

THE SIAM sensation continues

SHARMIN JOYA

Siam Ahmed's parents were much more concerned about his career in law, rather than his acting. This changed when the actor received the National Film Award two times in a row. His dedication brought him the national level recognition, further elevating his career with one remarkable project after another. The actor is currently shooting for his first Tollywood film, where he will be sharing the screen with noted Indian actor Prosenjit Chatterjee.

We caught up with Siam for a cup of coffee, a photo-session and more!

How does it feel to have won the National Film Award for the second time?

This is such a recognition that gives my parents hope and confidence that their son is on the right track. Such an honour inspired them to support me to work even harder. In the beginning of my career, they were much more concerned about my future in law, I am lucky that they have taken this profession of mine seriously.

You are working with 'Bumba Da' (Prosenjit Chatterjee) in your Tollywood debut, how was the experience?

The characteristic of a great artiste is that they welcome others with a warm heart and help create a space for newcomers -- Bumba Da is surely one such artiste.

We have discussed our characters and expectations from each other. He has been providing me tips as well. I am hoping that this project will be a memorable one in my career.

You will be working in American filmmaker, Alka Raghuram's Hindi-language film, 'In the Ring: Story of a Burqa Boxer'. Could you share the story behind getting involved in the project?

One of my films was in the editing panel in Mumbai, and one of the executive producers of *In the Ring* saw my footage from the film, and collected my contact number from them. They called me and asked if I am interested to give a screen test for this film. This is how I got connected with the project. We had a language training for this project too.

Since you are the only Bangladeshi artiste in the movie, are you feeling nervous?

Not nervous, but I am concerned about the fact that I will be representing the entire fraternity I belong to. I have to give my best, so that I can make my industry proud. I will soon starting the shooting for this film.

A funny rumour you have heard about yourself...

Recently a director called me to say that he heard I had no schedule for the next two years! I was like, how come I don't know that? Where did all of the money go?

A rumour that annoyed you the most...

During my wedding, some media outlets reported that Puja Chery attempted suicide because of me! I got extremely annoyed. I called Puja and asked are you dead yet?

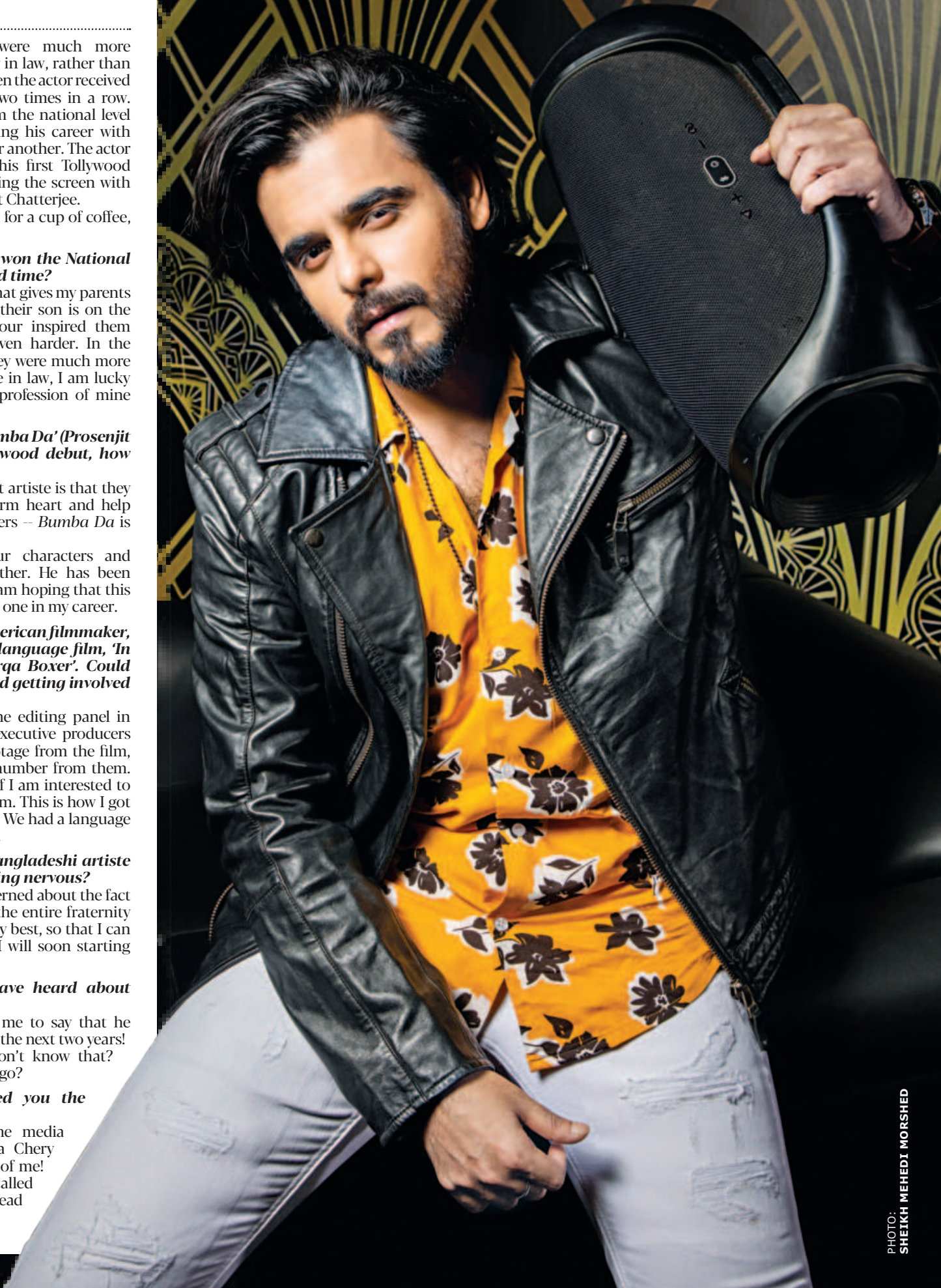
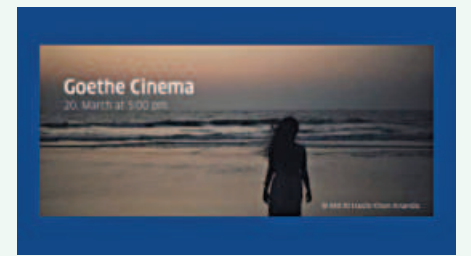


PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

Out and about IN DHAKA



Goethe Cinema
March 20 | 5 pm
Goethe-Institut Bangladesh



Informal Desire
March 10-28 | 4 pm - 8 pm
Kala Kendra



Classical Night
March 18 | 6 pm - 11 pm
Satori Meditations

TRENDY STREAMS

Netflix
Rana Naidu

Chorki
Overtrump

Hoichoi
Indubala Bhaater
Hotel

HBO Max
The Last of Us

Amazon Prime- Nope

TV TALKIES

THE LAST OF US

An ode to found family

Released 10 years ago as a zombie-Horror video game, Naughty Dog's *The Last of Us* (TLOU) is part of a revolution brought into the gaming industry, where developers vied to explore the worlds both outside and inside the human perception.

The 2023 HBO series of the same name follows the main characters, Ellie and Joel, who on their own, come together by fate and form a bond that resonates to everyone of us. Joel (Pedro Pascal), a survivor of the Cordyceps outbreak, somehow gets entangled with a militia group called 'The Fireflies', who entrust him to smuggle a special individual, Ellie (Bella Ramsay).

An orphan, Ellie gets captured by the Fireflies, who had

been fighting to liberate the remaining survivors from the fascist government, FEDRA. They have established quarantine zones all across the US to keep the minimal number

of human survivors safe.

The series, in all its seriousness, does not try to play gracious by showing the horrors of an outbreak. Instead, it is established through relationships.

It follows the famine, desperation and indeed the grisly 'Clickers', who prey on human beings.

TLOU, the series, follows how people pluck and care for each other in times of need, often going to great lengths at times to atone for their past mistakes, which creates a whole new meaning for the 'found family' trope.



WHAT'S ON THE GRAM



DEEPIKA PADUKONE

Deepika Padukone's glamorous avatar at the 95th Academy Awards gave an iconic tribute to Audrey Hepburn's iconic film, *Breakfast at Tiffany's*. The actress looked magnificent as she donned a stunning off-the-shoulder, jet-black Louis Vuitton gown, channelling an old-school Hollywood glamour to her whole look. Deepika looked chic as she paired the look with a sleek hairdo and diamond jewellery, which added a little extra glam to her look.

