



Clockwise from top left: Artworks by previous Samdani Art Award winners Ayesha Sultana (2014), Rasel Choudhary (2016) and Khaled Hasan (2012).



# MITHILA'S Eid ventures



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Mithila is a popular face on the small screen, as well as in the world of modeling. The artiste is gearing up for Eid with primarily new TV plays, a few of which have not completed filming. The actor has revealed that six or seven plays featuring her will be released during the holidays. The actor will also be seen in a commercial after two years.

Mithila is cast opposite Shajal in a play helmed by Iftekhar Ahmed Fahmi. Mithila is also in another venture by the director, where she will be seen pairing up with Jon.

Mithila will be seen in two plays alongside popular actor Apurba, one of which is directed by Mizanur Rahman Aryan. "The holidays mean there are countless viewers in front of their TV screens, and so it gives me greater incentive to work in Eid ventures," she said.

The actor was slated to appear in one episode of the "Aynabaji" series, for which filming was to take place in Kushtia. However, a sudden fever prevented Mithila from filming, and she said on a despondent note, "I had been especially looking forward to this venture, and it makes me feel terrible being unable to do it."

The plays encompass a variety of genres, including serious dramas and lighthearted romance. Despite gaining popularity in the drama series "Housefull", the actor is not performing in any series these days, focusing her energies on single episode plays and tele-films.

"I don't know if 'Housefull' was a turning point in my career, but it was most definitely the most important event to have happened," she stated.

The artiste shared that she intends to stay in the capital during Eid. She is yet to buy gifts for her family, but has already shopped for her daughter. "The holiday is all about my girl," she said, "her happiness is mine."

# Samdani Art Award announces 11 FINALISTS

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Samdani Art Foundation has announced the finalists for the next year's Samdani Art Award, which will be given out at the Dhaka Art Summit in February 2018. The Samdani Art Award is Bangladesh's premier art award, and aims to support, promote and highlight Bangladeshi contemporary art. This bi-annual award will be given to a talented emerging artist from Bangladesh between the ages of 22 and 40.

The award, partnering with The Delfina Foundation since 2013, is offering the winner a three-month residency at the Delfina Foundation in London. A residency at the Delfina Foundation can be a career-



defining moment for an artist to develop their ideas, sharpen their practice, and widen their networks.

The finalists were culled from a larger pool of semi-finalists and were chosen by Swiss

Institute director Simon Castets, who will curate a show with all of the eleven finalists during the Dhaka Art Summit. From this pool, the final winner will be selected by a board chaired by Delfina Foundation director



Aaron Cezar and consisted of artists Sheela Gowda, Runa Islam, Subodh Gupta, and Mona Hatoum.

The exhibition, curated by Castets, will be up for the entirety of the biennial summit, scheduled for February 8-10 of next year. Each of the finalists' works will be featured prominently at the Dhaka Art Summit.

The full list of finalists is Ahmed Rasel (b.1988, Barisal), Aprita Singh Lopa (b. 1986, Kishoreganj), Asfika Rahman (b. 1988, Dhaka), Debasish Shom

(b. 1979, Bagerhat), Marzia Farhana (b. 1985, Dhaka), Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury (b. 1981, Noakhali), Opper Zaman (b. 1995, Dhaka), Palash Bhattacharjee (b. 1983, Chittagong), Rakib Ahmed (b. 1988, Netrakona), Reetu A. Sattar (b. 1981, Dhaka) and Sabbir Alam (b. 1982, Kushtia).

Samdani Art Foundation was founded in 2011 by collectors Nadia and Rajeeb Samdani, and is headed up by artistic director and curator Diana Campbell Betancourt. The 2016 Samdani Art Award was curated by Daniel Baumann and the winner was Rasel Choudhary. In 2014 Ayesha Sultana was the Samdani Art Award winner and in 2012 the winners were Khaled Hasan and Musarrat Reazi.

# HANIF SANKET'S tele-drama for Eid

A CORRESPONDENT

Every Eid popular television host Hanif Sanket comes up with a new tele-drama. His Eid special TV play this year is "Bhule Bhese Kule Asha". The drama has many refreshing twists and turns, and subtle social messages go along with the entertainment.

The story revolves around the miserly and greedy Ali Shaheb. Ali's maternal uncle and aunt along with his wife and children play significant parts in the development of the story.

The cast of the drama include: ATM Shamsuzzaman, Dilara Zaman, Apurbo, Ahmed Rubel, Mir Sabbir, Tania Ahmed, Momo. "Bhule Bhese Kule Asha" will be aired on Eid day at 8:50pm on ATN Bangla.



# NIPUN the entrepreneur



A CORRESPONDENT

After a great holiday, Nipun has returned recently from Singapore and is in the midst of a shoot for an Eid special drama under Sezan's direction. Mahfuz will be cast opposite Nipun.

Besides Sezan's Eid special, she will be seen in Shokal Ahmed's "Obhinetri", where Anisur Rahman Milon will be her co-star.

Apart from Eid specials, Nipun will soon begin filming for Uttam Akash's new film "Dhushor Kuasha". Nipun will be back on the big screen after almost two years. Her low profile on the big screen is explained by her decision way back in January 2016 to set herself up as an entrepreneur. In a little over a year, she has reason to be pleased about her highly successful venture "Tulip Nails and Spa".

# Al Amin Khan's homage to Nazrul

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A new CD titled "Kamliwala", featuring Kazi Nazrul Islam's Islamic songs, has been released. Al Amin Khan has recorded tracks for the CD that contains 10 Islamic songs including, "Amina Dulal Nachey Halimar Koley", "Amar Priyo Hazrat Nabi Kamliwala", "Islam Oi Sawda Loye" and "Jedin Roj Hashorey Kortey Bichar", composed by Nazrul.

This is the second CD of Al Amin Khan. Prior to that, he released a similar CD

titled, "Elo Khushir Eid" that contains songs like "Roj Hashorey Allah Amar", "Khoda Ei Goriber", "Ami Jodi Arab Hotam" and "Ramjaner Oi Rojar Sheshey".

The singer has focused on original tunes to record Nazrul's Islamic songs in acapella style. His unique effort has evoked great response from Nazrul Sangeet aficionados.

With the support of Nazrul Institute and financial support from Trust Bank, Greendot has published the albums. Nazrul Sangeet Guru Idris Ali has super-

vised in publishing the album.

Al Amin Khan has a dream to make the creations of Kazi Nazrul Islam available online. Towards this end, he is collaborating with Nazrul Institute (Bangladesh) and Nazrul Tirtha (West Bengal, India).

Al Amin Khan is currently general manager (sales and marketing) for ATN News. The Azan that goes on air on ATN Bangla is recorded by him. He has received several awards for his renditions of Hamd, Naat and Islamic songs in national level competitions.



# "Godzilla 2" synopsis and full cast revealed

Production is officially underway on "Godzilla 2" in Atlanta, as Warner Bros. and Legendary Pictures have released a press release touting the full cast, synopsis, and production details for the follow-up.

While previous reports pegged the movie's title as "Godzilla: King of the Monsters", this press release never refers to the film by any title, meaning that the title might be changing. The follow-up is described as "the next chapter" in WB and Legendary's "cinematic MonsterVerse" which includes

Gareth Edwards' 2014 "Godzilla", Jordan Vogt-Roberts' "Kong: Skull Island", and the upcoming "Godzilla vs. Kong".

While Edwards was intending to direct "Godzilla 2", he dropped off the project a while back. Instead, "Krampus" filmmaker Michael Dougherty is directing from a screenplay co-written with Zach Shields. Ken Watanabe and Sally Hawkins are reprising their roles from "Godzilla" alongside franchise newcomers Vera Farmiga, Kyle Chandler and "Stranger

Things" breakout Millie Bobby Brown. The official synopsis is as follows:

The new story follows the heroic efforts of the crypto-zoological agency Monarch as its members face off against a battery of god-sized monsters, including the mighty Godzilla, who collides with Mothra, Rodan, and his ultimate nemesis, the three-headed King Ghidorah. When these ancient super-species—thought to be mere myths—rise again, they all vie for supremacy, leaving

humanity's very existence hanging in the balance.

The full cast also includes Bradley Whitford, Thomas Middleditch, Charles Dance, O'Shea Jackson Jr., Aisha Hinds, and Zhang Ziyi.

As the third film in the MonsterVerse, this untitled "Godzilla" sequel will be followed by "Godzilla vs. Kong", which recently landed "You're Next" and "Blair Witch" filmmaker Adam Wingard to direct. The "Godzilla" sequel is expected to hit theatres on March 22, 2019.