

WHAT'S ON

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
 Title: Life in Mirror
 Artist: Jahangir Hossain
 Venue: DD Gallery, Saltz, 8, Gulshan
 Date: Mar 30-Apr 13
 Time: 12 noon-9pm



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



Painting exhibition
 Title: "Chitree Dibbowroth"
 Artist: Syed Shamsul Haque
 Organiser: Bengal Foundation
 Venue: Daily Star-Bengal Arts Precinct
 Date: Mar 23-April 5
 Time: 12 noon-8pm



Concert
 Kaansuta - Ek Nirjhar-er Gaan
 Organiser: Gaanshala
 Artists: Armeen, Arko, Joyeta
 Venue: Chhayanaut
 Date: Apr 6; Time: 6:30pm



NEWS bytes

"Ready Player One" soars on opening weekend

Warner Bros.' "Ready Player One" debuted in line with recent projections of \$53 million in its extended opening weekend in the US Box Office. The film opened Thursday, getting a head start over its fellow weekend releases, "Tyler Perry's Acrimony" and "God's Not Dead: A Light in Darkness".

The virtual reality fantasy released internationally with \$128 million since it opened in Tuesday previews, bringing its worldwide total up to an



impressive \$181.2 million. The film, based on Ernest Cline's novel, stars Tye Sheridan, Olivia Cooke, Ben Mendelsohn, Mark Rylance, Simon Pegg and TJ Miller.

"Tyler Perry's Acrimony" secured second place with \$17 million. Marvel's "Black Panther" remains a powerhouse in the No. 3 slot, taking in \$11 million. The tentpole crossed the \$650 million mark at the North American box office, maintaining its place as the fifth-highest release in the US of all time.

Over the Easter weekend, the Christian drama "I Can Only Imagine" stayed strong in fourth place with \$10.5 million. Rounding out the top five is Universal's "Pacific Rim Uprising" with \$9.2 million. The sci-fi action, which held the top spot last weekend, has taken in \$45.6 million domestically.

Source: Variety

NATIONAL FILM DAY

"THIS DAY IS OURS"

...Faruk

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

April 3 marks a special occasion on the calendar for the film fraternity in Bangladesh, as it is observed as the National Film Day.

On April 3, 1957, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the erstwhile Minister of Industries and Commerce of East Pakistan, introduced the East Pakistan Film Development Corporation Bill at the Constituent Assembly. To mark that day, April 3 is observed every year as National Film Day in Bangladesh since 2012.

In a recent conversation with The Daily Star, veteran actor Faruk shared his views on the occasion, and more.

How do you personally view this day?



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

Faruk: I have a lot of love and respect for the occasion, as it is important to all of us in the industry. This day is ours.

Who do you recall the most on National Film Day?

Faruk: It would be the Father of our Nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. In 1957 he enabled the bill that instated the BFDC. It goes to show how much he wanted a luminary future for the Bangladesh film industry and its actors.

What is on your agenda for the day?

Faruk: We plan to carry forth the day

with splendour; invitations have been sent to all artistes in the country, and we look forward to a large, and fun gathering. BFDC has its own plans on the occasion too.

And lastly, what are your visions for the film industry in Bangladesh?

Faruk: Films are why we stand here today, and I have many dreams for its future. That being said, I never look back and see what has been missing. We have lost many great actors, but there will always be amazing potential to carry the legacy forward with new artistes.

TV WATCH

"Dugdugi" on ntv



Sanjida Preeti and Chanchal Chowdhury play lead roles in the series.

A CORRESPONDENT

Drama series "Dugdugi" airs tonight on ntv at 8:15pm. Scripted and directed by Masud Shezan, the main cast includes Chanchal Chowdhury, Sanjida Preeti, Ejazul Islam, Ajmery Haque Badhan, Mishu Sabbir, Moutushi Biswas, Abdullah Rana, Shahnaz Khushi and more.

The story zooms in on two misfits. Ahsan Kabir (Chanchal Chowdhury) is a private tutor who hands out leaflets to pedestrians during his free time. He reasons that society would become a much better place if everyone follows the instructions listed in the leaflet. Meanwhile Sanjida Preeti plays the role of Rehnuma, who works in a counseling facility. Through their comical endeavours, do they stand a chance at making their dreams come true?

ASK ME ANYTHING

SWAPNAJAAL team coming to The Daily Star Facebook Live

A CORRESPONDENT

The April edition of "Ask Me Anything", The Daily Star's monthly Facebook Live show will feature not one, not two but three guests, building up the hype to the upcoming film "Swapnajaal". Director Giasuddin Selim and the two central cast members - Dhallywood heartthrob Pori Moni and the fresh face Yash Rohan will join the Facebook fans of The Daily Star in a candid, live chat tomorrow at 5pm. The trio will talk directly to you all and respond to your question in comments.

"Swapnajaal", Giasuddin Selim's return to the big screen as director after nine years, is already creating considerable buzz among film lovers of the country. The film, which also casts Fazlur Rahman Babu, Iresh Zaker, Misha Sawdagar, Shahidul Alam Sachchu and Shilpi Sarkar Opu among others, is set for release across the country on April 6, and fans of the director, particularly those who loved his directorial debut "Monpura", cannot wait for the film to land in theatres.

Save your questions, curiosities, love and adulation for "Swapnajaal" for Pori, Selim and Rohan, and tune in to facebook.com/dailystarnews sharp at 5pm this Wednesday to catch the trio live!



Creating art on the hills
Cosmos Art Camp 2018 begins

ZAHANGIR ALOM

It is an amazing experience accompanying prominent and promising artists of Bangladesh at the peak of Finlay Hills near the Institute of Fine Arts, University of Chittagong as Cosmos Art Camp 2018 begins in the port city. I am privileged to be a part of the art camp as a guest artist and journalist this time in such an ambience where renowned artist Alakesh Ghosh is getting a refreshing drink and portraying a couple of flowers on canvas, while I am writing this report for The Daily Star in a bungalow full of modern arts and antique possessions belonging to M Tariqul Islam. The art enthusiast-entrepreneur is hosting the art event at his house. Cosmos Gallery regularly organises art camp like this both at home and abroad, and later exhibits the outcomes at its gallery.

By the time I have coated a canvas, eminent artist Professor Hamiduzzaman Khan has depicted four paintings on canvas that represent homage to the martyrs of 1971. Fascinated by the mystique beauty of the ambience, guest artist Ivy Zaman is depicting the visage of a meditative Buddha with sculptural form.

Eminent artist Professor Samarjit Roy Choudhury is busy depicting diagonal lines and geometric forms inspired from nature. Another guest artist, Sharbari Roy Choudhury, is portraying patriotism with red and green while Nazia Andaleeb Preema has depicted the essence of nature in abstract forms with eye-soothing tonal gradations of lemon yellow and blue.

Depicting fishing nets is the forte of renowned artist Farida Zaman, who is now on her journey to the portrayal of suggestive image of idyllic Bengal. She is portraying fishing with Polo, a locally-designed fishing device.

Two noted artists, Ahmed Shamsudoha and Sheikh Afzal, have kept the vivre of the art camp with their artistic efforts and imagination. Both are depicting nature. The fading glow of vast landscape is the subject of Shamsudoha's painting while the mysterious silence of the woods together with the beauty of twisting branches of a tree has embellished the canvas of Sheikh Afzal.

Talented artist Bishwajit Goswami has chosen a secluded place to depict the magnanimous glory of motherhood on canvas. Tariqul Islam, the host of the art camp, is a poet who has a book titled "Jolchhap" to his name. Goswami, also a teacher at the Faculty of Fine Art, University of Dhaka, will depict the spirit of universal motherhood and motherland taking essence from reading a poem by Tariqul Islam that reflects motherhood.

Promising artists Shahanoor Mamun and Sourav Chowdhury are depicting diverse imagery of nature using soft and soothing mingling of yellow and blue.

The place is exquisitely befitting for holding such an art camp. The lush greenery around coupled with the mystique beauty of the hilly woods has charmed us all. The host boasts of equal taste of the artists. All are eagerly waiting for the evening to set in when the artists will celebrate life by rendering songs. The art camp concludes tomorrow with sightseeing different places of the port city.



Artists at work in a leisurely atmosphere of the art camp.

Rupchanda-The Daily Star Super Chef 2018

Episodes 11 & 12: Thai-way or the highway

LABIBA FAIAZ BARI and NOSHIN NOORJAHAN

"Sawat die toon jen," did you ever hear an anchor open the show like that? The first phrases of Rupchanda-The Daily Star Super Chef had set the stage of the show to be different and exciting in every possible way. With a new aura in the kitchen, the participants could not expect anything but only the unexpected. Judge Lipi, definitely, did not disappoint them. "Thai and Chinese cuisine often seem similar yet they are different in their own ways of preparation and spices. That makes them unique and today, we're expecting nothing else. We want authentic Thai and Chinese dishes from you all," said Judge Lipi, looking ever so elegant in her Asian attire, as she explained the next hurdle for the



Contestants busy in the kitchen.

Begum did not sway much from her task to make the best authentic Chinese dish. But she could not beat Nadia's optimism as she claimed, "I got the green apron, whereas the other team got red. Maybe it is a green signal for our team."

After the next 45 minutes of cook-off, who won the race? The Proud White Elephants, or the Fierce Red Dragons? Only in time and with the taste test with the judges could the answer be spelled out.

The answer to the question looked as if it were scripted because, indeed, captain Nadia got herself and the White Elephants the green signal to take their boat to the shore. However, this time too, the color Red was anything but cruel for Ripna and her team, the Red Dragons. This only led to one of the toughest pressure tests in the Super Chef Kitchen. Filled to the brim with the strongest of contenders for the title of Super Chef, the elimination round

was about to get fiery in a challenge to fuse Thai and Chinese cuisines. Sadly, the decision to make a 'Thai Chinese Prawn Fry' did not bode well for Nida Ahmed and the Super Chef Kitchen had to see another promising culinary artist leave the show.

Right after Nida left, the remaining 11 jumped into action in the 12th episode of the clash in the kitchen. With the theme of Falgun, the kitchen greeted everyone with music and poetry including the guest of the show, the renowned actress, Tania Ahmed. However, even she had challenges for the aspiring chefs in her sleeve. A task to prepare a dish with Mustard oil may sound easy but could also turn out to be the last strike for many. "I am awestruck at the simplicity of the challenge. What can be done with only mustard oil?" said a perplexed Moinul Haq as he went into the challenge. But surely, he turned

things well for himself as he was among the top four cooks along with Shamsun Nahar, Saika Yesmine, and Madia Sultana Tisha. This time, they had to fight for a surprise twist in the game. All the 11 participants were safe until the next challenge but only one of them could build a shield from a future elimination with the 'Raksha Kabach'. Hence, this episode ended on the happiest note for Madia Sultana Tisha, whose Mandarin styled Stuffed Capsicum brought her an immunity against a following pressure test.

With all still left to battle among the top 11 in the Super Chef Kitchen, who will triumph over whom? Whose road will lead them to the champion's trophy and prize money of BDT 10 lacs? Now, it is either the Super Chef way or the high way. To experience the nail-biting competition again next week, do not forget to tune into ntv on Saturday and Sunday, exactly at 9pm.



aspiring best chefs in Bangladesh.

How could this not be an easy task? After all, the participants just got a Super Class on Thai recipes last week. But were they prepared for a group task? Certainly not. Though excited by the prospect of the massive cook-off, the to-be chefs were worried over the group task. Nadia Natasha and Ripna Begum led the two packs-- the White Elephants and the Red Dragons. Initially set back by the toss, done by the all-time famous commentator and former captain of the National Cricket Team, Raqibul Hasan, Ripna