

Singing her way to NATIONAL GLORY

DOWEL BISWAS

Talented singer Atiya Anisha became a household name in the Bangladeshi film and music industry with her crowd-favourite playback singles like *Cholo Niralay* from the movie *Poran*, *Jadur Ayna* from the web-film *Antonagar*, and more. Recently, she received the Best Singer Award in the female category for the song *Ei Shohorer Pothe Pothe* from the movie *Payer Chhaap*, at the Bangladesh National Film Awards. The talented songbird dropped by The Daily Star for a chat.

As a singer, you received the most prestigious award in the country for 'Payer Chhaap'. How does it feel?

It's the biggest achievement of my career. People are seeing me in a different light as a nationally-acclaimed singer. Also, I now have to fulfill even bigger expectations from now on and I feel this is working as motivation for me to do something bigger.

Tell us about your journey.

I have been practicing music from a very young age, but my professional musical career began in 2017 with the show *Channel i Shera Kantho*. I sang the folk song *Behaya Mon* at the platform, and it received massive applause from the audience and judges alike. That is my first 'hit' cover. After that, I got the opportunity to sing *Chup Kotha* in Mohammad Mostafa Kamal Raz's directorial film *Jodi Ekdin*, in 2019. I never had to look back since then.

This year, you have been awarded with three prestigious awards in Bangladesh. What's your take on that?

Obviously, I am filled with joy that I got the three most prestigious awards in Bangladesh this year; the Bangladesh National Film Award, Channel i Music Award, and the Meril-Prothom Alo Award. I will surely consider this year as a great one.

Tell us about your

influences.

I love listening to Runa Laila, Samina Chowdhury, Mitali Mukherjee, Sabina Yasmin and all the other Bangladeshi legends, because I began with learning their songs when I started out. Samina ma'am's *Amar Dui Chokhe Dui Nodi* is the first song that I learned.

Do you only want to be a playback singer, or do you want to explore other genres?

Since I started my career with playback singing, it obviously has a special place in my heart. Playback singing is an experimental teamwork, and I love it. However, I will surely explore other genres as well. I am also interested in acting.

What do you consider to be your biggest challenge right now?

Well, I feel that as I have received the National Film Award pretty early in my career, it has created a certain responsibility on my part to excel at every song that I sing. So that's equally a blessing and a challenge.



STYLE STATEMENT

ADITYA ROY KAPUR

The Night Manager, Aditya Roy Kapur, left us breathless with his captivating presence in a sleek black suit complemented by rugged yet stylish accessories. His enigmatic style came to life through a brooding smile and a commanding expression. The entire ensemble was perfected with the addition of glossy black boots, adding an edgy flair to his overall appearance.

WHAT'S PLAYING

Level Five

Gholate Megh

Gholate Megh by Level Five, featured in their album *Obosheshey*, offers a serene auditory experience. With poetic lyrics and the gentle strum of an acoustic guitar, it conjures the tranquil ambiance of a winter morning. As you wake up in the midst of fog and gloom, a smile graces your lips while you sip on a steamy cup of tea, recalling your lover's face. Amidst the somber weather, the song unveils unexpected hues of nature. Its composition tenderly encapsulates the calmness and optimism of a crisp winter morning.

The track is an ideal addition to your playlist if you are out on a morning walk, evoking nostalgia for a love you are yet to experience.

1-MINUTE REVIEW

David Yates' capitalising take on reality

Director David Yates' surprising turn to direct a film around realistic inconveniences after pursuing consecutive takes on fantasies, is interestingly made, to say the least. His movie, *Pain Hustlers* about the opioid crisis, boasts a star-studded cast and presents a linear account of Liza Drake (Emily Blunt), an ambitious single mother whose marketing strategies led to an epidemic.

In the movie, Chris Evans and Andy Garcia play crucial roles that challenge the extent of capitalism. They create a company that capitalises on the desperation of patients struggling to survive, highlighting the ethical ambiguities of capitalism. The background settings including all other cinematic aspects exude the American hustle culture that is customarily seen in the associated genres.

However, Yates attempts to blend elements of *Erin Brockovich* and *The Wolf of Wall Street* by employing artificial documentary elements, and indulgent scenes of drug use and partying but the film never reaches the level of depth of capitalism's corruption that it aspires to.

OUT AND ABOUT IN DHAKA

Girls are Funny – Comedy Open Mic

December 21 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm

HUTS, Anam Rangs Plaza, Dhanmondi

Auric Vibrance: The Cauldron of Passion

December 3- 24 10 am - 8 pm

Edge Gallery, Bay's Edgewater, Gulshan North Avenue

Rotaract Photo Carnival

December 9 3 pm - 8 pm

Bishwo Shahitto Kendro

TRENDY STREAMS

Netflix

Leo

Chorki

Something Like An Autobiography

Amazon Prime

Bhagavanth Kesari

Disney plus

The Shepherd

Hulu

Culprits