

WHAT'S ON

Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Swanapan
Artist: Proshanta Karmakar Buddha
Venue: Nordic Club, Gulshan-2
Date: Nov 21-Dec7
Time: 5am-7pm

Photography Exhibition
Title: Bangladesh: The Price of Freedom
Photographer: Raghu Rai
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, Bengali Shikshayog, H-42, B-16, Diamond
Date: December 7-16

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

Int'l Short Film Fest
Organiser: Bangladesh Short Film Forum
Venue: Central Public Library, Shahbagh
Date: December 13-19

Solo Art Exhibition
Artist: Kuhu
Title: The Making of Kuhu Art-2
Venue: Radius Art Gallery, Gulshan
Date: Nov 30-Jan 15

Solo Art Exhibition
Artist: Kalidas Karmakar
Title: Alluvial Faces and Diary
Venue: Institute of Art and Culture, Gulshan
Date: Dec 1-20
Time: 10am-8pm

Photography Exhibition
Title: Touch the Sky
Photographer: MA Mohi
Venue: Drik Gallery, H 58, Rd 15A, Dhanmondi
Date: December 7-14
Time: 12-8pm

Victory Festival 2012
Organiser: Sammito
Shangskritik Jote
Venue: Central Shaheed Minar, Dhaka
Date: Dec 14-16; Time: 4pm

Nadia Samdani: Tastemaker for Saffronart



Saffronart -- the largest online auction house in South Asia with a global presence in India, UK and USA -- has launched a 'tastemaker' sale recently, with Nadia Samdani as their first tastemaker under a new initiative called 'The Story', according to a press release.

The auction house has rounded up six specialists like Charu Sachdev of TSG; Faiza Seth of Casa Forma; Simran Lal of Good Earth; Rajeev Samant of Sula Wines; art critic Girish Shahane; and Nadia Samdani to curate some of these collections.

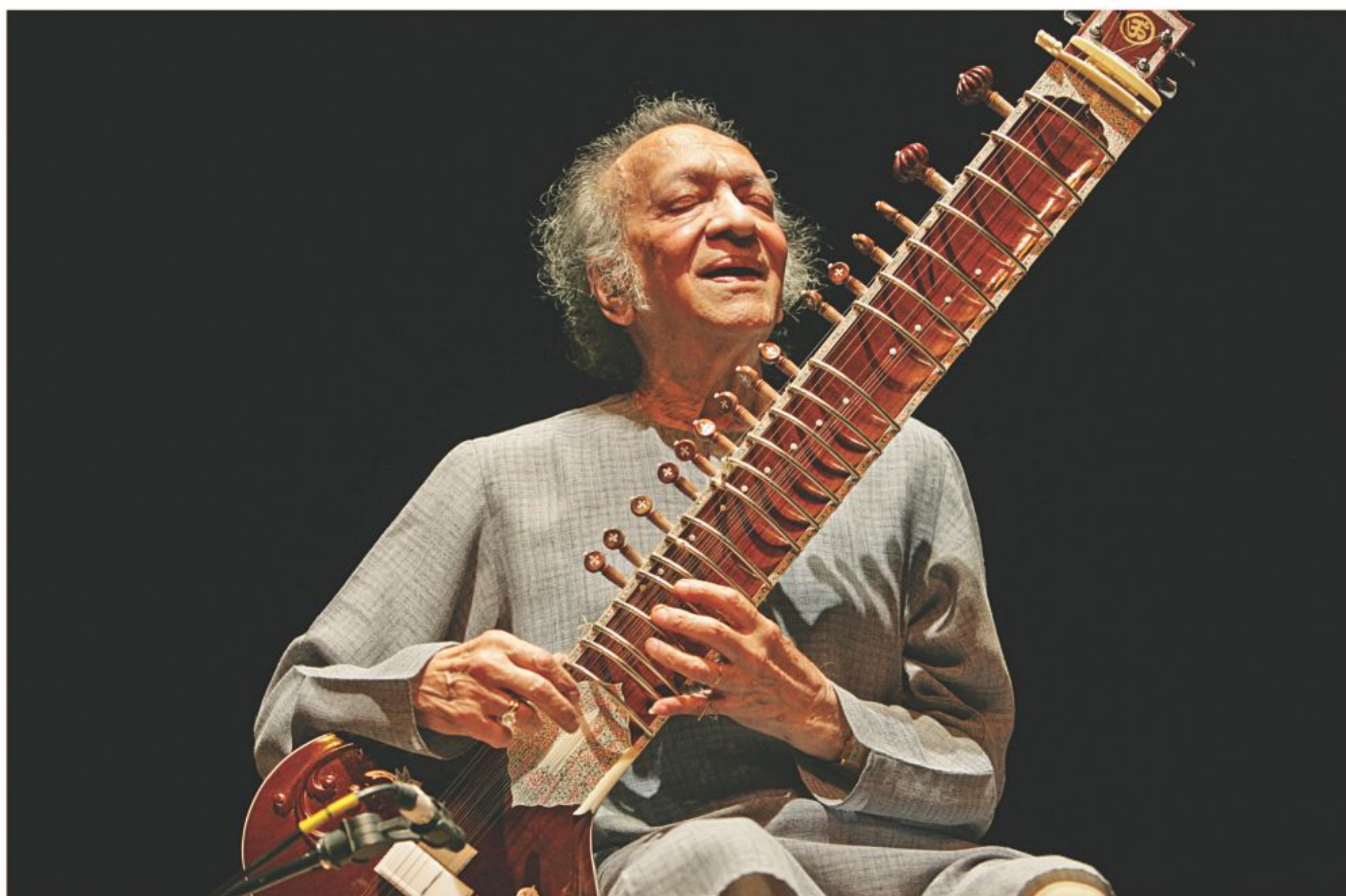
Samdani, who is well known for her international art collection and her passion to promote the contemporary artists from Bangladesh, has brought together a collection of contemporary art, jewellery as well as traditional textile.

In the collection are pieces by leading contemporary artists from Bangladesh like Tayeba Begum Lipi and Ayesha Sultana. The collection includes a set of Raku ceramic teapots and bowls that can be exhibited or used functionally -- made exclusively by artist Ashim Halder Sagor for Samdani. There are also two Jamdani saris and two saris by renowned Bangladeshi designer Rina Latif. The collection also reflects Samdani's interest in international art and craft by including a set of jewellery by Trifari, a French pendant necklace and a set of jewellery designed by Shahla Karim.

Beetle Baily by Mort Walker

Henry by Don Trachte

SITAR GOES SILENT



Pandit Ravi Shankar (C) with daughters Anoushka (L) and Norah Jones.

Labelled the "Godfather of World Music", Pandit Ravi Shankar undertook an extraordinary journey from the banks of Ganges to the heart of the West, mesmerising them with Indian ragas and partnering with musical greats like Beatles' George Harrison and Yehudi Menuhin.

A darling of the hippie movement in the 1960s, Pandit Shankar trained for seven years under Ustad Allauddin Khan and was known for his characteristic sitar sound with powerful bass notes.

Shankar, 92, whose health had been fragile for the past several years, died on December 11 (Tuesday) at the Scripps Memorial Hospital in La Jolla, California after undergoing heart-valve replacement surgery.

The Bharat Ratna started as a dancer with the group of his brother Uday Shankar but gave it up in 1938 to learn sitar under Ustad Allauddin Khan.

During the tour of Uday's dance group in Europe and America in the early to mid-1930s, Shankar discovered Western classical music, jazz, and cinema, and became acquainted with Western customs.

The music doyen composed his first raga in 1945 and embarked on a prolific recording career.

In the 1950s and 1960s, he became the unofficial

international ambassador for Indian music, enthraling audiences in the USSR, Japan and North America.

However, it was his association with Harisorn that got him international stardom. In the 1970s, they collaborated on two albums and toured the United States together.

A Bengali, Shankar was born Robindra Shankar on April 7, 1920 in Varanasi, the youngest of four brothers, and spent his first 10 years in relative poverty, brought up by his mother. He was almost eight before he met his father, a globetrotting lawyer, philosopher, writer and former minister to the Maharajah of Jhalawar.

As a performer, composer and teacher, Shankar was an Indian classical artist of the highest rank, and he spearheaded the worldwide spread of Indian music and culture.

Shankar was a genuine friend of Bangladesh. During the Liberation War, when Bangladeshis were persecuted by the Pakistan army and its collaborators, around 10 million people had to flee to India for shelter. The problem was compounded by torrential rains causing devastating floods and threatening a humanitarian disaster. Shankar was

distressed by the situation and consulted Harrison regarding means of providing help. He asked Harrison's advice regarding a fundraising concert in the United States. Harrison persuaded his other friends to join him at a large concert at Madison Square Garden in New York City. The event was organised within 5 weeks.

Shankar opened the concert with a 25-minute recital of Indian music titled "Bangla Dhun" where he was accompanied by sarod maestro Ustad Ali Akbar Khan, tabla maestro Ustad Allahrakha and K Chakravarty. Before starting Shankar conveyed the cause of the concert to the audience, to make them empathise with the war-stricken Bangladeshis.

"Concert for Bangladesh" was held on August 1, 1971, playing in front of a total of 40,000 people.

Shankar also composed for ballets and films in India, Canada, Europe and the United States. He created music for the "Apu Trilogy" by Satyajit Ray.

Credited with incorporating many aspects of Carnatic music in the north Indian classical system, Shankar was the music director of All India Radio, New Delhi, between 1949 and 1956.

A three-time Grammy award winner, Shankar last performed in California on November 4, 2012

He was unique and was a blessed soul."

Eminent santoor player Shivkumar Sharma recalled, "I met him in my home town Jammu, where he had come to perform. Those days I used to play tabla and I had accompanied him on it. From then onwards, a long association started. He was very fond of my santoor too. There are very few musicians who could be called as legends of Indian classical music."

Flautist Hariprasad Chaurasia said, "I started crying when I heard the news. I am still learning music under Annapurna Devi, Shankar's first wife. I was also associated with Allauddin Khan, who taught Shankar as well. We did 55 concerts together. I remember each and every moment spent with him."

Kathak exponent Pandit Birju Maharaj said, "He was the king of tunes and rhythms. We have lost a big star. There are a lot of memories attached to him. I used to play tabla with him at his Feroze Shah house. His blessings were always with me."

Compiled by Correspondent

Group photo exhibition
Cascading Dreams at Drik Gallery

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A four-day group photo exhibition, titled "Cascading Dreams", was held at the Drik Gallery in Dhanmondi, Dhaka from December 9 to 12. The exhibition was organised by WaterAid, in association with Shiree. It featured stories of people at the grassroots level, their struggles and successes, dreams and realities, joys and sorrows, dignity and empowerment -- in relation to water, sanitation, hygiene (WaSH) and poverty alleviation.

Works of 13 photographers, including some recognised names in the field, were on display. Among them were internationally known photographers Abir Abdullah, GMB Akash and Munem Wasif.

Other participating photographers are: Anisur Rahman, ASM Shafiqur Rahman, Barhanuddin Talukder, Habibul Haque, Juthika Hawlader, Khaled Ararat Ahmed, Saikat Majumder, Charlie Bibby, Brent Stirton and Tareq Salahuddin.

In total, the exhibition featured 60 photos.

The photographers tried to reveal the miseries of marginalised people, trying to overcome the existing hurdles in their lives. The photos also showed how successes in access to water, sanitation and hygiene can contribute to reduce extreme poverty in different parts of the country.

Works by acclaimed photographers -- Abir Abdullah, GMB Akash and Munem Wasif -- were aesthetically brilliant and aptly conveyed the messages.

Akash's photos "A Ray of Hope", "Fighting with the Nature", "Trapped in WaSH Poverty" and "Fresh Water -- a Blessing" depicted people who suffered once with polluted water. Their relatively better off condition after having access to fresh water was also showcased.

Wasif's works "Towing Water Down from Miles", "Life Goes On", "Keep the Water Moving" and "Towing Water Down from Home" narrate the hardship of people living in remote areas. Collecting water from distant places gets the focus in these photos.

The exhibition featured photos taken not only by professional photographers but also amateurs. Tareq Salahuddin, a public health professional and development worker, captured moments from lives that illustrate stories of child marriage and its consequences, the unwillingness to accept and negative treatment of girl children in a family, and abandoned mother with offspring.

A book [collection of exhibited photographs] was launched at the event.



Photographs by Munem Wasif (top) and GMB Akash.

Reception for family members of Nazrul



Khilkhil Kazi performs at the programme.

ZAHANGIR SHAH, Manikganj

Cultural organisations of Manikganj recently accorded a reception to the family members of National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam at Tewta, the birthplace of the poet's wife Promila Debi, under Shivalaya upazila. They also accorded a reception to the members of Churulia Nazrul Academy in West Bengal.

Nazrul-Promila Parishad and Nazrul-Promila Shangskritik Goshthi arranged the reception at Tewta Jamindar Bari for the family members of the poet -- Khilkhil Kazi, Kazi Nadira, Farzana Runa, Kazi Ahnaf Islam Arien, Kazi Ajoad Islam Aiat, and Kazi Mozahar Hossain, general secretary of Churulia Nazrul Academy in West Bengal.

Anwar Hossain Badal, chairman of Tewta Union Parishad, presided over the function where Nazrul researchers Anupam Hayat and Professor Rafiqul Islam; Mohammad Asad, general secretary of Nazrul-Promila Parishad and Nazrul researcher; Ali Akbar, former chairman of Shivalaya upazila Parishad; poet Motiara Chowdhury Mitu; Professor Abdul Mannan; Dr. Mukhtadir; Rezaul Karim, officer in charge (OC) of Shivalaya Police Station; and Abdul Quddus, general secretary of Shivalaya Upazila Awami League, addressed the gathering.

Khilkhil Kazi and local artists rendered songs and recited poems after the reception.

Earlier, the family members of the poet and members of Churulia Nazrul Academy in West Bengal, paid homage to Kazi Nazrul Islam and his wife Promila by placing floral wreaths on their portraits.

Murtaja Baseer
Powerhouse of talent

TAKIR HOSSAIN

Murtaja Baseer is considered one of the leading painters of Bangladesh who has established a unique style. Like his father, noted linguist and educationist Dr. Mohammad Shahidullah, Baseer is a powerhouse of talent.

The veteran painter shared his experience of and views on the Liberation War.

In 1971, Baseer escaped to Paris with his family, fearing arrest for his involvement in the independence movement. "After reaching Paris, I was shocked at the news of Dhaka's dreadful situation," Baseer said.

It was during Baseer's stay in Paris that the "Epi-taph for the Martyrs" series was done, inspired by the colours and unfamiliar forms enmeshed in stones that he found on a Parisian street.

Baseer said, "I think that we fought for independence, but we could not reach the goal of liberation. The government should ensure economic, social and cultural rights of the citizens, as proper development of a country is not possible without ensuring the rights of all."

Elaborating on the art scene in post-liberation Bangladesh, Baseer said that the stories of the Language Movement and Liberation War have often pervaded our theatre, literature and cinema. But the themes do not adequately appear in our art. This is a matter of much regret.

During the 1980s, a new feature had been added to Bangladeshi art scene. Painters started to widely exhibit their works abroad and many foreign painters have come here for exhibitions. The foreign artists exchanged their experiences and ideas with their Bangladeshi counterparts, he added.

At present, people in the country are gradually becoming more interested in the arts. The number of art exhibitions by both senior and promising artists has increased over the years, and consequently art galleries are mushrooming. The practice of arts is no longer confined to the city, said an optimistic Baseer.

The artist was born in 1932. He joined Dacca Art College (now the Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka) as a student in 1949. He is still actively exploring the diverse world of art. He has done a series of works articulating contemporary life and issues. Hope, aspiration, longing, deprivation and visions are evoked with passion in his images.

Many are perhaps not familiar with Baseer's other identities as a poet, short story writer, novelist, researcher, numismatist and filmmaker. Baseer has written novels and was acclaimed for his meticulous style and unique choice of themes. Baseer has also worked as a screenplay writer, art director and chief assistant director for the Bangla film "Nadi O Nari" in 1964, and as an art director for the Urdu film "Kaise Kahoon" in 1965.

Mime guru Niranjan Goswami in Tangail

MIRZA SHAKIL, Tangail

Padma Shri Niranjan Goswami, one of the pioneers of modern mime in the subcontinent, held a daylong mime workshop in Tangail recently. Anandapath School in Tangail organised the workshop at Salma Bhuiyan Memorial Stage of the institute in the town.

Around 50 participants from Anandapath School, Shonar Tori Cultural School, Government Saadat College and Malwana Bhashani Science and Technology University (MBSTU) had a firsthand introduction to the art of mime.

Among others, director of Anandapath and Shonar Tori Cultural School, Aminul Haque Khan Kaiser,

and Swadhin Bangla Beter Kendra artiste and freedom fighter Elen Mallik were present at the workshop.

Goswami told The Daily Star, "I visited different institutions in the country and discovered that Bangladeshi children and youth are greatly interested in mime and they are also talented."

Goswami was born at Sonargaon village in Dhaka, Bangladesh on March 10, 1949. After his father's death, Goswami along with his family went to Mumbai, India in 1953 and later on settled in Kolkata.

Goswami was awarded the fourth highest Indian civilian honour, Padma Shri, in 2009 for his outstanding contribution to mime art across the country.

How well do you know 007? Test your knowledge to win FREE PREMIUM TICKETS to SKYFALL with

The Daily Star **STAR CINEMA** JAMES BOND QUIZ.

QUIZ: 13

1) The wife of which Bond ally is murdered in "License to Kill"?
2) What instrument does Bond's love interest play in "The Living Daylights"?
3) What was Alec Trevelyan's double O number in "GoldenEye"?

To participate for your chance to win TWO FREE PREMIUM TICKETS to SKYFALL, email your answers to skyfall.quiz@thedailystar.net or skyfall.quiz@gmail.com by 4pm today with your name, DOB, mobile number and address. The winners of the quiz will be announced tomorrow on the newspaper and through email.

Answer of QUIZ 12:
1. FOR YOUR EYES ONLY.
2. OCTOPUSSY.
3. INTUITIVE IMPROVISATION.

Winners of QUIZ 12:
01. Sibah Adnan - Mirpur DOHS, Dhaka
02. Shyma Tanti - Moghbazar, Dhaka
03. Tanveer Nawaz - Nawabpur Road, Dhaka

BTV	12:35 Shukhi Paribar	09:45 Style & Fashion
03:05	Bangla Feature Film	11:55 Drama
09:05	Drama: Shasti	Maasranga Television
11:05	Chenajana	10:02 Bangla Feature Film
ATN BANGLA		Binodon Sharadin
11:20	Business and Finance	08:00 Tele-film: Shedin
03:05	Bangla Feature Film	Tarabanu Aj Tarabanu
08:00	Destination Unlimited	Tomy Gaan Shonabo
11:00	Drama: Shonariler Shishi	CHANNEL 9
CHANNEL i		09:00 Bangla Feature
11:05	Ami Maa Hote Cholechik	Film
02:40	Hridoye Mati O Manusher Daak	08:15 Drama
03:30	Bangla Feature Film	10:30 Drama Serial: Nishidandha
07:50	Sherakontha	CHANNEL 24
ntv		03:25 Dnubotara
10:05	Tele-film	08:00 Musical Programme
06:15	Shubho Shondhya	10:10 Drama Serial
09:00	Amaro Gaite Ichchhe	Gtv
		11:30 Bangla Feature

Shedin
Tarabanu Aj Tarabanu
On Maasranga Television at 08:00pm
Tele-film
Cast: Tariq Anam

Rush Hour 3
On 8:30p
Genre: Action/Comedy
Cast: Jackie Chan, Chris Tucker & Max von Sydow

Bipashar Oitishi
on BANGLAVISION at 09:55pm
Celebrity Talk Show
Guest: Hasan Inam

11:30	Holo	Film
ETV	Shur Bhora Nilima	Bhalobashi Gaan
04:30	Shanskrit Shomachar	09:05 Drama
07:50	Drama	11:00 Ghor Mon Janala
09:30	Ekdhey-er Chokh	03:15 Shanghai Noon
12:05	Ekdhey-er Raat	05:10 Columbiata
Boishakhi TV		07:00 Trepass
09:15	Bangla Feature Film	09:35 Angels & Demons
12:15	The Business Show	11:55 Wall-E
04:15	Shoroshi Doctor	HBO
11:00	Reporters Diary	04:10 Rush Hour
BANGLAVISION		06:00 The Hangover Part II
11:05	Shokal Belar Roddur	07:45 Step Up 2: The Streets
06:05	Shyma Bangla	09:30 Rush Hour 3
09:05	Bipashar Oitishi	11:15 Congo
11:25	Gaane Gaane Deshe Deshe	Star World
Rtv		02:30 Grey's Anatomy
12:35	Bangla Feature Film	04:30 Revenge
06:00	Drama Serial: Swapno	09:30 Packed to the Rafters
11:30	R Music	11:30 Two And A Half Men
12:05	Music Fest	Discovery Channel
Desh TV		02:30 Year in the Wild
03:00	Gaan R Gaan	05:30 Man Vs. Wild
06:00	123 Srimpur	09:30 Survivor Man Ten

DRAMA SERIAL			
ATN BANGLA		09:20pm Ognipath	
08:40pm	Chupi Chupi	BANGLAVISION	
09:20pm	Chayabrita	08:15pm	Generation Next Dot
CHANNEL i		Rtv	
09:35pm	Boeing 757	09:05pm	Oloshpur
11:30pm	Rozhn	09:50pm	Eti Dulabhai
ntv			
08:15pm	Mayanigan	Desh Tv	
09:45pm	Shunno Shumikaran	07:45pm	Saatikahon
Boishakhi TV		08:15pm	Radio Chocolate

NEWS BULLETIN		
BTV	News (Bangla) at 12pm, 2pm, 5pm, 8pm.	Boishakhi TV
03:05	News (English) at 10am, 4pm, 10pm.	News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7pm.
ATN BANGLA		News (English) at 9am, 6pm.
News (Bangla) at 11am, 12pm, 2pm, 7pm, 10pm.		BANGLAVISION
News (English) at 9am, 6pm.		News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm.
CHANNEL i		News (English) at 1pm, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm.
News (Bangla) at 2pm, 9pm, 10:30pm.		Rtv
ntv		News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm.
News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm.		Maasranga Television
ETV		News (Bangla) at 7pm, 1am.
News (Bangla) at 1pm, 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm.		

TALK SHOW		
ATN BANGLA	12:30pm	Lead News
CHANNEL i	12:30pm	Taraka Kothon
ntv	12:10pm	Et Shomoy
ETV	10:10pm	Toboo Badhon
Boishakhi TV	12:00am	Zero Hour
BANGLAVISION	06:30pm	Talk of the Week
Rtv	11:40am	Tarokalap
Desh TV	10:30pm	Desh E Golpo
Gtv	12:00am	Shongbad