

WHAT'S ON

Film Show
Ritwik Ghatak Retrospective
Organiser: Chalachitram and BNM
Venue: National Museum
Date: Feb 13-16, Time: 4:30pm/6pm



Solo Art Exhibition
Censored Image
Artist: Wakilur Rahman
Venue: Kalakendra
Date: Feb 3-23
Time: 12-8pm



Solo Watercolour Exhibition
Title: Koto Ojanare
Artist: Saeeda Kamal
Venue: EMK Center, Dhanmondi
Date: Feb 6-18, Time: 9am-8pm



Duet Art Exhibition
Title: Fragments of the Anthropocene
Artists: Zihan Karim & Shimul Saha
Venue: Bengal Art Lounge, 60, Gulshan-1
Date: Jan 30- Feb 27, Time: 12-8pm



Amar Ekushey Book Fair 2016
Organiser: Bangla Academy
Venue: Bangla Academy premises & Suhrawardi Uddan
Date: February 1-29
Time: 3-8pm & 11am-8pm (Fri & Sat)




Shabnam Mushtari



Kabir Bokul & Dinat Jahan Munni



Aditi Mohsin

VALENTINE'S DAY

MUSIC PERSONALITIES
on their favourite love songs

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

"If music be the food of love, play on". The line from William Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night" rings a chord at the best of times—more so on Valentine's Day. Can the day of candlelight, roses and gifts really be complete without melody? The Daily Star spoke to the foremost talents in the music world to gauge the one love song that moves them above all the rest:

Shabnam Mushtari

It is most important for an artist to comprehend the true meaning of a song, well captured in emotive lyrics.

However, it is a mix of lyrics, tune and the emotion of the song that really moves me. For me "Diyo Na Diyo Na Phele Diyo Na" by Nilufar Yasmin and "Ami Toh Amar Golpo Bolechhi, Tumi Keno Ka(n)dley" — are beautiful, highly touching love songs.

Iffat Ara Nargis

There are countless numbers of golden oldies that I prefer to



Iffat Ara Nargis

sing. But, I rate "Tumi Je Amar" from the iconic film "Harano Sur", as the best love song to date. The emotion in this song is a league apart. The expressions and the metaphors are incomparable.

Aditi Mohsin

There are countless Tagore songs that are my favourite. However, During Tagore's early years, the song "Amaro Poran Jaha Chaye" and a song during



Mahmuduzzaman Babu

his mature years that he devoted to Victoria Ocampo "Ogo Amaro Chiro Oचना Pordeshi" are among my favourites that I prefer to present to audience at all times.

Rokeya Prachi

The song "Eka Mor Gaan-er Tori", rendered by Srabani Sen, appears to me as the best romantic song ever. The words, melody and rendition resemble my story and I feel the song



Rokeya Prachi

being rendered only for me. Apart from romance, love and nostalgia, it is a hope-inspiring song. Srabani's another record "Tobu Mon-e Rekho" I think is the second best one that helps to comprehend and seek another human being in oneself.

Kabir Bokul

"Amaro Poran Jaha Chaye" is undoubtedly the best romantic song I have come across. The

song used to touch my heart when I was joining college, and still does. Even today I hum the song: I have even adapted it in one of my songs, "Tomake Je Kotha Ami Boltey Chai".

Dinat Jahan Munni

It's very difficult to single out just one song but "Amar Shopno Tumi" by Kishore Kumar and Asha Bhosle; "Ei Mon Tomake Dilam", and "Eki Shonar Aloye", two Sabina Yasmin numbers -- are my top choices. The songs really steal my heart and I feel it will be easy on every ears.

Mahmuduzzaman Babu

There is a wide range of love songs all across the globe that has been immensely popular for years on. But if you ask me, the one song that immediately comes to mind is by Hemant Mukherjee "Ei Raat Tomar Amar". In the first stanza it says, "Tumi Achho Ami Achhi Tai", meaning I am here because of you, an ultimate expression of dhrupadi bhalobasha (classical love).

"Love is a feeling that changes with time" ... **Bonna Mirza**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

"Prem Ekbar-i Eshchhilo Nirobe"... sang Lata Mangeshkar in a timeless love song. The Daily Star asked one of the most popular actresses of our time, Bonna Mirza, if love truly only comes once in a lifetime.

"I don't think it comes only once. Love is something that comes many times with different levels of intensity. It may vary from person to person, but love never happens only once," the actress said. "An individual can fall in love again and again, and with different individuals. Love is a feeling that changes with time, and puts profound impact on our mind. It's an abstract concept that we give different names, and see in a different light. In fact, we are in love with many things in the world, but amongst all these we look for a special relationship with that very special person."

To the question "Is there any connection between love and the season Spring?" Bonna said "Bangladesh has six seasons, and a change in this cycle greatly touches our minds. With the change of seasons, our body and mind react, bringing a change in the way we feel. Naturally, Spring is the season of growth when nature is vibrant at its best. And co-incidentally, Valentine's Day is in spring, so it has become a tradition for us Bangalees to celebrate love in Spring. Though I think love doesn't need a particular day to be celebrated, but there's no harm in singing hymn for love on this day and in this season."



"Love is beyond time and boundary" ... **Jaya**

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

National award winning actor Jaya Ahsan is always positive about Valentine's Day. But on the same note, she thinks that there is no need to celebrate love on any special day. "Love is beyond time and boundary. It is an eternal journey..." she says.

According to Jaya, you can share the day with parents, siblings, family and friends besides your muse.

Youngsters now celebrate the day with much enthusiasm, which to Jaya, is excellent. "Love is ageless...no matter how old or young you are, it's a great time to celebrate the day," she adds.

Asked if she believes if love comes once in a life time, Jaya says, "I don't agree to this. I think it comes as many times as you can imagine."

ZAHANGIR ALOM

The love between rain and earth creates peace -- a feeling of freshness. The love between the artist couple Bristy (Tania Sultana Bristy) and Bishwa (Bishwajit Goswami) recreates art and aesthetics; their daughter's name, Borisho Dhora, is play on their names, and reminiscent of Tagore song "Borisho Dhora Majhey Shantiro Bari".

A candid conversation with them reveals their connection. Both studied at Charukala (Faculty of Fine Art, University of Dhaka) and Shantiniketan (Visva Bharati University, India).

"Bristy was two years junior to me. I fell in love with her at first sight. I got close to her,



interacted and had many adda sessions, building a friendship. One day, she saw one of my sketches at artist Swapan Chowdhury's residence and was impressed. I was proactive in

turning that impression into an ever-lasting smile," says Bishwa. "We are blessed to have been devoted to overcoming social barriers, won hearts of our families and carved our niche that

continues to instill our mutual understanding, appreciation, respect, faith and a world of artistic creations. My better half inspires and emboldens me immensely. Her strong personality, sacrifice and understanding of art move me forward," he added.

"Being in the same profession is great. We enjoy our adda with common friends and continue art activities and exhibits. Our mutual responsibilities, transparency and compassion boost our love all the time. This is an excellent recipe," says Bristy.

"We had a fabulous time at Shantiniketan together. We felt a deep sensation of Tagore there. The onset of monsoon, spring, fair and festival, untainted adore

of nature and interaction with a host of intellectual gems enlightened us. We were in bliss of love and creation there," recalls Bishwa.

"Life is simple and full of fun. I honour Bishwa's honesty and commitment to career. Through heartache, I had to bid him a temporary adieu when he went to Myanmar and China for his artistic career at my critical hour of carrying, but I was extremely happy for him" expressed Bristy.

"Love is eternal and it should not be confined to any couple and family, rather embrace the philosophy of loving entire humanity. Happy Valentine's Day to all," concludes the couple.

LOVE IS THE BEST RECIPE
Tête-à-tête with Bristy and Bishwa

TV WATCH
Three romantic dramas on Banglavisision

A CORRESPONDENT

Marking Valentine's Day, three special romantic dramas will air back to back from 8:45pm on Banglavisision tonight. As part of the "Kache Asha'r Sahoshi Golpo" campaign, the plays are: "Pencil-e Aka Bhalobasha", directed by Rubayet Mahmud and starring Shokh and Niloy; "Shoto Dana'r Projapoti", directed by Mabruur Rashid Bannah and starring Jovan and Sabila; and "Haat Ta Dao Na Bariye" directed by Shafayat Mansur Rana and starring Jon, Tahsan and Mehzabien.



"If we can celebrate birthday, why not Valentine's Day?" ... **Nadia and Nayeem**

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Popular faces of the small screen, Nayeem and Nadia Ahmed tied the knot last month. The Daily Star recently spoke to the actor couple about Valentine's Day. Excerpts:

What does love mean to you?

Nadia: It means bonding, respect and trust and seeking blessings for his welfare.

Nayeem: It is a beautiful relationship where you trust lasts ever after.

How do you perceive Valentine's Day?

Nadia: I see it very positively. It's a very special day. If we can celebrate birthday, so why not mark the day the same way?
Nayeem: My views are similar to that of Nadia. If we manage a day for Valentine's Day amid our hectic schedules, it's not bad.

What's your favorite gift on the day?

Nadia: Flowers would be my



PHOTO COURTESY: ARIF AHMED

first item on the list.

Nayeem: Me too...

How do you plan to spend the day?

Nadia: Since we got married only recently, the day is very special for us. We will attend some live TV and radio programmes on the occasion.

Nayeem: We will try to spend

some quality time with each other, amid our hectic shooting schedule.

Any message for your fans?

Nadia: With the grace of Almighty Allah, we are both happy. Just pray for us.

Nayeem: With people's love, I want to spend the rest of life with my beloved one.