

LeisureScene

What's On

Latino duo to entertain Banyan Tree diners...

FANS of Latin music will enjoy a performance by American soprano Clara Mansilla and Tenor Herbert Suarez at a dinner concert at the Banyan Tree Al Areen Resort next month.

The Pasi3n Latina event will take place on May 1 and will highlight Latino music, which is known for its fiery passion, tuneful melodies and playful lyrics.

Ms Mansilla and Mr Suarez credit their Latino background and multi-cultural upbringing as the reason for their life-long love of Mexico's rural conjunto music, the sophisticated melodies of Cuba, the

rhythmic sounds of Puerto Rico and the soft sounds of Brazilian folk music.

The professionally trained singers will be accompanied by Bahrain-based pianist Alistair Auld during the concert that will include music from a wide range of classical and contemporary songs, ranging from Puccini's *O Mio Babbino Caro* to Leonard Bernstein's *Maria* from *West Side Story*.

Tickets are priced at BD30 and the curtain will rise at 7pm.

Contact 17845000 or e-mail gallery-alareen@banyantree.com for more information.



■ Ms Mansilla and Mr Suarez...fiery Latin vocalists

New group aiming to foster unity

BAHRAIN residents who originate from the Indian city of Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala are being invited to attend the opening ceremony of the Mythri Thiruvananthapuram social group at the Bahrian Keraleeya Samajam's (BKS) Diamond Jubilee Hall in Segaiya tomorrow evening.

The group aims to foster unity and brotherhood among the residents of the capital of Kerala and its core purpose and focus is to offer business networking opportunities between existing and aspiring entrepreneurs, bring keynote speakers from Kerala and India, provide interactive forums with senior Keralite government officials and arrange talk shows by experts on relevant topics.

On the cultural front, the social forum plans to organise cultural exchange programmes, promote artists from Kerala and act as media forum for journalists from Kerala.

On the social front it aims to act as a caretaker for residents of Thiruvananthapuram in Bahrain and offer voluntary support services such as assisting in repatriating people to Kerala.

Chief guest at the event will be the Maharaja of the former district of Travancore, His Highness Marthanda Varma Valiyathampuram.

Entry is free and all are welcome to attend.

Contact president Saharajan 36881545 or general secretary Vinod Patric 39918646 for more information.

Top British DJ at Aqua Fuego



■ DJ Nikki Beatnik

AN elite group of Bahrain's party animals will enjoy a rare performance by one of the UK's most celebrated female DJs next weekend.

The UK's Female Technical Scratch DJ champion, artist and producer Nikki Beatnik will perform at Aqua Fuego on April 24 to mark the launch of monthly soirees that are being planned by the bougi lifestyle brand.

A classically trained cellist, Nikki attended music school from the age of eight and cites jazz, disco, reggae and rock acts as her influences.

She began her music career as a DJ at the age of 16 when she bought her first set of Technics mixers.

Prominent at a time when female disc jockeys were few and far between, Nikki soon made a name for herself by performing at the Tuesdays @ 57 Jermyn Street events, known popularly as C U Next Tuesday, alongside partner and events impresario, Rozan Ahmed.

Attendances by a-list of celebrities including Leonardo Di

Caprio, the Neptunes, Hugh Grant, Jade Jagger, Madonna, Christy Turlington, Beyonce, Kimberly Stewart, Justin Timberlake, Kelis, Mariah Carey, NERD, Janet Jackson, Kanye West, Jay Z, Alicia Keys and P Diddy quickly boosted the show's popularity, helping Nikki gain a name for herself.

Recognised as a fashion icon as well, she has performed at several corporate fashion gigs including Fashion Rocks in Monaco, the Elle Style Awards in London, Fashion Week in Paris, Reebok in New York, D&G in Milan as well as for events organised by Rocawear, House of Lilliard, Roberto Cavaalli and Mathew Williamson.

Guests can expect a set of music that encompasses a range of musical styles including a hip hop base, breakbeat drums, rock riffs and electro beats with vocals, ranging from punk-influenced rap lyrics to soulful R&B hooks.

Nikki is also a presenter on both television and radio having worked on projects for Ministry of

Sound, Citibank, Channel 4 and Network East.

In 2003, she was commissioned to write, produce and star in her very own Sky Digital Television show, BeatNIK.

The 10-episode series focused on her fabulous yet challenging lifestyle and featured guest appearance interviews with Kelis, Estelle, Tony Touch, Chris Goldfinger, Audley Harrison, Wale Adeyemi and many other stars.

She is currently a resident at a number of outlets in Ibiza, Marbella and Puerto Banus to name but a few, and has toured major cities in the UK and Europe and performed in Egypt and Dubai.

The launch event will take place from 9pm onwards on April 24 at Aqua Fuego at the Marine Tower, Manama.

It is open to invited guests only, but people may contact the bougi page on facebook.com to request an invitation.

Sponsors include L'Hotel, Jake & Gigi Custom Jewellery and Aqua Fuego.

US BILLBOARD TOP 10 ALBUMS

Pop

1. Keith Urban - *Defying Gravity*
2. Prince - *Lotus Flow3r*
3. Diana Krall - *Quiet Nights*
4. Various Artists - *Now 30*
5. Various Artists - *Hannah Montana: The Movie Soundtrack*
6. UGK - *UGK 4 Life*
7. Various Artists - *Twilight Soundtrack*
8. Flo Rida - *R.O.O.T.S.*
9. Lady Gaga - *The Fame*
10. Taylor Swift - *Fearless*

Hip Hop and R&B

1. Prince - *Lotus Flow3r*
2. UGK - *UGK 4 Life*
3. Keri Hilson - *In a Perfect World*
4. The Dream - *Love Vs Money*
5. Bow Wow - *New Jack City II*
6. Flo Rida - *R.O.O.T.S.*
7. Donnie McClurkin - *We Are All One*
8. Slim Thugg - *Boss of All Bosses*
9. Jamie Foxx - *Intuition*
10. Jim Jones - *Pray IV Reign*

Electronic

1. Lady GaGa - *The Fame*
2. Various Artists - *Slumdog Millionaire Soundtrack*
3. 3OH!3 - *Want*
4. Tony Ukungbowa - *Total Dance 2009*
5. DJ Skribble - *Total Hits 2*
6. Royksopp - *Junior*
7. The Prodigy - *Invaders Must Die*
8. Jason Nevins - *Ultra Dance 10*
9. Dan Deacon - *Bromst*
10. Fever Ray - *Fever Ray*

Rock

1. Various Artists - *Twilight Soundtrack*
2. U2 - *No Line On The Horizon*
3. Nickelback - *Dark Horse*
4. David Cook - *David Cook*
5. The Yeah Yeah Yeahs - *It's Blitz!*
6. Queensryche - *American Soldier*
7. The Fray - *The Fray*
8. Kings of Leon - *Only by the Night*
9. Jason Mraz - *We Sing. We Dance. We Steal Things*
10. Silverstein - *A Shipwreck in the Sand*

Party series continues...

BAHRAIN-based DJs Dave, Salime and Fuego will perform at the latest instalment of the Corona Experience poolside party series that will take place on Friday at the Mercure Grand Hotel, Seef.

The event is the third of the eight-week series that will take place every two weeks and will feature performances by 16 DJs playing a variety of dance music.

During the series guests will also be treated to music from DJ Chris, DJ Traycy, DJ Jay, DJ Khalid, DJ Dave, DJ Twisted Vision, DJ Jackson, DJ Chicago Kid, DJ K-Otic, DJ Daniel and DJ Reaves.

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

The events are being organised in association with the hotel and African and Eastern and will feature visuals by Pravo.

Contact 36171122 for more information.