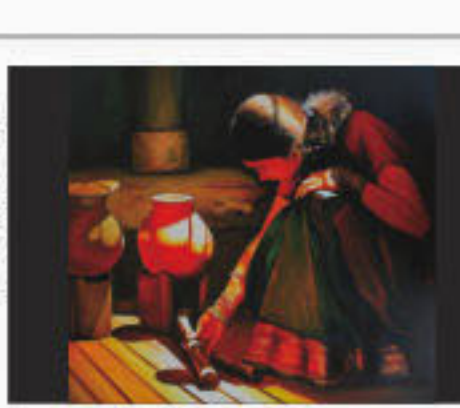


WHAT'S ON

Star Melodies
 Title: Kanan Devi's Gaan
 Venue: A S Mahmud Hall (Level 3)
 Daily Star Center, Dhaka
 Date: September 27
 Time: 6:30pm

Group Art Exhibition
 Organiser: BUET Artista Society
 Venue: BUET Auditorium Complex
 Date: September 23-25
 Time: 10am-8pm



National Theatre Festival
 Organiser: Group Theatre Federation (BGF)
 Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
 Date: September 24- October 11
 Time: 6pm



Korean Film Festival
 Organiser: The Embassy of the Republic of Korea
 Venue: Bangladesh National Museum
 Date: October 1-5
 Time: 10:30am, 2:30pm and 6pm

KOREAN FILM FESTIVAL 2016 in DHAKA
 October 1-5

Solo Metal Sculpture Exhibition
 Title: Hard Emotion
 Artist: Arham Ul Haq Chowdhury
 Venue: Alliance Française Dhaka
 Date: September 23- October 7
 Time: 3-9pm



A LITERARY MASTERPIECE BROUGHT TO LIFE

Full house at Bhabna's "Shakuntala" premiere



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

APORAJITA MUSTAFA
 Bhabna, one of the most promising dance companies of Bangladesh, premiered their latest production "Shakuntala", directed by renowned Manipuri dancer Samina Husain Prema, on Friday at the National Auditorium of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, in front of a jam-packed full house. The show commenced with a few words of appreciation from Cultural Affairs minister, Asaduzzaman Noor and renowned cultural personality Kamal Lohani, followed by a rather enthralling start to the production.

The story, which was based on great poet Kalidasa's 5th-century literary masterpiece "Abhigyan Shakuntalam", was depicted through a careful combination of Kazi Nazrul Islam's songs which played precisely into the narrative. The choreography, although primarily influenced by Manipuri, also incorporated other Indian classical as well as folk dance forms. Prema attributed all credits for the Manipuri segments of the production to her guru, Smt. Kalavati Devi, a legendary name in Manipuri dance. The dancers did a phenomenal job weaving the intricate movements and expressions together and made the multi-textured choreography breathe effortlessly on stage.

Their superbly synchronised performance seemed infinitely more picturesque, thanks to the vibrant, elegant costumes, designed by Tahsina Shahin. The dance drama, in its entirety, was visually striking. A noteworthy highlight, which deserves a special mention, was the music arrangement for the dance drama, which was absolutely spectacular throughout. The script was adapted by Alomay Biswas, and brought to life by Jayanto Chattopadhyay, the key narrator for the dance-drama. The music was directed and composed by Sumon Sarkar from Kolkata. Celebrated artistes Khairul Anam Shakil and Priyanka Gope sang for the lead

roles, while a group of young and talented singers from Bangladesh voiced the chorus segments under the lead duo's guidance. The classical portions were sung by Indian singers Sirsho Roy and Sumon Sarkar. Notable artistes Dahlia Ahmed, Shimul Mustapha, Tamanna Tithi, Debashish Chakraborty and Jayonta Das narrated the dialogues for the play. The set and props were prepared by Hadi Mirza. Light design was prepared by Reaz Mahmud.) The production was supported by Ministry of Cultural Affairs and sponsored by First Security Islami Bank Ltd., Meghna Bank Ltd., Bellissimo Ice Cream and ETunes.



Prema and Kakon shine in the lead roles (top); the costumes and lighting makes the production a bright, enjoyable one.

Star Melodies' tribute to Kanan Devi Musical soiree on September 27

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
 Star Melodies will hold a special musical programme, paying tribute to Kanan Devi (April 22, 1916-July 17, 1992), the first Bangalee female star of film and music, marking her birth centenary. Dalia Nausheen, Badrunnesa Dalia, Tanjina Toma, Zahangir Alom and Raisa Islam will perform songs recorded by Kanan Devi, at the event on September 27, at 6 pm at the AS Mahmud Seminar Hall of The Daily Star Centre. Sadya Afsheen Mallick will comper the programme. The event has been organised with assistance from

Chalachhitram and Eastern Bank Limited. Kanan Devi was among the early singing stars of Indian cinema, and is credited popularly as the first star of Bangla cinema. Her singing style, usually in rapid tempo, was used instrumentally in some of the biggest hits of New Theatres, Kolkata. After making her debut in silent film "Jaidev" (1926), and successfully transitioned into talkies to produce numerous hits, both as an actress and singer. Those interested to attend the programme may collect cards from The Daily Star Centre between 11am-5pm depending on availability. Seats are limited.



Prachyanat bringing back "A Man for All Seasons"

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
 Prachyanat, one of the leading theatre troupes of the country, is bringing back a play they haven't performed in nearly a year for the National Theatre Festival that began yesterday, organised by the Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy. Shahed Iqbal adapted the script originally by Robert Bolt, and seasoned thespian Azad Abul Kalam has directed it. It will be staged at the festival's fourth day, on September 27 at the main auditorium of the National Theatre Hall. A heavy-weight cast including Qazi Toufiqul Islam Emon, Azad Abul Kalam, Sanjida Preeti, Shatabdi Wadud and Rahul Ananda will be seen in the play. The play, written in 1960, was first staged in 1961 in New York. Set against the backdrop of 16th-century England, and deals with the conflict of religion, politics and economy. The differences between English king Henry VIII and the Pope is also one of the central points of the plays.



She was a photographer. He was focused on her.

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