

**WHAT'S ON**

Duet Painting Exhibition  
Title: Painting  
Artists: Pappa Narayanan & Elham Hug Khuja  
Venue: Dhaka Art Center, H-60, R-7A, Dharmundi

Tagore Dance Festival  
Title: Tagore Dance & Dance Drama  
Sub-committee & Shilpkala Academy  
Venue: Bangladesh Shilpkala Academy  
Date: June 22-24; Time: 10am

Musical Saree  
Artist: Santina Chowdhury  
Venue: India Gandhi Cultural Centre, H-35, R-24, Gulshan 1  
Date: June 22  
Time: 6:30pm

Discussion & Musical Programme  
On Ritu Bhittik Natya Mela  
Venue: Music & Dance Centre Auditorium, Shilpkala Academy  
Date: June 24-26; Time: 6:30pm

Discussion & Cultural Programme  
On Kabir Ramesh & Sushin Dev Barmati  
Venue: Music & Dance Centre, Shilpkala Academy  
Date: June 20-21; Time: 6:30pm

Group Art Exhibition  
Title: Class of 1979  
Venue: Gallery Cosmo-2, Villa De Anjuman, H-115, New DOHS, Mohakhali  
Date: June 18-24

Solo Art Exhibition  
Title: Beautiful Bangladesh  
Artist: Shobha Parvez  
Venue: Galleri Kanya, H-20, R-16 Sector-4, Uttara  
Date: June 15-27  
Time: 11am-8pm

Musical Soiree  
Artist: Fahmida Nabi  
Venue: India Gandhi Cultural Centre, H-35, R-24, Gulshan 1  
Date: June 23  
Time: 6:30pm

## Festival marking World Music Day at Shilpkala Academy today

A three-day music festival marking World Music Day (on June 21) will kick off today at National Theatre Hall and National Art Gallery Plaza of Bangladesh Shilpkala Academy (BSA). Bangladesh Sangeet Sangathan Samannoy Parishad is joining hands with BSA in arranging the festival, says a press release.

Starting from today, the festival will be held from 3 to 9 pm everyday, and will continue till June 23. Noted educationist and music connoisseur ABM Nurul Anwar will inaugurate the festival. Deputy leader of the National Parliament, Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury, will grace the inaugural programme as chief guest.

Following the inauguration of the festival, a colourful procession will circle

the adjacent streets of BSA premises. Rakhibondhon and discussion will be held at National Theatre Hall of BSA. The music festival will feature performances of patriotic songs, Baul songs, Bangla pop and rock music, songs from theatre productions, dance, instrumental music, songs in other languages and music by foreign troupes.

## THEATRE FESTIVAL IN CHITTAGONG

### Madhumala draws audience

PRANABESH CHAKRABORTY, Chittagong

"Madhumala", a lyrical play based on a folk tale penned by National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam, captivated theatre enthusiasts in the port city on Monday.

Tirjuk Natya Dal, a reputed theatre troupe in Chittagong, staged the drama on the opening day of a four-day theatre festival based on seasons ('Ritu Bhittik Natya Mela') arranged by Ritu Bhittik Natya Mela Parishad at Theatre Institute, Chittagong (TIC).

Earlier, Anwarul Azim Arif, Vice-Chancellor (VC) of Chittagong University inaugurated the festivall.

The discussion was chaired by Ahmed Iqbal Haider, convener of the festival committee. The Vice-Chancellor who was also the chief guest, in his speech termed theatre "a progressive medium of culture", and said that the port city has a rich cultural history.

Haider said that Ritu Bhittik Natya Mela Parishad was formed in 1991 with the purpose of arranging seasonal drama festivals regularly in the city and the first festival was "Boishakhi Natya Mela", he said.

After its inception, the Parishad had arranged a total of 105 festivals featuring plays, recitation, seminars, workshops, exhibitions in the last 20 years, added Haider.

At the programme, Sadhan De, a veteran theatre activist of Chittagong, was awarded



A scene from the play.

"Sukhendu Smriti Natya Padak-2012" for his contribution to theatre. Chittagong University VC presented a crest and shawl to Sadhan De.

The festival started with a choral rendition of 'Aajil Barishano Mukhrito', a Tagore song, by the artistes of Sangeet Tirtha followed by another Tagore song 'Aajil Anjono Ghono'.

Later, artistes from the School of Oriental Dance gave an enthralling performance to the Tagore song "Esho Shyamolo Shundoro".

"Madhumala" was staged after the inaugural ceremony. Adapted and directed by

Ahmed Iqbal Haider, the well fleshed out characters successfully depicted the sacrifice of princess Madhumala for her beloved.

In the play, Haider who also designed the light, stage and costumes, creatively used the forms of folk dance and Jari songs which received much applause from the audience.

Ramij Ahmed, Shaila Sharmin, Ripan Barua, Trina Barua, Tumpa Chowdhury, Ahmed Iqbal Haider, Lucky Amin, Mahbubul Islam Rajib and Amit Chakraborty enacted different roles in the play.

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