

WHAT'S ON



Theatre
Title: A New Testament of Romeo & Juliet
Troupe: Empty Space
Venue: National Theatre, BSA
Date: September 29
Time: 7 pm - 8:30 pm



Musical Evening
Title: Star Melodies Shurer Badhoney
Venue: The Daily Star Centre, Kazi Nazrul Islam Ave
Date: September 28
Time: 6:30 pm



Exhibition
Title: Jamdani Festival 2019
Venue: Bengal Shilpalay, Dhanmondi
Date: September 6 - October 12
(closed on Sundays)
Time: 12 noon - 8 pm



Live Performance
Title: Another Coffee Shop Gig 2
Venue: L'Espresso Coffee Shop, Banani
Date: Today
Time: 3 pm - 8 pm
Tickets: BDT 200



Solo Print Exhibition
Title: "Transformation" by Md Rafiqul Islam
Venue: La Galerie, AFD
Date: September 27 - October 12
Time: 3 pm - 9 pm

Annual Bonsai Exhibition opens at WVA



A visitor looks at a root-on-rock bonsai at the exhibition.



Rizwan Samad's 'Mountain Landscape'



Informal upright bonsais on display at the event.

ASHLEY SHOPTORSHI SAMADDAR

The 21st Annual Bonsai Exhibition, organised by Bangladesh Bonsai Society, opened yesterday at the Women's Voluntary Association (WVA) Auditorium in Dhanmondi, Dhaka.

Internationally acclaimed Bangladeshi artist Monirul Islam was present at the event as the chief guest. He inaugurated the exhibition. Mai Tomori, Head of Public Affairs, Embassy of Japan in Bangladesh, attended the inaugural ceremony

as the guest of honour, and Md Almasur Rahman, Trainer, International Chess Federation (FIDE), was present as the special guest.

Over 3000 different bonsai plants by 45 bonsai artistes from all around the country are showcased at the exhibition. Miniature models of Ficus, Bougain Villa, Mohua, Tamarind, Pakur, Water Jasmine, and Chinese Elm, with many other Bonsai plants are on display. The bonsai styles are: cascade, informal upright, twin trunk, slanting, root-over-rock, and penjing.

Rizwan Samad's *Mountain Landscape*, comprised of a Fukein Tea bonsai, Lilliput Premna, and a mini Eam bonsai is conjoined in harmony by a waterfall. It is a treat to the eyes. Salahuddin Ahmed's *Swirling Baubub*, with its root resembling a cyclone, is also an interesting piece. Borhan Hossain Kakul's *Formal Upright* is one of the notable plants at the show. The root-over-rock bonsais are also exquisite.

The exhibition is open to all till September 29.



(From left) Monirul Islam with the other guests at the exhibition.

PHOTOS: KAZI SALAUDDIN RAZU



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

Lucky Enam appointed as the chairperson of Bangladesh Shishu Academy

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Renowned playwright, actor and the presidium member of Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation, Lucky Enam, was recently appointed as the chairperson of Bangladesh Shishu Academy. She joined the post from September 25. She is as a prominent artiste in the fields of radio, television and theatre. She is also an Ekushey Padak recipient.

With various praiseworthy tele-fictions to her credit, her popularity was widespread during the 70s and 80s. After she joined Nagorik Natya Sampradaya, she acted in many renowned plays along with her troupe. Nurturing her passion for theatre, she scripted multiple plays, as well as tele-fictions, throughout her illustrious career. Lucky also founded the theatre group, Nagorik Natyangon along with her husband Enamul Haque.

Following her appointment as the new chairperson of Bangladesh Shishu Academy, many celebrated artistes took to social media to congratulate her.

A heartfelt tribute to Zafar Iqbal

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Renowned actor and freedom fighter Zafar Iqbal was not only praised by the audience for his remarkable roles on screen, but he was also an established singer. His memorable songs include *Hoy Jodi Bodnaam Hok Aro* and *Sukhe Theko O Amar Nondini*, among others.

Born on September 25, 1950, in a musical family in Dhaka, Zafar's first music lessons began from an early age. Following in the footsteps of his elder siblings, celebrated singer Shahnaz Rahmatullah and Ekushey Padak awardee Anwar Parvez, he formed his own band in the 1960s.

Zafar Iqbal took a break from music after he joined the Bangladeshi film industry. His first film was *Apon-Por*. With his charming looks and personality, the artiste won the hearts of the masses.

His performance in *Noyaner Alo*, where he played a rural singer, was memorable. He has worked in over 150 films, including the box office hits, *Mastan*, *Bhai Bondhu*, *Chorer Bou*, *Obodaan*, *Shadharon Meye*, *Ogo Bideshini*, *Protirodh*, *Sath Rajar Dhon*, *Ek Mutho Bhaat*, *Megh Bijli Badol*, and *Fakir Maznu Shah*, in his acting career.

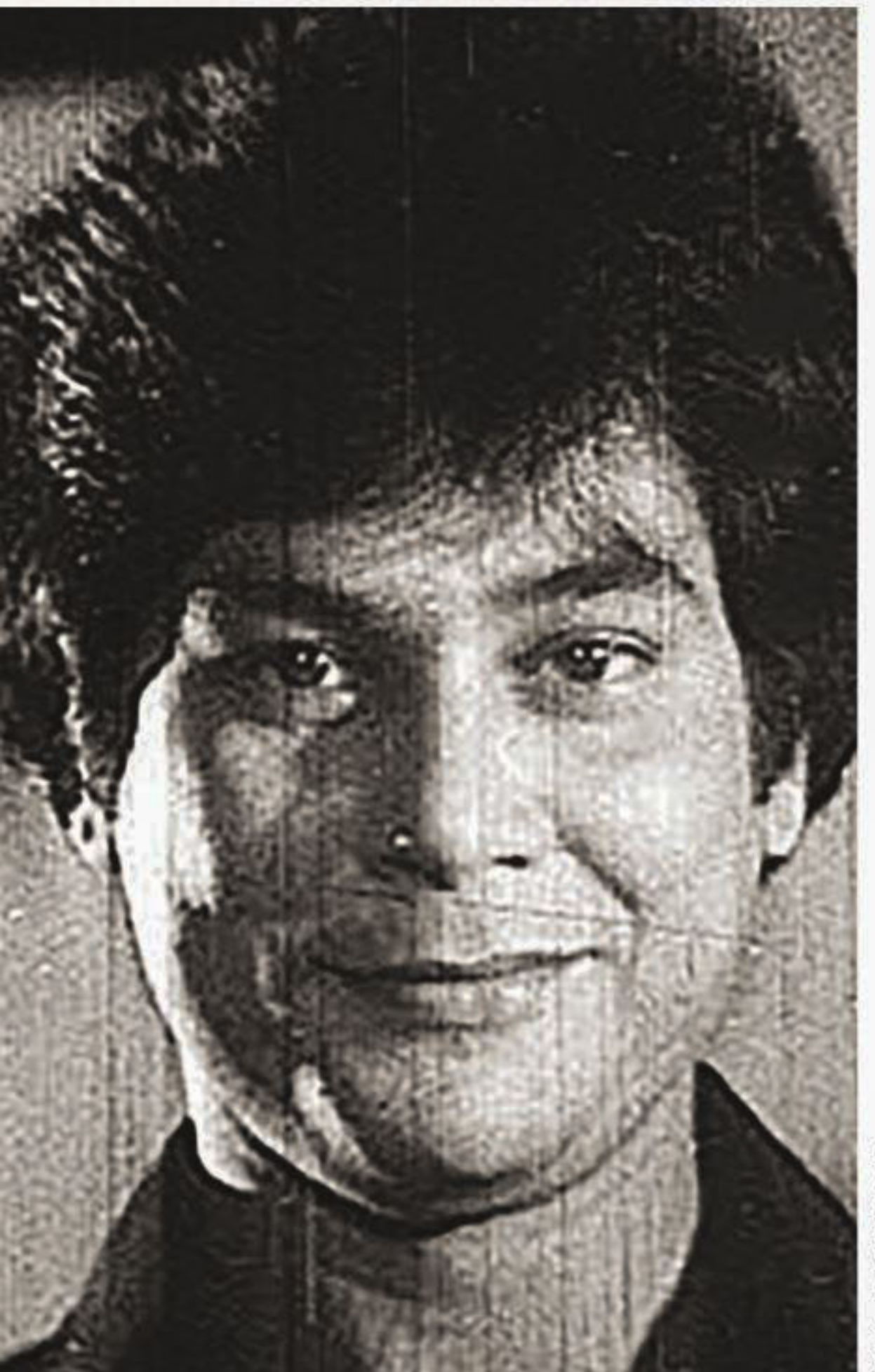


PHOTO: COLLECTED

TV WATCH



Duronto TV will broadcast 'Rong Beronger Golpo', a children's series, every Friday and Saturday at 9 pm. Based on books by Room to Read, the channel aims to instill cultural, social and educational values in the viewers through the show.

PHOTO: COURTESY

Avril Lavigne returns to music after five years

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Canadian musician Avril Ramona Lavigne turns 35 today. Despite her long hiatus from the industry, she is more prominent than ever.

Her debut album, *Let Go*, was released in 2002, earning her the title of 'Pop Punk Queen' from fans and critics alike. She truly paved the way for female driven, punk-influenced pop music.

Since her professional debut, Lavigne has sold more than 40 million albums and over 50 million singles worldwide, making her the third-best-selling Canadian female artiste of all time, behind Celine Dion and Shania Twain.

Lavigne's music was welcomed across the world for its authenticity and youthful perspective. She went on to release *Under My Skin* in 2006, *The Best Damn Thing* in 2008, *Goodbye Lullabye* in 2011 and *Avril Lavigne* in 2015.

Unfortunately, her career in music took a blow when she was diagnosed with Lyme disease in 2014, which resulted in her five-year break from music. For a long time, Lavigne was not sure if she would ever release another album or be able to tour again. After her recovery, she has returned to music with *Head Above Water*, her most intimate album yet. The latest single of the album, *I Fell in Love With the Devil*, was released recently.



PHOTO: COLLECTED

International Peace Day celebrated at Russian Centre for Science and Culture

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

A special seminar and children's drawing competition, marking International Peace Day (September 21), was held at the Russian Centre for Science and Culture.

Maxim Dobrokhov, the head of the representative office of Rosotrudnichestvo (Russian Centre for Science and Culture) in Bangladesh, spoke at the event. He highlighted the importance of the day, pointing to the constant focus of Russia on maintaining peace in the name of present and future generations. He further mentioned the Livadia Message of Peace, in which Russia called for maintaining a multipolar world without wars in the 21st century and for this to involve the political will of all the states members of the United Nations.

Dr Abul Azad, the chairman of Muktijuddho Academy Trust also spoke at the occasion. He focused on the importance of preserving and developing the friendly relations between the two countries.

Around 100 contestants from various schools in the capital and the Serov Academy of Fine Arts, affiliated with the Russian Centre for Science and Culture in Dhaka, partook in the competition. The winners are scheduled to receive special prizes, based on the results of the selection committee.



PHOTO: COURTESY