

WHAT'S ON

15th Dhaka International Film Festival
 Organiser: Rainbow Film Society
 Venue: National Museum, AFD, EMK Center & Star Cineplex
 Date: January 12-20
 Time: 3pm-6pm

Solo Cartoon Exhibition
 By: Architect Dr. Sajid Bin Doza
 Venue: La Gallery, AFD, Dhanmondi
 Date: Jan 16-24
 Time: 3-9pm

Selim Al Deen Memorial Fest 2017
 Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall, BSA
 Date: Jan 14-17
 Time: 6:30pm

Solo Painting Exhibition
 Title: My Dream World
 Artist: Iranian Painter Sarah Hojjati
 Venue: Shilpanang Gallery, H-7, Rd-13 (New), Dhanmondi
 Date: Jan 8-20
 Time: 3pm-8pm

Photographic Installation Exhibition
 Midnight Musings
 Artists: Apurbo and Imrul
 Venue: EMK Center
 Date: January 5-19
 Time: 9:30am-8pm



City of Boxes on a Horse-Cart
 Entering Old Dhaka, a view of the traditional horse-drawn cart comes into focus, running without any harmony submerged within the countless automated vehicles during the narrow roads. The whole city appears to be meaningless like a heap of boxes, holding up the giant buildings seemingly pushing one another on both sides of the labyrinthine pathways.

This is to indicate an unplanned city with an endangered environment. Life and time halts to a standstill and become imprisoned in the boxes. In and out of these 'heap of boxes' humans race like insects for a living in an exclusive skeleton-like body, while the horses symbolically describes deprecating, carrying the weight - the city of boxes.

THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX

In conversation with Harun Ar Rashid Tutul

ZAHANGIR ALOM

Talented artist Harun Ar Rashid Tutul is an Assistant Professor at the Department of Graphic Design, Faculty of Fine Art University of Dhaka. The dedicated artist loves to think and create new expressions in his pursuit of art. The artist received a grand award at the recently concluded Asian Art Biennale Bangladesh 2016. Here, Tutul shares his artistic journey, secrets of his award-winning work, thoughts on new media and more. Excerpt:

"Graphic design is important to me - it is my academic background and has helped me earn my livelihood. Works of various organisations like Britto Art Trust, together with that of many senior artists inspired me. Then I thought of portraying art based on the everyday objects I interact with, for example; my computer, set design materials, print media, motion, graphics, animation, interior and fashion designing tools. Art is meant to express a particular feeling that connects

with others."
 "I tried to capture the essence of time in my work 'The Restless Waves of Time.' Although I sought support from my experience in applied arts, the idea took root

best way to move the 12 sculptures driven by the toy car required the best rechargeable batteries. Otherwise the month long exhibition would need huge quantities of batteries. Later, I incorporated the

finally managed to procure it. I strongly believe that one must use materials that are environmentally friendly. Modernity constitutes whatever is beneficial to humanity and the world we live in."

To depict his new media Tutul incorporated aesthetic digital drawings, binary codes, drawings of Kalighat Pats, compactness of rickshaw paintings, and explored the themes of colliding aspects of reality, crisis of modern man, the harsh reality of urbanisation, sacred symbols and more. Tutul has a fondness for conventional culture and tranquil country life. Being involved with many socio-political and cultural organisations, he feels art should not cater to hedonist purposes of fame and money.

Tutul first worked on new media in 2008 in a project called "One Square Mile", organised by Britto. He has been extensively involved in performance arts. He has another work on road accident, placing canvas and colours on roads for vehicles to ply on, which were later displayed at Charukola. Tutul was the person behind the successful arrangement of Joypurhat Art Festival 2016.



when I was playing with my kids with toy cars in the living room. I thought of attaching the sculptures of human heads onto the toy cars."
 "There were awful challenges in every step of the way. Finding the

technology of charger lights' battery with the toy cars so that only one battery was required for a sculpture. Again, finding the appropriate short-through projector was another challenge to cover the 1200 square feet space as it was unavailable in Bangladesh. Following many interesting twists I



Women Empowerment under the scanner EU Delegation contest calls for photos

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The delegation of the European Union to Bangladesh has launched a photography competition themed "Women Empowerment".

The delegation is organising its seventh photography competition in order to promote and stimulate interest and creativity in photography among amateur photographers in Bangladesh, and to provide an opportunity for disseminating and exhibiting their work. The deadline for sending submissions is February 28.

The theme explores the innovative spirit of Bangladeshi women, whose creativity and endurance in the face of economic uncertainty inspires globally, and notably among Bangladeshi youth. Contestants are encouraged to capture the creative means by which many Bangladeshi women find and create employment. However, while submissions can emphasise the resilience of Bangladeshi women, they should not be limited in their portrayal of job creativity in the country. Entries can use subject matter that reflects Bangladeshi women's engagement in the areas of education, governance, food and nutrition and sus-

tainable development and how women have challenged unemployment, creating unique job opportunities and how these enterprises contribute to the Bangladeshi economy and society.

The contest is open to amateur photographers aged 16-30, who do not receive a major part of their income from photography. Each contestant should send in two photographs, although only one entry per photographer will be selected. The photographs must not have been previously published material or awarded at other competitions. Women photographers are strongly encouraged to apply. Further details of the application process can be found on the EU Delegation Bangladesh web site, https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/bangladesh_en.

Images will be judged on originality, technical excellence, composition, overall impact and artistic merit as well as the personal vision on the theme the photographer conveys. The three best photographers will be awarded plaques and certificates. Twelve images will be chosen for the 2018 calendar of the EU Delegation of Bangladesh, and 30 selected photos will be exhibited at the award ceremony.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED



"Pakhir Danaye Bhor" on Rtv

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rtv's "Monday Night Super Drama" brings viewers a single episode TV play titled "Pakhir Danaye Bhor." Scripted and directed by Shetu Arif, the play will be aired tonight at 8:10pm. Cast members include Sajal, Sporshia, Tasnuva Tisha, Shikha Khan, Piyal and more.

The story rests around the intertwined lives of individuals in the city; actor Mira, painter Partho and Nusrat. Partho and Mira have a turbulent relationship and eventually call it off, and a romance blossoms between Partho and Nusrat. The two are engaged, though Nusrat is not altogether happy as she wants to be independent and pursue her career and education. A complicated love triangle ensues when Mira is tormented over the break up, and wishes to reunite with her former lover.

Affleck looking to make big change to Batman

There have been a lot of reports lately about Ben Affleck's current status with the upcoming solo "Batman" movie, specifically whether he will still direct it or not. For now, Affleck has confirmed he's focusing on the script and taking the time to perfect the story before moving to the next stage. However, should he helm the new Batman adventure, there is one change he wants.

While plugging his new movie, "Live by Night", Ben Affleck told USA Today that when he's directing the Batman movie, there will need to be some changes made to the Caped Crusader's costume so that he won't feel nearly as uncomfortable during production. "I know what it's like to be in the suit. We'll have to modify the suit to make it a little bit easier to put on and take off. When you are in it, you can be sweating, crazy and exhausted, do your part and walk away. But when you're a director, you can't walk away. You have to be there for everybody. Chief among the challenges of doing Batman, will be finding a suit that's more comfortable."

The comment brings to mind to "The Dark Knight", when Christian Bale's Bruce Wayne asked Lucius Fox for a new suit after finding it difficult to move in his "Batman Begins" costume. He got what he wanted, with the tradeoff being that he was more susceptible to harm. However, the reason for the costume change in the Christopher Nolan Batman

movies was mainly for story reasons, but in Affleck's case, it's a comfort issue.

If everything goes according to plan, Ben Affleck will be the first person to play Batman and direct a Caped Crusader-centric story at the same time. Besides, having multiple Batsuits is nothing new in the Batman mythos. The DCEU alone has already shown three Batsuits: the regular one, the armored

one he fought Superman in and the tactical one that will be introduced in Justice League.

Ben Affleck's Batman movie doesn't have an official release date yet, but it was recently rumoured that production has been delayed until mid-summer.

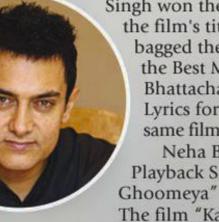
Source: **Cinemablend**



Dangal, Neerja win big at Filmfare Awards

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

Bollywood superstar Aamir Khan's "Dangal" walked away with three of four major awards -- Best Film, Best Actor (Aamir) and Best Director (Nitesh Tiwari), while Alia Bhatt won the Best Actress Award for her performance in "Uda Punjab" at the annual Bollywood Filmfare Awards on Saturday. Sonam Kapoor won the Critics' Award For Best Actor (Female) for her performance in "Neerja" for which Ram Madhvani won the Critics Award for Best Director and actors Manoj Bajpayee and Shahid Kapoor shared the award for their portrayals in "Aligarh" and "Uda Punjab" respectively in the male category. The Best Debut Awards went to Diljit Dosanjh for "Uda Punjab" and Ritika Singh for "Saala Khadoos" respectively. Shatrughan Sinha received the prestigious Filmfare Lifetime Achievement Award presented by his daughter, actress Sonakshi Sinha. "Many people feel if you get the Lifetime Achievement Award it's the end, but I feel it's just the beginning," the veteran actor said.



The critically-acclaimed film "Neerja" also won four popular awards. Shabana Azmi won the Filmfare Award for Best Actor in a Supporting Role (Female), Aparna Sud and Anna Ipe got Best Production Design, Mitesh Munchandani got Best Cinematography and Monisha R Baldawa award for Best Editing. Karan Johar's "Ae Dil Hai Mushkil" bagged four awards, all in the musical categories. Arijit Singh won the Best Playback (Male) for the film's title song while Pritam bagged the Best Music Director and the Best Music Album. Amitabh Bachchan won the award for Best Lyrics for "Channa Mereya" from the same film. Neha Bhasin won the Best Playback Singer (Female) for "Jag Ghoomeya" from "Sultan". The film "Kapoor and Sons" won three awards -- Best Actor in a Supporting Role (Male) for Rishi Kapoor, Best Choreography for Adil Shaikh and Shakun Batra and Ayesha Devitre won the Best Story and Best Screenplay. Ashwiny Iyer Tiwari bagged the Filmfare Award for Best Debut Director for her highly appreciated film "Nil Battey Sannata" featuring Swara Bhaskar in lead role.

'Greatest Show on Earth' to close after 146 years

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus will stage the final performances of "The Greatest Show on Earth" in May, ending a 146-year run.

The announcement comes after the show saw a steep drop in ticket sales, after the circus' owners ended the use of live elephants in performances. The circus was involved in protracted legal battles with animal rights groups over the use of elephants in the show. Animal rights groups welcomed the news of the circus' imminent end.

Kenneth Feld, chairman and CEO of

Feld Entertainment which owns the circus told the Associated Press that there wasn't one factor that spelled the end for the circus, but he acknowledged that entertainment tastes have changed.

Ringling Bros. has two touring circuses this season and will perform 30 shows between now and May. The final shows will be in Providence, Rhode Island, on May 7 and in Uniondale, New York, at the Nassau County Coliseum on May 21.

Source: **NBC News**

