

MOAR— MORE THAN A WORKSPACE

FAYEKA ZABEEN SIDDIQUA



Nabila Nowrin



Nahid Sharmin

PHOTOS: COURTESY

need to do is walk in, register your name, pay for your package and start working.

The two young minds behind *Moar* believe in maximum hospitality in a casual, effective and comfortable atmosphere. Here they have meeting rooms, conference rooms and open spaces where people can come and work

- both individually and within a group. "Starting from facilities like good internet connectivity and tele-conference capacity, to an atmosphere that fosters your mental comfort and work efficiency, we attempt to provide everything," says Nabila. "Beside a physical office space, the

next thing start-ups need is building network. As you work here with people from different backgrounds, you never know whether the person sitting next to you with his/her laptop could be your next potential client or collaborator," says Sharmin.

"We work as a bridge between the clients and freelancers," adds Nowrin. "We help you reap benefits by having each other's back. We encourage everyone to pin their business cards on the board at the entrance, so that your co-worker's business card could provide you a lead."

Running an office requires doing a number of things that become hard for a start-up. "Here we take care of various administrative jobs like decorating the interior, purchasing office furniture, hiring a caretaker and supervising all the utilities, so all you need to do is focus on your work," says Nabila.

Co working spaces like *Moar* help to take the recent and still-growing trend of freelancers, young entrepreneurs and start-ups to the next level, believe the owners.

"Even though we have received good response so far, not everyone understands the idea of co-working," Nabila continues. "On our part, sometimes it becomes difficult to convince people how this alternate work method of functioning in a collaborative space could actually benefit them."

Moar is more than a four walled, air-conditioned office space, and much more than a chaotic, expensive coffee shop. It helps you to see other people's perspectives and gives you a chance to talk about yours, believe the owners.

STAR PEOPLE

QUIRKY SCIENCE

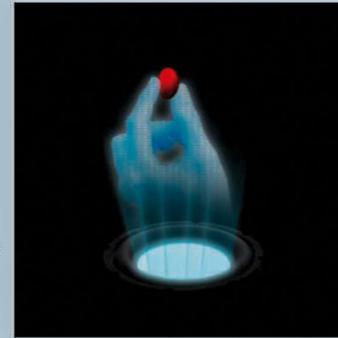
MOVING OBJECT WITH SOUND

A team of researchers from the Universities of Bristol and Sussex in collaboration with Ultrahaptics has built a novel sonic tractor beam that can lift and move objects using sound waves.

The concept of tractor beams that can grab and lift objects has been used by science-fiction writers, and programmes like *Star Trek*, but has since come to fascinate scientists and engineers. Researchers have now built a working tractor beam that uses high-amplitude sound waves to generate an acoustic hologram which can pick up and move small objects.

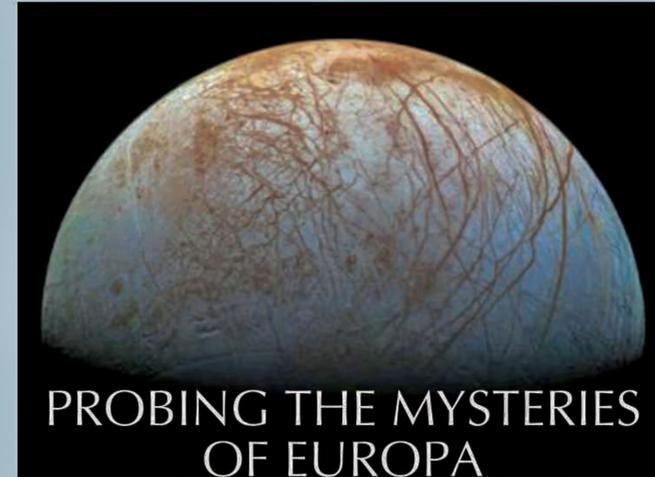
The technique, published in *Nature Communications*, could be developed for a wide range of applications -- for example, a sonic production line could transport delicate objects and assemble them, all without physical contact. On the other hand, a miniature version could grip and transport drug capsules or microsurgical instruments through living tissue.

Asier Marzo, PhD student and the lead author, said: "It was an incredible



experience the first time we saw the object held in place by the tractor beam. All my hard work has paid off, it's brilliant."

Bruce Drinkwater, Professor of Ultrasonics in the University of Bristol's Department of Mechanical Engineering, added: "We all know that sound waves can have a physical effect. But here we have managed to control the sound to a degree never previously achieved."



PROBING THE MYSTERIES OF EUROPA

Jupiter's moon Europa is believed to possess a large salty ocean beneath its icy exterior, and that ocean, scientists say, has the potential to harbor life. Indeed, a mission recently suggested by NASA would visit the icy moon's surface to search for compounds that might be indicative of life. But where is the best place to look? New research by Caltech graduate student Patrick Fischer; Mike Brown, the Richard and Barbara Rosenberg Professor and Professor of Planetary Astronomy; and Kevin Hand, an astrobiologist and planetary scientist at JPL, suggests that it might be within the scarred, jumbled areas that make up Europa's so-called "chaos terrain."

"We have known for a long time that Europa's fresh icy surface, which is covered with cracks and ridges and

transform faults, is the external signature of a vast internal salty ocean," Brown says. The areas of chaos terrain show signatures of vast ice plates that have broken apart, shifted position, and been refrozen. These regions are of particular interest, because water from the oceans below may have risen to the surface through the cracks and left deposits there.

"Directly sampling Europa's ocean represents a major technological challenge and is likely far in the future," Fischer says. "But if we can sample deposits left behind in the chaos areas, it could reveal much about the composition and dynamics of the ocean below." That ocean is thought to be as deep as 100 kilometres.

Source: Sciencedaily.com

FIVE THINGS

5 UPCOMING BANDS/ MUSICIANS TO WATCH OUT FOR

APURBA JAHANGIR

Music can be the most effective medicine to heal the soul. Our country over the years has developed outstanding musicians and the process still goes on. Here are five young 'healers' who are mesmerising us with their soulful melodies.



- Circus Police:** The band has been funking up concert venues for quite some time now. The four-member band delivers a sound which is quite hard to match up to. The young funk group has proved their worth through their single 'Mohini Romoni', which is very popular among the youth.
- Poraho:** They are what Bangla Rock is all about. With heart touching lyrics, distortion in the chorus and a soulful guitar solo at the end, Poraho is seen in every concert venue across the city. An all time crowd favourite.
- Zerif Ahmed:** This axe man has become a fan favourite in a very short time. From playing heavy metal songs to hard rock numbers, Zerif Ahmed has proved his worth as a future guitar maestro of our country.
- Sovvota:** From covering Anjann Dutta songs to rocking out in the beats of Adele, Sovvota has gained huge popularity among youngsters. Her song 'Ek cup cha' portrays Irish swing music which was missing in the music scene.
- Mark Don:** A singer, multi instrumentalist and a producer, Mark Don is a man of many trades. Being a true metal musician, Mark Don has worked with a bunch of metal acts of the country including Metal Maze.



Zahidul Haque Apu, or more commonly and lovingly known as RJ Apu, has stepped on many stones towards following his passion. He started off into the world of arts and entertainment as soon as he realised it to be something he wanted in his life, which was luckily at a very early age.

"When I was in Government Laboratory School, I met my best friend Rana. Together we shared a passion for music and having realised it early on, were eager to do something about it!" shares Apu.

The two youngsters set out to make music. Only in class 6, Rana and Apu decided to start a band in which Apu played guitar. His mother then admitted him into Shishu Academy to learn the guitar. "But then I realised, as I went to my first class that it was a class for the Hawaiian guitar!" He still learned to play the guitar for four years. "The most important thing I had taken away from the class though was the importance of having the academics into what you learn, even if the subject is cultural. That discipline that you get in class is something you can't give yourself," he says.

In 1997, Apu, along with his friend Rana, started playing in bands. "It was a trend to be a freelance artist then. So we'd jam with many people. I would usually play the keyboards during the jam sessions. In one of them, we met Rumi bhai, from the legendary band, Aurthohin," he says. Being invited to their jamming pad, Apu and Rana went on to meet famous Bangladesh bassist, Shumon, aka Bassbaba. "I bonded with Shumon bhai quite wonderfully and it was through him that I had my real exposure in the media."

Apu then formed his first band Triloy, while still playing as a guest keyboardist for other bands, and also consequently released an album called 'Shunbo'. "That was when my career hit off," hesays.

Soon after, he got involved in a television project called

THROUGH THE RADIO WAVES

NAZIBA BASHER

PHOTO: COURTESY



Zahidul Haque Apu

RockLink, a rock music show. "While I was at RockLink, I met Arafat Kazi, who told me about a job as a Radio Jockey for a new radio station- Radio Foorti. I was quite apprehensive at first, but then I thought to give it a shot. I took on the challenge mostly because it was related to music. Then I began the morning show 'Dhaka Calling'." He went on to become the producer of the show and secured a permanent spot in Radio Foorti, and also in the hearts of the listeners, as the beloved RJ Apu. He then became the Station's Senior Producer, then National Programme Manager, and then Regional Station Head for the Chittagong Station. After an 8 year long stint, Apu left Radio Foorti, signing off with his show 'Dhaka Calling'.

Despite already finishing his graduation from New Model College in Commerce, Apu found an interest in Graphic Design. He went on to obtaining an online degree on Video Communication. He then took a job in Ogilvy and Mather as Creative Head. "But while I was there, I realised that even though graphic designing was immensely cool, it was equally difficult! I started missing the radio then." Apu remembered the amount of time he had invested in the radio. After a year in Ogilvy and Mather, Apu joined Radio Dhol, the soon-to-be-launched station. RJ Apu came back and this time, with more ideas and experience to implement!

"Radio Dhol is the station that's going to have a personality of its own. It's going to be the first ever genre-based radio station. We thought about the people, we thought about the youth. What genre defines the youth? Rock n' Roll, of course!"

Radio Dhol is to be launched in Mid-November in station 94.0FM, as the first ever, full-on rock music station in Bangladesh. With a new design, new perspective and a whole lot of spunk, RJ Apu has proved to his listeners that he's always going to be there to play their favourite music.