

WHAT'S ON

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

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

Solo Art Exhibition
 Title: Journey with Wreckage 2
 Artist: Bipul Shah
 Venue: La Galerie, Alliance Francaise
 Dhaka
 Date: March 11-25
 Time: Mon-Thurs 2:30pm-9pm
 Fri-Sat 9am-12pm, and Sp, 8pm

Solo Art Exhibition
 Really Don't Mind A Little Bit of
 Lonesome
 Artist: Bahauddin
 Venue: Gallery Cosmos
 Date: March 4-22
 Time: 12pm-8pm

Book Launch
 5 Books of Prof. Momtazuddin
 Ahmed
 Organiser: Bishwa Sahitya Bhaban
 Venue: Shilpakala Conf. Room
 Date: Mar 19; Time: 6:30pm

Discussion Programme
 on Bharatbhager Osrakona
 by Karunamaya Goswami
 Venue: Shamsur Rahman
 Auditorium, Bangla Academy
 Date: Mar 19; Time: 5pm



A SPLASH OF COLOUR
 SPRING FESTIVAL AT DHAKA UNIVERSITY

MAHDI AL MUHTASIM
 Dhaka University on Tuesday celebrated Bashanta Utsab (Spring Festival) with flowers, poems and songs as the bone-chilling, gloomy winter gave way to a fiesta of colours and love. Dhaka University Cultural Society (DUCS) organised the daylong festival at the 'Mall Chattar' of the campus. Mall Chattar of Dhaka University was adorned with colourful banners and festoons. Makeshift stalls, including traditional food, Nagordola (wooden Ferris wheel), bioscope and decorative henna parlours were also given a place at the corner of the main stage. The programme, which ran

throughout the day, featured drama, puppet show and a musical show featuring a spectrum of folk music -- gambhira, bhatali, bhawaiyya, jari and recitation of puthi. Over 100 DU students performed at the festival with enthusiasm. Later, prominent singers Kiron Chandra Roy, Bappa Mazumder, bands Joler Gaan and Arjon also sang their popular songs on stage. Sayeed Khokon, mayor of Dhaka South City Corporation, inaugurated the festival in the morning. A colourful procession was brought out after the inaugural session. DU Vice Chancellor AAMS Arefin Siddique urged the younger generation to remember that the cultural unity of the Bangalee

people was the prime driving force in the Independence of Bangladesh. Veteran cultural personality Aly Zaker said that season-based festivals in the country will inspire people of every creed to build a secular state. Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy's Director General, Liaquat Ali Lucky thanked DUCS for arranging such an event and said encouragingly that Shilpakala Academy will always extend its help to the DU students culturally. DUCS moderator Sabrina Sultana Chowdhury also spoke among others. The programme came to a close through releasing of fanush (paper lanterns) into the night sky.

KABORI
 Golden days

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Kabori metamorphosed from Meena Pal to today's Kabori and currently ranks as a leading actress of Dhallywood. Her first movie, "Shutorang", was a first Bangla blockbuster hit and won accolades at the Frankfurt Asian Film Festival in 1964. The Kabori-Razzaq on screen pair heralded the golden age of Bangladeshi cinema. Rongbaaz, Abirbhab, Moinamoti, Aguntok, Anirban, Chokher Joley, Upohar and several others enthralled film buffs of that time. In fact it was the turning point, as film goers started to accept this genre of film in addition to family oriented social movies.

Here's a reflection of the real Kabori:
How did you set foot in filmdom?
 I was hardly 13, when Subhash Dutta gave me my first break in film-dm in 1964. He was my first on screen hero and more than a hero he is my mentor. I acted in the first film "Shutorang" under Subhash Da's direction and coincidentally just 40 years later in 2004, Subhash Da acted in the movie "Aaina" under my direction.

Striking moments...
 During the shooting of "Moinamoti", Razzaque and I gave such a moving portrayal of our characters, that the crew couldn't hold back their tears. It was a tragic scene where Moina (enacted by me) was going to marry the landlord while her lover Moti (Razzaque) was tearfully and singing "Anek Shadher Moina Amar Badhon Kete Jai". The people present on the set were completely spellbound.

Were you involved in social work?
 After 30 years in films and with 200 films to my credit, I was into directing and script writing for films. I had long harbored the ambition to make films based on the plight of unwanted children and women acid victims. I have also worked at the Acid Victim Rehab Centre at Banani for quite some time.



Any embarrassing moments during shooting?
 It was great fun when we went outdoors for shooting with Razzak. Once during the shooting of "Moinamoti" I used a hair piece that accidentally slipped off and the people at the location started to laugh. It was Razzaque who came running with the switch on his hand and asked me fix it firmly.

Any overwhelming experience?
 It was sometime in April 1971. The Liberation War had already begun. We had to cross the borders for safety. We were refugees with little knowledge of what the future held for us. In such a difficult situation, I had to deliver a speech in front of the Bangladesh Embassy in Calcutta. Unlike many who used pseudo names, I delivered a speech using my name, without hesitation, urging the world to help stop the indiscriminate killings of our countrymen. Although my family members were in grave danger and had to take temporary shelter elsewhere they were proud of my stance. Later, when I met the muktibahinis they appreciated my boldness and said they were greatly encouraged by my stance.

A memorable experience you would want to share?
 My direct participation during the Liberation War is the most momentous of all.

Two compliments you will always cherish?
 After my first film "Shutorang" was released eminent journalist Aziz Misir complimented by saying it's a Vini Vidi Vici, for Kabori: She has come and conquered. Later my son and daughter-in-law watched my old movies and commented 'Ma you are the most beautiful and graceful lady in the entire world.' No other compliment could match this.

Roles you'd have given your left arm to do..
 It was my long time dream to portray the role of Doriya Bibi of the novel Janani by Shawkat Osman. Osman won the Adamji Award for the novel. The story revolves around a widow and is all about women's emancipation. Another film I watched recently is Hazar Chourasi ki ma a novel by Mahasheta Devi. The protagonist of the film Jaya Bachchan had left a tremendous impression. In our neighbouring countries, playwrights develop plots around actors to uphold their true potential. Here, sadly enough, opportunities are very limited.

"Shesh Songlap"
 today at Mahila Samiti

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

After six long years, theatre troupe Somoy will stage their popular play "Shesh Songlap" at Nilima Ibrahim Auditorium of Bangladesh Mahila Samiti. The play will see its 70th staging on March 18 evening as part of the ongoing month-long Bhangra Gora Natyastshab at the capital's Bailey Road. A Bangla adaption of Egyptian playwright Towfiq Al Hakim's acclaimed play "Sultan's Dilemma", the play has been translated jointly by Dr. Syed Jamil Ahmed and M. Saiful Alam Chowdhury. Akhtaruzzaman has directed the production.

Artist Dhali Al Mamun has designed the poster, while Foyez Zahir, Komol Khalid, and Alamgir Hossain have designed the stage, sound and light respectively. The play encircles a Sultan who discovers that he is the son of a slave but was raised as a prince by the late Sultan of the kingdom. On learning that his foster father never freed him from his bondage and a state law that a slave can never rule over free men, he faces a dilemma. Pavel Islam, Riaz Mahmud Jewel, Akhtaruzzaman, Ruma, Tofael Sarkar, Mousumi, Sanya and others form the cast.



QUOTES



"You see a lot of superheroes [who] don't always want to kill, and they'll avoid it if they can. She's never had a problem killing, and I like that she was the bad guy that had no problem being the bad guy. She's telekinetic and telepathic so she can read your mind. She can create anything with her mind. To win any fights, she can just create a mountain and have it fall down on you, but she chooses to create a sword so she can kill up close and personal."

OLIVIA MUNN
 describes her character, Psylocke, in the upcoming "X-Men: Apocalypse"

IT'S TRUE!



Aamir Khan was very interested in lawn tennis during his school days, and he was not a bad player either. He represented his school in lawn tennis in several state level championships. At the age of 16, Aamir Khan, along with his friend Aditya Bhattacharya made a silent experimental film called Paranoia. Khan once joined a theatre group called Avantar where he worked backstage for two years. Then he decided to become an actor against his father's wish.

Diana Penty returns after three years

Model-turned-actress Diana Penty, who had made her debut with the film "Cocktail", said that she was waiting for the right role and script for her second film.

Diana, who went missing from the big screen after the debut co-starring Saif Ali Khan and Deepika Padukone, explained her three year hiatus at the wrap-up party of her second film "Happy Bhaag Jayegi". "I was waiting for the right kind of role and script and that's what happened with 'Happy Bhaag Jayegi'. Even before we started shooting, I was really excited about the film and the plot. I wanted to know more and it was fun shooting it, a really good experience," she said. Diana feels portraying an open and confident girl was quite a challenging job for her after "Cocktail", where she played a subdued character. "My character here is very different from 'Cocktail'. Mira (Cocktail) and Happy are poles apart. Happy is very confident and not bothered about situations happening around her. She is a kind of character who

is always ready to take on the world and is quite a forthcoming character," she added. "Happy Bhaag Jayegi" also marks Abhay Deol's comeback to the big screen after the 2014 release "One by Two". Of working with Abhay, Diana said: "It's amazing working with Abhay. He is an extremely good actor. He makes actors comfortable who are working with him. It's easy to react while working opposite to him." Directed by Mudassar Aziz and produced by Aanand L Rai, the upcoming romantic comedy also features Ali Fazal, Jimmy Sheirgill and Piyush Mishra.

