

#CHECK IT OUT



Vintage cinema halls, HAWA and the magic of cinema

Vintage cast iron seats, dusty maroon-red velvet curtains, dress circle elevated seating, dark aisles and single screen movie theatres— descriptions out of cinemas golden era, remain the narrative for many of the existing old cinema halls around the country. Time stood still for these halls. Even a few months ago, the owners were thinking of a more profitable alternative due to the lack of visitors, but thanks to the airing of the latest superhit *Hawa*, people have returned to the cinema halls once again, that too in hoards, and suddenly, the 'magic of the movies' is back.

Hawa is a Bangladeshi mystery-drama film, written and directed by Mejbaur Rahman Sumon. The film is produced by Facecard Productions and Sun Music &

Motion Pictures Limited. The film stars Chanchal Chowdhury as Chan Majhi, Nazifa Tushi as Gulti, and Sariful Razz as Ibrahim or Iba, amongst others.

Last week, the '*Hawa*' crew, along with Star Lifestyle, took the opportunity to explore one such 'vintage cinema hall' within the vicinities of the capital. Hidden on a corner of the famous English Road in Old Dhaka, this very cinema hall, Chitra Mahal, has stood tall for years, breathing life into the world of celluloid for around fifty years.

Flip to centrefold to read the full story

Photo: Shahriar Kabir Heemel
Model: Nazifa Tushi as Gulti
Wardrobe: Aniq Zaheen

