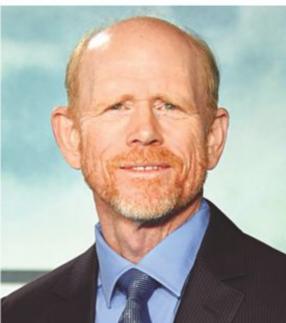


NEWS bytes

Ron Howard to direct Han Solo spinoff

Oscar-winning filmmaker Ron Howard will take over as director of the "Star Wars" Han Solo spin-off, Lucasfilm has announced. His hire comes after the movie's original directors Phil Lord and Chris Miller were fired Tuesday while in the middle of production, after clashing with producer and Lucasfilm chief Kathleen Kennedy and co-writer/executive producer Lawrence Kasdan. The duo wanted to inject more humor into the storyline and encouraged improvisation, something Kasdan did not appreciate. Howard will begin work immediately. The picture still has several weeks left on its shooting schedule, and five additional weeks of



AFZAL HOSSAIN'S EID VENTURES

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

*Afzal Hossain, the debonair hero of the 80s and 90s of Bangladeshi television may not have been as regular on the small screen in recent years, but he does make a number of appearances during festive seasons like Eid. This Eid will be no different, with Afzal taking time out of his directing ventures to stand in front of the camera.*

The actor is cast in the Arif Khan helmed tele-film "Ekdin Chutir Dine". Veteran actress Suborna Mustafa is cast as the female lead, and popular actress Tarin will also appear in a role. "Arif Khan is a meticulous director," said Afzal Hossain, "and I have enjoyed his execution of the script." The actor will also appear in plays directed by Matia Banu Shukur, Chayanika Chowdhury and Syed Salahuddin. "I normally don't take up many ventures throughout the year,

except for Eid-ul Fitr," he explained. Aside from acting, the artiste has turned to direction in an eight-episode mini series titled "Khela Hobe Khulnaye," to be aired on Channel i. For the past eight years, the actor has helmed the "Chotokaku" series for Eid. This year's venture's shooting took place at Tangail's Dhonbari zamindar manor. "Chotokaku" has garnered a lot of positive response over the years. This encouraged me to maintain the commitment of adding to the series every Eid,"

he stated. The actor intends to spend a fuss-free Eid break amidst family and relatives at home in the capital. He also told The Daily Star that during this time of the year, he yearns for the festivals spent during his boyhood in Shatkhira. The artiste leaves for his ancestral home whenever he has the chance, and places emphasis on knowing one's roots with his children, who accompanies their father on these visits. He added that he intends to travel once Eid holidays begin.

pre-scheduled reshoots that were planned for later this year. The exact amount of time and money that it will take to actually complete the production (which was about three-quarters finished when the directors were fired), will vary depending on how much rewriting and reshooting Howard deems is necessary after reviewing the script and shot footage. Howard's credits include hits such as "Parenthood", "The Da Vinci Code," "Apollo 13" and 2001's "A Beautiful Mind" which won four top Academy Awards including best director and best picture.

Source: Variety

Laser Vision offers Eid albums and music videos

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Like every year, Laser Vision - one of the top record labels of the country has brought out a number of albums marking Eid. A number of promising artistes have been featured in their catalogue. Kazi Shuvo's solo album "Hridoye Tumi" is one of them. With lyrics by Faisal Rabbikin, the songs are composed by Kazi Shuvo. A total of four romantic tracks are featured in the album. Rafi has arranged music while Puja has recorded a duet song in it. Rakib Mosabbir's solo album "Amake Joriye Rakho" is also on the list. Three melodic and romantic songs are featured in it. Shahreed Belal has released an album under their label, titled "Ar Koto Dur". Farabi is the featured co-artist for a song. Singer Oyshee has a big fan following. Three of her single-track albums "Neelima", "Rong-er Ghuri" and "De De Paal Tule De" are on the list. Faisal Rabbikin has written the song while JK composed the tunes and arranged music for "Neelima", while Ajoy Mitra has written, composed tune and arranged music for "Rong-er Ghuri". "De De Paal Tule De" was written and composed by Abdur Rahman Boyati. Talented artiste Salma has also released a single-track album "Hridoyer Nao" with the song of the same title. Single-track album "Somoy" by Shanto; Baul Farhad's folk album "Boiragi Mon"; adhunik songs' album "Mon Rey" by Tanjin Mithila; "Mon Janey" by Protik Hasan; Belal Khan's "Jabi Jodi Chole"; Kazi Shuvo's "Rong-er Dunia"; Sajjad Hossain Shawon's single track album "Eka" and Tarek Turja's "Roopakhon" are also on Laser Vision's tally of albums for Eid. The record label has produced several music videos for this Eid. Talented singer Sabbir Zaman has directed a music video for his song "Dhole Dhole". Sabbir's wife Rehana Zaman is the model for the video. Kazi Shuvo's "Bhalobashi Kotota"; Belal Khan's "Tomar Ki Ekta Bikel Hobe"; Rakib Mosabbir's "Tumi Eshechhile" and Belal Khan and Priyanka's "Bhashi Dubi" are among the music videos released by Laser Vision.



Six films TV premiering on Channel i this Eid

A CORRESPONDENT

Channel i is bringing the big screen to the small screen for its audience this Eid, with world TV premieres of six films in their Eid programme schedule. On Eid day, Abu Sayeed-directed film "Dressing Table" will premiere at 2:30pm, starring Abul Kalam Azad, Nadia Nodi, Arman Parvez, Tareen Rahman and others. All the other films will have their first TV screenings at 10:15am every day, starting the next day.

The films, in order of airing, are: Tania Ahmed-directed "Bhalobasha Emoni Hoy", starring Sajjad, Bidya Sinha Mim, Tariq Anam Khan and Mishu Sabbir; Ananya Mamun's "Ostitto" starring Arifin Shuvo, Nusrat Imrose Tisha and Sucharita; Tonmoy Tansen's "Runout" starring Sajal, Moushumi Nag and Omar Sani; Shamim Ahmed Ron'y "Mental" starring Shakib Khan, Nusrat Imrose Tisha and Porshi; and Mostafa Kamal Raj's "Samrat" starring Shakib Khan and Opu Biswas.

Shah Rukh Khan's 'Tubelight' cameo leaked online



Within just hours of Salman Khan's "Tubelight" release, recorded clips from the film have made their way onto a number of social networking handles. One scene in particular that has been flooding these portals is the much-talked about cameo by Shah Rukh Khan, reports Times of India. While the makers only unveiled a silhouette of SRK in the film's trailer, a number of fan clubs and movie goers have gone ahead and posted estimated 2-4 minute clips online. It had been reported that Shah Rukh will be seen playing a magician - Go-Go Pasha, who Salman's character Laxman meets, at a crucial point in the story. In the series of images and videos doing the rounds, Shah Rukh looks like an Indian magician with a colourfully embroidered waistcoat, kohled eyes, harem pants and a tattoo on his face. According to reports, many trade analysts predicted a boot in "Tubelight" collections because of Shah Rukh Khan's appearance. It remains to be seen how the team tackles this bump in the road. "Tubelight" released worldwide yesterday.

Source: TOI



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