



Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Excerpts - Solo Exhibition by Alia Kamal
Venue: Jatra Biroti, Banani
Date: November 11-24
Time: 11am-7pm



Group Painting Exhibition
Title: Joloi 4 (Aquatic 4) - Streets of Dhaka
Venue: Alliance Française de Dhaka, Dhanmondi
Date: November 9-24
Time: 3 pm - 9 pm (Mon to Thurs)



Art Exhibition
Title: Miniscope
Venue: Dwp Gallery, Lalmatia
Date: Nov 10-29
Time: 3 pm - 9pm (Monday off)



Arts and Crafts Exhibition
Title: Native Artistry
Venue: Six Seasons Hotel, Gulshan 2
Date: November 30
Time: 10 am - 10 pm



Group Art Exhibition
Title: Reunion
Venue: Gallery Shilpangan, Lalmatia
Date: Nov 16-29
Time: 3 pm-8pm

Amjad Hossain in critical condition



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Ekushe Padak recipient and National Film Award winning director and actor, Amjad Hossain, is currently in the ICU, on life support. He was taken to Impulse Hospital in Tejgaon, after he had a stroke. According to sources, he is in a critical condition. As of now, the government's support is sought for the treatment of Amjad Hossain, according to SA Haque Ali, General Secretary of the Directors' Guild of Bangladesh.

BAUL KABIR SHAH'S performance at DIFF 2018

ZAHANGIR ALOM

Baul Kabir Shah is one of the contemporary gems of Bangla folk music. He received his musical tutelage from Baul Shamrat Shah Abdul Karim and started singing at the age of thirteen. The singer has dexterity in performing Dhamail, Bhatiali, Murshidi and Bichchedi songs.

He performed on the concluding

night of the Dhaka International Folk Festival (DIFF) 2018, held at the Bangladesh Army Stadium. Kabir Shah started off his performance with the Bichchedi song, *Je Korechhe Piriti Shei Jane Taar Juwala*.

The authentic rendition of the romantic song, *Krishna Aila Radhar Kunjey*, composed by his Guru, was his next offering. The audience seemingly took the rendition to their hearts.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

As an emerging bard he also composes folk songs inserting *bhonita* (mentioning his name) at the final stanza of the song. Kabir Shah also sang a few of his own compositions including *Tumi Bhabiya Dekho Mon* at the festival.

Dhamail is a popular genre of folk songs of region of Sylhet and the eminent mystic bard Radharaman Dutta is one of the pioneering composers of

Dhamail songs. Kabir later presented a Dhamail number and wrapped up his show with Shah Abdul Karim's *Kon Mistori Nao Banailo*. As an attendee of the festival, I came out with the feeling that if composers of folk songs in our country were given proper training of sargam practice and classical music along with basic knowledge of sound systems, they would perform better on stage.

Young artists address poverty through 'Bhanga Ghor'

MADIHA ATHAR KHAN

Cosmo Concepts, a group consisting of young event organisers and aspiring artists, put together an art exhibition titled, 'Bhanga Ghor', recently at Drik Gallery. Six boys and girls, all students aged between 16 to 21, worked with the theme of poverty in Bangladesh for the exhibition.

According to the President of Cosmo Concepts, Edward William, and exhibiting artist and organiser, Aysha Mahmood, the idea of the exhibition grew out of the economic conditions, they as youngsters, saw all around them. The huge disparities and gaps that remain to be overcome in our society urged them to take action and create awareness in any way they could. "From being one of the poorest nations in the world before 1971, we have come a long way," said William. "But we have further progress to make and we tried to highlight that in this exhibition."

The artworks included colourful illustrations that depict playfulness at first glance, but reveal inequalities and injustices upon closer inspection. For instance, in one of the artworks, a young boy was seen cleaning a car while another boy of similar age comfortably sat inside. There were skillfully crafted paintings in oil and acrylic that showed the darkness of deprivation.

Around 30 artists, all handpicked by the organisers, exhibited in the show. Cosmo Concepts had posted an open call for artworks on Facebook and received submissions from aspiring artists of all ages working in different media.

William also said that the title of the show was easy to decide, as a *bhanga ghor*, (broken home), tactfully conveys the themes of poverty



PHOTO: KAZI SALAHUDDIN RAZU

and hardship.

In the modern day, when there is a lot to feel hopeless about, *Bhanga Ghor* was a positive initiative, not only for the relevant theme but also because it was proof that the youth of our

country are aware and are taking action. It is inspiring that they are choosing the arts as an avenue to bolster their causes, as the importance of creative outlets, especially for the youth, grows in its urgency with every passing day.

NADIM IQBAL gets candid about making films

PRIYANKA CHOWDHURY

The screening of *Bidyabhuban- a Journey of Enlightenment* at the Dhaka Lit Fest 2018 created quite a buzz about the Toronto based filmmaker, Nadim Iqbal.

Iqbal's early plan was to study in a film school in Pune, which never saw the light of the day. However, while he was pursuing his degree in photography in Seneca College, he was introduced to a yearlong course in documentary and non-fiction filmmaking. Photography built the base of his visual expedition and his journey continued. "I prioritise human emotion and try to portray that in my films," he explained.

With exquisite photography of the natural beauty of the countryside of Bangladesh, his film tells a true story of a visionary named Sk Mamun, who transformed the lives of many underprivileged children by invoking their inner true potential. The protagonist, Mamun, devotes twelve years of his life meditating to find his inner self and later works towards his dream project on his return. "I was taken aback by the amount of people who came to watch the film. Many of them were sitting on the floor," exclaimed Iqbal, who received an overwhelming response for the film.

His first documentary *Mother Tongue* was made as the final project of his course. It achieved around 40 recognitions from all around the world till date. The film highlights the relationship of his children with their grandfather, eminent poet, Asad Chowdhury. Through the film he successfully conveyed the message about the importance of our mother language to the next generation. "The best reward for the film was my daughter reading Bangla books again," smiled Iqbal.

The social consciousness of Nadim Iqbal makes him stand out in the crowd. Far away from his motherland, he retains pure emotion for his country and channels it beautifully through his work. "I'm still a novice in filmmaking but I shall learn in the process," he concluded.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

Adaptation of 'Les Justes' staged in Chattogram



PHOTO: COURTESY

MD ABBAS, from Chattogram

Theatre enthusiasts of Chattogram were mesmerised by the performance of *Nayporayonota*, the Bangla adaptation of Albert Camus's play, *Les Justes*, recently at the city's Alliance Française auditorium.

Fame, a renowned Chattogram-based theatre troupe, staged the play in collaboration Alliance Française de Chittagong.

The play was translated by Palash Bhadra and directed by Associate Professor Ashim Das of Dramatics Department of Chittagong University.

It is based on the true story of a group of Russian Socialist-Revolutionaries who assassinated the Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich in 1905, and explores the moral issues associated with murder and terrorism.

The cast of the Bangla adaptation includes Kamal Barua, Salahuddin Mahmud, Rishika, Dipta Chakrabarty, Utpal Dasgupta, Poly Chowdhury, Sabiha Binte Jashim, Ashrafa Hossain, Ajmal Hossain Nobin, Saiful Islam and Jahid Ali among others.