

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, Khmarbari
Date: December 6
Time: 6 pm
For registration log in to: register.aunqur.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 Shilpakala Academy
Date: December 7 – 13
Time: 4 pm (Opening Ceremony)
For more information, visit <http://isiff-bd.org/>



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

Voting opens for Miss Universe Bangladesh Shirin Akhter Shela

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

The Miss Universe organisation has just announced that the global vote for this year's competition is now open. Viewers can now vote for Miss Universe Bangladesh candidate Shirin Ahmed Shela (contestant number 8) to enter the Top 20. The voting lines are open till 10:59 am (Bangladesh time), December 7.

Shirin Akhter is representing Bangladesh in this global event for the first time. She is competing with 89 contestants from around the world. The main event is scheduled on 9th December, at 6 AM (Bangladesh time) in the city of Atlanta Georgia state USA.

To vote for Shirin, viewers have to visit the website: vote.missuniverse.com, and follow the instructions mentioned in the website. The first vote can be registered free of cost by simply pressing the green star on Shirin's image. Additional votes can be made through 'Gold Vote'. Gold votes may be purchased via a credit card, at €0.33 each, in packs of 3, 15, 30, 60, 150 or 300 votes.



PHOTO: COURTESY

ZAHANGIR ALAM

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 Bhattasali 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 Ikramullahare 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 Shilpakala Academy Gold Medal.

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 HEEMEL



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

SHABARA 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 artists 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 Shilpakala Academy (BSA) hosted a two-day event, *SM Sultan Utshab*, at SM Sultan Smriti Shangrahayashala, Sishu Shworgo, and Zilla Shilpakala 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 Shilpakala 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

Smriti Shangrahayashala. 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