

WHAT'S ON



Theatre
Title: A New Testament of Romeo & Juliet
Troupe: Empty Space
Venue: National Theatre, BSA
Date: September 29
Time: 7 pm – 8:30 pm



Concert
Title: Amob Live 2019
Venue: Jamuna Future Park
Date: September 20
Time: 5 pm



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



Group Art Exhibition
Title: Jolokabbo 2
Venue: Edge Gallery, Gulshan 2
Date: September 18 – October 16
Time: 10 am – 8 pm



Live Performance
Title: An English Summer
Venue: Jatra Biroti, Banani
Date: September 26
Time: 6 pm onwards
Tickets: BDT 300



Arefin Shuvoo

Siam Ahmed

PHOTOS: STAR

PHOTO: COLLECTED

Many happy returns to SUCHANDA

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

A prolific star from the 60s, Suchanda had the charisma to win the hearts of millions since her early days. She starred in multiple blockbusters throughout her illustrious career. As today marks the fabulous actor's birthday, on behalf of *The Daily Star*, we wish her all the very best in her life.

She stepped into the film industry with Subhash Dutta's *Kagojer Nouka* during the 60s, opposite Akhter Hossain, which was an instant hit. Many more films followed, paving the way for her stardom. Her film *Je Agun-e Puri*, where Suchanda starred opposite Razzak, is amongst the films that are talked about to this day. The song, *Chokh Je Moner Kotha Bole* from the film, remains an evergreen classic.

Throughout her acting career, Shuchanda starred in a number of films which continue to have an impact on the audience to this very day. To name a few, *Anowara*, *Shongshar*, *Osru Diye Lekha*, *Dhire Bohe Meghna* and *Jibon Theke Neya*, are amongst some of the classics, with which Suchanda graced the film industry. While the films took the industry to new heights, they even earned Suchanda several awards, including the

Salman Shah: A revered icon

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Salman Shah saw a spectacular rise to stardom in the Bangladeshi film industry. He conquered the silver screen with films like *Keyamot Theke Keyamot*, *Tumi Amar*, *Antore Antore* and *Sujon Shokhi*, among many others. Today marks the actor's 48th birth anniversary, after his untimely

demise in 1996. *The Daily Star* caught up with contemporary actors Arefin Shuvoo and Siam Ahmed, who consider Salman Shah their role model.

"Salman Shah was not only an extraordinary actor but also a fashion icon," said Arefin Shuvoo. "He was a charming man. I have fond memories of watching his films with my friends and family.

I consider him one of my greatest inspirations as an actor. *Keyamot Theke Keyamot* is definitely my favourite Salman Shah film."

Siam Ahmed also truly looks up to and respects the actor. "I do not think any of us can match up to the style and charm of Salman Shah," explains Siam. "I have grown up watching his films. I love *Keyamot Theke Keyamot* and *Ananda Ashru*."

Asaduzzaman Noor and Rafi Hossain at 'A Season of Bangla Drama 2019'



PHOTO: SHAHREAR KABIR HEEMEL

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

London Borough of Tower Hamlets will be hosting a cultural festival titled, *A Season of Bangla Drama* from November 1 - 24, this year. This festival has been celebrating Bengali culture in the form of enthralling performances and discussions from a diversified panel of writers, actors, directors and cultural personalities since 2003. The platform creates an opportunity for UK based audience to learn more about Bengali culture.

As part of one of the seminars, Ex-Minister of Cultural Affairs, Bangladesh, Asaduzzaman Noor, Member of Parliament, will be at the festival on November 2, 2019 at Brady Arts Centre. Besides, entertainment journalist Rafi Hossain will also be conducting a talk titled, *Rafi Hossain's Musing* at the festival on November 6. This unique festival continues to be the stage for dynamic cultural exchange between Bangladesh, West Bengal and the UK for the last 16 years.



PHOTO: SHAHREAR KABIR HEEMEL

National Film Award, among many others.

Razzak and Suchanda first paired up for the film *Behula* which was directed by Zahir Raihan. The duo presented the industry with many more hits as their careers progressed, and were immensely admired as a couple by the audience.

Suchanda also shared screen space with Azim in *Nayan Tara* and Ayna O Oboshishto, with Rahman in *Ontorongo*, and with Ujjal in *Kancher Swarga* and *Shanibarar Chithi*.

Suchanda is also a popular producer and director in the film industry. Her first directorial debut was *Shobuj Coat Kalo Choshma*, while her latest project was based on her husband, eminent director and novelist, Zahir Raihan's novel, *Hajar Bochor Dhore*.

Shilpangan's ode to monsoon

Monsoon is often a recurring motif in the works of poets, artists and musicians. With an objective to showcase the grace of the season, Gallery Shilpangan has organised a group art exhibition titled, 'Borsha, Rhythm of Monsoon', in Lalmatia. Currently, 29 artists are showcasing a total of 49 paintings at the gallery.

ZAHANGIR ALOM

Renowned artist Abdus Shakoor's simplistic depiction of a cloudy evening evokes the feeling of melancholy, while eminent artist Hamiduzzaman portrays a rainy day. Several colours like red, pale blue, lemon yellow and white dominate his semi-abstract watercolour painting.

Shahid Kabir's *Ghonorborsha* (mixed media on canvas) is also a fascinating work of art. The rich hues and textures revolving around the lonely boat that he has painted in the middle of the canvas represent a burst of graceful beauty with the raindrops falling on it.

The serene glow of paper white gleams through the thick clouds of Prussian and cobalt blue in Biren Shome's *Monsoon Story-1*. The artist beautifully depicts fishing boats in the sea with a shadowy mix of black, burnt sienna and red. Alakesh Ghosh's *Story of Field* is a realistic portrayal of the movement of cow-driven carts with harvest in a cloudy day, while Jamal Ahmed magnificently depicts the rain in Buriganga in one of his works. Kanak Champa Chakpa portrays the mysterious beauty that appears



'Rain in the evening sunlight' (watercolour on paper), by Kamruzzoha.

after rain. The vast landscape and serenity that is showcased in her work easily attracts the audience. Ahmed Shamsuddoha portrays the beauty of the river, Titas, while Sheikh Afzal Hossain's beautiful watercolour painting showcases fishing in Basila. Rashid Amin also depicts clouds with vibrant hues. Anisuzzaman meticulously paints kadam flowers (Neolamarckia cadamba) while Anukul Mojumder portrays stories of monsoon with acrylic and charcoal. Karu Titas' acrylic painting titled, *Evening Silence*,

is a beautiful composition. Azmeer Hossain painted *Cloud, Cowboy and the Green Field-1*, with a layer by layer application of colours. Sourav Chowdhury's *Eternal Monsoon-1* represents drenched marigold flowers. The other participating artists of the exhibition are AH Dhali Tomal, Avi Shankar Ain, Amjad Akash, Biplob Chakroborty, Kiriti Ranjan Biswas, Kuntal Barai, Kamruzzoha, Md Al Akhbar Sarker, Rezaun Nabi, Sima Islam, Sadek Ahmed, Shyamal Biswas, Saidia Sultana and Tarun Ghosh.

THE RUPALI GUITAR strikes a chord

ASHFAQUE NIPUN

There are two character traits that are evident in people from Chattogram. One is, Chatgaiyas, as they are fondly called, are too comfortable to leave their city. The other is when a fellow Chatgaiya finds another Chatgaiya in any part of the world, they start talking in their native dialect. Ayub Bachchu used to do the same. Whenever he got to know that the person he was talking to was from his hometown, Chattogram, he talked to them in his native dialect. But the first trait never limited him from getting out of his home and reaching out to the world.

Born in a conservative family in the 50s, Ayub Bachchu was introduced to rock music in his teens. Back then, it was hard to get hold of rock albums, as the genre was not a part our culture. Being a fan of the genre was rare then, let alone becoming a rock musician. But nothing could stop Ayub Bachchu from dreaming big.

He started playing guitar and composing rock songs with his band LRB in the late 80s. They were heavily criticised by senior traditional musicians and cultural activists. But that could not stop LRB's rise to stardom.

Shei Tumi became an anthem for the youth. *Rupali Guitar*, *Gotokal Raate*, *Ekti Hawker*, *Madhobi*, *Ghum Bhanga Shohore* were also hugely popular. LRB was the first band in Bangladesh to release a double album in 1992.

Ayub Bachchu was never afraid of following his heart and pursuing his dream. He was a star who carried himself with grace. He travelled in Bangladesh and beyond with his 'rupali guitar'.

A sculpture named *Rupali Guitar* was inaugurated yesterday, in honour of the musical legend, at the Probortok Intersection in Chattogram. Passing

through that intersection, I wondered whether Ayub Bachchu ever thought that a sculpture in his honour will be standing tall at one of the busiest roads in his hometown. I am sure he never did. He was not a materialistic man. He did not care about fame or money. He just wanted to make music for his soul, and for his legions of fans. Ayub Bachchu will be cherished forever for the beautiful memories he gave us through his music.



PHOTO: ASHFAQUE NIPUN

Chattogram City Corporation Mayor AJM Nasir Uddin unveiled the sculpture of the guitar yesterday at the Probortok intersection in Chattogram. The sculpture of the 18-feet tall guitar is made of steel and has six strings.