

GUIDING THE SHIP

Directors relish the spotlight

A project's journey from concept to completion is impossible without the unwavering commitment of its directors—rightly regarded as the captains steering the ship to its destination. These gifted individuals have demonstrated their excellence, earning prestigious honours at the 'Blender's Choice-The Daily Star OTT & Digital Content Awards 2023.'



injured of the July Uprising: Ashfaque Nipun

The most remarkable aspect of *Blender's Choice-The Daily Star OTT and Digital Content Awards* is their recognition of the technical crews who work tirelessly behind the scenes. Such an honour is unparalleled among private award programmes in the country, and it is truly

We eagerly anticipate this award every year: Raihan Rafi

We eagerly anticipate this award every year, as it serves as a significant source of inspiration, particularly for the technicians. This recognition motivates us all to push the boundaries and undertake

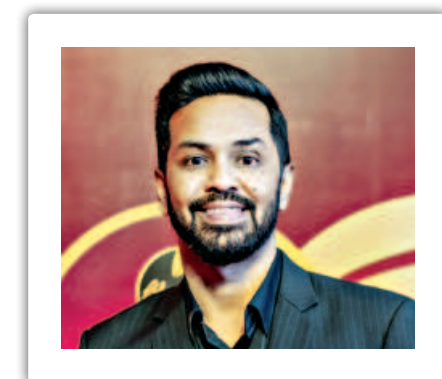
This is the Bangladeshi 'Oscars': Shihab Shaheen

I am honoured to have received six awards in the critics' categories for the project *Myself Allen Swapan* and People's Choice Award for *Baba Someone's Following Me*—an incredible achievement for the entire team behind

Such a popular piece receiving critical acclaim doubled our joy: Mizanur Rahman Aryan

Unish20 emerged as one of Chorki's most popular projects in 2023, earning immense recognition from the audience, for which I am truly grateful. To have such a beloved piece also receive critical acclaim—winning Best Director and Best Film in the critics' category—has doubled our joy. I extend my heartfelt thanks to *The Daily Star Awards*, our incredible audience, and the entire team for making this achievement possible.

I dedicate my award to the martyrs and



heartening to witness.

Mohanagar 2 has earned six awards across both popular and critics' categories, and this achievement belongs to all of us. Regarding the critics' jury decisions, it is natural that not everyone will agree with their choices. However, they have their own criteria and parameters for selecting winners, and we must respect their judgement.

I would like to dedicate the Best Director award to all the martyrs and injured individuals of the July Uprising. OC Harun will return with yet another bang in *Mohanagar 3*.



more innovative projects. In a creative field such as ours, which often operates under numerous constraints, such acknowledgements are invaluable.

Being honoured with the Best Director award in the popular category is undeniably rewarding and invigorates the drive to embark on fresh endeavours. This achievement is not merely a personal triumph a testament to the relentless dedication of team *Friday*. It is through the collective efforts of every member that this recognition has been made possible, and special thanks to Bing for believing in us.



the project. My joy was doubled when those working tirelessly behind the scenes were recognised for their hard work.

As for my own victory, I am, of course, delighted. To be honest, we eagerly await this award every year, especially those of us involved in OTT platforms. For us, it feels like the Bangladeshi Oscars!

Attending such programmes is always a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with colleagues from across the industry, and receiving so many nominations is equally rewarding. I am already looking forward to next year's event!

By Sharmin Joya



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