

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 Utshab
Venue: Jahangirnagar University
Date: January 17-19
Time: 10 am



Comedy Show
Title: Dhanmondi Open Mic - Sabroso
Venue: Sabroso, Navana GH Heights, Satmasjid Road
Date: January 19
Time: 6 pm onwards



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



Group Painting Exhibition
Title: Preceptor-Disciple: Disciple-Preceptor
Artists: Malay Bala, Zahangir Alom & Amit Nandi
Venue: La Galerie, AFD
Date: Jan 18-Feb 1
Time: 3-9pm (Mon-Thurs) & 9am-12noon &



"I belong to films"

— Apu Biswas

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Superstar Apu Biswas was ushered into the film industry by acclaimed director Amjad Hossain. She has acted in numerous commercially successful films in her career. After a short hiatus from work, she is back in business. Biswas has a film along with some TVC projects in the pipeline for the New Year. To find out more about her upcoming ventures, *The Daily Star* caught up with the actor for a chat.

You're acting in a new TVC. Tell us a little bit about that.

Yes, I'm beginning the New Year with a new TVC. We started filming yesterday at Bangladesh Film Development Corporation (BFDC). The TVC is endorsing an oil brand. It's directed by Akash Amin. I'm delighted to have started the year with a good project.

Are you currently working on a film?

I'm currently working on *Shashurbari Zindabaad 2* opposite Bappi, directed by Debashish Biswas. We began shooting for the film near the end of last year. I hope that the audience will see me in a new light in this film.

Are you also performing on stage currently?

Yes, I am. I have been dancing for quite some time, so it comes in handy

during stage performances. Also, I really appreciate receiving the audience's love directly when on stage. **What are you looking forward to in your film career?**

See, I belong to films. People know me because of my films. All the love I have received from my fans came, by and large, for my films. I have always prioritised cinema. There are a few projects in talks right now. I look forward to committing to the projects that strike a chord with me. **Renowned director Amjad Hossain, who ushered you into the film industry, passed away recently. How much do you miss him?**

I miss him tremendously. He was like a father and a guardian to me. I went to visit him when he was ill, and never thought that he would leave us so soon. It's a monumental achievement for me that I entered the film industry under the guidance of such a noteworthy director. I will always miss him. I hope he's happy, wherever he is.

How are you spending your spare time these days?

I spend my leisure time with my son. It's my absolute favourite pastime. My son means everything to me. He is in school now. It's a new journey for him. I want to raise him as a good human being, and hope he has a beautiful life ahead.

PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED



PHOTO: COURTESY

Padatik Natya Sangsad turns 41

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Theatre troupe Padatik Natya Sangsad turns 41 on January 21. To celebrate the anniversary, the theatre troupe will host a festive rally tomorrow. The rally will start from Bangladesh Mahila Samiti at 4 pm. Their production, *Gunjan Bibir Pala*, written and directed by Sayik Siddiquee, will be staged on the occasion at the Nilima Ibrahim Auditorium of the Bangladesh Mahila Samiti at 5:30 pm. The play stars Mominul Haque Dipu, Moshir Rahman, Sayeeda Shamsi Ara and Zinia Azad among others.



Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) organised a musical soiree titled 'Surer Chhowa' at its Music and Dance Centre Auditorium on January 15. Singers and instrumentalists of the academy performed an array of group and solo songs at the event. Liaquat Ali Lucky, Director General of BSA planned the programme.

PHOTO: COURTESY



PHOTO: COURTESY

Udichi celebrates 107th birth anniversary of Ronesh Dasgupta

PRIYANKA CHOWDHURY

Ronesh Dasgupta was not only an eminent writer, journalist and cultural activist of Bangladesh, but also one of the founding members of Bangladesh Udichi Shilpigoshthi. On the occasion of his 107th birth anniversary, Udichi organised a discussion and cultural programme on January 15 at Soparjito Swadhinota Chattar, University of Dhaka.

The programme commenced with a discussion session led by Udichi President Dr Shafiuddin Ahmed. The

attendees included former Udichi President and noted journalist Kamal Lohani, writer and Former Bangla Academy Director General, Dr Syed Mohammad Shahed, Vice President of Udichi, Rafiqul Hasan Khan Jinnah, journalist and researcher Dipankar Gautam, Krishak Leader, Leena Chakraborty and General Secretary of Udichi Central Unit Jamshed Anwar Tapan. During the programme, they spoke about the life and work of Ronesh Dasgupta.

The latter half of the programme comprised of an award-giving cere-

mony. This year, Udichi began a book reading competition for school and college students all over the country in honour of Ronesh Dasgupta.

"We want to bring the writings of Ronesh Dasgupta and other prominent writers of our country to the young generation. We believe that a book reading competition is an ideal step in that direction," Jamshed Anwar Tapan informed. The ceremony was followed by a cultural programme with colourful performances of songs, dances and poetry.

Rolling Stones to rock jazz fest

The Rolling Stones will be among the headliners for the 50th anniversary of the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival. The organisers recently confirmed reports that the band will be playing this year. The Rock and Roll Hall of Famers will rock the festival's largest stage on May 2. Other artistes who are scheduled to entertain the crowd include, Katy Perry, Pitbull, Santana, the Dave Matthews Band and Shirley Caesar among others. The 8 day event will run from April 25 - 28 and May 2 - 5.

SOURCE: AP



TV WATCH

Drama serial 'Hajar Botrish' will be broadcast today on ATN Bangla at 8 pm. Directed by Pantha Shahriar, it features Abul Hayat, Runa Khan, Afran Nisho and Aparna Ghose among others.