

WHAT'S ON

Day of Music, Poetry and Tea
Title: Cafe Shanchayita Presents Cha Chakra in Ashwin
Venue: Cafe Shanchayita, Banani
Date: September 20



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

Discussion with artist
Ruhul Abdin
Title: Roots
Venue: Art Café, Gulshan 1
Date: September 10
Time: 6:30pm - 8pm



Musical Soiree
Title: Tagore - 20th Century Bard in His Prime
Venue: The Daily Star Centre
Date: September 8
Time: 6:30pm



Rendezvous with a living legend

TETSUYA NODA



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

ZAHANGIR ALOM

Famous contemporary artist, a living legend printmaker of Japan, the nephew of eminent oil painter and muralist Hideo Noda, Tetsuya Noda is a Professor Emeritus of the Tokyo University of the Arts. Since 1968, Noda's works have been inspired by his daily life -- his family, people he knows, his children's stories and the scenery along his way.

He is celebrated for his diary series of woodblock, print and silkscreen. "Initially, many of my colleagues said not to show my private life through artworks, but now, everyone is showing off their personal photos in every possible way on social media," says Noda. "My subjects are very usual. Everybody can do it and is doing now. He develops and retouches his pictures with pencils or brushes."

Noda's techniques combine woodblock and mimeographed silkscreen printmaking methods based on traditional woodblock print making techniques that use water colours. On the use of photographs, Noda concluded the difference between his approach to photography and that of the pop art. He uses photo images in his works as he started to keep his own diary together with pictures since he was in primary school. He does not support imitating Western Art. "I want to express myself through my daily life. That's the reason I use photo images. I take photographs to capture subjects in an objective way," he says.

At the age of 28, Noda won the International Grand Prize at the Tokyo International Print Biennale for diptych dairy where he audaciously combined photography with traditional woodblock print. In 1976, he visited United Kingdom to become a judge for the 5th British International Biennial of Print. Noda started conducting workshops and lectures and representing Japan in different places with his works from the 80's.

He further received an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Letters from London Metropolitan University in 2007, and was awarded the Order of the Sacred Treasure, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon by the Emperor of Japan in 2015.

Noda is an observer of the 18th Asian Art Biennale Bangladesh 2018. Japan has a special connection with the AABB as they preserve the records of the programme in their museum. Noda spoke about eminent Japanese artist and theorist Okakura Tenzing, who had a close connection with Rabindranath Tagore, Abanindranath Tagore and others of the Indian subcontinent. "I like Tenzing the most as he inspired us not to imitate the Western Art; rather to nourish our own culture and tradition. Asian cultures have a unity in diversity," says Noda. "This time in AABB, rather than nominating Japanese oil painters, I recommended print artists Ritsuko Takeda, Tsutomu Morita, Toshihiko Ikeda and Motoda Hishaharu as their works represent our own tradition. We have to explore different fields in order to add dynamism to the biennale."



PHOTO: SHAHREAR KABIR HEEMEL

Imdadul Haq Milon

glorious at 63

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Award winning screenwriter Imdadul Haq Milon is a household name, despite belonging to a niche artistic community. His first ever screenplay was first aired on BTV in 1978, and since then, he has produced celebrated works such as Rupnagar, Kon Kanoner Phul and many more. His writings have earned him the prestigious Bangla Academy award. Today, the celebrated writer turns 63, and in a recent interview with The Daily Star, he reflects on his career.

Do you have any plans for this special day?
Oh no, I never make any such plans. I lost my father in 1971, and my childhood years were a struggle. Birthdays were never a priority for me because I felt there were more important things to do. My publishers, associates and readers celebrate the day, but I don't feel I am special enough to make such a great deal about myself.

But has someone planned the occasion in a way that was memorable?
On my 50th birthday, my friends Faridur Reza Sagor, Afzal Hossain and a few others organised a gathering at Sheraton Hotel. Rezwana Chowdhury Bannya sang at the occasion, and there were many important people that came on that day. That was a memorable evening indeed.

Aside from being a celebrated writer, you are also an avid reader. What books are you currently reading?
I am re-reading a book by Abanindranath Tagore. Reading his books make me feel as though I'm taken on a vivid, picturesque journey.

Do you have any favorite writers?
Without a doubt it's Rabindranath Tagore. I have many favorite writers, but if I were to mention only one, he comes to mind.

Is there a book you keep going back to?
One book I've read many times over is *Kavi* by Tarasankar. I plan to read it again.

What are your thoughts on young writers today?
There's hastiness about them - it results in a lack of care in their work. Many don't read as much as they ought to. However, there are a few writers out there doing good work.

You have a large readership in West Bengal as well. What are your feelings regarding this?
My novel, *Nurjahan* was published by Anandabazar Akhanda. It became a success in West Bengal, and Anandabazar compiled 50 of my popular works in one volume. They've done this for many other popular writers as well. I am grateful for the support of my readers over there. Every year on my birthday, many call to wish me, which makes me very happy.

RADHIKA APTE

does not chase fame

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Actor Radhika Apte has managed to strike a fine balance between indie and commercial films over the years. She has now reached a point where the internet is obsessed with her and thousands of memes talk about her popularity. But the stunning actor insists that although she likes her work being appreciated, she does not really go chasing fame and does not keep track of her work. She further stated that she will sign a film just for the money, because it is important to do so for maintaining a good lifestyle. "No job on this planet is about hundred percent satisfaction. You do some part of the job for the money," she told a leading Indian publication.



Sodium Batir Gaan

illuminates TSC



PHOTO: ZAHEDI SHAMS

AFSANA AZIZ NITOL

Echoes of delight resonated in a very crowded TSC, University of Dhaka on Thursday night.

A festive atmosphere surrounds this place on days when *Sodium Batir Gaan* arrives with its musical offerings.

Sodium Batir Gaan is an initiative taken by a bunch of culture enthusiasts of DU with an aim to promote fresh and soulful music in the campus. Having started its journey in 2016, the third episode of its third season was organised in the indoor games room of TSC, DU.

The evening started with a young band called Pother Dol. Drunk on Tea, consisting of TSC's known faces, entertained the crowd with covers of The Doors and few of their originals.

Shaik Salekin started his performance with his song *Maa*, dedicating it to the women present at the show. Band Apekkhik and Moho arrived next to charm the audience and put an end to the night.

The entire evening was dedicated to music. "We wanted to organise a show that will only focus on music," says Yasin Shafi, an alumni of DU and one of the organisers of the event, "It is a great platform for young students who make music, and want to showcase their talent."

Whereas the young stars are getting exposure through this, already established musicians have also performed at *Sodium Batir Gaan* in the past. Band Meghdol, singer Sovvota, and many other marquee artists are fond of their performances at the concert which illuminates the entirety of TSC.

10th International Inter University Short Film Festival ends

APORAJITA MUSTAFA

Dhaka University Film Society (DUFS), in association with United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) hosted the 10th International Inter University Short Film Festival this September at Dhaka University's TSC Auditorium. The festival, steered by the slogan "Take Your Camera, Frame Your Dream", screened 100 short films made by young filmmakers from 71 countries across the globe. The closing and award giving ceremony was graced by the presence of the Honourable State Minister of the Ministry of Information, Tarana Halim, MP, as chief guest, alongside UNHCR Regional Deputy Representative, Papa Kysma Sylla and prominent Bangladeshi filmmakers Morshedul Islam and Shamim Akhtar as special guests. The Zahir Raihan Best Short

award was presented to Romanian filmmaker, Elena Ciolacu, for *The Little Hero*. The Tareque Masud Best Emerging Director award was presented to Bangladeshi director Neela Nusrat for *Magna*. Serbian director Aleksandar Aleksić's film *Anywhere* bagged the award for

Best Short Film on Refugee as Bangladeshi director Mrityika Kamal's *Escape* was declared a runners-up in the same category. Individual awards for best direction, best cinematography, best editing, best screenplay and best animation were also presented.



PHOTO: DUFS



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QUIZ - 01

WHO TOOK HER OWN LIFE?