





<p><b>WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK</b></p>	<p><b>Solo Art Exhibition</b>  <b>Title:</b> Open the Door  <b>Artist:</b> Monica Bose  <b>Venue:</b> Dhaka Art Centre, H-60, R-7/A, Dhanmondi  <b>Date:</b> July 16-26  <b>Time:</b> 3pm-8pm</p> 	<p><b>Art Competition 2010</b>  <b>Organiser:</b> Zainul Abedin Art School, Tongi  <b>Venue:</b> Bangladesh Shishu Academy  <b>Date:</b> July 29</p> 	<p><b>Solo Sculpture Exhibition</b>  <b>Title:</b> Sylvan Forms  <b>Sculptor:</b> Ferdousi Priyabhashini  <b>Venue:</b> Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts  <b>Date:</b> July 19-28  <b>Time:</b> 12 pm-8 pm</p> 	<p><b>Art Camp</b>  <b>Organiser:</b> Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts  <b>Venue:</b> Bengal Centre, Airport Road, Dhaka  <b>Date:</b> July 29-Aug 1</p> 
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## Days of yore: Ferdausi Majumdar



SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Born on June 18, 1943 in Barisal, Ferdausi Majumdar was 11th among her parents' (Khan Bahadur Abdul Halim Chowdhury and Umme Kabir Afia) 14 offspring. "I was very fond of sports and games as a child. Skipping, badminton, *shachara*, *danguli*, *chhu-buli*, *marble*...you name it. Once I passed out after scoring 966 in a skipping challenge; I received a crystal bowl as the prize for winning. Till class nine, I was into sports," she said. Her first school was 'Nari Shikkha Mondir' in Tikatuli, Dhaka. "I can still recall that moment when, during my admission test, I tried to copy maths answers from one of my cousins; I was bad in maths. But when she didn't allow me to copy, I started crying and complained to the teacher on duty that my

**"I started crying and complained to the teacher on duty that my cousin wasn't letting me copy answers from her test."**

cousin wasn't letting me copy answers from her test. That still makes me laugh," she reminisced. "I was in that school up to class seven. There were many trees in the school. In class five, during recess, our teachers napped in the classroom and we played *paanchguti*. One day I fell with the blackboard on a girl called Chhaya. Chhaya was taken to a doctor immediately and everyone was giving me looks. I started crying." Ferdausi's mother told her that the family was afraid they'd lose her forever when she was only one and half year old. "I had a bout of bacillary dysentery. Apparently my vision was fading and blood pressure went down. When all treatments failed, everyone was losing hope. Finally, with the help of a *kabiraj* (medicine man), I apparently recovered," the veteran actress said. She also remembers her father wrote down her and her siblings' birthdays with the specific times of birth and zodiacs. "My childhood was a happy time. Reminiscing that certainly cheers me up," Ferdausi said.

## The face as a canvas

Moments with makeup artiste M. Faruque

A CORRESPONDENT

Makeup artist M. Faruque's canvas is the human face. Having had the fortune of working alongside renowned contemporary directors like Tareque Masud, Tauquir Ahmed, Enamul Karim Nirjhor and Giasuddin Selim, the talented artist is a role model for potential faces in this profession. In a chat with *The Daily Star*, Faruque shared some rare insights into his life and times as a makeup artist. **Why did you decide to become a makeup artist?** Faruque: It was 1966. One of my cousins, Abdul Golam Bhuiyan, worked as a makeup artist at that time. Inspired by him I followed up on my childhood dream of being in this profession. I have been working for MTV since 1967. **Having worked with many artistes, can you share some of your experiences?** Faruque: Yes, I have memories of the eventful days when brilliant TV personalities and actors such as Fazle Lohani, Kazi Khaleque, and Rawshan Jamil were familiar faces on the TV screen.



Faruque (R) with the renowned singer Anjuman Ara Begum.

About the environment I would say, it was quite casual as the actors were very open-minded. They were devoted to their craft, not to materialistic thoughts. I had great experiences working with them. **Did you have any bitter experiences in your chosen profession?** Faruque: In the initial stages, I

**Faruque:** It's a big responsibility. I have to take the setting and characters into account to determine the get up of an actor. Besides this, a discussion with the director is also important. So, I'd say, a makeup artist has a vital role to play. **How does the new generation evaluate this profession?** Faruque: Today, I think, there is a ray of hope. Young boys and girls are becoming more and more interested in this profession and it's gradually increasing its reach. Unfortunately, in our country, there is no institute for people to learn this art. This is very important because such an institute can attract educated youngsters to a larger extent. **Do you feel a sense of disappointment in any way?** Faruque: Nowadays, people ignore us as they use the term 'makeup man.' To me, it's a derogatory term and leads to misconception about our profession. Officially, the term 'makeup artist' is used. **Some of the noteworthy films you had worked for as makeup artist?** Faruque: My work experience includes the films, "Antarjatra," "Joi Jatra," "Monpura," "Aha!" and "Shangkhanil Karagar."

## Recitation festival in Chittagong

A CORRESPONDENT

A two-daylong recitation festival, starting from July 23, was held at Shilpakala Academy auditorium in the port city. Aside from solo performances by six reciters, the festival also featured five productions by noted troupes from Dhaka and Chittagong. Local troupe 'Onarjo Onyoswar' presented its new production "Obonagobon" on the opening day. The production was based on the earliest known example of Bengali poetry, "Charjapad." Developed by Saymon Zakaria, the production was directed by Shirshendu Nandi.

titled "Nodir Rong Mochka Phooler Moto Lal" by Onarjo Onyoswar followed. Crises of modern-day life were the focal point of the production. Written by Mahub Morshed, the production was directed by Shirshendu Nandi. Noted reciters Mahidul Islam, Kazi Mahtab Sumon and Shirshendu Nandi also performed solos on the occasion. The highlight of the festival was a lively performance by TSC (Dhaka University)-based troupe Harbola. The group presented its production "Kalbelar Kalsrot" that won 'Swarokalpon Abritti Shommanona Podok' in 2002 as the best production of the year. The production focuses on the bleakness and hostility of present time. Despite having a rich cultural heritage, we are going through a sterile creative period. Orna Opunika depicted the hostile philology of time over the symbolic season of late autumn. Rashna Sharmin, Bibek Sumon, Abdullah Mamun, Shirin Shabnom Tania and Majumdar Biplob developed the production featuring five characters -- farmer, artist, woman, man and goddess. Majumdar Biplob directed the production.



Rashna Sharmin (top) and Bibek Sumon recite at the festival.



## Art camp on the occasion of Bengal Gallery's 10th anniversary



(From left) Hashem Khan, Qayyum Chowdhury, Anisuzzaman, Luva Nahid Chowdhury, Abul Hasnat and Subir Chowdhury at the press conference.

A CORRESPONDENT

On the occasion of its 10th anniversary, Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts will hold a cultural festival and art camp at Bengal Centre on Airport Road, Dhaka. Veteran and promising painters of Bangladesh and India will take part in the camp. The camp will start from July 29 and continue till August 1. The gallery has arranged a series of 10 exhibitions as part of the festival. The series of exhibitions is titled "Rooted Creativity" and features artworks of noted Bangladeshi painters who represent three generations. Over the last ten years, the gallery has held 182 art exhibitions, of which 130 were solos and 52, group shows. Among the Indian painters taking part in the art camp are, Jogen Chowdhury, Gonesh Haloi, Sunil Das, Robin Mondol, Lalu Prashad Sahu, Deepali Bhattacharya, Saminadra Nath

Majumdar, Nani Borpujari, Taposh Konar and Samir Aich. Painters Aminul Islam, Qayyum Chowdhury, Professor Emeritus Anisuzzaman and Professor Emeritus Jogen Chowdhury are set to inaugurate the art camp on July 29. Singers Chandana Majumdar, Auditi Mohsin, Labib Kamal, Mita Haq, Shama Rahman, Bulbul Islam, Iffat Ara Dewan, Mohiuzzaman Chowdhury and Laisa Ahmed Lisa will perform at the cultural programme on the occasion. A press conference was held yesterday at Bengal Gallery to address the art camp. Luva Nahid Chowdhury, director general of Bengal Foundation; Subir Chowdhury, director of Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts; Professor Emeritus Anisuzzaman; editor of Kali O Kalom Abul Hasnat; Sarwar Jahan, manager of Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts; artists Qayyum Chowdhury, Hashem Khan, among others, spoke at the conference.

## Debutant director takes a bow

Kiran Rao's film "Dhobi Ghat"



Aamir Khan and Kiran Rao

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi  
 A debutant director could not have asked for more than seeing a maiden effort being chosen for a prestigious international film festival. Bollywood superstar Aamir Khan's wife Kiran Rao's film "Dhobi Ghat" has got that distinction as it has been selected for the Toronto International Film Festival this year. Cameron Bailey, the festival's co-director, appears to be highly impressed with Rao's maiden directorial venture. As she said on Twitter: "Found a film in Bombay. If it hits you like it hit me, it will leave you drenched with emotions you can't quite name. Also met a talented new filmmaker you'll be seeing at #TIFF10." Rao's film, starring Aamir in the role of a painter and Prateek Babbar, son of the late

actress Smita Patil and actor-politician Raj Babbar, in lead roles, is set in locations in Mumbai. Aamir and Rao managed to rope in Hollywood's Academy award winning music director Gustavo Santaolalla to compose music for "Dhobi Ghat." Toronto Festival had in the past seen the international premiere of leading Indian directors including Buddhadeb Dasgupta and Mira Nair. And now Kiran Rao, who had assisted Ashutosh Gowariker in "Lagaan," also starring Aamir, and Mira Nair in her "Monsoon Wedding" is already in the big league. It may be recalled that the Aamir Khan-produced "Peepli Live" by another debutant director Anusha Rizvi was recently screened at the Sundance and Berlin international film fests. "Dhobi Ghat" is likely to be released in India later this year.

## Reception for GPA-5 achievers

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Prothom Alo Bandhushobha, Pabna organised a discussion and cultural programme at a reception for GPA-5 achievers. The programme was held at Pabna Doal Community Centre on Friday. President of Pabna Bondhushova, Samsunnahar Borna chaired the discussion. Among the guests who spoke were educationist Professor Monwar Hossain Jahedi, Mohammad Akteruzzaman, Assistant Pro-

fessor of Pabna Women's College, Pabna district correspondent of Prothom Alo, Sarwar Ullash, secretary of Bondhushobha Mostafizur Rahman Russell and cultural activist Gopal Shannal. The speakers emphasised the need for the students to forge ahead and nourish knowledge and intellect. Artistes performed music, dance, recitation on the occasion. The students who were accorded a reception vowed to build their lives on a firm foundation through their intellect.