

Akshay Kumar is *Family* for this Oshiwara singer

After *Khakee*, Arnab Chakraborty again lends his voice to the actor for the song *Qatra Qatra* in Rajkumar Santoshi's latest

DIVYA VERMA



Arnab Chakraborty got his first break with the film *Khakee*

YOU'VE heard *Vaada Raha* from *Khakee* and liked it. And now you must have started grooving to *Qatra Qatra* from the soon-to-be-released *Family*. If you are still wondering what the connection is, we have the answer. Both these songs, coincidentally filmed with Akshay Kumar, have been sung by Oshiwara resident Arnab Chakraborty.

Just two movies old, Arnab seems to have become Raj Kumar Santoshi's favourite, with the director giving him a break in *Khakee* and now asking him to be a part of *Family*. "I had sent my demo tapes to Ram Sampat, the music director for *Khakee*. He liked my voice and gave me one song, *Vaada Raha*," says Arnab, adding that his three songs — *Qatra Qatra*, *Janam Janam* and *Quick Byte*, are distinctly different from each other.

But this singer isn't only content with play-back singing. Arnab reveals that he is on a high these days because he is working on his solo music album. "It will have romantic to peppy numbers, something that everyone can enjoy and relate to. I hope to release the album soon," he says.

Coming back to his movies, Arnab says, "I have now recorded a song with Dabhu Malik and Nikhil-Vinay." He adds, that he has also sung in Assamese, Oriya, Bengali

and Telugu.

Originally from Kolkata, Arnab never thought of singing professionally. "When I was in school I used to participate in shows," says Arnab, adding that he started training formally only at the age of 19. "Only after coming to Mumbai did I take singing seriously. I am currently training under Gautam Mukherjee," he says.

Like most singers Arnab also started by singing for ad films and remixes. He says,

On Oshiwara

About the place "All the good theatres, restaurants, shopping malls are close. Even if you are feeling low, it puts you in high spirits."

Favourite restaurant
Mainland China
Favourite hangout
Inorbit mall
Favourite pastime
Watching movies

"*Pardesia* for HMV, *Ma Ya Na Mano* for Times Music, etc. I've also sung jingles for Airtel, Ponds, Samsung, 7Up and Siyarams."

Arnab concludes with an interesting story. "I w working with my father the family business when I felt that I should give singing a chance. I asked my father to give me five years in Mumbai otherwise I would return. Thankfully I haven't had to go back," he says.