

# Power Surge wins “DRockstars-2”



Members of Power Surge along with (from 2-L) Hamin Ahmed (president, BAMBA), Rubaba Dowla Matin (head of Brands, Grameenphone) and Stein Naevdal (chief marketing officer, Grameenphone)

## CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Grand Finale of DRockstars-2, the talent hunt in search of a rock band, was held recently. Six talented rock bands participated in the final. Thrash metal band 'Power Surge' from Dhaka secured the title of the first 'DRockstars band' of the country.

The young musicians of Power Surge have already become quite popular among the young TV viewers in Bangladesh. Characterised by powerful on stage performance, Power Surge says, live shows are an important source of motivation for them.

Along with winning the title, Power Surge received a cheque

for Tk 5 lakh, an album contract with G series, juice brand ambassadorship and a membership of BAMBA (Bangladesh Musical Bands Association). Each member of the band also received a Sony Ericsson W880i handset and a new wardrobe from Trendz.

More than 600 aspiring rock bands from all over the country took part in the initial selection rounds held at the six divisional cities, over the last four months. Along with Power Surge, Bortoman, Dreek, Dour, Eclipse and Radio Active emerged as the top six bands.

Thousands of text messages and online voting by audiences from both home and abroad selected the winner of

DRockstars-2. It should be noted that the proceeds from the SMS will be used for rehabilitation of the flood victims. The total amount raised from the SMS is over Tk 15 lakh.

Grameenphone's youth brand juice was the sponsor of the show while BAMBA was the strategic partner of DRockstars-2. Channel-i and Radio Foorti were the media partners and Sony Ericsson was the co-partner of this talent hunt competition. Conceptualised by Bitopi Advertising Ltd, the programme was organised by Spotlight Entertainment Ltd and directed by Red Dot Multimedia Ltd. The grand finale was aired last night at 7:30pm on Channel-i.

## CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Cultural organisation Srijon's monthly musical soiree was held at Poet Sufia Kamal Auditorium, National Museum on September 10. The programme titled *Phela Asha Diner Bangla Gaan* featured songs of different genres by several popular and promising singers of the country.

The 62nd arrangement started with a rendition of *Mishra raaga* accompanied with Hawaiian guitar by Kamrul Hasan Mahfuz. The artiste also rendered an old film song. Golam Haidar sang Tagore song *Na chahiley jarey paowa jai*.

For the last three years, Srijon has been arranging such programmes every month to promote and popularise the traditional music among the young generation.



An artiste of Srijon sings at the programme

PHOTO: STAR

## Exhibition

# Anadi Kumar Boiragi's "Journey of Hope"

## NIVEDITA RAITZ VON FRENTZ

With legendary artist S.M. Sultan as his mentor, Anadi Kumar Boiragi from Jessore attended Khulna Art College in the late '80s, before enrolling at the Oriental Department at Charukala in Dhaka to further his artistic education. There, Boiragi is grateful to have found another guru, Shawkatuzzaman, who encour-

aged him in a very special way, spending valuable time helping develop his style.

Boiragi has participated in various group shows in Bangladesh and also made contributions



Sleeping

Prayer

towards exhibitions at the Chuwa Gallery in Tokyo. He is not new to solo exhibitions either, having had his first two at the Alliance Francaise in Dhaka. The paintings at those exhibitions were mainly abstract, mythical compositions; "symbolic art" in Boiragi's words.

His third solo effort is somewhat different, particularly where rationale and style are concerned. The exhibition has been specifically planned to raise funds for those badly affected by the floods that recently ravaged the country.

"Artists have a social responsibility and to me, empathy is more valued than sympathy," says Boiragi. Stylistically, it is his first real figurative adventure, with paintings in oil on canvas, acrylic on paper and in watercolour, all making an appearance. This reflects his view that "the flood is all about people and to this end, it made sense to choose figurative works". Boiragi's technique has been greatly influenced by Abanindranath Tagore's Bengal School renaissance of artistic style.

Planned in early August, the exhibition was put together at

short notice with the help of his curator friend, Zaid Islam, with the idea that all proceeds would be donated to the Chief Adviser's Relief Fund. Sadly, Boiragi was unable to find any sponsor, so barring costs, all profits will go directly towards flood relief.

"You can't force someone to buy a painting, but at least an awareness can be created about the underlying idea of the exhibition," says the artist. In conjunction with the paintings, there is a parallel collection for dry food and medicines.

"There seems to be a trend, that an artist's standing in Bangladesh takes an enormous leap if they have successfully exhibited abroad; otherwise, one isn't truly valued here," to this end, Boiragi wishes to broaden his horizons and take his art outside the borders of this country.

The exhibition is on at The Art Club (House 4, Road 104, Gulshan 2) until September 14.

The writer is a freelance contributor

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Songs of yesteryears

## Srijon's monthly musical soiree

An upcoming adhunik singer

## Tête-à-tête with Arifa Farhat Rumpa

### JAMIL MAHMUD

Arifa Farhat Rumpa, a Canada-based Bangladeshi adhunik singer has recently launched her first solo album *Ratrir Kinarey Boshey* (recorded in Canada) in Dhaka. The promising singer talked about her album, expatriate life and more in a recent interview with *The Daily Star*.

About her latest album, Rumpa says, "Ratrir Kinarey Boshey" includes ten songs composed by Ashikuzzaman Tulu, former member of the band Ark, who now lives in Toronto. The album has been released under the banner of Laser Vision."

The artiste continues, "The songs highlight expatriate life as well as contemporary issues. Rifat Nigar Shapla, Anurup Aich and Ashikuzzaman Tulu have penned the lyrics."

Rumpa is quite ambitious: "I want to render some notable songs, which music lovers will remember for ages."

In Toronto Rumpa teaches Bangla at the Olympia School of Music, run by another Bangladeshi expat. She regularly performs at cultural programmes arranged by the Bengali community in Toronto. According to the artiste, "My husband Farhat Nayeem Khan encourages me to sing. His constant cooperation made everything less difficult."

A Masters degree holder in Library and Information Science from Dhaka University, Rumpa's love for music started early. Her mother, Shamsunnahar Shuja, and elder sister, Milia Islam Sabed -- a well-known adhunik singer -- initially inspired her to sing. At the age of five, she started taking music lessons from her mother. She also trained in classical music under Ustad Akther Sadmani for several years.

Rumpa's first recognition came with *Notun Kuri*, the popular children's competition on BTV Bangladesh, where she won the first place in the adhunik songs category and second place in both *Rabindra Sangeet*



Arifa Farhat Rumpa

and chorus. She also received a Shishu Academy prize later.

"I listen to all kinds of music, so the list of favourite singers is quite long," says the upcoming artiste smilingly.

## Britney's comeback at VMA proved "toxic"

Britney Spears was not ready for prime time.

The fallen pop idol made her much-hyped comeback last Sunday to open MTV's disjointed and just plain boring Video Music Awards show, giving a thoroughly underwhelming performance of her new song *Give Me More*.

Dressed in sequined black undergarments, an out-of-shape Spears moved tentatively around



Britney Spears (C) and her entourage perform at the VMA

the stage, getting totally outgrooved by her backup dancers and badly lip-syncing her way through the song whose main lyrics was *Give me, give me, give me, give me*.

To make matters worse for Spears, raunchy comedian Sarah Silverman took the stage next and proceeded to bury her. "She is

amazing," Silverman said. "She is 25 years old and has already accomplished everything she is going to accomplish in her life."

Then Silverman added a doozy: "Have you seen Britney's kids? They are the most adorable mistakes you will ever see."

That wasn't the end of it, but the rest of her remarks weren't suitable for a family newspaper.

Like Spears, the awards show

Timberlake, Kanye West, Timbaland (the evening's "maestro," according to MTV), Fall Out Boy, the Foo Fighters and 50 Cent were among those performing away from the main stage. When the network did cut to them, they were sometimes halfway through a song, robbing viewers of enjoyment.

The full performances that viewers were treated to probably made them wish MTV would go back to its old ways, ratings be damned. Young phenomenon Chris Brown channelled Michael Jackson, circa 1984, and Alicia Keys gave rousing renditions of her new song, *No One*, and George Michael's *Freedom*. The show, which ran just over two hours, ended on a high note with Timberlake, Timbaland and Nelly Furtado giving the audience an electrifying performance.

As for the awards themselves? Well, among them, Fergie was named Female Artist of the Year; Fall Out Boy was Best Group; Best New Artist went to Gym Class Heroes; Timberlake won Quadruple Threat of the Year and Male Artist of the Year; Rihanna won Video of the Year and Monster Single of the Year for her ubiquitous hit *Umbrella*; and Beyoncé and Shakira won Most Earth Shattering Collaboration for *Beautiful Liar*.

Source: Internet

## ON AIR

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

### BTV

11:15 Drama Serial: *Shangshoptak*  
12:05 *Maa O Shishur*  
01:30 *Kotha*  
02:15 *Golpo Theke Natok*  
03:05 *Cartoon*  
03:30 *Shukhi Poribar*  
04:00 *Computer*  
04:30 *Obhijatri*  
05:05 *Sisimpur*  
06:40 *Shondhya Maloti*  
07:00 *Matli O Manush*  
07:30 *Shobor Jonno*  
08:30 *Protidin Bangladesh*  
08:35 Drama Serial: *Alo*  
09:05 Drama Serial: *Godhulir Alo*  
10:30 *Musical Programme*

**CHANNEL-i**

09:30 Special Programme

11:30 Telefilm

01:00 *Shuprobaht Bangla-desh*

01:30 *Ei Din*

02:30 Drama Serial: *Aguntuk*

03:45 *Onirban*

05:20 *Ei Desh*

06:00 *Protidin*

08:00 *Ei Din*

09:00 Rtv Exclusive

10:00 Drama Serial: *Dohon*

11:30 *Ei Desh*

12:00 Drama Serial: *Shobor Jonno*

01:00 *Swapno*

01:30 *Bohemian*

02:00 *Chhayanukh*

03:00 *Drama Serial: Chhayanukh*

04:00 *Shobor Jonno*

05:00 *Swapno*

06:00 *Bohemian*

07:00 *Chhayanukh*

08:00 *Shobor Jonno*

09:00 *Bohemian*

10:00 *Chhayanukh*

11:30 *Shobor Jonno*

12:00 *Bohemian*

01:00 *Shobor Jonno*

02:00 *Bohemian*

03:00 *Shobor Jonno*

04:00 *Bohemian*

05:00 *Shobor Jonno*

06:00 *Bohemian*

07:00 *Shobor Jonno*

08:00 *Bohemian*

09:00 *Shobor Jonno*

10:00 *Bohemian*

11:30 *Shobor Jonno*

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06:00 *Bohemian*

07:00 *Shobor Jonno*

08:00 *Bohemian*

09:00 *Shobor Jonno*

10:00 *Bohemian*

11:30 *Shobor Jonno*

12:00 *Bohemian</i*