



Iran's Parastuii wins Best Actor Award at Georgian festival

Tehran Times Art Desk

TEHRAN — Iran's Parviz Parastuii won the Best Actor Award at the Batumi International Art-House Film Festival in Georgia.

Parastuii was presented with the award for his role in Abdolreza Kahani's acclaimed film "Twenty" during a ceremony on Monday.

Present at the ceremony were the film's editor and wife of Kahani, Shima Monfarad, who went on stage to receive Parastuii's award and read his acceptance note to the audience.

Monfarad called Parastuii one of the most favorite and prestigious actors of Iran's cinema who has won awards in national

events several times but this is the first time he has received an international award.

"The film's cast and crew did their utmost during the film's production and I was happy for each time 'Twenty' achieved national and international success," Parastuii told MNA.

"I congratulate the crew particularly Kahani for this award because he encouraged the crew to do their best. I believe that this award belongs to the Iranian nation," he said.

He went on to say that although he did not know Kahani before this production, he was attracted by the film script, which focuses on social problems and explores them tastefully.



Parviz Parastuii (R) and Mahtab Karamati (rear) are seen in a movie still of "Twenty". Parastuii won the Best Actor Award at the Batumi International Art-House Film Festival in Georgia for his role in this film.

Mahtab Karamati and Alireza Khamseh are main members of the cast in "Twenty", which is about a once-popular reception hall that now reduced to catering to the funeral business, whose workers are struggling to preserve it.

First knots of "Persian Gulf" carpet to be weaved today

Tehran Times Art Desk

TEHRAN — The first knots of the "Persian Gulf" carpet will be weaved today during the exhibit "Patient Knots, Lasting Motifs" at Tehran's Niavaran Cultural Center.

The ceremony will begin with a symbolic tying of the first few knots in the carpet, in which Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts Organization (CHTO) Director Hamid Baqaii and several ambassadors will participate.

Experts will be weaving the carpet based on a design bearing the image of the world's oldest geographic map of the Persian Gulf.

In addition, a collection of rare carpets and carpet tableaus displaying the precious art of Iran's hand weaving will be put on display at the show for one month at the center.

Several lectures and question and answer panels are also arranged during the exhibit.

NEWS IN BRIEF

President attends performance of Resistance Symphony

TEHRAN — Iran's President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad attended the Resistance Symphony performance on Monday.

The Tehran Symphony Orchestra conducted by Majid Entezami, went on stage at Tehran's Vahdat Hall to perform the Symphony in commemoration of the 29th anniversary of the 1980-1988 Iran-Iraq war.

Iranian photographer wins award at Chinese contest

TEHRAN — Iranian amateur photographer Sona Anzabinejad was awarded with the second prize of the China Overseas Friendship Association photo contest.

The major goal of the association is to increase understanding, development and friendship, and solidify and extensively develop a united front among nationalistic forces.

Tehran Vocal Ensemble to hold master classes in Europe

TEHRAN — The Tehran Vocal Ensemble will hold concerts and master classes in Spain and Frankfurt.

Conductor Milad Omranlu accompanied by the ensemble will hold a master class in Spain on September 30. They will perform concerts and hold master classes from October 3 to 6 in Frankfurt.

Tajikistan to celebrate Rumi Day

Tehran Times Culture Desk

TEHRAN — Tajikistan is preparing to celebrate Rumi National Day on September 30 with variety of conferences, theater performances and several other cultural programs.

All theaters in Dushanbe will be offering performances based on Molana Rumi's works, especially on Masnavi, the spokesman for Tajikistan Ministry of Culture Anvar Yusupov informed the Persian service of Fars News Agency.

In addition, the best singers in the country will be singing Rumi's poetry, he said, adding, "The Russian residents of the country are also interested in Rumi and several programs have been prepared in Russian for them



during which they will recite poems they have composed on Rumi. The program will be accompanied by live music.

at the Mayakovsky Theater in the capital."

Experts on Rumi, researchers and scholars are also invited to attend a conference on Rumi's Masnavi and its historical identity in Khatlon Province.

Tajikistan marked Rumi's 800th birth anniversary in 2007 with an extensive celebration.

Iran is also commemorating Rumi National Day with a ceremony at the Shams Tomb in Khoy. The ceremony is being held from September 29 to 31 and will be attended by scholars of Rumi.

A group of poets from West Azerbaijan Province will also gather to hold a ceremony during which they will recite poems they have composed on Rumi. The program will be accompanied by live music.

French artist Fantin-Latour on show at Madrid's Thyssen

MADRID (AFP) — The 19th century French painter Henri Fantin-Latour, an "artist unfairly overlooked and resolutely modern," is the subject of a new exhibition which opens Tuesday at Madrid's Thyssen-Bornemisza museum, the organizers said.

The exhibition of 70 paintings "aims to return to his rightful place a modern artist who has revolutionized painting without ever seeking to provoke or shock," said the director of the exhibition, Vincent Pomarede.

A disciple of Courbet, a companion of Whistler and friend of Degas, Fantin-Latour "was part of a glorious generation which did not have the popular recognition of his friend Monet, since, as he was too conservative, he did not want to try impressionism," said the museum's artistic director, Guillermo Solana.

The show follows his work chronologically, from his copies of paintings by grand masters at the Louvre in Paris to some of his dozens of self portraits, a reflection of his need for solitude.

There follows the still lives, painted with almost scientific precision, that made his name in England at a time when French impressionism was not yet popular there, and the "silent and intimate" portraits of friends lost in their thoughts.

Fantin-Latour, who lived from 1836 to 1904, "wanted to understand what happens inside the human mind and retranscribe these hidden feelings for his contemporaries," said Pomarede.

The final part depicts musical allegories and fantasies dedicated to the works of Wagner, Schumann, Brahms and Berlioz.

The exhibition is open from September 29 to January 10 at the Thyssen-Bornemisza, one of Madrid's three major art museums.

Belgium showcases 50 centuries of Chinese culture

BRUSSELS (AFP) — Belgium's Europalia cultural festival marks its 40th birthday from next month with a program involving some 450 shows and around 50 exhibitions focused on 5,000 years of Chinese history.

The festival, supported by King Albert II, kicks off with a gala concert in Brussels on October 8 and runs through to February 14, to mark the Chinese New Year.

Around one million people are expected to visit dance and theatre shows, concerts and films in Brussels but also in smaller cities across the country, as well as in Amsterdam, Cologne, Luxembourg and Paris.

So the public won't be lost in the blizzard of events, the festival organizers -- Belgian and Chinese -- have divided the festival up into four themes, with a special item headlining in each.

The first, "Eternal China", focuses on "the splendor of the tangible and intangible Chinese heritage that has been a constant value throughout the centuries", and is led by the "Son of Heaven" art exhibition.

Part of the "Contemporary China" theme is dedicated to music and the performing arts, with Lin Zhaohua, pioneer of avant-garde Chinese theater, taking the stage at the National Theater in the Belgian capital.

The exhibition "The State of Things" sees Chinese artists tackling sensitive issues like people displaced by the giant Three Gorges dam project on the Yangtse River.

"Colorful China" looks at tradition and popular culture, while "China and the Rest of the World" offers, among several highlights, walks taking in the China-related sites in Brussels.

Warner, YouTube near deal for music videos: sources

NEW YORK (Reuters) — Warner Music Group Corp and YouTube are finalizing an agreement that would allow music videos from artists such as Green Day to once again be featured on the popular website, according to sources close to the deal.

The deal, which one source described as imminent, would resolve a dispute over licensing rights that caused Warner Music to pull music videos by its artists from Google Inc's YouTube in December.

YouTube and Warner, the third largest music company, declined comment on the deal, first reported by AdAge on Monday.

A deal would mean that Warner Music's stable of artists would once again appear on the world's most popular video sharing site, joining those from EMI Music, Sony Corp's Sony Music Entertainment and Vivendi SA's Universal Music Group, all of which have renewed deals.

Financial details are unclear; but Warner Music Chief Executive Edgar Bronfman has made known his desire to improve terms of his previous deal with YouTube. Like other industry executives, he faces a music market that has been stung by tumbling CD sales and slowing digital music growth.

Third Announcement



National Iranian Oil Product Distribution Co. (N.I.O.P.D.C.)

National Iranian Oil Product Distribution Company is considering to choose a Bunkering contractor in **Chabahar and International Oman Marine-way.**

All the interested and qualified companies in Bunkering are invited to pick up the set of requirements and qualifications' conditions for their information from Commercial affairs (12th floor NIOPDC Shadab Avenue, North Iranshahr Street, Tehran, Iran) within ten days from publishing this advertisement. All the applications will be reviewed and qualified parties will be notified to submit their offer letter.