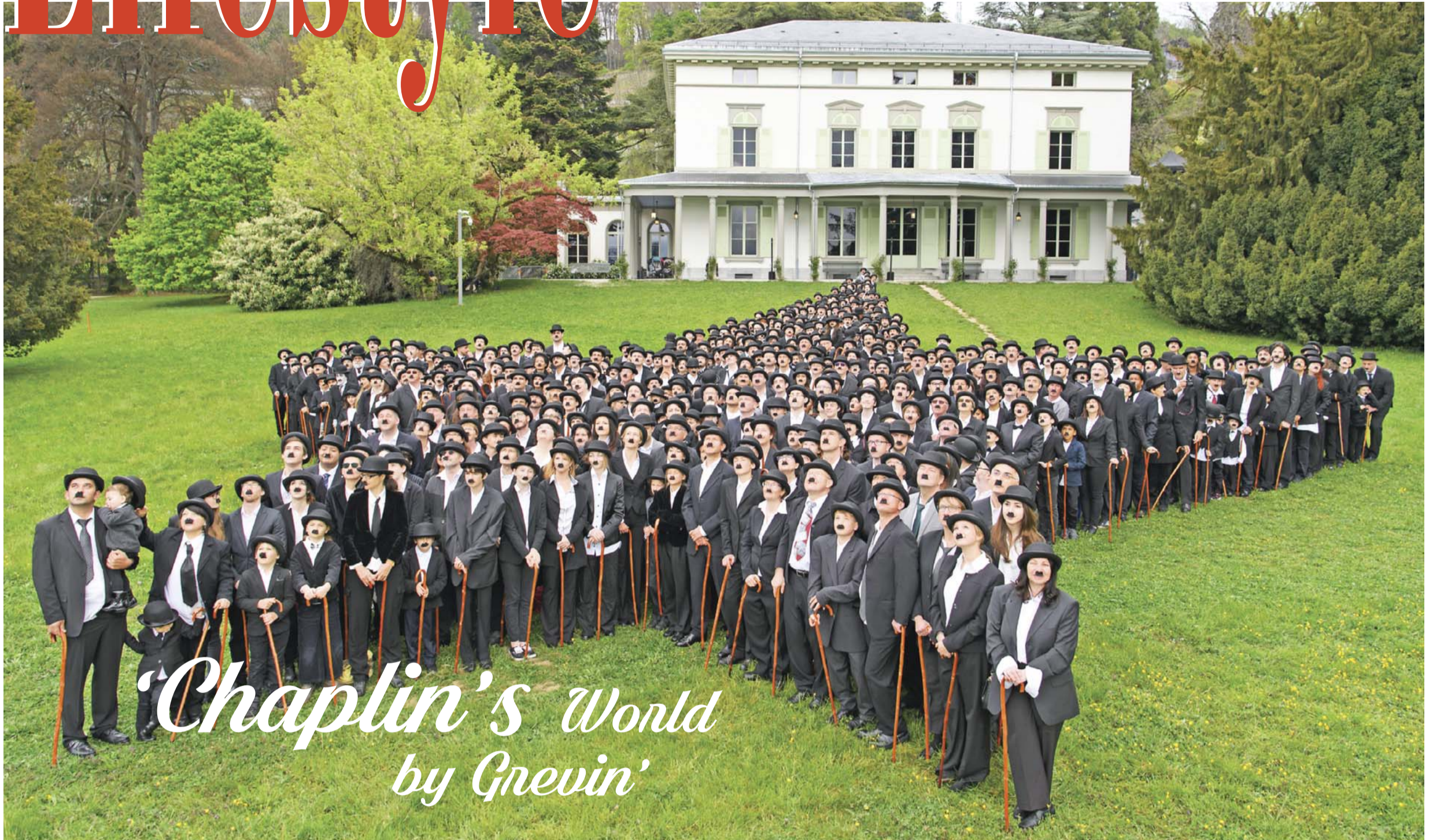


Lifestyle

MONDAY, APRIL 17, 2017

'Moonlight'
creative art shines
at Jaber Al-Ali

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*'Chaplin's World
by Grevin'*

662 people dressed as Charlie Chaplin pose for a group photo in front of the Manoir de Ban during an attempt of the world's largest gathering of people dressed as The Tramp on the occasion of Charlie Chaplin's birthday, and to celebrate the first year of the museum "Chaplin's World by Grevin", in Corsier-sur-Vevey, Switzerland, yesterday. — AP photos



Musicians chase fame on west Africa's musical islands

Every April, the tiny island capital of Cape Verde is taken over for a week by musicians of all stripes, trailing dreams of record deals and sold-out stadiums.

Two events, the Atlantic Music Expo (AME) and the more established Kriol Jazz Festival, draw talent from as far away Haiti and Brazil, intent on showing what they have to offer to international producers on an archipelago famed for its own rich musical heritage. "During this fifth edition of the AME, foreign producers showed a lot of interest towards Cape Verdian artists like Lucibela and Os Tubaroes," said Jose da Silva, the festival's executive director, as the week drew to a close.

Da Silva knows the world music industry better than most, having spotted the talent of Cesaria Evora, Cape Verde's "barefoot diva," who made the island nation's bittersweet "morna" ballads internationally famous. He describes Lucibela, a young artist who has been likened to Evora, as the hottest ticket at the festival so far, along with South Africa's Tribute "Birdie" Mboweni, whose honeyed tones blend seamlessly with a jazz/soul vibe. "I want to continue what

Cesaria started," Lucibela told AFP. "I want to sing Cape Verde's own musical styles like "morna" and "coladeira" all over the world, but I want to be known for my own talent." No style is discounted at the Atlantic Music Expo, but its African roots are proudly out front, with more than 500 music professionals attending, among them Afrojazz, soul, R&B, rap and traditional folk artists.

For many, it is a unique opportunity to perform and network in the beautiful island setting of Praia, the ordinarily sleepy capital. "We hope to meet tour organizers, because they are the ones who will allow us to show our music all over the world," said Pamela Byesadjogo, a Gabonese Afrojazz singer who also made waves at the event.

'Full of joy'

Singing, drumming and dancing are not limited to the performers in a nation that prides itself on producing some of world music's biggest stars, despite being home to fewer than 500,000 people miles off mainland Africa. "Normally I play behind closed doors because jazz concerts are usually intimate affairs," said Sylvain Luc, a

French guitarist performing at the Kriol Jazz Festival. "But what I see here is a public which is full of life, full of joy, and that's great," he said. Local heroes of international renown such as Lura and Bulimundo were also present to play old favorites to the crowds.

After giving birth just months ago, traditional Cape Verdean artist Lura said the crowds and new motherhood had electrified her performance. "I have more energy in my body since I became a mother," she said following a show where the applause barely stopped. "My new album will continue my mission to sing about Cape Verde, everyday life here and its traditions, blended with sounds from across the world."

Hybrids come naturally to a nation that has historical links to Portugal and Brazil, and has long been a stopping point for traders on their passage across the Atlantic. What remains is to export more of its artists for audiences who cannot make it to see them on the archipelago, said Culture Minister Abraao Vicente. "The intention of the government is now to work on ways of facilitating, in terms of costs, travel for these artists abroad," he told AFP. — AFP



The Roberto Fonseca Quartet from Cuba perform during the Kriol Jazz Festival at Praia.



Bizarre News

Man finds dead mouse in protein powder

A man has found a dead mouse in his protein powder. Adam Brenton, 25, had been using his chocolate flavored MyProtein pack for three weeks before he uncovered the body of the rodent buried inside. In shock, Adam - who is from Manchester - checked the packaging for holes or bite marks but found none - suggesting that the unwelcome visitor had been inside the pack when it was first sealed and had died inside. Although he has not suffered any illness, as a result, Adam claims he couldn't eat his dinner afterwards and his girlfriend is still having nightmares about the discovery. A child used YouTube to learn to drive then took a trip to McDonald's with his toddler sister.

Boy aged 8 drives sister to McDonald's

An eight-year-old boy stole his father's car and drove his four-year-old sister to the fast food chain for a snack. Police told The Weirton Daily Times, the youngster had taught himself how to drive by watching clips on the video-sharing site and during the road trip from his home in East Palestine, Ohio County to the fast food restaurant, which was a mile-and-a-half, he obeyed the highway code and stuck to speed limits. He pulled up at the drive-thru and ordered a meal and paid for it using the money from his own piggy bank but staff thought the stunt was a prank. Patrolman Jacob Koehler said: "This kid learned how to drive on YouTube. I think there is a good teaching point here. With the way technology is... kids will learn how to do anything and everything. He probably looked it up for five minutes and then said it was time to go." Whilst the boy had his adventure, his parents were sleeping peacefully at home. Police received several calls from concerned people who witnessed the boy behind the steering wheel.

Man embarrassed with oversized boarding pass

A man was left embarrassed at the airport when his friends printed his boarding pass in A1 sized paper. Ryan tried to enter airport security with his document required to travel. One of the security staff joined in on the joke and made him attempt to scan the pass. However, because of the size of the paper he was unable to scan it and the staff member then asked him for his passport, and let Ryan through the gates while saying, "This is fantastic." His friends filmed the event and laughter was heard through the 43-second video, which has gone viral.

A pastry chef spends five days creating a 25kg chocolate sculpture

A group of pastry chefs spent five days creating a 25kg chocolate sculpture. Michelin-star culinary masterminds at Bohemia Bar and Restaurant in Jersey have worked solidly for 120 hours to perfect an artistic piece made out of the tasty treat to celebrate the Easter holiday. The design captures an octopus tentacle wriggling out of a treasure chest filled with golden miniature Easter eggs. Speaking about the creation, Head Pastry Chef Ellen de Jager-Smith said: "We wanted to create something a bit different this Easter so decided to do the lost treasure of Easter. We created a treasure chest with golden mini Easter eggs inside. Obviously lost treasure needs to be protected so we created the Jersey Kraken to protect it! The chocolate sculpture took five days to make and we used 25kg of chocolate." The mouth-watering design will be on show at the venue throughout the Easter weekend.