Solo Flute Recital & Exhibition Artiste: Ustad Azizul Islam Venue: Nalini Kanta Bhattasali



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



Star Melodies Gaan Unplugged By Established & Young Artistes Venue: AS Mahmud Hall (Level 3), The Daily Star Centre Date: January 28; Time: 6pm



Classical Music Soiree Organiser: Shuddha Sangeet Venue: Bishwa Sahitya Kendra Date: January 25, 26, 28

Int'l Children's Film Festival Organiser: Children's Film



NEWS bytes

"Rogue One" crosses \$1 Billion worldwide

It's been about 40 days since "Rogue One: A Star Wars Story" was released and people will not stop talking about it. So, it shouldn't come as a surprise that "Rogue One" has entered the esteemed Billion Dollar Club at the global box office.

Rogue One is certainly a step in the right direction, as so many others have said, and it's not like it's the only success Disney has to celebrate. This weekend also marked a financial coup for their animated hit "Moana", which



surpassed \$500 million at the global box office.

The film, directed by Gareth Edwards and starring Felicity Jones, Forest Whitaker, Mads Mikkelsen, Donnie Yen and Diego Luna in the central cast, is set ahead of "Star Wars: A New Hope" and chronicles the story of the first Rebel group that stole the design schematics of the Death Star.

Source: Collider



10TH INT'L CHILDREN'S FILM FEST BEGINS TODAY

300 films from 54 countries to be screened

ROBINA RASHID BHUIYAN

For the 10th year in a row, Children's Film Society Bangladesh (CFS) has set off the International Children's Film Festival Bangladesh. The festival opens today (January 24) and will continue till January 30 in Dhaka, Rangpur and Rajshahi. Finance Minister AMA Muhith will inaugurate the festival as chief guest at 4pm at Central Public Library, Shahbagh while Cultural Minister Asaduzzaman Noor will be present as special guest. The inaugural ceremony will be presided over by chairman of the Festival Advisory Committee, eminent artist Mustafa Monwar.

Three hundred films from 54 countries will be screened at 11 venues countrywide during the festival, which is open to all. Through CFS, children receive opportunities to learn basic filmmaking skills, as well as expose themselves to the culture and tradition of other countries through film. With Muhammad Zafar Iqbal as present president of the organization, CFS is run by a 15- member committee.

"We started the Children's Film Society Bangladesh in 2006, and organised the first Children's Film Festival in 2008," said Munira Morshed Munni, general secretary of CFS, "We try to create leadership opportunities for our young filmmakers as they have the chance to produce their own films with what they can manage, without the use of fancy technology. The content they focus on is relevant to their own experiences at school, coaching, with friends or at home, but they also tackle pertinent issues concerning our society at large. Since smartphones are

widely available now, we are receiving more and more film submissions shot by phones, and therefore it is interesting to witness the changes in filmmaking over the years since we first started."

Munni emphasised on the necessity for such avenues in order to enrich the lives of the youth and nurture their imaginations and skills, "We live in a society that dictates the lives of children within rigid lines; beyond school and coaching there is no room for any creative outlet. Parents must understand the importance of nurturing hobbies and encouraging children to have multiple activities they enjoy at their disposal. CFS was not started to purely create filmmakers; some of our previous participants have applied their skills in other aspects of their professional lives."

Star Melodies presents UNPLUGGED MUSICAL NIGHT

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Daily Star's Star Melodies will host a special unplugged musical evening of popular Bangla songs of yesteryears.

Prominent and talented singers Romana Islam, Tanveer Alam Shawjeeb, Anupoma Mukti, Prithwi Raj and Ritu Raj will present songs of the golden era.

The event will be held at 6 pm at the AS Mahmud Hall of The Daily Star Centre on January 28.

Sadya Afreen Mallick will compère the programme. The event has been organised with assistance from Eastern Bank Limited and Simantic Creative Concern. Invitation passes can be collected from The Daily Star Centre. Seats are limited and available on a first-come first-serve basis.

> স্টার মেলোডিজ, The Bally Star আয়োজিত বাংলা গানের নিয়মিত আসর এবারের নিবেদন :

শিল্পীর প্রিয় গান-আনপ্রাগ্ড



Classical flute recital and exhibition by Ustad Azizul Islam



Eminent personalities at the inauguration ceremony.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

...... A five-day exposition of a number of awards achieved worldwide by the celebrated flautist Ustad Azizul Islam along with his solo flute recital on classical music is taking place from January 20 at Nalinikanta Bhattasali Gallery of Bangladesh National Museum.

Cultural Affairs Minister Asaduzzaman Noor inaugurated the event in presence of noted social and cultural personalities. In his speech, the minister said, "I am really glad to see the enthusiasm of the veteran artiste in making an exhibition of his lifelong achievements both at home and abroad; alongside giving us an opportunity to relish his flute recital."

RAM Ubaydul Moktadir, MP presided over the inaugural session. Special guests present at the occasion included eminent artist

Mustafa Monwar, DG of Bangla Academy Shamsuzzaman Khan, DG of National Museum Faizul Latif Chowdhury, VC of Kazi Nazrul Islam University Professor Mohit Ul Alam, VC of the University of Health Sciences Liaquat Ali and noted playwright M Hamid. Besides, noted singer Lucky Akhand, former VC of Jahangirnagar University Professor Anwar Hossain, noted lyricist Kaosar Ahmed Chowdhury and Kamrul Ahsan Khan from Bangladesh Environmental Network were also present.

Ustad Azizul Islam is an avid practitioner of the classical flute. He has enthralled audiences from all corners of the globe and has won numerous awards. The five-day exhibition provides an opportunity to see them and celebrate the success of the artiste.

Mayor of DNCC Annisul Huq

attended the flute session on the second day (January 21) as chief guest. On the occasion, he along with other dignitaries launched the latest album of the artiste released by Laser Vision. Noted actor Ramendu Majumdar, Freedom Fighter Kazi Rozy and educationist Professor Abdullah Abu Sayeed were present as special guests. The session was presided over by Professor Emeritus Anisuzzaman.

Information Minister Hasanul Haque Inu attended as chief guest at the closing session of the show on January 23. Special guests on that day were VC of Dhaka University Professor AAMS Arefin Siddique, chairman of UGC Abdul Mannan and chairman of National Museum Hashem Khan. Noted cultural personality Kamal Lohani presided over the session. The exhibition remains open till January 24 from 9am to 6pm.

Nasreen Fatema Awal, Honorary Consul, Honorary Consulate of Mongolia to Bangladesh, felicitates Tsengel Davaasambuu for her participation at the recently concluded 15th Dhaka International Film Festival. Mongolian film "White Blessings" was screened at the festival.





Novelist Shah Alam Shazu's 30th novel, "Money Rekho Sondhyatara Amio Bhalobeshechilam" was launched ahead of Ekushey Book Fair, at The Daily Star Centre. Popular actor Chanchal Chowdhury, actress Shahnaz Khushi and playwright **Brindabas Das were present** as guests at the event, along with Monirul Haq of publishing house Ananya, which is bringing out the novel.

PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

Majid Majidi ropes in AR Rahman for "Beyond The Clouds"

Shahid Kapoor's brother to debut in Iranian helmer's next

Renowned Iranian filmmaker Majid Majidi announced the title of his new international movie "Beyond The Clouds", a Hindi language project to be shot in India with an Indian cast. For the film, Majidi has roped in Oscarwinning composer AR Rahman and actor Ishaan Khatter, read a statement issued on behalf of the makers yesterday.

Ishaan, the brother of Bollywood actor Shahid Kapoor, has been chosen as he is a "wonderful boy" who is "extremely talented", Majidi said, adding that he foresees a "bright future" for the young actor.

"Beyond The Clouds", which went on floors on Monday, is being produced by Zee Studios and Eyecandy Films. The film dwells on



nuanced human relationships, an area Majidi specialises in.

Talking about the film, Majidi said, "Filmmakers like Satyajit Ray, whose work I adore, have represented India's culture, rich heritage and the lives of common people to a global audience. These visions and images have

stayed in my mind for years and cajoled me to make a film in India. Finally, I'm in Mumbai with a lovely team to narrate a story woven around the lives of common people."

The leading lady of the film is yet to be finalised, even as there were rumours that Deepika

Padukone was being considered for a pivotal role in the movie.

Rahman will be working on the score of the project, and this film will mark the Mozart of Madras' second association with the director after "Muhammad: The Messenger of God".

Majidi has been doing a location recce for the film in India since the past few months. It will be shot at numerous locations in India.

The details of the project were announced at a small gathering, in the presence of Majidi, Ishaan, Rahman, along with representatives of the studios. Also present were Ishaan's parents Neelima Azim and Rajesh Khatter, along with brother Shahid.

Source: Hindustan Times

