

WHAT'S ON

Musical Event
Title: Neel Sarkar Live at Jatra
Venue: Jatra Biroti, Banani
Time: 7pm - 10pm
Date: September 7



Photography Exhibition
Title: Shutter Up Exhibition 2018
Venue: Drik Gallery, Dhanmondi
Date: September 9-10
Time: 10am - 7pm
Facebook Page: Drik Gallery



Art Exhibition
Title: State of Mind
Venue: Kala Kendra, Mohammadpur
Date: September 7 - October 3
Time: 4:30pm - 8:30pm
Facebook Page: Kala Kendra



10th International Inter University Short Film Festival
Venue: TSC Auditorium
Date: September 2-4
Time: 11 am - 9 pm
For more information, log in



Musical Event
Title: Celebrate Friendship with Armeen Musa
Venue: The Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf, Bangladesh
Date: September 9
Time: 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm



'Haldaa' set for 14th Kazan International Muslim Film Festival

SHAH ALAM SHAZI

Haldaa, directed by Tauquir Ahmed, has been well-received by the critics and audience alike since its release. This time, *Haldaa* is going to take part in the 14th Kazan International Muslim Film Festival, starting from tomorrow. Ahmed will be present at the event, which will be held at Kazan, Russia. He left Dhaka last night.

Haldaa is one of the ten participating films in the festival. "I feel immensely delighted to be a representative of Bangladesh," says Ahmed. "The Bangladeshi Film Industry is producing quality work now and to be able to reach out to an international audience is always a good feeling."

He will be in Russia till September 11. Previously, *Haldaa* won four awards at the SAARC Film Festival. The film also participated in the 11th International Annual Film Festival in Kosovo titled 'The Goddess on the Throne.'



PHOTO: STAR

'PATA JHORAR DIN' rustling the scene

Director Redoan Rony won the National Film Award 2012 for Best Dialogue for his directorial debut film 'Chorabali', and that only seemed to be a stepping stone for him. Syed Hasan Imam and Eshita starrer, 'Pata Jhorar Din', is his latest telefilm which is based on a true story, and was aired on Channel i during Eid-ul-Adha, as a part of the Chabial team's Bhai Brother Express project. It garnered much appreciation from the viewers for its unique yet correlative style of storytelling. In a recent interview with The Daily Star, the director sheds light on his experiences.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

AL HAQ

How long have you been a filmmaker?
I used to work with Sarwar bhai (Mostofa Sarwar Farooki) since 2002, but my very own first venture was aired in 2006.
How many projects do you have under your belt so far?
I have two feature films, *Chorabali* and *Ice Cream*. Apart from that, I worked for the TV serials *Housefull*, *EnF* and more than fifty other TV productions. Coming to *Chabial* and the *Bhai Brother Express* project, were

there any challenges, given the fact that there were so many minds collaborating with the initiative?
The best part about our collaboration is that we tried to be there for each other as we are all part of the same school of thought. Whenever we work together, we listen to each other's stories and express our individual views mutually. Is there any aspect of the industry that you reckon need improvement or change? That would definitely have to be quality content. The momentum

at which our industry is excelling with all the trendy streaming and on-demand services, good content is crucial to survive the competition. We, as makers, need to understand the market better and then proceed, or else our local heroes may remain unsung. Last but not the least, 'Pata Jhorar Din' is a stellar display of your spontaneous talent, which has managed to enthrall the audience beyond their expectations. How did you come about the script and how was the experience?

Thank you very much and I am immensely glad that it resonated with the viewers. It is a simple story that actually happened to someone I know. Life seems so fine until one tragic incident can turn it into a total chaos. *Pata Jhorar Din* also focuses on the strong family ties that we maintain with devotion, despite all the disputes. As for the experience, it was fantastic! The actors Syed Hasan Imam, Rumana Rashid Eshita, Moushumi Hamid and others were truly dedicated and supportive.

'Blossoms from Ash' unveiled

PRIYANKA CHOWDHURY

Recently Bangladeshi filmmaker Noman Robin and American producer Alexander I Blum, made the documentary film 'Blossoms from Ash.' The launch of the documentary took place on September 1 during a press conference at the National Press Club.

The documentary was filmed in the Ukhiya refugee camp and documented the life and struggles of the stateless people residing there. "We are made to fear migrants and refugees back in my country," said Alexander I Blum. "Bangladesh has inspired me incredibly and thus I decided to make the film to spread awareness among people." He also mentioned that the goal of the project lies in sharing a portion of it in the US- Congress and UN-General Assembly.

Filmmaker Noman Robin spoke

about his experience of celebrating Eid in Rohingya camps with the refugees. According to him, this film offers the audience everything -- from their history to the present day situation. It is informative and emotional at the same time.

Mir Akram Uddin Ahmed, Senior Information Officer and PRO to the Minister of Information of Bangladesh,

mentioned that the Minister of Information urged the national and international press to show the trial and steps taken by the government of Bangladesh and its people for the refugees from Myanmar. The speakers also mentioned that they intend to have the film in different languages to spread the information. They strongly stated that it is not enough to

show the situation only -- the culprits must also be brought in for justice. The producer also shared his plans of introducing a mobile school called Ending Statelessness Through Education with an aim to educate the children in refugee camps. The press conference was followed by the screening of the trailer of the documentary.



PHOTO: NATIONAL PRESS CLUB



Inside Bangladesh Bhavan.

Bangladesh Bhavan in Shantiniketan to open this month

SUBRATA ACHARYA, from Kolkata

On May 25, the Prime Minister of Bangladesh Sheikh Hasina and the Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi inaugurated the Bangladesh Bhavan in Shantiniketan. From the third week of September, Bangladesh Bhavan will be open to all.

On September 20, a three-day-long festival called *Bangladesh Utsob* will be organised and held in Shantiniketan. During the programme, Bangladesh Bhavan's responsibility will be handed over to Vishwa Bharti University.

Current Minister of Cultural Affairs of the Government of Bangladesh, Asaduzzaman Noor, MP, along with a team of 40 members consisting of artists, journalists, politicians and intellectuals are scheduled to attend the festival.

"The Government of Bangladesh has shown immense enthusiasm regarding this festival," says Sabuj Koli, Vice Chancellor of Vishwa Bharti University, "We are preparing for the festival with the same enthusiasm."

Bangladesh Bhavan is built with an aim to present Bangladesh to tourists who visit Shantiniketan.

Jibon Sanket Natya Goshti to stage 'Jyoti-Sanghita' in India

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Jibon Sanket Natya Goshti, a Habiganj based theatre group is going to perform their well-received production, *Jyoti-sanghita* at the 4th International Bapadada Mukhopadhyay memorial theatre festival 2018 in India. Tripura Theatre is organising the festival.

Set against the backdrop of the Liberation War of Bangladesh in 1971, the play narrates

the story of a freedom fighter of Bhati-Bangla, Jagatjyoti Das, and his 'Das Party' by depicting a conversation between the youths of 1971 and the present time. *Jyoti-sanghita* is about a fearless life, a philosophy and heroic deeds for the freedom of Bangladesh. Jagatjyoti is one of the brave-hearted heroes of the Liberation War.

The team will perform on September 11 at Rabintra Bhavan, Gandighat in Agartala.



Actors performing in the play.

PHOTO: COURTESY

Sonam Kapoor: "WRITERS ARE THE ROCKSTARS"

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Sonam Kapoor, who has been the face of several brands and campaigns, has been named as the ambassador for the Jio MAMI 18th Mumbai Film Festival and Star India's Word to Screen Market.

The aim of Jio MAMI Word to Screen is to provide a platform that gives a chance to content creators to access the best books and turn them into narratives for other media, and widen the horizons of storytelling.

As someone who grew up with a love for the written word, Kapoor believes good literature is the backbone of films and writers should be given their proper due.

"Hopefully, we can make content the king. Writers are the rockstars. Technicians, in general, are not given their due credit because when you are behind the scenes, you are less in the public eye. Writers are the backbone of any film and they should be given more due," she recently said.

Kapoor opines that words have always been mightier than a sword and can really influence people. She says that social media has given a platform and access to so many people that the power to write is being misused. She feels the 'Word to Screen' initiative can be a great platform for those looking for good content.