

**WHAT'S ON**

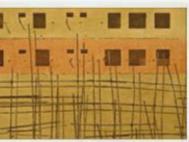
**Nazrul Utshab 1424**  
Organiser: Chhayanaut  
Venue: Main Auditorium, Chhayanaut  
Date: May 24-25  
Time: 7pm Daily



**Nazrul Birth Anniversary**  
Organiser: Nazrul Academy  
Venue: Music & Dance Centre Auditorium, BSA  
Date: May 24-25  
Time: 5:30pm Daily



**Group Art Exhibition**  
Title: Sense, Perception and Interpretation  
Venue: Alliance Française de Dhaka  
Date: May 19-27  
Time: 3pm-9pm



**Group Art Exhibition**  
Marking 13th Anniversary of Galleri Kaya  
Venue: Galleri Kaya, Uttara  
Date: May 5-28  
Time: 11am-8pm



**Solo Art Exhibition**  
The Empire of Dream  
Artist: Ripon Saha  
Venue: Kala Kenda, Mohammadpur  
Date: May 6-30  
Time: 5-8pm



# AN ODE TO THE LAND

## Gems of Nazrul present "O Bhai Khati Sonar Cheye Khati"



Nazrul Sangeet pioneers and protégés together in one visual. PHOTO: SHEIKH MEDEHT MORSHED

**FAHMIM FERDOUS**

Gems of Nazrul, eminent Nazrul Sangeet exponent Sadya Afreen Mallick's ambitious project to popularise the National Poet's songs among all, began its journey last August, marking his death anniversary. On the cusp of Kazi Nazrul Islam's birth anniversary, the project is ready to present its fourth production – one of its best till date. "O Bhai Khati Sonar Cheye Khati" is a familiar tune – but more as a patriotic song. Not many know that it is a Nazrul song, and after two much lesser-known songs ("Joy Houk" and "Shongka Shunno") the project zooms in a song that is much more relatable. Tanveer Alam Shawjeeb, who has been in charge of musical arrangements of all the songs in the project, chooses a more traditionalist route in terms of the arrangement, rightly so in alignment with the lyrical content. A marvelous flute intro, by the immensely talented Jalal Ahmed, sets the song in motion, and remains the hero of the track in most parts. Like previous occasions, a good blend of young and veteran artists put their



voices together for the song – including Shaheen Samad, Sumon Chowdhury, Fatema Tuz Zohra, Yasmin Mushtari, Rebeka Sultana among the seniors, to younger ones like Prithwi Raj, Ismat Ara Eva and a horde of talented young artistes of Nazrul Institute, with Shawjeeb, Waqel Ahad and Shahid Kabir Palash, creating a bridge between the pioneers and the protégé. A new aspect of Kazi Nazrul Islam's

lyrical mastery is also at the fore of the song, separating it from the previous gems of Nazrul productions. The lyric is mostly simple in vocabulary, where Nazrul paints a vivid picture of the idyllic beauty of the rural landscape of this country with the use of striking imagery. But then the lyric goes beyond just natural beauty and brings out the time-honoured rich traditions and teachings of this land in a sincere, soulful tribute.

# "Aynabaji"

## entertains the President

After making waves at home and abroad, Amitabh Reza's "Aynabaji" has created a sensation unlike any film, setting new standards in Bangladeshi cinema. The film has recently gone on to win hearts at Bangabhaban recently, where President Abdul Hamid watched the film along with his family and staff members, says a press release. Jaaz Multimedia made arrangements for the viewing at the President's official residence, and the evening was also attended by some of the film's team members. Lead actress of the film Masuma Rahman Nabila and director Amitabh Reza Chowdhury were present, along with producer Ziauddin Adil, CEO of TOM Creations Salma Adil, founder and owner of Jaaz Multimedia Abdul Aziz, executive producer Esha Yousuf, CEO of Rtv Syed Ashiq Rahman, and MD of Gazi TV Aman Ashraf Faiz.



The popular film had earned numerous accolades since its release, and was screened at the Cannes Film Festival, as well as submitted to Seattle's South Asian Film Festival where it won the award for "Best Narrative". Additionally, a drama sequel is in the works, currently labeled as "Aynabaji Original Series." The narrative explores the shifting personalities one faces when confronted by various situations. "Many new milestones have been achieved with "Aynabaji," and the Bangabhaban screening is a new experience for us all," stated director Amitabh Reza Chowdhury, "the fact that it has sparked an interest among the honourable President and his family, and to witness them entertained by the film, is a huge achievement for us all."

# Subir and Chhanda's "Mora Chhinu Ekela" launches today



**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

Renowned singer Subir Nandi and Chhanda Chakraborty's duet Nazrul Sangeet album "Mora Chhinu Ekela" will be launched today, at 6pm at Café Thirty Three, Baily Road, Dhaka. The album has been produced by G-Series.

Professor emeritus Rafiqul Islam, Chairman, Nazrul Institute Trustee Board, will grace the launching ceremony as chief guest. Eminent Nazrul exponent Sudhin Das, Nazrul singer and a Nazrul Institute Trustee Board member Khilkhil Kazi, executive director of Nazrul Institute Md Abdur Razzaque Bhuiya and principal of Govt. Music College, Dhaka Professor Kristi Hefaz will attend the programme as special guests. The album has been dedicated to Sudhin Das, who has also inspired the duo and supervised the album.

The album contains 10 tracks – eight solos (four songs recorded by each) and two duets. The artiste duo had recorded several raga-based songs and kabyageeti. Subir Nandi has lent his voices to songs like "Sandhya Godhuli Logoney Ke" (Based on Raga Samanta Kalyan), "Chokher Neshar Bhalobasha" (Set on Raga Bageshree) and "Tomarey Ami Chahiachhi Priyo" (Set on Raga Malkauns). Noted Nazrul Sangeet artiste Chhanda Chakraborty recorded "Anarkoli", "Sedin Chhilo Ki Godhuli Logon" (Based on Raga Shyamkalyan) and "Ke Tumi Durer Sathi" (Set on Raga Poorvi).

The duet songs included in the album are "Mora Aar Jonomey" and the title song "Mora Chhinu Ekela" (Based on Raga Desh). "Renowned artiste Subir Nandi is an iconic adhunik singer of Bangladesh. Along with him noted Nazrul singer Chhanda Chakraborty has recorded Nazrul Sangeet. Their endeavours in recording the album, I hope, will shed light on the magnanimity of Nazrul Sangeet," wrote Rafiqul Islam on the flap of the album cover.

# NIRAB-AIRIN ON TDS FACEBOOK LIVE "Ask Me Anything" today

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

Save the date! Popular film stars Nirab Hossain and Airin Sultana are the featured celebrities coming to The Daily Star's Facebook Live session "Ask Me Anything" for May. The duo will join their fans via the Facebook page of The Daily Star (facebook.com/dailystarnews) at 8pm today to get up close and personal with their fans.

Nirab and Airin both started their careers in the modeling industry and have worked their way up to the silver screen. Airin debuted in films with "Bhalobasha Zindabad" and subsequently in "U-Turn", "Mayabini" and "Ek Prithibi Prem". She is busy with a number of films at the moment, one of which is "Roudro Chhaya" opposite Nirab – who has also found success in Dhallywood and recently even filmed a Hindi film named "Sheitaan". Nirab's debut film came in 2009 when he co-starred Shakib Khan and Apu Biswas in "Mon Jekhane Ridoy Sekhane", and has worked in "Eito Bhalobasha", "Game" and "Bhola To Jay Na Tare".



Any subscriber to The Daily Star's Facebook page can join the Facebook Live session, and pour in their love, adulation and questions to Nirab and Airin.

# Anchor, Actor, Producer: Nawsheen's Many Talents

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

Like many of her peers, actress and television anchor Nawsheen has had her daily schedule booked with shooting for new Eid ventures. Most recently she wrapped up filming for a TV play titled "Eroi Naam Prem", helmed by Shahiduzzaman Selim. "Shahiduzzaman Selim is a big name in this industry, and I have been fortunate to share the screen with him on a number of occasions. But this is the first time I am working under his direction, and the experience has been amazing," Nawsheen shares.

The artiste will share the screen space with Mosharraf Karim in two single-episode TV plays. Filming has been recently completed and the plays are expected to go on-air during Eid. "The plays are quite funny, and I guarantee they will entertain audiences," she adds.

However, the completion of these recent projects have not earned her any respite, and the actress shared that there are more TV plays in the works, all of which are to be released during Eid. Filming pressure has recently led the artiste to quit her regular day job. "It's hard to focus on filming when you have a job. Right now acting is basically my full time job," she says. Aside from Eid projects, the actress is also involved in a few drama serials. Her most recent role is in the series titled "Jaar Naam Chiro Kumari Shongho," where she plays the daughter of the President. The artiste also shared that viewers will see her play the kind of role she has never attempted to before. For the month of Ramadan, the artiste



will host a television programme. Anchoring is where the actress found her path into showbiz, and her first ever show was "Jege Acho Ki?" -- a talk show that earned her much popularity among viewers. The versatile artiste is also a budding producer, and she revealed that she will be producing more plays in the near future.

# "Justice League": Zack Snyder steps away after family tragedy, Joss Whedon to take over

Zack Snyder is stepping away from Warner Bros. tent pole "Justice League" in order to deal with the death of his daughter, sources tell Variety. Joss Whedon, who was recently tapped to direct "Batgirl" for the studio, will oversee the remainder of the film, which is currently in post-production. Snyder's daughter died of suicide at age 20 in March and the director, along with his wife Deborah, who is also a producer on the film, have decided to take a break from the film in order to deal with the sudden tragedy. Filming on "Justice League" had

already finished, and Snyder was in the throes of post-production in order to meet the film's November 17 release date. Whedon will now oversee a handful of reshoots that had already been scheduled prior to Snyder's daughter's death, as well as the post-production process. There are no plans to push the release date at this time. The film stars Ben Affleck as Batman, Gal Gadot as Wonder Woman, Ezra Miller as the Flash, Jason Momoa as Aquaman, and Ray Fisher as Cyborg. Source: Variety

