

WHAT'S ON

**Dance Performance**  
Title: An Evening of Contemporary Dance  
Venue: National Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy  
Date: April 11



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



**Dance Drama**  
Title: Dance Drama MEERA  
Venue: National Theatre, BSA  
Date: April 13  
Time: 6 pm - 9 pm



**Dance Drama**  
Title: Mayar Khela  
Venue: National Theatre Hall, BSA  
Date: April 12  
Time: 6:30 pm  
Tickets: BDT 200



**Workshop on Songwriting**  
Title: Artistic Arsenal  
Facilitator: Labik Kamal Gaurab  
Venue: EMK Center  
Date: April 20  
Time: 5 pm - 8 pm



Distinguished guests and artists at the exhibition.

# ART AGAINST FAKE NEWS

## exhibited at Cosmos Centre

ZAHANGIR ALOM

With an aim of promoting art to reduce the spread of misinformation and fake news, a group exhibition was held at the Cosmos Atelier 71 in Malibagh, Dhaka on April 6.

The exhibition, titled *Art Against Fake News*, was organised by Gallery Cosmos and Cosmos Atelier71 as part of Cosmos Dialogue on fake news and hate speech. The exhibition featured 30 artworks by 24 renowned and promising artists.

Eminent artist Mustafa Monwar inaugurated the exhibition as chief guest, while artists Samarjit Roy Choudhury and Rafiqun Nabi were present as special guests. The chief guest appreciated Gallery Cosmos' timely initiative of organising the exhibit against such a menace. "Artists are always against the spread of fake news," said Mustafa Monwar. Samarjit Roy Choudhury said that the artists will spread positive vibes through artworks to prevent the spread of hate speech. Rafiqun Nabi said that cartoon can be the best medium to retaliate against fake news.

President of the Association for Accountability and Internet Democracy (AAID), Dan Shefet highlighted the contributions of artists towards society at the event. He congratulated the participating artists and appreciated the initiative for such a bold step in today's world, where people are afraid of not

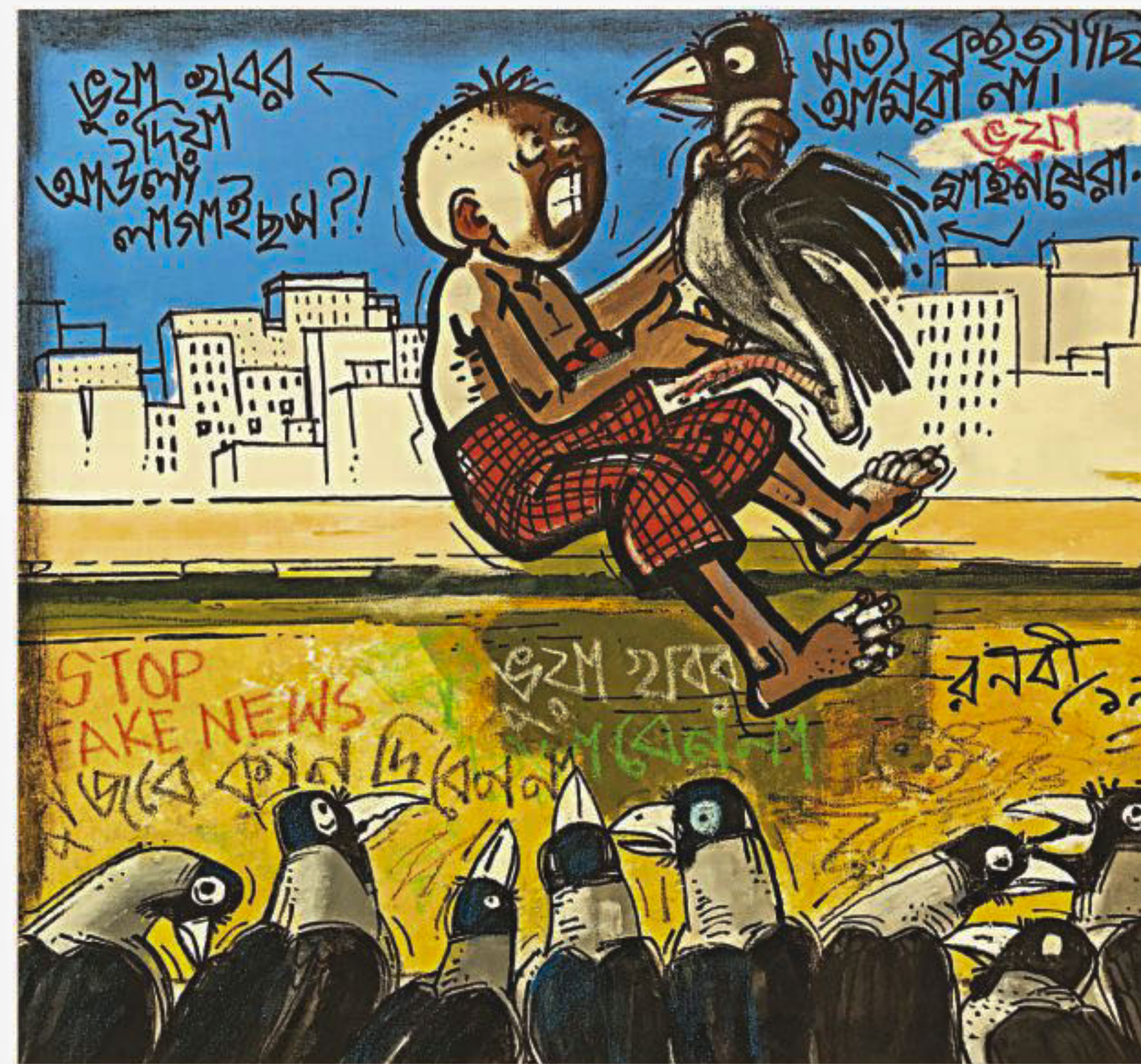


PHOTO: COURTESY

The exhibition, titled 'Art Against Fake News', was organised by Gallery Cosmos and Cosmos Atelier71 as part of Cosmos Dialogue on fake news and hate speech.

being politically correct. "Artists are heroes who will take the society forward," he added.

Enayetullah Khan, Chairman of

Gallery Cosmos, reiterated his sincere wishes to use the artists' platform for focusing on all the challenges of life. "The problem is not country specific;

rather it goes beyond border," said Enayetullah Khan about the spread of fake news. "This challenge (against fake news) will bring all the people of the world on single platform."

United News of Bangladesh (UNB) Chairman Amanullah Khan, alongside artists Biren Shome, Nisar Hossain, Anisuzzaman, Sourav Chowdhury and Japanese artist Toshihiko Ikeda were present at the inauguration.

The participating artists were Mustafa Monwar, Rafiqun Nabi, Monirul Islam, Qayyum Chowdhury, Samarjit Roy Chowdhury, Shahabuddin Ahmed, Abdus Shakoor Shah, Hamiduzzaman Khan, Biren Shome, Kalidas Karmakar, Rokeya Sultana, Kanak Chandra Chakma, Nagarbasi Barman, Nasir Ali Mamun, Alakesh Ghosh, Anisuzzaman Anis, Bishwajit Goswami, Devdas Malakar, Maksuda Iqbal Nipa, Nazia Andaleeb Preema, Prashanta Karmakar, Abdul Gaffar Babu, Sourav Chowdhury and Toshihiko Ikeda.

Cosmos Atelier 71 is also hosting a four-day printmaking workshop at its space. Toshihiko Ikeda is conducting the workshop, that began yesterday. A total of 16 artists including Nagarbasi Barman, Ashrafur Hasan, Nevine Sultana, Nityananda Gain along with guest artists -- Samarjit Roy Chowdhury, Kalidas Karmakar and Biren Shome are taking part in it.

## "bfilms is a lifestyle, not just a production house"

- ASHFAQ UZZAMAN BIPUL

AFSANA AZIZ NITOL

The mastermind behind the recent music video, *Bijoy Moshal*, the theme song of Bangamata U-19 Women's International Gold Cup, is the media production company called bfilms. Recently, bfilms completed two years with the tagline "Do what you can't". bfilms also created the commercials of Mahindra Maximo HD series with Mashrafe Bin Mortuza, and Kidofo wafer biscuit with Mushfiqur Rahimin it. We recently caught up with the director of bfilms, Ashfaq Uzzaman Bipul.

**Tell us a little about yourself and how your career in production began.** I come from a theatre background. I studied Drama and Dramatics at Jahangirnagar University. I used to work in Half Post Down, another film production company, with Amitabh Reza



PHOTO: MONON MUNTAKA

Chowdhury, in 2003. I directed my first project in 2010. At the end of 2016, Mehedy Hossain, who is now the Executive Producer of bfilms, and I decided to create something of our own, but all of it took time. I did not garner the experience overnight. I formed the team of bfilms, when I knew I was ready to lead.

**You have an interesting way of writing your name bfilms (with all small letters). Is there any story behind it?**

Contrary to popular belief, the b does not stand for Bipul (laughs). The reason I chose to call my company bfilms, is simply because most of the positive words that I love start with b. For example, brave, best, bold, beautiful and so on. At the same time, I do not want people to think that I named the company after myself. So, I write the name in this particular manner.

**You have a young team working with you. How has the experience been guiding them?**

It feels like an army training, except it is an emotional one. Since we need to be creative on a daily basis, we need to keep on training our minds. I encourage the team to read, watch more films, and theatre plays. Therefore, I believe bfilms is a lifestyle, not just a production house.

**With the growing competition these days, how do you manage to be authentic?**

We at bfilms believe that advertisement is an art too. We try to add value to each and every script that comes our way. The team is very hard working and relentlessly meeting deadlines on a daily basis. We respect our clients' demands, and we are glad that they have faith in us.



PHOTO: SHAHREAR KABIR HEWEL

## Sabila Nur shoots TVC in Dubai

MINAM HAQ

Sabila Nur has been making ripples in the entertainment arena ever since her debut. The glamorous actor has been mesmerising her fans, portraying an array of characters in multiple tele-fictions. The actor, who is rather selective about her projects, has recently completed a shoot for the commercial of an international mobile phone brand.

"I have signed a six-month contract with the company which has a local office here in Dhaka. Shooting for the TVC, which is a part of the promotional activities planned out for the campaign, was completed in Dubai," she informed *The Daily Star*. "The rest of the proceedings, like the unboxing of the product, the launching event, among others, are all set to take place here in Dhaka."

According to Sabila, her co-star for the TVC is an element of surprise as well. She also mentioned that it was a rather hectic, yet exciting experience to have collaborated with such a multifaceted international team -- a Serbian director, a South African assistant director, Brazilian and Indian make-up artists and others -- to work on the project. Since the product is targeting the festive season of the forthcoming Eid, the commercial is scheduled to air around that time.

## Shurer Dhara set to welcome Bengali New Year

### Lever Ayush Hajaro Konthe Borshoboron 1426

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

To welcome the Bangla New Year 1426, Shurer Dhara, a leading cultural organisation in the country, and Channel i will jointly organise an event titled *Lever Ayush Hajaro Konthe Borsoboron 1426* on the premises of Bangabandhu International Conference Centre on the first day of the Bengali New Year. Led by eminent singer Rezwana Chowdhury Bannya, the eighth edition of the event will start from the early morning of April 14.

The chairman of Shurer Dhara and the initiator of the signature event is Rezwana Chowdhury Bannya. She provided details about the celebration programme at a press meet, arranged jointly by Unilever, Shurer Dhara and Channel i, recently.

This year, Prime Minister of Bhutan, Lotay Tshering will attend the event

PHOTO: COURTESY



with his wife. He studied in Mymensingh Medical College and can speak Bangla.

The theme for this year's event is *Lokoj Shure Bangla Gaan* (Bangla songs in folk tunes). The press meet was also attended

by the managing director of Channel i Faridur Reza Sagor, freedom fighter and cultural personality Nasiruddin Yousuff Bachchu and marketing director of Unilever Bangladesh Nafees Anwar.

Alongside popular emerging and vet-

eran artistes, the singers of Channel i Shera Kontho, Khude Gaan Raj and Gaaner Raja will also participate in the new year celebration.

Channel i will air the programme live till 2 pm on April 14.



PHOTO: COURTESY

Galleri Kaya organised their second palace art tour at The Palace Luxury Resort in Habiganj, from April 4. Participating artists included noteworthy names -- Hamiduzzaman Khan, Chandra Shekhar Dey, Jamal Ahmed, Nagarbasi Barman, Shahanoor Mamun and the director of Galleri Kaya, Goutam Chakraborty.

## Ilias Kanchan attends seminar on road safety in Greece

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Noted actor Ilias Kanchan is known to us all not just because of his successful films, but also for the road safety movement he has been spearheading for over two decades. The National Film Award winner and Ekushey Padak awardee initiated the road safety movement *Nirapad Sarak Chai* in 1993 after the death of his wife in a tragic road accident, and ever since he has been working relentlessly to improve the road safety situation of Bangladesh. He attended a seminar on road safety in Greece recently. Titled *Global Meeting on Road Safety*, the seminar was organised by Global Alliance of NGOs for Road Safety. The mission of the alliance is to unite, empower and strengthen NGOs to stimulate collaborative advocacy, action and accountability for road safety and road victims.

Kanchan was happy to represent our country on global platform. He spoke about the road safety concerns and ways to tackle the road safety issues in Bangladesh at the seminar.

