

LS PICK

# Of food and tunes

Dhaka, a city full of energy that is in constant motion can at times feel chaotic to us all. The combination of good food and music thankfully, never fails to come to the rescue when one might need some aid in retaining their sanity amidst such chaos. Music themed cafes and restaurants can be found at almost every corner of the city; and with such abundance of talent around, they are good platforms for artistic expressions in the quickly developing consumerist society.

If you are one of those who is looking for a place to dine and enjoy good music, or a performer looking to play at such a venue, this article might be for you.

## THIRTY3 RESTAURANT

'Good music, great food' is the restaurant's motto and that's exactly what they deliver. Thirty3, apart from having the catchiest name on the list, is also a multi cuisine restaurant and one of the winners of Foodiez Choice Award 2015 in the 'Thai restaurant' category by vote.

Some well-known names among the long list of performers that Thirty3 has hosted so far include Ark, Artcell, Bappa Majumdar and Arbovirus.

If it is a comfortable, family friendly environment you are looking for, accompanied by quality music, Thirty3 is the way to go.

## THE STAGE MUSIC CAFÉ AND RESTAURANT

Located in Uttara, The Stage Music Café is an apt representation of their name. The décor brings with it a warm, comforting atmosphere that is just the right blend for both the performers on stage as well as the ones enjoying their quality food — made even better by the live entertainment.

This cafe is the perfect match for the artistic soul, as the lounging area effortlessly transitions into their performing zone; and who knows, it might end up inspiring the inner performer in you — as this cafe is among the first to encourage their customers to perform to be a true part of 'The Stage'.

## THE SMOKE MUSIC CAFÉ

If you enjoy Karaoke and open stage nights with your friends or family, alongside a good meal in a comfortable environment — The Smoke Music Cafe is for you.

They have two Foodiez Choice Awards under their belt since opening; one in the 'Best cafe' category and another in the 'Best Italian restaurant' category; so quality is a given.

## C MINOR MUSIC CAFÉ

This cafe wants you to "Taste the music" with the food and music experience they have to offer. They had an open call for performers of all sorts at the beginning of the year, and since has hosted Flickering Flame's event, The Asylum's Hymn — A psychedelic adventure.

An ambience to complement one's meal sounds indeed like a good idea and it would be great to see new and up-coming performers there.

## CUPPA COFFEE LOUNGE

This cafe in Gulshan offers a relaxing environment and consists of three partitions to cater to their customers' taste. Their menu consists of a variety of cuisines, and there is bound to be something for everyone there.

They have hosted a jazz event with Imran A. Trio and such performances are to look forward to at Cuppa Coffee Lounge.

We hope to see these establishments promote new opportunities for art and entertainment to flourish in the future and bring about relief for the chaos bogged denizens of Dhaka.

By N Amin

Photo: Collected



PHOTO: IMRAN AHMED AND GANG

Did you ever find yourself running over to the TV when you heard a certain familiar tune only to find it was being performed in an orchestra or as a concert piece? Chances are you heard it in a cartoon (preferably the one with a clever mouse and a slightly ditzzy cat) and will always associate the cartoon first, then the actual piece of music!

Classic cartoons from as early as the '30s even went on to portray jazz musicians, now making them rare collectibles. So it comes as no wonder that movies, both classics and recent ones, deal with the genre or incorporate the life and times of jazz musicians.

Sounds interesting right? Let's make it more so! Music for taste-testing and beyond —  
 Dave Brubeck Quartet - Take five  
 Thelonious Monk - Around Midnight  
 Louis Jordan - Is you is or is you ain't my baby  
 B B King - The Thrill is Gone  
 Manu Dibango - Soul Makossa  
 Chieli Minucci & Special EFX - Lavish  
 Recent movies with jazz soundtrack involving jazz musicians —

The Great Gatsby (2013)

Birdman (or the Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance; (2014)

Legend (2015)

Whiplash (2014)

La La Land (2016)

As always, this is just a simple guideline to get by, specifically for the ones uninitiated to jazz. You never know what you might discover if you really want to get in the mix. Maybe you can even find a Bachelor of Music Degree in jazz as your next calling! Just as jazz itself has created endless possibilities of genres and fusion, there

exist equally endless possibilities to enjoy it.

By Iris Farina

Photo: Sheikh Mehedi Morshed

Thanks to:

Imran Ahmed of Imran Ahmed Quintet/Imran Ahmed Trio. He took up the guitar at the age of four. The Trio's debut album- Away and Home will be out on 29th July including six original compositions. Visit them at



facebook.com/imranahmedmusic for more of their activities.

Rushnaf Wadud, frontman of Blunderware is also an Associate Manager of Radio Shadhin. Visit him and the band at facebook.com/blunderware to keep up with their latest shenanigans.

For more information of the International Jazz Day (April 30), with specific highlights on Bangladesh, visit-<http://jazzday.com/events/>

