

WHAT'S ON

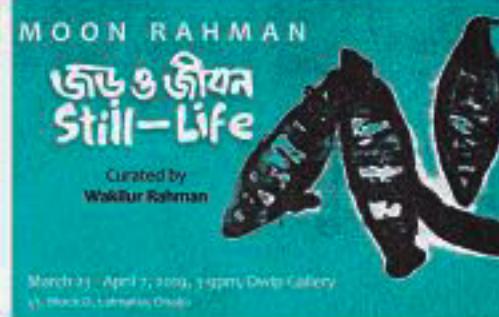
Group Art Exhibition
Title: Life 2019
Venue: Gallery Cosmos, New DOHS, Mohakhali
Date: March 26 – April 9
Time: 11 am – 8 pm



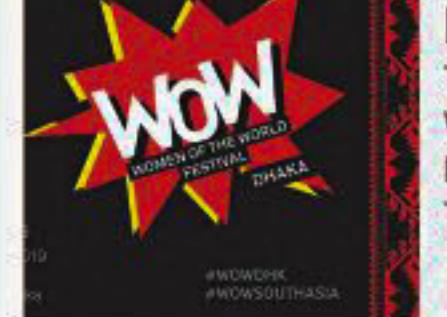
Art Exhibition
Title: The Work of Creation - Kazi Ghiyassuddin
Venue: Bengal Shilpajay, Dhanmondi
Date: April 5 – May 18
Time: 12 pm – 8 pm



Dance Drama
Title: Dance Drama MEERA
Venue: National Theater, BSA
Date: April 13
Time: 6 pm – 9 pm



Art Exhibition
Title: Still—Life: an art exhibition by Moon Rahman
Venue: Dwp Gallery, Lalmoni
Date: March 23 – April 7
Time: 3 pm – 9 pm



International Festival
Title: WOW Dhaka 2019
Venue: Bangla Academy
Date: April 5–6
Time: 3 pm – 8 pm



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

AN EXTRAVAGANZA OF ARTISTIC EXPRESSION

Art Festival 2019 Gazipur ends on a high note

ZAHANGIR ALOM, Writes from Gazipur

The four-day long art festival, from March 27 - 30, came to an end yesterday with the opening of the grand exhibition of artworks by both prominent and promising artists, on themes ranging from nature to urbanisation, contemporary to classical, festivity to celebration of life and culture.

Renowned Bangladeshi artists gathered at the unique event, amidst students of the Bhawal Mirzapur Haji Jamir Uddin School and College, which has created much buzz in the festival venue and surrounding community. The entire area was packed with locals on all four days. Apart from the artworks on display, handicrafts from all over the country were also

exhibited at the Folk Art and Craft Fair. The art camp created an opportunity for both school students and budding artists from all across Bangladesh. It was a once in a lifetime opportunity for the young ones to augment their vision by closely interacting with such acclaimed artists. The exchange was deemed mutual as several noted artists said they also learned plenty from their peers.

The students' artworks were reflective of the dark side of urbanisation in images of brickfields surrounding their schools, depictions of the deforestation that took place in the Sal forest in the area and the polluted black water in the river. Keeping with the festival's theme 'Beautiful Environment, Artistic Life', 15 contemporary artists also showcased

their concerns revolving around environmental issues through their installations and mixed media works.

All four evenings during the festival were graced with cultural programmes, which brought a breeze of relaxation after the tiring, day-long art camp sessions. Members of the Cultural and Programme Committee along with students serenaded the audience with a variety of music, dance, poetry and puppet shows.

Dr Md Abu Hena Mostafa Kamal, NDC, Secretary of Ministry of Cultural Affairs, graced the inaugural ceremony of the exhibition as chief guest. Khurshid Alam, Assistant Resident Representative, UNDP Bangladesh; Dilruba Haider, Programme Specialist, UN Women Bangladesh; Anisuzzaman

Chowdhury, Programme Manager, JICA Bangladesh; and, Begum Shamsunnahar, SP Gazipur was also present as special guests. The ceremony was chaired by Md Mohsin, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief. The convener, Professor Mohammad Eunus and the curator of the festival, Harun-ar-Rashid Tutul also spoke at the event.

In stark contrast to the city-based, gallery-oriented art practice, this festival stands out in many aspects including its ability of community engagement, decentralising and diffusing art, and creating a humane generation by exposing people to their own artistic spirit. The festival was supported by The Daily Star, Channel i, UNDP, UN WOMEN, JICA, Asrotex Group, Max Group and Berger.



'Nilronga Mon' will be broadcast on NTV today at 9:45 pm. The regular tele-fiction is directed by Chayanika Chowdhury, and stars F S Nayeem, Sadia Jahan Prova, Urmila Srabanti, Sonia Hossain and Tomalika Karmaker among others.

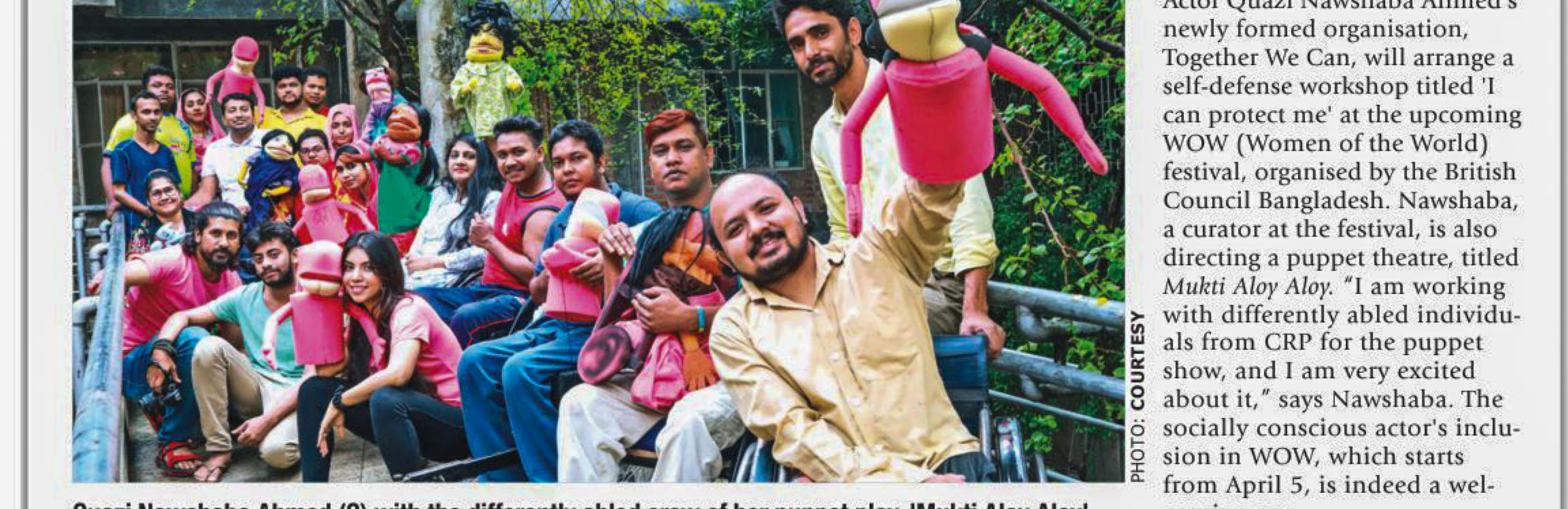
Krishna Tithi Khan
A versatile voice

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

With an upbringing in a musical family, Krishna Tithi's involvement with the art form began when she was three years old. She trained under the tutelage of her father, Tapash Kumar Khan, a renowned singer at Bangladesh Television and Bangladesh Betar. Tithi came under the limelight after securing a position amongst the top four contestants in Channel i's reality show, *Shera Kontho* in 2009. The following year, she emerged as the winner in another competition titled, *Sherader Moha Juddho* on Channel i. She continued to pursue her passion for music, performing and compet-

ing at various national and international programmes, garnering admiration.

Currently a resident of New York, USA, Tithi is not allowing the distance from Bangladesh to affect the devotion she nurtured at home for the art. Despite her challenging profession as a business analyst at a financial company, the singer continues to remain committed to her music. Since her school days, Tithi bagged several awards and earned much recognition for her musical aptitude. Later, she also received a Special Congressional Recognition from the United States House of Representatives for her outstanding and invaluable service to the community.



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Actor Quazi Nawshaba Ahmed's newly formed organisation, Together We Can, will arrange a self-defense workshop titled 'I can protect me' at the upcoming WOW (Women of the World) festival, organised by the British Council Bangladesh. Nawshaba, a curator at the festival, is also directing a puppet theatre, titled *Mukti Aloy Aloy*. "I am working with differently abled individuals from CRP for the puppet show, and I am very excited about it," says Nawshaba. The socially conscious actor's inclusion in WOW, which starts from April 5, is indeed a welcoming one.

Ranveer Singh's record label IncInk

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Bollywood superstar Ranveer Singh, in collaboration with music composer Navzar Erane, recently launched a brand new music record label, called IncInk.

The actor recently took to social media to announce the launch of his passion project, which has garnered much support from members of the Indian film fraternity. The first three artists being launched by the label are Kaam Bhaari, SlowCheeta and Spitfire. Ranveer's intention is to make this independent label inclusive and help "discover, nurture and promote exciting talents from across India" through the platform.



PHOTO: COLLECTED

A vision for the nation

With the slogan 'Drishti Jurey Desh', popular television channel BanglaVision started its journey on March 31, 2006. Today marks the channel's 13th anniversary, since its first telecast. On this occasion, The Daily Star caught up with the Programme Head of BanglaVision, Tarek Akhand.

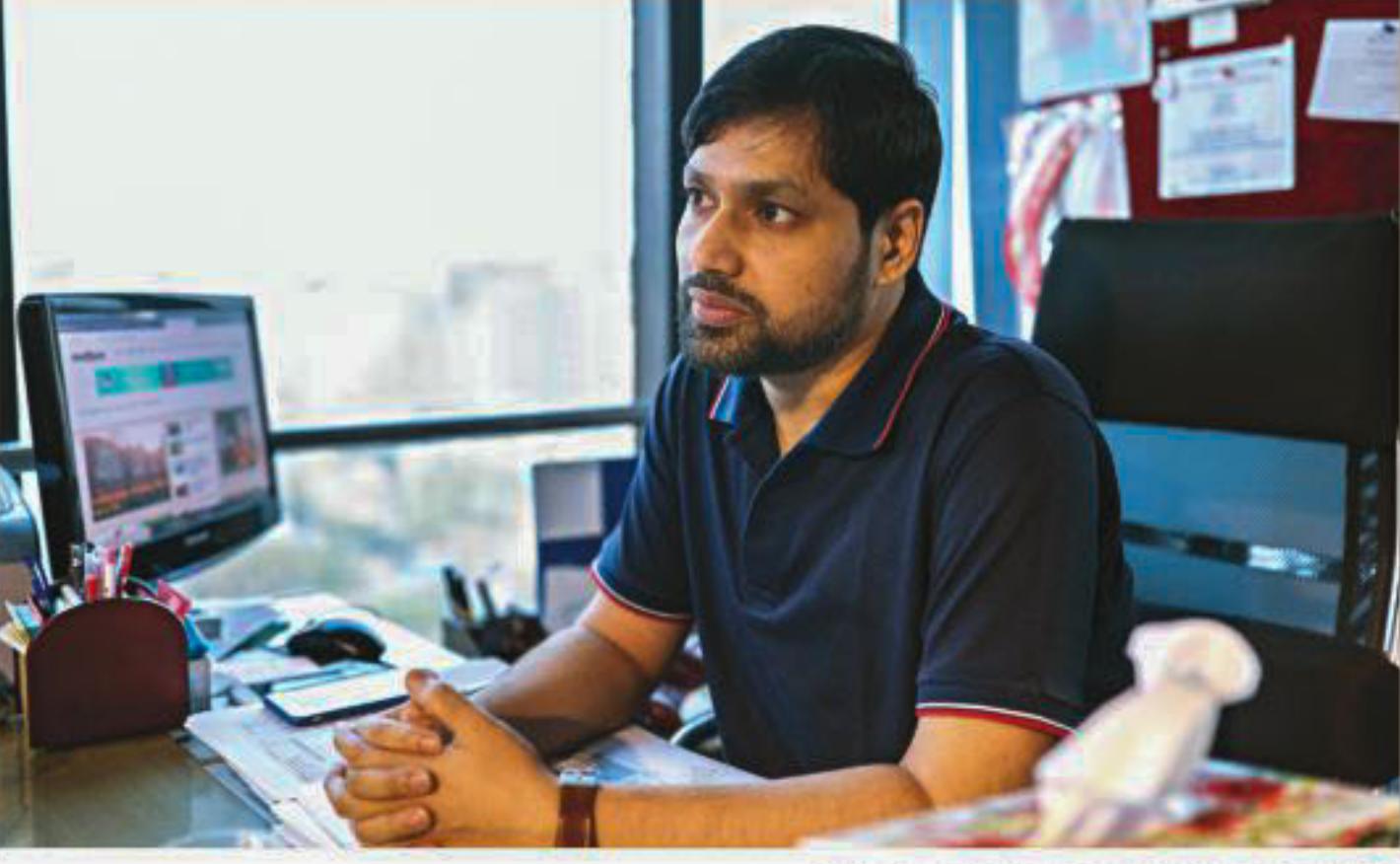


PHOTO: KAZI SALAHUDDIN RAZU

AFSANA AZIZ NITOL

Congratulations on coming a long way. What are your plans for today?

Thank you very much. We are going to celebrate the day with our staff, well-wishers, journalists, politicians and media personalities at our office. The celebration will be aired live on BanglaVision from 10 am to 6 pm. How long have you been serving the channel?

I have been with BanglaVision from the very beginning. I took responsibility as the Programme Head last year. Previously, I used to be the Programme Manager.

Tell us about BanglaVision's journey and its future goals.

If you notice our logo you will see the colours red and green, resembling the spirit of our nation. Since the beginning of our journey, we wanted to telecast authentic news and at the same time, entertain the people of our country. Our various shows, including celebrity talk show *Amar Ami*, TV serials *The Good The Bad and The Ugly*, directed by Animesh Aich, and *Khelowar*, directed by Masud Sezan, are well-received by the audience. Also, shows like *Arman Bhai* and *Sikandar Box* received immense love from viewers. For the last few years, we have been telecasting a live musical show by Momotaz Begum, on the occasion of *chaandraat*. We want to stay loyal to our fans and continue to entertain them in the future.

Any message for your audience?

It is challenging to thrive as a TV channel amidst numerous others in the market, along with other web series and digital platforms. However, with the love from our audience, it is possible to do so. We will keep producing good shows and we hope our audience will stay with us on this journey.