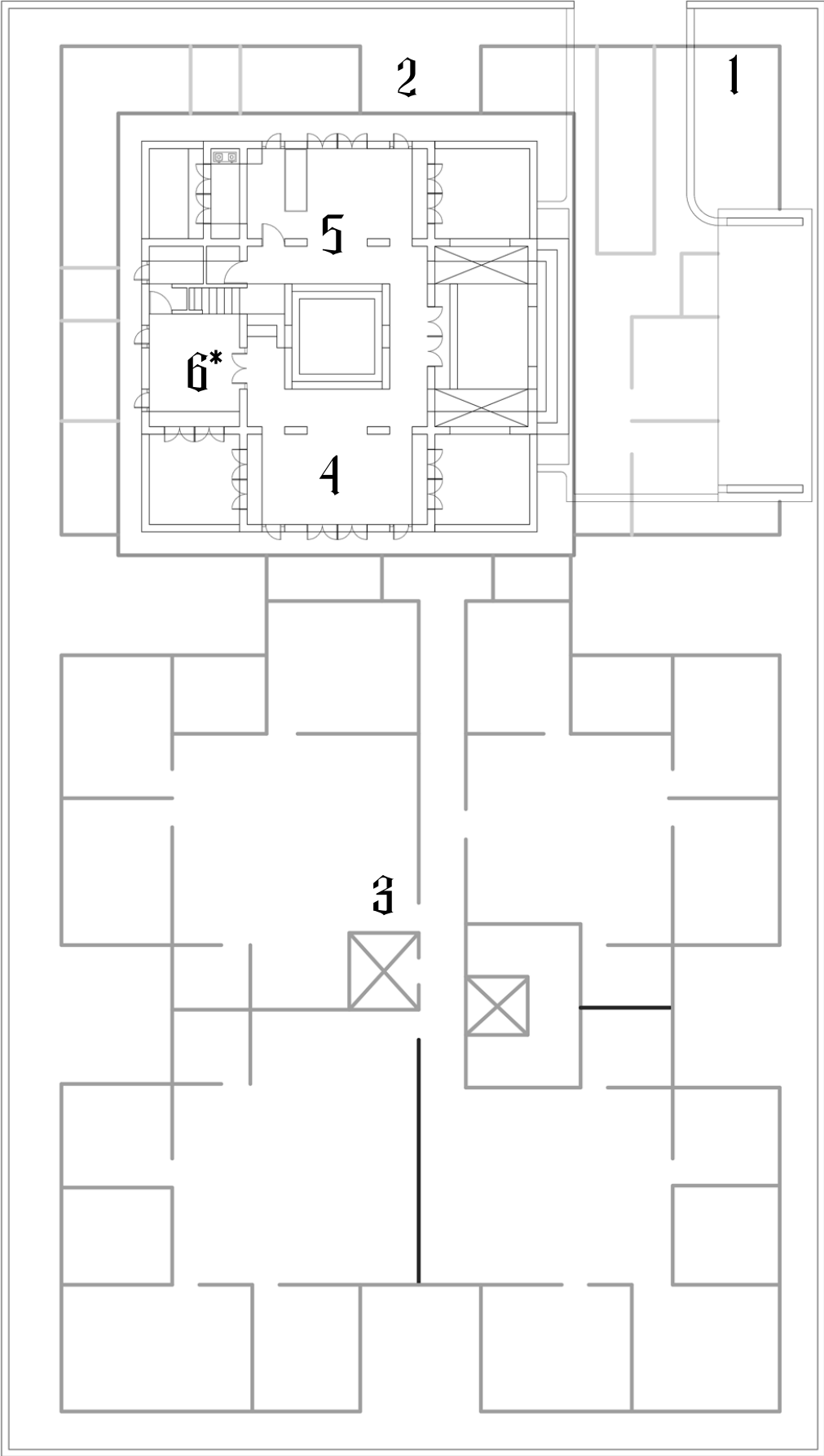


FAYDABAD FOR SALE
5th FEBRUARY 2023, 3PM



OMAR A. CHOWDHURY
KE BA KAHARA

Faydabad For Sale
Performance
5th February 2023, 3–4:30pm
Rouf’s Villa, Faydabad, Dakshin Khan
Uttara, Dhaka, Bangladesh

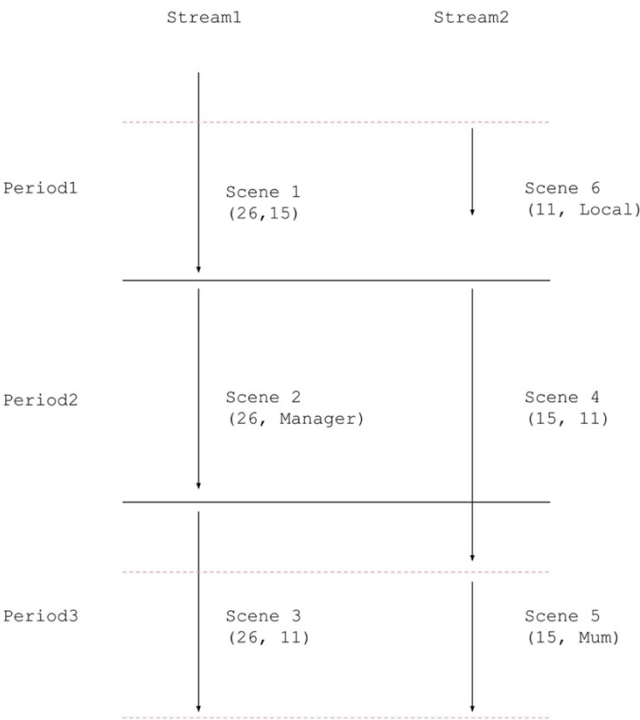
Commissioner and Curator
Ke ba kahara Curatorial Collective

Organisers
Sadia Rahman
Omar A. Chowdhury
Muhammed Anwar Hossain

Performers
Metal: Mihad Ibne Alam
15: Tristan Haque
26: Rakib Hossain Evon
11: Satej Chowdhury
Local: Md. Abdul Kadir
Nabil Shahidi
Samiul Sabbir Islam
Mother and Manager:
Kazi Roksana Ruma

Thanks to
Marina Tabassum
Khaled Mahmud
Helena Kritis
Tanya and family
Mayer Doa Construction
Md. Abdullah Sheikh
Nokta
Harez Bhai
Babul Bhai
Johir Bhai
Nayan Bhai
Kateryna Don
Seth Pandu Blumberg
Rashed Chowdhury
Diana Campbell Betancourt

kebakahara.com/faydabad
omarchowdhury.com



TRANSLATION

1. 26 AND 15

METAL

26

The new prints? You're late. BRTC?

15

There were problems at the Rail Gate. Why am I here? There's a mistake there.

26

Bilal bhai and you compiled new prices. I couldn't understand files. And they've been driving me crazy.

15

What do the clients want? A second one above?

26

The wife's mother may live with them. Husband says 'no,' the wife says 'yes.' The wife is going to win.

15

Okay, but that's either one or two non-load bearing walls, a staircase. Why did you need me?

26

They have other changes ... reorder these. Add the new ones and remove the old ones. ... Where's the mistake?

METAL

15

When did they put all that up? When are they demolishing?

26

Everyone is feeling guilty about the building. You sell something, you sell it. A couple of days ago.

15

We came here when I was at university. This and the mosque.

26

No one has lived here in fifteen years. What does that tell you?

15

Nothing.

26

Let's get on with it. Order those quickly.

2. 26 AND MANAGER

26

Salaimalikum Bhai.

MANAGER

... Hello, ... hello?

26

Hello? The network is terrible here.

MANAGER

Okay quickly, did she bring them?

26

Yes I have them. They aren't that different.

MANAGER

Okay so what's your strategy?

26

They're going to go for it. I'll sell them the basics, one or two walls ...

MANAGER

Use the finishing, piping and electrical costs. You can pad there.

26

I've mentioned that. I'm padding 20-25% on those. But really if we can do the one above, the stairs, that's about 7-8 lakh extra right there.

MANAGER

But you'll lose on the positioning ...

26

No. Plenty of families here with 30-40, the light's not an issue. I've been quoting up 10-15% and we're still over-subscribed. Latest file is on Google Docs.

MANAGER

I've seen it. Still, if you can't get the money for the top floor then ...

26

Then I'll steer them away from that option. I think I can get it, they're ripe. But he's going to want to speak to you.

MANAGER

Not today. Make him wait a little longer.

26

So I just put him through to Dipti ...

MANAGER

You're sure they're ready?

26

This is our fourth meeting, they were absolutely ready to sign for this south-west one.

MANAGER

Okay, tell him that I'm waiting for his call. I'll call him back tomorrow. Let's see. Okay, push hard

26

Yes brother. God willing.

3. 26 PRACTISES

METAL

26

The thing with this property ... This building is unlike anything else in this area. You can say that it's the first semi-luxury development ... semi lux-u-ry development. But you already know that ...

26

11! ... 11! You said you had some chairs?

26

15 is with us today to show you all of the options that are customisable with the building. It's what we're known ... this flexibility (writes) is what we are known for in the industry. Of course, all of the options are clearly costed and when we tell you a price then that's the price. Fixed price as they say! (*laughs*) No.

26

We're going to need another two.

11

Sir we only have these two ...

26

Don't you have stools?

26

There are two option that we've talked about. Right? There are two feasible options for the extensions, as you know. No! The first feasible option is Flat 5C (*points at Flat 5C Outline*) it's a smaller ... It's a more modest footage. More modest floor space.

26

Could you please lay out the chairs and stools nicely?

11

Bhai, did you speak to the bosses?

26

It's still uncertain. But in May or June for sure.

11

Ah, so no change. Remember you said ...

26

I did speak to them, it's a big thing. In any case, please let me prepare a bit before the clients come. Let's speak afterwards.

11

Yes. Okay.

METAL

26

Ah yes, Mr Ashraf, hello? Yes, I'm here. Where are you? Ah yes that's it. But you have to turn into the little lane ... yes, yes. Okay we're coming to the gate. It's only 40 metres. Yes, Salamalikum.

15! 15! Clients are here! Come on.

METAL

4. 15 AND 11

METAL

11

Maam, do you need a chair?

15

No, I'm okay.

11

You came here that other time, right?

15

Actually, I've come a number of times, your wife was here. Where is she?

11

She's gone to drop the kid off at school. Then she'll get her piecework. You've always come in the morning, right? I have to have my tea you know? Catchup a little with friends. Otherwise I'm always here.

15

She said that you've been here for three years.

11

She's been here for three years. It's five for me. I was here alone. Before that I was in our village.

15

Where?

11

Our village is Naogaon, the other side of the river. When they did the fly-over we got some money. It's in the bank, and I get interest, and with this salary, and my wife sews.

15

Right ...

11

Okay, I'll put out this out in the sun.

15

Wait ... how did you come here?

11

No! I mean Marina Apa ...

15

... Oh, Marina Tabassum. She hired you?

11

No. Khaled bhai hired me, but the truth is I'm related to Marina Apa. Very close. My mother used to work for them in their house.

15

This house?

No, in the village. But this house, it's beautiful right? They used to come all together. Long time ago. But uncle and the auntie got so sick so quickly ... excuse me.

METAL

15

Listen. Do you like this house?

11

It's won many big awards. And people from all over the world come to see it. From London, and Switzerland. Everyone loves it.

15

... It feels very strange to me. Then you're unhappy that we're going to tear it down?

11

Yes, because I'll lose my job! But there are many families who could then live here. I think the new home will be very beautiful. ... And my brother has a store, you know the one on the corner when you enter? Did you see it?

15

Yes.

11

It's good for business, for the area. I wish there was some way to save it. You can't just move it. ... Although I saw on TV in, maybe America, they were moving a whole house on the back of a truck. They should do that ...

11

Okay I better see to these chairs.

METAL

5. 15 AND MOTHER

METAL

15

Yes, ma.

MOTHER

Where are you?

15

I told you that I was near Uttara today.

MOTHER

How did you get there?

15

I took a moto-taxi. On Uber.

MOTHER

Oh. And when will you be home? We're making pilau rice tonight. ... Did you hear from your father?

15

I told you last night I might be late. And no I haven't spoken to him. Why?

MOTHER

No, no. I just thought he would ...

15

Mum I have to go, we're just preparing for some clients to come and I have to be ready.

MOTHER

Who's there with you.

15

Just a salesperson.

MOTHER

Is it that 26? I thought you wouldn't work with him. Why is he there?

15

Everyone's at the Sylhet site. It's fine. It's professional. There're are other people here. Look ...

MOTHER

Look, there's a letter for you ... from the university. Switzerland.

15

Oh. ... What does it say?

MOTHER

It says that they're confirming your acceptance.

15

Oh?

MOTHER

I thought we were all talking about it still. Why did you go behind our backs like this? Your decision ...

15

They don't wait so long. There's a line of people. I'm lucky to get it with my results.

MOTHER

And the visa?

15

I might not get it. Raisa was rejected again. ... Dad?

MOTHER

He opened it. I told him not to.

15

Oof! I have to go.

MOTHER

This is making me sick. Your brother overseas, and your Aunt and Uncle, this tragedy. Is this the right time sweetheart? Covid isn't done. Defer this year.

15

Mum, ... you can't defer!

MOTHER

You're lying. ... And what about your friend?

15

What about them? They haven't called me in two weeks. I've got to get my things from their house. It's a mess. Beyond. They are so insecure. I texted ...

MOTHER

Is this new behaviour? You're just letting everything go. But where are you going to go?

15

I don't know.

MOTHER

Have you thought about something more permanent?

15

Mum!! I'm going to hang up now. I'll talk to you tonight.

MOTHER

Wait. Wait ...

Okay. Tell me a bit about the building ...

15

I don't have time. They're waiting. The house ... Please talk to dad and make him understand.

MOTHER

Okay, but you know ...

15

Ma, someone's calling me.

MOTHER

Okay, leave it.

OTHER

... Hello? ...

METAL

15

... Where are you?

OTHER

I'm in Rajshahi, with ... hiss ... are you there?

15

You're in Rajshahi? All this is happening and for two weeks you're in Rajshahi. You're not here.

OTHER

I'm at my auntie's ... hiss ... why? Have you decided?

15

... Yes, I've decided.

METAL

6. EXT. 11 AND LOCAL

LOCAL

11, brother! ... Hey, 11.

11

You've come?

LOCAL

Forgot the beans. They're here huh? When will you have to leave?

11

May. Anyway, nothing to be done about it.

LOCAL

When did they do all this?

11

They started three days ago.

LOCAL

Like a shroud. Are you here?

11

I'm going to Tongi. She went to look for work. ...
Listen, are you looking for a place for us?

LOCAL

When will they move you?

11

I just said, the month of May.

LOCAL

Okay. Right I'm going. ... Hey where's his van?

11

At the Rail Gate.

WORKS

1. Billboard 2023, 8' x 4' x 1.5", Vinyl print, PVC board, Steel
2. Shroud 2023, 50' x 50' x 22', Hessian, mild steel, black dye, bricks
3. Outline 2023, 149' x 79' x 14", Nylon webbing, Bamboo stakes, Nails
4. Removal 2021-23, Variable dimensions, removal of electrical items, removal of electricity, alteration of cleaning schedule
5. Faydabad To-Let Documentation 2021, 21m52s, 1080p, H.264 (ProRes), colour, stereo, *upstairs
6. Translation FFS 2023, 30m50s, 1080p, H.264 (ProRes), colour, stereo, subtitled in English