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KISS ME, STINKY TOFU



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How to Win an Election

The New Territories East by-election has given rise to rumors of impropriety, as elections everywhere so often do. Pro-Beijingers are regularly accused of enticing the elderly in with the promise of free food after they vote; a counter-rumor says that opposition parties told the old folk to hang on to their ballots as receipts, or they wouldn't get the food at all. We've got some more great underhanded ideas for election success.

Make the Mark Six Work for You.

- This is a complex multipart plan, but the rewards are considerable.
- 1) Locate polling booth locations in busy commercial areas.
 - 2) With a little lick of blue and yellow paint, disguise the polling booths as Hong Kong Jockey Club outlets.
 - 3) Release a number of operatives into the surrounding areas. They will walk into crowded restaurants and stores, proclaiming that they know the next winning Mark Six jackpot. This is the number of your candidate.
 - 4) The word will spread and thousands will flock to the nearest betting place, which is your cunningly disguised polling booth.
 - 5) Congratulations, you have suborned this election AND made \$400-something million in clandestine betting revenues. Go buy yourself a Mark Six ticket to celebrate.

Super Tuesday.

In the United States, "Super Tuesday" is the day on which several states all conduct their primary nominations at the same time, acting as a barometer for the actual presidential race. In Hong Kong, "Super Tuesday" will just be a Lan Kwai Fong happy hour where you serve people \$50 beers and a few plates of crappy tapas as long as they vote for your guy. Never underestimate the drunken LKF vote.

Retarget the Localists.

The localist vote did extraordinarily well in the recent by-election, with Hong Kong Indigenous's Edward Leung picking up 66,000 votes—that's 15 percent of all votes cast. But fortunately, Localists are all about the micro view. You just have to narrow that laser-like focus to something more micro still: we suggest plastic Gundam robots or Tamiya model cars. That way they'll never leave the house, and your election's an easy win.

Learn from the Masters.

Previously missing bookseller Lee Po has just reappeared on mainland TV, insisting that he left Hong Kong illegally simply in order to help mainland police with a case. Those interested in engineering results should be asking the mainland authorities for some advice on making the improbable happen, cause it looks like they're REALLY good at it.

Glory in the Power of Democracy.

In this novel scheme, just concede that a) The opposition has no power to introduce bills in Legco and can only vote to obstruct or oppose legislation b) Even the pro-government parties can do little to influence actual decisions—so this is all a waste of time and it doesn't really matter who wins anyway.

Who's in charge?

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HOME



Mr. Know-It-All's

— Guide to Life —

Dear Mr. Know-It-All,

Which was the first shopping mall in Hong Kong? — Mall Rat

It's curious to think of, but yes: There really was a time when Hong Kong had no shopping malls at all. But the first shopping mall in the city is also the most iconic: Ocean Terminal, opened on March 22, 1966.

The complex was built by the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company on the site of its original premises. The company, now known as The Wharf (Holdings) Limited, started up in 1886 to manage the godown dockside warehouses at the very tip of the Tsim Sha Tsui peninsula. But in the 60s Wharf realized it was sitting on prime real estate. The city was beginning to boom: money was starting to pour in and tourism was taking off.

And that's when Wharf had the bright idea that was to sustain a business empire: to turn its stretch of dockyard into a cruise terminal. Flights might have been expensive, but in this sea-oriented city, ships would be able to dock in its very heart.

And what would await visitors when they arrived? A collection of the city's finest shops, selling luxury goods tax-free, the perfect gifts for your loved ones back home.

But it became more than that, of course. The shops piled in and soon Ocean Terminal became a refuge for ordinary Hongkongers too—not least because it was air-conditioned, and free to visit.

Ocean Terminal holds a nostalgic spot in the hearts of all Hongkongers, most of whom have memories of the

long, labyrinthine shopping mall. Mr. Know-It-All has fond recollections of Toys "R" Us and the birthday balloons-on-a-keychain at Dan Ryan's Chicago Grill. Its occasionally naval aesthetic feels a touch cramped these days, but recent renovations have turned the entire block into the sprawling Harbor City complex, making it—at over two million square feet—the largest shopping mall in the city.

There's one other secret to Ocean Terminal that you might not know. The rooftop of the cruise terminal stretches out into the harbor, and once a year it plays host to the Marco Polo Hotel's Oktoberfest celebration. But the rest of the year it's... just a car park. A car park with an unbeatable view of the most unbeatable harbor in the world. Pick a day when a cruise ship hasn't docked, and go visit. Take a camera. It might not be the wisest use of space—but we wouldn't have it any other way.



Send us your dock pics

My Perfect
HK

This week in My Perfect HK:
International Women's Day falls on Tuesday, March 8. In China, all women get half a day off work (we like the sound of that). But this day isn't just to celebrate women and all that's wonderful about them: It's also a day to remember that women are often paid less than men for the same jobs and domestic abuse and sexual assault are very real problems. Help out the Women Helping Women charity, which works to provide assistance to families facing domestic abuse and violence in Hong Kong: whwhk.org.

Letters

"A selfie taken in the middle of Nathan Road would be awesome."

Super Selfies

Responses to our online story about the dangers of selfies in the city ["Hong Kong Selfie Deaths 'a Matter of Time,'" published February 29]:

No kidding. I would have thought that was obvious.

Gary Lent

I saw a guy the other night wearing a t-shirt that said: "Go Fuck Your Selfie"... Hahaha!!

Bill Saupe

A selfie taken in the middle of Nathan Road would be awesome. I'd actually applaud that one.

Traci Tong

Lai See Society

A reader responds to our Hongkabulary, "Lai See Limit" [February 26, issue 1134]: The point at which you switch from lai see cash back to your regular cash, or the point at which you can stop giving out lai see.

Grown person (single) receiving red envelope is too silly. Who on earth started this strange ritual in Hong Kong? Other Asian regions give New Year pocket money for kids (2-16yrs).

Ken Iwaki

Ball Call

Facebook readers respond to an online story discussing a study which shows that men who keep their phones in their pocket during the day have a significantly lower sperm count ["Can Hong Kong Men Keep Their Sperm Healthy?," published February 26].

Maybe it's nature's way of saying there are too many ppl in HK!

Iain Cocks

But boys who keep their eyes only on the mobile phone, and not on pretty girls.... do not 'need' sperm.

Robert J MacFarland

and... eating too many chemical-laced food from PRC.

Drinking too much chemical-laced water from PRC. Using too many chemical-laced items from PRC. Breathing in too much polluted air from PRC.

Stephanie Ng

#PrivateEyeHK



The Revolution Will Not Be Televised

Photo by Jeremy H Greenberg (Instagram: @JeremyHGreenberg)

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

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THE WEEK



Friday 3/11 Think Pink

Celebrate Friday with something pink! Head to Azure Restaurant Slash Bar for their "Pick Your Pink" rooftop after-work party, where you can enjoy some fine rosé (including a rosé-pong tournament!) and great tunes by live DJs, all with the city's skyline as backdrop. We just hope your face doesn't turn pink from all the boozing...
Starts at 6pm. Azure Restaurant Slash Bar, 29-30/F, Hotel LKF by Rhombus, 33 Wyndham St., Central, 3518-9330.

Friday 3/4 Shine Bright Like a Diamond

Looking for something sparkly to start the weekend? Glam it up and learn to make your own jewelry at **L'École Van Cleef & Arpels**. The Paris-based jewelry school returns to Hong Kong for the second time, with a selection of 10 courses providing hands-on experience with precious gems.
Mar 4-14, The Qube, PMQ, 35 Aberdeen St., Soho. \$3,300-6,200 from hk.lecolevanclerefarpels.com.

Saturday 3/5

Chimichurri Fury

Meat and electro-lovers, rejoice: Argentinian steakhouse Gaucho is launching a brand new weekend "Electro Brunch" for party-goers to recover from the night before with bottomless bubbly, bass-centric beats by a live DJ and of course, gorgeous hunks of meat including the signature "Tira de Ancho"—a spiral cut ribeye slow-grilled and served with chimichurri.
Sat-Sun, 11am-3pm. Gaucho, 5/F, LHT Tower, 31 Queen's Rd. Central. 2386-8090. \$450, add \$100 for free-flow wine, beer, cocktails and spirits, \$150 for free-flow champagne.

Sunday 3/6

A Lobster You Can't Refuse

Lily & Bloom is bumping up the weekend festivities with new lobster treats paired with all-time favorite film classics. The **Sunday Funday** promotion allows diners to feast on delicious lobster dishes including lobster mac & cheese (\$295) while watching classic movies. First up: "The Godfather" on March 6.
Sun, 6:30pm. Lily & Bloom, 5-6/F, LKF Tower, 33 Wyndham St., Central, 2810-6166.

Monday 3/7

Get Movin'

Check out new drama "**Danz Up**" to get some high-octane dance moves into your life. Award-winning homegrown choreographer Shing Mak and more than 20 young dancers and actors are transformed into urban dance warriors, showing off street styles such as hip hop, jazz funk and pop-and-locking.
Mar 5-13, various times. Auditorium, Kwai Tsing Theatre, 12 Hing Ning Rd., Kwai Chung. \$140-240 from urbtix.hk.

Tuesday 3/8 Who Runs the World?

Happy International Women's Day! Ladies: stick together to show some girl power. And what better way than by hitting up **Ladies' Night** at Bungalow and drinking for free with your squad from midnight (take tomorrow off work)? Oh, and if you're the kind of patriarchal jerk asking "When's International MEN'S day?"—it's November 19.
Starts at midnight. Bungalow, Shop 2, G/F, The Centrium, 60 Wyndham St., Central. 2623-7868.

Wednesday 3/9 Fin-ished Off

Did you know that more than half of the world's shark fins are traded through Hong Kong? Help protect these endangered creatures at the Hong Kong Shark Foundation's "**Cocktails for Change**" fundraiser. Get your groove on at Play while helping raise awareness about shark conservation—all with free-flow drinks and canapes (sans shark fin, of course).
7-10pm. Play, 1/F, On Hing Building, 1 On Hing Terrace, Central. \$600-1,000 from ticketflap.com.

Thursday 3/10 Good Taste

It's set to be one of the biggest foody events in town: **Taste of Hong Kong** debuts today with 13 of the city's finest restaurants. You'll get to sample signature dishes from these restaurants—with a combined total of eight Michelin stars—all in one go for the ultimate gourmet journey. Check out our dining feature (p.20) for a full guide to the festival.

Saturday 3/12 Graffiti Talks

It's not just swear words and spray paint, you know. Learn more about street art at "**Dialogue with Graffiti Art**," an exhibition showcasing graffiti art created by teenagers in the city, paired with hip hop performances led by rapper Heyo, DJ Don and Buddy Crew. Still not convinced? You can also get your hands dirty by trying it yourself.
Noon-5pm, Jockey Club Amphitheatre, Academy for Performing Arts, 1 Gloucester Rd., Wan Chai, 9015-1506.

Coming Up

Basel Calling...

It's officially March and that means the city's art month has arrived. Get your best artsy turtleneck ready for a range of shows and exhibitions, and don't miss out on the grand event: **Art Basel**. One of the largest art fairs in the world, this year the fair will host 239 of the world's top-notch art galleries, displaying a variety of modern and contemporary art by over 4,000 artists.
Mar 24-26. HKCEC, 1 Expo Drive, Wan Chai. \$180-850 from hkticketing.com.

BREAD STREET

KITCHEN & BAR

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T 2230 1800 | www.diningconcepts.com

NEWS

Last Week In Reality



SAT 20

Off the Rails At 2pm, a 46-year-old man wants to change trains at Fan Ling MTR station. He jumps down from the platform and walks across two sets of train tracks to the opposite platform, then climbs up. MTR staff spot someone on the tracks and call in an emergency, preventing trains from entering the station. The man is fined for violating MTR regulations and causing a train service delay of two to three minutes.

SUN 21

Hard Crimes In the afternoon, police enter a Tin Shui Wai apartment and arrest Hong Kong Indigenous spokesperson Ray Wong and a 28-year-old friend on charges of inciting others to participate in a riot, as well as the possession of a prohibited weapon and controlled substances. Police seize potentially dangerous fertilizer chemicals, as well as an extendable baton, an "electromagnetic gun," several "V for Vendetta" masks, \$530,000 cash and a large amount of erectile dysfunction medication.

MON 22

Robin Who? Reporters from Oriental Daily investigate the archery range in Ngau Chi Wan Park and find that the protective netting is insufficient, with rips and tears in the netting. Public toilets, offices and the parking lot are all right behind the range. Reporters also find that one of the steel doors of the garbage room has been dented by repeated arrow strikes.

TUE 23

Stealing from the Cops Around 5pm, railway police officers patrolling on Castle Peak Road near Tai Wo Hau MTR station discover that the police attendance register book placed in the station has been stolen. More police officers arrive to search the area, but the book cannot be found. Police urge anyone who might have witnessed the theft to contact them.



WED 24

Saw You At around 11am, a man is walking past a bus stop at Shek Lei Pui Reservoir when he comes across two old men, aged 65 and 70, clandestinely cutting up a six-meter fallen tree with a saw. He suspects them of illegal activities and calls the police. They claim that they had found a beehive on the trunk and were trying to collect honey from it. They are arrested on suspicion of criminal damage.



THU 25

Foot Fetish? At around 4pm, a man boards an East Rail MTR train to visit his relatives on the mainland. As the train approaches Tai Wai station, two men approach him. One of them grabs his leg and begins rubbing it, while the other uses the distraction to steal RMB5,000 from his pockets. They run off before the train doors shut. The dumbfounded man tells the police that he thought the thief was having a seizure. The two are still at large.



FRI 26

Foul Landing At around 3am, a Ukrainian woman meets a Russian man in a bar and goes home with him. After a few drinks, she becomes emotional and threatens to jump from the window of his 11th floor sub-divided flat. The man is unable to stop her and she flings herself out of the window, bouncing off a clothes rack before crashing into a pile of garbage on the fifth floor podium. She is wounded but is still conscious and is rushed to the hospital.

Quote of the Week

"I would like to remind CY Leung... the government officials and the Hong Kong police, that there is something in this world called 'karma.'"

Furious Hongkonger Kwan Wing-yi berates the government over its limited proposal for the Universal Retirement Protection Scheme, as well as other injustices, during a public Legco hearing. The diatribe went viral.

Talking Points

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

Sports Ground First Aid: HA!

Hong Kong has more than 120 sports grounds and stadiums which have first-aid boxes, but a few recent incidents have made them look **woefully incomplete**. A woman was exercising at Lam Tin South Sports Centre in February when she sprained her hand: She was taken to the medical room, where she discovered that **most of the items in the first-aid box were out of date: The disinfectant had expired in December last year, and the hypoallergenic tape the month before**. A similar incident occurred in Chun Wah Road Sports Centre, in which a woman who sprained her foot was told that **the venue had no analgesic spray, and could only provide ice and bandages**. A government spokesperson said that they had not been aware of the issue, and would strengthen inspections of first-aid supplies.

Our Take: Yet another reason never to exercise...

Facebook Screws CY

On February 26, Facebook implemented a new feature: **emoji icons alongside the "like" button**. Hongkongers soon picked up on this **new way to express their dissatisfaction with the government**. CY Leung posted a photo of himself attending a Chinese New Year celebration banquet on his Facebook page on that same day, and it garnered **over 1,000 "angry" faces within half an hour**. Meanwhile, CY's **profile picture currently has over 177,000 angry faces**. Facebook explained the addition of the new "Reactions" feature, saying "there should be more ways to easily and quickly express how something you see in News Feed makes you feel." **At time of writing, Leung's banquet post has attracted over 119,000 angry faces**. Financial Secretary John Tsang, who recently announced his ninth budget, has **no angry faces on his Facebook page**.

Our Take: 😂😂😂

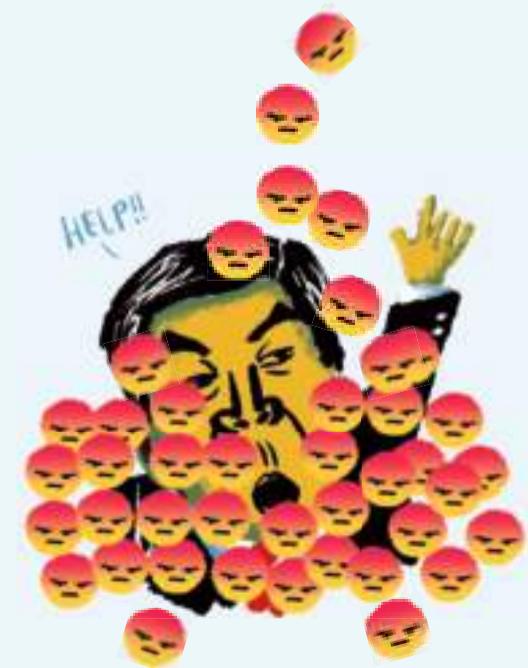
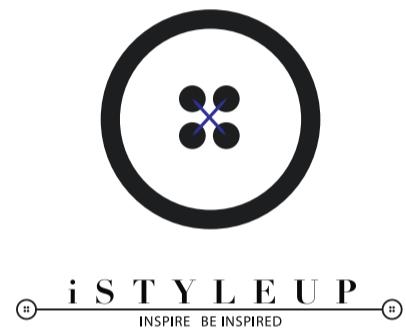


Illustration: Elaine Tang



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Street Talk

Once a drug addict and a dealer, 35-year-old **Wong Ying-ming** now volunteers in a rehabilitation center as a peer counselor, encouraging people to quit drugs by sharing the story of his own struggles. He tells Isabelle Hon about his history with substance abuse and how he's cleaned up his act for good.

HK Magazine: When did you first start taking drugs?

Wong Ying-ming: It was 20 years ago when I started doing drugs. I was playing basketball with my friends one day and they started passing marijuana around. I was young, and I felt like if I didn't participate then I wouldn't fit in with the team. Before that I had never smoked, and I never imagined that I ever would. Three years later, some of my friends wanted to go to a disco, and I was curious because I had never been. I still remember taking ecstasy that night and I guess that was when I first started to get addicted. When I was taking it, I was thinking, "Will I die from this?" Later on I felt very high, my body was moving and swinging naturally, like I was flying.

HK: How did you get into dealing?

WY: It was easy for me to get drugs, so the idea of being a drug dealer naturally emerged. If I needed to buy it anyway, why shouldn't I sell it to other people and earn money? There were huge discos in Tsuen Wan with thousands of people dancing and doing drugs. Selling drugs to people made me feel important—that was my stupid thinking in the old days. And I also did make money from it. Once I even used my earnings to open a chicken pot shop.

HK: Were you ever caught by the police?

WY: I am very lucky indeed. Police only made raids on nightclubs, and I was never caught. One time the police found out about me and came to my apartment. My grandma answered the door and once they saw a baby in the house, all they did was give me a warning. If they had looked around my bedroom, I would have definitely been caught! Maybe the police saw there were so many people in my house and wanted to give me a chance that time.

HK: So when did you finally stop taking drugs?

WY: Police raided almost every nightclub in 2004. I quit ketamine, but later started taking ice [crystal meth]. It's much stronger, and I couldn't sleep. I also had illusions and paranoia—I felt like people were following me, and even wanted to kill me.

Then I met a girl—she actually pulled me out of a dumpster! After that, we started dating and I started to live like normal people. But five years later, I met another girl who took cocaine and the cycle started all over again. Cocaine is a very expensive drug, we spent around \$3,000-4,000 a night. I started having trouble urinating and my stomach and bladder were in so much pain. I had to go to the toilet around 60 times a day. I couldn't work because of it, and the doctor told me if I kept taking drugs, I would need to get a catheter. I really couldn't imagine this—so I decided to quit for good.

HK: How did you force yourself to quit?

WY: I volunteered to live in Shek Kwu Chau Treatment & Rehabilitation Centre for 13 months. I tried to live a healthy lifestyle and do exercise. The first three months was torture. But I didn't want to be useless, and I was determined to quit drugs. Also, I realized how important my family was to me. I wrote letters to my friends and got no reply, but my family came to visit me every month. After eight months, I finally turned my life around.

HK: How do you think your story can help encourage others to quit?

WY: I used to sell drugs which hurt a lot of people, and nowadays I really want to help people instead. When I quit drugs, social workers helped me a lot. To be a social worker is really meaningful. I want to tell young people what I've been through, and help them not to follow down the same path. I go talk at different schools, and appear on TV and radio shows to encourage people to give up drugs. We still have a long way to go, and drug addicts really need a lot of support to help them quit.

HK: How has your own life changed?

WY: I really want to help people. Nowadays my values have changed, and even the tiniest thing can make me feel happy.

Think you have a drug problem?

Visit nd.gov.hk/en/services_psa.htm for a list of drug treatment programs.

Blowing Water

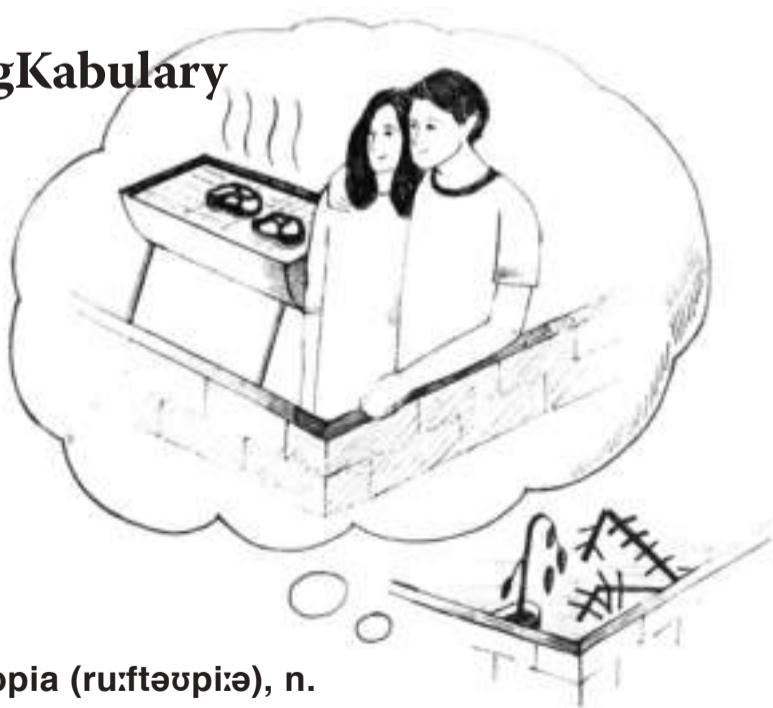
吹水 (*chui sui*), v. Cantonese slang. To chat, bullshit.

cau1 seo2
抽水

"DRAW WATER"

"Grope / take advantage of." Either has a sexual connotation or describes a company or politician jumping on a bandwagon for gain. Also refers to the house's cut of gambling winnings.

HongKabulary



Rooftopia (ru:ftəupi:ə), n.

The false illusion of a perfect world in which you have a flat with a rooftop and use it every weekend throughout the year.

"Let's pay \$2k more for this place! We can have BBQ parties every weekend!"

"Even in August? You're just living in a rooftop."



10-13 March

taste[®] OF HONG KONG

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South China Morning Post invites you to attend

Taste of Hong Kong

presented by Standard Chartered

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The **South China Morning Post** is giving away **40 pairs of general admission tickets*** to the best culinary festival of the year. At this foodie wonderland, you will get to taste the finest signature dishes cooked by world-class chefs served against the spectacular view of the Hong Kong skyline. Top that off with exciting and interactive masterclasses, shop from artisan producers, enjoy live entertainment and you have the most bountiful foodie event in town.

hongkong.tastefestivals.com

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SCMP

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Make every day matter

Flavor Savior

Define your palate with these Cantonese cuisine flavor charts. Are you blander than white rice, or do you like a little bitterness in your life?

By Adam White, Evelyn Lok and Xavier Ng

鮮
sin

Fresh

There's nothing more important in Cantonese cooking than freshness. From caught-that-day fish to vegetables that have just been pulled out of the ground, freshness is king.

Try it... Good sashimi always has that fresh-sweet taste. Try some wallet-friendly omakase at **Sushi Man** (Shop 5, Lee Fat House, 5 Yan Lok Square, Yuen Long, 2285-9477).

香
heung

Aromatic

This implies a heady aroma, of spices being dry-fried in a wok (*bao heung*, "exploded into aroma") until the whole room is full of smells that are both earthy and heavenly at the same time.

Try it... The **Yuan Heng Spice Co.** (19 Tung St., Sheung Wan, 2542-0275) sells spices from every corner of the world to kickstart your cooking.

濃
nung

Intense

A strongly-flavored brew is said to be *nung*, a mix of flavors that are almost too much.

Try it... Nothing is *nung* like Hong Kong-style milk tea. Head to **Lan Fong Yuen** (2 Gage St., Central, 2544-3895) and order one of their classic silk-stockings milk teas—to go. There's no reason to wait around.

甜
tim

Sweet

There's always a pinch of sugar in your food, even if you didn't know it.

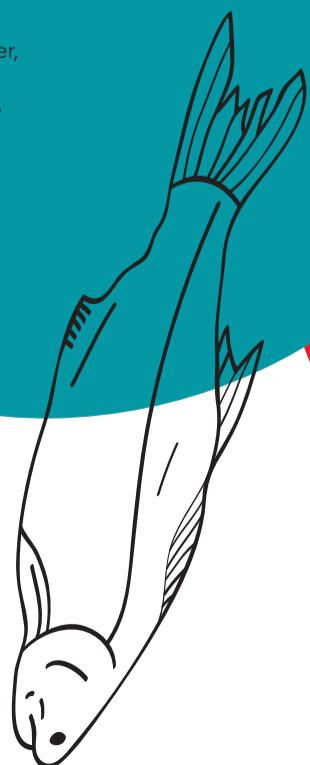
Try it... The quintessential Hong Kong dessert: mango pomelo sago, served in coconut milk. Get this classic dish from the place it was invented: **Lei Garden** (Various locations including Shop 1003, 10/F, Times Square, 1 Matheson St., Causeway Bay, 2506-3828).

鹹
haam

Salty

Salt is pervasive in Hong Kong cooking, from salted fish to ubiquitous soy sauce.

Try it... Salted duck egg yolks lend a rich salinity that works perfectly with seafood, such as with the salted egg yolk prawns at **Shun Kee Typhoon Shelter** (Causeway Bay Typhoon Shelter, 8112-0075), where you're served your meal on a sampan in the middle of the harbor. Just try not to think about the cholesterol...



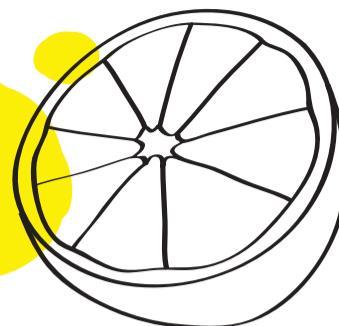
酸

suen

Sour

The perfect balance to sweet flavors, usually brought out in dishes made with vinegar.

Try it... Sweet and sour pork is, as the name would imply, both sweet and sour. Try the posh version at **Mott 32** (B/F, Standard Chartered Building, 4-4A Des Voeux Rd. Central, 2885-8688), which uses aged black vinegar for a refined twist on a classic.



苦

fu

Bitter

A classic Cantonese flavor, challenging... but rewarding.

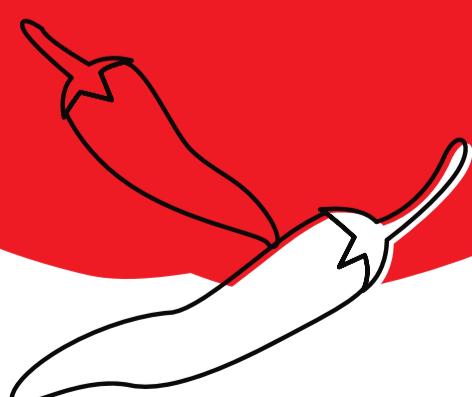
Try it... The classic bitter dish is stir-fried bitter melon with beef and black bean: Soft velveted beef fights against the bitter crunch of the melon for a truly Cantonese combination. Hit up the open-air dai pai dongs of **Temple Street** for a meal that's half-touristy fun, half-quintessential Hong Kong.

辣

laat

Spicy

Spice may not be indigenous to Hong Kong food, but we've embraced it with open arms.



酸辣

suen laat

Sour-spicy

Try it... Suen laat tong, hot and sour soup, is a northern Chinese specialty. Central's **Wang Fu** (65 Wellington St., Central, 2121-8089) serves up a huge bowl of the Beijing dish for affordable prices.

香辣

heung laat

Aromatic-spicy

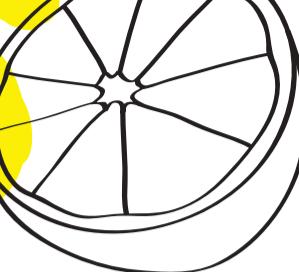
Try it... At the sprawling **Under Bridge Spicy Crab** (G/F, Ascot Mansion, 421-425 Lockhart Rd., Wan Chai, 2834-6268) pretty much EVERYTHING is drowned in enormous amounts of deep-fried garlic and chili.

Numbing-spicy

Try it... Nothing beats numbing-spicy like Sichuan food. Get your I-can't-feel-my-face-when-I'm-with-you fix at **Sijie** (10/F, Bartlock Centre, 3 Yiu Wa St., Causeway Bay, 2802-2250) for a perfectly balanced numb-athon.

麻辣

maa laat



涩

gip

Tart

Astringent, sharp, bitter notes that make you pucker are said to be *gip*. It's also the word used for tannins: The slogan for Vita Ceylon lemon tea is *gip dak hei*—"tart enough!"

Try it... Red wine is often described as *gip*, making this an easy flavor to get your head around.

Bittersweet

An often medicinal flavor, *gum* is a rounded aftertaste following a bitter first note, like a dark-roast coffee.

甘

gum

Try it... Get your *gum* fix with some *bat sin gwor*, or "eight immortal fruit." This snack is a dried, herbed fruit that's cut into cubes, and it's great if you have a cough. Get a bag at preserved sweetery **Yiu Fung** (various locations including 2A Pak Sha Rd., Causeway Bay, 2576-2528).



Tongue Tales

But it's not all flavors. As any self-respecting foodie will tell you, texture and sense are just as important in Chinese cuisine.

Al dente

彈牙 (daan nga)

Try it... Any properly made, properly cooked noodle has a springy texture that leaves a little bit of bite in the mouth. **Lau Sum Kee Noodle** (48 Kweilin St., Sham Shui Po, 2386-3533) is one of the very few in town to still knead its noodles with bamboo poles, working the gluten into the perfect daan nga texture.

Tender (young)

嫩 (nuen)

Try it... This kind of tenderness implies youth: So pea shoots, young choi sum or veal steak can all be nuen.



Crisp

脆 (chui)

Try it... You know something is chui at first bite. Go get yourself a real Hong Kong spring roll at **Fook Lam Moon** (35-45 Johnston Rd., Wan Chai, 2866-0663) for that lovely noise.

Hard

硬 (ngang)



No one likes a stiff one.

Tough/Chewy

韌 (ngun)

Like a really overcooked steak.



Soft

軟 (yuen)

Try it... Yuen is a softness most often applied to gummy sweets or candies.



Tender (soft)

膾 (lum)

Try it... Overcooked noodles can be lum, but it's also a good thing when we're talking tenderness. The falling-apart beef brisket noodles at **Sister Wah** (G/F, 13A Electric Rd., Tin Hau, 2807-0181) nail this texture.



Crunchy

爽 (song)

Try it... Song mostly applies to fruits and vegetables like apple and cucumber that are fresh and crunchy, but it can also mean the texture of beef tendon—bouncy but with a bit of bite.



Fluffy

綿 (meen)

Try it... Meen is literally "cotton." A good congee is said to be meen because it's as light and fluffy as a ball of wool. Get a good "cottony" bowl of congee at Sheung Wan's **Sang Kee** (G/F, 7-9 Burd St., Sheung Wan, 2541-1099).



Smooth/glossy

滑 (waat)

Try it... Cheung fun rice noodle rolls and smooth tofu dishes are both the much-prized waat. Find out what's waat with the sweet gingery tofu fa dessert at Lamma island's **Kin Hing Ah Por Tofu Fa** (1 Yung Shue Wan, Tai Wan To, Lamma).



Silky soft

絲 (si)

Try it... Dragon's beard candy is the perfect example of si. This street-side snack of spun sugar consists of thousands of silken strands that melt in the mouth.



Alkaline

鹹 (gaan)

Try it... Alkali or lye water gives wonton and egg-based noodles their springiness. It can lend a gentle tang in small amounts but too much overpowers the dish. See how it should be done at **Tsim Chai Kee** (98 Wellington St., Central, 2850-6471).



Pure

清 (ching)

Try it... The best ching food is the simple home cooking that mom used to make when you were sick. Get your fix of nourishing broths and home-style dishes at **Kau Gor Double-Boiled Soups** (88 Jervois St., Sheung Wan, 2111-0904).



Ripe

宿 (suk)

Used to describe musty notes or the inside of your fridge.



Sticky

黏牙 (chi nga)

Sticky rice is good; but something that's chi nga is just annoying.



Attacking the nose

攻鼻 (gong bei)

Literally offensive to the nose.



Greasy

油膩 (yau lei)

If you need to soak it up, it's not good for you.



Bland

淡 (taam)

Meh.

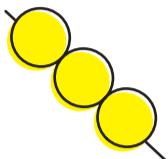


It's Tongue Time

Put all those newfound flavors to work at the Taste of Hong Kong Festival on Mar 10-13: check out p.20 for more!

Taste Test!

OK, so you know the words. Can you match them to these flavorful foodstuffs?



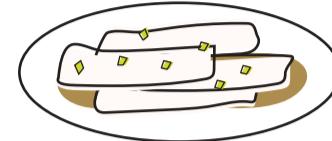
1. Curry fishballs



2. Wah mui salted prunes



3. Curry beef brisket rice



4. Cheung fun rice noodle rolls with prawns



5. Stinky tofu



6. Durian (if you like it)



7. French kissin'

- The Answers:
- daan naga (springy), heung laat (aromatic spicy), heung lat (fresh)
 - gum (bitter-sweet), yuen (soft-tender)
 - suen (sour)
 - heung (aromatic), heung laat (aromatic spicy), lum (tender-soft)
 - wat (smooth, glossy), sin (fresh)
 - Gong bei (attacking the nose), lum (soft), chui (crunchy, on the outside)
 - Gong bei (attacking the nose), lum (sweet)
 - All of the above, depending on who you're with.

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The Hong Kong Dream

Hong Kong photographer Christopher Button presents his first solo exhibition "**Some Dreams**." His quiet, subtle images show off a different side of Hong Kong, one of introspection and reflection. Or maybe we're all just constantly exhausted?

Mar 4-6. Ethos, 93, 97, 99 Hill Rd., Shek Tong Tsui.



"Long Day" by Christopher Button

THE SELFIE SAFETY GUIDE

A report from data studio Priceonomics has revealed that globally, 49 deaths in the last year are due to people trying to take selfies in dangerous locations. In other words, more people died in 2015 from taking selfies than from shark attacks. Hong Kong has yet to witness a selfie-related fatality, but we want to help eliminate the problem before it becomes a phenomenon. By **HK staff**



DO NOT SELFIE WHILE DRIVING

Dashcams to catch accidents and outlandish viral videos: Fine. Selfies of yourself lipsyncing to Taylor Swift until you crash into a water buffalo: No.

Exception: You're on a hoverboard and therefore deserve what's coming to you.



DO NOT SELFIE WHILE ESCAPING FIRES

If you become engulfed by flames, by the time you find the perfect Instagram filter, you will be dead.

Exception: You're eating at one of those restaurants where they set stuff on fire.



DO NOT SELFIE AT A PROTEST

You don't want to make it about you, and there's a good chance you'll get hit in the head by a flying brick.

Exception: You are CY Leung, so the protest really *is* about you.



DO NOT SELFIE FROM PRECARIOUS PLACES

You're on a junk trip, you're eight beers deep, and you need to pose somewhere dangerous. Control the desire and crack that ninth can instead!

Exception: You're flawlessly athletic.



DO NOT SELFIE WITH THE DEAD

You will get your ass kicked by the family.

Exception: You are the person in the coffin.



DO NOT SELFIE DURING SEX

It's just tacky and your partner will probably hate you.

Exception: You're an exhibitionist couple who own a GoPro and a chest harness.



ESCAPE ROUTES

Edited by Daniel Creffield
daniel.creffield@hkmagmedia.com

**Let's Leopard**

There comes a time in everyone's life when they have to heed the call of the jungle (ideally without having to rough it too much)—but are you up to the challenge?

If the turquoise waters of Bali have lost their sheen, and the throbbing hedonism of Khaosan Road is simply too tiresome, heading into the jungle might be just what the doctor ordered. One of the latest properties to join the boutique Secret Retreats collection is **Noel Rodrigo's Leopard Safaris**. The camps are located in Yala and Wilpattu Parks in Sri Lanka, while the campsites are made up of non-permanent structures, ensuring minimal impact on the parks. Worried about braving it in the wilderness? Rest easy on king-sized beds along with other modern comforts.

As well as leopards you can expect to come in contact with sloths, elephants, deer, birds, reptiles and other wildlife. The all-inclusive experience includes accommodation, drinks, two game drives per day, all meals and snacks, national park fees and taxes, as well as tailored packages for those traveling with children and those on their honeymoon.

All-inclusive rates start from \$6,600 for two people per night, secret-retreats.com/leopardsafaris.

Hit the jungle in Sri Lanka

**Sleeping with the Bushmen**

Flight Centre is offering a well-priced, eight-day **Botswana & Victoria Falls Adventure** which will take you from Namibia to Zambia on an African adventure. You'll have the opportunity to meet San bushmen, see the elephants of Chobe National Park and explore the Okavango Delta by dug-out mokoro canoes. And you can forget five-star hotels and 1,500 thread count Egyptian cotton sheets—you'll be overnighting in traditional bushmen huts (not every night, don't worry).

The journey all begins in the scorching Kalahari Desert, where you'll check out traditional dance group performances before hitting the great wildlife habitat of the Okavango Delta on dug-out canoes. You'll then be paddled deep into the delta before arriving at the bush camp.

By the time you hit day six it's all about the elephants, which you have a decent chance of seeing at Chobe National Park, which is home to the largest pachyderm population in Southern Africa. Day seven takes you to a Zambezi River crossing, Livingstone and Victoria Falls with

optional white water rafting on the Zambezi River and bungee jumping at the falls.

Flight Centre packages start from \$14,399 and include seven nights in a variety of accommodation, most meals, transport between destinations, and some activities and excursions included.

Focusing on the wildlife, **Kenya and Tanzania Overland** is an equally affordable 10-day trip which offers a lot of Africa action. Heading into the Serengeti savannah you'll be hunting the Big Five (with cameras. Sorry, American dentists). All-terrain adventure vehicles and camping will keep you close to the action. In addition to game drives in Lake Nakuru National Park, Masai Mara Game Reserve and Musoma/Serengeti National Park, you can expect boat rides, bird watching on the shores of Lake Victoria, Ngorongoro Crater/Arusha, viewing Mount Kilimanjaro and more.

Packages start from \$17,999 and include nine nights of camping at "simple" hotels, some meals and transport, entrances and game drives. flightcentre.com.hk, 2830-2899.

The Jungle Book

India's a little-thought of safari destination, but the country is rich with easily explored wildlife. **&Beyond's Tiger & Jungle Safari** in North India will take you seriously off the beaten track and back to nature. This 11-day India tour visits some of the country's amazing cultural attractions and jungle safaris, covering five destinations, starting with Delhi, where you'll spend a couple of days exploring the city's markets, mosques and minarets.

The next stage takes you deep into Mowgli, Baloo and Bagheera territory with explorations of Kanha National Park. You can expect to get up close and personal with deer, monkeys, wild boars, tigers, leopards, sloths and more than 300 species of birds, all from the comfort of Banjaar Tola Tented Camp in the park itself. Days six to eight take

you to Bandhavgarh National Park, which boasts a thriving tiger population. Spend three nights at Mahua Kothi Jungle Lodge meeting Tigger and pals, before flying to Varanasi, a city on the banks of the River Ganges and one of the oldest inhabited cities in the world for sightseeing and a sunset boat ride. From there you'll fly on to Delhi and catch the train to Agra to explore Agra Fort and of course the Taj Mahal.

The fully inclusive rate per person is \$72,700 and includes shared accommodation, all transfers, sightseeing and overland trips and most fees.

&Beyond is offering a range of discounts and/or free nights; for details see andbeyond.com.



Just a Taste

The inaugural **Taste of Hong Kong** festival hits Central Harbourfront on March 10-13.

Leslie Yeh scopes out the must-sees and must-eats.

WHAT IS IT?

Calling itself the "world's greatest restaurant festival," the Taste Festival has successfully launched in 22 cities since opening in London back in 2004. This year the festival arrives in Hong Kong with a bang, featuring 13 of the city's top tables, along with celebrity chef roundtables, wine and champagne tastings, hands-on workshops, food demos and artisanal food tents. With a jam-packed four-day schedule of gustatory thrills for food fans, the Taste of Hong Kong is set to make a mouthwatering mark on the city's dining scene.

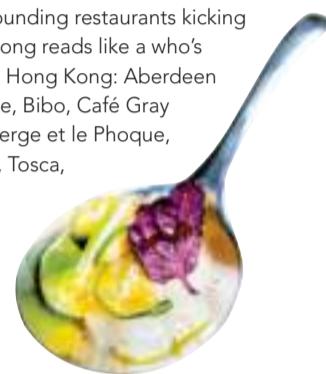


Amber's Ebisu oyster with seaweed and potato

WHAT TO HIT:

Menu Hop

The all-star line-up of the founding restaurants kicking off the first Taste of Hong Kong reads like a who's who of the hottest tables in Hong Kong: Aberdeen Street Social, Amber, Arcane, Bibo, Café Gray Deluxe, Chino, Duddell's, Serge et le Phoque, The Ocean, Tin Lung Heen, Tosca, Yardbird and Ronin. Create a **custom menu** with dishes from your favorite restaurants—each has four available—with sample plates ranging from \$50-120.



Take a Taste Test

Join Hong Kong's top chefs at the **Taste Theatre** as they whip up signature dishes and favorite recipes. Hosted by Debbie Wong of the Food Network, cooking demos will reveal secret cooking techniques and arm you with tips for your next dinner hosting. Our tip: A squeeze of lemon rarely goes wrong.

Get with the Bubbles

Get giddy on bubbles at the ritzy **Laurent Perrier Champagne Bar**. A dedicated masterclass will teach you about pairing each wine with signature dishes from the Taste of Hong Kong restaurants, with a focus on detecting aromas and taste in glasses of Cuvée Rosé Laurent-Perrier, Vintage 2006, Ultra Brut Laurent-Perrier and the prestigious Cuvée Grand Siècle.

Bottle Your Own Wine

Dedicated wine connoisseurs should make their way over to the **"Make Your Own Blend"** wine blending workshop with Aussie winery Wynns Coonawarra Estate, where you'll learn to appreciate the fragrance and unique characteristics of different varietals. Combine signature bottles of Cabernet, Shiraz and Merlot in your own customized fruity blend, and take the results home with you.



Go Behind the Scenes

Chefs from Flint Grill & Bar of JW Marriott Hong Kong and Dynasty Restaurant at the Renaissance Hong Kong Harbour View Hotels let foodies in on their signature dishes and drinks at the **Marriott Kitchen**. Meet the experts behind the stove and get all your cooking Q&As answered: Maybe we'll even get the secret of Dynasty's legendary char siu.



Table Talk with Chef Daniel Doherty

A regular at Taste of London and winner of the festival's "Best in Taste" award three times in the last four years, chef **Daniel Doherty** of London's Duck & Waffle restaurant brings his quirky British cooking and his famed "Duck & Waffle" dish (left) to Hong Kong. **Leslie Yeh** sits down with him to get an inside look at what to expect.

HK Magazine: What are you looking forward to on your trip to Hong Kong?

Daniel Doherty: I'm not that familiar with Hong Kong's dining scene, but everyone I know who has been has totally raved about it, stating it as one of the best foodie cities in the world. I can't wait to try everything from street food to the restaurants featured at Taste. I'm also really looking forward to meeting the other chefs too.

HK: Can you describe your signature "Duck & Waffle" dish? What makes it such a huge hit?

DD: Our signature "Duck & Waffle" includes a crispy confit duck leg sitting on a fluffy Belgian waffle, topped with a duck egg and mustard-infused maple syrup. I think it's popular

MUST-EAT
DISH

due to the fact that it's a true 24-hour dish.

It lends itself to any time of the day, which really encapsulates what Duck & Waffle is all about.

HK: What will you be checking out at the festival?

DD: I couldn't possibly choose—there are too many to pick from! We are hosting a dinner at Aberdeen Street Social on March 11 so I'm really excited to see what they have on offer at the event. Also, the Taste Theatre will be a prime event with chef cooking demos. You can catch me there Friday at 1:30pm.

HK: Do you have any exciting plans in the works?

DD: Asia is a huge opportunity for us so we are actively exploring opportunities for Duck & Waffle in Hong Kong and beyond, so stay tuned!

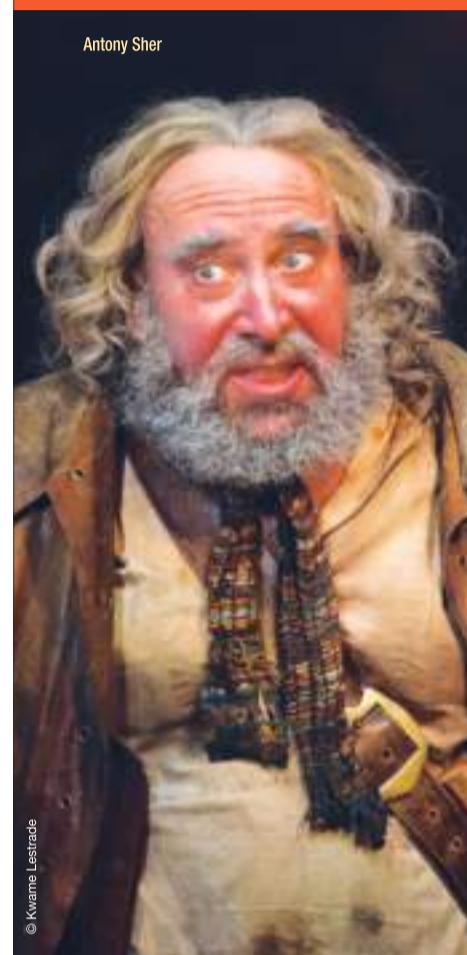


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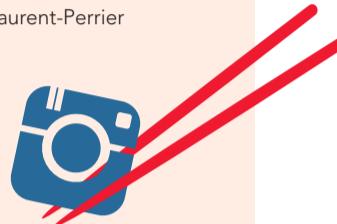
Alex Hassell



#HKMagDish

Instagram Competition!

We're giving five lucky readers two entrance tickets each, plus a bottle of Laurent-Perrier champagne! Simply follow us @hk_magazine and tag your best foodie shot with #HKMagDish. Winners will be announced online and contacted on Mar 7!



Learn from the Masters

Wondering how to kick off a culinary career? At the **Chef's Table** you'll be able to take part in a series of intimate roundtable discussions with the chefs of Taste of Hong Kong to get a look behind the scenes of a Michelin-starred kitchen, get top tips on styling restaurant food at home, and learn how to get a head-start in a career in cooking.

Educate Your Palate

Like wine, sake can take a lifetime to learn about the different varieties and nuances, from rice-centric aromas and earthiness to floral scents and cloudy vs. uncloudy sakes. Get a head start at the **Sunday's Grocery Sake Bar**, which presents six unique styles of sake from top Japanese producers along with a preview of the history, production methods and flavor profiles.



FOOLPROOF FESTIVAL TIPS

What to wear: Loose pants and a long, billowy shirt. Now's not the time to think about festival flings (save that for Clockenflap), but rather how much foie gras you can stuff in your face without a visible stomach bulge showing.

What to bring: Your appetite and your camera phone. It's not a meal until you've Instagrammed it (and hashtaged us #HKMagDish, of course).

Who to bring: Your most gluttonous foodie friend—you know, the one who urges you to order McD's at 2am and asks for super-sized fries.

Who to ditch: The friend who tries to drag you to CrossFit at 7am the morning after.

How much cash to bring: \$200-500 if you want "just a taste"; \$500-1,000 if you're the type who orders EVERYTHING on the menu.

Need to Know...

Date: March 10-13

Location: Central Harbourfront Event Space, 9 Lung Wo Rd., Central

Tickets: \$138 (\$168 weekend); \$438 premium ticket (\$468 weekend) includes \$300 festival currency; \$598 VIP ticket (\$648 weekend) includes \$300, access to Stella Artois VIP Lounge and three complimentary drinks. Tickets from ticketflap.com/tasteofhongkong.

Website: hongkong.tastefestivals.com

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

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What comes after

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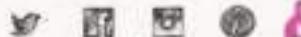
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FIRST BITE

We tuck into the hottest new tables in town.

A New Breed of Beast

With a retail shop and restaurant rolled into one, the new Le Bistro Winebeast delivers a one-two punch.

If you need plenty of elbow room at the dinner table, you might never have set foot in the old Winebeast, hidden off in an obscure alley behind Wan Chai Market. The tiny French bistro packed 25 guests in like sardines—but with its affordable wines and a specials board which proffered up new gems on each visit, the place had us going back time after time. But after a year and a half somewhat hidden in the shadows, a brand new two-story, 800-sq.-ft. space on Thomson Road is set to catapult this charming French restaurant into the spotlight.

The new Winebeast is quadruple in size, but retains the je-ne-sais-quoi charm of the original, thanks in large part to ebullient sommelier Cristina Ducroquet, whose magnetic smile and personality make it nearly impossible to turn down her enthusiastic wine suggestions. Thankfully, you won't need to. One of the most knowledgeable sommeliers we've met in Hong Kong, Cristina is dedicated to her craft, effortlessly explaining the nuances in aroma, acidity and body that make up Winebeast's extensive 600-bottle wine cellar. Best of all, each wine you buy is sold at retail price, without the usual sky-high restaurant markup.

In the kitchen, her husband chef Johan Ducroquet is just as brilliant, serving up a menu of French comfort food classics that rotates every 2-3 months. The addition of "Frapas"—i.e. French tapas, bite-sized starters which range from \$38 for one to \$128 for four—is great for those who can never decide between the charcuterie and the croquettes, although fans of Winebeast's famous beef tartare might be disappointed by the smaller portion. The plus side is you'll get to sample a wider



*"It's one of
the best things
we can remember
having eaten."*

RESTAURANT REVIEWS

Urban Park ★★★★★

European. 4/F, 20-22 Granville Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, 2751-1999.



We set out to Urban Park with one goal in mind: to deepen the bonds made at brunch with a platonic girlfriend. The Urban Weekend Semi Buffet Brunch (\$299 from 11am-3pm Sat-Sun; includes a buffet salad bar, soup, main and dessert) seemed like the perfect place to do this, with \$139 add-on for free flow G&Ts, Bloody Marys and Prosecco.

■ HIT Not much, unfortunately. The food was mediocre, but on the plus side the alcohol came at lightning speed—and the two servers, one male and female, were so attentive we would call it doting. At one point, the male waiter,

who we may or may not have fallen in love with, brought a bottle of Absolut Vodka to the table and simply said, "Tell me when."

■ MISS The grilled prime ribeye steak (\$259 à la carte) was a rubbery piece of meat smothered in a generic black bean sauce. Worse, it was served with a stir-fry of canned baby corn—although the fries that came with it were a tasty saving grace. The Boston lobster pasta (\$239 à la carte) was also disappointing, a rubbery tail covered in a salty roe pawned off as caviar and served with a bland tomato sauce.

■ BOTTOM LINE Eat breakfast at home, then head to Urban Park for some raucous, alcohol-fueled bonding. Few places in Hong Kong will let you pound down as much undiluted alcohol as you want on a weekend for just \$139—and with eager service to boot.

**Open Mon-Fri 11:30am-11pm,
Sat-Sun 11:30am-midnight. \$\$.**

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

Edited by Leslie Yeh
leslie.yeh@hkmagmedia.com

range, from petite burgundy snail croquettes to a cauliflower salad marinated with a punchy fennel and green apple vinaigrette.

But you don't want to ignore the specials menu. When we visited, it boasted a Winebeast signature in-the-making: A plump lobe of seared foie gras resting side-by-side perfectly cooked pigeon breast, wrapped in delicate puff pastry and drizzled with a truffle-infused jus—it's like an upgraded beef Wellington and one of the best things we can remember having eaten recently.

Another notable new feature is the semi-open kitchen, so you can now catch chef Johan's team hard at work. According to Cristina, this means more freedom for the kitchen to play with increasingly creative, time-consuming preparations. It also means you can take the time to congratulate the kitchen staff—it's about time someone shed a little recognition on this not-so-hidden-anymore gem. **Leslie Yeh**

Recommended: Foie gras terrine, beef tartare, sea bream ravioli, confit beef paleron, chocolate dome (Feb-March menu).

Prices: Starters \$98-168, mains \$198-328, four-course food and wine pairing \$558.

Open: Mon-Sat, noon-11pm; closed Sundays.

G/F & 1/F, Tai Yip Building, 141 Thomson Rd., Wan Chai, 2782-6689,
wine-beast.com/le-bistro.



Stuffed Cabbage Quail and Pan-fried Foie Gras

"This succulent dish has some hints of classical French cuisine, with fine aromas from Perigord black truffle, foie gras and perfectly cooked quail. It's fast becoming a favorite dish of our guests this month!"

—Chef Johan Ducroquet

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

Café Hong Kong ★★★★★

Cantonese/Dim Sum. G/F, 15 Hollywood Rd., Central, 2806-0220.



This café aims to evoke the 1960s/70s era of "bing sutt" dining, with classic Hong Kong comfort foods and vintage posters meant to evoke nostalgia.

HIT If you grew up eating in cha chaan tengs, you'll find a familiar menu at Café Hong Kong, from pork chop with rice (\$72) to lap cheung and chicken rice pot (\$78) and spaghetti with beef (\$68). The USP is that everything is made MSG-free with higher quality ingredients. We took advantage of the \$80 all-you-can-eat-in-90-minutes lunch deal (11am-2pm daily), which is great value given the prime Central location. The double-boiled

chicken soup (\$28 à la carte) warmed us right up, puffy steamed buns oozed with sweet custard (\$29), and the golden-fried French toast was a guilty treat (\$30).

MISS They seem to be teetering between deals, but from what we gather it's now a 60-minute-long buffet for lunch (\$80) and dinner (\$120). If you can't snag the promotion, expect to pay almost twice as much for a dish that probably tastes better at your local mom-and-pop cha chaan teng. The beef balls were too springy to offer any real substance (\$29) and we were done after two bites of the watery curry with tough beef brisket (\$88). But that's not the worst part: Service is even surlier than most cha chaan tengs, with three servers staring down our uneaten food and one rudely asking, "Are you going to finish that?"

BOTTOM LINE Almost \$100 for an average-tasting cha chaan teng dish AND offensive service? We'll pass.

Open Mon-Sun 11am-midnight. \$

Our Policy

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



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www.facebook.com/HKMagazine

Follow us on Facebook to stay up to date with the best of everything in Hong Kong, in easily digestible and extremely likeable, shareable bites. We've got exclusive giveaways and more, plus you can argue with idiots in the comments. What's not to love?

HK

CITY STROLL

Shek Kip Mei

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

immigrants, and the district grew from there. Nowadays

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

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SHAM SHUI PO

CHEUNG SHA WAN RD.



Jimmy Lau via Flickr

1 Nam Shan Estate Podium Playground

Nam Shan Estate is a photographer's dream. These residential blocks were built in 1977 and still have that nostalgic charm, with one Hongkonger's photo of this spot even winning him a prize in the Sony World Photography Awards 2015. Swing by and see if you've got what it takes to break double digits on Instagram, at least.

Nam Shan Estate Podium Playground,
Nam Shan Estate, Shek Kip Mei.

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WOH CHAI ST.

BERWICK ST.

TAI PO RD.

NAM CHEONG ST.

SHEK KIP MEI ST.

SHEK KIP MEI

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CUHK MBA Admission Coffee Chat

Considering an MBA? CUHK MBA, a World Top 26th MBA, is possibly your best choice. Come join our admission Coffee in Central on Mar 16 (Wed), meet our alumni, current students and admissions team in a small group setting and learn more about our world-class MBA program.

CUHK MBA Programs,
The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Tel: (852) 3943 7782
www.cuhk.edu.hk/mba



KELVIN GIORMANI – Now in Hong Kong

Kelvin Giormani has established for 8 years and there are over 60 KELVIN GIORMANI Gallery in renowned cities, such as Tokyo, Sydney, Casablanca, etc. Kelvin Giormani specializes in tailor-made high-end leather sofa with excellent leather sewing and stitching skills. Now, please come to KELVIN GIORMANI Hong Kong Gallery to feel and touch the quality design with craftsmanship.

Shop B, G/F, Lok Moon Mansion,
29-31 Queen's Road East, Wanchai, H.K./
T: 2111 9824

"Eggstra" Fun Easter at Harbour Plaza 8 Degrees

Get yourself and your family be thrilled to a fruitful Easter holiday with Easter-themed delicacies and fun-filled activities. Easter Lunch, Tea and Dinner Buffet is available from March 25 to 28, exciting activities as Clown Show, Balloon Twisting, Bunny Hunt Game and Egg Painting Competition await to pamper all.

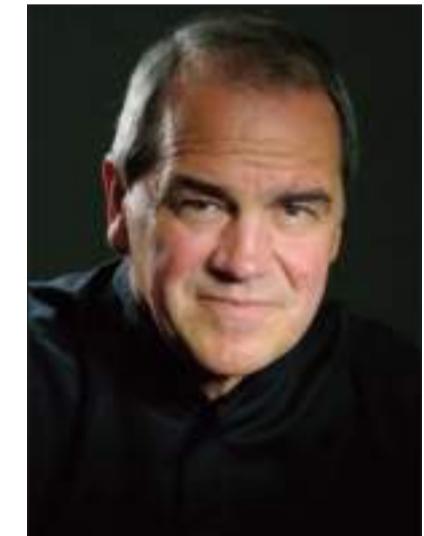
RSVN / Order / Info:
Tel: (852) 2126 1960
Email: fnb@hp8dcatering.com



HKPhil performing Pictures at an Exhibition

Mussorgsky's beloved Pictures at an Exhibition, originally written for piano and orchestrated by Ravel, crowns this programme of Russian fairy tales and folk flavours. The HK Phil welcomes back Hans Graf to conduct, and Russian star violinist Dmitri Makhtin playing Prokofiev's Violin Concerto no. 2.

Programme Enquiries: 2721 2332
www.hkphil.org



Prost by King Ludwig – Open now!

Newly stationed at Miramar Shopping Centre, this one of a kind Beerhall features fresh authentic German cuisine and libations in an open concept. Located on the rooftop, guests can enjoy drinking and dining al fresco on our beautiful patio with nightly live entertainment. Prost is equipped for seating up to 250 making this a perfect spot for large group gatherings, events and parties.

Shop 3013 A&B, 3/F., Miramar Shopping Centre., 132 Nathan Road, Tsim Sha Tsui
Tel: 2473 0168



MEET THAI CELEBRITY CHEF PETER PITAKWONG

RIVA will be transformed to an iconic destination bar in the coming September. As a celebration to our new dining experience and thank you to our loyal customers, RIVA will present the final, but more than exciting culinary tour as internationally acclaimed celebrity chef Peter Pitakwong showcases a tailored cosmopolitan dining experience blending exotic flavours of Thai, from 9th – 12th March 2016.

RIVA and The Deck
The Park Lane Hong Kong, a Pullman Hotel
Reservations: 2839 3327
www.parklane.com.hk

Before & After Chemical Hair Care

Many people like to perm and colour their hair for a new look, but such treatments can be quite harmful. Svenson's newly introduced 'Sulfate Free' colour retention product line helps deep cleanse hair without stripping colour. Also adds moisture, radiance and shine. Use prior to and a few days after colour treatment. Take action to enhance and protect your hair now!

Address: Room 2401-02, ACE Tower,
Windsor House, 311 Gloucester Road,
Causeway Bay
Booking hotline: 2907 0838 or
www.svenson.com.hk



M+ Sigg Collection

Between 23 Feb and 5 Apr, M+ presents M+ Sigg Collection: Four Decades of Chinese Contemporary Art. Through more than 80 works by 50 artists – including Ai Weiwei, Fang Lijun, Geng Jianyi, Huang Yong Ping, Zhang Peili and Zhang Xiaogang – this is the first-ever chronological exhibition about the emergence and the development of Chinese contemporary art.

More details:
www.westkowloon.hk/siggcollection
1/F Cornwall House, Taikoo Place
979 King's Road, Quarry Bay, Hong Kong



CULTURE

UPCLOSE: MARGARET CHO



about—giving voice to what lies just beneath the surface of the world.

HK: Where does your humor come from?

MC: I am very in tune with everything around me, and so inspiration comes from everything and everywhere. I try to be open to it! I am constantly writing and thinking about my work, whether that is jokes, songs or scripts.

HK: What inspired your "Psycho Tour"? How crazy is it gonna be?

MC: It's best if it's crazier! It is a show about the healing nature of anger and it should be crazy and uplifting. We are often told to forgive, but I don't believe in forgiveness. I don't want to take the high road. I don't want to be the better person. I think that this itself is funny, like a rebellion against the nature of peace, but it ends in a peaceful conclusion. You get your feelings expressed. You get the anger out—and that is healing.

HK: Do you think you're an angry person? How do you cope with anger?

MC: I actually don't think I am an angry person at all, because I have let it all go—it's fun to just let it burn brightly and then it's gone.

HK: How is this show different from your past shows?

MC: It's always new material, but this show goes a lot deeper. I am grateful that I can go into areas that are not traditionally comedy "zones." I feel like I am onto something really great!

Check out the "Psycho Tour," Mar 8-9 at 8pm, King George V School, 2 Tin Kwong Rd., Ho Man Tin. \$380-680 from ticketflap.com.

Photo: Mary Taylor

American stand-up comedian **Margaret Cho** is coming to Hong Kong for her first ever Asia tour. She tells Xavier Ng about her comedic journey, her inspirations, and what to expect from her upcoming "Psycho Tour."

HK Magazine: You are finally coming to Asia! What took you so long?

Margaret Cho: I really don't know! But I am really excited that I get to come now. I have toured everywhere else! Hopefully I can come to Asia regularly now, like I do with Australia and Europe.

HK: How did you get your start in the comedy scene?

MC: I have been a comedian for over 30 years. I started as a kid, basically. I really knew that this was what I wanted to do. I became a comedian in order to escape my own childhood. It was the fastest way to becoming an adult. It saved my life.

HK: How does comedy make you a better person?

MC: I think that it makes you more apt to listen, to others and to yourself. Comedians must pay attention—then point out what others haven't noticed. That is what comedy is ultimately

Classical



Guangdong Music Under the Tree: Chaozhou Music & Guangdong Music

Listen to classical Guangdong tunes at these two concerts which take place literally under the trees. Staged at the Six Arts Terrace of Kowloon Walled City Park, the two concerts performed by the Hong Kong Chiuchow Music Ensemble and Guangdong musicians will showcase some of the best of the genre. History, music... and did we mention those trees? Mar 19-20, 2:30pm. Free.

The Pianist

A hilarious circus show... featuring a piano? Performed by Kiwi actor Thomas Monckton and produced by Finnish circus company Circo Aero, it's a comedic performance with two stars: the actor and his grand piano. Mar 11-12, 8:15pm; Mar 12, 3pm. Theatre, City Hall, 5 Edinburgh Place, Central, \$180-240 from urbtix.hk.

Dance

Arirang of Mount Paektu

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



Lover

A collaboration between Taiwan's U-Theatre, German composer Christian Jost and Grammy-winning classical choir Rundfunkchor Berlin, "Lover" is a musical theatrical exploration of love itself. Featuring over 80 dancers, drummers, martial artists and singers, this performance takes texts from ancient Chinese poems and the work of E.E. Cummings, making it a one-of-a-kind marriage of Chinese and western cultures. Mar 5-6, 8:15pm. Grand Theatre, Cultural Centre, 10 Salisbury Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, \$140-520 from urbtix.hk.

Comedy

Stand Up Comedy Live!

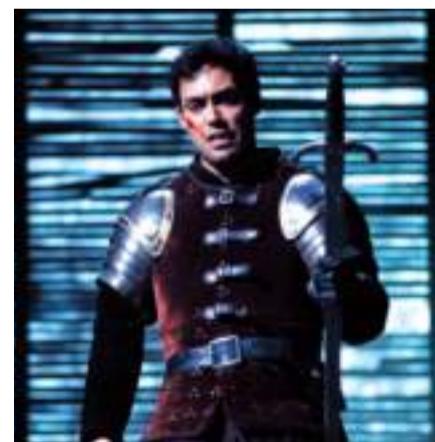
Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with not one, not two, but three Irish comics—Andrew Stanley, John Lynn and Karl Spain—at Punchline's upcoming all-Irish show. There's no dress code but we suggest... go green? Mar 17, 8pm; Mar 18-19, 9pm. Tamarind, 2/F, Sun Hung Kai Centre, 30 Harbour Rd., Wan Chai, \$350 from ticketflap.com, \$290 for purchase before Mar 8.

Tom Cotter

"America's Got Talent" runner-up Tom Cotter brings his quickfire wit to Hong Kong. The award-winning comedian will be cracking jokes at TakeOut Comedy. Mar 17, 8pm; Mar 18, 9pm; Mar 19, 8pm, 10pm. Champs, 209-219 Wan Chai Rd., Wan Chai, \$250-300 from takeoutcomedy.com.



Theater



King and Country

To commemorate the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's death, Britain's Royal Shakespeare Company comes to Hong Kong to perform a section from his legendary history plays. "Henry IV" parts I and II and "Henry V" cover the rise of the legendary British king. Uneasy lies the head... Mar 4-13, 7:30pm; Mar 12-13, 2pm. Lyric Theatre, Academy for Performing Arts, 1 Gloucester Rd., Wan Chai, \$200-680 from urbtix.hk.



The Illusionists

Magic, illusion and mind-reading come together straight from Broadway to Hong Kong. An ensemble of top-flight magicians brings their individual specialties to this group show. Did you ever see the movie "Now You See Me?" It'll be like that, only not awful. Apr 14-24, 7:45pm. Grand Theatre, Cultural Centre, 10 Salisbury Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, \$445-995 from lunchbox-productions.com, available from Feb 22.

Festivals

Hong Kong International Young Readers Festival 2016

Little literary lovers rejoice: the Hong Kong International Young Readers Festival returns for its fifth edition. The two-week event will present a roster of award-winning and bestselling authors from around the world including Irish writer Sarah Brennan (right), with talks, interactive workshops, readings and more targeted at young people with the reading bug. Mar 7-18, various times and locations. Tickets from youngreadersfestival.org.hk.



Classes & Workshops

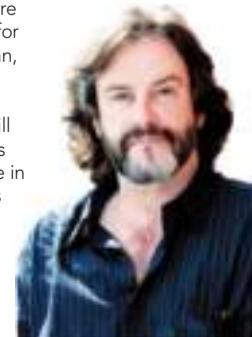
West End Dance Workshops

So you've got dreams of becoming the next big thing? Learn how to make that happen with West End star Ashley Cooper. Having worked on hit musicals around the world including "We Will Rock You" and "Matilda the Musical," Cooper's in town to teach you choreography from some of the best-known West End musicals, plus he'll have some audition pointers too. Get ready for your close-up... Mar 10, 5-6:45pm. Studio 12, 5/F, Academy for Performing Arts, 1 Gloucester Rd., Wan Chai, \$450 from dancehk.eventbrite.hk.

Talks & Seminars

Shakespeare 400 Years

Come away from Shakespeare omnibus "King and Country" with more questions than answers? O, for a muse of fire! Gregory Doran, artistic director of Royal Shakespeare Company, talks about why Shakespeare is still so popular 400 years after his death, his enduring influence in modern theater and answers other questions about the legendary playwright. Mar 11, 2-3pm. Grand Hyatt Hong Kong, 1 Harbour Rd., Wan Chai, \$100 from hk.artsfestivalplus.org.



Exhibitions

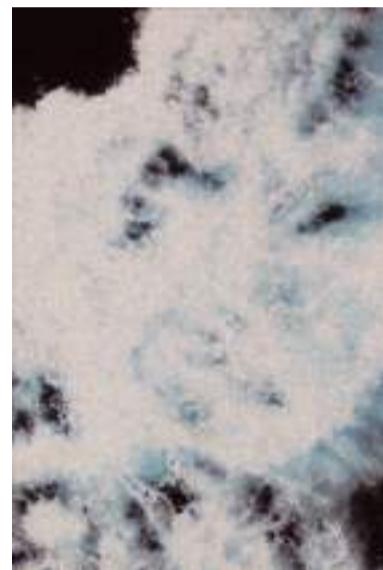
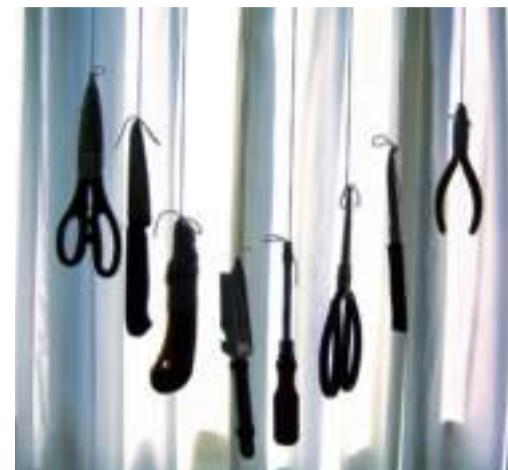


Chen Xi: So We Remember

Chinese artist Chen Xi's paintings illustrate and commemorate important events that have shaped our modern world, presenting them locked inside a TV screen as a commentary on the way we witness the world. Through May 15. University Museum and Art Gallery, Hong Kong University, 94 Bonham Rd., Pok Fu Lam.

Li Yonggeng: A Path to Life

Chinese artist Li Yonggeng has transformed Galerie Du Monde into a home-like environment, in which he displays worldly goods like his bed, turning everyday objects into works of art. Through Apr 19, 10am-7pm. Galerie du Monde, Room 108, 1/F, Ruttonjee Centre, 11 Duddell St, Central.



Surroundings & Influences

Art and food intersect at the Mandarin Oriental Hong Kong's "Surroundings & Influences" exhibition, which features works by some of China and Hong Kong's most important artists. Pair it with an exclusively created afternoon tea set inspired by the artwork, available between March 7-28, for a feast for all the senses. Through Apr 12. The Clipper Lounge, Mandarin Oriental, 5 Connaught Rd. Central.



The richness of Italian cuisine lies in its diversity.

Italy is made up of twenty regions with distinct characteristics. Every town, every small village, makes the same dish in different ways, and has its proudest specialty.

Every month be surprised by an authentic food selection from a specific region!



Every month a new Italian region with dishes, products, tradition and stories.

In March we start with Abruzzo and Veneto.

What's the most delicious regional Italian dish you've tried? Share your culinary knowledge on facebook.

facebook.com/TrattoriaCaffeMonteverdi

For reservation:

+852 9278 9454

reservation@monteverdirestaurants.com

6+8 High Street - SAI YING PUN

www.monteverdirestaurants.com

NIGHTLIFE

Clubs



DJ Revolution: Dimitri Vegas and Like Mike

Electro nuts all better sit down, because DJ legends Dimitri Vegas and Like Mike are hitting up AsiaWorld-Expo this Spring. They're number 1 on DJ Magazine's list of top 100 DJs—but you already knew that, didn't you? May 20, 8pm. Hall 10, AsiaWorld-Expo, Chek Lap Kok, Lantau. \$580-900 from hkticketing.com. Student and VIP packages available.

Wolf Music

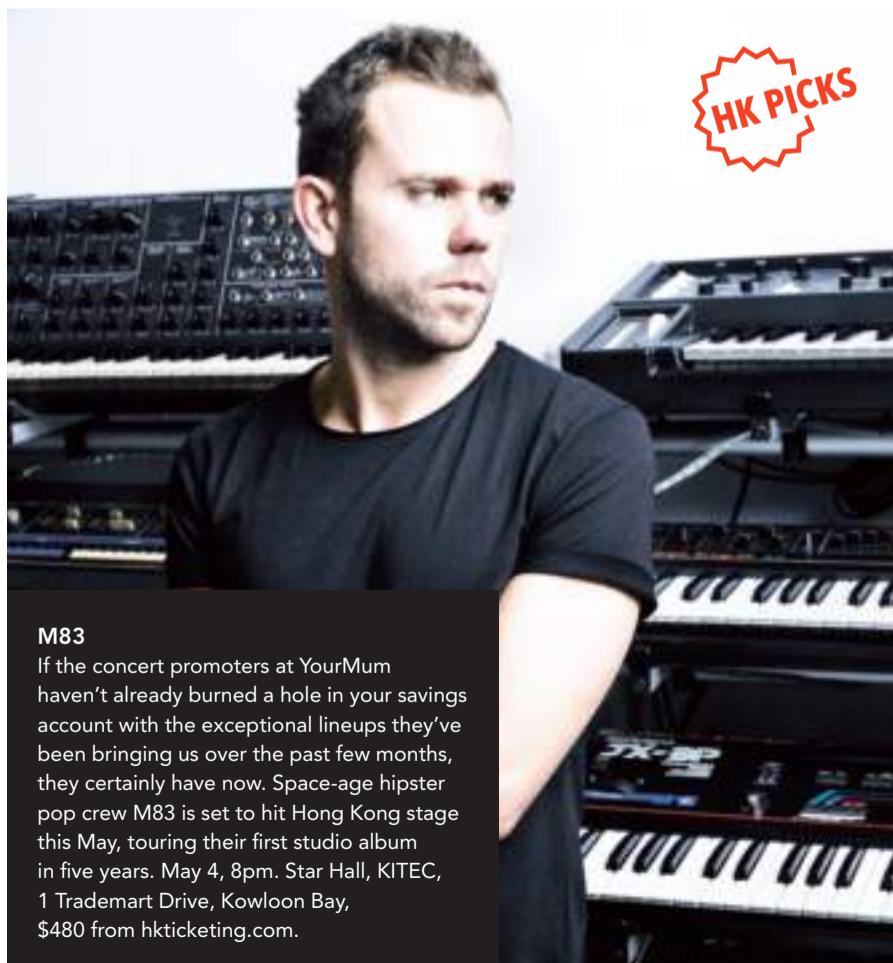
The brainchild of Wolf Music recordings, house and disco masters Matt Neale and Stu Clark are bringing their groove—and their extensive record collection—to Ozone. Mar 12, 10pm. Ozone, 118/F, International Commerce Centre, 1 Austin Rd. West, West Kowloon, \$250 at the door, includes a glass of Veuve Clicquot Champagne.

Verne Troyer

Joining a roster of previous celebrity DJ gigs at D-i that includes Chris Brown, Shaq and Paris Hilton is none other than Mini-Me from "Austin Powers," Verne Troyer. The diminutive actor will be spinning a Wednesday evening set late into the night. Mar 9, 10pm. Dragon-i, U/G, The Centrium, 60 Wyndham St., Central, \$300 at the door.

Fly Presents Slack Trax With Janette Slack

International DJ Janette Slack is back at Fly after her smooth criminal themed parties last year, and she's gearing up for the summer with mashups aplenty and plenty a' bass. Mar 5, 10pm. Fly, G/F, 24-30 Ice House St., Central, \$250 at the door for two drinks and two shots.



M83

If the concert promoters at YourMum haven't already burned a hole in your savings account with the exceptional lineups they've been bringing us over the past few months, they certainly have now. Space-age hipster pop crew M83 is set to hit Hong Kong stage this May, touring their first studio album in five years. May 4, 8pm. Star Hall, KITEC, 1 Trademart Drive, Kowloon Bay, \$480 from hkticketing.com.

Concerts

5 Seconds of Summer: Sounds Live Feels Live

Feel like hanging out with ALL of the city's teenagers in one room together? Aussie pop punk kids 5 Seconds of Summer are performing in Hong Kong for the first time ever, touring their latest album "Sounds Good Feels Good." Considered by many to be One Direction's protégés (1D's members actually have a financial stake in 5SOS), the foursome is known for bouncy hits including "She's Kinda Hot" and "Hey Everybody!" Mar 10, 8-10pm. Hall 10, AsiaWorld-Expo, Chek Lap Kok, Lantau. \$488-1,588 from hkticketing.com.

An Evening with Tom Jones Live

The "Sexbomb"-singing septagenarian returns to Hong Kong. His latest albums "Spirit in the Room," "Praise & Blame" and "Long Lost Suitcase" have garnered some of the best reviews of his 50-year career, so expect some great soul from the suave rocker. Ladies: do NOT throw your underwear at him. It's just unsanitary. Apr 7, 8pm. Grand Hall, HKCEC, 1 Expo Drive, Wan Chai, 2629-6240. \$688-1,488 from hkticketing.com.



John Grant

American singer-songwriter John Grant brings his folky, electro-tinged rock to Hong Kong. The bearded bear with the voice of an angel combines melancholy, self-conscious introspection with beautiful melodies... just try not to cry at the gig, OK? Mar 6, 8pm. Music Zone, Star Hall, KITEC, 1 Trademart Drive, Kowloon Bay, \$560 from ticketflap.com, \$650 at the door.



I Want Cube Pop

K-pop lovers better *jinjeonghaseyo* (calm the fuck down) because Cube Entertainment's sending three of their best (and Korea's most popular) groups—Beast, 4Minute and BtoB—to the Venetian in March. With a six-member boy band, five-piece girl group and seven-member rap and vocalist group, it's gonna be a pretty crowded stage... Mar 5, 8pm. CotaiArena, Estrada da Baía de Nossa Senhora da Esperança, Cotai, Macau. \$380-1,280 from cotaaticketing.com, hkticketing.com or call 6333-6660. Add \$108 for a round trip Cotai Water Jet ferry ticket.

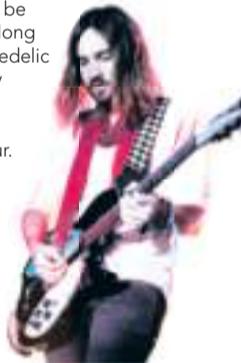
Gigs

Godspeed You! Black Emperor

Lift your skinny fists like antennas to heaven, because Canadian post-rock giants Godspeed You! Black Emperor are heading back to Hong Kong after their sold out show in 2013. They'll be touring their 2015 album "Asunder, Sweet And Other Distress." Yeah! Canada! Mar 11, 8-10:30pm. MacPherson Stadium, 38 Nelson St., Mong Kok, \$470 from ticketflap.com.

Tame Impala

It's getting expensive to be a hipster this spring in Hong Kong. The Aussie psychedelic rock band makes its way to the SAR following on from its current Europe and South American tour. Tickets are sure to sell out quick so get on them—every part of us says go ahead. Apr 19, 7:30-9:30pm. MacPherson Stadium, 38 Nelson St., Mong Kok, \$590 from ticketflap.com.



Ian Shaw: The Theory of Joy

Two-time winner of the Best Jazz Vocalist prize at the BBC Jazz Awards, Ian Shaw's bringing his stunning, soulful voice to Hong Kong to promote his new album, "The Theory of Joy." Mar 10, 8pm. Grappa's Cellar, B/F, Jardine House, 1 Connaught Place, Central, \$488-588 from ticketflap.com/ianshaw. Doors open 6:30pm.

Laura Jane Butler:

Amy Winehouse Impersonator

As part of an Art Basel Week special, songstress Laura Jane Butler will channel the great Amy Winehouse, performing hits such as "Rehab," "Valerie," and more. Mar 23, 24, 10pm. Dragon-i, U/G, The Centrium, 60 Wyndham St., Central, \$300 at the door.



The Stray Katz Free Gig

Looking for a little bit of swing to start the weekend right? Check out a free gig by Hong Kong's own big band stalwarts the Stray Katz, who will play a mix of anything from Count Basie to Duke Ellington to Benny Goodman at Grappa's Cellar, every first Saturday of the month. Mar 5, 8pm. Grappa's Cellar, B/F, Jardine House, 1 Connaught Place, Central, 2521-2322.

Happy Hours



The Luck of the Dice at Bao Bei

Bao Bei's lucky happy hour throws a bit of chance into the mix: Roll a dice and get 10 percent off if it lands on one; 20 percent off if it lands on two; all the way up to a 60 percent off discount off your bill. What if the dice lands improbably balancing on a corner? Mon-Thu, 5-8pm. Bao Bei, B1/F, Carfield Commercial Building, 77 Wyndham St., Central, 2801-7779.



Sundaze at Duddell's

Head to Duddell's every Sunday for some last-minute weekend house, broken beat and rare grooves. Free-flow drinks available from 4-7pm for \$280 per head. Hope you don't work Mondays. Sun, 3-7pm. Duddell's, 3-4/F, Shanghai Tang Mansion, Duddell St., Central, 2629-6240. \$280.



Tartine Thursdays

Centralites hungering for tunes and tiny open-faced sandwiches after work can feast on a tartine free flow from 8-10pm, and enjoy the French resto's buy one get one free drink deal from 6-8pm. The music? House, disco/funk and deep house supplied by FuFu's resident DJs. Thu, 6-10pm. Tartine, 2-3F, 38 Lyndhurst Terrace, Central.

Nightlife Events

Disco Naps at Vibes

Those hungry for more (and lazier) untzing on a Sunday can be sated at Vibes' latest chill-out party, which will welcome Cliché records DJ VISA and Gaby Endo on the decks. Mar 13, 5-9pm. Vibes, 5/F, 118 Nathan Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, \$60 for a drink; \$100 for two.



Bass Music China 4th Anniversary

With four years under their belts promoting underground bass music in Hong Kong, Bass Music China is celebrating at XXX's new Tai Kok Tsui digs with a full party lineup. The night will feature London footwork/jungle pioneer Fracture, Tokyo-based reggae/bass duo Part2style and Hong Kong DJs Saiyan, DJ 108, and Nerve. Remember to bring lots of YOB. Mar 5, 10:30pm. XXX Gallery, Unit 2A, Kin Luen Factory Building, 89-91 Larch St., Tai Kok Tsui, \$100-150 in advance (TBC), \$200 at the door.

Bestbev's 3rd Anniversary Party

Celebrate the third boozy birthday of the Hong Kong craft beer suppliers with an evening of free-flow beer and pizza. Frankly, we can't think of a better way to consume carbs. Mar 11, 6-11pm. \$200 from bestbevhk.com.

HK PICKS

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

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HK

i Room ★★★

(Canada/UK/Ireland) Directed by Lenny Abrahamson. Starring Brie Larson, Jacob Tremblay, Joan Allen, Sean Bridgers, William H. Macy. Category IIA. 118 minutes. Opened Mar 3.

Brie Larson won the Oscar for Best Actress for her role in "Room," and in her acceptance speech she thanked the efforts of the whole crew who worked to put together the film. Maybe she was just being humble, but she certainly didn't give herself enough credit. In partnership with 9-year-old actor Jacob Tremblay, she delivers a difficult, heart-breaking performance.

Based on Emma Donoghue's 2010 novel, "Room" was inspired by the events of the infamous Josef Fritzl case, in which an Austrian man kept his daughter locked in a secret basement for 24 years, his abuse leading to the birth of seven children. Larson plays Ma, who was only a teenager when she was kidnapped and held captive in a garden shed for seven years, where she also gave birth to Jack (Jacob Tremblay), who turns just five at the start of the film. It's a horrific plotline—thankfully "Room" doesn't focus too much on the horrors, but rather on the hope of survival.

As a woman, it's difficult to even comprehend the kind of pain and desperation such a character might be feeling in this kind of situation, but Ma focuses all her efforts into keeping her positivity in bringing Jack up healthily and happily. She teaches Jack that 'Room' is the whole world, and that everything outside is make-believe. It's what makes the story so powerful, and "Room" showcases the complex power of filmmaking, from cinematography to music to performance, to display simultaneously conflicting realities. Through Jack's eyes, the



room is a magical place, filled with endless places to explore. Through ours, it's terribly dirty and cramped, but paired with warm and sunny scenes, Jacob Tremblay's childish narration, his naive stubbornness, and even the gentle, uplifting music, it works to make us understand a strange, cozy world of captivity we'll never want to know.

Larson melts into her role as sole strength-giver to Jack, from rationing the supplies given by her captor "Old Nick" so she can bake Jack a birthday cake, to devising a plan to finally get him out of the house. She's able to strike the perfect capable yet vulnerable balance, and her chemistry onscreen with Tremblay is unbeatable.

Like Jack, who Ma keeps in the closet every night to protect

him from seeing what "Old Nick" does to her, the audience never sees anything explicitly. But we can easily connect the dots, and that's perhaps even worse. The fear of having to face your abuser with composure every night, even if felt through a character on screen, definitely strikes a chord. Even after the rescue, the sense of imminent danger always looms, even when the coast is already clear.

I've never been so touched by a character's largely unsaid journey, yet completely terrified and appalled at the same time. At the morning press screening for "Room," we were given a pack of tissues as a souvenir, and we needed them. "Room" is a hard movie to watch, but that doesn't mean you shouldn't. **Evelyn Lok**

Coming Soon

Hail Caesar! ▾

(USA) This highly anticipated Coen Brothers ensemble epic centers on early 50s Hollywood. Real-life producer Eddie Mannix (Josh Brolin) is tasked with his biggest challenge yet when the star of an upcoming period flick (George Clooney) is kidnapped—in costume. Starring the likes of Channing Tatum, Scarlett Johansson, Ralph Fiennes and Tilda Swinton, this is looking pretty great. Opens Mar 10.

Pride and Prejudice and Zombies

(USA) It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a literary classic will get a ludicrous 21st century remake—with zombies, no less. The 2009 parody novel of the Jane Austen classic reaches Hong Kong screens this month, bringing the classic English story of Regency-era romance, with the added bonus of troublesome undead nobility ravaging the countryside. Opens Mar 10.

Journey to the Shore

(Japan) A romantic ghost story deeply embedded in Japanese culture, "Journey to the Shore" is about a piano teacher's second honeymoon with her husband—who went missing and returns as a ghost. This delicately heartbreaking romance was screened in the 2015 Cannes film festival's Un Certain Regard section and won Kiyoshi Kurosawa Best Director. Opens Mar 10.

The Divergent Series: Allegiant

(USA) The penultimate film of the Divergent Series is based on the first half of third book "Allegiant." Protagonist Tris Prior (Shailene Woodley) must explore where her trust and loyalties lie as she and Four (Theo James) escape post-apocalyptic Chicago and look for way to save their city. Opens Mar 10.

Brooklyn

(USA) A romantic immigrant's tale in 1950s Brooklyn, pre-hipster takeover. Saoirse Ronan shines as an Irish girl who falls for an Italian plumber, but meets another man when she returns to her homeland on a visit. Opens Mar 10.

iGirl

(Hong Kong) The prayers of every duk nam geek in Hong Kong have been answered: Bikini model and actress Chrissie Chau plays a humanoid love robot. Our advice: keep it in your pants. Opens Mar 10.

Kill Time

(China) Adapted from a novel by Chinese mystery novelist Cai Jun and directed by Fruit Chan, Angelababy plays a girl who investigates the death of her policeman father, and meets a curiously familiar man (Ethan Ruan). Opens Mar 10.

Opening

Gods of Egypt

(USA) Any Egyptology geeks out there who ever wanted to see ancient Egyptian gods duke it out on screen, this blockbuster was made for you. Gerard Butler is the baddie du jour, playing god of darkness Set, who usurps the kingdom of Egypt, leaving it up to mortal hero Bek (Brenton Thwaites) and god of the sun Horus (Nikolaj "Kingslayer" Coster-Waldau) to save the day. Opens Mar 3.

London Has Fallen

(USA) A sequel to 2013's explosive-tastic "Olympus Has Fallen," Gerard Butler returns as the US Secret Service agent, gunning to protect the American President (Aaron Eckhart), whose life is in danger thanks to a nefarious plot to destroy the world's leaders as they attend the funeral of the British Prime Minister. Opens Mar 3.

Manglehorn

(USA) Al Pacino channels his best forlorn look into his role as an eccentric cat-owning locksmith who's still pining for his lost love, Clara. Opened Mar 3.

Miss You Already

(USA) The token Drew Barrymore comedy this season celebrates BFF love between a woman (Toni Collette) undergoing chemotherapy and her best friend (Barrymore) who is trying to get pregnant. Opens Mar 3.

Room

(USA) See review, above. Opened Mar 3.



Son of Saul

(Hungary) Winner of the Best Foreign Film award at the Oscars, Holocaust film "Son of Saul" centers on a prisoner at Auschwitz in 1944 who is forced to burn the corpses of his own people. Coping with his own moral struggle, he makes plans to rescue a young boy's body from the flames and offer him a proper Jewish burial. Opens Mar 3.

Continuing

The Secret

(Hong Kong/China) Director Barbara Wong Chun-chun tells of the spirit of a wife who returns to her husband (Leon Lai) after death, confronting their unresolved issues and their enduring love. It's like a Chinese "Ghost"!

The Big Short

(USA) Some are calling it this year's "The Wolf of Wall Street"—without the drugs and sex. "The Big Short" is a fun-filled and eye-opening retelling of what really went down in the 2008 financial crisis, following the story of four finance bros (Ryan Gosling, Steve Carell, Christian Bale, Brad Pitt) who predicted the market crash long before it happened, with plenty of ludicrous celebrity cameos in between. ★★★★

Carol

(USA) 50s housewife Carol Aird (Cate Blanchett) is in the midst of a divorce. She's drawn to department store clerk Therese Belivet (Rooney Mara) and the two soon develop a secret relationship—risking Carol's custody battle for her daughter. Blanchett and Mara's sizzling chemistry, the beautiful set and costume design and a story of undeniable attraction make this romance timeless. ★★★★

Creed

(USA) There are a lot of comebacks this season in the movie world, but none as legendary as Sylvester Stallone's return as Rocky Balboa. The retired boxing star mentors rising talent Adonis (Michael B. Jordan), whose late father was Rocky's old rival Apollo Creed.

The Danish Girl

(USA) Alicia Vikander won the Best Supporting Actress Oscar for her role as Danish artist Gerda Wegener, whose husband Einar (Eddie Redmayne) embraces his long-suppressed femininity and eventually attempts one of the first ever male-to-female sex reassignment surgeries.



Deadpool

(USA) The ultimate tale of overcoming death for love... by becoming a metafictional superhero. Heartthrob Ryan Reynolds is Wade Wilson, hired assassin with healing powers and a chip on his shoulder. Marvel's most twisted anti-hero finally comes to the big screen and nothing is off-limits. Anal jokes, deformed baby hands and sexytime, oh my! ★★★★

The Finest Hours

(USA) Things are about to get very wet and cold with this Walt Disney disaster film, starring Chris Pine as Bernie Webber, a Cape Cod Coast Guard crewman who is sent on a mission to rescue an oil tanker that has split in half during a lethal storm.





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The Hateful Eight

(USA) Tarantino's eighth film is bloodier than ever. In post-Civil War Wyoming, a bounty hunter (Kurt Russell) is transporting a high-value prisoner (Jennifer Jason Leigh) when he meets a fellow bounty hunter (Samuel L. Jackson). Stuck in a blizzard, they find themselves shacked up at a rest stop alongside a group of strangers with a more poisonous intent than they let on. Supreme, tension-filled dialogue and storytelling—told mostly within one room—from a brilliant filmmaker. This one's a fun ride. ★★★★



How to Be Single

(USA) Ah, the token anti-Valentine's release. Singles everywhere can rejoice in validation of their solo girl tendencies as Rebel Wilson teaches us (and Dakota Johnson) how to hoe it up in New York City. But ending on an overly schmaltzy note about the value of singledom and with Rebel Wilson's typecast shenanigans falling flat, you might want to save this one to watch at home. ★★

The Mermaid

(China) Stephen Chow's at it again with another insane CGI-fueled frenzy, this time bringing the titular watery mythical creature to the screen... with plenty of flimsy one-legged fish leggings and silly jokes to get you through a dull weekend.



Zoolander 2

(USA) 15 years later, Ben Stiller reprises his role as really really really good-looking supermodel Derek Zoolander, who's back to solve a crisis in which the world's most beautiful people are being killed. In attempts to make itself relevant again, "Zoolander 2" blurs the parody by being chock-full of celebrity cameos. Despite being armed with mostly weird, outdated gags, it'll still be fun for any fan. ★★★



"East Side Sushi" at the 3rd Culinary Film Festival

Film Festivals

EUFF 2016

Returning once again this February is the annual European Union Film Festival, bringing with it 17 award-winning movies from just as many countries. It opens with Irish drama "Brooklyn" which has the lovely Saoirse Ronan playing the role of an Irish immigrant who falls in love in New York. The festival wraps up with Academy Award-nominated Austrian thriller "Goodnight Mommy," about twin boys who grow suspicious of their mother's identity after she returns from reconstructive surgery with a bandaged face. Creepy! Screenings held at Broadway Cinematheque and Palace IFC. Through Mar 11. Broadway Cinematheque, Prosperous Garden, 3 Public Square St., Yau Ma Tei, \$85-110 from cinema.com.hk.

3rd Culinary Film Festival

If you like watching food being made as much as stuffing it in your mouth hole, you'll want to check out UA CineHub's three special screenings of foodporn-tastic films. "Foodies: The Culinary Jetset" takes five food bloggers on the ultimate pilgrimage to Michelin restaurants around the world. "East Side Sushi" is the tale of Mexican single mother Juana who pursues a career as a sushi chef, a thoughtful tale of how food connects people from different cultures and races. "For Grace" is the story of chef Curtis Duffy of three-Michelin-starred restaurant Grace, and how he overcame a difficult family history to rise to the top. Through Mar 13. Screenings are at UA cinemas at iSquare, CityPlaza, MegaBox and TMT Plaza. \$75-110 from 2317-6666 or uacinemacom.hk.



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FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

ROB BREZSNY

PISCES (Feb 18-Mar 20): Unless you work at night and sleep by day, you experience the morning on a regular basis. You may have a love-hate relationship with it, because on the one hand you don't like to leave your comfortable bed so early, and on the other hand you enjoy anticipating the interesting events ahead of you. But aside from your personal associations with the morning, this time of day has always been a potent symbol of awakenings and beginnings. Throughout history, poets have invoked it to signify purity and promise. In myth and legend, it often represents the chance to see things afresh, to be free of the past's burdens, to love life unconditionally. Dream interpreters might suggest that a dream of morning indicates a renewed capacity to trust oneself. All of these meanings are especially apropos for you right now, Pisces.

ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 19): Actress Blythe Baird writes about the problem that arises when her dog sees her eating a peanut butter and chocolate chip bagel. Her beloved pet begs for a piece and becomes miserable when it's not forthcoming. Baird is merely demonstrating her love, of course, because she knows that eating chocolate can make canines ill. I suspect that life is bestowing a comparable blessing on you. You may feel mad and sad about being deprived of something you want. But the likely truth is that you will be lucky not to get it.

TAURUS (Apr 20-May 20): "I do not literally paint that table, but rather the emotion it produces upon me," French artist Henri Matisse told an interviewer. "But what if you don't always have emotion?" she asked him. This is how Matisse replied: "Then I do not paint. This morning, when I came to work, I had no emotion. So I took a horseback ride. When I returned, I felt like painting, and had all the emotion I wanted." This is excellent advice for you to keep in mind, Taurus. Even more than usual, it's crucial that you imbue every important thing you do with pure, strong emotions. If they're not immediately available, go in quest of them.

GEMINI (May 21-Jun 20): Some night soon, I predict you'll dream of being an enlightened sovereign who presides over an ecologically sustainable paradise. You're a visionary leader who is committed to peace and high culture, so you've never gone to war. You share your wealth with the people in your kingdom. You revere scientists and shamans alike, providing them with what they need to do their good work for the enhancement of the realm. Have fun imagining further details of this dream, Gemini, or else make up your own. Now is an excellent time to visualize a fairy tale version of yourself at the height of your powers, living your dreams and sharing your gifts.

CANCER (Jun 21-Jul 22): It's not always necessary to have an expansive view of where you have been and where you are going, but it's crucial right now. So I suggest that you take an inventory of the big picture. For guidance, study this advice from philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche: "What have you truly loved? What has uplifted your soul, what has dominated and delighted it at the same time? Assemble these revered objects in a row before you and they

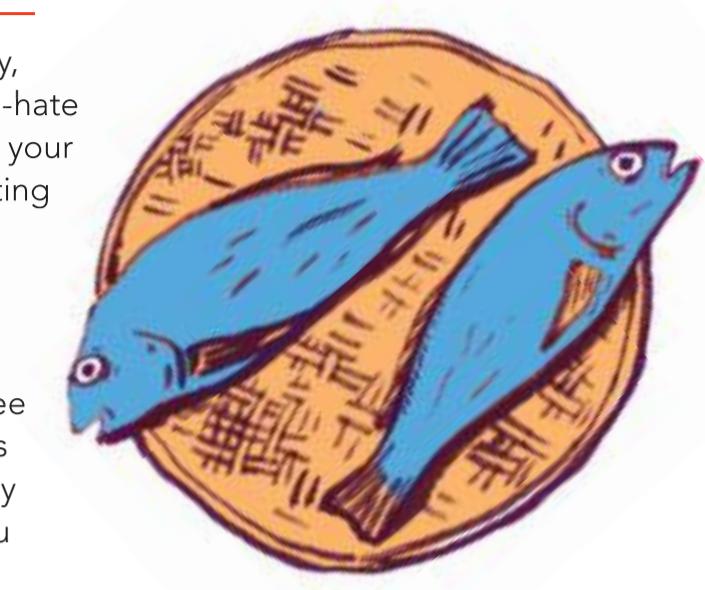
may reveal a law by their nature and their order: the fundamental law of your very self."

LEO (Jul 23-Aug 22): Sportswear manufacturer Adidas is looking for ways to repurpose trash that humans dump in the oceans. One of its creations is a type of shoe made from illegal deep-sea nets that have been confiscated from poachers. I invite you to get inspired by Adidas's work. From an astrological perspective, now is a good time to expand and refine your personal approach to recycling. Brainstorm about how you could convert waste and refuse into useful, beautiful resources—not just literally, but also metaphorically. For example, is there a ruined or used-up dream that could be transformed into raw material for a shiny new dream?

VIRGO (Aug 23-Sep 22): "There isn't enough of anything as long as we live," wrote Raymond Carver. "But at intervals a sweetness appears and, given a chance, prevails." According to my analysis of the astrological omens, Virgo, you'll soon be gliding through one of these intervals. Now and then you may even experience the strange sensation of being completely satisfied with the quality and amount of sweetness that arrives. To ensure optimal results, be as free from greed as you can possibly be.

LIBRA (Sep 23-Oct 22): "For a wound to heal, you have to clean it out," says author Yasmin Mogahed. "Again, and again, and again. And this cleaning process stings. The cleaning of a wound hurts. Yes. Healing takes so much work. So much persistence. And so much patience." According to my analysis, Libra, you should be attending to this tough but glorious task. Although the work might be hard, it won't be anywhere near as hard as it usually is. And you are likely to make more progress than you would be able to at other times.

SCORPIO (Oct 23-Nov 21): "The other day, lying in bed," writes poet Rodger Kamenetz, "I felt my heart beating for the first time in a long while. I realized how little I live in my body, how much in my mind." He speaks for the majority of us. We spend much of our lives entranced by the relentless jabber that unfolds between our ears. But I want to let you know, Scorpio, that the moment is ripe to rebel against this tendency in yourself. In the coming weeks, you will have a natural talent for celebrating your body. You'll be able to commune deeply with



its sensations, to learn more about how it works, and to exult in the pleasure it gives you and the wisdom it provides.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22-Dec 21): In his "Dream Song 67," poet John Berryman confesses, "I am obliged to perform in complete darkness operations of great delicacy on my self." I hope you will consider embarking on similar heroics, Sagittarius. It's not an especially favorable time to overhaul your environment or try to get people to change in accordance with your wishes. But it's a perfect moment to spruce up your inner world—to tinker with and refine it so that everything in there works with more grace. And unlike Berryman, you won't have to proceed in darkness. The light might not be bright, but there'll be enough of a glow to see what you're doing.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 19): Here's the dictionary's definition of the word "indelible": "having the quality of being difficult to remove, wash away, blot out, or efface; incapable of being canceled, lost, or forgotten." The word is often used in reference to unpleasant matters: stains on clothes, biases that distort the truth, superstitions held with unshakable conviction, or painful memories of romantic break-ups. I am happy to let you know that you now have more power than usual to dissolve seemingly indelible stuff like that. Here's a trick that might help you: Find a new teacher or teaching that uplifts you with indelible epiphanies.

AQUARIUS (Jan 20-Feb 19): According to poet Tony Hoagland, most of us rarely "manage to finish a thought or a feeling; we usually get lazy or distracted and quit halfway through." Why? Hoagland theorizes that we "don't have the time to complete the process, and we dislike the difficulty and discomfort of the task." There's a cost for this negligence: "We walk around full of half-finished experiences." That's why Hoagland became a poet. He says that "poems model the possibility of feeling all the way through an emotional process" and "thinking all the way through a thought." The coming weeks will be a favorable time to get more in the habit of finishing your own feelings and thoughts, Aquarius. It will also be more important than usual that you do so! (Hoagland's comments appeared in "Gulf Coast: A Journal of Literature and Fine Arts.")

HOMEWORK: Imagine gazing into the eyes of the person you were ten years ago. What do you want to say to the Old You? Freewillastrology.com

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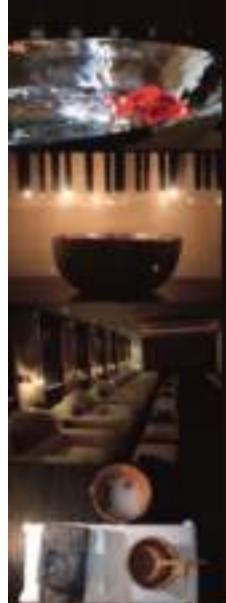
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Dan Savage

Are you incapable of concision? Your answers are too long! You blather on, often rehashing the problem (unnecessary!) before giving four words (at most!) of (rarely!) useful advice. I've heard you say you have to edit letters down for space. Try this instead: Edit yourself! I want more of the letters—more from the people asking questions—and less of YOU.

—Keep It Short, Savage, Expressed Sincerely

Feedback is always appreciated, KISSES.

I'm 30, happily married, with my husband since I was 17. First boyfriend, kiss, etc. I never had sex with anyone else. This never bothered me because I wasn't really into sex—but there have been big changes in the last year. I guess I am having a sexual awakening. My sex drive increased, and I've started reading erotica and fantasizing about getting kinky. I've also been having very strong urges to fuck someone else. As someone who always had strong values and opinions when it comes to sex and marriage and cheating, these feelings really confused me! So I found a safe and harmless outlet: Second Life. I created a hot avatar and have been role-playing, talking dirty, and banging people across the world for six months. I love it. I get to experience scenarios I fantasize about but would never do in real life. Before your readers start pulling the cheater card: I have talked about this with my husband, and I have his blessing. He knows I have an SL account and I'm having cybersex. Here's where it gets murky. Most of my SL friends haven't asked if I'm taken in RL, and I haven't told them that I am. I flirt as if I'm single, though, because I'm worried people will treat me differently if they know I'm married. I do not wish to meet or have RL sex with anyone I meet on SL, and I make that clear to everyone. I don't do photos/voice chat/Skype. But if someone asks me if I'm married in RL, I always tell the truth. I'm writing because I'm worried about this one guy. The cybersex is super hot, and he's sweet. He's my go-to guy, and I'm his go-to girl. He knows I have cybersex with other people in SL, and I have told him he is obviously allowed to have sex with others too. But I'm worried our SL relationship has become a bit more. He leaves me messages when I'm not online, telling me he misses me and "loves being with me," and I've said the same to him. I've also made it clear I have no intention of meeting anyone from SL in RL, ever. Regardless of my intentions, I'm worried that I'm crossing the line and being unfair to my husband. I'm also worried that I'm being unfair to my guy in SL, because I'm sure he must think I'm single, even though he has never asked. Am I crossing the line and at risk of hurting my husband/SL guy? Or am I just having some harmless fun that helps me satisfy this strange new itch that's driving me crazy?

—Second Lifer And Spouse Haver
P.S. It's important to note that SL has not negatively impacted my RL sex life and, if anything, has made it better. It has also made me happier and less cranky at home.

You're doing nothing wrong, SLASH.

I am a kinkster. I have been since I can remember (I am now 21 years old), and I've never told anyone about my deep dark desires until the last year. During my time at university, I made good friends with a guy who I was able to open up to about my preferences, as he had similar desires. We created a beneficial arrangement. I suddenly no longer felt like I needed to suppress my "fucked up" masochistic needs

and became extremely happy and more comfortable with them. I keep a journal, and naturally I wrote about this arrangement and a lot of the explicit details. Last summer, my mother read my entire journal and was horrified. After she read it, I received a very nasty text message from her about how our relationship was over, she couldn't believe what I had done, and she was no longer going to help pay for my postgraduate courses, etc. She was deeply disturbed to learn that some money she had given me for my 21st birthday was spent on a hotel room where I met up with my kinky friend. (It wasn't like we could meet in my family home!) I never wanted my mother to know about any of this, and I feel bad for how it upset her, but this was also a huge violation of my privacy. The only way to resolve the situation was for me to pretend that I deeply regretted everything, tell her I can see now how messed up those "weird" sex practices are, and say that I'm cured and will never engage in them again. Months have passed and I'm still angry with her for having read my diary. I feel sad about the lies I told and having to pretend—still—that I regret what I did. Because the truth is I've never felt more like myself than when I am doing BDSM. It's not my entire world, but it is an important part of who I am. How do you think I should take things from here? She'll never understand, so telling her isn't an option, but that means suppressing my deep upset at her as well.

—Mother Unfairly Destroyed Daughter's Libido Entirely

Fuck mom; be you, MUDDLE.*

My husband and I met our "soul-mate parents" at our daughter's preschool a few years ago, i.e., that rare couple with a kid the same age and the same artistic interests and political values. Our kids instantly bonded and are now BFFs. They have sleepovers, go trick-or-treating together, sled together—little girl heaven. Early on, the guy called my husband and they had a hard-drinking lunch. The guy spilled his guts about a painful previous relationship. It was weird, but we wrote it off. Three years of normal interactions and a kid later, we're really good friends with the wife, while the guy stays in the background. I decided to start up a FetLife profile for fun—my husband and I are monogamish, and this is with his okay—and I find the guy's profile, which clearly states that his wife does not know he's on this site. What do I do? Pretend I never saw it? What if the wife finds out I knew? Do I tell him that I know? Most of all, I worry about the strain this would place on my daughter's friendship. Her heart would be broken.

—Has Evidence Louse Parent Making Arrangements

Mind your own business, HELPMA.

* Shit, I really can't do this one in four words. Confront your fucking mother, MUDDLE, once you're out of grad school (priorities!), about the awful, shitty things she did to you: reading your journal; shaming you for your sexual interests and your private, consensual, respectful, and healthy sexual explorations; and her unforgivable acts of emotional and financial blackmail. And you should wave the results of this study under her nose when you confront her: livescience.com/34832-bdsm-healthy-psychology.html. It's just one of several studies showing that people who practice BDSM—not just fantasize about it but actually practice it—are psychologically healthier than vanilla people.

On the Lovecast, Dan chats with Seattle journalist Eli Sanders: savagecast.com.

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

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SPOTLIGHT

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Every first Tuesday of the month, exclusive dining deals offering up to 50 percent off are up for grabs on ConradDining.HungryTuesday.com for you to check out the entire month. For a shockingly affordable price you can experience the hotel's high-quality international cuisines and top-notch service—as long as you're quick enough to snap up the deal.

With a full range of dining options including award-winning Cantonese cuisine from Golden Leaf, distinctive tastes of Italy at Nicholini's, provincial French dishes at Brasserie on the Eighth, divine Southeast Asian flavors and Western favorites at Garden Café and Lobby Lounge, the choices are plenty and there's surely something for everyone.

For March, Nicholini's is offering a fine Italian four-course dinner crafted by one-Michelin-starred chef Luca De Berardini with the freshest produce of the season. Paying homage to traditional Italian cooking, chef Luca is known for valuing the freshness and seasonality of his ingredients, making his creations a gastronomically revitalizing breath of fresh air.

Pairing his signature dishes including Mediterranean tuna with seasonal

delights such as asparagus, the menu is the perfect way to welcome a blooming spring. You may also choose between a cheese platter for a brief repose after the meal, or the very Instagrammable melting chocolate ball to end the meal on a sweet note and show it off on social media. The four-course menu is available daily at \$638, which is 25 percent off from its original price.

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best compromise when it comes to red wine glasses. The Riedel Vinum XL Syrah glass is an all-rounder made with fine crystal, suitable for not just Syrahs but also for most types of red wines on the market.

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Do Something A Little Taboo

Feel like something naughty for your weekend getaway in Macau? Don't miss Taboo: The Resort of Desires by Franco Dragone, the quintessential show of all things naughty in our sister SAR.

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The show features jaw-dropping circus acts, heart-throbbing dance and aerial hoops, and of course, borderline nudity. Challenging your senses with sensual choreography and sexy acrobatic artistry, Taboo delivers excitement and thrills with pole dancing, striptease and more.

The adrenaline-pumping cabaret is a must-see performance—worth the ferry trip to Macau alone. Don't miss the end-of-season last call, to seize the chance for selfies with the sexy performers and take home a limited Taboo souvenir. If you are catching the last show on March 31, you can even join the after-party at Club Cubic for free by dressing "Taboo-style"!

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Starbucks - Man Yee Arcade
Starbucks - MTR Station
Stormy Weather
Tandoor Indian Restaurant
Ten Feet Tall
The Globe
The Landmark Mandarin Oriental
The Putman
Tivo
Toni & Guy - 15 Wyndham St
Tranquil Touches
Uncle Russ Coffee
UP Health
Veggie SF
Wagyu
Yo mama
Yu Yuet Lai
Zentro - 66 Stanley Street
Zentro - IFC

SOHO

Bizou
Café d'I
Club 1911
Culture ClubDaddys
Enoteca Soho
Flaming Frango
Flutes
Flying Pan
Gourmet Burger Union
Gweilo Bar and Grill
Hair Craft
Jaspas
Libertine
Life Café
Mimi2Go
Mostaccioli Brothers
PMQ
Portobello's
Taco Loco
The Herbivores
The Pierre
The Tavern
Toni & Guy
Wagyu Lounge
Watson's Wine
Yorkshire Pudding Soho 8

SHEUNG WAN/ KENNEDY TOWN

208 Ducento Otto
99 Bonham
A&M U.S Groceries
Above Second
American Women's Association Office
Barista Jam
Boulangerie Bistronomique
Café Deco Pizzeria
Café O
Classified (Sheung Wan)
Corner Kitchen
Crispy Bistro
Fish N Chick
Forbes 36
Ho Mei
Holiday Inn Express Soho
Hotel Jen
Ibis HK - Central
Jaspas' - Kennedy Town
Kinsale
La Cantoche
La Viola
Little Burro
Living Art Café
Metropolitain
Monsieur Chatte
Ola
Park N Shop - Kennedy Town
Pizzeria Jacomax
Quintessentially
Shelter Lounge
Starbucks - 50 Connaught Road
Starbucks - Golden Phoenix Court
Starbucks - Hotel Ibis
Starbucks - Kwong Fat Hong Building
Starbucks - Shun Tak Centre
Tacobocha

Teakha
The Press Room
The Beautywave Skin Care
The Lot
Three Monkeys
Waffling Beans

MID-LEVELS

Blessing Garden Phase I
Chicken on the Run
Coffee Book
Dymocks - Bonham Rd.
Il Bel Paese
Ladies' Recreation Club
Lime @ Soho 38
Lof10
Mier Serviced Apartments
Peak Café Bar
Seymour
The Phoenix
YWCA English Speaking Members Department

PEAK

Bubba Gump
Cafe Deco
Starbucks
The Peak Lookout Restaurant

ADMIRALTY

Brick Lane
Dan Ryan's
Gourmet Coffee
Grappa's Ristorante
Great
Island Shangri-La
Lab Concept
Metropolitan Café
Ruth Chris
Starbucks - Pacific Place
The British Council Library
UFC Group

WANCHAI

151 Gloucester Road Property Management Company Ltd
Academy for the Performing Arts
Agave
Amour Salon
Alliance Francaise
Arts Centre
Asian Tiger Mobility
Assaggio Trattoria Italiana
Bar 109
Berliner
Big Apple
Castello del Vino
Classified (Wan Chai)
Cosmos Book Ltd.
Coyote Bar & Grill
Divino Patio
DRAGONFLY @ Novotel
Ebeneezer's
Grand Hyatt Hotel
Harbour road café
Hotel Indigo
IAFT
Island Property
Joe's Billiards & Bar
Loplus @ Hennessy Serviced Apartment
Marriott Properties (International) Ltd.
Maya
Moon Izakaya
Mr. Taco Truck
Oliver's Super Sandwiches
Outback Grill
OVO
OVO Limited
Paisano's Wan Chai
Pizza Express - Wing Fung St.
Pizza Express - Ship St.
Pomme
Quemo
SIP Sun Hung Kai Centre
Slim's
Spring Learning
StarCrest
Starbucks - 4346 Queen's Road East
Starbucks - Gloucester Rd
Starbucks - Great Eagle Centre
Starbucks - Hopewell Centre
Starbucks - Sun Hung Kai Centre
Starbucks - WanChai Tower
Starbucks - Wsqaure

Thai Delight Restaurant & Bar
Tamarind
The Charterhouse Causeway Bay
The Doghouse
The Flying Pan
The Hive
The Queen Victoria
The Tonno
The Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club
The Wanch
The White Stag
VIM Pilates Studio
Xperience
Yo mama

CAUSEWAY BAY

18 Grams
A La Maison
Aluminium
Brechts Circle
Brookfield Global Relocation Services HK Ltd.
Brunch Club & Supper
Buddy Bar & Café
Café Corridor
Café Rivoli
CitySuper
Classified (Tai Hang)
Crowne Plaza Hong Kong Causeway Bay – Connections
Dickens Bar
Englishtown
Fleur de Sel
Hotel Pennington
Inn Side Out
Isabella Bistro & Bar
Island Seafood & Oyster
Jrink
Lanson Place
Little Burro
Mackie Kitchen
Madame Foster Deli
Mau I Business Centre Ltd - Eton Tower
Mau I Business Centre Ltd - Radio City
Mini Hotel Causeway Bay
Mr. Steak
Otto Restaurant & Bar
Outback Steakhouse
Page One
Roof Bar
Rouge
Starbucks - 50 Leighton Rd.
Starbucks - Causeway Bay Plaza 2
Starbucks - Hysan Place
Starbucks - Lee Garden 1
Starbucks - Tin Hau
Starbucks - Tiung Lo Wan Rd.
Starbucks - Windsor House
The Herbivores
The Sky Bar
The Warren
Watson Wine Cellar
Wired Café
W's Entrecôte
Yo mama

HAPPY VALLEY

Classified
El Grande - Happy Valley Bar & Grill
Hong Kong Cricket Club
Hong Kong Football Club
il Bel Paese
Jaspas
Movieland (3) - Happy Valley
Park N Shop - Happy Valley
Saint Germain
Starbucks - Le Cacet
The Jockey

QUARRY BAY/ TAIKOOSHING

East Hotel
Park N Shop - Kornhill Plaza
Pizza Express
Ruby Tuesday
Starbucks - Cityplaza
Starbucks - Hoi Kwong St.
Starbucks - Kornhill Plaza
Starbucks - Taikoo Shing
The News Room
Yo bago
Yo mama

NORTH POINT/ FORTRESS HILL

Cheung Chuk Shan College
Harbour Plaza North Point - Lobby
Fitness First - Fortress Hill
Para Site
Starbucks - AIA Tower
Starbucks - Fortress Hill
Starbucks - Kerry Centre

SAI WAN HO

Berliner Soho East
Chaiwanese
Jack's Terrazza Ristorante
Madera Café
Starbucks - Eastern Hospital

POK FU LAM

Delaney's Pub
HKUSU Student Union
Lee Hysan Hall Students' Association, HKUSU
Patisserie Les Amis
Prompt
Starbucks - Cyberport
Starbucks - Cyberport 3
Starbucks - HKU Library
Starbucks - HKUSU T Hotel

AP LEI CHAU/ ABERDEEN

Aberdeen Marina Club
Alisan Fine Arts Limited
Bowls Café Limited
Flex HK
GCX
K Academy (English Language Learning Centre)
Movie Express
Tequila Kola
TREE
Shambala/ Café Piatti
Sift
Spring Workshop
Starbucks - Marina Square
Starbucks - One Island South
Y. Art Education

REPULSE BAY/ TAI TAM/ STANLEY

Beachside Bookstore
Classified (Stanley)
Chez Patrick Deli - Stanley
El Cid Caramar
Hong Kong International School
King Ludwig Beer Hall
Lucy's
Mini Hotel Stanley
Ocean Bay
Park N Shop - Parkview
Pickled Pelican Stanley
Pizza Express
Seafront
Smuggler's Inn, Stanley
Spices
Starbucks - Stanley Plaza
Taste
The American Club
The Boat House
Victoria Recreation Club

TSIM SHA TSUI

Agnes b Café Harbour City
Agnes'B Café SG
Assembly
Barista Caffe
Bistro on the Mile
Bombay Dreams
Bricklane - 2 Blenheim Avenue
Bricklane - 17-23 Minden Avenue
Brotzeit
Burger Republic
Carpaccio Pasta Pizza Vino
Castros Bar
CitySuper
Crema
Cucina - The Marco Polo HK Hotel
Delaney's
Eastside Tavern
Eaton Hotel
El Cid
Fatt's Place
Finds
Grand Central Bar and Grill

JORDAN/YAU MA TEI/MONG KOK

18 Grams
Berliner Olympian City 3
Broadway Cinematheque
Colour Brown Coffee
Englishtown
Hotel Stage
Kadoorie Hill
Langham Hotel
Langham Place Hotel Coffee Shop
Madera Hotel
Park N Shop - Olympian City
Pink Coffee
Royal Plaza Hotel
Starbucks - 3 Jordan Rd.
Starbucks - Bank Centre Mall
Starbucks - Liberte Place
Starbucks - Nathan Hotel
Starbucks - New Kowloon Plaza
Starbucks - Olympian City 2
Take Two Brunch Coffee
The Olympian Hong Kong
White Noise
Zoo Records

SHATIN

Baptist University
Citysuper
Courtyard by Marriott Sha Tin
Crown Relocations
Starbucks - Fortune City One
Starbucks - New Town Plaza L1

SAI KUNG

Bacco
CC Café
Chez les Copains
Classified
Duke of York Pub
Firenze
HEBE ONE o ONE
Italiano's
Park N Shop - Clear Water Bay
Pepperoni's
Piccolos
Pizzeria La Gondola
Starbucks - Sai Kung Chan Man St.
Starbucks - The HKUST
The Bottle Shop

OTHER NEW TERRITORIES

Discovery Park
Englishtown
King's Belly
Mr Steak
Park N Shop - Hong Lok Yuen
Red Alert Airsoft Sports
Starbucks - Citywalk
Starbucks - Luk Yeung Galleria
Starbucks - Metroplaza
Starbucks - Tai Po Market MTR Station
Starbucks - Trend Plaza

LANTAU

Berliner German Bar & Restaurant
Café Duvet
Dymocks
Marriott Skycity
Park N Shop - Discovery Bay
Regal Airport Hotel Zentro Garden
Starbucks - Airport T2
Starbucks - Airport T1
Starbucks - Citygate
Zentro Garden

KOWLOON TONG

Amaroni's
Baptist University
Baptist University Student Union
City University Student Union
Dan Ryan's
Page One
Park N Shop
Pizza Express
Starbucks - Festival Walk
Starbucks - HKBU

HUNG HOM

Open University Student Union
Sav Hotel
Starbucks - MTR Hung Hom
Starbucks - The Laguna Mall
Starbucks - Whampoa Site 5
Waterfront Bar & Terrace

KOWLOON BAY/ KWUN TONG/ KOWLOON CITY

Bespoke
Englishtown
Forfar
Happy Corner Cakes Cookies Gallery
Headstart Group Limited
Kubrick
Oliver's Super Sandwiches
Pentahotel Kowloon
Starbucks - EMax
Starbucks - Megabox L6
Starbucks - Millennium City 1
Starbucks - One Kowloon
Starbucks - Telford Plaza 1

HK GIVEAWAYS

It's March and that means plenty more prizes to give away! We've got a gorgeous stay at the Conrad Hong Kong, as well as Riedel glassware and Taboo tickets for a Macau getaway up for grabs. Need we say more? Get entering!

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



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

Sitting in the bustling heart of the city at Admiralty is the **Conrad Hong Kong**, one of the top hotels in Hong Kong known for its excellent accessibility, luxurious rooms and heart-warming hospitality. A home away from home for visitors and locals, the hotel amazes everyone with its panoramic views of Victoria Harbour and the city's stunning skyline, as well as its amazing international cuisines and state-of-the-art fittings.

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

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

In this and the next two issues, you'll find an *italicized* word in the main Spotlight page article. Once you've got all three, include them in a paragraph of no more than 30 words about what you'd do with a staycation at the Conrad Hong Kong. Go to hk-magazine.com/hk-giveaways to submit your entry **before 10am on March 21, 2016**.

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

Win a pair of tickets to see Taboo: The Resort of Desires!

Looking for a risqué weekend getaway? You may now be able to catch **Taboo: The Resort of Desires** at City of Dreams Macau for free! The sensual show staged at Club Cubic challenges your senses and emotions through an array of mesmerizing performances—exploring your deepest desires in a naughty yet sophisticated way.

We've got **five pairs of A Reserve tickets** (each pair valued at \$1,960) to give away! Want a chance to win? Just tell us in one sentence what you'd do with a sinful Macau weekend!

Go to hk-magazine.com/hk-giveaways to submit your entry **before 10am on March 8, 2016**. Winners will be announced on March 11.



WIN
TICKETS
WORTH
\$1,960!



WIN A SET OF
GLASSWARE
WORTH
\$5,070!

Win a set of Riedel glassware from Townhouse!

Got a few bottles of good wine at home? Then you'll need some proper glasses to take them to the next level. Townhouse is generously offering a **set of Riedel glassware** (total value \$5,070) for you to savor your wines at home.

The set includes six Riedel Vinum XL Syrah glasses, six Riedel Vinum XL Riesling Grand Cru glasses and six Riedel Swirl Red Wine glasses. Want to bring them home? Just describe in one sentence your most memorable experience with fine wines. Don't send us your drunk texts, though...

Go to hk-magazine.com/hk-giveaways to submit your entry **before 10am on March 14, 2016**. The winner will be announced on March 18.

FIRST PERSON

Joyce Cheng Yan-yee is the daughter of late actress and TVB legend Lydia Shum and actor Adam Cheng Siu-chow. The actor and singer has received plentiful attention in the press due to perceived weight control issues: But now she's launched her first business, Homie Cookies. She sits down with Evelyn Lok to talk comfort food, entrepreneurship and making her mother proud.

I grew up in Canada. We all grew up with those ooey gooey soft chocolate chip cookies that you make at home. I moved to Hong Kong in 2006.

I spent a large chunk of my life going through major dieting. I was seeing a nutritionist; I was taking western as well as Chinese medicine to help me lose weight. My life was to lose weight.

I allowed society's mentality of "you will only fit in" or "you will only shine if you fit this mold" [to get to me].

I was only 16—I don't think I had found myself yet and I just wanted approval from everyone.

My mom and dad separated when I was eight months old. My mom had always worked in Hong Kong.

I pretty much lived by myself. I don't think I had to grow up extra quick, I just think I did.

It's definitely not normal, not the type of thing I would want my own kids to go through.

In the most ideal world, I would like them to have a complete family with mom and dad present.

With different circumstances, you never know. I think my mom did the best that she could.

My mom has always been my hero. She was always just such a tough lady.

She herself was also a very cheerful, positive person. Her image was the "happy fruit" [one of Lydia Shum's nicknames].

It made me think: You always had to bring this positive energy to people, but what if you have a bad day? Who's supposed to make you happy? You don't really have anyone to do that for you.

If you're a water jug and you keep pouring out, you have to refill at some point. It's like she had endless amounts of energy and endless amount of goodness to give to people.

That was very admirable. Her work ethic was also just amazing.

There were 300-plus complaints made [about Cheng's appearance during her performance as Snow White at the opening of Disneyland Hong Kong in 2005]. I thought it was a joke. I was just a kid back then.

I was quick to move past it, but it wasn't quick for my mother. She was really offended.

I'd be on the phone with my mom, and I kept on telling her "the sky won't fall down."

The thing with tabloids is, the more you fight back, the more material they have. So I always told my mom: Don't let them win.

I never really get emotional when I think about my mom anymore, because it's been eight years now since she passed away.

But there are moments when I have really happy shit I want to share with her but then I can't.

Until the end of 2013, I was kind of in a slump on the entertainment side of my work. I wasn't getting a lot of jobs, I put out an album but people didn't really know about it.

So I was really frustrated. I said: "Eff this. I'm just going to make cookies for the rest of my life!"

We all need one of those days when we just don't give a shit and eat whatever we want to eat.

I started with making cookies initially just for myself and my then-boyfriend.

Then I started making them for friends and they said "Joyce, this is serious shit. You should sell this!"

It was super satisfying to make something for others and for them to be really happy. It made me happy too.

I'd never done anything business-related. I'd only ever done entertainment industry stuff. I thought I'd be biting off more than I could chew.

I took some photos of my cookies, I made an Instagram and a Facebook account, and the orders just started coming in.

I will star in a new movie soon, an artsy film. I've only ever done comedic roles, so I'm really excited to explore this different side of myself.

It's exciting to know that there's this different side of me too. For a while I kept thinking, "Wow: this is it, huh. No one's ever going to take me seriously."

Being a second generation "celebrity"—I don't like using that word—people already have a certain view of you.

My biggest struggle in life so far is that I'm really afraid people won't take me seriously.

There's always this nagging fear in the back of my brain that all my accomplishments will go away, once people remember, "Wait, her mom's gone, we don't have to help her anymore."

I know people don't think that, but it's still a fear.

I was in a bad place when I started Homie Cookies. I didn't have much confidence in myself, and I was scared I would be a turn-off: That once people found out it was me, they wouldn't want to try it.

But people are slowly starting to pick up on the way I view life and the way I want to live life—without me needing to show anyone.

Whenever there's negativity, there's no point in fighting it.

Once people make up their minds about something, their minds are made up. You're just going to waste your breath, or you're going to get them more riled.

The most important thing to do is to continue doing what you're passionate about and you know that you didn't do anything wrong.

What I want to say to haters is: Stop hating so much. Stop stressing so much. You'll live a happier life. Have a cookie. Be happy.

"We all need one of those days when we just don't give a shit and eat whatever we want to eat."



NEED TO KNOW...

Homie Cookies was founded by Joyce Cheng, Bob Sze and BKRM.com founder Pinky Ngie in early 2013. After stints at weekend markets around town, the company has just wrapped up its first successful pop-up store in Harbour City. Check homiecookies.com for locations or to order.



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bong kong and macau IRISH FESTIVAL

bong kong and macau
IRISH FESTIVAL
Féile na hÉireann • 香港及澳門愛爾蘭節

A celebration of Irish culture, community and commerce in March 2016

St Patrick's Day Parade – March 13, Tamar Park

Plus: film festival • music & dance concerts • food & drink showcases • Irish language events • literary readings • St Patrick's Society ball • art exhibitions • 1916 commemorations • Macau's first St Patrick's Day parade • Irish whiskey cocktail challenge • Gaelic sports events and lots more

For more information visit www.irishfestival.asia #irishfestivalasia irishfestivalasia