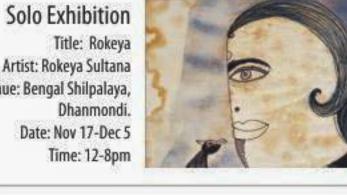


Group Art Exhibition Venue: La Galerie, AFD Date: Nov 27-Dec 11 Time: 12-8pm

Solo Exhibition Venue: Bengal Shilpalaya,



SPELLBOUND BY THE SOUNDS

BENGAL CLASSICAL MUSIC FEST ENDS ON A HIGH NOTE

ALOKE KUMAR SEN & ZAHANGIR ALOM

It was a mesmerising game of melody incorporating ragas and rhythms, taal and laya, gamak and meend, pukar and murki, taan and behelawa that world's finest music maestros presented in the five-night long world's largest Bengal Classical Music Festival, that ended on a high note on December 2 morning.

On the concluding night, Pandit Hariprasad Chaurasia set off the flute recital with playing Raga Kirwani. The melody that the Lord Krishna of our time styled evoked unfathomable sorrow of the deep sea. The legend's unique beautification of the raga, especially in the pukar ang, weaved a garland of melody. Revolving around each dhun, the way the maestro embellished rare musical phraseology was priceless.

"Bangladesh is a country of flute. I hope to

continue teaching at Bengal Parampara Sangeetalay, Dhaka, from next February. I want everyone to keep a flute with them," asserted Pt. Chaurasia prior to starting his recital.

Pt. Chaurasia next played an uncommon morning Raga Jait, quite similar to Raga Bhatiyar. Pt. Shubhankar Banerjee generated torrents of aesthetic beats of rupak taal and teentaal while the flute maestro was elaborating vistar ang. Pt. Bhawani Shankar's pakhawaj joined in the jugalbandi styled musical proceedings where Pt. Chaurasia made his flute bloom the diverse essence of the komal rishabh (Re-flat) note. The Dhaka music lovers experienced a zealous offer of sawal-jawab between Pt. Chaurasia's flute and Shubhankar Banerjee's tabla.

The melody of metaphor, nostalgia and euphoria reigned supreme in the recital of Bhatiali where Pt. Hariprasad Chaurasia



(Clockwise) Pt. Hariprasad Chaurasia, Ustad Rashid Khan and Irshad Khan leave the audience memories to cherish.

poured all passion and produced mesmerising melody in the kirtan-ang dhun.

Ustad Rashid Khan, the unparallel master of khayal rendition, started off his musical flight with performing Raga Jogkauns (intermingling of Raga Jog and Chandrakauns). The pristine melody of vilambit teentaal bandish "Sugar Bar Payo" coupled with emotive pukar styled by Ustad Rashid Khan charmingly mingled with the sarangi recital by Murad Ali Khan. The maestro of making instant musical phraseology gave a roaring rendition of drut bandish "Peer Parayi Janey Na Dhit Balamuwa", incorporating melodious sargam taan, speedy akar taan and mind-blowing jamjama taan. The living legend's decorative design of sargam, effortless and melodic ups and down in three octaves, precious murki

and marvelous ragdari took the music lovers in a state of bliss. Pt. Shubhankar Banerjee precisely produced riveting rhythms on tabla accompanying the legend.

It was an amazing experience of the audience who got enchanted by Rashid Khan's romantic rendition of a Sufi song "Naina Apne Piya Se" (penned by Hazrat Amir Khusro and set on Raga Gawti). Towards the end, Ustad Khan weaved a garland of melody fitting in several ragas -- Sohni, Pahadi, Chandradhwani and a rare odd phrase of Kaunshik Dhwani -- with the timeless Bade Ghulam Ali thumri "Yaad Piya Ki Aye".

Gripping the grave melody of Raga Darbari Kanada, Irshad Khan immaculately diffused the devotional and peaceful moods all around reciting his Surbahar, baptised at this year's

festival. Pt. Yogesh Samsi beautified the evocative performance. A rare game of gamak and meend continued for long while. Melodic elaboration in three octaves, fascinating gaut, fantastic taan, majestic ragdari and fabulous gamaki tehai thoroughly enthralled the audience. The recital evoked many melancholic moods like a father's moaning of his only

son's death. Ustad Shujaat Khan played Raga Rageshri, Bageshri and presented a song on vocals, "Tumhare Shehar Ka Mausam" at the festival, while promising vocalist Sameehan Kashalkar offered a beautiful rendition of khayal set on Raga Jog. Bangladeshi artiste Animesh Bijoy Chowdhury and troupe earlier opened the concluding day's proceedings with a dhamar on Raga Desh, and a chaturanga.



PHOTO: RIDWAN ADID RUPON / SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

TV WATCH

Mosharraf-Moutushi

in "Aloukik Manush"

A CORRESPONDENT

Starting today (December 3), Rtv will air a single-episode one-hour play with brief commercial breaks. The first of the plays is "Aloukik Manush", starring Mosharraf Karim and Moutushi Biswas.

The play is written by Mahmud Didar and directed by Debojyoti Bhakta.

ing routine life. On his wife's recommendation, he dives into a fantasy, into everything he wanted to be.

"Aloukik Manush" is about a man named Wahab, who lives a bor-



PHOTO: RIDWAN ADID RUPON

NAZIBA BASHER

Intricate steps, profound mudras, overwhelming rasas took over the night as Vidushi Alarmel Valli, a celebrated Bharatanatyam dancer and choreographer, internationally acclaimed for her ability to turn a traditional grammar into subtle, deep internalised personal dance poetry, took on the stage and blessed the Bengal Classical Music Festival audience with one exceptional piece after the other.

She began her performance by explaining to the audience the navarasa - the nine essential primary feelings evoked in the person (fundamental in Indian classical music or dance). Following that, she began her first piece, "Rati Sukha Sare" which is based on 'shringar' (love, attractiveness) rasa. The movements of the dance depicted the finery of spring - the bhramara (bees), the mukula (flower buds), the bherunda (the birds).

While leaving the audience agog, Valli began her next piece - "Unnuni Vikkida". This piece was based on a poem about a girl's early teens and first feelings of romance. Valli narrated the tale with her strong

bhavas (expressive emotions), as she played the young girl telling her friends of how that naughty boy who would tease them as children has now grown up to be a man, making her feel things she has never felt before.

"Muttuvaddura", the next piece, was about a woman, angry with her lover, suspecting him of falsely loving her. As the woman expresses her anger with said lover, he in turn tries to convince her of his true feelings. Throughout the conversation of mudras and bhavas between woman and lover, the audience was transfixed as they became a part of their love story, as Valli, with a lifetime of devotion to the art of Bharatanatyam, gave visual breadth to the piece with her rich lyrical expressions.

Shaking off the emotive plane, the next and final piece was that of pure rhythm. Valli brought us back to the physical state with the magic that is Nritya Lahari. The pulsating cadenced composition found its match in natya, where the dancer's strong groundwork in nritya came to the fore.

Valli, as always, left the stage with her audience satisfied yet yearning for more.

PURNIMA in new TVC

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Purnima, the once-busy actress of the silver screen, has been away from the glitz and glam of the filmdom for a while. She has sporadically been doing TV plays and modeling, though.

The actress recently shot her first TV commercial in two years, for a crockery brand. She told The Daily Star it was a good experience to be working in the medium again.

Purnima returned to acting this year after a hiatus with a tele-film by Arif Khan. She also did a TV play for Eid, titled "Prem Othoba Dusshopner Raat Din".

The last big screen project Purnima was involved in, "Chhayachhobi" opposite



Celebrating Life at JU

SM NAJMUS SAKIB, JU Correspondent

...... Hundreds of young audience thronged Selim Al Deen Muktamancha of Jahangirnagar University (JU), on Sunday to enjoy a programme of the Standard Chartered-The Daily Star Celebrating

JU hosted the programme where a dance performance by Shadhona was staged.

Vice-chancellor Prof. Farzana

Islam inaugurated the cultural event and spoke as chief guest while Rafi Hossain, convener of Standard Chartered-The Daily Star Celebrating Life, and Lubna Marium, director of Shadhona, addressed the audience as special guests.

The VC in her speech expressed special thanks to The Daily Star for organising such events for years.



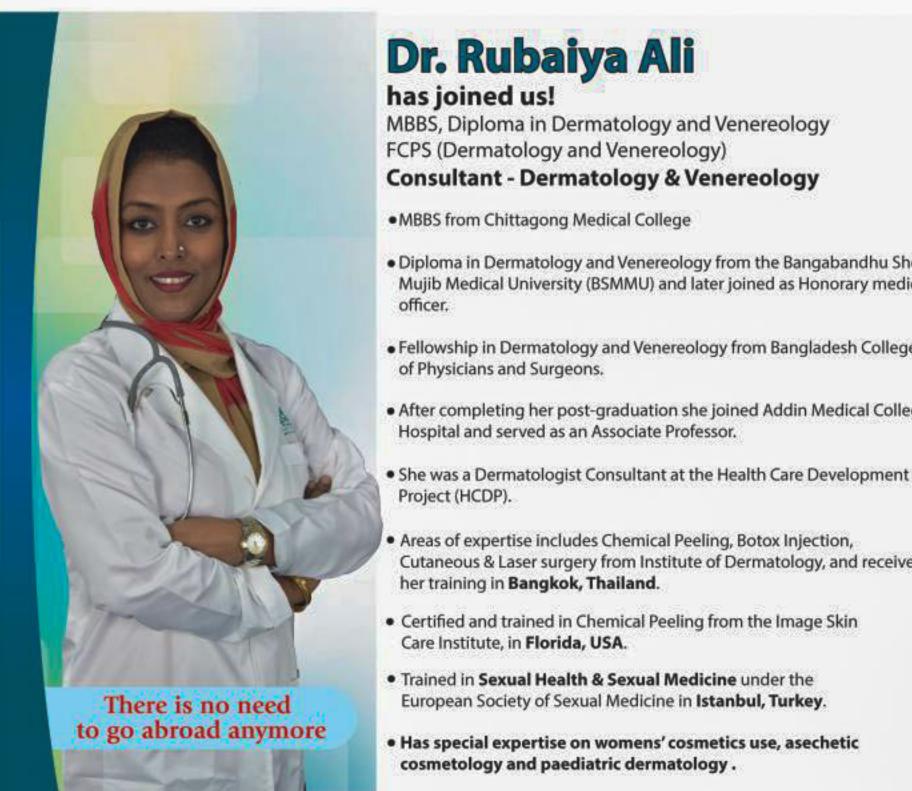
"These kinds of arrangement inspire the young generation of having more creative activities and refrain from negative thoughts," she added.

Earlier, a three-day photography exhibition of Celebrating Life-2015, titled "Heritage of Bangladesh", was inaugurated at Zahir Raihan audito-

rium of the University campus. Prof. Kamrul Ahsan, dean of Arts and Humanities, inaugurated the

event while director of the Teacher-Student Centre Prof. Khabir Uddin, Editor of Star Showbiz Rafi Hossain (and also festival director of Celebrating Life), were present during the inaugural ceremony. At the exhibition, 50 winning

photography were displayed, including of Pankaj Sikder (1st palce), Noor Ahmed Gelal (2nd Place) and Shaikh Mohir Uddin (3rd Place)



Dr. Rubaiya Ali

has joined us!

MBBS, Diploma in Dermatology and Venereology FCPS (Dermatology and Venereology) Consultant - Dermatology & Venereology

MBBS from Chittagong Medical College

 Diploma in Dermatology and Venereology from the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) and later joined as Honorary medical

 Fellowship in Dermatology and Venereology from Bangladesh College of Physicians and Surgeons.

 After completing her post-graduation she joined Addin Medical College Hospital and served as an Associate Professor.

Areas of expertise includes Chemical Peeling, Botox Injection, Cutaneous & Laser surgery from Institute of Dermatology, and received her training in Bangkok, Thailand.

 Certified and trained in Chemical Peeling from the Image Skin Care Institute, in Florida, USA.

 Trained in Sexual Health & Sexual Medicine under the European Society of Sexual Medicine in Istanbul, Turkey.

 Has special expertise on womens' cosmetics use, asechetic cosmetology and paediatric dermatology.



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