

Causerie

'Music is not for entertainment only', says Hadi

ERSHAD KAMOL

SYED Abdul Hadi has been a major talent in our music arena for nearly 45 years. He is now utilising his vast experience in the field to find out the diversity as well as the chronological development of music in Bangladesh.

Hadi says, 'At present I am busy with a music programme titled *Kichhu Kotha Kichhu Gaan* which is an ntv production. M Muzakker, Mostafa Kamal Syed and I have jointly submitted the concept of the programme to the channel. I host the programme *Kichhu Kotha Kichhu Gaan*. The show includes *Rabindra Sangeet* (Tagore's song), *Nazrul Sangeet* (Nazrul's song) and the so-called *Aadhunik gaan* (modern songs). In future we have plans to work in the other branches of music also.'

Hadi runs a busy schedule, taking part in stage shows both in the country and abroad. However, he is not inclined to perform on BTV for emotional reasons. Hadi says that he will not appear on BTV until he is given due recognition.

'For unknown reasons I was not invited to the inaugural programme of the archives. Although I joined BTV as a producer from the very inception in 1964, my name was not even mentioned in the publication. However, I introduced many concepts for the channel like magazine programme, quiz programme, programmes related to students and so on. Moreover, I am one of the senior most artists in the country.'

'I do not think it is a kind of political victimisation as I am not linked with any political party. The reason behind this, I think, is the hostile attitude of the people who are at the helm of the channel. I fail to understand why Kalim Sharafi, the first director of the channel, was not invited either,' Hadi adds.

Reminiscing on his musical career, Hadi says, 'I started taking music lessons from my childhood. However, I had no particular mentor. But, while I was a student of Dhaka University I had the opportunity to interact with singers like Mostafa Zamam Abbasi, Asafuddaullah and others.'



Syed Abdul Hadi: A commitment to quality music

I first sang in an Urdu film entitled *Eaee Bhi Ek Kahani* (This is also a story) in 1960. From then on, I was involved with the media.'

Hadi is disappointed with the present scenario of music. He says, 'The production companies, as well as a handful of artists are to blame for the decline.'

'The production companies treat music like any other commodity. They have no commitment to music. Their approach is to make profits at any cost, which is not acceptable. They have confused the listeners. The audience cannot distinguish between the quality works from mass productions. At the same time the artists should keep in mind that

'If only the artistes have deep feelings for music only then the songs would be immortal and popular for a length of time.' Moreover, he says, 'The new generation has the potential, but lacks commitment.'

He appreciates band music but does not like fusion music. Hadi says, 'Fusion is in fact "confusion" to me. If someone synthesises his/her voice it is not music. It should be either instrumental or vocal.'

However, Hadi is optimistic about the future of our music industry. He says, 'There will obviously be a positive change in the long run, since people reject poor quality productions.'

About his achievements Syed Abdul Hadi says, 'The love and respect of my audience is most important to me. The government honoured me with the *Ekushey Padak* in 2000. Moreover, I have won *Jatio Cholochitra Purushkar* five times.'

In the coming days Hadi will to build on his achievements and continue with his musical career.

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Event

Shilpkala holds Dance Drama Festival

NOVERA DEEPIKA

Every art media has its own essence for which it is always being identified separately among all art forms. Shilpkala Academy aspired

to hold a dance drama festival. But the piece staged on the second day of the festival by Zilla Shilpkala Academy of Chittagong, failed to project the true essence of a dance drama.

The academy staged the very popular dance drama *Shyama* of Kobiguru Rabindranath Tagore jointly directed by Swapna Das and Manashi Tarafdar. Kazi Farhana Islam and Swapna Das played the

lead roles of Shyama and Bajra Sen. Among others were Swapna Barua, Manashi Das, Jhuma Banik and others.

Shyama, a court-dancer, falls in love with a foreign merchant who arrives with the *Indra Manhar* (a precious necklace) from Subarna Dwip looking for a suitable bride. However, the merchant, Bajra Sen is blamed for stealing Shyama's precious ring. But Shyama protests and proves that her beloved is innocent.

The organisers did try to make the show a success but seriously lacked professionalism. Swapna Das, one of the directors, said, 'We, the performers from outside Dhaka, are very neglected. We don't even get enough opportunities to perform at national levels.' Farhana expressed her gratitude towards the Shilpkala Academy for giving artistes a chance to perform in this festival.

The festival, however, deserves credit for including artistes from outside Dhaka—a much needed break to perform on stage.

Mou, Swapna and co-dancers presenting Jasimuddin's *Nakshi Kanthar Math*

All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme.

News Bulletin

BTW

07:30 Bangladesher Hridoy Hote

09:00 Horlicks Genius Bangladesh Museum around the world

09:30 Alice in Wonderland Circus Lights Transworld Sports

01:00 Sreetar janalay 01:25 Darase Hadeeth Theka

03:25 Bangla Feature Film Abhagi

05:40 Cartoon Show Asia This Week

06:10 Gamhara Tiffener Fanke

06:20 Shubho Shondhya 08:10 Drama Serial: Ronger Manush

08:50 Pepsi Music Express 12:05 Meloncha

10:00 Film Show: Alif Laila 12:05 Rup Charpash

12:00 Cine Magazine

09:00 Teknaf thekey Tetulia

09:40 Drama Serial: Aj Rabibar

10:25 Dindarpan

11:20 Shongbad Poter Pata

10:00 Apran Jigyasha

03:40 Bangla Feature Film: Abhagi

05:10 Gamhara 05:40 Tiffener Fanke

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