

NEWSbytes

Benedict Cumberbatch to star in "Gypsy Boy"

Benedict Cumberbatch will star in "Gypsy Boy", an adaptation of Mikey Walsh's memoirs. The Oscar-nominated star of "The Imitation Game" and "Sherlock" will play a demanding father and a member of the last generation of the Romany Gypsy people, known for their ability to fight. Boxing is a religion to the Walsh clan, so much so that when Mikey is born, he is given a pair of golden gloves on a chain to wear around his neck. The pressure for Mikey to become a boxer splits the family. The producers are looking for a young actor to play Mikey opposite Cumberbatch. Production on the film is scheduled to start next summer. BBC Films is financing the picture, to be directed by Morgan Matthews. Cumberbatch most recently starred in "Doctor Strange" and is in Toronto to premiere "The Current War", a drama in which he plays Thomas Edison.



"Bhuban Majhi" screening today
A tribute on Kalikapradas's birth anniversary

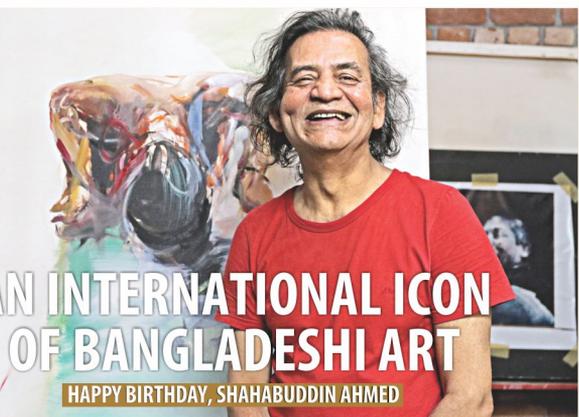


Shortly after the release date of "Bhuban Majhi", folk singer, researcher and composer Kalikapradas Bhattacharya met his tragic demise in a road accident on March 7. "Bhuban Majhi" was the first, and only film where he composed and arranged scores and music. Today, September 11 marks the first birth anniversary after the musician's

death. As a tribute to him, director of the film Fakhrul Arefeen Khan is arranging a special screening of "Bhuban Majhi" in the main auditorium at 6pm today, according to a press release. The event will be attended by various members of the film and cultural fraternity.

Bhupen Hazarika's birth anniversary celebrated

The Bangladesh Assistant High Commission in Guwahati, Assam (India) commemorated the 91st Birth Anniversary of legendary singer-musician Dr. Bhupen Hazarika, who is equally popular both in Bangladesh and in India, says a press release. Kazi Muntashir Mursheed, Bangladesh Assistant High Commissioner to Guwahati addressed the programme on September 8. The event was jointly organised by Indian Centre for Cultural Relations (ICCR), Bangladesh Assistant High Commission in Guwahati and Byatikram MASDO, a cultural organisation of Assam. A 15-member cultural delegation from Bangladesh presented the songs of Bhupen Hazarika.



AN INTERNATIONAL ICON OF BANGLADESHI ART
HAPPY BIRTHDAY, SHAHABUDDIN AHMED

ZAHANG ALIOM Today is the 67th birth anniversary of internationally-famous Bangladeshi artist Shahabuddin Ahmed. He was born on September 11, 1950. The freedom fighter's bold brush has famously depicted the epic Liberation War of Bangladesh. Shahabuddin's paintings delve into the contemporary life and times. He is an optimist and this is evidently expressed in his paintings. Bold strokes, vibrant colour and figurative expressions are the hallmark of his works. The conscience and the indomitable spirit of the Liberation War have frequently appeared as prominent connotations on his canvases. Many artists work while listening to the music of Beethoven, Mozart, or stalwarts of Indian classical music. Shahabuddin Ahmed rather renders his melodic thoughts into his canvases. "Creativity or invention is the crop and legacy of world civilisation. We

should make the best use of this for the overall benefit of humanity," believes the painter, who has exhibited his artworks worldwide, including prestigious venues such as the same gallery in Paris, France where Francis Bacon's works were exhibited. The artist hoisted the Bangladeshi flag in erstwhile East Pakistan Radio at 11:30am on December 16, when the Pakistan army was yet to surrender. But, he knew what was going to happen. "This was the indomitable spirit and I kept that up. I take pride in that. I fought a nine-month battle of freeing my motherland. This is the glorious part of my life," said Shahabuddin Ahmed in a previous conversation with The Daily Star. "I was deeply influenced by the magical motion and movement of the artworks by my Guru, Shilpakacharya Zaimul Abedin, prior to my entering Dhaka Art College (Now Faculty of Fine Art, University of

Dhaka). From then, it was my dream to be like him someday. I obtained scholarship to study at Ecole des beaux-arts de Paris. I have been influenced by almost all world-renowned artists, except Vincent Van Gogh, Rembrandt, Eugene Delacroix, Michaelangelo and Leonardo Da Vinci are my family," he added. Shahabuddin's paintings are displayed in many prestigious galleries across the globe, including Museum Olympic Lausanne, Switzerland and Bourn-En Brasse Museum, France. He was bestowed with an award at the Olympiad of Arts, Barcelona, in 1992 and awarded the French title Chevalier De L'ordre Des Arts Et Des Lettres (Knight in the Order of Fine Arts and Humanities) by the Ministry for Cultural Affairs and Communication of France in 2014. He also received the Shadhinata Padak in 2000 and Bangla Academy Award in 1974.

TV WATCH
Tele-film "Oddoi Shesh Rajani" tonight on ATN

A CORRESPONDENT On the final day of ATN Bangla's 10-day-long Eid special programming, tele-film "Oddoi Shesh Rajani" will air tonight. Written by Masum Reza, the tele-film was directed by B U Shubho. "Oddoi Shesh Rajani" stars Shahiduzzaman Selim, Mousumi Hamid, SN Jonny and Marzuk Russel. The tele-film portrays a jatra (Theatre) troupe who calls themselves "Jatrabani Theatre". Haqqani Shiraj is the leader of the group. His young wife, Momota Begum is also a member. The star actors of the troupe are Shah Sultan and Leelabati, both of who are popular throughout the whole country. Rival team actors Madhu Kha and Nishi Laskar have both been trying to compete with the two stars. The story unfolds when troupe manager, Bodi Laskar, tries to create a stir in the troupe playing to his own selfish agendas. "Oddoi Shesh Rajani" airs tonight at 11:30 pm.



Mohiuddin Babar performs sitar recital

A CORRESPONDENT Sitar enthusiast Mohiuddin Babar demonstrated the possibilities of the human spirit in a sitar recital held at Palm View Restaurant Hall on Saturday, in a soiree titled "Rewinding Old Rhythms". The intimate gathering saw the attendance of important figures such as the Norwegian Ambassador, senior consultants, and other professionals. The instrumental performance blended the sounds of the violin, guitar, keyboards, harmonica and the tabla in accompaniment, played by his sons Talal Redwan Babar and Shafiq Inzam Babar, among others. The performance opened with a classical dhun Raga Yaman, including a tribute to the late Abdul Jabbar with the song "O Re Neel Doriya", as well as yesteryear Bangla and Hindi classic songs, and a cover of Swedish pop group Abba's "I Have A Dream". The evening concluded with a classical thala (improvisation) recital. Mohiuddin Babar, a CSR consultant, began his journey with the sitar fifteen years ago. "I



was translating a book on Ustad Alauddin Khan, and I happened to meet Pandit Ravi Shanker live. I was so inspired that I became determined to learn the instrument. Having

come from a family that did not nurture musical talents, I feel proud at having come this far, and have made sure to ingrain the love for music within my children," he added.

"It" opening with \$100m+ Box Office weekend

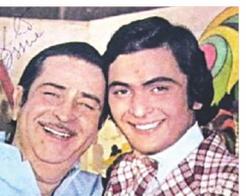
When box office estimates first emerged for director Andres Muschietti's "It" back in 2015 - which translated \$48,464,322 in its first weekend. "It" managed to make \$2.6 million more in one day than the animated feature did in three. A \$100 million-plus take would mean more than doubling the previous record - and that would be a move that could ultimately change the way that the industry looks at September as a release month. But it's also not terribly hard to see



morning update, and "It" looked good to cross the century mark and make north of \$100 million this weekend in the US Box Office alone. The Stephen King adaptation got off to an amazing start with \$13.5 million from Thursday shows (another record broken), and managed to make \$51 million from Friday screenings alone. The numbers are eye-popping for the month of September. The previous top opening weekend for the month was

"Don't want to sensationalise Raj Kapoor's life"

Rishi Kapoor says on father's biopic



The actor opened up about Kapoor in his autobiography, "Kishulam Khulla". Rishi Kapoor "Khusnud", where he also mentioned his father's affair with yesteryear's actor Nargis Dutt.

Rishi said his sister once suggested Sunil Dutt (Nargis's husband) seeking permission to make a biopic on Kapoor, but Dutt had just said "Let sleeping dogs lie, let's not stir up or upset anybody". The 65-year-old actor insists it is a collective decision taken by the Kapoor family to not make a biopic. "Since the past 50 years it (offer for biopic) is on. Producer Bobby Bedi, who made 'Bandit Queen', offered to do it. But we, as a family, have an objection till our mother is living." "If someone wants to make the film against our wishes and if we try to negate it, it will go wrong," he adds. On the acting front, Rishi will be seen next in "Patel Ki Punjabi Shadi", alongside Paresh Rawal, Vir Das and Payal Ghosh. The film is set to release on September 15. Source: PTI