

= Ranveer Singh =

Ranveer Singh Bhavnani (born 6 July 1985) is an Indian film actor who appears in Hindi films . After completing a bachelor 's degree from Indiana University , Bloomington , Singh returned to India to pursue a career in film . He made his acting debut in 2010 with a leading role in Yash Raj Films ' romantic comedy Band Baaja Baaraat . The film emerged as a critical and commercial success , earning Singh a Filmfare Award in the Best Male Debut category .

Singh went on to star in the romantic drama Lootera (2013) , Sanjay Leela Bhansali 's tragic romance Goliyon Ki Raasleela Ram @-@ Leela (2013) , his biggest commercial successes to that point , and in the action @-@ drama Gunday (2014) . In 2015 , he starred in the ensemble comedy @-@ drama Dil Dhadakne Do (2015) , and portrayed Bajirao I in the historical romance Bajirao Mastani , one of the highest @-@ grossing Bollywood films , for which he garnered critical acclaim and won the Filmfare Award for Best Actor .

= = Early life and background = =

Singh was born on 6 July 1985 into a Sindhi family to Anju and Jagjit Singh Bhavnani . His grandparents , Sunder Singh Bhavnani and Chand Burke , moved to Mumbai from Karachi , Sindh , during the Partition of India . He has an elder sister named Ritika Bhavnani . Singh is the maternal cousin of actress Sonam Kapoor and producer Rhea Kapoor , daughters of actor Anil Kapoor and wife Sunita Kapoor (née Bhavnani) . Singh explains that he dropped his surname Bhavnani , since he felt that the name would have been " too long , too many syllables " , thus downplaying his brand as a " saleable commodity " .

Singh always aspired to be an actor , participating in several school plays and debates . Once when he had gone for a birthday party , his grandmother asked him to dance and entertain her . Singh remembers that he suddenly jumped in the lawn and started dancing to the song " Chumma Chumma " from the 1991 action film , Hum . He felt the thrill of performing and was interested in acting and dancing . However , after he joined H.R. College of Commerce and Economics in Mumbai , Singh realised that getting a break in the film industry was not at all easy , as it was mostly people with a film background who got these opportunities . Feeling that the idea of acting was " too far @-@ fetched " , Singh focused on creative writing . He went to the United States where he received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Indiana University .

At university , he decided to take acting classes and took up theatre as his minor . After completing his studies and returning to Mumbai in 2007 , Singh worked for a few years in advertising as a copywriter , with agencies like O & M and J. Walter Thompson . He then worked as an assistant director , but left it to pursue acting . He decided to send his portfolio to directors . He would go for all kinds of auditions , but did not get any good opportunities , while only getting calls for minor roles : " Everything was so bleak . It was very frustrating . There were times I would think whether I was doing the right thing or not . "

= = Career = =

= = = Early work (2008 ? 11) = = =

In January 2010 , Singh was called for an audition by Shanoo Sharma , the head of the casting division for Yash Raj Films . They informed him that it was for a lead role in their film titled Band Baaja Baaraat , a romantic comedy set in the world of wedding planning . Aditya Chopra , the vice president of the company , later saw the audition tapes on video and was impressed by Singh 's acting , and decided that he fit the part of Bittoo Sharma , the hero of the film . However , the director Maneesh Sharma needed some more convincing and he was called for a few more auditions over the next two weeks until they were completely convinced of his caliber . After the two weeks of testing , Singh was confirmed for the role of Bittoo , with Anushka Sharma playing the

female lead .

Singh described the role of Bittoo Sharma as a typical Delhi boy . To prepare for the role , he spent time with students at the Delhi University campus . Prior to the release of the film , trade analysts were skeptical of the film 's commercial potential , citing the middling response to Yash Raj Films ' last few productions , the lack of a male star and the fact that the female lead , Anushka Sharma , was by then an " almost @-@ forgotten " actress . However , Band Baaja Baaraat went on to become a sleeper hit . Singh 's portrayal of Bittoo was praised , with Anupama Chopra of NDTV writing that Singh was " pitch perfect in the role of the uncouth but good @-@ hearted small town slacker who is a bit of a duffer when it comes to matters of the heart . The film earned approximately ? 214 million (US \$ 3 @.@ 2 million) at the domestic box office . At the 56th Filmfare Awards , Singh won the award for Best Male Debut .

Following Band Baaja Baarat , Singh signed on for Ladies vs Ricky Bahl , a romantic comedy produced by Chopra and directed by Maneesh Sharma . He played a conman Ricky Bahl who cons girls for a living but finally meets his match . The film co @-@ starred Anushka Sharma , Parineeti Chopra , Dipannita Sharma and Aditi Sharma . According to Singh , the title character had various avatars in the film , including a chirpy , entertaining side and a sinister side . Nikhat Kazmi of The Times of India wrote , " Ranveer is , well Ranveer : your average Joe kind of hero who looks convincing enough as Sunny , Deven , Iqbal , Ricky , his sundry avatars . " Commercially , Ladies vs Ricky Bahl earned ? 370 million (US \$ 5 @.@ 5 million) domestically .

= = = Success (2013 ? present) = = =

Singh 's next release was Lootera (2013) , a period romance , written and directed by Vikramaditya Motwane , and co @-@ starring Sonakshi Sinha . An adaptation of O. Henry 's short story The Last Leaf , Lootera was critically acclaimed . Rajeev Masand of CNN @-@ IBN wrote that Singh " brings a quiet sensitivity to Varun , and occasionally a smoldering intensity . Offering a finely internalized performance , he leaves a lasting impression . " However , Lootera performed poorly at the box office .

Singh next starred opposite Deepika Padukone in Sanjay Leela Bhansali 's adaptation of William Shakespeare 's Romeo and Juliet , entitled Goliyon Ki Raasleela Ram @-@ Leela , in which he played Ram , a Gujarati boy based on the character of Romeo . Bhansali was impressed by Singh 's performance in Band Baaja Baaraat and decided to cast him for the film . Goliyon Ki Raasleela Ram @-@ Leela generated positive reviews from critics , as did Singh 's performance . Writing for India Today , Rohit Khilnani commented that " Singh has everything going for him here . His Bollywood hero entry scene lying down on a bike in the song ' Tattad Tattad ' is outstanding . He learnt a new language to better his performance for the character Ram and it paid off . In his fourth film he has the presence of a star . " The film emerged as Singh 's biggest commercial success , with worldwide revenues of ? 2 @.@ 02 billion (US \$ 30 million) . For his portrayal , he received several recognitions , including a Best Actor nomination at Filmfare .

In 2014 , Singh starred as a Bengali criminal in Ali Abbas Zafar 's Gunday , alongside Arjun Kapoor , Priyanka Chopra and Irrfan Khan . David Chute of Variety praised Singh 's screen presence and wrote that he " tucks the movie 's center of interest under his arm and takes it with him ? even though he has the could @-@ be @-@ thankless " good brother " role " . Also , Singh 's chemistry with Kapoor was considered by critic Rohit Khilnani to be the prime asset of the film . Gunday proved to be Singh 's biggest box office opener , and eventually emerged a box @-@ office success with a revenue of ? 1 billion (US \$ 15 million) worldwide . After a cameo appearance in Finding Fanny , Singh starred as a gangster in Shaad Ali 's unsuccessful crime drama Kill Dil opposite Parineeti Chopra and Ali Zafar and received negative reviews .

In Zoya Akhtar 's ensemble comedy @-@ drama Dil Dhadakne Do (2015) , Singh starred with Anil Kapoor , Shefali Shah and Priyanka Chopra as the younger sibling of a dysfunctional Punjabi family . Writing for Mumbai Mirror , critic Kunal Guha found Singh to be the " surprise element " of the film ; he praised his " immaculate comic timing " and particularly noted on the subtlety of his performance . The film further was an economic success , grossing ? 1 @.@ 47 billion (US \$ 22 million)

worldwide within seventeen days of release . Singh next reunited with Sanjay Leela Bhansali for the epic romance Bajirao Mastani (2015) opposite Deepika Padukone and Priyanka Chopra . He portrayed Bajirao I , for which he shaved his head and locked himself up in a hotel room for 21 days . Raja Sen in his review mentioned : " Ranveer Singh brings his character to life and does so with both machismo and grace , his Peshwa Bajirao slicing down soldiers like a lehnga @-@ clad golfer wielding a too @-@ sharp niblick . The film was a box @-@ office success and Singh won the Filmfare Award for Best Actor .

As of July 2016 , Singh has completed work on Aditya Chopra 's romance Befikre in Paris , opposite Vaani Kapoor . In addition , he has committed to star in Sanjay Leela Bhansali 's Padmavati , a film based on Rani Padmavati , along with Deepika Padukone and an untitled Rohit Shetty film , co @-@ starring Tamannaah .

= = Filmography and awards = =

= = = Filmography = = =

= = = Awards and nominations = = =

Singh is the recipient of two Filmfare Awards : Best Male Debut for Band Baaja Baaraat (2010) and Best Actor for Bajirao Mastani (2016) . He has received an additional Best Actor nomination at the ceremony for Goliyon Ki Raasleela Ram @-@ Leela (2013) .