

Mirzapur Proves There Is 'No Boundary' Between Theatre And OTT, Says Abhishek Banerjee



Actor Abhishek Banerjee believes that “Mirzapur: The Movie” has not only attained massive success at the box office but also shown that there is no dividing line between mainstream Bollywood artists and OTT performers.

The film, which was released in theatres earlier this month and has earned over Rs 250 crore at the box office, is the cinematic extension of “Mirzapur”, the popular OTT series that premiered in 2018 and has spanned over three seasons.

Banerjee, who featured as Com-pounder in the show’s inaugural season in 2018, has reprised the character for the film, which also brings back Pankaj Tripathi as Kaleen Bhaiya, Ali Fazal as Guddu Pandit and Divyenndu as Munna Tripathi.

“I was actually bored with the whole idea of people from the industry putting these tags about OTT and Bollywood actors and this

and that... I hope that people are observing and understanding that there is no boundary, and anybody can flip any side,” Banerjee told PTI.

The actor, who also served as a casting director on the “Mirzapur” series, recalled having “difficulty” in roping in actors for the OTT platform.

“I remember casting for ‘Mirzapur’, and I remember how difficult it was at that time to communicate to some of the actors that this can be the next big thing. I used to say, ‘Just read the script; if you don’t like the script, say no.’

“Many actors used to say that, ‘I’m not an actor to be seen on a lap-top’, and now everybody wants to be a part of a good web show,” said Banerjee, also known for his performances in series “Paatal Lok” and horror comedy franchise “Stree”.

Actor Vijay Varma, who joined “Mirzapur” in its second season as

twins Bharat and Shatrughan Tyagi, echoed Banerjee and said, “Everything eventually is a streaming film right now, after theatres.” He said he always believed the popular franchise had the potential to become a commercial film because of the strong response to the series.

He revealed that it was at one of his birthday parties when Divyenndu had suggested the idea of making a film on “Mirzapur” with producer Ritesh Sidhwani.

“Somewhere the idea germinated, and three or four years later we have a movie coming out. It was a bold move by the producers,” the actor added.

Varma said the “Mirzapur” series had not only reached a wider audience across the country but also generated a strong meme culture and built a sizeable following among fans.

“As soon as I did that series, I saw the kind of response people started giving. It’s reached the length and breadth of the country; it amassed a lot of audience, and it generated a lot of meme culture,” he said.

“I’m glad that Divyenndu, Ali, Pankaj sir, Abhishek, Shweta (Tripathi), and Rasika (Duggal) and all of them are getting their share of screen time. It’s much due, and it can open up great possibilities for streaming,” the actor added.

Both Varma and Banerjee are part of the Netflix anthology series, “Lust Stories 3”, in which they feature alongside Radhika Apte and Konkona Sen Sharma for Vikramaditya Motwane’s segment.

It will debut on the platform on September 18.

Isha Rikhi Claims Badshah Cheated On Her, Says 'Teri Aur Bhi Bohot Best Friends Hain'



Isha Rikhi has confirmed that Badshah cheated on her during their marriage, leading to their separation. Isha is currently seen in Bigg Boss 20, and in a conversation with co-contestant Kanika Mann, she revealed that Badshah cheated on her both emotionally and physically. Her revelation has caught everyone’s attention, especially since Badshah has been linked to multiple women over the years.

Isha said, “If someone else comes and tells me that Kanika is like this, I won’t believe them until I see it for myself. I am the same in a relationship as well. If someone comes and tells me something, then I say, give me proof or else don’t bother me.

But when it (marriage) ended, I got to know, yahan toh kat gaya.” Kanika then asked if Isha had been cheated on emotionally or physically.

Isha said, “All of them. Woh jo beech mein latakna hota hai na, uss situation mein mere liye phasna bahut toxic ho jaata hai. It was like I am saying you are my best friend and giving you all the best friend feels. I am showing you off as my best friend, but later you get to know that I was never your best friend. All of these things I am doing in a private circle kyunki teri aur bhi bahut best friends hain.”

When Kanika asked if there were more “best friends”, Isha said, “Yes, but woh ek-do din chill karne waali

thi. Lekin tujhe best friend banana hi nahi tha, tu bas game khel rahi thi mere saath. Just for convenience, because I am so soft and good that you want me in your life, and you won’t get this from anyone else. You want to stay with me but also want your freedom. You will only chill with me with certain people, and after that I get to know that you were showing me a different picture which never existed.”

While Isha never explicitly mentioned her marriage, fans picked up on her cues, and her revelation has gone viral. Badshah has previously been linked to multiple famous women, but he has repeatedly denied being in a relationship with them.



Light, airy and straight out of a Pinterest board, Radhika Seth’s lace-trimmed babydoll dress is perfect for romantic brunches, vacations and every photo-op in between.

Kareena Kapoor Reveals Why She, Saif Ali Khan 'Fight' About Work: 'I'm Instinctive, He Likes To Prepare'

Kareena Kapoor, who will soon be seen in Daayra, recently opened up about how she and her actor-husband Saif Ali Khan differ in their approach to acting. She credited her sister and superstar Karisma Kapoor for teaching her everything she knows. Kareena also reflected on her kids, Taimur and Jeh, noticing her advertisements everywhere.

Kareena said at a recent SCREEN event, “We always end up fighting. Two actors in the house will always end up fighting. I might not like a promo of his, or he might not like mine. We are pretty different when it comes to that. I am more instinctive, while Saif likes to prepare a lot more. He will read a lot more and get into it. Whereas I want to be switching on and off.”

She said that Karisma has been her mentor. “I credit her with everything. But, if there’s one thing that she has always taught me is just that hard work and perseverance. Because in the 90s, there was a constant push they had to do, just be there and prove themselves. She tells me to never lose faith, no matter how great an



actor or bigger star you are,” she said.

In the same chat, she also revealed she finds it strange when Taimur and Jeh see her ads. “It’s a lot, because now they are constantly watching ads. I don’t know what I feel when my ads show up in front of them.

Whether I want them to see too much or... There is a constant battle,” she said.

The actor recalled an incident with Taimur and added, “I feel weird sometimes, like at airports. If I see myself pouting in some ad, Taimur asks, ‘Why are you doing that?’ I ask him to move on; it’s an

ad, that’s fine. But he asks why I am doing that. I just ask him to leave it and let it be.”

Meanwhile, on the work front, Kareena’s Daayra will be out in theatres on September 18. The film is directed by Meghna Gulzar and also stars Prithviraj Sukumaran.

Koffee With Karan 9: Janhvi Kapoor, Varun Dhawan Shoot Episode; Arjun Kapoor Makes A Cameo?

Karan Johar has kickstarted the shoot of Koffee With Karan 9 last Sunday. As per reports, the first episode will feature Salman Khan in a rare solo appearance. Speculations are also rife that Shah Rukh Khan and Aryan Khan will also be gracing the couch this season. While there’s no official confirmation on these heresays, we’ve some exclusive update for you!

We hear that an episode of this season has already been filmed. A little birdie tells News18 exclusively, “The episode was shot at Yash Raj Films’ studio with Janhvi Kapoor and Varun Dhawan. This is the first time that they appeared on the chat show together. Karan and his protégés had a blast. A special guest also made a cameo, leaving Janhvi and Varun surprised.”

The source further adds, “Arjun, who became the unofficial mascot of season 5, will be making a special appearance in this particular episode with the Bawaal and Sunny Sanskari Ki Tulsi Kumari co-stars. Varun’s camaraderie with Arjun is no secret and when they came to



the show as a duo back in 2016, they left Karan, the crew members and the audience rolling in laughter.”

We also hear that the recently shot episode was a rollercoaster ride with Arjun, Varun and Janhvi trading hilarious anecdotes. The trio let their guard down, and teased one another, resulting in several candid mo-

ments. Needless to say, Karan was in splits throughout. On a related note, Arjun went on to earn a Special Koffee Award for appearing a total of four times on season 5.

He had made three unannounced cameos across the season. He made a surprise pop-in to sit between Ranbir Kapoor and Ranveer Singh for a game

segment called ‘Kiss the Arjun’. He was brought in again for another round of the segment in the episode featuring Katrina Kaif and Anushka Sharma. He also stayed to act as a guest judge for the ‘Rapid Fire’ round.

Coming back to season 9, this is the fourth time that Janhvi is making an appearance on Koffee With Karan. She had made her debut on the show in 2018 along with Arjun. She went on to share the couch with Sara Ali Khan on season 7 and her younger sister Khushi Kapoor on season 8. Varun, on the other hand, has been a regular since 2013 and has already been a part of it six times.

He made his first-ever appearance with his Student Of The Year co-stars Alia Bhatt and Sidharth Malhotra on season 4. Over the years, he returned to the couch with the two of them individually and also teamed up with Arjun Kapoor, Katrina Kaif and Anil Kapoor, Katriona Kaif and Anil Kapoor, across different seasons. As for this upcoming season, details about the rest of the guests remain under wraps.