



MATI'R PROJA'R DESH-E to be screened in the US

The Seattle International Film Festival is set to open its doors on the 19th of May. The 42nd instalment of the festival is set to see screenings of 400 films from 70 countries. Representing Bangladesh, and the local film industry at the festival, is the feature film "Mati'r Proja'r Desh-e" (Kingdom of Clay Subjects).

Focusing on the story of a child, who has a firm determination to attend school; it brings out the social struggles of children in poverty and

through the eyes of a child who cannot gain admission to a school for not knowing the father's name.

Directed by Bijon Imtiaz, he said that the inspiration came from his great-grandmother's life story and although it is not the exact same story, much of the inspiration has been taken from there. He expressed delight for having the opportunity of having the inaugural screening in the glamorous film festival and hopes the local industry to support its release, which will take place soon.



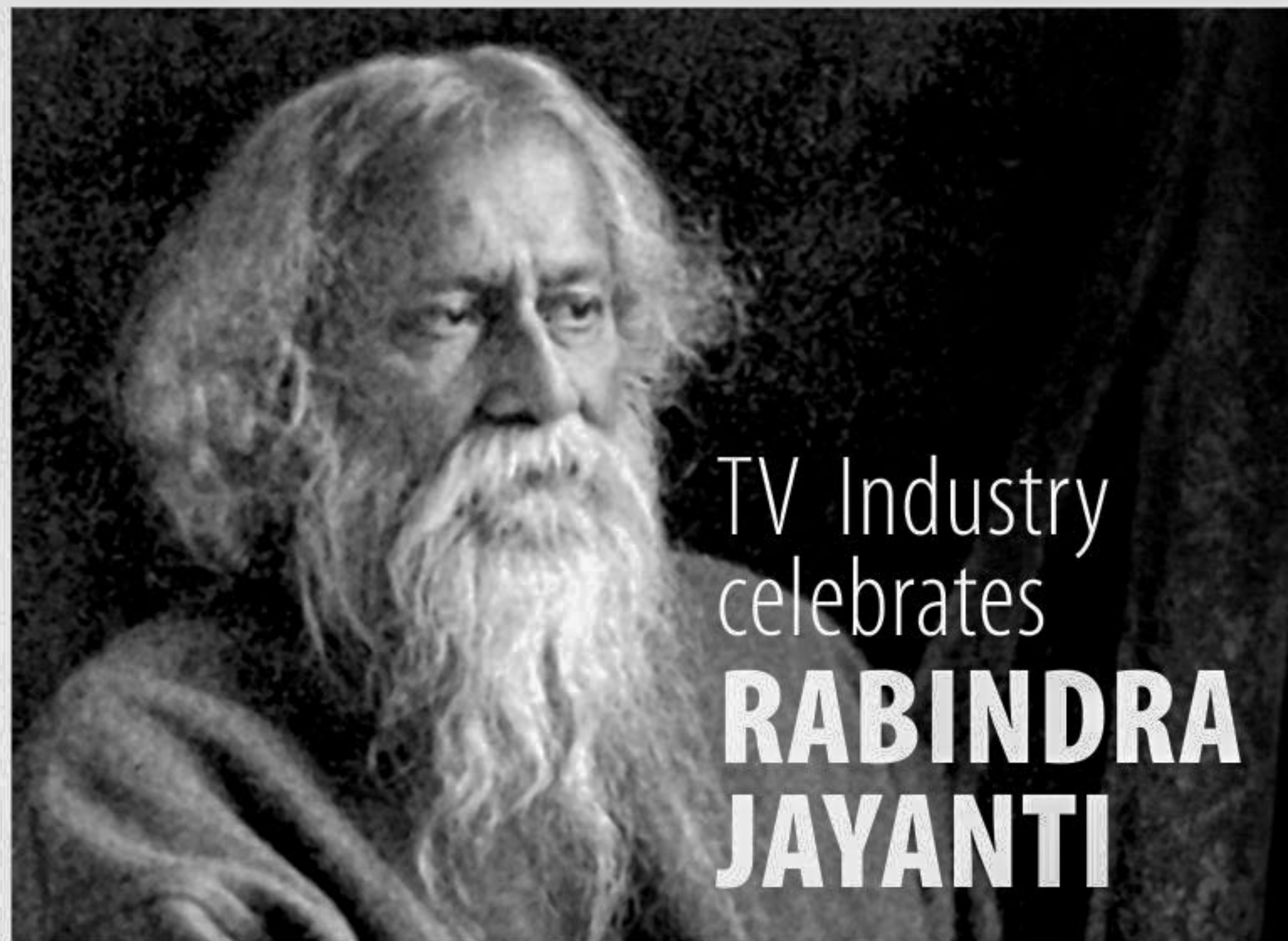
Nine Artists from Seven Countries Collaborate on Mother's Day

Nine artists from seven nations collaborated for a song to commemorate Mother's Day. The song, titled "Maa," is targeted to pay tribute to all mothers around the world and is an initiative by Project 21, published by Ajob Records.

Popular local singer Joy Shahriar will be singing in Bengali, Amir Sayeed in Hindi, Danielle in French, Nora in German, Yorgo Elka in Arabic, Alexander

in Russian and Stephanie Florian will be singing in English.

The Bengali lyrics have been penned by Joy himself, while Stephanie wrote the English portion of it. The rest of it has been translated from lyrics by Nora. Produced by Nabid Salehin Niloy, he played the bass guitar in the project, with Farhad on the piano and Nora on the violin.



TV Industry celebrates RABINDRA JAYANTI

The poet whose works are woven into the very fabric of life in Bengal, and whose literary outputs light up an integral part of the Bengali culture, Rabindranath Tagore's 155th birthday has recently passed. Upon this occasion, the local television industry took various initiatives and aired various programmes throughout the day to celebrate. Music programmes, dramas, telefilms, recitations, dance recitals, and documentaries were aired throughout the day in various TV channels.

Maasranga Television aired the telefilm "Jibito O Mrito" starring Prosun Azad. Based on a Tagore story, the telefilm was directed by

Tuhin Hossain. They also aired "Kobita o Gaan e Kobiguru" with Shimul Mustafa. TV drama "Oporichita" was aired on RTV, starring Rounok Hassan and Zakia Bari Momo. Channel i aired "Mukti'r Upay" by Shothirto Rahman Rubel, also based on a Tagore story, starring Shamima Tushti and Shatabdi Wadud. They also aired "Gaaner Utshob" with Tagore singers Sadi Mohammad and Lily Islam. Channel i also hosted the 11th instalment of Rabindramela featuring performances by various artists and they also awarded Abdullah Abu Sayeed and Tapan Mahmud for their contributions towards preserving the legacy of Tagore.

Five Bangladeshis selected for LOCARNO'S OPEN DOORS

Locarno's Open Doors has unveiled its selection of projects from South Asia which will make the trek to Switzerland to present in front of potential European and International Partners. At this year's festival, Open Doors, a co-production initiative, will support eight projects and eight emerging producers from South Asia. Five Bangladeshi filmmakers and producers have made the selection in two different sections.

Ishtiaque Zico's Cinema, "City and Cats" and Kamar Ahmad Simon's "Day After Tomorrow" have been selected for the

Open Doors Hub. These two projects will compete for the prize worth \$49,000. Three Bangladeshi directors-producers, including Aadnan Imtiaz Ahmed of Kino-Eye Films, Abu Shahed Emon of Batayan Productions and Rubaiyat Hossain of Khona Talkies, have been selected to take part in the Open Doors Lab which brings over a group of producers and directors for training and support.

From 2016 to 2018, the Open Doors initiative will start discovering the diverse cinematographic landscape of South Asia and its promising talents.

