

<p>WHAT'S ON</p>	<p>Solo Print Exhibition Title: The Soul of the Soil Artist: Farzana Rahman Boby Venue: Gallery Shilpangan, Lalmatia Date: July 5-18 Time: 3-8pm</p>	<p>Theatrical Production Title: Hamlet Date: Today Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy Time: 7 pm onwards</p>	<p>Exhibition Title: Mukhoshor Aaraley Venue: Drik Gallery, Dhamondi Date: July 12-14 Time: 3 pm - 8 pm</p>	<p>SUMMER BOOK FEST</p>	<p>Book Festival Title: Summer Book Fest Venue: The Junction, Niketon Date: July 5-7 Time: 11 am - 7 pm</p>	<p>Musical Evening Title: Gaan Kobitar Chhayatole Date: July 5 Time: 6:30 pm onwards Venue: Sufia Kamal Auditorium, National Museum</p>
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SUDESHNA SWAYAMPARBHA

Telling tales through the body

ZAHANGIR ALOM

Brilliant dancer Sudeshna Swayamprabha Tathoi has been pursuing Indian classical dance forms -- Manipuri and Bharatanatyam -- since early childhood from her mother, eminent danseuse Sharmila Banerjee. Later, she took lessons on the genres under the tutelage of Sharmila Banerjee, Belayet Hossain Khan and Tamanna Rahman at Chhayanaut. "I am blessed with receiving Bharatanatyam from Padma Bhushan Professor C V Chandrasekhar. Besides, I took intensive Manipuri training from Smt Kalavati Devi at Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre in Dhaka," says Tathoi.

With an ICCR Scholarship, Tathoi went to Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata to study dance. She bagged four awards, the University Medal (Gold), Nirod Baran Memorial Prize, Sunit Basu Memorial Prize and Asit Chattopadhyay Memorial Prize at the 44th annual convocation ceremony, securing the highest score at the MA (Dance) Examination among the students of all the seven dance departments under the Faculty of Fine Arts, of the university. "I felt very happy to achieve the recognition. It's a great impetus that has made me more responsible towards the art form."

The artiste also completed her BSS (Honours) and MSS in Anthropology from the University of Dhaka. "As I have pursued dance from an early age, and I wanted to further study dance to learn the theoretical aspects of it. That's why I did another MA in Dance. Besides, dance is a dominant feature of Cultural Anthropology. The art form has its distinctive impact on society circling various festivals," said the dancer, who dreams of experimenting with dance forms with the aspects of Cultural Anthropology. "I want to create some scholarly works mingling dance with my research on the themes like -- where does dance belong and how does the art form contribute to the society?"

In April, 2019, Tathoi participated in the art project 'Transforming Narratives' organised by British Council, UK and Arts Council, UK, in Birmingham. The project aims to connect cities from Bangladesh and Pakistan with Birmingham. "There is a large pool of generations of Bangladeshi diaspora communities there. The project shed light on different narratives about society, art and culture. I had wonderful experiences and experiments with global dance artistes, choreographers and musicians. As I learned from them, I shared my expertise with them as well," says Tathoi.

The artiste, also a dance teacher at Chhayanaut

and Nritya Nandan, also learned the forms of Mohiniyattam and Odissi. Currently, she is taking tutelage from renowned Manipuri exponent Bimbavati Devi and also working with her troupe, Manipuri Narthanalaya in Kolkata. Even though she is dedicated to the beauty of four classical dance forms, Tathoi has a knack for creative and contemporary dance, where she can blend *mudra* from different dance forms.

Organised by the Goethe Institut Bangladesh, Tathoi participated in 'Young Choreographers Platform', an initiative to promote and foster talents of young and potential choreographers in Bangladesh. This programme was held in 2016 with the guidance of Tomas Büniger, a dancer and choreographer based in Bremen, Germany. "There is no end of learning; be it academic or artistic. A dancer should always keep her/his mind open to learn new things, challenging their own body. My knowledge was enriched with that platform, as Tomas made us think about new things in

choreography."

Tathoi also performed at the prestigious Khajuraho Dance Festival. In February this year, she went there to perform with her Guru Bimbavati Devi, who is the daughter of eminent Manipuri dancers Guru Bipin Singh and Smt Kalavati Devi. "As a member of Manipuri Narthanalaya, I regularly perform in different states of India. Every dancer eagerly looks forward to performing in the Khajuraho Dance Festival someday. It was a divine experience for me to perform at the festival," says Tathoi. "We performed in Bimbavati Devi's latest production *Ghana Baari Barikhata*, that she premiered in Kolkata last year, marking the birth centenary of her father, Guru Bipin Singh."

Sudeshna Swayamprabha Tathoi was recently at Weimar, Germany, where she had an overwhelming experience while attending the Kultur Symposium Weimar 2019. Goethe Institut Bangladesh gave her the opportunity to be a part of the wonderful event.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED



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NAWSHEEN

A passionate presenter

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Through her aptitude as an actor as well as a presenter for television programmes, Nawsheen has become a popular name in the industry. She is currently in Mumbai, India where she is scheduled to host a YouTube show, *With Nawsheen*, a lifestyle and travelling based programme.

In a conversation over the phone with *The Daily Star*, Nawsheen informed that upon completion of the shoot, she will be heading to Goa, Kolkata and Hyderabad, as part of the same arrangement. Her husband Hillol, who is also a renowned actor and a food vlogger, is accompanying her in the tour along with the crew.

"Currently my focus is on hosting. I really enjoy shooting for my YouTube channel and admire the remarkable response I receive from the viewers all over," exclaimed Nawsheen. "Earlier, I travelled to Nepal and Bangkok to shoot, and those videos were also well-received."

She further stated that even though her career as an actor is at an interval, her production house is determined to produce tele-fictions, tele-films and short films on a regular basis. Apart from anchoring TV shows, Nawsheen is also a highly sought-after name when it comes to hosting stage shows or corporate events. Her passion in the field is highly prevalent.

Mymensingh welcomes monsoon



PHOTO: STAR

Bangladesh Nazrul Sena Sangeet Bidhyalaya organised a musical soiree on monsoon songs at the auditorium of Mymensingh Nazrul Sena recently. Titled *Borshar Suralapon*, the programme featured poetry recitations, and dances with popular monsoon songs of Kazi Nazrul Islam and Rabindranath Tagore.



AMINUL ISLAM, from Mymensingh

Mizanur Rahman Khan Liton, president of Bangladesh Nazrul Sena Sangeet Bidhyalaya presided over the event. Chief executive of Mymensingh Zila Parishad, Banani Biswas, upazila nirbahi officer of Mymensingh sadar Sheikh Hafizur Rahman, Dr Horishankar Das, Shahidul Alam Lashkar and Dr H A Golandaj Tara addressed the opening ceremony, among others. Artistes Anwar Hossain Khan, Shelley Chanda, Bijon Topder, Nazib Ashraf, Prodig Chakraborty and Rokshana Shirin rendered some of the classical monsoon songs at the programme which was presented by poet Amjad Dulan. A dance sequence directed by Nazmul Haque Lenin and a melodious flute performance by ustad Shahabuddin Khan brought much entertainment to the audience during the evening.



PHOTO: AFP

Glastonbury Festival

of Contemporary Performing Arts ends today

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Considered one of the biggest music festivals in the world, the Glastonbury Festival, which is held on a farm in Somerset, England, is a five-day annual event, except for 'fallow years', taken mostly at five year intervals. This year, the 49th edition of the bonanza began on June 26, and is scheduled to end today.

Among this year's long list of performers, some of them include, The Killers, Lauryn Hill, Sheryl Crow, Janet Jackson, Wu-Tang Clan, The Cure, Kylie Minogue, The Chemical Brothers, Stormzy and Snow Patrol.

Apart from the musical ensemble, the festival also hosts a variety of activities including dance, theatre and circus, among others.



Artistes from two countries to rock ICCB

July 19 will witness a grand celebration involving promising singers from India and Bangladesh -- as Ashiqui 2 fame singer Ankit Tiwari and renowned actor Sana Khan, along with Bangladesh's own Nobel from Sa Re Ga Ma Pa fame and rising singer Tasnim Anika -- perform at the International Convention City Bashundhara (ICCB).



PHOTO: COURTESY

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT DESK

The event is being organised jointly by ATN Events and Sun glow Entertainment. The concert was announced at a press conference held yesterday at BFDC, in presence of ATN Events Director Masudur Rahman, ATN

Bangla advisor Mir Motahar Hossain, Sun glow Entertainment Director (Events) Mirza Sazid and Head of Operations Anisur Rahman. The tickets for Silver, Gold and VIP are BDT 2000, 5000 and 15000 respectively. They will be available at different restaurants, as well as online, after July 5.