

# BEWITCHING Mondera

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Rich black voluminous hair, bewitching eyes and a radiant smile- Mondera Chakroborty is yet to make her silver screen debut but the glamorous actress has already caught everyone's attention with her alluring persona and charm.

This stunning actress is ready to step onto the big screen as the gentle Kajol in Gias Uddin Selim's upcoming movie *Kajol Rekha*, which is inspired by a 400-year-old folk tale. She will be seen romancing Sariful Razz in the movie, who will be essaying the role of her king.

The diva paid a visit to The Daily Star's office for a chit-chat over coffee, and a conversation about her latest film and more.

**How challenging was it to embody Kajol in the film?**

At first, I thought it would be quite challenging. But once I was in front of the camera and started filming, it didn't feel hard at all. I feel strongly connected with Kajol Rekha and hence it didn't take me much time to transform into my character. I have put a lot of effort into becoming Kajol.

**What are your expectations with 'Kajol Rekha'?**

I am extremely hopeful about the film- it's a familiar folk tale known to all. Audiences have grown up listening to this classic tale, and it will truly resonate with them.

**Few years ago, I had the opportunity to work in a three-episode series helmed by Selim bhai. He recognised my talent for acting and offered me 'Swapnajaal', which I had to decline because of my exams. Later on, he offered me 'Kajol Rekha' and I accepted the offer wholeheartedly.**

**What inspired you to become an actress?**

Honestly speaking, I never dreamt of becoming an actress. I started with modeling, and then moved on to TV series. Later on, *Kajol Rekha* came into my life and that inspired me to chase my dream of becoming an actress. Another person who inspired me to become an actress is my beautiful mom- she wanted to see me shine on the big screen, and thus I want to fulfill her desire. I am quite hopeful that we will be able to release the movie in the beginning of next year.

**How did Gias Uddin Selim get to know about your passion for acting?**

Few years ago, I had the opportunity to work in a three-episode series helmed by Selim bhai. He recognised my talent for acting and offered me *Swapnajaal*, but I had to decline because I needed to study for my exams. Later on, he offered me *Kajol Rekha* and I accepted the offer wholeheartedly. My directors and my co-artists were extremely supportive and I had a wonderful time.

**Did you feel nervous shooting for your first film?**

When I was modeling and performing, I wasn't nervous. However, the first time I stood in front of the camera for the big screen, I was a little bit scared. But, with the director's supervision, everything worked out. My tension vanished with the help of my co-actors.

**What are your dreams regarding movies?**

The silver screen is, undeniably, a grand stage. It's only when the audience purchases tickets and steps into the cinema that the magic truly unfolds. Venturing into the world of the big screen is a significant leap, and *Kajol Rekha* marked the inception of my cinematic journey. This is how I envision myself in movies filled with compelling stories.



## OUT AND ABOUT IN DHAKA



**UDYAN – Open-air  
Photography Exhibition**  
November 23-25 | 3 pm- 10 pm  
Suhrawardy Udyan



**Theatre Angan's 10th  
production 'Munier  
Chowdhury'**  
November 28 | 7 pm - 8.30 pm  
Experimental Theatre Hall,  
Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy

## WHAT'S PLAYING

### Winter Song

The Head and the Heart's *Winter Song* is a poignant masterpiece that captures the essence of the season. The hauntingly beautiful lyrics, coupled with the band's harmonious melodies, evoke a sense of introspection and nostalgia. The song's acoustic simplicity enhances its emotional impact, creating a serene

atmosphere that mirrors the stillness of winter. With heartfelt vocals and a gentle instrumental arrangement, *Winter Song* becomes a soul-stirring reflection on love and longing, making it a must-listen for those seeking solace in the quiet beauty of winter's embrace.



## 1-MINUTE REVIEW

### The story of a killer missing his mark

Director David Fincher, known for his enduring fascination with murder in films such as *Se7en*, and *Zodiac*, seems to invite a contrary comeback with the straightforward title of his latest movie, *The Killer*.

This film, an adaptation of a French graphic novel series by Alexis Nolent and Luc Jacamon, features Michael Fassbender portraying a hitman with a demeanour marked by calm accuracy.

The assassin in question remains anonymous throughout the narrative, adopting numerous aliases and utilising fake passports as he traverses the world. His targets are affluent individuals while his lethal actions are also orchestrated by other wealthy individuals.

The killer views killing as a mere occupation and uses sharply humorous voiceover narration to thread the film.

## TRENDY STREAMS

**Netflix**  
*The Railway Men*



**Hoichoi**  
*Antormahal*



**Binge**  
*Baba Someone's Following Me*



**HBO Max**  
*South to Black Power*



**Amazon Prime**  
*The Great Indian Family*



## WHAT'S ON THE GRAM

### Babil Khan

Babil Khan has captivated audiences with his outstanding performance in Netflix's series *The Railway Men*. While the actor typically embraces a more deglamourised look, he left everyone in awe when he donned a suave black jacket and a crisp white shirt adorned with a gold chain. This ensemble exuded a modern-day cowboy charm, perfectly complementing his rugged and masculine demeanour.

