

WHAT'S ON



**Rock Concert**  
Title: Project Generations - Disconnected  
1.1 - Unplugged Tribute Gig  
Venue: Lyceum Conference Center, Lalmaia  
Date: September 13  
Time: 3 pm – 8 pm  
Ticket: BDT 250



**Exhibition, Screening & More**  
Title: Shilper Aloye Bangabandhu  
Organiser: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy  
Venue: BSA Premises  
Date: August 1-31  
Time: 11 am onwards



**Exhibition**  
Title: Jamdani Festival 2019  
Venue: Bengal Shilpalay, Dhanmondi  
Date: September 6 - October 12  
(closed on Sundays)  
Time: 12 noon - 8 pm



**Rock Concert**  
Title: Legacy of Rock N Roll  
Venue: ICCB, Hall 04 (Naboratri), Bashundhara  
Date: September 13  
Time: 3 pm – 10 pm  
Hotline: +8801707975206



**Group Art Exhibition**  
Title: Colours  
Venue: , La Galerie  
Date: August 23 – August 31  
Time: Mon - Thurs from 3 pm - 9 pm,  
Fri and Sat from 9 am - 12 pm and 5 pm - 8 pm (closed on Sunday)



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

# AREKTA ROCK BAND IN TOWN!

SADI MOHAMMAD SHAHNEWAZ

“We’re not here to compete,” says talented upcoming guitarist Ifaz Abrar Reza while taking a sip of coffee, “we are here to have fun. As long as we are doing that, I think we’ll keep making music.”

Arekta Rock Band, a name that translates into “Just Another Rock Band”, is a fun play on the oversaturation of musicians in one of the most popular genres, rock music. However, this particular group exudes confidence, and has a distinct sound that is refreshing amongst a slew of similar sounding bands in the industry.

Except for Ifaz, they were all part of the band # (Hash). Azmi, who is

**Riasat Azmi - Vocals**  
**Ifaz Abrar Reza - Guitar**  
**Sakib Manzur Zihan - Guitar**  
**Arjo Biswas - Bass**  
**Raihan Mahbub Rasha - Drums**

also the vocalist for death metal band Severe Dementia, explained that they were all jamming together when they decided to form a rock band and they called in Ifaz. “The project’s group chat was named ‘just another rock band’, and this is how we came up with the name”, laughs Rasha.

The band’s first single, *Shikari Aj Shikar*, is already a hit among young music listeners in town. “We first

wanted to finish the already existing songs that we made for # (Hash), but scrapped all that to make entirely fresh music,” says Zihan. “I am glad that we got such a great response for *Shikari Aj Shikar*”. As seen in their live videos, the crowd has already memorised this wonderful number in rock music.

The band now has three upcoming songs: *Eden*, *Don’t Fight Me*, and *Arekta Rock Gaan*, all of which promise to be stellar tracks, if the exclusive demo presented to *The Daily Star* is any indication. “We will release *Eden* next,” says Ifaz. “We are working on the music video with Cybertron Studios, who also worked on our first track.” One of Arekta Rock Band’s

core strengths lies in their chemistry, both on and off the stage. “We are very good friends,” says Ifaz. “We hang out and make music every week in Rasha’s studio. Of course, having a studio to ourselves helps a lot, but more importantly, this is what we love doing.” The studio in question is Hungry Dogs Studio, situated in Mirpur, a place the members are proud to be residents of. “We love Mirpur. We feel like much of our spirit as a band comes from Mirpur’s energy,” explains the band, which is quite a strange thing to say in unison. In hindsight, however, if the members can push the traffic in that area to practice regularly, nothing can stop Arekta Rock Band!

# Mahiya Mahi starrer ‘Obotar’ to release on September 13

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Mahmud Hasan Sikder’s *Obotar* is set to release nationwide on September 13. It will be screened in 50 theatres on the first day. Previously, the film was supposed to release in July 2019.

The film, starring Mahiya Mahi in the lead role of Mukti, explores how drug addiction affects our society. Amin Khan plays Mahiya Mahi’s brother in the film.

In recent years, drug addiction has significantly increased across the world, especially in the South Asian countries like Bangladesh. In our country, this agent of human devastation has spread its tentacles to every nook and corner. Mahiya Mahi is quite confident about *Obotar*. Her previous films *Dhaka Attack* and *Poloke Poloke* were successful at the box-office.



PHOTO: SHAHREAR KABIR HEEMEL



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

Popular musical show ‘Caller Gaan’ on Desh TV will feature renowned singer Dinat Jahan Munni in today’s episode, who will pay tribute to the late songstress, Shammi Akhter. The programme will be televised today at 11:10 pm.

# Revolutio-Nari: Photography and poetry exhibition for gender sensitivity



The exhibition addressed misogyny, menstrual hygiene, women’s rights and breaking social barriers.

PHOTOS: SHAMS ASIF

TIASHA IDRAK

With a goal to address gender sensitivity in today’s society, the youth organisation, ProjectDebi, held their first ever exhibition at EMK Center, Dhanmondi. Titled *Revolutio-Nari*, the central aim of the exhibition was to raise awareness about misogyny, menstrual hygiene, women’s rights and breaking social barriers, through poetry and photography.

Visitors at the exhibition were surrounded by framed photographs and poems, each containing a message about women, menstruation and the simple joys of life among other themes.

The exhibition opened with a seminar and an open mic discussion hosted by the Founder and CEO of ProjectDebi, Muhammad Abrar.

“The youth of today are full of potential. They can express many things through their art. We hope that people were able to see glimpses of their own realities in the framed photographs and poems,” said Abrar. The



funds raised from the event will be donated to several social causes. ProjectDebi also plans to shed light on menstrual hygiene, intersex rights and self-defence programmes for marginalised communities.

The event was also attended by Zaiba

Tahya, Founder of Female Empowerment Movement (FEM) and Noorin Suhaila Asjad, Co-Founder of Oroddho Foundation. The open mic session also featured an interactive discussion on feminism and patriarchy and poetry recitations from the participants.

The poems and photographs were divided into four categories at the exhibition. The entries were judged by Fahmida Hossain Ela, Former Vice President of BUET Photographic Society.

On the last day, after a short cultural programme, the winners of the exhibition were announced. The winners of the photography contest were: Rahdi Hossain Raahi (*I\_m\_pure*), Md Tawfiq Uddin (*The Lonely Bird*) and Md Iftekhar Uddin Emon (*Attohonon*). The winners of the poetry segment were: Mrittika Mostafi (*The poison I passed down to my daughter*), Ariful Hasan Shuvo (*Melanin*) and Humaira Maisha Mahmud (*My lady Crizzly*). The exhibition concluded on Wednesday.