

**WHAT'S ON**

**Live Concert**  
Title: Baroque Music Concert  
Venue: National Theatre Hall, BSA  
Date: Tomorrow  
Time: 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm

**Group Art Exhibition**  
Title: Musicality in Wood  
Venue: Gallery Cosmos  
Villa de Anjuman, New DOHS  
Mohakhali  
Date: February 22 – March 5

**Exhibition**  
Title: LAL - An Ode to the Moon & Menstrual Cycle  
Venue: Jatra Biroti, Banani  
Date: February 19 - 23  
Details: Jatra Biroti's Facebook page

**Book Fair**  
Title: Ekushey Boi Mela 2019  
Venue: Suhrawardy Uddyan and Bangla Academy, Dhaka  
Date: February 1 – 28

**Photography Exhibition**  
Title: PARK - In place for public  
Venue: Counter Foto Miprup Campus  
Date: February 10 – March 10  
Time: 10 am onwards



PHOTO: COURTESY

# BAPPY CHOWDHURY

## talks about 'Daag Hridoye'

Bappy Chowdhury has carved a space for himself in the entertainment industry with his remarkable acting skills within a short span of time. His film, 'Daag Hridoye', co-starring Bidya Sinha Mim and Anchol, was released recently. It is directed by Tareque Sikder. We caught up with the actor to talk about the film and more.

SHAH ALAM SHAZI

"The response has been incredible, both in and outside of Dhaka. I am happy that my fans are liking the film. As an actor, that is the greatest gift for me," expresses Bappy. Recently, he also went to cinema theatres to observe the audience's honest reactions to the film. "I went to Star Cineplex discreetly as well as to a theatre in my hometown, Narayanganj," he says. "Many of the viewers cheered during my scenes. It was a great experience." Bappy has worked in several romantic films and has had many releases around the time of Valentine's Day. "I think that the credit should go to my directors and producers who come up with the smart strategy of releasing my films this time of the year," he says. "I think it is a good time to release films because people are usually in the mood to go out for movies with their loved ones." Currently, Bappy is working on Shashurbari Zindabaad 2, directed by Debashish Biswas. His co-star in the film is Apu Biswas.

SHABABA IQBAL

Talented artist Morshed Mishu, developed a keen interest in drawing from a young age, inspired heavily by comic books. Currently an assistant editor at Unmad, the popular humour magazine, Mishu also designs book covers every now and then. This year for the Ekushey Boi Mela, he has designed the covers of Mojar Comics by Ahsan Habib, Patil Bhora Batil Chhora by Al Nahiyen, Bishuddho Hashi by Nazul Haque Emon, Naa by Prito Reza and Bandhobi by Raba Khan. We caught up with the artist to find out about his processes and preferences for designing book covers and more.

You have designed the cover of Mojar Comics, a book by Ahsan Habib, the

editor of Unmad. How was the experience of collaborating with him?

Designing the cover of a book written by Ahsan Habib, who plays a key role in my life, was on my bucket list for a long time. This year, my dream finally came true with Mojar Comics. I feel privileged to have worked with him on the book.

How do you perceive the relationship between the writer, publisher and designer?

Speaking from my own experiences in this field, I think that publishers have an ignorant attitude towards cover artists, which is really unfortunate. I have become quite selective about the covers that I work on. Nowadays, I just design covers for authors who I personally know and who approach me directly. I give

importance to working with people who I get along with and whose work I genuinely admire.

There is a perception that cover artists do not find enough work throughout the years, barring book launches during the Ekushey Boi Mela. What are your thoughts on that?

I do not view these circumstances in a negative light because most artists in Bangladesh today do not solely do covers. They have plenty of ways to create their own opportunities, network with others and establish themselves as professionals, doing different things such as illustrations, paintings and cartoons. Many artists are also good writers. Moreover, even though the Ekushey Boi Mela is held in February, cover artists start



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

getting busy from months before.

Would you like to give any advice to emerging artists who are looking to take up cover art?

When I designed my first book cover, I mustered up the courage to take it to Dhruva Esh, who is immensely experienced in this field. He gave me a hand-written note, praising my work. He also advised me to read the manuscript always, before designing the book cover. My suggestion to emerging artists would be the same - don't start working on the cover without knowing what is inside the book.



# 'Shesh Din' works its magic

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

In the spirit of Valentine's Day, artistes Tahsan and Tina launched their latest music video on the official YouTube channel of the music label, CD Choice, recently. Titled Shesh Din, the song was penned by Zulfikar Russel and composed jointly by Tahsan and Sajid Sarker. The track was conceived in early 2018, after which preparations were underway for the music video, directed by Raj Chinmoyee. As it is a romantic track, the team decided to release it now, given that love is definitely in the air! With rather uplifting lyrics, Shesh Din continues to garner praise from music lovers.

PHOTO: COURTESY



Members of Joler Gaan perform at the festival.

PHOTO: COURTESY

# Bengal's 'Phagun Shamirone' concludes

ZAHANGIR ALOM

Bengal Foundation organised a spring festival titled, Phagun Shamirone, at Bengal Boi in Dhaka. The festival, featuring literary discussions, launching of books and audio CDs and live musical performances by Bangladeshi artistes and bands, concluded yesterday. Due to unavoidable circumstances, the organisers had to conclude the event yesterday, shifting the otherwise five-day festival to four days.

Based on his seven-decade long life experiences, eminent artist Rafiqun Nabi has written a book titled, Smritir Potho Rekhaye, published by Bengal Publications. The book was launched on the opening day (February 12) in the presence of Matiur Rahman, Editor of Prothom Alo, Nisar Hossain, renowned artist and Dean, Faculty of Fine Art, University of Dhaka and Moinuddin Khaled, noted art critic of the programme Alap-e-Bistar-e-Later,



(From left) Abul Hasnat, Kamal Lohani, Rathindranath Roy and Luva Nahid Choudhury at the launch of 'Dhorola Nodir Paar-e'.

Shoyeb and his troupe Gaanpagol performed different songs.

Renowned folk singer Rathindranath Roy recorded 10 Bhawaiya songs for the album, Dhorola Nodir Paar-e, produced by Bengal Foundation. Eminent cultural person-

ality and journalist Kamal Lohani unveiled the album on the second day (February 13). Bengal Foundation Director General Luva Nahid Choudhury and Editor of Kali O Kalam, Abul Hasnat, were present at the launching ceremony.

Rathindranath Roy later rendered several songs at the event.

Popular urban folk fusion band Joler Gaan won over the hearts of many music lovers with their popular songs on the third day (February 14) of the festival.

The event concluded yesterday with a book launch and literary discussion. Published by Prothoma and written by Saadat Hasan Manto, the book, Kalo Seemana, translated from Urdu by Javed Hussain, was unveiled on the day. Essayist Subrata Barua and Matiur Rahman further discussed the aspects of the book. Bengal Publications also published another book titled, Atulprasad Sen, written by Bishwajit Ghosh, Vice-Chancellor of Rabindra Bharati University, Shahzadpur Siranganj. Noted singer Azizur Rahman Tuhin spoke about the book, which is the first and only publication on Atulprasad Sen from Bangladesh.

# Wahid Ibn Reza's 'Self Depreciating Humor' at Ekushey Boi Mela

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Multi-talented artist and visual effects producer Wahid Ibn Reza recently released his book, Attopochanimulok Rosh or Self Depreciating Humor, at the Ekushey Boi Mela. The book, dedicated to the author's mother, contains jokes in both English and Bangla. It is published by Annesha Prokashon.

