

WHAT'S ON Painting Exhibition Bangladesh Bangladesh Organizer: BSA & Samatat Venue: National Art Gallery, BSA Date: March 4-17 Time: 11am-8pm	Contemporary Art Exhibition Title: An Abstract Affair Artist: Mohamed Ezzat Venue: EDGE Gallery Date: Mar 10-31 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: Galeri Kaya Date: March 12-25 Time: 11am-8pm	Duet Print Exhibition Title: Diversity in Quality by Aje Smit & Uttara Kumar Basak Venue: Shikhanjo Gallery, H-7, Rd-13 (New), Dhansraddi Date: Mar 12-24 Time: 3-8pm
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MIM'S latest venture

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bidya Sinha Mim has scarcely had a breather since she began shooting for her latest film titled "Dulabhai Zindabad." Directed by Momtazur Rahman Akbar, shooting is underway at Savar and is expected to wrap up this month. Mim has been frequently shuttling between the capital and Savar for the shoot.

Moushumi is slated to co-star with Mim. The duo will enact the roles of sisters.

Mim will play the role of Moushumi's younger sister. Bappi will play Mim's romantic interest in the film. "The narrative is beautiful and moving, and will appeal to people from all strata. My character faces many struggles in her life, and manages to finish college. The audience will see me in a completely different role," said the actor.

The actor has much more on her plate after wrapping up "Dulabhai Zindabad." Recently she traveled to Bogra to perform at a show alongside Arefin Shuvo. "All my aspirations are in cinema," stated Mim, "I hope to be cast in a variety of roles."

Last month the Bidya Sinha Mim starrer "Bhalobasha Amoni Hoi" hit theatres nationwide. During the course of shooting the actor had to travel to the UK.

The actor, who has a prolific career on the small screen as well, has not appeared in new TV plays since last Eid. She has however modeled for a few products. "My aim is to build a career in film, but I shall branch out to do modeling as well," said Mim.

LALON MEMORIAL FESTIVAL CONCLUDES IN KUSHTIA

MANUSHER AMAN, Kushtia

A three-day Lalon Smaran Utshab (memorial festival) ended at Lalon akhra in Chhauria in Kushtia on Monday night.

The programme highlighted the philosophy of Fakir Lalon Shah (c.1774-1890). Lalon Academy organised the programme with the assistance of the Ministry of Cultural Affairs. The festival is held annually to celebrate Dol Purnima.

Like previous years, on the occasion, the akhra saw an influx of devotees and admirers from all over Bangladesh and

overseas. An attraction of the event was a Baul Mela.

Research shows that Dol Purnima has been celebrated for around 200 years and was introduced by Lalon himself. In his lifetime, Lalon used to organise the event at his akhra. After his demise, his disciples carried on the tradition. They formed a committee. The committee initially organised various programmes at the venue. The festival was organised with donations from well-wishers. Later, Lalon Academy was formed to look into akhra affairs. In the course of time, the festival has turned into a government-

organised programme.

At the festival, the baul community fervently follows their customs. According to their philosophy, every religion is on par and division of mankind in the name of religion is unacceptable. Following Lalon's teachings, they prefer to shun worldly desires. The programme was inaugurated by Acting Divisional Commissioner, Khulna Mohammad Faruk Hossain. Folk exponent Professor Dr. Rashid Askari, also vice chancellor of Islamic University Kushtia, was chief guest on the concluding day. Kushtia Deputy

Commissioner Md. Zahir Raihan chaired the event.

In their speeches, speakers emphasised the importance of disseminating Baul culture among the masses. They also said that the humanitarian and secular Baul songs could help build a violence-free society.

Professor Sarwar Murshed of Bangla Department at Islamic University Kushtia, Kushtia Civil Surgeon Nazmul Ahsan, Principal of Kushtia Government College Professor Badruddoza and journalist Rasedul Islam Biplob, spoke on the occasion.

NEWS bytes

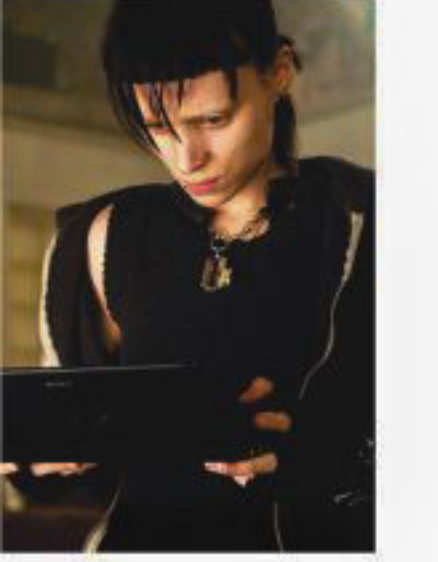
"Dragon Tattoo" sequel to release October '18

Sony Pictures' "The Girl in the Spider's Web" the sequel to the Oscar-nominated "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo", will debut in theaters on Oct. 5, 2018.

Fede Alvarez, the director of "Don't Breathe", will helm the film, which will feature a brand new cast.

According to insiders, Natalie Portman and Scarlett Johansson, who co-starred in 2008's "The Other Boleyn Girl", are among the actresses in the mix to play Lisbeth Salander as Alvarez begins meeting with talent. Johansson vied for the role that eventually went to Rooney Mara in the first film.

Steven Knight and Alvarez & Jay Basu penned the script. Scott Rudin, Soren Stærmosé, Ole Søndberg,



Amy Pascal, Elizabeth Cantillon, Eli Bush, and Berna Levin will produce.

Penned by David Lagercrantz, the new book will be the first in the best-selling series to be produced into an English-language film in its initial adaptation. The previous books in the series have been adapted into Swedish-language films, and "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo" was a remake of the Swedish film. It became a global hit for Columbia Pictures, taking in over \$230 million worldwide.

The announcement was made Monday at the London Book Fair during a celebration for the fifth Millennium book launch, also by Lagercrantz.

Source: Variety



LRB rocks Sylhet

DWOHA CHOWDHURY, Sylhet

LRB, the evergreen band fronted by one of the best guitarists of the country, Ayub Bachchu, rocked Sylhet stage on Saturday. Orpheus, a band of Leading University organised the concert titled 'Towards Harmony' at the swimming club of AMA Muhitah Sports Complex in the city.

The concert began with a performance of Orpheus, while LRB appeared before the audience later in the evening, with Ayub Bachchu opening with a guitar solo.

LRB presented their hits "Shei Tumi", "Rupali Guitar", "Kosto Pete Bhalobashi", "Madhabi", "Ferari Mon" and others, which mesmerised the thousands in the audience.

"Bold Action for Change" programme Call for gender equity

A CORRESPONDENT

To advocate for gender equity and greater collaboration, Manusher Jonno Foundation and Matra organised an inspiring event called "Bold Action for Change" under its Campaign for Equality through Dignity on March 13 at Rabindra Sarobar, Dhanmondi. The programme comprised guest speeches, a cultural event and interactive session. Guests present included names like theater personality Mamunur Rashid; cultural personality Nasiruddin Yusuf Bachchu; journalist and writer Anisul Haque; managing partner of Matra Sanaul Arefeen; Manusher Jonno Foundation's executive director, Shaheen Anam and the Foundation's project coordinator, Banasree Mitra Neogi. The large gathering at the event pledged to work together to build an equitable and inclusive world.

Later, Gambhira-Rajshahi staged a play with the message of gender equality in every sector. A group dance performance by Shadhona followed. Tagore singer Nirjhar Chowdhury tuned up with Rabindra songs. An interactive session with the audience also featured at the event. Social activist Shamima Islam Tusti oversaw the question answer session. Last but not the least popular band Lalon ended the show with a mind blowing performance.



"I don't think of Hollywood and Bollywood as separate careers" ... Deepika



Deepika Padukone says there have been "a lot of speculations" as far as her name is concerned in connection with certain films.

Over the past few months, Deepika Padukone has been busy on multiple fronts including the shooting for film-maker Sanjay Leela Bhansali's Padmavati and whirlwind global promotions of her debut Hollywood film, xX: Return Of Xander Cage. Apart from this, she also made news thanks to rumours about her being part of various films.

"Yes, there have been a lot of speculations as far as my name is concerned in connection with certain films. And I can say that a lot of it is untrue. But fortunately or unfortunately, at this point, I wouldn't go out of my way to clarify any of those specific rumours," Deepika said in an interview with Hindustan Times. In fact, Deepika adds that "sometimes", she gets to know about her "association with certain films" when the media asks her about it. "So, suppose, I am at the airport and I am asked, 'We have heard that you are doing this film.' And I am like, 'I am hearing about it for the first time myself. Where has it [the information] come from?'" she says.

Deepika's next release, in all likelihood, will be Padmavati. She says that "all of it (being approached for a film to it working out) has a process, and that should be dealt with in a certain manner." She says, "I personally don't like to talk about a film until I know I am doing it. So, right now, I can't say what I am doing."

After xXc, is Deepika looking at more work in Hollywood? "I am looking at films. Period. I can't differentiate between my works. How is one [film] different from another?" At the same time, Deepika adds that "right now, there's nothing." "I haven't liked anything yet but hopefully, I will like something soon. Having said that, I would love to do another Hollywood film. I don't consider them (Hollywood and Bollywood) as two separate careers. So, I don't think of them as having to juggle two different things," says the actor. Deepika, however, adds that her instinct to choose work in both industries is the same. "I will choose my films exactly the same way I chose xXc, Padmavati, Piku, Yeh Jawaani Hai Deewani or Chennai Express. It's the same instinct that I always use [to choose work in Hollywood as well as Bollywood]," she says.

Source: Hindustan Times