

**WHAT'S ON**

Album Launch  
Title: Panchi Pova  
Organiser: Devbhava Foundation  
Venue: Sufia Kamal Auditorium, National Museum  
Date: Nov 9  
Time: 6:30pm



Solo Art Exhibition  
Artist: Tajuddin Ahmed  
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



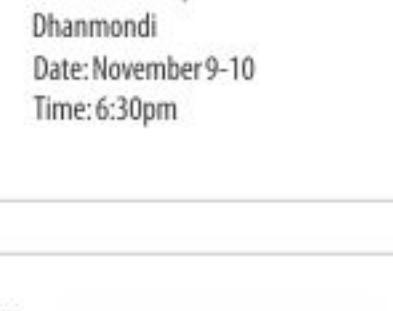
Solo Art Exhibition  
Artist: Samir Aich  
Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, Dhanmondi  
Date: Nov 9-19  
Time: 3pm-8pm



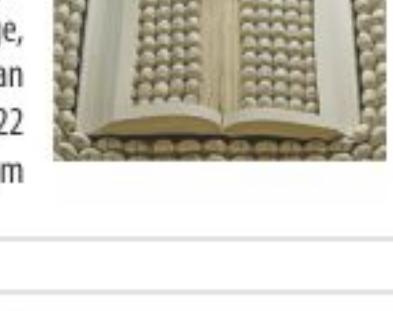
Solo Art Exhibition  
Title: Of Man and Earth  
Artist: Syed Jahangir  
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, Dhanmondi  
Date: Nov 2-13



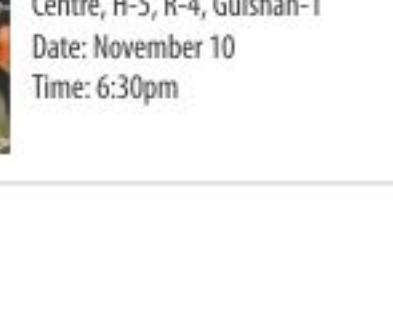
Classical Dance Festival  
Organiser: Chhayanaut  
Venue: Chhayanaut Auditorium, Dhanmondi  
Date: Nov 9-10  
Time: 6:30pm



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



Concert  
Artist: Rashed  
Venue: India 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 artistes 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 (Nishat) 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.

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Highlights of the festival will be performances by Padma Bhushan Vitushi 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. Maarsanga 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.

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# 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. Tahmina 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 Rahaman and artistes of Nityam Nityashilan Kendra will present Manipuri on the second day (November 10) of the



festival.

Sudeshna Swamyprabha 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.

ATN Bangla is the media partner of the festival.

Rachel Priyanka Parisi will perform Gaudiya Nritya while Sona 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 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.

# Traditional folk songs focusing on human rights

PONJEL S BOSE, Narail

Gombhira, Pat Gaan and Gono Natok were held at Shilpakala Academy under Narail municipality area of the district on Monday evening.

Sabolombi, a local NGO, arranged the performances to acquaint the public with activities, vision and mission of the National Human Rights Commission.

A team of artists from Rupantor, an NGO based in Khulna, performed Gombhira, Pat Gaan and Gono Natok on human rights related issues.

Advocate Subhash Chandro Bose, Administrator, Narail Zila Parishad inaugurated the function as chief guest.

Large turnout of music lovers were in evidence at the programme.

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

Advocate Subhash Chandro Bose, Administrator, Narail Zila Parishad inaugurated the function as chief guest.



Pat Gaan at the programme.

#### STAFF CORRESPONDENT

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

Majlir Quayes, secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Anjan Chowdhury, managing director of Square Consumer Products Ltd and chairman of Society for Promotion of Bangladeshi Art (SPBA), will jointly inaugurate the exhibition. Eminent art critic Moinuddin Khalid 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.



Staff Correspondent

# 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.



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 Latadi that 'Runaji bahutache diamonds behenti hain.' Latadi even gifted me a pearl set."

Talking about her husband, Runa said, "Alamgir is an actor and has worked in a lot of Bangladeshi-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? So I let her be."

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, they would often offer us channa in paper cups and she would imitate it at 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

Source: Kshama Rao, The Film Street Journal

# Samir Aich's exhibition begins today at Dhaka Art Centre



Staff Correspondent

# Celebrating Life '12 gala event on Channel i

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.

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 am on Channel i. Be sure to tune in.

PHOTO: STAR

7:30pm: Star

8:30pm: Star

9:30pm: Star

10:30pm: Star

11:30pm: Star

12:00am: Star

1:00am: Star

2:00am: Star

3:00am: Star

4:00am: Star

5:00am: Star