

WHAT'S ON

Creative Event
 Title: Expecto Patronum!
 Venue: BSM Group, Dhaka Office
 Date: October 25
 Time: 10 am - 6 pm

Art Exhibition
 Title: Feeling the Void by Hamiduzzaman Khan
 Venue: Dwpj 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 Shognosharohi
 Venue: National Art Plaza, BSA
 Date: September 28 - October 26
 Time: 11am - 8pm

Music Concert
 Title: Fuzad Live in Dhaka
 Venue: ICCB Hall 2
 Date: October 26
 Time: 6 pm onwards
 For Tickets, Contact: +8801844494624 (Between 10 am- 9 pm)



(From left) Pallab Sanyal, Sakib, Dithi Anwar, Moutushi, Badshah Bulbul, Opu, Qayum and Sakil Mohammad Dipon at the programme.

A look into Ash Fahim's music endeavours

SADI MOHAMMAD SHAHNEWAZ

Ashique M Fahim, from the band Ash Ravens, is a Bangladeshi Australia-based musician, adept at playing a vast array of genres. 'Tomar Gaan', his tribute song to the great Ayub Bachchu, was released recently. The talented guitarist, singer-songwriter and sound engineer talks to The Daily Star about his musical journey, upcoming projects and more.

When did you decide to pursue music full-time?

I was well-settled in Bangladesh with a corporate job. However, it did not make me happy at all. Eventually, I decided to pursue a degree on guitar performance from the Los Angeles College of Music, in 2012. When I moved to Australia, I studied towards another degree in sound engineering. Right now, I am teaching music at a school here, while pursuing my own music. I arrange recording sessions for other musicians as well.

Tell us about your current musical projects.

I have my own band called Ash Ravens. We do shows here, and are recording our album. Recently, I released a song, paying tribute to the great Ayub Bachchu, titled *Tomar Gaan*. I received a huge response



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

for the song. My next release, an uplifting Bangla song with a music video, is coming soon. In addition, we have a self-titled instrumental album, *Ash Ravens*, for online music platforms.

What is your opinion on the current state of the Bangladeshi music industry?

I honestly think that the upcoming bands are making great music. The industry has changed a lot since I left the country, but they are adapting to the changes. I want to urge them to never give up, and always pursue their passion in music.

Do you feel like there is a huge difference in making music in Bangladesh and Australia?

Absolutely! The music industry here in Australia is much more structured. If you are good at making music, you can easily make a good livelihood here by being a performer or a session artist. Unfortunately, it may not always be the case in Bangladesh. However, I am hopeful that the new generation will succeed in making this industry more professional.

Will you ever come back here permanently to pursue music?

Right now, my plan is to continue with Ash Ravens, and regularly release singles, both in Bangladesh and Australia. I am working really hard with my music. There is no telling where my music takes me in the future!

Star Melodies pays tribute to TWO MUSIC LEGENDS

ZAHANGIR ALOM

Star Melodies, an initiative of The Daily Star, organised a special musical programme, *Kothay O Gaaney Sangeeter Dui Kingbadantir Shathe*, in honour of two legendary musicians, *Geetisroshta* Gazi Mazharul Anwar and *Sursroshta* Ali Hossain. This regular event is organised every month to promote Bangla music. The programme was held at the AS Mahmud Seminar Hall of The Daily Star Centre, yesterday. The featured artistes of the evening were Badshah Bulbul, Moutushi, Dithi Anwar and Opu.

Hosted by Sadya Afreeen Mallick, Chief, Culture Initiatives, *The Daily Star*, the exclusive event turned out to be an interesting interaction between the honoured music creators, featured singers and music lovers.

The show began with a one minute silence, observed in respect for the recently deceased artist Kalidas Karmakar.

Ekushey Padak awardee Gazi Mazharul Anwar is an eminent Bangladeshi lyricist, music director, screenwriter, film director and producer. He has given lyrics to about twenty thousand songs, many of which gained immense popularity. He has won the Bangladesh National Film Award for Best Lyricist, six times, for the films, *Tit for Tat* (1992), *Ajante* (1996), *Churiwala* (2001), *Lal Dariya* (2002), *Kokhono Megh Kokhono Brishti* (2003) and *Meyeti Ekhon Kothay*



(From left) Sadya Afreeen Mallick, Ali Hossain and Gazi Mazharul Anwar at the event.

PHOTO: ORCHID CHAKMA

Jabe (2016). He started writing for Radio Pakistan in 1964 and has been credited with numerous national and international awards for his contribution to the music industry.

"The singers of the present generation lack humbleness. They decline to mention the names of the lyricist and music composer prior to performance," mentioned Gazi Mazharul Anwar, the lyricist of *Joy Bangla, Bangla'r Joy*, the first song that was aired on Shadhin Bangla Betar Kendra. "Bangabandhu pated on my back for composing the song and honoured me with the President's Gold Medal after independence." Ali Hossain is a renowned

Bangladeshi music composer and film music director. Born in Calcutta (now Kolkata), he grew up in Karachi, Pakistan, where he taught at the Nazrul Academy. He studied music under the tutelage of Ustad Pyare Khan and gained popularity for composing the evergreen song *Osrui Diye Lekha E Gaan*. Hossain started his career as a music director with the Urdu film *Parwana*, in 1965. In the following year, he directed music for his first Bangla film *Dakbabu*. He was honoured at the 12th Channel i Music Award for his lifetime contribution to Bangladeshi music. "Without precise Gurus, you cannot expect disciples to learn music

properly," said Ali Hossain. "Music fades away without proper devotion to its creator. You have to pay due respect to the creators of songs you perform."

Moutushi set off the soiree with the song *Ami Bhalobashi Jarey*, written and composed by Gazi Mazharul Anwar and Ali Hossain, respectively. She also performed songs *Osrui Diye Lekha E Gaan*, *Parina Bhule Jete* and *Chanchala Hawa Rey*, amongst others.

Badshah Bulbul's melodious performance started with *Dhako Jotona Noyon Duhaatey*. He also sang the Urdu ghazal, *Tum Zid Toh Kar Rahein Ho*, amongst his Bangla renditions, *Neel Akasher Niche Ami* and *Chaturi Jane Na*. Badshah Bulbul and Moutushi presented the popular duet, *O Chokhe Chokh Porechhe Jokhoni*.

Dithi Anwar rendered her father's song *Shudhu Gaan Geye Porichoy*. She also beautifully performed other compositions, including *Akasher Hatey Achhe* and *Jodi Amake Jante Shadh Hoy*.

Opu began his performance with *Koto Je Tomake Beshechhi Bhalo*. As the evening progressed, he enthralled the crowd with *Chokh Pherano Jaay Go* and *Gaaneri Khatay Swaralipi*. Dithi and Opu also performed the duet *Tumi Shaat Shagorer Opar Hotey* at the event.

Mahfuz Anam, Editor and Publisher of the Daily Star, delivered vote of thanks at the event. He also presented the two legends with Daily Star Books.



TRIBUTE TO KALIDAS KARMAKAR

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

The tribute ceremony to be held in honour of the late artist Kalidas Karmakar has been rescheduled from October 20 Sunday, to October 21, Monday. It will be held in the Institute of Fine Arts premises at 10 am. A tribute ceremony will also be held at the Central Shaheed Minar from 11 am to 1 pm.

PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

Bappy's 'Dongiri' hits the theatres

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Action film *Dongiri*, was released countrywide this weekend. The film is directed by Shah Alam Mondal and features Bappy Chowdhury, Amit Hasan, Aruna Biswas, and Anisur Rahman Milon, among other actors.

Mainly known for his romantic roles amongst his fans, for the first time, the actor is seen in an action film that highlights social issues.

"Our audience prefers romantic films over any other genre," says Bappy. "Yet, I am hoping the audience will like the film and accept me in a new role."

The actor is currently busy shooting for Dipankar Dipon's *Dhaka 2040*.



PHOTO: SHAHREAR KABIR HEEMEL



(From left) 'Jishnujara' by Anirban Theatre, Darshana, (Right top) 'Tilak' by Natyam Barishal and (Bottom) 'Kojagori' by Belgharia Avimukh were staged at the Ganga Jamuna Cultural Festival at Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) on the eighth day.



PHOTO: COURTESY