Art Exhibition Venue: Drik Gallery Date: July 16-18



Book Launch Title: Launch of The Ballad of Ayesha Venue: Baatighar Dhaka Date: July 20 Time: 4:30pm - 6:30pm

Venue: Shilpangan Galler





Another marvelous year awaits

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

by so many?

Purnima's stardom has been prominent in the film industry for over 15 years, and now, the National Award winning actor focuses on anchoring and small-screen shows. Today marks the beautiful star's birthday, which she talks about in a recent conversation with The Daily Star.

Purnima: I don't have any big plans - I'm looking forward to speaking the day at home. There is also a chance I'll have to appear on the sets of Channel i's Tarokakothon. Who is usually the first person to wish you?

What are your plans for today?

Purnima: My husband wishes me at the stroke of midnight, and brings a cake for me. But there are some people who wish me in advance a couple of hours before. How does it feel to know you are admired

Purnima: Believe it or not, I eagerly look forward to my birthday every year because of the sheer number of wishes people are kind enough to send me. My inbox is flooded with messages from my fans, and the same thing happens on my Facebook wall.

What kind of gifts do you usually expect to see on this special day? Purnima: I usually get a lot of flowers sent

to my residence, from fans, friends, family and other acquaintances. I love it! What would you like to wish for on this day?

Purnima: With each birthday I am reminded of another year of my life going by. My only wish is to be able to lead a fulfilling life, and continue to deliver to my audience.

How is your work as a television host going? Purnima: It's going very well. I recently returned from Malaysia to host a stage show here. I also hosted the National Film Awards programme. Other than that you can catch me on my show, Ebong Purnima.

'BUDDHACHARITA' to commemorate First World War centenary

PRIYANKA CHOWDHURY

Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre (IGCC), Dhaka presented a dance drama by Dr Mahua Mukherjee on 'Buddhacharita' - in Sanskrita Mahakavya by Asvaghosaon the life of Gautam Buddha at the main auditorium of National Museum in Shahbag of the capital. She has been performing Buddhacharita from 2014-2018 in different places to mark the First World War centenary. The performance was dedicated to the victims of the war.

With over 40 years of research work, she has revived and reestablished Gaudiya Nritya, a classical dance form of Bengal, which is more than 2000 years old. Set in the Gaudiya Nritya steps amalgamated with the nava rasa, the story of Gautam Buddha was beautifully transcended to the audience. The script, choreography and performance of the dance drama were by Dr Mahua Mukherjee herself. The music was done by her son Ayan Mukherjee and her nephew, Subhadeep Chakraborty. Her students, Rachel Priyanka Paris and Moushumi Barman performed with her.

Dr Mahua Mukherjee held Tagore Chair at the University of Dhaka. She has done her Botany specialisation in Cytogenetics from Calcutta University. In India, she is a Professor at the Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata and was the Dean of the same institute from 2013 - 2016.

The artiste was given a token of appreciation by IGCC Director Vishal Jyoti Das. Emninent cultural personnel Kamal Lohani, Dr. Enamul Haq and many more were present at the show. Dr Mahua Mukherjee will be returning home today after serving her term at the University of Dhaka.

Cosmos holds Art Workshop at RU

ZAHANGIR ALOM, writes from Rajshahi

It was a jubilant day for the students of the Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA), Rajshahi University (RU), as Cosmos Foundation donated a printmaking machine to them. Marking the machine handover ceremony Cosmos Atelier 71 organised a three-day (July 09-11) printmaking workshop at the campus where around 40 students and teachers of FFA, RU, along with several Dhaka-based artists took part. Cosmos Foundation also organised a similar event at Chittagong University last year and will continue to do so at other universities gradually.

Dr Md Amirul Momanin Chowdhury, a professor at the FFA, RU, led the workshop. Professor Dr Siddhartha Shankar Talukder, Dean of FFA, RU, attended the inaugural ceremony of the workshop as chief guest while Dr Gulnahar Begum, a professor at the FFA, RU, presided over the programme. Apart from the workshop conductor, Sourav Chowdhury, executive artistic manager of Cosmos Gallery, spoke at the inaugural event. Dr Md. Boni Adam, an Associate Professor of FFA, RU, hosted the ceremony.

Amirul Momanin Chowdhury, a renowned artist having expertise on diverse media, introduced the participants to different complex and experimental techniques of printmaking in an easy way.

Dr Md. Abdus Sobahan, Sujan Sen, Momotaj Parvin, Naznine Akter, Sudipto Islam, Faiz Mohammad, Joli Costa, Abdul Wakil Rajib, Jahid Hasan, Umme Habiba, Momena Akter and Ariful Islam also participated in the workshop. Cosmos Gallery will organise an art exhibition in Dhaka with

the outcomes of this workshop. Alongside the workshop, artists from Dhaka had an exciting opportunity to visit key places of the green city, including the beautiful Rajshahi University campus, Varendra Research Museum, Puthia Rajbari, Sopura Silk Mills, Sona Masjid (Chapai Nawabganj) and a stunning sunset on the bank of the mighty river





...... One of the most talented young singers in the country, Oyshee, has left for Oman for her first show there. She has

left for the country yesterday in order to star in 'ATN Bangla Musical Night', a show dedicated to the Bangladeshi people living there. The Chairman of ATN Bangla, Dr Mahfuzur Rahman will also be present there to grace the audience with his melody alongside Oyshee.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

AFSANA AZIZ NITOL

Recently, the 5-day 40year-celebration of the satire magazine Unmad, came to a close, where three cartoonists were awarded.

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Morshed Mishu, who won the first prize, wanted to pursue a career in defence, but ended up being a cartoonist. He is an Assistant Editor at Unmad.

Syed Rashad Imam Tanmoy, currently working as a political cartoonist in an English daily newspaper and Founder of Cartoon People, won the second prize. Reesham Shahab Tirtho,

'Unmad'

prize winners at the 40-year celebrations

a freelance cartoonist and an architect from BUET, won the third prize.

"This prize is as valuable as the Nobel Prize!" says Mishu. "I feel like I am in seventh heaven!" On the other hand, Tanmoy feels receiving a prize from the one you have always looked upto is always special. "This award is special because I received it from my guru Ahsan Habib."

"It is a matter of huge deal for me to participate in a platform like Unmad which created such talented cartoonists," says Tirtho. "I did not quite expect it but I feel wonderful neverthe-

The 5-day event had numerous visitors and plenty of young cartoonists participating in the competition. The Unmad team is already planning its 50th year celebrations.

