

**WHAT'S ON**

**Solo Art Exhibition**  
 Artist: Abdur Razzaque  
 Venue: Gallery Chitrag, 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 Bhattacharya 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




# LALJOMIN gets a boost forward

ROBINA RASHID BHUIYAN

Bangladesh's Cultural Affairs Ministry has recently extended their support to theatre group Shunyan Reparatory for their much acclaimed production "Laljomini." A cheque of Tk 11 lakh has been granted to the group's President Momena Chowdhury by Cultural Affairs Minister Asaduzzaman Noor, to enable monthly productions across 44 districts countrywide.

Written by noted playwright Mannan Hira and directed by Sudip Chakraborty, the one-act play will stage 10 productions every month across Bangladesh until June 2018. Under this initiative, the drama opened curtains on October 9 in Rajarbagh School and College, followed by a second staging

at Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy's Studio Theatre.

"This is the first time the government has taken the initiative to carry a theatre production across various districts in Bangladesh. There will be more of this kind in the future, added Momena Chowdhury.

"Laljomini" is a poignant tale of a 13-year-old girl in a war-torn Bangladesh, highlighting the effects of the Liberation War on present day. The play is a solo performance by Momena Chowdhury.

"The play depicts the struggles and sacrifices of a young girl, and we would like to carry the play towards the youth. We have staged productions in eight colleges so far, and are preparing to do many more," said Momena Chowdhury.

The play will be staged today at Bangladesh Mohila Samity, in Baily Road, Dhaka.



# "Dhaka Attack" goes to Europe

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Since its release, "Dhaka Attack" has been the most profitable cinema this year, still drawing throngs of viewers to the halls. The movie is slated to break its own records soon, and is set to impress the European audience today.

Nine members of the film crew including

director Dipankar Dipon, actor Arefin Shuvo, actress Mahiya Mahi and more have left on a film tour to France, Italy and Switzerland, where the film has been released.

"With this, we hope to promote Bangladeshi cinema globally, and establish our film industry in the competitive international media scene," stated Dipankar Dipon.

The Daily Star also reached out to the

film's leading man Arefin Shuvo before the team's departure, who said, "After being released in the Middle East and America, 'Dhaka Attack' is covering even wider ground in Europe. This is a huge achievement for all of us."

Previously, the film has been released in UAE, Singapore, Canada and several states in USA.



# Proma Abonti A life dedicated to Odissi dance

AMIR HASAN SHAHRIAR, Chittagong

Proma Abonti, a leading Odissi exponent from Bangladesh, has promoted and taught the dance form across the country for 16 years. Her institution Odissi and Tagore Dance Movement Centre has represented Bangladesh throughout the world. The institution celebrated its long innings through dance festivals in Dhaka and Chittagong. The second phase of the festival ended recently at Theatre Institute Chittagong to a houseful audience.

The Daily Star had an opportunity to talk to Proma where she shared less known facts about herself, her institution and the dance movement.

**How did you venture into the dance world?**  
**Proma Abonti:** My aunt initiated me into dance. At the age of four I was enrolled at Alauddin Lalitakala Academy. After that I went on to do my Higher Secondary, Honours and Masters from Rabindra Bharati University.

**Why have you chosen Odissi?**  
**Proma Abonti:** Of the eight Indian classical dance forms, Odissi is the best genre to express human emotions. When I saw a performance by the great Guru Kelucharan Mahapatra, I decided at once that I would pursue Odissi. Odissi is a dance form with the most humour, sentiment and feelings.

**What was the principle behind Odissi and Tagore Dance Movement Centre?**

**Proma Abonti:** All I wanted was to popularise the art form among later generations, to promote one of the most ancient dance forms so that pure practice continued uninterrupted. That's a duty vested in me as a disciple of this art.

**How can an art form be pure?**  
**Proma Abonti:** No matter how far an artist traverses, at the end of the day he will return to his roots. It is the nature of art. 'Pure', the word used by classical artistes, is always misunderstood. We mean 'the original' by that word.

**How do you look back at your institution 16 years later?**  
**Proma Abonti:** A lot could have been done in this span of time. The thought of what I could have done, won't let me rest. Everything could have been done with more excellence. I could use Odissi dance to promote empowerment of women and it could be used as an artistic expression of protest against the atrocities in society. I could do all of that, it is late but not too late I hope.

**What obstacles did you encounter in your journey?**  
**Proma Abonti:** The lack of patrons. Less evolved art forms get the attention of the patrons as they are assured of easy returns. It is very hard to find even a single organisation to patronise a classical art programme. If there were sufficient patrons around, artistes could do much better work.

**What is your advice to young Odissi dancers?**  
**Proma Abonti:** Practice, that's all it takes. If you are determined you will find a way forward. And of course, love what you do and respect it, and don't ruin it in the name of experimentation.

## NEWSbytes

### JESSICA CHASTAIN down to play adult Beverly

After the smash hit that was Andy Muschietti's "It", produced by his sister Barbara, the audience's eyes officially turned to the prospect of casting the adult versions of Derry's Losers Club for the sequel. Fan casting for the role of Beverly Marsh has brought up two prospects: Amy Adams and Jessica Chastain, and the latter officially expressed her desire to take up the role.

"Well, I love Andy and Barbara. I worked with them on Andy's directorial debut, 'Mama'. And Barbara is one of my best friends. They're like my family. Anything that they're doing I want to be a part of, so I hope we can make it happen," she said.

Between Chastain's willingness to take part in the project and her history with the Muschietti's as the lead in the Guillermo del Toro-produced "Mama", the only factors that seem to stand in the way of this becoming a reality are scheduling and the fact that no formal offer has been submitted at this time.

Jessica Chastain's most recent venture includes "Molly's Game", which opens on Christmas Day this year. "It 2" is slated to arrive in theatres on September 6, 2019.



Source: [Cinemablend](#)

# Ahmad Ibrahim receives GHB research grant

The jury of the Ganesh Haloi Bengal (GHB) Research Grant has selected Ahmad Ibrahim to be its first recipient, says a press release by Bengal Arts Programme. The grant will cover Ahmad Ibrahim's project conducted over a period of 12 months and will lead to a public presentation in the form of a written essay. Bengal Arts Programme will further support Ahmad's research by setting up a platform of dialogue between the recipient and various resource persons. In addition to selecting Ahmad Ibrahim, the jury has, on the basis of the strength of their applications, nominated Fiona Cheng (Taiwan); Kehkasha Sabah (Bangladesh); Musharrat Sharmee Hossain (Bangladesh) and Salma Jamal (Bangladesh); and Sumona Banerjee (India) for Honourable Mention.

Titled as "Concealing the Populace in Public Space -- Mapping Aesthetic Shifts in the Production of Political Posters in Dhaka", Ahmad Ibrahim's project will trace the major aesthetic evolution in the production of political posters between the period of Bangladesh's Liberation War and the present day. The recipient aims to demonstrate that, whereas the poster imagery of artists such as Nitun Kundu or

Quamrul Hassan once privileged the populace over the personal to support engaged struggles, this popular aesthetic has subsided in today's poster-making practice to single out individual figures. Mapping the different visual stages of this evolution, the recipient's project will also attempt to define its various meanings. "My research hopes to spark cross-disciplinary dialogue on the relationship between art practices and the spatio-temporal configurations of fractured urbanities," Ahmad writes in his research proposal.



The Jury of the Ganesh Haloi Bengal Art Research Grant 2017 comprised of architect Marina Tabassum (Bangladesh), filmmaker Naem Mohaiemen (Bangladesh) and researcher Sabih Ahmed (India).

The Ganesh Haloi Bengal Research Grant was set up by Bengal Arts

Programme to encourage original research and critical writing projects furthering the understanding and appreciation of the arts of, from, or relating to the greater Bengal region. Appraised bi-annually by an independent jury, the grant is supported by artist Ganesh Haloi (b. 1936, Jamalpur, Bangladesh), and managed by Bengal Arts Programme.

## TV WATCH "Music Club" on Banglavisision

A CORRESPONDENT

Banglavisision's live studio musical programme "Music Club" will air its 300th episode tonight at 11:25pm, featuring popular singer Dolly Shayontoni as this evening's guest.

Listeners will be able to phone in with questions for the singer, who will also reveal little known stories about herself and her life experiences. "Music Club" is produced by Nahid Ahmed Biplob.




**THOR RAGNAROK**

The Daily Star | STAR QUIZ CONTEST

**10 WINNERS EVERYDAY! 2 PREMIUM TICKETS FOR EACH WINNER**

Email your answer to [starquiz@outlook.com](mailto:starquiz@outlook.com) by 4.00 pm today with your name, DOB, mobile number and address. The winners of the quiz will be announced tomorrow through email.

**QUIZ - 05**  
 What is the name of Thor's hammer?

**WINNERS LIST OF QUIZ - 04**

1. Mohammad Sajjad Hossain, Mirpur-02
2. Ehsanul Kabir Sakib, Savar
3. Afrin Nahar, University of Dhaka
4. Rafi Ibn Ferdous, Bashundhara
5. Nashmin Nahin, Lalbagh
6. Saidur Rahman, Panthopoth
7. Nadia Noushin, Dhanmondi
8. Kumari Kotha Mrita, Boro Mogbazar
9. Abdur Rahman, Shayamoli
10. Billal Hossain, Narayanganj