

WHAT'S ON

Live Performance
 Title: Tales of the Wind, a performance of flute and tabla
 Venue: Jatra Biroti, Banani
 Date: July 25
 Time: 7:30 pm – 10 pm
 Tickets: BDT 300 (BDT 200 with a valid student ID)

Group Art Exhibition
 Title: Prologue 1
 Venue: Dhaka Gallery, Banani
 Date: Jul 13 - Aug 9
 Time: 3 pm - 8 pm

Beatbox Workshop
 Title: BeatCamp by Beatbox
 Venue: EMK Centre
 Date: July 25
 Time: 3:30 pm onwards

Solo Art Exhibition
 Title: Red is Not a Colour
 Venue: Dwip Gallery, Lalmatia
 Date: Jul 12 - 25
 Time: 3 pm - 9 pm

Art exhibition
 Title: Muhurtama solo art exhibition by Shamset Tabreej
 Venue: Dwip Gallery, Lalmatia
 Date: July 27 - August 22 (except Mondays)
 Time: 5 pm - 9 pm



PHOTO: COURTESY

Bipasha Hayat turns to screenwriting

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Renowned actor Bipasha Hayat has written a number of tele-fictions during her illustrious career in the entertainment industry. Nearly all her works have been well received by the audience, particularly the popular mega serial *Jyotsnakaal*.

In recent times, Bipasha Hayat has shifted her focus more towards writing tele-fictions and painting, than acting. Her paintings have been exhibited in a number of prestigious galleries in Bangladesh and abroad. Currently, she is writing the screenplay for an upcoming tele-fiction for Eid ul Adha, *Shornolota*, to be directed by Tauquir Ahmed.

"*Shornolota* has a beautiful, feel-good story, which the audience will hopefully resonate with," said Bipasha Hayat. The actor-screenwriter-artist virtuoso has written another tele-fiction for Eid ul Adha, which will also be directed by Tauquir Ahmed.

Bipasha Hayat is gearing up to write her first movie script this August. "I don't want to reveal the director's name yet," said Bipasha Hayat, "I am preparing the story completely in my head and will commence the writing process soon."



PHOTO: SHAHREAR KABIR HEEMEL

National Art Exhibition concludes

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

The 23rd National Art Exhibition has recently concluded at the National Art Gallery of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA). Bringing together artists from different age groups, working with different mediums and techniques, the exhibition has, over the years, become a platform that encourages exchange of ideas between artists, critics and art enthusiasts.

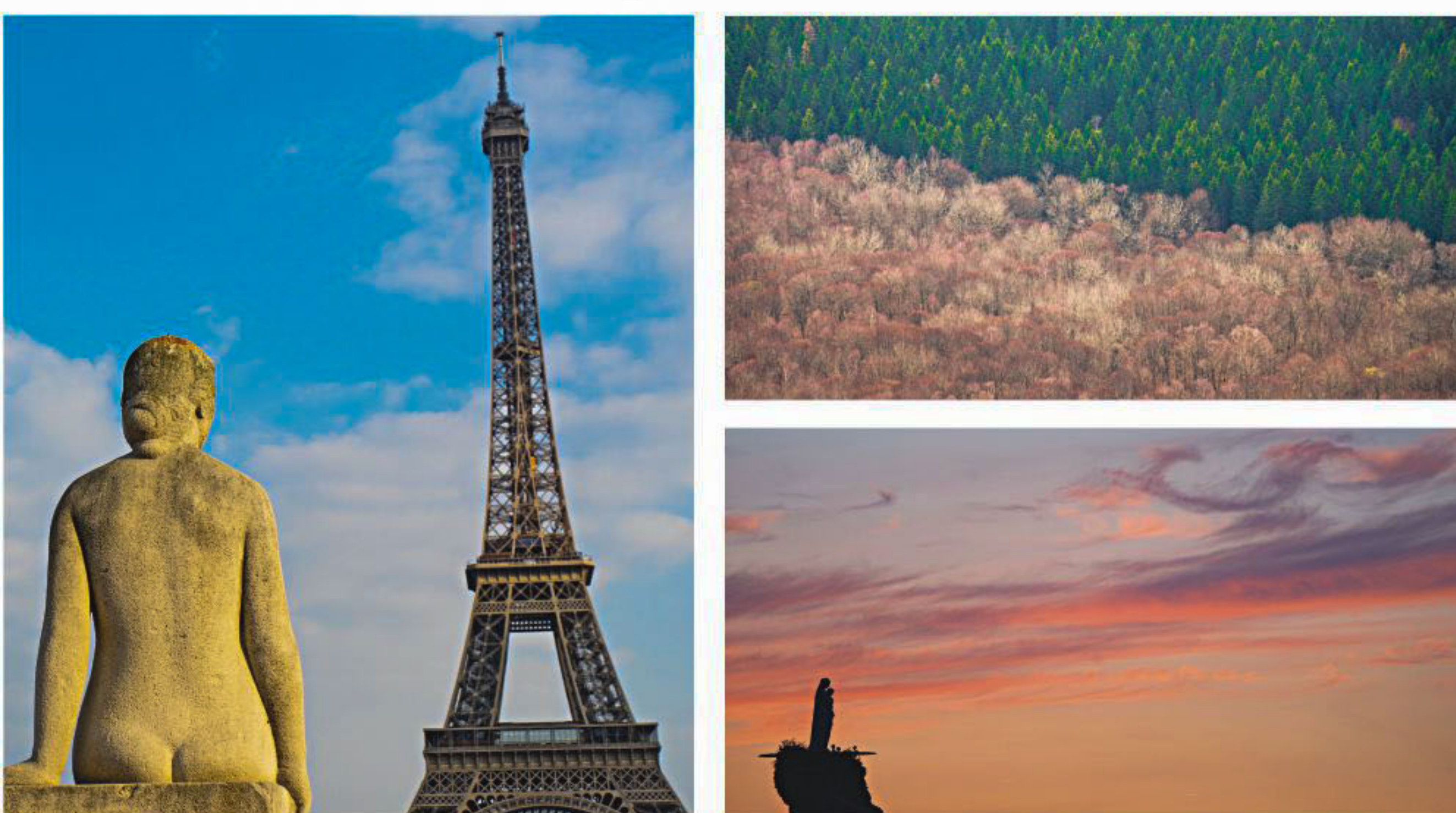
Renowned artist Professor Mostafizul Haque, one of the selectors of the exhibition, attended the concluding ceremony as honourable guest while art critics Mustafa Zaman and Shawn Akhand presented their reviews and suggestions at the programme. Ashraf Alam Paplu, Director of the Department of Fine Arts, BSA, delivered the welcome address while Liaquat Ali Lucky, Director General of BSA presided over the programme.

This exhibition is organised biennially by the Department of Fine Arts, BSA. Initiated in 1975, the exhibition has so far earned recognition from art-lovers as a celebration of modern artworks by artists from across the nation.

This year's exhibition featured a display of 322 artworks by 310 artists. The participants have expressed their artistic feelings and thoughts through watercolour, oil, mixed media and acrylic paintings, as well as sculptures, prints, crafts, ceramics, installations, videos and performing arts.

The artworks at the exhibition possessed distinctively local characteristics in terms of forms, subjects and aesthetics. The artists' mode of expressions were varied -- realistic, semi-realistic, pure-abstract, semi-abstract, abstract expressionism, expressionism, impressionism and neo-expressionism. The participating artists' tended to experiment with new mediums and their works were suggestive of those traits.

'France, Natural and Eternal: A Photographer's Journey' to be exhibited at AFD



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Alliance Française de Dhaka is scheduled to inaugurate the 2nd solo photography exhibition titled *France, Natural and Eternal: A Photographer's Journey* by Shibly Shiraj in its La Galerie. The inaugural ceremony will be held on July 26 at 5:30 pm.

Ramendu Majumder, Honorary President, International Theatre Institute (ITI) is set to attend the opening ceremony as chief guest.

Earlier this year, Shiraj went on a three week-long journey to France, where he rented a car to tour the picturesque countryside. As he travelled, he captured the scenic locations that intrigued him, with his camera. As Shiraj believes that the nature must remain at the core of human existence, the exhibition aims to revolve around his thoughts.

The exhibition will be open to all till August 8. Visiting hours are from Mondays to Thursdays from 3 pm to 9 pm, Fridays and Saturdays from 9 am to noon and 5 pm to 8 pm. It will remain closed on Sundays.

PHOTO: COURTESY

ANNOUNCEMENT

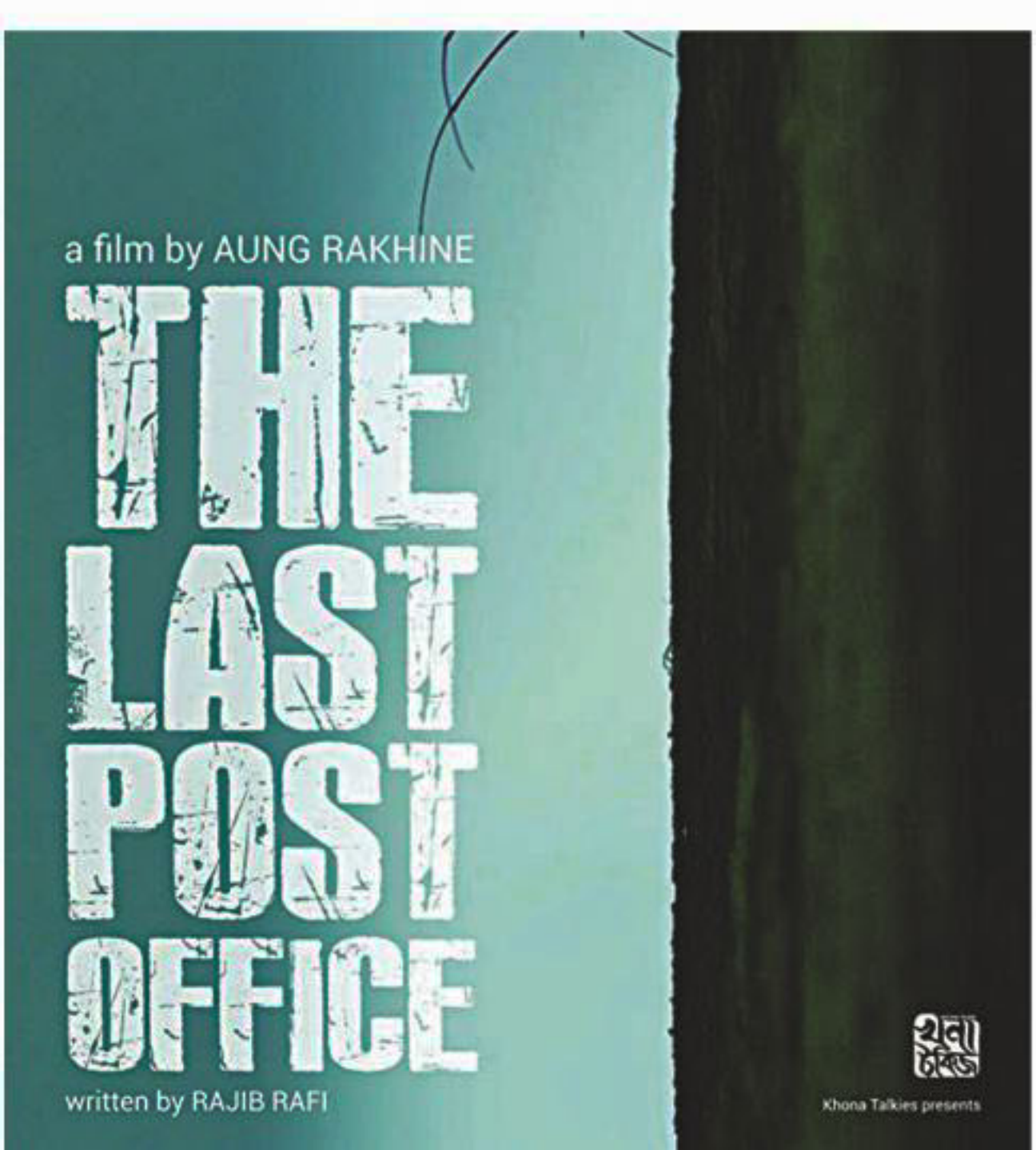
Chhayanaut is scheduled to arrange a two-day programme titled 'Nazrul Utshab', which will focus on the works and life of our National Poet. The occasion is set to begin tomorrow and continue till the day after, from 7 pm onwards and is open for all.

The Last Post Office in Melbourne

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Promising young filmmaker Aung Rakhine's short film *The Last Post Office* has been selected for a screening at this year's Melbourne International Film Festival. The festival, scheduled to run from August 1 to 18, will take place in Melbourne, Australia. *The Last Post Office* has been nominated as one of the top International Shorts and is scheduled to be screened on August 7 and 12 at the event.

Written by Rajib Rafi and starring Ashish Khondoker, Shahriar Ferdous and Ashok Bepari, *The Last Post Office* began its journey through a world premiere at last year's Locarno International Film Festival in Locarno, Switzerland. Produced under the banner of Khona Talkies, by Rubaiyat Hossain and Adnan Imtiaz Ahmed, the film has been screened at various prestigious international festivals since its premiere, including the Clermont-Ferrand Short Film Festival 2019, Tampere Film Festival 2019 and Hong Kong International Film Festival 2019, amongst others.



'Masud Rana' gets a Hollywood treatment



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Earlier last year, Jaz Multimedia announced the news that they will be venturing into a project revolving around the famous fictional character, Masud Rana. Following that, there were no further updates for some time. However, Jaz Multimedia recently made an announcement on social media stating their progress.

Qazi Anwar Hussain's character, Masud Rana, is a popular figure in Bangla literature, who was featured in hundreds of the writer's novels. Though Hussain's adult spy-thriller series was inspired by James Bond, it went on to morph into a persona of its own.

Bangladeshi-born Hollywood director and actor Asif Akbar will direct the film. He has been a part of the industry since 2006 and made his directorial debut last year. According to the co-producer of the film Jaz Multimedia, the movie will be made in Hollywood supported by a hefty budget. Filming locations for the project include Bangladesh, Thailand and Mauritius. The film will have a Bangla version as well as an English one, and will be released internationally.

Jaz Multimedia further informed that many big names from the film industries of Bangladesh, USA, and India, will be part of the cast and crew of the film. The lead cast's names are yet to be disclosed by the producers.



PHOTO: COLLECTED

Director Asif Akbar at work.