

WHAT'S ON



Film Screening
Title: DIFF Show by Rainbow Film Society – Ek Je Chilo Raja
Venue: Alliance Française de Dhaka, Dhanmondi
Date: Today
Time: 4 pm – 7 pm



Winter Festival
Title: Him Utshab
Venue: Jahangirnagar University
Date: January 17 – 19
Time: 10 am



Musical Evening
Title: Sovvota And The Band Live At Ajo Idea Space
Venue: Ajo Idea Space, Uttara
Date: January 19
Time: 7:30 pm – 9 pm



Musical Evening
Title: Te Re Ke Te – A tabla solo recital by Mir Naqibul Islam
Venue: EMK Center, Dhanmondi
Date: Today
Time: 7 pm
Tickets: BDT 100



Bulbul Chowdhury Birth Centenary
Organisers: BSA & BNSS
Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Yearlong Celebration currently



Hridi Huq



Bipasha Hayat



Sweety



Aupee Karim

Actors turned anchors

Popular actors becoming anchors is not an unconventional occurrence in the showbiz industry. In fact, a multitude of film, television and even theatre stars have turned hosts at the peak of their careers. Let us take a look at some actors who are recognised for their stint in anchoring.

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Although there are many actors who turned television hosts, Aupee Karim is certainly one of the biggest names to make her entry into the field. She hosted *Amar Ami*, a talk show which highlights the achievements of celebrities and gives the audience an insight into the stars' personal lives as well.



Swagata

Karim is known for her remarkable performances not just on television, but also on the silver screen and theatre. Rafiath Rashid Mithila, amidst a very successful acting career, is currently hosting *Amar Ami*.

Another prominent actor who has served as a television show host is Bipasha Hayat. Her talents in acting and scriptwriting have earned her a place in the top ranks of the



Nawsheen

industry over the years. Bipasha was the anchor of *Bipashar Otithi*. She was remarkable on the show. In addition, television and film actor Tania Ahmed anchored a game show and Tanvin Sweety, who has won the hearts of many with her impeccable performances on television and in theatre, took on the role of a host with the show, *Eki Briste*.

The entries of these artistes into the field of

hosting encouraged many other actors to follow their footsteps. Hridi Huq, known for her acting skills on the stage and television, hosted the show, *Media Bhubon*. In addition, popular star Nawsheen has acted in a number of hit tele-fictions and anchored many shows, including *Jege Achiho Ki?* and *Amar Ami*. She has also hosted numerous stage shows and a cooking-based show.

On the other hand, Swagata, who became a well-established television actor ever since she came into the limelight with the 'You Got The Look' pageant, has been hosting the show, *Cinebeat Shadakalo*, for a long time. The show revolves around cinema and music. Other popular actors who have given hosting a try include Nova, Sushama Sarkar, Quazi Nawshaba Ahmed and Zakia Bari Mamo. Renowned theatre and television personality, Tania Hossain, is also a well-known host.

Further to this, Rabindra Sangeet exponent Rezwana Choudhury Bannya, anchors the morning show, *Ekkatorer Shokaal*, while prominent actors Subarna Mostafa and Shanta Islam have also been spectacular television hosts.

Alongside acting, the late Tazin Ahmed was known for hosting the shows, *Shandhikhone*, *Tiffinier Phaanke* and *O Bondhu Amar*.

PHOTO: STAR



Nawshaba

Aretha Franklin biopic moves forward

In a recent announcement, American media company Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios Inc (MGM) confirmed that stage director Liesel Tommy will helm the upcoming Aretha Franklin biopic, *Respect*. Earlier, she was nominated for a Tony Award for directing *Eclipsed*, the 2016 Broadway production. Jennifer Hudson, who is both an Academy Award-winning actor and a Grammy Award-winning recording artist, will play the role

of the late Queen of Soul in the film. *Respect* will be scripted by renowned scriptwriter Callie Khouri, the writer of *Thelma & Louise*, which won an Academy Award for Best Original Screenplay. The film will focus on Aretha Franklin's childhood days as a singer to becoming the musical legend she is considered today.

SOURCE: AP



Little puppeteer Tota performs his puppet show, 'Abol Tabol', in Sylhet city. Tota usually performs on Thursdays and Fridays in the city, backed by several organisations.

PHOTO: STAR

Where classical meets contemporary

SHABABA IQBAL

Sabbir Ahmed Khan Biju began dancing in 1989. An ardent fan of Michael Jackson, Biju was always drawn to breakdance. But he realised that to master any form of dance, he needs to start with classical first. Big names like Shibli Mohammad and Ashim Bandhu Bhattacharya (India) are Biju's Kathak teachers. He further went to Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance in London, UK, to be trained in contemporary dance.

Currently, Biju is a choreographer and instructor at Shadhona, a dance company popular for promoting traditional dance forms. He is known for blending the genres of classical and contemporary. "Classical and contemporary are both really communicative forms of dance," says Biju. "It takes years of rigorous training to learn any form of classical dance, but I think young dancers can easily pick up contemporary. Both these forms make a beautiful combination." When he was in the UK, Biju built an interest in the field of sound engineering and beat production because he wanted to learn about music and create his own musical pieces for his performances. With his knowledge of sound engineering and beat production, Biju also works as a disk jockey from time to time.

He performed at the opening ceremony of the Bangladesh Navy Training Complex, with around 500 cadets in the presence of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina last year and also at the Khajuraho Dance Festival in 2017, organised by the Madhya Pradesh Kala Parishad. The festival is a week-long event of classical dances held against the spectacular backdrop of the Khajuraho temples. Some other notable programmes Biju performed at include the Bangabandhu Gold Cup and the International Weavers Festival in 2018.

Biju is also remarkably skilled in Bangladesh's traditional lathi khela. He feels the responsibility of communicating crucial messages and portraying a range of emotions through his dance. As a dancer, he went to the International Visitor Leadership Program in the USA, in which current and emerging leaders in different fields, experience the country firsthand and cultivate relationships with their American counterparts. In the near future, Biju hopes to open his own institution for students of dance, beat production, sound, light and costume design among other things.



PHOTO: COURTESY