

WHAT'S ON

**Album Launch**  
Title: Pancha Prova  
Organiser: Debasis Foundation  
Venue: Sufia Kamal Auditorium, National Museum  
Date: Nov 9  
Time: 6:30pm

**Solo Art Exhibition**  
Artist: Tajuddin Ahmed  
Venue: Venue: Institute of Art and Culture R- 1/A, H-2, Gulshan-1  
Date: Oct 31-Nov 10

**Int'l Theatre Festival**  
Organiser: Theatre Art Unit  
Venue: Shilpakala Academy  
Date: November 14-24  
Time: 6:30pm

**Solo Art Exhibition**  
Artist: Samir Aich  
Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, Dhanmondi  
Date: Nov 9-19  
Time: 3pm-8pm

**Solo Art Exhibition**  
Title: Of Man and Earth  
Artist: Syed Jahangir  
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, Dhanmondi  
Date: Nov 2-13

**Classical Dance Festival**  
Organiser: Chhayanaut  
Venue: Chhayanaut Auditorium, Dhanmondi  
Date: November 9-10  
Time: 6:30pm

**Solo Art Exhibition**  
Artist: Sabrina Mezaoui  
Venue: Bengal Art Lounge, Gulshan  
Date: Nov 3-22  
Time: 12pm-8pm

**Concert**  
Artist: Habib  
Venue: Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre, H-5, R-4, Gulshan-1  
Date: November 10  
Time: 6:30pm



DID YOU KNOW?

Humayun Ahmed (1948-2012)

- Humayun Ahmed was born on November 13.
- Times of India praised his contribution to Bengali literature with the words "Humayun was a custodian of the Bangladeshi literary culture whose contribution single-handedly shifted the capital of Bengali literature from Kolkata to Dhaka without any war or revolution."
- He went to North Dakota State University in the US for his Ph.D. After having studied Physical Chemistry for two years he was impressed by the lecture of a professor of Polymer Chemistry; and eventually secured a Ph.D in Polymer Chemistry.
- He received Bangla Academy Award in 1981 and Ekushey Padak in 1994.
- His novel "Gauripur Junction" has been published in four languages -- Bangla, Hindi, English and German.
- Ahmed continued to top the best sellers list of Bangla Academy book fair, a feat that had been maintained

Bengal Foundation celebrates Aminul Islam's 81st birth anniversary



Eminent personalities at the book launch.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Registration that will enable music enthusiasts and connoisseurs to attend the "world's largest classical music festival" being held in Dhaka opens today. The four-day long Bengal ITC SRA Classical Music Festival 2012 will begin on November 29 at Army Stadium in the capital.

Eminent music maestros are all set to serenade music lovers at this grand classical music festival. Besides performances by maestros from Kolkata ITC-SRA, accomplished Bangladeshi artists will perform at the festival as well. The festival has been dedicated to Sangeet Samrat Ustad Allauddin Khan.

Registration is free -- either on the internet or at Bengal Gallery (Dhanmondi), Bengal Centre (Uttara), Aranya (Banani) and Bengal Art Lounge

(Gulshan). For online registration, log on to [www.bengalfoundation.org](http://www.bengalfoundation.org) [registration and seats on first come first served basis]. To register through SMS, type "REG" and send to 6969. Music aficionados can also go to [www.facebook.com/bfmusicfest](http://www.facebook.com/bfmusicfest) for more information.

Highlights of the festival will be performances by Padma Bhushan Vidushi Girija Devi, Pandit Ajoy Chakrabarty, Pandit Hariprasad Chaurasia, Pandit Birju Maharaj, Pandit Shivkumar Sharma, Ustad Rashid Khan, Padma Shri Pandit Ulhas Kashalkar, Ustad Mashkoor Ali Khan and others.

Prothom Alo is the strategic partner while The Daily Star is the partner of the festival. Maasranga Television is the broadcast partner while abc radio is the radio partner of the festival. Ice Media Limited is the media partner of the festival.



Bengal ITC SRA Classical Music Festival 2012

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Sur Kshetra is a new horizon

Diva Runa Laila in conversation

Runa Laila, the only Bangladeshi singer to have charmed the whole South Asia, retains her endearing demeanour. The lusty voice on the mike is actually soft spoken, with a smile that can ease anybody's nerves.

In Mumbai to launch "Sur Kshetra" (shot in Dubai, it took off on September 8 on Colors and Sahara One), the neutral judge on the show that has singers from India and Pakistan locked in a musical battle, chatted cheerfully over a cup of black tea and cookies.

Talking about her husband, Runa said, "Alamgir is an actor and has worked in a lot of Bangladesh-West Bengal (India) joint productions. We are happy together."

She's more forthcoming about her daughter and grandsons. "My daughter, Tani is married to Arman Islam, a banker. I have two grandsons, Zain, 8, and Aaron, 5. They live in London. My daughter and I share a great relationship, just as I did with my mother. My grandsons keep me busy with their antics when I am with them."

"They are both good dancers and singers. My grandson, Zain, has been chosen by Arsenal Football Club and is currently training with them," a proud grandmother glint lights up her eyes.

Didn't Tani want to take to the mike? "Well, she learnt music for four years but never took it up. She moved to London, did her schooling and university. She said, 'I will always be compared to you. No matter how well I sing, they will always say, she's Runa Laila's daughter. I won't have my own identity.' So I let her be."

Runa Laila's mantra: live and let live, well-tuned and happy to flow with the times. Much like her fellow judge on the show, Asha Bhosle. Tell her that and she nods in agreement. "I love the spirit of Ashaji. You have to adapt to changing times."

"Ashaji is young in spirit and mind, the way she moves about or talks and laughs, you enjoy her company, you like talking to her -- she's evergreen and a great cook! The day I arrived here, Ashaji called me for dinner and had made bhuna gosht, chicken biryani, shahi tukda. Who does that any more? Especially someone of her calibre."

In Dubai too, after an early morning shoot, Asha went to the market, bought prawns and got them in a hot pot for Runa.

"I've found a friend in Ashaji. She is a great mimic. On the sets, she would often offer us channa in paper cups and she would imitate how I ate them."

Runa admits to being somewhat like her. "I ensure I am with the times even in the way I dress up. I don't dress like a young girl but just yesterday I wore a pant-shalwar and a journalist commented



Runa Laila with Asha Bhosle

on how I wore fashionable clothes."

The two ladies also bonded over diamonds. Runa sports rocks (of assorted sizes) on her fingers and a blinding necklace. She grins, "Ashaji and I would admire each other's diamonds. She told Latadidi that 'Runaji bahut ache diamonds pehenti hain.' Latadidi even gifted me a pearl set."

Talk veers to the show. Producers Gajendra Singh and creative head, Boney Kapoor of Sahara One approached her to be the neutral judge. "It was a good idea to get singers, mentors and judges from India and Pakistan," commented Runa. "I keep the tempers from flying and try to look at it from an outsider's point of view."

Unfortunately for her, "Sur Kshetra" will also be a reminder of a personal loss. She lost her mother while shooting for it in January. "The day we landed in Dubai for our first schedule, I got a call from my family saying my mother was hospitalised. I lost her soon after. She was 87." Remembering her mother, her 'biggest influence', she said, "She would train me, encourage me and be with me all the time. She ensured that I continued with music even when I got married and had my daughter. My sister, Dina too was a big support."

A regular visitor to India, Runa has lost count of the number of times she's been here. Keeping her on her toes are show tours all over the world, a never-ending relationship with music and... "solving crosswords," she adds, reaching out for a cookie with a long, manicured finger.

How can the interview be complete without talking about her chartbusting number, "Mast Kalandar"? Her eyes light up and her face breaks into a proud smile. "It is a unique song, a spiritual song, it touches the heart and soul. Even when I am singing it, I am transported to another world. I discover something new each time I sing it...It's happened with me several times. When I perform at a concert, I reserve it for the finale."

"You can't sing that kind of song in the beginning or the middle, because it's a religious song and builds up the crescendo."

"You may sing 1000 songs but only a few that people remember you by... 'Mast Kalandar', 'Mera Babu Chhail Chhabila' and songs from 'Gharonda' will always be associated with me."

Runa's only regret: if only she had done more playback in Mumbai.

Source: Kshama Rao, The Film Street Journal

Celebrating Life '12 gala event on Channel i

A CORRESPONDENT

Today, Channel i will air the Celebrating Life 2012 gala event at 10:30 am. It's a great opportunity for those who missed the Indian classical music maestro Pandit Ajoy Chakrabarty and his daughter Kausiki Desikan perform live at the Shaheed Suhrawardy Indoor Stadium in Dhaka on November 2.

The show was emceed by Afzal Hossain. Noted singer Sabina Yasmin performed a song featuring the 1st prize winning lyrics of this year's Celebrating Life contest. After the prize giving ceremony, dance troupe Shadhona performed a composition



Pandit Ajoy Chakrabarty and his daughter Kausiki Desikan performed at the programme.

choreographed by Lubna Mariam. Kausiki Desikan then enthralled the audience with her classical performance. Her father, Pandit Ajoy Chakrabarty, took the stage after her and later the father-daughter-duo performed a duet.

Channel i will air the first half of this grand event today at 10:30 am. The next part will be telecast on Friday, November 16, at 10:30 on Channel i. Be sure to tune in.

Classical Dance Fest at Chhayanaut begins today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

As in the last year, Chhayanaut is holding a two-daylong Classical Dance Festival at its main auditorium. The festival begins today at 6:30 pm. The aim of the festival is to promote and popularise classical dance forms.

Apart from showcasing four forms of popular classical dance -- Manipuri, Odissi, Bharatanatyam and Kathak, two lesser-known classical genres -- Mohiniyattam and Gaudiya Nritya will also be featured at the event. Apart from Chhayanaut students and teachers, invited guests from and outside Dhaka will participate in the programme.

Chhayanaut artistes with kick off the festival with Manipuri dance today. Accomplished Manipuri dancers-choreographers Samina Hossain Prema and Warda Rihab will perform on the inaugural day. Aside from Chhayanaut artistes, Salma Begum Munni, Amit Chowdhury, Shukla Sarkar and dancers of Srishti Cultural Centre and Dhrupad Kala Kendra will present Bharatanatyam.

Noted dancer-choreographer Sharmila Bandyopadhyay will perform Mohiniyattam while Proma Abanti (Chittagong) will present Odissi on the opening day as well. Tahinna Islam Jhumi, dancers of Akriti, Masum Hussain and noted dancer Munmun Ahmed will perform Kathak on the opening day.

Sonia Rashid with Farhana Ahmed, Orthy Ahmed, noted dancer-choreographer Tamanna Rahman and artistes of Nritym Nriyashilan Kendra will present Manipuri on the second day (November 10) of the



festival.

Sudeshna Swayamprabha and artistes of Nrityashree will perform Odissi while Deep Narayan Roy (Noakhali), Sabrina Shafi Nisa, Asif Mohammad (Sylhet), Shubhra Sengupta (Chittagong) and dancers of Jago Art Centre will present Bharatanatyam on the second day.

Rachel Priyanka Paris will perform Gaudiya Nritya while Snata Shahrin, Partha Pratim Das (Sylhet), Tabassum Ahmed and artistes of Nrityanchal and Kathak Nritya Sampradaya will present Kathak on the concluding day.

ATN Bangla is the media partner of the festival.

"Ghetuputra Komola" to be screened in Kolkata



A scene from the film.

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

As homage to the late Bangladeshi writer-filmmaker Humayun Ahmed, the 18th Festival of International Forum of New Cinema will screen his last film "Ghetuputra Komola". The festival in Kolkata begins on November 11.

"The Bengali film will be in our homage section of the festival as a tribute to the internationally known author, dramatist and filmmaker," Cine Central general secretary Parimal Mukherjee said in Kolkata on Wednesday.

It should be mentioned that "Ghetuputra Komola" has been selected as the Bangladeshi entry for the 'Best Foreign Language Film' category at the 85th Academy Awards.

The eight-day festival will screen 90 representative films from 30 countries -- Iran, China, Cuba, Denmark, Holland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Spain etc -- with the spotlight on Peru and Hungary which will be represented by seven and four films respectively, Mukherjee said.

Among others, Sharif Humayun Kabir, Narail Sadar Upazila Chairman; Naresh Chandra Das, District Education Officer; Advocate S.A. Matin, deputy commander, Bangladesh MuktiJodha Sangsad; Advocate Nazrul Islam, General Secretary, Workers Party Narail district unit; Malay Nandi, Assistant Professor, Narail Abul Hai City College; Advocate Alamgir Siddique, president, Narail Press Club; cultural personality Rowshanara Lily; Saiful Islam, District Cultural Officer; and Kazi Hafizur Rahman, executive director, Sabolombi were present at the inaugural programme as special guests.

A large turnout of music lovers were in evidence at the programme.



Pat Gaan at the programme.

PHOTO: STAR

Samir Aich's exhibition begins today at Dhaka Art Centre



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka Art Centre in Dhanmondi is holding a solo art exhibition featuring Indian painter Samir Aich. The exhibition opens today.

Mijarul Quayes, secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Anjan Chowdhury, managing director of Square Consumer Products Ltd and chairman of Society for Promotion of Bangladesh Art (SPBA), will jointly inaugurate the exhibition. Eminent art critic Moimuddin Khaled will speak about the artist's works. Professor Emdadul Haque Mohammad Matlub Ali (Dean of the Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka) will preside over the programme.

Aich has been painting almost for three decades. He started out as a neo-realist and gradually moved into semi-abstract figurative themes. His favorite medium is oil on canvas, but he also works in acrylic and mixed media. The artist has been constantly experimenting with new concepts -- concentrating on essential structural details in compositions.

The exhibition will continue till November 19.

BTV	09:35 Tom & Jerry Tales	03:00 Priyilon-er Gaan	Desh TV	03:00 Priyilon-er Gaan
10:30 Theatre	08:15 Bindu Thekey Britto		08:15 Bindu Thekey Britto	
03:05 Bangla Feature Film	09:45 Drama: Raat 12 Tar Por		09:45 Drama: Raat 12 Tar Por	
06:35 Chhaya Rong	11:45 Call-er Gaan		11:45 Call-er Gaan	
08:35 TV Series: Hatim				
11:00 Ronangon-er Dinguli				
ATN BANGLA	09:15 Bangla Feature Film			
	08:00 Amar Guitar Amar Gaan			
09:20 Bangla Feature Film	08:35 Drama: Parul Kahini			
05:00 Gram Gonjer Khabor	11:05 Shomoy Katuk Gaan-e			
08:00 Diploma Misti Lorai	Gaan-e			
11:00 Comedy Hour				
CHANNEL i				
12:05 Prokhti O Jibon				
02:40 Telefilm				
07:50 Sherakontha				
09:35 Top Model				
ETV				
10:02 Sonamoni Shukh-e				

abc radio FM 89.2	12:00	Radio	12:00	Boier Poka
09:30 Edik Odik	02:00	Four's Unlimited		
01:20 Alor Shondhaney	06:00	Bumper to Bumper		
05:30 Kacha Lanka	10:00	Club Fourti		
08:30 Hovsa Badda	01:00	Back to Back music		
07:20 GP Lounge	RADIO TODAY FM 89.6			
07:45 Megh Barata	06:00	Green FM		
08:10 Adda	08:00	Good Morning Dhaka		
11:10 Guitar Never Lies	11:00	Flash Back		
RADIO 100.1	12:30	Islamic Program		
08:00 Addabadi	02:15	Rugali Gaan		

**Mon Phoring-er Galpo**  
On ntv at 02:35pm  
Tele-film  
Cast: Tahsan, Tisha

**Transformers: Dark of the Moon**  
On HBO at 09:30pm  
Genre: Action/Adventure  
Cast: Shia LaBeouf, Rosie Huntington-

**Chhayabrata**  
On ATN Bangla at 09:20pm  
Drama Serial  
Cast: Tasquiq Ahmed, Tarin

01:30 Oshukh-e	12:05 Spider-Man
06:30 Bangla Feature Film	02:10 Spider-Man 3
10:10 Tarana	05:20 Drive Angry
10:10 Drama-Fuckla	07:50 X-Men: First Class
12:05 Phone & Live Studio	09:15 I Am Number Four
Concert	11:05 The International
11:25 Ami Ekhon Ki Korbo	06:25 Harry Potter and the
(Live)	Deathly Hallows: Part 1
	09:30 Transformers: Dark of the Moon
ntv	
12:10 Apon Aalay	
02:35 Tele-film: Mon Phoring-er Galpo	
06:45 Roopmadhuri	
11:30 Kaha O Gaan-e Kichukkhon	
(Live)	
Rtv	
10:10 Doctor's Prescription	
07:35 Glamour World Dot Com	
08:15 Drama: Capsule 500mg	
11:20 Drama: Mushkil Asan	

ATN BANGLA	ETV
09:20pm Chhayabrata	09:30pm Dhol
Channel i	BANGLAVISION
11:30pm Roshni	08:15pm Harkipety
ntv	09:45pm Gulshan Avenue
08:15pm Mayanigam	Rtv
09:45pm 99, Shaheb	09:05pm Oloshpur
Ali Lane	09:50pm Mon
	Rongila

BTV	Boishakhi TV
News (Bangla) at 12pm, 2pm, 5pm, 9pm,	News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 5pm,
News (English) at 10am, 4pm, 10pm,	News (English) at 9am, 6pm,
ATN BANGLA	BANGLAVISION
News (Bangla) at 11am, 12pm, 2pm, 7pm, 10pm,	News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm,
News (English) at 9am, 6pm,	News (English) at 1pm, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm,
CHANNEL i	Rtv
News (Bangla) at 2pm, 9pm, 10:30pm,	News (Bangla) at 1:45pm, 6:45pm, 10:45pm,
ntv	Desh TV
News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm,	News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm,
ETV	Maasranga Television
News (Bangla) at 1pm, 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm,	News (Bangla) at 7pm, 1am,

ATN Bangla	11:30pm Moha Shatto Al-Quaran
12:30am Lead News	ntv
CHANNEL i	12:30am Hello America
12:00am Aiker	Desh TV
Shongbadpatro	07:45pm Mukh O Mukhorata
10:00am Tino Matra	Rtv
Boishakhi TV	10:40am Tarokalap
12:30pm Hridoy Jumbhar	12:00am Zero Hour
12:00am Zero Hour	BANGLAVISION
	12:00am Shongbad