

WHAT'S ON

Group Art Exhibition
 Organiser: Samakal Shilpigosthi
 Venue: Gallery Chitrag, H-4, Rd-6, Dhanmondi
 Date: October 17-26
 Time: 10am-8pm



Duet Art Exhibition
 Artist: Farzana Rahman Bobby & Palash Biswas
 Venue: Kalakendra: 1/11, Iqbal Road (3rd floor)
 Date: October 13 - November 8
 Time: 5-9pm




Theatre Festival
 Organiser: Batighar
 Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
 Date: Oct 23-26
 Time: 7pm



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



Group Art Exhibition
 Title: Three Generation
 Venue: Athena Gallery, Uttar Badda
 Date: October 17 - Nov 7
 Time: 5:30pm



NEWSbytes

STAR WARS shatters ticket sales records

"Star Wars: The Force Awakens" has established a new record, bypassing "The Hunger Games" to move the most tickets in its first day on sale, Fandango reports. It didn't just surpass that picture, but shattered its benchmark, outselling "The Hunger Games" eight times over. There are already sellouts, particularly in Imax screenings, and to meet the demand, movie theatres are continually adding show times, the online ticketer reports. Its presales also broke every Imax record, generating over \$6.5 million. The film eclipsed "The Dark Knight Rises", "The Hunger Games: Catching



"Fire" and "Avengers", which each earned around \$1 million in presales. MovieTickets.com did not release any data, but "Star Wars: The Force Awakens" is the top-selling film on its site. Interest in the film was so intense that both MovieTickets.com and Fandango reportedly crashed for some users. The film is intended to kick off another trilogy of pictures and brings back cast members from the first film, such as Harrison Ford and Carrie Fisher, along with new stars Adam Driver, John Boyega and Daisy Ridley. JJ Abrams directs the film.

Source: Variety



JOHN MCLAUGHLIN to headline Dhaka Jazz & Blues Fest

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Music has been a big part of the Bangalee way of life for centuries, and along with the music of our own roots, various genres of world music have also seeped in to our musical taste and influences, particularly in recent decades. However, except for sporadic events, live music from across the world was not a common sight in our country until a few years back. Since the groundbreaking first edition of the Bengal Classical Music Festival in 2012, the idea of music festivals has taken shape in Dhaka, and Blues Communications is following up this January's Sufi Music Festival with another large stride: to give music lovers of Dhaka a memorable experience of

jazz and blues. Considered the two earliest forms of world music, jazz and blues have a burgeoning following in Bangladesh, and fans are already excited about the three-day event next month. The three-day Jazz & Blues Festival Dhaka 2015 will be held at the Army Museum grounds from November 5-7, and will be headlined by stalwart British guitarist-composer John McLaughlin & the 4th Dimension. A pioneer of musical fusion and Ranked 49th in Rolling Stones' list of top 100 guitarists of all time, McLaughlin is cited by many prominent musicians as their influence. His music fuses many genres of jazz with blues, rock, Eastern and Western Classical Music, with his most famous collaborations being the electric supergroup Mahavishnu Orchestra and Indian classical music-

based group Shakti. He will be joined by King Baby (USA), Soulmate (India), Esdras Nogueira Quartet (Brazil), China Moses (France), Louis Banks (India), Vasundhara Vidalur (India), along with local artistes including Ayub Bachchu's AB Blues, cellist Rafez Khan, The Blues Brothers and the young group Imran Ahmed Quintet. The performances will begin every day at 6pm and will continue till midnight. Grameenphone is the title sponsor of the event, with Bengal Digital, Etihad Airways, Coca Cola, The Westin hotel and GP Music as other partners. Tickets for the event are available at select Grameenphone Centres, and online. More details and updates can be seen on the Facebook page of Jazz & Blues Festival Dhaka.

APU in festive mood

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Apu Biswas has become a familiar name for film lovers. Despite a busy schedule, Apu inevitably gets into the festive mode every Durga Puja. The actress spoke to The Daily Star about her Durga Puja memories and plans. "Durga Puja is my favourite festival. I spent many years in my hometown of Bogra, and Durga Puja always takes me back to those days. The excitement, visiting relatives, wearing new outfits and going to the temples are still vivid memories." "As days get busier, it's harder to make time for celebrations, even during Durga Puja. I try to minimise my workload for Puja, and always feel a tug to visit Bogra. I'm spending this Puja in Dhaka, as my plans to visit Darjeeling didn't come through."



"Gifts are an integral part of Puja, and this year was no different. I bought heaps of presents for my loved ones, and received my share of gifts too." "My best wishes are with everyone on this special occasion of Durga Puja."

"The Diplomats" on Ekushey Television

A CORRESPONDENT

Television programme "The Diplomats" will air on Ekushey TV on October 24 at 7:50pm. Ambassador of Arab Republic of Egypt, Mahmoud Ezzat will talk to communication specialist Masud A Khan on different

aspects in the show. Mahmoud Ezzat will shed lights on many important bilateral issues, especially bilateral trade, cultural exchange, connectivity, tourism co-operation and more. The show has been planned and hosted by Masud A Khan.



RHCP working on new album

Anthony Kiedis, frontman of Red Hot Chili Peppers, says the rock band's latest material is as good as anything they've ever done. He also hinted that he has acoustic ideas on his mind as the band concentrate on their 11th studio title. The follow-up to 2011's "I'm With You" has been in the works for several months, and it's

expected to appear in the first half of 2016. Kiedis told Rolling Stone: "We've been writing new music for the last year and we've written some songs that I feel are as good as any songs we've ever written." "I love to play acoustic, whether we're talking about 'By The Way' or an old song like 'Me And My Friends'," said the singer. "These

very aggressive, loud, chaotic electric songs work rather nicely on quiet instruments. "We rehearsed and played everything acoustically from 'Fire' by Jimi Hendrix, to trying to figure out if 'Californication' works on acoustic - which it did."

Source: Classic Rock

"The glitter and glam will only stay a while" ... Riba Hasan

NAHIN TAHER

"Modeling is all about passion and bringing an extravagant presence on the stage," Riba Hasan said during a chitchat with The Daily Star. In the glam world since 2010, this gorgeous lady unflinchingly sets the ramp on fire with her magnetic aura. "I started out as a billboard model for IFIC Bank. My mother encouraged me every step of the way, and it is because of her love that I am here. She is my inspiration and led me to pursue my dream...my passion. But I don't perceive modelling as a career. It would be unwise, especially in our country. People often tend to blur the lines between ramp and TVC models. Quite frankly, a person who does TVCs is an artiste not model," she said. "You may wonder why you haven't seen me in a TVC. The reason is simply that I love the ramp and I am very comfortable with it. The monetary return for a TVC artiste is below my expectations. Yes, it's true that you do get a lot of exposure when you do a TVC, but again as I said they are not models. And it was my passion and dream that made me achieve the title of a model." "Everyone in this glamour world tends to forget their priority: education. You need education even if you are famous. The glitter and glam will only stay for a while but education is one thing that will always carry a person ahead to their pinnacle. Upcoming stars forget that their real calling is education. No matter what, fame and popularity last only a short time and a model must accept this hard truth." She adds, "Of course there are other factors like height, posture, grace, body language, looks et al. But these days we are getting to see a different trend on the ramp as people's height is not all that important anymore." "Every day we all encounter fans and fanatics. Some are easy to deal with and some are not. Working with Aarong for so long, I faced both. I love it when people acknowledge me as 'Aarong's model.' The tough ones to deal with are those who constantly ask irrelevant questions or have conversations or try to have conversations with me on Facebook."



PHOTO: RIDWAN ADID RUPON

SALMA AKBAR to perform at IGCC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre (IGCC) will organise a musical evening by prominent Rabindra Sangeet artiste Salma Akbar on October 23 at 6:30pm at the IGCC auditorium Gulshan-1, Dhaka. The singer will set off the event with a Swadesh Parjaye song "Aji Bangladesh-er Hridoy Hotey". She plans to perform 20 songs from various parjaye --Pooja, Prem, Prokriti, Swadesh and Bichitra. Her repertoire will include "Himer O Raat-er Oi Gagoner", "Sunil Sagorey Shyamal Kinarey", "Dao Hey Hridoy Bhorey Dao", "Tobu Mon-e Rekho", "Dujoney Dekha Holo", "Moron Rey Tuhu Momo" and "Hemontey Kon Boshonter O Bani". October 20th marked the 144th birth anniversary of Atulprasad Sen. As a tribute to the poet, Salma Akbar will perform several songs - "Dakey Koyela Barey Barey", "Amio Ekaki Tumio Ekaki" and "Murali Kande Radhe Radhe Boli", composed by Sen. Besides, she will perform songs on request at the solo soiree. Born in Barisal, Salma Akbar studied at Chayyanaut and received her initial training in classical music from Ustad Narayan Chandra Basak and Ustad Azad Rahman. She trained in Rabindra Sangeet under



eminent artistes, including Karim Sharafi, Sanjida Khatun, Sadi Mohammad, Rezwana Chowdhury Bannya in Bangladesh and Konika Bandopadhyay, Nilima Sen, Sanghamitra Gupta in India. The singer has been a member of several Bangladeshi cultural delegations to India and USA.