

# Rise of the Underground

FAIZUL KHAN TANIM

UNDERGROUND music in Bangladesh traces its origins from the days of the release of Isha Khan Duray's mixed band album Charpotro, produced by the record label G-series in 2001.

Many people term that period as a rock music rebellion. The music admirers knew what they deserved and this was the beginning of the end of the commercial bands' domination over their more experimental and talented contemporaries.

It was then that today's new breed of artistes shook up audiences with a different style of music which was a mix of quite a few different genres, and became the mesmerising figures of the current scene, creating bands like Aurtherhohin, Artcell, Black, and Cryptic Fate.

In rugged jeans and T-shirts sporting social messages, they lived a high-paced life and played as fast as they lived. With the new sound in concert halls and all the technological advancements, the new bands ushered in a new era, not only in music, but also in terms of the effect they had on the lives of the urban youth.

In 2002, a new music label started catering to this scene. Ektaar Music brought out many new artistes. Bangla, Pothik Nobi, and later Habib, started to create an uproar with their creative compositions, and folk music fused with contemporary sounds the basis of a number of huge hits.

These musicians, in due to their trendy native attire, poetic vision, and urgent lyrics inflamed the spirits and psyche of the younger generation.

Today more and more new groups of obvious virtuosity are coming out every day. The underground music scene is thriving like never before. Generally speaking, underground music has developed a cult following, independent of commercial success.

The Velvet Underground for instance, remains one of the most influential bands of their time, with an influence that has outlasted their short existence and small record sales.

Since then, the term underground music has been applied to several artistic movements, notably to the early psychedelic movement of the mid-1960s across the globe.

The term is currently used to describe contemporary