

WHAT'S ON

**Solo Art Exhibition**  
Title: Abirbhab Poth by Parveen Zaman Shammu  
Venue: Gallery Chitrag, Dhanmondi  
Date: April 19 - 29  
Time: 10 am - 8 pm



**Art Exhibition**  
Title: The Work of Creation - Kazi Ghayasuddin  
Venue: Bengal Shilpalay, Dhanmondi  
Date: April 5 - May 18  
Time: 12 pm - 8 pm



**Group Art Exhibition**  
Title: Ghartera Edition 0: Junkyard  
Venue: Dwp Gallery, Lalmatia  
Date: April 12 - 25  
Time: 3 pm - 9 pm



**Theatre**  
Title: DraupadiParampara  
Venue: National Theatre Hall, BSA  
Date: Today  
Time: 7 pm



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



PHOTO: SHEKH MEHEDI MORSHED

# The wait begins for Art Fest 2020 Nilphamari

ZAHANGIR ALOM

"Joypurhat Art Festival was a historic event for Bangladesh, and Gazipur Art Festival, this time, proves to be beckoning a better Bangladesh," said Asaduzzaman Noor, while inaugurating the grand exhibition showcasing the outcomes of the Art Festival 2019, Gazipur. "This festival needs to be continued for an enlightened generation." Noor, also an adviser of the festival, is the host of the next 2020 Art Festival in Nilphamari. "Artists are helping to build a beautiful society. The interaction between the renowned artists and the students can shape an artistically vibrant Bangladesh."

Md Mohsin, another adviser of the Art Festival 2019 Gazipur, and the Additional Secretary of the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief, presided over the programme. He urged everyone to make the next art festival a grand success.

"The festival is a fantastic get-together of artists, organisers, students and the local inhabitants. I am happy to be a part of it. I'll definitely join in the next art festival to be held in Nilphamari," said Rafiqun Nabi, the special guest of the programme.

JICA Country Programme Coordinator, Naoki Matsumura, spoke delivered his speech in Bangla.

"The arrangement of the art festival was

innovative and vast, and its influence is important and far-reaching. Every child is unique. If they are unleashed to portray paintings in their own way, Bangladesh will get enriched in all regards. I hope the arrangement will continue in future as it is proactively participated by country's renowned artists," said Professor Nisar Hossain, Dean, Faculty of Fine Art (FFA), University of Dhaka (DU).

Sudipto Mukerjee, Country Director, UNDP Bangladesh, spoke among others as a special guest. The art festival, with the theme, 'Beautiful Environment, Artistic Life', concluded yesterday at Zainul Gallery, FFA, DU.

# New kids on the block SunChild emerges as all-girl new band

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Abandoned or orphaned, they were the children of neglect. But, not anymore.

With little care from children with privileges, they have now become the children of hope. They are the new kids on the block. They are members of country's latest musical band: The SunChild.

The all-girl group made its debut on April 19 to captivate the audience at the Krishibid Institution Bangladesh (KIB) Auditorium.

When they sang the Azam Khan classic, *Rail line er oi bostite, jonme chilo ekti chele*, and *Shraboner megh gulo joro holo akashe*, the hit song by Different Touch, the audience of no less than 1,200 were in awe, applauding and singing along spontaneously.

Lead vocalist Nupur poured her heart out, and lead guitarist Nishi strummed her guitar like a pro to get the best out of 10-member band.

The girls are from an orphan home, run by a non-profit organisation, the Distressed Children & Infants International (DCI) with donation from children mostly in the US. Legendary singer Sabina Yasmin, who is also a DCI goodwill ambassador, alongside other renowned performers, also sang at the concert for underprivileged children. However, the SunChild band eventually seized the limelight of the evening with their great performance.

"It was an amazing performance. I

wish this musical team the best. They will be stars in future," said secretary of cultural affairs ministry, Dr Abu Hena Mostofa Kamal, who attended the concert as special guest.

Dhaka North Mayor Atiqul Islam was also in the audience as chief guest. "I saw them perform before at their home in Mohammadpur, but today, it was on a different level. I believe that these girls will take Bangladesh forward."

The performance was a result of only two and a half month's practice alongside their study according to Dr Ehsan Hoque, executive director of the DCI, who shared the information with *The Daily Star* over phone yesterday.

"Sabina (Yasmin) Apa was instrumental in inspiring these children into this big audience performance," added Dr Ehsan, who flew in from the US to organise the concert.

Sabina Yasmin, the legend herself, loves to spend time with these children. She mentored the band and helped them practise with instructors of her choices over the last couple of months.

"These are immensely talented. I'm sure they are capable of doing far better," the celebrated singer told the audience on April 19.

The SunChild was found to be bubbling with confidence after the stage performance. "We need to practise more, and we're eager to get more exposure," lead vocalist Nupur told *The Daily Star*.



PHOTO: COURTESY



PHOTO: STAR

# Kabori honoured with Nayakraj Razzak Award

Last year, The Bengal Film and Television Chamber of Commerce (BFTCC) introduced the Nayakraj Razzak Award, in loving memory of Bangladeshi superstar Razzak. Recently, renowned actor Kabori Sarwar, from Bangladesh, was awarded with the Nayakraj Razzak Award in a grand ceremony at a five-star hotel in Kolkata. Popular actor Prosenjit Chatterjee, from Kolkata, handed over the award to Kabori Sarwar.

SUBRATA ACHARYA, from Kolkata

Kabori Sarwar started her career with the Subhash Dutta directorial *Abirbhab* paired with actor Razzak in 1968. After *Abirbhab*, the pair was together seen in more than twenty films, including *Deep Nebhe Nai*, *Nil Akasher Niche*, and *Ka Kha Ga Gha Umo*, among many.

"Razzak was a dear co-star of mine," says the awardee. "I feel grateful to have this honour in his name. This is a memorable event." Actor Alamgir, who was awarded with the Nayakraj Razzak Award last year, was also present at the award ceremony.

Well-known Indian actor Sabitri Chatterjee, Utpalendu Chakrabarty and journalist Gautam Bhattacharya were conferred with the Hiralal Sen Award, Debaki Kumar Bose Award and Kalish Mukherjee Award respectively. Ahmed Akbar Sobhan, the chairman of Bashundhara Group, was awarded with the Information Communication Entertainment (ICE) Award. Naem Nizam, Editor, *Bangladesh Pratidin*, received the award, on behalf of Ahmed Akbar Sobhan. These awards were given on the occasion of the fourth edition of Bengal International Short Film Festival. Biplob Chakraborty, one of the directors of the organisation, informed that they plan to organise such events in Bangladesh in the near future.

# In remembrance of Amar Paul

MOHAMMAD AL-MASUM MOLLA

Born in 1922 in Brahmanbaria, eminent folk singer Amar Paul was fond of music from a young age. He was trained in music under his mother, Durgasundari Debi. He lost his father at the tender age of ten. Bearing the responsibility of his family on his shoulders, Amar left his motherland, Bangladesh, before the partition and shifted to Kolkata when he was 22.

In Kolkata, he learned classical music under the tutelage of Ustad Ayet Ali Khan, the younger brother of Ustad Alauddin Khan.

Along with lyricist Shachindranath Bhattacharya, Amar went to Akashbani in 1948, where he learned folk music from famous music professors like Suren Chakraborty, Mani Chakraborty and Nanigopal Bandopadhyay. One of his songs, *Kotoi Rongo Dekhi Duniyay*, from Satyajit Ray's *Hirak Rajar Deshe*, is still very popular. Famous singer Anup Ghoshal introduced Amar to Ray.

Apart from Ray, he worked with renowned film directors like Dibaki Kumar Basu and Rituparno Ghosh. In 1951, one of his songs aired in All India Radio. Amar, who was best known as a Bhatiali singer, is considered to be the first folk artiste to be featured at

the broadcaster. He also composed folk songs for numerous Bengali films. Besides being a singer, Amar was a researcher and collector of folk songs.

At a time when West Bengal's music scene was dominated by the likes of Manna Dey, Hemanta Mukherjee, Satinath Mukherjee and others, Amar remained true to Bhatiali songs, performing at many programmes in Kolkata.

The eminent musician died of a cerebral attack at SSKM Hospital in Kolkata recently, at the age of 97. Even in his last days, he actively worked as a music teacher. His music shall remain immortal in the hearts of Bangladeshis.



PHOTO: COLLECTED

# BACHSAS to renew membership



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Bangladesh Chalachitra Sangbadik Samity (BACHSAS) are renewing their memberships for the existing members, as well as taking in new members. For the years 2017-2019, existing members have to pay BDT 240 before April 30, 2019, 6 pm.

Potential new members are requested to collect forms in exchange of BDT 500 within the same deadline.

Address: BACHCHAS temporary office, Ali Bhaban (10th Floor), 9 RAJUK Avenue, Motijheel, Dhaka - 1000.

# Labik Kamal Gaurob's songwriting workshop concludes

MINAM HAQ

The second instalment of the series titled 'Artistic Arsenal' was conducted recently at EMK Center. It is an initiative by Bengal Creative Hub and EMK Center to connect those who are willing to hone their crafts, under creative professionals. The stimulating workshop, which comprised of young musicians, was conducted by renowned singer, songwriter and musician Labik Kamal Gaurob.

"Often, due to the lack of networking, many young talents cannot showcase their work. In our case, no matter where you are, through registration, our platform intends to bring the community closer and nurture their creativity," mentioned the managing director of Bengal Creative Hub, Eeshita Azad. "Also, any employer seeking a particular creative professional can easily discover them through our platform and vice versa."



PHOTO: MONON MUNTAKA

During the three-hour intensive workshop, Gaurob provided the enthusiastic participants with the technical

know-how about songwriting and composing techniques. Panel discussions and live performances were also

conducted during the event. Divided into small groups, the participants were presented with the task of composing and tuning a song, with Pohela Boishakh as the theme.

"Throughout my fifteen-year musical career, I have experienced various parts of the music creating process. I am happy that this workshop gave me the opportunity to share my experience with budding musicians," expressed Gaurob. "Songwriting is not just an emotional process. There is a technical part to it as well. Our aim is to make sure that the participants comprehend the specifications often required when making a song."

With participants who have pursued music as education, and many others, who are willing to take it up professionally, the workshop reflected a rather positive energy. Their willingness to learn and improve their talent was nothing short of promising.