

# QUOTES



"Jazz has borrowed from other genres of music and also has lent itself to other genres of music."

JAZZ LEGEND  
HERBIE HANCOCK

# "Whenever I visit Bangladesh, I don't feel like leaving."

..Mitali Mukherjee

ZAHANGIR ALOM

"My feelings for Bangladesh, Brahmaputra and music lovers of my motherland are ever alive in my heart. Whenever I visit Bangladesh, I don't feel like leaving," said an enthused Mitali Mukherjee in an exclusive interview with a few cultural journalists, while Citi Bank, NA was honouring the renowned singer this year with "Gaan-e Gaan-e Gunijon Sangbordhona".

Mitali shared her memories of recording the timeless song "Ei Dunia Ekhon To Ar" for which she received a national award for the film "Dui Poishar Alta." The song took the music industry by storm. "I first recorded the song for BTV. I told Alauddin Bhai (eminent musician Alauddin Ali) to give me a song like (sings) 'Keu Konodin Amarey To Kotha Dilo Na'. Then he created the song and I recorded it," said the artiste.

Mitali began her formal training in classical music under Pt. Mithun Dey. Her parents were well-versed in classical and Nazrul Sangeet and groomed her in music. She received a scholarship from the Indian

Government to study music at the Maharaja Sayajirao University, Baroda, in Gujarat.

Mitali teamed up with famous singers and music directors of the subcontinent for several of her studio albums. Her first album, "Saahil" (released by HMV), became a gold disc. Subsequently, Mitali and renowned Indian artiste Bhupinder Singh joined forces in many albums. For her album, "Chand Parosa Hai," she collaborated with Oscar winning lyricist Gulzar. Two of her albums are in the pipeline. Mitali has sung in several languages, including Punjabi, Gujarati and Tamil. She received a triple disc for a song (from the Tamil blockbuster, "Dalpati") composed by renowned South Indian music director Iliya Raja.

Mitali tied the knot with ghazal singer Bhupinder Singh in 1983 and settled down in Mumbai.

She performs a diverse range of songs-- classical, ghazal or popular -- with equal passion. She may be away, but the gifted Mitali Mukherjee has taken our culture beyond our borders.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

# Mou and Nobel in "Highway"

A CORRESPONDENT

Popular on screen couple Mou and Nobel will be seen together in single-episode TV play "Highway". Written and directed by Mehedi Hasan Johnny, shooting for the play wrapped up recently at picturesque locations outside Dhaka.

The story encircles Dhrubo and Meghla, both runaways from home. Their paths cross and the duo come closer.

Nobel said, "I don't get enough time for acting due to a busy schedule. But this play is different; I enjoyed working in it."

Mou said, "I came across a good script after a long time. I am happy with my role and I hope the audience will be appreciative."

"Highway" will soon air on a satellite channel.



# Maksuda Iqbal Nipa's solo exhibit opens at Bengal Art Lounge

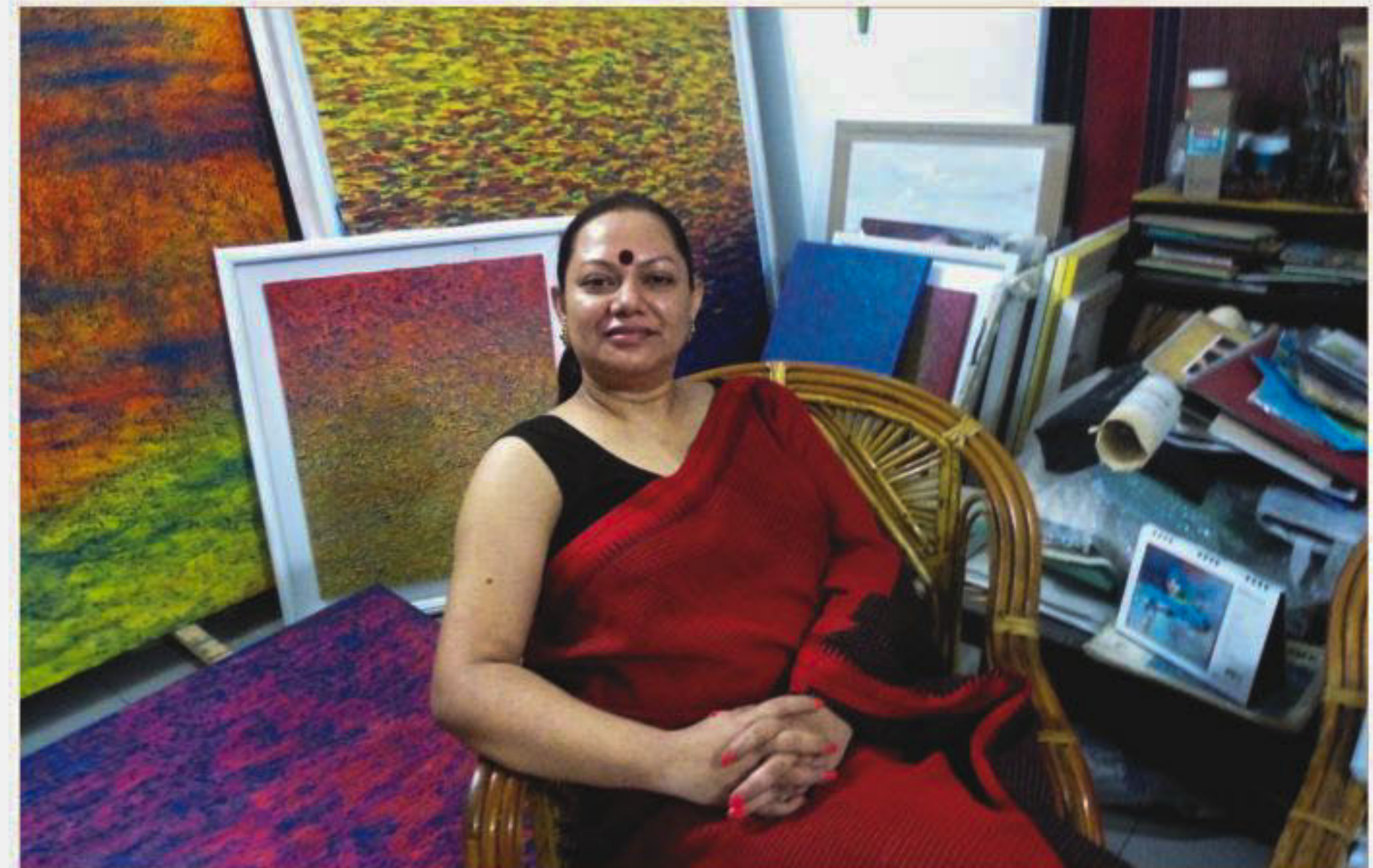
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Noted artist Maksuda Iqbal Nipa's solo painting exhibition titled "Chromatic Delusions" opens tomorrow at Bengal Art Lounge, Gulshan-1 in the capital. Pierre Mayaudon, Ambassador of the European Union to Bangladesh, and Professor Emeritus Anisuzzaman will jointly inaugurate the exhibition tomorrow (October 31) at 5pm.

Maksuda Iqbal Nipa acquired her MFA

(2004) in painting at the Aichi University of Education in Japan, where she specialised in oil painting techniques. Since then, she has pursued research on textures while continuously experimenting with colours in a non-figurative environment. The striking body of work on display in "Chromatic Delusions" combines Nipa's unique skill for oil painting with her audacious use of the palette.

The exhibition will remain open daily from 12pm to 8pm until November 21.



# In presence of theatrical majesty

FAHMIM FERDOUS, back from Xi'an, China

China's ancient capital, Xi'an, has thousands of years of rich history and heritage, the most significant of them being the Tang Dynasty (618-907 AD), when China achieved great artistic and cultural heights. Delegates of a recent media trip to the city organised by China Daily newspaper, The Daily Star's sister organisation in the Asia News Network, were treated to a majestic theatrical performance highlighting the cultural brilliance of the Tang Dynasty, at the Sunshine Lido Grand Theatre. The European baroque-style architecture of the theatre hosts a delicious dumpling banquet, followed by the set of performances.

The royal lifestyle of the Tang rulers, romantic pieces set on poetry, Buddhist beliefs and legends to warfare and cultural elements like sword dancing are portrayed at the presentation in brief segments. Illustrious costumes, exquisite music (including a live performance on the guzheng) and riveting choreography make for a breathtaking one-hour display, transcending the audience to a glorious time in Chinese history.



PHOTO: FAHMIM FERDOUS

# Fanta begins search for first teen pop band



A CORRESPONDENT

Carbonated beverage brand Fanta is set to launch a talent hunt to find the country's first teen pop band, as part of its ongoing mission to create more fun and play in the world. After an extensive search for talent, the selected teenagers will be shortlisted, vetted and groomed and eventually launched into musical stardom. To participate in the audition round, one needs to call at 3690 and record a song, along with their name, age and address.

The top 300 teenagers will be

shortlisted for the next round, where celebrity judges Elita, Jon and Fuad will pick the 100 most talented teenagers, from which 20 finalists will be given entry to the grand finale. The jury will then narrow it down the top 5, who will go on to become the country's first 'Fanta Teen Pop Band'. The group will have two original songs composed by Fuad, the music videos of which will be launched in a grand event.

The show will be aired on Gtv for audiences to follow the journey of the aspiring pop stars. Along with Gtv, Radio Foorti and The Daily Star are partners of the programme.