



The band's current line-up.

PHOTO: COURTESY

Spondan celebrates 48 years today



Spondan's original line-up.

SADI MOHAMMAD SHAHNEWAZ

Spondan is known to be one of the pioneers of Bangla pop music. Having started in 1972, the band's initial line-up consisted of Nasir Ahmed Apu, Ferdous Junior, Aftab Kamal, Larry, Musa, Kamal, Happy Akhand, Kazi Hablu, Shahedul Huda, Ferdous Wahid, Late Firoz Shai and Sheikh Kamal. In 2018, with a revamped line-up, the band launched their self-titled debut album. Today, the legendary band will celebrate 48 years of their first formation, which is a landmark in Bangladeshi band music. "We are planning a physical release of our album, in light of the 100th birth anniversary of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman," said Nazim, the vocalist and percussionist of the band, carrying on the legacy from his father, Firoz Shai. Spondan's current line-up consists of Anan, Nazim, Naim, Neaz and Shishir, following into the footsteps from the first generation of rockstars.

Purnata's solo photo exhibition begins today

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

In between borders and other political constructs, a two day exhibition by photographer Nujhat Purnata will begin at Gallery 6, Fine Arts Building in Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy from today.

Advisory Council Member of Awami League, Tofail Ahmed, will attend the opening ceremony today as the chief guest. As special guests, President of Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA), Dr Rubana Huq, and Editor of The Daily Kaler Kantha, Imdadul Haque Milon, will be present.

General Secretary of Jatiya Press Club Farida Yeasmin, Editor of Bangladesh Pratidin and General Secretary of Editors' Council, Naem Nizam, alongside other notable journalists, will grace the occasion.

The photo exhibition is expected to generate awareness about border and other political issues.

Nujhat Purnata graduated in Mass Communication and Journalism from University of Massachusetts in the United States of America.



PHOTO: COURTESY

WHAT'S ON

Concert
Title: Get Amped: Plugged Session 2020
Date: January 31
Venue: Jamuna Future Park
Time: 3 pm onwards

Workshop
Title: Kata Kuti - Collage Workshop by Kazi Tahsin Agaz Apurbo
Venue: Studio 6/6, Mohammadpur
Date: January 25, 2020
Time: 11 am – 6 pm

Group Art Exhibition
Title: Breaking Ground: Modern Art in Transition
Venue: Subir Choudhury Exhibition Hall, Bengal Shilpalay, Dhanmondi
Date: Dec 17 – Feb 15
Time: 1 pm – 8 pm (Except Sundays)

Musical Evening
Title: Plugged Out IV - One Night Stand
Venue: Counter Culture Club, Dhanmondi
Date: January 31, 2020
Time: 5 pm onwards
Tickets: BDT 300

Cultural Festival
Title: Bangladesh Shanskritik Utsab 2020
Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Date: January 3- 23, 2020
Time: 4 pm- 8 pm

Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Truce
Artist: Ata Mojlish
Venue: Dwip Gallery, Lalmatia
Date: January 25 – February 1
Time: 3 pm – 9 pm (Except Mondays)

TRESemmé Bangladesh Fashion Week 2020 announced



PHOTO: COURTESY

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Internationally renowned haircare brand TRESemmé has announced one of their flagship programmes, TRESemmé Bangladesh Fashion Week 2020. It will be held at International Convention City Bashundhara (ICCB) from January 23 to 25. Fashion Design Council of Bangladesh (FDCB) is the event partner, while Le Meridien is the hospitality partner. 21 local and

9 foreign designers will be showing their collection in the three-day event. On first day, Anuj Sharma and Riddhi Jain from India and Ajay Gurung from Nepal will be showing their collection, alongside talented Bangladeshi designers. On the second day of the event, FDCB President Maheen Khan, will be joined by Emdad Hoque, Shaibal Saha, Farah Anjum Bari, Soumitra Mandal from India, along with Sonali Dharmawardena from Sri

Lanka will showcase their works.

On the third and last day of the event, the Chandan Dewan, Kuhu, Lipi Khandaker and others will be accompanied by Alka Sharma and Asif Shaikh from India and Chandrika Tamang from Bhutan.

Nafees Anwar, Beauty and Personal Care Director of Unilever Bangladesh Limited, announced the event in a press conference. FDCB President Mahin Khan spoke at the conference.

7th death anniversary of Suchitra Sen today

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPUI, from Pabna

Today marks the 7th death anniversary of legendary actor Suchitra Sen. The actor breathed her last on January 17 in 2013 in Kolkata. The star originally hailed from Pabna. The district's administration, in collaboration with Suchitra Sen Smrity Shangrakhhan Parishad, have organised various programmes, commemorating the diva's life and works.

Born on April, 6 in 1931, Suchitra Sen grew up Gopalpur, in a small district town and started her academic journey with Mahakali Pathshala. She later pursued education from Pabna Govt Girls High School, where she studied until class-IX. Her family shifted India long before the liberation. "Suchitra Sen had no touch with Pabna since her departure from the ancestral house till death. However, she still lives in our hearts," says Dr Noreesh Chandra Modhu, Secretary of Suchitra Sen Smrity Shangrakhhan Parishad, Pabna.

Suchitra's ancestral house in Pabna was illegally occupied since three decades until it was finally freed in 2014 and opened to visitors. "After a long smuggle, we have finally managed to free the historic house of Suchitra Sen. We wish to establish this place as a museum, treasuring her memories, he adds."

Pabna district administration plans to start the day by garnering statue of Sen with flowers at her ancestral house. This session will be followed by a rally, discussions and a cultural programme at the Pabna Govt Girls High School.



PHOTO: COLLECTED

DIFF 2020 hosts 'West Meets East' conference



PHOTO: COURTESY

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

"At the end of the day, filmmaking is an expensive business. So, how the investment in this sector will return has to be decided in advance," renowned Bangladeshi filmmaker and producer Abu Shahed Emon commented at an interactive conference, titled 'West Meets East' at Dhaka Club, recently.

With the participation of local and international filmmakers, the conference was held as part of the 18th Dhaka International Film Festival 2020. The daylong event was attended by internationally acclaimed filmmakers Rubaiyet Hossain, Prosun Azad, Meenakshi Shedde, South Asia delegate of

Berlin Film Festival and Suli, programmer of Busan Film Festival, among others.

At the beginning of the conference, Meenakshi Shedde discussed the techniques of the selection of films for the festivals. Then, Abu Shahed Emon and other directors discussed the filmmaking, investment and its challenges.

According to the discussants, international film festivals may vary according to regions. For example, some aspects are significant for the Europe film festival, which may not significant for Asian festivals and the focus point of American film festivals are different.

So, before making a film, the

filmmakers or affiliates have to decide where they will screen the film or in which festival it will be participating. They also have to be careful about selecting festivals. For example, Meenakshi said, "Only the best films of the Busan Film Festival in Asia are the focus of the Cannes Film Festival".

Rainbow Film Society, one of the most active film entities in the film society movement of Bangladesh, has organised 18th Dhaka International Film Festival' with the motto 'Better Film, Better Audience and Better Society'. 220 films from around 74 countries are being screened under different categories at the event, which concludes on January 19.