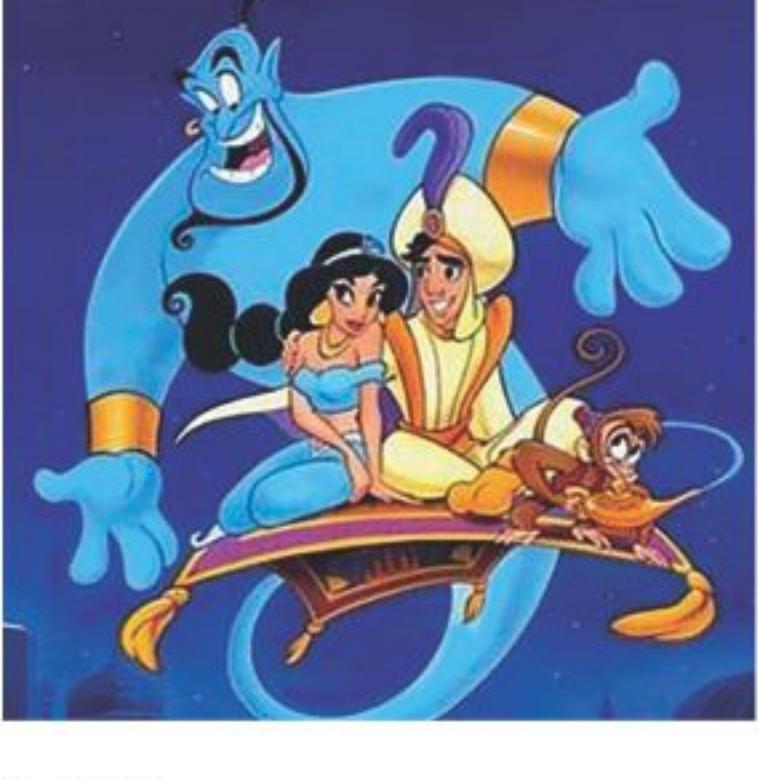


## NEWS bytes

### Disney finds its Aladdin, Jasmine and Genie

Disney has officially found its Aladdin, Jasmine, and Genie for the live-action "Aladdin" remake. The three cast members were announced at the D23 Expo on Saturday.

The House of Mouse may have been having problems finding its titular Aladdin for the remake of the 1992 animated classic prior to D23 this weekend, but the same cannot be said for Jasmine and Genie. Naomi Scott has officially been cast as Princess Jasmine, while Will Smith will be taking on the Genie. Relative newcomer Mena Massoud also joined the cast as



Aladdin.

Guy Ritchie was previously announced as director. John August, whose credits include "Big Fish", wrote the new "Aladdin" script.

The original animated movie was a comic take on the Arabic folk tale of a young man granted three wishes by a genie trapped in a lamp. "Aladdin" was the highest-grossing film of the year in 1992, and won Academy Awards for best score and best song for "A Whole New World."

Source: Variety

### "Avengers: Infinity War" debuts first footage

Arguably one of the biggest blockbusters of all time is scheduled to land in less than a year, as the entire Marvel Cinematic Universe to this point has been building towards the showdown with Thanos in "The Avengers: Infinity War".

Disney gave anticipating fans a peek of the tentpole, at the D23 Expo. The morning's main event in Anaheim, California was Disney's big live-action panel - celebrating the upcoming titles from Marvel Studios, Lucasfilm, and more - and part of that experience was a debut peek at "The Avengers: Infinity War". And while there are still two Marvel Studios movies to go before the huge film lands, the film looks like it could be one of the most epic blockbusters ever created, says Cinemablend.

Following a quick look back at the



Guests observe a minute of silence in memory of the two stalwarts.

PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSVED

## Homage to Sudhin Das and Karunamaya Goswami

### BSSSP holds memorial programme at Shilpkala

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

To pay homage to the memory of two eminent Tagore and Nazrul exponents, researchers, writers and artistes - Sudhin Das and Karunamaya Goswami, Bangladesh Sangeet Sangathan Samannay Parishad (BSSSP) arranged a programme at National Music and Dance Centre auditorium of Bangladesh Shilpkala Academy on July 15.

Renowned cultural personalities, litterateurs and artistes shared their fond memories speaking highly of the recently deceased maestros. Bishwajit Roy, general secretary of BSSSP, delivered welcome address. Later, he rendered a Sikandar Abu Zafar song, composed by Sudhin Das.

Professor Emeritus Rafiqul Islam elaborated on the contributions of Sudhin Das and Karunamaya Goswami with precise allusions of Panchakabi, especially Kazi Nazrul Islam's creations. He also mentioned several other names Najmul Huda Bachchu, Professor Rajib Humayun and writer Shantanu Kaisar who died recently.

"The vacuum of those who left us in the past two months will never be filled up. Inspired by their noble deeds, if new generation artistes and researchers come

up, only then an optimistic air will flow in the horizon of our literary and cultural world. Karunamaya Goswami will be ever remembered in our cultural history as he has written extensively on our music," said Rafiqul Islam.

Kamal Lohani, veteran journalist and cultural personality, said "Sudhin Das, Sohrab Hossain, Abdul Latif, Sheikh Mohitul Haque and Mafizul Islam were not only singer-musician-swaralipikar but also adept anglers. They would fish at Dhamondi Lake. In search of the roots of Nazrul Sangeet Swaralipi, Sudhin Das first went to Calcutta (Now Kolkata) and found the swaralipi books - 'Nabarag' and 'Benuka' that were published when Kazi Nazrul Islam was in good health. Later, we know how dedicated he was in his mission of formulating swaralipi of Nazrul Sangeet. In a musical programme of Akashbani, eminent Bengali-Indian music director Pankaj Kumar Mallick once mentioned that if Nazrul Sangeet is to be learnt, one should follow the swaralipi of Sudhin Das. As long as the Bangla language exists, the nation will always remember the contributions of Sudhin Das and Karunamaya Goswami."

Kamal Lohani mentioned the names of Najmul Huda Bachchu (singer-actor) along with several artistes of Shadhin

Bangla Betar Kendra including Lucky Akhand, Subrata Sengupta and violin artiste Babul Dutta, who died recently.

Sharing fond memories of her music mentor, eminent Nazrul exponent and journalist Sadya Afreen Mallick said, "He was my first music Guru and I have learnt several lesser-known Nazrul songs from Sudhin Das. He will be greatly missed as a guide by the artistes."

Ganosangeet artiste and vice-president of BSSSP, RA Mahmud Selim - who presided over the programme, said "We have lost two of our guardians of music. A type of whimsical attempt is on the run to debase our timeless heritage of Bangla songs. We have to properly guide the new generation artistes so that they don't get derailed."

Among others, child litterateur Ali Imam shared his personal memories of Dr. Karunamaya Goswami while Tagore artiste Fahim Hossain Chowdhury spoke and paid his musical homage through rendering "Jibon-Moroner Simana Chhara". Uttarayan artistes set off the event through offering the song "Dukhher Timire Jodi Jwaley". Noted artistes Abdul Wadud, Salahuddin Ahmed, Mahadev Ghosh, Roquaiya Hasina, Azizur Rahman Tuhin, Sanjoy Roy and Sardar Rahmatullah and others performed songs at the programme.

## MAMO working in new film

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

National Award-winning actor Zakia Bari Mamo is working on a new film project. She is currently in Manikganj, filming for "Alta Banu", directed by Arun Chowdhury. Anisur Rahman Milon plays the lead role in the film.

The film also casts Mamanur Rashid, Raisul Islam Asad, Saberi Alam, Naresh Bhuiyan and others.

"Alta Banu" is the story of village girl Alta (played by Mamo), who gets lost and eventually has to take up a job at a garments factory. Although she has worked in a few films, this is the first time she is playing a rural character. "I have been blessed to have worked in a few good films, and I hope this one will be another such one."

Mamo, who debuted in "Daruchini Dwip" after winning Lux-Channel i Superstar, won best actress for that very film. She has been more focused in TV plays and modeling, but has worked in two more movies - "Prem Korbo Tomar Sathe" and "Chhuye Dile Mon".



## Kashef Chowdhury launches photo-book



Photographer-architect Kashef Chowdhury's new book of photographs "Dhaka: Memories Or Lost" was unveiled by Mayor Annisul Haq, State Minister Nasrul Hamid Bipu MP and Bengal Foundation Chair Abul Khair at a ceremony at the Nagar Bhaban of Dhaka North City Corporation in Gulshan on Saturday. The book, which is published in Switzerland, contains images taken in the '90s and early 2000s when Dhaka was experiencing unprecedented growth and change, says a press release.

The photographs were taken on film and are like sketches made in dark alleys or from rooftops, in the dead of night or drenched in monsoon. The images show a city undergoing a massive societal shift. The book could also be described as a collection of photographs full of mystery and curiosity - a carefully edited selection showing a city life remembered not in large gestures but in little moments of an indescribable beauty.

Kashef Chowdhury has seven solo exhibitions to his credit, in Dhaka and Ankara (Turkey).

## Shahid, Alia win best actors at IIFA 2017

### "Neerja" best pic, Aniruddha Roy Chowdhury best director

**Shahid Kapoor and Alia Bhatt were named Best Actors at the 18th edition of the IIFA Awards, for their remarkable work in "Udta Punjab" on Saturday. Diljit Dosanjh also won the best debut actor male for the same film, as Disha Patani picked best female debutant for "MS Dhoni: The Untold Story".**

Source: Cinemablend



Varun Dhawan and Alia Bhatt at the ceremony.

Both Shahid and Alia were emotional about winning the award for a film which made its way to the big screen after fighting the censor board, and let mainstream performers like them take up something risky.

Katrina Kaif gave away the award to Shahid at the ceremony in New York, while Varun Dhawan announced Alia as the Best Actor - Female at the event, held at the Metlife Stadium.

The Best Picture honour went to

"Neerja", based on the real life story of air hostess Neerja Bhanot, who lost her life while trying to save others on a hijacked flight at Karachi.

Aniruddha Roy Chowdhury walked away with the Best Direction award for "Pink", a hard-hitting drama which put forth the message that when a woman says no, it is a no.

Veterans Shabana Azmi and Anupam Kher won best supporting actors, for "Neerja" and the Dhoni biopic respectively. Amit Mishra won best playback (male) for "Ae Dil Hai Mushkil", Kanika Kapoor and Tulsi Kumar shared the best female playback for "Udta Punjab" and "Airlift" respectively, while Pritam won best music director for "Ae Dil Hai Mushkil". The best actor in a comic role went to Varun Dhawan for "Dishoom", Alia Bhatt picked up a second trophy for Mystra Style Icon, and IIFA named Taapsee Pannu their woman of the year.

Source: Hindustan Times, NDTV



Marvel movies of the past, the footage begins with the Guardians of the Galaxy flying out in space, with Mantis (Pom Klementieff) telling the group that they are arriving at their destination. Their aircraft arrives to space filled with destruction -- and the group is surprised when the body of Thor hits their windshield.

From there, the footage gave us a closer look at some of the other major things happening in the Marvel Universe -- primarily wrapped around the image of a giant ship seemingly crashing towards Earth. Loki (Tom Hiddleston) can be seen presenting the Tesseract like a prize finally won; the

appearance sporting a heavy beard.

The big showstopper arrives at the end of the footage, however, as Thanos' full power is on display. He pulls a planet/moon out of the sky and creates a giant wave of meteors raining towards Earth.

Unless Marvel Studios plans on pulling off some kind of huge surprise move at San Diego Comic-Con next week, it will probably still be a little while before the first footage from "The Avengers: Infinity War" arrives online.

"The Avengers: Infinity War" is set to drop in theatres on May 4, 2018.

Source: Cinemablend