

WHAT'S ON
Bangladesh Cultural Festival
 Venue: Nandanmancha, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
 Date: Jan 1-18
 Time: 4:30pm daily



Solo Exhibition
 Manifestation of the Human
 Artist: Md. Mainuddin
 Venue: La Galerie, AFD
 Date: Jan 2-18; Time: 3-9pm



Drawing Exhibition
 Celebrated Violence-5: Wound
 Artist: Dilara Begum Jolly
 Venue: Kala Kendra
 Date: Dec 26-Jan 20
 Time: 2-8pm



Solo Art Exhibition
 Alluvial Soul- Soil- Symbol
 Artist: Kalidas Karmakar
 Venue: Nalinikanta Bhattasali Gallery, Bangladesh National Museum
 Date: Jan 3-24
 Time: 9:30am - 7pm



Solo Painting Exhibition
 What I Talk About When I Talk About Life
 Artist: Shameem Subana
 Venue: Gallery Twenty One
 Date: Jan 9-31; Time: 12-8pm



NEWS
bytes

Aaron Paul teases "BETTER CALL SAUL" cameo



AMC's "Better Call Saul" is a hit in its own right — but given that it's a prequel to "Breaking Bad", fans have been eagerly hoping for cameos from the original series stars like Bryan Cranston and Aaron Paul.

Paul told Variety that might be a possibility, with the Golden-Globe nominated drama set for its second season premiere February 15. "Hopefully I will be involved," he said, during a visit to the Television Critics Assn. press tour to promote his role in Hulu's upcoming drama "The Path." "But I don't know when that may be. I'm not going to say anything more. But I'm absolutely open to the idea. Hopefully it happens. I'm all about it."

Paul promised that his return to the show would be satisfying to the show's fans. "If I were to be involved, I can promise that it would be done in the most beautiful way," he said, "because there's no way they're going to bring Jesse Pinkman back just to bring him back. They're going to bring him back and the audience is going to be very excited not just to see him, but to see how it all unfolded."

Source: **Variety**

IT'S TRUE!



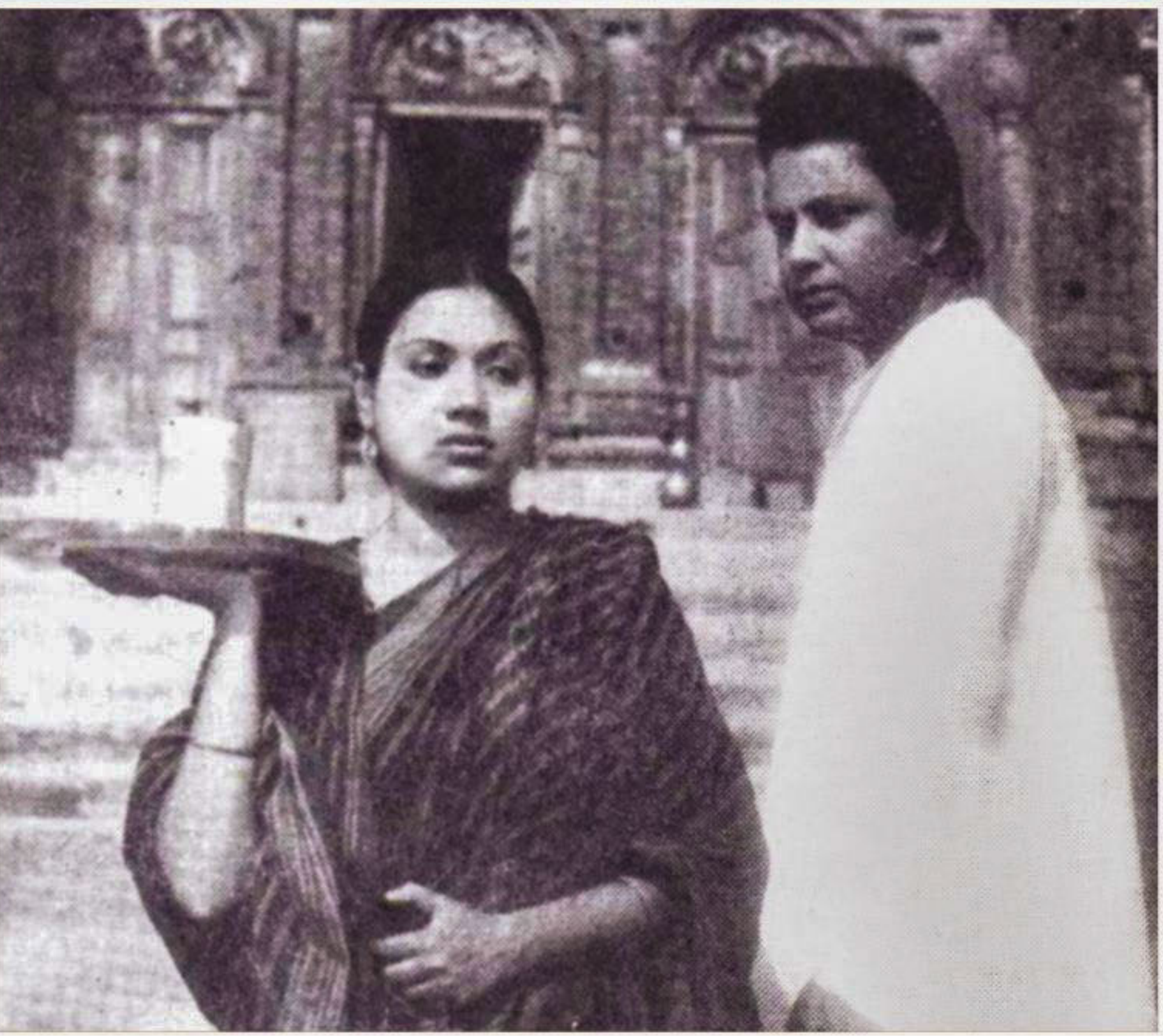
Prolific Bollywood actor Om Puri have played many Pakistani characters, from the iconic role of George Khan in British comedies "East is East" and "West is West" to President Zia-ul-Haq in Charlie Wilson's "War". But now for the first time, he is all set to star in a Pakistani film -- in "Na Maloom Afraad", a Pakistani cinematic venture by director Nabeel Qureshi and producer Fizza Ali Meerza. The filmmaker duo is also set to announce their second joint project, a film titled "Actor In Law", which will also star Om Puri.



CHASHI NAZRUL ISLAM

In loving memory

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Chashi Nazrul Islam, a stalwart of Bangla cinema, passed away on this very day last year at the age of 73, but the stories he left behind on celluloid will remain forever. Here's a look back at the life and works of this towering figure of our entertainment industry.



A still from "Devdas" (1982).

Chashi Nazrul's struggle of life began at the early age of 16 when his father died and he had to take a job in 1957. His cultural activities, mostly with theatre group *Krishti Sangha*, continued to bloom. Knowing about his interest in acting, his brother in law *Syed Awal*, who was the chief assistant director of noted director *Fateh Lohani*, introduced him to *Lohani*. He was first cast in a small role in "Achia" (1961), but then was moved behind the camera to work as an assistant director. Two years later, he came to the limelight after working as an assistant director to *Obaid Ul Haque* in the film "Dui Diganta". At the same time, he directed and voiced radio dramas including "Ramer Sumoti", "Socrates"

and "Sakhina Birangana". As the country descended into chaos in 1971, Chashi Nazrul Islam joined the Liberation War, and after he came back, he put together the first full length feature on the country's Liberation War, in "Ora Egaro Jon", which starred real-life Freedom Fighters alongside regular actors. His directorial career never quite lost the steam since then, as he continued to explore genres like literary classics (with "Devdas" in 1982, which he himself remade in 2013) and *Behula Lakhindar, Liberation War* (in 1974 film "Sangram" and 1995's "Hangor Nodi Grenade"), and familial and social matters. "Shubhoda" (1986), "Danga

Fasad" (1990), "Padma Meghna Jamuna" (1991), "Shilpi" (1995), "Hason Raja" (2001) "Megher Pore Megh" (2004) and "Dui Purush" (2011). Two of his films released after his passing: "Ontorongo" (December 6, 2015) and "Bhul Jodi Hoy" (this Friday, January 8). Aside from winning two National Awards (For "Shubhoda" and "Hangor Nodi Grenade"), a Lifetime Achievement Award from BACHSAS, and the honours of *Ekushey Padak* (2004), he also served as the chairman of the Bangladesh Film Director's Association, as a member of the censor board and of the joint production committee.



Deepika, "Bajrangi Bhaijan" win big at Screen Awards

A glamorous Star Screen Awards 2016, held on Friday, handed its top honours to *Shah Rukh Khan, Ranveer Singh* and *Deepika Padukone*. *Ranveer* won the best actor award for his splendid performance in "Bajirao Mastani", which he shared with megastar *Amitabh Bachchan*, who got it for "Piku".

The prestigious award show, which recognises talents from the film industry, was attended by the who's who of the Bollywood industry. Some of the celebs dazzled the event with their stunning performances.

The best female actress went to *Deepika Padukone* for "Piku", while *Kabir Khan* won the best director award for "Bajrangi Bhaijan". *Shah Rukh Khan* won Best Actor in popular choice category, while *Deepika* bagged it in the actresses' category as well.

"Bajrangi Bhaijan" also won the Best Film in popular choice category (along with Best Story) while "Talvar" won Best Film in jury's choice.

Deepak Dobriyal won Best Supporting Actor for "Tanu Weds Manu Returns", Best Supporting Actress award went to *Priyanka Chopra* for "Bajirao Mastani".

Papon and *Monali Thakur* won Best Playback singer awards, for the same song - "Moh Moh Ke Dhaage" (from the film "Dam Laga Ke Haisha").

Source: **Bollywood Hungama**

Guillermo Del Toro to remake sci-fi classic

Now that "Crimson Peak" has come and gone, and "Pacific Rim 2" has been put on the back burner for now, *Guillermo del Toro* is currently looking for the next film he can sink his teeth into. And he might decide to remake one of science fiction's classics.

The Hollywood Reporter says that the director/writer/producer is in talks to direct and develop a re-telling of "Fantastic Voyage". The film would be done in conjunction with 20th Century Fox and James Cameron's Lightstorm Entertainment. This project would reunite him with *David Goyer*, the writer of his 2002 film "Blade II".

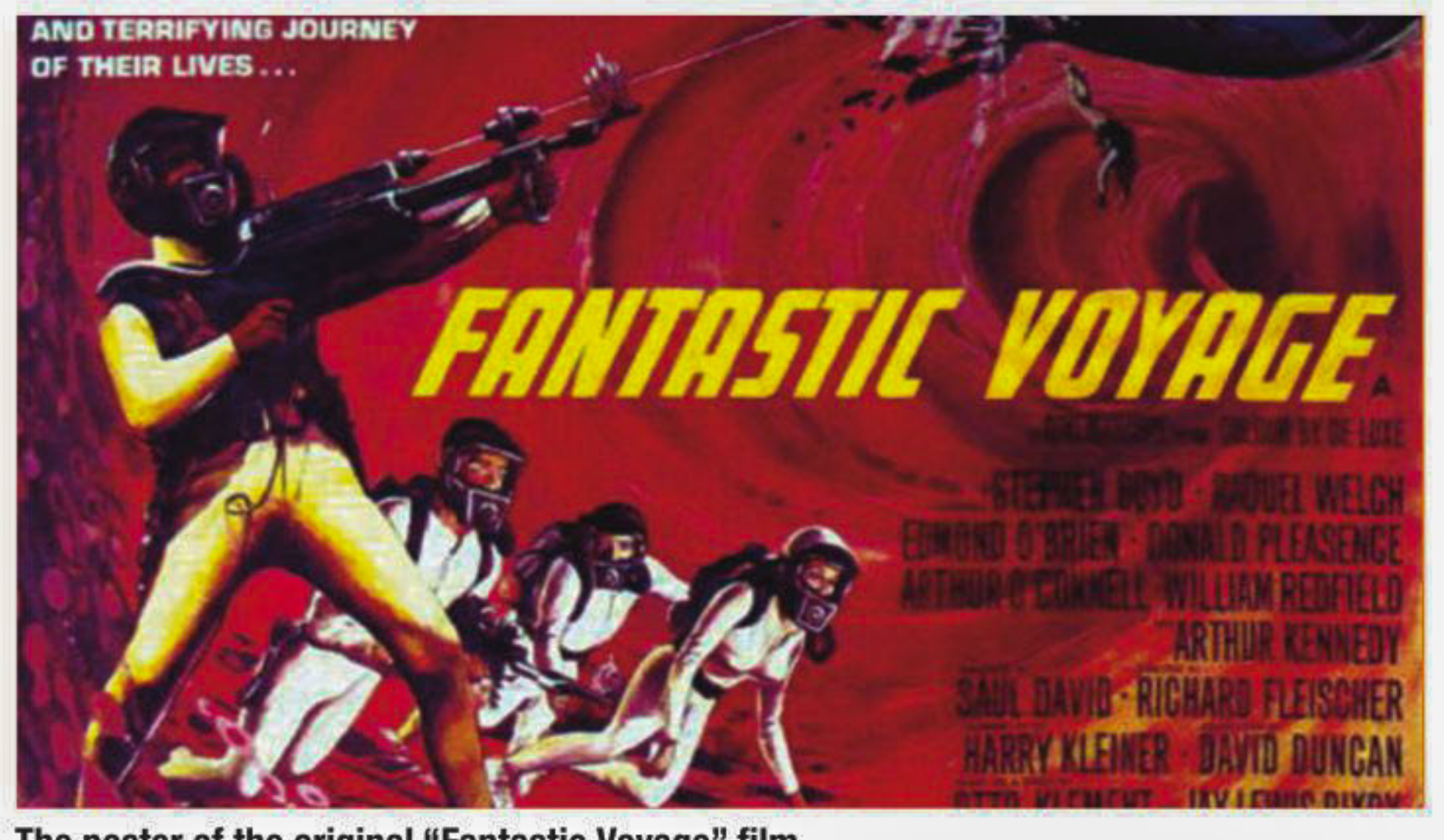
The original "Fantastic Voyage", which was released in 1966 and starred *Raquel Welch* and *Donald Pleasence*, among others, told a tale of sci-fi adventure filled with wonder. The story focused on a crew of doctors who are shrunk to atomic size, along with a pilot, a federal agent and an assistant of one of the doctor's. The group is miniaturized, along with a submarine, in order to journey into the body of an injured scientist to repair his damaged brain. That film was set during the Cold War, and the scientist in question was a defector who landed in a coma after an attempt on his life.

Their mission is, of course, fraught with the kind of obstacles that make stories like this even more intriguing. The screenplay was turned into a novelization, which was written by *Isaac Asimov* and released six months prior to the film's release. The movie spawned a 17 episode animated series and a comic book was based on that show.

The filmmaker prefers dark fantasy, gothic horror and action movies, and updating Fantastic Voyage would surely be something he could really enjoy working on. *Guillermo del Toro's* films lean toward the wonderfully weird and visually stunning. He's had a lifelong obsession with fairy tales and monsters, and he's known for helping to create some of the oddest, creepiest creatures that are still hard to look away from. And in his hands, the inner workings of the body would be both beautiful and grotesque.

No release has been set for the new "Fantastic Voyage" yet, but many of *Guillermo del Toro's* fans will be waiting with baited breath to see what the filmmaker does with it.

Source: **Cinemablend**



The poster of the original "Fantastic Voyage" film.



Shatabdi, Sumon in intense first look of "Aadi"

FAHMIM FERDOUS

Aditi, the music-director-singer, has had some success in commercial films "Rajotto" and "Dehorokkhi" with his production banner *Fatman Films*, and his new project, *Taneem Rahman-Angshu*-directed "Aadi" is creating a stir since its first look was revealed a few days ago.

The two-minute teaser does give just enough hint of the story to keep the audience interested without revealing much, focusing rather on visuals to get them excited about it. *ABM Sumon*, one of the best-built actors of Dhallywood today, is seen brooding and training with a sword, while a

sinister voice speaks in the background. *Shatabdi Wadud* is then revealed as the voice, quite clearly in a villainous role, and he brings in certain intensity in body language that promises a fair bit. Set entirely on dramatic background music, the teaser, however, opens to glam shots of the heroine, *Shailla Sabi*, and as in many crime thrillers, she seems to be on the screen just for the glamour quotient. The fight sequences look edgy and the romantic ones steamy, as *Angshu's* penchant for cinematic visuals looks to be put to its full potential.

The film doesn't have a release date yet, but is expected to land in theatres within this year.

Mrityunjoy Das plays flute with Mir Naqibul Islam on tabla on the concluding day (January 9) of a three-day (January 7-9) long annual classical music conference held at the Bishwa Sahitya Kendra auditorium in Dhaka. Organised by Shuddha Sangeet Proshar Goshthi, the 47th annual classical music conference featured both classical vocal and instrumental music performances.

PHOTO: **RIDWAN ADID RUPON**

