

WHAT'S ON
Solo Art Exhibition
 Title: Face-to-Face
 Artist: Moon Rahman
 Venue: Kala Kendra, Mohammadpur
 Date: Apr 1-24; Time: 5-8pm



Theatre Festival
 Organiser: BSA Employees' Union
 Venue: National & Experimental Theatre Hall, BSA
 Date: Apr 24-28
 Time: 7pm



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



Solo Art Exhibition
 Title: Perception
 Artist: Uttom Kumar Roy
 Venue: Radius Art Gallery, 57 Gulshan Avenue-1
 Date: April 8- May 4
 Time: 9am-10pm



Solo Art Exhibition
 Title: Proximity of Line
 Artist: Ruhul Karim Rumeed
 Venue: Shilpangan, Dhannondi
 Date: Apr 21- May 5
 Time: 3-8pm




The directors and consultants at the press conference.

"Aynabaji" spinoff TV series coming this Eid

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
 "Aynabaji Original Series", a brand new TV series carrying on from the record-breaking film of 2016, will air on three TV channels this Eid. The spinoff series will have seven episodes directed by seven different directors, and the one-hour episodes will air simultaneously on Gtv, Rtv and Deepto TV on seven consecutive days. The disclosure was made in a press conference yesterday. All the episodes will be standalone plays set against different backdrops and individual stories, based on the

core premise of "Aynabaji" that a person in his lifetime may live many different peoples' lives. This is the first time that a film made in Bangladesh has been adapted into a TV series, which is more common in the international film industry. Aside from seven top-line directors, the creative force behind "Aynabaji" the film will oversee the project, with director Amitabh Reza as the overall directorial consultant and screenwriter Syed Gausul Alam Shaon as the creative consultant. Tom Creations and Kandy Production are jointly producing the series, which will be helmed

by Krishnendu Chattopadhyay, Ashfaq Nipun, Sumon Anowar, Goutam Koiri, Tanim Rahman Angshu and Rabiul Alam Robi. Ziauddin Adil, CEO, Top of Mind and producer of the "Aynabaji Original Series" said at the press conference: "'Aynabaji' is a milestone that truly stands on its own in the Bangladeshi film industry. 'Aynabaji Original Series', brought by the same team, is set to recreate the original spirit of the film, and allow viewers to relive the experience not just once but through seven new stories."

Kirti Ramgopal performs Bharathanatyam at IUB

A CORRESPONDENT
 Independent University, Bangladesh in association with Shadhona - a centre for the advancement of South Asian culture hosted a Bharathanatyam recital performed by Bharathanatyam prodigy Kirti Ramgopal on April 22, at IUB campus in Bashundhara, Dhaka. During a one-and-half hour performance, the eminent artiste showcased neat technique, strong stance and facial expressions through her graceful presentation of Mallari, Alarippu, Astapadi and Tillana. Kirti Ramgopal not only performed, but also synchronized with the audience through the soulfulness of her performance. Kirti Ramgopal is acclaimed as one of the brightest talents of Bharathanatyam of her generation. She has traveled across India and internationally throughout US, Canada, UK, Europe, the Middle East and Bangladesh with her art.



Chanchal Chowdhury receives his award.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
 Meril-Prothom Alo awarded the best performers and productions on television and film in a star-studded grand programme on Friday at the capital's Bangabandhu International Conference Centre. Syed Hasan Imam was accorded the Lifetime Achievement Award at this year's ceremony. Attendees also stood up in a minute of silence as news broke of the passing of the legendary singer-composer Lucky Akhand. In the critics' choice awards, "Oggyatonama" won best film, while Amitabh Reza Chowdhury was named best director for "Aynabaji", while Chanchal Chowdhury picked up best actor for the same film. Sajhbatu won

best actress for "Shongkhochil". In the critics' choice for television, Sarwar Reza Jimmy won best screenwriter for "Jog Biyog", for which Afran Nisho also won best actor. Sagar Jahan won best director for "Madhobilata Groho Ar Na", and Aupee Karim took home best actress for the same play. In the popular choice awards which was voted by Prothom Alo readers, Shakib Khan won best actor (film) for "Shikari", Nabila won best actress (film) for "Aynabaji", Mosharraf Karim won best actor (TV) for "Bougiri" and Tisha won best actress (TV) for "Ekti Talgach-er Golpo". Bubli won best newcomer for "Bossgiri", and the song "Dil Dil Dil" from the film also won best singer awards for Kona and Imran.

Meril-Prothom Alo awards the best in TV and film

In her reaction, Bubli told The Daily Star: "I would give the audience all the credit for my award. If they did not like my work, I would not have continued work in the media." First time awardee Nabila also shared her excitement with The Daily Star, saying "It was a really special moment for me." Mosharraf Karim, meanwhile told The Daily Star "Awards always increases your responsibilities, and this is no different. It drives me to do better work." Ferdous and Purnima hosted the programme that also featured a musical performance by Niaz Mahmud Chowdhury and dance performances by Aupee Karim, Mehzebien, Sarika, and dance troupes from Nriyanchal and Srishti Cultural Centre.

"Deadpool 2" set to land in Summer 2018

"Deadpool 2" — one of Hollywood's most anticipated sequels — has booked a release date in theaters. The follow-up to the groundbreaking and irreverent superhero 2016 film will hit the big screen on June 1, 2018, Fox revealed. It was a busy morning for the studio, between "Deadpool 2" and dating four "Avatar" sequels alongside a slew of other films, including an upcoming Steven Spielberg film, Bryan Singer's "Bohemian Rhapsody", two more Fox/Marvel movies, X-Men spinoff "New Mutants" and sequel "Dark Phoenix", and Steve McQueen's female-lead pic, "Widows". Ryan Reynolds once again stars as the titular superhero in "Deadpool 2". The film series is a passion project for the actor, who spent years trying to get the first "Deadpool" made. Reynolds, a producer on the films, also played a key role in the award-winning marketing campaign for the first film. The movie, released in



February 2016, was a sleeper hit, earning \$783 million worldwide to become the top-grossing R-rated film of all time. This time, David Leitch is in the director's chair instead of Tim Miller. Newcomers to "Deadpool 2" include Zazie Beetz as Domino and Josh Brolin as Cable. Shooting is set to begin in June. Next year is going to be jam-packed in terms of Fox superhero titles: "New Mutants" will open April 13, 2018, while "Dark Phoenix" hits cinema on November 2. The former, directed by Josh Boone, follows a young team of superheroes, while "Dark Phoenix" will revisit a classic comic book storyline that saw Jean Grey (Sophie Turner) become the host for the Phoenix Force, a cosmic entity that eventually drives her to becoming a destructive force that ultimately leads to her death. Longtime X-Men writer and producer Simon Kinberg is a top contender to direct the project, which is a follow-up to 2016's "X-Men Apocalypse". In terms of awards contenders, Fox has dated Steven Spielberg's Washington Post/Pentagon Papers film, starring Meryl Streep and Tom Hanks, for limited release on December 22 this year. The untitled film will expand nationwide on January 12, 2018. McQueen's "Widows" is also a potential awards contender, and will open in theaters on November 16, 2018. Also in the fourth quarter of 2018, Singer's "Bohemian Rhapsody" has been given the high-profile release date of December 25. Fox also made a number of tweaks to its release calendar, including moving up "Murder on the Orient Express" from November 22 of this year to November 10, and pushing back the release of Jennifer Lawrence's "The Red Sparrow" from November 10 to March 2, 2018 and "The Predator" from February 9, 2018 to August 3.

Deepika cast as 'Mafia Queen' with Irrfan Khan

Deepika Padukone has signed her next film after "Padmavati", and it reunites her with "Piku" co-star Irrfan Khan, reports film industry insiders. Trade analyst Taran Adarsh tweeted on Friday revealing that Deepika and Irrfan have been cast in a film to be co-produced by Vishal Bhardwaj and directed by Honey Singh, casting head for films like "Raees", "Udta Punjab" and several Bhardwaj-directed movies including "Maqbool", "Omkaara" and "Kaminey". The film doesn't have a name yet, but is based on journalist S Hussain Zaidi's book "Mafia Queens Of Mumbai", reports news agency IANS. Deepika will play gangster Rahima Khan, also known as Sapna Didi, and Irrfan's character helps her take on underworld boss Dawood Ibrahim, according to IANS. "Deepika has been asking me to write a script for her for a long time. She heard this script and loved it. We are in an advance stage of discussion with her," Vishal Bhardwaj was quoted as saying. "Piku", which also starred Amitabh Bachchan, was directed by Shoojit Sircar



and released in 2015. It received several plaudits, including top marks for the performances of Deepika, Irrfan and Bachchan. Deepika was kept busy last year film-

mance as Serena Unger was singled out for performance. After completing her scenes, Deepika shot a song sequence for upcoming Bollywood film "Raabta", which stars Sushant Singh Rajput and Kriti Sanon. Deepika is currently working on the historical drama "Padmavati", directed by Sanjay Leela Bhansali and co-starring actors Ranveer Singh and Shahid Kapoor. "Padmavati", in which she plays the title character, is based on the legend of how Rani Padmini of Chittor escaped invader Alauddin Khilji, played by Ranveer. The film has been dogged by controversy, with sets vandalised and its director assaulted in Jaipur by a fringe Rajput organisation that objected to supposed scenes depicting a romance between Rani Padmini and Emperor Alauddin Khilji. Filming was moved to Maharashtra's Kolhapur area where, again, the set was attacked and set on fire, damaging costumes and props. Nobody was hurt and none of the principal actors were present.