

Portraying the picturesque beauty of Bangladesh

Book launch and solo art exhibit by Alakesh Ghosh at BNM

Farooki's next to go on floors this December

"Saturday Afternoon" to set off "Identity" trilogy

FAHMIM FERDOUS

Mostofa Sarwar Farooki will commence production on Bengali- and English- language film "Saturday Afternoon" in December. International film magazine Variety broke the news on Monday.

Nusrat Imroze Tisha is confirmed as one of the leads of "Saturday Afternoon" while Palestinian actor Eyad Hourani is set to play the other central role for the Bangladesh-India-Germany joint production. Casting for the other characters are ongoing, Farooki told The Daily Star.

Asked why a Palestinian actor is being cast in the film, Farooki explained: "The film will have characters of a number of nationalities, and Eyad will be playing one of them." The film, that carries a \$500,000 budget, is a thriller where the lives of several people collide, according to the internationally-acclaimed helmer.

The film is being jointly produced by Abdul Aziz for Jaaz Multimedia and Farooki for Chabial (Bangladesh) and Shyam Sundar Dey for Greentouch Entertainment (India), while Anna Katchko of Tandem Production (Germany) will serve as co-producer.

"Saturday Afternoon" will also set off Farooki's "Identity" trilogy. The second film in line will be "No Land's Man", and the third will be on the Myanmarese Rohingya ethnic group. "The next two films will come in quick succession, if everything goes right," Farooki told The Daily Star. "No Land's Man" already has funding from India's Film Bazaar and the Asia Pacific Screen Academy.

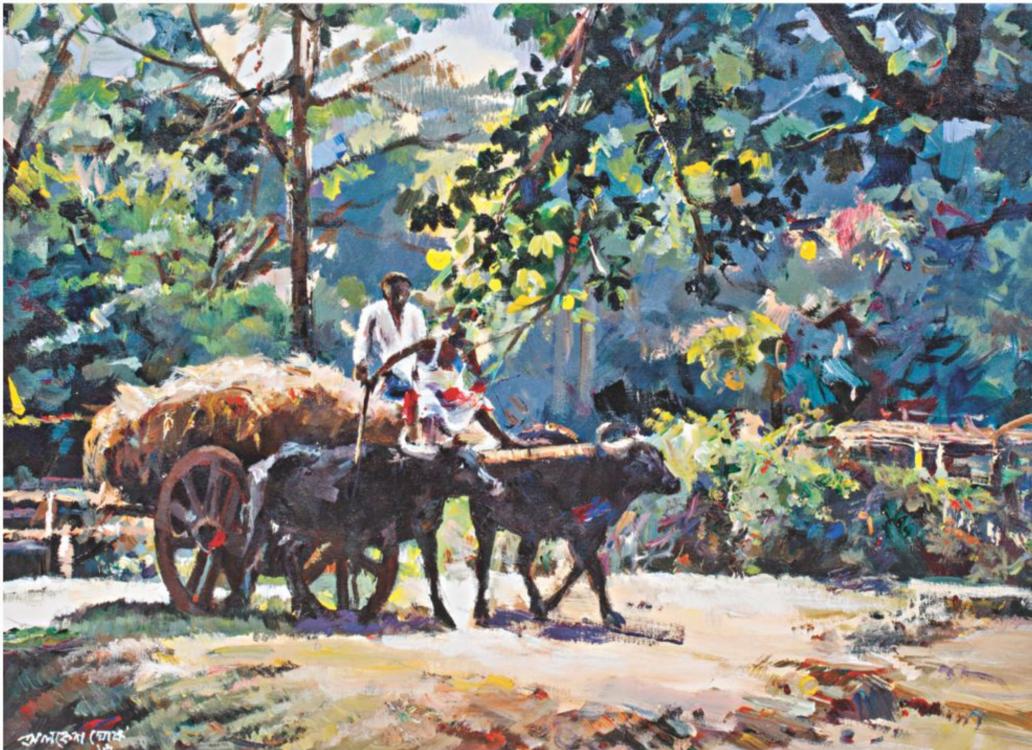
Meanwhile, the director is currently busy promoting his upcoming Bangladesh-India joint venture film "Doob" ("No Bed of Roses") that stars talismanic Indian actor Irrfan Khan in the lead. Farooki has been doing the press circuit in Kolkata promoting the film over the last week, and also has campaign plans lined up back home, where he is scheduled to return today.



ZAHANGIR ALOM

Apart from some parts of the hilly landscape of Chittagong Hill Tracts, the world's longest sea beach of Cox's Bazar and urbanised areas; Bangladesh is largely a land of bucolic beauty. Two colours -- blue and green -- have prominently adorned the nature and landscape of this part of the world. The country has its glorious history of the Liberation War, opulent folk culture and simple lifestyle of the people. Many artists fondly depict the beauty of Bangladesh in their own ways. But very few artists have portrayed the distinct features of Bangladesh the way renowned artist Alakesh Ghosh has. The artist's ongoing exhibition showcases every aforementioned aspect of Bangladesh. The artist has soulfully depicted the diverse picturesque imageries of Bangladesh in his 71 paintings.

From the settings of village Haat (market) to the sailing boats on the rivers; from the graceful monsoonal sky over the sea beach of Cox's Bazar to the serpentine beauty of Sangu River of Bandarban; from the bull and buffalo driven chariots to the resting boats; from the floral rhythms to lush greenery, from the portraits of the Father of the Nation Banglalandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and Rabindranath Tagore to the folksy lifestyle of the people; -- all are fascinatingly depicted by Alakesh Ghosh. Art lovers are bound to get awe struck



by the artworks displayed at the Nalini Kanta Bhattachali Gallery of Bangladesh National Museum (BNM). BNM and Gallery Cosmos have jointly organised the exhibition.

Cultural Affairs Minister Asaduzzaman Noor graced the inaugural ceremony as chief guest on October 15, while South Korean Ambassador Ahn Seong-Doo and eminent artist Samarjit Roy Chowdhury attended as special guests. Enayetullah Khan, Chairman, Gallery Cosmos delivered welcome address and Faizul Latif Chowdhury, Director General of BNM, presided over the programme.

The opening event also had the launching of a book on the artist Alakesh Ghosh titled "Life and Works:

ALAKESH GHOSH", published by Cosmos Books, at Poet Sufia Kamal Auditorium of BNM.

The exhibition, opening from 9:30 am to 5:30 pm, and from 2:30 pm to 7:30 pm on Fridays, will conclude on October 21.

Alakesh Ghosh (b. 1950, Jamalpur) has established himself as one of the most acclaimed painters of Bangladesh. Alakesh's body of work has always reflected his seminal attachment to the picturesque beauty of rural Bangladesh, even when he has bestowed his outsider sensibilities to depict the urban landscapes of the city he now calls home, Dhaka.

Although proficient across various media, it is unquestionably his mastery

of watercolour that sets Ghosh apart in the pantheon of great painters to have emerged from this region. So say there is no better exponent of this ephemeral medium today than Alakesh, who himself feels he has given it too much of his time. His work in portraiture is another area in which his mark is likely to remain indelible.

The book brings together the vast and varied output of this contemporary master from Bangladesh in one volume, along with the famously reticent artist's own thoughts and reflections. As such, it aims to present a clear and uniform view of both the artist and the man. The book layout and cover have been designed by ARK Reepon. It took one-and-a-half years to compile the book.



MUHIN

Singer turned composer

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Popular singer Muhin has all it takes to power through his trade. His skills as a composer and music director have garnered acclaim, and the singer now has a new album on the cards where he displays this prowess. And for the first time, the artiste has signed on eight other singers to lend their vocals to the album titled "Sraabon Ele".

Noted singer Fahmida Nabi is part of the team, and the artiste recently finished recording at a studio in Moghbazaar for a song titled "Sraabon Ele Akaash Tole Duronto Megh Ure Chole."

"I look up to Fahmida Nabi as a guru, and she was one of the judges when I was a participant in 'Closeup 1.' I learned a lot from her, and it is a great honour that she is singing a song composed by me. I hope listeners enjoy the songs in the mixed album," stated Muhin.

"I loved the lyrics and the tune of the song, and I sang it wholeheartedly," said Fahmida Nabi.

Other singers involved in the venture are Ronty and Pulok, among others.



CEO of Melonades and CFO of Top of Mind Group Salma Adil (C) receives an award for the marketing campaign of the film "Aynabaji", at the Digital Marketing Award 2017. The film won the Grand Prix award in four categories - Best Content Marketing, Best use of PR in Digital platform, Best use in Facebook and Best integrated digital campaign. Melonades (the digital marketing partner of the film) and Masthead PR (the PR partner) received the awards.

Chayanika Chowdhury helms 350th play

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chayanika Chowdhury is one of the most hardworking directors of the small screen, and her accomplishments emphasise how far she has come. Within her 16-year career, the director has produced 349 ventures, and is currently busy adding one more play to the list.

Chayanika Chowdhury's recent venture is a single episode play titled "Ki Chhilo Shei Khaamey?". Scripted and produced by Faria Hossain, the main cast includes Shahiduzzaman Selim, Anisur Rahman Milon, Nazira Mou, Nabila Islam, Azam Khan and more.

The narrative portrays the various shenanigans taking place in a corporate establishment.

Holding the same view is fellow actor Anisur Rahman Milon, who stated, "The narrative is the heart of any play, and this venture delivers very well. I play a very interesting



takes great care in her work," said the lead actor.

"It is due to the love and support of the audience that I am now directing my 350th venture," stated Chayanika Chowdhury. "I don't know how I measure up in terms of talent, but I work very hard."

character in the story as well."

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TOMORROW

GOVT AZIZUL HAQUE COLLEGE, BOGRA

Photo Exhibition
Film Screening

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