

WHAT'S ON
Photography Exhibition
 "Pakhi'r Desh Bangladesh"
 Venue: Bangladesh National Museum
 Date: Dec 4-11
 Time: 9:30am-4:30pm



Solo Art Exhibition
 Title: How Do I Rent a Planet
 Artist: Razib Datta
 Venue: Kalakendra
 Date: Nov 20- Dec 10
 Time: 5-9pm



10th DU Theatre Festival
 Venue: TSC
 Organizer: Theatre & Performance Studies Dept
 Date: December 3-8; Time: 7pm



Group Art Exhibition
 Aquatic
 Venue: La Galerie, AFD
 Date: Nov 27-Dec 11
 Time: 12-8pm



Drawings & Sketches Exhibition
 By Master Artists
 Venue: Shilpangan Gallery, Dhanmondi
 Date: Nov 27-Dec 10
 Time: 3-8pm Daily



More than the quintessential baddie

First death anniversary of Khalil

FAHMIM FERDOUS
 His was not the dulcet tones of a father, but one inflected with grit and power. His was a voice that never failed to assume command over his audience. His was a voice that would transcend his typecast role, transforming even the intimidating landlord (in "Sangsaptak") into someone who brought into play a lot more than just the quintessential baddie. Khalil Ullah Khan, the powerful actor of Bangla films, passed away on this day last year, ending a career in acting that spanned more than five decades, and creating a void that could never be filled.

The story of his life in itself would make a formidable plot for a 1950s film. A young Ansar officer in the early 1950s was suspended from service following an altercation with a union board chairman. Despite financial hardship, he did not let go of his passion for acting, and was gradually picked up by a film producer. When he was offered the hero's role, His infuriated father (who was a religious person) ousted him from his house. The film, however, was a success and his acting career took off therewith. Khalil began his acting career for the big screen in 1953 through "Sonar Kajo". The film was produced by Masud Chowdhury - who discovered him - and directed jointly by Kalim Sharafi and Zahir Raihan.

During the early days of his career in the early 1950s, he was deeply into theatre. After being origi-



nally cast for Masud Chowdhury's "Preet Jane Na Reet" (opposite Shabnam, with whom he would go on to form a successful screen pair), he was replaced by the romantic hero Rahman who seriously injured one of his legs in an accident during the shoot. So Khalil was re-cast in the film.

He never had to look back since then. He starred in Pakistan's first colour film - Zahir Raihan's "Sangam" - and became a successful lead actor, working in 11 films, before being detached from the film industry for a while as Urdu films saw a decline in the erstwhile East Pakistan in the late 1960s. But after Bangladesh's liberation, he revived his career through films such as "Utshorgo" and "Ekhan Akash Neel". He also ventured into the small screen, most notably in "Sangsaptak" and "Bhangoner Shobdo Shuni", and appeared in numerous adverts as well.

Spending his childhood in Sylhet, Khalil's love for acting had blossomed early. He was given his job as an Ansar officer back in 1977 - a year after he'd won the National Film Award for Best Actor in a Supporting Role for "Gunda" - and served the force with integrity. But he continued to work in films.

The actor was honoured with the Lifetime Achievement at the National Film Awards 2012. His unique voice, square jaw and cold gaze will remain etched on the minds of film lovers and serve as a perennial source of inspiration for the generations of actors to come.



Visitors at the exhibition.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

THE BEAUTY OF BIRDS

"A BIRDLAND CALLED BANGLADESH" ON DISPLAY AT BNM

SAURAV DEY
 "A Birdland Called Bangladesh", a group photography exhibition featuring photos of birds, is on at the Nalinikanta Bhattasali Gallery of Bangladesh National Museum (BNM). The exhibit, jointly arranged by Bangladesh Bird Club and the National Museum, was inaugurated on Friday (December 4) at Poet Sufia Kamal Auditorium. Noted artist Hashem Khan and celebrated singer Rezwana Chowdhury Bannya inaugurated the exhibition. Faizul Latif Chowdhury, director general of BNM, presided over the inauguration ceremony, while Dr. Niaz

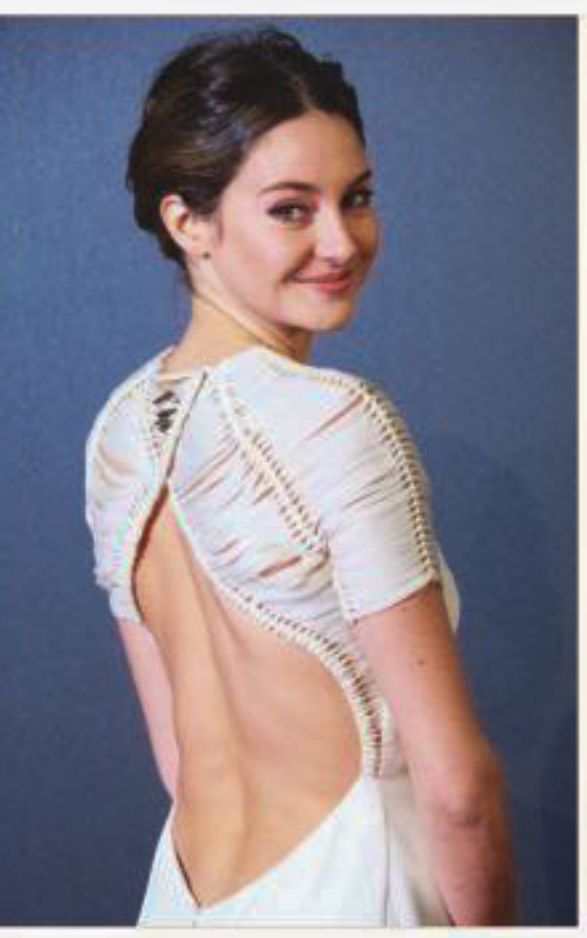
Abdur Rahman, president of the club gave the welcome speech. As the title says, exhibition is all about birds - of different colour, different species, and different sizes - and its beauty. Starting from the House Crow to Asian Koel, Coppersmith Barbet, Common Coot, Black-rumped Flameback, Eurasian Curlew, Blue Rock Thrush, Common Moorhen, Jacobin Cuckoo, Asian Palm Swift, Mountain Imperial Pigeon and Purple Swamphen, the exhibition boasts 102 photos by 46 members of the club. There are also photographs of birds which are rarely seen nowadays and which are on their way to extinction. Beside the exhibited

photos, mounted taxidermies of a number of birds are also in place for the audience. Birds are colourful and magnificent signifying beauty and free spirit. The exhibition is just a snippet of what birds look like when they roam around freely amidst nature. The exhibition is not only displaying photos of birds that belong to this land, but also it is working as a strong medium to raise awareness about the conservation of our birds. Curated by Enam Ul Haque, the exhibit will run till December 11 from Saturday to Wednesday at 9:30-4:30pm and on Friday from 2:30-7:30pm.

NEWS bytes

Shailene Woodley joins "BIG LITTLE LIES"

Shailene Woodley is joining Reese Witherspoon and Nicole Kidman in David E. Kelley's project "Big Little Lies", based on the book of the same name. Adapted from Liane Moriarty's 2014 novel, "Big Little Lies" is described as a darkly comic drama centering on three mothers of kindergartners whose apparently perfect lives unravel to the point of murder. Woodley's casting has been in talks for a while, though her deal is not yet closed, reports Variety. She



will reportedly play a single mother. Kidman made the announcement at the Hindustan Times Leadership Summit in New Delhi on Saturday, although HBO has yet to confirm her involvement.

Witherspoon and Kidman - who optioned the book rights through their respective production shingles, Pacific Standard Films and Blossom Films -- are also serving as exec producers. Woodley will be seen next in "Snowden" and "The Divergent Series: Allegiant".

Badhon-Ishana-Alvee in two serials

A CORRESPONDENT
 Lux-Channel i superstars Badhon, Alvee and Ishan are working together in two television serials. Drama serial "Sohojatri", featuring the trio, is going on air on Banglavision. The serial, directed by Kaiser Ahmed, encircles the three girls and their family. Another serial, "Chhobol", casts the trio as colleagues.

Directed by Zillur Rahman, the serial will soon go on air on a satellite channel. About the serials, Badhon said, "Both Ishana and Alvee are amazing co-actors. We spent good time on the shooting sets." Alvee said, "I am thankful to the directors for giving us opportunities to work together. I enjoy working with Badhon and Ishana. Both of the serials have very good plots. I hope the audience like it."



Prominent artiste Iffat Ara Dewan together with a promising singer Taslima Sultana performed solo songs at Chhayanaut's monthly programme "Srotar Ashor" held at Ashor Ramesh Chandra Datta Smriti Milan Kendra on December 4.



"BLACK PANTHER" may have found a DIRECTOR

As with many high profile movies, there have been a number of rumours about who might direct Marvel's upcoming "Black Panther". From Ava DuVernay to F Gary Gray and more, none of the potential names have panned out. If a new report making the rounds turns out to be legit, the comic book giant could be in the hunt to land a fantastic young director. Ryan Coogler, of the recent gem "Creed".

Coogler only has two feature directorial efforts under his belt, "Fruitvale Station" and "Creed", but they're two films that definitely caught people's attention. Sources close to the situation informs that the 29-year-old filmmaker is in talks to direct "Black Panther".

Though the report is quick to point out that the two sides are still just in the discussion phase, this would be big for both Coogler and Marvel. Despite what Anthony Mackie said to the contrary, many have come out publicly stating that Black Panther, the first superhero movie fronted by a black protagonist, needs to have black director. Coogler himself recently said as much, though he didn't specifically put himself out there as a candidate.

Or it was "Creed", which is not only performing well at the box office, but garnering fantastic reviews, with many singling out and celebrating Ryan Coogler's work, that piqued their interest. If this works out, not only would Marvel be doing something about the lack of diversity that they've been criticized for quite a bit recently, but they would also be hiring one of the most promising young filmmakers on the scene.

SHRADDHA

pulls off marathon 72-hour schedule

Shraddha Kapoor has a choc-o-block work schedule, courtesy her two upcoming films and her brand endorsements, to the point of being stretched to continuous 72-hours of work for the rising Bollywood actress.

The "Ek Villain" star, who is currently filming for her next movie "Baaghi" in Bangkok, shot throughout the night and left directly for the airport to be in Mumbai for a few hours.

The actress landed in the city and headed straight to a press conference for a brand, followed by two meetings, revealed a source. She returned to Bangkok, where she is to continue the day's schedule for the film.

Her spokesperson confirmed the news and said: "Shraddha returned to Mumbai just for a couple of hours to fulfill a brand commitment on a turnaround day. She wanted to avoid affecting the film's shoot schedule."

Shraddha is currently shooting for her upcoming projects "Baaghi" and "Rock On 2!" simultaneously, which are scheduled to release in 2016.

Source: NDTV Movies

Mridula Samadder performs at IGCC



STAFF CORRESPONDENT
 Promising singer Mridula Samadder performed in a solo musical soiree at Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre (IGCC) at Gulshan on November 28. IGCC organised the musical evening.

In a two-hour programme, she rendered a total of 22 songs including Nazrul Sangeet like "Sur-e O Banir Mala", "Bol Rey Joba Bol", "Hey Priyo Amarey Dibona Bhulite" and "Aji Mon-e Mon-e Lagey Hori" and an array of adhunik Bangla songs: "Jamuna Ki Bolte Parey", "Chanchal Mayuri E Raat", "Banshi Taar Ektai Dosh", "Ekta Gaan Likho", "Modhu Maloti Daakey aye", "E Shudhu Gaan-er Din", "Janina Phurabe Kobe", "Ei Duniya Akhon To

Aar" and "Na Mon Lagey Na". Apart from being a regular artiste of BTV and Bangladesh Betar, Mridula regularly performs on satellite TV channels and stages. Completing her Masters from Dhaka University's Music Department, she is now doing her M. Phil from the same Department. She has achieved many awards including SAARC Children award 2000 and National Awards. She is presently Music Teacher in Excel academy.

Samadder is associated with many cultural organisations, including Jatiyo Khelagor Ashor and Joyoddhoni. She has released several solo and mixed albums. She has also performed as playback singer in different Bangla films and dramas.

Source: Cineablend

