

## WHAT'S ON

## 2011 IN MUSIC

SHAH ALAM SHAZU



Tough competition dominated the music scene of the country in 2011, with youngsters stirring up a greater fan following, compared to the twinkling shine of the veterans. Tension prevailed in the industry throughout the year, with a major breakthrough being the trend of releasing music through cell phone service providers.

Over 200 solo albums were released last year, compared to only 20 mixed albums and 10 by bands.

"Ahoban," the big budget album by Habib, turned out to be a commercial success, gaining mass popularity with its release through Bangalink.

Arfin Rumey was the busiest among the young musicians - recording, composing and directing most of the songs in 2011.

Popular artiste Kumar Bishwajit celebrated his 30 years in music. Another fan favourite Asif Akbar came out of an early retirement from music, and started working on his new album.

The most talked about singers were Habib Wahid, Arfin Rumey, Nancy, Hridoy Khan, Kona and Porshi.

Babal Khan was the new find of the year. "Pagol Tor Jonno," his duet with Nancy, topped the charts. Tousif was another newcomer who earned his place under the spotlight in 2011, while rookie singer Lutfur Hasin seized focus through his album "Ghuri Tumi Kaar Akash Uro." "Close-up One" stars Kishore, Pulok, Muhin, Atik, Sabbir, Beauty, Rinku, Putul, Rajib, Salma and Rony were busy throughout the year with studio and stage performances.

The top lyricists of the year were Zulfiqar Russell, Indranil Chattopadhyay, Jahid Akbar, Anupur Aich, Shahan Kabandha, Rana, Gunjan Chowdhury, Shomeshshar Oli and Robiul Islam Jibon.

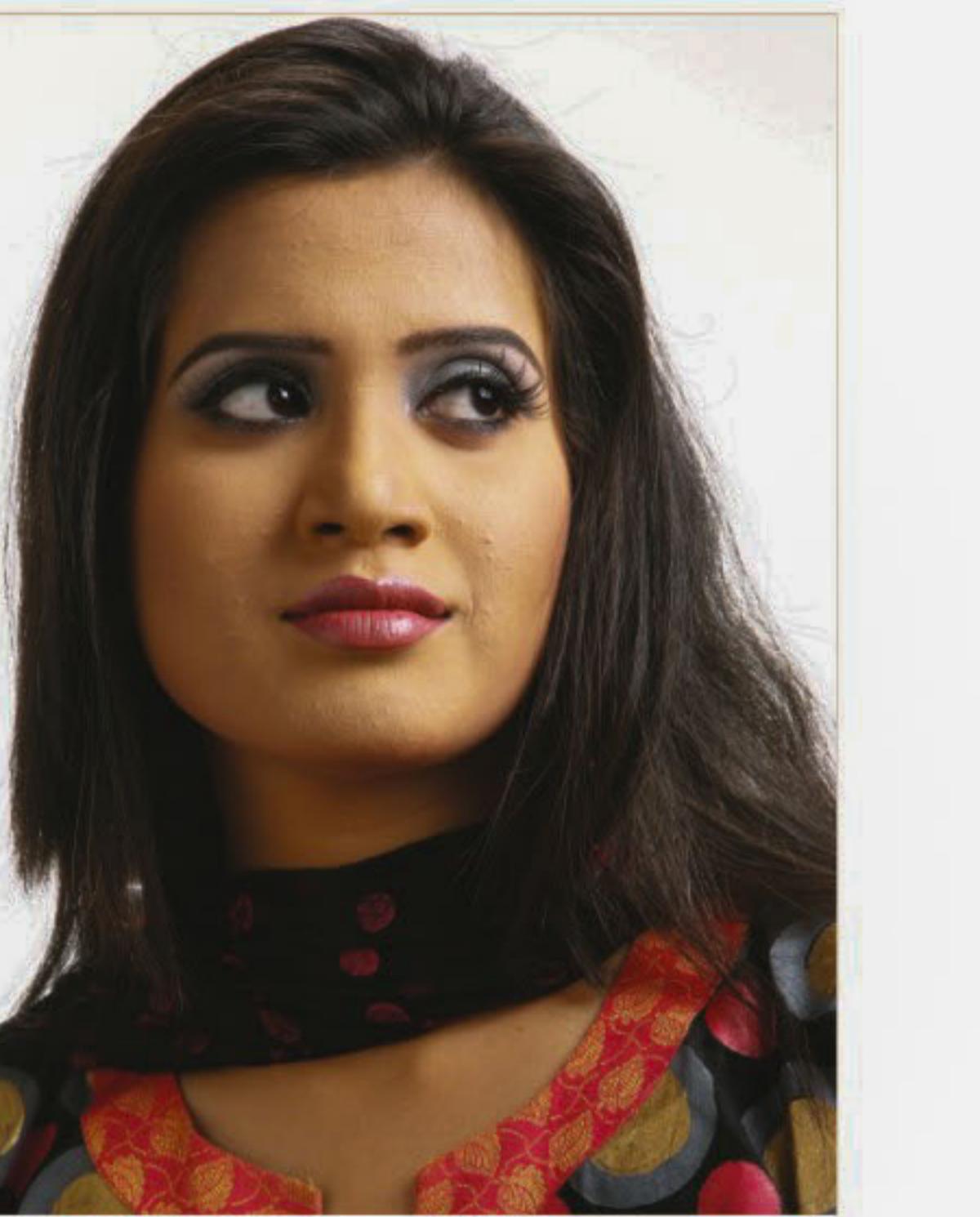
The dominating music directors of the year were Prince Mahmud, Shawkat Ali Emon, Ibrar Tipu, Habib Wahid, Hridoy Khan, Fauad Al Muqtadir, Arfin Rumey, Suman Kalyan and Sandhi. Lyricist Jahid Akbar captured the attention of the media by penning songs for Indian artistes Kailash Kher and Raghav. Indian artiste Shubhomita and Bangladeshi singer Shahid meanwhile recorded a song written by Anupur Aich -- which was a hit in Kolkata. Composer Tanvir Tarek won his first Citycell-Channel i Award as a music director.

On the other hand, the death of "Close-up One" star Abid cast a shadow of gloom over the entire music industry last year.



Kona

Hridoy Khan



Nancy



Hridoy Khan

## Manipuri Theatre premieres Debotar Grash

JAMIL MAHMUD

Manipuri Theatre staged its newest production, Rabindranath Tagore's "Debotar Grash," on December 29 at the Studio Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpkala Academy. After seven shows at the troupe's local area in Kamolganj, Maulibazar, this was the Dhaka premiere of the play. The play premiered in Kamolganj on June 13 last year. The play received a grant from the government along with other selected troupes to produce Tagore play on his 150th birth anniversary.

The experimental work, based-on Tagore poem with the same title, has been both adapted and directed by Shuvashis Sinha.

The performance was mainly choral. Individual dialogues were overtaken by the choral renditions.

The story depicts the epic voyage of a group of people who face a tempest during their return home after attending a ritualistic festival. Among the travellers is a priest who is caught in a dilemma between religion and humanity even as he tries to determine the cause of the tempest.

Sinha adapted the play into his mother tongue of Bishnupriya Manipuri language. It was hard for the Dhaka audience to keep pace with the dialogues; nevertheless, it seemed that the performance was largely based on musical elements. Using their traditional cultural elements such as dance forms and singing style, the Manipuri actors narrated the Tagore work in an indigenous theatre form.

The cast of the play included Jyoti Sinha, Lekhman Sinha, Bhagyalakshmi Sinha, Smriti Sinha, Sushanto Sinha, Sunil Singha and Shukla Sinha. Sudip Chakraborty did the light designing, while Sharmila Sinha did the music. The music featured compositions of Tagore tunes with his lyrics translated into Bishnupriya Manipuri language.

Ramendu Majumdar, ITI Worldwide president and chief of the committee that allotted troupes to produce Tagore plays, inaugurated the Dhaka show at the Studio Theatre Hall. After the premiere, two more shows of the play were staged the following day.



The play is in Bishnupriya Manipuri language.

Day for percussionists  
International Dhol Concert at Alliance Française de Chittagong

(From left) Babul Jaladas, Ashok Kumar and Jithendra Vishvabandhu perform at the programme.

PRANABEESH CHAKRABORTY, Chittagong

Berthet said that its popularity dates back to the 15th century. This symbol of joy, victory and festivity was widely used in the subcontinent with regional variations, he added.

The second session of the programme started with a performance by Jithendra Vishvabandhu from Sri Lanka, accompanied by four drummers of Bangladesh. His dexterous fingers on the dhol created a hush in the auditorium as a spellbound audience listened to the beats.

Later, Abhijit Acharyee played dhol to the tune of a dotara, a stringed folk instrument played by Pradip Biswas from Khulna.

Ashok Kumar of India introduced the dhol players in the intervals between the performances and briefly described the style of rhythms. Babul Jaladas played the shanai, accompanied by the beats of dhol by Harilal Das and Krishna Mohan Jaladas.

Following the performance an exceptional composition was performed by Ashok Kumar, Jithendra and Babul.

Later, many Latin American, African and regional rhythms in slow and fast beats were played in a composition that stole the show.

The concert concluded with "Sound of Wind and Rain," a superb composition. Directed by Ashok, this composition evoked the ambience of a rainy day, following a group performance named "Kaharba" by all dhol players.

The performance by Swapna Moulick, the sole female instrumentalist from Khulna, received much acclaim.

|       |                       |       |  |
|-------|-----------------------|-------|--|
| 10:40 | Bangla Feature Film   | 06:10 | Music at Fun Dot Com                   |
| 11:20 | Business and Finance  | 08:45 | Drama Serial: Talbot                   |
| 06:15 | Amra Korbo Joy        | 10:50 | Reported: Diary                        |
| 08:00 | Drama Serial: Not Out | 12:30 | Arta O Joyntor Galpo                   |
| 11:00 | Drama: Akashlina      | 01:30 | Diganta TV                             |
| 01:05 | Bangla Cinema Gaan    | 05:30 | Business Time Live                     |
| 01:30 | Hridoye Gaan          | 05:30 | Mele Dhor/ Shokal                      |
| 02:40 | Hridoye Mati O        | 08:00 | Belak Pakhi                            |
| 03:20 | Manusher Doak         | 08:00 | Jiboner Jolchobi                       |
| 03:30 | Bangla Feature Film   | 08:25 | Pothe Prantorey                        |
| 09:35 | Drama Serial: Shokal  | 10:02 | Maasranga Television                   |
|       | Shondhya Raat         | 10:30 | Amazing Animals                        |
|       |                       | 05:30 | Char Deyal- er Khele                   |
|       |                       | 06:30 | Te- film                               |
|       |                       | 11:00 | Tomay Gaan Shonabu                     |
|       |                       | 12:00 | Z Studio                               |
|       |                       | 01:30 | Once Upon a Time in Mexico             |
|       |                       | 03:45 | The Sixth Sense                        |
|       |                       | 06:05 | Sacked Gun 2 & 1/2: The Naked Gun      |
|       |                       | 07:55 | 3/4: Naked Gun 33 & 1/2: The Naked Gun |

|               |                  |         |                     |
|---------------|------------------|---------|---------------------|
| radio FM 89.2 | 12:00            | My Time |                     |
| 06:00         | Pharer Jonay     | 01:00   | No Tension          |
| 09:00         | Mukhboro Bioney  | 04:00   | Dhaka Calling       |
| 12:00         | Duranto Duprey   | 09:00   | Night Rider         |
| 03:00         | Duronto Bilekey  | 10:00   | Back to Back music  |
| 05:00         | Shondhatria      | 12:00   | RADIO TODAY FM 89.6 |
| 06:00         | Shondhatria      | 08:00   | Good Morning Dhaka  |
| 09:00         | Roxer- er Akshay | 12:00   | Today's Adda        |
| 11:00         | Geper Shech Nei  | 04:00   | U Turn              |
| 12:00         | Radio Foorti     | 07:00   | Tobey Tai Hak       |
| 01:30         | Hele Dhaka       | 10:00   | Rock the Station    |

|                        |         |                    |
|------------------------|---------|--------------------|
| Bipashar Ottithi       | 12:00   | My Time            |
| On BANGLAVISION        | 09:55pm | No Tension         |
| Celebrity Talk Show    |         | Dhaka Calling      |
| Guest: Md. Mafuz Ahmed |         | Night Rider        |
|                        |         | Back to Back music |

|                                  |       |                     |
|----------------------------------|-------|---------------------|
| Gothika                          | 12:00 | The Final Insult    |
| On 2 Studio at 9:30pm            |       | Gothika             |
| Genre: Horror/ Thriller          |       | Star World          |
| Cast: Halle Berry, Penelope Cruz |       | Love Hate U         |
|                                  |       | Terra Nova          |
|                                  |       | Supernatural        |
|                                  |       | The Shield          |
|                                  |       | The Big Bang Theory |
|                                  |       | Discovery Channel   |
|                                  |       | Building the Future |
|                                  |       | Man Woman Wild      |
|                                  |       | Dinosaur Revolution |
|                                  |       | Swords              |

|                        |       |                     |
|------------------------|-------|---------------------|
| Nikhoj                 | 12:00 | The Final Insult    |
| On Desh TV at 11:55am  |       | Gothika             |
| Single Episode TV Play |       | Star World          |
| Cast: Apurba, Tinni    |       | Love Hate U         |
|                        |       | Terra Nova          |
|                        |       | Supernatural        |
|                        |       | The Shield          |
|                        |       | The Big Bang Theory |
|                        |       | Discovery Channel   |
|                        |       | Building the Future |
|                        |       | Man Woman Wild      |
|                        |       | Dinosaur Revolution |
|                        |       | Swords              |

|       |                       |       |                     |
|-------|-----------------------|-------|---------------------|
| 05:30 | Ananda Dhara          | 09:30 | The Final Insult    |
| 11:30 | Drama: Topito Ballari |       | Gothika             |
| 12:05 | Music Fast            |       | Star World          |
|       |                       |       | Love Hate U         |
|       |                       |       | Terra Nova          |
|       |                       |       | Supernatural        |
|       |                       |       | The Shield          |
|       |                       |       | The Big Bang Theory |
|       |                       |       | Discovery Channel   |
|       |                       |       | Building the Future |
|       |                       |       | Man Woman Wild      |
|       |                       |       | Dinosaur Revolution |
|       |                       |       | Swords              |

|       |                     |       |                   |
|-------|---------------------|-------|-------------------|
| 05:30 | Kichhu Kotha Kichhu | 11:10 | HBO               |
| 06:00 | Gaan                | 02:25 | Gangs of New York |
| 09:00 | Janan Achrey Bolar  | 04:30 | Dick Tracy        |
| 04:10 | Achhey              | 06:45 | Rocky             |
| 06:15 | Shubha Shondhya     | 09:30 | Dragonfly         |
| 09:00 | Holo                | 11:30 | Star World        |
| 11:30 | Music Euphony       | 12:00 | Love Hate U       |
| 12:00 | Ekshey-er Business  | 01:00 | Next              |
| 04:30 | Sports Plus         | 02:25 | Dick Tracy        |
| 05:00 | Neel Pari Gaan      | 04:30 | Rocky             |
| 09:30 | Ekshey-er Chokh     | 06:45 | Dragonfly         |
| 10:00 | Drama: Nirbajuk     | 09:30 | Star World        |
| 10:30 | Dukh Kost           | 11:30 | Love Hate U       |

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| 05:30 | Ananda Dhara | 09:30 | The Final Insult |