

WHAT'S ON

Solo Art Exhibition
 Artist: Najib Tareque
 Venue: Dwip Gallery, T/1, Block-D, Lalmaia
 Date: Nov 29 - Dec 15
 Time: 3pm - 9pm (Except Mondays)

Concert
 Title: 20 years of Artcellism
 Venue: ICCB Expo Zone
 Date: December 24
 Time: 3pm onwards

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

Concert
 Title: Miles 40th Anniversary
 Venue: ICCB, Hall - 3
 Date: December 24
 Time: 6pm onwards

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

"I want to play roles that will be rejoiced even after decades"

-TISHA

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Nusrat Imrose Tisha has captivated the audience with her acclaimed performances in both films and television over the years. The actor has recently won the National Film Award for the second time, in the Best Actor in a Lead Role (Female) category for performance in *Haldaa*. In an interview with *The Daily Star*, Tisha talks about her upcoming projects, her ambitions, and a lot more.

You have just received the National Film Award for the second time. How are you feeling after the achievement?

For an artiste, any award works as an inspiration, and it is not just any award but the National Film Award we are talking about. I was very happy as this is the highest form of appreciation for any film artiste in the country.

How did you spend the rest of the day after returning home from the award-giving ceremony?

Upon reaching home, I handed the award over to my mother. The smile on her face

was priceless! I believe that my mother deserves this award more than I do, as it is her love and support that has got me this far. Also, my husband, Mostofa Sarwar Farooki, congratulated me over a video call. He has always been supportive and enjoys my success as much as I do.

Tell us a bit about your award-winning film 'Haldaa'.

We had to face a lot of obstacles while shooting for this film. Outdoor shoots, and most importantly, having to deliver dialogues in the local dialect of Chattogram, was a challenge for me. However, I got to work with renowned filmmaker and actor Tauquir Ahmed, which was a privilege. I would like to thank the whole team of *Haldaa* for their hard work. It was entirely a team effort.

What are your aspirations as an artiste?

I want to star in quality films and I hope to come across some good scripts soon. For me, the number of films I work in is never a concern. I want to play roles that will be rejoiced even after decades.

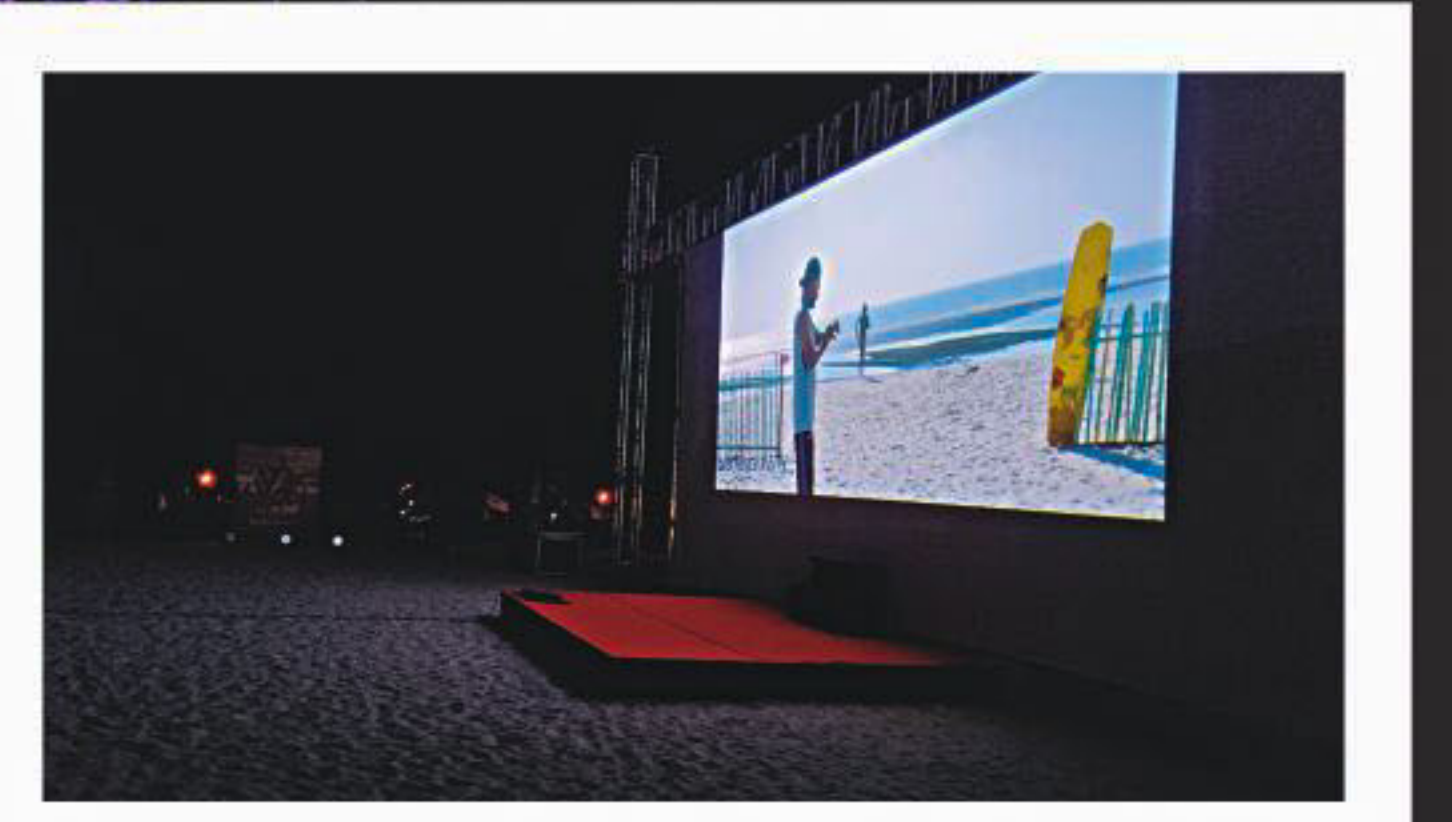


PHOTO: STAR

Shakib Khan's 'magnetic' new venture

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Dhaliwood ace Shakib Khan has always been one of the 'magnetic' stars in the industry, and he is soon to solidify that with his latest film, *Magnet*. To be directed by Mahmud Hasan Shikdar, the script of the film impressed the Shakib thoroughly. "You will see me in a new look in *Magnet*. It is a film that I am positive that the audience will love," says Shakib Khan. The artiste, who won the National Award for Best Actor in a Lead Role for his performance in *Shotta*, told us that he is truly grateful for the honour. "Receiving the award from the hands of the Prime Minister herself was truly a blessing," says No. 1 Shakib Khan.



'No Dorai' by the beach!

No Dorai, one of the most talked about Bangla films of 2019, had its "Beach Premiere" in Cox's Bazar, recently. This is the first time that an initiative as such was taken in the country, and the audience enjoyed the surfing-based film by the scenic beach in Sayeman Resort. "We have left no stone unturned in giving the audience something new, and this arrangement was no exception," said Mahboob Rahman, the producer of the film and Chairman of Star Cineplex. The cast and crew of the film, as well as notable celebrities, were also present at the event.

PHOTOS: COURTESY

SANDALINA BOLD WOMEN campaign begins



PHOTO: COURTESY

Sandalina, the flagship brand of Kohinoor Chemical Company (Bangladesh) Limited, has launched a new campaign, Sandalina Bold Women, aiming to create a platform for all women who are successful today, despite all adversities in their life. A press conference, announcing this campaign, was held at Tawfiq Aziz Khan Seminar Hall of The Daily Star Centre, recently.

Sandalina Bold Women campaign, first organised in 2018, aims to establish their motto, 'The true beauty of a woman is revealed through her courage'.

Executive Vice-President (Marketing and Sales) of Kohinoor Chemical Company (Bangladesh) Limited M Ziaul Hafiz, Senior Vice-President (Brand) Golam Kibria Sarkar, Senior Executive (Brand) Md Ziaur Rahman and Managing Director of AD65 BD LTD Fazla Rabby were present at the press conference, among others.

To participate, all interested participants have to like the Facebook page of Sandalina and share the page publicly. Participating women from each division will have to share their stories, along with their name, division, district, picture and phone number on Sandalina's Facebook page, or they can inbox their stories there. They also have to share it on their Facebook timelines by writing: #sandalinaboldwomen. The content of the campaign must be liked and shared publicly by them.

Finally, the jury panel will verify the authenticity of the stories submitted by the participants across the country. The campaign will conclude through recognising the 8 best courageous women from 8 divisions.

Shirin Akter Shela's journey to Miss Universe 2019

SHABABA IQBAL

This year, Bangladesh opened a new chapter by participating in the 68th edition of the Miss Universe beauty pageant. The path to Miss Universe began in July 2019, when more than 12,000 participants vied for the coveted title of Miss Universe Bangladesh. The contest that needed to be won to have a shot at the main title. This was followed by a three-month boot camp.

It has been a marvelous few months for beauty queen Shirin Akter Shela, who won the title of Miss Universe Bangladesh at the end of October. Shirin was crowned by eminent Indian actor Sushmita Sen, who won both Miss India and Miss Universe in 1994. The contest, held in Dhaka, saw Shirin beat off competition from beauty queens Alisha Islam and Jessia Islam. Shirin is the first person from a Muslim-majority country in South Asia to compete for the title of Miss

Universe. She wowed judges with her poise and intellect as a third-year physics student at University of Dhaka. Her father is a member of the Border Guard Bangladesh. During the event, Shirin, who hails from Thakurgaon, revealed that her father was a great inspiration for her. She added that she would also work for the betterment of her country, which begins with winning Miss Universe Bangladesh.

Since then, she has been making the country proud, having been declared the best female model in the Face of Bangladesh 2019 contest. In 2018, she participated in Miss World Bangladesh and was among the top ten contestants. This year, she also represented Bangladesh at Face of Asia 2019, which took place in Seoul, South Korea.

Top contestants from 130 countries took part in the final competition of the 68th edition of Miss Universe, which took place at Atlanta, Georgia, on December 8. As an ambassador for

Bangladesh, Shirin did really well in the preliminary round. "Although she did not make it to the Top 20, Shirin has won the hearts of millions and made a positive impact in the global beauty pageant circuit," said Rizwan Farouq, Chairman of Miss Universe Bangladesh.

For her national costume in the beauty pageant, Shirin sported a red jamdani sari, complete with a model hood of Bangladeshi rickshaws and jewelry that imitated Bengali letters. "Shirin received the love of many people for representing the culture and heritage of Bangladesh so beautifully," added Rizwan Farouq. At the final competition, Miss South Africa Zozibini Tunzi finished first, ahead of the Puerto Rican and Mexican finalists.

Regardless of the results, it is a matter of great pride that someone as stunning and confident as Shirin from Bangladesh participated in a global platform like Miss Universe for the first time.



PHOTO: COURTESY

TIB's anti-corruption cartoon exhibition underway

TISHA IDRAK

Marking the International Anti-Corruption Day (December 9), Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) inaugurated their 14th Anti-Corruption Cartoon Competition and Exhibition, as a part of their anti-corruption social movement. Since 2006, these competitions and exhibitions are being organised with an objective to raise awareness and motivate the young population to combat corruption in every sphere of life. Selected pictures from the competition are currently on exhibit at the Zainul Gallery of the Faculty of Fine Art, University of Dhaka.

The exhibition was inaugurated in the presence of Suzanne Mueller, Deputy Head of Mission and Director of Cooperation, Embassy of Switzerland, Refika Hayta,



Artworks on exhibit at the event.

PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

Deputy Head of Mission, The Royal Danish Embassy, Mohamed Yousuf, Governance Adviser, Department for International Development (DFID) Bangladesh and Dr Iftekharuzzaman,

Executive Director, TIB. Professor Dr Fakrul Alam, member of the Board of Trustees of TIB, chaired the event.

"I find this competition to be a very good tool to raise awareness. I

must say that I'm very impressed with how talented these young artists are," said Refika Hayta. "The only way to combat corruption is to start with the individuals. Every single person should have the ability to say 'no' to corruption. The youth is taking ownership and playing an active role in raising awareness through this competition, which is inspiring."

The winners of the competition were awarded in the inauguration ceremony. The competition was held in two age groups- Group A (aged between 13 and 18) and Group B (aged between 19 and 25). The top three winners from Group A were Moshir Rahman Mahin, Isiah Tripland Heaven and Ishrat Jahan Lubna. The top three winners from Group B were Abdul Malek Nobel, Tarek Bin Kamal and Momi-Tu-Ur Rahman. The exhibition concludes on December 15.