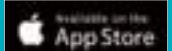


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THE OFFICIAL CHEAPSKEATE'S GUIDE TO HONG KONG





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ARTISTIC DIRECTOR : YAN HUICHANG

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Bāng Tshun-hong

Kū-chēng Mî-mî

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COVER STORY
Poor? Or just stingier than John Tsang? Read on for top tips

10

TRAVEL
Three amazing trips to take this fall

18

DISH
Terrifying treats for Halloween

20

28
60 SECONDS WITH...
Hong Kong DJ Janette Slack drops her newest EP

28

30

FILM
“Sicario” is one tense thriller

30

41
GIVEAWAYS
Win a staycation at the Kowloon Shang!

42

FIRST PERSON
Style icon Tina Liu on a career of makeovers

42

CY-Man

Chief Executive CY Leung double-confirmed this week that he "not only has the power but also the responsibility" to appoint council members to the city's public universities.

Wait, that sounds familiar. Because what he's saying is that "with great power... comes great responsibility." There's only one possible reason he could have this catchphrase at his beck and call.

The Chief Executive must be a devoted reader of Marvel comics superhero Spider-Man, the web-slinging vigilante prone to cracking wise as he takes down enemies such as the Rhino, Goblin and Doctor Octopus.

What does that mean? It means he can only be one thing. By day, he's the mild-mannered CY Leung. But by night, he's...

CY-Man!

His superpowers? Why, you need only watch him as he carries out **Tall Orders** in a single bound! With his extraordinary control over his **Supernatural Hearing**, CY-Man is able to block out any kind of unwanted noise. He can even find a single pro-Beijing voice in a crowd of thousands baying for his resignation. That's incredible!

When threatened, CY-Man develops the startling ability to generate **Dislike Waves**, which attract passionate hostility from anyone he turns his attention to. It's amazing!

Best of all, CY-Man is able to turn his signature **Oblivion Ray** upon himself, zapping all political and social awareness out of his brain to leave him with an impervious exterior. How convenient!

His **enemies**? Oh, there's a large list of rogues and villains who would like to see nothing more than CY-Man fail for one final time.

There's **Democraman**, a long-haired hippie who uses his rabble-rousing powers and ability to call upon the wealth of foreign nations to subvert governments. That's what we hear, anyway.

Look out for the **School Kid**, a young but politically aware youngster who can pull together large numbers with a single Facebook post.

Then there's the sultry **Regina Minora**, queen of a long-forgotten alien race whose sole purpose is to wait for the right moment before stabbing our hero in the back and taking his place.

The list of enemies may be daunting, and their powers terrible... But have faith, doughty reader! CY-Man will prevail, thanks to his greatest power of all. For it turns out that he's only a sidekick of the almighty **Xi-Hulk**... whose powers are the only ones that really matter.

Oh well. Guess you might as well tune in next week, for more mediocre adventures of... CY-Man!

Who's in charge?

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Look us up!



The List

where®



HOME



Mr. Know-It-All's

— Guide to Life —

Dear Mr. Know-It-All,

How does the MTR keep its fares so low? Are they subsidized by the government? — Trainspotter

The government owns a majority 76 percent stake in the MTR Corporation, but you'd be mistaken if you thought that the government is throwing money into the system just to keep transportation cheap. After all, in 2014 the MTR made an impressive HK\$15.6 billion profit. But what's really interesting is that despite cheap fares, the MTR doesn't have to subsidize its rail fees at all.

The efficiency of a railway pricing system is measured by what's known as the "farebox recovery ratio," the calculation of how much of the system's operating expenses are recovered by the cost of fares. As of the first half of 2015, Hong Kong's ratio is an unbelievably high 187 percent: the highest in the world. Thanks to a well-planned, efficient and fairly new system, we're the envy of the transport world. Meanwhile London's tube hovers well below with a recovery ratio of 90 percent (and a single journey will cost you at least HK\$28), while the New York subway languishes with 51 percent.

But of the MTR's \$15 billion profit last year, just under half of it came from another source: property.

This is where the government's close relationship with the MTR comes in handy. The government grants the MTR land to develop into stations, but the MTRC doesn't stop there. It builds upwards as well, creating office blocks, malls and luxury housing on top of stations. Case in point: the MTR property portfolio includes two little buildings you might have heard of called IFC 2 and the ICC—not to mention 13 malls across the territory.

And so much of the way the MTR makes its money doesn't lie in moving people around, but in where it moves them to. After all, if you get people moving around the city

between convenient destinations, they'll be more likely to rent your offices, live in your buildings, shop at your malls.

The MTR has a vested interest in keeping its fares cheap. In our compact city, an MTR ride is convenient, efficient and affordable: almost all of us use it. In fact, this September the MTR catered to 130,932,000 trips, an average of 4,682,000 journeys per weekday. That's the equivalent of moving two-thirds of the city's population, each day. As a matter of fact, fare increases are linked to the consumer price index and the nominal wage index, meaning that even if it wanted to, the MTR can't suddenly decide to triple the fares.

It makes sense, anyway. After all, all that good will is going to come in handy when inconveniences crop up—such as the fact that the Hong Kong-Guangzhou high-speed rail link is 30 percent over budget to some \$85.3 billion, say, or you're arbitrarily banning musical instruments from carriages. Because when fares are dirt cheap and your trains are punctual 99 percent of the time—that's a few billion here and there, between friends?



Photo: Herbert Tsang

Mr. Know-It-All answers your questions and quells your urban concerns. Send queries, troubles or problems to mrkia@hkmagmedia.com.

My Perfect
HK

This week in My Perfect HK:
The MTR has been in the news recently for blocking musicians from taking larger instruments on to public transport. It's a silly ban, of course. But there's a silver lining to the controversy, and that's what we should all be holding on to this week. We may be notorious for pushing our kids to learn instruments: But with every cello we trundle on to the MTR, we're spreading a little more music into the world. What could be bad about that?

Letters

"Who wrote this shit?"

North by Nor'vest

Last week's Hongabulary [Oct 16, issue 1118] was "Nor'vester": When it hits 24 degrees and everyone breaks out North Face jackets and vintage furs. Readers agreed...

Hong Kong society LIKE sweeping into the Pen or the Mandarin in their winter finery. Check out the photos in Hong Kong Tatler! Those pictured do a colossal amount of charity work!

Patrick Shaw

Hahahahahahahahaha!! Well, better than catching a chill and sneezing. Why do people have to make other people wrong all the time? So what if someone wears a jacket. Is it worse than watching starving children? Is it worse than the situation in Syria, in Palestine? Why do we laugh at people for doing something for themselves, that hurts no one?

Ha Oileen

This is slightly wrong. If you've been in Hong Kong at the right time of year, you'll know the temperature can either drop or rise 10 to 15 degrees celsius literally overnight. It takes time for the body to adjust, and I guess HKer's have adapted by wearing their fluffy coats. As Ha Oileen said- why do you have to make other people wrong all the time?

Adrian Cheung

Compare this to when it peeps above 18 degrees celsius in the UK and everybody starts stripping down to their underwear and lounging around on the grass...

Francis Lo

I felt cold today at clear water bay beach.
#winteriscoming

Claire Viaggi

Down jackets are Hong Kong's national costumes.

Chiu Yin Shek

Just go with your feelings. Cold or hot won't lie, why bother how others think?!

Wing Chan

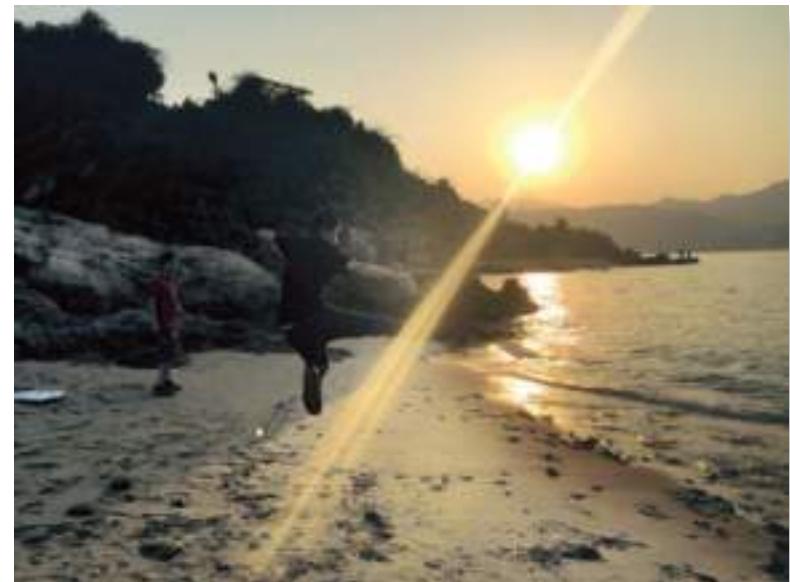
Chili Out, Dude

A review of Mak Ming Noodles [Oct 16, issue 1118] didn't go down so well when we talked about missing our Chiu Chow chili oil...

Who wrote this shit? traditional wonton noodles should be accompanied with the orange coloured chili sauce, NOT chiu chow chili oil. chiu chow chili oil is for chiu chow fish balls, not wonton. wonton is nothing chiu chow, it is canton. many cheap wonton shops now use chili oil only bcoz it is CHEAP. what a foodie. *roll eyes*

Phuong Tan Vu

#PrivateEyeHK



Peng Chau Kung Fu

Photo by 黃耕華

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Journeys of Inspiration

THE WEEK



Friday 10/23

Tee Hee Lee

Comedian **Pete Lee** headlines at TakeOut Comedy, bringing his super nice guy underdog routine to the SAR. Oct 23-24, 9pm. **TakeOut Comedy, B/F, 34 Elgin St., Central, 6220-4436. \$300 from takeoutcomedy.com.**

Saturday 10/24

So Saxy

The Empty Gallery has stuff in it: legendary free jazz saxophonist **Peter Brotzmann** performs with Sabu Toyozumi on the drums and Jason Adasiewicz on the vibes. It's time to get atonal! 8pm. **The Empty Gallery, 19/F Grand Marine Center, 3 Yue Fung St., Tin Wan. \$100 from art-mate.net; \$150 at the door.**

Monday 10/26

Shopping Spree

Halloween is five days away! Go grab your costume on **Pottinger Street**, then check out the party you need to be at on p.28. Our costume suggestion: Zombie CY's Career.

Tuesday 10/27

Eat Up!

Eat around the world at the **Shangri-La International Festival of Gastronomy**, which invites eight chefs with a sum of 15 Michelin Stars to Shangri-La restos around the world. In the SAR chefs include Mauro Colagreco, whose restaurant Mirazur is ranked 11th in the world. Which is higher than you'll ever be ranked at anything, ever. Oct 27-31. **Island Shangri-La, Pacific Place, Supreme Court Rd., Central. For reservations call 2877-3838.**

Wednesday 10/28

Story Time

Hong Kong Stories is back, with another live performance of true stories told in first person and themed around "Quitting." You could commit to going, or... well, quit. 8pm. **Fringe Upstairs, Fringe Club, 2 Lower Albert Rd., Central. \$120 from hkticketing.com.**

Thursday 10/29

Fright Night

Culture Club is hosting **Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark**, in which performers spin creepy, ghostly, grotesque yarns to keep you up at night. 7:30pm. **Culture Club, 15 Elgin St., Central. \$100 from ticketflap.com/scarystories; \$120 at the door.**

Friday 10/30

Mustache Me

Movember is almost upon us—the mustache-growing month aimed at raising awareness and funds for prostate and testicular cancer. This month there's also the MOVE Challenge—can you do something active for every day in November? Start early with a **Sunset Moga** class—that's Movember Yoga to you and me.

7pm. **Pier 10, Central Ferry Pier. Free with registration at hk.movem**

Sunday 10/25

Just Dance

Ceroc hosts the second iteration of the **Pan Asia Charity Dance Championships** this weekend. Dancers from all over are flying in to dance their hearts out in aid of disadvantaged children via the Angels for Orphans charity. Besides joining in a flash mob and watching dancers strut their stuff, you can even learn a few steps from the pros. Oct 23-25. Flashmob on Oct 23, 11pm at Hard Rock Cafe, 55 D'Aguilar St., Central. For full schedule, visit cerocasia.com.

Saturday 10/31

Such Party, Wow

Dress your canine up as Snoop Dogg/Lion/zilla for the best dog costume contest at **Halloween Doggies Trick or Treat Charity Party**. Other activities for dogs and dawgs include a treat hunt, doggy adoption, and free food and drink for the "parents." All proceeds will go to the Lifelong Animal Protection Charity.

6:30pm. **Hunter Pet Shop, Shop 6, G/F, 1-2 St Stephen's Lane, Mid-Levels. \$100 per dog from lap.org.hk.**



The Hong Kong Art Gallery Association is putting together **Art Gallery Week**, which will unite over 50 galleries all over Hong Kong to host artists and speakers on top of their usual exhibitions. There will also be performances, workshops and tours for people of every stripe, artistic or not. Time to get that art face on...
Nov 1-7, www.hk-agw.org.



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NOW OPEN

NEWS

Last Week In Reality

SAT 10

Blaze Haze Eight firemen from the Tsim Sha Tsui Fire Station are suspended due to a case of alleged bullying and sexual assault in the workplace. The incident was first exposed via WhatsApp groups, which circulated images of a new recruit being bullied by his comrades. In one photo the man is pinned to a table, while a cream cake is pushed into his buttocks.

SUN 11

Bad Education A pregnant woman is having breakfast with her family in a cha chaan teng in To Kwa Wan when her two-year-old son misbehaves and refuses to eat. The mother slaps her son five times on his hands. A neighbor suspects it is a case of child abuse and calls the police, who escort the woman to the station. The boy is sent to the hospital by an ambulance for a thorough check up and the mother is released when police conclude that it is not a criminal case.



MON 12

Tomb Raider At least 19 graves of indigenous villagers in Tai Po are found to have been raided. The coffins were broken open and then left exposed to the elements. Police suspect that the grave robbers were after jade and jewelry buried alongside the deceased. The family involved says that they will arrange for people to take turns guarding the site; they estimate it will cost \$30-50,000 to restore each grave.

TUE 13

Fallen Monks The chief nun of Tai Po's Ting Wai Monastery is arrested on suspicion of entering into fake marriages with two monks from the mainland, to assist their applications for permanent residency. Actress and solicitor Mary Jean Reimer alleges that the nun told her that it was for the good cause of importing mainland talent into Hong Kong.

WED 14

The Intern At a recruitment event in Tseung Kwan O, the Hong Kong Society for the Aged introduces an Android app which targets job seekers who are over 50 years old. The app allows them to have constant access to up-to-date job postings, at home or on the go. Among other job ads is a company hiring a cleaning trainee, a job which requires no experience and specifies no age limits.



Illustration: Ryan Chan

THU 15

Lonely Portrait A photograph of Peter Mathieson, vice-chancellor of the University of Hong Kong, goes viral online. In the photo Mathieson is sitting alone in the HKU campus, peering into his cellphone as he eats his sandwich. Some interpret the photo as a reflection of Mathieson's lonely integrity, after last month's failed nomination of Johannes Chan for pro-vice-chancellor.

FRI 16

Meet King Cobra A 2-meter-long poisonous king cobra is found hiding in a small tree in Siu Lek Yuen Village. The police and a snake expert are called in to assist. When the snake expert reaches slowly forward to touch the snake with a stick, the reptile escapes and moves to another, taller tree. This time, a team of firemen is called upon to confront the snake, to no avail. Eventually the snake escapes into the wilderness.

Quote of the Week

"If 4cm is what was found at fault, too bad.
[The cello has] been that size for over 500 years."

Professor Ray Wang, a senior lecturer in strings at the Academy for Performing Arts, scoffs at the MTR's new, rigid rules regarding taking oversized objects onto trains.

Talking Points

We read the news, so you don't have to.

Hong Kong: Bad for Artists

Hong Kong is the **seventh top city in the world for attracting creative minds and businesses**, according to the Global Power City Index (GPCI) released by the Mori Memorial Foundation in Japan. **Hong Kong's free port status and its safe living environment** saw the city moving up two rankings from 2014. London, New York, Paris and Tokyo top the index, which evaluates the "power to attract" of 40 leading cities. That said, in terms of being a desirable place for artists, **Hong Kong ranks second to last**, ahead only of Singapore.

Our take: Um, at least we're beating Singapore?

Illustration: Elaine Tang

We're Gonna Get Paid More

A recent survey of large enterprises and multinational corporations in the city has found that employees' **salaries in Hong Kong are projected to rise 4.3 percent** in the coming year, slightly higher than the 4 percent increase of 2015. Meanwhile, the financial sector is projected to get a 4.8 percent boost. HR consultants have suggested that although the SAR's economy has suffered in recent months, **manpower is still in demand in a tense labor market**, and employers will have to pay to retain their good workers.

Our take: Hear that, bosses?
Pay us more! Now!



Street Talk

Paul Chan's not just any puppet maker: He creates giant, five-meter-tall inflatable puppets which are worn like massive backpacks. He tells Adrienne Chum about "Sesame Street," setting records and being a puppet in real life.



HK Magazine: How did you first get into puppets?

Paul Chan: When I was at the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, there was a course with members of the Jim Henson Company, the creators of "Sesame Street." They came to teach us about western-style puppets. I loved it, and have been freelancing as a puppet maker since my HKAPA graduation 15 years ago.

HK: Who's your favorite "Sesame Street" character?

PC: Elmo! One of the guys who came to talk to us at the HKAPA played Elmo—I couldn't have imagined that such an adorable, cute character could be a tall, muscular black man. The disparity was huge! He was so manly but he could transform his voice into Elmo's.

HK: How do you make your giant inflatable puppets?

PC: I make 3D models on AutoCAD, and sometimes I make miniature models and photograph them, then put them into the computer. Then I cut the models apart into flat shapes that I can cut out of paper. I print them out on 50 to 60 sheets of A3 paper and put it together piece by piece. I test these paper models, to make sure the shapes work—when you inflate something it always tries to become a sphere, so you need to find ways to keep the desired shape. Then I cut it out from fabric and sew it together. They're too big to inflate in the studio, so I test the puppets outside in the

street on Sunday nights, when people aren't around. It's also something fun for the security guards.

HK: Your puppets are huge! How do you move them?

PC: Most of my puppets are about five meters tall and worn on a person's back. A lot of the parts have strings inside to control the limbs. The size and the height make them difficult to hold steady in the wind, so you have to be pretty strong and good with your balance. They can be heavy too—even though my puppets are filled with air, they're big enough to still carry a fair amount of weight.

HK: What's the biggest puppet you've ever made?

PC: In 2003, I made a 10-meter-tall rabbit. The rabbit was created in the style of a Chinese marionette, hung in a mall from the ceiling. It took 20 people to operate, and took two months to make. I got the Guinness World Record for that one, but a few years later someone else took the record again. Now, the record is like around 30 meters and it needs a helicopter to hold it up, so that's pretty hard to pass.

HK: Which puppet is your favorite?

PC: The Magician [above]. It was my first human-mounted giant puppet. It's 4.8 meters tall: He could turn his head and open his mouth, move his fingers. He could do a lot of tricks, like spinning his wand, throwing flames out of his

hand, releasing balloons from his hat. I've kept it for ages, even though I haven't used it lately. I've kept all these huge puppets, but they're so big that I'm left with a tiny space in my studio to work now, so I now make them inflatable instead—I can fit them into much smaller boxes this way.

HK: Do your puppets ever scare kids?

PC: Yeah, sometimes when the little kids see a big puppet they get scared, but when I see their expressions I move back and show I'm not a threat. Sometimes just making things big can make them scary: Even Doraemon, who is super cute, can become a monster if you make him two meters tall. Most kids love them though.

HK: Do you believe in fate, and the possibility that you yourself might be a puppet of a higher cosmic power?

PC: I recently converted to Christianity: I'm Protestant. Before, I felt that there were things I couldn't control, and I could only go with the flow. Now I feel that all the things I've done, like learning to use AutoCAD in school and to create clothing, all led me to my passion, to make puppets. I feel that it's something that God wanted me to do, and he prepared me for it.

Check out Paul's puppets at Standard Chartered Arts in the Park on Nov 14-15, hkyaf.com/AIP2015.

Blowing Water

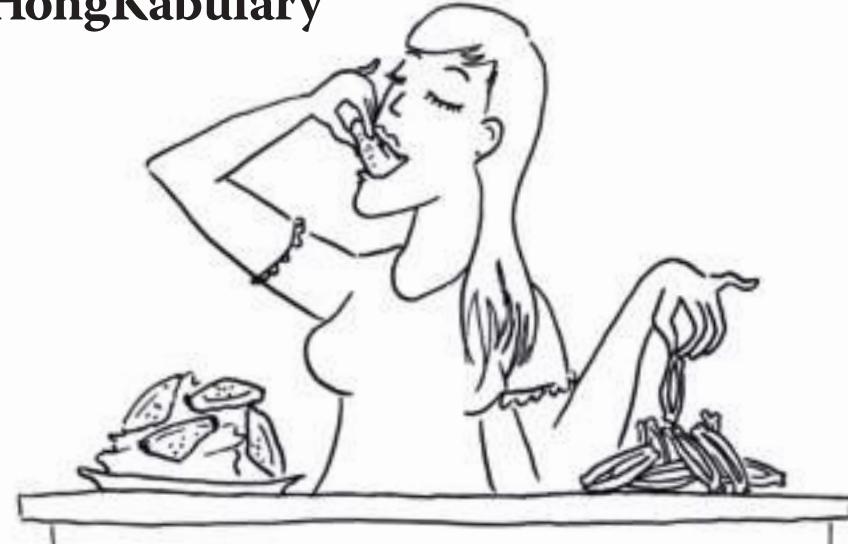
吹水 (*chui sui*), v. Cantonese slang. To chat, bullshit.

haam4 sup1
鹹濕

"SALTY WET"

"Lecherous." Said to originate from the fact that the dockworkers of Shek Tong Tsui would frequent the area's brothels after a hard day's work, and their sweat would be both salty and wet.

HongKabulary



The Chicken Wing Test (ðə tʃɪkn wɪŋ tɛst), n.

Being able to put an entire chicken wing in your mouth and extract all the flesh from it without using your hands.

"She passed the chicken wing test in like 20 seconds! Oh man, I bet she's a good kisser."

Submitted by Sarah Fung

THE CHEAPSKEATE'S GUIDE TO HONG KONG



It doesn't matter if you make \$14k or \$40k: Here are 42 perfect money-saving tips for all Hongkongers. By **Adam White**



A prudent, beautiful way to cross the harbor... especially if you like diesel fumes

Traveling Light

Sure, Hong Kong's transport system is cheap. But it can be even cheaper still with these frugal tips...

Mass Savings Learn to play the MTR. There are 31 fare discount terminals all over Hong Kong which offer discounts of \$1-2 on your next MTR journey, if you tap your Octopus on them before taking a ride. The full list is here: tiny.cc/hk-mtrdiscount. A few to know are on the Central-Mid-Levels Escalator over Hollywood Road, Causeway Centre (i.e. Brim 28) in Wan Chai, and inside Welland Plaza in Sheung Wan, opposite the Civic Centre. Also, through the end of November, you get 10 percent off every second trip you take on the MTR.

Take Off Cathay Pacific's cut-rate Fanfares tickets (cathaypacific.com) go on sale on Tuesday at 8am. Sign up for email alerts so you know whether or not it's worth having the page loaded at 8:00:01 exactly. The flights tend to be great deals, but you have to be quick about booking—and very flexible with your holiday dates. Meanwhile, low-cost airline HK Express has just turned two, and it's celebrating with \$22 trips—yes, \$22—around Asia. Of course, the timings are a little awkward so you might have to be unemployed to use it—but a cheap flight is worth quitting your job for, right?

Book Late Snagged a great trip? Home-grown app Hotelquickly (free on Android and iOS) is all about last-minute deals on hotels in Asia, straight from your phone... Sure, it's stressful taking your booking down to the wire, but you save a lot of money. It's also good for spur-of-the-moment staycations.

Criss Cross Cross-harbor commuter? Ditch the Octopus for an MTR City Saver card. \$415 gets you 40 trips in a month, anywhere south of Kowloon Tong. Given that it generally costs at least \$11 to cross the harbor, this one's a no-brainer.

Wave Rider To go from Central to Tsim Sha Tsui costs \$9.40 by MTR. The Star Ferry from Tsim Sha Tsui to Central costs \$2.50 on the upper deck—and better yet, it's just \$2 on the smelly diesel lower deck. Instagram a photo of the engine room as you cross, and the olfactory discomfort is all worthwhile. Meanwhile, the Hung Hom-North Point ferry costs \$6.50, whereas the 106 bus costs \$9.30.

Tram Fair No one accepts 10 cent coins any more: Save them up for your next tram ride to dispose of them honorably.





Frugal Fun

Why spend big on activities when you can save the cash instead?

Ocean's One Ocean Park does free entry on your birthday for anyone with an HKID card. If your birthday falls on a weekday, just go on your own: That way you don't have to queue for the rides you don't like.

Exhibitionist Tendencies All of Hong Kong's public museums offer free admission on Wednesdays. So what if it's only \$10 normally? A tenner here, a tenner there... pretty soon we're talking real money.

Have an Art Generally, Wednesdays are art gallery opening nights. Wander up and down Hollywood Road in your very artsiest turtleneck and pretend to look interested in the art, while helping yourself to glass after glass of free wine and little nibbles. There is no guarantee that the wine will be any good, and if you get so drunk that you break it—you buy it.

Minimalist Cinema Want to catch a new film? Hold off for a few days. Pretty much all of Hong Kong's cinemas are at least \$20 cheaper on Tuesdays.

Tea for View Got visitors in town? Skip dropping \$168 on the ICC's Sky100 observation deck at the ICC and go for tea at the Ritz instead, two floors higher. At \$618 for two, you get exactly the same view, AND you get scones.

Work with Us Be a lifestyle journalist. It's a great way to get invited to events, where you're plied with drinks and food aplenty. We're hiring! Email us at resume@hkmagmedia.com.

Pop This They don't search your bags in cinemas. Instead of dropping an extra hundie on popcorn and a huge soda, sneak in a beer and a nice sandwich for a fraction of the price. Try to avoid overly crinkly packaging.



Tea at the Ritz beats standing and admiring the view thirstily

Sporting Good

There's no need to shell out millions on a gym membership with these cost-saving tips.

Lucky Gym Government gyms cost a pittance (\$14/hour or \$180/month). You just have to sit through a free, three-hour-long "Briefing on Proper Ways to Use Fitness Equipment" session first. Alternatively, just work out for free in the parks, next to all the grannies walking backwards around the bauhinias.

Weekly Workout Need to work out like crazy for a month or two? Cycle through the city's trial gym memberships, then quit before they start charging. Most of the city's gyms will do week-long tryout passes to check out all their facilities. You should be able to get two months of free gymming out of this, easy. The major downside is that you're gonna have to listen to an awful lot of sales spiels. It might be worth more to your sanity just to join one.

Shop Around

Hongkongers love to shop... but you'd better shop right.

Deal or No Deal They're completely hit-and-miss, but Hong Kong's online deals sites can be home to some good bargains. Groupon.com.hk, beecrazy.hk and twangoo.com have been known to sport a worthwhile deal or two. Big on Groupon right now? Hairy crab deals, of course.

Dump the Data Are you paying \$400-plus bucks for 10GB of LTE mobile data? Seriously, you really don't need that much, that fast, unless you're streaming HD video to your phone 24/7 (in which case, we need to have a little talk). Consider dropping down to a slower speed bracket: Smartone offers unlimited 3G internet for \$88 per month. Sure, it's not going to be blazing fast—but how fast do you need to Whatsapp, exactly?

Sourcing Overseas Need a new dehumidifier or a new bench? Before you schlep out to Ikea or Fortress, make sure to log on to the GeoExpat and AsiaXpat forums. Their classified sections are rammed full of people trying to get rid of their furniture and electronics for a song before they leave the SAR. They get increasingly desperate as their departure dates grow nearer. The larger the item of furniture, the better deal you'll get on it. The only problem, of course: Where are you going to put it?



Fine French dining, cheap Hong Kong surrounds

Eating Right

Say goodbye to pricey average Soho meals with these dining tips.

Center your Focus Cooked food centers are king. Sheung Wan's ABC Kitchen serves up excellent French fare in amusingly dissonant surroundings, for an absolute steal.

Shop 7, Queen Street Cooked Food Centre, 1 Queen St., Sheung Wan, 9278-8227.

Spruce Goose Want to eat Yung Kee's famous roast goose and cha siu rice but don't have the big bucks to drop on a fancy sit-down meal? Just get it from the takeout counter to the left of the entrance and go eat in the Lan Kwai Fong amphitheater instead. Yes, it's still \$70... but trust us, you're saving money.

32-40 Wellington St., Central, 2522-1624.

Later Taters Visit the stalls late in the evening when everyone's just trying to close up shop, around 8pm. You'll get a much better deal on perishables like fruit and bread in particular. And of course, Mrs Fields's legendarily aromatic cookies are half price after 10pm, although you'll have to join the line.

Pack your lunch, already OK, let's do the math. Every day you go to work in Central, slave away, dash out for a quick bite and a drink you swallow at your desk—about \$70. Maybe once a week you grab a longer lunch with colleagues—\$120 for the lunch set with a glass of white. So that's a minimum of $70 \times 4 + 120 = \$400$ a week you're spending on lunch, or \$1,600 a month. That's at least \$19,200 a year you're frittering away on crappy tasteless cardboard sandwiches. Start bringing your lunch in, friend.

per day
\$70

per month
\$1,600

per year
\$19,200



Fruit Loops Do you like fruit—and we mean, REALLY like fruit? Head in the early morning to the Yau Ma Tei Fruit Market, where the freshest of the fresh is sold in large quantities to interested fruit-loving parties. The market is most active between the hours of 4-6am, but you'll save money on one healthy diet...

Supermarket Sweep Here's the supermarket run-down: Wellcome for essentials, ParknShop for basics, Great for upmarket treats, Gourmet for food on the go, Market Place by Jasons for random unexpected international imports, Gateway and A&M for bulk American products, ThreeSixty for organics, and City'Super when you're trying to impress your in-laws. Vanguard when all you can find is a freaking Vanguard. If you've been buying your fruit at City'Super, you have more money than sense.

Shop Smart Obviously, wet market shopping is going to be cheaper than hitting City'Super. But when shopping for more niche ingredients take the time to visit specialist stores. Thai and Filipino stores are a great source of ingredients, and for spices you'll want to go to the source: A shop like the Yuan Heng Spice Co. (19 Tung St., Sheung Wan, 2542-0275) sells every kind of spice under the sun from giant canvas sacks.



Spice is nice (and cheap)

Happy AND Wealthy

Can't afford to down \$120 cocktails all night? Yeah, nor can we. Drink smart with some of the city's best happy hours.

Stone Nullah Tavern's "Beat the Clock" weekday happy hour deal is ludicrous: Drinks start at 5pm at \$1 each, doubling in price every 20 minutes until 7pm. **69 Stone Nullah Lane, Wan Chai, 3182-0128.**

At **Lily & Bloom** from 5-8pm (weekdays) and 6-8pm (Saturdays), your first drink is just \$5, and \$45 thereafter. \$5! **5-6/F, LKF Tower, 33 Wyndham St., 2810-6166.**

On Tuesdays at **Insomnia**, show 'em your business card and you get free drinks from 9-11pm. Free drinks! **30-32 D'Aguilar St., Central, 2525-0957.**

Every Tuesday, **Boqueria** does \$38 gin and tonics all night, served from a G&T cart and featuring artisanal pours as well as infused house gin. Meanwhile on Mon-Sat, \$208 gets you free-flow beer, wine, sangria and all the tapas you can stuff into your face.

7/F, LKF Tower, 33 Wyndham Street, Central, Hotel LKF by Rhombus, Central, 2321-8681.

Got those Monday blues? At **Carnegies** house spirits are \$20 all night. Good luck with Tuesday. **53-55 Lockhart Rd., Wan Chai, 2866-6289.**

Little Burro in Sheung Wan does \$5 margaritas every Thursday (ladies only, 6-9pm). This night is getting super popular, for some unknowable reason. **1 Upper Station St., Sheung Wan, 2547-8821.**

Linguini Fini's happy hour isn't for the weak of stomach. \$98 gets you all-you-can-eat wings and free-flow PBR on weekdays from 5-7pm.

49 Elgin St., Central, 2387-6338.

Supergiant hidden away in Causeway Bay's Mira Moon hotel does an almighty buy-one-get-one happy hour, from 4-9pm every day.

388 Jaffe Rd., Causeway Bay, 2643-8875.

Wan Chai stalwart **Devil's Advocate** is a stalwart for a reason. On Wednesdays, drinks are \$20 if you pay with a Standard Chartered \$20 note—so start saving up now. **48 Lockhart Rd., Wan Chai, 2865-7271.**

Late night in Kowloon and you're looking for a deal? The Mira's lounge bar **Room One** rocks a 4pm-1am happy hour, with buy-one-get-one all day (and night) long.

G/F, The Mira, 118 Nathan Rd., 2368-1111.

Divey pierside beer kiosk **The Beer Bay** by DB ferry pier has cheap, proper pints for \$30-50, a wide range of British brews, and some of the finest views in the world... and we're not talking about all the DBers sprinting for the ferry.

Ferry Pier No.3, 11 Man Kwong St., Central.

Happy hour over? Switch to **Club 7-Eleven** (two Tsingtaos for \$13) and go drink in a sitting-out area. Oh, and stay away from Blue Girl (\$16 for a large can). Even cheapskates have standards.



Bonus tip: Cut out this \$1 coin and tape it to the back of a 50 cent coin to double your money.



"I love you because you're a cheap date"

Photo: Lip Jin Lee via Flickr



Chow Yun-fat knows how to romance the ladies

Cheapskate Dates

So you're burning with passion but you don't want to burn a hole through your pocket. Diamonds may be a girl's best friend, but these affordable dates should melt the heart of any gold digger. Briefly.

Impress your date with some fancy footwork by paddle boating at **Wong Nai Chung Reservoir**. Two-seater pedalos cost \$80 an hour Mon-Fri or \$100 on weekends, while rowboats are \$10 less. Wong Nai Chung Reservoir Park, Tai Tam Reservoir Rd., Wong Nai Chung, 2555-0103.

Take your bae to see a film. But instead of dropping \$100 on a single ticket to an average blockbuster, go all art-house with a screening at the **Hong Kong Film Archive** (50 Lei King Rd., Sai Wan Ho, 2739-2139). Here, screenings of true classics of Hong Kong cinema cost around \$40. Coming up soon: John Woo's classic "heroic bloodshed" movie "**The Killer**" on November 15. It's the perfect date flick!

Volunteer to walk a dog with **Hong Kong Dog Rescue**. The charity is always looking for volunteers to walk its pooches, and nothing says "I'm a sensitive soul" like looking after a lonesome pup. You'll need to complete an orientation session (\$100) first.

Take your intended on a top-deck **tram ride** from Happy Valley all the way to Kennedy Town, with a bottle of (screw top) wine and a couple of plastic cups. Late at night, this is a beautiful ride. Generously cover your date's \$2.30 fare, or at least go dutch on it.



Beautiful sunsets: totally free

Photo: blese via Flickr

Take a day trip to Mui Wo and rent a bike from the **Friendly Bicycle Shop** (Mui Wo Ferry Pier Road, 2984-2278) for \$40 per day. Ride to the end of Silvermine Bay Beach and back, or to Lower Cheung Sha if you're feeling a more energetic. Reward yourself with a seafood feast at the **Mui Wo Cooked Food Market**.



A doggy date:
thrifty AND adorable

Sponsored Feature

Head to Nadaman for a *Taste of Perfection*

To many foodies, the eternal search for authentic Japanese food outside of Japan is the Holy Grail of food quests.

Over the years many have said it's a dream that cannot be fulfilled; something that cannot be achieved.

Japanese restaurants have come and gone in Hong Kong and there have been some reasonable imitations, but there's only one that can lay claim to being the best.

Since 1830, the world-famous group of restaurants known as Nadaman has been treating discerning diners in Japan to the finest Kaiseki cuisine. When the group established its first Nadaman outside Japan that honor went to the Island Shangri-La, Hong Kong.

Under the expert guidance of gifted former Head Chef of Nadaman Island Shangri-La and Kagoshima native Kenji Yanagita (currently chef at Nadaman's Zipangu restaurant in Akasaka, Tokyo), the Nadaman gained an unparalleled reputation as an exquisite fine dining establishment, famed for its finesse and delicate tastes.

Now food lovers are being invited to sample the restaurant's magnificent food, courtesy of a promotion, which runs from October 19 to November 30, 2015.

Chef Yanagita has devised a special lunch and dinner menu to show off the unique qualities of the fresh local ingredients that are exclusively sourced directly from the rich natural environment of Kagoshima, the central city at the heart of Kagoshima Prefecture in Japan.

The menus literally make your mouth water in

anticipation of the wondrous journey that lies ahead.

For just \$650, lunch comprises an appetizer course offering red snapper, matsutake mushroom and crown daisy marinated with sour wasabi sauce; persimmon and mushroom dressed with sesame cream sauce; and boiled vegetable with deep fried squid.

Clam fish cake in a clear bonito soup sets the diner up for the sashimi dish of four kinds of daily fish from Kagoshima. A fried dish of prawn and sweet potato kakiage tempura, with salty cream sauce, is followed by a cold dish of delicious crab meat and Japanese tomato salad.

Next up is thinly sliced Wagyu beef and Kagoshima kurobuta pork, followed by steamed barbecue eel rice served with miso soup and pickles. The meal is completed with a sweet potato cake with vanilla ice-cream dessert.

It's hard to believe, but the dinner menu is even more impressive! The appetizer offers Kagoshima Wagyu beef sandwich and milk tofu with sea urchin and caviar in addition to the red snapper dish on the lunch menu.

Sushi comes in the shape of prime tuna belly, horse mackerel and yellowtail, while the sashimi offering is tuna belly, Kawahagi fish, prawn and Tsukiji clam.

Steamed egg custard with foie gras paste and truffle sauce, cold hairy crab and a Kagoshima pork and Wagyu beef syabu-syabu hotpot, served with rice and soup, precede a dessert of deko-pon orange jelly. All this comes in at a price of only \$1,250.



Nadaman, Level 7, Island Shangri-La, Hong Kong, Pacific Place, Supreme Court Road, Central, Hong Kong, (852) 2820 8570



This promotion, incorporating a 30% discount,
is sponsored by Kagoshima Prefectural Government, Japan.





FUNTastic QRE Festival – Discovery Walk 2015

The FUNTastic QRE Festival – Discovery Walk organized by Hopewell Holdings Limited has concluded earlier this year. Participants of Discovery Walk indulged themselves in international fine wines and gourmet canapés while exploring Queen's Road East. Net proceeds of ticketing sales has been donated to Foodlink Foundation.

Mr Bruce Leung, Director of Hopewell Asset Management Limited presented a \$72,546.67 cheque to Miss Joyce Chan, Chief Operation Officer of Foodlink Foundation.



REDDIE www.reddie.com Customise Furniture Online!

REDDIE is a new lifestyle concept that brings with it a new frontier in the furniture world.

Reddie offers a collection of sleek furniture that can be customized online to suit your unique style. All REDDIE furniture pieces are made-to-order, hand-made and delivered directly to your door.

Visit REDDIE at PMQ this coming October from October 1 to November 1 from 7am to 8pm.

www.reddie.com
PMQ: Shop H404, 35 Aberdeen Street, Central, Hong Kong

An artisano and neighborhood café

The Madera Cafe is developed around the principle of creating memorable experiences throughout the Food & Beverage offerings. Providing an alfresco dining experience, Madera Cafe appeals with a fresh look on the block. It's an artisano cafe bringing you great coffee, exceptional teas and healthier food options. The place to go for a break, an experience with the family or friends.

Madera Café
Telephone: 3579-4548
Website: www.maderacafe.com.hk
E-mail: info@maderacafe.com.hk
Address: Shop G/F Le Riviera, 23 Shau Kei Wan Main Street East, Shau Kei Wan, Hong Kong



ENxNICHU is back with Okinawa @PMQ!

23~25 Oct 2015 (Fri~Sun)

'Tis autumn! Best time of the year to eat, drink and enjoy some music alfresco! Following the success of bringing to Hong Kong the most authentic Japanese festival this summer, ENxNICHU is returning to PMQ. Expect to sample a wide variety of Okinawa dishes, drinks and Orion Beer! Great day out with friends and family.

PMQ, 35 Aberdeen Street, Central
www.facebook.com/enxnichi



HKTDC Wine Fair

Asia's most premier wine & spirits event, the HKTDC Hong Kong International Wine & Spirits Fair opens this November! Seizing the chance to taste high quality wine and spirits and join fine wine tasting, education seminars, wine master class at HKCEC.! Public are cordially invited to visit the fair on the final day (Nov 7) by ticket admission.

Enquiry 1830 668; Website: www.hktdc.com/ex/hkwinefair/23



Indulge in Free-Flowing Champagne from just \$275 per person

Mira Moon's The Champagne Bar offers free-flowing premium champagnes from just HK\$275 per person from 6pm to 8pm daily. Whether you plan to unwind with friends and colleagues after a long day, or throw a birthday bash or an intimate gathering, The Champagne Bar's intimate ambience offers a new stylish hot spot on Hong Kong Island to enjoy a variety of exquisite champagnes.

Address: 5/F, Mira Moon, 388 Jaffe Road, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong
Opening Hour: 3pm - midnight
Telephone: (852) 2643-8875
Email: supergiant@miramoonhotel.com

Looking for Mr/Miss Right this Halloween?

For anyone, who joins So Klose's service plans from now until 31 October 2015, will be entitled to a complimentary two additional months' services at the end of service period. So Klose is the Multi Award-winning and the most reliable dating and matchmaking services company in Hong Kong. Act Now!

Website: www.so-klose.com

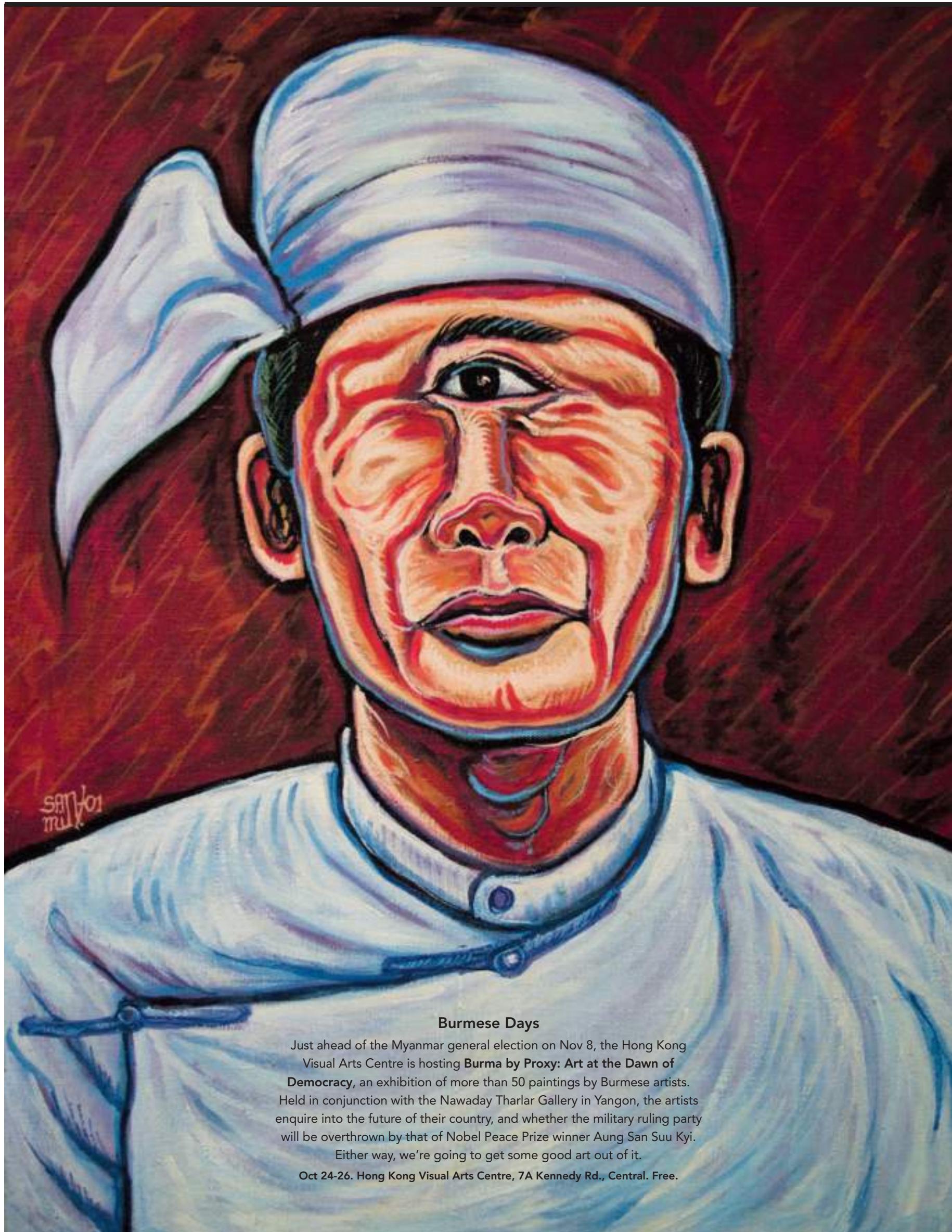


Ghosts of WanChai - Haunted Halloween - The Pawn

Friday, Oct 30, experience a unique, haunted and nostalgic Halloween at THE PAWN. Over a century ago (1888 A.D.), a special building was constructed. Originally an iconic Pawn Shop, the "Ghostess of Wan Chai" has been visiting every October. 5pm-130am Indoor & Terrace, Models, Scary Décor, don't miss this one of a kind event! Dinner or Party packages available, complimentary canapés, free professional Halloween makeup, Lucky Draw Prizes.

www.HalloweenHK.eventbrite.com
info@xin-wang.com
Fri Oct 30 - The Pawn, 62 Johnston Road (MTR Exit B2), Wan Chai





Burmese Days

Just ahead of the Myanmar general election on Nov 8, the Hong Kong Visual Arts Centre is hosting **Burma by Proxy: Art at the Dawn of Democracy**, an exhibition of more than 50 paintings by Burmese artists. Held in conjunction with the Nawaday Tharlar Gallery in Yangon, the artists enquire into the future of their country, and whether the military ruling party will be overthrown by that of Nobel Peace Prize winner Aung San Suu Kyi.

Either way, we're going to get some good art out of it.

Oct 24-26. Hong Kong Visual Arts Centre, 7A Kennedy Rd., Central. Free.

FASHION

LOOKBOOK

Edited by **Zoe Chan**
Blogger & Stylist at normalchic.com | Instagram @zoe_normalchic

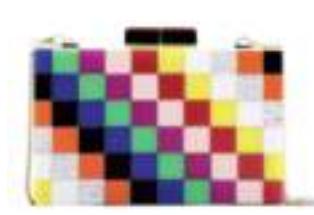


Wedding Belles

Wedding season has officially started in Hong Kong—how many invitations do you have? Wondering what to wear to someone else's big day? Go simple with a jumpsuit like this one from **Max Mara**, paired with natural waves. I may not be able to afford salon service every day, but at home my trusty Ghd stylers do the job. Jazz up the look with a pair of small earrings, but don't exaggerate your accessories. After all, you shouldn't be in the spotlight at someone else's wedding—stay low, and stay elegant.



"Timeless Elegance" silver earring and necklace set, \$1,499 from Pandora



Kawai clutch, \$2,100 from Cosmoparis



Waka gold heels, \$1,900 from Minelli



Ghd Platinum styler, \$2,580 from Lane Crawford

Jumpsuit, \$9,278 from Max Mara, Shop 1-2, G/F, St. George's Building, 2 Ice House St., Central, 2722-9601.

Pandora, 57 Queen's Rd. Central, 2117-4650. Cosmoparis, Shop 138, 1/F, Pacific Place, Admiralty, 2561-0687.

Minelli available at Central Central, 1/F, Central Building, 3 Pedder St., Central, 2480-2888.

Lane Crawford, 3/F, IFC Mall, 8 Finance St., Central, 2118-2288.

Got a great street style shot? Tag us on Instagram @HK_Magazine!

Photo: Kirk Kenny / studiozag.com Hairstyling by Hamish Galianos @ Paul Gerrard

ENxNICH 縁日 沖繩 OKINAWA

百味
飲食



October FOOD Festival

Presented by Orion Beer

10/23-25

23rd: 5-10pm
24th: 2-10pm
25th: 2-9pm

地點 Venue : 元創方 PMQ
中環鵝巴甸街35號
35 Aberdeen Street, Central



糖兄妹 Sugar Club



琉星太鼓 Ryusei Taiko

EVENT SCHEDULE

節目如有更改，恕不另行通知。
ENxNICH Management may change the programme without further notice.

| 時間 (Time) | 10月23日 (23rd, Oct) | 10月24日 (24th, Oct) | 10月25日 (25th, Oct) |
|-----------|--|--|--|
| 2:30 pm | | 琉星太鼓 & Minami 沖繩民謡表演 Ryusei Taiko & Minami - Folk songs & Dance | 琉星太鼓 & Minami 沖繩民謡表演 Ryusei Taiko & Minami - Folk songs & Dance |
| 4:00 pm | | Akira Ikuma 現場歌唱表演 Live | Akira Ikuma 現場歌唱表演 Live |
| 5:00 pm | 琉星太鼓 & Minami 沖繩民謡表演 Ryusei Taiko & Minami - Folk songs & Dance | 琉星太鼓 & Minami 沖繩民謡表演 Ryusei Taiko & Minami - Folk songs & Dance | 琉星太鼓 & Minami 沖繩民謡表演 Ryusei Taiko & Minami - Folk songs & Dance |
| 6:00 pm | | | 糖兄妹 表演 Sugar Club |
| 6:30 pm | Orion Beer乾杯時間 Toast from Orion Beer | Orion Beer乾杯時間 Toast from Orion Beer | Orion Beer乾杯時間 Toast from Orion Beer |
| 7:00 pm | Akira Ikuma 現場歌唱表演 Live | Akira Ikuma 現場歌唱表演 Live | Akira Ikuma 現場歌唱表演 Live |

大家可在活動中參與沖繩縣舉辦的星沙瓶製作體驗工作坊, 費用全免。
You could also join workshops of star sand bottling organised by Okinawa prefecture (free of charge).

SUPPORTED BY



青海



TRAVEL

Edited by Daniel Creffield

daniel.creffield@hkmagmedia.com



Unesco World Heritage sites, friendly people and awesome tea—it must be Sri Lanka

This week we've been checking out travel agency Flight Centre's newest packages, and there are three we really like the look of:

Colors of Sri Lanka

Offering some of the world's most spectacular landscapes and wildlife, Sri Lanka was off many travelers' itineraries for a while due to years of war and natural disaster. While this led to a massive decline in tourism, it did mean that visiting the country was pretty affordable.

However, with eight Unesco World Heritage Sites, great food, colonial architecture, a classic railway network and of course some of the best tea in the world, Sri Lanka tourism seems to be on the rise again. It's the sheer scenic variety the country offers which stuns visitors: From cool tea plantations to the tropical lowlands, rainforests and awesome beaches—the country has it all.

If this sounds like your kind of thing, a six-day tour begins in the seaside city of Negombo, with a stop at the Dambulla cave temple en route to the giant Sigiriya Lion Rock fortress. You'll then cross Minneriya National Park, and visit a spice garden in Matale.

When the tour reaches the hill country of Kandy you'll visit the Temple of the Tooth, said to be home to a relic of Buddha's tooth. From there, journey to the waterfalls around Nanu Oya en route to the lush tea country of Nuwara Eliya. The next leg takes you to Mirissa close to the southern tip of Sri Lanka where you can hit the beach or take a boat excursion to catch a sight of blue whales.

The six-day Colors of Sri Lanka package starts from \$13,499 per person and includes return airfare, five nights' hotel accommodation, daily breakfast and dinner, entrance fees, a jeep safari and transportation costs.

Morocco Experience

Get swept away to this most romantic of lands: Close your eyes and you can see Oscar Wilde gamboling around with his young friends, or Peter O'Toole emerging from the desert on camel as Lawrence of Arabia. Join Peter—in spirit at least—on this trip, where you'll get the chance to ride camels south to the edge of the Sahara Desert before spending the night in a desert camp. Just watch out for the spitting, and don't say we didn't warn you.

Before camping out, you'll visit the imperial city of Meknes and the ancient Roman ruins of Volubilis before continuing on to Fes. Explore the labyrinth of streets within the famous Medina of Fes with a local guide and marvel at the ancient tanneries (apparently they use urine in the curing process and it really stinks—but their leather products are gorgeous).

You'll also get the chance to walk through local village farmlands, explore Todra Gorge, visit the ancient fortified city of Ait Ben Haddou and finally head to Marrakesh for a bit of decent hedonism.

The nine-day Morocco Experience is priced at \$15,599 including flights.

Cuba Rhythms

Cuba is a unique place that seems to be both stuck in the past yet exuding modern cool and chic, with all white suits, panamas and a general 50s movie backdrop. I've never been (it's on my list, as it seems to be on most people's), but those who do visit definitely seem to have a more profound experience there than the typical city or beach getaway.

The current improving relationship between Cuba and the U.S., or "Cuban Thaw" as it has been named, means that not only is travel now streamlined, but western products are increasingly available, making for a more convenient trip—although personally, I can't really see beyond Cuban rum.

The Cuba Rhythms trip proclaims ambitiously that it is setting out to "uncover the soul of Cuba." I don't know about that, but with a sensible itinerary that's a good balance of sightseeing, culture and plain fun, it looks like something of a winner. The schedule takes curious visitors to Havana, stopping by Santa Clara to visit historical sites such as the famous Che Guevara Mausoleum, and then on to Trinidad for a taste of music and salsa dancing. There's also adventure in the great outdoors, including horseback or bicycle riding (don't expect modern mountain bikes though, the company warns) along with snorkeling or diving in Playa Ancón.





ESCAPE ROUTES



Instant movie backdrops in Cuba



Get a taste of Morocco's vibrant food

The trip then moves on to Viñales to visit the rounded "mogote" pincushion hills and a "vega," or cigar factory. Back in Havana you'll be given time to get your fill of drinking and dancing before heading back home.

The eight-day Cuba Rhythms trip is priced from \$26,099, including flights. Flight Centre, 17 Lyndhurst Terrace, Central, 2830-2810, flightcentre.com.hk.



Marvels in Marrakesh



Hong Kong Sinfonietta
香港小交響樂團
Yip Wing-sie 葵城許翼平

Inspired by BRAHMS
相約大師柏鋼系列

"Unparalleled level of virtuosity and musical intuition."
The Strad

Cello
Aurélien Pascal
Winner of First Prize,
Audience Prize & Special Prize
Grand Prix Emanuel Feuermann 2014

Cellomania
Aurélien Pascal Plays Schumann

Programme
Mendelssohn *The Fair Melusine Overture, Op 32*
Schumann **Cello Concerto in A minor, Op 129**
Brahms *Symphony No 2 in D, Op 73*

7.11.2015
(Sat) 8pm
Hong Kong City Hall Concert Hall
\$340 \$220 \$140

UpClose Encounters:
Chamber Music & Dialogue with Aurélien Pascal

Programme
Kodály *Sonata for Solo Cello (excerpts)*
Schumann *Piano Quintet in E-flat, Op 44*

8.11.2015 (Sun) 3pm
HK City Hall Concert Hall
\$250 (Audience seated on stage)

Tickets at URBTIX
2111 5999 | www.URBTIX.hk
Programme Enquiries: 2836 3336
For ages 6+
Hong Kong Sinfonietta reserves the right to change the programme and artists

Principal Guest Conductor
Christoph Poppen

Hong Kong Sinfonietta is financially supported by the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

Hong Kong Sinfonietta is the Venue Partner of the Hong Kong City Hall

© EROL GURCAN

The Bloody Buffet

From ghoulish meatballs to flaming zombie cocktails and cauliflower brains, **Leslie Yeh** finds the city's most frightening edibles to get you into the spooky spirit.



BRAAAIIIIINSSSS at Café 8 Degrees

FEARSOME FOOD

Death by Degrees

Café 8 Degrees at the Harbour Plaza is going all out with a spooktacular Halloween buffet of scary eats, with creepy, crawly and somewhat complex names to match. Fancy a "Ghoulish Meat Ball Eye" or "Yummy Mummy Roasted Beef Caesar Salad?" There's also a mysterious dish labeled as "Cauliflower Salad with Strawberry Vinegar in brain shape" ... we're guessing it's going to be pretty Insta (or cringe)-worthy.

Bad Halloween joke: Why didn't the skeleton attend the ball?

He had no body to go with!

Available Oct 16-31. 199 Kowloon City Rd., To Kwa Wan, Kowloon, 2126-1960.

Sweet Teeth

Fill up your Halloween spread with dozens of homemade Halloween goodies from **Dolce 88** at the JW Marriott. Their pastry team has whipped up a tempting selection of fright-inducing cakes and cookies including a luscious "Halloween Pumpkin Cake" with spiced pumpkin filling, white chocolate mousse and crunchy caramel pumpkin seeds. Sounds bloody delicious to us.

Bad Halloween joke: What do ghosts eat for breakfast?

Cheeri-ooooOOOOOOOoos!

Available Oct 19-31. Pacific Place, 88 Queensway, Admiralty, 2810-8366.

Deadly Kisses

Halloween candy is great for filling up your Jack-O-Lantern, but for something a little more substantial (and less cavity-inducing) go for a spooky cupcake from **Kisses Cupcakes**. The fondant ghosts may be a little too cartoonish to truly strike terror into your heart, but they're bound to be a hit at the Halloween table anyway.

Bad Halloween joke: Why didn't anyone talk to the mummy? He was too wrapped up in himself!

\$450 per dozen, \$250 per half-dozen, available now through Halloween. Shop LG09, Hollywood Centre, 233 Hollywood Rd., Sheung Wan, 2763-5599, kissescupcakes.com.



DEMONIC DRINKS

Tiki Terrors

Fire up a ghoulish appetite at the brand new **Tikitiki Bowling Bar**, Hong Kong's first ever tiki-themed bowling alley, located out in Sai Kung. The only thing more frightening than traveling out to the New Territories for a party? The bar's Flaming Zombie cocktail, served in an ominous-looking tiki mug and boasting 11 different ingredients to get the boozy bowling started. Remember to blow out the flame before downing it, unless "burns victim" is your Halloween costume of choice.

Bad Halloween joke: What happened when the ghost disappeared into the fog? He was mist!

4/F, Centro, 1A Chui Tong Rd., Sai Kung, New Territories, 2657-8488, tikitiki.hk.

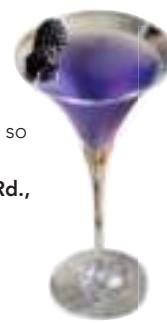


Skull and Crossbones

Forget orange and black—purple is the color of Halloween, according to **Pirata's** "Bewitched" cocktail, available exclusively on Oct 30-31. A mix of gin, Maraschino, Crème de Violette, lemon juice and blackberries, it's the perfect accessory to that glam witch costume. Not into the purple theme? Order the vermuteria's bright yellow Beetlejuice concoction instead, made with Bombay Sapphire gin, two types of Maraschino vermouth and orange.

Bad Halloween joke: Why do great writers hang around cemeteries? Because there are so many plots!

Available Oct 30-31. 30/F, 239 Hennessy Rd., Wan Chai, 2887-0270, pirata.hk.



Killer Candy

Get your sweet tooth sorted with the all-American "Trick or Treat Shake" at **Burger Circus** on Hollywood Road. Loaded with popular Halloween candy like candy corn, peanut brittle and Reese's peanut butter cups, this calorie-laden concoction is a sugar high waiting to happen. Stop by and sate your sweet cravings in-between party hopping around Central—it's a great way to break up the boozing before stepping out into freaksville again.

Bad Halloween joke: Where are baby ghosts educated? Daycare!

Available Halloween weekend. 22 Hollywood Rd., Central, 2878-7787, burgercircus.com.hk.

Ghost pops at Dolce 88



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弦樂四重奏，作品 20/6

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Earl Grey Mille Crêpes

Cool Cakes

Cake lovers, get your forks out. If you're a fan of acclaimed pâtisserie **Lady M's** signature Mille Crêpes cake, you'll want to stop by their Harbour City store or the recently opened IFC branch (Shop 2096A, IFC Mall, 8 Finance St., Central, 2865-1099) to get a forkful of the brand new Earl Grey flavor. Layered with more than 20 paper thin crêpes and an ethereal tea leaf-infused pastry cream, this sumptuous creation is light and

delicate, and just the right amount of sweet to have with your morning cup of tea or as a post-dinner binge. Not a fan of crêpes? Dig into Lady M's classic Strawberry Mille Feuille or Banana Mille Feuille instead, made with flaky, golden puff pastry and an airy sponge cake. The shop is set to launch an online ordering system next month (pre-orders start Oct 27), so you can get these cream-filled cakes delivered straight to your doorstep.

RESTAURANT REVIEWS

Youka ★★★★☆

Japanese. Shop 1D, 35-45 Johnston Rd., Wan Chai, 2833-5188.



Youka, which translates to "Eighth Day," is a Japanese resto all about sashimi and grill.

HIT We shared the chef's menu (\$438) which was filled with well-executed dishes. The grilled dried blowfish was a sweet fish jerky with a smoky touch, and didn't need the provided dip. Sashimi from the set included super fatty tuna belly that melted instantly in our mouths. Of the three grilled items, we picked grilled US beef with ponzu

sauce—a steak that was amazingly tender and juicy with a pink middle despite its 1cm thickness. Shrimp tempura was the star of the assorted tempura dish, fried from a fresh sashimi-grade shrimp.

MISS Apart from the chef's menu, we couldn't resist ordering the mizuna leaf with seafood (\$150) which looked lovely on the menu. While we did get a lot of diced sashimi and crawfish in the pre-tossed salad, the topping of ikura roe tasted like it had been flown in two days ago. The greens didn't hold the sauce very well, but without the sauce or the seafood they were bland and dry.

BOTTOM LINE While it's a little on the expensive side, great service and food and a lot of skill with the grill make Youka worth the trip.

Open daily 12-3pm; 6-11pm. \$\$\$

Ratings

★ Don't go ★★ Disappointing ★★★ We'll be back ★★★★ We'll be back—with friends ★★★★★ You MUST go

Price Guide

\$ Less than \$200 \$\$ \$200-\$399 \$\$\$ \$400-\$599 \$\$\$\$ \$600-\$799 \$\$\$\$\$ \$800 and up

NEW AND NOTED



Beef tartare at Mercedes me

Ride or Dine

If Mercedes-Benz wanted to drive straight into the Hong Kong spotlight, it hit the nail on the head by partnering with Hong Kong hospitality group Maximal Concepts (Stockton, Fish & Meat, Mott 32 and more) to open **Mercedes me** (Shop C-D, Entertainment Building, 30 Queen's Rd. Central, 2895-7398), a first-of-its-kind lifestyle concept retail store and restaurant which pairs the brand's luxury ethos with high-end dining. The multipurpose venue threw open its doors in late September (think a parade of VIP cars and more than 700 guests in attendance) and is now officially open for breakfast, lunch and dinner Mon-Sun. Helmed by executive chef Edgar Sanuy, the menu oscillates between East and West but hones in on premium, in-season ingredients presented with plenty of panache. If you love F1 and fine food, this could easily become your new favorite hideout.

SYP Gets Schooled

Pioneering entrepreneur Yenn Wong (208 Duecento Otto, Ham & Sherry, 22 Ships) has teamed up with acclaimed Hong Kong chef David Lai to open **Fish School** (G/F, 100 Third St., Sai Ying Pun, 2361-2966), a casual neighborhood venue which centers around, you guessed it, fish—as well as other locally sourced, sustainable seafood. A big proponent of Hong Kong's fishing culture and wet markets, Chef Lai has conceived a modern and inventive menu based almost entirely off locally sourced seafood and produce. Expect to see dozens of fish varieties—many of which you may never have heard of before—executed with modern techniques but paying homage to the purity of the ingredient and its source. An eclectic and fresh take on ocean-to-table dining in Hong Kong, Fish School is looking like both a memorable dining experience and a lesson in sustainable cooking.

Taco Chaca ★★★★☆

Tex-Mex. Shop 9, G/F Mui Wo Center, 3 Nang Wan Rd., Mui Wo, Lantau, 5463-3063.



With a branch in Sai Ying Pun and a more recent outlet opening in Mui Wo, Taco Chaca is mining a rich seam of desire for decent, fast, street-style Tex-Mex that's high on taste and value and low on restaurant aesthetics.

HIT A basic eatery that eschews décor in favor of flavor, we enjoyed pretty much everything, from a carnitas (pulled pork) enchilada (\$68) which

was delicious, to the Mexican rice (\$22) which was good, to the refried beans (\$24) which were great. Portions were sensibly sized and everything had a satisfying zing, enhanced by coriander and salsa verde. The margaritas were tasty but at almost \$70 a pop weren't cheap by Mui Wo standards.

MISS "The typical western idea of authentic Mexican food" was a companion's rather dismissive comment. But this feels unfair—Taco Chaca isn't claiming to be anything it's not, and there's nothing wrong with a good imitation, especially at this price point.

BOTTOM LINE With an unashamedly fast food vibe, Taco Chaca is a fun and delicious dining experience if you're in need of a quick Mexi-fix.

Open daily 11am-10pm. \$\$

Our Policy

Reviews are based on actual visits to the establishments listed by our super-sneaky team of hungry reviewers, without the knowledge of the restaurants. Reviews are included at the discretion of the editors and are not paid for by the restaurants. Menus, opening hours and prices change and should be checked. New restaurants are not reviewed within one month of their opening. Reviews are written from a typical diner's perspective. Ratings are awarded in accordance with the type of restaurant reviewed, so the city's best wonton noodle stall could earn five stars while a fancy French restaurant could be a one-star disaster.

Al fresco Dining 4pm - 8pm • Happy Hour •

The burning heat of summer is fading and now it's the best weather for al fresco dining at the spacious outdoor terrace of The Chop House.

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CITY STROLL

Kimberley Road, Tsim Sha Tsui

Kimberley Road: That's just Korean food and wedding shops, isn't it? But this Tsim Sha Tsui street has more to offer than just that, with fascinating little stores tucked away in dilapidated buildings and a few more surprises along the way. This month, we scope out its hidden gems in our City Stroll.



K-culture on Kimberley

One of Kowloon's original thoroughfares, Kimberley Road dates back as far as 1897. Named after John Wodehouse, first Earl of Kimberley and Secretary of State for the Colonies from 1870 to 1874, it and Kimberley Street to the south are now also home to "Little Korea," an area filled with Korean restaurants and grocery stores which have multiplied in the past few years thanks to the explosion of K-culture in Hong Kong.

9 NOMADS

All-you-can-eat Mongolian-style buffet at this venerable Kimberley Road stalwart. Mix and match your meat, vegetables, sauces and spices and the chefs will cook it all up to order—so if it tastes bad, you have no one to blame but yourself.

55 Kimberley Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, 2722-0733.



11 CHAU MING WORKSHOP

Stocks modern, timeless clothes that are both designed and made in Hong Kong. Combines traditional Chinese touches with an indie vibe for awesome, updated looks.

44 Kimberley Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, 2723-8833.



10 ARTISTIC GALLERY

Ethnic/boho scarves, clothing, bags and jewelry are all stacked high in this warm, friendly little boutique, whose products are sourced from all over the world.

Shop 1A, G/F, 48 Kimberley Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, 2317-6800.



12 VIBES

The Mira's open-air lounge is still a bit of a secret. A chilled-out feel and soothing colors make this hidden courtyard bar one of Tsim Sha Tsui's coolest nightspots.

118 Nathan Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, 2368-1111.



Check back next week for more picks from Kimberley Road!

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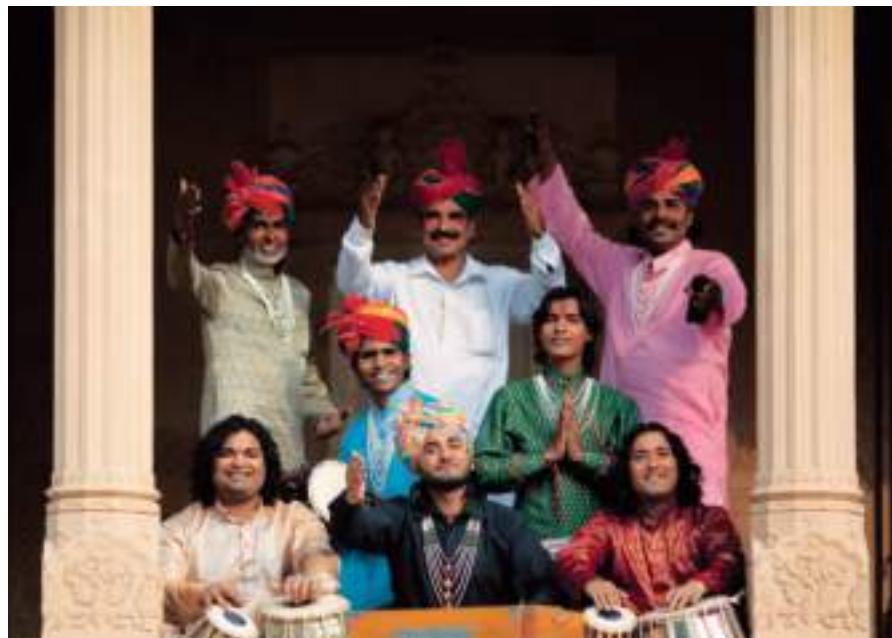


Programme details and artists are subject to change. Please refer to HKAF website for details and conditions of sales.

CULTURE

FESTIVAL SPECIAL!

This month is full of festivals! Get your pick of the best of the city's arts scene.



World Cultures Festival

Running from now through Nov 15, this annual festival brings together vibrant performances by artists from all over the world.

Georgian National Dance Company Sukhishvili

Slavic folk dances that also include daggers and sabres. Oct 22-24, 8pm. Various locations. \$120-340.

Hong Kong Episodes

A musical journey through the city with jazz-classical crossover by jazz guitarist Teriver Cheung and composer Fung Lam. Oct 23-24, 8pm. Studio Theatre, Hong Kong Cultural Centre, 10 Salisbury Rd., 2734-2009. \$140-220.

Penderecki & Shostakovich

HK Sinfonietta conducted by the great composer Krzysztof Penderecki himself. Oct 24, 8pm. Concert Hall, City Hall, 5 Edinburgh Place, Central, 2921-2840. \$140-320.

Angélique Kidjo

A rich voice in African music who sings in English, French, Yoruba and Fon, drawing on influences from all over the world. Oct 29, 8pm. Concert Hall, Cultural Centre. \$150-450.



Majestic Drums XX

An interactive Uzbek hand drum and dance concert with Abbas Percussion Group and Hong Kong Chinese Opera. Oct 30, 8pm. Concert Hall, Cultural Centre. \$100-380.



Dadan 2015

Sweaty muscular young men getting all physical together, with drums and stuff. Oct 30-31, 8pm. Auditorium, Sha Tin Town Hall, 1 Yuen Wo Rd., Sha Tin, 2694-2509. \$130-400.

Global Island

An outdoor concert with Sensi Lion, Head Clowns, Gregmel & Africana Band, and Jazzin' Samba. Oct 31, 3pm. Piazza C, Cultural Centre. Free.

Dhad Gypsies from Rajasthan ▲

Music plus dance from northwestern India, the origin of the Roma peoples. Oct 31, 8pm. Theatre, City Hall. \$130-280.

Ablaze!

Korean B-boy team Jinjo Crew brings in the moves. Nov 6-7, 8pm. Auditorium, Ko Shan Theatre New Wing; \$130-280. B-boy battle with 852 Crew, Nov 7, 4pm. Piazza C, Cultural Centre; Free.



Los Texmaniacs

Tex-Mex conjunto tejano band from the South Texas border. Nov 7, 8pm. Auditorium, Kwai Tsing Theatre, 12 Hing Ning Rd., Kwai Fong, 2408-0128. \$150-280.

Shanghai Yue Opera House

The opera company performs "Empresses in the Palace" in two parts (Nov 11-12), "The Butterfly Lovers" (Nov 13), original opera "A Poet's Lament" (Nov 14) and excerpts from these pieces (Nov 15). Nov 11-14, 7:30pm; Nov 15, 3pm. Cultural Centre Grand Theatre. \$120-420.

The Chieftains

Irish folk music headed by a renowned Irish uilleann piper with the most Irish name you'll ever see: Paddy Moloney. Nov 13, 8pm. Concert Hall, City Hall. \$150-450.



Bands Around the World

Concert by Hong Kong Professional Winds with music from the four corners of the world. Nov 14, 8pm. Auditorium, Tsuen Wan Town Hall, 72 Tai Ho Rd., Tsuen Wan, 2414-0144. \$100-180.

Circle Mirror Transformation

This play from the HK Repertory Theatre concerns a drama course that blurs the line between stage and reality. Nov 14-22. Theatre, City Hall. \$160-300.

More info from www.worldfestival.gov.hk; tickets from www.urbitix.hk.

Festive Korea

As the name implies, Festive Korea celebrates pretty much everything Korean, especially movies, to the end of November.

Asia Society Korean Film Series

K-movies for K-afficionados. Asia Society Hong Kong Center, 9 Justice Drive, Admiralty, 2103-9511. Free, register at ticketing.asiasociety.org.hk.

Empty Fullness: Materiality and the Spirituality in the Contemporary Korean Art

An art exhibit celebrating the simplicity and elegance of Joseon culture. Through Oct 23. PMQ, 35 Aberdeen St., Central. Free.



In Conversation with Korean Poet Kim Hu-Ran

A talk with the writer and poet. Oct 23, 3:30pm. University of Hong Kong. Free, register at smlc@hku.hk.

La Divina Commedia

Solo exhibition by artist Lee Yun Hee of ceramic sculptures inspired by Italian literature. Oct 27-Nov 15. Art Projects Gallery, S510, Block A, PMQ, 35 Aberdeen St., 3485-5336. Free.



Soul Mate

Joint performance by the Korea National Opera and HK Philharmonic about pursuing love outside of arranged marriage. Oct 30-31. Grand Theatre, Cultural Centre. \$150-630 from urbitix.hk.

Explore Korean Desserts Trend

A chance to try every kind of trendy Korean dessert imaginable. Oct 31. The Western Food Lab, School of Hotel and Tourism Management, Hong Kong Polytechnic University, 11 Yuk Choi Rd., Hung Hom, 2766-5111. \$220 from denise.law@polyu.edu.hk.

Taste of Korea

A chance to explore Korean flavors at Hotel Icon's The Market with guest chef Ahn Hyunsoon. Nov 2-22. The Market, Hotel Icon, 17 Science Museum Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui East, 3400-1388.

Forming Nature:

Dansaekhwa Korean Abstract Art

An exhibition in both Hong Kong and New York about, well, forming nature. Nov 6-Dec 4. The James Christie Room, Christie's, 22/F, Alexandra House, 18 Chater Rd., Central, 2760-1766. Free.

HK Generation Next Arts Music Festival 2015: Legends – Today & Tomorrow

A concert with cellist Myung-Wha Chung, pianist Yeol Eum Son and violinist Zia Shin. Nov 17, 7:30pm. HK Jockey Club Amphitheatre, HKAPA, 1 Gloucester Rd., Wan Chai, 2584-8500. \$100-450 from hkticketing.com.

Check out festivekorea.com for more.

Hong Kong International Literary Festival

The city's annual Hong Kong International Literary Festival kicks off just before National Novel Writing Month. Before you sit down to scribe the Great Hong Kong Novel, catch some of the program highlights:

Cooking with Ken Hom

A delicious evening of culinary arts with none other than legendary celebrity chef Ken Hom. Oct 26, 7:30pm. Easy123 Dining and Cooking Studio, Shop 221, K11, 18 Hanoi Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, 2628-0616. \$1,000, includes food and wine.



Our Future Voices

A showcase of spoken word and poetry from our city's young creative writers. Oct 31, 4:45pm. Upstairs at the Fringe Club, 2 Lower Albert Rd., Central. \$100.

The Family Law

Humorist Benjamin Law explores his family and how 1980s China affected them. Nov 1, 4:30pm. Official Residence of the Consul-General of Australia, 39 Island Rd., Deep Water Bay. \$500.



Imagination Beyond Genre

A discussion on challenging the limits of perception through writing and imagination, with writers Dorothy Tse and Collier Nogues. Nov 2, 8pm. Upstairs at the Fringe Club, Central. \$135.

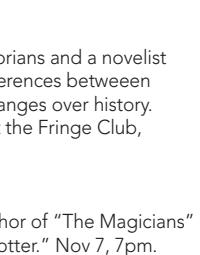
Writing Drama with Monica Cantieni

An interactive workshop that aims to produce an audio drama; bring a laptop. Nov 3, 8pm. Upstairs at the Fringe Club, Central. \$250.



10 Years in Hong Kong: Jason Ng

The author explores the state of the city. In his words, "Hong Kong is like a diva that gets a makeover every few years." Sound like someone you know? Nov 5, 8pm. Upstairs at the Fringe Club, Central. \$135.



Shanghai and Hong Kong: Tales of Two Cities

A discussion with two historians and a novelist on the similarities and differences between the two cities and their changes over history. Nov 6, 6:30pm. Upstairs at the Fringe Club, Central. \$200.

Magic for Grown-Ups

Talk by Lev Grossman, author of "The Magicians" Trilogy, aka "adult Harry Potter." Nov 7, 7pm. 6/F, 32 Wellington St., Central. \$300 includes a glass of wine.

Cross-Cultural Love

A discussion about expats getting with Chinese and Hongkongers. Yellow fever, anyone? Nov 8, 3:30pm. Gordon King Lecture Theatre, Hong Kong Museum of Medical Sciences, 2 Caine Lane, Central. \$200.

More info from www.festival.org.hk; Tickets from www.eventbrite.hk.

Edited by Adrienne Chum
adrienne.chum@hkmagmedia.com



The Hong Kong Arts Festival

The city's flagship arts festival may be three months away, but these tickets sell out fast—so if you see something you like, make sure to book ASAP.

La Verità

A circus performance with Compagnia Finzi Pasca, inspired by a Salvador Dali painting. Feb 19-20, 7:30pm; Feb 20-21, 2:30pm. Grand Theatre, Cultural Centre. \$180-620.

Chinese Lesson

A new drama about a Chinese teacher and six students about to take their college entrance exams. Feb 25-28. In Cantonese with English subtitles and adult content. Studio Theatre, Cultural Centre. \$160-240.

What's Become of You?

A flamenco story performance by guitarist and vocalist Aurélien Bory, accompanied by dancer Stéphanie Fuster and presented by Compagnie 111. Feb 26-28. Theatre, HK City Hall. \$180-380.

BigMouth; SmallWaR

Two one-man shows by actor Valentijn Dhaenens about speeches and rhetoric. Mar 1-5. Studio Theatre, Cultural Centre. \$200-300.

King and Country

Shakespeare's "King Henry" series is brought to life courtesy of the Royal Shakespeare Company. Once more unto the breach... Mar 4-13. Lyric Theatre, HKAPA. \$200-680.

St Matthew Passion

Classic Bach for classical ears. Mar 5, 7pm. Concert Hall, Cultural Centre. \$300-980.



Jockey Club Local Creative Talents Series: Danz Up

A new dance drama with lots of poppin' and lockin'. Mar 5-13. Auditorium, Kwai Tsing Theatre. \$140-240.



The Pianist

A family-friendly circus performance with Circo Aereo, Thomas Monckton, and a grand piano. Mar 11-12. Theatre, HK City Hall. \$180-240.

Opus: A Physical Music Theatre

A music and circus crossover by Circo, with the music of Shostakovich, Yaron Lifschitz and the Debussy String Quartet. Mar 11-13.

Debussy String Quartet

Famous for playing lots and lots of French music, although they're also breaking out some jazzy Bach. Mar 14-15, 8pm. Concert Hall, City Hall. \$120-320.

Check out www.hk.artsfestival.org for tickets and the full schedule.

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60 SECONDS WITH... JANETTE SLACK



Photo: AABMW



Hong Kong-born, jet-setting DJ **Janette Slack** launches her newest release, "Lost EP," with a gig at Fly on October 24. She tells Evelyn Lok about the new record and having a good cry.

HK Magazine: So, what's new in this EP?

Janette Slack: It's a track I wrote a while ago during a break up and it's finally seeing the light of day. It's completely instrumental, self-made, without a vocal: So no collaboration, unlike the others.

HK: What does it bring to your overall sound?

JS: This track is more of a piece where I was just expressing myself and venting a bit, so I wouldn't say it's a "hit the dancefloor" sort of thing. But the remixes [by Ben Remember and BreaksMafia] make it more dance-floor-friendly and are very current in what's going on in electronic music today.

HK: How's Hong Kong been treating you, almost two years after moving back?

JS: It really has been such a trip being back! I really do think it's

any artist's dream come true to go back to the town you grew up in and find that it's got so much going on—somewhere you can continue to be yourself and grow as an artist. I thought I was going to have to start from scratch again, but Hong Kong has been so good to me. The transition was tough for the first year as I missed London so much—I was there for 15 years and built my own family, so it does take time to adjust. It's just wonderful to be close to my folks again. They come to a lot of my gigs, which is something neither I nor they got to experience before.

HK: Drink of choice?

JS: Banana, mango and strawberry smoothie! Any day!

HK: Favorite musician of late?

JS: It will always be Trent Reznor, but lately I've really gotten into Ratatat. I'm looking forward to seeing them perform at Clockenflap.

HK: Favorite ice cream flavor?

JS: Cookies and cream—is there another?

HK: Do you consider DJing "work?" What's the first thing you like to do after a long day (or night)?

JS: Yes, DJing is work. But it's work I enjoy. After a long day or night, I do like to unwind by preparing a meal, then watching a good old film or documentary that will most likely make me cry whilst cuddling my man.

Janette Slack launches "Lost EP" at Fly on Oct 24, 10pm. 24-30 Ice House St., Central, 2810-9902. \$250 at the door, including two drinks and two shots.

Clubs

Darius at Vibes

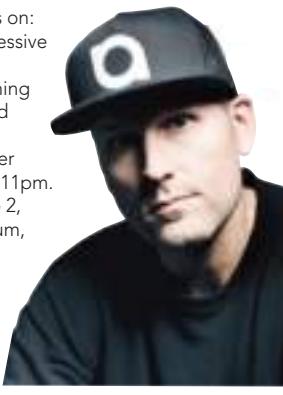
Some fresh Parisian blood comes our way: DJ-slash-producer Darius brings his own particular brand of up-tempo disco funk and house to Vibes. Oct 23, 9pm. Vibes, 5/F, The Mira Hong Kong, 118 Nathan Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, 2315-5999. \$150 from www.themirahotel.com, includes one drink.

Janette Slack: Lost EP

After an epic "smooth criminal"-themed night at Fly three months ago, the Hong Kong-born DJ and label boss Janette Slack returns with a new EP launch, promising heavier bass pumping beats on top of her rock, funk and swing-infused dance tunes. Oct 24, 10pm. Fly, G/F, 24-30 Ice House St., Central, 2810-9902. \$250 at the door; includes two drinks and two shots.

Kaskade

Keep your pants on: American progressive house legend Kaskade is spinning at Bungalow. Did you know he's Mormon? Neither did we. Nov 19, 11pm. Bungalow, Shop 2, G/F, The Centrium, 60 Wyndham St., Central, 2623-7868. \$500 from www.eventbrite.com, \$650 at the door.



Festivals



Hong Kong Wine & Dine Month

Some next-level indulging coming through: The yearly boozy and glutton-fest that is the Hong Kong Wine & Dine Festival has expanded to a full Wine & Dine Month, featuring street carnivals aplenty alongside the signature four-day affair (Oct 22-25). You'll get to taste-test wines, wine-paired dishes and all the foie gras and pizza cones you can stomach from across 11 areas at the Central Harbourfront. Get hungry. Through Nov 30. Central Harbourfront Event Space, 9 Lung Wo Rd., Central. \$200-1,000 from www.cityline.com.

Dirty Boogie Rockabilly Festival

Slick your hair back and get your 50s on: The Dirty Boogie Rockabilly Festival is in town. Four bands including Los Rizlaz from Japan, The Bempol Rockers from the Philippines, and Hong Kong's own Boogie Playboys and Miss Cathy will be gracing the stage. There'll be a live tattoo station from the guys at Star Crossed Tattoo and live hairstyling workshop as well. Be sure to dress the part... Nov 14, 8pm. Grappa's Cellar, UG/F, Jardine House, 1 Connaught Place, Central, 2521-2322. \$260-280 from www.ticketflap.com.

Gigs



The Singleton Discovery Series: Harts

House of Mercury is back for round two: Teaming up with The Singleton single malt whisky to bring curated concerts to the SAR, they're bringing Melbourne singer-songwriter/multi-instrumentalist/musical renaissance man Harts, who plays a mix of dance-tinged alt-rock, electro indie, funk and more... seriously, what can't he do? Doors open 8pm. Oct 28, 9pm. Loft 22, 22/F, California Tower, 30-36 D'Aguilar St., Central. \$420-480 from www.ticketflap.com.

Stranded Whale: Northern Tower Launch

Indie folk rock band Stranded Whale launches their debut album "Northern Tower," in a gig supported by singer-songwriter Subyub Lee. The group takes its name from a song written by frontman Jabin Law, "Killer Whale," about a doomed stranded whale who sees freedom in his inevitable demise. This is going to be a really cheery gig, guys. Nov 6, 8pm. VS Media, Unit A & C, 7/F, First Group Centre, 14 Wang Tai Rd., Kowloon Bay. \$130-200 in advance from www.lumdums.com; \$160-230 at the door. Expensive tickets come with CD; All include food and drink.

Halloween Parties

Fly Presents: Candyland Terror

Bring your sweet tooth to Fly come All Hallow's Eve for a night of blood-themed candy, shots and "endless liquor." And by endless liquor they mean two shots and two drinks. Oct 31, 10pm. Fly, G/F, 24-30 Ice House St., Central, 2810-9902. \$300 at the door.

Glow Job Party

Get your biohazard masks and glow paint guns ready for Holy Crab's free-flow, apocalypse-themed Halloween bash on Friday night. Although come to think of it: If you could shine a blacklight on LKF, you'd probably want to keep a hazmat suit on too. Oct 30, 9pm. Holy Crab, 3/F, Cosmos Building, 8-11 Lan Kwai Fong, Central, 2110-0100. \$300 for ladies (\$500 for two), \$400 for gents in advance from info@holycrab.com.hk; \$400-500 at the door.

22 Ships Halloween

Need dinner on Halloween night, and some liquid courage? Free shots will be bestowed on any diner eating in costume. Oct 31, 6pm. 22 Ships, 22 Ship St., Wan Chai, 2555-0722.



FuFu: Black Magic Voodoo

Mahalo Tiki Lounge brings a touch of black magic voodoo to town this Halloween. Dress code is "New Orleans voodoo," which probably means top hats and skull paint. Or a sexy, powdery, undead beignet? Oct 31, 8pm. Mahalo Tiki Lounge, 29/F, QRE Plaza, 202 Queen's Rd. East, Wan Chai, 2488-8750. \$200-250 from www.ticketflap.com, \$300 at the door; all include one drink.



Edited by Evelyn Lok
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Cé La Vi: Angels & Demons
Don your halos and horns to celebrate Halloween at the very top of LKF, with tunes supplied by Cé La Vi's resident DJs Yeodie & Samir. Get your tickets quick, because as the club aptly points out, the only thing scarier than Halloween is not getting on the guest list. Oct 31, 9pm. Cé La Vi, 24-26/F, California Tower, 32 D'Aguilar St., Central, 3700-2300. \$500 from hk.celavi.com, includes two drinks.



Ham & Scary Halloween Party
Are you the kind of person who gets really excited about pumpkin spice this time of year? Ham & Sherry's got a list of Halloween themed drinks available all night, including a "spiced pumpkin Jack-o-lantern" and "trick-or-treat" shots—plus, a \$2,000 bar tab will be given to the best dressed of the night. Oct 31, 9:30pm. Ham & Sherry, G/F, 1-7 Ship St., Wan Chai, 2555-0628. Free entry.

Disco Drag Queen at Mrs. Pound
Celebrating its one-year anniversary on top of a Halloween bash, Mrs. Pound is holding a fabulous drag do complete with a drag make-up workshop, performance and queen costume contest. Tickets include two drinks and ice luge shots. You'll have to supply your own fabulous. Oct 31, 9:30pm. Mrs. Pound, 6 Pound Lane, Sheung Wan, 3426-3949. \$360-400 from www.ticketflap.com.



Return of the Living Dead
Want to party with a group of K-pop girls? Bet you do. Lupa's hosting Seoul's tiny-shorts-clad dream team Bambino this Halloween, with two rooms to twerk in: one for EDM and one for K-pop/Hip Hop. There's a costume competition with a grand prize for those dressing as a dead celeb. Steve Jobs didn't die just so you could desecrate the turtleneck though. Dinner packages available from 8:30pm. Oct 31, 9:30pm. Lupa, 3/F, LHT Tower, 31 Queen's Rd. Central, 2796-6500. \$388-488 from eventbrite.com, table packages from \$3,888.



HK PICKS

Dead and Famous
Brickhouse's Halloween bash returns: Get your fill of free-flow Mexican beers, themed cocktails, ice luge shots and assorted tacos, as you party with other dead celeb-lookalikes. Best dressed wins \$10,000 worth of Brickhouse spending credit. Which probably only buys you like two plates of their tacos on a normal day, but why not? Oct 31, 7pm. Brickhouse, G/F, 20A D'Aguilar St., Central, 2810-0560. \$550 from www.ticketflap.com.

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Sicario ****

(USA) Crime/Thriller. Directed by Denis Villeneuve.

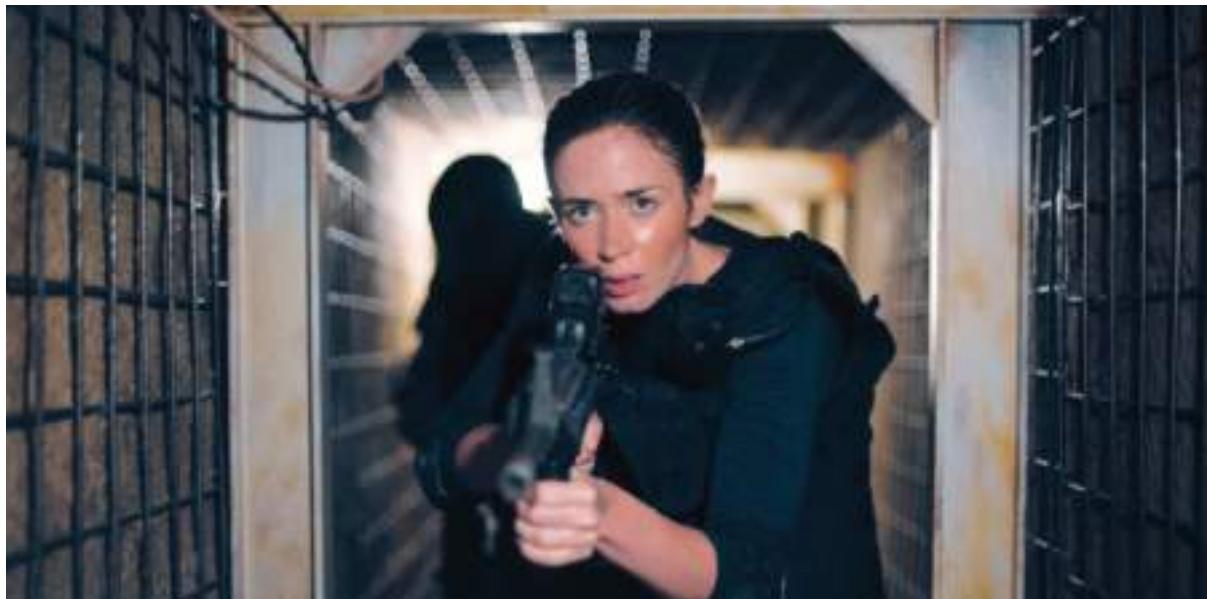
Starring Emily Blunt, Benicio Del Toro, Josh Brolin.

Category IIB. 122 minutes. Opened Oct 15.

In Mexico, sicario means hitman. But "Sicario" is much more than a movie about hired assassins. In fact, it's merely a small afterthought weaved into a far less glorified portrayal of the US-Mexican war on drug trafficking. As much as "Sicario" packs on the big guns, it's far more of a deeply psychological movie about mind games, morality and patient, poisonous revenge—and the best thing about it, it's a crime thriller balanced out by a female protagonist who drives the whole show.

Emily Blunt easily steals the spotlight as a FBI agent who's part of the pursuit of a Mexican drug lord. Eager to contribute results after witnessing major casualties during a cartel kidnapping raid, FBI tactics and weapons division leader Kate Macer (Blunt), a woman rising in the ranks of a male-dominated field, is transferred as a consultant of sorts to work with the CIA in taking down the man responsible for the crimes.

We're no stranger to Blunt portraying highly competent, badass heroines, but she brings an edge of believable vulnerability to her diligent and powerful, but equally insecure and quietly observant character—and it's one of the best things about the film. "Sicario" is a character-led film that deliciously exposes the shadowplay within the world of drug cartels through her eyes; she is a lamb in a den of wolves, ordered to absorb the new information rather than act on it, and her uncertainty as to where she stands is crucial to the unfolding of the story. Like the audience, she is thrown into the case with no prior preparation, and her composure slowly disintegrates throughout the course of the film as she is taken



in and out of Mexico, from the backstreets of Juarez to El Paso, Texas and back.

As Kate attempts to maintain her by-the-book morality, with her are CIA officer Matt Graver (Josh Brolin) and Colombian consultant Alejandro (Benicio del Toro), men who have to play dirty in a dangerous game of cat and mouse against the thugs, corrupt Mexican forces and crime bosses pulling all the strings. Like Kate, you're never really sure who to trust. Benicio del Toro's performance is particularly notable: He plays a silent, mysterious man who has his own agenda within the larger scheme.

Sicario's tight and tension-filled execution will have you watching with bated breath. At the crucial moments it unfolds

excruciatingly slowly, in the best kind of way. There are also technicalities that will make cinema geeks blush; a particularly long scene leading to the film's climax is shot at night with a real thermal vision camera.

"Sicario" is the kind of movie where the main character's point of view melds seamlessly with the cinematography. Kate's increasing distrust and almost crippling anxiety is conveyed perfectly, until the very end where we are left as spent and traumatized as the agent herself. The deep exhale you take as the credits roll will be one of the most satisfying feelings in the world. **Evelyn Lok**

Coming Soon

Are You Here

(Hong Kong) 'Tis the season for Hong Kong ghost stories. Hong Kong horror vets Nina Paw, Helena Law and Susan Shaw (wouldn't they be great as witch sisters?) ouja it up when a group of college students attempts to launch an online game all about the occult. Opens Oct 29.

Black Mass ▼

(USA) Johnny Depp dons yet more creepy makeup, but in a different vein to his boring Tim Burton. He is James "Whitey" Bulger, the kingpin of the Irish-American Winter Hill gang in the 70s, who rose to power through a notorious FBI alliance in exchange for intel to take down the Italian mafia. Based on true events as well as a 2001 novel of the same name. Opens Oct 29.

Boulevard

(USA) In Robin Williams' final film appearance, he plays a married man who discovers his suppressed sexual identity when he meets a young male prostitute. But instead of paying him for sex, he only looks for gentle companionship. What could go wrong? Opens Oct 29.

Scouts Guide to the Zombie Apocalypse

(USA) Exactly what it says on the tin: What happens when three dweeby scouts find their town completely deserted at the onset of a zombie apocalypse? They team up with a cocktail waitress to take down the unruly undead... presumably with lots of impressive, intricate knotwork. Opens Oct 29.

Opening

Bridge of Spies

(USA) This historical thriller's got the big names of Spielberg and the Coen Brothers behind it: It focuses on Brooklyn lawyer James B. Donovan (Tom Hanks), who finds himself at the center of Cold War negotiations when he's enlisted to help secure the release of a U-2 spy plane pilot who was shot down and captured in the Soviet Union. Opens Oct 22.

Flying Colors

(Japan) Based on a true story, blond-haired rebel chick Sayaka Kudo is struggling in her sophomore year of high school, so she's forced to go to a cram school to prepare for university entrance exams. The school's director makes it his personal mission to get her into the notoriously selective Keio University... Opened Oct 22.



The Crossing II

(China/Hong Kong) Takeshi Kaneshiro, Zhang Ziyi, Song Hye-kyo and Tong Dawei return in part two of John Woo's cross-strait "Titanic" epic. The lives of three couples in war-torn Japan, Taiwan and Shanghai coincide as they flee aboard the Keelung-bound Taiping Lun, a passenger ship that sank in 1949 leaving over a thousand dead. Opened Oct 22.

Continuing

Crimson Peak

(USA) Guillermo del Toro ("Pan's Labyrinth") returns to his dark fantasy schtick with this romantic horror story set in 19th-century Cumbria. A young woman (Mia Wasikowska) falls for a nobleman (Tom Hiddleston) and is swept away to his ancient mansion, only to find the house harbors secrets clawing for release... obviously. Looking for a corny-on-purpose, intrepid haunted mystery? Go for it. **★★★**

Tangerine

(USA) Sean Baker returns after "Starlet," last year's delightful tale about the secret life of a porn actress, with another quirky story set in sunny Los Angeles, centering on two transsexual sex workers and best friends who teach a cheating boyfriend a lesson on Christmas Eve. Thanks to rising star cinematographer Radium Cheung, it was shot completely on an iPhone 5S. Could you have done it yourself? Opened Oct 22.

Wong Ka Yan

(Hong Kong) As a child, Peng Chau native Chun Yin fell in love with a girl through a chance meeting, but all he knows about her is her name, Wong Ka Yan. Now a grown adult, he keeps up the search for her despite overwhelming odds. Guess she doesn't live on Peng Chau, then? Opened Oct 22.

Hong Kong Trilogy:

Preschooled, Preoccupied, Preposterous (Hong Kong) Christopher Doyle's latest work is a three-part movie that weaves in the voices of three generations in Hong Kong: "preschooled" schoolkids, unsatisfied "preoccupied" youth and the "preposterous" elderly. It's one of the first features to cast a spotlight on the Occupy movement, filming and interviewing those who were involved as it unfolded last year. **★★★**

The Intern

(USA) 70-year-old widower Ben Whittaker (Robert De Niro) rebuffs retirement and decides to intern at an online fashion site, headed by Jules Oshin (Anne Hathaway). Directed by Nancy Meyers ("The Parent Trap"), it's a cheesy feel-good flick of the best kind. **★★★**

I Am Somebody

(China) Set in Zhejiang province's Hengdian, dubbed "The Hollywood of the East" for housing the monumental Hengdian World Studios, a group of young extras chase their dreams to become the next big thing.





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The Metroplex, 2620-2200
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Love & Mercy

(USA) Paul Dano and John Cusack play the younger and older Brian Wilson, the musical mastermind behind The Beach Boys. It's a tale that divulges the darker side of the band's sunny sounds, cementing Wilson's status as one of the most respected musicians of the century, and is a cathartic, heartfelt story told well. ★★★★

The Martian

(USA) During a mission on Mars, a team of astronauts leaves Mark Watney (Damon) behind after a fierce storm hits, presuming him dead. Mark must find his own way to survive on scarce supplies, while the team brews up their own mission to bring him back. It's the third stranded astronaut story to come in recent years, but this one is a lighthearted take on an otherwise harrowing genre. ★★★★

Our Little Sister

(Japan) Japan's most anticipated film of the year is about three adult sisters who live in the old seaside town of Kamakura, joined by their 14-year-old half-sister after their father passes away. It's a gentle drama about love, pain and laughter as the sisters spend the changing seasons together. Sounds like a kaiseki feast for the eyes.

Pan

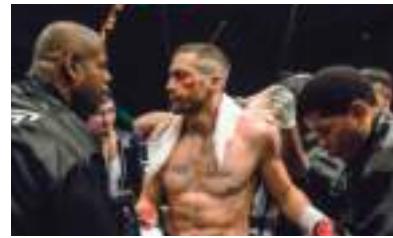
(UK/USA) In a reimagined tale, Peter is a 12-year-old who is snatched from a London orphanage and finds himself in the magical world of Neverland. A heartwarming new take on Peter Pan's story, but not without a few touches of cheese. ★★★

Saving Mr. Wu

(China/Hong Kong) Police are on a high profile case when Chinese celebrity Mr. Wu (Andy Lau) is kidnapped by thugs disguised as the police. It's based on the real-life kidnapping of Wu Ruofu, who also stars. Could it be? A Chinese meta-meta-crime thriller?

Sicario

(USA) See review, opposite.



Southpaw

(USA) Jake Gyllenhaal beefs up as Billy "The Great" Hope, a boxing champ living the life—until he hits rock bottom. In a dingy town gym, he seeks out unlikely mentor and former fighter Tick Willis (Forest Whitaker) to help him get his life back on track.

The Walk

(USA) Robert Zemeckis ("Back to the Future") brings Philippe Petit's 1974 daring tightrope dance across the Twin Towers to the screen, in full IMAX glory. Joseph Gordon-Levitt plays Petit, who turns out to be a bit of a dick. But the drama, artistic tension, and genuine life lessons are definitely worth your time. ★★★

Film Festivals

Amnesty International Hong Kong Human Rights Documentary Festival
Amnesty International's annual docu fest returns for its fifth iteration, this year opening with "Malala: The Girl from Paradise"—the first documentary about Malala Yousafzai, aka the most inspiring 16-year-old ever, whose demand for the right to education got her shot by the Taliban. Also don't miss "Kid Power," a collection of shorts showcasing the way kids around the world strive to change their society and their future. Other films contend with issues of national identity, the teaching of history in countries under conflict, as well as the recovery from war and torture. Through Nov 1. The Grand Cinema, 2/F, Elements, 1 Austin Rd. West, West Kowloon, 2196-8170. \$65-100 from www.thegrandcinema.com.hk.

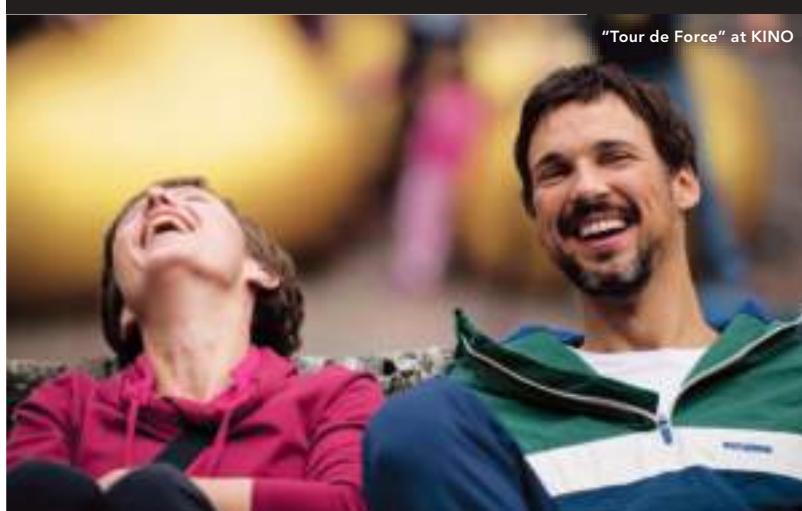
KINO

Film buffs who want to know the latest trends in German cinema can catch these 10 recent movies. With the heavy focus in recent news on refugee crises around the world, this year's KINO 2015 opens with "We are Young. We are Strong," which recounts the violent xenophobic riots that took place in Rostock in 1992, directed by Afghan-German director Burhan Qurbani. Through Nov 2. Screenings are at the Arts Centre, Science Museum and The Grand Cinema. \$40-80 from www.urbtix.hk and www.thegrandcinema.com.hk.

Chinese Film Panorama

First launched in 1997, this film festival showcases the best of mainland cinema. Coinciding with this year's totally racist holiday to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the victory against Japan, the opening film is recent war epic "Hundred Regiments Campaign." Other noteworthy flicks include a tribute to film extras with dreams of stardom in "I Am Somebody," road trip romp "The Continent" and a drama about a couple struggling to survive in Chongqing, "Forgetting to Know You." Through Nov 20. Various screening locations. \$55 from www.urbtix.hk. www.lcsd.gov.hk/fp.

"Tour de Force" at KINO



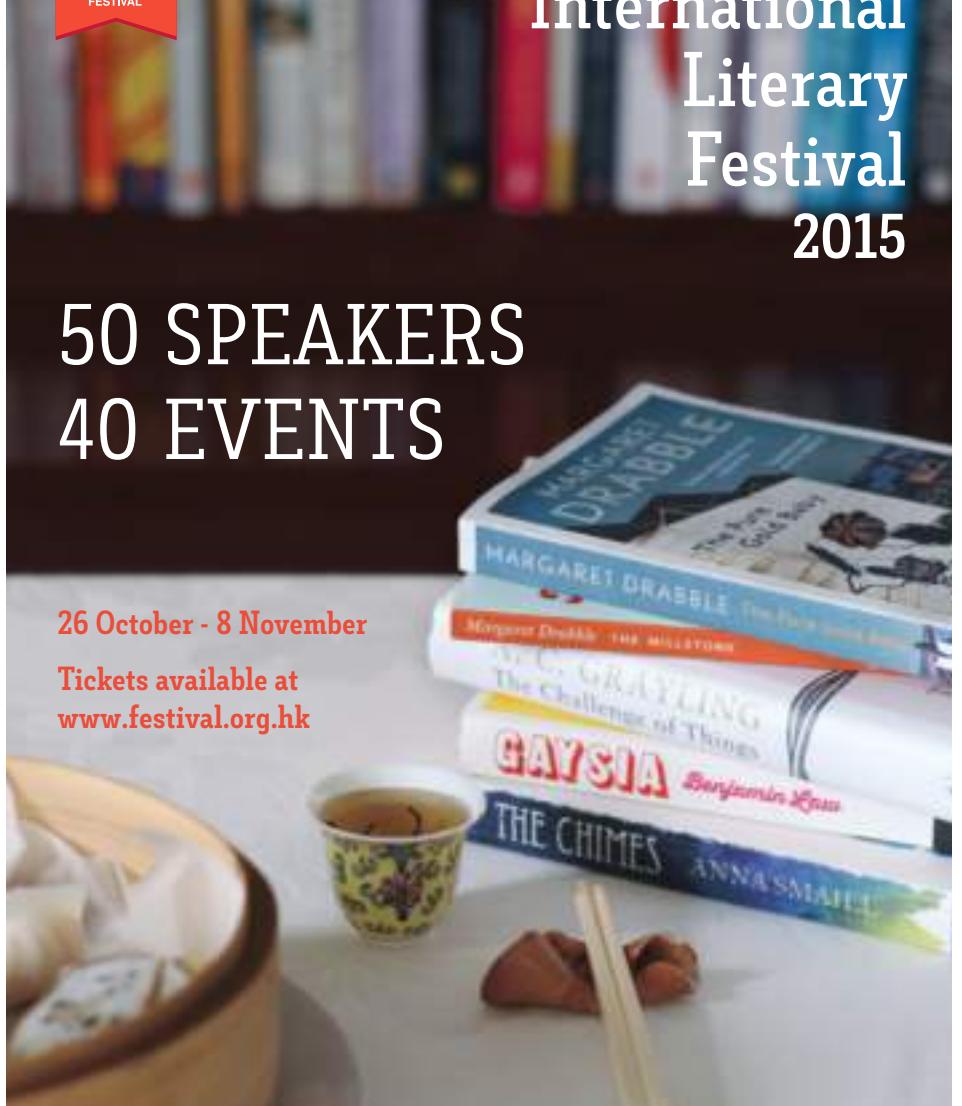


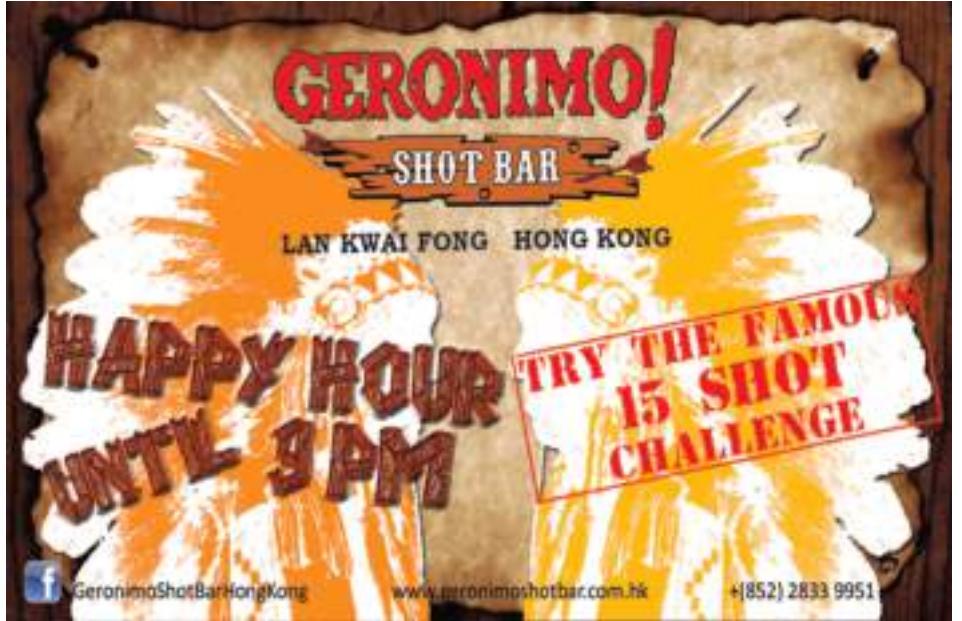
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FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

ROB BREZSNY

SCORPIO (Oct 23-Nov 21): Are you an inventor? Is it your specialty to create novel gadgets and machines? Probably not. But in the coming weeks you may have metaphorical resemblances to an inventor. I suspect you will have an enhanced ability to dream up original approaches and find alternatives to conventional wisdom. You may surprise yourself with your knack for finding ingenious solutions to long-standing dilemmas. To prime your instincts, I'll provide three thoughts from inventor Thomas Edison.

1. "To invent, you need a good imagination and a pile of junk."
2. "Just because something doesn't do what you planned it to do doesn't mean it's useless."
3. "Everything comes to those who hustle while they wait."

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22-Dec 21): Some unraveling is inevitable. What has been woven together must now be partially unwoven. But please refrain from thinking of this mysterious development as a setback. Instead, consider it an opportunity to reexamine and redo any work that was a bit hasty or sloppy. Be glad you will get a second chance to fix and refine what wasn't done quite right the first time. In fact, I suggest you preside over the unraveling yourself. Don't wait for random fate to accomplish it. And for best results, formulate an intention to regard everything that transpires as a blessing.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 19): "A waterfall would be more impressive if it flowed the other way," said Irish author Oscar Wilde. I appreciate the wit, but don't agree with him. A plain old ordinary waterfall, with foamy surges continually plummeting over a precipice and crashing below, is sufficiently impressive for me. What about you, Capricorn? In the coming days, will you be impatient and frustrated with plain old ordinary marvels and wonders? Or will you be able to enjoy them just as they are?

AQUARIUS (Jan 20-Feb 18): Years ago, I moved into a rental house with my new girlfriend, whom I had known for six weeks. As we fell asleep the first night, a song played in my head: "Nature's Way," by the band Spirit. I barely knew it and had rarely thought of it before. And yet there it was, repeating its first line over and over: "It's nature's way of telling you something's wrong." Being a magical thinker, I wondered if my unconscious mind was telling me a secret about my love. But I rejected that possibility; it was too painful to contemplate. When we broke up a few months later, however, I wished I had paid attention to that early alert. I mention this, Aquarius, because I suspect your unconscious mind will soon provide you with a wealth of useful information, not just through song lyrics but other subtle signals, as well. Listen up! At least some of it will be good news, not cautionary like mine.

PISCES (Feb 19-Mar 20): When I advise you to GET NAKED, I don't mean it in a literal sense. Yes, I will applaud if you're willing to experiment with brave acts of self-revelation. I will approve of you taking risks for the sake of the raw truth. But getting arrested for indecent exposure might compromise your ability to carry out those noble acts. So, no, don't actually take off all your

clothes and wander through the streets. Instead, surprise everyone with brilliant acts of surrender and vulnerability. Gently and sweetly and poetically tell the Purveyors of Unholy Repression to take their boredom machine and shove it up their humdrum.

ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 19): According to the online etymological dictionary, the verb "fascinate" entered the English language in the 16th century. It was derived from the Middle French *fasciner* and the Latin *fascinatus*, which are translated as "bewitch, enchant, put under a spell." In the 19th century, "fascinate" expanded in meaning to include "delight, attract, hold the attention of." I suspect you will soon have experiences that could activate both senses of "fascinate." My advice is to get the most out of your delightful attractions without slipping into bewitchment. Is that even possible? It will require you to exercise fine discernment, but yes, it is.

TAURUS (Apr 20-May 20): One of the largest machines in the world is a "bucket wheel excavator" in Kazakhstan. It's a saw that weighs 45,000 tons and has a blade the size of a four-story building. If you want to slice through a mountain, it's perfect for the job. Indeed, that's what it's used for over in Kazakhstan. Right now, Taurus, I picture you as having a metaphorical version of this equipment. That's because I think you have the power to rip open a clearing through a massive obstruction that has been in your way.

GEMINI (May 21-Jun 20): Filmmaker Alfred Hitchcock did a daily ritual to remind him of life's impermanence. After drinking his tea each morning, he flung both cup and saucer over his shoulder, allowing them to smash on the floor. I don't recommend that you adopt a comparable custom for long-term use, but it might be healthy and interesting to do so for now. Are you willing to outgrow and escape your old containers? Would you consider diverging from formulas that have always worked for you? Are there any unnecessary taboos that need to be broken? Experiment with the possible blessings that might come by not clinging to the illusion of "permanence."

CANCER (Jun 21-Jul 22): Terence was a comic playwright in ancient Rome. He spoke of love in ways that sound modern. It can be capricious and weird, he said. It may provoke indignities and rouse difficult emotions. Are you



skilled at debate? Love requires you to engage in strenuous discussions. Peace may break out in the midst of war, and vice versa. Terence's conclusion: If you seek counsel regarding the arts of love, you may as well be asking for advice on how to go mad. I won't argue with him. He makes good points. But I suspect that in the coming weeks you will be excused from most of those crazy-making aspects. The sweet and smooth sides of love will predominate. Uplift and inspiration are more likely than angst and bewilderment. Take advantage of the grace period! Put chaos control measures in place for the next time Terence's version of love returns.

LEO (Jul 23-Aug 22): In the coming weeks, you will have a special relationship with the night. When the sun goes down, your intelligence will intensify, as will your knack for knowing what's really important and what's not. In the darkness, you will have an enhanced capacity to make sense of murky matters lurking in the shadows. You will be able to penetrate deeper than usual, and get to the bottom of secrets and mysteries that have kept you off-balance. Even your grimy fears may be transformable if you approach them with a passion for redemption.

VIRGO (Aug 23-Sep 22): New friends and unexpected teachers are in your vicinity, with more candidates on the way. There may even be potential comrades who could eventually become flexible collaborators and catalytic guides. Will you be available for the openings they offer? Will you receive them with fire in your heart and mirth in your eyes? I worry that you may not be ready if you are too preoccupied with old friends and familiar teachers. So please make room for surprises.

LIBRA (Sep 23-Oct 22): More than any other sign, you have an ability to detach yourself from life's flow and analyze its complexities with cool objectivity. This is mostly a good thing. It enhances your power to make rational decisions. On the other hand, it sometimes devolves into a liability. You may become so invested in your role as observer that you refrain from diving into life's flow. You hold yourself apart from it, avoiding both its messiness and vitality. But I don't foresee this being a problem in the coming weeks. In fact, I bet you will be a savvy watcher even as you're almost fully immersed in the dynamic flux.

HOMEWORK: Send pictures of your favorite scarecrows or descriptions of your dreams of protection to me at Truthrooster@gmail.com.

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SAVAGE LOVE

Dan Savage

I'm a straight guy, married for 16 years, kids in school. My wife cannot find a way to be intimate with me. We've had therapy individually and together. I nearly divorced her, but we decided to stay together—we do love each other, and the economics and child-rearing favor it. After I asked for a divorce, she fucked the shit out of me for the first time in 10 years. That was the last time she fucked me. She's "broken"—her word, not mine, and her final answer. When the subject of affairs came up in the past, she said, "I wouldn't blame you." I could jack off only so many times before I cracked. I went online and met a very sexual woman with a strictly NSA thing for married men, and we fucked. I plan on doing it again. I know this could go all kinds of bad ways, but divorce just isn't realistic. We had that one conversation, but we do not have an explicit understanding. I don't want to head into my 50s with 10-plus years of celibacy behind me and decades of celibacy ahead of me. But I want to keep my marriage. Which kind of idiot am I?
—Help Understanding Boundary-Breaking Yearnings

If I were required to answer particular types of questions based on the percentage of the mail they constitute, I would answer two questions like yours every week, HUBBY. The majority of the mail I receive is from unhappy people in sexless marriages they either don't want to end (they have kids, they do love each other, everything besides the sex is working) or can't afford to end (they don't have enough money for lawyers or two households, one depends on the other for income/health insurance/caregiving).

So which kind of idiot are you? The most common kind, I'm afraid.

I'm going to take a break from questions like these—from questions like yours, HUBBY—because I'm sick of the subject and my regular readers must be, too. But for you, HUBBY, and one last time, here's my advice for people in your situation: Do what you gotta do to stay married and stay sane. Have a convo with the wife about the accommodation you require—permission to get it elsewhere—to stay in the marriage. Reassure her that you're prepared to spend the rest of your life with her while emphasizing that you refuse to be celibate for the rest of your life. So every now and then, for your own sanity, and for the greater good, you're going to have sex with other women. You'll do it discreetly, rarely, and NSA-ly, but you're gonna do it. If this isn't something your wife can accept, HUBBY, then your only other option is divorce.

These are things I (28, gay, male, single) did last night, and they show how fucked up I am. (1) I hooked up with a guy off Craigslist. It was lame, he wasn't cute, I was bored. (2) I came home and went on Tinder (which says I'm looking for an LTR, despite that hookup). I saw a guy from the gym—but he didn't swipe right, and I was devastated. (3) I went online and sold a pair of my used undies. I don't know what I'm doing with my life. I could use some advice. I'm sure what you say won't be nearly as bad as what the voice inside my head is yelling at me.
—What Is My Life?

1. I hooked up with this dude once, and it happened so fast—and it was so sleazy—that I had to fish his driver's license out of his wallet when he was in the shower because I couldn't remember his name. And that sleazy hookup

led to a relationship so good that I wound up marrying sleazy hookup dude. Twice. So in my experience, WIML, and the experiences of millions of other people in LTRs with people they fucked the first time they met, hooking up isn't proof that someone isn't looking for an LTR. So that underwhelming hookup doesn't make you a hypocrite, okay?

2. Gym dude isn't into you—just like you weren't into the dude you hooked up with last night. Are you into every dude you see at your gym? No. Do you swipe right on every dude you see on Tinder? No. So last night you got rejected quickly and impersonally—Tinder-style—but you've dished out that kind of rejection too. Don't be a hypocritical baby about it, okay?

3. You made an underpants perv very happy, WIML, and you made yourself a little money. Nobody was lied to or misled, no one got hurt, and the total amount of joy in the world ticked up slightly. You have nothing to be ashamed of, okay?

One eventual night does not an out-of-control sleazebag make. But if you feel out of control, WIML, take things slower. Resolve to be a bit choosier about who you hook up with, remind yourself to be grown-up about rejection when it comes your way, and refrain from kink-shaming yourself the next time you make an underpants perv's day.

I've come into professional contact with a respected and successful artist. She is a woman in her 60s; I am a man in my 40s. I'm really attracted to women who are strong, talented, and smart. She's all that, and funny. I've never been attracted to someone that much older than myself. Nobody bats an eye when a guy gets with a woman who is 20 years younger, but how do I pursue her without her thinking I have some creepy fetish? Am I a creep? I don't think so. I'm pretty average, I have an unusual but boring job developing woodworking tools, and I don't have any kinks or fetishes to speak of. I've gone out of my way to make her feel special on several occasions, but it has only caused her to remark on my great customer service—and not in a flirty way. How can I let her know that I want to move into something else besides a professional relationship without creeping her out?
—She Makes A Real Turn-on

Set aside the age difference, and how you met, and those sexist and dehumanizing double standards. (An older man with a younger woman is an attractive guy with game, an older woman with a younger man is a fetish object with no self-respect.) Set all that aside, SMART, and what do we have left? Person A is attracted to Person B; Person A doesn't know how Person B feels, so Person A has to hit on Person B. Even if Person A does their best to mitigate the risks of creeping out Person B—Person A is polite, respectful, and does their hitting on by "asking out" not by "lunging at"—the risk cannot be entirely eliminated.

Your best bet, SMART, is to be unambiguously direct with her ("I think you're great, and I'd love to take you out on a date") and to invite her to be unambiguously direct with you ("If you're not interested, just say no—I'm a grown-up and I can handle rejection"). And if she's squicked out by the age difference or wonders if you're a fetishist, urge her to google the term "sapiosexual."

On the Lovecast, get kinky with Mollena Williams, aka the Perverted Negress: savagelovecast.com.

Find the Savage Lovecast (my weekly podcast) every Tuesday at thestranger.com/savage.mail@savagelove.net

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The five-night event will see eight talented Michelin-starred master chefs cooking up special one-week-only menus for guests who attend the festival being held in Hong Kong, Paris, Bangkok, Singapore and Shanghai.

No other hotel group has taken the "Guest Chef" idea to such heights, but it's already destined to become a winner.

Leading the impressive array of master chefs will be Mok Kit-keung, from Michelin two-starred Shang Palace, at Kowloon Shangri-La Hong Kong.

He will be conjuring up his own unique brand of culinary magic, showcasing a special menu influenced by his traditional Cantonese training. A multi-award winner, Chef Mok has spent two decades in Singapore before taking over as Executive Chinese Chef at Shang Palace.

Meanwhile, Argentinean chef Mauro Colagreco of the two-starred Mirazur will serve up his fine Mediterranean cuisine at Restaurant Petrus, while Ip Chi-cheung, of the Michelin two-starred Summer Palace at the Island Shangri-La, will present his exquisite Cantonese fare.



The five other chefs headlining the festival are Enrico Bartolini, from the two Michelin-starred Devero Restaurant; Massimo Bottura, from Modena, Italy, of the Michelin three-starred Osteria Francescana; Christophe Moret, of the Michelin-starred L'Abeille at Shangri-La Hotel, Paris; Giancarlo Perbellini, of the Michelin two-starred Casa Perbellini in Italy; and Samuel Lee Sum, of the Michelin-starred Shang Palace at Shangri-La Hotel, Paris. Between them, that's 15 stars—or three per day. Check out the event on **Oct 27-31**, at shangrilalovesfood.com.



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That's because the newest addition to Hong Kong's impressive catalogue of top-quality local hotels has just celebrated its first anniversary on October 10. But the celebrations don't stop there. The perfect 10 number theme will continue throughout the 10th month and into November as well, as the champagne keeps popping and the offers roll on.

Book a staycation now and a lucky few will get the chance to spend two nights at Southside's hottest getaway at a steal of a deal. The birthday offer of just \$1,010 + 10% for a two-night stay at this hip and happening warehouse conversion hotel in Wong Chuk Hang will remain in place until November 11. Rooms must be booked and used during the promotion period.

And that's not all. Ovolo Southside is giving away \$10,000 in cash, courtesy of a cash hunt competition. The treasure hunt will take place in Wong Chuk Hang on Sunday, October 25. Register now for your chance to win at ovolohotels.com.

End Beer Month with a... Beer, Obviously

The countdown is underway to what promises to be one of the best events of the year.

Traditionally, October is the time of the year when Hong Kong goes beer crazy, as the whole month turns into one giant beer festival.

But, as is often the case, the best has been saved for last. So get ready to enjoy the one-and-only SOHO east Pirate Bay Beer Party at the end of the month. There will be traditional music, a salty sea breeze in the air and cozy surroundings. And to

be extra certain that everyone has fun the pirate theme has been coupled with Halloween—so there's double the reason to celebrate.

There will be free alcoholic drinks and gifts for those who register in time, plus lots of competitions, including drinking challenges.

Check out the **SOHO east Pirate Bay Beer Party** on October 30 and 31, 6:30pm-10:30pm at SOHO east (Sai Wan Ho MTR Station, Exit A). RSVP is essential: visit sohoeast.com.hk/beerfest.



The American Club is Hong Kong's most prestigious private members club with a reputation of providing the highest quality of service and facilities. It is populated by one of the most international and affluent memberships anywhere in the world and is the only Club in Hong Kong with both Town (Central) and Country (Tai Tam) Clubhouses.

Our Food & Beverage Team across both clubhouses is looking for outstanding individuals with high levels of energy, enthusiasm, team work, excellent customer service skills and lots of personal initiative.

Culinary:

- Chef-de-Partie – Butchery (up to \$22,000)
- Chef-de-Partie, Demi Chef-de-Partie, Commis – Western Kitchen (\$13,500-\$18,500)
- Stewarding Attendants (up to \$11,000)

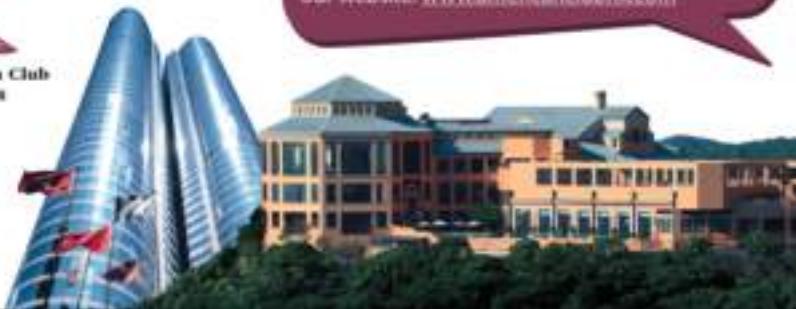
Service:

- Host/Hostess (up to \$15,000)
- Servers (up to \$13,000)
- Bartender (up to \$15,500)
- Captain/Assistant Captain (\$13,500-\$17,000)

Our Fitness and Recreation Team located in Tai Tam is also recruiting for the following vacancies:

- Fitness and Activities Coordinator (up to \$13,000)
- Lifeguard (up to \$15,000)

The American Club
Hong Kong



Apply now and join the team!

Send us a copy of your CV or if you would like to find out more please drop our HR team an email: hreamericanclubhk.com or give us a call on 2842 7438 or Whatsapp us on 9093 7658.

For more information about our Club please visit our website: www.americanclubhk.com



EDITORIAL CAREERS

HK Magazine Media Group – publisher of HK Magazine, The List, and the where® family of international travel publications, is looking to fill the following position in its Editorial Department:

SENIOR ASSOCIATE EDITOR

- A love of food, nightlife, people and all things Hong Kong.
- Strong editorial experience at a newspaper or magazine.
- Proficiency in Cantonese would be a significant advantage.

Interested parties, please send your cover letter and CV to adam.white@hkmagmedia.com



ADVERTISING CAREERS

HK Magazine Media Group – publisher of HK Magazine, The List, and the where® family of international travel publications, is looking to fill the following positions in its dynamic and exciting Advertising Department:

1. SENIOR ADVERTISING SALES EXECUTIVE

- 1-year experience in media sales; magazine advertising sales a great advantage
- Fluent in spoken and written Cantonese and English
- Attractive remuneration package and performance based commission

2. ADVERTISING SALES EXECUTIVE

- Positive attitude towards magazine advertising sales
- Fluent in spoken Cantonese and English
- Entry level. Fresh Graduates welcome; no experience necessary

Interested parties, please send your cover letter and CV to resume@hkmagmedia.com



ten feet tall is a relaxation sanctuary which aims to bring a slightly different foot / body massage experience to Hong Kong in an upscale environment with exotic and tropical ambience. We are looking for friendly and enthusiastic candidate to join our team.



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- Excellent guest interaction skills
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HK GIVEAWAYS

It's week three of our giveaways competition, and we're announcing the winners of our luxury hamper sets! Meanwhile, it's not too late to win a staycation to get away from it all. Read on to find out how, you lucky creature.



Win a two-night staycation at the Kowloon Shangri-La with dinner at Angelini, valued at over \$11,000!

Thanks to our generous friends at the Kowloon Shangri-La, we're giving away a **two-night stay in a Horizon Harbour View room for two**, including all Horizon Club benefits—valued at more than \$9,000. Luxury, free breakfast and a killer view of the island: Sounds pretty great to us.

As if that's not enough, we're also throwing in dinner for two valued at **\$2,000** at the hotel's **Angelini restaurant**, one of Hong Kong's most authentic Italian eateries.

Want to win? If you were reading for the last two weeks, you'll have already found two *italicized* words on the Spotlight pages of those issues. Now you have to do the same with this one! Got all three? Include them in a paragraph of no more than 30 words about what you'd do on your staycation at the Kowloon Shang. Go to hk-magazine.com/hk-giveaways to submit your entry before **10am on October 26, 2015**. The best, most convincing entry will win the top prize. Good luck! The winner will be announced on October 30.



Congrats to the lucky winners of a gourmet picnic spread for two from Invisible Kitchen!

Congratulations to Lee Kai-cheong, Elizabeth Hackney and Yulia Lapteva, who are the lucky winners of **gourmet picnic hampers for two, with a bottle of Moët & Chandon**, worth \$1,450 each.

Well done, you guys! Hope you enjoy the picnic. Can we come?

Not a lucky winner? Grab your own picnic basket from Invisible Kitchen instead (from \$395 per person), or go for one of their catering options. Check out invisiblekitchen.com for more.



WE HAVE
WINNERS!

FIRST PERSON

“Life is like a building. Every day different people come in and out. The people you encounter—it’s all fate.”

Tina Liu is one of Hong Kong's most notable media figures. She's been a fashion stylist, model, actress, magazine editor and image consultant. She's founded fashion boutiques, accessories stores and recently started selling tea eggs. She tells Isabelle Hon about multitasking, why she can't watch disaster movies and shares her thoughts on love and luck.



Photo: Tony Leung@Dot Workshop

I was born in Hong Kong. I grew up with a brother and a sister, with my mother single-handedly supporting our family.

I moved to Canada in 1974 for secondary education, and studied communications at university.

I already jumped into the entertainment field before graduating.

I was in production. I worked [at TVB] as an actress, backstage and as a PA.

When I was a PA, we had a meeting in [actress] Josephine Siao's house.

I was a nobody at that time, but Josephine Siao looked at me and asked me to act [in her next film, "The Spooky Bunch"].

I played a ghost.

After that I got so into cinema that I ended my contract with TVB and went back to Canada to study film.

TVB was nice and they didn't ask me for any compensation.

I tried many more different jobs after graduation. I was an executive editor at City Magazine, and later on I became Image Fashion Director at Esprit in 1983.

Over the past 30 years, I have shifted between different positions in the entertainment industry: actress, assistant director, producer, costume designer...

I was an artist manager at ATV in the late 80s, too, taking care of everything to do with the artists.

Around five years ago, I became a vice president of the Hong Kong Film Arts Association, helping promote the art of film in Hong Kong.

We promote the aesthetic of Hong Kong movies. I also give talks in universities to tell more students about the art of movies.

In the 80s, there were many things I achieved—including getting married and getting divorced.

It was a memorable, interesting decade.

I'm lucky. I can do whatever I'm interested in and I'm able to do it.

And the timing has been perfect to make things happen.

My daughter Yoyo Sham is a singer-songwriter in Taiwan. She's doing quite well now.

It's amazing to witness and accompany a child as they grow up.

I established the four-story Xia Qi Hall [image consultancy] on On Lan Street in Central, providing services for costumes, makeup, photography...

It was a building for girls to make their dreams come true.

I'm addicted to fashion. I started [accessories store] Tina's Choice a year ago. It was a pop-up store in PMQ at first and now it's a boutique in Lee Gardens. It's selling all the cute, special stuff that I sourced in Europe.

I've rarely talked about love in recent years.

As people grow up, you'll find that you have more different roles and responsibilities. Love is just a fraction of life.

I am still close to my ex-boyfriends. Even though we have broken up, I still want them to have a happy life.

We have risen to a higher level and become friends who talk about everything.

But I never ask about their love lives. I have no right to.

Life is like a building. Every day different people come in and out. The people and things that you encounter—it's all fate.

When someone is on the third floor and you are on the fourth floor, it's hard to meet each other, isn't it?

I consider myself a lucky person. But my only regret is that my father left too early, that he wasn't able to see me grow up.

An airplane accident took him away when I was just four.

I can never watch disaster films, especially those with plane accidents.

I can't think of how my father felt when he was on the plane.

I do think a positive mind can solve lots of problems. While dealing with the same issue, different paths might cause different outcomes.

Nowadays people are materially rich. Children can have phones when they are really young. And then they become indifferent.

Technology seems to bring people closer, but actually it's doing the opposite.

I have had so many different roles and experiences in the past 30 years, many of which overlapped.

It keeps my life busy and happy.

Recently I've been selling my tea eggs in Wah Kee Foods in Causeway Bay.

I used to give away my home-made tea eggs to family and friends during Chinese New Year.

Now I'm hoping to spread human warmth and wishes to others.

If anyone wants a life like mine, they need to be very efficient, and maintain good mental health.

Visit Tina's Choice at Shop 309-310, Lee Gardens One, 33 Hysan Avenue, Causeway Bay, 2907-2688, tinaschoice.com.

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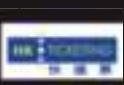
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