

CONNECTED TO THE SEA



ART FEATURE
By JULIA CASSANO
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BAHRAIN'S heritage, its connection to the sea and the strength of its women have inspired emerging Bahraini artist Lulwa Al Hayki to create a series of paintings exploring identity through colour, music and traditional dress.

At just 17, Lulwa's works have been showcased in Bahrain and Greece, with three of her recent pieces being exhibited during the *Almasyaf* and *A Painting of Gold* exhibitions in Manama and Janabiyah, respectively.

Among them was *Luster of Gold*, *Magic of Pearls*, a work inspired by Bahrain's long-standing relationship with gold, pearls and the sea.



ARTIST: Lulwa

It centres a woman as the bearer of heritage, dressed in a red 'Thob Al Nashal' decorated with intricate golden embroidery.

Around her are pearls, fish and bubbles, with a large shell rising behind her like a halo.

"The shell, pearls, fish and bubbles surrounding her evoke the kingdom's connection to the sea and its pearl-diving history," Lulwa told *Gulf Weekly*.

A Thob Al Nashal is a traditional, highly ornate, and sheer over-garment worn by women in the kingdom and across the Gulf region for festive and ceremonial occasions.

Through the shell, Lulwa depicts an imagined world around the woman, allowing the painting to move beyond reality while remaining rooted in the memory of Bahrain and its traditions.

"Gold becomes more than just a colour - it symbolises value, femininity and heritage passed down from one generation to another, while the pearls represent the magic of the sea and the enduring memory of Bahrain," she explained.

Her two other pieces approach identity from different perspectives, blending influences from pop culture, Arab heritage and her own imagination.

Kallos (Greek word meaning beauty in both its physical and spiritual forms) was inspired by the calm and poetic atmosphere of singer Lana Del Rey's music.

Rather than simply portraying the singer, Lulwa reimagined her through an Arab cultural lens,



CALM: *Kallos*



BEAUTY: *Omorfia*

civilisation, blue symbolised divine authority, imperial power and immense wealth, most famously seen on the Ishtar Gate, the eighth fortified entrance to the inner city of ancient Babylon, built around 575 BCE.

The deep blue glaze used on Babylonian architecture was intended to mimic lapis lazuli, a rare and highly revered semi-precious stone imported from modern-day Afghanistan.

Her third painting *Omorfia* also takes its name from the Greek word for beauty. This time, she explores beauty through the idea of inner strength rather than appearance.

"The painting portrays an Arab woman as a symbol of quiet strength, with a blue tie around her neck representing independence, leadership and the choice between speaking and embracing silence," Lulwa said. "Like the sea, she appears calm on the surface, yet deep within."

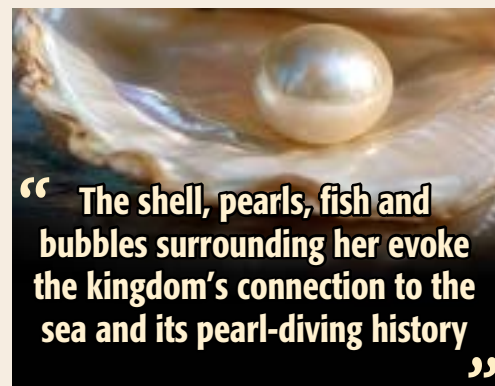
She described the work as a celebration of both



HERITAGE: *Luster of Gold, Magic of Pearls*

depicting her wearing a head covering based on the Abaya Al Ras, a traditional Bahraini garment. "The painting also features blue - a colour inspired by the ancient Babylonian civilisation - which has become a recurring element in my work," she said.

In Babylonian civilisation, blue symbolised divine authority, imperial power and immense wealth, most famously seen on the Ishtar Gate, the eighth fortified entrance to the inner city of ancient Babylon, built around 575 BCE.



"The shell, pearls, fish and bubbles surrounding her evoke the kingdom's connection to the sea and its pearl-diving history"

Arab women and Bahraini identity - themes that have become central to her artistic style.

Both of her works, *Kallos* and *Omorfia* were presented during the *Almasyaf* exhibition, held in collaboration with the Arts Centre and Bahrain Fine Arts Society.

Lulwa's connection to art began when she was just four, encouraged by a family that supported and nurtured her passion.

"I inherited my artistic inclinations from my grandfather, who was also passionate about painting and devoted time to developing my talent," she added.

Lulwa has also taken her art beyond Bahrain, recently participating in an exhibition in Greece, as a finalist at the International Youth Festival 'The Planet of Art 2026', organised in collaboration with UNESCO.

For more details, follow @lulwaart09 on Instagram.



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Existential Exhibition
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PULSE OF POP
TV, movies and more
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ART REPORT
By NAMAN ARORA
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WHAT is the 'why' of it all? Meaningful/less, the latest group art exhibition at Al Riwaq Art Space, offers some answers to the existential crisis in which many are finding themselves amidst uncertain times, while inviting viewers to dive deeper.

The exhibition, curated by Khurram Salman and Shereen Fekri, highlights the work of 14 artists who are exploring the artistic and emotional landscape within a culture of constant acceleration, productivity, and self-optimisation.

"The idea of the exhibition came from a reflection on our own environment and the emotions, spoken or unspoken, being experienced from our periphery," Khurram, 33, told *GulfWeekly*.

"We wanted to put together a body of work that evaluates existentialism as a by-product of contemporary living.

"We didn't set out to answer any existential questions, but simply to let the questions exist and to provide space for this important conversation to be held."

Running until October 1, the exhibition is set across three distinct parts – crisis, process and approval.

The 'Crisis' section showcases artists that explore the symptoms that burden the mind – loss of meaning, and the resulting anxiety and depression.

In 'Process', the exhibition highlights pieces that deal with the systems in which we exist and the ways they structure identity, confronting the frustrations, fears, and grief that can unravel existence.

And the final section,

The art of meaning

per artists as a single event - it lingers, subtly and digital sensation, a growing sense and quietly seeping into bodies, as an unstable concept.

in present the, unfolding in three parts. It is of meaning, the resulting anxieties, and the systems in which we exist and the ways, fears, and grief that can unravel our very as yet to be found, the conflict of meaning is no plan.

proaches the subject through painting, mixed from the private context of the artists' studios, questions are meant to be answered, instead of contemplation and correction.

CURATORS: Khurram and Shereen

BROOD: Throughout the exhibition, Moshki - a character created by Lujayn - keeps you company



'Arrival', takes visitors to a place where artists depict the peace and purpose found in art and human connection, as a result of the stages that they have been on and want to continue in this journey.

In selecting the final 14 artists, Khurram and Shereen approached more than 40 creatives from various backgrounds, visiting many of them at their studios to get a deeper look at their work and process.

"Each of the selected artwork adds a layer to the conversation that we wanted to have," Shereen, 35, added.

"We were approached early May by Al Riwaq to conceptualise the exhibition, which is a result of more than three months

Participating artists

1. Ahmed Anan
2. Fatima Almosawi
3. Iskandar Dawani
4. Ghada Khunji
5. Ishaq Madan
6. Jaffar Aloraibi
7. Lujayn Hasan
8. Mohamed Taqi
9. Nura AlRumaihi
10. Salman AlNajem
11. Sayed Hasan Alsari
12. Thajba Najeeb
13. Virginie Dreyer
14. Zain AlMutawa

of work." Alongside the exhibition, the organisers also curated a month-long schedule of activities that complement ideas explored in the art pieces.

This included a workshop with Iskandar Dawani, one of the artists showcasing their work during the exhibition and *A Closed Circuit* - a live collaborative performance piece with Omnia Elamir, in which a room full of visitors contributed their voices towards a shared evolving composition.

Last night, there was a film screening of selected episodes from *The Animatrix*, along with a discussion with artist Salman AlNajem centred on reality, agency, existence and attempts to make sense of the world.

This Saturday, September 19, there will be a Photo Jam themed around 'The Little Things' with Khurram and Shereen as well as a 'Writing Workshop for the Existentially Declined' by Fatima Alsaad.

Next Wednesday, September 23, there will be a 'Making Meaning Anyway' talk by Razan Shaheen, and a 'Processing the Times' workshop with Shereen on September 26.

"From a performance piece, a writing and journaling workshop, to a film screening, a photo jam and a community circle with a mental health professional, we wanted to extend the conversation beyond just the gallery space," Khurram added.

"Different artists and mediums were tapped into to add more to the exhibition experience."

■ For more details, follow @alriwaq on Instagram.

PROCESS: Thajba with her piece in the second section of the exhibition



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. In which state does the United States Postal Service still use mules?
2. What colour is the sunset on Mars?
3. The deficiency of which vitamin is associated with the disease Rickets?
4. The Oscars used to give out an award to child performers. What was the award called?
5. Which is the only day of the week that has a single word anagram?
6. What is the name given to green Japanese horseradish?
7. Actor Jared Leto is the frontman of what band?

ANSWERS

1. Arizona
2. Blue
3. Vitamin D
4. Juvenile Award
5. Monday
6. Wasabi
7. 30 Seconds to Mars



ARRIVAL: The third section of the exhibition



CRISIS: Ghada with her piece 'Sweet Dreams' in the first section of the exhibition



INWARD: Ishaq with his piece reflecting on parenthood

Friday brunch is back

GOURMET REPORT
By NAMAN ARORA
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SEPTEMBERS in Bahrain have a certain refreshed energy to them – families returning recharged from their vacations, children back in school for a new year and weekly rituals being revived.

For many locals and expatriates, it's a return to the weekend brunches that gather loved ones around tables emblematic of the diversity and hospitality of the Arab world.

As the brunches return in full swing, the GDN Media team stopped by the Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay's Friday Brunch to kick off our epicurean autumn.

The vibes at the Bahrain Bay Kitchen, as we arrived, were immaculate as always, with plenty of scholastic decor to remind us, in case we'd forgotten, that school was back in session.

As we had a seat, enjoying the stunning views of the Bahrain Bay, the team and I caught up on our respective summer adventures, while enjoying some refreshing beverages, courtesy of the hotel's mixologists.

I'll admit I was feeling a hint of the post-vacation blues as I missed the many meals of a summer spent travelling – but looking at the smorgasbord of options being set up, it became easy to picture the world on a plate, in the comfort of the island we have come to call home.

The buffet at the Four Seasons has a certain familiarity by now – from the layout and the stage to the lively cooking stations.

However, the Four Seasons team had gone above and



BREAD BASKET: The hotel's selection of baked goodies

beyond, with new additions to the sumptuous spread.

Ever the health nut, my colleague Olivia Middleton, was drawn to the Bahraini-inspired Caesar station, where she enjoyed a Khaleeji spin on a Western classic with delicious marinated grilled chicken swapped in amongst the requisite lettuce and veggies, topped with zaatar and cheese flavours.

As for me, I was drawn to the smash burger station, which reminded me of school lunches and highway diners with their red-and-white plate decor.

While the first two decades of this millennium were marked by thick beef patties, the global burger culture has increasingly turned to a humbler cousin in the last several years, finding in small-town America the answer to its search for maximum crisp flavour.

While the origins of the burger are hotly debated, the method remains universal – maximise the heat, minimise the cooking time and let the Maillard reaction do its magic.

The key to a perfect smash burger lies in both the burger and the smash.

Thin patties with maximum surface area for browning and crisping, layered on soft buttery buns, were available in four



FUSION: A Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay team member prepares the Bahrain-inspired Caesar salad

delectable options – spicy, pepperoni, ultra and potato. And of course, paired with potato wedges to complete the import from the diner to the dining table.

And when I was done with the smash, the rest of the buffet still awaited, starting with the salad options from mango and edamame crunch to Thai lime and poached prawn salad,

Amidst the grilled options were roasted Sikandari lamb, BBQ beef short ribs and my personal favourite – charcoal-baked seabass with passion

fruit butter. The sweet-savoury combination of seabass and passion fruit was delectable and sublime, and I took a break to let my stomach marinate and memorise its flavours.

The final course, and of course the one we were all eager for, was a trip through the desserts, with a lavish selection of cakes, pies, tarts and fresh fruit. Not one to be restricted to the dessert island, we also snuck off to the children's area, where a fresh kunafa station and a mini ice-cream parlour awaited us.

What keeps people coming back to these brunches is not just the familiar hospitality they find there – but also the diversity which is sure to satisfy even the pickiest palates. And our experience last Friday echoed that, leaving each of us satisfied and way-too-full, but ready to do it again.

The Back-to-School Brunch runs throughout September, every Friday from 1pm to 4pm. It is priced per person at BD35 with soft beverages and BD48 with select beverages. Children aged five and under dine with the hotel's compliments, while those aged six to 12 can dine for 50 per cent off.

■ Call 17115500 to book your table today.



APPETISING: The scholastic-themed salad station



MAGNIFICENT: Meats on the menu



SMASH HIT: Burgers galore

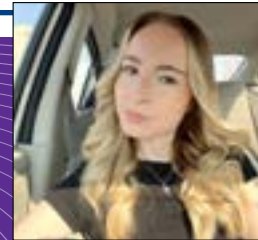


LIVE: Brunch and a show



SWEET: Back-to-school themed desserts

Leisure Scene



**What's
on
guide**

By Julia Cassano

SUMMER INDULGENCE AT THE RITZ-CARLTON

MAKE the most of the final days of summer at The Ritz-Carlton, Bahrain, where sun-soaked afternoons, indulgent treatments and leisurely dining offer plenty of ways to unwind.

Enjoy a day pass at the Royal Beach Club, where guests can spend the day soaking up the rays, enjoying the sea and making the most of the resort's beachfront setting.

The pass is priced at BD35 for adults and BD17.500 for children from Sunday to Wednesday, while Thursday to Saturday rates are BD50 for adults and BD25 for children. Public holidays are subject to weekend rates.

Extend the relaxation with a



PRISTINE: Enjoy a beach and pool day at the Ritz-Carlton, Bahrain

refined manicure and pedicure experience at The Pedi:Mani:Cure Studio by Bastien Gonzalez.

Combining expert nail care with specialised foot treatments and relaxing massage techniques, the treatment is designed to leave hands and feet feeling refreshed and beautifully cared for. It is available at The Ritz-Carlton Spa, Bahrain,

from Thursday to Saturday, between 10am and 8pm.

Start the morning with a leisurely breakfast at La Med, where a generous buffet of breakfast favourites is paired with panoramic resort views. Available daily from 6.30am to 11.30am, the breakfast is priced at BD17net per adult and BD12.500 for children

aged six to 12.

Coffee lovers can savour a trio of Golden Créma creations made with illy Créma coffee at the Ritz Gourmet Lounge. Rich and indulgent, the coffee creations can be paired with delicate sweets for a leisurely treat. They are available daily from 8am to 11pm and are priced a la carte.

For an evening of bold Indian flavours, Nirvana is serving unlimited kebabs, featuring a tempting selection of succulent cuts delicately marinated, seasoned with aromatic spices and grilled to perfection. The experience is available tonight, Thursday, from 7pm to 11pm, priced at BD25 per person, with an additional BD10 for three house-selected beverages.

Every Thursday, Thai Lounge invites guests to enjoy its Thai Drunch, featuring an unlimited selection of Thai tapas accompanied by house beverages for two hours. Priced at BD45 per



RELAXING: Indulge in a breakfast spread while overlooking the pool

person, the experience requires a minimum of two guests per booking. September birthday guests can also dine for free with a valid ID.

For more information, call 17580000 or email rc.bahrz.restaurant.reservations@ritzcarlton.com.

MAKE A SPLASH AT AQUA VISTA



RECHARGE: A lavish spread of breakfast favourites at Aqua Vista Bahrain

AQUA Vista Bahrain has plenty in store to make this season even more tempting.

Guests can choose between a bed and breakfast package at BD55net per room per night or a half-board package at BD65net per room per night, both including a complimentary room upgrade.

Those who book an executive suite will receive an upgrade to a club suite with a balcony, with the bed and breakfast package priced at BD75net per room per night.

Those looking for a day of relaxation can opt for the pool day pass, which includes pool access from 8am to 7pm, waterfront views and a

complimentary beverage. It is priced at BD9.900 per person.

Weekend mornings can be spent with The Waterfront's breakfast buffet, featuring fresh ingredients, live cooking stations and sweeping views. The buffet is available tomorrow, Friday and Saturday from 6.30am to 11am, priced at BD10 per person.

As the day winds down, Maestro Lounge offers a chance to relax with its Happy Hour, available daily from noon to 2am. The Lounge's Ladies' Night features three complimentary drinks for the ladies, daily from 5pm to 9pm.

For bookings and more information, contact 17177333.



SIZZLE: Juicy steak with a side of fries at Legendz SteakHouse

STEAKS, SCONES AND SPECIAL TREATS

SETTLE in for a weekend of leisurely dining, generous brunches and indulgent treats at InterContinental Bahrain.

Tomorrow, Legendz SteakHouse is serving up a tableside brunch affair from noon to 4pm, with every course brought straight to the table. The feast begins with sharing platters featuring oyster and shrimp bocal and Peruvian salmon ceviche, followed by mains including grilled gambas and roasted seabass, with a selection of decadent desserts to round things off.

The Friday brunch is priced at BD28net with soft beverages or BD38net with unlimited selected beverages. Children under six dine for free, while those aged six to 12 receive 50 per cent off.

For a Monday treat, Legendz SteakHouse is also offering its Two for One Steak Monday, where guests can enjoy a second steak of equal or lesser value when purchasing one. The offer

runs from 6pm to 10pm.

Mondays become a little more indulgent at Elements Pool and Lounge, where ladies enjoy 50pc off food and beverages from 9am to 8pm, ideal for a leisurely poolside escape.

At Noor Lounge, ladies can gather with friends and enjoy 50 per cent off food and beverages every Monday from 9am to 10pm. Whether it is coffee, a leisurely meal or a post-work catch-up, the offer provides an easy excuse to make Monday a social one.

Noor Lounge is also putting a vibrant twist on afternoon tea. Purple Afternoon Tea will be available today (Thursday) and tomorrow (Friday) from 2pm to 7pm, with the spread featuring handcrafted pastries, savoury bites, freshly baked scones with ube jam and signature desserts, served alongside premium teas and speciality coffees.

The ube afternoon tea is priced at BD8 per tray.

For bookings and more information, call 36967701.

SEAS THE NIGHT AT HILTON

IF seafood is your idea of the perfect Thursday night, Hilton Bahrain has plenty to tempt you with its weekly Seafood Night, featuring fresh catches, sushi and live cooking stations.

Taking place every Thursday from 7pm to 10pm at Origin Kitchen and Culture, the experience features an array of ocean favourites. Prices start at BD32net per person, including soft beverages.

Mornings at Origin Kitchen and Culture come with a generous breakfast buffet, available daily from 6.30am to 10.30am for BD13net.

German flavours and live music take

centre stage at Origin Kitchen and Culture this Friday, as Hilton Bahrain marks Oktoberfest from 1pm to 7pm. Expect traditional favourites alongside a live German band. Prices are BD29net per person with house beverages and BD38net with premium beverages.

Over at CLAW BBQ, visitors can enjoy food, games, entertainment and panoramic views of Bahrain's skyline from the 44th floor.

Sundays come with an extra

dose of indulgence, with two hours of unlimited beverage for BD12.500. The offer can be extended for another two hours for an extra BD10, while also enjoying 20pc off the menu.

Monday is dedicated to the ladies, with Ladies' Night running from 8pm to 11pm. The offer includes four complimentary drinks and

sharing platters for BD15, along with 30pc off the food and beverage menu.

CLAW BBQ turns up the flavour midweek with Taco Tuesday, running from 6pm to midnight. Enjoy unlimited tacos and drinks for BD16, with the option to add unlimited selected beverages for an additional

BD3.500. Come Friday, CLAW's signature brunch brings together food, drink and entertainment from 12.30pm to 4pm, with tickets starting at BD24. The fun continues afterwards with additional hours of Happy Hour from 4pm to 6pm.

Meanwhile, Lamar Café and Lounge is open daily and serving its iconic Matcha Latte, with prices starting at BD3.500.

For bookings and more information, contact 33692



WUNDERBAR: Hilton Bahrain hosts its Oktoberfest Friday Brunch tomorrow

Leisure Scene

Weekly Entertainment

DELECTABLE: Bites at CUT by Wolfgang Puck



A CULINARY JOURNEY ACROSS FOUR SEASONS

REDISCOVER Lebanese flavours by the sea at

Byblos, where the warmth and character of Lebanese dining come together at the Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay.

With its refreshed beachfront setting, shimmering waterfront views and lively atmosphere, the restaurant sets the scene for relaxed evenings accompanied by live DJ performances every Thursday and Friday. Guests can enjoy favourites including braised lamb shank, a mezzah platter, chickpea fattah and seabass tajin, from Tuesday to Sunday from sunset until midnight, with dishes priced a la carte.

For a traditional Japanese experience, re/ ASIAN CUISINE offers an intimate Omakase journey led by Chef Kiyoshi Udagawa, where time-honoured Japanese flavours meet contemporary culinary artistry.

Each course showcases the precision, seasonality and craftsmanship at the heart of Japanese cuisine, complemented by views of the Manama skyline. The 10-course Omakase experience is available from Wednesday to Sunday, priced at BD69 per person, with beverage pairing available for BD60 per person.

As the weekend begins, CUT by Wolfgang Puck sets the stage for an afternoon of good

company, flowing-bubbly and live DJ beats. The Friday experience features dishes including yellowtail Hamachi ceviche, beef sliders and line-caught black bass.

It is available every Friday from 12.30pm to 3.30pm, priced at BD70, inclusive of free-flow bubbly beverages.

Step into a world of chocolate-inspired indulgence with Bay View Lounge's Chocolate Dreamscape Afternoon Tea. The experience brings together savoury creations, handcrafted chocolates and elegant pastries, inspired by the magic of a chocolate factory. Available until October 31 from noon to 9pm, it is priced at BD22 for the regular option and BD26 for the royal option, with both including one premium tea and one mocktail or sparkling juice.

As summer draws to a close, Bahrain Bay Kitchen welcomes guests back to the table with its Back to School Brunch. The afternoon features vibrant flavours, live stations and plenty of options for the whole family. Available tomorrow from 1pm to 4pm, the brunch is priced at BD35 with soft beverages and BD48 with a beverage package. Children under five dine for free, while those aged six to 12 receive 50 per cent off.

For bookings and more information, contact 17115500.

TASTE THE WORLD AT SHERATON BAHRAIN

SHERATON Bahrain Hotel is inviting guests to enjoy a selection of dining experiences, from sunset drinks and Latin American-inspired flavours to traditional feasts and globally inspired dishes.

Step into Brasero Atlántico where 'Atlántico Hour' offers a sophisticated rooftop setting, bringing alive the spirit of Latin America. Enjoy bold flavours, expertly crafted bites and refreshing beverages.

With panoramic views of the Manama skyline, the experience is ideal for after-work gatherings, sunset sips or relaxed evenings with friends.

Atlántico Hour is available Sunday to Thursday, from 4pm to 7pm. Brasero Atlántico is open daily from noon to midnight.

Meanwhile, Golestan Persian Grill celebrates the rich cultural heritage and cuisine with its Royal Golestan Feast Platter, created for special occasions and group gatherings.

The feast features a selection of the restaurant's signature grilled dishes, including Kabab Koobideh, Kabab-e Tikke Masti, Kabab Shishlik lamb chops, served

alongside fragrant saffron rice and grilled vegetables.

Available for groups of six or 12, the feast concludes with Golestan's signature saffron ice cream. Golestan is open daily from noon to 11pm.

At WILD, fresh ingredients, bold flavours and globally inspired cuisine come together in a relaxed yet stylish setting. The menu,

prepared by the hotel's culinary team and complemented with herbs grown on-site in the hydroponic garden, takes inspiration from global flavours. Highlights include Peruvian-style smoked cauliflower with lentil chimichurri, char-grilled miso eggplant and a grilled seafood platter.

Guests can enjoy WILD's breakfast buffet daily from 7am to 10.30am, with pool access also available.

From Sunday to Thursday, lunch is served

from noon to 4pm, providing an option for business meetings and casual gatherings.

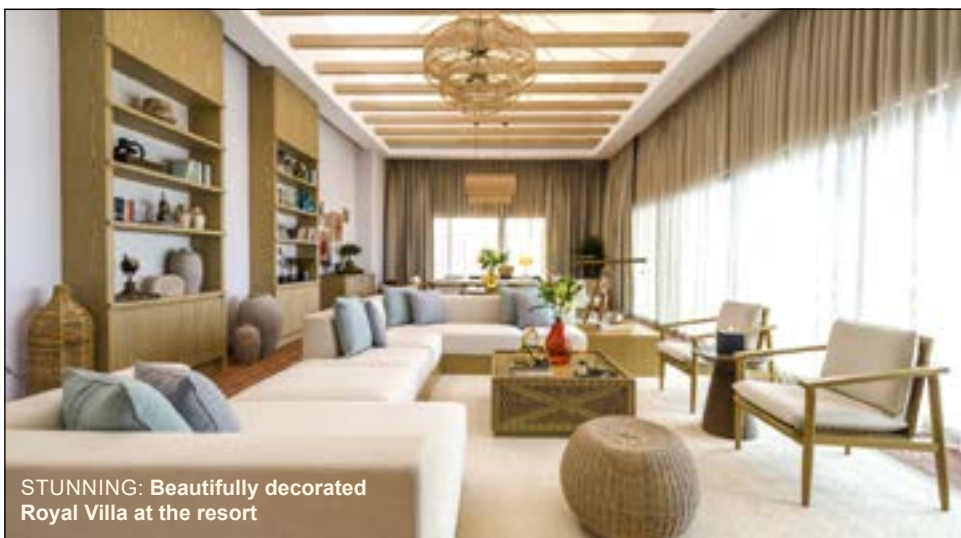
During the evening, WILD offers its à la carte menu until 9pm, with both indoor and terrace seating available for guests.

For bookings and more information, contact 17533533 or 38885408.



TRADITION: A feast being prepared at Golestan

HAWAR LIKE YOU'VE NEVER SEEN IT BEFORE



STUNNING: Beautifully decorated Royal Villa at the resort

ENJOY a private island escape at Hawar Resort by Mantis, where the experience extends beyond the comfort of your villa.

The Royal Villa Elements combines a sound healing session in the villa with a couples massage, and a choice of fishing, dolphin watching or bird watching at Rubud Island.

A family boat package is also available at BD45 for four adults or more.

Guests can enjoy a desert cultural tour followed by a private BBQ prepared by their

own chef at the villa. Younger guests are catered for too, with the option of a private full Bear Grylls Survival Academy session with certification.

Together, the experiences offer a chance to discover a different side of Hawar, balancing relaxation in the privacy of the villa with opportunities to explore the island's natural surroundings, culture and sense of adventure — all at your own pace.

For more information or reservations, call 32183610 or email reservations @hawarresort.com.



ENJOY some of the English language films being screened at Cineco Seef this weekend.



SPIDER ISLAND (15+)

A bunch of young men and women just want to have some fun in the sun. What could go wrong?

Actors: Rose Williams, Tim McInnery, Avani Gregg

Timings: 4.30pm, 11.30pm

THE BAY (2026) (PG-15)

Two best friends, Emma and Lani, attending a destination wedding in Thailand, find themselves trapped on a sinking tour boat in the heart of a tiger shark sanctuary.

Actors: Francesca Eastwood, Alexander Wraith, Dani Oliveros

Timings: 11.30am, 6.30pm

THE UPRISING (15+)

In plague-ravaged 14th century England, a peasant triggers a rebellion against King Richard II and unintentionally becomes a legend of resistance.

Actors: Andrew Garfield, Jamie Bell, Stephen Dillane

Timings: 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm, 11.30pm

CATS IN THE MUSEUM 2: TREASURES OF EGYPT (PG)

Two years have passed since the Hermitage was saved and the Mona Lisa was stolen. Vincent and Cleopatra have acquired two restless kittens and are also longing for adventures.

Actors: Jordan Worsley, Stephen Krisel, Maria Smakhtina

Timings: 12.45pm, 7pm

Pulse of Pop

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

All day, all night

STAR: Carly



CANADIAN pop star Carly Rae Jepsen releases double album titled *Day and Night* tomorrow (September 18).

It consists of 24 tracks divided into two discs, with each collection providing a different atmosphere with the *Day* side featuring psychedelic pop anthems and the *Night* side being synth-heavy.

The new songs come at a time when the artist recently welcomed her first child with husband and producer Cole Marsden Greif-Neill AKA Cole M G N, who she fell in love with while recording the new material.

While influenced by her joy at becoming a mother and finding love, Carly stated that she was also looking back at previous romantic experiences and drawing inspiration from them.

"I'm still processing how I got here. So there are songs about exes, songs about heartbreak and things that I went through," she said in an interview.

The musician noted that the idea of a double sided project arrived

after she found herself both focused on curating a connected tracklist, while also being drawn towards contradicting sounds from soul, jazz, and house music.

"The challenge became making sure that each of those albums was expansive enough," she explained. "I wanted cohesiveness, but I also didn't want 12 songs that felt like you were listening to the same song on repeat."

Collaborator Tavish Crowe recalled the process of deciding which side each track belonged on as the two listened to demos while driving around Los Angeles.

"It just felt as though a song would naturally slot itself into the *Night* section or the *Day* section. Even before the tracks were fully produced, you could already tell," he said.

The 40 year-old artist rose to fame after releasing her 2012 smash hit *Call Me Maybe*, which was declared the best-selling single of that year as it sold more than 18 million copies and reached number one in more than 19 countries.

She is also known for her third studio album *Emotion* (2015) featuring critically acclaimed single *Run Away with Me*, recognised for its bold saxophone riff opener.

Reflecting on her journey, Carly said that she is currently the happiest she has ever been, occupying a position where she is neither a major pop sensation nor remembered solely as a one-hit wonder.

"Where I've landed now in my career is the sweet spot," she said.

"I can live a life, go to the grocery store, have a family, tour music that I love and have an audience. That's a very hard-earned, balanced thing that we've had to work at," she added.

Solving murders in style

THE latest mystery novel from British author Richard Osman, titled *We Chase Shadows*, has hit the shelves.

When a body is found on the steps of a beautiful private villa in the Italian hills, with a threatening note signed by a mystery man, detectives Amy, Rosie, and Steve leap at the chance to take on the case.

But once they start digging, the suspects keep piling up, and the trio find themselves chasing a villain through the shadows.

The new release marks the second instalment of the *We Solve Murders* series.

Its first namesake instalment, released in 2024, debuted at number one on the UK Official Top 50, and number two on *The New York Times* Best Seller list.

Author Richard is best known for his *Thursday Murder Club* series, which currently consists of five novels.

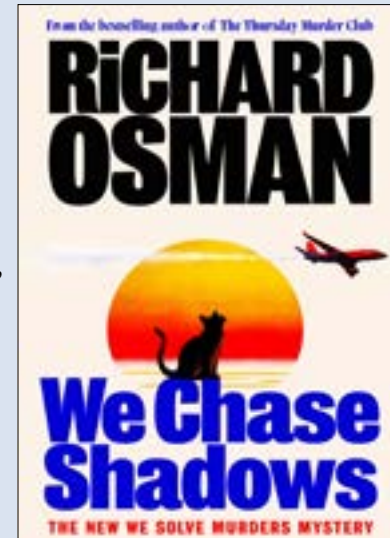
In an interview, he explained the different approach he has to the new series in comparison to his



AUTHOR: Richard

previous works. "What changes is the panorama they're set against," he said.

"The *Thursday Murder Club* is very much a closed community—the village, the restaurant, the shuttle bus. And then *We Solve Murders* is private jets, celebrities, martinis in hotel bars and all that stuff. So it's a different setting, but I'm still writing the same sort of book. I'm still writing about people," he added.



APOCALYPSE: Actor Austin portraying Bryan

Evil residency rebooted

HORROR film *Resident Evil*, adapted from the Capcom game franchise, is out now in cinemas.

Marking the second reboot and overall eighth in the *Resident Evil* film series, it follows medical courier Bryan (Austin Abrams), who is in the process of making a delivery to Raccoon City General Hospital when a terrifying T-virus outbreak forces him to fight for survival, as he faces terrifying mutated monsters.

Being a fan of the video games, director Zach Cregger stated that his approach towards the live action project focused on capturing his love of the gameplay experience on the big screen, which was achieved through the filming style.

"I tend to think that the third-person perspective that the games utilise is wildly effective, and so that ended up being the movie's predominant visual language," he explained.

"The movie is stronger for it. But it's only inspired by the games; there wasn't any sort of rule. So I jumped from third person to first person to objective all the time, and it's a blend. It's a moment-by-moment thing."

The filmmaker also decided to take a risk by telling a new original story instead of adapting an existing game narrative, which caused concern and doubt among the fanbase.

However, he emphasises that the film is still loyal to the franchise's lore.

"I cannot be worried about whether I am pleasing enough of every spectrum of fandom. If I tried to please everybody, I'd end up pleasing nobody," Zach said, responding to the criticism.

"I'm not going to tell Leon's story, because Leon's story is told in the games. Fans already have that," he added, referring to the beloved *Resident Evil* universe character Leon Kennedy.



EXECUTIVE AI IMMERSION SPRINT

Understanding AI. Identifying Opportunities.
Defining the Path Forward.

Develop a board-ready AI strategy,
prioritize high-impact use cases,
and define a practical roadmap
for AI implementation.



**Executive AI
Readiness**



**AI Opportunities
Identified**



**Leadership
AI Empowered**



**Pilot Scope
Defined**

The Executive AI Sprint Journey

01



**Strategic
Understanding**

Understand AI,
its business value,
and why it
matters now.

02



**AI In Your
Business**

Explore global AI
trends, industry
benchmarks, and
how market leaders
are adopting AI.

03



**Opportunity
Discovery**

Identify and prioritize
2–3 high-impact
AI use cases
aligned with
your business.

04



**Readiness &
Decision Framework**

Assess data readiness,
governance, and
Build vs Buy vs Partner
decisions.

05



AI in Practice

Apply AI in
leadership and
daily operations
to confidently
drive enterprise
AI adoption.

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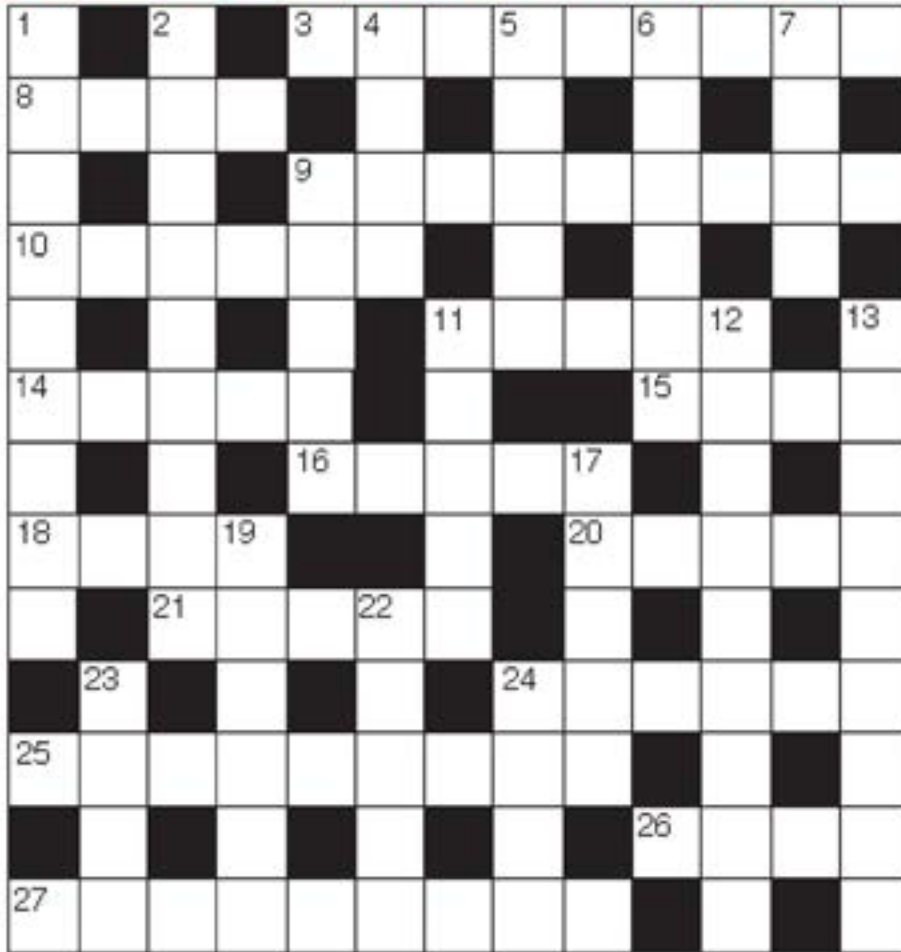
Time Out



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crossword break



Solutions in next week's issue.

ACROSS

- 3. Misfortune (9)
- 8. Ogle (4)
- 9. Conduct (9)
- 10. Dodged (6)
- 11. Cut (5)
- 14. Suffer (5)
- 15. Curb (4)
- 16. Moribund (5)
- 18. Weary (4)
- 20. Wireless (5)
- 21. Vacant (5)
- 24. Dread (6)
- 25. Slight (9)
- 26. Drawback (4)
- 27. Extol (9)

DOWN

- 1. Ease (9)
- 2. Tomb (9)
- 4. Action (4)
- 5. Rub out (5)
- 6. Tremble (6)
- 7. So (4)
- 9. Whiskers (5)
- 11. Piquant (5)
- 12. Translation (9)
- 13. Hearten (9)
- 17. Avarice (5)
- 19. Appear (6)
- 22. A feline (5)
- 23. Fruit (4)
- 24. Brisk pace (4)

who, what, where, when

WHO ... launched the film and television production company DreamWorks SKG in 1994?
WHAT ... was the title of Madonna's twelfth No.1 UK single?
WHERE ... in Scotland is the Savings Bank Museum?
WHEN ... did the western film director John Ford die?
WHO ... wrote the award-winning play *On the Shore of the Wide World*?
WHAT ... does Mardi Gras literally mean?
WHERE ... did Michael Langrish succeed Hewlett Thompson as Bishop in 2000?
WHEN ... did the film *Lady and the Tramp* receive its premiere?

just so

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t



tuition

of the
0

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

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

darn tough sudoku

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

Sudoku

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

Sudoku

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

Last Week's Leisure Solutions

CROSSWORD BREAK:

Across: 1 Chef; 3 Advanced; 8 Neat; 9 Studious; 11 Introductory; 13 Escape; 14 Comet; 17 Acceleration; 20 Inedible; 21 Sofa; 22 Detonate; 23 Vend.

Down: 1 Consider; 2 Elastic; 4 Detour; 5 Additional; 6 Choir; 7 Dusk; 10 Completion; 12 Standard; 15 Noisome; 16 Pellet; 18 Crest; 19 Find.

JUST SO:

At close quarters, A block of flats, Long time no see, Lean over backwards.

WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN:

Daniel Powter; Sensex; The Hawthorns; 1999, Kym Marsh; Andy Millman; Malta; 2003.

Darn Tough Sudoku

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