


WHAT'S ON
 Photography Exhibition & Discussion
 Marking 91st Birth Anniversary of Tajuddin Ahmad
 Venue: Gallery Twenty One, 751, Satmasjid Rd, Dhanmondi
 Date: Jul 23-Aug 22, Time: 12noon-8pm



Asian Cinema Retrospective 2016
 Moviya Film Society & BSA
 Venue: Int'l Digital Cultural Archive Room, Nat'l Theatre Hall, BSA
 Date: Jul-Nov (Fri & Sat)
 Time: 3-8pm

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 Asian Cinema Retrospective 2016

Solo Painting Exhibition
 Title: "Enigma" by Sayed Fida Hossain
 Venue: EMK Centre, Midas Centre Building (9th Floor), H-5, Rd-27, Dhanmondi
 Date: July 16-28; Time: 10am-8pm



Solo Painting Exhibition
 Title: Life We Desire; Life We Gain
 Artist: Bitap Shavan Bachhar
 Venue: Alliance Française de Dhaka
 Date: July 22- August 2
 Time: 3-9pm



15th Anniversary of Theatre School Prachyanat
 Venue: National Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
 Date: July 29
 Time: 10am-9pm




A choral performance by the artistes of Govt. Music College. PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

Celebrating melancholia with monsoon melodies

ZAHANGIR ALOM
 As the monsoon sets in, there is reason to celebrate the season. Poets of the stature Vidyapati, Chandidas, Kalidas, Joydev, Rabindranath, Nazrul and Jibanananda Das uniquely portrayed the beauty and connotation of monsoon in their poems and musical compositions. The pitter-patter of Shraavan witness plenty of fairs and festivals celebrated with dancing, singing and feasting to welcome the rains.
 To celebrate melancholia with monsoon melodies, Government Music College (GMC), Agargaon arranged a soiree at the National Theatre Hall of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy on July 23. The superb

event, titled "Biroho Borishon-e", featured performances of songs with dance and recitation of poems composed by two great bards -- Rabindranath Tagore and Kazi Nazrul Islam.
 A fascinating choral rendition of Raga "Megh" (Gagane Garajata Damakata Damini) by the artistes of GMC set off the programme. Their presentation of *taan* seemed like flashes of lightning. The instrumental accompaniment was beautiful while the visuals of moving clouds at the background evoked the desired mood of monsoon. Lily Islam rendered a *baitalik* number "Megh-er Porey Megh Jomechhe" that was followed by a recitation from *Chhinnopatra* by the host of the programme.
 The choral performance of a Nazrul

Sangeet "Ajhor Dharaye Borsha Jhorey" was amazing in its melodic harmony. The soiree also featured beautiful solo rendition of songs like "Phiria Jodi Shey Ashey" and "Mon Mor Megh-er Shongi". Guest artiste Shukla Sarkar danced to a choral presentation of the song "Shawana Gaganey" from *Bhanusingher Padabali*.
 Cultural Affairs Minister Asaduzzaman Noor attended the event as chief guest while the secretary of the ministry Akhtari Momtaz was special guest. Professor Shameema Parveen, principal of GMC, presided over the discussion session. Asaduzzaman Noor recited a poem on the Gulshan carnage, written by one of his friends. Akhtari Momtaz also lent her voice to the elocution of a Tagore poem "Banshiwala".

Aminul Islam Young Artist Award '15

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Artist Aminul Islam (1931-2011) was one of the pioneers of the modern art movement in the country. To preserve his memory, his family introduced the Aminul Islam Young Artist award in 2013. Every other year, two young artists are selected on a bi-annual basis for their contributions to the arts and awarded the Aminul Islam Young Artist Award worth taka 1,00,000.
 The winners of the award are shortlisted and selected by an independent jury, and the organisation process for the award ceremony is managed by Bengal Foundation. For the 2015 award, 10 artists were shortlisted. An open studio has been arranged to display and showcase selected works of these artists.
 This year's winners were announced at

the inauguration of the open studio, organised by Bengal Foundation on July 23. The inauguration with award ceremony, held at Gyantapash Abdur Razzaq Bidyapeeth, Dhanmondi, Dhaka, was attended by eminent artist Mustafa Manwar, artist Dhali Al Mamoon, Ruby Islam, and the chairman of Bengal Foundation Abul Khair.
 The winners of Aminul Islam Young Artist Award 2015 are Razib Datta and Rafiqul Islam Shuvo.
 The 10 shortlisted artists -- Ali Asgar, Palash Baran Biswas, Palash Bhattacharjee, Muhammad Rafiqul Islam Shuvo, Razib Datta, Reetu Sattar, Rupam Roy, Salma Abedin Prithi, Samsul Alam Helal and Zihan Karim -- dealt with a vast range of mediums like video, performance, photography, printmaking, drawing, sculpture and installation.



Artists with organisers at the award ceremony.

Rajnikanth takes over North America with "Kabali"



Superstar Rajinikanth-starrer Tamil action drama "Kabali" is off to a flyer in North America. From premiere shows alone, the film has collected \$2 million from the US and Canada markets, according to distribution company CineGalaxy Inc.
 Kabali released in over 400 screens in the US and Canada. Trade analysts believe only a Rajinikanth-starrer can register such huge opening. On Thursday night, the film had its world premiere in Malaysia and Singapore, followed by Dubai and some parts of the US.
 Released in nearly 5000 screens worldwide, the film narrates the tale of a gangster's shot at redemption and how he fights for equal pay rights for Tamils in Malaysia.
 Kabali, which was also released in Hindi, co-stars Radhika Apte, Kishore, Dinesh, Dhansikaa, Kalaiarasan and Winston Chao. The film has also been released in Telugu, apart from its Tamil version.

Source: Indian Express

Mahanayak's death anniversary observed

SUBRATA ACHARYA, Kolkata

Legendary actor of Bangla cinema Mahanayak Uttam Kumar's 37th death anniversary was observed yesterday in Kolkata and other locations in West Bengal, India. The state government and admirers placed wreaths at the statue of Mahanayak at Tollygunge, South Kolkata. Besides, a film screening of Uttam Kumar's "Nayak" was held yesterday at Nandan cinema hall.
 Kumar died on July 24, 1980 while shooting for a film. Born in Kolkata on September 3, 1926 Kumar was a workaholic. He was believed to have said that he would like to die on the studio floor, doing what he loved best-- acting. Indeed, that is exactly how he passed away. While filming "Ogo Bodhu Shundori" in 1980, he died of a massive heart attack at the age of 54.
 Uttam Kumar was born Arun Kumar Chatterjee.

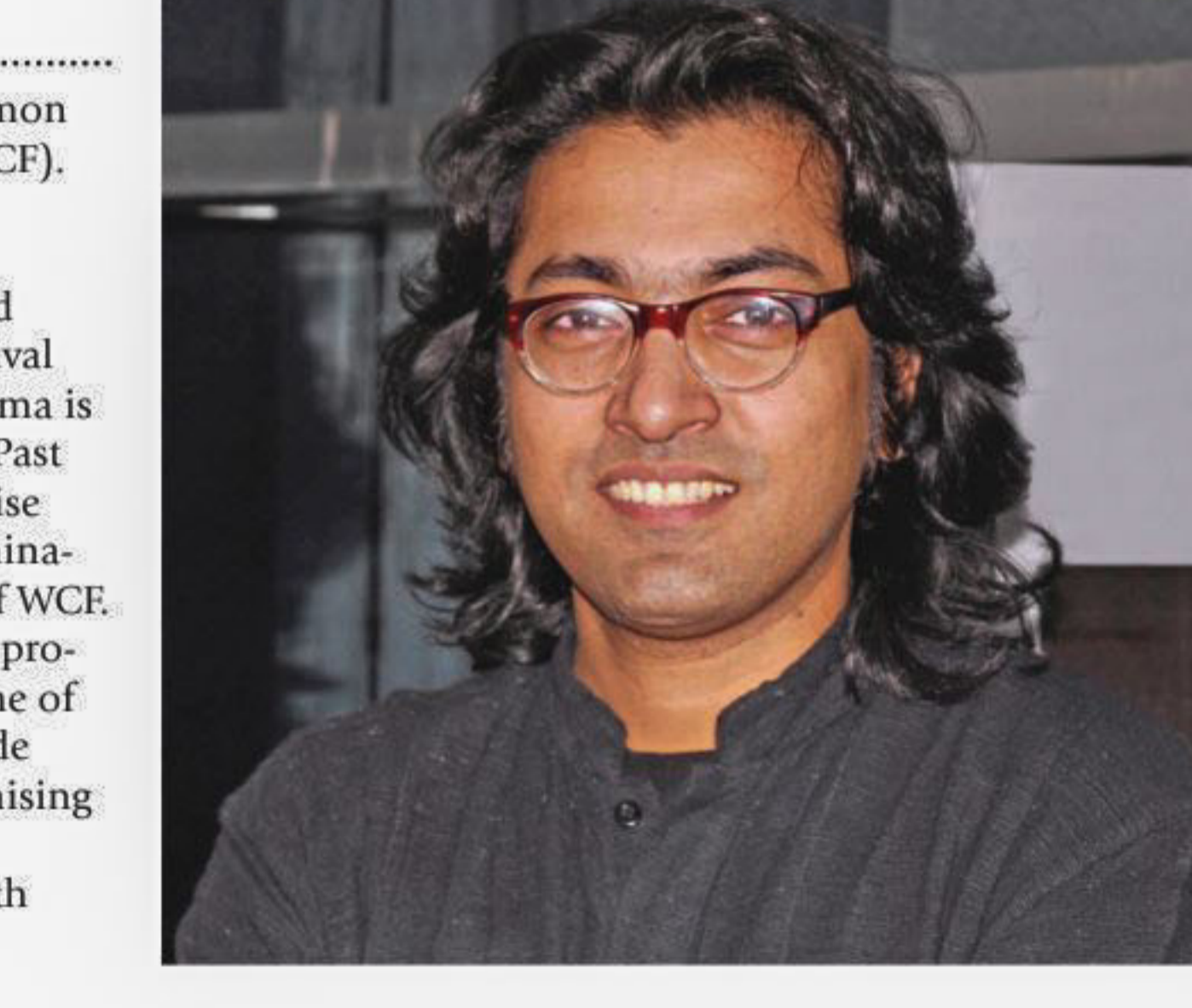
Apart from acting, he was a film director, producer, music director and singer. He bagged the best actor awards for the films "Anthony Firingee" and "Chiriakhana" in 1968 and for the film "Doshor" in 1961.
 A weeklong Mahanayak Memorial programme started on July 23. Chief Minister of West Bengal Mamata Banerjee distributed awards to the best actors and the best films at Nazrul Mancha. "Belasheshe" and "Shankhachil" bagged the best film awards for this year. "Shankhachil" director Goutam Ghose was crowned with the best director award. Shivprasad Mukhopadhyay together with Nandita Roy and Mou Roy Chowdhury were recognised with the producer and director awards respectively for the film "Belasheshe".
 Paran Bandopadhyay and Jisshu Sengupta received the best actor awards while Rituparna Sengupta and Sohini Sarkar shared the best actress award.



Kamar Ahmad Simon wins grant for "Shonkhodhoni"

A CORRESPONDENT

Berlinale Film Festival has awarded Kamar Ahmad Simon with its premium grant - the World Cinema Fund (WCF). Kamar won the grant for his upcoming feature "Shonkhodhoni" (Silence of the Seashell).
 WCF is one of the most competitive grants of world cinema. It's a prestigious award of Berlinale Film Festival promoting talented filmmakers in regions where cinema is weak. Films like Uncle "Boonmee who can recall his Past Lives" (Golden Palm winner in Cannes 2010), "Paradise Now" (Golden Globe winner of 2006 and Oscar nomination of 2006) were among the earlier winning titles of WCF.
 Written and directed by Kamar Ahmad Simon and produced by Sara Afreen, "Silence of the Seashell" was one of the 10 scripts invited in La Fabrique Cinema du Monde Cannes 2014, an exclusive programme fostering promising directors from around the world.
 Last month "Shonkhodhoni" was also awarded with National Film Grant of Bangladesh government.



NEWS bytes

'Doctor Strange' trailer debuts at Comic-Con

A new trailer for Marvel's "Doctor Strange," starring Benedict Cumberbatch, debuted Saturday night at Comic-Con.
 In the film, which opens Nov. 4, Cumberbatch plays Stephen Vincent Strange, a former neurosurgeon who becomes the next Sorcerer Supreme and primary protector of Earth against magical and mystical threats. The character, created by Marvel Comics artist Steve Ditko, first appeared in comic-books in 1963.
 Tilda Swinton and Chiwetel Ejiofor co-star in the superhero saga alongside Rachel McAdams and Mads Mikkelsen.
 Scott Derrickson directed "Doctor Strange" from a script by Jon Spaihts. Marvel's Kevin Feige is producing.

Source: Variety



Lady Gaga, fiance Taylor Kinney 'taking a break'

Lady Gaga and her fiancé, actor Taylor Kinney, are on a break.
 A representative for the singer told The Associated Press on Tuesday that the couple is "taking a break." No more details were provided.
 Gaga and Kinney, a star on the NBC series "Chicago Fire," were engaged last year on Valentine's Day. They met in 2011 on the set of Gaga's "You & I" video.
 Gaga currently is working on her

next solo album, which comes after 2014's Grammy-winning "Cheek to Cheek" with Tony Bennett and "ARTPOP," released in 2013. She won a Golden Globe this year for her role in the series, "American Horror Story: Hotel," and she was nominated at the Academy Awards for her song, "Til It Happens to You."
 Kinney also was in the film "Zero Dark Thirty."
 Source: The Indian Express