



53rd 'Praner Khela' held at Chhayanaut

PRIYANKA CHOWDHURY

Noted Rabindra Sangeet singer, Shama Rahman and young singer, Mustafizur Rahman Turjo performed at the 53rd musical soiree of Bengal Foundation's regular programme *Praner Khela* at Chhayanaut auditorium, Dhanmondi on September 25.

Since 2007, Bengal has been organising this public event where one young talented singer shares the stage with an established singer. The singers were accompanied by instrumentalists Binod Roy on keyboard, Ashit Biswas on esraj and Iftekhar Alam Pradhan on tabla.

In the melodious soiree, the singer duo performed a variety of musical creations by Rabindranath Tagore. Mustafizur Rahman Turjo is currently a teacher at Chhayanaut Sangeet Bidyayatan. His musical journey began with inspiration from his mother. Having started his training with Pradip Das in Chattogram, he later learned from Mita Haque, Bulbul Islam, Partho Sarothi and Laisa Ahmed Lisa at Chhayanaut. In the programme, his repertoire included *Shukhohin Nishidin Poradhin Hoye*, *Dhire Dhire Prane Amar Esho He*, *Krishnakali Ami Tare Boli* and many more.

On the other hand, leading contemporary Rabindra Sangeet singer Shama Rahman presented some of her favourite Tagore songs to the audience. Prior to her performance, she thanked the organisers for creating a platform for the artistes. She also congratulated Mustafizur Rahman Turjo for his performance.

(From left) 'Beauty Is Not Beauty' by Chhobi Zulfiqure, 'Drawing' by Manir Mrittik, 'Couple of Sip' by Shimul Saha and 'A Shape of Knowledge' (below) by Shubho Saha.

Britto Arts Trust and Back ART Foundation invited to Taiwan Annual 2018

ZAHANGIR ALOM

As part of the cultural exchange programme, the Taiwan Annual 2018 will take place at Taipei Expo Park - EXPO Dome in Taiwan from September 29 to October 7. Produced by Association of the Visual Arts in Taiwan (AVAT), the art festival will feature many curated exhibitions, solo presentations, national and international representation of galleries and art organisations, public interactive projects, workshops, art salon and more.

Aside from display by the Taiwanese gallery and art organisation, this year AVAT has invited seven international art organisations and collectives from Bangladesh, India, Iran and Nepal.

Two Bangladeshi art organisations -- Britto Arts Trust and Back ART Foundation have been selected and invited to participate with their own projects. AVAT will provide them free spaces for exhibiting their artworks and projects.



Apart from representing their respective organisations, promising contemporary artists -- Shimul Saha (from Britto Arts Trust) and Shubho Saha (from Back ART Foundation) will take part in an artists' talk session titled "Art Forum: New Media Art in West Asia and South Asia".

The participating artists of Britto Arts Trust at the Taiwan Annual are

Anisuzzaman Sohel, Shimul Saha, Najmun Nahar Keya, Promotesh Das Pulak, Manir Mrittik, Yasmin Jahan Nupur, Jewel A Rob and Tayeba Begum Lipi.

The participants from Back ART Foundation at the art festival are Adil Hasnat, Anisuzzaman Rubel, Rameez Shahi, Sanjid Mahmud, Juton Roy, Waley Jaff, Chhobi Zulfiqure, Shubho Saha, Uma

Mandal and Nazia Andaleeb Preema.

Britto Arts Trust, a non-profit organisation, was founded in 2002 in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Britto is a part of the worldwide Triangle Network and a member of SANA (South Asian Network for Artists) that includes KHOJ, Delhi, VASL, Karachi, and Theertha, Colombo. Apart from organising numerous large and small scaled projects and events like international and local residencies for artists, exhibitions with various mediums, talks, collaborations, public art projects, a New Media Festival and a South Asian artists' exhibition, Britto initiated the first ever National Pavilion of Bangladesh at the 54th Venice Biennale in 2011.

Back ART Foundation is one of the international participants as an art organisation in this festival. Chhobi Zulfiqure and Nazia Andaleeb Preema will also attend the 3rd Taiwan Annual on behalf of Back ART Foundation, where Shubho is curating the whole Back ART show.



Shama Rahman performing at the event. PHOTO: COURTESY



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