

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: BGTF
 Venue: Mohila Samiti Auditorium, Baily Road
 Date: Feb 28-Mar 28
 Time: 7pm



Musical Soiree
 Rokte Aka Procchod-pot
 Organiser: Joltorongo
 Venue: Chhayanaut
 Date: Mar 11; Time: 7pm



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



NEWS bytes

MUMMY
 reboot casts
 Annabelle Wallis

Annabelle Wallis is in talks for the female lead in Universal's "The Mummy", starring Tom Cruise. Wallis will play an archaeologist in the film. Sofia Boutella, meanwhile, is on board to play the iconic monster. The film is set to bow on June 9, 2017.



The studio tapped Alex Kurtzman and Chris Morgan last summer to help develop a monster universe for Universal, with rebooted versions of classic monster movies. Kurtzman is also on board to direct, and will produce alongside Morgan and Sean Daniel. Jon Spaihts is penning the script. Plot details are vague other than the fact that the film will be set in the present day, unlike the previous three installments starring Brendan Fraser. Wallis is best known for her work in Steven Knight's "Peaky Blinders". She also starred in the 2014 horror film "Annabelle" and the comedy "Brothers Grimsby". Wallis will play Maid Maggie in Guy Ritchie's upcoming King Arthur movie — set for release in 2017. She also recently wrapped Zack Whedon's thriller "Come and Find Me" opposite Aaron Paul.

Source: Variety

QUOTES



The language of film is further and further away from theatre, and is closer to music. It's abstract but still narrative. Everything feels less rehearsed. It's more experimental than classical.

EMMANUEL LUBEZKI
 consecutive three-time Oscar winning cinematographer.



Speakers at the press conference.

KANTHASHILON TO COMMEMORATE WAHEEDUL HAQ

Two-day festival takes off

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Kanthashilon, one of the leading recitation organizations of the country, is holding a two-day festival starting tomorrow, to commemorate cultural movement pioneer Waheedul Haq, through a memorial reunion. At a press conference yesterday, organisers informed that the Prime Minister's information secretary Iqbal Sobhan Chowdhury will inaugurate the event, to be held at the Shawkat Osman Memorial Auditorium at the National Public Library. Thespian Ataur Rahman and Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy DG Liaquat Ali Lucky will discuss the life and works of Waheedul Haq. Speakers said Waheedul Haq, the luminary who founded Kanthashilon (and Chhayanaut),

passed away on January 27, 2007, but his dream of spreading the reach of Kanthashilon across the country lives on. In order to realise that dream, all Kanthashilon alumni from its first to 85th batches have been invited to the event, to voice their opinions and chalk out plans. Organisers hoped it would turn out to be a grand festival of cultural activists. The two-day memorial will feature music, dance and recitation from cultural troupes Satyen Sen Shilpi Goshthi, Udichi Shilpi Goshthi, Khelaghar, Wrishij Shilpi Goshthi, Takkhashila, Kalyan Parampara, Kalparekha, Swarbanjan, Dhvani, Bohnishikha and Ochhin Pakhi Baul Samiti (Commilla) — along with solo recitations by noted elocutionists, sharing of reminiscences, certificate-giving, a rally and discussions.

Touquir to bring Jibananda Das on silver screen

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

National Award Winning film director Tauquir Ahmed has long-cherished a dream to make a biopic of iconic Bengali poet Jibananda Das. His dream now turns to reality as he readies to shoot the film from the first quarter of 2017.

The actor-director is doing research for the yet-untitled film and will subsequently write the script. The film will focus on Jibananda Das' life as a poet, his works and other aspects of his personality. Asked why he wants to make a film on the poet, Tauquir said, "Every Bangalee has a soft corner for Jibananda and his poetry, and I am no exception. For a long while I've thought of making a film on the romantic poet; everything is going well so far." The director also informed that his production house Nakkhatra Chalacchitra takes its name from Jibananda's poem. He has also named many plays inspired by the poet's work. Meanwhile, Tauquir's latest film "Ogyatonama" awaits clearance from the censor board. He expressed the hope that the film would release within two months. Tauquir is not directing any television play at the moment, though he is acting in plays.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED



Ajker Nari honours OUTSTANDING WOMEN

Eight successful women from different fields were recognised for their outstanding contributions to nation building on International Women's Day on March 8. "Canvas presents Freedom-Persona Ajker Nari 2016" honoured the eight successful women at an award giving ceremony held at ACI Centre, says a press release. Meher Afroz Chumki, State Minister of Women and Children Affairs, graced the event as chief guest. Renowned

actress Dilara Zaman was present as special guest on the occasion. Managing director of ACI Salt Syed Alamgir and Persona MD Kaniz Almas Khan were also present at the award giving ceremony. The "Canvas presents Persona-Freedom Ajker Nari 2016" award winners are Farzana Islam, Vice Chancellor of Jahangirnagar University (Education); Tahsina Shahin, owner of Shada Kalo fashion house (Fashion); Rupali

Chowdhury, managing director of Berger Paints (Corporate); Geeti Ara Safia Chowdhury, chairman of Adcomm Ltd. (Entrepreneur); Shaheen Samad, renowned Nazrul singer (Music); Rokhsana Sultana, executive director of Breaking the Silence NGO (Social Service); Afroza Jamil Konka, renowned painter (Art) and Dr. Hosne Ara Tahmin Charu, principal of Nightingale Medical College & Hospital (Medical Science).

83rd Baul festival ends in Chuadanga

AMANUR AMAN, Kushiya

The 83th Baul festival and Baul gathering ended at Sarishadanga village in sadar upazila of Chuadanga district this week. The three-day event was organised at the shrine of prominent Baul Fakir Bishu Shah in the village. Baul Bishu Shah himself started the festival in his lifetime. Bishu Shah Smriti Sangasd organised the programme, which included a discussion and rendition of Baul songs. A village fair was also held. Several Baul singers from India joined the event. Sudipto Ghosh and Bhaskar Bhattacharya of India and Dhuru Baul, Swapan Boiragi including a large number of Lalon devotees from different corners of Bangladesh and India came for the festival.



A baul performs at the festival. PHOTO: STAR



"Pagla Hawar Din" on ntv

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

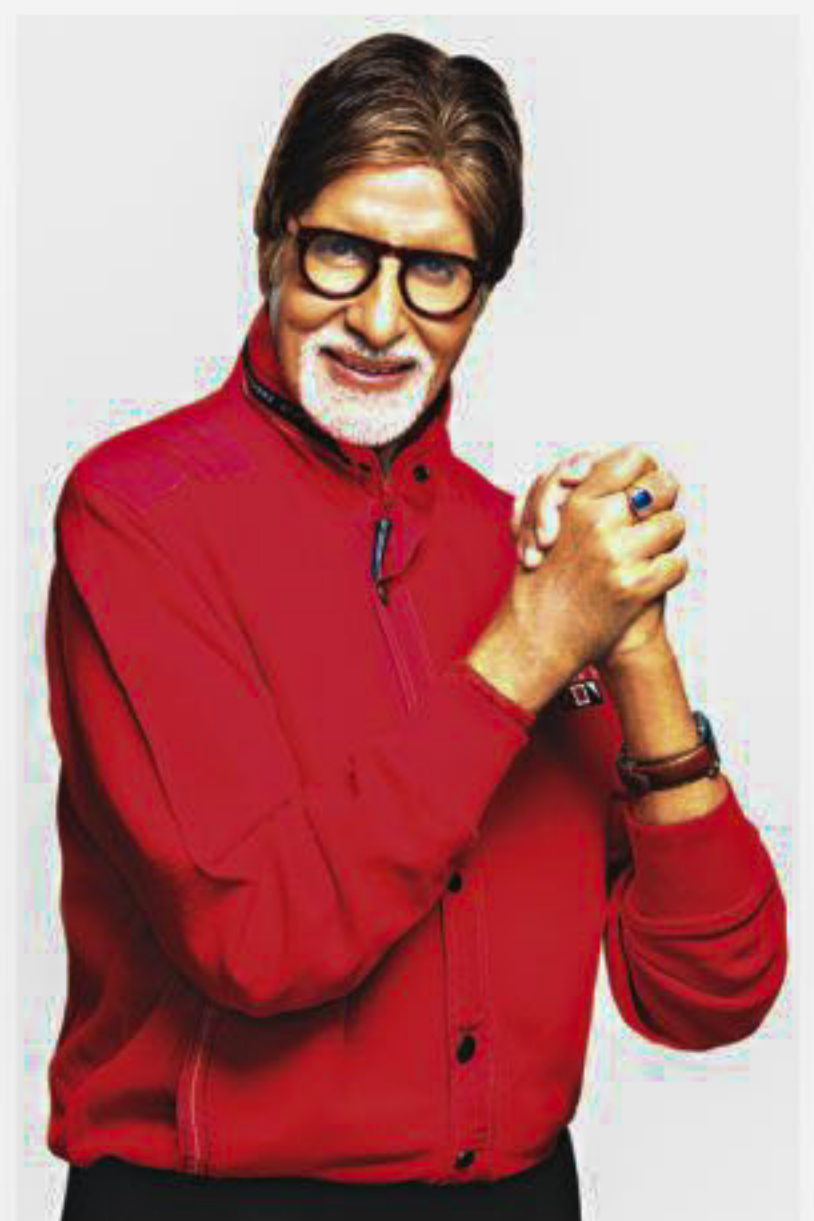
New TV series "Pagla Hawar Din" airs tonight on ntv, at 9:40pm. Written by Shuvashish Sinha, it is directed by Humayun Farid, and casts Abul Hayat, Kumkum Hasan, KS Firoz, Saberi Alam, Shahiduzzaman Selim, Nadia, Shatabdi Wadud, Farhana Mili,

Sharmimela, Shilpi Sarkar Opu and others. The story revolves around a big family, and other people connected to it. The youngest son of the house one day marries a girl and brings her home, but is so scared of the repercussions from his father, he leaves home, leaving his newlywed wife behind.

Bachchan's long battle with TB

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

Sixteen years ago, Bollywood veteran Amitabh Bachchan made a comeback in showbiz—albeit on the small screen — with the immensely popular TV game show "Kaun Banega Crorepati". But for him, it was also a time of immense pain as he was diagnosed with tuberculosis in the spine and had to pop in 8-10 painkillers a day. The superstar revealed this to an audience here at a programme on the occasion of World TB Day on Monday night saying he was diagnosed with the disease on the day he started shooting for "KBC". "In 2000, I was detected with TB and went through a very rigorous treatment for almost a year. I contracted TB on the day I was going to start TV show KBC. It was a TB of spine. It's very uncomfortable. You cannot sit or lie down. Most of the time, I was on 8-10 pain killers a day just to survive the period when I was anchoring the game show," the megastar said as he joined US Ambassador to India Richard R. Verma, civil society and health workers for a reception ahead of World Tuberculosis Day on March 24. "I am a tuberculosis survivor" and that is



why "I took up" the cause of spreading awareness about the disease," said the actor who is Indian government's brand ambassador of the campaign against TB. The Big B said "many people ask me why I contribute my services to a medical cause. I have had a complicated medical history. One of the reasons I took up TB is because I am a TB survivor."

He said that with treatment for a year, he became free of the disease. "The reason I disclosed is that I felt that the word survivor is somehow a very powerful word. When I say I am TB survivor, it seems like I survived a plane crash or boat sinking. If you survive that, it lends a lot of power and strength to what you are saying deeper. It's like saying that I have survived it because I went through a process," he said. "...I said let me go there and say I am a TB survivor and I play with my grand-children and lead a normal life. It cannot get transferred. There are precautions, of course," he said. Bachchan, said TB is normally associated with people who live with lesser means but everybody is "vulnerable" to the disease. "It seems a little arrogant and immodest to say but what I really want to say is that if it can happen to me, it can happen to anyone. It's not trying to place degree among people. It's just trying to say that anyone can contract TB. If it is not detected in time, it can become grave. I had the medical help and guidance to get it detected and if I am sitting here as healthy, it was partly because we were able to detect the disease in time," he said.