

# WIND OF CHANGE



Gaan Bangla Television has arranged an event for the first time in Bangladesh, titled 'Wind of Change' which has created a platform for international musicians to exhibit their artistry to our people. Mohini Dey, a bass sensation who has played with legends such as George Brooks, A.R. Rahman and Steve Vai and Anna Rakita, who is considered as one of the leading violinists of Russia recently visited to take part in the event. They will be collaborating with the celebrated musicians of Bangladesh including Habib Wahid, Ayub Bachchu, Balam, Adit, Miles, Fahmida Nabi, Samina Chowdhury, Pantha Kanai, and many more. The music will be composed by Kaushik Hossain Taposh, the brainchild behind 'Wind of Change' which will be aired during Eid. Showbiz had the opportunity to have a quick chat with the guest artists Anna Rakita and Mohini Dey.

Interviewed by Minam Haque

## MOHINI DEY

**Could you tell our readers about your journey in Bangladesh?**

This time, I was summoned on a very short notice, but as Kaushik's idea seemed rather intriguing, I had no choice but to give it a shot.

**Given the fact that you have performed with legendary musicians like A. R. Rahman, Ustad Zakir Hussain and the likes, who else are in your wish list?**

I would love to perform with Quincy Jones. In fact, I will be touring with him by the end of this year. Collaboration is an on-going process and I would love the list to evolve.

**If you were to share a moment from your prolific musical career with our readers, what would it be?**

Fusion has always brewed its magic on me since childhood as my mother was an Indian classical singer and my father was a western bassist. I feel blessed to be a part of such a melodious family. When I was three, my dad realized I had a knack

for music and with the lack of female bassists in the industry, he decided to introduce me to bass and I was doing professional gigs by the age of ten. **What is the definition of a successful musician to you?**

You know, I am never satisfied with what I do. I'm not successful, as I believe there is no destination in music.

**Since you have played with a different array of artists and genres, is there any artist that moves you emotionally?**

I love George Benson's songs. I'm captivated by his techniques where he plays on the guitar while improvising with wordless vocables.

**Could you share with our readers a fact about yourself which is unknown?**

I have a sewing machine and I stitch clothes. As I'm very much into fashion, a lot of my apparels for the shows are made by me.

## ANNA RAKITA



**Could you enlighten our readers about your musical background?**

My parents were both musicians, so I had an early interest in music. Later on, I received my Master's degree at the Moscow State Conservatory, one of the finest institutions of its kind. Usually, those who graduate tend to play classical music only or become a part of an orchestra but I chose a different path for myself.

**Who would you be interested to perform with?**

Oh there would be many! A lot of brilliant musicians out there, but I would love to play with Steve Vai and Daniel Kramer.

**How would you define a successful musician?**

To me, the definition of a successful musician is someone who is dedicated to their art with heart and soul, and has the intention to grow as a musician.

**If you make an error while performing, how do you make up for it?**

You know, mistakes are not always a bad thing. Many a times it leads us to something interesting. So, from a mistake I try to improvise and add meaning.

**Could you share a memorable moment from your career?**

Right here, right now! Being a part of "Wind of Change" and playing with Mohini and the other artists, each adding their own charisma, creates an amazing fusion and is a rather momentous experience.

**What are your plans for the future?**

I want to record a solo album featuring international artists. I am really looking forward to it.

