

WHAT'S ON

Eighth Anniversary of IGCC
Venue: Main Auditorium, Bangladesh National Museum
Date: May 9
Time: 6:30pm

High Commission of India
cordially invites you to attend the
8th Anniversary of the India Gandhi
J.E. Mr. Anandkumar Nayar, Minister for Culture,
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.
Venue: Main Auditorium, Bangladesh National Museum, Dhaka
Date: 9 May 2018, Wednesday
Time: 6:30PM

Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Roop Aroop Oporoop
Artist: Kazi Miral
Venue: Shilpangan Gallery, Dhanmondi
Date: May 05-15
Time: 3-8pm



Concert
Legacy of Rock 'n' Roll
Artist: Kazi Miral
Venue: Hall 1 (Gulnaksha), International Convention City, Bashundhara (ICC)
Date: May 11



Contemporary Art Exhibition
Title: Silent Revelation
Artist: Mohammad Iqbal
Venue: Edge Galleries (Dhanmondi & Gulshan)
Date: April 22-May 19



Concert
Nemesis - Homecoming
Venue: Russian Cultural Centre (RCC)
Date: May 12
Time: 3:30 PM - 8 PM



Chhayanaut's homage to Tagore

ZAHANGIR ALOM

To celebrate Rabindranath Tagore's 157th birth anniversary, his works and his philosophy, a two-day 'Rabindra Utsab 1425' commenced at the main auditorium of Chhayanaut Sangskriti Bhaban in Dhanmondi, Dhaka. The festival began yesterday.

Founded in 1961, Chhayanaut organised the annual 'Rabindra Utsab' for the 10th time in a row. The festival began with a live song and dance presentation by the artistes of the organisation. Young dancers, led by noted Guru Sharmila Banerjee, mesmerised the crowd with their dance performance to the

song *Hey Nuton Dekha Dik Aarbar* -- butterflying out of their cocoons on a sunny morning.

The General Secretary of Chhayanaut, Laisha Ahmed Lisa, in her welcome speech, spoke about how Tagore's compositions never cease to inspire us. Be it on the battle grounds to achieve liberation or simply to achieve happiness in life.

The highlight of the programme was the showcasing of a Tagore musical, or better known as *Rabindra Geeti Alekhyia*. Titled *Mohabishwe Mohakash-e*, the musical was written by Indian Tagore researcher Arunabh Lahiri. Renowned Tagore singers Mohiuzzaman Chowdhury, Laisha Ahmed Lisa and others sang the famous Tagore

compositions while Jayanta Roy and Sumana Biswas recited his poetry. Also, Chhayanaut artistes performed two choral compositions -- *Bipulo Torongo Rey* and *Amar Mukti Aloy Aloy* accompanied by live dance presentations. Apart from the Chhayanaut artistes, several guest singers and performers of the musical troupe 'Surtirtha' sang at the event.

The curtains came down on the opening day of the festival, with a rendition of *Apon Hotey Bahir Hoye*.

Compiled and prefaced by the president of Chhayanaut, Dr Sanjida Khatun, a showcasing of *Rabindra Bhabonaye Bhroshtologno*, a lyrical poetry, better known as *geeti kabyyo*, will take place today.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

Nayeem turns singer with 'Tomake'

SADI MOHAMMAD SHAHNEWAZ

Although known across the country as an actor, Fs Nayeem will step foot into the world of music with his first single titled *Tomake*. The music video looks to dazzle the audience as it features the actor himself, alongside the talented Ridy Sheikh. "I've actually been singing before I became an actor, and I am still quite passionate about it. There was no expense spared during the production of the song and the video, and I wanted to be completely professional and perfect. I am very proud of the project", says an excited Nayeem. The music was composed and tuned by Nayeem himself, whereas the arrangement was done by Rezwana Sheikh. The music video was directed by Raju Raj and the song drops on 10th May through Dhruba Music Station.

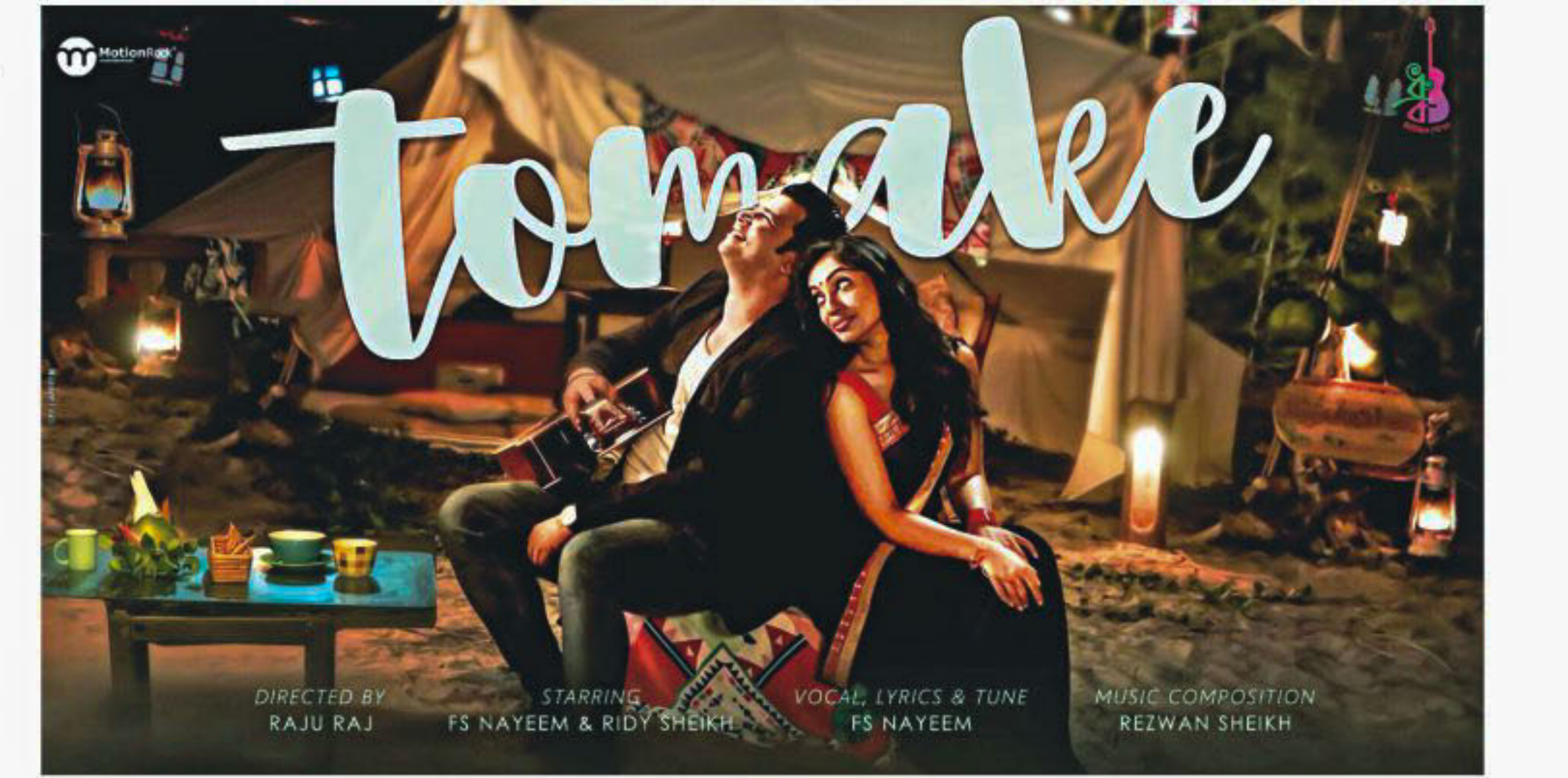


PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

I want to be remembered for my roles

--Poppy

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Gracing her presence on the silver screen for two decades, Poppy is one of the nation's most beloved film actors. Although her screen appearances have been sporadic in recent times, the three time National Film Award winning actor still holds the world of cinema immensely close to her heart and is pleased to be a part of some latest films. Poppy made time for *The Daily Star* recently, where she shed light upon her upcoming films and the challenges in her career.

You are playing Parvati in your new film. How do you feel about playing the part?

Poppy: My new film is called *Kaathgorai Sarat Chandra*. I play the role of Parvati, while Ferdous, my co-actor, plays Devdas. Playing this part is something new to me. Parvati is every actor's dream role, so in that sense, I am very happy.

What is the most challenging part of working in this project?

Poppy: I knew from the start that this film will be challenging, which is one of the reasons why I agreed to do it straightaway. Parvati is a much loved character in

Bengali literature, so taking up such a role requires courage. I am doing my best to get everything about this character right. I hope the result is something great.

Till now, there has been 22 adaptations of Devdas; your film is the 23rd one. What is different about it?

Poppy: What is different about our film is that Sarat Chandra actually plays a character in it. The writer and his character, Parvati, come face to face with one another in our film, which is something we have not seen in any of the other adaptations.

What can you tell us about your other upcoming projects?

Poppy: I have completed much of the work for a film called *Shahoshi Joddha*. Other than that, I have signed three other films, which I will begin working on soon.

What are your dreams for the future, in terms of the kind of cinema you want to work on?

Poppy: I am where I am today because of cinema. It means a lot to me to have received national film awards and so much love and appreciation from the audiences. I want to leave my mark on the industry through my work. I want to be remembered for my roles.



'SARA' with exciting young talents

A star-studded cast of Shahtaj, Pritom, Azim, Doyel and Amit Sinha rounds up the level of hype that Sara wants to create with its ambitious clothing line. The fashion house is set to launch on 12th May, and fans are already showing intrigue regarding the brand. "We value the stock that these young stars bring to the table, they are the future. Our brand will be unique in terms of originality, and there will be no compromises with quality. The prices will also be in range of the average fashion enthusiast," said the owner S.M. Khaled in a press conference held at *The Daily Star*, yesterday.

Surama Ghatak Passes Away at 92

PRIYANKA CHOWDHURY

Surama Ghatak, endearingly known as Surama Devi, was a writer and wife of legendary filmmaker Ritwik Ghatak. She breathed her last at about 12:15 Monday midnight at the age of 92. She is also the niece of active left-wing member, Sadhana Roy Chowdhury.

Although always named after her husband, Surama herself had knack for writing. Along with documenting many of Ghatak's work she wrote books like *Padma Theke Titas*, *Shilon Jail er Diary*, *Ritwik* and numerous others. She was also a member of the Communist party when she was a student. Attaining a first class in Home Science for the PG diploma course she continued to try for a job to earn a living. She also had keen interest in Indian and world cinema. She was the sole proprietor of Ritwik Ghatak's film *Jukti Takko Aar Goppo* which never got released. Later on the Indian government took ownership of the film.

The writer's work echoes the hardship of her life. Surama Ghatak sets a fine example of a 'modern woman' back in the 50s and 60s who pursued her own career to support her family.



Arif Ahmed's 'Paradise Nest'- Voice of the voiceless!

SADI MOHAMMAD SHAHNEWAZ

When *Paradise Nest* won the Best Film of Nature Award at the Calcutta International Cult Film Festival on April 22, it was food for thought for every film buff and critic out here in Dhaka. The film is a product of young photojournalist Arif Ahmed's passion for wildlife photography and concern for an almost extinct species of birds; and the cinematography, stills, and production has been handled by the director himself.

"Through my experience of wildlife photography for the past few years, I have developed a soft spot for these beautiful creatures. I want to continue raising awareness to stop the illegal hunting of not only birds, but all animals". Besides being a focal point of the CICFF, the film was also displayed in Italy's Cefalù Film Festival, India's IFFC and in the USA's 41st International Wildlife Film Festival. The director expressed his gratitude for the reception of the film, but at the same time had a few gripes about his experience with its production: "No one really wants to



sponsor a project like this, and that is very disappointing. I really hope that the government steps in and offers funding to films like these, because I believe that they have potential to not only increase awareness, but be commercially successful as well," says an adamant Arif.