



# RUNA KHAN reborn

PHOTOS: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

**The audience discovered Runa Khan as Sumona, the much-loved character from the popular children's show, Sisimpur Bangladesh. The National Film Award winner recently went through a drastic change in look, due to her weight loss. Her latest work, Amitabh Reza Chowdhury's "Bodh", released yesterday.**

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SHARMIN JOYA

**How was your experience of working in "Bodh"?**

"Bodh" is very special to me. After a long time, I have worked with Amitabh Reza Chowdhury. Also, my co-artists in this project, including the likes of—Alfal Hossain, Syed Babu, Rawnak Hasan, Orchita Sporshia, and Khairul Basar—all of them are brilliant actors. Here, I have played the role of Dipti Rani, a school teacher. She is an extremely sensitive and humane by nature. To know more about her, you have to watch 'Bodh'!

**Is the medium important to you, while choosing projects?**

Not at all. Acting is all that matters to me. Be it stage, television, commercials, film or OTT—I always try to perform accordingly, and do my best.

**You have been regularly working in the OTT. Since it is a new medium, and it has a lot to improve. What is your observation?**

OTT has raised expectations for the entire industry. Compared to other mediums, we are getting more experimental works here. Budget is one of the biggest factors for a production, and in this medium, directors are



getting firm budget so far. I believe with time, we can do a lot better.

**Who is your inspiration in acting?**

I grew up in the 90s, and at that time Shomi Kaiser, Afsana Mimi were the actresses who have mesmerized me with their charm. They have inspired me a lot to become an actress.

**You have worked in a few numbers of films, and you have also received the National Film Award for "Haldaa" for Best Supporting Actress. Did you play your dream role yet?**

Certainly not! I still dream to play such role which will remain in me forever, and the one which will keep me in the heart of the audience

for a lifetime. Not all dreams come true, but at least I can hope for!

**What are your upcoming projects?**

I have completed working in the government granted film, "Ekti Na Bola Golpo", directed by Pankaj Palit, which awaits release. I am also in Kaushik Sankar Das directorial web film "Dafon"—it is a female-centric plot where I will be playing the protagonist Kulsum. Another production is in the works for the new local OTT platform Ayna – web series "Baghey Khay", directed by Noman Robin.

**Recently you have shed a lot of weight – you went from 105 kilos to 68 kilos. Would you like to share your journey with us?**

The journey was very long, hectic yet the results are evident. I gained a lot of weight, and I was 105 kilos after my daughter Rajeshwari was born. When I returned to work after maternity leave, my weight was the main topic of talk in my work environment. To be honest, this threw me into depression. To tell you the truth, except surgery, there is hardly anything I didn't try to lose those extra kilos.

**How did you finally succeed?**

When I realised that my close ones were bullying me, I immediately cut off the toxic people from my life. That very moment I knew that I am regaining the energy to begin the journey of losing the extra weight. Throughout the journey, my husband Eshon Waheed and my daughter made sure that I don't feel lonely. I am also grateful to my friends, who stood beside me in my odds.

**You had learned a lesson of life from your journey...what would you suggest to those who are still struggling to start living a healthy life?**

Staying mentally well is very important, you will lose focus when you listen to toxic people. Love yourself, and the world will love you.

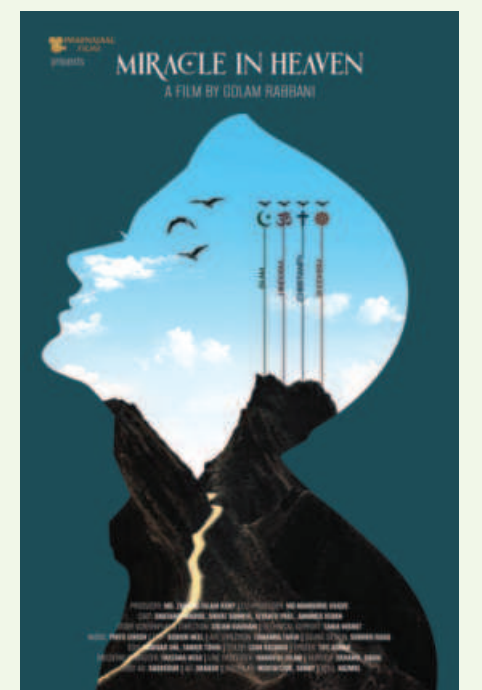
## Out and about IN DHAKA



**Armeen Musa live at  
Jatra Biroti**  
November 11 | 8 pm  
Jatra Biroti



**Monkey Trial**  
November 13 | 7 pm  
Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy



**Miracle In Heaven  
(Bangladesh Premiere)**  
November 6 | 5:30 pm  
ULAB Permanent Campus



WHAT'S ON  
THE GRAM?



## Jeremy Renner

The 'Hawkeye' star Jeremy Renner looked deliciously scrumptious in casual deep blue suit assemble, and navy-blue tie. Fans were simply gushing over his melancholic distant gaze and his crystal blue eyes on Instagram.



WHAT'S  
PLAYING

## WESTSIDE Nirob Islam

Nirob Islam, a Sweden-based, Bangladeshi songwriter who he has written songs for some of the world's biggest artists such as The Chainsmokers, Steve Aoki, John Newman and so on.

His single "Westside" tells a beautiful tale of young love and insecurities, and how they hold us back from truly enjoying our life. The music video for "Westside" was shot in his dad's hometown, and is a perfect fit for the song.

## TRENDY STREAMS

Netflix-  
The Good Nurse

Hoichoi-  
Bodh

Chorki-  
Theeran

Amazon Prime-  
My Policeman

Disney Plus -  
Disenchanted