Beyond the glitz

Qatari designer Leila Issam draws on exporting a brand, not just jewellery, for business sense. P4-5

Cover Story

Showbiz
Movie academy backs off fight with Netflix. Page 15

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South Africans mark silver jubilee of Freedom Day. Page 16

YOUR PAGE, YOUR STAGE!
There’s probably a photographer hidden in each of us, looking out for a platform. Community invites you to take a chance and send your contributions with your contact details and complete description of the images to qatarcommunity@gmail.com — PHOTO ESSAY, Page 10
PRAYER TIME
Fajr 3.28am
Shorooq (sunrise) 5.02am
Zuhr (noon) 11.33am
Ajr (afternoon) 3.02pm
Maghreb (sunset) 6.04pm
Isha (night) 7.34pm

USEFUL NUMBERS
Emergency 999
Worldwide Emergency Number 112
Kahramaa – Electricity and Water 991
Local Directory 180
International Calls Enquiries 150
Hamad International Airport 40106666
Labor Department 44508111, 44406537
Mowasalat Taxi 44588888
Qatar Airways 44906000
Hamad Medical Corporation 44392222, 44393333
Qatar General Electricity and Water Corporation 44845555, 44845464
Primary Health Care Corporation 44593333, 44593363
Qatar Assistive Technology Centre 44594050
Qatar News Agency 44490205, 44490333
Q-Post – General Postal Corporation 44464444
Humanitarian Services Office
(Single window facility for the repatriation of bodies)
Ministry of Interior 40253371, 40253372, 40253369
Ministry of Health 40253364, 40253365
Hamad Medical Corporation 40253364, 40253365
Qatar Airways 40253374

Avengers: Endgame
DIRECTOR: Anthony Russo, Joe Russo
CAST: Robert Downey Jr., Chris Evans, Mark Ruffalo
SYNOPSIS: Adrift in space with no food or water, Tony Stark sends a message to Pepper Potts as his oxygen supply starts to dwindle. Meanwhile, the remaining Avengers, Thor, Black Widow, Captain America and Bruce Banner, must figure out a way to bring back their vanquished allies for an epic showdown with Thanos.
THEATRE: The Mall, Landmark, Royal Plaza

THEATRE:
Avengers: Endgame (2D) 2pm; Avengers: Endgame (2D) 5pm; Avengers: Endgame (2D) 8pm.
Avengers: Endgame (2D) 11:15pm.

The Mall Cinema (1):
Avengers: Endgame (2D) 2pm; Avengers: Endgame (2D) 5pm; Avengers: Endgame (2D) 8pm.
Avengers: Endgame (2D) 11:15pm.

The Mall Cinema (2):
Avengers: Endgame (2D) 2pm; Avengers: Endgame (2D) 5pm; Avengers: Endgame (2D) 8pm; Avengers: Endgame (2D) 11:15pm.

The Mall Cinema (3):
Strike (2D) 2pm; Missing Link (2D) 3:45pm; Strike (2D) 5:30pm; Layl Khairji (Arabic) 7:15pm; Athiran (Malayalam) 9pm; Oru Yamandan Premakadha (Malayalam) 11:30pm.

Landmark Cinema (1):
Athiran (Malayalam) 2:15pm; Strike (2D) 4:45pm; Layl Khairji (Arabic) 6:30pm; Oru Yamandan Premakadha (Malayalam) 8:15pm; Kanchana 3 (Tamil) 11:15pm.

Landmark Cinema (2):
Strike (2D) 2:30pm; Madhura Raja (Malayalam) 4:30pm; Avengers: Endgame (2D) 7:30pm; Avengers: Endgame (2D) 11pm.

Landmark Cinema (3):
Kanchana 3 (Tamil) 2pm; Avengers: Endgame (2D) 5pm; Avengers: Endgame (2D) 8:15pm; Athiran (Malayalam) 11:30pm.

Royal Plaza Cinema Palace (1): Strike (2D) 2:15pm; Avengers: Endgame (3D) 4:15pm; Avengers: Endgame (2D) 7:30pm; Avengers: Endgame (2D) 11pm.

Royal Plaza Cinema Palace (2): Kanchana 3 (Tamil) 2pm; Avengers: Endgame (2D) 5pm; Avengers: Endgame (2D) 8:15pm; Athiran (Malayalam) 11:30pm.

Royal Plaza Cinema Palace (3): Athiran (Malayalam) 2:15pm; Strike (2D) 4:45pm; Oru Yamandan Premakadha (Malayalam) 6:30pm; Layl Khairji (Arabic) 9:30pm; Boar (2D) 11:30pm.

Quote Unquote
"Be brave. Take risks. Nothing can substitute experience."
— Paulo Coelho
Baraka: Blessing of the Garden
WHERE: Oxygen Park
WHEN: Ongoing till May 2
TIME: 3pm
If you’re interested in plants and their medicinal and benefits gardening, botany and history, be sure to check out the ‘Baraka: Blessing of the Garden’ exhibition in Education City. The exhibition highlights the use plants mentioned in the Qur’ân and Hadith, and their significance to society. The narrative of the exhibition aims to inform and engage visitors, and, encouraging them to think about how our everyday life involves and depends on plants, is divided into four categories: cosmetic-medicinal; edible; lifestyle; and fragrance.

Sunset Desert Safari
WHERE: InLand Sea Off Rd, Qatar
WHEN: May 3
TIME: 2pm – 7pm
Enjoy a day out in the relaxing singing sand dunes of Mesaleed along with a thrilling dune bashing experience. This 5-hour getaway takes you all the way to the breath-taking inland sea beach a.k.a Khor Al Adaid to watch the Sunset. Only for QR170 per person.

Artistic Gymnastic Classes
WHERE: Qatar Academy Msheireb
WHEN: Ongoing
TIME: 3:15pm – 4:15pm
The olympic sport using horizontal bar, rings and floor exercises on mats for the children from age 4 till 16.

Syria Matters Exhibition
WHERE: Museum of Islamic Art
WHEN: Ongoing till April 30
TIME: 9am – 7pm
Museum of Islamic Art (MIA) in Doha presents a major exhibition, co-curated by MIA Director Dr Julia Gommell and Rania Abdelbaki, as part of the MIA ten-year anniversary celebrations.

Ballet Lessons
WHERE: Music and Arts Atelier
WHEN: Ongoing
TIME: 4pm – 8pm
For more information, contact registration@atelierqatar.com

Cycling: Losail Circuit Sports Club
WHERE: Losail Circuit
WHEN: Ongoing
TIME: 5pm
Losail Circuit Sports Club, in association with Qatar Sports For All Federation, invites all cyclists, runners and walkers to train under the floodlights of Losail International Circuit every Wednesdays.

Dance and Instrument Classes
WHERE: TCA Campus, Behind Gulf Times Building
WHEN: Wednesday – Monday
Learn the movements of dance styles in Bollywood, Hip Hop and also the musical instruments such as Piano, Guitar, Keyboard for adults as well kids and move in the world of music. For details, contact 66523871/31326749.

Hobby Classes
WHERE: Mamangam Performing Art Centre
WHEN: Wednesday – Monday
Mamangam Performing Art Centre, is a holistic performing arts institution and a one stop solution for adults as well as children looking to explore their talents in various art forms. We offer classes in contemporary, Bollywood, hip hop, Indian classical dance, music (Hindustani and Carnatic), arts and craft, karate, yoga, percussion (Chenda, Thiniya, Elathalam and Madhalam), violin, harmonium, public speaking.

Additional services include dance education, choreograph music videos and dance cover albums, choreograph dance musical projects, corporate workshops and events, choreograph events for schools, colleges, alumni meets and corporate and choreography events. For details, call 33497609.

After School Activities
WHERE: Atelier
WHEN: Ongoing
Music and arts activities for students taking place after they finish their day in school includes Group Music lessons, Hip-hop, Ballet, Drawing and Painting, Drama, Theatre & Taekwondo. Ages between 5 and 10 years old after school hours.

Arabic Calligraphy Workshop
WHEN: Saturday – Wednesday
TIME: 6pm
Arabic Calligraphy workshop is back.
Come and learn the artistic practice of Arabic handwriting and calligraphy at Music and Arts Atelier.
The lessons will take place every Saturday, Monday and Wednesday at 6pm. For more information, contact registration@atelierqatar.com

Compiled by Nausheen Shaikh. E-mail: gflisting@gmail.com, Events and timings subject to change
“You can’t design one thing for all women”
— Leila Issam, Qatari jewellery designer

Leila Issam has held “Anything Art” dear to her heart as a motto from a very young age. During a time when children exhibit signs of whether they will grow into aficionados of art or its architects, Leila clearly had the qualities of the latter.

A Qatari jewellery designer, she first obtained her Baccalaureate in French Literature and Philosophy — a combination she felt she needed first in order to understand the discipline that continues today in her thinking process of creating luxury products. She then moved to Paris to study art and design where she experimented with different fine art techniques, as well as design in all its forms; be it conceptual or interior.

But it was after she moved to Florence that jewellery fascinated her from every angle, and thus began a quest for an art form she would take on as her own.

By Mudassir Raja

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DOUBLE CLAW RING: For your inner wild side, a double claw ring, pave set with G-VS1 diamonds on 18k gold.

WILDERNESS RING: A pave set diamond ring set it in 18k yellow gold.

Studying designs is important, but following your vision and heart is very important. That feeling is probably lacking in the market.
Leila grew up with a sense of business, coming from a family of luxury retailers. Prior to launching her own brand, Leila started her career in the corporate world to understand the gold and diamond business from mining all the way to distribution.

Currently, Leila lives in Amman, Jordan, where she still holds the belief: “Your brand can’t succeed unless you know about the business details within the industry.”

Leila Issam Fine Jewellery was established in 2014 as a home for designing and manufacturing fine and high jewellery, and an ultimate vision of adorning women with jewels that are reflective of their daily inner an ultimate vision of adorning women with jewels that are reflective of their daily inner an ultimate vision of adorning women with jewels that are reflective of their daily inner an ultimate vision of adorning women with jewels that are reflective of their daily inner a vision of adorning women with jewels that are reflective of their daily inner. She still holds the belief: “Your brand can’t succeed unless you know about the business details within the industry.”

Leila Issam Fine Jewellery was established in 2014 as a home for designing and manufacturing fine and high jewellery, and an ultimate vision of adorning women with jewels that are reflective of their daily inner strength, hard work and ingenuity.

Leila was recently in Doha and Community caught up with her to get to know more about her ideas and ambition.

Sharing her love for art and design, Leila said: “Growing up, art and design were my passion. My mother used to push me to go to the right kind of art classes, get the right supplies, and to try different techniques.

“When I was getting my university degree, I started doing fashion designs. I enjoyed it but knew that it was not the area where I wanted to be. I studied conceptual designs in Paris. Then I moved to Florence and I did interior designs.”

Leila feels all sorts of designs are connected. Her knowledge of different fields of design has helped her in pursuing the career of jewellery designer. “After completing my university education, I started working in gold and diamond trading. There I learnt about diamonds as how to source them from mining right up to distribution. This has helped me turn design into business and not just fashion. [Smilingly] I wish it were just designs. It is much more complicated.”

With her family already in the business, Leila had access to different stones and jewels to work with. “I did one piece with permission, of course, in 2012. When I realised that it was really an expensive business, I started recycling jewellery. It is normal to get gifts that they sometimes do not necessarily like. The good part of this business is that gold or diamonds do not get wasted. Gold is a commodity forever. So I started dismantling the pieces and redesigning them. I started this practice using the jewellery from my family.”

Leila has been getting inspiration from the appreciation she gets for her innovative designs. “It just keeps me going. I also have clients whose ideas help me in being more and more innovative. I also get a lot of appreciation from my family.”

“My inspiration comes from natural phenomena — things that happen in nature — you can actually see but you can feel also. Some of my designs are inspired by the sunbeams that come through forests. I capture those green and yellow sapphires with a hint of diamond. Some of my pieces represent how a leaf lands on the ground after falling from a tree. I also have shadow collection, showing how I put shadows into jewellery through colours,” she says.

She feels lucky to be a designer in Doha.

Leila acknowledges the support and encouragement that the young Qatari entrepreneurs get from the government. “We get a lot of opportunities to exhibit our designs. The exhibitions like the recent one are always helpful for Qatari women designers. We also get logistic support to move around the jewellery. I would not be able to take part in the exhibition with my small team. The government has been encouraging the Qatari youth to come forward and do what they want to do.”

The designer has big plans for the future. “As the government is encouraging, I think we should be ready to start exporting now. We should position our products abroad. That is what I am aiming at. I will be in New York this May for an exhibition.”

The promising designer sees social media as a big platform to market her brand. “Social media is my main source. Most of my sales — before retail — are done online. It is through social media how people get to know me and my jewellery,” she concludes authoritatively.

For her, there is a mix of classical and modern designs available in Qatar. “Honestly, Qatar is full of tradition and culture. But I also believe that it is a very modern country. I am very inspired and I am designing for modern Doha. "Honestly speaking, most of my work is custom-made. My customers and I design together. They give their input. However, I also bring forth my own innovative designs. My clients mainly come to me after seeing my personal designs. But they do help me in coming up with the piece they want. Then I elaborate on the full collection.”

Leila believes that there are growing numbers of Qatari women designers in Doha. Majority of designers are always ready to make their next move. “There are designers in very good numbers. There is however, no cut-throat competition. The competition is actually very healthy. We all can grow together. We can join hands to grow together. During the recently held exhibition [Doha Jewellery and Watches Exhibition 2019], there were 12 Qatar designers and 10 of them were women. Each one of them had different designs and client bases.”

Leila, a deft designer, encourages aspiring designers to explore the market and bring in novel designs. “My advice is that it is worth a try. We are extremely fortunate to have so many opportunities and support in Doha. It is a really good time to grab the opportunity. Studying designs is important, but following your vision and heart is very important. That feeling is probably lacking in the market. You should go for it.”

“The designer sees very different tastes of designs expressed by Arab women. It is not strictly traditional designs. “Every age has a preference. Purely, they have different tastes. It is very difficult to judge. You cannot design one thing for all women.”

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Kaski Ideal Service Society-Qatar organises 17th General Assembly

Kaski Ideal Service Society (KISS)-Qatar recently organised its 17th General Assembly. The assembly was attended by notable Nepali community leaders, including Bishwo Bandhu Thapa, Balaram Sapkota, Dhurba Raj Adhikari, Bimal Subedi, Man Prasad Rana Magar, Ram Prajad Gautam, Rekshya Basnet, Prabhat Tripathi, Krishna Bahadur Karki, Ram J Khatri, Krishn Babur Bhatta, Yams, Ram J Khatri, Azmat Ali, Kesh Gurmachan Magar, Sagar Paudel, Meen Bahadur Karki, Chandamani Poudel, Shakti Chhetri, Santosh Timrins, Mahendra Chalise, Hem Bahadur BK, Prem Lal Adhikari, Man Bahadur Kunwar, Armit BK, Agindra Devkota, Balaram Thapa, Vivek Gurung, and Ganesh GC.

The event kicked off with the national anthem of Nepal. Hem Bahadur BK, Vice Chairman of KISS-Qatar, welcomed the gathering. Khusiram Gurung, Secretary of KISS-Qatar, presented an early report and Agridhar Devkota, Treasurer, a fiscal report on the occasion. The event featured a dance performance of various artists, including Sita Ghimire and Jivan Gurung and Maya Gurung, Jivan Gurung, Prem Lal Adhikari, Pravat Tripathi, Kshetra Bahadur Gurung, Mahesh Tamang and Rekshya Basnet, local Nepali singers, also performed at the event. Various local Nepalis, including Dev Bahadur BK, Kesh Gurmachan Magar, Kshetra Bahadur Gurung, Keshu Gurung, Jit Bahadur Gurung, Santosh Timrins, Huma Dewi Gurung, Isha Gurung, Madan Gurung, Sabitra Giri, Chandra Bahadur Adhikari and Santosh Timrins signed up for the membership of KISS-Qatar. Adhansha Sandesh souvenir was also unveiled on the occasion.

Nepalese community leaders, including Jivan Gurung, Ganesh GC, Sabitra Giri, Santosh Timrins, Sagar Paudel, Min Bahadur Karki, Azmat Ali and Ram Ji Khatri along with Prabhat Tripathi, Dhurba Raj Adhikari, Bimal Subedi also spoke on the occasion.

—Text and photos by Usha Wagle Gautam

MES organises international educational trip

MES Indian School recently organised an international trip to United States of America for its students and teachers. The aim of the education trip was the experience the world of high-tech innovation, enabling to deepen their innovative ingenuity, and to facilitate them with unique global cultural awareness. A total of 121 members, including students, parents and teachers divided in two batches went for the educational expedition.

The ten-day visit includes a camp at Kennedy Space Centre in Orlando, UN Headquarters in New York, Disney Land, Washington DC and Miami.

During the three-day camp in Kennedy Space Centre, the contingent was engaged in adventurous and simulation activities, including Microgravity Simulator which gave the visitors a hands-on experience of doing repair jobs in space with all the special tools taking into consideration along with the precautionary measures and engaging in cleaning dust particles on solar panels. They also saw different launch vehicles and transportation vehicles used to transport the rockets to the launch site. These campers teamed up as they were presented with everyday tasks and challenges faced in fields of astronaut-related science, technology, engineering and math. Additionally, interactions with the trainees of astronaut educated the participants about the challenges encountered by the astronauts in space and research activity of Nasa experiments programme.

The contingent was provided an opportunity to operate robots and experience a guided tour of various places, including Kennedy Space Complex, The Mercury, Gemini, The Mars Land Rover, The Space Launch System, The Dragon and The Atlantis Space Shuttle.

The contingent also visited several tourist attractions in Washington and New York, including The White House, Capitol Hill, The Lincoln Memorial, The Jefferson Memorial, Smithson Air and Space Museum, 9/11 Memorial (Ground Zero), World Trade Centre, Statue of Liberty, the Security Council and UN General Assembly, Central Park, Times Square, The Plaza Hotel, Empire State Building, The Trump Tower, Brooklyn Bridge, Wall Street and The Grand Central Terminal.

The tour was operated by ITL World Company. Arshad and Harshad co-ordinated the tour. Hameeda Kadar, Principal of MES, along with faculty members, including Usman Mayeri, Haneef, Habib S. Rahman, Salim, Babakrishnan, Suchitra Kolan, Rosy Johnson, Sumitha Nassar, Raji S. Sathesh and Veena Prasad accompanied the students. “Such an educational endeavour apart from widening students’ knowledge also provides the much-needed fillip as well as hands-on experience in getting technological exposure in their formative years,” said Hameeda Kadar.
MES Indian School recently organised Youth Festival ‘Regalia’ highlighting and inculcating the cultural aspects of India and Qatar among students. Santhosh Palee, Station Head and Group Creative Director of Olive Suno Radio Network, was the chief guest at the event. Declaring the event open, Santhosh Palee emphasised on the need of the students to be resolute about achieving goals unmindful of the setbacks one encounters in life. Speaking on the occasion, Hameeda Kadar, Principal of MES, exhorted the students to pursue their passion in a devoted manner honing and exhibiting innate talents and by making use of the opportunities extended by the school at an early stage of their life. “It’s not about winning, but the participation that is indispensable to influence and mould the participants,” she added.

Dr K P Najeeb, Director of Co-Curricular and Cultural Activities of MES, was the guest of honour. A theme song composed by Anver VP, Music Teacher at MES, and lyrics by Rajendran S, Mansul Ansary and Mohammad Athar accentuating India Qatar cultural exchange was presented by the school choir on the occasion. Various competitions divided into different categories, including Sub-Junior I, Sub-Junior II, Junior, Intermediate, Senior and Super Senior were also organised. Around 3,500 students from all the sections of MES participated in various competitions, including painting, pencil drawing, collage, calligraphy, origami, light music, classical dances, folk dance, cinematic dance, fancy dress, mono act, storytelling, debate, skits, elocution, essay writing, recitation and instrumental music. The event was attended by Ahamed Isham, Director, Sports and Games, M C Muhamed, Director of Transport, along with school officials, parents and teachers. Zainab, a student representative of MES, welcomed the gathering and Abdullah Khan proposed a vote of thanks. The co-ordinating team was led by Rajendran, the convener of the youth festival 2019.

Students of Swiss International School light up a musical show

The students of Grade I-X of Swiss International School recently performed Annie Jr – the Musical on the stage. The rest of the students were part of the choir. Annie is based on the popular comic strip and adapted from the Tony Award-winning Best Musical, with a beloved book and score by Tony Award winners, including Thomas Meehan, Charles Strouse and Martin Charnin. With equal measures of pluck and positivity, little orphan Annie charms everyone’s hearts despite a next-to-nothing start in 1930s New York City. Annie, role played by Leen, a student of Grade III, is determined to find the parents who abandoned her years ago on the doorstep of an orphanage run by the cruel Miss Hannigan, role played by Glory, a student of Grade VI. Annie eventually foils Miss Hannigan’s evil machinations, finding a new home and family in billionaire Oliver Warbucks, role played by Yunus, a student of Grade 10; Grace Farrell, role played by Selena, a student of Grade VIII; and a lovable mutt named Sandy, role played by Sarah, a student of Grade III.
Heya Fashion Exhibition 2019

On a Qatar fashion scene that sometimes gets too caught up in framing its shows with traditional Qatari abayas and kaaftans, the influence of haute couture - which can only be achieved through craftsmanship and courage - was a good colour on the Heya runway this season, writes Muhammad Asad Ullah

This season the Heya Fashion Show got fancier than ever. Call it the traditional silhouette effect, or indeed the haute couture influence: everywhere you looked, volumes were expanding and surface decoration intensifying with trails of embellished wearable collections. On a Qatar fashion scene that sometimes gets too caught up in framing its shows with traditional Qatari abayas and kaaftans, the influence of haute couture - which can only be achieved through craftsmanship and courage - was a good colour on the Heya runway this season.

The 15th edition of Heya Arabian Fashion Exhibition officially opened recently, featuring more than 250 brands of abayas and modest fashion designs from around the globe at the Doha Exhibition and Convention Centre (DECC), under the patronage of HE Sheikha Al-Mayassa bint Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani. The five-day exhibition is scheduled to run till April 30, bringing a series of events showcasing the latest in Arabian and modest designs, as well as inspiring discussions on the business of fashion, the latest trends, beauty, textiles, and sustainable fashion.

Heya Fashion Exhibition is defined by its dynamic dichotomy between the emerging talents and the establishment. Spinning his colour wheel, Suneet Varma infused an ebullient mix of colours into his capsule collection, left, and Debaj, right, featured long over-sized abaya coats in basic black and silhouettes forming well-structured panels.
A majestic sense of diversity

keeping all that bling still a vital part of its DNA. Nothing too revealing; sophisticatedly tailored for a moderate woman of Doha. That pink striped gown and the deep blue mirror work silhouette was crafted to detail. Va Va Voom Suneeet!

Sonali Raman
The dashes of silver, solid block colours, tasseled accessories, dresses and tunics were pretty enough to sail right off retail racks. There were asymmetrical hems, drapes, tails, kaftan sleeves and shirts dexterously cut into layers – high slit and peek-a-boo. The colour scheme shifted from black to green to yellow and a tangerine blush. Very pretty. It was also all entirely wearable, ready to step off the catwalk right into retail. Effortless, easy breezy, ready to wear sustainable fashion. Sonali’s collection could cater the market at home and international market, all at the same time. No skin show – and a collection sophisticated to detail. Now that’s what comes out when designer understands textile and fashion and we love it! This is a balance that very few designers understand but one that Sonali has managed to strike with ease. Business-savvy and fashion-savvy – a wonderful balance well-struck!

The gold foil earrings paired with the yellow tunic was sexy, girl!

Pero
Jasmeet Arora was clearly enjoying himself. His vivid contrast collection had its highs: a gorgeous palette and 3-D embellishments, embroideries and print used to create an assortment of flora and fauna. There aquatic flowers winding their way through the sandy shore, and plenty of greenery. A trailing cape in aquamarine and turquoise swarmed with sea life, a beautiful sunny knee length shirt teemed with tassels and a few jackets, slung carelessly on the shoulder, caught the eye. The embroidering represented the unmethodical formations of aquatic flowers. Floral motifs with delicate sequin work and cut flowers set the mood of his collection. Each model sported sport slippers with bold and saturated socks, sending out a message – loud and clear – going effortless is the new ‘it’ thing.

Debaj:
Power black with little intricate crystal details here and there, sometimes collar, sometimes sleeve and sometimes the front panels; the clothes were fuss-free, extra embellishment-free, intrinsically androgynous and utilitarian. Debaj has always designed for the sophisticated modern woman of Doha and this time it was a departure no different. The showcase featured a collection in a true essence of Debaj – long over-sized abaya coats in basic black and silhouettes forming well structured panels. The pieces trailed like voluminous couture pieces and it was a statement. A plethora of design details were plunged– embroidery meet feathers meet tassels meet beads meet crystals. A busy-sophisticated route for the modern women.

Three
A creative collection indicating how Three has grown from a fledgling brand, trying to establish itself to a more assured, ambitious one. Three made bright, saucy statements with block colours and prominent stripes, horizontal, vertical and edgy. The silhouettes stayed a tad too safe but on the upside, it was all instantly wearable collection. Pallavi’s collection sang of summer, the beach, stylish little soirees and breezy evenings. The lightly hued palette merged with yellow and multicolored stripes and it was all so well-cut and minimal that there was not one outfit that one didn’t like. It was all quite well thought-out and cohesive – and it all clearly bore Pallavi’s signature and her fascination with stripes and monochromatic. This collection was too good to merely be shown on the ramp. Do make a big sell with this one, Pallavi!

A word about the styling
Here’s a nod of approval to the catwalk styling. The models wore summer-friendly tight pony tails and the makeup was seamless. Our favorite looks have to be from Sonali Raman and Suneeet’s show: top knots with some strands left loose in front and funky. Absolutely chic!
YOUR CHANCE TO BE IN THE FRAME

Here’s your chance to let the world know of your skills and create a buzz. The published images will appear on both our Instagram page (@communitygt) as well as this coveted space. Community invites photographers to let their pictures speak the proverbial thousand words! E-mail your contributions with your full name, contact details and complete description of the images to qatarcommunity@gmail.com

Embraced by the Desert Rose

Having just arrived in Doha from London after 7 and a half years, we are delighted to have found the towering architecture, the sprawling infrastructure, the visionary diversification efforts and, most remarkably, the enduring commitment to culture, knowledge and tradition, best embodied in the new gem adorning our firmament – the Qatar National Museum.

At the very outset, we felt embraced by its pathbreaking design and by the celebration of life of its panoramic views, as displayed in the most innovative museography we have yet to experience anywhere.

The museum embodies another remarkable feature of Qatari society: its dedication to the welfare of children, with interactive displays designed for their enjoyment.

We look forward to many years of service in this country of exquisite gastronomy, generous hospitality, stunning landscapes, world-class education and health services, with the highest standard of living, open to the world without betraying its roots, meritocratic while respectful of its traditions and providing equality of opportunity for all.

In so doing, Qatar demonstrates to the world that life is well worthwhile celebrating and that to prepare for the future, our roots provide the firmest of basis.

We thank Qatar wholeheartedly for sharing with us all this Desert Rose of enduring memories, particularly to the Amir of Qatar, His Highness Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani, the Chairperson of the Qatar Foundation, Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser and HE Sheikha Al Mayassa bint Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani, Chairperson of Qatar Museums.

(This edition of the photo essay will be carried out in a three-part series for Monday and Tuesday’s edition.)

— Photos and text by Dr Federico Alberto Cuello Camilo, Ambassador of the Dominican Republic, and Mrs Natalia Federighi de Cuello
He married model, photographer and longtime partner Eva Brauns on April 29, 1945 only to commit suicide with her the next day. Whom are we talking about?
Adolf Hitler.

What is the claim to fame of Dennis Anthony Tito, the Founder and Chief Executive Officer at Wilsire Associates Incorporate? This claim to fame event happened this day (April 28) in 2001.
He is the first space tourist.

Tiger Woods won the 2019 Masters title, his 19th major, after a long gap. Which was his 14th major title and when?
2008 US Open.

According to Greek mythology who was the first woman on earth?
Pandora.

Identify the below winner of 1990 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction. In 1990, her novel was voted ‘Best Novel of the Century’ in a poll by the Library Journal.
In 2006, British librarians ranked the book ahead of the Bible as one ‘every adult should read before they die’. The 1962 film adaptation of the novel won 3 Academy Awards. She didn’t publish another major work for 55 years until 2015, less than a year before her death, when her second novel, Go Set a Watchman, was published.
Name the novel as well.

(Answer next week. Answer to last week’s photo-quiz: Prince)

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**Wordsearch**

Every letter of the alphabet is used at least once. Squares with the same number in have the same letter in. Work out which number represents which letter.

**Codeword**

**Sudoku**

Sudoku is a puzzle based on a 9x9 grid. The grid is divided into nine (3x3) boxes. You are given a selection of numbers and to complete the puzzle, you must fill in the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9. No number is repeated.

**Bound And Gagged**

I'm not sure where I'm going on vacation, but it sure won't be a road trip.
Super Cryptic Clues

Across
1 Musical state (8)
6 Snake grasped in the middle (3)
9 More or less in the vicinity (5)
10 Warm fowl for a pagan (7)
11 Enjoy Kelly being compared (7)
13 Astrey on the ocean (2,3)
15 Sea-food rascal found on island (6)
19 Doctor joining American Medical Association in theatre work (5)
21 Space - it could be germ-free (7)
22 Girl getting a game before the end of August (7)
23 Elegant but impudent (5)
24 Regret having cruel heart (3)
25 Musical roundabout (8)

Down
2 One who disparages a door attachment (7)
3 A National Trust insect (3)
4 Skin found in compound outside Holland's capital (6)
5 A fall of snow or lava he can fix (9)
6 One of the musketeers muffed a shot (5)
7 Animal seen in police car (5)
8 Everything's immoral about song (6)
12 Ale curing outbreak of nervous pain (9)
16 Gas - the name is peculiar (7)
17 Provoke fashionable quote (6)
18 Assault a baseball player (6)
19 Refuse to admit beard is unkempt (5)
20 Incidental remark made by a team (5)
23 In this way university gets a bit of money from France (3)

Colouring

Answers

Wordsearch

Codeword
Body can adapt to occasional short-term overeating

Overeating has been found to impair blood sugar (glucose) control and insulin levels but a new study suggests that the duration of a bout of overeating can affect how the body adapts to glucose and insulin processing when calorie intake increases. Obesity and type 2 diabetes have increased significantly worldwide within the past 30 years. Lifestyle factors such as overindulging in high-calorie foods play a large role in the development of these two serious health conditions.

For the study, researchers from Deakin University in Australia studied a small group of healthy and lean men with an average age of 22. Volunteers participated in a short-term trial consisting of five days — indicative of humans overeating during festivals and holidays — and a long-term model of chronic overeating lasting 28 days. The “overfeeding” portion of the diet included high-calorie snacks such as chocolate, meal replacement drinks and potato chips to add approximately 1,000 more calories to the men’s normal food consumption each day. Published in the American Journal of Physiology-Endocrinology and Metabolism, the study suggests that “early adaptations in response to carbohydrate overfeeding are directed at increasing glucose disposal in order to maintain whole-body insulin sensitivity”.

“A sudden burst of inspiration for a creative project might keep you busy in the morning and afternoon, Capricorn. You will need information and materials you don’t have at home, and finding them might require a larger expenditure of time, energy, and money than you initially thought. Don’t give up on the idea. It’s likely to be a good one and you will definitely want to pursue it.”

“A sudden fascination with metaphysical or spiritual concepts could have you wanting to read as much as you can on the subject, Gemini. Your enthusiasm could lead you in a dozen different directions, which could eventually lead to mental overload. It might be a better idea to take one subject at a time than try to learn about them all at once. Stay focused!”

“A friend may ask to borrow some money today, Aries. You may feel that he or she is asking for more than is really needed, and certainly more than you’re willing to give. You might think this puts you in an awkward position. Try to talk to your friend and explain your situation. If you have to say no, just say it. A real friend will understand and look elsewhere for the money.”

“A business deal that you may have been working to finish could require you to tie up a lot of loose ends today, Leo. You might be pulled in a lot of different directions. Don’t panic! Get some help if you can. Make a list of what you have to do and cross each task off as it’s completed. Stay focused and all should go well. You will achieve the results you want.”

“Too many people may be vying for your attention today, Aquarius. You could suddenly be in a frenzy to work quickly but perhaps not as conscientiously as you should. You may spend a lot of time going through paperwork and discarding what’s outdated. It might be a better idea to slow down a little and look closely at what you’re doing. You won’t want to throw out something you may need later.”

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“Today you might feel the urge to get all unfinished work done, Sagittarius. You could suddenly be in a frenzy to work quickly but perhaps not as conscientiously as you should. You may spend a lot of time going through paperwork and discarding what’s outdated. It might be a better idea to slow down a little and look closely at what you’re doing. You won’t want to throw out something you may need later.”
Movie academy backs off fight with Netflix

By Josh Rottenberg

The motion picture academy’s 54-member board of governors have announced a handful of new rules for next year’s Oscars. But, despite widespread speculation that the organisation would use the occasion to try to hold the line against the rise of streaming services like Netflix, which some regard as a major threat to the traditional movie-going experience, the group decided in the end to maintain its existing rules governing eligibility for awards consideration.

Last month, reports emerged that board member Steven Spielberg intended to propose rule changes aimed at leveling the playing field between Netflix – which earned its first best picture nomination this year for Alfonso Cuarón’s Roma – and traditional distributors when it comes to Oscar consideration.

On social media and across Hollywood, battle lines quickly formed in what some saw as an existential fight over the very meaning of movies in the streaming age.

But Spielberg was absent from Tuesday’s meeting at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences’ headquarters in Beverly Hills due to his work schedule, and the board ultimately decided to punt on the streaming issue, maintaining the status quo, at least as far as the time being, even as it expressed support for the theatrical experience.

The board voted to keep in place the existing eligibility rule stating that a film must have a minimum seven-day theatrical run in a Los Angeles County commercial theater, with at least three screenings per day for paid admission. Movies that are simultaneously released via streaming – as is generally the norm with Netflix – remain eligible.

“We support the theatrical experience as integral to the art of motion pictures, and this weighed heavily in our discussions,” academy president John Bailey said in a statement. “Our rules currently require theatrical exhibition, and also allow for a broad selection of films to be submitted for Oscars consideration. We plan to further study the profound changes occurring in our industry and continue discussions with our members about these issues.”

The decision to back off the streaming issue for now follows a series of reversals by the academy’s leadership that may have left the group a bit gun-shy. Last year, the board announced the creation of a new award for achievement in streaming, and the removal of several awards from the live Oscars broadcast – proposals that were ultimately undone after fierce backlash.

The rule changes that the board did approve were relatively minor. Perhaps most significantly, reflecting the ever-expanding contingent of academy members from abroad, the board voted to change the name of the foreign language film category to international feature film.

“We have noted that the reference to ‘foreign’ is outdated within the global filmmaking community,” Larry Karaszewski and Diane Weyermann, co-chairs of the International Feature Film Committee, said in a statement. “We believe that international feature film better represents this category, and promotes a positive and inclusive view of filmmaking, and the art of film as a universal experience.”

Among the other small tweaks to the rules: In the makeup and hairstyling category, the number of nominated films is increasing from three to five, and the shortlist is increasing from seven to ten.

The academy’s full rules are posted on its website. The 92nd Oscars will be held Feb. 9, 2020. – Los Angeles Times/TNS

Awards: Motion picture academy’s board of governors announce new rules for next year’s Oscars.

Happy to make people aware about crimes: Tisca

Actress Tisca Chopra, who is hosting Savdhaan India – which has clocked seven years on the small screen this week – says she feels that it’s her duty to encourage people to fight back against criminals.

“The aim of Savdhaan India is to create awareness about the various kinds of crimes happening in the society, I decided to be a part of the show as it aims to encourage people to fight back against criminals.

“As a responsible citizen, I feel it’s my duty to spread this message to the viewers and I am happy that through the show, we can make people aware about what kinds of crimes occur in the nation and how they can fight against them,” Tisca said in a statement.

The Star Bharat show is based on real events. Each episode of the show portrays a different crime story, ranging from robbery, fraud and murder to cyber crime and sexual assault.

Over the years, anchors like Sushant Singh, Pooja Gor, Siddharth Shukla, Divya Dutta, Hiten Tejwani, Sakshi Tanwar, Gauhar Chopra, Atul Kulkarni and Kavita Kaushik have taken the show forward.

In its seventh year, Savdhaan India is being anchored by

Tisca and Ashutosh Rana. The focus for this particular season is new-age crimes. Tisca said: “The show has been instrumental in creating awareness, educating the audiences about the crimes that are happening in society and urging them to rise and fight back for justice. With every new season, the show aims to instill confidence in viewers to stand up for their rights and fight against crimes.” – IANS

Dutiful: Tisca Chopra feels that it’s her duty to encourage people to fight back against criminals.

Showbiz
South Africans mark silver jubilee of Freedom Day

By Mudassir Raja

The silver jubilee of the Freedom Day of South Africa was recently celebrated with national pride and elegance at Grand Hyatt Hotel where Qatari dignitaries, members of the diplomatic corps as well as members of the South African community were present in large numbers.

The prominent among those present on the occasion were HE Dr Issa Saad al-Jafari al-Nuaimi, Minister of Justice; HE Abdullah bin Abdulaziz al-Subaei, Minister of Municipality and Environment; HE Ambassador Ibrahim Fakhroo, Director of Protocol at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and HE Ambassador Ali al-Abadi, Dean of the Diplomatic Corps.

The 25th anniversary celebrations were made lively by the soulful music played by Acoustic Element – a cousin duo. Callen Petersen, who played the violin, and Jody Abel, who played guitar and beatboxes, presented dynamic music of South Africa at the occasion.

Before the start of the ceremony, the gathering observed one minute silence for the victims of the recent terrorist attacks in Sri Lanka. The ceremony was officially started with national anthems of both countries. The national anthem of Qatar was presented by South African children. The national anthem of South Africa was presented by the community members clad in traditional South African dresses. The key note speech was delivered by the host Faizel Moosa, ambassador of South Africa to Qatar, who followed by the cake-cutting ceremony.

In his passionate speech, the ambassador called the day as a milestone event as the country marked the silver jubilee of its democratic dispensation. He said that 2019 marks a seminal moment as there are elections going to be held in South Africa to usher in sixth administration. The elections were held on April 27 (yesterday) and later they will be held on May 8.

“Critical to these developments on the domestic front, 2019 further marks the commencement of the Nelson Mandela Decade of Peace declared unanimously by the United Nations General Assembly on September 24, 2018 for the period 2019 to 2028. It is important to also emphasise that the decade provides renewed commitment towards global peace, security, development, conflict prevention and resolution, peace-building, co-existence, reconciliation, compassion, the promotion and protection of human rights and long-term development initiatives, as the core values of our late struggle icon and first democratically elected president,” he said.

For ambassador Moosa, freedom is a hard-earned achievement. “Through the Freedom Day celebrations, South Africans from all walks of life continue to celebrate our hard-earned liberation and prioritise the key tenets of human rights and fundamental freedoms as enshrined in the constitution. At the same time, it is important to underline that the South African government recognises room for improvement and that more needs to be done to ensure economic liberation through the realisation of economic, social and cultural rights.”

The ambassador was upbeat about the cordial ties with Qatar. “The close relationship that exists between South Africa and Qatar is a reflection of the duty to cooperate among friendly nations. We continue to be inspired by Qatar’s vision of a modern business-oriented state, as well as the ambitious infrastructure development programme that enables the country to compete in the international economy ensuring its long-term economic viability through diversification.”

“South Africa remains open for business and a destination of choice for investment as highlighted by President Ramaphosa’s investment drive and through the hosting of the Presidential Job Summit and the Presidential Investment Summit in 2018.

“The recent gas find and the partnership with Qatar Petroleum led by Total, for gas exploration off the coast in South Africa is a game changer and will go a long way in addressing South Africa’s energy security and the development of the gas economy for sustainable growth, whilst at the same time drastically improving the bilateral trade between South Africa and Qatar. The cooperation between the two countries also extends to financial, agricultural, food and energy security, chemical, textiles, precious metals, vehicles, aircraft and vessels. It also includes tourism, sports, and international affairs.”

The ambassador further said: “Our two countries share much more in common especially the unshakable believe in the inalienable right of the Palestinian people to self-determination. In this respect, allow me to congratulate the State of Qatar for the recent opening of the first prosthetic hospital and Artificial Limb and Rehabilitation Centre in Gaza. Allow me to also highlight that my government’s strong stand against the atrocities in the Occupied Palestinian Territories has also extended towards recalling our envoy to Israel and to move in the gradual downgrading of diplomatic relations.”

At the end of the event, the guests were served with traditional South African cuisine.