

**NEWS**bytes

**Jessica Williams exits "The Daily Show"**

After four years of dropping mics and spitting truths, Jessica Williams is done with "The Daily Show," she exclusively revealed to Entertainment Weekly.

Hired as the youngest and first black female correspondent in the Comedy Central flagship's history, Williams is set to soon headline her own half-hour scripted series for the network, as well as pursue other solo projects.

This Thursday's episode marks Williams' final appearance (for the time being) on the late-night series, which means there is one last Williams segment to cherish before she signs off for good.

"The sadness I have for Jessica leaving is only eclipsed by the joy I have for her starting her new show," "Daily Show" host Trevor Noah told EW in an email. "If her podcast is anything to go by, it's going to be an exciting show!"

In her new series, Williams plans to continue engaging with many of the go-to topics like race, intersectional feminism, LGBTQ issues, etc. that made her a standout on "The Daily Show," in new and hilarious ways.

Source: **The Huffington Post**



PHOTO: SHEKH MEHEDI MORSHED

**KEEP ON ROLLING**  
In conversation with Wahidul Islam Shuvrow

OSAMA RAHMAN

Wahidul Islam Shuvrow carries an unseen burden with him. With a directorial debut at a very young age, Shuvrow has climbed the rungs high and fast and now carries the hopes of many a young director. The Daily Star recently caught up with him to find out exactly what brought him to where he is today and how. Sitting down at ntv's Zirani bazaar studio in Savar right after the last shot of Rupchanda-The Daily Star Super Chef had been taken, Shuvrow heaved a sigh of relief. An entire two months of work had finally come to an end. Despite a grueling work schedule exceeding 12 hours a day, seven days a week, Shuvrow did not look fazed. "It is part of the job and without hard work, one cannot really hope for success," Shuvrow says when asked how he keeps up such a hectic work routine.

Shuvrow is one of the key directors of ntv, one of the most renowned channels in the country today. "My friend used to work in ntv. One day they had a programme in my hometown of Rajshahi and they asked me to help out. I arranged everything for them, from accommodation to food to extras," he recalls. His zeal for his work endeared himself to the ntv team and he was approached to work as the Chief Assistant Director during the shoot for Close-up 1's 2005 edition. In 2006, Shuvrow formally joined the channel. His first show was Music Jamz, a music programme which went on to quickly carve a fan base for



**BEAUTY IN UNITY**

In conversation with Tarshito

ZAHANGIR ALOM

Renowned Italian architect, professor and artist Nicola Strippoli Tarshito loves to relay unity among all the forms of art. A three-week solo exhibition by the artist is going to be inaugurated at Nalini Kanta Bhattasali Gallery of Bangladesh National Museum on November 19. This is his second solo show in Bangladesh. In January 2015, Bengal Foundation organised his first solo exhibition. In a recent conversation with The Daily Star, Tarshito shared his artistic conscience and talked about his artworks. Excerpts:

"I would like to showcase some works accomplished in Bangladesh as part of my deep homage to the tradition of Bangladesh, because in this part of the world, we have a lot of beautiful traditions and multifarious languages and expressions of unique culture. I look for the soul of the nation through the works of traditional artisans of Bangladesh, who are simple in attitude. There lies a

beautiful unity and I am interested to find, touch and smell this kind of unity. This tradition contains deep norms and values. I did a lot of works themed on the concept in India and Nepal, and for the last two years in Bangladesh where I met the beautiful Nakshikantha artistes. I was greatly impressed to see the fine craftsmanship among the female artisans of Jessore and Dhaka."

"Unity and love is the driving force of the people of Bangladesh. Apart from the Bangladeshi cultural heritage, the traditional aspects of Gujarat (India) and Africa charm me a lot. I believe that life is like a boat on earth. On board of my inner boat, I can go deeper into my soul. Then, I can see the eyes of the people. The eyes represent the windows of the soul through which I feel such a unity that resemble 'You are me and I am you'. Sometimes I go to work with the indigenous people. And through this experience I can envisage the picture of the past. The simplicity of that life redefines my intellectual edifice that helps me shake off

entire ego taking the very simple path of life -- full of light and love.

"Several new and big (3m-14m) art pieces will be displayed at the November show. My work portrays the huge procession of life that beckons the fullness and the unity for a new world. If the rays of light reach the heart, it ennobles our soul. The work showcases man, woman and animal in the search for light, the beauty of life."

A harmony between human beings and nature lies in Tarshito's painting. One can easily perceive the influence of indigenous heritage of different countries in his works. Nature, people, daily life, as well as some mapping can be seen in his works and the use of Nakshikantha lends an added dimension and brings his works to life.

Although his work is contemporary in outlook, Tarshito has been successful in retaining the essence of traditional art, giving it a somewhat grounding effect. It's almost as if an implicit understanding is reached between the contemporary and the traditional.

**TV WATCH**

**"Mannequin" on Banglavision**

A CORRESPONDENT

Eid special TV play "Mannequin" will go on air on Banglavision on the third day of Eid at 11:55pm. Directed by Abir Khan, the script of the TV play has been written by actor Ferdous Ahmed. With Shajal, Purnima, Dr. Enamul

Haque, Rifat Chowdhury and Sanjid Khan Prince as cast, the play is produced by Creation Unit.

The story of the play follows Sajal, a mannequin at a sari shop, who approaches the customer Purnima. Later, the duo falls in love with each other.



**Chhera Taan on Deepto TV**

A CORRESPONDENT

Single episode TV play "Chhera Taan" will air on Deepto TV at 5pm on Eid day. Written by Zeenat Hossain Juthi, the

play has been directed by Kaushik Shankar Das.

The plot of the play revolves around a gullible Ahona and her wedding ceremony. The cast includes Tarin, Hillol, Prokash, Snigdha and others.

itself very early. This was followed by the lifestyle show "Style and Trends", another show that easily garnered a loyal following. His early successes led to even more new shows, especially reality based shows, owing to Shuvrow's prowess not only behind the camera but also in terms of organising a live event without hiccups. Rupchanda-The Daily Star Super Chef was soon to gleam like the crown jewel in Shuvrow's directorial career and while many may have chosen to rest a bit on their laurels, Shuvrow's only desire is to persist.

"As a director, I feel we need to provide a lot more creative input than that is practiced here. I not only like to work behind the camera or in the editing room but I also like conceptualising new shows and presenting them in the way that appeals to most people," he says. Shuvrow also says that his experience in organising numerous concerts such as the Eternal Aasha featuring Asha Bhosle, concerts in Dubai and London and a successful Boishahki concert he held in Pabna for five consecutive years have all helped him become a better director.

"We all want to make international standard shows but we are too quick to turn a blind eye to obvious problems," Shuvrow says. "We have a much smaller market compared to, say, India and thus we have a smaller budget. We also get less rehearsal period and without the proper and modern equipment in terms of light and camera, production cannot be smooth."

Shuvrow's childhood dream was to always be behind the camera. However, once his dream came true, his passion did not waver. "I want to know all aspects of direction and production. I am lucky to be where I am today but for anyone who wants to be in this line, my advice is to be determined. This is a very rich sector and there is a lot to learn and the first thing you must learn is to respect your craft," he concludes.

**Academy Locks The Criticism**

Sharmila, Freida and Deepa to be a part of Academy

Recently the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences has invited prominent actresses -- Sharmila Tagore and Freida Pinto with director Deepa Mehta to be a part of its new class of members to feature Indian-origin film.

To reach the goal of adding diversity, the Academy has invited 683 new members. Also to lock the criticism of its largely white and male membership, the bulk of new member has 46% female and 41% persons of colour.

Apart from acting, Sharmila Tagore is known for various responsibilities and positions held by her in the industry and serving them well; whereas Freida Pinto marked the territory with her debut project "Slumdog Millionaire". Her

appearance was frequent in several American and British productions. Moreover, Indo-Canadian director and screenwriter, Deepa Mehta gave her career an extraordinary start with her trilogy of the elements: Fire, Earth and Water.

Regarding the noticeable list of new member, Academy president Cheryl Boone Isaacs said, "It is our pride to welcome new members as it is not just an invitation but an opportunity; not a membership but a mission. We encourage every community to open its doors wider and provide opportunities for anyone who holds interest in our industry."

Source: **NDTV**



Sharmila Tagore



Freida Pinto

**Paul Simon 'Ready to give up Music'**

AFP, New York

More than half a century after he wrote "The Sound of Silence", American singer Paul Simon says he is ready to hang up his guitar and stop making music.

"You're coming toward the end," he told The New York Times in an interview. "Showbiz doesn't hold any interest for me," said the 74-year-old. "None."

The folk star-turned-world music champion, whose US tour ends today, released his most recent album, "Stranger to Stranger" on June 3 to rave reviews.

Its single "Wristband" is one of the most played songs on college radio.

His current tour ends in Queens, the New York borough where he grew up and met his now-estranged music partner Art Garfunkel.

He is then scheduled to begin a month-long tour of Europe on October 17 in Prague, shortly after his 75th birthday.

Following that, he told the Times that his intention is to drift and travel for a year, perhaps with his third wife, musician Edie Brickell.

"It's an act of courage to let go," Simon told the newspaper. "I am going to see what happens if I let go. Then I'm going to see, who am I?"

If he does quit music, Simon will bring to a close an extraordinary career that has spanned six decades, won him more than a dozen Grammys and produced songs tracking 50 years of social awakenings.

He and Garfunkel were a signature act of the 1960s, starting off with clean-cut folk songs before delving into fusion. The duo produced



hits such as "Bridge Over Troubled Water" and "Mrs Robinson".

Simon has been named by Time Magazine one of the "100 People Who Shaped the World" and been named to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame twice.

He told the Times that "Wristband," which was released in April, is a metaphor for today's struggle between rich and the disenfranchised.

The title refers to a musician who steps into an alley behind a club and finds himself unable to get back in without a wristband.

"It's just a metaphor for, 'You can't get in. You don't have what's required,'" Simon said. "That battle is being fought right now, the haves and have-nots."

The singer also spoke out against fame, saying he saw it "turn into absolute poison" in the 1960s.

"It killed Presley. It killed Lennon. It killed Michael Jackson. I've never known anyone to have gotten an enormous amount of fame who wasn't, at a minimum, confused by it and had a very hard time making decisions."