

03/10/1999

Shirley Bassey to perform at gala dinner on Oct 14

KUALA LUMPUR, Sat. - The official Petronas Malaysia Formula One Grand Prix gala dinner, which promises to bring a touch of glitz and glamour to the event, will have a Malaysian flavour.

In a gathering that will boast leading celebrities in the world of racing, the Malaysian gala night will be set in the style of a palace, using its cultural elements in the decor, food and presentation.

"There will be Malay warriors at the entrance as guests come in while women clad in traditional outfits will escort them to the 'palace'," said its organiser BN Integrated managing director Bernice Narayanan

With a black, white and gold theme, the 'palace' will be decorated with huge wayang kulit motifs framed on the walls. The menu will be carefully selected for a Malaysian flavour.

To be held on Oct 14 at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel Grand Ballroom, the gala dinner will be attended by all the F1 drivers, their team managers and dignitaries.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and wife Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali will be the guests of honour.

"Attention has been given to every detail for the gala night, a special night held for all F1 events," said Narayanan.

The legendary singer, Shirley Bassey, will make a special appearance on that night.

"Shirley Bassey will be entertaining guests for an hour after a medley of traditional dances by the Petronas Performing Arts group.

"She'll be accompanied by a 21-piece orchestra and we're expecting a great show," she said.

Bassey reached stardom during the 60s and 70s with hits like Goldfinger, Moonraker and the calypso styled Banana Boat Song.

Those who are interested in attending the gala night can contact Umar at 03-2557933 for tickets.

It costs RM30,000 per table and the event is strictly black-tie. Individual reservations are also welcomed.

(END)