

THROUGH THE EYES

Kanak Chapa

Being a leading exponent of modern music and a television personality of Bangladesh, Rumana Islam Kanak Chapa is a melody in herself. She gave her honeyed voice in a huge number of songs and released over 30 solo albums. 'Chokher Vitor Swapno Thake', 'Tumi Amar Emni Ekjon', 'Amar Premer Taj Mahal' and 'Onek Shadhonar Pore Ami' are some of her most notable songs. She has achieved many prestigious awards including the Bangladesh National Film Award for Best Female Playback Singer three times for her impeccable renditions in the films 'Love Story (1995)', 'Premer Taj Mahal (2001)' and 'Ek Takar Bou (2008)'. Apart from her career in singing, she has been refining her writing skills for an extensive period. She published her memoir 'Sthobir Jajabor' in 2011 and the poetry book 'Mukhomukhi' in 2012. Kanak Chapa will be admired forever for her memorable contributions in the music industry of Bangladesh.



INSPIRATION

Music has a divine magnetism with me. I am blessed with such a harmonious family where everything was framed under the heavenly grace of arts and culture. I received my first music lesson from my beloved father Azizul Huque Morshed, who bestrewed the seeds of music in me when I was just a kid. And I think that's the reason behind my interest in music. My mother Momena Jahan was also extremely motivational in flourishing my talents. Their heavenly shelter has made me what I am today. Moreover, the person whose contribution is prodigiously motivational to my passion is none but my husband Mainul Islam Khan. All of my instructors and seniors are also my inspirations. Additionally, the profound love and respect from my audiences are my life-time inspirations.

PHILOSOPHY

I think life should be designed as its simplest frame. I practice this philosophy in my personal life, by always trying to make my life as easy as possible. However, I never quit from my duties. Rather, my effort with honesty at my workplace gives me the highest possible gratification. In my opinion, punctuality can make a person's life easier by solving many problems in his day-to-day life. To be successful in life, a person must work with honesty, passion and dedication.

VIEWS ON HER PROFESSION

Music is my oxygen; it is both my passion and profession. In my view, life is harmonious and every creation has its own rhythm. The dazzling waterfall, the blooming of flowers, the chirping of birds – all these have their own rhythm and a melodious flow. Being an artiste is not a short-term process. Every artiste needs to be sincere, dedicated and passionate to his work. To become a successful singer, one must evaluate himself or herself as a singer; and individuality is the first and foremost requirement for being a sustainable artiste. Moreover, clarity is a mandatory element in music because a singer has to take the responsibility of conveying the message to the listeners properly. Many of the songs of our newcomers are really appreciable. My behest to the youth is to focus more on our root songs as it is the best way to preserve our rich heritage.

BOOKS

I love reading story books in my leisure. I mostly prefer classic stories and plays. I have read the books of William Shakespeare when I was just a kid. I also love to read Russian books. Akhteruzzaman Elias, Syed Shamsul Haque and Syed Mujtaba Ali are some of my favorite authors of our country.

FILMS

I am very choosy when it comes to movies. Since childhood, I have watched a lot of movies of the fabled

couple Uttam-Suchitra. Moreover, I like to watch movies with unparalleled stories. The movie *Sunflower* is one of my favorites.

MUSIC

Music is a part and parcel of my life. I love listening to all forms of songs of the singers of our country; yet, my thirst for Polli Geeti is eternal. The heart-melting melody of our root songs; especially the Bhawaiya and Bhatiali songs, have never failed to amaze me.

FUTURE PLANS

I am passionate about my work, so I don't need any specific plan for the future. Yet, I make short-term plans whenever I need to perform on stage or as a playback singer in films. Moreover, music has always been my loyal companion. Therefore, I love to remain busy with musical shows and also singing as a playback singer in films. I have a plan to release some more albums of Nazrul Sangeet, Polli Geeti and Rabindra Sangeet. I aspire to continue singing as long as I can keep melody in my voice.

IDOLS

Ferdausi Rahman, an eminent figure in the music industry of our country, is my idol. There are countless adjectives that could describe her as an artiste, as well as a great human being. Her majestic voice, lovely smile and unique personality have touched the hearts of millions around the world.

By Shawreen Rahman