

**WHAT'S ON**

**Francophonie 2018**  
Organiser: Alliance Française de Dhaka  
Venue: AFD Dhanmondi & Others  
Date: Mar 19-24  
Time: Various timings

**Solo Art Exhibition**  
Abstraction of Collage Painting  
Artist: Khurshid Alam Saleem  
Venue: Gallery Twenty One  
Date: Mar 18-27  
Time: 12-8pm

**Group Art Exhibition**  
Us Women  
Organiser: EMK Center  
Venue: EMK Center, Dhanmondi  
Date: Mar 8-22  
Time: 9:30am-8pm

**Solo Art Exhibition**  
Title: Oil Head  
Artist: RA Kjol  
Venue: Shilpangan Gallery, H-7, Rd-13 (New), Dhanmondi  
Date: Mar 09-18, Time: 3-8pm

**Solo Art Exhibition**  
Drawing & Thinking, Thinking & Drawing  
Artist: Dhali Al Mamoon  
Venue: Kala Kendra  
Date: Mar 10-31, Time: 5-8pm

# NEWS bytes

## Danny Boyle working on "Bond 25"

"Slumdog Millionaire" director Danny Boyle has confirmed that he's working on the next James Bond movie.



The filmmaker made the admission to Metro New York on Wednesday night at a special screening in New York of his new FX series "Trust".

"We are working on a script right now," he said when asked if he's directing the next film in the franchise. "And it all depends on that, really. I am working on a Richard Curtis script at the moment. We hope to start shooting that in six or seven weeks. Then Bond would be right at the end of the year. But we are working on them both right now."

Boyle has long been in MGM and Eon's sights to board a Bond movie, dating back to 2012's "Skyfall" and 2015's "Spectre", reports Variety.

He also said he does not yet know the details of when and where "Bond 25" will shoot.

Daniel Craig is set to return to star in the new Bond movie. MGM and Eon announced in July that the film would open on Nov. 8, 2019.

Source: Variety

# HOMAGE TO A CULTURAL Lighthouse

## Kanthashilon's Waheedul Haq Fest ends today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

As a tribute to cultural luminary and Tagore exponent Waheedul Haque, reputed cultural organization Kanthashilon has arranged a two-day (March 16-17) festival titled 'Waheedul Haq Memorial Festival-2018', marking the iconic figure's 85th birth anniversary. The festival is being held at the Shawkat Osman Memorial auditorium of Central Public Library, Shahbagh in the capital.

Apart from various cultural performances by the artistes of Kanthashilon, different cultural organisations and solo artistes presented poems, songs, dances, instrumental recitals, Brotochari dance, jarigaan, palagaan, puNthipaath and more.

The festival began yesterday morning with hoisting of National Flag together with the rendition of National Anthem and inaugural song by the artistes of Surotirtha.

Rameshwar led his troupe playing pulsating beats of dhak-dhol while noted dancer Tamanna Rahman and her troupe performed Manipuri dance.

The inauguration ceremony took place at the auditorium. Eminent cultural personality and journalist Kamal Lohani graced the occasion as chief guest while thespian Ataur Rahman, Shadhin Bangla Betar Kendra artiste veteran Ashraf Al Alam and noted poet Tarik Sujat attended the event as special guests. Principal of the organisation Mir Barkat delivered welcome address while Golam Sarwar, president of Kanthashilon, presided over the programme.



A vibrant rally was brought out to mark the opening of the festival.

PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

# Star-BRACU Short Film Contest 2018 crowns winners

ROKON SHAHRIAR

It was a total delight in disorder. The Hall-4 of Star Cineplex was filled with enthusiasm of youngsters on Thursday afternoon. Seated in groups, they cheered and greeted their fellow filmmakers by applause, while the films were being screened one after another.

The Grand Finale of the STAR-BRACU Short Film Contest 2018, with the theme 'Drug abuse and its Prevention in Bangladesh from Your Perspective'. The contest started much earlier on Facebook, and concluded through the finale on the level 8 of Bashundhara City.

Students of 11 universities uploaded their three-minute films on the subject of drug abuse to a designated Facebook page between February 25 and March 10. The three best films were selected by a combination of jury opinion and Facebook user voting. Dwip Roy became the champion for his film "Tomosha" ("The Darkness"), while "Cage", made by Tahmid Raqib Atul of Independent University and "The Murderer" by Tanjil Sultan Khan Turjo of American International University-Bangladesh jointly secured the second position. Sayed Safqat Hossain Galib from BRAC



University became third, with his film called "Shongbidhiboddho Shotorkikoron" ("Statutory Warning").

The contest was jointly organised by Star Cineplex and BRAC University, where the participating universities were BRAC University, Independent University Bangladesh, North South University, East West University, Bangladesh University of

Professionals, Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology, Military Institute of Science and Technology, United International University, University of Liberal Arts and Daffodil University.

At the grand finale, 19 short films made by the youngsters were screened back-to-back, followed by opinions of the jury members - Suborna Mustafa, Afsana Mimi and Giasuddin Selim.

Suborna Mustafa addressed the students, saying, "This is your beginning, as today's passion can be tomorrow's profession for you." Afsana Mimi also congratulated the makers of all 19 films. Giasuddin Selim expressed that he found it difficult to select three best films, as most of them were very good.

Star Cineplex Chairman Mahbub Rahman, who handed over the awards to the winners, said, "This is for the third time that we are arranging this kind of contest and we have different themes every time. It is the youth who are to come up with solutions of big problems, which is why we are involving them to make films on crucial subjects such as road accident, drug abuse etc.," he added. He also said that the champion will get an opportunity to make a film to be screened internationally.

The writer is a contributor at The Daily Star.



# Urmila rushed to hospital from shooting spot

SHAH ALAM SHAZUL

Popular TV actress Urmila Srabonti Kar has been rushed to the hospital, after she fell drastically ill while filming a TV series.

Urmila was shooting for Syed Shakil-directed TV play "Shona'r Shikol" in Uttara, where she fell unwell suddenly on Thursday. She was taken to a nearby hospital immediately, and later shifted to the Universal Medical College Hospital.

Urmila's mother informed that the actor is suffering from kidney complications. She is scheduled to have a surgery this morning.

"She was working full throttle, but then she fell really sick, and we got really concerned. I wish her a speedy recovery," Syed Shakil told The Daily Star.

Speaking to this correspondent at the hospital, Urmila said "I just want everyone's good wishes and blessings, so I can get better soon."

# Ava DuVernay to Direct DC's "The New Gods"

Ava DuVernay has lined up her directorial follow-up to Disney's "A Wrinkle in Time".

The filmmaker will take on Warner Bros. and DC's "The New Gods", The Hollywood Reporter confirms. The property is a creation of the late and legendary comic book artist Jack Kirby, co-creator of "Captain America", "X-Men" and other iconic heroes.

The news comes a week after DuVernay's "A Wrinkle in Time" earned \$33 million at the box office in its opening weekend. With the movie, she became the first African-American woman to direct a film with a budget of more than \$100 million. Prior to the film, DuVernay first broke out as the helmer of the 2014 Martin Luther King Jr. feature "Selma", and followed that up with the 2016 Oscar-nominated documentary "13th".

With "The New Gods", DuVernay will be stepping into a rich world, just as she did with "Wrinkle in Time". In the comics, "The New Gods" is part of the so-called 'Fourth World Saga', a series of four interconnected comic book series written and drawn by Kirby when he arrived at DC from rival Marvel in the early 1970s. Mixing social commentary, mythology and science fiction, it sees a war between two alien planets — New Genesis and Apokolips — arrive on Earth when the ruler of the dystopian Apokolips, Darkseid, discovers that humanity holds the key to the Anti-Life Equation, which allows its user to control all living beings in existence.

In addition to Kirby's original titles, the Fourth World Saga has continued through a number of DC comic book series over the past four decades, as well as forming the basis for storylines in animated series and DC's recent live-action movies; the villain Steppenwolf and the Mother Box from last year's "Justice League" are both Kirby creations from the Fourth World Saga.

DuVernay has considered jumping into the world of comic books before, having passed on directing Marvel's "Black Panther", based on the character Kirby created with Stan Lee in 1966.

Source: Hollywood Reporter



Representatives of ABC Radio and Sesame Workshop Bangladesh sign the agreement.

# Sisimpur comes to radio

"Sisimpur", the Bangladeshi version of the globally-beloved children's puppet show "Sesame Street", just debuted on Bangladeshi radio for the first time, through a partnership with MetLife Foundation. The show is titled "Dream, Save, Do: Financial Empowerment for Families" and will air on ABC Radio FM 89.2 (who are the broadcast partner for the partnership) and will air at 11am on Fridays with a repeat broadcast at 11am on Saturdays, according to a press release.

The programme is part of a global multimedia program aimed at helping young

children and their parents acquire healthy financial skills and behaviors. The initiative aims to provide engaging content featuring the Muppets from "Sisimpur", with effective strategies for spending, saving, sharing, and donating.

The programme was launched at the ABC Radio office in the capital on Thursday. Matiur Rahman, editor of The Daily Prothom Alo attended the event, along with high-ups of Sesame Workshop Bangladesh and ABC Radio, and eminent musicians Bappa Mazumder and George Lincoln D'Costa.

**BEOL**

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f /RupchandaTheDailyStarSuperChef