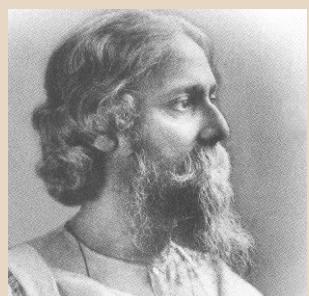


CULTURAL FEAST

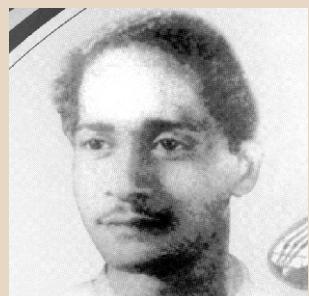
MEMORY LANE

Tagore songs



Title: Rabindranath er Gaane Mritu Bhabna
Venue: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka
Date: August 02, at 7 pm

Book Launch & Musical Soiree



Organiser: Ustad Momtaz Ali Khan Sangeet Academy
Title: Celebrating 91st birth anniversary of Ustad Momtaz Ali Khan
Venue: National Museum, Shahbagh
Date: August 01, at 5 pm

Classical Music and Palagaan

Organiser: Bengal Foundation
Venue: Bengal Shilpalya, 175/F
Road no-27, Dhanmondi
Date: Classical songs—August 1
Palagaan Ramayana—August 2
Time: 7:00pm

Recent Sculptures and Drawing Exhibition

Title: Wound
Artist: Towfiqur Rahman
Venue: Gallery KAYA, House-20,
Road-16, Sector-4, Uttara
Date: August 04-18
Time: 11:00am to 8:00pm

Solo Exhibition

Title: Pathajatra
Artist: Nurul Islam
Venue: Shilpangan, Road 3, House
13/A, Dhammandi
Date: August 04-14
Time: 10:00am to 1:00pm

Photography Exhibition

Title: Nagar Sishu
Venue: National Institute of Mass-
Communication, 125/A, Darus Salam,
Mirpur
Date: August 01-03
Time: 7:00pm

Theatre

Play: Khudito Pashan
Troupe: Konthashilon
Venue: Mahila Samiti Auditorium
Date: August 1
Time: 7:00pm

The life and times of Ila Majumdar

MAHMUDA AFROZ

C LASSICAL singer Ila Majumdar has a soft melodic voice as she speaks about her past; a sad yet complacent smile illuminates her face as she talks about the man of her life, late Barin Majumdar. Ila is ever graceful and is widely respected in the music arena.

Born in a highly cultured family in Pabna, it was never tough for Ila to get involved with classical songs. In 1954 she met the charismatic Pandit Barin Majumdar and started training under him. Though Ila never attended school, she gave private examinations and went on to attend college. Once in college, she won many prizes and accolades for her harmonious voice, but it was during an inter-district competition that she won the first prize and established herself as a leading classical singer of the time. From that time onwards she started singing for radio as well as television.

Ila and Barin Majumdar got married in 1960. With Ila by his side, Barin Majumdar fulfilled a cherished dream to open a music college in our country. Established in 1963, the Monihar Sangeet Academy was the first of its kind in the country. Being a student of Lucknow Maurice College, Barin was deeply moved by the plight of singers of our country and their knowledge in this classical form. Hence he designed the curriculum in such a way that roughly 60 percent of the course, covered music whereas the rest of the course covered Bangla, English, History, Geography, Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics. "At the time, everyone thought combining music with education was madness. However, Barin was determined to



At the time, everyone thought combining music with education was madness. However, Barin was determined to make it happen and went from door to door to gain support for the idea

—Ila Majumdar

make it happen and went from door to door to gain support for the idea," recalls Ila.

An ex-teacher of logic and philosophy, not to mention classical music, Ila thinks in order to become a good classical singer one has to have a god-gifted voice. She also strongly believes that a good teacher is a must to carry the voice to higher levels. "The student must have deep respect for the teacher and the art," she emphasises.

A follower of the *Agra gharana*, Ila is fond of ragas such as Jay Jayanti, Sankara, Puriya dhanasree and Bahar. She stresses the need for every budding singer to have a basic education in at least one form of raga, before venturing out to other branches. While her son Bappa Majumdar is a popular modern singer, he has had the basic classical training from his father Barin, informs Ila.

Ila philosophises, "Many of the youngsters coming up have excellent voices but they don't have the patience to train. Actually the composition of human nature itself is changing. During our times, depth of character and thought was respected, whereas now being light and easy going is preferred. It is so simple to get fame and money in the other form of arts that youngsters naturally would go for that."

Ila no longer teaches music in batches, but she still helps children who come to learn this almost extinct form of art. Though she is very proud of her two sons Bappa and Partha Majumdar, her memories of her daughter whom she lost during the 1971 war and her life partner Barin keep her going.

Cultural evening Natyoshobha celebrates 31st anniversary

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Cultural organisation Natyoshobha organised a well attended cultural event titled *Kichu kotha kichu gaan* to celebrate its 31st anniversary. The event was held at Sufia Kamal auditorium of the National Museum on July 30.

In his speech, chairperson of Natyoshobha Shahidul Haque Khan said "The success of our organisation rests on the support of the audience."

The cultural programme began with a poetry recitation by Shahzadi Anjuman Ara. Next followed Azad Rahman Shakil. He began his performance with *Harjit*

chirodin thakbe, Tobuo egije jete hobe, an inspirational song.

Noted singer singer Shahnaz Rahmatullah presented three songs, beginning with *Hayre amar mon matano desh*. Other members of the organisation also pitched in with a performance at the end.

Shongbrita: Showcasing the art of recitation

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

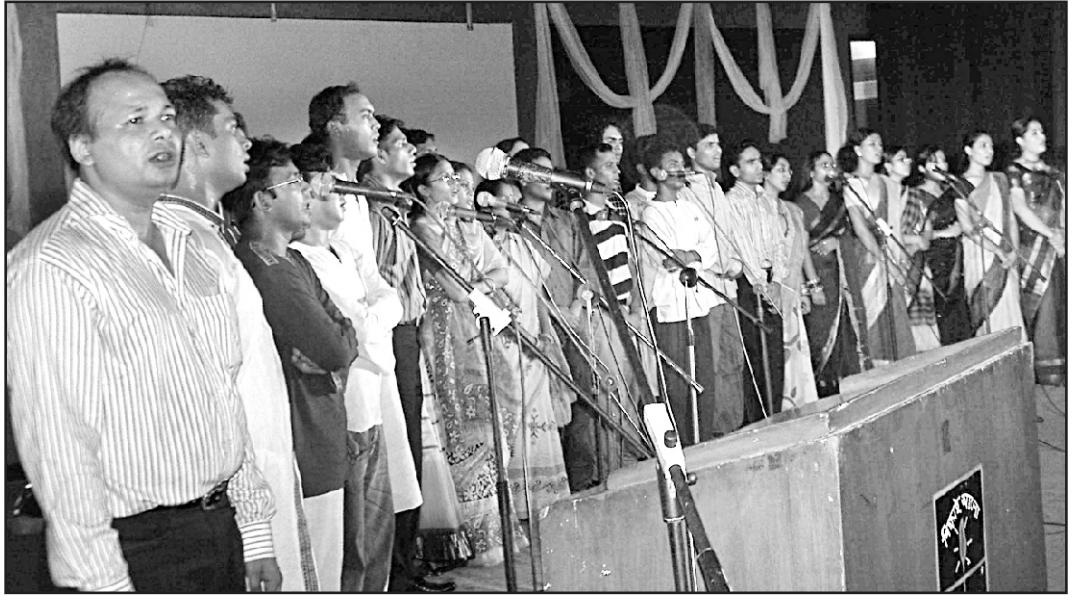
Shongbrita, a recital organisation of Dhaka celebrated its first anniversary at TSC Auditorium of Dhaka University on July 30. At the recital ceremony, the best of Bangla poetry was presented. The audience celebrated personal feelings, and collective consciousness of the Bengalis of the last 150 years.

The programme began with the National Anthem. The main attraction of the programme was the solo performance of 25 recital artistes.

Nabarun Bhattacharya.

Though most performances were well received by the audience, many believed that inclusion of a few mediocre poems by the contemporary poets was a dampener.

Since its inception, Shongbrita has organised regular performances and conducted workshops to promote the art of recitation.



A group recital by the members of the organisation

Face to Face

Lata Mangeshkar looks back with nostalgia



Lata Mangeshkar
son R D Burman and said their knowledge about music was immense and they knew all nuances of a song.

Melody queen Lata Mangeshkar who has over the years mesmerised people with her voice, gave her audience a chance to listen to her once more - this time in a different tune, with noted singer Sonu Nigam as her host.

In a tête-à-tête with Sonu, organised by Radio City recently, for their listeners, Lata confessed that though she loved singing even at this age, she missed legendary singers and her friends like Mohammed Rafi and Kishore Kumar, with whom she used to enjoy recording songs.

Getting into the grip of a radio interview, she talked about her life. In her words, "My father, born in Indore, used to run his own drama company and he taught me music. He loved me a lot and used to call me 'Lata baba'. He passed away when I was 13 years old and I had to join films after that."

On her association with some music stalwarts, she said: "I learnt a lot from music directors like Anil Biswas. For example, he taught me while singing when I should release my

breath. I did *riyaz* on that, that was in 1948."

On being prodded by Sonu about her relationship with showman Raj Kapoor, the nightingale of Indian music industry said: "I had a fight with Raj Kapoor because I wanted royalty on the songs which I sung for him, to which Raj Kapoor said 'If all stars come to us and start asking for royalty, you think we will give them?' But I was still adamant and Raj Kapoor had to finally give in."

When Sonu asked her the secret of her refined Hindi and Urdu accent, she said nostalgically, "Mohammed Rafi used to treat me as his sister. He sent somebody to teach me Urdu. I learnt how to speak Urdu and a little bit of Arabic. I have also learnt a little bit of Tamil as I wanted to see a Tamil movie. But I know very little Tamil. I did it because people would also wonder that since I am a Marathi, my diction would not be correct."

She appreciated the compositions of music director S D Burman and his

Source: Internet

Rtv special Purush: Spotlight on men

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

A magazine programme titled *Purush*, featuring men is being aired on Rtv from July 24.

Divided into several segments, the first part, titled *Purbopurush* featured the life style of the successful last generation. The second segment, titled *Uttorapurush* and aired yesterday, focused on the lifestyle of men of this generation.

Mohapurush a programme on towering personalities will be the topic of discussion in this part. A documentary on personalities such as Albert Einstein, Darwin, Tagore, Nazrul Islam, Satyajit Ray, Nelson Mandela and their ideology and philosophy will be portrayed in this section.

The central point in the fifth section titled *Rupkarigor*, will be on hairstyling, fitness, and the fashion

trend for men. *Birpurush*, a programme based on the chivalrous men and the freedom fighters of the country, will be telecast on the sixth segment. *Swapnapurush* will feature men from the glamour world. Potential characters for the segment are Sylvester Stallone, Amitabh Bachchan, Utam Kumar, Razzak and others.

In *Shahela Babu Biotokhanna*, the most talked about contemporary personality of the country will be featured in the talk show. *Kapurush* will deal with men who are disturbed and need counseling. The show will indicate how this can be avoided and they can be given a new lease of life. Men from mafussils who have made it to the top will be featured in a programme titled *Uddomipurush*.

Anchored by Mehzad Galib, the programme will be telecast every Monday at 8.50pm.

On her association with some music stalwarts, she said: "I learnt a lot from music directors like Anil Biswas. For example, he taught me while singing when I should release my

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

CHANNEL-i
News (Bangla) at 7:15 am, 9:00am,
2:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 10:30pm,
12:15am.
Telecast of BTV news (Bangla and
English) at 11:30pm.

ATN BANGLA
News (Bangla) at 7:00 am, 10:00am,
2:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11pm.
News (English) 8:20am, 7:00pm.

Telecast of BTV News (Bangla and
English) at 11:30pm.

ntv
News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00 am,
12:00 am, 6:15pm, 9:30pm.
News (Bangla) 7:30 am, 2:00 pm, 5:00pm;
7:30pm, 10:30pm.

Telecast of BTV News (Bangla and
English) at 11:30pm.

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

BBC WORLD
Every hour on the hour

BTV

09:05 Open University
12:15 Songbad Potre
12:30 Sastho Totto
01:00 Cartoon
01:30 Sobor Jonno Sikha
02:15 Computer Show
02:40 Selected
Programme
03:05 Musical Programme
03:30 Chalantika
04:00 Sangita
04:30 Prothashar allo
05:05 Talk Show:
Swanirbhar
Bangladesh
06:10 Shondha Maloti
07:00 Quiz Quiz
07:30 Gaan Shudhu Gaan
08:35 Protidin Bangladesh
08:45 Drama Serial: Shap
Ludo
09:25 Drama Serial:
Polotaka Prem
10:25 Teknaf Theke
Tetulia

04:50 Sangeet Mala
Sa Re Ga Ma
05:30 i-Sports
06:00 Chhaya Jhankar
06:20 Mirror
07:50 Rup Rohosyo
09:35 LUX Channel i
Super Star
Selected
Programme
12:15 Amar Computer
01:30 Cine Gaan
02:30 Drama Serial: Teen
Tekka
03:15 Drama Serial: O
Amar Chokhnu Nai
03:45 Aha Ki Ananda
04:20 Talk Show:
Somosamoyik
05:10 Talk Show: Nari
05:45 Islami Sawal O
Jobab
06:20 Aymar Samney
08:00 Drama Serial:
Ferai Siren
08:50 Drama: Jojon Dur
10:35 Mukto Shonglap

ATN BANGLA

10:35 Ajakir Shokal
10:30 Music Express
09:45 Public Reaction
11:30 Grameen Phone
12:05 Tritiomyatra
11:05 Cricket Online
11:30 Amar Chhobi
12:30 Aaj Dupurey O
01:00 Muktagong
01:30 Ramizer Aina
02:30 Balambo
03:50 Citycell
04:25 Tarokakothan
05:15 Gaan
05:20 Amar Jigyasha
06:20 Shubho Shondhya
06:45 Jonatir Ishthiar
07:00 Nonggor
07:30 K Tahere Chhinite
08:20 Pare
08:45 Bosundhara Amder
08:25 Gaan
04:30 Sharif Melamine

CHANNEL-i

11:25 Din Dorpon
10:30 Cine Gaan
11:30 Magazine
12:05 Single Episode
08:40 Shuprobhat
11:00 Bangladeshi
10:00 Drama Serial: Boro
01:00 Talk Show
02:30 Ramizer Aina
03:50 Daar
04:20 Bangla Feature Film
01:00 Drama Serial: Daar
02:30 Kultara
03:30 Drama Serial: Daar
04:20 Kaak
05:05 Nazrul Sangeet
05:30 Sajal Bela
06:45 Jonatir Ishthiar
07:00 Nonggor
07:30 K Tahere Chhinite
08:15 Drama Serial: Daar
08:15 Kaak
09:30 Musical Programme

ntv

09:30 Talk Show: Khola
Chokhe
Ki Chhaya Jay
10:30 Magazine
11:30 Concert
12:00 Drama Serial: Album
10:30 Public Forum
10:30 Drama Serial: Boro
11:30 Jibon Dhara
12:00 Ebong Classer Bairey
02:30 Apnar Agami
03:00 Shohorer Shesh Bari
03:30 Ki Jadi Bangla Gaaney
04:00 Cine Bit Shada Kalo
11:15 Nazrul Sangeet
04:30 Shudhu Gaan
05:00 Cartoon
05:30 Amader Olithi
06:00 Ajker Bangladesh
06:35 Amar Desh
07:20 3 Ninjas Kick Back
08:00 Drama Serial: Sonar

BANGLAVISION

08:50 Bhawal Shanyashi
Char Deyal
09:20 Drama Serial: Akash
Ki Chhaya Jay
10:50 Concert
11:30 Drama Serial: Album
10:30 Drama Serial: Boro
11:30 Jibon Dhara
12:00 Ebong Classer Bairey
02:30 Apnar Agami
03:00 Shohorer Shesh Bari
03:30 Ki Jadi Bangla Gaaney
04: