

Tête-à-tête with Rumana Islam

Carrying on a musical legacy

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Daily Star recently had a rendezvous with Rumana Islam. The artiste believes the rich artistic legacy she was born to has been her life-long inspiration to sing, making her a regular voice on the radio and TV.

"I started taking taalim from Ustad PC. Gomez when I was ten, but my parents have always been my primary teachers and inspiration," says Rumana. Daughter of noted singer-composer-actor-filmmaker Khan Ataur Rahman and Mahbuba Rahman, Rumana says that her parents have always been supportive of her decisions. "Although my father, who was very strict, insisted I get a proper education before anything else. My husband and in-laws too are all very encouraging. My father tutored me in his own distinctive style from a very young age on the technical aspects of singing. But the essence of my music comes from my mother. She was the first female singer to do playback in a Bangla feature film. She wanted me to accomplish what she couldn't. Her unwavering faith guided me through my deepest uncertainties," says Rumana.

Rumana did her first playback at the age of fourteen for her father's movie *Din Jai Kotha Thakey*. She



sang *Maaer moto apon keho nai* and *Mon maajhi tor boitha nerey* for the film. In the 1981 movie *Danpeetay Chhelay* she sang *Hairay amar mon matano desh*. Khan Ataur Rahman won a National Award for the composition. She won a BACHSAS Award for best vocalist in 1997 for the song *Jodia ar dekha nai hot* from the movie *Ekhono Onek Raat*.

"I graduated in Architecture from BUET in 1988," says Rumana, "and run the firm 'Bashatikpalpa' with my husband, who is also an architect. There was a time when architecture took most of time and music took a backseat. But you can't suppress what is in your blood."

So far Rumana has released two solo albums and eight mixed and

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duet albums. The artiste feels that the nature of her work appeals more to a mature audience.

The singer has been training in classical music under Ustad Anil Kumar Saha for the past ten years. "There is no end to learning, in any chosen field," she says.

"My parents encouraged me to listen to Bengali, Indian and Western classical music. They believed that the classical form provides the foundation for an art. Now I try to listen to everything, classical as well as contemporary, but what I really prefer are semi-classical and folk songs of Bangladesh. My idols are Lata Mangeshkar and Sabina Yasmeen. And I love some of Samina Chowdhury's songs.

"I'm working on two albums, covers of my father's compositions. The first will be released on the occasion of his birthday in December. This will include some of his most popular songs, and the other album will contain his unpublished and not-so-familiar songs. People have been asking me to do this for a long time, but I haven't felt ready until now."

"I've worked with noted music directors like Ahmed Imtiaz Bulbul and Alauddin Ali, and most important of all, my father. I'm aware that to many I'm not instantly recognisable but some of my songs are," she concludes.

Lux-Channel i Performance Award 07 to be held at Sharjah

MAINUL HASSAN

Lux-Channel i Performance Award is back again. Faridur Reza Sagor, managing director of Channel i and Impress Telefilm Ltd made the announcement at a press conference held at the channel's Tejgaon office on September 30. Naushad Karim Chowdhury, brands and development director, Unilever, Bangladesh; Abdul Mukit Majumder, managing director, Channel i FZLIC, UAE and actor, director, Afzal Hossain were present at the conference.

Like previous years, this year's Lux-Channel i Performance Award will be held in Sharjah too. The programme is scheduled to

be held on November 9 at the Sharjah Cricket Association Stadium. Afzal Hossain will host the show.

Faridur Reza Sagor also said, "Lux-Channel i Performance Award aims to honour achievements in the Bangladeshi cultural scene and take it to an international platform."

The programme has generated a huge response and it is gaining more popularity every year. It is heartening to see the huge turnout of Bangladeshis at the show," he added.

"This year we plan to stage an even grander show packed with entertainment," said Abdul Mukit Majumder. Majumder is in charge of organising the event.

Highlights of the show include performances featuring popular actors, singers and dancers. This year film actor Faruk, seasoned singer Syed Abdul Hadi; artistes Hyder Hossain, Mehrin and Biplob; dancers Nipa and Shibli Mohammad and TV actors Mahfuz, Shaon, Mim, Chanchal Chowdhury, Dr Ijaz and others will take part in the show. A total of sixty artistes are expected to perform.

The show will also feature performances by this year's Lux Channel i Superstar Mim, 1st runner-up Alvee and 2nd runner-up Farid.

This year the award will be given in 18 categories. The winners will be selected by public votes, through text messages.

Eid special "Misir Ali" on ntv

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Animesh Aich has adapted Humayun Ahmed's popular *Misir Ali* novel *Nishad* for his new film. The tele-film, also titled *Nishad*, will be aired on the second day of Eid-ul-Fitr at 2:30pm. Made under the banner of Shankheal Production, cast of the tele-film includes Ashish Khandaker as Misir Ali, Dr. Enamul Haque, Sharai Shubho, Alok Basu and Nona.

According to Animesh, "I've always been fascinated by the character Misir Ali. After my first adaptation of Misir Ali (TV play *Brihannala*) Humayun Ahmed gave me his consent to do some more work based on Misir Ali novels. Humayun Faride played the professor of psychology in my second Misir Ali play, *Swapno Sangini*. In *Nishad*, Ashish Khandaker has done a wonderful job as Misir Ali."

The story follows Munir, a young man in his late twenties, who comes to Misir Ali with a unique problem. Munir claims that he is living several lives simultaneously. He came to the realisation when he woke up one day, and saw himself as a young boy, his father dying right before his eyes. The disturbing issue here is that Munir's father had died many years ago. The child Munir tries to save his father's life, carrying a letter from the local doctor in his hand, in this alternative reality. While rushing, he stumbles and wakes up to his familiar life. To his utter amazement, the letter is still in his hand. Misir Ali tries to solve this mystery.

Bangladeshi team receives golden crest at Asian Youth Art Fest

A thirteen-member cultural team, led by Kamrunnesa Hasan, deputy director general (programme) of BTV, participated in the Asian Youth Arts Festival held from September 23 to 27 in Shenzhen, China, says a press release. The festival, jointly organised by China Central Television and Asian Broadcasting Union, was attended by 30 television-broadcasting organisations from Asia.

Elevated eleven Asian media personalities were the judges at the festival. Eminent TV personality and artist Mustafa Monwar was one of the judges.

Ten dancers from Bangladesh performed folk dance directed by Shibli Muhammad. Anisul Islam Hero supervised the performance. Actor Mir Sabbir was also a part of the Bangladeshi cultural team.

The Bangladeshi team received a golden crest for their outstanding performance at the festival.



The Bangladeshi cultural group at Shenzhen



Methodist English Medium School recently held its annual art programme 'Arts and Crafts Making Competition'. Almost 400 students from Play Group to O Level participated at the event. Artist Shishir Bhattacharya, teacher at Institute of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka; senior journalist Madan Sahu; chairman of Christian Life Bangladesh Sunil Adhikary and general secretary of the school governing committee Timothy Arthur Faircross selected the best works.

Capturing India in "Darjeeling Limited"

of each other, in a constantly fast moving India, he was able to create a kind of quiet drama he has never created before.

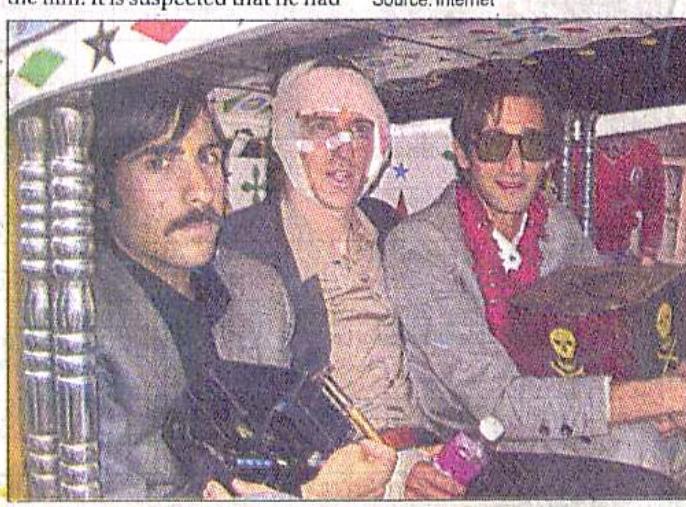
"India gets under your skin in no time," Anderson, who fell in love with India when he watched Jean Renoir's *The River* and practically every film of Satyajit Ray.

Owen Wilson plays Francis, the eldest of the three brothers in the film, and is a control freak. Wilson is a close friend of the filmmaker from their college days in Austin, Texas. The actor, who is recovering from a suicide attempt recently, is seen heavily bandaged throughout the film. It is suspected that he had

tried to kill himself.

"Francis sees himself as one trying to keep the family together," he says in the production notes. "Because our father is dead, our mother is AWOL, Francis is literally damaged. And there is Jack (Schwartzman), coming out of a bad relationship. There is also Peter, who is having trouble with his wife. So Francis has united the brothers on this great spiritual adventure in India, and he has the funny idea they're going to have a spiritual journey -- whether they like it or not."

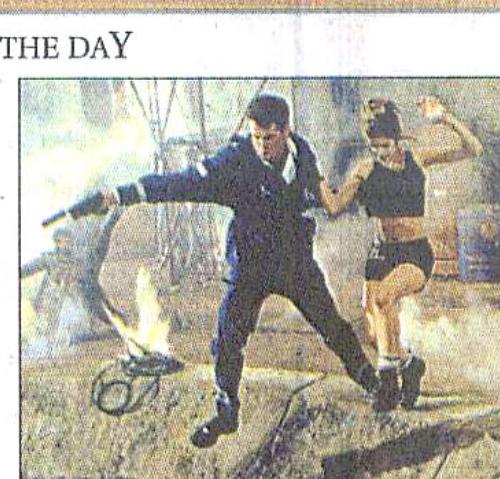
Source: Internet

(From left) Jason Schwartzman, Owen Wilson and Adrien Brody in *Darjeeling Limited*

ON AIR



Mahanagar
On Banglavision at 8:25pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Shumaiya Shimu, Afroza Banu



The World Is Not Enough
On Star Movies at 10:15pm
Genre: Action
Cast: Pierce Brosnan, Sophie Marceau, Denise Richards

12:00	Shangbad Protidin	10:00	My Name Is Earl
08:45	Goldfinger	10:30	Monk
10:35	The Mistress of Spices	11:30	Boston Legal
12:15	Ordinary Decent!	01:00	Everybody Loves Raymond
01:45	Swarmed	01:30	Yes Dear
03:15	The House Sitter	02:30	Fashion House
04:45	Star Wars: Ep. I - The Phantom Menace	03:30	The Ellen Degeneres Show
07:00	Adv. Of Rocky & Bullwinkle, The	04:00	The Bold And The Beautiful
08:35	Garfield: A Tail Of Two Kitties	05:00	General Hospital
10:15	The World Is Not Enough	06:00	Ugly Betty
12:30	Air Force Two	06:30	Scrubs
02:00	The Cutler	07:30	The Simpsons
10:30	American Dragon: Jake Long	08:00	My Wife And Kids
11:00	That's So Raven	08:30	Friends
12:30	Kasturi	09:00	Seinfeld
01:00	Kasautii Zindagii Kay	09:30	Beyond The Break
01:30	Kumkum - Pyara Sa	09:30	Ghost Whisperer
02:00	Bandhan	10:30	Brothers & Sisters
02:30	Shabhi	11:30	Bull Run
03:00	Karan Apna Apna	01:30	Friends
04:00	Saarthi	02:30	From Creation To
04:30	Kayamath	03:30	Abraham
05:00	Kalehni Ghar Ghar Kii	04:30	Big Bang
06:00	Men Awaz Ko Mil Gayi	05:30	Michael Rocke
07:00	Roshni	06:30	Spartacus
08:00	Shabhi	07:00	Stalking The Innocent
09:00	Kasturi	07:30	Michael Rocke
10:00	Kasturi	08:00	The Solitary Cyclist
11:00	Kasautii Zindagii Kay	09:00	Stargate: The Experience
12:00	Brahmagan	09:30	Mahatma Gandhi
01:00	Spartacus	10:00	Guam
02:00	Karan Apna Apna	10:30	Tactical to Practical
03:00	Saarthi	11:30	Spartacus
04:00	Kayamath	01:30	Fountain of Youth
05:00	Kalehni Ghar Ghar Kii	02:30	Vertical Take-Off
06:00	Men Awaz Ko Mil Gayi	03:30	A Scandal in Bohemia
07:00	Roshni	04:30	Walking The Edge
08:00	Shabhi	11:30	Skywalk Collapse
09:00	Kasturi	01:30	From Creation To
10:00	Kasturi	02:30	Abraham
11:00	Kasautii Zindagii Kay	03:30	Triumph of Life
12:00	Brahmagan	04:30	Spacemen
01:00	Spartacus	05:30	Ancient Astronauts
02:00	Karan Apna Apna	06:30	Walking The Edge
03:00	Saarthi	11:30	Skywalk Collapse
04:00	Kayamath	01:30	Future Perfect
05:00	Kalehni Ghar Ghar Kii	02:30	Future Marvels
06:00	Men Awaz Ko Mil Gayi	03:30	Yummy Mummy
07:00	Roshni	04:30	Runway Models
08:00	Shabhi	05:30	Bear Week
09:00	Kasturi	06:30	Discovery Showcase
10:00	Kasturi	07:30	Planet Earth Returns
11:00	Kasautii Zindagii Kay	08:30	I Shouldn't Be Alive
12:00	Brahmagan	09:30	Bear Week
01:00	Kasturi	10:30	Global Pendant
02:00	Kasautii Zindagii Kay	11:30	Hijacked
03:00	Brahmagan	01:30	Extreme Engineering
04:00	Kasturi	02:30	Skywalk Collapse
05:00	Kasautii Zindagii Kay	03:30	Speed Addiction

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 8:55am, 12:00pm, 2:00pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 10:30pm.			
News (Bangla) at 8:00am 1:00pm, 5:00pm, 8:00pm.			