

WHAT'S ON

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



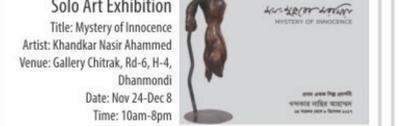
Solo Painting Exhibition
 Title: The Uncaged
 Artist: Zahangir Alam
 Venue: La Galerie, AFD, 26, Mirpur Road
 Date: Dec 1-15
 Time: Mon-Thurs (3-9pm), Fri-Sat (9am-12noon & 5-8pm)



Unplugged Concert
 Poriborton er Gaan
 Organiser: Change is You
 Venue: TSC, Dhaka University
 Date: Dec 5
 Time: 4:30pm



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



Classical Guitar Concert
 Flaming Acoustics
 Organiser: AFD
 Venue: Auditorium Nouvelle Vague, AFD
 Date: Dec 9
 Time: 5:30pm




Rock icons Warfaze stir up a hurricane at the concert.

PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

CONCERT REVIEW

Big Rock Day: A proper gig long overdue

FAHMIM FERDOUS

Rock music has always had an audience in Bangladesh, and as with the genre anywhere in the world, live concerts have been a big factor in creating and growing that fan base. What began particularly with the open-air concerts by BAMBAs (Bangladesh Musical Bands Association) in the late '90s, the concert craze was well and alive in the 2000s but has been on a serious wane in recent years. Although smaller-scale indoors concerts have been happening here and there, a full-blast open air show with a solid lineup had been a bit of a rarity, and Blues Communications took a big step in reviving exactly that. A good few thousands of audience screaming, jumping and singing along to top rock bands at the Big Rock Day on December 1 remains proof that rock music is alive and aloud.

Two of Bangladesh's best-known thrash/heavy metal acts -- Mechanics and Powersurge -- kicked things up at the open space of the International Convention City Bashundhara from early afternoon. Powersurge were closing their set with their hit "Mithter Agrashon" as this correspondent reached the venue, with audiences pouring in on a steady stream. The first thing that caught the eye was the stage -- with just a dark background and no backdrop, two sets of speakers hung from cranes on either side, a flurry of lights and just a minimalist Big Rock Day logo at the top.

Nemesis was next up on stage, wasting no time and opening with "Obocheton", the song that put them on the map in 2004's mixed album "Agontuk 2". They mixed their set-list up with newer material like "Ghuri" and "Swopnoshur" with older hits like "Tritiyo Jatra", "Joyodhwoni" and "Kobe", in a tight

performance with Zohad at the front and Dio on the kit, as good as they have ever been. Shunno was up next, with their brand of soft rock sound. Emil, the vocal, seemed a little strained in his vocal delivery at the start but recovered well as their set went on, which included energetic numbers like "Shono Mohajon" and "Bhago", their more mellow ones like "Bedona", "Godhuli'r Opare" and "Shoto Asha" and their adaption of folk songs "Khachar Bhiton Ochin Pakhi" and "Mon Tore".

Arbovirus is one of the most exciting bands in terms of stage presence and their infectious energy, and they lived up their reputation in an explosive display at the show. They opened with "Roder Kinaray" from their sophomore album "Montobbo Nishproyojon", and despite some early issues with Suharto's guitars, powered through their angry anthems "Bhenge Felo" and "Jalo Agun Jalo", mixing it up with early items like "Omanush", the superhit ballad "Hariye Jao", the inspirational "Shurjo" and closing with the nostalgic throwback "School".

The audience's chants of "Artcell! Artcell!" were met with immediately as the iconic prog-rock outfit came on stage next, bursting on to the stage with "Shohid Shoroni". Although with only Lincoln from the original band on stage it seemed a little strange to see this Artcell lineup for fans of the old Artcell like myself, the band did fairly okay -- performing "Dukkho Bilash", "Onno Shomoy" and closing with "Chile Kothar Shepai", along with a surprisingly good Metallica cover (Enter Sandman) and the essential Kazi Nazrul rock anthem of "Kandari Hushiar".

Vikings, a band that came back after 11 years of hiatus and still managed to find an

army of new fans along with their old ones, was a treat to watch especially for their older fans. They appeared both groups, in an immaculate performance combining songs from their new album like "Elomelo Kromosho", "Ekbar Bolo" and "Opekha", with their vintage numbers "Shomoy", "Din Joto Dukkho Toto", "Bhalobashi Jare" and "Kotha Dao". Their whole old-school rock ballad vibes -- high-pitched vocals, melodic-rich riffs and having keys in the mix -- was a fantastic throwback of the older rock fans at the concert.

The final act of the night -- and the most anticipated -- was Warfaze, and the crowd went wild as soon as Kamal -- one of the greatest guitar players this country has produced -- came up on stage and hollered. With the classic lineup of Roger, Tipu, Shams and Kamal, they found young blood in shredder Samir Hafiz and the vocal powerhouse vocal Palash, the former Radioactive frontman who is one of the very few who can handle the third-octave screams left behind by the likes of Mizan and Sunjoy. They sent the audience into frenzy with "Jibondhara", "Oshamajik", "Na", "Purnota", "Oporup Bisshoy", "Moharaj" and closing fittingly with "Boshe Achi". The combo of Kamal and Samir, easily a generation apart in age, going berserk on the solos with the trusted trio holding the rest of the arrangement up and Palash ripping through the screams showed once again the true legends that Warfaze is.

Blues Communications' arrangement, as expected, was immaculate, from the management to the sounds and lights, and their plans of making this a regular event is a big up for the rock music scene and its thousands of followers in the country.

Satyajit's "Professor Shonku" coming to the big screen

SUBRATA ACHARYA, Kolkata

Satyajit Ray's Feluda, Sharadindu Bandopadhyay's Byomkesh Bakshi, Nihar Ranjan Gupta's Kiriti Roy and Syed Mustafa Siraj's Colonel Niladri Sarkar are some of the biggest names in Bangla adventure-mystery literary genre, and their appeal has often transcended pages of the books and onto other media.

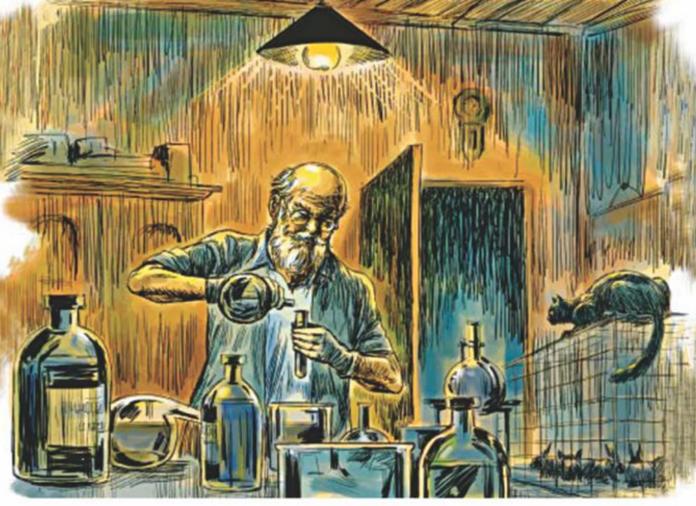
And now, another one of Satyajit Roy's immortal characters, the mad scientist Professor Shonku, is all set for its debut on the silver screen. Based on the story "Nokurbabu O El Dorado", the film will be produced under the banner of Shree Venkatesh Films (SVF) and will be titled "Professor Shonku O El Dorado".

The film will go on floors in February-March, informed SVF chief Shrikant Mehta in a press conference in Kolkata, adding that preparations have been completed. It will be directed by Satyajit's son Sandip Roy; noted Indian actor Dhritiman

Chatterjee will play Professor Shonku in the film, while his well-wisher Nokurbabu will be played by Shubhashis Mukherjee.

Dhritiman Chatterjee said there is already a picture of Professor Shonku in readers' minds from the stories and sketches, and living up to that image will be a challenge. He added that he has already begun preparation for the role.

The character of Professor Trilokeshwar Shonku was created by Satyajit in 1961, with the story "Byomjatri'r Diary" published in the Sandesh magazine. A genius physicist and inventor, Professor Shonku speaks 69 languages and is well-versed in global geography, religion, politics and literature. His companions are his cat Newton and his servant Prahlad, with neighbor Abinash Chattopadhyay and Nokurbabu making repeated appearances in the stories. Satyajit wrote a total of 38 complete Professor Shonku stories, along with two unfinished ones.



TV WATCH

New series "Bhalobasha Kare Koy" begins today on ntv

A CORRESPONDENT

A new TV series titled "Bhalobasha Kare Koy" begins today on ntv, and will air on Monday and Tuesday every week at 9:45pm. Written and directed by Ruleen Rahman, it boasts a strong cast featuring ATM Shamsuzzaman, Mosharraf Karim, Shampa Reza, Shahiduzzaman Selim, Tania Hossain, Azmeri Haque Badhon, AKM Hasam, Shyamol Mowla, Jui Karim and others.

The story of the series intertwines the lives of many colourful characters -- the wealthy widow Jumman Ali Fakir, who is love with Malancha, a woman who he provided shelter to in his house; but Malancha has her heart set on Tota. Then there is Masud, who has failed his matriculation 29 times and now has two home tutors appointed for him, one of who fall in love with him. Elsewhere, rich young man Ashek gets engaged to Hena of a neighboring village, but complications arise there as well. These three plot points come together and that is where the story gathers pace.



"Stranger Things" renewed for Season 3 at Netflix

Netflix is returning to the Upside Down. The streaming giant has renewed the Duffer brothers' breakout hit "Stranger Things" for a third season. A return date has not yet been determined for the supernatural drama about the happenings brimming beneath the surface of a small American town.

While Netflix -- like fellow streamers Amazon and Hulu -- does not release viewership information, measurement leader Nielsen cited an audience of 15.8 million viewers who watched the season two premiere within three days of its launch, and nearly 11 million of them were among the key adults 18-49 demographic. Nielsen also found that 361,000 Netflix subscribers streamed the entire nine-episode second season within 24 hours of its debut. The second season also was crowned the most popular show in the country, according to data company Parrot Analytics, says The Hollywood Reporter.

Even without ratings from Netflix, "Stranger Things" ranks as the service's biggest franchise. The series, which collected 18 Emmy nominations (taking home five), is pulling Netflix into a new business with a series of licensing deals for clothing, posters, toys and collectibles.

While the cast is signed for six years, talent reps say a renegotiation will happen in early 2018 especially considering the massive success of the show.

After launching with immediate impact in July 2016, "Stranger Things" released its nine-episode second season in October, days before Halloween. Set in a small town called Hawkins, Indiana, in the middle of the 1980s, "Stranger Things" focuses on a crew of kids who call themselves 'The Party', including leader Mike Wheeler (Finn Wolfhard), the frequently endangered Will Byers (Noah Schnapp), straight-shooting Lucas Sinclair (Caleb McLaughlin) and eternally upbeat Dustin Henderson (Gaten Matarazzo). In the first season, Will goes missing, abducted into the shadowy Upside Down. He's saved thanks to the arrival of Eleven (Mille Bobby Brown), a young girl with telekinetic powers. Season two sees Eleven enhancing her abilities while the threats of the Upside Down resurface and expand. Unlike the first season, season two ends in such a way that there's very little clear direction about the future of the series -- exactly the way the Stranger Things creators envisioned it.

Source: THR

NEWS bytes

Tarantino's next gets release date

Quentin Tarantino's still-untitled ninth film has a release date. The "Pulp Fiction" director's latest will hit theaters on August 9, 2019, reported Variety. Opening on 50th anniversary of the day the Manson family committed the LaBianca murders and the day after actress Sharon Tate was killed, the film will head off against "Artemis Fowl", Disney's adaptation of the popular sci-fi and fantasy series.

Sony is distributing Tarantino's next picture. The studio beat out several bidders, including Warner Bros. and Paramount, for rights to the film. It's being shrouded in secrecy, but is set in 1969 and is believed to involve Charles Manson and the



Manson family murders. The director has told media outlets that it's not a biopic, but is an ensemble film set during the tumultuous time period. It's the first film that Tarantino is releasing without the Weinstein Company.

Tarantino is reportedly looking at several big actors to round out his cast, including Tom Cruise, Leonardo DiCaprio, Brad Pitt, and Margot Robbie. "Harry Potter" franchise guru David Heyman is producing the picture.

Source: Variety



Tempera Painting Workshop at Kibria Printmaking Studio

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

To acquaint a new generation of artists with tempera painting, Kibria Printmaking Studio has organised a 12-day (December 1-12) Egg Tempera Painting workshop at its premises in Kala Kendra, Iqbal Road, Dhaka. Renowned artist Shahid Kabir is conducting the workshop that will run every day from 4pm to 8pm December 12.



Professor Nisar Hossain, Dean, Faculty of Fine Art, University of Dhaka, the workshop conductor Shahid Kabir and the host of the programme artist Rashid Amin attended the inaugural ceremony of the workshop on December 1

Both promising and noted artists are taking part in the workshop.

Tempera, also known as Egg Tempera, is a permanent, fast-drying painting medium consisting of coloured pigments mixed with a water-soluble binder medium (usually a glutinous material such as egg yolk).

Tempera paintings are very long lasting, and examples from the first century AD still exist.

From 1970s artist Shahid Kabir has been practising this medium mingling the aesthetic features of miniature paintings with his own artistic contemplations and earned accolades from art connoisseurs afar. The artist has been an expatriate of Spain from the 1980s. He is established as a renowned painter, who works on diverse media. The workshop is open to art lovers daily from 6 to 8pm.