

WHAT'S ON

**Solo Art Exhibition**  
 Emotion of Sufi Music  
 Artist: AZ Shimul  
 Venue: La Galerie, AFD  
 Date: Mar 24-31  
 Time: 3pm-9pm

**Documentary Screening**  
 Title: Shahidullah Kaiser - Sangsaptak  
 Venue: Poet Shamsur Rahman Seminar Room, Bangla Academy  
 Date: Mar 31  
 Time: 4pm

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

**Group Art Exhibition**  
 Title: Exhibition 2017  
 Venue: Gallery Chitrak, H-4, Rd-6, Dhannondi  
 Date: Mar 28-Apr 20  
 Time: 10am-8pm

**Book Lunch**  
 Title: Mystic Poetry of Bangladesh  
 Venue: Poet Sufia Kamal Auditorium, BNM  
 Date: Mar 31  
 Time: 10:15- 11:30

**Nat'l Children and Juvenile Cultural Fest**  
 Organiser: Khelaghar Ashor  
 Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy  
 Date: March 30- April 1  
 Time: 9am-8pm



# REVISITING ART BY THE MASTERS

Chitrak back with a bang after a long hiatus

Zahangir ALom

Bangladesh can definitely take pride in fine art, thanks to the single-handed efforts of the founding father of our art movement, Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin. The pioneering artist with his contemporary masters, Patua Quamrul Hassan, Shilpaguru Safiuddin Ahmed and others, established Dhaka Art College (Now Faculty of Fine Art, University of Dhaka) in 1948 to initiate formal art education in this part of the world. The legacy of our art further achieved excellence with abstractionist guru Mohammad Kibria along with abstract-modernist Aminul Islam and other towering figures like Abdur Razzaque and Rashid Chowdhury. These seven artists are no more, but they are immortalised with their unique creations that continue to inspire us.

Murtaja Baseer, Samarjit Roy Chowdhury, Rafiqun Nabi and Monirul Islam are contemporary masters and living legends of art in the Bangladeshi context. After a long hiatus, Gallery Chitrak is holding an important exhibition showcasing original artworks by the aforementioned 11 artists.

Eminent art connoisseur and collector Abul Khair, Chairman of Bengal Foundation, graced the inaugural ceremony as chief guest on March 28. Renowned art collector Syed Durjoy Rahaman Joy attended the event as special guest while Professor Rafiqun Nabi presided over the programme.

Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin's lifelong perseverance was to depict various aspects of human crises. He famously created famine



Clockwise from top left: artworks by Shilpaguru Safiuddin Ahmed, Rashid Chowdhury and Abdur Razzaque; eminent guests at the exhibition.

sketches and his work "Mother and Child", a woodcut, is a rare masterpiece displayed at the show. Art aficionados will also be amazed at the sight of drawings and oil titled "Bironogona" by the master.

Patua Quamrul Hassan's "Famine" (lithograph) is an astounding example of his sketching the ramifications of the crisis. One can even count the feathers of the vultures eating up the dead in the realistic work. The awful expressions of the vultures evoke the plight and sufferings of the people and animals.

Shilpaguru Safiuddin Ahmed's "Memories of 71" (copper engraving) stirs up the weeping eyes of freedom loving Bangalees. The artist's "Bakura Landscape" (wood engraving) beckons an idyllic morning. Two of his charcoal and crayon works portray sunflower and labourers with a fiddler on the roof.

Mohammad Kibria's "Memorial: V" (etching) signifies the emblem as homage to the martyrs. Proper space division with geometric forms are the beautiful features of the works.

Aminul Islam's "Farmer Family" (watercol-

our on paper) represents an imagery of pastoral interlude. The viewers will find some exclusive drawings, beautiful compositions and a depiction of nature by the master.

It is an ethereal experience to watch "Tornado Balarchor - 1 & 2" by Abdur Razzaque. The artist's portrayal of Badda series and the golden harvest-time in a village is a singular aspect of his works. Art lovers are more familiar with Rashid Chowdhury's tapestry works. Here they will have the opportunity to see his watercolours, poster colours and charcoal works at the show.

Murtaja Baseer's treatment of colours, forms, textures and fine compositions in his Image series (aquatint) are on display at the show. Samarjit Roy Chowdhury's depiction of festivities is evocative of unbroken folk forms and geometric shapes.

Other attractions are Rafiqun Nabi's life-sized works mostly on acrylic and mixed media. His "Mother and Child", "Shepherd", "A Happy Afternoon" and of course "Tokai and his Friends" are fine example of realistic works. His art is marvelous in its extremely mature colours, bold brushworks and an array of forms and shapes. The audience will also get to view his famous wood cut "A crow-chick, fallen from nest" at the show.

Minimalist guru Monirul Islam loves to celebrate open spaces in his paintings. Some of his recent acrylics like --"Songs of Paradise", "Canciones de Otono", "Autumn Dialogue" and "Hanging Garden of Babylonia" are on display at the exhibit.

The exhibition, open from 10am to 8pm daily, will conclude on April 20.

NEWS bytes

## LANA DEL REY announces new album

Lana Del Rey has announced a new record, the follow-up to 2015's "Honey-moon". It's called "Lust for Life" and it's "coming soon," according to her Facebook announcement.

The singer released a black and white trailer video making the announcement. Upon the release of her single "Love", Lana said, "I made my first four albums for me, but this one is for my fans and about where I hope we are all headed." In a subsequent interview, she explained that she'd been writing for the last 15 months, and "started out thinking that the whole record was going to have sort of a, like, a '50s, '60s feeling, with some kind of Shangri-La, early Joan Baez influences."

Ultimately, "as the climate kept on getting more heated politically," she said, "it's just a little more socially aware. That's kind of a global feeling."

Recently, an ASCAP listing revealed a new Lana collaboration with the Weeknd, also called "Lust for Life".

Source: Pitchfork



A Correspondent

The latest installment of popular variety TV show Ityadi will air tonight on BTV and BTV World on March 31 after the 8pm news. As always, the show is written, planned and hosted by Hanif Sanket.

Shooting of the popular show was held recently at the largest single block of tidal halophytic mangrove forest in the world - the Sundarbans. Situated at the heart of the Sathkhira Zilla, the Sundarbans is a treasure of natural

beauty of Bangladesh. To celebrate this ecological marvel, the Ityadi team set up the stage with 'golpata' on top of a river at the Akashlina Tourism Center so that Sundarban's abundant beauty could be captured in an exquisite manner.

Thousands of people gathered to witness the shooting of this episode. Highlighting the history and tradition of the Sundarbans and the prospect of the tourism industry of Bangladesh, three informative documentaries will be shown in "Ityadi". An awareness building-documentary on road accidents and

## Sundarbans highlighted in latest episode of ITYADI

another on Barcelona's "Museum of Illusions" will be screened. Thirdly, a documentary on three foreign nationals who have set up a farm in Muktagacha upazila and are promoting development of the area is included in the episode.

To commemorate the month of Independence, renowned singer Sabina Yasmin has sung a patriotic song penned by Mohammad Rafiquzzaman and composed by Ali Akbar Rupu. Other segments will include Sathkhira's "Potgan". The song highlights contemporary social and cultural issues.

## Sonakshi Sinha No more playing 'arm candy'

Sonakshi Sinha, who made her Bollywood film debut opposite Salman Khan in the 2010 film "Dabangg", says her days of playing the damsel in distress are over. After taking up tough-girl roles in films like "Akira", "Force 2" and now "Noor", the star says she doesn't want to play 'arm candy' to male actors anymore.

According to online reports, the star confessed that she is consciously choosing film characters that do not make her look like arm candy. Admitting that she loved doing the many 'masala movies' in the past, Sonakshi said that moving forward she would like to choose women-centric films because it's something her "heart wants". However, she did not rule out the possibility of her starring in Bollywood's commercial films, stating that she will try to balance out her filmography by opting for both kinds of movies.

Source: TOI



## First trailer for Stephen King's "IT" reboot is terrifying

Horror is a genre that lends itself to instant classics, and few films have ever matched that description quite like Tommy Lee Wallace's "IT". Anticipation for Andres Muschietti's upcoming reboot of the iconic Stephen King horror story is sky high, and a trailer debuted to show fans what they can expect to deal with.

It has been almost 30 years since Tommy Lee Wallace's "IT" miniseries first debuted, and it is clear that Pennywise the Clown has not lost any of his ability to instill utter terror. There's a healthy blend of old and new in this trailer, as the first scene depicted is an incredibly stylish recreation of the infamous sewer scene -- which sees the young Georgie encounter the evil clown in a storm drain, where everything still floats. From there, the story follows a group of school children trying to cope with stress and strain of their everyday existence while the demonic presence begins to creep into their lives and haunt them slowly. It captures the



overwhelming sense of dread that made the first "IT" so wonderful, while moving the setting of the action from the 1950s to what appears to be the 1980s.

One of the strongest things about the upcoming "IT" remake is the way in

which it seems to have changed Pennywise. Bill Skarsgård's version of the monster looks considerably different when compared to the Tim Curry incarnation of the villain from 1990, and his overall depiction has changed dramati-

cally. There's much less humour to this new version of Pennywise, and he has a more animalistic persona.

Andres Muschietti's "IT" has held most of its principal details relatively close to the chest over the course of the last few months, but this trailer seems like a reliable indication that "IT" could potentially become one of the better horror remakes in recent memory. Hollywood has consistently updated classic scary movies over the course of the last two decades, and the bulk of them have really not been very enjoyable. That said, this trailer bodes well for the upcoming project, and it promises to fall more into the category of "Evil Dead" and "Dawn of the Dead" remakes -- rather than "A Nightmare On Elm Street" or "Friday The 13th".

The horror remake will creep its way into theatres September 8.

Source: Cinemablend