

WHAT'S ON

National Instrumental Music Fest
Venue: Nandanmancha, BSA
Date: Jan 1-10
Time: 4pm-9pm



Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Joratalir Chalchitra by Hashem Khan
Venue: Nalinikanta Bhattacharya Gallery, BNM
Date: Jan 5-31
Time: 10am-5pm



Theatre Festival 2018
Organiser: Dhaka University Drama Troupe
Venue: TSC, DU
Date: Jan 7, 9 and 10
Time: 6:30 pm



Solo Painting Exhibition
Title: Conversation with Soil
Artist: Monsur Ul Karim
Venue: Gallery Chittrak, H-4, Rd-6, Dhanmondi
Date: Jan 6-15
Time: 10am-8pm



Theatre
Sonal Madhab Troupe: Loko Natyadal
Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall
Date: Jan 9
Time: 6:30pm



Aishwarya to pay tribute to Lata Mangeshkar in "Fanne Khan"?

Aishwarya to pay tribute to Lata Mangeshkar in "Fanne Khan"? Aishwarya Rai Bachchan, who will next be seen in Atul Manjrekar's "Fanne Khan", has always been a huge fan of legendary singer Lata Mangeshkar, and according to DNA India, she is not just playing a singer but will also pay tribute to the songstress as she plays her fan in the film. While nothing has been disclosed about Aishwarya's role officially, a source close to the actress revealed to Deccan Chronicle, "She plays a popular singer in the film and a fan of Lata."

Meanwhile, it is said that producer Prerna Arora is trying to acquire the rights for a few of Lata's famous melodies. "Apart from a few original tracks, Aishwarya will also recreate a few of Lata's numbers. That isn't the film's



only connection with Lata. Anil Kapoor's daughter, who plays an aspiring singer, is named Lata," adds the source.

The film, and official remake of the Oscar nominated Belgian 2000 film "Everybody's Famous!", is scheduled for worldwide release on June 15. Apart from Aishwarya and Anil Kapoor, other cast members include Rajkumar Rao and Divya Dutta.

Source: DNA India



A still from "Dhaboman", which will be staged on the closing day of the festival. STAR FILE PHOTO

Chanchal already has a busy 2018

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Chanchal Chowdhury has been one of the most bankable actors of the country for many years, and he is showing no signs of slowing down this year. The seasoned actor is currently working on four new TV series.

Chanchal's first new TV project of the year is titled "Bhodro Para", written by Brindaban Das and directed by Sokal Ahmed. It is currently filming in Pubail.

"I play a thief in the series," Chanchal tells The Daily Star. "In this story, there are many gentlemen in the village but they do bad things in secret. And even though I am a thief, I have principles." Other cast members of the play include Fazlur Rahman Babu, Shahnaz Khushi, Lutfar Rahman George and Arfan Ahmed. The dialogues for the series are in Pabna's local dialect.

Other new TV series starring Chanchal are "Dugdugi" on Asian TV, and "Bideshi Para" on Ekushey Television. "One of the biggest crises in our television industry right now is that of script, but all these are good stories. There is plenty of scope for me to act, and I am really enjoying working in them."

Another TV series featuring Chanchal Chowdhury that has been airing for a few months is "Mojnu Ekjon Pagol Nohe", on Rtv. Chanchal plays the titular role of Majnu in it.



PHOTO: STAR

Selim Al Deen Memorial Fest from Jan 12-14

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

To mark the tenth death anniversary of 'Natyacharya' Selim Al Deen (January 14), Dhaka Theatre and Bangladesh Gram Theatre Federation are jointly organising a three-day memorial festival from January 12 at the Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA).

The programmes will begin with a seminar at 11am on January 12 at the Seminar Room of the National Theatre Hall, where Masum Reza will present a paper. On the second day, Dhaka Theatre will stage "Nimojjon" at the National Theatre Hall at 7pm. The play, written by Al Deen, has been directed by Nasiruddin Yousuff.

On the final day, the programmes will begin at 10am by paying tribute at Selim Al Deen's grave, at Jahangirnagar University. In the evening, Dhaka Theatre will stage "Dhaboman", at the Bangla Academy. Shimul Yousuff has directed



the play from Selim Al Deen's script. Selim Al Deen is perhaps the most celebrated name in Bangladesh's theatre in post-Rabindranath era. The genius playwright is credited as ushering in a new era in the country's theatre scene through his plays and extensive research. Born on August 18, 1949 in Sonagazi

Upazila of Feni, he pursued theatre with encouragement from author Munier Chowdhury. He wrote his first play in 1968 while still a university student. His first radio play "Biporit Tomosay" was broadcast in 1969, and the next year his play aired on Bangladesh Television.

He introduced epic realism in Bengali literature, and several of his works including "Bashon", "Atotayi", "Keramat Mangal", "Hat Hodai" and "Chaka" follow this pattern. He also brought out the folklore tradition called Katha-natya in works like "Hargaj" and "Joiboti Koinnar Mon". Selim Al-Deen also revived Mymensingh Geetika, and penned a few plays following the pattern.

To pursue his love of theatre, he founded the Drama and Dramatics Department at Jahangirnagar University. He was one of the founding members of Dhaka Theatre, and Bangladesh Gram Theatre Federation.



The "Three Billboards from Ebbing, Missouri" team delivers their acceptance speech; (below) Oprah and Saoirse Ronan receive the Cecil B Demille Award and Best Actress respectively.

"Three Billboards", "Big Little Lies" dominate Golden Globes

"Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri" dominated the 75th Golden Globe Awards on Sunday, picking up a leading four awards, including a best drama statue. But it wasn't the only big winner to focus on steely female protagonists on the night. "Lady Bird", a perceptive coming-of-age story about growing up in Sacramento, was named best musical or comedy while nabbing a best actress prize for Saoirse Ronan for playing a sardonic teen. On the television front, Hulu's "The Handmaid's Tale", a show about a dystopian future in which women are conscripted into sexual slavery by a monied elite, picked up a best TV drama award, while HBO's "Big Little Lies", a look at domestic abuse in a posh seaside community, earned a leading four awards including one for best TV movie or miniseries. Amazon's "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel", a period show about pioneering female comedians in the 1950s, earned two statues, including a best TV comedy or musical honor.

This year's awards were unveiled against the backdrop of a massive sexual harassment and abuse scandal. As the list of big-name actors and power brokers continues to sweep, politics was front and center during the three-hour telecast. Stars used their time at the podium to draw attention to abuse, sexism, and racism.



It wasn't the typically festive and inebriated occasion that usually generates big ratings for the annual show. Actors and filmmakers dressed in black to show their solidarity for victims of harassment, and outfitted their dresses and tuxedos with pins that read "Time's Up", a call to arms against discrimination and inequity. The message was reflected both in the choice of presenters as well as the performances, films, and shows that were singled out.

Elisabeth Moss, who nabbed a best actress in a television series drama for her work in "The Handmaid's Tale", dedicated

her award to women "brave enough to speak out against intolerance and injustice and to fight for equality and freedom." Nicole Kidman captured best actress in a TV movie or miniseries, while praising her mother, a supporter of women's rights, in an emotional speech. Kidman's co-star Laura Dern praised whistleblowers who have helped topple Harvey Weinstein and other accused harassers, while accepting a best supporting actress in a TV drama prize.

Frances McDormand, who captured a best actress prize for playing a vengeful mother in "Three Billboards", sauntered up

the steps to claim her prize, looking like a gunslinger entering a saloon.

The show's host Seth Meyers wasted no time addressing the harassment scandal that has subsumed Hollywood. "Good evening ladies and remaining gentlemen," he said, adding, "It's 2018, Marijuana is finally allowed and sexual harassment isn't."

Harassment wasn't the only hot-button issue to surface during the broadcast. Best actor in a TV drama victor Sterling K Brown used his speech to thank Dan Fogelman, the creator of NBC's popular sudser "This Is Us", for writing a role for a black man at a time when minorities are underrepresented on the small screen.



Gary Oldman solidified his status as the leading actor to beat after nabbing a best actor in a drama award for channeling Winston Churchill in "Darkest Hour". James Franco may also see his chances bolstered by handicappers after earning a best actor in a comedy or musical for playing Tommy Wiseau in "The Disaster Artist".

Other big screen winners included "Coco", a fable based on the Mexican holiday of the Day of the Dead that was recognized as the year's best animated film, and "In the Fade", a German film about the aftermath of a bomb attack, that was named the best foreign film.

On the television front, it was a big night for streaming series. Not only did Hulu and Amazon score with "The Handmaid's Tale" and "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel", but Netflix's "Master of None" earned a best actor in a TV musical or comedy prize for Aziz Ansari.

Oprah Winfrey, the recipient of the Cecil B. Demille Award for career achievement, spoke to the power of representation. The talk show host and actress said that as a little girl she remembered vividly watching as Sidney Poitier became the first black man to win a leading actor Oscar.

Source: Variety