

Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Antobihin Poth by Parveen Zaman Shammu
Venue: Gallery Chitrak, Dhanmondi
Date: April 19 – 29
Time: 10 am – 8 pm



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



Group Art Exhibition
Title: Gharera Edition 0: Junkyard
Venue: Dwip Gallery, Lalmoni
Date: April 12 – 25
Time: 3 pm – 9 pm



Theatre
Title: DraupadiParampara
Venue: National Theatre Hall, BSA
Date: April 23
Time: 7 pm



Scrap Metal Sculptured Fountain Exhibition
Title: Duets in Metal and Water
Venue: Gulshan Society Lake Park
Date: Apr 20 – May 4
Time: 10 am – 7:30 pm



Singer Abu Bakr Siddique (C) performs with his group, Banglar Dugdugi.

STAR MELODIES

WELCOMING 1426 with Loko Sangeet

SHABABA IQBAL

Marking the Bengali New Year, *Star Melodies*, an initiative of *The Daily Star* promoting Bangla music, arranged a musical evening titled, *Loko Gaaner Shurey Borshoboron*, at the Daily Star Centre yesterday. Hosted by Sadya Afreen Mallick, Chief, Culture Initiatives, *The Daily Star*, the heartwarming melodic programme, presenting numerous Bangla folk numbers, featured the supremely talented group, Banglar Dugdugi, led by noted singer Abu Bakr Siddique. In addition, local traditional crafts were on display at the venue. Mahfuz Anam, Editor, *The Daily Star*, delivered the welcoming address. Noted composer and musicologist Azad Rahman and academic and writer, Niaz Zaman, were present in the audience among many other distinguished guests. Azad Rahman applauded *Star Melodies* for bringing Bangla folk music under the spot-



Noted composer and musicologist Azad Rahman addresses the audience.

light through the programme.

Banglar Dugdugi charmed the audience with their renditions of *O Ronger Ghora Douraiya Jau*, *Shonar Bandhali Nao*, *Amar Har Kala Korlam Re*, *Dekhchi Rup Shagore Moner Manush* and *Bhenge Mor Ghore Chabi Niye Jabi Ke Amare*. Among others, they also performed a medley of the songs, *Amar Ekta Nitai* and *Ekta Cholo Re*, along with a few songs of Radha Romon, Hason Raja and satire and comedy, beautifully. The group used traditional acoustic instruments such as ekta, dotara, flute, Bangla dhol, harmonium, tabla, mondira and several others in their performances.

A three-day folk music festival, titled, *Jatiya Bhatiali Sangeet Utshab*, was held in Mymensingh in October 2018. The first of its kind festival was supported by the Ministry of Cultural Affairs and Charan Akhra. Banglar Dugdugi, along with Bhatiali singers from different parts of Bangladesh, performed at the festival. Siddique mentioned that at the time, the former Minister of Cultural Affairs, Asaduzzaman Noor, MP, gave him the encouragement that he needed to form the group.

Since then, Banglar Dugdugi has performed in different national and international festivals, television programmes as well as stage shows.

"The objective of Banglar Dugdugi is to uphold and maintain the culture of Bangladesh with traditional music," said Siddique. "Many emerging artists of today are producing fusion versions of folk songs and singers who are not necessarily trained in folk music, are singing those. Many musical forms of folk, such as Bhatiali, Bhawaiya and Gombhira are hardly present in the music scene today. We intend to showcase Bangla folk music in its purest form."

MINTU DESHWARA, from Moulvibazar

The three-day long Jatiya Nazrul Sammelan ended recently at the Moulvibazar Government High School auditorium. The conference was jointly organised by Moulvibazar District Administration and the Nazrul Institute.

Following the ending session, there was a discussion on the National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam's legacy. Nazrul Institute's Executive Director Abdur Razzak Bhuiyan attended as the chief guest and expressed his delight about the initiative

in his speech.

To fail Islam, DC, Moulvibazar, presided over the programme on the last day and special guest Md Fazlul Ali, principal of Moulvibazar Government College and key speaker, Nazrul researcher AFM Hayatullah

from the Ministry of Public Administration also attend the programme.

Participants called for collective initiatives to popularise Nazrul songs and conduct intensive research on the life and works of the great bard.



PHOTO: STAR



The award winners (back row) along with the guests (seated) at the opening ceremony of the National Photography Exhibition and Competition held at the National Art Gallery Auditorium of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA). Bangladesh Photojournalist Association and BSA jointly organised the event.

PHOTO: COURTESY

DCI and RSC organise concert to support UNDERPRIVILEGED CHILDREN

FARJANA AHMED ANNAN

The Distressed Children and Infants International (DCI) and Rights and Sight for Children (RSC) organised a concert for underprivileged children at the Krishibid Institute Bangladesh Auditorium recently. Distinguished personalities including legendary singer Sabina Yasmin, DNCC Mayor Atiqul Islam and renowned actor Babita Akhter supported the initiative. Hassan Abidur Reja Jewel, DCI's Sun Child Musical Group, Benuka Institute of Fine Arts also charmed the audience with their

performances. "DCI aims to ensure proper education, healthcare, vision care and orphan care facilities for underprivileged children. The sole purpose of organising this concert was to raise funds for them," said Dr Ehsan Hoque. Actor Babita Akhter encouraged the audience via a video message to take part in this initiative and help the children.

DNCC mayor, Atiqul Islam said that he was impressed by DCI and RSC's initiative to help underprivileged children. He added that it is a crucial moment to lend a hand to these children

who can also become valuable assets to us to develop Dhaka along with the whole country.

Singer Sabina Yasmin, as an integral part of DCI, spoke highly of the initiative. She said that she loved spending time with the children of DCI's orphanage in Dhaka, and dedicated all her songs to the distressed children who are under the care of DCI.

Those who are interested to sponsor children or contribute to any sector of DCI, are encouraged to contact in the following numbers: +8801726051700 (Bangladesh), +1-203-376-6351 (USA).



PHOTO: KAZI SALAHUDDIN RAZU