

<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: Dwpj 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>Drummers' Union</b>                  Title: Bangladesh Drum Day                  Venue: Russian Cultural Center                  Date: December 7                  Time: 3:30 pm - 10:30 pm</p>
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# Reaching a global audience with the music of the roots



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

**AFSANA AZIZ NITOL**

Among the many musicians that enthralled the audience of Dhaka International Folk Fest 2018, Labik Kamal Gaurob stood out with his sheer talent and majestic voice. He made his presence felt as a guest artiste, performing with Shayan Chowdhury Arnob.

His remarkable performance in Dhaka International Folk Fest 2018 helped him receive new opportunities to showcase Bangladeshi music on international platforms. Gaurob is already a well-known name in the industry, having performed in international music festivals around the world including World of Music, Arts and Dance Festival (WOMAD), which is one of the largest international music festivals, Songlines Encounter Festival, BBC Festivals and many more.

The musician's work is influenced by the philosophy of Fakir Lalon Shai. To him, there is unfathomable depth in the philosophy of the works of Bauls and Fakirs of our country, which is why back in the late 90s, he went to Kushtia, the unofficial home of Baul music. "My enthusiasm about the philosophy of Fakir Lalon Shai led me to the roots for a better understanding," says Gaurob. "For ten years, I have roamed around different places of Bangladesh, and had the opportunity to attend Sadhusangas to learn about not just the music, but the philosophy of around 150 years. One needs to be in the company of the Bauls and Fakirs to comprehend their lifestyle."

The singer, songwriter and founder of the fusion band Ajob aspires to spread the music of our roots worldwide. "We hope to be musically strong enough to represent ourselves and secure a strong position in the world music scene," adds Gaurob. "A lot of African and Cuban bands have taken themselves to a position where people from all over the country buy their music and listen to them, even if they do not understand the language. I hope that we, as Bangladeshis, can do the same."

Gaurob added that Dhaka International Folk Fest is a great platform, where Bangladeshi musicians showcase themselves alongside the best minds in the folk music industry. The artiste mentioned that he is thankful to Dhaka International Folk Fest 2018. "I was invited to perform in Ranthambore Folk Festival, and Dhaka International Folk Fest 2018 was one of the reference points for them to invite me," he says. "We came out as one of the best acts in a festival among 30 bands. It was a great achievement for us to play in Rajasthan and get a great response as well."

2019 is expected to be an eventful one for Labik Kamal Gaurob and his band, as they gear up to release many upcoming hits.



PHOTO: SOHEL ARMAN'S FACEBOOK PROFILE

## AMJAD HOSSAIN taken to Bangkok for further treatment

**ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT**

Renowned director Amjad Hossain has been taken to Bangkok on Tuesday, on an air ambulance for further treatment following his recent brain hemorrhage. Accompanying him are his two sons: Shazzad Hossain Dodul and Sohel Arman. "Please pray for my father, so that he can come back to the country fully recovered," said Shazzad Hossain Dodul in a conversation with *The Daily Star*. He is admitted in Bumrungrad International Hospital in Bangkok.

The Prime Minister had earlier stood beside the veteran director, who had made classics such as *Golapi Ekhon Train e*, *Bhaat De* and *Noyon Moni*. His sons expressed gratitude to her for bearing the expenses of the treatment.

## Sohana Saba in 'Modhur Canteen'

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Prominent actor **Sohana Saba** is currently preparing for the film, 'Modhur Canteen'. She is expected to start shooting in December.

Directed by Sayedur Rahman, the film revolves around Madhur Canteen, which played a pivotal role in the Bangladesh Liberation Movement. It was the focal point for the start of various political movements in the country and also played a significant part in the Language Movements of 1948 and 1952, the movement of Dhaka University employees in 1949, the student's revolt against the laws of the university, and the 1969 mass uprising in the then East Pakistan. During these critical political moments, Madhur Canteen was a social epicentre frequented by student leaders and activists. The Pakistani army targeted Madhur Canteen on March 25 1971, with the beginning of operation Searchlight. The film will be set from 1965 to 1971.

Saba will be essaying the role of a student of University of Dhaka, who faces injustice in the hands of the Pakistani army. "I am pleased to be a part of a film like *Modhur Canteen*, a name all Bangladeshis hold close to their hearts," says Saba. Omar Sani will play the role of Modhustan Dey, the founder of Madhur Canteen who was killed on March 26, 1971. The film will be shot in the capital city, primarily at the University of Dhaka campus.

Among other things, Saba will also be seen in the Tollywood film, *Epar Opar* in the near future.



PHOTO: SHAHREAR KABIR HEEMEL

## Honouring Rabindranath Tagore



A two-day Rabindra Utshob was recently held at the National Museum in the capital. At the programme, Rabindra Sangeet singer Fahmida Khatun received an award.

National Professor Annisuzzaman inaugurated the programme, while Prime Minister's International Affairs Adviser, Dr Gowher Rizvi, was scheduled as the chief guest of the ceremony.

Moreover, with Rabindra Academy President Azizur Rahaman Aziz as the chair of the programme, the opening ceremony was addressed by DU Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Muhammad Samad as the special guest. On the second day of the programme, DU Vice-Chancellor, Md Akhtaruzzaman, was the chief guest.

The programme featured several Rabindranath-related seminars, discussions, songs, dances and cultural performances.

Tagore experts from Bangladesh and India attended the programme.

PHOTO: COURTESY

Source: Bangladesh National Museum

## 'SpongeBob Square Pants' creator passes away



PHOTO: REUTERS

**ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK**

*SpongeBob SquarePants* creator Stephen Hillenburg, who brought the zany cartoon marine underworld of Bikini Bottom to television, the movies and the stage, has died at the age of 57. Hillenburg had said last year that he was suffering from the neurodegenerative disease ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig's disease.

Hillenburg was a marine biology teacher in Southern California when he started creating sea creatures as teaching tools.

The first episode of *SpongeBob SquarePants*, featuring the cheerful yellow sea-sponge, who lived in an underwater pineapple, and his friends Mr Krabs, Larry the Lobster, Patrick, and their Krusty Krab restaurant hangout, aired on American television in May 1999.

The series went on to win multiple awards, produced a series of spin-off books, two Hollywood movies and a Broadway musical. The television series has aired in more than 200 nations and has been translated into more than 60 languages.



**TV WATCH** Tele-fiction 'Durotter Naam Obhiman' will be broadcast on Gazi TV at 7:45 pm today. Directed by Dipu Hazra, it features Sabila Nur and Manoj Pramanik in the lead roles.