

WHAT'S ON

Bangladesh Cultural Festival
Venue: Nandanmancha, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Date: Jan 1-18
Time: 4:30pm daily



Solo Exhibition
Manifestation of the Human
Artist: Md. Mainuddin
Venue: La Galerie, AFD
Date: Jan 2-18; Time: 3-9pm



Drawing Exhibition
Celebrated Violence-5: Wound
Artist: Dilara Begum Jolly
Venue: Kala Kendra
Date: Dec 26-Jan 20
Time: 2-8pm



Photography Exhibition
World Press Photo 15
Organiser: Drik
Venue: Drik Gallery
Date: Dec 27-Jan 8
Time: 3-8pm



Musical Soiree
Praner Khela
Organiser: Bengal Foundation
Artist: Ashok Kumar Sarkar and Laiza Ahmed Lisa
Venue: Bengal Shilpalaya
Date: Jan 6; Time: 6pm



Folk Festival by Parbon in Mymensingh



AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh

A day long folk-festival was held at Kushmail Tengorpara in Phulbaria upazila of the district this week.

This was the second edition of the festival, arranged by Parbon, a cultural organisation of Phulbaria.

The festival included Lathi Khela, Ekdil Gaan (a new version of Kichha Pala), Behula Nachari (based on Behula Lakhindar), Jari Gaan and Puthi Path. Ekdil Gaan, by a lone performer supported by dohar, entertained the audience the most.

Artistes from different areas of Phulbaria and Muktagacha upazila performed at the festival.

The festival has given the younger generation the experience of an old form of entertainment, said the organisers.

Wearing flamboyant dresses, the artistes of Lathi Khela went through their moves to the rhythm of rare traditional musical instruments like --Boom, Kara, Joydhak, Cornet and Patar Banshi.

Traditional games Dariabandha and Hadudu also added extra verve to the festival.

Earlier, Dr. Aminur Rahman Sultan, deputy director of Bangla Academy was the chief guest at the festival, inaugurated by eminent Puthi Pathak Noor Ahmed Sunaru.

Parbon's convener Mottalib Darbari and Rafiqul Islam Manik were also present, among others.

The speakers said, due to cultural assault for years, our culture is on the verge of dying out.

THE WORLD IN IMAGES

WORLD PRESS PHOTO EXHIBIT "15" AT DRIK

FAHMIM FERDOUS

The World Press Photo (WPP) contest, the epitome of photojournalists' and documentary photographers' honours, draws the most striking images from across the world, and to see the best of them at one place can be quite an experience.



PHOTO: STAR

"15", an interactive exhibition of winning photos from the 2015 edition of the competition is no short of spectacular, taking the viewer through all the happenings of the world in one gallery walk. The exhibition opened on December 30 at the Drik Gallery in the capital, by Guest of Honour Leoni Margaretha Cuelenaere, Ambassador of the Netherlands to Dhaka. Eminent photographer Nasir Ali Mamun and WPP Project Manager (Exhibitions) Anaïs Conijn were present as special guests. Shahidul Alam, Managing Director of Drik, delivered welcome note at the opening ceremony.

The photos – chosen from 97,912 entries from 5,692 photographers from 131 countries through rigorous judging by an esteemed panel, tell incredible stories, in various formats. General News, Spot News, Sports, Contemporary Issues, Daily Life, People Nature, Long-Term Projects – Individual and Long-Term Projects – Group are the categories, and the biggest happenings of 2014 come up in the images: be it the political crises in Ukraine or Gaza, the dissolution of the Arab Spring, Syria's demolition, Islamic

State's brutalities, the FIFA World Cup, Flight MH17, the abduction of the 276 Nigerian girls – are brought to life in vivid, layered and often jarring images. Massimo Sestini's (Italy) overhead image

passenger lying in a wheat field near the Russia-Ukraine border, strapped to a jettisoned airplane seat, or Chinese photographer Bao Tailing's capture of Argentine football superstar Lionel

US photographer Darcy Padilla's "Family Love" is an unbelievable personal story of Julie Baird and her struggles with HIV, poverty, complex relationships, multiple homes, relationships, births and deaths – documented over a staggering 21 years (1993-2014). The lingering effects of the Iraq-Iran War (1980-88) three decades in, by Fatemah Behboudi, or Lu Guang's stark juxtaposition of development and pollution in China are also of note.

Bangladesh did find a place in the World Press Photo contest and exhibition, as it has commendably done quite consistently in the past few years. Munem Wasif was elected as one of the jury members of the prestigious contest, while Sarker Protick won second prize in the Daily Life (Stories) category, with a project called "What Remains", in which he portrayed his elderly, ailing grandparents and the idea of ageing.

The exhibition, which remains open till January 8, also gives an immersive option to the viewer, where they can scan a QR code to go more in-depth of the story through interviews and more images.

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of a boat crammed with refugees off the Libyan coast is another almost overwhelming photograph, as are Pete Muller's images of the Ebola outbreak in Sierra Leone, Jerome Sessini's nearly-surreal image of an ill-fated flight MH17

Messi's forlorn look at the World Cup after his team's loss to Germany in the FIFA World Cup final.

The documentary photographs are equally, if not more, remarkable. The first-prize winner in Long-Term Projects,



'DO YOU EVEN COLOUR?'

Glyph's open and collaborative creative session for visual art enthusiasts to come and colour intricate fun and beautiful illustrations created by passionate artists, took place at the EMK Center in the capital on January 2. The event was a platform not only for up and coming artists to share and show-case their works, but also for enthusiasts to collaborate and create their own unique works, one color at a time.



"Lal Shalu" to be screened in Australia

A CORRESPONDENT

Tanvir Mokammel's acclaimed film "Lal Shalu" will travel to Australia on an invitation from film archiving society Australian Cinematheque. The film will be screened at the Gallery of Modern Art Centre in Brisbane on January 7 in Islam and Film category.

Tanvir Mokammel made "Lal Shalu" based on the script by noted writer Syed Waliullah in 2009. The film bagged National Film Award in eight categories.

Raisul Islam Asad, Munira Yousuff Memi, Chadni, Rowshan Jamil, Amirul Haq Chowdhury, Chitralakha Guha, Aly Zaker, Tauquir Ahmed, Mousumi and others form the cast of "Lal Shalu".

Imran playbacks with Runa Laila

A CORRESPONDENT

It was a dream for Imran to playback with celebrated singer Runa Laila, and his dream has finally come true. The talented vocalist lent his voice alongside Runa Laila for a duet song in upcoming film "Panku Jamai".

The track, "Monta Kere Nili" has already been recorded. Sudip Kumar Dip penned the lyrics of the song, while Ali Akram Shuvo has composed it.

Expressing his feelings, an elated Imran said, "I will cherish the memory for a long time. I love the song that's why I hope it will be a hit."



FITTOOR trailer released



The much-awaited trailer of Abhishek Kapoor's upcoming romantic drama, "Fittoor" is finally out. The impressive cut deserves a special mention for Tabu who is back as Begum Hazrat after taking away several awards for her magnetic performance in the Vishal Bhardwaj's "Haider".

"Fittoor" is the story of Firdaus (Katrina Kaif) - the red-haired, iconic daughter of Begum Hazrat (Tabu) - while Aditya Roy Kapur plays Noor, the common man who is in love with her since childhood. While Aditya took up body sculpting for looking picture perfect in the film, Katrina bagged much attention for sporting her red hair at the Cannes while she was working for the film.

Based on Charles Dickens' popular novel "Great Expectations", the film is set in the mystic Kashmir and is also shot in Delhi, Mumbai and Poland.

"Fittoor" is set to release on February 12.

Nawshaba in four new films

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Popular television actress Nawshaba is spending busy times on film sets. As The Daily Star caught up with her over the phone, Nawshaba informed she is now in Kishoreganj where her upcoming film "Chandrabotir Kotha" is being shot.



Nawshaba is playing a character named Shonai in the film, which is set in an ancient time. N Rashed Chowdhury is directing the film.

Meanwhile, Nawshaba has signed up for another film, titled "Dhaka Attack". Directed by Dipankar Dipon, the film will go on floor soon. Nawshaba will play a police officer's wife in the film, which will be shot in Dhaka.

The actress will also play a significant role in Prosun Rahman's "Dhaka Dream", where she plays a widow. The film will be shot in Mankikganj.

Nawshaba has one more film on her hand. She has signed up for Fakhruel Arefin Khan's "Bhubon Majhi" where she will play a photographer. Indian actress Parambrata will play the male lead in the film.

The actress said, "I am fully concentrating on cinema. I am looking forward to do some good films."

PHOTO: STAR