

WHAT'S ON

Bengal-ITC SRA Classical Music Fest
Organisers: Bengal Foundation & ITC-SRA
Venue: Army Stadium, Baran, Dhaka
Date: Nov 29-Dec2

Print Exhibition
Title: Chapai Chobi-1
Venue: Gallari Kaja, H-20, R-16, Sector 4, Uttara
Date: November 24-December 4
Time: 11am-7:30pm

15th Asian Art Biennale
Venue: Bengal Shilpakala Academy, Segunbagicha
Date: December 1-31
Time: 11am-8pm

Solo Musical Soiree
Artist: Abida Sultana
Venue: Main Auditorium, Bangladesh National Museum, Shahbagh
Date: December 2; Time: 6pm

Rooted Creativity-11
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, Diamond City
Date: Nov 26-Dec 5
Time: 12pm-8pm

DU Annual Theatre Fest
Venue: TSC Auditorium, DU
Date: Nov 23-Dec 5
Time: 6:30pm

Japanese Drum Concert
Venue: National Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy (November 30 at 4pm)
Main Auditorium, National Museum, Shahabagh (December 1 at 7pm)

Group Art Exhibition
Title: Semes-7, H 60, Rd 7A, Dhanmondi
Venue: Dhaka Art Center, Date: December 1-10
Time: 3-8pm

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DID YOU KNOW?

Indian Classical Music

- Indian classical music has one of the most complex and complete musical systems ever developed.
- The origins of Indian classical music can be found in the Vedas.
- Bharat's Natyashastra is the first treatise laying down the fundamental principles of music in India.
- Indian classical music can be divided into Hindustani Classical (North India) and Carnatic (South India).
- The prime themes of Indian classical music are love, nature and devotion.
- Indian classical music is traditionally taught via oral methods and, until the 20th century, did not employ notations as the primary media of instruction, understanding, or transmission.
- Typical instruments used in Indian classical music include sitar, sarod, surbahar, veena, tanpura, bansuri, shehnai, sarangi, violin, santoor, pakhawaj and tabla. Instruments typically used in Carnatic music include venu, gottuvadyam, harmonium, veena, mridangam, kanjira, ghatam and violin.

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BENGAL ITC-SRA CLASSICAL MUSIC FESTIVAL 2012

Notes from organisers

Abul Khair
Chairman of Bengal Foundation



"I strongly believe every Bangladeshi loves music. Bangladeshis have an inherent musical soul and sensitivity. Most people have not been initiated into classical music and perhaps don't have ears ready for it but I do believe people appreciate good music.

"I am confident that at least 5,000 of 30,000 people who have registered to attend this festival are true connoisseurs of classical music. But they don't get the opportunity to hear the biggest names in classical music perform live. This is why Bengal Foundation is not selling tickets for this festival. It's free and open to all. Many from Sylhet, Chittagong and other areas of Bangladesh have registered.

"I am hopeful that this festival will be a success. I would like to continue this project. We have signed a 15-year contract with ITC-SRA. If others come forward and organise more such festivals, all the better.

"We're holding a Bangladesh Cultural Festival at ITC-SRA in Kolkata next February. This will be an annual event too. ITC-SRA will include Bangladeshi artists in its events.

"We hope to start our music school in Bangladesh by next year, which will offer vocal and instrumental classical music lessons from ITC-SRA gurus."

Transcribed by Staff Correspondent

Ravi Mathur
Executive Director of ITC-Sangeet Research Academy

"I see this festival as a culmination of some plans we have. I recognise the tremendous contribution of Bengal Foundation.

"Besides the major event, Bengal and ITC-SRA will hold regular programme in Dhaka and other cities. Together, we also intend to set up a music school -- specialising in classical music -- here.

"Bangladesh has a proud tradition of music and its musical history is being recognised -- Baba Allauddin Khan is being honoured through this festival. We have included artists from Bangladesh at this festival. About 11 percent of the slots (at the festival) are reserved for Bangladeshi artists... whom our gurus have found suitable. We want to make sure that the highest standards are maintained.



"We're also arranging bus tour to shrines in Pushkar, India. We'll take Bangladeshi artists to the heartland of rural India. These are just some of the plans we have. I don't think we have put a limit to our association; it can only grow.

"We're absolutely thrilled with the response to the festival in Bangladesh. I do believe it [Indian classical music] is a shared heritage.

"Some of the best folk singers of this subcontinent come from Bangladesh. Can you imagine taking them to Rajasthan, which is also famed for its folk music, and let artists from both countries create beautiful music together?"

Transcribed by Staff Correspondent

ARTISTES TO PERFORM TODAY

5 pm till 4:30 am next day
Dedicated to Sitar Virtuoso Ustad Vilayat Khan
SRA on Strings

Rajrupa Chowdhury - Sarod ■ Deborshee Bhattacharjee - Vocal ■ Yaswant Vaishnav - Tabla
Adnan Khan - Sitar ■ Sandip Bhattacharjee - Vocal ■ Kaushiki Desikan - Vocal
Ustad Mashkoor Ali Khan - Vocal ■ Pandit Buddhadev Dasgupta - Sarod
Ustad Rashid Khan - Vocal ■ Pandit Shiv Kumar Sharma - Santoor

Ustad Vilayat Khan: Making the sitar sing



Today's performances at the Bengal ITC-SRA Classical Music Festival have been dedicated to Ustad Vilayat Khan.

Vilayat Khan was born in Gauripur, then undivided British India (now Bangladesh). His Father Enayat Khan was a sitar maestro. His family traces its pedigree back to the court musicians of the Mughals. Vilayat's father was recognised as a leading sitar and surbahar (bass sitar) player of his time, as had been his grandfather, Imdad Khan, before him. Vilayat was taught in the family style, known as the Imdadkhani Gharana or Etawah Gharana, after a village outside Agra where Imdad Khan lived.

However, Enayat Khan died when Vilayat was only nine, and much of his education came from the rest of his family: his uncle, sitar and surbahar maestro Wahid Khan; his maternal grandfather,

Jaijivanti), others he invented himself (Enayatkhan Kanada, Sanjh Saravali, Kalavanti, Mand Bhairavi), but he was first and foremost a traditional interpreter of grand, basic ragas such as Yaman, Shree, Todi, Darbari and Bhairavi.

When he died from lung cancer in 2004, Vilayat Khan had been recording for over 65 years, broadcasting on All-India Radio since almost as far back and been seen as a master (ustad) for 60. He had been touring outside India off and on for more than 50 years, and was probably the first Indian musician to play in England after independence (1951). In the 1990s, his recording career reached a climax of sorts with a series of ambitious CDs for India Archive Music in New York -- some traditional, some controversial, some eccentric. Towards the end of his life, he also performed and recorded sporadically on the surbahar. He recorded his first 78-RPM disc at the age of 8, and gave his last concert in 2004.

Khan composed and conducted the score for three feature films -- Satyajit Ray's "Jalsaghar" in Bengali, Merchant-Ivory Productions' "The Guru" in English, and Madhusudan Kumar's "Kadambari" in Hindi. In addition to these, he also gave music for a little known documentary film in Bengali produced by Dr. Barin Roy.

Compiled by Correspondent

A rare class of excellence

In conversation with **Ustad Rashid Khan**

SADYA AFREEN MALICK

Despite the blistering heat and the inevitable traffic snarl-ups of Dhaka, we inched our way in anticipation from the airport to the Dhaka Club. Ustad Rashid Khan was to perform live in the evening at the 'Celebrating Life' event of The Daily Star and Standard Chartered Bank.

Though he had performed at a concert till dawn the previous night in Kolkata, he was in high spirits. This was his second performance in Dhaka and he was set to perform to a full-house.

My mind went back to an earlier visit to Kolkata, when we met Khan at his plush residence at Naktala. While he was being interviewed by BBC, we drove around the Sangeet Research Academy (SRA). Established in 1978, SRA was set up to preserve and promote Hindustani Classical Music. The academy organises classical music festivals every year in all major cities in India, showcasing the best of talent. The academy also hosts performances by stalwarts such as Pandit Ajoy Chakrabarty, Ustad Rashid Khan, Pandit Arun Bhaduri, Shubhra Guha, Samarth Nagarkar, Arshad Ali Khan, Supratik Sen Gupta and many more.

Once we finished our tour of SRA, we launched into an animated conversation with Khan. The wooden panelled room was adorned with his tanpura, harmonium and tabla. The French window overlooked the beautiful rose garden on the terrace.

We spoke of his musical journey: "My *rewaz* schedule, as a child of six, was quite traumatic. I had to practise the standing notes, which could at times stretch non-stop for five to six hours. That was my grandfather Ustad Nissar Hossain's style of mentoring me. To avoid all this, I would sometimes flee the scene!"

"There is no fixed time for *rewaz*,



answer, "One should work on one's skills, the rest follows."

Khan has made a radical difference to the way classical music is performed. His renderings stand out for the emotional overtone in his melodic elaboration. This imparts a touch of modernity to his style, compared to the preceding maestros who placed greater emphasis on impressive technique and skilful execution of difficult passages. The spontaneous emotional appeal of his singing, be it in the melodic elaboration or in the upper octave *pukaars*, has won him accolades and enthusiastic followers the world over.

Khan is optimistic about the future wave of musicians, saying, "Quite a few young artists are now coming up in the classical music scene. When I do playbacks, my primary aim is to attract the young listeners to the genre by fusing classical with the modern trend."

The Dhaka audience is much excited about the four-day Classical Music Festival -- jointly hosted by Bengal Foundation and ITC-SRA of India -- from November 29 to December 2. The elaborate initiative has been dedicated to Sangeet Samrat Ustad Allauddin Khan.

Eminent music maestros are set to enthrall music lovers at the grand classical music festival in Dhaka. The festival features performances by maestros from Kolkata ITC-SRA as well as accomplished Bangladeshi artists in classical vocal and instrumental music along with classical dance.

"Poetry and music are the finest medium of proximity to the Almighty" -- said renowned Persian Poet Mawlana Jalaluddin Rumi. With a capacity crowd of over 10,000, expected to attend on each of the four days of the festival, classical music -- the foundation of all music -- is being showcased on one of the biggest stages to an eagerly expectant audience.

PHOTO: STAR

সুর উৎসবে এবার মেতে উঠবে বাংলাদেশ

আজ রাত থেকে দেখুন

1 closeup

তোমাকেই খুঁজছে বাংলাদেশ

২০১২

স্বপ্ন - সাধনা - সাহসে, গাও আত্মবিশ্বাসে

প্রতি শুরু ও রবিবার রাত ৯:৩৫ মিনিটে শুধুমাত্র **n** -তে

ATN BANGLA		05:02	Square Hospital Doctor's Chamber
03:05	Bangla Feature Film		
05:00	Gram Gonjor Khabar	08:00	Drama: Pan Sapari Bou
08:00	Diploma Misti Loral	09:00	Game Show: Houseful
11:00	Tune with Us	12:02	Drama
CHANNEL i		CHANNEL 9	
12:05	Prokriti O Bibon	09:15	Bangladesh Vs West Indies (Live)
02:40	Telefilm		
07:50	Sherakontha	05:00	Bangla Feature Film
09:35	Top Model	09:00	Power Voice
		11:45	Music Box
ETV		Fox Movies	
10:02	Sonamoni Shukh-e Oshukh-e	02:10	Unstoppable
01:30	Bangla Feature Film	03:50	The Walking Dead
06:30	Tarana	07:00	The Chronicles of Namia: Prince Caspian
10:10	Drama: Black Phone & Live Studio	09:30	The Chronicles of Namia: The Voyage of the Dawn
12:05	Concert	11:25	X-Men: First Class
BANGLAVISION		HBO	
10:10	Bhalo Thakun	11:25	Tower Heist

RADIO			
abc radio FM 89.2		02:00	Foorti Unlimited
09:30	Edik Oidi	06:00	Bumper to Bumper
01:20	Alor Shondhaney	10:00	Club Foorti
05:30	Kacha Lanka	01:00	Back to Back music
03:30	Haowa Baal	RADIO TODAY FM 89.6	
07:20	GI Jorush	08:00	Good Morning Dhaka
07:45	Megh Barata	11:00	Flash Back
08:10	Adida	12:30	Islamic Program
11:10	Guitar Never Lies	02:15	Bangla Gaan
RADIO FOORTI		05:00	Today's World Music
12:00	Boier Pika	10:00	Top of the Week

Pan Shuparir Bou
On Maasranga Television at 08:00pm
Single Episode TV Play
Cast: Chanchal Chowdhury,

The Chronicles of Namia: Prince Caspian
On Fox Movies at 07:00pm
Genre: Action/Adventure
Cast: Ben Barnes,

Bhorasha Coaching Centre
On Boishakhi TV at 06:20pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Aditya, Nadia

11:05	Amader Rannaghar	01:20	Kung Fu Panda 2
06:25	Gaan O Fun	03:05	Paranormal Activity 3
11:25	Am Ekhon Ki Korbo (Live)	04:50	Sanctum
		06:55	The Matrix Reloaded
		09:30	Armageddon
ntv		Star World	
02:35	Tale-film	02:30	Grey's Anatomy
06:45	Rangmadhuri	04:30	Revenge
09:00	Close Up One	09:00	The Front Row with Anupama Chopra
11:30	Drama	09:30	Junior Master Chef Australia
Rtv		11:30	Two And A Half Men
12:35	Jadur Deshe	12:00	Modern Family
07:35	Glamour World Dot Com		
08:20	Drama Serial: Capsule 500mg		
12:05	Phone Live Music		
Desh TV		National Geographic Channel	
03:00	Priyogon-er Gaan	05:30	Air Crash Investigation
08:15	Bindu Thekey Britto	08:30	Seconds from Disaster
09:45	Drama	09:30	Taboo: Jobs
11:45	Call-er Gaan	11:30	Ultimate Wild
Boishakhi TV		Discovery Channel	
05:30	Music Train	02:30	Time Wrap
08:00	Amar Guitar Amar Gaan	05:30	One Man Army
08:35	Drama	07:30	Man Vs. Wild
11:05	Shemoy Katuk Gaan-e Gaan-e	08:30	Wildcat Africa
		09:30	Unchained Reaction
		10:30	Gator Boys
Maasranga Television		BBC World	
02:30	Ichchhey Gaan-er Dupur		

DRAMA SERIAL

ATN BANGLA 09:20pm Chhayabrita Channel i 11:30pm Roshni ntv 08:15pm Mayanigam ETV 09:30pm Dhol	Boishakhi TV 06:20pm Bhorasha Coaching Centre BANGLAVISION 08:15pm Harkiptey 04:45pm Gulshan Avenue Rtv 09:05pm Oloshpur 09:50pm Mon Rongla
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BTv	Boishakhi TV
News (Bangla) at 12pm, 2pm, 5pm, 8pm,	News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7pm,
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,

TALK SHOW

ATN Bangla	BANGLAVISION
12:30am Lead News	11:30pm Maha Shatto Al-Quran
CHANNEL i	ntv
09:45am Tritio Matra	12:30am Hello America
12:00am Ajker Shongbadpatro	Desh TV
Boishakhi TV	07:45pm Mukh O Mukhorata
12:30pm Hridoye Jummarbar	Rtv
12:00am Zero Hour	10:40am Tarokalap