



**Solo Print Exhibition**  
Title: The Soul of the Soil  
Artist: Farzana Rahman Boby  
Venue: Gallery Shilpangan, Lalmatia  
Date: July 5-18  
Time: 3-8pm



**Musical Concert**  
Title: Sunglow Musical Fest-1  
Venue: International Convention City  
Bashundhara, Hall 4  
Date: July 19  
Time: 6 pm onwards



**Exhibition**  
Title: Mukhoshor Aaraley  
Venue: Drik Gallery, Dhanmondi  
Date: July 12 - 14  
Time: 3 pm - 8 pm



**Music and Art Festival**  
Title: Soufulment  
Date: July 12  
Venue: Jatra Biroti  
Time: 2 pm onwards



**Poetry show**  
Title: Poetry Night at 3rd Space  
Date: July 11  
Time: 5 pm  
Venue: Counter Culture Club, Dhanmondi  
Entry: Free



'Portrait of Ambiguity', Woodcut.



# "My heart lies in art"

- Ruhul Karim Rume

MINAM HAO

Even before he started school, Ruhul Karim Rume's passion for art was profound in his performance. Born and brought up in Dhaka, the artist learnt from his family members that as a young child, he would often use chalks to draw on the ground, transforming it into his very own imaginative canvas.

"I completed my BFA and MFA from the Faculty of Fine Art, University of Dhaka, in order to pursue a professional career," mentions Rume. "With a knack for Printmaking, I majored in Woodcut (a printmaking technique where an image is carved into a wooden surface, covered in ink and printed on another surface). Presently, I am working as an Assistant Professor at the Institute of Fine Arts at the University of Chittagong."

Rume has also been an avid participant at the National Art Exhibition since his student days. Following its

formation in 1974 by Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) organised the National Art exhibition from 1975, to showcase the contemporary art of the country biennially.

Currently, the 23rd National Art Exhibition is underway at the National Art Gallery of BSA, which was inaugurated on July 1 and will run till July 21. Considered one of the most significant of its kind, the exposition features an assortment of artworks on diverse mediums and genres.

"This year, artworks by ore than 300 artists are on display and I am amongst the eight fortunate artists, who were awarded in different categories at the inaugural ceremony," acknowledges Rume. "I won the Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy Honourable Mention Award in Print Making, for my series, *Portrait of Ambiguity*".

However, this is not a first for the



PHOTO: COURTESY

adroit artist to be awarded at such a prestigious event. He has three other National Art Exhibition Awards to

his credit, including a grand award, which he won in 2015 as part of the aforementioned series. That artwork was later collected by Bangladesh National Museum.

Apart from compelling the nation with his artistic aptitude, Rume participated at various prominent art camps across the globe upon invitation. He partook in China (2012), Nepal (2017), Indonesia (2018) and Thailand (2019), along with two more upcoming events this year.

Having conducted seven solo exhibitions successfully, along with a growing list of significant awards, Rume seems rather optimistic about his career. "My heart lies in art," he describes. Despite the generous achievements under his belt, the established artist aspires to become a better mentor to provide quality education to those under his tutelage, in order to enrich the ever evolving world of art.

## Afsana Mimi's latest projects

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Renowned actor of the 90's, Afsana Mimi, is a household name in the industry. Recently, she has diverted her concentration to directing, where she is seeing incredible success with whichever projects she works on. *The Daily Star* has a conversation with the star, who talks about her work, recent projects and future goals.

**Tell us about your recent projects.**

I am directing four tele-fictions: *Samantaral*, *Biprotip*, *Nairit* and *Bonhi*. We have finished the work of three, and they will be broadcast soon. All four of these tele-fictions are for a project titled *Sampreeti* by Manusher Jonno Foundation, and carry a message for the audience.

**Which artistes will be featured in the projects?**

Mamunur Rashid, Hasan Imam, Laila Hasan, Sajal and Samia Athoi have worked in *Samantaral*. In *Biprotip*, Yash Rohan, Samu Chowdhury, Shilpi Sarker Apu, and Anim Tanha have carried out the acting duties. *Bonhi* features



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

Tisha, Intekhab Dinat, Tanveer, Likhon, Pritha and Mili Basher while Irfan Sazzad and Ishrat Nishat will be seen in *Nairit*. All these artistes are really talented, and I have worked with some of them for the very first time in this instance.

**A lot of people say that the budget for television projects have declined. What is your say on that?**

It certainly has, and it is unfortunate. All budgets increase, except for the ones for the production of a quality tele-fiction or telefilm. However, I am glad that in *Sampreeti*, I was given a sizeable budget.

**Which is tougher, acting or directing?**

In my opinion, directing is more difficult than acting. When I act, I only have to think about my presence on screen. However, when I direct, I have to take into account everything from the actors' coming on time to the set, to finishing shoots on time and to make sure that they are paid. Of course, the presentation of the project is also a major worry, that the directors have to undertake.

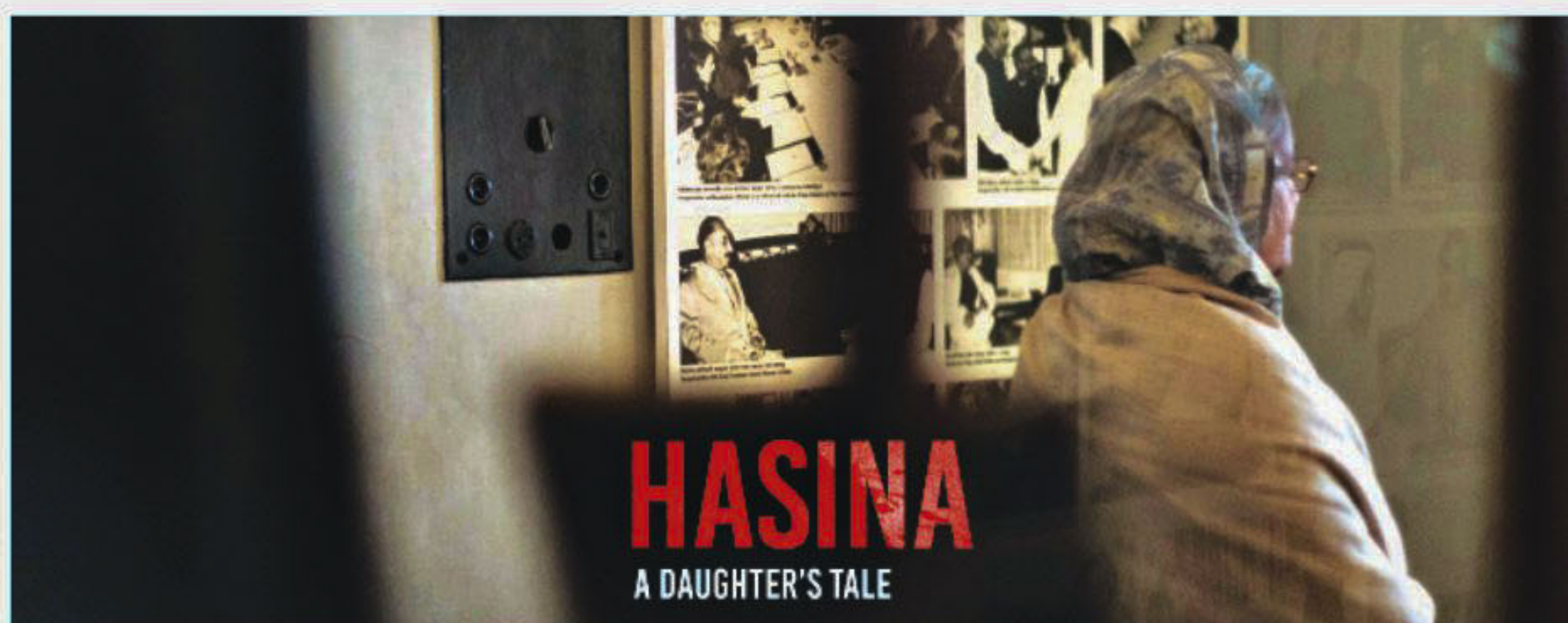
**Your presence on screen as an actor has declined. Do you miss acting?**

Of course I miss it, my first identity is that of an actor. After a lot of years of serving the industry, I have shifted to directing. Even though I choose to do less projects as an actor now, I do miss it very much.

## 'Hasina: A Daughter's Tale' to screen at Durban Film Festival

Arts & Entertainment Desk

Director Piplu Khan's critically acclaimed docu-fiction *Hasina: A Daughter's Tale*, based on the life of Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will be screened at the Durban Film Festival in South Africa on July 20 and 24. The film covers the events after the tragic assassination of the Father of the Nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, and the incredible story of sisters, Sheikh Hasina and Sheikh Rehana, and their time after the event. The news was confirmed by Centre for Research and Information (CRI), Bangladesh Awami League's research organisation.



## Shahidul Alam

shortlisted for Prix Pictet Award

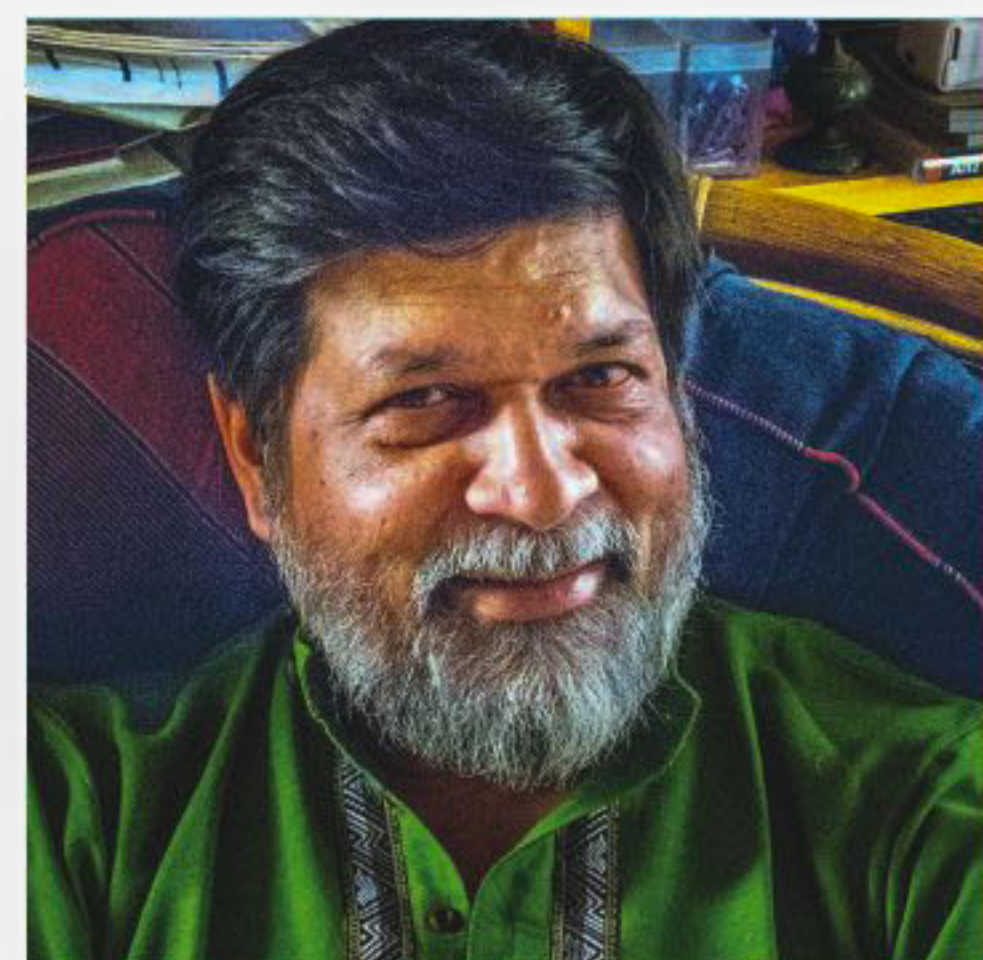


PHOTO: COURTESY

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Shahidul Alam, internationally renowned Bangladeshi photographer, activist and founder of Drik and Pathshala South Asian Media Institute, has been selected as one of the 12 photographers shortlisted for the eighth cycle of the Prix Pictet, the global award in photography and sustainability. The award will be presented to the winner on November 13, with the opening of an exhibition of works by the photographers at the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, UK.

## Rumman Rashid Khan: an anchor and scriptwriter

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Known for his skills as a playwright, scriptwriter and host, Rumman Rashid Khan has come a long way in his career and has established himself in the industry.

He has written the script for around 100 one-hour tele-fictions and tele-films, most of which were highly regarded by the viewers. He was also behind the script of the popular film *Purno Doirgho Prem Kahini*. Currently, the shooting for *Bishwa Sundori* is underway, which was also written by Rumman.

For the past six years, he has been presenting the renowned show, *Ranga Shokal* on Maasranga Television. As an employee there, he has also hosted several other shows for the channel. This

upcoming Eid ul Adha, he is scheduled to anchor two popular shows titled, *Star Night* and *Chemistry*.

Recently, Rumman also scripted a tele-fiction named *Water*, in which Tariq Anam Khan and Sumaiya Shimu will star as a couple for the first time. The talented writer is also credited for the immensely popular tele-fiction *SMS*, starring Mahfuz Ahmed and Prova which aired on Ekushey Television. It was aired multiple times on the channel due to its huge success.

His latest endeavor as a marketing consultant has brought him success as well. He was behind much of the publicity for the film *Debi* and *Nolok*. As tomorrow marks his birthday, we wish Rumman all the best in life and his future undertakings.



PHOTO: COURTESY



BanglaVision's premiere phono-live concert, 'Music Club', will feature renowned singer Kona today at 11:25 pm. Amidst the artiste's performances, the audience can call the number on display.

PHOTO: STAR