

Deepanwita Martin on her first National Award

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Deepanwita Martin won the Best Actress National Film Award for her role in noted director Gazi Rakayet's "Gor" (The Grave), recently. This is a first-time win for the promising actress on the prestigious platform. In a candid chat, she shares her excitement about the win, and more.

How do you feel about winning the National Film Award?

This award is one of my greatest professional achievements. When I first got the news, I was completely speechless. My loved ones, and friends from the media have been sending me their best wishes. My heart is full. I am elated that my work has been recognised and appreciated.

How would you describe Gazi Rakayet as a director?

Gazi Rakayet is an exceptional human being. The credit for my National Film Award goes to him. He made "Gor" with great passion and care. He is also an actor himself, so he understands what his actors need, as a director. His films always have something out of the ordinary to offer to the audience.

How was your experience of working on "Gor"?

I believe the story of "Gor" is one that people will be able to connect to. I got plenty of opportunities to showcase my acting range in this film, and tried my best to play the role well. Now, I am enjoying the fruits of my labour (smiles).



Deepanwita Martin in 'Gor' (The Grave).

Do you feel a greater sense of responsibility, after winning the National Film Award?

Yes, I do, to a certain extent. I have been committed to doing good work since the start of my career, and I hope to continue with the same passion. Creatively engaging experiences allow artists to thrive.

Moving forward, what are your aspirations regarding films?

I have done only a few films so far, and I won the National Award for a movie that I think is brilliant. I hope more such films come my way, and I get to choose well-written stories and characters.

feel sense



PHOTOS: COLLECTED



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Nusraat Faria begins shooting for 'Rockstar' in Kolkata

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Nusraat Faria is teaming up with Indian actor Yash Dasgupta for her upcoming romantic thriller, "Rockstar", directed by Angshuman Prattyush.

Shooting for the film has begun in Kolkata, and it will go on till March 3.

According to Faria, "Rockstar" will be filmed in various locations of India.

Produced by Bangladeshi production house Shapla Media, the film is expected to be released in Bangladesh after Kolkata.

Salman Khan skips cameo in Aamir's 'Laal Singh Chaddha'

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Bollywood superstar Aamir Khan returns to the big screen with "Laal Singh Chaddha" and it is easily among the most awaited movies of the year.

The film was set to feature Salman Khan and Shah Rukh Khan in cameo appearances. However, as per reports, Salman is no longer a part of this film, due to scheduling conflicts.

He was to make an appearance as Prem from his "Maine Pyar Kiya" days in this film. Shah Rukh, however, continues to be a part of "Laal Singh Chaddha". He will be playing the character of Raj from his "Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge" days.

Ke Kothay Kibhabe

A modern arc to stereotypical love

ASHLEY SHOPTORSHI SAMADDAR

Wanting to relish upon love tales on Valentine's eve, I was keenly looking forward to Shafayet Mansoor Rana's short film series "Ke Kothay Kibhabe".

I have always found it difficult to explain "love" -- a feeling larger than life. However, the three short tales, for me, encapsulated the feelings perfectly. "Oprokashito", "Hot Patties" and "Black Box", in my opinion, were the cream of the crop in this year's oversaturated 'love' tales.

The concept of self-dependence and the never-ending arguments -- about how 'together forever' seldom works out for headstrong individuals -- was beautifully reinforced in the Tasnia Farin and Irfan Sajjad starrer "Oprokashito".

The grey-gloomy colour grading reinforces the concept of the inertia within the characters, their dilemmas. It contributes to explicitly exploring their anxieties, while being in alignment with the concept of being in a delusional headspace.

However, the ending explicitly justifies the characteristics of the protagonist, played by Irfan -- a stark realization that differed from his own philosophy.

A fight, tears, and the last hug -- the production leaves behind agony, draped in the comforting touch of velvet that even makes heartbreak look romantic. Overall, the series excelled in terms of editing and cinematography. With this unusual pairing, the chemistry was something I loved exploring.

I have never really been a fan of the typical 'boy-meets-girl' romance. However, the twist in "Hot Patties" really made the project spicy (pardon the pun). A rich 'jock' (played by Salman Muqtadir) meets the simple, elegant, down-to-earth and very intelligent Bengali beauty (Sabila Nur). Sabila believes in her roots, but also knows how to enjoy life.

Salman's boorish actions -- sudden stop at a pharmacy, a resort booking, and a set of extra clothes -- was blown into pieces as the girl shatters his dreams, and his ego.

The production deliberately touched upon breaking 'first meeting' standards, which is often exaggerated in the media. The two leads showcased the awkwardness perfectly. For me, their chemistry was a humorous delight.

Everyone seems to have their own way of dealing with 'breakups', and that's what was highlighted in "Black Box", a tragedy featuring Yash Rohan and Samira Khan Mahi. The simple and relatable setting helps identify with the social standards set for marriage, and how numerous couples part ways as they fall prey to reality.

What stood out for me was the stellar performance by Yash Rohan, especially when he succumbs to moving on, but his heart tends to feel otherwise.

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"Ke Kothay Kibhabe" is definitely unique, living up to the standards of the classic 'Shafayet Mansoor Rana' elements, finding a new leaf to turn over from the old branches.



Season 4 of 'Stranger Things' to release in two parts

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The fourth season of the critically acclaimed Netflix show, "Stranger Things", will be split in two parts. It will feature nine episodes.

The first volume will be out on May 27, while Volume 2 will be released on July 1 this year.

Recently, Netflix shared an open letter, detailing elements of the forthcoming season, which they described as "the beginning of the end," and announcing that the show's fifth season will be its last.

That being said, the makers hinted that they are working on other stories related to the larger "Stranger Things" franchise.

