RUNA

laila

A star is

BORN

I was in Karachi, Pakistan in 1966

when Runa Laila first appeared in the

music horizon, taking the listeners by

storm with her song, "Unki nazrosey

mohabbatka jo paigham mila....

ately became a chartbuster and made

but strong voice, well-trained in clas-

sical songs, lent the required passion

to make the songs extremely popular

voice was the reason behind this.

all over Pakistan. The freshness of her

There was no stopping for Runa after

that song. She went onto sing many

more songs in Urdu films under the

direction of the maestros of

Runa a celebrity overnight. The young

The lilting romantic song immedi-



Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Destination & Departure
Artist: Professor Monsur Ul Karim
Venue: Galleri Kaya, H-20, Rd-16,















Hilary Duff releases new single



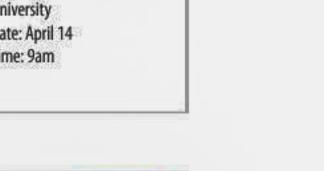
Hilary Duff returned to the airwaves this week on Monday, with a hot new single. The 27-year old singer debuted "Sparks" as her first new song of 2015, after taking a bit of a break from her upco ing fifth studio album. The "Why Not" singer first introduced the project in July 2014 with the release of the single "Chasing the Sun", but paused the album after releasing the second single "Al

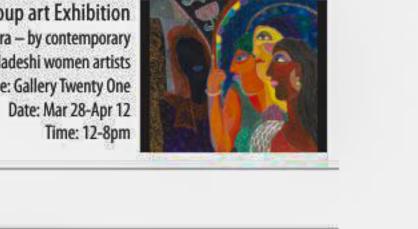
The former child star is back at it with "Sparks" which has been featured in promos for her new TV Land show "Younger" with Sutton Foster and Debi Mazar. The clubby track opens with a whistled melody before Duff joins in. The steamy lyrics are a change of tone for Duff, who split from her husband Mike Comrie in 2014 after nearly four

Duff is expected to release her new album "This Heart" in the coming months. Originally slated for an October 2014 debut, the record will be the singer's first in more than eight years.















STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Runa Laila, an iconic figure not only in Bangla music but the musical scene of South Asia, celebrates the Golden Jubilee of her career with a concert today at the Bangabandhu International Conference Centre, also featursinger Fawad Khan. Marking her glorious landmark, her contemporaries in the music scene shared their views on her work and career with The Daily Star.

Ferdausi Rahman, singer I was a regular performing artiste



same stage many times, and throughout the decades, she h blossomed into a beautiful flower. When she decided to come back to Bangladesh, I was very happy; some people were she is to Bangla music. She has left her mark beyond the boundto do. As a listener, I am very to Allah that she continues to sing beautifully for years to come

Sheikh Sadi Khan, composer The reason why Runa Laila became who she is today, and served our music industry for so



Runa Laila's voice came as a breath of fresh air to the music lovers in Pakistan in the late sixties. But to get a footing in Lahore was not an easy feat as two stalwarts of the time, Noor Jahan and Mala dominated the stage. When young Bengali boys of Lahore and Karachi came to know that Runa was a Bengali girl from East Pakistan, they fell in love with her en mass and longed to meet her in real life. But it was difficult those days

and as a result Runa unknowingly broke many hearts. But the young Bengali did

Lahore those days took extreme pride in telling their Pakistani friends that Runa Laila was a Bengali artiste who sang with an immaculate Urdu accent. In the Bengali household her songs used to be played in every party and she remained the main topic of discussion. But this

remains to be said even the Pakistani audience loved her equally and appreci-ated Runa Laila's voice quality and singing style. They had a unanimous opinion that she would be a great singer one day. So a young, Runa Laila had already won the hearts of millions of Pakistania with only a few songs. Next, after 74 it was for the rest of the subcontinent to discover her wondrously melodious



REFLECTING ON RUNA

Contemporaries share thoughts on the icon's 50 years in melody



aries of this country -- something not many artistes have been able proud of her, and I hope and pray



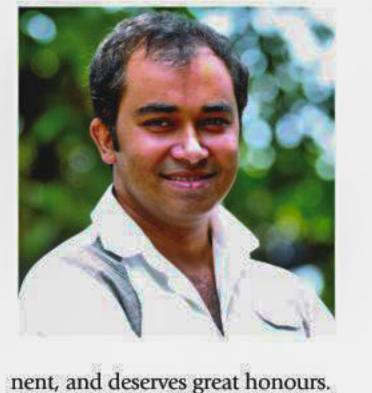
long, is because she came prepared; her foundation was strong so she could build on it. Her training allowed her to sing various types of songs, and express herself through it. She has worked with some of the greatest musicians of this part of the world, which was an invaluable experience for her. She is an incredible musical talent, and has the rare quality to pick up sor on the spot and express the right emotions in it. Today's singers have a great role model in her.

Alauddin Ali, composer I was fortunate to have worked with an artiste of such international repute. I have worked with Runa Laila for a long time; we worked for films and recorded from HMV. Also we received



accolades from Kolkata along with other great artistes like Lat. Mangeshkar, Asha Bhosle, Salil Chowdhury and Bhupen Hazarika. It always felt great to be around a great singer like her. I learned many things from her. She is an inspiration to many. Anup Bhattacharya, singer

have always lamented the fact artiste of Runa Laila's stature to the full potential. Maybe it was our limitations, maybe something music direction for her solo else; I don't know. The biggest hits of hers that you hear today are not all songs of her level. She is an artiste of great heights, who has an immense range and diversity. She has rightly left her impression all over this subconti-



Emon Saha, composer I have had the opportunity to work with Runa apa for a long time, as I used to be keyboardis of her band during the initial par of my career. Despite being the legendary singer that she is, Runa apa has always been very support-ive and I got to learn a lot of things from her. I learned from being is the first prerequisite for being a good artiste. I also did album, and collaborated with her in films. She is very close to her co-artistes. I am so happy that Runa apa is celebrating 50 years of singing. I wish she continues singing for many more years to

THE WEEKENDER

"I can't live without music"...Liza

Liza: Yes, I want more flower pots at

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

RIDWAN ADID RUPON

Acclaimed singer Liza has never looked back since she won the Close Up 1 talent hunt. Singing is her forte but she has also emceed programmes. Liza recently fielded some questions posed by The Daily Star: What is your first thought when you

wake up in the morning? Liza: I wish I could sleep some more. Do you like flowers?

What is your greatest fear? Liza: Ghosts. What would you do if you could Bangladesh.

the most -- the sea, mountains or for-

What most irritates you about Dhaka? Liza: The wild traffic and booming What do you usually do when you get

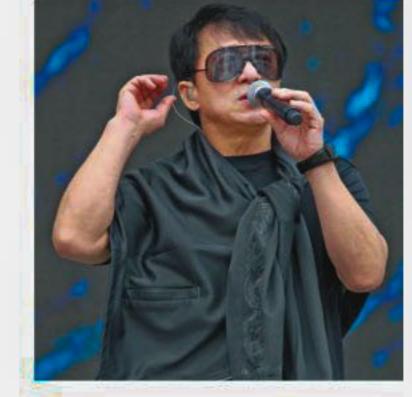
Liza: I shout out loudly, and then stay How do you react to astrological

predictions in magazines or papers? Liza: I am really interested in reading them. It lights up my day even though half of it doesn't always take place. How do you react when you see the adulation of your fans? Liza: Very positively. What do you miss the most if you

leave it at home when you go out? Liza: My mobile phone. Do you have a fear of heights? Liza: Not really. You can't survive without ...?

What would you do if you encountered a fairy?
Liza: I would befriend him/her.

IT'STRUE!



Iconic actor-martial artist Jackie Chan is also a prominent singer. Chan had vocal lessons whilst at the Peking Opera School in his childhood, began producing records professionally in the 1980s and has gone on to become a successful singer in Hong Kong and Asia. He has released 20 albums since 1984 and has performed vocals in Cantonese, Mandarin, Japanese, Taiwanese and English. He often sings the theme songs of his films, which play over the closing credits.

Bonnya Mirza in debut TVC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Despite Bonnya Mirza's popularity and success in both theatre and television, the actress had never done a television commercial. The actress recently did a commercial for telecom operator Robi, and it is going on air on all television channels.

About that TVC, Bonnya said, "It was my first work in a com-mercial. I had to practice a lot to prepare myself for it. Without this TVC, I wouldn't have known that Piplu (admaker Piplu R Khan) is such a talented director."

Meanwhile, Bonnya is passing busy times in drama serials. She is working in nearly half dozen TV serials, four of which are already going on air on different channels.

In addition, she has also started working in a yet-untitled serial



Chhuye Dile Mondon hits screens today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

New Dhallywood film "Chhuye Dile Mon" is releas ing in theatres across the country today. Popular actors Arifin Shuvo and Momo paired up for the first time in this film, produced by Dhwoni Chitra and Monforing. The film also casts Iresh Zaker in a key

About the film, Shuvo said, "It's a good story revolving around love and romance." Momo said "I believe the audience will go to cinema halls to watch the film and they will love it."

The film, presented by Fair & Lovely, is directed by

A celebration of the melody man

AR Rahman documentary premiered

tor Danny Boyle, director of

"Slumdog Millionaire", his con His mother sold all her jewelry patriot-composer Andrew Lloyd to buy him the equipment in a Webber, directors Shekhar Kapoor, Mani Ratnam (whose composer Andrew Lloyd Webber film "Roja" ushered Rahman ing of Bollywood musical into film music 23 years ago), Subhash Ghai, lyricist Gulzar "Bollywood Dreams" in a studio and singer Alaka Yagnik, among These, and many other

based on the career of the 'Mo zart of Madras' had its India premiere on Tuesday night, in

others, talking about Rahman. Considered one of the world's most influential people by Time work includes over 120 film scores worldwide.

multiple Oscar-winning film

In an interesting piece of information, Ghai says Rahman is so "eccentric" at times, "he will



front of a packed audience of music lovers from not only the national capital, but all of the The film celebrates Rahman's

achievements through his twodecade career, the evolution of his style of music, and what it meant to Indian film industry It is interwoven with

Rahman's personal life story the struggle after his father's all her jewelry to buy him studio equipment, ideas of spirituality and how Rahman creates

The film features British direc-

go the bathroom and disappear

Most importantly, the documentary gets Rahman himself to talk, for which director Aggarwal says he had to wait for six

A standing ovation by the audience marked the end of the 60-minute documentary, which was followed by a questionanswer session featuring Rahman and the film's director with the Rahman was also requested by

the audience to sing a song but time constraints did not permit

The Bailly Star





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Source: US Weekly