

WHAT'S ON

Solo Art Exhibition
Title: *Hybridity in Ethnic Motifs*
Venue: *Shikha, 1/11 Ngul Rd, Mohammadpur*
Date: *Sept 23-Oct 14*
Time: *10am-5pm*



Solo Painting Exhibition
Title: *Cyptic: Monochrome*
Artist: *WROD Hill*
Venue: *EMA Centre, Dharmaram*
Date: *October 2-15*
Time: *10am-5pm*



Solo Ceramic Art Exhibition
Artist: *Abbasur Rahman*
Venue: *Mini Kanta Bhattacharya Gallery, Bangladesh National Museum*
Date: *Oct 2-16*, Time: *9:30am-5:30pm*



Ganga-Jamuna Theatre & Cultural Fest
Venue: *Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy*
Date: *Oct 15*
Time: *7pm*



Bangladesh Film Festival 2017
Venue: *National Gallery, Plaza, USA*
Date: *Oct 6-21*
Time: *5pm onwards*



NEWS bytes

Sam Smith announces new album's title



Sam Smith delivered new music Thursday night, just as many people predicted. The new track, titled "Pray", was teased on Smith's social media accounts earlier this week with a cryptic video alongside an October 6 date.

The new record arrives about a month after Smith released "Too Good at Goodbyes", the lead single off his long-awaited sophomore album "The Thrill of It All", whose title and tracklist Smith also announced at the same time. The singer's debut LP, "In the Lonely Hour", was released in 2014, and went on to achieve both commercial and critical success including chart-topping hits, multiple platinum certifications and four Grammys.

Smith will also serve as the musical guest on this week's episode of Saturday Night Live alongside host Gal Gadot.

Source: **Yahoo Music**

Curtain rises on Ganga-Jamuna Festival

A bridge for theatrical and cultural exchange



Guests inaugurate the festival; (R) A scene from Prachyanat's "Circus Circus".



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

ZAHANGIR ALAM

The Ganga-Jamuna Theatre and Cultural Festival, one of the major theatre festivals of the country, saw its curtain rise at the Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) on October 6. Eminent theatre personality Aly Zaker inaugurated the festival at the National Theatre Hall Auditorium, where Cultural Affairs Minister Asaduzzaman Noor graced the occasion as chief guest. Eminent thespians – Ramendu Majumdar, Mamunur Rashid; BSA DG; Liaquat Ali Lucky and Rajesh Ukje, secretary to the India Bangladesh Foundation, attended the ceremony as special guests. Convener of the festival organising committee Golam Kuddus presided over the programme.

Shedding light on cultural exchange between two countries, Aly Zaker said, "We will understand and get close to each other through liter-

ary and cultural practices. We share the same literary and cultural legacy; masterpieces by towering personalities like Tagore, Nazrul, Jibanananda Das, Shamsur Rahman, Syed Shamsul Haq and Selim Al Dean are celebrated in Bangladesh and West Bengal, India. I hope the youth of both the countries will take our rich culture to the world."

"Cultural activists can help shape a humanistic society at the backdrop of ominous forces like extremism and social anomie," said Asaduzzaman Noor in his address. Regarding the absence of new plays on the festival's schedule, the minister said: "We can impose a condition for holding such a prestigious event, which produces some classical new ones. To meet this end, we have to assist the theatre troupes of Bangladesh and India."

"Theatre audience has waned in numbers in recent years. We have to conduct a professional

survey addressing the issue. I am also urging the cultural affairs minister to cooperate with the concerned ministries to facilitate easier travel regulations of theatre and cultural activists of both the countries," said Ramendu Majumdar.

A total of 29 theatre troupes from Bangladesh and India are taking part in the festival with their tried and tested productions simultaneously at three venues – National Theatre Hall, Experimental Theatre Hall and Studio Theatre Hall of BSA. The staging of the production starts at 7pm daily. However, there is no participation of district-level theatre troupes and their productions, or even from Chittagong, which does come off as a little odd. A cultural festival, incorporating the performance of street theatres, mime, recitation, music and dance starts at 4pm every day at the open stage of BSA.

On the opening day, Prachyanat staged their

production "Circus Circus" at the National Theatre Hall, while Prangonemor staged "Condemned Cell" at the Experimental Theatre Hall and Loko Natya Dal (Ranna) staged "Boikunther Khana" at the Studio Theatre Hall of BSA.

The cultural affairs ministry of the Government of Bangladesh, the India Bangladesh Foundation and BSA are assisting in the festival, dedicated to Amalash Chakrabarty who started the festival in India 20 years back. "Amalash Chakrabarty, originally from Noakhali, Bangladesh, dreamt of mingling the cultural flows of Ganga and Jamuna through holding the festival as homage to his birthplace. Following that, the festival has regularly been held in Bangladesh since 2012. The identical theatre practice, platform and exchange between Bangladesh and India could have been established earlier. I hope it will happen in the days ahead," mentioned Mamunur Rashid.

"Rabindra Sangeet is evergreen"

...Ajita Guha



The artiste renders songs at a solo saore. PHOTO: STAR

AMIR HASAN SHAHRIAR, Chittagong

Ajita Guha is one of the contemporary Rabindra Sangeet singers of Kolkata, India. The artiste performed a solo music night at Fulki Auditorium in Chittagong on Friday. This was her third solo performance in Bangladesh. The programme titled "Antar Bangladesh" was arranged by Kotha Media.

In an interview with the Daily Star, she shared her thoughts on Rabindra Sangeet.

How does it feel to perform in Bangladesh?

Ajita Guha: I performed at Theatre Institute Chittagong, Chittagong Club and Bistara earlier. The Bangladeshi audiences are always vibrant. My parents are from Bangladesh. So, it is like getting back to your roots.

Who was your inspiration in music?

Ajita Guha: My mother is my inspiration. I always try to be more like her while guiding my two sons in music. My elder son plays

keyboard and guitar while the younger one sings. My mentors are Arghya Sen and Sanjit Sen. I still take lessons from them regularly.

What is your thought on young generation's appreciation of Rabindra Sangeet?

Ajita Guha: A fortunate presentation is important to make the youths listen to the lyrics after which they can relate to the songs. Artists have a lot to do on their arrangement and performance. After all, Rabindra Sangeet is evergreen.

Do you endorse fusion in Tagore songs?

Ajita Guha: In fusion, one has to incorporate many things. Tagore songs are inherently refined and complete. Fusion is more like a superimposed form that deserves Tagore's words and tunes. Artists need to be more careful not to ruin a song in the name of fusion. What they need is to find the perfect way to present the songs soulfully. Young listeners will be more attracted to the song then for sure.

"I have been humiliated"

Tuhin speaks about his Shironamhin exit

FAHIM FEROUS

When Tanzir Tuhin, front-man of leading indie rock band Shironamhin announced on Friday via Facebook that he was leaving the band, fans reacted in shock and disbelief. In a brief follow-up post he clarified that he was not leaving music, just the band. The massively popular vocalists spoke to The Daily Star yesterday about what prompted the decision.

"I was suffering from heart complications and was hospitalized. The doctor had told me to take a month's rest before getting back to music, but it turns out my band-mates could not make this small accommodation. Their financial interests superseded our decades of friendship and they had recruited a new vocal to do shows, without informing me," Tuhin said.

"They also told me that in some 'corporate shows' there is a demand for English songs, and that the other vocal would be singing the English numbers there sharing stage with me. I have never stood for that, and I won't do it now," he added. "I felt humiliated."



About the band's future, Tuhin said "The band is now on hiatus. I will discuss with my band-mates and lawyers some legal issues before the band can do anything further. I have written and composed many of the songs, and I want to retain my rights on them."

Asked about his fans' reactions, the singer added: "I know that they are all sad to hear the news. But I hope that all my listeners and fans that have supported me with so much love will continue to support me and my music."

Shironamhin, formed in 1996, made a big splash with their 2004 debut album "Jahajee", and with their unique blend of music has become one of the biggest bands of Bangladesh, both in terms of albums and live concerts. Their popularity soared with subsequent albums "1chhe Ghum" (2016), "Bondho Jintala" (2009), Rabindra Sangeet album "Shironamhin Rabindranath" (2010) and self-titled "Shironamhin" (2013).

Snatra Shahrin and her troupe perform a riveting dance number at the opening ceremony of the Bangladesh Film festival 2017, organised by Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy. The festival is celebrating 44 films in five categories at all 64 districts of Bangladesh.

PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED



TODAY AT THE GANGA-JAMUNA FESTIVAL

"Bhornporichoy" by Dokkhin Ruchorongo, Kolkata (India)
Experimental Theatre Hall

"Gohonjatra" by Padatik Natya Sangsad TSC
Studio Theatre Hall

ALL PLAYS BEGIN AT 7PM.



A CORRESPONDENT

Based on Charles Dickens' "Oliver Twist", a new TV series titled "Oli" began airing yesterday on Deepto television. To be aired every Saturday at Thursday at 6:30pm and 8:30pm, "Oli" has been adapted by Ahmed Khan Hirook and Junayed Hossain, and directed by Rakesh Basu.

The series stars young actor Shanto in the titular role. Other characters are portrayed by Dolly Zahur, FS Nayem, Sanjida Preeti, Azizul Hakin, Intekhab Dinar, Noresh Bhuiyan, Lutful

New TV series "Oli" on Deepto TV

Rahman George, Mousumi Hamid, Laila Hasan, Shatabdi Wadud, Raisul Islam Asad and other.

The story is about young orphan Oli, who runs away from the orphanage on the streets of Dhaka. There, he falls into the hands of a gang of pickpockets. At only nine years old and not able to tell right from wrong, Oli immerses himself into the 'art' of picking pockets. On his very first attempt, he gets caught and is sent straight to lock-up. The man whose pocket he was picking is the one who ultimately comes and saves him, and that is when Oli's journey as a whole new person begins.

RYAN GOSLING HARRISON FORD

BLADE RUNNER 2049

The Daily Star | STAR CINEMA

QUIZ - 02

Who discovered a long-buried secret in this movie?

WINNERS LIST OF QUIZ - 01

- Sabina Akter Sumi, Barisal Sadar
- Sharmin Foyso, Azimpur
- Shams Chaudhury, Mirpur-14
- Mehrin Karim, Kathalbagan
- Jobayer Ahmed, Gilshanti
- Kiranmay Majumder, Motijheel
- Farah Zaka, Azimpur
- Kurshida Alam Khushi, Azizul
- Naim Ebna Rahman, Matuail
- Md. Shahparan, University of Dhaka