

<p><b>WHAT'S ON</b></p>	<p><b>Solo Art Exhibition</b>                  Title: Deyaal - Solo Exhibition by Farhana Afroz Bappy                  Venue: Jatra Biroti, Banani                  Date: Dec 2 - 12                  Time: 12 noon - 8 pm</p>	<p><b>Exhibition</b>                  Title: Ode to Joy                  Venue: Drik Gallery, Dhanmondi                  Date: Nov 29 - Dec 1                  Time: 3 pm - 8 pm</p>	<p><b>Art Exhibition</b>                  Title: Miniscope                  Venue: Dwip Gallery, Lalmatia                  Date: Nov 10 - 29                  Time: 3 pm - 9 pm (Monday off)</p>	<p><b>Arts and Crafts Exhibition</b>                  Title: Native Artistry                  Venue: Six Seasons Hotel, Gulshan 2                  Date: November 30                  Time: 10 am - 10 pm</p>	<p><b>Dance Festival</b>                  Title: Contemporary Dance Festival 2018                  Venue: National Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy                  Date: Nov 27-28                  Time: 7 pm</p>
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Iffat Ara Nargis and Rafiqul Alam



Haimanti Rakshit and Samarjit Roy

PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

**STAR MELODIES**

# 'KOTHA O SHURER OMOR JUTI'

The harmonious amalgamation of classic lyrics and tunes



Layeqa Bashir, Syeda Noorun Nazia and Debjani Dey from UAP

**MINAM HAQ**  
 During the early days of Bangla music, maestros like Rabindranath Tagore and Kazi Nazrul Islam chose to compose the lyrics as well as the tunes of their own songs respectively. However, over time the practice changed, whereby some artistes specialised in penning the words while others solely focused on tunes. Fortunately, when the perfect combination of the two art forms occurred, what resulted were classic songs that embellished the testament of our musical heritage.  
 In order to celebrate the lyricists and composers of the 20th century

and emphasise on the songs that were born from their beautiful blend of talent, Star Melodies, an initiative of *The Daily Star* that promotes Bangla music, hosted a musical soiree yesterday evening titled *Kotha O Shurer Omor Juti*. Sadya Afreen Mallick, Chief, Culture Initiatives, *The Daily Star*, hosted the programme, while Mahfuz Anam, Editor and Publisher, *The Daily Star* greeted the houseful audience with a welcome speech.  
 Performers from University of Asia Pacific (UAP) initiated the musical event with *Gaeneri Khatai Shorolipi Likhe*. Veteran artiste Rafiqul Alam memserised the audience with numbers like *Ekti Doyel Boney Daakle*, *Ei Jibone Ami Jaare*

*Cheychi*, *Amar Shaupne Dekha Rajkonna Thake* and more. The audible gestures of appreciation from the audience made the evening more entertaining. Iffat Ara Nargis enthralled the packed auditorium with her melodious voice. Renowned lyricist K G Mostofa was also present at the event. He graced the stage to say a few words about his journey as a young poet to becoming one of the most prominent lyricists of Bangla music. Other artistes who performed at the programme include Haimanti Rakshit, Samarjit Roy and more. The magical evening concluded with the performance of *E Shudhu Gaaner Din* by Iffat Ara Nargis.

## Advanced Contemporary Dance Course at BSA



**AFSANA AZIZ NITOL**  
 To enhance contemporary dance practice in Bangladesh, Nyeem Khan Dance Company and Shadhona jointly started the Advanced Contemporary Dance Course from October 2018 to January 2019.  
 Dance teachers from around the world will take these classes three days a week, for four months, in Bangladesh

Shilpakala Academy (BSA). The faculty members of the course are: Prasanna Saikia, Associate Director of Rhythmosaic Dance Company, Kolkata, India, Urmimala Sarkar Munsri, President of World Dance Alliance Asia Pacific, from India, Sudarshan Chakraborty, Artistic Director and Choreographer of Sapphire Dance Creations, Kolkata, India, Dancer Billy Chang from Taiwan, Tara Pandeya,

Dance Researcher and dance scholar at University of Roehampton, London, Abu Nyeem, Hossain Mahabub and Ariful Islam Arnab, are the contemporary dance teachers from Bangladesh for the course.  
 "We feel confident that this imitative will be an excellent dance course," says Abu Nyeem, Director of Nyeem Khan Dance Company. "We look forward to a positive response from everyone."

PHOTO: COURTESY



PHOTO: KAZI SALAHUDDIN RAZU

### Combating violence against women through art



**SHABABA IQBAL**  
 Humour and satire have great potential to bring visibility to and foster critical thinking on different social issues. In this regard, cartoons are an important element in contemporary social activism and a communication tool that can spread key messages across. We have seen artists use cartoons as an instrument for revealing injustice, discrimination, violence and suffering in different times for different reasons - starting from Picasso in the 1900s in Europe to Kais Al-Hilali in the 2000s in Africa. Even in Bangladesh, cartoons have always been a powerful tool to reach out to civilians and gain their support during socio-political movements, be it the democratic movement in the 1990s or the recent student protests for road safety.  
 Keeping that in mind, ActionAid Bangladesh (AAB), in collaboration with *Unmad*, has organised a cartoon exhibition

titled, *FemiToon*, at Drik Gallery. The goal of the event is to connect young people with the issue of violence against women and girls through visual representation.  
 The exhibition showcases artworks of young cartoonists from all over Bangladesh that speak about the frustration regarding the current state of violence against women. The cartoons in the exhibition focus on different types of violence against women, including sexual and reproductive rights violation, child marriage, dowry, rape, unpaid care work, acid attacks and a plethora of others. The cartoons will further be exhibited beyond the capital, in Cox's Bazar and AAB's Local Rights Programs areas all over Bangladesh. AAB believes that this initiative will work as a stepping stone to start a dialogue on ending violence against women and will continue to speak to the audience of this generation to the next. The exhibition, which took off on November 26, concludes today.



A grand event on November 26 marked the official launch of L'Oréal Paris in Bangladesh. The wide range of authentic products were made available on Shajgoj, an online community platform for beauty enthusiasts. The event was graced by the presence of celebrities like Masuma Rahman Nabila, Ridy Sheikh, Jon Kabir and others. The fashion show and dance performance made it an entertaining evening for the audience.  
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