

<p>WHAT'S ON</p>	<p>Theatre Title: A New Testament of Romeo & Juliet Troupe: Empty Space Venue: National Theatre, BSA Date: September 29 Time: 7 pm - 8:30 pm</p>	<p>Musical Evening Title: Star Melodies' Shurer Badhoney Venue: The Daily Star Centre, Kazi Nazrul Islam Ave Date: September 28 Time: 6:30 pm</p>	<p>Exhibition Title: Jamdani Festival 2019 Venue: Bengal Shilpalay, Dhamondi Date: September 6 - October 12 (closed on Sundays) Time: 12 noon - 8 pm</p>	<p>Live Performance Title: Another Coffee Shop Gig 2 Venue: L'Espresso Coffee Shop, Banani Date: September 27 Time: 3 pm - 8 pm Tickets: BDT 200</p>	<p>Live Performance Title: An English Summer Venue: Jatra Biroti, Banani Date: Today Time: 6 pm onwards Tickets: BDT 300</p>
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"I was always a musician at heart"
— Tasnim Anika



SADI MOHAMMAD SHAHNEWAZ
Tasnim Anika is one of the exciting prospects in the music industry. Her vocal range and power sets her apart as a singer. The former Miss Chittagong is a complete package of talent and panache. *The Daily Star* talks to the diva about her music career, aspirations and more.

bhai, as everyone in the music industry loves him. You tend to cover a lot of rock music. How did you get into it? My father is a musician himself, and I grew up listening to him and his band, Jemming. It was a very popular band in Chattogram. I also listened to bands like Black, Artcell and Cryptic Fate, and I draw a lot of inspiration from them. In the future, I plan to reform my father's band, and remake all the hidden gems that he made over the years. If you were given a chance to be the vocalist for any band, which one would it be? Black, in a heartbeat. I have all their songs memorised, as I am definitely their biggest fan.

You were also involved in a beauty pageant. How did that happen? I was merely a teenager when I became Miss Chittagong. Honestly, it was for bragging rights more than anything, as I was always a musician at heart. I also worked as a professional fashion designer for a while, so I also have an interest in that sector. I sometimes still design outfits for people. What are your current musical projects? Do you plan to release an album soon? Definitely. I feel like a solo album is what makes an artiste complete, irrespective of the viability in the music industry today. I am working on my album, and being able to release it will be one of my biggest dreams come true.

Mir Sabbir directs 'Chorakathi'

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK
With an acting career spanning over 15 years, Mir Sabbir is a prominent name in the television industry. He also ventured into direction, with *Borishal Banam Naakhali*. He continued to direct many more one-hour tele-fictions as well as TV serials over the years. Mir Sabbir is currently directing the TV serial, *Chorakathi*, in which he also features as an actor. It currently airs on Channel i. The talented artiste expressed that his passion for directing and acting is the key driving force behind his work. Shot at the outskirts of Dhaka, *Chorakathi* has a village-based plot which highlights the daily lives of the inhabitants. The cast comprises of several other renowned artistes as well.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

IN REMEMBRANCE OF Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar



ILLUSTRATION: COLLECTED

AMINUL ISLAM, from Mymensingh
Marking the 200th birth anniversary of Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar, a discussion session along with a musical soiree was held at the auditorium of Shishutirtha Anandhani Sangeet Bidhyatan, on Tuesday. The programme was organised by Pathchokra, a study circle of Jatiya Rabindra Sangeet Sammelan Parishad (JRSSP) Mymensingh, and presided over by Poet Shamsul Fayed, Vice President, JRSSP. Poet Shamim Ashraf, Member Secretary of Pathchokra, anchored the event. Language researcher Swapon

Dhar and writer Shakhawat Bakul were the keynote speakers during the discussion, *Bangla Goddo Shahitto O Ishwar Chandra*. Vidyasagar, a renowned writer, an educationist, a great social reformer and a philanthropist, is one of the pioneers of the Bengali Renaissance. His efforts to simplify and modernise Bengali prose was a significant undertaking. The speakers further emphasised on his humanitarian philosophy during the discussion. The event concluded with a cultural programme, where the artistes of JRSSP, Mymensingh, performed songs composed by Tagore and Nazrul.

West Bengal female stars shooting in Dhaka



Rituparna Sengupta

SHAH ALAM SHAZLI
Many actors from West Bengal have established a career in the Bangladeshi film industry, much like the way artistes from Bangladesh have made their mark in Kolkata-based films. Rituparna Sengupta has been active in the film industry of Bangladesh for several years, alongside being a renowned name in the cinema



Srabanti Chatterjee

of West Bengal and India. She has starred in a number of Bangla films, including the massively successful *Ekti Cinemar Golpo*, directed by actor Alamgir. The artiste is currently shooting for Noyeem Imtiaz Neamul's *Jam* at BFDC in Dhaka. She plays the role of an attorney in the film, which is produced under the banner of Manna's production house, Kritanjali Kothachitra. On the other hand, Srabanti Chatterjee,



Shubashree Kar

another popular actor from West Bengal, is set to star in *Bikkhob*, a film directed by Shamim Ahmed Rony. Her last Bangladeshi film was *Jodi Ekdin*, opposite singer-turned actor Tahsan Rahman Khan. *Bikkhob* will also feature Shubashree Kar, a rising star from West Bengal. It is her debut Bangladeshi project. Both Srabanti and Shubashree are currently in Dhaka to shoot for the film.

Bharatanatyam and Manipuri performances at Chattogram

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK
Chattogram-based dance school Kaya Aasrom organised a programme titled, 'Kayashoily', at Shilpakala Academy in Chattogram, recently. It showcased Bharatanatyam and Manipuri performances. Anindya Banerjee, Assistant High Commissioner of India in Chattogram, Md Habibur Rahman, Additional Divisional Commissioner, and locally elected commissioner, Shoibal Das Suman, were the esteemed guests at the event.



PHOTO: COURTESY

The programme featured *Pushpanjali*, *Natesha Kautuvam*, *Surya Kautuvam*, and *Purvi Thillana* among other Bharatanatyam dances by Amit Chowdhury and his troupe, Kolpotoru. The

Manipuri performance of *Rathapala* by Sweety Das Chowdhury, followed by a combination performance of *Pung cholom*, were well received by the audience.

Happy Birthday Alpana Habib!

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK
Today marks the 53rd birthday of celebrated chef Alpana Habib. Her bilingual cook book, 'Alpana's Cooking' recently won an award in the First Book category at the prestigious Gourmand International Cookbook Awards.

"Renowned chef, TV personality and author, Siddiqua Kabir's *Ranna, Khadya, Pushti* won the Gourmand Award in 2012, the year that she passed away, in the Easy Cooking category. Sharing the same honour is an achievement in itself," mentioned Alpana. "The founder of Gourmand International told us that they did not take Bangladesh into consideration before. A book of this quality, however, has made them sit up and take notice." Alpana recently met Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. "I presented her with



PHOTO: COLLECTED

a copy of my book. She congratulated me on my success, and said that she is very fond of cooking, especially for her grandchildren," said the chef. *The Daily Star* wishes her many happy returns on her birthday.