

WHAT'S ON

Star Melodies Musical Soiree
 Title: Borne Gondhe Chhonde Geetite (Songs of SD Burman)
 Venue: Daily Star-Bengal Arts Precinct
 Date: October 17; Time: 6:15pm


Solo Sculpture Exhibition
 Artist: Novera Ahmed
 Organiser: Bangladesh National Museum
 Venue: Nalinikanta Bhattacharya Gallery, BNM
 Date: October 7-19
 Time: 9:30am-7pm

Subir Choudhury Practice Grant
 Organiser: Bengal Foundation
 Venue: Bengal Shilpalaya, Dhanmondi
 Date: October 16; Time: 6pm

Solo Art Exhibition
 Title: Muse of Myths
 Artist: Abdus Shakoor Shah
 Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts
 Date: Oct 9-29; Time: 12-8pm

Photography Exhibition
 Title: Joy's Journey
 Artist: Joya Korem
 Venue: The Mandarin, H-27, R-35, Gulshan 2
 Date: Oct 16-22
 Time: 3-9pm

QUOTES



"Someone may say art is meaningless or of no importance and value; but in every inch of life it is of immense value. Art, culture, literature and education are necessary to nourish the soul. The art of talking, cooking, eating, dressing and behaving, and above all, art for teasing sensuousness encircles our life,"

MONIRUL ISLAM ON ART

NEWS bytes

Warner Bros sets 'King Kong Vs Godzilla'



Warner Bros. and Legendary are teaming up on a 2020 movie "Godzilla vs. Kong," representing the official unification of the two monster franchises. The companies jointly announced Wednesday that the basis for the film would be an "ecosystem" of giant super-species, both classic and new, as the Monarch organisation that uncovered Godzilla in the 2014 film expands its mission in multiple releases. The first films in the partnership have already been announced: "Kong: Skull Island," which opens on March 10, 2017, and "Godzilla 2" on June 8, 2018. "Kong: Skull Island" will be set in the mysterious home of the king of the apes as a team of explorers ventures deep inside the island. Jordan Vogt-Roberts is directing from a script by Max Borenstein, John Gatins and Dan Gilroy.



Homage to the Baul king
 Five-day Lalon death anniversary programme begins

AMANUR AMAN, Kushtia
 October 16 is the 125th death anniversary of Fakir Lalon Shah, known as the king of Baul philosophy. A five-day programme has been taken to commemorate the bard at his shrine (akhra) at Chheuria in Kushtia, starting from today (October 16). Lalon Academy, an elected body of local people, organises the programme every year with the support of the Ministry of Cultural Affairs. Local district administration supervises the event. The programme includes Lalon

Fair, a discussion and rendition of the songs of Lalon known as Lalon Geeti. On the occasion, an influx of devotees, admirers and Lalon exponents from all over Bangladesh and overseas are seen every year. Mahbulul Alam Hanif, lawmaker of Kushtia-3, also the joint general secretary of Awami League, will inaugurate the event. Among others Abdur Rouf, lawmaker of Kushtia-4, Abdul Hakim Sarker, Vice Chancellor of Islamic University, Abdus Samad, Divisional Commissioner, Khulna will take part in the event. "We have made preparations to

hold the event peacefully," said Syed Bealal Hossain, Deputy Commissioner of Kushtia, and ex-officio president of Lalon Academy. DC also assured that security has been beefed up to ensure safety for foreign visitors. Fakir Lalon Shah is the spiritual leader of Baul philosophy. He composed around 2,000-2,500 songs. He left no written copies of his songs, which were transmitted orally and only later transcribed by his followers. Though the Baul king's birth date or place is not known, Lalon died in October 17, 1890 at the age of 116.

First ever reality show on folk music
 Aarong Dairy-Channel i bring "Banglar Gaan" show



STAFF CORRESPONDENT
 For the first time in the country, Channel i, in association with Aarong Dairy, is bringing a reality show on folk music, titled "Banglar Gaan-2015". Managing director of Channel i, Faridur Reza Sagor, along with the director of Brac Dairy and Food Enterprise, Taufiqur Rahman announced the event at a press conference at Channel i premises yesterday.

Noted film director Amjad Hossain, singers Rathindranath Roy, Rizia Parveen, Selim Chowdhury, Haider Hossain, Shahnaz Beli and Rahul Anand attended the press meet, among others. Eminent Tagore artiste Rezwana Choudhury Bannya and rock star Ayub Bacchu will lead the jury board of the show. In addition, there will be an additional guest judge on every episode of the show.

Guests at the press meet emphasised the importance of preserving folk songs, and said it was necessary to introduce youngsters to our rich cultural heritage. The programme aims at reviving our old songs by popularising them among the younger generation. The 27-episode talent hunt show will go on air at 7:50pm on every Monday from December 7 onwards.

Ustad Mumtaz Ali Khan remembered
 His daughter Rupu Khan on the folk singer

NAHIN TAHER
 Ustad Mumtaz Ali Khan ranks unforgettably among those who popularised folk-songs of Bengal. In equal measure a composer, lyricist, singer and teacher, he was an inspiration to many during his lifetime. The Ekushey Padak winning artiste passed on in 1990, but his daughter Rupu Khan continues her father's legacy. The folk singer recently talked to this correspondent about her music and her inspiration. Belonging to a musical family and being the daughter of Ustad Mumtaz Ali Khan, Rupu Khan was a natural in the world of folk songs. Stepping into the music arena at an early age, Rupu Khan won awards in folk music in a competition that was held among participants from all districts of Bangladesh in 1976 and 1977. At the same time in 1977, she won an award in folk music in BTB's children's reality show "Notun Kuri". Her journey never stopped; she went on to



Rupu Khan
 win awards like the Ananna Musical Award and Performance Media Award. "I remember as a child. I learnt music from my father. He used to take me on his lap, and sing what seemed like stories for me. And till today, I can hear the melodious voice of my father and cherish those memories," said Rupu, also the host of a popular folk music programme on BTB. Rupu Khan loves to sing two timeless folk songs composed by Ustad Mumtaz Ali Khan: "Bondhu Rongila Ronglila Rey" and "Ei Je Dunia Kishero Lagiya" -- immortalized by Sachin Dev Burman and Abdul Alim respectively. "I saw him teaching so many students, like Abdul Alim, Mina Borua, Kiron Chandra Roy and many others. I also count myself as his pupil and the talent of singing also runs in my blood," she added. "My father was the one who spread the words and philosophy of Lalon through his songs. He was my idol," Rupu Khan concluded.

"I had a sleepless night when I received my first love letter" ---Sabbir

SHAH ALAM SHAZU
 Sabbir is a popular singer. He shot into to the spotlight with the Close-Up 1 competition and since then his career could not look better. In a rapid fire session, the noted singer talked about his many firsts:
 Tell us about your first love letter...
 Sabbir: When I was an eighth grader, a girl presented me an Eid card. I could not close my eyes for a moment that night.
 What was your ambition at an early age?
 Sabbir: Being a cricketer was my first dream. Once I played cricket in the First Division of Chittagong.
 When did you first travel abroad?
 Sabbir: After participating in the competition, I went to Australia for seven days in 2007.
 When did you sing your first song?
 Sabbir: At the age of seven, I performed a song for country on BTB.
 What was your first dream come true?
 Sabbir: The National Award I won as a child artiste in 'Natun Kuri', a cultural competition for young boys and girls on Bangladesh Television.
 When did you become a father?
 Sabbir: In 2013. My only son's name is Idan.
 Your first achievement in the music industry...
 Sabbir: My selection as a contestant of Top Ten in the Close-Up 1 competition.
 When did you first buy a car?



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

THE WEEKENDER

"A holiday spells total freedom" ... Nirob



STAFF CORRESPONDENT
 Model-turned-TV actor Nirob has made a powerful imprint on the silver screen. The star recently talked about what weekends mean to him:
 What is your definition of an ideal holiday?
 Nirob: A day without work which spells total freedom. It is like Eid day.
 What do you usually do on a holiday?
 Nirob: I get a sound sleep. On waking, I do my prayers. How do you spend your free time?
 Nirob: I spend the entire day with my family.
 Any memorable holiday time with your wife?
 Nirob: Once we went to Malaysia where we had great fun.
 Your favourite food ...
 Nirob: Chicken grill.
 Your favourite delicacies on the weekend?
 Nirob: It depends on my mother who loves cooking for me. But I love khichuri (hotchpotch) on the day.
 Do you watch movies on a holiday?
 Nirob: I do, especially my favourite films.
 Which film did you see in a cinema hall recently?
 Nirob: My friends and I watched "Aro Bhalobasbo Tomaye" at Shaheen Cinema Hall.

PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED