



Tuning with Bollywood

Embarking his lyrical journey with words soothing enough to wrench everyone's heartstrings, Swanand Kirkire seems to be the newest delight on Bollywood chartbusters.

Venturing into direction

Swanand chanced upon his first directorial venture in New Delhi when he wrote and directed a play on Bhagat Singh. While doing theater, Swanand landed in Mumbai where he was offered assistance in direction by Sudhir Mishra for 'Calcutta Mail', 'Chameli' and 'Hazaaron Khwashein Aisi'.

Tuning in with lyrics

The song 'Bawra mann dekhne chala ek sapna' from 'Hazaaron Khwashein Aisi' hit the popularity charts routing Swanand's lyrical journey into mainstream Bollywood. From thereon, Swanand hit jackpots winning the Na-

tional Film Award for Best Lyrics in 2007 for the song 'Bande mein tha Dum' from 'Lage Raho Munna Bhai' (2006). His lyrics for 'Eklavya: The Royal Guard', 'Parineeta', 'Khoya Khoya Chand', 'Paa' and the more recent '3 Idiots' won him accolades and awards.

Versatility galore

Besides, his lyrical personality, Swanand's talent as a writer and actor is still to be exposed. As a dialogue writer, Swanand penned and acted for films like 'Eklavya', 'Chameli' and 'Hazaaron Khwashein Aisi'. He also worked as associate director for 'Chameli', 'Hazaaron Khwashein Aisi' and 'Calcutta Mail'.

Training at the Alma Mater

As a lyricist, singer and dialogue writer Swanand Kirkire dons many a feathers in his success hat. Though born under the parentage of classical singers, father Chintamani Kirkire and mother Neelambari Kirkire, Swanand has no formal training in singing. After studying commerce he moved to Delhi and in 1996, he graduated from the National School of Drama (NSD) pursuing theatre.

The Quizmaster

Regarded as the father of television quiz shows in India, Siddhartha Basu has changed the vision of Indian television 360 degrees making audiences sit up intriguing their knowledge streak.

Venturing into the quizzing

Growing up in the cosmopolitan environment in Bombay, Delhi and Madras, Basu graduated in English Literature from Delhi's St. Stephen and post-graduated from Delhi University. Basu began his television career in 1977 as a documentary filmmaker. Further, Basu headed into the media business launching BIG Synergy (Synergy Adlabs Media Ltd.). Beginning with 'Quiz Time' on Doordarshan, Basu hosted and produced 'Spectrum' – the seven-nation SAARC Quiz, 'The India Quiz' and 'The Beanstalk Quiz Summit' on Doordarshan, 'Mastermind India', 'University Challenge' on BBC World, and 'India's Child Genius' on STAR World.

The KBC magic

With Synergy, Basu launched and produced the biggest quiz show on Indian Television – 'Kaun Banega Crorepati' for STAR Plus. The show was the licensed version of Celador's globally successful format 'Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?' with Bollywood biggie Amitabh Bachchan hosting it. The second edition of the show of KBC 2 or more fondly 'Dwiteeya' was aired in 2005 and had the biggest opening on Indian television. The third series of KBC was hosted by Superstar Shahrukh Khan.

Grilling minds with a difference

The following year Basu was back with Sony's autumn hit show of 2006 'Jhalak Dikhla Jaa' – the Indian version of BBC's celebrity dance show by his production company Synergy Communications. Recently, Basu produced 'Aap Ki Kacheri – Kiran ke Saath' hosted by former IPS Officer Kiran Bedi, 'Sach ka Saamna', 'Khelo Jeeto Jiyo' on Star Plus, 'India's Got Talent' on Colors and 'Dus Ka Dum' with superstar Salman Khan on Sony.



The Goalie

Adrian Albert D'Souza - the most innovative amongst the hockey goal-keepers of the current slot, pioneered the 'Rushing' technique in Indian hockey making the right goal for the national game.

Hockey debut

Born and brought up in Mumbai, Adrian did his schooling from St. Anne's High School and was always active in sports. Adrian accidentally ventured into playing Hockey while he was filling in for the regular team Goal-keeper. Though he was good with goal-keeping and impressed his coach, Adrian swore not to play hockey ever again. But with thorough enthusiasm from his coach, Adrian took up Hockey with his first break in the Air-India Hockey Academy at 16. After three years, he represented India at the Athens Olympics.

Going international

Adrian made his international debut for the men's National Team in January 2004 during the Sultan Azlan Shah Hockey Tournament in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. This year he was awarded the 'Player of the Year'. Adrian has more than 100 International Caps for his country in all competitions. Adrian captained the Indian Junior Hockey team in the Rabobank 2005 Junior Hockey World Cup. By age 23, he played more than 100 times and played in all major field hockey tournaments, including the 2006 Hockey World Cup, 2006 Asian Games, 2007 Asia Cup and two Champion Trophies.

Adrian – in person

Being the poster boy of Indian hockey, Adrian preferably wears no. 12 jersey on field as he considers it lucky. As for his cherished dream - winning the Olympics for the Indian hockey team.

