



Raveena to produce three web series

Pavitr Salhi



After years of experience as an actor, Raveena Tandon is all set to turn producer in the digital space. The actress will back three web series under her banner, AA Films. Of the three series, Raveena has already completed writing two. The third one, she says, will be adapted into a feature film as well.

Raveena has joined hands with Arka Media Works (helmed by Shobu Yardi and Prasad Devineni), which bankrolled the *Baahubali* series, to co-produce the projects.

She informs, "I learnt the business of film production closely during my growing-up years, as my father (Ravi Tandon) is an acclaimed producer-director. With my husband Anil (Thadani, distributor), I've picked up the other aspects of film business, including distribution and marketing. Film production is not an easy job, but I hope that it turns out to be an interesting journey."

The actress adds, "All three projects are scheduled to go on floors in the next few months. While one is a contemporary drama, the remaining two belong to thriller and historical genre."

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RIMA DAS

'I have never believed in shoving feminist issues in anyone's face'

Says Rima Das, whose film *Village Rockstars* was India's official entry to the Oscars this year

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Prathamesh Bandekar

All for the cause of good cinema

Ever since they forayed into production, Mansi and Varun Bagla — Director and Co-Founder and CEO of Mini Homes, respectively — have attempted to contribute towards quality cinema. The duo, who recently launched their banner, Mini Films, have finalised actor Harshvardhan Rane for some of their projects.

Says Mansi, "At a time when most independent producers want to bank on superstars, I want to invest in talent. We found Harshvardhan to be honest, hard-working and handsome. He has a positive vibe and

is very down to earth. I feel that he has a lot of untapped potential."

She adds, "We are ready with five scripts, and are in talks with several A-list stars and directors. I have met my favourite filmmakers Nishikant Kamat and Abbas-Mustan, and if things work out with them, it will be a huge achievement for me. My ultimate wish is to approach Shah Rukh Khan with a project."

Mini Films has also got on board film strategist and marketer Varun Gupta as an associate producer for their projects.

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Harshvardhan Rane with Mansi Bagla

'A good film is high on ideas and low on cost'

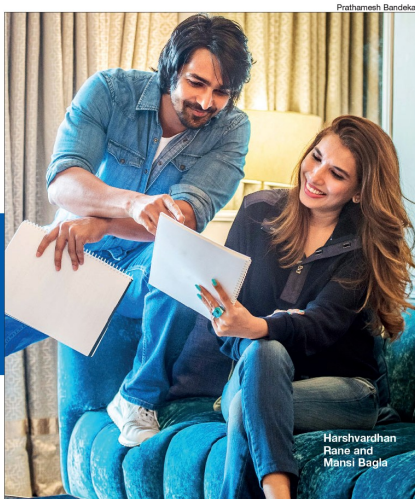
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Varun Gupta has previously worked on films like *Parmanu: The Story of Pokhran*, *October* and *Tumbbad*. With good scripts, directors and a talented team, Mansi is confident about creating success stories at the box office success. She believes that a good film is high on thought and low on cost. A die-hard movie buff, with great zeal and energy, she feels that the big screen is irreplaceable. "Despite the invasion of the digital world, the big-screen experience will never go out of fashion, at least not in India," she says.

About her future plans, Mansi shares, "I am making my own team and I believe in the adage, 'Slow and steady wins the race'. Faithful people will always be loyal to you, in professional life as well. I want to make everyone who has supported and encouraged me, proud. People pay tributes to those who are no more, but I want to pay tributes to those who are around; that's my way of expressing my love for them."

'DESPISE THE INVASION OF THE DIGITAL WORLD, THE BIG-SCREEN EXPERIENCE WILL NEVER GO OUT OF FASHION, AT LEAST NOT IN INDIA'

— Mansi Bagla



Prathamesh Bandekar

Harshvardhan Rane and Mansi Bagla

Evelyn Sharma shocked by fan during Saaho shoot

Things got a little too uncomfortable for Evelyn Sharma during the shoot of *Saaho*, which also features Prabhas and Shraddha Kapoor in the lead. After a long day of shoot with costar Neil Nitin Mukesh, where both actors were shooting intense action sequences, Evelyn decided to call it a day and left the set of the film. She headed to her hotel, which was also located in Ramoji Film City. That's when things got weird for the *Yeh Jawaani Hai Deewani* actress. A fan spotted her leaving the set and figured out which hotel she was staying at. He made his way to the hotel lobby and waited for hours to catch a glimpse of Evelyn. The incident didn't end there; the fan also managed to figure out the actress' room number and landed up on her floor catching her unawares when she was heading to her room.

Taken aback by the fan's invasive presence, Evelyn rushed out to her manager who saved the day with quick thinking. They called for the hotel staff who respectfully escorted the fan out of the premises. Recalling the incident, Evelyn says, "It's really nice when your fans come to meet you, but sometimes it gets scary when they do show up at the wrong time. I don't mean to be hostile, I love my fans and I look forward to spending time with them, but sometimes I just feel it becomes overwhelming when they wait under the apartment or hotel building for hours on end. That can be a scary scenario."

On the work front, Evelyn is looking forward to her special song in an upcoming Bollywood film and she's also just shot for her first international show in Berlin.



Evelyn Sharma



Mumbai dance group is keeping Michael Jackson's legacy alive

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