

WHAT'S ON

Celebrating 100 years of Independent Finland... Venue: The Daily Star Bengal Arts... Date: October 29-November 1... Time: 11am-7pm



Dance Drama... Venue: National Theatre Hall, BSA... Date: November 1... Time: 7pm



Musical Soiree... Venue: Bangladesh National Museum... Date: Oct 31; Time: 6:30pm



Solo Art Exhibition... Venue: Kala Kendra, Mohammodpur... Date: Oct 27-Nov 22... Time: 5pm-8pm



Theatre... Venue: Studio Theatre Hall, BSA... Date: Oct 31... Time: 7pm



NEWS bytes

MAROON 5 announce 2018 tour

American rock band Maroon 5 has announced a 33-date North American tour in 2018, in support of their upcoming album "Red Pill Blues".



Texas and Florida, the band takes a break in July and August. They return to the road in September, focusing on the East Coast.

"Red Pill Blues" marks Maroon 5's sixth studio LP. In advance of the album, the band has released a series of singles featuring rappers and R&B singers.

Source: Rolling Stone

HALDAA gets a release date

Tauquir's multi-starrer coming December 1

SHAH ALAM SHAZLI

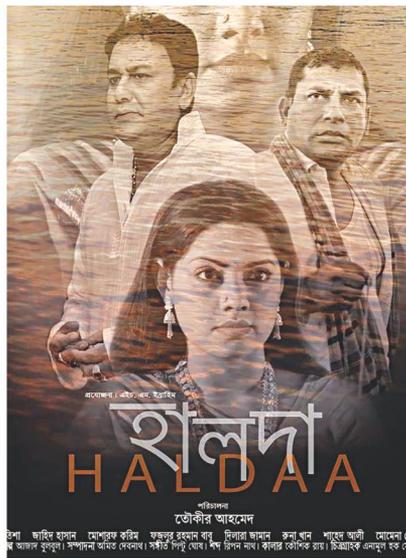
Tauquir Ahmed's much awaited film "Haldaa" finally has a release date, a year after filming ended by the banks of Haldia in Chattagong. The film is set to flow into theatres on December 1, the director informed The Daily Star.

"Haldaa" marks Tauquir Ahmed's fifth directorial venture, who revealed that the date was deliberately chosen. "December is the month of Independence, as well as a winter month at the end of the year. Everyone is in good spirits during this time, and I've chosen to set aside December as the film's release month beforehand."

Aside from the promises of a compelling narrative, the film has six songs, sung by Pintu Ghosh, Nandita, Shukonny and Mithun Chakrabarty. Pintu Ghosh has directed music for the film. Tauquir Ahmed has himself co-written a song for it.

The film's release date was announced on Monday night, along with a song performed by Nandita and Pintu Ghosh at a Facebook Live on Tiger Media, the content distributors of the film. The event was attended by Tauquir Ahmed and cast members Zahid Hasan, Tisha and Runa Khan. Earlier on Sunday night, a new poster was also revealed, featuring the central cast.

Zahid Hasan, who plays one of the starring roles stated, "I am a fan of Tauquir Ahmed's works, and I admire his personality. I am very excited for the film's release, and I know viewers will be moved in the theatres."



Tisha, who has most recently starred in the Mostofa Farooki-helmed "Dooob", said, "My characters in 'Dooob' and 'Haldaa' are very different from each other. 'Haldaa' is a

humane, rural story which will surely stir the hearts of anyone who watches it. Tauquir Ahmed is a very talented director, and I am glad to be part of the film."



SHAHED ALI Behind the roles

ROBINA RASHID BHUIYAN

With a flair for the unconventional, Shahed Ali unfailingly adheres to portray his characters in the most truthful way possible. Often donning subaltern roles, the actor skillfully blends into the narrative, and it's hard to separate Shahed Ali from the background. The actor has worked closely with Tauquir Ahmed, appearing in the director's film debut "Oogatonama", as well as in his upcoming film "Haldaa", slated for release in December this year.

You have appeared in a number of high profile works over the last few years, including "Khacha" which was one of the Oscar submissions from Bangladesh. Could you tell us about your role in the film? SA: I was actually approached 15 or 20 years ago when director Akram Khan was ruminating over the script. He wanted me to play one of the sons, but when the film finally went on floors I was much older than what the role required. But Partition plays such a crucial role in shaping our cultural history; I wanted to be intertwined with the narrative in some way. I played one of the daughter's husbands, who hails from Kolkata and convinces the family to move for their safety.

What other ventures do you have in the pipeline? SA: "Haldaa" will be released soon, and I play a poor fisherman in the film who betrays his friends due to a compromising situation. I am also cast in "Shonpoojal", directed by Giasuddin Selim, currently in post production and will put my portrayal a lawyer. I will also appear as a wealthy playboy in "Kaler Putul", helmed by Aka Reza Galib. I have recently completed filming for "Orpita", directed by Shahriar Nazim Joy where I play a local thug. I will also appear in the role of a saw mill worker in "Pashan", directed by Shaikat Nasir. As an actor I try to seek out the people I portray, and I mingle with them until I've adopted their ways of speaking and mannerisms. During the filming of "Oogatonama", I was pushed out from the film set because I was mistaken for one of the people gathering about!

Recently there has been a surge of well made films in Bangladesh, compared to before. As an actor, what challenges does the film industry still have to overcome?

SA: One of the main weaknesses of the film industry is its publicity campaigns. For generations, promotions have been limited to posters, banners, and microphone announcements, but we no longer live in an age where this approach works. Many good films get made, but sadly aren't brought to the attention of viewers because much of the budget is used up for making the film, but little is left for its promotion. There needs to be more online and media presence where film crews are invited to interviews and talk shows, and provide commentaries on the ventures.



As part of its regular cultural activities, Bangladesh Nazrul Sangeet (BNS) recently organised a musical evening titled "Bhalobasho Mor Gaan" at Ramesh Chandra Dutt Memorial Auditorium, Chhayanaut Sanskriti Hobban. The programme featured performances by noted singer Khaleed Hossain and other promising singers.

TV WATCH "Dugdugi" on ntv

A CORRESPONDENT

The second episode of the new drama series "Dugdugi" is set to go on air tonight on ntv at 8:15pm. Scripted and directed by Masud Shezan, the main cast includes Chanchal Chowdhury, Sanjida Preeti, Fiazul Islam, Ajmery Haque Badhan, Misha Sabbir, Mounushi Biswas, Abdullah Rana, Shahnaz Khushi and more. The story zooms in on two misfits. Ahsan

Kabir (Chanchal Chowdhury) is a private tutor who finds time to help pedestrians during his free hours. He reasons that society would become a much better place if everyone follows the instructions listed in the leaflet. Meanwhile Sanjida Preeti plays the role of Behnuna, who works in a counseling facility. Through their comical endeavours, do they stand a chance at making their dreams come true?



OCTOBER releasing in April

Bollywood actor Vanun Dhawan shared the first look of his upcoming film with Shoojit Sircar, "October", along with the release date for the movie. Ranita Sandhu will be seen opposite Vanun in the film that marks the first collaboration between Sircar and Dhawan. Sharing the image on Twitter, Vanun wrote, "As October comes to an end it arrives earlier next year. #October releases on 13th April now. @ShoojitSircar @ronniealtrini @RanitaSandhu."

Vanun looks quite scared and is running from something in the image. Talking about the film, Vanun had earlier said, "I am definitely happy and excited. What's amazing about him (Shoojit) is that he is very sure about his vision. I have met him just now, so I am trying to get into that world and understand it, and the way the film is going to breathe and feel. It's very different from anything I have done before."

"Thor: Ragnarok" thunders to \$107.6M at int'l Box Office

Disney-Marvel's "Thor: Ragnarok" has topped the international box office with \$107.6 million in 52% of overseas markets, a week ahead of its US release. The UK is the top market with \$15.8 million, 27% ahead of "Doctor Strange". It's the biggest October opening ever for a movie in the UK except for James Bond titles. In many markets, "Thor: Ragnarok" posted the best October opening weekend ever. Markets which will open next week-end include Germany, Russia, China, Japan and Mexico, along with the US - where it should top the early November box office with as much as \$125 million in its opening weekend, early projections have shown.

"Thor: Ragnarok" is directed by Taika Waititi from a screenplay by Eric Pearson and the writing team of Craig Kyle and Christopher Yost. It stars Chris Hemsworth, Tom Hiddleston, Cate Blanchett, Idris Elba, Jeff Goldblum, Russi Thompson, Karl Urban, Mark Ruffalo, and Anthony Hopkins. Disney said Sunday that it's crossed the \$4 billion box office threshold globally for 2017, making it the only studio to have achieved this threshold for the last five successive years. The US domestic box office for 2017 stands at \$1.4 billion, with international box office at \$2.7 billion.



Source: Hindustan Times

Source: Variety