

then as down to earth individual and lastly as a very manipulative man. So to have all that to take on board and act out was a great challenge and surprisingly enjoyable at the same time. With Karthik (my character in *Compromise*), it was a constant feeling of getting deeper into the sadness of the world that he lives in and I found it very difficult to shake off once we had finished shooting. When I was watching the test screening recently, the pity that I felt while playing him was very evident, so strangely I felt like I had done my job.



Compromise has some very heavy scenes, visually to watch and also difficult for the viewer to digest. Do you think that will be a problem with the audience?

If an audience can resonate with movies like *Chandni Bar* and have nothing but praise for it, I am sure *Compromise* will also find its audience. When *Chandni Bar* was first released, a lot of critics said that it was too “strong” for an Indian audience and then the movie went on to win several high profile awards. It is nice to have variety in the movie types shown. Sometimes when you go to watch movies, you want that extreme harsh reality factor. It gets boring watching the same type of movie all the time

Your next venture “Glamour” centers on the acting world in Hollywood. What can we expect from your role in the movie?

It’s the kind of character that I have wanted to play for a long time. He is the comedy relief throughout the whole movie that is until the tone of the movie gets very serious, but he still floats in with his comedy at different intervals. He is the kind of guy that wants everyone to be happy and makes a joke out of everything around him. I have had to work very closely with hair and makeup, wardrobe and stylists to get the right look for him and also the right dress style. He is comical through and through, not only in his look, but also in his appearance

Foreign managed to get you several awards for your acting. Critics have spoken very highly for your work in *Compromise*. Are you hoping for a second round of award winning?

My aim of doing the movies I do is solely because I believe in the subjects and more importantly the characters. Winning awards is a blessing and if it continues to happen, I am not one to say no. It gives you validation that you and your efforts are being noticed and appreciated, and more importantly that people are being exposed to your work



Your diary seems to be full with all the acting and commercial commitments. Has the dancing fallen to the back burner?

Dancing is an integral part of my life; it always has been and always will be. Obviously the last 6 weeks have been dedicated to the promotion of both *Foreign* and *Compromise*, so yes there has been neglect on my part. But I always try to fit the dancing in wherever I go. I recently met with Shaimak Dawar to see if there was anything we could do together while I was in Mumbai, but as always the dates are becoming an issue