

## NEWS bytes

## Quicksilver returning in "Dark Phoenix"

Even though "X-Men: Apocalypse" marked the end of the "First Class" trilogy that began in 2011, the upcoming "X-Men: Dark Phoenix" will reunite moviegoers with most of those characters next year. When "Apocalypse" ended, Professor X has assembled together his first official X-Men team to keep the world safe for both mutants and humans. Now the final member of that team is



confirmed to be returning for Dark Phoenix: Quicksilver.

It's been confirmed that Evan Peters will reprise Peter Maximoff, aka Quicksilver in "X-Men: Dark Phoenix". This will mark his third appearance in the X-Men franchise, following 2014's "Days of Future Past" and 2016's "Apocalypse". No specific details were revealed about how Quicksilver will fit into "Dark Phoenix".

Along with the X-Men movies, Peters is well known nowadays for his work on "American Horror Story".

Written and directed by Simon Kinberg, "X-Men: Dark Phoenix" hits theatres on November 2.

Source: Cinemablend

## AISHWARYA to play singer in "Fanney Khan"



Anil Kapoor's "Fanney Khan" is set to feature Aishwarya Rai Bachchan as a glamorous singer, producer Prerna Arora has confirmed.

"Fanney Khan" will mark the directorial debut of Atul Manjrekar, and is the Hindi adaptation of the 2000 Dutch release, "Everybody's Famous!"

The musical-drama shows Aishwarya as a glamorous singer. Aishwarya, who is currently on a family vacation in New York, will start her preparations for the role as soon as she is back in Mumbai.

"Aishwarya is a stunning and an extremely talented actress. In 'Fanney Khan', she will be seen in a completely different avatar from all our past films. She is the spunky, enchanting female protagonist who will make you smile with her screen presence," Prerna said in a press statement.

Talking about rumours that Aishwarya makes her singing debut in the film, Prerna Arora said, "For now she is not singing, but yes she is playing a singer in the film, but in reality we still have to wait for that big moment when she decides to sing."

The film's lead actor Anil Kapoor may be lending his voice for a number of songs for the film. Anil will kick off shooting in the first week of August. Aishwarya joins him by the month end and the film will wrap up in a start-to-finish schedule by October.

Anil and Aishwarya were earlier seen together in Subhash Ghai's "Taal" (1999) and Satish Kaushik's "Humara Dil Aapke Paas Hai" (2000).

Source: Hindustan Times

# SHAMIM ZAMAN

## A small-screen all-rounder

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Before traversing the silver screen, actor Shamim Zaman had made a name in theatre for 27 years at Aranyak Natyadal. Adding to his list of accomplishments, the actor has been directing plays for a few years now.

This Eid, he worked in six different TV plays, of which five are single-episode ventures, and one six-episode miniseries titled "Chutki Bhandar."

He directed TV play "Ghawra Majid" for this Eid, starring Mosharraf Karim. Zaman was also part of the cast for the play.

The actor also cast Mosharraf Karim in another directorial venture titled "Shorol Manush". The play aired by Deepo TV and includes Zaman himself, as well as Runa Khan and Shokh as part of the main cast.

Three more single-episode plays directed by Zaman on air during the holidays are "Bodyguard Hossain", "Abayasher Daash", and "Amar Ichcha Kore Na Kere".

On his new projects, Zaman stated, "During the holidays, viewers are drawn to comedy, and that is why I have made them all light-hearted plays. However, each one carries a strong social message."

Beside Eid ventures, Zaman has directed a drama series that is currently aired by Rtv. Humorously titled "Jhamela Unlimited", the show airs four days a week and has recently completed tele-casting its 137th episode. "The show has received much positive feedback from viewers, which makes me very happy," remarked the artiste.

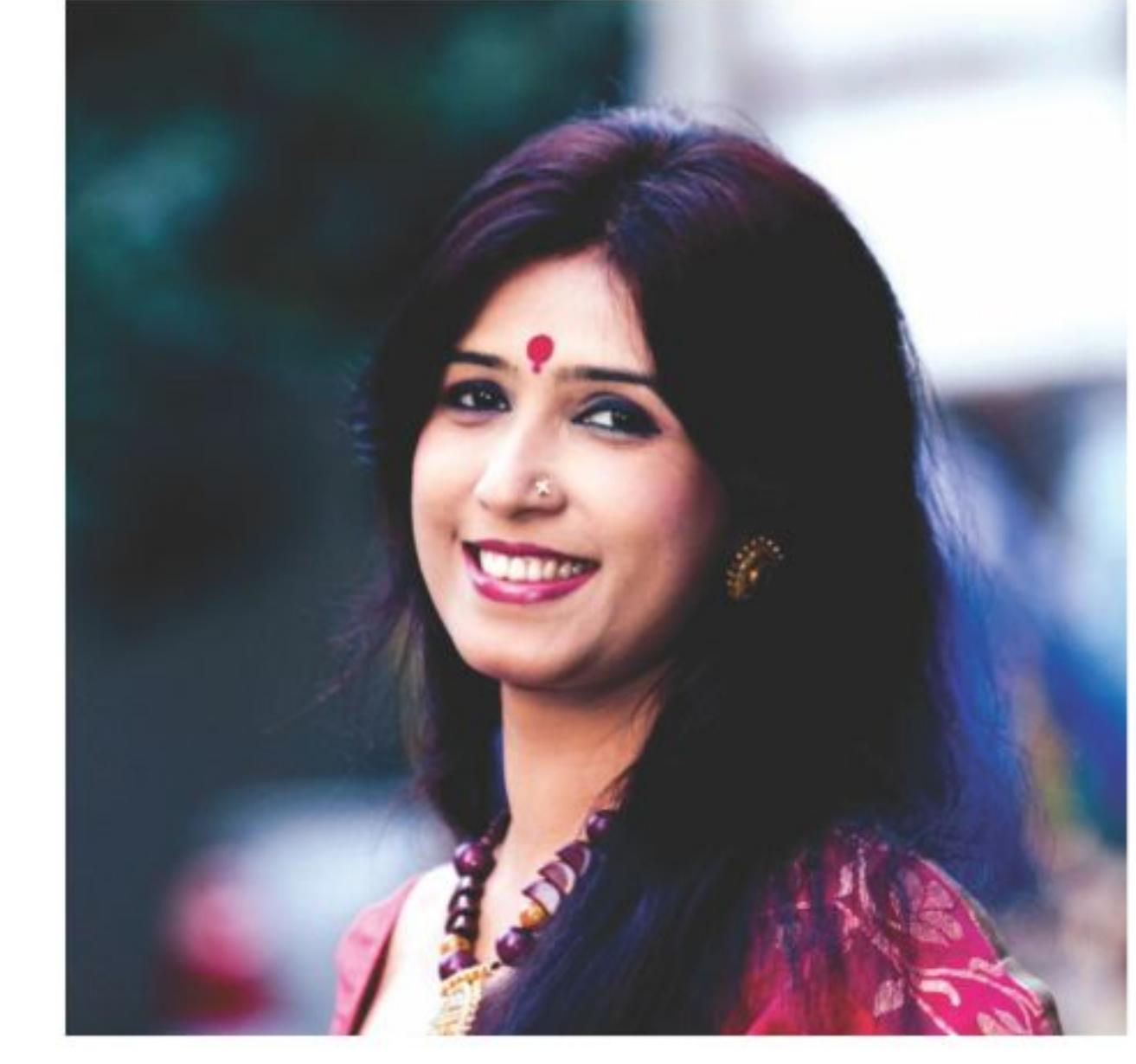
Zaman first arrived on the directorial scene with the Liberation War play "Rajab Ali O Tar Kafoner Kapor". Since then, he



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

has churned out numerous single-episode TV plays and tele-films. "Direction has to be the most challenging role in the industry, but I enjoy this work immensely," he said. The actor also shared that words of encouragement from peers and close friends such as Mosharraf Karim, AKM Hasan and Joyraj motivated him to take on the additional role.

Zaman was once a regular face in TV plays, but has now limited his acting to plays directed by himself. Despite the busy dual role, Zaman is still a passionate theatre actor at heart who takes time to return to his roots on the stage. The actor can currently be seen in the production of "Rarang", where he plays the central character Bishombhor.



## TOMA to perform at ICCR Kolkata

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Popular Rabindra Sangeet singer Tanjina Toma will perform at the Satyajit Ray Auditorium of Rabindranath Tagore Centre in Kolkata on an invitation from the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) on July 5.

At the solo soiree, titled, "Abar Esechhe Asar", Toma will perform songs on themes like rain, devotion, love, kirttan and baul-ang numbers, mostly written by Tagore in the then East Bengal, (now Bangladesh).

Tanjina Toma has gained popularity in India over the last several years, with her performances on various stages and TV channels in Kolkata and Tripura, India. Three of her solo albums were published from Kolkata's leading audio labels: "Jibon Kotha", "Tumi O Ami" and "Tomar Shonge".

Prior to Toma's performance, talented Indian dancer Arnaaz Zaman will present Odissi dance at the event.

## Mini TV series "Dalimkumar" on ntv

A CORRESPONDENT

This Eid, ntv is airing a special series based on folk tales all throughout the seven days of programmes. On the sixth day of Eid today, the episode "Dalimkumar" will air. Written by SM Salauddin and directed by AR Belal, the episode is helmed by ATM Maksudul Haque, and casts Tanvir Khan, Tanzina Tisha, Avik Raihan, SD Tonmoy and others.

The show airs at 6:10pm every day.



## "Otikrom" on Ekushey Television

A CORRESPONDENT

With Eid-ul-Fitr festivities still in the air, Ekushey Television will air tele-film "Otikrom" at 11am today. Scripted by Shafiqur Rahman Shantanu and directed by Kaisar Ahmed, the main cast includes Shokh, Niloy, Shohan, Runa Khan, AKM Hasan and more.

The narrative surrounds three college friends who are now colleagues at a software firm. Fed up with the same routine, they decide to break the monotony by planning a vacation. In order to avoid lay-offs, they cook up a mischievous plan by pretending one of them is afflicted with cancer and requires treatment abroad.

## TV WATCH



## "Shey Ek Prem Ache" on Banglavision

A CORRESPONDENT

Banglavision is hailing in the sixth day of Eid-ul-Fitr by bringing viewers a tele-film titled "Shey Ek Prem Ache" at 2:10pm. Scripted and

helmed by Mahmud Didar, the main cast includes Tisha, Emon, Mamunur Rashid and more.

Leelaboti is a free spirit and dreamer who makes a living through busking. Her lover is



## Adele may never tour again!



British pop and soul sensation Adele suggested she might stop touring in a handwritten note inserted into the programmes handed out at her final run of shows at Wembley Stadium in London. "I wanted my final shows to be in London because I don't know if I'll ever tour again and so I want my last time to be at home," the singer said.

A photo of the note was posted to the Instagram of an Adele fan account. In it, the singer detailed her lengthy "25" trek, which has spanned 15 months and taken her through North America, the UK, Ireland, Europe, Australia and New Zealand. In all, Adele will have played 123 shows after she wraps her Wembley run July 2nd.

"Touring is a peculiar thing, it doesn't suit me particularly well," Adele said. "I'm a real homebody and I get so much joy in the small things. Plus I'm dramatic and have a terrible history of touring."

Until now that is! ... It has been hard out an abso-

lutely thrill and pleasure to have done. I only ever did this tour for you and to hopefully have an impact on you the way that some of my favorite artist have had on me live."

Adele closed the note with a gracious thank you to her fans for all their "ridiculous love and kindness. I will remember all of this for the rest of my life."

Adele released "25" in November 2015, four years after her acclaimed breakout "21". Upon its release, the album shattered NSync's long-standing single-week US album sales record, selling 3.38 million copies in its first week compared to the 2.42 million copies the pop group sold of "No Strings Attached".

Adele would go on to win a slew of awards for the record, including Album of the Year at the Grammys and Record and Song of the Year for its first single, "Hello".

Source: Rolling Stone