

WHAT'S ON



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



Solo Art Exhibition
 Title: Orchestration of Colors
 Artist: Uttam Kumar Basak
 Venue: Abinta Gallery of Fine Arts, Badda
 Date: September 7 – 14
 Time: 11 am – 7 pm



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



Poetry Exhibition
 Title: Inked Solace by Zubayer Zakir Khan
 Venue: EMK Center, Dhanmondi
 Date: September 7 – 11
 Time: 9:30 am – 8 pm

Mustapha Khalid Palash’s 56th birthday tomorrow

ZAHANGIR ALOM

Tomorrow marks the 56th birth anniversary of renowned artist-architect Mustapha Khalid Palash, who is one of the most illustrious names in the contemporary architecture scene of Bangladesh. As the Principal Architect and Managing Director of Vistaara Architects [Pvt] Ltd, he and his team has been placing the mega city Dhaka to a different height by creating aesthetic, sustainable and functional architectural masterpieces one after another for the last two and a half decades.

Graduating from the Department of Architecture, Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) with distinction, he was awarded with Habibur Rahman Award for excellence in design. He started his career as a practising architect, and later joined the Department of Architecture, BUET, as a faculty member. He quit BUET as Assistant Professor, and founded his own office, Vistaara Architects, in 1998. Palash has also been teaching as a visiting faculty member in several universities. He received training on Architecture under the grant by the famous Architect, Tadao Ando in 1995.

With the success of Unique Trade Centre [UTC], Dhaka, Palash and his team did not have to look back. GPHouse, Bashundhara City, The Westin Dhaka, Peoples Insurance Bhaban, Labaid Cardiac Hospital, Banglalink Head Office, Robi Headquarter, Siaam Tower, SPL Western Tower, Abdul Monem Business District, Delvistaa Building and Radisson Blu Chattogram Bay View, are among his architectural



masterpieces.

Currently as part of practising sustainable architecture, Palash is advocating rainwater harvesting for the urban areas of Bangladesh as a trained expert. He is an International Associate member of American Institute of Architects, a member of Tall Building Council, Urban Habitat and a founder member of Green Building Council Bangladesh.

A multi-talented personality, Palash participated in several group painting exhibitions. He had his first solo painting exhibition in 1978. He also had exhibitions in 2009, 2011, and 2013. He received the Shilpacharya Zainul Award for his paintings in 2012. He is also an avid sitar player, and has keen interest in Indian classical music. He has voiced several Rabindra Sangeet albums, published from Bangladesh and India.

He received several national and international awards, including IAB Design Award 1998, Architect of the Year 2005 (India), Berger Award for Excellence in Architecture 2007, Holcim Green Built Bangladesh Prize 2010. Today, Vistaara is considered as one of the most advanced architectural offices in the country, with the largest number of architects working there.

He is the Editor of quarterly DOT, the only magazine on architecture in Bangladesh. Palash’s works have been featured in several national and international magazines, including McGraw-Hill publication. He also has two books on his paintings.

Palash believes in the phrase “beauty is truth, truth is beauty” in all facets of his ingenuity, as he continues to develop the architecture of Bangladesh.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

“Hip Hop is life to me” – ABD

MINAM HAQ

Since his teenage days, Mohammed Abdullah, also known as ABD, developed an interest in music. He even played bass in a band at one point in time. Even though rap music always fascinated him, little did he know that he would be a rapper one day, until he came across the song *Notorious Thug* by The Notorious B I G, featuring Bone Thugs-N-Harmony. He later formed a band called Sworn Sins, and performed rap music at small events. Like many other artistes in Bangladesh, Linkin Park, too, had a great influence on the rapper.

His venture into Hip Hop helped him discover artistes like Immortal Technique, Demigodz, Apathy and later, KRS-One, Nas, Rakim and Big Daddy Kane, among others, which brought him closer to the roots of the culture.

“As a great portion of Hip Hop deals with struggle, at one point I realised that as a Bangladeshi, if I write about my struggle, that will help me connect better to the aspect,” expressed ABD. “I put my pen to paper, and today, Hip Hop is life to me.”

While studying at a university in Canada during 2006, where he graduated as valedictorian later, he performed in his first Hip Hop show. With his first ever performance on stage being a great success, many more followed. In 2010, he had the opportunity to open for GZA from Wu-Tang Clan, one of the pioneers in rap. By the same year, ABD released his first rap album, *All Be Doomed*, consisting of songs about oppression, genocide, dirty politics, uneven distribution of wealth and much more.

In 2012, ABD returned to Bangladesh and continued to rap, while also working in other sectors. He went on to be regularly featured in a popular show on Radio Footi, titled, *Hip Hop Saturdays*, where he discussed the history of the culture, and also played iconic songs that glorified the genre of rap. “Adit heard me on the show, and reached out through another rapper, Towfique,” informed ABD. “After that, we all collaborated for the track, 52.”

ABD penned the song *Rage Against People’s Ethics (RAPE)* in 2015. The song expressed his viewpoints on the shameful sexual harassment that took place at TSC during the Boishakhi celebrations, along with the general mistreatment of women.

He went on to work in communications in Fatman Films, and later, as Head of Communications at Gaan Bangla. He also participated as an artiste in the renowned musical show, *Wind of Change*. He has also produced a number of jingles. The artiste also served as a judge in two different Hip Hop- based talent shows.

Every now and then, ABD collaborates with talented artistes, mostly underground, regardless of their fame. He also has immense respect for the up and coming rappers. “I am optimistic about Hip Hop in Bangladesh. We have luminous rappers, beat-boxers and break-dancers who are immensely dedicated,” said ABD. “Artistes like Nizam Rabby, O E Z, Beast Buzz, Shuffle, Raffeknix, Critical, V X L, Berzerk, Manam, and T Z, among many others, are truly a beacon of hope.”

Apart from work and music, ABD is involved intensively with charity. A true connoisseur of Hip Hop culture, he stays mostly outside the limelight, but at the same time, does everything within his reach to nurture his craft.

TV WATCH



The 16th episode of ‘Ghumonto Shohore’, scripted and directed by Nazrul Islam Raju, will be broadcast on NTV at 8:20 pm today. The serial features F S Nayeem, Orsha, Farhana Milli, Bhabna and Shatabdi Wadud, among others.



PHOTO: COURTESY

Many happy returns to ATM SHAMSUZZAMAN



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Ekushey Padak winner ATM Shamsuzzaman was born on this day in 1941. His performances in *Dayee Ke?* (1987), *Madam Fuli* (1999), *Churiwala* (2001), *Mon Bosenar Porar Table E* (2009) and *Chorabali* (2012) were critically acclaimed with National Awards.

With poetry among his hobbies, the actor started his career with Amjad Hossain’s *Noyonmoni* (1976). His last film *Alpha* was released in April, while he was battling for life at Dhaka’s Asgar Ali Hospital.

He is now well and has returned home. *The Daily Star* wishes him a very happy birthday, and hopes for his good health.

To celebrate his birthday with his fans, ATM Shamsuzzaman will be live on TV tomorrow at 12:30 pm on Channel I’s *Taroka Kothon*, along with popular actor Poppy.

JRSSP hosts conference on Tagore

SUSHANTA GHOSH, from Barishal

Jatiyo Rabindra Sangeet Sammelan Parishad (JRSSP) hosted the 17th biannual district Tagore Conference at Barishal recently. Cultural activist Manabendra Batobayal inaugurated the programme by hoisting the national and organisational flags at Barishal Government Girls

School, which was later followed by a road rally.

The second session was held at the school auditorium, and was presided over by Kajal Ghosh, President, JRSSP- Barishal. Serniabad Sadik Abdullah, Mayor, Barishal City Corporation, was present as the chief guest. S M Ajjar Rahman, Deputy Commissioner of Barishal, and S M Iqbal, attended the event as special guests.

A special award was given to Dr Kazi Mozammel Hossain for his work and research on Tagore. A day-long training workshop and competition on Rabindra Sangeet were also organised at Barishal Shikhhak Bhaban Auditorium on this occasion, on the previous day. The conference ended with a cultural function based on Tagore’s work.



PHOTO: STAR