

**WHAT'S ON**

**Solo Painting Exhibition**  
Title: Images of inner vision  
Artist: Halimul Islam Khokon  
Venue: La Galerie, AFD  
Date: Jul 20-Aug 2  
Time: 3-9pm



**Solo Art Exhibition**  
Title: Bikargrosto Shomoyer Roikihik Boyan  
Artist: Nisar Hossain  
Venue: Kala Kendra, Mohammadpur  
Date: June 30-July 25; Time: 5-8pm



**Art & Music Festival**  
Title: Good Vibrations  
Venue: Lounge Comida  
Date: July 27  
Time: 2pm-9pm



**Cultural Programme in honor of Abdul Ahad**  
Title: Onek Brishti Jhore Tumi E  
Venue: The Daily Star Centre  
Date: July 28  
Time: 6:30pm



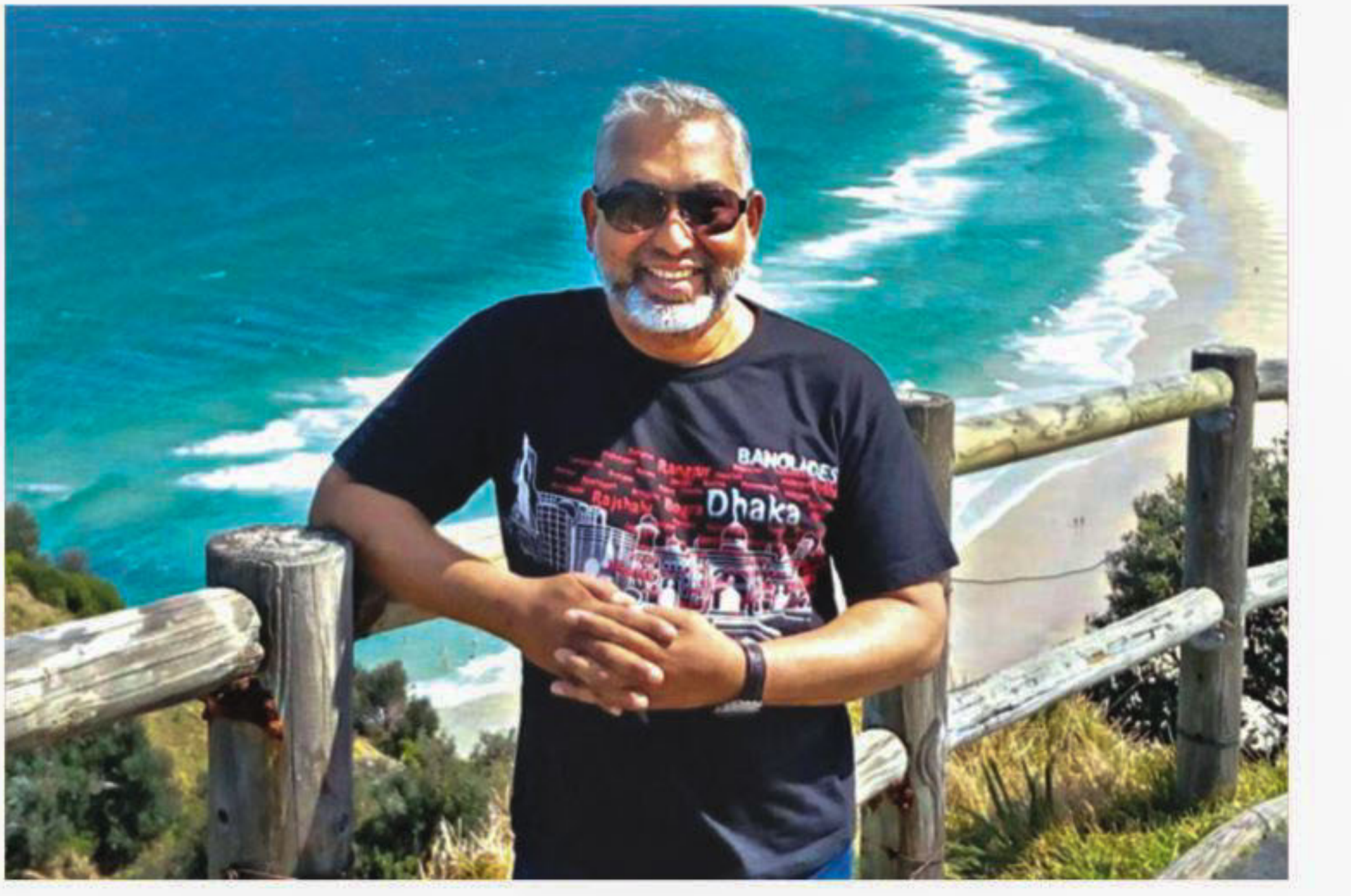
**Art Exhibition**  
Title: 21st Young Artists' Art Exhibition 2018  
Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy  
Date: July 15-28  
Time: 11am - 8pm



# A candid talk with Naquib Khan

**SADI MOHAMMAD SHAHNEWAZ**

*There are few musicians who can claim to be as accomplished as Naquib Khan, who has bagged several accolades throughout his career. Currently a part of the band Renaissance, the singer added another feather to his hat recently, as he was selected as the Vice-President of Bangladesh Sangeet Parishad. The Daily Star catches up with the famed artiste for a conversation.*



Congratulations on being elected as the Vice-President of Bangladesh Sangeet Parishad for 2018-2021! Tell us more about the organisation.

Thank you very much! Bangladesh Sangeet Parishad is a national organisation, which consists of musical artistes and works for their benefit as well. Samar Das was the founding president of Bangladesh Sangeet Parishad. Since the new committee has just been elected for three years, we look forward to planning what we are going to do for our tenure.

We know that Renaissance is coming out with a new album after a long time. When can we expect it to launch?

We plan to release it in February, 2019. At

the moment we are recording the songs, which have already been written and composed. However, we are taking our time in the recording sessions since we do not want to compromise with the sound. Unfortunately, since we all have day jobs, we only get to record on weekends.

What kind of music can the fans expect from Renaissance in the new album?

The flavour and sound that Renaissance is known for will be pretty much intact. However, since we are producing an album after 14 long years, there are bound to be some changes. The industry has moved forward quite a bit, and so shall we.

Do you listen to music produced by the

current generation of artistes? Do you think that they are doing well?

I do listen to recent music, but I do not have any favourites at the moment. I have loved the fantastic work done by Arnob, Bappa and Nemesis over the years. However, I feel like we are not currently producing songs which can be talked about indefinitely for years to come, like our classics.

Do you have any message for the fans of Renaissance, who are eager to get their hands on the new album?

I want our songs to be the message! (Laughs). They will include patriotic, romantic and somewhat philosophical tracks that I hope fans will love, as they have done for years.

# Ministers grace the inauguration of 'Jam'

**SHAH ALAM SHAZU**

After a ten year hiatus, the banner of Manna's production house, Kritanjali Kothachitra, is back in operation. A press conference was held yesterday at Dhaka Club's Samson H Chowdhury auditorium. The Minister of Road Transport and Bridges Obaidul Qader, graced the event as the chief guest, while State Minister of Information Tarana Halim attended as a special guest. During the inauguration, actors ATM Shamsuzzaman, Shuchanda, Rituparna Sengupta, Ahmed Sharif, Ferdous Ahmed, Purnima along with Shelly Manna were all on the dais. Various other names from the world of showbiz were also present during the ceremony.

During her speech, Shuchanda mentioned the importance of actor Manna in the industry. She expressed her gratitude towards Shelly Manna's initiative to revive the production house. Sengupta said, "Today is a day of joy as well as sorrow. I'm

a little sad because a film is being produced from Manna's production house, but he is not amongst us." Later, Tarana Halim highlighted the success of the government. "The government of Bangladesh values its cultural heritage. It recognises and appreciates the artistes," she added. Actor ATM Shamsuzzaman also mentioned how *Jam* is a part of our everyday lives. Speaking at the event, chief guest Obaidul Qader added, "Life is about overcoming the challenges that we face, and enjoying it in the process." He also added that actor Manna was a beloved personality in the industry and that his demise was rather early.

After the dialogue, the official banner for *Jam* was unveiled. During the press conference, it was confirmed that the cast for the film will comprise of actors Purnima, Arifin Shuvo, Ferdous, Moushumi, Omar Sani, Amit Hasan, Misha Sawdagar and more. *Jam* will be produced by Shelly Manna and Siam Iltimas and directed by Noyeem Imtiaz Naimul.



**The Minister of Road Transport and Bridges Obaidul Qader and Minister of Information Tarana Halim with other guests at the ceremony.**

# Remembering UTTAM KUMAR



**SUBRATA ACHARYA, from Kolkata**

Thirty eight years ago, the world lost Uttam Kumar, one of the most beloved actors of Bengali cinema. Born as Arun Kumar Chattopadhyay, the artiste passed away on this day in 1980 in Kolkata. Uttam Kumar was born in Kolkata at the home of his maternal uncle at Ahiritola. We stopped over at his birthplace to talk to his family members about their fond memories of the star.

Mukul Mukhopadhyay, wife of Uttam Kumar's

maternal uncle, Rabindranath Mukhopadhyay, describes him as a man of extraordinary talent. "Even after being such a huge star, he was very humble and kind-hearted. He was not arrogant at all. We lost him too soon," she says. The walls of Kumar's Ahiritola home do not have any pictures of him, as the grief is still too much to bear for his family.

Uttam Kumar's cousin, Sanjiv Mukhopadhyay, informs *The Daily Star*, "We miss *dada* particularly during Puja. He loved a local dessert shop here at

Ahiritola. He used to take us there for a treat. He also loved having home-cooked tangra and koi fish."

In the span of his career, Uttam Kumar made laudable and gorgeous screen pairs with many leading ladies like Suchitra Sen, Supriya Choudhury, Sabitri Chatterjee, Madhabi Mukherjee, Sharmila Tagore, Tanuja Samarth and Aparna Sen. Often hailed as the one-man industry, Uttam Kumar chiefly dominated Bengali cinema for three decades until his death.

# Emran Mahfuz's 'Dirghosthai Shokshoba' released



**ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK**

The launching ceremony of Emran Mahfuz's poetry album, *Dirghosthai Shokshoba*, was recently held at the Lionic Multimedia premises in Banglamotor. Noted lyricist Shahidullah Farazi was the chief guest at the event along with other poets and artistes from the field, including Shimul Mustafa, Belayet Hossain, Zahidul Haque, Rezauddin Stalin. The event was

hosted by Saurabh Shanto. The book contains sixty different poems, out of which eleven were selected for the audio CD. The recitation was done by Alamgir Islam Shanto and the last track in the album *Shagor Birohe Nogor* was recited by Emran Mahfuz himself. Produced by Lionic Multimedia and published in cooperation with Oytijjo, Emran is rather optimistic about his project. The guests at the event praised the work of the

talented artiste and urged the youth to get more involved in works of art that help depict our culture and heritage in a positive manner. The album is available at Pathak Shamabesh and Surer Mela, both of which are located in Shahbag.

"I am happy with the way Shanto recited my poems," said poet Emran. "I want poetry to be a part of our lives, for life without poetry is not beautiful."



# Labaid Foundation's 7-Day Art Camp ends

**ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK**

A successful 7-day art camp consisting of both eminent and young artists took place from July 13-20 in Rangamati, and it was organised by Labaid Foundation. Distinguished architect, art critic and poet Rabiul Hasan was the

special guest at the event. The event was inaugurated at Rangamati Parjatan Corporation under the banner 'Prokritir Canvas e Jiboner Rong.' 24 artists including Samarjit Roy Chowdhury, Monirul Islam, Abul Barak Alvi, Hamiduzzaman Khan, Bipasha Hayat, Mansurul Karim and

Alokes Ghosh participated in the camp. The art produced here will be put on sale in renowned galleries in Dhaka, and the entire revenue will go to charity. The unsold paintings will be displayed at Labaid Hospital and other medical institutions as a part of the initiative.

The Daily Star

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celebrating life

CELEBRATING LIFE DISTRICT TOUR

**TODAY**  
Photo Exhibition  
Film Screening  
**Concert By JOLER GAAN**  
At Zahir Raihan Auditorium  
JAHANGIRNAGAR UNIVERSITY

Organised by Teacher-Student Centre, Jahangirnagar University

Partners: Showbiz, Channel, Ananddhara