


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: Wakilur Rahman
 Venue: Kalakendra
 Date: Feb 3-23
 Time: 12-8pm



Felicitation to Shaheen Samad
 Organiser: Aamra Surjomukhi
 Venue: A.S. Mahmud Auditorium, The Daily Star Centre
 Date: February 26
 Time: 6pm



Solo Art Exhibition
 Title: Unknown Spirit
 Artist: Esperanza Romero (Spain)
 Venue: Gallery Cosmos, H-115, Lane-6, New DOHS, Mohakhali
 Date: February 20-29
 Time: 12-8pm



Solo Paining Exhibition
 Title: Of a Poetic Vision of Life
 Artist: Ranjit Das
 Venue: Shilpangan
 Date: February 26-March 12
 Time: 12pm-8pm



NEWS bytes

Deadpool rules at international markets

"Deadpool" is a certified global phenomenon. The violent comic-book movie isn't getting lost in translation, topping the foreign box office for the second weekend in a row to the tune of \$85 million. Given that its worldwide total stands at \$491.7 million, "Deadpool" should cross the \$500 million mark soon, on a budget of \$58 million. The film about a wise-cracking mercenary opened in first place in 17 new markets, including South Korea, Spain and Italy. Moviegoers seem to be embracing the foul-mouthed title character played by Ryan Reynolds, but the four-letter words and blood-letting did come at a price. "Deadpool" has been banned



in China, the world's second-largest film market. In second place, Chinese fantasy "The Mermaid" became the highest-grossing film in the country's history, earning \$56 million. Its global total stands at \$421 million, pushing it past previous record-holder, last year's "Monster Hunt". Disney's "Zootopia" took third place ahead of its US opening next month. Set in a city of anthropomorphic animals, the family film is now screening in 22 territories. "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon: Sword of Destiny" and "The Monkey King 2", rounds out the top five.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

"One can't take songwriting as profession in Bangladesh"

...Kabir Bakul

SHAH ALAM SHAZLI

Kabir Bakul has a humming career as a lyricist. He has written music for many major singers of India and Bangladesh. He was also part of the print media as head of Bangla daily Prothom Alo's Ananda page for over 12 years. In a recent conversation with the correspondent, the national award-winning songwriter gave insights into his professional persona.

How many songs you have written in your career?
 Kabir Bakul: Over 5,000 songs written by me have been recorded. I've been a lyricist for 28 years. In 1988, Ayub Bachchu sang my first song for an album named "Moina".

When did you come to the spotlight?

Kabir Bakul: In 1991, I wrote several hit songs performed by Khalid, Shuvro Dev, Dolly Sayantoni, Kajal and many other popular singers.

What was your first mega hit song?
 Kabir Bakul: The track titled "Keno Ei Nishshongota" was sung by Partho Barua, the lead vocal of band Souls, in 1993. It was a huge hit.

What about your film songs?
 Kabir Bakul: Although I wrote songs for audio albums, I dreamt of writing songs for films. I started writing songs for cinema from 1994. First, I won the Producers' Association Award writing song for cinema as best lyricist. Apart from this, I won the National Film Awards four times.

Do you feel lucky professionally?

Kabir Bakul: I feel fortunate to have

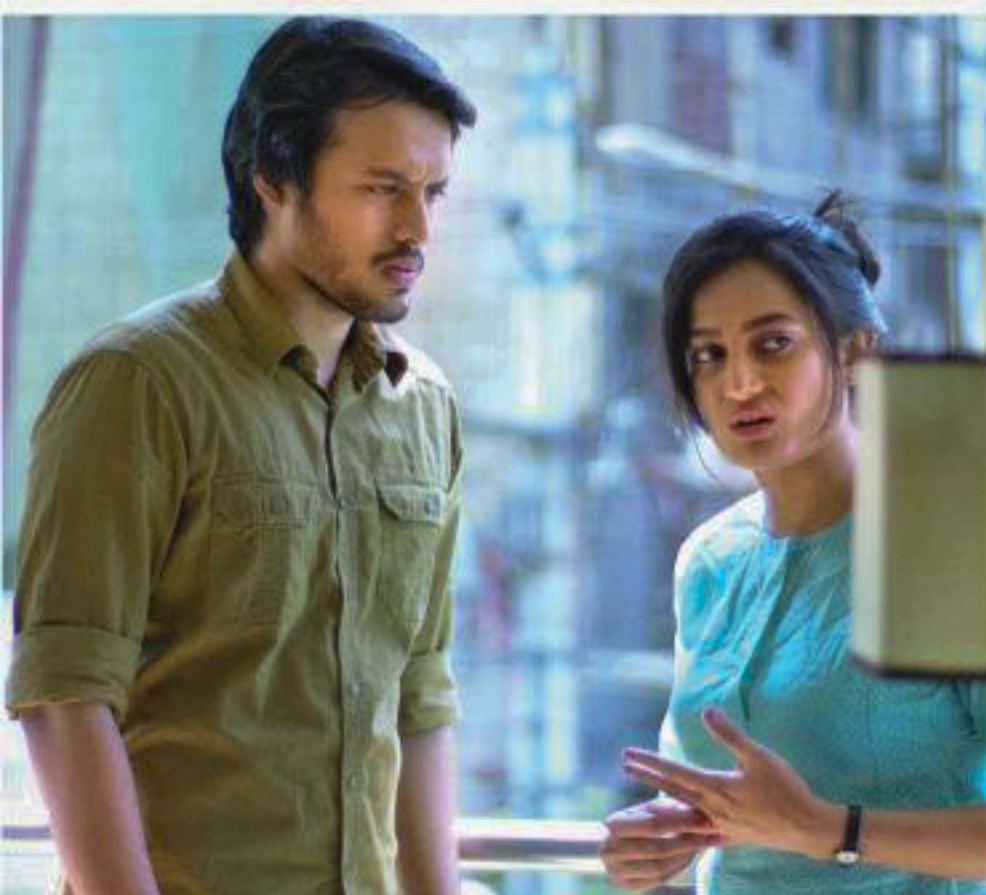
worked with music composers of yore and contemporary -- like Satya Saha, Subol Das, Alam Khan, Alauddin Ali, Ahmed Imtiaz Bulbul, Sheik Sadi Khan, Habib Wahid and Hridoy Khan.

Can one make a go of songwriting as a profession?

Kabir Bakul: Though we do get opportunities, one can't think of it as a profession in Bangladesh. In our country, music composers and songwriters are not judged objectively, while people of the same profession in our neighbouring country, India live a high profile life.

Any regrets as lyricist...

Kabir Bakul: Creative people always have regrets. My personal regret is that I couldn't write songs for celebrated singer Sahanaz Rahmatullah, who has opted out of the profession.



TV WATCH
"Third Eye" on Ekushey TV

A CORRESPONDENT

TV series "Third Eye" will air tonight on Ekushey Television. Written by Shafiqur Rahman Shantanu and directed by Sokal Ahmed, it casts Arfan Nisho, Sadiya Islam Prova, Wahida Mollik Jolly, Saju Khadem, Aporna and Alif. It airs Tuesdays through Thursdays at 10:30pm.

The drama, that deals with the mundane life of the middle class dwells on a wide range of subjects: selfishness, jealousy, sensitivity, drug abuse, corporate politics, extramarital affairs on one end, and values, love and selflessness on the other. It is the story where characters - Mahadi, Shimu, Jona, Ornob, Rashed, Suhi and Avik, intertwine into a fine plot.



"House 44" on ntv

A CORRESPONDENT

Drama series "House 44" airs tonight on ntv. Written by Tuhin Rasel and directed by Mabur Rashid Bannah, the series casts Abul Hayat, Aparna Ghosh, Sabnam Faria, Monira Mithu, Maznun Mizan, Schumann Patwary, Irfan Sazzad, Mishu Sabbir, Tawfif Mahub, Saju Khadem, RJ Apu and Shawon. The drama goes on air Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 11:30pm.

IT'S TRUE!



Steve Martin, once a supremely popular stand-up comic, gave up that career decades ago unannounced, when his film career took off. And this week, he came back on stage to do his first stand-up set in 35 years, opening the show for Jerry Seinfeld at New York's Beacon Theatre. He joked that he had to do it after losing a bet to Seinfeld.

Bangla Schools in Singapore observe Ekushey February

In Singapore, two Bangla schools under the Bangladesh Language and Cultural Foundation (BLCF) have been in operation for over 15 years, imparting international-quality education to some 600 children of the diaspora of Bangladeshi parents, according to a press release.

To observe International Mother Language Day, the young children of the schools gathered at their school premises early morning. Two separate events were held, one at Zhangdi Primary School at 8:30am, and the other at Jhuying Primary School at 11am. Students, accompanied by their teachers and the guardians marched to a makeshift Shaheed Minar and paid homage to the language martyrs, by laying down flowers at the memorial.

This was followed by a cultural show where children sang and recited Bangla poems. Members of the school staff and the guardians also sang some beautiful songs.

Principal of BLCF and noted singer Milia Islam Saded expressed great hopes for the children and said all the kids displayed the keenness to be an integral part of the initiative that connected them to their forefathers' culture.



Handwriting competition for children

AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh

Marking Amar Ekushey and International Mother Language Day, Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin Sangrahshala (art gallery) organised a hand writing competition for children at its premises on Feb 21.

The judges of the competition were Taposh Majumder, art teacher of Govt Laboratory High School; and Badal Chakraborty, art teacher of Zainul Shishu Charupith.

A total of 135 students of different educational institutions took part in the competition in three groups. Nine won awards.

Earlier, a discussion was held. Sharmin Jahan, Additional Deputy Commissioner (Education and IT) of Mymensingh was the chief guest. Dr Bijoy Krishna Banik, deputy keeper of the art gallery delivered the welcome speech.

Later, the chief guest distributed prizes among the winners.



PHOTO: STAR

"Sonam still needs to improve a lot"

... Anil Kapoor

Bollywood actor Anil Kapoor thinks his daughter Sonam Kapoor still needs to "improve" a lot.

"One might be best actor or actress in the world but he/she has to keep on learning, same goes for Sonam. No matter how much praise she gets for her performance and whatever anyone says, she still has to improve more and more," Anil Kapoor said at the red carpet of Zee Cine Awards. "An actor is always a student. Acting is a vast learning like an ocean. You can never absorb it completely."

On Sonam's latest film "Neerja", dad Kapoor said: "There is a kind of emotional reaction in the entire family. We feel that this film somewhere is blessed by Neeja herself. Whatever good is happening with the film is all because of her." "Neerja" is based on the life of air hostess Neerja Bhanot, who was shot dead by terrorists at the hijacking of Pan Am Flight 73 in Karachi, Pakistan on September 5, 1986.

Source: IANS



"Big Bang Theory" celebrates 200 episodes

The cast and crew of "The Big Bang Theory" celebrated the show's 200th episode Saturday night at Vibiana in Los Angeles, ahead of the CBS sitcom's on-screen celebration, as the milestone episode on February 25 will center around Sheldon's birthday.

While "The Big Bang Theory" is in its ninth season and is already renewed for Season 10m the cast doesn't take the show for granted. In fact, they're still pinching themselves that they star on TV's #1 sitcom.

"Every time I get a script, it's like Christmas morning," cast member Kunal Nayyar told Variety at the event. "I love reading these scripts. I'm a fan. I'm a fan of 'Big Bang Theory' and I get to be in it. It's a dream."

Even though the show debuted back in 2007, the ensemble still remembers their auditions for what would become one of the biggest sitcom successes in television history.

"I remember sitting next to Jim and I had never met him and I said, 'Hi I'm Kaley,'" star Kaley Cuoco recalls of meeting Jim Parsons during auditions. "He had a BlackBerry that he couldn't get working. We were in

the waiting room and he's like, 'This BlackBerry is a new technology and I'm unsure.' And I remember thinking that guy would make a hilarious Sheldon." But even a decade later,

"I remember spending a lot of time memorising because it was probably the wordiest audition I've ever gone in on. Any humour was not going to be funny if I was



The sitcom about lovable nerds and their awkward social interactions has won popularity and acclaim.

one thing Cuoco still doesn't have a clue about is science. "I have not learned one f---ing thing about science," she admitted. "I have no idea. Zero."

struggling with these words, many of which I didn't know and weren't easy to say," recalled Jim Parsons.

Melissa Rauch recalled "I was

unemployed. I had just been at the unemployment office a few days before my audition. It was some dark, dark times a few days before I got the audition."

Mayim Bialik, who joined the show midway, shared: "I had never seen 'The Big Bang Theory'. I knew it was a big deal, because my manager told me 'try and get this part.' I was super excited just because I was looking to be a working actress again. That was pretty much all I knew of the show -- is that it was really big."

Simon Helberg, who plays astrophysicist Howard Wolowitz, recalled his audition: "I know I wasn't going to audition originally, which was a brilliant choice that I made. I was working on another television show so I thought, 'Oh you know, I'll ride out the show that I'm on.' I heard Chuck [Lorre] laugh almost a couple lines in, and he has a very distinct laugh, which has become the source of all validation in my life. And I've gotten to hear that laugh thousands of times since when I do my job right."

Source: Variety