

# Herald Cafe



## Pursuing passions 'two'gether

National Siblings Day on April 10 is intended to celebrate to celebrate a beautiful bond. While siblings are always there for each other, here are a few siblings who share the same creative line

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### THE LOVE FOR MUSIC

Born in a musically inclined family, Maria Sancha and Maria Gisela are the daughters of Alvaro de A Pereira, a music teacher and a recipient of the State Award for western music from the Government of Goa. They fell in love with music from a very young age and now both are accomplished musicians who often join their father in a trio, Trio de Assuncao. They recently performed their fourth major concert in February as a trio with their father on violin, Maria Gisela on piano and Maria

Sancha on violin, after initially forming the trio in 2011. "I am elder than Maria Gisela and we practise together and we are also part of the choir, Harmonizers Chorus and we perform for weddings and other occasions. As sisters, it makes it easier for us to practise and perform together," says Maria Sancha from Curtorim. They have also performed at various events organised by Fundacao Oriente, the Portuguese Consulate, Galeria de Belas Artes, Child's Play Foundation etc.

### FINDING SOLACE IN MUSIC

Caranzalem-based Frank Estrochio and his elder sister, Lerissa, were recently part of the Mando group, Caranzalemchi Chokchokit Noketram. As the leader of the group, Frank also wrote the original Mando song which won the third place at the 57th Mando Festival. Both, Frank and Lerissa are teachers in different schools in Panjim but it was the tragedy of losing their sister, Frank's twin Lyonora that brought these siblings together through music. Frank also plays the guitar in a youth band but his sister joins him in his choir and mando performances. "I love writing songs and composing toast songs and poems. Lerissa joined me in the choir after the passing of our sister. Now, we both sing for choirs, litanies, roce. Lerissa and I have a four year difference but we truly enjoy each other's company," says Frank, who has his choir, Echoes of Grace.



A THOUGHT-PROVOKING THEATRE PERFORMANCE ON 'LOK-MAHABHARAT'



EXPLORING THE ART OF SURFACE ORNAMENTATION IN GOAN TEXTILES

### SWIPE RIGHT

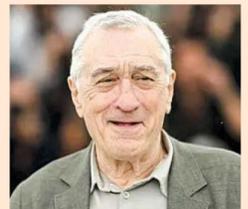
Shah Rukh Khan's 'King' to go on floors in May



Filmmaker Siddharth Anand, who is directing Shah Rukh Khan and Suhana Khan's upcoming action film, 'King', revealed the movie will go on floors in May 2025. The director took to his X handle and penned "May 2025", confirming that the shooting will start next month. The filmmaker and his team had done multiple rounds of recce globally and designed path-breaking action sequences with stunt directors of international repute. An insider stated, "It's the most explosive action written for a Hindi Film. SRK and Sid plan to shoot action blocks of King all across the globe, and they have already done recce for the same at several virgin locations. While Suhana Khan will be playing Shah Rukh's protégé in the movie, 'Munjya' actor Abhay Verma will also have a key role to play. Apart from them, Abhishek Bachchan has been roped in to play the anti-hero.

### Robert De Niro to be presented with award at Cannes

Hollywood actor and producer Robert De Niro will be bestowed with an honorary Palme d'Or Award for lifetime achievement at the 78th Cannes Film Festival. According to Cannes' official website, De Niro will



be presented with the award at the festival's opening ceremony on May 13. On the following day, May 14, he will also participate in a masterclass on the stage of the Debussy Theatre. "I have such close feelings for the Festival de Cannes. Especially now when there's so much in the world pulling us apart, Cannes brings us together, storytellers, filmmakers, fans, and friends. It's like coming home," the 81-year-old actor said in a statement. He has previously served as president of the Cannes jury in 2011.

### WHEN THE VOICE LEADS TWO HEARTS

Shruti Prabhudesai along with her sister, Swara, attended Fado classes by Sonia Shirsat in 2016 and since then they have performed Fado at different occasions. Both are also trained and perform Bharatnatyam. They performed a fado duet, "Meu amigo está longe" by Gisela João at the tribute concert for Vem Cantar. Swara says, "We used to participate in extracurricular activities together and even in sports, we would often be in the same team. It's the unsaid understanding between us that we know the smaller things about each other that gives the confidence while performing."



### BONDING OVER EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Desiree and Michael Dias' children, Sarah, Daniel, Samantha and Abigail, have often shared the same interest in arts, yoga, theatre or swimming. While Sarah and Daniel bond over yoga with thorough practices, Daniel also joins Samantha in their love for arts. "But the common love among all four is swimming. They all enjoy their time in the pool. Earlier, we used to go to the Campal swimming pool but now we take them to Dona Paula. They even enjoy drawing and they all sit with their watercolours and drawing pencils," says Caranzalem-based Desiree.

### THE NATURAL ACTORS

Daughters of noted tiatrist, Xavier de Maina and Priscilla from Curtorim, Savannah and Lanessa Mascarenhas were born to be on stage. They have been performing from a very young age and have gracefully grown to find a place on the Konkani tiatr stage. Savannah recently completed her Class 12 while Lanessa completed her Class 9. Lanessa was recently awarded the Josephine Dias Puraskar for a budding tiatrist and has won first place in the Best Comedian category, three times in competitions organised by the Tiatr Academy of Goa (TAG). They both often share the stage for their father's khell tiatrs. "I am very proud to perform with my sister and we often sing duets and trios. We are currently singing the opening song for a tiatr," says Lanessa.



### FOLLOWING AN ARTISTIC FUTURE

Twin brothers Thomas and Alfred Fernandes from Ribandar did not want their creativity to be tied down to a 9-5 job. After graduating from Goa College of Art, Alinho in applied arts, now they work from their home studio. "We were studying at Don Bosco, Panjim when we realised that we were good in drawing. Our teachers in the primary section also encouraged us and motivated us to pursue art. Though we both love art, we have different styles. Alfred works more with architectural designs while I enjoy drawing local characters like vendors and village life that reminds me of grandma's stories," says Thomas on a break delm his freelancing assignment.



In the snap posted to her Instagram, Sharma Burgess posed with their blended family at a gelato shop. Brian Austin Green and his ex-wife Megan Fox's three kids—Noah, 12, Bodhi, 10, and Journey, 8—looked happier than ever in the photo, where he held on to his and his fiancée Sharna's two-year-old son, Zion.

# Bringing Goan family life to the screen

'Mogacho Korar', the debut film of Victor Da Costa, is a Konkani film that brings the focus back on the importance of family life

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Sanguem-based Victor Da Costa has stepped into the world of films with his first feature Konkani film, 'Mogacho Korar', directed by Silverio Cardozo and presented by 3 Queens Production. The film was screened to a houseful audience at Ravindra Bhavan, Margao, and was appreciated for its story based on familial ties.

While this is his first film, Victor is no stranger to the world of performance. He has been acting in tiatrs as well as writing his own one-act plays for various church programs. He has also directed the tiatr 'Teg Bhurgancho Bapu'. Victor is a catechist at Our Lady of Miracles Church,

### CAST AND CREW OF THE FILM

Story screenplay and writer: Victor Da Costa  
 Director: Silverio Cardozo  
 Producer: Nerissa Fernandes  
 Cast: Victor Da Costa, Nerissa Fernandes, Ena Costa, Austrina Pereira, Ozias Sequeira, Maizel, Dazlan and Dylan  
 Music: Fexson Colaco  
 Editor: Errol Ferns Studios  
 Director of Photography: Sheaffer Noronha  
 Lyrics: Alinda Fernandes  
 Music: Devesh Dias

Sanguem, and took inspiration from his life to write this beautiful story. "The story



revolves around a husband and wife and their three sons. The father is a catechist, and his wife starts doubting him when he dedicates his time to God's work. Their three sons get married, and the story follows how these three daughters-in-law are welcomed into the family," explains Victor.

An employee of a private firm, Victor had to find time to complete the shoot. The story was written in 2023, and working with a big cast required time to bring all the actors together. "With just

the main family, I had eight members of the cast. There are almost 25 actors in the film, and all are new actors except for comedians Nato and Agnel," he adds.

The film was shot last year but delayed its release as it was awaiting Central Board of Film Certification. "As I am new to the industry, I was not aware of how long it takes for the certification. The film is two hours long and was shot across South Goa," says Victor. He is a father to triplets—Valanka, Sarah, and Elika—and the three are also part of the film.

The film received a warm and enthusiastic reception and was praised for providing opportunities to young local talent, with many of its actors making their debut on the big screen. "This is the first time I've acted in a film, but I am very happy with the support I received from all the actors," says Nerissa Fernandes, actor and producer.

Victor expressed gratitude for the overwhelming support from Goan audiences and voiced hopes that the

government would provide more backing for independent filmmakers. He stressed the importance of encouraging local talent and nurturing future filmmakers in the region.

Many of the film's cast members are first-time actors, and according to one of the stars, the entire team was incredibly supportive in helping each other grow throughout the process. "This movie is something young people should definitely watch," shared one of the actors, emphasizing the film's relatable themes and fresh energy.

With its local flavor and heartfelt themes, 'Mogacho Korar' has already captured the hearts of many, showcasing the untapped talent of Goan youth and presenting a compelling story to a larger audience.

(With inputs from Gauresh Sattarkar)

