



Arjun Kapoor & Kareena Kapoor at The Palace Downtown Dubai. Courtesy The Palace Downtown Dubai

Kareena Kapoor Khan and Arjun Kapoor wrap up shooting Bollywood romcom Ki and Ka in Dubai

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Kareena Kapoor Khan and Arjun Kapoor spoke about their upcoming Bollywood romcom *Ki and Ka* after filming wrapped in Dubai this week.

With a linguistic play on gender roles hinted at in the title, audiences can expect a light-hearted comedy about a married working couple.

A wrap was called by director R Balki on Tuesday (October 20), after the final scenes were put to celluloid during a three-day stint shooting in Dubai.

Among the locations utilised were The Dubai Mall, where Kareena caused a stir, despite hopes to keep the shoot on the low down.

“People knew we were shooting because every single person from the subcontinent was following Kareena in her buggy,” joked co-star Arjun.

“Dubai loves Hindi movies,” added Kareena. “The Indian community and Pakistanis, they all love Hindi movies because of the song and dance, the colour — they’re crazy about them.”

While Arjun may not have attracted quite the mania of his co-star, he did have an interesting encounter with immigration at the Dubai International Airport.

“The immigration officer recognised me and said ‘I saw you in Gunday’,” laughed the 30-year-old star.

“I was a little scared — he didn’t say if he liked me in it or not.”

One of the more memorable scenes is likely to involve The Dubai Fountain, where an epic five-hour shoot took place.

“I think the actors were acting to the fountains,” said director Balki. “It’s one of the most iconic places in Dubai and I think we used them more than any other film shot here.”

Set for release next year, the cast were giving little away. The brief press conference was held at The Palace Downtown, which is understood to also feature heavily in the film.

“It’s very early to discuss the details,” said Arjun coyly. “It’s great to add speculation because it always leaves us surprised when we go to the cinema.

“One thing I can say is that there are relatable characters that we all see, things that have happened to us, that happen to every couple.”

Despite speculation Anushka Sharma was originally approached for the role, Kareena Kapoor — who celebrated her third wedding anniversary to Saif Ali Khan during the shoot — said the opportunity to play one-half of a couple was now the “perfect role” for her.

“It’s so exciting,” she enthuses. “When R Balki offered me the role it was right time, the perfect point in my career to do something like this.”

While the film will explore the dynamic of a working couple, director Balki insisted that this should be seen as the backdrop, rather than the point, of the film.

“Ki and Ka is not about working men or working women, or about ambitious men or women either — it’s a gender-neutral film,” he said.

“We are trying to say that genders don’t matter.”

Following such a statement of gender equality, it was perhaps inevitable that Kareena would face questions about the alleged income disparity between male and female stars in Bollywood.

“I’m pretty happy and very comfortable with what I take home,” insisted the 35-year-old actress. “I don’t think I could ask for more.”

Ki and Ka marks Arjun’s seventh role, but she describes the Dubai shoot as a memorable experience.

“It’s the first time I’ve gone outside India to shoot a film,” he said.

“So Dubai will always have a special place in my heart.”

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