



PHAEDRA

at Theatre Olympics 2018

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The eighth edition of the Theatre Olympics – one of the biggest international theatre festivals in the world – is set to take place in Delhi's (India) National School of Drama from February 17-April 8, 2018, and Bangladeshi production "Phaedra" has been invited to travel to the festival.

A total of 500 plays from across the globe will be staged at the 50-day grand festival, which will travel to other major Indian cities aside from Delhi.

"Phaedra", which was titled "SaNjhbat'i Bilap" in Bangla, is directed by noted theatre director and senior professor of Dhaka University's Theatre & Performance Studies department, Dr. Israfeel Shaheen. It is based on

Asit Kumar's translation of French dramatist Jean Racine's 17th century tragedy play "Phèdre". Masters' students of Dhaka University's Theatre & Performance Studies department have produced and acted in the play.

Dramaturgy, dialogue and songs for the production have been written by Shahman Maishan. Stage, lights and props have been designed by Ashiq Rahman Lyon; Wahida Mallik Jolly, Kazi Tamanna Haq Sigma and Lyon have designed costumes for the play, which has Afrin Huda Tora, Dhiman Chandra Barman, Ishraq Khan Pathan, Ilyas Baset, Golam Nasir Rana and others in the central cast. The play premiered at Dhaka University's Natmandal stage on May 16 this year.

NEWS bytes

DEADPOOL 2

teaser offers first footage



Ryan Reynolds takes a turn into the surreal in a teaser trailer for "Deadpool 2", offering mostly tips on how to paint — intercut with a few brief action scenes.

Deadpool imitates Bob Ross, the late artist from PBS' instructional show "The Joy of Painting" who provided extensive detail about what he was painting, in a video titled "Wet on Wet".

About halfway through, however, several characters appear briefly in a violence-laden montage from the actual movie — Josh Brolin's Cable, Negasonic Teenage Warhead (played by Brianna Hildebrand), and Blind Al (Leslie Uggams). Then the trailer returns to the painting instructional with Reynolds concluding, "Hugs not drugs."

Reynolds is also a producer on the films with "Deadpool" writers Rhett Reese and Paul Wernick returning, along with Drew Goddard assisting. "John Wick" co-director David Leitch came on board to lead "Deadpool 2" last fall after Tim Miller dropped out due to creative differences with Reynolds. The superhero sequel also stars "Atlanta" breakout Zazie Beetz as the mutant mercenary Domino.

"Deadpool" gave Fox its biggest hit of 2016 after earning \$783.1 million worldwide, supplanting "The Matrix Reloaded" to become the highest-grossing R-rated film in history. "Deadpool 2" hits theatres on June 1, 2018.

Source: Variety

TV WATCH



"Mr. Perfectionist" on ATN Bangla

A CORRESPONDENT

Single-episode TV play "Mr. Perfectionist" will air tonight on ATN Bangla at 9pm. Written by Shraboni Ferdous and directed by Shubhro Khan, it casts Dr. Enamul Haque, Mir Sabbir and Sporshia.

The plot revolves around Sagar, a noted actor who is dedicated to his craft. He practices his roles

at home, and gets his wife Neela aboard as a partner in rehearsals. While it is fun at first for Neela, the extent of his dedication becomes a pain in the butt for her, and she decides to leave him. Without his wife's support, Sagar begins to lose his grip over his career as his performance deteriorates. Neela also realizes that she is not happy without Sagar, and eventually returns to him.



"Batch 27: The Last Page" on ntv today

A CORRESPONDENT

Hit tele-film "Batch 27: The Last Page", which gained popularity after airing during Eid-ul Azha, will air on ntv at 2:35pm. Written by Mizanur Rahman Aryan, it also casts Kayes Chowdhury, Mili Basher and Ananda Khalid in supporting roles. The tele-film is a sequel to "Batch 27" aired on Eid-ul Fitr, and continues the story forward. The tele-film has a whooping 4.1 million views on YouTube.

Bangladeshi architecture exhibit to travel through Europe

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The S AM Swiss Architecture Museum in Basel, Switzerland in collaboration with Bengal Institute for Architecture, Landscapes and Settlements (BIALS), is set to organise an exhibition on Bangladesh's contemporary architecture, called "Bengal Stream: The Vibrant Architecture Scene of Bangladesh". This will be first major and extensive architectural exhibition on Bangladesh in Europe, featuring the work of architects from Bangladesh.

Opening on December 1, 2017 and running up to May 6, 2018, the exhibition will bring to European viewers the work of over thirty architects from Bangladesh representing the best, innovative and creative works of the country. Following the venue in Basel, the exhibition will travel to Germany and France, and finally in Dhaka.

The press event was attended by Chargée d'affaires of the Swiss Embassy Beate K Elsässer, Chairman of Bengal Foundation and Chairman of the Executive Board of Bengal Institute Abul Khair, director general of Bengal Institute Professor Kazi Khaleed Ashraf, and the curator of the exhibition "Bengal Stream" Niklaus Graber.

Abul Khair praised the contemporary architecture scene of Bangladesh and mentioned that good architecture should cater to the needs of people belonging to all social class. Niklaus Graber, who showed a visual presentation on the exhibition and its various programmes, also lauded the contemporary architects for keeping the deltaic landscape in consideration when designing their projects.

The aim of the exhibition is to promote the architectural scenario of Bangladesh to the European audience. It will highlight the diverse work of Bangladeshi architects, working in urban conditions as well as rural communities and fragile landscapes. The exhibition will also include works by Muzharul Islam, Louis Kahn, Paul Rudolph and thirty other renowned architects of the contemporary scene in Bangladesh.



Niklaus Grauber (2-R) speaks at the press conference.

WHAT'S ON



Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Jungle of Humanity by Mahbub Zamal Shamim
Venue: Gallery-2, (2nd floor), National Art Gallery, BSA
Date: Nov 10-24
Time: 11am-8pm



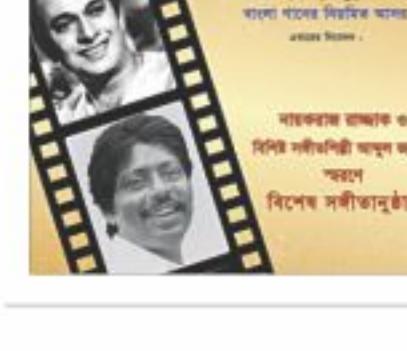
Solo Painting Exhibition
Layers
Artist: Fahad Hasan Kazmeen
Venue: Kala Kendra
Date: Oct 27-Nov 22
Time: 5-8pm



Group Print Exhibition
Title: Nature Quest
Venue: Gallery Cosmos, H-115, L-6, New DOHS, Mohakhali
Date: Nov 10-23
Time: 11am-8pm



Solo Painting exhibition
Title: Memories Beyond Time
Artist: Syed Jahangir
Venue: Abinta Gallery of fine arts
Date: Nov 11-Dec 01
Time: 10am-8pm



Special Musical Soiree
Highlighting songs lip-synced by Nayak Raj Razzak & Abdul Jabbar
Organiser: Star Melodies
Venue: The Daily Star-Bengal Arts Precinct, The Daily Star Centre
Date: Nov 18; Time: 6pm



Group Painting Exhibition
Title: Aquatic 3
Venue: La Galerie, AFD, Dhanmondi
Date: Nov 17-28; Time: 3-9pm (Mon-Thurs)
and 9am-12noon & 3-8pm (Fri-Sat)

Bhabna lands first major TV role

A CORRESPONDENT

Ashna Habib Bhabna has been a popular face on the small screen for some time now, but the artiste has never had a starring role in a drama series, until now. Recently the actress has been on the sets for a new drama series scripted and helmed by Animesh Aich titled "Jotsnamoyi", in which she plays the titular character.

The narrative follows the plight of, naïve young girl from a village following the death of her father, a school teacher. Jotsna's mother becomes the sole caretaker of the family, which consists of a younger brother, and their financial burdens lead them to move from home to home as they struggle to pay their rent. They eventually come face to face with a landlord who takes advantage of their situation, and blackmails Jotsna to marry him. To escape Jotsna flees to Dhaka, where her struggles become more complicated.

"While preparing for my role, I began to empathise with my character, and really feel sorry for her," said Bhabna, "the drama truly highlights the everyday struggles single women face in the city, especially those from less privileged backgrounds. I urge both men and women to watch the series, because they are an eye opener."

The main cast includes popular actors of the industry including Chanchal Chowdhury, Runa Khan, Sumaiya Shimu, Borda Mithu, Rownak Hasan, Shompa Reza, and more. The drama series is made for Nagorik TV, a new private TV channel, and is expected to have its pilot airing this month.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSVED