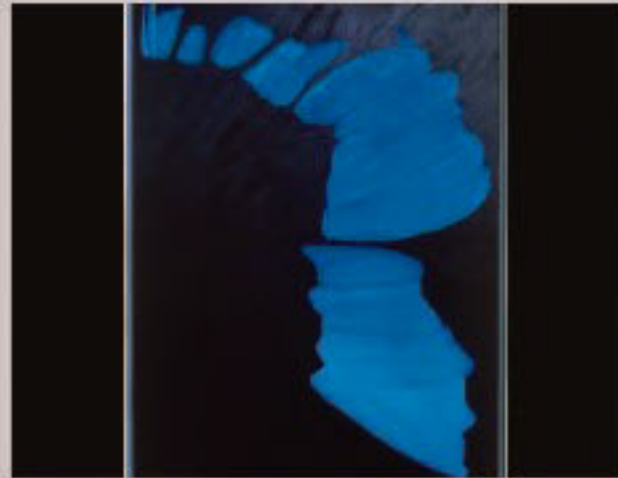


WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

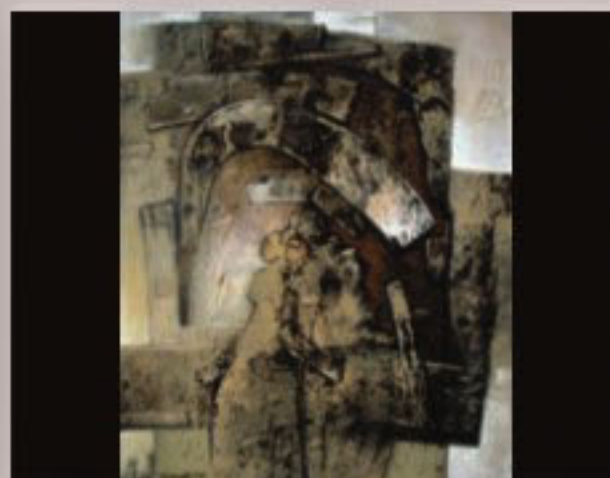
Solo Art Exhibition

Title: The Wing
Artist: Murtaja Baseer
Venue: Galleria Kaya, H-20, R-16 Sector 4, Uttara
Date: September 25-October 10
Time: 10am-8pm



Group Art Exhibition

Venue: Radius Centre, Bay's Galleria
Date: September 24-October 8
Time: 10am-8pm



Solo Painting Exhibition

Title: Nepotism
Artist: Srijon Chowdhury
Venue: La Galerie, H 7B, Rd 13, Gulshan
Date: September 24-October 8
Time: 12-8pm



Solo Art Exhibition

Title: Over Loaded
Artist: Ayesha Siddiqui (Pakistan)
Venue: Drik Gallery, H 58, Rd 15A (New), Dhanmondi
Date: Sept 30-Oct 4
Time: 3-8pm



Great gig for a great cause

Concert for Sundarbans rocks thousands



Concert for Sundarbans was held to create awareness and to collect votes for the largest mangrove forest to become one of the seven new natural wonders of the world.

JAMIL MAHMUD

After a long gap, on October 1 Army Stadium rocked to the riffs of some of the leading band icons of the country. The occasion: "Concert for Sundarbans", one of the biggest musical extravaganzas of recent times. This time country's rockers gathered together for a great cause-- to create awareness and to collect votes for the Sundarbans-- the largest mangrove forest of the world-- to become one of the seven new natural wonders of the world. Bangladesh Musical Bands' Association (BAMBA) in cooperation with Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation arranged the gig, which featured 15 prominent and upcoming bands. The gig started at 3pm

though the audience had trickled into the venue a couple of hours earlier.

The first phase of the concert, which ran until the evening, featured upcoming bands such as Drik, Trap, Nemesis, Power Surge, Mechanix and Arbovirus. Amongst the bands, Arbovirus sang their known numbers "Omanush" and "Obhishap".

The evening break was a respite for the spectators. After a great beginning they geared up to be rocked by their favourite bands, beginning with 'Guru' famed James and his band Nagar Baul.

James is now far from his heyday popularity, yet fans' affectionate cheering of the name 'Guru' reminded one of his old days. At the concert James rocked the audience

most, coincidentally, with his heyday songs such as "Lais Fita Lais", "Mannan Miar Titas Molom", "Sultana Bibiyana" and "Dushtu Chhelel Dal".

A formal announcement was made after James' departure. Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister GM Quader and Secretary of the Ministry Shafique Alam Mehdi spoke to the audience. Both of them urged the audience as well as countrymen to vote for the Sundarbans.

The gig resumed shortly after the formal announcement, as Shironamhin took the stage with its new keyboardist Russel. The band started with "Bondho Janala" and sang four more numbers including "Pakhi", "Ochin Pakhi" and "Ichche Ghuri". Tanzir Tuhin's vocal is always special for fans to sing along

with and they did not miss the chance.

James and Shironamhin had the audience shouting for more rock n' roll; this time they yelled the names Artcell and Warfaze. Artcell did not frustrate them. The youth's favourite band performed four pure rock items. Their performance included "Onno Shomoy" and "Dukkho Bilash". The band also sang the rock version of the popular Nazrul Sangeet "Durgom Giri Kantar Moru".

If Artcell's performance was an oasis in the sand then Warfaze's performance was frustrating. The reputed and one of the most popular bands of the country took the stage without its prominent members-- Komol and Tipu. Although they announced that Tipu was absent

due to an ailment, Komol's absence was ambiguous. Moreover, the band performed only one number, "Tomakey", with Oni on an acoustic guitar! "Tomakey" is one of two new songs from its compilation album "Poth Chola".

Miles, Maq O Dhaka, Feedback, Dalchhut and LRB were the remaining bands of the gig. The after-Shafin era of Miles did not start well, as the absence of the former vocalist and bassist of the band was apparent. Yet Miles tried to rock the audience with Hamin Ahmed on vocal.

A few of Miles' hit oldies and Maqsood's rendition of his Feedback hit "Melay Jairey" made the crowd cheer up somewhat. Later Feedback also sang the number "Melay Jairey".

Heritage: Boats race through the Jamuna

MIRZA SHAKIL, Tangail

A traditional boat race was held in Jamuna River at Sadar upazila of Tangail on Friday, amidst much festivity.

People of Tangail Sadar upazila and Chowhali upazila in Sirajganj jointly organised the boat race on the river at Degree Hugra area where about 100 small and large boats from the area and outside took part in the race in different categories.

Fisheries and Livestock Resources Minister Abdul Latif Biswas inaugurated the event as the chief guest.

Among others, Jubo League Central Leader Mamunur Rashid Mamun; Tangail Sadar Upazila Chairman Abdur Rashid Lebu; Additional Superintendent of Police in Sirajganj Delwar Hossain attended the event as special guests. Later, the guests distributed prizes among the winners of the boat race.

The boat of Salam Kuti of Nagarpur



Thousands gathered on the banks of the Jamuna River to enjoy the traditional event.

upazila in Tangail was awarded the first prize in the event in the large boat category.

Thousands of people, both locals and outsiders, gathered on the banks of the Jamuna River to enjoy the traditional event.

A village fair was also arranged on the river bank.

Housewife Hasina Begum said she came every year to her father's house at the adjacent Anohola village with her husband and children to join in the festivities.

Russian Centre observes 80th anniversary of Tagore's visit to Russia

A programme to remember

September 29 saw a huge turnout at the Russian Centre of Science and Culture in Dhanmondi in Dhaka where a programme was organised by the Bangladesh-Russia Friendship Society to mark the 80th anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore's visit to Russia, says a press release.

Renowned Bangladeshi writer, poet Syed Shamsul Haq and president of the Bangladesh-Russia Friendship Society presided over the function. Yury Makarov of the Cultural Department, Russian Embassy in Dhaka gave a short account of Rabindranath Tagore's visits and meetings in Russia. Actor and managing director of Desh TV Asaduzzaman Nur MP and general secretary, Bangladesh-Russia Friendship society gave the vote of thanks.

Members of the literary organisation "Jion Kanthi" staged a play based on Tagore's "Letters from Russia". The show was staged by a young scholar of Russian literature and sub-editor of Prothom Alo Zahid Reza Noor.

The beautiful renditions by noted singer Mita Haq enthralled the audi-



Mita Haq sings at the programme.

ence, while aspiring students of the Dance Department of Bangladesh Academy of Fine Arts gave magical dances performances, choreographed by of their teacher Farhana Chowdhury Baby.

The programme was also attended by Russian diplomats and students of Russian School in Dhaka. The School principal Gennady Savransky told our correspondent that his student were spellbound by the splendors of Bangladeshi culture.

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We wish all the best-

DR. K F HUDA, CEO- VISA GROUP

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