

WHAT'S ON


**Rabindra Mela**  
Organiser: Channel I  
Venue: Channel I premises  
Date: May 8  
Time: 4:30-8pm



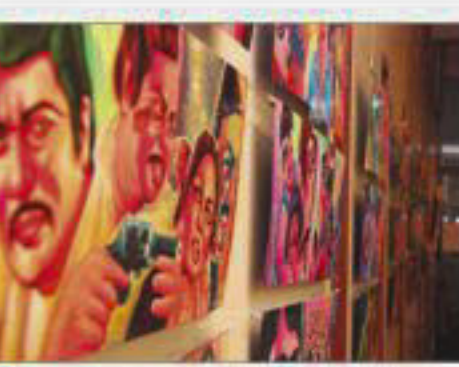
**Art Exhibition**  
Intimate Fears  
Artist: Anisuzzaman Sohel  
Venue: Bengal Art Lounge  
Date: May 7-June 4  
Time: 12-8pm



**Solo Painting Exhibition**  
Retrospective  
Artist: Abdus Shakoor  
Venue: Shilpangan Gallery  
Date: May 1-15  
Time: 12-8pm



**Solo Painting Exhibition**  
Summer in Colour  
Artist: Nobo Kumar Bhadra  
Venue: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka  
Date: April 29-May 14  
Time: 3-9pm



**Solo Art Exhibition**  
Title: Eternal Affection  
Artist: Sheikh Afzal  
Venue: Athena Gallery of Fine Arts  
Date: April 16-May 7  
Time: 10am-8pm



**NEWS bytes**

**Alden Ehrenreich is the new Han Solo**



"Hail, Caesar!" thesp Alden Ehrenreich has been tapped to star in the "Star Wars" universe standalone movie revolving around Han Solo. Deadline Hollywood first reported that Ehrenreich was the frontrunner to land the role, and there is now confirmation that he's set to play the rebel smuggler, immortalized by Harrison Ford. Phil Lord and Chris Miller are directing with Kathleen Kennedy producing. No plot details have been revealed, other than that the film will be set prior to "Star Wars: A New Hope", like the other standalone "Rogue One". Production is not expected to begin until January.

The film will bow on May 25, 2018. The latest movie in the blockbuster franchise, "Star Wars: The Force Awakens", opened in December.

While "Hail, Caesar!" was underwhelming at the box office, Ehrenreich was applauded by critics for his breakout performance.

Source: Variety

**The world of Abdus Shakoor's paintings**

Ongoing Retrospective at Shilpangan Gallery

DR. S. MANZOORUL ISLAM

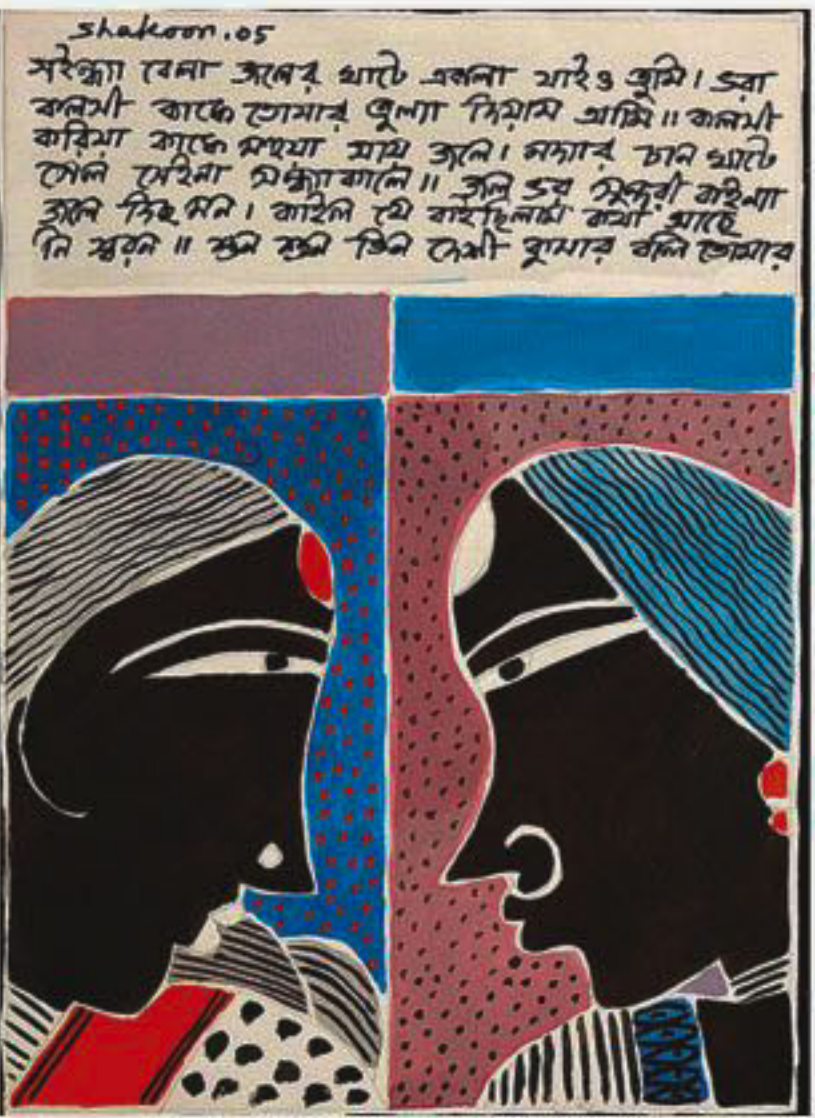
Last year, a handful of watercolour paintings of Abdus Shakoor Shah, along with a few selected works of two other artists from Bangladesh were put in an exhibition in a gallery in Tokyo, under the title "Three poems from Bangladesh". The title was especially apt for Shakoor's paintings, since they display some of the qualities that one looks for in a poem - an inner rhythm, a neat composition, imagery, movement, and above all, a theme. In spite of these similarities, however, his paintings insist on an identity of their own, which is not difficult to recognize. Shakoor's works are known for their complex forms that engage his ideas in a dialectical exploration of metaphors, nuances and meaning. What it means for Shakoor is that he is constantly experimenting with newer modes of expression, since an ideal form remains forever in the realm of possibilities. His works display a combination of different expressive modes, sometimes complex, subtle or difficult, sometimes disarmingly simple. But nowhere he is naive, or labored. There is a feeling of naturalness in their composition, as they relate to the world of our experience, and take their strength from our feelings and emotions.

A Retrospective of Abdus Shakoor's works is currently on at the capital's Shilpangan Gallery, and will be open till May 15 from 12-8pm.

Shakoor's sketches fall in the category of the simple - where the form is easily reconcilable with the content, and the content is lifted from reality as we experience it. In terms of the composition, these sketches retain only the bare essentials, sometimes employing just a brief line to cover for a whole figure. Yet, there is no doubt about what they want to express, and what they aspire to.

The sketches have a recognisable content- they talk about the problems of man and society from the perspective of a struggling, developing country. Shakoor has been drawing these sketches with the same theme from 1976, although the very recent ones are presented here. There are free drawings

where lines are simple but robust, and their interconnected patterns infuse a dynamism into the composition. Shakoor's favorite mode is pen and ink. Many of the sketches have bare outlines that convey the meaning with scant details, relying on a suggestiveness that leaves much of the space empty. But there are other sketches where the space is heavily worked over until a contrast is achieved between the white and black surfaces. This contrast is important to understand the symbolism of his sketches - they deal with contrasts that characterize our life- not simply the ones between the social classes or between one's expectation and achievement in everyday life, but deeper, more confusing ones between dreams and reality, between feelings of alienation and the sense of



belonging that the family or the society wants to provide to the individual. It is interesting to see how the contrast within a monochromatic surface is extended to the way Shakoor uses light and shade, their interplay as well as their separate spheres of operation.

Shakoor's sketches are informed by a deep commitment he feels to humanity. He evokes, often wistfully, the forces of change in his works, which can eventually dislodge the monolithic social structures. He draws his inspiration from progressive ideologies, which also provide him with the set of symbols he works within these sketches. One notices the ubiquitous kerosene lamp and hurricane lantern symbols of a developing country's poverty, struggle, as well as hope. There are broken windows and doors, suggesting the need for pulling down oppressive social machines. But in spite of the strident optimism that, at times, gives his sketches a rough edge, there is a genuine human touch in Shakoor's world. His people are linked to each other in a bond of togetherness, care and concern. His human figures and animals share the same space in an affectionate understanding of each other. His dogs are almost human in their insistence in carving out a space where love and affection will be prime factors.

The writer is an academic, novelist and critic. He is a professor at Department of English, University of Dhaka.

**SHUVO on the move**

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Dhallywood heartthrob Arefin Shuvo is having the time of his life at the moment, with two big films of his in the theatres at the same time. After a successful initial run of Ashiqur Rahman's crime thriller "Musafir", his other film, Anonno Mamun's romantic/action drama "Ostitto" just released countrywide yesterday. The actor spoke to The Daily Star about the films in a recent conversation.

**You have had an extensive promotional campaign for "Ostitto". Tell us about that.**

**Shuvo:** Yeah, we spent a few hectic weeks. We went to a number of media houses, universities and public places to promote the film. The response was great too; everyone really appreciated our initiative. It was a good experience for us as well. I'd like to tell all readers of The Daily Star to come watch the film in theatres.

**How was the experience of working with Tisha?**

**Shuvo:** I have worked with Tisha before, but this was the first time in a film. I don't really have to say much about Tisha's acting prowess; people know how good she is. But as a co-artist, she is very helpful, and it was a pleasant experience throughout.

**Most memorable moment of filming "Ostitto"?**

**Shuvo:** Oh, there are quite a few, but one stands out. Me and Tisha once shot a song sequence late into the night. The song had an emotional ending, and after the filming we saw everyone at the unit was in tears. I will never forget that moment.

**Now let's talk about your other film, "Musafir". What was it like to work in it, and what are your expectations?**

**Shuvo:** It was a great experience because in a way it's my first total action film. I'm just looking forward to it being a huge hit, so that such films can be made more often from now.

**Have you watched "Musafir" after its release?**

**Shuvo:** Yes, I have. I watched the movie at Balaka Cinema Hall on its opening day, and watched it at a few more cinema halls. I love to communicate to my fans directly.

**What current projects do you have at hand?**

**Shuvo:** I'm now busy with the film "Dhaka Attack". It's shooting is now almost done. I'm playing the role of a cop in the film. Some real cops will also be seen acting in the project.

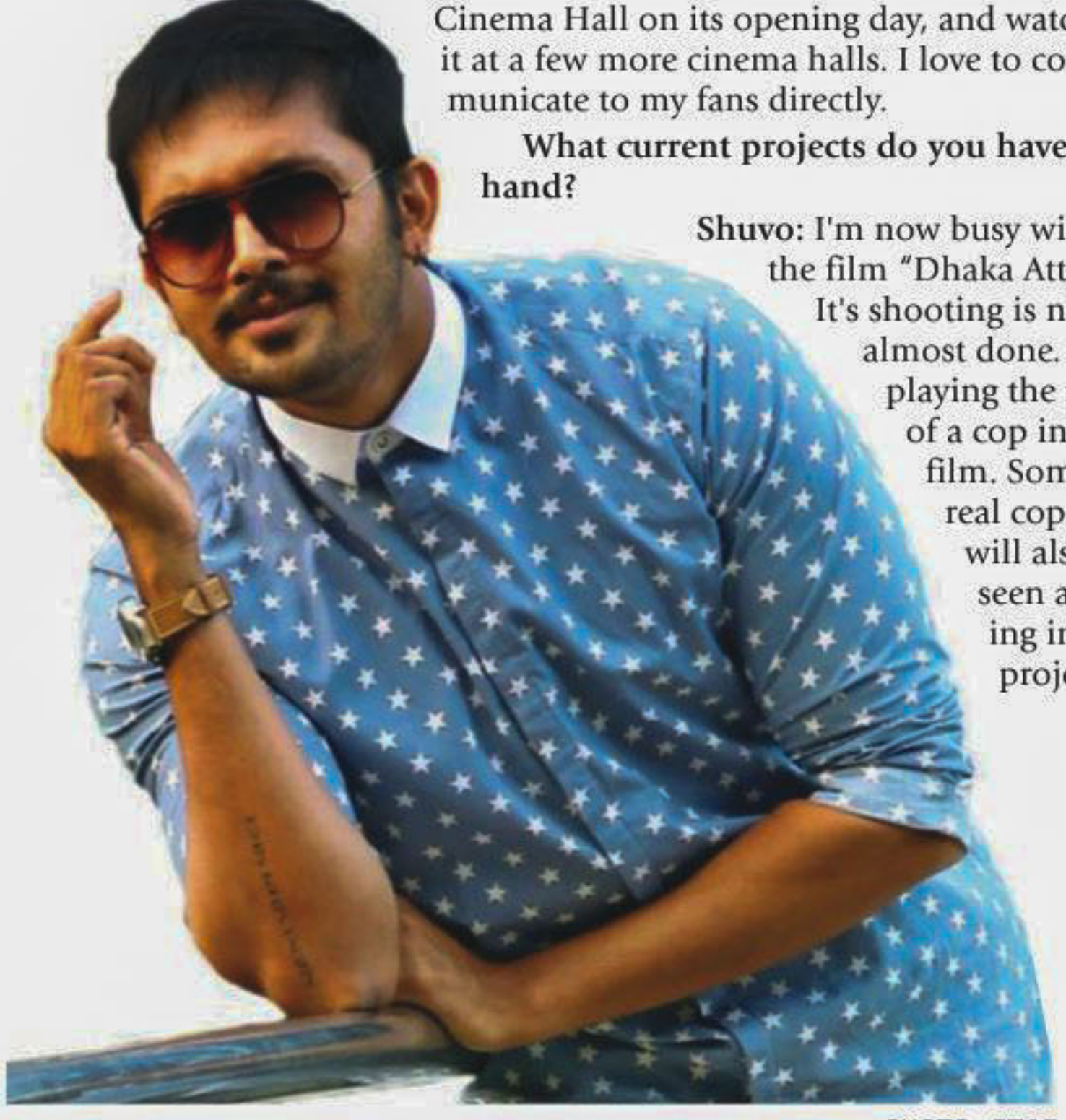


PHOTO: STAR

**RHCP DETAIL NEW ALBUM**  
Band releases dreamy new song "Dark Necessities"

Red Hot Chili Peppers have shared a new song, "Dark Necessities", the first offering from their new album "The Getaway", out June 17. The track, available to stream on Spotify and Apple Music, finds the Chili Peppers using washed out guitars and delicate piano to put a dreamy spin on their anthemic funk-out rock sound.

The record will be released as a double vinyl LP (limited to 5,000 copies worldwide) as well as CD; pre-orders also come with a cassette single of "Dark Necessities".

"The Getaway" marks the Red Hot Chili Peppers' 11th LP and first since 2011's "I'm With You". Danger Mouse produced the record, with Radiohead producer Nigel Godrich on mixing duties.

Anthony Kiedis spoke with Rolling Stone in October, prior to the Chili Peppers' annual Silverlake Benefit show, and detailed the band's creative progress. Bassist Flea gave Rolling Stone a progress report in 2014, noting they'd written over 30 songs.

Red Hot Chili Peppers will headline this year's Lollapalooza, alongside Radiohead and LCD Soundsystem. The fest is scheduled for July 28th-July 31st at Chicago's Grant Park.

Source: Rolling Stones



**"People often think I am Bengali" ... Vidya Balan**



Bollywood actress Vidya Balan says because of her films and the amount of time she spends in Kolkata, people often think she is a Bengali. The actress made her debut in films in a leading role with the Bengali movie "Bhalo Theko" in 2003 before debuting in Bollywood with "Parineeta". The 38-year-old star will be next seen in "Te3n", also set in Kolkata.

"I don't think there is a question of returning to Kolkata because I spend half my days there invariably. But it was wonderful. People are so warm and welcoming, my debut film was a Bengali film, even before 'Parineeta', so they actually think I am Bengali," Vidya told reporters. The actress garnered acclaim for her portrayal of Vidya Bagchi, a pregnant woman searching for her missing husband in Kolkata in "Kahaani" and will be back to the city for the sequel. "Everyone speaks to me in Bengali and I show off my Bengali wherever I can, I know songs, rhymes and slangs... When I am in Kolkata, I don't miss home that much. I am back there for 'Kahaani 2' now and it feels we went there for

"Te3n" and just stayed back."

Directed by Ribhu Dasgupta, "Te3n" also features megastar Amitabh Bachchan, Nawazuddin Siddiqui and is about a crime that affects its three lead characters.

Bachchan, 73, stars in the film as John Biswas, a grandfather on the pursuit of justice since eight years while Siddiqui plays Father Martin Das, whose life was changed forever by the same crime that claimed the life of John's granddaughter. Vidya will be seen in a special appearance as the cop who swings into action when an identical crime is repeated eight years later.

The actress learnt how to drive for her role, and filmmaker Sujoy Ghosh, who is the creative producer in "Te3n", was her driving instructor. "I know how to drive but I've never been a confident driver but for this I wanted to do it myself so I actually drove around Kolkata. Sujoy was my driving instructor. That's the only real preparation I did," said Vidya.

"Te3n" is scheduled to release on June 10.

Source: TOI

**CAPTAIN AMERICA: CIVIL WAR**



**QUIZ CONTEST**  
10 WINNERS EVERYDAY!  
2 PREMIUM TICKETS FOR EACH WINNER

The Daily Star | STAR Cineplex

Email your answer to starquiz@outlook.com by 4.00pm today with your name, DOB, mobile number and address. The winner of the quiz will be announced tomorrow in this newspaper and through email

**QUIZ - 01**  
Name the first sequel of Captain America and its release year.

**MAGIC BOX CHALLENGE**

This time participants are going to face the magic box challenge where they will be given gourd - a very popular vegetable to cook with. In this episode, they have to make different kinds of dishes with gourd.

Definitely it is a hard job to come up with an innovative dish and put it in front of the judges, but they will make it for sure. The best part about this episode is 9 participants will come up with 9 different dishes which will be distinct from one another. Have anyone thought that one can make steak, mouthwatering halua or delicious laddu and many other unknown dishes with gourd? Participants cooked sweet dish, spicy dish along with traditional Bengali to continental dishes. Judges were amazed to see the participants' talent. And so will be the audience. Don't miss out on the episode and your chance of learning some amazing dishes using gourd.



Watch Every Saturday and Sunday 9PM

only on ntv

Repeat time is Sunday & Monday 1:10 pm