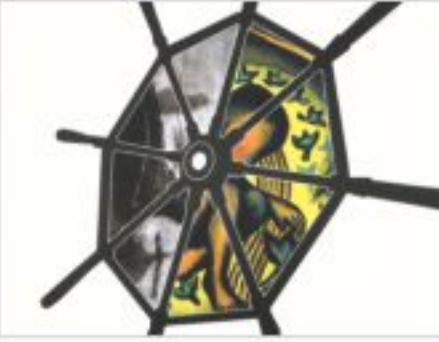


WHAT'S ON

**Group Painting Exhibition**  
Title: Musings in Watercolor  
Venue: Edge Galleries, Gulshan-2  
Date: Nov 26-Dec 15  
Time: 10am-8pm



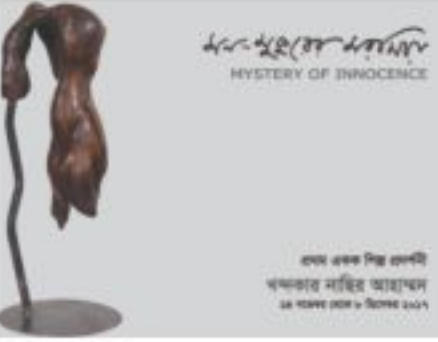
**Group Print Exhibition**  
Title: Nature Quest  
Venue: Gallery Cosmos, H-115, L-6, New DOHS, Mohakhali  
Date: Nov 10-30  
Time: 11am-8pm



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



**Solo Art Exhibition**  
Title: Mystery of Innocence  
Artist: Khandkar Nasir Ahammed  
Venue: Gallery Chittrak, Rd-6, H-4, Dhanmondi  
Date: Nov 24-Dec 8  
Time: 10am-8pm



**SAARC Cultural Festival on Traditional Dance**  
Organiser: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy  
Venue: National Theatre Hall & Nandan Mancha, BSA  
Date: Nov 30-Dec 3; Time: 5pm-8pm



## Bhumi Pednekar continues breaking stereotypes

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

Bollywood actress Bhumi Pednekar has broken stereotypes even before the release of her debut film "Dum Laga Ke Haisha", a content-driven movie which was critically-acclaimed and fetched her a Filmfare award for best debut female actor. And now she wants to smash more stereotypes including gender discrimination in the family.

After "Dum Laga Ke Haisha", the actress chose films like "Toilet: Ek Prem Katha" and "Shubh Mangal Savdhan", both of which talked about unconventional subjects carrying key social messages.

At the 48th edition of the International Film Festival of India 2017, Pednekar spoke extensively about women breaking stereotypes during a candid conversation with movie buffs and her fans in Goa on Saturday.

Pednekar said, "Being overweight was linked to being depressed for a long time and I was happy that a film like 'Dum Laga Ke Haisha' changed that thinking."



"Post 'Dum Laga Ke Haisha', I was offered around 24 scripts but the roles offered weren't good enough for me to even consider. I waited for the right opportunity and the perfect script. I grabbed films like 'Toilet: Ek Prem Katha' and 'Shubh Mangal Savdhan' because they were important roles written for an actress. I feel myself lucky if I can make a difference to even one life through the films that I do," she said.

During the question-answer session, Pednekar, responding to a question whether she would like to do films that carry a social message, said, "As an individual you cannot avoid your responsibilities."

Asked what sort of stereotypes she would like to break in personal life, she responded that she would like to get rid of gender differences. "Even today, 'ghar ka chiraag' (light in the house) is understood to be the boy,"

Replying to another question, Pednekar said the characters in her film were progressive by thoughts and not by clothes.



PHOTO: STAR



PHOTO: STAR

## "GONDAR" STAGED IN CHITTAGONG

MD. ABBAS, CU

Theatre lovers of port city were captivated by the performance of "Gondar", a Bangla adaptation of Eugene Ionesco's play "Rhinoceros", on Saturday evening held at the city's Alliance Française auditorium.

Fame, a renowned Chittagong based theatre troupe staged the play with the support of Alliance Française de Chittagong.

The play was jointly translated by Kabir Chowdhury and Shaonli Mitra while Ashim Das, of Chittagong University, directed the play.

"Rhinoceros" depicts a curious story of the dwellers of a small French city. All the people of the city are gradually transformed into rhinos after an epidemic breaks

out. But only Bérenger, a perplexed average Joe who is often criticised by his friends for his drinking habits and indolence -- does not transform into a rhino with this mass metamorphosis.

As the mass transformation ensues, Bérenger along with his colleague Daisy (with whom he is hopelessly in love with) try to resist and agrees to get married to restore the human race.

But soon afterwards, changing her mind, Daisy starts to admire the rhinos' enthusiasm and energy and transforms into a rhino.

Bérenger was firm not to transform and later declares, "I'm the last man, I will stay till the end! I'm not giving up!"

The story has been written based

on World War II and it is thought that the theme of the play was the response to the sudden upsurge of Communism, Fascism and Nazism prior to World War II.

Aabir Mandal played the role of Bérenger while Nishigandha Dasgupta enacted the role of Daisy.

Abdul Kader Jitu, Salahuddin Bappy, Poly Chowdhury, Sabiha Binte Jashim, Ashrafa Hossain, Mubidur Rahman, Khadijatul Kubra, Kamal Barua, Rumel Barua and Dipta Chakrabarty performed other roles.

Before the show, the Charge d'Affaires of the Embassy of France in Bangladesh Jean Pierre Poncet and Director of Alliance Française de Chittagong Dr. Selvam Thorez delivered welcome speeches.



Popular singer Pradipt Sarkar performs at the Music and Dance Auditorium of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy on November 25 in a solo musical event titled "Gaaner Bhelay Teen Doshok". Sarkar began with a performance in Raga Behag followed by a popular Nazrul song "Amaye Nohey Go". In a soiree that ran for two- and-a-half hours the artiste enthralled the audience with Bangla songs from the golden era. He also performed his popular compositions at the event. Masud Ahmed, Comptroller and Auditor General of Bangladesh attended as chief guest; Shyam Sunder Sikder, Secretary of ICT Division; Chandra Shil, Chief Director of Bangladesh Betar; Faisal Ahmed Chowdhury, Chairman of First Finance Ltd all delivered welcome addresses at the event.



Nazrul singer Zannat e Ferdousi performs at a programme titled "Bhalobasha More Gaan" at the National Museum's Sufia Kamal Auditorium on November 27. Organised by Bangladesh Nazrul Sangeet Sangstha, the event also held performances by noted Nazrul exponents including Khairul Anam Shakil, Yaqub Ali Khan and upcoming singers Nusrat Jahan Runa, Rezaul Karim, Layeka Bashir, Sanjay Kabiraj and Tumpa Shomaddar. Enamul Huq Omar on tabla, Osit Biswas on esraj and Robins on keyboard accompanied the singers.

## OYSHEE looks forward to new releases

ROBINA RASHID BHUIYAN

Popular singer Fatima Tuz Zohra Oyshee has her hands full these days -- with new singles being released, the singer will also have credits in several films for playback singing. To top off her busy schedule, the singer is a medical student, and is passionate in her aim of becoming a doctor.

Oyshee's most recent venture is a duet single titled "Tor Bhalobasha" with Belal Khan, released a week ago as a music video. The single, written by Ishtiaque Ahmed, is also composed by Belal Khan with Meer Masum behind musical arrangements. "The song is about young love, aimed at people in their twenties or younger," elaborated Oyshee.

The singer has recently finished recording a funky dance number to be released under the CMV banner, titled

"Pappi". Written by Shajeeb Shahriar, the singer revealed that the number contains dialogues as well as singing, with some EDM elements. The single is slated to be up for release soon, with a date yet to be fixed. "I feel very enthusiastic about this venture, and I look forward to the response it will generate," added the singer.

A great deal of Oyshee's time is being invested in playback singing for several upcoming movies. The singer has recorded a number for the Badrul Anam Saud-helmed "Gohin Baluchor", as well as a folksy number for "Dulabhai Zindabaad". She has also wrapped up recording a song to be featured in "Ontorjala", and "Pashan", for which she sang the title song.

"I love playback singing. I enjoy the challenge of embodying a character's emotions and personality through song. It's never boring, and each song is a welcome change," she said.

Her comfort in performing within a wide variety of genres is why the singer is able to look forward to such versatile projects. "My parents ensured that my training groomed me to tackle any song comfortably, but every artiste has a personal preference, and for me that would be folk rock. I believe it suits my

## Redmayne, Jones in talks to reunite for "The Aeronauts"

"The Theory of Everything" stars Eddie Redmayne and Felicity Jones are in negotiations to re-team in Amazon Studios' "The Aeronauts," sources tell Variety. "War & Peace's" Tom Harper is attached to direct from a script by Jack Thorne.

The screenplay is based on the true story of balloon pilot Amelia Wren (who would be played by Jones) and scientist James Glaisher (Redmayne) who, in 1862, embarked on an extraordinary journey to discover the secrets of the heavens. In the process, they flew higher in an open balloon than anyone had before or has since. They made breathtaking discoveries, but as they ascended to the highest points of the atmosphere, they were forced into an epic fight for survival.

Mandeville Films' Todd Lieberman and David Hoberman are producing the film.

Harper is also producing. Amazon nabbed the spec last winter after a heated bidding war. It's currently unknown when production will commence.

Redmayne, who won an Oscar for playing Stephen Hawking in "The Theory of Everything," is now the star of the "Harry Potter" spinoff "Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them." He is filming the sequel, "Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald," which bows next November.

Jones received an Academy Award nomination for her role as Jane Hawking in "The Theory of Everything." She recently starred in "Star Wars: Rogue One." Redmayne is repped by CAA and United Agents. Jones is repped by WME and Independent Talent Group.

Source: Variety

