

Arfi Lamba, who began his career with *Slumdog Millionaire*, is now shifting to commercial cinema with *Fugly*

# A heart's calling



ROLE CALL: ARFI LAMBA

## AMARJOT KAUR

Born and brought up in Moga, Arfi Lamba was pretty much like every other small town lad enamoured by Bollywood; he confesses that he would often trade his studies for a Madhuri Dixit movie! But he didn't quite start his Bollywood career with commercial cinema.

"Although I was heavily passionate about Bollywood and films, I was still juggling between my dreams and reality, which like every engineering student was to get a fancy job and start working," says Arfi, who studied engineering from Thapar University. It was only after he started working as an engineer that he realised what he truly wanted. In 2007, Arfi waved goodbye to the only stable job that he had as



FUN TIMES: A still from *Fugly*

an engineer in Delhi and moved to Mumbai. "Of course my parents were not happy with my decision, but my heart was into acting," he says. Arfi, coaxed by friends, got a photo shoot done, courtesy which he landed a small role in the film *Slumdog Millionaire*.

"That's where it all began; I had just moved to Mumbai in 2008 when Navleen Tandon, who was then the

casting director of the film, short-listed me for a small role," he says. This was only the beginning, for later he went to Cannes to represent his film, where he met Katharina Suckle, with whom he started a production company, Bombay Berlin Film Production (BBFP). "After playing the role of Chandan's alter ego in the film *Prague*, a movie by Ashish R Shukla and produced by Rohit Khai-

tan, I was tempted to do meaningful commercial film," shares Arfi.

Kabir Sadanand and Arfi had been friends for long, but not worked together till finally Kabir offered him the role of Aditya in *Fugly*. "I play the role of Aditya, who is one of the four friends in the film. I was tempted by the graph of the film, the role and the story plot. Also, though the film is a commercial one, it is meaningful cinema, without attempting to be preachy at all," says Arfi, revealing the reasons for choosing the film.

While talking about his future projects, Arfi shares that he will soon be producing a film titled *Loev* under his production banner and is also gearing up for the film, *The Pollutant*, which has been in the pipeline for long.

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