

WHAT'S ON

**Tagore Song's and Recitation Programme**  
Venue: Chhayanat Auditorium, Dhanmendi  
Date: Aug 23  
Time: 7pm

**Dance and Musical Programme**  
Title: Ang Tomari Bani-Tagore in Europe  
Organiser: Nitya Nandan  
Venue: Chhayanat Auditorium, Dhanmendi

**Musical Soiree and Album Launch**  
Artist: Ustad Niaz Mohammad Chowdhury  
Venue: Gulshan Club, H-11/2/2A, Bir Uttam Salhan Mahmud Road, Gulshan 2

**Nari Jagoron'er Natya Ayojon**  
Venue: National Theatre Hall and Experimental Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy  
Date: Aug 19-24  
Time: 6-10pm

**Theatre**  
Marketing Selim Al Deen Birth Anniversary  
Play: Chaka  
Venue: Natmandal, Dhaka University

**Street Show of Doodles**  
Artist: Mustapha Khalid Palash  
Venue: Hotbread, R-11, Banani, Dhaka  
Date: Aug 6-9pm  
Time: 7pm-10pm

**Dance Evening**  
Title: Nupur Reje Jai  
Organiser: Shadrona  
Venue: Shilpakala Academy  
Date: Aug 25  
Time: 6-10pm

**Solo Art Exhibition**  
Artist: Hosshina Toyoni (Japan)  
Venue: Bengal Shilpalaya, H-27/6, Rd-27 (old), Dhanmendi  
Date: 17-25  
Time: 12-8pm

NEW RELEASES

**THE HIT ALBUM**  
The Hit Album 4 Mixed album  
Source: Agniweena

**X Prem**  
Solo album by Asif  
Source: MIB

**Porshi**  
Solo album by Porshi  
Source: Agniweena

**Baul Beshe Rabi Tagore**  
Solo album by Rinku  
Source: Samporka

NADIA on the upcoming Dhaka Art Summit

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Nadia Samdani is the founder-director of the Dhaka Art Summit and the co-founder and president of Samdani Art Foundation. She is an avid art collector and well-known for her art philanthropy. She was the architect of the 1st edition of the very well received Dhaka Art Summit (2012). She is an articulate observer of Bangladeshi art and the momentous event coming up next year.

Nadia gives a rundown of what art lovers can expect of the upcoming Dhaka Art Summit. In her words: "Dhaka Art Summit is the first of its kind in the history of Bangladesh. Museums like Guggenheim New York, British Museum and Tate Museum in London have acquired artworks by Bangladeshi contemporary artists. Following the Dhaka Art Summit, a large number of Bangladeshi contemporary artists have also exhibited at international galleries. In fact, until March 2014, four solo and group exhibitions of Bangladeshi artists are scheduled in Istanbul, London, New York and Mumbai.

"The National Art Gallery of Bangladesh at Shilpakala Academy, where Dhaka Art Summit will take place, covers an area of over 120,000 sq.ft. Dhaka Art Summit will utilise the area and convert the entire space into a world class exhibition space.

"The summit this time will focus on the entire South Asian region from its 2nd edition and onwards, and will be the largest South Asian art event. The aim is to have a South Asia-centric event where people from all around the world can visit and discover South Asian contemporary art.



"The Summit will be overseen by a curatorial team, which includes Diana Campbell Betancourt, who is an internationally acclaimed curator. This unique non-commercial event will exhibit works of over 250 artists including celebrated artists like Jitish Kallat, Shilpa Gupta, Rashid Rana, Shahzia Sikander, Mithu Sen, Naem Mohaiemen, Rana Begum and many more from South Asia.

"The 2nd edition of Dhaka Art Summit will present a series of programmes which will include six curated exhibitions at the venue (Shilpakala Academy). An exhibition of Bangladeshi contemporary art will be curated by Paris-based curator Deepak Ananth. Italian curator Rosa Maria Falvo will present an exhibition of Bangladeshi photography. Mohammad Muniruzzaman, a renowned gallerist and curator and founder of Gallery Chitrak, will curate a show with established Bangladeshi artists. Indian Curator Veerangana Solanki will curate a show with Indian contemporary artists and Pakistani curator Ambereen Karamat will curate a show with Pakistani contemporary artists. The summit will also present performances and experimental film screenings by artists from the South Asian region, curated by Mahbubur Rahman, and Shehzad Chowdhury will curate a show with Bangladeshi mainstream artists to create a dialogue between the art practitioners and aficionados of Bangladesh.

"The summit will also include a panel of talks focused on the development of South Asian art as well as its representation in museums around the world, and presentations by over 30 invited galleries from the region. The foundation will invite speakers from all over the world, while one of the highlighted speaker's panels would be a Museum Panel with speakers from Tate, British Museum, Pompidou, Guggenheim and MoMA. Five speakers will be invited from European and American museums who have already acquired or are looking into South Asian art. Another attraction of the Summit would be the participation of over 32 local and international galleries by invitation only; out of this, there will be 17 local galleries and 15 leading international galleries, who will exhibit South Asian Art from Mumbai, Delhi, Kolkata, Karachi, Lahore, Colombo, Istanbul and Barcelona," concludes Nadia.



OUR PICK

STAR ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Weekends are time to relax and unwind, and what better way to do that than with some music and films? Star Arts & Entertainment brings you Our Pick, a selection of films and music albums we believe you will enjoy; something that can brighten up your weekend.

**ALBUM: DUKHINI DUKKHO KORONA**  
**ARTIST: JAMES**  
**RELEASE: 1999**  
This is the album that really pushed the popularity of 'Nogor Baul' James through the roof, although he had been on the scene for a while when this came out. There's a good chance you've heard a number of tracks from this album already; 'Bibagi', 'Sultana Bibiyana', 'Lutpat Hoye Jaabe' and of course the title track 'Dukhini Dukkho Korona' are some of the artist's biggest career hits. James' loud, baritone vocals with the signature husky crack in places, beautifully melodious compositions spaced between energetic, riff-heavy (not a very common phenomenon for pop albums at the time) with flowing but deep lyrics treading a wide range of subject matters makes this 14-year old album a very pleasant -- and strongly nostalgic listen. It is one of those rare albums where it's hard to skip over any tracks; 'Guitar Kadte Jaane', 'Ghumao Tumi', 'Ishwar Achhey', 'Tumi Jodi Nodi Hou' and 'Jodi Kokhono' are all very nice songs. The recording and mastering quality is understandably not as good as the music of today, but James makes up for it with his feel and delivery.

**FILM: REAL STEEL**  
**DIRECTOR: SHAWN LEVY**  
**CAST: HUGH JACKMAN, DAKOTA GOYO, EVANGELINE LILLY**  
**RELEASE: 2011**  
Despite being a versatile actor, Hugh Jackman is one of the most known for his tough-guy roles, thanks to the X-Men franchise. He steps out of that image in "Real Steel", a feel-good film with a pleasantly mild flavour of sci-fi. Set in the near future where robot-boxing is a popular sport, a retired boxer's ventures into it with his pre-teen son makes for a heartwarming story. It has all the elements of a relaxed weekend watch; a bit of action (no gore, because it's the robots who engage in the fights), drama, and the bond between a single father and an ambitious young guy who can dream beyond the harshness of reality, and eventually beat the odds stacked against him. The immensely talented Dakota Goyo commands ample attention even when sharing the screen with Jackman, bringing out the 'humane' side of his prized little robot, Atom. The music, featuring Eminem, Dave Grohl, The Prodigy and The Crystal Method, also add to the movie greatly.

Banglalink Rangpur BHAWAIA UTSHAB held

The three day Banglalink Rangpur Bibhagio Bhawaia Utshab '13 was held recently, says a press release. One of the most significant cultural festivals of the northern region, the three day long festival included a rally, Pala Gaan, Bhawaia songs and dance competition among other festivities. Banglalink sponsored the event for the fifth consecutive time.

The event has now turned out to be a platform of reunion and entertainment for the general people of the region. Around 400 artists from all eight Districts of Rangpur Division took part at the Bhawaia song contest.

A very popular form of song in North Bengal, Bhawaia speak about various aspects of the region. Hence, it is a common platform where people from all walks of life participate. The festival draws participants from not only this particular region but from the entire country.

This year the event attracted some forty thousand visitors. Marketing Director Solaiman Alam from Banglalink said: "Over the years, Bhawaia Utshab has come to embody the cultural ritual of this region and is one of the most noteworthy festivals. Banglalink is proud to be sponsoring the event as part of its continued effort to encourage and advocate local culture and heritage."

The event was organised by Sound Touch.



Dancers perform at the programme. PHOTO: STAR

Q & A Ferdousi Rahman

STAR ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Ferdousi Rahman, a singer of repute, stepped into the world of music as a young girl of six. She has been a major figure in the cultural scenario for over six decades. The Daily Star met up with the eminent singer. Excerpts:

**What's your nickname?**  
"Mirna"--it's a Russian name.

**What keeps you going?**  
Music--and more music. I feel that throughout my career -- first as a singer and later as a teacher-- I was blessed. Of late, I have been judging the talent hunt "Bangladeshi Idol" on SA TV. On the other hand, the Abbassuddin Sangeet Academy is going on in full swing which gives me immense pleasure too.

The programme "Esho Gaan Shikhi" that I conducted for children has been running for almost 49 years. On and off, I have been training young talents on BTV from its very inception. Khan Ataur Rahman, Azad Rahman and a few others have occasionally conducted the programme as well, but somehow people have always well received my way of presentation.

**What's most endearing about you?**  
People often ask how I manage to smile all the time and cheer up the mood wherever I go ... I take that as a compliment.

**What is the worst thing about you?**  
I take great interest in designing saris for myself. In doing so, I find that our deshi materials are fun to work on. I also love to experiment with new dyes at regular intervals. In addition, I am into interior designing.



Nowadays, I get agitated quickly and get tense over trivial matters. PHOTO: ATILAKASH

**What interests you other than music?**  
I take great interest in designing saris for myself. In doing so, I find that our deshi materials are fun to work on. I also love to experiment with new dyes at regular intervals. In addition, I am into interior designing.

**Any hilarious experience you would like to share with us?**  
During the early '60s, we were quite used to live radio broadcasts. And there were times when we had amusing experiences as well. At Shahbagh radio station, we were performing for a special

event. Big names like Laila Arjumand Banu, Rawshan Ara Masud and many others were also performing. All of a sudden, Rawshan Ara Masud began to giggle over something. As you know laughing is contagious, and it was impossible for us to stop laughing. Abdul Ahad, our music director, looked at us helplessly from the other side of the glass. Somehow, we managed to finish the song and we all sighed with relief at the end.

**What are your most memorable experiences?**  
During my long career, I have had the privilege to work with great composers such as Abdul Ahad, Sattya Shaha, Samar Das, Khalil Anand, Nisar Bazmi and many more. As artists, we utilised our time optimally. Even while travelling through the mountainous regions of Muree during our musical tours abroad, on a bus, I remember taking lessons from classical maestros Nazakat Ali and Salamat Ali.

**Your first playback and superhit playback...**  
My first playback was a famous bhawaiya "O Mor Kala Rey Kala" for the film "Aasia", in 1958. The song "Poraney dola dilo ekon bhrumora" for the film "Shutorang", directed by Subash Dutt, composed by Sattya Saha was the first superhit song of over 1,000 songs I have playbacked.

**What are your most prestigious awards?**  
I have been awarded prestigious National Awards like the Ekushey Padak and the Swadhinata Padak-- but the most important thing to me is the love of my ardent fans.

NEWS bytes



Cotillard to replace Portman in Macbeth

Marion Cotillard is to replace Natalie Portman in a new film adaptation of Macbeth, starring Michael Fassbender. The film, which is being directed by Australia's Justin Kurzel, is described as "an energetic and modern themed take on a timeless story."

It is being produced by "The King's Speech" and "Shame" producers See Saw. Production will start at the end of the year with filming starting in the UK in January 2014.

See Saw said the film will be "a thrilling interpretation of the dramatic realities of the times and a truthful reimagining of what wartime must have really been like for one of Shakespeare's most famous and compelling characters."

A boost to classical music Sadarang to hold discussion and musical soiree today

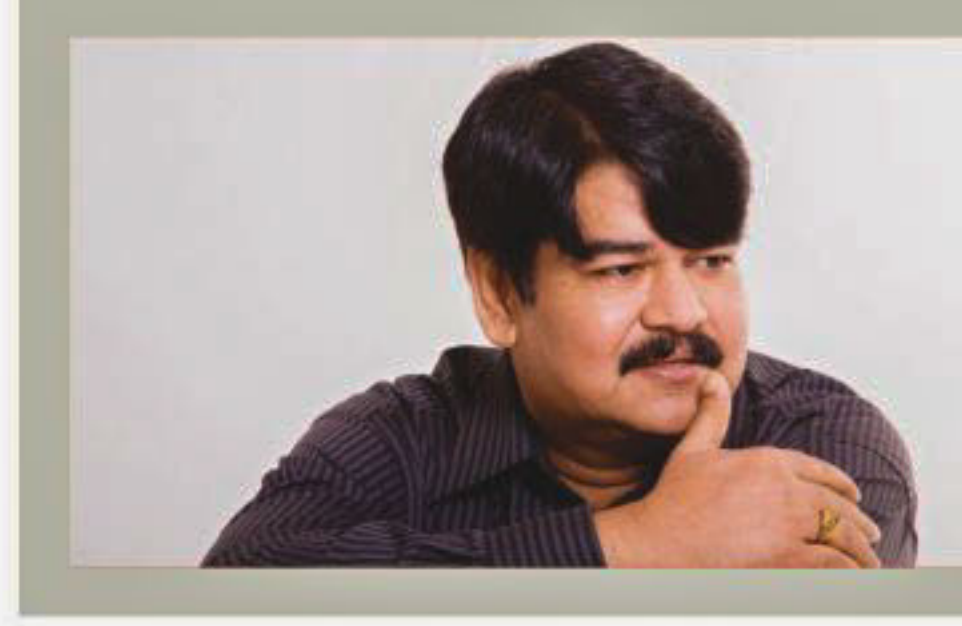
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chittagong-based music organisation Sadarang Uchchanga Sangeet Parishad Bangladesh (SUSPB) will hold a discussion along with a classical music soiree at the auditorium of Bishwa Sahitya Kendra, in the capital today. Founder of the organisation, noted artist Swamamoy Chakrobarty will present a keynote paper titled "Bortoman Shomaj O Uchchanga Sangeet" (Present Society and Classical Music) at the programme divided into two segments. The first part of the programme, featuring a discussion, will start at 4pm while musical soiree will begin at 6:30pm.

Noted musician Azad Rahman, Nazrul exponent Professor Rafiqul Islam, president of International Theatre Institute (Worldwide) Ramendu Majumdar, Professor Hasina Zakaria Bela, Tagore singer Tapan Mahmud, Nazrul singer Khairul Anam Shakil and editor of Star Showbiz Rafi Hossain will be the discussants at the event. Vice President of the organisation, Professor Tapan Jyoti Barua Chittagong University will preside over the discussion.

The second part of the programme will highlight performance of classical music by three promising artists. Kanak Chapa Kayostogir will set off the soiree h a kheyal performance set on raga "Bhimpalashree". Mohammad Shoyeb will render vocal music while Nishit Dey will perform a sitar recital. Iftekhar Alam Pradhan, Bishwajit Natto and Rajib Chakrobarty on tabla and Mousumi Dasgupta and Sanjay Chakrobarty on tanpura will accompany the artists.

Founded in 1998, SUSPB annually holds a two-day classical music conference every winter. The organisation has so far arranged 16 music conferences. Apart from this, SUSPB holds music workshops, discussions and bi-monthly musical programmes where promising artists take part.



**Noted Nazrul Sangeet artist**  
**Sujit Mustafa**  
will perform live on a musical programme titled "Aaj Shokaler Amontroney" today at 7:30am on Tara Muzik.



PHOTO: RIDWAN ADDI RUPON

Lux Super Star Mehzebien on the go

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Nicknamed Jennifer, born under the zodiac sign of Aries, Mehzebien Chowdhury was the "Lux Super Star 2009" from when her meteoric rise to stardom began. From TV plays to walking the ramps to starring in the silver screen, she has left no stone unturned to further her career.

Here she shares with us little known facets of her life on and off screen.

**To what extent did the Lux TVC influence the direction of your career?**

**Mehzebien:** Well you see, after a decade, the Lux advertisement had someone from our country, and I was selected for it. This was a huge boost to my career as I received rave reviews from then on. I never dreamed I would fit the role, but there I did it and my dream came true.

**Are you back to work as usual after your Eid shooting?**

**Mehzebien:** I have. The TV plays are for Eid uz-Adha. Shojol has co-starred in both the plays. I hope to do more for Eid.

**And what do you have for the silver screen?**

**Mehzebien:** I am working on a film-- "Porobashini". It's a sci-fi film with Nirob as my co-star, directed by Shopon Ahmed. I am also working in Mostafa Sarwar Farooki's "Dubo Shohor".

**Tell us more about "Dubo Shohor".**  
**Mehzebien:** I am gearing up to act in Farooki films since it has been my long cherished dream to work under his banner. The dates are yet to be finalised. I wish to give of my best to the film.

**Which of the three mediums you have worked in interests you the most?**

**Mehzebien:** In fact I enjoy working in all three mediums. However, I am more drawn towards modelling. The reason is simple, I need less time for it but the audience response is no less than the other mediums.

**What was the response after the latest Banglalink TVC?**

**Mehzebien:** The reaction is overwhelming no doubt. Banglalink Desh is projecting a sequel, a newer version which is getting a great public response too. I admire the work too.

**Are you into hosting shows?**  
**Mehzebien:** Not really. I think emceeing needs a lot of practice and knack. Although I have received quite a few offers to do it, to me it is altogether a different art. I would rather go for acting.

**You have stayed a good part of your life abroad. Tell us about it.**

**Mehzebien:** I lived almost 16 years in Oman. While staying there I modelled for the "Times of Oman". I also took part in dance performances. Two years after my return to the country I was selected as the Lux Super Star.

The awakening of women

AMI BIRANGANA BOLCHHI and CHITRANGADA staged at Shilpakala Academy



Scenes from "Ami Birangona Bolchi" (L) and "Chitrangada".

PHOTO: RIDWAN ADDI RUPON

SOURAV DEY

With the theme of awakening of women, the ongoing "Nari Jagoron'er Natyo Ayojon" is drawing a fairly large audience. On the third day of the festival, two plays were staged at the National Theatre Hall and Experimental Theatre Hall of the Shilpakala Academy.

On Wednesday evening, theatre troupe Swapnodal staged their popular production, "Chitrangada"-- the Tagore masterpiece. Written against the backdrop of Hindu mythology, the lyrical play has been adapted by Zahid Repon from 1892's "Chitrangada" (not to be confused with dance drama "Chitrangada"--written in 1936). The play depicts the inner conflict of the human mind. Mythical hero Arjun comes to Manipur for spiritual contemplation; meanwhile the princess of Manipur, Chitrangada falls in love with the warrior. However, Arjun who does not find the princess attractive enough, rejects her love, creating a conflict in the plot. The play reveals a common human trait--the emphasis on external rather than inner beauty.

Meanwhile, at the National Theatre Hall, Nagorik Natyangan staged their most acclaimed play, "Ami Birangana Bolchi," adapted from Dr. Nilima Ibrahim's eponymous book, depicting the tales of three women during the Liberation War. Veteran thespian Lucky Inam has scripted and directed the play taking one of the characters (war heroine) from the book as the central character. Lucky Inam herself was the performer in the solo drama which is the 9th production of the troupe. The festival closes on August 24.

IT'S TRUE!



While still living in her native land Colombia, Sofia Vergara used to watch the Spanish-dubbed version of the US sitcom "Married with Children" featuring her co-star-to-be Ed O'Neill. After she landed the role as Ed's wife Gloria Delgado-Pritchett in "Modern Family" nearly two decades later, she was disappointed to learn that Ed 'spoke' no Spanish. Sofia's role as Gloria in the vastly popular comedy series has earned her four successive Emmy nominations for Best Supporting Actress.

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