

BUZZ AROUND TOWN

> DECEMBER

WE CHOOSE SEVEN. DO YOU HAVE AN EIGHTH?

OUR TOP PICKS

BY SUZUKI

Top events throughout the week, what a time we've got in store for you! Here's to a great seven days in the UAE.



SUNDAY

8

Retro toys

Ever enjoyed a Happy Meal as a kid? McDonald's is bringing back toys from your childhood with its limited-edition Surprise Happy Meal featuring iconic models from the last four decades to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the first-ever Happy Meal around the world.



MONDAY

9

Classic cars

Strap yourself in because a classic car exhibition is taking place at Qasr Al Heon until Dec 30. Al Ruhoil explores how the urban fabric of the UAE developed in the mid-20th century with the transition from nomadic styles of transportation to modern day automobiles.



TUESDAY

10

Celine goes on

Bagatelle will be hosting a special evening honouring the legendary singing sensation Celine Dion at their Le Mardi C'est Paris - Spéciale. Gisèle Laro will be flying in specially from Paris to give an exclusive performance from 8pm at the always-vibrant Palmport Dubai venue.



WEDNESDAY

11

Coffee break

Love traditional coffee? SIAL Middle East 2015 and the live presentations of the first Gahwa Championships are on in Abu Dhabi today and Gahwa (Arabic coffee) enthusiasts are in for a treat. Watch the masters take home prizes. Visit www.gahwahampionships.com for more info.

THURSDAY

12

Special sushi

Vary your dining options and celebrate the month of festivities over a meal at any Susho Sushis & Bento outlet with two new flavourful dishes - Imperial rolls and miso beef short ribs - that are available during December.



FRIDAY

13

Hideaway party

From 11pm, Latin American club Caribel - hidden away above La Carreta in Dubai - will be spinning tunes from 11pm until late. You're only allowed entry if you get your hands on a secret password. Call 050364 0000 for the clue.

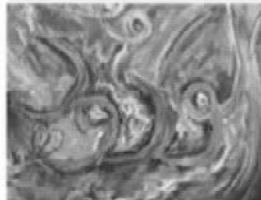


SATURDAY

14

Art exhibit

Aliem Noor, who has spent more than two decades in the art industry, is showcasing his artworks at "Retrospective" a solo Art Exhibition at Studio Seven Art Gallery, 803 Oxford Tower, Business Bay Dubai.



MEET THE CT TEAM

Editor's Note



Ambica Sachin
Never Appear Too Perfect
- Robert Greene, *The 48 Laws of Power*
Ambica Sachin tries hard to live by ambica.sachin@times.com

When you are part of a wildly successful global boy band like 1D, you have to be either extremely foolhardy or obsessively self-absorbed to attempt a solo career. After all it's a truth universally acknowledged within the rarified world of celebrity music that how you market yourself is more important than the vocal chops you display in front of the mic. And what better packaging than two young on-off-on-the-go lads.

While Harry Styles and Zayn Malik are arguably the most popular 1D members, Louis Tomlinson, Liam Payne and Niall Horan had to settle for a more 'vanilla' image in comparison to their slightly more edgy and sponky bandmates. All have launched solo careers, with varying degrees of success.

In a recent interview Payne admits that it was "touch and go" for him following Zayn's high profile departure from the band. He has had to battle demons in the form of alcohol and drug abuse as well as the punishing loneliness of fame.

His unexpected coupling with the more high profile Cheryl Cole and the subsequent birth of their son Bear, brought the spotlight back on the now 27-year old. Following their split, Payne has attempted to get back into the spotlight, however the recent release of his new album *L.P.* hasn't been met with much fanfare. But hopefully Payne is grown up enough to figure out that he might not have four band mates to fall back on in this new journey, but if he gets the time right eventually, this solo walk could well turn into a triumphant strut down the stage.

Read all about the former One Directioner and his new album in today's issue of City Times. Enjoy!



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