

THANK GOD IT'S FRIDAY
BY TANZIRAL DILSHAD DITAN



**Manzurul Islam Khan Musical Concert,
An Evening of Ghazal**

Date: Tuesday, 20 January

Time: 6pm

Venue: AFD Courtyard, Alliance Francaise
He is better known as an avid follower of

the ghazal legend Jagjit Singh. Manzurul Islam Khan has been performing his solos at some selected places of Bangladesh and India since 1994. He received 'talim' from Ustad Azad Rahman, Ustad Sanjib Dey, Ustad Aminul Haque and Ustad Amjad Rahman in Bangladesh and Ustad Usman Khan, Ustad Sanjoy Chakrabarty in India. He was fortunate enough to learn from the Ghazal King – Jagjit Singh, albeit for a short time. He aspires to continue singing as long as he can and contribute to the world of Bengali version of ghazals bringing in a variation in its gaayaki (rendition) altogether. His upcoming performance will

again illustrate this philosophy.

**Afro-Cuban Latin Jazz By Lokkhi Terra
featuring Kishon Khan**

Date: Saturday, 24 January

Time: 7pm

Venue: Red Shift Coffee Lounge, Radius Centre, 5th Floor, Bay's Galleria, 57 Gulshan Avenue, Gulshan

From the Melas of Bangladesh to the streets of Havana, via some districts in Lagos, through a bustling club in London and now returning to Red Shift! This is the exciting journey that is reproduced in the concerts of Lokkhi Terra with Kishon Khan's wonderful keyboard playing leading the way. The other members are from Cuba, Turkey and

England.

It is said that this is just what contemporary world fusion should sound like - "A sort of Afro-Cuban thing with Bangladeshi origins" and we are now privileged to enjoy the irresistible Cuban Timba beat for ourselves. Guaranteed to get your feet tapping this Afro-Cuban Latin Jazz concert is not to be missed. For more UK press comments on Lokkhi Terra and its unique throbbing music please check www.lokkhi-terra.com/press

Tickets: Tk. 600 available at Radius/Red Shift. (Please buy your tickets early as the number of seats is limited).

Inspiration for the new

FROM PAGE 9

working for The Daily Star, Munem kept studying at Pathshala while also continuing with his Sociology degree at Dhaka University. "I have had to work with all sorts of subjects -- from fashion, food, travel -- I had no prejudice." With the money he saved, he would travel to the tea-gardens where he worked on the untold story of the conditions of the workers. This led to bigger things, and when Drik News started its journey, the famous Abir Abdullah offered him a job. "I had been wanting to work in journalism and there I got the chance to go to Fulbari to cover the movement of the workers and that's where it started."

Of his earlier influences, Munem talks of

Raghu Rai - the Indian Magnum photographer. "Shahidul Islam has a big influence on me -- he has taught us to look at life differently." Munem Wasif learned early that to follow his line of work, he had to keep his expectations low and not aim for a lavish lifestyle. "As a photographer living in Bangladesh, you can earn just so much if you want to keep your integrity."

In terms of the photography scene today, Munem seems less certain. He thinks more people nowadays are interested in taking pictures and uploading them on social media compared to people who want to understand and learn the visual algorithm that goes into photographic thinking. "In one sense though, I think the increase in

number is good. Photography is a democratic medium." But he feels it would help the upcoming photographers a lot more if they learned to introspect and think about a photo instead of rushing to upload them. "We are looking for recognition in the form of likes instead of trying to learn the craft."

But on the positive side of things, Munem says that due to the presence of a good photography school and more scholarships to study abroad available, the resources to learn from are more than ever. "So the scope of working has increased too, people can now work anywhere from the New York Times to The Daily Star depending on what they want to do."

Munem talks of a certain lifestyle and

sensibility that comes with living his life which he thinks is important for any artist. He thinks that the challenges facing upcoming photographers are more inherent to the way the art is approached these days. "There are too many photographers looking at things the same way. Everyone thinks they can take photos so the studying and learning hands-on in the dark room -- all that is absent."

Like any good artist, for Munem Wasif the medium is irrelevant -- from film to DSLRs to Instagram, he holds no prejudice. With so many people taking on this new art, his story and approach serves as a lesson in perseverance and dedication.

By Moyukh Mahtab



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