

<p>WHAT'S ON</p> <p>Ekushey Book Fair Organiser: Bangla Academy Venue: Suhrawardy Udyan Date: February 1-28 Time: 3-8pm</p>	<p>National Performance Art Fest 2017 Organisers: Peoples Theatre Association & BSA Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy Date: Feb 17-18; Time: 3-8pm</p>	<p>Terracotta Fair and Exhibition Venue: Bangladesh National Museum Date: February 11-18 Time: 10am-5pm</p>	<p>Solo Painting Exhibition Title: The Naked Artist: Tilottama Bhowmick Venue: Alliance Française de Dhaka Date: Feb 10-18 Time: 3pm-9pm</p>	<p>Art Exhibition Title: Alchemy of Losses Artist: Asma Sultana Venue: Kalakendra, Mohammadpur Date: Feb 3-18 Time: 5pm-8pm</p>
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NEWS bytes

Ed Sheeran drops new song on birthday

Ed Sheeran is building the buzz for "Divide", his upcoming third album, with the release of a third track from it. After the record-smashing whirlwind that was the advance release of "Shape of You" and "Castle on the Hill" from the album, the Englishman changes pace on "How



Would You Feel (Paean)", a slow ballad assisted with acoustic guitar, piano and drums played with brushes. The singer-songwriter dropped the promo track as his birthday gift to fans, as he turned 26 on Friday. "How Would You Feel (Paean)" is track 11 of 16 on "Divide", which is due out March 3. Sheeran has been in record-busting form since he double-dropped "Shape of You" and "Castle on the Hill" in January. Both tracks crashed the top 10 of the Billboard Hot 100, making Sheeran the first artiste to ever accomplish that feat. Back at his homeland, those comeback songs set a new mark for the longest-ever run in the top two of the UK chart at five weeks.

Source: Billboard



STANDING THE TEST OF TIME IN CONVERSATION WITH SYED ABDULLAH KHALID

ZAHANGIR ALOM

Syed Abdullah Khalid is considered one of the pioneer sculptors of Bangladesh. He is predominantly recognised for his brilliant work "Aparajeyo Bangla", one of the most iconic sculptures in our country (made between 1973-'79). It was rare to find such a life-sized sculpture at that time. A versatile artist, Khalid has not only excelled in sculpture but also made a great impression with his vibrant paintings. The sculptor has bagged Ekushey Padak this year for his lifetime contributions to arts. "I am feeling good to receive such recognition after so many years. It's better late than never," says Khalid. Imagination, love for nature and the motherland continue to drive his artistic endeavours. Khalid feels that a strong urge from within, together with artistic conceptualisation are necessary for the creation of great works. The reflection of time and the conspicuous connotations of life and nature are noticeably highlighted in his creations. "Life and death are not the themes I think much on. The greater truth is the feeling of time. I do accept that truth in my life," says the sculptor. Khalid's "Aparajeyo Bangla" is a reflection of the Bengali conscience and indomitable yearning for freedom. The project was launched in 1973. When he was a young faculty member at the Department of Fine Arts of Chittagong University, the DUCSU (Dhaka University Central Students' Union) committee commissioned him to build a

monument that would depict the glory of the Liberation War. "I started looking for people who would model for my miniature scale structure. In my layout, I planned for three figures where the centre one would be a farmer with a rifle on his shoulder and grenade in his hand. On the left side there would be a lady with a first aid box in her hand and on the right side there would be a student who would represent the young student body



who took part in the war," says Khalid. Hasina Ahmed, Syed Hamid Moksood and Badrul Alam Benu, who are very close to Khalid, modelled for "Aparajeyo Bangla". The artist closely observed the models' personalities and his close association with them enabled him to do justice with his portrayal. On August 15, 1975, the work suddenly came to a halt because of the heinous killing of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. Political instability and

the arrest of the then Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University, Abdul Matin Chowdhury, also disrupted the work. Throughout the making of the sculpture, Khalid had to face anarchism and negative reactions from religious fundamentalists. The project remained incomplete till the end of 1978. Some fundamentalist groups tried to demolish the sculpture in 1977. However, the valiant students of Dhaka University fiercely guarded the work. After a long hiatus, the work began again in early 1979 with a new vision and dream. At last the project was finished on December 16, 1979. The sculpture was inaugurated by wounded freedom fighters. "I think struggle is one of the most remarkable traits of human nature. The rewards we get without struggles are pale when compared to achievements accomplished through physical and psychological labours," says Khalid. After a brief meeting with the then Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University Dr. Fazlul Halim Chowdhury, Khalid restarted his work on carving the figures but his job seemed to have become more difficult than before. While working, his hands became swollen with bruises and cuts as four years of interval made that surface stronger and more concentrated. Whenever the hammer struck the structure it would spark with fire. "I wanted to do something for my country. After the Liberation War, I had a plan to create a symbol which would inspire the forthcoming generations," asserts Khalid, the model of an ideal artist.

TISHA to appear in Indo-Bangla joint venture film

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Popular actor Tisha has had a busy year in 2016, landing big projects in television plays as well as on the big screen. Now the actor is on her way to make another significant mark in her career, and is slated to appear in a Kolkata-based film for the first time. Titled "Holud Bani", the movie is jointly produced by Impress Telefilm from Bangladesh and a production house in Kolkata. It is also jointly directed by Taher Shipon from Bangladesh and Mukul Rai Chowdhury from Kolkata. The film will star popular West Bengal actor Parambrata and Paoli Dam alongside Tisha. Tisha informed The Daily Star that the offer came to her three months ago. Shooting for the film will commence from the last week of this month, and is scheduled for fifteen days. The actor also said that 70% of filming will take place in Kolkata, before wrapping up in Bangladesh. "I plan to spend the day before shooting in quiet contemplation of my character in the film." The actor also described her reasons for choosing this project, saying: "I was drawn once I read the script and the story is phenomenal. Also non-local film ventures provide a bigger acting canvas. Another reason is that Channel i is involved, and I have embarked on many projects with them over the years." When asked to speak about her role, Tisha stated, "My character is someone most women will be able to empathise with, and she is a very sweet girl. I would suggest that you all visit the cinema halls once it is released to find out the rest!"



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

RUPCHANDA-THE DAILY STAR SUPER CHEF

The country's biggest culinary competition returns to TV

OSAMA RAHMAN

Last year, a quiet young girl, lost in the dreams of a better future found herself in the finale of Rupchanda-The Daily Star Super Chef, the biggest culinary competition in the country today. When she lifted the trophy, her eyes glistened with tears; these were borne of elation and the knowledge that one of the most difficult chapters of her life had come to a close and a brand new one, tinged with hope and brightness, was about to commence. This year, Rupchanda-The Daily Star Super Chef 2017 returned to TV two weeks ago with the promise of more fulfilled dreams mixed with the bittersweet doses of renewed determination that rises from the ashes of disappointment.



and make it plainer for the viewers to decide who to root for. The first episode, now available on Youtube on ntv's channel - ntv Lifestyle, saw the participants preparing a recipe

from Siddika Kabir's recipe book- "Ranna, Khaddo, Pushti". First, a few recipes were chosen. The recipes were then written on pieces of paper, folded and placed in a bowl. The participants then had to choose a

piece of paper and prepare the one they got first. Actor Riaz Uddin Ahamed Siddique came to kick-start the proceedings. At the end, the worst dish was eliminated. Rashida Akter, 28, a housewife from Noakhali was unfortunately the first to fall. She succumbed to the pressure, failing to deliver the right tasting dish and manage her time properly.

Lovely Yeasmin would be the next to fall in the very next and the first mystery box challenge. As the judges lifted the box to display the secret, a gasp escaped from many of the participant's lips. Coconut milk was all they saw and they were given the chance to pick what to pair it with. Who won the round? Go to Youtube to find out and tune into NTV every night at 9:30pm on Saturday and Sunday to see what happens next.



A top 20 participant of Rupchanda-The Daily Star Super Chef 2017 racing against time to complete her dish.

"Boimela Protidin" on GTV



STAFF CORRESPONDENT
GTV is airing a month-long show "Boi Mela Protidin", marking the Ekushey Book Fair. Hosted by Iqbal Khandakar, the show highlights the daily happenings at the fair, alongside interviews with authors, publishers, and the readers. The show also features a discussion on books. Supervised by Aditya Nazrul and produced by Ananta Zahid, the programme is aired daily at 3.30pm and will continue till February 28. Regarding the show, Iqbal said, "The show seeks to capture the significance of the Book Fair in our hearts, and I hope that the viewers will be touched."

RUPCHANDA The Daily Star Super Chef 2017
The Valentine's Day special episode comes with desserts of love and the most adorable **Afsana Mimi!**
Watch it on Every Saturday & Sunday At 9pm on ntv
www.facebook.com/RupchandaTheDailyStarSuperChef