

WHAT'S ON

Group Art Exhibition
 Title: "Art Against Terrorism - BRAVE HEART"
 Venue: Gallery Cosmos, H-115, Lane-6, New DOHS, Mohakhali
 Date: August 19-31
 Time: 12am-8pm




Nazrul Death Anniversary & Award
 Organiser: Nazrul Institute
 Venue: Bangladesh National Museum (Main Auditorium)
 Date: August 27; Time: 4pm



Photography Exhibition
 Title: Faces. Places. Stories
 Artist: Ata Mohammad Adnan
 Venue: EMK Center, Dhanmondi
 Date: Aug 13-31
 Time: 9:30am-8pm



Solo Painting Exhibition
 Artist: Proshanto Karmakar
 Venue: Bay's Gallery, Radius Centre, 57, Gulshan-1
 Date: Jul 30-Aug 30
 Time: 12am-8pm



Group Art Exhibition
 Title: "Shilper Aloye Bangabandhu"
 Venue: Gallery 3, National Art Gallery Plaza, BSA
 Date: August 1-31
 Time: 11am-8pm



Murtaja Baseer to receive HAMIDUR RAHMAN PUROSHKAR

ZAHANGIR ALOM

Hamidur Rahman is a renowned artist of the 1950s and 60s. He was the chief architect of Central Shaheed Minar and a key personality in the modern art movement of Bangladesh. The artist's family instituted Hamidur Rahman Puroshkar in 2007. Bengal Foundation organises the award giving ceremony.

Eminent artist Murtaja Baseer has been selected to receive Hamidur Rahman Puroshkar for the year 2015. In the past eminent artists -- Monirul Islam, Syed Jahangir and Rafiqun Nabi -- received the awards in 2007, 2011 and 2013 respectively.

An award giving ceremony will be held on August 27 at 5pm at Chhayanaut auditorium in Dhanmondi. Eminent artist Rafiqun Nabi, Mahmudul Haque and Parveen Ahmad will be present as guests. The event will also feature a documentary screening titled "Murtaja Baseer: Shilpa Anwesha 55 Bochhor", produced by Bengal Foundation. Syed Tanvir Ahmed and Paul James Gomes jointly directed the documentary.

Murtaja Baseer is one of the pioneers of the modern art movement in Bangladesh. His careful portraiture, with detailed lines and balanced colours expresses his contemplations on society. His depiction of Bangladeshi women, in particular, reflects their individuality and strong personality. These works are done in the form of collage, drawing and pastel.

Being a socially aware individual, Baseer was active in student politics, fired by the fervour of the Freedom Movement. He depicts women from all levels of society from villages as well as

urban areas. Born in 1932, Baseer was the top student at Government Institute of Arts in 1954. He took lessons in the Asutosh Museum, Calcutta (now Kolkata), around 1954. While in Italy, he was influenced by Botticelli, Modigliani, and Picasso.

Many are perhaps unfamiliar with Baseer's other identities as a poet, short story writer, novelist, researcher, numismatist and filmmaker. In 1954, he wrote "Ultramarine", a novel based on contemporary life in Kolkata and the prevailing social issues of the time. He published a collection of short stories called "Kanch-er Pakhir Gaan" in 1969. He wrote two more novels -- "Mitar Shangey Char Shandha" and "Amitakhar". He has a collection of selected works, "Murtaja Baseer: Murto O Bimurto".

Baseer has also worked as a screenplay writer, art director and chief assistant director for the Bangla film "Nadi O Nari" in 1964 and art director for the Urdu film "Kaise Kahoon" in 1965.

In 1987, Baseer received a fellowship from British Council to carry out research on folk and traditional art of Bangladesh. He was awarded the Ekushey Padak in 1980.



Zahid Hasan and Purnima reunited onscreen

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Notable actors Zahid Hasan and Purnima became household favorites after their performances in TV play "Lal Neel Beguni," which ran for 350 episodes. Directed by Zahid Hasan himself, he played a character named Ratul whereas Purnima appeared as Athoi.

However the two had not been seen together for 10 years after the series ended. All that will change. The artistes are now cast in a single-episode TV play titled "Priyo Rong Holud." Scripted and directed by Imraul Rafat, the TV play is set to be released for Eid-ul-

Azha. Asked about being reunited onscreen with Purnima, Zahid Hasan said, "I found the experience extremely enjoyable. It has been 10 long years!" His co-star Purnima shared, "Aside from our professional relationship, we are like family. Working together for such a long time in 'Lal Neel Beguni' strengthened our bond and it feels wonderful to be working with him again."

Playing the role of a married couple, shooting is underway in Dhaka's Moghbazaar. "The audience will enjoy our on screen banter and fights," added Purnima.



A digital painting by Golam Faruque.

Bangladeshi Freelancer makes it to top rung of Upwork

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Golam Faruque of Bangladesh has come up in the second position in the list of the best illustrators published by Upwork, the world's most popular freelancing market place, the third position in the list of best graphic designers and the fourth position in the list of logo designers. His outstanding feat has made Bangladesh proud.

In the present global freelancing market, Upwork has achieved tremendous popularity. Upwork, formerly Elance-oDesk, is a global freelancing platform where businesses and independent professionals connect and collaborate remotely. In 2015, Elance-oDesk was rebranded as Upwork. Based in Mountain View and San Francisco, California, Upwork has twelve million registered freelancers and five million registered clients. It is worth a total of \$1 billion USD, making it the world's largest freelancer marketplace.

Faruque completed his Masters in Drawing and Painting in 1996 from the Faculty of Fine Art of Dhaka University. Before completing his Masters, he started working on computer graphics. In 1994, he gained considerable experience in computer graphics and offset printing technology from pre-printing house colour scan. Then in 1996 he joined the Grey Global Group, an advertising agency and worked there for 10 years. Because of his successful work on various national and international brands he was assigned the position of

Head of Creative of G3, a sister concern of Grey. Later he started his own advertising agency "Paper Rhyme" together with his partner. There he was Head of Creative and Chairman. He also worked for one year as Head of Creative in BBDO, Dhaka.

Faruque thought Upwork could be a wonderful platform as he is very inclined towards painting. He has held two solo exhibitions amidst his already busy schedule. Taking into account his skills, experiences and the success gained so far, he began his career as a freelance graphics designer. Initially it was quite tough to find work. When his first client was greatly



impressed by his digital painting, work started pouring in.

He realises the important thing to achieve success in a freelancing career is to understand the brief of the clients and present oneself as competent for the challenge of that work. "Youngsters who want to build their career as freelancers should keep that in mind before setting about their work," said Faruque.

Currently Faruque is an Adjunct Lecturer in the Department of Multimedia Creative Technology of Daffodil International University, Dhaka.

81ST BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF ZATIN SARKER

HONOUR TO WRITER

AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh

The 81st birth anniversary of eminent writer and columnist Professor Zatin Sarker was celebrated in Netrokona last Thursday.

Zatin Sarker Jonmo Udjapon Parshad organised a programme at Udichi Netrokona Sangsad office to mark the day. The writer was honoured with a citation.

Zatin Sarker, also former president of Udichi Central Sangsad was born in village Chandapara in Kendua upazila of Netrokona district. A discussion on the life and works of the writer was held marking the celebration.

Professor Mustafa Kamal, Udichi Netrokona president Mozammel Haque Bachhu, secretary Niloy Biswas Tatul, Udichi Dhaka divisional member secretary Sarwar Kamal Robin, member secretary of the organisation Khairul Islam, ex-mayor of Modon municipality in Netrokona Dewan Modasser, advocate Emdadul Haque Millat and Mohila parishad secretary Taheja Begum were present at the discussion.

Poet Bidhan Mitra, convener of the parshad presided over the discussion. The speakers pointed out that Professor Zatin Sarker's lifelong struggle was to establish a secular society. They also urged the young generation to follow the path of the veteran writer to build a society free from discrimination. Prof Zatin said, "I have tried to build a secular society but am yet to achieve it."

The birth anniversary of the writer was also celebrated in Gouripur upazila of Mymensingh district. Swajon Somabesh Gouripur organised the programme. Writer Ranjit Kar inaugurated the programme as chief guest.

The discussion was chaired by Swajon Somabesh president Shyamol Ghosh.



PHOTO: STAR

40TH MONTREAL WORLD FILM FESTIVAL Abu Sayeed's "Dressing Table" premieres

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

Director Abu Sayeed's "Dressing Table" will premiere at the 40th Montreal World Film Festival to be held from August 25 to September 5.

The Montreal Festival is the only event in North America which is accredited to the International Federation of Film Producers' Association and considered one of the key festivals in the world.

During the 12-day Montreal Festival, "Dressing Table" will be screened in the "Focus on World Cinema" section on August 26, 27 and 29.

The film revolves round the story of Sheela, a young lower middle-class woman in Dhaka whose family is struggling financially and has gone without a dressing table for a long time. One day, her husband Ruhul buys a second-hand dressing table and Sheela's happiness knows no bounds.

The next day morning, when Sheela goes to clean the dressing table, she finds in its drawer an old diary. At first, she refrains from reading someone else's diary which does not have an address. However, she finally takes up reading the diary and is so engrossed that she finishes reading the same night. Sheela then stands

before the mirror of the dressing table, discovers a new self-identity and there begins a new chapter of her life.

Based on a story by the director himself, the cast of "Dressing Table" includes Tarin Rahman, A K Azad, Taskin Sumi, Arman Parvez Murad, Nadia Nodi, Iffat Trisha, Tania Rahman, Ataur Rahman, K S Firoze and Khalilur Rahman Qaderi.

The script, editing and cinematography of the director's seventh feature film have been

handled by Sayeed himself. Sound technology, colour grading and make-up were taken care of by Azam Babu and Sujana Mahmud and Shafiq respectively.

"Dressing Table" was cleared by Bangladesh censor board on August 22, Sayeed told The Daily Star adding he hopes to commercially release the film in Bangladesh September-end. The film has also been sent for the International Film Festival of India to be held in Goa in November.



A scene from "Dressing Table".