



WHAT'S ON

Photography Exhibition
Life and works of Tajuddin Ahmed
Venue: Gallery 21, Dhanmondi
Date: July 19-September 8
Time: 12pm-8pm



Musical Soiree
Marking death anniversary of
Rabindranath
Organiser: Chhayanaut
Venue: Chhayanaut
Date: August 7; Time: 6:30pm




Musical & Recital Evening
Organiser: Bandhan art & culture
society
Artists: Shabnam Mushtari,
Aminur Rahman
Venue: BRAC Centre, Date: August
8; Time: 6:30pm



Musical Programme
Organisers: Amra Shurjomukhi
Artists: Swadipan and
Rukhsana Mumtaz
Venue: Poet Sufia Kamal
Auditorium, National Museum



Theatre
Play: Tringha Shatabdi
Troupe: Swapnadal
Venue: Experimental Theatre
Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: August 6; Time: 7:30pm



NEWS bytes

Guardians swoops to top US box office chart



Disney's Marvel adventure, "Guardians of the Galaxy", has topped the North American box office in its debut week-end, taking \$94m. The space adventure, which stars some of the lesser-known characters from the comic book universe, knocked science fiction thriller "Lucy" off the top spot, with its takings setting a record for a film opening in August.

"Get On Up", a biography of the soul singer James Brown, debuted in third.

The "Guardians of the Galaxy" ensemble casts includes Zoe Saldana and Chris Pratt plus the voices of Vin Diesel and Bradley Cooper. The film also secured the third biggest opening of 2014.

Marvel adaptations "The Amazing Spider-Man 2" and "X-Men: Days of Future Past" have also enjoyed success this year.

Source: **BBC**

IT'S TRUE!



US singer-songwriter-guitarist Sheryl Crow toured with Michael Jackson as a backing vocalist during his Bad World Tour 1987-89 and often performed with Jackson on "I Just Can't Stop Loving You". She also recorded background vocals for performances for a number of established artists such as Stevie Wonder, Belinda Carlisle and Don Henley. In 1992, Crow recorded her first attempt at a debut album. The self-titled album was due to be released on September 22, but was ultimately rejected by her label. Today, Crow has sold 50 million records worldwide, has nine Grammys in her showcase and has performed with the Rolling Stones, Stevie Nicks, Prince, Eric Clapton, Luciano Pavarotti, Willie Nelson, Smokey Robinson, BB King, Tony Bennett, Kid Rock and Sting.

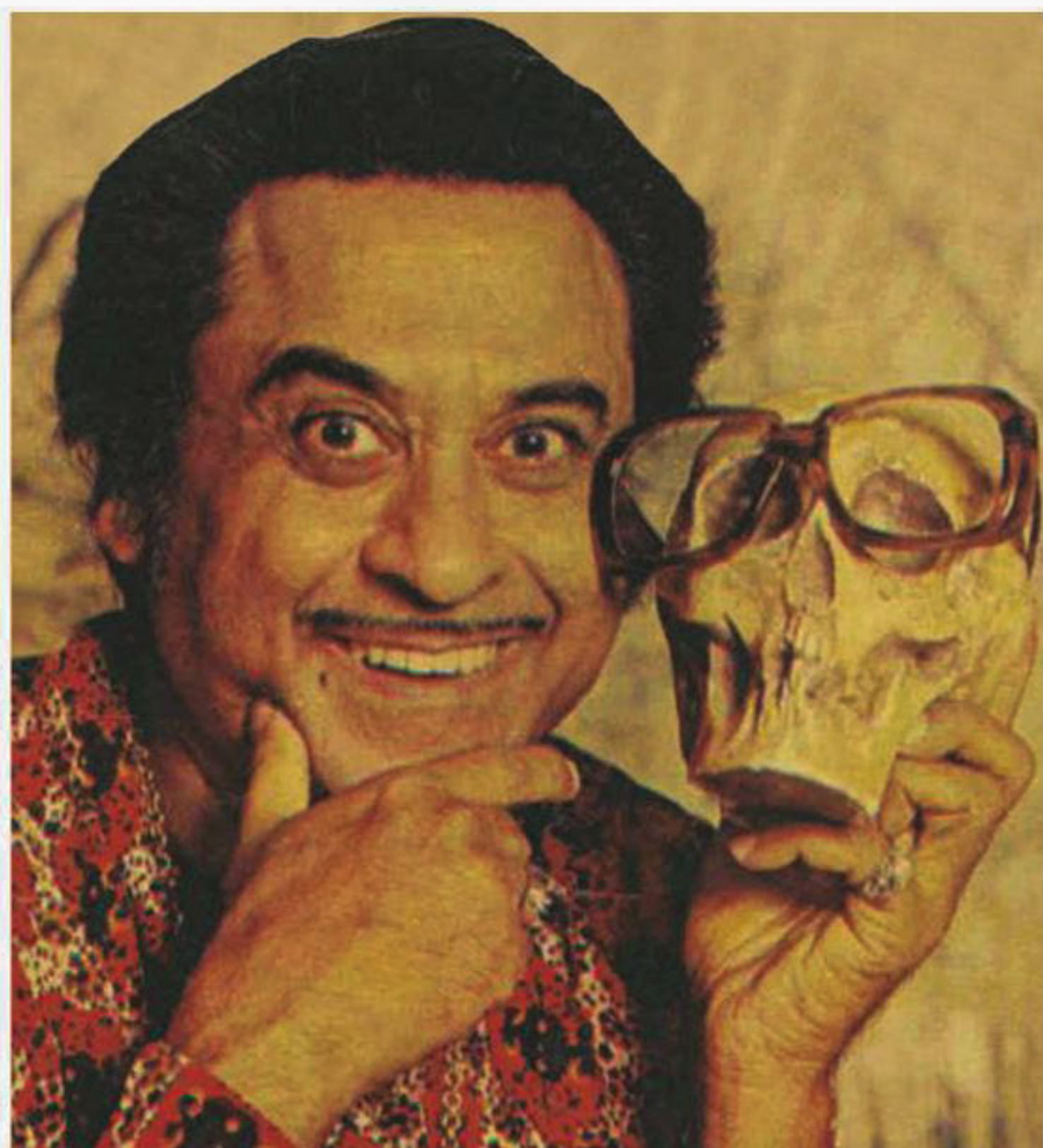
TRIBUTE The inimitable Kishore'da

FAHMIM FERDOUS

When Ashok Kumar stepped into Bollywood and began making a name for himself, his youngest brother Abhas Kumar was still a child. After his other brother Anoop Kumar also ventured into acting, it was probably more the family atmosphere that interested young Abhas into the realm of films. But unlike his brothers, Abhas was more interested in singing, particularly idolising singer-actor KL Saigal. His first steps into Bollywood was as a chorus singer for Bombay Talkies, and although over the next four decades he would go on to act, direct, produce, write scripts and screenplays for films and write and compose songs, it would be his voice that resonated to the furthest corners of the Indian subcontinent.

Although his screen debut "Andolan" (1951) made a lot of people take notice, he kept on looking for singing assignments. Salil Chowdhury, the music director for his 1954 film "Naukri", was the first to give him a chance with "Chhota Sa Ghar Hoga", albeit a little apprehensive of the fact that Kishore had no formal musical training. But it took one genius to spot another; when SD Burman heard Kishore imitate KL Saigal, he encouraged him to develop a style of his own. Kishore took it seriously, taking a leaf out of Tex Morton and Jimmie Rodgers' book to add yodeling to his singing.

As his acting career flourished, Kishore went on to produce unforgettable numbers from



behind the microphone as well -- "Maana Janaab Ne Pukara Nahin", "Ek Ladki Bheegi Bhaagi Si", "Haal Kaisa Hai Janaab Ka" to name just a few; and formed a winning combo with SD Burman and Asha Bhosle for "Chhod Do Aanchal", "Haal Kaisa Hai Janaab Ka" and "Paanch Rupaiya Baara Aana". By the '60s, he had also taken producing and directing films, alongside composing, for "Jhumroo" and "Door Gagan Ki Chhaon Mein". While his acting career took a dip, hits like "Zaroorat Hai Zaroorat Hai", "Gaata Raahe Mera Dil" and "Yeh Dil Na Hota Bechara" did not

stop coming. Late in the decade, he did the unforgettable "Padosan" with Mehmood and Sunil Dutt, and a year later sang "Mere Sapno Ki Raani" and "Roop Tera Mastana" (in "Aradhana"), the song that got him the first of his eight Filmfare Awards, most held by a singer.

Over the next two decades, Kishore Kumar would go on to work with every Bollywood music director of repute, from Lakshmikanth-Pyarelal to Bappi Lahiri, was the voice from actors across the strata -- from Amitabh Bachchan to Govinda, shared studio with voices from

Expressing emotions through rhythms

In conversation with Asha Hossain

SAURAV DEY

Kathak dancer Asha Hossain's interest in dance began in her early childhood. Though she belongs to a conservative family, there were no hurdles in her way to pursue her passion for dance. "My family never barred me from dancing. They always encouraged me. Of course I get the most support from my elder sister, who is my idol."

"I first studied at Jessore Shishu Academy. After my SSC, I came to Dhaka and gained admission in Nrityanchal. Since then, I have never looked back. I received an ICCR scholarship after my HSC and went to Rabindra Bharati University in Kolkata."

Asha did her Honours and Master's from Rabindra Bharati University with a major in Kathak. She is now doing PhD in Bangladeshi folk dance. Beside her expertise in Kathak, she wants to uphold Bangladeshi dance forms. "I have a strong drive to uphold our cultural heritage using my knowledge and expertise in the field of dance," says Asha.

In addition to her higher studies, she also performs regularly with her school Nataraj Music and Dance Academy. Asha frequently does choreography as well. Since dance is her first love, Asha's interest lies in all forms of dance. "Dance speaks a universal



PHOTO: DARSHAN CHAKMA

language as beats and rhythms are the same irrespective of time and place. The way we dance in Bangladesh is same as in Kolkata. My guruji in Kolkata never told

me that my style was different from theirs. But they lay more emphasis on theoretical knowledge. My way of dancing, patterns and styles have evolved over

the years and I grew as an artiste. But my foundation was laid in Jessore in my childhood."

Asha loves Kathak more than any other dance form. "I think Kathak is graceful. I love Chakkar and Tatkar. I have a fascination for Kathak movements, dress, lehenga, angarakshak. Kathak means telling tales through dance. It has different patterns as Kathak has evolved a great deal. I love its beats and rhythms. Rhythm is everywhere. When you clap your hands it also forms a certain rhythm. Dance is an ecstatic expression of emotion in the forms of rhythm."

To Asha, the stage is akin to a place of worship. "While portraying a character I forget my present and past and become the character."

Apart from dancing, Asha took part in the reality show "Dance Bangla Dance" and emerged in the rung of the top eight. She has also played a role in "Meghe Dhaka Tara", a film by Kamaleswar Mukherjee based on the life of Ritwik Ghatak. "I played the role of Bongobala against Saswata Chattopadhyay. Recently, I have worked in a music video."

Asha's future plan naturally is to keep on her toes. "I am nothing without dance. I will do dance choreography. I want to establish a dance school. Another of my long-cherished desires is to do something for the transgender community," she says.

A plea to love trees Cultural programme at Bhola

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bhola

Nandonik Theatre Circle, a new theatre organisation from Lalmohan in the district, arranged a cultural programme at Lalmohan Secondary Girls School campus on August 1 to encourage the youth to love trees.

The organisation staged a play namely "Gechho Bhoot" written and directed by Jasim Johnny. The play begins with Neolomarkia Cadamba (commonly known as 'Kadam') tree grown in Bagon Ali's garden, that the local chairman wanted to cut down ostensibly, as it harboured a ghost.

While he arrived at Bagon Ali's garden with some other people to fell the tree, the tree protested that if it was cut, the village would be ravaged by floods or drought. Bagon Ali and others, specially the youth realised the dangers of tree felling. The chairman is prevented from cutting the tree to take an oath never to cut trees.

Jasim Johnny, Ripon Shan, Al Mamun, A.M. Yasin, Forhad, Aslam, Miraj, Raihan and Shakib acted in the play.

Before the play, president of Nandonik Theatre Circle ANM Shahjamal Dulal thanked the audience for their presence and requested them to plant more trees. Lalmohan Upazila Parishad vice-chairman Fakrul Alam Hawlader was chief guest at the programme and Chairman of Nature Conservation Committee, Shajahan Sarder was the speaker. The programme was supported by NCC.

Bhalobashar Chotushkon on ntv



A CORRESPONDENT

TV serial "Bhalobashar Chotushkon" will air tonight on ntv at 9:45pm. Shihab Shahin, Mejbah Uddin Sumon and Iffat Arefin Tonni have jointly written the drama, directed by Shihab Shahin. The drama revolves around the love stories of three couples, interconnected by fate. As the story unravels, they gradually come together.

Apurbo, Momo, Shahriar Shuvo, Moutushi, Saju Khadem, Tania Hossain, Moushumi Hamid and others have donned different roles in the drama.

Musical evening by Shakila Zafar at IGCC



A CORRESPONDENT

Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre (IGCC) is organising an evening of modern songs by Shakila Zafar at 6:30pm on August 8 at IGCC, Gulshan-1.

The programme will feature modern songs by Shakila Zafar, one of the most popular contemporary singers of the country. She has been entertaining the global audience through her exquisite renditions of modern songs for the last 30 years.

Shakila trained under Ustad Yasin Khan, Pandit Mithun Dey and Girija Devi. Pandit Sanjeeb Dey is her present guru in classical music. A versatile singer with hundreds of cinema playback, stage shows and albums to her credit, she has performed in major festivals and solo concerts at home and abroad. She released her first solo Tagore album titled "Labonye Purno Pran", featuring 10 songs that received accolades from music lovers.

Asian Paints, IRCON and Marico Bangladesh have partnered with IGCC in arranging the programme.

Raghab's solo album launched

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Popular Indian singer Raghab Chattopadhyay's latest solo album "Bari Ferar Tara" was launched at Seven Hill Restaurant in the capital on August 2. Popular artistes, along with Raghab unveiled the album, which has been produced by Laser Vision. Lyricist Zulfikar Russel hoped that the audience would like the album and its music arrangement.

Raghab himself has done the compositions, while Tomal Chakrobarty and Indrajit Dey have together done the music arrangement.



The maiden audio album of Dr. Fakir Shahidul Islam Sumon, "Tanpurate Ghun Dhorechhe" was launched on July 28 in Rajbari. The audio CD, containing 12 songs by different lyricists, was released by Drishyapat. Suman's first music guru, veteran music teacher Moni Sufi Mridha with Hasmat Hossain unveiled the album -- that has been dedicated to late lyricist Jamal Habib.

