

WHAT'S ON



Art Camp
Title: 4th Annual Art for Autism 2020
Venue: Charukola, University of Dhaka
Date: February 22
Time: 8:30 am – 3pm



Solo Exhibition
Title: Parables of the Womb
Artist: Dilara Begum Jolly
Venue: Bengal Shilpalay, Dhanmondi
Date: February 4 – March 28
Time: 2 pm – 8 pm (Except Sundays)



Book Fair
Title: Amar Ekushey Boi Mela
Organiser: Bangla Academy
Venue: Bangla Academy Premises
Date: Feb 2-29
Time: 3 pm – 8 pm; 11 am – 9 pm on weekends



Art Exhibition
Title: In/Out of the stones of our mind
Venue: Dwp Gallery
Date: February 19-29
Time: 3pm to 9 pm (February 19 from 6pm to 9pm)



Art Exhibition
Title: Parampara
Venue: Gallery Chitrak
Date: February 15-29
Time: 10 am – 8 pm



(From left) the featured singers -- Smoron, Fahim Hossain Chowdhury, Anupoma Mukti, Sabuj and Dr Alif Laila perform at the event.

PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

Star Melodies heralds the Spring with romantic songs

ZAHANGIR ALOM

Star Melodies, an initiative of *The Daily Star* to promote Bangla music, hosted a musical soiree titled, *Bhalobashar Akhore Lekha Boshonter Gaan*, featuring songs about romance and spring-- the season of love. Sponsored by Dhaka Bank Limited, the event was held yesterday at A S Mahmud Hall of The Daily Star Centre.

Renowned Tagore exponent Fahim Hossain Chowdhury, talented playback singer Anupoma Mukti, along with promising singers Sabuj, Dr Alif Laila and Smoron performed songs at the event. Sadya Afreen Mallick, Chief of Culture Initiatives, The Daily Star, hosted and coordinated the programme.

The evening began with a chorus performance of the song, *Moder Gorob Moder Asha*, penned and composed by Atulprasad Sen.

Fahim Hossain Chowdhury first took the stage and rendered the Tagore song, *Amar Praner Pore Chole Gelo Ke*. He later entertained the music lovers with his melodic voice, presenting the evergreen numbers, *Ektuku Chhnoa Laage*, a Hemanta Mukherjee record, *Boshe Achhi Potho Cheye*, and *Amar Swapne Dekha Rajkonna Thake*, a Shyamal Mitra classic.

Mingling romance with melodic euphoria, Anupoma Mukti performed



The audience enjoys melodic proceedings at the soiree.

several popular songs at the event, including *Modhu Malati Dakey Aay*, a Sandhya Mukherjee record, *O Polash O Shimul*, a Lata Mangeshkar classic, and the Runa Laila record, *Amar Mon Boley Tumi Ashbe*. Mukti's presentation of the songs seemingly won hearts of many.

Dr Alif Laila marvellously presented the romantic song, *Abar Bhalobashar Sadh Jagey*, written and composed by

the National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam. She later performed a Nachiketa Ghosh composition, *Mayaboti Megh-e Elo Tandra*, which was first recorded by Sandhya Mukherjee. The singer wrapped up her solo session with Shah Abdul Karim's *Bosonto Batashey Shoi Go*. The audience warmly received Alif Laila's folk numbers.

Sabuj captivated the audience as he

melodiously performed, *Hai Borosha Emon Phagun Kere Niona*, which was penned by Pulak Bandyopadhyay and composed was first recorded by Satinath Mukherjee. His rendition of the popular Sachin Dev Burman song, *Borne Gondhe Chhonde Geetite*, was a melodic treat. The singer also sang Tapan Chowdhury's hit number, *Polash Phutechhe Shimul Phutechhe*.

Promising singer Smoron began her solo performance with Jatilishwar Mukherjee's *Tomar Songe Dekha Na Hole*. She beautifully rendered the Subhamita Banerjee record, *Tomar Kachhe Phagun Cheyechhe Krishnachura*, written and composed by Goutam Ghosal. The artiste also presented Madhuri Chatopadhyay's *Gungun Phagun Shesh Hole*, which pleased the listeners.

Sabuj and Smoron's duet performance of *Tumi Saat Sagorer Opar Hote*, written by Gazi Mazharul Anwar and composed by Anwar Parvez, was well received by the audience. The song was originally recorded by late singers Abdul Jabbar and Shahnaz Rahmatullah.

The soiree concluded with the presentation of the timeless song, *Amar Bhaier Rokte Rangano Ekushey February*, written by Abdul Gaffar Chowdhury and composed by Altaf Mahmud, as a tribute to the martyrs of 1952 Language Movement.

EKUSHEY SPOTLIGHT Bakhtiar Hossain serenades with words in 'Ekdin Ekta Kobitar Boi Hobe'

SADI MOHAMMAD SHAHNEWAZ

Even though Bakhtiar Hossain is best known as the vocalist of ace rock band, Bay of Bengal, he is a man of many talents. The multi-instrumentalist is also an avid painter, writer, artistic director and sound designer.



PHOTO: COURTESY

Ekdin Ekta Kobitar Boi Hobe is his first release in the Ekushey Boi Mela 2020. "I have been writing poetry for quite a while, but did not think that I would end up publishing a book as such," says Bakhtiar, who feels that he could write with a lot more freedom while penning his poems. "When I write a song, I have to keep multiple aspects in mind, such as composition, tune and rhythm. In such sense, writing poetry feels liberating."

Ekdin Ekta Kobitar Boi Hobe highlights aspects we tend to overlook in our day-to-day lives, which is a recurring theme in the book. Would we see Bakhtiar as a regular feature in the Ekushey Boi Mela? "Well, I do write a lot," smiles Bakhtiar, "There might be more publications in the near future." The book, published by Pendulum, is available at their stall (271), at the Ekushey Boi Mela and can be purchased at a discounted price of BDT 135.



Commemorating the Ekushey Padak winning classical musician Pandit Barin Mazumder on his 99th birth anniversary, the Government Music College (GMC) organised 'Pandit Barin Mazumder Shongit Utshob-2020', at their premises in Agargaon, on February 14. The celebration hosted performances by renowned musicians, organisations and students of GMC.



Children from Scholastica School's junior campus presenting an adorable performance on their Annual Sports Day, which took place recently. The occasion was a joyous celebration of youthful jubilation, shared by the teachers, students and guardians alike.

Kibria International Print Fair 2020 concludes

ZAHANGIR ALOM

The 9th edition of Kibria International Print Fair, which began on February 13, concluded yesterday at Zainul Gallery, Faculty of Fine Art (FFA), University of Dhaka (DU). Kibria International Print Fair Organising Committee and Kibria Printmaking Studio jointly organised the fair as a tribute to the abstract art master and eminent printmaker Mohammad Kibria.

Prominent and emerging printmakers from various institutes, organisations, and studios exhibited their works at the fair. Former Minister of Cultural Affairs and prominent actor Asaduzzaman Noor, MP, inaugurated the programme as chief guest, while art maestros Professor Rafiqun Nabi and Monirul Islam, along with Dr Tanim Ud Dowlah, attended the event as special guests. Renowned printmaker Professor Syed Abul Barq Alvi, convener of the organising committee of the fair, presided over the inaugural ceremony. Professor Nisar Hossain, Dean, FFA, DU, delivered welcome address while, noted artist Rashid Amin, Chairman of the Department of Fine Arts, Jagannath University, hosted the event.

"I have had the privilege of meeting many great personalities, including artists, litterateurs, poets, politicians and intellectuals. I believe, this is the major achievement of my life," said Asaduzzaman Noor. "The history of our glorious movements of the 60s revolved around arts and artists. We used to go to the hostel of the Dhaka Art College where I used to write posters, banners and more. Kibria Sir, who was the superintendent of the hostel at that time, would inspire and suggest us in many ways."

Monirul Islam said, "Many do not give importance to print media. However, there

is a lot of labour behind it. The language it expresses is completely different from other art forms. On the other hand, I am proud to see how Bangladeshi artists are showcasing their work abroad."

Acclaimed printmaker-painter AKM Alamgir Haque was honoured with the lifetime award for his significant contribution to the medium at the inaugural programme. He received a crest and an honorarium of BDT 50,000.

Department of Printmaking, FFA, DU, Painting-Oriental-Printmaking Department,

Faculty of Fine Arts, Rajshahi University, Printmaking Discipline, Institute of Fine Arts, University of Khulna, along with Department of Fine Arts, Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University, Department of Fine Arts, Jagannath University, Printmaking Studio, Department of Fine Arts, University of Development Alternative, Cosmos Atelier '71, Kalidas Printmaking Studio, Studio 48, Karkhana Art Space, Bangladesh Printmakers Association, Flame Arts Open Studio and Kibria Printmaking Studio, among others, participated in the fair.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED