

WHAT'S ON

Dhaka Int'l Film Festival
 Organiser: Rainbow Film Society
 Venue: Public Library, BNM, AFD, EMK Center
 Date: Jan 14-22
 Time: 10am onwards



Solo Art Exhibition
 Artist: Gulshan Hossain
 Venue: Athena Gallery of Fine Arts, AJ Heights, Cha 72/1/D, Uttar Badda
 Date: Jan 16-Feb 6
 Time: 10am-8pm



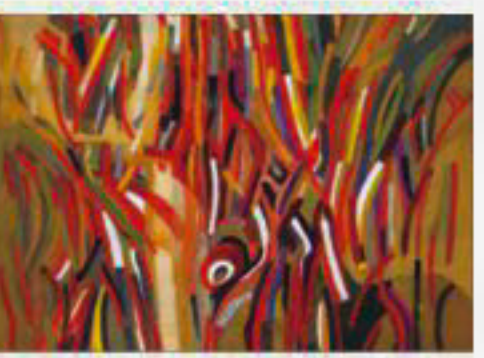
Solo Art Exhibition
 Title: "Less is More" by Asem Ansari
 Venue: Gallery Chittrak, Rd-6, H-4, Dhanmondi
 Date: January 15-31
 Time: 10am-8pm



Solo Art Exhibition
 Alluvial Soul- Soil- Symbol
 Artist: Kalidas Karmakar
 Venue: Malinikanta 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

Kevin Spacey joins 'Rebel in the Rye'

Kevin Spacey is set to co-star with Nicholas Hoult in Danny Strong's film "Rebel in the Rye," which revolves around the life of author J.D. Salinger. Based on the Kenneth Slawenski biography "J.D. Salinger: A Life," the story follows Salinger as he prepares to write his classic novel "Catcher in the Rye." Spacey will play Whit Burnett, a professor at Columbia and editor of Story Magazine. He became a mentor and was the first to challenge the young Salinger, inspiring



him to grow as a storyteller. Spacey can be seen next in the fourth season of "House of Cards," which premieres March 4 on Netflix. He can also be seen playing Richard Nixon in the Liza Johnson-directed "Elvis & Nixon."

Source: **Variety**

Prudential Eye Awards 2016
Bangladesh's Shumon Ahmed bags Photography award



Shumon Ahmed (inset) along with other winners at the award ceremony.

ZAHANGIR ALOM, writes from Singapore

Two South-Asian artists, two South-East Asian artists and a Far-East Asian artist received the best awards in five categories of the Prudential Eye Awards 2016. The third edition of the prestigious award ceremony took place at the Master Card Theatres (Sands Theatre) at Marina Bay Sands, Singapore on January 19.

For the first time, a Bangladeshi artist -- Shumon Ahmed -- bagged the award in the photography category while Cambodian artist Svay Sareth, who escaped from his home as a refugee, received two prizes at the grand art award ceremony.

Svay bagged the Overall Best Emerging Artist Award at the 2016 Prudential Eye Awards, the grandest celebration and recognition of Contemporary Asian Art. He received a USD30,000 cash prize, a citation and the chance to exhibit at London's prestigious Saatchi Gallery this year.

He also won another USD20,000 for the Best Emerging Artist Award in the sculpture category.

Bangladesh's Shumon Ahmed, who is known for his wide-ranging docu-

mentation of the conditions in ship-breaking yards of Chittagong, received the best award in the photography category. His series work titled "Metal Grave" resembles abstract painting. The other Bangladeshi artist, Promotesh Das Pulak, lost out in the best award in sculpture category to Svay.

India's Manish Nai, who received the Best Emerging Artist Award for Painting, is known for his unconventional use of materials. Using Digital Video, Trinh Thi Nguyen (of Vietnam) received the best award in the category for his work "Letters from Panduranga". Huang Po-Chih (of Taiwan) bagged the award in the installation category for his work "Production Line-Made in China & Made in Taiwan".

Thai artist Sakarin Krue-On, known for his site-specific installations using Thai imagery, was honoured with the Lifetime Achievement Award for Asian Contemporary Art.

Slot Machine, a music band from Thailand, received award in popular culture.

Grace Fu, Minister for Culture, Community and Youth of Singapore, graced the award ceremony as chief guest.

The Prudential Eye Award, as part of the nine-day ongoing Singapore Art Week, was founded in 2014 by British-Italian art lovers David and Serenella Ciclitira, in partnership with insurance firm Prudential, Parallel Contemporary Art and Saatchi Gallery.

An exhibition featuring 39 artworks by the 15 shortlisted artists is now on at Art Science Museum and will continue till March 27.

Sareth Svay's work "Stake Or Skewer", which was in the reckoning for the awards, is made of wood and 17 rubber sandals. The way the sandals hang on a wooden pole alludes to his country's tumultuous political history and the many lives lost.

Prudential Eye Programme director Niru Ratnam called Svay's work "funny, poetic and confident".

The 43-year-old artist, who often uses everyday objects in his works, fled his home in Battambang in Cambodia in 1979 and lived in a refugee camp at the border of Thailand for 13 years before moving to Siem Reap, where he is now based. He learnt art at the refugee camp. His sculptures, installations and performance-art pieces question notions of power and his country's complex past.



Channel i to air three-day programme on RAZZAK

A CORRESPONDENT

Channel i will air a three-day special programme marking the 75th birth anniversary of Nayakraj Razzak from January 21. Razzak, one of the pioneering actors of Bangla films, will turn 75 on January 23.

The special programme will include popular Razzak-starrer films, television play, dance show featuring popular songs from his films, and a special episode of "Gaaney Gaaney Shokal Shuru" where noted singers Khurshid Alam and Abdul Jabbar will present songs from Razzak's films.

In addition, there will be documentary "Nayokraj-er Chaar Joog" on the actor. Moreover, a special episode of "Taroka Kothon" will feature Razzak as guest.

SUCHITRA SEN recalled in Pabna

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU, Pabna

The second death anniversary of legendary film actress Suchitra Sen (January 17) was observed amidst festivity in Pabna this week. A discussion focusing on the life and works of Sen was organised by Suchitra Sen Smrity Shangrakhhan Parishad (SSSSP), Pabna at Pabna Press Club.

Suchitra Sen, the legendary film actress originally from Pabna, died on January 17, 2014 in Kolkata due to old age complications. Born on April, 6, 1931 at Bangabari of Sirajganj, she spent her early years in Gopalpur Hem Sagor Lane in the district headquarters.

The historic house of Suchitra Sen, which was freed from the occupiers after a long legal battle in July 2014, is still abandoned -- due to lack of initiative of the government.

President of SSSSP Md. Saidul Haque Chunnu chaired the discussion at the programme. Among those who spoke on the occasion were secretary of the organisation

Dr. Ram Dulal Voumik, president of Pabna Press Club Robiul Islam Rabi, educationist Professor Shibojit Nag, PUST Bangla department chief Dr. Abdul Alim and dramatist Mustafizur Rahman Russel.

The speakers criticised the negligence of the government in keeping alive the memory of the legendary film actress in her home town.

The speakers said Suchitra Sen's historic home has been freed from encroachers. However, the house is locked and is in derelict state due to lack of maintenance. The speakers demanded that a museum be set up in the ancestral house of Sen, to keep her memory alive.



KATRINA broke bones to shoot "Pashmina"

Bollywood actress Katrina Kaif, who is grabbing eyeballs for the song "Pashmina" from her upcoming flick "Fitoor", said that she has worked really hard for the song and even broke some bones. While walking the ramp for ace designer Manish Malhotra, the 32-year-old said, "To shoot the song 'Pashmina' both I and Aditya Roy Kapur had to give up our Christmas and New Year's holidays. We broke a few bones, had few injuries during the shoot of the song." The Phantom star added that the shoot of the song included hours of dance rehearsals, a lot of yelling, fighting and struggling.

Directed by Abhishek Kapoor, "Fitoor" is based on Charles Dickens' novel Great Expectations. Also starring Tabu in key role, the film will hit theatres on February 12.



Source: **Hindustan Times**

BotTala to stage 'Khona' in three cities in India



A scene from Khona.

Theatre troupe BotTala will travel to three cities in India with their much-acclaimed production "Khona", says a press release.

The troupe will present their play at Compass Theatre Festival at Rabindra Bhaban in Koch Bihar on February 8. On February 10, "Khona" will be staged at Artiste Factory in Kamrup, Assam.

The troupe will next travel to Shillong with their play which will be staged at Asian Confluence Centre. The troupe will also take part in a discussion along with all theatre troupes in Shillong.

The artistes and crew of BotTala will travel to India on February 6.

Mahurat of "Bhuban Majhi" held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Fakhrul Arefeen Khan's film "Bhuban Majhi" was announced on January 19 at Hotel Lakeshore in the capital.

Cultural Affairs Minister Asaduzzaman Noor, Dhaka University Pro-Vice Chancellor Dr. Nasreen Ahmad, Jagannath University Vice-Chancellor Professor Mizanur Rahman, veteran thespian and filmmaker Nasiruddin Yousuff and cultural personality Hasan Arif attended the event as distinguished guests.

The lead cast of the film Aparna Ghosh and Parambrata Chatterjee were also present at the event along with other cast and crew. Indian musician Kalika Prasad and director of photography Rana Dasgupta also attended the mahurat.

Written and directed by Fakhrul Arefeen Khan, the film is being made with grants from the government.



Lead actors and director of the film pose for a photo with Cultural Affairs Minister Asaduzzaman Noor, Nasiruddin Yousuff and other distinguished guests at the mahurat.