

WHAT'S ON

Bengal Classical Music Festival
 Organizer: Bengal Foundation
 Venue: Raikat Field
 Date: December 28-30
 Time: 6pm onwards

National Rabindra Sangket Festival
 Organizer: BIC
 Venue: Shaikat Osman Auditorium, Public Library
 Date: Dec 29-31, Time: 6pm

Solo Art Exhibition
 Soloed the insignificant
 Artist: Tasdik Hossain Dula
 Venue: Kala Kendra
 Date: Dec 28-30
 Time: 5-9pm

Discussion & Musical Soiree
 Title: Berry Obar Obolombon
 Venue: Muzium Nasional, Bangladeshi National Museum
 Date: Dec 22, Time: 6:30pm

Musical Soiree
 Marking 1st Anniversary of Kottobisha
 Venue: Post Sufia Kamal Auditorium, DMN
 Date: Dec 22
 Time: 6pm

Discussion on Abdul Kadir
 Organizer: Kaler Dhaka
 Venue: Post Shamsher Rahman Hall, Bangla Academy
 Date: Dec 22
 Time: 3:30pm

A Tale from Climate Groun Zero

Documentary photography exhibit by Din Muhammad Shibly

AMIR HASAN SHAHRIAR, Chittagong

Photographer Din Muhammad Shibly captures his experiences in gripping frames. His camera has for a long time focused on the dramatic changes in nature and the earth. Now the visual artist has given viewers an opportunity to soak in his works through a documentary photography exhibition.

The exhibition, titled 'Time/Life - a Tale from Climate Groun Zero' is on at Alliance Francaise de Chittagong.

"Documentary photography is a concept through which a photographer exhibits his experience and shares his insights through his work which he has documented for a long period of time," explained the artist.

The exhibition showcases his photographs which he captured over the last 30 years. He witnessed the devastation of the great Padma, catastrophe caused by cyclone Mora, the worst inundation of Dhaka city, turning of Kolatoli reserve forest into a bustle, the havoc of ship breaking yards, the drought- brought by Farakka Barrage and many other occurrences.

"Photography has the power to capture a moment or a place for eternity which is not same at all as it was before. In my long journey as a photographer, I have witnessed the devastation caused by climate change, cataclysm brought on by global warming and upheaval among the climate migrants. It is time I shared some of the facts I witnessed to which everyone has their back turned," said Shibly about his motivation for the



Visitors take a tour of the exhibition.

PHOTO: STAR

exhibition. The photographs were presented on different walls of the gallery depending on different topics revolving climate change.

The first wall provides an introduction to the photographer through the display of

images of his feet placed at several places he roamed. As if he absorbed the aroma, the past and the beauty of those places through his body.

The second to fourth walls hold his works on different topics of climate change: the

death of rivers, turning of a paddy field into barren land, the loss of livelihood of a farmer, the extinction of a forest, the effect of carbon emission on a city and many others.

"The fifth wall exclusively talks about the river Padma. "A fisherman, in pursuit of Hilsha, rowing on the mighty Padma was captured by a tempest. The uncertainty of his escape from the tide made him pray loud to the Almighty for salvation - such was a piece of tale we heard from our elders about the river Padma - a river which provides livelihood also takes life," said Shibly.

But the mighty river is not as magnanimous as it was decades ago. Those who could capture the glorious past of Padma in their mind could be treated as the luckiest of us, he said.

His work on the Padma bears the testimony to the consequence of a river ravaged by humans.

The exhibition began on December 19 and will continue till December 24. A workshop by the artist will be held on December 21 at Alliance Francaise hall at 5pm.

Chandni wears her dancing shoes

SHAH ALAM SHAZI

Popular actor Chandni is a busy TV star, but the artiste has made a lucky break in films, earning two National Film Awards for her roles in "Lalshalu" and "Joytatra." Recently however, the artiste has turned her attention to another performing art- dance.

Dance had been at the centre of the actor's life since early childhood. Beginning training at the tender age of 3, she has declared that her primary passions lie in this graceful art form. On December 22, the actor will perform at a stage show in the capital, choreographed by noted dancer Shohag.

Soon after, the artiste will take off for a stage show held in Cox's Bazaar on December 24. Her return to Dhaka will see two more stage shows on December 26 and 28, as well as a television dance performance which will be



filmed on December 27. "It's a great blessing to be able to turn my attentions to dance. However, I am also acting in some small screen ventures. This month is a prime season for dance performances onstage, and I don't want to waste the opportunity," she said.

Chandni played a central part in the recently ended drama series "Housewife", and she is soon set to play a starring role in a new play helmed by Ronny titled "Pagla Hava".

Despite her successful endeavours on the big screen, the artiste has not taken on any more film roles. "When I was very young, I played a part in 'Dukhal', which was followed by 'Lalshalu' and 'Joytatra' and I was older. I only take up films if I know the script will appeal to me and the audience," she explained.

NEWS bytes



JOSH GAD joins Judi Dench in "Artemis Fowl"

Disney's "Artemis Fowl" has found its lead with newcomer Ferdia Shaw, who will play the 12-year-old genius that runs his family's criminal empire.

Shaw, who will make his big-screen debut in the Kenneth Branagh-helmed adaptation, was cast as the lead after an extensive search, which included more than 1,200 possible candidates.

The movie was adapted for the screen by playwright Conor McPherson from Eoin Colfer's best-selling book series, which follows the intelligent Artemis as he attempts to uncover a hidden race of fairies who may be behind his father's disappearance.

Disney also announced that Josh Gad, who starred in the studio's live-action "Beauty and the Beast", will be joining the cast as Mulch Diggums, a kleptomaniac dwarf who works for the fairies.

Lara McDonnell will play the elf hero Captain Holly Short, and Nonso Anozie will play Artemis' bodyguard, Butler. It was previously reported that Judi Dench will star in the fantasy adventure, playing Commander Root, the steely leader of the fairy police force.

Disney will release Artemis Fowl on August 9, 2019.

Code of Conduct opens at AFD

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A solo art exhibition titled "Code of Conduct" by Mohamad Hasanur Rahman (Riaz) has begun at La Galerie, Alliance Francaise de Dhaka (AFD).

Cultural affairs minister Asaduzzaman Noor inaugurated the exhibition as chief guest on 19 December. Mario Palma, Ambassador of Italy in Bangladesh attended the opening ceremony as guest of honour. Bruno Plasse, Director, AFD welcomed all and presided over the programme.

"My art is a very personal statement of my own experience, and I believe, as an artist it is my response to the life

around me. In my journey I found that my art represent a mark left by me, a little sign of my existence per se, so I feel a powerful impetus and a rational underpinning to create my art," explained Mohamad Hasanur Rahman.

Artist's soul tells him to explicate his true expression against all the discrimination happening in our society. "Code of Conduct" refers to the nature of the term and how a state can misemploy that for their citizenry. The leaders have their hearts set on being businessmen, pushing through a dystopian reality that will have no scope for humanity in it. Some

nations are eager to conceal plots with religious bigotry sifting trigger-happy on a stockpile of nuclear weapons, rather than working on subjects like sustainable development, humanity or climate change.

The exhibition imparts sensitivity about emotion and empathy that we need in order to establish equality and equity. The term had imbued the artist with passion and force that he tried to channel into his artworks.

The exhibition is open from Monday to Thursday from 3pm to 9pm, and on Fridays and Saturdays (from 9am to 12noon and from 5pm to 8pm) till 2 January.



Artists of Bangladesh Rabindra Sangket Shipi Sangstha perform a choral song at the Shawkat Osman Memorial Auditorium of Central Public Library, Shahbagh in the capital on December 20. The four-day 29th National Rabindra Sangket Festival will conclude on December 23.

Lady Gaga announces two-year Las Vegas residency



Lady Gaga revealed plans for a two-year residency at MGM's Park Theater in Las Vegas, on her Twitter on Tuesday, which is set to kick off in December 2018.

"The rumors are true! I will have my own residency at MGM's Park Theater, the 31-year-old singer-songwriter tweeted. "Get ready for a brand new show!! It's been my lifelong dream to be a Las Vegas girl, I'm so overjoyed! LOVE YOU LITTLE MONSTERS WE DID IT, MEET ME IN Las Vegas!! #LasVegasGoesGaga."

Gaga shared several photos with the tweet, rocking shades and a very fitting "VEGAS" hat while she signed the contract

and celebrated with a champagne toast.

Gaga and Vegas is no "Bad Romance" either, according to Alex Ungerman of Entertainment Tonight. In addition to pulling elaborate productions on her "Joanne" World Tour, Gaga has been no stranger to big stages this year, playing the Super Bowl halftime show as well as headlining Coachella.

"It's the land of Elvis, Tony Bennett and Frank Sinatra, the Rat Pack, Elton John, Judy Garland and Liza Minnelli. It has been a life-long dream of mine to play Las Vegas. I am humbled to be a part of a historical line-up of performers, and I have the honor of creating a new

show unlike anything Vegas has ever seen before." Gaga said in a statement on Tuesday. "I'll tell you exactly what I told my MGM and Park Theater partners - you can count on this performer always for one thing... I'll leave my heart on the stage every single night. Thank you to my fans for always believing in me. Meet me in Las Vegas baby, we did it!"

Meanwhile, another pop icon is hanging up her Vegas hat. Earlier this year, Britney Spears confirmed her final Las Vegas residency show will take place on New Year's Eve of this year.