

WHAT'S ON

Live Performance
 Title: Black at Jatra Biroti
 Venue: Jatra Biroti, Banani
 Date: August 9
 Time: 7 pm onwards
 Tickets: BDT 300

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

Photography & Poetry Exhibition
 Title: ProjectDebi: Revolutionary Photography And Poetry Exhibition
 Venue: EMK Center, Dhanmondi
 Date: August 26 - 28
 Time: 10 am - 7 pm

Concert
 Title: 3 for 1
 Venue: 3rd Space, Dhanmondi
 Date: August 9
 Time: 6:30 pm onwards

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

Three upcoming films this Eid



Every year when Eid is around the corner, the work schedules for many in the entertainment industry tend to get busy. During these times, a variety of films, tele-fictions, songs and other ventures are released to keep the festive season vibrant and entertaining. Often, popular films are also screened in theatre halls. During the upcoming Eid ul Adha, three new films are scheduled for release this season.

SHAH ALAM SHAZI
 One film that the audience is highly anticipating is, *Moner Moto Manush Pailam Na*. Expectations are high for this big-budget film since it stars the 'King' of Dhallywood, Shakib Khan, and is being directed by Zakir Hossain Raju, one of the most renowned directors in the industry. Apart from its release in Dhaka, the film will also be released in various cinema halls

across the nation. Bubby will star opposite Shakib in *Moner Moto Manush Pailam Na*. Another upcoming film in the list is *Beporwa*, directed by Raja Chanda. It will star actors Roshan and Bobby, who are enthusiastic about their venture. *Beporwa* will also be released nationwide during Eid. *Bhalobashar Jala* is the third film in the list, to be released during Eid ul Adha. The film is directed by Bashir Ahmed. It star new-comers Orpa and Shakil in the lead roles.



(From left) Stills from 'Beporwa', 'Moner Moto Manush Pailam Na' and 'Bhalobashar Jala'.

PHOTOS: COLLECTED



PHOTO: COURTESY

Chhayanaut pays homage to Rabindranath Tagore

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

To commemorate the 78th death anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore, Chhayanaut arranged a cultural programme recently at their premises, a practice the organisation has been carrying out committedly. Various vibrant performances based on the bard's songs, poems and dance

recitals were presented during the occasion.

During the event, performers from Chhayanaut staged the musical drama, *Shyma*, while Kanthashilan, a cultural group, staged *Ami Tomay Chharbo Na Maa*, adapted from Tagore's works. They also presented a poetic drama titled, *Karnakuntee Shangkbad*.

In memory of beloved author TONI MORRISON

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Recently, it was reported that Nobel Prize-winning author Toni Morrison has passed away at the age of 88. Tributes from many artists, writers and leaders quickly poured in for Morrison as soon as news broke of her death.

"Her writing was a beautiful, meaningful challenge to our conscience and our moral imagination. What a gift to breathe the same air as her, if only for a while," former US President Barack Obama — who awarded Morrison the Presidential Medal of Freedom — wrote on Twitter.

"What a life," wrote author Clint Smith on the woman whose books focused on African American people. "What a remarkable remarkable life. She not only changed the landscape of American writing, she changed the landscape of America."



PHOTOS: TWITTER

"She wasn't just the queen of American letters," said bestselling author Ibram X Kendi. "She wrote America's letters. And whether we realize it or not, all Americans and all writers are indebted to Toni Morrison. Sleep well. We are eternally grateful for you. We are eternally grateful for America's letters." Oprah Winfrey also posted a heartfelt message on social media, in honour of the beloved author.



'Aleya Twist' - A modern-day Bengali adaptation of a Dickens classic

SHARMIN JOYA

The British Council Cultural Centre, in partnership with Komola Collective, worked on *Aleya Twist*, a modern day Bengali adaptation of the celebrated English novel, *Oliver Twist*, by Charles Dickens, as a part of a three-week project. Komola Collective is a London-based arts organisation dedicated to telling the stories from female perspectives that often go untold. The play is adapted by Leesa Gazi and directed by Filiz Ozcan. They are both Joint Artistic Directors of Komola Collective. The play introduces Aleya, a female protagonist, in place of Oliver Twist.

Aleya is played by Ritu Akter. A group of young girls from English and Digital for Girls' Education (EDGE) Clubs of Tangail and BRAC also performed in the play. The rest of the cast and crew were hired from local theatre groups.

"It is a privilege to play Aleya. I am thankful to British Council for arranging such a great project and allowing me to have such a beautiful experience, working with so many professionals," says Ritu.

Although the story is set nearly two hundred years later and many thousands of miles away from the original story, the



PHOTOS: COURTESY

difference in time and place does not take away the harsh reality that the original *Oliver* had to face. *Aleya* is a ten-year-old whose mother passes away right after childbirth. *Aleya*'s struggles of surviving in unforgiving and greedy surroundings is the major plot point of the play. Before finally reuniting with her father, *Aleya*

encounters many harsh sides of the society, including child trafficking and stealing.

The whole team rehearsed in Madhupur, Tangail, where they staged their first show. The play was staged at Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy yesterday.



Marking the 44th death anniversary of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy is hosting a month-long tribute to the Father of the Nation. Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy Shishu Dol performed on the song 'Dhonno Mujib Dhonno' whereas the Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy Nritya Dol performed on 'Dukhini Bangla, Jononi Bangla' on August 6, 2019, in a cultural event, before the staging of the play 'Mujib Mane Mukti'. PHOTOS: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED