

NEWS bytes

LIONEL RICHIE heads to number one

Soul star Lionel Richie is heading to number one in the UK, as he enjoys a post-Glastonbury sales boost. Fans and converts have been snapping up his greatest hits album, "The Definitive Collection", in the wake of Sunday's televised performance.

As a result, the 2003 album is in pole position in the official midweek chart update - a jump of 103 places.

"When they told me this morning, I was screaming like a kid with his first hit record," Richie told the BBC.

"I'm trying to be very calm about this, but there's no way you can be calm about this. This is like Christmas."

According to the Official Charts Company, 17 of the top 40 albums in the midweek chart are Glastonbury acts, including The Who, Paloma Faith, James Bay and Jungle.

Last weekend, Florence and the Machine saw their third album, "How Big How Blue How Beautiful", return to number one in the wake of their Friday night Glastonbury headline slot.

Source: BBC



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

"Always keep a smile on your face"

...Tariq Anam Khan

SAURAV DEY

Tariq Anam Khan first got on the stage when he was in class seven. With a luminous acting career spanning over four decades, he now stands among the finest Bangladeshi actors of all time. Be it film, television or stage, he has a dominating presence. In a recent conversation, he walked down the memory lane to share his beginning as an actor, his accomplishments and more. Excerpts:

How did you begin as a television actor?

Tariq Anam Khan: I got involved with television in the early 1980s. Fortunately I received a scholarship at Delhi National School of Drama in 1976, with

which I discovered a new door to the world of arts and literature. When I came back here, I did a number of off-beat characters in films in the early '80s but those did not work out and I quit the medium. Then I concentrated on television and side by side was continuing with Abdullah Al Mamun's troupe Theatre.

What was it like to work with Humayun Ahmed?

Tariq Anam Khan: When Humayun Ahmed began making TV plays, we barely knew him. He asked me to play Baker Bhai in "Kothao Keu Nei", but later changed his mind -- and it created a gap between us. The gap continued for a long time before I was cast in his

"Ghetuputro Komola".

He had told me that he did not like my acting and he had a notion that I did not like him. He actually tested me out through a TV play before casting me in "Ghetuputro Komola".

It is then he called me a 'very good actor' and that he had a misconception about me. But he left us shortly after. He was an incredibly learned man; he had knowledge about almost everything. We would hang out together on the shooting sets for a long time. I still miss that, and I wish I could have done a few more films with him.

What do you still dream of?

Tariq Anam Khan: As an actor, I still dream of working in a Hollywood film.

Although that hasn't yet come true, my name does show up in the "Avengers: Age of Ultron" credits, as I was production coordinator for the sequence shot in Bangladesh..

What's the difference between Tariq Anam Khan on and off-screen?

Tariq Anam Khan: It's not that I am a bad person, but my audiences are used to seeing me in negative roles. Maybe that I have a very serious type of face and am a serious man when I work, but I believe there's a child in very grown-up person. We often kill that child inside of us for whatever reasons, but I think we should nurture that child. Laugh it out and always keep a smile on your face; life needs humour.

Eid special "Ityadi" coming with surprise

CORRESPONDENT

"Ityadi" is always packed with surprises, and when it comes to entertaining the audience the magazine programme has been doing it for decades. In line with the previous years, Ityadi team is ready to come up with a brand new show this Eid. The audience will see two generations of artistes performing together on the same stage. Actress-dancer Mou and her daughter Pushpita will dance to Sabina Yasmin and her daughter Badhon's songs. A group of dancers from Bangladesh Academy of Fine Arts will perform along with them. In addition the programme will have its regular segments.

Produced by Fagun Audio Vision and hosted by Hanif Sanket, "Ityadi" will air on BTV during Eid.



ME AND MY HEROES



Uttam-Suchitra (left) and Richard Gere.

TULIP CHOWDHURY, writes from Massachusetts, USA

Ever since I had those butterflies fluttering in my heart, I have been a member of OSLA (One Sided Lovers' Association). My one sided love affairs are with actors on the screens.

I was sweet-sixteen when Waheed Murad, the Pakistani actor became my hero. His handsome face under the thick black hair took my breath away.

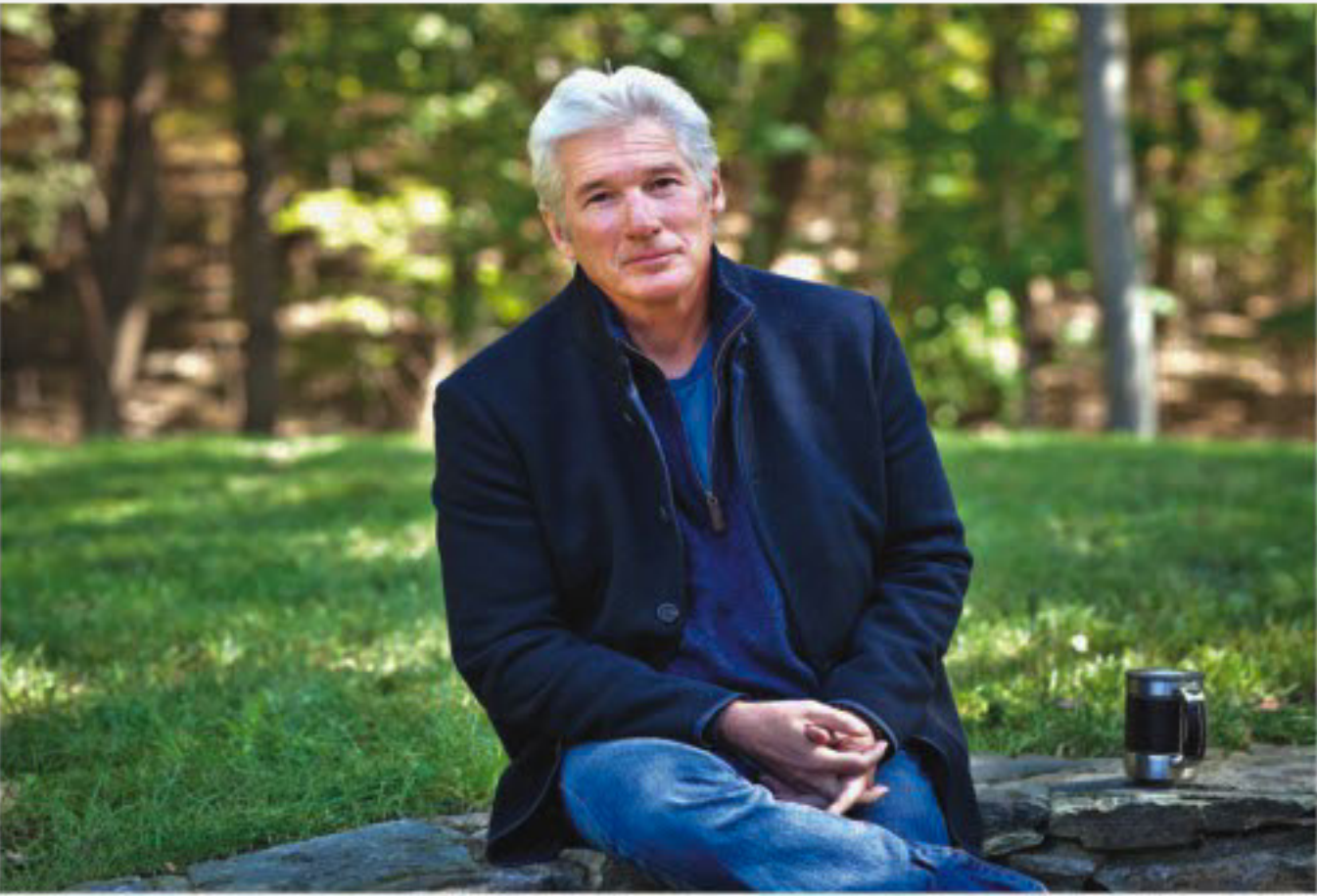
In the early '70s, The Persuaders, an action/adventure TV series was a must watch for me. Roger Moore was the first foreign actor to capture my heart from that show. He had dark hair, was sweet and at the same time very manly. How I loved the way he raced his car with com-

plete confidence, his blue eyes.

In the late '70s my mother took me to watch "The Guns of Navarone", with Gregory Peck in the lead role. The occasion was my star-crossed love to be found. Gregory Peck with his incredibly good looks and bravery sealed my heart with undying love.

Then, along came Uttam Kumar in my invisible love life. After watching "Haraano Suur", Uttam Kumar began talking to me in my dreams. In the movies, he spoke Bangla, my native tongue. While watching his movies I would imagine myself as Suchitra Sen.

Western movies with cowboys found a fresh place in my heart's lonely hunts. Blue eyed cowboys with their sombreros became my dance partners in barn dances. The age of forties found me deeply in love



with Bollywood actors. Amitabh Bachchan and Rajesh Khanna were my mantras after we got our first VCR and watched endless Hindi movies.

Even now, as a member of OSLA, after aging more than half a century, watching "Unfaithful" has me fall for Richard Gere. To me, if being unfaithful meant having Richard Gere share a cup of coffee with me, that would be worth the risk. And to this day, I do not watch movies by Pierce Brosnan without having my wild imagination fly to a planet where he and I would be the only inhabitants.

If only all my cinema heroes knew of how a young girl has grown old with hopeless love for them, perhaps one of them would become real in my life when I make a wish with the shooting stars.



Alauddin Ali going abroad for treatment

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Composer of numerous timeless songs, eight-time national award winning music director Alauddin Ali is traveling to Bangkok today for medial treatment. He was diagnosed with lung complications last month.

Family sources said that his ailment is under control, and treatment at this stage will hopefully assure him a full recovery. The family has also chosen the hospital where he will go for treatment.

ELITA AND BAPPA in Eid musical programme

A CORRESPONDENT

Popular singer Elita will be seen performing alongside Bappa & Friends (of Bappa Mazumder) in a special episode of Maasranga TV's "Music Fusion". Shot at FDC recently for Eid, the show will feature their own popular numbers,

alongside Rabindra Sangeet, Lalon Geeti and Hason Raja's songs. Bappa informed that he thoroughly enjoyed performing at the show, which had a touch of its own.

Produced by ZI Faisal, the episode of "Music Fusion" will air at 7:40pm on the fifth day of Eid.



IT'S TRUE!

Finger tutting is a type of dance that involves intricate movements of the fingers. The word 'tutting' refers to use of angular movements reminiscent of Egyptian hieroglyphics. Finger tutting received international attention after practitioner John Hunt (aka Pnut) made a viral video entitled "Greasy Fingers". Later, Hunt was featured prominently in the video for the Taylor Swift song "Shake It Off".



Omar Sunny as 'Shobjanta Shomser'

A CORRESPONDENT

For the first time, film actor Omar Sunny will be seen hosting a special television programme titled "Shobjanta Shomser". Omar Sunny will appear as Shobjanta Shomser, a know-it-all.

The game show will feature popular actors

including Emon, Nirob, Saimon, Mehzebien, Hasin and Bhabna, competing for the title.

Omar Sunny said, "I was initially nervous since I have never hosted a show before. But I liked it and had fun on the sets with my co-artists."

The show will air on Maasranga Television on the fourth day of Eid at 7:40pm.