

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

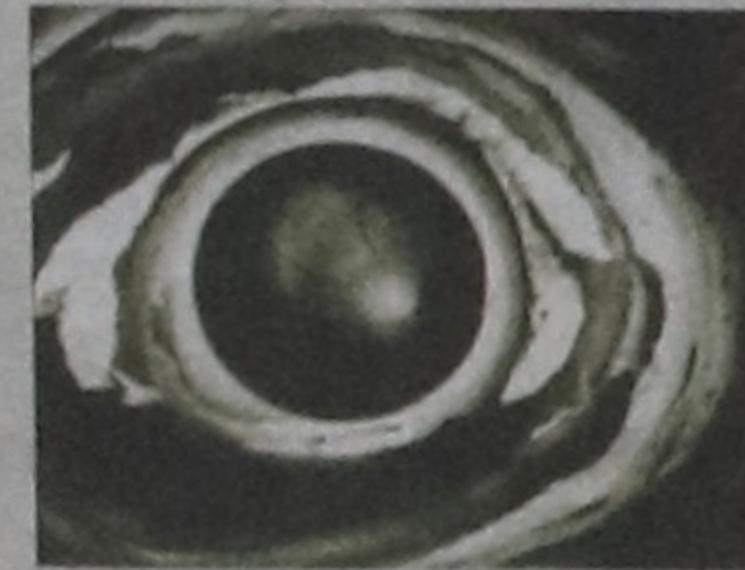
Film Screening
Ritwik Ghatak retrospective
Organiser: Alamgir Kabir
Chalachitra Kendra
Venue: Alamgir Kabir
Chalachitra Kendra, 62,
Science Laboratory Road
Date: May 9-10
May 9
11:00am Bari Thekey Paliye
05:00pm Ojantik
07:00pm Meghey Dhaka Tara



Film Screening
To celebrate 22nd anniversary
Title: Films from Africa
Organiser: Zahir Rahim
Film Society
Venue: Goethe-Institut
Bangladesh, H 10, R 9,
Dhanmondi
Date: May 18-22



Solo Painting Exhibition
Title: Image
Artist: Mohammad Fokhrul Islam
Venue: Alliance Francaise, 26,
Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi
Date: May 2-15
Time: 9am-12pm & 5pm-8pm
On Saturdays 5pm-8pm



Photography Exhibition
Title: Partnership in Practice
Venue: Drik Gallery,
House 58, Road 15A (new), Dhanmondi
Date: May 01-10
Time: 3pm-8pm



A poetic touch to TV plays

In conversation with Mezbaur Rahman Sumon



Mezbaur Rahman Sumon (second from right) with his band Meghdol

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Besides some high profile TV artistes, quite a few who work behind the camera, were also successful over the last year. In the latter category is talented director Mezbaur Rahman Sumon, who has to his credit a TV serial and a number of single-episode plays. Sumon is also an active member of the fusion band Meghdol. During a recent conversation with

The Daily Star, Sumon talked about his achievements and future plans in the spheres of direction and music.

Though last year provided him with the much needed breath-through, Sumon has been active in the media since 1995. In the early days, he assisted some documentary-makers and did some animation for several reputed NGOs like BCCP and UNICEF. His first play for a TV channel was aired in 2006. The single-episode play, *Ami Arupar Kachhey*

Jachchhi, featuring Shoeb and Kusum Shikdar, aired on Channel-i.

In the same year, he received the 'Meril-Prothom Alo Award' for best director for his single-episode play *Dokhiner Janalata Kholo*.

In 2007, Sumon made the drama serial, *Coffee House* - aired on Channel-i - which became quite popular. *Horgojo O Kichhu Shada Ronger Projapoti*, a single-episode play aired on ntv; *Nusrat Shongey Ekri Golpo* for Banglavision and *Shohortolir Alo*,

another single -episode play for Rtv are some of his noteworthy works.

Shohortolir Alo, an adaptation of the Charles Chaplin classic *City Lights* (1931), was lauded by viewers. According to Sumon, the play was a tribute to Chaplin. Sumon says, "Not many people in Bangladesh are aware of Chaplin's works. I wanted to introduce our TV audience to Chaplin's genius."

Most of the titles and stories of Sumon's plays are pretty different from the run-of-the-mill works. Sumon says, "Poetry inspires me; so, I always want to add poetic touch to my works. Having grown up in Dhaka, I am more accustomed to streetlights than moonlight. Most of my plays naturally revolve around Dhakaites."

As for 2008, his hands are full. A TV play, titled *Jolchobi* is among his latest works. Also on the cards is a new serial, *Rail Station-e Shona Golpo*.

Sumon has also been busy as a musician. His band Meghdol released an album *Droher Montrey Bhalobasha* in 2005. The style of their music can be considered "off track". Like his plays, Sumon's music also features different aspects of urban life. "The band is currently on their second album, which is expected to be released within two months," says Sumon.

Sumon's receives immense support from his family. In his words, "When I was a college student I was keen to take music and arts as my profession and my family firmly supported my decision."

As for the future, the talented artiste harbours the ambition of making mainstream films. "Our once reputed cinema had lost its lustre. I believe that if young and talented people show more interest in mainstream films, the future can be promising."

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