

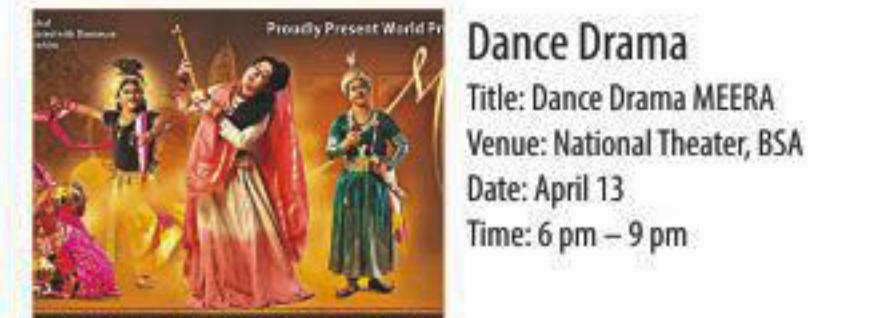
Group Art Exhibition
Title: Life 2019
Venue: Gallery Cosmos, New DOHS, Mohakhali
Date: March 26 – April 9
Time: 11 am – 8 pm



Art Exhibition
Title: The Work of Creation - Kazi Ghiasuddin
Venue: Bengal Shilpalay, Dhanmondi
Date: April 5 – May 18
Time: 12 pm – 8 pm



Dance Drama
Title: Dance Drama MEERA
Venue: National Theater, BSA
Date: April 13
Time: 6 pm – 9 pm



Art Exhibition
Title: Still—Life: an art exhibition by Moon Rahman
Venue: Dwip Gallery, Lalmoni
Date: March 23 – April 7
Time: 3 pm – 9 pm



International Festival
Title: WOW Dhaka 2019
Venue: Bangla Academy
Date: April 5 – 6
Time: 3 pm onwards (April 5); 10:30 am onwards (April 6)



PHOTO: STAR

EGIYA JAWAR NEI MANA

Seven spectacular screenings

MINAM HAQ

The Bangamata U 19 Women's International Gold Cup 2019 is an international football tournament arranged for the first time in Bangladesh, exclusively for women. It is scheduled to kick off from April 22. In the spirit of the competition, a private TV channel, in association with K-Sports, produced seven tele-fictions, directed by seven women, under the banner of 'Egiya Jawar Nei Mana'. Each story revolves around the silent battles women have to fight, to lead their lives. Renowned actors like Ferdousi Majumdar, Nusrat Imrose Tisha, Azizul Hakim, Aparna Ghosh, Mishu Sabbir, Zakia Bari Mamo, Sadia Jahan Prova and many others, will be seen in various roles in the tele-fictions.

During a tête-à-tête with *The Daily Star*, the directors discussed their individual ventures while giving us a sneak peek into their scripts.

Preeti Dutta, director and script writer of 'Shelai Ghor',

Shelai Ghor weaves together the struggles of a woman, who upon giving birth to

an autistic child, is abandoned by her husband, as he blames her for the condition of the infant. Without proper shelter, she finds it troublesome to attend her work with the baby and at one point gets fired. After much effort, she is able to buy a used sewing machine to earn a living. From there onwards, she is able to prosper in her work and become independent.

Fahmida Irfan, director of 'Dhushor Ghurni'

In this tele-fiction, the protagonist develops a relationship with her colleague. Despite their affection for each other, her lover is reluctant to get married, but initially they tie the knot secretly. Her enthusiasm at work impresses the boss and she is later assigned the responsibility to plan a promotional campaign for a special project. This raises her husband's suspicion and out of envy, he steals her idea and betrays her. From there on, things take a turn for the worse.

Chayanika Chowdhury, director of 'Meghalikar Rong'

The story of this tele-fiction revolves around an urban elite family, headed by a woman with two sons and a

daughter. Despite the matriarchy, the women in the family are not allowed to study or work, as they believe that the abundance of wealth will suffice. However, when the young son's wife decides to pursue her education, she is met with an iron fist.

Sraboni Ferdous, director and script writer of 'Kushumer Shawpno'

Kushumer Shawpno, tells the story of a young woman who play football. Her passion for the sport draws much criticism in a patriarchal society and she is frowned upon. Kushum, the titular character, kicks aside the all the negativity and carries on to become a respected football player in the national team.

Naznin Hasan Chumki, director and script writer of 'Piu, Ekti Pakhir Jibon'

As the plot unfolds, the protagonist decides to quit working at a social organisation, as she can no longer deal with the trauma regarding a surge in child abuse cases. However, her brother demands that she continue with her work, as their combined earnings help bear the family's living expenses. She later struggles to open a

centre for training women to ride scooters. With no support from her family, she is unable to manage a loan or the property to start her venture. But her strong will power promises a brighter future.

Matia Banu Shuku, director and script writer of 'Shawpner Meghdol'

Shawpner Meghdol is a story of a woman, who had devotion for art, but could not pursue it as a career due to her early marriage. Later in her life, she tries to help her daughter, who has a passion for photography. However, the father does not pay much attention to her dreams and demands she focuses on her studies instead.

Zeenat Hakim, director and script writer of 'Guide'

As the name suggests, the lead character in this tele-fiction is a tour guide. A traveler, who falls for her, later learns about her past in the form of flashbacks. In her past relationship, her fiancé to-be opposed her occupation, as he found it embarrassing for a woman to be a guide. On the other hand, this new traveler respects the work that she does and earns her trust.

SUCHITRA SEN

An endeared icon

In the 1950s, moviegoers took a particular interest in Bengali films made in Kolkata. Suchitra Sen and Uttam Kumar, the iconic screen pair, ruled the hearts of millions during that era.



PHOTO: COLLECTED

Suchitra Sen, for the emotive verve of her acting and the phenomenal charm of her beauty, caught the imagination of many, becoming one of the most endeared stars of the industry. The celebrated actor, who passed away in 2014, would have been 88 today.

She was born on this day in 1931 in Pabna of British Bengal, soon moving to Kolkata with her family.

Suchitra started her career in cinema with the film, *Sarey Chuattur*, in 1953. Most notably, she worked with Uttam Kumar in over 25 films, including the classics, *Sagorika*, *Harano Sur* and *Saptapadi*. She played Sagorika, Dr Roma Banerjee and Reena Brown respectively, with elegance. The song of love, *Tumi Je Amar*, from *Harano Sur*, featuring Uttam and Suchitra, resonates with people to this day.

Suchitra is further renowned for her portrayal of the nurse, Radha Mitra, in *Deep Jwele Jai*. In *Saat Panke Badha* (1963), a film about tragic complexities in a middle-class family, Suchitra gave a powerful performance in the central role. She was honoured with the Moscow Film Festival Best Actress Award for her part in the film that year. Her stardom combined understated sensuality, feminine charm and emotive force with a no-nonsense gravitas.

NISHSHOBDO TAR SHAHAR

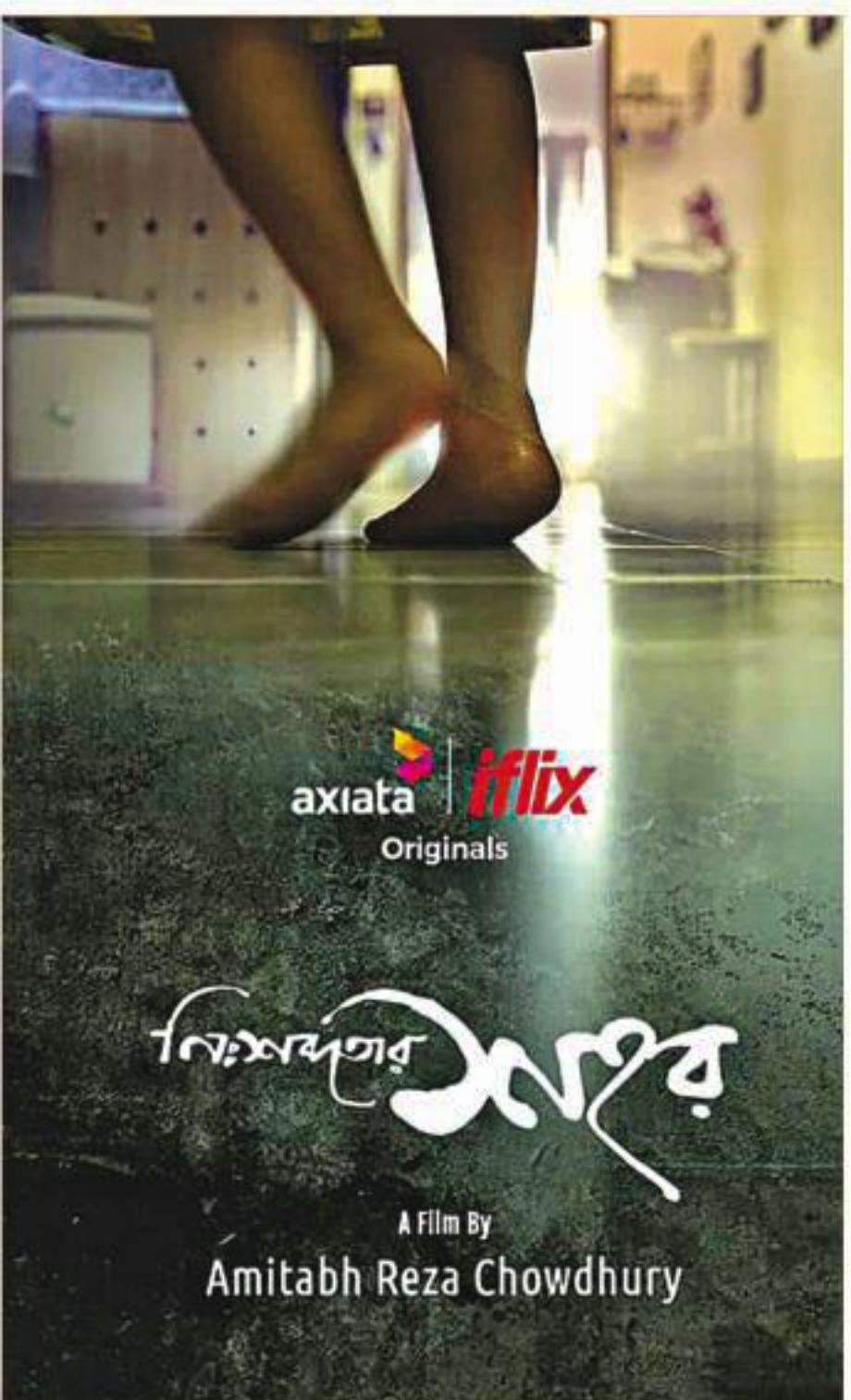
wins Special Jury Award at 2nd South Asian Short Film Festival

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Critically acclaimed and prominent filmmaker Amitabh Reza Chowdhury's short film, *Nishshobdotar Shahar* (Silence), which premiered on Iflix, won the Special Jury Award at the 2nd South Asian Short Film Festival, held in Kolkata recently.

In the film, Hridy, a child actor of Pidim Theatre, plays Sharmin, who is a domestic worker and spends her day doing household chores.

The film explores the inner world of the young girl whose fate compelled her to become a housemaid in the city.



The poster of the film.



PHOTO: COURTESY

Abrar Athar

to be honoured at NFMLA's Best of NFMLA Awards 2019

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

New Filmmakers Los Angeles (NFMLA) is a non-profit organisation designed to showcase innovative works by emerging filmmakers from around the world, providing the Los Angeles community of entertainment professionals and filmgoers with a constant surge of monthly screening events. NFMLA provides a forum where filmmakers are recognised for their contributions, have open audience discussions about their projects and connect with industry professionals for insight on distribution, production, acquisition and representation.

NFMLA's core programme is its monthly film festival. Each festival presents screenings of shorts, documentaries and feature films that have been submitted

from all over the world. All of the programmes are followed by a Q&A with each filmmaker. The programme also offers a special reception so the audience can meet the filmmakers and incredible talent involved, while also networking with industry professionals.

This April, NFMLA and its Board of Directors will celebrate the Best of NFMLA nominees from their 11th film festival edition in Los Angeles. The evening will honour 111 films, writers and performers, nominated in 12 award categories including new media, animation, documentary and narrative.

Promising Bangladeshi filmmaker, Abrar Athar, who wrote and directed the short film, *Life in Other Words*, is one of the nominees who will be honoured at the event.

'Rhythm of Life 2' opens at AFD

Alliance Française de Dhaka (AFD) is currently hosting the second solo sculpture exhibition of Farzana Islam Milky, at their La Galerie in Dhanmondi. The inaugural ceremony of the exhibition, titled, 'Rhythm of Life 2', was held yesterday. Asaduzzaman Noor, MP, graced the opening ceremony as the chief guest. Professor Lala Rukh Selim of the Department of Sculpture, Faculty of Fine Art, University of Dhaka, was present as the guest of honour.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Farzana Islam Milky is a sculptor, who sees the human figure in a variety of activities and environments. Her sculptures tell stories of people and their relationships with each other and the environment. Daily activities of human life, interactions between people and nature, and people in manmade architectural

settings are the subjects of her sculptures.

The actions and gestures of the human figure show her interest in the human form, which she depicts not in its details, but in an impression of its movement. Her narratives create an effect that is not dramatic but more like a moment caught in time. They are filled with the tension of being caught in the middle of an act, the end of which we are left to imagine.

She deals with the ordinary things, trying to capture a significant moment in the flow of life. The balanced movement of the figures shows her grasp of the basic language of sculptures. Milky's narratives of common activities of human life show her understanding of the medium and her sensitivity to the language of sculptures.

The exhibition will run till April 19.



One of Milky's sculptures from the exhibition.