

## RUNA LAILA'S GRANDEUR

### DISCOGRAPHY

Sincerely Yours- 1973  
Runa Laila Sings Songs Of Talib-Ul-Maulla- 1974  
Great Ghazals- Runa Laila (Style) - 1981  
Runa in Pakistan (Geet) and (Ghazals) (1980)  
Bappi Lahiri Presents Runa Laila - Superuna- 1982  
Runa Goes Disco- 1982  
Sings For Umrao Jaan Ada (Ghazals)-1985  
Ganga Amar Ma Padma  
Amar Ma - 1996  
Bazm-E-Laila-2007

Runa Laila-Kala Siah Kala- 2010

### LIST OF SONGS

#### BANGLA

Bondhu Teen Din  
Barir Manush Koy Amay  
Shadher Lau Banailo  
Shilpi Ami Tomaderi Gaan  
Allah Megh De Pani De  
Eka Eka Keno Bhalo Laage Na  
Gaaner-i Khatay Shorolipi  
Khanchar Bhitore Achin  
Looke Bole Bole Re  
Here Gechi Aaj Ami

#### HINDI

De de Pyar De Pyar De  
Dama Dam Mast Qalandar  
Suno suno Meri Ye Kahani  
Haiya Ho  
Disco Express  
Disco Premee  
Hello Hai  
Chal Gori  
Aao Shunlo  
Mere Babu Chain Chabila

#### URDU

Jaan-E-Mann Itna Bata Do Mohabbat,  
Mohabbat Hai Kya

Unki Nazron Se Mohabbat Ka Jo Paigham  
Mila  
Hoey Hoey Dil Dharkay Mein Yeh Kaisay  
Kahoon  
Kaatey Na Katay Rattia Sayyan Intezar Ki  
Dinwa Dinwa Mein Ginuun, Kab Aeingay  
Sanwaria  
Hamein Kho Kar Bahut Pachhtao Gay Jab  
Hum Nahin Haun Gay  
Chhanak Gaii Paayal Tau Kya Hoga  
Do Dil Ik Doojay Kolon Duur Ho Gaey  
Jism Ko Phool Kahun Keh..  
Yeh Na Socho, Kal Tha Kya, Aaj Ka Lay Lo  
Maza



### AWARDS

Independence Award  
Bangladesh National Film Award  
Sheltech Award,  
Bangladesh  
Lux-Channel i Lifetime  
Performance Award,  
Bangladesh  
Saigal Award, India  
Nigar Award, Pakistan  
Critics Award, Pakistan  
Graduate Award, Pakistan  
National council of Music  
Awards, Pakistan



### THE JOURNEY BEGINS

The artiste's journey, interestingly, began with lessons of dancing. Runa Laila took lessons of *Bharatanatyam* and *Kathak* style dancing from the Bulbul Academy of Fine Arts in Karachi, Pakistan. Even now when she performs in the live shows, bits of dance moves here and there still amaze her audience. However, she did not pursue this art form for long. Her elder sister Dina Laila had a singing tutor who would come to their house to teach. Runa was still a child of four or five years of age, when her elder sister's singing classes had deeply motivated the music connoisseur. She would often join the class with sheer enthusiasm and try to learn whatever was being taught. Music had always had a precious corner inside her heart. A devotee, Runa would often try to sing what she

heard on the radio. Such a god-gifted voice did not take long to get noticed, and soon Runa came under the mentorship of singing maestros like Abdul Kader, Habib Uddin Ahmed, Ghulam Kader and many more.

When she was 12, Runa received her first singing offer from the silver screen industry. It was a playback offer for the movie *Jugnu*, where she would sing the song titled *Gudia Si Munni Meri*. At that time, the film industry was not generally taken to be an ideal place for developing a career. However, her deep passion enabled Runa to get permission from her family. After a whole month's preparation, in June, 1965, Runa Laila recorded her first playback under the guidance of music director Monzur Hossain. This marked the start of an epic journey that has gone

on to create history in the years to come. But even before this, Runa had already made a name for herself in a live program organized by the Dhaka Old Boys Association. As her elder sister fell sick in the last moment, six year old Runa bravely took over and left all the audience awestruck with her delightful singing.

### COMING HOME

In 1974, Runa Laila moved to Bangladesh along with her family. Coming back to her own roots had been very emotional and spiritually uplifting for the songstress, as she went on to refuse all the lucrative offers of returning to Pakistan or singing for the Urdu music industry. Runa wholeheartedly dedicated herself for the betterment of Bangla songs and the Bangla music industry. By then she had given voice to a significant number of Urdu

songs, but all that fame seemed like nothing when the call from her roots reverberated within. She completed her graduation from the University of Dhaka, while running busy schedules of playback recordings and live programs. There were even phases in her life when she had to take part in sessions stretching up to 12-15 hours. After returning to Bangladesh, her first playback was for the movie *Jibon Shathi*. Shortly after, Runa Laila was invited on a tour of India by the ICCR. Since then the famous title *The Damadam Girl*, presumably for her outstanding singing of *Damadam Mast Kalandar*, was put like a crown to her name. Runa Laila sang for the Hindi movie *Ek Se Badhkar Ek*, which was her first Hindi debut.

### BREAKING BOUNDARIES

An epitome of uniqueness and forever a

