

WHAT'S ON

Celebrating 100 years of Independent Finland
Organiser: Embassy of Finland
Venue: The Daily Star Bengal Arts Precinct
Date: October 29-November 3
Time: 11am-7pm

Group Art Exhibition
Title: A Delightful Journey by Art Stories
Venue: La Galerie, AFD, Dhanmondi
Date: Nov 3-10
Time: 3-9pm (Mon-Thurs) and 9am-12noon & 5-8pm (Fri-Sat)

Dhaka International Folk Fest
Organiser: Sun Communications
Venue: Army Stadium
Date: November 9-11
Time: 6pm onwards

Dance-Drama Festival
Rai-Krishna Padabali Troupe: Nrityanchal
Venue: National Theatre Hall, BSA
Date: Nov 2
Time: 7pm

Musical Soiree
Ek Nirhar'er Gaan
Organiser: IGCC
Venue: National Museum
Date: November 3
Time: 6:30pm

NEWS bytes

First look at Spielberg's THE POST

The first image from Steven Spielberg's "The Post" has hit the web and highlights the incredible cast he's assembled for the true story. Spielberg is one of the most prolific directors in the business and has built his storied career by doing blockbusters, dramas, and everything else in between. Next up for Spielberg, he'll be diving back into drama with a story that is extremely topical.

It was announced near the beginning of the year that Spielberg had quickly put together a film about The Washington Post's role in uncovering and reporting on the Pentagon Papers. There has yet to be much of any promotion for "The Post", but 20th Century Fox unveiled the first image



from the film. Hollywood legends Tom Hanks as Ben Bradlee and Meryl Streep as Kay Graham are featured on the left of the image, but are surrounded by a stellar supporting cast. Three-time Golden Globe nominee Bradley Whitford, Emmy nominee Carrie Coon, Bruce Greenwood, Bob Odenkirk, Alison Brie, Sarah Paulson, David Cross, Michael Stuhlbarg, Zach Woods, and Jesse Plemons are helping round out the cast.

Source: Screen Rant



"Ekjon Kobi'r Mrittyu" to premiere at Kolkata Int'l Film Festival

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

Eminent Bangladeshi filmmaker Abu Sayeed's latest work "Ekjon Kobi'r Mrittyu", reportedly the first feature film in Bangladesh to be made through crowd-funding, has got the Censor Board's clearance without any cuts and will have its world premiere in the Kolkata International Film Festival this month.

The film was submitted to the censor board on October 9 and the decision to clear the film without a cut was taken on October 15, Sayeed said in a statement.

He said that his experimental film has been chosen for the "Innovation In Moving Image" section of the main competition category Kolkata International Film Festival, to be held from November 10 to 17.

A five-member international jury will select three films for the Golden Royal Bengal Tiger awards for best film, best director and a special jury award. The awards entail cash prizes of

Rs 70 lakh and Rs 30 lakh for the best film and best director respectively.

Sayeed said he, along with veteran actor Jayanta Chattopadhyay who plays the lead role and actress Irin Sultana, will attend the event in Kolkata.

The film is about a nature-loving poet who is unable to gaze at the stars in the sky over Dhaka due to a haze caused by air pollution.

In an interview with The Daily Star in July this year, Sayeed described his film as "slightly surrealistic and experimental" and said the concern over environmental pollution was

one of the reasons he made the movie though the bigger motivation was to explore a person's intimate links with the universe and how he or she communicates with the universe.

Among other films in the competition category are "A Sort of a Family" (Argentina-Brazil-France-Poland production), "Good Manners" (Brazil-France), "Los Perros" (France-Chile), Hungarian film "1945", Indian entries "The Holy Fish" and "Nocturnal Times", Iranian entry "Kupal" and Polish film "Birds are singing in Kigali".

Lalon's songs go beyond borders

Album launch and performance by Farida Parveen at AFD

A CORRESPONDENT

Alliance Française de Dhaka (AFD) arranged the launching of a CD "Chants de Lalon Shah" (Songs of Lalon Shah) along with performance of Lalon's songs by Farida Parveen on October 31 at AFD. Cultural Affairs Minister Asaduzzaman Noor attended the event as Chief Guest. Jean-Pierre Poncet, Chargé d'Affaires, Embassy of France was the Guest of Honour. Professor Emeritus Anisuzzaman was present at the programme.

Farida Parveen (vocal) with noted musicians Gazi Abdul Hakim (flute), ASM Reza (dhol), Debendra Nath Chatterjee (tabla), Sheikh Jalal Uddin (ektara and dotara) performed several songs of Lalon Shah.

Farida Parveen has just returned from Morocco where she participated in the opening concert of the 10th Fes Festival of Sufi Culture in Fez. She will perform in France, at three different venues next February, during the Sacrees Journées Festival in Strasbourg, at the Lyon's Opera and in Paris.

To honour her significant contribution to world music, Radio France has launched the album under the "Ocora" label. 'Ocora Radio France' is a French label dedicated to the traditional forms of music with a worldwide coverage. The performance was recorded in Paris at Théâtre de la Ville. In Europe, the launching of the album was highly welcomed, receiving high appreciation and reviews from critics and connoisseurs alike, such as the widely-distributed French cultural magazine "Telerama", Spanish radio Mundofonias, British magazine Songlines and Italo-Swiss Radio TV.

The album comes with a comprehensive presentation booklet by French musicologist Dr. Pierre-Alain Baud, in French and in English, on Lalon Shah and Farida Parveen.



Musical Homage to Abbasuddin Ahmed Mustafa Zaman Abbasi and Nashid Kamal perform at BNM

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Marking the 116th birth anniversary of legendary singer-musician Abbasuddin Ahmed, Indira Gandhi Culture Centre (IGCC) organised a musical evening by two generations of artistes: his son, scholar-musicologist-writer Mustafa Zaman Abbasi and granddaughter, Dr. Nashid Kamal. The programme was held at Poet Sufia Kamal Auditorium,

Bangladesh National Museum (BNM), Dhaka on 31 October.

Nashid Kamal performed several songs including "Nodir Kul Nai", "Nodir Naam Shoi Anjana" and "Oki Gariel Bhai" at the event while Mustafa Zaman Abbasi's repertoire included "Oi Mahasindhur Opar Theke", "O Ki O Bondhu Kajol Bhomora Re" and "Abar Bhalobasar Shadh Jage". The artiste duo wrapped up the soiree with

a duet song "Dhono Dhanyo Pushpo Bhora".

Mustafa Zaman Abbasi has authored fifty books on varied subjects and is now a Senior Research Scholar at Kazi Nazrul Islam and Abbasuddin Ahmed Research and Study Centre, Independent University Bangladesh. Dr. Nashid Kamal is also a noted Nazrul Sangeet exponent, professor and writer.

"House of Cards" suspends production on Season 6

"House of Cards" has suspended production on Season 6, in light of recent sexual assault allegations leveled against star Kevin Spacey, Variety confirmed.

"MRC and Netflix have decided to suspend production on 'House of Cards' season six, until further notice, to give us time to review the current situation and to address any concerns of our cast and crew," said the companies in a statement.

The companies had earlier announced that the sixth season would be the last for the series, which was currently in production in Baltimore. "Media Rights Capital and Netflix are deeply troubled by last night's news concerning Kevin Spacey," they said in a statement. Netflix and MRC also said that they had sent executives to Baltimore Monday to meet with cast and crew after actor Anthony Rapp ("Star Trek: Discovery") told Buzzfeed in an

interview that Spacey had sexually assaulted him when Rapp was 14 years old.

Sources say the companies made the decision to shut down given the intense scrutiny on the show stirred up after yesterday's news.

Spacey is not currently on set for "House of Cards". He issued an apology for his "deeply inappropriate drunken behavior," that was widely criticized given that he also used it to come out as a gay man.

"House of Cards" is widely credited as the show that put Netflix on the original programming map when it premiered in 2013. The series has been nominated for 53 Primetime Emmy Awards — including five nominations for outstanding drama series. Spacey has been nommed five times for his work.

Source: Variety



Katrina trained with real spies for "Tiger Zinda Hai"

The makers of upcoming Bollywood film "Tiger Zinda Hai" are on an overdrive to keep the buzz going around the upcoming film that stars Salman Khan and Katrina Kaif in lead roles. A new picture of Katrina has now emerged where she is seen wielding a gun - in line with her character of a spy.

Directed by Ali Abbas Zafar, "Tiger Zinda Hai" is a high-octane espionage thriller and Katrina reportedly transformed into a superspy, thanks to some



expert help. Katrina plays Zoya - an elite intelligence agent - who is an expert in hand-to-hand combat and slinging guns.

"In this film, Zoya plays a super spy. It was essential to understand how such agents think and operate. So, we got Katrina to train with real agents, used their expertise and experience. For instance, as intelligence agents, you have to train a certain way to keep your mental balance in direst situations. Say you

face someone who has a gun and you don't. How do you still stay neutral and calm, and figure out the best possible way to counter and survive in such a situation. Katrina has really pushed herself for the part," Zafar said in a press statement.

"She has also gone the extra mile to train in important nuances like aggressive hand-to-hand combat. The action that Katrina has done looks very real onscreen, despite being mounted on a

grand scale," he added.

Action coordinator Tom Struthers, of "The Dark Knight" and "The Dark Knight Rises" fame, was roped in for the action sequences in the film.

"Tiger Zinda Hai", a sequel to the 2012 film directed by Kabir Khan, will see Salman and Katrina reprise their roles as spies Tiger and Zoya. It is slated to hit theatres on December 22.

Source: Hindustan Times



One of the great gifts of art is eliciting human emotions of empathy. To use this power of art to start conversation on sensitive issues related to child marriage was the aim of "Ichche Dana" - a music and art show for youth organized on 25th October at EMK Center. 5 pairs of girls from Sunamgonj and eminent female artists of Bangladesh under the leadership of renowned artist Rokeya Sultana co-created posters to express thoughts on issues like investing on girls, dowry, sexuality, benefits of delayed marriage and participation of girls. The event was organized by CARE Bangladesh, to share their work to promote and celebrate visions of a positive future for girls. The event was launched with the girls and youth, attended by renowned personnel like Anisul Hoque, Sara Zaker, Zinat Sanu Swagata, Shafaet Mansoor Rana, Zia Choudhury - Country Director, CARE Bangladesh and Nidal Karim, Project Director, Tipping Point.