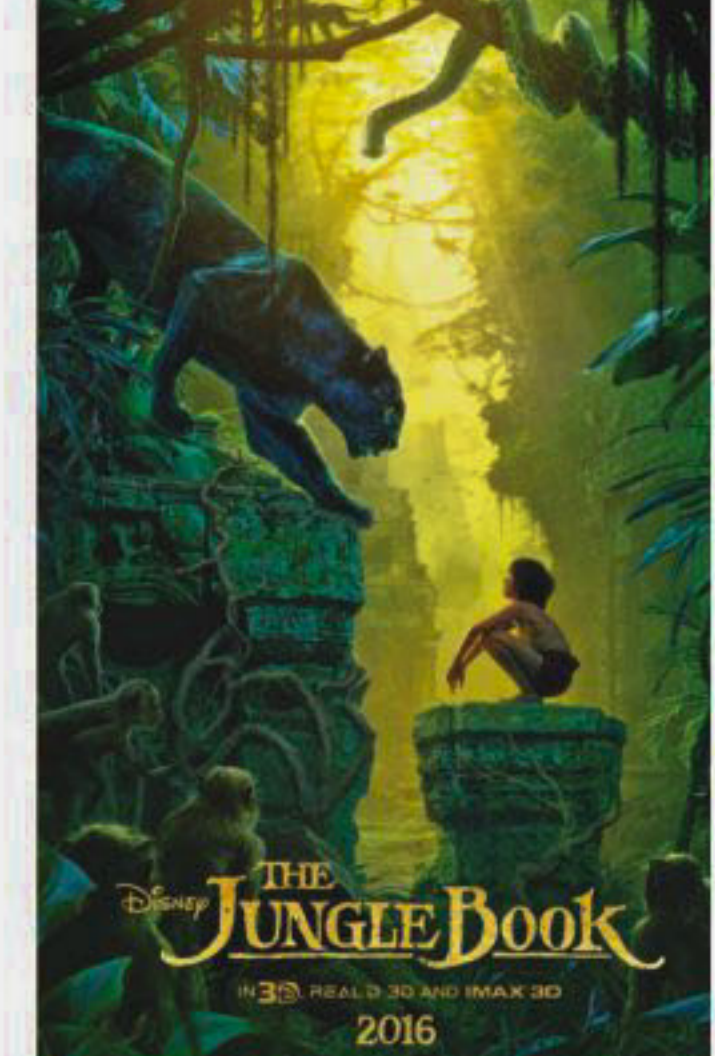
Rudyard Kipling's 1894 collection of stories has seen a number of adaptations over the years. From the classic Walt Disney animated film version in 1967 all the way to Chuck Jones's made-for-TV cartoons and even a number of stage adaptations. But the coming years prove to be some of the most exciting prospects for the classic stories. Both Walt Disney and Warner Bros. are developing live-action versions of the story, both different, but to include the iconic characters that many people over the

years fell in love with.

Disney's live-action/CGI adaptation has a screenplay by Justin Marks, and Jon Favreau has signed on to direct. The actor/director has been making his name in the director's chair with films such as "Elf", "Iron Man" and "Iron Man 2", and most recently the critically-acclaimed "Chef". Disney's project has also lined up a stellar cast which includes Bill Murray as Baloo, Ben Kingsley as Bagheera, Scarlett Johansson as Kaa, Idris Elba as Shere Khan, Christopher Walken as King Louie, Lupita Nyong'o as Raksha and Neel Sethi as Mowgli.

The film was announced a couple years ago, but had taken some time to pull together a cast, and only recently begun to move forward at full speed.

The Jungle Book plans to hit the big screen on April 15, 2016.



Source: Cinemablend