

WHAT'S ON

Group Art Exhibition
 Title: *Us Women II*
 Venue: EMK Center, Dhanmondi
 Date: March 5 – 14
 Time: 9:30 am – 8 pm

Dance show
 Title: Nohi Debi Nohi Shamannya Nari
 Venue: Chhayanaut Cultural Centre
 Date: March 19
 Time: 7:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Photography festival
 Title: Bioscope 3 Children's
 Photography Fest 2019
 Venue: National Art Gallery,
 Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
 Date: March 15 – March 17

Film Screening
 Title: *Through Her Eyes*
 Screening of Shilalipi
 Venue: Goethe-Institut
 Bangladesh
 Date: March 17
 Time: 5 pm

Musical Event
 Title: *Manusi - Love for womanhood* by
 Ghaasphoring Choir
 Venue: EMK Center, Dhanmondi
 Date: March 14
 Time: 7 pm – 10 pm

'Us Women II' showcases fierce and soulful artworks

MADIHA ATHAR KHAN

Us Women II, an exhibition held at EMK Center in commemoration of International Women's Day, celebrates the ways in which the young artists of Bangladesh perceive womanhood and all that it entails. The brilliantly curated show includes artworks that are fierce and soulful at the same time. The exhibition includes the works of 26 artists that submitted to an open call for entries on social media. The first installment of this exhibition was hosted last year.

they face, an artist depicts what it looks like for that role to be reversed. The dark painting, which portrays an eerie mood shows a woman in a red and green saree taking centre stage, as though all eyes are on her while she claims her rightful place in the society, with a crown atop her head. A sinister presence looms behind her,

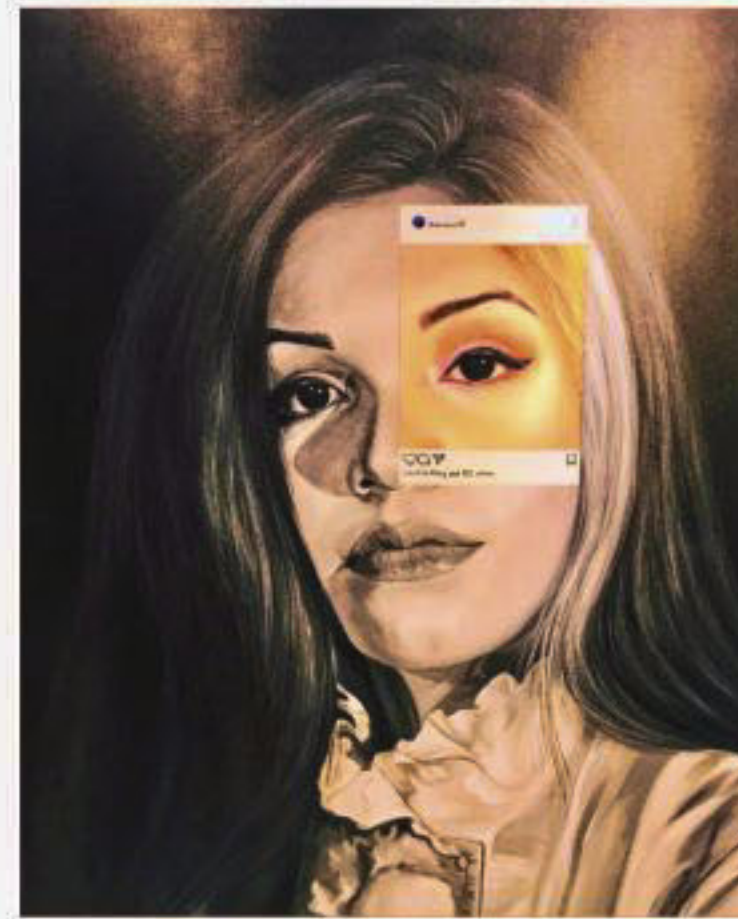


PHOTO: SHANTO LAWRENCE COSTA

only the eyes and claws of which are made visible. Another artist with her painting titled, *Breaking Free* tells her story without needing the help of the title. In it, the figure of a woman, loosely painted in black and white seems to be crying in a cage which is mostly intact till it breaks into a shocking explosion of colours, implying that the woman's freedom exists in the skies, in the



many hues of pink, blue and orange.

The exhibition, which concludes tomorrow, succeeds in bringing

new voices into the art scene of Dhaka as well as in the conversations surrounding womanhood and femininity.



PHOTO: MONON MUNTAKA

Celebrating the life of Sayeeda Khanam

AFSANA AZIZ NITOL

Sayeeda Khanam, the first woman photographer of Bangladesh, is an inspiration to many, for her courageous endeavours. Famous personalities, including the likes of Neil Armstrong, Queen Elizabeth, Satyajit Ray, Indira Gandhi and Sheikh Mujibur Rahman among others, have been captured by her camera.

Recently, she received the prestigious Ekushey Padak. To honour her achievement, various photographers of the country organised a programme at the National Art Gallery of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, where Sayeeda Khanam was present along with her friends and well-wishers.

In the beginning of the event, a documentary film based on Sayeeda Khanam's life, directed by Ismat Jahan, was screened. It is Ismat Jahan's first ever documentary film.

In the film, Sayeeda Khanam talks

about the very first time she took a picture of two *kabuliwalas* (hawkers) with a box camera. Ever since then, her love for capturing moments, people and nature only grew with time, leading her to pursue photography as a career. Her pictures were first published in *Begum Magazine*, a monthly Bangla magazine founded in 1947. The film also showed her friendship with renowned director Satyajit Ray and Indian sarod player Ustad Allauddin Khan.

She has motivated plenty of young women to take up photography as a profession. Many from the local photography community attended the event, where she was honoured with flowers, as people celebrated her life with music and poetry. The event concluded with her speech. "I did not succeed overnight," she said. "I believe photographers need to produce good work and they need to work hard for it."



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

Discussion on the significance of March 11, 1948

FARJANA AHMED ANNAN

Sommilito Sangskritik Jot and Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) held a discussion recently, on the significance of March 11, 1948 from a historical perspective, at BSA. As the leading speakers, the Chairperson of Sommilito Sangskritik Jot, Golam Kuddus, thespian Ramendu Majumdar, Director General of Bangla Academy, poet Habibullah Siraji, Director General of BSA, Liaquat Ali Lucky and General Secretary of Sommilito Sangskritik Jot, Hasan Arif, were present.

Golam Kuddus discussed how we, as a nation, tend to overlook the indirect yet

strong influence Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman had on the Language Movement of 1952. He added that Sheikh Mujibur Rahman continued to inspire the Bangla-speaking people to demand Bangla as the native language of the then East Pakistan. However, according to Kuddus, it is upsetting to see how history books underestimate Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's noteworthy role behind the movement and praise only a select few, which does not really paint a thorough picture of our history.

The programme also included poetry recitations, inspired by the Language Movement and ended with a group musical performance.

Syed Mohammad Musa releases two new albums

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Rabindra sangeet singer Syed Mohammad Musa, a student of Ustad Sukhendu Bikash, released two albums recently titled *Shuru Hok Pothchola* and *Golap Bala*. Among these two albums, *Golap Bala* is a Rabindra sangeet album whereas *Shuru Hok Pothchola* is a remix album. *Mayabono Biharinihorini*, *Nupur Beje Jaye Rini Rini*, *Mone Ki Dhida Rekhe Gele*, *Tumi Esho Firey Esho* and *Ami Tomar Kachey Fire Ashbo* are few of the featured songs in his two albums.

Syed Mohammad Musa is a listed Rabindra sangeet singer of Rajshahi Betar and Shadhin Bangla Betar Kendra. He is the former Director of Operations in National ID Registration Wing and Deputy Project Director of IDEA Project. Having started a career in music since 1977, Syed Mohammad Musa wants to create his own compositions in the future.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED



PHOTO: STAR

Drama fest organised at Jahangirnagar University

MD ASADUZ ZAMAN, from JU

A week-long drama festival began at Jahangirnagar University (JU) campus on March 9, marking the 39th founding anniversary of Jahangirnagar Theatre.

The festival is organised under the theme, 'Ruddho Prane Ashuk Proloy'. JU acting Vice-Chancellor Prof Nurul Alam inaugurated the festival at Selim Al Deen Muktamancha.

"A total of six plays will be staged every evening at the Muktamancha while there will be two respective productions," said Md Ashikur Rahman, General Secretary of Jahangirnagar Theatre.

The six plays are- *12 Angry Men* (Open Space Theatre), *Socrates-er Jobanbondi* (Drishopot), *Aj*

Komondoler Fashi and Bajao Panchojonno (Jahangirnagar Theatre), *Mohajoner Naraj* (Subochon Natto Sangsad) and *Rarang* (Aranyak Natyadal).

Poet Roish Monorom and theatre activist Mostofa Kamal will be honoured at the festival.

On the first day of the fest, Open Space Theater of Dhaka staged *12 Angry Men*, which met with hugely positive reactions.

The courtroom drama, *12 Angry Men*, based on the teleplay of American screen writer Reginald Rose, describes the story of a jury made up of 12 men as they were appointed to take a decision on an 18-year-old-boy whether he is guilty or not on the basis of reasonable doubt. The play is translated and directed by M Arifur Rahman.

Monir Chowdhury performs at 'Chirodiner Gaan'

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

The Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre, High Commission of India, Dhaka, organised a musical evening titled, *Chirodiner Gaan*, featuring singer Monir Chowdhury at Bangladesh National Museum recently.

Monir Chowdhury is a renowned singer who was born in Bhola. He completed his graduation from Barisal BM College in 1994. He completed certificate courses on classical music, folk music, Radharomon and Bangla Kheyal from Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy in 1996, 1998, 1999 and 2000 respectively.

He was trained in classical music under the tutelage of Ustad Anil Kumar Saha from 2000 to 2006. He also took training from Azad Rahman, Aujit Roy, Shamor Das, Khalid Hossain, Sadi Mohammad, Rezwana Choudhury Bannya and Indro Mohon Ranjibongshi. Monir Chowdhury is an enlisted artist of Bangladesh Betar since 1998 and Bangladesh Television since 2000.



PHOTO: COURTESY

CAPTAIN MARVEL QUIZ CONTEST

The Daily Star | STAR CINEPIX

10 WINNERS EVERYDAY! 2 PREMIUM TICKETS FOR EACH WINNER

Email your answer to starquiz@outlook.com by 4.00 pm today with your name, DOB, mobile number and address. The winners of the quiz will be announced today through email.

Winners are requested to follow the instructions given in email

QUIZ - 05
 How did Carol Danvers turn into Captain Marvel?

WINNERS LIST OF QUIZ - 04

1. Md Ashikur Rahman, Uttara
2. Atikur Rahman, Uttara
3. Tamassom Nowreen Neera, Bcc Road
4. Shahin Shuvo, Merul Badda
5. Mahmudul Hasan Latu, Nilkhet
6. Maliha Mehjabein, Khilgaon
7. Arafat Mahmud Shuvo, Motijheel
8. Tasfia Tabassum, Banani 11
9. Goutom Ghosh, Mohammadpur
10. Ridwanur Rahman, Tejgaon