

WHAT'S ON



Solo Art Exhibition

Title: Self-Depiction

Artist: Afrida Tanzim Mahi

Venue: Kalakendra, Mohammadpur

Date: October 21 – November 12

Time: 4 pm – 8 pm

Art Exhibition

Title: Feeling the Void by Hamiduzzaman Khan

Venue: Dwp Gallery

Date: October 7-November 3

Time: 3 pm – 9 pm

Group Art Exhibition

Title: Pracher Prachin Dhara / The Ancient Lineage of The East

Venue: Gallery Cosmos, New DOHS, Mohakhali

Date: October 25 – November 10

Time: 12 noon – 8 pm

Photography Exhibition

Title: Different Images of Men

Venue: National Art Gallery, BSA

Date: November 2 – 5

Time: 11 am – 8 pm

Musical Workshop

Title: RAGA: Theory and practice with Nisbit Dey

Date: November 9

Venue: Studio 6/6, Mohammadpur

Time: 5 pm onwards



Photographs on exhibit.

PHOTOS: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED



The first prize winner, Salauddin Ahmed (R) for 'Breaking Boundaries'.



Different Images of Men: Photo exhibition underway at BSA

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Action Aid Bangladesh is an international organisation that works towards social justice, gender equality and poverty eradication. The organisation, in association with Drik gallery and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, has arranged a photography exhibition titled *Different Images of Men*. The inauguration programme was held at the National Art Gallery of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA), yesterday.

The exhibition underway at gallery-4, was inaugurated by the Minister of Planning Government of Bangladesh M A Mannan, MP. He was the chief guest of the programme. At the inaugural ceremony, he mentioned that it is difficult to evaluate the untiring responsibilities of women, and their hard work cannot be ignored. It is the duty of the men to share the responsibilities equally.

The aim of the exhibition is to create awareness towards the role of men in the society. According to Action Aid, women working at home usually do not get their due appreciation from the society. The exhibition persuades the idea that household chores are responsibilities of everyone, irrespective of gender.

The event was presided over by the country director of Action Aid Bangladesh, Farah Kabir. "If the government shows more concern about the domestic public policy at the marginal levels, and create more space for women to be economically independent, it is possible to witness a rapid change in the society," she said.

Professor Dr Meghna Guhathakurta, executive director of Research Initiatives, Bangladesh, spoke about the importance of men contributing to domestic work. "In 2018, in Lalmonirhat, Gaibandha, a study was conducted into a total of ten unions.

According to the research, women spend seven hours per day in domestic service, while men spend less than three hours. Increasing in participation of men in the domestic works, will lead to a productive and healthy society. This will eventually change the perception of the society towards women. This will also result in developing the infrastructure and facilities needed to ensure the protection of women.

As the programme went on, the winners of the photography contests were announced. The winners are – Salahuddin Ahmed, Farhana Akhter and Shahnewaz Shokot in the first, second and third position respectively. Along with this, seven photographers received honorary awards.

The open for all photography exhibition will continue until November 5, every day from 11 am till 8 pm, at The National Art Gallery number four, BSA.

Chanchal Chowdrury starts shooting for 'Hawa'



PHOTO: STAR

National award winning actor Chanchal Chowdhury has managed to make his mark in the television and film industries. The charming actor is currently busy shooting for his upcoming release *Hawa*. The film is directed by Mejbaur Rahman Sumon and Kamrul Hasan Khosru is the cinematographer.

Chanchal has been spending the last 20 days on St. Martin's Island. The shoot is scheduled for 15 more days at the location. The shoot starts at 10 in the

morning. The cast and crew shoot for 12 hours at the sea, and return to the island afterwards. Chanchal is playing the role of Chanmajhi in the film. "This film is based on the life of boatmen, and their struggles in the sea," informs the actor. "The role is very challenging and it is a difficult film to shoot. However, the challenges are fuelling my excitement."

Speaking of the other challenges, the actor said, "I do not like to have sea food. Thus, my daily meals are not as per my preference, these days." The film is scheduled to release in 2020.



Salman F Rahman (L) attends the event as the chief guest.

PHOTO: COURTESY

'Nogornama- The Future of Our Habitats' opens at Bengal Shilpalay

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

The works and activities of Bengal Institute are currently on exhibit at *Nogornama – The Future of Our Habitats*. The exhibition opened yesterday at Bengal Shilpalay in Dhanmondi. Advisor of the Prime Minister, Private Industry and Investment, Salman F Rahman, MP, was the chief guest at the opening ceremony. The Mayor of Naryanganj, Dr Selina Hayat Ivy, and noted architect and educator Professor Shamsul Wares, were present as special guests. The programme started with an opening speech by Kazi Khaled Ashraf, Director-General of Bengal Institute for Architecture, Landscapes and Settlements. Abul Khair, Chairman of Bengal Foundation and Jalal Ahmed, President of IAB were also present at the event.

The Bengal Institute for Architecture, Landscapes and Settlements was established in 2015 to present ideas for a new urbanism based on an ecological and humane approach, one which superseded the conflict between nature and progress. As a place for advancing the understanding of the environment, Bengal Institute presents a platform for developing ideas and programmes to improve the qualities of architecture, landscapes and settlements. Taking on the challenge of the largescale, innovative transdisciplinary programmes, the institute integrates architectural and design research, investigation of cities and settlements and the study of larger regions and landscapes.

Bangladesh is symptomatic of the gravest environmental challenges. It is in the neighbourhood of such pronouncements that we find necessary to rethink the scope of

environmental design, and its pedagogy and practices.

With its aquatic-geological formation – in flux – and projected consequences of environmental changes, the organisation of land, water and settlements takes on an urgency that is unique to Bangladesh. Settlements patterns, architectural types, and socio-economic life that are dynamically interconnected, confront new conditions raised by accelerated economic, environmental and social transformations.

In such anxious times, the architectural agenda needs to go beyond problem solving and form creation. Bengal Institute believes that the architectural task should extend its sights to the intellectual, ethical and creative issues facing the futures of human habitats. In this regard, a new "architectural intelligence" is needed that is more about place-form, rather than spectacular objects. The question of systemic and integrated landscapes, whether as habitats, place-forms, agricultural fabrics, or natural wetlands, should be at the core of this new approach. Developing this design intelligence requires a new kind of knowledge base, training and orientation that will uncover the original intimacy between architecture, habitation and landscape.

The exhibition presents the four-fold activities of Bengal Institute: to bring about a comprehensive knowledge of the past and future of our environment, to conduct deep research and analytical investigation in an integrated way, to generate new visions for the future of our habitats and to present the findings and propositions to a larger audience. It will conclude on November 30.



TIASHA IDRAK

Batighar Dhaka, a place usually known as a hub for bookworms, welcomed people with canvases and paint brushes on Friday, as Worthy Publications launched their new line of books: *The Mason Jar 2*, *The Little Sounds of Time* and the *Worthy Classic Series*. Aside from the launching of the books, the event, titled, *Book Launching Carnival: Worthy Unboxing*, featured an art fest, slam poetry, a quiz competition and a raffle draw.

The event began with the art fest, where artists of different ages competed against each other. Worthy Publications will launch illustrated books based on *Arabian Nights*, fairy tales and Aesop's fables, which were

the themes of the competition. With the intention of promoting promising artists, Worthy Publications plans to collaborate with the winners of the art fest.

People recited heartfelt poems on the term, "Worthy" at the slam poetry competition. There were poems about gender discrimination, prejudice and daily human struggles, among other things. Tawhidul Islam and Anika Shah, Lecturers of ULAB and Musharrat Hossain, Lecturer of NSU, were the judges of the slam poetry competition.

The Mason Jar 2 is the second edition of Worthy Publications' anthology, *The Mason Jar*, which came out last year. The book features 50 stories of different genres, including magic realism, historical fiction,

contemporary fiction, romance, dystopia, paranormal, science fiction, fantasy, suspense, crime and thriller. On the other hand, *The Little Sounds of Time* is the debut novel of Syed Rafid Kabir, who completed his O-Level from Scholastica last year. The *Worthy Classic Series* is a collection of classic literary tales.

Worthy Publications was founded by sibling duo Kasfia Haque Samara and Nuzaimul Hoq Xishan. "We hope to provide readers good literature at an affordable price," said Samara. She also mentioned that Worthy Publications recently opened their branch at Bashundhara Residential Area. The siblings will also be working on the solo novels of all the writers from *The Mason Jar* and *The Mason Jar 2* in the future.



PHOTO: COURTESY

Milon and Aparna shoot in Nepal

SHAH ALAM SHAZI

Television actors Anisur Rahman Milon and Aparna Ghosh recently went to Nepal for the shooting of two tele-fictions, both helmed by Sakal Ahmed. Milon talked to *The Daily Star* about *Kichhu Buno Megh*, scripted by Setu Arif. "This is a romantic story, and we filmed in Nepal in a pleasant environment," he says. "*Chobbish Ghonta* is the other one and it has a more serious tone. Aparna and I have collaborated for both."

"Anisur Rahman Milon is a talented actor, I am happy to get the opportunity to work with him in these two projects, in Nepal," said Aparna.

The tele-fictions will soon be broadcast on two private channels.