



Vaani Gets Lead Role In High-Octane 'Shamshera'

Actress Vaani Kapoor has been zeroed in on to play the love interest of Ranbir Kapoor in "Shamshera", director Karan Malhotra has confirmed.

Vaani will play the character of the most desirable and sought after travelling performer from the heartland of India.

Malhotra said in a statement: "Vaani plays Ranbir's love interest in the film and is a very important collaborator in his character's journey. Her character

graph is interlinked to the plot of the film making her a crucial catalyst in our hero's mission.

"Vaani is a perfect fit for the role. She is a fine actor, a fabulous dancer and a gorgeous Hindi film heroine. We wanted someone absolutely fresh to wow audiences on the big screen and she beautifully fits that brief."

The high-octane entertainer, produced by Yash Raj Films, promises "jaw-dropping action sequences" and Ranbir Kapoor in

a never seen before avatar. Sanjay Dutt plays the nemesis of Ranbir in the project. "Shamshera" is set to go on floors end of 2018 and shooting will wrap by mid 2019.

Befikre actress Vaani Kapoor, who was born in New Delhi is the hot topic of Bollywood now. Vaani loves to travel and has a Bachelor's degree in Tourism studies from IGNOU. Her father's name is Shiv Kapoor and mother is Dimpny Kapoor. She has an elder sister Nupur Chopra.

Manoj Bajpayee Is Best Actor At NY Film Fest



MUMBAI: Actor Manoj Bajpayee bagged the Best Actor Award at the New York Indian Film Festival (NYIFF) for his work in "Gali Guleiyan" ("In the Shadows").

Acknowledging the praise and good wishes coming to him, Manoj posted on Twitter: "'Gali Guleiyan' gets an honour at New York Indian Film Festival. Congratulations to the team of and the captain Dipesh Jain (director)."

Jain said in a statement: "We are elated to hear about Manoj sir's award at NYIFF. It is an acknowledgement of his stellar performance in the film. We consider ourselves very blessed to have worked with an actor like him who embraces his character so seamlessly and makes it his own. Heartiest congratulations to him once again."

"Gali Guleiyan" is a Hindi psychological drama about a man trapped within the walls and alleys of Old Delhi and his own mind. He attempts to break free to find a human connection.

The film has on board an ensemble cast including Ranvir Shorey, Neeraj Kabi and Shahana Goswami along with debutant child actor Om Singh.

Produced by Shuchi Jain of Exstant Motion Pictures, "Gali Guleiyan" will soon release worldwide. It has already travelled to over 15 international film festivals.



Comedy Is Not An Easy Job Says Kriti Sanon

MUMBAI: Actress Kriti Sanon says working on the Bollywood comic caper "Arjun Patiala" was an exciting journey but she doesn't find comedy an easy genre.

Maddock films is bringing actor-singer Diljit Dosanjh back in uniform, this time with Kriti and actor Varun Sharma, for a laugh riot. "Arjun Patiala" was such an exciting journey. Comedy is not an easy genre, and we have added a twist to it. Diljit and Varun have a great comic timing and it was a constant

laugh riot on the set," Kriti said in a statement.

Dinesh Vijan, who is producing the film with Bhushan Kumar, said: "Diljit will be seen in the uniform but very different from his avatar in his first Hindi film outing, 'Udta Punjab'.

"This 'police wallah' is a laugh a minute character with swag."

Diljit said: "Arjun Patiala" is very quirky. It's a film that has action, romance and comedy but with a spin on it. It was a blast shooting it

and I hope audiences love it as much." Varun will be seen as a police official with a sarcastic tongue and an arrogant stride, who goes by the name of Onida Singh.

"I'm very excited to see the audience's reactions as it's a very special. They've given me so much love and appreciation, I want to make sure they have a great time at the theatre," he said.

The trio has a baddie to contend with as Zeeshan Ayyub steps out of his 'good friend' avatar to roam the

campus, his hair tied up in a patka, piling up the corpses without batting an eyelid. His character is called School, pronounced in the Punjabi way as Sakool. "If this film works, we would be happy to spin a franchise with Arjun, Onida and Ritu returning as the principal players. We already have an idea for a part 2 and like 'Golmaal' and 'Fukrey', Arjun will be back with a Patiala peg every couple of years," Vijan said. The film is scheduled to hit the theatres on September 14.

Nandita's 'Manto' Is A Masterclass, Well-Shot Movie

MUMBAI: In Nandita Das's directorial debut, "Firaq" in 2008, Nawazuddin Siddiqui, then raw, wounded and bestial in his rage, played a man being chased by communal rioters during Gujarat's 2002 bloodbath.

There was something completely unrehearsed and refreshingly unpolished about Nawazuddin's indignation in "Firaq".

Ten years later we see another actor in Nawazuddin, all prepared, rehearsed and exuding a ruminative dramatic tension as the writer-author Saadat Hassan Manto that the original "Manto" must have felt but never articulated with the precision of an actor

who knows exactly how to control the space around him, even when the space is muddled, chaotic and in turmoil.

Of course, the central performance we see in the brief trailer is exceedingly accomplished. We expect nothing less from Nawazuddin. And with the doyenne of the auteur Nandita Das at the helm we expect sparks to fly.

The cinematography by Kartik Vijay and sound design by Resul Pookutty affords a masterclass.

"Manto" is a film that will transport us into the emotional turbulence and intellectual uncertainties of the time when India was severed into two clumsy



halves. Into the cauldron of friction "Manto" spread his provocative ideas on what violence does to civilisation. He was hated by

the authorities and disapproved of by his family. These aspects of his contumacious art are well implanted into the trailer.

The trailer shows a very accomplished cast. Rasika Dugal has some acerbic moments with her husband as she reminds him how his scathing writings damaged their family life.

There are other minor appearances in the trailer by interesting actors like Shashank Arora. There is an inbuilt tension in the plot connected with Manto's scandalous reputation as a litterateur. The trailer taps into that tension but with an austere rigour. But does not tell us anything about Man-

to's subconscious repudiation of conventional tropes that we don't already know.

In 2015, Pakistan had made its own Saadat Hassan Manto biopic with Sarmad Sultan Khoosat playing the lead and directing the film. Khoosat's Manto bears an uncanny physical resemblance to Das-Nawazuddin's Manto.

The Pakistani film on Manto was very dramatic, very Sanjay Leela Bhansali in its images.

This "Manto" seems far more restrained, not willing to let go. In that sense, the film's mood is in defiant opposition to its protagonist who was forever outspoken. The film releases in July.