

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

Bangladesh-China Group Ceramic Exhibit
 Venue: Zainul Gallery-1, FFA, DU
 Date: Jan 17-20
 Time: 11am-8pm

Solo Painting Exhibition
 Title: My Dream World
 Artist: Iranian Painter Sarah Hojjati
 Venue: Shilpangan 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



Visitors at the exhibition.

PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

An assimilation of heritage and modernity

Bangladesh China Group Ceramic Exhibit at Zainul Gallery

ZAHANGIR ALOM

China is the birthplace of pottery and porcelain as in English the word "China" means pottery and porcelain. On the other hand, ceramics is considered to be the most antique form of art heritage in Bangladesh as plenty of diverse ceramic relics are found in archaeological excavation in almost all regions of Bangladesh.

To return to their age-old heritage of ceramics and pottery, artists of Bangladesh and China are exhibiting their ceramic arts at Zainul Gallery, Faculty of Fine Art (FFA), University of Dhaka (DU). At the invitation of the Department of Ceramics, FFA, DU, four renowned Chinese ceramists and PhD researcher (Ceramics) at Tsinghua University, China --Zhang Lihong, Zhaolu, Dong Zhuangzhuang and Gao Yanhui are exhibiting their fine ceramic works together with beautiful works by six teachers -- Dr. Azharul Islam Chanchal (Associate Professor and Chairman), Md. Robiul Islam (Associate Professor), Swapan Kumar Sikder (Associate Professor), Debashis Pal

(Associate Professor), Muhammad Subbir-Al Razy (Assistant Professor) and Chinmaye Sikder (Assistant Professor) -- of the Department of Ceramics. Mohammed Rezaur Rahman, a Bangladeshi PhD pursuer at Tsinghua University, has coordinated in the joint initiative. Rezaur Rahman's Bone China work "Soft and Hard" is on display at the gallery. The work delineates the aesthetic natural beauty of Bangladesh. The depiction of floral rhythm surpasses all its compositional beauty. White or the presence of all colours gives a special quality to the work. Chanchal's stoneware work "Vanguard of Civilization" is the best example of traditional modernity. He portrays four

meditative portraits accompanied with different decorative square shaped terracotta plaques in four separate works. He has incorporated various elements like glass with high quality soil. The composition, colours and ornamental beauty evoke the opulence of our civilization. Gao Yanhui's porcelain "Lotus" is an amazing work. The ceramist mingled assorted forms on a lotus flower. As it is an educational and cultural exchange programme, she kept in mind the bonding between Bangladeshi and Chinese ceramists and of course the heritage of both countries. She consciously amalgamated the grace of porcelain with the beauty of the lotus of Bangladesh into her sculpture shared work. Nature and

its living elements like frog together with traditional heritage and expressive ceramic sculptures are other aspects of the exhibition. The ceramists of both the countries will also take part in a workshop in Dhaka. The exhibition was inaugurated yesterday by Professor AAMS Arefin Siddique, Vice Chancellor of DU. Professor Nisar Hossain, Dean, FFA; Gao Yanhui, ceramist, collector and member of Ceramic Association of Tangshan, China; Mohammad Abdur Rahim, Vice Chairman, DBL Group; Azharul Islam Chanchal and Mohammed Rezaur Rahman spoke at the inaugural event. The show is open from 11am to 8pm daily till January 20.

NEW VENTURE FERDOUS plays a Casanova

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Ferdous is gearing up for a new film venture this year. Titled "Meghkonnaya", the movie is directed by Minhaz Ovi. Nijhum Rubina stars opposite Ferdous as the female lead. "The audience will see me as a Casanova in this film. My character has romantic relationships with multiple women until he stumbles upon true love one day, changing his whole life." His busy shooting schedule has kept him on the road. The actor and the film crew has spent three days shooting in Bandarban. Simultaneously, Ferdous is also working on a Kolkata venture titled "Shajher Jonaki." The actor has only recently returned from shooting in Kolkata. During the course of filming in Murshidabad, Ferdous also performed at a stage show. Meanwhile the actor is currently shooting for an item song with Moushumi in Narsingdi. The song is part of the actor's own production "Postmaster."



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED



Speakers at the press conference.

PHOTO: STAR

Bangladesh-Tripura Cultural Festival sets off tomorrow

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

For the first time, a three-day (January 19-21) Bangladesh-Tripura Cultural Festival 2017 opens tomorrow in Nandan Mancha of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA). Finance Minister AMA Muhith will inaugurate the festival at 4:30pm followed by an opening dance recital by Tamanna Rahman and her troupe. Bhanu Lal Saha, Cultural Affairs Minister of the State Government of Tripura will be present as special guest. Harsh Vardhan Shringla, Indian High Commissioner to Dhaka, Professor Gautam Bose, Vice Chancellor, MBB

University, Tripura; Nasir Uddin Yousuff, co-chairman of Bangladesh-Tripura Cultural Festival Council; Liaquat Ali Lucky, DG of BSA; and Gautam Das, team leader of Tripura Cultural Representative Team will grace the occasion as guests of honour. Noted cultural personality Selim SH Chowdhury, Member-Secretary of Bangladesh-Tripura Cultural Festival Council, will deliver the welcome address while Ramendu Majumdar, Chairman of Bangladesh-Tripura Cultural Festival Council will preside over the programme. Eminent artist Rafiqun Nabi will inaugurate an art exhibition at National Art Gallery of BSA. Solo and group presenta-

tion of recitation, rendition of songs and recital of dance will follow on the opening day. The festival will also feature discussion, seminar, poetry recitation, staging of plays, and solo and choral performance of songs and dances on the other days. A 60-member Tripura cultural team arrives today. The annual cultural festival in Tripura will be held next year. A press conference was held in this regard at a city hotel yesterday. Cultural personalities and festival organisers -- Ramendu Majumdar, Selim SH Chowdhury, Golam Kuddus, Sohrab Uddin, Babul Biswas, Mizanur Rahman, Nargis Chowdhury, and Tamanna Rahman were present at the press conference.

Workshop on Nazrul songs held at Barisal

SUSHANTA GHOSH, Barisal

A two-day long Nazrul Sangeet training workshop was held at Prantik Sangeet Bidyalaya in the city on January 12 and 13. This was followed by a presentation by all artistes at Ashwani Kumar Hall on Friday night. The programme was jointly arranged by Nazrul Sangeet Sangstha, Dhaka (NSS) and Nazrul Sangskritik Jote, Barisal (NSJ) to spread the practice of original compositions and propagate the thematic aspects of Nazrul songs. Eminent Nazrul singer Khairul Anam Shakil and Secretary of NSS inaugurated the workshop presided over by Shanti Das, president of the NSJ Barisal.

A total of 80 Nazrul singers of the Barisal City participated at the workshop, said Gopal Krishna Guha, secretary of NSJ Barisal. "We came here to spread pure Nazrul Sangeet practice among children and youth. We received great support from the locals, and the project was a great success," added Khairul Anam Shakil. Khairul Anam Shakil, Kalpana Anam, Karim Hasan Khan, Bijon Mistry, Mahamudul Hasan and local artistes performed at the programme. Themed "Bhalobasho More Gaan" the cultural programme was inaugurated by M. Ziaul Haque, Chairman Barisal Education Board. Dr. Gazi. Md. Saiduzzaman DC, Barisal was present at the programme as chief guest.



LADY GAGA back in the studio

It's been just a few months since Lady Gaga dropped "Joanne", but she's back in the studio -- this time for a session with producer Brian Kennedy and songwriter Dallas Davidson. "First session of the year with @ladygaga & @dallasdavidson_two incredible people! #inspired #readytoworkagain #newsound," Kennedy wrote on Instagram Saturday, where he posted a black-and-white snapshot of the trio. Besides the 'new sound' hashtag, there are no hints as to what they're working on. Kennedy is a producer behind tracks for Rihanna and Chris Brown (notably, "Disturbia" and "Forever"), among others. Davidson is known for his work in country music, writing for artistes like Luke Bryan, Blake Shelton, Lady Antebellum and more. Lady Gaga, meanwhile, seemingly revealed other big news might be coming following her February 5 Super Bowl halftime performance: the singer retweeted a fan page on Saturday that said a tour is booked and will be announced after the show.

Source: Billboard

Bhabna joins Green Bangladesh as brand ambassador

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Model cum actor Ashna Habib Bhabna has become brand ambassador for the non-profit organisation Green Bangladesh. A MOU to this effect was signed on January 6 in Green Bangladesh's head office at Lalmatia, Dhaka. Green Bangladesh has been working

in the sphere of education and leadership development for several years and spearheaded the Green School Scholarship project in 2015 in Gaibandha. At present, the organisation covers eight schools in Gaibandha. Bhabna said, "I have been involved in social work for a couple of years. I am very happy to be a part of Green

Bangladesh. I hope my contribution to the society will yield fruitful results." Executive director of Green Bangladesh Zakaria Mohammad Palash said, "We are grateful to Bhabna for extending support towards the greater good of the society. We hope to walk along together in the path towards creating leaders of tomorrow."

