

WHAT'S ON

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

**Musical Concert**  
 Title: Sunflow Musical Fest-1  
 Venue: International Convention City  
 Rashundhara, 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

**Musical Evening**  
 Title: The songs of Mahmuduzzaman Babu  
 Venue: Jatra Biroti, Banani  
 Date: Today  
 Time: 7 pm - 10 pm  
 Ticket: BDT 300 (BDT 200 with a valid student ID)

**Theatre**  
 Title: An Inspector Calls  
 Venue: Bangladesh Mahila Samity, Baily Road  
 Date: 13 - 16 July  
 Time: 7:30 pm  
 Ticket: BDT 500, 300, 200, 100



PHOTO: SHAMS ASIF

# Sheena Chohan to feature in a Hollywood film

**ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK**  
 Sheena Chohan has carved a space for herself in the entertainment industry with her prowess in acting, modelling and hosting. The popular Indian actor is immensely admired on both sides of the Bengal. In her acting career, Sheena has worked with some of the most renowned directors of the region. Transcending borders, she is now ready to take a leap into Hollywood. Sheena was recently selected to feature in a role, by award-winning director Taron Lexton, for his film

*Nomad*. In the film, she will be playing an Indian character, a free spirited woman who loves to travel the world. *Nomad* is an unlikely love story, being shot in 25 countries across 7 continents. Out of the 28,000 submissions for casting, Sheena, now in America to begin her shoot, was spotted by the casting director Leslie Brown, who specialises in independent films and international casting from Los Angeles. Earlier, Sheena was nominated as Best Actress at the Shanghai and Dubai Film Festivals for her Netflix film, *Ant Story*.



PHOTO: COURTESY

# A peek into 'Mukhoshor Arale'

RASHEEK TABASSUM MONDIRA

*Mukhoshor Arale* is an art exhibition organised by Cosmo Concepts. The exhibition started on July 12, and will conclude today. After a brief inauguration ceremony, the exhibition was open for all from 7 pm onwards on Friday. Renowned Sculptor Mrinal Haque was the chief guest. Ayesha S Chowdhury, the Principal of Cardiff International School was also a guest at the event. The exhibition features 33 young artists, most of whom are young adults, with total of 80 artworks. The exhibition is about portraying the hidden emotions of our everyday lives. Happiness, despair, suffering, nostalgia, loneliness - were the emotions



portrayed in the paintings. It is difficult to convey emotions freely without consequence or ire from the society. These young artists projected their emotions onto the canvas, and poured themselves into the world of colour and imagination. "When we are lost in our thoughts, we feel a lot of emotion

at once," said Iffat Jahan Tusher, one of the artists in the exhibition. "We don't know the name of that emotion, but we know the feeling, one of my paintings is an effort to convey that emotion. It's called distorted thought." "The emotions we wanted to include are not just the morbid ones, our aim was to portray feelings of joy as well," says Edward William, the President of Cosmo Concepts. Cosmo Concepts is an event management service run by teenagers. Their first art exhibition *Say No To Poverty* was a huge success. *Mukhoshor Arale* is their second event. The event will conclude today, after a live music session from young artistes.

# Xefer's 'Dirty Tricks' out now

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Talented singer and YouTube star Xefer's latest music video, *Dirty Tricks*, is out now. Co-written by Mohon Sharif, the track is a part of her hit debut album, *Uncaged*. The EDM song, along with the stellar music video, is bound to get music lovers

pumping for a go at the dance floor. The video production for this song was done by Flybot Studios, and it was directed by Nahiyah Ahmed. Sumon Sarker was in charge of the cinematography. Star Cineplex is the promotion partner of the music video.



PHOTO: COURTESY

# Dhaka Gallery sets sail showcasing 26 contemporary artists

ZAHANGIR ALOM

Dhaka Gallery, a fresh establishment of Delvistaa Foundation at Banani, Dhaka, set sail its journey through inaugurating a month long group art exhibition titled *Prologue 01* on July 13.

The exhibition is showcasing 48 works by 26 contemporary artists of Bangladesh. The participating artists includes Abdul Mannan, Abdus Shakoor Shah, Abul Barq Alvi, Ahmed Shamsuddoha, Anisuzzaman Anis, Farida Zaman, Hamiduzzaman Khan, Jamal Ahmed, Kalidas Karmakar, Kanak Champa Chakma, Mahmudul Haque, Md Eunus, Md. Muniruzzaman, Mohammad



Iqbal, Monirul Islam, Murtaza Baseer, Mostafizul Haque, Mustapha Khalid Palash, Nisar Hossain, Rafiqun Nabi, Ranjit Das, Rokeya Sultana, Samarjit Roy Choudhury, Shahabuddin Ahmed, Sheikh Afzal Hossain and Shishir Bhattacharjee.

Nasrul Hamid MP, the State Minister for the Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources, inaugurated the show as chief guest while Abul Khair, Chairman, Bengal Foundation, graced the event as guest of honour.

To commemorate the first exhibition, a book edited by Mustapha Khalid Palash was published and launched on the day. The book features the synoptic biographies, portraits of all the 26 artists, along with art criticism by eminent art critics and the plates of the paintings displayed in the exhibition. Despite so many hindrances and pretending the unseen obstacles, Delvistaa Foundation proudly announced the launch of 'Dhaka Gallery' though this group exhibition for the visual artists. The gallery will meet the craving demand of the discerning art lovers, collectors, audiences and artists, who were looking for an art gallery in this part of the capital.

# Grey Dhaka scores hat trick at Cannes Lions International Festival of Creativity

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Popularly known for its international film festival, Cannes also hosts the world's most prestigious advertising festival annually. Titled *Cannes Lions International Festival of Creativity*, it aims to celebrate creative efficiency and problem solving in the global advertising arena.

Over 30,000 entries are submitted each year from more than 89 countries to 27 specialised categories. These entries then go through a rigorous screening process by some of the greatest creative minds in the field, for a chance to take home the prestigious Cannes Lions award.

This year, Bangladesh bagged two silvers and one bronze, along with five shortlists. The concerned entry - United Commercial Bank (UCB) AgroBanking powered by Shwapno, was submitted by Grey Dhaka, the only Bangladeshi agency to win at Cannes.

The project revolves around small scale farmers, who

sometimes end up growing more than they need. The surplus is often wasted or sold to middlemen at low prices. Through AgroBanking, the produce is bought by Shwapno at fair prices and shipped to its various outlets nationwide, while the cash is directly deposited into the farmers' UCB Ucash accounts respectively.

According to Per Pederson, Global Creative Chairman, Grey Group, AgroBanking stood out as a great and meaningful idea that would benefit millions living outside the formal world of financial inclusion. He states that Cannes is the highest standard of creativity in the world, and the fact that Grey Dhaka achieved international recognition for it, should be taken as inspiration for the entire creative industry in Bangladesh.

Nirvik Singh, Chairman and CEO of Grey Group's Asia Pacific, Middle East and Africa region is very proud for Grey Dhaka. He cited that the project brings attention to a solution that is born in Bangladesh, but can be



implemented across multiple agricultural economies. Syed Gousul Alam Shaon, Managing Partner and Country Head of Grey Dhaka, said that modern advertising is about solving problems ranging from business and marketing to societal and behavioral. However, through a project like AgroBanking, a unique solution was devised where two completely different businesses were brought together to solve a societal problem of a people who can be potential customers for both UCB and Shwapno.

Mohammad Akrum Hossain, Senior Creative Director of Grey Dhaka, formulated the project while visiting his ancestral home in Mymensingh. He found out that villagers were intimidated by banks, but at the same time, usually ended up with more produce than they needed which they were often forced to either throw away or sell at low prices. With those facts in mind, he thought about two of the clients Grey Dhaka has -- UCB and Shwapno -- could be linked to the villagers. After several brainstorming sessions, AgroBanking began to take shape.