

WHAT'S ON

Amar Ekushey Book Fair 2016
 Organiser: Bangla Academy
 Venue: Bangla Academy premises & Suhrawardi Udyan
 Date: February 1-29,
 Time: 3-8pm & 11am-8pm
 (Fri & Sat)

Solo Art Exhibition
 Censored Image
 Artist: Waklur Rahman
 Venue: Kalakendra
 Date: Feb 3-23;
 Time: 12-8pm

Solo Watercolour Exhibition
 Title: Koto Ojanare
 Artist: Saeeda Kamal
 Venue: EMK Center, Dhanmondi
 Date: Feb 6-18; Time: 9am-8pm

Duet Art Exhibition
 Title: Fragments of the Anthropocene
 Artists: Zihan Karim & Shimul Saha
 Venue: Bengal Art Lounge,
 60, Gulshan-1
 Date: Jan 30- Feb 27
 Time: 12-8pm

Songs and Poetry
 Being in Love with King of the World
 Artist: Armeen Musa
 Venue: Red Shift, Gulshan
 Date: Feb 12; Time 7-9pm

Solo Art Exhibition
 Artist: Gulshan Hossain
 Venue: Athena Gallery of Fine Arts
 Date: Jan 16-Feb 12
 Time: 10am-8pm



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

THROUGH THE LENS OF ART
 Tête-à-tête with Nadia Samdani

ZAHANGIR ALOM

The four-day South Asian art extravaganza Dhaka Art Summit concluded on February 8. Nadia Samdani, president and co-founder of Samdani Art Foundation, offered this correspondent an insight into the significance of diverse facets and expressions of contemporary art of South-Asia and beyond; the role of international curators and artistic directors and gigantic preparatory tasks to hold such a grand art summit. Excerpts: "This is the largest non-commercial and research-based South Asian art platform. This year, 300 artists, 11 international curators, 600 overseas art connoisseurs, over 50 international media representatives, students from 50 schools and around 1.3 lakh art enthusiasts take part." "As our country doesn't have any contemporary art museum and the trend of contemporary art is on the rise around

the world, we have been arranging this biennale summit for the last three editions. The event is free and ticketless as we want more audience to get attracted and appreciate art. This is our country's event and we together would like to make our arts and artists reach beyond border." "For the last two years, Diana Campbell Betancourt, artistic director and chief curator of the summit, with 10 other international curators conducted research and maintained frequent contacts with artists, collectors, curators and organisers to get introduced with the ambiance of the venue (Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy) and the artists of the region to select their works for display. We remodeled the entire venue anew with carpeting, air-conditioning, lighting, making precincts and hardboard walls and distemping. The preparation for the next summit, to be held in 2018, is also on the way from now on." "This event is like a pop-up museum

for four days. I use the word 'pop-up museum' because when we visit museums abroad, we watch all types of works. Here we also arranged diverse expressions of arts: apart from art exhibitions, there were display of architectural designs, a film programme, children's workshop, book launch and more." "The event is international in nature, quality, standard and the largest with regard to its arrangement. The profiles of the discussant panel were extremely high. They are actually the cream of art and are dominating the international art world." "The third edition had many interesting and thought-provoking art pieces on display. This event has definitely augmented our country's image and we hope to continue this endeavour with active support and cooperation from our government. We expect the international audience will be more interested in the next Dhaka Art Summits."

Pt. Tushar Dutta to perform classical music at Shilpakala today

A CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy has arranged today (February 12) a solo classical music soiree at its National Music and Dance centre auditorium at 6pm. Bangladeshi born Senior ITC-SRA scholar Pandit Tushar Dutta will perform in the event.

Apart from khayal performance, the artiste will render semi-classical genre like Bhajan along with several Nazrul Sangeet. UK based tabla artist Himanish Goswami and Alope Kumar Sen, a close disciple of Pandit Tushar Dutta, will instrumentally accompany the featured artiste.



NEWS bytes

Gwen Stefani reveals new album

US pop star Gwen Stefani has announced a new solo album, complete with track list and album title: "This is What the Truth Feels Like". Stefani posted a photo of a 12-song track list hand written on a notepad to Twitter with the caption "This Is What the Truth Feels Like..." Noticeably, the track list includes the 2015 single "Used to Love You". Last week, the singer told Zane Lowe on BBC's Beats 1 that she probably had enough songs for two albums and noted working with JR Rotem on tracks called "Red Flag", "Naughty", "Make Me Like U" and "Misery". Differing reports have said that both "Misery" and "Make Me Like U" will be her next single.

Source: Billboard



Rabirag to hail spring

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

To hail spring, the king of all seasons, musical organisation Rabirag has arranged a celebration programme titled "Bhalobashar Boshonto" at Shawkat Osman Memorial Auditorium, Central Public Library, Shahbagh at 7pm on February 13. The event will feature solo, duet and choral songs, recitation and dance recital.

"We have planned to offer Tagore songs at the



PHOTO: RIDWAN ADID RUPON

programme. Apart from this, promising classical vocalist Tapash Datta will render a bandish set on spring," said Sadi Mohammad, director Rabirag. "The event aims to appease colourful love; that's why it is titled as Bhalobashar Boshonto," informed Ameena Ahmed, president of Rabirag. Artistes of Nriyanchal will present a group dance while Sadi Mohammad will render two songs together with recitation by noted elocutionist Iqbal Bahar Chowdhury. The event is open to all.

Tahsan and Imran in Mon Karigor

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Popular singers Tahsan and Imran make their first appearance in a duet album called "Mon Karigor". The album is set to hit the market on Valentine's Day, under the banner of CD Choice.

Tahsan has sung three songs in the album, the title track, "Keu Na Januk" and "Dhrubotara", while Imran's track list includes "Shono Tumi", "Bolo Kobe Dekha Hobe" and "Bhalobashi". All the songs have been written by Robiul Islam Jibon, and composed and arranged by Imran.

The artistes also plan to release music videos of some of their songs soon.



QUOTES

"Katrina Kaif is Katrina Kaif because she is very hardworking. I have never seen a girl so hardworking. She may be the biggest star in India but according to me she is a majdoor (labourer). She works that hard."

- Salman Khan, speaking on the professional success of ex-girlfriend Katrina Kaif.



BRAC-Channel i hold TARAY TARAY DWIPSHIKHA



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BRAC, in association with Channel i, arranged a talent hunt competition "Taray Taray Dwipshikha" for underprivileged students of BRAC Education Programme.

The programme engaged around 20 lakh children and teenagers from different corners of the country. They competed for the title in four categories: dance, music, recitation and painting.

An eight-member jury board was formed combining noted singers, artists, dancers and elocutionists of the country. Singers Nakib Khan and Fatema Tuz-Zohora; dancers Shaju Ahmed and Tamanna Rahman; elocutionists Ashraf Alam and Jhorana Sarkar; and artists

Anisuzzaman and Gulshan Hossain were in the jury.

The programme concluded on February 5 with the finale held at Rabindra Sarobar in the capital's Dhanmondi.

A host of dignitaries including Primary and Mass Education Minister Advocate Mostafizur Rahman, Education Secretary Mohammad Sohrab Hossain, BRAC's executive director Dr. Muhammad Musa, Channel i's managing director Faridur Reza Sagar, and BRAC Education Programme's director Dr. Shafikul Islam.

The final rounds of the programme will go on air Channel i every Wednesday at 7:50 starting from February 17.