

WHAT'S ON
Concert
 Let it Be: A Mellow Trip
 Organiser: InstruRave
 Venue: Shilpakala Academy
 Date: May 5; Time: 3pm

Art Exhibition
 Intimate Fears
 Artist: Anisuzzaman Sohel
 Venue: Bengal Art Lounge
 Date: May 7-June 4; Time: 12-8pm

Solo Painting Exhibition
 Retrospective
 Artist: Abus Shakoor
 Venue: Shilpakala Gallery
 Date: May 1-15
 Time: 12-8pm

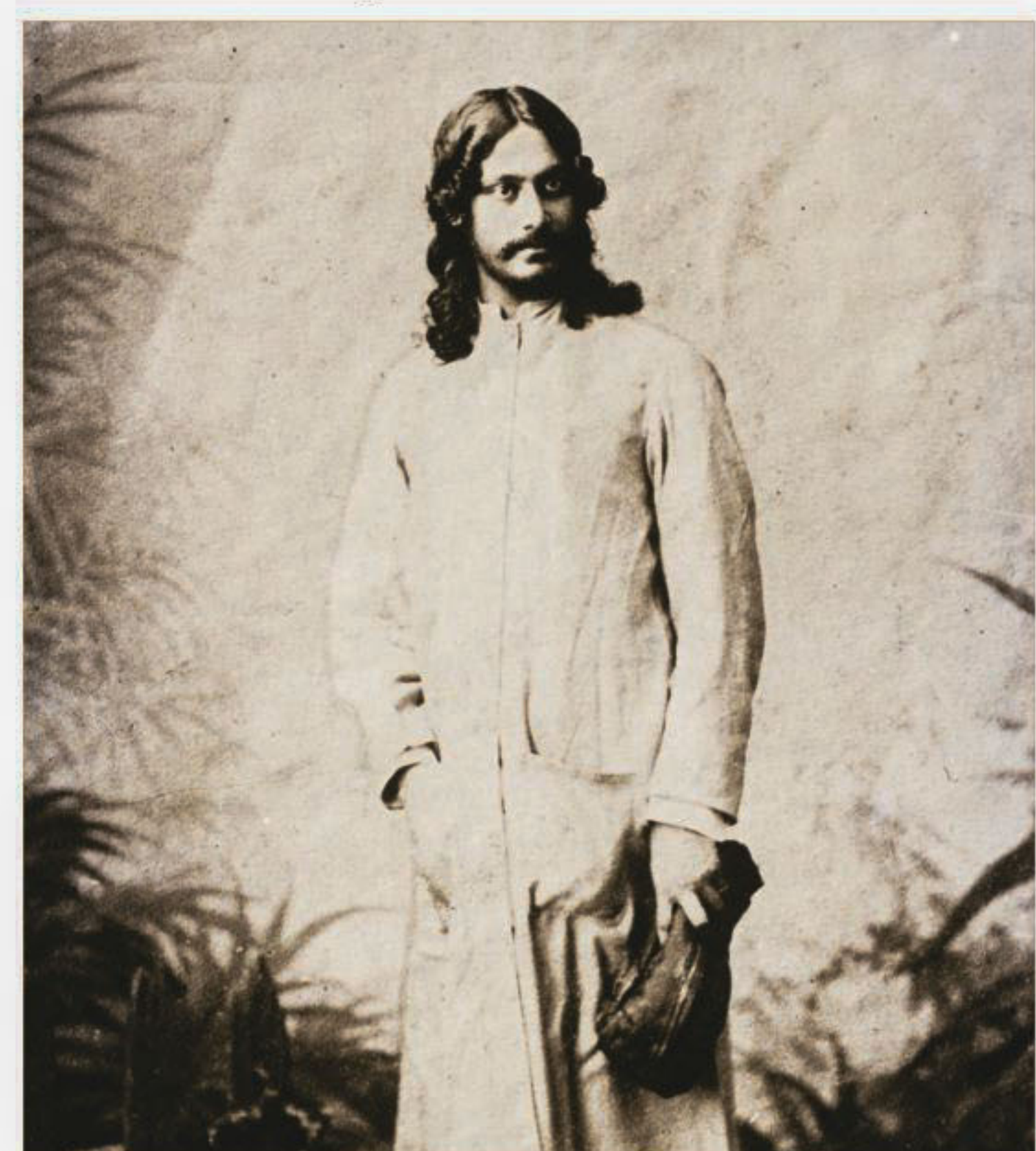
Solo Painting Exhibition
 Summer in Colour
 Artist: Nobo Kumar Bhadra
 Venue: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka
 Date: April 29-May 14
 Time: 3-9pm

Solo Art Exhibition
 Title: Eternal Affection
 Artist: Sheikh Afzal
 Venue: Athena Gallery of Fine Arts
 Date: April 16-May 7
 Time: 10am-8pm

NEWS
bytes

BRSS five-day festival begins today

A platform for 100 new singers



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In celebration of Rabindranath Tagore's 155th birth anniversary, Bangladesh Rabindra Sangeet Shilpi Sangstha (BRSS) will hold a five-day programme in the capital starting from today.

The festival, titled "27th Jatio Rabindra Sangeet Utshab", will take place at Shawkat Osman Auditorium of Central Public Library from May 4-8.

Noted educationist Professor Syed Anwar Hossain will inaugurate the programme as chief guest on Wednesday evening. On the opening day, an award will be conferred upon eminent Tagore artiste Hamida Haque.

Tapan Mahmud, president of BRSS, said, "The objective of this festival is to spread Rabindra Sangeet among the new generation. That's why we encouraged the participation of youths this year. Nearly 100 new singers will perform in this year's festival."

The festival will feature solo performance by 120 Tagore singers, in addition to chorus songs and recitation by different cultural organisations of the country.

Nrityanandan will stage dance drama "Chandalika" on the second day of the festival.

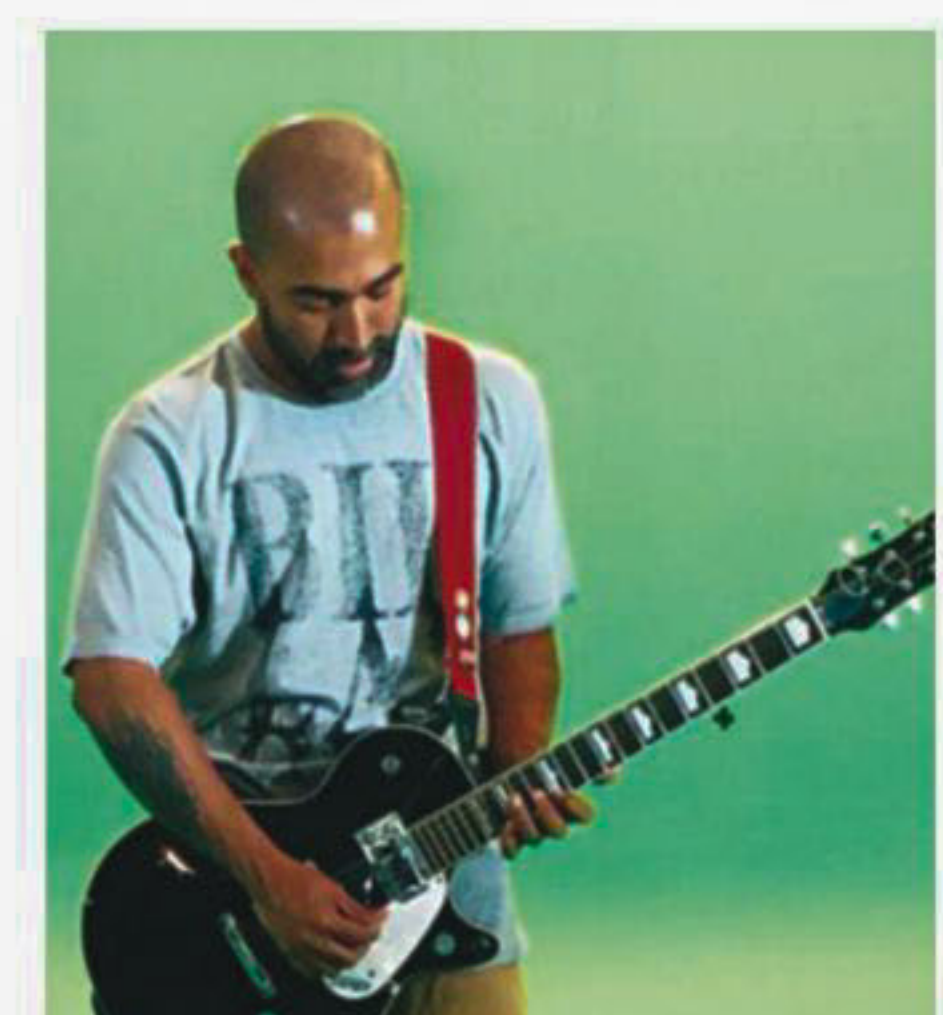
On May 8, marking Tagore's 155th birth anniversary and celebrated singer Kalim Sharafi's 92nd birth anniversary, the organisers will felicitate noted artist Papia Sarwar.

"Let it Be" at BSA tomorrow

A mellow trip of acoustic music



Arnob



Jon

A CORRESPONDENT

IAART and InstruRave have organised an acoustic concert titled "Let it Be: A Mellow Trip" at the National Art Gallery Hall of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy tomorrow (May 5), featuring Arnob and Jon. The programme, that music lovers can enjoy by buying up tickets, is set to begin at 3pm.

Apart from two of the most fabulous acoustic live musicians, the duo of Emran and Zahid, and bands Mukhosh, Vowels and The Aloonies will also take the stage at the concert.

IAART, an event-organisation firm, was formed earlier this year by some enterprising youths, while InstruRave have been organising concerts with underground artistes since 2014.

Star Line group is the sponsor of the event.

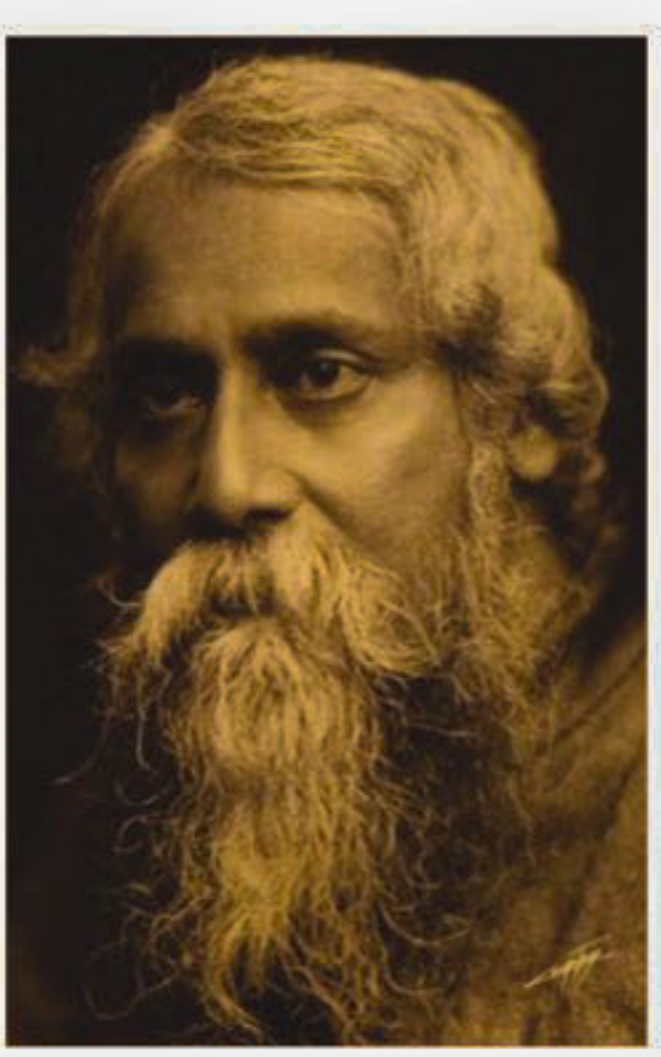
JUNGLE BOOK triumphs at BO

"The Jungle Book" pulverized a trio of box office lightweights, racking up \$42.4 million to lead ticket sales for the third consecutive weekend. Disney's live-action adaptation of Rudyard Kipling's Mowgli stories has made \$252.1 million since opening last month. It should have no trouble becoming the fourth film this year to cross \$300 million domestically, joining the likes of "Deadpool," "Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice" and "Zootopia."

"Keanu," an action-comedy sendup from Jordan Peele and Keegan-Michael Key, nabbed third place with \$9.3 million across 2,658 screens. The weak result is alleviated somewhat by the fact that the Warner Bros/New Line release cost a meagre \$15 million to produce.

"Mother's Day," an ensemble romantic comedy with Julia Roberts, Jennifer Aniston and Jason Sudeikis, collapsed at the multiplexes, eking out \$8.3 million across 3,035 locations to finish in fourth.

Source: **Variety**



Lectures on TAGORE

Rabindra Jayanti celebration begins at IGCC

In celebration of Tagore's 155th birth anniversary, Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre is organising lectures titled "Myriad minded Tagore" by three distinguished speakers at 6:30pm on Friday, May 6 at the IGCC, House No. 35, Road No. 24, Gulshan-1, Dhaka. The lectures will be on the social, philosophical and poetic concerns of Tagore, says a press release.

Hemal Shringla, wife of Harsh Vardhan Shringla, High Commissioner of India to Bangladesh, will speak on "Women protagonists in Tagore's novels". Bulbul Mahalanobish, general secretary, Rabindra Academy, Dhaka, will speak on "Rabindranath O Bishwa Manabata" - Tagore the Humanist. M.N Kundu, newspaper columnist, will speak on "Kobi Rabindranath" - Tagore the Poet.

Aamir to play music composer in 'Secret Superstar'

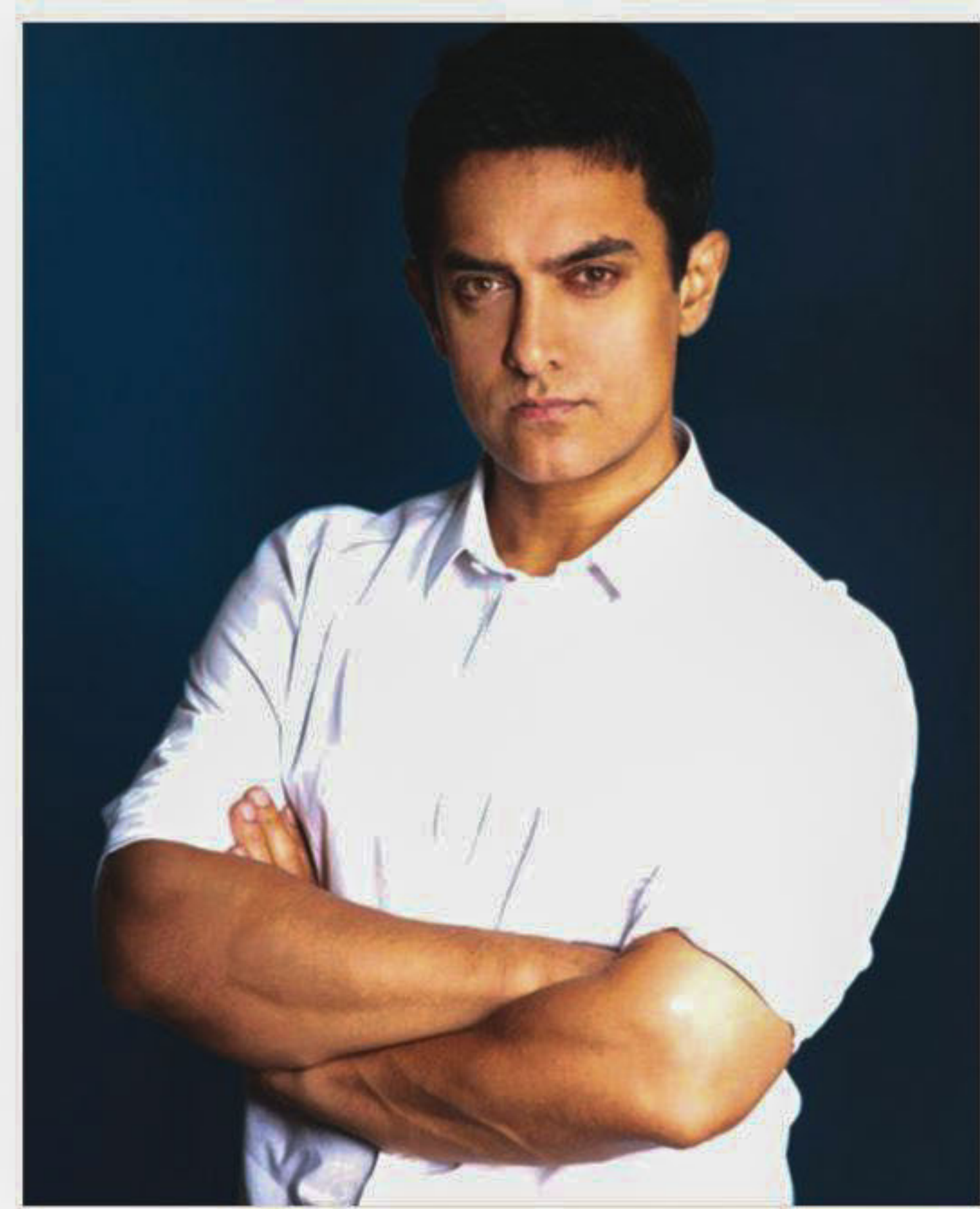
Even though the Bollywood star is gearing up for his upcoming film "Dangal", Aamir Khan has already finalised his next role. The Bollywood actor will play the role of a music composer in his next film "Secret Superstar".

The film which was earlier said to be titled Aaj Phir Jeene Ki Tamanna Hai will mark the directorial debut of Aamir's manager, Advait Chandan. "Secret Superstar" will be a musical, where film's music will be given by Amit Trivedi and will start rolling in June.

Interestingly, Aamir will not be playing the lead in the film; it is not a cameo either. The main lead will be a child and a mother, who are yet to be cast.

Aamir has been working extensively for "Dangal" - he put on a lot of weight to essay the role of wrestler Mahavir Phogat in Dangal. The film is scheduled to release in December 2016.

Source: **Hindustan Times**



FILM REVIEW

Musafir: An action-packed affair



FAHMIM FERDOUS

This year is already proving to be a good year for Bangla cinema, with a number of promising films lined up. April was a particularly hot month, with the release of "Shonkhochil", "Musafir" and "Icecream", belonging to three different genres. Of them, Ashiqur Rahman's "Musafir" is in the action thriller category, and provides both of them in abundance. The film has been doing well in theatres since its April 22 release.

Without giving away too many spoilers, "Musafir" is the tale of a man -- falsely sentenced to prison -- who gets in the middle of a mastermind criminal and a secret service. Sunny (Arifin Shuvo) is hired by a secret service boss (played by Misha Sawdagar) to retrieve a missing female agent of the service, (newcomer Marzaan Jennifa). With the help of his sidekick Bunty (Harun Rashid), Sunny must face the wrath of crime gang leader Tabrez (Robiul Islam 'Tiger' Roby) and his henchmen, who

are also after the agent, to return the girl to the secret service.

First, the positives: The film tries to tell an original story, and there are a few genuinely good twists. Shuvo dives right into character and is fantastic across the board -- from acting, fight sequences to song-and-dance, and shows definite sign of growth as an actor from his earlier days. One of Bangladeshi action flicks' most characteristic features used to be its dialogues, and "Musafir" brings it back with a bang. Some of the lines are pure Dhallywood gold. Harun Rashid's impeccable comic timing is one of the highlights of the film, Misha is as menacing as ever, and most other actors are very passable in their roles too. The cameos -- by Afzal Sharif, Prosun Azad and Debashish Biswas, are also well done. The cinematography and action choreography are excellent, as are the songs, both musically and visually.

The negatives: Marzaan Jennifa, who the film is supposed to revolve around, is insufferable throughout the movie.

Her acting, body language, dialogue delivery and character development are so weak it kills the potential of how good "Musafir" could be. Because it's an attempt at an original story, there are plot holes, and some sequences feel unnecessary, especially considering the lengthy run time. The VFX quality is not great, and while the one green-screen action sequence atop a moving train is a commendable effort, it doesn't come off perfect.

With the drawback of not having a major production house to back it, "Musafir" was made on a constrained budget (and was not very well-promoted either), and that makes it a valiant attempt at making a film trying to be commercially viable and telling a story. Ashiqur Rahman has shown promise, and one can only hope he gets better. In a nutshell, "Musafir" may not be a milestone in Bangla cinema, but it is an important chapter in the new wave that has hit Dhallywood, breaking out of a bad name and aiming to move forward.

"Pagla Hawar Din" on ntv

A CORRESPONDENT

Drama serial "Pagla Hawar Din" airs on ntv Wednesdays and Thursdays at 9:40pm. Written by Shuvasish Sinha, the serial has been directed by Humayun Farid.

The story revolves around a middle-class joint family, and other people connected to it. As the story unfolds, the audience comes across relationships of love, hate and betrayal.

The serial casts Abul Hayat, Kumkum Hasan, KS Firoz, Saberi Alam, Shahiduzzaman Selim, Nadia, Shatabdi Wadud, Farhana Mili, Sharmimala and others.

