

'Missing' Will Leave Audiences Shocked Says Manoj Bajpayee

MUMBAI: Actor Manoj Bajpayee is confident his next release "Missing", which unites the actor with one of his favourite co-stars Tabu, will leave the audience shocked.

"We worked together in Hansal Mehta's 'Dil Pe Mat Le Yaar' and Akash Deep's 'Ghaat' many years ago. Now I can say we've finally done another film together that does justice to her talent, and the talent of Annu Kapoor. 'Missing' is basically about three characters played by three of us actors," said Manoj.

"I am never satisfied with my own performances. There's always a hunger... That's why I am led to new directors. Mukul Abhyankar, who directed 'Missing' shocked me, as he will shock audiences. He was constantly excited about the scenes we shot every day.

"He would call up at the end of the day and say, 'Sir, yeh aapne kaise kiya?' I did, because you give. An actor needs a director and co-stars who inspire him. I got both in 'Missing'."

About the secrecy and the sudden decision to release "Missing" alongside several other films on April 6, Manoj said: "Firstly, the decision is not sudden. We decided April 6 was the correct date when there is no big release. Also, we wanted to keep the release date a secret as long as possible because we did not want to do too much media interaction on 'Missing'."



Missing out the media interaction on "Missing"... Why?

"This is a suspense film in the truest sense. Every twist and turn in the plot is crucial. We can't give any of it away. I never knew it was so difficult to promote a suspense film. I know the media will ask us questions about the plot and one of us will blurt out something that will give away the suspense. I've never been more scared of promoting any of my films."

Manoj said preparing a trailer was a killer. "We had to be careful with every frame because almost frame has a suspense element. I can't tell you

anything about my character because I may give away the plot. All I can say is all three of us Tabu, Annu Kapoor and I seldom had a chance to give so much of ourselves to a film."

One would be thinking that Manoj would be sulking about the failure of his last release "Aiyaary". But no. "I'm very proud of 'Aiyaary'. According to me, it is Neeraj Pandey's most accomplished work and one of my most satisfying performances. It suffered because of the relentless back-and-forth with the release date. Anyway I've put it behind me now. An artiste can't shed tears over what is gone.

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Farooq Sheikh Honoured With A Doodle

MUMBAI: Google on Sunday remembered late actor Farooq Sheikh on his 70th birth anniversary with a doodle styled on hand-painted movie posters of the 1970s, and especially his "Umrao Jaan". Born on this day in 1948, Farooq grew up in Mumbai, in a simple, middle-class household. Though he studied law, he continued to dabble in theatre on the side and eventually decided to give acting a go.

Starting with "Garam Hawa" in 1973, Farooq essayed myriad roles in his ca-



reer, and won fans with his shy smile in "Chashme Buddoor", comedic timing in "Kissi Se Na Kehna", and his helples-

ness and loss in "Bazaar". He had a wide portfolio in the theatre space, especially with the play "Tumhari Amrita" with Shabana Azmi and delighted audiences for over two decades. TV audiences also saw him in "Jeena Isi Ka Naam Hai" or for his comic wit in "Chamatkar".

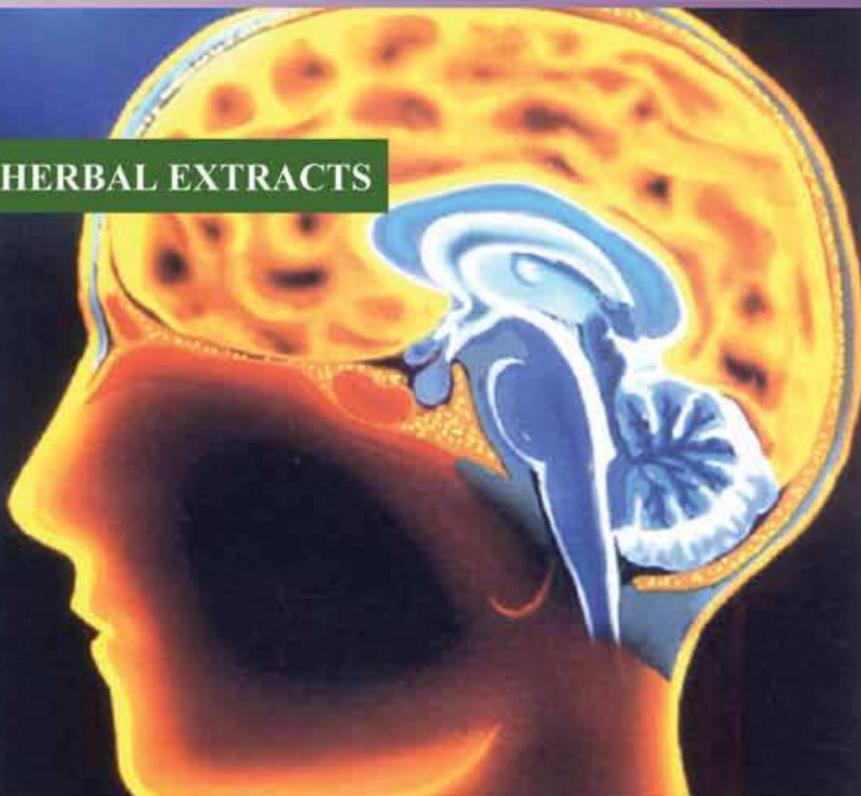
The Google doodle, by Nimit Malavia, features the hero of the 1970's mature into a familiar TV presence of the 1990s, bridging the gap between mainstream and arthouse cinema in India along the way.

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