

No respite for Liza

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Popular singer Liza hasn't had a breather since she returned to Dhaka after a two-month visit to the US.

This month is packed for singer. She went to Narail for a performance that took up an entire day. The following day she performed at another stage show in Gazipur. She will perform in different districts till March 16.

On March 17, she will fly to Bahrain for a performance, followed up by a stage show in Dhaka's Sonargaon. On April 13, Liza will make a three day stop in Canada and then visit Dubai and South Korea.

The singer is not fazed. "I enjoy my busy professional life, especially stage shows," Liza told The Daily Star.

She is also emceeing a musical programme named "Ei Somoyer Gaan" on ntv aired around 11:30pm every Tuesday. Apart from this, she anchors "Music Station" on Rtv.

"I really enjoy anchoring and look on it as a hobby," said the singer.

Liza also loves to do playback. Recently, she playbacked for two new films -- "Bhalobasi Jibon" and "Onnorakom Prithibi."

"Besides, I will playback for another film soon," she said.

Liza said she has plans to release a new album of songs ahead of Pahela Baishakh.



Ferdous, Mahi pair up on screen

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Ferdous has appeared as Moushumi's romantic interest in a number of films. The noted actor now pairs up with Mahi for a film titled "Pabitra Prem," directed by AK Sohel. The film includes Moushumi in the main cast. Shooting is now on in Bandarban. After wrapping up the scenes in the hill districts, the shoot will shift to Dhaka.

"The plot is wonderful. It is a story based on a Muslim-Hindu relationship. The full story can be seen in theatres. I am sure the film will appeal to the audience," Ferdous told The Daily Star.

Ferdous said he has teamed up with Mahi for the first time and she has done very well in her role. "On the other hand, Moushumi is a very good friend. I think it will be a good production as we are all in sync," he added.

After a few days, the cast and crew will go to Cox's Bazar and then Kaptai for the shoot, said Ferdous.



IN MEMORIAM

Batmans come and go, WOLVERINE IS FOREVER

KARIM WAHEED

Dearly Beloved,

We gather here today to honour the memory of Logan [born James Howlett], better known as "Wolverine". He breathed his last on screen at Star Cineplex, Dhaka on March 3, 2017.

We were introduced to Logan in 2000, through "X-Men". Over the course of 17 years, he had demolished his adversaries 8 times as one of the main men of "X-Men" franchise. I'm sure there are couple of records in there somewhere. I'd even argue that Wolverine [played by Hugh Jackman] is the most impactful superhero on the big screen. Sure, Tony "Iron Man" Stark [played by Downey] has the zingers and Bruce "Batman" Wayne [Christian Bale] has the scowl, but a character-audience association developed over two decades has no parallel. I'd also argue that Jackman's Wolverine is the go-to - the face, or claws [whichever is more apt] - when one thinks of the "X-Men" franchise. Maintaining that popularity throughout a period during



which a child becomes an adult is serious business.

A two-decade long run will understandably make anyone fatigued. That exhaustion was written all over Logan's weathered face in the

eponymous swan song [directed by James Mangold]. The almost immortal mutant doesn't want to carry the burden of a desolate, near-future dystopia where X-Men are no more. His only companion, Charles Xavier

[Patrick Stewart], is a shell of his past self. We're told that the adamantium - which is what his claws are made of - in his body, is slowly killing him. Logan discovers he has a daughter [who is as wild and fierce in her

untamed state as Logan when we first saw him in 2000] named Laura, and reluctantly agrees to accompany her to a safe haven.

There's a powerful, and very topical, political message as well. The film briefly shows an imposing wall along the US-Mexico border and lines of deportees. Laura [Dafne Keen] speaks Spanish, same as the other kids from an American lab in Mexico she grew up in. These "refugee" mutant kids, hunted by armed men who call themselves "good guys," are largely female, black, and brown. This is no coincidence.

Logan's farewell is bloody and uber-violent, and I'd describe it as a "Western for millennials", but it's not devoid of light moments, tenderness. In fact, this is the most humanised avatars of the mutants we all know and love. Perhaps that's why it's painful to watch. As a fanboy/girl, you know Wolverine has it in him to carry a few more X-Men movies to box office glory but you also understand his justification [as well as Jackman's] to depart. That's what makes this endgame profound and radical.

Rest in peace, Logan. I'd urge 20th Century Fox and Marvel to leave Wolverine alone. NO REBOOT, PLEASE.

Karim Waheed is the man responsible for SHOUT. Send queries and complaints to karim.w.25@gmail.com



TV WATCH

Dabur Bangladesh initiates 'RTV-Dabur Vatika Campus Star' Competition

A CORRESPONDENT

Dabur Bangladesh and satellite channel Rtv have jointly initiated a talent hunt competition in the universities of the country. The title of the competition is "Rtv-Dabur Vatika Campus Star". A press meet was held at Rtv head office on March 8 to announce the event.

Female students of 15 reputed public and

private universities of the country will participate in the competition to demonstrate their talent in singing, dancing and acting. The Champion of the competition will be titled as "Dabur Vatika Campus Star" and will work as the next face of Dabur Vatika Hair Oil communications. The second and third runners up will be offered a role as a news presenter in Rtv and as RJ in a FM channel respectively. Versatile singer Kona, popular

actors Sajal and Nipun will be the members of the Jury panel.

From Asian Consumer Care (Pvt.) Limited-Dabur Bangladesh, M Sanjay Munshi, Director, Asifur Rouf, marketing head, Md. Shariful Islam (Tushar), brand manager and from Rtv Ashik Rahman, Chief Executive Officer, Dewan Shamsur Rahman, programme head were present at the press meet.



"John Wick" has made a memorable mark on its viewers since its release in 2014, and now the film is back with a sequel titled "John Wick: Chapter 2". The Chad Stahelski directed action thriller will premiere at Star Cineplex today. The sequel stars Keanu Reeves as the title character, along with Common, Laurence Fishburne, Riccardo Scamarcio, Ruby Rose, John Leguizamo and Ian McShane as the main cast.