



## COVER STORY



# LOOKING BACK

## STAR SHOWBIZ 2014

**JAMES**

When asked about photography, James asks back: "What kind of question is that?" He shrugs the question off, runs inside his room to get his camera. He grabbed Showbiz's photographer, Tuhin Hossain, put him in his studio and started taking his portraits. Roles were reversed, the photographer, found himself on the other side of the lens. James, the musician, seemed to be in love with photography.

**MAHI**

The weight of fame? Most of the times I don't even remember that people know me. I admit, right now, talking to you, I do feel that there is a weight on my shoulders – I am giving an interview. That weight gets heavier when I am shooting. At other times, I am the same Mahiya Mahi. I live for the moment, and I will always go back to being my own self.

**PEYA**

Five years from now, I want to see myself as a good artist – no matter what the platform is. Let me take it further, ten years from now, I want to see myself as a barrister. Fifteen years later, a politician. No matter what I do I will be involved in the media. It may sound awful, but the truth is that media is like a drug. Once you get in there is no coming back. The media is like a magnet. It drags you into it and you can't break free.

**APURBO**

I think models need to think about their move to acting carefully. The transition from modeling to acting is not easy – the networks are different, the people involved are different, and of course, you can't just sit still and look pretty – you

need to learn acting. So, yes, many models find that transition difficult. Secondly, not everyone has the patience – it takes time to build oneself as an actor. If a model expects make big bucks as an actor from day one, then his acting career will never grow.

**ANANTA JALIL**

I never thought that I would be into films and movies. But I always wondered why Bangladeshi movies were not an export item. My main target was to export local films. Secondly, I was looking for an actress with the right elements who would be appealing to the international audience. Then came Barsha AJ, I immediately found the chemistry I was looking for – in my view she is suited to be a proper leading actress, she has all the ingredients. My desire to export Bangladeshi movies and meeting with Barsha AJ triggered the decision to enter the media industry.

**ANUSHEH**

The world is afraid of the invisible side of us. I call it the feminine side – we all have it. We are just afraid to explore it. Women are intrinsically intuitive. When my child is ill, I can just feel it inside me even if I am far away. Our patriarchal society has always tried to discard that power in women. I don't like being called a feminist, I am a humanist. Every human being is an embodiment of both feminine and masculine characteristics. I am a woman but very male at times. Life is about duality – we carry both. We don't have to be "either-or".

**ARNOB**

It has been a while that I am thinking of getting into filmmaking. I have a script, which I have already sketched out on a storyboard. I am not saying I am going to jump into it tomorrow! But if everything goes smoothly you may find me making movies. That would be fun! I am an artist by education, musician by profession and a filmmaker by passion.

**BIDYA SINHA MIM**

There is a shift in our movie industry at present. People working here are producing some good movies and television productions, I would say. The storyline, scripts and artists have changed over time. I hope if the trend continues, we will be able to produce good movies. Recently, I have worked in the movie named 'Tarkata' with Mostofa Kamal Raj. I enjoyed the story and characters of that movie. I think it is a part of our continuous sign of improvement.

**NAILA NAYEM**

I have a single profile and a fan page on Facebook. There are several advantages of using Facebook to generate a fan following. You can easily get connected with large numbers of fans from a single platform. There are several controlling tools of Facebook that allows me to run my page per my requirements and make it a secure place. Yes, I receive lots of feedback. Most of the cases, fans laud my work. Sometimes, criticisms are also there. However, I count each of the criticism and try to take them positively.

**ZAKIA BARI MAMO**

Well it is truly my good fortune that I managed to balance everything. I've continued my education simultaneously, and

am thinking of doing my PhD soon. I guess a likely reason for being able to maintain this balance, is I hardly have any idle time; I always keep myself occupied with work, either in my personal life or professional one. In the near future I intend to maintain focus simultaneously on my teaching and acting career. Let's see if the Almighty's grace carries forth with me in my endeavours.

**JAYA AHSAN**

Our work is not only methodical, it is also a bit emotional, and our work is not vapid. An actor has to entertain people and survive at the same time and hence I think an actor's life is a bit different. Acting is madness. It's not like any other work. There are successful writers, painters, singers, athletes, etc. And they all follow a certain discipline, unlike actors. Actors are a little undisciplined in that case.

**RUKHSANA ALI HEERA**

Honestly, changing your life is something that depends upon yourself. The batch of contestants that I have emerged from aren't really in the spotlight anymore, whereas I have kept on working in the field and established my name. In the end, it depends on how far you want yourself to reach. Your focus and your dedication must be 100%. Through all the blessings of those who love my work, I have and am still continuing to work as hard as possible so that I can remain as Heera!

Catch the uncut and unabridged version of Showbiz's Cover Interview and more on Radio Shadhin 92.4 FM Every Saturday, 11 PM onwards.

