

Black Zang's "Bangla Hype" lives up to the hype

Black Zang's new track "Bangla Hype" premiered online on their official YouTube channel and Facebook page, recently. Composed, mixed and mastered by Shahan A H M, the song highlights the becoming of a rapper, and how rappers have become mainstream in recent years.



From the music video of 'Bangla Hype'.

ASHLEY SHOPTORSHI SAMADDAR

The track was released under the banner of Bangla Hype Entertainment. "The recent years have been amazing, as both the local and international audience has shown us rappers a lot of love. This inspired us to create this

number, celebrating our journey and success,' shares Black Zang.

The video, echoing the essence of the Bangladesh city culture, is directed by Nasimul Mursalin Shakkar. Black Zang is the executive creative director of the production, while the animation and VFX is done by Muhammad Faayaz Nur.

Upon release, the track managed to mark a spot for four weeks on BBC Asian network's playlist has been the track of the week on Nadia Ali's show this week.

"Being able to echo with the international audience while they are urged to taste the culture of Dhaka has been the most rewarding part of my journey," shares Black Zang. "The support from my team and the underground rappers from Bangladesh has only made this piece special."

The track garnered praises upon release and has been very well-accepted by Black Zang fans. "For years we have struggled to establish this genre but with the recent changes in trend, it finally feels like this is the prime time for Bangla Hype," he concludes.

FAME IS A BLESSING IN LIFE

-Faria Shahrin

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Prominent actress and model Faria Shahrin started out in showbiz with Lux Channel i Superstar, before making her way in the field of television. She also starred in the film, "Aakash Koto Dure Naame". We caught up with the multi-faceted artiste to learn more about her work.

What can you tell us about your upcoming projects?

I have been out of the limelight for a while, but as of now, I am busy with several projects, including a one-hour tele-fiction with Chanchal Chowdhury. I have also recently worked with director Rakesh Basu on a tele-fiction titled "Hit Man".

How would you describe Chanchal Chowdhury as a co-star?

Working with an actor of his stature has been an honour. As a co-star, he is immensely helpful and co-operative; he makes everyone feel very comfortable on the sets. There is not an ounce of arrogance in him.

What kind of tele-fictions are you usually drawn to?

Although I am offered love stories the most, I do not wish to work on them right now. I want to play roles that people will remember me by. I would love to work on stories that are a little out-of-the-box, especially in the thriller genre. I want to play characters, for which there will be scope to showcase my acting range. Bangladeshi artistes are doing quite well on web platforms now. I would love to work on projects for OTT platforms.

As an experienced actress and model, how do you perceive fame?

I perceive fame as a blessing in my life, as not everyone has the good luck of earning fame. I enjoy every aspect of being famous.

Translated by Shababa Iqbal



PHOTO: COLLECTED

NURUL ALAM ATIQUE

opens up about 'Lal Moroger Jhuti'

PRİYANKA CHOWDHURY

After six years of gestation since it received a government grant, "Lal Moroger Jhuti" (Call of the Red-Rooster), produced by Pandulipi Karkhana, was released yesterday.

Throughout the past two decades, director Nurul Alam Atique has created a unique style of storytelling, involving intimate human concepts. "Lal Moroger Jhuti" presents a narrative that explores the collective memory of the masses during 1971. Atique shares his thoughts on his second feature film with The Daily Star.

The director was born in 1971. His memory of that time is thus shaped by stories shared by his mother and aunts. He vaguely recalls them talking about hiding at the sound of the siren. Saidpur Airfield was a witness to forced labour, genocide, and later, the surrender of the Pakistani Army on December 18, 1971, and thus, remains crucial to history.

Atique's childhood memory of the runway, intertwined with the experiences of Col. (Retd.) Quazi Sajjad Ali Zahir Bir Protik and Freedom fighter Nasiruddin Yousuff Bachchu, formed the narrative of the film. "Memories are like fading bromides of photographs. Restoring the collective memories and re-imagining the historical events is important to me. 1971 is a unique and significant event in our lives. I would not claim the film to be a historical document, but it is a reference," he says.

He emphasises on the numerous untold accounts of history, especially from people of the lower class. The film is set in a majorly hostile Bihari space, with allies, opponents, and some characters of the then East and West Pakistan.

The radio played an important source of information and aspiration during the Liberation War. Atique carefully used this space and the energy transmitting gadget in the film. "For the imprisoned community who were losing hope, radio was the only lifeline. From an intention point, this film is also a tribute to the unsung heroes of Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra," he adds.

The black and white render and sound design of the film create a tunnel for time travel for the audience. Award-winning sound designer, Sukanta Majumder, created the soundscape of the film. "I intended to explore the psyche of the characters.



PHOTO: STAR

Apart from creating the time difference, black and white also helps to highlight the expressions of the characters. Sukanta's compassion for this project is unparalleled," Atique shares.

"It was while working with Tareque bhai (Tareque Masud) during the distribution of "Muktir Gaan" and later in "Muktir Kotha" that I could explore people of the grassroots level, who fought back without having any expectations. I wished to connect those expressions in my work."

With visuals, sonar conundrums, and dialogues, "Lal Moroger Jhuti" has shaped up to be not just a reimagining of history, but also an avenue for the audience to rethink.

Sara Ali Khan promises to make Sharmila Tagore proud

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Bollywood star Sara Ali Khan promised to make her grandmother Sharmila Tagore always proud.

On Tagore's 77th birthday on December 8, Sara shared on social media, "Happiest Birthday Badi Amma. I love you so much. Thank you for always being here for us and being a constant pillar of support." "Inshallah I hope that I can always make you proud," she added.

The endearing post garnered thousands of heart reacts within no time. On the work front, Sara will next be seen in "Atrangi Re", also starring Akshay Kumar and Dhanush. The film will be released on December 24.



Sara Ali Khan

What makes 'Money Heist' a riveting show?

SHANIZ CHOWDHURY

At the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, one Netflix show that ballooned to popularity was "Money Heist". Also known as "La Casa De Papel" in Spanish, it is about a bunch of misfits who are recruited by The Professor, who intends to shape them into shrewd criminals. Despite everything being planned meticulously, multiple things go haywire, and test their ability to ideate their escape under pressure. The series finale was released on Netflix recently, to much anticipation.



From the series finale of 'Money Heist'

In case you are wondering why you should continue or start watching "Money Heist", here are five reasons to convince you.

CHARISMATIC CHARACTERS

Every single character, starting from the well-trained criminals to the dedicated police officers, has their own flaws. They let their emotions rule over logic, which leads to subliminal plot twists. They are prone to making mercurial decisions, which set up the foundation for nail-biting scenes. One minute, they are on a serious quest for power, and will not fidget to point the gun at each other and the next, they confess their undying love and become ready to sacrifice themselves for their fellow criminals.

BRILLIANT WRITING

The show is written in such a remarkable way that during any episode, you will never know for sure whose side you want to be on. Perhaps, the universally hated character is Arturito, the director of The Royal Mint of Spain. Other than him, every other character falls into the trap of doing despicable things, which constantly shifts their position in the moral alignment system. It always makes you question whether or not they are going to be successful in carrying out the heist.

CONTINUITY OF STORYLINE

Like any other addictive telenovelas, "Money Heist" takes

the plunge by killing off several characters. In Season 5, Volume 1, the death of one character raised important questions about the narrative, as it was their spirit and perspective, through which the audience were able to embark on this epic journey. However, it is exciting to watch how the story continues.

LONG-AWAITED RESOLUTIONS

With the series coming to an end, there were inevitable scenes where characters got their closure, whether it be for love stories or rivalries. The relationship between The Professor and Raquel ends on a sweet note. There is more information on Berlin's heart-rending love story, and a revelation of who takes over The Professor's missions in his absence.

FITTING FINALE

Although the show's popularity has also been its downfall, it still remains faithful to its raison d'être, which is a crime drama about exceptionally clever criminals. If you have made it all the way through till Season 4, you might as well bite the bullet and finish the series. Season 5 answers several questions that may have crossed your mind, the main one being why The Professor does what he does.

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