

WHAT'S ON Jatra Biroti Folk Nights FRIDAY DECEMBER 21 2018 JATRA BIROTI FOLK NIGHTS PRESENTS Gunjor Ali ENTRY 500 TKT 1000 TKT 1500 TKT 2000 TKT 2500 TKT 3000	Musical Evening Title: Jatra Biroti Folk Nights Presents: 'Gunjor Ali' Venue: Jatra Biroti, Banani Date: December 21 Time: 7 pm - 10 pm Entry: 80T 300	BRILLIANT The 4th New Crafts International Artists Group Exhibition And Academic Seminar Int'l Craft Exhibition & Seminar Organisers: FFA, DU; Tsinghua University; Shanghai Art & Design Academy; BSA & Bengal Foundation Venue: National Art Gallery # 2 & 3, BSA Date: Dec 8-15; Time: 10 am - 8 pm	Group Art Exhibition Title: Winning With Art Venue: Bay's Galleria, Gulshan 1 Date: Dec 1 - Dec 31 Time: 10 am - 6 pm	Photography Exhibition Title: American Landscape - A Photography Exhibition by Shibly Shiraj Venue: EMK Center Date: December 8 - December 20 Time: 9:30 am - 8 pm	Dance Performance Title: Dohon Venue: EMK Center, Dhanmondi Date: December 13 Time: 7 pm
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PHOTO: STAR

Jaya Ahsan talks about 'PHURUT'

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Jaya Ahsan is undoubtedly the reigning queen of our showbiz industry, with her Midas touch translating to multiple national awards and blockbuster films. After the spectacular success of her production, *Debi*, the heartthrob of both Bengalis talks to us about her latest projects, future plans, and more.

Tell us about your upcoming film, *Phurut*.

Phurut is being produced under my company, C te Cinema. This is the second venture that the company is working on. *Phurut* is in its pre-production stage, and the script is ready. Honestly, the overwhelmingly positive reviews of *Debi* motivated us to work on this film.

Do you plan to be more regular in producing films?

I cannot say anything about that at the moment. I can only assure you that whatever I do, I take it very seriously. At the end

of the day, it's a mixture of passion and dedication. People remember you by the good work you partake in.

Who is directing *Phurut*?

I won't reveal that just yet! (laughs) I want it to be a surprise. We want everyone's prayers and blessings, so that *Phurut* can win the hearts of the audience, so that our hard work does not go in vain.

Will we see you as the lead character in the film?

We haven't decided that yet. I might or might not act in the film. If there is a better fit for the lead character, I will not act.

***Bijoya* will release in Kolkata early next year. What are your expectations from it?**

Bijoya is actually a sequel to the critically acclaimed *Bishorjon*. There were a lot of unanswered questions in *Bishorjon*, which will be answered in *Bijoya*. As usual, I have high expectations from the film, and am confident that the audience will love it.

Bengal's contemporary exhibition in New Delhi

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Titled as *(Dis)Place*, an exhibition of contemporary art was inaugurated on December 7 at Korean Cultural Center, New Delhi, India. Director of the center, Kim Kum-pyoung, inaugurated the exhibition. Vidya Shivadas, director of FICA was also present at the event.

The exhibition, jointly supported by Bengal Arts Programme, Korean Cultural Center India and The Foundation for India Contemporary Art (FICA), showcases the works of 10 artists and one research collective from Bangladesh.

Displaying artworks and specialised archives, the show explores the specifics of the locality of Bangladesh while also bringing perspective into the very notion of the place. It touches upon topics as urgent to the country as they are to the world, such as shifting environments, migration, marginalisation, economic and cultural appropriation. The show further discusses related issues of borders and ownership of places and of utopian sensibilities vis-à-vis forced displacements.

Participants of the show include Bengal Institute for Architecture, Landscapes and Settlements, Shahidul Alam, Tayeba Begum Lipi, Ronni Ahmmed, Najmun Nahar Keya, Afsana Sharmin Zhumpa, Shimul Saha, Zihan Karim, Sarker Protick, Sayed Asif Mahmud and Md Shamsul Arifin.

Drawings and interventions on photography by Najmun Nahar Keya comment on the shifting ecology of the Old Dhaka neighbourhood, using fragments of the past as a means



PHOTO: COURTESY

of passage to the present. On the other hand, Asif Mahmud charts how a specific point at the Bangladesh-Myanmar border has changed over the past 15 years under the influence of successive refugee crises in a three-channel video. The specialisation of research archives on urban studies by the Bengal Institute for Architecture, Landscapes and Settlements, offers an insight into the process. The archive delves into the various limitations of cities in Bangladesh.

(Dis)Place is supported by the Korean Cultural Center through a grant for curatorial proposals from India and other SAARC countries. The grant was awarded to Bangladesh-based curators Tanzim Wahab and Hadrien Diez. The Foundation for India Contemporary Art supported KCCI for the selection process of applications. Bengal Arts Programme provided further logistic and material support to the project.

The exhibition will continue until February 22, 2019, at Korean Cultural Center in 25-A Ring Rd, Lajpat Nagar -IV, New Delhi, India.

'Bhalobashar Bangladesh' campaign ends



PHOTO: COURTESY

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

A campaign titled, *Bhalobashar Bangladesh*, was organised by Chabial, Aamrai Bangladesh and Greenbee Communications, in association with Square Toiletries Ltd and Mediacom Limited, to celebrate 47 years of Bangladesh's victory. The main goal of this campaign was to

show the positive sides of Bangladesh from the perspective of the Bangladeshi youth to help people reignite their patriotism.

The participants submitted one-minute videos that showed stories of humanity, bravery and exemplary work by different people and organisations. Submissions took place from October 29 to November 17.

Audience voted for the best 100 videos from a total number of 9467 videos.

The campaign's Grand Finale took place recently at Le Méridien's Rooftop Infinity. Iqbal Habib, Chief Architect of Hatirjheel project, Dr Jobayer Chisti, Inventor of the convenient way of Pneumonia treatment, Shipra Das, Founder of Ek Takay Ahar Project and Jahanara Alam, former captain of Bangladesh Womens' Cricket Team attended the ceremony as special guests. Along with many guests, a representative from Google was also present who talked about Google's involvement with the campaign.

All 9467 videos made on different subjects can be found on the website, www.bhalobasharbangladesh.com.

Nazia Jabeen's 'Sporsho' awarded

AFSANA AZIZ NITOL

Sporsho, founded by Nazia Jabeen, is the first organisation in Bangladesh to publish Braille books for visually impaired children. The founder of *Sporsho* and writer, Nazia Jabeen, was recently awarded for her outstanding contribution to the field of social welfare.

"In 2002, when I published my first book, many visually challenged children could not read my book," said Nazia Jabeen. "This made me take the initiative to work with these children." In 2009, the journey of *Sporsho* started with the slogan *Manush dristihin bole ondho noi manush muloto progahin bole-e ondho*. (People are blind not because they are unable to see with their eyes but because they do not have the knowledge to visualise life from within).

In 2001, *Sporsho* launched a book stall in the Ekushey Book



Nazia Jabeen (upper right) and her colleague with the members of 'Sporsho'. PHOTO: COURTESY

Fair. Till today, *Sporsho* has published 61 books, written by renowned writers, in Braille versions. Nazia Jabeen thinks that there should be a Braille press for visually challenged people, not just books. "It will help them become financially independent. It is important to empower them for a bright future of our country," she added.



PHOTO: COURTESY

Galleri Kaya held 'The Palace Art Trip' in Sylhet

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

A four-day workshop titled, *The Palace Art Trip* was organised by Galleri Kaya at the Palace Resort in Habiganj, Sylhet yesterday.

The respective participating artists were - Professor Hamiduzzaman Khan, Ranjit Das, Professor Anisuzzaman, Kamaluddin, Shohag Paevez, Sumon Wahid, Professor Aloptugin Tushar and Shahnoor Mamun.