

WHAT'S ON

**Group Art Exhibition**  
 Title: Jolokabbo 2  
 Venue: Edge Gallery, Gulshan-2  
 Date: September 18 – October 26  
 Time: 10am-8pm

**Art Exhibition**  
 Title: Feeling the Void by Hamiduzzaman Khan  
 Venue: Dwip Gallery  
 Date: October 7-November 3  
 Time: 3 pm – 9 pm

**Cultural Festival**  
 Title: Ganga-Jamuna Cultural Festival  
 Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy  
 Date: October 11-October 20  
 Time: 7 pm

**Exhibition**  
 Title: Sheikh Hasina, Bangladesher Shopnoshorathi  
 Venue: National Art Plaza, BSA  
 Date: September 28 – October 26  
 Time: 11am - 8pm

**Album Launch**  
 Title: Kichu Kotha Kichu Gaan - Launch of Ghaashphoring Choir's Album  
 Date: October 19  
 Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy  
 Time: 5:30 pm onwards

# Moushumi stays adamant during election season



**SHAH ALAM SHAZU**  
*Moushumi is one of the most beloved faces in the film industry, and has been ruling Dhallywood with an iron fist for more than 25 years. The celebrated actor is running for President at this year's Choloচিত্র শিল্পী সমিতি Elections. Recently, she caught up with The Daily Star, and talked about her ventures.*

**You are contesting the elections this year. Tell us about how you feel.**  
 I have participated in the elections earlier. However, I am running for President for the first time. I am overwhelmed with the love I am receiving, and I hope that I can do justice to all the good thoughts by my friends, family and fans.

**What are the artistes' reactions on your participation in the election?**  
 My career in the film industry has spanned more than 25 years. This is where I have spent most of my life, and all of the people around here are my own. They are supporting me a lot. Again, I am grateful for the support.

**Rumours previously surfaced that you will withdraw your name from**

**the election. How would you respond to that?**  
 This is completely a rumour. I am calling people for votes, meeting them and doing my shoots at the same time. I am very positive about this, so there is no chance that I am backing off.

**Observing all the circumstances, do you expect a fair election?**  
 Every individual linked to the election is expecting a fair one. Let us hope that everything goes well. We have senior actor Ilias Kanchan as the Election Commissioner, and we believe that we will have a fair election under him.

**If you win, what are the changes you will make as President?**  
 My first priority as an artiste will be ensuring the rights of all the artistes in the industry. I do not want to reveal everything now, as time will explain the rest.

**Have you faced any difficulties while running the election?**  
 I was a bit hurt when some of my peers backed off from the election. They were the ones who brought me into the light, but then, they disappeared. However, I am determined, and I will fight for it until the end. Besides that, I am not alone. Everybody is supporting me, and I will try to make them proud.

**Tell us something about your new film, Orjon 71.**  
 Orjon 71 is based on the boundless contributions of the Bangladeshi police force during the Liberation War of 1971. Shatabdi Wadud will be seen as a courageous police officer in the film. I am playing the role of Firoza, his wife. Orjon 71 will be filmed at BFDC, Rajarbagh Police Line and a few other locations in North Bengal.



Ramendu Majumdar (2-R) receives the award from Javed Ahmed Khan.

PHOTO: COURTESY

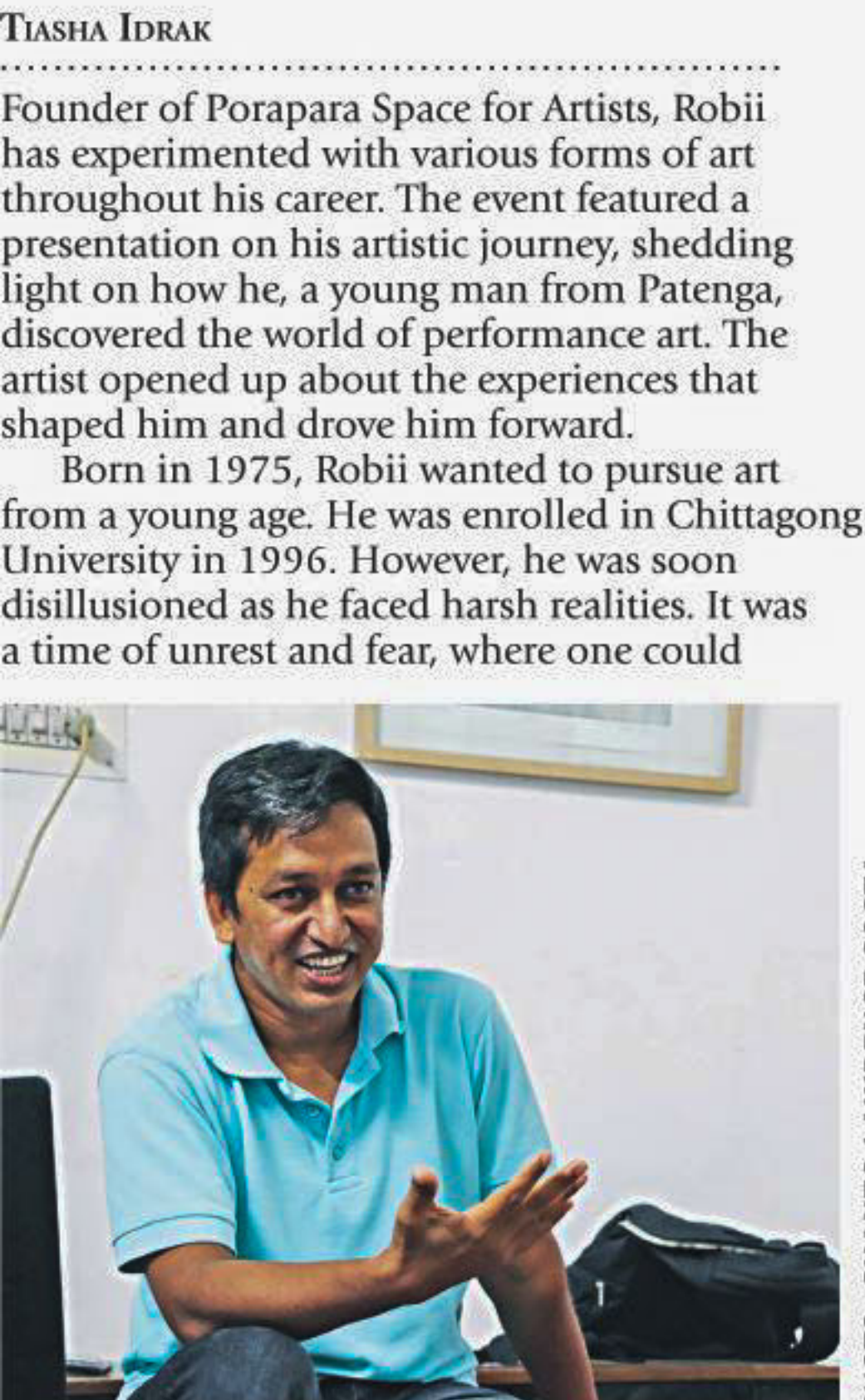
# Ramendu Majumdar receives Gandhi Peace Prize

**ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK**  
 This year, noted thespian and cultural personality Ramendu Majumdar received the Gandhi Memorial Peace Prize, introduced by Gandhi Peace Foundation, India. Renowned mime artist Bidyannath Chakraborty was also honoured with the prize. The award-giving ceremony was organised by the West Bengal branch of the foundation, in association with *The Times of India* on October 10 in Naihati.

Javed Ahmed Khan, Disaster Management and Civil Defence Minister of West Bengal, was the chief guest. The ceremony was organised to mark the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. Dr Aniruddha Majumdar, Chairman of Gandhi Peace Foundation's West Bengal unit, gave the welcome speech.  
 Ramendu Majumdar also delivered the Gandhi Memorial Lecture on the topic, "Mahatma and Bangabandhu: Two symbols of nonviolence."

# AN EVENING ON PERFORMANCE ART

Artists and art enthusiasts gathered in the quiet premises of Shunno Art Space in Lalmatia on Saturday evening to listen to noted performance artist Abu Naser Robii share his experiences.



Abu Naser Robii

**TIASHA IDRAK**  
 Founder of Porapara Space for Artists, Robii has experimented with various forms of art throughout his career. The event featured a presentation on his artistic journey, shedding light on how he, a young man from Patenga, discovered the world of performance art. The artist opened up about the experiences that shaped him and drove him forward.  
 Born in 1975, Robii wanted to pursue art from a young age. He was enrolled in Chittagong University in 1996. However, he was soon disillusioned as he faced harsh realities. It was a time of unrest and fear, where one could not utter a word against the authorities. The grim and perilous environment, coupled with violence at the campus, muted everyone's freedom of expression. This was especially evident for artists, as there was not a single exhibition held during his eight years of university. The frustration of having his freedom taken away led him to pursue farming for a while. But when his best friend, Sanjay Talapatra, was brutally murdered in broad daylight, Robii decided to take a stand through performance art.  
 Robii describes his art as a "social engage act", due to its politically conscious nature. He also talked about his experiences of performing for social and political movements. "To be frank, performance art is like a guerilla in art. In many countries, artists had to hide soon after they made a statement against the authorities," he said. "You can create such an impact with the simplest of tools. A performance artist has to physically portray the art through their body, making it impactful, yet dangerous." Other artists also exchanged their views at the interactive session. Afterwards, Robii put up a short performance. "The base of a play is literature and the base of a performance is like a painting. In a play, the message has to be elaborated through characters and dialogues. Whereas in performance art, one has to portray the message in the limited space of the canvas," explained Robii, talking about the difference between performance art and acting.

PHOTO: SHANTO LAWRENCE COSTA



Maqsoodul Haque with the featured artistes of the album.

PHOTO: COURTESY

# MAQSOOD O' DHAKA announces 'Global Bauliana'

**SADI MOHAMMAD SHAHNEWAZ**  
*Featuring strong environmental and social messages of peace, harmony and cohesion, Bangladeshi stalwart band Maqsood O' Dhaka has announced its newest album, Global Bauliana. The album is said to have versions of beautiful songs by Lalon Shah, Azam Khan and a Bangla rendition of a Bob Marley song, will also contain originals by the band. A female choir with Elita Karim, Musharrat Jahan Aanchal and CJ Racy will also be featured in the album.*

The band's lineup consists of Maqsoodul Haque, Sekender Ahmed Khoka, Fazlul Haque Montu, Ekramul Haque Shakil, Golam Raabbi Shohag, and Shakib Khan Mimo. "Reggae, jazz, blues and funk fusion is our genre - aside a variety of South Asian semi-classical influences have been incorporated. We are hoping to introduce a unique soundscape, which has global resonance," says Maqsoodul Haque, eminent band artiste and leader of the Maqsood O' Dhaka. The singer and visionary has used #wheelsofchange, indicating that change needs to come from us in these dire times. "The wind of change has passed, and is inevitable. It is now time to push the wheels of change, as it is vital that we act on the environment crisis ourselves."  
 The band has used a host of guest artistes -- local and expatriate musicians playing an assortment of instruments, including the axophone, trombone, trumpet, alongside Afro Caribbean and Indian percussions.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

# Under the shades of melody and rhythm

**ZAHANGIR ALOM**  
 Socio-cultural organisation Amra Surjamukhi arranged a musical programme featuring performances of Tagore songs by Bangladeshi artiste Tanjina Toma and Indian elocutionist Shovansundar Bosu.  
 The event was held at Sufia Kamal Auditorium of Bangladesh National Museum on October 12.  
 Eminent cultural personality Asaduzzaman Noor attended the event as the chief guest, while the director of Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre, Dhaka, Dr Nipa Choudhury graced the occasion as the special guest.  
 "Culture has the power to resist the evil. We will sing the song of humanity through music and poetry," said Asaduzzaman Noor. "We belong to and nourish the same cultural heritage. Arrangements



(From left) Shovansundar Bosu, Dr Nipa Choudhury, Asaduzzaman Noor and Tanjina Toma.

PHOTO: COURTESY

as such will inspire the practice of non-communal culture and artistic harmony among us," said Dr Nipa Choudhury.  
 Tanjina Toma started off the event with the song *Aji Bangladesher Hridoy Hote*, while Shovansundar Bosu recited a Kabir Suman lyrical, *Banglar Dhonuker Chhilaye Chhilaye Joto Taan*. The artiste duo rendered and recited 10 Tagore songs and 10 poems composed by 10 renowned poets of Bangla literature.  
 Tanjina Toma's repertoire included *Kar Milon Chao Birohi*, *Bhalobeshe Sakhi*, *Dui Haat-e Kaler Mandira* and more.  
 Shovansundar Bosu presented the Tagore poem *Hridoy Amar Nacherey Ajike*, an Achintya Kumar Sengupta composition, *Purba-Pashchim*, a Nirmalendu Goon composition, *Aloukik*, among other soulful renditions.