

<p><b>WHAT'S ON</b></p> <p><b>Dhaka Int'l Folk Fest</b> Organiser: Sun Events Venue: Army Stadium, Dhaka Date: Nov 10-12 Time: 6pm-12am</p> 	<p><b>6th Oriental Painting Exhibition 2016</b> Organiser: Oriental Painting Study Group Venue: Zainul Gallery-1 &amp; 2, FFA, DU Date: Nov 08-13; Time: 11am-8pm Inauguration: 3pm on Nov 8</p> 	<p><b>Solo Art Exhibition</b> Title: Inside Out Artist: Promiti Hossain Venue: Kala Kendra, 1/11, Iqbal Road, Mohammadpur Date: Oct 22-Nov 10 Time: 5-8pm</p> 	<p><b>Solo Photography Exhibition</b> November in Paris Photographer: Sumon Yusuf Venue: Alliance Française de Dhaka Date: Nov 4-15; Time: 2:30-9pm</p> 	<p><b>Concert</b> Sodium Bat'r Gaan Venue: TSC, Dhaka University Bands: Meghdol, Shohorbondi &amp; Others Date: November 10; Time: 4pm</p> 
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**NEWS bytes**

**BIG BANG THEORY prequel in the works**

CBS is looking to keep TV's No. 1 comedy series going — with a twist. The network is developing a spinoff of "The Big Bang Theory", The Hollywood Reporter reports. Sources say the comedy, from 'Big Bang' co-creators Chuck Lorre and Bill Prady and overseen by showrunner Steve Molaro, will centre around the young version of Emmy winner Jim Parsons' Dr. Sheldon Cooper. None of the Big Bang Theory cast are said to be involved in the potential prequel series outside of Parsons, who will executive produce.



The project will be a single-camera comedy — a shift from the traditional multicamera format. Additional details about the project are being kept under wraps. The spinoff comes as 'Big Bang' is in its 10th season and has not yet been renewed beyond that. The comedy ranks as TV's most-watched comedy among the adults 18-49 demographic.

Source: THR



Momtaz



Jalal Ahmed



Shafi Mondal



Labik Kamal Gaurob



Bari Siddiqui

**LOOKING FORWARD TO THE FOLK FEST**

Bangladeshi performers share their expectations

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

*With the Dhaka International Folk Fest set to return to the Army Stadium this Thursday, anticipation is building among music lovers of the country, as is with the performers. The Daily Star spoke to some of the performers from Bangladesh participating this year, about their preparations and expectations from the festival.*

**MOMTAZ**

I hope that this year organisers will demonstrate the lessons learned from last year's festival, to further enhance our experience. The motivation behind the festival is nothing short of amazing. Even three months is not enough to demonstrate the many different types of folk songs, and it is important to showcase all the various sub-genres within the massive world of folk. I also feel that this platform should be a platform for lesser-known singers who sing well. I receive a lot of phone calls regarding the matter, and I feel that this festival should bring forth those that live and breathe folk, existing in nature in order to capture and display the true essence of folk music. At the festival, I will sing my

popular songs, particularly the songs of our soil and our roots.

**BARI SIDDIQUI**

I am really excited to be performing at the festival again this year, and looking forward to enjoying the festival as a whole. Last year's festival was met with some criticisms, and the organisers are trying to learn from mistakes to present a better event for the audience. I really enjoyed last year's festival.

Last year I could not perform as many songs as I wanted due to time constraints, but I am hoping this time to have a more elaborate set. I don't want to disclose yet what I am performing, but I can promise I will give it my all to deliver something to remember for the audience.

**SHAFI MONDAL**

Last year when we performed, there were three of us singing, but we have lost one of them. Abdur Rob Fakir left us far too soon, and we will miss him dearly. Gaurab (Labik Kamal) and I will be singing this year, along with some musicians very close to our hearts — Buno, Jalal, Nazrul and others. Because it is an international festival, we want to portray our folk music and culture to the best we can, so that those who have come from abroad take back the feeling that this country has a rich culture and heritage.

**LABIK KAMAL GAUROB**

We have been rehearsing for two weeks for the festival, and it is exciting. I am thankful to be back for the second edition of the festival.

Since it is a big festival, we will try to go outside of our usual set-list, and do something special. We also have a bigger ensemble, of about 10-11 people. Performing with Shafi Mondal is always an honour, but we will all miss Rob Fakir. It was on the folk fest stage last year that I last performed with him.

**JALAL AHMED**

I have fond memories from last year's folk fest, when I performed with the legendary Abida Parveen, and I think that has paved the way for me to be invited to perform a flute solo. I will have two Bangla dhol and a percussion accompanying me. Dhol and baNshi are at the heart of Bangladeshi folk, so I am trying to keep it true to that. I have three pieces prepared for the festival; I don't know how to explain them. You will have to come and listen to it.

Promoting eco-friendly and artistic furniture design

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In the frame of the Franco-German project "Jute & Composite, Tradition & Innovation", three French experts -- Antoine Gripay (Design Manager and CEO Studio Katra, France), Quentin Mateus and Mr Clément Renaud (Jute Lab, Gold of Bengal), came to Dhaka to conduct a furniture design workshop and shared their experiences with the eight winners of the design competition held in last July. The aim of the workshop is to design furniture using jute fibre composite material using resin transfer moulding process. The project started in the month of July asking students of Architecture, Fine Arts, young artists and architects (below 35 age) to submit a design proposal for a piece of furniture. After the evaluation, eight best entries were selected and winners were invited for a weeklong training under the guidance by the French professional designer and technicians in Dhaka.



Speakers at the press conference.

Two teams were formed to work on two different projects, from design development to prototype production. A prototype of the two projects developed during the workshop, will be produced by the partner of the project Jute Lab, made of

composite mixing resin and jute fibre.

The project has been developed by Alliance Française de Dhaka and Goethe-Institut Bangladesh, in collaboration with Jute Lab (Gold of Bengal). OTOBI is partnering

and may produce the artefacts in small series. A press conference was held at the auditorium of AFD on November 4.

The two final prototypes will be displayed during the opening of Franco-German Embassies in Dhaka.

**ARJUN RAMPAL** waited six years to play a musician again

*Bollywood actor Arjun Rampal, who won a national award in 2008 as best actor in a supporting role for "Rock On!!" is reprising his role of Joe in the sequel set to come out this Friday, also starring Farhan Akhtar, Purab Kohli and Prachi Desai from the old ensemble. Shraddha Kapoor and Shashank Arora are the new additions.*

"There were offers to play the role of a musician but I did not want to do it. I did not want to do it because I had done it (in 'Rock On!!') beyond my expectations. I had surpassed the expectations. There was always a talk about 'Rock On 2', so I wanted to preserve it," said Arjun.

Rampal also said award shows

have lost their 'charm' these days, even as he hailed the National Award in high esteem. "It (the National Award) is very dear to me.

There are so many award shows happening these days that they have lost charm. I know there will be expectations, but I am not under pressure (to win the award)," Arjun told PTI.

Source: NDTV Movies



Noted artist Maksuda Iqbal Nipa's solo art exhibition was inaugurated on November 7 in Seoul, South Korea. Youngone Corporation has organised the weeklong show. Kihuk Sung, Chairman of the Youngone Corporation; former Bangladeshi ambassador Farooq Sobhan, Barrister Rokanuddin Mahmud and other dignitaries from Bangladesh and South Korea attended the inaugural ceremony of the exhibition as guests.

