

WHAT'S ON

**Solo Sculpture Exhibition**  
 Title: Stones-2  
 Sculptor: Hamiduzzaman Khan  
 Venue: Galleri Kaya  
 Date: March 5-18  
 Time: 11am-7:30pm



**Solo Painting Exhibition**  
 Artist: Ranjit Das  
 Venue: Shilpangan  
 Date: February 26-March 12  
 Time: 12pm-8pm



**Theatre Festival**  
 Bhangra Gora Natyotshab  
 Organiser: BGTFF  
 Venue: Mohila Samiti Auditorium,  
 Bally Road  
 Date: Feb 28-Mar 28  
 Time: 7pm



**Art Exhibition**  
 Title: Informal  
 Artist: Syed Zahid Iqbal  
 Venue: Kalakendra, Mohammadpur  
 Time: 5pm-8:30pm  
 Date: March 8-29



**Special Art Exhibition**  
 Title: An Unsung Song  
 Venue: DRIK Gallery, Dhanmondi  
 Date: March 4-12  
 Time: 3-8pm




From L: Shironamhin and Shunno perform at the concert.

# Inspired youth on March 7

## JOY BANGLA CONCERT MAKES A COMEBACK

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**  
 On the occasion of the historic March 7, an audience of around 30,000 youths gathered at the capital's Army Stadium to sing along with their favourite bands at the Joy Bangla Concert. Young Bangla and the Centre for Research and Information (CRI) arranged the musical extravaganza to inspire the youth the way Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman inspired the entire nation on that day in 1971. The concert saw power-packed performances of seven leading bands-- Warfaze, Shironamhin, Shunno, Arbovirus, Lalon, Cryptic Fate and Nemesis. An orchestral presentation of the National Anthem "Amar Shonar Bangla", led by eminent composer Ahmed Imtiaz Bulbul, set the

concert in motion. Arbovirus came first on the stage, and began their performance with "Ek Sagor Rokter Binimoye", followed by "Amra Korbo Joy". The group recharged the audience with "Omanush", "Hariye Jao" and "Agun Jalo" before leaving the stage for Nemesis. Nemesis then enchanted the crowd with an acoustic version of "Dhono Dhanne Pushpe Bhora", "Rokto Diye Naam Likhechhi", "Joyodhwoni", "Kobe" and "Ghuri". When the audience was craving for more, Shunno came on the stage, and presented "Joy Bangla, Bangla-r Joy", "Bedona", "Godhulir Oparey", "Mon Torey" and more. Heavy metal giant Cryptic Fate rendered "Bhorer Opekkha", "Karar Oi Louho Kopat", "Teer Hara Ei Dheu-er Sagor", "Cholo Bangladesh" and more.

Later, another crowd-pleaser Shironamhin began their performance with "O Amar Desher Maati" and presented "Bullet Kingba Kobita", "Pakhi", "Bondho Janala" and "Abar Hashimukh" before welcoming band Lalon on stage. The band on an unusual note opened their performance with "Purbo Digante", which was followed by a number of popular tracks including "Boshonto Batashe", "Somoy Gele" and "Khepa". The last part of the night was reserved for iconic band Warfaze. They swayed the audience with "Tumi Ki Janona", "Na", "Dhushor Manchitro" and "Amar Bhai er Rokte Rangano". The concert also featured a laser show, fireworks display and the screening of a documentary on the historic day of March 7.

# A gathering of literary minds

## Chinho Mela draws big audience at RU

**ANWAR ALI, Rajshahi**  
 A two-day literary world conference, titled Chinho Mela, was held at Rajshahi University (RU) campus on March 7 and 8. RU-based literary magazine Chinho organised the conference at the Shahidullah Arts Building premises of the university. The conference saw a lively gathering of literature enthusiasts and avid readers, along with a good number of Bengali writers and editors of literary magazines from Bangladesh and India. Eminent writer and educationist Professor Anisuzzaman, and celebrated writer Selina Hossain inaugurated Chinho Mela on March 7. A discussion was held as part of the conference where the speakers discussed Rabindranath Tagore and Bangabandhu

Sheikh Mujibur Rahman as the greatest Bangalee in the eyes of Haquees. Writer Hasan Azizul Haque conducted the discussion while economist Sanat Kumar Saha, RU Vice Chancellor Professor Mizan Uddin, Pro-VC Professor Chowdhury Sarwar Jahan, and Chinho chief Shaheed Iqbal were among the distinguished guests. Talking to this correspondent, poet Makid Haider appreciated the initiative of the organisers of the conference. He said the conference would help progressive minds counter the tentacles of fundamentalism that are spreading all over the country. The conference featured over 100 stalls of literary magazines from Bangladesh and India, discussions, and cultural functions with participation of artistes from different parts of the country.



PHOTO: STAR

# "Women need to be in decision-making roles"

...Shaela Sharmin

**PRANABESH CHAKRABORTY, Chittagong**  
 Gender equality is way off in the creative arts, believes Shaela Sharmin, an eminent painter and theatre personality in the port city. Sharmin, a teacher of Institute of Fine Arts of Chittagong University (CU) by profession, has been working as a theatre activist of the country's renowned theatre troupe Tirjak Natya Dal for 23 years. "As our society is strongly patriarchal, it is very difficult for a woman to participate in creative fields on par with a man, even in the fine arts," she told The Daily Star. The artist, however, firmly believes that the new generation of women have the ability to change this scenario. "Usually, a woman faces many obstacles in her everyday life. A woman working in fine arts has to face more difficulties," opined Sharmin. Referring to eminent sculptor Novera Ahmed, she said, "Novera was a pioneer artist in her time. But her artistic freedom was curtailed. Similar restrictions are being imposed on women in general as women are seen to have a secondary position in society." "In terms of creativity, women are not lagging behind men," said Sharmin.



PHOTO: STAR

"I think what is important is that women develop the ability to take decisions," said Sharmin. "If women can play a role in decision making, it is easy to change the present scenario," she added.

"I always tell my students to be a human first then a man or woman. When a person achieves the characteristics of a true human then the distinction between a man and a woman disappears," said the artist.

# Solo exhibition of Asif Bahauddin Sikder



Artist Asif Bahauddin Sikder's eight-day solo art exhibition, titled "Really Don't Mind A Little Bit of Lonesome", began at Gallery Cosmos-2 on March 4, says a press release. Information Minister Hasanul Haque Inu inaugurated the exhibition as chief guest. Professor Nazma Shaheen, Director, Institute of Nutrition and Food Science, University of Dhaka and Professor Nisar Hossain, Dean, Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka attended the inaugural event as special guests. Enayetullah Khan, Chairman, Gallery Cosmos was present on the occasion.

Asif Bahauddin Sikder is a Bangladeshi painter based in the USA. He is known for breaking the boundaries of existing forms and developing a new genre of semi-abstract-surrealistic paintings that blends inter-cultural character study, philosophical reflection, Indian mysticism, spirituality and divine sexuality (tantra), enriched by his extensive travels and experiences around the world. A surrealist and a mystic, he believes that abstract art uses the associations of form and colour to create meaning, rather than re-creating recognisable motifs.



# "It's scary to imagine yourself failing"

... Kriti Sanon

After a successful debut with "Heropanti" (2014), Kriti Sanon bagged a big film like "Dilwale" (2015), also starring Kajol and Shah Rukh Khan. But though she hasn't tasted failure as yet, the thought of it gives her shudders. "I don't know if I'm prepared for it or not. It's scary to imagine yourself failing. But I do know that in Bollywood, every Friday changes your destiny, and unfortunately, every Friday also changes the way people look at you," she says. In her two-year career, the 25-year old has realised that in the industry, several times, even if you're a great actor, if your film flops, people close to you take a step back. "I think that is the sad part of the industry," she says, quickly adding that at the end of the day, what really matters is hard work. "I think if you're talented and not desperate to do any film that comes your way, and are doing justice to all your roles, then you're fine, because you can't predict the rest. You also can't predict the audience's reaction," she says. Currently, Kriti is working on her next opposite Sushant Singh Rajput. "It's something I am excited about. The film is about love, dreams and destiny. I guess the way I will look, the way I will be presented, and my character will make the audience see me in a different light," says Kriti.

Source: Hindustan Times



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