

WHAT'S ON

**Solo Art Exhibition**  
 Artist: Alakesh Ghosh  
 Organisers: BNM & Gallery Cosmos  
 Venue: Nalini Kanta Bhattachali Gallery, BNM  
 Date: October 15-21  
 Time: 9:30am-5:30pm

**Fundraising Exhibition**  
 Phoenix of Langadu  
 Organiser: Terracotta Creatives, Drik  
 Venue: Drik Gallery  
 Date: Oct 16-18  
 Time: 3pm-8pm

**Theatre Festival**  
 Prangonmor Theatre Week  
 Venue: Music & Dance Theatre, BSA  
 Date: Oct 12-18  
 Time: 7pm

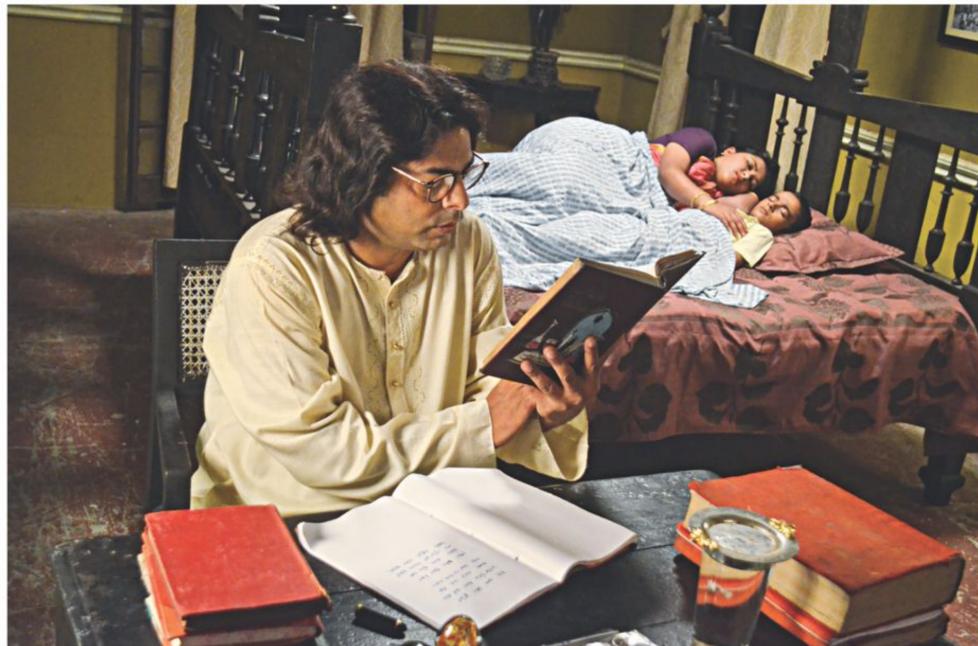
**Solo Painting Exhibition**  
 Title: Mrittika Maya by Samar Majumder  
 Venue: La Gallery, AFD  
 Date: Oct 13-26  
 Time: 3-9pm

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

**Duet Art Exhibition**  
 Title: Diversity in Duality 2  
 Artists: Abdus Shakoor Shah & Ranjit Das  
 Venue: Shilpangan Gallery  
 Date: Oct 13-27  
 Time: 3-8pm

**Theatre**  
 Play: Morshokam  
 Troupe: Theatre Art Unit  
 Venue: National Theatre Hall, BSA  
 Date: Oct 18  
 Time: 7pm

**Theatre**  
 Crutch'er Colonel  
 Troupe: BotTala  
 Venue: Mahila Samity  
 Date: Oct 19  
 Time: 7pm



# Chronicles of the Rebel Poet

Documentary "Nazrul: Jibon Parikrama" released

FAHMIM FERDOUS

Kazi Nazrul Islam, one of the greatest artistic polymaths of the subcontinent, had a life as diverse and happening as his works were. From being the muezzin at a mosque to a soldier to a masterful writer-editor-composer-political voice and in his last decades spent in dreadful physical and mental conditions, the course of his life is utterly fascinating. And yet, until now there was no audiovisual documentation of his life in the country where he is the National Poet. Nazrul Institute with assistance from the Cultural Affairs Ministry yesterday launched the DVD of "Nazrul: Jibon Parikrama", a full-fledged documentary on Kazi Nazrul Islam, in a programme at the Sufia Kamal Auditorium of the Bangladesh National Museum (BNM).

The documentary, acquired from reputed Indian documentary filmmaker Mujibar Rahman who only completed making it recently, chronicles Nazrul's philosophy and works at various stages of his life.

Cultural Affairs Minister

Asaduzzaman Noor was the chief guest at the programme, while eminent Nazrul researcher Professor Emeritus Dr. Rafiqul Islam was the special guest. Other speakers at the event were Nazrul Institute's Executive Director Abdur Razzaq Bhuiyan and BNM Director General Faizul Latif Chowdhury. Rezauddin Stalin, Deputy Director of Nazrul Institute, anchored the programme.

Dr. Rafiqul Islam informed that a documentary on Nazrul was made in pre-independent Bangladesh by the Pakistan government, but it was not a good one. UK's Channel 4 also made a documentary later on Bangladesh's National Poet, but that was aimed more at an international audience, which makes this the first full-length documentary for the Bangladeshi audience.

Asaduzzaman Noor in his address said Nazrul's life and works are so diverse that it is difficult to encompass it all in one documentary, and the ministry will provide support to anyone trying to make more documentaries on the National Poet. He also outlined the government's plans to

establish branches of Nazrul Institute in Comilla, Chittagong and other places that bear memories of Nazrul, to facilitate practice of Nazrul's works there.

The documentary has three versions according to organisers: one of them is 120 minutes, one is 80 minutes and the other is rather brief. The 80-minute version was also screened at the event.

Mujibar Rahman does a commendable job of putting all the aspects of Nazrul's work in chronological form, despite not having any archival video footage of the National Poet. He uses narration, interviews with eminent Nazrul researchers and musicians, musical pieces, reading of excerpts from other writers' works about Nazrul and some filmed scenes to establish the story. Nazrul's worldview, philosophies, cultural and literary influences and close connection to Rabindranath Tagore are all documented in a comprehensible, coherent timeline. It is not the most engaging or polished documentary one has ever seen, but certainly is one that does the job.

# SHABNAM stages a return

A CORRESPONDENT

After a hiatus of 18 years, renowned film actress Shabnam is making a come back to the screen again. This time however she is going to appear in a 100-episode mega serial "Mohini Mansion Ki Cinderella" for a Pakistani TV channel. Directed by Ali Taher, Shabnam will play a role called Jharna in the TV serial. (Shabnam's real name is Jharna Basak.)



Shabnam left for Pakistan recently to take part in the shooting for the next one month. Before her departure she exclaimed, "I have waited so many years to act in films in the country but I never got an offer that was close to my heart. For this reason, it was not possible to act in a film after Kazi Hayat's 'Ammajan'. Moreover, after the passing away of my husband Robin Ghosh and with our only son, Roni staying abroad --in my time of despair my only option was to immerse myself in creative work."

"Meanwhile, Ali Taher of Pakistan phoned me and also sent the script for his TV serial that I liked and decided to work."

Shabnam has so far worked in 160 films, including 152 Urdu, 14 Bengali and 4 Punjabi films. Her debut film was a Bengali film. Her first Urdu film, 'Chanda' was filmed in erstwhile East Pakistan and brought her to the limelight.

## NEWS bytes

### Riz Ahmed to star in Netflix's "Hamlet"



Riz Ahmed is in talks to star in Netflix's "Hamlet", playing the title character in the contemporary take on Shakespeare's tragedy.

Mike Lesslie, who penned 2015's "Macbeth" that starred Michael Fassbender, will write the adaptation which is set in modern-day London, complete with economic and political uncertainty.

Kenneth Branagh, Ethan Hawke and Mel Gibson are among the actors who have previously played the Danish prince onscreen, with countless others tackling the character for the stage. Recently, Oscar Isaac played Hamlet at New York's Public Theater.

Ahmed is one of Hollywood's most in-demand rising stars. He is next set for "The Sisters Brothers" and Sony's Spider-Man spinoff "Venom", in which he will star opposite Tom Hardy. The English actor, who also raps with Das Racist alum Heems as duo the Sweet Shop Boys, was last seen in the "Star Wars" stand-alone Rogue One.

Recently, Ahmed made history by becoming the first man of South Asian descent to take home an Emmy, winning for his role in HBO's "The Night Of".

Source: THR



# Jackie Chan wants to win a Best Actor Oscar

To American audiences, Jackie Chan is best known as one half of buddy comedies like "Rush Hour" and "Shanghai Noon". But his latest English-language release, his first in seven years, is a departure from what domestic moviegoers are used to seeing from the 63-year-old actor.

In the Martin Campbell drama "The Foreigner", Chan stars as a father whose daughter is killed in an IRA bombing in London, and will stop at nothing until he finds her killers.

"For action stars, it's hard to change," Chan told The Hollywood Reporter when asked about his choice to take a dramatic turn. "How many action stars today stay in the film business? They're gone."

Chan also produced the movie through his Sparkle Roll Media banner, a one-stop shop in China that spans film financing, production, distribution, marketing and acquisition, as well as exhibition through the company's Jackie Chan Cinema chain.

In an interview with The Hollywood Reporter, he spoke about his hiatus, plans and an Oscar dream. "I've been making films for 57 years; I'm trying to find something new," he said. "So, I've been planning for years. When I looked at 'La La Land', I said I want to be, I want to be as singer, I want to be a dancer. I want to do so many different things in America."

The actor also said he has stopped bothering too much about how big his films sell. "Right now, for me, it's not about box office. What's more important is the audience," he says. "I've been working so hard for all these years in the film business. I wanted to prove that I'm a good stunt man, I'm a good stunt coordinator, I'm a good director, I'm a good producer, that I can write. Now, I want them to say, 'That Jackie, he is a good actor.' After I got a life achievement Oscar, I want to get — I hope one day to get — a best actor Oscar," he said in the interview.

Source: THR

# "Cinema Hall" on ATN Bangla

A CORRESPONDENT

"Cinema Hall", ATN Bangla's new TV series, began airing last week every Wednesday and Thursday at 8pm. Written and directed by Kochi Khondokar, the series stars Mosharraf Karim, Tariq Anam Khan, Abul Hayat, Farukh Ahmed, Emon, Sharmili Ahmed, Chittralekha Guha and others.

The series portrays the characters surrounding a cinema hall, starting from the audience, lightmen, to the peanut

vendors outside the halls, and even the black marketers. Even though the series is set in current times, the story will keep taking the audience back to the '70s and '80s, when cinema halls used to be packed, when those working in cinema halls would be able to live happily. With the decline in quality cinema and dwindling audiences, the quality of the lives of those working in and around the halls begins declining as well. The series will also take you out of the halls and into BFDC (Bangladesh Film Development Corporation) and beyond.

