

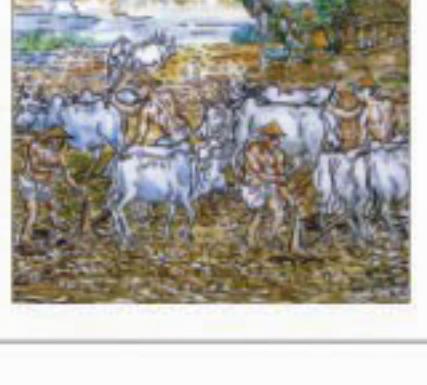
## WHAT'S ON

## Documentary Screening



Documentary: The Speech  
Venue: SUST Auditorium, Sylhet  
Date: April 26  
Time: 5:30pm

## Grand Group Art



Exhibition  
Venue: Sajal Art Gallery, DCC Market, Gulshan-2  
Date: April 1-30  
Time: 10am-8pm

## Solo Photo Exhibition



Title: A Dream of Venice  
Photographer: Stephan Rabold  
Venue: Geetha Institut, H 10, Shondhatal  
Date: April 15-May 10  
Time: 10am-8pm

## Dhaka Street Theatre Fest



Organizer: Patho Natok  
Parishad  
Venue: Central Shaheed Minar  
Date: April 19-25  
Time: 4pm onwards

## Solo Musical Soiree



Artist: Laisa Ahmed Lisa  
Venue: IGCC, H-24, R-2, Dhammomi  
Date: April 22  
Time: 6:30pm

## Solo Photo Exhibition



Photographer: Bishu Nandi  
Venue: Creative Destination, H 20, Rd 1, Sec 3, Uttara  
Date: April 16-20  
Time: 3-8pm



## PROMOTING RURAL CRAFTSMANSHIP

## BSCIC Baishakhi Fair at Bangla Academy



## JAMIL MAHMUD

On the occasion of Pahela Baishakh, Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (BSCIC) arranges a fair every year. The fair has no particular assigned venue; this year it is being held at the Bangla Academy premises in

impressive turnout everyday. Metal craftsman Manik Sarkar, who is participating at the fair for the first time, said that the turnout is more than his expectation but sales are not satisfactory. Sarkar said the reason behind this might be the prices of his items. He sells bronze and copper items - prices of which range from Tk 100 to 30,000. Metal jugs, mugs, plates, showpieces, miniature statues are main attractions at Sarkar's stall.

"The prices of raw materials

have gone up so much that sometimes I think I should quit this profession," said Sarkar. Who has a shop at Mahakali, Dhaka. Sarkar said that authorities should take necessary steps immediately to save this craft.

To encourage the rural artisans, every year the metro authority sets apart a space for them. This year, 10 such stalls have been allocated. The stalls feature artisans' works

involving bamboo, wood, shola, jute, cotton etc.

Amal Malakar of Magura is one of the artisans who work on shola (cork). Malakar said that he has been attending the fair every year since its beginning. His items include handmade fans, artificial flowers, necklace, birds etc.

Malakar has a retail and wholesale business in Magura that run quite well. This is his ancestral profession.

Apart from the beautiful handicrafts, bonus attractions are daily cultural programmes (at the Nazrul Mancha); puppet show; nagor dol and merry-go-round.

A ticket to the puppet show costs Tk 20; the show runs for 30 minutes.

BSCIC's initiative of promoting these traditional items at the heart of the metropolis is commendable. But many of the artisans feel that the authorities should be more sincere and committed to them.

The fair is open everyday from 10am to 8pm.

jilapi, shondesh are also available at the fair. A stall is selling these delicious sweet treats, priced at Tk 160-200 per kg.

A couple of stalls also feature items from the sea - shell necklace, showpieces made of coral etc. The artisans are from Cox's Bazar.

Apart from the beautiful handicrafts, bonus attractions are daily cultural programmes (at the Nazrul Mancha); puppet show; nagor dol and merry-go-round.

A ticket to the puppet show costs Tk 20; the show runs for 30 minutes.

BSCIC's initiative of promoting these traditional items at the heart of the metropolis is commendable. But many of the artisans feel that the authorities should be more sincere and committed to them.

The fair is open everyday from 10am to 8pm.

Beauty Begum from Pirogacha, Rangpur is another rural artisan who produces jute and cotton-based items. She offers everyday household objects such as table-cloth and floor mat. Beauty said that nearly 200 artisans work at her small industry, most of whom are rural women. Like Malakar, she also has a wholesale and retail business in Pirogacha.

Traditional Baishakhi food items such as batasha, kodma,

shondesh are also available at the fair. A stall is selling these delicious sweet treats, priced at Tk 160-200 per kg.

A couple of stalls also feature items from the sea - shell necklace, showpieces made of coral etc. The artisans are from Cox's Bazar.

Apart from the beautiful handicrafts, bonus attractions are daily cultural programmes (at the Nazrul Mancha); puppet show; nagor dol and merry-go-round.

A ticket to the puppet show costs Tk 20; the show runs for 30 minutes.

BSCIC's initiative of promoting these traditional items at the heart of the metropolis is commendable. But many of the artisans feel that the authorities should be more sincere and committed to them.

The fair is open everyday from 10am to 8pm.

## Parvathy Baul: Meditation in Motion

## KAVITA, New Delhi

At a recent concert in New Delhi, Parvathy Baul sang and danced with the minimal folk instruments -- ektaara, duggi (a clay drum) and nupur (anklets). Though Bangladesh and West Bengal are well acquainted with Bauls like Parvathy, her performance in New Delhi left the audience somewhat mystified. While droves of people were seen leaving the auditorium, Parvathy managed to keep the rest in thrall despite the language barrier.

"Bauls do not perform so much as make a journey. I call it meditation in motion because while it looks like a lot of movement, the process of all the singing is to arrive at the point of stillness," says the 34-year-old Parvathy.

On the heels of her Delhi performance, Parvathy was to wing her way for a concert in Singapore. As for the future, she plans to travel a little in the villages of Madhya Pradesh in central India to learn about the music traditions of the Nathas (closely associated with Kabir, the ancient mystic poet-saint of India). Later she is to perform in Pondicherry in South India, before going on to distant Canada and Switzerland.

Parvathy -- singer, painter and storyteller -- calls herself a wanderer on a never-ending road. For her it has been a doubly pitted road because she is one of the few women to adopt the Baul way of life and style of singing. "I wanted to take the path of 'sadhana', the world of expression," she explains.

Based in the Nedumangad village in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, South India, where she lives with her puppeteer husband, she spent her early years in West Bengal. Though Mousumi Parial, as she was then known could have lived a cushy existence, 12 years ago she decided to travel to meet masters of Bengali music traditions as part of her search for Baul songs and its practice. She had two main guides or what she calls 'vidya' (knowledge) gurus: Sanatan Das Baul from Bankura district in West Bengal and Shashank Goswami who left his earthly body at the age of 100.

The conversation switched to a comparison of the Baul songs in West Bengal and Bangladesh. While Baul music in West Bengal and Bangladesh has similarities, she says, there is a point of departure. A West Bengal Baul song, she points out, has a lot of 'prabhat' or influence of Bhaivari and the dance is much more active because the Bauls have a strong tradition of the devotional Padabali Kirtan. On the other hand, Baul songs in Bangladesh trace their origin to Bhatiali (boatman's songs), she says.

"Baul music requires a lot of hard work. Finally you arrive at a point when everything becomes simple and as natural as drinking water," she concludes.



## Manoj Murali and Santanu Bandopadhyay to perform at IGCC

## A CORRESPONDENT

Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre (IGCC), High Commission of India, Dhaka is holding a musical soiree featuring Rabindra Sangeet by Manoj Murali Nair and Hindustani classical vocal music by Santanu Bandopadhyay today at 6:30pm. The programme will be held at IGCC in Gulshan.

Manoj Murali Nair has established himself as an exponent of Rabindra Sangeet. Originally from

South India, Manoj has earned a reputation for moving his audience through his soulful renditions of Rabindra Sangeet. The artiste spent his early years in Shantiniketan and graduated in Indian classical music from Visva Bharati University.

Santanu Bandopadhyay received primary training in Hindustani classical music from his late grandfather and father. He studied vocal music (particularly Khayal) from the Rabindra Bharati University in Kolkata.

## The Daily Star

Standard Chartered

Celebrating Life 2011

## Film Making Workshop

Celebrating Life 2011 has been launched again in all three categories: Film, Photography and Lyrics. But the theme of the year has been changed including the budget film category.

The quality of participation and the banner of the festival is in its 4th year, and over the last three, the organizers have come to realize that despite an immense interest in film making, there is a lack of interest in film making. Therefore, in 2011, the film and the lyrics components will include workshops prior to the contest in order to enable creative minds to be able to produce better and more professional films and songs.

The overarching theme for Celebrating Life 2011 is 'Celebrate the Gift of Nature and the Rivers of Bangladesh'.

About the film workshop

For the month of July to September 2011, three media personalities will serve as the resource persons for film making workshops. The workshops will not only be theoretical, but will also include actual productions in the last month. Three groups will produce three films, under the closer supervision and direction of the resource persons themselves.

The participants of these workshops will learn the process of professional film making step by step. The three resource persons for the Celebrating Life 2011 Film Making Workshops are Amitabh Reza, Nurul Alam Aqiq and Mebsa Ur Rahman Sumon.

The participants of these workshops will learn the process of professional film making step by step. The three resource persons for the Celebrating Life 2011 Film Making Workshops are Amitabh Reza, Nurul Alam Aqiq and Mebsa Ur Rahman Sumon.

The participants of these workshops will learn the process of professional film making step by step. The three resource persons for the Celebrating Life 2011 Film Making Workshops are Amitabh Reza, Nurul Alam Aqiq and Mebsa Ur Rahman Sumon.

The participants of these workshops will learn the process of professional film making step by step. The three resource persons for the Celebrating Life 2011 Film Making Workshops are Amitabh Reza, Nurul Alam Aqiq and Mebsa Ur Rahman Sumon.

The participants of these workshops will learn the process of professional film making step by step. The three resource persons for the Celebrating Life 2011 Film Making Workshops are Amitabh Reza, Nurul Alam Aqiq and Mebsa Ur Rahman Sumon.

The participants of these workshops will learn the process of professional film making step by step. The three resource persons for the Celebrating Life 2011 Film Making Workshops are Amitabh Reza, Nurul Alam Aqiq and Mebsa Ur Rahman Sumon.

The participants of these workshops will learn the process of professional film making step by step. The three resource persons for the Celebrating Life 2011 Film Making Workshops are Amitabh Reza, Nurul Alam Aqiq and Mebsa Ur Rahman Sumon.

The participants of these workshops will learn the process of professional film making step by step. The three resource persons for the Celebrating Life 2011 Film Making Workshops are Amitabh Reza, Nurul Alam Aqiq and Mebsa Ur Rahman Sumon.

The participants of these workshops will learn the process of professional film making step by step. The three resource persons for the Celebrating Life 2011 Film Making Workshops are Amitabh Reza, Nurul Alam Aqiq and Mebsa Ur Rahman Sumon.

The participants of these workshops will learn the process of professional film making step by step. The three resource persons for the Celebrating Life 2011 Film Making Workshops are Amitabh Reza, Nurul Alam Aqiq and Mebsa Ur Rahman Sumon.

The participants of these workshops will learn the process of professional film making step by step. The three resource persons for the Celebrating Life 2011 Film Making Workshops are Amitabh Reza, Nurul Alam Aqiq and Mebsa Ur Rahman Sumon.

The participants of these workshops will learn the process of professional film making step by step. The three resource persons for the Celebrating Life 2011 Film Making Workshops are Amitabh Reza, Nurul Alam Aqiq and Mebsa Ur Rahman Sumon.

The participants of these workshops will learn the process of professional film making step by step. The three resource persons for the Celebrating Life 2011 Film Making Workshops are Amitabh Reza, Nurul Alam Aqiq and Mebsa Ur Rahman Sumon.

The participants of these workshops will learn the process of professional film making step by step. The three resource persons for the Celebrating Life 2011 Film Making Workshops are Amitabh Reza, Nurul Alam Aqiq and Mebsa Ur Rahman Sumon.

The participants of these workshops will learn the process of professional film making step by step. The three resource persons for the Celebrating Life 2011 Film Making Workshops are Amitabh Reza, Nurul Alam Aqiq and Mebsa Ur Rahman Sumon.

The participants of these workshops will learn the process of professional film making step by step. The three resource persons for the Celebrating Life 2011 Film Making Workshops are Amitabh Reza, Nurul Alam Aqiq and Mebsa Ur Rahman Sumon.

The participants of these workshops will learn the process of professional film making step by step. The three resource persons for the Celebrating Life 2011 Film Making Workshops are Amitabh Reza, Nurul Alam Aqiq and Mebsa Ur Rahman Sumon.

The participants of these workshops will learn the process of professional film making step by step. The three resource persons for the Celebrating Life 2011 Film Making Workshops are Amitabh Reza, Nurul Alam Aqiq and Mebsa Ur Rahman Sumon.

The participants of these workshops will learn the process of professional film making step by step. The three resource persons for the Celebrating Life 2011 Film Making Workshops are Amitabh Reza, Nurul Alam Aqiq and Mebsa Ur Rahman Sumon.

The participants of these workshops will learn the process of professional film making step by step. The three resource persons for the Celebrating Life 2011 Film Making Workshops are Amitabh Reza, Nurul Alam Aqiq and Mebsa Ur Rahman Sumon.

The participants of these workshops will learn the process of professional film making step by step. The three resource persons for the Celebrating Life 2011 Film Making Workshops are Amitabh Reza, Nurul Alam Aqiq and Mebsa Ur Rahman Sumon.

The participants of these workshops will learn the process of professional film making step by step. The three resource persons for the Celebrating Life 2011 Film Making Workshops are Amitabh Reza, Nurul Alam Aqiq and Mebsa Ur Rahman Sumon.

The participants of these workshops will learn the process of professional film making step by step. The three resource persons for the Celebrating Life 2011 Film Making Workshops are Amitabh Reza, Nurul Alam Aqiq and Mebsa Ur Rahman Sumon.

The participants of these workshops will learn the process of professional film making step by step. The three resource persons for the Celebrating Life 2011 Film Making Workshops are Amitabh Reza, Nurul Alam Aqiq and Mebsa Ur Rahman Sumon.

The participants of these workshops will learn the process of professional film making step by step. The three resource persons for the Celebrating Life 2011 Film Making Workshops are Amitabh Reza, Nurul Alam Aqiq and Mebsa Ur Rahman Sumon.

The participants of these workshops will learn the process of professional film making step by step. The three resource persons for the Celebrating Life 2011 Film Making Workshops are Amitabh Reza, Nurul Alam Aqiq and Mebsa Ur Rahman Sumon.

The participants of these workshops will learn the process of professional film making step by step. The three resource persons for the Celebrating Life 2011 Film Making Workshops are Amitabh Reza, Nurul Alam Aqiq and Mebsa Ur Rahman Sumon.

The participants of these workshops will learn the process of professional film making step by step. The three resource persons for the Celebrating Life 2011 Film Making Workshops are Amitabh Reza, Nurul Alam Aqiq and Mebsa Ur Rahman Sumon.

The participants of these workshops will learn the process of professional film making step by step. The three resource persons for the Celebrating Life 2011 Film Making Workshops are Amitabh Reza, Nurul Alam Aqiq and Mebsa Ur Rahman Sumon.

The participants of these workshops will learn the process of professional film making step by step. The three resource persons for the Celebrating Life 2011 Film Making Workshops are Amitabh Reza, Nurul Alam Aqiq and Mebsa Ur Rahman Sumon.

The participants of these workshops will learn the process of professional film making step by step. The three resource persons for the Celebrating Life 2011 Film Making Workshops are Amitabh Reza, Nurul Alam Aqiq and Mebsa Ur Rahman Sumon.

The participants of these workshops will learn the process of professional film making step by step. The three resource persons for the Celebrating Life 2011 Film Making Workshops are Amitabh Reza, Nurul Alam Aqiq and Mebsa Ur Rahman Sumon.

The participants of these workshops will learn the process of professional film making step by step. The three resource persons for the Celebrating Life