

WHAT'S ON

Solo Painting Exhibition
 Title: EPOCH
 Artist: Monsur Ul Karim
 Venue: Gallery Twenty One, Dhanmondi
 Date: September 30-October 14
 Time: 12pm-8pm



Open Studio
 Subir Choudhury Practice Grant
 Artist: Abir Shome & Eshita Mitra
 Venue: Gyantapas Abdur Razzaq Bidyapeeth, Dhanmondi
 Date: September 30-October 21
 Time: 12-8pm



National Theatre Festival
 Organiser: Group Theatre Federation (BGTF)
 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



Solo Art Exhibition
 Title: "Of Nature, Boats & Faces"
 Artist: Hamiduzzaman Khan
 Venue: Shilpangan Gallery, H-7, Rd-13 (New), Dhanmondi
 Date: September 30-October 14
 Time: 12-8pm



NEWS bytes

BON JOVI debuts new album

Bon Jovi hosted a live listening party on Saturday for over 1,500 fans who won the chance to hear the band's new album, "This House is Not for Sale", at an intimate show at the Count Basie Theatre in Red Bank, New Jersey, USA. Bon Jovi opened up his soul on record and in the live setting with a fascinating display of honesty and an inside look into what inspired the lyrics, music and story behind the album. He presented the album almost in its entirety in front of an audience for the very first time -- with a



slight detour performing bonus tracks towards the end of the set. The band will continue its short promotional tour in London, England and Ontario, Canada, and will also give their first-ever Bon Jovi on Broadway performance at the Barrymore Theatre October 20. "This House is Not for Sale" will be released October 21.

Source: **Billboard**



Mosharraf, Zahid, Tisha and helmer Tauquir on the sets of "Halda". PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

Thousands flock to "Halda" sets to get a glimpse of stars

SHAH ALAM SHAZU, writes from Chittagong

The Barua Para of Chittagong's Raujan has seen a huge enthusiastic crowd every day from early morning to late night, where people from all ages are flocking to get a glimpse of their favourite actors. Tauquir Ahmed's latest directorial venture, "Halda", is being filmed by the banks of the river Halda in Chittagong, with a star-studded cast of Zahid Hasan, Mosharraf Karim, Tisha, Fazlur Rahman Babu, Momena Chowdhury and Shahed Ali, among others. At the sets, in the crowds is Nipu Barua, an elderly woman probably past her nineties. Upon spotting her, Zahid Hasan leaves his set to touch her feet out of respect. Director Tauquir Ahmed repeatedly calls on his assistants to disperse the crowd to make way for filming the scenes. The crowd clears

a bit, and shooting resumes. Adapted from a novel written by Azad Bulbul, Tauquir Ahmed has written the screenplay. Shooting commenced from September 26 and is predicted to wrap up by this week. About the film, Tauquir said, "The issues that we have tried to work with in the film are quite challenging to execute. It is also difficult to shoot a film on a river bank. Luck was on our side regarding the weather, which enabled us to work at a good pace. My cast members have dedicated themselves to shooting for this film, and after 'Oggatonama', this is my next big challenge." Zahid Hasan, who plays the character Nader, commented, "Tauquir is an excellent director and has tackled this tremendous task in a very level-headed manner. My character is quite challenging to portray as well, but I am satisfied with the work." Co-star

Mosharraf Karim also said, "Tauquir Ahmed addresses unique and serious themes in his work, and is very organised and meticulous in his approach. He is a perfectionist, and that is why his films always do well." Nusrat Imroz Tisha said, "Halda' is a beautiful story, and is at the hands of an extremely talented director, and is being played out by a talented cast as well. I am quite excited for the film's release, and look forward to share this experience with viewers." The director also stated that although the crowds on the river banks have made shooting difficult, they have been aided by the locals, which has helped them tremendously with their work. "Halda" also marks the first time Zahid Hasan and Tisha are working under Tauquir Ahmed's direction, and the first time that the pair will appear as a couple in a film.

Bangladeshi short films shine in Shimla

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

Bangladesh's entry "Ayna - the Mirror", directed by MD Tauqir Islam, was adjudged the best short film at the second International Film Festival of Shimla. A Special Jury Award was given to another Bangladeshi short film "The Poster", directed by Ahsif Khan in the international category. The Festival, which concluded on Sunday night, screened films from around 22 countries. The award for best feature film in national category was bagged by "Tulsiapa", an Odiya language movie directed by Amiya Patnaik. The event was organised by Himalayan Velocity in collaboration with Art Language and Culture Department of Himachal Pradesh state government. Himachal Pradesh Governor Acharya Devvrat gave away the awards to the winners. "Bhagyale Bache Kaharu", a Nepalese movie directed by Ganesh Pandey which dealt with Nepal earthquake victims, was adjudged the best documentary in International section. In the animation category, "Agrinoui" from Cyprus, directed by Alexis Chaviaras, was given the award for the best film. A special jury award was bagged by Malayalam-language movie "Unfriend", directed by Lijin Jose and Shahina Rafee in short films category.



Asian film festival opens at DU

A CORRESPONDENT

A two-day Asian film festival began at the TSC Auditorium of the Dhaka University (DU) yesterday. Organised by the MCJ Film Club, the festival will screen seven films by seven different Asian film makers. The inauguration of the festival was attended by Dr. AAMS Arefin Siddique, Vice Chancellor, DU; Professor Mofizur Rahman, head of department at Mass Communication and Journalism, DU; noted yesteryears actress Sarah Begum Kabori; eminent filmmaker Morshedul Islam; internationally-famed director

Mostofa Sarwar Farooki and actor Ferdous Ahmed. The guests present at the program also launched a souvenir, titled "Asio Cholochochitro Path". On the first day of the festival, three

films were screened. On the second day today, films to be screened are "In the Mood for Love" (Hong Kong), "A Separation" (Iran), "Spirited Away" (Japan) and "Runway" (Bangladesh).



Distinguished guests at the inauguration.



PHOTO: STAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY ZAHID HASAN!

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

National-award winning actor Zahid Hasan began his career in theatre before embarking on television plays. He subsequently appeared in films, which have earned him accolades over the years. Today marks Zahid Hasan's birthday, and the actor took the time to talk to The Daily Star about the occasion.

What are your thoughts on your birthday this year?
 Zahid: First of all I am indebted to God for keeping me in good health, and that I am still able to work to this day. I hope and pray to continue for many more years. As for plans, my parents are not here with me today. Had they been alive, I would have spent the day with them. Now I spend the occasion with my wife, son and daughter. I had been planning a party this year with loved ones, but that will happen a few days later.

You have a huge fan base in the country. What would you like as a birthday gift from them?
 Zahid: I do. Fans are what made me what I am today. My fans have supported me by appreciating my work and loving me. I ask them to love me till the day I die, and lend me their prayers.

Who is usually the first to wish you on your birthday?
 Zahid: I have one son and a daughter. On the eve of my birthday they and my wife gather to

wish me, which I look forward to. Then I have my sister and other members of the household, family and friends. And my fans also send me their blessings and warm wishes.

What is your favorite gift to get on your birthday?
 Zahid: I love receiving flowers more than anything. I receive expensive gifts from time to time, but flowers and heartfelt wishes are what make me happiest.

Is there a birthday that you still remember vividly?
 Zahid: The one I remember most fondly was in 1989. I used to live in a shared apartment with three or four people in Dhanmondi at the time. I had been sweeping my room when a close relative arrived. He noticed that I was morose, and when he asked me why, I told him that today was my birthday, and had I been home with my family, my mother would have cooked payesh for me. He then told me that one day, the entire nation would celebrate my birthday with me, and I wouldn't be alone anymore. The man is no more, and I think of him often.

First "Pirates 5" trailer zooms in on Javier Bardem

While Johnny Depp's Captain Jack Sparrow was only a supporting character in the original "Pirates of the Caribbean", the sequels decided to put him front and center. If the latest trailer for the next film - "Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales" - is any indication, the upcoming blockbuster may go back to the original idea. The first teaser for the film just dropped online, and Depp isn't featured in a single frame of the teaser.

This trailer was officially released by Walt Disney Pictures, and it's an uncon-

ventional teaser in that it's more of a clip than anything. The scene gives the first look at Javier Bardem as Captain Salazar, and the villain of the film looks quite terrifying. In the film, Captain Salazar and his crew are all ghosts, and they have a serious vendetta that involves Captain Jack Sparrow. Based on a screenplay by Jeff Nathanson, "Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales" begins as Captain Salazar and his crew manage to escape the Devil's Triangle, where they have been trapped for years. With their new-

found freedom, they make a plan to kill every last pirate on the planet - but as evident from the first teaser trailer, Salazar has a special part of his heart reserved for Captain Jack Sparrow, and wishes him serious ill-will. Joachim Rønning and Espen Sandberg are directing the film, while the supporting cast includes Kaya Scodelario, Orlando Bloom, Brenton Thwaites, Kevin McNally, Geoffrey Rush, Stephen Graham, and more.

Source: **Cinemablend**

