



Mousumi Mou, always radiant with her ever-present smile, has become one of the busiest and most acclaimed anchors today. Her spontaneous and engaging style has earned her widespread praise over the years. Demonstrating remarkable versatility, she has successfully anchored a wide range of programmes, including cricket talk shows, lifestyle segments, and entertainment-based broadcasts.

EVER-SMILING MOUSUMI MOU SOLDIERS ON

SHARMIN JOYA

The multi-talented artiste has also mastered mime art and been featured in fiction and web projects. She has been involved with dancing, singing, recitation, and debating, from a young age.

In a recent conversation with The Daily Star, the artiste shared about her recent works, upcoming plans with her career, and more.

“Usually, Eid is one of the busiest seasons for entertainment-related programmes. However, this time, I did only one live show as the T20 World Cup was going on,” shared Mou. Even on Eid day, Mou did three live cricket shows as a part of the tournament package. She hosted three shows on cricket namely: Banglalink presents *Cric Café*, bKash presents *Free Hit* powered by Banglalink, and Banglalink presents *Catch the Match* for the channel Toffee. Meanwhile, she hosted another show for DBC News, titled *Bat e Ball e Bishwo Kapey*. In her career, she spent the busiest time in this T20 World Cup 2024.

“Due to my heavy schedule, I couldn’t return home for 48 hours and even had to stay back at Nagorik Television’s office. I slept on the divan in Rubana Huq’s office room,” she said, “It is because their show’s call time was 3am, and after finishing a late-night programme, it was not possible to return home and then show up again at that time.”

After keeping up with the tournament’s pressure, she travelled to Chattogram with her parents, where her father was honoured with the Bhubonjoyee Baba Award. “It is an exceptionally emotional and win-win moment for me when my parents are honoured for my achievements,” she added.

After that, she hosted the *Shikho GPA 5 Reception* for the third consecutive year, where all the students’ earning GPAs are generally appreciated and celebrated through a grand reception.

While maintaining her busy schedule, she also manages to spare time to nourish her passion for acting. She has already worked in two web films, which are awaiting release. “One of the web-films is for the platform iScreen, titled *Shodh*, directed by S Shariar Nazim Joy. It features the director himself, along with Runa Khan, Tangia Zaman Methila, and me,” she shared.

“Another web-film, *Tribhuj Prem*, is directed by Alok Sen. It tells the story of three couples who belong to different socio-economic classes in society. It features Shohel Mondol alongside me, while the other pairs are Shariar Nazim Joy and Anika Kabir Shakh; and Imtiaz Barshon and Farin Khan. film will o n

Award at the 35th International University Theatre Festival 2023 in Casablanca, Morocco, last July. On her future plans with mime, she shared, “I have collaborated in various mime performances, but this time, I have a plan to do my solo show. It is currently underway and if all goes well, I will be doing it soon.”

Discussing the art of mime, the artiste shared that it is a challenging discipline with few practitioners in modern times. “Unfortunately, the investment required for this art form, and the lack of support from related associations, make it difficult to sustain,” she explained. Financial constraints are a major reason for mime’s limited popularity, and female artistes in this field are especially rare. “When I began performing mime, I was the only woman on the team, but now more girls are being encouraged and showing interest.” She expressed her gratitude to Dhaka University Mime Action (DUMA) for their efforts to expand the reach of mime.

She also spoke about her recent on-stage performance in the show *Adore Gora Bhobishshot*, sponsored by Meril. Directed by Tariq Anam Khan, the show features the veteran actor himself, Sumon Patwary, and herself. “It has a unique style, different from the conventional ones. We performed as hosts in the drama, addressing various issues typically faced by new parents. It was fun to be a part of such a unique project,” she concluded.



PHOTOS: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

This will be released on DeeptoPlay”. Mou has done several international shows— not just hosting but mime shows. She won the Best Female Performer

Kushum Sikder makes directorial debut with ‘Shoroter Joba’

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

After a five-year hiatus, Kushum Sikder is returning to the spotlight, taking on the dual role of director and actress. She is set to make her directorial debut this year with the film *Shoroter Joba*, in which she also stars.

The film has already received its censor certificate and is slated for release in September. The actress-turned-director managed the entire shoot in the Narail district, overseeing every detail. “This experience is new for me as an actress and quite challenging as a director,” she shared.

Once a familiar face in dramas and films, Kushum stepped back from the industry five years ago due to depression and a heavy work schedule. In *Shoroter Joba*, Kushum teams up with Yash Rohan, marking their first collaboration on screen. The cast also includes Shahidul Alam Sachchu, Naresh Bhuiyan, Jeetu Ahsan, and others.



Chanchal starrer ‘Padatik’ release date finalised

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

After winning hearts with his superb performance in *Toofan*, Chanchal Chowdhury is once again set to impress fans in theatres with his first Indian film, *Padatik*, directed by Srijit Mukherji. After much delay, the film has finally locked in its release date.

Earlier on Tuesday, Srijit announced the release date of the movie along with its poster. The film will be released in theatres this August 15.

Padatik is the biopic of renowned Indian film director Mrinal Sen. Chanchal Chowdhury takes on the role of the protagonist in the movie.

The teaser of the movie was released last May.

The actor has been praised for his extreme dedication and ability to embody the character. People are also appreciating the director for the movie.

Chanchal revealed that playing the role of a famous person like Mrinal Sen is a significant achievement for him. “The entire credit for my acting in *Padatik* belongs to the director. I acted as he wanted,” shared the actor with The Daily Star.

Regarding his character, the *Hawa* famed actor revealed that it was also challenging to portray Mrinal Sen on the silver screen. “I have given my best, and I am sure the audience will see how much effort I put into the role,” said Chanchal.



‘Despicable Me 4’ premieres in Bangladesh simultaneously with global debut



The much-anticipated *Despicable Me 4* premiered in theatres worldwide yesterday, including a simultaneous release in Bangladesh at Star Cineplex. This marks an exciting moment for Bangladeshi fans who have followed the beloved animated series since its inception.

Despicable Me first captured audiences’ hearts in 2010, followed by successful sequels in 2013 and 2017. Directed by Chris Renaud and produced by Universal Pictures, the fourth instalment continues the adventures of the reformed super-villain Gru, voiced by Steve Carell. The film also features voice talents from Kristen Wiig, Miranda Cosgrove, Steve Coogan, Chris Renaud, Dana Gaier, and Pierre Coffin.

In just two days of dropping the trailer of *Despicable Me 4*, it amassed over 1.5 million views on Universal Pictures’ YouTube channel.

In this new chapter, Gru and Lucy welcome their newborn son, Gru Jr. The story introduces a new antagonist, Maxime Le Mal, who has integrated cockroach parts into his body. After escaping prison, Maxime seeks revenge on Gru’s family. To protect them, the Anti-Villain League (AVL) relocates the family, assigns three minions to them, and moves the rest to AVL headquarters.

ARBOVIRUS will tour Canada with original lineup

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Arbovirus is gearing up for their inaugural Canada tour, starting with Bangladesh Rockfest on August 17 at the Toronto Pavilion.

The band will perform their popular hits and debut a single from their forthcoming album, *Nikhoj Songbad*. Joining them on stage will be Bangladeshi pop-rock band Shunno and Bangladesh-American hip-hop band Stoic Bliss.

On August 18, Arbovirus will take the stage at the Giovanni Caboto Club in Windsor, Ontario, under the auspices of AIA Productions. Fans can expect a special treat as original drummer Farhan Tanim and bassist Ishtiaq Hossain Jishan, are rejoining the band for this tour after 16 years, marking a significant reunion.

Guitarist Asif Asgar Ranjan shared his excitement, saying, “Our Canada tour, starting with Bangladesh Rockfest, is significant in many ways. We’re reuniting after a long time, and original members Ishtiaq Hossain Jishan and Farhan Tanim, who our longtime fans have missed, are joining us.”

“This makes it a fantastic reunion. We haven’t performed together in years, and we’re thrilled to kick off our show with the debut single from our fourth album, *Nikhoj Songbad*.

Most of the album is completed; we’re just wrapping up a few final takes and doing the mixing and mastering. So, this show also announces the start of

every time, and this show will be no exception.” The day after, Arbovirus has another show in Windsor under

Original drummer Farhan Tanim and bassist Ishtiaq Hossain Jishan, are rejoining the band for this tour after 16 years, marking a significant reunion.

our new album,” he continued.

“Expect surprises, too,” said lead guitarist Ranjan, “Our live shows are always an experience to remember, both for us and the audience. We give it our all

AIA Productions. The band is also planning more shows in October and November.

“Our Bangladeshi fans can look forward to us performing several big shows. We’re

finalising details with sponsors and organisers and will return to Bangladesh for those events,” stated Ranjan.

“We’re incredibly excited about the Canada tour and being together again is indescribable. We’re preparing diligently and will have a full week of rehearsals once we arrive in Canada. It’s a fantastic time for us,” he said.

Farhan Tanim, conveyed, “I’m thrilled to rejoin Arbovirus after so many years, with the original members on stage together again. This reunion feels like a merging of continents, with members joining from England, America, Canada, and Australia, all connected through their roots in Bangladesh.”

“It’s rare due to our busy lives, so this reunion is exhilarating. Technology and our commitment are making it possible. We’re preparing through regular communication and practice, and I anticipate a wonderful evening,” Jishan simply said, “I’m very excited. It’s time for us to feel young again.”

The current lineup of Arbovirus includes Sufi Maverick on vocals, Asif Asgar Ranjan as guitarist, Ahmed Aldnane Alam as bassist, and Nafeez Al Amin as drummer.

Arbovirus is nearly finished with *Nikhoj Songbad*, which will be released through their label, Infected Records.

