

WHAT'S ON



An Ode to the Moon & Menstrual Cycle
Title: LAL
Venue: Jatra Biroti, Banani
Date: February 19 - 23
Details:



Winter Festival
Title: Him Utsab
Venue: Jahangirnagar University
Date: January 17 - 19
Time: 10 am



Musical Evening
Title: Sovvota And The Band Live At Ajo Idea Space
Venue: Ajo Idea Space, Uttara
Date: January 19
Time: 7:30 pm - 9 pm



Theatre
Title: Hamlet
Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Date: January 19



Bulbul Chowdhury Birth Centenary
Organisers: BSA & BNSS
Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Yearlong Celebration currently



A still from 'Paradise'.

PHOTO: COURTESY

'Paradise' becomes the first film to represent Bangladesh at the Berlinale Co-Production Market



PRIYANKA CHOWDHURY

The Berlin International Film Festival, usually called the Berlinale, is an annual film festival that filmmakers aspire to attend. This year, in the 69th edition of the festival, Bangladesh will make a debut in the renowned Berlinale Co-Production Market with Bangladeshi director Bijon Imtiaz and producer Arifur Rahman's film *Paradise*. Arifur Rahman, in conversation with *The Daily Star*, talks about their journey.

After the international success of their debut film *Matir Projar Deshe - Kingdom of Clay Subjects*, the duo

joined hands with prominent German producer Roman Paul, making *Paradise* a Bangladesh-Germany co-production. Making it to the film in Berlinale Co-Production Market did not come easy, as the duo took small steps to reach their goal. Arifur mentioned that his education in Anthropology from Jahangirnagar University, played a vital role in the undertaking. "It is quite difficult to convince them. One needs to understand geopolitics well before applying," he says. He is also excited for the event because his mentor, noted filmmaker Boo Junfeng from Singapore, will also run his film in the same category.

Earlier, the film was displayed in Goa's Film Bazaar, Locarno Film Festival and Motion Picture Academy's film co-production market, and created a considerable amount of buzz among international producers and financiers. "We met Roman Paul at Film Bazaar 2017 in Goa, but it was later in Locarno that he finally came on board with us," reveals Arifur. 37 feature film projects from around the world have been selected for the 16th edition of the Berlinale Co-Production Market this year. The event will be held from February 9 to 13, as part of the 69th Berlin International Film Festival.

PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED



Many happy returns to Rezwana Choudhury Bannya

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Undoubtedly one of the most prominent Tagore exponents to have graced Rabindra Sangeet, Rezwana Chowdhury Bannya has been presenting the magical essence of the genre for decades. Her melodious voice went on to transcend borders, winning the hearts of millions. Born in Rangpur, Bannya practiced music from an early age. Later on, the determined artiste earned a scholarship at Santiniketan, where she was mentored by the direct students of Tagore. The list of awards won by Bannya, including the Swadhinata Padak, is as illustrious as her career. As she turns a year older today, *The Daily Star* conveys best wishes to her for a healthy and prosperous life.



PHOTO: SHAHREAR KABIR HEEMEL



PHOTO: COURTESY

Paying tribute to Selim Al Deen

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

On the occasion of the 11th death anniversary of renowned playwright and theatre artiste Selim Al Deen, theatre troupe Swapnadal organised the six day-long Natyacharya Selim Al Deen Death Anniversary Commemoration Festival-2019, from January 10 onwards, at Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA).

The festival includes memorial procession, workshop on theatres, Swapnadal's production *Horgo* and *Chitrangada*, among other arrangements. The workshop will be conducted by Zahid Repon, with the presence of national award-winning director Nasiruddin Yousuff as a special guest. The festival will conclude on

January 15, with the staging of Swapnadal's production *Chitrangada*, directed by Zahid Repon and based on Rabindranath Tagore's story, at

the Experimental Hall of BSA at 7 pm. On the other hand, *Horgo* will be staged on January 14 at the Experimental Hall at 7 pm.



Sonia Hossain and Amaan Reza star in Indian TVC



PHOTO: COURTESY

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Actors Sonia Hossain and Amaan Reza are popular names in the television industry. The duo recently shot for an ad-film in India for a cleaning detergent brand. The ad was directed by Saunak Mitra. "It was my first time doing a TVC project outside the country," says Sonia, who just returned to the country. "The crew was very professional, and it was a refreshing experience."