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BACK TO THE GOLDEN TUNES



ARTIST: **Shola**



MUSIC REPORT
By MELISSA NAZARETH
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BRITISH singer and R&B sensation Shola Ama is set to stage her debut show *Rewind – A celebration of British music culture*, serenading fans in Bahrain with her timeless creations.

The Brit Award and MOBO Award-winner will perform at the British Club in Um Al Hassam on November 20.

Bahrain-based DJs Andrew Bentley, Ali Dawood from *Radio Bahrain* and

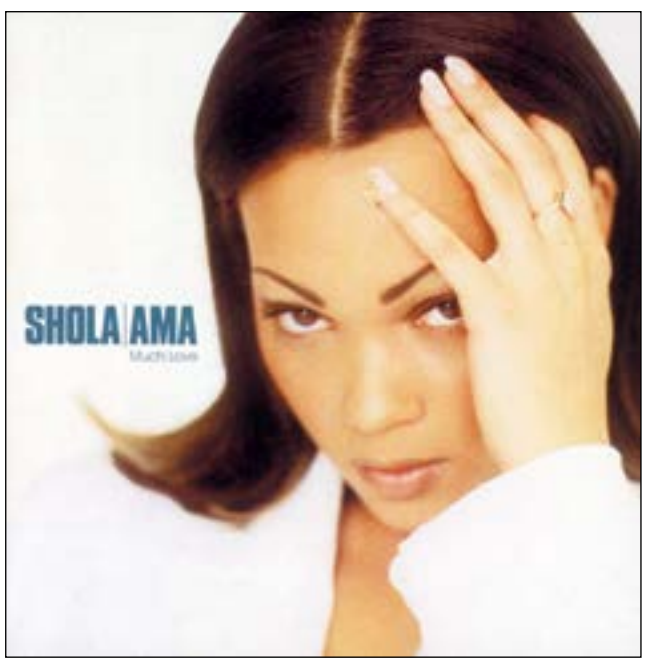
Flanah will also spin tunes from the 1990s and early 2000s – the 'golden age' of British dance music.

"I am excited and though I have never been to Bahrain before, I have heard many great things about the place from people who have travelled there over the years," Shola told *GulfWeekly*.

"I always find it interesting when I am introduced to a new place through my music and the fact that there's people there that want to experience it and see the shows," she added.

Talking about what audiences can expect, she said: "There will obviously be the classic hits from myself from a long time ago, and then some garage remixes thrown in just to give a bit more of an up-tempo club energy to the evening. But mostly just classic songs and me sharing my voice with everyone."

While the creative talent first emerged on to the UK soul and R&B scene during the mid-90s, her songs have stood the test of time. Some of her hits include *You're the One I Love, Who's Loving My Baby* and *You Might Need Somebody*, featured on her debut album *Much Love* (1997), which sold over a million copies, as well as *Still Believe* on *In Return* (1999).



DEBUT: **The *Much Love* album cover**

> ***There will obviously be the classic hits from myself from a long time ago, and then some garage remixes thrown in just to give a bit more of an up-tempo club energy to the evening***

You Might Need Somebody was a breakthrough success with the track reaching number four on the *UK Singles Chart*.

The singer was recognised with two MOBO Awards, including Best Newcomer and Best R&B Act in 1997, followed by a BRIT Award for Best British Female Solo Artist the next year.

Shola came to be associated with popular electronic genre UK Garage, which originated in London in the early-to-mid 1990s, through a series of influential remixes and collaborations.

In recent years, the artist has released several singles, remixes, and anniversary projects, while continuing to perform live. Her gig in Bahrain will be one of many in the region, as she has previously performed in Dubai.

While the artist has developed her distinct sound over the years, she grew up listening to varied genres, which laid the foundation for her musical career.

"I grew up in a house with four women. My mother sang in a jazz band when I was young and played roots and revival music. My grandmother would play a lot of zouk and calypso and my aunt had her own taste of like Al Jarreau and Chalamet. My cousin liked rare groove so, I grew up around this big melting pot," she recounted.

Though love and relationships have been a central theme in her songs, that is slowly changing. Shola talked about her evolution as an artist, noting how her experiences have influenced her work since she first started writing songs at 15.

"It is more looking what's underneath and being introspective and looking into myself and my own behaviours and patterns and why I am the way I am about certain things or connections," she said.

"The music I'm making currently has more of a spiritual element to it. I'm also being a little bit more honest because I think when you're young and you make music, you haven't really lived a lot of life yet," added the kundalini yoga teacher.

Shola spent about four months doing her teacher training, which influenced her writing and music. She is set to release new songs next year, which will reflect this new style and has a tour on the cards, marking the 30th anniversary of *Much Love*.

"I will be doing the tour with a live band in September to celebrate that," she added.

For more information or tickets, follow @ thebritishclubbahrain on Instagram.



LEISURE GUIDE INSIDE
SEE PAGES 2-3

Unwind with the best dining deals, relaxing spa treatments and exciting holiday markets as hotels and clubs across Bahrain host irresistable offers.

Leisure Scene



What's on guide

By Julia Cassano

FIVE-COURSE FEAST AT THE RITZ-CAR



AMBIENCE: **Enjoy the cooler weather in Thai Lounge's outdoor area**

INTERNATIONALLY acclaimed Bahraini chef Tala Bashmi is set to bring her culinary expertise to The Ritz-Carlton, Bahrain, with an exclusive residency at Plums, featuring a delectable five-course tasting menu alongside a selection of exciting new creations.

Guests can join every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 7pm onwards to savour the menu and explore a selection of à la carte dishes, each showcasing Chef Tala's distinctive culinary approach.

Internationally recognised for bringing Khaleeji cuisine to a wider audience, Chef Tala was named MENA's Best Female Chef by The World's 50 Best Restaurants in 2022. Her cooking reflects a deep appreciation for Bahrain's culinary heritage.

Adding a little excitement to the dining scene, Thai Lounge invites ladies to try their luck at Ladies' Fortune Night.

Spin the Lucky Zodiac Wheel for a chance to enjoy an exclusive 50 per cent saving on the ladies' food bill, with a complimentary beverage for female guests upon arrival.



EXPERT: **Chef Tala**

Priced à la carte, it is available on Tuesday from 6pm to 10pm at Thai Lounge.

For those who prefer a more leisurely dining experience, a lavish charcuterie selection, paired with special grape beverages, offers the perfect setting for relaxed evenings and good conversation.

Priced at BD35, this refined sharing experience is available every Sunday from 7pm to 11pm at Plums.

Meanwhile, lovers of Italian cuisine can embark on a delicious culinary journey at P feat auth and tabl

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Fo The for a scor delightf French this time from 3p

Bringi Cantina extravag

It costs glasses from 7p

For bo 175864

BEST OF BOTH WORLDS

BYBLOS at Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay welcomes award-winning Egyptian chef Shehab Medhat for the third edition of Arabian Horizons, bringing an exciting culinary collaboration to its waterfront setting.

Joining forces with Chef Tony El Khoury, Chef Shehab presents an exclusive 10-course tasting menu celebrating the rich culinary traditions of Lebanon and Egypt. Winner of *MBC Top Chef Arab World 2025*, he brings his contemporary approach towards Egyptian cuisine to the collaboration shaped by regional flavours and personal stories.

Running for three nights until November 14, the experience is available from 6pm to midnight. Guests can enjoy the 10-course menu for BD47 per person or opt for a six-course selection priced at BD29 per person.

Meanwhile, Bahrain Bay Kitchen is introducing a fresh take on Friday brunch with A World of Street Food, bringing the vibrant flavours of international street food cultures to the table. Live cooking stations showcase an enticing variety of dishes, from Greek chicken gyros and tikka sandwiches to South Indian appams with mutton stew, New York brisket and classic British fish and chips.



DUO: **Chef Tony, left, with Chef Shehab**

Available every Friday this month from 1pm to 4pm, the brunch is priced at BD35 with soft beverages or BD48 with a selected beverage package.

For those looking to discover something new, Bay View Lounge introduces exciting additions to its menu. Guests can look forward to Italian burrata with avocado and cherry tomato confit, slow-cooked veal and sea bass, among other dishes. Priced à la carte, the new menu is available daily from 11am to 11.30pm.



RELAX: **The Secret Garden Spa experience**

After a week of culinary discoveries, guests can turn their attention to a little well-deserved relaxation with the Secret Garden Spa experience. Begin with a rejuvenating couples' treatment in the garden before unwinding with Azure Pool access, chilled bubbles and curated bites served in the privacy of a cabana. Guests can also enhance any 60-minute spa treatment for one or two persons with an open-air setting surrounded by lush greenery and the gentle sounds of birdsong. The Secret Garden Escape for two is priced at BD245 from Sunday to Wednesday and BD255 from Thursday to Saturday, while the garden treatment add-on is available for BD30 per person.

For bookings and more information, contact 17115500.

ENJOY VIBRANT FLAVOURS



UBE: **Scrumptious creations at Noor Lounge**

MAKE the most out of the weekend with an exciting line-up of dining and entertainment experiences at InterContinental Bahrain.

Kick things off at Legendz SteakHouse with Prime Time Thursday, featuring one hour of free-flowing signature beverages and a platter of light bites, before tucking into a perfectly grilled 200-gram filet mignon, served with a choice of signature sauce and side.

Priced at BD32net per person, the experience is available every Thursday from 6pm to 10pm.

Legendz SteakHouse also invites guests to its Sit Down Brunch, bringing together delicious food, refreshing beverages and a relaxed atmosphere.

The experience begins with an exquisite selection of sharing starters, including cacio e pepe croquettes, short rib sliders or crispy fried shrimp, followed by a choice of mains such as burrata and pecorino ravioli, stuffed cornish hen, roasted salmon, and signature filet mignon café de Paris.

Available every Friday from noon to 4pm, the brunch is priced at BD28net with soft beverages and BD38net with unlimited selected beverages. Children under six dine for free, while those aged six to 12 receive 50 per cent savings.

As the evening unfolds, Downtown Bar sets the stage for a night of old-world glamour with an exclusive celebration inspired by the Jazz Age. Guests are invited to embrace the spirit of Gatsby with their finest 1920s-inspired attire, with one gentleman and one lady winning special prizes in the best-dressed competition. Taking place on November 27 from 8pm to midnight, the evening promises timeless sophistication, expertly crafted drinks and plenty of atmosphere. Tickets are priced at BD28.

For a sophisticated afternoon, head to Noor Lounge for a luxurious twist on afternoon tea with the vibrant flavours of ube. Guests can enjoy an elegant selection of handcrafted pastries, savoury bites and freshly baked scones served with ube jam and signature desserts.

It is available every Thursday and Friday, from 2pm to 7pm at BD8 per tray.

For bookings and more information, contact 36967701.

CHRISTM

THE festive seas is just around the corner, and the British Club Bahrain has planned series of celebrations starting with its annu Christmas Market on November 21.

Taking place from noon to 7pm, the event promise a delightful shopping experience, with a variety unique gifts, stocking fille and handcrafted items to browse.

Visitors can look forwar a special appearance by S Claus, as well as the chan



Leisure Scene

Weekly Entertainment

RLTON

rimavera's Bella Italia Brunch, uring an enticing selection of entic dishes, from saffron arancini fresh seafood to the much-loved eside tiramisu.
s available tomorrow from 12.30pm pm and costs BD35 per adult uding soft beverages and BD45 per lt with selected beverages. Children d four to 12 dine for BD17.500 uding soft beverages.
r a more relaxed afternoon affair, Ritz Gourmet Lounge sets the scene an elegant afternoon tea, featuring nes, delicate finger sandwiches, ul pastries and an assortment of favourites. Priced at BD34 per set, eless experience is available daily m to 7pm.
ng the line-up to a lively finish, Kahlo serves up the ultimate taco ganza every Tuesday evening.
s BD25 per person, inclusive of two of a special beverage on Tuesday m to 10pm.
ookings or more information, call 99 or WhatsApp 39770525.

MAS MARKET

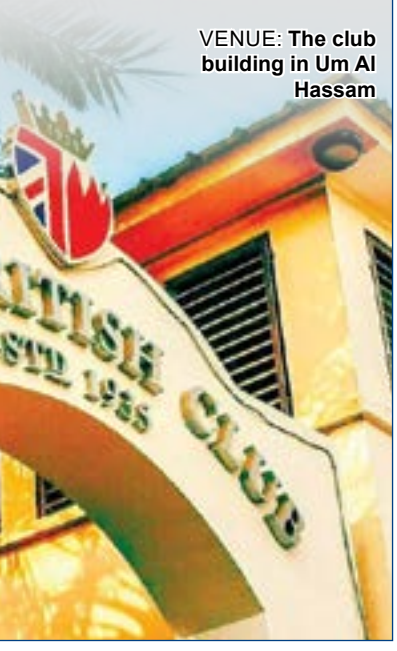
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to win a turkey in the raffle. Entry is free for all.

The celebrations continue on November 27 with the club's magical tree lighting ceremony, featuring performances by the Jazz Orchestra of Bahrain and Manama Singers. Guests can soak up the atmosphere while enjoying seasonal beverages and traditional mince pies as Christmas lights illuminate the club.

Entry to the tree lighting event is free for members and costs BD2.500 for non-members.

For more information, call 17728245.



VENUE: **The club building in Um Al Hassam**

FRIDAYS ARE FOR FUN



GORGEOUS: **Brunch set up at the hotel**

IF you're looking for the perfect way to spend your Friday with family and friends, Sheraton Bahrain Hotel is hosting Fridays at Sheraton, a new weekly experience that brings together exceptional dining, lively entertainment and a host of activities for all ages.

At the heart of the experience are two distinctive culinary offerings, with guests invited to savour a Mediterranean-inspired brunch at WILD or explore the rich flavours of Persian cuisine at Golestan Persian Grill, known for its signature grilled specialities. Live cooking stations and interactive experiences also feature, adding to the excitement.

The fun continues beyond the dining venues, with guests enjoying access to the outdoor pool, live entertainment, dedicated children's activities and inviting spaces to unwind and connect. Whether spending quality time with loved ones, keeping the little ones entertained or simply enjoying a leisurely Friday afternoon, Fridays at Sheraton promises something for everyone.

It is held every Friday from 12.30pm to 4.30pm, with packages starting from BD35net per person.

Children aged six to 12 enjoy 50 per cent off. An after-brunch package is also available.

For reservations, call 17533533 or WhatsApp 38885408.

GOURMET BITES AND SIPS

SOAK in sun-drenched sea views at Aqua Vista Bahrain's Friday Social brunch, the perfect event to kick off the weekend.

Guests can enjoy gourmet brunch bites, beverages, DJ beats and more from 12.30pm to 4pm.

It costs BD17 with soft beverages and BD27 with selected beverages.

For more information and reservations, call 17177333.



ENJOY: **Good times at Aqua Vista**

HOLIDAY HARMONY AWAITS

CELEBRATE the most wonderful time of the year at Dilmun Club Bahrain, with an enchanting evening of Christmas carols and dinner with the Manama Singers.

Head to the club on November 26 for a night filled with festive cheer, delicious dining and heart-warming music. Doors open at 7pm and the show begins at 7.30pm - the perfect start to your holiday season.

Enjoy a specially crafted Christmas dinner menu while the Manama Singers fill the air with beautiful harmonies and classic carols. All bookings must be paid upfront.

For reservations or more information, call 17690926.



DELIGHTFUL RETREAT

UNWIND: **Relaxing time at Hawar Resort by Mantis**

EXPERIENCE an unforgettable escape at Hawar Resort by Mantis, where every moment is designed for bliss.

Begin your morning with a delicious breakfast at Bahri and spend the day discovering the island's natural beauty and unique experiences.

End on a delicious note with Mediterranean-inspired flavours at C-Salt, the resort's new Italian dining destination.

From island adventures to authentic flavours, every moment is an invitation to indulge.

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

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 American pop rock band has released albums entitled *Songs about Jane*, *Hands All Over* and *Red Pill Blues*?

2) What is the best-selling ice cream brand in the world?

3) How old was Max Verstappen when he became the youngest driver to start an F1 race?

4) For how many holes is The Open Championship of golf contested?

5) In the Google logo, what colour is the letter 'l'?

6) Bill Clinton served as governor of which American state?

7) In *The Shawshank Redemption*, what is Shawshank?

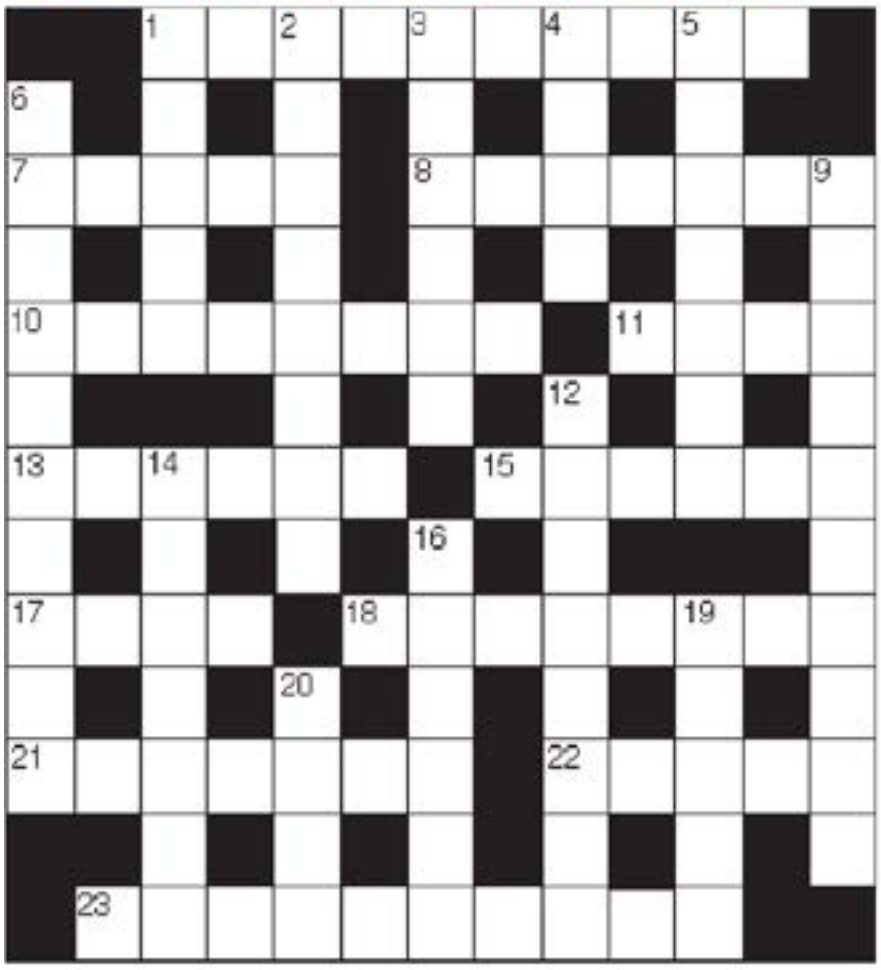
ANSWERS

1) Maroon 5
2) Magnum
3) 17
4) 72
5) Green
6) Arkansas
7) The name of the prison

Time Out

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crossword break



Solutions in next week's issue.

ACROSS

1. Brotherhood (10)
7. Chasm (5)
8. Puritanical (7)
10. Bitterness (8)
11. Row (4)
13. Mystic (6)
15. Wrote (6)
17. Manufactured (4)
18. Wavering (8)
21. Merciful (7)
22. Love affair (5)
23. Fussy (10)

DOWN

1. Lobby (5)
2. Congregate (8)
3. Enlarge (6)
4. Type of word (4)
5. Teaching (7)
6. Supernatural (10)
9. Passed down (10)
12. Devote (8)
14. Intonation (7)
16. Feverish (6)
19. Torment (5)
20. Slender (4)

who, what, where, when

WHO... played the title role in the 1995 TV movie *Love and Betrayal: The Mia Farrow Story?*
WHAT... are the two words of text contained in John 11:35 in the *King James Bible*?
WHERE ... was the American basketball star Michael Jordan born?
WHEN ... was the Treaty of Utrecht that helped end the War of the Spanish Succession?
WHO... is the actress wife of actor Kevin Kline?
WHAT... shape is the body of the musical instrument a balalaika?
WHERE ... in Africa are the towns of Gulu and Arua?
WHEN... did the actor Clark Gable marry actress Carole Lombard?

just so

the mirror

♀ ♀ ♀ ♀

@MAST

VUL
GAR

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

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

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

darn tough sudoku

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

Sudoku

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

Sudoku

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

Last Week's Leisure Solutions

CROSSWORD BREAK:

Across: 6 Oblique; 7 Sugar; 9 Row; 10 Unhurried; 12 Extravagant; 15 Concentrate; 17 Castigate; 19 Sly; 21 Flood; 22 Welcome.

Down: 1 Abhor; 2 Dip; 3 Turn; 4 Surrogate; 5 Pageant; 8 Quaver; 11 Execution; 13 Renege; 14 Lovable; 16 Clump; 18 Tied; 20 Ice.

JUST SO: A foregone conclusion, The sixth sense, A hole in one, A great dane

WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN:

Iain Duncan Smith; Make or repair stringed instruments; Portugal; 1966; Mary Hayley Bell; Bungalow; Fratton Park; 1790.

Darn Tough Sudoku

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

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