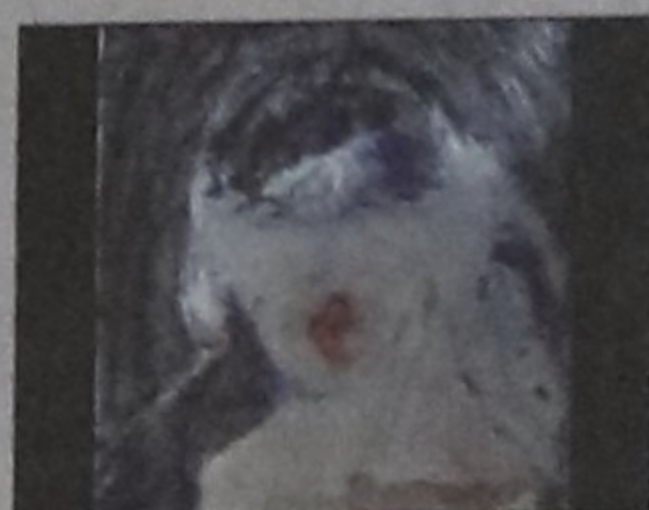


WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Solo Art Exhibition

Title: Shudurer Mita
Artist: Mustaque Ahmed
Venue: Gallery Chitrah, H 21, Rd 4, Dhanmondi
Date: October 23-November 5
Time: 10am-8pm



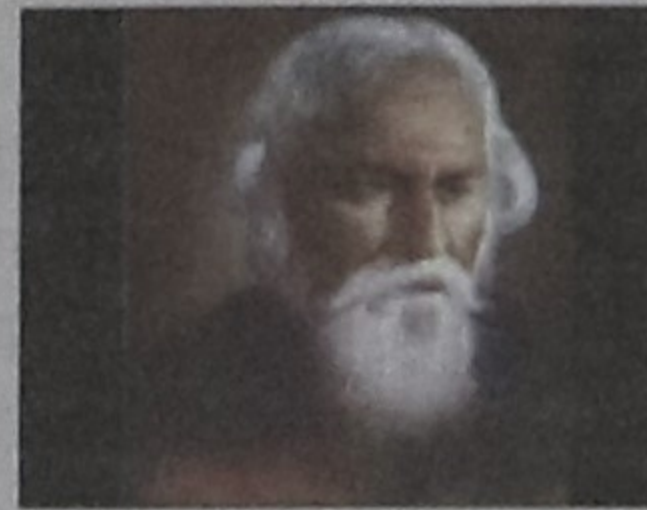
Solo Art Exhibition

Title: Ballads and Paintings
Artist: Abdus Shakoor Shah
Venue: Gallery Cosmos, Malibagh
Date: October 24-November 7
Time: 11am-6pm



Musical Soiree

Title: Moner Majhe Je Gaan Baje
Organiser: Nandan
Venue: Chhayanaut Shangkriti Bhaban
Date: October 30
Time: 7:15pm



Solo Photography Exhibition

Title: Rest In Peace
Photographer: Chandan Robert Rebeiro
Venue: Holy Rosary Church, Farmgate, Tejgaon (Near Holy Cross School)
Date: November 1-2
Time: 10am-8pm



Crossover culture at its best

Motimba, Lokkhi Terra in town



NUSRAT JAHAN PRITOM

Two UK based bands -- Motimba and Lokkhi Terra -- are right here in the heart of Bangladesh, bringing with them the rich diversity of London, a city where cultures mingle and new genres are born.

Motimba, formed around 1998, is an Afro-Cuban Funk Jazz band and Lokkhi Terra's style can be labelled 'fusion'. Featuring musicians from Europe, Cuba and South Asia, both bands are led by the jazz bassist and keyboardist, Kishon Khan.

"This is the first time I'm bringing any of my projects to Bangladesh," said Khan. "The way I really discovered music was when one day I saw a blind flutist. He took me to his 'hood' and that's where I was introduced to ethnic music. I've been involved with music since the age of four by the way."

"Motimba and Lokkhi Terra comprise almost the same group of musicians. Of course, we have many renowned guest artists who have and continue to create beautiful music with us, such as Pandit Dinesh and Fazal Qureshi. But mostly it's Justin Thurgur, Oreste Noda Fernandez and others. In Lokkhi Terra there are Jimmy Martinez, Graeme Flowers, Robin Banerjee, Tansay Ibrahim, Sohini Alam, Mithun Chakraborti and Aneire Ehmar Khan. In Motimba, there's Javier as well."

"The bands differ in style. Though there are certain similarities, as both are cross-cultural, Motimba highlights the Afro-Cuban Jazz where as Lokkhi Terra fuses Bangla folk music with Latin beats. I'd say they usually run parallel to one another," Khan said.

During his visit to Bangladesh in the early 90s, Kishon Khan spent most of his time in the slums, making friends at the grassroots level, understanding the local music and culture. He would travel with bauls, trying to grasp their philosophy, the ultimate result of which is Lokkhi Terra.

Motimba will be releasing a new single next February and an album by next April. Lokkhi

Terra is currently promoting its new album "No Visa Required".

Justin told *The Daily Star* how he got introduced to the band: "Kishon Khan was running a jam session where his was the house band. I went for around a month, and once I got a taste of Cuban music and delved deeper into it, I found the energy to be awesome."

"When I started, I understood music theoretically but now I can feel it as well. We do a lot of writing together and I love Latin, African, Bangla, Jazz and Funk -- this varied interest can be observed in our music. You can say these two bands are rather a family of musicians," Justin added.

Noda shared his experiences: "In 2003, I went to see some Cuban musicians playing in London. Kishon Khan was also playing there. When I saw him I wondered what part of Cuba is he from? We were introduced. I had conga at home, and he invited me to his, and we started jamming together."

"Cuban music to me is inherent. If you can incorporate the influences of all the cultures, then you got something magical."

He added that being in Bangladesh for the first time is a fantastic experience. "They are all alike here, unlike London which has people from all over the world."

Javier, who is also here for the first time, said, "Being here is like being back home. The greenery, the mosquitoes -- all the same!" Javier has been studying music for over 15 years.

Aneire, who has been with Lokkhi Terra for over two years, said, "At first I couldn't imagine a tie between Latin and Bangla music, but once we got going, I saw many similarities -- the nuances, the sensibilities... We performed at Queen Elizabeth Hall, Ronnie Scott's, etc and have found a range of audience. Their reactions and responses have encouraged us immensely!"

Motimba is performing at Radisson Water Garden Hotel today. Lokkhi Terra will be performing on November 5, 6 and 7 at International Club, Gulshan Club and Drik Gallery respectively.

The writer is a freelance contributor.

"Though there are certain similarities, as both are cross-cultural, Motimba highlights Afro-Cuban Jazz where as Lokkhi Terra fuses Bangla folk with Latin beats."

PHOTO COURTESY: INSHRA RUSSELL

Spotlight on human trafficking

Docu-drama "Bon Pora Horini" premiered

ZAHANGIR ALOM

In a bid to generate mass awareness, especially among the gullible village women, a docu-drama, titled "Bon Pora Horini" on human trafficking was premiered at Harmony Hall of Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in the city on October 28.

Written by Humayun Kabir Emon, the docu-drama has been directed by Shankar Shawjal.

International Organisation for Migration (IOM) in collaboration with the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Royal Norwegian Embassy and Royal Danish Embassy produced the docu-drama.

Women are made to play specific roles in the houses of their parents, husbands and offspring's and thus they serve the purposes of the existing social attitudes

and demands. Rural women don't even have their own identity. As they are the most vulnerable section of the society, they appear to be the main target group of the traffickers.

As a child, the uncrowned queen of folk songs, Momotaj used to hear stories of girls gone missing. Her father made her vow that someday she would do something for these missing girls.

The singer, protagonist of the drama, has travelled to different parts of the country on this regard.

The docu-drama is a portrayal of three real life stories of girls lured away from home, abducted for trafficking and exploitation. The stories highlight different aspects of human trafficking. One highlights the plight of a mother and daughter who were taken under false pretences and forced into prostitution; another is a tale of trauma faced by a young girl named Putul who is rescued

from the clutches of a trafficker but turned away upon return by her family and friends. The third narrates the story of Sabina who does not fall under the stereotype of a victim of trafficking -- she is educated and comes from a well to do family. The drama shows the process through which she is lured, deceived and finally how she rebuilds her life.

The cast includes singer Momotaj, Rokeya Prachi, Chandni, Saju Mehedi, Jahiruzzaman and others.

Tanveer Alam Shawjeeb has directed the music. Asiatic MCL provided overall management.

Prior to the premier, Rabab Fatima, regional representative of IOM, South Asia; the Norwegian Ambassador to Bangladesh Ingebjorg Stofring and Md. Ghulam Hussain, additional secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs delivered speeches on the issues related to human trafficking.



The docu-drama presents three real life stories of women lured away from home, abducted for trafficking and exploitation.

আপনার অংশগ্রহণে
আরো বেশি জমে উঠুক

Meril Revive

BUSY
দের
EASY শো

কর্পোরেট মেয়েদের অংশগ্রহণে এনটিভি-তে শুরু হতে যাচ্ছে এক্সাইটিং এই শো।
যেখানে বাস্তব মেয়েদের প্রতিযোগিতায়, সেলিব্রিটিদের সাথে মেতে উঠবেন হাসি-গানে
আর মুখোমুখি হবেন কঠিন সব প্রশ্নের। স্বপ্নের ট্যাংকট্রাজ লিঃ আরোজিতা বন্দু ও উজ্জ্বলার
এই শো-তে আপনার প্রতিষ্ঠান থেকে অংশ নিতে পারেন আপনিও।
যেখানে পেশাগত দায়িত্বের ভুলে আনন্দ-উৎসাহে কটবে কিছুটা সময়
আর সেসবের জীবনেন আকর্ষণীয় নতুন পুরস্কার।

অংশগ্রহণ করতে কোম্পানির পক্ষ থেকে অথবা ব্যক্তিগতভাবে যোগাযোগ করুন ৭ নভেম্বরের মধ্যে:

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মিডিয়া পার্টনার

সহযোগী