

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 Razaq 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



**Solo Art Exhibition**  
 Title: METAMORPHIC - Naturally Transformed  
 Artist: Rezaun Nabi  
 Venue: Gallery Cosmos  
 Date: October 14-28  
 Time: 12-8pm



**Memorial Programme**  
 on Syed Shamsul Haq  
 Organiser: Bengal Foundation  
 Venue: Bangladesh National Museum  
 Date: Oct 9; Time: 5pm



## NEWS bytes

### Nicholas Hoult to play Tesla

Nicholas Hoult is in negotiations to play Nikolai Tesla in the Weinstein Co.'s "The Current War". Benedict Cumberbatch is already on board to play Thomas Edison and Michael Shannon will portray George Westinghouse. "Me and Earl and the Dying Girl" director Alfonso Gomez-Rejon will helm the film. The movie takes place in the late 1880s and revolves around power titans Edison and Westinghouse's battle over the supply of electricity. Edison championed the use of



direct current for electric power distribution over an alternating current, which was backed by several European companies and Westinghouse Electric. The movie is one of two centered on this rivalry. Black Bear Pictures is developing "The Last Days of Night" starring Eddie Redmayne as the lawyer caught in the middle of the patent battle that ensued following Edison's discovery of the electrical current. TWC will finance and distribute the film. Hoult recently wrapped "Sand Castle" and also finished production on the JD Salinger biopic "Rebel in the Rye".

Source: Variety



## EMON MAKES BIG STRIDES WITH "OPODARTHO"

**FAHMIM FERDOUS**  
 Young Bangladeshi filmmaker Abu Shahed Emon, who created quite a buzz in the film festival circuit of the region with his directorial debut "Jalal'er Golpo", has scored a big support from the India's National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) for his upcoming project. Emon's upcoming film "Opodartho" has been selected in this year's highly competitive NFDC Film Bazaar for co-production. The film (which was in pipeline even before "Jalal'er Golpo") under its previous working title "Ekjon Police er Golpo", had received funds at the Asian Cinema Fund of the 2011 Busan Film Festival for script development. That same year, it won best pitch at the Göteborg Film Festival, Sweden and best pitch next year at China's Beijing Film Festival 2012. The film also participated in the 'Labs' section of this



year's Locarno Film Festival Open Doors programme. Mostofa Sarwar Farooki, an ardent supporter of Emon, is producing the film. In a Facebook post, Farooki said he became a fan of the story the first time he heard it, adding that this is his first involvement as a producer in someone else's film. The NFDC Film Bazaar, in recent years, has produced critically-acclaimed films like "The Lunchbox", "Titli" and

"Masaan" (all from India). This year, the film selected 18 films, of which there is a second film from Bangladesh. Titled "Nonajoler Kabbo", it is directed by Rezwana Shahriar Sumit and produced by Gigi Dement and Laboratory NYC. Most of the other films are from India, although a film from Nepal, a Chinese-Dutch co-production and two jointly-produced Indian films - one with Sweden and another with Canada, are on the list. Abu Shahed Emon's directorial debut "Jalal'er Golpo" was Bangladesh's official selection for the foreign language film in the Oscars in 2014, and won a host of awards - including the Avanca International Film Festival (Portugal), SAARC Film Festival in Sri Lanka, Kerala International Film Festival (India) and Jaipur International Film Festival (India), aside from screening in a number of other festivals.

## TISHA learns local dialect for "Halda"

**SHAH ALAM SHAZU, back from Chittagong**  
 An actor has to pick up many skills to be convincing in their roles. Tisha has gone that extra mile by learning the local dialect of Chittagong for her role in film "Halda". This is a first such experience for Tisha. Though a daunting prospect, she tackles the challenge head on. "It's an actor's job to face challenges, and I am trying my best to do just that," said the actor. For "Halda", Tisha plays a character named Hashu, who hails from a poor village. Her house is located on the Halda riverbanks, and she is eventually married to a powerful man from a different district. Tisha is training for her character's dialogues with Shakhawat Shiblee, the dialect consultant for the film. "Initially the local dialect seemed very difficult to master," said Tisha, "but eventually I began to see the beauty of the language and also enjoy how it is transforming me for my



role. Off the sets, my co-stars and I often engage in playful banter using the dialect." The actor has also turned to methodical groundwork to fit into her character's shoes. Playing a village girl, Tisha is often seen clad in simple garments suited for her character. "Hashu comes from a family of fishermen, and so I have been integrating myself completely into her life," said Tisha. About her experiences on the banks of Halda, the actor replied, "We are always busy shooting, which has enabled us to spend time in various spots. Sometimes we are on the bank, sometimes we are at someone's house, and we have also shot scenes on a boat in the river. I have come to know Halda intimately, through the filming." The actor has also been busying herself in getting to know the locals, and said, "The locals have showered us with love. I am taking selfies, giving autographs, and storing memories with each person I come across. Meeting new people and gathering new memories along the way is what I love most about my job." The actor also added, "This is a novel story with an excellent director and talented cast members as its backbone. I look forward to its release so that the audience can enjoy it as well."

## Syed Shamsul Haq remembered in Manikganj



Local artistes render songs written by Syed Haq. PHOTO: STAR

**ZAHANGIR SHAH, Manikganj**  
 Ambidextrous writer Syed Shamsul Haq was remembered in Manikganj through a cultural programme and discussion. Sangskritik Biplobi Sangha (SABIS) arranged the programme at its auditorium in the district town on Tuesday. Six singers rendered ten songs written by Syed Shamsul Haq. Veteran singer Nasrin Ahmed sang "Jar Chhaya Porechhe" and "Pagol Pagol Manushgulo", Sabrina Momtaz Momo sang "Onek Sandher Moyna" and "Chander Sathe Ami Debo Na Tomar Tulona", Mohidur Rahman sang "Kehoi Kore Becha-Kena", Emili Parvin sang "Neel Akasher Niche" and "Tora Dekh Tora Dekh", Kajol Pal rendered "Haire Manush Rongin Phanush" and "Amar Ei

Mon Kare Jeno Bhalobesechhe" and Nina Rahman sang "Tumi Ashbe Bole". Farhad Hossain assisted the singers on tabla with Aminur Rahman Liton on dotara and Habibur Rahman on mandira. Mostafizur Rahman Mamun, former secretary of Manikganj district unit of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, recited a poem, as did Mosharaf Hossain and Ramendra Halder. Earlier, Shahidul Islam Faruk, president of SABIS presided over a discussion, with Monjur Mohammad Shahriar, additional deputy commissioner (general) of Manikganj as chief guest and Abdus Salam, public prosecutor of Manikganj Judge Court, as the special guest. Hundreds of people attended and enjoyed the event.

## Mahmud Khurshid writes for Miles after 15 years

**A CORRESPONDENT**  
 Lyricist Mahmud Khurshid has written songs for Miles' latest album "Proborton" after 15 years. The songs written by Khurshid are titled "Notun Bhor" and "Chai Tomakei", and are composed by Shafin Ahmed and Manam Ahmed respectively. "Proborton" is the first album released globally by ArtsistSpread, a digital distributing platform for Bangladeshi music. The album is expected to release in Bangladesh soon. Khurshid's popular lyrics for Miles include "Dhiki Dhiki", "Jala jala", "Nila", "Firiye Dao", "Jadu", "Swopno Bihongo", "Bismoy Jatra", "Ridocheena", among others. Khurshid is celebrating 25 years of songwriting this year and plan to release 25 songs throughout the year including a social awareness song on saving tigers. He is also writing songs for Feedback, Konal and many other artistes. By profession, Khurshid is CMO of SSG group.



## RANI MUKERJI to make Bollywood comeback?

Rani Mukerji is ready to emerge out of her long hiatus from acting and has signed on for her next, an untitled film helmed by Siddharth P Malhotra (who directed 2010's "We Are Family"), reports Bollywood Life web site. The film marks Rani's return two years after Pradeep Sarkar's "Mardaani". As the site quoted a source close to the development, "Rani plays the central lead in Siddharth's film. Like 'Mardaani', this one too will deal with a strong social issue. He narrated the script to Adi (Aditya Chopra, Rani's husband and film producer) first and then Rani. They both loved it and Adi will produce the film. Siddharth, Adi and Rani have been meeting and

working out the project regarding dates and other stuff." "Since her baby Adira's birth, Rani has become a full-time, hands-on mother, completely immersed in caring for her child, but in December, Adira will be a year old and the actress will find time to work by then. It took time to convince her to act again, but Adi heard the script and felt it would be perfect for her, after 'Mardaani'," the report states. The film is set to begin rolling in the middle or later half of next year.

Source: Bollywood Life

## TV WATCH Bhabna on "Swopno Shodai"

**A CORRESPONDENT**  
 Boishakhi Television has begun a bidding show "Swopno Shodai", where viewers can win products by correctly guessing their prices through calls and SMS. The product packages are valued at Taka 7,000-10,000, and can be won by just one SMS. On every episode of the show, a celebrity guest is also present. Tonight's guest on the show is popular actress Ashna Habib Bhabna. Hosted by Sayem Salek and produced by SR Rumel and S Ali Sohel, the show airs on Boishakhi Television at 11pm today.

