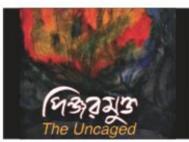


WHAT'S ON

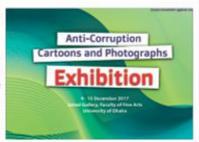
Group Painting Exhibition
 Title: Musings in Watercolor
 Venue: Edge Galleries, Gulshan-2
 Date: Nov 26-Dec 15
 Time: 10am-8pm



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



Anti-Corruption Cartoons and Photographs Exhibition
 Organiser: Transparency International Bangladesh
 Venue: Zainul Gallery, Faculty of Fine Arts (DU)
 Date: Dec 9-15; Time: 12am-7pm



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



NEWSbytes

Ellie Goulding honoured as UN Environment Global Goodwill Ambassador

Ellie Goulding, the chart-topping, award-winning British artist, has been appointed a UN Environment Global Goodwill Ambassador. Just weeks after collecting a Global Leadership Award from the UN, the singer and songwriter now joins the ongoing battle to clean up the environment, tackle climate change and protect endangered species. "It's a huge honor to become a UN Environment Global Goodwill Ambassador," Ellie said in a statement, "Yes, we face huge global challenges, but we are also taking game-changing steps forward and that should inspire us."

In her new UN role, Goulding will focus "on amplifying the activism of young people committed to creating a bright future. I want as many people as possible to become advocates for the planet."

The 30-year-old pop star shared the news in Kenya, surrounded by giraffes at the Giraffe Manor in the suburbs of the capital Nairobi, where UN Environment has its HQ.

UN Goodwill Ambassadors often use their fame to deliver their urgent and universal message. Goulding, with a streak of star power and a hunger for hard work, fits the bill.

In October, the United Nations Foundation honoured Goulding with the New Voices Award in recognition of her environmental and social justice activism.



PHOTO: STAR

"Haldaa" to open in 5 US states

SHAH ALAM SHAZI
 Tauquir Ahmed's new film "Haldaa", released barely a few days ago, has made it big at the box office. Now being screened in 90 cinema halls across the country, the film is about to soar off to the US where it is slated to screen in 11 theatre halls in five states on December 8.

Film goes in New York City, Virginia, Dallas, Los Angeles and Florida will be the lucky ones to see the film.

Director Tauquir Ahmed stated, "Prior to its release, I was on tenter-

hooks about the audience's response to 'Haldaa.' It is a big relief to get such positive feedback. It gives me even greater satisfaction to give Bangalis abroad a chance to watch the film."

Zahid Hasan, who plays the lead role in the new film, is equally elated. "America is home to millions of Bangladeshis, and most of the time they are unable to enjoy our work to the extent as their families and friends at home. All that is changing now, and I am really proud that we have been able to reach this far," he said.

Tisha, who plays the central char-

acter, Hashi, has been on cloud nine since the film's release. Accolades have been pouring in about her stellar performance, and the actor stated, "Bangalis living in five major states in the US can now enjoy the film, and I really hope that 'Haldaa' finds success wherever it goes."

Cast member Fazlur Rahman Babu echoed the same view. "Tauquir Ahmed is a very talented director, as well as a captivating storyteller. It makes me happy that the American audience can now enjoy the film," he said.

Celebrating the great scientist 150th birth anniversary of Maire Curie observed

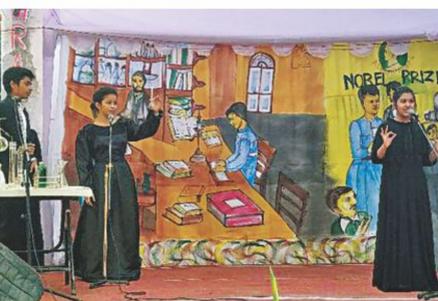
A CORRESPONDENT

The 150th birth anniversary of noted Polish-French scientist Marie Curie was recently celebrated with enthusiasm at Marie Curie School, Dhanmondi. The school, named after this great scientist celebrated her birth anniversary, by remembering her accomplishments, courage and dedication to science and commitment to serve humanity.

Professor Dr. Amir Hossain Khan, retired professor of Chemistry at DU attended the event as guest of honour. The inaugural speech was given by Professor Dr. M. Shamsheer Ali, chairperson of the school. Principal of the school, Saqeba Ali gave the welcome speech. She called upon her students to study and excel in science.

A cultural performance followed.

The most breathtaking part of the event was a play staged by Marie Curie School students. The hand-painted backdrop well depicted the theme of the play, "I would like to be a scientist one day". The enormous struggle, the thrilling moments of Marie's life, the perseverance and the joyous accomplishments of her life were picturesquely dramatized on stage.



A scene from the play.

A tribute to SHASHI KAPOOR

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

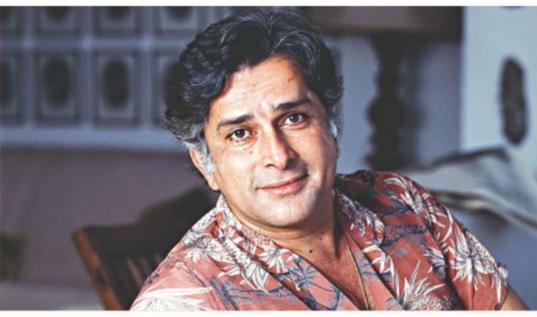
With the passing away of Bollywood actor Shashi Kapoor, the curtains have come down on a generation of the flamboyant and powerful Kapoor clan in Hindi cinema—the other two scions were his superstar brothers Raj and Shammi Kapoor.

Born in Kolkata on March 18, 1938, the actor graduated to the big league of Hindi commercial cinema with his first film as lead actor in "Dharmputra" (1961).

If Shashi, with his suave, romantic and handsome image, was the heart-throb of the '60s and '70s, he was also one of Hindi film industry's few personalities who straddled between commercial cinema and art house movies. Evidence of Shashi's love for meaningful cinema was his collaboration with directors like Shyam Benegal, Govind Nihalani, Girish Karnad and Apama Sen. He was the producer of the Benegal-directed period drama "Junoon" (1978), the dark recreation of modern-day Mahabharata, "Kalyug" (1981) and another period film, "Utsav" (1984).

He was also among the first Indian actors who had long innings in international films through his association with producer-director Ismail Merchant-David Ivory, starting with "Householder", that marked his debut in a foreign film in 1963, and six other films, including "Shakespearewallah" (1965), "Bombay Talkie" (1970), "Heat And Dust" and director Conrad Rooks' "Siddhartha". He also had a significant role in Pierce Brosnan's "The Deceivers."

Like all super stars of Bollywood, the films starring Shashi too had their share of box-office successes and super-hit songs. One just has to recall movies like "Jab Jab Phool Khiley" (1965), Shashi's maiden box-office hit, "Kanyadaan" (1968), "Pyaar Ka Mausam" (1969) and



'Sharmilee' (1971). "Satyam Shivam Sundaram", a film produced by Raj Kapoor in '70s, was one of Shashi's mega hit movies.

Shashi had the capability to adjust with the changing times in Bollywood when Amitabh Bachchan took centre stage with the angry young man role. The two came together in 16 films spread across two decades that also marked the most successful phase of Shashi's career. Among the most popular films starring Shashi and Amitabh are "Deewar", "Trishul", "Kabhie Kabhie" and "Namak Halal".

Awards also came Shashi's way—first the Filmfare award for the best supporting actor in "Deewar", and 11 years later in 1986 when he was adjudged the National Award for Best Actor for his subtle, sensitive portrayal of an upright editor in "New Delhi Times".

In his long career, Shashi worked opposite several leading ladies of Bollywood—Sharmila Tagore in "Aa Galey Lag Ja" and "New Delhi Times", Babita ("Haseena Man Jayegi"), Aasha Parekh ("Pyaar Ka Mausam"), Rakhee ("Sharmilee"), Nanda ("Jab Jab Phool Khiley"), Rekha ("Kalyug" and "Vijeta"), Zeenat Aman ("Satyam Shivam Sundaram") and Hema Malini ("Abhinetri").

Any assessment of Shashi Kapoor would be incomplete without a reference to his love for the stage, which saw him dropping out of school and joining his father Prithviraj Kapoor at the Prithvi Theatre where he worked from 1953 to 1960. It was in theatre that Shashi found his lady love—British stage actress Jennifer Kendal—and the two married in 1958. Shashi had joined "Shakespeareana" run by Jennifer's father Geoffrey Kendal. In 1978, Shashi had Prithvi Theatre acted in 1978 and Jennifer managed it till her death in 1984. Jennifer acted in Satyajit Ray's "Ghare Bairey" and "Junoon".

Serenading ballads and songs of nature Zahangir Alom's solo exhibit "The Uncaged" in Alliance

MD. ABBAS

Upcoming artist Zahangir Alom's maiden solo painting exhibition titled "The Uncaged" began at La Galerie, Alliance Française de Dhaka (AFD) on December 1. Eminent artist Professor Rafiqun Nabi inaugurated the exhibition as chief guest. Professor Nisar Hossain, Dean, Faculty of Fine Art, University of Dhaka, attended the event as special guest while Editor and Publisher of The Daily Star Mahfuz Anam graced the inaugural ceremony as guest of honour. Professor Abul Barq Alvi spoke at the inaugural ceremony as distinguished guest.



PHOTO: ORCHID CHAKMA

Presided over by Bruno Plasse, Director, AFD, the programme was also addressed by Dr. Malay Bala, an Associate Professor at the Department of Oriental Art, University of Dhaka and the curator of the exhibition who is also Alom's guru.

A total of 40 paintings by the artist are on display.

A captivated Professor Rafiqun Nabi said, "Zahangir Alom has innate talent. He has played with watercolour like a seasoned artist. His draws inspiration from

artworks by Rabindranath Tagore and this is reflected in his paintings."

"Zahangir is dedicated to fine art, classical music and culture, and is a discerning art critic for The Daily Star. I wish him a grand success for his first solo exhibition and hope he will extend his artistic imagination on a larger canvas," said Professor Nisar Hossain.

Mahfuz Anam, Editor and Publisher of The Daily Star said, "I know the person Zahangir rather than the artist Zahangir very well.

Earlier I didn't know about his diverse talents in creative fields. He is a poet and a very good singer as well. I admire his creative effort and feel proud of him as my colleague."

The paintings displayed at the exhibit includes titles like "Midnight Melody", "Singing for the Sun", "Raga Malkanus", "Raga Desh", "A Song of Silence", "Singing in Bliss", "Dancing with the Divine", suggestive of the artist's inspiration from classical music and dance.

The artist is also simultaneously taking part in a group painting exhibition titled "Journey Bangladesh to India" by Bangladesh and Kolkata artists, at Indian Habitat Centre, New Delhi, India.

The exhibition remains open from Monday to Thursday from 3pm to 9pm and on Fridays and Saturdays from 9am to 12 noon and 5pm to 8pm, and will conclude on December 15 with a closing ceremony featuring music and dance performances.



Netflix has reached an agreement to resume production on "House of Cards" season 6 — the show's final season — in early 2018, according to chief content officer Ted Sarandos. Production of "House of Cards" season 6 was suspended in October, following sexual assault allegations against star Kevin Spacey.

Season 6 of the political thriller will be eight episodes, starring Robin Wright, Sarandos said. The

final season will not include Spacey, as previously announced. Each of the previous seasons has comprised 13 episodes.

"We're really excited about bringing some closure to the show for fans," said Sarandos, speaking Monday at UBS's Global Media and Communications Conference in New York.

"House of Cards," the first major original show to pop for Netflix, is

TV WATCH

"House of Cards" final season shooting to resume without Spacey

produced by Media Rights Capital (MRC) and is shot in Baltimore. Sarandos said he was gratified to have reached the deal for the team of 370 people who directly work on the show and for "the 2,000 people in Baltimore" who have jobs working on "HOC."

Variety reported last month that "House of Cards" producers were contemplating killing off Spacey's character — the devious political animal Frank Underwood — to focus on Wright's Claire Underwood as a way to salvage season 6.

Last week MRC producers had informed "House of Cards" cast and crew that the hiatus on season 6 would be extended through December 8 and that the crew will continue to be paid during the break. Now the pause on the production is extending into the new year.

Source: Variety