

WHAT'S ON

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



Classical Dance Festival
 Organiser: Chhayanaut
 Venue: Chhayanaut Auditorium, Dhanmondi
 Date: January 6
 Time: 6pm



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



NEWS bytes

Harrelson eyed for Han Solo spinoff

After playing a mentor to Katniss Everdeen in "The Hunger Games" franchise, Woody Harrelson might help guide another iconic character's journey. While talks are still in the early stages, Harrelson is the top choice to play Han Solo's mentor in the upcoming "Star Wars" spinoff starring Alden Ehrenreich, reported Variety.



Donald Glover and Emilia Clarke also star, with Phil Lord and Chris Miller directing. Disney had no comment. The movie will be set prior to "Star Wars: A New Hope," like the other "Star Wars" standalone project, "Rogue One", which hit theatres on December 16 and is currently ruling the box office. The film is expected to begin production in January, and slated to release May 25, 2018. In the past year, Harrelson has kept busy, appearing in the cop drama "Triple Nine", "Now You See Me 2", "LBJ", and "The Edge of Seventeen". The coming year looks just as busy, with "The Glass Castle" opposite Brie Larson, "Wilson", and the highly anticipated "War of the Planet of the Apes", in which he plays the new antagonist.

Source: Variety

THE TOP 50 BANGLA SONGS OF 2016

ABC Radio ranks the best music of the year



Minar
 comprehensive list of the best 50 songs topping Bangladesh's music charts in 2016. The list was compiled from listeners' requests and ABC Radio's own tracking. Minar's "Jhoom", the catchy pop melody about the nostalgic feelings evoked by rain and love, took the top position. The viral hit "Local Bus" by Pritom featuring Momtaz and Shafayat followed closely behind on number two, followed by "Ontore Bahire", the Latin Bangla fusion which resulted from collaboration between Chirkutt and 24 Horas. "Ure Jai" (Adit featuring Shahtaj and Bammy), "Odbhure Tumi" (AvoidRafa), "Onno Groher Manush" (Mizan, of Warfaze), "Moner Thikana" (Habib Wahid), "Ami Tomari" (OST from "Bhuban Majhi"), "Obimrishhota" (Artcell) and "Phire Toh Pabona" (Hridoy Khan feat. Raj) rounded the top 10.

Adit
 The country's film music also saw a welcome breeze, and aside from "Bhuban Majhi" tracks ("Ami Botole Purechi Kanna" and "Padma Nodi" from the film also made it to the list), "Aynabaji" soundtrack numbers "E Shohor Amar" (by Amob) and "Duniya" by Chirkutt, made it to the list. Mizan, who came out with his first album "Bhinno Groher Manush", also has four entries on the list, as does

Tahsan
 Rafa (from his AvoidRafa album "Bhaar"), Adit (featuring various artists), Hridoy Khan. Tahsan has three songs on the list (the top being "Chile Amar" with Mithila), as does popular young composer Arafat Mohsin, and most prominent musicians and bands of the country - Bappa Mazumdar, James, Aurthohin, Artcell, Black, Shunno, Dreek, Joy Shahriar have their mark on the list.

Hridoy Khan

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
 The year 2016 in Bangladeshi music witnessed a number of remarkable comebacks as well as the rise of new faces bringing new sounds... and few organisations are better placed to track current music than FM Radio stations. One of the leading entertainment radios of the country, ABC Radio FM 89.2 compiled a

Unique beginning of 8th Lakshyapar Conference



Underprivileged children participate in a music workshop.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
 Lakshyapar's 8th Annual Classical Music Conference began on January 3. It was a unique inauguration session set in the shanties of Isdair, Narayanganj. Titled "Briter Baire", the centre of the opening session was Samageet Pathshala, a school of the underprivileged children conducted by Samageet Sangkriti Prangan. The programmes began with the hoisting of the national flag with the rendition of national anthem. Then a rally moved through the

rail road. The working session began inside Samageet Pathshala where children were introduced to Sitar and Sarod. Shamim Jahir (Sarod) and Nishit Dey (Sitar) talked about what components these instruments are made of and then played on their respective instruments. After the introduction of each instrument, children were called on stage and given the primary lessons of sitting posture with holding the instruments in their lap, gripping the jawa or the mijrab with which to stroke on the strings and so on. Sumana Biswas, a lecturer in English and a renowned elocutionist expressed his feelings saying "I feel such an emotion inside me to see the curiosity, intensity, and spontaneity among these underprivileged children that I weep for a while as couldn't control myself." Meanwhile, Pandit Biplab Bhattacharya completed the first day's work in a three-day long workshop on tabla at Lakshyapar Parampara in Chashara, Narayanganj. The second day of the three-day long conference held a classical music competition and a seminar at Narayanganj Preparatory School.

New comic-book cinematic universe coming from Deadpool co-creator



Cinematic universes are all the rage right now in Hollywood, especially when it comes to comic book properties. Marvel kicked off the trend in 2008, DC is three movies deep into their shared universe and Fox has expanded their "X-Men" world through the "Wolverine" and "Deadpool" movies. This isn't ending anytime soon, either. Valiant is preparing to launch their own cinematic universe in the coming years, and now it's been announced that numerous characters created by artist/writer Rob Liefeld, the man whose comic book accomplishments include co-creating "Deadpool" and "X-Force" with Fabian Nicieza, will likely share their own world on the big screen, too. The Wrap reported that the China-based Fundamental Films is partnering with producer Graham King and Academy Award-winning writer Akiva Goldsman to kick-start the Extreme Universe, which will be made up of characters all created by Rob Liefeld for his Extreme Studios banner. The universe will be known as the Extreme Universe, and it will have over 100 characters at its disposal, including Bloodstrike, Brigade, Lethal, Re-Gex, Cybrid, Bloodwolf, Battlestone, Kaboom, and Nitro-Gen, among others. Goldsman will oversee a writing room to hash out the "multi-film franchise", similar to what Transformers and Hasbro did for their cinematic universes. While it's unclear whether some of the more popular Extreme titles, like Youngblood and Supreme (both written by Alan Moore), were included in the sale, there will be more than enough players for this cinematic universe. Like "Deadpool", a Marvel mainstay, these Extreme characters are more violent and subversive. For instance Bloodstrike is an assassination squad whose members were all killed in action, but were later revived by military scientists. However, due to needing continuous treatment for the process to keep, these soldiers are unable to leave the project. While it's extremely unlikely this Extreme Universe will ever surpass the likes of Marvel and DC, it does have the potential to be just the thing for adult fans who are looking for a little more edginess to their comic book movies. "Deadpool" proved that R-rated superhero movies can be critically and commercially successful, and while these Extreme characters are certainly nowhere near the 'Merc with the Mouth' in terms of popularity, with the right creative minds and budget, they could appeal to a decently-sized crowd.

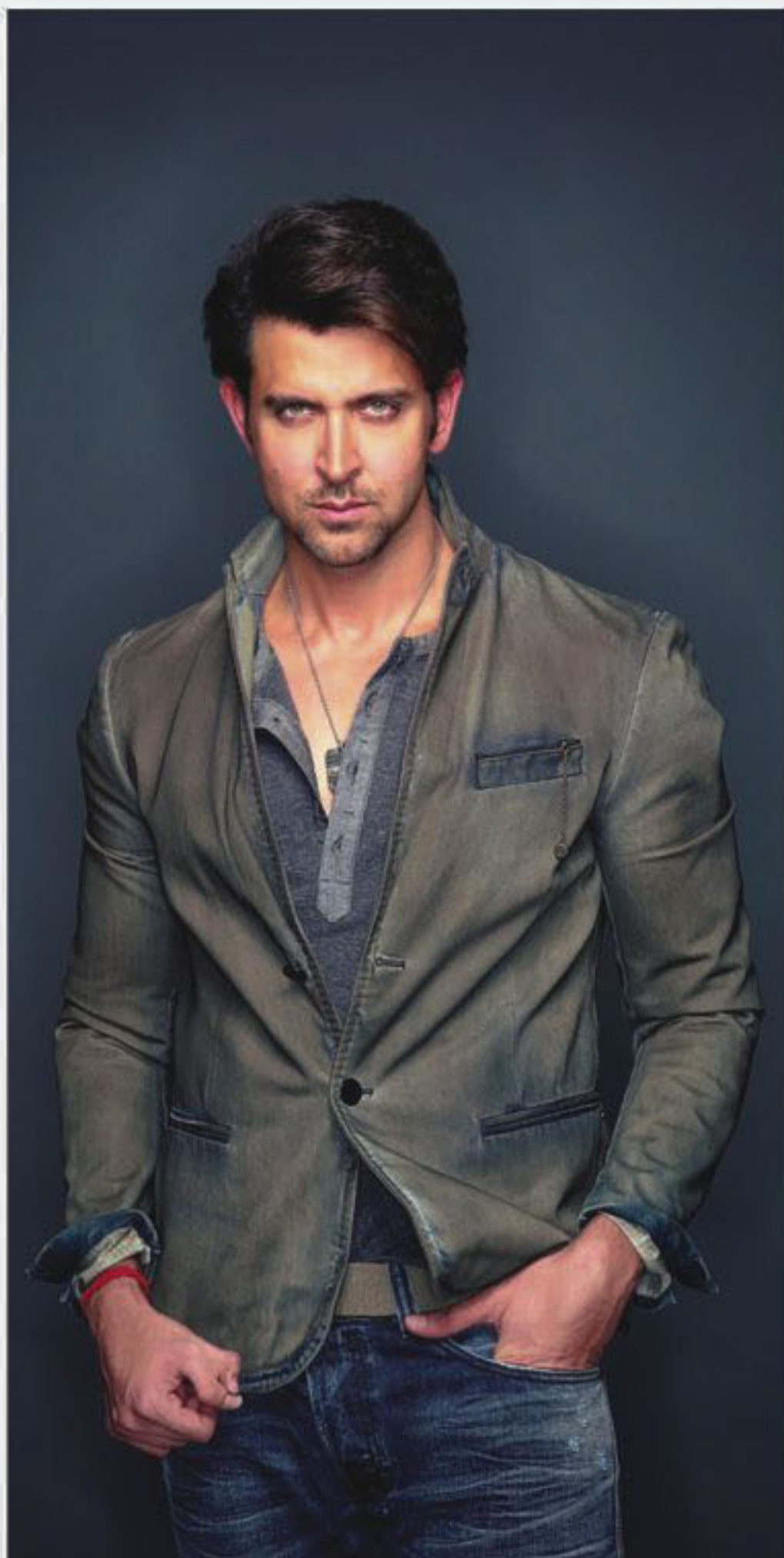
Source: Cinemablend

Theatre festival ends today in Sylhet

DWOHA CHOWDHURY, Sylhet
 A three-day festival organised by Theatre Murari Chand ends today at the Saheed Minar premise of the Murari Chand College (MC College) in Sylhet. The festival was organised to mark the troupe's 4th anniversary, and to celebrate the 45 years of victory. On January 2, the festival began with the tribute to the martyrs of the Language Movement and Liberation War, followed by national anthem, a colourful procession, discussion and cultural presentation by different organizations. Different cultural organization participated at the festival with performances of play, dance, music and recitation. Udichi Shilpy Gosthi Sylhet, Jatya Kabita Parishad, Natyalok, Nagarnat, Nabasikha Natya Dal, Theatre



Bangla, Pantomime, Rover Scout MC College unit and Mohona performed at the stage of the Saheed Minar premises. Theatre Murari Chand also presented a play at the festival. A three-day photo exhibition was held during the festival, based on photographs of the campus. Theatre Murari Chand was formed by a group of theatre lovers of the hundred-year old Murari Chand College, on December 23, 2013. The theatre group has gained a good reputation in the theatre scenario of Sylhet.



Hrithik wants to work with Zoya Akhtar again

With "Kaabil" all set to release this month, Hrithik Roshan has his hands full with promotional rounds. The actor, who is hoping the film strikes a chord with the audiences, says that he had lots of fun working on a project. Speaking to a daily, he said, "Kaabil" will look physically difficult and like I've worked very hard but it's my easiest role. When work comes from passion and enthusiasm, it becomes fun. I've had most fun in this film." The talented star is also on a high after being featured in the sexiest men's lists. He said, "It's just a compliment, not an achievement. Beauty is not about your nose and where your jaw-line is. It's the sequence of your self-expression — how an actor comes across, his behaviour in normal life, how he speaks; his body language... also, how good one makes others feel." Discussing his choice of roles over the past couple of years — he was seen in "Bang Bang" and "Mohenjo Daro" — he said doing "Zindagi Na Milegi Dobara" was harder. "It wasn't an author-backed role, and the entire film was in a lighter vein — you just have to let things flow. I'm glad I got to experience that world of cinema that I love so much. I look forward to doing more such films, especially with someone like Zoya Akhtar. I am aware of the talks about the sequel to Zoya's film. I think I have to call her once more and say, 'Please write something and if you think I'm good enough, please take me in your film.' I guess I'll have to beg her. The sequel will happen, maybe in three to four years."

Source: TOI

MIDNIGHT MUSINGS opens today

Joint exhibition by Apurbo and Imrul



A CORRESPONDENT
 A duet exhibition of 'photographic installations' by Kazi Tahsin Agaz Apurbo and Imrul Islam, titled "Midnight Musings", opens today at Dhanmondi's EMK Center. "Midnight Musings" was born out of a need to vent, to express through art what is silenced when written down. It is a series of stitched images, one on top of another, blended, manipulated and combined to tell stories of and from Dhaka. The images are substantiated by texts, thoughts that are meant to be as much a part of the experience as the visuals. Kazi Tahsin Agaz Apurbo has an academic and professional background in communications, journalism and photography. He is currently working for The Daily Star as a Photojournalist is a co-founder of Bangladeshi Photographers (BP), the first online photography platform of the country back in 2005. He is also the co-founder of Moncho, a story circle which allows its participants to face everyday issues through and with art. Imrul is a senior Political Science and Psychology double major at Vassar College in New York. Photography is a passion, and a medium through which Imrul attempts to understand the world around him. His work has won awards and been exhibited in New York, London and Dhaka. The exhibition is open from 9am-8pm Saturdays through Thursdays till January 19.