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HONG KONG



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香港小交響樂團
Artistic Director 葉詠詩 Yip Wing-sie



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"This is glossy,
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The Strad

10.9.2016

(Sat) 8pm

HK City Hall Concert Hall

\$360 \$240 \$140

Cello

Daniel Müller-Schott

Celldomania: Daniel Müller-Schott Plays Elgar

Programme

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| Bach/George Benjamin | Canon & Fugue
(from <i>The Art of Fugue</i>) (2007) (Asian première) |
| Elgar | Cello Concerto in E minor, Op 85 |
| Mendelssohn | Symphony No 5 in D, Op 107,
"Reformation" |

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Conductor

Alessandro Crudele

Tickets at URBTIX

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Programme Enquiries: 2836 3336 | www.HKSL.org

For ages 6+

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

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with Daniel Müller-Schott**

Featuring works by Bach & Mendelssohn

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Comedian Vivek Mahbubani on being "That Indian"

I-Word Day

Education authorities have released a clarification to their warning that teachers could be fired for discussing the concept of Hong Kong independence in class, saying instead that they might be disciplined. We've been rummaging through the bins of the Education Department, and we've found a couple of discarded drafts of an internal memo...

Dear all school principals,

Any discussion of the "I-word" on school property or within school hours will result in immediate disciplinary action against the teacher responsible. Staff and students may no longer say or spell the word, or engage in oblique discussions of the matter.

Additionally, here are several more items that Hong Kong teachers are no longer allowed to discuss openly with students.

- The concept that Singapore is a nicer place than Hong Kong.
- The words "suffrage," "vote," and "election."
- Phrases such as "airport baggage security."

It has also come to our attention that "concepts" and "ideas" are dangerous things that can undermine the internal safety and security of Hong Kong.

Furthermore, "discussions" can often lead to disharmony within society, so we are considering phasing these out in class. "Questions," in particular, fly in the face of everything this administration stands for. Therefore, from the following school year we will be phasing out all questions that do not appear on government-mandated tests.

Meanwhile, dictionaries in schools will be updated to reflect this new direction. All instances of the "I-word" will be removed, and certain definitions will be adjusted. For instance, the noun "sycophant" will henceforth be defined as "a strong, heroic figure; man or woman of impeccable virtue." The entry for the verb "to lie" will be changed to more appropriately read "to express an idea with honor and integrity."

Please make sure that all of your staff are aware of these changes, effective immediately.

And go team!

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HOME



Mr. Know-It-All's

— Guide to Life —

Dear Mr. Know-It-All,

What's the difference between milk and "milk drink"? — Lacto Man

Taste—and a whole lot more besides.

Hong Kong's food labeling laws mean anything that's not pure 100 percent milk must be labeled as "milk drink" or "milk beverage." So, for example, a full-fat milk with added calcium would come under the "milk drink" label.

Whereas overseas it's common to find fresh skimmed or semi-skimmed milk—in which the cream and fat content is taken off the top of the milk—in Hong Kong, many low fat milks are made another way. Much of the city's low-fat milk is made by adding water to milk powder, giving it that uniquely watery, flavorless taste—and really earning that "milk drink" label. Explains a lot, doesn't it?

If you're looking for fresher, better milk, you have a couple of options: There's "red carton" fresh (not UHT) milk, produced by Trappist Dairy, Nestlé and Kowloon Dairy; this milk is produced at dairy farms in Guangdong province, then pasteurized and bottled in Hong Kong. Then there's imported milk, generally from Australia, which tends to be of a better quality—and a higher price. But if you're really jonesing for the fresh stuff, then you'll have to look up **Farm Milk** (78 Lui Kung Tin, Kap Lung Village, Yuen Long, 2832-9218, farmmilk.com.hk). The farm's cattle are all in Hong

Kong, and it delivers fresh milk in whole, skimmed or semi-skimmed varieties straight to your door.

Why is milk so unpopular in Hong Kong? For one thing, it mostly has to be imported: It's way easier to bring in powder and make it up on-site than bring in notoriously spoil-prone fresh milk. For another, up to 90 percent of those of Chinese ethnicity have at least some degree of lactose intolerance, which puts increasing the quality and availability of fresh milk pretty low down the agenda.

My advice: Stick to Hong Kong milk tea, made from evaporated milk. That's my milk drink of choice.



Photo: JC Awe via Flickr

My Perfect HK

This week in My Perfect HK:
The ethics-based online platform **HelperChoice** (helperchoice.com), which connects domestic workers and employers at no cost to the workers, has just launched a new recommendations feature on its site, which lets employers help their employees to find better jobs after they move on or leave. Statistics show that expats tend to leave the city this time of year: so if you're leaving and you have a helper, take the time to make sure she's going to be OK.

Letters

"Is there a bright side to HK showbiz?"

Welcome to the Dark Side

"Not many people know about the darker side of the business," said actress and comedian Joyce Chen in our interview ("First Person," August 12, issue 1158). Facebook readers disagreed...

Her last name seems like it's from mainland China. Was she paid to say this? Backstage is always a different story, everywhere. If she stayed in Toronto, it would be the same story. Entertainment industry worldwide is like this, is it not?

Cheung Colleen

Well all Chinese people have "mainland China" sounding last names because our ancestors were from China. But that doesn't mean she's from China, she's from HK. That's kind of ignorant the way you made that statement. And she just simply explained what the business is like in HK. She's not comparing it to the entertainment industry in other places.

Jen Lok

Why so prejudiced. You are making such an unfair assumption. Besides not everyone who comes from the same region is the same. When can people finally understand this?

Yimin Huang

Everybody knows about the dark side of Hong Kong showbiz. Who is she trying to kid? It gets a lot darker than you're able to describe in a family publication too.

Darrell Painter

Lol not even anything unique really, Hollywood so clean and straight? Lmao
Gary Lam

Most people know about HK's dark side ... And who did what to get where they are.

Alison Tam

Is there a bright side to HK showbiz?
Snagglepus Rex

Lol @ jaded comments
Elliot Rodgers

Cry me a river... Go pick up cans and carton boxes. Sshhhhhh
Gamberio Bazzinoff

Break news: The Earth is not flat.
Andy Oriental Pong

THE #LIVEPURE CHALLENGE 01

Adam White is going from fat to fit with the Pure Group.

My whole body aches. It hurts. Everywhere. I cannot straighten my arm beyond 90 degrees without pain, pain, PAIN. Squatting down? Forget it.

I know what you're thinking, but nope, this isn't my first workout. This is the day after my first workout. This is the payback. Turns out that using your muscles after many years of NOT using them... your body's going to complain about that.

Day 1 wasn't so bad. I met my personal trainer. His name is Felix Yu. He's a really chilled out guy, and his biceps are the size of my head. It's intimidating and reassuring at the same time, which I guess is what you want from a trainer.

We stand on a machine that determines the muscle and fat content of your body. I have, surprise surprise, a lot more fat than muscle.

I also weigh 99 kilos, which is about 20 too many—but hey, we've all got to start somewhere, right?

Felix takes me through some basic exercises and weights—it's a chance for him to work out just how much of a weakling I am. As for me, I'm just trying to keep up.

After the workout I meet chef Moises "Moy" Mehl of Nood Food. Over a meal of more kale than I've ever eaten in my life, chef Moy runs

me through the biggie: the diet. "I don't want to calorie count you," he says. But what he does want me to do is cut out most of the carbs in my life, replacing them mostly with fiber—veggies, in other words. Preferably raw.

I love rice, pasta and noodles with a passion, which might be the problem. This is gonna be harder than I'd thought.

But I'm thankful for three things: 1) I like to cook, 2) chef Moy gives me some ideas for some food to play around with, and 3) I'm actually looking forward to it. It's only up from here, so I've only got gains to make—and weight to lose.

Afterwards I meet my Glamorous Fiancée for a bowl of pho. Well, she has pho. I order a lime soda, no sugar. My new life starts here.

The pain? That comes tomorrow.

Next time:
The Adjustment Bureau

Get involved:
Twitter/Instagram
[@adamawhite, #LivePure
\(or #MakeAdamFitAgain\)](https://www.instagram.com/adamawhite)

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Saturday 8/27

A Pile of Pooligans

Capping off the city's most beloved pool party series, this last **Hot Streak Pool Party** brings dancers, DJs, partiers and even flame throwers to the most party-ready pool in Hong Kong. And after you're all splashed out at the pool, the afterparty at Woo Bar continues till late.

8pm-midnight. W Hotel, 1 Austin Rd. West, West Kowloon. \$350 includes one drink; \$888 for free-flow champagne from ticketflap.com/wpoolparty

Friday 8/19

Who's Your Daddy?

Arnie himself is in town and he's bringing his multi-sport festival, the **Arnold Classic**, with him. It's two days of workshops and competitions in yoga, rowing, martial arts, lifting, arm wrestling, pole fitness, and even chess and Rubik's Cube. The festival opens up with a sold-out business lunch with the Arnold himself, but if you didn't get tickets this time around, don't worry: He'll be back.

Aug 19-21. AsiaWorld-Expo, Chek Lap Kok. \$150 per day, \$255 weekend pass from ticketflap.com/arnoldclassicasia



Saturday 8/20

Rock 'Em Sock 'Em

Watch some of the best fighters in the world face off. During the **IMPI World Series**, fighters combine boxing, wrestling, Muay Thai, judo, karate and more. Find out who emerges victorious, and who limps out of the ring with limbs barely attached.

6:45-11pm. Southorn Stadium, 111 Johnston Rd., Wan Chai. \$280-1,500 from ticketflap.com/impi-world-series-asia-4

Sunday 8/21

Four For the Road

This month, Veuve Clicquot is throwing a refined block party in SoHo: Participants of **Clicquot Journeys** get to wander around Bridges and Staunton Streets and enjoy four glasses of Veuve paired with four signature dishes from Beer & Fish, The Walrus, Little Bao and Oola. Can't make it? There's another one on August 28 in Sai Ying Pun.

11am-4pm. Staunton/Bridges St., Central. \$488 from ticketflap.com/clicquotjourney

Monday 8/22

Lunchtime Lecture

The Justice Centre of Hong Kong hosts a **lunchtime discussion** with refugee advocate Professor Yiombi Thona. A former refugee himself, Thona will consider the roles that East Asian countries have to play in the global refugee crisis and share his own experiences.

12:30-2pm. 8/F, The Hong Kong Club Building, 3A Chater Rd., Central. RSVP by emailing brenda@justicecentre.org.hk

Tuesday 8/23

And We'll All Float On OK

Hong Kong's go-to center for sensory deprivation via flotation tank, **Float On**, is turning one and they've invited all their closest friends and customers to join them in celebration. Sadly, it won't involve a party in a dream pod (which would be unhygienic, if not a little kinky), but with drinks and nibbles and totally blissed out party-goers, you may be tempted to get in one anyway.

7-9pm. 89 Caine Rd., Mid-Levels.



Wednesday 8/24

Get Over the Hump

Perk up your midweek slump at Koko's **Humpday Drinks** night: Get two signature cocktails from a list of seven and indulge in their canape platter which includes such delish offerings as truffle mushroom rice, pork and scallop gyoza, tuna tartare and a udon shot.

7pm. Koko, 5/F, 77 Wyndham St., Central. \$265 from HumpDayDrinksKoko.pelago.events

Thursday 8/25

Gamay More

Don't know a cab sauv from a pinot noir? **Corney and Barrow's wine class** might be just the ticket: They teach you the basics of how to taste wine, all the wine regions, and how to pair wine and food, all while plying you with over 15 glasses of the nectar over a three-course program. Aug 25; Oct 6; Nov 17, 6:30-8:30pm. 6/F, Unit D, 9 Queens Rd. Central. \$500 for one class, \$1,200 for the full program from WineCourse.pelago.events

Friday 8/26

It's a Busk-Off

For this **showdown between two of the best buskers in Asia**, Byon Kay from Japan comes armed with his loop pedal and assortment of mouth harps and noseflutes, while Hong Kong's very own Hakgwai struts his stuff on his loop pedal, lute and panflute. It's gonna be peaceful, weird, and definitely dreadlocky.

8-9:30pm. Art and Culture Outreach, 14/F, Foo Tak Building, 365-367 Hennessy Rd., Wan Chai. \$200 from tiny.cc/hk-busker-showdown

Coming Up

Show Some Skin

Roll up your sleeves, because the fourth annual **Hong Kong Tattoo Convention** is rolling back into town. The conventions gather together international artists, bands and DJs for a weekend of tattoo competitions, plus cool swag, art installations, and more. Started by celebrity tattoo artist Gabe Shum in 2013, the Tattoo Con now draws visitors from all over the world.

Oct 14-16, noon-10pm. Kai Tak Cruise Terminal, 33 Shing Fung Rd., Kowloon Bay. \$144 for a one-day pass; \$280 for three-day pass from ticketflap.com/hk-tattoo-convention2016





Edited by Stephanie Tsui
stephanie.tsui@hkmagmedia.com

Last Week In Reality

SAT 6

Mind Your Own Business

Early morning in Central, a group of four friends leave a bar and see a man arguing with his girlfriend. They try to intervene, but the man attacks them. Three are sent to hospital for their injuries. The man is apprehended by police.



SUN 7

Reckless Gaming

A 35-year-old woman leads her young son onto the pitch in the middle of a football match at Morse Park in Wong Tai Sin, because she is hoping to catch an Aerodactyl on Pokémon GO. Play is suspended when the woman is knocked down, and begins remonstrating with the footballers. Police arrive to settle the dispute and the woman is sent to hospital with minor injuries.

MON 8

Mid-Life Crisis

A 51-year-old administrator at a law firm pleads guilty to theft at the District Court. Her lawyer tells the court that she stole more than \$2 million from her firm because she was experiencing a mid-life crisis and needed the cash to enrich her life. She also gave part of the money to a young barrister at the firm, on whom she had a crush. The barrister has since returned all the cash. The woman is sentenced to 30 months in jail.

TUE 9

Junk Food At Kwun Tong Law Courts

Courts, a noodle hawker admits to bribing a cleaner with a monthly "rent" of \$1,000 to store his cart and cooking utensils... in a refuse storage room at a Tseung Kwan O public housing estate. After receiving a tip-off, ICAC officers caught the man washing and preparing ingredients in the refuse room. The trial continues.

WED 10

Wolf in Sheep's Clothing

A 29-year-old off-duty auxiliary police officer is arrested for allegedly taking upskirt photos of a woman at a mall in Sheung Shui. He is later released on bail and suspended from duty.



THU 11

Chop Chop

Nighttime in Lan Kwai Fong: A man walks into a restaurant, grabs a cleaver from the kitchen and walks back out onto D'Aguilar Street brandishing the knife. He tells nearby police officers that he wants to cut people. Two officers draw their guns and call for the man to stop as he attacks another officer. He is eventually subdued by officers and two passersby. Two policemen, the suspect and one of the passersby are sent to hospital for minor injuries.

FRI 12

Tinder Swindler?

Suspecting that he'd been duped into buying \$93,000 worth of prepaid gift cards by a woman he met on a smartphone app, a 22-year-old Tsing Yi resident reports the incident to the police, who classify the incident as fraud. No arrests have been made.



Quote of the Week

"Take Hong Kong back."

Multiple Facebook users post the same comment on a post from the British Consulate-General of Hong Kong, announcing a live video session with the Consul General. The commenters appear to want to return the city to British colonial rule.

Talking Points

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

Secret, Cancerous Sauce?

The Consumer Council has found a potentially carcinogenic substance in 11 out of 40 soy sauce and seasoning samples, including popular brands Yu Pin King and Tung Chun. The chemical compound 4-methylimidazole can be found in caramel coloring. Although Hong Kong does not regulate the amount of the chemical in food, California law requires businesses to warn against consuming more than 29 micrograms of the substance per day. The Consumer Council found the same amount in less than half a teaspoon of a soy sauce sample from Yu Pin King. The consumer watchdog is now urging the government to regulate the permitted concentration of the chemical in food.

Our take: At this point it would seem that every food product either causes or cures cancer—some simultaneously.

Localist Teachers Under Fire

The Education Bureau has stressed that it will be "reviewing the qualifications" of teachers involved in pro-independence advocacy on campus. This comes as the Academy of School Managers—a pro-establishment group of education administrators—announced its opposition to school leaders spearheading localist concern groups in secondary schools. The academy has urged school administrators to keep a close watch on such practices and step up methods of prevention. This has sparked debate over whether discussions on the issue of independence should be allowed on campus. Education sector lawmaker Ip Kin-yuen agreed that while teachers should not impose their own political views on students, the topic of independence should be discussed as part of civic education.

Our take: Oh no—are we going to get into trouble?



Illustration: Elaine Tang

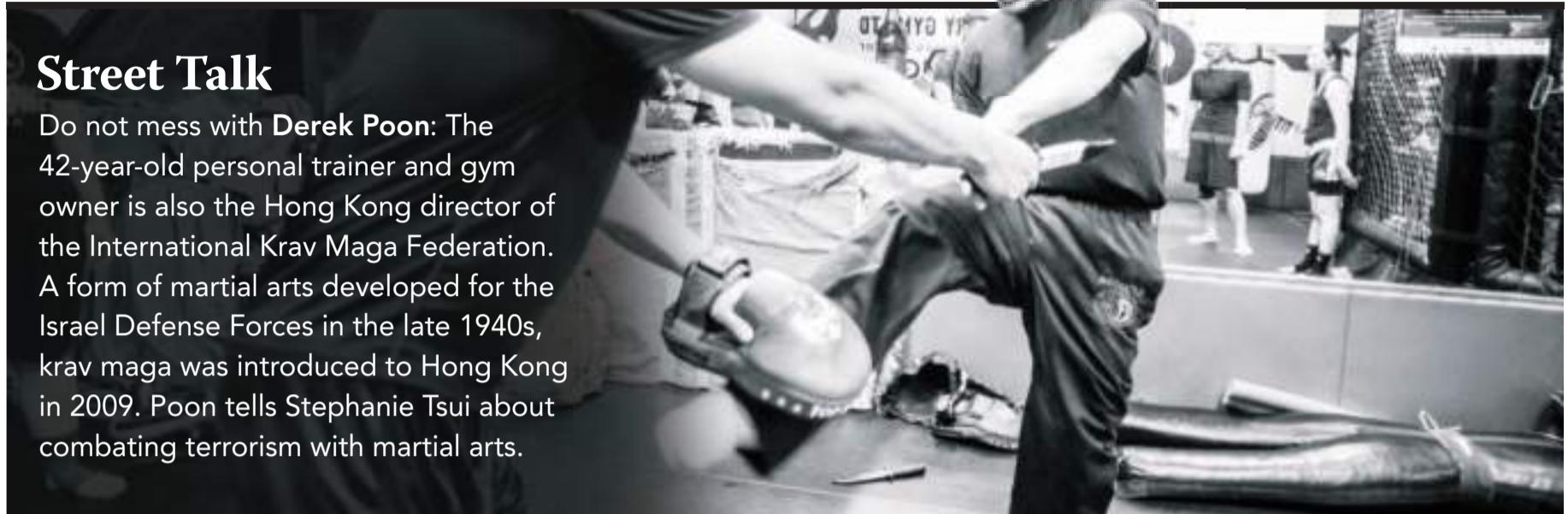


Photo: Rock Wong

Street Talk

Do not mess with Derek Poon: The 42-year-old personal trainer and gym owner is also the Hong Kong director of the International Krav Maga Federation. A form of martial arts developed for the Israel Defense Forces in the late 1940s, krav maga was introduced to Hong Kong in 2009. Poon tells Stephanie Tsui about combating terrorism with martial arts.

HK Magazine: How did you become a krav maga expert?

Derek Poon: In 2010, I passed an exam that involved topping off a five-hour test with 300 push-ups, 300 squats and 300 sit-ups. But I already knew I had a knack for martial arts when I did taekwondo as a teen. I went on to practise other forms of fighting, such as Thai boxing and Chinese martial arts. Krav maga is actually a mix of martial arts including judo, taekwondo and wing chun. Krav maga students can apply their new moves: In Chinese martial arts, for example, it can take months to learn one move, but our students learn a new move every lesson by being put under stress. For example, I might tell them to do push-ups and then attack them when they get up. I used to hit students with a stick because they didn't follow instructions to protect themselves. But I don't hit as hard now, partly because Hongkongers can't take too much discipline.

HK: Sounds like serious business!

DP: It is serious business. To most learners, krav maga is just a self-defence skill, or even a form of exercise—but for trainers, krav maga is about counterterrorism. Every year, I go back to Israel to train for two weeks with other international trainers. That's when we learn new moves, because the bad guys are always updating their methods of attack. In South America, for example, they're now sticking knives in your butt instead of your neck.

HK: So do you fight terrorists?

DP: I wouldn't tell you even if I did. But right now my mission is to teach krav maga to as many people as I can "So that one may walk in peace." That's our motto. I'm also trying to groom more trainers here—there are only about four right now. We're careful about choosing instructors because we don't want our skills to fall into the wrong hands. And not everyone's got what it takes to be a trainer. For one thing, students challenge us from time to time to prove krav maga really works. Once, a student tried to throw me to the ground while I was grabbing him by the neck during a demonstration. I didn't let go, so he got hurt.

HK: Have you always been this fit?

DP: I used to weigh almost 200 pounds. I ran my own clothing company and had to make frequent trips to the mainland, where I drank a lot. So I decided to get back in shape by going to the gym, picking up martial arts again and eventually getting certified as a personal trainer. After I got certified I started working full-time at a clinic for diabetics to help patients manage their weight. I just felt it was more meaningful than the clothing business.

HK: Have you ever been seriously injured?

DP: I've gotten a slipped disc in my lower back from not warming up properly before teaching. When it happened I couldn't even walk, but I recovered in a few months by

training targeted muscles. Another time, while I was training in Israel, my training partner went at me full force and was on the verge of breaking my neck.

HK: What's your best self-defence tip?

DP: Avoid confrontations as much as possible, especially since you don't know who you could be against. One time, a mugger asked me for money, so I gave him \$20 and he left without giving me trouble. Violence should not be the solution, but when push comes to shove, krav maga gets the job done: We don't have any rules. Kick your attacker in the groin, bite him, strike the back of his head, break his fingers... Be as violent as you can. Then run.

Want to pick up a few krav moves?

Drop by the International Krav Maga Federation booth (G25) at Arnold Classic Asia, where Poon will be holding workshops and demonstrations on Aug 20-21. \$150 from arnoldclassicasia.com



Blowing Water

Cantonese slang: To chat, bullshit.

gwai² am² ngaan⁵
鬼指眼
Ghost Covers Eyes

Definition: Fail to see something obvious.

Origin: A ghost covering your eyes would look like nothing, but still prevent you from seeing.

HongKabulary



"Now available: matcha mochi mooncakes with durian custard!"

"Whadda moonfake."

Moonfake (mu:nfeɪk), n.

The curious concoctions and recipes squeezed into Mid-Autumn packaging and sold as mooncakes.

Love Hong Kong: Preserving Our Unique Heritage

In what the city should consider to be a historical milestone, the Oxford English Dictionary recently added some Hong Kong English words into its database, including char siu, dai pai dong, and wet market.

Even though Hong Kong has made its mark on the English language, many of the things we know and love about Hong Kong are slowly fading into obscurity, with some in danger of disappearing. Here are 10 of the unique facets of Hong Kong's cultural heritage that need to be preserved:

CHEUNG CHAU BUN FESTIVAL

Every year on the eighth day of the fourth lunar month, people flood into Cheung Chau for the Bun Festival, which traces its roots back to a fishermen's ritual to pray for safety from pirates. One of the highlights of the festival is the bun-snatching race, where climbers traditionally clamber on bamboo bun-studded towers to collect buns. These aren't just any buns—they have "ping on," which means fortune, printed on them. It's said that the higher the bun, the more fortune it'll bring to the climber's family. Nowadays, the internal support structure is made of steel to ensure safety of the race.



Photo: Felix Wong/SCMP



TRAMS

Even with incremental price rises over the years, "ding dings" are still the cheapest mode of transport, at only \$2.30. With over 30 kilometers of track stretching from Shau Kei Wan to Kennedy Town, what locals ride on a daily basis is, in contrast, a novelty for many tourists.



MAHJONG

Mahjong, an adult version of Monopoly that involves actual money, traces its roots back to Qing Dynasty and has been played by the Chinese community since then. Not only are the rules complicated, the craftsmanship involved in Mahjong tile making is so intricate that it was listed in Hong Kong's Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory in 2014. Get your own set of hand-carved mahjong tiles at Kam Fat Mahjong in Hung Hom, where you can see the owner create and color them herself.



TEMPLE STREET NIGHT MARKET

From branded, counterfeit clothes and watches to novelty lighters, knick-knacks and even sex toys, Temple Street has it all, and like many other parts of the city, is liveliest when the sun goes down. Fortune tellers and food stalls also set up shop in the evenings, so you're never short of distractions in this bustling, iconic market.



STREET FOOD

From the sizzle of oil and the scraping of woks to the distinctly aromatic smells, street food is synonymous with Hong Kong and everyone has their own "go-to" dish. From curry fish balls and siu mai, to seafood, stir fry and whatever can be impaled on a skewer, there is something for everyone on every street corner.





THE PEAK

To most Hong Kongers, the Peak is more than just an attraction. It holds the memory of numberless family outings and romantic encounters.

Relive the good ol' memories with a ride on the Peak Tram, one of the world's oldest funicular railways, and drink in the stunning view of Hong Kong's cityscape at nearly 400 meters above sea level. When you reach the top, visit the wok-shaped Peak Tower for an unobstructed view of the Victoria Harbour, as well as a photo with your favorite celebs in the Madame Tussauds wax museum.



Photo: David Wong/SCMP



Photo: David Wong/SCMP



UNIQUE TRADES

From "Red A" plasticwares to woven bamboo steamers, Hong Kong has produced some iconic products over the years. Unfortunately, some of these trades have come under threat. One such example is our iconic neon signs: the beloved Angus cow advertising Sammy's Kitchen on Queen's Road was deemed unsafe by the authorities and taken down in August 2015.



DAI PAI DONGS

If street food earned a mention, then dai pai dongs must be next in line. Famed for their hodgepodge set up, lack of air conditioning and the blazing heat of their hastily erected kitchens, these stalls serve up some of the best food for next to nothing. Unfortunately, there are only 28 licensed dai pai dongs left in the whole of Hong Kong; half of them are in Central and Sham Shui Po.



Photo: Jonathan Wong/SCMP



YUEN YEUNG

Replace that \$40 morning mocha with a glass of HK-invented yuen yeung, one third of the price and possibly twice as tasty. Found in most cha chaan tengs, yuen yeung are mixed drinks which technically comprise three parts coffee and seven parts milk tea. The name means "mandarin ducks" in Chinese—an allusion to the two ingredients, as mandarin ducks often swim in pairs.



AQUA LUNA

If junks ruled Victoria Harbour, then Aqua Luna would likely be their queen. Even if you don't know her by name, you've most likely seen her sailing in all her glory. Although she isn't as much of a relic as the similar Duk Ling, she's still a sight to behold and is a jewel of Hong Kong's beloved harbor view.



Take part in the "Kiehl's Loves Hong Kong" campaign and do your part in preserving Hong Kong's cultural heritage. This year, the US cosmetics brand has teamed up with the esteemed creative studio Radio to produce a series of limited edition products painted in our city's unique colors.



Bits and pieces of our culture come to life in vivid, playful fashion in Radio's designs, putting together elements like city trams and the Big Buddha to showcase the vibrancy and diversity of Hong Kong. Limited edition products include the Calendula Herbal Extract Toner (250mL), the Creamy Eye Treatment with Avocado (14mL) and the Ultra Facial Cream (50mL).

Upon purchase of the above products, you can give an extra \$20 for a tote bag or an umbrella, all proceeds of which will be donated to Hulu Culture, a local non-profit organization dedicated to keeping alive the essence of our city through exhibitions and workshops.



BATTERIES NOT REQUIRED

Turn the clock back to the days when "an Apple" was just a fruit. What on earth did kids do before they became the tech-obsessed, phone-bound Pokémon trainers of today? By **Sophia Lam** and **Xavier Ng**. Illustrations by **Kay Leung** and **Joyce Kwok**

HONG KONG JACKS (抓子)



\$35
for a pack
of three @
CN Square

Jacks is believed to have stemmed from Mongolia's shagai, goats' ankle bones used in games and fortune-telling, but in this variant the bones are replaced by five stones or beanbags. To make your own set of hand-sewn jacks, all you need is some odd bits of cloth—cut unwanted T-shirts into strips—and a handful of mung beans. Sew the cloth into five pouches and fill with beans or rice to make the jacks.

How to Play

Throw a jack into the air, grab another from the table and catch both on your palm. Lay one aside and repeat. The difficulty increases as you grab more and more jacks until you have all five in your hand.

HOPSCOTCH (跳飛機)



\$9.5
for a box of
chalk @ Tai
On Building,
Sai Wan Ho

One of the classic playground games is now mostly relegated to the history books (or Wikipedia). Hopscotch was a cornerstone in nearly every park from the 50s to the 80s. Normally just nine squares nowadays, it's hard to imagine that it began as a 100 foot-long soldiers' training ground in Roman Britain.

How to Play

Toss a marker into the squares one by one, and then hop into them in the same order without stepping on the lines.

TEK JIN / SHUTTLECOCK (踢毽)

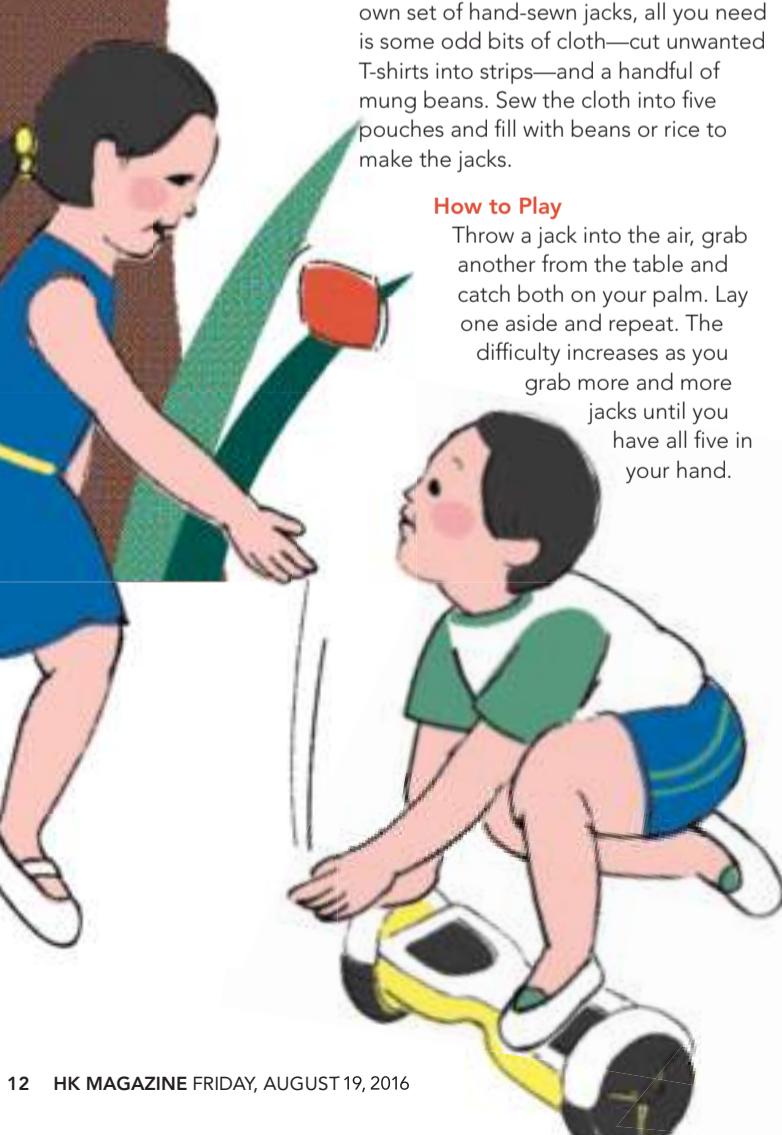


\$12
@ Jusco Living Plaza

Not to be mistaken for badminton shuttlecocks, this Chinese version of Hacky Sack uses a weighted shuttlecock said to be derived from cuju: one of the earliest documented forms of soccer, which evolved from Chinese military training. The weighted section is usually made from stacks of old newspapers, and you can still see circles of (older) players showing off their fancy footwork in public parks.

How to Play

There's only one rule: keep the shuttlecock in the air as long as possible without using your hands.



BLACK AND WHITE (黑白)

FREE!

We have no idea why it's called Black and White, but this clapping game is a Hong Kong standard. Unlike many of its variants from around the world, Black and White doesn't have a rhyme or song to accompany it.

How to Play

1. Clap your hands and give your friend a right-handed high five
2. Clap your hands and give your friend a left-handed high five
3. Clap your hands and do a double high five
4. Do a double high five with the backs of your hands
5. Repeat steps 1-4, increasing the number of claps and high fives each round



AEROPLANE CHESS (飛行棋)



\$15
@ Tai On
Building,
Sai Wan Ho

Largely resembling the boardgame Ludo, Aeroplane Chess gets its name from its playing pieces, which have planes painted on top. The board is divided into four areas by color.

How to Play

The objective is simple: The first player to move all their planes to the finish wins. Starting from the "hangars" at the corners, roll the dice to decide the number of steps your plane moves each turn.

On the subject of board games, the marble-based "Chinese checkers" was invented in Germany in 1892 and had nothing to do with China—it was just given the name to make it sound more "mysterious."



RUBBER BAND JUMP ROPE (橡筋繩)



\$12
for a box of
rubber bands
@ Jusco
Living Plaza

Back in the days when poor Hongkongers couldn't afford a real rope, someone came up with the brilliant idea of stringing dozens of rubber bands into a long cord instead.

How to Play

There are two ways to play. The first is more straightforward—the jumper attempts to jump over the rope when two other players raise it from ankle level to shoulder level. The other way is to make a series of different jumps while the position of the string rises. There's a chant too, which goes, "Small ball, banana oil, flowers bloom and twenty one..." It doesn't make a lot of sense in Cantonese either.



WATERMELON BALL (西瓜波)



\$20
Tai Yuen Street,
aka "Toy Street,"
Wan Chai

Taking its name from its red and white stripes, this hollow plastic ball is said to have been invented by Hong Kong industrialist Chiang Chen in the 50s. A ball cost around the price of a can of Coke (about \$2.50), so kids from poorer families could afford them.

How to Play

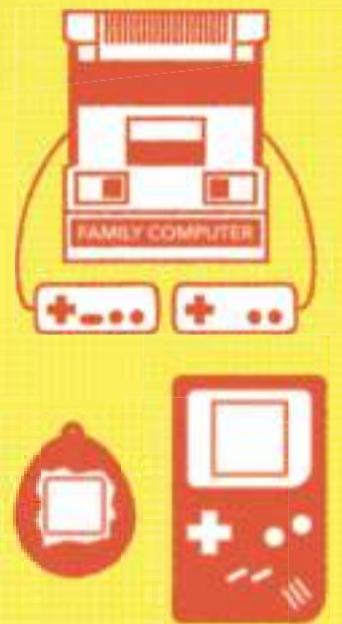
It's basically the same as soccer, except the ball's a lot harder and more fragile. Watch out for the bulging air hole sealed with plastic to prevent air leakage, which is particularly painful if it hits you in the head.



GAME ON!

Before kids started crushing candy and hurling birds at pigs, there was a time when we strung along a black and white pixelated Mario to save his princess. Before that came the Nintendo Family Computer, better known in Hong Kong as the "Red and White Machine." It was released in 1986, making it the city's first games console. The age of handhelds didn't come until the early 90s and the first handheld digital "pet," the Tamagotchi, was released in 1996.

These wildly popular devices would have to be "fed" and looked after, and they could even be "married" to other pets. Sounds like a lot of effort, doesn't it?





The child has the right to leisure and play, and to join cultural and artistic activities.

— Article 31, United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child

To most of us, playing games sounds like a natural and vital component of growing up. But are kids in Hong Kong even given a chance to play? We talk to **Billy Wong Wai-yuk**, Executive Secretary of the Hong Kong Committee on Children's Rights, about the situation for kids in the city, why their "right to play" is so important, and what happens when kids don't get to play.

Q: Some say Hong Kong's children have no childhood. Is this true?



BW: We've observed that children nowadays are a lot busier than before, because of school pressure, plenty of extracurricular activities and tutorial classes. As their schedules are being taken up by adults, a lot of them are confused—they don't know what "play" is anymore.

Q: So what is "play"?



BW: When we talk about the "right to play" for kids, it has to be free, spontaneous play. That means they get to decide what they want to play, and scheduled "playing" doesn't count. A lot of kids of this generation don't have much opportunity to engage in free play.

Q: Why don't kids in Hong Kong get to play?



BW: There are a few reasons:
1) The birth rate has dropped, so kids have fewer siblings or neighbors, and hence fewer playmates.



2) Parents are now better educated, and they are very concerned about their children's safety. Many kids are not allowed to go out and adventure.



3) When constructing playground facilities, the government doesn't involve kids in the decision making process. They are worried about safety, so a lot of the facilities are not challenging for kids, causing them to lose interest.

Q: What happens if kids don't get to play?



BW: Deprivation of the right to play has a great impact on the mental health of a child. Their motivation plummets as there is no outlet for them to release their emotions. Many parents don't realize the long-lasting negative consequences of this on children.

Q: What should we do about it?



BW: Give kids at least an hour each day to play freely. Give them a chance for release—in whatever form it might take.

LOST TRADITIONS

Four ways Hongkongers used to socialize...



LAI YUEN

Before the opening of Disneyland, or even Ocean Park, there was Lai Yuen, the biggest amusement park in Hong Kong in the 50s and 60s. It featured all sorts of amusement rides and even a small zoo. Entrance tickets started at 60 cents for adults and children. The park closed in 1997 when the government turned the land over to public housing, but over the past two summers a new version of Lai Yuen has sprung up as a pop-up park.

DAI DAAT DEI

The *dai daat dei* ("big piece of land") was a flea market dating back to the 1840s. The first one was in Sheung Wan (where Hollywood Road Park stands now), where a former military camp was turned into a market filled with street performers, palm readers, storytellers, and all sorts of food and goods stalls. Nicknamed the "poor man's nightclub," it was moved to near the Macau ferry terminal in the 70s. The tradition eventually died out in the 90s.

FOOTBALL MATCHES

While nowadays most football fans prefer European teams and tournaments, back in the 50s and 60s local tournaments like the League, Senior Shield and the Seven-a-side Stanley Shield were very popular. Spectators, including families, would line up for hours to buy tickets for matches. But with the advent of live broadcasts of overseas football matches in the 70s, local football lost its popularity.

TV AT HERBAL TEA SHOPS

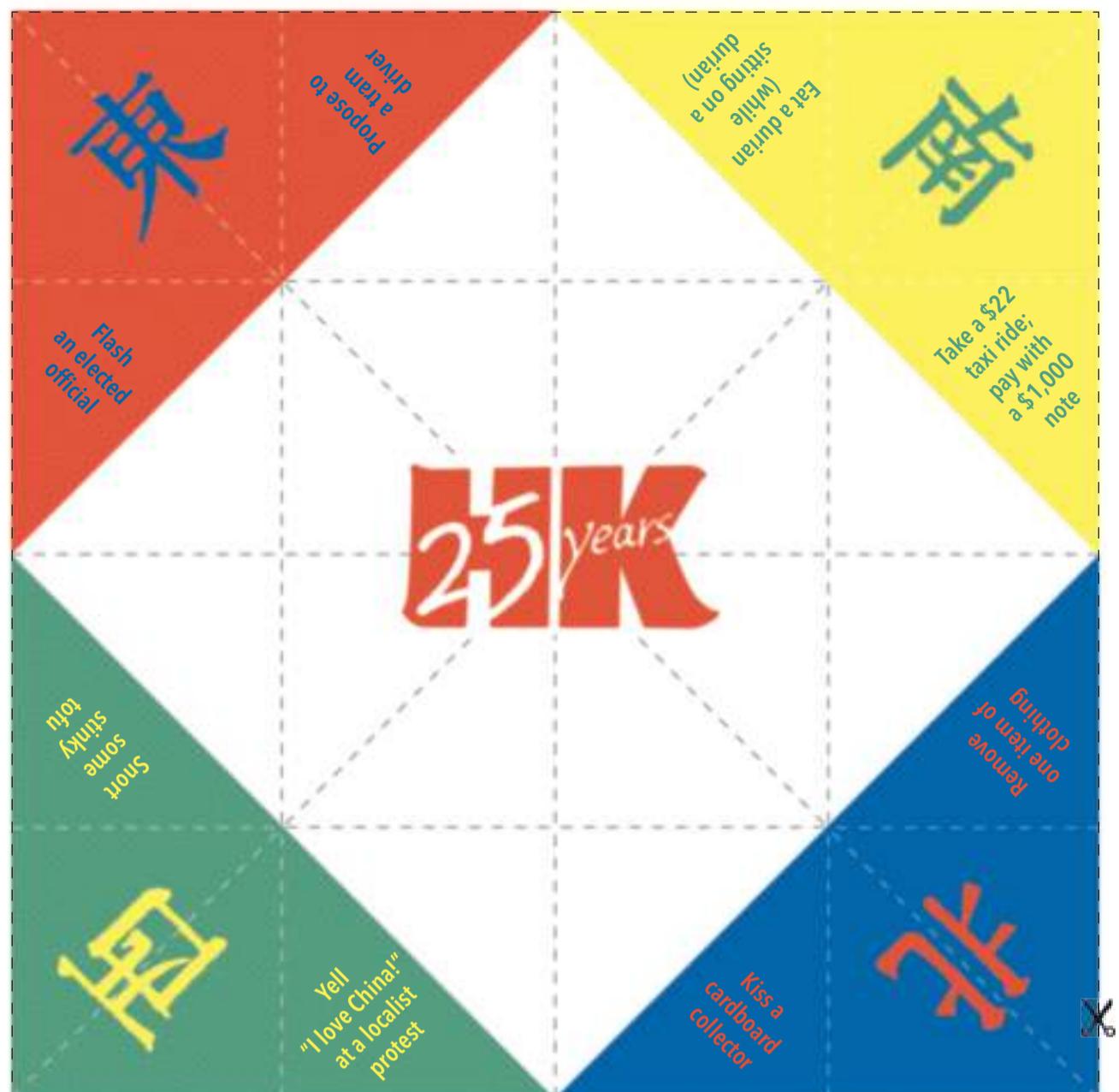
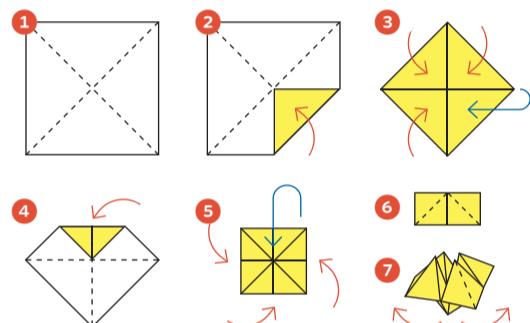
Owning a TV used to be considered a luxury, and therefore until the 70s watching TV could be considered a social activity. Hong Kong's first TV channel opened in 1957 (Rediffusion Television, which became the now-defunct ATV). Back then, families who couldn't afford their own would go to herbal tea shops to watch TV. These shops acted as semi-public spaces where people from the neighborhood could go to simply chill out.

THE PAPER FORTUNE TELLER

EAST SOUTH WEST NORTH (東南西北)

While it might not work as well as a crystal ball, this origami fortune teller was the closest thing we had to it when we were kids. Its origin is unknown, although variants are common all over the world. The player picks a number and a compass point: The number decides how many times you open it and the direction indicates the flap you open.

Make up some "fates" and write them on the inner folds. We've come up with some dares for you, just to make life exciting...



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902 Horizon Plaza, 2 Lee Wing Street, Ap Lei Chau, Hong Kong
www.everythingunderthesun.com.hk

ambient lounge™



\$300 off Junk Catering on CaterSpot.hk

Embrace the heat this summer and live it up HK style. With 25 vendors to choose from, CaterSpot has launched a great selection of food and booze packages for your junk. You can't miss their special "HK\$300 off your first order" offer. What's not to love? The clock is ticking, end this summer on a high note and take full advantage of CaterSpot's special offer.

Code: HMKAGJUNK

Taikoo Place 979 King's Road,
16/F Cornwall House Quarry Bay

Tel: 5808-7485



The City's First Kid-themed Rooms

Choose your adventure from Princess, Hong Kong Tram, Outer Space, Pirate, Safari and Dinosaur themed rooms and embark on your journey of discovery from just HK\$2,488 per night. Kids can participate in fun treasure hunt games and artistic workshops, followed by a delicious afternoon tea set for the whole family to enjoy.

Hong Kong Gold Coast Hotel,
1 Castle Peak Road, Gold Coast, Hong Kong
Reservations: 2452-8833

Piano Recital by Murray Perahia

In more than 40 years of performing on the concert stage, pianist Murray Perahia has become one of the most sought-after and cherished pianists of our time. The poetic pianist will make a welcome return to Hong Kong in October performing works by Haydn, Mozart and Brahms, as well as Beethoven's most technically challenging "Piano Sonata No. 29, 'Hammerklavier'".

8pm, October 9, Hong Kong Cultural Centre
Tickets: \$250 - \$650
Enquiry: 2268-7321



HKCO – A magnificent vista that transcends time and space

An amazing time travelling journey back to ancient China! HKCO's season opening concert "Bridging the glorious dynasties of ancient China and Hong Kong", "Time Traveller" will traverse dynasties of Zhou, Qin, Han and Tang to today's Hong Kong with the "New Music" composed by 4 renowned composers worldwide.

You will also enjoy the wonderful music of Bianzhong, ancient Chinese chime bells from thousands of years ago. www.hkco.org

Sept 23-24, Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall
Tickets are available at URBTIX.
Tel: 3185-1600 / inquiries@hkco.org



JOYCE CABINET PRESENTS - "THE TREASURE" BY ARTIST CHRISTOPHE COPPENS

JOYCE has partnered with California-based Belgian artist Christophe Coppens known for his couture accessories line, to commission a special project for the opening of their recently renovated JOYCE Central store.

"The Treasure" is an exhibition centered on the discovery of artifacts from a civilization dreamed up by Coppens called "The People of the Fountains".

The full collection of wearable art is available for purchase from 18 Aug to 18 Sept 2016.
JOYCE, G/F, New World Tower, Central
Tel: 2810-1120



Viola Recital by Born Lau

Young local violist Born Lau will collaborate with pianist Colleen Lee for a recital. They will perform a selection of classical compositions. Praised by the Philadelphia Inquirer for his "immaculately refined" playing, Born Lau has appeared internationally as a soloist and a chamber musician.

August 28, Hong Kong City Hall
Tickets: www.urbtix.hk
Enquiries: 2268-7321

Summer Splash n' Lunch

Take a break and beat the summer heat.

Pool access + lunch combo including salad + sandwich + fruits + soft drinks available.

Swim, Lounge and Lunch at The Poolside for only HKD250+ per person

Date: Monday-Friday (except Public Holidays), until end of Oct

Time: 12noon – 5pm

Subject to a 10% service charge

Offer cannot be used in conjunction with other discounts

Enquiry: 2980-7417

Le Méridien Cyberport

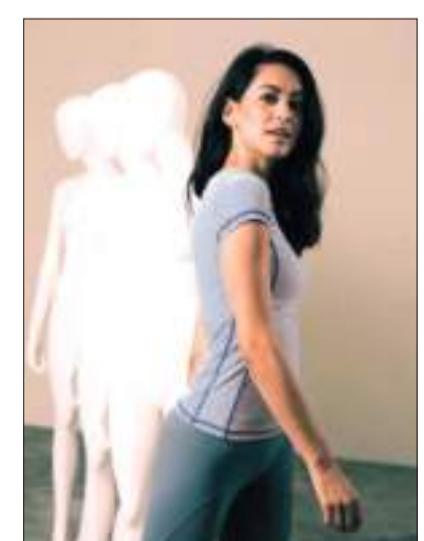
100 Cyberport Road, Hong Kong



Stay True to You

Pure Apparel's brand identity has been creatively brought to life in the Fall-Winter 2016 collection photo-shoot through the use of mannequins as the rigid and lifeless backdrop, contrasting with the natural expression of the models. The campaign aims to encourage people to "stay true to you", not to conform and always to be their natural selves – reflecting the brand's tagline "Be Me. Be Pure."

Shop now in store or online at be-pure.com





Placid Waters

"Speaks Through Watercolour" at Wan Fung Gallery places established artists alongside younger artistic wunderkinds in a display of more than 70 watercolors. More recognized artists include Huang Youwei, Yu Jiantao (who painted this image) and Chan Kau-on, while their younger counterparts are Hong Kong teenagers ranging from 10 to 19, all of whom have been placed in international painting contests.

Through Aug 24. Wan Fung Art Gallery, 3/F, New Lee Wah Centre, 88 To Kwa Wan Rd., To Kwa Wan, wanfung.com.hk.

GOOD LOOKS

Edited and styled by Rafael Raya Cano

Instagram @RafaelRayaCano | rcano.co



The Get Fit Kit

Whether you're dressing for yoga, getting ready to pump iron or going for a hike, you can rock activewear both inside and outside the gym. Here's some outfit inspiration that will take you through your workout and beyond.



Miss Curves

Boost your confidence and show off the sexy curves you've been working on over the summer! This marble print two-piece sports bra and legging ensemble from **Miss Runner** is just the thing.

Sports bra, \$395; leggings, \$430 from missrunner.com

Bandana Girl

If you are in a rush and have no time to do your hair, or want something to wick away sweat at the gym, try adding a cool bandana. This one's from my own brand, **RCANO**.

Bandana, \$89 from rcano.co

Tee Time

This lightweight support tee from **Zalora** is ideal for the summer daytime look as well as for any sports. With its soft and breathable fabric you'll be tempted to wear it straight to brunch after working out.

White workout tee, \$199 from zalora.com.hk

Don't Skip Leg Day

These fitted everyday cotton shorts from **Zalora** will improve your freedom of movement as well as keep a fresh and comfy vibe while you are on the go!

Shorts, \$179 from zalora.com.hk



Gods of Victory

The correct sports gear can improve performance. For your feet there's nothing more versatile and stylish than a pair of **Nikes**. Dudes should try these new Zoom Pegasus 92s, and ladies can nab a pair of these sharp Air Max 1 Ultra Flyknits.

Zoom Pegasus 92, \$699; Air Max 1 Ultra Flyknit, \$1,199 from nike.com.hk

Pack A Punch

Perfect for the stormy weather we're having, pack all you need for the day into this waterproof day bag from **Rains**.

\$980 from **Kapok**, Shop HG10-12, PMQ, 35 Aberdeen St., Central, 2858-8170, ka-pok.com

Watch Your Step

Measuring your heart rate and keeping track of calories burned is a lot easier when something else is doing it for you: check yourself with some help from **FitBit**'s latest wearable.

FitBit Surge, \$2,098 from fitbit.com



Hoodrat

Call me old-fashioned, but I say there's nothing better than a good hoodie for extra comfort. You don't need a fancy warm-up jacket to go to the gym. The classic plain hoodie from **Uniqlo** suits just fine: it's durable, affordable and comes in a ton of colors.

Hoodie, \$199 from **Uniqlo**, G/F, B1-B2/F, Lee Theatre, 99 Percival St., Causeway Bay, 2577-5811, uniqlo.com/hk

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

ESCAPE ROUTES



Compiled by Sophia Lam
sophia.lam@hkmagmedia.com

One Night in Bangkok

We've just got back from Bangkok, and we figured it was high time to produce a newbie's guide to this steamy weekend getaway... one that doesn't involve languishing at Chatuchak Market and the usual multi-story malls.

1. Do a Floating Market Medley

Taste a slice of old Bangkok with a marathon of the floating markets that still pepper the city's waterways. Kick off with a hearty breakfast at **Tha Kha Floating Market**, where you can pick up a stir-fried omelet or some sweet coconut dumplings from one of the ladies on the boats.

For your inner foodie, make the weekend-only **Amphawa Floating Market** your next stop. You'll find everything from bags of green mango slices sprinkled with pink chili sugar to grilled seabass with lime dip.

Tried and tested: We loved the full-day Offbeat Floating Markets Food Tour (\$803, includes at least 17 food samples in three floating markets) by **Bangkok Food Tours**—the guide did a great job showing us around the markets and explaining Thai food and culture, all the while making sure that we were properly fed. It might sound expensive compared to other tours, but considering all the noms you'll be gorging on, it's a pretty sweet deal.

bangkokfoodtours.com



2. Spend some #Templeteime at Wat Arun

Pack away your stilettos and slip into something comfortable—you'll be climbing a lot of stairs at this historical temple on the west bank of Chao Phraya River. **Wat Arun**, or the "Temple of Dawn," dates way back to the 16th century and was later restored to honor the victory of King Taksin over the Burmese army. The best photo op of all has to be its 79-meter central pagoda, with floral mosaic walls, encrusted with stained glass and porcelain, that give off an opalescent glow in the first light.

Just a heads-up: The central spire is currently closed for renovation. Construction should be finished later this year, and the rest of the temple remains open. Remember the dress code: It's hard in the Bangkok heat, but make sure your knees and shoulders are covered. If not, you'll have to rent a sarong (\$27) and climb the stairs with it wrapped around you.
\$11 entrance fee, 158 Wang Doem Rd., Wat Arun, Bangkok Yai, Bangkok.



3. Check out Bangkok's Bangin' Art

Looking for an escape from the standard "shop-eat-shop again" routine? Pop into the **Bangkok Art and Culture Centre** for a refreshing dose of modern art. The top three floors of this eight-story center are occupied by a spacious gallery displaying works by mostly contemporary Thai artists. Until August 21, the 5th White Elephant Art Award Art Exhibition is showcasing sculptures and paintings that depict different facets of life in Thailand.

Takeaway Art: Bring home a piece of made-in-Thailand art: Shop for jewelry made by local craftsmen or join one of the workshops on the lower floors.
939 Rama 1 Rd., Wangmai, Pathum Wan, Bangkok, (+66) 2-214-6630.



4. Don't get scammed at the Grand Palace

A staple on every Bangkok first-timer's itinerary, the 232-year-old **Grand Palace** (\$112 entrance fee) is a mix of ornate temples, throne halls and government offices. Swing by for a glimpse of the magnificent residence of eight kings of Thailand, before King Rama IX moved the royal residence to Dusit Palace in 1901. What the postcards don't warn you about is the sea of umbrellas and tour guide flags you're likely to get lost in: don't forget to grab a map at the entrance. The palace is open every day from 8:30am to 3:30pm except on special occasions.

Scam Alert! When we were there, a kind-looking "policeman" offered to flag down a tuk tuk to take us to a temple that opens only once a year. Long story short, we were coerced into purchasing jewelry that we later found out was part of a rip-off jewelry scam. Take it from us! Don't fall for chummy strangers outside the palace.
Na Phra Lan Rd., Phra Nakhon, Bangkok.



Mooncake Kingdom

September 15 is the Mid-Autumn Festival, and you know what that means: Mooncake orders start NOW. Here are our favorites of these autumnal delicacies, from traditional treats to new-wave inventions. By **Leslie Yeh**



◀ Tea Farm to Table

Michelin-two-starred **Shang Palace's** Uji Matcha Mooncake with red beans and chestnut paste lends a Japanese twist to the traditional Chinese delicacy. The green tea powder is sourced from an award-winning tea farm in Uji, imparting an intense matcha flavor to complement Tokachi red beans. It's a classic red and green combo that's just the right amount of bitter and sweet.

Great for ● Green tea addicts.

\$368 per box of eight. **Kowloon Shangri-La, 64 Mody Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui East, 2733-8483.**

It's Getting Cold in Here ▼

Keep yourself cool during the Mid-Autumn festivities with **XTC Gelato's** mooncake-shaped frozen treats. These popular creamy confections come in four different flavors—traditional milk tea, nutty pistachio, refreshing raspberry and rich vanilla—dipped in a thin chocolate shell with a fresh mango sorbet resembling the “yolk.” Each box (\$285) includes all four varieties, along with a reusable bag and two ice packs so you can easily transport them to your office or holiday party.

GREAT FOR ● Winning over your co-workers.

\$199 through Aug 31; \$285 thereafter.
Various locations including Shop B,
45 Cochrane St., Central, 2541-0500.



◀ Purply Pastries

Pak Loh Chiu Chow celebrates the Chiu Chow-style mooncake this year, which features a lighter, flakier puff pastry-like crust rather than the typical dense crust. Inside, lotus seed paste is replaced by mung bean paste or taro paste and a salted egg yolk, resulting in a lighter and less sugary version. We recommend going for the gift box which includes two mung bean mooncakes, two taro cakes, homemade XO sauce and two tea bags (\$298).

Great for ● A lighter tea-time treat.

Various locations including Shop 1002, 10/F, Times Square, 1 Matheson St., Causeway Bay, 2577-1163.



#HKMagDish
Follow us @hk_magazine and tag your best foodie shot with #HKMagDish for a chance to win a \$300 voucher from Lobster Central! Winner announced every Friday via Instagram.

▼ For Many Moons

Not into all the modern mooncake twists? Go the traditional route with the classic cakes from **Fook Lam Moon**. The age-old formula of lotus seed paste and salted egg is uplifted this year with the addition of Pu'er tea, which lends its subtle aroma to the golden-brown crust. FLM also carries a range of healthy mooncake alternatives made with seaweed sugar and mini mooncakes with flavors varying from egg custard to red bean paste.

Great for Mooncake purists.

\$680 per box of four. 35-45 Johnston Rd., Wan Chai, 2866-0663.



Additional reporting by: Rainie Lam and Janet Sun

CHOCO-CAKES

Don't dig the yolk? These mooncake-inspired confections should help.

- The Moonchocolate Collection from **La Maison du Chocolat** offers a sweet surprise with bite-sized milk and dark chocolate spheres inspired by Mid-Autumn stories and festival folklore. **\$470 per box.** Shop 2006, IFC Mall, 8 Finance St., Central, 2801-4880.
- Premium chocolatier **Vero** has teamed up with designer Ryan Foote to debut a lunar-inspired collection based on the stages of the moon. **\$488 deluxe set.** K11 Art Mall, 18 Hanoi Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, lunarmooncake.com.
- Want to have your cake and eat it too? **Ms B's Cakery** presents exquisite lantern-inspired chiffon cakes layered with mango and coconut mousse, fresh pomelo pearls and luscious fresh cream. **\$280 for two; \$520 for four.** 39 Gough St., Central, 2815-8303.



CHEZ ED

It's a start over;
It's a new wave of passion;
It's a new connection to gastronomy

Famed for his pioneer restaurant concepts, Chef Eddy has now started over his own brand of glamour in Causeway Bay. Gazing across HK's panoramic Happy Valley Race Course, in the center of high-flying City eatery, you can toast this culinary capital's inexorable vitality over some admirable canapes and a glass of wine. The tasting menu is a marvel of new-found natural flavors and contrasts; Chef Eddy depicts the best from the French and European dishes, uses modern techniques to lighten the food up but remain true to the original intent.



CHEZ ED is destined to be a key player in HK's ever-exciting gastronomy landscape.



15/F, Zing!, 38 Yiu Wa Street, Causeway Bay

T (852) 3104 4664 E booking@Chez-Ed.hk

FB www.facebook.com/chez.ed.hk/



EXCLUSIVE OFFER

WIN AN AMAZING TIMEPIECE FROM HKTDC HONG KONG WATCH & CLOCK FAIR



Quantum Q-Master (valued at \$1,076)

The world's preeminent timepiece event, the HKTDC Hong Kong Watch & Clock Fair, will be held from September 6-10 this year to gather all horlogerie fanatics.

Thanks to the Hong Kong Trade Development Council, we're giving away a magnificent Quantum Watch to one lucky reader! Check out [f](#) [HK Magazine](#) | [Q](#) now, answer a simple question and tag a friend to win.

GOOD LUCK!

- HK Magazine reserves the right to make the final decision in the event of any dispute
- For more information, please visit www.facebook.com/hkmagazine



Go to hk-magazine.com and tap
"What's Around Me" for dinner ideas!

NEW AND NOTED



Lamb chops with roasted tomatoes at Ee Da Le

He's Baaaaack

Italian eatery **Ee Da Le** (3/F, 8 Lyndhurst Terrace, Central, 2896-1838)—the highly-anticipated first of four ambitious restaurant openings from the man and self-proclaimed legend himself, Harlan Goldstein—is now open on Lyndhurst Terrace, and one thing's for sure: there's no question who's in charge here. From the colorful cast of staff to the gaudy opera skirt-inspired hanging lamps and Harlan himself doing the cucaracha at the pass as he sprinkles some parmesan on a hot plate of pasta, the place is brimming with character—no less than what we'd expect from a chef who's loud, brash attitude has garnered him more media attention in the last decade than most chefs get in a lifetime. Inspired by the coast of southern Italy, the rustic menu is broken down into handcrafted pastas, meats, seafood dishes and sides, with family-style portions made for sharing. There are some tweaks to the menu that need refining—such as an eye-watering \$488 red prawn linguine—but several dishes are worth trying, including the char-grilled octopus with slivers of sopressata, Taggiasca olives and potato crema (\$168); and the "Mama's Meatballs" (\$108) which, despite the ho hum name, are juicy and flavorful with three types of meat: veal, beef and pork sausage. After opening for only a few weeks, the place is already buzzing with curious Harlan fans—we'll be back to watch the spectacle unfold for ourselves, probably with a negroni or two in hand.



Alto's international menu includes sesame-crusted ahi tuna

Timbertop Dining

Move over Seafood Room, there's a new restaurant in Causeway Bay that's commanding attention with its jaw-dropping décor and harbor views. Conceived by Design Research Studio, **Alto** (31/F, V Point, 18 Tang Lung St., Causeway Bay, 2603-7181) stuns with blackened timber tabletops, metal brass fittings, and a ceiling outfitted with 220 gold lights. While the glamorous space is inspired by the four elements of earth, air, fire and water, the menu by executive chef Michael Boyle is much less esoteric, with an accessible list of dishes that draws inspiration from his travels. Starters span the continents, with dishes such as crispy pig's ears (\$88); bone marrow with chimichurri (\$178); and ahi tuna with avocado and coconut (\$158). Grill-focused mains are a highlight: we'd recommend both the USDA prime 14oz ribeye (\$398) and the Argentinian grass-fed 12oz sirloin (\$298).

Weekends in Bangkok

Following the popular semi-buffet lunch, Bangkok import **Issaya Siamese Club** (25/F, Soundwill Plaza II Midtown, 1 Tang Lung St., Causeway Bay, 2154-3048) has just launched a semi-buffet Sunday dinner (6-11pm; \$438, plus \$238 for free-flow champagne) for relaxing weekend grazing. The rotating selection of appetizers includes dishes such as raw prawns with Thai chili, satay pork skewers, fresh spring rolls, and a live cooking station inspired by the street-side snack scene in Bangkok. After indulging in the buffet, settle down to a more focused selection of protein-heavy mains, including beef short ribs in massaman curry, roasted chicken with tamarind sauce, pan-fried lamb rack in green peppercorn sauce, and stir-fried tiger prawns. The playful desserts are a highlight of any meal at Issaya—don't pass up the liquid nitrogen ice creams and Thai-flavored macarons.

RESTAURANT REVIEWS

Mercato ★★★★☆

Italian. 8/F, California Tower, 32 D'Aguilar St., Central, 3706-8567.



Famed chef Jean-Georges' Italian restaurant Mercato is a near-replica of the original Shanghai haunt—with cozy interiors brought to life again by Shanghai-based architects Neri & Hu.

HIT The one-page lunch set is easy to tackle, with two courses going for \$198 and three for \$238. We started with fried calamari, which boasted a large pocket of air between the squid and the batter, making for large, doughnut-like rings that crunched satisfactorily in the mouth, albeit they were a little oily. Our second starter, an endive salad, was a mound of dill piled upon a crisp endive leaf; mixed with a bit of

coriander, softly sprinkled Parmesan, and a bed of thinly sliced sugar snap peas, it was at once a simple yet flavorful explosion of texture, acidity and freshness. For mains, the rigatoni and meatballs impressed with its web of melty parmesan and big, boulder-like meatballs. Mercato is probably best known for its pizzas, and ours boasted a puffy, chewy crust with spotted bits of char and a wonderfully fresh shaved broccoli and salami topping.

MISS The open, fluid layout of Shanghai's Mercato has been replaced here by a packed, grid-like table formation—an unfortunate result of Hong Kong's cramped real estate that makes for noisy acoustics and uncomfortable seating, such as tables which are actually in between seat cushions.

BOTTOM LINE Jean-Georges knows he's found a winning recipe and sticks to it at both his SH and HK locations—and we can't help but sing his praises.

Open daily noon-2:30pm, 6-11pm. \$\$

Cirque ★★★★☆

European. 4/F, Ovolo Southside, 64 Wong Chuk Hang Rd., 3460-8157.



Out of the dearth of food options in Wong Chuk Hang, Cirque at Ovolo Southside is like a mirage in a desert, serving up modern European fare in a casual, semi-alfresco setting.

HIT Starting off with a tapas-style appetizer, the crispy quail egg (\$75) included five breaded, semi-runny eggs, topped with maple bacon chunks and microgreens. It tasted great on its own, but the pond of sriracha mayo that it was sitting on overpowered the dish. The bolognese (\$120; made with a pork, lamb and beef sauce) with rigatoni was al dente and a solid crowd pleaser, though a touch more pecorino

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

wouldn't have hurt. The sautéed mushrooms and gai lan in soy butter (\$48; actually soy sauce and butter) was an interesting fusion, and the gai lan retained a fresh crunch. We also enjoyed the unique smoked eel carbonara (\$135), as the sweet teriyaki flavor of the eel and its soft texture balanced nicely with the egginess of the carbonara sauce. However, it felt strange slurping down an Italian classic with thick and heavy Chinese-style noodles.

MISS The seating arrangement on the terrace outside may be pleasant and even romantic in the evenings, but the indoor space feels slightly cafeteria-like, with plastic chair seating and bright fluorescent lights.

BOTTOM LINE There's nothing that breaks the bank—or necessarily breaks boundaries—at Cirque, which makes it an easy and reliable choice if you're checking out galleries nearby or staying at the hotel.

**Open daily 6:30-10am, noon-3pm,
6-11pm. \$\$**

Ratings

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

Price Guide

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



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for more ideas!

CITY STROLL



堅尼地城

Kennedy Town

Once merely the sleepy end of the tram line, K-Town has bloomed into a popular hangout as the city's spread sideways. Now it's an enclave of hip eats... but with plenty of traditional touches left over. By **Kate Lok**

1 Sai Wan Swimming Shed

This swimming area at the far western end of the island was built in the 70s, back before the construction of public swimming pools. These days it's more popular with photographers than with early morning swimmers, but you're still free to take a dip.

Victoria Rd., Kennedy Town.



2 Tung Wah Smallpox Hospital Memorial Arch

Tung Wah Smallpox Hospital was built in 1910 as a response to the smallpox epidemic. The hospital was dismantled after World War II, leaving behind only a vaulted arch and the original cornerstone laid by Governor Sir Henry Arthur Blake.

**Next to Kennedy Town Bus Terminus,
Sai Ning St., Kennedy Town.**



3 Little Creatures

One of K-Town's newest hotspots, this Aussie microbrewery and restaurant serves up fresh brews to K-Town's boozers.

**5a New Praya, Kennedy Town.
2833-5611.**



4 Catch

Dressed in white with simple furnishings and an alfresco vibe, this ground-floor restaurant promises a homely menu made from the best and freshest ingredients. This is the spot to head to if you're looking for a place for brunch or a dinner catch-up with an old friend.

**G/F 93 Catchick St., Kennedy Town,
2855-1289.**



5 Hor Hor Deem

A K-Town favorite for late-night bites (open 'til 3am), this humble cha chaan teng serves up an array of traditional snacks such as curry fishballs, but the real standout is the fried cheung fun, served with an egg scrambled on top. Mix in a lot of chilli sauce and dig in.

**Shop E & F, Luen Wai Apartments,
136-142 Belcher's St., Kennedy Town,
2818-3658.**



6 Ah Por Put Chai Gou

Known lovingly by the residents of Western as "Ah por put chai gou"—"old granny's bowl pudding"—this cheerful old lady has been selling traditional Chinese puddings on the streets of Sai Wan for decades. After she was charged by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, the owner of Tak Kee Chiu Chow Restaurant has given her a space in front of his restaurant to continue the business.

Outside 3 Belcher's St., Kennedy Town.



Check back next week for more awesome things to do in K-Town!



Go to hk-magazine.com and tap
"What's Around Me" for more ideas!

Compiled by Jessica Wei
jessica.wei@hkmagmedia.com



UPCLOSE: ZHANG CHENG

"Annals of Floating Island" is an exhibition currently on view at Hanart TZ Gallery. The show encompasses media ranging from paintings to photography and video, all contemplating the presence of technology and virtual reality in our contemporary lives. **Zhang Cheng**, who curated this exhibit with Song Zhengxi, talked with Jessica Wei about the exhibition.



HK Magazine: What's the purpose of this exhibition?

Zhang Cheng: From the curatorial concept to the artworks and the artists, the exhibition illuminates a young mainland Chinese art landscape. Most of the works shown are relatively new, including "The Grand Voyage," an extensive ongoing project that began in 2014, while some of the other pieces are older works. But all the works tap into a collective artistic concern regarding the ideas of social and virtual reality.

HK: What does a "floating island" represent to you?

ZC: The key image represents an unanchored existence that drifts across the sea. In contemporary life we are floating on ever-changing currents, on an ocean of banal knowledge and unverified information, with much of our experience built on a virtual reality. Social media in our internet-dominated society permeates and alters our reality, perception and judgment—this serves as a key point of inspiration.

HK: Did you begin with an idea first, and then commission artists, or did you find a linking theme among the artists' work?

ZC: The artists involved are not only collaborators but our friends as well. These artists all share a sense of uncertainty in the age of information, in the virtual world of the internet and in consumer society. We selected them for this show as we felt they fit the inherent theme of "uncertainty."

HK: Regarding the theme, was there a deliberate effort to sound hyper-current, or was it a natural result of the process?

ZC: In my mind, what we are concerned with is not some complex, clever technique but rather, how we communicate with the reality of this era while being inundated by technology. How do we deal with distance and inertia and how do we handle the interactive force that also emerges?

HK: What sort of impact have these technologies had on the artistic landscape of China?

ZC: To quote the artist and CAA professor Qiu Zhijie, 'Compared to van Gogh's time, when people felt a sense of amazement when first encountering a photograph or a train, in our era even the Internet doesn't strike us as anything special.'

HK: What can visitors take away from the exhibit?

ZC: I hope visitors will be inspired to ask questions.

"Annals of Floating Island" runs at Hanart TZ Gallery until Aug 28. Room 401, Pedder Building, 12 Pedder St, Central, 2526-9019.



Classical

Hong Kong International Piano Competition

As part of the Chopin Society's Joy of Music Festival, the fourth annual Hong Kong International Piano Competition rounds up 35 pianists in a competition that unfolds over the span of 18 days and four rounds, interspersed by performances, presentations and talks by some of the esteemed jury members including preeminent Austrian pianist and composer Stefan Vladar, as well as critic Bryce Morrison, an authority on piano performance. All competition dates are open to the public. Sep 26-Oct 13. Concert Hall, City Hall, 5 Edinburgh Place, Central. chopinsocietyhk.org. Day pass \$50-200; Pass to one of four competition rounds \$200-300 from info@chopinsocietyhk.org.

Yo-Yo Ma

Headlining the HK Philharmonic's dynamic season opener is the one and only Yo-Yo Ma, the worldwide Chinese-American cello sensation. He'll be playing Bizet's Symphony in C, "Silent Woods" by Dvorák, and dueting with Wu Tong (on the sheng, a Han dynasty-era wind instrument) for Chinese composer Zhao Lin's "Duo." Get your tickets before they sell out. Sep 9-10, 8pm. Hong Kong Cultural Centre, 10 Salisbury Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui. \$680-1980 from urbtix.hk.



Beverly Leung Piano Recital

Hong Kong pianist Beverly Leung will be performing Bach-Busoni's "Chaconne in D Minor," Poulenc's "Trois Pièces, FP 48," Granados' "Los Requiebros" and Chopin's "24 Préludes, Op. 28." Leung is an emerging talent not just in the city but also internationally, having won awards at the San Danielle International Piano Conference, appeared at various music festivals, and recorded for RTHK Radio 4 as well as the CBC in Canada. Sep 18, 8pm. Theatre, City Hall, 5 Edinburgh Place, Central. \$120-160 from urbtix.hk.

Matthias Rácz with the Hong Kong Sinfonietta

German bassoon virtuoso Matthias Rácz blows into Hong Kong for the first time. In this debut, he will be leading the Sinfonietta with Mozart's Bassoon Concerto in B-flat, Messiaen's Les Offrandes Oubliées and one of Beethoven's most beloved symphonies, Symphony no. 3, "Eroica." Conducting the concert is another special guest, the Hong Kong-born Ken Lam, currently the Music Director of the Charleston Symphony Orchestra. Aug 20, 8pm. Concert Hall, City Hall, 5 Edinburgh Place, Central. \$140-340 from urbtix.hk.



Whitacre Conducts Whitacre

Grammy-winning conductor/composer and Los Angeles Master Chorale artist-in-residence Eric Whitacre makes his Hong Kong debut, joining the Hong Kong Festival Orchestra and Voices for a performance of his best-loved works. Whitacre is known for his choral ensemble music, particularly his groundbreaking "Virtual Choir" projects, combining voices from all over the world into an online choir. If you're remotely interested in the power of song, don't miss the chance to see this megastar of choral music in the flesh. Aug 19-20, 8pm. Tsuen Wan Town Hall Auditorium, 72 Tai Ho Rd., Tsuen Wan. \$180-500 from urbtix.hk.



Jaap van Zweden's Mahler and Mozart

After extending his contract as Music Director of the HK Phil through to 2022 (as well as taking on a new role of Music Director of the New York Philharmonic), Jaap van Zweden will be back behind the podium for the first time this season to lead them in a performance of Mahler's Symphony no. 1, "Titan." They will be joined by Chinese violinist Yang Tianwa for Mozart's Violin Concerto no. 4. Oct 20-21, 8pm. Concert Hall, Cultural Centre, 10 Salisbury Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui. \$280-680 from urbtix.hk.

Comedy

Stephen K Amos

British actor, documentarian and standup comic Stephen K. Amos takes the stage at Punchline Comedy for a three-night stint. Since his debut in 2001, this seemingly tireless entertainer has toured festivals around the world, including annual stops at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, as well as guested on UK panel shows "Have I Got News for You" and "Mock the Week," among others. Sep 1, 8pm; Sep 2-3, 9pm. Tamarind, 2/F, Sun Hung Kai Centre, 30 Harbour Rd., Wan Chai. \$350 from ticketflap.com/punchlinecomedyclub.

Dance

The Royal New Zealand Ballet's "Midsummer Night's Dream"

There's a play within a play, enchanted woods, a fairy queen running game on a literal asshead, and two adolescent couples waking up naked in a field, all orchestrated by a shrewd and knavish sprite—there's a lot to love in Shakespeare's comedy, and even more to love in the Royal New Zealand Ballet's touring adaptation of it. Set to a score by Mendelssohn and performed by this world class assortment of dancers, "A Midsummer Night's Dream" is one you won't want to wake up from. Oct 7-8, 7:45pm; Oct 9, 3pm. Sha Tin Town Hall, 1 Yuen Wo Rd., Sha Tin. \$160-420 from urbtix.hk.

Journey to the West

Join the City Contemporary Dance Company and guest performers Gregory Charles Rivers and Jonathan Wong in this exciting performance of "Journey to the West." This playful, kid-friendly interpretation finds Monkey trapped under the Five Finger Mountain; Piggy trying to win the heart of the Gao family's beautiful daughter; and Tripitaka trying to keep his disciples well behaved as they head west. Aug 26-27, 8pm; Aug 28, 3pm. Auditorium, Sha Tin Town Hall, 1 Yuen Wo Rd., Sha Tin. \$140-250 from urbtix.hk.



Musicals

Stomp

After touring the world for 25 years, and staging over 20,000 performances in more than 53 countries, Stomp is coming to Macau. The eight-piece performance group turns everyday items—everything from bin lids, plastic bags, lighters to a literal kitchen sink—into an explosive percussive symphony. Combining dance and rhythm, this show is a can't-miss! Sep 23-Oct 9. Venetian Theatre, The Venetian, Estrada do Istmo, Cotai, Macau. \$180-780 from hkticketing.com.

Theater

Cantonese Opera Demo

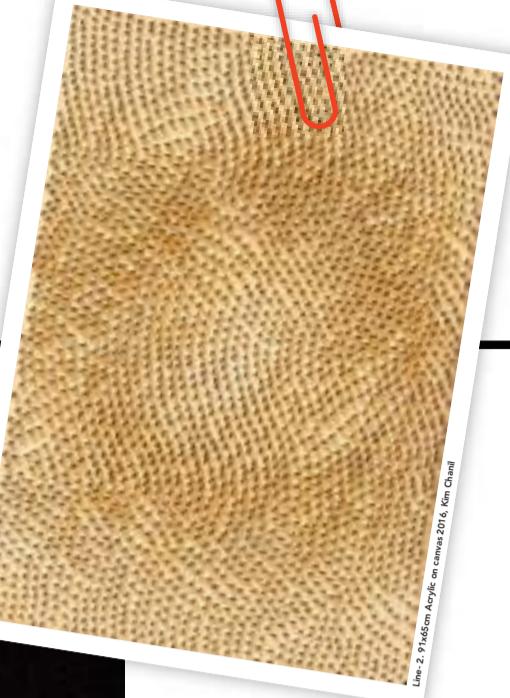
Cantonese opera star Yuen Siu-fai leads a team of artists and musicians in a performance to introduce younger generations to Cantonese opera. They'll be performing excerpts from well-known works including "Under the Umbrella" from "The Moon Pavilion" and "The Hunt" from "War and Never-ending Love." Join them for a night and relish the magic of an age-old tradition being passed onto a budding audience of Cantonese opera-lovers. Aug 26, 7:30pm. Ngau Chi Wan Civic Centre, 11 Clear Water Bay Rd., Choi Hung. \$100-140 from urbtix.hk.

Jane Eyre

Jane Eyre, the 19th century tale of a young woman hustlin' through life just trying to get hers, has been adapted for the stage by the Absolutely Fabulous Theatre Connection under the direction of Michael Sharmon. Jane has a traumatic upbringing, first orphaned and then abused by her aunt. But through the guidance of a gentle teacher and the strength of her own convictions, she finds herself governess to a young French girl and meets the mysterious Mr. Rochester, who has a secret that may compromise her goals. Aug 26-27, 8pm; Aug 28, 2:30pm. \$120 from urbtix.hk.

See intricate three-dimensional
paintings by Kim Chanil at
the Muse.
tiny.cc/mhk-kim-chanil

Exhibitions



Cui Xi Min Exhibition
A solo exhibition by master painter and calligrapher Cui Ximin is on at Hong Kong City Hall and 168 Gallery for most of August. The exhibition comprises over 100 recent works, inviting audiences to experience Cui's delicately constructed and traditionally Chinese view of nature. Through Aug 21. 168 Gallery, Shops A & B, G/F, Orlins Court, 419R-T Queen's Rd, West, Shek Tong Tsui, 168gallery.com.hk.



Everything's Alright

Brand new two-person art collective Dirty Paper (Chan Wai-lap and Yau Kwok-keung) have taken over the Chi Art Space. Presenting six groups of artworks totalling more than 40 paintings, installations and sculptures, Dirty Paper seeks to express the absurdities of everyday life in Hong Kong, from puberty to the harrowing process of making friends with someone on Facebook. Through Sep 8. Chi Art Space, 8/F, New World Tower 2, 18 Queens Rd. Central. k11artfoundation.org.

www.jmstyle.com.hk

SOFA OF THE WEEK

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NIGHTLIFE



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Weekend hedonism supreme:
Check out Bungalow's Bottomless
Brunch Party below.

GETTING CRAFTY

There's a slew of brand new craft beer watering holes around town. **Evelyn Lok** takes us through the list.

Hitachino Nest

The venerable Japanese craft beer maker opened its doors in Fo Tan early August. Brewing for the Hong Kong market as well as for export to the mainland, the brewery makes a few of the brand's signatures, and is planning to expand into Hong Kong-exclusive flavors. It's open for brewery tours every Saturday from Aug 27.

Drink this: The Espresso Stout, a richly chocolatey dark beer that tastes like a smooth iced Americano.

Unit A1, G/F, Unison Industrial Centre, 27-31 Au Pui Wan St., Fo Tan, 2620-0095.



Second Draft

Bringing fresh brews to hipster enclave Tai Hang is Second Draft, the second establishment by the team behind Mong Kok craft beer bar The Ale Project. This time with a fusion gastropub menu by Little Bao's May Chow. The vibe here takes inspiration from old school Hong Kong, using Star Ferry-style doors, sturdy wooden chairs and pale melon-green interiors characteristic of old-timey cha chaan tengs.

Drink this: The newest Young Master brew: Lui Sun (meaning "goddess"), a mangoey IPA with a relatively light bitterness.

G/F, 98 Tung Lo Wan Rd., Tai Hang, 2656-0232.



The Garage Bar

The outdoor patio bar The Backyard at Cordis Hong Kong's just undergone an overhaul, bringing a focus to good ol' hearty burgers and sandwiches and putting the spotlight on 40 Hong Kong and international craft beer labels. Pair the signature Hongkongese Burger—a steak burger encased within a charcoal-baked pineapple bun—with one (or three) of the local brews from Nine Dragons Brewery, Moonzen, Lion Rock, City Brew and more.

Drink this: Choose any three types of beer from different labels to create your own personalized beer flight.

Level L, Cordis, 555 Shanghai St., Mong Kok, 3552-3028.

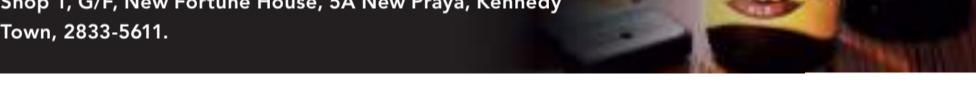


Little Creatures

Having just opened in July, Aussie export Little Creatures is already a crowded hotspot come weekend evenings, and it's almost impossible to get a table without booking in advance. Service is still a little spotty and confused on the bar side, but it's better for a sit-down meal. Great, unpretentious food, fresh beers brewed on-site, a friendly atmosphere and an incredible high-ceilinged industrial space make this a great hangout for larger groups.

Drink this: You can't go wrong with the solid signature Pale Ale.

Shop 1, G/F, New Fortune House, 5A New Praya, Kennedy Town, 2833-5611.



Clubs

World Top 50 DJ Superstar: Tenisha Live in Hong Kong

Wondering where to get your fix of EDM and house in September? The Electric Wonderland parties continue to bring the world's best DJ acts to town, and debuting in Hong Kong is Maltese DJ superstar Tenisha (now a one-man team headed by Joven Grech since Cyprian Cassar quit in June)—ranked within the World Top 100 for five consecutive years and a regular at Tomorrowland, Ultra, Creamfields and more. A lineup of six DJs will be playing on the night. Aug 25, 10pm. Zentral, 4-5/F, California Tower, 32 D'Aguilar St., Central, \$280-388 from tenishiahk.eventbrite.com, includes a complimentary drink. Table packages available from \$8,888.

Roger Sanchez in Hong Kong

Kicking off the first Saturday night in September is Grammy-winning DJ Roger Sanchez at Dragon-i, who will be bringing a blend of house, electro dance and tribal house to da club. Sep 3, 10pm. Dragon-i, U/G, The Centrium, 60 Wyndham St., Central, \$300 at the door.



Delta: Peter Van Hoesen

The music-loving party people of Delta are bringing in Belgian techno legend Peter Van Hoesen for the launch of Delta's first Volar event. Van Housen's tunes tell rich, moody stories, suited equally to the dance floor and to daydreaming, and as usual he'll be bringing a set of brand new material you won't hear anywhere else. He's supported by Delta residents Al Burro, DJ Darko, Lukas and Claire. Sep 9, 10pm. Volar, B/F, 38-44 D'Aguilar St., Central, \$250 from ticketflap.com/delta; entry before 12:30am with two drinks, thereafter with one. \$300 at the door before 12:30am, \$350 thereafter; both with two drinks.

Gigs

YourMum Presents: Yumi Zouma, Yukilovey and Merry Lamb Lamb

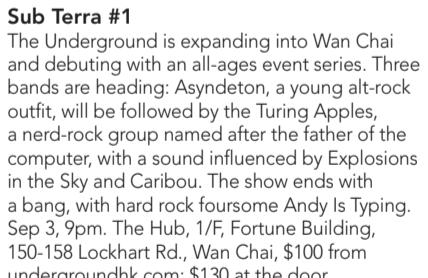
The Kiwi dreampop foursome Yumi Zouma: made up of Sam Perry, Christie Simpson, Josh Burgess and Charlie Ryder, heads to Hong Kong this September for a one-off gig in recently opened indie venue Café Hillywood. Having played with the likes of Lorde and Chet Faker, this is one gig Hong Kong hipsters won't want to miss. The band is supported by local acts Yukilovey and newcomers Merry Lamb Lamb. Sep 16, 8pm. Café Hillywood, LG/F, 152 Austin Rd., Jordan, \$280 from ticketflap.com/yumizouma.



Concerts

YourMum Presents: Daniela Andrade

Down for some soothing acoustic tunes? Canadian singer-songwriter Daniela Andrade will be making her headline debut in Hong Kong in October. With a notable following on YouTube of over a million music geeks, you can bet she's got an extensive cover repertoire, ranging from Radiohead's "Creep" to a pared down, emotional take on Drake's "Hotline Bling." Oct 15, 8:30pm. Musiczone, KITEC, 1 Trademart Drive, Kowloon Bay, \$330 from ticketflap.com/danielaandrade.



Flo Rida

Break out the apple-bottom jeans and boots with the fur (with the fur) 'cos Flo Rida is heading up to our sister SAR this September. Sep 10, 10pm. Pacha Macau, Studio City, Estrado do Istmo, Cotai, Macau, MOP300-350 from ticketflap.com/florida; MOP400 at the door; all include one drink.



Happy Hours

NOM Spritz and Slider Nights

Nom on a wagyu beef slider paired with a Spritz cocktail for just \$88 on weeknights! Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 6-8:30pm. NOM, G/F, 1-5 Elgin St., Central.



Pokémon-themed Summer Cocktails at Woobar

Throwing Pokéballs is hard. Quench your thirst (and catch a stray Pokémon or two) at W Hong Kong's Woobar, which has a selection of summer cocktails inspired by your favorite characters. Jul 28-Aug 31. various times. Woobar, 6/F, W Hong Kong, 1 Austin Rd. West, West Kowloon, \$480-\$1,500 from www.cityline.com.

Bistro Du Vin Thirsty Thursdays

Who says Thirsty Thursdays have to be about some ratchet kinda hooch? At K-town restobar Bistro Du Vin, it's decidedly more elegant: They're launching a seven-course wine pairing menu through to the end of October, putting the spotlight on rare grower Champagnes, which come grape to bottle in the same vineyard. Available for reservations for groups of 10 or more at \$1,000 per head. Through Oct 31. Thursdays. Bistro du Vin, 1D, G/F, 1 Davis St., Kennedy Town.

Pokémon Trainers

Get Free Drinks at Four Seasons

There's no sign that Pokémon Go madness is going to subside any time soon, so as summer progresses you might as well sit yourself in a swanky air conditioned bar to carry on catching. Keen trainers who catch a Pokémon at the Four Seasons' Blue Bar are eligible for a complimentary drink. All you have to do is snap a screenshot of your location and your newly caught monster (turning AR on is recommended), and check into Four Seasons Hotel Hong Kong on Facebook with the photo. Through Sep 30. Complimentary drink must be redeemed on the same day as Facebook check-in, between 2:30-6pm. Blue Bar, 8 Finance St., Central.

Nightlife Events

Live Music and \$1 Burgers at HMV Bar and Restaurant

HMV's flagship store in Causeway Bay regularly showcases live Hong Kong talent, and for the month of August you can expect jazz nights every Wednesday, and acoustic bands performing every Saturday night. This month, sink your teeth into the café's signature wagyu burger for just \$1 every Monday and Tuesday through to Aug 30, 3-4pm and 5-6pm. Live music starts 8pm. Through Aug 31. HMV Bar and Restaurant, 4/F, Pearl City Mansion, 22-36 Paterson St., Causeway Bay, \$1 burger promotion limited to 50 burgers per session.



Edited by Evelyn Lok
evelyn.lok@hkmagmedia.com

Nightlife Events

W Hotel Summer Series Pool Party: Hot Streak

The W's summer pool parties are back! This year, they're adding a fitness edge to these signature high-energy parties. Ticketholders will be able to take part in a free warmup workout from 8-9pm before all the wet debauchery starts. If you really care about maintaining your beach bod, there'll also be a detox buffet during the party with healthy treats and drinks, as well as a silent disco workout booth for those who want to bring HIIT into their wining and grinding. The after-party continues at Woobar, from 11pm 'til late. Aug 27, 8pm. Wet Pool, 76/F, W Hong Kong, 1 Austin Rd. West, \$350 early bird tickets from ticketflap.com/wpoolparty, \$450 at the door; both include one standard drink. \$888 for "VIP" tickets with free flow champagne until midnight.

Kirin Ichiban Summer Feast

What's better than ice-cold beer? Frozen beer! Or so says Japanese beer brand Kirin Ichiban, which is hosting a beer garden from mid-August to mid-September. Kirin says its signature Ichiban beer is the only beer made from the first press, and from 100 percent malt. It's also served with a patented frozen foam that keeps the beer ice cold for longer. Get a taste at Mira Mall, where you'll be able to try three new flavors of frozen beer, alongside the Kirin Ichiban original and stout, with live music every day. You'll also be able to check into beer tasting workshops, leather engraving classes and a range of games and activities. Aug 19-Sep 11. Opening night 7:30-9pm, Mondays-Thursdays 4-9pm, Fridays-Sundays 1-9:30pm. Atrium, Mira Mall, 118 Nathan Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, 6027-5846.

Kowloon Bay Brewery Takeover at Casa Tapas Bar

Sai Kung's Casa Tapas Bar will be getting five guest taps from Kowloon Bay Brewery to round off a sizzling summer. Try the Chilli Ginger Beer, which provides some lip-tingling heat along with the thirst-quenching...ness of ginger beer. If you're really looking to sweat it out, chilli-ginger chicken wings, marinated in the same beer, are also available for \$100/10 wings. Less adventurous drinkers can still get their fill on weizens, ales and IPAs, plus an exclusive house ale brewed especially for Casa. Aug 27. Casa Tapas Bar, Hoi Pong Square, Sai Kung, \$60/pint. Brewery founders Ging and Mike will be on site to chat after 6pm.



Bottomless Brunch Party

Do you ever hit the club solely because you're anticipating the glorious taste of post-clubbing food? It can't just be us... Now the feast's been brought to the club, and it's levels above a drunken stagger to Tsui Wah. Bungalow's first ever day party is the best of weekend hedonism: Wine and dine on unlimited brunch dishes and drinks from 12-3pm, and the party continues on with beats by DJ JFung from 3-6pm. You barely even have to move from your seat! Sep 10, noon. Bungalow, Shop 2, G/F, The Centrium, 60 Wyndham St., Central, \$288 for free flow brunch, add on \$268 for two hours Veuve Clicquot, \$188 for daiquiris.



HK PICKS

Bar High Five Pop-up at MO Bar
Following the wildly successful pop-up New York speakeasy PDT at MO Bar, legendary Tokyo watering hole Bar High Five will be setting up shop for a two-month stint. Ranked third out of Asia's 50 Best Bars 2016, you can expect a list of 14 drinks from a team headed by founder and master bartender Hidetsugu Ueno. Alongside the bar's signature diamond-shaped ice blocks, the venue will also be transformed into a jewelry box, similar to the original Ginza establishment. Drinks will be paired with nibbles and charcuterie by chef and MO culinary director Richard Ekkebus. Reservations are highly recommended. Sep 1-Oct 31. The Shell, MO Bar, Landmark Mandarin Oriental, 15 Queen's Rd. Central. Reserve by calling 2132-0077 or email lmhkg-mobar@mohg.com

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FILM

Heartfall Arises ★★★★

(Hong Kong) Action/Crime/Drama. Directed by Ken Wu. Starring Nicholas Tse, Sean Lau Ching-wan, Mavis Fan. Category IIB. 108 minutes. Note: Screening has been postponed until October.

Local cinemagoers are no strangers to the Nicholas Tse/Sean Lau duo. Four years after the incredible success of "The Bullet Vanishes," they meet again in "Heartfall Arises." We're happy to be fed another dose of the actors' chemistry, but even this formula fails to make "Heartfall Arises" stand out among the many other current entries in the cop vs. criminal genre.

Nicholas Tse plays Ma, a detective who is shot in the heart when he corners The General—a Robin Hood-wannabe serial killer who targets tycoons. Ma undergoes a successful heart transplant, and is subsequently out and about again.

Fast forward to 18 months later, and the city is seeing a spate of homicides that have The General written all over them. Ma teams up with criminal psychologist Professor Che (played by Lau) for the investigation, during which both develop suspicions about the other's true intentions.

As expected, Sean Lau outshines the rest of the cast. His calm, almost emotionless face recalls his role as a schizophrenic murderer in the 2015 thriller "Insanity." Tse, meanwhile, who has a track record of working with first-time directors from "As the Light Goes Out" (2014) to "The Bullet Vanishes" (2015), seems to be striking a moody pose no matter whether he's thinking, drinking water or simply staring into nothing.

An honorable mention goes to Babyjohn Choi, whose character as Ma's little sidekick shines a ray of sunshine between the sinister mind games being played by Che and Ma. His slow-witted, well-meaning character comes across as that of the



small fry who's desperate to do his job well, making him perhaps the most human character in the story.

Watching "Heartfall Arises" feels like a fairground ride: You know where it's leading, so it all comes down to how exciting the loops and twists are. But given that the director shoots us clues through flashbacks wherever possible, frankly, it doesn't take a genius to work out who's behind it all halfway through the film.

The second half of the film drags out, as the director forces in half-developed themes in an attempt to make the plot more thought-provoking—such as a steady shower of unfathomable allusions to Chinese chess. And while I have nothing against the upbeat theme song (Tse does a pretty good job with his

Beyond-style interpretation), the directorial decision to play it over a scene in which he's racing down the street after Professor Che simply makes it look like a 90s gangster film, especially with cheesy lyrics like "Break through the obstacles, it's time to start over..."

But the film's biggest failure is that it ramps up so much excitement—what with The General's impossible escape from Tsing Ma Bridge using a pair of mechanical wings, and the dramatic scene where Ma is shot in the chest—that the final faceoff is a huge anticlimax. In "Heartfall Arises" the audience gets dragged through a tedious second act, and by the end we're just looking for someone to start our hearts up again.

Sophia Lam

Coming Soon

Weeds On Fire

(Hong Kong) Taking place, of all places, in Sha Tin in the '80s, this first feature from director Chan Chi-fat tells the story of two childhood friends in a little league baseball team who rise up through the ranks, fall in love, and learn some valuable life lessons. Opens Aug 25.

Kilo Two Bravo

(UK/Jordan) This brutal, slow-burning film by first-time feature director Paul Katis follows a group of soldiers deployed in Afghanistan who get trapped in a minefield near Kajaki Dam. As bodies pile up and morphine runs low, the remaining men have to carefully plan their way to safety. Opens Aug 25.

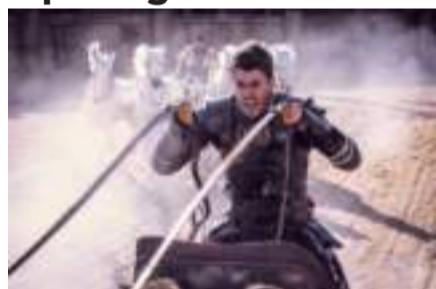
Shin Godzilla

(Japan) This new, domestically made Godzilla movie (in the US titled "Godzilla Resurgence") is making a huge stir at the Japanese box office. Catch it before it stomps away, leaving a trail of flattened apartment buildings. Opens Aug 25.

Train to Busan ▾

(South Korea) This bone-rattling thriller finds a group of passengers on a bullet train to Busan, fleeing a countrywide zombie outbreak. Unlike "Snake on a Plane," this horror flick is more than just zombies on a train: It's got some deeper, yet sometimes corny emotions intertwined between the gruesome killings. Opens Aug 25. ★★★

Opening



Ben Hur

(USA) A remake of the masterful 1959 historical epic, the 2016 version starring Jack Huston ("Boardwalk Empire") and Morgan Freeman brings 3D digital technology to the Biblical age and features a Jewish prince who spends his time epically chariot-racing and pandering to Christian viewers. Opened Aug 18.

Call of Heroes

(Hong Kong) Sean Lau heads this explosive new period action film by Benny Chan, along with Louis Koo and Eddie Peng. Set after the collapse of the Qing dynasty when warlords ruled, a group of villagers bands together to overthrow an invading tyrant. Opened Aug 18.

Heartfall Arises

(Hong Kong) See review, above. (Screening postponed until October.)



A Hologram for the King

(UK/USA/France) Tom Hanks and director Tom Tykwer's second collaboration since "Cloud Atlas" finds Hanks' post-recession American salesman peddling holographic technology to a pre-Arab Spring Saudi Arabian government. Based on the Dave Eggers novel of the same name. Opened Aug 18.

Lights Out

(USA) A good old-fashioned ghost story that hinges on a creature you can only see when the lights are, erm, out. "Lights Out" links unusual and violent sightings with a woman's (Maria Bello, "Prisoners") past experiences in a mental institution and the strange friend she met there. Opened Aug 18.

Mike and Dave Need Wedding Dates

(USA) As the title suggests, this Zac Efron/Anna Kendrick vehicle centers around two rowdy brothers (Efron and Adam DeVine from "Pitch Perfect") who are coerced into finding nice, respectable dates for their sister's wedding. Instead, they get hard-partying Anna Kendrick and Aubrey Plaza. Opened Aug 18.

Continuing



BFG

(UK/Canada/USA) Steven Spielberg brings the beloved Roald Dahl novel about a bullied gentle giant to the big screen: Young orphan Sophie (Ruby Barnhill) is snatched from her bed into Giant Country, where roam behemoth troglodytes hungry for "human beans."

Finding Dory

(USA) The much-anticipated sequel to 2003's smash hit "Finding Nemo" focuses on the lovable amnesiac Pacific blue tang played by Ellen DeGeneres, who goes on an adventure to look for her long-lost parents. A feel-good film with more than a few teaching moments, "Finding Dory" hits all the right emotional notes with plenty of heart. ★★★★



Genius

(UK/USA) Starring Colin Firth and Jude Law, "Genius" takes audiences back to the Roaring 20s, and all the heavy hitters make an appearance: Hemingway, the Fitzgeralds, and the man who cleaned up their greatest works, Max Perkins (Firth). His next biggest project? "Look Homeward, Angel" by the exceedingly promising (if not slightly long-winded) Thomas Wolfe.

Ghostbusters

(USA) The highly anticipated genderswapped reboot of Ghostbusters finally lands in cinemas, this time starring Melissa McCarthy, Kristen Wiig, Kate McKinnon, and Leslie Jones. Balancing gloriously unsubtle cameos and gratuitous protonic unleashing with strong well-rounded characters and hilarious banter, the Ghostbusters are back—and they ain't afraid of no ghosts. ★★★★



High Rise

(UK/Belgium) An adaptation of J.G. Ballard's slightly apocalyptic novel about a luxury high-rise filled with affluent residents with no reason to leave, as everything descends into chaos. We follow the insanity through protagonist Dr. Robert Laing (Tom Hiddleston) as he oscillates between rational and disturbed. A darkly comic class-war parable that's compelling but doesn't feel wholly original and is let down by some abrupt tonal shifts. ★★★★



Edited by Evelyn Lok

evelyn.lok@hkmagmedia.com

Jason Bourne

(USA) Matt Damon's Bourne is back, and this time, he gets closer to finding out the truth of his past while having to evade the CIA in this new post-Snowden era. Like a fine wine, Matt Damon has aged well, but we can't say the same about the shaky-cam directing style and disorienting car chases. **★★★**

Line Walker

(Hong Kong) Based on the popular TVB crime thriller, this cops and robbers drama follows undercover agents deep in a triad network, re-emerging into the world of high finance and high level drug deals. Stars Charmaine Sheh and Francis Ng, both from TVB's phenomenally popular show "Triumph in the Skies."

McDull, Rise of the Rice Cooker

(Hong Kong) When a mysterious alien obliterates the superhero representative sent by earth to meet him, who can the world turn to? A humble pig from an even humbler fishing village designs a super robot out of a rice cooker, and, with the support of his community, surprises the powers that be. McGyver? Think again: Must be McDull!

The Menu

(Hong Kong) A film sequel to the HKTV show of the same name, "The Menu" revolves around a group of newspaper journalists who have to figure out what to do when a bomb is detonated in the middle of a television studio, by a man avenging the grisly murder of his daughter.

The Shallows

(USA) In this ultimate summer popcorn thriller, Blake Lively spends most of the movie stranded on a coral reef a mere 200 meters from shore, and the only thing between her and safety is a great white shark. But how does she know that the shark wasn't just going in for a hug? **★★★★**

Star Trek Beyond

(USA) The third installment of the rebooted Star Trek series marks one of the last appearances of Anton Yelchin (RIP) as Chekov; opens on the 50th anniversary of the beloved franchise; and stars Idris Elba as a predatory new villain. Doesn't quite top its predecessors, but it's a rollicking good summer ride with plenty of lens flare nonetheless. **★★★**



Suicide Squad

(USA) In the world of superheroes and supervillains, a ragtag group of incarcerated evildoers, including The Joker and Harley Quinn, are called on by the government to defeat an even super-er mystery villain. Despite its A-list cast—Will Smith, Margot Robbie, Viola Davis and Jared Leto—the movie doesn't add anything new to an already saturated genre. **★★★**

Three

(Hong Kong/China) Unfolding entirely inside a hospital, this story of cops and robbers by veteran action auteur Johnnie To finds Louis Koo playing a police-inspector and Wallace Chung, a hospital-bed ridden criminal with a card up his sleeve. Full of ambitious technical innovations, including a one-take physical slow motion shootout, "Three" will not disappoint even diehard To fans. **★★★★**



Head back to the 60s with "Eight Days a Week"

Film Festival

Life is Art Film Festival

This year's Movie Move Life is Art Film Festival highlights this year include the worldwide premiere of "The Beatles: Eight Days a Week," a documentary on the Fab Four by Ron Howard, and "The First Monday in May," which follows the collaboration between filmmaker Wong Kar-wai and Vogue editor Anna Wintour for their smash fashion exhibit at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, "China Through the Looking Glass." Life is Art will screen 16 other films that span the fields of gastronomy, architecture, fashion, music and others. Through Sep 30. Broadway Cinematheque, Prosperous Garden, 3 Public Square St., Yau Ma Tei; Palace IFC, Podium, 1/F, IFC Mall, 8 Finance St., Central; Pacific Place AMC, Pacific Place, 88 Queensway, Admiralty. \$80-190 from moviemovie.com.hk.

Special Screening

Ai Weiwei: Never Sorry

Get comfy, but not too comfy, for this intimate screening of 2012 political doc "Ai Weiwei: Never Sorry," directed by Alison Klayman. Following the prolific artist through the development of some of his most memorable installations, including his "Sunflower Seeds" at the Tate Modern and "The Sichuan Earthquake Names Project," in which he published the names of more than 5,000 students who died in the 2008 earthquake in Sichuan province. The documentary shows him being beaten up by Chinese police, being detained at Beijing Airport, and his new studio being demolished. This screening is part of The Hive Studios' series of docs, arthouse and classic films. Aug 31, 7pm. The Hive Studios, Unit 12P, 6/F, Cheung Hing Industrial Building, Smithfield, Kennedy Town. \$40 from tiny.cc/hk-never-sorry; includes two glasses of champagne.



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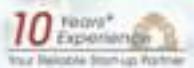
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SAVAGE LOVE
Dan Savage

DEAR READERS: I'm on vacation for three weeks—but you won't be reading old columns in my absence, and you won't be reading columns by anyone who isn't Dan Savage. You'll be reading new columns, all of them written by Dan Savage, none of them written by me.

Our second guest Dan Savage is 32 years old, single, and living in London. Dan Savage got his professional start working in promotions at the legendary London nightclub G-A-Y. He's now 10 years into a career in theater arts marketing and currently works for some of the West End's biggest hit musicals. Dan has never written a sex-advice column before, but he occasionally gets angry tweets that were meant for me.

A quick word about qualifications: Advice is defined as "an opinion about what could or should be done." We're all entitled to our opinions—but only Dan Savage, theatrical marketing exec, is entitled to share his opinions in my column this week. Take it away, Dan!

I'm an early-30s bi woman. As I have more relationships, I have started to see a pattern in that I find sex much hotter when there is some degree of confusion or forbiddenness. So relationship sex can get boring quickly. I know there's not necessarily a good answer for why, but any suggestions on what to do about this? I want to have great sex with a partner for life! Maybe my expectations about good sex in a long-term relationship are unrealistic? I know it's not always going to be crazy passion, but how can I sustain amazing sex in a relationship?

— Passion Fades From This

A problem you and I share! The fun is in the chase, the excitement of someone new, and that first time. You may return for a second or maybe a third time—but then what or who is next? Often regardless of whatever feelings may have started to develop.

For those who don't understand, just imagine we're talking about food. You like food. You like lots of different types of food. Right now, your favorite food is hot dogs. But you don't want to eat that every day. Occasionally, you might want an all-you-can-eat sushi buffet.

I believe the secret to a good relationship—besides love and passion—is keeping it downright dirty! It's about keeping that spark alive. If the fun starts to fade, spice it up with toys, games, risky locations, additional people, rubber dog masks—you can't know what will excite you both until you give it a try! But that's the key, that you both like it.

There are millions of people all over the world in long-term relationships that on the face of it maintain a fun and healthy sex life—can it really be that hard? Or maybe long-term relationships aren't for you, PFFT!

I am a 65-year-old male new to gay relationships. I placed a listing on SilverDaddies and have had a LOT of responses from great young guys. I have met only one guy so far. He is 23 and says he has had only a few girlfriends and has not had any gay experiences. He is so passionate. Very oral. Long kissing sessions, and he puts his tongue EVERYWHERE. Very submissive and insatiable. Of course I use condoms. I asked him what he gets out of this. He said he gets an intensity he can't explain over pleasing an older man that he doesn't get from sex with a female. Being a sub makes him rock hard, and with a woman, he has to be the performer. He considers himself straight, since he is attracted only to older men and is only a bottom. In any case, he will be back at grad school soon, and I will no doubt have another partner. I have never had an STD. I don't want to get one now. I talked to a clinic over the phone about getting the

HPV vaccine, and they thought it was funny and would not do it. I will be seeing young guys who are sexually active, so I think I should be able to get this vaccine. I do not want cold sores or warts or whatever at my age.

— This Old Pop

I think it's great—if you don't mind me saying—that in your advanced years you are able to embark on this new sexual adventure and experimentation, TOP! And you have a hot 23-year-old visiting you for regular sex—something a lot of people much younger than you would kill for!

As long as you are safe and wear a condom, you shouldn't put too much stress on yourself regarding STIs. Maybe just don't go around picking up boys off street corners who look like they need a good wash.

My personal opinion is this guy may not be as honest with you as you'd have hoped. A 23-year-old straight guy, in his first homosexual encounter, being "very oral" and "only a bottom" and putting "his tongue everywhere"—that sounds to me like someone who knows what they're doing. My experience of first times is generally a quick fumble and an even quicker ejaculation.

Regardless, he is soon to leave, TOP, and you will find a new sexual partner. Advice from a YoungTOP to an OldTOP: Go with the flow and be safe, but most of all enjoy it! (And to older gay gentlemen who think you can't get any: TOP is! You can!)

I am 39 years old and my husband is 51; we have been together nine years and married four. This morning, he was jacking off on my arse during foreplay and watching porn on his phone, which is not unusual. The problem is when I looked to see what he was watching (we often watch porn together), he got a little mad. I let it go, but when he got in the shower, I looked at his phone and saw that he was watching gay porn. MEN. I don't think I have a problem with that, but it kind of threw me. Should I be worried that he is secretly on the down low? Or does he just like to look at gay porn occasionally? When I'm giving him a blowjob, he also enjoys me licking his arse. I don't know how to confront him with what I have seen on his phone?

— Perspiring Over Relationship Now

People look at all sorts of things online and are turned on by others. Man-on-man porn clearly does it for your man, or maybe this was the first time that he'd looked. Either way, the fact that he was doing this secretly while humped over your naked body and jacking off onto your arse is wrong. And he knows that: He hid the phone!

Rather than confronting him and creating a massive issue, why not suggest that you watch gay porn together. See what happens? If he is hiding the fact he's gay or bi, I'd be surprised that he'd blatantly flaunt it like this... perhaps he wanted you to catch him? He wants you to know what else he's into but doesn't know how to tell you?

Although it's rarely spoken about, a lot of straight men like the odd finger or tongue in the bum. It's not a sign of homosexuality! Maybe this could be taken further? You could go all out and strap one on and dominate him like a bitch!

Follow Dan Savage, Londoner and marketing exec, on Twitter @DanSavage83.

On the Lovecast, Dan yaps with Madison Young about DIY porn: savagecast.com.

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

SPOTLIGHT

The latest news and deals from our partners



Get Beach Season Ready with HYPOXI

We're in the middle of beach season, so if you're still not prepared for it you need an urgent remedy. Fit yourself into last summer's swimsuit with a last-minute HYPOXI workout that targets the abdomen, legs and buttocks directly.

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Want to trim that booty and have long, lean legs? The HYPOXI Trainer S120 is your solution. With a pressure chamber that reaches up to the hips and an integrated bicycle ergometer, the Trainer S120 concentrates on the buttocks and legs, and the moderate kinetic exercise of upright cycling helps to burn the reduced fat in the muscles.

Finally, the trainer L250 is perfect for people with high body weight or of a low fitness level. You exercise while lying down, and by pedaling upwards with your legs, gravity quickens the reduction of fat in a natural and healthy way.

Intrigued? Want to give it a try? Visit hypoxi.hk to find out more and get a free trial.



Summer is in Full Bloom at Seasons by Olivier E.

Promising to take the pretension out of French cuisine, Olivier Elzer (also known as Olivier E.) has created a fascinating hybrid of his native food paired with what he calls a "modern Asian sensibility." This appears to be a shout-out to Hong Kong's winning east-meets-west formula.

The four distinct sections within Seasons are inspired by yes, you guessed it, the four seasons; right now, summer is in full bloom with Olivier's "Summer Tasting Menu"—or "Menu d'été."

Much like his dishes, Olivier himself is vibrant, well-presented and flamboyant. The head chef himself insists on weaving between tables throughout the restaurant during dinner hours and greeting guests in person.

Some star attractions of Olivier's tantalizing seasonal menu include a creamy sea urchin main presented in two different styles and textures, plump oysters accompanied by refreshing notes of lemon, cucumber and vodka notes, and

to finish, a refreshing peach carpaccio dessert.

Seasons' signature cocktail, the Wakayama, offers a Japanese twist on a classic cocktail, made with matcha-infused umeshu (a sweet Japanese liquor infused with ume plums), yuzu and orange; the result is adorned with a delectable preserved plum.

Patrons are also invited to stay behind or drop by before dinner time for happy hour and enjoy 30 percent off selected drinks, beers and wine atop Seasons' scenic outdoor garden terrace in the beating heart of the city.

A four-course meal will set you back \$888 while a six-course menu is \$1,188; prices are subject to a 10 percent service charge.

To make a reservation, call 2505-6228 or email info@seasonsbyolivier.com



Sun's up and Served at Sugar: EAST Presents New Summer Tea Set

Summer is being served up at EAST Hong Kong's newest afternoon tea collaboration, "Beach Escape at Sugar," featuring a melange of sweet, savory and boozy items to enjoy every Sunday until late September on EAST's sea view rooftop bar, Sugar.

From crab salad, gazpacho and seared beef fillet brioche to sawdust pudding and macarons, EAST has collaborated with British nail art brand MoYou London to bring you the best flavors of the best season.

Feel free to wash down afternoon tea with some signature colorful cocktails, such as After the Storm, Mesa Sunrise, Into the Woods and Pagal; the Bora Bora is a perfect non-alcoholic alternative if you're not looking to get sloshed

before the working week begins.

Guests will also be treated to MYL's beachside nail art or a snazzy temporary tattoo, along with a bottle of eye-catching nail polish to take home.

Available from 2-6pm every Sunday until September 25, the afternoon tea is priced at \$388 for two and an additional \$190 per extra guest (subject to a 10 percent service charge). Each guest will receive a drinks voucher for their next visit, but guests wanting to grab freebies shouldn't tarry, as they are given out on a first-come, first-served basis.

To make a reservation, call 3968-3738 or email reservations@sugar-hongkong.com east-hongkong.com



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FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

ROB BREZSNY

LEO (Jul 23-Aug 22): In my opinion, you need to bask in the glorious fury of at least one brainstorm—preferably multiple brainstorms over the course of the next two weeks. What can you do to ensure that happens? How might you generate a flood of new ideas about how to live your life and understand the nature of reality? Here are some suggestions: Read books about creativity. Hang around with original thinkers and sly provocateurs. Insert yourself into situations that will strip you of your boring certainties. And take this vow: "I hereby unleash the primal power of my liberated imagination."



everything I just described will be especially apropos for your closest relationships. Are you interested in redefining and reconfiguring the ways that togetherness works for you?

PISCES (Feb 18-Mar 20): If you're playing the card game known as bridge, you're lucky if you are dealt a hand that has no cards of a particular suit. This enables you, right from the beginning, to capture tricks using the trump suit. In other words, the lack of a certain resource gives you a distinct advantage. Let's apply this metaphor to your immediate future, Pisces. I'm guessing that you will benefit from what may seem to be an inadequacy or deficit. An absence will be a useful asset.

ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 19): Can you imagine feeling at home in the world no matter where you are? If you eventually master this art, outer circumstances won't distort your relationship with yourself. No matter how crazy or chaotic the people around you might be, you will remain rooted in your unshakable sense of purpose; you will respond to any given situation in ways that make you both calm and alert, amused and curious, compassionate for the suffering of others and determined to do what's best for you. If you think these are goals worth seeking, you can make dramatic progress toward them in the coming weeks.

TAURUS (Apr 20-May 20): As I tried to meditate on your horoscope, my next-door neighbor was wielding a weed-whacker to trim her lawn, and the voices in my head were shouting extra loud. So I decided to drive down to the marsh to get some high-quality silence. When I arrived at the trail head, I found an older man in ragged clothes leaning against the fence. Nearby was a grocery cart full of what I assumed were all his earthly belongings. "Doing nothing is a very difficult art," he croaked as I slipped by him, "because you're never really sure when you are done." I immediately recognized that his wisdom might be useful to you. You are, after all, in the last few days of your recharging process. It's still a good idea for you to lie low and be extra calm and vegetate luxuriously. But when should you rise up and leap into action again? Here's my guess: Get one more dose of intense stillness and silence.

GEMINI (May 21-Jun 20): My readers have a range of approaches for working with the counsel I offer. Some study the horoscopes for both their sun signs and rising signs, then create do-it-yourself blends of the two. Others prefer to wait until the week is over before consulting what I've written. They don't want my oracles to influence their future behavior, but enjoy evaluating their recent past in light of my analysis. Then there are the folks who read all 12 of my horoscopes. They refuse to be hemmed in by just one forecast, and want to be free to explore multiple options. I encourage you to try experiments like these in the coming days. The moment is ripe to cultivate more of your own unique strategies for using and interpreting the information you absorb—both from me and from everyone else you listen to.

CANCER (Jun 21-Jul 22): Have you been drinking a lot of liquids? Are you spending extra time soaking in hot baths and swimming in bodies of water that rejuvenate you? Have you been opening your soul to raw truths that dissolve your fixations and to beauty that makes you cry and to love that moves you to sing? I hope you're reverently attending to these fluidic needs. I hope you're giving your deepest yearnings free play and your freshest emotions lots of room to unfold. Smart, well-lubricated intimacy is a luxurious necessity, my dear. Stay very, very wet.

HOMEWORK: What's the situation in your life where it's hardest for you to be loving? Practice being a master of compassion there in the coming week.

HK GIVEAWAYS

Can you believe it's already week three of our August giveaways? We've got winners of skincare products from Aromatherapy Associates! Unlucky this time? You still have the chance to win a pampering staycation at The Royal Garden. Get entering now!

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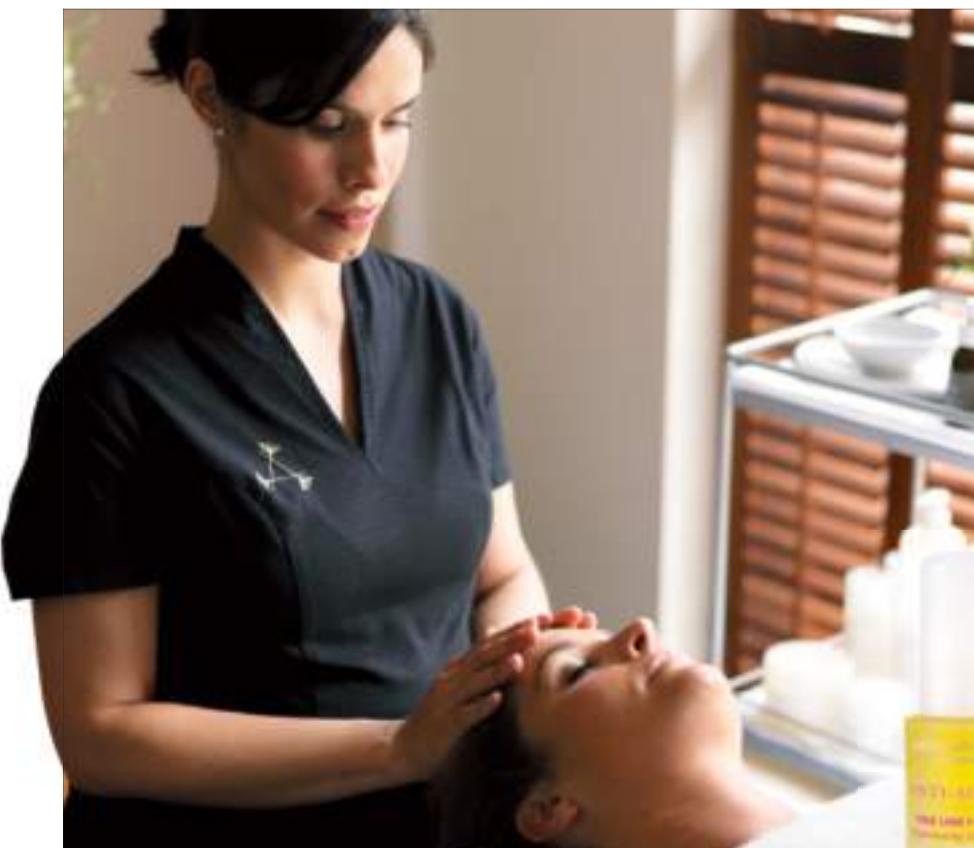
Feel like some royal treatment for your next holiday? Check yourself into The Royal Garden for some extravagant vacay time right in the heart of the city. Conveniently located in Tsim Sha Tsui East, the hotel is known for its warm, charming and refined accommodation, as well as a dazzling array of luxurious facilities and restaurants serving cuisines from around the world. The newly furnished suites and rooms located at the Sky Tower exude class and comfort with extra-high ceilings and magnificent views.

Thanks to their hospitality, you now have the chance to win an amazing staycation at this fabulous hotel. We've got a **one-night stay for two in a Sky Deluxe Room, plus a three-hour Premium Spa Signature Treatment** up for grabs. The total value of this prize? A whopping \$10,340.

Want to win this awesome retreat? It's simple.

If you were reading the last two weeks, you should've already found an *italicized* word in the main Spotlight page article of those two 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 Royal Garden. Go to hk-magazine.com/hk-giveaways to submit your entry before 10am on August 22, 2016.

The winner will be announced on August 26. Good luck!



Congratulations to the Lucky Winners of Skincare Products from Aromatherapy Associates!

Congrats to Kai Cheong and Dalbir Kaur Jenny Khakh, who have each won an amazing set with **Instant Skin Firming Serum, Fine Line Face Oil, Overnight Repair Mask and Moisturising Lip Balm** from Aromatherapy Associates (each set valued at \$2,700)!

We asked them about their favorite scents: The cooking of Kai's mom sounds mouth-watering and incredibly aromatic, and Dalbir told us about her grandma's musky perfume and how a whiff of the scent reminds her of her granny. How sweet!

Congratulations once again to our winners: Now you both get to smell amazing!



WE HAVE
WINNERS!

FIRST PERSON

Comedy was just an item on **Vivek Mahbubani's** to-do list until he won the Chinese division of the HK International Comedy Festival in 2007. Hong Kong born and bred, he now splits his time between running a web design business and making people laugh. He tells Stephanie Tsui what it's like being "that Indian," why he enjoys being in control, and whether he'll ever leave his home—Hong Kong.

I grew up in the best of times in Hong Kong: The 80s.

When I was little, I wanted to be a bus driver.

Bus drivers were to me the closest thing to a race car driver.

They would decide if you got to your destination fast, or slow. I liked the idea of being in control.

Being a kid is cool because it's simple: You get up, go to school, meet your friends, watch cartoons, play games outside.

Without the internet, it was obviously even better. Today, kids have to deal with a lot more peer pressure because of the internet.

To those living overseas, happiness is a walk in the park, a coffee with a friend.

But happiness today in Hong Kong is when you're alone in the lift with your finger on the "door close" button as you see someone running towards it.

As the doors are closing you're like, "Oh my god, I'm getting better at this!"

Comedians joke about these things, but then you realize it's actually pretty tragic. Hongkongers are too competitive, but instead of being competitive with the rest of the world, we're competitive with ourselves.

If you asked me if I'd leave Hong Kong, five years ago, I would've said no. Now, I cannot say I'll never leave Hong Kong.

Hong Kong has evolved. The mentality has shifted, everyone is thinking a certain way. They're thinking about China issues. But life is much more than politics.

The more I travel, the more I realize that Hong Kong has got a lot of good stuff as well.

Why are we all complaining? Rather than whine about not being able to buy a flat, let's enjoy what we do have. You're never going to have everything perfect, anyway.

I was in Sydney and had a couple of hours before a gig, so I wanted to go explore. I looked at the sign and it said, "Next train: 28 minutes." Then I came back to Hong Kong, where we complain about the next train taking three minutes.

Things here are declining in noticeable ways. Do I want to raise kids in an environment where English usage is getting worse?

I'd want them to grow up in a more international, multilingual environment, but nowadays everything is subtitled, translated, and there aren't many English TV programs anymore.

But I would want my kids to go to a local school. I firmly believe that if you're in a different country or city, you must blend in and be as local as the next guy.

I went to a local school. After I came in second from last in Primary Two Chinese, I spent three hours a day after school practising my Chinese at a tutorial centre, right up to Primary Six.

There were no celebrity tutors back then, just a bunch of aunties and uncles making sure you wrote Chinese characters in the correct order.

I hated it. While my friends were like, "Woohoo! School's over!" I was like, "Nooo—can I get detention?!" just so I could avoid having those after-school lessons.

There have been times when I've been with my Chinese friends and just wanted to fit in. I try to remind myself what my mom told me, that my race is not my fault.

I get the benefit of being applauded for speaking Cantonese, but when a local person speaks English, people ask them if they're "too good" for Cantonese.

Nine years ago, people saw me and went, "Indian." Now, they're like, "Is he that Indian?"

People now know I speak Cantonese, so my jokes have to be more than just an Indian speaking Cantonese.

I used to talk about the weird misunderstandings people had about me. Now, I talk about life in general, and people identify with that.

Without realizing it, I've been building bridges. We're all the same. We all want to get on that train, or that minibus.

I appreciate it when people come up to tell me I've done a good job: In Hong Kong, it's not common for people to come up to say something.

The most difficult part about being a comedian is people expect you to be funny 24/7, and they get disappointed when you aren't.

I was booed offstage once, like nobody cared whether I existed. There are moments when I get really annoyed, but never to the point of quitting.

After graduating from the City University of Hong Kong, I taught creative media there for one semester. Then I got cancer. I learned that time is valuable and you'll never be ready for stuff.

Maybe if it wasn't for cancer, I'd still be waiting to be ready for comedy. If cancer didn't kill me, what's a room full of people not laughing going to do?

What I love most about my job is that I'm in control. Nobody can take my rewards, but at the same time I have no one but myself to blame.

When you die on stage, you can't be like, "Oh, that's 'cause the lights weren't good." No, dude, you were not good. You just have to suck it up.

NEED TO KNOW

Mahbubani performs in Cantonese at the monthly "Vivek n Friends" show at Think Cafe in Causeway Bay, and in English at TakeOut Comedy. See details at funnyvivek.com

"Happiness in Hong Kong is when you have your finger on the 'door close' button as you see someone running towards it."



Photo: Kenneth Lim Photography



Ladies, Carry All Your Essentials

The List Magazine covers more than 120 feminine lifestyle topics every year, bringing essential information and inspiration to the savvy Hong Kong woman. We're available at over 200 venues citywide, from cafés and restaurants to members' clubs to retail stores.

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