

Gulf Weekly

The community newspaper at the heart of Bahrain

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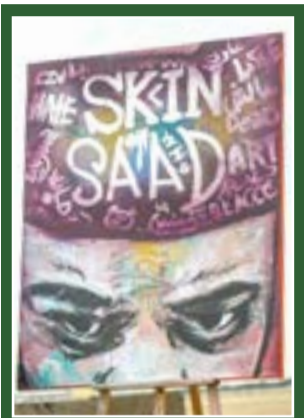
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MAVERICK: Shaikh Hassan



BALLAD: The cover for the new single



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Fun and dining
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PULSE OF POP
Movies, music and more
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GOLDEN GIRL
Yavi leads the way
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EXPLORING escapism and emotional evolution, Bahraini musical maverick Shaikh Hassan bin Rashid Al Khalifa is reaching back through the decades to produce songs for his younger self.

Last weekend, the 48-year-old bard dropped his newest single titled *Nothing to Die For* in the ramp up to his EP, *Outer Space*, set to be released later this month.

"*Nothing to Die For* has one of the first verses I had ever written, more than two decades ago, and it was sort of the first song that I had put together," he told *GulfWeekly*, during an interview from New Zealand, where he is currently on vacation



MUSIC REPORT
By NAMAN ARORA
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with family.

"In recent years, I have been jamming and digging up some of my old music, and when I found the first verse, the second one quickly came together.

"It felt like I was producing for my 20-something year-old self, as I recorded probably my oldest tune."

The four-minute electric pop breakup ballad already has more than 30,000 streams on *Spotify*, and Shaikh Hassan's recent songs have garnered more than half-a-million streams online.

In the two decades between the two verses of his latest tuneful tryst, the illustrious Shaikh Hassan grew, got



CELESTIAL: The cover for *Outer Space*

married and in many ways, completed his journey from a young singer-songwriter to a mature musician.

The single will be one of five tracks on his upcoming EP, which is scheduled to land on August 23.

The other tracks on the EP will be *Barcoded*, *Outer Space*, *Maneuvers* and *Rooftops*.

"*The Outer Space* EP is

the follow-up to *21 Grams*, my last album, and it's a combination of tunes I have written over the decades," the artist explained.

"They all, in a way, deal with escapism, hence *Outer Space*, and coming out of Covid-19, this feeling is what the title track is based on.

"With a team scattered across the Middle East, this EP was a challenge to record and finalise, but I am so glad to have it all come together."

Recorded with Bull Funk Zoo and during sessions at MNK Studios in Dubai, the new EP is one of six that the musician has planned over the next phase of his career.

Since his wilder days in the late nineties and aughts, the enigmatic troubadour has returned to the studio

with more seasoned ears and years fuelling his passion.

And all that, when he is not busy in his professional role as the chairman of Al Rashid Group, which operates a slew of well-known brands across the kingdom.

He is quick to credit his wife Joanne Al Hashimi for playing a huge role in him returning to the studio.

"She was brutally honest about my music and about it not hitting the mark, while others were like 'Yeah man, it's cool'," he explained.

"And with her support, I had a lot of time to be with myself and focus on family, business, music and horses. She's a really special person."

For more details, follow @hassanbinrashidmusic on Instagram.



David

COMMUNITY REPORT
By MELISSA NAZARETH
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Brick by brick



The broader vision is to create an ongoing product line that would support not only local non-profit organisations but government organisations as well.

STRAY LOVE: The 'Canine' creation for BARC

An engineer in love with building blocks has created a platform with an aim to educate members of the public and build more support for charitable causes in the kingdom.

David Robinson founded Bahrain Bricks - a locally-based non-profit company which creates educational products including building blocks - along with his former co-worker and now business partner Eugene Hart in 2022.

Some of their latest creations include fun-to-assemble kits of the iCHECK mobile application logo of Think Pink: Bahrain Breast Cancer Society, and canine-themed kits representing Bahrain Animal Rescue Centre (BARC). Proceeds from the sale of the kits are donated to the organisations.

Bahrain Bricks is also collaborating on fund-raising campaigns with both charities for breast cancer awareness, education and research and finding homes for the strays at the shelter respectively.

The company was established only two years ago, but David's fascination for blocks began at a young age.

"When I was eight years old, I had my first experience with Legos. But as I got older, they became a thing of the past. Then I had kids, and of course I had to buy them Legos," the 52-year-old told *GulfWeekly*.

"Every time I would come home from a trip, I would bring them a new set. We would sit down and put them together for hours at a time. Then as they got older, Legos became a part of the past, once again.

"Then in 2019, I moved

to Bahrain. It was around the time Covid-19 struck and I saw that Lego had come out with the 1:8 scale Porsche, Bugatti and Lamborghini. Well, one car turned into three in just a matter of days. Then it happened. I looked at the cars that I had finished, and started seeing ways I could make them better. So I jumped online and started ordering items that I could use to make them better. But then I thought: Why make them better when I could make my own."

After gathering numerous models in his personal collection, David came up with the idea of launching his own company.

"I consulted with Eugene and together we decided to start Bahrain Bricks," he said.

"The initial concept was to produce items utilising building blocks to create kits that would relate to Bahrain's traditional and social values. It allows us to be able to give back to the Bahrain community."

However, Bahrain Bricks' vision has evolved since then and what began as an educational platform has now grown to

include broader goals with a benevolent, communal angle.

"The short-term vision is to create products that will help support local government and non-profit organisations," David, who lives with his wife Ester in Juffair, explained.

"The mid-vision is to create an iconic park with sculptures that represent Bahrain's historic features, to include a scaled map of Bahrain.

"The broader vision is to create an ongoing product line that would support not only local non-profit organisations but government organisations as well. By doing this, it would allow us the capability to open our own manufacturing facility where we would hire mentally and physically challenged personnel to help with the production part of the business."

Bahrain Bricks is currently working on an idea to collaborate with Bahrain National Museum to create educational kits that not only represent the kingdom's history but also teaches people about the country's rich heritage.

"This in turn can be used to bring the museum to classrooms across Bahrain," David added.

For more details or to support the campaigns, visit bahrainbricks.org



SURVIVOR: A magnet creation for Think Pink



Speak your mind!

GulfWeekly has launched its latest 'Speak Your Mind' feature where we invite you, our family of readers, to share your concerns and challenges on a chosen subject with our panel of mental health experts who will respond to a selection of them. Together, let's get the conversation started! August's topic is: 'Back to school - The challenges of making the transition from play to work.' Some points to ponder over:

- Dealing with anxiety from resuming a new

school term

- Coping with increased school work on moving to a higher grade
- Making new friends in a new classroom

Share your thoughts in no more than 100 words on gdnnews@gdnmedia.bh or @gdnonline on Instagram by August 15. We will publish a selection of the comments received in *GulfWeekly* and one 'star entry' will be awarded a box of Raw Candy vegan chocolates as a 'thank you' gift.

*Congratulations to our July winner Fatima Abrar!

Carrying the torch

ART REPORT
By RIMA ALHADDAD
rima@gdnmedia.bh

BAHRAINI street artist Isa Mansoor is set to stage his first solo exhibition, entitled *The yellow series* next month, which focuses on mental health.

The showcase is an emotional tribute to his late artist friend, Maryam, and will feature never-seen-before paintings, new ideas and experimental works, all embodying the spirit of the theme.

“There’s not enough words to express my appreciation for Maryam. She was one of my first supporters, giving me a chance to be a part of her community, always a helping hand and a genius,” the 26-year-old told *GulfWeekly*.

“She had this series that she never got to finish, so I decided to continue for her,” he added, highlighting that his upcoming display embodies the theme that his late friend was working on.

The collection comprises pieces that have been created using mixed media, for the most part, with the colour yellow being one of the prominent hues.

“It’s mostly about fighting depression and getting through darkness,” he said.

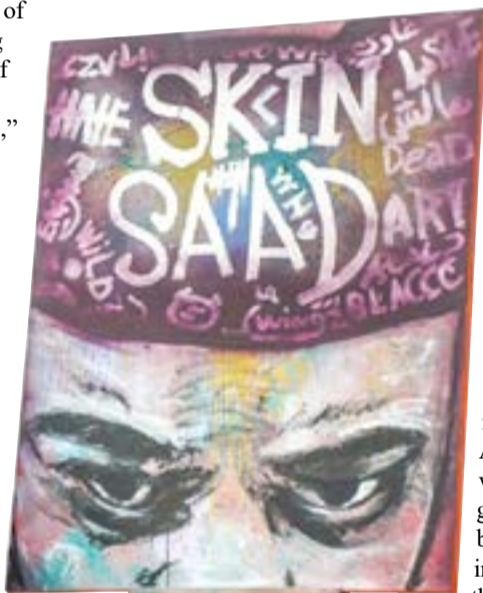
“Yellow tends to be the bright side of things, as well as a colour of depression, it depends on how you want to see it. It’s more through research and my use of yellow and purple together, it gives that feel. It can be more of a perspective thing as well, depending on how different people perceive it. So, I took this idea and hopefully it shows in my paintings,” the creative said, adding that he has used acrylics, spray paints and anything he could to achieve the desired effect.

Isa has been interested in art since childhood but became an active member of the local art community at the end of his architecture studies.

“I was the child that was constantly drawing and not paying attention in class, but I didn’t discover the art



MEANINGFUL: Isa’s painting *Beauty standards*

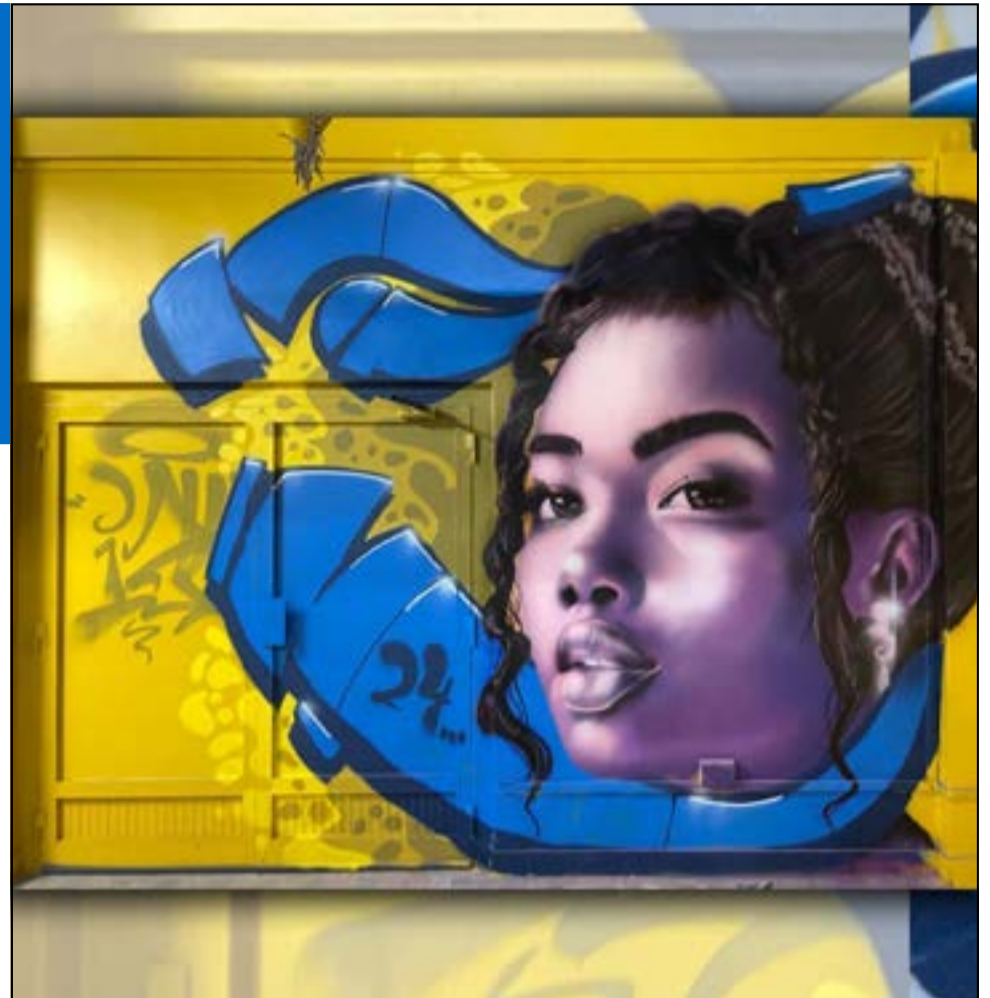


ARTISTIC: Isa’s painting *Head scratch* industry until I started going to galleries and meeting other artists, which led to me becoming involved in artist groups and events,” the Riffa resident said.

Speaking of his foray into street art, the Kingdom University graduate credits his fellow artist and collaborator Aref Mohammed, also known as Ayfu, for introducing him to the style.

“He got me in a group he was forming in 2020, called the Art Attack Krew. It started with him wanting to gather a graffiti group, but now it’s become involved in everything that’s art. I thank the group, even though

I’m not currently involved in it, for getting me to where I am now. We made so many exhibitions and collaborations with different kinds of organisations,” he noted. Isa emphasised the



EYE-CATCHING: A mural by Isa at Funland bowling alley

importance of community, which he believes helped fuel his passion and motivate him to continue pursuing art.

“When I see other people in the community doing stuff, I feel motivated to do something as well, it’s like we feed off each other’s energy, and the community itself is currently small, so it’s easy to stay in touch and collaborate.”

The painter loves to use his talent and skill to portray human emotions and stories that resonate with him. His work also tends to reflect whatever is capturing his interest at the time of creating the art.

“I love to learn and discover new things, and portray what I learn in my paintings. For example, I got into calligraphy and abstract art, so I involved them in my paintings, so my style is always developing and evolving. You can say that

every era of my work reflects what I was into at the time of making it.

“During my architectural course, I got to study design elements and principles, as well as 3D and perspective, which I’ve always been fond of, hence my style tends to be boxy or three-dimensional,” the professional architect added.

While he is known for his spray painted murals, Isa also enjoys working on canvases and creating T-shirt designs in his signature graffiti style.

“As much as I enjoy architecture, I don’t prefer it over being an artist. I hope to make enough money

from my art, so I can quit architecture,” he said.

The artist emphasised that creatives like him deserve more appreciation as, he believes, it’s not only about their skill and hard work, but also about pouring their heart and soul into their creations.

“When I’m giving you a piece, I’m not just giving you something that I’m doing in a couple of hours. I’m giving you a full-time experience, which I think should be appreciated,” he added.

The exhibition venue and exact dates will be announced soon.

For more details, follow @elsees.art3 on Instagram.



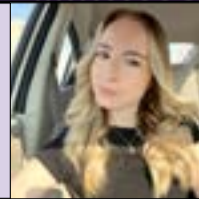
CREATIVE: Isa with his artworks



BOLD: Isa holding his designed merchandise

Leisure Scene

What's on guide by
Julia Cassano



JOIN the Ritz-Carlton, Bahrain for a spectacular weekend filled with delicious food and endless fun.

Don't miss out on the Paris 2024 Olympics which will be shown live at La Plage, alongside mouth-watering food and refreshing drinks, as per the game schedule.

Guests can also step into the exotic Burlington Club tonight to experience the allure of 'Noche de Ritmo' (Night of Rhythm), a captivating evening that will feature mysterious rhythms, timeless melodies and exotic flavours. It will be held from 7pm to 11pm.

Visitors can also delight in an endless array of sushi at Thai Lounge's All You Can Eat Maki. Futomaki and Hosomaki rolls, ranging from crispy tempura prawn to flavourful spicy salmon and more, will have your tastebuds dancing with joy. Dig into the delicacies for BD18,500. The feast will be

OPULENT DINING AT RITZ



LUXURY: Burlington Club

available from Sunday to Wednesday, 6pm to midnight, and Thursday

to Saturday 10am to midnight. The offer ends on

September 30. For more information and reservation, call

17586499 or email rc.bahrz.restaurant.reservations@ritzcarlton.m.

SUMMER FUN AT FOUR SEASONS

TREAT yourself to a delightful weekend filled with unique dining events at the Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay.

Unwind this summer at the hotel's luxurious spa, one-of-a-kind restaurants and more. Bahrain residents receive a 20 per cent discount on room rates and exclusive savings on dining.

Pamper yourself and a loved one with the hotel's Celebration Spa Package. Begin with a soothing aromatherapy massage and be treated to a mocktail along with cake or a healthy treat.

It's available everyday from 10am to 10pm and

costs BD90 for 60 minutes, Sunday to Wednesday, and BD95 from Thursday to Saturday. For 90 minutes, it costs BD110 from Sunday to Wednesday and BD115 from Thursday to Saturday.

Bay View Lounge offers guests an array of refreshing gourmet delicacies, as well as a delectable fusion of espresso and ice cream everyday, from 11am to 11.30pm. It costs BD7,500 per plate.

The hotel lounge also treats guests to an exciting Around the World Tea, which features exclusive sandwiches and sweets, everyday, noon to 9pm. It costs BD18 per person, inclusive of a Brazilian coffee or Asian tea, and BD22 with sparkling jasmine tea.

Meanwhile, guests can dig into innovative delights at re/Asian Cuisine on Tuesday, Saturday and Sunday, from 7pm to 11pm, and on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 7pm to 11.30pm.



FUN: Staycation at Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay

It's priced a la carte.

Food lovers can visit CUT by Wolfgang Puck and experience executive chef Brian Becher's creations such as black bass ceviche, chicken tikka, apple tart and French toast. It's available tomorrow, from 12.30pm to 4pm.

Don't miss out on the hotel's Full Moon Yoga on August 19. It costs BD6 for hotel guests and members and BD12 for other visitors.

For more information or bookings, contact 17115500 or 171145044.

SWEET:
Treats
at RGC



SWEET SLICE OF LIFE

GATHER your family and friends for a one-of-a-kind culinary experience at the Royal Golf Club (RGC).

Links Steak Night offers the highest quality steaks, all cooked to perfection. Dig into the delightful feast every Wednesday from 6pm. It's priced a la carte.

Guests can also satisfy their sweet tooth cravings with the club's decadent cakes and desserts. Order your cake today at 32184647. All orders must be placed 24 hours in advance.

For the ultimate summer experience, choose RGC's epic Summer Camp which has everything from sports to dance and kindergarten

activities. Even more, PGA (Professional Golfers' Association) athletes will give youngsters the opportunity to learn new skills.

The camp will be held on Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday, 9.30am to 1pm, and costs BD25 per day or BD60 per week.

Add-ons are offered, including a one-hour golfing session with a PGA-certified coach for BD8 (one hour a week) or BD32 per month.

To register, call 33001261 or 17750777.

Special discounts are available for RGC members as well as Riffa Views residents.

For more information or bookings, contact 39007546.

MOVIE TIME

GET together with your family and friends and check out the latest English language movies being shown at CINECO Seef this weekend.

DEADPOOL AND WOLVERINE (15+)

Wolverine is recovering from his injuries when he crosses paths with the loudmouth Deadpool. They team up to defeat a common enemy.

Actors: Ryan Reynolds, Hugh Jackman, Emma Corrin

Timings: 1.30pm, 6.30pm, 11.30pm

CHIEF OF STATION (15+)

After learning that the death of his wife was not an accident, a former CIA station chief (Aaron Exkhart) is forced back into the espionage underworld, teaming up with his protégé (Alex Pettyfer) and a rogue agent (Olga Kurylenko).

Actors: Aaron Exkhart, Alex Pettyfer, Olga Kurylenko

Timings: 12.30pm, 5pm, 9.30pm

HAROLD AND THE PURPLE CRAYON (PG-13)

Inside of his book, adventurous Harold can make anything come to life simply by drawing it. After he grows up and draws himself off the book's pages and into the physical world, Harold finds he has a lot to learn about real life.

Actors: Zachary Levi, Lil Rel Howery, Benjamin Botani

Timings: 11.30am, 1.30pm, 3.30pm, 5.30pm, 7.30pm, 9.30pm, 11.30pm

LATE NIGHT WITH THE DEVIL (15+)

Johnny Carson's rival Jack Delroy hosts a talk show 'Night Owls' that has long been a trusted companion to insomniacs around the country. A year after the tragic death of Jack's wife, ratings plummet. Desperate to turn his fortune around, Jack plans a Halloween special – unaware he is about to unleash evil into the living rooms of America.

Actors: David Dastmalchian, Laura Gordon, Ian Bliss

Timings: 10.30am, 2.45pm, 7pm, 11.15pm

BONEYARD (18+)

After police chief Carter discovers the remains of eleven women, FBI special agent Petrovick is recruited to profile the serial killer responsible for the infamous killings.

Actors: Brian Van Holt, 50 Cent, Mel Gibson

Timings: 12.30pm, 4.45pm, 9pm

ODDITY (15+)

Dani, a psychic and collector of cursed items, confronts Ted and his new girlfriend, Yana, seeking revenge for her twin's death.

Actors: Gqilym Lee, Carolyn Bracken, Tadhg Murphy

Timings: 2.15pm, 7pm, 11.45pm.



FOCUS: Full Moon Yoga

Weekly Entertainment



DELICIOUS: Breakfast spread at Hilton Bahrain

KEEP THE PARTY GOING AT HILTON

H EAD down to Hilton Bahrain for a weekend unlike any other.

Escape to paradise tomorrow with the Origin Kitchen & Culture's one-of-a-kind party brunch, which features island-inspired delights and refreshing beverages from 12.30pm to 5pm.

It costs BD39net with unlimited beverages or BD28net with unlimited soft beverages.

Get your chopsticks ready for Origin Kitchen & Culture's brand new Pan Asian Night. It offers guests a variety of Asian delicacies and live entertainment every Wednesday, from 7pm to 10pm, and costs BD22net with unlimited soft beverages and BD28net with unlimited selected beverages.

The restaurant has also organised a Seafood Night where food lovers can dig into the freshest catch tonight, from 7pm to 10pm. The sumptuous feast will cost BD32net with unlimited selected beverages and BD25net with unlimited soft beverages.

Meanwhile, Hilton visitors can enjoy a delicious breakfast spread at BD13net per person, Sunday to Friday, from 6.30am to 10.30am at

Origin Kitchen & Culture.

Late-risers can also enjoy the restaurant's Lazy Breakfast on Saturdays, from 6.30am to 11.30am, which features live cooking stations and a spread of continental, Asian and Arabic favourites. It costs BD13net.

The hotel also invites guests to start their weekend right at Block 44's Afro Series tonight, from 9pm to 2am. A 50 per cent discount will be applied on selected beverages from 9pm to 11pm. Ladies receive two complimentary drinks.

On Fridays, enjoy non-stop fun as a DJ keeps the party going at the property's lounge from 5pm to 7pm.

Tomorrow, guests can move to the groove at Block 44's Salsa Nights, from 9pm to 2am. Ladies receive two complimentary drinks.

The hotel's Society Club is open everyday from 9pm to 2.30am. On Tuesdays, it offers three free beverages for female guests from 8pm to 2.30am as part of Ladies' Night.

Cocoluna Lounge also offers ladies three complimentary beverages on Wednesday for Ladies' Night.

For more information, contact 33690081 or 33692013.

A RTISTS from around the world, including Bahrain, have joined hands to express their solidarity for the Palestinian cause through an online exhibition, writes Melissa Nazareth.

Russian expatriate Alexandra Novik-Khamis, 36, is one of the 100 creative talents from across 22 countries to have participated in the showcase entitled *The Reflection of Arts 2024*, which presents diverse artistic interpretations of the crisis in Gaza.

The entries have been curated by Hina Qadeer from Pakistan who conceived and brought the idea alive under her banner La Maison D'art, an international platform promoting the work of artistic talents worldwide. She invited artists from countries including Columbia, Equador, India, Nigeria, Pakistan, Syria, Taiwan, Türkiye, the US, Romania and Spain to share their work.

The Reflection of Arts 2024 is the platform's first international exhibition launched last month on Instagram @hiina.q and is available to view digitally.

"I met Hina online and accepted her invitation as the Palestinian cause is close to my heart. I'm the only artist from Bahrain and it has been an enriching experience to show my support alongside all these talented people from around the globe," Alexandra told *GulfWeekly*.

The full-time artist from Amwaj submitted three paintings of which the one entitled *Bravery* was shortlisted. The portrait was executed as oil on canvas to allow for 'rich, vivid colours and a depth that acrylic or other media might not achieve'.

Oil paints also give the piece 'a texture and luminosity that reflects the emotional intensity of the subject'.

"The central figure in *Bravery* is a strong Palestinian woman, depicted in a striking and dynamic pose," Alexandra said.

"Her attire is adorned with the colours of the Palestinian flag – black, white, green and red. This choice is not merely decorative but deeply symbolic. The flag's colours represent the struggles and resilience of the Palestinian people, and through the woman's portrayal, I aimed to highlight their courage and



IN SOLIDARITY: Alexandra with her artwork *Bravery*

FROM THE RIVER TO THE SEA

perseverance.

"The background is a blend of yellow that symbolises the tumultuous landscape of the region, as well as hope. This blending of abstraction with cultural elements is a hallmark of my style, creating a bridge between the personal and the universal.

"My signature style often involves a fusion of realistic portraiture with abstract elements.

"In *Bravery*, the realistic depiction of the woman's expression and attire contrasts with the abstracted background, which serves to ground the figure in reality and place her within a broader, more symbolic context.

"The vibrant colours and dynamic composition are

emotion and thought."

According to the artist, the piece 'is more than just a visual representation; it's an emotional statement on strength and solidarity'.

"I hope it resonates deeply with viewers, bringing attention to the ongoing struggles and the indomitable spirit of the Palestinian people," she added.

Alexandra has called Bahrain home for the last 15 years and lives in the kingdom with her sister. She is also an active member of the Russian social and cultural community.

For details, follow @shuroop on Instagram.

EVOCATIVE: Another painting embodying the indomitable Palestinian spirit

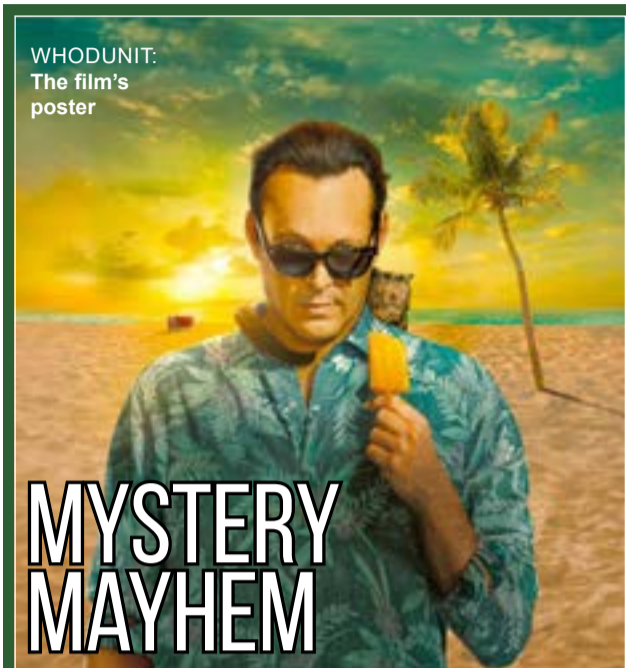


SERVED FRESH: Friday Brunch



Pulse of Pop

AROUND THE WORLD IN MUSIC, TV, BOOKS AND MORE - BY RIMA ALHADDAD



WHODUNIT:
The film's
poster

MYSTERY MAYHEM

A MERICAN drama *Bad Monkey* is set to release on Apple TV+ on August 14.

Based on Carl Hiaasen's 2013 novel of the same name, the television show follows one-time detective-turned-restaurant inspector Andrew Yancy (Vince Vaughn), who gets pulled into a world of greed and corruption after a tourist fishes out a severed human arm.

Series developer Bill Lawrence is an American television producer, screenwriter and director. He is known for creating the medical sitcom *Scrubs* among many others.

In an interview, Bill expressed how the crime action series serves as a different genre than what

he is known for. However, he gravitated towards developing the series due to his love of the novel and the author, who used to be his favourite as a child.

"It's just a goofy, fun, rompy caper thing in the Keys in Florida. I hope it works. I feel unsure of myself, but the cast, I got lucky," he added.

Born and raised in Florida, reporter and author Carl is known for his funny yet cathartic novels.

The writer has received numerous honours, including the Damon Runyon Award from the Denver Press Club and the Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Society of Newspaper Columnists.

TIME FOR TAKEOFF



GIZZARD:
The band
members

A USTRALIAN rock band King Gizzard & the Lizard Wizard is set to drop its 26th studio album *Flight b741* tomorrow.

Fans are expecting the album to incorporate a blues rock sound that the band once experimented with for their 2019 album *Fishing for Fishies*.

The album was created organically throughout jam sessions where the members gathered and played their instruments spontaneously. Lead vocalist Stu Mackenzie claims that this led to what

the band believes to be its most collaborative project.

"Everyone was bringing in songs and ideas. And we wanted to have as many lead vocalists as we could, and to pass the mic, like, 'This is my part, my idea, I'm gonna sing it and then I'm gonna pass the mic along to you and you can do your thing'. The whole record is built around that," Stu said in an interview.

Stu also revealed that the body of work lyrically combines the fun times with a lot of vulnerable moments.

"We're having a lot of fun, but we're often singing about

some pretty heavy things, and probably hitting on some deeper, more universal themes than usual. It's not a sci-fi record, it's about life and stuff. But the record is like a really fun weekend with your mates, you know? Like, proper fun," he added.

Formed in 2010 in Melbourne, the group is known for exploring several genres and performing energetic live shows.

The band's current line-up consists of multi-instrumentalists Stu Mackenzie, Ambrose Kenny-Smith, Cook Craig, Joey

Walker, Lucas Harwood, and Michael Cavanagh.

It is believed that the band's name was created last minute as a compromise after Stu originally wanted to name it 'Gizzard Gizzard' while another band member wanted the name 'Lizard King'.

However, the frontman denied the origin of story last year on social media, stating that he does not remember where the name came from.

The creatives have received several accolades including three Music Victoria Awards for best live act in 2016, 2017 and 2019.

TALE OF A QUEEN AND A SURVIVOR

JENNIFER Saint's fourth Greek mythology retelling titled *Hera* is set to hit the shelves on August 13.

The story follows the immortal goddess and daughter of the ancient Titan Cronos, who aims to help her brother Zeus to overthrow their tyrannical father so they could rule the world.

However, Hera begins to suspect Zeus is as ruthless and cruel as their father.

"Hera, famous for being a vindictive wife, for her spite and her bile and her fury, who I promise you is so much more than that. Hera, mother of monsters. Hera, a queen and a survivor. I think this is the proudest I've ever been of something I've written," Jennifer said in an interview.

The author has had a lifelong fascination with Greek mythology, as she grew up reading it and was always drawn to the untold stories within the myths.



In 2021, her debut novel *Ariadne* was shortlisted for Waterstones Book of the Year and as a finalist in the Goodreads Choice Awards in the fantasy category.

UNRAVELLING SECRETS

SCIENCE fiction comedy film *Borderlands* is out in theatres today.

Directed by Eli Roth, the story follows Lilith, an outlaw who forms an alliance with a ragtag team of misfits, embarking on a mission to find a missing girl who holds the key to the secrets of planet Pandora.

Starring Cate Blanchett, Kevin Hart, Jack Black and *Barbie*'s Ariana Greenblatt among others, the American movie is based on an action, role-playing video game of the same name that takes place in a Space Western, science fantasy setting, created and produced by



BORDERLANDS:
Movie poster

Gearbox Software.

When asked about the movie, the game development company's chief executive Randy Pitchford assured that while lovers of the video game are the main audience, the film will also serve as an entry point

to those who have never played the game.

"*Borderlands* has some kind of magic to it in the video game space, and I'm very curious to see if it has that same magic in the movie space, and I think it might," Randy said.

SportWeekly

The top local and international news



Dream come true!

CHAMPION: Bahrain's Winfred Yavi reacts as she crosses the line to win gold

KEEP moving! This is the mantra Bahrain's Winfred Yavi lives by, and on Tuesday night, on the biggest international sporting stage at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, the 24-year-old distance-running specialist did just that – she kept moving... forward and upward... from a reigning world champion to also becoming an Olympic champion, writes Patrick Oliver Salomon.

Yavi put in an historic performance for Team Bahrain in winning the women's 3,000 metres steeplechase gold medal. She triumphed in the Olympic final in a blistering time of eight minutes 52.76 seconds – a new Games record that shattered the previous best of 8:58.81 set by Russian Gulnara Samitova-Galkina in Beijing 2008. Yavi ran confidently from the start, pacing herself in the early stages and then striking at the right moment. She kicked

In the final, I was expecting something good. I just felt good about the race. I believed in myself, that I had that finishing speed.

into top gear on the last lap and put in an explosive finishing sprint down the home straight, overtaking defending Olympic champion Peruth Chemutai of Uganda with only metres to go to the finish. "This is a dream come true," Yavi was quoted as saying after the race. "It has been such a hard journey to get to this point. "In the final, I was expecting something good. I just felt good about the race.

I believed in myself, that I had that finishing speed." Yavi became only the third Bahraini athlete to have the honour of being both a world and Olympic champion. Maryam Yusuf Jamal was the first, claiming the women's 1,500m world titles in 2007 and 2009, and then adding an Olympic gold from London 2012 in the same event. Yavi's fellow-steeplechaser Ruth Jebet is the other. Jebet was a world junior champion in 2014 before adding an Olympic gold medal in Rio 2016. Yavi has accomplished her amazing world and Olympic double – amongst the highest honours in all of sports – at just 24 years old. Her Olympic gold adds to an already long list of accolades at every level of athletics. She has a world title, a steeplechase Diamond Trophy which is won at the end of the annual Diamond League circuit, and multiple gold medals from the Asian Games as well as Asian and Arab championships. Moreover, Yavi is an

Asian and Bahraini record-holder. Her personal best of 8:50.66 is also the second-fastest time ever in the event, beaten only by the world record of 8:44.32, held by Kenya's Beatrice Chepkoech, who is another athlete she beat in Paris en route to her Olympic crown. To add to that, Yavi's winning time on Tuesday night was the fourth-fastest in history. Heading into this year's Olympics, Yavi had a special message for her fans. In an exclusive interview with *GulfWeekly*, Yavi said: "I am extremely grateful to everyone in Bahrain and my fans, fondly referred to as #TeamYavi. "I believe it's not been about one event – they have consistently been there, cheering through. The support is the wings that allows me to 'keep moving'. "#TeamYavi, never forget to 'keep moving'!" Yavi will surely 'keep moving', and Bahrain will be cheering her on, eagerly watching to see where her amazing talent, dedication, and hard work take her next.

BRAIN-BUSTERS

Quizmaster and *Radio Bahrain* host Shannon Crockett, who has been entertaining people across the island with his brain-teasing quiz night sessions, has offered to put *GulfWeekly* readers' general knowledge to the test. Join in the fun every Thursday with Shannon's seven brain-busters.

1. Which island was awarded the George Cross for gallantry in the Second World War?
2. *Peaky Blinders* is a 1919 saga set in which UK city?
3. In Judo, the black belt is the highest, what colour is the second highest?
4. What is the liquid in a one-cell organism called?
5. *The Great Gatsby* is a 1925 novel written by which American author?
6. What name is given to the Japanese art of paper folding?
7. What does a Geiger Counter measure?

1. Malta
2. Birmingham
3. Brown
4. Plasma
5. F Scott Fitzgerald
6. Origami
7. Radiation

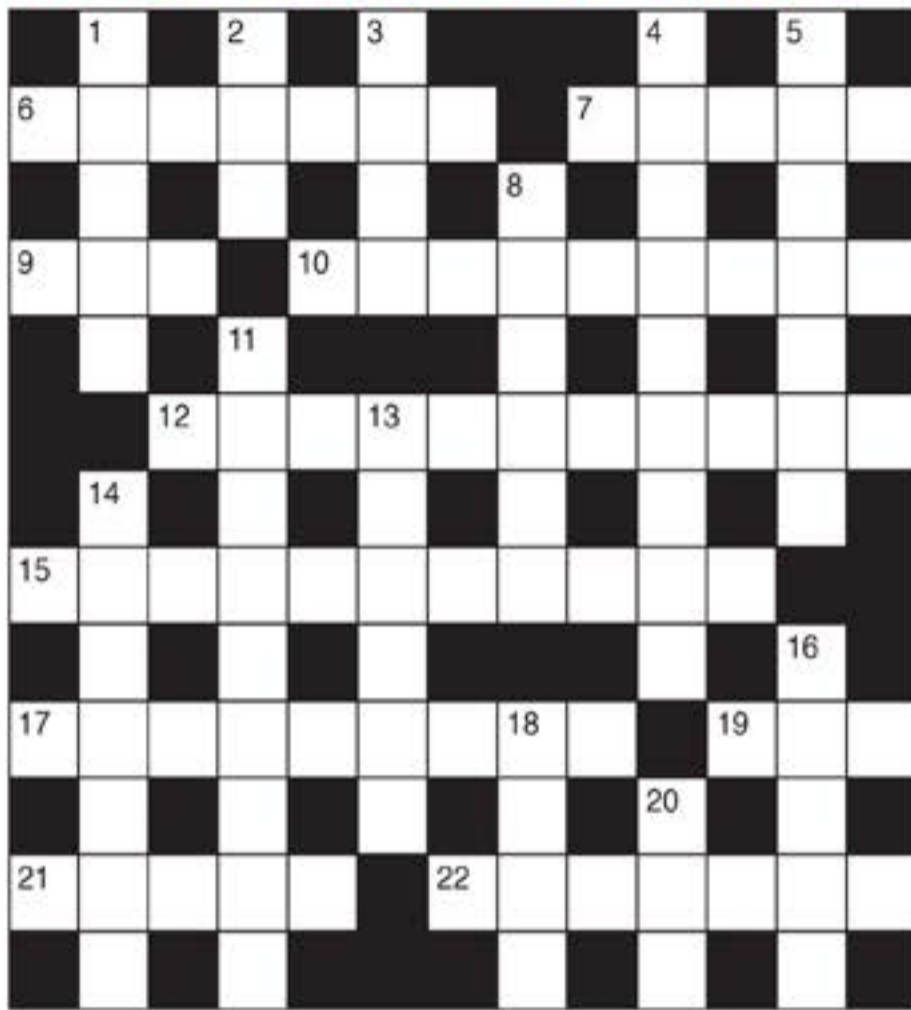
ANSWERS

Time Out



Hilal Computers
 Maximizing performance and efficiency
 Dell service provider
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crossword break



Solutions in next week's issue.

ACROSS

- 6. Travel (7)
- 7. Weak (5)
- 9. Acquire (3)
- 10. Besiege (9)
- 12. Commodities (11)
- 15. Hypocrisy (11)
- 17. Repulsive (9)
- 19. Compete (3)
- 21. Consent (5)
- 22. Judgment (7)

DOWN

- 1. Staid (5)
- 2. Attempt (3)
- 3. Yield (4)
- 4. Coldness (9)
- 5. Malady (7)
- 8. Mend (6)
- 11. Circumference (9)
- 13. Mollusc (6)
- 14. Revile (7)
- 16. Because (5)
- 18. Require (4)
- 20. Strange (3)

who, what, where, when

WHO ... played Queen Elizabeth II in the film *The Naked Gun: From the Files of Police Squad!*?
 WHAT ... Russian cyclist won the 2005 Vuelta a España after Roberto Heras was disqualified?
 WHERE ... in the Americas did Tony Saca become president in 2004?
 WHEN ... did the *Radio One* disc jockey Stuart Henry die?
 WHO ... does Peter Capaldi play in the television series *The Thick of It*?
 WHAT ... 1968 record album featured *The Saga of Rodney Toady*?
 WHERE ... did James Henry Scullin become prime minister in 1929?
 WHEN ... did Alfred the Great die?

just so

X I
N ST
G

X the

T 2222



darn tough sudoku

So you think you're good enough at Sudoku to crack this baby? Remember, we were the first in the Gulf to bring you this bit of Japanese mayhem...so we don't kid around

Last week's sudoku

8	5	1	7	4	2	3	8	9
7	8	4	9	1	3	5	6	2
9	2	3	5	8	6	7	4	1
3	6	7	2	9	1	4	5	8
8	9	5	4	6	7	1	2	3
1	4	2	8	3	5	9	7	6
5	3	9	6	7	8	2	1	4
2	1	8	3	5	4	6	9	7
4	7	6	1	2	9	8	3	5

3	6	1	9	4	8	5	2	7
7	8	2	8	3	5	4	9	1
9	4	5	2	7	1	3	8	6
1	9	3	7	5	2	6	8	4
4	2	7	8	9	6	1	3	5
6	5	8	4	1	3	2	7	9
5	1	6	3	8	7	9	4	2
8	3	4	1	2	9	7	5	6
2	7	9	5	6	4	8	1	3

darn tough sudoku

8	6	1	2	5	3	9	7	4
4	5	2	9	6	7	8	1	3
9	7	3	1	8	4	6	5	2
7	4	9	6	3	8	1	2	5
1	2	6	4	9	5	3	8	7
3	8	5	7	2	1	4	6	9
5	9	7	3	1	6	2	4	8
6	3	4	8	7	2	5	9	1
2	1	8	5	4	9	7	3	6

Sudoku

9			4			8		3
8				2		4		1
		5				6		2
4	9		6	1			3	
	8	2				7		
	5		2	7		1	8	
2	4					9		7
7		6	4					8
		8		9	7			2

Sudoku

3	8		7					2
	4	1			2			6
	2		4					8
		7			6			
4	6				8		3	9
			1	4	9	5		
5					7			4
	9		5			2		7
2			1		9			

Last Week's Leisure Solutions

CROSSWORD BREAK:

Across: 7 Determination; 8 Distance; 9 Able; 10 Patent; 12 Indeed; 14 Deform; 16 Relate; 18 Chic; 20 Tipsters; 22 Perpendicular.
Down: 1 Delicate; 2 Mettle; 3 Omen; 4 Inferior; 5 Strand; 6 Fool; 11 Tempting; 13 External; 15 Occupy; 17 Litmus; 19 Heed; 21 Prim.

JUST SO: Once bitten twice shy, A bit on the side, Heart of stone, The Birds and the bees.

WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN: Clifford Odets; Aegean Sea; Kyushu, Japan; Andy Warhol; 551-6 declared; Moscow; July, 1971.

Darn Tough Sudoku

9			7		5			3
		8	9		4	1		
	4	5				6	3	
7			2		3			1
	6	3				8	2	
		7	3		1	9		
8			5		7			2