

WHAT'S ON

**Art Exhibition**  
Reality Versus Imagination and Illusion  
Artist: Samiran Chowdhury  
Venue: Gallery Cosmos  
Date: August 30-Sep 11  
Time: 11am-7pm



**Solo Classical Music Recital**  
Artist: Pandit Tushar Dutta  
Organisers: Bengal Foundation & The Daily Star  
Venue: Daily Star-Bengal Arts Precinct  
Date: September 11; Time: 6:30pm



**Album Launch & Classical Music Recital**  
Artist: Priyanka Gope  
Venue: Bengal Shilpalaya, H-42, Rd-27 (old) Dhammondi  
Date: September 9  
Time: 6:30pm



**Solo Art Exhibition**  
Title: Montage  
Artist: Samarjit Roy Chowdhury  
Venue: Bengal Shilpalaya, Dhammondi  
Date: Sep 6-22  
Time: 12-8pm



**Theatre Festival**  
Organiser: BotTala  
Venue: Natmandal, Dhaka University  
Date: Sep 10-13  
Time: 7:15pm



**NEWS bytes**

**Gandolini's final film showed at TIFF**

James Gandolini's final big-screen role before his death has premiered at the Toronto Film Festival. 'The Drop' sees The Sopranos actor play a Brooklyn bar owner who facilitates the criminal underworld's money-laundering. Gandolini died in June 2013 after suffering a heart attack, shortly after shooting the film. Co-star Tom Hardy paid tribute to the actor on the red carpet, saying he was "very grateful to have the privilege of working with him."

The film is based on the short story "Animal Rescue" by US author



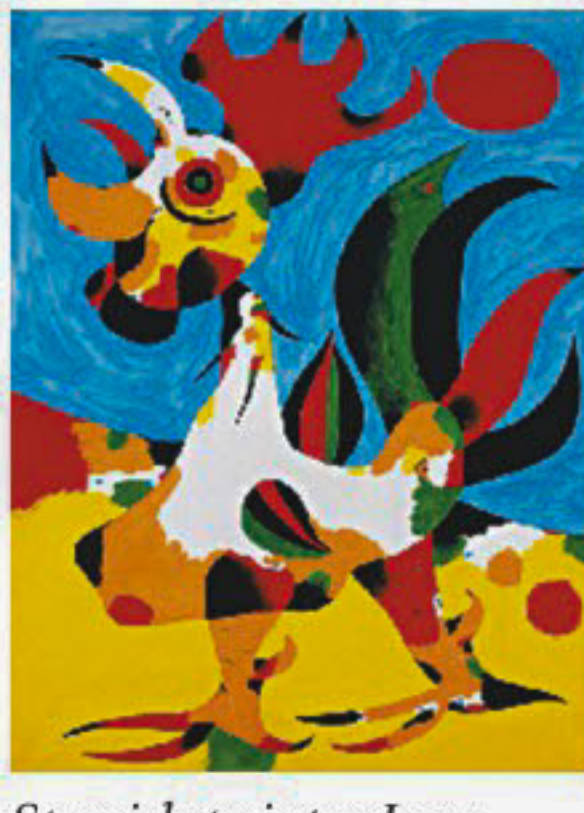
Dennis Lehane, who also wrote previous crime novels "Gone Baby Gone" and "Mystic River".

Another Gandolini film released after his death, the romantic comedy "Enough Said" co-starring Julia Louis-Dreyfus, also premiered at the Toronto Film Festival last year.

"The Drop" will be screened at the London Film Festival next month and is due for release in UK cinemas in November.

Source: BBC

**IT'S TRUE!**



Spanish painter Joan Miró created over 250 illustrated books, known as "Livres d'Artiste". One such work was published in 1974, at the urging of the widow of the surrealist French poet Robert Desnos - who was a close friend of Miro. The two had planned in 1925 to collaborate for a Livre d'Artiste, but Desnos was imprisoned in Auschwitz, and died in 1945. Nearly three decades later, Miró set out to illustrate the poet's manuscript. The result, titled "Les pénalités de l'enfer ou les nouvelles Hébrides" (The Penalties of Hell or The New Hebrides), was a set of 25 lithographs; five in black, and the others in colors.

**IT'S IMPORTANT TO KEEP CREATING ART, WITHOUT QUESTIONING**

**Bodhisattwa Trio discusses 'Artistes in a Material World'**



PHOTO: RIDWAN ADID RUPON

"We have a responsibility; to create art because it's worth it."

FAHMIM FERDOUS

"The Bodhisattwa Trio is like an unwanted love child to us - uncompromised and personal. We all do various kinds of work as musicians to pay our bills, but the reason the three of us got together and decided to do this project is to just be artistes. So that we had an answer to the question 'What are we doing with our lives?' to ourselves," said Bodhisattwa Ghosh, guitarist and leading man of The Bodhisattwa Trio, an experimental jazz-rock group from Kolkata, India. The trip were at the Daily Star-Bengal Arts Precinct on Sunday in an Art Talk session titled "Artistes in a Material World", that also featured performance of a few tracks.

The trio opened with their musical backgrounds and inspirations, and essentially why they do music. "Perception, passion, love, sensitivity - these are things that make an artiste. Money and success cannot drive an artiste. That could drive them to be professionally and financially successful musicians, but not artistes,"

Premjit Dutta, the drummer of the band, weighed in. The soft-spoken bassist Bijit, meanwhile, pointed out that one essential factor in the making of a musician is listening to a lot of music of different kinds that inspires an artiste and helps them find their calling.

The band's first performed piece, "Cronos", was inspired from a Guillermo Del Toro vampire horror film of the same name, and was dedicated to him. The eerie piece started off slow and grungy, and developed into a chaotic, intricate and expressive piece, aptly evoking the theme. In the discussion that followed, the band discussed how an artiste can draw inspiration from, and interprets a work of art in another form, and then attempt to express that interpretation through their work.

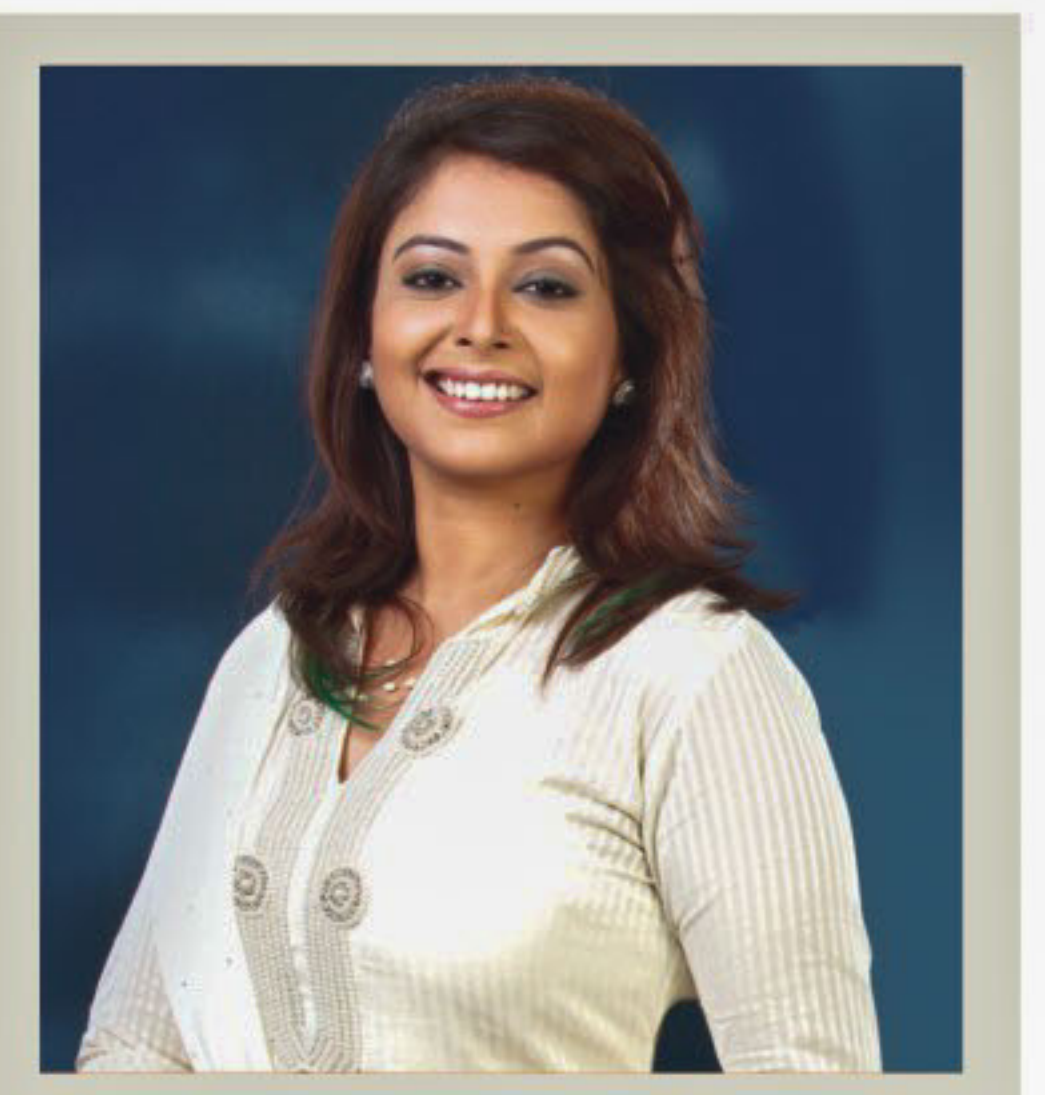
Bodhi then went on to discuss the trio's struggle to release their album, speaking of how there's absolutely no funding for any music other than the ad-hoc and so-called 'Bangla Rock' in Kolkata, and the members had to other work individually - including session work, jingles, and live shows, until

they had enough money to afford recording the songs. The band had to go to a label owned by a friend, and initiate a tour themselves, first of Europe, and now to Bangladesh, to promote their music. In the bigger picture, it spoke of the hurdles faced by any musician to get their music across to audiences, especially if they're doing work experimental work. The issue of how musicians also need to find out their audience and then tap into that demographic, within their artistic freedom also came up in a lively open discussion, triggering the 'underground-mainstream' subject, to which Bijit responded well, saying "The artiste can, and needs to push the boundary of what is termed underground."

The issue of an artiste's initiative, and how the support from other parties - be it the musical community, other musicians, record labels, venues and patrons - can and should play, were also on discussion. "You can't sit at home and play music, and then complain 'it's not happening'," observed Bodhi. Blues guitarist Seth Panduranga Blumberg, organiser of the discussion, also weighed in on how the dynamics of the scenario in respect to avant-garde work, in Bangladesh. With the advent of the Internet, methods and strategies of sharing and reaching out to audiences were also talked about.

In between, the band played a tribute to jazz legend Herbie Hancock, doing a guitar version of his jazz standard Cantaloupe Island, and closed with another original track, titled "0305".

Bodhisattwa brought the evening to a fitting end with his closing observations: "We have the gift of connecting to a higher form, and thus, we have a responsibility: to create art because it's worth it. After a session, we feel enlightened, because we have expressed something that only we could have. It's important for artistes to keep



**KONAL ON DS CAFÉ**

Popular singer Somnur Monir Konal is the featured celebrity of this month at DS Café. She will be on the hot seat and take your calls at The Daily Star Centre today, between 4 and 5pm. Readers, fire away all your questions at her! The best question will be highlighted in the transcription. Call 01711623915 and 01711623917 to speak to Konal.

**Swapnadal releases DVDs of Chorja Gaan**



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Theatre troupe Swapnadal arranged a programme at the National Music and Dance Centre Auditorium of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) on Friday, to launch a DVD collection of Chorja Gaan. The collection has been compiled and composed by Professor Alim Mahmud.

Professor Emeritus Anisuzzaman attended the ceremony as chief guest, while BSA Director General Liaquat Ali Lucky and Professor Afsar Ahmad, Chairman of Theatre and Theatrics Department Jahangirnagar University were the special guests. Cultural Affairs Secretary, Dr Ranjit Kumar Biswas, presided over the launching ceremony.

Following the album launch, musical group Sohojia performed Chorja Gaan.

Professor Alim Mahmud has been researching Chorjapod and Chorja Gaan for a long time. He composed and sang 47 verses of Chorjapod -- the oldest document of Bangla literature -- without altering the original verses.

**Ganga-Jamuna fest closes with "Prometheus" and "Ekusher Golpo"**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Ganga-Jamuna Theatre and Cultural Festival wrapped up yesterday evening at the Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy. On the closing day, Mohakal Natya Sampradaya staged their latest production "Prometheus" at the National Theatre Hall, while theatre troupe Aneek from Kolkata staged "Ekusher Golpo" at the Experimental Theatre Hall.

"Prometheus" -- written by Anon Zaman and directed by Mostafizur Nur Imran -- is a Bangla adaptation of Aeschylus's ancient Greek tragedy "Prometheus Bound". The play encircles the myth of Prometheus, a Titan who defied the gods and gifted humanity with fire, for which he was subjected to eternal punishment.

Mir Zahid Hasan, Syed Lutfar Rahman, Mohammad Shahnewaj, Utpal Chakrobarty, Anabil Khisak, Zahidul Kamal Chowdhury and others have played different roles in the play. Thandu Rayhan has done the lights, while Ali Ahmed Mukul and Mostafizur Nur Imran have done the stage and music respectively.

Meanwhile at the Experimental Theatre Hall, theatre troupe Aneek staged their much-acclaimed production "Ekusher Golpo." Amallesh Chakrobarty, Secretary of Aneek; Nader



A scene from "Prometheus".

Chowdhury, presidential member of Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation and Hasan Arif, general secretary of Sommlito Sangskritik Jote were present at the closing ceremony, among others.

Beginning from September 1, the festival drew a good number of theatre enthusiasts at BSA. Throughout the eight days, 14 theatre troupes from Dhaka and Kolkata staged 14 plays at the festival.

**MUSIC FOR THE MINERS**  
Dolly, Nakul and Beauty captivate audience

KONGKON KARMAKER, Dinajpur

Performances by several noted singers of Dhaka left miners, official and staffs of Maddyapara Granite Mining Company Ltd [MGCL] mesmerized, in a cultural programme at Parbatipur upazila of Dinajpur.

The cultural evening was organised at MGMCL complex on Friday.

Germania Trest Consortium [GTC], a contracted company for developing, maintenance and hard rock production of MGCL organised the cultural programme for the first time to entertain the miners.

Zabed Siddiqui, General Manager of Germania Trest Consortium [GTC] said that



they organised the cultural programme comprising eminent singers as a recreation for miners who work hard round the year in the underground coal deposits.

The attraction of the programme was singer Dolly Shayantani, Nakul Kumar Biswas and Beauty, dance group Blue Star and fashion show of male and female models from capital.

Nakul Kumar Biswas started the programme with his skilled harmonium playing, and then performed an impromptu song based on Dinajpur, following it up with his lively songs. Beauty also received cheers from the crowd for her performance.

Several dances were performed by the dancers of Blue Star next, which was followed by a fashion show.

Finally, Dolly Shayantani took stage and enthralled the audience for for an hour with her famous songs.

**Rabindra Sangeet evening at RU**

M. A. SAYEED, RU

Music Department of Rajshahi University and Assistant High Commission of India jointly organised a "Rabindra Sangeet Evening" at Kazi Nazrul Islam auditorium of the university recently.

Prominent Indian artist and chairman of Music Department of Rabindra Bharati University of Kolkata, Rajasree Bhattacharya performed at the programme.

She opened her performance with "Aj Bangladesh'er Hridoy Hote", followed by "Tomay Gaan Shonabo", "Shefali Boner Moner Kamona" and a few more.

RU Vice Chancellor Professor Muhammad Mizanuddin inaugurated the programme. Addressing the audience, he said, "This is a coming together of the two Bengals. We are proud to organise such programmes as Rabindranath Tagore is our pride."

Among others, noted writer Professor Hasan Azizul Haque and RU Pro Vice Chancellor Professor Chowdhury Sarwar Jahan were present at the programme.



**BotTala's anniversary celebrations begin tomorrow**

A CORRESPONDENT

Theatre troupe BotTala is set to hold a four-day programme to mark the troupe's sixth anniversary and their recently-deceased member Nasiruddin Nadim's birth anniversary. The programme, "Smriti'te Notune BotTala Rongomela-2014" will inaugurate tomorrow evening at the Natmandal of Dhaka University. Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University, Professor AAMS Arefin Siddique will attend the inaugural ceremony as chief guest, while Natyajan Sara Zaker will be the special guest.

The troupe will stage "Khona" on September 10 and 11 and "The Trial of Mallam Ilyia" on September 12 and 13. The shows will start every-day at 7:15pm.

**Ghasful celebrates 5th anniversary**

A CORRESPONDENT

Marking its fifth anniversary, media house Ghasful arranged a programme at conference lounge of National Press Club on September 6.

Professor Emeritus Anisuzzaman presided over the programme. Among others, litterateur Mahbub Talukder and artist Professor Matlub Ali addressed the ceremony. Noted litterateur Syed Shamsul Haq and Dr. Hayat

Mamud were honoured at the programme.

Poet Muhammad Nurul Huda recited from his poetry. The programme also featured recitations by Dr. Bhaswar Bandyopadhyay, Joyanto Roy, Nazmul Ahsan, Rabia Sultana Panna and Ferdous Ara Kabita.

Actor Khairul Alam Sabuj, singer Abdur Rahman, Abdul Hafiz, Prodip Kumar Adhikari, Abdul Halim Sabuj and Badrunnesa Dalia brought mood to the cultural evening with their melodious songs.



Guests at the programme.