

WHAT'S ON



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



Art Exhibition
Title: NOUVEAUX VENUS, The newcomers
Venue: Gallery Chitrag, Dhanmondi
Date: September 27 - September 30
Time: 5 pm - 8 pm



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



Theatre
Title: Draupadi Parampara
Venue: National Theatre Hall, BSA
Date: October 3
Time: 7 pm - 8:40 pm



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

(2-L) National Professor Anisuzzaman, Liaquat Ali Lucky, K M Khalid and Dr Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury, among others at the exhibition. PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

SHEIKH HASINA- BANGLADESH ER SHOPNOSHAROTHI

Exhibition on PM Sheikh Hasina at BSA

SHARMIN JOYA

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina turned 72 yesterday. Keeping her birthday in mind, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) organised a special month-long exhibition, titled, *Sheikh Hasina - Bangladesh er Shopnosharothi*. The exhibition features photographs, paintings and installations on the Prime Minister's life. The display comprised of various photographs from Sheikh Hasina's childhood up to current times, arranged under different categories.

Amongst the many eye-catching installations was a photo gallery, made magnificently out of clocks with photos of the Prime Minister in them. Another attraction was a maze with doors that contained portraits of Sheikh Hasina.

The exhibition focuses on major turns in Sheikh Hasina's life -- from the struggles and tragedies of her personal life, to her embracing politics, and fulfilling her father, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's dream. The exhibition has been arranged at the Jatiyo Chitroshala Bhaban's gallery one and six, in BSA.

The month-long programme was inaugurated at Jatiyo Chitroshala Bhaban by the speaker of the Parliament, Dr Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury, yesterday. It will continue till October 27. State Minister for Cultural Affairs, K M Khalid and National Professor Anisuzzaman, were the chief guests. Liaquat Ali Lucky, the director of BSA, presided over the programme. Badrul Anam Bhuiyan, Secretary, was also present, among others.

The exhibition also displayed different phases of the Prime Minister's life through a



projector. Numerous books, written by various people, were also showcased. Paintings on August 21 were also on display. All the paintings were done in acrylic. Titash Chakma's *Shongrami Jibon*, which portrays the Liberation War of 1971, and *Shonali Shomoy* by Shibli Hawlader (Sheikh Hasina with Indira Gandhi), were among the artworks that awed much of the audience.

The pictures from the exhibition will later be displayed at different district levels. Joyeeta publications assisted in the collection and compilation of the photographs.



(From Left) Pallab Sanyal, Sakib, Shusmita Anis, Bizon Chandra Mistry, Yaqub Ali Khan, Chhanda Chakraborty, Ruptanu Das Sharma and Sakil Mohammad Dipon.

PHOTOS: ORCHID CHAKMA

Bengal Publications launches Syed Shamsul Haq's poetry books

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

In observance of the third death anniversary of eminent poet and ambidextrous litterateur Syed Shamsul Haq, Bengal Publications has recently published two of his poetry books.

The books are titled *Noon-Purnima* and *African O Annanya Anubad Kobita*, the latter of which is a translation. In the programme titled *Alap-e Bistar-e*, the launching ceremony of the books was held at Bengal Boi, Lalmatia, Dhaka on September 27.

Renowned poet and Director General of Bangla Academy, Habibullah Shirajee presided over the programme while poets Tokon Thakur and Pias Majid were the discussants. Abul Hasnat, executive director of Bengal Publications delivered welcome address at the event.

Syed Shamsul Haq was a Bangladeshi poet, lyricist and writer. He was awarded Bangla Academy Literary Award in 1966, Ekushey Padak in 1984 and Independence Day Award in 2000 by the Government of Bangladesh for his outstanding contributions to Bangla literature.

Musical Homage to four legends

Star Melodies host 'Shurer Badhoney' at The Daily Star centre

ZAHANGIR ALOM

Star Melodies, an initiative of *The Daily Star* to promote Bangla music, hosted a musical event titled *Shurer Badhoney* yesterday. The event featured performance of songs by legendary artists Kamol Dasgupta, *Suur Shamraggni* Feroza Begum, M Asafuddowlah and Subol Dasgupta.

Noted singers -- Yaqub Ali Khan, Nasima Shaheen, Bizon Chandra Mistry, Chhanda Chakraborty and Shusmita Anis, along with the students of Govt Music College, performed at the event.

Students of Govt Music College set off the musical soiree with the song *Jago Amrito Piyashi Chito*, penned by Kazi Nazrul Islam. They also performed another Nazrul Sangeet, *Anadikal Hote*. Shusmita Anis then took the stage to perform the song *Ami Nijere Juwalay*, written, composed and recorded by Feroza Begum. The singer's rendition of popular film song *Laguk Dola Laguk*



M Tofazzal Islam, M Syeduzzaman and Masud Ahmed present mementos to M Asafuddowlah (second from right).

Dola, composed by Kamol Dasgupta, was scintillating. Her repertoire included *Smritira Pohaye Roddhar and Kokhon Je Urey Gecche*, penned and composed by M Asafuddowlah.

Bizon Chandra Mistry started his performance with a Nazrul Sangeet, *Gobhir Nishithay Ghum Bhengey Jaye*, and presented his wonderful take on songs, including *Naiba Ghumaley Priyo* and *Megh Eshe Chhunye Chhunye Jaye*.

Chhanda Chakraborty began her set with a Nazrul song, *Bhiru e Moner Koli*. She also sang *Obak Aloye* and *Sakhi Sedin Shraboney Dulechhinu*. Nasima Shaheen started her part with the Nazrul number

Mor Na Mitite Asha and rendered several melodious songs, including *Duti Pakhi Duti Teer-e*, *Kotodin Dekhimi Tomaye* and *Jani Bahirey Amar Tumi*.

Yaqub Ali Khan's performance was a highlight of the event. His repertoire included *Koto Phul Tumi Poth-e Phele Dao*, *Chirodin Jodi Nahi Robe*, *Menechhi Go Har Menechhi* and *Ghumer Chhaya Chaander Chokhe*. The soiree also included a duet of *Prithibi Amarey Chaye* by Mafizur Rahman and Chhanda Chakraborty.

The Daily Star honoured M Asafuddowlah at the event. Former chief justice M Tofazzal Islam, Former Minister for Finance M Syeduzzaman, and Comptroller and Auditor General Masud Ahmed presented mementos to the legend. The guests also spoke highly of M Asafuddowlah while the humble personality shared many of his musical memories throughout his life.

Sadya Aftreen Mallick, Chief, Culture Initiatives, The Daily Star, hosted and coordinated the event.

Invoking the Mother Goddess

Art Camp Marking Mahalaya at Banani Puja Mandap



PHOTOS: KAZI SALAHUDDIN RAZU

ZAHANGIR ALOM

The incessant changing beauty of clouds; freshness and fragrance of sheuli-bokul, eye-soothing beauty of kashphul, sunlight-glittering dewy pearl on the spider webs and the joyful advent of Devi Durga -- are the features of Autumn.

Marking Mahalaya, different temples across the country resonated with the holy *Shankhodhwani*, coupled with the rhythms of *dhak*, yesterday. Mahalaya heralds the advent of Durga, the goddess of supreme power, inviting her to descend on earth and ward off all evils.

The morning of Mahalaya was filled with songs and music, when Information Minister Dr Hasan Mahmud graced the programme as chief guest.

Gulshan-Banani Sharbojanin Puja Foundation (GBSPF) organised an exclusive art camp at Banani Puja Mandap yesterday, sponsored by VELOCE Cycles, an enterprise of Meghna Group. Renowned and promising artists of the country --

Samarjit Roy Choudhury, Hashem Khan, Hamiduzzaman Khan, Shishir Bhattacharjee, Biren Shome, Kanak Champa Chakma, Jamaluddin Ahmed, Farida Zaman, Gautam Chakraborty, Tarun Ghosh, Bishwajit Goswami, Shohag Parvez and Shahanoor Mamun -- were seen painting (acrylic and watercolour) on diverse themes surrounding Durga and eternal Bengal.

Subal Saha is the current President, and Sudhangshu Kumar Das is the General Secretary of Gulshan-Banani Sharbojanin Puja Uddhapan Parishad. On behalf of the organising committee, Amity Kundu, Shwapna Bhowmick, Gitanka Debdi Datta and Srabanti Datta assisted the art camp.

"Durga Puja is our biggest festival. We have tried to consolidate the universal fraternity through art," said Sudhangshu Kumar Das. "If we can continue this creative initiative, we can diffuse the conscience of humanity."

"We organised an art camp when we started the journey 12 years back," explained Shwapna Bhowmick. "I believe that the celebration of Durgapuja has a close link with art. All

the artists have been a great support. On the day of Bijoya Dashami, we will organise another open art camp, where children from all walks of life can participate. The street children actually perform better at the art camp!"

According to Gitanka Debdi Datta, everyone should unite in the celebration of Durga Puja, irrespective of caste, creed and religion. "The artworks will be exhibited at the gallery near the puja mandap, and will continue till Bijoya Dashami," he added.

This year, the road from Kakoli to Gulshan-2 will be decorated and lit with colourful lights and motifs. Every day, 12000 packets of *Prasad* (either khichuri or polao) will be served among the devotees.

Durga Puja starts on the seventh day after Mahalaya, and ends on the tenth day of Dashami or Dussehra. This year, Maha Shashthi falls on October 4 and the festivities will continue till October 8, which is Maha Dashami or Bijoya Dashami.