

WHAT'S ON

Nazrul Utsab

Organiser: Chhayanaut

Venue: Chhayanaut Auditorium

Date: May 29-30

Time: 6pm

ছায়ানটের

বঙ্গবন্ধু উৎসব

১৫ ও ১৬ জুলাই ১৪২২

১৯ ও ২০ মে ২০১৫

৬০০ ও শনিবার

Concert

Debut show by Ghashphoring Choir

Venue: Red Shift Café, Radius Centre, Gulshan

Date: May 29

Time: 7pm

Art Exhibition

Celebrated Violence -4: Fuzzy Fear

Venue: Kala Kendra, Mohammadpur, Dhaka

Date: May 28 - June 20

Time: 5-9 pm

Praner Khela

Soiree of Nazrul Songs

Organiser: Bengal Foundation

Venue: Bengal Shilpalaya, Dhammondi

Date: May 28

Time: 7pm

Intercultural Dance

Looking Forward to the Past

Organiser: Shadhona Sanskritik Mondal

Date: May 28

Time: 6:45pm


NEWS

bytes

Nazrul memorial centres in Trishal

Memorabilia lacks a spark

Filmmaker Jean-Nesar Osman joins BTV as a director



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Noted filmmaker and painter Jean-Nesar Osman has recently joined Bangladesh Television (BTV) as a Director (Development Programme Film Unit). The filmmaker has been making a government-funded film "Panchashongi", based on his father, litterateur Shawkat Osman's acclaimed novel with the same title.

Jean-Nesar Osman has brought a new dimension to film making in the country making a feature film, several documentaries including the much-acclaimed "Ghora" (The Horse), some short films and approximately 350 ad films. He is strongly supportive of the rights of the underprivileged, campaigns against ecological deterioration, cruelty to animals and denial of children's rights. He tries to impart social messages through his films but this in no way stands against his art. His films are thought provoking and ask us to come out of the boxes, but are artistically pleasing at the same time.

Osman, a DU graduate (in Bengali Literature), completed a four-year Diploma in Cinematography and Photo Chemistry from Pune Film and TV Institute of India. He also undertook one-year training from ESEC in Paris, on Optical Effects. Jean-Nesar Osman is the youngest son of noted litterateur Shawkat Osman and a younger brother of Yafes Osman, Minister of State for Science and Technology.

Nazrul Smriti Kendra at Kazir Shimla in Trishal. Gramophone used by the National Poet.





PHOTO:STAR

RECALLING THE REBEL

Voices from the cultural arena

ZAHANGIR ALOM AND SAURAV DEY

On Nazrul's birth anniversary, front ranking cultural personalities spoke about the influence of Nazrul on our lives and how he still inspires us to forge ahead. They also shed light on Nazrul's personal life and the marvel of his works.

“I enjoy singing for films these days”
...Azmary Nirjhor

Mustafa Zaman Abbasi



Mustafa Zaman Abbasi, veteran musicologist and scholar

Nazrul was tremendously popular among the Hindu community; he was a pioneer among the Muslims, and to the communists he was a messenger of equality. And that's why he is highly esteemed in West Bengal, India as well as Bangladesh. His birthday is being celebrated in every corner of the world that has a Bengali community. As long as there is Bangla there will be Nazrul. His songs are diverse and he is the greatest composer after Amir Khusro. Nazrul Sangeet captures the history of Bangla songs, the essence of Indian ragas and elements from different parts of the East. To me he is the greatest composer of Bangla music.

Shykh Seraj, Media personality

The great poet Nazrul spoke about a global village hundreds of years before it became a

Shykh Seraj



byword. He spoke of equality and stood against injustice. It is our duty to disseminate the poet's messages for the welfare of humanity. The present generation knows very little about Tagore and Nazrul. We have achieved much but at the same time are losing a great deal due to the deleterious effects of globalization. The commendable job by the Taranga of California will have a global impact. We are honouring the organisation with a lifetime achievement award. Installation of Nazrul Chair at the State University of California and Northridge University is an achievement for us. Through this effort, we are globalising our National Poet.

Salahuddin Ahmed, Nazrul Singer

Nazrul turned towards music from 1928. The trend of Bangla songs of that time was demarcated and followed by the reshape of Kirttan, tappa and timeless folk genre.

Salahuddin Ahmed



Nazrul was the only musician who rearranged Bangla music and gave it a new life. While maintaining the previous genres of music, Nazrul created newer musical genres. He incorporated both well known and less known classical ragas and adeptly used khayal in all segments of a song. In this way he brought about a drastic change in Bangla music.

Nasima Shaheen



Nasima Shaheen, Nazrul Singer

Even before he was recognised as the National Poet of Bangladesh, Nazrul left an imprint on all Bangalees. He was a poet of love and rebellion and continues to inspire us. The more we practice, learn and teach his songs, the more we unfold his immense musical legacy. We are wonderstruck at how rich he was in heart, though he led a life of indescribable poverty. The diverse musical genres, created by Nazrul, are a valuable treasure. He was one of the harbingers of modern Bangla songs.

Nahin Taher



Popular pop singer Azmary Nirjhor has been in the spotlight ever since her talent was spotted in "Notun Kuri" and many other competitions. Her love for singing accounts for her success, she says to The Daily Star.

When did you start singing?

Nirjhor: The first person to spark my passion for singing was my dadi (grandmother). Though I had signed up for other extra curricular activities, I preferred music any day. I was in Nazrul Academy for 10 years. I trained in classical music for three years. Around 2000, I came to Dhaka, and was registered in BTV and Bangladesh Betar for my songs. That was an great impetus and from then on I kept on singing.

How many of your albums have been released?

Nirjhor: In 2003, a mixed album was released. My solo album was released in 2005. I sang with Habib in his album "Moina Go." My second album was released in 2012. Not just albums, I sang for some ad jingles. I also performed abroad to represent my country.

Do you prefer performing on or off-stage?

Nirjhor: I love both. Initially I was nervous about performing in front of so many people. But now I feel the appreciation, admiration and warmth of my audience. I largely enjoy singing for films these days. The songs and the settings for the song are so realistic. That is what I love most; it's dreamy and mesmerising.

Tanu Weds Manu Returns

Zany humour



KAVITA, New Delhi

Dr. Sayeem Rana's book on traditional musical instruments launched



Distinguished guests at the launching ceremony.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The launching ceremony for a book titled "A Historical Perception of Traditional Musical Instruments for Younger Generation" was recently held at the seminar room of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA). Dr. Sayeem Rana, a Lecturer at the Department of Music of University of Dhaka, has conducted much research prior to authoring the book. Bangladesh Institute of Theatre Arts (BITA) and Concerts Norway jointly organised the launching ceremony in association with BSA.

Professor Emeritus Dr. Anisuzzaman attended the event as chief guest. Anne Moberg, Head of International Projects, Concerts Norway, graced the occasion as special guest. Sadya Aftreen Mallick, eminent Nazrul exponent and Editor of Star Arts and Entertainment and Saimon Zakaria, assistant director of Bangla Academy discussed the book. Pijush Bandyopadhyay, president of BITA and theatre personality, presided over the programme.

"To promote the culture of Bangladesh, we have to put special emphasis on the musical instruments of the country," said Professor Anisuzzaman.

The book focuses on musical instruments used by various indigenous people across Bangladesh. To spark interest among the younger generation in traditional musical instruments, BITA and Concerts Norway jointly published the book. The book meticulously explores 400 indigenous musical instruments, their collection processes and preservation. Going a step ahead, the writer Dr. Sayeem Rana has proposed a museum to preserve and display the traditional instruments.

Padatik Natya Sangsad (TSC) staged its much acclaimed production "Macbeth" on May 26 evening as part of Nagorik Natyangan's theatre fest at the National Theatre Hall of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy. The Shakespearean classic, translated by Syed Shamsul Haq, has been directed by Sudip Chakroborthy. Syed Samsi Ara Sayeka, Shakawat Hossain Shimul, Moshir Rahman, Hamidur Rahman Pappu, Javed Patowary, Mohiuddin Jewel and others form the cast of "Macbeth".



Dhaka Foodies



QUIZ 03

The only 4 star deluxe hotel participating in Dhaka Restaurant Week is?

Quiz 2 Winner: Hossain Tareq, Gopibagh

To participate for your chance to win TWO FREE COUPONS, email your answer to tdsdrestaurantweek2015@gmail.com by 4pm today with your name, DOB, mobile number and address. The winner of the quiz will be announced tomorrow in this newspaper and through email.

The Daily Star