

WHAT'S ON

RIBUTE TO
Exhibition
 Title: Tribute to Mad Cartoon
 Exhibition
 Venue: Drik Gallery, Dhanmondi 15A (New)
 Date: August 23 – 25
 Time: 3 pm – 8 pm

Exhibition, Screening & More
 Title: Shilper Aloye Bangabandhu
 Organiser: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
 Venue: BSA Premises
 Date: August 1 – 31
 Time: 11 am onwards

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

Rock Concert
 Title: Legacy of Rock N Roll
 Venue: ICCB, Hall 04 (Naboratri), Bashundhara
 Date: September 13
 Time: 3 pm – 10 pm
 Hotline: +8801707975206

Group Art Exhibition
 Title: Colours
 Venue: La Galerie
 Date: August 23 – August 31
 Time: Mon - Thurs from 3 pm - 9 pm, Fri and Sat from 9 am - 12 pm and 5 pm - 8 pm (closed on Sunday)



Among other things, the exhibition comprises of double exposure art, hand-sketched and digital cartoons, glass paintings and figurines.

Unmad's wonderful tribute to MAD

TIASHA IDRAK

The American humour magazine, *MAD*, founded in 1952, will effectively be pulled from newsstands after the release of its 9th issue in August 2019. The magazine was widely imitated and influential, affecting satirical media, as well as the cultural landscape of the 20th century. It published satire on all aspects of life and popular culture, politics, entertainment, and public figures. *MAD*'s mascot, Alfred E Neuman is typically the focal point of the magazine's cover, with his face often replacing that of a celebrity or character who is lampooned within the issue. With an objective to commemorate the influence *MAD* has had on cartoonists all over the globe, *Unmad*, Bangladesh's premier humour magazine, has organised an exhibition titled, *Tribute to Mad Cartoon*, at Drik Gallery in Dhaka.

Among other things, the exhibition comprises of double exposure art, hand-sketched and digital cartoons, glass paintings and figurines by both promising and established artists. The wonderful artworks feature a smiling Alfred E Neuman and *Unmad*'s cheeky mascot. Renowned cartoonist Ahsan Habib, the editor of *Unmad*, inaugurated the event on Friday, surrounded by colleagues and fans of all ages. Syed Rashad Imam Tanmoy and Morshed Mishu, Assistant Editors at *Unmad*, Mehedi Haque, Publisher of *Dhaka Comics* and Nasreen Sultana Mitu, the founder of Project Tiktaalik, were also present. "I remember buying copies of *MAD* in 1975, when I was in school. It was unlike anything that I had seen before. *Unmad* is hugely inspired by *MAD*," said Ahsan Habib. "We even sent one of our copies to William Gaines,

the publisher of *MAD*, in 1980. He was really appreciative of it." Morshed Mishu believes that most people in Bangladesh came to know about *MAD* through *Unmad*. "The influence *MAD* has had on generations of comic artists is phenomenal. I am sad to see that it will not be published anymore," he said. "We have arranged this exhibition to celebrate the legacy of *MAD* in the best way we can, through our art." Mishu's double exposure piece at the exhibition fuses Alfred E Neuman and the mascot of *Unmad* together. Cartoonist Arif Iqbal shared that *Unmad* plans to launch online editions, in addition to their printed ones, in the near future. "There are avid fans of *Unmad* both at home and abroad. We want to reach our audience outside of Bangladesh," he told *The Daily Star*. The exhibition concludes today.

PHOTOS: SHANTO LAWRENCE COSTA

Afzal Hossain O Tar Nayikara coming soon on Channel i

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Afzal Hossain, an eminent actor and director, has worked with a number of female artists from different generations, in the span of his illustrious career. Channel i has produced a seven-episode TV show titled, *Afzal Hossain O Tar Nayikara*, inviting Afzal Hossain and 35 of his female co-stars. Planned and anchored by Faria Hossain, the show is

directed by Rehana Samdani. Eminent actors Champa, Shampa Reza, Moushumi, Bipasha Hayat, Tania Ahmed, Emi Rahman, Tareen, Sadia Islam Mou, Sweety, Aupsee Karim and Afsana Mimi will be a part of the show. Babita, Nima Rahman, Mita Rahman and Bonna Mirza among others will share their memories and experiences through video messages. The shooting of *Afzal Hossain O Tar Nayikara* is currently underway.



PHOTO: COURTESY



PHOTO: STAR

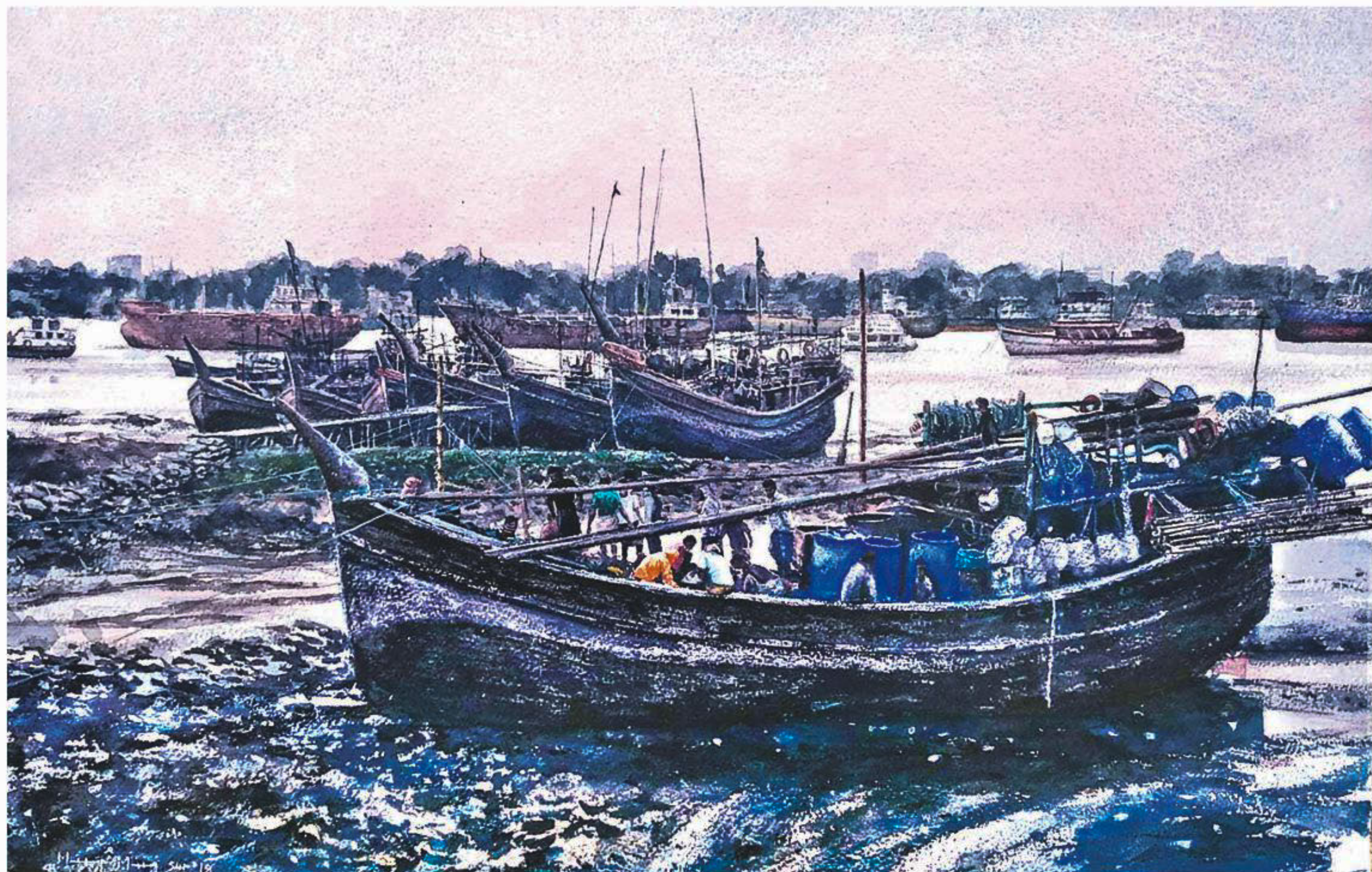
In remembrance of RIZIA RAHMAN

AMINUL ISLAM, From Mymensingh

A discussion, in remembrance of noted novelist Rizia Rahman, was held in Mymensingh recently. The recipient of many prestigious awards including Ekushey Padak and Bangla Academy Literary Award, Rizia Rahman passed away at the age of 79. Some of Rizia Rahman's notable works include *Bong Theke Bangla* and *Rokter Okshor*. She made remarkable contributions to Bengali Literature and

Language. Mymensingh Sahitya Sangsad held the discussion titled, 'Bangla Kothasahityer Swatantra Bhubone Rizia Rahman', on the life and work of the novelist, at the 1850th meeting of Bikkhhon, a literary circle of the organisation. Writer Salah Uddin Pathan and Professor Al Maksud were among the discussants. Poet Farid Ahmed Dulal chaired the discussion, while artist Mohammad Rajon anchored it.

Mong Mong Sho on his boat of artistic creations



TV WATCH



'Tomar Golpe Ami', directed by Zakaria Shoukhin, will debut on BanglaVision today. The television drama features Apurba, Mamo, Tawsif Mahub, Tanjin Tisha and Urmila Srabanti, among others.

PHOTO: COURTESY



Artworks by Mong Mong Sho.

ZAHANGIR ALOM
 Talented artist Mong Mong Sho attended the Institute of Fine Arts, University of Chittagong. In 2012, he received a scholarship from the Yunnan Provincial Government to study Fine Arts in China. As a graduate from the Academy of Fine Arts of Yunnan Academy of Arts, he participated in numerous national and international art exhibitions in China and Bangladesh. *Mong's Song of Fisherman-The Creation of Harbor* series has received widespread critical acclaim. "I was born and brought up in a coastal region of Bangladesh," says the artist. "Maheshkhali is an island in the Bay of Bengal under Cox's Bazar where I was born in 1989. I have strong memories of the lifestyle of the fishermen living there. The day labourers, boat makers,



businessmen and other people have also influenced me." As a child, Mong played games by the seashore, where he saw anchored fishing boats every day. He dreamed of becoming a boat-maker someday. "I realise that my cherished dream is being fulfilled through my watercolour paintings," he says. "My *Fisher Boat* series is being appreciated."

Before starting the *Fisher Boat* series, Mong looked for a subject to portray in paintings. For his commitment to art, Mong has received many awards, including the ZN Art-Krasi Todorov Award for exceptional contribution to World Watercolour, International Youth Watercolor Festival in Bulgaria, Honourable Mention Award for Canson Cup 2018 Paper Work Exhibition in China, and

the Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin Award, among others. The artist has participated in a number of art exhibitions and workshops around the globe. His solo exhibition, *The Songs of Fisherman*, was held this year at Yunnan Arts University Art Gallery, Kunming, China. A number of his artworks have been collected in different countries around the world.

PHOTO: COURTESY

