



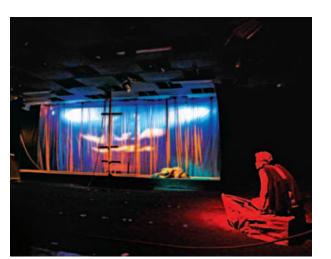
Cultural Festival Title: Ganga-Jamuna Cultural Festival Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy Date: October 11- October 20











(L) Dhaka Theatre's 'Ponchanari Akhyan' staged at Experiemntal Theatre Hall, BSA. (M) Guests and organisers at the inaugural ceremony. (R) Palakar troupe's 'Ujane Mrityu' staged at Studio Theater Hall, BSA

PHOTOS:
SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

8th Ganga-Jamuna Cultural Festival kicks off

Ashley Shoptorshi Samaddar

The 8th Ganga-Jamuna Cultural Festival was inaugurated at the National Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA), recently. A hundred and twenty-one organisations from India and Bangladesh are currently entertaining art loves at the fiesta.

State Minister for Cultural Affair K M Khalid graced the occasion as the chief guest Actor extraordinaire and former Minister of Cultural Affairs, Asaduzzaman Noor and Meghnath Bhattacharya inaugurated the festival by lighting Mangal Pradips (small lamps). Liaquat Ali Lucky, Director General of BSA, Dr Neepa Choudhury, Director, Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre, Mannan Hira, President of Bangladesh Path Natok Parishad, and Kamal Bayazid, Secretary General, Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation (BGTF) were also in attendance, among others. The inaugural ceremony was presided over by Ghulam Quddus and was anchored by Ahkam Ullah, General Secretary

of Bangladesh Abritti Somonnoy Parishad. After the inauguration, the guests were





(L)'Hason Janer Raja' staged by Prangonemor troupe at National Theatre Hall, BSA. (R) Spondon's performance at the inaugural ceremony

then honoured with *uttorios* and crests. This was followed by a welcome address by Dr Neepa Choudhury. "I feel this kinds of festivals are very important as they forge a strong bond of friendship between

Bangladesh and India. I am very glad to be a part of this event,' she said.

Asaduzzaman Noor, in his speech said, "I wish we could have such an audience every day while we stage our theatres. I believe,

I will not be disappointed from tomorrow when the shows start at 7 every day till October 20."

Dance Troupe Spondon performed at the inaugural ceremony to initiate the cultural

fest. Their dance routine was choreographed by Anik Basu. Three plays were staged in different theatre halls at BSA after the inaugural ceremony.

Prangonemor's, *Hason Janer Raja* was staged at the National Theatre Hall, *BSA*. Based on the life of famous Bengali poet, mystic philosopher and songwriter from Sylhet Hason Raja, the drama is written by Sakoor Majid, and directed by Ananta Hira.

Palakar troupe's thirteenth production, *Ujane Mrityu* was staged in the Studio Theater Hall of BSA. Originally written by Syed Waliullah, Shamim Sagor has worked on this adaptation.

Dhaka Theatre's 37th production, *Ponchanari Akhyan* was also staged at the Experiemntal Theatre hall of BSA. The play is written by Harun Rashid and has been directed by Shahiduzzaman Selim. Renowned theatre actor Rosy Siddique plays five different roles in the drama -- Jolekha, Antora, Monoroma, Morium and Momtaz. All the characters were confined to a boundary created by an enduring patriarchal society.



Curtain falls on the third season of 'Ispahani Mirzapore Banglabid'

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

After months of an entertaining linguistic journey, the latest season of Channel i's knowledge-based TV reality show, *Ispahani Mirzapore Banglabid*, came to an end on October 11. In order to motivate the young generation to use and practice Bengali language correctly, this program is being organised since 2017.

The grand finale of this competition was held in Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel,

51.1

Over the past months, the linguistic knowledge of the participants was put to test. Poet Anisul Hoque, Professor Dr Soumitra Shekhar and Media Personality Tropa Majumdar were the main judges of Banglabid TV Show. Dr Hossain Zillur Rahman attended the show as a guest judge.

The crown for this year's Banglabid was given to ,Shajedur Rahman Shahed from Bogra, who earned a scholarship of BDT 10 lakh. Ankita Zannat from Mymensingh became the the first runner-up and Ayon Chakrabarti from Borishal won the position of the second runner-up. Both of them received BDT 3lakh and 2 lakh,

Dr Dipu Moni, MP, Minister of Education, Bangladesh Government was present in the event as the Chief Guest. Mirza Shakir Ispahani, Managing Director of M M Ispahani Limited and Mirza Ahmed Ispahani from M M Ispahani Limited were present at the event as special guests.





TV WATCH

'Ghore Baire',
directed by Nazrul
Islam Raju, will
be broadcast on
Maasranga Television
at 8 pm today. The
tele-fiction features
Apurba, Mamo,
Moushumi Hamid
and Shahiduzzaman
Selim, among others.

PHOTO: COURTES

'Feeling the Void' at Dwip Gallery

Hamiduzzaman Khan's solo exhibition

Renowned sculptor-painter Hamiduzzaman Khan has experimented with new media and diverse styles throughout his five-decade artistic career. An amiable personality, his artworks reflect his inner feelings, real life experiences, nostalgic memories, serenity of nature and innovative thoughts. They bring together his dynamism in paintings and sculpture alike.









From left: Ivy Zaman, Hamiduzzaman Khan, Nisar Hossain, Hasnat Abdul Hye, Monirul Islam and Mustafa Zaman at the opening ceremony.

PHOTOS: COURTESY

ZAHANGIR ALOM

Dwip Gallery has organised a solo art exhibition titled *Feeling the Void* at its art space in Lalmatia, Dhaka. Eminent writercritic Hasnat Abdul Hye, artist Monirul Islam and Dean of the Faculty of Fine Art, University of Dhaka, and Professor Nisar Hossain, inaugurated the exhibition on October 11.

Curated by Mustafa Zaman, the exhibition displays sculptures, installations and paintings by the artist. "Abstraction, as an idiom, has always been defined in relation to the artist's ability to vacate the painted space of all contents. Though this artistic conviction never held sway over the

exponent of abstraction in Dhaka. Yet, in the discursive field, it was mostly perceived as a total effacement of visual cues, be that to natural or human environment," says Mustafa Zaman.

"The works of Hamiduzzaman Khan are testimony to how effacement often translates into an unfurling of the metonymic visuals which work as a bridge between the interior landscape and the world outside," he concludes.

Dwip gallery is part of a platform called 180 Degrees, which is working towards providing momentum to the thriving art scene in Bangladesh. The exhibition remains open from 3 pm to 9 pm daily except Monday, till November 3.