

# LeisureScene

## What's On

# Cuban legend to sing at fort

CUBAN Grammy Award nominee Omara Portuondo will take the stage at Arad Fort, Muharraq, tonight as part of the ongoing Spring of Culture festival.

The legendary singer will perform a selection of songs from her latest Album *Gracias* and a variety of other Cuban songs.

Ms Portuondo, affectionately labelled in the media as 'the girlfriend of feeling', is on her first visit to the Gulf to participate in the festival.

The star rose to fame with the Las d'Aida Quartet and is recognised around the world for her outstanding music performances with many international giants including Spanish singer Martirio, and Brazilian singer Maria Bethânia.

She has sold millions of albums of live performances from her tours throughout the world as an ambassador of Cuban music.

She was invited in 1996 to participate as the only woman in the Grammy Award winning album *Buena Vista Social Club* and has performed in major capital cities around the world, including

Amsterdam and New York.

She has also released a movie that highlighted her concerts from throughout her career.

Meanwhile, her albums *Buena Vista Club presents Omara Portuondo and Flor de Amor* were both nominated for the Latin Grammy Awards.

Tickets, costing BD20 BD15 and BD7, are available at the Spring of Culture kiosk at the ground floor of the Bahrain City Centre mall in Seef and at the Alosra Supermarket in Saar.

The theme of this year's Spring of Culture festival is 'A United Chorus of Culture and Art'.

It is being organised with the Culture and National Heritage department, Shaikh Ebrahim bin Mohammed Al Khalifa Centre for Culture and Research and the Economic Development Board.

Batelco, the Al Riwaq Art Gallery, La Fontaine Centre for Contemporary Art, Al Bareh Art Gallery and Bahrain Art Society are also supporting the festival.

The concert will begin at 8.30pm. Visit [www.springofculture.org](http://www.springofculture.org) or call 39900630 for more information.



■ Ms Portuondo ... an ambassador of Cuban music

## The 'queen of crunk' to spin at Wrangler

FEMALE German DJ Poison Ivy is set to make her Bahrain debut when she performs at the Wrangler as part of the Hot Tuesday Night event on April 7.

Nicknamed The Queen of Crunk, she is the resident DJ at Stuttgart's Club Proton where she plays a mix of Dirty South hip-hop, R&B, reggae and dance hall.

Poison Ivy became interested in becoming a DJ after she picked up a vinyl record of Grandmaster Flash and set out to learn the art of mixing.

She quickly amassed a vast collection of records by the biggest names in hip-hop and played amateur sets before she bought her first turntables, mixer and headphones in 2000.

She has performed consistently since then in her native Germany.

The event will also see performances by DJs Chicago Kid, DJ Alex B and DJ Java.

Tickets are priced at BD5 and doors will open at 8pm on April 2.

Contact 39831380 or visit the website [www.wranglerbar.com](http://www.wranglerbar.com) for more information.

## Corona party to continue...

BAHRAIN-based DJs Mazen and Yousif will perform at the Corona Experience poolside party series at the Mercure Grand Hotel, Seef, on Friday.

The event is the second of the eight-week series that will take place every two weeks and will feature performances by 16 DJs.

The parties will take place from 3pm to 10pm at the hotel every second weekend and the tickets are BD5 per person.

The events are organised in association with the hotel, African and Eastern, Sojo productions, Aqua Fuego and Bahrain-based events organiser Warren Stalls.

Contact 36171122 for more information.

## UK novelty act at City Centre

SHOPPERS at the Bahrain City Centre mall, Seef, will enjoy live comedy and music from UK novelty entertainment group the Casablanca Steps at a number of shows that will take place tonight, tomorrow, and on Friday.

The comedy and musical act harks back to the 1920s and will take place at the centre's Galleria area.

Employing slapstick humour alongside traditional playing of their instruments, the band provides an entertaining and refreshing take on the English Society at the time.

The Casablanca Steps will perform at 6.45pm, 7.50pm and 9pm tonight and at 6.45pm, 8pm and 9.45pm tomorrow and on Friday.

The show is free to all to enjoy.



■ The Casablanca Steps at a past performance

## US BILLBOARD TOP 10 ALBUMS

### Pop

1. Kelly Clarkson - *All I Ever Wanted*
2. U2 - *No Line on the Horizon*
3. Various Artists - *Twilight Soundtrack*
4. The Dream - *Love Vs Money*
5. Lady Gaga - *The Fame*
6. Taylor Swift - *Fearless*
7. Nickelback - *Dark Horse*
8. Gorilla Zoe - *Don't Feed Da Animals*
9. Beyonce - *I Am... Sasha Fierce*
10. Jamie Foxx - *Intuition*



■ Clarkson *Intuition*

### Hip Hop and R&B

1. The Dream - *Love Vs Money*
2. Gorilla Zoe - *Don't Feed Da Animals*
3. Jamie Foxx - *Intuition*
4. J Holiday - *Round 2*
5. Keyshia Cole - *A Different Me*
6. Charlie Wilson - *Uncle Charlie*
7. T. I. - *Paper Trail*
8. Beyonce - *I Am... Sasha Fierce*
9. India Arie - *Testimony Vol. 2*
10. Kanye West - *808s & Heartbreak*



■ The Dream

### Electronic

1. Lady GaGa - *The Fame*
2. Various Artists - *Slumdog Millionaire Soundtrack*
3. Tony Ukungbowa - *Total Dance 2009*
4. 3OH!3 - *Want*
5. BoA - *BoA*
6. DJ Skribble - *Total Hits 2*
7. The Prodigy - *Invaders Must Die*
8. Jason Nevins - *Ultra Dance*
9. Kaskade - *The Grand*
10. Rihanna - *Good Girl Gone Bad Remixes*

### Rock

1. U2 - *No Line on the Horizon*
2. Various Artists - *Twilight Soundtrack*
3. Nickelback - *Dark Horse*
4. The Fray - *The Fray*
5. The Decemberists - *The Hazards of Love*
6. Static-X - *Cult of Static*
7. Kings of Leon - *Only by the Night*
8. Jason Mraz - *We Sing. We Dance. We Steal Things.*
9. Neko Case - *Middle Cyclone*
10. Katy Perry - *One of the Boys*



■ U2