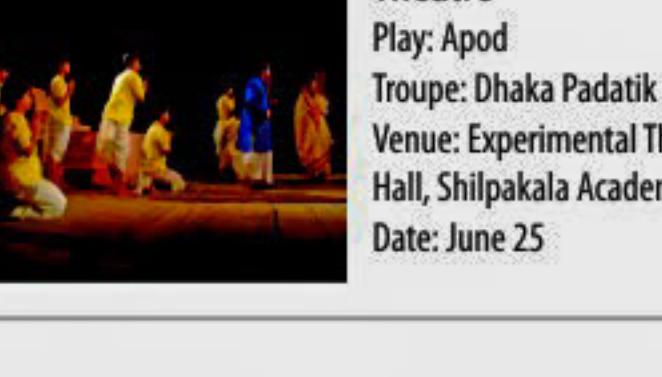


WHAT'S ON



Nazrul Melody in Focus

Three-day commemorative event ends at Bengal Shilpalaya



Clockwise (from top-left): Fatema Tuz Zohra, Ferdous Ara and Yasmin Mushtari perform to a receptive audience.

ZAHANGIR ALOM

Marking the 112th birth anniversary of National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam, Bengal Foundation arranged a three-day commemorative event, titled 'Amar Akash Mayer Koley' at Bengal Shilpalaya in Dhannondi, Dhaka.

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The way aspirations of freedom resounded in Nazrul's poems and songs is outstanding. Nazrul's patriotism, spirit of non-communal conscience, his empathy with women, the downtrodden and above all his love for humanity will inspire generations to come," Chowdhury asserted.

Among the artists, Fatema Tuz Zohra, Yasmin Mushtari, Yaqub Ali Khan, Suman Chowdhury, Dalia Naushleen, Anindita Chowdhury and Chhanda Chakraborty charmed the audience through taking it on a three-hour musical journey, each artiste coming forth with three songs. With the monsoon in full play in the capital, every singer rendered songs based on monsoon raga.

Chhanda Chakraborty was the first to take the stage. She began with a kabyageeti 'Ekhono Otheni Chand', followed by 'Je Obobha Diye Morey'. Chhanda wrapped up her part with a monsoon melody 'Gagoney Krishna Megh Doley'. Based on raga 'Nilambori', Yaqub Ali Khan embarked on his repertoire with the song 'Nilambori Shari Pori'. A monsoon offering, 'Jhor Jhor Jhorey Shawon Dhara', soon followed. In conclusion, he performed a

Daulatul Rahman on guitar; Sunil Sarkar on keyboard; Faizur Rahman on ba(n)jha and Partha on mondior were the other instrumentalists to accompany the singers at the soiree.

The concluding day's programme featured rendition of songs and recitation. Noted Nazrul singers Shaheen Samad, Khairul Anam Shakil, Nasheed Kamal, Sharmin Sathi Islam, Sujit Mustafa, Prodip Nandi and Mafizur Rahman performed songs, while Bhaswar Bandyopadhyay was on hand with a recitation.

thumri, "Badhu Tomar Amar Ei Je Biroho".

Dalia Nausheen rendered a kabyageeti "Tumi Shunitey Cheyona" followed by "Srijon Chhandey Anandey" and a kirtan "Ami Jabona Abona". Anindita Chowdhury began with the number "Peye Keno Nahi Pai" while her husband Pinu Sen Das played a tabla lahara on teentaa at the end of her first offering. Next she performed "Bulbuli Nirob Nargis Boney" and "Keno Diley E Ka(n)ta Jadi Kushum Diley".

Suman Chowdhury first rendered an agomoni (welcome) song "Aaye Maa". The number contained the elements of both thumri and kirtan. A monsoon raga based song "Abar Ki Elo Rey Badol" was presented next by the seasoned artiste. The singer wrapped up his part with a dada, "Priya Swaponey Esho Nirojone". The romantic imagery used in the song seemingly moved the audience.

Yasmin Mushtari started with a ghazal "Cheyona Sunayona". The accomplished singer enthralled the audience performing a mixed "Shyam Kalyan" genre "Sedin Chhilo Ki Godhuli Lagon". She wrapped up her part with a kajri "Sakhi Ba(n)jha-Lo Ba(n)jha-Lo Jhulon". All the imagerys of the monsoon are simultaneously visible in this song," said Yasmin.

The last artiste of the soiree Fatema Tuz Zohra rendered "Dristitey Aar Hoy Na Srishti" while the tabla artiste Enamul Haque Omar together with Pinu Sen Das played 'kaharba'. The singer's next offering was a devotional number "Tumi Lohu Probhu Amar".

And last but not the least the artiste performed "Nacher Neshay Ghor Legechhey". With her usual gesticulation and smile, Fatema Tuz Zohra set aside her harmonium and got the enthusiastic audience to sway to the rhythm.

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