

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: Bot Tala 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
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NEWS bytes

Ed Sheeran teases new music

Ed Sheeran gave his fans a New Year's Day treat on Sunday, announcing on social media that he'll be releasing new music later this week.

In a brief video clip, the British singer-songwriter is seen sitting with a handwritten sign with the message, "New music coming Friday!!" After giving a little wave to the camera, Sheeran awkwardly looks around before putting the piece of paper in his mouth and dropping it.

In December 2015, Sheeran announced that he would be cutting social media out of his life. "I'm taking a break from my phone, emails



and all social media for a while," he wrote. "I'm taking this opportunity of me not having to be anywhere or do anything to travel the world and see everything I've missed."

After a year-long absence, the musician resurfaced on social media last month, posting a cryptic blue image to his Twitter and Instagram accounts.

Sheeran's most recent album, "x", was released in June 2014.

Source: **Billboard**



A scene from "Nawab Siraj-ud-Daula" by Chalan Natua. PHOTO: STAR

Theatre gaining popularity in rural Natore

BULBUL AHMED, Natore

Once upon a time, Natore district was famous for different theatre troupes and cultural organisations, preserving its rich culture and heritage. The northern district has sort of lost its name and fame as the cultural organisations have not been active for a long time. But now, theatre festivals are becoming popular in rural area of Natore.

Organizations like Chalan Natua are now arranging theatre festivals at the remote area of the district, which are giving hope to eminent cultural personalities of the district as well.

Chalan Natua recently organised a two-day stage play festival at Dhupoil Bazar -- a remote area of Bagatipara upazila of Natore.

Five theatre troupes of Natore and Tangail districts participated in the festival. Lawmaker of Natore-1 constituency, Abul Kalam Azad inaugurated the festival as chief guest last Thursday.

Two plays named "Bankabbo" and "Bijoy Basanta" were staged on the first day of the festival and three plays, namely "Khekshiyal", "Dabi" and "Nawab Siraj-ud-Daula" were staged on the last day.

Chalan Natua's play, "Nawab Siraj-

ud-Daula", was enacted by day laborers who rehearsed and produced the play, informed Subodh Kumer Moitra, eminent cultural personality of Natore.

Kazi Sayeed Hossain Dulal, president of Puthia Gram Theatre said, "We have a lot to learn from Chalan Natua, of how they are performing very well with the illiterate people, who could not talk properly a few days ago."

Faruq Hossen, founder president of Chalan Natua said, "We are giving priority to traditional culture of the Chalan Beel area -- like Jatra Pala, Pala Gaan, Madar Gaan etc".

Moushumi to star in Kazi Hayat's 50th film

A CORRESPONDENT

Kazi Hayat has been in the country's film industry for the better part of four decades, debuting as a director with "The Father" (1979). Although not as long, Moushumi has had her heyday in Dhallywood as well, and the two have worked together on a number of occasions in the past.



Kazi Hayat is now getting ready to direct his landmark 50th film, and has turned to the tried and tested talent of Moushumi in the lead. The film, titled "Ghum", is set to be produced by Impress Telefilm.

About her role, Moushumi said, "I am truly thrilled to have the opportunity to be working with such a talented director again. I didn't know this was his fiftieth venture, and when I had heard I was truly overwhelmed to be chosen for such a momentous project."

Regarding the milestone, the director stated, "37 years of my career has flown by so fast, I never had any idea that one day I would be directing my 50th film. I am grateful towards Impress Telefilm for their ongoing support, as well as Moushumi who has chosen to work in a film that is not made for commercial success."

Moushumi has previously worked with Hayat in "Lootoraaj" (1997), "Ammajaan" (1999), "Koshto" (2000), "Bortomaan" (2000), "Itihaas" (2000), and "Minister" (2003).



TV WATCH

"Torun Turki" on ntv

A CORRESPONDENT

TV series "Torun Turki" will air tonight on ntv at 11:30pm tonight. The drama, scripted and directed by Imraul Rafat, airs every Tuesday and Wednesday. The narrative revolves around students of a private university and diversity within different departments and clubs. Cast members include Nayeem, Monira Mithu, Saberi Alam, Nova, Tawsif Mahub, Allen Shuvro, Sporshia, Siyam Ahmed, Jovan, Shamim Hasan Sarkar, Tasnuva Tisha, Samira Khan Mahi, and more.

The play progresses through different revolutionary timelines as it describes the students' involvement in the 1952 Language Movement, all the way to the Liberation war.

Bistaar to hold Arts Festival in Chittagong

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chittagong-based arts organization Bistaar Chittagong Art Complex is set to hold a three day arts festival at the Shilpakala Academy's open stage in the port city, from January 5.

Cultural Affairs Secretary Akhtari Momtaz will inaugurate the festival at 4:30pm, where Chittagong Deputy Commissioner Md. Shamsul Arefin and veteran playwright Rabiul Alam will be special guests.

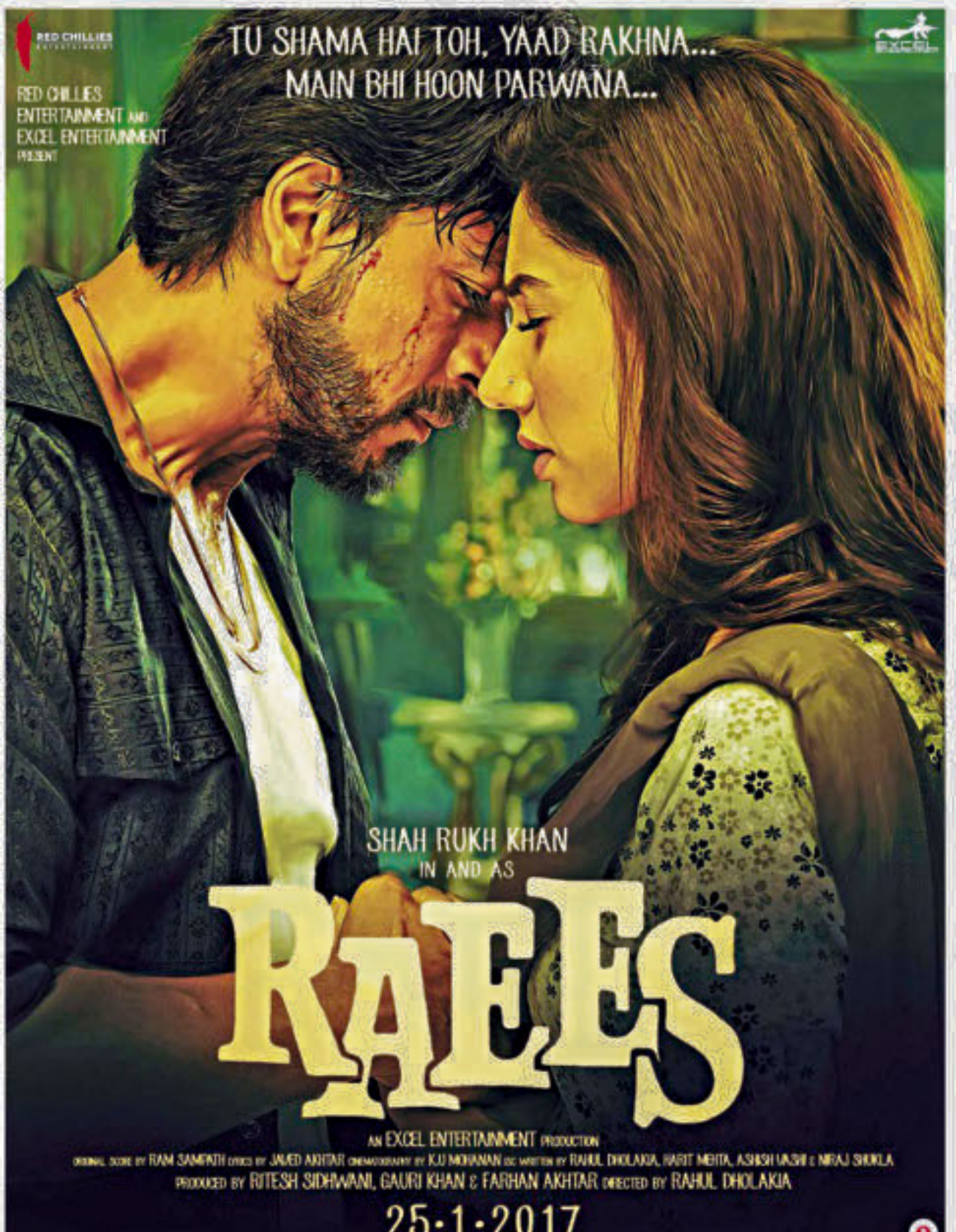
The first day's programme will include screening of documentary "Ektu Shuta'r Jobanbondi" by Kamar Ahmad Simon, classical flute recital by Azizul Islam, musical performance of Gofur Hali's song by Aswad and solo play "Gohonjatra" by Padatik Natya Sangsad Dhaka (by Shamsi Ara Sayeka).

On the second day, Kamar Ahmad Simon will present a talk, two joint visual art and photography exhibitions will be opened at the Art Gallery, Dolon Kanungo will present a Mohan Veena recital, Swara Nandan will perform recitation, Mayabi Dance Academy will perform dance, Dhaka-based group Loko Rongo will present folk songs, followed by a concert featuring band The Tree.

The final day's programmes include a literary lecture by Imtiar Shamim, a violin performance by Shyamol Chandra Das, a dance presentation by Shadhona (from Dhaka), songs of Shah Abdul Karim by Abdur Rahman Baul and songs of Lalon by Indrila Puja. The entire festival is open to all.



Two new posters out for SRK's RAEES



Superstar Shah Rukh Khan shared two new posters of his upcoming release "Raees" on his Twitter yesterday -- giving fans something to rejoice in the new year. Shah Rukh looks intense in the first one, sporting vintage round framed-aviator sunglasses that he captioned saying, "O #Zaalima..."

The other poster gives a peek at Shah Rukh Khan and Mahira Khan's chemistry that will probably be a big part of the film. A bruised Shah Rukh is tightly holding on to Mahira in the poster.

The first trailer of "Raees" released on December 7 last year, it received a phenomenal response from fans and critics alike. The film is the story of an illegal alcohol smuggler whose business is thwarted by cops. It is set in the Gujarat of 1980s.

Rahul Dholakia directs the action crime thriller, produced by Shah Rukh's wife Gauri Khan, Ritesh Sidhwani and Farhan Akhtar under their banners Red Chillies Entertainment and Excel Entertainment. Apart from Shah Rukh and Mahira, it also casts Nawazuddin Siddiqui.

The film is scheduled to be released on January 25.

Source: **NDTV Movies**



Dr. Strange confirmed for "Thor: Ragnarok"

In the mid-credits scene of Scott Derrickson's "Doctor Strange", Chris Hemsworth's Thor arriving at the Sanctum Sanctorum and asking for the good doctor's help on his latest adventure. The official Disney fan club D23 posted an article regarding various Disney-related things to look forward to in 2017, and it's in a paragraph about upcoming movies and within their description of the "Thor: Ragnarok", God of Thunder's next big screen adventure that Benedict Cumberbatch's role directly mentioned.

Apparently with Tom Hiddleston's Loki in tow (he's never shown), Thor goes to the Sanctum Sanctorum in New York to request assistance from Doctor Strange. Following the events of "Thor: The Dark World", Anthony Hopkins' Odin has gone missing, and the God of Thunder has dragged his adopted brother to Earth in order to try and find their father. Doctor Strange asks if finding Odin would mean removing Loki from Earth, and when the response is affirmative, he agrees to help.

However, it can in no way be speculated what is the size or scope of his role will be. Mark Ruffalo's Bruce Banner/The Hulk will also be a part of the action, so it could get very interesting.

While there are three Marvel Cinematic Universe movies coming out in 2017, the third Thor film is the last of them. Taika Waititi's blockbuster will be arriving in theaters on November 3, so the chances of further details emerging soon may well be quite slim.

Source: **Cinemablend**