

WHAT'S ON



Dhaka International Folk Fest
 Venue: Bangladesh Army Stadium, Banani
 Date: Nov 12-14
 Time: 5pm-12am

Group Exhibition
 Title: Drawings
 Venue: Gelleri Kaya
 Date: Nov 13-27
 Time: 11am-8pm





Solo Exhibition
 Chromatic Delusions
 Artist: Maksuda Iqbal Nipa
 Venue: Bengal Art Lounge
 Date: Oct 31-Nov 21
 Time: 12-8pm

Korean Film Festival
 Organiser: Embassy of The Republic of Korea
 Venue: Bangladesh Motional Museum
 Date: Nov 13-14
 Time: 3pm onwards





Solo Oriental Painting Exhibition
 Artist: Amit Nandi
 Venue: Zainul Gallery, FFA, DU
 Date: Nov 10-15
 Time: 10am-8pm



QUOTES

“In all our traditions of music, the musicians were mostly Upasakas (spiritual practitioners), more precisely Naad (sound) Upasakas. In India, music is more than entertainment – great masters of music were not considered only as entertainers: music is believed to be a direct way to connect with the divine.”

INDIAN FOLK SINGER PARVATHY BAUL;
THE ARTISTE PERFORMS TOMORROW AT DIFF '15.

Fifth Tone Int'l Miniature Art Biennale 2015 sets off today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Tone Art Society of Bangladesh (TASB) brings the Fifth Tone International Miniature Art Biennale 2015 to Dhaka today. The opening and award-giving ceremony will take place at Gallery Chittrak at 5pm on November 13 while the second such ceremony of the grand event will be held at Gallery Athena at 5pm on November 14. The exhibition features a number of artworks in diverse media by 324 artists from 27 countries.

“The Fifth Tone International Miniature Art Biennale has been dedicated to Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin. One of the artworks (depiction of a crow) by Shilpacharya will be on display at the exhibition,” said Khalid Mahmood Mithu, president of TASB.

Artworks by renowned guest artists including, Kazi Abdul Baset, Mustafa Manwar,



Rafiqun Nabi, Samarjit Roy Choudhury, Hamiduzzaman Khan and Kanak Chanpa Chakma will also be on display at the exhibition.

The exhibition at Gallery Chittrak will be jointly inaugurated by eminent artist and media personality Mustafa Manwar, renowned Tagore singer Rezwana Choudhury Bonnya, chairperson of Athena Gallery of Fine Arts, Nilu Rowshon Murshed and CEO and managing director of Mutual Trust Bank, Anis A. Khan. The occasion will be presided over by Md. Muniruzzaman, secretary general of TASB.

The exhibition at Athena Gallery of Fine Arts will be jointly inaugurated by renowned film personality, writer and actor Amjad Hossain, eminent artist Rafiqun Nabi and Dr. Toufiq M. Seraj, managing director, Sheltech. Chairperson of Athena Gallery of Fine Arts, Nilu Rowshon Murshed will preside over the session.

“This festival is a big boost for our folk music”
...Momtaz

SHAH ALAM SHAZI

Momtaz Begum, unparalleled folk singer of Bangladesh, has a staggering number of 700-plus albums to her credit, and enjoys a popularity that is unmatched. A member of the Bangladesh Parliament, she remains an avid music exponent. Momtaz will be performing on the big stage of the Dhaka International Folk Festival 2015 tonight (Friday). The artiste spoke to The Daily Star about the festival:

Your expectations of such a large scale folk festival?

Momtaz: Everyone--me included-- is excited about this great initiative. I have high expectations from the festival, and I hope the organisers can live up to them. This festival is a big boost for our folk music.

You have performed around the world, including neighboring India. How do they view our folk music there?

Momtaz: Indian audiences rank out



our folk music very high, and appreciate it greatly. Now, through this festival, people all around the subcontinent will get to know the richness of folk music.

How do you think the audience will respond?

Momtaz: I think people will flock to this festival. Bangalees are festival-lovers, and they also have a special place for folk music in their hearts. So there should be a big turnout.

What songs are you performing?

Momtaz: I will do my popular numbers, including the baul, bicchedi and love songs. Plus, I will try and bring in some new elements. Arnob will be performing with me in a few songs. I will also do parts of a pala gaan, something that I used to do long ago.

Any other words?

Momtaz: The first expectation is that the festival be held regularly. I want to make that proposal to the organisers, who I heartily congratulate and thank for this initiative.

Shakespeare in a new light

British Council to bring 'A Different Romeo and Juliet'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Marking the global celebration of 400th anniversary of William Shakespeare's death, British Council Bangladesh, in collaboration with UK's Graeae Theatre Company and Dhaka Theatre, will hold a special staging of Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet". The play--to be staged in March, 2016--will feature a group of differently-abled young artistes.

The event was announced at a press meet at British Council in the capital on November 12. Barbara Wickham, director of British Council Bangladesh; Matt Pusey, deputy director of British Council; veteran thespian Nasiruddin Yousuff, and Jenny Sealey, artistic director of Graeae Theatre Company were present at the event.

The production, termed "A Different Romeo and Juliet" is led by Jenny Sealey and Nasiruddin Yousuff.

Speaking about the project,



Organisers and cast at the press meet.

PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

Jenny Sealey said, "I feel privileged to be a part of this epic journey of discovering the talents of differently-abled people in Bangladesh. Placing these people in the universal love story of Romeo and Juliet will create a world where everyone has the right to love and to be loved."

Nasiruddin Yousuff observed that "Shakespeare's masterpiece, being performed by these highly

talented people with disabilities, shows that 'limitation' is only a word, which can be surpassed with plan and practice."

The artistes are drawn from different groups of people in Bangladesh with disabilities, with participants from Centre for the Rehabilitation of the Paralysed (CRP-Bangladesh), Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee (BRAC), Bangladesh Reform

Initiatives for Development, Governance and Empowerment (BRIDGE) and Gram Theatre.

The British Council started this project in 2013 with a focus on empowering people with disabilities through giving them acting workshops as a tool to help them explore their identity, facilitate social inclusion, and infuse an enriched sense of self-worth into them.

Mehzabin in "Ghash Foring-der Bhalobashar Golpo"

A CORRESPONDENT

Popular television actress and model Mehzabin Chowdhury will be seen in single-episode television play "Ghash Foring-der Bhalobashar Golpo". Written and directed by Zubayer Ibne Bokor, the play is based on a love story.

Mehzabin said, "Nowadays pure love stories attract me. I prefer doing meaningful characters where my acting abilities face challenges. I think I am growing as an artiste. The play has an interesting story, and I hope it will go down well with the audience."

Meanwhile, Mehzabin-starrer drama serial "Superstar" is going on air on Channel i.



PHOTO: RIDWAN ADID RUPON

PERFORMING TODAY

at Dhaka International Folk Festival

PABAN DAS BAUL (INDIA)

The rich and melodic musical tradition of India's West Bengal region is given a modern sensibility by Paban Das Baul, a master of dubki (a small tambourine) and a hypnotic vocalist. Synthesizing Tantric Buddhism, Vaishnavism and Sufism, Paban Das Baul has attracted international recognition for his outstanding performances. Paban's collaboration with British guitarist Sam Mills marked one of the first fusions of Bangla music and Western pop music.



Paban Das Baul

YUNNAN ART TROUPE (CHINA)

Established in 1951, Yunnan Art Troupe is famous in China and other countries because of their composition of multi-ethnic artistes. The troupe has performed at many major international festivals in France, Italy, Australia, Switzerland, Germany, Finland, Sweden, Vietnam and other countries. With unstinting efforts to develop the art of traditional opera and bring it closer to people, Yunnan Art Troupe has gradually formed a distinctive traditional artistic style which is unique in China.



Yunnan Art Troupe

NOORAN SISTERS (INDIA)

Granddaughters of famous Bibi Nooran, Jyoti and Sultana were trained in Sufi music by their father Ustad Gulshan Mir. Following the tradition of Sham Chaurasi Gharana and Mirasi, Nooran Sisters quickly catapulted into success by staying close to their roots and offering Indians all over the world a chance to hear songs that wrenched hearts to their very roots.



Nooran Sisters

OTHER PERFORMERS OF THE NIGHT ARE:

BARI SIDDIQUE; AJGAR ALIM, JAHIR ALIM & NURJAHAN ALIM; MOMTAZ WITH ARNOB & FRIENDS; NASHID KAMAL

NEWS bytes

"Dr. Strange" casts Amy Landecker

Marvel's first foray into the magical side of their cinematic universe, next year's "Doctor Strange", has put together a fantastic cast full of incredibly talented actors. And even though production has started and set videos and photos start to leak out, they're not done filling out the call sheet just yet as they've invited Amy Landecker to the superhero party.

Scott Derrickson is at the helm of Sorcerer Supreme's first MCU adventure, and The Wrap reports that Landecker, who recently appeared in Emmy-winning transgender drama "Trans-



parent", is set to join the project. There aren't any other details available at this time in regards to the character she may play, whether it is a new creation or a familiar face from the comics, or even how large the part is.

Benedict Cumberbatch plays the lead character Stephen Strange, alongside Tilda Swinton, Chiwetel Ejiofor, Rachel McAdams and Michael Stuhlbarg.

"Doctor Strange" is currently filming in Nepal and is scheduled to hit theatres in just under a year on November 4, 2016.

Source: **Cinemablend**