

A songbird called NANDITA

RAKSHANDA RAHMAN MISHA

Deep dark kohl eyes, a mesmerising smile and a silvery smooth voice—Sanzida Mahmood Nandita has been ruling over our hearts with her soothing performances in Coke Studio with *Darale Duaarey* and *Bulbuli*.

Amidst the rainy season, the gorgeous singer dropped by The Daily Star for a hearty conversation.

How did your love for music begin?

My love for music started when I was just 3 and a half years old, my mom wanted me to become a musician, and so I started getting training under Ustad Dilip Majumder. I was so small that I couldn't even play the harmonium properly – he would take me in his lap and helped me play. Sweet memories they were.

An old video from Bangladeshi idol, where judge Mehreen predicted that you will excel, become viral again on social media.

It was really great seeing the video again. I am really happy that I was able to impress people with my recent work so much that they dug out an old video which showcased my journey in showbiz.

Bangladeshi idol was really special and Mehreen madame's comment about me being a 'beautiful soul' stayed with me. I am really thankful to that person who uploaded or shared the audition video. Thanks to them people got to know about my beautiful journey.

Tell us the backstory behind your Coke studio songs 'Bulbuli' and 'Darale Duaarey'

I started my journey in Coke studio with Shuvendu. He is the music composer of both the songs. At that time, Ritu Raj and I were together at an event, and he approached us to sing *Bulbuli*. Thankfully, our song was a hit and everyone who listened to it thought my portion was catchy.

In season 2, I didn't have any time to prepare for *Darale Duaarey*, but I still gave my best. Ishaan was amazing in the song, he voiced it with so much ease. While rendering the song, I tried to incorporate a few improvisations. Shounak played the *sarengi* so perfectly, especially the chord which made it hauntingly beautiful. I remember I couldn't hold back my tears while listening to the song.

You are Arifin Shuvoo's 'celebrity crush'. How does it make you feel?

I saw the video and thought it was really cute. My friends tagged me to the post, and didn't know how to reply! He is really sweet.

Do you have any special fan moment to speak of?

I was travelling in Dhanmondi, when a girl approached me. I was wearing a casual tee with mask on my face. She told me that she loves *Bulbuli* and that she has been a fan since Bangladeshi idol and hugged me. I was feeling sick at that time, but that moment literally gave me goosebumps, as it made me feel special for the first time in a while.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED
MUA: FARHANA PARVEEN
STYLIST: PROTYASHA

TRENDY STREAMS

Netflix
Queen Charlotte: A Bridgerton Story



Hoichoi
Mohanagar



Chorki
Myself Allen Swapan



Disney+
The Mandalorian



Amazon Prime
Pathaan



STYLE STATEMENT BAD BUNNY

The internet has been overtaken by celebs in black and white, paying homage to the late Karl Lagerfeld in his signature colours. The Latino artiste joined in on the MET 2023 red carpet in a dashing white suit and rosette covered cape by Jacquemus. Unlike traditional suits, Bad Bunny's one was a back-cut-out ensemble, with a chained pendant gracing the musicians back. Despite the whimsy of both women's and men's attire on the red carpet, this was an out of the box statement. The singer paired his outfit with pearl studs and a slicked back hair-do, with a chain and pendant with the letter "J".



OUT AND ABOUT IN DHAKA



Headbangers Paradise
May 12 | 12 pm – 10:30 pm
Bangladesh-China Friendship
Exhibition Center



Saturday Night Comedy Show
May 6 | 7:30 pm – 9 pm
Naveed's Comedy Club



**Titumir Art Club
Exhibition 2023**
April 1 – 25 | 4 pm – 8 pm
Kala Kendra

TV TALKIES

Russian Doll

What if you died and then came back, and died again? *Russian Doll* created by Leslye Headland and Amy Poehler, does exactly that with their gritty and smoke damaged protagonist Nadia (Natasha Lyonne), who, upon her 36th birthday party, ends up dead. Somehow, somewhere, Natasha ends up dead and then wakes up in the same bathroom that started it. In the same birthday party, with the same friends, Nadia looks for the answers behind the loop that she is stuck in. She instead finds little quirks that she hates about her friends, unlikely characters that he hadn't noticed before around her neighbourhood and every other thing she had ignored in the times when it was not still.

The 2019 series tackles existentialism in the most New York way possible with the gritty and quick witted Lyonne headlining the role. A mix of quirky satirical quips and pert sci-fi turns, *Russian Doll* delves into what it means to be alive and how it feels to be trapped in your mind, diluting the essence of trauma narrative with notes of the current world streamlining within the show.

