

# Channel i to honour Subir Nandi with Lifetime Achievement Award



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Subir Nandi, who is a remarkable singer, will add yet another trophy to his cabinet as he receives the Channel i Music Awards 2018's Lifetime Achievement Award today. Since its inception in 2004, the Channel i Music Awards has lauded the best in music. This year, the programme will celebrate its completion of an era by honouring the playback legend. Stars from all genres and sectors of the music indus-



try will be present at the event, which will hand out awards in 16 different categories alongside 6 'Golden Voice Awards' to musical devotees who have served the industry for over twenty years. Some of the stars who will be present at the show are Momtaz, Kumar Bishwajit, Samina Chowdhury, Fahmida Nabi, Chandana Majumdar, Ferdous Ara, Rezwana Choudhury Bannya, Afzal Hossain, Kona, Elita, Mehereen and Nusraat Faria among many others.



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## Annual Bonsai Exhibition opens at WVA

APORAJITA MUSTAFA

The Bangladesh Bonsai Society (BBS) inaugurated its 20th Annual Bonsai Exhibition at the Women's Voluntary Association (WVA) Auditorium yesterday. It is set to continue till September 23, boasting a diverse collection of bonsai trees. The star-studded inaugural ceremony was graced by the presence of Aly Zaker as chief guest and Afzal Hossain as special guest. The Head of the Cultural Department at the Japanese Embassy, Machiko Yamamura, was the guest of honour. The ceremony commenced with opening remarks by the General Secretary of BBS, Mohammad Anisul Haque, followed by promising speeches by the honoured guests in attendance. The closing remarks and vote of thanks were presented by the President and Vice President of BBS, Nazma Shafiq and Rosy Kuddus respectively.



### 1 MINUTE PLEASE



PHOTO: COURTESY

## Tasnova Elvin

SADI MOHAMMAD SHAHNEWAZ

*Tasnova Elvin began her journey in showbiz as a finalist in Lux Channel i Superstar 2010, but soon broke out as an actor with her charming on-screen presence. She is currently working on many popular tele-fictions including 'Bachelor Point', 'Digbaji', 'Khandani Manzil' and 'Mr Tension'.*

**Name a TV series you're watching right now.**

I am binging on *Friends* at the moment. I started watching it with my niece, but soon imported her entire collection to my laptop!

**Who is your favourite co-artist?**

It has to be Shamim Hasan Sarker. He is an amazing human being, and a very close friend of mine.

**A project you're fond of?**

I starred in a short film for Valentine's Day

titled *Amader Bhalobasha*, directed by Imraul Rafat. Siam Ahmed was my co-star, and we had a lot of fun making the film. It was heavily praised by the audience as well.

**A comfort food you always go back to?**

*Daal Bhaat* with beef.

**Where do you see your career 5 years down the line?**

I have always admired Jaya Ahsan, and I see her as a role model. I want to be like her, even though I don't think I can ever be as talented as her! (Laughs)

## Why bands like The Seesaw Quartet need your attention

MOHUA MOULI

Recently, I was welcomed to witness an up-and-coming jazz band in Dhaka, The Seesaw Quartet, at Alliance Française de Dhaka, Dhanmondi. I was pleasantly surprised by the tenacity with which this group of musicians showcased their hold on one of the most complex genres of music.

While a wider variety of music is being explored by many hidden talents in the underground music scene of Dhaka, jazz is yet to find a strong foothold with music enthusiasts. Yet, during the show, the sheer number of people that showed up debunked the myth of how the local audience is 'not interested in jazz'. "Even though I don't know any of these songs, the band looks like they are enjoying the music they're playing," said Tanha, who had travelled all the way from Uttara to attend the show.

The band started off with some popular jazz songs by artistes like Jaco Pastorius, Charlie Parker and even a jazz rendition of a song by Arnob. The per-



PHOTO: ANIQA TASNIM HOSSAIN

formance also included a few originals, played by Rahin Haider on the saxophone and Jishnu Haider on electric guitar. Alistair Sarkar Raj was the bassist and Samiul Wahid was the drummer. Throughout each song, the band showed diligence and a deep understanding for jazz while giving the spectators a unique experience in live music.

Even with the rarity of such musical acts in Dhaka, there are talented jazz bands who are taking the genre forward. Imran Ahmed Trio has been a pioneer in Dhaka's jazz scene, whereas the Robert Russell Trio has recently been doing house-full shows. Organisations like the National Music House (NMH), one

of the oldest retailers of brass and woodwind instruments in the country, are taking initiatives to help and promote artistes as such.

For music enthusiasts, bands like The Seesaw Quartet offer hope for the music scene in Bangladesh, where new talent is being appreciated and sought after.

## Ahmed Kamal Bhuiyan's 'Comic Cache' unveiled



PHOTO: BENGAL FOUNDATION

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*Bengal Boi released the newest edition of 'Comic Cache' at their rooftop Chilekotha recently.*

*Comic Cache* is an extensive collection of original comic books and superhero memorabilia by the late Ahmed Kamal Bhuiyan who was a teacher, writer and an avid reader. In addition, he was a recipient of several honours, including the Presidential Academic Fitness awards from former USA Presidents George Bush and Bill Clinton.

His wish of being a published author finally materialised with the publication of his first short story, *Lord Zenith*, *Magical Madman Extraordinaire*, and *the Phoenix Egg* in Michael Ignacio's short story collection *The Rogue's Gallery*, just weeks before his death.

The Director General of Bengal Foundation, Luva Nahid Chowdhury, welcomed everyone at the programme and thanked Ahmed's family for giving the opportunity to share his huge collection of comics at Bengal Boi.

Ahmed's passion for comics went beyond just reading the stories and imagining what it would really be like to drive a Bat mobile, fly faster than a speeding bullet, or crawl on walls and ceilings. He analysed the stories and drew connections to the real world. He saw value in what the artists and storytellers had to offer and did his best to share that passion with others, mentioned his sister Ayesha Kamal.

Zamil from Zamil Comics and Kazi Khaleed Ashraf, Director General of Bengal Institute also shared their memories with Ahmed. Ahsan Habib, Editor of *Unmad* said that Ahmed inspired the young generation to read comics.

*Comic Cache* has a wide number of rare comics published by DC and Marvel, including original runs of *Superman*, *Batman* and *Wonder Woman* among others. This one-of-a-kind, single-owner collection is now open for comic lovers at Bengal Boi.