

WHAT'S ON

Group Art Exhibition
Title: The Invisibles
Venue: Bengal Art Lounge
Date: March 19- April 9
Time: 12-8pm



Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Existence
Artist: Md. Sohel Rana Pranon
Venue: Gallery Shilpangan
Date: April 01-15
Time: 12-8pm



Art Exhibition
Reincarnated valiance
Artist: Firoz Mahmud
Venue: EMK Center
Date: Mar 31; Time: 12-8pm



Solo Exhibition
INFORMAL
Artist: Zahid Iqbal
Venue: Kalakendra, Mohammadpur
Date: Mar 8-29
Time: 5-8:30pm



Photography Exhibition
Out of the Box 6
Organiser: TTL
Venue: Drik Gallery
Date: Mar 25-27; Time: 3-8pm



"ALO'R JATRA" AT MANIK MIA AVENUE

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

On March 25 night, several thousand people from all walks of society gathered at Manik Mia Avenue in the capital to participate in ALO'R Jatra, an initiative of Grameenphone. The objective of the initiative was to light up the dark night with candles to symbolically transform the grief of Bangladeshis into their strength. Speaker of Jatiyo Sangshad, Shirin Shammin Chaudhury; State Minister for Post and Telecommunications, Tarana Halim; celebrated litterateur Syed Shamsul Haq, noted cultural personalities Nasir Uddin Yousuff, Aly Zaker, poet Asad Chowdhury, media personality Faridur Reza Sagar, Shykh Seraj, and writer Imdadul Haq Milan were present at the programme along with other distinguished guests.

The event began at 10:30pm with a recitation of Shamsur Rahman's "Tumi Bolechhile" by Shimul Mustapha. Popular singers Partho Barua, Bappa Mazumdar, Zohad, Konal and Elita presented songs of Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra at the programme.



Artistes perform at the event; (top) children light candles. PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED



Rockstars unite for "Ma Go Bhabna Keno" cover

Iqbal Asif Jewel releases song on Independence Day

FAHMIM FERDOUS

Iqbal Asif Jewel, one of the most prominent figures of Bangladeshi rock music, has brought together some of the biggest rock vocalists of the country, for a spirited cover of "Ma Go Bhabna Keno", a song that kindled patriotism and valor among countless people during our Liberation War. The song, written by Gouriprasanna Majumdar and composed by Samar Das, has seen numerous renditions by eminent artistes, from Hemanta Mukherjee to Abdul Jabbar. This latest version, released on the night of March 25 marking Independence Day from Jewel's YouTube page, brings an energetic, rock flavor, with Jewel himself at the forefront

arranging and playing a galloping guitar track alongside lending his vocals. Sumon (Aurthohin), Jon (Indalo, ex-Black), Sufi (Arbovirus), Zohad (Nemesis), Jamshed (Powersurge) and Tridib (Mechanix) are the others singing in the video, with bass playing by Aldnane (Arbovirus). Magnetic sections of Bangabandhu's historic March 7 address at the interludes of the track adds a fantastic touch, as does the montage of still photos from the Liberation War in the backdrop. While big corporations often take the opportunity on such national days to produce a song or video branding themselves, it's refreshing to see a personal initiative of a collaborative display of the musicians' love for the Motherland.

NEWS bytes

MCCARTNEY joins "Pirates 5"



The "Pirates of the Caribbean" franchise returns to cinemas after a six-year absence next year. While plot details are under wraps for "Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales", Deadline reports that they've decided to do some additional shooting to add Paul McCartney to the cast. There are currently no details on McCartney's character or how he figures into the plot, but it could make for a nice addition assuming that they play it right. Keith Richards as Jack Sparrow's father in "Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End" was a nice little bit, so it would be interesting to see what directors Joachim Ronning and Espen Sandberg have planned in the "extra big set piece scene" that is built around McCartney. "Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales" opens May 26, 2017, and also stars Johnny Depp as Captain Jack Sparrow, Geoffrey Rush as Barbosa, Javier Bardem as the villainous Captain Salazar, Brenton Thwaites and Kaya Scodelario as new characters, and Orlando Bloom as Will Turner.

SOURCE: COLLIDER

Three day Lalon Smaran Utshab ends

AMANUR AMAN, Kushtia

The three-day long Lalon Smaran Utshab (memorial festival) popularly known as Dol Utsab, ended at Ksheuria Lalon Akhra in Kushtia on Friday night, with a humble call to protect the authenticity of the bard's songs as it is deviating day by day from its original tunes. Considerable concern was apparent among the disciples of Lalon who came in from far and wide from the country to attend the festival. "It's high time to stop the distortion of the tunes of Lalon," said Purno Das Baul, a prominent Baul singer who had come from India, in a reception programme organised for him in Kushtia on Thursday. Purno said deviation is everywhere. "A group of people, pseudo-Bauls, are distorting the

lyrics, tunes and philosophies of Lalon songs," said Das. Few Bauls even blamed the authority concerned -- Lalon Academy -- for patronising the distortion in its stage events during the festival held every year. "We are observing some unknown, untrained local singers remixing Lalon songs when performing in stage in the festival," Dukhu Lal, a 70-year old man who dedicated 37 years of his life for Baul folk, said. This correspondent talked to Kushtia Deputy Commissioner (DC) Syed Bealal Hossain, also president of Lalon Academy. "The Academy is always on alert so that singers hold genuine tunes during performance, but it is proving tough," Bealal said. However, the academy often arranges training workshops for local Baul singers, said Hossain. Like previous years, a series of

events was held over the three-day programme that included a Lalon Mela, discussion and rendition of songs by artistes of Lalon Academy and Bauls from across the country. The programme struck a chord of harmony among the numerous Lalon devotees and admirers from all over Bangladesh and visitors from overseas. Lawmaker of Kushtia-3 Mahbubul Alam Hanif inaugurated the programme on March 23, while lawmaker of Kushtia-4 Abdur Rouf wrapped up the programme. Kushtia Deputy Commissioner (DC) Syed Bealal Hossain presided over the event. Lalon Academy, an organisation consisting of elected representatives to oversee Lalon's shrine, organised the programme in association with the Ministry of Cultural Affairs.



A large number of baul singers performed at the three-day festival. PHOTO: STAR

BRSSS felicitates Bannya

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Rabindra Sangeet Shilpi Sangstha (BRSSS) felicitated celebrated Tagore exponent Rezwana Chowdhury Bannya on her receiving the Swadhinata Padak 2016. The reception was held at the seminar hall of Central Public Library in the capital on March 25. At the beginning of the programme, as Bannya walked into the auditorium, the members of BRSSS welcomed her with a choral rendition of "Aguner Poroshmoni". General Secretary of BRSSS, Sajed Akbar delivered the welcome address, while president

Tapan Mahmud read out a citation. A host of distinguished guests including former Cultural Affairs Secretary Ranjit Kumar Biswas, noted singers Rafiqul Alam, Anup Bhattacharya, and Sadi Mohammad spoke on the occasion. Tagore artiste Salma Akbar paid tribute to Bannya. Bannya thanked the organisers and expressed her desire to continue to work for the betterment of the country and society through music. Several cultural organisations including Baitalik, Geetanjali, Surer Dhara, Rabiraag, Rabirashmi, Biswa Beena, Uttarayan paid their tributes to Bannya at the programme.



Jungle Book introduces terrifying Shere Khan

A new clip from Jon Favreau's upcoming live-action retelling of "The Jungle Book" has just hit the web, and provides a terrifying introduction to the film's villain, Shere Khan, voiced by Idris Elba. The clip seems to take place fairly early in the film, with protagonist Mowgli living secretly among the pack of wolves who adopt and raise the orphaned boy. As all of the animals in the jungle convene at the watering hole, Idris Elba's Shere Khan notices a "strange odour", which he unmistakably identifies as that of a human. What follows is a standoff between the tiger and the wolves, as Shere Khan explains that man is forbidden from their land, in a dominant, authoritative voice and body language. Despite Elba's cred as a menacing villain, the best thing about his take on Shere Khan is the fact that he's a villain audience's can empathize with. He doesn't hate humans for no reason at all; he has suffered at the hands of men before, and in his own way he fears what Mowgli could become capable of if he stays in



the jungle long enough to grow up. Based off of the trailers, it seems likely that this showdown between the animals is what leads to Mowgli going on the run in the first place. Shere Khan's forced exile will eventually send the film's young protagonist on a journey which will bring him into contact with numerous animals, such as the bear Baloo (Bill Murray), the giant snake Kaa (Scarlett Johansson), and the orangutan King Louie (Christopher Walken). "The Jungle Book" hits theatres on April 15. SOURCE: CINEMABLIND

What Is The Surprise Recipe Of Chef Daniel Gomes?

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Starquiz: In Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice, this acclaimed actor stars as billionaire playboy Bruce Wayne, who prowls the streets of Gotham as the Batman. He recently starred in Gone Girl and the Oscar-winning Argo, which he also directed. Name the actor.