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OF INDIA

There is an audience for all kinds of stories: Rajkummar



Rajkummar Rao

At an event attended by podcasters from across the country, Rajkummar Rao spoke about the power of storytelling and his favourite roles

Global audio streaming platform, Spotify, held the fourth edition of Spotify Podcasters' Day on the weekend, marking its first event in the capital. Rajkummar Rao, who attended the event, said, "There's an audience out there for all kinds of stories, so we should think about and tell the stories we want to tell."

The actor, who has featured in a Spotify podcast titled Ruk Jaana Nahi that celebrated the work of frontline health workers during the pandemic, also spoke about the power of storytelling and some of the favourite roles he has essayed in his career.

The event witnessed participation from podcasters from across the country, including Ankur Warikoo, Leeza Mangaldas and Aryaan Misra, as well as budding podcast creators.

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'Jaise charming dikhte thay waise charming insaan thay'

On the sidelines of a special film festival to mark **Dev Anand's 100th birth anniversary**, Waheeda Rehman remembers some of the moments she shared with the legendary actor

By **Waheeda Rehman**

I met *Dev saab* on the sets of *C.I.D.* I was a fan, but never dreamt in my wildest dreams thought that I will be working with him in my first Hindi film. He never made me feel like *ki main newcomer hoon aur woh established star hain*. He made me feel so comfortable *aur naturally woh ek understanding thi, toh humne ek ke baad ek saat (seven) picturein ki*. And the best was of course, (*Guide*) *saari duniya janti hai*. He was so charming and decent. *Kabhi kisi ki burai nahi karte thay*.

Once he told me, "*Waheeda kabhi fikr mat karo ki picture chalegi ya nahi chalegi kyunki ye jo zindagi ki slate hai, uspe tumhara mera naam toh likh diya gaya hai, toh woh koi mita nahi sakti. Toh aap kabhi socha mat karo. Picture nahi chali (toh) nahi chali. Chhor do. Aage dekho kya karna hai.*" He was very charming. *Jaise charming dikhte thay waise charming insaan thay. Bahut achhe insaan thay.*

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Dev Anand and Waheeda Rehman in *C.I.D.* (1956). The two did seven films together

STRIKING WRITERS, HOLLYWOOD PRODUCERS REACH TENTATIVE DEAL



The Writers Guild said in a statement that "this deal is exceptional - with meaningful gains and protection"

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Pics: @ParineetiChopra

INTRODUCING MR AND MRS CHADHA

After their dreamy wedding in Udaipur, Parineeti Chopra and Raghav Chadha shared a glimpse of the celebrations. "From the very first chat at the breakfast table, our hearts knew. Been waiting for this day for a long time... So blessed to finally be Mr and Mrs! Couldn't have lived without each other... Our forever begins now," they wrote. The newlyweds and their families returned to Delhi on Monday. For more, SEE **PAGE 4**



Pics: Ajay Kumar Gautam

MotoGP's starry finale

Many celebs joined racing enthusiasts on the last day of MotoGP in Greater Noida



John Abraham



Ranveer Singh

FOR MORE, SEE PAGE 2

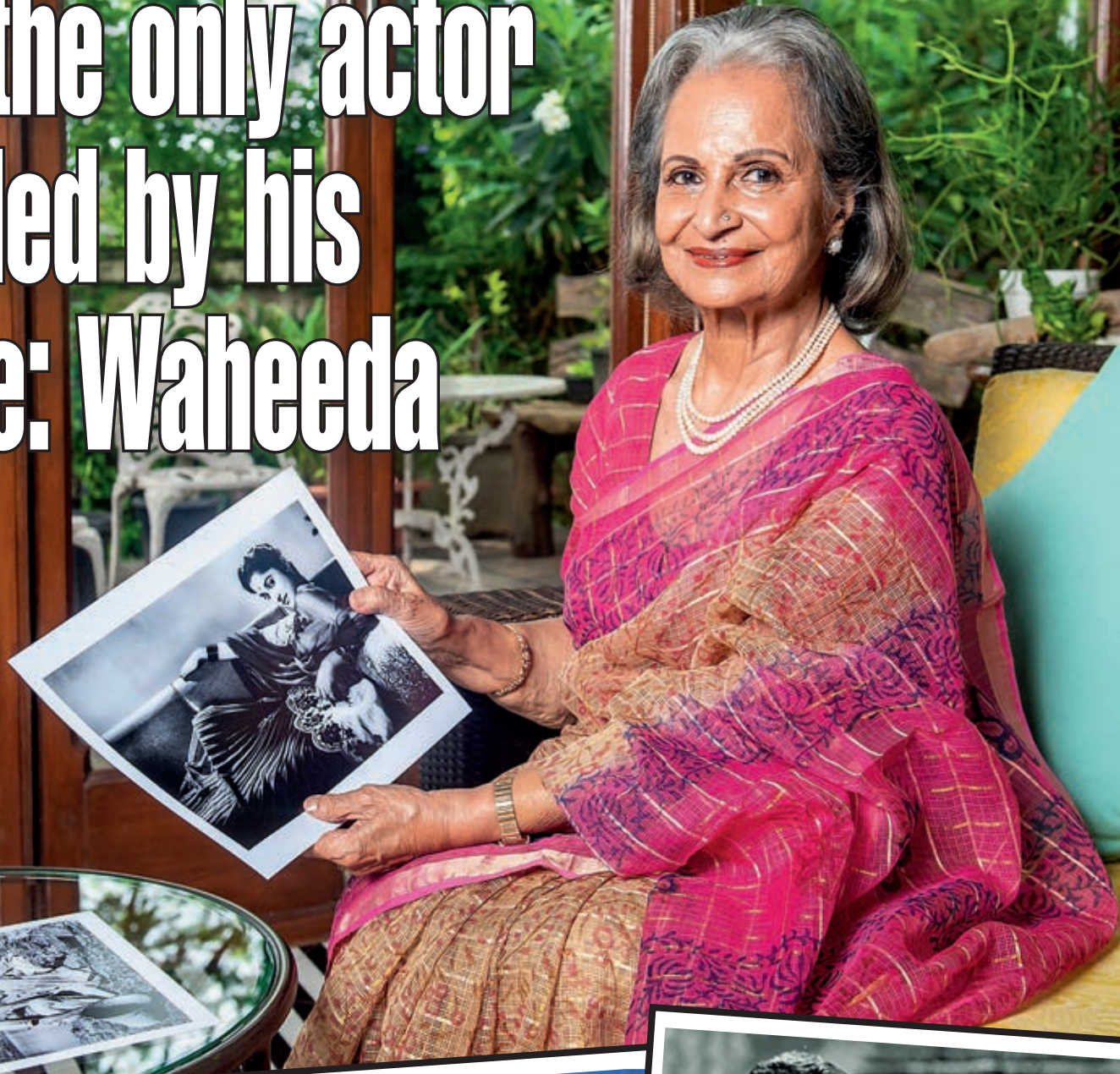
Yuvraj Singh



Shikhar Dhawan

Prathamesh Bandekar

Dev was the only actor who I called by his first name: Waheeda



Waheeda Rehman

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'HE MADE ME SO COMFORTABLE ON THE SETS OF CID'

On the second day of the shoot I called him Dev saab, and he said no. *Toh maine kaha achha Mr Anand?* And he was like - 'No, no, no, no.' *Maine puchha, phir kya bulaoon? Toh kehne lage Dev. Maine kaha aap mere se bade hain aur time bade star hain, main kaise aapko Dev bulaoon. Ye hamare culture mein, hamari tameez mein nahi hai.* He then explained, '*Dekho agar koi saab kehata hai toh mujhe lagta hai ki main school teacher hoon. I don't get that feeling that you are my colleague.*' So, in the whole industry, he was the only hero *jinke main first name basis pe baat karti thi.*

C.I.D. ke liye hum Churchgate station pe raat ko shooting karne gaye thay. Raj Khosla took special permission for it. We both had to get into a running train. I was very nervous. Dusra shot hone tak raat mein mujhe neend aa jaati thi toh main so jaati thi do bahe tak. So Dev asked me, 'You want to do more pictures?' It was my first film, so I said, 'Haan karna toh hai.' To which he replied, 'Then you will have to shoot at night'. Like a fool I asked 'Par raat mein kyun kar rahe hain. Din mein kyun nahi kar rahe?' Toh kehne lage, 'Public khatm ho jayegi tabhi toh hamare liye permission milegi!' It was really good and fun. It was so comfortable working with him, very casual, very charming.

'I WAS A PART OF GUIDE ONLY BECAUSE OF DEV'

Meri kismat achhi thi aur Dev ne soch liya tha ki Guide mein Rosie ka role main hi karungi. That made me very happy and confident. I told him, 'Ismein aap jo marzi scene cut karo, magar mera koi bhi dance cut nahi hoga.' It was the only film where

A still from Guide (1965)



WHY WAHEEDA DIDN'T ATTEND THE COLOUR PREMIERE OF HUM DONO

I don't remember when I met him for the last time. When he did *Hum Dono* in colour (in 2011), *toh uska premiere hone wala tha.* Both the leading ladies of the film - Nanda and Sadhana - didn't come for it. He had called me for the premiere, but when I found out both the leading ladies are not coming I asked '*Fir main kaise jaung?*' It will look like I'm taking away their (credit). It's bad manners.' *Toh Dev kehne lage 'You are a part of Navketan (his production house). You are not an outsider.'* I said, '*It is very sweet of you, but public kahegi ki na Sadhna hai, na Nanda hai, ye Waheeda beech mein kya kar rahi hai? Galat lagta hai na.'*

'Tum mera dil dukha rahi ho' (Dev said), and I replied, '*I'm sorry. Tell them kuch bhi kar ke aaye. Unke bagair main nahi aa sakti.*

A still from the 1962 film Baat Ek Raat Ki



I had got the chance to dance.

I was in *Guide* only because of Dev. He was the producer and he had given me the contract *pehle se.* Unfortunately, the directors Chetan Anand and Tad Danielewski (for the US version), they didn't want me. I told Dev '*Aapke dono directors mujhe nahi pasand kar rahe. Problem ho jayegi. Aap kisi aur ko le lijiye.*' He said, '*Are you crazy? Meri marzi hai main kisse loon. I am the producer. What makes you think like that? I told him to ask his publicist and friend Amarjeet. He confirmed it. Tad also said there's going to be a very hot love scene. When I told Dev, he said, 'You know I won't do a scene like that. Tumko darane ki koshish kar rahe hain.'*

Finally, although Tad stayed (for the US version, which didn't have Waheeda), Vijay Anand *aa gaye* (in place of Chetan Anand for the Indian version). — As told to Niharika Lal

WGA-studios reach tentative deal to end writers' strike



Thousands of film and television scribes downed their pens in early May over demands including better pay for writers and protection against AI-generated content

Striking writers whose industrial action has brought Hollywood to a standstill said Sunday they had reached a deal with studios that could see them return to work. "We have reached a tentative agreement on a new 2023, which is to say an agreement in principle on all deal points, subject to drafting final contract language," said a letter the Writers Guild of America (WGA) sent to members, adding, "We can say, with great pride, that this deal is exceptional - with meaningful gains and protections for writers in every sector of the membership." Agencies

MAJOR POINTS FROM THE LETTER BY WGA

- Language was being ironed out and that the final say would be given to the membership
- Members will not return to work until "specifically authorised by the Guild." The writers are still on strike until then. But as of today, they are "suspending WGA picketing"

WHAT THE STUDIOS HAVE OFFERED

Studios have offered greater transparency in streaming audience numbers, while stopping short of offering to revise the way residual payments are calculated.



WHAT ABOUT THE ACTORS' STRIKE

Even if the writers deal is finalised, the actors' strike would continue. There have been no known contract talks between the studios and the actors' 160,000-strong SAG-AFTRA guild since that strike began.

We can say, with great pride, that this deal is exceptional - with meaningful gains and protections for writers

— As per the letter that WGA sent to members

Pics: Ajay Kumar Gautam



VACATION MODE ON

TRIPPIN'

With coffee, retreat and ample beauty sleep, SONAKSHI SINHA's Maldives vacation is a mood



Celebs @ MotoGP

Rannvijay Singha

Gul Panag and Abhijit Sarkar

Yash Dasgupta

Pearl V Puri

Meezaan Jafri

Divya Khosla Kumar