

<p>WHAT'S ON</p> <p>Photography Exhibition Marking 91st Birth Anniversary of Tajuddin Ahmad Venue: Gallery Twenty One, 751, Satmasjid Rd, Dhanmondi Date: Jul 23-Aug 22, Time: 12noon-8pm</p>		<p>Open Studio Marking Aminul Islam Young Artist Award 2015 Venue: Gyantapas Abdur Razaq Bidyapeeth, H-60, Rd-7/A, Dhanmondi Date: Jul 23-Aug 12, Time: 11am-7pm</p>		<p>Solo Painting Exhibition Title: "Water Journey" by Artist Karu Titas Venue: Shilpakala Gallery, H-7, Rd-13 (New), Dhanmondi Date: Jul 29- Aug 12 Time: 12noon-8pm</p>		<p>Solo Painting Exhibition Artist: Proshanto Karmakar Venue: Bay's Gallery, Radius Centre, 57, Gulshan-1 Date: Jul 30-Aug 30 Time: 12am-8pm</p>		<p>Group Art Exhibition Title: "Shilpa Aloye Bangabandhu" Venue: Gallery 3, National Art Gallery Plaza, BSA Date: August 1-31 Time: 11am-8pm</p>	
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A dance sequence of Bhanushingher Padabali by artistes of Bhabna. PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

Cultural Affairs Secretary Akhtari Momtaz attended the event as chief guest while Dr. Akhtar Kamal and Dr. Binayak Sen discussed the life and works of Tagore. Liaquat Ali Lucky, director general of BSA presided over the programme. Dr. Binayak Sen meticulously elaborated on the different aspects of Tagore creations, especially in his letters written to several litterateurs, his friends and family members.

"We discover Tagore's viewpoints on political, social, economic, agricultural and theological concerns and philosophies in his letters. The bard was absolutely a free thinker and was never stuck to certain ideas. Tagore's love for entire humanity was his unique religion," said Dr. Binayak Sen. A cultural programme followed where artistes of

Bangladesh Academy of Fine Arts, attired in colourful costumes, swayed the audience with their dance set on a musical titled "Shorowritu". The artistes' performance, choreographed by Farhana Chowdhury Baby, was based on a medley of melodies ushering in the change of seasons, including "Darun Agni Daan-e", "Mon Mor Megher Shongi", "Aj Dhaner Khet-e",

"Hemonte Kon Boshonter Bani", "Sheiter Hawar Laglo Nachon" and "Aji Dokhino Duar Khola". Artistes of Shurer Dhara and Jagannath University rendered two choral songs each while noted artistes Rezwana Chowdhury Bannya, Fahim Hossain Chowdhury and Sajed Akbar rendered solo songs. Group recitation by several young artistes of Kalparekha followed.

The cultural section ended with a riveting presentation of a dance drama titled, "Bhanushingher Padabali" by the artistes of Bhabna. Samina Hossain Prema choreographed and directed the production. The dancers, led by Prema, beautifully danced to several songs and poems including "Gahana Kusuma Kunja Majhe", "Sajani Sajani Radhika", "Sawana Gagane", "Suna lo Suna lo Balika" and more.

Shilpakala's homage to Tagore

Array of attractions

Marking the 75th death anniversary of Kabiguru Rabindranath Tagore, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) arranged a programme, featuring discussion, recitation, song renditions, dance recital and a dance-drama "Bhanushingher Padabali", on August 6 at its National Theatre Hall auditorium.

NEWSbytes

James Corden to voice "Peter Rabbit" in live action



British actor-turned-US talk show superstar James Corden is set to voice one of the best-loved children's book characters of all time.

According to The Hollywood Reporter, Corden and Rose Byrne are in talks to head up the cast of a 'Peter Rabbit' movie, to be directed by Will Gluck for Sony.

It is said the film will be a "modern interpretation centering on the rivalry between mischievous young hopper Peter Rabbit and Mr. McGregor, a senior trying to keep a rabbit-free garden."

Rob Lieber has written the screenplay, which Gluck will reportedly do rewrites on. The film will also be a combination of live-action and CG animation. Corden will voice the title character, but there is no indication of who will portray, although reportedly her role will be a live-action character.

Beatrix Potter's characters have enjoyed renewed popularity among younger viewers off the back of recent Nickelodeon cartoon series 'Peter Rabbit', shown on CBeebies in the UK.

Corden's no stranger to voicing children's characters either, having narrated CBeebies animation 'Little Charlie Bear.' No production or release dates for 'Peter Rabbit' have been announced yet.

Source: Yahoo! Movies

Chhayanaut observes Tagore death anniversary

To observe the 75th death anniversary of Tagore, Chhayanaut organised a cultural evening at its main auditorium on August 6. The programme was divided into two sections - rendition of choral and solo songs and staging of a monodrama. Chhayanaut artistes rendered choral songs like "Je Dhrupad Diyechho Ba(n)dhi", "Sraboner Dharar Moto" and "Kon

Puraton Praner Taney." Bikram Das, Mrittika Sahita, Abdul Wadud and Shemonty Monjari were among others to perform solos -- "Ogo Amar Shraban Megh-er", "Ami Tomari Matir Konna", "Noho Mata Noho Konna" and "Ami Chitrangada" -- respectively. After the musical presentation, the second half of the programme had a monodrama performed by Shamima Nazneen. The monodrama was based on Tagore's story "Streer Potro".



Flight of the Soul-bird

Baul Rob Fakir passes away



ZAHANGIR ALOM PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

The soul of the soft-spoken Baul Rob Fakir departed yesterday (August 7) at 2:30 am, at a local hospital in Kushtia. He had a stroke, said his nephew Zahid. He was 49 and left behind his wife, a son, a daughter, and a number of disciples and fans to mourn his death. He was buried yesterday after asr prayers at his home in Baradi, Kushtia.


Rob Fakir's soulful voice gave him a definite edge over his peers. In conversation with The Daily Star, the artiste once said that while singing, he immerses himself wholly in Lalon's realm. "It's not 'singing' unless one sings straight from the heart. The core aspect of Lalon's philosophy is the search for divine within. Lalon's songs evoke *gyan* (knowledge) which ultimately generates *bhaab* (union of souls)," said Rob Fakir. A disciple of Boro Rob Fakir, a revered Baul of Kushtia, Rob Fakir was also known as Gopal Shadhu. Providing insight into Lalon's songs, he once said, "I think the most important aspect of Lalon's songs is the verses, which the Baul singers call *kalam*. Tune is secondary when it comes to renditions of Lalon's songs. To me, it is not important in which style or

in which way people sing Lalon's songs as long as the lyrics or messages are intact." "If anyone wants to be a follower of Lalon, he or she has to go through a process which is known as *khelafat*. This process takes 12 years," he added. As a follower of Lalon, he would interpret various *tatwa*, which is an important aspect of Lalon songs. I was fortunate enough to meet him several times. We attended the "Bangla Gaan-er Utshab" - jointly organised by Bengal Foundation and ITC-Sangeet Research Academy - in Kolkata. Rob Fakir performed at many international folk festivals like Womad, UK (the biggest folk festival in the world), Songlines Encounter, UK with contemporary folk band Shikor, Dhaka International Folk Festival, and International Sufi Festival in

Dhaka. The band Bangla played a key role in popularising Rob Fakir among the urban youth. The band's second album *Protutpanyomotitwa* featured songs - "Helaye Helaye Din Boye Jaye" and "Shobey Ki Hobey Bhubey" - rendered by Rob Fakir. Music label Ektaar produced Rob Fakir's lone solo album *Shobder Ghar*. The album features 10 less-familiar songs including "Jagat Mukhtey Bholalen Shai", "Jey Pothey Shai Choley Phery", "Dekhlam E Shongshar" and "Shobder Gharey Nishobdo Kore". Lalon Fakir popularised a master-disciple oriented tradition, at the core of which is humanism. His songs attracted widespread attention for their mystical approach to humanism as well as their melodic appeal.

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