


WHAT'S ON

Concert
 Concert For Fighters
 Bands: Maqsood O' Dhaka, Meghdol & others
 Venue: Raju Sculpture, DU
 Date: Jan 12
 Time: 3pm



Solo Art Exhibition
 Title: Mercury Falling
 Artist: Mustafa Zaman
 Venue: Kala Kendra
 Date: December 9-Jan 4
 Time: 12pm-8pm



Theatre
 Play: Crutch-er Colonel
 Troupe: BotTala
 Venue: Mahila Samity
 Date: January 6
 Time: 7pm



Dylan Tribute Concert
 Blowin' in the Wind
 Venue: Edge Gallery
 Date: Jan 6
 Time: 7pm



Freestyle for Homeless
 Music, Dance, Graffiti
 Venue: Robindro Sarobar, Dhanmondi
 Date: Jan 13
 Time: 4pm




Shawkat Osman's birthday centenary today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the birth centenary of eminent novelist and short story writer Shawkat Osman. To mark the occasion, Kathashilpi Shawkat Osman Smriti Parishad together with Bangladesh Udichi Shilpigosthi has organised a two day (January 2-3) festival at Shawkat Osman memorial auditorium of Central Public Library, Dhaka. Eminent writer and Tagore exponent Ahmed Rafiq will inaugurate the festival today at 10am.

Prior to that, Minister for Science and Technology architect Yafes Osman, also the elder son of Shawkat Osman, members of his family and the organisers and the writers' fans will place wreaths at his grave at 8am today at Mirpur Martyred Intellectual Graveyard.

Andalib Rashdi will present a keynote while eminent personalities – Barrister Amir-ul-Islam, Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir, Haider Akbar Khan Rono, artist Rafiqun Nabi and writer Syed Manzoorul islam will discuss at the inaugural event.

The second session of the programme will take place at the same venue where finance minister AMA Muhith; commerce minister Tofayel Ahmed; Road, Transport and Bridge minister Obaidul Qader; Cultural Affairs minister Asaduzzaman Noor; Science and Technology minister Yafes Osman and managing director of Apex Group Syed Nasim Manjur will discuss on life and literary works of Shawkat Osman. The second session will mark performance of music and recitation, staging of drama and screening of a film.

The second day's programme will start at 4pm at the same venue where Professor Serajul Islam, Professor Emeritus Anisuzzaman, former president of Udichi Kamal Lohani, economist Abul Barakat, artist Hashem Khan and litterateur Selina Hossain will speak, followed by performance of music and recitation, staging of drama and film screening.

Born in Hughli, West Bengal in 1917, Shawkat Osman graduated in Economics and did his Masters in Bangla from Calcutta University. "Jononi", his first novel, was published in 1958, and "Kritodasher Hashi" is one of his most-acclaimed novel. He also wrote short stories, poems, plays and essays.

He received several awards including Adamji Sahitya Award, Bangla Academy Award, Ekushey Padak and the Shadinota Padak. Shawkat Osman died in 1998.

Artists should have a solemn liability for society

– Rafiqun Nabi



ZAHANGIR ALOM

Eminent artist Professor Rafiqun Nabi was the Chairman of Jury Board of the recently-concluded 17th Asian Art Biennale Bangladesh. In an interview with this correspondent following the three-day International Art Camp, the revered artist shared many aspects of art and the prestigious Asian Art Biennale. Excerpts:

"The jury board unanimously decided that artworks of Bangladeshi artists stood out among all the participating artists of 54 countries. Bangladeshi young artists are very promising, inquisitive and they are experimenting with the new media of art. The submission of installations and video art was praiseworthy compared to other new media art."

"Previously, we didn't have too many opportunities to look at these new media. Now, thanks to the computer and internet, the doors of art have been opened to them. The display of huge installation works is an interesting and common feature of Venice Art Biennale. The organisers allocate a lot of space to artists for showcasing installations. Our galleries cannot allocate that space. Installations have a specialty of surprising the audience. Again, curating is a problem. We have some drawbacks in this regard, but we are trying to overcome it. The submission of popular and major media like painting, print and sculpture were

very good, but the submission of new media was outstanding."

"The three-day international art camp that was held at in Chittagong was a new dimension of 17th Asian Art Biennale Bangladesh. Artists of different countries had the opportunity to share views, exchange and interact with each other. This paves the way to the artistic sync among us. You could not recognise which paintings have been done by whom from the participants' unsigned artworks at the art camp. This means we are accomplishing almost same works worldwide. Our artistic thoughts and tastes are quite similar."

"The modern painting has reached great heights thanks to the ceaseless practice, experiments and experiences by artists. Modern painting is no more confined to any 'ism'. The basic difference between Eastern and Western Classical Music lies in the taking the taste of the art forms, while taking the essence of classical and modern art lies in the

audience's taste and their way to receiving it. The general audience may not comprehend every symbol and meaning of an artwork. But, one can relate with a realistic work easily. It is a bit complex. The knowledge of philosophy, spirituality, sublime imagination, social conscience, psycho analysis, absurdity and many things are required to understand a piece of work."

"Bangladesh is a land of scenic beauty, the distinctive beauty of nature adorns our country with six different styles with the onset of six seasons. Watercolour is an apt media to perfectly portray the bucolic beauty of Bangladesh. I am happy that the young artists are doing great in watercolour media. Artists should display artworks to relay their thoughts, conscience, and imagination as their solemn liability for the society. This is how a reciprocally appreciative atmosphere for art to emerge where arts, artists and art lovers will play a significant role to meet this end."

NEWS bytes

Elton John honours George Michael



Elton John honored his late friend George Michael during his concert in Las Vegas on Wednesday. In front of a large photo of Michael projected above the stage, John opened the show with "Don't Let the Sun Go Down On Me", which he originally recorded in 1974.

Michael and John performed the ballad together at the Live Aid concert in 1985, and at Michael's Wembley Arena concert in 1991. The duet was recorded and released at the end of 1991, and ended up topping the Billboard Hot 100 in 1992.

Former Wham! singer and solo artist George Michael passed away on Christmas Day due to heart failure at his UK home. He was 53.

Wednesday's concert was the first in a series of four New Year's shows, called "The Million Dollar Piano" that the 69-year-old entertainer is performing at Caesars Palace.

Source: Billboard

"Find the love in what you do"

...Mehzabien



SHAH ALAM SHAZI

A popular face on the small screen, Mehzabien Chowdhury is involved in acting and modeling. Although she is very busy with one-hour TV plays and tele-films, she is not interested in doing serials. Her single-episode play "One Way Road" written and directed by Imraul Rafat and co-starring Jovan, will air tonight on a new weekly slot, Monday Night Super Drama, on Rtv at 8:10pm. Recently, The Daily Star spoke to the former Lux Channel I Superstar.

What's your expectation from 2017?
 Mehzabien: Firstly, I would like to wish you all a very Happy New Year. I hope the audiences will see me acting in some good projects, and in some new looks.

What's the plan with your career?
 Mehzabien: I want to do some quality work. Earlier, I did not bother to think

about this, but now I'm very serious about this. I have become very selective. The audiences will see me acting on special occasions from now. Apart from all of that, everything is depending on good plots, skilled directors and characters.

Do you have a soft corner for any specific types of characters?

Mehzabien: Not really, but I prefer to play roles that challenge me as an actor. I want to portray all types of characters to express my acting talent.

Why have you shied away from TV serials?

Mehzabien: To be honest, I have done a few serials in my career, but I cannot remember I last acted in a series. I am not interested to act in serials as the time commitment is rather extensive. Due to this, I have decided to focus on one-hour plays and tele-films.

Do you watch your own plays?

Mehzabien: I do. I believe everyone should watch their own works, to find out the errors. We can learn from that, and do better in the next project.

How are you enjoying the life of an actor?

Mehzabien: I'm thoroughly enjoying it! I couldn't have done it if I didn't enjoy it. Anything you do, you must do it with love. I have that for acting, and that's what I want to keep on doing.



"Can't say no to Sanjay Leela Bhansali"

...Priyanka Chopra

Reports of Priyanka Chopra doing Sanjay Leela Bhansali's film on legendary poet Sahir Ludhianvi are doing the rounds, but she says she has not yet signed any Bollywood project.

The 34-year-old star, however said she can't say no to Bhansali if he asks her to be a part of his film. "I haven't decided any film yet. (But) Sanjay sir is someone I can't say no to. He knows my pulse, he knows what I will like to do. Every time we meet we look for things to do together. And hopefully, we will combine something. But I haven't zeroed in on any film yet," said Priyanka.

When asked if she was offered the film, Chopra said, "I don't like to talk about films that have been offered to me as then the list is long."

Priyanka, during her stay in India has been reading a lot of scripts and will be finalising her next Hindi films. "In New York and India, I have been hearing lot of filmmakers since two three months. I have four months in the year in which I can do two films. I am in the process of finalising them...Will finalise it by January," she said.

Priyanka's last Bollywood film was Prakash Jha's "Jai Gangaajal" in which she played a tough cop.

She says she is looking forward to the release of her Hollywood debut film "Baywatch", which is slated to open in May.

Source: Hindustan Times

Daylong classical music fest in Barisal

SUSANTA GHOSH, Barisal

A daylong classical music competition and festival ended at Barisal on Friday night, to promote practices of pure and true music.

Ustad Binoy Krishna Das Memorial Trust (UBKDMT) in assistances with Tansen Music School (TMS) organised the programme at Barisal Ashwini Kumar Hall of the city from Friday morning to late night.

The programme was inaugurated by Bijoy Krishna Dey, president of TMS and presided over by Dr. Gazi Md. Saifuzzaman, deputy commissioner Barisal and president of the trust.

Pt. Patit Pabon Natray, a renowned tabla and pakhwaj player and Ustad Santosh Kumar Karmakar were handed lifetime achievement awards for their contribution in the practice of classical music.

Awards were also given among the successful competitors of classical vocal and instrumental music and Nazrul Sangeet competitions, judged by Pandit Patit Pabon Natray, Ustad Santosh Kumar Karmakar, Ustad Ganesh Chandra Roy and Tapan Devnath.

The programme ended with a classical music soiree. A large number of people enjoyed the programme.



PHOTO: STAR