

<p><b>WHAT'S ON</b></p> <p><b>Dance Festival</b> Organizer: Chhayanaut Venue: Chhayanaut Auditorium, Dhanmondi Date: Nov 8-9 Time: 6:15pm</p> 	<p><b>Photography Exhibition</b> Artist: Gazi Nafis Ahmed Venue: EMK Center, H-5, R-27(Old), Dhanmondi Date: Nov 5-17 Time: 10am-8pm</p> 	<p><b>Solo Painting Exhibition</b> Artist: Shabekun Nahar Noushin Venue: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, 26 Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi Date: Oct 25-Nov 7 Time: 3pm-9pm</p> 	<p><b>Exhibition</b> Title: Exotic Jute II Venue: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, 26 Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi Date: Nov 1-15</p> 	<p><b>Duet Exhibition</b> Title: When Silence Eats Sound Venue: Bengal Art Lounge, 60 Gulshan Avenue, Circle 1 Date: Oct 30-Nov 13 Time: 12pm-8pm</p> 
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# IT'S TRUE!

Vastly popular Bolloywood playback singer Sunidhi Chauhan started her singing career as a child, giving her first performance at the age of four, in a local temple in Delhi. Recognition first met her in 1996, when she won the music show "Meri Aawaz Suno" — the first such televised contest in India on the Indian national television channel, Doordarshan - and bagged the top prize of



recording an album, "Aira Ghaira Nathu Khaira", with HMV. Unluckily for Chauhan, it was promoted as a children's album and failed to get the recognition it deserved, but it helped Sunidhi to determine her career path. She debuted in playback at the age of 13 in "Shastra" (1996), but it was her singing in "Mast" (1999) that proved to be her launch-pad.



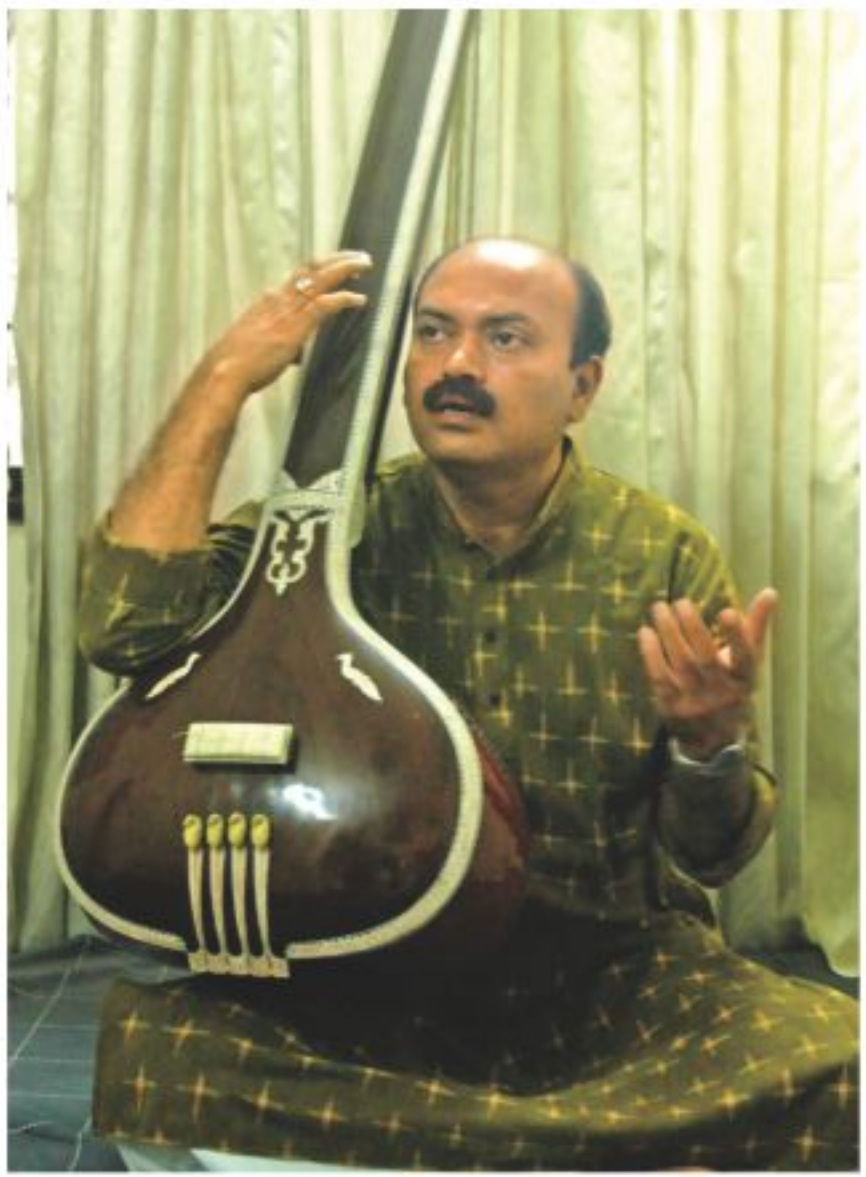
## "Classical Music Festivals generate interests and inspiration among artistes and audience" — Asit Dey

ZAHANGIR ALOM

Renowned Classical Music vocalist and Chhayanaut Guru, Asit Dey is all set to perform at "Bengal Classical Music Festival 2013", the grand classical music festival. Recently, the artiste shared his musical vision and thoughts revolving around the much-hyped festival to be set off on November 28 at Army Stadium in Dhaka.

Questioned on how the festival will impact classical music lovers, Dey replied, "Bengal Classical Music Festival-2013' is the grandest initiative for us all — artistes, audience, enthusiasts and connoisseurs. The excitement circling the unique festival, has already been working in the minds of classical music enthusiasts and the audience in general. Through this festival, the audience of classical music across the country will get mesmerised, classical artistes will be inspired and the young generation will find hope in classical music."

"The festival is primed to display the maximum exposure for classical music. A small-scaled classical music festival inspired me a lot during my childhood. A vision for generating accomplished classical artistes and audience as well will be formed through the festival," added the artiste.



Dey thinks that the overall picture of classical music, including its practice, producing artistes and audience and holding frequent festivals during post-independence Bangladesh, has remarkably improved. Classical music festivals are regularly held in major cities including Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi and Narayanganj.

"The appeal of classical music is never-ending. What we need is a concerted

effort on all fronts to achieve certain goals regarding classical music. Television is an effective mass media. It has its own social responsibility to diffuse untainted music and culture. A regulatory body directive to allot mandatory air-time for classical music could change the overall practice, diffusion and audience taste towards the genre.

"It has been proven that Bangladesh has sizeable classical music lovers by the huge turnout of the first installment of 'Bengal Classical Music Festival,'" the artiste added.

Dey's passion for music dates back to his early years. Since his father Romani Mohan Dey (Mithun Dey) was a classical artiste and guru, the young Dey grew up in a musical ambience in Mymensingh. Inspired by listening to the music of the likes of Ustad Amir Khan over radio, he went to Delhi (India) on a scholarship to study classical music. There, he was a regular artiste on All-India Radio, and performed on many prestigious stages.

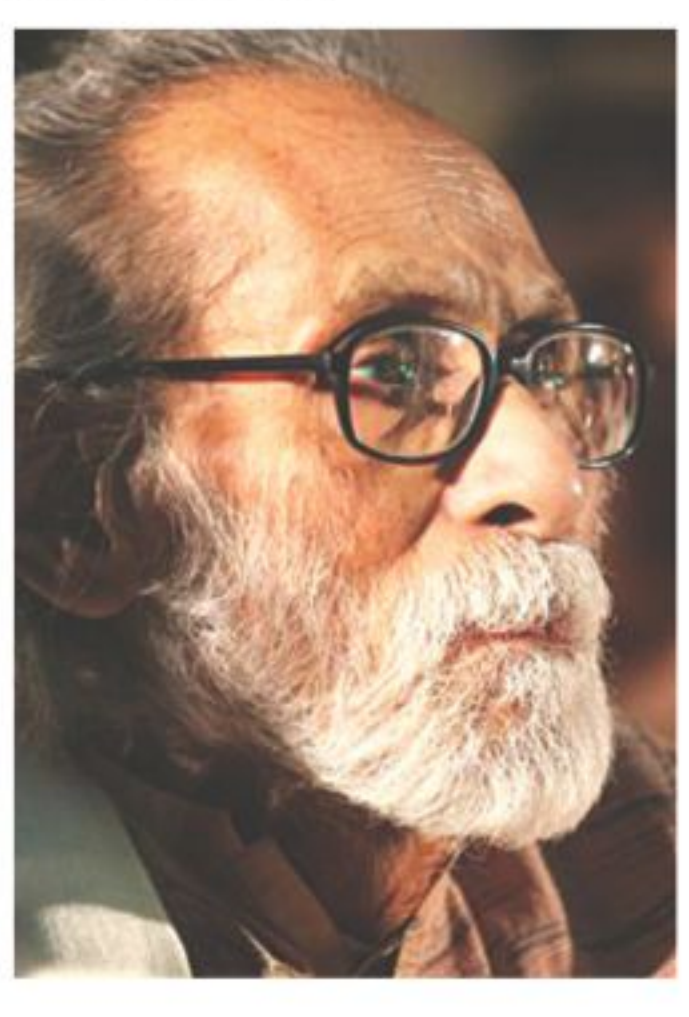
Apart from teaching at Chhayanaut, Dey is also the head (Department Coordinator) in the Music Department of University of Development Alternative (UODA). The Daily Star is a strategic partner of the "Bengal Classical Music Festival 2013".

## The man behind the camera Amanul Huq's 88th birth anniversary observed

TAKIR HOSSAIN

Yesterday marked the 88th birth anniversary of celebrated photographer Amanul Huq.

Amanul Huq's camera captured many remarkable images of the Language Movement and Liberation War. His bold photographs document our glorious history and the saga of the people —valuable assets for the post-Liberation War generations.



Huq was born in Sirajganj's Shahzadpur Upazila in 1925. Encouraged by his father, he started drawing. Later, he studied at Art College for a short span before joining Dhaka Medical College as artist-photographer. He used to sketch human organs for medical students.

Tenacious, courageous and patriotic —these adjectives best describe Huq. He photographed Language Movement martyr Rafique's maimed face, enraging the authorities. Soon afterwards, the police was on his heels. After many trials he managed to come out of this dragnet.

In the mid 1950s, Huq moved to Calcutta (now Kolkata) from Dhaka and met Subhash Mukhopadhyay. Subhash was very close to Satyajit Ray. He introduced Huq to Ray and Huq showed him his photographs. Eventually, Huq grew quite close to Satyajit Ray and declared that Ray was his guru. In a journal, Satyajit Ray wrote, "I have known Amanul Huq for more than 20 years as a photographer of imagination, skill and enterprise. Over the years, he has kept pace with technical developments and has used them to further his aims as a creative interpreter of actuality. For over a generation, he has virtually recorded every aspect of life in his country, revealing a deep love for Bengali life and culture in all its manifestations. He also has the potential to portray it in film, in documentary form, having been a keen student of cinema and an observer of my working methods in the early sixties."

Marie Seton wrote a book on Satyajit Ray titled, "Portrait of a Director: Satyajit Ray". To quote an excerpt from the book, "I think Mr. Huq is a very outstanding photographer. Mr. Satyajit Ray has the utmost admiration for Mr. Huq."

Huq received Ekushey Padak. Last year, he received a Lifetime Achievement Award at the Celebrating Life programme, by The Daily Star and Standard Chartered Bank Bangladesh, for his outstanding contribution to photography.

The iconic photographer died on April 3, 2013.

## A new spot for adda: the Dhaka Art Centre

FAYZA HAQ

And now a new hub for intellectuals to exchange news and views: Dhaka Art Centre, where people like Manzare Hasin Murad, (filmmaker and film activist); artists like Fareha Zeba and Kanak Chanpa Chakma gather to work and share tea. It used to be the Alliance Francaise and Goethe Institute where people rushed for home tea-cakes, sandwiches and drinks ranging from coffee to fruit juice. Near the Centre is a full fledged café which takes orders for gourmet delights. There are also tuck-shops nearby -- to get 'puri', biscuits and other scrumptious munchies.

What is fascinating is that young artists rush to make prints under the guidance of Bobby (Farzana Rahman) and Tomal (Abul Hussain Dhali) from UODA. There are galleries galore to exhibit works done by Wakilur Rahman, Sohail and Biren Shome. Artists like Nisar Hussain and Ranjit come here too.

So does, at times, Abul Barq Alvi.

Artists, painters and printmakers are often invited for recitations, songs by well-known artists and lectures. The Centre too has lectures by visiting experts from the US and India, among other countries. Question and answer sessions that follow are quite mind-boggling and fascinating.

Noted as well as less-known artists from Chittagong are welcomed to exhibit here too.

On the fourth floor is the library. Here one finds most of the books on art and culture -- to be found in places like Shilpangan, Alliance Francaise and Goethe Institute. There are French and German books and magazines as well. Yet thick illustrated books on such subjects like Freda Kahlo, the French Impressionist, the Expressionists, much of post-World War II art, architecture from different parts of the world are here too. There are stacks of National Geographic and Geo Magazines. Books



on Indian art are also found here.

There is so much going on the manicured lawn of the Centre -- from workshops to cosy conversations of intellectuals. In the café next door, dating and simple get-togethers flourish, as do the cafes in the neighbourhood in Dhanmondi.

### TV WATCH

## Subir Nandi's tribute to MANNA DEY on Maasranga



A CORRESPONDENT

Popular singer Subir Nandi will pay a musical tribute to the legendary Manna Dey, on Maasranga Television's weekly live music programme "Tomaye Gaan Shonabo" today. The two-hour programme will feature exclusively of Manna Dey's songs -- selected by him and on basis of requests over the telephone.

"Tomaye Gaan Shonabo", produced by Saiful Islam and anchored by Koushik Shankar Das, will be aired at 11pm tonight.



## Prance to the music

Dancers practice legendary Czech contemporary ballet choreographer Jiří Kylián's "Doux mensonges", meaning 'sweet lies', in their final rehearsal at Paris' Opera Garnier.

PHOTO COURTESY: GETTY IMAGES

## Walton-Moliere Theatre Festival begins today

A CORRESPONDENT

To mark their 19th anniversary and the 100th staging of their production "Pejgi", theatre troupe Shwattik is organising a two-day theatre festival at the National Theatre Hall of the Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy.

After the inauguration of the festival today, theatre troupe Loko Natyadal (Siddheshwari) will perform their acclaimed production "Konjush". Tomorrow's agenda includes a programme to celebrate the 100th staging of "Pejgi", followed by the performance of the play.



"Konjush" will be screened at the festival today.

# Eight films to watch this November

**Big Sur**  
Jean-Marc Barr stars as Jack Kerouac in director Michael Polish's adaptation of the Beat Generation author's autobiographical novel, "Big Sur". It chronicles his three trips to a remote cabin, his affair with the mistress (Kate Bosworth) of poet Neal Cassady (Josh Lucas), and his subsequent nervous breakdown. Even after the recent "Kill Your Darlings" and the film adaptation of "On the Road", the Beats go on.

**How I Live Now**  
Nobody plays a strong-willed teenager like Saoirse Ronan. In the new film by Kevin Macdonald, Ronan is a feisty New Yorker sent to live for the summer with her cousins in the English countryside. Shortly after her arrival, growing worldwide political instability causes society to break down and the UK to become a fearsome police state.

**The Book Thief**  
Based on Australian author Markus Zusak's 2006 novel, "The Book Thief" stars 13-year-old Sophie Nelisse as a German orphan sent to live with foster parents in Bavaria right on the eve of World War II. The story is "Mrs Miniver" in reverse, showing what the experience of civilian life in Nazi Germany was like during the war - except that unlike "Mrs Miniver", this is a story narrated by death. "Downton Abbey" director Brian Percival helms the film, which was shot largely on location in Germany and also stars Geoffrey Rush and Emily Watson.



Scenes from "Oldboy" and "How I Live Now".

**The Armstrong Lie**  
Documentarian Alex Gibney releases his second film of the year, following "We Sell Secrets: The Story of WikiLeaks". This time he exposes Lance Armstrong and the unprecedented doping scheme that propelled the cyclist to seven Tour de France victories.

**The Hunger Games: Catching Fire**  
Jennifer Lawrence is back as the girl on fire, Katniss Everdeen, in this sequel to 2012's "The Hunger



**Games** -- packed with both action and perceptive commentary on reality TV culture. After surviving the titular contest, Katniss and her fellow victor Peeta, (Josh Hutcherson) are taken on a cruel tour of their dystopian state Panem before being forced back into the arena for yet another battle to the death. The entire original cast is returning, including Stanley Tucci, Donald Sutherland, Woody Harrelson, and Elizabeth Banks, plus Philip Seymour Hoffman and Jeffrey Wright join the ensemble.

**Nebraska**  
Director Alexander Payne ("Sideways", "The Descendants") has never before directed a screenplay written by someone else until "Nebraska". Yet the film, about a young man (Will Forte) humouring his father (Bruce Dern), who believes he's won a million-dollar contest, by taking him on a road trip to collect his prize, is vintage Payne. Dern could be a major Oscar contender for his heartbreaking performance as a stary-eyed, but very cranky, dreamer on the edge of senility.

**Get a Horse!**  
For the first short in 18 years starring Mickey Mouse, Disney went back to the character's roots. "Get a Horse!" mixes contemporary computer animation with simple black-and-white 1920s-style drawings to tell a story reminiscent of Mickey's earliest films, Steamboat Willie and Plane Crazy.

**Oldboy**  
Josh Brolin, a friend of original "Oldboy" director Park Chan-wook, sought and received the Korean auteur's blessing for a US remake. Spike Lee took on directing duties with Brolin playing a man inexplicably imprisoned for years only to be just as mysteriously released. Whether the original's unforgettable octopus-eating sequence will be retained remains to be seen.

Source: BBC