

## WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

### Solo Art Exhibition

Title: Shudurer Mita  
Artist: Mustaque Ahmed  
Venue: Gallery Chitral, 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



### Theatre

Organiser: Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation  
Venue: National Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy  
Date: October 30-31  
Time: 7pm  
Today: 'Raarang' by Aranyak



### Solo Photography Exhibition

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



## Over four decades and still going strong

### Udichi's anniversary celebration at TSC



Discussants at the programme.

MAINUL HASSAN

One of the leading cultural organisations of the country, Bangladesh Udichi Shilpi Goshthi has turned 41. On the occasion Udichi held a colourful programme at TSC auditorium, University of Dhaka on October 29.

The event began at 4:30pm. Professor Khan Sarwar Murshid inaugurated the event with hoisting the national flag. Golam Mohammad Idu, president, Udichi hoisted the flag of Udichi while members of the organisation sang 'Aarshir shamney dariye jodi'. The slogan of the anniversary celebration was 'Jago Shotyer Shubhro Aloye, Jago Hey Milito Pran.'

Udichi started its journey during the political unrest in 1968 as a cultural organisation. Since then the organisation has been a leading voice against injustice and oppres-

sion. The organisation was founded by Satyen Sen.

For its uncompromising stance the organisation has been frequently targeted by fundamentalists.

Mangal pradeep were lit at the venue in memory of the Udichi artistes killed during the Jessore and Netrakona bomb attacks on the organisation. The Jessore attacks in 1999 claimed ten lives while two were killed in the 2005 Netrakona blasts.

The inauguration ceremony was followed by a discussion. Professor Khan Sarwar Murshid; Manzurul Ahsan Khan, president, Bangladesh Communist Party; cultural personality and president of III Ramendu Majumder; chairman of Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation, Liaquat Ali Lucky; Habibul Alam, general secretary, Udichi; Fakir Alamgir; Rahima Chowdhurani and others spoke at

the discussion.

Speakers lauded Udichi for their 40 years of social commitment and hoped that in future the organisation will continue to be a leader in the progressive cultural movement.

Ramendu Majumder said, "I hope Udichi will continue to be a voice against oppression and injustice."

Majumder urged all cultural organisations to take a more effective role in protesting against social injustice.

Rahima Chowdhurani said, "It seems as if only yesterday the organisation started its journey at 23, Chamelibagh. Back then things were different. People used to have a negative view towards cultural activities, but this never discouraged the organisation from pursuing its goals." It was in Rahima Chowdhurani's house that the organisation started its journey back in 1968.

The discussion was presided over by Golam Mohammad Idu.

In his speech Idu said, "During the early years we faced a very difficult time. We were constantly on the move. We didn't have any office back then. However we were very active in Old Dhaka."

The organisation presented Udichi Sharok 2009 to Sardar Fazlul Karim. Fazlul Karim couldn't attend the event due to age related ailments. His daughter Dr. Shathi accepted the award on his behalf. She read out a letter written by her father at the programme.

The cultural programme started with a dance performance by artistes of Natraj, with members of Udichi singing "Shedin aar koto durey" in the background.

Laila Afroz and Qazi Arif recited poems. Timir Nandi rendered gano sangeet.

The programme also included a performance by members of Udichi's recitation wing. The performance, titled "Ekattur-er Chithi" featured letters written by freedom fighters during the Liberation War.

The event wrapped up with folk songs by baul Bhagirath Malo.

Though Udichi had a modest start, the organisation has grown significantly with time. Today Udichi has branches in the US, UK, Canada, Australia and France.

A book cataloguing the four decades of Udichi, titled "Shongram-er Char Dashak", was unveiled at the anniversary programme by Professor Khan Sarwar Murshid.

## Drawing inspiration from Tagore songs

### Rabirashmi's musical programme at Public Library



Artistes of Rabirashmi perform at the event.

PHOTO: MUMIT M.

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Cultural organisation "Rabirashmi" celebrated its 11th anniversary at Shawkat Osman Auditorium, Central Public Library on October 29.

The two-day long programme features discussions, award giving ceremony and cultural programmes.

As a tradition, Rabirashmi honoured Tagore singer Dodul Ahmed for his endeavours in nurturing the practice of Rabindra Sangeet. Music exponent Sudhin Das received the award on behalf of Dodul Ahmed, as the latter could not attend the event due to his mother's illness.

In previous years, Rabirashmi had honoured eminent music exponents and singers like Kalim Sharafi, Sudhin Das, Anup Bhattacharya, Ajit Roy, Rezwana Chowdhury Banya, Tapan Mahmud and others.

In his speech, Sudhin Das said, "Music is a difficult art form which heavily relies on the master-disciple relationship. As a student, one must train regularly, giving spe-

cial attention to classical music -- the mother of all music. One has to tame the voice first, then (s)he can choose particular genres of music to pursue. Dividing ourselves by putting labels -- Rabindra and Nazrul singers -- without delving into the base is ridiculous!"

Singer Anup Bhattacharya and Mahadeb Ghosh, director of Rabirashmi, also delivered speeches on the occasion.

Mokhles Alam, president of Rabirashmi, presided over the discussion.

After the discussion, members of Rabirashmi and guest artistes performed Rabindra Sangeet.

The cultural programme started with four choruses -- "Amar nayan bhulano", "Gaaney gaaney bandhon", "Rollo boley rakhley karey" and "Pran chaye chakku na chay".

Among guest artistes, Sudhin Das, Suparna Das, Mita Haque, Sharmin Rahman Chaiti and Pijush Barua sang "Tumi ki keboli chhobi", "Amaye banshitey dekechhey ke", "Pothey choley jetye jetye", "Oder shathey melao" and "Din-er sheyshey gumer deshey" respectively.

## A repertoire highlighting diversity

### Naquib Khan and Shawjeeb perform at Bengal Gallery

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

The latest instalment of Bengal Foundation's regular musical soiree "Praner Khela" was held on October 29 at its Gallery in Dhanmondi. Noted singer Naquib Khan and talented singer-composer Tanveer Alam Shawjeeb performed at the programme.

Shawjeeb took the stage first. He rendered 15 songs including adhunik, ghazal, SD Burman classics and his own compositions. Shawjeeb has been an ardent follower of classical music and Nazrul Sangeet from an early age. At the programme, the goateed singer also sang a couple of Begum Akhtar songs.

Among the Begum Akhtar numbers, Shawjeeb rendered "Piya bholo abhimaan" and "Chupi chupi". The repertoire included SD Burman classics "Barney gandhey chhandey geetitey", "Chokh gelo" and "Bhulechhi ghoom".

Among other songs, the artiste rendered "Bahudin agey bhengechhe ghar", "Dagor nayan-e keno cheye", "Jodi kantho dao" and "Phooley phooley bhramor".

The other featured singer of the evening, Naquib Khan, then took the stage. Naquib is mainly popular to music enthusiasts



as the vocalist of the band Renaissance. He has also composed and recorded many popular adhuniks songs.

At the programme, Naquib rendered nearly 25 songs. He started with a popular Rabindra Sangeet "Bhalobeshe shakhi nibhritey jatoney". According to the singer, before his band became popular, he used to perform Tagore songs regularly.

Naquib informed that the performance at Bengal Gallery was his first ever solo, though, at the programme he was accompanied by most of his band mates.

Of Renaissance songs, Naquib performed "Brishtir raat", "Nadi eshey path", "Swapno jarano", "Tumi ki aaj bondhu", "Achcha keno manushgulo" and "Bhalo lagey jyotsnaraatey".

Among other songs, the singer performed "Jyotsnaye kashphool", "Mon-e koro" and three songs of Souls -- "Mukhorito jiboner", "Torey putuler moto kore shajiyee"

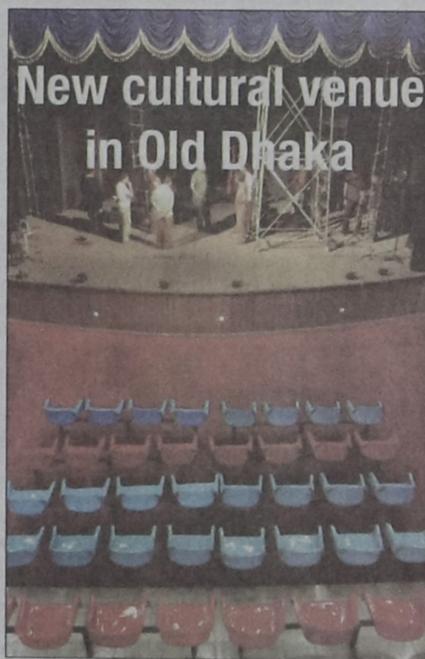
and "Mon shudhu mon chhuyeche". It should be mentioned that Naquib Khan was one of the founder members of the band Souls.

Naquib ended the performance with Renaissance's hugely popular number "Hriday kadamatir kono murti noy".

Eastern Bank Limited was the sponsor of the event.



Shawjeeb (top) and Naquib Khan presented a diverse range of songs.



## New cultural venue in Old Dhaka



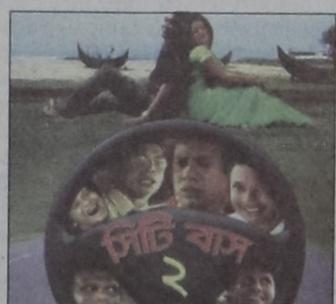
PHOTO: MUMIT M.

To reach out to a greater audience as well as to generate interest in theatre in the Old Dhaka area, Zahir Raihan Cultural Centre was opened in Sutrapur last year under the supervision of Dhaka City Corporation. Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation, an umbrella organisation for theatre activists, celebrated the new establishment through a festival last year. As per its commitment, BGTF organised a 17-day theatre festival this year as well. The festival started on October 15 and will end today. Leading troupes of the city staged their acclaimed productions at the festival. The festival drew sizeable turnout everyday, in particularly over the weekend.

## NEW RELEASES

### VIDEO

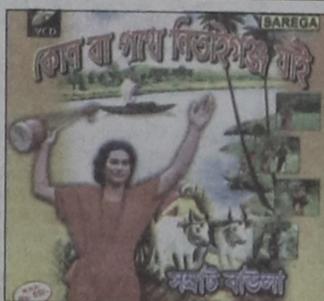
Shunyo  
TV play directed by Rajibul Islam Rajib  
Cast: Apurbo, Tisha  
Source: G-Series



City Bus-2  
TV play directed by Noman Robin  
Cast: Hasan Masud, Pran Roy  
Source: Geetali

### AUDIO

Kon Ba Pothey  
Nitaiganj Jai  
Folk album by Samrat Baula  
Source: SaReGa



Tumio Aamay Bujhle Na  
Solo album featuring Afzal  
Source: A&H Communications