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*Subject to the appearance of the moon

Forecourt: The open area in front of our building — the place you see just after you enter.
It’s never too late to learn French!

Whatever your age, this late autumn, why not start learning French at Alliance Française de Dhaka? At our three locations: Dhanmondi, Gulshan as well as Uttara? We run four sessions a year— January, April, July, and October. Admission begins a month before classes start.

A warm French welcome awaits you!
From Fri, 27 Sep at 5.30 pm to Sat, 12 Oct at La Galerie

Md. Rafiqul Islam

Transformation

Print Exhibition

Second solo
ARTIST’S STATEMENT (IN QUOTES)

"Social reality is the principal topic of my artworks. Mankind is on a course to conquer the universe, unfurl its mysteries and discover newer territories. But even after all this advancements, mankind wages war, engages in battles and causes bloodshed. More and more we are into nurturing aggression and antagonism, putting our humanity on the back burner. Resultantly, the world around us is becoming more violent, and however cynical and misanthropic we are — at the end of the day we do not want to go down that road. We want peace, not war! My prints, numbers 1, 2 and 3 of Transformation series, The War Child, Hunter, and The Birth impart these thoughts.

I’ll be presenting 50 of my artworks in this exhibition that made use of media like etching, aquatint, lithography, woodcut, and cyanotype, among others. Printmaking is a very interesting method of creating art. It has a lot of subtypes, like woodcut etching, lithography etc. I have worked with almost all of these media, my personal favourite being intaglio. Metal plates made of zinc, aluminium, copper or iron is etched using acid — from plate processing to printing, the long journey is fascinating every step of the way. There is an initial mystery that is revealed through the final output.”
On Fri, 4 Oct at 6.30 pm at La Galerie

Subcontinental Classical Music Workshop Students

A Musical Evening

- Concert

Various artists
Sheikh Iraj writes in *The Independent*, “Nowadays, there is renewed interest among youths to learn classical music. Music allows them to understand culture and heritage, and lets them dedicate their time to something productive and meaningful. Most importantly, many parents have come to realise these benefits and are encouraging the children to take up different music courses. Legendary singers like Runa Laila and Sabina Yasmin learned classical music from an early age and have stated that the genre is essential to becoming a good singer.”

Alliance Française de Dhaka’s students of one such workshop titled Subcontinental Classical Music, coordinated by Manzurul Islam Khan, are going to perform their music in the evening of 4 October 2019 at La Galerie. The performance of these young artists is sure to become an amazing treat for all the lovers of classical music.
Renoir Film Club Film Show
At Auditorium Nouvelle Vague

Theme: Women in Film

Fri, 11 Oct at 5.30 pm
Géronimo (2014)
Director: Tony Gatlif
1h 47min ROMANCE PG-13

Fri, 25 Oct at 5.30 pm
Séraphine (2008)
Director: Martin Provost
2h 5min BIOGRAPHY, DRAMA R

Fri, 8 Nov at 5.30 pm
Bird People (2014)
Director: Pascale Ferran
2h 7min DRAMA, FANTASY, ROMANCE R

Sat, 16 Nov at 5.30 pm
Bande de filles (2014)
Girlhood
Director: Céline Sciamma
1h 53min DRAMA R

Sat, 7 Dec at 6 pm
Fidelio, l’odyssée d’Alice (2014)
Fidelio: Alice’s Odyssey
Director: Lucie Borleteau
1h 37min DRAMA, ROMANCE R

Sat, 14 Dec at 5.30 pm
La belle saison (2015)
Summertime
Director: Catherine Corsini
1h 45min DRAMA, ROMANCE R

Sat, 28 Dec at 6 pm
Brooklyn (2014)
Director: Pascal Tessaud
1h 23min DRAMA, MUSIC, MUSICAL PG-13

Films are subtitled in English, unless otherwise stated. Viewer discretion is advised. MPAA ratings (or the equivalent) collected from IMDb.com, Inc. are denoted in the schedule. The ratings are: G (General Audiences), PG (Parental Guidance Suggested), PG-13 (Parents Strongly Cautioned), R (Restricted), NR (Not Rated), and UR (Unrated). Organised with the support from Institut Français. The timetable is subject to change at short notice.
From Fri, 18 Oct at 5.30 pm to Sat, 26 Oct at La Galerie

Mohd. Mohiuddin Ahmed

*Impression of Surroundings 5*

- Painting Exhibition

Ninth solo
I have a shortcoming ... I cannot express myself in writing. I had to succumb to painting, especially abstract art for expressing myself. Art has an explainability that is far beyond mere words, and has a reachability that does not care for barriers like language and other manufactured constructs, ultimately becoming an experience so personal and so special that speak directly to an individual’s existential experience.

I am influenced with my own surroundings and my visible world that are impinging on my conscious as well as subconscious mind. And with time and deliberation, an interpretation that I cannot help interpreting emerges. The paintings in this exhibition are thus the fruitage of my surroundings. It is said that life is no bed of roses; but I think, like the texture of the corrugated paper, life has its ups and downs, its beautiful moments and of course its bumps that may crash and burn life itself. That nuanced human condition is what I try to put forward in my paintings. My paintings do not jump out and shout a boilerplate message to every observer. The observer having his or her own idiosyncratic rubric of life interprets my paintings in his or her own way — such is the transcending way of abstract art.”
From Sat, 2 Nov at 5.30 pm to Wed, 13 Nov at La Galerie

Naymuzzaman Prince

*Humans of ICPD: Faces of Bangladesh*

- Photography Exhibition

Commissioned by UNFPA Bangladesh
Nairobi Summit 2019 marks 25 years of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) since its first organisation in 1994 in Cairo. As a developing country, Bangladesh has achieved a lot of success in different areas, specially on human rights, population, sexual and reproductive health, gender equality, and sustainable development. United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) is playing an important role in achieving those improvements. They are working closely together with different stakeholders where the rights of women and girls are key to development.

This photo exhibition will put a human face to the ICPD agenda in Bangladesh, which is expected to generate momentum ahead of the Nairobi Summit to accelerate the progress of the ICPD agenda. Through powerful portraits and vignettes of people from Bangladesh, the exhibition will not only inform key stakeholders about the ICPD Programme of Action’s 15 principles but also highlight why ICPD is so important if Bangladesh is to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.
On
Tue, 5 Nov
at 6.30 pm
at Bangladesh
Shilpakala
Academy

Thibault
Cauvin

*Classical Guitar Concert*

* Concert

Solo
Alliance Française de Dhaka — with support from the Embassy of France to Bangladesh, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, Oryx Bangladesh, and Gandharbpur Water Treatment SNC (a joint venture of Suez International and OTV-Veolia) — is proud to present the award-winning French guitarist Thibault Cauvin in Bangladesh.

Cauvin — whom Télérama described as “the champion of classical guitar” and Los Angeles Times described as “just incredible, don’t miss him” — is the only guitarist in the world to win 13 international first prizes. His brilliant, inspired and eloquent playing puts up a feast to the ears breaking boundaries and admixing audiences from different places.

With his latest stop being Dhaka, Cauvin has been touring extensively for 15 years now, playing in the most prestigious halls in the world — virtually 120 countries, 1000 solo concerts with his guitar stirring the New York Carnegie Hall, the Moscow Tchaikovsky Hall, the Shanghai Concert Hall, the London Queen Elizabeth Hall, to name a few.

Find more about Cauvin’s music at thibaultcauvin.com.
From Fri, 15 Nov at 5.30 pm to Sat, 23 Nov at La Galerie

Tajul Islam

Composition of Forms and Colours

Tapestry and Painting Exhibition

Thirteenth solo
From 1965 to 1979, Tajul Islam spent 14 years with Rashid Chowdhury — known as a pioneer in tapestry art in Bangladesh — in his studio honing the craft of creating compelling and beautiful tapestries. One look at Islam’s creations and it is understandable that he takes after Chowdhury. Though the influence is there, it does not overpower Islam’s unique kind of coloured stripes, imagery or visual language.

The septuagenarian artist is still active and beaming, creating inspirational tapestries full of life and movement. Featuring both tapestries and paintings, the theme for this exhibition is ‘Inventing the Creative Beauty’.
le mois du film documentaire
20ème Le Mois du film documentaire
At Auditorium Nouvelle Vague

20 years! In more than 2000 places in France and in the world, the month of November is an opening to highlight documentary cinema and its authors in libraries, cinemas, film clubs, and communities. In twenty years, the event spread over the territory and the number of participating places was multiplied by ten. The event has also tried to reinvent herself every year, opening up to contemporary documentary writing and new ways to supplement documentary filmmaking. Since 1999, Le Mois du film documentaire has been dedicated to highlighting documentary films that rely on all the forms offered by the cinema of the real to embrace the great changes in our society, travel the world, or to make a simple portrait.

Alliance Française de Dhaka will be screening a number documentary films in its Auditorium Nouvelle Vague. More details to come.

Mon, 18 Nov at 4 pm
Nofinofy (2019)
Director: Mickaël Andrianaly
1h 12min DOCUMENTARY PG

Tue, 19 Nov at 4 pm
Dans ma tête un rond-point (2015)
Roundabout in My Head
Director: Hassen Ferhani
1h 40min DOCUMENTARY R

Films are subtitled in English, unless otherwise stated. Viewer discretion is advised. MPAA ratings (or the equivalent) collected from IMDb.com, Inc. are denoted in the schedule. The ratings are: G (General Audiences), PG (Parental Guidance Suggested), PG-13 (Parents Strongly Cautioned), R (Restricted), NR (Not Rated), and UR (Unrated). Organised with the support from Institut Français. The timetable is subject to change at short notice.
From Tue, 19 Nov at 5.30 pm to Fri, 29 Nov at Galerie Zoom

Group of Eight Artists

Of Odds and Ends

Art Exhibition

Group
The role of artists in the society is monumental. Truly there are no alternatives to practising art when it comes to illuminating the social psyche. The social psyche comprises of manifold vantage points, needs, wants, and attention spans that may sum up to an impenetrable wall of noirishness that only art can break through. So artists have to try to be very clear in articulating their purpose and sort of ‘ride’ their art where both expression and communication may manifest ideas in various cogitable forms. This art exhibition is an attempt at that.”

More than thirty artworks in various media such as watercolour, acrylic, oil, woodcut, mixed media, among others will be exhibited. The participating artists from the Faculty of Fine Art, University of Dhaka are Afia Airin, Ajay Shanyal, Anika Tasnim, Fakhrul Islam Shakil, Purnia Mrittika, Rony Mandol, Sahana Sanu, and Soikat Hosaain.
Ankhi Halder

An Evening of Traditional Bangla Songs

Concert
Solo
Ankhi Halder completed the five-year certificate course on Tagore songs at Shurer Dhara, a prestigious music school in Bangladesh, and has been teaching music there since 2009. Halder, a disciple of Rezwana Choudhury Bannya, one of the leading practitioners of Tagore songs in the South Asian subcontinent, has performed in reputable venues, major television channels as well as in Germany, Czech Republic, Austria, Switzerland, Indonesia, and India, among others.

Halder rendered eight songs in the *Shruti Gitabitan* — a phenomenal compendium of all the 2,232 songs from *Gitabitan* by Rabindranath Tagore. Her first studio album was released this year titled *Toma Paney Chahi* on the Impress Audio Vision label.

Check her YouTube channel at bit.ly/ankhihalder for a good listen.
On Fri, 6 Dec and Sat, 7 Dec at Puran Dhaka

Heritage Day

- Cultural Programme

Various contributors
To promote cultural diversity and mutual understanding between culture European National Institute for Culture (EUNIC) was launched in the Franco-German Embassy, Dhaka in July 2018 by three prominent cultural centres in the country — Alliance Française de Dhaka, British Council and Goethe-Institut.

This year — with the support of the European Delegation and the Embassy of Spain in Bangladesh, and in partnership with Urban Study Group (USG), Institute of Architects Bangladesh (IAB), and Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) — the EUNIC members will organise a number of cultural programmes to champion the value of architectural heritage and the protection of cultural heritage of Bangladesh. Details to follow.
From Sat, 7 Dec to Fri, 13 Dec at Sufia Kamal National Public Library

15th International Short & Independent Film Festival

Free Cinema
Free Expression

Film Festival

Various contributors
International Short & Independent Film Festival (ISIFF) began in 1988 with the objective of opening a door to the world of short fiction, documentaries and experimental films for local audience.

With the slogan ‘Free Cinema Free Expression’, the festival aims at creating a platform for solidarity among the independent short and documentary filmmakers from Asia and other parts of the globe irrespective of their nationality, creed, colour, and gender. The festival is a biennial event organised by Bangladesh Short Film Forum (BSFF), the first association of short film activists of Bangladesh. Following 14 successful editions, the 15th ISIFF expects to feature a good number of films from all over the world. More details to come.

Learn more about ISIFF at isiff-bd.org.
From
Tue, 10 Dec
at 5.30 pm
to Wed, 18 Dec
at La Galerie

Group of
Seven Artists

জলজ ৬ / Joloj 6
(Aquatic 6)

● Painting
Exhibition

Group
Stephen Kieran and James Timberlake write in their book *Alluvium*, “A place where the very earth beneath your feet is constantly shifting from dry to wet, where categories like ‘dry’ and ‘wet’ in fact mean very little, since most of what exists is somewhere in between.”

In ‘জলজ ৬ / Joloj 6’ or ‘Aquatic 6’ — their sixth collaboration, the perplexingly aquatic Bangladesh will once again be depicted in watercolour in the canvases of the *Joloj* artists. Their awash canvasses will feature everything aquatic Bangladesh has to offer — villages and suburbs, old towns and new towns, country roads and highways, boats and ships, fields and meadows, and mosques and temples.

The *Joloj* artists are Al-Akhir Aarker, Azmal Uddin Palash, Biplob Chakraborty, Bishan Bhakta, Mosiur Rahman Choudhury, Sadek Ahmed, and Shaymal Biswas.
From Fri, 20 Dec at 5.30 pm to Sat, 28 Dec at La Galerie

Dr Sajid Bin Doza

*Colourful Faces Around Us…*

- Cartoon Exhibition

Tenth solo
“Passing through the streets, footpaths, lanes, and byroads of the dense megacity of Dhaka, one can see uncountable faces. All these faces, albeit anonymous at first glance, have their own identities and front uncountable entities who perform duties and roles as social units. With urbanisation and weakening interpersonal ties, anonymity of these faces and the nescience of their personhood are growing and people have become desensitised.

I employ what I call ‘cultural cartooning’ to alter this unknowingness into knowingness. I bring forward the many faces I encounter in the streets, footpaths, lanes, and byroads of this dense megacity of Dhaka and familiarise them with my viewers, sometimes with a hint of satire. The faces become colourful with their surrounding elements and relatable personages transpire. Both old and new generation viewers can engage with these cartoons and I believe they will feel better for it.”
TBA
at La Galerie

Philip Hazra and Yulia Evdokimova

*Cello-Piano-Audio 3*

- Concert
- Duet
Cello-piano concert draws huge crowd at AFD” — New Age

Alliance Française de Dhaka’s resident maestro cellist Philip Hazra and Russian pianist Yulia Evdokimova will present the third edition of the much-lauded musical concert ‘Cello-Piano-Audio’.

For the connoisseurs of classical music, for the music lovers, and for anyone craving to listen to great music of among others, Ludwig van Beethoven, Camille Saint-Saëns, Robert Schuman, and Charles Gounod — the evening is looking to be an enjoyable one. Date and time to be announced.

Open to all. Please note that the venue offers limited seating; seating is available on a first come, first served basis.
LabCitoyen is the program dedicated to major human rights topics organised by the Institut Français in collaboration with the Alliance Française and the French embassy. This year, it brought together 57 socially-engaged young people and revolves around the theme: ‘Women’s Rights: Equality and Citizenship’. During one week, they learned about these issues through a series of conferences and debates, in France.

After workshops held at the National Assembly, at the OECD’s headquarters and a tour of the Élysée Palace, the young activists went to the Palais de la Femme in order to think together about feminist struggles.

Winner of the competition, organised by the Alliance Française and the Embassy of France to Bangladesh during the Francophonie week, Farheen Chowdhury was selected to participate in this unique event to represent Bangladesh.
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L'idée : Décrire une ville où l’on n’est jamais allé et la décrire comme si on y était allé

Rêver de Paris

Annoy Mazhar
Ado B1.3 C/D


Rêver de l’Ontario

Arwa Tajrian Kabir
Ado B1.3 C/D

Rêver de Paris

Annoy Mazhar
Ado B1.3 C/D

C'est Paris, la ville lumière. Je l'ai visité en janvier dernier avec ma famille. On y est resté pour une semaine. Quelle merveille !

Quand je suis sorti de l'aéroport, la ville était incroyable ! Et la neige était magnifique ! On a visité les musées, les parcs d'attractions et les galeries. Et la tour Eiffel, qu'est-ce que c'est beau ! J'ai aimé la variété des plats. C'est comme un paradis dans ma bouche. C'est très amusant de jouer avec la neige. La météo était formidable aussi ! J'étais au septième ciel. Le parc d'attraction était génial ! On a eu un très bon voyage. Paris est vraiment une ville à visiter absolument.

Rêver de l'Ontario

Arwa Tajrian Kabir
Ado B1.3 C/D


Rêver de Calcutta

Soha Maisha Mehataj
Ado B1.3 C/D


To get featured in French Pen:
Send in your original writing at conseil@afdhaka.org. Include your name, AFD-ID number and name of your class module.

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New Arrivals
At Médiathèque Jules Verne

BOOK
Nineteen Seventy One and Other Stories: A Collection of Short Stories
Rashid Askari
ENGLISH
Shamabesh

BOOK
The Story of French
Jean-Benoît Nadeau and Julie Barlow
ENGLISH
St. Martin’s Press

BOOK
Dis-moi docteur!
Association Sparadrap and Sandrine Herren-schmidt
FRENCH
Albin Michel

BOOK
Le tour du monde en 80 jours
Jules Verne
Adaptation by Dominique Bihoreau
FRENCH
Hachette Français Langue Etrangère

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BOOK
Arsène Lupin, Le bouchon de cristal
Maurice Leblanc
FRENCH
CLE International

BOOK
Intrigue au stade
Adrien Payet
FRENCH
CLE International

BOOK
Carmen
Prosper Mérimée
FRENCH
CLE International

BOOK
Carnets d’Orient
Jacques Ferrandez
FRENCH
Casterman

BOOK
Roberto Zucco
Bernard-Marie Koltès
Translation by Matin Crimp
ENGLISH
Methuen Drama

BOOK
Bescherelle — La conjugaison pour tous
Bénédicte Delaunay and Nicolas Laurent
FRENCH
Éditions Hatier
BOOK
Bescherelle école
Claire Dupuis et al.
Éditions Hatier

BOOK
Le Mystère de la chambre jaune — Une aventure de Rouletabille Tome 1
Jean-Charles Gaudin
Soleil

BOOK
Les Aventures de Tintin : Le Lotus bleu
Hergé
Casterman

MAGAZINE
L’Express
Issue no. 3556
Groupe L’Express

MAGAZINE
Science et Vie junior
Issue no. 360
Mondadori France

MAGAZINE
Je lis déjà !
Issue no. 336
Fleurus Presse
Maureen Freely reviews the English translation titled *Embroideries* in *The Guardian*:

The time: the early 1990s. The place: a well-appointed house in Tehran. A formal luncheon party is just coming to an end. After the man of the house has complimented his wife on the food, he and all the other men go off to take naps. Young Marjane is sent off to prepare the samovar, while her mother, her aunt, her grandmother and their friends do the washing-up. Only when the women have retired to the sitting room to enjoy their teas are they ready for the most important business of the day: gossip.

“To speak behind others’ backs is to ventilate the soul.” That’s the grandmother’s motto, and she goes on to illustrate it with a story from her youth. […] But at no point does Marjane Satrapi feel compelled to spell out why she chose to turn this graphic gossipfest into a graphic novella - or how she wants us to respond to it. It speaks for itself and, to a large degree, to itself, and therein lies its subversive charm. But it is at the same time a daring and brilliantly calculated illumination of a secret space.

Though *Embroideries* is not a continuation of the Persepolis story, it sits at the heart of the same world — a brutally policed society where an extraordinarily rich and inventive culture still prevails, if only behind closed doors, where women are wildly subversive, funny, free-thinking and sexy, at least when the men are having naps.
Snaps
Events in the last three months

Fri, 12 Jul
at La Galerie
Prof. Dr Hira Sobahan
Life and the Narrative of Time-1
Art Exhibition

Fri, 26 Jul
at La Galerie
Shibly Shiraj
France, Natural and Eternal: A Photographer’s Journey
Photography Exhibition
Fri, 23 Aug
at La Galerie
Group of
Ten Artists
Colours
Art Exhibition

Fri, 30 Aug
at Auditorium
Nouvelle Vague
Subhra
Debnath
An Evening of
Rabindrasangeet
Concert
Fri, 30 Aug at Multiple Venues
Fire Safety Training

Mon, 2 Sep at La Galerie
Group of Nine Artists
Symphony Art Exhibition
Fri, 6 Sep at Auditorium Nouvelle Vague Yves Marre
A Discussion with Yves Marre Discussion

Tue, 17 Sep at Galerie Zoom Group of Fifteen Artists Adherence Painting Exhibition
Suez
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92,000,000 people supplied with drinking water
5,138 GWh of energy produced each year in the world from waste
80,000+ employees in 70 countries
323,000+ industrial and business customers
Art Workshop at
Alliance Française de Dhaka

Western Classical Guitar
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Alliance Française de Dhaka benefits from the support of the Embassy of France in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Alliance Française de Dhaka is a member of the European Union National Institutes for Culture (EUNIC), along with British Council and Goethe-Institut.

Colophon This Le Fleuve was designed using Circular type family by Laurenz Brunner. The front cover is based on the painting by Al-Akhir Sarker.

Special Thanks Jannatul Ferdousee, Joanne Spence, Md. Mamun Ar Rashid, Mira Ana Mahmud, Mohammad Lutfar Rahman, Olivier Dintinger, Sharmin Afroj, Suba Rahman, and The Noun Project.

This Le Fleuve and Le Fleuve logotype were designed by Md. Mahmud Hussain.
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