

WHAT'S ON

Borshoboron 1424
 Organiser: Chhayanaut
 Venue: Ramna Botomul
 Date: April 14
 Time: 6:10am



Solo Art Exhibition
 Title: Face-to-Face
 by Moon Rahman
 Venue: Kala Kendra, 1/11, Iqbal Road (3rd floor), Mohammadpur
 Date: Apr 1-24, Time: 5-8pm



Syed Badruddin Hossain Theatre Fest
 Organiser: Padatik Natya Sangsad (TSC)
 Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
 Date: Apr 5-11; Time: 7pm Daily



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



Group Mask Exhibition
 Title: Mukh O Mukhosh-7
 Venue: Galleri Kaya, H-20, Rd-16, Sec-4, Uttara
 Date: Apr 8-18
 Time: 11am-8pm

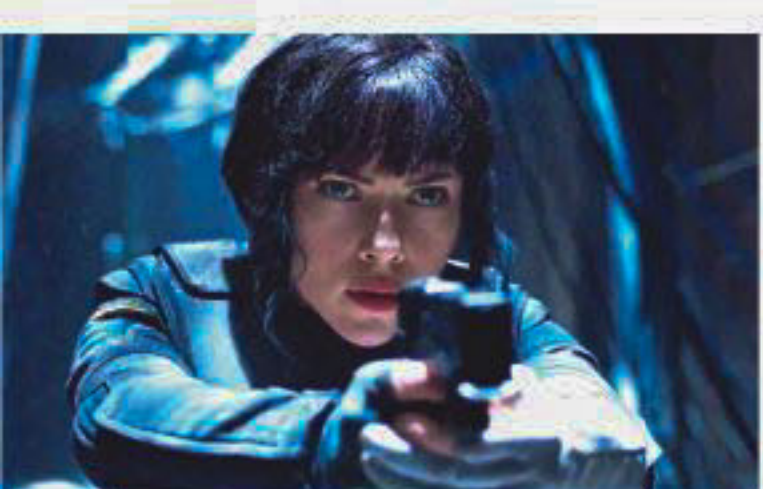


NEWS bytes

"Ghost in the Shell" tops foreign Box Office

"Ghost in the Shell" is trying to find redemption overseas after bombing domestically. The Japanese manga adaptation topped the foreign box office this weekend, taking in a leading \$41.3 million from 46 markets. That brings the science-fiction adventure's global haul to \$124.4 million, a disappointing result given its \$110 million production budget and the tens of millions spent marketing and distributing.

The film, which stars Scarlett Johansson as a cyber warrior, got a boost from China, where it opened to \$21.4 million. "Ghost in the Shell" received a social media shel-



lacking for the producers' decision to cast Johansson in a role originally written for an Asian performer.

DreamWorks Animation and Fox's "The Boss Baby" nabbed second place on the charts, picking up \$37.5 million. The family film stars Alec Baldwin as a suit-wearing tyke whose entrance on the scene sparks sibling rivalry.

Disney's "Beauty and the Beast" closed in on the \$1 billion mark, taking third place with \$36.1 million from 55 territories, bringing its global haul to \$977.4 million.

Source: Variety



Faridur Reza Sagar (L) speaks at the press conference.

Hajaro Kontthe Borshoboron returns
 Channel i and Shurer Dhara's Noboborsho celebrations

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Shurer Dhara and Channel i – one a leading music school, another a top TV channel of the country – will jointly bid adieu to Bangla Year 1423 and welcome 1424 through the "Sunsilk Hajaro Kontthe Borshoboron" programme. The event has been Shurer Dhara's annual signature programme marking Chaitra Sangkranti and Pahela Baishakh, and Channel i have partnered with them for the past many years. This year, hair care brand Sunsilk is the title sponsor of the event, to be held at the Bangabandhu International Conference Centre.

A press conference was held in this regard yesterday, where Channel i Managing Director Faridur Reza Sagar, Shurer Dhara chairman and eminent Rabindra Sangeet exponent Rezwana Chowdhury Bannya and Head of Personal Care of Unilever Bangladesh Nafis Anwar were present.

The programme will begin at the stroke of dusk on April 13, or Chaitra Sangkranti (the last day of the Bangla calendar), continuing up to midnight on the theme "Bangladesh-e-Rabindra". Amirul Islam and Shahidul Islam Sachchu will direct the programme, which will be broadcast on Channel i.

On the dawn of April 14, Rezwana Chowdhury Bannya will lead a chorus of a thousand singers from all over the country, singing songs ushering in the New Year. Bannya will herself sing six solos (including songs of Pancha-Kobi), while other noted artistes of the country will present Rabindra Sangeet, Nazrul Sangeet and more. The event will also feature a concert by Ayub Bachchu and his band LRB, along with a Baishakhi Fashion Show. A kite festival, organised by Kite Federation, will also be an attraction at the event which will host a traditional fair featuring handicrafts, pitha, and other folk-themed items. The programme will continue till noon.

Nashid Kamal to launch new album

A CORRESPONDENT

Renowned Nazrul exponent and professor Nashid Kamal is releasing a new album on Pahela Baishakh. Titled "Neemer Dottara," the album comprises of twelve folk songs regarded as family treasures. The artiste is the granddaughter of the late eminent folk singer Abbasuddin Ahmed, and belongs to a family of renowned musical personalities.

Composed by Durbadal Chakravarty, the album will be launched under the banner "Bihaan Music" from West Bengal. Additionally, the artiste will perform live in the programme "Aj Shokaler Amontrone" aired by Tara Muzik on April 30.



Kamal Ahmed performs at IGCC

A CORRESPONDENT

Indira Gandhi Culture Centre organised an evening of Rabindra Sangeet by Kamal Ahmed at Sufia Kamal Auditorium of National Museum on April 9.

Kamal Ahmed, Director of Bangladesh Betar, rendered sixteen songs at the event including "Nishi Na Pohate", "Asha Jaoar Pother Dhare", "Dinguli Mor Sonar Kanchai Roilo Na", "Je Tomaye Chare Charuk", "Aakash Bhora Sujotara", "Bhora Thak Smritisudhai" and more.

"Since the event was organised by the Indian High Commission, the crowd that greeted me was elite and I have chosen songs on nature, puja, swadesh, as well as those that highlight the present season of Bashanta," Kamal Ahmed said.

Kamal Ahmed, who has a passion for music, has won several awards including SAARC Cultural Society Sammanona; Bangabandhu Gobeshona Foundation Award; Adwaitia Mallabarman Smriti Sammanona and Dhirendranath Dutta Sammanona.



Kamal Ahmed (C) performs at the event.



Pakistan bans NAAM SHABANA
 a day after release

The Pakistan censor board has banned the screening of Bollywood action thriller "Naam Shabana" over objectionable content after initially allowing its release with some cuts. Last week, the film was allowed to run but a theatre in Islamabad showed it without the mandatory cuts, leading to the ban.

"It prompted the censor board to ban the screening of the movie," an official said. He said that some of the scenes related to terrorism were not fit enough to be shown.

The officials at censor board were reluctant to allow its screening but the local distributor Ever Ready Pictures persuaded them to allow the release after editing.

"Naam Shabana" stars Taapsee Pannu, Manoj Bajpayee, Akshay Kumar and Anupam Kher, and was initially released in Pakistan on March 31.

Pakistan had banned the screening of Indian films last year, after cross-border tension between the two countries. The ban was, however, lifted at the start of this year allowing the screening of Indian films after approval by the censor board.

Source: Hindustan Times

M'singh gets in festive mood for Pahela Baishakh

AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh

As Pahela Baishakh, the beginning of the Bangla New Year 1424 knocks at the door, students of the Fine Arts Department of Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University (JKKNIU) in Trishal of Mymensingh are gearing up for the traditional Mongol Shobhajatra rally.

As the Mongol Shobhajatra has gained international recognition, this year's preparations are special, students said. They are working to shape traditional items like decorated pots, traditional dolls, birds, animals and musical instruments at the department premises, to add colour to the celebratory procession on campus.

Some 300 traditional masks will be included in the rally to make it more vibrant, said Nagarbasi Barman, head of Fine Arts Department. He also informed that preparations for the rally are on schedule.

The students of Fine Arts Department will also organise a fanush (sky lantern) festival, lighting lamps and fireworks on Chaitra Sankranti, the last day of the Bangla Year 1423, sources said.

A daylong programme, including traditional games and sports, plays by artistes of Natyakala (Theatre and Performance Art) Department and cultural programme by Music Department of the university is on the cards, said Professor Mohit Ul Alam, vice-



Students of JKKNIU's Fine Arts department busy in preparations.

PHOTO: STAR

chancellor of JKKNIU.

Marking the celebrations, teachers and students of Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin Fine Arts College in Mymensingh are also preparing for the rally, informed Mohammad Abdur Rouf, acting principal of the college.

Brahmashoili, a forum of painters in Mymensingh

is also getting ready to celebrate the New Year, said artiste Hossain Farooq. Mymensingh Borshoboron Utjapon Parshad has also under taken preparations for a colourful rally marking the day. Many socio-cultural and educational institutions in the district are busy with preparations too.

Padatik's theatre fest closes today

"Kritodasher Hashi" and "Shikhandi Kotha" to be staged

A CORRESPONDENT

Padatik Natya Sangsad's weeklong theatre festival, paying tribute to language movement veteran, educationist and columnist Syed Badruddin Hossain, comes to an end today at the Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA). The festival opened on April 5 and has so far seen plays staged by Aranyak Natya Dal, Theatre Art Unit, Prachyanat, BotTala, Batighar, Anwasha Theatre (Mymensingh) and Curtain Call (India) along with hosts Padatik Natya Sangsad. The festival also features a cultural programme at the open premise of BSA from 5pm to 6:30pm every day. The plays were staged at the main auditorium and experimental theatre hall of BSA.

The troupe also handed out felicitations to two thespians – SM Solaiman (post-humous) and Lucky Enam on April 7. Speaker of the parliament Shireen Sharmin Chowdhury attended the programme as chief guest.

On the closing day today Nagorik Natyangan will stage "Kritodasher Hashi" at the main auditorium, while Mahakal Natya Sampraday will bring "Shikhandi Kotha" to the experimental theatre hall stage.

Padatik Natya Sangsad has been holding the festival annually since 2010, marking the birth anniversary of Syed Badruddin Hossain (April 11).



A scene from "Shikhandi Kotha"