

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




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



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



JOY BANGLA CONCERT

ON MARCH 7

A CORRESPONDENT

The long awaited youth centric concert of the year, "Joy Bangla Concert", is set to take place at the Army Stadium in the capital today.

Youth organisation "Young Bangla" is organising the concert marking the date of the historic March 7 speech of the Father of the Nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in 1971.

Leading bands Warfaze, Chirkutt, Shironamhin, Arbovirus, Lalon, Cryptic Fate, Nemesis and Shunno will perform at the concert.

Thousands of spirited youths will gather at the stadium to recall the day, and celebrate independence with Bangla rock music.



Port city reverberates to Tagore songs

ARUN BIKASH DEY, Chittagong

It was a special evening for Rabindra Sangeet aficionados of the port city of Chittagong on Friday. Theatre Institute of Chittagong was the venue of superb performances by Rupa Dutta, Shuvagata Chowdhury, Sumitra Biswas and Bohnishikha Rakkhit who between them rendered 22 Tagore songs in Puja, Prem, Prakriti and Swadesh forms at a programme titled "Megh Bolechhe Jabo Jabo...".

The programme started with a chorus performance by the four artistes—"Prothomo Adi Tobo Shokti", a Bhangra song in the Puja style. Ustad Mihir Lala who came up on stage to compliment the artistes for their perseverance and pursuit of Rabindra Sangeet and appreciated the chorus.

Another guest Shaibal Das Suman, a councillor of Chittagong City Corporation, said the creations of Tagore, especially his songs, are a breath of fresh air in the hurly burly of modern day existence.

Rupa came up on stage to perform a song in the Swadesh category—"O Amar Desher Mati." She went on to sing a number of other songs.

Shuvagata performed "Tui Fele Eshchish Kare", followed by "Charan Dhorite Diogo" and more.

Bohnishikha performed "DaNriye Achho Tumi Amar" and other renditions.

Sumitra Biswas performed "Himero Rater" and "Shokhi Bhabona Kahare Boley".

The audience was effusive in their appreciation of the programme.

Scholastica students perform 'Muktadhara'

40 years at the frontline of education

A CORRESPONDENT

Scholastica, a well-known school in Dhaka, celebrated its 40th year of educational excellence with a three-day performance of the play "Muktadhara" at their senior section premises in Mirpur.



The concluding performance was held on March 5. To a warm welcome from the senior vice principal, Farah Sophia Ahmed, the closing performance was announced. The occasion was graced by distinguished guests, among whom poet and noted academic Professor Kaiser Haq was present as chief guest.

On Friday, the inaugural day, Minister of Cultural Affairs Asaduzzaman Noor lauded

Scholastica in his speech as one of the finest educational institutions of the country, and commended the involvement of their students in various cultural activities, which he

emphasised as a crucial requirement in making for a well rounded individual.

On the second day of the performance, noted author and academic Syed Manzoorul Islam attended as chief guest.

Written by Rabindranath Tagore, "Muktadhara" is considered his finest work, describing the plight of the people from the imaginary kingdom "Chitrakoot" and their subsequent resistance. The play was orchestrated by the teachers of Scholastica. Participating students were Shamsur Shafi Noor-e- Aziz, Tasnia Setar, Shreyoshee Shehreen Sattar, Mahir Daiyyan, Tanzidur Rahman and Mominul Amin and students of seventh, eighth and ninth grades.

"The stage is my comfort zone"

Ankhi Alamgir to release new songs

A CORRESPONDENT

Ankhi Alamgir is making a big comeback this Pohela Boishakh with two new music videos featuring new songs. The artiste has been busy in the studio and has completed recording an Alauddin Ali single, whose lyrics are composed by Shahidullah Farazi, and is on her way to wrap up another song tuned by Jewel Morshed. The songs will be released and distributed by Bangla Dhol and Dhrubo Music Station.

Shooting for the music video will commence on March 8. Alamgir's rendition of Alauddin Ali's song will be done in the traditional Boishakhi theme, while Jewel Morshed's song will present a romantic setting. "To hail the Bangla New Year I am bringing forth two new songs. I am quite pleased with the fact that they deal with very different subject matters, therefore bringing diversity for listeners to enjoy. As an artiste, I hope to win over people's hearts with the songs," quipped the singer on her new ventures.

Meanwhile the artiste has been quite busy with stage shows, having just completed a gig at Rajendrapur. This week the artiste will be performing at various locations around the country. "The stage is my comfort zone," said the singer, "and I try to make the most of it by doing it as often as I can."



Kolkata theatre troupe enthralled Mymensingh audience

CHHAU MACBETH HAS A TWIST

AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh

Rabindra Nagar Natyaayudh of Kolkata in India staged their show "Chhau Macbeth" at Muslim Institute auditorium on Friday evening.

The play was the maiden show by the group in Mymensingh, sources said.

The group is now visiting Bangladesh with three plays—"Chhau Macbeth", "Chakrabyua" and "Rasta". The troupe will tour Dhaka, Rajshahi, Chittagong and Feni with their plays.

The plays aim at creating social awareness against the prevailing context of unrest among nations in a world caught up in the cycle of greed, power and self-interest, the

group members said.

Chhau is Purulia's folklore based dance form in West Bengal and the form was used in the play, source said.

Written and directed by Dani Karmakar, the show was organised by Ensemble Theatre, a leading theatre group in Mymensingh.

The cast of the play were Dani and Sangeet Jana. Subol Karmakar assisted the play.

Talking to The Daily Star, Dani said the play based on William Shakespeare's tragedy "Macbeth" was a multi-lingual production in Bangla, Hindi and English.

"Through the play, we want to present the importance of Shakespeare and his writings," the director said.

Macbeth is a tragedy that drama-

tises the damaging implications of political ambition when one wants power for its own sake. Set in the seventeenth century, Dani says the story is still relevant in the present social scenario.

This conflict is the prime subject of the play and sheds light on gender-based preconceptions from Shakespearean times to the present day, he said.

The capacity packed auditorium was gratifying for the performers.

Troupe members said it was a rare experience to visit the culturally rich Mymensingh.

Earlier, a discussion was held. Prof Yusuf Khan Pathan, chairman of Mymensingh Zila Parishad addressed the discussion, among others.

IMRAN KHAN ready to turn director

Imran Khan, who was last seen in Nikkhil Advani's 2015 romantic-drama "Katti Batti" is all set to turn director. Mirror has learnt that the 34-year-old actor is currently penning a script with Ayesha DeVitre who has earlier written films like the Sidharth Malhotra-Alia Bhatt-Fawad Khan starrer "Kapoor & Sons" and "Ek Main Aur Ekk Tu" with Imran and Kareena Kapoor. The duo has also been friends for 20 years.

"It's a character drama revolving around several people and their lives. It's still being developed. Imran is extremely excited about the project and completely focused on it," says a source close to the actor. Circulating rumors claim several A-list actresses have shown interest in it. The source however insists that Imran who will not be acting in his directorial debut because he wants to concentrate on one thing at a time - will only begin casting after he has locked the script. The film isn't expected to roll this year.

Meanwhile, he's on a self-imposed hibernation as far as acting is concerned. Earlier he had said that it's important for him to like the script and the director since he will be spending six to eight months working on a film. "I ask myself if I'd watch the film and be entertained by it. If the answer is 'yes', then maybe it's a 'yes' from me too," he had said.

Source: The Times of India

