



## Phizzical actor makes Bollywood debut

### **Jhootha Hi Sahi**

Dir: Abbas Tyrewala

Cast: John Abraham, Pakhi, Raghu Ram, Omar Khan, Alishka Varde, George Young, Prashant Chawla, Manasi Scott, Anaitha Nair

Country: India, UK

Language: Hindi

Releases worldwide: 22 October 2010

Omar Khan, an actor and writer from Phizzical is making his Bollywood debut in next week's release Abbas Tyrewala's ***Jhootha Hi Sahi***. Starring John Abraham and with music from the Oscar winning AR Rahman, he plays a prominent part as John's friend Amit.

Omar is no stranger to the camera, he has been a host on Sony TV show *View Asia* for eight years. In 2004 he took part in Phizzical Productions talent development programme BollyIdol supported by BBC, and gained experience of performing live on stage in the Bollywood musical *Precious Bazaar*. With Phizzical Omar has the opportunity to tour nationally in the Bollywood musical *Precious Bazaar*, *Romeo+Laila* and *What You Fancy*.

Other plays he has acted in include *Wind in the Willows*, *The Tempest* and *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*. Last year, he worked in the BBC film *Seven Dials*. Besides acting, Omar has written four plays *Romeo+Laila*, *What You Fancy*, *Retailiation*, and *Beauty & The Beast*, and works as a successful voiceover artist

**Jhootha Hi Sahi** releases worldwide on 22 October 2010 and is about a suicidal woman's "final" call that mistakenly connects her to a man who gives her something to live for. The film, originally titled 1-800-Love was shot in Southwark and Mumbai. Omar who plays a gay character in the film works in a book shop with John Abraham. "*John was a great guy to work with, really supportive and I was never made to feel like a newcomer on the sets*". He was also involved with one of the dance numbers. Says Omar, "*It was a terrifying thought to have to dance as I have two left feet, but the choreographers were amazing at compensating for me*".

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#### Notes for editors:

1. Abbas Tyrewala is a writer, lyricist and director. He is the winner of 4 awards for Munnabhai MBBS and Maqbool. His last film *Jaane Tu... Ya Jaane Na* won 5 awards. He wrote the lyrics to the Kylie Minoque song "*Jiggy Wiggy with you*" that featured in the film *Blue*.
2. John Abraham paved his way into Bollywood with *Jism* (2003) after being one of the most successful male models in India. His first blockbuster smash hit came in 2004 when he played the anti-hero Kabir in *Dhoom*.
3. Inspired by William Shakespeare, Omar Khan wrote the *Romeo + Laila*, by fusing Romeo & Juliet Hashmet Shah's *Laila Majnu*, and *What You Fancy* based on *Twelfth Night*.
4. Phizzical Productions is a Leicester based dance-theatre company who run talent development programmes for emerging actors. The company has a distinct style that is influenced by Bollywood. *Precious Bazaar* was described as "*the new Bombay Dreams*" in *CineBlitz*, "*Sari's & Bling in the best of Bollywood screen style*" by *The Stage*, and "*the must-see Bollywood musical of the year*" by BBC.