

# Gulf Weekly

The community newspaper at the heart of Bahrain

May 24-30, 2023

BAHRAIN.OURS.YOURS.

Vol 22 - Issue 21

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INSPIRED: Maryam

**FILM REPORT**  
By MAI AL-KHATIB CAMILLE  
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CLICK AND SHOOT: Above, and below, scenes from the film

## SNAPPING UP ATTENTION

**C**URIOSITY over why people love to take pictures inspired Bahraini director Maryam Abdulghaffar to develop the subject and create an expressive documentary for film-lovers around the world.

The six-minute short film was written, shot, directed, produced and edited by Maryam, a human resources growth digital manager at Beyon, who enjoys creating art one frame at a time.

"Why Do People Take Pictures?" is a narrative film that's based on our thoughts and curiosity," said the award-winning photographer and filmmaker from Hamad Town.

"It all started with my own thoughts and questions about why people take pictures and I decided to turn it into an expressive documentary.

"There is a twist within the film as well to keep people thinking and it is open-ended to allow members of the audience to make up their own minds."

It took Maryam three months to put the pieces together. It includes a shot from Dubai provided by friend Abdulla Faqeeh and voiceover work

by Aysha Alattiya.

"Why Do People Take Pictures?" premiered in the UK at the Lift-Off Filmmaker Sessions at Pinewood Studios and also at the First-Time Filmmaker Sessions there too.

It has also been featured in Lebanon at the Tyre International Short Film Festival and in Bolivia at the Black Cat Award International Film Festival. This year it has been nominated as the Best Documentary DXB Shorts International Film Festival in Dubai.

The short film will also be featured at the LA Independent Women Film Awards in the US next month and once it's done making its film festival rounds, Maryam is planning



on sharing it on YouTube.

"It has been premiered in four film festivals so far and I hope it will be displayed at more festivals to come," she added.

Maryam is now working on a documentary and two short films.

Her last 11-minute movie called *Sound of Feathers*, launched in Bahrain in

December 2021, achieved 12 laurels including its official selection in the Tennessee International Indie Film Festival 2022 in the US. It also won accolades such as the Second Best First Time Director and the Best Short Documentary in the first Monthly Film Festival 2022. The movie has been screened in Brazil, the US, the UK,



NARRATIVE: The documentary

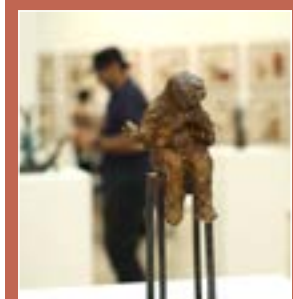
Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Serbia.

Maryam has also won the Chromatic Award with honours, twice, which is an international competition of colour photography open to both professionals and amateurs. She also received an honourable mention in the food photography category in 2020 and an honourable mention in fashion photography in 2021.

For details, follow @maryam.abdulghaffar on Instagram.



PASSION PROJECT  
Film about family  
SEE PAGE 2



EMOTIONAL EXPO  
Artistic tribute  
SEE PAGE 3



PARA HEROES SHINE  
Badminton tournament  
SEE PAGES 4-5



UNDERWATER STAR  
Diving for Bahrain  
SEE PAGE 5



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# A message to reconnect



## FILM REPORT

By MAI AL-KHATIB CAMILLE  
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**A** MOVING Punjabi family-film, written and directed by Bahrain resident Preety Praveen, has been shot in the kingdom and is set to be screened at one of the island's theatres in the near future.

The one-hour movie, entitled *Bas Ik Vaari*, revolves around a father and a daughter struggling to reconnect after complicated circumstances and misunderstandings create a rift between them.

"Where the daughter tries to bridge the gap, the father shows a cold shoulder to her efforts," said Indian expatriate Preety, a psychologist and passionate writer from Mahooz who moved to Bahrain in 2009. "Will they be able to see through the dark fog of delusional misunderstandings and reunite as a happy family?"

"*Bas Ik Vaari* is a Punjabi word which means 'at least once' and as the name states, we all deserve a chance to speak and vent out feelings at the right time and in front of the right people."

Preety had written the story a couple of years back and after the pandemic she revisited her tale and decided to put it on the big screen.



"The shooting was finished in just two weeks," she added. "But as they say, the real work starts after the shooting finishes."

"My whole team had been working dedicatedly to finish the project for more than nine months. Everybody involved in this project took the tasks on out of passion. They have tried their best to give their time along with their other commitments."

"The idea of writing, shooting, technical work, cast and crew, everything

has been conceived and conceptualised in Bahrain. We are hoping that our audience would feel connected with the story, acknowledge our hard work and take a beautiful message from our movie."

The associate producers are GoAlive and the main cast involves Gurshej Kaur, Praveen Nambiar, Anagha Kulkarni Parkhi, Asar Ziya, Jagdeep Pal Singh, Kathu Sachindev, Sandeep C Menon and Amina Syed. The director of photography is

Sachan Chandran and editing is done by Priya Lal Achary.

The lyricists are Preety Praveen and Karthick Raj and the music has been composed by Shibin P Sidiq and Ishpreet Kaur Virdi. The background music is also provided by Shibin and Dreams Digital Media Bahrain and the singers include Ishpreet Kaur Virdi, Ashna Varghese and Sobin C Jose.

"We made this movie from our hearts and are hoping that we would be able to touch the emotional chords of our audience as well," said Preety.

This isn't her first movie experience as she has written and directed an hour-long play called *Aashiyana Mera*, which was screened at the GOPIO event in Bahrain. *Onam in Oman* was another hour-long comedy play that was showcased at various labour camps.

Movies called *Hesitancy* and *Lakeerein* are also shorts that she made for social causes. Preety has also written a novel called *Cross Connection* and it was published in 2019 in Bengaluru, India.

"In Bahrain Media City, I've created and presented two shows – an entertainment show titled *Rangla Punjab* and an educational show called *Children's Hour*," she said. "I've worked with BMC Film production in an



FILM CREATOR: Preety

upcoming Malayalam movie entitled *Ankke Enthinte Keda*, which is all set to get released. However, *Bas Ik Vaari* is the biggest project I've done till date."

Aside from her creative endeavours, she is associated with the Indian Community Relief Fund (ICRF), the Pravasi Legal Cell (PLC) and the Indian Ladies Association (ILA).

"I've given my counselling services to many in need and would love to be a helping hand for anyone who is going through a rough patch in their life," she explained.

The release date of the film will be announced soon and she also has other projects lined up such as her very own podcast called *Be Candid With Preety* and a YouTube series.

## BRAIN-BUSTERS

**Q** uizmaster and **Radio Bahrain** host Shannon Crockett, who has been entertaining people across the island with his brain-teasing quiz night sessions, has offered to put *Gulf Weekly* readers' general knowledge to the test. Join in the fun every Wednesday with Shannon's seven brain-busters.



mushroom in Super Mario Bros?

7) In 2004, Bahrain set the Guinness Book of Records for the world's largest what?

- 1) What was the catchphrase of Doc in the movie *Back to the Future*?
- 2) A tropical storm in the region of the Indian or western Pacific oceans is commonly called what?
- 3) Which country is currently the Davis Cup champions for tennis?
- 4) Who holds the record for most appearances on the cover of *Rolling Stone* magazine?
- 5) What unit of length is equal to around 5.8 trillion miles?
- 6) What colour is the 1-up

1. Great Scott!
2. Typhoon
3. Canada
4. The Beatles
5. Light Year
6. Green
7. National Flag

**ANSWERS**

## Not such a Golden Age

### BAHRAIN CINEMA

CLUB – Wednesday, 7pm, Juffair

**Film:** *Babylon*

**Director:** Damien Chazelle

**Duration:** 3 hours and 9 minutes

**Cast:** Brad Pitt, Margot Robbie, Diego Calva, Jean Smart, Jovan Adepo and Li Jun Li.

**Plot:** A great time to be a movie star in Hollywood is in the 1920s. In this debauched world of money, jazz and ostrich feathers, the stars of the silent movies partied on in blissful ignorance though the 'talkies' era was coming to



A scene from the movie

kill them. Pelting between the film sets, studio lots, flapper clubs and steam-cloaked

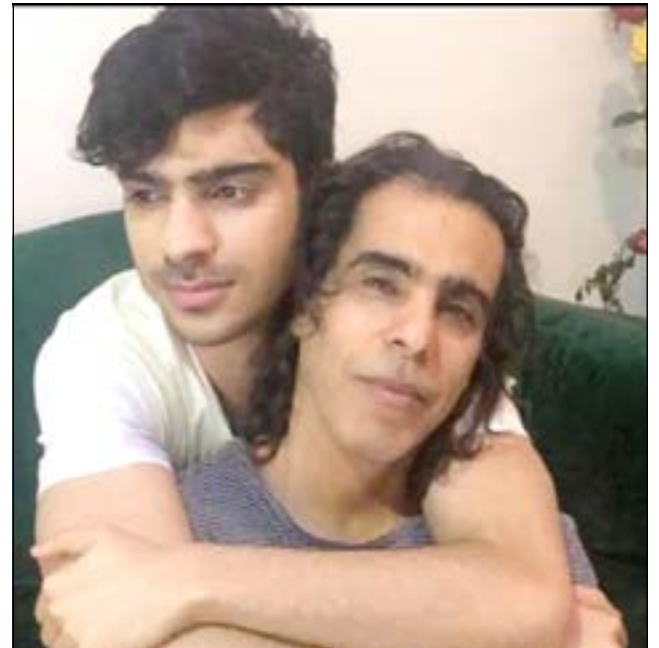
dark alleys of Hollywood's original golden age, the film captures all the chaos and



The poster

head-spinning excess. For details, call Huda Tabbara on 39682323.





TRIBUTE: Ahmed and his son

# Emotionally enchanted

**ART REPORT**  
By MAI AL-KHATIB CAMILLE  
mai@gdnmedia.bh

**WHETHER it was colourful caricatures on canvas or astonishing art sculptures; nothing was missing from Ahmed Anan's highly-emotional solo exhibition at the Art Centre in Manama.**

The showcase, entitled *The Shirt of Absence*, in collaboration with the Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities (Baca), features more than 100 paintings on paper, canvas and mixed media, along with bronze sculptural works at the Centre located near the National Museum.

This exhibition, which was opened by Farah Mattar, Baca's director of culture and arts, is a tribute to the 55-year-old visual artist for clinching second place in the 48th edition of Bahrain Annual Fine Arts Exhibition last year ... which meant more to him than anyone can imagine.

"I'm honoured to feature my collection of artworks," said Ahmed, who won several accolades over the years and was the president of the Bahrain Contemporary Art Society from 2018 to 2020. His last solo exhibition was in 2022 in Tangiers, Morocco.



Pictures by Ahmed Al Fardan

"My exhibition reflects the ordeal of loss that a person can go through as well as the personal experience that I've experienced. As a result of a sudden shock in my life, it changed the way I presented my work from previous exhibitions. I've added works of audacity to the mix that have a sense and feeling to hopefully reach the recipient with different interpretations."

As the expressive artist told the *GulfWeekly*, many from the cultural community are aware of his tragic loss that shook him and his family to the core.

"All those who know me, know my story," he said. "I lost my son Yousif, who was only 18, from what we suspect was a heart attack. He was very athletic and



Ahmed and Farah

was a weightlifter with the federation. It was so unexpected that it took me a lot of time to process."

He is considered a 'third generation' Bahraini artist that has exhibited locally and abroad. He has always been inspired by iconic women, as well as human rights and nature. However, this exhibition features his pain.

He used an array of

mediums in his artwork including ink, candle wax, rust, seashells, different pastes and acrylics, oil and water colour, alongside collage.

"My works vary this time in style, technique and colours, as they were completed during different periods of my life and in places far apart between Bahrain, France, Morocco.



MOVING: Ahmed with one of his paintings alongside other artworks at the exhibition



The sculpture in Egypt was completed over a period of two and a half years," he added. "This is my first display of sculptural works in bronze.

"My Moroccan exhibition also featured just lineaments but this has figures and emotions as well.

"This is my message to all viewers – life is full of joy and is also full of sadness, so why not express it. People run away from sadness and pain but we should embrace it because it is all part of the cycle we call 'life'."

He has noticed that the audience felt a 'different energy' from this exhibition.

"Perhaps they recognise true honesty and the genuine emotions that I have experienced," he explained. "Some were very moved by the artwork and that was the feedback I received. It's an exhibition that has to be attended to be truly felt."

The exhibition is open daily to visitors, until June 17, from 9am to 8pm.

For details, follow @ahmedananart on Instagram.





# Aspiring to achieve

**SPORT REPORT**  
By MAI AL-KHATIB CAMILLE  
mai@gdnmedia.bh

**T**HE International Paralympic Badminton Championship staged in the kingdom has proved to be a smash hit with the hundreds of para-athletes from across the globe who have been in Bahrain competing for medals and glory.

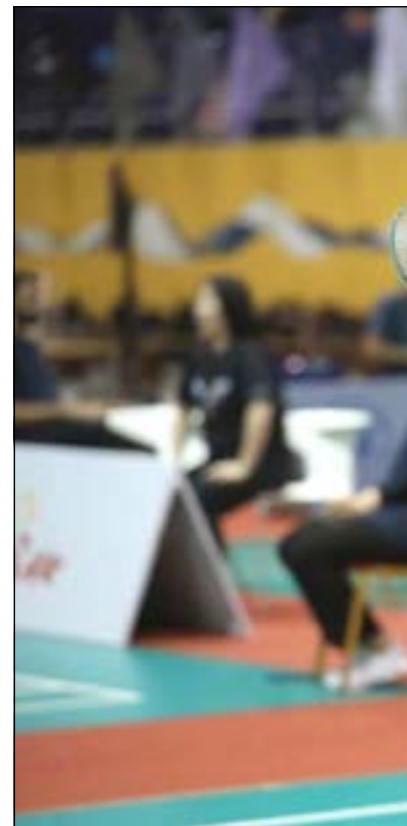
The popular racket sport, which has been hosted by the Bahrain Paralympic Committee (BPC) and Bahrain Badminton and Squash Federation for a second-year-in-a-row, concluded yesterday (May 23). It featured around 100 matches of doubles and singles per day and resulted in notable victories for many of the island's star para-players, including award-winning Paralympian Roba Alomari.

The wheelchair-bound para-athlete is actually known for her discus, javelin and shotput skills but decided this year to try her hand at badminton.

"I'm thrilled to have won a match in the doubles category on Day One of the competition with my Iraqi teammate, Mohammed Karim," said the 32-year-old from Hamad Town, who tackled the team consisting of Australian player Fiona Singh and English player Joby Ranjanathan and enjoyed the taste of victory. The first game ended 21-13



SMASH HIT: Alomari on Day Two



LET'S START: Action from the competition

and the second one was settled with a tight 26-24 success.

More than 300 players from 42 countries including Japan, Poland, Spain, Italy, Egypt, France, England, Germany, India and more, participated in the championship. Bahrain was represented by 17 men and eight women.

According to the BPC, the competition proved to be an important part of the preparation and qualification plans for the Paris 2024 Games.

"I prepared in the best possible way to compete and gain results, especially

as I am competing here, at home, in Bahrain so I wanted to show up!" she explained.

"I only started preparing for this 10 days before the competition so to notch victories for me with such a short duration of training is a victory in itself – a first in the history of para-badminton. It means so much to me.

"I thank my badminton coach Abdul Rahman Al-Abbasi for his support as well as my teammates for all their motivational encouragement. They would join me during the weekends just to train with me and help me improve my technique."

Alomari's second win came on Day Two in a singles match against Ugandan Sarah Naziwa.

Alomari is no stranger to raking in medals. During her sporting career, she has competed in the UK, the UAE, Kuwait, Morocco, Indonesia, China, Brazil, Oman, Tokyo and South Korea, and clinched more than 25 gold, 13 silver and six bronze medals in her sporting career. She had participated in the Grand Prix series in 2019 landing three medals – gold in discus, silver in javelin and bronze in shotput. Last year, she achieved two gold medals in javelin and discus throw and



SPORTSMANSHIP: Playing in the right spirit

a silver in shotput.

The national team as a whole just missed out on reaching the semi-finals. Nonetheless, the Bahrain squad feel privileged to have played a part in such a major championship and players like Alomari are looking forward to doing even better in this sport in the future.

"I aspire to achieve more," she added. "I hope to always make my kingdom and the organising committee proud. They worked so hard in preparing for this tournament and ensuring

everyone had a great time at the championship and it showed."

Other teams and coaches, such as Swedish national badminton team coach Paniz Yousefi, were impressed by the quality of the championship's organisation. She said that the tournament exceeded her expectations in terms of competition and praised the BPC.

"The Bahrain Paralympic Committee has done a great job," added Yousefi who is a Badminton World Federation

coach, tutor and founder of a project called Parallel Play. "In terms of competition, it was better than expected with a good level of players and matches. I commend the organisers! The future looks bright for Paralympic badminton in the world and we hope that the level will continue to rise higher and higher. We're really looking forward to the next competition."

The finals were held yesterday (May 23).

For details, follow @bahrainnpc on Instagram.



TOP MENTOR: Swedish coach Yousefi, right, with one of her athletes



Weekly

e more



tion



ELIGHTED: Shaima Sami from Egypt



**SPORT REPORT**  
By MAI AL-KHATIB CAMILLE  
mai@gdnmedia.bh

**M**OHAMED AI Hermi, who recently made a splash for being the first Bahraini athlete to represent the kingdom in a global freediving championship, is back in the water and training extensively in preparation for two national competitions.

The 31-year-old Federation Internationale de Natation (FINA) swimming coach and freediver competed against 350 divers from 44 countries at the World Freediving Indoor Championship staged in Kuwait and enjoyed every moment.

"To be the first to raise the Bahrain flag at the Confédération Mondiale des Activités Subaquatiques (CMAS) freediving indoor championship still feels amazing," said the fire officer at ALBA who is also a 'fin-swimmer', the sporting term for an underwater sports athlete. "I can't explain my feelings, it was just 'wow!'"

"It was a pleasure to represent my country in the biggest event in the freediving world for the first time. I felt the positive energy and it has pushed me forward to want to compete more."

He remained so motivated that he started training with his renowned Croatian coach Lidija Lijic on the same day he landed back in the country.

"I work out underwater and also do a 'dry workout' based on a specialised plan by my coach," added Al Hermi, a level one national coach certified by Bahrain Olympic Committee.

"Now, I'm preparing to participate in at least



ALL SMILES: In the pool

Pictures by Ahmed Al Fardan

## Lapping up experience



READY TO DIVE IN: Al Hermi in Kuwait

two national competitions before next year's freediving championships and I aim to set more national records."

Al Hermi is currently a four-time national record holder in speed-endurance apnea, dynamic no fins, dynamic bi fins and monofins.

Speed-endurance apnea is an event where the athlete covers a fixed distance in the minimum possible time. The event is conducted in a

swimming-pool and is swum in fractions of a pool length alternating apnea swimming with passive recovery at the pool's ends.

Dynamic no fins is swimming a distance horizontally underwater, usually in a swimming pool, whilst wearing bi fins (two separate, unconnected fins) or a monofin (both feet in one fin).

Al Hermi is also classified as the second fastest in the whole of the Arab world in the Speed Dynamic Apnea 2x50m category.

He enjoys competing in different disciplines which also include static breath holding and sprint 100M breath holding.

His adoration of everything aquatic started when he was four, swimming and snorkelling at the local pool with his father Arif, who was a member of the Bahrain national team in the early 1980s.

"Eventually I was asking to take on more depths, distances and breath-holding

that I found my way to freediving," he added. "I was freediving as a hobby and when I started focusing on my technique and performance, I found that I improved a lot with my distance and technique."

"Many of my family and friends advised me to take part competitively when they saw the levels I reached so I started to attend Freediving School to learn more and develop my skills."

He became a certified, licensed free diver in 2017 and has been making waves ever since. His personal best so far, as reported in the *GDN*, is a depth of 30 metres ... but he is aiming for a new personal best.

"A special thanks goes out to everyone that supported my journey, especially my family and friends," he said. "I also want to thank the Arab teams – including Saudi Arabia, Oman, the UAE and Kuwait – that took me under their wings during the recent tournament and made me feel one with them, as well as the Croatian team."

"Thank you for all your encouragement and support. This competition was to gain experience and knowledge. It's just the beginning for me and there is more to come!"

For details, follow @alhermii on Instagram.



GREAT HONOUR: Al Hermi proudly carrying the flag before the championship begins



# Pulse of Pop

AROUND THE WORLD IN MUSIC, TV, BOOKS AND MORE - BY MAI AL-KHATIB CAMILLE

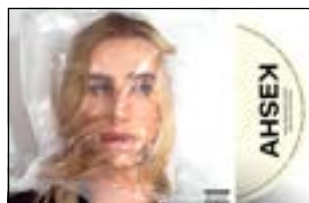


**P**ARTY anthem Tik Tok singer Kesha has won the hearts of music fans with her latest album *Gag Order*.

The people have spoken and the pop singer's fifth album has been voted in a poll published on Friday (May 19) on Billboard as their favourite new music release of the past week.

*Gag Order* brought in more than 68 per cent of the vote, beating out new music from Post Malone's *Mourning*, Bad Bunny's *Where She Goes*, Lewis Capaldi's *Broken By Desire to Be Heavenly Sent* and Kaytraminé's *Kaytraminé*, along with others.

The Rick Rubin-produced 13-track collection – which apparently is believed to address the stark realities of trauma and its aftermath of which she endured in the past

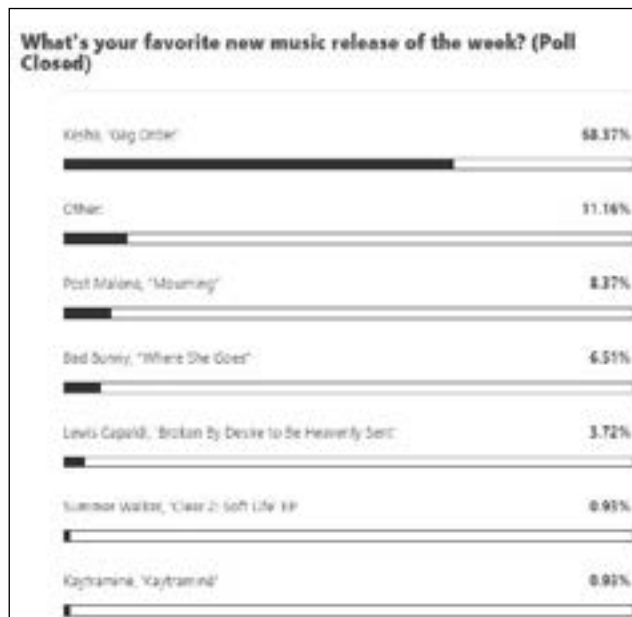


**GAG ORDER: The album**

– is the singer's long-awaited follow-up to 2020's *High Road*.

"I really dug into some of my uglier emotions and sides of myself that are less fun," the star told *Rolling Stone* when she announced the album. "It's scary being vulnerable. The fact that I have compiled an entire record of these emotions, of anger, of insecurity, of anxiety, of grief, of pain, of regret, all of that is so nerve-racking – but it's also so healing."

The record delves between nostalgic, new age sounds



and symphonic waves of euphoria over electronics, soft guitars and quasi-gospel vocal harmonies.

The other songs trailing behind *Gag Order* on the poll

is the 'other' category, with 11 per cent of the vote, Post Malone's *Mourning* with 8pc and Bad Bunny's *Where She Goes* with nearly 7pc of the vote.

## A CULINARY CRIME

**A**UTHOR Colleen Cambridge has whipped up a delicious murder mystery set in Paris and featuring beloved chef Julia Child's (fictional) best friend Tabitha Knight.

This 'magnifique' new historical mystery series from Colleen, the acclaimed author of *Murder at Mallowan Hall*, has been dubbed 'enchanted' by *Publishers Weekly* as it provides 'a fresh perspective on the iconic chef's years in post-Second World War Paris with a unique culinary twist'.

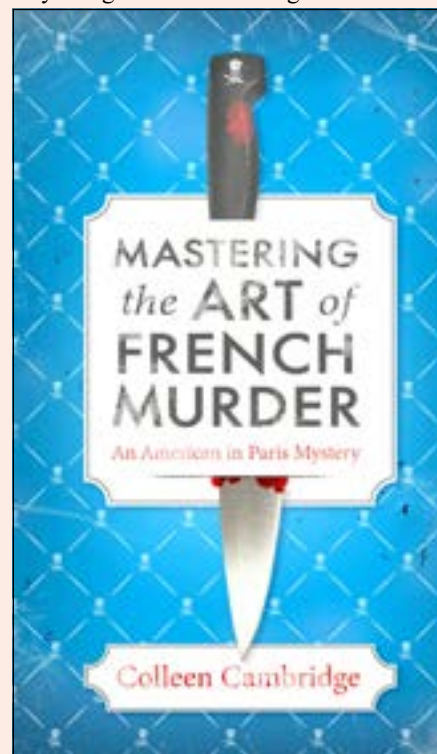
"Cambridge captures Child's distinct voice and energy so perfectly," stated *Publishers Weekly*. "Expect to leave this vacation hoping for a return trip."

In Book One of the series *Mastering the Art of French Murder: A Charming New Parisian Historical Mystery*, Tabitha, a neighbour and friend of Julia's, has fallen head over heels for the city of lights and is learning how to cook for her Grandpère and Uncle Rafe.

In the meantime, Tabitha tutors Americans in French, visits the market and eagerly samples the results of Julia's studies at Le Cordon Bleu cooking school. All seems well until a cold December day when the duo return to Julia's building and learn that a body has been found in the cellar.

Tabitha recognises the victim as a woman she'd met only the night before at a party given by Julia's sister Dort. The murder weapon found nearby is a knife from Julia's kitchen.

Tabitha is eager to help with the investigation, but then shockingly learns from Inspector Merveille that a note in her handwriting was found in the dead woman's pocket. She is in dire need to whisk up the truth before it's too late.



## EPIC FANTASY FUN

**I**S there anything that superstar Michelle Yeoh can't do?

She is truly doing everything everywhere all at once with her next entertaining endeavour called *American Born Chinese*.

The adaptation of the hit graphic novel of the same name by Gene Luen Yang, which debuts today (May 24) on Disney+, follows a mythological being (played by Yeoh) whose life becomes entangled with an average American teenager (played by Ben Wang).

It all starts when the high schooler, who is struggling with his school and home life, meets Wei-Chen, the new Taiwanese exchange student at school. However, a sequence of events leads him to become involved in the Chinese mythological battle. Also cast in this eight-episode show is Ke Huy Quan and Stephanie Hsu.



## EXTRA-ACTION

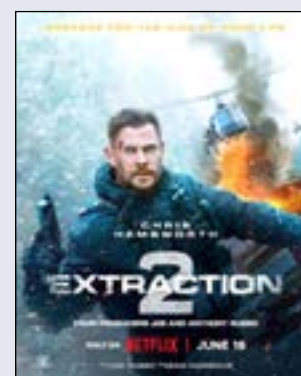
**T**HE action-packed film that kept movie-lovers on the edge of their seats, or couches, is back next month with a Netflix sequel that aims to shock and thrill yet again.

In *Extraction*, Marvel mega man Chris Hemsworth mercenary Tyler Rake was on a deadly mission in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Now, after barely surviving his grievous wounds from that killer mission Tyler is back, and his team is ready to take on their next assignment in *Extraction 2*.

Filmmaker (and former stuntman) Sam Hargrave, who is once again on board as director and Joe Russo on script duties, have put together an adrenaline-pumping follow-up that appears to be way more ambitious than the first film.

In fact, the star stated to *Total Film Magazine* that the stunts on *Extraction 2* are the toughest he's faced yet.

"It's the hardest thing I've ever done," he said. "I'm not exaggerating. At the end of a take, you're sucking air like you never have before, and everyone drops to their knees. But it's so much



more rewarding. I would love to take this style and integrate it into a Marvel film, if I was ever to do another one."

Intrigued? Then check out the *Extraction 2* trailer which is out and giving adrenaline junkies a taste of the explosive action to come.

Meanwhile, *Extraction 2* comes to Netflix on June 16.



# MotoringWeekly

The top motoring and motorsport news

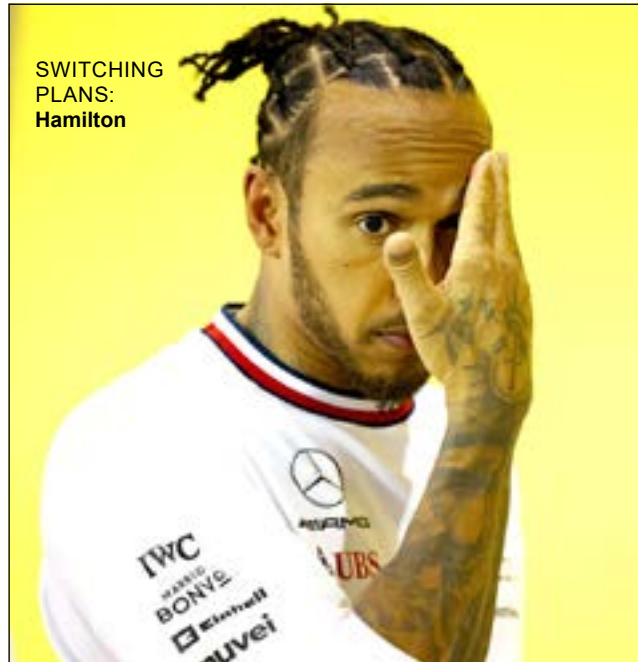
**FERRARI** is reportedly preparing to offer seven-time world champion Lewis Hamilton \$50 million to leave Mercedes for the Scuderia at the end of the season

Hamilton, 38, has repeatedly said he plans to re-sign with Mercedes once his contract expires at the end of the year. However, the *Daily Mail* reported Monday that Ferrari president John Elkann has been "in close contact with Hamilton."

Hamilton currently shares the all-time record of seven championships with legendary Ferrari driver Michael Schumacher. He narrowly missed out on No. 8 in the final race of 2021. He was eclipsed by Max Verstappen, who is now charging toward his third consecutive world championship as Red Bull has emerged as the dominant force in Formula 1 the past two years.

Meanwhile, Mercedes has

# Ferrari chasing Hamilton



SWITCHING PLANS:  
Hamilton

struggled to keep pace. That has led to speculation that the Brit may be more open

to a move to Ferrari, where current drivers Charles Leclerc and Carlos Sainz

are under contract through 2024.

In a scenario where Hamilton makes a move to Ferrari, it raises the question about the Scuderia's current driver lineup. The team has reportedly begun contract negotiations with Leclerc, but the possibility of a swap with Leclerc going to Mercedes and Hamilton teaming with Sainz at Ferrari has emerged in rumour circles.

Mercedes team principal Toto Wolff was recently asked about Leclerc, but insisted that his focus

remains on re-signing Hamilton.

"Nobody doubts Charles' ability and he is a good guy," Wolff said at the Azerbaijan Grand Prix last month. "He is 100 per cent committed to Ferrari and we are 100pc committed to putting pen to paper with Lewis."

For his part, Hamilton has also remained consistent in his stance that he intends to remain with Mercedes.

"I'd be lying if I said I'd never thought about ending my career anywhere else," Hamilton said at the Miami Grand Prix earlier this

month. "I started at McLaren, I'd like to think I'll always be a part of the McLaren family, I started there when I was 13 years old, so I thought about what it would look like if I was at McLaren one day.

"I thought about and watched the Ferrari drivers on the screens at the track and of course you wonder what it would be like to be in red. But then I go to my team, to Mercedes, and this is my home.

"I'm happy where I am. I haven't signed a contract yet, but we are working on one."

## Gasly race ban fears ease



PENALTY POINTS: Alpine's Gasly during the Miami Grand Prix

**PIERRE Gasly's fears of being the first Formula One driver to be hit with an automatic one-race ban have been eased with two points having expired.**

Gasly had been sitting at 10 points due to a series of minor offences over a six-month stretch last year.

Any driver who accrues 12 points in a 12-month period would be levied with an automatic one-race ban under the FIA's new sanctioning system.

The first two of Gasly's 10 points came when he collided with Aston Martin's Lance Stroll at the 2022 Spanish Grand Prix last May. With last weekend's

Emilia Romagna Grand Prix at Imola cancelled due to flooding, those two points dropped from Gasly's total.

Gasly, who left Alpha Tauri for Alpine this season, still leads all drivers on the grid with eight points. The 10 he has accrued overall have been for a variety of offences including a pair of

collisions, speeding under a red flag, for being too far behind the safety car and for exceeding track limits in order to gain an advantage.

The most recent of the Frenchman's penalty points were levied last October. F1 stewards have limited penalty points in 2023 to instances of unsafe driving, and Gasly has

not collected any additional points this year.

Gasly is currently 10th in the drivers standings, having earned eight points entering this week's Monaco Grand Prix.

He took over the Alpine seat vacated by Fernando Alonso, the former world champion who currently sits in third place for Aston

Martin behind the Red Bull tandem of Max Verstappen and Sergio Perez. Gasly's teammate Esteban Ocon is two points behind in 10th place.

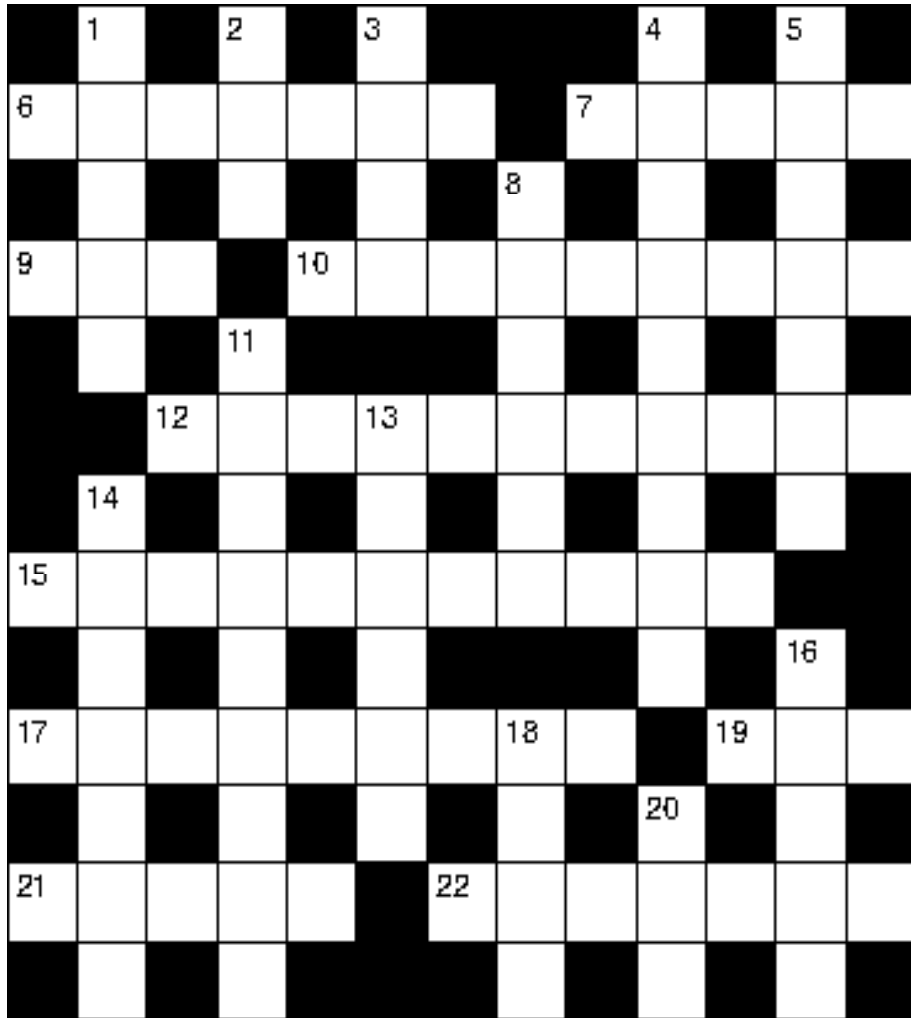
Alpine has struggled thus far in 2023 and sits tied for fifth in the Constructors standings with 14 total points, tied with rival McLaren entering Monaco.

# Time Out



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## crossword break



Solutions in next week's issue.

### ACROSS

6. Glass (7)
7. Daub (5)
9. Levy (3)
10. Ancient (9)
12. Rudeness (11)
15. Suggestion (11)
17. Dog (9)
19. Blend (3)
21. Indolence (5)
22. Make (7)

### DOWN

1. Rustic (5)
2. Recede (3)
3. Prophet (4)
4. Likeness (9)
5. Reap (7)
8. Quantity (6)
11. Inequality (9)
13. Coffin (6)
14. Methodical (7)
16. Toss (5)
18. Merit (4)
20. Uneven (3)

### who, what, where, when

WHO ... played Lucy Honeychurch in *A Room With A View*?

WHAT ... was the name of the ancient British race of whom Boadicea was queen?

WHERE ... was the Bounty heading for when the famous mutiny occurred?

WHEN ... did the UK National Minimum Wage become law?

WHO ... painted *The Guitar Player* in 1910?

WHAT ... is an Ignis Fatuus, seen over marshy ground, more commonly known as?

WHERE ... would you find the colleges of Selwyn, Trinity and Wolfson?

WHEN ... did the 'Hundred Years' War' end?

### just so

clight

EMOTE

DAYDAYDAY  
DAYDAYDAY  
DAYDAYDAY  
DAYDAYDAY

writeswriteswriteswriteswrites

## tough sudoku

So you think you're good enough at Sudoku to crack this baby? Remember, we were the first in the Gulf to bring you this bit of Japanese mayhem...so we don't kid around

### Last week's sudoku

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

8	1	8	2	6	3	7	5	4
1	9	7	0	1	2	5	2	3
2	3	5	9	7	4	3	6	1
7	0	9	5	2	1	3	4	8
5	2	1	6	8	8	1	5	7
5	8	1	3	7	7	2	8	6
1	4	8	7	6	2	9	3	5
6	5	3	1	8	4	1	7	2
9	7	2	4	3	5	3	1	6

### tough sudoku

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

Sudoku

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

Sudoku

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

### Last Week's Leisure Solutions

#### CROSSWORD BREAK:

**Across:** 7 Interrogation;  
8 Reviewer; 9 Idea;  
10 Superb; 12 Entomb;  
14 Recess; 16 Estate;  
18 Stop; 20 Basketry;  
22 Unconditional.

**Down:** 1 Insecure;  
2 Demise; 3 Brow;  
4 Aggrieve; 5 Strict; 6 Core;  
11 Busybody; 13 Material;  
15 Employ; 17 Tremor;  
19 Tune; 21 Site.

#### JUST SO:

Miss the point; Mixed up kid;  
Nothing doing; Open season.

#### WHO, WHAT, WHERE,

**WHEN:** Virginia Woolf;  
Carbon and nitrogen; Iceland;  
1773; James Cameron; Goat;  
Italy; 1865.

### Tough Sudoku

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