

**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



**Solo Art Exhibition**  
 Alluvial Soul- Soil- Symbol  
 Artist: Kalidas Karmakar  
 Venue: Nalinikanta Bhattacharya Gallery, Bangladesh National Museum  
 Date: Jan 3-24  
 Time: 9:30am-7pm



**Solo Painting Exhibition**  
 What I Talk About When I Talk About Life  
 Artist: Shameem Subrana  
 Venue: Gallery Twenty One  
 Date: Jan 9-31; Time: 12-8pm



**NEWS bytes**

**"Money Monster" reunites Clooney-Roberts**

George Clooney becomes a hostage on network TV in the first trailer for TriStar Pictures' "Money Monster". Clooney is playing a glib investment guru with the TV show "Money Monster" who has to deal with a gun-toting investor — played by Jack O'Connell — after the investor takes a bath on a tech stock.

"Is this a union thing?" Clooney asks when he spots O'Connell's weapon.

Julia Roberts stars as the producer, who tells the crew



at that point, "Anyone who can get out, get out now." O'Connell's character insists later that he's not to blame, asserting, "I might be the one with a gun here, but I am not the criminal."

Jodie Foster directed from a script by Jamie Linden and Alan DiFiore and Jim Kouf, based on a story by DiFiore and Kouf. Producers are Daniel Dubiecki, Lara Alameddine, George Clooney and Grant Heslov.

"Money Monster" opens on May 13.

Source: **Variety**



Guests light clay candles to inaugurate the ceremony.

**Four-day memorial festival on Selim Al Deen begins**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Selim Al Deen, a towering figure of Bangla theatre in post-Rabindranath era, breathed his last on this day in 2008. The playwright, fondly called Natyacharya, is credited as ushering in a new era in our theatre scene through his plays and extensive research in the field.

Marking the death anniversary of Natyacharya, Dhaka Theatre is holding a four-day programme at Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy. The event, Selim Al Deen Memorial Festival, is supported by the Shilpakala Academy and Bangladesh Gram Theatre.

Cultural Affairs Minister Asaduzzaman Noor inaugurated the event at the Experimental Theatre Hall of BSA on January 12 evening. Following the inauguration ceremony, Bunon Theatre from Savar staged their play "Nakshi Kanthar Maath". Written by Poet Jasimuddin, the play has been directed by Anan Zaman.

On January 13, two plays were staged at the festival. Jalalpur Theatre from Jamalpur staged "Shomoy Er Shonglap", and Drama and Dramatics Department of Jahangirnagar University staged "Kobi" at the Experimental Theatre Hall.

The four-day event features staging of plays by troupes from outside Dhaka, an open seminar, and placing wreaths at the grave of the playwright at JU campus on January 14. The featured plays are "Nakshi Kanthar Maath", "Shomoy Er Shonglap", "Kobi", "Birangana Bimolara", "Usha Utshab", "Krishti" and Kongkal O Sharey Tin Haat".

Selim Al-Deen was born on August 18, 1949 in Sonagazi Upazila of Feni. He was attracted to Bangla literature at a young age, and wrote a few poems. But later, with encouragement from Munier Chowdhury, he focused on theatre.

**Dhaka International Film Fest opens today**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The 14th edition of the Dhaka International Film Festival opens today in the capital, with the theme "Better Film, Better Audience, Better Society". Organised by Rainbow Film Society, the weeklong festival will screen 184 films from 60 countries across four venues: National Museum Auditorium, Shawkat Osman Memorial Auditorium of the Sufia Kamal Public Library, Alliance Francaise de Dhaka Auditorium and EMK Center Auditorium.

Information Minister Hasanul Haq Inu will inaugurate the festival at the National Museum Auditorium, along-



side prolific Syrian director Mohammad Malas and Norwegian filmmaker Anja Breien. The festival will open with Rubaiyar Hossain's film "Under Construction".

Festival Director Ahmed Mujtaba Jamal also informed that the festival will be divided into several sections: the Australasia competitive section, retrospective section, cinema of the world section, tributes, children's films, spiritual films, women's films and independent films. Around 88 foreign guests are expected to attend the festival, 60 of whom are already in town, he added.



**Jenny and Nasim pair up for TVC**

A CORRESPONDENT

For the first time, television actors Ahsan Habib Nasim and Jenny have paired up for a television commercial. The duo recently shot the TVC of a chair company.

Directed by Sunbeam Ashraf, the TVC was shot at Coke Studio in the capital's Tejagon.

"I liked the concept of this advertisement and the director made it a

success. Also I Jenny is very cooperative and I had a good experience of working with her," said Ahsan Habib.

Jenny echoed Nasim saying, "I have worked with Nasim in a number of television plays. He is one of my favorite actors and an amazing human being. Nowadays I am busy with television plays, and don't get time to do TVCs. So I felt good doing the work."

The TVC will soon go on air on television channels.

Reputed music school Surer Dhara is holding a two-day Poush Utsab at the playground of Lalmatia Housing Society School and College in the capital. Celebrated writer Professor Mohammad Zafar Iqbal inaugurated the annual festival yesterday afternoon. The inauguration ceremony featured chorus songs by the children of Surer Dhara in accordance with the Bangla month Poush. The festival features cultural performances by Surer Dhara artistes, baul songs, palagaan, jatra, puppetry show, and a great assortment of traditional winter delicacies, and handicraft.

PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED



**ANUSHKA starts training for wrestler role in SULTAN**

Bollywood actress Anushka Sharma has said she is excited to work in the upcoming film "Sultan", as her role in the Salman Khan-starrer is something that she is eagerly waiting to "dig my teeth into".

"I am training to be working with Salman. I am really excited about the film and my role," the actress said at the sidelines of Britannia Filmfare Awards, held over the weekend. Reports say Anushka is set to play a wrestler in the film.

A report also claimed that Anushka will sport a "realistic and de-glam" look for the film, and an international prosthetics expert, who will be working on Salman's character, will also help create Anushka's definite look.

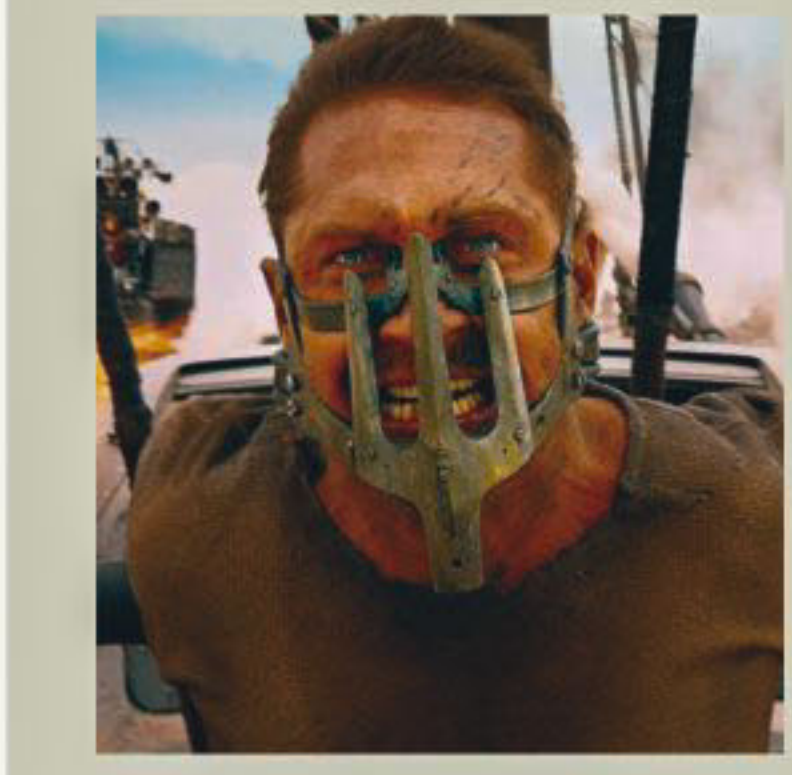
"The role is something that I am just waiting to dig my teeth into," she added. The 27-year-old, who has also worked with Shah Rukh Khan and Aamir Khan in the past, is all praise for Salman. "There is nobody like him because of his persona," she said.

Speaking about the pairing, director Abbas Ali Zafar told DNA India, "We wanted to cast a great actor opposite Salman. That was the main criterion. Anushka is a terrific actress and a star in her own right. She can pull off a film effortlessly. But the biggest plus point is that she is athletic, she understands the language and the mannerisms and it will be easy for her to get into the skin of the character. Also, she has previously romanced Shah Rukh and Aamir Khan. Now, it's Salman. They look great together. Once the look is out, you will see."

Produced by Aditya Chopra, "Sultan" is slated to release on Eid this year.

Source: **IANS**

**QUOTES**



"I won't make more Mad Max movies. Fury Road... was forever getting completed. If you finish one in a year, it's considered a leap of faith. Start, stop, start again. I've shot in Australia in a field of wild flowers and flat red earth when it rained heavily forever. We had to wait 18 months and every return to the US was 27 hours. Those Mad Maxes take forever. I won't do those anymore."

**GEORGE MILLER**, explaining why he doesn't want to do another "Mad Max" film

**Bowie's recordings set to surge into UK Charts**

Many of David Bowie's classic recordings are expected to sweep into this week's U.K. charts as fans of the music legend mourn his recent death.

Bowie's latest and final studio album "Blackstar" remains on track for the No. 1 position on the next Official UK Albums Chart. It's one of 14 Bowie albums impacting the Top 100, according to the OCC, ahead of the publication this Friday of the latest charts.

"Blackstar", which arrived just two days prior to Bowie's death, is out in front with 90,000 combined sales, according to a sales flash report. The new set is also heading for what would be Bowie's first ever No. 1 on the Billboard 200.



Bowie logged nine UK No. 1 albums in his lifetime, including his previous set, "The Next Day", which led the list on its debut in March 2013 with 94,000 sales.

Meanwhile, the UK singles chart should also have a strong Bowie feel to it with nine titles impacting, led by 1977's "Heroes" at 25, just a solitary position below its peak position of No. 24. Across his career, Bowie landed atop the Official Singles Chart on five occasions.

Organisers of next month's Brit Awards have vowed to pay a "fitting tribute" to "honor his extraordinary life and work" of the homegrown icon.

Bowie died on January 10 after an 18-month battle with cancer.

Source: **Billboard**