

Aindrita and Diganth are made for each other

Sharmiela Mandre talks about the strong bond she shares with the couple tying the knot today

It's been a little over a decade since I've known Aindrita and Diganth. The three of us have come a long way from being just friends to the inseparable buddies that we are today. I can't believe that ten years have flown by. It just seems like yesterday.

I didn't meet Aindrita, Andy as I call her, and Diganth together. I first met Aindrita during her modelling days. We bonded instantly on our first meeting itself. For me, the first impression is always a lasting one; the first time I meet somebody, I either click with them and we remain friends for life or I just don't.

In this case, we met frequently after that and our friendship grew stronger.

Diganth began acting much before I started. My first meeting with him was when a director offered me a project opposite him. I agreed but I can't deny that

I was nervous because he has an amazing screen presence and is extremely good looking. There's an indisputable aura around him. We first worked together in 'Swayamvara' and it's only after working on this project that we got to know each a little more.

My brother Amit had accompanied me to Bangkok during the shooting of 'Swayamvara'. Amit and Diganth got along like a house on fire.

Andy, Diganth and I got a chance to hang out together during Amruta Mahotsava, the 75th anniversary celebrations of the Kannada film industry. We were rehearsing for 10 to 15 days and would catch up after rehearsals. Andy and Diganth weren't seeing each other then, but I could sense a subtle attraction between them.

We've had our ups and downs but what contributed to the steadfastness of our friendship is the openness

we share. What I like most about Andy is that she never goes by hearsay and wouldn't believe things till she saw or heard it herself. She's very outspoken too. Diganth is extremely nice. Andy and he are total opposites and that's also why they get along so well.

The three of us share some common interests. We love travelling and partying. We are so comfortable in each other's company that we never run out of things to say in conversations.

I am looking forward to Andy and Diganth's wedding because they have been together for so long and I've always thought that they should have got married much earlier. I've also felt that they were meant to be together because they balance each other out so well and respect each other's space.

Sharmiela Mandre
(As told to Nina C George)



STAR TREK

Shahid debunks reports of cancer

Bollywood actor Shahid Kapoor Monday quashed reports claiming that he is suffering from stomach cancer.

The 37-year-old actor took to Twitter to give a health update to his followers.

"Guys I'm totally fine please don't believe random stuff," Shahid tweeted.

Reports stating that Shahid was suffering from stomach cancer started doing the rounds on the

web last week. On the work front, the actor was last seen in the 'Batti Gul Meter Chalu'. The film, which also starred Shradha Kapoor, did not perform well at the box-office.

Shahid is currently busy shooting for the Hindi remake of 'Arjun Reddy', titled 'Kabir Singh'.

The film is being helmed by Sandeep Vanga, who also directed the original 2017 Telugu blockbuster. 'Kabir Singh' will hit the screens on June 21, 2019.



HALE AND HEARTY Shahid Kapoor

Actor Priya Anand wants to do more projects in Kannada

Her role in 'Orange' has got her good reviews

Actor Priya Anand could not have asked for a better Sandalwood debut than the stupendously successful 'Raajakumara'. The actor who drew attention for playing the sprightly young niece of Sridevi in 'English Vinglish' is now back in Sandalwood with 'Orange', where her performance opposite actor Ganesh has raked in good reviews.

Priya says she was flooded with offers after 'Raajakumara' but nothing appealed to her as much as her role in 'Orange'. "I could instantly relate to the character in this movie because it is a lot like how I am in real life. I didn't have to act at all because the scenes came naturally to me," Priya tells *Metrolife*.

Priya says that she was literally laughing every single day on the sets of 'Orange'. "It makes a huge difference when the director and the cast make you feel at home. Though a multi-starrer, I never felt out of place. We all worked together and not as separate identities," says Priya. She says her role in 'Orange' was a refreshing change after her recent portrayal of a dark



Priya Anand debuted in Kannada with 'Raajakumara'.

character in the Malayalam film 'Kayamkulam Kochunni'. "Even the costumes that

she wore in 'Orange' were bright as opposed to what I had donned in my previous project," she adds.

"It makes a huge difference when the director and the cast of a film make you feel at home."

Priya Anand

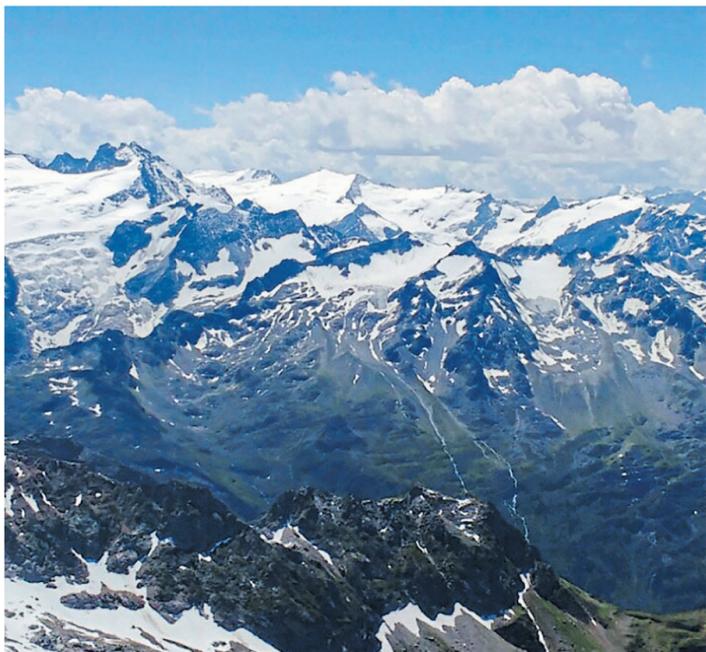
Priya says that she is no stranger to the work of co-star Ganesh. "I have followed Ganesh's work for the longest time. Some of my favourite songs are from his films. He has so many things, other than cinema, that occupy his attention. I didn't know that he is a voracious reader until we worked together. He is a travel freak just like I am. We had many common topics to talk about," she added.

The actor says that she yearns to do more projects in Kannada because of the comfort level she shares with the people here. "There's a sense of belonging. You don't feel lost," she adds.

Priya has a couple more offers up her sleeve from the Kannada industry and she adds that she's keen on doing more work here.

Nina C George

Photo of the week: Jungfrau mountains in Switzerland.



My family and I took a vacation to Jungfrau mountains in Switzerland last June. Aligned with Eiger and the Monch mountains, it is one of the most stunning Swiss mountain regions. I was instantly charmed by the snow-capped mountains while the weather is to die for.

PICTURE TAKEN BY
RUCHITA RAVINDRANATH

Here's a glimpse into history of the corset

In the world of fashion, corset is an iconic design with an incredible history to it. Not only is it worn by women but men love it as well. It can significantly change the appearance of the human body.

The term 'corset' was coined in the late 14th Century from the French word 'corset' meaning 'a kind of laced bodice; a stiff supporting and constricting undergarment for the waist, worn chiefly by women to shape the figure'.

Though the corset finds its origins in Italy, it was popularised by women of the French court as an undergarment. The corset flattened the bust pushing it up while making the waist appear smaller. To the women of the French court, it was 'indispensable to the beauty of the female figure'.

These corsets were typically made from layered fabric, stiffened with glue and tightly laced.

It gained popularity in 16th century in Europe and by the 18th century, it had evolved further to raise and shape the bust, support the back, tighten the midriff and help improve posture. Creating the V-shaped upper torso over which the outer garment would be worn.

But then things changed. Reformists from the Victorian era regarded corsets as a moral evil which made women promiscuous and superficial- a sign of moral indecency.

While previously accepted as a necessity for beauty, health was at stake as corsets were extremely tight laced. Often worn throughout the day, they were blamed for damaged and rearranged internal organs and compromised fertility.

Articles started to appear more frequently condemning the vanity and frivolity of women who would sacrifice their health for the sake of fashion.

Later in America, many people thought that women's fashion was the result of a male conspiracy to make women subservient by cultivating them in slave psychology.



Sheer corset with a organza skirt.



Runa Ray

They believed a change in fashion could change the whole position of women, allowing for greater social mobility, the ability to work for wages, as well as being comfortable.

This unleashed a number of movements like, 'Burn The Corset' and the 'Freedom Trash Can' where protesters symbolically threw girdles and corsets into a trash can, calling them instruments of female torture.

This provocative clothing with its history was cemented in modern pop culture in

Sheer Organza Corset with lace ups.



1990 when Madonna wore a Jean Paul Gaultier designed bra corset during her concert tour.

Today's corsets are the same but different. The same in its unique ability to flatter any body type, yet different.

As a designer, I have created corsets using eco-friendly fabrics like yarn infused with healing aloe vera. Corsets that are comfortable as they don't have to be tightly laced and corsets with embroidery are worn as an outer garment.

Runa Ray