


WHAT'S ON
Musical Soiree
 Organiser: Chhayanaut
 Artists: Pramita Mallick & Laisa Ahmed Lisa
 Venue: Chhayanaut Auditorium, Dhanmondi
 Date: May 16; Time: 7pm



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



Book Presentation
 Title: Nusrat, The Voice of Faith
 Venue: La Galerie, Alliance Francaise de Dhaka
 Date: May 17
 Time: 3:30pm



Art Exhibition
 Art Makes us Human
 Artist: Najib Tareque
 Venue: Studio 6/6, Mohammadpur
 Date: May 15-25; Time: 4-10pm



Duet Exhibition
 Parampara
 Artists: Sribas Basak / Urmila Shukla
 Venue: Zainul Gallery, Charukala
 Date: May 16-26
 Time: 12-8pm



NEWS bytes

Patrick Stewart in Wolverine 3

"Wolverine 3", the swansong of Hugh Jackman's Adamantium-clawed superhero, just started production last week. Producer Simon Kinberg teased that Hugh Jackman's final go-around as the character will in fact be Rated R and will be a "very radical, bold, different Wolverine" than before, and now there is great news for fans of the "X-Men" franchise.

Collider reports that producer Hutch Parker confirmed that Patrick Stewart, who has been a regular as the older Professor X, is indeed in "Wolverine 3". As Jackman previously teased, the idea is to explore the father/son dynamic of the Wolverine/Professor X relationship. The untitled Wolverine picture is slated for release on March 3, 2017 while "X-Men: Apocalypse", the latest in the franchise, opens in theatres May 27.

Source: Collider



Guests with the honorees at the event. PHOTO: STAR

Three cultural personalities honoured

Katha Lalitakala Academy celebrates 23rd Anniversary

ZAHANGIR ALOM

Katha Lalitakala Academy celebrated its 23rd founding anniversary on May 14, at the Kendriya Kochi-Kachar Mela (Segunbagicha, Dhaka). Children wore colourful attire attached with the wings of butterfly, and danced to the song "Projapoti Projapoti Kothaye Pele Bhai Emon Rongin Pakha". They also rendered the choral song "Grisho, Borsha, Sharat, Hemanta" and other cultural performances.

Marking the occasion, the academy honoured three cultural personalities -- Sadya Afreen Mallick, eminent Nazrul exponent and editor of Star Arts and Entertainment; Amena Ahmed, Tagore singer and organiser; and Rehana Siddiqui, singer and organiser -- with Gunijan Songbordhona (reception of noted personalities).

Senior journalist and president of National Press Club, Muhammad Shafiqur Rahman, gracing the occasion as chief guest, handed over the awards to the recipients. MA Jalil, former additional secretary, and Dalia Nausheen, renowned singer, attended the event as special guests. Delwar Hossain Raja, President of the academy, presided over the programme, while Alauddin Ahmed, the principal

of the academy, delivered welcome address.

In their instant reactions, the honoured artistes expressed their feelings. "We, at The Daily Star, have been organising regular musical programmes featuring both established and young artistes, to boost our culture. I would like to thank Alauddin Ahmed for continuing to educate students with music, dance and art for the last 23 years," said Sadya Afreen Mallick.

"I started learning music (Rabindra Sangeet and Classical Music) at the age of 36 for my utter love to the genre. You can also get inspired like me and start arranging *baithaki* musical soiree at your drawing room. It will motivate your kids enriching them with values to be good human beings," said Amena Ahmed.

"I carry on my musical practice passionately along with my social service. I get a pure joy and feel satisfied with what I do," said Rehana Siddiqui.

This was followed by an award-giving ceremony for a cultural competition among inter-branch students of the academy.

Katha Lalitakala Academy, educating students with music, dance and painting, was founded in 1993. The academy has been honouring Gunijan since 1997.

Homage to the great bard Exhibition with Tagore Festival at BNM

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Marking 155th birth anniversary of Nobel Laureate Poet Rabindranath Tagore, Bangladesh National Museum (BNM) organised an exhibition featuring reproduction of Tagore paintings, his letters, books and many other memorable things at Nalini Kanta Bhattasali Gallery.

Marking 155th birth anniversary of Nobel Laureate Poet Rabindranath Tagore, Bangladesh National Museum (BNM) organised an exhibition featuring reproduction of Tagore paintings, his letters, books and many other memorable things at Nalini Kanta Bhattasali Gallery. On the other hand, Rabindra Academy in association with BNM and Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre arranged Tagore festival titled "Shubho Karma Poth-e Dhoro Nirbhoy Gaan", highlighting the performance of Bard's songs and poems at the main auditorium of the museum on the same day.

Finance Minister AMA Muhiith graced both the events as chief guest while Cultural Affairs Minister Asaduzzaman Noor attended the programmes as special guest. Presided over by Azizur Rahman, president of Rabindra Academy, Faizul Latif Chowdhury, DG of BNM and Bulbul Mahalanabish,

general secretary of the academy spoke at the event.

The organisers honoured Professor Emeritus Anisuzzaman, US-based Tagore researcher John Thorpe and legendary Tagore artiste Pramita Mallick [of India] at the event. Launching of recitation album "Nana Rabindranath-e Mala", recorded by Rupa Chakraborty, Shahria Pew and Bulbul Mahalanabish followed. Apart from solo and group recitations presentation by the noted artistes of the country, the cultural part of the event solo songs performance by Laisa Ahmed Lisa, Mohiuzzaman Chowdhury, Pramita Mallick, Fahim Hossain Chowdhury, Lily Islam, Anup Bhattacharya and others, while Geeto Shatodol artistes rendered choral songs.

Pramita Mallick and Laisa Ahmed Lisa are set to perform today at 7pm at the main auditorium of Chhayanaut, Dhanmondi.



John Thorpe performs at the programme. PHOTO: STAR

JESSICA SIMPSON returns to the studio

Jessica Simpson is heading back to the recording studio for the first time since her Christmas album, "Happy Christmas", was released in November 2010.

Simpson posted several black and white photos of herself in the recording studio, giving fans of her music unexpected excitement after years away.

She also posted a photo with the legendary Linda Perry in the studio.

In September 2015, Simpson opened up about her music career on the Today show, revealing that her husband and two kids haven't known her as a recording artist. "I recorded a Christmas album with him, but he has never really seen me onstage, and do my thing that actually got me here," she said of husband, former footballer Eric Johnson. "That's how I started, and that's one of my biggest passions in the world. I love to use my voice."

Source: ET Online



Guests at the press conference.

Channel i to hold Nazrul Mela

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Like previous years, Channel i is gearing up to hold a festive Nazrul Mela at its premises in Tejgaon in the capital on May 25, marking the 117th birth anniversary of national poet Kazi Nazrul Islam.

This year, organisers will confer lifetime achievement award to veteran Nazrul Sangeet singer Ustad Julhash Uddin Ahmed.

A press conference was held on Saturday in this regard at the Channel i office, where noted Nazrul Sangeet singer Ferdous Ara (chief advisor of Nazrul Mela), managing director of Channel i

Faridur Reza Sagar, and Chowdhury Monjur Liaquat, Executive Vice President of this year's Rabindra Mela sponsor AB Bank, were present.

The fair will be inaugurated by noted artists, litterateurs, Nazrul enthusiasts, cultural and media personalities with the channel i family, at 4pm. It will feature performances of Nazrul Sangeet by prominent and upcoming singers, recitation of Nazrul's poems, reading from Nazrul's works and paintings on him. Some 20 stalls will also be at the fair, which will display books by Nazrul, books written on Nazrul, Records of Nazrul's songs, stall of movies based on Nazrul's work and many more. Channel i will telecast the fair live.

TANVIR MOKAMMEL Retrospective at CU

A CORRESPONDENT

Chittagong University Film Society and Bangladesh Film Institute have collaborated to organise a five-day event "Tanvir Mokammel Film Retrospective" at Chittagong University (CU) that began yesterday. Five feature films by Mokammel, "Lalsalu", "Lalon", "Rabeya", "Chitra Nodir Pare", and "Jibondhuli" are being screened, along with a workshop.

The workshop focuses on filmmaking and scriptwriting. Major topics such as history of world cinema, the language of film, film aesthetics, cinematography, sound aesthetics, screenplay, art direction, background score and film appreciation will be discussed at the workshop.

The workshop will be conducted by Mokammel himself. Art director Uttam Guha, cinematographer Pankaj Palit and music director Syed Shabab Ali Arzoo will be present as facilitators alongside him.



"Return to Nature" at Athena Gallery

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



A group art exhibition opened at the Athena Gallery of Fine Arts, Uttara Badda, Dhaka last week. The exhibition, titled "Return to Nature", highlights the artwork of five talented artists -- Anisuzzaman, Abdus Sattar Toufiq, Sahid Kazi, Bishwajit Goswami and Sumon Wahed -- who are displaying their 30 paintings on watercolour, oil, acrylic and mixed media.

All the artists have traveled to various countries and adopted and developed diverse themes which focus on the aspects of globalisation. Their works are excellent in terms of personal techniques and creating effects from water, oil and acrylic colours. Showcasing Bangladeshi art and culture, the artworks depict the freshness and simplicity of nature.

Art lovers will find a wide range of artistic expressions and a great opportunity to interact with the artists and understand their experiences. The performing arts at the opening of the show were an interesting one as well.

M Mokammel Haque, Former Secretary to the Government, inaugurated the exhibition as chief guest while noted sculptor Hamiduzzaman Khan attended the event as guest of honour. The exhibition will run till June 9.