

WHAT'S ON

Solo Flute Recital & Exhibition
 Artist: Ustad Azizul Islam
 Venue: Nalini Kanta Bhattacharya Gallery, BMM
 Date: Jan 20-24
 Time: 4pm



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



Gaudiya Nritya Recital
 Organiser: IGCC
 Venue: National Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
 Date: January 23
 Time: 6:30pm



Theatre
 Play: Narigon
 Troupe: Palakar
 Venue: Mahila Samity Auditorium
 Date: January 22
 Time: 6:30pm



Int'l Children's Film Festival
 Organiser: Children's Film Society
 Venue: Various
 Date: January 24-30
 Time: 10am onwards



NEWS bytes

Cameron rejoins Terminator franchise

The "Terminator" franchise has had a rough time ever since director James Cameron departed. While those first two movies are considered to be cinema classics, the later three movies have ranged from okay to awful. The most recent entry, 2015's "Terminator Genisys", was so poorly critically received that plans for a follow-up were scrapped, and the franchise has been dormant since. Now it's being reported that James Cameron is coming back into this world of killer robots to help end the series once and for all.

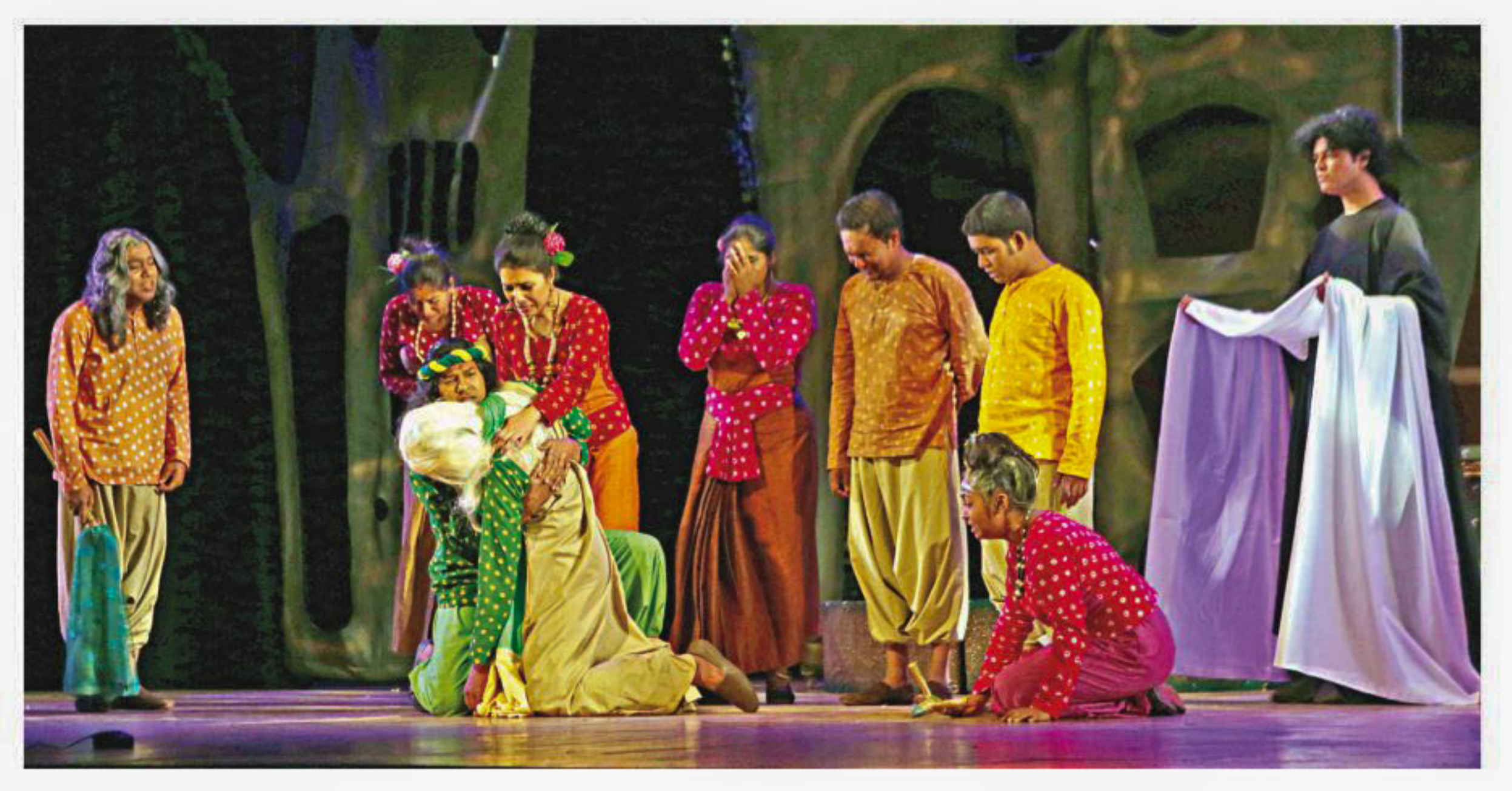
James Cameron will regain certain rights to the "Terminator" franchise in 2019, and according to Deadline, he's preparing to 'godfather' a new itera-



tion of the movie that is described as both a reboot and conclusion to the series. While Cameron won't be directing the new "Terminator" movie, he's in early talks with "Deadpool" director Tim Miller to helm it.

James Cameron has cemented himself as one of the top Hollywood directors for movies like "Aliens", "Titanic" and "Avatar", but it was "Terminator" that put him on the proverbial map. Along with directing 1984's "The Terminator", he also wrote the screenplay, and also wrote and directed "Terminator 2: Judgment Day".

Source: **Cinemablend**



A CONFLICT BETWEEN VICE AND VIRTUE
Desh Natok premieres Surgaon at BSA

ZAHANGIR ALOM

Surgaon, a 22nd production of Desh Natok premiered at National Theatre Hall auditorium of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy on January 20. Written and directed by Masum Reza, the play delineates the eternal conflict between vice and virtue. Aanal Fakir, originally donned by Kamal Ahmed, is the founder of the village Surgaon. One hundred and eighty years back in one night he departs from the village giving a Mohon Banshi (flute) to the Banshiburi, enacted by Tamima Tithi. Aanal Fakir told the Banshiburi to take away all vices from the hearts of the people with the flute.

Asman Fakir (originally donned by Mamun Chowdhury), a great grandson of Aanal Fakir, can foresee the future. He predicts that his Char Dada (great grandfather) will return to the village and it happens accordingly. Aanal Fakir returns along with a number of priceless artefacts as gifts from his travel to the archaeology of time. According to his will, he travels to Babylon, England (during the time of Sir Thomas Moore), the kingdom of Kuru, Damascus and Greece (during the time of Socrates). The queen of Babylon, Sir Thomas Moore, Draupadi, Crito (friend of Socrates) and the Amir of Damascus gave him the valuable gifts.

On an allegation of travelling reverse the time and stealing the priceless gifts from the chasm of time, a band of Tamrasena (military personnel) enters the village. Introducing themselves as the safeguard of time, the army men try to bring back the so called order into the village. There begins the ultimate conflict between vice and virtue.

The story of the play may apparently seem to be legendary; but there lie amazing allegories in every act of the production. The power of Asman Fakir's love for Suhi (enacted by Meghla Maya) wins at the end against all odds. The tragic end of the life of Aanal Fakir happens when Tamrasena forcefully make him drink a cup of poisonous hemlock in the same chalice that was used by Socrates. The sacrifice of lives by Oshthakala (donned by Jolly Chowdhury) and her son make the audience emotional as they witness how they were brutally killed by the chief of army (played by Firoz Alam).

The play superbly depicts the past with the incorporation of good dialogues, set, light and suspense and beckons the upcoming unwanted happenings of future in contemporary styles. The costume, dance choreography, music and light were impressive, thanks to the artistic efforts of Wahida Mallik Jolly, Munmun Ahmed, Shimul Yousuf and Nasirul Haque Khokon respectively.

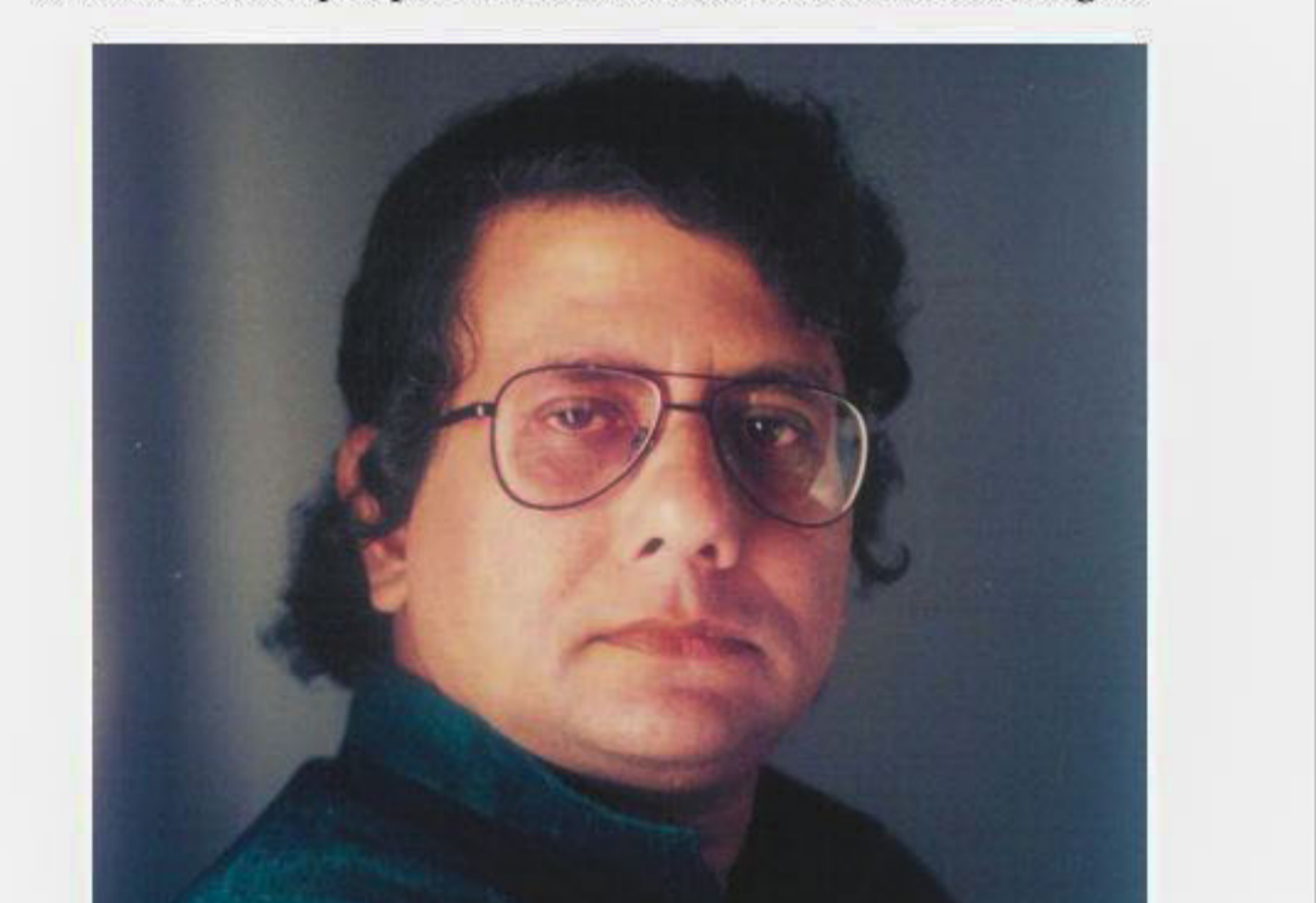
Crowd-funding of "Simantorekha" a success

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

Veteran director Tanvir Mokammel is a happy man as the crowd-funding of his latest documentary "Seemantorekha" ("The Borderline") -- the first such venture in Bangladesh in film-making -- has turned out to be a success.

"The total budget of the film was Taka 18 lakh, and so far, we have spent Taka 12 lakh taken in the form of loans. We needed Taka six lakh more to complete the film. Our crowd-funding endeavor succeeded in generating around Taka 10 lakh," Tanvir told The Daily Star.

"Simantorekha" chronicles the story of the Partition of the Indian sub-continent and the effects it had on the lives of millions of people on both sides of undivided Bengal.



Tanvir expressed his gratitude to a couple, Debasis Mridha and Chinu Mridha, who alone contributed Taka six lakh to help complete the film.

The rest of the money will be used to repay the loans, said Tanvir, who has made feature and documentary films like "Nodir Naam Modhumati", "Rabeya", "Chitra Nodir Parey", "Jibondhuli", "Karnaphulir Kanna" and "Bastra Balika".

"This is the first time a crowd-funding effort became a success in Bangladesh," said the director, adding "We hope our work will help the struggling and young film-makers in future to obtain fund through crowd-funding."

According to the director, the film should be ready by April.

The director's documentary had run into a cash crunch, and he offered a slew of incentives to potential funds contributors for the crowd-funding.

Tisha
 in new TVC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Tisha has been quite busy over the last year, with roles for the big screens along with TV projects. But now, she has made time for a TV commercial, and it is not much of a surprise that Mostofa Sarwar Farooki is directing the commercial. The filming of the TVC for a fashion brand began yesterday in Banderban. There will also be shootings at Cox's Bazar and Chittagong, and also some filming in Dhaka.

"Fashion TVCs are not really done in Bangladesh, so it's going to be interesting hopefully," said Farooki.

"I haven't done a TV commercial in the last two years," informed Tisha. "It's always fun to do uncommon, unconventional work, and hopefully the TVC will be like that," she added. Tisha also revealed that she loves the jingle for the TVC, which has been done by Chirkutt.




Curtains on Dhaka Int'l Film Fest
Awards handed to best films

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The 15th Dhaka International Film Festival, organised by Rainbow Film Society, came to a close on Friday, through awarding the best films in various categories.

Cultural Affairs Minister Asaduzzaman Noor was the chief guest at the closing ceremony at the Main Auditorium of the Bangladesh National Museum. In his speech, the minister lay emphasis on the globalisation of Bangla films, and urged filmmakers to portray the country's history and heritage through their films.

"Qirmizi Bagh" ("Red Garden") directed by Mirbala Salimli (from Azerbaijan/Russia) was awarded the Best Feature Film, while "Islands of the Monks" by Anne Christiane Girardot (Neth-

erlands) was named Best Documentary. The Badal Rahman Award for Best Children's Film went to "Pitong Kabang Palay" ("Seven Sacks of Rice") by Filipino director Maricel C Cariga, while the Best Audience Award went to Indian film "Sonar Baran Pakhi" ("The Golden Wing") by Bobby Sarma Baruah. Bangladeshi film "Lal Char" ("The Red Sand") by Nader Chowdhury earned a Special Mention in the Feature Film section, while the same in the documentary competition went to "La Sedia Di Cartone" ("The Special Chair") from Italy by Marco Zuin.

In the Competition of the Asian Film Section, the FPRESCL Jury Award for the Best Film went to "The Dark Wind" by Hussein Hassan. The International Jury Award for Best Cinematography was given to "Cold of

Kalendar" ("Kalendar Sogugu"). Iranian film "Life and a Day" was awarded the Best Script jointly with "Rauf" from Turkey. Maisa Abd Elhadi won Best Actress for Palestinian Film "3000 Nights" (which opened the festival), while Best Actor went to Farhad Aslani for Iranian film "Daughter". Best Director went to Iranian Parviz Shahbazi for "Malaria", and Best Film was given to Rezza Mirakim's "Daughter". Tauqir Ahmed's "Oggatonama" won a special mention from the International Jury.

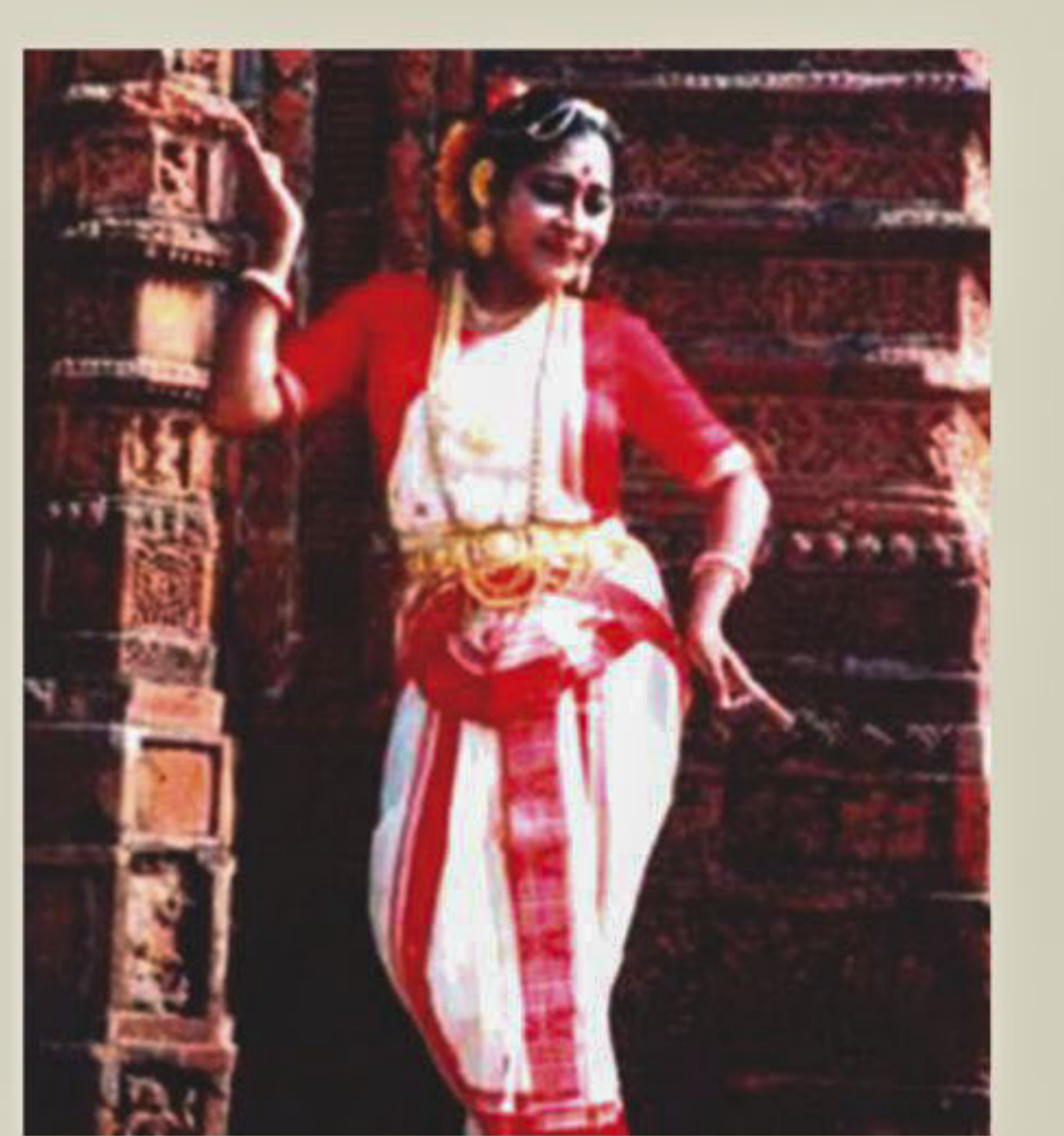
The festival opened on January 12, and screened 188 films from 67 countries at various venues. The festival also included seminars, conferences and workshops.

The next edition of the film will be held on the same date, January 12, 2018.

IGCC hosts Gaudiya Nritya troupe

Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre is organising a performance by a 13-member Gaudiya Nritya troupe from Kolkata at Jaityo Natyashala, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, Dhaka, at 6.30 PM on January 23. The troupe will also perform at Rajshahi Shilpakala Academy on January 21, says a press release.

Professor Mahua Mukherjee, presently Tagore Chair, Professor in Dance Department, University of Dhaka, leads the 13-member Gaudiya Nritya troupe from



Gaudiya Nritya Bharati, Kolkata. Professor Mukherjee has been a researcher for over 30 years on Gaudiya Nritya, a classical dance of Bengal, and has brought this almost extinct dance form to the fore. Gaudiya Nritya is a composite art form enriched with drama, poetry, colours and rhythm.

The Gaudiya Nritya Bharati troupe regularly performs at prestigious events in major cities in India.

Entry to the event is free.

The Daily Star | **STAR** Cineplex

QUIZ CONTEST

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XXX

RETURN OF XANDER CAGE

Email your answer to starquiz@outlook.com by 4.00 pm today with your name, DOB, mobile number and address. The winner of the quiz will be announced tomorrow in this newspaper and through email

QUIZ - 01

1. Name the director of XXX: Return of Xander Cage movie?

