

# "I will never work in a film unless I like the script"

Aparna Ghose

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Aparna Ghose came, saw and conquered with her talent and charm in the television industry. Her work as a lead in the Liberation War based *Bhuban Majhi* was also praised heavily by the audience. At the moment, the diva is as busy as ever with various projects, the details of which she discusses with *The Daily Star*.

**Tell us about the projects you're currently working in.**

Since this is December, the month of victory, I am doing two tele-fictions based on the Liberation War. However, the two air on BTV and a private television channel respectively, and will have completely different kinds of stories.

**Does it feel any different when you're in a project based on the Liberation War?**

Honestly, it is an amazing feeling, that I can't quite articulate. These are the times that I can profoundly feel the love for my country, and I wish that I could work in more projects as such. I cherish these times.

**What about your regular television serials?**

I am working in regular dramas titled *Pagla Hawa* and *Akash Megh Nei*, both of which are being aired on BanglaVision. The response that I am getting for them is quite flattering as well.

**'Bhuban Majhi' still screens in theatres every December.**

**How do you feel about that?**

*Bhuban Majhi* is a film that I am extremely proud of. I was praised heavily for my role there, and the film garnered a lot of acclaim in international film festivals as well. I am still spellbound, whenever I watch the film.

**Why don't we see you in films more often?**

I just have one requirement: the script has to be good. I will never work in a film unless I like the script. A lot of projects are coming my way, but I will only sign if I feel like the script is up to the mark.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

## WHAT'S ON

**Musical Evening**  
 Title: Jatra Biroti Folk Nights  
 Presents: 'Gunjor Ali'  
 Venue: Jatra Biroti, Banani  
 Date: December 21  
 Time: 7 pm - 10 pm  
 Entry: BDT 300

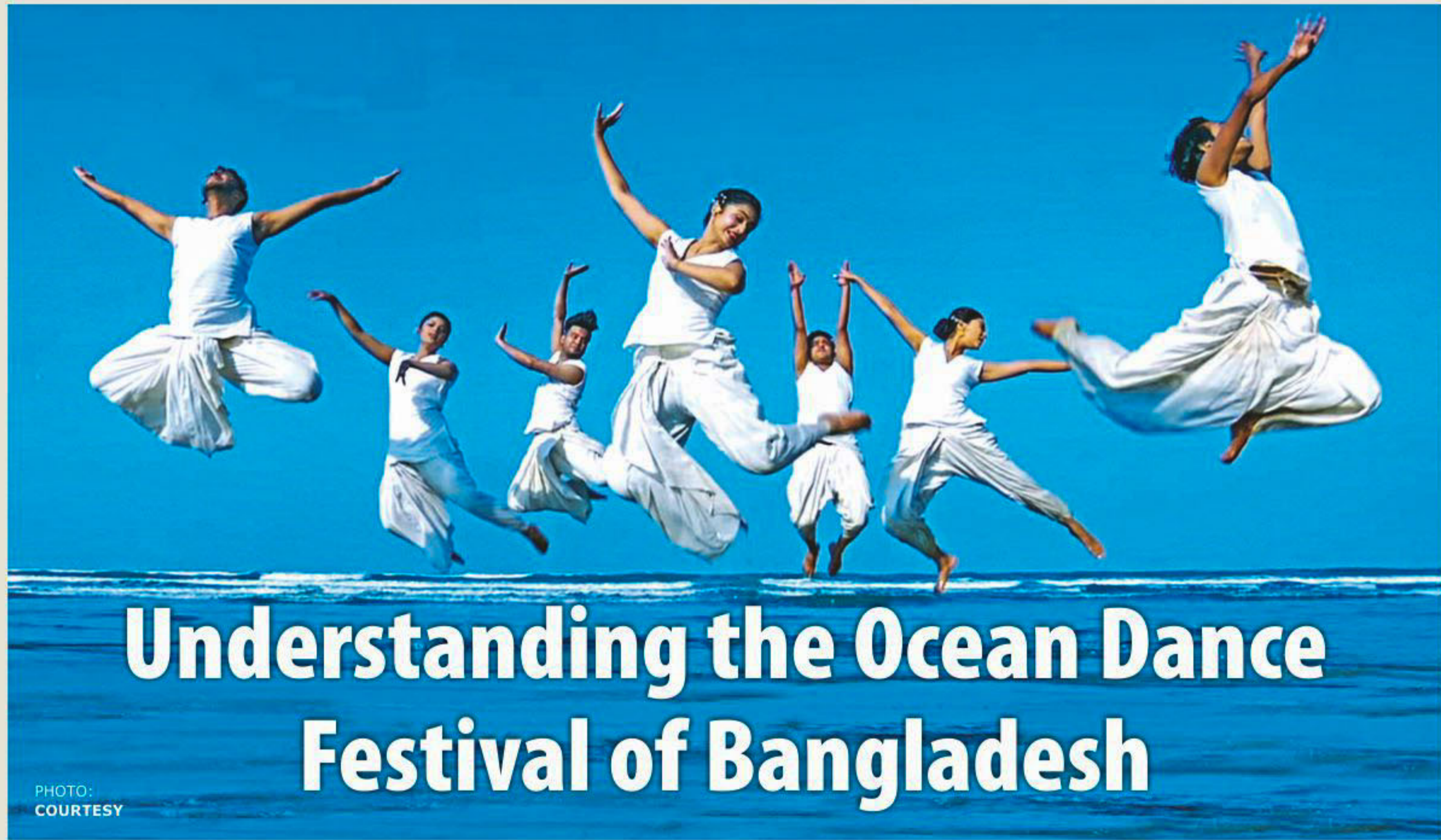
**Int'l Craft Exhibition & Seminar**  
 Organisers: FFA, DU, Tsinghua University, Shanghai Art & Design Academy, BSA & Bengal Foundation  
 Venue: National Art Gallery # 3, BSA  
 Date: Dec 8-15; Time: 10 am - 8 pm

**Group Art Exhibition**  
 Title: Winning With Art  
 Venue: Bay's Galleria, Gulshan 1  
 Date: Dec 1 - Dec 31  
 Time: 10 am - 6 pm

**Photography Exhibition**  
 Title: American Landscape - A  
 Photography Exhibition by Shibly Shiraj  
 Venue: EMK Center  
 Date: December 8 - December 20  
 Time: 9:30 am - 8 pm

**Dance Performance**  
 Title: Dohon  
 Venue: EMK Center, Dhanmondi  
 Date: December 13  
 Time: 7 pm

**Bangladesh Short & Documentary Film Fest**  
 Organiser: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy  
 Venue: National Art Gallery Auditorium, BSA



## Understanding the Ocean Dance Festival of Bangladesh

AFSANA AZIZ NITOL

Nrityajog - a Bangladesh chapter of World Dance Alliance - Asia Pacific, will be organising Ocean Dance Festival of Bangladesh on November 22-26, 2019 in Cox's Bazar. Dancers from all over the world are going to participate in the festival. A prodigious festival such as this requires a lot of preparations, which have already begun.

Yesterday, the organisers held a discussion on Ocean Dance Festival of Bangladesh, where they explained the procedures of proposal submission, registration, the theme of the festival, etc. The discussion, moderated by dancers Arthy Ahmed and Maria Farih Upama, took place in

Munmun's Kitchen.

The panelists included prominent and promising dancers, including the likes of Laila Hasan, Anisul Islam Hero, Lubna Marium, Tamanna Rahman, Tabassum Ahmed, Warda Rihab, Snata Shahrin, Rachel Priyanka Parris, Tahnun Ahmedy and Abu Nayeem. Contemporary dance performances will be featured at the event. For the time being, the performances are limited to group dance pieces only. World Dance Alliance utilises the art of dance to exchange ideas between different cultures and be more politically aware about the current world. Hence, contemporary dance form is chosen, through which dancers will have more

scope to be creative and produce their own pieces. Even the music has to be authentic, composed by the performers themselves.

Along with dance performances, there will be scholarly paper presentation, panel discussion, workshops and other arrangements. The dancers, both international and national, and visitors will also have the opportunity to enjoy the performances in the longest sea beach in the world.

The deadline of submission for dancers, researchers and participants is February, 25, 2019. The details of the event will be found at the official website: [www.oceandancefestival.com](http://www.oceandancefestival.com). The audience can also drop in their inquiries here at the website.

## Farhana Afroz Bappy's 'Deyal' at Jatra Biroti

Farhana Afroz Bappy is currently having a solo painting exhibition at Jatra Biroti, titled 'Deyal'. Mostly comprised of large abstract acrylic paintings, the exhibition showcases a significant body of work by the artist who has a degree in Printmaking from Charukola Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka.



PHOTO: KAZI SALAHUDDIN RAZU

MADIHA ATHAR KHAN

A gap of about two decades emerged during which life got in the way and she ended up not drawing or painting. Initially, she worked as a teacher and then as a fashion designer for many years. It has only been the last two or three years since when she has regularly taken to the paints and canvas all over again.

Throughout these years, she has gone through many changes in her style and technique and also in her thought patterns and philosophy, much of which is reflected in the current exhibition. *Deyal*, which means wall, is often interpreted as a barrier to the outside. However, Farhana mentions that it is not without walls that a home can be built. It is in this light, that Farhana views her current body of work: an accumulation of her life and experiences throughout the years that she did not paint, but grew as a human being, became a wife and then a mother to two children.

Sixteen of her exhibited paintings are in the series titled, *Impression*. She later followed up the series with another one called, *Jolchhaya* (hydraulic), that includes paintings in a smaller size, also in acrylic. Both of these exhibited series have a clear mark of Farhana's days in fashion design. The works have made use of the blocks used in block printing and a tie dyed effect, known as batik.

Most of the pieces are monochromatic, in primary reds, yellows and blues as well as warm brown hues, echoing the vegetable dyed fabric that is native to our culture. Farhana shows her strength in her use of colour with variations added to the saturation levels in her paintings. She makes vibrant hues and richness coexist with subtlety in the same artwork. Within the same medium of acrylic, she manages to create wash like impressions as well as make use of texture to make the paint stand out of the canvas in 3D effect. We see use of repeating patterns, florals and abstract brushstrokes and mark making, which surely go back to Farhana's days of training as a printmaker. The exhibition will run till December 15.



An adaptation of the Eugene O' Neill classic 'The Emperor Jones', titled 'Samrat Jones' was staged at the Zahir Raihan Milonayaton at Jahangirnagar University on December 3. It was adapted and directed by Mahibur Rouf Shaibal.

PHOTO: COURTESY



Afif Sarker (left) won the drumming competition in Bangladesh's first 'Drum Day' on December 7. The event, which was sponsored by National Music House and organised by Stargazer, showcased 20-minute performances from nine of the best drummers in Bangladesh.

PHOTO: COURTESY