


## WHAT'S ON



**Amar Ekushey Book Fair**  
Organiser: Bangla Academy  
Venue: Suhrawardy Udyan & Bangla Academy Premises  
Date: Feb 1-28  
Time: 3-9pm (Sun-Thurs), 11am-9pm (Fri-Sat)



**Solo Art Exhibition**  
Title: Antorjatra  
Artist: Karu Titas  
Venue: Shilpangan Gallery, H-7, Rd-13 (New), Dhanmondi  
Date: Feb 16- Mar 2; Time: 3-8pm



**Subtext**  
Organiser: Bengal Foundation Arts Programme  
Venue: Gyantapas Abur Razzak Bidyapeeth  
Date: Feb 4-24  
Time: 11am-7pm



**Solo Painting and Craft Exhibition**  
Title: Beautiful Anger  
Artist: Rubina Akhter  
Venue: Gallery Twenty One  
Date: Feb 7-23; Time: 12pm-8pm



**Int'l Sufi Fest 2017**  
Venue: Nandan Mancha, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy  
Date: Feb 23-25  
Time: 3-10pm



**90th Birth Anniversary Celebration**  
Professor Zillur Rahman Siddiqui  
Venue: Kobi Sufia Kamal Auditorium, BNM  
Date: Feb 23  
Time: 4pm

## NEWS bytes



## JURASSIC WORLD 3 already in the works

**Universal Pictures has set “Jurassic World 3” to bow on June 11, 2021, and tapped Emily Carmichael to join Colin Trevorrow as co-writer of the next pic.**

**“Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom”, directed by JA Bayona, is set to open on June 22, 2018.**

**Steven Spielberg and Trevorrow return to executive produce Universal Pictures and Amblin Entertainment’s latest installment in the franchise.**

Carmichael co-wrote the upcoming “Pacific Rim Uprising” and most recently rewrote “The Black Hole”. The writers will work off a story by Derek Connolly and Trevorrow, who together wrote “Jurassic World” and this summer’s “Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom”. The last two films starred Bryce Dallas Howard and Chris Pratt. 2015’s “Jurassic World” was a monster hit, grossing \$1.6 billion at the worldwide box office.

Source: **Variety**

## “We need a National Gallery of Fine Arts and Museum of Modern Art” ... Kalidas Karmakar

ZAHANGIR ALOM

Renowned artist Kalidas Karmakar, one of the Ekushey Padak laureates from this year, speaks to The Daily Star about his artistic philosophy and vision. The first part of the interview was published yesterday.

“My artworks contain the essence of Bangladesh’s soil, soul and symbols. Bangladesh is plain land that has amassed alluvial soil. Kamol Banerjee, my friend, critic and curator of my show, suggested that I entitle all my shows with the very word ‘Alluvial’ and I continued to do so. Symbols are powerful; thousands of years before languages were invented, people portrayed painting at the dawn of civilization to express their mood.”

“There is nothing abstract in art; everything is found in nature. When we don’t understand something, we call it abstract art. Symbols and numbers come automatically in my paintings as I believe in soul. What is art? Say for example, you are walking through Ramna Park in the evening; suddenly a gentle breeze wafting the sweet fragrance of a flower tickles your nostrils. You feel it and instantly say the word ‘Bah!’ (Excellent!) That very feeling is art and not the flower itself.”

“Quamrul Hassan’s depiction of a cartoon with calligraphy ‘Ei Janoar Der Hotta Korte Hobe’ inspired lakhs of Freedom Fighters. Here is the success of an artist. An artist not only depicts art. His significance depends on how socially and politically conscious he is. It is a disgrace that we could not precisely evaluate Quamrul Hassan, who could be regarded as one of the greatest world masters.”

Kalidas Karmakar has exhibited his works in numerous exhibitions both at home and abroad. As his homage to the Language Movement of 21 February, 1952, he would like to exhibit his arts in 52 shows in 21 countries of the world in the next five years.

“The numbers ‘52’ and ‘21’ are significant symbols for me and us all. I would like to showcase all my experiences of the travelling exhibitions at a special show titled “Alluvial Documents” in Bangladesh. I have named the upcoming projects as GIAA (Global Initiatives of Alluvial Arts) through which I would like to represent the Bangladeshi art, culture, festival and nature to the world.”

“My daughters Kanka Karmakar and Keya Karmakar, together with my collectors and sponsors are helping me in achieving this dream; several exhibition venues have already been fixed. I just need permissions and administrative support from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Cultural Affairs, BSA and Bangladesh National Museum in this regard.”

“Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin together with Patua Quamrul Hassan, Shilpaguru Safiuddin Ahmed and others planted the seed of art in this part of the



National Gallery of Fine Art and Museum of Modern Art? If you complete these in two years, Bangladeshi art will go to the global stage overnight. Art collectors from all over the world will land in Bangladesh with personal jet planes for collecting art. When Miami International Art Fair is held every year in December in USA, collectors with around 1200 private jet planes land to collect arts. If we have these platforms, we will have exchange programmes with world renowned art museums. This is a big question why National Galley of Fine Arts and Museum of Modern Art were not instituted after 47 years of independence. Bangladeshi young artists’ works are international standard. We can project any artist individually; but we cannot project the overall arts of Bangladesh internationally without having this infrastructure.”

Art, literature and culture are the soul of a country. Artists are very sensitive in nature and sensible towards the society. To conclude, Kalidas Karmakar quoted Pablo Picasso as saying, “We all know that Art is not truth. Art is a lie that makes us realize the truth, at least the truth that is given to us to understand.”



## Renowned musician ALI AKBAR RUPU passes away

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Renowned music composer and director Ali Akbar Rupu passed away yesterday at the age of 59, at around 12:40pm at United Hospital. The musician had long been suffering from diabetes, heart and kidney diseases.

Confirming the news, Rupu’s son Ali Afzal Sidney told The Daily Star that he had been suffering from heart and kidney ailment for a long time, and was undergoing dialysis in the past seven months. On February 9, he had a stroke during dialysis, and was admitted to United Hospital on February 12 after his health conditions deteriorated severely. From then on, he had been kept at ICU of the hospital.

Rupu’s body was taken to Gulshan Azad Mosque and his namaz-e-janaza was held after Asar prayers yesterday. His second namaz-e-janaza was held at Moghbazar Wireless Mosque. He was later laid to eternal rest at Azimpur graveyard.

Ali Akbar Rupu got immense popularity for composing many songs for popular TV magazine programme “Ityadi”. He also worked as music director for films like “Rastar Chhele” and “Dui Biyai-er Kirti”.

Remembering Rupu’s contribution to Bangladeshi music, noted lyricist Kabir Bakul said, “Rupu was born in a musical family. His father Ustad Mansur Ali was also a great composer and violinist. His paternal uncle Dheer Ali was also a noted composer. The brothers Dheer Ali and Mansur Ali composed many popular Bangla songs. Eminent musician Alauddin Ali is his maternal uncle. Rupu’s mother was a sitarist. So, whatever he did for music, he did with utmost perfection. Almost 90 percent songs of ‘Ityadi’ were composed by Ali Akbar Rupu, who prominently composed many popular songs like ‘Ekkin Kannar Rol Porbe Amar Barite’, sung by renowned singer Kumar Bishwajit. His wife Nargis Akbar too wrote a song ‘Murdaye Kainda Koy’ of the same spirit.”

“Rupu Bhai composed many songs like ‘Jare Ghor Dila Shongshar Dila Rey’, ‘Dorodia Tui Je Amar Ontorer Ontor’, ‘Doshyu Mukhosh Pore Probesh Kore Ghor-e’, all recorded by Kumar Bishwajit; ‘Poddoo Patar Pani Noy’, recorded by Andrew Kishore and ‘Tomake Dekhlel Mounota Bhule Jai’, recorded by Shakila Sharma. He also composed inaugural songs of satellite TV channels Ekushey TV, ntv and ATN Bangla. Initially, the musician was involved with Azam Khan’s band ‘Uchcharon’ (as keyboardist and guitarist) and later he founded another popular band ‘Wings’,” said Kabir Bakul.

Rupu is survived by wife Nargis Akbar, a son Ali Afzal Sidney and a daughter Fariha Naz Apon.

## Dua Lipa, Stormzy win big at Brits JT, Kendrick and Ed Sheeran rule awards stage

British grime star Stormzy and pop singer Dua Lipa were the big winners on a night of shock surprises, political protest and somber reflection at the 2018 Brit Awards, held at London’s O2 arena on Wednesday.

Both artistes took home two awards apiece, with Stormzy generating one of the show’s biggest upsets by beating firm favorite Ed Sheeran to the best album award for his debut “Gang Signs & Prayer”. The artiste, whose real name is Michael Omari, also collected British male solo artiste, which Sheeran was also widely expected to win given the all-conquering global success of his third studio album “Divide”, according to Billboard.

Stormzy collected the coveted best album prize from Nile Rodgers, before closing the show with an electric three-song medley that ended with a boisterous rendition of “Big for Your Boots” that saw the topless MC bounce around the stage to wild applause from the 15,000-strong crowd.

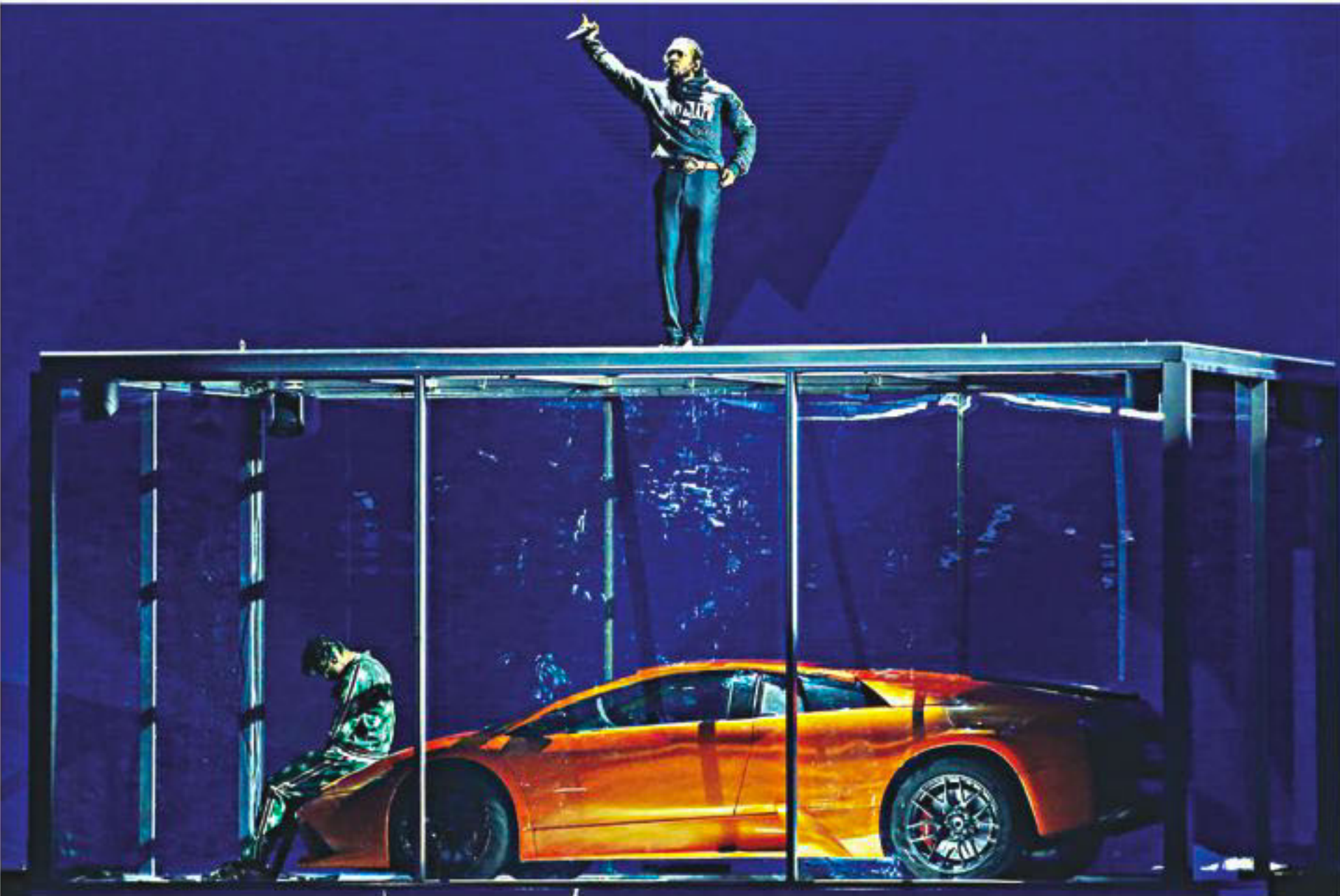
Earlier in the evening, Dua Lipa collected the awards for British breakthrough act and

British female solo artiste. She made an indirect reference to the #MeToo movement in her acceptance speech, and delivered one of the night’s standout performances with a lively rendition of her hit single “New Rules”.

Prior to the awards taking place, Brits organizers had said that they would be asking all guests to wear a white rose pin as a sign of solidarity with the fight against sexual harassment. Nearly everyone in attendance appeared to do so, with Sheeran, Camila Cabello, Ellie Goulding, Sam Smith and Rita Ora among the high-profile names showing their support by either wearing the pins or carrying white roses.

There was commiseration for Ed Sheeran -- who was famously snubbed in the main categories at this year’s Grammys -- in the form of the global success prize. Midway through the Jack Whitehall-hosted show, Sheeran played a plaintive rendition of “Supermarket Flowers”, accompanied by piano, guitar and a vocal choir.

There were also prizes for Foo Fighters



**Kendrick Lamar delivers an impactful performance at the ceremony.**

(international group), Gorillaz (British group) and last year’s Brit Critics’ Choice award winner Rag’n Bone Man, who took home the trophy for British single for his breakthrough track “Human”.

Kendrick Lamar was a previously unannounced surprise guest at the awards show and collected the award for international male solo artiste for his efforts. Lamar also produced one of the night’s more memorable and unique performances, beginning with him lying on top of a glass box containing a high-end sports car as the instrumental of “FEEL” paused and restarted several times before he finally stood up and began rapping. The words “This Is Another Satire by Kendrick Lamar” subsequently appeared on a screen behind him, leading into a fiery run through “New Freeze” while Rich the Kid energetically smashed the car with a baseball bat.

More conventional live thrills were provided by Justin Timberlake, who opened the

show with a crowd-pleasing medley of “Midnight Summer Jam” and “Say Something”, joined by country singer Chris Stapleton.

Sam Smith, Rag’n Bone Man and Rita Ora also delivered performances, with Liam Payne joining Ora for “For You” from the “Fifty Shades Freed” soundtrack. The Foo Fighters also made their Brits live debut belting out “The Sky Is a Neighborhood”.

One of the night’s most moving moments occurred when Take That singer Gary Barlow made a heartfelt speech paying tribute to the victims of May’s Manchester bomb attack following an Ariana Grande concert.

Brits organizers said Grande was planned to perform at this year’s Brits, but “was not able to travel on doctor’s orders.” In her place, Liam Gallagher was a last-minute addition to the bill, performing a stirring take of Oasis classic “Live Forever” in honor of those who lost their lives.

Source: **Billboard**