

## CULTURAL FEAST

**Dhaka Book Fair 2007**  
Organised by: National Book Centre  
Venue: National Parade Square, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar  
Date: December 1-16

## Art Exhibition

**Title:** Nitun Kundu: The Creative Mind  
**Artist:** Nitun Kundu  
**Venue:** Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, Bengal Shilpalya, H 275/F, Road 27 (old), Dharmundi  
**Date:** December 3-17  
**Time:** 10am-8pm

## Musical Soiree

**Organiser:** Nandan  
**Venue:** Chhayanat Shangskriti Bhawan, House 72, Road 15A, Dharmundi  
**Date:** December 3  
**Time:** 5:30pm

## Solo Art Exhibition

**Title:** Tokai  
**Artist:** Rafiqunnabi  
**Venue:** Gallery Chitrak, Road 4, House 21, Dharmundi  
**Date:** December 1-7  
**Time:** 10am-8pm

**Title:** Entity-Sketches of Heritage  
**Artist:** Sajid Bin-Doza Bonny  
**Venue:** Alliance Francaise de Dacca, 26, Mirpur Road, Dharmundi  
**Date:** December 3-16  
**Time:** 9am-12pm & 5pm-8pm except Saturday (5pm-8pm)

## Photo Exhibition

**Title:** Arktos-Antarktos  
**Photographer:** Enam Ul Haque and Tareq Onu  
**Venue:** Dr. Iqbal, House 58, Road 15A (new), Dharmundi  
**Date:** November 30-December 4  
**Time:** 3pm-8pm

## Solo Painting Exhibition

**Artist:** Shyamal Roy Chowdhury  
**Venue:** Art & Soul Gallery, Road 36, House 16, Gulshan  
**Date:** November 30 - December 16  
**Time:** 11am-8pm

# Nitun Kundu recalled on 72nd birthday

## Exhibition at Bengal Gallery

FAYZA HAQ

**N**ITUN Kundu's 72nd birth anniversary is being celebrated today at the Bengal Gallery with a solo show of his oil paintings, etchings and photographs of his unique sculptures.

Qayum Chowdhury, speaking at the press conference held at the Bengal Gallery yesterday, paid glowing tributes to the deceased artist. He pointed out that it was only after the Liberation War that Kundu's first solo exhibition could be held. The exhibition highlighted the artist's ideas and views. Chowdhury also said that Kundu was always meticulous in his work and aimed at perfection, whether it be in fine arts or crafts. He said that Kundu's creativity was deep-seated.

Chowdhury said that the master artist, who was his contemporary, combined art and industry in a superb manner and his initiatives to promote art was indeed unique as he was both an artist and a patron of crafts. He added that 'Otobi', a furniture and interior design outlet, which Kundu had started, aspired to patronise the best artworks of the country in a gallery of its



(From left) Ziaul Karim, Qayum Chowdhury, Amity Kundu, Luva Nahid Chowdhury and Subir Chowdhury at the press conference

own. This ambitious dream, however could not be fulfilled.

"Kundu's protests against the socio-economic and political injustices are deeply felt in his sculpture and art works," Chowdhury concluded.

Luva Nahid Chowdhury, the director general of the Bengal Gallery said that Kundu's incorporation of art and craft was a phenomenon that he envisaged decades back. She said that he was an institution by himself and that he inspired many artists. She added an unusual flavour to her speech by recalling the artist's alacrity and enthusiasm in all his works, despite his gathering age, towards the end.

Kundu's contributions were further elaborated by art critic and Director of AB Bank, Ziaul Karim. Examining the master artist's imagination, motivations and expertise, Karim threw light on Kundu's marvellous ability to present his sensitive thoughts on canvas, paper, steel, wood and glass.

Amity Kundu, Nitun Kundu's daughter, a practicing architect and interior designer, spoke

in moving words about the details of the artist's many contributions. Her speech carried a personal touch, like that of Qayum Chowdhury.

"He began with little but reached out to a greater height," said Amity. This was done with dignity, respect and hard work along with his integral talent. This was a great inspiration for his fellow artists and his juniors.

The greatest thing about him, Amity said, was not his creation of 'Otobi', but his unsurpassed sincerity and diligence. He always carried his teachings of his seniors at the Art College. He worked at sculpture, which was his forte, even though he did not have academic training in the field, Amity added.

Successful, but humble, Nitun Kundu reached out to not only the intellectuals but also the average individual.

Nitun Kundu, who won an Ekushey Padak, among a dozen local awards and accolades, reflected well the intrepid generation of artists during the Liberation War.

The exhibition of Kundu's works titled "The Creative Mind" is on till December 17.



Nature in Blue by Nitun Kundu

## Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation turns 27

## CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Though Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation (BGTTF) turned 27 on November 29, this year because of the recent Sadr tragedy, BGTTF held its anniversary programme on December 1 in an informal manner at the Mahila Samity Stage. BGTTF, a platform for the theatre troupes of the country was set up in 1980.

The organisation has the mandate to safeguard the professional

interest of theatre troupes and activists while creating opportunities for them; develop the local theatre scene; free theatre from bureaucratic control; mobilise public opinion against laws violating fundamental rights; take active steps to establish theatre stages in different parts of the country; nurture the ideology of group theatre; incorporate social messages in plays; publish material related to theatre; establish a

theatre museum; arrange workshops at national and international levels; arrange national drama festivals and adopt welfare programmes for people associated with theatre.

The anniversary programme was chaired by M. Hamid, the chairman of BGTTF. Founder chairman of the organisation, Ramendu Majumder, was the key speaker. Noted theatre activists such as general secretary of BGTTF, Jhuna Chowdhury and Deboprosad Devnath also spoke at the programme. Probir Sardar, secretary (programme) of BGTTF was the host of the anniversary ceremony.

Focusing on the contribution of BGTTF, theatre leaders at the programme said that the organisation is not only promoting theatrical activities in the country, but also actively participating in several national programmes.

Speakers urged the theatre activists to lend a hand to the Sadr victims and to participate in the movement against the war Criminals of 1971.

The discussion was followed by the staging of *Bhager Manush*, a Samay Sanskritik Gosthi production.

## Srijon's 13th anniversary



Artists perform at Srijon's anniversary celebration

## PHOTO: STAR

## CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Cultural organisation Srijon celebrated its 13th anniversary with a lively musical soiree at the Rabindra Sarobar on December 1. Other cultural organisations Bibartan, Samo geet, Swarokalpon, along with Srijon, performed *ganosangeet* at the programme.

Going by the motto -- *Srijonshoelota-i Mukti Angikaar*, Srijon believes in cultural activities that inspire people. *Ganosangeet* can play a vital role in this regard, to help people unite. Hence the genre was highlighted at Srijon's anniversary celebration.

The programme began with an

instrumental presentation by a musical troupe from Tangail, headed by Shibu. An organisation of rectors, Swarokalpon, staged their production *Razakarer Naamta*, as a tribute to the month of our national victory.

Artists of Srijon began their performances with Hemango Biswas' song *Banchbo banchbo na amra*. Other songs rendered by them included *Nongor chhara naa-er*, *Hushia* and *Maati moderner*.

Members of Samo geet sang *Chhichhi America*, *Nacho nacho re mon*, *Haaora* and *Billboard*. Bibartan mostly performed Hemango Biswas' songs while Kafil Ahmed and Padma rendered solo songs at the event.

Moreover, the artists performed lesser-known Tagore songs like *Din*

The award giving ceremony followed a chorus rendition of the song *Manusher majhey boshobas kor* by artistes of Wriszish.

Veteran journalist Faiz Ahmed, the chief guest of the programme, handed over the crests to award recipients -- each received a crest, a certificate and a cash prize of Tk 5000. Theatre personality Atiqul Haque Chowdhury, folklorist

Samsuzzaman Khan, Ashfaqur Rahman Khan and general secretary of Sammilito Sangskritik Jote, Golam Kuddus were the special guests. The session was presided over by Fakir Alamgir.

Songs and recitation followed the award-giving programme. Artistes of Wriszish rendered *Rokta dia kinlam Bangla*. Members of Kranti performed two songs -- *Kata mor ghor bhengchey* and *Moron shagar pari ke dibi*. Indramohan Rajbongshi performed *Harano din-erkothamone porey jaye*. Artistes of the Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra -- Bipul Bhattacharjee, Namita Ghosh, Shomor Barua, Laila Islam and Shahin Khan -- also sang at the programme.

Fakir Alamgir was the last performer at the programme. He presented four songs -- *Mayer ekhbar dudher dam*, *Allah megh de pani de*, *Ontoy kandey amar guan* and *O Sokhinasgesohi kinabhuamamany*.

Wriszish was founded on November 23, 1976 and has been giving awards to eminent personalities since 1983.

## Rabiraag's musical soiree for a cause

## CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

*shesher ranga, Jarey nijetum. Roop shagorey doob diyechi* and others.

Shafiqur Rahman, Amina Ahmed, Anakshi Saha Roy, Ranjita Roy, Nandita Yasmin and Golam Haider rendered 12 solos at the

programme. Moreover, Anakshi and Shafiq, Nandita and Ranjita, Amina and Golam Haider presented three duets.

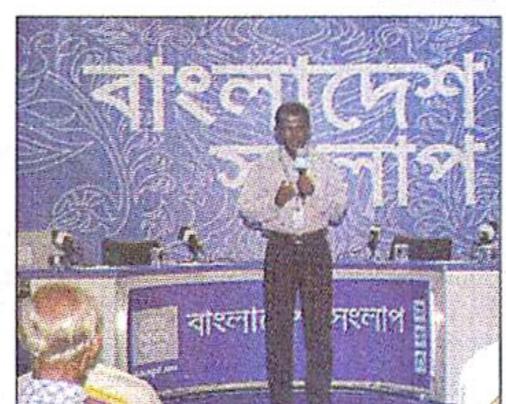
Renditions by Anakshi Saha Roy, Shafiqur Rahman and Nandita Yasmin were well-appreciated.



Sadi Muhammad (R) and other artistes of Rabiraag at the musical soiree

## ON AIR

## PICK OF THE DAY



BBC Bangladesh Shanglap  
On Channel i at 7:50 pm  
Discussion programme on contemporary issues



Derailed  
On Star Movies at 7:00 pm  
Genre: Drama  
Cast: Clive Owen, Jennifer Aniston

## 04:30 Great Britain

Tactical to Practical

05:30 Justice

07:30 The Antichrist (Part 1)

08:30 The Amtrak Connection

09:30 Gracie Kelly

11:30 Deadly Doctors

Lost in the Sahara

## 11:00 Kyunki Saab Bhi Kabhi

Bahu Tri

11:30 Kayam

STAR WORLD

11:30 American Inventor

Desperate Housewives

01:30 Fashion House

The Ellen DeGeneres Show

03:30 The Bold And The Beautiful

04:00 General Hospital

05:00 The Unit

06:00 Rodney

06:30 The Simpsons

07:00 My Wife And Kids

07:30 Friends

08:00 Seinfeld

08:30 My Wife And Kids

09:00 8 Simple Rules

09:30 According To Jim

10:00 Yes Dear

10:30 Monk

11:30 Cops

STAR MOVIES

10:15 Vip Access

10:45 Ika: Countdown To D-Day

12:30 Sound Of Music, The

Clean State

03:15 The Life Aquatic With Steve Zissou

05:50 The Alamo

06:30 The Simpsons

07:00 Punch Drunk Love

07:30 Open Water

11:45 FX 2

01:30 Chasing Ghosts

STAR PLUS

10:30 American Dragon: Jake Long

11:00 101 Dalmatians

01:00 Kasuri Zindagi Kay

02:00 Brat

02:30 Karam Apna Apna

03:00 Everything You Need To Know About

04:00 Wild Discovery

05:30 Wild Safari

06:30 Oil, Sweat and Rags