

WHAT'S ON

Francophonie 2018
 Organiser: Alliance Francaise 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

Solo Painting Exhibition
 Title: Peace by Shahabuddin Ahmed
 Venue: Gallery 2, National Art Gallery, BSA
 Date: Mar 19- Apr 18
 Time: 11am-8pm

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

Fundraising Concert
 Concert for Children
 Organiser: DCI
 Venue: KIB Auditorium
 Date: Mar 23
 Time: 5:30pm

Solo Art Exhibition
 Grey Contours
 Artist: Soma Surovi Jannat
 Venue: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka
 Date: Mar 23-April 5
 Time: 3-9pm

71 BANDS 71 PATRIOT SONGS
 71 NEW LYRICS 71 NEW TUNES
WORLD'S LARGEST BAND MIXED ALBUM
 Presented By: Doorbin Band



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

Music Fueled by Patriotism

How Doorbin produced a 71-song album

AL HAQ

The spirit of the iconic year 1971 will live forever in the hearts of every Bangalee. Freedom for us came at a cost, too bloody and painful. Therefore, the significance of it resonates ever so powerfully when we indulge in liberation. Inspired by that essence, project "Amader Ekattor", which is the brainchild of Shahidul Islam, the lead singer of the band Doorbin, took shape. Along with the dedication of a handful of people, the band has succeeded in setting a milestone in the band music arena. The urge to create music that is patriotic yet distinctive at the same time gave birth to this project. Shahidul Islam formulated the plan to include bands from every corner of

the country, to produce an album about the 1971 by 71 different bands with new songs, lyrics and tunes. "Doorbin travelled restlessly, far and wide across Bangladesh to meet with different bands and collect their contributions for the compilation album. The enthusiasm from the musicians from every district resulted in an abundance of songs and ballads, each expressing the soul of '71 in their own creative manner," said Shahidul Islam. However, it was soon discovered that many of the recordings did not meet the required standards. In order to resolve the matter, Doorbin arranged for a decent accommodation with food and other basic amenities in Dhaka, along with a full studio setup, so that the artistes from different corners could travel

to the capital and record their audio with better quality, Shahidul informed. Finally, after three laborious years of hard work, "Amader Ekattor" took the shape of how the composers wanted it to be, and thus it was released. Despite all the efforts, minute errors were still present which needed to be taken care of. Therefore an additional year of filtering and fine-tuning was dedicated for the project, after which, a second edition of "Amader Ekattor" was released. In a conversation with The Daily Star, Shahidul expressed his gratitude not only to all the 415 musicians who contributed immensely for the success of the album, but also to the citizens (bus drivers, rickshaw pullers, etc.) at work, who refused to charge them (when the album was in progress)

upon hearing about the band's endeavor. According to Shahidul Islam, "Around 700 people devoted their efforts unconditionally for the cause of the album. The mass popularity of the project also facilitated concerts titled "Amader Ekattor Band Festival", which included all the 71 different bands performing live". Due to the prominence of the overall project coupled with the nationwide support, the works for another new but similar album is underway, the band informed. Doorbin's lineup is Ayub Shahrear (vocal), Shahid (vocal), Shishir (drums), Shaon (bass), Joy (guitar) and Hridoy (guitar). Their fifth album is slated for release before Eid this year. The author is a freelance contributor to The Daily Star.

NEWS bytes

Swift's "Reputation" sell 2M copies in US

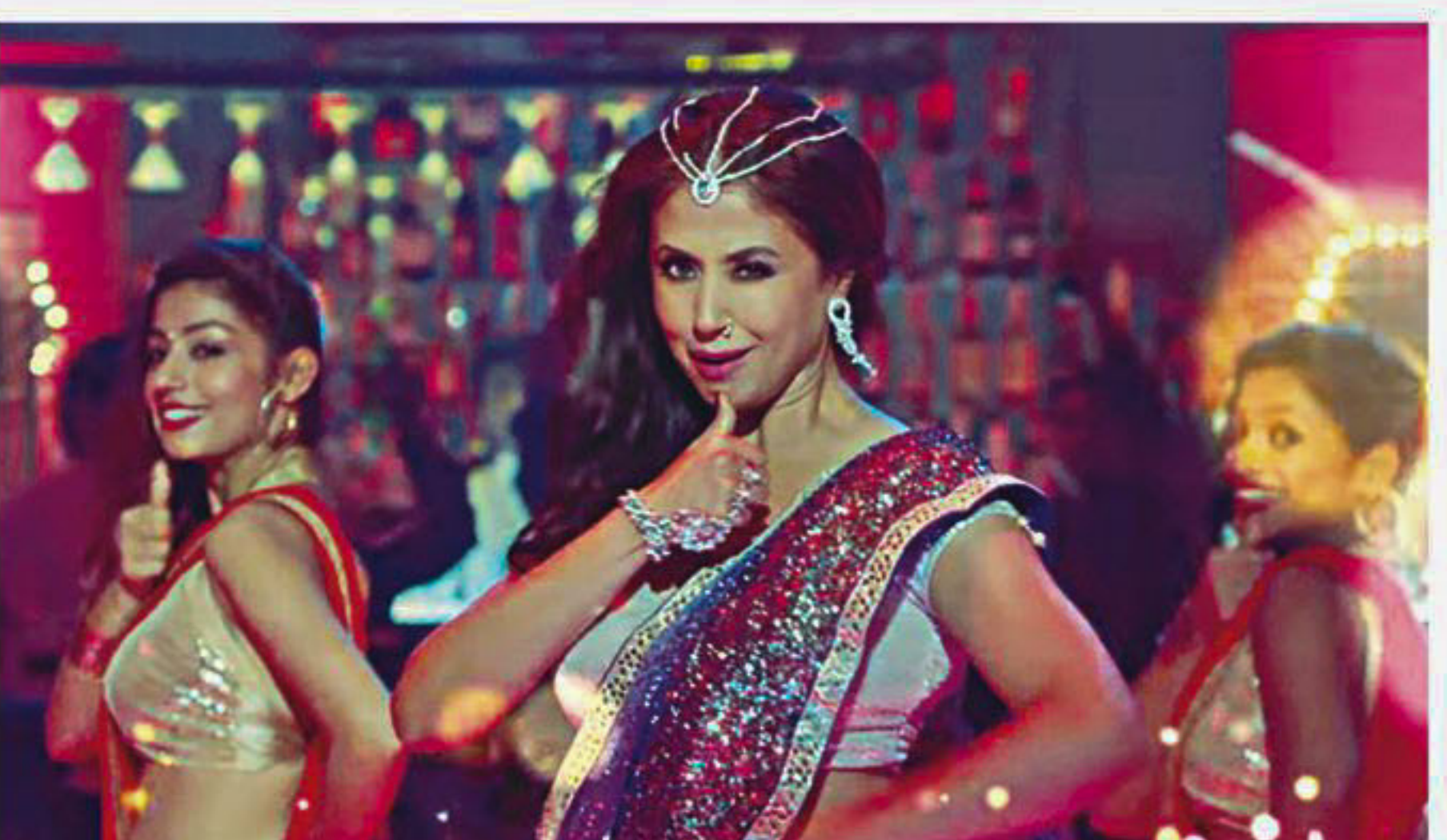
Taylor Swift is celebrating her sixth album to sell two million copies in the US, as "Reputation" reached the mark in the week ending March 15, according to Nielsen Music. Notably, "Reputation" -- which was released on Nov. 10, 2017 -- is the only album released in the last two years to sell two million copies in the US. It launched with 1.216 million copies sold in its first week, reports Billboard. Previous to "Reputation", the most recently released set to sell two million was Adele's "25", which arrived on November 20, 2015, hit the two million mark after just three days and bowed with 3.38 million sold in its first week. For context, in all of 2017, only two albums sold more than a million copies: "Reputation" and Ed Sheeran's "+-=". That's a stark contrast to 10 years earlier, when 29 albums sold at least 1 million, with eight of those surpassing 2 million.



Urmila Matondkar returns after nine years with "Bewafa Beauty"

Quintessential '90s Bollywood diva Urmila Matondkar has made an appearance for the big screen, for a dance song in Irrfan Khan-starrer "Blackmail". The makers released the video, titled "Bewafa Beauty", on Thursday. The yesteryears heartthrob is seen dancing in a bar accompanied by a chorus line of backup dancers in the song, armed with a "Rampuri" switchblade knife. The song occasionally intercuts with the film's footage featuring the lead cast of Irrfan Khan, Arunoday Singh and Kirti Kulhari, giving a glimpse of the tension building up in the film's plot. Matondkar was last seen with Himesh Reshammiya in a remake of the 1980 film "Karz", titled "Karzzzz" in 2008. She has since been doing TV shows and Marathi cinema, and has not made an appearance in Hindi

films, as per Hindustan Times. After entertaining the audience with "Delhi Belly" (2011), director Abhinav Deo is all set to present another quirky, situational comedy that will star Divya Dutta, Omi Vaidya, Anuja Sathé, Pradhuman Singh Mall, Gajraj Rao along with the lead trio. After Irrfan announced that he was suffering from neuroendocrine tumour and is undergoing treatment for the same, there were speculations that the film's release may be delayed. However, Abhinav confirmed that there will be no change in the film's release date. Produced by T-Series' Bhushan Kumar and RDP Motion Pictures, "Blackmail" is slated to release across India on April 6.



Amin Khan, Popy reunite onscreen

Many years ago, viewers enjoyed the on-screen chemistry between popular film actors Popy and Amin Khan. While those films proved to be box office successes, the duo weren't seen working with each other for quite a few years, until now. The actors are slated to reunite in a new film helmed by Sadeq Siddiqui, titled "Shahoshi Joddha". Shooting for the film commenced recently in the capital's Uttara. Crowds thronged about the film sets in Anandabari, and the streets were packed with a few parked cars belonging to the film unit. A virtually unrecognizable Amin Khan was reclining on one of the sofas in the living room set, donned in a blazer in the sweltering heat. Retreated into the makeup room were renowned

actor Rebeka and a newcomer in the film industry named Shireen Shila. They were about to be interrupted by the director, and his co-director, who announced that the next scene was about to begin. We ascended to the first floor, where the other star in the film, Popy, was found in the midst of a glamorous photoshoot. After striking poses for a few photos, Popy remarked on her return with Amin Khan. "I feel a strong kinship with Amin Khan because we're both from Khulna. The films we appeared in previously have proved to be successful with the audience, and I have faith that this new venture will do well too." Actor Amin Khan added, "Popy is an extremely talented actor, with a few National Film Awards to her name. The characters and script in this film greatly piqued our interest,

and I know viewers will be delighted by our work in this film too." After the brief interview, the actors readied themselves for the next scene before the cameras started rolling. In this scene, Amin Khan positioned himself squarely in front of the camera, with Popy in view, who was standing near the door. They remained in the same room for the second scene, this time with both of them standing in front of the camera. This scene required a second take before the director was satisfied. In between takes, the actors ventured out to the gates of the shooting house, which sent the crowds into frenzy. "Look! Look! It's Popy!" cried out one fan, much to the amusement of Popy, who broke into peals of delighted laughter.

"Concert for Children" today at KIB

A CORRESPONDENT
 Distressed Children and Infants (DCI) International, a non-profit organisation working for children's rights, is organising a fundraising concert today at the Krishibid Institute Bangladesh (KIB) Auditorium this afternoon.

The performers at the event will include Sabina Yasmin - who is a DCI Goodwill Ambassador, Hassan Abidur Reza Jewel, SI Tutul, Monira Parveen Happy, Sun Child music group and Benaka Institute of Fine Arts. Noted film actress Babita, also a DCI Goodwill Ambassador, will speak at the event, as well as a number of noted personalities including Dr. Muhammad Musa, Dr. Mohammad Abdul Mazid, Dr. AK Abdul Momen, Prof. AK Azad Khan and Dr. Ehsan Hoque, who is the founder and executive director of DCI. The concert is a part of DCI's Journey for Child Rights & Sight (JCRS), which is a call to action raising awareness about issues of child rights, the prevalence of child labour and preventable blindness and inspiring our youth and the global community to service for underprivileged children. Tickets are priced at 500, 1000 and 2000 taka, and can be purchased by calling the phone numbers +8801726051700 and +8801727264688.