

WHAT'S ON

Solo Art Exhibition
 Artist: Abdur Razaque
 Venue: Gallery Chittrak, H-4, Rd-6, Dhanmondi
 Date: Oct 31-Nov 15
 Time: 10am-8pm



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



Solo Art Exhibition
 Hamiduzzaman Khan Retrospective (1964-2017)
 Venue: Nalinikanta Bhattashali Gallery, Bangladesh National Museum
 Date: Oct 27-Nov 10
 Time: 9:30am-5:30pm



Historical Theatre Fest
 Organiser: Universal Theatre
 Venue: National Theatre Hall, BSA
 Date: Nov 4-10
 Time: 7pm




A scene from "Bangla'r Mati Bangla'r Jol".

Itihasher Mohanayokera

Theatre Fest opens at BSA

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Theatre troupe Universal Theatre has organised a seven-day theatre festival at the Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA), focusing only on plays based on the historical figures of the sub-continent. A total of six troupes from Bangladesh and one from India are participating in the festival that also includes a seminar on the closing day (November 10).

Cultural Affairs Minister Asaduzzaman Noor inaugurated the festival on November 4 at the National Theatre Hall Auditorium of BSA, where eminent thespians Ramendu Majumdar, Nasiruddin Yousuff, and Hasan

Arif spoke as special guests.

On the opening day, Palakar staged their play "Bangla'r Mati Bangla'r Jol" (centering on Rabindranath Tagore), written by Syed Shamsul Haque and directed by Aatur Rahman. On the second day, Theatre staged "Baramkhana" (on Lalon Shah) written by Pantho Shahriar and directed by Tropa Majumdar, based on Sunil Ganguly's famous novel "Moner Maanush". Today's play at the festival is "Surjo Sen" (on Master'da Surjo Sen) by Chittagong Shilpakala Academy's Repertory troupe, written by Shobhonmoy Bhattacharya and directed by Moslem Uddin Sikdar; tomorrow,

Loko Natyadal (Siddheshwari) will stage "Mujib Manei Mukti" (on Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman) directed by Liaquat Ali Lucky. Host troupe Universal Theatre will stage "Mahatma" (on Mahatma Gandhi) on November 8, written and directed by Mazharul Haque Pintu, followed by Aranyak Natyadal's "Ebong Bidyasagar" (on Ishwar Chandra Bidya Sagar) written by Mannan Hira and directed by Mamunur Rashid, the next day. The festival will close with Indian troupe Kalyani Natya Bhabna's "Shromon" (on Gautam Buddha) the following day. All plays will begin at 7pm at the National Theatre Hall.

A masterful blend of Rasa and modernity

Hamiduzzaman Khan Retrospective at BNM

DR. MALAY BALA & ZAHANGIR ALOM

A retrospective exhibition showcasing an array of artworks by eminent sculptor Hamiduzzaman Khan is on at the Nalinikanta Bhattashali Gallery of Bangladesh National Museum (BNM). Titled "Hamiduzzaman Khan Retrospective", the exhibition displays sculptures, installations, drawings, paintings and prints done by the artist over the last five decades. Art connoisseurs will also have the opportunity to watch the videos and interviews by the artist. The exhibition concludes on November 10.

Khan's mastery is not limited to sculpture; his brilliant watercolours have earned him accolades far and wide and established

in his art and the artist generally prefers glowing light and mystifying settings. The magnanimous beauty of the mighty Himalaya has been portrayed in a number of watercolour paintings, where the morning light gleams through the thick clouds over the Himalayan range. Here, an art connoisseur is bound to take the Rasa of watercolour wash. The bold and the beautiful brushwork with dark blue hues over the big-sized paper are rather poetic. The artist has also displayed the brush he used making arts at the show.

The artworks reflect the artist's inner feelings, real life experiences, nostalgic memories and thoughts. They bring together his dynamism in paintings and sculpture alike.



The artist (3-R) with visitors at the exhibition.

him as a versatile artist. As a master of composition, he loves to portray both the bright and dark sides of any subject. This was depicted well at the exhibition, where the artist soulfully depicted the corpse of a Liberation War martyr. The frame of the painting is intentionally augmented outwards on four sides to give the appearance of a coffin.

Hamiduzzaman's sculptures includes the portrayal of the Gate of Heaven, with male and female figures gazing down with bowed heads. The work symbolises the greatness of the omnipotent, compelling viewers to forget their self egos.

Hamiduzzaman Khan also incorporates the rust of mild steel to portray the "Waiting Mother", who waits for her son to come back from the battlefield of 1971 in post-independent Bangladesh. Here, "mother" represents the motherland that awaits the sublime offspring who will build the golden Bangladesh, to carry forward the legacy of our valiant Freedom Fighters.

Also known for his amiable, pleasing personality, Hamiduzzaman shuns the thought of confining himself to a single medium, always experimenting with diverse styles throughout his career.

"I am always experimental and love to celebrate diversity when it comes to art. The present retrospective is a reflection of this spirit," said Hamiduzzaman Khan.

Solitude and serenity are vital aspects of his works. Lighting is a prominent feature

Khan is an energetic and ceaseless creative personality. He finds peace in his work, whether sculpture, painting or drawing. But his major recognition as a sculptor came in the early '80s when he was commissioned by the Bangladesh Government to decorate the fountain at the front entrance of the Bangabhaban with a sculpture. Most of his sculptures are either stylised figurative (both male and female shapes) or abstract forms, in painted steel, concrete cement, bronze and other metals.

Khan's quiet and intensely contemplative landscape contains a symbolism that alludes to peace and hope in nature. Stones turn gems with the magic touch of Hamiduzzaman Khan. The minimalist master has vast experience and insightful thoughts on life, nature, creation, afterlife and the country's opulent artistic and cultural heritage.

The sculptor has turned the pieces of hard black granite, granite, marble, white marble, coloured marble, marble di carrara, bronze, stainless steel, mild steel and more to depict the soft, sweet and deeply meaningful pieces of art. He portrayed sculptures on diverse themes like the universe in its glory, seeds, the birth of earth, the ektara of mystic baul, peaceful mudra of the sagacity of Lord Buddha, a waiting mother, the beauty of capsized calligraphy of mother language, remembrance of 1971 and definitely the multitude aspects of nature and rich folk heritage.

Bangladeshi children wow Delhi audience

Bal Sangam Dance and Music Festival at NSD

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

When a group of Bangladeshi child artistes concluded their dance to the ever-popular foot-tapping number "Tak Dum Tak Dum Bajai Bangladesher Dhol", the packed audience at the National School of Drama (NSD) in Delhi burst into thunderous applause on Friday.

The dance performance of Bangladeshi child artistes from Shadhona a music-dance school run by Lubna Mariam wowed the audience at NSD, a cultural landmark in Mandi House locality in the heart of Indian capital.

The Bangladeshi children put up their show, choreographed by Mariam, on the opening day of a four-day Bal Sangam Dance and Music Festival organised by NSD. They took part in a collage along with other Indian child artistes coming from different states of India.

A major part of the audience was from different schools of Delhi, who thoroughly enjoyed the performance by the Bangladeshi children.

Yesteryears Indian film actress Sharmila Tagore inaugurated the festival where Bangladesh High Commissioner to India Syed Muazzem Ali was present as a guest of honour.



Young artistes perform at the festival.

iflix launches in Bangladesh

Robi introduces streaming service



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

On-demand entertainment streaming service iflix launched its service in Bangladesh yesterday, in partnership with telecom operators Robi.

Consumers can now enjoy unlimited access to iflix's vast library of shows, award-winning TV series, movies, popular local and regional content, and children's programmes and much more by signing up for a one-month free trial via iflix's website, www.iflix.com, or downloading the app to their smartphones. As part of the partnership with Robi Axiata Limited, Robi and Airtel customers will get three months unlimited access to the service.

iflix is a leading entertainment service for emerging markets, currently available in 24 countries throughout Asia, the Middle East and Africa. It hosts movies, TV series and other international and regional programmes, including popular American shows such as "The Flash", "Arrow", "Mr. Robot", "Vampire Diaries" and "The Big Bang Theory" and Bollywood films, among others. At launch, many of iflix's most popular movies and TV shows will be offered with Bangla subtitles, with the aim of localising the catalogue in the months to come.

Each iflix subscription includes access to iflix

on up to five devices including phones, tablets, laptops, desktops, TVs and other connected devices, as well as the ability to watch shows simultaneously on two different devices at the same time. Monthly retail subscriptions for one month of unlimited access to iflix in Bangladesh are priced at 300 taka, with an annual subscription package available at 3,000 taka.

With iflix's 'Download and Watch Offline' feature, users can download TV shows and movies to any phone, tablet or mobile device to binge-watch offline, when not connected to the Internet.

Iflix Head of Asia, Jonas Engwall said at the launch ceremony: "We are thrilled to make our service available in Bangladesh and partner with Robi."

"Bangladeshis love local stories and shows. In line with our passion for local customers, iflix will feature an exciting slate of local content," iflix Bangladesh Country Manager, Imrul Karim added.

Robi's Chief Corporate and People Officer, Matul Islam Nowshad, Head of Enterprise Business Adil Hossain, Head of Regulatory Affairs Shahed Alam and Head of IT Asif Naimur Rashid, along with officials from Robi and iflix were present on the occasion.

NEWS bytes

Jon Hamm joins "Off Season"

Jon Hamm has come aboard the independent supernatural thriller "Off Season", with shooting planned for early next year.

Protagonist Pictures CEO Dave Bishop made the announcement Saturday at the American Film Market in Santa Monica.

Producers are Nira Park through her Big Talk Pictures and J. Miles Dale under his Demilo Productions banner.

"Off Season" will be directed by Jonathan van Tulleken from his own script, based on his BAFTA nominated short of the same name. Set in the harsh Canadian tundra, a man goes in search of his elderly father who mysteriously disappears. His feverish search exposes shocking family secrets long buried but not forgotten by vengeful forces at work.

Hamm is best known for his role as Don Draper on AMC's "Mad Men" and most recently starred in "Marjorie Prime" and "Baby Driver".

Source: Variety



TV WATCH

"October Revolution" to be aired on Deepto TV

A documentary highlighting the 1917 October Revolution in Russia will be aired on Deepto TV on November 6 and 7, at 9am. Directed, written, and narrated by Brattyo Amin and produced by Kazi Media Limited, the documentary addresses questions around the Bolshevik uprisings in 1917. The year is the most significant in Russia's history, from the fall of the House of Romanov, and the rise of the first socialist state in the world.



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QUIZ - 03
 What is the name of Thor's civilization?
WINNERS LIST OF QUIZ - 02

- Adrika Musfirat Diya, Banani
- Nusrat Jahan Nafia, Bashabo
- Nurshad Amin, Paribagh
- Shafiqul Islam, Hatirpul
- Mehsum Tanzim Khan, Kalabagan
- Saidur Rahman, Demra
- Afreeda Rahman, Niketon
- Sharna, University of Dhaka
- Fahim, Dhanmondi
- Surja Anirban Hassan, Eskaton

NOTE: PLEASE IGNORE THE WINNERS LIST OF QUIZ-01 THAT WAS PUBLISHED ON 05.11.17. ORIGINAL WINNERS GOT E-MAIL FROM THE STARQUIZ AUTHORITY.