

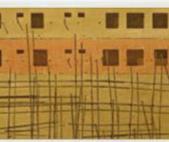
Solo art Exhibition
Golden Doors
Artist: Prashanta Karmakar
Venue: Bay's Galleria, Radius Centre
Date: May 6-28
Time: 9am-10pm



Solo Art Exhibition
The Empire of Dream
Artist: Ripon Saha
Venue: Kala Kenda, Mohammadpur
Date: May 6-30
Time: 5-8pm



Group Art Exhibition
Title: Sense, Perception and Interpretation
Venue: Alliance Française de Dhaka
Date: May 19-27
Time: 3pm-9pm



Group Art Exhibition
Marking 13th Anniversary of Galleri Kaya
Venue: Galleri Kaya, Uttara
Date: May 5-28
Time: 11am-8pm



Solo Art Exhibition
The Empire of Dream
Artist: Ripon Saha
Venue: Kala Kenda, Mohammadpur
Date: May 6-30
Time: 5-8pm



Keeping Nazrul's music alive

In conversation with Masuda Anam Kalpona

ROBINA RASHID BHUIYAN

There is no question that Kazi Nazrul Islam's legacy goes beyond literary acclaim. The aptly-named Rebel Poet has triggered a groundbreaking call to revolution, a demand for social change that continues to stir the hearts of millions today and for generations to come. Nazrul exponents have played a key role in driving this legacy forward, through promoting the practice of his songs and spreading his ideology. Reputed Nazrul singer Masuda Anam Kalpona has been practicing the Bard's songs since her childhood and has released a number of albums till date. Yesterday, marking the Rebel Poet's 118th birth anniversary, the artiste released three new albums of Nazrul songs.

While she has a particular fondness for his Raga-based songs, Kalpona Anam endeavours to highlight his lesser-known compositions. Her new albums, titled "Keno KaNde Poran", "Nomo Nomo Bangladesh Momo" and "Phiriya Jodi Shey Ashe" contain ten songs each, and will be uploaded on her website at kalponaanam.com. "I have released the CDs online to make it more accessible for listeners," said the singer. "Technology has played a vital part in preserving Kazi Nazrul Islam's legacy, and now his rarer compositions are readily available on YouTube and other online platforms."

The artiste went onto add that these songs were composed during Nazrul's prime years. "These are the songs written during his youth, when he was between the ages of 20 to 30," she stated. "Some of the songs



included have numerous debates regarding the authenticity of tunes, but I carefully researched the most original melodies, and recorded them accordingly." There are endless possibilities to diversify the works of Nazrul and bring them closer to the mainstream. "It is not possible to carry out this momentous responsibility on your own," the singer mused. "We require greater support from more driven

individuals. Some of his works have been composed by various artistes over time, which has been received well by listeners. However, the popularity of these songs has rendered the loss of the original tunes, and in my next album I plan to release these songs the way it has always been intended. An archive must be kept and maintained once the original works are found, to preserve his legacy in the rightful manner."

"Nabab" promises action-packed extravaganza

First trailer of Shakib Khan's Eid film released

A Correspondent

Shakib Khan may have had a rough couple of months off the screen – with the whole Apu Biswas debacle, and conflicts with the Directors' Association – but his on-screen presence seems to be on the rise with Eid season coming. A day after the trailer launch of "Rajniti", another one of Shakib's films, "Nabab" - gave fans its first trailer, promising action and glamour in abundance.

The film, produced by Jaaz Multimedia, has Joydeep Mukherjee and Abdul Aziz as directors, with Kolkata's Subasree Ganguly in the female lead. Rajatabha Dutta, Amit Hasan and Sabyasachi Chakrabarty are also in the cast.

The trailer, which shows the film to be at least partly based in India (if not entirely), has gunshots and glam shots in equal proportions. The plot seems to revolve around some terrorist activity, with a suave, hardened crime-fighter Shakib chasing them down. A number of songs are also previewed in the trailer, in full-blast grandeur that people have come to expect of in Jaaz Multimedia films. The trailer ends with Shakib claiming that he has taken the oath to 'save the country', and he can do it alone.

The film is set to release this Eid.



NEWS bytes

"BOSS BABY 2" dated for March '21



DreamWorks Animation is moving forward on a sequel to its box office hit "The Boss Baby" and dated the film for March 26, 2021.

Alec Baldwin is returning to voice the title character with Universal Pictures distributing.

The sequel brings back the creative team from the sleeper hit for a new adventure based on award-winning author Marla Frazee's picture-book series.

Directed by Tom McGrath, the story follows a suit-wearing, briefcase-carrying baby that pairs up with his seven-year-old brother to stop the dastardly plot of the CEO of Puppy Co. The voice cast also included Miles Christopher Bakshi, Tobey Maguire, Jimmy Kimmel, Lisa Kudrow, Steve Buscemi, and ViviAnn Yee.

DreamWorks Animation is next set to release "Captain Underpants", starring Kevin Hart and Ed Helms, on June 2.

Source: Variety

"X-Men: New Mutants"

shifts focus to 'full-fledged horror'

After confirming that Maisie Williams and Anya Taylor-Joy would be joining Josh Boone's X-Men universe spin-off "The New Mutants" earlier this month, Collider reports to have new information that gets a little more detailed than previous knowledge about it drawing inspiration from Chris Claremont and Bob McLeod's early 80s creation about a team of young Marvel mutants.

Entertainment Weekly spoke to writer-director Josh Boone himself, and the most interesting of that conversation is the tone of this project, which is apparently shifting from its earlier iteration as a Young Adult-styled film to more of a horror focus.

Based on the current cast, they really could have gone either way with it: 20-year-old Williams will play



Wolfsbane alongside 21-year-old Taylor-Joy as Magik. Henry Zaga (from "13 Reasons Why") is rumored for the role of Sunspot, with Rosario Dawson in negotiations to play Dr. Cecilia Reyes, "a medical doctor who has the ability to generate a protective bio-field around herself," and will act as a mentor of sorts, as The Hollywood Reporter reports. It's still unclear whether or not James McAvoy's Professor X or Alexandra Shipp's Storm will appear, as there have been conflicting reports.

"We are making a full-fledged horror movie set within the X-Men universe. There are no costumes. There are no supervillains. We're trying to do something very, very different," Boone was quoted as saying.

That would certainly be a new approach, considering that Disney/Marvel, Sony/Marvel, 20th Century Fox/Marvel, and Warner Bros./DC have done pretty well with costumes and super-villains over the last 20 years or so.

The movie's plot will reportedly take inspiration from artist Bill Sienkiewicz's 1984 run on the Marvel comics series, which Boone described as, "a darker and more surreal and impressionistic X-Men series than we'd ever seen before. It felt like Stephen King meets John Hughes."

The story is expected to explore how mutants are at their most dangerous – to themselves and people around them – when their powers are new.

The film is set to go on floors in July with a targeted April 13, 2018 release.

Source: Collider

Rezauddin Stalin's "Selected Poems" launched



Guests at the book launch.

PHOTO: sSTAR

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rezauddin Stalin's newest book, "Selected Poems", a compilation of selected poetry translated into English, was launched on May 24 at the AS Mahmud Hall of the Daily Star premises.

Organised by Performing Arts Center, Magic Lantern and Kaler Dhoni, the ceremony was chaired by eminent Nazrul exponent Star Arts & Entertainment Editor Sadya Afreen Mallick. The chief guest of the event was Emeritus Professor Rafiqul Islam. Poet and novelist Md Nurul Huda, veteran television personality Nawazish Ali Khan, and

noted academic Prof. Fakhru Alam were present as the special guests.

About the book, Dr Rafiqul Islam said, "We have a serious lack of translated poetry. Even when they are translated, it is done so literally that the essence of the poems is lost, more often than not. Even though I haven't read the book yet, I am hopeful that the translators did a good job in capturing the mood of the poems."

Gulshan Ara Kazi, Zakaria Shiraji and Helaluddin Ahmed worked as translators for the book.

"A lot of people, even renowned poets themselves, say that poetry gets lost in translation. But it is

impossible to spread poetry across the globe without translation. The works of, say, Pablo Neruda, still have the effect of putting us face-to-face with the reality he portrays through his poetry, even though much of the essence may be missing in translation. Through this book of my translated works, I hope to spread the culture of Bangladesh to every corner of the globe," said Rezauddin Stalin.

The ceremony included poetry recitation and music, and was attended by well-wishers and media personnel.

The book is published by Kurighar Prokashani.

Nazrul anniversary celebrations at JKKNIU

AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh

A three-day celebration marking the 118th birth anniversary of National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam was held at Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University (JKKNIU) in Trishal upazila of Mymensingh, from May 23-25.

The three-day programme included a discussion on the life and work of Nazrul, seminars, cultural show, poetry recitation, staging of plays, photo exhibition on Nazrul and art exhibition.



Minister for Religious Affairs, Principal Motiur Rahman inaugurated the event as chief guest with JKKNIU vice-chancellor Prof. Dr. Mohit Ul Alam in the chair.

Students of the Music Department of the university rendered a variety of Nazrul songs. The artistes of Theatre and Performance Studies staged two plays and performed kobi gaan, while students of Department of Fine Arts organised an art exhibition, said Professor Shabnam.

Three eminent personalities - Nazrul artiste Ferdous Ara and Nazrul researchers Razia Sultana (former Dhaka University professor) and Sumita Chattapadhaya from India were honoured at the celebrations for their contribution in respective fields.

Cultural Affairs Ministry and Mymensingh District administration are also holding a three-day programme marking the celebration of the bard at Trishal Darimpur Nazrul Mancha from May 25-27, sources said.

A three-day Nazrul Mela' will also be held. Besides, different socio-cultural organizations are organising cultural shows and discussions, marking the occasion.

Spotlight Art Gallery opens in Dhaka

Spotlight Gallery, a start-up art gallery with a radical new vision, announced they are open to public this past week. The grand opening showcased artworks by Ekushey Award winner artist-sculptor Hamiduzzaman Khan, internationally acclaimed artists Ivy Zaman, Proshanto Karmakar Buddha, Harun Fakir and other emerging artists, says a press release.

Of the gallery's opening night success, Spotlight founder and Director Farhana Hoque said, "We are overwhelmed by the support from the artists and the patrons. We planned for a very small, invite-only event and was surprised by the turnout and support. We had a preview of the artworks before the show at the American Club which was also a great success."

Hoque, who has lived and worked as an artist in Miami, Florida, is optimistic about the future: "Now we are open to the art-loving public and excited to be a part of



the greater art community of Dhaka."

Hamiduzzaman Khan appreciated the gallery's artist-friendly concept and expressed his desire to work with the gallery in the future. "The gallery charges no commission to the artists and it is one of the best displays of artwork in Bangladesh," he commented.

The gallery is expected to present its second group show in July, after

Ramadan.

Spotlight Art Gallery, located in Uttara Sector 13, aims to bring Bangladeshi artists into the world stage and serve as a catalyst to bringing established and promising new artists together. The art gallery also has plans to provide free workshops, promotions and opportunity to artists to participate in international art events.