

Asaduzzaman Noor's vision on AABB

ZAHANGIR ALOM

After the opening ceremony of the 18th Asian Art Biennale Bangladesh (AABB), the Minister of Cultural Affairs Asaduzzaman Noor, MP, in an interview with *The Daily Star*, shared his vision of a creative and humanistic Bangladesh shedding light on the AABB.

"After taking office I planned to expand the horizon of AABB. Following that trend, in 2016, the organising committee of the exhibition decided to expand its glory throughout the world," he said. "As a result, artists from 55 countries from around the world had participated in the 17th edition of AABB." This year, the number of participating countries rose to 68 including Bangladesh, breaking the previous record. "I thought that if we demarcate its horizon only within Asia, the art will not reach to the global stage. We should not bind art within a certain geographical area. As many things are happening in the global art scene, we cannot deprive ourselves from those," Asaduzzaman Noor added.

The minister thanked everyone including the director general of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy together with the National Committee for arranging the event at such a grand scale. He was also immensely pleased with the participation of artists and the diversity and quality of artworks.

About curating, the minister said that he is not entirely satisfied with the way the artworks are on display. "Curating is a time-consuming and resource intensive matter. Aesthetic designs, meaningful display of artworks and artistic space division of walls are associated with it," he said, "This year, we couldn't look after the matter as we planned to. We'll definitely sit together to discuss and take necessary steps to ensure international standard curated shows for the upcoming AABB."

Asaduzzaman Noor hopes to hold the pioneering biennale in a grander scale in upcoming editions. "To make a creative and humanistic Bangladesh, we have many ongoing and upcoming projects and programmes. In this biennale, we have engaged a few hundred talented school students from all over Bangladesh to participate in cultural programmes," he said.

"We believe that, if the forthcoming generations are aware of our artistic, literary and cultural heritage, we will reach our cherished goals."



PHOTO: SHAHREAR KABIR HEEMEL

Star Melodies, The Daily Star, is set to stage a special musical soiree by eminent Rabindra sangeet singers Fahim Hossain Chowdhury and Aditi Mohsin on September 8, 2018, Saturday, at 6:30 p.m. at The Daily Star Centre. The event, titled "Tagore -- 20th Century Bard in His Prime", is marked to present a select number of songs Rabindranath Tagore written in the 1900s, which have continued to sway people's hearts over the centuries.



Chris Hemsworth in 'Dhaka'

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Chris Hemsworth, popularly known as Thor in the Marvel Cinematic Universe, will star in the Netflix thriller titled *Dhaka*.

In the show, Hemsworth will be seen rescuing a kidnapped son of a drug dealer, who is hidden in *Dhaka*. The show, produced by the Russo Brothers, will be filmed in India, Thailand and Indonesia.

Dhaka's filming is scheduled to commence in November 2018 and end in March 2019. With this show, Hemsworth is all set for his Netflix debut.



Slim Shady stupefies

AL HAQ

Just eight months after his album *Revival*, which was not up to the "Eminem standard" according to many, the talented rapper recently dropped a new album overnight, catching all the listeners off guard. His quickest work so far, *Kamikaze* is Eminem's 10th solo album, where he not only dusts off the assumptions made on his lyrical mastery, but also lashes out on various rappers who critiqued his skills in recent years. He also made sure that his assault on the mumble rappers reverberates through this album in style and skill alike. He mocks them by rhyming in a similar flow with tracks like *Not Alike* aimed at Migos's *Bad and Boujee* and *The Ringer* targeted at Lil Pump's *Gucci Gang*.

Regardless of Eminem's "diss track" themed album, it seemed to have cre-

ated hype amongst some, simply because their names were uttered by Eminem in a track. Rapper Hopsin posted a video on social media of his enthusiasm exclaiming, "I got to call my mom!" In another similar clip, rapper Machine Gun Kelly celebrates Eminem's diss while the track plays aloud in the background. Marshall also hits back at rapper Tyler, The Creator in the track *Fall*. His hit list includes media personalities like Joe Budden, Charlamagne tha God, DJ Akademiks and even the US President.

The 45-year-old rapper recorded and produced *Kamikaze* in secret with his friend Dr Dre, and released it on streaming platforms recently. The illustration on the cover is a tribute to the 1986 Beastie Boys' album *Licensed to Ill*, which is considered a rap classic.



Hasonjaaner Raja



The Lower Depths

'Hasonjaaner Raja' will be performed by theatre troupe Prangone Mor at 6:30 pm today at the Experimental Hall of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, while 'The Lower Depths' will be performed by Dhaka University Theatre and Performance Studies unit at 8:30 pm in Jatiya Natyashala's main hall. Both are a part of IDLC Theatre Festival 2018.



Channel i has announced 'Gaaner Raja', a musical competition for children aged from 6 to 13 years old. Forty episodes are planned to go on air, along with a dazzling grand finale. The upcoming show is supported by ACI and Pure Spices.