

WHAT'S ON
Joy Bangla Concert
 Organiser: Young Bangla
 Bands: Artcell, Cryptic Fate, Chirkutt
 Venue: Army Stadium
 Date: Mar 7; Time: 3pm

Jatra Biroti Live Performances
 Organiser: Jatra Biroti
 Venue: Jatra Banani
 Artists: Blunderware, Sandhi, Milliputs

Solo Art Exhibition
 The Red Thread of Bangladesh
 Artist: Tarshito
 Venue: Bay's Park Heights, Kalabagan
 Date: Feb 23-Mar 9
 Time: 10am-8pm

Group Art Exhibition
 Title: Imminence
 Venue: Abinta Gallery of Fine Arts, AJ Heights, Bir Uttam Rafiqul Islam Ave
 Date: Feb 24-Mar 10
 Time: 10am-8pm

Theatre
 Play: Koinna
 Troupe: Prachyanat
 Venue: National Theatre Hall, BSA
 Date: Mar 4
 Time: 7pm

NEWS bytes

Rare Bowie LPs coming next month

Three just-announced new David Bowie releases are due to come out in the US on April 21, which is observed as Record Store Day. "Welcome to the Blackout" (Live London '78), the 3XLP set featuring recordings from two London shows on Bowie's ambitious "Isolar II" tour from 1978, seems like the main attraction, according to Billboard. There's also the "Let's Dance 12" featuring the iconic '80s single's early demo version and a live rendition, and the first



official release of the promo-only 1977 compilation "Bowie Now". A day prior to RSD (April 20), Parlophone will also release a limited-edition 45th anniversary reissue of 1973's "Aladdin Sane" on silver vinyl. Just prior to that, on April 13, a "CHANGESTWOBOWIE" reissue is due out. The label also re-released the entirety of Bowie's "Berlin trilogy" ("Low", "Heroes", and "Lodger") on February 23.

Source: **Billboard**



Artistes render spiritual songs of Lalon on stage at the event.

PHOTO: STAR

Rediscovering the self through music

Three-day Lalon festival begins in Kushtia

AMANUR AMAN, From Kushtia
 "I come to Lalon shrine to hear the Baul songs which gives a divine purity in my mind and soul," said Robiul Islam, sitting right at the front of main stage at around midnight on the opening day of the three-day Lalon memorial festival, popularly known as Dol Purnima Utshab in Kushtia. The annual celebration at mystic bard Lalon Shah's mausoleum opened on Thursday evening. "These songs have the power to transform a person's feelings from one state to another. We can discover ourselves here," Robiul said. Like Robiul Islam, people of different walks of life, from every caste and creed gathered at the programme to enjoy the music.

Baul music is a traditional folk genre of Bengal, which is a mix of influences from the Vaishnav Bhakti movement - a Hindu religious movement from the pre-medieval era - and Sufi influence from Islam. The songs celebrate celestial love imbibing the philosophies of both Hindu and Sufi Islam. Fakir Lalon Shah was one of the major Bauls who elevated the genre to great spiritual heights, and is considered as the greatest forerunner and exponent of this unique culture and tradition. Lalon, who had no formal education, wrote around 2000 songs in his lifetime, of which some 800-1000 have been preserved. Many facets of his life are debated and contested, including the religious identity of his parents. Lalon himself

chose never to speak about his life and belief. According to experts, Lalon envisioned a society devoid of gender discrimination, a liberal society for women where they had the opportunity to pursue their spiritual freedom as a priority. "Lalon's songs embrace and preach oneness of all religion into humanism, universal brotherhood and also gender equality. It's just like an estuary where different rivers meet and merge into the sea of oneness that is deeper, richer and more liberated," said Dr. Masud Rahman, a Lalon researcher also Associate Professor of Bangla Department at Kushtia Government Girls College. Around one lakh people are expected to come to the shrine in the three-day programme.

"PaNjore Chandrabaan" set for staging on five consecutive days
 DU Theatre Department premiering new play

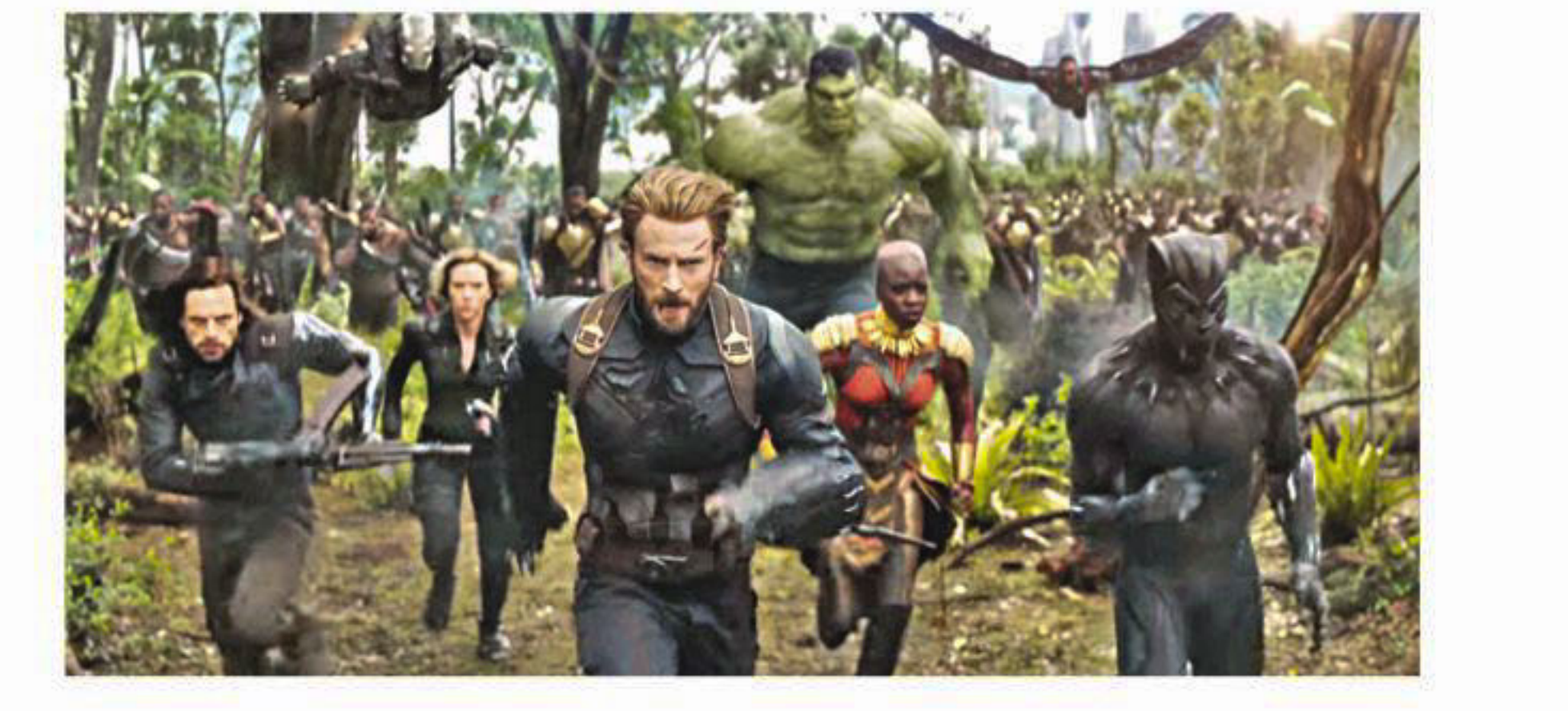
A CORRESPONDENT
 Dhaka University's Theatre and Performance Studies Department has produced a new stage play, and are setting up for five shows of the play back to back in the capital. The play, titled "PaNjore Chandrabaan" (English title "Lunatic Asylum"), is written by Shahman Moishan and directed by Dr. Israfeel Shaheen, both of them teachers of the department. Students of the Masters degree at the department - Tanmay Paul, Sakhawat Fahad, Ummey Hany, Ummey Somaiya, Shangkar Kumer Bishwas, Roney Das, Israt Jahan Moutusi and Sanwarul Haque - comprise the cast of the play. The play will premiere on March 5 at the Nat-Mandal of Dhaka University, and from March 6-9 will be staged every day at the Experimental



Theatre Hall of the Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy. "PaNjore Chandrabaan" entails a new narrative of violence-infested global realities, along with the eternal search for the beauty of living in milieu of homelessness. According to the official synopsis: "The play as the political allegory radiates the idea of home which foreshadows the crisis and crying of Rohingya people in context of geo-political catastrophe in South Asia and even the political calamity in Middle East and also in the other parts of the globe. The play examines the paradox of identity politics, hegemony of perverted intellectualism, the trauma of rape, the lower depths of the oppression, fractured existential crisis of being, the passion and misfortunes of kith and kinship, the hope for the promised land and at last the eternal desire for beauty." Ashiq Rahman Leeon has designed set, light and props for the production. Kazi Tamanna Haque Sigma has designed costumes and has composed the music along with Sydur Rahman Lipon for the play, with choreography by Amit Chowdhury. "PaNjore Chandrabaan" will then travel to India, where will be staged on March 13 at Patna and March 14 in Delhi, as part of the 8th Theatre Olympic, organised this year by the National School of Drama, New Delhi.

"Infinity War" release date moved up

The release of "Avengers: Infinity War" has moved up one week, from May 4 to April 27. Marvel announced the news in a Twitter thread with star Robert Downey Jr. on Thursday. The date change means that the Disney tentpole will open day-and-date worldwide, reports Variety.



"Avengers: Infinity War" faced little competition on the May 4 date, as studios were likely trying to steer clear of its inevitable box office domination. In its new slot, it will open alongside Paula Patton and Omar Epps thriller "Traffik", Amy Schumer comedy "I Feel Pretty", Rachel McAdams and Rachel Weisz drama "Disobedience", and David Tennant and Robert Sheehan's "Bad Samaritan". Anthony and Joe Russo returned to direct "Avengers: Infinity War," which also sees stars Downey Jr., Chris Evans, Chris Hemsworth, Scarlett Johansson, Chadwick Boseman, Tom Holland, and Mark Ruffalo reprising their roles. In this latest installment, the Avengers will also team up with the Guardians of the Galaxy, lead by Chris Pratt's Star-Lord. The Russo brothers directed "Captain America: Winter Soldier" and "Captain America: Civil War", which became 2016's top worldwide grosser with \$1.16 billion. Joss Whedon directed 2012's "The Avengers" and 2015's "Avengers: Age of Ultron." The two "Avengers" films have grossed nearly \$3 billion worldwide. "The Avengers" is the fifth-highest grosser of all time at \$1.52 billion and "Age of Ultron" is the seventh-highest at \$1.41 billion.

Source: **Variety**

CEO Abdun Noor Tushar speaks at the launch ceremony of the country's latest satellite TV channel, Nagorik TV (above), which began its journey on March 1 in presence of eminent personalities. The Annisul Huq Foundation was also launched at the ceremony where Ghaashphoring Choir performed a song (left) and artistes of Prachyanat performed a small stage play (right).

PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

Parineeti Chopra starts shooting for "Kesari"



Bollywood actor Parineeti Chopra has started shooting for her upcoming film "Kesari". The actress shared a photograph from an aircraft on her Instagram stories and wrote: "Off for 'Kesari'," making the unofficial announcement of sorts. She also shared that the photograph was taken by actor Akshay Kumar. Moments later, she shared a video and wrote: "Sigh. The beauty of Wai. Kesari." Wai is an area in the Satara District in Maharashtra. Produced by filmmaker Karan Johar, the Anurag Singh directorial is based on the Battle of Saragarhi, and is set for for 2019 Holi release. Parineeti was last seen as part of the ensemble cast of Rohit Shetty's "Golmaal Again", preceded by "Meri Pyari Bindu" opposite Ayushmann Khurrana. Akshay Kumar, meanwhile, has been on a roll with socially-conscious movies that have resonated with the audience, including this year's "PadMan" and "Toilet: Ek Prem Katha" last year. He will be seen next in sci-fi "2.0" alongside Rajinikanth, in what is being termed the most expensive Indian movie ever.

Source: **TOI**

Now challenge with Magic Box ingredients
 Watch **RUPCHANDA** The Daily Star
SUPER CHEF 2018's 5th Episode
 Every Saturday & Sunday Night at 9 PM
 Watch the show on **n tv**