

**WHAT'S ON**

**Solo Oriental Painting Exhibition**  
Title: Reunion of Shakuntala  
Artist: Malay Bala  
Venue: Zainul Gallery, FFA, DU  
Date: Nov 16-22  
Time: 10am-8pm

**Comedy Show**  
Organiser: Naveed's Comedy Club  
Venue: The Stage, 1st Floor, House 31, Sector 13, Uttara  
Date: Nov 21  
Time: 7:30pm-9pm

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

**5<sup>th</sup> Tone Int'l Art Biennale 2015**  
Organiser: Tone Art Society of Bangladesh  
Venues: Galley Chitrah and Athena Gallery of Fine Arts  
Date: Nov 13-30; Time: 10am-8pm

**Solo Exhibition**  
Title: Rokeya  
Artist: Rokeya Sultana  
Venue: Bengal Shilpalaya, Dhanmondi.  
Date: Nov 17-Dec 5  
Time: 12-8pm

NEWS bytes

'Fast & Furious' spinoffs in process

The "Fast and Furious" franchise may take a page from "Star Wars" and Marvel. Producer and star Vin Diesel said that the team behind the fast cars and criminal series is in the preliminary stages of developing prequels and spin-offs.

"We've written out story lines for various characters," said Diesel. "We've been playing with it for a long time. It's a very rich property and we're committed to treating it with a lot of class."



The actor did not say which characters would get their own standalone films, but in the past, Dwayne Johnson has hinted that he'd like to see his character, Diplomatic Security Service agent Luke Hobbs, branch out into independent adventures.

For now, however, the focus remains on creating three more "Fast and Furious" sequels. Diesel and Universal brass promise that the upcoming films will be different in tone from the adventures that preceded them.

Source: **Variety**

IT'S TRUE!



Vivien Leigh won the role of Scarlett O'Hara over hundreds of actresses, including heavyweights like Bette Davis, Joan Crawford, Katharine Hepburn, and Paulette Goddard. During filming, Leigh worked 16 hours a day, six days a week, for 125 days. To deal with the stress, Leigh chain-smoked, burning through four packs of cigarettes a day. Leigh was paid \$25,000 for "Gone With The Wind". But subsequently, Leigh took home the trophy for Best Actress in 1939. In 1952, she won another Oscar for Best Actress in a Leading Role in "A Streetcar Named Desire".

Nobanno Utsab in Mymensingh

AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh

On the first day of Bangla month Agrahayan, a cultural function was organised by Mymensingh Shilpakala Academy at its auditorium on Sunday evening.

The festival included rendition of songs, dance sequences and 'Pitha Utsab'. The artists of the academy rendered 56 largely folk songs. Indigenous artistes from Mymensingh

Mohila College also participated in a dance sequence. Ustad Anwar Hossain, Sakhawat Hossain Mithu and Joyate Fahmi directed the musical soiree while Nazmul Haque Lenin directed the dance sequences.

Poet Rubina Azad joined a poetry recitation session. At a discussion held earlier, the speakers said that the Nobanno festival has been celebrated for centuries in

rural Bangladesh. While the younger generation is addicted to newer forms of entertainment, we should go back to our roots by observing such traditional festivals.

Harun-ur-Rashid, Additional Deputy Commissioner (General) inaugurated the celebrations as chief guest. Arzu Parves, District Cultural Officer also spoke at the inaugural session, among others.



PHOTO: STAR

Inspiration from the roots

Bipad Bhanjan Sen's solo exhibition

FAYZA HAQ

Bipad Bhanjan Sen Karmaker was born in Daragram village in Manikganj district amidst a profusion of natural beauty -- rivers, canals, green fields, schools, mosques and temples. It was a haven of harmony between communities. Says a nostalgic Karmaker, "A gentle breeze wafted through the green fields on winter mornings, when dewdrops appeared on the leaves. The charm of the six seasons could truly be enjoyed in the village."

"Unforgettable was the wind during hot summers and sometime storms broke through. Birds quenched their thirst with different kinds of delicious fruits, and green trees soothed our minds."

"There was water in the fields in the rainy season, heavy drizzle, cloudy skies, muddy road, green fields of paddy and water lilies in the



jute fields. The white jute sticks on both sides of the river, presented a beautiful look. There was cultivable land on the side of the river, and different kinds of coloured boats plied on the river - guided by the wind."

"After the rainy season, came autumn. The water of the rivers and canals dried up. There would be the rise of the

sandy soil. Birds would sing behind the tree. The smell of the paddy fields still fills my mind. The farmers returning home with paddy on their heads was a great sight."

"Then I would come in time to celebrate Durga Puja with the sound of drums. My mother would draw 'Alpana' and father would draw the design of ornaments. I would

see my father make flowers with coloured papers. Actually my artworks were inspired by them," Karmaker confides.

Karmaker's paintings on display at Alliance Francaise, La Galerie from November 6-19 include a milkman carrying pots on his back. He is dressed in a sarong and singlet. You get the impression of action by the swift strokes of the brush.

"Nature" has beautiful trees of green and red at the back. The reflection on water makes the painting interesting. The colourful tribal girls are dancing. They have their typical carrier baskets at the back and necklaces of large silver coins.

"Under the tree" has flowers in front, with trees in the backdrop. There is green grass in front. The combination of green, red and brown make the composition interesting.

The exposition is Karmaker's 4th solo on "Nature and Culture".

**Noted fashion designer Chandrashekhar Saha inaugurates "Group Mask Exhibition" organised by the students of Fine Arts at Zainul Gallery, Dhaka University. The exhibition will be open till November 22.**



Topu and Yatri in "Music Club"

A CORRESPONDENT

Popular singer Topu, along with his band Yatri, will perform live on tonight's episode of Banglavisian's phono-live studio concert "Music Club".

Besides playing their hit tracks, Topu and Yatri will share interesting anecdotes and talk about different aspects of their music. Audience can talk to the guests and request the songs of their choice over the telephone.

Produced by Nahid Ahmed Biplab, the show will air tonight at 11:25pm.



PROVA in "Othocho Cactus Noy"

A CORRESPONDENT

Television actress Prova will be seen in single-episode television play "Othocho Cactus Noy". Written and directed by Shamima Shammi, shooting for the play wrapped up recently in the capital's Uttara.

The play encircles Kabita, an independent young woman. As Kabita tries to solve hurdles in her professional life, she is distanced from her family.

About the play, Prova said, "There are some characters which draw your attention. Kabita is such a character, and while portraying the role I fell in love with her. I hope the audience will appreciate the play."

Shamima Shammi informed that the play will soon air on a satellite channel.

**SAEED JAFFREY passes away**  
REEL LIFE SUCCESS

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

Remember Mir Raushan Ali, the nobleman of Awadh kingdom, obsessed with playing chess, forgetting governance and his family in Satyajit Ray's "Shatranj ke Khiladi"? Or the large-hearted paanwala in "Chashme Buddoor" or Suri, the friend of protagonist Naseeruddin Shah dancing to the song of "Huzoor is kadam na itra ke chalieye" in Shekhar Kapur's "Masoom"? That is quintessentially fine actor Saeed Jaffrey for you.

Alas, the actor is no more. He died at the age of 86 in London on November 16. Jaffrey's death was announced by his niece Shaheen Agarwal on Facebook on Sunday. He passed away in a hospital in London early on Saturday. A statement from Jaffrey Associates said the actor had collapsed at his London residence after a brain haemorrhage and never regained consciousness.

Whether it is "Shatranj ke Khiladi" or "Masoom" or that of Lallan Miyan in Sai Paranjape's 1981 comedy "Chashme Buddoor" set in Delhi in which he played the role of paanwala to whom the film's three protagonists were always in debt, Jaffrey could essay any role-meaty or non-meaty in parallel cinema or Bollywood formula films with equal competence.

The other qualities of Jaffrey, the actor were his pronunciation of Hindi, English or Urdu which were always perfect and the delivery of dialogues and emotions effortless.

Born in 1929 in Malerkotla, the Indian part of Punjab, Jaffrey, after his education at Aligarh and Allahabad, studied at The Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London and The Catholic University of America and won the Order of the British Empire for his contribution to theatre.

"He came with the training and discipline of British theatre and was really professional. There was never a time when he came to the sets unprepared," says filmmaker Shyam Benegal who directed him in the film "Mandi" (1983).

Not many actors had worked with as much competence as Jaffrey in British and American films and Indian movies: Sir Richard Attenborough's "Gandhi" (1982) where he played Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Stephen Frears' "My Beautiful Laundrette" (1985), John Huston's "The Man Who Would Be King" (1975), David Lean's adaptation of E. M. Forster's "A Passage to India" (1984), HBO mini series "Far Pavilions" (1984) and British TV show "Jewel in the Crown" (1984).

Jaffrey was just as endearing in Hrishikesh Mukherjee's "Kisi se Na Kehna" (1983), Raj Kapoor's "Ram Teri Ganga Maili" (1985), in Randhir Kapoor's "Henna" (1991) and Ramesh Sippy's "Saagar" (1985).

Jaffrey, who was the first truly recognisable face of Asian actors on British television and in Broadway in the 1960s and 70s, became the first from Asia to be given the Order of British Empire award.

'Prem Ratan Dhan Payo' smashes Bollywood records

Salman Khan's latest film "Prem Ratan Dhan Payo" scored the biggest Bollywood opening of all time in India and the U.K., while landing in the top 10 chart in North America.

The Diwali release smashed a number of records in its debut in India and abroad for Fox International Productions and Fox Star Studios.

The film, starring Salman and Sonam, is directed by Sooraj Barjatya. PRDP opened on November 12, a day after the Diwali festival to cash in on the four-day holiday weekend, which resulted in a \$31 million worldwide haul from 4,801 screens in seven markets.

As one of India's most bankable stars, Khan's pulling power saw the film recording the biggest opening weekend of all time for a Bollywood title in the U.K. earning \$1.5 million. In the U.S. it received the biggest ever release for a Hindi film, opening on 284 screens and collecting \$2.4 million, landing at the ninth spot.

"With the exception of a couple of genuinely exciting sequences, Sooraj Barjatya's latest syrupy extravaganza is a highly predictable effort. However, that won't stop fans of Salman Khan from queuing in droves," The Hollywood Reporter said in its review.

Source: **THR**

