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details on p.3

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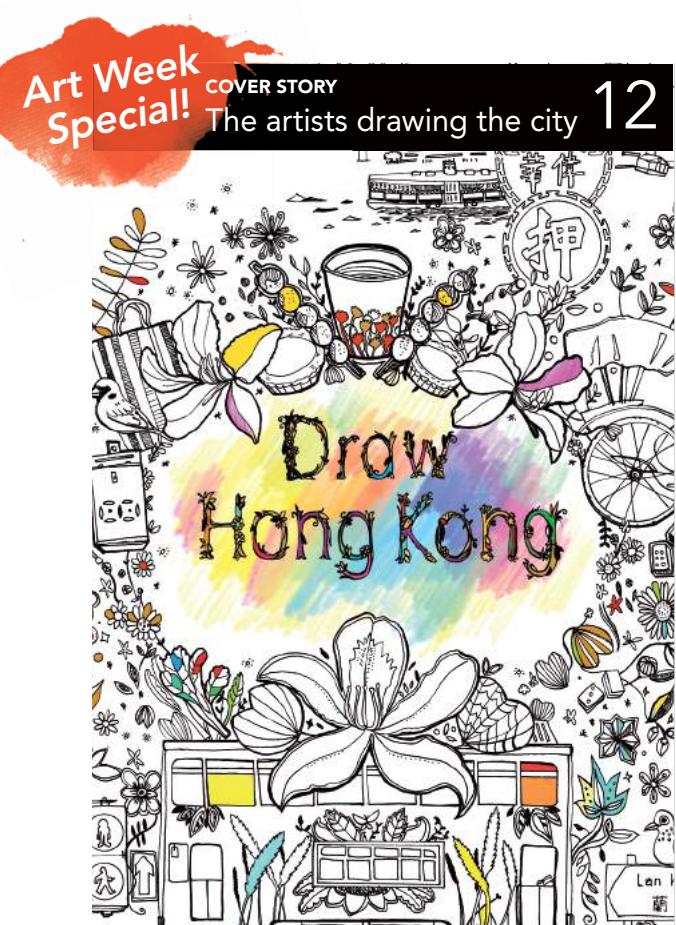
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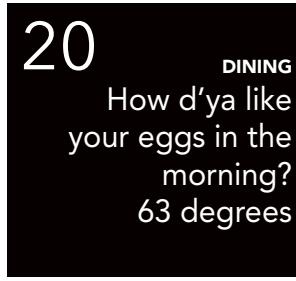
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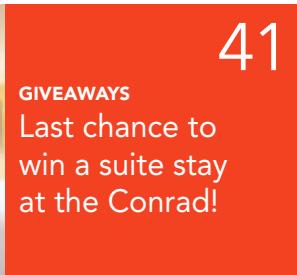


FASHION
New style icon
Rafael Raya Cano
on looking good

18



42



FIRST PERSON
Asia Society Hong
Kong director
Alice Mong

Bulldoze EVERYTHING!

This week, Sheung Shui villagers returned home to find that their squatter huts had been unceremoniously bulldozed by a property developer. The village lies in an area selected for New Town development, but the residents said they had no warning at all, and they hadn't even had time to remove identification documents, let alone personal belongings, from their homes. Can you sense a metaphor coming on?

Yes indeed: it's time to **bulldoze everything!** Apparently, that's the best way to get things done in this city.

Credit agency Moody's has downgraded the SAR's status from "stable" to "negative," which you might have thought is pretty bad news as it symbolizes a lack of trust from the international community. But no fear! **Bulldoze** those credit rating bastards back to the stone age and THEN who's negative?

Young people hitting the streets out of anger? Well, there's no need to bulldoze *them*. That would be inhumane. Instead, when they're out rioting just **bulldoze** the crap out of their homes. That'll teach the upstarts to set foot outside, and create more space for new, higher rise apartment blocks. It's win-win, unless you're young. But who cares about them?

Haven't managed to score tickets to the Rugby Sevens? Simple. **Bulldoze** your way into the South Stand and you'll have a fantastic seat for all the action. Also, people will be super impressed with your awesome Bulldozer costume.

HKU student magazine "Undergrad" says that Hong Kong should be independent after 2047, which mainly leaves us pretty worried for the state of university education in the city.

But no worries: all you have to do is believe... in a massive **bulldozer** which you can smash into government house until a cringing Chief Executive agrees to plead your case to China.

Unable to pass any kind of political reform bill? No worries! Rev up that **bulldozer** and just smash it through, like legislator Regina Ip always wanted.

Old buildings that are an inalienable part of our heritage and culture, a symbol of our unique origins? Nah. **BULL. DOZED.**

Kids are drowning in examinations, and exam reforms aren't coming any time soon. Let's just **bulldoze** their way to straight As! And by bulldoze, we mean "force them to study until they succeed or the stress becomes totally overwhelming, and no one knows how to deal with it because we can't even work out how to reform an examination system."

Our budget is yet again going to have a ludicrous surplus. Financial Secretary John Tsang can haul himself into that trusty yellow **bulldozer**, honk the horn a couple of times and bulldoze into the sunset, leaving the wreck of thousands of people living below the poverty line in his wake. Beep beep!

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Mr. Know-It-All's

— Guide to Life —

Dear Mr. Know-It-All,

Why do some people get called "Ah Sir"? What does it really mean? — Sir Curious

The Cantonese phrase "ah sir" (or 阿Sir) is a uniquely Hong Kong form of address, a term of weirdly colloquial respect.

On the face of it, it's a straightforward loan word from English. Just like the *dik si*, *see dor* and *baa si*—taxi, store and bus—"ah sir" comes straight from English, the word 阿 indicating you're naming someone and "sir" being the honorific term. It's also more rarely written *ah seh* (阿蛇), essentially—"Mr. Snake."

But there's a little more to it than that. Any old knight isn't just "ah sir." In fact, there are specific parameters which govern when someone's an "ah sir" and when not. Most often, it breaks down into two simple categories: policemen and teachers.

All (male) teachers are "ah sir" as a matter of respect. (Female teachers tend to be "miss," pronounced "miss-see") If you wish to refer to a teacher by name, then it's last-name-sir: So if Mr. Chan teaches you calculus, then to you he is Chan Sir. This applies to all teachers—unless, of course, you're sufficiently famous or good at branding. Take super tutor Ken Ng, founder of tutorial center Modern Education—he's known throughout Hong Kong not as "Ng Sir," but as "Ken Sir."

For coppers, it's slightly different. If you, a member of the public, needed the help of a policeman on the street, you'd go ahead and call him "ah sir"—or you'd be wise to, if you wanted his assistance. These cops in turn would reserve their "ah sirs" for their ranking officers. An example is Chief Superintendent Steve Hui Chun-tak, who made televised briefings every day at 4pm during the Occupy protests. The public liked his candor—and a few of his catchphrases—

and so he became universally known as "Four o'Clock Hui Sir."

It can get more complicated than that, though. Take 2011 TVB series "Yes Sir. Sorry, Sir!" The plot concerns an ex-teacher who becomes a cop—and is then sent undercover back into the school he used to teach in. In Chinese, the show is called "點解阿Sir係阿Sir," or "Why is ah sir ah sir?" A pun? An existential question? Or both?

My favorite "ah sir" moment is the gloriously ridiculous scene in the 2002 Miriam Yeung flick "Love Undercover," in which the bumbling superintendent Chung Sir is undercover while meeting a triad boss, when his phone rings. He answers: "Chung Sir speaking." Alarmed, the triad boss asks why he's calling himself Chung Sir—a title used by cops. Chung Sir haltingly replies that his full name is actually "Fong Chung-sir," so to his close friends he's just "Chung-sir."

The triad boss wonders: Then how do you write the Chinese character "sir"? The policeman grabs a notepad and offers up the following scrawl, combining English letters and Chinese characters into a whole new, ridiculous word:



It's a classic Hong Kong film gag that perfectly sums up the city: English, Chinese and very, very silly.

Letters

"Having a period is a choice."

The Last Word, Period

Our online story about sick leave for women with period pains ("Women Petition for Menstrual Leave Ahead of International Women's Day," Mar 8) invited... debate.

If you say women are less efficient because they have more leave than you are wrong. Remember, humans are not robots.

G Na Sheng

No woman should get unquestioned extra paid leave just because they are having a period, which happens 4-5 days every month, which works out to 50 days a year. If they have a legitimate need to take leave, be it severe pains due to flu that affects work, or severe pains due to menstruation that affects work, they can get a doctor's note and take sick leave legitimately.

Alpha H S Lau

If a female soldier can defend her country in a third world war zone on her period and off then you can get a life and get to work.

Jane Lam

Absolutely not - this is a truly idiotic idea and one which will set back any further shift towards workplace equality. Very few women have regular cramps that are bad enough to interfere with the ability to work - and those who do should seek medical help and take sick leave, which is available to both women and men for all kinds of reasons.

Pauline Burton

Here comes the logic for the new 'Glass Ceiling.' Don't complain when a man makes more money or gets the job you wanted because he will show up and work. It's about economics, not gender this time... what you're saying, is that biologically, you can't compete at that level. Employers will respond in kind. Having a period is a choice today. Before you flip out, take a moment to ponder that last statement.

Mike A. Poteet

Just curious, how is having a period a choice? Please do share, because I would love to not lose so much blood, deal with cramps, mood swings, etc without destroying my body if possible.

Shirley Qin

Having a period is only a choice for 1) those who can afford it and 2) for those whom it is medically feasible. I had a provoked pulmonary embolism due to the birth control pills that allow you to 'skip' your period. Because of this, I will not be able to use hormone based birth control for the rest of my life. So having a period is not a "choice" for me. I don't currently have an informed opinion about menstrual leave so I won't comment on it. Which is maybe something you should consider before you just toss your uninformed opinion out there. #justsaying

Kim Burgess

Fair enough, I'd definitely take the day off if my willy started bleeding

Iain Cocks

#PrivateEyeHK



Kaleidoscoped Hong Kong

Photo by Hoi Leong Lee (Instagram @ayorphotography)

Need to get something off your chest? Got an amazing photo? Write us! letters@hkmagmedia.com. Letters are printed as-is (unless they need fixing).



This week in My Perfect HK:

At 8:30pm this Saturday,

March 19, the city marks Earth Hour:

A WWF-organized initiative which encourages people to turn off all their non-essential lights for a single hour, saving energy and creating a better earth. It's now the world's largest collective environmental action, spanning more than a hundred countries and millions of people. In this massively wasteful city, we'd say you owe the planet an hour—don't you think? Visit earthhour.wwf.org.hk for more.



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Conductor : Yan Huichang

Song of the General

Symphonic Poem
Flowing Water



Erhu: Zhu Changyao

Erhu and Orchestra
Spring in Jiangnan

Erhu Concerto
Mooring by the Maple
Bridge at Night



Erhu: Yu Hongmei

Erhu and Orchestra
A Spray of Flowers
Resonating Strings at
the Northern Frontier



Pipa: Wong Chi-ching

Pipa and Orchestra
King Chu Doffs His Armour
(22/4)



Pipa: Zhao Cong

Pipa and Orchestra
Apsaras of
the Silk Road
(23/4)

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of
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*Traversing historical times
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Sheng: Chen Yi-wei

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For latest information, please visit HKCO website. Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra reserves the right to change programme and artists.

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THE WEEK



Friday 3/18

Mex n' Mingle

Sick of seeing the same ol' faces at your Friday night haunts? Not willing to splurge on drinks before your March paycheck? Swing by Cali-Mex's first **social networking drinks** for free beers, half price Margaritas, and lots of new people.

6:30-8:30pm. Cali-Mex, 71 Wellington St., Central. Free.

h-y-p-h-e-n



Saturday 3/19

Basil With An "I"

No, it's not a typo. Bookstore Open Quote is calling on all Hongkongers to reflect on the essence of art through the exploration of artwork by nine Hong Kong illustrators at the **Art Basil** art fair. No big sponsorships or fancy galleries here...

Through Apr 8. S401, PMQ, 35 Aberdeen St., Central.

Sunday 3/20

Market Life

The Tong Chong Street

Market is back for its spring season: 40 stalls and homegrown eateries are begging to tickle your tastebuds with the freshest local produce and exclusive eats. Non-foodies, fret not: by the end of this you'll be a certified gourmet.

Sundays from Mar 20-Jun 12, 11am-5pm.

Taikoo Place, Tong Chong St., Quarry Bay.



Monday 3/21

Pierre-y Good

Celebrate French gastronomy at Mandarin Oriental's Pierre with its one-night-only five-course **Goût de France** menu. Chef Jean Denis Le Bras of the two-Michelin-starred restaurant will be serving up fine French cooking as only he knows how. Bon appétit!

Pierre, Mandarin Oriental, 5 Connaught Rd. Central, 2825-4001. \$998.

Wednesday 3/23

Thrills and Spills

The Tung Wah Charity Carnival is about to close! Don't miss your chance to catch the **Royalles British Thrill Circus**, an international troupe of acrobats out to keep you on the edge of your seat with revolving space wheels, high wires, a Kenyan warrior dance and bendy contortionists.

Through Mar 28. \$180 for general admissions, \$480

for VIP tickets at ticketflap.com/twcarnivalcircus.



Thursday 3/24

Art for Booze's Sake

Just in time for Art Basel, the **Absolut Electrik Art Bar** at Vibes aims to satisfy both your inner art connoisseur AND your inner party animal. Who knows what fresh perspectives you'll develop after an art-inspired tipple or two?

Through Mar 26. Vibes, The Mira Hong Kong, 118 Nathan Rd. Tsim Sha Tsui.

Friday 3/25

Art Fare

California Tower plays host to the **Savouring Art Campaign**, which features art-themed dishes and cocktails from 12 restaurants, including Azure, Cé Le Vi, Ciao Chow, FoFo by el Willy, Jinjjuu, Nur, and Sichuan House. The campaign also showcases artwork by street artist Mr. Brainwash and contemporary artist Javier Martin—plus there are special offers if you're in need of a deal or two.

Through Apr 21. More details at lankwafong.com.

Saturday 3/26

Get Glow, Glow, Glow

Not one of life's Picassos? Not to worry—Adorn yourself with glowing body paint and rage to Bollywood beats spun by DJ Deep and DJ Agni at the **Holi Glow Party**. 10:30pm. Club VIP, 18 Lyndhurst Terrace, Central. \$150 at the door, includes one drink.

Tuesday 3/22

Ready For My Close-up

Calling all wannabe movie stars: It's the **40th Hong Kong International Film Festival**. With more than 240 titles from 66 countries, you'll be spoilt for choice. It opens with the world premiere of Chinese director Yang Qing's "Chongqing Hot Pot" (pictured), and closes with "Creepy" by Japan's Kurosawa Kiyoshi. So many films, so little time...

Mar 21-Apr 4. Various venues.

From \$40 at urbtix.hk.

Coming Up

All the Stylin' Ladies
There are officially no reasons left for ladies to stay in on Wednesday nights this April: Cé La Vi's not only continuing its popular **free-flow champagne deal** (for the first 100 girls who show up), they're also bringing in a team of GHD stylists to give everyone hair makeovers with the brand's new limited edition "the Azores" styler. There're also prize giveaways valued up to \$10,000 each night and a range of special beachy cocktails.
Wednesdays between Apr 1-30, 9pm-late.
Cé La Vi, 24-26/F, California Tower, 32 D'Aguilar St., Central. Free.

Last Chance for Freedom
Last call! **Freespace Happening** holds its final event of the spring on Easter Sunday. There's a great musical line up including jazz band The 5422 Collective and flamenco dance and music from Bernardo y Amigos, and you can bring your furry friends as Freespace is partnering with Hong Kong Dog Rescue to provide pet training talks and advice. There's also literature talks, chilled-out tunes and more. Can't make this one? No worries. Freespace will be back in September.
Mar 27, 2-7pm. West Kowloon Cultural District, West Kowloon. Free.

Pillow, Is It Me You're Looking For
Get your PJs and pillows ready—**International Pillow Fight Day** is back on April 2. BYOP—Bring Your Own Pillows (no feathers, please)—and head down to Chater Garden to unleash your inner (well-padded) demon.
Apr 2, 5pm. Chater Garden, Chater Rd., Central.
pillowfightday.com.

Photos: Dickson Lee /SCMP, Sam Leung

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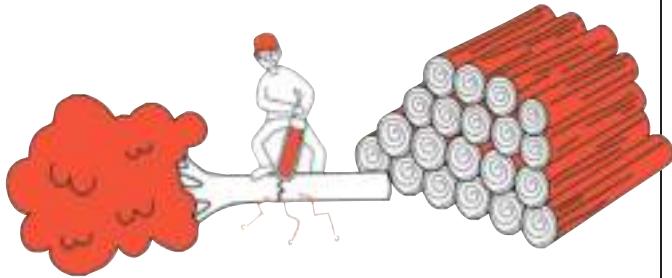
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Last Week In Reality

SAT 5

Phone Hostage

In To Kwa Wan, a man gets on his knees and begs a woman who appears to be his girlfriend to lend him money, but she repeatedly turns him down. At one point she turns to leave, but the man steps forward and grabs her phone. The woman orders him to give the phone back, telling passers-by to call the police. The man slams the handset to the ground, sending its battery and cover flying, before storming off and leaving the woman to pick up the pieces. Police have classified the case as criminal damage.



SUN 6

Fanling Chainsaw Massacre

In the afternoon, two men in their 50s holding chainsaws break into a farm in Shing Ping Village in Fanling and fell 27 agarwood incense trees worth \$700,000 and potentially worth several million dollars when treated. A worker at the farm discovers them and calls the police, who arrest the pair at the scene. They suspect that the incident was related to a rental dispute.

MON 7

Heroic Helper

A grandmother becomes the victim of a phone scam, in which a con man convinces her to deliver a \$150,000 "ransom" to free her grandson. She goes to Kowloon City to deliver the money. But sensing that something is off, the woman's domestic helper follows the old lady. Just as the grandmother is about to hand over the cash, the helper bursts out of hiding and shouts at the con man, who flees.

TUE 8

Parking Rage

A Facebook user uploads a video which goes viral. It is a dashcam video of a woman standing in an empty parking lot in Yuen Long, in an apparent attempt to save it for an incoming vehicle. The man who posted the video tries to drive into the parking space, but the woman stands in his way, waving wildly and refusing to move. She smacks the car's hood and insists that there is a car coming. The driver gets out of the car and shouts obscenities at the woman, before calling the police for help. Opinions are split online, with some netizens accusing the woman of being unreasonable, and others praising her for her resilience in spite of the man's vulgarities.



WED 9

Juvenile Behavior

Four men aged between 21 and 32 appear in court, charged with breaking into a Tin Shui Wai flat while disguised in high school uniforms. The prosecution reveals that police found a list of some 500 residential addresses across the territory on one of their phones. Entries on the list were annotated with remarks such as "broken into," "people at home" and "ran for our lives." The prosecution says that 86 of the 500 units had been broken into, and that an accomplice is still on the run.

THU 10

Puppy Leather

At 3pm, a passer-by walking past a Yuen Long village house observes what appears to be a dog hide hanging from the balcony. Concerned that the owner of the house is sunning a freshly skinned hide, he calls the police. Initial investigations suggest the fur is a decoration, but concern groups insist that the hide is removed for testing. The police take two women away for questioning, along with the hide.

FRI 11

Faking It

A 72-year-old man shares a table at a restaurant in Kwun Tong with a 38-year-old woman and her boyfriend. The older man sees what looks like a gun strapped to her waist, and tells her he is calling the police in case she hurts someone. The two argue and the woman gets up to leave, but the older man tries to stop her. The woman draws the pistol and points it at the man, before smashing it into his hand. When it hits his hand the weapon splits open and falls to the ground in pieces. Police later determine that the "firearm" is a BB gun.

Quote of the Week

"CY Leung was born in Hong Kong... but you wouldn't say he defends the rights of its people, would you?"

Civic Passion member Cheng Chung-tai responds to criticism of fellow localist Edward Leung, who revealed last week that he was not born in Hong Kong.

Talking Points

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

Young Lives Matter

The troubling deaths by **suicide of seven students over the course of nine days** has raised concerns in the city about student stress. Groups such as the Hong Kong Professional Teachers' Union suggest that **excessive homework and drilling, limited time and attention overworked teachers are able to dedicate to their students, and scant resources for troubled pupils** are all to blame. The Education Bureau has since announced plans to form an investigative committee and has rounded up psychologists to provide extra help to schools as necessary, and the authorities will also be **organizing suicide prevention seminars** for school leaders and parents. The Samaritan Befrienders Hong Kong advised parents to talk to their children to help prevent other copycat suicides.

Our take: This is awful.

Hong Kong Has Room For More?

Former chief secretary for administration and ex-Chief Executive candidate Henry Tang has said that **the government has asked Beijing to include more mainland cities in the Individual Visit Scheme**, which allows residents of the mainland to travel to Hong Kong without joining tour groups. The scheme currently includes 49 mainland cities, mostly large ones. The move might be aimed at increasing tourism in the city: **In January visitor numbers dropped 6.8 percent**, with those from the mainland down 10 percent. Some in the tourism and retail sectors welcomed the possibility, but dissenting voices warned that the move would **increase social tensions in the city and might not bring in much money**, either. The government has not confirmed any of its plans.

Our take: Um, why are we still listening to Henry Tang?



Illustration: Elaine Tang

PASSION^{and} *TENSION* in Directorial Debuts



Feature debuts of nine respected directors, illuminating the intellectual, cultural and emotional dynamics between the East and the West

Selected Films 3/4 – 4/12

Hong Kong Film Archive Cinema

Stanley Kubrick's "Fear and Desire" (1953)

{Showing with} **"The Seafarers"** (1953)

John Cassavetes' "Shadows" (1959)

Roman Polanski's "Knife in the Water" (1962)*

Werner Herzog's "Signs of Life" (1968)

Dennis Hopper's "Easy Rider" (1969)

Theo Angelopoulos' "Reconstruction" (1970)*

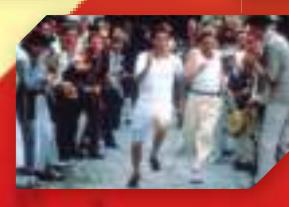
Krzysztof Kieslowski's "The Scar" (1976)*

Hugh Hudson's "Chariots of Fire" (1981)*

{Reference film} **Stephen Shin's "The Last Race"** (2016)

Chen Kaige's "Yellow Earth" (1984)*

* With screenings at UA iSQUARE or UA Cine Moko
in collaboration with UA CineHub



Tickets: \$55 (Hong Kong Film Archive)
\$90 (UA iSQUARE & UA Cine Moko)

Tickets are now available at URBTIX / UA Cinemas Box Office
Package discount for full-priced tickets is available for each purchase of four or more different film screenings at Hong Kong Film Archive

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Enquiries: **2739 2139 / 2734 2900**
www.filmarchive.gov.hk / www.lcsd.gov.hk/fp

For programme details, please refer to "ProFolio 81" available at all performing venues of the LCSD



Street Talk

For two decades, Master **Winnie Chui** has been making Chinese calligraphy brushes using infant hair, a traditional use of the hair gathered from a baby's first haircut. As one of Hong Kong's few remaining practitioners of this rare craft, Master Chui says she's proud to be the creator of these unique totems. She tells Stephanie Tsui about what inspires her to make these unusual gifts.

HK Magazine: Why make brushes with babies' hair?

Master Chui: The tradition of making baby hair brushes originated in Northern China, and each brush symbolizes the everlasting bond between parents and their children. They also represent parents' wishes for their children to become wise, level-headed and studious individuals, as well as their expectations of filial piety. The brushes are made from the hair of infants aged 3 years and under. Only the first growth of hair is used, because that's the only time when human hair tapers naturally at the tip.

HK: How'd you get into the business?

MC: My husband's family made Chinese calligraphy brushes in Beijing—both the regular kind and those made from infant hair. After my husband came to Hong Kong, he became a shoemaker because the practice of gifting baby hair brushes wasn't common in Hong Kong. I stayed at home to look after our three daughters. When my husband neared retirement, he wanted to do something that involved less travelling. So about 20 years ago, we decided to set up shop. It took some time for me to adjust to my new role as a business owner. But when I was a housewife my husband taught me a few tricks of the trade, which made the transition easier.

HK: Your business is pretty unusual. Are you worried about it dying out?

MC: My eldest daughter is very helpful around the store. She is usually the one who makes home visits to collect the babies' hair. Most of our clients ask for home visits, you see. She was also the one who set up our Facebook page. Nowadays, that's how people find out about us—through the internet. My second daughter will soon be joining the business. But in this business, we have to work weekends because that's when the parents are free. You know how it is—young people love their weekends. It definitely is a big responsibility and requires sacrifice, so if my other daughters aren't willing to take over our family business there

really is nothing I can do. Plus, it also depends on whether they have the ability to do it. We engrave couplets on the brushes based on the infants' names. My daughters have yet to acquire a knack for writing those couplets.

HK: You must have had some interesting encounters.

MC: One time, I went to a little boy's home to collect hair from his baby sibling. Just as I turned on the hair clipper, the brother bowed his head as if to say, "Here, take my hair instead!" It was moving to see such a young boy care so deeply for the baby. Of course, I've also met many annoying parents. Many young parents nowadays are very self-centered. Some have asked to have their babies' hair cut on the first day of the Lunar New Year, which is silly because nobody works that day. Some parents insist on cutting less than the required length, so we have no choice but to end up making brushes that don't look very good.

HK: What do baby hair brushes mean to you?

MC: I see them as my way of contributing to society by helping parents encourage their children to grow up to be virtuous and diligent individuals. It's a contribution that lasts a lifetime. When I present parents with the baby hair brushes, I also give them five locks of hair collected from different points of their infants' heads, so they can come back to us for free maintenance in case the brush hairs fall out. We also offer traditional rituals for our customers. For example, when their children turn three, we carry out a ritual that involves brushing their personal brushes over their sensory organs to "awaken" their five senses. We offer these rituals for free. In our business, we don't make big bucks. We just want the best for our future generations.

Want to get a baby hair brush for your own child? Visit Master Chui at Unit 26-07, Richmond Commercial Building, 109 Argyle St., Mong Kok, or visit her Facebook page at facebook.com/hkbbpen. Pens from \$688.

Blowing Water

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

wun⁶ waa²
換畫

"CHANGE MOVIE"

"Swap to a new girlfriend/boyfriend." Slightly old-fashioned term originating from the frequency with which cinemas change out movies.

HongKabulary



Cha Chaan Burn (tʃə:tʃə:n bərn), n.

Getting dissed by Hong Kong's uniquely rude service staff, 100 percent of the time.

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WE'RE OUT OF CHAR SIU! AND RICE!"**

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DRAW HONG KONG

What do you see when you think "Hong Kong"? Is it the iconic skyline, the dark alleyways or the amazing street food? Xavier Ng talks to four artists who portray the city in their own individual ways.



Francesco Lietti

"It May Be So" (2014)

Italian artist Francesco Lietti has been in Hong Kong for 10 years. His artwork incorporates cuttings from magazines.



HK Magazine: How did you start painting Hong Kong?

Francesco Lietti: I used to paint back home when I was in Italy, but I stopped when I came to Hong Kong. When I decided to stay here, I started to paint more and more. My focus and inspiration changed and I found amazing elements in the city.

HK: What's Hong Kong in your eyes?

FL: It's an incredibly colorful, vibrant, exciting and inspiring place—I love Hong Kong! I try to capture the energy and the vibe of this amazing city. I want to portray the density, the layering, the intricacy of the urban fabric. I want the viewers to feel my paintings truly speak of Hong Kong.

HK: What's unique about how you see the city?

FL: I guess the style of my painting could be considered pretty interesting as I like to mix different techniques. The base is acrylic, to which I add collaged pieces, paper cuts, glue and so on to add texture. Adding pieces of magazines and newspapers from those locations also help to reinforce these connections. I think the text bits add an element of fun to the compositions and give me the opportunity to embed messages or thoughts I have on my mind.

Francesco presents his paintings on Mar 19-20 at Sai Kung Art And About. Check out facebook.com/saikungAAA or his Instagram @francescolietti for more.





Connie "Maoshan" Yuen

"*Sai Ying Pun*" (2015)
Yuen's maps depict a whimsical city. Her drawings were featured in Christopher Doyle's "Hong Kong Trilogy."



HK Magazine: How did you start illustrating the city?

Connie Yuen: When I first got back here after university in the UK, I started wandering in different districts and I realized that there's so much more than just shopping malls. There are places full of history that was not taught in schools in Hong Kong.

HK: What part of Hong Kong do you want to show?

CY: I portray Hong Kong through maps and picture books, and I always try to draw people—because most of the time, it's not just the place that is pretty. It's the people living and breathing in the space, molding the physical world, that makes it interesting.

HK: What story do you want to tell through your art?

CY: Hong Kong is unique in many ways: The trees we have, the appearance of the shops, our culture... they are all unique to Hong Kong, and I really hope that more people will appreciate our surroundings. I guess I subconsciously try to conserve culture through sketching or illustration, as I'm secretly worried that it will all be gone some day.

Check out Connie's illustrations at maoshanc.com or facebook.com/deartreehk.

Gary Yeung

"*Ki Lung Street Cloth Stall*" (2015)

Gary Yeung is an organizer of Urban Sketchers Hong Kong.



HK Magazine: What made you start sketching Hong Kong?

Gary Yeung: I was born and raised in Hong Kong. Over the years the city has been changing really quickly, with many old buildings demolished. I have so many emotions and memories for the city, and so I wanted to record them—tangible or not—through my sketchings.

HK: What do you want to show through your art?

GY: Sometimes when I walk by tourist spots like Tsim Sha Tsui, I see postcards that show a very touristy image of Hong Kong, like junk boats—it's not real! That's why I want to show the real side of Hong Kong with my sketching: Old or new buildings, social issues, streets and alleyways—something that's unique to Hong Kong.

Check out Gary's sketches at studiotario.blogspot.hk.



Guillaume Cornet

"*Elephants in Hong Kong*" (2016)

French artist Guillaume Cornet always wanted to visit Hong Kong—but his drawings made it here before he did.



HK Magazine: Tell us about "Elephants in Hong Kong."

Guillaume Cornet: The "Elephants in Hong Kong" series was created as I was researching the architectural aspects of Hong Kong. I drew one building at a time, combining real references with my own created interpretations of skyscrapers and residential buildings.

HK: What's Hong Kong in your eyes?

GC: I haven't actually been to Hong Kong yet so these paintings are based on photographic research and discussions that I have had. But in my eyes it's a city that seems to have everything. There is fascinating architecture in such densely populated areas, yet it's so green and surrounded by water.

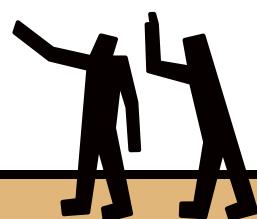
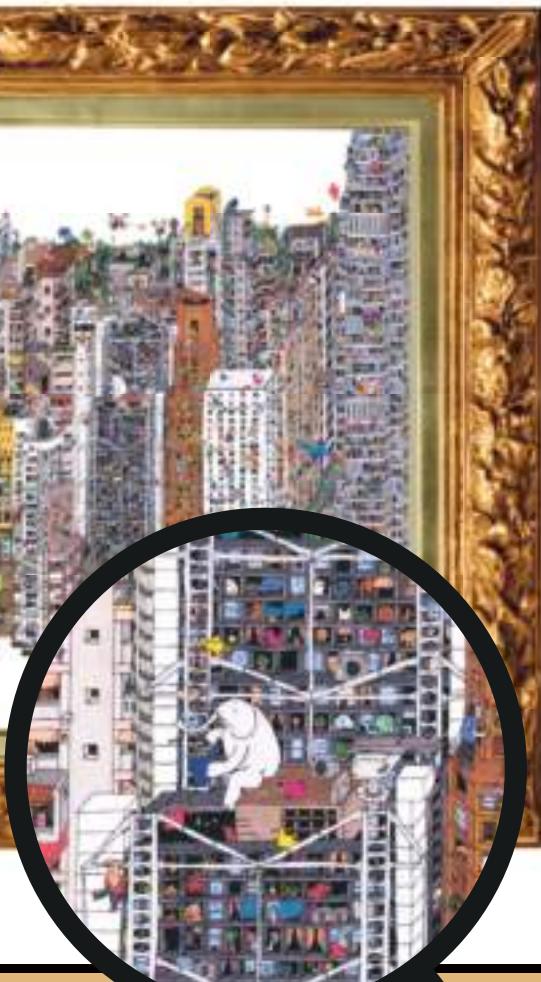
HK: What do the elephants represent?

GC: The elephants represent my inner child, the joy of life and freedom. They are so big and powerful that they make the world look small. When you are drawing in the miniature scale I draw in, the larger size of the elephants means that I can still include great features.

HK: How do you see Hong Kong in your art?

GC: Looking from afar, from photos and descriptions, I have only focused my attention on the architecture and transport used in Hong Kong. But looking into the neon signage, street food vendors, street escalators, thousands of AC units, hanging bird cages... I have only started to portray Hong Kong. There is so much more I would like to develop—such as the culture, smells and noises.

Meet Cornet at the "Elephants in Hong Kong" opening on Mar 18, 7pm. Exhibition runs through Apr 20 at Odd One Out, G/F, 14 St Francis St., Wan Chai.



ART AND THE CITY

Art fever is taking over Hong Kong, but what's worth seeing and what's worth skipping? Follow this arty itinerary to get the full-blown experience this month.

By Kate Lok

Gormei Art Month

Gormei Art Month brings together two of the greatest pleasures in life: food and art. It features a range of art-meets-food events, including a ceramics and sake event: Artisan potters team up with Japan's Yorozuya Sake Brewery to guide you through the artisanal crafts of both sake and ceramic making, and how they must be paired for the ultimate sake experience.

Mar 23, 7:30-9:30pm. Waka Artisans, Shop S303, PMQ, 35 Aberdeen St., Central. \$400 per person from gormei.com.

Hong Kong Art Gallery Night

Hong Kong's best art galleries come together for their annual celebration, a sophisticated evening of wine and art-gazing. At Art Gallery Night, you'll be able to check out a handful of new exhibition openings across town, performances, guided tours and talks—all with a glass of wine or champagne in hand, of course.

Mar 21. Across 43 HKAGA Member Galleries. Free entry. hk-ag.org.



Art Central

Art Central moves into its second iteration this year, setting up its tents at Central against the beautiful backdrop of Victoria Harbour.

Attracting a younger, more hipster crowd, Art Central is the place to go to get your fix of contemporary artworks, whether you're a newbie art enthusiast or a devoted collector.

Mar 21-26. Central Harbourfront Event Space, 9 Lung Wo Rd., Central. \$230 for two from hkticketing.com.

Don't Miss!

The Flying Buck

Abdullah M.I. Syed's performance of "The Flying Buck" (pictured above, Mar 21, 5-7:15pm) takes art to the next level: The artist makes paper planes out of US\$1 bills, unfolds them, and eventually eats and regurgitates them to create what he calls a "Money Art Object." We call that dedication.

The Sundew Installation

Swarovski teams up with award-winning Hong Kong-British designer Elaine Ng to bring the "Sundew Installation" to Art Central. The spectacular installation combines light, movement and fragrance with sound-activated structures, composed of approximately 20 million Swarovski crystals.



Asia Contemporary Art Show

In the mood to part with a good load of your CNY pocket money? Stroll through four stories of art at the Conrad Hotel during the 8th edition of the Asia Contemporary Art Show. Held twice a year, 2016's spring edition features 84 exhibitors from across Asia and worldwide, ranging from new artists to widely recognized names in the art world. The show will display more than 3,000 exclusive pieces including paintings, sculptures and photography.

Mar 24-27. 40-43/F, Conrad Hong Kong, Pacific Place, 88 Queensway, Admiralty. \$220 for two from hkticketing.com.

Art Basel

One of the largest art fairs in the world, Art Basel is the must-hit event this month. This year is its fourth iteration in the city, playing host to 239 of the world's top art galleries with a variety of modern and contemporary art on display from more than 4,000 artists.

Mar 24-26. HKCEC, 1 Expo Drive, Wan Chai. \$180-850 from hkticketing.com.

Don't Miss!

Tracey Emin

A British artist known for her eccentrically honest autobiographical artworks, Tracey Emin will be talking at an artist's panel on Thursday. After the talk, check out her work at "I Cried Because I Love You"—Emin's first solo exhibition in Greater China (Mar 21-May 21) at White Cube and Lehmann Maupin.

Mar 24, 2-3pm, Art Basel Salon, artbasel.com.

Samson Young

Award-winning sound artist Samson Young displays a piece titled "So You are Old by the Time You Reach the Island." The interactive exhibit takes the audience on a multimedia journey through Wan Chai and Admiralty, combining history, fiction and personal narrative through films, audio tracks, radio broadcasts and installation elements to create a time- and site-specific experience.

March 24, hourly between 1.15—7.30pm. Starts at the BMW Lounge at Art Basel.



HKWalls

The city's annual street art festival is back. This time, artists from all over the world will be hauling their spray cans and stencils to Sham Shui Po. Watch them bring the city's oldest district alive with colorful patterns and paints—and if you can't wait, head over to Sheung Wan now to check out the remnants of last year's HKWalls in the area.

Mar 21-27. Sham Shui Po (Cheung Sha Wan Rd. to Lai Chi Kok Rd. / Boundary St. to Nam Cheong St.), hkwalls.org.



TAKE IT TO THE STREETS

Art is everywhere. Check out these street art and installation happenings around town. Best of all? They're free.

Secret Walls X Hong Kong

Secret Walls, a group that hosts live street art battles worldwide, has been running for four years now in Hong Kong. This month, they're presenting works on the ceiling of one of the city's iconic trams (Tram 110, to be exact). This exhibition will run for six months—all you have to do is look up.

See facebook.com/SecretWallsxHongKong for more.

Mong Kok's Graffiti Wall ("Wall of Fame")

Art doesn't necessarily have to come with a hefty price. This relatively new graffiti spot in Mong Kok East has grown immensely popular for graffiti artists all around the world, with pieces by local and international artists ranging from abstract lettering to bright and bold illustrations.

Alley between Argyle St. and Bute St., entrance just past the Argyle St. Waterworks Depot (111 Argyle St., Mong Kok).

Hong Kong on Steps

Seven groups of artists from five countries have brought this exhibition to PMQ's (many) stairwells. The project aims to incorporate art into our lives by transforming stairs—a basic part of our daily commutes and an everyday necessity—into a canvas that pushes us to look at life differently.

Through Apr 30, PMQ, 35 Aberdeen St., Central.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR...

But Wait, I Have No Money!

If you're finding this month's artworks a little out of your budget, save those pennies for the **Affordable Art Fair** instead, which returns to Hong Kong on May 13-15. It's one of the best places for the uninitiated and newbie art lovers to jump into the collecting game. affordableartfair.com/hongkong.



Event Horizon (Look Up) by Antony Gormley

You may have already glimpsed Antony Gormley's Event Horizon public art installation, which spans all over Hong Kong's Central and Western districts and features copies of the artist's body standing atop buildings or at ground level. Gormley wants to encourage us to see the city from a new perspective—but can you find them all?

Through May 18, Central and Western districts.

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Cultural Presentations Section



Kung Fu Ghana 3

There's more to kung fu movies than the "Kung Fu Panda" series, you know. In **"Kung Fu in Africa: Golden Age Hand-painted Movie Posters from Ghana,"** check out how Hong Kong cinema traveled to the other side of the globe with this kick-ass exhibition of hand-painted Ghanaian kung fu movie posters (including this one of Jackie Chan's "Who Am I"), dating back to the 80s and 90s—the heydays of Hong Kong movie industry. Don't miss a live African music performance on March 21, 6-8pm. Through Apr 16. Hanart TZ Gallery, Room 401, Pedder Building, 12 Pedder St., Central.

GOOD LOOKS

Edited and styled by Rafael Raya Cano

Instagram @RafaelRayaCano | rcano.co



BASEL DAZZLE

Art week is here, and this season is all about creativity. It's important to consider what to wear for this event, as you're going to want something stylish and comfortable for a long day of art appreciation. How else are you going to get snapped by fashion bloggers?

Statement Pieces

The overall goal of your outfit should be to make you look sharp and feel confident. Want to look even smarter? Wear an extravagant statement jacket, like this graphic jacket from Hong Kong designer Harrison Wong.

Mech Patched Airy Jacket, \$2,300 from Harrison Wong, Shop S206, PMQ, 35 Aberdeen St., Central, 6884-4877.

Pattern Recognition

Think animal prints, metallic, futuristic or digital designs, and think of it as a good way to start a conversation. Try this green floral shirt from my own brand, RCANO.

100 % Cotton Rainforest shirt, \$799 from RCANO, rcano.co.

Bag Man

This is your chance to go for that fashion forward bag you've been dreaming about. Get a men's clutch like this elegant black leather one from La Fléche.

Black leather clutch, \$180 from La Fléche, Shop 131, 1/F, Causeway Place, Causeway Bay, 3489 -3689.

Throw in some vintage accessories. Nothing defines the stylish gent more than a proper hat.

Black felt fedora, \$1,299 from Tasteless Hats Co. Shop HG10-12, PMQ, 35 Aberdeen St., Central, 2858-8170.

Keep it simple and casual with a fun printed shirt. It's all about art, so there are no rules.

Abstract print t-shirt, \$2,300 from Paul Smith, Shop 216B, 2/F, Landmark Atrium, 15 Queen's Rd. Central, 2523-5868.

Wear comfortable sneakers, as you'll be walking a lot!

Printed sneakers, \$886 from 5cm @ I.T, 2 Kingston St., Causeway Bay, 2881-6102.

Ladies!

All of these tips apply to you too. Feel free to play with bold and fun prints and patterns, and of course a funky bag. But leave the uncomfortable heels at home—flats will do the job for hard day's art wandering.

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

ESCAPE ROUTES

Edited by Daniel Creffield



Amatara's spa is fit for royals



Achieve zen at Amanemu

Steam Dreams

When is a steam treatment more than a steam treatment? **Amatara Resort & Wellness, Phuket**, has launched what it says is the world's first luxury Thai hammam spa, blending traditional Turkish and Moroccan bathing practices with Thai spa know-how to offer pampering, soaking, exfoliating, cleansing, deep massage and rejuvenation. Whatever it's called, it sounds pretty awesome.

The hammam spa experience starts with a traditional sauna and waterfall or jet blast rinse to cool body temperature. This is followed with an intensive hair treatment and scalp massage before going into the Thai herbal steam room to soften skin and relax muscles. You'll then receive a full body massage and exfoliation over a warm stone bed. Cap it off with a detoxifying thermal mud bath and rinse-off, before resting in a soothing Himalayan salt cave relaxation zone.

A special opening package gives you a 150-minute treatment, including a signature massage, post-treatment snacks and herbal tea, for \$1,300. Amatara is also running several accommodation offers and special getaway packages for a limited time.

84 Moo 8, Sakdidej Rd., Tambol Vichit, Cape Panwa, Phuket, Thailand. (+66) 7631-8888, amataraphuket.com.

Zen and the Art of Golf

If you feel your life is lacking "omotenashi" (that's the Japanese welcoming spirit, which blends warmth and respect) you might need to hit Aman Resorts' newest property: **Amanemu**, a hot springs resort just opened in the idyllic setting of Ise-Shima National Park on the shores of Ago Bay.

Based on a contemporary interpretation of Japanese Minka buildings, which incorporate traditional low-slung tiled roofs and dark-stained Japanese cedar exterior walls, Amanemu is all about the bathing. Each of the 24 suites and four two-bedroom villas feature their own onsen, or hot springs, while its 2,000-square-meter spa holds a large central onsen bath for communal bathing. There are also two private spa pavilions, each with their own indoor and outdoor onsen, perfect for easing muscles after a day of trekking the historic pilgrimage routes the region is renowned for.

The area's streams and waterfall-filled mountains, cedar and cypress forests and sacred shrines sound like a perfect place to destress, and if your idea of Zen is smacking golf balls instead you can always check out the nearby Nemu Golf Club. **2165 Hazako Hamajima-cho, Shima-shi, Mie, Japan. 0120-951-125 (Japan toll free), aman.com.**

Delve into Dhevi

Searching for a serene escape? The picturesque **Dhara Dhevi Chiang Mai** is launching an "Easter and Songkran Family Experience" from \$5,500 per night, which includes accommodation in a Deluxe Colonial suite or Deluxe Villa, daily breakfast, a Thai set dinner for two at Le Grand Lanna, a 60-minute spa treatment for two at The Dheva Spa and Wellness Centre, and round-trip airport transfers.

You can enjoy the package as a couple on a honeymoon escape, or bring the kids along for family activities such as Thai dance and boxing classes for children. With everything from spa and wellness to cultural activities and delicious local cuisine available, the Dhara Dhevi's elegant and traditional setting is a peaceful place to relax and fall in love with Chiang Mai's rich heritage.

51/4 Moo 1, Chiang Mai-Sankampaeng Rd., T. Tasala, A. Muang, Chiang Mai, Thailand. (+66) 53-888-888, dharadhevi.com.

Water Wonderland

Song Saa Private Island in southwest Cambodia is offering a "stay 5 nights pay 4" deal until April 30 on Over-water, Ocean view or Jungle villas, all of which have private pools. Song Saa offers spa sanctuaries, yoga and meditation programs and a range of conservation and community experiences as well as island and marine safaris, all of which are suitable for families or couples.

The resort provides speedboat transfers between Sihanoukville port and Song Saa, along with guided

tours of the unique terrestrial and marine environments of Song Saa's twin islands, use of the resort's kayaks, sailing boats and snorkeling gear. Additional complimentary amenities include a 15-minute foot "ritual," laundry, internet and TV.

Room rates start from \$7,200 with breakfast add-on available, while all-inclusive rates begin at \$11,500 per villa, per night, for double occupancy. **Koh Rong Archipelago, Cambodia. (+855) 23-886-750, songsaa.com.**



Discover a hidden paradise on Song Saa



①



②



③



④



⑤

Yolk's on You

Forget emulsification, spherification or centrifuging. The journey to modernist cooking starts with that most basic of proteins: a perfectly poached sous-vide egg. Only a few degrees separate the good from the bad, says **Leslie Yeh**

What is a 63-degree egg, anyhow?

A 63-degree egg is placed in a water bath at 63°C for around 40-45 minutes, to the point at which the egg white is just cooked, but the yolk is still deliciously creamy and runny. It's also known as an onsen egg, as the eggs were traditionally gently poached in Japanese onsen hot springs.

1. Follow the Trail

Presentation and plating come first at **Bibo**, the restaurant dedicated as much to the art of food as to the flavor itself. It's especially the case in the color trifecta of the signature L'Oeuf Mayo dish (part of the \$900 five-course tasting), comprised of a 64-degree egg, homemade mayo and sourdough bread crumbs. This tasty orchestration uses a Japanese Taiyouran organic egg, known for its rich, bright orange yolk, which adds a pop of color as it swirls like a painter's palette with the lighter-hued mayo. With sourdough crumbs scattered in a line across one side, it's like a deconstructed egg sandwich—albeit far more elegant and tasty.

G/F, 163 Hollywood Rd., Sheung Wan, 2956-3188, bibo.hk.

2. On an Egg Roll

Chef Philippe Orrico has been heralded for his use of the 63-degree egg, which features prominently in signature dishes at both of Orrico's restaurants, **On Dining Kitchen & Lounge** and Upper Modern Bistro. At On Dining, the meticulously cooked egg is the focal point of a beautiful starter, a shimmering, silky orb surrounded by pearl barley risotto made with 4-year aged Comté cheese, wild mushrooms and foie gras cubes. The addition of frogs legs, plump and meaty, amps up the protein factor in this elegant and classically French dish (\$268).

29/F, 18 On Lan St., Central, 2174-8100, ontop.hk.

3. All Yolk'd Up

22 Ships' 62-degree egg mash with morcilla bacon dashi (\$108) proves that a few degrees of separation can be the trick to masterminding the perfect dish. The near-translucent whites and runnier yolk make this dish a delicate force of nature, a volcano waiting to erupt and engulf the bits of Spanish blood sausage and potato mash, before pooling into the bacon dashi below.

22 Ship St., Wan Chai, 2555-0722, 22ships.hk.

Try it at home!

Don't have a water bath at home? You can still experiment with a sous vide-style egg. All you need is a large stock pot and a thermometer.

1. Heat water in a stockpot until an instant-read thermometer reads 62-64 degrees Celsius.
2. Carefully add eggs and cook for 45 minutes, keeping the temperature constant.
3. Remove egg, crack in half, and slide onto a warm plate.

4. Digging for Eggs

Sit down to a meal at modern British restaurant **Aberdeen Street Social** and you'll be struck by a distinct earthy element to chef Jason Atherton's creations, with ingredients such as wild mushrooms, black garlic, sea vegetables and burnt onion ash making for a meal that's as sensual as it is sumptuous. The 63-degree egg with black truffle, trompette mushroom crumb and burnt butter potato (\$198) is a dish that'll take you foraging through the woods, as you pick your way through the crumbly soil of shaved mushrooms and potato that's slowly bound together by the sticky, smooth egg yolk. It's a rich interplay of textures and ingredients that will leave you hunting around the menu for more.

35 Aberdeen St., Central, 2866-0300, aberdeensocial.hk.

5. Sous-vide Spaghetti

It was only a matter of time before someone decided to use a 63-degree egg in spaghetti carbonara. Creaminess is the goal in **First Floor by Lifestyle Federation**'s 63-degree onsen egg carbonara (\$210), and while the pasta sauce is already fortified with gallons of the good stuff, the real magic happens when the egg yolk breaks and oozes dreamily over the pasta and bacon, making for a cream- and yolk-drenched double indulgence. Add a bit of acidity from the cherry tomatoes, saltiness from caviar quenelles and peppery arugula to round out one of the guiltiest pastas in town.

1/F, Baskerville House, 13 Duddell St., Central, 2840-0032, thefirstfloor.com.hk.

#HKMagDish

Follow us on Instagram @hk_magazine and tag your best foodie shot with #HKMagDish for a chance to win a \$300 dining voucher from Ham & Sherry! Winner will be announced next Friday via Instagram.





EGG HUNT

Bunny hop around town to the best of Hong Kong's Easter dining deals.

Earth Hour

Pay homage to Mother Nature this Easter at healthy food purveyor **Grassroots Pantry**. On March 19, the plugs will be pulled as Grassroots serves up a raw menu to bring to attention our over-dependence on electricity (\$550). On Easter weekend, dig into brunch faves including smoked carrot and fennel salad (\$98), free-range eggs with artichoke (\$90), and a carrot walnut cake (\$78). **G/F, Shop D, 108 Hollywood Rd., Central, 2873-3353.**

Mama Cooks Best

Nothing feels more familial than a bit of Italian warmth and hospitality. From March 25-28, **Pirata** serves up a brunch menu (\$298) with signature dishes including M.M.M. (My Mamma's Meatballs) and roasted suckling pig. The feast includes an antipasti spread of cold cuts, roast beef and Italian cheese, and of course homemade pasta: think pappardelle with duck ragu and tagliatelle with black truffle and eggplant. **Noon-2:30pm. 30/F, 239 Hennessy Rd., Wan Chai, 2887-0270, pirata.hk.**

Feast on This

Feast (Food by East) provides a family-friendly eggs-perience this Easter with balloon twisting, magic performances and egg painting for the kids. Meanwhile, adults can feast on oven-roasted quail, Canadian Berkshire pork chops, spaghetti alle vongole, black angus rib-eye, or Bouchot mussels.

March 25-28, \$328 brunch, \$528 dinner, half price for kids. 29 Taikoo Shing Rd., Quarry Bay, 3968-3968.

For a full list of Easter dining deals, head to hk-magazine.com/restaurants.



Italian Easter

Spring has sprung at DiVino group: Head to **Spasso** for the semi-buffet (starts at \$388) with an egg-centric spread of onsen eggs, poached Bassano white asparagus from Veneto, and desserts including the sweet "Colomba" dove shaped cake and of course, chocolate Easter eggs. From mains, choose from fava bean focaccia, lamb "pollettine" stewed in a rich tomato and thyme sauce, and roasted baby goat.

Shop G5-8, 12-17, Empire Centre, 68 Mody Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui East, 2730-8027, divinogroup.com.

Easter Eats at Frites

Belgium beer favorite **Frites** rings in Easter weekend with an egg hunt and games for the kids, while adults can enjoy Frites' wide variety of Belgian beers on tap. Guests are encouraged to dress up for the occasion, so snap on those bunny ears and get ready to pose with the Easter Bunny and dig around for chocolate eggs. RSVP essential.

G/F, Oxford House, Taikoo Place, 979 King's Rd., Quarry Bay, 2250-5188.

Family Fun

Easter sweets and savory holiday-themed dishes await at **Harbour Plaza 8 Degrees**, with a holiday buffet (\$328 lunch, \$478 dinner) full of pan-fried foie gras with black truffle sauce, wagyu sashimi, French brown crab, and a full-on chocolate dessert buffet. An afternoon tea set (3-5pm, \$268) will include Easter-themed games for the kids.

199 Kowloon City Rd., To Kwa Wan, 2126-1988.

Embrace Your Love for Luscious Lamb This Easter

During the long weekend from March 25th to 28th, come and linger over lamb-inspired Easter dishes as all the restaurants under Wooloomooloo Group present you a roster of succulent lamb creations!

Wooloomooloo Prime
Tsim Sha Tsui | Causeway Bay

Wooloomooloo Steakhouse
Tsim Sha Tsui East | Wan Chai

Wooloomooloo® GROUP
www.wooloo-mooloo.com



"Pure Beethoven-joy."

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"He captures just the right balance of clarity, swiftness of attack, poetry and élan."

BBC Music Magazine

Piano

Saleem Ashkar



Beethoven *Emperor* Concerto

Programme

Daniel Lo Ting-cheung

Beethoven

Schumann

Efflorescence –

Quasi-Concerto for Orchestra (world première)

**Piano Concerto No 5 in E-flat,
Op 73, "Emperor"**

Symphony No 1 in B-flat, Op 38, "Spring"

9.4.2016

(Sat) 8pm

HK City Hall Concert Hall

\$340 \$220 \$140

Music Director/Conductor

Yip Wing-sie

2016/2017 Season 樂季

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Programme Enquiries: 2836 3336

For ages 6+

Hong Kong Sinfonietta reserves the right to change the programme and artists

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

DINING

Edited by Leslie Yeh

leslie.yeh@hkmagmedia.com



Fried stuff on a stick? Yes, please

Kushikatsu Got Your Tongue

The wave of native Japanese restaurants opening Hong Kong outposts is showing no signs of slowing anytime soon, and our city's latest casual izakaya hails from the food capital of Osaka. **Jan Jan Kushikatsu** (2/F, 100 Queen's Rd. East, Wan Chai, 2157-1408, janjan.com.hk) is helmed by Osaka native chef Hideki Abeyama, who's bringing the popular Osaka snack, kushikatsu, to town: Heftier than traditional tempura due to the addition of bread crumbs in the batter and paired with a tonkatsu dipping sauce, we predict it won't be long before the lines start to form, given our obsession with anything deep-fried and/or served on a stick. But this is no street food shack: Jan Jan offers a cozy, 1,000-sq.-ft. of wood and concrete details in a modern, edgy space, along with two private rooms for group dining.

RESTAURANT REVIEWS

Oppa Coffee Bar Restaurant ★★★★★

Korean Fusion. G/F, 1 Kimberley St., Tsim Sha Tsui, 2386-2315.



Seoul's latest food trends tend to hit TST's Kimberley Street first, so we expected Oppa Coffee Bar—which has long queues most nights—to be an expert at all the K-faves, including molten cheese rice (aka the "volcano") and cheese ribs fads.

■ **HIT** Thankfully, after waiting about 40 minutes in line, the food didn't take too long to arrive. The Kimchi Volcano (\$158) was kimchi fried rice served on an iron plate, topped with grated mozzarella. The server pours a generous amount of cheese and egg sauce on top, then promptly melts the whole thing with a blowtorch—resulting in an ooey, gooey,

cheesy mixture which he then stirs up and serves in your bowl. Spectacle aside, the dish wasn't too heavy, but was big enough to share. The cheese ribs (\$275) were also served in a similar manner, with molten grated cheese wrapped around each well-flavored baby back rib, with the meat coming clean off the bone. Juicy and smooth Sun Hari grapefruit soju (\$82)—the brand that started the flavored soju craze—washed it all down nicely.

■ **MISS** For relatively small portions made to share, the pricing at Oppa Coffee is pretty off-kilter. We respect the pyromancing skills needed to be a server here, but \$275 only got us four measly cheese ribs, which is just cruel.

■ **BOTTOM LINE** You'll get your K-fad favorites at a slight markup here, but for your fix of cheese and kimchi with a side of K-pop ballads, it'll do.

**Open Mon-Fri noon-3:30pm;
5pm-midnight; Sat noon-midnight;
Sun noon-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
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NEW AND NOTED



Seafood gems at Fishsteria

Issaya of Relief

If you haven't yet made it to **Issaya Siamese Club** (25/F, Soundwill Plaza II Midtown, 1 Tang Lung St., Causeway Bay, 2154-3048), now's a good time to go and try the new semi-buffet weekday lunch (Mon-Fri, noon-3pm, \$238-350). The original Bangkok restaurant recently rose from 39 to 19 on Asia's 50 Best Restaurants list, and is known for its colorful and playful menu that's replicated to a T here in Hong Kong. While dinner can run upwards of \$600, lunch is reasonable, with a buffet of signature items like yum som-o pomelo salad and the banana blossom and heart of palm salad with crispy shallots. Options for mains include grilled Iberico pork in a khao soi curry sauce and slow-cooked smoked salmon with Jerusalem artichokes. Don't miss the homemade Thai-flavored macarons and ice cream for dessert.

Under the Sea

Seafood palace **Fishsteria** (G/F-1/F, 111 Queen's Rd. East, Wan Chai, 2343-8110) is jumping on the oyster happy hour craze with a pretty great promotion: \$10 bivalves with a purchase of any drink at the bar from 5-7:30pm (also available Thu-Sat after 10pm). Slurp down the aphrodisiacs—freshly imported from France—in-between sips of hand-crafted cocktails by mixologist Mario Calderone. There's also a sardine-themed set menu for March (\$328 for four courses) with dishes including a hearty, Sicilian-style spaghetti with sardines, bread crumbs and fennel, or Spanish grilled sardines with parsley pesto. Finally, ladies planning your next girl's night out should take advantage of "Mermaid" nights on Mar 16, Apr 13 and May 11 with first cocktails going for \$18, DJs and discounted oysters and bottles of wine.

For more in-depth reviews,
visit [hk-magazine.com!](http://hk-magazine.com/)

Bindaas ★★★★☆

Indian. LG/F, 33 Aberdeen St., Central, 2447-9998.



This modern Indian restaurant is riding the contemporary-fusion-small-plates trend with style, and reinventing the image of Indian cuisine along the way.

HIT With a name meaning "chilled-out" in colloquial Hindi, Bindaas draws influences from traditional street food and Indian tapas, with the bold, spice-laden Indian flavors we all know and love reimagined with cool modern twists. The sev puri (\$68) was one of our favorite bites of the night—a bite-sized flavor bomb with three types of chutney and boiled potato sitting on fried puri bread, liberally sprinkled with crunchy sev chickpea noodles. We mopped up

the keema pao (\$108), a savory ragu of minced goat meat masala with a side of fluffy Bombay-style buns, and also enjoyed the chili chicken "naanza" (naan + pizza), which had an Asian kick from a sweet glaze and wok-tossed peppers in addition to its Indian and Italian roots. From the curry menu, the saag gosht (\$168) was a generous pot of goat meat in a spinach sauce; like the best of Indian curries, it was dark, murky and full of indistinguishable but potent spices. If you have room for dessert, there are four intriguing milk-centric sweets on offer (\$78), including saffron milk with rose syrup, and betel-flavored panna cotta.

MISS If we're probing for faults, the big spoonful of ghee that rested on top of the garlic naan was too heavy-handed.

BOTTOM LINE Bindaas offers a refreshing take on Indian cuisine that stays true to its chilled-out name.

**Open daily noon-2:30pm,
5-10:30pm. \$\$**

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.

#CHOPnCHEERS



Easter Beast Feast

Easter this year is all about delectable comfort food! The Chop House proudly serves you an Easter Beast Feast at incomparable value.

The Beast Feast is the ultimate festive feast for family and friends to share - it includes a succulent platter of meat, grilled vegetables and an impressive chocolate and caramel dessert board for sharing.

**Beast Feast – available all day from March 25th to 28th
HK\$198 + 10% s.c. per guest (minimum 2 guests)**

Shop 3013C, 3/F Miramar Shopping Centre, Tsim Sha Tsui
t. +852 2295 3200
3/F Soundwill Plaza II - Midtown, Causeway Bay
t. +852 2771 3177
www.the-chop-house.com

 **The Chop House**

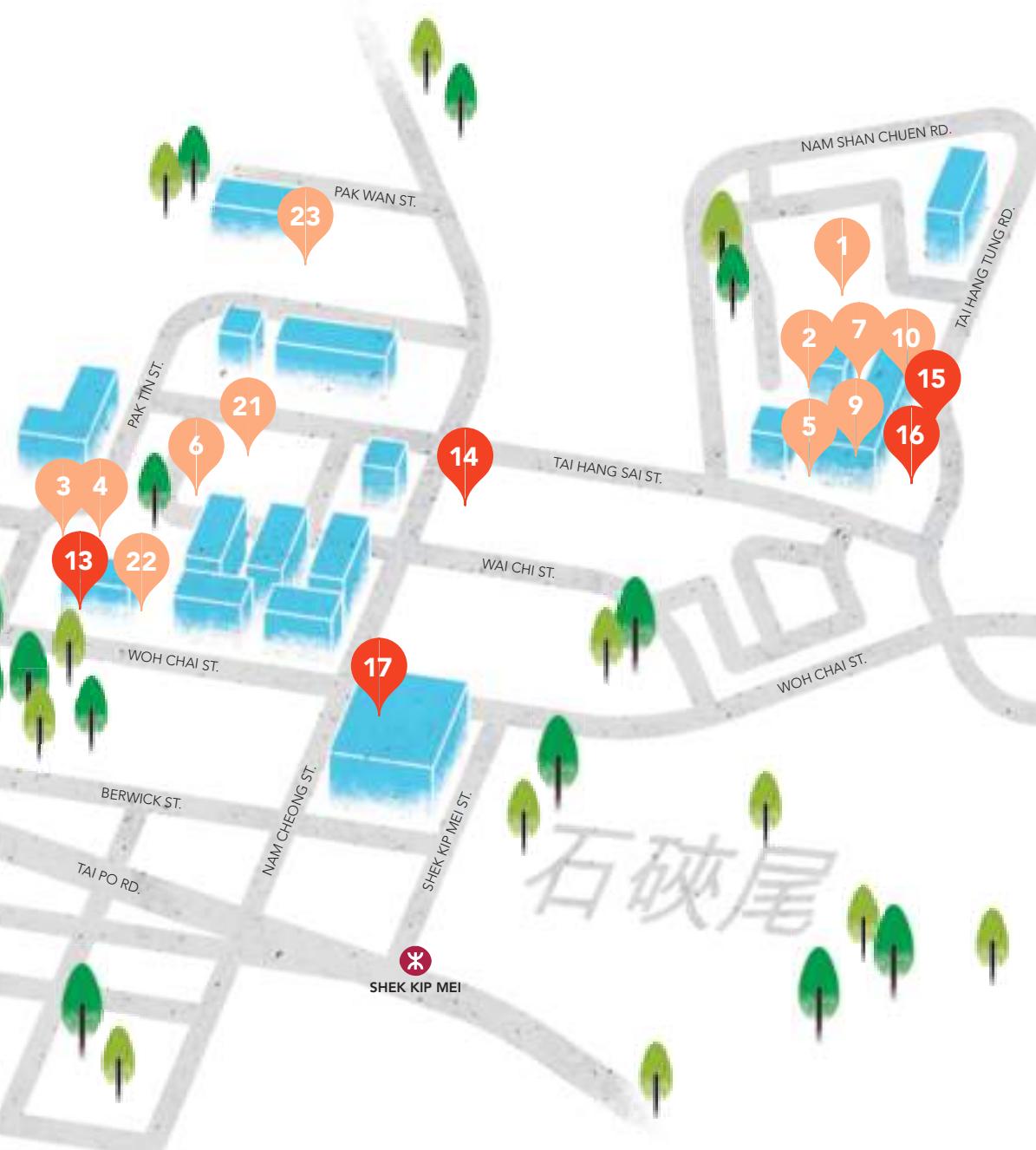
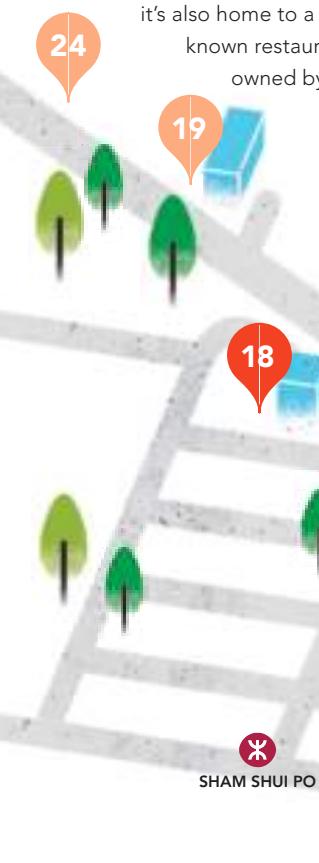
CITY STROLL

Shek Kip Mei

Wedged between the sprawl of Kowloon Tong and the markets of Sham Shui Po, Shek Kip Mei has been a poorer district of Hong Kong ever since it was settled. In the 1950s it was a shantytown for Mainland Chinese immigrants, until a Christmas Day fire in 1953 devastated the area and left some 53,000 homeless. The government introduced Hong Kong's first public housing scheme to rehouse the

immigrants, and the district grew from there. Nowadays

Shek Kip Mei still has plenty of public housing, but it's also home to a treasure trove of lesser-known restaurants and shops, many owned by the locals of the district.



13 Café Golden

This hidden gem of a coffee shop inside the Jockey Club Creative Arts Centre is renowned for its foamy cappuccinos and lattes. Also runs coffee courses and barista lessons.

Room 5, 1/F, Jockey Creative Arts Centre, 30 Pak Tin St., Shek Kip Mei, 2408-8255.



15 C+ House

This little ice cream shop has plenty of interesting flavors, including durian, matcha and more. \$10 for two scoops of rich, A+ worthy ice cream.

Shop 20, Podium Nam Shan Estate, Nam Shan Estate, Shek Kip Mei.



17 Timachine café

You can smell the burgers here from miles away. The café is only open on Saturdays from 2-9pm, and it also hosts live music. Also holds handicrafts markets on occasional Sundays.

Shop 6A, Community Building, Shek Kip Mei Estate, 100 Woh Chai St., Shek Kip Mei.



14 Hip Yee Hing Embroidery Company (協義興繡莊)

For over 40 years Hip Yee Hing has sold handmade silk quilts and cloth, as well as bamboo mats for the warm season. One of the final places in the city selling made-in-Hong Kong embroidery.

Shop 121, G/F, Block 20, Nam Cheong St., Shek Kip Mei.



16 Tokachi Gyuu Japanese restaurant

Nam Shan Estate isn't just for Chinese bites. This Japanese restaurant offers up sushi and sashimi at extremely affordable prices—the udon and ramen are worth a try, too.

Shop 1, Podium Nam Fung House, Nam Shan Estate, Shek Kip Mei, 2430-2628.



18 Garden Bakery Factory

The legendary Hong Kong bakery has served up its signature "Life Bread" for 90 years now. The factory has exhibitions of all things yeasty, and there's also a café where you can dig into freshly baked treats.

58 Castle Peak Rd., Shek Kip Mei.



Check back next week for more awesome things to do in Shek Kip Mei!



Sakura Festival @ Harbour City

Harbour City will bring the season of cherry blossoms to Hong Kong through a real Sakura display. A pop-up tavern will be also opened to offer various first-launched Sake and pairing food to customers. Together with "Masu Transformation" & "Sake x Manga" art exhibitions and performance of famous Japanese instrumental trio "Yui", everyone can appreciate Sakura and Japanese culture at Harbour City.

Location: Gateway Arcade, Harbour City

Date: 17th–31st March, 2016



Peter Brook's BATTLEFIELD

Peter Brook and his original collaborators return to the 1985 epic, The Mahabharata, in this 70-minute adaptation for contemporary audiences. Performed in English, Battlefield features a multi-ethnic cast, giving theatrical expression to mankind's greatest dramas and deepest struggles. "Breathtaking... a dazzling piece of theatre": The Guardian.

www.hk.artsfestival.org

16-20 March, Studio Theatre, HK Cultural Centre

www.urbtix.hk (Tel: 2111-5999)

Music of Character

Looking for something special to do on a Saturday night? The Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra will bring you the various types of folk instruments that are less familiar to the frequent concert-goer. The wide range of Chinese instruments includes not only those from the Han of the Central Plains, but also those from ethnic minorities of more obscure regions. That is why Chinese folk instrumental music is so full of character. (www.hkco.org)

Date: 9/4/2016 (8:00pm)

Venue: Ko Shan Theatre New Wing Auditorium

Ticket: HK\$180/250

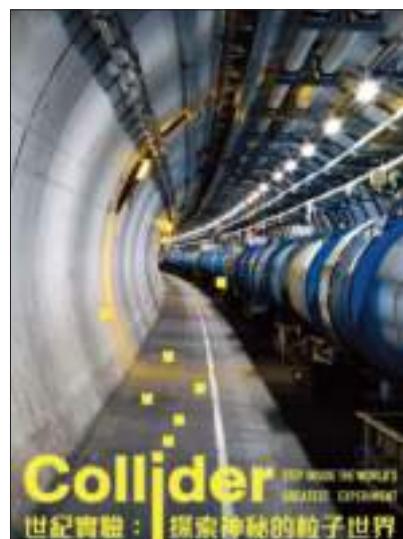
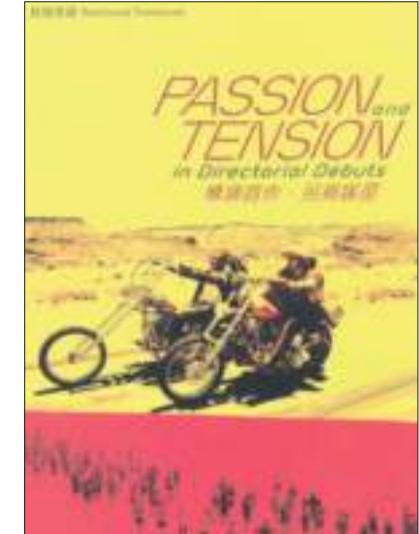


Passion and Tension in Directorial Debuts

The Restored Treasures series will screen feature debuts of nine respected directors at the Hong Kong Film Archive Cinema from April to December. Five of the films will also be shown at the UA iSquare and Cine Moko from June to November. These films have been hailed across decades, including works that illuminate the intellectual, cultural and emotional dynamics between the East and the West.

Tickets \$55 (URBTIX); \$90 (UA Cinema Box Office). Package discount available for Hong Kong Film Archive

www.filmarchive.gov.hk / www.lcsd.gov.hk/fp



Step inside the world's greatest experiment

There are thousands of unsolved mysteries throughout our colossal universe. Over the years, scientists have endeavoured to unveil the origin of the universe by studying particle physics. The exhibition introduces the world's largest and most complex scientific instruments—The Large Hadron Collider built by CERN through multimedia programmes, simulated laboratory environments, and real components of the Collider.

**2 Science Museum Road,
Tsim Sha Tsui East, Kowloon
hk.science.museum**



Have a Hoppy Wednesday Easter at the Valley

Celebrate Easter at the Valley to enjoy breathtaking horse-racing and lots of Easter fun! Star of the night is a huge installation covered with GODIVA chocolates, perfect place to pose for snaps. Get in the groove with band CARNIVALE and get straight into the party mood by donning a pair of Bunny ears, you're sure to have a blast.

Date: Mar 23, Wednesday night

Venue: Happy Valley Racecourse

Louella Odié collection has summer sussed

Hong Kong sunshine brand Louella Odié (pronounced like the letters O-D-A) have a gorgeous collection of embroidered pouches and sarongs for exotic holidays and casual weekends. The designs all have a link to life here in Hong Kong and make great gifts if you can bear to give them away.

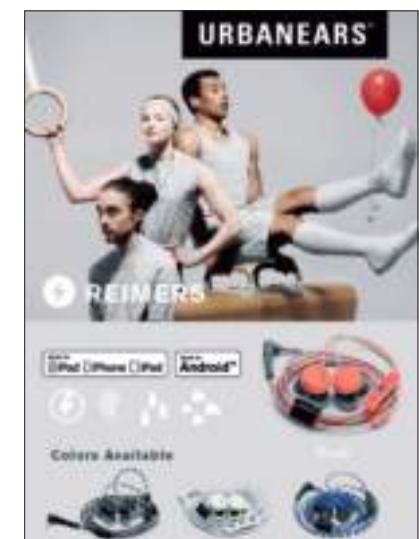
Available on the website www.louellaodie.com or from stockists around town



RELEASE THE BEAT

Sweat it out in style with the new Urbanears sporty headphones—Reimers Keep the focus on your pulse with a fuss-free setup, including perfect fit EarClick technology and a smart double clip that keeps everything in place. These lightweight in-ear headphones featured with a reflective cable which gives you extra night-proof edge for after hours sweat sessions.

SRP 399; available at www.streetvalue.asia/



UPCLOSE: GINA WONG



Filmmaker and curator **Gina Wong See-yuen** founded independent film and video art space **Experimenta** in 2008. This March, she is working in collaboration with Art Central to bring three experimental film programs to the public in "Screen X Experimenta." She shares with Evelyn Lok her passion for alternative film and multimedia art.

HK Magazine: What's the biggest difference between experimental film and movies you see in regular cinemas?

Gina Wong: Narrative motion pictures are like a novel or magazine, and Hollywood blockbusters are like a tabloid: It's just entertainment. Experimental films are like poetry. Every word in poetry is the intensive feeling of the writer. Experimental film doesn't have a linear storyline; it's more complex, more flowing. I think that's the beauty of it. [I was drawn to it] because experimental films are made by a variety of filmmakers. If you look at Hollywood films, a lot of them are still made by men. Experimental films write human history in a way which gives a better picture of [reality] in 2016.

HK: Women seem to have a prominent position in the Hong Kong arts scene: Do you think that's true?

GW: Women have a prominent position in arts administration. But that's not where the power lies. They're volunteers, they're administrators, they're managers. But the top collectors, the tastemakers and the power people: They're men. But things are changing. More women are participating in art. You're supposed to break through the status quo. Otherwise it's not art, it's decoration.

HK: How has it been, running an independent film art space in Hong Kong?

GW: We have a small group of diehard fans, about 350, who come to all our screenings. We don't get any funding from the government. It's truly independent, so our arts exhibitions are not afraid of criticizing anybody, including the government. We're really flexible, as we don't have to wait for the Arts Development Council to approve of our programs a year in

advance. I spend quite a lot of time reaching out to individuals for angel funding in London and Shanghai. You can't really do that in Hong Kong—there's no one to support it.

HK: What's in store at Screen x Experimenta?

GW: Half of them are Asian premieres. The first program is "X Screen World Drama," which is more for the beginners. They have narratives and actors speaking. It's easier to watch. "X Screen Poetry" is for the experimental film buffs. Films are more poetic, and made by women filmmakers. One highlight is "I Feel as if I am Vanishing," from a local filmmaker of Pakistani origin. It's time we picked Indian and Pakistani compatriots who are from Hong Kong. There's going to be a world premiere of my own film, "The Road to Day Dream Mine," a story to remember my own grandmother, who I thought was ahead of her time. I contrasted the red of the Australian Mundi Mundi Plains with the ocean in Hong Kong. And it's going to be shown in virtual reality too. We have a few Google Cardboard [VR viewers] to give out each day, and people who register can download my film and watch it from there.

HK: Why work to develop the Hong Kong art scene?

GW: I'm a Hong Kong girl. I graduated from the University of Hong Kong, this is where my heart is. With all the politics going on, isn't this the most amazing time to be here? Because maybe I can make a little bit of difference. I hope to tell the story of as many people as possible—especially those whose stories have not been told.

See **Screen X Experimenta** at Art Central.

Film programs take place Mar 22-26, from 4:30pm each day. See artcentralhongkong.com for details.

Concerts

The Beach Boys with the HK Phil

Performing live with the HK Philharmonic, the iconic surf-pop group The Beach Boys will present some of their greatest hits of the past five decades. Wouldn't it Be Nice to go see them and have Fun, Fun, Fun? God Only Knows... Mar 18-19, 8pm. Queen Elizabeth Stadium, 18 Oi Kwan Rd., Wan Chai, \$380-1,580 from urbtix.hk.



Peter Bence

How fast can you play the piano? Hungarian pianist Peter Bence currently holds the Guinness World Record for hitting 765 keys in one minute. Don't believe us? See it for yourself: He's in town to play tunes from popular movie soundtracks. Mar 25-28, 2-4pm. Mall Atrium, MOKO, 193 Prince Edward Rd. West, Mong Kok.

Swire Maestro Series: Pictures at an Exhibition

How appropriate for art month: The HK Phil presents Russian composer Modest Mussorgsky's famous composition, conducted by Hans Graf and performed by Russian star violinist Dmitri Makhtin. Mar 25-26, 8pm. Concert Hall, Cultural Centre, 10 Salisbury Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, \$180-480 from urbtix.hk.

Classical



A Renaissance Easter Journey

Easter is just around the corner! What better way to celebrate the Holy Week than with some Renaissance music? Tallis Vocalis, the city's first early music vocal ensemble, is presenting a special performance for the occasion, including a new version of Allegri's iconic "Miserere." Apr 1, 8pm. Concert Hall, City Hall, 5 Edinburgh Place, Central, \$80-320 from urbtix.hk.



The Philadelphia Orchestra

From Philly to Hong Kong, the renowned Philadelphia Orchestra is in town for two nights. The program includes Brahms's Symphony No. 2 and Beethoven's String Quartet in F minor "Serioso." We're hoping for a teamup with the HK Phil, so it'll be an HK-Philly-HK-Phil gig. Mar 19-20, 8pm. Concert Hall, Cultural Centre, 10 Salisbury Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, \$300-1,250 from urbtix.hk.

Comedy

Stand Up Comedy Live!

Celebrate the Irish Fest with not one, not two, but three Irish comics—Andrew Stanley, John Lynn and Karl Spain—at Punchline's upcoming all-Irish show. There's no dress code but we suggest... go green? Mar 18-19, 9pm. Tamarind, 2/F, Sun Hung Kai Centre, 30 Harbour Rd., Wan Chai, \$350 from ticketflap.com.



Tom Cotter

"America's Got Talent" runner-up Tom Cotter brings his quickfire wit to Hong Kong. The award-winning comedian will be cracking jokes at TakeOut Comedy. Mar 18, 9pm; Mar 19, 8pm, 10pm. TakeOut Comedy, B/F, 34 Elgin St., Central, 6220-4436, \$250-300 from takeoutcomedy.com.

Dance



Arirang of Mount Paektu

Sick of K-pop already? Go for K-traditional music and dance instead. Korean group Yanbian Song and Dance Troupe is putting on a show that focuses on the harmony between humans and nature, inspired by the magnificent landscapes of Yanbian on the border of China and North Korea. Mar 26, 8pm; Mar 27, 3pm. Tsuen Wan Town Hall Auditorium, 72 Tai Ho Rd., Tsuen Wan, \$120-220 from urbtix.hk.



Constellations

After an awesome performance in 2008, Spanish modern dance company Aracaladanza returns to Hong Kong to present their latest show, Constellations. The show is a dance cocktail filled with colors and shapes like a vivid moving painting, a journey for the imagination. Mar 25-26, 7:30pm; Mar 26-27, 3pm. Theatre, Ngau Chi Wan Civic Centre, 11 Clear Water Bay Rd., Choi Hung, \$140-240 from urbtix.hk.

Little Pieces

City Contemporary Dance Company opens the 2016 season with Dominic Wong's "Little Pieces," which explores our relationship with choreography, and how it touches people's emotions. Twerking certainly touches ours. Apr 15-16, 8pm; Apr 16-17, 3pm. Studio Theatre, Cultural Centre, 10 Salisbury Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, \$160-220 from urbtix.hk.



Musicals



Jersey Boys

Currently playing in London's West End and on Broadway, this smash hit musical tells the remarkable story of 1960s group Frankie Valli & the Four Seasons—four boys from the wrong side of the tracks who became one of the most successful, most falsettotastic groups in music history. Apr 13-May 1, various times. Grand Theatre, Cultural Centre, 10 Salisbury Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, \$395-1095 from lunchboxticketing.com.

Opera

Handel's Semele

The HKAPA presents Handel's Semele, a three-part opera all about lust, love and morality. Semele is a princess who wants to be immortal... but things don't work out like she'd planned. Obviously. Mar 19, 7:30pm. Academy Drama Theatre, Academy for Performing Arts, 1 Gloucester Rd., Wan Chai, \$150 from hkticketing.com.

Exhibitions

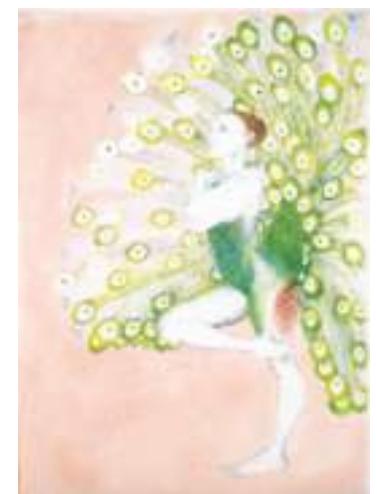


McNamara Art Projects

Featuring seminal sculptures by British post-war sculptor Lynn Chadwick, this large scale public exhibition across Hongkong Land properties in Central offers Centralites an artistic touch to their busy lives. You're welcome, Centralites! Various locations including the Rotunda, Exchange Square. Through Apr 15.

Fay Ku: Arcadia

Karin Weber Gallery presents figurative artworks by New York-based artist Fay Ku. Featuring women that are mysterious and otherworldly, her works are a contemporary interpretation of "Arcadia," a pastoral utopia that's a million miles from the Hong Kong cityscape. Through Apr 21. Karin Weber Gallery, G/F, 20 Aberdeen St., Central.



Duddell's x DMA:

Concentrations HK - Margaret Lee

Get more than dim sum at Duddell's. Collaborating with the Dallas Museum of Art, Duddell's is presenting the latest exhibition of New York-based artist Margaret Lee. Lee's works explores images, objects and gestures as embodiments of desire. Mar 21-Jun 21. Duddell's, 3-4/F, Shanghai Tang Mansion, Duddell St., Central.

Art | Basel Hong Kong | March | 24–26 | 2016

The Premier International Art Show

Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre

Vernissage | Wednesday, March 23, 5pm to 9pm

Public Opening Hours | Thursday, March 24, 1pm to 9pm; Friday, March 25, 1pm to 8pm; Saturday, March 26, 11am to 6pm

Tickets | Available at hkticketing.com, or by calling +852 31 288 288. Tickets are limited, buy now to ensure entry.



NIGHTLIFE

OPEN BAR BITTERS AND SWEETS

The buzz: If the name hasn't already given it away, Wellington Street newcomer Bitters and Sweets shines a spotlight on the all-important bitters in its cocktail craft. Bitters are highly concentrated liquid extractions of flavor made from infused botanicals and herbs. And here, everything is painstakingly homemade, from the bitters (of course) to the house-infused liquors to even the hazelnut chocolate filling (aka homemade nutella) in the desserts. All the better to justify the price point, we suppose...

The décor: Modern, sophisticated and furnished with plush carpet and sleek lounge seats, Bitters and Sweets feels almost like you're in a comfortable living room at a rich relative's house. The long central bar has six seats on the side, reserved for guests to try soon-to-come food pairing menus, which offer a (literal) peek into the kitchen to watch the chefs at work.

The drinks: Start off with a delicate and refreshing Gin & Tea Tonic (pictured) (\$130), which the menu dubs the "Eurasian beauty" of the bar's cocktail menu: blending Chinese oolong tea and rose with the classic British G&T. Then move onto the spectacles: the Smokey Joe (\$180) sips like an iced coffee, made with house-infused coffee bourbon,

but with added layers of a subtly sweet chestnut syrup, chocolate bitters and cherry chip wood smoke that's pumped onto the drink under a glass lid before serving. If you like your cocktails to knock you out as well as provide an Instagram-worthy show, behold the Night Quil (\$180), a warm cocktail in which citrus fruits, thyme, delicious Iron Buddha tea and mint are infused with a siphon into warm gin for a strong and soothing nightcap. Speaking of strong, the Marmalade (\$150) backs a hefty punch: sweet, juicy and made with VSOP, vanilla earl grey syrup and orange, all served in a jam jar.

Why you'll be back: Bitters & Sweets is still working on expanding its food menu, which currently touts homemade comfort foods including chocolate hazelnut banana spring rolls (\$80); fluffy on the inside, crispy on the outside churros (\$80); and spam fries with Sriracha mayo (\$90). If washing your expertly crafted tipple down with discerning bar bites and lying back in a sophisticated lounge pumping 90s R 'n' B appeals to you—we trust you're already there. **Evelyn Lok**
1/F, Somptueux Central, 52-54 Wellington St., Central, 2788-0103, facebook.com/bittersandsweetshk.



Clubs

Volar x Love & Beats Presents Rampue

Bringing soulful vocals and tight basslines to Volar this month is Berlin-based DJ Rampue, who'll be spinning disco and house all night. Mar 25, 10pm. Volar, B/F, 38-44 D'Aguilar St., Central, 2810-1510. \$250 from ticketflap.com, two drinks before 12:30am and one drink thereafter; \$300 at the door before 12:30am, \$350 thereafter, both with two drinks.

Blame It On Thursday: The Captains of Industry

Graham Funke and StoneRokk of The Captains of Industry make their way to D-i this month with a whole bag of funky beats. Expect a mix of funk, latin, disco and electro house. Mar 24, 10pm. Dragon-i, U/G, The Centrium, 60 Wyndham St., Central, \$300 at the door.

Hungry Monday with Gotsome

Deck wizard Adam Gorsky of UK production duo Gotsome brings the bass to Dragon-i. Mar 21, 10pm. Dragon-i, U/G, The Centrium, 60 Wyndham St., Central, \$200 at the door.



DJ Shortee Blitz: Elevate

He hosts his own hip hop show on UK's Kiss FM, and has held residencies at Ibiza's Eden and London's Ministry of Sound: DJ Shortee Blitz hits the decks at Cé La Vi's club lounge. Mar 18, 10pm. Cé La Vi, 24-26/F, California Tower, 32 D'Aguilar St., Central. Free for ladies; \$200 from ticketflap.com/celavielevate or at the door for gents, includes one standard drink.



Fatman Scoop

If you got a hundred dollar bill put your hands up: Scoop's here to take your money. Mar 31, 10pm. Bungalow, Shop 2, G/F, The Centrium, 60 Wyndham St., Central, \$300 from fatmanscoop.hk.eventbrite.hk, \$400 at the door; all include one standard drink.

Sick Individuals

Kicking off the Easter long weekend are Beatport-chart-topping DJs Sick Individuals. Sick like awesome beats? Or sick like you might want to put a mask on, and wear a few more layers like mom told you to? Mar 24, 10pm. Levels, 2/F, On Hing Building, 1 On Hing Terrace, Central, \$350 from nightlighthk.eventbrite.hk, \$450 at the door; all include one standard drink.

DJ Yass

Catch triple-turntable whiz DJ Yass at Drop. He'll be spinning deep house and techno all night. Mar 19, 10pm. Drop, B/F, On Lok Mansion, 39-43 Hollywood Rd., Central, free entry before midnight.

Play Presents: Shortcut

One third of Triple Threat DJs and also part of crews Invisibl Skratch Pklz and Beat Junkie Sound, Californian scratch turntablist DJ Shortcut spins at Play for some pre-Easter partying. Mar 18, 10pm. Play, 1/F, On Hing Building, 1 On Hing Terrace, Central.



Gigs

David Hasselhoff: Hong Kong Sevens Kick-Off Concert

And we're hoff: "Baywatch" legend and recording artist David Hasselhoff will be warming up the crowd the Wednesday evening before the Sevens, and will also be making appearances in the stadium throughout the weekend. On stage at the concert the Hoff will be accompanied by Scots rockers The Proclaimers and ABBA tribute band Björn Again. Why? Because Sevens, obviously. Apr 6, 5-11pm. Sevens Village, Indian Recreation Club, 63 Caroline Hill Rd., Causeway Bay, \$199 from ticketflap.com/hksevenskickoff.



Mak Mak \$30 Happy Hour

Lost and thirsty in the Landmark? Head to Mak Mak for \$30 Singha beers or house wines, which come with complimentary Thai chili peanuts at the bar. Daily, 5-8pm. Mak Mak, Shop 217A, 2/F, Landmark Atrium, 15 Queen's Rd., Central.

Happy Hours



Maximal Concepts Cocktail Hour

To thank its faithful customers, Maximal Concepts is offering complimentary free flow cocktails between 6-7pm at Limewood and Fish & Meat on Mondays to Wednesdays. You're welcome! Mon-Wed. Limewood, G/F, The Pulse, 28 Beach Rd., Repulse Bay; Fish & Meat, 1-2/F, 32 Wyndham St., Central, 2810-1510. Free.

Free-Flow Vodka Ladies Night at Pastis

Ladies get free-flow candy infused vodka drinks (dangerous...) every Wednesday at Pastis, or you can buy G.H. Mumm champers for \$450 per bottle and \$600 for two. It's almost rude not to go... Wednesdays, 7-9pm. Mar 24, 10pm. Pastis, G/F, 65 Wyndham St., Central, \$300 at the door.

Nightlife Events

#Starttheclock at Woobar

Numb those Sunday scaries by heading to Woobar for two hours of free-flow G.H. Mumm Champagne, available anytime on Sundays and Public Holidays. Woobar, 6/F, W Hong Kong, 1 Austin Rd. West, West Kowloon, \$330 per person.

Cliché Records: Rabbit Hole Party Returns

The Hong Kong record label returns with another of its ever-popular Rabbit Hole parties. Celebrating delicious house and disco beats with a top-of-the-line Funktion One sound system, this time they're inviting international acts San Soda and Francis Inferno Orchestra to the decks. Mar 24, 8pm. Mahalo Tiki Lounge, 29/F, QRE Plaza, 202 Queen's Rd. East, Wan Chai, free entry.





Edited by Evelyn Lok
evelyn.lok@hkmagmedia.com



Hong Kong Rugby Tens After Party

Want to hang out with a bunch of rugby players? You don't have to scour Wan Chai and LKF after the Sevens in the hope of meeting a muscled titan. Taking place just before the Sevens, the GFI HKFC 10s (Apr 6-7) will be rocking out the tournament with a Thursday after party on the hockey pitch, open to the public. Beer and wine included in the ticket price. Apr 7, 8:30pm. Hong Kong Football Club, 1 Sports Rd., Causeway Bay, hongkongtens.com. \$250 for after party from ticketflap.com/gfihkfc10s.com, \$300 at the door.

HK PICKS

Absolut Art Bar: After Art at Zuma

You can have your art and drink it too during art week, where patrons of Zuma's Absolut Art Bar who show their Art Central or Art Basel tickets will get a free arty cocktail after buying their first drink, from 8pm onwards. There'll also be a mix of special installations and DJ events at Zuma throughout the week, hosted by British artist James Ostrer, who will be taking on his "Guru Jimmy" persona. Mar 21-28. Zuma, 5/F, The Landmark, 12-16 Queen's Rd. Central, zumarestaurant.com.



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Ten Years ★★★★

(Hong Kong) Drama. Directed by Ng Ka-leung, Jevons Au Man-kit, Chow Kwun-wai, Wong Fei-pang and Zune Kwok. Starring Liu Kai-chi, Courtney Wu, Peter Chan, Wong Jing, Lau Ho-chi. Category IIB, 104 minutes. Limited release.

If you're still straying into the fantasyland where Hong Kong will remain unchanged until 2047, "Ten Years" will stamp out your wishful thinking. A collection of five unconnected short films by emerging Hong Kong directors, the film paints a bleak picture of our city's future in the next decade. The film has had its fill of coverage thanks to the attacks from Chinese state media, but all that noise doesn't shout down this film, or how powerfully it tells its stories.

The film kicks off with the black-and-white "Extras," introducing us to an Indian immigrant and a hapless triad member who are roped in by the government to fake an assassination of two political leaders, in order to drum up support for the implementation of a national security law. It all seems like a joke at first, but things soon get sinister.

In "Dialect," taxi drivers are required in the future to pass a Putonghua proficiency test in order to pick up passengers at major immigration control points. A Cantonese-speaking driver struggles through the hostile environment while wrestling with his wife, who insists on enrolling their son in a Putonghua-only school.

According to director Jevons Au Man-kit, Hong Kong's versatile linguistic environment was the spur to producing "Dialect." He points out the passive status of Cantonese and how Hongkongers attached greater significance to English when Hong Kong was a British colony, and to Putonghua when the Individual Visit Scheme was implemented. "Is this not our turn to defend our language?" he asks HK Magazine. "'Dialect' lays bare what the 'effect' will be so that viewers can contemplate what the 'cause' is—is it the system? Human nature? Or is it our desires?"

"Self-immolator" is perhaps the short that resonates the most. Presented as a documentary, complete with commentary and flashbacks, someone sets fire to themselves in front of the British Consulate-General.

With visuals directly recalling the protests at the beginning of Occupy, the tension slowly builds up to a climax.

The script took shape in 2009, when director Chow Kwun-wai decided that the failure in fighting for universal suffrage for both the Chief Executive and Legco was the last straw. "The film gave me the strength to overcome the powerlessness I felt during the Umbrella Revolution," he tells HK Magazine.

There are no big names, but from rookie actors to familiar faces from TV, the cast delivers poignant performances. Leung Kin-ping deserves a huge hand for his spot-on portrayal of a prudent taxi driver who finds himself on the brink of a career and family breakdown in "Dialect." The moment when his son calls him "baba" in Putonghua is particularly remarkable, as we watch his despair gently languish into acceptance.

From its abundant use of location-based sounds to its modest shots, the directors are careful to steer clear from tricky shots or flash effects: They know that the audience's unease feeds on the story's believability. Another reason is the shoestring budget: \$100,000 was all each director had to make "Ten Years."

From its initial single release, "Ten Years" spread to more and more theaters in Hong Kong, finally rising to international recognition through the festival route. "Dialect" director Au suggests that the success of the film has been its ability to "strike a chord" with those who love Hong Kong, while "Self-Immolator" director Chow expresses a concern that overseas viewers may not be able to understand the jargon and the multitude of political arguments.

But this is a film for Hongkongers. "Ten Years" may not be your average feel-good flick, but this bleak picture of the future touches a sore spot in every Hongkonger's heart. **Sophia Lam**



If you missed "Ten Years" in cinemas, there is a simultaneous community screening at 12 locations across Hong Kong on April 1 at 7pm, followed by a live discussion with the directors. Visit facebook.com/hktenyears for details.

Coming Soon

Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice ▾

(USA) Following up on 2013's "Man of Steel," director Zack Snyder returns with the ultimate showdown between Batman (Ben Affleck) and Superman (Henry Cavill), who duke it out in Metropolis. Also featuring the first appearances of Wonder Woman, Aquaman, The Flash and Cyborg. Squeee! Opens Mar 24.

Heaven in the Dark

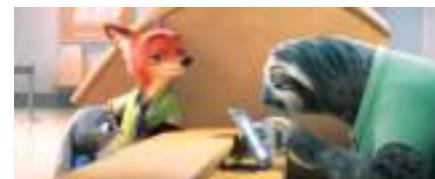
(Hong Kong) Jacky Cheung's getting seduced by Karena Lam all over again after Ann Hui's 2001 "July Rhapsody." Adapted from Hong Kong theater stalwart Candace Chong's play "French Kiss," "Heaven in the Dark" portrays a scandal between Pastor To (Cheung) and Michelle (Lam) after they share a kiss and she files for sexual harassment. The pastor soon loses faith in his religion and Michelle finds solace in it. What happens when they meet years later? Opens Mar 24.

Panay

(Taiwan) An ode to Taiwanese aboriginal culture if there ever was one, "Panay" explores the tale of an indigenous Taiwanese tribe coping with developers trying to build a hotel on their land. Opens Mar 24.

Truth

(USA) James Vanderbilt brings the story behind the 2004 Killian documents scandal—aka "Memogate"—to the silver screen. CBS producer Mary Mapes (Cate Blanchett) and news anchor Dan Rather (Robert Redford) uncover memos critical of President George W. Bush's performance in the Air National Guard, two months before the election—but are the documents authentic? And how will this match up against "Spotlight"? Opens Mar 24.



Zootopia

(USA) In "Zootopia," anthropomorphic mammals reign. Judy Hopps (voiced by Ginnifer Goodwin) is the first rabbit to join the Zootopia police department, and to prove her worth she attempts to crack a mysterious case—but she needs the help of a sneaky red fox (Jason Bateman) to do it. If only they weren't natural enemies... Opens Mar 24.

Opening



Kung Fu Panda 3

(USA) Jack Black is back as Po, the dumpling-loving panda savior. Reuniting with his long lost father (Bryan Cranston) and finding his true hometown, Po is tasked to train a band of clumsy pandas in the art of martial arts so that they can take on Kai (JK Simmons), the evil supernatural warrior who's been sweeping across the country defeating Kung Fu masters. This third sequel proves to be barrels of fun, with plenty of self-deprecating fat panda jokes and hilarious new characters including Mei Mei, a voluptuous ribbon-twirling female panda. Opened Mar 17. ★★★★

The Tag Along

(Taiwan) Cheng Wei-hao's debut feature is inspired by the Taiwanese urban legend of the moxina, a mountain demon in the guise of a little girl in red, who steals children and the elderly. Tiffany Ann Hsu plays a woman trying to get to the bottom of the mystery when her boyfriend and his grandmother disappear. Opened Mar 17.

Trumbo

(USA) The story of Hollywood screenwriter Dalton Trumbo comes to the big screen with Bryan Cranston in the lead role. Trumbo was blacklisted by the industry after being suspected of being Communist; Under a pseudonym, he went on to write the Academy Award-winning films, "Roman Holiday" and "The Brave One"—but was unable to take credit for either. Opened Mar 17.



Youth

(Italy) Director Paolo Sorrentino, who won the 2014 Best Foreign Film Oscar for "The Great Beauty," steps further into Hollywood with his newest drama. Meditating on age and youth, life and death, Michael Caine and Harvey Keitel play two old friends vacationing at a Swiss spa resort. Opened Mar 17.

Continuing

Brooklyn

(USA) A romantic immigrant's tale in 1950s Brooklyn, pre-hipster takeover. Saoirse Ronan is an Irish girl who falls for an Italian plumber, but meets another man when she returns to her homeland on a visit. A charming fable told well, with a vivid performance from Ronan to keep the lid on any potential melodrama. ★★★★



Creed

(USA) No comeback is as legendary as Sylvester Stallone's return as Rocky Balboa. The retired boxing star mentors rising talent Adonis (Michael B. Jordan), whose late father was Rocky's old rival Apollo Creed. A classic story of an underdog's victory paired with excellently executed action packs a punch in our books. ★★★★

The Divergent Series: Allegiant

(USA) In the penultimate film of the Divergent Series, protagonist Tris Prior (Shailene Woodley) must explore where her trust and loyalties lie as she and Four (Theo James) escape post-apocalyptic Chicago and look for a way to save their city.

Hail Caesar!

(USA) This new Coen Brothers ensemble epic centers on early 50s Hollywood. Real-life producer Eddie Mannix (Josh Brolin) is tasked with his biggest challenge yet when the star of an upcoming period flick (George Clooney) is kidnapped. Starring the likes of Channing Tatum, Scarlett Johansson, Ralph Fiennes and Tilda Swinton, this one's a fun romp.

The Danish Girl

(UK) Winning a well-deserved best supporting actress Oscar, Alicia Vikander is Danish artist Gerda Wegener, whose husband Einar (Eddie Redmayne) was the first ever to attempt a male-to-female sex reassignment surgery in history. Redmayne's performance effortlessly shows the deep emotional turmoil of transitioning in the late 19th century, but not without a few clichéd shots. ★★★

Journey to the Shore

(Japan) A romantic ghost story deeply embedded in Japanese culture, "Journey to the Shore" is about a piano teacher's second honeymoon with her husband—who went missing and returns as a ghost.





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Need to Know

AMC Cinema, 2265-8933
amccinemas.com.hk

Broadway Circuit,
2388-3188
cinema.com.hk

Golden Harvest Cinema,
2622-6688
goldenharvest.com

UA Cinema,
3516-8811
uacinemas.com.hk

The Grand Cinema,
2196-8170
thegrandcinema.com.hk

MCL Cinema, 3413-6688
mclcinema.com

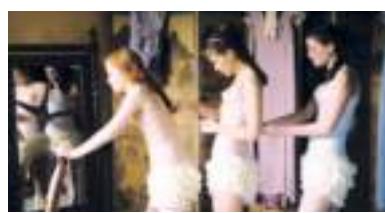
The Metroplex, 2620-2200
metroplex.com.hk

Kill Time

(China) Adapted from a novel by Chinese mystery novelist Cai Jun and directed by Fruit Chan, Angelababy plays a girl who investigates the death of her policeman father, and meets a curiously familiar man (Ethan Ruan).

Miss You Already

(USA) The token Drew Barrymore comedy this season celebrates BFF love between a woman (Toni Collette) undergoing chemotherapy and her best friend (Barrymore) who is trying to get pregnant.



Pride and Prejudice and Zombies
(USA) It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a literary classic will get a ludicrous 21st century remake—with zombies, no less. It's Jane Austen's classic Regency-era romance, plus undead nobility ravaging the countryside.

Room

(USA) Based on Emma Donoghue's 2010 novel, "Room" is the story of a woman (Brie Larson) who was held captive in a backyard shed for seven years, where she raised her five-year-old son Jack—a result of rape by her captor "Old Nick"—all alone. Touching and terrifying at the same time, it's a hard movie to watch, but that doesn't mean you shouldn't. ★★★★



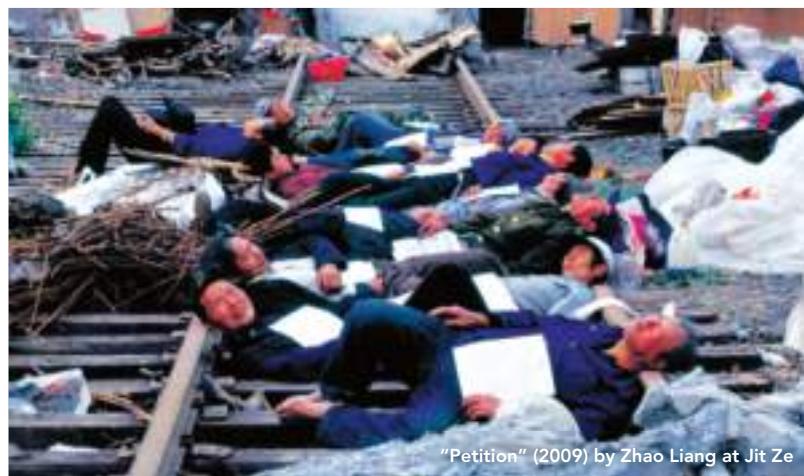
Son of Saul

(Hungary) Winner of the Best Foreign Film award at the Oscars, Holocaust film "Son of Saul" centers on a prisoner at Auschwitz in 1944 who is forced to burn the corpses of his own people. Coping with his own moral struggle, he makes plans to rescue a young boy's body from the flames and offer him a proper Jewish burial.



Spotlight

(USA) Based on the 2001 Pulitzer-prize-winning investigation in which a team of journalists at The Boston Globe dug into the case against John Geoghan, a Roman Catholic priest who was accused of molesting over 80 children—and it was only the tip of the iceberg. All rapid-fire twists that leave you breathless, a salute to the good work of the reporters involved. ★★★★



"Petition" (2009) by Zhao Liang at Jit Ze

Film Festival

Sundance: Short Film Master Class

Budding filmmakers, want to learn from the big guys of cinema? The Sundance Institute has partnered up with The Metroplex to bring Sundance festival short film programmer Mike Plante and directors David Zellner ("Kumiko, the Treasure Hunter") and Hong Kong's own Adam Wong Sau-ping ("She Remembers, He Forgets") to give a half-day seminar on short form storytelling through film. Mar 19-20, 2-6:30pm. The Metroplex, G/F, E-Max, KITEC, 1 Trademart Drive, Kowloon Bay, hk.sundance.org. \$150 from metroplex.com.hk.

Jit Ze: Asian Film and Video Screening

Named after hot sugar cane, which used to be a popular cinema snack, Jit Ze (yeet zeh) is a new independent film festival organized by the Rooftop Institute, a group dedicated to social communal learning. The film program explores sociocultural topics in Asia from land boundaries to identity to belief systems and more. There's a spotlight on mainland director Zhao Liang, whose films "Petition" and "Crime and Punishment" both look at the lower working class that helped make China's fast growing economy a reality. There'll also be an Asian Focus on regional directors, as well as a Youth Fest section showcasing films about the younger generation. All screenings are followed by public seminars and artist dialogues. Apr 2-23. Various locations and times, check rooftopinstitute.org/jitze for details. Free.

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FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

ROB BREZSNY

PISCES (Feb 18-Mar 20): "The greatest illusion is not religion," says aphorist Michael Lipsey. "It's waking up in the morning imagining how much you're going to get done today." But even if that's often true, Pisces, I suspect that you have the power to refute it in the coming weeks. Your ability to accomplish small wonders will be at a peak. Your knack for mastering details and acting with practical acumen may be unprecedented. For the immediate future, then, I predict that you'll largely be able to get done what you imagine you can get done.

ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 19): Artist Steven Spazuk works exclusively with an unusual medium: soot from candles and torches. He spreads the stuff across a blank canvas, then uses various instruments to sculpt the accidental blobs into definitive forms. I've seen the results, and they're both well-done and intriguing. What would be the metaphorical equivalent, in your world, of using soot to make beautiful and interesting things? I think you're primed to turn waste into building blocks, rot into splendor, and lead into gold. (See Spazuk's work at spazuk.com.)

TAURUS (Apr 20-May 20): Carl Sagan said that science thrives on "two seemingly contradictory attitudes: an openness to new ideas, no matter how bizarre or counterintuitive, and the most ruthless skeptical scrutiny of all ideas, old and new." Whether or not you are a scientist, Taurus, I recommend that you practice this approach in the coming weeks. It's the tool that's most likely to keep you centered and free of both rigidity and illusion. As Sagan concluded, this is "how deep truths are winnowed from deep nonsense."

GEMINI (May 21-Jun 20): "Excess on occasion is exhilarating," said British author W. Somerset Maugham. "It prevents moderation from acquiring the deadening effect of a habit." Now would be an excellent time to take that advice to heart, Gemini. According to my analysis of the astrological omens, you not only have a license to engage in rowdy fun and extravagant pleasures; it's your sacred duty. So get out there and treat yourself to an orgy of naughty adventures—or at least a celebration of meaningful thrills. You can return to the rigors of discipline and order once you have harvested the healthy benefits that will come from escaping them.

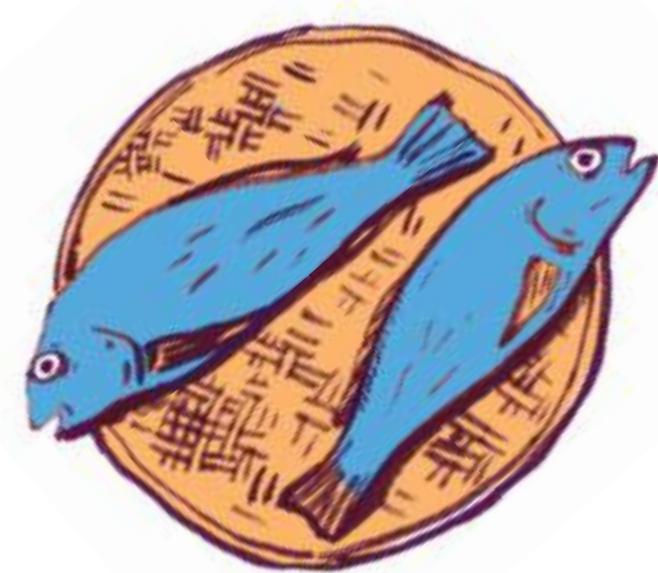
CANCER (Jun 21-Jul 22): At one point in Friedrich Nietzsche's book "Thus Spoke Zarathustra," the hero is having a conversation with himself. "You have wanted to pet every monster," he says. "A whiff of warm breath, a little soft tuft on the paw—and at once you were ready to love and to lure it." If I were you, Cancerian, I would regard that type of behavior as forbidden in the coming weeks. In fact, I will ask you not to pet any monsters at all—not even the cute ones; not even the beasties and rascals and imps that have slight resemblances to monsters. It's time for maximum discernment and caution. (P.S.: One of the monsters may ultimately become a non-monstrous ally if you are wary toward it now.)

LEO (Jul 23-Aug 22): On a social media site, I posted the following quote from self-help teacher Byron Katie: "Our job is unconditional love. The job of everyone else in our life is to push our buttons." One commenter took issue with this. "'Pushing buttons' is a metaphor that's long past its expiration date," she wrote. "Can't you come up with something fresher?" So I did. Here are a few potential substitutes for "push our buttons": "tweak our manias"..."prank our obsessions"..."glitter-bomb our biases"..."squeeze our phobias"..."badger our compulsions"..."seduce our repressions"..."prick our dogmas." Whichever expression you prefer, Leo, find a graceful way to embrace your fate: Your current job is unconditional love. The job of everyone else in your life is to tweak your manias and prick your dogmas.

VIRGO (Aug 23-Sep 22): In the coming weeks, you will have maximum power to revise and reinvigorate your approach to cultivating intimate relationships. To aid your quest, I offer this paraphrased advice from Andrew Boyd: Almost every one of us seeks a special partner who is just right. But there is no right person, just different flavors of wrong. Why? Because you yourself are "wrong" in some ways—you have demons and flaws and problems. In fact, these "wrongs" are essential components of who you are. When you ripen into this understanding, you're ready to find and be with your special counterpart. He or she has the precise set of problems you need—is the person who is wrong for you in just the right ways. (See Boyd's original quote: tinyurl.com/boydquote.)

LIBRA (Sep 23-Oct 22): In her book "The Winter Vault," Anne Michaels says, "We become ourselves when things are given to us or when things are taken away." If she's right, does it mean we should be grateful for those times when things are taken away? Should we regard moments of loss as therapeutic prods that compel us to understand ourselves better and to create ourselves with a fiercer determination? Meditate on these possibilities, Libra. In the meantime, I'm pleased to announce that the things-getting-taken-away period of your cycle is winding down. Soon you'll begin a new phase, when you can become a deeper, stronger version of yourself because of the things that are given to you.

SCORPIO (Oct 23-Nov 21): "I'll make love when the lust subsides," sings Denitia, one-half of the electro-pop band Denitia and Sene.



That would be a good motto for you to play around with in the coming days, Scorpio—in both literal and metaphorical ways. I'll enjoy seeing how your emotional intelligence ripens as the white-hot passion of recent weeks evolves into a more manageable warmth. As fun as the intensity has been, it has blinded you to some of the possibilities for collaborative growth that have been emerging. You may now be ready to explore and appreciate sweeter, subtler pleasures.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22-Dec 21): "The poems I have loved the most are those I have understood the least," said T. S. Eliot. I'm going to steal and expand upon his idea for the purpose of giving you an accurate horoscope. In the coming days, Sagittarius, I suspect that the experiences you love most will be those that you understand the least. Indeed, the experiences you NEED the most will be those that surprise and mystify and intrigue you. Luckily, life will be ingenious in bypassing your analytical intelligence so as to provide you with rich emotional stimuli for your soul.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 19): Capricorn painter Henri Matisse made the following testimony about his creative process: "At each stage I reach a balance, a conclusion. At the next sitting, if I find that there is a weakness in the whole, I make my way back into the picture by means of the weakness—I re-enter through the breach—and I reconceive the whole. Thus everything becomes fluid again." I recommend this approach to you in the coming days, Capricorn. You've been making decent progress on your key project. To keep up the good work, you should now find where the cracks are, and let them teach you how to proceed from here.

AQUARIUS (Jan 20-Feb 19): "We all lead three lives," said Austrian novelist Thomas Bernhard, "an actual one, an imaginary one, and the one we are not aware of." I suspect you'll get big glimpses of your third life in the coming weeks, Aquarius: the one you're normally not aware of. It might freak you out a bit, maybe unleash a few blasts of laughter and surges of tears. But if you approach these revelations with reverent curiosity, I bet they will be cleansing and catalytic. They are also likely to make you less entranced by your imaginary life and better grounded in your actual life.

HOMEWORK: Identify your fondest childhood memory, and recreate in the present time the feeling you had back then. Testify at Freewillastrology.com.

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SAVAGE LOVE

Dan Savage

I'm a 27-year-old, feminist, conventionally attractive, straightish, GGG woman. Over time, my tastes have changed, and now I find myself more of a kinkier. A few years ago, my desire for kinkier sex and my willingness to take a chance came together in a mutually beneficial, exciting D/s relationship. I'll be honest: I wasn't as smart as I could have been. I met this guy on Tinder, and after verifying his identity, I told some friends where I'd be and I met up with him. He was great for a while, but a big move took me away from the area and I grew tired of his conventional gender ideals. I assumed I would find another partner in the future as functionally great as him but maybe a better conversationalist. Fast-forward to today. I've dabbled with pain and submission play with a few boyfriends with no great success. (A subsequent partner who didn't respect my safe word, in fact, assaulted me.) I'm now greatly discouraged in my search. The cycle always goes like this: I get horny and want kink, I go looking for it online, and I am then buried in a landslide of creepiness, typos, and aggression. There are just so many men out there who hate women. These men are more interested in being condescending to me and bossing me around than they are in power exchange. It was recommended to me to join the local center for sex positivity in Seattle, but that costs money. I want to engage in kink to relieve stress, not to cut into my already tight budget. Are my only options perseverance or an extra grand lying around? – Perseverance Or Withdrawal, Eternal Regrets

I definitely think you should keep hacking your way through the creeps, typos, and aggres, POWER, and, more importantly, your pussy thinks so too—excuse me, that's crude. Perhaps I should say: Your erotic imagination and your libido think so too. But you may find the search for kinky play partners a little less frustrating if you devote a few hours a week to it—set a regular schedule: two hours a night, twice a week—instead of waiting until horniness and desperation drive you back online. If you search for kinky guys only when you just gotta have it, POWER, your inability to find it immediately is gonna be that much more frustrating.

And you might wanna get out there and find a kinky guy now, POWER, while you still can.

"Uh-oh, kinksters: Sex cops could be coming for you next," Elizabeth Nolan Brown writes at Reason.com. "According to a new federal court decision, Americans have no constitutional right to engage in consensual BDSM because 'sexual activity that involves binding and gagging or the use of physical force such as spanking or choking poses certain inherent risks to personal safety.' Thus officials could constitutionally ban or regulate such activity in the interest of 'the protection of vulnerable persons,' the court held."

In 2003, the US Supreme Court ruled that Americans have a constitutional right to get their asses fucked, and one day soon we could be asking the Supreme Court whether Americans have a constitutional right to get their asses spanked.

Finally, POWER, I'm a huge fan of Seattle's Center for Sex Positive Culture (thecspc.org). And I'm an even bigger fan of people getting out there, meeting up IRL, and making face-to-face connections with like-minded kinksters. I'm such a big fan that I'm going to pick up the expense of your first year's membership at the Center for Sex Positive Culture. While there are additional charges for most events at the center, POWER, there are also tons of volunteer opportunities—and there's no better way to get to know the local kinksters than to pitch in and help out. I'll e-mail

you directly about your shiny new membership. And speaking of safe words...

You messed up in your response to THINK, the man whose wife wanted to engage in consensual role-play rape scenes despite having been sexually assaulted by a previous partner who didn't stop "when she said 'no.'" THINK said he worried "the same thing could happen" to him. Due to some ambiguous wording, you thought he doubted his wife's account and was worried the "same thing" he was worried about was "being falsely accused of rape." I think he was actually worried about accidentally making his wife relive that trauma in a non-sexy way. Although it was poorly worded, I don't think his intentions were motivated by the fear of being falsely accused. His worries were based in the ambiguity of when does consensual rape play cross the line in this very delicate scenario. The other thing you forgot, the most important thing you forgot, the thing that should never be forgotten when talking about rough-sex role-play, consensual rape scenes, power exchange, bondage, or SM: a SAFE WORD!

– Simple And Frequently Effective Word Omitted Recently, Dan!

THINK's wife told him she was raped by an ex who refused to stop when she said no, SAFEWORD, and here's how THINK described his concerns: "I'm over here wondering if her previous trauma was a result of her encouraging forceful sex and regretting it later, and I worry the same thing could happen to me." [Emphasis added.] Awkwardly worded, yes, but THINK's meaning seems clear: He didn't want to go for it, like that other guy may have, and be accused of raping his wife if she came to regret it later. That doesn't seem ambiguous to me.

But you're right to ding me for failing to advise Mr. and Mrs. THINK to agree on a safe word. And I didn't just leave "get a safe word" out of my response, SAFEWORD. It was worse than that: I deleted "get a safe word" from my response. There were two very similar paragraphs in the original draft of my response to THINK, both on the mechanics of making it happen, and I had to delete one paragraph for space. In an unbelievably stupid move, I deleted the one with "get a safe word" in it. I should've caught that, I didn't, and I'm grateful to SAFEWORD and everyone else who did.

And remember, kids: We have a new universal kink/BDSM/power-exchange safe word: scalia.

I am the only liberal in my family. I love them, but there is no talking to them on the issues. I have come up with the idea of a Planned Parenthood jar. It is like a swear jar, but I will put money in it when I am too chickenshit or conflict-avoidant to have a hard conversation. Every time one of my family members puts up a stupid, ill-informed article on Facebook and I don't say anything, I will put money in the jar. Any time they tell me why Hillary Clinton is the devil, I will put money in the jar. It will assuage my guilt and make those moments easier because I can smugly think: "Keep talking, the only one you are helping is Planned Parenthood." Is this a cop-out or a narrowly tailored, appropriate penance?

– Fearful And Milquetoast, I'm Leaning Yellow

Can't something be a cop-out and a creative, appropriate penance? But whether it's one or the other or both, FAMILY, I'm strongly in favor of anything that benefits Planned Parenthood. For those who don't want to go through the motions of filling a jar with money before making a donation, just go to plannedparenthood.org and click Donate.

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LKF / The Peak

Interested parties please send your full resume and expected salary to
hrc.recruit.hk@gmail.com or contact Ms. Yeung at (852) 2117-3808.

We offer 6 days-off per month, 10 days annual leave, staff discount, discretionary bonus, career opportunities, medical insurance, in-house training program, paid sick leave, birthday leave, marriage leave, paternity leave, maternity leave, compassionate leave

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CAFE
HONG KONG

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Our large-scale, upmarket restaurant featuring international cuisine in the heart of North Point will swing open its door in April, we are in need of the following staff:

Assistant Manager - experience necessary, ability to manage a team of multi-nationality staff.

Supervisor - with some experience but more importantly, with a passion to succeed.

Waiting Staff - preferably with experience, possesses a good positive attitude and a willingness to learn.

Food Runner - hard working and with a cheerful disposition.

Barista - previous experience necessary. Has to understand the concepts of pulling the perfect shot, milk texturising and micro-foaming. The ability to deliver a good cup of coffee from bean to the final beverage. (We use La Marzocco Strada ep with Simonelli auto-dozing grinders).

Cleaners & Dish-washers - no experience necessary.

Sous-chef - to assist chefs in food preparation and cooking.

Interested parties, please contact Gerry on 93652070 or email to em1000@gmail.com. Application will be treated with the strictest confidence.

Looking for Sharp F & B Staff?

Call Celia Wong at 2565-2310.

SPOTLIGHT

The latest news and deals from our partners



Home-Grown: Chinese Wines Make their Mark

Situated on the Taigu Plateau, 40 kilometers south of Taiyuan in Shanxi province, is Grace Vineyard, China's one and only premium vineyard. It may not be Bordeaux or southern Italy, but since its inception in 1997, Grace has earned its place as a globally known brand producing low-yield wines from classic Bordeaux grapes and aged in French oak barrels.

Sha Tin 18, the Hyatt Regency's award-winning Chinese restaurant, hosted a wine tasting event recently to showcase Grace Vineyard's finest wines, carefully and lovingly paired with a selection of fine Chinese dishes.

One of Sha Tin 18's most popular dishes, traditionally roasted Peking duck, was paired with Grace Vineyard's Chairman Reserve from 2008 and 2011, a fine alternative to the popular Pinot Noir and duck combination; the well-balanced tannins are just what's needed to smoothly compliment the duck fat.

The Chairman's Reserve 2011 was also boldly selected to compliment a dish of steamed crab, egg, minced pork and preserved black beans.

Let's not forget char siu, one of Hong Kong's definitive dishes, along with a couple of appetizers of chilled spinach with spicy sesame sauce and marinated cucumber, peanuts and spiced soya sauce. To highlight the rich and spicy flavors of these dishes, the Tasya's Reserve Chardonnay, a floral combination with ripened tropical fruits, was the drink of choice—its light and bright acidity was just the ticket to match the sweetness of the char siu.

While some may be sceptical of a red wine and fish pairing, Grace Vineyard's Tasya's Reserve Aglianico's dark cherry fruits bring life to the dashes of pepper and black truffle in a dish of baked garoupa with black truffles and spring onions.

If you're a wine connoisseur but tired of the usual French, Chilean or Italian grapes, be adventurous and indulge in some new flavors grown a little closer to home—from only \$199 a bottle.

hongkong.shatin.hyatt.com
www.grace-vineyard.com



Punch in Every Sunday at Woobar for Champagne o'Clock

French fashion empress Coco Chanel once shared her wisdom on the only acceptable times for a glass of champagne: "I only drink champagne on two occasions: when I am in love and when I am not."

Woobar will be living by these wise words, every Sunday from now till the end of April. Free-flow Mumm Cordon Rouge champagne will be available every Sunday and public holiday for two whole hours, and yes, you decide when to punch in. How else would you want to spend your Sundays and round up your weekend?

Cordon Rouge, recognized for its labels adorned with a red ribbon, is a 19th century tribute to the French Légion d'Honneur. Cordon Rouge has been selected by Woobar for its round, ample body and complex aromas of fruit and caramel, which blossom into a wonderfully round finish.

Kick back and enjoy some bubbly at Woobar's nine-metre-long bar with its in-house DJ playing smooth beats and chic interiors, all for the price of \$330 per person (plus 10 percent service charge); just make sure to book by telephoning or emailing in advance.

3717-2889, woobar.hk@whotels.com,
woobarhongkong.com





We are a modern Korean Restaurant based in Wan Chai, currently looking for the talented professional to join our team.

SHOP MANAGER

Job Duties:

- Perform day-to-day duties such as scheduling, hiring, training, inventory and ordering
- Maintain consistency in quality of food, services and cleanliness
- Be responsible for handling guest comments and complaints and take immediate corrective actions if needed
- Constantly monitor the customer service of our frontline staff to ensure high guest satisfaction as well as premium dining service delivery
- Control and manage all food and beverage related cost, including monitoring revenue and expenses, developing and managing annual budget, etc.
- Plan and implement procedures for events, special occasions and promotions

Requirement:

- Minimum 5 years' experience at senior management level in medium to large dining restaurant
- Commitment to delivering a high level of customer service
- Proactive, enthusiastic and self-motivated with strong leadership
- Able to work under pressure with excellent time management
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skill
- Good command of both spoken and written English and ability to speak Mandarin / Cantonese is a plus

CASHIER

Job Duties:

- Cashier operations and store administration supports
- Stock management
- Handle customer's inquiries
- Daily housekeeping

Requirement:

- At least 3 years' experience in catering, food and beverage
- At least 1 year or more experience in POS system

WAITER / WAITRESS

Job Duties:

- Provide quality food and beverage service to customers
- Maintain a smooth and efficient operation at the restaurant / bar area
- Organize and ensure the delivery of wine and beverage orders
- Perform any other tasks assigned by supervisor

Requirement:

- Excellent customer service, self-motivated and inter-personal skills required
- Should be punctual and hard working
- Must be a team player
- Good command of written and spoken English, ability to speak Mandarin / Cantonese is a plus
- Immediate available is highly preferred

Interested parties, please email to janeli@recruithk.net or call at 2151 1269
23/F, QRE Plaza, 202 Queen's Road East, Wanchai, Hong Kong.

ADVERTISING CAREERS

HK Magazine Media Group – publisher of HK Magazine and The List 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



Wanted:

Stylish, entrepreneurial women to host a Pop-In at home.



We are a mother-daughter business based here in HK. We create high-quality handbags and beautiful accessories that are inspired by our island life on Lamma.

You can find Louella Odié products stocked at the best independent boutiques and resort hotels around Asia, but we love to meet our customers in person as well, so we're looking for Ambassadors in HK to join us. We want to share our story, to hear yours and to build an inspiring business together.

What is a Pop-In? A Pop-In is a fun, relaxed coffee morning at your home. Invite your friends or acquaintances for a catch up, and we will bring our lovely products (as well as possibly the designer herself) and you provide the coffee! There will be **exclusive product previews** and **great discounts for you and your friends.**

We've put together an excellent benefits package for Ambassadors, including personal discounts and commission on sales.

If you'd like to be involved or just interested to hear more, please email Lauren at info@louellaodie.com

See our current collections online at www.louellaodie.com

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For advertising opportunities please call Celia Wong on 2565-2310.

HK GIVEAWAYS

It's already week three of our March giveaways and we've got a lucky winner of a lovely set of Riedel glassware—but a fantastic stay at the Conrad Hong Kong is still up for grabs. What are you waiting for? Get entering!

WIN A NIGHT
AT THE CONRAD
HONG KONG,
WORTH \$11,110!



Win an Executive Harbour View Suite Stay at the Conrad Hong Kong!

Sitting in the bustling heart of the city at Admiralty is the **Conrad Hong Kong**, one of the top hotels in Hong Kong known for its excellent accessibility, luxurious rooms and heart-warming hospitality.

Thanks to the Conrad Hong Kong, you now have a chance to win an awesome staycation at this fantastic hotel. We've got a **one-night stay for two in an Executive Harbour View Suite**, with access to all the luxury services of the executive lounge including breakfast, afternoon tea, evening cocktails, plus personalized butler and concierge services to top off the wonderful experience. The suite on the hotel's executive floor is an exemplar of luxury living, featuring a comfortable living room overlooking the picturesque Victoria Harbour, and a separate bedroom taking in the tranquility of The Peak. The total value of this prize? A whopping \$11,110.

Wanna live the high life for a night? Here's how.

If you were reading for the last two weeks, you should have already found an *italicized* word in an article of the Spotlight page of both issues. Now you have to do the same with this issue! Once you've got all three, include them in a paragraph of no more than 30 words about what you'd do with a staycation at the Conrad Hong Kong. Go to hk-magazine.com/hk-giveaways to submit your entry **before 10am on March 21, 2016**.

Good luck! The winner will be announced on March 25.

Congratulations to the lucky winner of a set of Riedel glassware!

Congratulations to Stuart McMillan, who has won a set of Riedel glassware (total value \$5,070) for some serious wine-savoring at home!

We love Stuart's entry about his junk trip with his uncle:

Last summer on a junk trip my uncle from Oz brought a bottle of Penfolds Grange for sundowners, but all we had to pour it into were plastic junk-type scuffed plastic glasses, at which point I remember thinking... "if only we had some Riedel glasses...."

Congratulations Stuart, now you have the right glasses for your sundowners!



WE HAVE
A WINNER!

FIRST PERSON

Alice Mong is the executive director of arts and culture institution the Asia Society Hong Kong Center. Originally from Taiwan, she grew up in the US and has spent multiple stints in Hong Kong throughout her career, and has also been the director of New York's Museum of Chinese in America. She tells Xavier Ng about why she came back to Hong Kong for the second time, and how she fell in love with museums.

I'm a Chinese-American. I was born in Taiwan but at age of 10, our family immigrated to the US.

I didn't speak any English at all when I arrived.

You have to start thinking differently, because the world you grew up in is totally different from the world you are now going to school in.

There were not many Asians or Chinese people where we grew up. We were the only Chinese family in the school.

What it taught you at that young age was how to adapt and how to start again, learn all over again.

We moved from Taiwan where we had a large extended family, and now we were in a place where your friends become your family, whether they were American or Chinese.

You learn to make friends, you learn to connect with people.

You just have to be creative—it's survival, but not in a bad way.

We spoke Chinese at home—my parents don't speak English very well, so I always grew up with this bi-culturalness.

It wasn't my doing: I guess we just had it, so it was quite natural. That's why when I moved to Hong Kong as an adult, it wasn't such a stretch.

I had an opportunity when I was in my late 20s to come work in Hong Kong. I was in Hong Kong for 11 years, from 1992 to 2002.

In around 2003 I had the chance to join a non-profit in New York, so I moved back to the US, and came back to Hong Kong four years ago.

I missed the energy of Hong Kong after nine years in New York—I like New York, I love the fact that I worked there for almost a decade, but I wanted to come back.

When I was a kid, 6 or 7 years old, my parents would take us to the Palace Museum in Taipei. As a young kid, I didn't know there was treasure in there.

To me, the Palace Museum was a fun place for the family. Everybody was happy, so I think my love for museums began with that.

After growing up with that, I've never been afraid of museums. It conjures up wonderful memories.

When I travel, usually the first place I go is a museum, so that I can get the lay of the land.

Museums tell you a lot about that country, its history and its art. In a very short time, you can absorb that country's energy.

If you're not intimidated by it, you explore it. I'm really excited that Hong Kong is creating a new museum [the M+ visual culture museum]—I think it's very important for all big cities.

Running Asia Society is like running a business. We have customers, we have a board, we have staff and programs.

The difference is that we are non-profit: The money that comes in gets plowed right back into its upkeep.

The customers are very important, and we grew from 40,000 to 120,000 visitors in four years.

If you want people to come back, you need to have interesting exhibitions and programs.

Some places you go once or twice, but how often do you go back?

We have to keep our programming fresh, we have to keep our exhibitions interesting.

Our competition is not other museums: It's time.

Everybody's so busy in Hong Kong, if you have an hour to spend, where would you go? Would you go shopping, eating, to a movie, or would you come here?

We try to get people to come back and spend an hour—or half an hour—with us.

I'm a Hong Kong permanent resident, I have a Hong Kong ID card, I do consider myself a Hongkonger.

I don't know what "Hongkonger" means these days, but that's the reason I came back to work in Hong Kong.

There are things about Hong Kong that I really, really love and that hasn't gone away at all.

I see Hong Kong as my home now. Even if I leave, I know I will always come back.

I guess home is where you feel most comfortable, and I have to say I feel very comfortable in Hong Kong.

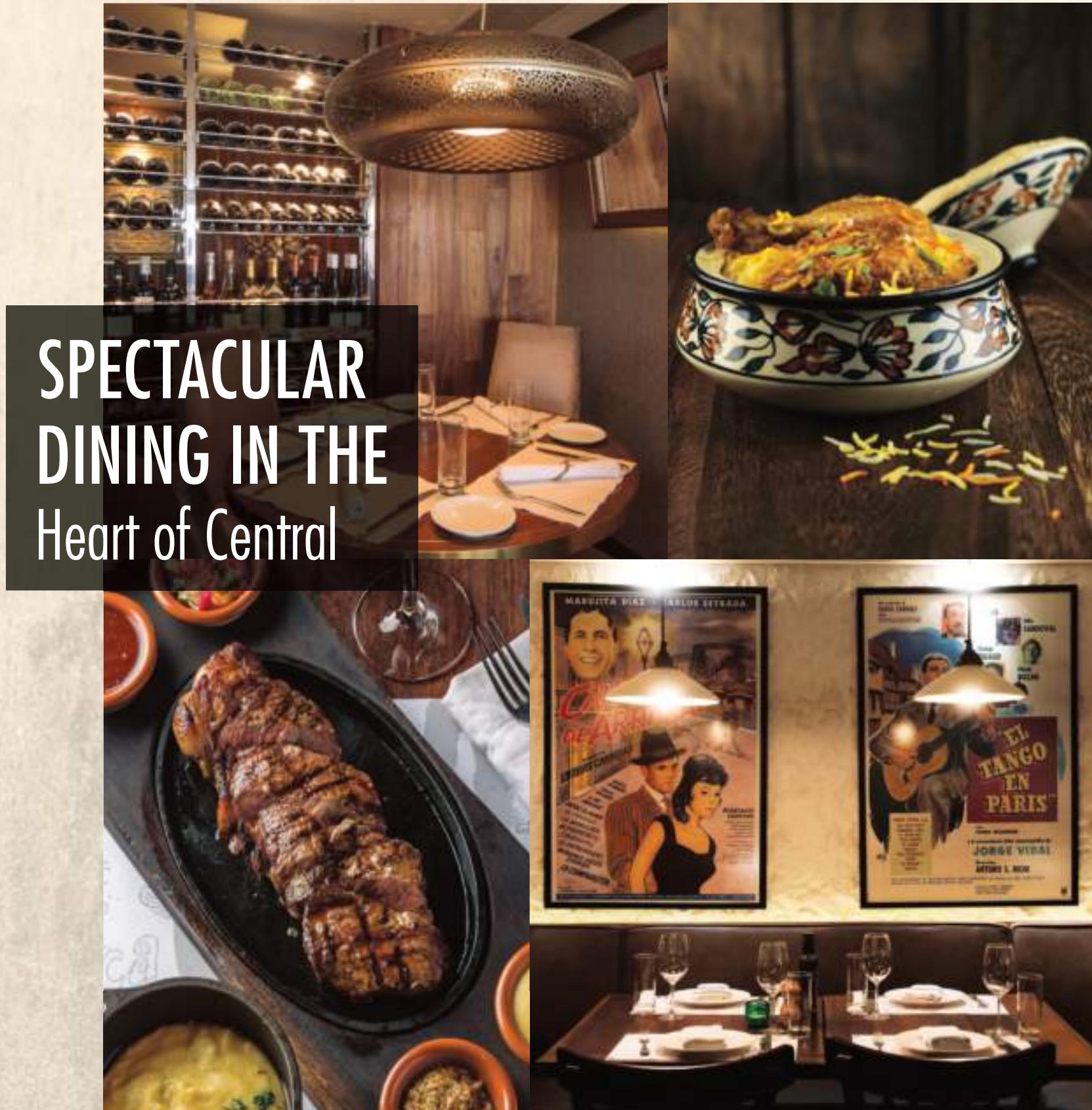
No matter where I am, I'll always know I have a home here.

NEED TO KNOW...

The Asia Society is an educational institution which aims to strengthen relations between Asia and the West. The Hong Kong Center in Admiralty hosts regular performances and exhibitions, including their latest exhibition, "**Apparatus of Power**" by Pakistani artist Shahzia Sikander, which explores Hong Kong's colonial complexities. Through Jul 9, Asia Society Hong Kong Center, 9 Justice Drive, Admiralty, asiasociety.org.

"Our competition is not other museums: It's time."





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