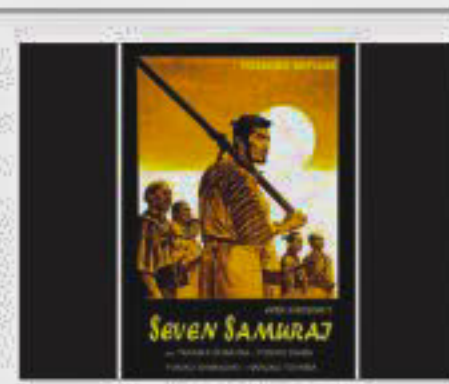


**WHAT'S ON**

Akira Kurosawa Film Week, Dhaka  
Organisers: IAFM & Embassy of Japan  
Venue: Main Auditorium, Bangladesh National Museum  
Date: September 19-24  
Time: 11am & 6pm (Sep 19-22) & 11am, 3pm & 6pm (Sep 23-24)



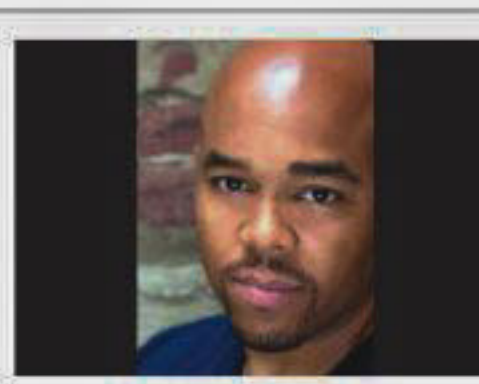
**Group Exhibition**  
Only Connect Edition One  
Venue: Daily Star-Bengal Arts Precinct  
Date: Sep 14-23  
Time: 12-8pm



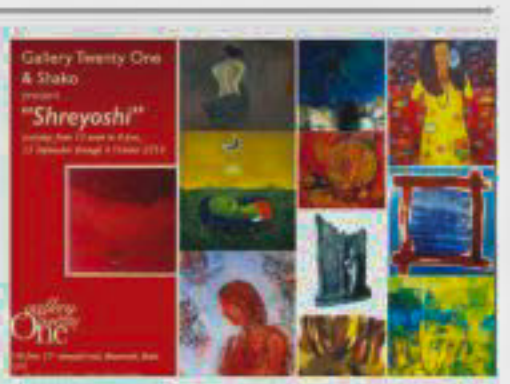
**Solo Art Exhibition**  
Artist: Murtaja Baseer  
Venue: Galleri Kaya, H-20, Rd-16, Sec-4, Uttara  
Date: Sep 13-25  
Time: 11am-8pm



**Stand Up Comedy**  
by US Comedian Charles Burks  
Organiser: Naveed's Comedy Club  
Venue: Baridhara DOHS Convention Centre  
Date: Sep 26-27; Time: 7:30pm



**Group Art Exhibition**  
Title: Shreyoshi by 11 women artists  
Venue: Gallery Twenty One, 11th Floor, 751 Satmasjid Road, Dhanmondi  
Date: Sep 12-Oct 4  
Time: 12-8pm



## NEWS bytes

### "Maze Runner" races to top of film chart



Science fiction film "The Maze Runner" has debuted at the top of the North American box-office with \$32.5m.

The adult fiction adaptation beat two other debuts into second and third spot - Liam Neeson's "A Walk Among the Tombstones" took \$13.1m at two while comedy drama "This Is Where I Leave You" entered at number three with \$11.9m.

Based on the book by James Dashner, it tells the story of a group of teenage boys mysteriously locked inside a giant maze.

"Our little \$34 million-budgeted film is pretty darn strong," said Chris Aronson, head of distribution for Fox. "No-one had launched a young adult title in September. We took a risk, but it paid off."

A sequel entitled "The Maze Runner: The Scorch Trials" is set to open in September next year.

Last week's number one, "The Good Deed", starring Idris Elba, dropped to number four, with "Dolphin Tale 2" at five.

Source: BBC

## IT'S TRUE!



Virtuoso guitarist Steve Vai wrote his second album "Passion and Warfare" based on a series of dream sequences that Vai had when he was younger. In the guitar music book of the album, Vai sums it up as "Jimi Hendrix meets Jesus Christ at a party that Ben Hur threw for Mel Blanc". On it, for what would come to be one of his most popular songs to date, "For the Love of God", he fasted for ten days and recorded the song on the fourth day of the fast.

# An actor is the only thing I can be

-- Faruk Ahmed

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

A popular face on the small screen, Faruk Ahmed's talent as an actor is well acknowledged. Long time actor with Dhaka Theatre, Ahmed embarked on his eventful journey in theatre as a student of Geography at Jahangirnagar University (JU). He made a name for himself through a number of TV plays of Humayun Ahmed, and continues to entertain the TV audience. The Daily Star recently caught up with the actor with a big smile. Excerpts: **When and how did you get involved with Dhaka Theatre?**

**Faruk:** I joined JU in 1979, and eventually became the theatre secretary of the university's Mir Mosharraf Hall. I also directed stage plays. I can say with pride that we introduced the culture of stage plays at Muktomancha on the university premises. In 1983 I joined Dhaka Theatre to further explore it, and have been with them since. **Which play of Dhaka Theatre has had the biggest impact on you?**

**Faruk:** Almost all the stage plays were great on their own, but "Keramot Mondol", where I played the titular role, was my best work. The audience received the play warmly. **But you are not active with the troupe anymore?**

**Faruk:** As much as I wanted to, I couldn't, due to a busy shooting schedule. But I recently acted in "Joiboti Konya'r Mon".



celebrating the 40th anniversary of Dhaka Theatre, along with many other alumni. **You have also worked in Graam Theatre?**

**Faruk:** I had been involved with the group for a long time. We travelled across the country with our plays. It was a great learning experience.

**When did you develop an interest for acting?**

**Faruk:** As a child. I dreamt of becoming so well known that I didn't need to show my visiting card to others when I was introduced to them.

**Where does acting stand in your life?**

**Faruk:** It is my passion and I am completely dedicated to it. An actor is the only thing I can be.

**Which TV play earned you fame in the early days?**

## Cultural event to mark MN Larma' birth anniversary



SHANTIMOY CHAKMA, Rangamati

Indigenous artistes gave dance performances and rendered patriotic, choral and folk songs at a cultural evening organised by MN Larma Memorial Foundation on the occasion of the 75th birth anniversary of Manabendra Narayan Larma, the founder of Parbatya Chattagram Jana Samhati Samiti (PCJSS). The event held at district Shilpakala Academy recently, followed a discussion commemorating the late leader of the Jummo people.

Jyotirindra Bodhipriya Larma, president of PCJSS, and also chairman of

CHT Regional Council, was the chief guest at the programme, chaired by Bijoy Ketan Chakma, convener of the MN Larma foundation.

Younger brother of MN Larma, Bodhipriya widely known as Santu Larma, said that ethnic people are the victims of all forms of discrimination, deprivation, harassment and suppression.

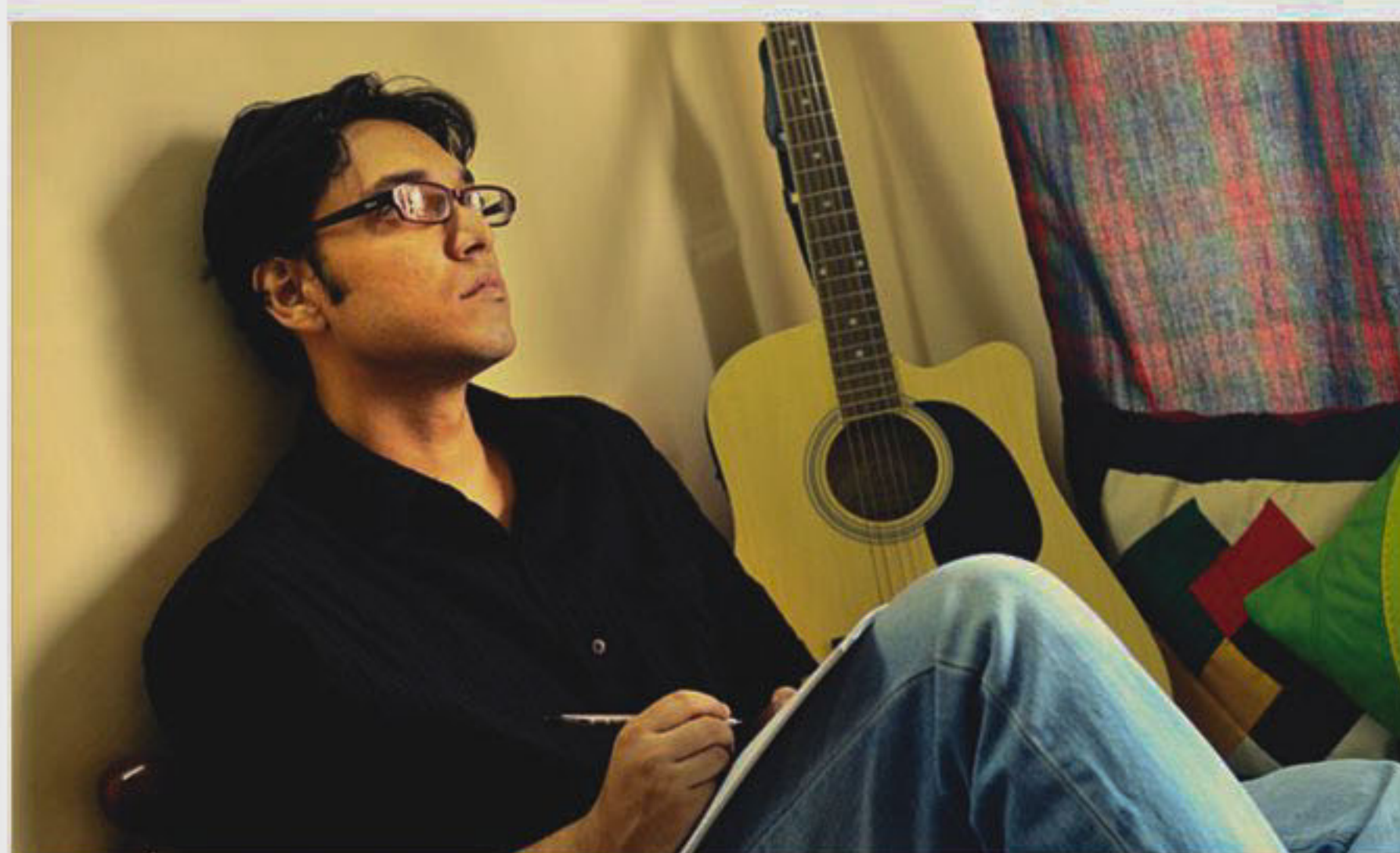
Artists of Girisor Shilpi Gosti performed dances, songs and poetry recitation commemorating MN Larma at the cultural event. Earlier, an art competition was organised for the students of schools, colleges and universities at the venue.

## Anupam Roy releases album in Dhaka

A CORRESPONDENT

Popular singer of Kolkata, India, Anupam Roy has released a solo album from Dhaka. Girona Bangladesh has brought the album to the local audio market ahead of Durga Puja and Eid. The album will also be available in Kolkata. The album "Bakyo-bagish" features eight tracks penned and composed by Anupam himself.

About the album, Anupam said, "I have had a great response from Bangladeshi audiences ever since I began my journey. Listeners have requested me to release an album from Bangladesh. I am really glad that my album was released in Dhaka. This album reflects my singing style but I have tried to bring variety in my songs."



## Shantanu Biswas to perform on Tara Muzik

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Chittagong

Well-known composer, lyricist and singer Shantanu Biswas will perform live on Tara Muzik, the most popular Bangla music TV channel of India, on September 25.

Shantanu, who was the youngest artiste of Shadhin Bangla Betar Kendra during the Liberation War, will sing his own compositions on the programme

titled "Gaanbhashi" at 8:00pm.

So far, Shantanu has released three acclaimed solo albums - "Khorkuto", "Chirkut" and "Postman".

Blended with modern poetry, the lyrics of Shantanu's songs - with diverse tunes covering different genres of world music - have given him a unique identity amongst music-lovers.

This will be the third time the artiste will perform live on the channel.

## Cultural evening to usher in autumn

Japanese tourist team applauds

MAMUN-UR-RASHID, Bogra

Amra Ka Jan Shilpi Goshthi (AKJSG), a leading cultural organisation of Bogra district, arranged a musical evening on Friday evening to usher in the autumn. Also present was an eight-member team of Japanese tourists. The venue was Wood-burn Public Library in Bogra town.

The Japanese team was welcomed with floral bouquets. The programme was presided over by the president of AKJSG Abdus Samaad Polish and conducted by its secretary Abdul Mobin Jinnah.

At the programme, puppet shows and a short play were staged by around 50 artistes of the organisation, which was appreciated by the visitors.

## The Lost Memories on ATN Bangla

A CORRESPONDENT

Single episode TV play "The Lost Memories" will go on air on ATN Bangla during Eid-ul-Azha. Written by Masum Reza and directed by Syed Alaol, the play circles around the couple Shayla and Faruk. Their happily-married life arrives at a critical juncture because of Faruk's inexplicable relationship with Novera, a stranger. Novera identifies herself as the fiancé of Shayla's brother Ayon. However, Ayon denies his relationship with Novera which sets off a chain of humorous incidents.

Tarin, Tahir, Abul Hayat, Ayon Chowdhury and others are cast in the play.



## Traditional boat race in Sunamganj



Thousands of people of all ages thronged the banks of river Surma in the Chhatak upazila of Sunamganj district recently to witness a traditional boat race. Chhatak Upazila Parishad organised the regular event.

As many as eight groups from various upazilas of Sunamganj district participated in the event in two categories this year. An added attraction was the beautifully decorated boats.

Boating enthusiasts crowded the Turarpara area as well as the riverbanks extending to about 2 kms to witness the traditional event.

Chhatak upazila chairman Oliur Rahman Chowdhury Bokul, chaired the prize-giving programme and handed over prizes to the winners.

PHOTO: STAR