

Le Méridien launches pop-up restaurant this winter

American Express presents Endless Evening by Olea, the newest addition to Le Méridien's line of restaurants, is here to add a new dimension to winter evenings. Introducing the concept of a pop-up restaurant and lounge for the very first time in a five-star establishment, Endless Evenings will offer an unforgettable experience of relaxation, great time and of course an array of delicious food to enjoy through it all. Media Gala Night arranged by Le Méridien on 18 January marked the official launch of the lounge.

The unique concept of a pop-



up restaurant, which is a temporary establishment that opens for a limited time, is a great way to offer something new and exciting to diners. This time, Executive Chef Levent Karahan and his team have drawn inspiration from local and international cuisine, creating an exciting and dynamic menu that is sure to please even the most discerning palates. The menu features a carefully curated selection of dishes that highlight the freshest and most flavourful ingredients of the season.

Whether you fancy yourself a hearty



steak, salmon appetizer, or a bowl of pasta packed with the flavours of the sea, you will find it all here. And while we have all tasted grilled chicken from countless other restaurants, the one by Chef Karahan will melt in your mouth and make its way to your heart in no time. The live stations set up for chicken, meat and seafood allows you to witness the preparation of your food in expert hands. The dessert section itself is a pleasant surprise. In place of the pre-served line of sweetness, this one gives you the chance select and customise the fillings of

your crepes. Fresh strawberries accompany what is likely the best blueberry cheesecake in town, and a juicy gulab jamun that meets the cravings of a traditional sweets lover.

Perched high above the city on the 17th floor Infinity Rooftop of Le Méridien, Endless Evening offers an unmatched panoramic view of the skyline, making it the perfect spot for a close family gathering, a romantic dinner or a night out with friends. The decor is absolutely breath-taking; soft lighting arrangements all around reflect dining under the stars in all its glory, fires built near the tables to keep you warm in this cold winter and live musicians adding to the magic of the night with their performances. This is not a dinner; it is an experience.

Endless Evenings by Olea Lounge will be open for guests till mid-March. If you are someone who appreciates an unparalleled experience of dining under the stars at fine establishments, this is definitely the place for you.

By Nusrath Jahan

Sara Lifestyle launches Dheu, a western wear focused sub brand

Sara lifestyle, a concern of Snowtex group, introduced their new sub-brand, Dheu, at a launching event held at the Radisson Blu Water Garden Hotel in Dhaka. The event, which took place on 22 January, featured a fashion show highlighting western wears of Dheu that aims to be a premier destination for finding western clothes at affordable prices.

"We had to think a lot to choose this name; finally, we chose the name Dheu. There is a reason behind this as Dheu means enthusiasm, and exuberance. Our dresses in this collection will be chic and trendy. We are designing this brand of clothing targeting the youth, as they are full of vitality like a wave. As the waves of the sea connect everyone, we want



to connect everyone together and walk the path, hence the concept of Dheu was materialised," said Dheu's founding director, Saraf Saiyara.

The event started with host Neel Hurerzahan letting the audience know of

the start of the journey of Dheu, followed by a video introduction on Snowtex group. A behind the scenes video of the whole event, including the fashion show that was choreographed by leading model Azra Mahmood, was aired right before models started walking the ramp.

The fashion show was a true spectacle, displaying the latest in urban wear from Dheu. The runway was electric as models flounced down in a mix of stylish jeans and t-shirts, perfectly paired with sleek sneakers. The energy was palpable as the models danced to the thunderous beat of the music.

However, the true showstopper was when the models returned to the runway, this time in stunning gowns that exuded

elegance and grace. The collection featured a mix of flowy, floral skirts paired with elegant tops, perfect for any occasion. From casual street wear to sophisticated eveningwear, this brand has something for everyone. The collection seamlessly blended the line between street style and high fashion, making it accessible to a wide range of customers.

While Dheu will be fully launched at this year's March, this event acted as the launching pad for the Sara Lifestyle sub brand, as fashion enthusiasts got to see what's in store for them. Dheu is sure to make waves in the fashion world with its bold and youthful designs.

By Feda Al Hossain

Bangladeshi designs sneaker that's flipping the script on fashion's exploitation of global south

When was the last time you bought a new fashion item designed in Bangladesh, but produced in Europe? Today, in a step that subverts the status quo of fashion design, sustainable footwear brand ekn is launching a limited-edition vegan sneaker. Designed in Bangladesh and manufactured in Portugal, the ekn kathal Kamthala is a collaboration between Frankfurt-based eco sneaker brand ekn and rising female Bangladeshi designer, Rokaiya Ahmed Purna.

Named after Bangladesh's national fruit — the jackfruit — the kathal Kamthala makes a bold statement to the industry to rethink how it works with the Global South,

turning the usual 'designed in the Global North, manufactured in the Global South' paradigm on its head.

The idea behind the shoe is to create a 'sneaker as a symbol of respect' — aiming to reverse some of the unethical supply chain practices, pollution and exploitation that have been synonymous with the industry for decades — tapping into younger generations' appetite for meaningful change, not just greenwashing.

Designer Purna is committed to gender equality, responsible consumption and production, promoting indigenous textiles and innovation, and empowering women and girls in her home country.



"In Bangladesh we have a very rich cultural tradition and heritage, which I try to implement into all of my work. My own roots and childhood memories also influence my designs; the inspiration for the

ekn Kamthala comes from the jackfruit, the national fruit of Bangladesh, which I have a deep relationship with: as a child there was a tree right in front of my house where I would play, and draw, and nap under," she said.

"We've become used to the term 'Made in Bangladesh', not 'Designed in Bangladesh', but the new generation of Bangladeshis are starting to think differently and act differently. And as part of this generation, I feel fortunate to have the opportunity to create change. I'm living the dream of so many people, so it's an opportunity which comes with a lot of responsibility."