

# A fire kindles inside KONAL

SHARMIN JOYA

She has done hundreds of songs for playback, and received the National Award for it. This Eid, her song *Surma Surma* from *Leader Amie Bangladesh* delivered a rare mainstream hit, helping the Shakib Khan starrer to become even more successful in theatres across the country. Somnur Monir Konal, popularly known as Konal, has grabbed the proverbial brass ring after winning *Channel i Shera Kontho*, and had a career most reality show participants can only dream of.

"Just after four days of being crowned as the *Channel i Shera Kontho* on December 24, I gave my voice for a film on the 28th for the first time," says Konal, who has recently voiced *Megher Nouka* from *Prohelika*, which will release this upcoming Eid-ul-Azha.

"When I came from Kuwait nearly two decades ago, I never imagined that I will receive such appreciation and acknowledgement from the audience which I have always dreamed of," says Konal, who has now completed 14 years in the industry.

She is always ready to opt for new challenges. "Recently, I have performed in a Malaysian University, at their orientation programme, where I had to sing a Malaysian song. It was challenging for me, yet I enjoyed taking it up. I had very short time, to memorise the song in the language and practice it."

"I am lucky that people know me by my original songs, and it is evident that their love for me is unconditional. Only true artistes get such love," smiles Konal.

Having good lyrics is the first thing that Konal considers when accepting a song. "I never take any song that contains lyrics that does not go with my personality."

In her personal life, Konal is married to prominent entertainment journalist Monzur Kader Zia. Konal shares she often faces prejudice due to the fact. "Every day, everywhere, people feel that I get too many benefits, but the reality is quite the opposite. I have to prove myself even more, because of the prejudice, because to some people, everything I achieve has some unseen force behind it".

It is, however, evident that no matter what, Konal will keep flying like the songbird that she is, in *Surma Surma* skies.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

## OUT AND ABOUT IN DHAKA



**Weekly Open Sessions  
(Board Games)**  
June 17 | 4 pm  
Panaderia Gulshan



**Theaterian presents  
"Death of a Salesman"**  
June 17 | 7 pm  
Bangladesh Mohila Samity



**Anecdotes of Lust**  
June 18 | 4 pm – 8 pm  
Kala Kendra

## WHAT'S PLAYING

# Monalisa Dominic Fike

*Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse* has taken the entertainment world by storm with not only its mesmerising visuals but for its banger soundtrack as well. Alt Indie musician Dominic Fike penned the song *Monalisa* for the movie, spinning a magical narrative of young love and infatuation. *Monalisa* portrays the back and forth between two individuals

who adore each other, especially the narrator. The 3 minute 20 second track perfectly fits the scene it plays behind, with two teens who are in pursuit of each other. The 27-year-old musician rose to fame with releasing his songs on SoundCloud, later signing onto Columbia Records. Fike has also collaborated with the likes of Alt hip-hop band Brockhampton, Halsey and Paul McCartney.



## TRENDY STREAMS

Netflix

Never Have I Ever



Hoichoi

Nostoneer



Disney plus

The Villains of Valley View



Hulu

Cruel Summer



Amazon Prime

I am a Virgo



## STYLE STATEMENT

# SIAM AHMED

Siam Ahmed's fresh and breezy look is perfect for the sweltering summer heat. His rugged beard and curly hair paired with round sunglasses gave a whole new dimension to his chic fashion sense. The *Antarjal* actor accessorised the look with a suave pendent and a classy white tee, along with his Hawaiian shirt.

