

WHAT'S ON

Film Festival
Title: Dhaka International Mobile Film Festival 2019
Venue: University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh
Date: February 15

Live Art Show
Title: Dhaka Live Art Biennale
Venue: University of Dhaka
Date: Jan 21 – Feb 14
Time: 10 am – 8 pm

Exhibition
Title: LAL - An Ode to the Moon & Menstrual Cycle
Venue: Jatra Biroti, Banani
Date: February 19 - 23
Details: www.facebook.com/jatrabirotiworld

Book Fair
Title: Ekushey Boi Mela 2019
Venue: Suhrawardi Uddan and Bangla Academy, Dhaka
Date: Feb 1 – 28

Photography Exhibition and More
Title: Counter Foto's 6th Anniversary
Venue: Counter Foto Mirpur Campus
Date: Feb 10 – 15



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

MIR SABBIR

looks to direct films

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Prominent artiste Mir Sabbir is set to star in, write and direct the tele-fictions, *Mukul College* and *Madam*. The shooting of the latter will begin on February 14. This month, he will also begin working on *Motlob*, a television serial where he plays the role of the protagonist. It is directed by Nazmul Rony.

On the other hand, the Mir Sabbir-directed mega serial, *Noashal*, recently televised its 808th episode. "We will continue making the serial to the best of our abilities as long as the audience is interested to watch it," says Sabbir, who is also a part of the cast. He also plays key roles in multiple television serials that are currently being aired.

Known for his riveting performances on screen, Mir Sabbir has been in the entertainment industry for over fifteen years. After acting and directing for television for so many years, the actor now hopes to helm films. "I am preparing myself for films at the moment, as it has been a long-term goal of mine to direct films. I hope the audience will appreciate my work," he says.

In addition, Sabbir is preparing for a seven-episode tele-fiction directed by Adibaashi Mizan, alongside a number of Eid tele-fictions.

WAHIDA SULTANA KEYA

Portrait of a Cover Artist

Wahida Sultana Keya, a graduate student of the Faculty of Fine Art, University of Rajshahi, has been an avid reader since childhood. As a child, this bookworm was fascinated by the different colours on a book cover.

AFSANA AZIZ NITOL

Her love for those colourful book covers stayed the same after all these years. Using mostly watercolour wash techniques, Keya now designs book-covers that spark the interest of many readers. She also uses acrylic paints and pencils for her work.

Josna Raat E Boney by Sadia Sultana Putul, *Encyclopaedia of Science Experiment* by Bushrana Siddique, and *Bhut O Bhoier Golpo* by Radin Chowdhury are some of the books she designed. They are up for grabs at this year's Ekushey Boi Mela.

Ekushey Boi Mela, according to Keya, is a getaway from her mundane schedule. "Books should be everyone's best friend," says Keya. "They can be great companions for those dealing with mental health issues. I believe that everyone should adapt a habit of reading and the book fair is a great place to start that."

This young artist aspires to follow the footsteps of renowned cover artists like Dhruba Esh, Sabyasachi Hazra and Shohag Parvez, whose work she deeply admires. Keya also hopes to make her father proud, who encouraged her to study art.



PHOTO: COURTESY



Bishwo Shahitto Kendro turns 40



PHOTO: KAZI SALAUDDIN RAZU

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Bishwo Shahitto Kendro (BSK) celebrated its 40th founding anniversary yesterday through holding various programmes in its building. Professor Abdullah Abu Sayeed founded the institution with the motto 'We want enlightened humans'. In the last 40 years, BSK has developed a base of at least one crore readers. It has also been organising a regular study circle, called Alor Ishkool. Anyone above 18 can be a member of this circle and attend lectures on a wide range of topics -- world literature, classical and contemporary philosophy, poetry, cinema, photography, art appreciation - while enjoying different kinds of cultural performances.



PHOTO: COURTESY

Bangladeshi photographer wins global accolade

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Photographer Pinu Rahman recently won the Best of Nation-Bangladesh award, making him the first in the country to earn this recognition. He was nominated for the award in the photojournalist category for his photo titled *Lost Childhood*, at the revered World Photographic Cup (WPC), which is jointly organised by the Federation of European Photographers (FEP) and Professional Photographers of America (PPA).

Founded in 2013 as a joint effort by the FEP and PPA, WPC aims to unite photographers in a spirit of friendship and cooperation through an international team competition. An 18-member team from Bangladesh, led by photographer Mahmud Hasan Shuvo took part in the contest for



the first time. Around 600 photos selected from 32 countries were submitted at this year's contest. The award ceremony is scheduled to take place in Drammen, Norway on April 8.

A banker by profession, Rahman

has also been working as a freelance photojournalist for a long time. With more than 10 national and international awards under his belt, his photographs have been published in many national dailies, including *The Daily Star*.

The Bijouterie Collection

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BY SANDEEP NARANG
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