

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: BGT
 Venue: Mohila Samiti Auditorium, Bally Road
 Date: Feb 28-Mar 28
 Time: 7pm

Musical Soiree
 Rokte Aka Prochod-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

Book Lunching Ceremony
 Title: The Return of Laili II
 Translated By: Nashid Kamal
 Venue: Athena Gallery of Fine Arts
 Date: March 15; Time: 6pm



Fahim Hossain Chowdhury



Srikanta Acharya

BRSS to hold two-day Rabindra Sangeet Festival at BSA Srikanta Acharya set to perform today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

For Rabindra Sangeet aficionados, Friday and Saturday evenings will be special as popular singers from Bangladesh and India are set to join a Rabindra Sangeet festival at Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA).

The programme, being arranged by Bangladesh Rabindra Sangeet Shilpi Sangsad (BRSS) and Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre (IGCC), will inaugurate today at Nandan Mancha of BSA.

Celebrated Indian singer Srikanta Acharya, along with Probuddha Raha, Bibha Bindu, Madhurima

Dutta Chowdhury and Sheeshpiya Banerjee will perform at the programme. They will share the stage with popular Bangladeshi singers including Mita Haq, Fahim Hossain Chowdhury, Aditi Mohsin, Mohiuzzaman Chowdhury, Majibul Kaiyum, Dr. Farhat Hossain and Iffat Ara Dewan.

Noted litterateur Syed Manzoorul Islam will attend the inauguration ceremony as chief guest this evening, while Liaquat Ali Lucky, director general of BSA, and Anjan Chowdhury, managing director of Maasranga Television and Square Toiletries Ltd. will be the special guests.

Fahim Hossain Chowdhury, general secretary of BRSS, will deliver the welcome address. Sudhin Das, president of the organisation, will preside over the programme.

Fahim Hossain Chowdhury said, "The festival will be a lively gathering of artistes from West Bengal and Bangladesh. Many Indian artistes come to Bangladesh, but this programme will be the largest in terms of the number of participating artistes. The festival aims to spread Rabindra Sangeet and make it more popular among the young generation."

The festival will run every day from 6:30pm to 9:30pm.

Francophonie begins today

A CORRESPONDENT

The 2016 edition of the annual Francophonie Festival begins today in Dhaka and Chittagong, amid festivity and enthusiasm. Every year, one month after Ekushey February, the Francophone community celebrates and promotes worldwide the use of the French language as well as cultural and linguistic diversity.

In the framework of the 2016 edition, the Francophone diplomatic missions in Bangladesh, together with Alliances Françaises, in Dhaka and Chittagong, are set to offer a rich programme of activities from March 11-20.

Alliance Française de Dhaka has set up a week-long programme of events such as "pétanque" competition,



national finale of LabCitoyen (speech contest), cooking competition, Francophonie Short Film Festival 2016, visit to Liberation War Museum guided in French, translation competition and much more.

A talk on "Preservation and Promotion of Mother Language" will be organised at Dhaka University, Institute of Modern Languages at 10am on Wednesday, March 16, where Ambassadors of the Francophone countries and eminent Bangladeshi personalities -- Professor Anisuzzaman (Professor Emeritus, Dhaka University) will be panelists. Professor Dr. AAMS Arefin Siddique (Dhaka University Vice-Chancellor) will be the chief guest, while special guest Dr Jinnat Intiaz Ali (Director of International Mother Language Institute) will be the keynote speaker.

"My father was my lighthouse" ... Nurjahan Alim



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Nurjahan Alim is daughter of legendary folk singer Abdul Alim. Like her father, her sole focus in life is music. She also puts in a lot of hard work to preserve and promote the songs of her father. In a recent conversation with The Daily Star, the folk singer spoke about her career and more. Excerpts:

What role does music play in your life?

Nurjahan: It is my passion, dedication and dream rolled into one. Music helps boost my energy so that I can go about my daily routine effortlessly.

How many Abdul Alim songs have you performed on stage?

Nurjahan: I do a number of his songs. He was my inspiration. I feel good when I receive requests from audiences to sing my father's songs.

What initiatives have you taken to preserve your father's songs?

Nurjahan: It's a totally individual initiative, like I'll sing his songs at different universities and colleges at the district level to spread his songs among the new generation. Besides, I have a plan to organise a big show on his songs at the end of March or in upcoming Baishakh.

Any plans to release a new album?

Nurjahan: I am now working on an album that features 8-10 songs of my father. I hope the audiences will get the album later this year.

What really gives you the most joy as a singer?

Nurjahan: As the daughter of Abdul Alim I have been honoured anywhere in the country. It really makes me happy. It's a great achievement for me to see people still remember him with great admiration.

What saddens you?

Nurjahan: If hurts when I think that if my father had been alive for another 10 years, he would have contributed more to our treasure trove of folk numbers.

Inspiration for Bangladesh designers Paper Studio holds Conqueror Corporate Identity Design Contest

SAURAV DEY

With a vision to inspire and recognise the designers of Bangladesh, Paper Studio held a design contest with the title "Conqueror Corporate Identity Design Contest-2015".

The prize giving ceremony of the contest, and the inaugural ceremony of an exhibition featuring the award winning designs was held at Bay's Edgewater in the capital's Gulshan Avenue on Wednesday evening.

Professor Dr. Gowher Rizvi, Foreign Affairs Adviser to the Prime Minister, attended the ceremony as chief guest. All members of the jury panel--eminent cultural activist and advertising industry leader Aly Zaker, artist Khaled Mahmud, architect Salauddin Ahmed, graphic designer Laura Bonapace, graphic designer Yusuf Hassan, corporate identity vision-



ary Iftekhar A. Khan, and print specialist and photographer Arifur Rahman Munir--were also present at the ceremony, among other distinguished guests, to inspire the participants.

Farzeen K. Chowdhury, director of Paper Studio, gave a welcome speech at the ceremony. In her address she said, "This contest created a prestigious platform for

both creative design students and professionals in Bangladesh to demonstrate their talent in corporate identity design. At the same time it has inspired them to challenge their own abilities and work according to global standards"

The contest, concluding in May 2015, reached out to both professional designers working freelance or with reputed companies and

emerging designers and students. Professional designers submitted their works in an open theme, while students contested in the theme "Shaswato Bangla".

At the award ceremony, a total of 12 awards were handed over to the winners in different categories.

Sabyasachi Hazra and Kishoar Chowdhury have won Gold Awards in Professional Category and Free

Theme Category respectively, while Rashed Hasan Chowdhury has won the Inspiration Award.

In addition from the awards, Sabyasachi and Rashed have received invitations to visit the historic Arjowiggins Creative Papers Mill in Scotland to experience a whole new world of craft behind papermaking and design.

The Gold Award winner in student category, Tasfia Jahan Didin, a student of Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka University has won an invitation to visit the Seoul Design Week 2016.

The other winners include Navid Hasnain, Masum Khan, Anindya Gourab, Shakil Mahmud Palash, Drishti Chakma, and Mohammad Habibur Rahman.

The exhibition will run every day from 10am to 9pm till March 13 at EDGE Gallery, Bay's Edgewater.

The Daily Star is the strategic partner of the event.

Rosamund Pike joins "Hostiles"

Rosamund Pike is in negotiations to co-star with Christian Bale in Scott Cooper's Western "Hostiles".

Cooper will write and direct, with Bale attached to star. Cooper will also produce with "Black Mass" producer John Lesher along with Ken Kao, who is also financing the film through Waypoint Entertainment.

Set in 1892, "Hostiles" tells the story of a legendary Army captain (Bale) who agrees to escort a dying Cheyenne war chief and his family back to tribal lands. Making the harrowing and perilous journey from an isolated Army outpost in New Mexico to the grasslands of Montana, the former rivals encounter a young widow (Pike) whose family was murdered on the plains. Together, they must join forces to overcome the punishing landscape and hostile Comanche tribes that they encounter along the way.

Production is set to begin in July.

Sources say Cooper was drawn to Pike after seeing her in Massive Attack's music video "Voodoo in My Blood", which recently caused an Internet stir.

Pike recently wrapped production on the World War II thriller "HHhH" as well as "A United Kingdom" with David Oyelowo.

Source: **Variety**



NEWS bytes



McConaughey's next pushed to June

Matthew McConaughey's "Free State of Jones" has been pushed back a month.

SIX Entertainment announced that the Civil War epic is moving from a May 13 release date to June 24. Gary Ross helms the story of Southern farmer Newt Knight, who leads a rebellion against the Confederacy. He flees the battlefields after being disillusioned by the horrors that have touched his own family. On the run, he rallies the support of fellow deserters to lead an uprising against their former comrades, in the process creating a free safe haven. Gugu Mbatha-Raw and Keri Russell also star.

The film will now be going up against "Independence Day: Resurgence" and Blake Lively thriller "The Shallows" at the box office.

This isn't the first time "Free State of Jones" has been delayed. Back in October it was announced that the project was being pushed from March 11 to the date in May.

Source: **Internet**