

Literary Festival Title: Dhaka Lit Fest Venue: Bangla Academy Date: November 8 - 10 Time: 9:30 am - 7:30 pm Registration and tickets: www.dhakalitfest.com



Art Exhibition enue: EMK Center, Dhanmondi Time: 3:00 pm - 8:30 pm



A tribute to Bhupen Hazarika on his death anniversary

PRIYANKA CHOWDHURY

Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) and Byatikram MASDO jointly hosted a discussion and cultural programme titled Aj Jibon Khuje Pabi to mark the 7th death anniversary of Dr Bhupen Hazarika, at the National Theatre Hall, BSA, recently.

The BSA Director General, Liaquat Ali Lucky, and eminent singer Sudakshina Sarma attended the programme as guests of honour. The programme began with a one minute silence followed by the ceremonial Mangaldip lighting. Byatikram MASDO presented Liaquat Ali Lucky with 18 books and 2 documentaries along with the biography of Dr Hazarika.

Padmashree Suryakanta Hazarika, the writer of Dr Hazarika's biography, shared his experience of a 40 year association with the artiste in writing the biography. He revealed that Dr Bhupen Hazarika's parents would lovingly call him Bor Moyna, meaning the elder singing bird. "He wrote the first song when he was only eleven. During his lifetime he was also a professor at Guwahati University in the Department of Philosophy and directed around 11 films, wrote scripts and acted as well," Suryakanta said.

After the discussion, singer Sudakshina



Sarma, Liaquat Ali Lucky, Rishiraj Sharma, Dr Sangeeta Kakoti and Abhijit Kumar Barua performed in the solo rendition segment. Dhaka Sangskritik Dal performed choruses and BSA artistes performed group dances in the cultural programme. Singer Yasmine Ali performed Bimurto ei Ratri Amar from the

Alamgir Kabir film Simana Periye, in which Dr Hazarika was the music director. Roksana Rupsha, Sohanur Rahman and Suchitra Rani also performed in the evening. The programme concluded with the famous song Manush Manusher Jonno, where artistes from both Bangladesh and India took part.

Shajal not shy to play challenging roles

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Popular actor Shajal has carved a space for himself in the television industry with his brilliant performances over the years. He is currently busy with an array of television ventures, particularly focusing on one-hour tele-fictions. He is also gearing up for the release of the film, Harjeet, opposite Mahiya Mahi. The actor opens up about his upcoming projects, his thoughts on acting and more.

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What are you shooting for at the moment?

I am portraying the character of a thief for the first time on television. We have just come back from our Faridpur shoot for this tele-fiction. At the moment, I am shooting for it in Dhaka. I am really excited about this project.

How do you like playing different charac-

ters on screen every time? As an actor, it is a lot of fun to step into the shoes of a different character for each project. Recently, I played the role of a 60-year

old writer in a tele-fiction, which was a completely new experience and challenge for me. It was fantastic! I am quite selective in the case of scripts now and I will always prioritise quality over quantity. You have teamed up with Sarika for a

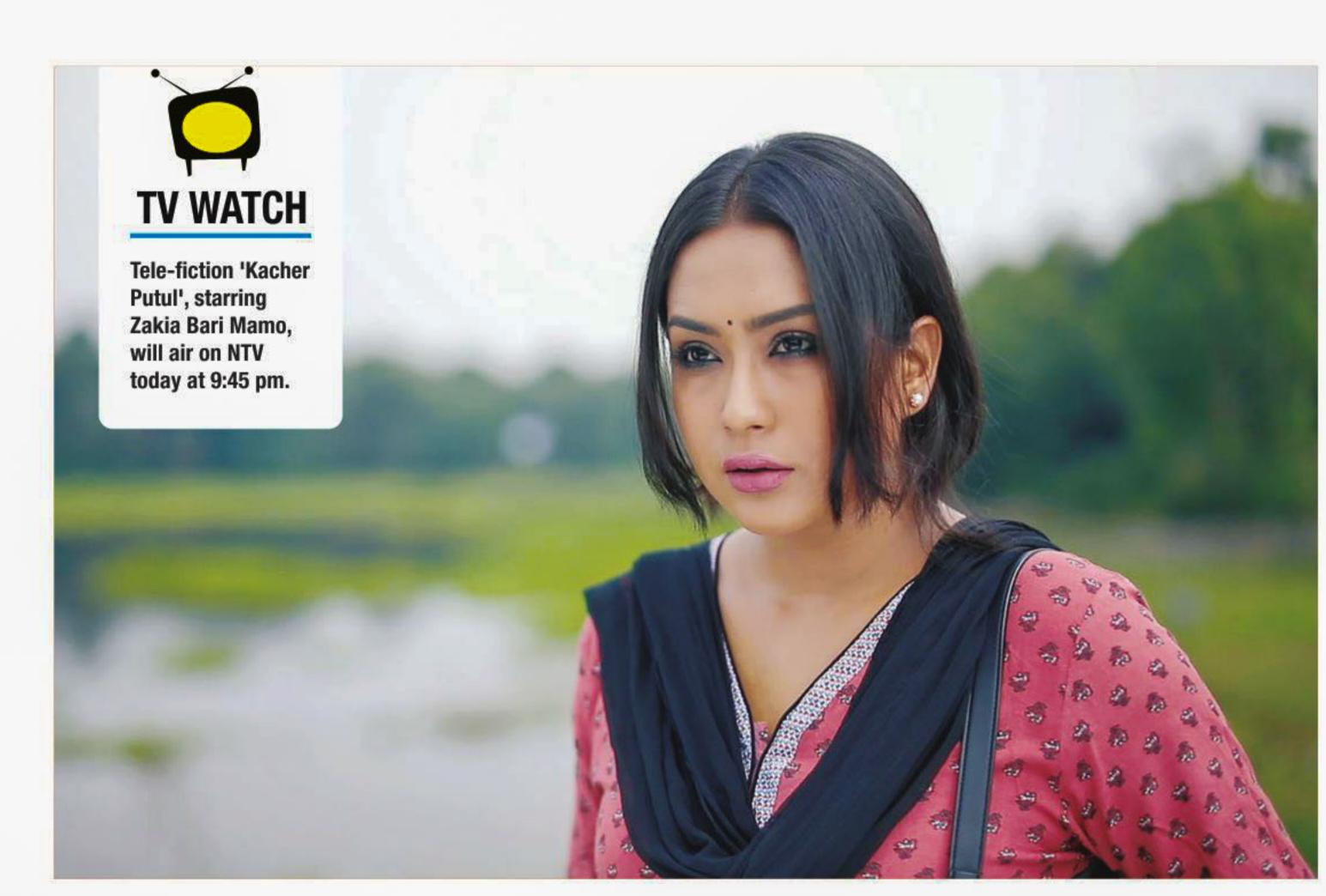
tele-fiction after several years. How does it feel?

Working with Sarika, who I believe is one of the most beloved actors in the industry, is a privilege and creatively satisfying. We are really happy with how the tele-fiction has turned out and I hope viewers enjoy it. What are some factors you look for when

you pick up a script? My top priority when choosing a script is the quality of the story. After all, first and foremost, it is the story which will grab the attention of the audience.

Lastly, how was the experience of working

with Mahiya Mahi in Harjeet? Mahi is a joy to work with. We are really excited for the film. As of now, we have not finalised a release date for Harjeet, but more updates will be coming on the film soon.





AFSANA AZIZ NITOL

Department of Theatre and Performance Studies of University of Dhaka's new production, Macbeth, has been selected for staging at 20th Bharat Rang Mahotsav 2019 by the National School of Drama, New Delhi, India. Directed by Professor Dr Israfeel Shaheen, the play will be performed by the students of MA, along with sixth and second semester students of the department.

This is the 4th time that a play directed by Israfeel Shaheen is will be staged in an international platform.

"It will be a great exposure for our students," says Israfeel Shaheen. "A lot of people from different countries will be participating. I want my students to see how international students are performing and set an example for themselves."

The play was translated into Bangla by Syed Shamsul Haque. The stage

and light design of Macbeth is done by Professor Dr Syed Jamil Ahmed. The team of costume and makeup design includes Kazi Tamanna Haque Sigma and Ummay Somaiya under the supervision of Professor Wahida Mollick, whereas props are done by Ahasan Khan. The play is choreographed by Amit Chowdhury and the music is orchestrated by Mohsina Akter. It is coordinated by Dr Ahmedul Kabir.







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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Akshay Kumar recently announced his next film, Mission Mangal, on instagram recently with a monochrome photo. In the film, Taapsee Pannu, Sonakshi Sinha, Vidya Balan, Sharman Joshi, Kirti Kulhari and Nithya Menen will accompany him in important roles. "Proud and excited to bring the story of India's Mars Mission, #MissionMangal to you," he wrote. "Coincidentally the mission was launched on this very date, 5th Nov. 2013. Meet the team and do share your best wishes for our shubh mangal journey. Shoot begins soon."