HT Style

Saturday October 7, 2006
Hindustan Times, Mumbai

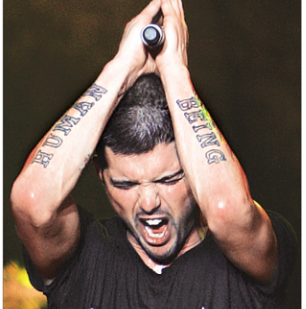
www.hindustantimes.com

THE MAGIC OF MUSICALS: The sounds of Bollywood **P3**

Jack's back: The bachelor says he is a homebody **P6**

Imported items: Foreign designers at LFW **P13**

FREEZE FRAME WELCOME TO WHEREVER YOU ARE



Australian rock band INKS's lead vocalist, JD Fortune, had the crowd in raptures on Thursday evening at MMRDA Grounds, Bandra Kurla Complex. The band is in India for their 'Switched On' world tour. Their next stop is Bangalore. Fortune's rendition of the hits of band's earlier front man, John Hutchence (who killed himself in November 1997) had fans spellbound. **Report and more pictures on Page 12**

PHOTO: VIJAY MANDLEKAR

Fort Brangelina

The movements of Hollywood's alpha couple are shrouded in Z-plus secrecy. But Pune's residents have no idea how their peace will be shattered once Brad and Angelina begin shooting

Udita Jhunjhunwala

Names like Motwani, Shahaney, Ajwani share walls with Chavan and Balsekar in Pune's Sindh Society in Aundh, one of the locations for the shooting of *A Mighty Heart*. The film features Angelina Jolie as Mariane Pearl, widow of beheaded journalist Daniel Pearl. The film is co-produced by Brad Pitt. Hollywood's alpha couple, along with their three children, arrived in Pune on Thursday.

Sindh Society, with its one- and two-storied bungalows, masquerades as Karachi, where part of the film is based. The treelined, leafy streets that make up this quiet housing colony are said to be strikingly similar to the Pakistani city. Carpenters are hard at work under the supervision of an Indian and British production crew at 'Nayansukh', house number 123. Two cars dressed up as Pakistani taxis, painted yellow with Karachi number plates, are parked outside. On the parallel street, another two houses have been seconded for the production.

'Bhalla House' serves as a production office and another, unnumbered house, with a red-tiled roof, is being readied to serve as a make-up house with green rooms for the cast. Cars and jeeps with production stickers are ferrying production members between the Le Meridien and Blue Diamond hotels and Sindh Society. The unit will be shooting at various Pune locations for a month before shifting to Mumbai for another two weeks of work before Jolie and Pitt leave.

Actor Irrfan Khan, who plays Captain, the person who helps Mariane Pearl in her search for her abducted journalist husband, says he will only reach Pune next week. "I think I begin shooting on October 12. Of course I am looking forward to shooting with Angelina Jolie but my main motivations are the book itself and working with a director like Michael Winterbottom (*Wonderland, Code 46, 24 Hour Party People*)," he says.

I begin shooting on October 12. Of course I'm looking forward to shooting with Angelina Jolie
IRRFAN KHAN

The movements and plans of the star couple remain a mystery, with the paparazzi and media being lead on wild goose chases between locations to potential residences to the hotel and farmhouses on the outskirts of Pune. The residents of Sindh Society, on the other hand, seem oblivious to the frenzy that will soon shatter their peace when shooting begins on Monday.

PHOTOS: VIJAYAMAHAN GUPTA/HT

Top: Sindh Society, where shooting for *A Mighty Heart* starts from October 9
Top right: The house dedicated for make up and green room facilities at Sindh Society
Above: A car painted like a Pakistani cab, with Karachi number plates, at Sindh Society

Take 5 — Foreign films and the Indian connection

1. **Octopussy (1983):** It was shot extensively in Udaipur, especially the Lake Palace Hotel, which is the palace in the film.
2. **City of Joy (1992):** The Roland Joffe film, based on Dominique Lapierre's book, was mostly filmed in Kolkata.
3. **Passage to India (1984):** The film, whose cast included actors like Roshan Seth, Victor Banerjee and Saeed Jaffrey, was filmed in India.
4. **Indiana Jones and The Temple of Doom (1984):** Besides Amrish Puri, its Indian connection was Rajasthan, where parts of the film were shot.
5. **Heat and Dust (1983):** The Merchant Ivory production moves from ornate banquets in the India of 1923 to breathtaking vistas in Kashmir.

STYLESPICE

The magic of eleven

Is there a reason why *Still Bend Any Khan*, Mushtaq Sheikh's biography of Shah Rukh Khan (right), is being launched on October 11? "I chose 11th as the date is because 2 is my lucky number and 1 and 1 is 11 add up to 2. Also, I've known Shah Rukh for 11 years," Sheikh said. Er, October 11 also happens to be Amitabh Bachchan's birthday. So will he launch the book? "Since it is a book about Shah Rukh, I would like SRK to launch it." **Kshama Rao

Drumming up a storm

Ritujoy Ghosh

An Indian percussionist is among 40 musicians from across the world who have teamed up to produce a unique album to raise money for the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

Kolkata-based Tanmoy Bose, 40, who has played with Pandit Ravi Shankar in his Grammy-winning album, Full Circle, has composed a piece, titled Subhaya, for the album. The composition features Bose and his Kolkata-based music group, Taal Tantra, as well as popular Bengali singer Indrasil Sen. "I have used the beats of the *dhaak* [the traditional percussion instrument associated with Durga Puja in Bengal] in the piece. The theme of the composition is life must go on," Bose says.

The project is being coordinated by Congo Square — one of the biggest US based music organisations — and the album will be released in December. "The project is the brainchild of the legendary drummer, Fabian Joliet. The album will feature percussionists such as Jim Keltner and Pete Locket, who have both played with George Harrison," Bose says.

Tanmoy Bose is among 40 percussionists from across the world who are putting together an album for the victims of Hurricane Katrina

It will be a double CD with 41 tracks between them. Each of the 40 percussionists plays a solo piece. All of them come together for a final crescendo. Called *Drummers United*, it was composed by Joliet. Taking part in it, Bose says, was one of the best experiences of his life. "All of us have improvised a lot in it."

Energetic

GIRNAR
ROYAL CUP TEA

A Regal Blend of Top Class Quality and Fine Taste

WATCH OUT FOR...
OMKAR GURAV, Cricketer

VIJAYAMAHAN GUPTA/HT

Stump of success

Who's that guy?
An 18-year-old student from Mumbai's Ruparel College who has just returned from a fruitful trip to Pakistan. He was there as the wicketkeeper of the India Under-19 Test team.

Is that all?
That's just for starters. "Pakistan was a good experience," he says. No wonder. Batting right-handed, he got several good scores and made 10 dismissals. Those who have watched him, like Naresh Chari, cricket coach, Shardashram High School, say his reflexes are very sharp.

So how did it all start?
Well, his parents moved from Bhayander to Bandra so that Omkar could study and play in Shardashram, which, of course, is where a certain Sachin Tendulkar studied and played and broke many records. The year he joined the school, he broke into the Mumbai under-14 side as a wicketkeeper. Next stop: the India under-19 side. He has been the Test keeper in the Under-19 side for over a year now.

So what's next?
A place in the Mumbai Ranji trophy side. Once that is accomplished, he would be looking for the greatest honour of them all: playing for India. Omkar is talented and has been very successful so far. His coaches pray that he never gets carried away like that other Shardashram prodigy: a certain Vinod Kambli

Do tell him:
Mumbai has not produced a wicketkeeper-batsman for long. So according to the law of averages, it is about time.

Don't tell him: Remember Sameer Dighe? (The last Mumbai wicketkeeper to play for India. He only ever played in six Tests.)

—Prachna Shetty

EXPERT SPEAK

"He has a lot of promise. If he can live up to his potential, he can be an immense asset to any team"

Milind Rege, former Mumbai cricketer, selector

This is part of a series of articles about unusual, young achievers in Mumbai. If you know of any, write to **htstyle@hindustantimes.com**

INSIDE | SEE SCAPE 2 | BOLLYWOOD 3 | TELEVISION 4 | HOLLYWOOD 5 & 6 | PARTY 9 | AROUND TOWN 11, 12 & 13