

WHAT'S ON



Star Melodies' Musical Evening
Title: Bijoyer Ronge Aka Bela Shesher Gaan
Venue: The Daily Star Centre, Kazi Nazrul Islam Ave
Date: Today
Time: 5:30 pm onwards



Cartoon Exhibition
Title: People of many colours
Venue: La Galerie, Alliance Française de Dhaka, Dhamondi
Date: December 20 – 31
Time: 3 pm – 9 pm (Mon – Thurs);
9 am – 12 noon & 5 pm – 8 pm
(Fri – Sat)



Workshop
Title: Kata Kuti - Collage Workshop
Artist: Kazi Tahsin Agaz Apurbo
Venue: Studio 6/6, Mohammadpur
Date: December 28
Time: 11:00 am - 6:00 pm



Musical Programme
Title: Gaaner Jhorna Today
Organiser: Bengal Foundation
Venue: Bengal Shilpajay, Dhamondi
Date: December 26-28
Time: 6 pm



Group Art Exhibition
Title: Breaking Ground: Modern Art in Transition
Venue: Subir Choudhury Exhibition Hall, Bengal Shilpajay, Dhamondi
Date: Dec 17 – Feb 15
Time: 1 pm – 8 pm (Except Sundays)



Recitation Programme
Title: 71 poem recitations by Shimul Mustapha
Venue: Rabindra Shorobor
Date: Today
Time: 4:30 pm – 9:30 pm

'His Dream World' opens at Shilpangan today

ZAHANGIR ALAM

Shilpangan, the contemporary art gallery, has organised *His Dream World*, an exclusive exhibition, featuring the works of 50 great artists of Bangladesh and India. The 110 artworks at the exhibition are selected from the private collection of legendary Bangladeshi photographer, Nasir Ali Mamun. Renowned business personality and poet Rubana Huq, the first elected female President of Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association, will inaugurate the exhibition as the chief guest at 5 pm today. Art critic Moinuddin Khaled will also be in attendance. Eminent artist Hamiduzzaman Khan will preside over the event.

His Dream World is based on drawings collected by Mamun throughout different points of his career, as he visited numerous artists to take their portrait photographs. Works of several renowned artists, including Quamrul Hassan, S M Sultan, Aminul Islam, Murtaja Baseer, Abdur Razzaque, Kazi Abdul



(From Left) 'Revenge' by Rokeya Sultana, 'Dream' by Samarjit Roy Choudhury and 'Young Girl' by Chandra Shekhar Dey.

Baset, Qayyum Chowdhury, Syed Jahangir, Rafiqun Nabi, Monirul Islam, Shahabuddin Ahmed, K G Subramanyan, Paritosh Sen, Ganesh Pyne, Lalu Shaw, Wasim R Kapoor, Robin Mondal and Jogen Chowdhury among others, are on display at the exhibition.

Eminent artist Syed Jahangir depicted Tagore on paper, while renowned sculptor Ferdousi Priyabhashini, portrayed Gurudev on acrylic. Her work uncannily resembles the Tagorean style. Sheikh Afzal's work on Tagore has drawings mingled with minimal watercolours. The magical black lines will easily attract the viewers. The exhibition sheds light on self-portraits by many artists like Abdur Razzaque, Murtaja Baseer and Shahabuddin Ahmed. Several visages of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, depicted by Shahabuddin Ahmed, are also on exhibit.

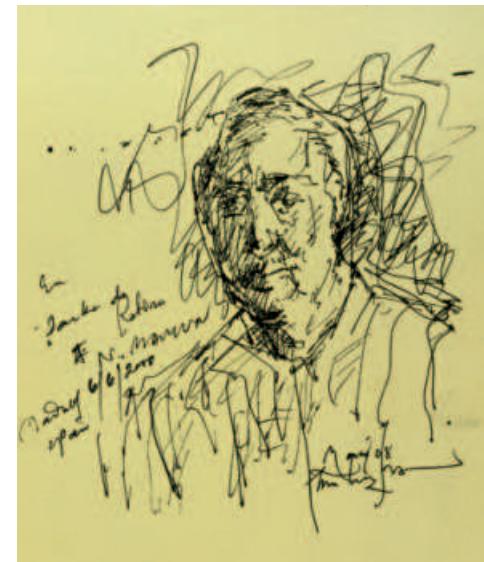
Murtaja Baseer's meticulous drawings of his self-portrait and other drawings, enrich the exhibition. Some of his line-based

drawings depict visually stunning realistic portraits. Internationally renowned artist Monirul Islam's application of paint is intense and his lines are more minimised. The colours in his paintings are bold and vivacious. Islam's masterful paintings and a portrait of Nasir Ali Mamun enhance the standard of the show. New York based renowned Bangladeshi artist Anowar Hossain's artwork of Frida Kahlo (charcoal) is outstanding.

Some seasoned Indian painters' drawings add to the significance of the group show. Purnendu Patra's lyrical drawings, K G Subramanyan and Jogen Chowdhury's drawings and serigraphs, Dhiraj Chowdhury's work on the Liberation War are renowned for their individual styles and techniques. Noted Indian artist Jogen Chowdhury is well known among Bangladeshi artists and critics. At the exhibition, the audience will see his depiction of organic forms and magical unbroken lines.

Mamun, who is referred to as the 'Poet of Camera', has been photographing renowned creative personalities for nearly five decades. He was the first artiste to introduce the concept of portrait photography in Bangladesh in 1972. Since then, he has been collecting autographs of famous poets and writers. As of now, Mamun has 10,000 artworks in his collection. He has built great friendships with every artist he met over the years.

"I am deeply indebted to the artists, poets and writers. Patau Quamrul Hassan did my portrait twice, while S M Sultan sketched my visage eight times. These presents, I think, are as special as winning National Awards, said Mamun. "31 artworks from the 110 that will be on display, are already sold out, which is inspiring. This is the third time that I am hosting an exhibition of this kind. Previously, I exhibited my collection of artworks at Bengal Shilpajay in 2012 and 2014." *His Dream World*, opening from 3 pm to 8 pm every day, will conclude on January 11, 2020.



Nasir Ali Mamun's portrait by Monirul Islam

Tasmit Rafiyat Arny on making Miss Universe Bangladesh's 'national costume'

SHARMIN JOYA

Miss Universe Bangladesh, Shirin Akter Shela was appreciated for her national costume in the final round of the contest. She looked stunning in a red jamdani saree, complete with a model hood of the iconic Bangladeshi rickshaws, and jewellery made to imitate Bengali letters. The person behind the unique costume is Tasmit Afifiy Arny, who started her career in 2011. She studied Graphics Design at University of Dhaka, worked as an intern at the fashion house, YELLOW, and went on to participate in many reality shows, including Style Guru and AXN Amazing Race. She also participated on the show, LUX Channel 1 Superstar, and made it to the Top 15. We caught up with Tasmit to learn more about her work.

Share your experience of being involved in designing Miss Universe Bangladesh's national costume.
Just two days before Shela was flying to Georgia, Rizwan Bin Farouq, Chairman, Miss Universe Bangladesh, requested me to make the costumes for Shela, as I had also worked on the costumes for Miss World Bangladesh, Jessia Islam, in 2017. I didn't know whether it will be practically possible to make Shela's costume in such a short time! However, I took it as a challenge and with lots of sleepless nights and effort, I completed the whole concept.

How did you come up with the idea of the national



PHOTO: COURTESY
costume for Miss Universe Bangladesh, which was appreciated worldwide!

I had to create something that signifies the culture and heritage of Bangladesh. Jamdani is a handloom

woven fabric made of cotton, an age-old Bengali tradition that has been celebrated across the world. The rickshaw hood had vibrant colours depicting local nature and pop culture. Rickshaw paint has been considered an archetypal form of contemporary Bangladeshi folk art. Moreover, the rickshaw and jamdani are environmentally friendly products as well.

Along with that, the hood also showcased the ritual of making masks. Masks are a vital part of the celebration of the Bengali New Year. They symbolised kings and queens, indicating the vast history of Bengali culture. The Royal Bengal Tiger is our national animal, while the Owl is seen as a symbol of prosperity. The masks together conveyed the history of our culture. The jewellery pieces imitating Bengali letters, expressed our pride in our mother tongue. The green background of the rickshaw hood and Shela's red saree represented the colours of our national flag.

Besides a fashion designer, you have also worked as an art designer and assistant director. Do you want to work as director?

I prefer working as a fashion designer. I am a visualiser at Asiatic. Currently, I am also running a fashion house, Stride, which has two outlets in Dhaka. Apart from designing, I have worked on Rubaiyat Hossain's *Under Construction*, as an assistant director, and in quite a few television commercials. I might think of directing in the future, but for now, I



Star Melodies to host 'Bijoyer Ronge Aka Bela Shesher Gaan' today

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Star Melodies, an initiative of *The Daily Star* to promote Bangla music, will host a musical evening, titled *Bijoyer Ronge Aka Bela Shesher Gaan*, featuring songs on the Victory of Bangladesh. The programme is sponsored by Dhaka Bank Limited.

Students of East West University will present songs of our Liberation War. Ekushey Padak awardee Kader Kibria, along with popular singers Afsana Runa, Bornali Sarkar and Salauddin Khan will perform at the show. The event will be held today at The Daily Star Centre, at 5:30 pm.

Sadya Afreen Mallick, Chief, Culture Initiatives, *The Daily Star*, will host and coordinate the programme. The event is open for all. Seats are limited, and available on a first-come first-serve basis.



Elita and Friends



Arjan



Riad and Salekin

Boishakhi Television celebrates 15 years today



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Marking their 15th anniversary, Boishakhi Television has arranged a day-long celebration at their office premises today. The programme will be telecast live. The celebration will consist of musical shows, fictions, movies and many other entertaining programmes. Honourable speaker of the National Parliament, Dr Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury, will inaugurate the event.

SANJEEB UTSHAB HELD IN DU

The 8th Sanjeeb Uthsab, dedicated to the great musician Sanjeeb Chowdhury, was held at the TSC Swimming Pool on December 25. Renowned musicians and bands from DU performed at the event, which commemorated the 55th birthday of Sanjeeb Chowdhury.

PHOTOS: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED