



Spring Festival
Title: Poush-Faguner Mela
Venue: Drik Gallery, Dhanmondi
Date: January 31 – February 2
Time: 3 pm – 8 pm



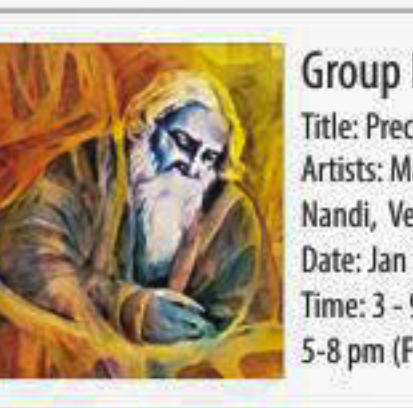
Live Art Show
Title: Dhaka Live Art Biennale
Venue: University of Dhaka
Date: Jan 21 – Feb 14
Time: 10 am – 8 pm



Exhibition
Title: LAL - An Ode to the Moon & Menstrual Cycle
Venue: Jatra Biroti, Banani
Date: February 19 - 23
Details: www.facebook.com/jatrabirotiworld



Musical evening
Title: Jazz Planet 2.0
Venue: Gulshan North Club
Date: February 1
Time: 7 pm
Tickets: BDT 300



Group Painting Exhibition
Title: Preceptor-Disciple: Disciple-Preceptor
Artists: Malay Bala, Zahangir Alom & Amit Nandi, Venue: La Galerie, AFD
Date: Jan 18 - Feb 1
Time: 3 - 9 pm (Mon-Thurs) & 9 am-12 noon & 5-8 pm (Fri-Sat)



Khurshid Alam.

PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

STAR MELODIES

Presenting songs woven with literary metaphors and imagery of nature

ZAHANGIR ALOM

The elements and connotations of nature are recurrent themes in Bangla songs. Our poets and lyricists, with their insightful contemplations, soulfully composed many songs using literary similes and metaphors intertwined with the imagery of nature.

The silence of starry nights, graceful moonbeams, fantasies of the full moon, rippling rivers, choppy seas, beauty and aroma of flowers, mystique romance of the woods and idyllic imagery of the countryside are some of the many themes that have been metaphorically used in Bangla songs.

Star Melodies, an initiative of The Daily Star to promote Bangla music, held a special musical

programme that presented nature as literary metaphors used in Bangla songs yesterday at The Daily Star - Bengal Arts Precinct of The Daily Star Centre. The programme was titled, *Prakriti-Upomaye Gaantha Bangla Gaan*. Sadya Afreen Mallick, Chief, Culture Initiatives, The Daily Star, hosted the programme elaborating on the excellence of Bangla songs and their timeless appeal. She also shared different aspects of the featured songs and their composers with allusions and references.

Renowned singers Khurshid Alam, Badrunnesa Dalia, Mamun Zahid and Julie Sharmilee performed solo songs at the programme. Besides, students of BAF Shaheen College, Dhaka, presented chorus songs.

The programme started off with the observance of a one-minute silence in memory of the recently deceased music director Ahmed Imtiaz Bulbul, filmmaker Amzad Hossain, musical icon Ayub Bachchu, artist Syed Jahangir and photographer Anwar Hossain. The organisers, featured artistes and audience also prayed for the speedy recovery of music director and composer Alauddin Ali, who was hospitalised recently.

The singers performed patriotic songs, Rabindra Sangeet, Nazrul Sangeet, film songs and several golden oldies at the event. Students of BAF Shaheen College, Dhaka, started the programme with excellent performances of songs like *Amar Desh-er Matir Gondhe*, *Akashbhora Surja-Tara*,

Akashy Helan Diye and *Purba Didontey Surja Uthechhe*. Shahnaaz Sharfuddin, a lecturer of BAF Shaheen College, spoke about the cultural and co-curricular activities of the institution afterwards.

Julie Sharmilee beautifully rendered songs including *Chand Herichhe*, *Nishi Raat* and *Ami Sagorer Neel* while Mamun Zahid sang *Roopsagorey Doob Diyechhi*, *Amar E Duti Chokh* and *E Nodi Emon Nodi* nicely. Badrunnesa Dalia's repertoire included *Akashy Aaj Rong-er Khela*, *Nodir Jemon Jhorna Achhey* and *Akasher Oi Mitimiti Tarar Sathay*. Khurshid Alam masterfully wrapped up the soiree with *Je Sagor Dekhe Tripto Duchokh*, *Bondi Pakhir Moto* and *Padma Meghna Surma Jamuna*.



(From left) Badrunnesa Dalia, Mamun Zahid and Julie Sharmilee.



Students of BAF Shaheen College, Dhaka.

Bhabna's 'Taara' at Ekushey Boi Mela

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Popular actor Ashna Habib Bhabna will be launching her second novel, *Taara*, at the forthcoming Ekushey Boi Mela. The story of the novel revolves around a woman named Taara and the many ups and downs of her life.

Tamralipi is the publisher and Sabyasachi Hazra is the cover artist of the novel. An avid writer since childhood, Bhabna has always wanted to publish her own books. Her first novel, *Gulnehaa*, was released at the Boi Mela last year.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

'Konna Ar Amra' held at Shilpakala

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

A three-day group art exhibition titled, *Konna Ar Amra*, recently concluded at Gallery 2 of National Art Gallery, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy. The exhibition showcased diverse artworks on nature, landscapes, flying birds, swans playing in lakes, floral images, rural life, feminine grace, dancing figures, moonbeams, love and more. Facebook-based artist group Konnya, in association with Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, organised the exhibition.

A total of 24 female artists including Afroza Khondoker, Akhinur Rahman Jharna, Amina Akhter, Atiqun Nahar Joti, Fatema Begum Rina, Farhana Yesmin, Khurshida Akhter, Mahfuza Beauty, Nazma Mukta, Shahnaz Shahin, Shakila Chayan, Sultana Putul, Suravi Sobhana, Tania Bari Kanta and Umme Habiba Sumi displayed their artworks created on media such as acrylic, oil, watercolour and print.

Eminent artist Monirul Islam inaugurated the exhibition as the chief guest on January 25. Renowned artist Monsur ul Karim attended the opening ceremony as the special guest. Mohiuddin Ahmed, president of Chattagram Charushilpi Sangsad and renowned artists Abdul Mannan, Ahmed Newaz and Uttam Guha spoke at the event. Shakila Chayan, group admin of Konnya, presided over the programme.



'Monchhaya 50' by Shakila Chayan.

KALI O KALAM AWARDS FOUR YOUNG WORDSMITHS

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

The Kali O Kalam Torun Kobi O Lekhok Puroshkar for the year 2018 was conferred to four aspiring young writers and researchers for their achievement and pursuit of literary works.

This year, Nahida Nahid for her book titled, *Juthochari Aandharer Galpo*, and Harun Pasha for his book called, *Tista*, received awards in the fiction category while Shahadat Rumon for his book, *Humayun Ahmed-er Chalachchitra: Chirayoto Roshobodh*, bagged the award in the category of essay, research and play. On the other hand, Arafat Tanim was awarded for the book titled, *Ekattorer Ramzan: Gonohotya O Nirjaton*, in the category of liberation war-based research and essay.

The event, held yesterday at the main auditorium of Bangladesh National Museum, was organised by renowned literary magazine *Kali O Kalam*. Each of the winners received a crest, a cheque worth Tk 100,000 and a certificate.

National Professor Anisuzzaman, also the chairman of the editorial board of *Kali O Kalam*, presided over the programme where noted poet and researcher Professor Kaiser Haq and renowned litterateur and poet Anisul Hoque spoke as honourable and special guests respectively.

The award ceremony was followed by a sarod and poetry *jugalbandi*. Hassan Arif recited poems and Pandit Tejendra Narayan Majumdar played sarod at the event. *Kali O Kalam* has been distributing the prestigious awards since 2008.



PHOTO: COURTESY



PHOTO: COURTESY

Avash's new single out now

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

The video for the second single of the band, Avash, was released on their official YouTube channel recently. Avash is led by acclaimed musician Tanzir Tuhin, the former vocalist of the Bangladeshi rock band, Shironamhin. Titled *Avash*, the track is co-written by Mehedi Hasan and members of the band. Since its release, the video has garnered more than 80 thousand views on YouTube. Avash vocalist Tanzir Tuhin, lead guitarist Sumon Monjurul, drummer Rinku Islam bassist Raajue Sheikh and keyboardist Shawon Kaium are featured in

the newly released music video, which is scripted and directed by filmmaker Arifur Rahman under his production company, Goopy Bagha Productions Limited. The track is currently available on local music streaming platforms as well as iTunes, Google Play Music, Spotify, Saavn and many other international music streaming sites.

The international distributor of the track is the ME Label under the management of Mushroom Entertainment Inc.

Avash released their first single, *Manush-1*, back in August 2018, which received a widely positive response from the audience.