



CREATIVE WORLD

It's shocking no one's offered me dance film yet: Sonakshi

MUMBAI, AUG 10 /-/ Sonakshi Sinha's love for dance is apparent in her films as well as stage shows and the actor says she now wants to be a part of a full-fledged dance film. Be it "Saree ke fall sa", "Gandi Baa" or "Party All Night" Sonakshi's dance moves have been appreciated by the audience, so the actor finds it surprising that she hasn't been offered any dance-based movie yet. "I would love to do a dance-based film. Isn't it shocking no one has put me in a dance film yet? I would love to do that because I love dancing freely and that translates on screen," Sonakshi told PTI in an interview. While there's some time for a dance film to happen, the actor has her plate full with films like "Happy Phirr Bhag Jayegi", "Kalank" and "Dabangg 3". While "Kalank" will mark her first collaboration with Dharna Productions, "Dabangg 3" will reunite her with her first film team. The actor made her debut with "Dabangg" in 2010.

When asked if her equation with superstar Salman Khan, her "Dabangg" co-star and mentor, has changed over the last eight years, Sonakshi said, "Honestly no. The dynamic with Salman Khan hasn't changed in the last few years, why will it change in the film. It'll only get better. 'Dabangg' is a home ground, it's a family I began with. "Just going back to them is always a pleasure. This time around, Prabhu sir (Prabhu Deva director) has been added to the film. It just keeps getting better," she said. Sonakshi got instant fame after playing a feisty village-belle, Rajjo, in "Dabangg", and the actor says the love story between Rajjo and Chulbul Pandey (Salman) will be important in the third instalment of the action franchise. "Equation between Chulbul and Rajjo stood out in 'Dabangg'. It wasn't only about action which it usually is in a Salman Khan film. That's something the audience likes, appreciates, expects. We can't take that away from them." Talking about "Kalank" which is a multi-starrer period drama, the actor said contrary to how serious the film is, the cast indulges in many light moments off the screen. Directed by Abhishek Varman, "Kalank" also stars Varun Dhawan, Alia Bhatt,



Madhuri Dixit Nene, Sanjay Dutt and Aditya Roy Kapur. It will release in April, 2019. "It's great because you're sharing screen space with such wonderful actors. Everyone gets along really well. The nature of the film might be serious we were very non-serious off camera," Sonakshi said. "It's an honour for anyone to work with madhuri. We have idolised her. Just to be in the same film with her is a dream come true. She's a living legend." Sonakshi will next be seen in "Happy Phirr Bhag Jayegi", the sequel to 2015 romantic-comedy "Happy Bhag Jayegi". Also starring Jimmy Shergill and Diana Penty, "Happy Phirr Bhag Jayegi" will release on August 24. (PTI)

Launch of 'Vande Mataram' album by Ishan Ghosh



KOLKATA, AUG 10 /-/ 'Vande Mataram', a patriotic music album (composition, lyrics and vocal) by the talented Ishan Ghosh) was formally unveiled on 8th August at Calcutta Press Club. The album launch witnessed the gracious presence of a host of dignitaries from various walks of the society, including Bollywood and political astrologer Subrata Banerjee, Sudip Bose (Founder, OTT Solutions), Tapati Ghosh, Shyama Prasad Ghosh, Riya Ghosh Das, Raja Das and others. Ishan Ghosh is based in Hallsahar, a township in outskirts of our 'City of Joy'. Having passion for performing and creating music from childhood days, Ishan has persevered with great sincerity for many years to attain perfection. He has also worked with renowned Bollywood music directors, impressing them with his abundant talent. "Vande Mataram" is his debut Music Album whereby Ishan has paid homage to the REAL HEROES of our society. The album's composition, lyrics and vocal is by Ishan Ghosh and video concept by Shyama Prasad Ghosh. The album's digital distribution is by OTT Solutions Pvt. Ltd. (EOIC)



Mainstream actors should do socially-relevant films: Shahid

MUMBAI, AUG 10 /-/ Shahid Kapoor, who is awaiting the release of "Batti Gul Meter Chalu", says it is important for mainstream actors to be a part of socially-relevant films so that the message reaches a wider audience. The actor said his last two films -- "Haider" and "Uda Punjab" -- were appreciated because they dealt with contemporary issues. "Haider" was about human rights, which is a massive issue in Kashmir and in North East states, then I did "Uda Punjab", which was about the drug issue," he told reporters here. Set in a small town, "Batti Gul Meter Chalu" revolves around the problem of electricity. "I feel proud to be a part of this film. One would think it (electricity) is a small issue but it is not for others. As actors if we can represent those issues, it would be good as we have the opportunity to say something nice otherwise we will lose the chance."



"I am not making a documentary film as it will never reach anywhere. So you have to make it entertaining and take mainstream actors so you can reach out to wider audience," Shahid told reporters at the trailer launch of the film. The film is being directed by Shree Narayan Singh, who also helmed Akshay Kumar starrer "Toilet - Ek Prem Katha". "The issue of electricity is there both in small and big cities. There are 31 million houses without electricity. Also, there has been a sudden rise in bills due to the privatisation of electricity. It is an important issue. I had no idea about sanitation issue, it is a rural issue. Shree Narayan Singh's film "Toilet Ek Prem Katha" was educational for me." Shahid added. Singh said the idea to make "Batti Gul Meter Chalu" came from producer Prerna Arora, who was planning to make a film called "Koshi" and Singh fell in love with the idea and told his writer duo Siddharth-Garima to work on it. "We talk about progress in our country but nothing much has happened. I am from a small town and I know what has happened. Like in a village called Rampur, there is electricity but not in anyone's house," he said.

The film also stars Divyendu Sharma and Shradha Kapoor. Shahid said working in two hero films is not an issue for him. "I have worked with Diljit Dosanjh in 'Uda Punjab', Saif Ali Khan in 'Rangool', Anurag Singh in 'Padmaava', Divyendu Sharma has an important role in 'Batti Gul Meter Chalu'. It is essential to chose right films. We need to go beyond these limitations. I want to be a part of good films." The film is set to be released on September 21. (PTI)

'The Rumour' launched

KOLKATA, AUG 10 /-/ Young author Vatsal Gourisaria, a commerce student of La Martiniere for Boys launched his first novel "The Rumour". A budding author whose first love is understanding the entrepreneurial life has tried a novel, which pivots on an introspective study of an individual caught in the vicious web of life. He won over my friends. I won in life. He always wanted to marry this girl. I ended up calling her my wife." The book is priced at Rs 199 and is available at Amazon.com, Flipkart public feat but I overcame that fear by going for debates and elocutions. Even though I bombed the beginning, I never gave up. Instead I continued doing it and now I am a part of the student council and one of the best debaters of my house" said Vatsal Gourisaria, the Author. The author penned down his feelings in the cover page of his novel "Both of us were always in a fight."

Twitter launches special emoji for Akshay's 'Gold'

MUMBAI, AUG 10 /-/ Twitter today launched a special emoji for Bollywood star Akshay Kumar's upcoming film "Gold", which is scheduled to release on Independence Day. People will be able to tweet about the film with GoldMovie or #Gold2018 to use the specially designed emoji created by Twitter. The emoji appears next to the hashtag in the Tweet and is inspired by India's first Olympic gold medal. It will be active until August 16. Vishal Ramechandani, Head of Marketing at Excel Entertainment, said in a statement, "The #Gold team is excited about the collaboration with Twitter, adding colour to conversations and allowing people to connect to the movie through the #GoldMovie, #FeelingOfGold and #UniteForGold." Keya Madhavi Singh, Head of Entertainment Partnerships, Twitter India, said they are excited about the collaboration with "Gold" team. "Bollywood is an ever-evolving industry that explores new ways to engage with fans, and we're excited to provide creative opportunities to drive anticipation for movie launches. We are delighted to collaborate with Excel Entertainment to offer fans multiple layers of engagement, prior to the release of Gold, which will enhance their overall cinematic experience," she said. "Gold", directed by Reema Kagti, is a sports drama inspired by real events during the 1948 Summer Olympics when India, as a free nation, won its first Olympic Gold Medal in field hockey. Akshay plays the lead in the film, which also stars Mouni Roy, Kun Kapur, Amit Sadih, Vineet Kumar Singh and Sunny Kausal in pivotal roles.

Pitt loaned over 9m since split, Jolie hits back saying it is not 'child support'

LOS ANGELES, AUG 10 /-/ Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt's divorce is getting complicated with both the Hollywood stars battling over child support. The conflict started after Jolie, 43, indicated in a court filing Tuesday that Pitt has not been paying "meaningful" child support during their separation. Pitt, 53, responded with his court filing stating he had paid over USD 1.3 million to provide for the actor and their six children, as well as a loan of USD 8 million to help her purchase her current home. Jolie's lawyer, Samantha Bley DeJean, has now responded to the "Fight Club" actor's filing, saying the "Maleficent" star's filing "was both legally appropriate and factually accurate in all respects." "What has been filed by Brad's side today is a blatant attempt to obfuscate the truth and distract from the fact that he has not fully met his legal obligations to support the children," Bley DeJean said in a statement given to People magazine. She also claimed Pitt was "asked to assist in the expense of a new home for Angelina" and their six children but "instead he loaned Angelina money for which he is charging her interest on a payment plan." Bley DeJean said Jolie will honour that loan but "a loan is not, however, child support and to represent it as such is misleading and inaccurate." (PTI)

Was more interested in being heard than being subtle: Anubhav Sinha on 'Mulk'

NEW DELHI, AUG 10 /-/ It's the right time to establish the concept of "Mulk", says director Anubhav Sinha whose latest film "Mulk" is that rare mainstream film which engages with contemporary issues and mirrors India's many divisions in the name of patriotism and religion. The director, whose phone has not stopped ringing with congratulatory messages flooding in, said he wanted to make a sensitive but accessible film. The Rishi Kapoor-Taapsee Panu starrer, which centres around the plight of a Muslim family on trial in court and in society because their son becomes a terrorist, has won critical and audience acclaim. A large chunk of the film is set in a courtroom with the judge delivering a climactic speech, defining the message of oneness and secularism that the film hopes to deliver in these fractured times. The judge is named Harish Madhok and his initial would be Hum. "I wanted the audience to agree with him and I am hearing that people are standing and clapping in the final scene. He has ended up representing the thought of people, which is a huge victory. Sinha told PTI in an interview. Reacting to criticism that the film could have been subtler in delivering its message, Sinha said the loud tone was intentional. At a time when news channels are screaming louder than the worst crowd, you can't be subtle if you really want to say something important. It was more interested in getting heard than being called subtle, he said. Also, I have a take about such films. I insist that these

films need to run. It cannot be doing Rs 3 crore lifetime business, which means nobody saw it or a niche audience saw it. I wanted everybody to see it, and I wanted it to be accessible. The 53-year-old can rest easy. The film's Monday business was almost equal to its opening day earnings of Rs 1.68 crore. It has made Rs 9.86 crore in just four days, which is great for a small budget film like Mulk. Sinha, whose career has been chequered at best with films such as Tum Bin Ra.One and Dus. said Mulk is his best yet. Something must have shifted inside me that I changed as a filmmaker. I don't know what that was. Someone pointed out to me that I have started reading a lot in the past few years. Now I will have to do it in silence. Comparisons with M S Sathyu's 1971 classic Garm Hawa, which dealt with the plight of Muslims in post-Partition India, are humbling, he said. Interestingly, Mulk, which also features seasoned actors such as Manoj Pahwa, Rajat Kapoor, Nina Gupta, Prateik Babbar and Ashutosh Rana, has no Muslim actor. And this was a conscious decision. Maybe, I was getting cynical but I did not want Muslims defending themselves. I know that the audience is watching a character and not an actor but at a subliminal level you feel, ye to belega hi'. When Shabana Azmi says something, it is easy to call her a Pakistanist but when Anubhav Sinha says it, it is not that easy though they still do. The director has avoided stereotyping surnames. So a Brahmin investigative officer is



more sympathetic to the Muslim family but a Muslim officer is shown as being prejudiced against his own community. Sinha said he struggled while writing the character of SSP Danish Javed, beautifully depicted by Rajat Kapoor. The day I took the decision to have Danish as a Muslim character, he became very complex. He has struggled hard and worked hard to join the mainstream and now he himself has become them. He looks at his own community with prejudice. I did not want him to receive any sympathy in the end but at the same time, he had to be human. He is not a diabolical man. Showing his internal issues and conflicts without overstating that character was tricky. According to the director, the intention was to show that religion and caste identity cannot be above humanity. It does not matter who you are, at the end of the day, it matters what you are as a human being. For example, Murad Ali's (Rishi Kapoor) friend Chaubey, who has turned against his neighbours, can see that these people are in trouble and is tempted to help them, but does not. He is torn. This is how we are divided right now. A lot of us are doing things because we think this is what we should do. Maybe at heart, we don't even believe in this," he explained. Though Sinha has not directly commented on the spate of lynchings in the country, he has depicted the voyeuristic nature of such violence -- when SSP Danish orders that a terrorist's body is dragged through the crowd. "It shows the insensitivity of both the police officer and the crowd... As spectators, as audiences, we have become so insensitive that we can at times, if not celebrate it, kind of cheer it." Sinha had initially thought of setting the film in Lucknow but his friends, filmmaker Sudhir Mishra and actor Manoj Bajpayee, suggested Varanasi, the director's childhood home. His familiarity with the city is evident as he beautifully captures its 'Ganga-Jamuni taziaee' and how it is threatened by the radicalisation of its unemployed youth. I have gone back to my roots and inside myself and the recent stuff that is going on," he said. (PTI)