

I will gift 'Swapnojal' to my audience

... Giasuddin Selim



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

National Film Award winning director Giasuddin Selim is working on his new film "Swapnojal". The director, who earned accolades for his film "Monpura", talked to The Daily Star about his upcoming film and his perspective of the year to come.

What do you hope for in the new year?
Giasuddin Selim: I hope 2016 will be free from political instability, and the people of our country will live peacefully. As everyone else, I want peace. If political parties want to protest they should find an alternative to harming people's lives through blockades and violence.

What is your offering to the audience in 2016?
Giasuddin Selim: I will present them with my new film "Swapnojal". The film is currently in the pre-production stage and shooting will start soon. If everything goes well, the film will release in November.

What do you expect from the film industry?
Giasuddin Selim: Many promising directors are venturing into filmmaking. Some of them are currently working on their new films. I hope we will get to see some good Bangla films in 2016. I will consider it a successful year if we see even just three or four really good films.

Do you have any projects aside from "Swapnojal"?
Giasuddin Selim: No. I am giving my full attention to "Swapnojal". I hope the audience will appreciate it.

Any words for your audience in the new year?
Giasuddin Selim: I wish them a Happy New Year. I hope the year will bring them peace and happiness.

NRITYACHARYA BULBUL CHOWDHURY MELA-2016

Commemorating programme at Shilpakala today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Bangladesh Dance Artists' Association and Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) have jointly chalked out a commemorative programme marking 97th birth anniversary of Nrityacharya Bulbul Chowdhury, the pioneer classical dancer and painter of Bangladesh. Bulbul Chowdhury Mela-2016 begins today (January 1) at National Theatre Hall of BSA at 6pm.

A two-day (December 28-29) dance workshop based on Bulbul's composition and an open discussion on the creativity of the artiste was held at BSA. Noted dancers Deepa Khandakar, Kabirul Islam Ratan, Belayet Hossain Khan, MR Wasek and Farhana Chowdhury Baby conducted the workshop while Nilufar Wahid Papri directed it.

Today's programme includes discussion, conferring Bulbul Chowdhury Award on noted dancer Saleha Chowdhury, certificate

giving ceremony and performance of dance by soloists and troupes.

Cultural Affairs Secretary Akhtari Momtaz will attend the event as chief guest while President of International Theatre Institute (worldwide), Ramendu Majumdar and human rights activist Sultana Kamal will be present as special guests. Nrityagurus -- Amanul Haque, Rahija Khanam Jhunu, Minu Haque and Mahfuzur Rahman will discuss on the life and work of Bulbul Chowdhury. Director General of BSA Liaquat Ali Lucky will preside over the programme.

A lively dance show featuring solo artistes and dance troupes will present classical, contemporary and folk dances at the event. As previous years, Bulbul Chowdhury birth anniversary celebration programme will take place at all the divisional, district and upazila level branches of the association covering entire Bangladesh.



FILE PHOTO

TV WATCH

SHIRONAME TUMI on Maasranga

A CORRESPONDENT

Single-episode TV drama "Shironame Tumi" airs tonight on Maasranga TV, at 7:40pm. Written and directed by Faisal Khan Ripon, it casts Sajal Noor and Sadia Islam Mou in the lead roles.

The story of the drama revolves around Arnob and Supti, who meet for the second time while looking for a house on rent. Their first encounter was through a road accident. After the two exchange romantic flares, Arnob proposes Supti of marriage, and only then he gets to know about the past of Supti - who was married to a loving husband who died in a road accident, after he tests positive for HIV.



Hollywood's big Superhero year is here

FAHMIM FERDOUS

Hollywood has just had its biggest year, with a mindboggling accumulation of \$11 billion - the biggest ever tally, and it does not look like that wagon will slow down. Comic book Superhero movies have been all the rave in the past few years, and arguably the most-anticipated year of Hollywood's comic book movie geeks is here, with release dates of some potential juggernauts spread throughout the calendar. Here is a quick glimpse at some.

Batman V Superman: Dawn of Justice (March 23)
Starring: Ben Affleck, Henry Cavill, Gal Gadot, Jesse Eisenberg

With Marvel dominating the market, but DC is bringing out its big guns: Batman and Superman are the two most iconic comic book superheroes ever, and to have them face to face on the big screen (with Wonder Woman thrown in the middle) against Lex Luthor will surely throw fans into ecstasy.

Captain America: Civil War (May 6)

Starring: Robert Downey Jr., Chris Evans, Chris Hemsworth, Scarlett Johansson, Jeremy Renner, Elizabeth Olsen

Marvel is also assembling their biggest superheroes, and then pitting them opposite each other. With the first two Avengers films being global blockbusters, anticipation are through the roof for this one, especially with the inclusion of Marvel Studios' new acquisition, Spiderman, joining the legion of Marvel's best.

Suicide Squad (August 5)

Starring: Jared Leto, Cara Delevigne, Margot Robbie, Will Smith, Viola Davis

While everyone loves their favourite superheroes on the big screen, comic book geeks' dream anti-hero team is also storming the box office, with DC villains teaming up in this David Ayer-directorial. To see The Joker, Harley Quinn, Deadshot, Enchantress and Killer Croc gang up will be exciting to say the least, as the film explores a darker shade of 'superheroes'.



Deadpool (Feb 12)

Starring: Ryan Reynolds, Morena Baccarin

With all the multi-hero films in the buzz, there is one film that going toe to toe with them with just one man in the lead. Comic book fans have



wanted to see the Merc with a Mouth in action, and Ryan Reynolds has managed to amplify that buzz to massive levels. If the recent Red Band trailer of the film is any indication, it may turn up to be one of the biggest films of the year.



X-Men: Apocalypse (May 27)

Starring: James McAvoy, Michael Fassbender, Oscar Isaac, Jennifer Lawrence, Olivia Munn

One of the longest-running superhero franchises of all, X-Men is also bringing out one of its biggest

villains in 2016, in Apocalypse. Professor X, Magneto, Mystique, Cyclops and Beast need no introduction anymore, and with new blood injected in the forms of Psylocke and Moira MacTaggart, the ensemble superhero franchise with a dedicated following are sure to churn in some big numbers.

Doctor Strange (November 6)

Starring: Benedict Cumberbatch, Chiwetel Ejiofor, Rachel McAdams, Tilda Swinton

While Dr. Strange is not the most familiar name to the casual comic book geek, this strange, mystical Marvel hero is making his first appearance in the big screen as Marvel Cinematic Universe's fourteenth film, and the fact that Benedict Cumberbatch is playing the titular role is what is causing the stir. Much secrecy is being maintained till now about filming, which is only fanning the speculations. With a solid cast and unknown promises, it's safe to say "Doctor Strange" will draw a fair number of moviegoers to the cinema.



MIM answers your questions!

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

The Daily Star asked its readers to ask questions to actor Bidya Sinha Mim. We received overwhelming response from the readers as they asked many questions to their favourite star, and even one brave soul with a dinner date proposal! Here are some selected questions which Mim answered.

Dewan Imran Ahmed: What was the biggest challenge you faced in your career?

Mim: My role in "Poddo Patar Jol" was the biggest challenge in my career. I played a baiji dancer in the film, and portraying the character properly was a tough job. In addition, I played a double role in a television commercial of Grameenphone. That was also a challenge for me.

Abdullah Al Mamun: There was news that you refused an offer from Bollywood. Was that true?

Mim: Yes, I did receive an offer from Bollywood. We almost finalized the talks, until I asked them about the role. And they said the role will be a bit adult-oriented. I refused them since I don't want to play such roles.

Foysal M Rahman: Nowadays many Bangladeshi actors are working in the Indian entertainment industry. Do you think they should be encouraged?

Mim: Of course! I appreciate that many of our actors are doing Indian Bangla films. If we don't work in their films they will not know about the quality of our work. Every artiste should work on international level. This is a positive trend and this should be continued.

Nusrat Tasneem: Do you miss the life when you were not a celebrity?

Mim: I do miss it at times. I remain busy throughout the year for shooting. I cannot even eat fuchka standing on the footpath. I cannot travel alone in Bangladesh. Wherever I go people, follow me. So I miss the life sometimes. However, I enjoy this life to the fullest.

Ujjal Adhikary: Any tip for those who want to venture into showbiz?

Mim: The first tip I can give them is to take preparation before coming here. If they want to come to cinema they should learn acting, dance and fighting. This will help them compete in the industry. Also there are many reality shows, and enthusiasts can come to showbiz through participating in those shows. I stepped into the industry through Lux-Channel i Superstar.

Mohammad Yasin Arafat: If you are asked to invite ten people to your home, who will be on that guest list?

Mim: It depends on which kind of programme I am inviting them for. For family get together, I would invite family members including my uncle, aunts and cousins. And for media get-together, I would invite my close people from media.

SM Nurunnabi: What kind of man do you prefer for marriage?

Mim: I would prefer a man with a beautiful mind. He has to be honest and educated. Most importantly he has to understand me, respect me and support me and my work.