















Rashed Khan Menon, Minister of Social Welfare, (C) along with the members of BAMBA, the differently abled performers, PFDA, and Skytracker.

A VERY SPECIAL CONCERT

SADI MOHAMMAD SHAHNEWAZ

This time, it wasn't about the hardhitting riffs or the groovy bass lines. It wasn't about the dynamic performances, or the amalgamation of the best bands of the country. BAMBA's (Bangladesh Musical Bands Association) Concert for Autism Awareness on Friday was about Shushmi, Shupto and Safwan - differently abled children who lived their dream and sang their hearts out alongside their musical heroes on stage. It was about creating awareness about the fact that people with autism are not disabled; they are perfectly capable individuals with much to contribute to the society, given the opportunity.

While there were concerns about the turnout before the beginning of the concert, people swarmed to Bangladesh Army Stadium as soon as the music started, and were treated to a wholesome experience. 12 bands: Dreek, Feedback, Powersurge, Dalchhut, Vikings, Shironamhin, Nemesis, Miles, Warfaze, Magsood O' Dhaka, Souls and Arbovirus lit up the stage while 11 tigers roared in their Asia Cup Final battle against India. The match was screened during the performances, which made for a unique experience for the crowd. "Everyone who is present here is a part of this cause. I am glad that we have been able to pull off this concert," said Hamin Ahmed, the president of BAMBA. All the bands put forth their most diligent tributes to the neglected members of the society. They

never let the enthusiastic crowd forget, for one second, the true cause of the concert. Rashed Khan Menon, Minister of Social Welfare, conveyed his good wishes to the organisers and the audience. The ministry, along with PFDA -Vocational Training Centre were the prime supporters of the concert organised by Skytracker. A heartwarming message was sent via text by the Prime Minister's daughter, Saima Wazed Putul, who has been passionately working for the welfare of autistic individuals for more than a decade. The Minister of Cultural Affairs, Asaduzzaman Noor was also present.

One of the most spectacular scenes of the night took place when Shupto, a child with autism, was invited by Miles to sing their blockbuster Chad Tara Shurjo on stage. When he started singing, the crowd's claps of encouragement soon turned into emotional applauds of respect, for he had entertained the audience as well as Miles would. Shushmi, who shared the stage with Feedback and Safwat, who sang alongside Dalchhut, also earned the crowd's adoration. All of the differently abled children who were there at the concert presented a delightful chorus of Gari Chole Na, much to the amazement of the audience.

BAMBA's concert for autism was not just successful, but special in every sense of the word. The premiere organisation of musicians promised that there would be more similar initiatives from their side, for the betterment of the society. The Daily Star was the media partner for the event.



Two differently abled children singing 'Bayanno Tash' with Dalchhut.



Guests enjoying the show.

Buddha's 'Peace' at Gallery Cosmos

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Gallery Cosmos organised a ten-day (September 28-October 7) solo art exhibition, titled Peace by artist Proshanta Karmakar Buddha, at their space in New DOHS, Mohakhali, Dhaka.

Marie-Annick Bourdin, Ambassador of France to Bangladesh, graced the inaugural ceremony as chief guest. Nazneen Azim, Chairperson, Gulshan Literacy Program Foundation and Engr Iftikhar Kajol, Managing Director, Totaltel, were present as special guests. Dr Niaz Zaman, Advisor at the Department of English, Independent University, Bangladesh presided over the programme. Tehmina Enayet, Director of Cosmos Gallery, delivered

the welcome address at the event. "The artist is on a quest to find peace

through art. Peace is what we pursue for



Marie-Annick Bourdin (5-R) with the featured artist (6-R) and other dignitaries inaugurates the exhibition as chief guest. PHOTO: COURTESY

the betterment of our life," said Marie-Annick Bourdin after inaugurating the exhibition.

Artist Proshanta Karmakar Buddha has created his own style of art that is

both modern and unique. He longs for a world devoid of chaos, brutality and hopelessness. He anticipates a peaceful utopia where human empathy and

cooperation transcend national bound-

aries. It may be a 'fool's dream' but a world without hope is not a world worth living in. The spirit of that hope echoes through his works. Till date, Buddha has put up 29 solo exhibitions and participated in at least 96 national and international group exhibitions.

Buddha's passion for art inspired him to be a full-time artist, sporting enormous courage and dedication. He received several national and international awards, including the 1992 'Honorable Mention Award' at a competition hosted by Alliance Française de Dhaka, the 1991 Okamoto Prize by the Asian Cultural Center for UNESCO in Tokyo, Japan and the 1990 Best Award on printmaking at the 9th National Young Artist's Exhibition at Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy.

The exhibition, showcasing 42 artworks by the artist, will run from 12 noon to 8 pm daily.

"SK. HASINA:

Undaunted Traveller" premieres at National Museum



Minister of Finance, Abul Maal Abdul Muhith (C) with the Executive Director of the film, Golam Rabbani (L) and Advisory Director, Nasiruddin Yousuff (R)

PRIYANKA CHOWDHURY

'SK. Hasina: Undaunted Traveller', a feature-length documentary by veteran journalist, poet and writer, Abdul Gaffar Chowdhury premiered at the National Museum Auditorium in Shahbagh on September 28

With rare footage from the 1971 liberation war, the film's unique storyline captures real-life accounts of the Prime Minister's personal and political life through a string of interviews that portray heartwrenching tales of her journey.

The event was inaugurated by the Minister of Finance, Abul Maal Abdul Muhith with the Executive Director of the film, Golam Rabbani and Advisory Director, Nasiruddin Yousuff.

During his speech, Minister of Finance, Abul Maal Abdul Muhith reminisced about his association with the Prime Minister and politics, and prayed for the early recovery of Abdul Gaffar Chowdhury, who could not be present at the premiere due to ill health.

The film not only focuses on the life of the Prime Minister but also her relationship with her father, the Father of the nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. Simultaneously, it also documents Bangladesh Awami League's trajectory in Bangladesh's

political landscape. SK. Hasina: Undaunted Traveller, narrated by the Minister of Cultural Affairs, Asaduzzaman Noor, MP along with Mala Sarker and Dia Sudeshna Chakravarty is set to be distributed both locally and internationally.



Election of Directors' Guild held at BFDC

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

The second general election of Directors' Guild was held at Bangladesh Film Development Corporation on last Friday. The result of the election was published yesterday at 3:15 pm.

Salauddin Lavlu was chosen to be the President of Directors' Guild while S A Haque Alik was selected as the General Secretary of the organisation.

Joint General Secretary:

The result of the election is listed below:

President: Salauddin Lavlu (259)

Vice President: Kochi Khondokar (269). Shahid Rayhan (236),

Badrul Anam Soud (205)

Hridi Huq (313), Faridul Hasan (201) Organising Secretary: Tuhin Hossain (249) **Finance Secretary:** Sazzad Sony (246) **General Secretary: Publicity Secretary:** Picklu Chowdhury (268) S A Hague Alik (202)



PHOTO: COURTESY

Last Friday, Bishwo Rang organised a competition titled 'Debi Mancho Model Hunt' with the stars of much anticipated film 'Debi' in Jamuna Future Park. Twenty five selected models - out of four thousand participants - received the opportunity to walk the ramp with Jaya Ahsan, Chanchal Chowdhury and Sabnam Faria.





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