



PHOTO: STAR

Shafin Ahmed turns a criminal investigator

SAURAV DEY

Shafin Ahmed, the vocal of iconic Bangla rock band Miles, is all set to make his acting debut. The singer, who presented legions of fans with numerous hit songs, will turn a criminal investigator in upcoming television series "Midnight Falcon".

With Tarique Muhammad Hasan as the writer and director, the series will go on floor in the last week of January.

The story encircles Sayem, to be played by Shafin, a mysterious character who sings and organises musical shows by day and turns criminal investigator by night.

Aside from being the centre of attraction, Shafin Ahmed will also sing the title track of the series.

Moreover, the audience will hear some hit songs performed by Shafin. And chances are high that Miles will make an appearance in the serial to make it more realistic.

Making the announcement on Thursday at Edge Water Restaurant in the capital, Shafin said, "It's a challenge for me, as I never thought I would stand in front of camera as an actor. I prefer to work in my own way and I believe I will make this serial a success. It will surprise my fans and they will see a different Shafin Ahmed."

"Many directors came to me with proposals but acting never lured me, but when Tarique came to me with the script I changed my mind. And after giving it a read I thought the role would fit me. Then I asked Tarique to change the script so that it suited me better, and finally I agreed to act in the series."

Artistic Saga of Alluvial Soul, Soil and Symbol

Kalidas Karmakar's 72nd solo at National Museum

ZAHANGIR ALOM

Internationally acclaimed artist Kalidas Karmakar's 72nd solo exhibition, "Alluvial Soul, Soil and Symbol", is on at the Nalinikanta Bhattasali Gallery of Bangladesh National Museum (BNM). The 22-day exhibition that began on January 3 features artworks echoing symbolic, abstract and semi-abstract imageries, an installation and a video art incorporating Kalidas' artistic journey for decades.

"As my paintings symbolically represent the connotations of our glorious Liberation War; various social phenomena and their perceptions; unwanted political unrest and the life sketches of the people of this part of the world, I recurrently choose the very word 'Alluvial' to title any of my solo exhibitions. The mind of every Bangalee is as soft as the alluvial clay and, at the same time as hard as the stone after that clay gets burnt with fire. This explains how we became fiercely opposed to the Pakistanis and liberated our motherland in 1971," explained Kalidas Karmakar.

"Earlier I would do realistic works. Now with my changing artistic contemplations and conscience corresponding to my present age, I am moving towards a minimalistic approach; and that is why my artworks now tell the tales of symbols coupled with souls and soil of Bangladesh," added the artist.

The conscience of the Liberation War is conspicuous in some of his arts and installation. The turbulent days of 1971, people's sufferings, death and destruction together with the artist's recurring subjects encapsulating the agonies and frustration of Bangladeshis in times of war and other natural and socio-political adversities in the post independent era have been articulated on large canvases.



The artist portrays lyrical rhythms through his pen and ink drawings while his installations evoke the sublime memories of the martyred of 1971.

PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

In portrayal of the installation, the artist created six statues to signify the historic six-point charter propounded by the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. The piece also showcases the bodies of the Martyred Intellectuals and the Freedom Fighters.

The artworks evoke the symbol of popular beliefs and rituals together with our time-honoured cultural elements and heritage like Gazir gaan and nakshikantha and the artistic works of weavers, goldsmith, blacksmith, potters and others.

The artist emphasises the miseries of common people with the depiction of bold brush strokes and lines, mature colours, light and shade and both symmetrical and asymmetrical

compositional patterns in his works. In his use of materials and tints, he frequently goes for the bold and natural.

The art show, organised by BNM, is also an attempt to return to roots. Kalidas Karmakar has used unusual materials including alluvial clay, sand and other objects to produce the featured works which art lovers will definitely find interesting.

As a painter, Kalidas feels the responsibility to serve his country. He records time, history and incidents in urban and rural lives. His distinctive language uses canvas to protest cruelty, inequality, political chaos, poverty and violence in our daily lives.

The artist has portrayed lyrical rhythms through his pen and ink

drawings while his installations evoke the sublime memories of the martyred of 1971.

Cultural Affairs Minister Asaduzzaman Noor inaugurated the exhibition as chief guest while Professor Emeritus Anisuzzaman and Farooq Sobhan, President of Bangladesh Enterprise Institute, attended the inaugural ceremony as special guests. The exhibition, opening from 9:30am to 7pm daily except Fridays (2:30pm to 7:30pm), ends on January 24. Kalidas Karmakar will present a performance art titled "Alluvial Rhythm" at the main auditorium of BNM at 5pm on January 10 with Dr. Gowher Rizvi, International Affairs Adviser to the Prime Minister, to be present as chief guest.

BHUBAN MAJHI in the making

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Filmgoers of Dhaka will see some good movies in 2016, and "Bhuban Majhi" promises to be one of them -- with Kolkata's favourite actor Parambrata Chatterjee and Bangladesh's Aparna Ghosh leading a formidable cast.



The film depicts the story of Ananda Shai, a spiritual man living in Kushtia. When a journalist goes to Kushtia to make a documentary on Ananda Shai, he discovers a truth. This Ananda Shai was once a Freedom Fighter who valiantly fought for the country. As the story unfolds, the development of Ananda Shai from rebel Hazrat is revealed.

"Bhuban Majhi" depicts a number of historical incidents like the 1970s

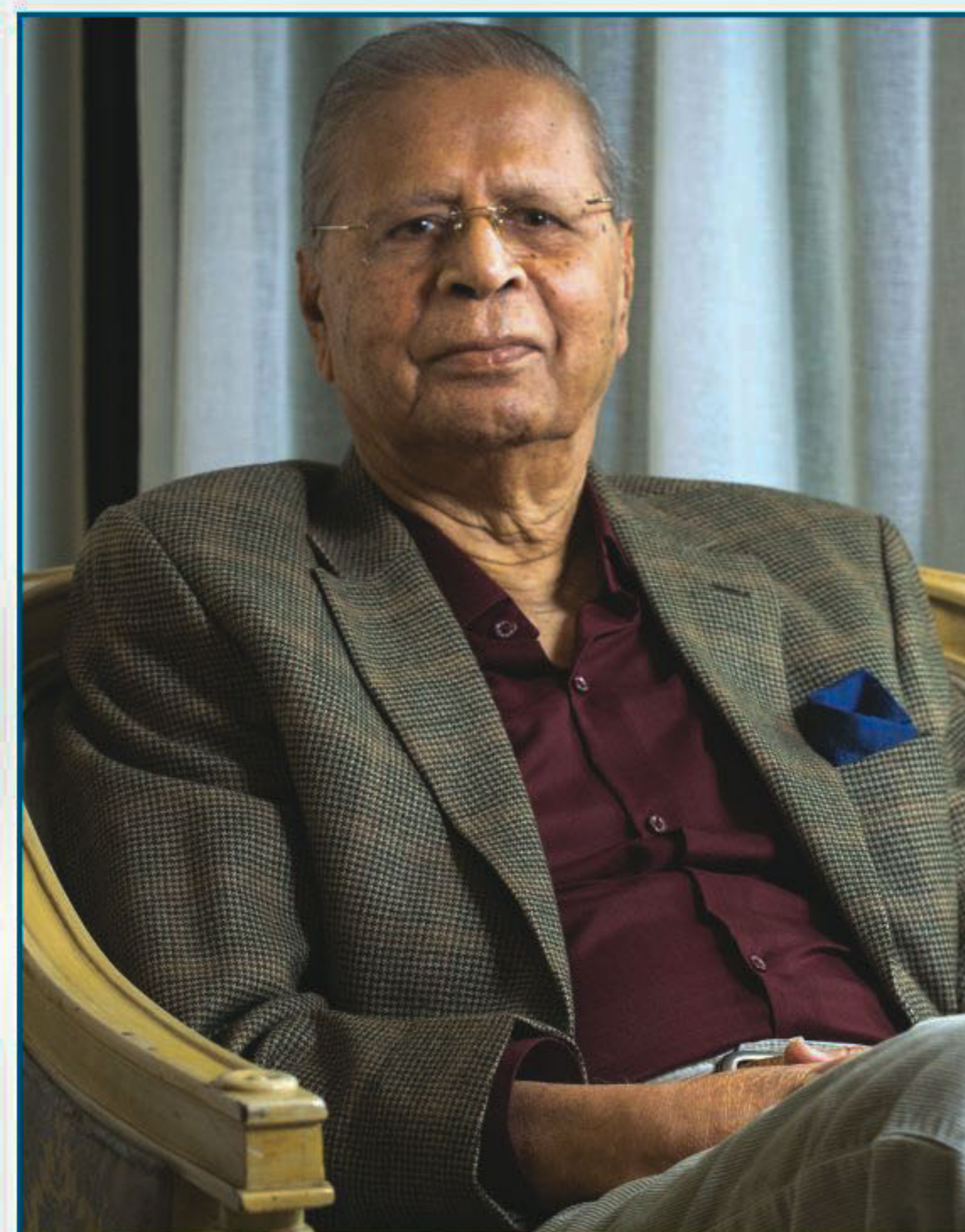
general election, the horror of March 25, the EPR rebellion in 1971 and more.

The script is based on a true story and even the name of the characters has not been changed, informed Fakhru Arefin Khan.

The film also casts Quazi Nawshaba Ahmed, Mamunur Rashid, Waqil Ahmed, Fariha Shirin and Shubhasish Bhowmick among others.



Bengal Foundation organised the latest episode of their regular musical soiree, titled "Praner Khela", at the Bengal Shilpalaya on January 6. Laisa Ahmed Lisa (pictured) performed Rabindra Sangeet at the programme. Earlier Ashok Kumar Sarkar presented classical raga Puria Dhaneshree on esraj. Bengal Foundation DG Luva Nahid Choudhury emceed the event.



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