

WHAT'S ON

Solo Painting Exhibition
Artist: Biren Shome
Title: Liberation War Bangabandhu
Bangladesh
Venue: Gallery Chittrak, H-4, Rd-6,
Dhanmondi
Date: Nov 15-26
Time: 10am-8pm

Architectural Exhibition
Title: Nogomama: The Future of Our
Habitats
Venue: Bengal Shilpalay, Dhanmondi 27
Date: November 2 – 30
Time: 12 noon – 8 pm

Musical Show
Title: Ghumi: Beats/Verses
Date: November 28
Time: 7 pm onwards
Venue: Jatra Biroti

Art Exhibition
Title: The Traveller's Song
Artist: Kanak Champa Chakma
Venue: Edge Gallery, Gulshan- 2
Date: November 9 - November 30
Time: 10 am- 8 pm

Star Melodies
Title: Shomrojger Paanch Sabyasachi
Sangeet Shroshthar Gaan
Venue: The Daily Star Centre, Kazi
Nazrul Islam Ave
Date: November 30
Time: 6 pm



Sabrina Wong and Ho Ming Yan



Munmun Ahmed and her troupe.

PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

A blend of contemporary and classical dances

Day 3 of Ocean Dance Festival captivates

ZAHANGIR ALOM

The penultimate day of the four-day Ocean Dance Festival 2019 featured several outstanding performances -- contemporary and classical. Indian artiste Srabasti Ghosh set off the event with *Unshared Desire*, a piece that blended Odissi and contemporary styles.

Taphat/Variation, a collaborative performance by Taskin Anha (Bangladesh) and Ananya Dance Theatre (USA), followed. Separated by passport, religious affiliations and politics of power, the collaboration was a beautiful display of resolution and harmony.

Bangladeshi artiste Ariful Islam Arnab's presentation of *Manush*, a Kathak-contemporary piece, was based on a soulful rendition of the song *Tui Ma Re Chinli Na, Tui Nari Re Chinli Na* by Anusheh Anadil.

Two dancers from Hong Kong, Ho Ming Yan and Sabrina Wong, took the stage to present a contemporary piece, after which the dancers of Bandhu Social Welfare Society performed *Beautiful Bangladesh*, choreographed by Kabirul Islam Ratan.

Young Bangladeshi dancer Bristi Bepari's performance of *Flame of the Mind* captivated the audience, as did Alka Das Pranti's presentation of *Kathak to Odissi*.

Several classical dance styles, including Kathak, Manipuri and Bharatanatyam were



Alka Das Pranti

showcased in Shaju Ahmed's troupe Kathak Nritya Sampraday's lively display of *Chhonde Basanta*.

Dhriti Nartanalaya presented *Dashavataar*, choreographed by Kalavati Devi and directed by renowned dancer Warda Rihab.

Nrityanchal superbly showcased *Guru Vandana*, merging it with various technicalities

of Kathak -- *thaat, amad, uthan, padan, ladi, tukra* and *tehai*. The troupe euphorically presented a *tarana*, based on Tintaal and Raga Kirwani. Visual presentation of Mughal architectures, paintings and the connotations of Kathak Dance added a new dimension to the live performances.

Eminent dancer-choreographer Rajdeep Banerjee and the artistes of Parampara, Kolkata, performed a scintillating Bharatanatyam piece. Apart from displaying various geometric postures and technical aspects on a *Dhamar* piece, the dance *Guru* entertained the audience with a rendition of *Vande Mataram*.

Renowned Manipuri dancer Tamanna Rahman and her troupe presented several dance pieces, choreographed by Guru Bipin Singh.

Kathak performances by eminent artist Munmun Ahmed and her students wrapped up the day's proceedings. Set on the rendition of *Tore Bina Mohe Chan Nahi* by Ustad Rashid Khan, Munmun's presentation was poetic. The troupe impressed the crowd with speedy footwork, graceful expressions and the rhythm of the *ghoongro*.

The festival has been organised by the Word Dance Alliance-Asia Pacific and Nrityajog, in association with the Ministry of Cultural Affairs and Bangladesh Tourism Board.

Andrew Kishor reaches out

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

National award winning singer Andrew Kishor was recently diagnosed with cancer. He is undergoing chemotherapy at the Singapore General Hospital since the last 77 days, and is to stay there till February.

A recent post from his wife Lipika Andrew at the online fundraising platform, *gofundme* confirmed Kishor's condition. The post also notes a plea by his wife where she mentions that they need financial help.

Kishor has already completed 12 chemotherapy session, in 3 cycles. He is yet to receive another 12 therapy sessions, in 3 cycles, which starts today (November 26). Each chemotherapy costs around BDT 9 lakh and the artiste needs a further amount of BDT 2 crore and 10 lakh, in order to complete his treatment successfully, informs Kishor.

Before the singer left Dhaka for Singapore on September 9, he was invited by the Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her residence. She provided the singer with a cheque of BDT 10 lakh. A private television channel has also contributed



PHOTO: STAR



PHOTO: COLLECTED

‘IDLC Finance Limited Theatre Festival 2019’ concludes

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

IDLC Finance Limited Theatre Festival 2019 concluded at Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA), recently. Professor Emeritus Dr Sherajul Islam Choudhury attended the closing ceremony as the chief guest. M Hamid, former Chairman of Group Theatre Federation, along with Arif Khan, CEO and MD of IDLC Finance Limited, were present as special guests.

IDLC honoured four theatre veterans for their outstanding contribution in technical categories-- Raihan Abedin (light design), Ali Ahmed (set design), Shubhasis Dutta Tonmoy (makeup) and Ireen Parvin Lopa (costume design). Dr Sherajul Islam Choudhury handed over the crests to the thespians and IDLC announced cash reward for them as token of appreciation.

Ten renowned theater groups staged their productions at the festival, namely-- Dhaka University's Theatre and Performance Studies Department, Nattochokkro, Tarua, Podatik Natyio Shongshod, Shobdo Nattochorcha Kendro, Somoy Nattodol, Dhaka Theatre, Aurshinagar, Theatre and Nagorik Natya Shampradaya.



Awardees and the guests at the closing ceremony of IDLC Finance Limited Theatre Festival 2019.

PHOTO: COURTESY



Fakhrul Arefin Khan and Debojyoti Mishra

PHOTO: COURTESY

Debojyoti Mishra to direct the background music of ‘Gondi’

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Director Fakhrul Arefin Khan completed the shooting of his upcoming film *Gondi*. The background music of the film, as well as a song used in the film, will be directed by prominent music director of West Bengal, Debojyoti Mishra.

Debojyoti shared the story behind taking up this project. "Last year, Fakhrul narrated the story to me. I found it pretty interesting. Hopefully, I can deliver something different," said Mishra.

The shooting of the film took place in Dhaka, Cox's Bazar and London. "The story includes elements of the Eastern culture," mentioned Fakhrul. "This is why, I wanted to work with someone who works with Eastern and Western music. At that time, Debojyoti was in my mind and he agreed to work with me right after I approached him."

The film features National Film Award winning actor Suborna Mustafa and noted actor Sabyasachi Chakraborty from West Bengal in lead.

Zonta International completes a century

On completing 100 years of its establishment, Zonta International arranged a celebration event recently. Founded in 1919, in Buffalo, New York, Zonta International is a leading international service organisation that advocates for women's rights.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

During the formation of Zonta Clubs in Bangladesh, three women -- Zakariah Murshed, p Anwari Kabir and Sarwari Rahman -- had a vision to bring the professional women under a single platform. They focused on community work and even demanded reserved seats in the parliament for women. Zonta International has been focusing on the empowerment of women for the past 100 years. The organisation envisions a world in which women can fully reach their potential.

Industries Minister Nurul Majid Humayun inaugurated the programme as the chief guest, while Rubana Huq, President of BGMEA and Zonta International, and Dilruba Ahmed, Regional representative of centennial anniversary endowment campaign graced the event as guests of honour.



(From left), Fashion designer and event planner Tootli Rahman, Industries Minister Nurul Majid Mahmud Humayun, traveller Najmun Nahar Shohagi, President of BGMEA and Zonta International Rubana Huq and Regional representative Centennial Anniversary Endowment Campaign Dilruba Ahmed were present at the event. Najmun Nahar Shohagi received the 'Game Changer' award from the organisation.

PHOTO: COURTESY