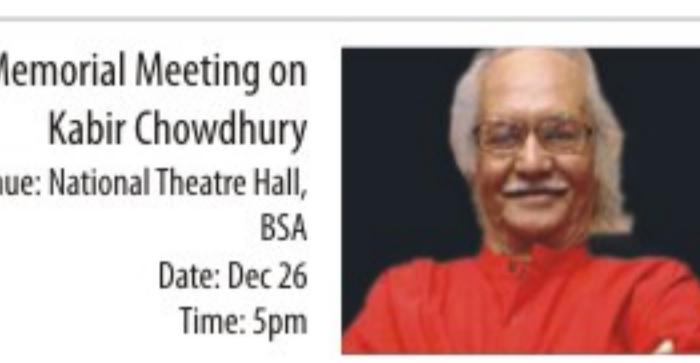


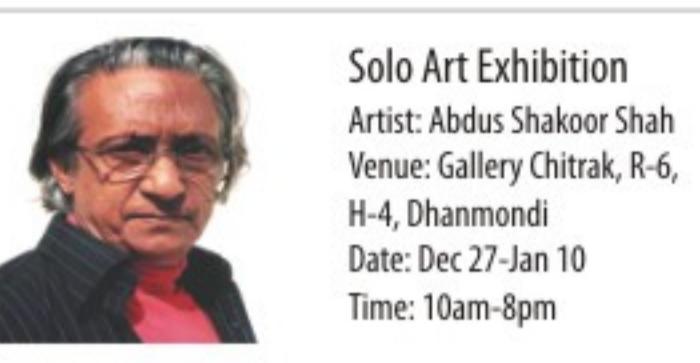
WHAT'S ON



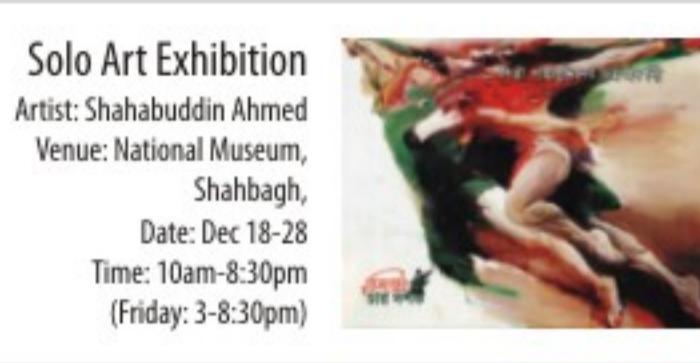
Victory Day Celebration
Organiser: Bangladesh Shilpkala Academy
Venue: Shilpkala Academy premises



Memorial Meeting on Kabir Chowdhury's birth anniversary
Venue: National Theatre Hall, BSA
Date: Dec 26
Time: 5pm



Solo Art Exhibition
Artist: Abdus Shakoor Shah
Venue: Gallery Chitrak, R-6, H-4, Dhammomi
Date: Dec 27-Jan 10
Time: 10am-8pm



Solo Art Exhibition
Artist: Shahabuddin Ahmed
Venue: National Museum, Shahbagh
Date: Dec 18-28
Time: 10am-8:30pm (Friday: 3-8:30pm)



Solo Exhibition
Artist: Sajid Bin Doza
Venue: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, Dhammomi
Date: Dec 30-Jan 12
Time: 3pm-9pm



Musical Soiree
Indo European Music Trio
Venue: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, Dhammomi
Date: Dec 26
Time: 7pm-9pm



National Folk Music Festival 2010-2011
Organiser: Bangladesh Lok Sangat Parishad
Venue: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, Dhammomi
Date: Dec 24, 30, 31



Group Art Exhibition
Title: Crossover
Venue: Dhaka Art Center, Dhammomi
Date: Dec 23-28
Time: 3pm-9pm

A CORNUCOPIA OF REFINED MELODY

Fifth classical music fest ends at Chhayanaut

ZAHANGIR ALAM

A two-day classical music festival (vocal and instrumental) has ended at the main auditorium of Chhayanaut Shangskriti Bhawan. Eminent music exponent Pandit Ram Kanai Das formally inaugurated the festival as chief guest on December 22. The festival comprised three sessions.

The second session of the festival started at 9 am and continued till 1 pm on December 23. Apart from a choral performance by the artistes of Chhayanaut, Satiniranjan Halder rendered *vilambit* and *drut kheyal* in Raga "Nat Bhairav" while Tapash Datta's passionate performance of Raga "Aahir Bhairav" won the hearts of many. Swarup Hossain on tabla, Alamgir Parvez Suman on harmonium and Alok Kumar Sen on tanpura accompanied Tapash.

Accomplished vocalist Priyanka Gope was on a musical high as she performed both *vilambit* and *drut kheyal* on Raga "Tori", set on *vilambit ektal* and *teental* respectively. Based on Raga "Kirwani", a *kaharba* performance by the artist followed. Priyanka's ecstatic presentation of a *daadra* was next. The romance of Bhairavi melted out through her voice defusing the pristine melody of the artiste.

Sarod artiste Md. Yousuf Khan's *dhun* performance on Bhairavi raga further augmented the ambience of romanticism among the music connoisseurs. Sheuli Bhattacharjee's violin also enlightened the crux of Raga "Bilashkhani Tori" at the session.

The third session of the festival commenced on the same day at 7:30 pm and continued till the next morning. A number of vocalists and instrumentalists performed in the night long session.

Chhayanaut artistes inaugurated the soiree with a performance of a



Clockwise (from left): Anup Barua and Rabui Hossain (C) perform vocal music; Pandit Gopal Mishra (L) with Ashim Chowdhury during an evocative performance.

on tanpura accompanied the artiste for more than an hour long poignant musical journey which seemed to recall past pain. The artiste also performed a *chhoto kheyal* on Raga "Chandakauns" and a *thumri* on Raga "Pahari".

Shushen Kumar Roy presented a solo pakhawaj recital at the festival. He started his performance with "Chautal". The artiste played several *qaida*, a bit of experimental compositions and several important pakhawaj based compositions. He also produced several *bol* (beats) prior to performing the *qaida*. Alangiri accompanied the artiste on the harmonium.

Asit Dey rendered *vilambit* and *drut kheyal* on Raga "Lalit". He also presented an unusual Raga "Bedi Ki Lalit" at the festival. One of the prominent gurus of Hindustani Classical Music Dilip Chandra Bedi created the Raga in 1936, according to the artiste.

The last performer of the festival was Indian sitar player Ashim Chowdhury (from Kolkata). Pandit Gopal Mishra of Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre, High Commission of India, Dhaka accompanied him on tabla. The artiste duo presented a gamut of the finest form of classical music on their respective instruments.

Alap radio on Raga "Basant Mukhari" by Ashim Chowdhury seemed like a butterfly emerging from its cocoon. His *jora*, *jhalas* and *chakradar* performance was evocative too. Pandit Gopal Mishra fashioned several *tabla rela* and *lahora* along with frequent improvisational beats. And last but not the least the artist duo presented Raga "Bhairavi", as the dawn, in the meantime, had depicted the darkness of the night.

Mobile Phone Operator Robi sponsored breathtaking festival. Mastranga TV recorded the entire festival.

PHOTO: GOLAM MAHBUB

kheyal in Raga "Hangsadhwan". A Chhayanaut classical guru, Asit Dey, directed the performance. Badal Chowdhury on tabla assisted the artistes.

Latif Julio's solo *kheyal* performance on Raga "Bhimpalashree" eased the day's exhaustion while Salok Hossain's presentation of a colourful Raga "Bhinnosharo" hinted at the onset of spring on a winter night.

Santoor recital by Shantanu followed. Shantanu played Raga "Puria Dhaneshree" while Pinu Sen Das accompanied him on tabla.

Mritunjay Das played Raga "Marubehag" on his banshi. Bishwajit Natto on tabla and Mohit Khan on tanpura accompanied him. Mritunjay extraordinarily showcased his brilliance during a

speedy *taan* performance. The sweetness of melody had a heart touching quality on a smoggy night. Gopal Das' thunderbolt beats captivated the music lovers. The artiste also presented a *chhoto kheyal* set on Raga "Kaunshikdhwan". Biron Chandra Mistry's melodious harmonium permeated the hall. Rabui Hossain rendered Raga "Jog" while seasoned artiste Suman Chowdhury tamed the melody of

Raga "Bageshree" to his vocal.

Anup Barua's pristine performance of Raga "Darbari Kanara" will remain etched in the memory of many music lovers. An impeccable performance definitely owes much to many accomplished instrumentalists as well. Pinu Sen Das on tabla, Shantanu on harmonium and Parag Pratim Chakrobarty and Partha Pratim Roy

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years. He will spend this Christmas in Canada with expatriate Bangladeshis. "Being a singer sometimes has its hazards. I got some invitations from Bangladeshis living in Canada. So this year I will have to celebrate Christmas Day without my dear ones," he said.

Kishore said that a day before Christmas he usually goes shopping and buys gifts for family members and other relatives. "Nowadays Christmas Day means a lot of responsibilities as well. My child celebrates the day with so much joy that it takes me back to my own childhood. I usually try to gift something to relatives and it gives me immense happiness to celebrate the day," said the singer.

"My heartfelt wish on this day is that there will be fewer clashes among nations. I pray that this Christmas, in the interest of humanity, brings happiness among people. Merry Christmas to everyone on earth," concluded Kishore.

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