

# A tale of four: Upcoming singers to watch out for



ELITA KARIM AND NOVERA DEEPTA

THIS is an opportune time for a new generation of stars to achieve recognition and the old to make way for the young. The Daily Star recently spoke to a group of four young singers whose career graph is showing an upward trend. These upcoming artistes are Tutul, Mimi, Rupom and Tanima. A profile of the talented four:

**Tutul**  
"It's so ironic!" exclaims Tutul. "All the members my family used to sing except for me. But, as fate has it now, I turned out to be the professional one!" Tutul spent around six to seven years in Kushtia, the birthplace of Lalou Shah and met several musicians, who really inspired him. After returning to the city where he grew up, Chittagong, in 1986, he worked in different bands like Sparks, Feelings and finally got into LRB. He was the keyboardist and the second vocal of the band for a long time. Some of his songs like *Shesh chithi*, *Monre*, *Shonyashini* and *Pashani* were huge hits in the mid-1990s.

Eventually, he began to compose music and made a big name by composing background music for various television dramas and movies. Meanwhile, he kept on singing and got requests to do more which made him take singing seriously. His solo album is *Baker Shahore Tum* and among his other seven or eight mixed albums, he has some really popular songs. Rupom is also the composer and singer of the title composition of *Ronger Manush* a popular mega serial. He has sung in the recent widely-discussed movie *Bachelor* and has also composed songs in the movie.

According to Tutul, if cassette companies can dedicate 30 cassettes out of 100 in a year, to the younger and upcoming musicians and artistes, then at least 10 will emerge as stars in the country. He feels that there is a great inflow of money in the cultural field, but the prosperous businessmen just have to realise it. "They can buy the cinema halls and with good security measures, the young people of the different universities, could be drawn towards a better environment. This way, along side doing good business, they should be able to contribute towards enriching our cultural environment necessary for

quality films," he maintains. Tutul also feels that the media should strive for honesty in society. "People who are independent and free should encourage others to follow in their footsteps," says Tutul, who adds, "We really don't want any more cor-

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ruption in our culture. Instead of providing ridiculous titles to the undeserving people, let's make it a point to claim real artistes."

**Mimi**  
Known as Mimi to her family and her friends, Mimi Farhana Haque began the ABC's of singing even before she learnt to speak properly. Her parents, teachers in institutions, had always encouraged her passion for music. Along the way, she won several prizes: 12 national awards, Champion in the National Children Artists Award 1990, the Best Female Vocal Award in the Benson and Hedges Star Search 2001 and many more.

She began her career as a playback singer with a number for the movie *Nil Daria*. Till date, Mimi has sung in at least 30 movies. Among her six released albums, she has one solo album, two albums filled with remakes of old Bangla numbers and compositions in three mixed albums. She has also sung three jingles so far. She is now working with her new remix album, with Chandan, the popular composer. Mimi has been inspired by the

redoubtable and evergreen Lata Mangeskar.

Mimi has done a number of stage shows. However, she evades the all-night shows, avoiding excessive strain of the voice. According to Mimi, the visual presentation of music compositions in Bangladesh are actually degrading the quality of the songs. "We are badly in need of people who are able to use their imaginations and work creatively, thus inspiring the younger generation," she says.

**Rupom**  
Inspired by his father Amjad Hossain, Rupom began to sing folk songs from an early age. He was an active member of the band Windome from Khulna where he performed in many shows. After moving to Dhaka, he began singing in various kinds of live programmes and eventually became one of the best 15 in the first Benson & Hedges Star Search Contest 1999.

A major watershed in his career was in 2001 when Ayub Bachchu gave him an opportunity to sing in a mixed album titled *Mon Jauke*, where the title song was sung by Rupom.

So far, Rupom has released seven mixed albums and one solo album titled *Rodela*

**I try to keep the original tunes intact and often use a modern touch to attract the audience... Rupom**

**Meye**. He is also a familiar name in catchy advertising jingles. Cute Shampoo, Ruchi Chanachur and Dutch Bangla Bank are a few of his 30 jingles sung so far. In 2002, Rupom began his playback singing and till now has sung in 30 movies. Rupom says, he has had a good experience performing Bangla songs for suburban spectators rather than the city folks who only listen to Hindi music. He recalls the high points of his singing career, such

as the spontaneous singing of *Kal ho na ho*, by 700 students at Dhaka Medical College.

Rupom says, he draws inspiration from the works of artistes such as Mohammad

**The visual presentation of music compositions in Bangladesh are actually degrading the quality of the songs... Mimi**

Rafi, James and Ayub Bachchu. "The market in Bangladesh is small and that's why the music selection is sometimes very difficult," he points out, adding that, "I select songs according to the audience. The older crowd yearns for the songs of the yesteryears. I try to keep the original tunes intact and often use a modern touch to attract the audience. The younger crowd however, wants to listen to Hindi numbers during stage shows. The videos that are based on these shows are quite unappealing. I feel that lively presentation and videos will enhance the public taste for our melodious Bangla songs," says Rupom.

In conclusion, Rupom compliments directors such as Ferdous Bappi, Zubair Babu and Ringo who has left for India. **Tanima**  
Tanima Hadi, daughter of the celebrated artiste Abdul Hadi, was inspired into music while listening to her older sisters' music lessons with their Ustads. "My father never really had the time to actually sit and teach me," said Tanima. "I would listen to a lot of music tapes, folk songs and a variety of compositions. That's how I actually learnt music. Later on, my father realised my intense interest in music. He then began to train me, emphasising on style, pronuncia-

tion and expression. She also received her formal training from Ram Gopal Mahato and Leo J Baroi.

A graduate from the Independent University of Bangladesh (IUB) in Communications, she plans to leave for the University of Hawaii very soon to begin her post-graduate studies in communications. "I never considered myself to be a part of any competition, since I was never really in the commercial market in the first place," Tanima continued. "When I was in standard 10, a production company invited me to sing for an album. Though I recorded the remake of my father's compositions, for some reason, these numbers were never released. Later on, Channel I came out with the music videos of these compositions and telecast them." Besides her father, Tanima has been inspired by Sabina Yasmeen and Shahnaz Rahmatullah. One of the problems that Tanima faced was acceptance in the music industry as a new artiste. "The market in Bangladesh is very small," maintained Tanima. "Since I could not come up with

**Since I could not come up with any commercial numbers, I was not immediately accepted in the industry... Tanima**

any commercial numbers, I was not immediately accepted in the industry. I also feel that my compositions were not marketed in a proper way," she added. Tanima claims that she was actually brought into the limelight by the popular singer and composer Ayub Bachchu.

"At the time when I was completely sure that I wanted to get into professional singing, I mentioned it to my father," she exclaimed. "That's when he spoke to Ayub Bachchu who helped me out with my career."

## OBSERVANCE OF TAGORE'S DEATH ANNIVERSARY

### Mesmerising songs and discussions at Bangla Academy

AFSAR AHMED

Though it was two days past *Srabon* 22 the death anniversary of the Nobel laureate Rabindranath Tagore, it wasn't too late to observe the day. One has to give the credit to the organiser for arranging such a fine programme consisting of discussions and solo Rabindra Sangeet performance by Papya Sarwar on August 8.

The first part marked with discussions where Professor Mohammed Hamidul Haque and Dr. Narayan Chandra Biswas presented keynotes on 'Rabindranath Tagore's English Learning Tools' and 'Rabindranath Tagore's Sanskrit Learning Tools' respectively. The programme was presided over by Professor Mahmud Shah Quraishi while Mansur Musa, the Director General of Bangla Academy gave the introductory speech.

speaking methods. But he always believed that to learn English properly one has to have strong base of one's mother tongue. "Though the debate on learning method is still going on, but we need to learn from Tagore's learning tools which he created for the children and named it *Shahaj Path*."

In his speech Mahmud Shah Quraishi said, "We should follow the footsteps of the great poet for his time tested methods of learning English and Sanskrit."

After the gripping discussion, acclaimed Rabindra Sangeet artiste Papya Sarwar mesmerised the crowd with her solo performance. She started with *O amaar desher mati* in chorus with the students of *Geetoshudha*. Then she rendered *Jodi tor daak shuney keu naa ashey* in chorus too. The audience were quite surprised as it was the solo



Papya Sarwar rendering a chorus with the students of Geetoshudha

"Rabindranath was greatly influenced by Sanskrit literature, especially poet Kalidas had a great impact on him. Indeed he was dreaming of the female characters of Kalidas's creations," said Narayan Chandra Biswas. "From his childhood he had learnt Sanskrit from the house tutors and his father Debendranath Thakur. He believed that only through Sanskrit we can understand our language perfectly and that's why he composed books for the children to learn Sanskrit. Even in the Shantiniketan days he persuaded others to learn the ancient language," he continued.

While talking on Rabindranath's scientific English learning method Hamidul Haque said, "Tagore, was modern in his time to accept new methods by giving priority to listening and

programme by the artiste. But then she rendered a good number of solos to the audience's delight. *Shammukhe shantir parabar*, which was created for the drama *Dakghar* touched the hearts of the audience. Then she rendered *Onek kotha bolechhile*, which was composed in memory of the poet's wife Mrinalini Devi. *Oi maloti lota doley*, *Hridoyer ekul okul*, *Ogo tumi ponchodshi*, *Aamar moner koner bairey*, *Shawana gagane ghor ghaghata* and *Bandhu raho raho shathe* were compelling. Next, Papya rendered a few lines of some requested songs. The musical session was rounded up by her favourite numbers *Jokhon porbey naa mor payer chinno* and *Gram chhara oi ranga matir path* in chorus with the audience.



### More Oprah for Everyone

Emmy-winning talk show host Oprah Winfrey will be gawking at least through the 2010-11 season, which will mark her 25th year in syndication. The self-made billionaire has extended her television syndication contract for three more years with King World Productions, distributor of The Oprah Winfrey Show, immediately signing up seven key ABC-owned stations, including those in Los Angeles, New York and Chicago.

## TV GUIDE

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

### News Bulletin

#### BTV

News Headlines (Bangla) at 8:55 am, 12:10 pm, 2:00 pm, 3:30 pm, 4:00 pm, 7:00 pm.  
News (Bangla) at 6:00 am, 1:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 8:00 pm.  
News (English) at 3:30 pm, 10:00 pm.  
Late Night News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

#### CHANNEL-i

News (Bangla) at 7:15 am, 9:00 am, 7:15 pm, 9:00 pm, 10:30, 12:15 am.  
Telecast of BTV news (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

#### ATN BANGLA

News (Bangla) at 7:00 am, 10:00 am, 2:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11:00 pm.  
Telecast of BTV News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.  
Latest News (Bangla) at 9:00 am, 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00 pm, 5:00 pm and 8:00 pm.

#### ntv

News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00 am, 12:00 am, 6:15 pm, 9:30 pm.  
News (Bangla) 7:30 am, 2:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 7:30 pm, 10:30 pm.  
Telecast of BTV News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

#### TARA BANGLA

News Headlines (Bangla) at 5:30 pm, 7:30 pm.  
Tara News (Bangla) at 8:30 pm, 11:30 pm.  
Tara News Bangladesh (Bangla) at 9:30 pm.

#### BBC WORLD

Every hour on the hour

#### BTV

07:30 Bangladesh Hriday  
09:00 Satellite Programme  
12:15 Shongbad Poltr Pata  
01:05 Cartoon show  
01:30 Educational programme  
02:15 Live Telecast of Nilot-TATA National  
06:10 Football League 2004  
07:05 Nazrul songs  
07:30 Shondha Maloti  
07:30 Qaz Quiz  
07:30 Musical show: Gaan  
08:25 Shudhu Gaan  
08:25 Proidin Bangladesh  
08:30 Drama: Aparajita  
09:00 Drama: Mukhoshdhar  
10:30 Shonali Shokhal  
11:00 Talk show: Ei Shomoy

#### CHANNEL-i

09:30 Shongbad Poltr Pata  
09:30 Bangladesh and Public reaction  
09:45 Trityo Matra  
10:45 Grameen Phone  
11:30 Cricket Online  
12:00 Biji Boarding  
12:30 Chithi Pelam  
01:00 Aaj Dipury  
01:00 Ebong Cinema Gaan  
01:25 Bangbadpatray  
01:30 Bangladesh  
01:30 Bangladesh feature film: Baimaan (Kaboni, Razak)  
04:00 Bangla Gaan  
04:30 Aamar jibon amara desh  
05:00 Sa Re Ga Ma  
05:35 Jonopoder Khobor  
05:45 I Sports  
06:10 Music Plus  
06:45 I Speed  
07:55 Close up Juke Box  
08:25 Drama Serial: Sharye Tin Tala

#### 09:35 Drama Serial: Shonali

Danar Chil  
Drama Serial: Taka

#### ATN BANGLA

10:30 Talk Show: Anondishti  
11:15 Drama Serial: Mohona  
11:50 Adibashi Janapod  
12:30 Bangla Feature Film: Paros Pathor  
03:45 Uro Cola Saat Rang  
04:20 Shamoshamoyk  
05:10 Amar Computer  
05:45 Islamee Sawal O Jawab  
06:20 Aynar Shanney  
08:00 Drama Serial: Chotto Ey Jibon  
08:30 Drama Serial: Gulshanubar  
09:00 Drama Serial: Shapno Nir  
09:30 Ek Dul Teen  
10:30 Reporting program: Prekhhapo

#### ntv

08:00 Aajker Shakal  
08:30 Gaaner mala Nazul shongheet  
09:00 Crime Watch  
09:30 Museum Around the World  
10:02 Bandbaddi  
10:30 Ekhane amara desh  
11:00 Drama: Journey to Dhaka  
11:30 Putul Nach  
12:02 Purno ekok natak  
12:02 Teen purush  
03:05 Tifiner fanke  
03:40 Drama Serial: Khelaghor  
04:25 Ka korbajajamath  
05:20 Apnar Jigyasha  
06:20 Shubho Shondhya  
06:50 Shanglap  
08:10 Drama: Sporsher bayra

#### 09:35 Drama Serial: Shonali

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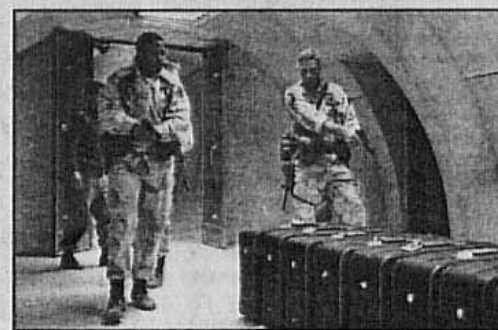
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### PICK OF THE DAY



**Three Kings**  
On HBO at 7:15 pm  
Genre: War / Action / Adventure / Comedy / Drama  
Cast: George Clooney, Mark Wahlberg, Ice Cube



**Shonali Danar Chil**  
On Channel I at 9:35 pm  
Drama Serial  
Cast: Tony Dayes, Tania Ahmed, Sumaia Shimu

08:50 Band music  
09:40 Drama Serial: Shaola  
11:25 Dindarpan  
12:00 Tara Sundari  
12:30 Sri Ramkrishna  
1:00 Filmi Furti  
2:00 Taka Na Sona  
2:30 Tarpor Chand Uthlo  
3:00 Swapper Rang Neel  
4:00 Baro Eka Lage  
4:30 Filmi Furti  
5:00 Nonte Fonte  
6:30 Taka Na Sona  
7:00 Sree Ramkrishna  
7:30 Tarpor Chand Uthlo  
8:00 Anlakshari  
9:00 Serial Swapner Rang Nil  
9:30 Live Doshal  
HBO  
8:00 Risky Business  
10:00 The Wild Girls  
12:00 Miss Congeniality  
2:15 Christine  
4:30 Tales From the Crypt  
5:15 One Night at Mccool's  
7:15 Three Kings  
9:30 Lara Croft: Tomb Raider  
11:30 Life as a House  
12:00 Miss Congeniality  
8:40 Marines  
10:15 Casper  
12:00 Consenting Adults  
1:45 Deep End  
3:30 Loser  
5:15 Daredevil  
7:00 Terminator  
8:50 Hudson Hawk  
10:30 Casper  
12:15 Carrie

STAR PLUS  
1:00 Kasauti Zindagi Kay  
1:30 Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan  
2:00 Bhabhi  
2:30 Kesar  
3:00 Kabhi Aaye Na Judal  
3:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi  
4:00 Kahin To Hoga  
4:30 Kaahin Kissi Roz  
5:00 Zindagi Milke Bitayenge  
6:00 Life Nahin Hai Ladoo  
6:30 Fox Kids  
7:30 Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan  
8:00 Shaka Laka Boom Boom  
8:30 Dekho Magar Pyaar Se  
9:00 Kasauti Zindagi Kay  
9:30 Kehta Hai Dil  
10:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Ki  
11:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi  
11:30 Kahin To Hoga  
12:00 Kaahin Kissi Roz  
12:30 Still Standing  
1:00 Becker  
1:30 Mac Gyver  
2:28 Star Asia Travel  
2:30 Oprah Winfrey Show  
3:30 Bold And Beautiful  
4:30 Hollywood Squares  
5:00 Whose Line Is It Anyway  
5:30 Miami Vice  
6:30 The Simpsons  
7:00 Home Improvement  
7:30 Friends  
8:00 Just Shoot Me  
8:30 John Doe  
9:30 The Bachelor  
10:30 Law & Order: SvU  
11:28 Star Asia Travel  
11:30 Baywatch

#### NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

12:30 On Assignment  
1:00 Snake Wranglers  
1:30 Rome: The Model Empire  
3:30 Tropic Gothic  
4:30 Croc Chronicles  
5:00 Wildlife Diary  
5:30 Africa From The Ground Up  
6:00 Animal Edens  
6:30 Dogs With Jobs S3  
7:00 Toyota World Of Wildlife  
7:30 Velvet Killers  
8:00 Snake Wranglers  
8:30 People's Planet  
9:30 Chasing Time  
10:00 From The Heart  
10:30 Burma's Forbidden Islands  
11:30 Croc Chronicles  
12:00 Wildlife Diary

#### ANIMAL PLANET

12:30 Living with Elephants  
1:30 The Most Extreme Predators  
2:30 A season in the sun  
3:30 Vets in Practice Running out of Time  
4:00 Emergency Vets Two Hip to Ignore  
5:00 Breed all about it Boston Terrier  
6:00 Breed all about it Jack Russell Terrier  
6:30 Elephant Trilogy: Living with Elephants  
7:30 In the wild (Richard Dreyfuss) Galopogos Mystery  
8:30 Monkey Business  
9:30 Elephant Trilogy: Living with Elephants  
10:30 The Lions of Phinda  
11:30 In the wild (Goldie Hawn)

#### DISCOVERY CHANNEL

12:30 Planet Food Germany  
1:30 Body Challenge: Diet Wars  
2:30 Case studies in forensic science Texas Rangers  
3:30 Mountains of the Wolf  
4:30 I love my music, my animal and my house  
5:00 Schlessinger: Physical Science in Action  
5:30 City Cabs Budapest, Istanbul  
6:30 Streets of the world  
6:30 The Tom Whitaker Story  
7:30 Mzima: Haunt of the River Horse  
8:30 Beast of the Roman Games  
9:30 The Science of Superhuman Strength  
10:30 Bridging the Healing Gap  
11:00 Celebrity Doubles Year 2003  
11:30 Are we safe in the Skies?

#### STAR SPORTS

10:30 Cricket Gold (R)  
1:30 Born To Play: Masters Of Football (R)  
2:00 Equestrian Riders Tour 2004 Wiesbaden Germany (T)  
3:00 Tennis I Shoot-Out Spain Highlights(R)  
4:00 Soccer Masters League Football 2004 - Central Highlights(T)  
5:00 Extreme Programming Wild Spirits 2004/05 (T)  
5:30 Cricket Gold (T)  
7:30 World Superbike Championships 2004 Brands Hatch England Highlights(T)  
8:00 Sportsline (L)  
8:30 Born To Play: Masters

#### ESPN

11:00 Asia Cup 2004 Pakistan Vs Bangladesh 12th Odi (R)  
6:00 Motorsport Asia (R)  
6:30 Football Focus Extra (L)  
7:00 Soccer Masters League Football 2004 - Central Masters Highlights(T)  
8:00 Samsung Cricket Show (R)  
8:30 Sportscenter India (L)  
9:00 UK Domestic Cricket Twenty20 Cup Birmingham England Glamorgan Vs Leicestershire Semifinal 2(R)

#### TEN SPORTS

11:30 ATP Tennis  
12:00 Gamer TV  
12:30 Sanjays Modern Masters  
1:00 WTA Tour: Final  
3:00 Beach Volleyball Highlights  
3:30 Gamer TV  
4:00 Gillette World Sport  
4:30 ATP Tennis  
5:00 Gamer TV  
5:30 Sanjays Modern Masters  
5:30 WWE: Smackdown  
8:00 Gamer TV  
11:00 Battle at the Bridges