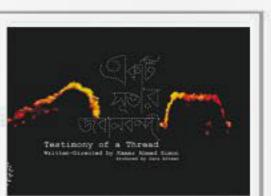
Solo Art Exhibition Title: Face-to-Face Artist: Moon Rahman Venue: Kala Kendra Date: Apr 1-24; Time: 5-8pm



Film Screening Title: Testimony of a Thread Venue: Chhyanaut Date: April 22 Time: 4:30 pm



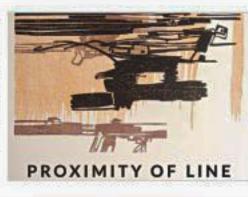
Solo Photography Exhibition Title: Unseen in Our Sight: Dalits in Photographer: GMB Akash Venue: Alliance Française de Dhaka Date: April 15-29; Time: 3pm-9pn



Group Art Exhibition Title: Exhibition 2017 Venue: Gallery Chitrak, H-4, Rd-6



Solo Art Exhibition Title: Proximity of Line Artist: Ruhul Karim Rumee Venue: Shilpangan, Dhanmondi Date: Apr 21- May 5



"I almost didn't sign 'Debi''

...Sabnam Faria

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Although she started her career as a model, Sabnam Faria is now mostly busy with TV plays. The popular model-actress recently also signed her first movie, the muchhyped adaptation of Humayun Ahmed's "Debi". In a recent chitchat with The Daily Star, she talked about her new venture and more. Excerpts:

"Debi" is going to be your first film. How does it feel?

Sabnam: I am ecstatic, in a word. The film is based on a Humayun Ahmed's novel, and that makes it all that more special. What role are you playing in the film? Is

your character anything like you in real life? Sabnam: Nilu, the character I am portraying, has no resemblance to me. Nilu is a very calm and quiet person, but as a person I'm very restless and always in a happy, energetic When did you first read the novel?

Sabnam: I read "Debi" when I was still in school. I actually really liked the character of Nilu back then, but little did I know one day I will be brining the character to life. After getting the offer for the character, I read the

novel for the second time.

There was any nervousness over acting in the film?

Sabnam: I was naturally very nervous even a day before start of the shooting, because it is my debut film and something as big as "Debi". But Jaya Ahsan and other members of

the unit really helped me ease into it. I'm a big fan of Jaya. Interestingly, I actually came back without signing the film on the first day, as Nilu is a supporting character and Ranu is the lead role. Afterwards, I decided to sign the movie.

Do you often get offers for films? Sabnam: I've got a lot of film offers but it never came through - I was looking for the perfect combination of a good story, good director and a good role. This is the first time all of it came together for me. This is the kind of films I want to do, even if it is sporadic. Do you think Dhallywood is making good films in recent years?

Sabnam: I definitely think so. There are at least seven to eight good films being made in a year. Young directors are coming out; they are bringing awards from festivals abroad. It is also creating the field for us to work more.

What are you currently busy with? Sabnam: Fifty percent of the shooting for "Debi" is completed; the rest of the work will start a few days later. I'm now doing some dramas serials and of them, two are being telecasted. I recently also completed shooting for a six-episode Eid play, and am filming some TV plays for Eid at the moment.



AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh

A mesmerising performance by Abdul Quddus Bayati entertained the huge audience at Mymensingh Town Hall premises. Quddus Bayati and his troupe per-

formed on the concluding day of the three-day celebrations marking Pahela Baishakh on Sunday evening. Mymensingh municipal authority

organised the programme.

Bayati's flamboyant performance to the songs of Shah Abdul Karim, Jalal Uddin Khan and other regional folk songs of Mymensingh greatly appealed to the audience. Bayati, who comes from Kendua

upazila of Netrakona district, said he finds himself livelier at such open stage performances where there is a greater interaction with the audience.

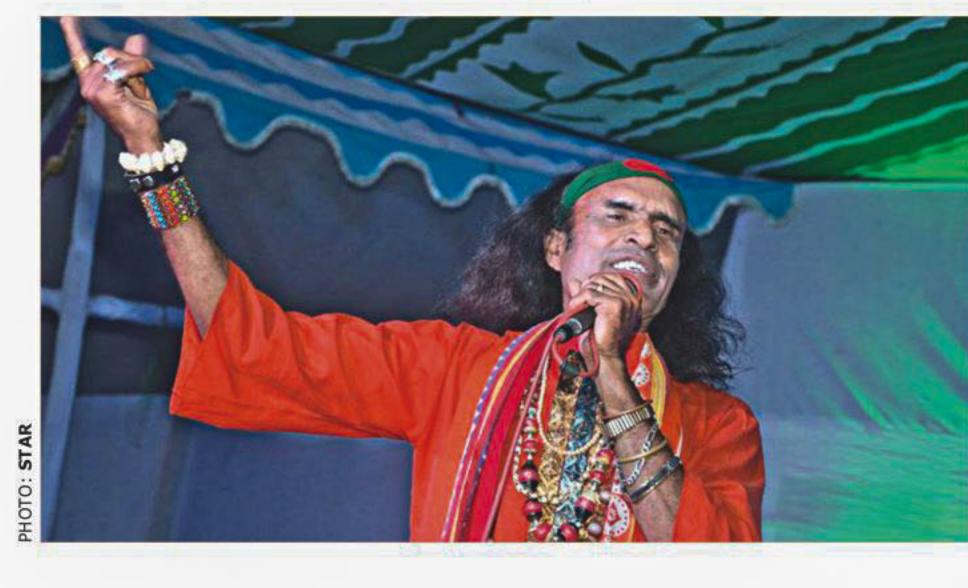
The three-day celebrations were also

sequences and poetry recitation sessions.

Sandipon Sangskiritk Sangstha, Matir Baul, Lokokristi Sangstha, Sur Taal Loy, Saregmapa, Jagoroni Natya Ghoshthi, Awami Shilpi Ghoshthi, Swabhumi, Five Star, Nrittangon, and Nrittyadhara among others, performed at the programme, said Mahbub Hossain Sharif, director of Sandipon.

Kabial, a recitation group took part in recitation session on the second day. Sompriti Sangstha staged two palas-'Rubban' and 'Kalamoynar Badyar Pala' on the inaugural and second day.

Earlier, mayor of the municipality Ekramul Haque Titu inaugurated the celebrations. Deputy Commissioner of Mymensingh Md Khalilur Rahman and advocate Abul Kashem were present, among others.



Borshoborn celebrations in Indian capital

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

As I walked at around 5am on a Pohela Baisakh 21 summers ago from Science Laboratory Road to Ramna Botomul, it was the last time I could savour the joy of 'Borshoboron;. And when I melted into the sea of humanity clad in red-and-white saree and colourful panjabi and pyjama all around, I could fathom that Noboborsho is truly a mass event that knows no religious divide.

A part of that memory comes alive again when I attend the customary Borshoboron function at the Bangladesh High Commission here every year. This year -- on Friday (April 14) -- was no exception.

There was a musical soiree, recitation by senior Bangladeshi diplomats and local cultural group Spandan, and above all hopes of a new start at the celebration of the advent of Bangla New Year 1424 at the Bangladesh High Commission's Maitree Hall in New Delhi in the evening.

The celebrations began with Rabindranath Tagore's song "O Amar Desher Mati" by Counsellor Moazzem Hossain and his wife, after which the Bangladesh High Commissioner to India Syed Muazzem Ali said Pahela Baishakh came up with a brief speech with a message of "hope and optimism" for a better tomorrow.

Ali referred to two views about the possible start of Noboborsho as an event-either during the reign of 7th century King Sashanka or Mughal Emperor Akbar to start collection of land tax.

Rebutting a view by some that Nababarsho celebration was 'un-Islamic', he insisted that the celebrations in Dhaka are not only secular and non-communal but also the biggest event involving the masses cutting across religious lines.

Many Indian friends of Bangladesh, members of the Bengali community and officials of the High Commission and their families in traditional colours of Baishakh gathered at the Maitree Hall to welcome the New Year.

Recitation of Tagore's poem, "Aaji E Prabhatey Robir Kar", and an array of songs by Tagore, Nazrul, Lalon, Rudra Mohd. Shahidullah and folk songs were presented by officials of the High Commission and Spandan, a cultural group.

There was no 'hilsa' when the programme was rounded off with a typical Bangla dinner. In deference to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's appeal not to catch hilsa at breeding time, the fish was not served. But the presence of khichri, ruhi maach bhaja, begun bhaja, murighonto and raj bhog in the menu made up for the absence of it.

New "Pirates 5" trailer confirms return of Keira Knightley

Glimpse of Elizabeth Swann in "Dead Man Tell No Tales"

"Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales" is coming out next month, and as per usual, Captain Jack Sparrow (Johnny Depp) will be causing a ruckus as he deals with the latest foe who's antagonising the high seas. However, he won't be the only important familiar faces fans can look forward to in the newest "Pirates" installment. Not only will Captain Hector Barbossa (Geoffrey Rush) and Gibbs (Kevin McNally) be back for another round of adventuring, but Orlando Bloom's Will Turner was revealed to be coming back after being absent from this series for a decade. Now it's official that Will's wife will also be gracing the big



screen again, as the new "Dead Men Tell No Tales" trailer from Japan shows a quick shot of Elizabeth Swann, played by Keira Knightley.

Keira Knightley was rumored to appear in "Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales" last December, but this new preview confirms that she will make an appearance in the fifth entry of the long-running Disney movie series. While it's immediately clear that she's on land in shot and appears to have spotted something, this isn't enough to gauge how she'll fit into the story. However, given both her husband's involvement and that her son Henry (played by Brenton Thwaites) is one of the leading characters in the film, it stands to reason that she'll at least have a minor role rather

than a blink-and-you-miss-it cameo. The last time Elizabeth Swann was seen in a "Pirates" film was in 2007's "Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End", when Davy Jones had been defeated and Will Turner had been revived from the dead as the Dutchman's new captain. Because of Will's new duty to escort souls to the afterlife, he and Elizabeth consummated their marriage, and before departing, he gave her the Dead Man's Chest, which contained his heart, for safekeeping. The "At World's End" post-credits scene showed the couple reuniting a decade later, but this time, Elizabeth was accompanied by Henry. "Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales" takes place at least a decade later (if not more), and while an earlier preview showed Henry and Will crossing paths, maybe the whole family will reunite once this insanity with Javier Bardem's Armando Salazar is over.

"Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales" storms into theatres worldwide, starting May 26.

NEWS bytes

Unreleased Prince music releasing Friday

To honour the one year anniversary of Prince's death, a six-song EP of previously unreleased material called "Deliverance" will be released on Friday. The title track is available now on iTunes and Apple Music.

The collection comprises undiscovered studio recordings from 2006-2008 and will be released via Rogue Music Alliance. The set is also now available for pre-order on iTunes, Google Play and Amazon and a physical version will be released June 2.

Among the EP's tracks is a fourmovement medley of "I Am",

> "Touch Me", "Sunrise Sunset" and "No One Else". The songs were written and recorded while Prince was an independent art-

iste, using them an avenue for protest against what he saw as injustice in

the music industry. According to a press release, the majority of all sales of Deliverance will benefit Prince's estate.

Prince co-wrote and coproduced the songs with his mixing and recording engineer from 2004-2009, Ian Boxill. Boxill spent the past year after Prince's passing completing the compositions and arrangements, finishing the produc-

tion and mixing the songs.

Source: Billboard

"Binodon Sharadin" approaches 1000th episode



Today marks the 1000th episode of Maasranga's entertainment programme "Binodon Sharadin." With a successful run for over five years, May 6 marks the programme's sixth year anniversary. Planned and led by Rumman Rashid Khan, the programme is produced by SM Humayun Kabir and anchored by Jiyon and Nandita. The show is aired at 6pm from Sunday through Thursday.

Over the years, the show has witnessed prolific artistes appearing as guests, including Syed Hasan Imam, Mustafa Zaman Abbasi, Saheen Samad, Sadya Afreen Mallick, the late Shahidul Islam Khokon, Suborna Mustafa, Raisul Islam Asad, the late actress Diti, Alamgir, Ferdousi, Riaz, Ananta Jalil, Jaya Ahsan, Mahfuz Ahmed, Tauquir Ahmed, Shahiduzzaman Selim, Mosharraf Karim, and many more. Tonight's special episode will include a reprisal of these distinguished guests.

