

WHAT'S ON

Art Exhibition
Title: Searching Myself
Artist: Monjur Rashid
Venue: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka
Date: Oct 21-Nov 3
Time: 12-8pm

Group Art Exhibition
The Dhaka Print Club Show
Venue: Bengal Art Lounge,
Caldhian Avenue
Date: October 25- November 8
Time: 12pm-8pm

4th Death Anniversary of Kalim Sarafi
Organiser: Bangladesh Rabindra Sangeet Shilpi Sangstha
Venue: Shaohat Cinema Auditorium, Public Library, Shaohatgaj
Date: Nov 1, Time: 6pm

Theatre Festival
Title: BotTala Rongomela
Organiser: BotTala
Venue: National Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: Oct 24-31
Time: 6:30pm

Michael-Rabindranath Nazrul Fest
Organiser: Janya Kabitia Parishad
Venue: Pore Sofia Kamal Auditorium, National Museum, Shahbagh
Date: Oct 31, Time: 4pm

DISCUSSION
Title: Adhunik Projukti O Bangla Bhasha
Organiser: Kall O Kalam
Venue: Bengal Shilpalaya, Dharmad
Date: Oct 31, Time: 5:30pm

Memorial Programme on Kalim Sarafi
Organiser: Sangeet Shilpi Sangstha
Venue: Music & Dance Auditorium, Shilpakala Academy
Date: Oct 31
Time: 6pm

Solo Art Exhibition
Artist: Syed Hasan Mahmud
Venue: Bengal Shilpalaya, Dharmad
Date: Oct 24-Nov 15
Time: 12-10pm



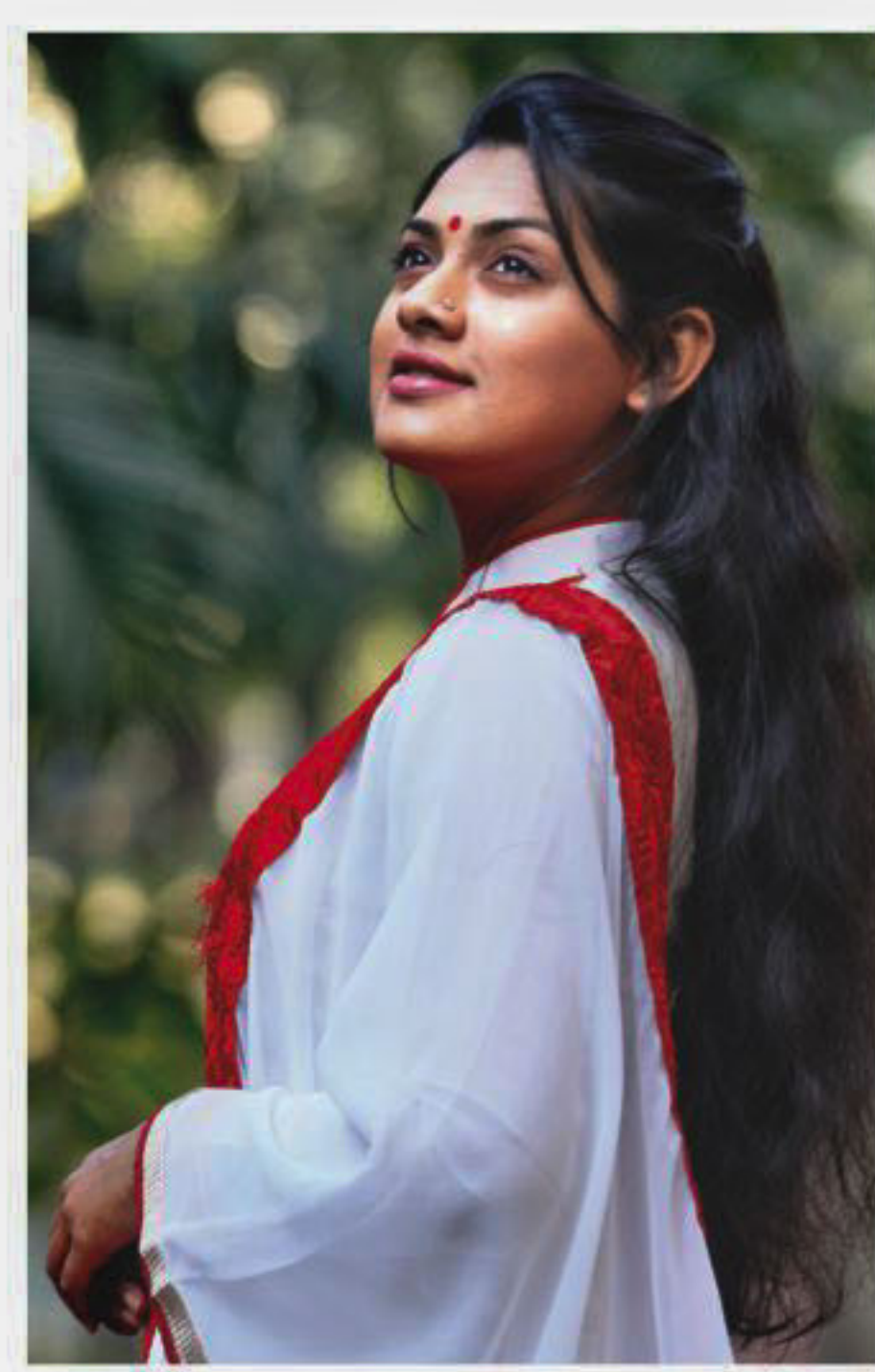
Fakir Alamgir to perform at IGCC

A CORRESPONDENT

India Gandhi Cultural Centre (IGCC) in association with Asian Paints, IRCON and Marico Bangladesh is organising a musical evening by prominent gana sangeet artiste, Fakir Alamgir at 6:30 PM on October 31, at the IGCC, Gulshan-1. Alamgir blends traditional folk music with western instruments. He has released several popular albums with foot-tapping numbers like "O Sakhina", "Shantahar" and more. Although Fakir Alamgir did not receive formal musical training, he joined the Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra and rendered inspiring songs along with others. In 1976, Alamgir founded the Gono Sangeet group "Wrisish Shilpi Gosthi". Alamgir has successfully fused 'modernism' into the old tradition of Gono Sangeet. His landmark songs in the Sakhina series depict the struggle between the "haves" and the "have nots" by focusing on a romance between the singer and a village girl. Alamgir's rendition, "Daam diye kinechhi Bangla" is an epic track that stirs nostalgic patriotism.



THE FIVE GENERATIONS OF TV HEROINES



SHAH ALAM SHAZU
There's been no stopping the country's TV actresses since BTV went on air 50 years ago. Along the way some have dropped out of the profession while others continue to cause a stir with their powerful historicisms.
A round up of the stars of the small screen:
Pioneering TV actress Ferdousi Majumdar came into the spotlight with her debut critically acclaimed play "Ekola Dotola". That was the defining moment in her career. Her blockbuster mega series "Sangsaptak" later earned her immense fame. The noted theatre personality still continues acting with great enthusiasm.
After her, Doly Anwar, Aleya Ferdousi, Sharmili Ahmed, Ajmeri Zaman Reshma and Dilshad Khanam became popular faces on the small screen. At that time, film artistes Sujata and Rosy Samad also acted in TV plays.
On the other hand, Doly Anwar appeared in the acclaimed film "Shurjo Dighal Bari". Her notable dramas include "Bakulpur Katodar" and "Jonaki Jole".
Aleya Ferdousi came into the spotlight with her powerful acting in "Nidhwa Pathar Kande". Meanwhile, Sharmili Ahmed's "Malancha" became very popular at that time. Besides, Sharmili worked in the first drama serial in the history of BTV, "Dompoti".
Ajmeri Zaman performed in the plays "Mukhra Romoni'r Baskikaran", "Shesher Kobita" and "Dhupchaya", while Dilshad Khanam acted in the popular drama "Roktokorobi".
The second generation artistes, Mita Chowdhury, Suborna Mustafa, Mini Reza, Shampa Reza, Priscilla Parvin, Sara Zaker and Afroza Banu, among others, were the household names on BTV, forming a successful second generation. Almost everyone of the generation is still popular in the media world.
Of them, Mita came into the limelight with her play "Boro' Gola Nodi", Rini Reza with "Rokte Angurlota", Shampa Reza with "Idiot" and "Asrute Gandhar", Priscilla with "Maria Amar Maria" and Afroza Banu with "Kumru Nijer Jibon".
Afroza Banu's role of a sister-in-law, Shimu bhabi, in the drama "Shokal Sandhya" was so popular that everyone called her Shimu bhabi later.
"Kul Nai Kinara Nai", "Babar Kolom Kothaye", "Rokte Angurlota", "Parle Na Rumki", "Idiot", "Kusum" and "Johora" are Suborna Mustafa's remarkable plays.
Naila Azad Nupur also began working at the time. Later, Shanta Islam, Tarana Halim, Shaila Nesar and Anni Behj gained the crop.
"Sneho" and "Dhakaye Thaki" earned Tarana



Halim immense fame. Meanwhile, Lutfur Nahar Lota acted in the mega series "Bobubrihi" received warmly by the audiences.
Afterwards, Doly Zahur entertained the TV viewers with her powerful acting in the serial "Eisob Dinrati". Among the second generation actresses, Keya Chowdhury and Rehinna were also very popular.
Rubina, Lubna Ahmed, Elora Gawher, Champa, Rokana Shirin, Urmu Rahman, Sazia Afrin, Joly Nasrin and many others stepped into the media world following the massive success of their predecessors in 1970-80s.
Then in the beginning of the '90s, a fresh third generation-Shomi Kaiser, Bipasha Hayat, Afsana Mimi, Nushrat Yeasmin Tisha, Dipa Islam, Urmu Hasin, Sabina Bari Laki and Munira Yousuf Memi also started their career on hopeful note.
Bipasha Hayat's debut play was "Bibaho", and later she came into spotlight with the drama series "Dhaka Suprobhat". Besides her, Shomi was spotted acting in "Ke Ba Apon Ke Ba Por" for the first time. She then became very popular through the serial "Kon Kanoner Phool".
On the other hand, Humayun Ahmed's "Kotha Keu Nei" earned Tamalika Karmakar, Bijori Barkatullah and Afsana Mimi much acclaim. However, Mimi's "Bou Kotha Kao" was earlier immensely praised by everyone.
Tarin and Ishita arrived in the acting arena next. Meanwhile, Aupe Karim, Richi Solaiman and Jaya Ahsan entered the field. Of them, Tarin, Ishita, Aupe and Richi worked on TV before as child artistes.
After them, Sumaiya Shimu, Dipa Khandakar and Chandni came to the showbiz world and earned fame as established actresses. Now, Tisha is very popular face on the small screen, alongside the likes of Mehzaben, Shokh and Moushumi Hamid.

The man in the crowd
In conversation with Noor Imran Mithu

FAHMIM FERDOUS

On a chilly December day in 2009, the second day of the release of the film "Third Person Singular Number", a young man pushed and elbowed hundreds of others at Dhaka's Balaka cinema hall to reach out to his favourite director, Mostofa Sarwar Farooki, looking for an opportunity to work with him. He was given a phone number of an assistant, where he kept prodding for a couple of years with no success.
Less than five years later, he was at the same venue, for the release of another Farooki film, still being pushed around by enthusiastic fans. But this time, he was on the



PHOTO: RIDWAN ADDI RUPON

other side: he was standing beside Farooki and the cast of "Pipra Bidya", and though people didn't know him by face before the movie, it was he, who the film revolves around—a choice The Hollywood reporter termed as 'a casting coup', not forgetting to hail the non-professional actor as 'utterly natural'.
"I wanted to be a poet," a shy, rather timid Noor Imran Mithu said. "I wanted to tell stories; but then I saw people were moving more from literature to the visual media, and I changed my mind—I wanted to be a filmmaker." He kept on trying the assistant's number he got from Farooki, and in the meanwhile continued to make TV ads and assisted directors in TV plays, until he was asked to interview to be an assistant director for Farooki's 2012 film "Television", got selected, and was a part of the team. But it still was a shock to Mithu when his mentor asked him to start preparing for acting in a film. "It's not just any role; like in 'Tarkovski's Pianist' the camera follows the protagonist, my role was similar in terms of importance," his eyes gleamed in excitement. "It's been fascinating; it's like I took a journey, in another person's identity. I felt their frustration, despair, angst, and also hope and love. At times I was me, at times I was not."
So, the acting bug has bitten Mithu? Perhaps. "I think being an actor lets you live many lives in one lifetime; you become one person one day, and then fit yourself in another's man's shoes the next. If I get a good offer, I would love to take that journey again," he says. And is stardom catching up? "A few people have begun recognising me now. I was standing in line at the passport office the other day, and some people looked at me inquisitively; to be honest, I'm still not comfortable with that, although I greatly enjoy watching their reactions."
But the real gratitude strikes him elsewhere. "I am so blessed my work has reached so many people. Peyman Moaadi (the protagonist of Asghar Farhadi's "A Separation") heartily praised my work at a festival, and everyone [Farooki] came and told me "You're the most unfortunate actor. I have to hear all the praise for you!" A grateful Mithu adds, "So many actors work all their life and never get the exposure; I'm so grateful for this."
But he hasn't lost focus from his dreams. "I want to make films; that's my ultimate goal. I want to tell stories. I'm the man in the crowd; I love seeing life from up close. I've spent at least five days in each 52 districts of the country. I've fallen asleep at many a rail station and park bench in this country; just to observe people and their stories. I've worked in NGOs where I've lived with the most grassroots people. I want to bring that all out. Start with making a few TV plays, and then a film."



STAR ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Ahead of the Bengal Classical Music Festival – Bangladesh 2014 set to begin for the third year running on November 27 – Star Arts & Entertainment looks to introduce readers to the artists who will be performing on the biggest classical music festival in the world. In the first installment are two young, masterful sarod artistes with the deepest of connections to the instrument.
The deep, introspective sound of the sarod, one of the most popular instruments of North Indian Classical Music today, is said to have come to India when Mohammad Hashmi Khan Bangash, a musician and horse trader,

BENGAL CLASSICAL MUSIC FEST 2014

Amaan and Ayaan Ali Khan
Torchbearers of a legacy

Amjad Ali Khan gave his first stage performance at age seven, so it was no surprise when Amjad Ali's two sons – Amaan and Ayaan, began performing with their father from a very young age. It wasn't long before the two began touring worldwide with their sarod, upholding the name of their father. But while they are masterful in the classical elements, the duo have also become immensely popular among the youth for their wider range of work – be it collaborations with electronic and lounge music or interpretations of Sufi songs, they have taken their music beyond the quintessential classical music ears.
They duo has collaborated with musicians of various genres across the globe and played at prestigious festivals and venues, but it will be their first advent to Dhaka, where their mentor and father, a true great, Ustad Amjad Ali Khan will also perform for the first time at the festival.
Following the magic weaved by Pandit Buddhadev Dasgupta and Pandit Tejendra Narayan Mazumdar in the last two years' festivals, classical music aficionados will certainly look forward to the performances of both the master and his brightest disciples.



RAPID FIRE
Hasin Rowshan

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Popular TV actress Hasin Rowshan, who emerged in the showbiz through a beauty pageant a few years ago, faced 10 rapid fire questions from The Daily Star, most of which she's never answered before.

- What would you do when you are upset?
: Listen to music with full volume and cook spicy food.
- What is your biggest fear?
: Being misunderstood.
- What would you do if you could go back to childhood?
: I would find out 101 ways of bunking school.
- What could you become if not an actress?
: Housewife.
- Ever talk to yourself in front of a mirror?
: Quite a lot, actually! I even pamper myself that time.
- After a hard day's work, who or what do you want to come back home to?
: My husband.
- Which quality of you is still unknown to your fans?
: I can cook really well.
- If you have any superpower, what would you do?
: I would make people happy.
- The most irritating feature of Dhaka...
: Definitely traffic jam.
- To what extent you are scared of ghosts?
: I don't really believe all these.
- You find it amusing when...
: People deliberately lie.



PHOTO: STAR

Rinku at DS Café

Rinku shot into the spotlight with talent hunt Close Up one. Since then, his fan following has spiralled dramatically. Recently, the popular folk singer dropped by at DS Café, at the monthly programme of Arts & Entertainment, as the celebrity of the month. He was flooded with calls from his fans who bombarded him with questions about his music and life. Excerpts from the conversations:

- Rana, Dhaka: Is it possible to sideline folk culture?
Rinku: Never, because modern civilisation is built on traditional culture.
- Sumon, Dhaka: Is it true that your dream was to release an album from Kolkata?
Rinku: Yes, I dreamt of releasing an album from there when I discovered the opulence of the folk songs of Kolkata. My dream came true finally.
- Rasha, Chittagong: What about your duets? Were you keen to do a duet with anyone?
Rinku: When I listened to the songs of Sahaj Mar, a Kolkata-based singer; I was keen to work with him. Finally, I achieved my ambition.
- Rabbi, Sylhet: What's your favourite attire?
Rinku: Panjabi.
- Dipti, Khulna: Did you participate at the recent Lalon festival in Kushitia?
Rinku: I went there and sang. I am not at peace until I visit the fair.
- Mahi, Dhaka: Do your fans become a nuisance?
Rinku: They are often inconsiderate and keep on calling me. They insist on photographs, autographs and even listen to my songs. But, I don't get disturbed because it is actually their love for me.
- Pavel, Barisal: Do you prefer to sing during the day or night?
Rinku: Definitely night. In my view, artistes and literateurs love the night time.
- Kafi, Dhaka: Do you have any regrets?
Rinku: None.
- Rony, Savar: How do you view your musical career?
Rinku: I believe it's God gifted and I really enjoy it.
- Tutul, Gazipur: Do you envy anybody?
Rinku: Not at all.
- Kamal Parvez, Tangail: Do you feel more comfortable on audio or stage?
Rinku: Definitely on stage as can feel



ILLUSTRATION: SADAT

the pulse of the audience.
Ranjait Sarkar, Sirajganj: As a singer where do you visualise yourself in the long run?
Rinku: I want to traverse a long way in the music world and interact with people from the grassroots.
Jahangir, Dhaka: What's the biggest problem of the music market?
Rinku: Piracy. Our music industry cannot flourish if we cannot curb this.
Sabbir, Mymensingh: What genre of songs do you want to do?
Rinku: Folk songs as I was born in a village and grew up amidst nature.
Jibon, Sylhet: Who was your first music teacher?
Rinku: My maternal uncle Rabul Aul.
Ferdous, Dhaka: How do you feel about the current trend of rendering Lalon songs in various styles?
Rinku: I'm trying to reach his creations to people who still enjoy his songs. It's merely an exchange of musical instruments like guitar for the dotara (a string like object). But one must be careful not to distort the basic style of Lalon songs.

BotTala honours Ferdousi Majumdar

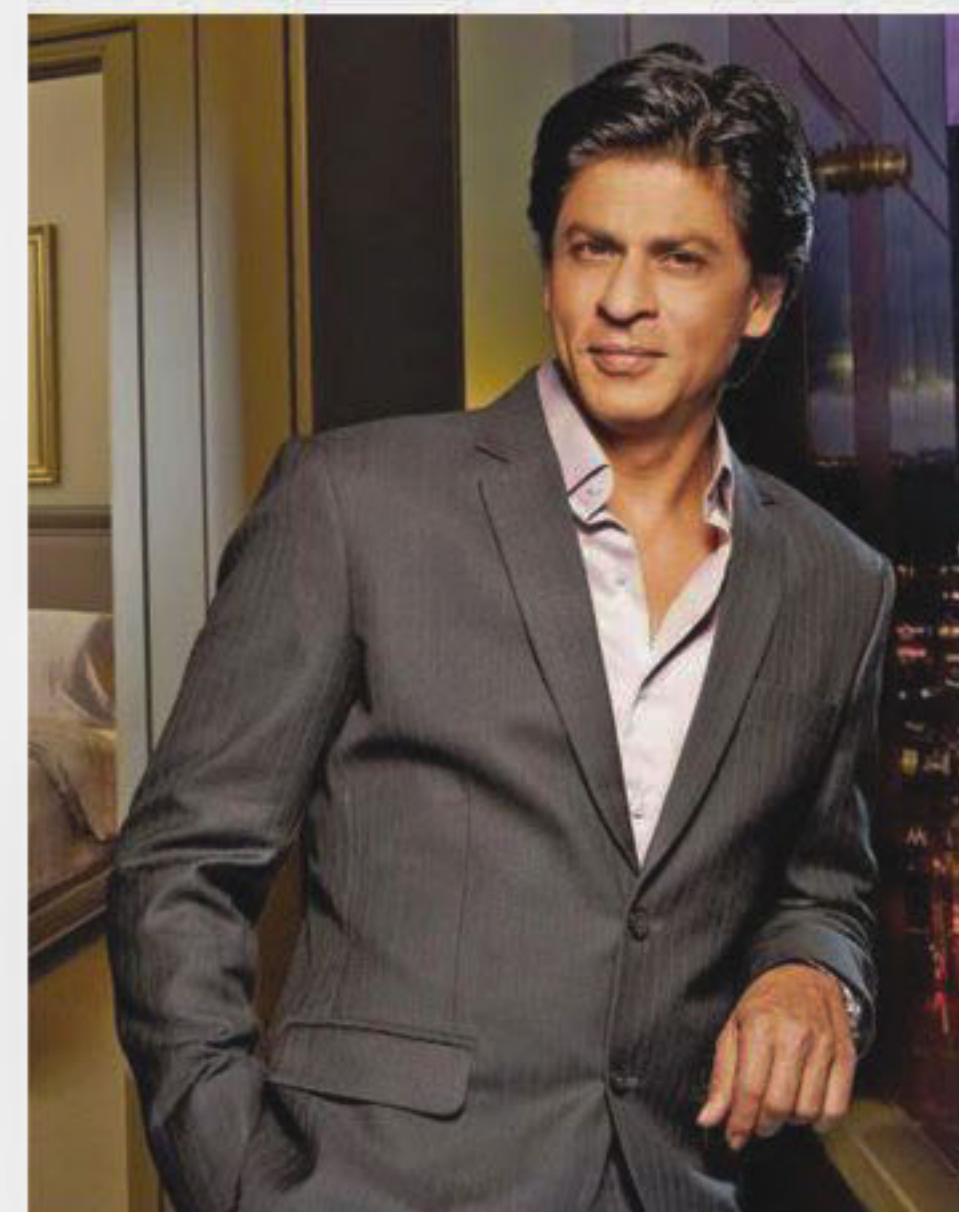


A scene from "Na-Manushi Jomeen".

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Theatre troupe BotTala's Rongomela is wrapping a close. The eight-day festival has seen a whooping audience gathering every evening at the National Theatre Hall to watch theatrical productions.
On October 28, Theatre Art Unit staged their production "Na-Manushi Jomeen" at the National Theatre Hall of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy.
Following the show, BotTala honoured thespian Ferdousi Majumdar for her outstanding contribution to the country's theatre. Members of BotTala handed over crests to the actress following her troupe's show.
The festival wraps up today with Rongasram's (Kolkata) staging of "Monidipa". The closing ceremony will be held at 9pm at the premises of National Theatre Hall. However, due to political unrest, US-based actress Kailumi Lee's solo performance "Can't Scare Me: The Story of Mother Jones" has been rescheduled to 11.30am on November 1.

Expect the unexpected from me: SRK



Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan wants his fans to expect the unexpected from him as he yearns to create magic with his acting.
"Please expect the unexpected from me. I try my best every time and give the unexpected for the love of the people. I always try to be a little different and try to be little unexpected so that people are intrigued and enjoy my work," Shah Rukh told his audience in Kolkata on Wednesday. The 48-year-old visited Kolkata to celebrate the success of "Happy New Year" with his fans.
The Baadshah of Bollywood wishes to go on acting, do his best and create that little magic which will make his children proud. But the star admitted that sometimes his best might not strike the right chords with the audience.



IT'S TRUE!
Jean 'Django' Reinhardt, a Belgian-born guitarist and composer of French nationality and Romani ethnicity, is often regarded as one of the greatest guitar players of all time; he was the first important European jazz musician who made major contributions to the development of the guitar genre. After his third and fourth fingers were paralyzed when he suffered burns in a fire, Reinhardt used only the index and middle fingers of his left hand on his solos. He created an entirely new style of jazz guitar technique (sometimes called 'hot jazz guitar'), which has since become a living musical tradition within French Gypsy culture.

TV WATCH
Nostalgia ends today on ATN News

A CORRESPONDENT

The last episode of cookery show "Nostalgia" will air on ATN News today at 9:30pm. The show's host, renowned designer Chandrashekar Saha's mother, Benuka Saha and his elder brother Shaibal Saha will be present in the episode as guests. They will share some of their favorite recipes and cherished memories. The audience will also get to see the guests cooking, using traditional utensils and clay stoves.
The show Ropchanda Nostalgia creates nostalgia and connects the audience to the rich and diverse heritage of Bangladesh cuisine. Afsana Mimi has directed the docu-fiction, based on the concept of Mumni Saha.

