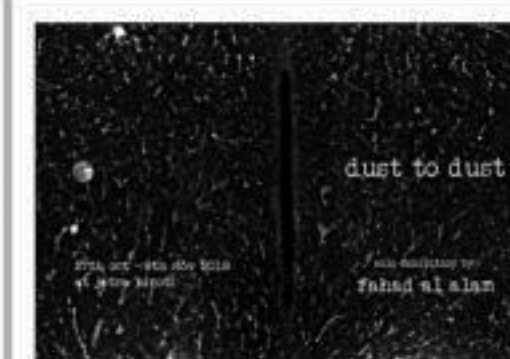




Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Excerpts - Solo Exhibition by Alia Kamal
Venue: Jatra Biroti, Banani
Date: November 10
Time: 7:00 pm - 11:00 pm



Photography & Poetry Exhibition
Title: Dust to Dust
Venue: Jatra Biroti, Banani
Date: October 27 - November 9
Time: 12 pm - 10 pm



Beatbox Championship
Title: BattleBox BD 2018
Venue: Ground Floor, Center Court, Jamuna Future Park
Date: December 9
Time: 3:30 pm - 7:00 pm



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



Art Exhibition
Title: Inktober Bangladesh
Venue: EMK Center, Dhanmondi
Date: November 2-17
Time: 3:00 pm - 8:30 pm



PHOTO: KAZI SALAHUDDIN RAZU

Conversations over breakfast with JAISHREE MISRA

Much to the delight of bibliophiles, London-based Indian author Jaishree Misra is one of the many honourable guests at this year's Dhaka Lit Fest, where she will not only talk about her own writing, but also shed light on matters such as Brexit, feminism and writing as a woman.

SHABABA IQBAL

She has produced eight novels in her career, including her acclaimed debut novel, *Ancient Promises*, the story of a woman's journey to self-discovery, heavily drawn from the novelist's own life. Janu, the protagonist of the story, starts off as an obedient daughter, enters the role of a wife which brings her no happiness, and over time, becomes a guilty lover. Does Janu find happiness in the end?

Going by the number of readers who wanted the answer to this question, Jaishree's first book became a bestseller in India, and was sold worldwide by Penguin UK. It is now a prescribed text for several BA English Literature courses.

Jaishree had to give up a job at the BBC because the breakfast shift timings were playing havoc with her family life, particularly in the care of her daughter with special needs. This is when she set out to write a short memoir, which eventually turned into *Ancient Promises*. She wanted to make it less autobiographical when it came to turning her written words into a novel. Subsequently, she broke the memoir into chapters, restructured it and changed the names around. Many books later, Jaishree is a well-known name on the literary festival circuit. In 2017, she published her first nonfiction book, *A House for Mr Misra*, which details her experiences of trying to build a beach home in Kerala. Although fiction has been Jaishree's literary sector for several years, she has enjoyed diving into non-fiction immensely.

Jaishree has also worked in the field of special education, having earned a scholarship by the Charles Wallace in India Trust in order to complete her course in special education and has helped set up a long-term residential home in Delhi for adults with special needs.

She opened up about the struggles for a woman to gain recognition in the contemporary literary landscape. "I think that publishing is one industry where women are not particularly looked down upon and many of my fellow female Indian writers are superbly talented," said the novelist. "However, I think that women struggle in attracting male readers, given that men are seemingly more likely to respond better to writers of their own gender. This is why women often use neutral names or pseudonyms as authors. The best example of that is JK Rowling." Jaishree believes that it is a challenging time for authors, since with the varied pleasures of social media and streaming services like Netflix, reading and books are slipping down everyone's priorities.

During her stay in Bangladesh, she will also conduct creative writing workshops in Chattogram, organised by the British Council, who have collaborated with the Dhaka Lit Fest through a fringe event and road show by bringing British authors for talks and workshops in Chattogram and in Dhaka. "I was fascinated by the idea of coming to Bangladesh. I am excited to meet and learn about the works of poets and writers whom I have never met before," smiled Jaishree.



'RICKSHAW GIRL' in Bangla

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Rickshaw Girl, a children's book by Mitali Perkins, was earlier among the 100 best publications for children in the last 100 years by the New York Public Library. The book has now been translated to Bangla by Mehedi Hasan. It will be published at the Dhaka Lit Fest today. Mitali Perkins, born in Kolkata, India, is a popular children's author based in Boston, Massachusetts.

Airin's new films

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Promising actor Airin will be seen in Impress Telefilm's new film *Akash Mahal*, directed by Delowar Jahan Jhontu. This is the first time Airin will be seen opposite the lead role. The filming for the movie began last month.

The actor will also appear in the film *Save Life*, opposite Anisur Rahman Milon. "I will be seen as a fire fighter in the film," says Airin. "The role is quite challenging. I am looking forward to a completely new experience."

Last month, she dubbed for the film *Padmar Prem*. She is waiting for the release of her films *Gantabya* and *Ahare Jibon*.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED



TV WATCH |

Comedy tele-fiction 'Roshar Hari' will be aired on Boishakhi TV at 8:40 pm today. It stars Dr Ejaz Ahmed, A K M Hasan, Saeed Babu and Sanzida Tonni among others, and is directed by Mehedi Hasan Hridoy.

SHADHONA to host Rangautsav 2018

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Shadhona, a cultural organisation that promotes young promising dancers of the country, is arranging its first solo classical dance festival, Rangautsav 2018. The festival will take place in the main auditorium of Bangladesh National Museum on November 10 at 6 pm in association with Singularity Interactive.

The dancers performing at the event are - Snata Shahrin (Kathak), Mariah Farid Upama (Bharatanatyam), S M Hasan Ishiaque Imran (Kathak), Alka Das Pranti (Odissi), Ahona Sharma (Manipuri) and Madhurima Roy Chowdhury (Bharatanatyam).



singularity interactive

Presents

SHADHONA
rangautsav
Solo Classical Dance Festival

November 10, 2018
6:00 PM
Main Auditorium, Bangladesh National Museum