

Jazz & Blues Fest Dhaka
Organiser: Blues Communications
Venue: Infinity Rooftop, Le Meridien Hotel
Date: Jan 29-31
Time: 6pm



Solo Painting Exhibition
Title: Beautiful Bengal
Artist: Mokhlesur Rahman
Venue: Shilpangan Gallery, H-7, Rd-13 (New), Dhanmondi
Date: Jan 28- Feb 10
Time: 3-8pm



Solo Sculpture Exhibition
Title: Rhythm of Form by AAM
Kaoser Hassan Togor
Venue: Zainul Gallery, FFA, DU
Date: Jan 25-31
Time: 11am-8pm



Solo Musical Soiree
Artist: Kaderi Kibria
Organiser: Amra Surjumukhi
Venue: Poet Sofia Kamal Auditorium, National Museum
Date: Jan 31, Time: 5:30pm



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



A love affair with nature

Mokhlesur Rahman's "Beautiful Bengal" at Shilpangan

ZAHANGIR ALAM

The idyllic landscape of Bangladesh has given birth to many artists, singers and poets. An artist's creation deeply resonates with the images shaped by childhood memories in their mind's eye. Mokhlesur Rahman is such an artist who brilliantly depicts the unparalleled beauty of Bengal.



The artist (L) gives the guests a tour of the exhibition.

The artist's patriotic passion is noticeable in several of his works. The sloping beauty of *Hijol* (*Barringtonia acutangula*), the blossoming *Shapla* and water hyacinths, water bodies beside lush greenery and the beauteous contrast of lightning beaming through dark clouds appear in one of his acrylic work "My Homeland-4".

Another acrylic with the same title encapsulates the land's riverine beauty with sailing boats, huts, palm trees, greenery and monsoon clouds. The mature hues

of blue mingled with crimson, red and burnt sienna represent the textured clouds. The artist has used both symmetrical and asymmetrical lines to induce mobility in his depiction of nature. He has showcased the conventional aspects of nor'westers of Bengal in another acrylic.

His untitled works evoke semi-abstract and abstract feelings while some of his woodcut prints express the rhythm of bold and coloured forms. The mysterious visions, intriguing light and shades, magical

brush strokes and textures are other aspects of Mokhlesur's art that usher in the veiled charm.

Renowned artist Mokhlesur Rahman completed his BFA and MFA from the Department of Print Making, University of Dhaka. He took part with his works at Bangladesh National Pavilion in the 55th Venice Biennale 2013. He exhibited his works in Bangladesh festival in Kuwait, India, France, Japan, Germany and eight editions of Asian Art Biennale Bangladesh and received the grand award in the 10th Edition of Asian Art Biennale Bangladesh.

Pierre Mayaudon, Ambassador Delegation of The European Union to Bangladesh inaugurated the two week (January 28 – February 10) long exhibition titled "Beautiful Bengal" at Shilpangan gallery on January 28. Farooq Sobhan, former foreign secretary and president, Bangladesh Enterprise Institute attended the event as special guest while art connoisseur and columnist Rubana Huq was present as guest of honour.

The show will run from 3pm to 8pm daily.

Bhuban Majhi trailer and music launch Feb 2

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

"Bhuban Majhi", Fakhru Arefeen's much-anticipated film is set to release in March, but viewers will get a good glimpse into it soon, as the first full trailer and music of the film will be launched next month.

The film, recipient of the 2013 National Film Grant, takes place on two timelines – one in 2013 and the other in the times of our 1971 Liberation War. Prominent Indian actor Parambrata Chatterjee plays the lead role in the film, with Aparna Ghosh opposite her. It also stars Mamunur Rashid, Maznun Mizan, Sushama Sarkar and singer Waqeer.

The trailer and music will be launched through a special event at the Liberation War Museum on February 2, where Cultural Affairs Minister Asaduzzaman Noor will be present. The winners of the film's patriotic campaign "Amar Potaka Amar Bangladesh" will also be awarded tickets to the premiere of the film at the ceremony.

The songs of "Bhuban Majhi" have already found popularity among listeners, even before their official release. Two of the four songs – "Ami Tomari" and "Ami Botole Purechhi Kanna" – made it to popular FM channel ABC Radio's Top Chart for 2016. Parambrata himself has sung a song for the film, "Padma Nodi'r Nouka Bhirlo Hugli Nodi'r Teere".

Meanwhile, the film's second teaser was released on January 20. The Daily Star is the Youth Engagement Partner of the film.



NEWS bytes

Dio hologram to make US debut

The hologram of heavy metal great Ronnie James Dio will make its US debut this February, six months after it debuted at a German music festival.

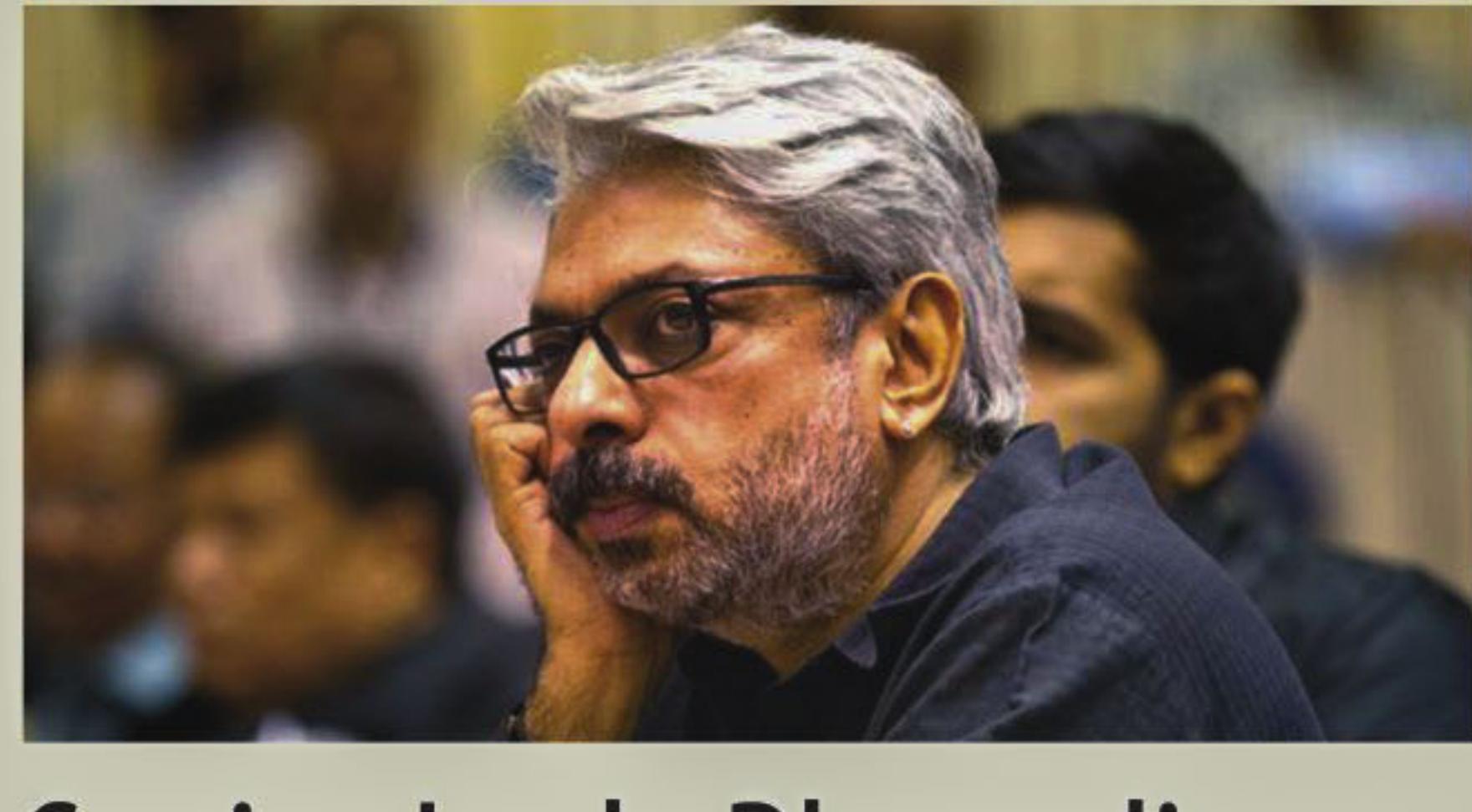
The Dio hologram, along with tribute group Dio Disciples, will perform February 2 at Los Angeles' The Novo, the site of this year's Pollstar Awards. The performance is the precursor to a promised Dio Disciples tour in 2017 that will feature the Dio hologram.

Jeff Pezzuti, the CEO of the hologram's creator Eyellusion, said the Dio facsimile would be utilized as part of an over-the-top, mind-blowing experience. The concert will have both live singers with Tim "Ripper" Owens and Oni Logan as part of the show, as well as Ronnie appearing throughout the show at different parts, including some duets.

The hologram arrived with the approval of Dio's widow Wendy, who told Rolling Stone in August, prior to its debut at Germany's Wacken Open Air festival.

While the Wacken performance featured a 1988-era Dio, the tour would revolve around Dio's 'different looks' that correspond with the era of the song that's being played. "We Rock", "Rainbow in the Dark" and "Holy Diver" are among the tracks the hologram and Dio Disciples will perform.

Source: Rolling Stone



Sanjay Leela Bhansali attacked, suspends "Padmavati" shoot

Bollywood fraternity rallies behind the helmer

Members of the Indian film fraternity have asked for action against the Shree Rajput Karni Sena, a political outfit that attacked filmmaker Sanjay Leela Bhansali on Friday. Bhansali was shooting for his film "Padmavati" in Jaipur, when members of the group abused him physically and vandalised the set. They claimed Bhansali has distorted facts about the life of queen Padmavati in his film, putting her in bad light, and wanted to see the script. Bhansali later closed the shooting temporarily and returned to Mumbai.

Five people have been detained by police for disturbing peace.

The film's team reportedly issued a clarification that there will be no romantic scene between the characters of Padmavati and Alauddin Khilji, played by Deepika Padukone and Ranveer Singh respectively.

Bollywood stars including Priyanka Chopra, Hrithik Roshan, Karan Johar, Alia Bhatt, Farhan Akhtar, Saif Ali Khan, Bipasha Basu, Onir, Rahul Dholakia, Swara Bhaskar and Rajkumar, among many others, united to voice their anger towards the incident and offered their support to the director.

The film's central cast – Deepika, Ranveer and Shahid Kapoor, also expressed their deep shock and concern on Twitter.

Source: TNN, Hindustan Times

Nashid Kamal awarded Madhusudan literary award



A CORRESPONDENT

Eminent Nazrul Sangeet exponent Dr. Nashid Kamal was recently awarded the Michael Madhusudan Dutta literary award for her book of translations of poet Kazi Nazrul Islam's songs, titled "Return of Laili". The award was handed to her in a ceremony marking birthday of the poet Michael Madhusudan, at the Calcutta University in India.

The award was handed to her by former Chief Justice and former West Bengal governor Shyamal Sen.

On the same occasion, Bangladeshi writer Rummana Chowdhury received the Bongomoni award 2016 for her literary work. This is an award given once in five years and she is the first Bangladeshi recipient.

The awards were presented at the Calcutta University Dharbhanga Hall by Michael Modhusudan Academy.

Asghar Farhadi may be barred from attending Oscars

Hollywood outraged over Trump's Muslim ban

Members of Hollywood took to social media on Saturday to speak out in response of Trump's executive order banning refugees from entering the US. The order, signed by Trump on Friday, suspends refugees from entering the United States for four months, and indefinitely suspends Syrian refugees.

There is a question whether Oscar-winning Iranian director Asghar Farhadi (who won Best Film in a Foreign Language in 2012 for "A Separation") will be allowed to enter the US to attend the Oscars on February 26, for his film "The Salesman", which is nominated in the foreign language category. The film's star, Iranian actress Taraneh Alidoosti tweeted on Thursday that she plans on boycotting the awards ceremony in protest of Trump.

Celebs including Kumail Nanjiani, Ava DuVernay and JK Rowling took to Twitter to express disdain towards Trump's actions. Michael Moore tweeted of a Muslim protest occurring in New York while Seth Rogen tweeted, "LA Protest on #MuslimBan TODAY 1-5 at Federal Immigration Office, 300 N. Los Angeles St." America Ferrera, who recently led



Farhadi won the Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film for "A Separation" in 2012.

a Women's March against Trump, also voiced support for another protest taking place at LAX Saturday evening.

Trump, who signed the order on Holocaust Remembrance Day, said that he is taking 'new vetting measures to keep radical Islamic terrorists out of the United States of America.'

The "Protection Of The Nation From Foreign Terrorist Entry Into The United States", cancels the US Refugee Admissions programme for 120 days. According to the State Department, a 90-day ban affects Iraq, Syria, Iran, Sudan, Libya, Somalia and Yemen – all Muslim-majority nations.

Refugees will still be admitted by the US on a case-by-case basis and the government will still consider requests from those who cite religious persecution. This past year, the US accepted 85,995 refugees with 12,587 being from Syria. Barack Obama set the limit this year at 110,000.

Celebrities including Mark Ruffalo, America Ferrera, Patton Oswalt, Nick Offerman, Emily Rossum, Rob Reiner, Issa Rae, Kal Penn, Adam McKay, Ewan McGregor,

Richard Dreyfuss, Charlize Theron, Chris Evans, Lucy Hale and Alec Baldwin voiced their opinions on Twitter, which were mostly a combination of disgust, concerns and apologies to the Muslim communities.

"I hope that the world knows that our president does not represent all Americans. Most of our country is horrified by this Immigration ban," said actor Jesse Tyler Ferguson, reflecting what many of his colleagues in the industry were saying.

Indian-origin US actor-chef Kal Penn meanwhile, started a fundraising campaign for Syrian refugees, and titled it "Donating to Syrian refugees in the name of the dude who said I don't belong in America", which rapidly raised over \$1,60,000 as of yesterday afternoon.

RnB star Rihanna was much more blunt with her tweet: "Disgusted! The news is devastating! America is being ruined right before our eyes! What an immoral pig you have to be to implement such BS!"

Source: THR