



ZAHANGIR ALOM

PHOTO: COLLECTED

Pandit Arun Bhaduri, one of the maestros of Indian classical musc, unfortunately passed away in a hospital in Kolkata on December 17 at the age of 75. With his demise, an era of North Indian Classical Music came to an end. I had the fortune of witnessing his glorious performance live, when he came to Bangladesh.

It was a cool February evening of 2013, when I met the senior ITC-SRA (Indian Tobacco Company-Sangeet Research Academy) Guru Pandit Arun Bhaduri for the second time, who, along with renowned Indian and Bangladeshi singers, performed in the nine-day Bangla Gaaner Utshab, organised by Bengal Foundation in association with ITC-SRA in Kolkata. This was, for the first time in history, the stalwarts of Indian Classical Music performed Bangla songs at the ITC-SRA premises. He first came to Dhaka in July, 2012 to perform in two consecutive programmes -- one held at the District Shilpakala Academy in Mymensingh and another took place at the

main auditorium of Bangladesh National Museum. Bengal Foundation hosted both the programmes titled Mayar Madhuri to promote classical music in Bangladesh. With a smile, the maestro mentioned that he had been hearing the triumph of *malhar* for a long time and renamed the soiree as *Malhar Festival*. He also performed a *khayal* based on *Raga Mian Ki Malhar* elaborating a meditative *vilambit bandish* and the beauty of monsoon in *drut bandish*. An artiste with great depth and vision, Pandit Arun Bhaduri was gifted with a deep and sonorous voice, a brilliant range and a rare fluency. Born in Murshidabad, West Bengal, on October 7, 1943, he was initially tutored by

Mohammed A Daud. He later acquired a wealth of learning from Mohammed Sagiruddin Khan on the finer points, nuances and embellishments of Hindustani Classical Music. His talent won him a place at the ITC-SRA as a scholar musician. At ITC-SRA, Arun Bhaduri received training from the Late Ustad Ishtiaq Hussain Khan from the Rampur-Sahaswan Gharana. Padmashree Pandit Jnan Prakash Ghosh subsequently taught him both classical and semi-classical music, and made him aware of the nuances in lyrics. In his pursuit of musical excellence, he had also been greatly influenced by Ustad Ameer Khan and had imbibed the late Ustad's aesthetic qualities.

Arun Bhaduri had beautifully combined all the styles to create an inimitable style of his own. He also rendered Bengali songs and Bhajans with equal ease. As a top grade radio and television artiste, he had made his mark in the world of music with his effective blending of imagination and organised demonstration. He received many prestigious awards including Banga Bibhushan Samman in 2014. Pandit Arun Bhaduri's legacy will remain alive and be carried forward through his disciples from all over India and abroad. Some of his notable disciples are Koushik Bhattacharjee, Kasturi Bandopadhyay, Pandit Tushar Dutta (Bangladeshi born-Indian), Indrani Mukherjee and Priyanka

TV WATCH



Tele-fiction 'Uralponkhi', directed by Mahedi Hasan Jony, will be aired on SA TV at 9 pm today.



Regular tele-fiction, 'The Public' will be aired on Deepto TV at 6:30 pm. It is directed by Jewel Mahmud, and features Abul Hayat, Shahiduzzaman Selim, Badhon, Rawnak Hasan, Jovan and others.

'Biallisher Biplob' staged at BSA



PHOTO: KAZI SALAHUDDIN RAZU

PRIYANKA CHOWDHURY

To revive and retain the art form of Jatrपाला, the central drama section on Bangladesh, Udichi Shilpa Goshthi performed *Biallisher Biplob* at the Experimental Hall of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy on December 19. Written by Krishna Bhattacharya and directed by Vittor Daniyel, the story narrates the Swadeshi movement of the British India during 1942. The powerful dialogues and live music of the drama created a surreal atmosphere within the experimental hall. Maintaining the jatra form to the tee, it was a sweet opportunity for the urbanites to get a taste of Jatrपाला. Bangladesh Udichi Shilpigoshthi has always been the frontrunner in the cultural field who tirelessly work towards a just and free society. Jatrपाला has always been a source of entertainment and an integral part of the culture of Bangladesh. The literal meaning of 'Jatra' is 'Journey' which is a loud and colourful. 'Pala' is a long musical narrative that describes the given text. Traditionally performed on open-air stages, the folk drama is a culmination of acting, songs, music, dance, and is characterised by stylised dialogue delivery and exaggerated gestures and orations.

1 MINUTE PLEASE Rubayat Rehman

SADI MOHAMMAD SHAHNEWAZ

Few young artistes are as versatile as Rubayat Rehman, who is proficient in singing, playing various musical instruments and painting. She first came into the fold with Bangladeshi Idol, where she gained recognition as a promising vocalist. A self proclaimed 'old soul', she sits with The Daily Star for a cup of coffee and a round of One Minute Please!

Tell us your worst trait as a musician.
I am extremely lazy. I sometimes hate myself for this!

If you were to pick one instrument to play for a lifetime, which would it be?
A guitar for sure. It's just very versatile as an instrument, and can be played in so many different ways.

What is your biggest musical achievement until now?
I played as a guest vocalist and instrumentalist for renowned band Joler Gaan, and that was a tremendous achievement. I played the autoharp and pianica.

Something that always inspires you?
I consider myself to be a lover of nature. I love animals and plants a lot. Their innocence inspires me.

Where do you want to end up in life?
I want to travel around the world, living off the grid in a small house surrounded by nature, growing my own vegetables.



PHOTO: COURTESY

WHAT'S ON

Award Winners' Art Exhibition
Organiser: FFA, DU
Venue: Zainul Gallery, FFA, DU
Date: Dec 23-29
Time: 11 am - 8 pm

Winter Festival
Title: Him Utsab
Venue: Jahangirnagar University
Date: January 17 - January 19
Time : 10 am

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

Musical Evening
Title: Cha Chakra In Poush
Venue: Café Shanchayita, Banani
Date: December 22
Time: 5:30 pm - 9:30 pm
Contact: +880 1672-704823, +880 1824-850938

Theatre
Title: Circus Circus
Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Date: December 22
Time: 7 pm - 9:20 pm

Musical evening
Title: Jatra Biroti Folk nights presents 'Gunjor Ali'
Venue: Jatra Biroti, Banani, Dhaka
Date: Today
Time: 7 pm - 10 pm