

Nagorik Natyangan premieres Kritodas-er Hashi

Celebrations of Shawkat Osman birth centenary

ZAHANGIR ALOM

It was an unusual happening of premiering a theatre production at Shawkat Osman Memorial Auditorium of Central Public Library rather than any hall of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy. Nagorik Natyangan premiered "Kritodas-er Hashi" on January 2, and a packed audience thoroughly enjoyed the show.

Marking the birth centenary of legendary litterateur Shawkat Osman, the troupe brought the production on stage just in a month's rehearsal. "It was really challenging to adapt such a play from the timeless novel 'Kritodas-er Hashi' (1962) by Shawkat Osman. But Hridi Haque did the job. The dedication and professionalism of all the members of Nagorik Natyangan have proved true as the rounds of applause from the theatre lovers say it all," said Lucky Enam, the director of the play, at the end of the staging.

In the novel "Kritodas-er Hashi" (meaning 'Laughter of a Slave'), Shawkat Osman explores the darkness of the then political reality of the Pakistani dictatorship. The novel metaphorically shows the sufferings of common people of the then East

Pakistan under military rule of West Pakistan.

The audience produced rounds of applause to the satirical and humorous dialogues. The play's portrayal of psycho-analytic aspects of lead characters also deserves critical appreciation. The egotist Ameer (master) cannot make the honest and resolute slave laugh anymore forcefully. The slave utters the last dialogue "Dirham (money) can buy slave; it can also buy whore, but cannot buy the laughter of a slave. This is the victory of the adamant slave over the Ameer.

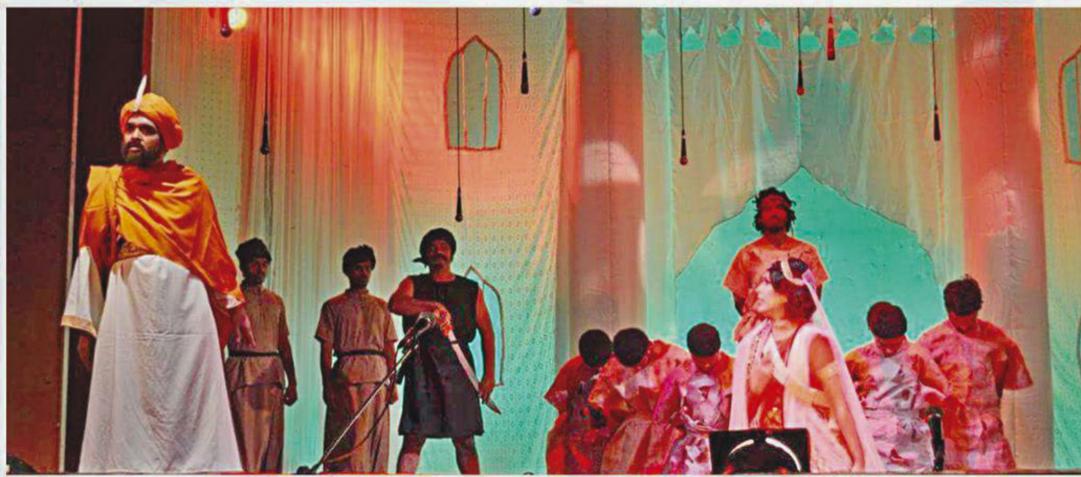
Kathashilpi Shawkat Osman Smrity Parishad and Bangladesh Udichi Shilpigoshthi jointly organised an event.

Finance minister Abul Maal Abdul Muhith, Cultural Affairs minister

Asaduzzaman Noor, and science and technology minister and Shawkat Osman's son Yafes Osman attended the evening session on the opening day. The guests unveiled a Shawkat Osman birth centenary memorial book at the programme.

Cultural personality Syed Hasan Imam recited a Tagore poem while different cultural troupes also performed at the event.

Shawkat Osman Jonmo Shotoborsho Udjapan Jatiya Committee inaugurated their year-long celebration programme at Poet Sufia Kamal Auditorium of Bangladesh National Museum on the same day. Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy also arranged another programme yesterday evening.



A scene from the play.

THE WEEKENDER

I prefer to accept things as they come

— Bonna Mirza

ROBINA RASHID BHUIYAN

With an acting career in television, film, and theatre spanning over two decades, the evergreen Bonna Mirza continues to be versatile with her talents as she works as a television morning show anchor for Ekattor TV and holds a regular day job. Today she speaks with The Daily Star about her visions for the year ahead.

What were some of your highlights of the year 2016?
Bonna Mirza: This is a difficult question to answer, as there have been so many things. To be honest it has not been a year to be set significantly apart from the others, as I have dealt with life the way I always do. However I have joined the marketing sector of Bangla Tribune last year and that is something new to add to my career.

What do you hope to accomplish this year?

Bonna Mirza: I am not the sort of person to set goals as I prefer to accept things as they come. I have some small projects in mind I desire to see fulfilled this year. There is also a very important theatre project in the pipeline, one that does not involve any theatre troupe, and I would like to see it materialise.

What is your favourite thing to do during winter?

Bonna Mirza: To wrap myself in all the warm clothes I can gather! I tend to get very cold easily and there is nothing I'd rather do during this season.

What is your ideal weekend like?

Bonna Mirza: My ideal weekend is to stay at home and spend time with my husband.

If you could be anywhere in the world right now, where would it be, and why?

Bonna Mirza: Kolkata is where my in-laws live, and it is a place I love. I miss them dearly and would love to be there right now!



PHOTO: STAR

NEWS bytes

Bateman, McAdams in GAME NIGHT



Jason Bateman and Rachel McAdams will star in the New Line Comedy "Game Night".

"Vacation" directing duo Jonathan Goldstein and John Francis Daley will helm the movie with Bateman producing alongside James Garavente. Goldstein and Daley also wrote the latest draft of the screenplay.

"Game Night", which has been in development at New Line since 2013 when Mark Perez wrote the original script, follows several couples who gather for their regularly-planned game night when something goes terribly wrong.

Bateman is currently in production on "Ozark", his upcoming Netflix drama series. He was most recently seen in the DreamWorks and Paramount comedy "Office Christmas Party".

The film marks McAdams' first true comedy since the 2005 smash hit "Wedding Crashers". McAdams made her comic book debut in Marvel's "Doctor Strange" late last year following her Oscar-nominated turn in Open Road's "Spotlight".

Source: Variety

ALL THE SUPERHERO MOVIES COMING IN 2017

This year is going to be a hell of a year at the movies, with a lot of options being available to the general moviegoing public. But for those more interested in superhero films than anything else, the options can be quite overwhelming when trying to pick out the most important flicks of the year. Here is CinemaBlend's cheat sheet solely made of the superhero films that will be released in 2017.

The Lego Batman Movie (Releases February 10)

Starting the superhero season of 2017 is none other than Warner Bros' "The Lego Batman Movie". A more comedic turn on the Batman mythos, this film owes part of its existence to the success of "The Lego Movie", and the other part to the enduring popularity of Batman. With Will Arnett reprising his role as the Caped Crusader, Michael Cera and Ralph Fiennes playing Robin and Alfred respectively, and Zach Galifianakis bringing up the rear as The Joker, this is going to be no ordinary Bat-film.

Logan (Releases March 3)

After years of scheming, dreaming, and hoping, Logan is going to deliver on a long awaited dream that Wolverine fans have had for some time: He is going to get R-rated on villains. Unfortunately, it comes at a cost, as it's the last X-Men film that will feature Hugh Jackman in the titular role, with Patrick Stewart keeping him company as Professor X. Still, if a poignant and gritty superhero film is the one to close out their tenure in Fox's Marvel Universe, fans can't blame them for saving the (potential) best for last.

Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2 (Releases May 5)

Marvel Cinematic Universe fans have been waiting for this movie since the closing credits of "Guardians of the Galaxy" in 2014. With Star Lord (Chris Pratt) and his intergalactic family being complemented by some new additions to the team, James Gunn looks ready to rock and roll through another battle between good and evil throughout the stars.



"Logan"

The first trailer has already been quite a hit, with Baby Groot getting a lot of attention.

Wonder Woman (Releases June 2)

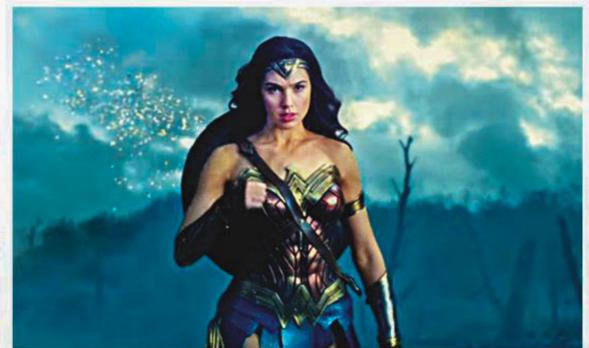
DC Comics and Warner Bros have been having a bit of a problem with their cinematic universe, as both "Batman v. Superman: Dawn of Justice" and "Suicide Squad" were basically acknowledged as flawed products that purposely trimmed themselves for 'extended cuts' of varying effectiveness. Yet there's still some hope that next summer's "Wonder Woman" could be the film that gets the DCU on track again at the movies. Once again, the trailer starring Gal Gadot as the Amazonian was a major hoot for fans, and it only promises more to come.

Spider-Man: Homecoming (Releases July 7)

It's not just DC that has had problems in the superhero movie business. Case in point: the two "Amazing Spider-Man" movies that Sony put into theatres. However, the imminent arrival of "Spider-Man: Homecoming" should more than ease the pain. With Tom Holland already proving himself worthy of the web with his introduction in "Captain America: Civil War", this film's not only a no-brainer, it's one more step towards a unified Marvel universe, as Spidey finally swings into the MCU.

Thor: Ragnarok (Releases November 3)

It's surprising how many superhero projects in 2017 come from broken or flawed franchises. "Thor: Ragnarok" is certainly part of that train of thought, as a case could be made that the adventures of the Odinson could be considered the most problematic



"Wonder Woman"

Marvel franchise that's got a sequel to its name. Yet the dream team of director Taika Waititi and Chris Hemsworth inspires more than enough confidence that the third outing in the series could be the one that really gives this outstanding character his due in a solo film.

Justice League (Releases November 17)

If there's one superhero film that fans are afraid of, it's more than likely going to be Zack Snyder's "Justice League" team-up. With an increasingly long list of characters -- which reminds fans of the overstuffed "Batman v. Superman: Dawn of Justice", the concerns are not unfounded. Still, Ezra Miller's Flash and Jason Momoa's Aquaman go a long way to quelling some of these worries, and the Comic-Con trailer did look pretty impressive. Source: CinemaBlend



"Justice League"



"Guardians Vol. 2"



"Spider-Man: Homecoming"