Community
Ambassador of Qatar to Thailand meets Team Qatar of World Schools Debating Championship 2019.

Community
The ’Beauty of Traditions’ exhibition by famous artist Dilly Bozadzhieva opens at Katara Building 22 in Katara.

Cover Story
Wednesday, September 4, 2019
Muharram 5, 1441 AH
Doha today: 31° - 40°

Fashion
Pakistani fashion raves high in New York City.
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Showbiz
Del Rey yearns as L.A. burns on her dazzling new album.
Page 15
**PRAYER TIME**

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**USEFUL NUMBERS**

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**Quote Unquote**

“Once you replace negative thoughts with positive ones, you’ll start having positive results.”

— Willie Nelson

**Community Editor**

Kamran Rehmat

e-mail: community@gulf-times.com

Telephone: 44466405
Fax: 44350474

**ROUND & ABOUT**

**IT: Chapter 2**

**DIRECTION:** Andrés Muschietti  
**CAST:** Jessica Chastain, James McAvoy, Bill Hader  
**SYNOPSIS:** In the sleepy town of Derry, the evil clown Pennywise returns 27 years later to torment the grown-up members of the Losers' Club, who have long since drifted apart from one another.  
**THEATRES:** The Mall, Landmark, Royal Plaza

**Saaho**

**DIRECTION:** Sujeeth  
**CAST:** Prabhas, Shraddha Kapoor, Jackie Shroff  
**SYNOPSIS:** A man uses an arsenal of weapons to battle a gang of heavily armed thugs in the city. With the city under fire and people's lives at risk, the one man has to give everything he has got to take the city back.  
**THEATRES:** The Mall, Landmark, Royal Plaza

**For movie timings and further details please scan the QR code above with your mobile phone camera or visit qatarcinemas.com**
Painting Class
WHERE: Qatar National Library
WHEN: September 22
TIME: 11am – 12pm
Paint with a rolling ball, or a rolling car, or just stomp and drag your fingers, hands and feet! Little children will explore color and motion using different media in this fun, hands-on activity. Please dress your little ones accordingly.

The Moon and Beyond
WHERE: Qatar National Library
WHEN: September 18
TIME: 6pm – 7:30pm
Celebrate 50 years since the moon landing with a special presentation at the Library, in collaboration with the US Embassy in Doha. Dr. Mary Ellen Weber, a former NASA astronaut who flew on two Space Shuttle flights, will talk about her experiences in space and the future of exploring the final frontier. Dr. Weber is a consultant in technology, innovation, strategic communications and high-risk operations, and serves on the NASA Advisory Council Committee on Technology, Innovation and Engineering.

Yoga Class
WHERE: Lululemon, Mall of Qatar
WHEN: Every Saturday
TIME: 8:30am – 9:30am
Join the complimentary in-store yoga classes. No registration or mat is required. The class runs on first come first served basis.

Career Guidance
WHERE: Right Track Consultants, Al Sadd
WHEN: Sunday – Thursday
TIME: 6pm – 8pm
Career guidance for course, country, college and entrance for students of Grade IX-XII, of all curriculum. Career assessments administered for stream preference, career test, branch preference, personality, multiple intelligence and learning styles and productivity. For more information, call 55448835.

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.

Ballet Lessons
WHERE: Music and Arts Atelier
WHEN: Ongoing
TIME: 4pm – 8pm
For more info e-mail at registration@atelierqatar.com or call on 33003839.

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

Hobby Classes
WHERE: Mamangam Performing Art Centre
WHEN: Saturday – Friday
Mamangam is an art and performance centre started with a vision of spreading our knowledge, interests and experience in various disciplines in arts across different countries for children and adults. Mamangam has become the favourite centre for learning. We offer regular classes in the following disciplines like traditional classical and folk dance forms, art and craft, drawing and painting, personality development and public speaking, Bollywood dance, contemporary, hip hop styles, music both vocals and instrumentals. To develop health consciousness, we train them karate, yoga with special sessions for kids and adults. Mamangam has also come up with chess and robotics in regular batches in an attempt to give a better learning experience, as they sharpen their minds and brains too.

For those who wish to register for more details, visit www.mamangamqatar.in

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 66523871/31326349.

The olympic sport using horizontal bar, rings and floor exercises on mats for the children from age 4 till 16.

 Compiled by Nausheen Shakh. E-mail: gtlisting@gmail.com, Events and timings subject to change.
Is selection based on merit a myth?

Remove human bias from the interview process and the world might start to become a fairer place, emphasises Sonia Sodha

“If you find yourself baulking at random selection, ask yourself this: have you ever formed a first impression that was wrong? It might go against the grain, but making more liberal use of lotteries might produce not just a fairer but a better and more diverse world”

– Sonia Sodha, Deputy Opinion Editor, The Guardian
According to psychologist Ron Friedman, right, we tend to perceive good-looking people to be more competent, tall candidates as having greater leadership potential and deep-voiced candidates as more trustworthy. Interviews also encourage us to pick people who look like us, think similarly to us and with whom we strike up an easy rapport.

The sweaty palms, the swotting, the tricky question that prompts your heart to plummet: question that prompts swotting, the tricky one side of the equation is hardly fun either: days out of a busy schedule spent interviewing candidates, some of whom you know within a couple of minutes you would never offer a job.

Interviews are time-consuming for all involved. But we persist in doing them because recruitment decisions are some of the most important we take in the workplace and it follows we should invest time and energy into a robust recruitment process, right?

Wrong. It is long established that unstructured interviews are a notoriously unreliable way of selecting the best people for the job. This is perhaps unsurprising, when you consider the limited overlap between the skills needed to ace an interview and perform well day to day in a job or on a university course. And how many of us can honestly say we have been drawn out of a hat.

Not only are interviews a generally bad way to spot talent, they are terrible at smuggling in bias. There are the obvious implicit biases—sexism, racism, ageism, class discrimination—but others also exist. According to psychologist Ron Friedman, we tend to perceive good-looking people to be more competent, tall candidates as having greater leadership potential and deep-voiced candidates as more trustworthy. Interviews also encourage us to pick people who look like us, think similarly to us and with whom we strike up an easy rapport. The myth of the interviewer is a very different conception of fairness to meritocracy. But if we accept that what we call meritocracy is predominantly a way for advantage to self-replicate, why not at least experiment with lotteries instead? Big graduate recruiters or Oxbridge courses could set “on paper” entry criteria, select candidates who meet them at random and test whether there are any differences with candidates selected by interview.

I am willing to bet that, as observed in Texas, they would do no worse. And that there would be other benefits: diversity of thought as well as diversity of demography. Quotas are often criticised for their potential to undermine those individuals who benefit from positive discrimination; everyone knows they are there not purely on merit, or so the argument goes. An element of random selection might engender a bit more humility on the part of white, middle-class men; it goes alongside being honest that meritocracy is a convenient mask for privilege.

The reason such experiments remain unlikely is that studies show that even when people are aware of the fallibility of interviews, they sustain incredible self-belief in their ability to buck the trend. Not only that, there are a lot of powerful people with a stake in maintaining the illusion of meritocracy. Oxford and Cambridge want to preserve the misconception that their selection procedures embody the creme de la creme of today selecting the creme de la creme of tomorrow.

But if you find yourself baulking at random selection, ask yourself this: have you ever formed a first impression that was wrong? It might go against the grain, but making more liberal use of lotteries might produce not just a fairer but a better and more diverse world.

— The Guardian
**Toastmasters Division A & D conduct Club Officers Training**

Toastmasters Division A & D, District 116, recently organised Club Officers Training (COT) at Shalimar Restaurant. “The new club officers were coached in their respective roles and responsibilities. This will help the leaders to perform their duties effectively, better serve club members, and produce quality clubs,” said Juttas Paul, Division D Director. “According to Toastmasters International these trainings enhance more positive experience of club members, which leads to quality club experience and increased member retention,” he added. Subair Pandavath, Programme Quality Director of Division A also spoke on the occasion. Manzoor Moideen, District Club Growth Director, was the chief guest on the occasion. Speaking on the occasion, he emphasised on the importance and benefits of officers training and applauded the efforts of division leaders for arranging the same. The event was co-ordinated by Noourudheen N K, Zacharia, Pradip Sadiye and Division officials.

**MES in support of IAAF World Athletics Championships 2019**

Hameeda Kadar, Principal of MES Indian School, recently unveiled the replica of Falah, official mascot of the IAAF World Athletics Championships 2019 on the school premises. The event was organised to motivate and encourage the students for the seventeenth edition of the IAAF World Athletics Championships Doha 2019. Speaking on the occasion, the Principal said that MES is always on the forefront in extending its support and co-operation to all the sports initiatives of various sports and games conducted by the Qatar Olympic Committee.

**Vice Principal of BPS attends three-day conference**

Radhika Rele, Vice Principal of Birla Public School (BPS), recently attended a three-day residential conference on ‘EdTech for 21st Century Schools’, organised by Next Education, at Park Hyatt, Hyderabad, India. The conference gave an insight to various new-age learning and teaching tools. Active panel discussion on ‘Learning by doing or Doing by learning’ and ‘Data driven decisions on improving learning outcomes’ were also organised. Interactive session on ‘Digital classroom and Rethinking Early Learning’ was also a part of the conference. Next Education books and Introduction of Tinker curriculum was also launched on the occasion. A site visit and demonstration of the education technology solutions by Next Education was also organised.
Qatari ambassador meets Team Qatar of WSDC, QatarDebate delegation

Team Qatar has recently participated at the World Schools Debating Championship (WSDC) 2019 in Bangkok, Thailand. The team engaged in debates against their peers from all over the world. The tournament featured over 600 participants from 63 countries. WSDC is a premier annual tournament involving pre-tertiary debaters aged 14-18. Founded in 1988, it continues to be held in a different location every year. Qatar has not only been a regular WSDC participant but has also hosted it in 2010, with 57 national teams participating. The Qatar Team, included Ali al-Mawlawi, judge, recently completed Foundation at Kings College London; Ahmad al-Naimi, Qatar Academy graduate who will start his tertiary education at Kings College London; Maha al-Haroon, Al-Bayan School graduate starting her tertiary education at Georgetown University in Qatar; Alanoud al-Thani, a student at Qatar Academy; Farhan Sakkir, a student from DPS-MIS; Ibrahim al-Rumaihi, a student at Ibn Khaldoun School; and Mubarak al-Naimi and Reem al-Kubaisi, students at International School of London-Qatar. QatarDebate delegation also joined the contingent.

Sheikh Jassim bin Abdulrahman al-Thani, Ambassador of Qatar to Thailand, recently met Team Qatar and QatarDebate delegation in Bangkok. Speaking on the occasion, the ambassador expressed his pride and appreciated their participation in the debates that have become vital not just for personal development, but also in the field of foreign relations. During the meeting, the Qatari ambassador gave the students advice about the diplomatic corps explaining the importance of political and international studies, and the need to master dialogue and the art of debate. He further noted the importance of reading and its usefulness, whether for students, diplomats or anyone, to nurture the mind, and suggested several books for them to read to benefit from. The ambassador also urged them to represent the State of Qatar abroad in the best way, and to take the opportunity to gain professional experience during their studies or work. He stressed on the importance of learning foreign languages, as well as Arabic to understand the cultures of other countries.

Ahmed al-Naimi, Qatar Academy graduate, explained that debating at WSDC has provided him with exposure to people from all kinds of cultures and backgrounds, as well as the ability to understand and respect different opinions while also being able to justify one’s own using reason and logic. Likewise, Maha al-Haroon said that her years of debating have given her extensive knowledge about the world’s different political systems, country profiles and foreign relations. This wasn’t her first debate experience with QatarDebate, as she represented Qatar at last year’s WSDC. At the tournaments, Maha took extensive notes from judges from all over the world and is now preparing to use all of this to share with younger debaters.

Ahmed al-Naimi

Maha al-Haroon

Team Qatar and QatarDebate delegation with the Ambassador of Qatar to Thailand.
Pakistani fashion raves

Muhammad Asad Ullah review the collections showcased at Fashion Parade NYC which were all appealing with seasoned cut lines and trends

Fashion Parade featuring South Asian art and fashion, headed to New York City this time, and it was all for a good cause. Four designers from Pakistan, including Elan by Khadijah Shah, Kamiar Rokni, Ali Xeeshan and Faiza Samee featured in the event.

Fashion shows are cosmic, shaming behemoths, and make for never ending strenuous days, but that factually multiplies by 10 for a designer who’s showcasing internationally, because ultimately, it’s all about representing fashion from home to the international market and drawing a perfect balance, where both the culture and perceptions merge up. People who don’t perceive might find it surreal that collection remains under construction even at the backstage. Ornamentation is added and there’s always a team of designers fortifying giving the final touches to the dresses and assigning them to the models. Whether it’s a job well done or atrocious, the mirage of style and glamour is presented in front of hundreds of fashionistas for a 10-minute runway show.

If there’s one thing we can always count on in New York, it’s the chic statements that are always simple but pronounced. At the moment, you see women rocking one bold colour in their looks, or without submitting to monochromatic basics, going effortless. Well, this very season – the Pakistani designers shook the runway for all the good reasons, with all well-crafted collections.

Elan by Khadijah Shah
Elan presented its Le Doux Poison collection that featured formal wear with a fusion of western cuts. Bridals and formal wears equal big money, and as aesthetics evolve it becomes imperative for designers to evolve and excite an audience back for never ending strenuous days, with just the right tinge of gold and bling. Metallic ruled Kami’s showcase. Kami didn’t seem bashful experimenting with the cuts and modern line. It was effortlessly beautiful with traditional saleable statement outfits, except a one or two, like the long see through white kurta and the long tissue gown – that was too eccentric that we couldn’t decide if it represented couture, eastern details or too inspired by ancient royal costumes. It was just not well structured or probably too oversized to get a peek of the actual finishing and craft.

Ali Xeeshan
Fashion has a position as a platform for processing the way of the world. The world is in a mess. In this turbulent and nervy week for women, the question was this: Who had the presence of mind to put forward constructive—hopefully kind and inclusive—statements which could rise above the din? And the answer was in black: ALI XEESHAN. The oozing boho-chic day-wear collection was goaded by the melding of modern lifestyle whilst creating awareness about plastic pollution and encouraging widespread action. Monochromatic colour palette of white and black on the eclectic hand loomed Egyptian cotton, sewed up with lace embellished with pearls, piping and bejewelled belts and gladiator flats. With the use of solid colours and heirloom ornaments, the aesthetic yet effortless shaped collection was wearable; easy to dress up or down. Oversized or fitted – the collection was knee-length.

Faiza Samee
The intricately and masterfully done collection was jaw dropping with interesting hues of beige and plum. The intricately and masterfully done collection was jaw dropping with interesting hues of beige and plum.
HIGH in New York City

STATEMENT PIECES: Kamiar Rokni didn’t seem bashful experimenting with the cuts and modern line. It was effortlessly beautiful with traditional saleable statement outfits.

STRONG FUSION: Elan presented its Le Doux Poison collection that featured formal wear with a fusion of western cuts.
Try This

Strange honey shapes

Here’s how to make beautiful, fascinating patterns in a jar of water.

You’ll need

- Plastic squeeze bottle of honey with a narrow tip
- Tall, clear jar of cold water or tea with a screw-on lid
- Microwave oven
- Adult helper

1. Make sure nozzle of bottle is clipped so honey flows in a thin stream
   - Heat bottle on high in microwave for 30 seconds
   - Honey will become almost as thin as water
   - Source: NASA’s Marshall Space Flight Center Science Directorate

2. Slowly squeeze a thin stream of honey into jar, gently moving bottle as you squeeze it
   - Thin!

3. After adding a bit of honey, put lid on jar and slowly turn it upside down

What happened?

For a few seconds, threads of honey fall through the water, making curves, filaments, even transparent rings, then settle into a pool at the bottom

You can sometimes see more beautiful shapes by gently turning the bottle over

The International Space Station crew did this experiment, and since there is almost no gravity in orbit, their honey streams lasted much longer than yours

To reuse honey water later, make tea with it
Eating nuts at least twice a week can slash the risk of death from cardiovascular disease by almost 17 per cent, a new study suggests.

“Nuts are a good source of unsaturated fat and contain little saturated fat,” said study author Noushin Mohammadifard from Isfahan Cardiovascular Research Institute, Iran.

“They also have protein, minerals, vitamins, fibre, phytosterol, and polyphenols which benefit heart health. European and US studies have related nuts with cardiovascular protection but there is limited evidence from the Eastern Mediterranean Region,” Mohammadifard said.

The study presented at the ESC Congress 2019, examined the association between nut consumption and the risk of cardiovascular disease and death in the Iranian population.

A total of 5,432 adults aged 35 and older with no history of cardiovascular disease were randomly selected from urban and rural areas. The intake of nuts including walnuts, almonds, pistachios, hazelnuts and seeds was assessed in 2001 with a validated food frequency questionnaire.

Participants were interviewed every two years until 2013 for the occurrence of cardiovascular events and death.

During a median 12-year follow-up, there were 751 cardiovascular events (594 coronary heart disease and 157 stroke), 179 cardiovascular deaths and 458 all-cause deaths.

According to the findings, eating nuts two or more times per week was associated with a 17 per cent lower risk of cardiovascular mortality compared to consuming nuts once every two weeks.

The connection was robust even after adjusting for factors that could influence the relationship such as age, education, smoking and physical activity, said the study. — IANS
Puzzles courtesy: Puzzlechoice.com

Wordsearch

Antiques  Prints  Pewter
Figurines  Bottles  Stamps
Posters  Glass  Comics
Autographs  Rocks  Plates
Fossils  China  Toys
Pottery  Maps  Dolls
Books  Silver  Postcards
Gems  Coins

Codeword

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.

Sudoku

Sudoku is a puzzle based on a 9x9 grid. The grid is also divided into nine 3x3 boxes. You are given a selection of numbers and to complete the puzzle, you must fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains each number exactly once.

Bound And Gagged

Adam

What's with the toy?

Katy's having an emergency tea party.

She thinks we're becoming unsophisticated.

Then you might rethink the Oscar the grouch bounce.

But the black dog doesn't play a song when you pipe it!

Pooch Cafe

Chasing squirrels is a great stress relief for dogs.

Woof woof bark woof.

But I'm worried that it leaves the squirrel stressed out.

Don't worry, squirrels probably have something else recreational to release their own stress.

Garfield

WOW... I can hear the ocean.

Good Wi-Fi on this beach!

I got my big break as a tackling dummy and worked my way up.
Super Cryptic Clues

Across
1 Mad bikers frantic to get off (9)
8 Urge to use an iron (5)
9 Leo, for example, or a lady abroad (7)
10 Pole crossing a thoroughfare (4)
11 Precious object Nemo gets at sea (8)
13 Lock up one acquiring work experience (6)
14 Rock band or movie star (6)
17 Live nude shockingly exposed to public view (8)
19 Shape of zero value? (4)
21 New part ordered somewhere in Belgium (7)
22 More proficient in table rapping (5)
23 Wrought steel, as in key (9)

Down
2 Imprecise in former legislation (7)
3 Some conversed in Gaelic (4)
4 Hamper speculation about request (6)
5 Bognor extension? Test records kept here (8)
6 Crazy railway engine (4)
7 Cricketer with top hat under pressure (4,6)
8 Fastidious individual (10)
12 Tough guys breaking ribs? Sure! (8)
15 Short work of fiction â€œpage of calendar girl? (7)
16 Pope resolved to meet the French nation (6)
18 Refuse to allow free vote (4)
19 Shape of zero value? (4)
20 Compassion, we hear, for male deer (4)

Solution

Wordsearch

Codeword

Answers
By Durga Chakravarty

It’s been over two decades in Bollywood for Manoj Bajpayee, and yet the acclaimed actor finds it impossible to adjust to the fact that outsiders are expected to be in the good books of the industry’s “gangs”, whether they offer work or not.

Manoj made his feature film debut with a small role in Govind Nihalani’s 1994 film Drohkaal. His breakthrough role was the gangster Bikhu Mhatre in Ram Gopal Varma’s 1998 crime drama, Satyam. The National Award-winning actor explains why he maintains all along that Bollywood is an impossible industry for outsiders.

“It’s an impossible industry for outsiders and if you are a girl trying to get in from outside then it is all the more impossible, because there are gangs and groups here, and they expect you to be in their good books all the time, whether they give you work or not,” Manoj told IANS.

Over two decades, Manoj has carved a niche for himself with performances in films such as Shool, Kaun?, Zubeidaa, Pukar and Gangs Of Wasseypur among many others. He points out that the industry can be a difficult place for those who don’t play by its rule.

“If you are a person who believes in ability and hard work and not surrendering to peoples’ whims and fancies, then it is quite an impossible industry,” he added.

“When I entered Hindi films, it was very difficult (because) conventional, commercial and formula films were ruling the roost (at that time). Coming here and travelling so many years, and having a little bit name for yourself is quite a miracle. That is why I say it is quite an impossible industry,” he added.

With his work in films like Satya and Shool, it would not be incorrect to say that Manoj has opened the floodgates for several other talents, such as Irrfan Khan and Nawazuddin Siddiqui. Does he think that they have managed to break the dominance of the commercial stars?

“I was quite stubborn. I have always been stubborn since my childhood. So, I think the success of Satyam, I wanted to do something good. I somehow felt that this is a great chance to do my kind of work and stick to my conviction. It needed patience and a lot of perseverance to say not to all the bigwigs and all the big money that was coming my way, and so many films,” said Manoj, who will next be seen in the Amazon Prime series, The Family Man.

“I could have easily had so much of money, name and fame in a very short span of time but I chose the other way,” he added.

Manoj says it has not only done him good but has “done good to so many actors and now they are big names (and) all of them have a great lifestyle”.

“Today, if you look at it, so many other young actors are getting the benefits of all the struggles one has gone through in getting films and sticking to one’s conviction,” he added.

The Aligarh actor feels in a small way he has contributed to all of this.

“Believe somewhere in a very small way, I have contributed to the (rising importance of) Mithun Chakraborty and to all the actors who are really talented and want to do something different,” Manoj said. — IANS

**Don’t believe in doing initiations as an actor:** Boman

Actor Boman Irani, who plays Nobel Peace Prize recipient Kailash Satyarthi in his forthcoming film Jhalki, has said that he doesn’t believe in doing imitation as an actor.

Asked how he prepared to play role of Kailash Satyarthi, Boman said: “I saw a lot of his videos on YouTube, but I have learnt one thing. While acting, when you focus more on mannerism, body language, or look of the character, you forget what’s going inside his heart. So, I feel working on the mannerism and look of a character is like garishining or decoration. I feel if I don’t talk in Kailash (Satyarthi) ji’s voice, it is fine but I have to identify his spirit, world view and intentions while playing his character. So, I don’t believe in doing imitations, I feel actors should be able to present character’s view point and soul onscreen.”

Boman Irani was interacting with the media at the trailer launch of Jhalki along with co-actors Sanjay Suri and Divya Dutta, besides the film’s directors Brahmanand Singh and Tanvi Jain on Monday in Mumbai.

Satyarthi is the founder of Bachpan Bachao Andolan, Global March Against Child Labour, Global Campaign for Education, Kailash Satyarthi Children’s Foundation, and Rugmark now known as GoodWeave International. His team at Bachpan Bachao Andolan has liberated more than 88,000 children in India from child labour, slavery and trafficking.

Adding further Boman said: “I have seen three sides of Kailash ji in his videos. He acts like a Batman when he inspires them, he looks like a different person altogether so, he has three great faces. I feel that I am not that good actor but I have tried to imitate him as much as possible but I didn’t want to miss his soul while playing him onscreen.”

It is not every day that you find a Hindi film that is backed by a Nobel laureate. Kailash Satyarthi’s support for Brahmanand Singh and Tanvi Jain’s upcoming Jhalki (2019) stems from the touching and simple context of the film’s protagonists, two children. The story of a 9-year-old girl setting out in search of her 7-year-old brother is set to release in theatres on 27 September 2019.

Boman Irani said that he doesn’t dislike commercial cinema and believes as an actor he tries to balance movies — doing some for running his house and some for serving his creative appetite. — IANS
Del Rey yearns as L.A. burns on her dazzling new album

By Mikael Wood

Anyone as obsessed with California as Lana Del Rey is – obsessed with its beauty and its glamour and with the potential for danger that’s always underbelly the swollen promise of this place – was probably destined for a Laurel Canyon phase, and that’s just where we find the singer on her stirring and emotionally risky new album, *Norman F – Rockwell!*

She might be the decade’s least likely pop star: a believer in slow tempos who concentrates on albums at a moment when bite-size singles predominate.

But where others can struggle to outlive a viral smash, she offers fans entrada into a fully realised world. Which means she’s free to evolve at her own idiosyncratic pace.

The follow-up to 2017’s *Lust for Life*, which featured cameos by the Weeknd and ASAP Rocky, Del Rey’s fifth major-label studio disc surrounds her breathy singing with statically piano and gently fingerpicked acoustic guitar; it’s a quieter, more hand-played effort than her earlier work that went for a hip-hop torch-song vibe and made her a favourite of Kanye West, whose wedding she performed at in 2014.

In *Lust for Life*, she describes a party where the “ladies of the canyon” (listening to Tame Impala, Stills & Nash, while Venice Beach evokes that veteran band’s *Our House* as she sings, “You’re in the yard / I fight the fire.” Later she borrows the title of Neil Young’s *Cinnamon Girl.*)

For Del Rey, who famously assembled her breakthrough *Video Games* clip from found footage, all these references are the latest product of her ongoing rummage through California’s history; no doubt she’ll eventually get deep into the Gold Rush.

Yet she and her primary producer, Jack Antonoff, are also looking back at Laurel Canyon’s folk-rock fantasy of domestic bliss as a way to deepen Del Rey’s own songs about reaching for, and occasionally attaining, the kind of romantic intimacy that’s eluded her occasionally attaining, the kind of romantic intimacy that’s eluded her occasionally attaining, the kind of romantic intimacy that’s eluded her.

Del Rey is 34, for one – mature enough by today’s slow-to-grow standards that the old stories about Joni Mitchell and Graham Nash are probably beginning to hold some appeal. She guards her personal life pretty tightly, so we’re left to presume these songs bear some connection to reality.

But Del Rey is also a proven dissenter, and nearly 10 years after her debut album, *Born to Die*, its influence is unmistakable in music by Ariana Grande, Lorde and Billie Eilish. No less influential is her cut-and-paste visual style, which is impossible not to think of every time the opening credits to *HBO’s Succession* come on screen.

What stands out now – in an era defined by bleary, depressive pop songs – is someone yearning, as Del Rey does in *Venice Beach*, for *Hallmark – one dream, one life, one lover.* Or her insistence in the strummy *Mariners Apartment Complex* that “you took my sadness out of context.”

The gratifying thing about this album – beyond its gorgeous melodies and Del Rey’s singing, which has never been more vivid – is that even as she’s mellowed her attack, her sense of humour has grown more pointed.

The title track is somehow both sensitive and merciless in its description of a “man-child” who talks to the walls when his friends get bored of him.

“Why wait for the best when I could have you?” she wonders over a handsome arrangement lush with horns and strings.

And for all her interest in the idea of creating a home – “You don’t ever have to be stronger than you really are when you’re lying in my arms,” she comforts a lover in *California* – Del Rey isn’t blocking out the world outside. Near the end of *The Greatest*, in which she sings longingly about a bar where the Beach Boys used to go, she strings together a series of short lines that together offer a chilling portrait of life in 2010:

“L.A. is in flames, it’s getting hot. Canary West is blond and gone. Life on Mars ain’t just a song. I hope the live-stream’s almost on.”

Del Rey keeps playing a little piano lick after that, each repetition slightly softer than the one before it. It feels like a cushion Del Rey knew you’d need. – *Los Angeles Times/TNS*
Traditions of Bulgaria weaved on Merino wool

‘The Beauty of Traditions’ exhibition by Dilly Bozadzhieva opens at Building 22 in Katara

By Mudassir Raja

Human cultures and traditions go back to times immemorial. With the evolution of human beings, their traditions also continue to progress bringing in diversity and colour.

A glimpse of traditional beauty of Bulgaria was recently put on display at Building 22 of Katara where Dilly Bozadzhieva, Bulgarian artist and art designer, has displayed 15 of her works. Katara, in co-operation with the embassy of the republic of Bulgaria, has organised “The Beauty of Traditions” exhibition that will continue till September 10 from 10am to 10pm everyday.

The exhibition was inaugurated by Dr Khalid bin Ibrahim al-Sulaiti, general manager of Katara, and Metin Kazak, ambassador of Bulgaria to Qatar. Art lovers and diplomatic community attended the opening ceremony in large numbers. The gathering was stunned to see the work of the talented artist on Merino wool.

The visiting artist used wool on the canvas and made colourful pictures on it. The art pieces were so captivating that they gripped the visitors who spent considerable time in the gallery looking at the creative work.

Dilly, born in the small and beautiful town Kubrat, Bulgaria, was interested in applied arts from her early years. With a Master’s degree in Fashion Design, she has passed different phases of her creative development until she found wool – which she calls her passion.

“Her trademark as a painter and designer is working with Merino wool. She is a unique artist who sensuously enweaves in the canvas with living wool, love and beauty. Authenticity is her main characteristic that personifies the love of art, as she embodies gentle artistry that gives her the sills to combine the colours of Merino wool into breathtaking images,” said Ambassador Metin in his opening speech.

He added: “Dilly has been making her projects in the applied arts using her splendid fantasy for more than 15 years. She prefers the natural materials to create her paintings and accessories, because they give the soul and the heart of her works. Merino wool gives her the possibility to connect to an old handicraft, to some extent forgotten through the ages. The Merino wool technique includes a special needle to feel the fibres of the material combining different colour layers.”

Further praising the mastery of the artist, the ambassador said: “Each painting is unique and could not be repeated. At every place you see Dilly’s painting, you feel cozinnes and warmth. This is the special effect of the Merino sheep wool. The artist has been organising many solo exhibitions in Bulgaria and in other countries including Hungary, Germany and Turkey. This project presents an original eclectic art idea – the paintings are presented by women dressed in Bulgarian national costumes – the works become alive. The great variety of costumes in different parts of the country is a result of the diverse ethnicities living in the Bulgarian lands through the ages. The customs, the manners and the costumes were formed by the influence of this diversity and that gifted them with rich colours, embroidery and decorations. The exhibition presents the strength and the beauty of women and the way they express themselves by their clothing.”

“Dilly’s future creative plans include a number of art projects to surprise art lovers all over the world.”

Talking to Community, Dilly said: “This is my first exhibition in the Middle East. I am thankful to Katara and the Bulgarian embassy for giving me the opportunity to let the Doha audience have a look at my creative pieces. I am happy to see the response of the art lovers. “I have mainly presented the traditions and culture of Bulgaria through the artwork. I love to portray Bulgarian women in traditional costumes. As the costumes are very colourful, I have used different bright colours in my work. I present traditional Bulgaria.”