

WHAT'S ON

20th Young Artist Art Exhibit
 Organiser: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
 Venue: National Art Gallery, BSA
 Date: May 26- June 9
 Time: 11am-8pm

Group Art Exhibition
 Title: "MA"
 Venue: Gallery Cosmos, H-115, Lane-6, New DOHS, Mohakhali
 Date: May 13-June 15
 Time: 12 noon - 8pm

K-Pop World Festival
 Venue: Music & Dance Auditorium, Shilpakala Academy
 Date: June 4
 Time: 3pm

Solo Ceramic Sculpture Exhibit
 Title: Moving Roots
 Artist: Ashim Halder Sagor
 Venue: Gallery Twenty One, Dhamondi
 Date: May 20-June 3; Time: 12-8pm

Photography Exhibition
 Life, Light & Chaos
 Photographer: Joy K Roy
 Venue: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka
 Date: May 27-June 6
 Time: 3pm-9pm

Photography Exhibition
 Title: VHMIMIS (Missing Credit)
 Artist: Dr. Firoz Mahmud
 Venue: EMK Center, Dhamondi
 Date: 4-14 June
 Time: 9:30 AM - 8:00 PM

Cultural Program
 Organiser: Jaltranga
 Venue: Bishwo Shahitto Kendro
 Date: 3 June; Time: 7pm



Subir Nandi



Yasmin Mushtari

MUSICAL HOMAGE TO THE BARD

Nazrul classics at Star Melodies

ZAHANGIR ALOM

A befitting musical homage to Kazi Nazrul Islam in celebration of the National Poet's 117th birth anniversary, was a live performance of the bard's raaga-based classics coupled with the melodic essence of his Kabyageeti. On a drizzling Tuesday afternoon, the boithoki soiree was enjoyed thoroughly by music connoisseurs and Nazrul enthusiasts.

The latest installment of Star Melodies, The Daily Star's regular initiative to promote Bangla music, was held the AS Mahmud Seminar Hall of The Daily Star Centre. Both prominent and promising singers -- Subir Nandi, Yasmin Mushtari, Sheikh Jasim, Priyanka Gope and Chhanda Chakrabarty -- performed songs while noted elocutionist Shimul Mustapha, with his sonorous voice, mesmerised the audience with his recitation of a Nazrul letter on Fazilatunnessa written to Professor Qazi Motahar Hossain. The programme, however, began with a brief documentary on the recent protest by Nazrul artistes against neglect of Nazrul memorials in the capital and countryside. Dhaka North City Corporation Mayor Annisul Huq was present at the protest, and assured the artistes



Priyanka Gope



Chhanda Chakrabarty



Sheikh Jasim



Shimul Mustapha

of taking steps in this regard.

Sadya Afreen Mallick, eminent Nazrul exponent and Star Arts and Entertainment Editor, compered the event, embellished with stories behind the composition of the featured songs.

Once, no one could discover the whereabouts of Nazrul, the music director of the film "Patalpuri". The poet had gone to Raniganj, on the outskirts of Calcutta (now Kolkata) city, to compose jhumur-ang songs adapting santal tunes for the first time in Bangla songs. One such song was 'Jhum Jhum Jhumra Nach Neche', said Sadya Afreen Mallick.

Chhanda Chakrabarty rhythmically rendered the number in her set. She opened the soiree with "Amar Nayone Nayan Rakhi". The singer also beautifully performed ghazal-ang song "Bulbuli Nirob Nargis Bon-

e" and a raaga-based number "Hey Priyo Amare Dibo Na Bhulite".

Priyanka Gope was mellifluous in her offering of the songs -- "Naiba Pelam Amar Golaye", "Bidaye Sandhya Ashilo Oi", "Megher Domru" and "Shoi Bhalo Kore Binod Beni". The accomplished artiste aptly evoked the desired moods of every song in her rendition.

The highlight of the event was the performance of renowned artiste Subir Nandi, who started off with a raaga-based classic "Chand Herichhe Chand-Mukh Taar" (Bageshree). He fondly portrayed the melody of Raaga Shyam Kalyan while rendering the song "Sedin Chhilo Ki Godhuli Lagan". As expected, the singer enthralled the audience with his performance of two popular songs "Shawon Raat-e-

Jodi" and "Gobhir Nishithe Ghum Bhenge Jaye". Subir Nandi's sensational improvisations left an impression on the audience.

Noted singer Yasmin Mushtari marvelously performed the song "Kaberi Nodi Jol-e" evoking the ecstasy of feminine grace in a close affinity with the river Kaveri. Her offering of a Pilu thumri "Poran Priyo Keno Ele Obelate" was soothing while her presentation of a Kabyageeti "Sandhya Malati Jobe" fascinated all. She also performed the jhumur-ang song "Tepantor-er Maath-e".

Sheikh Jasim was on a musical high in his performance as he superbly showcased the melodic game of every song he performed. Gripping the essence of the songs -- "Tomarei Ami Chahiachhi Priyo", "More Priya Hobe Esho Rani", "Bondhu Dekhle Tomaye" and a raaga-

based classic "Pia Pia Papi Pukarey", the artiste put his natural improvisational qualities to excellent use.

"An excellent singer with Riyaz, Awaz, Andaz. His second number Mor Priya Hobe Esho Rani was woven in excellent intricacies and delivered with pure passion," remarked singer Samira Abbasi about Jasim's performance.

Bishwajit Sarkar (tabla), Richard Kishore (guitar), Partha Pratim Acharya Bappy (keyboard) and Asit Biswas (esraj) embellished the performances.

Among others, Subir Nandi and Abul Hasan Chowdhury, former state minister for foreign affairs, spoke on the poet's literary and musical creations.

"The media has a great role to play in popularising Nazrul Sangeet among the younger generations. If the TV channels come forward, Nazrul's legacy can shine bright. It's because of the lack of exposure that we are not finding new Nazrul singers. Record labels should also get accomplished and popular singers to record Nazrul songs; that way, its outreach will expand further. I started off as a Nazrul Sangeet artiste, and now I am going back to the practice of our National Poet's songs. I already have a solo Nazrul album on the cards," said Subir Nandi.

Kalki Koechlin

picks up the threads of Bengali

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

Bollywood actress Kalki Koechlin, who is playing the role of an Anglo-Indian woman in Konkona Sen Sharma's directorial debut, has picked up a little bit of Bengali language and songs for her role.

"A Death InThe Gunj", Konkona's directorial project starring Kalki, Ranvir Shorey, Vikrant Massey, Om Puri and Tanuja, depicts the journey of five individuals who are on a holiday.

"I had to learn some Bengali for the film as I am playing a woman who is half Bengali. There are some Bengali words here and there, that are in the film," according to the 32-year-old national film award winning actress.

The film was shot extensively in McCluskieganj town, near Ranchi, which was once famous for its sizeable Anglo-Indian community but whose numbers have gradually dwindled after the sixties.

"There is one scene in the film where everyone is singing the famous Bengali song 'Dhitang dhitang bole'. I had to learn it by heart. It was fun and interesting. Bengal has such a rich culture," Kalki said.

Born to French parents in the southern Indian state of Puducherry, a former French colony, the actress who is playing a 34-year-old woman called Mitali, said she could relate to her character because of the French connect.

The shooting of the film is over and it is now on the editing table.

Kalki, who has done critically-acclaimed films like "Margarita with a Straw", "Dev D", "Zindagi Na Milegi Dobara" and "That Girl in Yellow Boots", was recently busy in promoting her latest film "Waiting" alongside Naseeruddin Shah.



PHOTO: STAR

"EID IS A BUSY TIME"

... Sumaiya Shimu

A CORRESPONDENT

Actress Sumaiya Shimu is busy with shoots for Eid TV plays. There's more -- a TV drama directed by Kobori titled 'Bhalo Theko' where she co-stars with Riaz. This will be Shimu's first TV drama directed by Kobori.

Asked about her other TV show "Erina" scheduled for Eid, she said, "Erina is a drama with an excellent story. I enjoyed working in it." The play is directed by Parvez Amin.

Soon, Shimu will work on two more Eid dramas directed by Ferdous Hasan. She said, "I am going to concentrate only on Eid programmes for the next few days." Shimu hopes to display her acting skills in at least seven to eight Eid programmes.

NEWS bytes

SANJAY DUTT training for comeback



Sanjay Dutt is all set to face the camera once again. According to reports, barely months after his release from Pune's Yerwada Jail, the actor is preparing for his role in Siddharth Anand's next venture. The role he plays requires the 56-year-old to perform commando-style stunts in the action flick.

The actor has been training to build his physique for the project in his building's gym in Pali Hill, but he has made arrangements to keep the sessions away from the public eye as far as possible. "He has been training at his building's gym which has grabbed the attention of his fans and passers-by, who tend to crowd the place. So, he has covered the area to avoid the disturbance," a source close to Sanjay Dutt was quoted as saying.

Source: TNN

First look of "Dishoom" is action-packed

The much-awaited trailer of Varun Dhawan, John Abraham and Jacqueline Fernandez's action adventure film "Dishoom" is out now. Varun Dhawan took to Twitter to unveil the trailer yesterday.

The trailer opens with a powerful voiceover by Akshaye Khanna, who will be seen on screen after four years. Saqib Saleem is seen portraying India's top batsman Viraj Sharma who goes missing in the Middle East,

36 hours before a major India vs Pakistan match.

John and Varun's characters, members of a special task force, team up to find the missing player.

Jacqueline is seen a double role, accompanying the actors in the task. Varun and John are seen dancing and romancing the actress, alongside stunts and actions.

The kidnapper is played by Akshaye. The film also features Nargis

Fakhri in a cameo.

Majorly shot in the UAE, the film seems to be power-packed with action, suspense and drama. The Sajid Nadiadwala-produced film is made under his banner Nadiadwala Grandson Entertainment.

Directed by Varun's brother Rohit Dhawan, The film opens in theaters on July 29.

Source: Indian Express

