

<p>Literature fest Title: BUP LitFest '18 Venue: Bangladesh University of Professionals Date: October 11 - 13 Details: www.facebook.com/BUPLC/</p>	 <p>3rd LitFest 2018 A TALE OF METROPOLIS 11-13 OCTOBER 2018</p>	<p>Star talk show Title: Starfired: Untie the Knots of Debi Venue: British Council Bangladesh Date: October 5</p>	<p>Art Exhibition Title: State of Mind Venue: Kala Kendra, Mohammadpur Date: September 7 - October 3 Time: 4:30pm - 8:30pm Facebook Page: Kala Kendra</p>	<p>Live Performance Title: No Excuses - Indalo Revisits AIC Venue: Russian Cultural Centre, Dhamondi Date: October 5 Time: 3:30pm - 8pm</p>	<p>Solo Photography Exhibition Title: S.M. Sultan-The Cosmic Journey of a Fugitive Artist: Nasir Ali Mamun Venue: La Galerie, AFD</p>
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A cramped display of artworks at the biennale.

PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

CHHONDA

on becoming 'Arpita'

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

It has been twenty years since Golam Farida Chhonda's 'Kajol Kalo Din' was aired. She has been devoted to the television industry ever since. Her film 'Arpita' is scheduled to release on October 5. She talks about her journey in television, her hopes for the film industry and more.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

The other side of the 18th Asian Art Biennale



One of the many poorly lit sections of the exhibition.

ZAHANGIR ALOM

The month-long 18th Asian Art Biennale Bangladesh (AABB) concluded yesterday with mixed reactions. From the last edition (2016), the organisers – the Ministry of Cultural Affairs (MoCA) and Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) opened the biennale for artists from around the world. Its arrangement had a drastic change, uncannily similar to the Dhaka Art Summit (DAS) organised by Samdani Art Foundation, in association with MoCA and BSA. Aren't we losing the character of previously held AABBs, merely mimicking the arrangement pattern of DAS? So far, DAS has gained momentum in the world art scene, promoting and exhibiting research-based, well-curated shows of modern and contemporary art of South Asia and the world while AABB is apparently losing its glory displaying poorly curated shows. Lack of proper research to select precise artworks according to respective themes, callousness to represent world-class curating, multifarious follies by the various organising committees, nepotism in selecting awards, meaningful displays of artworks and disengagement with the entire artist community of Bangladesh are some aggravating aspects of the biennale. "The art selection should have been thematic, research-based and meaningful. The standard of curated shows and retrospectives by contemporary master artists should be included on a larger scale," says Dr Marek

Bartelik, the former president of the International Association of Art Critics (AICA). He was an observer at the biennale this year. "We have to make sure that the space doesn't swallow the art itself—it should make art stand out in its own glory." Everyone, including Marek, appreciated



An artwork which had the frame manufacturer's name on it. Loose paint was splattered across the painting as well.

the show titled Bindu Bisorga, curated by Bishwajit Goswami. The performance art show, curated by Mahbubur Rahman, was a commendable one, as he focused on colonisation and partition. However, the performance art space should keep no display of artwork, since it creates conflicts.

It is truly a great pity to note that a screen print titled Whirl, by one of the eminent Japanese artists Ritsuko Takeda, was framed with the glass that had a label of Nasir Glass on it. Spillover white paints of the wall were marked on several portions of the framing. The overall design of lighting was abysmal. Several paintings didn't have proper light positioning, and had poor quality photo print materials and defocused light that created distasteful views of the artworks.

Art should not only be visually pleasing, it should also have reflections of a conscious and collective socio-political aspiration. Several works by the master painters and renowned contemporary artists were not properly on display. Their works should have been displayed with great care in a special gallery. There were no retrospective shows by the modern and contemporary masters. The decoration of the unique National Art Gallery building of BSA had the least reflection of our art and cultural heritage. Our unmatched folk heritage was not represented at all in the décor. The Department of Fine Art of BSA needs to invite active important artists. A selected group of active Bangladeshi artists and aspiring curators from all age groups can be sent to different continents for mingling with their global counterparts, so that they can see the landscape of the global art scene. In this way, they can contribute to the next AABB. An initiative of training local curators aboard can be added to the agenda.

'Rockstrata Live on Silver Screen' at Star Cineplex

PRIYANKA CHOWDHURY

Prominent heavy metal band Rockstrata held their last live concert on the silver screen on September 29 at Star Cineplex in association with G-series.

Members of Rockstrata, Mainul Islam and Imran Hussain used to jam together in their high school days. In 1984, Imran and Mainul performed on their high school graduation rag day show along with some friends. They met Asif Alam, Arshad Amin and Mahbubur Rashid in college who were all fans of bands like Black Sabbath, Pink Floyd, Iron Maiden. The like minds met and Bangladesh found their first heavy metal band, Rock Strata.



PHOTO: ARIF ARMAN BADOL

The band was active in the live concert scene between the years 1986- 1992. They released their first album in 1992. After 23 long years, they released their second album with the aim of performing live again. Then Rock Strata performed a reunion concert called "One Last Live" at Krishibid Institute Bangladesh in Dhaka in 2015. The concert lineup included Rock Strata with guest artists Lincoln (Artcell), Palash (Warfaze / RadioActive), Sufi (Arbovirus), Jamshed (Powersurge), Shakib (Cryptic Fate) and Kamal (Warfaze). They also announced a DVD version of the last concert. Fans of the band have been waiting for the DVD for over

two years, which has finally released. "We really appreciate G-series stepping up for the sake of music and support the launch of this DVD at a time when CDs and DVDs are becoming obsolete," said Arshad at the event. Jamshed of Powersurge commented that Rockstrata are path breakers and it was an honour to perform with them on the same stage. Rockstrata paved the path for the practice of heavy metal in Bangladesh. Their thoughtful lyrics and integration of music create an interesting fusion of rock.



Channel i turns 20 today

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Bangladesh's first digital channel, Channel i, marks its 20th birthday today. Many TV superstars, political personalities and fans across the nation will celebrate the occasion along with a cutting of a cake and numerous cultural performances. The Daily Star family wishes the Channel i team a prosperous year ahead!

Do you remember people's response when you first appeared on television screen?

I remember the love I received for my character Mrinalini in Mustafa Monwar's tele-fiction *Strir Patra*, which was based on Rabindranath Tagore's story, in 2000. I also received the Impress Telefilm and Bachsas Awards in the same year. The show will always be close to my heart. **What made you work on film after all these years?**

I can see a growth in the Bangladeshi film industry. I feel directors are now coming up with noteworthy films.

How excited are you for Arpita? The story revolves around a female protagonist named Arpita. The film is produced by Impress Telefilm and has an interesting

story. I am quite hopeful about *Arpita*. Tell us your experience working with director Joy.

Joy was my first co-star in television. He was a joy to work with (laughs) He is a brilliant actor, and he lived up to my expectations as a director too.

What can you reveal about your upcoming projects?

I will appear on Nargis Akhter's film, which is based on Selim Al Deen's popular play *Joi Boti Konyar Mon*. Recently, I have also starred in a short film titled *Chocolate*.

How was your experience in the telefiction Neer Khoje Ganchil?

I have thoroughly enjoyed speaking in the Dhaka dialect for that show. Both the show and my character were well-received.




Prof Dr Md Saiful Isalm, Pro-VC, Chittagong University of Engineering and Technology, inaugurated The Daily Star - Standard Chartered Celebrating Life photo exhibition and film screening at the 'shadinota chottor' of the university yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

The Daily Star Standard Chartered

CELEBRATING LIFE DISTRICT TOUR



2 October 2018

Photo Exhibition Film Screening

at

Bandarban Govt. College

Partners Showbiz MUSEUM CHANNEL আনন্দধারা