

NEWS bytes

LADY GAGA to headline Super Bowl Halftime show

Lady Gaga will headline the 2017 Super Bowl halftime show, reports US Weekly. Earlier this week, the magazine reported that the singer was in talks with the league. Gaga only recently announced that her new album is due out October 21, meaning there should be plenty of new music prepared for the big game. No other performers' names have been announced yet.



Gaga announced her new studio album, the follow-up to 2013's "ARTPOP", titled "Joanne", during an interview. The album is named after her late aunt, who died at age 19 from lupus. Gaga's own middle name is also Joanne. The album features collaborations with Father John Misty, Florence Welch of Florence and the Machine and Beck.

Last month, Adele said publicly that she'd declined an offer to play the halftime show. The NFL and the halftime sponsor, Pepsi, denied they'd asked.

This season's Super Bowl takes place February 5, 2017 at NRG Stadium in Houston, Texas.

Source: Yahoo News



DIFFERENT TAKE

PHOTO: STAR

BLISSFULLY IMMERSSED IN TAGORE COMPOSITIONS Tête-à-tête with Dr. Mabubur Rahman Chowdhury

ZAHANGIR ALOM

The English romantic poet Wordsworth once famously said, "Poetry is the spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings; it takes its origin from emotions recollected in tranquility." These two statements seem contradictory, but Wordsworth's theory of poetry involved the fusion of the two statements. In a sense, powerful feelings and profound thoughts make poetry perfect. Wordsworth's view was that the poet can't rely on sensibilities alone. He has to be a person who has also thought long and deeply. Once that happens, a calm mind is equally necessary to recall past emotions.

No matter what the statements suggest, poetry -- being the essence of any literature -- follows no time, space and conventional boundaries. Enjoying poetry soothes our hearts; refines our sensibilities and rejuvenates our nostalgia.

Dr. Mabubur Rahman Chowdhury is

an eye-specialist by profession, but he is a passionate elocutionist who knows how to pour precise emotion to beautify the heart of poetry. Poetry attracts him immensely. He sees the reflection of his desires into the realm of poetry. The presence of Rabindranath Tagore reigns supreme in the heart of Dr. Mabubur Rahman Chowdhury, who, as his deep homage and love for the bard, manages to keep time to enjoy and recite poems and listen to Tagore songs. "I always try to be in touch with Tagore. I listen to his songs when I talk to my patients, and even, when I do perform subtle operation. Tagore songs and poems are my profound inspiration. They remove my tiredness and energises me greatly," said Mabubur Rahman.

The elocutionist fondly recites Tagore masterpieces like "Antor Momo", "Hothaat Dekha", "Mone Pora" and more. He shares his artistic thoughts and regularly sits for adda sessions on poetry and recitation with elocutionist Fakhrul Islam Tara.

Presentation of love, melancholy, conscience, tradition, history, heritage, satire and of course the patriotic passion and spirit also make an appearance through his recitations of several Bangla poems including "Tomar Bondhon", "Bodhon", "Ami Kingbodontir Kotha Bolchi", "Ami Kono Agontuk Noi", "Matribhumi, Ki Jeno Tomar Naam Chhilo?", "Kichhui Nijossho Noy" and "Matribhumi Jonno" composed by Poets -- Nirmalendu Goon, Sukanto Bhattacharya, Abu Zafar Obaidullah, Ahsan Habib, Tarik Sujat, Abu Hena Mustafa Kamal and Srijan Sen respectively.

A recitation album titled "Tomar Bondhon" by Dr. Mabubur Rahman Chowdhury was launched at Chhayanaut in 2013. In the album, the elocutionist has recorded 16 poems composed by Rabindranath Tagore, Kazi Nazrul Islam, Jibananda Das, Mahadev Saha, Helal Hafiz, Sunil Gangopadhyay, Rudra Muhammad Shahidullah and others.

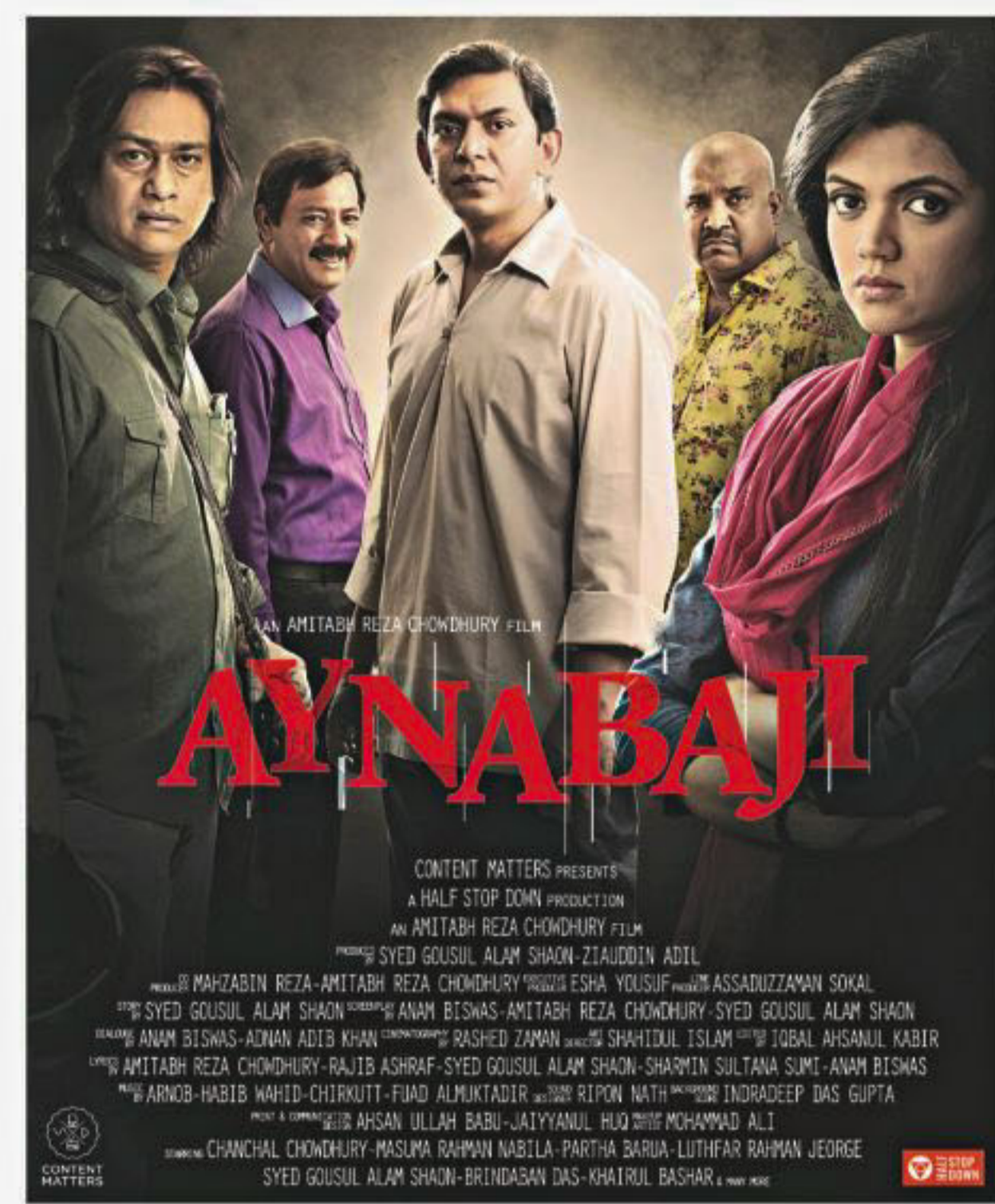
Habib croons new "Aynabaji" song

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

"Aynabaji", Amitabh Reza's upcoming thriller set for release at the end of this month, has been gaining momentum steadily. The film has already promised some great music with the release, and now, Habib Wahid has joined Arnob and Shaan (from India) in the film's soundtrack, with release of a new song, "Dhire Dhire Jao Na Shomoy".

The song, released as a lyric video on YouTube over the weekend, is reminiscent of Habib's early original work (in albums like "Shono"), with a sweet melody and his typical, slightly-nasal tone. It opens with some cool jazzy drums, but a flute changes that flavour. The intimate, romantic song is in a bit of a contrast to the intense trailers of the film, a trend seen in the previous two previous songs as well. Both "Alu Peyajer Kabbo" (sung by Shaan) and the "Ei Shohor Amar" (by Arnob) have been received very well, and with some more music lined up, reportedly from Chirkutt and Fuad Almuqtadir, fans have plenty to look forward to.

"Aynabaji", written by Gousul Alam Shaan and starring Chanchal Chowdhury and Nabila in the lead roles, lands in theatres countrywide on September 30.



CHAITY'S career looks sunny

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Former Lux Channel i Superstar Chaity's busy schedule is chockablock with TV plays as well as TV series. Recently she was seen in Asian TV's "High Society" with Kalyan Corraya. She also appeared as a Malaysian girl in the TV drama series titled "Durotto," aired by ATN Bangla, for which she had to learn Malaysian in order to strengthen her role.

The busy actress has gone off to shoot in international locations as well, such as Malaysia and Nepal for "Abhibashi," and "Swopno Shekhor."

She has just finished shooting for a TV play titled "Ami Tumi Shey," for which release dates have not yet been set, as well as "Otol Ontoraley." "In every project I have worked on, viewers will see different facets of me," said the actress.



PHOTO: STAR



Ranveer likely to star in film on street rappers

Actor Ranveer Singh's name is almost confirmed for filmmaker Zoya Akhtar's next, claims city-based rapper Naezy, from whose life the film is inspired.

The forthcoming project, rumoured to be titled "Gully Boy", is about the lives of street rappers from Mumbai's ghettos, including artistes Naezy and Divine.

There have been reports that Ranveer will be seen in the role of a rapper.

When asked if the 31-year-old actor is doing the film, Naezy told PTI, "He is doing the film, it is almost confirmed. But still there are few things which are yet to be finalised, writing is underway."

The "Asal Hustle" rapper, whose real name is Naved Sheikh, said Ranveer will be the perfect fit to play the part as he understands and loves hip-hop music.

Naezy, who resides in Kurla, said as part of the film's research, the "Dil Dhadakne Do" helmer visited their locality and tried to understand the "life and stories" of underground rappers. Zoya also saw live performance of the artists to get a better insight, and Naezy says the rappers on their part gave her inputs.

When asked if a movie will help get rap in the mainstream, rapper Divine said, "It will happen, but depends on what kind of a movie is made. Because rap is related to girls, guns and drugs. But in our space it is different."

Source: Hindustan Times

Game of Thrones, People v. OJ Simpson dominate Emmys

HBO, accustomed to being the undisputed Emmys champ in recent years, found itself in the unusual position of sharing the title Sunday night. FX Networks earned six awards at the Primetime Emmys, matching HBO's tally for the evening. FX's surge came largely on the back of anthology series "The People v. OJ Simpson: American Crime Story", the evening's most honored show.

Counting last weekend's Creative Arts Emmys, HBO held onto the top spot, thanks to another record-breaking haul for "Game of Thrones". The best drama series winner passed "Frasier" as the most decorated scripted series in Emmy history, with 38 wins. With 12 Emmys this year, the show tied its record from 2015 for most wins by a show in a single season.

The HBO-FX split was one of several surprises Sunday night, among them Rami Malek of "Mr. Robot" winning the award for best actor -- his first nomination in the show's first season. Malek was followed by Tatiana Maslany, who won for her work on BBC America's sci-fi "Orphan Black".

On the comedy side, change yielded to consistency, with "Veep" winning its second straight award for best comedy series, Julia Louis-Dreyfus winning her sixth straight best-actress award for her work on the show, and Jeffrey Tambor winning his second consecutive best-actor award for "Transparent".

Toward the end of the night, FX and HBO each missed out on opportunities to jump ahead of the other with losses in key dramatic acting categories. "Game of Thrones" came up empty-handed in supporting actor and actress categories, in which it had multiple nominees. Emilia Clarke, Lena Headey, and Maisie Williams lost out to third-time winner Maggie Smith of "Downton Abbey". Peter Dinklage and Kit Harington lost to Ben Mendelsohn of Netflix's "Bloodline", which was canceled last week.

FX's big night began with a win for Louie Anderson for best supporting actor in a comedy series. Anderson won for his work playing the mother of Zach Galifianakis' character on FX's "Baskets".

A string of victories for "The People v. O.J.



Simpson" in the limited series and movie categories followed shortly thereafter. Sterling K Brown won for best supporting actor, besting cast-mates John Travolta and David Schwimmer, and Courtney B Vance won out over cast mate Cuba Gooding Jr. Sarah Paulson won for playing prosecutor Marcia Clark, who she brought her with her to the Emmys as a guest. Her win was her first after being nominated for five previous Emmys.

Politics took center stage with host Jimmy Kimmel joking in his opening monologue about producer Mark Burnett, the creator of "The Apprentice", being responsible for the political success of Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump. Burnett, when accepting the award for best reality show, responded by joking that Kimmel and ABC had just given Trump five more minutes of free TV time.

John Oliver, who has been arguably the most effective critic of Trump in late night during this election cycle, won the Emmy for variety-talk series for his HBO show "Last Week Tonight". Comedy Central's "Key and Peele" won the first-ever award for variety-sketch series.

But the most scathing criticism of Trump came from "Transparent" creator Jill Soloway, who won the award for best director. Backstage, discussing her show's pushing of boundaries for transgender people, Soloway likened Trump's rhetoric about minority groups to that which took place in Nazi Germany.

The two wins for Amazon's "Transparent" brought transgender rights front and center at the Emmys for the second straight year.

Source: Variety



The cast and crew of "Game of Thrones" (top); Julia Louis-Dreyfus with her sixth consecutive best actress award (left) and the "People v. OJ Simpson" cast celebrate.