



itle: Chapai Chobi-1 Venue: Galleri Kaya, H-20, R-16, ate: November 24- December 4 me: 11am-7:30pm

















HQ CHOWDHURY

DRAMA SERIAL 08:40pm Jhulanta 08:15pm Side Effect Desh TV

**NEWS BULLETIN** 

07:45pm Sat Kahon Maasranga Television 08:00pm Sat Sawdagor CHANNEL 9 08:15pm Nagarik CHANNEL 24 09:30pm Jadur Shahar

News (Bangla) at 12pm, News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 5pm, 8pm. News (English) at 10am, News (English) at 9am, News (Bangla) at 11am, News (Bangla) at 10am. 2pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm. News (English) at 9am, News (English) at 1pm, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm. News (Bangla) at 2pm. News (Bangla) at 1:45pm, 6:45pm, 10:45pm. News (Bangla) at 2pm News (Bangla) at 2pm, News (Bangla) at 1pm, Maasranga Television

09:45 Cinema Express Maasranga Television 09:20 Drama Serial: College

CHANNEL 9

Shaijir Baramkhana

10:30 Drama Serial: Idiots

RADIO





02:45 Cheaper By The Dozen 2

Discovery Channel

09:30 You Have Been

BBC World

Man vs. Wild

Gator Boys

04:00 Shorashori Doctor

BANGLAVISION

03:00 Gaan R Gaan

08:15pm Metro Life

09:30pm Ulala 69

oishakhi TV

09:20pm Ognipotl

ANGLAVISION

09:05pm Long

ATN BANGLA

6pm. CHANNEL i

Kalpoloker Galpokat

Drama Serial:

08:00 Drama Serial: Boro Barii

Front Line 08:15 Drama Serial: Ladie



## Norwegian music in port city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Chittagong

at DC Hill premises.

Bangladesh Institute of Theatre Arts

The programme featured some traditional and popular Norwegian the outcomes of a two-day music workshop arranged by BITA at Fulki Auditorium here.

The programme started with a performance featuring Bangladeshi music instruments -- dotara and dhol -- by local artistes.

Norwegian artiste Erik Skanke

Hosoien, who trained in guitar and lute at Staatliche Hochschule fur Musik in Germany, performed "Passacaglia" composed by Kapsberger, on his theorbo (a

Ingeborg Chiristophersen, who received the Norwegian Society of Tone Artists' Prize of Honour, Musician of the Year (2003), played a composition

The outstanding piece, "Ciacone", composed by Biber was ably played by

The trio held sway over the port city audience with a rendition of

come of a workshop held at Fulki, directed by music producer Hallgeir

cians performed the compositions.

### ng instrument).

Music enthusiasts of the port city were recently enthralled by the performance of Trio Nattergale, a troupe consisting of three Norwegians baroque musicians,

(BITA) and Live Squre hosted the programme, titled "In search of the Roots" --initiated by the Royal Norwegian Embassy and Concerts Norway

compositions alongside pieces that were

titled "Gamble Guro" (old mother) on her

Karolina Radziej on baroque violin.

Tambourin". The programme ended with some group performances that were the out-

Frydenlund Local artistes and Norwegian musi-

### How well do you know 0075 Test your knowledge to win FREE PREMIUM TICKETS to SKYFALL with The Daily Star STAR JAMES BOND QUIZ. QUIZ: 03 1) Which is the most famous of James Bond's handguns? 2) Name the two films Timothy Dalton had been starred as Jamed Bond. 3) What is name of the organization James Bond works for? o participate for your chance to win TWO FREE PREMIUM TICKETS TO SKYFALL, email your answers to kyfall.quiz@thedailystar.net or skyfall.quiz@gmail.com by 4pm today with your name, DOB, mobile

# BENGAL ITC-SRA CLASSICAL MUSIC FESTIVAL 2012 Legends are made of moments like these

#### ZAHANGIR ALOM

Dhaka Music enthusiasts and connoisseurs were in a musical high. Instrumental recitals and vocal renditions coupled with stirring Kathak performances by Pandit Birju Maharaj and his main disciple Saswati Sen went on, one after another, on the penultimate night (December 1) of 'Bengal-ITC SRA Classical Music Festival 2012', held at Bangladesh Army Stadium in Dhaka.

Vocalist Shashank Maktedar set off the musical flight with a rendition of Raga Desh. Abir Hossain's euphoric dhun, set on Raga Puria Dhaneshree, augmented the delight.

Accomplished Bangladeshi vocalist Priyanka Gope created a rainbow of notes and taan, based on Raga Rageshree. Priyanka's vilambit and drut bandish performances (on vilambit ek taal and teen taal respectively were outstanding.

Bangladeshi sitarist Ebadul Huq rightly chose Raga Hemanta to perform at the festival. Raga Hemanta was created by Ustad Allauddin Khan; the entire festival has been dedicated to his memory. Ebadul Huq was tutored

in the Senia Maihar Gharana, founded by Ustad Allauddin A legend unfolded on stage, as Vidushi Girija Devi dis-

seminated the notes of a romantic Raga, Behag. Her sonorous rendition of vilambit bandish, set on vilambit ek taal, articulated pining for love. The maestro later presented a thumri set on Raga Mishra Khamaj, and a dadra created by the Benaras Gharana. Another iconic figure, Pandit Birju Maharaj made the

Dhaka audience sway with his lyrical presentation. The accompanying vocalist, tabla artiste, sarangi and tanpura players weaved a garland of many melodious ragas. Showcasing his mesmerising prowess on taal and bol, Maharaj danced to the melody of divinity.

"Our body changes with the passage of time but not the taal that is on and will go on, maintaining its own course," said the pandit during his performance. Saswati Sen took the stage to first perform a composition on dhamar (14 beats) and later superbly acted out a mythica tale of Ahalya's coming to life again with the divine touch

Pandit Birju Maharaj together with Vidushi Girija Devi presented a jugalbandi chaiti -- "Bairan Re Koyelia Tori

Boli Na Sohaye". Legends are made of moments like these. The programme was supposed to wrap up by midnight, yet five more performances were yet to be showcased. Those who had to leave the maestros that night, missed

> mances: "Charukeshi" recital by sitarist Purbayan Chatterjee; divine rhythms on tabla by Pandit Kumar Bose; and vocal performances by Arshad Ali Khan, Kumar Mardur and Vidushi Subhra Guha. Purbayan Chatterjee produced a breathtaking symphony on strings, set on Raga Jogkaunsh (intermingling of raga Chandrakaunsh and Jog). His alaap, ragdari deco-

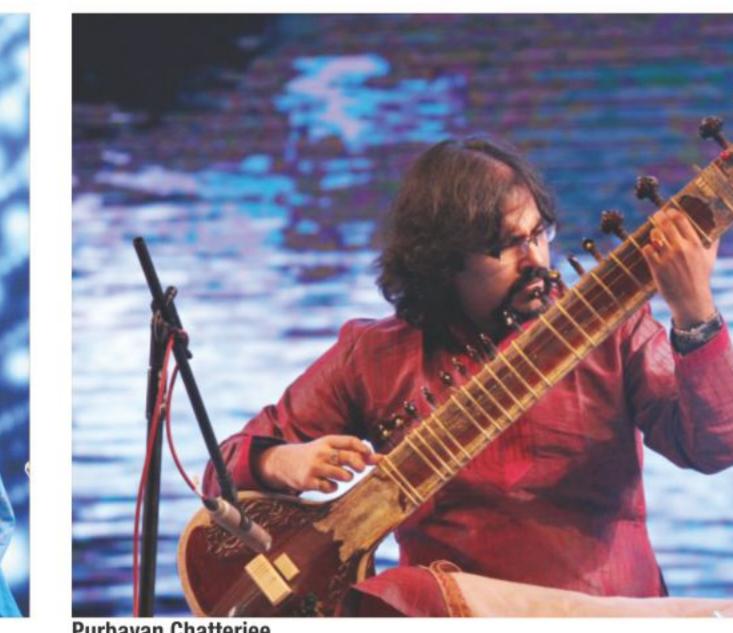
out. Those staying back were blessed with superb perfor-

Highlights of Arshad Ali Khan's rendition of Raga Lalit were: ragdari, making idioms by using notes, bahelowa, taankari, speedy bol-taan, aakar and pukaar.

rated with murki (ornamentation) were dynamic. The

artiste also presented a khamaj dhun.

Pandit Kuamr Bose, whose ancestral roots are in Bangladesh (Barisal and Jessore), made his tabla roar like a Royal Bengal Tiger. He produced magical rhythms coupled with sounds that created the impression of an earthquake occurring under the sea.



## Pandit Birju Maharaj OF MEN AND MUSIC

## Classical music in Dhaka comes of age

Those of us who have been living in Dhaka uninter rupted since the '50s will agree that despite the hassles in our daily lives due to traffic congestion, poor supply of utilities, mosquito menace and garbage, the city still has a unique character. Here are some of the finest architectural beauties in the form of buildings, a gourmet's paradise and a cultural arena that beats many. Once a city in slumber, Dhaka is now a bouncy capital making news; the

latest being classical music. For some unknown reasons, music festivals in the subcontinent have always been labelled as 'conferences' or 'sammelan', a phenomenon that began in Baroda in 1916 with the 'All India Music Conference' But it was not until the '30s when these took a definite shape, thanks to Dakshinranjan Bhattacharya, Vice Chancellor of Allahabad University.

Kolkata, then Calcutta, was miles ahead of others

with scores of music conferences/sammelan like the 'All Bengal Music Conference', 'Tansen Sammelan', 'Sadarang Music Conference', 'Dover Lane', 'Park Circus Music Sammelan', 'Entally Music Conference' and so many others. The peak was in the '50s and '60s when the figure for such annual events once touched 30! These were held in cinema halls like Shree, Uttara, Indira, Prachi, Basuree and the 'bideshi' hall, New Empire, opposite the New Market. The hall owners would cancel the evening and night shows even if the film was a Suchitra-Uttam box office hit.

But alas, barring Dover Lane none of these live today. Why? The answer is simple. Each was a oneman (or one family) show. That being the case, the 'All Bengal Music Conference' that began in 1934 at 47 Pathuriaghat Lane with Bhupendra Krishna Ghosh's patronage, bid farewell in 1953. His son, Manmath Nath Ghosh could pull it that much after his father died in 1937. 'Sadarang' used to hold its programme at Darbhanga Palace in Kolkata and said to amass 5,000 listeners at a time and another 25,000 outside the premise on a typical evening; it died with Kalidas Sanyal. 'Park Circus' left with Satish Sen while 'Tansen' became silent once Sailen Bandhapadhyay was gone. Even 'Dover Lane' which mesmerise all. When hell broke loose in Kolkata

desh almost had a premature end had it not been for a group of people who revived it to save Kolkata's face.

Saswati Sen dances to the jugalbandi

Interestingly, 'Dover Lane' did not start with classical music; neither did it begin at the present Nazrul Mancha. It has its origin in Dover Lane in the Ballygunj area of South Kolkata. A few music enthusiasts used to have music sessions of some sort in their homes on a rotation basis. As the interest brewed, the group shifted the venue to the nearby Singhi Park; that was in 1952. Historically, this probably is the first open air music conference in Kolkata and was studded with modern songs; Rabindra Sangeet and a few classical renderings were at the tail end. Nobody virtually lives today to recap the past. The last person to talk about it was Provat Kumar Das popularly known as 'Das babu', a founder member of the 'Dover Lane Music Conference'; that also 10 years ago when he was 79. As years went by, modern songs and Rabindra Sangeet were eased out, totally. But some are of the opinion that it began as early as 1953. i.e. from its second year.

Allaudin Khan, Hafiz Ali Khan, Kesarbai Kerkar, Omkarnath Thakur, Hirabai Barodkar to Bade Ghulam Ali; Nisar Hussain Khan, Bhismadev Chattopadhyay, Tarapada Chakraborty, Amir Khan to Mallikarjun Mansur. The list is endless if you take into account the relatively 'young ones' like Velayat Khan, Ravi Shankar, the duo Nazakat Ali-Salamat Ali from Pakistan, Keramatullah Khan, Shamta Prasad, Kishan Maharaj, Radhakanta Nandi and the 'prodigies' from Bollywood -- Vijayantimala, Asha Parekh, Hema Malini and Vani Ganipathy who were all talented dancers. Well, 'Dover Lane' had Damodar Das Khanna aka 'Lala babu', a head hunter, who would travel the length and breadth of India to invite the best and tap the best to be.

the first major concert of the two brothers in

recently has had a tremendous impact in Bangla-

Who was not at 'Dover Lane'?

Stories engulf Dover. Hafiz Ali Khan presented a concert with his sons, Rahmat and Amjad Ali Khan, Kolkata. Bhimsen Joshi had the entire audience in tears when he rendered "Ramkali". Ali Akbar Khan could not play to his liking; he left the stage promising to come back the next day; he kept his word to



Some day, this city could be a centre of excellence for classical music.

during the riot, lest listeners be attacked in the dark, took off in the '30s. Gangubai Hangal held them spellbound with her rendition until the morning glow of the sun was

From homes to Singhi Park to Vivekananda Park to Nazrul Mancha, Dover went on and on. The secret? It is run by an organisation of 1,000 members -- like our social clubs but dedicated to sangeet. Two other such organisations come to mind: 'Sur Singar Sansad', Mumbai and the 'Tansen

Sadly, nothing similar comes to mind with Bangladesh. If memory has not betrayed one, Bade Ghulam Ali in his only visit to Dhaka in the mid-'50s was requested to sing film songs (effect of Naushad's breakthrough music in "Baiju Bawra"?) at Gulistan cinema hall, now no more. But that does not mean we did not have pure classical music.

Gul Mohammad Khan (who was based in Dhaka since the '30s); Yusuf Khan Qureishi (who had to

-- cancer); Quader Zameri, a direct disciple of Zamiruddin Khan; PC Gomes; Munshi Raisuddin; Mastan Gama (who like Amir Khan died in a car crash in Dhaka); Phool Mohammad Khan; Fazlul Hug; Yasin Khan Qureishi were very active in Dhaka Among others were the instrumentalists Ayet Ali Khan; Abed Hossain Khan; Hingoo Khan; Mubarak Hussain Khan; Khadem Hossain Khan; Mir Kasem Khan; and the percussionist, Sakhawat Hussain that one can easily recall. Then there was Barin Sammelan' on the tomb of Tansen in Gwalior. Both make a premature exit in 1966, falling to the big "C" Majumder who apart from being a vocalist toiled

PHOTO: ATL AAKASH

moments whose effect becomes prominent with centre of excellence for classical music.

years. Who knows, some day, this city could be a

The writer is a music connoisseur and recently published a biography of SD Burman.

day and night to establish the first institute of classi-

exposed to some of the finest performers -- Nazakat

Ali; Salamat Ali; Amanat Ali; Fateh Ali Khan; Mehdi

There were always some great patrons too at a

comes to mind first. It was in his Wari residence that

Ustads would find abode in comfort during the late

'50s and '60s. There was hardly anyone from Paki-

stan who had not performed at his residence apart

from the local artistes. We were then too young to

be invited. Asafuddowlah, the well known bureau-

crat, singer and champion swimmer also supported

classical music in his own capacity. Others regularly

Sammelan' that was broadcast simultaneously from

The Engineering Institute was one centre where

musical extravaganzas of '60s, though few. Those of

such soirees were held. One could recollect the

us in our teens, unknown and unspoiled, were

always outside the building trying to catch a

glimpse of what was happening inside; the audio

provided for us was invariably poor. All these till

Post-Liberation at home, we had Ferdausi Begum

(yes, she was into thumri too); Ila Majumder; Akhtar

Samdani; and Abha Alam who unfortunately died

early. There were sporadic cases of some outstand-

Shankarl Dagar bothers (thanks to Tawfiq Nawaz).

Almost 15 years ago, we had Amanat Ali and Fateh

Ali at the National Museum and for some years now,

ing musicians visiting Dhaka that included Ravi

tuned in to "Akashvani Kolkata" in "medium wave"

at night for the annual 'Akashvani Sangeet

Delhi to various radio stations.

Hasan; and the charming and beautiful Farida

private level. Alim-ur-Rahman aka 'Alim bhai'

cal music on this soil. Courtesy him, we were

on a regular basis, a host of musicians from India -thanks to Bengal Foundation, which also taps and nurtures talents as a part of its programme. With Dhaka now in the reliable hands of Bengal Foundation and ITC-SRA, it is one of those

nswar of QUIZ 02: 01. Dr. I H Khan - Dhanmondi, Dhaka ESMOND LLWELYN. 02. Faisal - Zigatola Staff Quarter, Dhaka 03. Zunaira Khan - Shaymoli R/A, Dhaka

number and address. The winners of the quiz will be announced tomorrow on the newspaper and through email \*\* (All questions refer to the Eon series of James Bond) Winners of QUIZ 02:

CHANNEL 24 Muktabak

Boishakhi TV 12:00am Zero Hour 11:30pm Our Democracy Maasranga Television 12:05am Modhyraater

### News (Bangla) at 7pm, TALK SHOW

12:05am Ekushey-er Raat