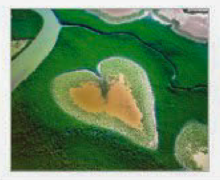
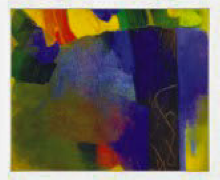
## WHAT'S ON



**Aerial Photography**
Photographer: Yann Arthus-Bertrand
Venue: National Parliament
Date: Dec 19-Feb 19



**Solo Art Exhibition**
Artist: Hashem Khan
Venue: Nalinikanta Bhattoshali Gallery, National Museum
Date: Dec 18-Jan 2
Time: 12pm-8pm

**Bulbul Chowdhury Mela 2011**
Venues: BSA Premises; Dhaka, Manikganj and Chittagong
Date: Jan 1-7

**Solo Tapestry Exhibition**
Artist: Tajul Islam
Venue: Shilpangan Gallery, H-26, R-3, Dhanmondi
Date: Jan 3-14
Time: 12pm-8pm

**Calligraphy Exhibition**
Artist: Murtaja Baseer
Venue: HSBC Amanah, Gulshan-2
Date: Dec 15-31
Time: 10am-7pm

**Solo Art Exhibition**
Artist: Swapan Chowdhury
Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, R-7 A, H-60. Dhanmondi
Date: Dec 15-31
Time: 11am-8pm

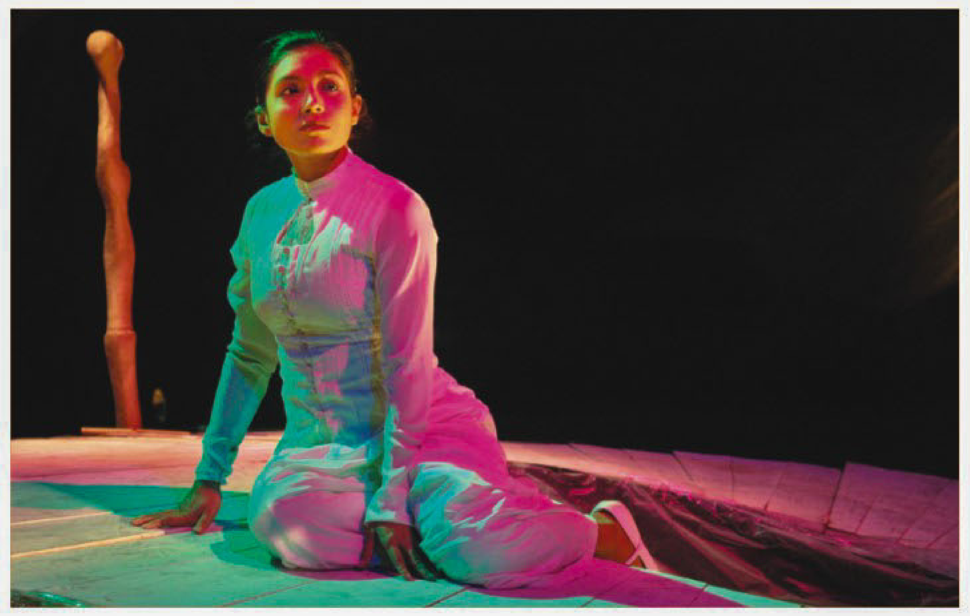
**Photography Exhibition 2010**
Venue: Drik Gallery, H-58, Rd-15A (New), Dhanmondi
Date: Dec 27-31

**Rooted Creativity 7**
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, H-275/F, Rd-16 (New), Dhanmondi
Date: Dec 31-Jan 9
Time: 12-8pm

**Jugpurti Utshab 2010-11**
Organiser: Fame School of Dance, Drama and Music
Venue: Theatre Institute, Chittagong
Date: December 31-January 4

# Bringing the Stage to Life

## Theatre artistes share bright moments of 2010



**Clockwise (from top-left): A scene from "Banglar Mati Banglar Jol" directed by Ataur Rahman; Reetu Sattar in "Punarjanmo"; Ataur Rahman; Deepak Suman in "Shylock and Sycophants"; Shahadat Hossain as the 'Communicator' and Traupa Majumdar in "Baramkhana".**

PHOTO: MUMIT M.

JAMIL MAHMUD

2010 was a remarkable year for theatre. Several new productions by theatre troupes, along with popular plays from the previous years, were regularly staged throughout the year. Most of the new plays enjoyed success and earned positive response from the critics. In the later part of the year, productions such as "Banglar Mati Banglar Jol" (Palakar) and "Baramkhana" (Theatre) premiered and were received well by the audience. The plays presented Rabindranath Tagore and Fakir Lalon Shai as central characters. "Mohajoner Nao" by Subachan Natya Shangshad on the life of Baul Shah Abdul Karim was another talked about play last year.

Apart from these, Natya Kendra's "Dalimkumar", Shomoy Sangskritik Gosthi's "Shesh Sanglaap", Theatre's (Arambagh) "Jonmoshutro", Desh Natok's "Prakrito Purangana", Nagarik Natyangan's "Pussycat O Ekjon Prokrito Manush", Aranyak Natyadal's "Iti Jocasta" and "To Be Or Not To Be", Padatik Natya Sangsad's "Jalomanko", Nagarik Natyasampraday's "Ghashiram Kotwal", Theatre Art Unit's "Mogoj Shamachar" and Theatrewala repertory production "Shylock and Sycophants" were notable new productions in 2010.

Along with seasoned activists, several young members from different troupes came under the limelight last year and showcased their talents in direction, acting, playwriting, music direction, set and light designing.

**The Daily Star** talked to some noted and up and coming theatre activists, who shared memorable moments of 2010, and provided glimpses of what to expect in 2011.

**Ataur Rahman [Nagarik Natyasampraday]**

Veteran theatre personality Ataur Rahman directed the play "Banglar Mati Banglar Jol", which highlights Rabindranath Tagore as the protagonist. Palakar, a troupe that according to Rahman comprises of young and energetic members, produced the play. Rahman's other accomplishments in 2010 included his directorial work "Opekkhoman" (Nagarik production) staged as part of the competition segment at the 22nd International Festival for Experimental Theatre in Cairo, Egypt. Syed Shamsul Haq wrote both plays. Another feather in Rahman's hat (also the president of ITI Bangladesh centre) was successfully arranging the ITI Theatre Festival.

This year, Rahman plans to resurrect his acclaimed play "Rakto Karobi" with Naila Tarannum Kakoli [replacing Aupi Karim] as Nandini. He wants to see the 100th show of the play [so far it has had 91 shows] this year. Moreover, Rahman plans to direct Sachin Sengupta's history-based play "Siraj-ud-Daula" and Samuel Beckett's "Waiting for Godot" this year. The latter would have an all-female cast. He is also writing a book [assigned by Bangla Academy] on Tagore's thoughts on theatre.

**Traupa Majumdar [Theatre]**

Traupa Majumdar's directorial work "Baramkhana" [for her troupe] was one of the much-acclaimed plays of 2010. Pantho Shahriar wrote the play, based on Sunil Gangopadhyay's fictional work "Moner Manush" that features the life and works of Lalon. In the play, Traupa showcases the contemporary milieu at Lalon's *akhra* in Chheuria, Kushtia. Traupa termed her directorial experiences as challenging, as she had to transform an extensive work into a two-hour play. She also performed the role of Sutradhar in the play. Throughout the year, Traupa also featured in one of Theatre's acclaimed and old plays "Meraj Fakirer Ma", as an actor.

This year, Traupa wants to give more efforts, collectively with others, to her troupe. Traupa also sees 2010 as a good year for theatre, as many quality productions made their debuts.

**Shahadat Hossain [Centre for Asian Theatre]**

The Centre for Asian Theatre (CAT) lead actor enjoyed success in 2010. He, along with Udichi's Anowarul Haque, received SM Solaiman Motivation Award last year as recognition of their talents. Hossain was featured in CAT's major productions "The Communicator" and "Bhelua Shudori" that were regularly staged throughout 2010. Hossain played protagonists in both plays. Although "Communicator" was staged regularly in Dhaka, "Bhelua Shudori" travelled across the country as well at overseas festivals.

Hossain said that, besides acting, he would direct two plays this year; one is based on the life of the Greek philosopher Socrates and the other is a traditional folk drama. Oboyob Natyadal and Shattik Natyasampraday will produce the plays respectively.

**Reetu A Sattar [Prachyanat]**

Reetu started last year through performing in the repertory production "Bisharjan". Naila Azad Nupur was the director of the Tagore play. Theatrewala repertory production "Shylock and Sycophants" was another play, where the Prachyanat actress was featured as a lead character. Reetu said that performing in "Shylock and Sycophants" was a unique experience. The play is directed by Azad Abul Kalam. Reetu was also busy with her troupe's productions "Punarjanmo", "Circus Circus" and "Koinna" throughout last year.

The year 2011 would be more productive, hopes Reetu. She plans to direct a Prachyanat School production this year. She also wants to showcase her skills as a costume designer and wants to work as an assistant director for her troupe.

**Deepak Suman [Aranyak Natyadal]**

This young actor-director had a very busy year in 2010. Last year he had been regularly featured in Aranyak productions. He had his directorial debut through Aranyak's experimental work "Iti Jocasta" in 2010. Suman also wrote the play, based on the Greek epic "Oedipus". Amongst Aranyak's ongoing productions staged last year, Suman featured in "Ebong Bidyasagar" and "Raraang". Suman is a regular cast-member of "Raraang" and had performed in all of the 99 shows. He also performed in "Shylock and Sycophants".

In 2011, the young theatre activist promises to work more, with passion and enthusiasm. He plans to write and direct a folk adaptation of Tarashankar Bandopadhyay's "Kobi". Moreover, he will feature in Aranyak's upcoming play "Rother Roshi" that would be directed by seasoned director-actor Mamunur Rashid.

# Promoting Aspiring Dancers

## Emerging young artistes perform at Shilpakala Academy

ZAHANGIR ALOM

PHOTO: MUMIT M.

The Music and Dance Department of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) held its annual dance show at its auditorium in Dhaka on December 30. The programme featured promising dancers from different schools of the capital and other districts.

Choreographed by Shamima Aktar Jahan, Basneen Haseen Meem kicked off the event with a classical Manipuri piece. A folk dance by Palash Sarkar followed.

> *The programme featured promising dancers from different schools of the capital and other districts.*

With a traditional song, Nasreen Akhter Lucky and Bushra Mehnaz Priyanka presented two contemporary dances. Kabirul Islam Ratan choreographed the compositions.

A Kathak piece choreographed by Saju Ahmed was staged by emerging dancer Benjir Mohaimen. Tazbita Mariama performed Chhau dance. Dance guru Belayet Hossain Khan choreographed the Chhau presentation.

Featuring Deepa Khandakar's choreography, Bonhi Das Nishu and Suman Ahmed presented a duet to poetry recitation. Tamanna Rahman choreographed a piece performed by Radia Meem.

Choreographed by dancer Shibli Mohammad, a Kathak performance by Anika Hossain was remarkable. Anika presented 'tarana' of the genre. Her grammar seemed accurate, and expressions, animated.

Deepika Chakrobarti and Laila Yasmin Labonya performed two dances to the Rabindra and Nazrul Sangeet -- "Mon Mor Megh-er Shongi" and "Rumjhum Rumajhuma Ke Bajaye". Deepika's basic 'mudra' seemed standard, but the young dancer was a bit fidgety while performing.

Prior to the performances, director of Music and Dance Department of BSA, RA Mahmud Selim spoke at the event. He also directed the programme. Rehana Parveen anchored the event.

# Yesterday Once More…

## A confluence of art forms

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

It has been an eventful 2010 on the cultural front -- a flurry of events, be it in the spheres of theatre, films, dance, art or music. Though Dhaka was the centre of most of these happenings, in a relatively new phenomenon we had the privilege of seeing many of our talented cultural personalities making a mark in the international arena as well.

This was particularly true of the film circuit where many leading directors walked away with awards or emerged as serious contenders at film festivals.

Theatre was of course another area of excellence. We had many of our productions to boast of but we also adapted or translated famous international plays. Several of our theatre works made it to international forum and won much acclaim. Art and music too cut across national borders.

Cultural exchange was the order of the day, with talented cultural personalities from India and elsewhere regaling Dhaka audiences, while our own artistes were highly visible overseas.

On the home front, we reached out to outlying towns like Mymensingh, Barisal, Bogra, Dinajpur and Rajshahi which offered the reader a welcome opportunity to update themselves with cultural events outside the capital.

Then there was a move towards cultural revival of indigenous art forms which we brought to the forefront in our section of the newspaper. One of the indicators was the recent move to revive the indigenous 'lathi-khela', a traditional Bangladeshi martial art form which is in danger of dying out.

Street theatre in and outside Dhaka conveyed important social messages -- against sexual harassment, dowry, child marriage and other social scourges.

All in all it's been a year of change and growth culturally. And 2011 promises to be even better. So, stay with us and stay connected.

**There has been a move towards cultural revival of indigenous art forms which we brought to the forefront in our section of the newspaper.** PHOTO: MUMIT M.

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All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme.

**ATN BANGLA**
02:40 Bangla Feature Film
06:15 Shustha Thakun
10:45 Bihango Katha
12:30 Grameenphone Lead News

**CHANNEL i**
01:05 Bangla Feature Film: Bachelor
06:20 Bideshey Bishisto Bangali
09:35 Hridoye Mati O Manush
12:00 Grameenphone Ajker Shangbadpotro

**ntv**
12:50 Shastha Protidin
04:10 Gallery
06:45 Shongskriti Ei Shaptaho
07:20 Sholoana Bangaliana
09:00 Busyder Easy Show

**ETV**
11:30 Best of Spondon
04:30 Dhaka Fashion Week
06:30 Vobo Gure Dot Com
07:50 Otopor Ami
12:02 Banglalink Ekusher Raat

**RTV**
12:05 Protidin-er Gaan
02:30 Drama
04:30 Prithibir Pothey Pothey
05:00 Drama
06:00 Beautiful Bangladesh
11:45 Jegey Achho Ki

**BANGLAVISION**
12:05 Style File
03:05 Bangla Feature Film
06:10 Front Line
09:10 Garbo: Gao Pran Khuley Gao
11:30 Art Show: Laal Golap
12:30 Boshudha Cinema'r Gaan

**DESH TV**
03:00 Bangla Feature Film
07:45 Desh Top Chat
11:45 Shoja Kotha
12:30 Total Sports

**Diganta TV**
12:30 Score Cards
05:30 School Angina

06:30 Aparajita
11:05 Desh Mahadesh
11:30 Shindhu Hindol

**Z Studio**
10:30 Cars
01:05 The Invisible
03:25 Snake Eyes
05:35 Wedding Daze
07:30 Kiss of the Dragon
09:30 Invincible
11:50 Unbreakable

**HBO**
08:30 Terror Trap
10:30 Without a Paddle
12:30 2012
03:45 Watchmen
07:15 Madagascar 2
09:30 Robocop 2
12:15 Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix

**Star World**
09:00 The Bold and The Beautiful
09:30 Royal Pains
07:30 Castle
08:30 Victoria's Secret Fashion Show 2010
09:30 Trauma

**National Geographic Channel**
09:30 Great Migrations
10:30 Space Special
12:30 Nat Geo Women's Hour
03:30 True Stories
06:30 Fight Science
08:30 Nat Geo Weekends

**Discovery Channel**
10:30 Destroyed in Seconds
11:00 Million 2 One
03:30 Worst Case Scenario
04:30 A Haunting
06:30 Day of the Shark II
07:30 Clash of the Dinosaurs

**BBC World**
11:00 BBC World News
11:30 Middle East Business Report
02:10 Pick of the Year
04:00 BBC World News
07:15 Sport Today
07:30 Spirit of Yachting
09:00 BBC World News

### RADIO

**abc radio 89.2**
12:25 Standard Chartered-The Daily Star Jiboner Joygaan
03:00 Duranto Bikeley
05:00 Shondhatara
07:00 Shajer Maya
09:00 Raat-er Akashey
11:00 Golper Shesh Nei

**RADIO FOORTI**
02:00 Foorti Unlimited
06:00 Bumper to Bumper
10:00 Back to Back music

**RADIO TODAY**
11:00 Masti Unlimited
01:00 Today's World Music
04:00 U Turn
08:00 Tobey Tai Hok

**Bachelor**
On Channel i at 01:05pm
Bangla Feature Film
Directed by Mostafa Sarwar Farooki

**Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix**
On HBO at 12:15pm
Genre: Adventure/Fantasy
Cast: Daniel Radcliffe, Emma Watson

**Life Is Beautiful**
On Rtv at 09:20pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Shahed Sharif Khan, Kushum Shikdar

### DRAMA SERIAL

**ATN BANGLA**
08:00pm Projapoti Mon
08:40pm Uposhonghar
09:20pm Lilaboti

**Channel i**
07:50pm Choita Pagol
10:00pm Ural Ponkhi Mon

**ntv**
08:15pm Graduate

**ETV**
09:30pm Bhabi

**Rtv**
07:45pm Beauty Parlour
09:20pm Life Is Beautiful

### NEWS BULLETIN

BTV
News (Bangla) at 8:00 am 2:00 pm.5:00 pm.8:00 pm.
News (English) at 10:00am, 4:00 pm, 10:00 pm.
Late Night News (Bangla and English) 11:30 pm. (To be telecast on all Bangla channels).
CHANNEL-i
News (Bangla): 7:00 am, 9:00 am, 2:00 pm, 9:00 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:30 am
ATN BANGLA
NEWS (Bangla): 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11:00 pm, 1:00 am, 4:00 am
01:00pm, 3:00pm, 04:00pm
News (English): 9:00 am, 6:00 pm.

BANGLAVISION
News (Bangla) at 7:30am. 1:30pm. 5:00pm. 7:15pm. 10:30pm.
News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00am. 12:00am. 4:00pm.
News (English) at 6:00pm
Rtv
News (Bangla): 2:30 pm, 4:30 pm, 6:30 pm, 8:30 pm, 10:30 pm, 12:30 am
ntv
News (Bangla):7:30am, 12:02pm, 2:00pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm, 1:00am
ETV
News (Bangla): 9:00am, 11:00 am, 1:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 11:00pm

### TALK SHOW

**ATN Bangla**
09:15am Asian City Vision 2020
10:30am Hello Bangladesh

**Channel i**
09:45am Grameenphone Tritiomatra
11:05am Amader Aayna
12:10pm Citycell Taroka Kathan

**ntv**
12:30am Ei Shomoy

**ETV**
10:10pm Galpo Shalpo Gaan

**Rtv**
10:45am Bashudha Tarokalap