

WHAT'S ON

Photography Exhibition
 Title: London 1971: Unsung Heroes of the Bangladesh Liberation War
 Venue: British Council
 Date: March 3-31



Painting Exhibition
 Bangabandhu Bangladesh
 Organiser: BSA & Samata
 Sonargaon
 Venue: National Art Gallery, BSA
 Date: March 4-17
 Time: 11am-8pm



Solo Painting Exhibition
 Title: Journey & Images
 Artist: Ranjit Das
 Venue: Galleri Kaya
 Date: March 12-25
 Time: 11am-8pm



Solo Photography Exhibition
 Title: Here, For Now
 Photographer: Hadi Uddin
 Venue: Kala Kendra, Mohammadpur
 Date: Feb 25- Mar 22
 Time: 5pm-8pm



Solo Painting Exhibition
 Title: Poetry of Darkness
 Artist: Rashedul Huda
 Venue: La Galerie, Alliance Française de Dhaka
 Date: Feb 24- Mar 7
 Time: 3pm-9pm



Reviving the glory of Bangladesh

Art camp on the golden fibre at South Plaza

ZAHANGIR ALOM

Marking National Jute Day (March 6) 2017, a daylong art camp was organised yesterday by the Ministry of Textiles and Jute in front of the South Plaza of the National Parliament of Bangladesh. The art camp is an attempt to revive the glorious heritage of Jute, the golden fibre of Bangladesh.



Students depict their artistic works on a 200 feet x 10 feet jute canvas.

Emaz Uddin Pramanik, Textiles and Jute Minister; Mirza Azam, State Minister for Textiles and Jute; the secretary of the ministry inaugurated the art camp. Anisuzzaman, chairman of the Department of Printmaking, Faculty of Fine Art (FFA), University of Dhaka (DU) coordinated to organise the art camp.

Around 200 prominent and promising artists of the country

participated at the art camp. Renowned artists -- Samarjit Roy Choudhury, Hashem Khan, Hamiduzzaman Khan, Farida Zaman, Moniruzzaman, Syed Iqbal, Mohammad Iqbal, Aloptogin Tushar, Shameem Subrana, Anisuzzaman, Tajuddin Ahmed, Ahmed Shamsuddoha, Sheikh Afzal, Kamaluddin, Shahid Kazi, Gulshan Hossain, Bipasha Hayat, Bishwajit Goswami,

Rezaun Nabi, Abdus Sattar Toufiq, Mostafizul Haque -- along with many promising artists took part at the art camp.

All the artists portrayed various themes on jute canvas. As the theme of the art camp was open, the artists used their freedom to depict diverse subjects. Some portrayed jute and its related subjects on canvas while other depicted their own series and subjects like figures, faces of

children, landscape, kite and some abstract and semi-abstract paintings.

Besides, almost 100 students of the FFA, DU, depicted their artistic works on a 200 feet x 10 feet jute canvas. The students portrayed cultural heritage, natural beauty, Liberation War, figures, coin and other themes.

Apart from using different colours to create various designs and motifs on canvas, several artists kept empty space to prominently showcase the jute canvas in their paintings.

Master painter SM Sultan was the pioneer, who used jute canvas and natural pigments in paintings.

Jute is the golden fibre and historically the great pride of Bangladesh. In recent years appreciation for the cash crop at home and abroad has risen, to the point where a welcome jute revival is well underway. Jute can help produce a wide range of products like paper, furniture, shoe, handbag, portfolio, cushion cover, mobile cover, laptop bag, curtain, canvas and more.



Hashem Khan and Bipasha Hayat (below) participate at the art camp.



Karan Johar to dad twins

Bollywood filmmaker Karan Johar has become the single parent of twins -- a girl and a boy-- born through surrogacy last month.

The director-producer wasn't in the city to confirm the news, but civic officials said the births were registered with its public health department on Friday.

"The birth registrations were done on Friday," BMC executive health officer Dr Padmaja Keskar said. TOI confirmed this from the central government website for birth and death registrations. The twins were born at Masrani Hospital in Andheri (West) on February 7. However, Johar hasn't yet informed the BMC about the names of his children. A high-ranking BMC official said the children were registered in their birth record as a "baby girl" and "baby boy". Johar's close friend actor Shah Rukh

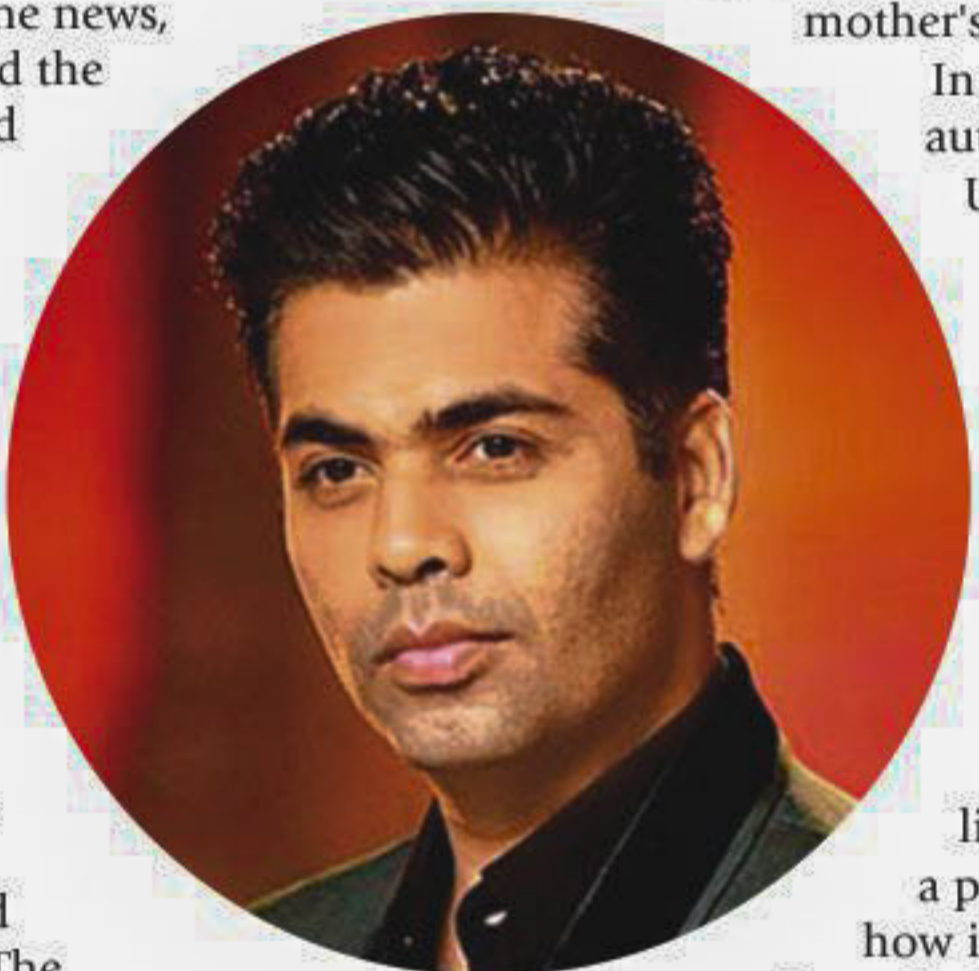
Khan's third baby, Abram, too, was born in the same hospital to a surrogate mother. Civic officials said the birth registration details listed Johar as the children's father, but there is no mention of the mother's name.

In his recently released autobiography, 'An Unsuitable Boy', Karan Johar had expressed a desire to adopt a child or have a surrogate child as his old-age insurance policy.

"I don't know what I'm going to do about it but I feel like I would like to be a parent. I don't know how it's going to happen but I do feel the need because

I have plenty of love to offer and I'd like to take it forward. This feeling needs a release and requires a platform. And that platform could be by being a parent," he had said during the release of his book.

Source: Times of India



BANGLADESH AT THE KHAJURAHO DANCE FESTIVAL '17

Centre of attention

For the second time in two years, Dhaka-based cultural organisation Shadhona, participated in the prestigious four-decade old Khajuraho Dance Festival 2017 besides the amazing 10th century temples at Khajuraho in Madhya Pradesh, India. However, this time Shadhona represented the country as Bangladesh was featured as the guest country, with a pavilion dedicated to Bangladesh's culture and arts, with displays and daily performances, says a press release.

Lubna Marium, artistic director of Shadhona, curated the presentation, entitled 'Bangladesh - A Land of Myths and Rivers', which had four segments daily; dance performances; an exposition of Bangladesh's cultural practices through exquisitely painted 'pata-chitra', or scroll-paintings; a photographic exhibition on Bangladesh's rivers; and a display of the arts and crafts of Bangladesh, including the revival of Muslim weaving.

The festively decorated temple town of Khajuraho very prominently announced Bangladesh's participation through colourful posters.

The brightly decorated Bangladesh pavilion became a major attraction on the festival grounds. On popular demand the performances were held twice daily in the afternoons and in the evening. Each day the Bangladesh team started their presentation with a rally, including the "dhuli" or drummer from Bangladesh. Shadhona presented

"raibeshe", or the martial dances of Bengal; Baul songs and dances; "Badolo Borishone", a dance-drama based on Nazrul songs; an exposition of the Manasa Mangal performances; Manipuri dances from Bangladesh; Tagore's "Brikhoro" -- or tree-planting ceremony; and finally dances based on songs from the Language Movement.

Shabbir Ahmed Khan, Sweetie Das Chowdhury and Amit Chowdhury, choreographed the dances. Shafi Mondol, enhanced the participation with his exquisite renditions of Lalon songs.

On the exquisitely built main stage of the Festival, each day saw an exposition of the various genres of Indian classical dances by talented dancers from India and abroad. The Bangladesh team put up a very well appreciated, hour-long, Bharatanatyam recital by Amit Chowdhury and his students from Kolpotoru. The performances were aired, live by Doordarshan Bharati.

Lubna Marium participated in "Kalavarta" with a presentation entitled "Beyond Boundaries: Reconnecting shared cross-border cultural practices", through which she directed attention to the need for cross-border inventories of common art forms practiced within neighboring regions of South Asia such as the martial art of "lathikhela"; performances of Manasa; the art of the Bauls or "wandering minstrels". Reconnecting shared practices would go a long way in creating solidarity, she said.

Rahul Rastogi, deputy director of the Ustad Alauddin Khan Sangeet and Kala Academy, the visionary technocrat who is the heart and soul of the festival, thanked Shadhona for their vibrant participation.

All in all, this seven-day exposition on the culture of Bangladesh will surely go a long way in enhancing a positive image of the country.

"Poetry of Darkness" at AFD

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rashedul Huda's 4th solo painting exhibition titled "Poetry of Darkness" opened at La Galerie, Alliance Française de Dhaka (AFD) recently. Eminent artist Monirul Islam inaugurated the exhibition as chief guest while renowned artist Bonizul Haque, Dr A M Shamim, founder and chairman, Labaid Foundation and architect and art critic Rabiul Hussain attended the opening ceremony as special guests. Bruno Plasse, Director of AFD welcomed the distinguished guests and presided over the ceremony.



Overwhelmed by the beauty within the mystifying dance of light, shadow and darkness, artist Rashedul Huda searches for the colour of life. For him, this oxymoronic reality is woven in the manner dreams are woven. The darkness of evening creates layers of images, and life too seems to look for a meaning there as it goes on. Like a feather shed by a bird that has flown far away, there is a story conjuring up on every corner. Huda in his paintings moves amidst light, shadow and darkness towards the hope of a faraway light. He believes where there is warmth there is a new tale to be told and there is an untrodden path for the onlooker.

Huda's canvases focus on the joys and sorrows of human lives from the perspectives of natural light and darkness of the day-to-day life. Consequently, the fundamental nature of light and darkness as well as the vintage style are amalgamated to bring up relatable compositions.

Contemporary artist Rashedul Huda was born in Rangpur in 1964. An MFA from Institute of Fine Art, University of Dhaka, he has participated in many group art exhibitions, residency programmes and art workshops at home and abroad. In 2007, he had the third solo exhibition at Tokyo, Japan. The subjects of his painting are abstract and semi abstract.

The exhibition will remain open until March 7 from Monday to Thursday from 3pm to 9pm and on Fridays and Saturdays from 9am to 12 noon and 5pm to 8pm.

Box Office: 'Logan' Wins Friday With Massive \$33 Million



Hugh Jackman's "Logan" is a box office beast.

Fox's Wolverine film posted \$33.1 million on Friday from 4,071 locations, raising its three-day estimate to over \$80 million. To become the largest opening on 2017 so far, the movie need only top "The Lego Batman Movie's" \$53 million launch.

"Logan" follows an aged Wolverine who is attempting to hide from the world until a mysterious mutant played by Dafne Keen arrives to send him on one final journey. "Logan" cost \$97

million to produce, and is the widest domestic opening ever for an R-rated film. Critics are praising the film -- it currently has a 94% on Rotten Tomatoes. James Mangold directed the film, which Jackman has said will be his last as Wolverine. Patrick Stewart, Richard E. Grant, Boyd Holbrook and Stephen Merchant also star.

Jordan Peele's "Get Out" from Universal and Blumhouse, looks to land solidly in second this weekend after earning \$8 million from 2,938 locations on Friday. By the end of its second weekend

the horror-thriller should tack on an additional \$24 million.

Lionsgate's faith-based movie "The Shack" earned \$5.5 million on Friday from 2,888 theaters -- its three-day estimate of between \$14.5 and \$16 million should place it in third.

"The Lego Batman Movie" and "John Wick: Chapter 2" should round out the top five, ahead of Open Road's drama "Before I Fall." The film, showing muted results in its first frame, earned \$1.6 million from 2,346 locations on its way to a \$4 million

opening. Following its dramatic Oscar victory, A24 expanded "Moonlight" to more than 1,500 locations. The exquisitely crafted coming-of-age drama earned an additional \$640,000 on Friday. By the end of the weekend, the movie will have grossed close to \$25 million on its \$1.5 million budget. Still, "Hidden Figures" and "La La Land" remain the two cash cows from the 2017 awards season.