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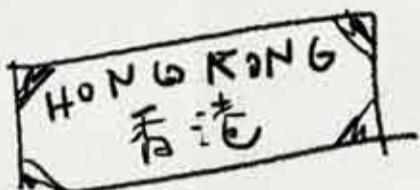
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HK MAGAZINE NO.1102 FRIDAY, JUNE 26, 2015



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3 A N N U A L



5 H O N G
6 K O N G



10 Q U I Z



ACROSS

- 2. Definite article (3)
- 3. Once per year (6)
- 5. Trading house in 1840s southern China (4)
- 8. Royal skyscraper-scaling primate (4)
- 9. Member of Hong Kong independence faction (8)
- 10. Test of knowledge, high scoring Scrabble word (4)

DOWN

- 1. SAR food hall
- 4. Surprising, amazing (11)
- 5. "Good!" (Cantonese) (2)
- 6. "Five" (Cantonese) (2)
- 7. Universal Cantonese word of ambivalence (2-2)

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Just Texting

Regina Ip has revealed that after she sobbed on a radio show thanks to the bungled electoral reform vote, a Beijing official texted to comfort her. We've caught a glimpse of that conversation, and a few more besides...



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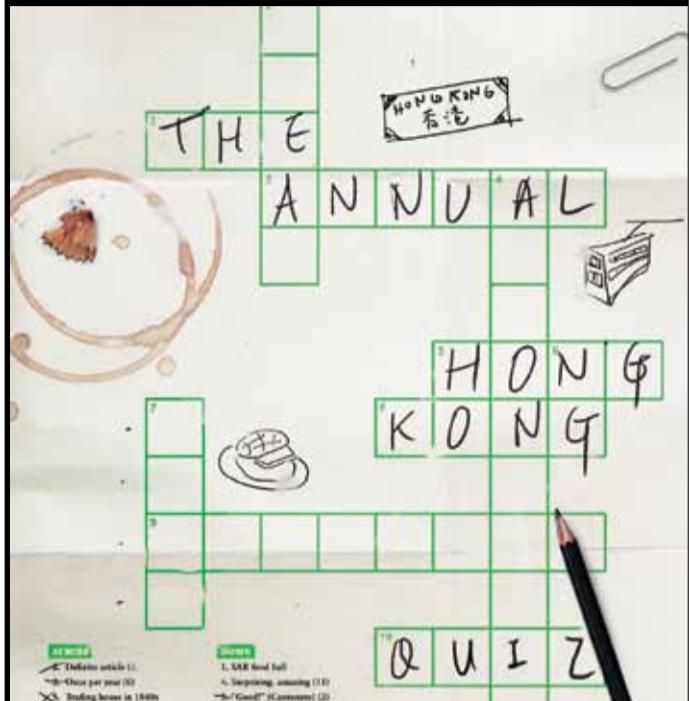


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And they call us mellow yellow (quite rightly)



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The HK Magazine foodie flowchart



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FIRST PERSON

Talking Maoism and TV with anchor and producer Diana Lin



MAILBAG

Mr. Know-It-All's Guide to Life

Dear Mr. Know-It-All,

We all know that Cantonese is a tonal language.
So how do people sing in Chinese?

- Tone Deaf

The western musical scale has 12 semi-tones, while Cantonese has six to nine spoken tones, or inflections, and Putonghua just four. Sounds like a nightmare no matter how you mix it: But what's interesting is the different approaches that Putonghua and Cantonese take to their pop tunes.

On the whole, music in Putonghua discards the relationship of tone and meaning, relying instead on context to fill in the listener. After all, with more than 100,000 characters and just four tones, contextual clues are built into the very makeup of Putonghua. Take, for example, the first line of Teresa Teng's Mandopop megahit "The Moon Represents My Heart":

你問我愛你有多深

nǐ wèn wǒ ài nǐ yǒu duō shēn

It means: "You ask me how deep my love is for you." But tonally, the line is sung more like

你聞我哀你有多深

nǐ wén wǒ āi nǐ yǒu duō shēn

Which translates, poorly, to: "You smell my sorrow for you, how deep is it?"

Of course, the grammar is off in this line and you'd have to willfully go out of your way to misunderstand Teresa: context fills in the gaps, and that's mostly how Mandopop gets by.

But Cantonese isn't willing to just accept that. Cantonese opera, for instance, has a long history of matching its tones to notes. So for example, traditionally the higher tones

would be sung to the notes of E5, G5 or D5, while the mid-tone was sung on C5. When western-influenced Cantopop arrived, it took up this tradition too. What that means is that a well-written Cantopop song will do its best to match tone and tune, although with more fluidity than Cantonese opera.

How does it work? It boils down to this: words with higher tones use higher pitched notes, while lower toned notes use lower notes. It's mostly relative: so if the next note in the song is lower in pitch, then the corresponding word has to be lower in tone as well. The melody and the words work together, and that flow allows your brain to put the whole thing together: It's musical context.

As you might imagine, it's a considerable challenge for the Cantonese lyricist, who has to write songs within the constraints not just of length and meaning, but also in terms of constantly varying tones. Think of it as trying to write an entire song in English, where every single word has to rhyme with every other word, AND be worth singing.

An example of why matching tone to tune is important in Cantonese: Take the hymn "His Sheep Am I." Jammed into the extant western tune, the central line 我是主的羊 ngor si zhu dik yeung, "I am the sheep of the Lord," sounds exactly like "I am a pig's face."

A cautionary tale for all lyricists, songwriters and missionaries alike: Language is a fickle thing.

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

#PrivateEyeHK



Gone Fishing
Photo by Stephen Chow



Your complaints, mainly:

"Cantonese is not a dialect.
Please stop propagating this myth."

Lan Kwai Feedback

We wrote about Lan Kwai Fong's history in a recent cover story [May 29, issue 1098]. Some took issue with our story.

I'm sure it's a great thing that business wasn't 'affected much by the stampede' of NY's Eve in 1992, but the comment that HK people 'forget things very quickly' by Freddie Fong is heinous. I haven't forgotten, and I know my friends, and the families of the friends I lost that night haven't forgotten, nor will we ever. Those few paragraphs are some pretty cruddy writing.

Nic Tinworth

Andrea Lo's article "The Complete History of Lan Kwai Fong" is seriously incomplete. Disco Disco did not close in 1986 when Gordon Huthart sold it. As stated in the timeline beneath the story it closed in 1991. I should know as I was the GM 1986 to 1989. The club thrived and broke its previous financial records. I would be happy to send you clippings from the South China Morning Post and Hong Kong Standard that chronicled that success.

Tim McGuire

Via Email

Splish and Splash

Ever have to duck on the street to avoid getting hit with some mysterious dripping water? Then you probably already know how to *Splashdodge* ("Hongkabulary," May 22, issue 1097): to leap around the street to avoid air-con leaks. Here's what our Facebook readers thought.

A true splashdodger learns to anticipate the drops before they fall

Iain Cocks

I call it "RoofPiss"

Des Koval

Speak My Language

A reader objects to our use of nomenclature when talking about Cantonese.

I'm dismayed to see that HK Magazine has been propagating the myth that Cantonese is a dialect in two recent issues. In issue No.1097, you ran the story "Hong Kong's Disappearing Dialects," which is laudable for drawing attention to other linguistic communities in HK, but regrettable for its repeated references to the languages as dialects, for alliterative purposes or otherwise.

Then in issue No. 1098, in Mr. Know-it-All's column, you again referred to Cantonese as a "dialect". There is also some serious conceptual confusion present in the text. Cantonese is no more or less only "spoken" or "written down" than any other spoken form of Chinese. Every single text written in standard Chinese can be read out in Cantonese, or in Mandarin. Written Chinese is neutral as to how it is read out, and has separate conventions from those that govern spoken Chinese. On the other hand, many Cantonese speakers are trying to record their daily speech in written form, so "written Cantonese" does exist, even if it largely exists only on the internet. The fact that Cantonese is or is not written down has nothing to do with whether speakers diverge in the pronunciation of a certain word.

Cantonese is a language, and not a dialect of Chinese, just as Portuguese is not a dialect of some "Romance Language". Too few people, including Cantonese speakers, recognize this, so please stop propagating this myth any further.

Christopher Christopher

via email

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THE WEEK

SAT 7/4



FRI



SUN 6/28



Friday 6/26

Flashback Friday

Hong Kong kids will remember the Lai Chi Kok Amusement Park, aka Lai Yuen, which closed down in '97. It's back this summer as the "Lai Yuen Super Summer 2015" pop-up, with rides inspired by the original park and plenty of kitsch details.

Move over, Disney!

Jun 26-Sep. Central Harbourfront.

Free entry; Game tokens from \$10.

Saturday 6/27

Jazz Jam

Whether you're a jazz lover or jazz noob, head to this **Jazz Night** hosted by the Hong Kong Art and Design Community for a jam session. There will be musicians there—but you're welcome to try playing too. BYOB, some instruments provided.

7:30-10:30pm. 14/F, Foo Tak Building, 365-367

Hennessy Rd., Wan Chai. Free; email info@jazzforfun.hk.

Sunday 6/28

Soul Brothers

Legendary 70s R&B and soul group **The Stylistics** comes all the way from Philadelphia to perform for one night only. Don't you miss old-school tunes like "You Make Me Feel Brand New"?

8pm. Rotunda 3, 6/F, KITEC, 1 Trademark Drive.

\$680-980 from www.hkticketing.com.

Monday 6/29

Grana Fed

For the past few weeks, Hong Kong-based online fashion retailer **Grana** has been hosting a pop-up store to show off its new Chinese silk collection. There are more than a dozen colors in nine styles, plus the brand's signature T-shirts and jeans.

Through Jul 19. PMQ, 35 Aberdeen St., Central.

Tuesday 6/30

The Parma Your Hand

If you haven't checked out newly revamped LKF mainstay Post 97, now's a good time—the joint has launched

Beer and Parma Tuesday. For \$188, you get a London Pride beer, plus Aussie fave chicken parmigiana with fries. Bonza! 5-10:30pm. 9-11 Lan Kwai Fong, Central, 2810-9331.

Wednesday 7/1

Booze Cruise

Still going on regular old junk trips? You're so last year. **Beatship** is an all-nighter taking place on Star Cruise's SuperStar Virgo. Expect live EDM beats, dance performances and a ton of booze. The boat will sail into the South China Sea and spend the night there before coming back the next morning.

Check-in from 6pm; sails at 9pm. Boarding at Ocean Terminal, Harbour City, 7-27 Canton Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui. \$1,020-2,720 from www.starcruises.com/beatship.

Thursday 7/2

Let's Groove Tonight

Hit Le Boudoir for new Wednesday promo **Discophilia**. Be ready to throw some shapes on the dance floor—disco hits will be blasting all night long. Try the specially created Bad Girl cocktail (\$99), made with vanilla vodka, chambord, grapefruit, lime, honey syrup, rosemary and egg white.

10pm onwards. B/F, 65 Wyndham St., Central, 2530-3870.

Friday 7/3

Glitter and Glo

Ovolo Southside now boasts LGBT night **Glo** every Friday at its lobby lounge. Frustrated by the lack of nice venues and quality music in the city's gay scene, the organizers want to bring the community together to make this the hottest gay night in town.

10pm-late. 64 Wong Chuk Hang Rd., Wong Chuk Hang.

Saturday 7/4

Where There's a Wills

British clothing label **Jack Wills** is throwing a party at the Crowne Plaza's rooftop pool. Beer pong and a water balloon fight are in the cards, and everyone gets two William and Kate-themed cocktails for free. Best of all, there'll be bacon butties! 5-11pm. 28/F, Crowne Plaza, 8 Leighton Rd., Causeway Bay. \$250 from Jack Wills stores, including Shop L02, 77 Leighton Rd., Causeway Bay.



DO THIS

The Taste of Freedom

Taco truck-inspired restaurant Boomshack teams up with the craft beer maestros at Hopleaf to bring us a **July 4 Beach Extravaganza** in Shek O. Get your fill of burgers, hotdogs and top-notch craft brews. There will be games, giveaways and loads of hipsters. Yeah, 'Murica!

Jul 4, noon-5:30pm. Shek O Beach.

\$600 from hopleaf.hk. Free shuttle bus from Central.

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Last Week In Reality

Sat 13

Pilgrim's Protest A group including members of the Justice and Peace Commission of the Hong Kong Catholic Diocese marches from Causeway Bay to Admiralty, singing hymns, holding yellow umbrellas and carrying a large sash-draped cross to represent Jesus and the Stations of the Cross. Cardinal Joseph Zen says that the Stations of the Cross parade is an expression of hope that everyone can live a life with freedom, democracy and the rule of law. A pro-establishment dissenter shouts at them from the sidewalk, calling them "trash" and "running dogs."



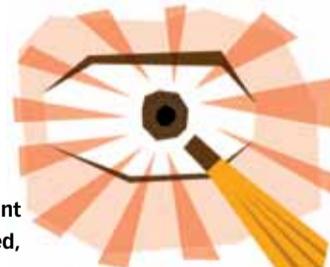
Sun 14

Swim Card An underground water mains pipe in Sha Tin bursts at around 2pm, flooding a cycling path. A cyclist on her way home from work drops her mobile phone into the water. She gets her husband, who searches for the handset. After 45 minutes of wading knee-deep in muddy water, he gives up. The woman says the phone was a gift from her husband and that it contained her company's SIM card, so she had to find it.



Tue 15

Dim Sum Hustle Two diners argue over who will pay for the bill at a late night dim sum restaurant in Ngau Tau Kok. The cashier tells them that it doesn't matter who pays. Offended by this statement, one of the men slaps the cashier and then pays for the bill. She runs to the bathroom to hide, but the man chases her and slaps her three more times. The diner and their friends, who claim to be triads, flip over a dim sum cart before leaving. Police are called to investigate but as of press time they have not found the perpetrators.



Tue 16

Brolly Folly A bank account manager goes on trial for grievous bodily harm. The plaintiff claims that when alighting from his East Rail Line train, the manager hit his leg with his umbrella, so the plaintiff kicked him in response. He alleges that the men stared each other down before the manager poked him in the eye with his umbrella, causing it to bleed for seven hours. The defendant claims that the someone grabbed his arm and so he turned, accidentally poking the plaintiff. The trial continues.

Wed 17

Smashed Patron At around 1am, a cha chaan teng proprietor in Wan Chai heads to the streetside tables to remind his diners that he is closing up shop. He discovers his customers, who are from the mainland, are throwing beer bottles around. He tells them to stop but one of the men stands up and breaks another bottle. People at a neighboring table tell them not to fight, but the man smashes a chair and a plate, chasing one of the diners with a shard of crockery and cutting another man on the neck while shouting that he has a lot of money. He is arrested.

Thu 18

Sexy Snooker During the Legco debate on the reform package, Legco member Wong Ting-kwong pulls out his phone to watch a video in which a blonde lady in a short dress lies on a snooker table while a man performs trick shots around her. Wong defends himself, saying that the video contained no nudity and was not sexual; even his wife has no complaint.

Fri 19

Slippery Container At around 11am a mobile container handler at Yuen Fat Wharf overbalances, crushing three containers under it as one falls into the sea. A crane ship is sent to pull out the container, but drops it again when it is halfway out of the water. The handler operator escapes unharmed. Police suspect that the container handler was improperly balanced.

Illustrations: Ryan Chan

Talking Points

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

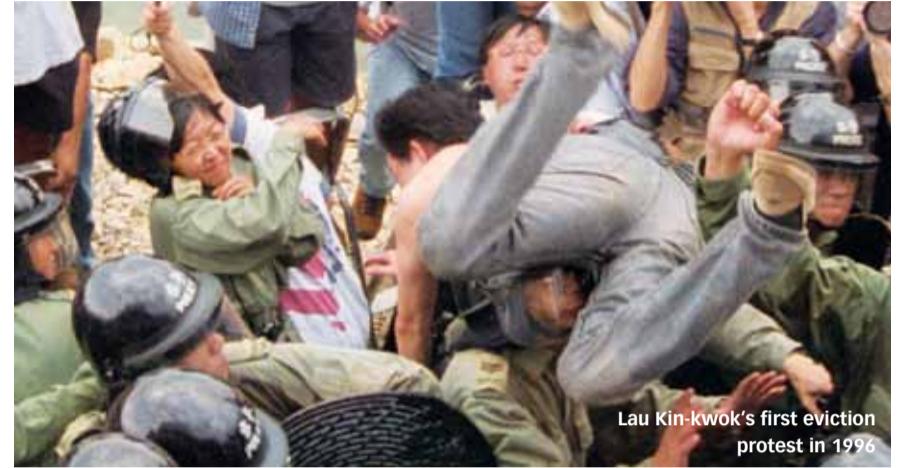


Photo: Mark Ralston/SCMP

Lau Kin-kwok's first eviction protest in 1996

Self-immolation at Buddhist Monastery

Three people connected to the Po Yin Fat Yuen Buddhist monastery in Tiu Keng Leng faced-off against more than 50 police officers over an eviction order last week. The head of the monastery, Lau Kin-kwok, stood on a pile of wooden crates on the roof of the building and **set his gasoline-soaked, fabric-bound arm on fire**. Firefighters doused him with water and rescued him, and he was taken to hospital with serious burns. The Sai Kung District Council notified Lau of the eviction in 2013, as the council planned to convert the building into a historical exhibit commemorating its past as the Rennie's Mill Police Station. A notice to relocate was issued in February: before the lease expired in November, **the monastery was paying \$1 a year in rent**. This will be the monastery's second move: Its first was in 1996, from Tiu Keng Leng Tsuen to the current location of Po Lam Road South. Lau opposed that earlier move by throwing himself from a 10-foot-tall building into a crowd of police.

Our take: Lau the protesting monk squatter? There's a TV series in this.

Chai Wan Market: Mousetopia?

An Oriental Daily investigation has revealed that Chai Wan Market in the Chai Wan Municipal Services Building has become **very popular with rodents after closing time**. A video shows mice climbing on stalls, while others eat what's been left on the ground. According to FEHD statistics **more than 240 rodents have been killed in the building** from January to May this year, and stall operators have been reminded to keep areas clean. Pest control contractors have been sent to place cages in the area. Legco member and Eastern District Council chair Christopher Chung criticized the FEHD, saying that summer is rodent season and that bait and cages won't fix the issue. He has called for **better inspection and enforcement of hygiene ordinances**.

Our take: Funny, it all seemed so much cuter in "Ratatouille"...

MTR Ditches Staff for Cash

Following the MTR fare increase announcement last Sunday, the corporation now wants to **turn its headquarters in Kowloon Bay into a 46,000-square-foot shopping mall**. The proposed retail space, which would link to the second phase of Telford Plaza, currently houses MTR's HR and employee training departments, among others. It would add approximately **\$59 million per year in revenue**. MTR employees have complained that training facilities will be moved farther away, inconveniencing staff. Telford Plaza is the second-highest earning shopping mall owned by the MTR, after Elements mall.

Our Take: As if Telford Plaza wasn't convoluted enough already...

Quote of the Week

"[The pan-democrats bring to mind Ting Hai]... a murderer filled with a suffocating sense of moral superiority. In the end, he goes unpunished while others suffer."

Legislator and Exco member Jeffrey Lam Kin-fung compares the pan-dems to the villain of legendary TVB drama "The Greed of Man." Lam orchestrated the botched walkout of Pro-Beijing legislators during the electoral reform debate.

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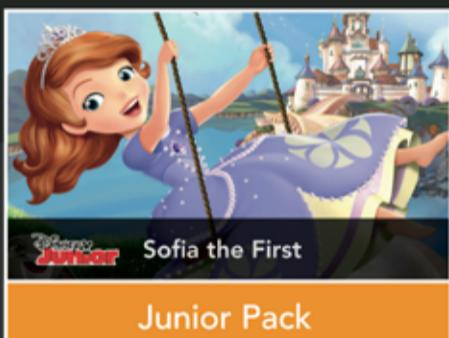
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Movie Pack Two



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UPFRONT

HongKabulary



Hong Kong Crop Top (**hōng kōng krop tōp**), n.

Flipping your t-shirt up and tucking it under your armpits to deal with the oppressive humidity.

"It may be hot out there, but Ah Lok is beating the heat with this vintage Hong Kong crop top look. He's as at home in the middle of IFC as he is on the runway."

Caption This

HONG KONG—Chief Secretary Carrie Lam addresses Legco during the electoral reform debate. (K. Y. Cheng/SCMP)



Carrie Lam Takes "Be The Bigger Person" Way Too Literally
Legco for Ants Much More the Kind of Thing Beijing Had in Mind

GREAT & WISE CARRIE LAM: "PAY NO ATTENTION TO THAT MAN BEHIND THE CURTAIN"

Fast Facts

It's a Walk-Out

Pro-Beijingers aren't alone. What else have we abandoned?

- A vote on massively important reforms, just to see how it feels.
- The weakest member of the team, because evolution demands it.
- Our moral compass, in the pursuit of wealth.
- The queue at D-i, as we're just not pretty enough.
- You, you no-good two-timing sumbitch.

Street Talk



The world's first Hello Kitty-themed restaurant opened in Hong Kong last month, to the delight of pretty much everyone. Head chef **Master Law** tells Tammy Ha about answering to his Hello Kitty overlords and getting the details just right.

HK Magazine: Were you a Hello Kitty fan before taking the job?

Master Law: To be honest, no. I didn't really have much knowledge of Hello Kitty. It wasn't part of my generation.

HK: What did you think when they approached you?

ML: At first, they made it sound like the job was a simple task. I only realized how difficult it would be to make Hello Kitty Chinese dishes after I started corresponding with Sanrio [the brand owner]. If I had known, I don't think I would have wanted the job. It took us five months to design dishes and tweak the ingredients.

HK: What's so tough about it?

ML: I have to submit my dishes to the Sanrio headquarters and let them decide, in their subjective opinion, whether my dishes were good or not. But we're definitely more experienced with cookery and ingredients—they're not from the industry.

HK: Has Sanrio ever axed one of your designs?

ML: My first month was pretty difficult, as I didn't know what Sanrio's management wanted. When I first submitted steamed eggs, they weren't satisfied because they wanted the surface to be completely smooth. That's hard to achieve because we use strong heat to steam eggs, causing them to crease. For another dish, Sanrio wanted Hello Kitty's eggplant whiskers to be thicker. But I thought it looked ugly, especially on a girl, and later they compromised.

HK: So what ingredients do you use to make the Hello Kitty dishes?

ML: We make buns as usual and simply add on eyes, nose and whiskers using corn, eggplants and other vegetables. But that takes craftsmanship—I need to think of ways to hold up a certain shape.

HK: Where do you find inspiration for your Hello Kitty designs?

ML: Let's be real, I'm from an older generation. Hello Kitty fans, and our potential customers, are all pretty much young people, so I take photos of my dishes and ask my children, who give me suggestions. With Hello Kitty's nose, I initially used yellow pepper, but my children suggested that I could use a piece of corn instead.

HK: You lived in Japan for a few years. Did that influence your work?

ML: I went there in the mid-80s, and stayed for six years. Japanese cuisine is simpler. The essence is in the cutting. If I had to pinpoint one thing I learned, it'd be a knack for dish decorations. They can be very delicate and crafty.

HK: What have you learned about Hello Kitty that most people don't know?

ML: Sanrio actually sat us down to introduce the Hello Kitty family to us and explain their characteristics and preferences. Hello Kitty likes apples, so instead of making sweet and sour pork the traditional way with pineapple, our dish is complemented by apple and candy floss.

HK: Do you feel accomplishment having created the dishes?

ML: I wouldn't say we've succeeded yet, but I am quite proud to have been part of creating this restaurant. It has done better than we expected, but there's still a lot to improve on.

Try Master Law's creations at Hello Kitty Chinese Cuisine: Shop A-C, Lee Loy Mansion, 332-338 Canton Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, 8202-8203.





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The Great Annual Hong Kong Quiz

Welcome, quizketeers! It's that time of year again when we assemble to take on the most fiendish, most interactive quiz the SAR can muster. Are you ready for some mental exertion? Quiz ho! **Quizmaster:** Adam White

1 Odd One Out

Can you spot the odd one out from each of these categories?

HONGKONG CELEBRITIES



HONG KONG FOODS



2 Match the Angry Quotes!

Last week, Legco voted against the proposed electoral reform. Can you match the legislator to what they said during the political reform debate?

“ This... makes nonsense of the word democracy. It is a very bogus version of universal suffrage that has long been a ploy in Communist and other authoritarian states. ”

A



1) Emily Lau,
Democratic Party chair

“ You’re the killer of universal suffrage!
You will stink for 10,000 years! ”

B



2) Starry Lee,
DAB chair

“ The current proposal can be described as: ‘All animals are equal, but some are more equal than others’. ”

C



4) Alan Leong,
Civic Party leader



6) Kenneth Leung,
Accountancy functional constituency

D

“ We are facing a ‘to be or not to be’ situation. Should we endure humiliation by accepting this fate? ”



3) Claudia Mo,
Civic Party founder

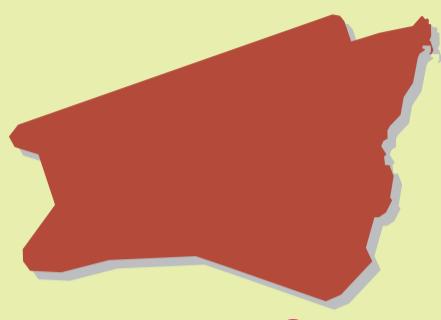
E

“ At the end of this year North Korea will have local elections. They also have universal suffrage. ”

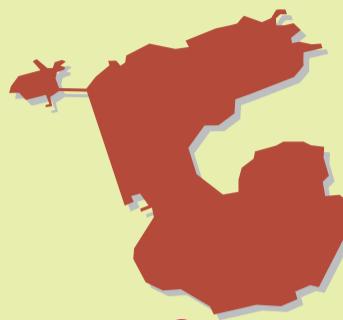
“ It makes sense that anyone who challenges Beijing should be excluded from standing in the election under the ‘One Country, Two Systems’ framework. ”

3 Island Identification

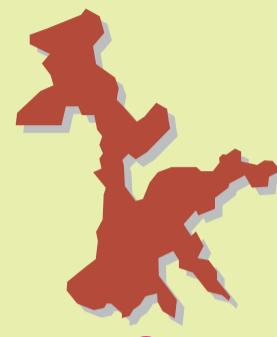
Can you identify the island from its shape?



A



B



C



D

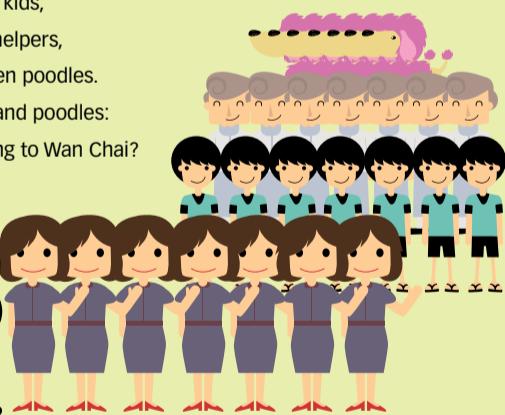
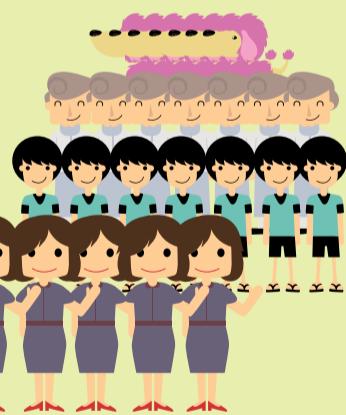


E

4 Tricky Riddle Corner

Can you solve these mind-bending conundrums?

1) As I was going to Wan Chai
I met a tycoon with seven wives.
Each wife had seven kids,
Each kid had seven helpers,
Each helper had seven poodles.
Wives, kids, helpers and poodles:
How many were going to Wan Chai?



3) You are wandering down the long, lonely path of democracy. You arrive at a fork in the road, blocked off by two doors. Behind one door is the road to public nomination; behind the other is a path that ends in full incorporation into China as a third-tier city.

Each door is guarded by an identical-looking CY Leung. However, they are subtly different. One CY always lies, while the bizarro-world version of CY always tells the truth. You may ask only one question of the guards. What do you say?



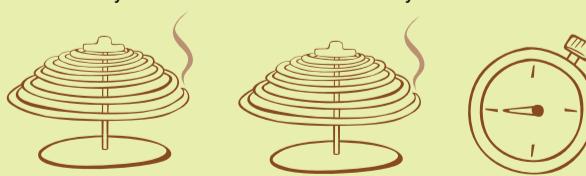
2) You go for dim sum with your friends Winston and Winnie. Winston hates har gau but loves siu mai. Conversely Winnie hates siu mai, but is most partial to har gau. You like both, but refuse to eat one and not the other.

In order to make things easier, you order three steamers, clearly labeled: one with only siu mai, one with har gau, and one with both. Sadly a tragic kitchen accident means that the labels get all mixed up. A grumpy dim sum granny explains that each has a wrong label.

Without looking, you open one of the steamers and eat a single piece of dim sum, and are so able to identify which steamer is which. How?



4) You are venerating your ancestors by burning incense. You have two coils of incense which burn for exactly one hour, although they don't burn evenly. However, you need to leave in 45 minutes to catch the bus home. How do you burn the coils to last exactly 45 minutes?



5) A father takes his young son to Legco, and asks an official if his son can visit the Chief Executive's office. The boy is shown to the office, and the Chief Executive greets the boy and shows him around the building. As the boy leaves the Chief Executive turns to his secretary and says "That was my son." How is this possible?

5 HK Tongue Twisters

Can you manage these tricky phrases? Say them 10 times fast—and no cheating!



LET'S GO
TO LEGGO TO
LOOK AT THE
LEG SHOW!

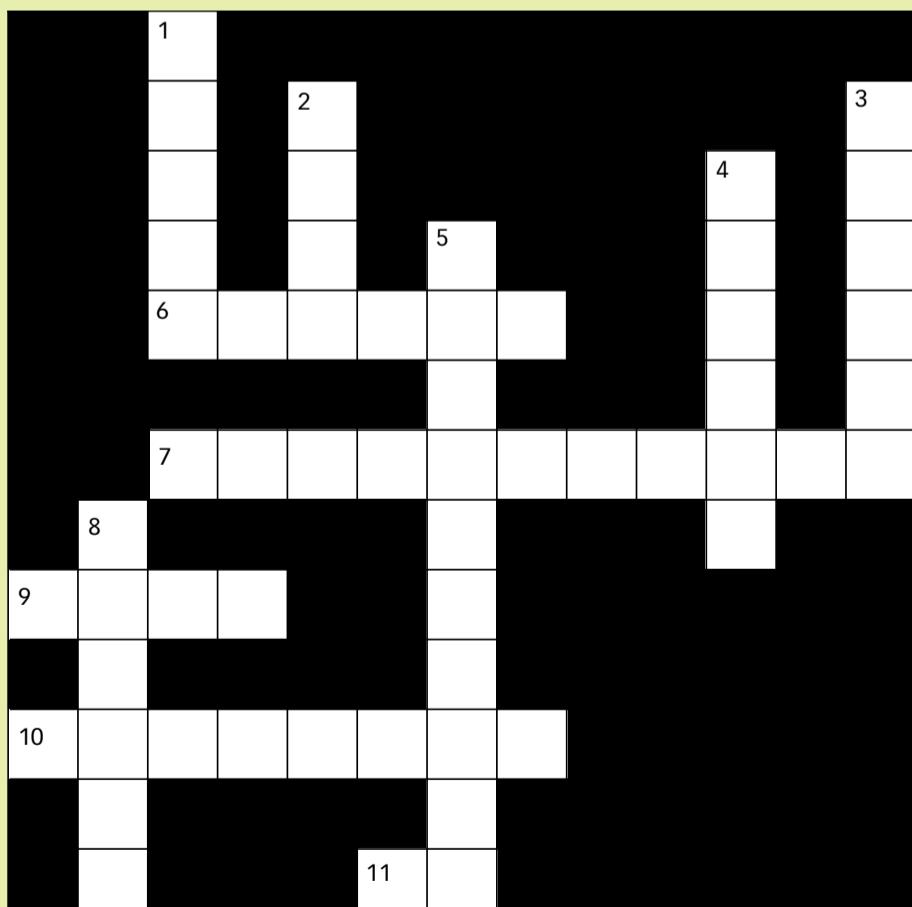
Dan's dying
during durian dining.

Long Hair's
long hair
longs to
belong there.

Xi sells
seashells by
the sea shore.
The shells
that
Xi sells
are sea shells,
I'm sure.

6 SAR Cryptic Crossword

So you think you know Hong Kong? Prove it by completing HK Magazine's cryptic crossword!

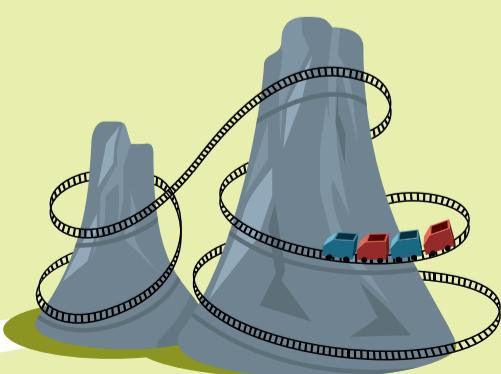


Across

6. Protest movement: we'll break you, CCP (6)
7. Confounded animal nerds find no favor down in Hong Kong (11)
9. New disease that's contained by immersion (4)
10. SAR's Rapunzel in Legco seat (4, 4)
11. Chief Executive, we hear, has power of sight:
for what reason? (2)

Down

1. Expelling the French from a broken down college of lawmakers (5)
2. Corruption agency's air conditioning briefly follows dawning comprehension, say (4)
3. Partying gweilos lose initial ennui in making messed-up sextape (6)
4. It's half chaos for a democratic lawmaker (3, 3)
5. It's Monday-Sunday MacBooks for Jimmy's little rag (5, 5)
8. After email reply, this follows function:
But CY's mighty package fails to impress (6)



THE ANSWERS

1

ODD ONE OUT

Hong Kong Celebrities: b) Grace Chan
All of the others are Eurasian.

Hong Kong Foods: d) Fish skin dumplings. The rest are misnomers: French toast is not French, Swiss sauce is not from Switzerland, pineapple buns do not contain pineapple and century eggs are not 100 years old. However, fish skin dumplings have skins made from ground fish.

4

RIDDLE CORNER

- One. "I" was going to Wan Chai.
 - You open the steamer labelled "both." As all the labels are wrong, whichever dim sum is inside must be the only food it contains.
For example, if you take out a har gau from the "both" steamer, then you can label it "har gau." Similarly, the steamer which says "siu mai" cannot only contain siu mai, and so it must contain both. Thus the "har gau" steamer actually contains siu mai.

2

MATCH THE QUOTES!

1C 2E 3A 4D 5B 6E

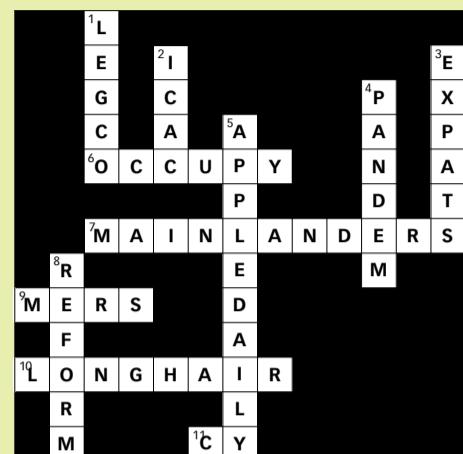
3

ISLAND IDENTIFICATION

- A) Chek Lap Kok B) Peng Chau
- C) Lamma D) Tap Mun, aka Grass Island
- E) Chek Lap Kok and Lam Chau, before the airport was built.

6

SAR CRYPTIC CROSSWORD



Did you know that most colorectal cancers are preventable? A colonoscopy is one of the most effective screening methods, and can remove polyps which could potentially develop into cancer. If you are 50 or above, get checked !

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* Those screened at St. Teresa's Hospital must be Hong Kong permanent residents

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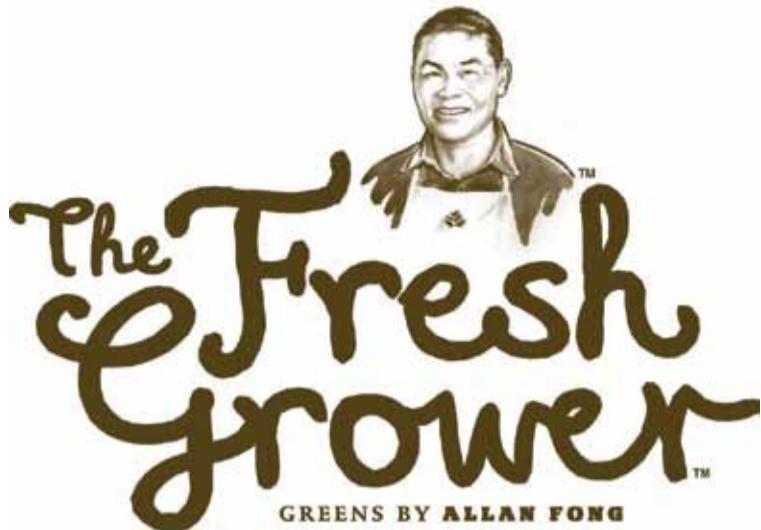
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The Mane Event

Whether it's your first summer in the SAR or you've sweated through 70, there's a good chance you're seeking a hair solution for the Hong Kong humidity. **Kate Springer** quizzes a few salon experts about how to manage that mane.

Meet the EXPERTS



Sonia Park
Art Director at Toni & Guy SoHo
Salon, UG/F, 3-5 Old Bailey St.,
Central, 2533-3833.



Dr. Aline Jahns

Founder and Trichologist of Strand and Science Hair Spa and Hair Loss Institute, 1/F, 96 Siena Ave., Discovery Bay, Lantau, 2886-3820.



Hamish Glianos

Director of Paul Gerrard Salon, 1-2/F, Wah Hing House, 35 Pottinger St., Central, 2869-4408.

HOT Products

Toni & Guy's Sonia Park picks her go-to salon products for smooth summer strands.

All available at Toni & Guy
Salon SoHo (UG/F, 3-5 Old
Bailey St., Central, 2533-3833).

WAVY HAIR:
Pump your locks full of Vitamin E, argan oil and argan butter with MoroccanOil's smoothing lotion (\$420).





HK Magazine: Why does humidity make our hair go crazy?

Sonia Park: There are several things happening. The cuticle—which is the surface of the hair or the outer layer—looks like fish scales and protects the hair from the external environment. Due to a high moisture content level in the air, the hair fiber becomes heavy with moisture and expands. And when that happens, the cuticle cannot perform its protecting qualities properly. It opens up and appears frizzy.

Hamish Glianos: The science at work here is that humid air causes hydrogen bonds to form between water molecules and the keratin protein of the hair, which in turn triggers curl and frizz. Put simply, this means that when our hair is blow-dried and styled, we change the bonds in our hair. When humidity strikes, the high levels of hydrogen, aka moisture, in the air will react with the protein bonds causing them to weaken and reform. Hence, our hair can go crazy.

HK: How can we combat humidity?

Dr. Aline Jahns: A very simple solution is to ensure your hair is completely dry and treated with a professional styling product that will keep the cuticles sealed. It's important to note that a good styling product will not only protect against humidity, but also pollution and sun.

HK: What about long-term solutions?

SP: Keratin treatments provide the best service for crazy frizzy hair. Essentially, the keratin smoothening treatments are like an instant revitalization for dry or sensitive hair. The treatment fills in the damaged

parts of the cuticle and seals it, protecting strands from humidity. But be wary of relying on chemicals repeatedly as this can harm your hair.

AJ: We talk so much about keratin/blowout/smoothening treatments. They are all the same, and more people are looking for this as a solution to tame frizz. However these products reduce volume and in some cases double as temporary straightening solutions. Sometimes they can be too severe, depending on the application.

HG: Be sure to consult with your stylist. If the treatment is too heavy, then your hair can lie straight for several weeks afterwards. A modified treatment strength will allow more natural movement in the hair.

HK: People worry about chemicals like formaldehyde. Is it harmful?

AJ: I still don't see any awareness in Hong Kong about the danger of products containing formaldehyde and methylene glycol. In Hong Kong, what I see is that many people say it is okay to use once or twice a year. This is very dangerous as there are side effects that will only appear after some time.

SP: People should be careful about using harmful chemicals, which is why it's always a good idea to consult a professional stylist about what the treatments contain. We always use products that are in line with recommended health standards. Those who are doing DIY treatments at home need to be extra careful about the products they're using.

COLOR-TREATED HAIR:

If your colored hair is lacking luster, then try out the Kérastase Chroma Riche line of shampoo, conditioner and smoothing masks (from \$275-484).



FLAT HAIR:

For volume and density, spritz on L'Oréal Serioxyl Label M protein spray (\$205) and frizz-control serum (\$280).



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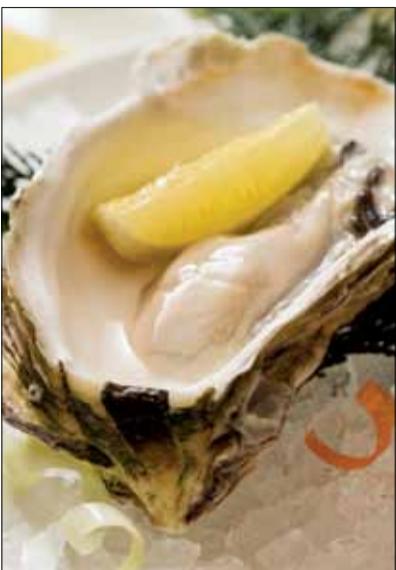
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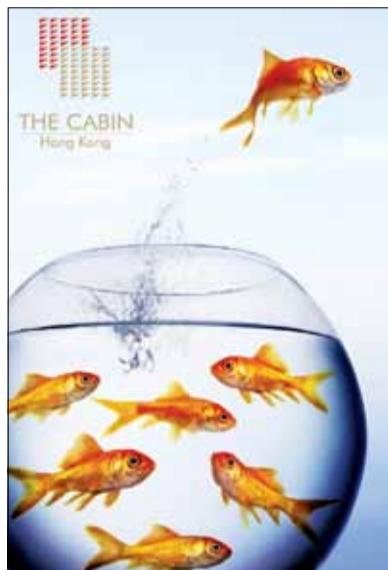
SPONSORED FEATURE



Summer Flavours! Hokkaido Delicacies!

Get ready for a gourmet dinner this July and August, Sagano is serving up a six-course Summer Hokkaido Set Dinner where you can enjoy an array of jet-fresh seafood and seasonal vegetable from Japan. Prepare your palate for Fresh Oyster with Vinegar Sauce, along with Grilled Kinki with Salt, and followed by Yuba Greenhouse Melon to ensure a sweet ending to the feast.

1/F, New World Millennium Hong Kong Hotel
Tel: 2313 4215 Email: fnb@newworldmillenniumhotel.com



Break Free From Addiction

The Cabin Hong Kong is Asia's first IOP or Intensive Outpatient Program specializing in substance and process addictions, the center caters to both locals and expats working in Hong Kong. Located in the heart of the city, it offers a range of treatment options to match the work and lifestyle commitments of its clients.

Unit C, 12th Floor, On Hing Building,
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BOUNCEinc Free-Jumping Revolution open in July

BOUNCE is a spring-loaded urban playground where the rules of gravity no longer apply. With more than 100 interconnected trampolines housed within huge, colourful spaces, BOUNCE takes the rush of getting airborne and adds new dimensions. The best part is it doesn't matter if you're under 5 or an action sports junkie in training – you're never too old or too young to have an awesome time.

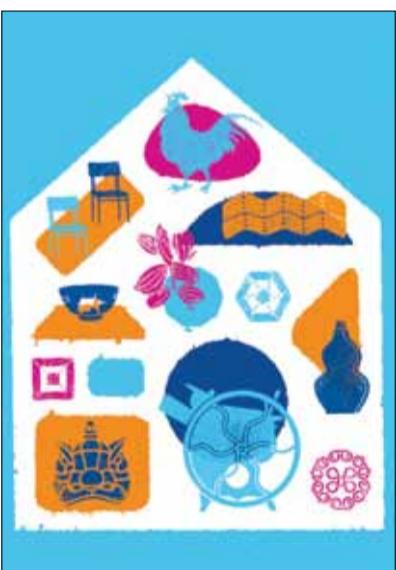
Book Now – www.bounceinc.com.hk
G/F, EMAX, KITEC No.1 Trademart Drive, Kowloon Bay



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Jockey Club Community Arts Biennale 2015 4–24 July 2015

24 local professional artists and thousands of young people pay tribute to the incredible contributions of the city's masters of traditional arts and crafts. The 2015 Biennale culminates in this final exhibition that uncovers and celebrates the hidden stories of Hong Kong's communities. Sponsored by The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust and organised by the Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation.

ArtisTree, 1/F, Cornwall House, Taikoo Place
www.hkyaf.com/biennale2015



HomeSquare 6th Smart Buy Weeks

HomeSquare Smart Buy Weeks celebrates its sixth anniversary this year with the latest promotions from 19th July to 16th August 2015. In association with close to 100 in mall home furnishing brands, HomeSquare presents 58,000 limited items at 90% off, HK\$100 or HK\$1 specials and privilege offers.

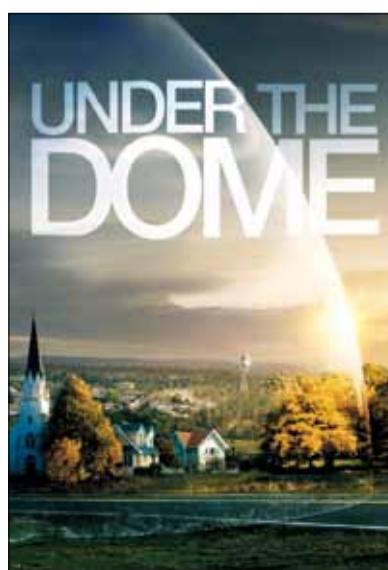
HomeSquare
138, Sha Tin Rural Committee Road, Sha Tin



TOTO Kitchen New Launch Party

11 June 2015, TOTO launched a series of premium kitchen cabinet displays in TOTO Architectural and Design Centre, in Wan Chai. Featured alongside this new series are a range of accessories, providing a one-stop brand experience for customers. Browsing the new showroom, TOTO design is as much about function as aesthetics, as each product is built with the customer experience in mind.

TOTO Architectural and Design Centre
Tel: 2238 2628 Website: www.toto.com.hk
Address: 1/F, East Town Building,
41 Lockhart Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong



Two-hour Premiere of Under the Dome S3

The third season of Under the Dome continues the story of a small town that is suddenly and inexplicably sealed off from the rest of the world by an enormous transparent dome. This season, Emmy Award® winner Marg Helgenberger joins the cast as therapist Christine Price who helps the town's residents cope with all the events associated with the Dome's descent on Chester's Mill.

RTL CBS Entertainment HD is on nowTV Ch 517
Season 3 of Under the Dome premieres July 1, Wednesday at 9:55pm.



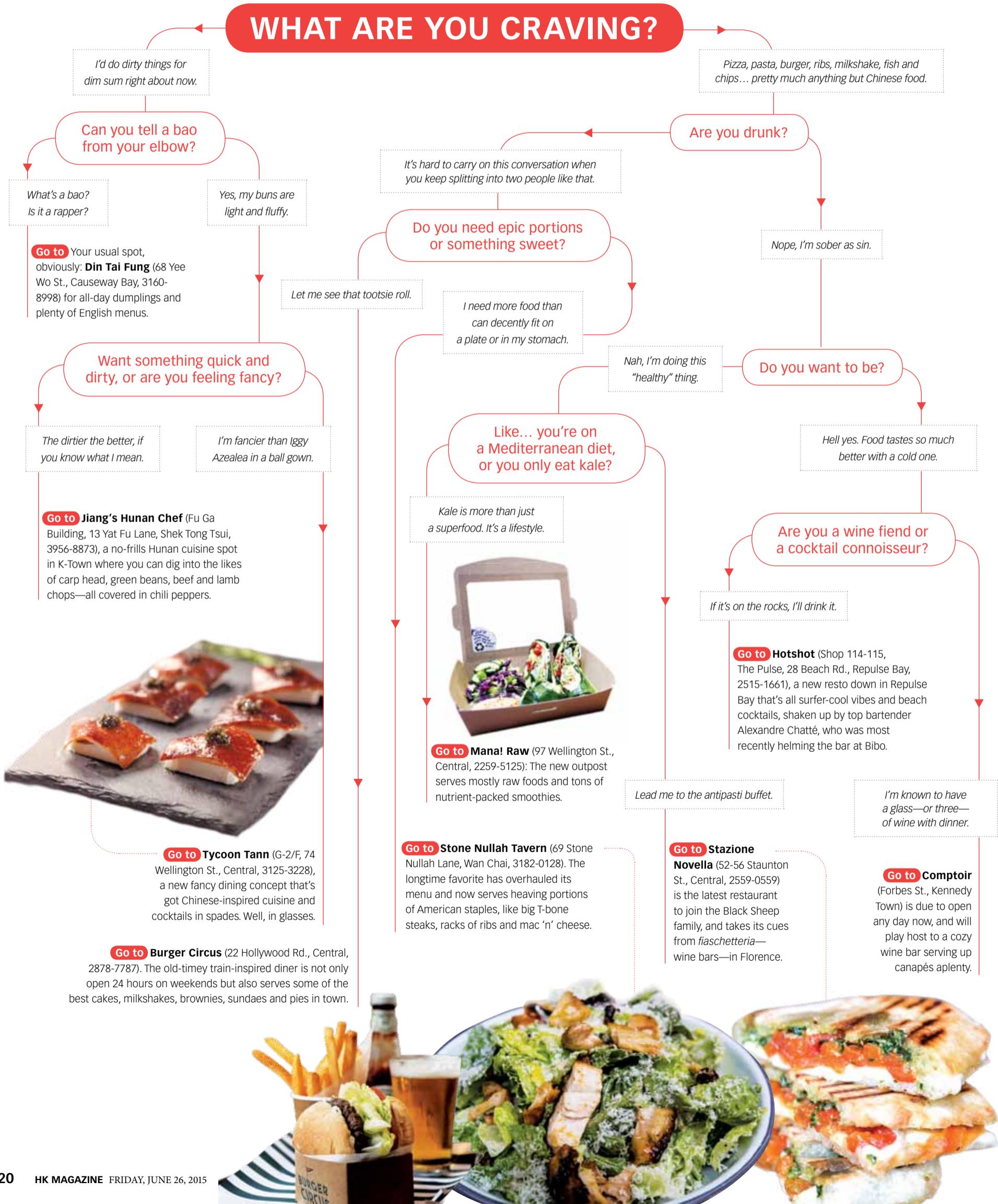
Hello, Sunshine

Take a tip from the summer sun and inject some color into your neglected stationery: stylish Scandinavian brand **Kikki.K**, which opened its first Hong Kong shop earlier this spring, has launched a radiant "Hello Yellow" collection that brings together beautiful typography, clean designs and a blazing shade of yellow. Now all we need is to get rid of this rain...

A5 Feature Journal, \$150; Pencil Case, \$110; Hardcover Notebook, \$125; Shopping List, \$110. Shop 411, 4/F, Ocean Centre, Harbour City, 7-27 Canton Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, www.kikki-k.com.

The HK Magazine Foodie Flowchart

So you're hungry but paralyzed by choice? This chart will lead you to an awesome restaurant no matter your mood. By **Kate Springer**



NEW AND NOTED

with Adele Wong



Too Hot to Handle

The Bibo group has staked out a spot at The Pulse and opened **Hotshot** (G/F, Shop 114-115, The Pulse, 28 Beach Rd., Repulse Bay, 2515-1661), channeling California's surf culture with a beachy retreat right by Repulse Bay. You'll see surf boards, palm trees and lots of wall art at this space, while digging into a mix of all-American dishes like Southern fried chicken, pancakes, burgers and brownies.



The twins of Open House



Kitchen Confidential

For an intimate private kitchen experience in east-end, **Little Kitchen** (112-114 Cheung Lok Building, Sai Wan Ho St., Sai Wan Ho, 5616-4114) might just fit the bill. Run by Chef David Forestell, LK is run out of an old tong lau to give it a distinctly Hong Kong ambience. Chef Forestell offers a changing menu of western dishes, sourcing ingredients from Sai Wan Ho market nearby when possible. The venue is BYOB, and you can expect to dig into a minimum of four courses each night.



Playing House

Twins Josh and Caleb Ng are back with **Open House** (1/F, 19 Shing Wong St., Central) on tranquil Shing Wong Street. Open House will be a private kitchen slash retail hub for design pieces, tableware and kitchen tools. The interior is supposed to channel Wong Kar-wai's signature cinematic style—so expect something moody, broody and achingly romantic.

Email me at adele.wong@hkmagmedia.com or follow me on Twitter: @adelewong_hk.

RESTAURANT REVIEWS

Braza ★★★★☆

Brazilian Steakhouse. 3/F, Grand Progress Building, 15-16 Lan Kwai Fong, Central, 2790-0928.



The appeal here is obvious: All. You. Can. Eat. Meat. This *churrascaria* is a south Brazilian steakhouse where charcoal-grilled meat is served *rodizio* style—aka sliced from skewers, tableside—for as long as you can keep eating, for just \$388 a head.

■ **HIT** Don't use up all your stomach space on the enormous salad buffet (but do try the seared tuna) or the selection of appetizers that are quickly brought to your table (don't miss

the grilled cheese)—it's all about the meat here. With some 14 different cuts of beef, lamb, pork and chicken, there's so much to try and so little stomach space. Do yourself a favor and hit up the tender flank steak, the marinated signature *picanha* (rump cap) and the lamb rack. Still hungry? Don't deny yourself the chorizo sausages or the chicken thighs.

■ **MISS** The arrival of meat, although well spaced to give us breathing room, was a little erratic with some skewers bypassing our hungry table for no apparent reason. Don't pace yourself too much, as by the end of the night service slows and you have to ask if there's something specific you want.

■ **BOTTOM LINE** Come hungry and don't fill up on salads and appetizers: Braza is a meat-lover's dream.

Open daily noon-3pm, 6-11pm. \$\$\$

All of our reviews are independent and anonymous!

Viet Kitchen ★★★★☆

Vietnamese. G/F, Nexus Building, 41 Connaught Rd. Central, 2806-2068.



Opened by Peter Cuong Franklin, the chef behind Chôm Chôm, Viet Kitchen has a sleek look that makes for a pleasant place to dig into classic Vietnamese staples like pho, bahn mi and fresh sugar cane juice.

■ **HIT** Our favorite dish of the evening by far was the classic Saigon beef pho (\$68), which was also the best value. It came in a huge bowl that was easily sharable between two. The broth

was aromatic, flavorful and just a tad sweet, which balanced nicely with a sprinkle of chili and a spritz of lime juice. Our mango caipirinha (\$98) was packed with fruit and offset by a tinge of tabasco, and a young coconut (\$32) made for a refreshing appetizer.

■ **MISS** The food was overly sweet across the board. While the soft shell crab rice paper rolls were light and crispy, the accompanying pineapple sauce was practically a jam. Caramel chicken wings (\$78) were over-fried and scrawny to the point of confusion. The mini bahn mi (\$48) was literally two overpriced bites, with rock-hard bread and an overpowering aioli.

■ **BOTTOM LINE** Viet Kitchen gets points for good service and its classy environment, but the big price tags on little dishes are hard to stomach.

Open Mon-Sat 11am-10pm \$\$

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

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.

WHAT'S ON

CULTURE + NIGHTLIFE + FILM



Socks to be Mew

Watch out, photography geeks! Sotheby's presents "**Shashin! Japanese Photography Then/Now**," an exhibition of contemporary Japanese photography. It's the first comprehensive show on the topic in Hong Kong: look for works by masters such as Daido Moriyama and Shoji Ueda, as well as younger photographers who capture the surreal quirkiness of contemporary Japanese culture—like this 2013 piece by Yoshinori Mizutani.

Jun 26-Jul 10. Sotheby's Hong Kong Gallery, 5/F,
One Pacific Place, 88 Queensway,
Admiralty, 2524-8121.

Photo: Sotheby's



UPCLOSE Mark Anthony Chao



Doctor-turned-classical musician **Mark Anthony Chao** is set to perform in a solo recital, with his own arrangements of pieces by the composers including Brahms and Chopin. The pianist talks to Andrea Lo about what medicine and music have in common.

HK Magazine: When did you learn to play the piano?

Mark Anthony Chao: I studied in England. When I was 15, I had a friend who was taking piano lessons. He said, "You love music so much—why don't you learn how to play the piano?" It changed my life.

HK: How'd you make the career shift?

MC: I decided to be a doctor because I felt medicine was a difficult subject with a lot of things worth learning about. I worked at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, specializing in cancer. I left to audition at the St. Petersburg Conservatory. Incredibly, I got in. I took a post-graduate course for three years.

HK PICKS



Hamlet

The Shakespeare's Globe company has embarked on an ambitious two-year world tour to visit every single country in the world with its brand new production of "Hamlet," the bard's definitive work. The travelling version of the play features a stripped-down stage for ease of setup, and uses just 12 actors for more than two dozen parts. To go, or not to go? That's hardly a question. Sep 4-5, 7:30pm; Sep 5-6, 2:30pm; Sep 6, 7pm. Lyric Theatre, Academy for Performing Arts, 1 Gloucester Rd., Wan Chai, 2584-8500. \$595-795 from www.hkticketing.com.

Arts Festivals

Spotlight Penang in Hong Kong

Returning once again after a successful run last year, this three-day arts festival celebrates a cultural exchange between Hong Kong and Penang through music, film and food. Highlights include a joint exhibition of sketches by Ch'ng Kiah Kian and Alvin Wong; a showcase of product designs by Malaysian designers; a creative dialogue lecture; daily short film screenings; and a concert featuring visiting rockers from Penang plus local artists Kylie Choy and the Retro Groovers. Through Jun 26, 12pm. Fringe Club, 2 Lower Albert Rd., Central, 2521-7251. Free Register for concert, film screenings, and seminar from tiny.cc/hk-spotlightpenang.

International Arts Carnival

The annual International Arts Carnival descends once again on the SAR this summer, bringing a host of family-friendly fun, plus a dose of culture too. Get your tickets for highlight events such as "Shaolin," a musical theater collaboration between the Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra and the Chung Ying Theatre that'll feature the music of Emmy Award-winning composer Nathan Wong. Jul 10-Aug 16. www.hkiac.gov.hk.

Classical



HK Phil: Denim Classics

As part of the Hong Kong Philharmonic's intermittent informal (maestros in casual-dress!) concerts, the orchestra will be playing a selection of well known classics—such as Pachelbel's "Canon in D" and Barber's "Adagio." The Sunday afternoon concert sets out to be fun for the whole family, even providing a crash course on classical orchestral timelines for kids. Jun 26-27, 9pm; Jun 28, 3pm. Concert Hall, Cultural Centre, 10 Salisbury Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui. \$140-300 from www.urbitix.hk.

Need to Know

Theater & Arts

Urbitix (credit cards)	2111-5999	HK City Hall	2921-2840
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HK Cultural Centre	2734-2009	LCSD Theatre Office	2268-7323

the gym every day. I'm probably the only pianist in the world with a six-pack.

HK: What is your favorite and least favorite thing about Hong Kong?

MC: I can't talk about what my least favorite thing is about Hong Kong, because it would offend the government. Hong Kong is short-sighted. What defines brilliance? If someone works a high-ranking position at a bank?

HK: What is the most important lesson you've learned?

MC: Sometimes, you need to be proud of yourself and talk yourself up. But remember humility is even more important. When you are an artist, if you are too shy, you can't succeed.

HK: What can people expect from your upcoming concert?

MC: The last piece of the program is a score rarely heard in concert. Beethoven wrote this gigantic piece. It's like the word Americans like to use: "awesome." The technical requirements are so daunting that most famous pianists would be reserved about putting it in a program. I have no need to keep a reputation. I want to play that piece.

Catch Mark Anthony Chao's piano recital on June 27, 7:30pm. Recital Hall, 8/F, City Hall, 5 Edinburgh Place, Central. Call 9602-8617 for more info. \$150 from urbitix.hk.

HK: So what do music and medicine have in common?

MC: There are similarities between the two subjects: They both require serious professional training, discipline and apprenticeship. There's no such thing as art being wrong, but you can't do whatever you want with classical music.

HK: Would you go back into medicine one day?

MC: I'm not going to go back into medicine. Music is great for me. When you're playing the piano, you're experiencing the greatest in human achievement. You see things that make the world a better place. Medicine is not about being great—it's about being decent. There's no such thing as a great doctor. When he makes you feel better, you feel great—but the doctor is just being competent.

HK: How did you end up back in Hong Kong?

MC: Following Russia, I came back to Hong Kong just after SARS. I have been working on music since. In the last 10 years, on average, I've had the chance to perform every two years. I've done two solo recitals.

HK: What do you do on a daily basis?

MC: I don't really have a day job. I explore music and practice the piano. I give piano lessons. Don't forget that even Mozart, Chopin and Beethoven made money mostly from teaching.

HK: Do you think stamina is important for a professional musician?

MC: My physique doesn't fit that of a pianist. I go to



The Oxford Gargoyles: Blame It On My Youth

The Oxford Gargoyles are returning for their second a cappella tour in Hong Kong. The dapper ladies and gents will be putting on a selection of concerts taking place across town, with appearances at the Fringe Club (Jul 2), Hong Kong Arts Centre (Jul 16) and Sha Tin Town Hall (Jul 15), as well as a charity performance at HKU's Lee Shau Kee Lecture Centre Grand Hall (Jul 17). Jul 2, 15, 16, 8pm; Jul 17, 7pm. Fringe Club, 2 Lower Albert Rd., Central, 2521-7251. \$190-240 from www.urbitix.hk and www.hkticketing.com, reserve tickets at imaffairs@ymca.org.hk for charity concert.

HK Phil: Nightingale & Firebird

Closing the season with a bang, the Hong Kong Philharmonic will be performing some powerful Russian staples. Highlights include Stravinsky's "The Firebird Suite" from the legendary ballet, Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto, as well as "Song of the Nightingale," which imagined China's imperial court from western perspectives. Jul 3-4, 8pm. Concert Hall, Cultural Centre, 10 Salisbury Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui. \$120-400 from www.urbitix.hk.

Comedy

Live Stand-up at TakeOut Comedy

With so many international comedians coming to town, it can be easy to overlook the amount of talent in the local comedy scene. Hike up to SoHo and grab a six-pack from the 7-Eleven nearby, then laugh it up with the likes of SAR-stalwarts such as Jim Brewsky, Earl Young, Andrew Chu, Garron Chiu, Pete Grella, Ryan Hynek and Jami Gong. Jun 26-27, 9pm. TakeOut Comedy, B/F, 34 Elgin St., Central, 6220-4436. \$200 from www.takeoutcomedy.com or at the door.



Melbourne International Comedy Festival Roadshow

Need a good laugh? The annual Melbourne International Comedy Festival is back in town for its 15th run. For one week only, five of the festival's top Australian talents will do their best to crack up Hongkongers: Dave Callan, Urzila Carlson, ElbowSkin (yes, really), Andy Saunders and Nick Cody. The funny guys will be joined by a host of local and international guests for a raucous show each evening. Jul 13-18, 8pm; Jul 15-18, 7:30pm; Jul 19, 7pm. Fringe Club, 2 Lower Albert Rd., Central, 2521-7251. \$250-390 from www.hkticketing.com or at the door.

Dance

365 Ways of Doing and Undoing Orientalism

The CCDC will be performing its critically acclaimed show in Hong Kong, after highly successful runs in the US, Australia and Italy. The show questions what it means to define "the east," which has been conventionally represented by ideas and symbols such as chopsticks, calligraphy, dragons and martial arts. Jun 26-27, 8pm. Kwai Tsing Theatre, 12 Hing Ning Rd., Kwai Fong. \$140-250 from www.urbitix.hk.

Wall

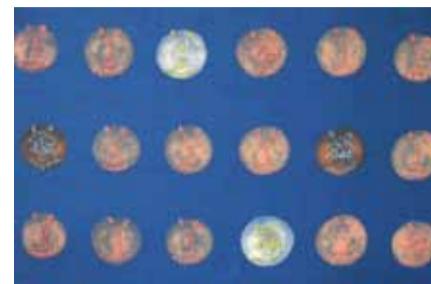
The young dancer and 2014 HKAPA graduate Fiona Zhou choreographs and performs her debut full-length piece for Hong Kong audiences this July. Titled "Wall," a homophone for the Cantonese word for snail, the piece is all about alienation, taking reference from the built-up walls and small compacted spaces in the city. Jul 4-5, 8pm; Jul 5, 3pm. CCDC Dance Centre, G/F, 110 Shatin Pass Rd., Wong Tai Sin. \$80 at venue.

ARTS

Exhibitions

**Carole A. Feuerman: Swimming By the Harbour**

Head to Harbour City this month and you'll see that an arty oasis has set up camp along the forecourt. There'll be a 3D illustrated swimming pool projected on the ground and five hyperrealist sculptures of swimmers (in the image of Olympic athlete Lauren Perdue) relaxing by the deck. They're created by Carole A. Feuerman, a pioneer of the hyperrealist form, so you know they're gonna be REAL. Through Jul 5. Harbour City, 3-27 Canton Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, 2118-8601.

**Eastman Cheng Shuk-yee: Super Dots**

Eastman Cheng Shuk-yee is a homegrown mainstay best known for her soft fabric sculptures. "Super Dots" will showcase her latest works that draw on recent musings on race, social class, and national concerns—such as this tapestry with sewn-on Hong Kong dollar coins. Through Jun 28. Art Projects Gallery, Unit S510, 5/F, PMQ, 35 Aberdeen St., Central, 3485-5336.

Paint Me, I'm (Almost) Famous

Avenue Des Arts teams up with Le French May to bring us a pop-up art exhibition for the final week of the Gallic arts festival. The exhibition not only spruces up the new California Tower, but is also a chance to show off cross-genre works from four established French artists: optical illusionist Marcos Marin, caricaturist Fox Daniels, street artist Tehos and pop sculptor Artheline. The theme is vanity, celebrity status and popularity: what better place to rack up a selfie or two? Jun 26-Jul 2. California Tower, 1 On Hing Terrace, Central, 2867-8860.



Courtesy of Avenue Des Arts

**Sheela Gowda**

Bangalore-based Sheela Gowda uses unconventional everyday materials such as cow dung and human hair in her work. She's having her solo east Asian debut this month: Working with curator Cosmin Costinas, she's incorporated a few Hong Kong quirks into her new body of work, created specifically for Para Site. Catch a free tour hosted by Para Site's Freya Chou to see what Gowda's work is all about on July 9 at 6:30pm. Through Jul 19. Para Site Art Space, 22/F, Wing Wah Industrial Building, 677 King's Rd., Quarry Bay, 2517-4620.

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HK Airlines Success Story	28 July (Tue)	7:00 - 8:30pm	Rm 204, 2/F Admiralty Centre, 18 Harcourt Rd, HK

Online registration here:
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BSc / Adv Dip / Cert	2867 8320 (Josie Cheng) 2520 4607 (Jason So)	joscie.cheng@hkuspace.hku.hk whj.so@hkuspace.hku.hk

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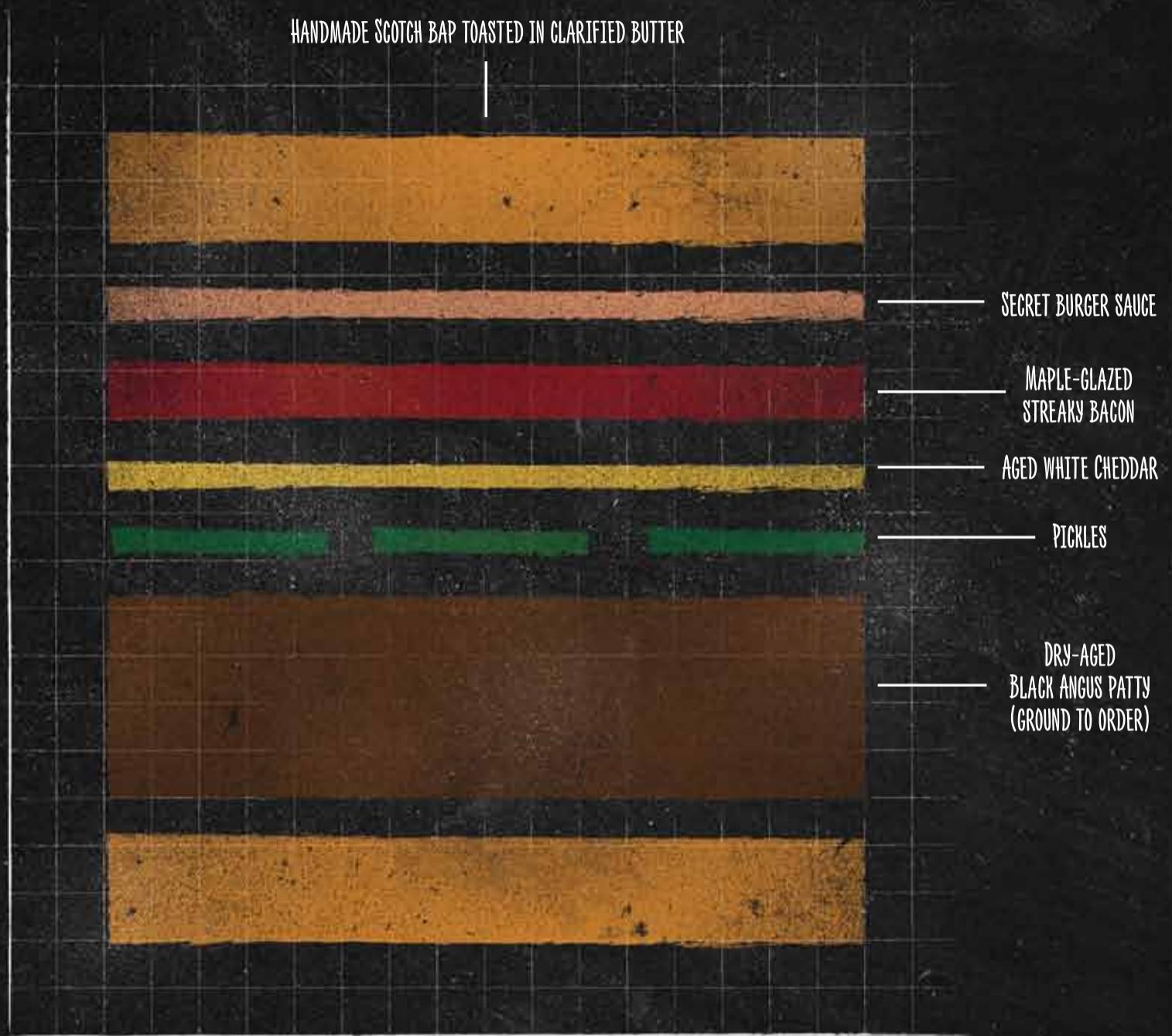
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NIGHTLIFE

HK PICKS



Linkin Park in Shenzhen

Seminal rock band Linkin Park is playing for one night only... in Shenzhen! If you missed the band in Hong Kong back in 2011 and 2013—not long after they ceased to be relevant—this right here is your chance. Jul 19, 7:30pm. Shenzhen Bay Sports Center Stadium, 3001 Binhai Ave, Nanshan, Shenzhen, Guangdong, China, (+86) 755-8630-8840. \$500-2,250 from www.cityline.com.

Clubs

Gigs

Bag Raiders

LA-based Aussie electronic pop duo Bag Raiders hits Volar. Formed in 2006, the pair made it big with the release of 2009 single "Shooting Stars." Jun 26, 10pm. Volar, B/F, 38-44 D'Aguilar St., Central, 2810-1510. \$350 before 12:30am; \$400 thereafter, both include two drinks.

DJ Mad Linx in Macau

Hip hop DJ Mad Linx brings his rap beats to the Hard Rock Macau's Club Cubic. Jun 27, 11:30pm. Club Cubic, 2/F, Hard Rock Hotel, City of Dreams, Estrada do Istmo, Cotai, Macau, (+853) 6638-4999. \$250 at the door.

Concerts

Blur

Attention Britpop fans: Blur is coming back to Hong Kong. Last time Albarn, Coxon et al. were here, they were inspired by the city to make their latest album, "the Magic Whip," released on April 27. Start listening to it on loop now, so you can sing along to all the lyrics. Jul 22, 8pm. Grand Hall, HKCEC, 1 Expo Drive, Wan Chai. \$480-880 from www.hkticketing.com.



OK Go

LA-based, YouTube-originated pop band OK Go is back on the scene with this concert at Musiczone. Go see them for the nostalgia, if nothing else. Remember when YouTube was a new thing? Nor do we. Jul 24, 8pm. Musiczone, KITEC, 1 Trademart Drive, Kowloon Bay. \$450 from www.ticketflap.com.

Imagine Dragons

Did you miss Imagine Dragons' free gig last year at the "Transformers" premiere? The Las Vegas alt-rock band is coming back for a one-night performance. This time, though, you'll have to pay. Sorry. Aug 23, 9pm. AsiaWorld-Arena, Sky Plaza Rd., Chek Lap Kok. \$288-788 from www.hkticketing.com.

Green!Eyes

Taiwanese indie band Green!Eyes was established 10 years ago. Never heard of them? Apparently, it's because band members hate "commercial marketing." Thank god for the rise of social media. They're supported by local indie rock legends Chochukmo. Jun 28, 8pm. Hidden Agenda, Unit 2A, Wing Fu Industrial Building, 15-17 Tai Yip St., Ngau Tau Kok. \$280 at the door.



Handover Hallelujah

The Wanch's annual Handover Hallelujah live music festival returns for the sixth year. It's an indie band extravaganza, featuring more than 70 local artists and bands. Over seven nights, catch back-to-back performances from the likes of Dark Himaya, Tango and Snatch and newcomers After-After-Party—plus many more. The best part? Everything's completely free. Visit the event's Facebook page for complete lineup. Through Jul 2, 8pm. The Wanch, 54 Jaffe Rd., Wan Chai, 2586-1621. Free.



Kestrels and Kites

Local acoustic folkers Kestrels and Kites are led by singer Tiffany Luae on guitar and bass. The band is launching its EP "Higher Than Mountains" with this gig at Backstage Live. You get a drink and a free CD with your ticket: You can't afford not to go. Jul 4, 9:30pm. Backstage Live, 1/F, Somptueux Central, 52-54 Wellington St., Central, 2167-8985. \$150 from www.ticketflap.com, including a drink and a copy of EP.

Edited by **Andrea Lo**

andrea.lo@hkmagmedia.com

Twitter: @andreas_lo



GDJB

Hipster central Full Cup hosts this Friday gig featuring math-folk four-piece GDJB, or *gai dan jing yuk beng* ("steamed meatloaf with egg"). The songs are delivered in "Hong Kong-style English" alongside the changing tempos and patterns of math-folk. Awesome. Jul 5, 3pm. Full Cup Café, 3-7/F, Hanway Commercial Centre, 36 Dundas St., Mong Kok, 2771-7775. \$80 in advance, message Full Cup Café Facebook page; \$120 at the door.



Photo: Phil Knott

Nir Felder Trio

Dedicated jazz fans are in for a treat: New York jazz guitarist Nir Felder heads to the SAR this month with his bag of cinematic, blues-influenced tunes. It won't be just any set of show-off guitar skills, though. Felder studied dozens of momentous political speeches to write his debut album "Golden Age," which is full of grand reflections on history. Jul 7, 8:15pm. Backstage Live, 1/F, Somptueux Central, 52-54 Wellington St., Central, 2167-8985. \$280-380 from www.playroll.hk.

Happy Mondays

UK alt-rock band Happy Mondays defined the "Madchester" scene of the 80s in the UK. Despite disbanding multiple times over the years, they've been able to pull through and come together over the years. Catch them at KITEC. Jul 28, 8pm. Rotunda 3, KITEC, 1 Trademart Dr., Kowloon Bay. \$545-650 from www.wegottickets.com.

Nightlife Events

W Hotel Shock Wave: #PoseWheneve Pool Party

The notorious W Hotel summer pool parties are back. This time, they come with the cumbersome title Shock Wave: #PoseWheneve Pool Party. Splash around on the 76th floor pool and gawk at the beautiful half-naked people all around you. At the kick-off party on June 6, Barcelonan pop band Josep is set to perform, while the after-party at Woobar goes from 11pm until late. Jun 27, 8pm; Jul 18, 8pm; Aug 1, 8pm; Aug 22, 8pm. W Hotel, 1 Austin Rd., West, West Kowloon, 3717-2222. \$400 in advance or \$500 at the door, including one drink at the pool and one at the after-party. \$950 for "WIP" tickets in advance or \$1,100 at the door, including free-flow drinks and champagne until 1am. Tickets from www.w-hongkong.com/en/shockwave.

The Dapper Club

W Hotel's sexy Woobar joins hands with whisky brand Chivas and luxury watch company Hublot to bring us the Dapper Club, a series of parties taking place over the summer. What's in store? There's an open bar with 12 different kinds of whiskies, plus a showcase of new, shiny watches—but more importantly, there are free-flow cheeses, cold cuts, sweet treats and savory snacks. Who can say no to free-flow snacks? Jul 17, 8:30pm; Aug 14, 8:30pm. Woobar, W Hotel, 1 Austin Rd. West, West Kowloon, 3717-2222. \$300 per person; call to book.



Splash

The infamous pool party at Macau's Hard Rock Hotel is now in its 12th edition. This year Redfoo—one-half of electro/hip-hop duo LMFAO—is headlining. You can also expect live DJ beats, vodka shots and lots of drunk people in various states of undress. Don't want to catch the ferry home like some kind of zombie gambler? Book a hotel room quick. Jul 11, 3:30pm. Hard Rock Hotel Macau, City of Dreams, Estrada do Istmo, Cotai, Macau, (+853) 8868-3338. \$480 from www.cityofdreamsmacau.com.

Happy Hours

208 Duecento Otto

Two-for-one drinks and \$60 deals on house red and white wines, Prosecco, San Miguel and Becks beers. \$65 for Peroni draught beers. Daily, 3-6pm. 208 Hollywood Rd., Sheung Wan, 2549-0208.

Alchemy

Enjoy a buy-one-get-one-free deal on beers (\$65), house wines (from \$70) and house spirits. Mon-Sat, 3-7pm. G-LG/F, 16 Arbuthnot Rd., Central, 6821-2801.

Champs

\$40 for beers and 50 percent off snacks. Daily, 3-5pm. 209-219 Wan Chai Rd., Wan Chai, 2892-3386.

FINDS

Two-for-one on all standard drinks. Mon-Fri, 3-8pm. 1/F, Luxe Manor, 39 Kimberley Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, 2522-9318.

Forte

The bar's new happy hour promotion offers three flavors of signature homemade grissini—cajun, parmesan cheese and black sesame—accompanied by selected red or white wine. The deal costs \$88 per person. Daily, 5-7pm. 2/F, L'hotel élan, 38 Chong Yip St., Kwun Tong, 3968-8222.

The Jockey

25 percent off drinks. Mon-Fri, 4-8pm. G/F, Wong Nai Chung Rd., Happy Valley, 3572-2266.

Libertine

For \$188, you get free-flow beer, house spirits and wines and other standard drinks. That's not all: fresh oysters are available at \$12 apiece. Daily 4-8pm. 26 Aberdeen St., Central, 2858-2022.

Lily and Bloom

Lily and Bloom has a great happy hour deal: your first standard drink or cocktail will set you back just \$20, and drinks are \$45 after that. Mon-Fri, 5-8pm; Sat, 6-8pm. 6/F, LKF Tower, 33 Wyndham St., Central, 2810-6166.

FINDS

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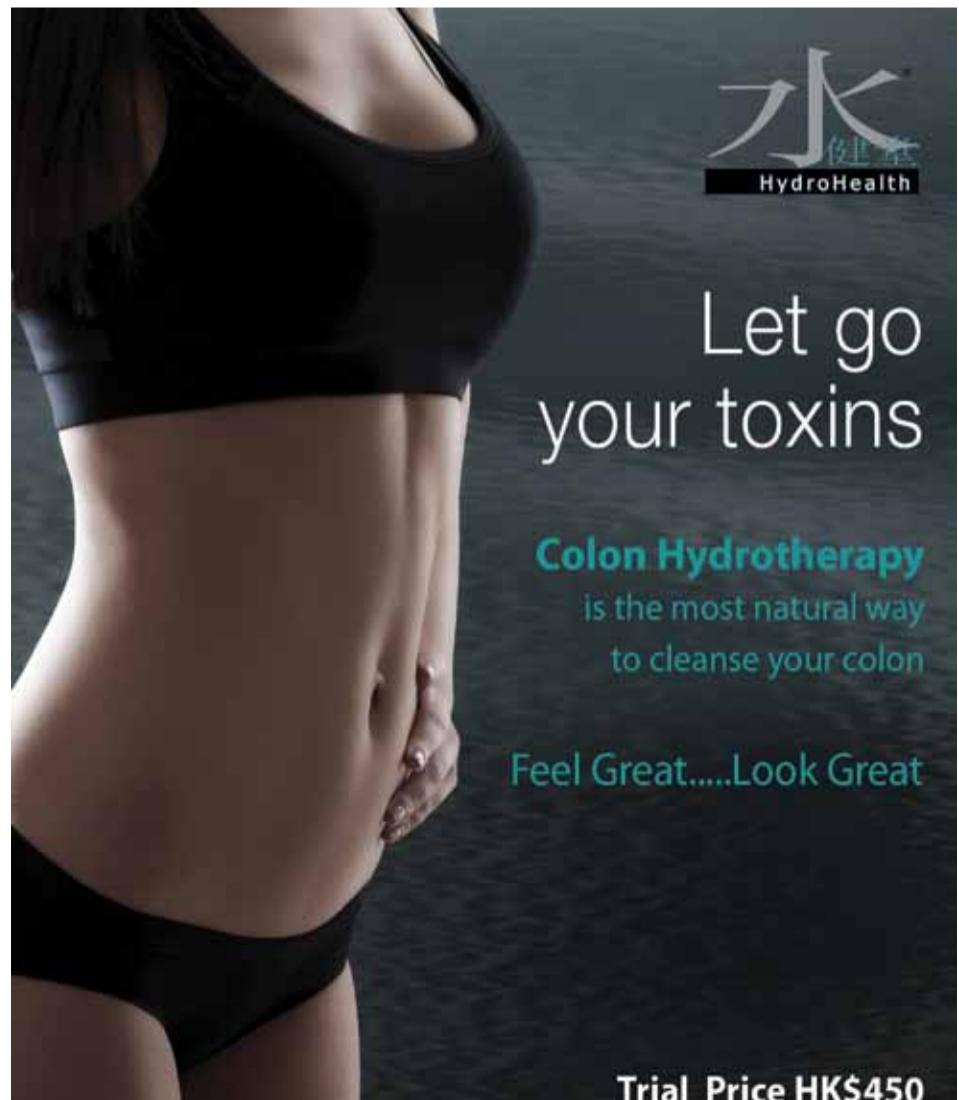


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Jurassic World ★★★★

(USA) Sci-fi/Action/Adventure. Directed by Colin Trevorrow. Starring Chris Pratt, Bryce Dallas Howard, Vincent d'Onofrio, Irrfan Khan, BD Wong. Category IIA. 124 minutes. Opened Jun 11.

Let's face it: A reboot of one of the world's most loved movie franchises was never going to top the original. With relative newcomer Colin Trevorrow taking over directing reins from Steven Spielberg, it's easy to expect less from the 2015 offering. And while "Jurassic World" doesn't quite live up to the original, it still follows the winning formula of dazzling dino CGI, eye-popping tension, kids getting up to no good, and lots of teeth. We're guaranteed a winning action flick, regardless of how it measures up.

Largely ignoring what went down in the second and third films, "Jurassic World" anchors itself in homage to the original. Twenty two years after the first movie, Isla Nublar off the coast of Costa Rica has been revamped and transformed into a modern dino-theme park, complete with Seaworld-style aquatic attractions and triceratops petting zoos. The park has been a success so far, but pressure to increase visitors results in the creation of a new hybrid dinosaur: the deadly Indominus Rex. Brothers Nick and Gray Mitchell are sent to the park to visit their aunt Claire (Bryce Dallas Howard)—the workaholic park operations manager—as their parents secretly settle a divorce. But they're soon folded into danger as the new dinosaur escapes and threatens the entire park.

Enter velociraptor trainer Owen Grady (Chris Pratt, who obviously steals the show with his casual chiseled charm), who seems to be one of two people in the whole park who understands that they are dealing with deadly animals, not mere profit-making attractions. It's not hard to like Pratt's character (and Pratt himself) but the same can't be said for Bryce Dallas Howard: As the uptight, corporate Claire, she's wholly unrealistic and unrelated. She not only manages to flee from dino-danger in high heels, but also manages to suddenly become sexily curly-haired and oil-slicked once she falls into peril. She's also somehow the only female character in the whole movie relevant to the plot: There's clearly a missed opportunity here.

Just as the movie's theme park aims to wow its visitors with increasingly awesome creatures, "Jurassic World" seems chock-full of gimmicks and distractions to wow the now-numbed 21st century cinema-goer: from Easter eggs harking back to the original movie, to small roles delivering awkward and irrelevant comic relief, to ridiculous sequences involving velociraptor/motorbike chases through the jungle. There are perks, of course: In this version the graphics are much, much better, and a lot of screen time is spent on showing off the park, its realistic reptiles and its grounds. But at the same time, perhaps in an attempt to appeal to a wider audience, much of the film takes place during the day, losing out on the murky nighttime scares that made the first film so memorable.

"Jurassic World" is a polished likeness of the original, made for today's IMAX crowd. It's a fun ride, but it lacks the sense of wonder and horror that made "Jurassic Park" such a classic. **Evelyn Lok**

Coming Soon



Terminator: Genisys

(USA) Arnie returns as the Terminator in movie number five of the series. In this rebooted timeline, the future of the past is once again in question. Resistance leader John Connor (Jason Clarke) sends Kyle Reese (Jai Courtney) back in time to protect his mother, Sarah Connor (Emilia Clarke, the "mother of dragons" herself)—who this time around is a skilled fighter with a Terminator on her team. Together they must work to reset the future. Maybe try turning it off and on again? Opens July 2.

Opening



Court

(India) An aging folk singer is arrested for allegedly singing words so inflammatory that they induce a sewage treatment worker to commit suicide. The trial unfolds and the story soon turns into a ruthless examination of the Indian judicial system. Opened Jun 25.

Far From the Madding Crowd

(USA) One of Thomas Hardy's classics comes to life on screen once again via Carey Mulligan ("An Education") as the independent Bathsheba Everdene. In the timeless tale, Bathsheba attracts three young suitors and must choose between them—while also overcoming life's tribulations through pure perseverance. So... not quite as easy as swiping right. Opened Jun 25.

Infinitely Polar Bear

(USA) Screened at the Sundance Film Festival in Hong Kong last year, this is a whimsical drama that sees Mark Ruffalo as a father coping with manic depression and recovering from a recent breakdown. Hoping to make a better life for their two precocious daughters, his wife (Zoe Saldana) takes on an MBA at Columbia, leaving Ruffalo to take care of the kids—as well as himself. Opened Jun 25.

It Follows

(USA) The sophomore work of David Robert Mitchell ("The Myth of the American Sleepover") was called the best original horror film of 2014. After a young woman sleeps with her boyfriend for the first time, she finds herself up against an evil spirit. A horror film disguised as a pro-abstinence scare tactic? Or the best horror flick of the year? Watch it and see. Opened Jun 25.

Ted 2

(USA) Seth MacFarlane's trash-talking, bong-smoking, F-bomb-dropping cuddly stuffed toy returns in this sequel, this time faced with very human and serious dilemmas. With his best friend John (Mark Wahlberg) by his side, Ted is looking to prove his "personhood" in court so that he and his girlfriend can adopt a baby. Couldn't they just go buy a tiny teddy bear or something? Opened Jun 25.

Continuing

'71

(UK) A young British soldier (Jack O'Connell) is left behind enemy lines at the height of "The Troubles" in Northern Ireland. Injured, he must find his way back to his unit before the enemy finds him first. An arresting debut thriller by Yann Demange. ★★★

Danny Collins

(USA) Sorta based on true events, Al Pacino is the aging Danny Collins, a world-weary rock star who is inspired to change his life for the better after he receives a lost letter penned to him by the late John Lennon. A simple—even borderline cliché—tale, lifted by charismatic performances all round. ★★★

HK PICKS



Entourage

(USA) Picking up where the show left off in 2011, Hollywood's favorite bad boy Vincent Chase is back with manager/best friend E, former gopher-turned-tequila-entrepreneur Turtle, half-brother and failed actor Johnny Drama, and of course agent-from-hell Ari Gold. Making a comeback as the head of a studio, Ari calls Vinnie and the crew to star in their first feature film. Expect lots of name-dropping, celebrity cameos... and boobs. Opened June 18.



Flowers of Taipei: Taiwan New Cinema

(Taiwan) "Flowers of Taipei" investigates how Taiwanese New Wave leader Hou Hsiao-hsien and a small group of Taiwanese filmmakers set out to change Asian cinema forever. From Wang Bing to Olivier Assayas to Ai Weiwei, the documentary also asks some of the biggest regional filmmakers about how Taiwan influenced the cinematic landscape. A beautiful end product, but perhaps best left to the hardcore fans who will truly relish each slow, brooding scene. ★★★

Force Majeure

(USA/Sweden) Handsome, middle-class Tomas—husband to beautiful Ebba and father of two—finds himself suddenly, terrifyingly, forced to rise to the occasion when an avalanche ruins the family's skiing holiday in the Alps. But his insecurities and shortcomings come gushing out in a flood of fear, failure and doubt. Sharply written, beautifully filmed and ably acted, "Force Majeure" makes for deliciously dark, uncomfortable viewing. ★★★★

Jurassic World

(USA) See review, left.



The Last Five Years

(USA) Hot off the release of "Pitch Perfect 2," Anna Kendrick stars in this big screen adaptation of the 2001 Broadway musical of the same name. It's about the marriage between Cathy, a struggling actress, and Jamie, an up-and-coming writer. Their individual perspectives are told through song in opposite chronological order, only intersecting at the wedding. It's gotta be good if Kendrick is singing.

Mad Max: Fury Road

(Australia/USA) George Miller's dystopian action series from the 80s finally follows up with a fourth installment after 30 years. A road war takes place in a post-apocalyptic future across a desert wasteland. "Mad" Max (Tom Hardy) finds himself reluctantly helping the elite warrior Imperator Furiosa (Charlize Theron) cross the desert towards freedom—with a tyrant's greatest resource smuggled in tow. Get ready for the sandiest, craziest, flaming diesel-fuelledest car chase of your life. ★★★★



Midnight Diner

(Japan) Matsuoaka Joji helms this movie set at an after-hours diner. Manned by an old man referred to as "Master," the lives of countless quirky characters coincide as they descend on the tiny eatery in the dead of night. The film is all about the simple comfort of food, paired with late-night musings that lead nowhere in particular. ★★★★

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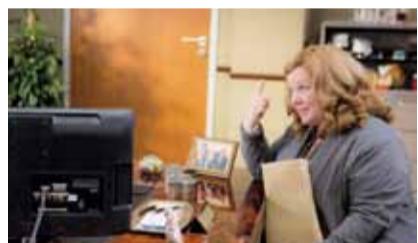
Pitch Perfect 2

(USA) Get ready pitches, the Barden Bellas are back. After winning three championships since the last time we saw them, the all-girl a cappella group is en route to their next victory, but not before a major embarrassment leaves the future of the team in question. In a quest for glory, the Bellas take on the worldwide a cappella championships. Funny, tuneful and self-aware, it's a pitch perfect sequel indeed.

★★★

San Andreas

(USA) Dwayne Johnson plays a search-and-rescue helicopter pilot who must save his daughter in the midst of a devastating earthquake along the San Andreas Fault. Expect all the disaster flick clichés, cheesy acting and awesome CGI tearing the West Coast apart. ★★



Spy

(USA) Melissa McCarthy returns in another espionage action-comedy after 2013's "The Heat." This time, McCarthy is Susan Cooper, the oft-overlooked CIA desk-agent who is tasked to go undercover to save the world after hunky male spies (Jude Law and Jason Statham) have failed.

Special Screenings



CineFan: Orson Welles, The Magnificent Magician

Check out a retrospective program of legendary film, theater and radio wizard Orson Welles, with all his greatest classics on show. Don't miss "**The Lady from Shanghai**" (Jul 12, 6:45pm), his iconic noir murder mystery; "**The Trial**" (Jul 19, 5pm), Welles' take on the Kafka novel that divided critics; and, of course, "**Citizen Kane**" (Jul 5, 5:30pm), his cinematic debut and the movie perennially considered to be one the best films of all time. Through Jul 19. Agnès B. Cinema, Hong Kong Arts Centre; The Grand Cinema. \$65.



SPL II

(Hong Kong/China) The long-awaited sequel to 2005 triad smash "Sha Po Lang" (or "Kill Zone"), which featured winning trio Sammo Hung, Donnie Yen and Simon Yam. Sadly, Yen and Hung don't return in this brand spankin' new story, in which Yam plays a new character, Uncle Wah, a cop supervising an undercover operation to catch Hung (Louis Koo), the leader of a notorious crime ring.



Taxi

(Iran) This ain't some Luc Besson remake, but a heartfelt ode to cinema and art and a candid glimpse of modern Tehran. Director Jafar Panahi bucked his 20-year ban on making films to secretly film this documentary-esque movie, posing as a taxi driver and chatting with passengers from all walks of life. "Taxi" won the Golden Bear and the FIPRESCI Prize at the most recent Berlin Film Festival—well deserved indeed. ★★★★

Twenty

(South Korea) Three Korean heartthrobs (Lee Jun-ho of boyband 2PM, Kang Ha-neul and Kim Woo-bin) star in this romantic comedy/coming-of-age epic as three best bros who make their way through life as they hit the big 2-0.



CineFan: The Graduate

Hum along to "Mrs. Robinson" all over again: CineFan is screening classic coming-of-age drama "The Graduate", which satires post-university ennui. It stars a young Dustin Hoffman as a recent graduate, who spends his aimless summer getting seduced by a foxy older family friend: but he ends up falling for her daughter. Jun 28, 5:45pm. The Grand Cinema. \$75.

National Theatre Live: A Streetcar Named Desire

Continuing on in this season of National Theatre Live, the venerable American stage masterpiece is screening at Broadway and AMC theaters through to July. In this edition, Gillian Anderson (Scully from TV's "The X Files") casts a bewitching, award-winning performance as Blanche DuBois, the disillusioned spinster who has just moved to New Orleans to live with her married younger sister Stella and her husband Stanley. Screenings held at Broadway and AMC cinemas across town. Jun 27, 3:40pm; Jun 28, 8pm; Jul 4, 8pm; Jul 11, 3:40pm. \$200.



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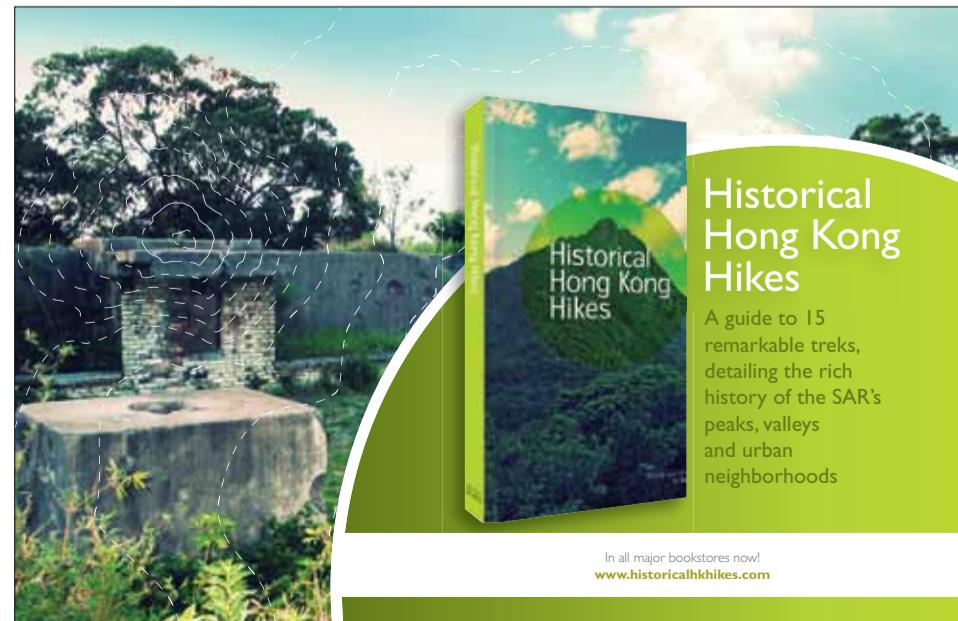
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CANDER (Jun 21-Jul 22): In its early days, the band Depeche Mode had the infinitely boring name Composition of Sound. Humphrey Bogart's and Ingrid Bergman's classic 1942 film "Casablanca" was dangerously close to being called "Everybody Come to Rick's." And before Charles Dickens published his novel "Bleak House," a scathing critique of the 19th-century British judicial system, he considered eleven other possible titles, including the unfortunate "Tom-all-Alone's. The Solitary House that was always shut up and never Lighted." I bring this to your attention, Cancerian, as the seeding phase of your personal cycle gets underway. The imprints you put on your budding creations will have a major impact on their future. Name them well. Give them a potent start.

LEO (Jul 23-Aug 22): One summer afternoon when I was seven years old, my friend Billy and I grabbed an empty jar from my kitchen and went looking for ants. Near the creek we found an anthill swarming with black ants, and scooped a bunch of them in the jar. A little later we came upon a caravan of red ants, and shoved many of them in with the black ants. Would they fight? Naturally. It was mayhem. Looking back now, I'm sorry I participated in that stunt. Why stir up a pointless war? In that spirit, Leo, I urge you to avoid unnecessary conflicts. Don't do anything remotely comparable to putting red ants and black ants in the same jar.

VIRGO (Aug 23-Sep 22): In order for everyone in your sphere to meet their appointed destinies, you must cultivate your skills as a party animal. I'm only slightly joking. At least for now, it's your destiny to be the catalyst of conviviality, the ringleader of the festivities, the engineer of fun and games. To fulfill your assignment, you may have to instigate events that encourage your allies to leave their comfort zones and follow you into the frontiers of collaborative amusement.

LIBRA (Sep 23-Oct 22): Your symbolic object of the week is a magic wand. I recommend that you visualize yourself as the star of a fairy tale in which you do indeed have a wand at your disposal. See yourself wielding it to carry out a series of fantastic tricks, like materializing a pile of gold coins or giving yourself an extraordinary power to concentrate or creating an enchanted drink that allows you to heal your toughest wound. I think this playful imaginative exercise will subtly enhance your ability to perform actual magic in the real world.

SCORPIO (Oct 23-Nov 21): The taskmaster planet Saturn wove its way through the sign of Scorpio from October 2012 until the end of 2014. Now it has slipped back into your sign for a last hurrah. Between now and mid-September, I urge you to milk its rigorous help in every way you can imagine. For example, cut away any I ast residues of trivial desires and frivolous ambitions. Hone your focus and streamline your self-discipline. Once and for all, withdraw your precious energy from activities that waste your time and resist your full engagement. And if you're serious about capitalizing on Saturn's demanding gifts, try this ritual: Write

either "I will never squander my riches" or "I will make full use of my riches" twenty times—whichever motivates you most.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22-Dec 21): The advanced lessons on tap in the coming days are not for the squeamish, the timid, the lazy, or the stubborn. But then you're not any of those things, right? So there shouldn't be a major problem. The purpose of these subterranean adventures and divine interventions is to teach you to make nerve-racking leaps of faith, whether or not you believe you're ready. Here's one piece of advice that I think will help: Don't resist and resent the tests as they appear. Rather, welcome them as blessings you don't understand yet. Be alert for the liberations they will offer.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 19): "Man's being is like a vast mansion," observed philosopher Colin Wilson, "yet he seems to prefer to live in a single room in the basement." Wilson wasn't just referring to Capricorns. He meant everybody. Most of us commit the sin of self-limitation on a regular basis. That's the bad news. The good news, Capricorn, is that you're entering a time when you're more likely to rebel against the unconscious restrictions you have placed on yourself. You will have extra motivation to question and overrule the rationales that you used in the past to inhibit your primal energy. Won't it be fun to venture out of your basement nook and go explore the rest of your domain?

AQUARIUS (Jan 20-Feb 18): "An obscure moth from Latin America saved Australia's pasture-land from the overgrowth of cactus," writes biologist Edward O. Wilson. "A Madagascar 'weed,' the rosy periwinkle, provided the cure for Hodgkin's disease and childhood leukemia," he adds, while "a chemical from the saliva of leeches dissolves blood clots during surgery," and a "Norwegian fungus made possible the organ transplant industry." I think these are all great metaphors for the kind of healing that will be available for you in the coming weeks, Aquarius: humble, simple, seemingly insignificant things whose power to bring transformation has, up until now, been secret or unknown.

PISCES (Feb 19-Mar 20): "She is hard to tempt, as everything seems to please her equally," said artist Anne Raymo in describing a hedonistic

acquaintance. A similar statement may soon apply to you, Pisces. You will have a talent for finding amusement in an unusually wide variety of phenomena. But more than that: You could become a connoisseur of feeling really good. You may even go so far as to break into a higher octave of pleasure, communing with exotic phenomena that we might call silken thrills and spicy bliss and succulent revelry.

ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 19): During my regular hikes along my favorite trails, I've gotten to know the local boulders quite intimately. It might sound daft, but I've come to love them. I've even given some of them names. They symbolize stability and constancy to me. When I gaze at them or sit on them, I feel my own resolve grow stronger. They teach me about how to be steadfast and unflappable in all kinds of weather. I draw inspiration from the way they are so purely themselves, forever true to their own nature. Now would be an excellent time for you to hang out with your own stony allies, Aries. You could use a boost in your ability to express the qualities they embody.

TAURUS (Apr 20-May 20): "Everyone is a genius at least once a year," wrote German aphorist Georg Christoph Lichtenberg. "The real geniuses simply have their bright ideas closer together." According to my astrological analysis, Taurus, your once-a-year explosion of genius is imminent. It's even possible you will experience a series of eruptions that continue for weeks. The latter scenario is most likely if you unleash the dormant parts of your intelligence through activities like these: having long, rambling conversations with big thinkers; taking long, rambling walks all over creation; enjoying long, rambling sex while listening to provocative music.

GEMINI (May 21-Jun 20): "I think if we didn't contradict ourselves, it would be awfully boring," says author Paul Auster. "It would be tedious to be alive." But he goes even further in his defense of inconsistency, adding, "Changing your mind is probably one of the most beautiful things people can do." This bold assertion may not apply to everyone all the time, but it does for you in the coming weeks, Gemini. You should feel free to explore and experiment with the high art of changing your mind. I dare you to use it to generate extravagant amounts of beauty.

HOMEWORK: You know what to do and you know when to do it. Provide the evidence that this is true. FreeWillAstrology.com.

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SAVAGE LOVE

Dan Savage

I am a male grad student who is technically engaged to a female grad student. She has numerous positive qualities, but she is repulsed by sex. She is very sensitive about her repulsion and becomes distraught when I broach the subject. She says that even the thought of doing anything sexual with me elicits a panic attack. She also insists that she is "broken" because, in the hopes of preventing me from leaving her, she forced herself to go further than she felt comfortable. We are both virgins, and the furthest that we ever went sexually was cunnilingus. She has never seen me completely naked or expressed any interest in making love with me. When she revealed that any form of sexual affection prompted panic attacks and psychological distress, I decided to call off our engagement. She proceeded to threaten to kill herself and blame me for her aversion to sex. I agreed to continue the relationship but insisted that we postpone marriage. She refuses to go to couples counseling. I love her and enjoy her companionship, but my sexual self-esteem is devastated. I feel rejected and bitter, and I am still with her mainly because of guilt. She also holds strong religious convictions, although she denies that this contributes to the situation. She claims that she always had a weak libido and that bodily fluids (especially semen) disgust her. Finally, despite her use of oral contraceptives, she fears pregnancy. She also disapproves of my family and friends, my interest in science, my distrust of religion, and my use of antidepressants. My questions: (1) If I did cause or contribute to her sexual aversion, do I have a lifelong obligation to remain with her? (2) Barring cheating, the impetus for her decision to break up with a previous boyfriend, what other options do I have? (3) Could her sexual aversion ever dissipate? (4) Could her sexual aversion stem from asexuality?

- Gradually Escalating Threats Obligate

Unending Togetherness

1. You are not obligated to stay with this unpleasant woman for the next 50 years just because you made the mistake of proposing to her. And even if she started fucking you, GETOUT, do you really want to be with her?

2. Why bar cheating? If taking herself hostage is so intimidating that it prevents you from breaking up with her (threatening to kill herself = taking herself hostage), then go ahead and cheat on her, or pretend to cheat on her, and let her break up with you.

3. Her sexual aversion may dissipate over time. Or it may not. But someone who doesn't want to fuck someone—and she clearly doesn't want to fuck you—rarely starts wanting to fuck that someone down the road. So she may get over her sexual aversion in time, but she'll probably be fucking someone else when she does... even if she's married to you.

4. Could be that, sure. But unless you're willing to live a sexless life with a manipulative spouse who disapproves of your family, friends, meds, etc., the root cause of her sexual aversion is irrelevant.

I am getting married to my partner next month. I'm super pumped. Her family is awesome and supportive. I've had a long back and forth with my family about the wedding—including inviting them and saying how much it would mean to me if they would come. I'm trying to be the bigger person, even though they have never been supportive of me as a queer person. I suspect some of them are not coming, as I got a pretty intense email from my sister-in-law about how my family can't support my

engagement because blah blah Catholic blah. Yesterday was the RSVP due date, and none of them have responded. So it is now to the point where I'm going to have to call and outright ask if they're coming and potentially absorb all their rejection personally. Here's the kicker: I found out through Facebook that my brother, who I used to think was my ally (he said that he and his GF were going to try to make it to my wedding), is getting married seven days after we are! And he forgot to invite me?! So with this knowledge, what am I supposed to say when I call asking for RSVPs?

- Please Please Please Help

You are not going to absorb your shitty family's rejection personally, PPPH, because you are not going to call each and every shitty member of your shitty family to personally ask each individual shit if they're coming to your wedding. The shits aren't coming—adjust your seating charts accordingly. And you know what? You don't want these shits at your wedding. You don't want to see your shitty sister-in-law's sour face when you look out at your guests. You don't want to see your shitty brother's face—the shit throws you noncommittal shitty scraps and then in a shit move fails to invite you to his own wedding—when you cut the cake. You want people at your wedding who love and support you, who love and support your relationship—and your shitty family has made it abundantly clear that they are incapable of loving and supporting you.

It's worse than that: Your shitty family has made it clear that they will seize any opportunity to wound you. So stop creating those opportunities. Don't send any more invitations, don't make any more phone calls, unfollow the fuckers on Facebook. Devote a week to grieving your loss—this kind of rejection is painful—and then resolve to focus on your wife-to-be, your education, your friends, and your career. Focus on the life you and your fiancée are embarking on together. She's your family now.

My boyfriend and I have been together almost two months. Lately, he doesn't seem that interested in investing in our relationship, but when I talk to him, he says the opposite. We are a bit long-distance (he lives an hour away). Two weeks ago, he went home to visit his parents. I was going to see him when he got back, but he said he wasn't feeling well. Then last week, he went to his best friend's wedding. Now he tells me he's got to go back home this weekend to get his laptop. Through all this, his texting responses have gone down to where I am lucky to get a reply. If we are on the phone and the call drops, he doesn't try to call me back, and he never answers when I call him back. I'm just trying to keep the lines of communication open, especially since we don't see each other all the time, but he is making it difficult. What would be the best way to approach this?

- Boyfriend's Absences Worry Lonely & Invested New Girlfriend

Don't call or text your boyfriend for two weeks. If he doesn't call or text you in that time—and he won't—then you cancel your three-month anniversary party. My hunch is that this relationship has been over for a while, BAWLING, but your boyfriend lacks the decency to put you out of your misery. Looking on the bright side: You won't have to waste any of your money on a traditional three-month anniversary present—a bag of Cool Ranch Doritos—or any more of your time on this guy.

On the Lovecast, Dan and the infinitely delightful Jason Schwartzman chat and chat and chat: savagelovecast.com.

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

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FIRST PERSON



Photo: Tony Leung @ Dot Workshop

“Dig up the dirt and make a difference.”

From her student days as a Maoist firebrand to more recent roles covering politics, **Diana Lin** has been a recognizable figure in local news for more than 30 years. Now presenter and senior executive producer at TVB Pearl, she describes her colorful career to Dan Creffield.

I attended Diocesan Girls' School from kindergarten to Form 5, where I quickly realized I had an interest in creative writing.

The school didn't have a newspaper then, so I took over a noticeboard where I posted short stories, poetry and news items. It was not the pressure cooker it is now!

My father had his own garment business, and I had an upper middle class upbringing in Kowloon. I have happy memories of riding my bike and playing with my dog.

Myself and my siblings—a brother and three sisters—all went to the US for university. After Form 5, I was accepted by an experimental college in Michigan.

In 1968 there were radical groups and riots on campuses everywhere in the US. Ivy League dropouts took over our college and it eventually folded.

After I got a degree, I was planning to head back to Hong Kong but an opportunity came up to do a fine arts degree at the San Francisco Art Institute. I thought 'Why not?'

The 70s was a very unconventional time in the Bay Area and I was quite influenced by that. While studying, I worked with a local leftist newspaper.

I also joined a Maoist group called I Wor Kuen, Chinatown's answer to the Black Panthers. We tried to emulate Beijing's political system and ideology.

Ironically the founders were the children of Taiwanese generals!

We read Mao's Little Red Book and sang patriotic songs like "The East is Red."

One of Mao's quotes was "Political power comes out the barrel of a gun," so some I Wor Kuen members packed guns.

But in reality, we used them mainly as props in the plays we used to put on!

I always felt motivated politically, wanting to change the world. That's why I became a journalist, hoping to make a difference.

It was a pretty wild and very creative period in San Francisco. The government launched an affirmative action program for Third World artists and hired me as a muralist. I painted exterior walls and interior hallways.

Around that time, I married a black lawyer and applied for a green card. But the authorities rejected my application.

My student visa had expired and I was deported.

Back in Hong Kong, I got a job with a women's fashion magazine. I traveled to Paris and London to interview fashion icons such as Karl Lagerfeld and Bernard Lanvin.

This gave me a taste for journalism but the magazine wasn't really my thing.

After a couple of years I switched to newspapers and worked as feature writer and columnist with The Star, Hong Kong's first tabloid newspaper, and The Standard.

A former colleague then asked me to join RTV, which was eventually sold to Deacon Chiu, who turned it into ATV. I was chief reporter and anchor.

The early 80s were very exciting times. Margaret Thatcher visited Beijing and the Sino-British talks on Hong Kong's future were launched.

Because they were confidential, you had to cultivate sources in order to learn anything.

The common refrain through official channels was that the discussions were "useful and constructive."

I moved to Tokyo and Beijing, spending two years in each place as a freelancer.

In Beijing I learned Putonghua and the workings of China's politics.

Beijing was a quieter place in those days. I saw the first supermarket open there. And it was quite easy to approach officials for interviews.

Then ATV asked me to come back to Hong Kong to head up its current affairs and documentary shows.

In Beijing, I stumbled upon a demonstration that mushroomed into a massive pro-democracy movement, paralyzing Beijing and culminating in June 4.

I joined TVB in 1991, anchoring and overseeing English daily news reporting. Later I switched to documentaries and current affairs programs.

I have voted in every direct election in Hong Kong since the early 80s, for the Urban Council, District Council and Legislative Council and always for pro-democracy candidates.

I always advise my team that they have to dig up the dirt and make a difference.

My daughter studied biology. She abhors politics!

I love Hong Kong because it is my home. It is where most of the people I love best in the world are, and where I can do whatever I want, except genuinely elect the Chief Executive.

NEED TO KNOW...

A prominent network news journalist in Hong Kong for many years, Diana Lin is a former presenter of TVB Pearl's flagship evening news program, and currently host and senior executive producer of The Pearl Report, Money Magazine and Pearl Finance.



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