



Envoys pose for a photo with HE Miguel Jose Moro Aguilar.

Spanish Embassy organizes evening of music

Eduardo Fernández brings to Kuwait ... Spanish blend of piano repertoire

By Paul Francis X. Fernandes
Arab Times/Al-Seyassah Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Feb 26: The Spanish Embassy in Kuwait, in collaboration with the National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters recently orchestrated a momentous evening of music as part of the Al-Qurain festival at the Abdelhusain Abdel Redha Theater in Salmiya with the renowned Spanish piano soloist Eduardo Fernández.

Fernández who has obtained great success in important concert halls such as the Berlin Philharmonie, St. Petersburg Philharmonia, Shanghai Oriental Art Center, Beijing National Centre for the Performing Arts and Philharmonie Luxembourg, performs regularly in prestigious Spanish venues such as the Bilbao Euskalduna, Sevilla Teatro de la Maestranza as well as Teatro Monumental, Teatro Real and Auditorio Nacional in Madrid.

He was introduced to the audience, by none other than the Spanish Ambassador to Kuwait HE Miguel Jose Moro Aguilar.

The Spanish envoy said, Fernández who has played all over the world, but never in the Middle East, believes he is privileged to come here and play in front of the Kuwait audience a unique blend of captivating Spanish piano repertoire from the 19th and 20th centuries.

On stage Fernández not only mesmerized the audience but also fostered a profound interaction in this culturally rich setting. Through his music, Fernandez beautifully bridged the worlds of Arab heritage and Latin America, connecting the diverse civilizations that have flourished throughout history, particularly highlighting the shared history with Andalusian Arabs.

It was a moment of true cultural resonance, where writers and musicians alike found inspiration in the intricate tapestry of Spain's past, reflecting the crossroads between different worlds.

The event was attended by several envoys of various countries accredited to Kuwait and dignitaries. Awarded the Spanish National Radio Culture Prize (Premio Ojo Crítico), Eduardo Fernández is one of the finest pianists of his generation, distinguishable in particular by the depth, maturity and singularity of his interpretations.

Highly praised as a concert soloist, Fernández has worked with the Spanish National



Fernández on piano.

Orchestra, RTVE Orchestra (Spanish Radio and Television), Madrid Symphony Orchestra, City of Granada Orchestra as well as the ORCAM Orchestra (Comunidad de Madrid).

Fernández, who has a PhD in Humanities, Arts and Education, is one of the best pianists of his generation has collaborated with conductors including Santtu-Matias Rouvali, Víctor Pablo Pérez, François López-Ferrer, José Ramón Encinar, José Miguel Pérez-Sierra and Antoni Ros Marbà. His love of chamber music has led to partnerships with musicians such as the Athenäum Quartet, Lina Tur Bonet, Robert Silla, Alvaro Octavio, Eduardo Raimundo and Yuval Gotlibovich. Appearances at festivals include Granada, SMR Cuenca, Musika-Música and Piano aux Jacobins.

His recordings have met with critical acclaim by the most prestigious magazines. He has recorded 'Iberia', 'Brahms Op. 117, 118 & 119', 'Chopin/Schumann', 'Paús: Works for Piano' and 'Scriabin: The complete Preludes', for record labels such as Warner, Naxos or Centaur. Since 2020 he records for BIS Records, having already released 'Zimmermann: Complete Works for piano', album nominated to the ICMA Awards. His next recording project will cover all the Scriabin Etudes. After his successful recording of Iberia, Eduardo Fernández has been hailed by Fanfare Magazine as "Alicia de Larrocha's successor".

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However, their governments worked to achieve renaissance, and their leaders were aware of every ins and outs. Through a Board of Grievances, they treated people with justice, as is the practice in most countries of the world.

This office needs a team of honorable people who are known only to His Highness the Prime Minister and take the grievances to him without any personal considerations.

If one of its members disagrees with anyone who is thrown into prison, it is not a security apparatus. Rather, it is supposed to work on studying everything it comes across with transparency.

The first goal of any country is to enhance economic mobility through social stability, as is the case in the Emirates, which opened its doors to all people.

For instance, Dubai Airport alone was ranked as the busiest airport in the world last year. It achieved a record passenger movement of about 87 million. The share of the national product from tourism in the UAE amounted to USD 40 billion. On the other hand, this share of the Saudi national product amounted to about USD 87 billion, which was achieved because of openness and field follow-up by the leaders of those two countries.

Kuwait has all the qualifications that allow it to compete in this field, provided it works to exploit its wealth in modern infrastructure and tourism projects either on the islands or in the entire country, implement long-awaited projects, and ensure the provision of services similar to other countries, instead of investing in global financial markets that yields only crumbs. It must also get rid of the authority of extremists who are only interested in investigating intentions. All of these require a firm decision and determination to implement.

'Appreciate the

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Education, Higher Education and the General Fire Force, Kuwait Municipality, and other relevant bodies, in addition to the extensive media coverage.

His Highness called on citizens to appreciate the blessing of liberation that Allah almighty bestowed on Kuwait, remembering with pride the honorable martyrs who gave their lives in defending this precious land.

His Highness also sent a greeting of appreciation and reverence to his brothers the leaders of Gulf and Arab countries, for sharing the joy of Kuwait's national holidays, representing the depth of the bonds of relations between them and Kuwait.

His Highness expressed gratitude for their heartfelt sentiments, and prayed to Allah Almighty to preserve the dear homeland and perpetuate its security, safety and prosperity.

His Highness the Amir Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah has received cables of congratulations from senior sheikhs and local officials on the 63rd anniversary of the National Day and the 33rd Anniversary of the Liberation Day.

MEW to complete appointment measures of chosen candidates

Former minister blamed for lack of job grades

KUWAIT CITY, Feb 26: The Ministry of Electricity, Water and Renewable Energy is currently preparing the list of employees nominated by the Civil Service Commission (CSC) before the issuance of the decision to suspend the appointment, transfer, promotion and secondment of employees in the public sector in order to complete the appointment procedures, reports Al-Anba daily quoting sources.

Sources disclosed that the ministry is facing a problem in the appointment of 700 employees previously nominated by the CSC due to the lack of job grades; affirming Minister of Electricity, Water and Renewable Energy Dr Salem Al-Hajraf is working hard to address the issue.

Sources clarified the candidates who started working without receiving an appointment letter already have job grades and their appointment letters will be issued soon for them to receive their salaries, reiterating that "the problem lies in the candidates who do not have job grades. If the problem is not solved, these candidates have to wait until the budget for fiscal 2024/2025 is approved at the beginning of April."

Sources added the ministry asked its finance counterpart to allocate exceptional job grades in November last year but its request was rejected. They blamed the former minister for the lack of job grades.

In another development, Al-Hajraf joined the Ministry of Electricity and Water employees in their celebration of the national holidays. The Public Relations and Media Department in the ministry organized the event in the lobby of the main office recently.

Al-Hajraf expressed his happiness over celebrating the national holidays with the employees, while conveying his greetings for the political leadership and all employees in the ministry on this occasion.

He said the anniversary of the liberation is like an annual wedding in Kuwait, in which all the people of this generous country participate. He implored Allah to continue blessing this country with security and safety.

On the other hand, sources revealed the ministry's revenues reached KD324.340 million dinars from April 1 to Dec 31, 2023 (eight months); clarifying that the revenues in the month of December alone reached KD28.730 million. Sources said these revenues are fees for electricity and water services provided to customers, pointing out that the fees for such services are collected through the customer affairs offices in all governorates, as well as the electronic services provided by the Customer Affairs Sector to ease the completion of transactions for both the citizens and expatriates.

Sources added the sector provides 17 services; 10 of which are related to invoices like online payment, requesting payment of a facility or building bill, installments for restructured debts and others; in addition to seven other services such as the meter services, including



KUNA photo

Kuwait's pavilion in Muscat International Book Fair celebrates national days.

Kuwait's pavilions at Doha Expo and Muscat Int'l Book Fair mark nat'l days

DOHA, Feb 26, (KUNA): Kuwait pavilion at Doha Expo 2023 held a function to mark the 63rd National Day and 33rd Liberation Day of Kuwait on Sunday.

The celebration, which gathered a number of Qatari government officials, Kuwaiti diplomats and environment activists, aims to enhance public awareness about the importance of environment protection, Director General of Kuwait Environment Public Authority (EPA) Samira Al-Kandari said.

At the behest of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Dr. Mohammad Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah, the State of Kuwait is keen on implementing the development vision "New Kuwait 2035" which gives precedence to the sustainable development and active participation in relevant events, she said in a speech to function.

The participation in Doha Expo provides a great opportunity to share the experiences of other countries in the combat against desertification and the latest technologies in promoting sustainable agricultural development, Al-Kandari pointed out.

On the Kuwaiti pavilion, she said it showcases the Kuwaiti horticultural experiments and the projects to combat against desertification.

The Greenhands Environmental Team and Al-Sadu Weaving Cooperative Society - a non-profit organization, as well as folklore teams are taking part in the pavilion to shed light on Kuwait's efforts to protect environment and conserve national heritage, she went on.

Since opening, the pavilion has seen 25 workshops and lectures organized in collaboration with the Kuwaiti government and non-government organizations.

The pavilion attaches great importance to public awareness about environmental issues with a view to delivering practical, scientific facts to the public and the new generation, Al-Kandari added.

Praising the fraternity between Kuwait and Qatar, she thanked the Qatari leaders and people for facilitating the organization of the Kuwaiti pavilion.

On his part, Bader Al-Dafa, the Commissioner General of Doha Expo 2023, praised Kuwait's experience in promoting sustainable development and green farming across the developing countries.

He noted that Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED) plays an important role in funding agricultural projects and employing innovative technological solutions in farming in several countries.

The participants in the Expo, from the public or private sectors, have a chance to build partnerships in agricultural and horticultural areas, he added.

Doha Expo 2023, the first international horticultural exhibition in Qatar, the Middle East and North Africa, opened on last October 2 and will conclude on March 28, 2024.

Meanwhile, the Kuwaiti pavilion participating in the 28th Muscat International Book Fair is decorated with Kuwaiti flags to celebrate its national days in conjunction with the exhibition period. The owners of Kuwaiti publishing houses and writers who are participating in the exhibition were keen to celebrate Kuwait's national days through this beautiful gesture that carries the highest meanings of love, loyalty and belonging to the homeland, even if they were far from the country.

registering a meter under the name of a new customer, canceling meter registration to leave the facility, and paying and refunding meter deposits among others.

Sources affirmed the ministry is working towards the digital trans-

formation of all its services in line with the directives of the Council of Ministers, especially the Customer Affairs Sector, to make it easier for customers, particularly those residing in new and remote areas on one hand, and the collection of pay-

ments for electricity and water bills on time on the other hand. Sources added the sector is keen on achieving the largest percentage of revenues estimated in the budget for the current fiscal year within the next four months.

912 granted Amiri Pardon

MEW undersecretary amends circular on Ramadan timings

By Mohammed Ghanem
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Feb 26: The Acting Undersecretary of the Ministry of Electricity, Water and Renewable Energy Maha Al-Asousi issued an administrative circular for amending administrative circular No. 5/2024 regarding setting the official work hours during the month of Ramadan for the Hijri year 1445.

The circular stipulates that administrative circular No. 5/2024 should be withdrawn from the date of its issuance and should be considered as if it did not exist.

It clarified that the ministry's official working hours during the month of Ramadan will be from Sunday to Thursday, with flexible working hours. Employees are allowed to report for work anytime between 8:30 am to 10:30 am but they can leave only after completing four and a half hours of work. This is without prejudice to the 15-minute grace period at the beginning or end of the shift, in addition to the 15-minute grace period scheduled for female employees at the end of the shift. All exemptions granted to employees will be suspended during the month of Ramadan.

The circular indicated that shift workers who hold technical or administrative positions will continue as it is, and all workers are considered to be in a state of emergency and on call around the clock.

Amiri Pardon: A total of 912 inmates were granted pardon in accordance with the directive of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, reports Al-Qabas daily.

In a press statement, the Public Relations and Security Media General Department at the Ministry of Interior disclosed that the beneficiaries of Amiri Decree No. 25/2024 include 214 inmates eligible for immediate release; while the rest are eligible for commuted sentences and exemption from the payment of fines and bail amounts, in addition to judicial deportation. The Amiri Pardon is part of the celebration of the 63rd National Day.

According to the department, the Correctional Institutions and Sentence Implementation Sector implemented the decree on Thursday; indicating this is the fruit of the concerted efforts of the Amiri Diwan, Public Prosecution and Interior Ministry.

Al-Saadoun praises

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On the other hand, former Assembly Speaker Ahmed Al-Saadoun praised the pro-reform steps taken by HH the Amir Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and the contents of the Amiri speech he delivered on June 22, 2022 on behalf of HH the late Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah.

On the occasion of the National and Liberation Days, Al-Saadoun highlighted the sacrifices of the people of Kuwait; especially during the Iraqi invasion when all the citizens proved their strong commitment to the Constitution and loyalty to the political leadership.

Moreover, Al-Majles account on X conducted a survey of 19,000 bloggers on the re-election of Al-Saadoun as parliamentary speaker and 66 percent of them voiced objection to the re-election.



Formal Invitation to Attend The Investment Dar Company's Creditors' Meeting Regarding Preventive Settlement Proposal No. 6/2023

The Investment Dar Company cordially invites its esteemed creditors to a meeting dedicated to the discussion of the proposed preventive settlement, which has been submitted to the Bankruptcy Department. This pivotal meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 5, 2024, at 10:00 AM. It will take place in the designated location by the Bankruptcy Department in Kuwait, at the New Hawally Courts Complex, 9th Floor, Conference Room Number (A9076).

The agenda includes the presentation of the final preventive settlement plan developed by Investment Dar, upon which the creditors will have the opportunity to cast their vote for acceptance or rejection.

We kindly request that creditors ensure to bring a letter from the authorized signatory of their respective entities. This letter should enumerate the names of the delegates appointed to attend the meeting.

To facilitate the organization of the event, we ask that this letter be forwarded to the Investment Dar Company via email at hussam@inv-dar.com no later than two days prior to the meeting date. Additionally, please bring the original letter with you on the day of the meeting.

All creditors are finally requested to visit the Bankruptcy Department to receive the final preventive settlement proposal that is to be presented during the meeting.

Yours sincerely,
Board of Directors
Investment Dar Company