

## WHAT'S ON



Theatre Festival  
Title: Notuner Utshab 2019  
Venue: National Theatre Hall, BSA  
Date: November 29 – December 5  
Time: 7 pm onwards



Musical Programme  
Title: Arun Alor Anjali  
Venue: Krishibid Institute Auditorium, Khamarbari  
Date: December 6  
Time: 6 pm  
For registration log in to: register.aunqr.com



Art Exhibition  
Title: For the Love of Country  
Artist: Dr Farida Zaman  
Venue: Bangladesh National Museum  
Date: December 6 – December 11  
Time: 9:30 am – 6:00 pm



Theatre Festival  
Title: 14th Kendrio Barshik Natya Utshab 2019  
Venue: TSC and Natyamondol Auditorium, DU  
Date: December 1 – December 10  
Time: 6:00 pm



Film Festival  
Title: 15th International Short & Independent Film Festival Dhaka 2019  
Venues: Central Public Library, National Museum and Bangladesh Shilpkala Academy  
Date: December 7 – 13  
Time: 4 pm (Opening Ceremony)  
For more information, visit <http://isiff-bd.org/>



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

## LOVE AS A MUSE TO PORTRAY SOIL AND SOUL

# Dr Farida Zaman's solo exhibition opens tomorrow at BNM

ZAHANGIR ALOM

Love, for the soil and the soul, is a muse for renowned artist, Dr Farida Zaman. Having taken tutelage from legendary artist K G Subramanyan, she has travelled around numerous idyllic places of Bangladesh, soulfully depicting them in paintings with diverse themes.

The artist's 8th solo art exhibition titled, *For the Love of Country* will take place tomorrow at Nalini Kanta Bhattachari Gallery of Bangladesh National Museum at 6 pm, complete with a book launch on the artist. The exclusive exhibition, showcasing an array of paintings, installation and text, will remain open till December 11.

Mohammad Wahiduzzaman and Zeenat Ikramullah are the curators of the show, which will shed light on Farida's five-decade journey.

Eminent artist Mostafa Monowar will inaugurate the exhibition as chief guest. Julia Niblett, Australian High Commissioner in Bangladesh, will grace the occasion as special guest. Professor



Shamsuzzaman Khan, Chairman, Bangladesh National Museum; novelist Selina Hossain, litterateur Professor Syed Manzoorul Islam and author Martin Bradley, will attend the event as guest of honours.

A noticeable feature of the artist's works is the depiction of riverine life

in Bangladesh. Her works articulate the lives of fishermen. Farida Zaman's line drawings represent one of her main artistic traits. The dancing lines, dots and various familiar forms are inspired by Bangladeshi folk elements.

Art critic Martin Bradley has written the book on Dr Farida Zaman, as it

delves into the personal aspects of her life influencing her work. "That house, those surroundings, the fish-filled ponds, lakes, the towering coconut trees, the frequent floods, and the fishing nets have all become central themes to Farida's recollections, and have evolved as memes, icons and symbols in many of her paintings," writes Martin in the book.

Farida Zaman's artistic career demonstrates a remarkable versatility in expression and creative inspiration. The exhibition is a powerful testimony of her integrity and conviction as an artist. Paintings have always been a natural instinct of her artistic soul and an important element that has constructed her creative spirit.

Born in Chandpur in 1953, Dr Farida Zaman is also an illustrator, who has designed several thousand book covers. The seasoned artist has received many awards and honours, including a cultural award from Australian government and the Bangladesh Shilpkala Academy Gold Medal.



PHOTO: COURTESY

## National Film Awards- 2017 and 2018 to be held on December 8

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

The award giving ceremony of National Film Awards- 2017 and 2018 will be held on December 8 at Hall of Fame, Bangabandhu International Conference Center (BICC). During this event, the announced winners will receive awards from Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Four acting legends, A T M Shamsuzzaman, Sujata, Prabir Mitra, and Alamgir, will be honoured with the Lifetime Achievement awards.

The event will be hosted by renowned actors Ferdous and Purnima. Famous singers Khurshid Alam, Samina Chowdhury, Nakib Khan and Momotaz, along with Imran, Kona, Sabbir and Liza, with present musical performances.

Actors Mahia Mahi, Bobby, Toma Mirza, and Nusraat Faria will present dance performances. Warda Rihab will also present a dance routine on Bangladeshi songs.

## NOTUNER UTSHAB 2019: KHOABNAMA

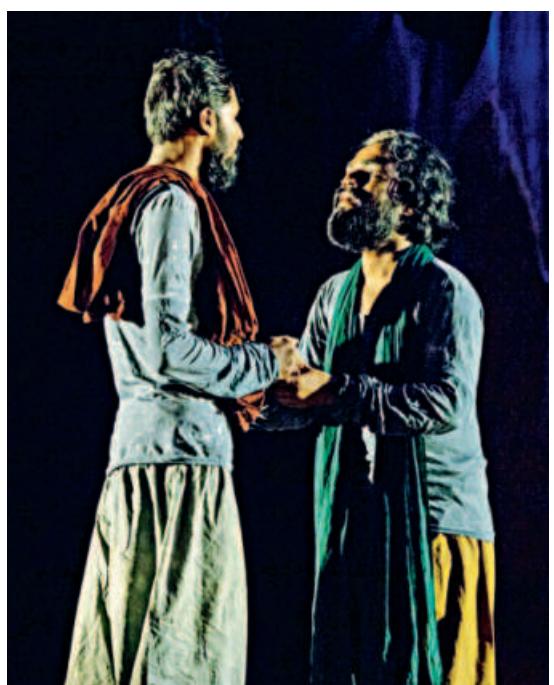


PHOTO: SHAHREAR KABIR HEEML

The fifth day of Nagorik Natya Sampradaya's Notuner Utshab 2019 featured 'Khoabnama', written by Akhtaruzzaman Elias and directed by Kazi Taufiqul Islam Emon.



PHOTO: COURTESY

## 'Fearless' staged on International Day of Disabled Persons

SHABABA IQBAL

*Fearless*, a play scripted by Ruma Modok and directed by Samiun Jahan Dola, was staged on December 3. It was held at Rabindra Shorobor, marking International Day of Disabled Persons 2019.

The play aims to change negative perceptions about people with disability, and improve understanding of social inclusion. It showcases the journey of Rini, a girl who faces insurmountable odds, and learns to

survive when she loses her eyesight. Focusing on inclusiveness, *Fearless* is produced by the British Council, in association with Dhaka Theatre. It is comprised of upcoming theatre artistes with disability.

"In 2013, I performed with these extraordinary artistes in *Romeo & Juliet* for the first time. It was a joint production of Dhaka Theatre, the British Council and Graeae Theatre," said the director, Samiun Jahan Dola. "Fearless is based on some true stories that we collected from the cast during

a preparatory pre-play workshop. The play depicts the importance of love and never losing hope."

Working with the cast of *Fearless* was an exciting experience for Dola. "Lovely Khatun plays the visually impaired girl, Rini, while Hawa Akhter, a hearing-impaired artiste, plays Rini's mother. Rabbi, another differently abled actor, also did a great job. Collaborating with them was a challenge that I gladly took up and I was amazed by their dedication to their craft," she adds.

## S M SULTAN UTSHAB concludes in Narail

In memory of legendary art maestro S M Sultan, Bangladesh Shilpkala Academy (BSA) hosted a two-day event, *SM Sultan Utshab*, at SM Sultan Shangrahyashala, Sishu Shworgo, and Zilla Shilpkala Academy in Narail, recently.

Liaquat Ali Lucky, Director General of BSA attended the event as the chief guest. Mohammad Jasimuddin, Superintendent of Police, Narail, Municipality Mayor Jahangir Biswas, Ashiqur Rahman Miku, Member Secretary of Sultan Foundation and Moloy Kumar Kundu, General Secretary of Zilla Shilpkala Academy Narail were also present at the event as special guest. The session was moderated by Anjuman Ara, DC of Narail.

The festival began with an art competition for children at the SM Sultan

Shangrahyashala. Following this, the guests and other attendees honoured the artist with flowers at his grave.

Soon, a boat-tour was facilitated for the participating children and the distinguished guests. The art-competition winners were announced at a cultural event held at 11:30 am at the premises on Sishu Shworgo.

The other events at the first day of festival include: art competitions by Bimanesh Biswas, Dhiman Biswas, Nikhil Chandra Das, Baldev Adhikary, and Konkor Sutradhar, a folk musical evening by renowned folk artistes, and poetry recitals. The day ended with the screening of Tareque Masud's documentary film, *Adam Surat*.

SOURCE: BSA



PHOTO: STAR