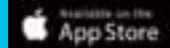


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Let's go to
Venn Chai

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LOVE



Egg tarts

HATE



Expensive cheese

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Charting Hong Kong

A city in silly graphics

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The Job Hunt Song

Want a job here in Hong Kong?
Listen to this simple song!
It has all the tips you need
To land your dream job easily.

First things first: It's education,
The backbone of our mighty nation.
You'll need a very good degree:
It's best if you go overseas.
(If you haven't been abroad
You won't get appointed to a board.)

Are your parents both Chinese?
Then pick one of professions three:
Doctor, lawyer, architect—
Anything else you can forget.

So not for you, the college fun
Of sports or drugs or sex or rum:
Instead you'd better spend your nights
On algebra and such delights!

You've graduated—with honors, clearly!
A shame that it means nothing, really.
No one cares about your studies
You're back to square one, little buddy.

A new report has revealed that Hong Kong is the third-hardest place in the world to find skilled workers, with 65 percent of SAR employers saying they had difficulty finding the right people for the job. But we're not sure employers are the ones who have it hard...

So now's the time for bad behavior:
Call on family friends for favors.
Blackmail, threaten, bribe and tip:
Just land yourself an internship.
Congratulations, you're on the way!
—oh, it's unpaid, didn't we say?

You've finally got a job? Congrats!
Time to move into a flat.
Hope your measly salary
Covers rent—and agents' fees.

And now you're at work, churning through
Countless reports (all overdue).
This wasn't quite what you had planned
When you became a salaryman.

Want to book time for vacation?
Oh, you didn't pass probation.
This other guy's cheaper by far—
AND he speaks good Putonghua.

On with the job hunt, hopeful friend!
You'll land that dream job in the end!
You'll get your gig (with travel stipend)!
It's that or move to freaking Shenzhen...

Who's in charge?

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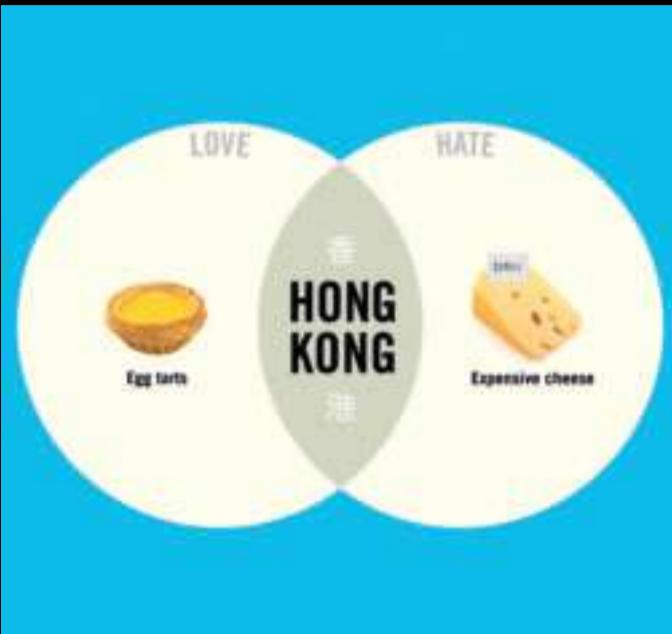
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FIRST PERSON

Magician and
puppeteer
Harry Wong



MAILBAG

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

Dear Mr. Know-It-All,

If parallel trading is such a nuisance, why don't they just tighten up the border controls? – Border Collie

Hong Kong's border issues weren't always about parallel trading, you know.

There are 16 miles of border between Hong Kong and China, running between Mirs Bay in the East and Deep Bay in the West. Once upon a time, the border was watched with zeal, another front in the cold war between East and West.

In 1945 the city of Hong Kong was liberated from Japanese occupation, and over the next two years its population swelled from 500,000 to 1.8 million. The city was just about getting back on its feet when it saw another wave of migration. Thanks to the Chinese civil war, 1948-9 witnessed huge numbers of people move to the south as the victorious CCP armies pushed the Kuomintang out of the country. In 1949 and 1950 around 750,000 people fled from China to Hong Kong. By spring of 1950, the city's population was around 2.36 million.

As if that wasn't enough to tax the city's already stretched resources, more and more people were arriving. Illegal immigration became a major concern. The borderlands became a lawless hinterland, and 1949 saw a series of gang attacks on police outposts near the border that led to the theft of munitions and the death of a police officer.

The then-Commissioner of Police, Duncan MacIntosh, decided that something had to be done. He proposed the construction of seven police posts on hilltops spanning those 16 arbitrary miles that separated China from Hong Kong.

Each of the seven forts would have a prominent tower, affording a 360 degree view of the surrounding countryside, and each would be in sight of its neighboring posts. They would be manned 24 hours a day, and the all-seeing eyes of what became known as the "MacIntosh Cathedrals" would patrol even as the rest of Hong Kong slept.

It worked, and the towers played an important part in preventing illegal immigration and cross-border smuggling. The towers were later kitted out with thermal sensors, night vision equipment and all the electronic gewgaws you'd expect of a surveillance outpost. The buildings are still operated by the police force, although these days all the work is done remotely.

Well, almost all the work—the MacIntosh Cathedral at Kong Shan still sees a police constable deployed to it every night. Take heart in the fact that even now a single, solitary officer keeps watch on the border between Hong Kong and China: One final face standing between our city and total integration.



All along the watchtowers

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

#PrivateEyeHK



Umbrella Movement
Photo by Lisa Rieser



Your thoughts, words, deeds:

"Vomit inducing saccharine tweeness"

At a Loss

How, exactly, did China lose US\$3.5 trillion in a week? Resident smart-aleck Mr. Know-It-All explained the China stock market crash earlier this month [July 24, issue 1106]. Our Facebook readers add their own, more damning, theories.

Law of gravity. What goes up must come down. Other indices or HK property market is no exception.

Ken Iwaki

That's what happens to stupid greedy people.

David Kibble

Stupidity greed and a Ponzi scheme!

Ross Killin

Communism discovering capitalism...
The hard way...

Fabiano Mascolo

Helping Voices
Positive responses to our "Help Our Helpers" [July 31, issue 1107] story about the plight of Foreign Domestic Workers in the SAR.

The biggest slap in the face was denying DHs right of abode here like any other working immigrant. Looking forward to getting into this issue.

Jonathan Chan-Combrink

Interesting article that highlights the plight of this marginalised group. Hong Kong would literally 'shut' if all the helpers just went home.

Steve Bruce

Must be better than what they have at home, otherwise they wouldn't be doing it. What really puts them at a disadvantage is the work permit laws that don't allow them to leave an employer easily if they are being abused. If they tried to leave a certain employer they lose their status.

Rod Libertate

Inside Opinions

Our five-star review of Pixar's "Inside Out" [July 31, issue 1107] met with agreement... and dissenting opinions.

I can't think of the last film I saw where I cried so much and laughed so much. Just a brilliant film, well done Pixar.

Julien Deckard

Vomit inducing saccharine tweeness of the highest order.

Darrell Painter

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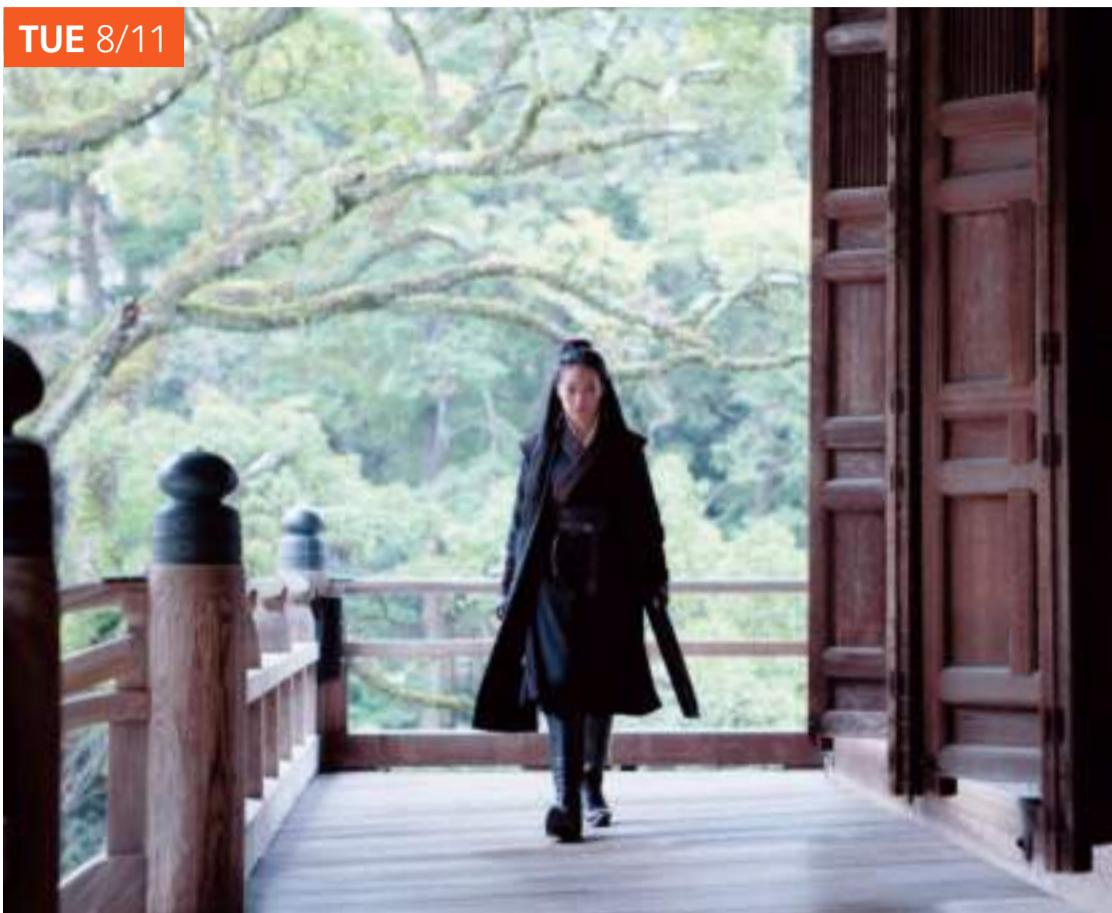
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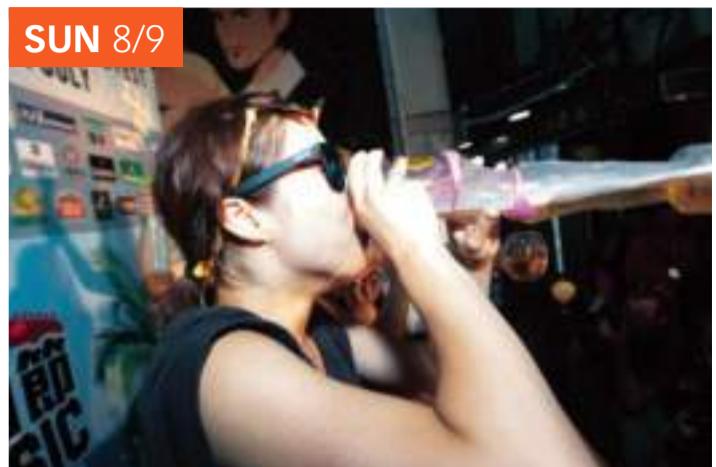
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THE WEEK

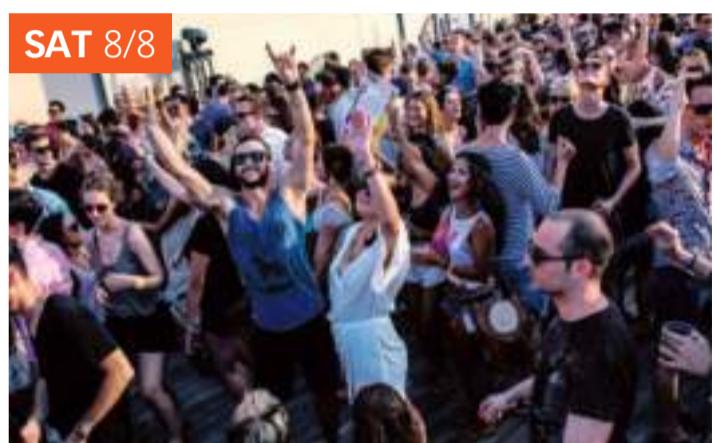
TUE 8/11



SUN 8/9



SAT 8/8



Friday 8/7

Club Tropicana

Vibes is hosting the **Tropical Haven Party**. Sip on tiki cocktails, watch conga drummers do their thing and kick back in a cabana to nu-disco beats from Cliché Records DJs. Dress in your tropical finest for the chance to win a cash voucher.

Aug 7 & Sep 4, 9pm. 5/F, The Mira, 118 Nathan Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, 2315-5999. \$100 at the door.

Saturday 8/8

Making Waves

Rewind's rooftop parties have become the go-to events this summer, and this time the promoter is bringing us a beach party:

Waves by Rewind. Expect sandy DJ beats and lots of really good-looking people.

4-10:30pm. **Exact location released 24 hours before event** on tiny.cc/hk-rewind. Free entry.

Sunday 8/9

Beer Me Up, Scotty

The **Lan Kwai Fong Beer and Music Fest** is inevitably back.

You know the drill: more than 100 beers flowing liberally from street booths, restaurants and bars. This year, the festival's theme is "Wild West"—so expect wagons, cactuses and cowgirl dance shows. Remember: Drink to excess, responsibly.

Aug 8-9, 1pm onwards. **Lan Kwai Fong, Central**.

Monday 8/10

Rights and Wrongs

Organized by Amnesty International, the **North Korea Human Rights Film Festival** screens films and documentaries chronicling the lives of defectors from the DPRK. There are also post-screening discussions with directors and the escapees. Aug 8-11. **CUHK, Tat Chee Avenue, Kowloon Tong**. Pay what you want; donate at www.eventbrite.hk. Visit www.facebook.com/HKNKHRFF for times.

Tuesday 8/11

Movie Magic

Cinephiles, get your pensive looks ready: The **Summer International Film Festival** returns. Featured films include Hou Hsiao-hsien's latest offering "The Assassin," which won him best director at Cannes this year. Starring Shu Qi, it's an artsy first foray into the wuxia genre for the director. Various locations. www.cinefan.com.hk.

Wednesday 8/12

Pooling Resources

Think you're good at pool? Hit up Play's **Pool Tournament Wednesdays**. The winner gets a magnum bottle of Belvedere while the runner-up gets a normal-sized bottle. Errbody wins! Aug 12, 19 & 26. Register before 6pm; tournament at 7pm. 1/F, On Hing Building, 1 On Hing Terrace, Central.

Thursday 8/13

Culture Vultures

Catch the last few days of the **International Arts Carnival**. Events still running are an exhibition celebrating the 20th birthday of comic book character Woody Wood, and puppet show "Super Mama Market." Through Aug 16. **Various times and locations**. hkiac.gov.hk.

Friday 8/14

Food For Thought

Foodies, loosen your belts for the **Hong Kong Food Expo**. Sample stall after stall of delectable treats, from instant noodles to Michelin-starred dishes all under one gargantuan roof. Aug 14-15, 10am-10pm. **HKCEC, 1 Expo Drive, Wan Chai**, \$25 at the door.

Saturday 8/15

Take it Outside

Yuen Long plays host to **OpenSesame!**, a two-day festival boasting over 30 indie acts including Ni.ne.mo and ANWIYCTI. Best part? You can set up camp and stay the night. Organizers stumbled on the space and begged villagers to let them host the shindig, which will also offer games, food and drinks. Aug 15, noon; Aug 16, 11am. **1 Chi Ma Leng, Pat Heung, Kam Tin Rd., Yuen Long**. \$280-380 (\$150 extra for camping) from www.ticketflap.com.



LAST CHANCE...

Bye Bye Backstage

After eight years of quality indie gigs, comedy shows and film screenings, Backstage Live is closing at the end of the month. To bid farewell, the venue is putting on the **Stagéjàvu Festival**, a series of goodbye gigs featuring groups who have graced its stage. See the likes of electro rockers Redholic (pictured), cinematic rock five-piece Nowhere Boys and jazz singer Angelita Li—all before the Stagéjàvu Closing Indie Music Party on August 30.

Through Aug 30. 1/F, Somptueux Central, 52-54 Wellington St., Central, 2167-8985.

From \$298 for two tickets, including two drinks.



A whole new world of taste treats

It has been called a global banquet, and rightly so.

HKTDC Food Expo returns to the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre for its 26th edition, from 13 to 17 August 2015. With over 1,100 exhibitors from all around the world, Food Expo is a buffet of international delicacies, just waiting to tempt visitors.

Inside the public hall, the **Premium Food Zone** is the place to showcase popular brands. Some of the big names are Chewy, Kee Wah Bakery, Maxim's Caterers, Nissin, On Kee Dry Seafood, Tai Pan, Tung Chun and Vita Green Health Products.

The **Gourmet Zone**, open from 13 to 16 August, is a food lovers' paradise. It is popular more than 70 exhibitors, all of whom are known for high quality food and beverages. They come from all over the world to show their offerings in four themes: Western Delicacy, Asian Cuisine, Chic & More and Sweet Delight. Visitors can sample outstanding products such as Wagyu beef, fresh seafood, premium coffee, fine wine, jamon, abalone, fusion ice-cream, specialty cheese, and so much more.



Meet some culinary stars and celebrities

A galaxy of star chefs and celebrities will present cooking demonstrations and performance in the star kitchen of the **Gourmet Zone** and **IC Lifestyle Theatre** in the **Home Delights Expo**. For both kitchens, the appliances are sponsored by Panasonic. Star chefs and celebrities include Chan Kwok Keung, Ricky Cheung, Chiu Sze Cheuk, Gabriel Choy, Do Thi Thuy Linh, Fat Boy, Margaret Fu, Wins Hung, Jeffery Koo, Jason Ho & Bong Kwok, Eric Lai, Lau Chun, Ken Lau, Leung Fai Hung, Hilda Leung, Louie Ma, William Ma, Gloria Tsang, Denice Wai, Annie Wong, Gee Wong, etc. Celebrity Chef Gigi Wong will join the show too.

Join in the fun!

As well as cooking demonstrations, visitors can attend talks and participate in competitions, interactive games and lucky draws.

See the latest lifestyle trends

Visitors can also check out the **Home Delights Expo** which happens concurrently with the same time and venue as Food Expo. More than 100 exhibitors are showing cooking utensils, electrical appliances and household products. The Expo's new Avenue of Delights showcases around 30 popular brands with lifestyle products.

Two other fairs - **HKTDC Hong Kong International Tea Fair** and **the International Conference & Exhibition of the Modernization of Chinese Medicine & Health Products** are trade only from 13-14 August, and welcome the public ticket-holders on 15 August to see their fascinating exhibits.

Food Expo 2015 Fair Details

Opening Dates & Hours:

- Food Expo Public Hall & Home Delights Expo:
13-16 August: 10am-10pm; 17 August: 10am-6pm
- Gourmet Zone:
13-16 August, 10am-10pm

Combo Ticket : \$40

"Food Expo Public Hall", "Gourmet Zone" and "Home Delights Expo"

Single Ticket : \$25

"Food Expo Public Hall" and "Home Delights Expo"

Night Admission Ticket (13-16 August 2015, for entry after 6pm): \$10

"Food Expo Public Hall" and "Home Delights Expo"

Remarks:

- Tickets are available for sale from 30 July 2015 at Circle K and 7-Eleven Or buy online at www.hkticketing.com.
- Single Ticket & Night Ticket holder can pay a top-up fee of HK\$25 for the admission to Gourmet Zone on the same day.
- Night Admission Ticket (13-16 August) are sold only at the ticketing counter located at the Harbour Road Entrance.

Food Expo: www.hktdc.com/ex/hkfoodexpo/27



Enquiry: 1830 670 [f HKTDC.Exhibition](https://www.facebook.com/HKTDC.Exhibition)

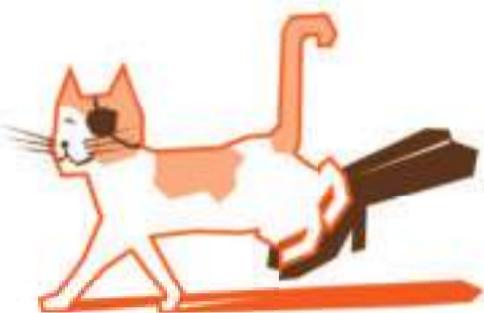


NEWS

Last Week In Reality

Sat 25

Cabbie Rage More than 30 taxi drivers park a taxi outside the Transport Department in Wan Chai and use sledgehammers to smash the vehicle, in protest against car booking apps such as Uber. One driver hurts his finger and is sent to the hospital.



Sun 26

Felicitous Feline Five days after being stolen from the Sam Kee Book Co. in North Point, blind celebrity cat "Fook Zai" is handed in to SPCA headquarters in Wan Chai. The cat appears to be in good condition, aside from a few scratches on his nose. A staff member of the bookstore says that the thief has a heart after all.



Mon 27

Cutting Remarks Four western tourists drinking in a bar on Yiu Wa Street in Causeway Bay refuse to leave at closing time, 3am. After staying for two more hours, they start to argue with the staff, refusing to pay their bill. A shirtless tattooed staff member threatens one of the drinkers with a knife, chasing him around a car parked outside the bar. Police arrive and subdue the assailant. The westerner suffers a cut to his ear.

Tue 28

Jilted Lover A clerical assistant in the Social Welfare Department is found guilty of illegally accessing information. She had met a man online, and they dated for two years before breaking up. A month after the split, her ex brought his new, pregnant girlfriend to seek her advice with child support. The woman logged into the SWD's intranet and illegally looked up their information, harassing them with letters and calls. The couple complained to the SWD and the woman was arrested and charged.



Wed 29

Sewage Spewage The High Court orders the MTR Corporation to pay a couple around \$430,000 to cover the costs of flat renovation, relocation and medical bills. The couple had sued the MTR for an incident in January in which their flat, which was on top of Choi Hung MTR station, overflowed with sewage from the toilet and bathtub. The MTR, which owns the building, delayed sending cleaning crew, repair workers and equipment. The flat was flooded with sewage for five hours and had to be remodelled to clean out the smell, while one of the couple was hospitalized for three days.

Thu 30

Justice Done A 65-year-old man does a celebratory handstand outside Sha Tin Court after charges of illegal hawking are dropped and his repair tools returned to him. The man was arrested on June 28 for receiving compensation for his services as a bike repairman: Two FEHD officers had watched him install handlebars and waited until he was handed \$10 to cover the cost of parts before taking him away. He says he plans to continue repairing bikes for his neighbors.

Fri 31

Bad Banners More than 40 demonstrators hold a protest at HKU, carrying signs and banners and chanting for HKU's vice-chancellor Peter Mathieson to step down from his position and students to concentrate on their studies. The slogans on the banners have multiple lexical errors, including an incorrect spelling of Mathieson's name in Chinese. When asked about the errors, the protest's organizer said that he did everything by hand.

Illustrations: Ryan Chan

Talking Points

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



HKU Collapse Creates Meme Storm

A controversial closed-door meeting at the University of Hong Kong was thrown into chaos last week after students stormed the room. The meeting was intended to further delay the appointment of liberal scholar Johannes Chan to the post of pro-vice-chancellor. During the scuffle, Department of Surgery head Professor **Lo Chung-mau fell to the floor clutching his knee**, remaining immobile for some time. A photo of Lo on the floor began circulating online, and netizens started to Photoshop the prone figure, **posing him as a dancer, a diving footballer and a fighting game character, among others**. Lo insists that he did not fake his injury.

Our Take: Strong meme game, internet.

Hong Kong, Anti-Sausagefest

A report published by the Census and Statistics Department has revealed that the **ratio of women to men is increasing in the SAR**. Last year, there were 858 men for every 1,000 women in Hong Kong, down from 864:1,000 the year before. In addition, last year **7,600 Hong Kong women married men from the mainland, a tenfold increase on statistics in the 1980s**. Love consultants and matchmakers have advised singletons to broaden their social networks.

Our Take: Good news, guys! Bad news, girls!

Magistrate Threatened After Sentencing Breast-Assault Woman

Deputy magistrate Michael Chan of the Tuen Mun Court has claimed **he has been threatened after finding a female protester guilty of assaulting a police chief inspector with her breast**. Ng Lai-ying was one of four protesters charged after taking part in anti-parallel trader protests in Yuen Long in March. **She was sentenced to three months and 15 days in prison**. Deputy magistrate Chan revealed that **intimidation had made him worry for his personal safety**, but insisted that it did not affect his ruling and sentencing. All four defendants are currently on bail pending an appeal.

Our Take: What was the magistrate threatened with? More tits?

Quote of the Week

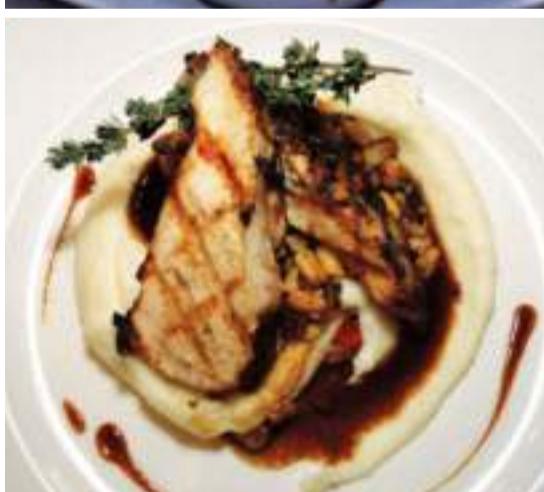
"Without the Communist Party, without China, you wouldn't even have water to drink."

Li Kang, a member of the Guangdong Provincial Committee of the CPPCC, criticizes Hongkongers for being blindly anti-PRC. He insisted that Hongkongers were dependent on China for their income. Hong Kong gets 70 percent of its water from the Dongjiang river in Guangdong.



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UPFRONT

HongKabulary



Emigration Anxiety (*ɛmɪgrēɪʃn æŋzərəti:*), n.

Refusing to commit to a relationship because you are planning to leave Hong Kong within the next year.

"I was really into her, but she got serious emigration anxiety so it never worked out."

Caption This

"Long Hair" Leung Kwok-hung argues with a man at Eastern Court (Dickson Lee/SCMP)



Long Hair: "Boop! Got Your Nose!"

LAWMAKER FINALLY BECOMES INCARNATION OF THE POINTED COMMENT

Is It A Bird? Is It A Plane? No, It's Just Some Guy

Fast Facts

Chest Message

How else are we attacking the police with our breasts?

- Boobzookas.
- Cleavers in cleavage.
- Semtex breast implants.
- Smooshing them to death.
- Aggressively standing there with our clothes on.

Street Talk



Freelance illustrator **Kay Cheung** co-founded a local urban sketching group called Sketcher-Kee to record some of the changes taking place in the city. He tells Joanne Lee about his artwork and how he feels about Hong Kong's rapid development.

HK Magazine: When did you start urban sketching?

Kay Cheung: When I was studying graphic design in university, urban sketching was part of basic aesthetic training. I stopped for years but have picked it up recently in response to the rapid changes taking place in some of the older districts.

HK: How do you feel about the rapid development of the city?

KC: I feel helpless, angry, yet appreciative. By appreciative, I mean of the old society: for example, the beauty of the old districts and arrangement of the streets.

HK: What's the favorite sketch you've ever produced?

KC: A sketch of a store in Choi Hung Estate is one of my favorites. Kwun Tong has been through big changes in recent years but Yee On Street still preserves the old Kwun Tong elements. The sketch includes part of my childhood memories.

HK: Have you learned anything surprising about Hong Kong while sketching?

KC: During a recent visit to To Kwa Wan, I found there are around three to four *bing sut* [traditional restaurants] selling egg tarts and red bean ices that I wasn't aware of. I studied in To Kwa Wan for four years and thought I knew the district well, but I was wrong!

HK: If all of the historical elements disappear, what would you sketch?

KC: If there were no more historical elements in Hong Kong, that would be terrible. I wouldn't want to draw buildings with regular windows like IFC. Those structures have contemporary architectural beauty, but they're aloof. I like lived-in buildings with human warmth. I may go to Taiwan or Macau, where historical elements can still be preserved.



Learn more about Kay Cheung and Sketcher-Kee at www.facebook.com/sketcher.kee.



European meat on the tables of Hong Kong

"Man does not live to eat, he eats to live" - Socrates would say, the ancient Greek philosopher living in the 4th century BCE. Millennia have passed since then and this wisdom still applies to the entire world.

Which products should we choose to "eat smart"? We will be happy to answer your questions during the International Exhibition of Food and Drink FOOD EXPO 2015 which will be held in Hong Kong on 13th-15th August. We will be eager to talk to you about our product portfolio, which includes pork, beef meats, as well as their products, and high quality poultry. We will be showing you how to prepare dishes using these meat types. We will have a few outstanding chefs from Poland working at the fair kitchen of the "European Meat" program.

With the support of the leading producers of meat from Europe, and Poland, the chefs will cook spectacular dishes which will combine the flavors of Europe and Asia, and which will prove to you that the products offered by us can be easily placed on the highest shelf, and offered to the most discerning customers and consumers.

As we know, there are over 8000 restaurants and bars in Hong Kong, which serve hundreds of dishes of the regional Chinese and Asiatic cuisines, but also those which draw richly from the culinary wealth of other continents. Most of these places offer dishes from pork, beef or poultry. European meat would be a beneficial addition to the package used for the

preparation of these dishes.

European countries, including Poland, are famous for their pork, beef and poultry meats, which are known for their one-of-a-kind taste and quality. This uniqueness is underlined by the method of rearing and the tradition, which farmers, breeders and meat product manufacturers refer back to, at every stage of meat production.

Tradition and modernity - these two elements merge the entire manufacturing process. European quality and top-notch meat taste - are the result of constant concern for as natural as possible method of feed production, care for animal welfare, adherence to the most stringent standards in slaughter houses, cutting and processing plants. European, and, particularly, Polish meat industry is considered to be the most modern in the world. And once again, it is worth reminding that in the European countries, the entire food chain is constructed in accordance with the principles of environmental protection - in line with the tradition and the concern for the quality and taste.

Promotional and information program "European Meat - Tradition, Quality and Taste," which we will be presenting at booth 5B-E02 during the International Exhibition of Food and Drink FOOD EXPO 2015, encompasses the promotion of the European fresh, chilled or frozen meat and its products, including fresh chilled or frozen beef and pork, as well as

EUROPEAN MEAT
TRADITION QUALITY TASTE

processed meat products manufactured in accordance with HACCP quality system - Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point; the industry ISO standard - Quality management systems - Requirements; standards of GMP - Good Manufacturing Practice, and GHP activities - Good Hygienic Practice alongside with high quality poultry meat.

The merits of the European meat, sourced from only select animal breeds, favor the systematic development of animal rearing and the increase of exports. Hong Kong is an important mark on the map of the meat product exporters. Hoping for the increase in the popularity of the European meat in China, and particularly in Hong Kong, we extend to you our invitation to visit booth of the Promotion Program "European Meat - Tradition, Quality and Taste."

Detailed information on the promotional program "European Meat - Tradition Quality Taste," and on the Association Butchers and Producers of Processed Meat of the Republic of Poland, who is the proponent of the program, and on the promotional events during the FOOD EXPO exhibition is available on www.eu-meat.eu.

CAMPAIN FINANCED WITH AID FROM THE EUROPEAN UNION AND THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND    AND ALSO THE PORK PROMOTION FUND AND THE BEEF PROMOTION FUND 

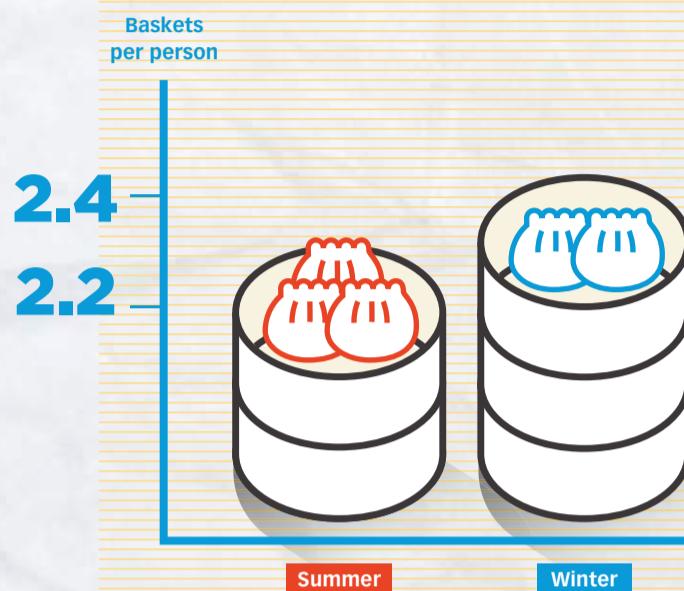


CHARTING HONG KONG

This week we've flexed our infographic muscles to bring you these charts designed to educate, excite, entertain and amuse. Or maybe just amuse. By **Adam White**

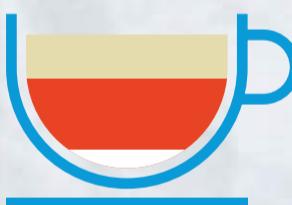
THE DIM SUM RULE

Always over-ordering at dim sum? Or perennially left wanting more? Follow the simple dim sum rule to ensure you're never left starving or stuffed.



THE HK MAGAZINE CHA CHAAN TENG DRINKS ORDER CHART

Ever walked into a cha chaan teng and been bewildered by what to order? This visual guide ensures that you're never confused again, probably.



Milk tea 奶茶
"nai cha"



Milk tea (no sugar) 茶走
"cha zau" (tea walk)



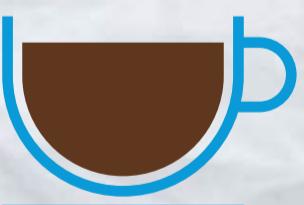
Iced milk tea 凍奶茶
"dong nai cha"



Red bean ice 紅豆冰
"hong dau bing"



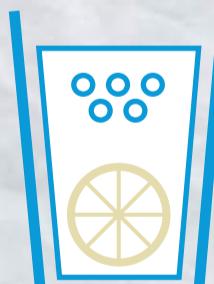
Coffee 咖啡
"ga feh"



Black coffee 飛砂走奶
"fei sa zau nai" (fly sugar, walk milk)



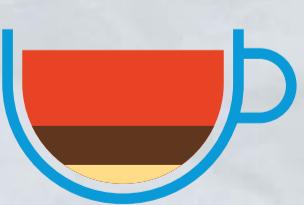
Iced lemon tea 凍檸茶
"dong ling cha"



Salted lemon 7-Up 鹹檸七
"haam ling tsut"



Yuen yeung (coffee/tea) 鴉鴉
"yuen yeung"



Yuen yeung (no sugar) 鴉走
"yeung zau" (yeung walk)

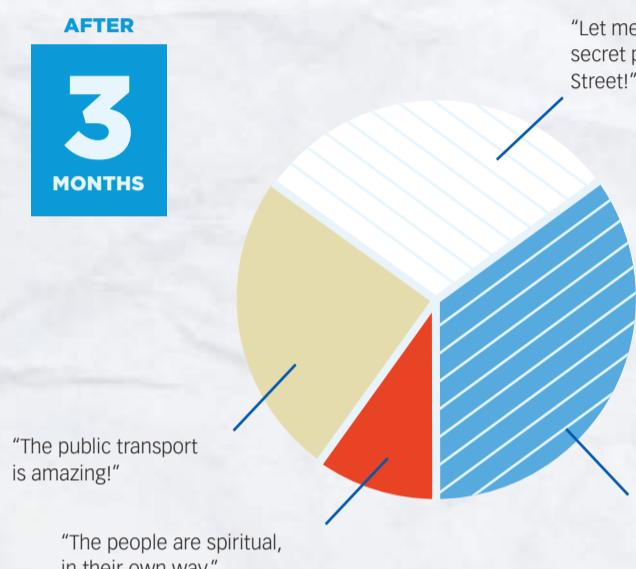
- Tea
- Coffee
- Evaporated milk
- Condensed milk
- Sugar

- Coconut milk
- Red bean
- Ice
- 7-up
- Lemon

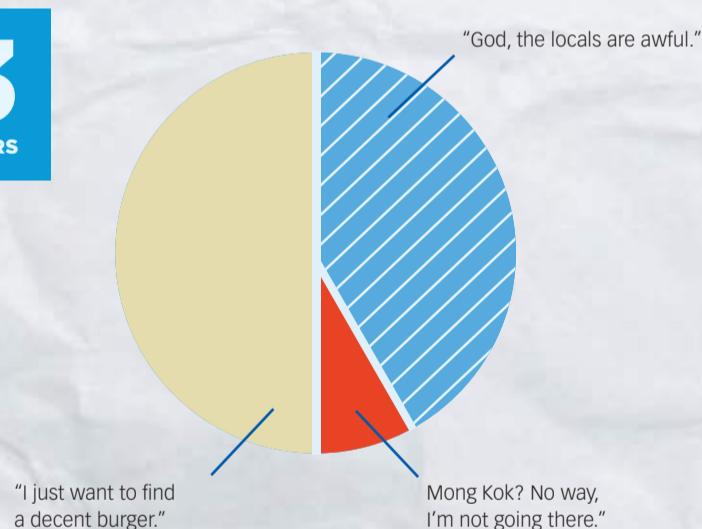
THE EXPAT DEMOGRAPHIC CHART

These graphs explain every emotion you will ever encounter with an expat/feel as an expat. Ever.

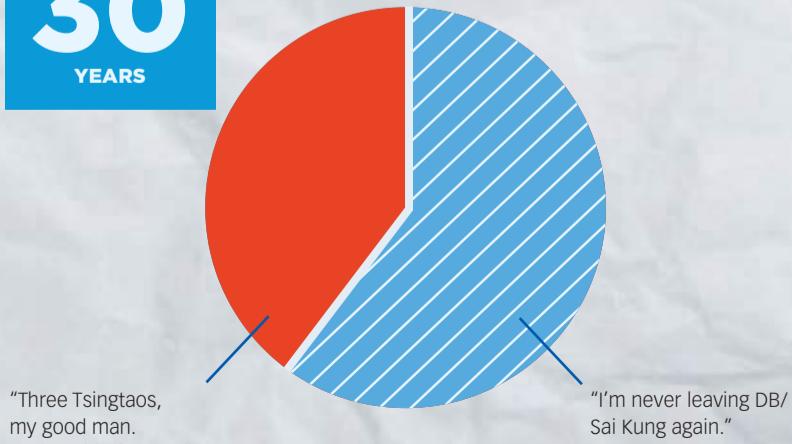
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AFTER
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AFTER
30 YEARS



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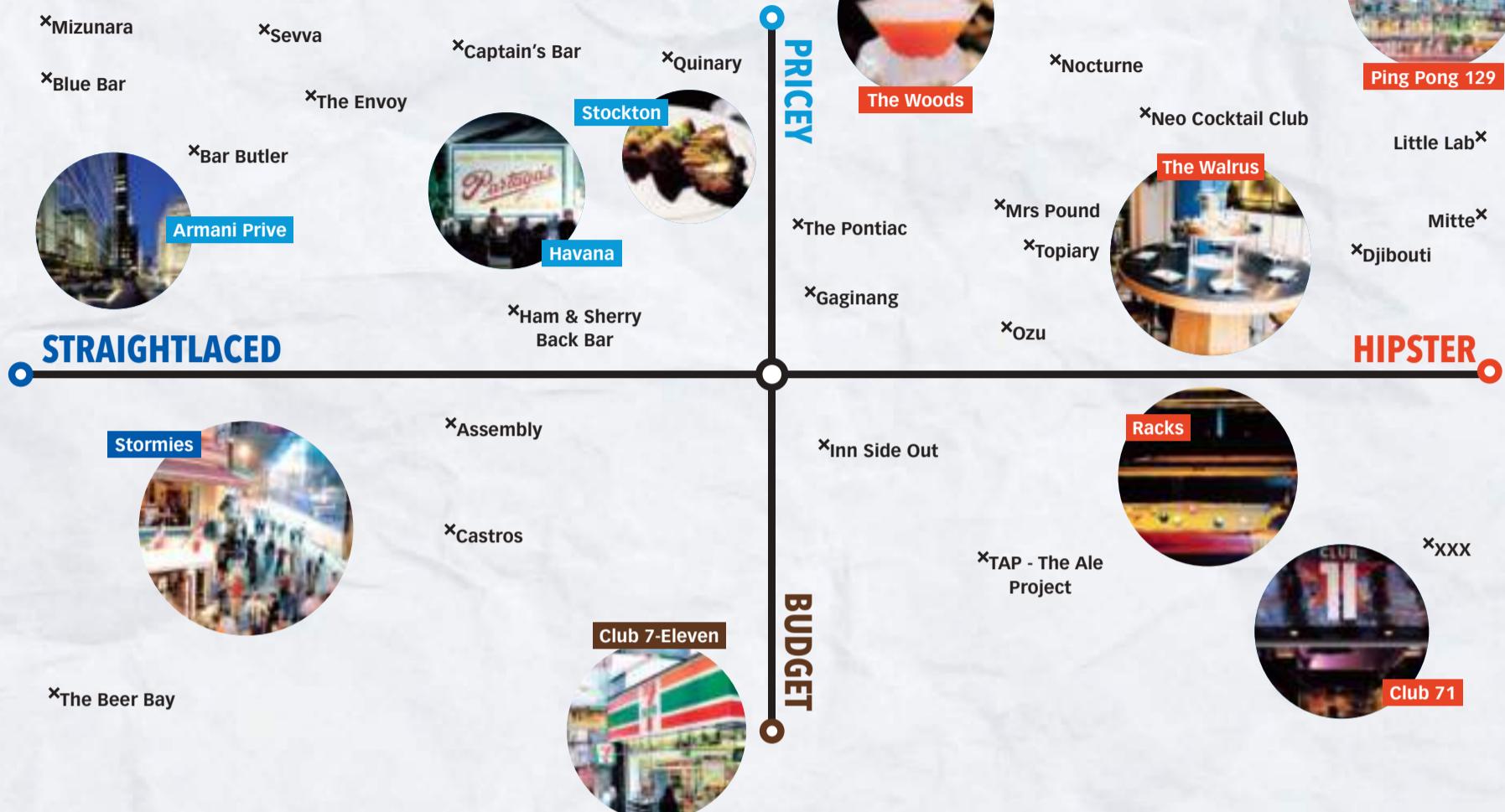
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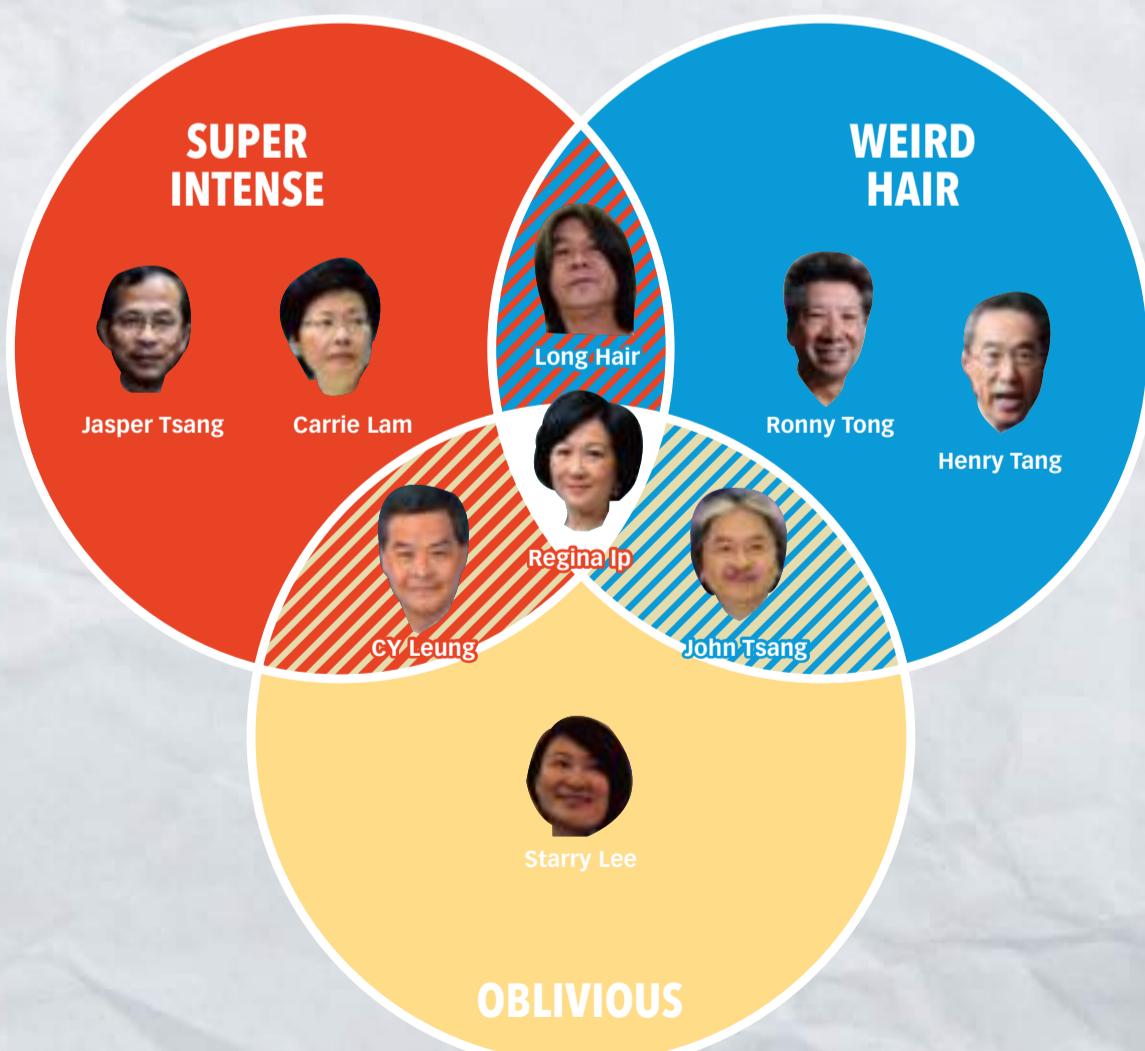
THE HONG KONG BAR CHART

What kind of boozing are you in the mood for? Let us help.



A POLITICIAN VENN DIAGRAM

Who says the politicians of Hong Kong can't be categorized? It's surprisingly easy...



SHOULD I GO TO THE PEAK?

Wondering whether or not to go up the Peak this weekend? Let this handy flowchart guide you.



Yes! Six cousins and two university kinda-friends.

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H0s

IN DIFFERENT AREA CODES

The Ho family has its roots in the beginnings of Hong Kong. But do you have any idea how prolific the eurasian clan actually is? This (very abbreviated) chart should help!



SIR ROBERT HO TUNG
(1862–1956), Legendary businessman and "Grand Old Man of Hong Kong"



ROBERT HO SHAI-LAI
(1906–1998), Kuomintang general



EDWARD HOTUNG
(1902–1957), banker and philanthropist

ROBERT HO HUNG-NGAI
(1932–), journalist and philanthropist

VICTORIA HOTUNG
(1897–????)

GEORGE HO CHO-CHI
(1919–2014), founder of Commercial Radio Hong Kong

LO TAK-SHING

(1935–2006), Law Society president, ExCo member and Chief Executive contender



SIR MAN-KAM LO
(1893–1959), Lawyer and ExCo member



PANSY HO
(1962–), Macau businesswoman



HO FOOK
(1863–1926), Jardine's Comprador



HO KUM-TONG
(1866–1950), Jardine's Comprador



HO SAI-KWONG



GRACE HO
(1907–1996), possibly adopted



LEE HOI-CHUEN
(1902–1956), Cantonese opera star



STANLEY HO
(1921–), Macau gambling magnate



BRUCE LEE
(1940–1973), Martial artist and movie star



LAWRENCE HO
(1976–), businessman and CPPCC member

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Check out Hard Rock Cafe Hong Kong's new Loyalty Program and learn how you can get your 10th Weekday Set Lunch for FREE! Weekday Set Lunch comes with an appetizer and a main course, all starting from just HK\$118! Visit the cafe before Sept 11 and you can be the lucky winner of two concert tickets to see an iconic American Rock band live in Macau!

LG/F, LKF Tower, 55 D'Aguilar Street, Lan Kwai Fong, Central, HK.
Tel: 2111 3777



Fascinating Science Experience in KIDS SUMMER LAB

Want your child to have a relaxing summer that prepares for school year? You are welcome to be a part of KIDS SUMMER LAB at Cyberport. From 8-9 & 15-16 August, Cyberport opens the portal to the fascinating realm of science. Children will have a grand time soaking up science knowledge and learning the spirit of experimentation.

The Arcade, Cyberport, 100 Cyberport Road, Hong Kong
Tel: 3166 3701



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email: salesinquiry@urbanCube.com



New Bar Snacks, Whiskey Flights and Special Music Sessions at Stockton

Stockton, the hidden bar that tucked away in a dark passageway of Wyndham Street, is introducing a new series of initiatives and events this August. The culinary team brings a new variety of bar snacks, such as Fried Artichokes, or Black Truffle Arancini. Beside, our whiskey expert bartenders will take you on a journey to discover the authentic taste of our Whiskey collections.

G/F, 32 Wyndham Street, Central, Hong Kong, 2565 5268



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Muses of Summer

Stylish junk goddesses have been glittering in the sun thanks to these cool new metallic body art collections from **The9thMuse**, which stocks popular temporary tat brands such as Kookii B and Beyond Jewelry. These sticky, sparkly body accessories come in all styles and attitudes for easy mixing and matching. From subtle gold leaves to loud Coachella-inspired patterns, there are dozens of fresh looks to ensure you shine in all seasons.

\$50-128 per pack. **The9thMuse**, 1 Lyndhurst Tower, 1 Lyndhurst Terrace, Central, 2537-7598, www.the9thmuse.com.



Spread it Around

If you've ever had a happy hour "aperitivo" spread in Europe, then you'll understand why we're obsessed with these mini buffets: Generous selections of light bites with a pre-dinner cocktail. Can't jet off to Italy? Check out the next best alternatives right here in the SAR. By **John Robertson**



DiVino: Vino and more



Boqueria: tapas time

Best Al Fresco: Giando

The hike to Giando at Fenwick Pier will help get that appetite going just in time for a premium spread from Chef Gianni Caprioli. The aperitivo table here focuses on quality Italian ingredients, so expect imported olives, marinated onions, pickled vegetables, deep-fried mozzarella skin and more. Enjoy it all with a unique view of the harbor or chow down al fresco on the terrace.

Grab a bite: Daily 6pm onwards. Free with drink purchase.

1/F, The Fleet Arcade, Fenwick Pier, 1 Lung King St., Wan Chai, 2511-8912.

Trend-Setter: La Piola

Stand anywhere on Lyndhurst Terrace and you'll see the lively throng spilling out of this open-fronted bar on to the street. Chef Fabio Sgro and co-owner Enrico Gili come from Turin, the self-declared aperitivo capital of the world. So it's no surprise that La Piola puts on a free evening mini-feast as long as you buy a cocktail. Among the rotating selection of items on the aperitivo buffet are mortadella on toast, buffalo mozzarella with cherry tomatoes, pizza, tramezzini, salami, focaccia with cherry tomatoes, poached shrimp skewers, savory quiche and mini bruschetta. Now the crowds are starting to make sense....

Grab a bite: Daily, 5-8pm. Free with drink purchase.

G-1/F, 2-10 Lyndhurst Terrace, Central, 2851-2281.

Best Views: Aqua

Aqua can't help but keep it classy, and the trend continues with its decadent Milano-style aperitivo selection, put on by executive chef Paolo Morresi. Expect choice cold cuts, buffalo mozzarella, carefully prepared mini sandwiches, and a selection of other fresh items that change daily. A soundtrack of 50s and 60s-era Italian jazz serenades the early evening hours, and be sure to check out cocktails by world-renowned mixologist Charles Joly all through this summer: We're fans of the super-herby "Garden of England."

Grab a bite: Monday-Friday, 5-7pm. Free with \$150 drink minimum spend.

30/F, 1 Peking Road Shopping Arcade, 1 Peking Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, 3427-2288.

Best Date Night: DiVino

DiVino has long been a popular spot for "opening the stomach," as the Italians say, with a small bite before dinner—so popular that the restaurant is now offering two different aperitivo time slots. Weekday "aperitif moments" feature hot and cold antipasti treats, including cold cuts, cheeses, olives, frittata, pizza slices, and more—all complimentary with purchase of a drink. On Saturdays and Sundays from 2-6pm, expect a spread with a strong selection of charcuterie, plus different kinds of pâté, foie gras and terrines—available for \$226.

Grab a bite: Weekdays 5:30-7:30pm, free with drink purchase; Weekends 2-6pm, from \$226, includes two glasses of wine.

73 Wyndham St., Central, 2167-8883.

Barcelonian Bites: Boqueria

True Spaniards know the best time to go for *tapeo* is before dinner. As for where to go, it's hard to beat Boqueria, where aged jamón iberico legs hang proudly from the ceiling. The folks at Boqueria lay out a hearty selection of tapas during its "Spanish Happy Hour," which often includes patatas bravas (crispy potatoes, salsa brava, roasted garlic aioli), jamón, blistered padrón peppers with sea salt, gazpacho and empanadas. It's a serious spread, so come hungry to get your money's worth.

Grab a bite: Monday-Saturday from 6-8pm. From \$208 including free-flow Estrella draught beer and red sangria.

7/F, LKF Tower, 33 Wyndham St., Central, 2321-8681.





Best Deal: 8½ Otto e Mezzo Bombana

Big-time chef Umberto Bombana has a big-time aperitivo selection laid out in the evenings, and you don't need to have Versace-lined pockets to test out this three-Michelin-star establishment. Any *paisan* who purchases a cocktail is welcome to enjoy Otto e Mezzo's lavish spread of octopus on Ratte potatoes, Calvisius caviar on smoked salmon and cream cheese, marinated artichoke with pecorino Toscano, 5-year aged parmigiano reggiano, classic veal fillet with mayonnaise-like "tonnato" sauce, smoked salmon tartine, lobster tartar on toast, burrata with cherry tomato... shall we continue?

Grab a bite: Mon-Sat, 5-8pm.
Free with drink purchase.

Shop 202, Landmark Alexandra,
18 Chater Rd., Central, 2537-8859.

Otto e Mezzo: a Michelin deal

Best Vibes: Isobar

Kick back with a snack and a killer view of the harbor at Isobar. The happening upstairs sister bar of Italian fine-dining favorite Isola has a daily "aperi dinner" spread, which includes fried calamari, bites of its ultra-crispy signature pizza, assorted Italian vegetable dishes, seafood salads and more. Get there early to snag yourself some seats outside. And don't forget that their own resident DJ hits the decks with chilled-out tunes Thursdays to Saturdays.

Grab a bite: Daily 5-7pm. Free with \$88 drink minimum spend.

Shop 3071-3075 & 4011, 3-4/F, IFC Mall, 8 Finance St., Central, 2383-8765.



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* This promotion cannot be used in conjunction with other promotions or discount offers.

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NEW AND NOTED with Adele Wong



Ura delicious-looking piece

Bringing Bali Back

For a mini Balinese retreat without actually leaving for Bali, check out **Tri** (Shop 302, 3/F, The Pulse, 28 Beach Rd., Repulse Bay, 2515-0577) at The Pulse. Posh bamboo-themed interiors and dim lighting give the space a sophisticated zen vibe, and tables are arranged in crazy insular pods for maximum intimacy—you might actually trick yourself into thinking you've left the city. On the menu are modern Bali-inspired dishes: pork belly, grilled seafood and coconut desserts. The group behind this is Le Comptoir, who also dreamed up Hotshot and Bibo.

Moving Day

Grassroots Pantry (108 Hollywood Rd., Sheung Wan) will be uprooting (yes, pun!) from Sai Ying Pun and claiming a piece of Hollywood Road by mid-August. The lovely vegetarian-friendly venue will become an all-day diner, serving breakfast, lunch and dinner to the people of Sheung Wan. You can expect the same type of health-conscious dishes and impeccable presentation as the old GP.



Getting Back to your Grassroots

Alive and Wellington

I dunno if anything on Wellington Street can actually be classified as inconspicuous, but the above-ground **Ura** (2/F, The Wellington, 198 Wellington St., Central, 2111-9381), which literally means "hidden" in Japanese, is certainly trying hard to be. From the brothers who own IR1968 comes this too-cool-for-school hangout with a cozy outdoor terrace, serving fusion Japanese treats like cod roe with cheese toast, tuna sandwiches and... onion rings (made with Japanese onions, natch).



Pork Belly at Tri

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

WHAT'S HIDDEN INSIDE THIS PACKAGE?

After 25 years,
HK Magazine is
getting a makeover...

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- More awesome events
- More fashion, tech and local knowledge than ever
- And even more snarky jokes

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Ready for a bit of brain freeze?

We've got **\$20,000 worth of Zuji travel vouchers** to give away to the winners of our ice cream challenges and ice cream walk at **Ice Cream Fest HK @ SOHO east!**

Zuji is one of the Asia Pacific region's top online travel agencies, which means you can use your voucher to catch one of 200,000 flights leaving every week, or stay at one of 150,000 hotels.

Grab an ice cream,
grab a flight and happy trails!

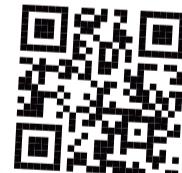
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HKTDC Food Expo

Whether you're into jamon iberico or plain ol' luncheon meat, this year's Food Expo on August 13-17 will have something for you. This year's foodie mecca features a Gourmet Zone (Aug 13-16) and a Premium Food Zone, on top of other delights. Thanks to HKTDC, we have 15 pairs of combo tickets up for grabs: this gives you access to the Public Hall, the Gourmet Zone, and the HKTDC Home Delights Expo. For a chance to win, just tell us what your favorite Hong Kong food is. Good luck!

For a chance to win, just email competitions@hkmagmedia.com
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All of our reviews are
independent and anonymous!

RESTAURANT REVIEWS

Phukets Thai ★★★★☆

Thai. 46 High St., Sai Ying Pun, 2868-9672.



This casual Southeast Asian joint used to be on Elgin Street, but has since moved to trendy Sai Ying Pun. Don't be misled by the name: the specialties at Phukets Thai roam all over the map, from laksa to Vietnamese rice paper rolls to curries to satay skewers.

HIT We went berserk over the prawn head curry (\$148), which was loaded with full-sized shell-on shrimps and drenched in thick, yolk yellow curry. The pad Thai (\$80) with tiny dried shrimp sprinkled on top was a zesty hit, and generously portioned. Stir-fried kale (\$64) and a plate of crispy chicken wings (\$48) rounded out the meal: both were tasty

and filling. We also ordered refreshing fresh coconut water—served in their glorious husks—to accompany our dishes.

MISS The service was weird. Staff would stand around the small dining space, but it was near impossible to get their attention even when just 3 feet away. This sort of apathy was consistent during our entire meal, and really dampened the experience. The space is a bit tight, with tables so close to each other it's hard not to pick up on other diners' conversations.

BOTTOM LINE Delicious food at reasonable places makes Phukets Thai a wonderful neighborhood haunt.

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

Sabatini Ristorante Italiano ★★★★☆

Roman. 3/F, The Royal Garden Hotel Hong Kong, 69 Mody Rd.,
East Tsim Sha Tsui, 2733-2000.



Among a slew of fancy restaurants at the Royal Garden Hotel, Sabatini Ristorante Italiano promises authentic Roman cuisine in a rustic atmosphere—and delivers both without restraint.

HIT From the moment you walk in, the service is on point. Our server had bread on the table in seconds, quickly followed by a sommelier worth his salt. The king crab meat appetizer (\$348) came with big chunks of crab meat, topped with a zesty citrus dressing and smoked herring caviar. Our lamb chop main (\$498) was perfectly prepared: char-grilled, tender meat with a side of creamy polenta, crispy asparagus and fresh mint jelly. The flaky Napoleon

pastry with layers of cream and fresh berries was a standout among the half-dozen options on the old-school wooden dessert trolley. The wine menu is lengthy and varied, for all palates and price points.

MISS Some people will find the Italian theme heavy-handed: picture terracotta floors, ivy-covered windows, murals and arched doorways. We spent a regrettable \$365 on a square of oven-baked lasagna that was all cheese and zero complexity.

BOTTOM LINE Despite charging city prices for "countryside" food, the service, lamb chops and dessert cart inevitably won us over.

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

Ratings

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

Price Guide

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

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

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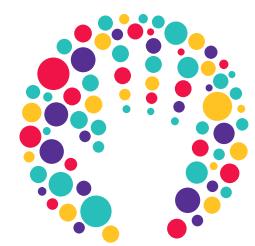


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HONG KONG

WHAT'S ON

CULTURE + NIGHTLIFE + FILM



Ride or Die

Korean heartthrob Choi Si-won, Taiwanese star Eddie Peng and Chinese hotshot Shawn Dou slap on some very stretchy shorts for brand new summer cycling drama "**To the Fore.**" The two-wheeled pan-Asian epic is directed by none other than the legend of hardboiled action himself, Dante Lam. You'll see the cast battle it out on familiar streets—like here on Pedder Street where the rest of us line up for cabs. Buckle up for some intense spokin' conflict and a touch of bromance.

See Film, p.32 for more info. Opened in theaters Aug 6.

HK PICKS



Naturally 7

Itching for a bit of R'n'B? American acapella group Naturally 7 is inbound to soothe your senses with voices so smooth you'll slide across the dancefloor. The band calls their style "Vocal Play." They beatbox all their backing instruments, from drums and bass to horns to turntables. Sounds like an all-natural night. Aug 21, 8pm. MacPherson Stadium, 38 Nelson St., Mong Kok. \$400 from www.cityline.com.

Classical



Bach 330: Mass in B Minor

Following a preview concert and lecture in May, Bach's colossal Mass in B Minor is to be performed by the Hong Kong Sinfonietta, the SingFest Choral Academy and 2015 Youth Chorus. They're all under the baton of German choral conductor Helmuth Rilling, the father of countless Bach academies worldwide. Aug 8, 8pm. Concert Hall, City Hall, 5 Edinburgh Place, Central. \$150-360 from www.urbtix.hk.



McDull: Me & My Mum

If you're feeling a little nostalgic, McDull is here for you: The Hong Kong Sinfonietta is collaborating with the creators of Hong Kong's favorite cartoon pig to bring a family-friendly concert of timeless classics, such as Khachaturian's Sabre Dance, movements from Grieg's Peer Gynt Suite, and Dvorak's Slavonic Dances. It's family bonding time! Aug 19-22. Concert Hall, City Hall, 5 Edinburgh Place, Central. \$150-380 from www.urbtix.hk.

All That Swing

Hong Kong's Saturday Night Jazz Orchestra has been a stalwart on the local swing and jazz scene since 1990. Band leader Taka Hirohama will take you on a journey through works by some of the greatest legends: Count Basie, Duke Ellington, Benny Goodman and more. So if you're a jazz newb, this is a great place to get your big band beginnings. Aug 29, 9:30pm; Fringe Club, 2 Lower Albert Rd., Central, 2521-7251. \$130-150 at the door, includes one drink.



HKPhil Season Opening: Tan Dun's Nu Shu

The HK Philharmonic opens its fall season with Oscar and Grammy award-winning composer Tan Dun, who will be wielding the baton to conduct this program. The concert includes two of Tan Dun's pieces, "Symphonic Poem on Three Notes" and "Nu Shu: The Secret Songs of Women," as well as Mendelssohn's classic violin concerto. "Symphonic Poem on Three Notes" was written in 2012 as a birthday gift to Plácido Domingo, using the notes *la-si-do*, a play on Domingo's first name, as the motif. "Nu Shu," Tan Dun's latest multimedia work, captures the dying vocal tradition of Hunanese women in a mini-film symphony of 13 movements. Sep 4-5, 8pm. Hong Kong Cultural Centre, 10 Salisbury Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, 2734-2009. \$280-580 from www.urbtix.hk.

Need to Know

Theater & Arts

Urbitix (credit cards)	2111-5999	HK City Hall	2921-2840
Urbitix (enquiries)	2734-9009	HK Academy for Performing Arts	2584-8500
HK Ticketing	3128-8288	Kwai Tsing Theatre	2408-0128
HK Arts Centre	2582-0200	LCSD Music Programme Office	2268-7321
Fringe Club	2521-7251	LCSD Dance/Multi-Arts Office	2268-7323
HK Cultural Centre	2734-2009	LCSD Theatre Office	2268-7323

HK City Hall	2921-2840
HK Academy for Performing Arts	2584-8500
Kwai Tsing Theatre	2408-0128
LCSD Music Programme Office	2268-7321
LCSD Dance/Multi-Arts Office	2268-7323
LCSD Theatre Office	2268-7323

Comedy



9th Annual HK International Comedy Festival

The HK International Comedy Festival is back for a ninth round, featuring comedians from the US, Australia, the UK, and more. Local comedians Vivek Mahbubani and the People's Liberation Improv will also be performing for some good giggles. Don't forget to check out the comedy competition for up-and-comers—or sign up by Aug 23 to take part, if you think you've got what it takes. Sep 3-26. Various locations. \$150-300. www.hkcomedyfestival.com.

Dance



Dance x Multimedia: iLuminate

The LCSD once again presents a new series of multimedia dance arts this summer. The series concludes with a heart-thumping cross-genre production by iLuminate, second-runners-up at America's Got Talent 2011, who perform in fully lit-up costumes in the dark. Aug 21-22, 8pm; Aug 23, 3pm. \$150-350 from www.lcsd.gov.hk/CE/CulturalService.



Pinocchio

The Hong Kong Ballet kicks off its 2015-2016 season with none other than the ultimate coming-of-age fairytale, "Pinocchio." Reimagined into ballet form, the production is put together by choreographer Pär Isberg and tells the adventures of the young puppet from his creation by Geppetto to the chaos that ensues as a result of his lies. Will the Blue Fairy come along and save the day and reconcile the boy with his father? Or is that just a Disney thing? Aug 28-Sep 6. Grand Theatre, Cultural Centre, 10 Salisbury Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui. \$140-1,000 from www.urbtix.hk.

Musicals

Singin' in the Rain

Hot off the trail of "The Sound of Music," and "Phantom of the Opera" and "Mamma Mia" last year, Lunchbox Theatrical Productions presents the SAR with another catchy song-and-dance spectacle straight from the West End. Never seen it? The beloved umbrella-touting, rainboot-splashing Hollywood musical—arguably the best of them all—follows three performers in the thick of the transition between the silent film and talkie era. The current production will be recycling 12,000 liters of water per performance: so prepare to get splashed. Sep 25-Oct 11. Lyric Theatre, Academy for Performing Arts, 1 Gloucester Rd., Wan Chai, 2584-8500. \$445-1,125 from www.hkticketing.com.

Opera

Cosi Fan Tutte

One of Mozart's most well-known operas lands in the SAR, courtesy of the singers at Opera Hong Kong. Its title normally taken to mean "Women Are All Like That," the comic piece tells the story of two army officers who try to seduce each other's fiancées for a bet. Sung in Italian with Chinese and English surtitles. Aug 30, 7:30pm. Concert Hall, City Hall, 5 Edinburgh Place, Central. \$80-350 from www.urbtix.hk.

Theater

Magic at The Fringe

It's yet another round of theatrical magic at the Fringe Club. Following a series of several successful shows, this month's gig is hosted by Hong Kong sorcery stalwart Harry Wong, featuring magicians Benny Li, Bernard Mariano, Bond Lee and Billy Yuen. In Cantonese. Aug 12, 8:30pm. Fringe Club, 2 Lower Albert Rd., Central, 2521-7251. \$200 in advance from Fringe Club; \$230 at the door. Includes one drink.



Le Dieu Du Carnage

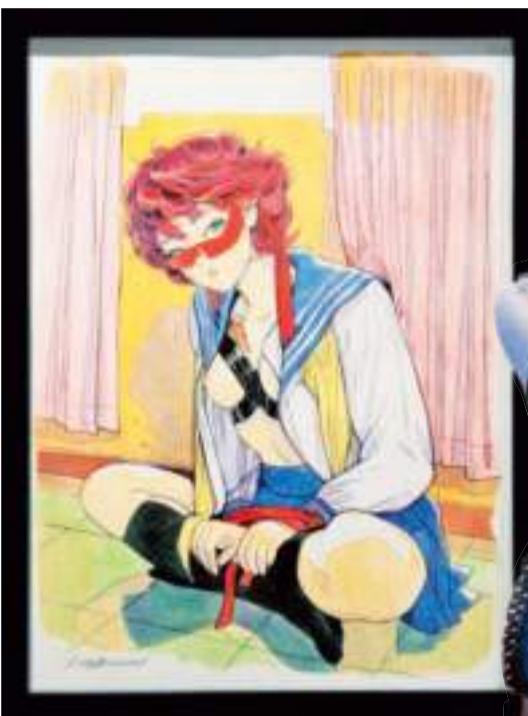
Yasmina Reza's play is adapted for the Hong Kong stage to fire up Dionysus Contemporary Theatre's new season. Two pairs of parents try to resolve differences after their respective sons fight in a playground, but their behavior gets increasingly out of hand as the underlying problems of their marriages emerge. You'll see this farce played out by Anthony Wong Chau-sang and Olivia Yan (co-founders of the troupe), plus Sandra Ng and Poon Chan-leung. Performed in Cantonese with Chinese and English surtitles. Showtimes are Tue-Sat 8pm, Sun 3pm. Aug 6-30. Lyric Theatre, Academy for Performing Arts, 1 Gloucester Rd., Wan Chai, 2584-8500. \$280-980 from www.hkticketing.com.

The Naked Magicians

Just when you thought "Magic Mike XXL" was intense, here comes the real magical deal: This Aussie duo brings sneaky R-rated sleight-of-hand to the stage—but the magic wands aren't exactly what you'd expect. Promising "full frontal illusions," these strip sorcerers will be worth a watch. Just one question: Where did he pull that rabbit from, exactly? Sep 15-20. Drama Theatre, Academy for Performing Arts, 1 Gloucester Rd., Wan Chai. \$395-595 from www.hkticketing.com.

ARTS

Exhibitions



Little Thunder: Que Sera, Sera

"Whatever will be, will be"—sex shop Sally Coco has partnered with comic artist Little Thunder to exhibit her latest work at the store's newest branch in Causeway Bay. Known for illustrating curvy women with loads of sex appeal, Little Thunder's collaboration with Sally Coco includes characters wearing the same items sold in-store. Hot. Through Oct 11. Sally Coco, 3B, Po Foo Building, 1-5 Foo Ming St., Causeway Bay. www.facebook.com/runthunderrun.

James Yang, Aya Kakeda and Jonathan Jay Lee: Tribes

Emergency Lab hosts a group exhibition of the work of three illustrators and designers who have different styles but are united under the theme of "tribes." James Yang and Aya Kakeda both play with motifs and patterns, but Kakeda's line drawings are precise and complex, while Yang celebrates the simplicity of starkly contrasting colors. Jonathan Jay Lee, on the other hand, leans closer to a cel-shaded Marvelous style. Need some color on your walls? Cards, prints and furniture will be on sale. Through Sep 18. Emergency Lab, 3-4/F, 506-508 Lockhart Rd., Causeway Bay.



Mimmo Rotella

New Gallery on Old Bailey is showing the works of Italian pop art legend Mimmo Rotella (1918-2006). Drawing heavily on film imagery from the 50s and 60s, the "Italian Warhol" uses a unique style, "décollage," which focuses on tearing film posters from Rome's city walls and re-sticking them to canvas or metal to create multi-layered, multi-textured images. This exhibition features work from the last 20 years of Rotella's life. Through Sep 4. New Gallery on Old Bailey, 4/F, Kai Tak, 35 Tai Yau St., San Po Kong, 2234-9889.

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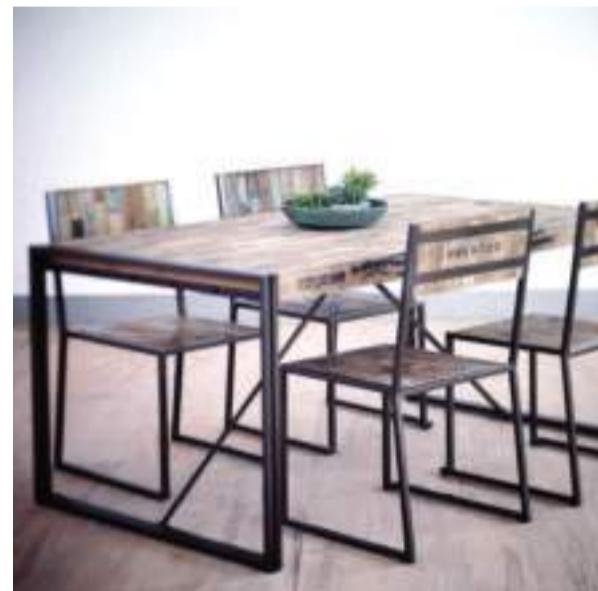
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HK PICKS



Endless Summer Hong Kong International Reggae Ska Festival

Head to the Fringe Club for this ska and reggae extravaganza featuring some of Hong Kong's finest indie acts, including 10-piece ska group extraordinaire the Red Stripes (pictured) and Cantonese reggae band Sensi Lion. Also making appearances are Japanese reggae singer Machaco and Taiwanese group Skaraoke. Aug 28, 7pm. Fringe Club, 2 Lower Albert Rd., Central, 2521-7251. \$290-320 from pelago.co; \$360 at the door.

Gigs



Outlook Festival

Hong Kong Launch Party 2015

Don't have tickets to Croatia's bass music festival Outlook in September? Or do you just REALLY like Microsoft Office's email client? Go to this party, set at a BBQ pit in Ma On Shan. Local mainstays like DJ Saiyan and Muggsy are behind the decks and it's not all about the DJ beats either—the ska legends the Red Stripes and reggae stars Sensi Lion will also take to the stage. This party has been taking place in Hong Kong for the last two years and for some reason, it's still called a "launch party." But hey—it's an outdoor music festival right here in Hong Kong. So just go with it. Aug 8, 4pm. Whitehead Barbecue, STT 1950, Ma On Shan. \$450 at the door.

Hanjin Tan

Hanjin Tan has produced for everyone from Eason Chan to Christina Aguilera, as well as picking up a Hong Kong Film Award for his role in 2010 drama "Bruce Lee, My Brother." He's also an accomplished jazz singer, whose album "Raw Jazz" topped charts in the city. He'll be belting out the classics at Hidden Agenda. Aug 8, 8pm. Hidden Agenda, Unit 2A, Wing Fu Industrial Building, 15-17 Tai Yip St., Ngau Tau Kok. \$280 from www.ticketflap.com; \$380 at the door.

The Used

US rock band The Used comes to town. Fun fact: frontman Bert McCracken was featured on reality show "The Osbournes" when he was dating Kelly Osbourne. Metal drama! Aug 10, 8pm. Musiczone, KITEC, 1 Trademart Drive, Kowloon Bay, \$450-550 from www.ticketflap.com; \$650 at the door.

Kodaline

Irish rockers Kodaline make their Hong Kong debut at KITEC, bringing with them their signature indie/alt-rock sounds. Aug 11, 8pm. Star Hall, KITEC, 1 Trademart Drive, Kowloon Bay. \$588 from www.hkticketing.com.



Mouse On the Keys

Tokyo-based instrumental trio Mouse On the Keys isn't just your average post-rock indie band. Their two keyboardists and one drummer craft unique, multi-genre sounds. Aug 12, 9pm. Musiczone, KITEC, 1 Trademart Drive, Kowloon Bay. \$330 from whitenoiserecords.org; \$360 at the door.

Big Belly Crisis in Discovery Bay Music Concert

Don't let the name fool you—this gig takes place at the Fringe Dairy and features five local acts, including guitar-swinging 90s-inspired band Teenage Riot, electronic trio Gravity Alterstra and up-and-coming indie singer Jing Wong. Aug 15, 9:30pm. Fringe Club, 2 Lower Albert Rd., Central, 2521-7251. \$180 at the door, including a drink.



A Place to Bury Strangers

NYC three-piece A Place to Bury Strangers plays Hong Kong for one night only. Check out their noise rock, psychedelic rock, shoegaze and space-rock sounds at Backstage Live before the venue closes for good at the end of August. Aug 28, 8pm. Backstage Live, 1/F, Somptueux Central, 52-54 Wellington St., Central, 2167-8985. \$340 from www.eventbrite.hk.

Concerts

Imagine Dragons

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

Maroon 5

A Maroon 5 concert is kind of like the bus: You miss one, and the next one is just around the corner. See them at AsiaWorld-Arena. Sep 4, 8pm. AsiaWorld-Arena, Sky Plaza Rd., Chek Lap Kok. \$488-988 from www.hkticketing.com.



Summer Parties

W Hotel Shock Wave:

#PoseWheneve Pool Party

This is the last one of W's notorious summer pool parties. It comes with the cumbersome title Shock Wave: #PoseWheneve Pool Party. Splash around on the 76th floor pool and gawk at the half-naked beautiful people all around you. Aug 22, 8pm. W Hotel, 1 Austin Rd. West, West Kowloon, 3717-2222. \$400 in advance or \$500 at the door, including one drink at the pool and one at the after-party. \$950 for "VIP" tickets in advance or \$1,100 at the door, including free-flow drinks and champagne until 1am. Tickets from www.w-hongkong.com/en/shockwave.

Splash

The pool party at Macau's Hard Rock Hotel is now in its 12th edition. This year the Stafford Brothers & Chris Lake are headlining with their progressive and electro house beats. Expect live DJs, shots and lots of bikinis. Don't want to catch the ferry home like some kind of zombie? Book a hotel room quick. Aug 22, 3:30pm. Hard Rock Hotel Macau, City of Dreams, Estrada do Istmo, Cotai, (+853) 8868-3338. \$480 from www.cityofdreamsmacau.com.

Heineken Green Room

This year's Heineken Green Room—a party held by the beer brand featuring fist-pump-happy DJ beats—is being held at the W, featuring DJs Alvaro, Hard Rock Sofa, Scarnite and Rana, plus Hong Kong-based Be Careful. Aug 7, 10pm. W Hotel, 1 Austin Rd. West, West Kowloon, 3717-2222. \$388 from playroll.hk; \$588 at the door.

Beatship x DJ Revolution—Madeon

Missed the first two sessions of Beatship, the crazy all-nighter pool party on Star Cruises' Superstar Virgo? Now's your chance to give it a go. This Beatship party features DJ Madeon on the decks, literally. Splash around in the pool, fist-pump, eat, crawl back to your room and pass out. Don't forget to pack a swimsuit. Maybe also some wet wipes. Check-in from 6pm; sail at 9pm. Boarding at Ocean Terminal, Harbour City, 7-27 Canton Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui. Aug 8, 6:30pm. \$580-5,500 from www.beatship.hk.com, including cabin, plus dinner, late-night meal and breakfast.

HK PICKS



Elton John

Elton John is back again to perform at the HKCEC. He dropped classic hit "Your Song" more than 40 years ago and he has done an OK job since, with 35 gold and 25 platinum albums under his belt as well as 250 million records sold worldwide. And with only one warbly Princess Diana song to get in the way... Nov 24, 8pm. Hall 5BC, HKCEC, 1 Expo Drive, Wan Chai. \$488-2,388 from www.hkticketing.com.



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Mission: Impossible—Rogue Nation ★★★★

(USA) Action. Directed by Christopher McQuarrie. Starring Tom Cruise, Rebecca Ferguson, Jeremy Renner, Simon Pegg, Ving Rhames. Category IIA. 131 minutes. Opened Jul 30.

Here are three inconvenient truths for you to ponder. 1) Tom Cruise is way more into Scientology than anyone should be. 2) Tom Cruise is, ergo, kind of insane. 3) Tom Cruise's recent films—"Jack Reacher," "Oblivion," "Edge of Tomorrow"—all point to the same thing: It doesn't really matter just how batshit insane Cruise is. It doesn't matter how much he believes in pangalactic space travelers or imaginary alien particles with souls. The truth is that all that craziness goes away when he's standing in front of a lens. Or, more accurately, that manic nutcasery gets shaped and channeled into a magnetic intensity and charm, and we're left with the finest action star in the world.

In the fifth "Mission: Impossible" film Cruise returns as Ethan Hunt, field agent for the IMF (the Impossible Mission Force, the world's second-most exciting global rescue organization with those initials after the International Monetary Fund). Hunt has spent the last year trying to prove the existence of the Syndicate, a shadowy international criminal organization which aims to spread chaos throughout the world. But just as Hunt discovers that the Syndicate is real, a Senate oversight committee shuts down the IMF for perpetrating the kind of reckless destructive espionage which looks good in a blockbuster movie but is really not great when it comes to budget control or transparent governance. Hunt is left dangling in the wind, still chasing his prey. Disavowed by the IMF? Sounds like a "Mission: Impossible" movie to me. Or maybe just Greece on a bad day.

Hunt must call on some old friends—tech geek Benji Dunn (Simon Pegg), hacker Luther Stickell (Ving Rhames) and field agent William Brandt (Jeremy Renner) to nail the Syndicate. Along the way he's got to stay a step or two ahead of CIA director Alan Hunley (Alec Baldwin), and navigate the fluid loyalties of sultry Syndicate/MI6 agent Ilsa Faust (Rebecca Ferguson).

"Rogue Nation" is classic blockbuster fodder, everything you need to tick the "Mission: Impossible" checklist. There's guns, fighting, car chases and appropriately over-the-top stunts while the film globe-trots from Vienna to Morocco to London with plenty of heists and setpieces along the way. While they don't quite outdo any individual sequences from any of the earlier movies, under Christopher McQuarrie's ("The Usual Suspects," "Edge of Tomorrow") competent direction this is an effective, if mindless, thriller.

Cruise's trademark intensity aside, the cast is strong. Simon Pegg is always entertaining as the eternally flustered Brit, while Alec Baldwin's stuffy CIA director excellently channels Jack Donaghay from "30 Rock." Meanwhile, relative newcomer Rebecca Ferguson is great in her role as the double-, triple-or quadruple-agent Ilsa Faust, who kicks a fair amount more ass than Ethan Hunt himself.

But of course, this is the Tom Cruise show, and it's Cruise's manic intensity that holds the whole film together like crazy glue. "Rogue Nation" doesn't reinvent the blockbuster, but it's a strong, entertaining summer flick. Just be careful: Stare too long into Tom Cruise's eyes, and you might not like what stares back. **Adam White**

Coming Soon



Attack on Titan

(Japan) Hajime Isayama's dark fantasy manga/anime franchise is pretty big in Japan, and it comes to life this summer in its first live action instalment. In a post-apocalyptic world, humans are forced to live in walled enclaves to protect themselves from the titans: formidable human-eating giants. After their mother falls victim, adopted siblings Eren and Mikasa join the military to fight for revenge. Opens Aug 13.



Jimmy's Hall

(UK/Ireland) Ken Loach's latest work (he claims it's his last) is the story of the only Irishman ever deported from Ireland: James Gralton, communist leader and firebrand. Snoozing at the thought of political talk in lilting Irish accents? Fear not: the plot centers on the rural dance hall that James opens for young people to dance, study and socialize... but it inevitably comes under the scrutiny of the Church. Opens Aug 13.

The Man from U.N.C.L.E.

(USA) Guy Ritchie's sleek take on the 60s spy series stars the beautiful Henry Cavill as CIA Agent Napoleon Solo. When he discovers that a covert criminal organization with access to nuclear weapons has plans upset the balance of the Cold War, Napoleon is forced to team up with a KGB agent (Armie Hammer) to stop the global threat. Opens Aug 13.



Paper Towns

(USA) Following last year's book-to-film release of "The Fault in Our Stars," John Green's third young adult novel "Paper Towns" sees repeat collaborator Nat Wolff and supermodel-turned-actress Cara Delevingne in this screen adaptation. Quentin (Wolff) and his free-spirited crush neighbor Margo (Delevingne) embark on an overnight prank adventure to exact revenge on her cheating boyfriend—after which she disappears, seemingly for good. But Margo's left some breadcrumbs for Quentin to follow... as he searches for her, he may just find himself along the way. Opens Aug 13.

Continuing

Ant-Man

(USA) Marvel rolls out the underappreciated superhero card in this summer's blockbuster, proving that big heroes can come in small doses too. Paul Rudd is Ant-Man, an ex-con who dons a suit that shrinks him down to the size of an ant, but increases his strength in equal measure. He's tasked with pulling off a teeny-tiny heist that might just save the world. A fun romp: We only wish there was a little more whimsy thrown into the mix. **★★★**



Inside Out

(USA) Another summer, another Pixar cartoon to tug at your heartstrings. The heroes of "Inside Out" are none other than the emotions of Riley, an 11-year-old girl from the Midwest. As she and her parents move to San Francisco, Joy, Sadness, Anger, Fear and Disgust have to work out how to help Riley adjust to her new home. Buckle in: It's going to give you ALL THE FEELS. **★★★★**

Insidious: Chapter 3

(USA) Ah, the curse of the third movie. Gone are Rose Byrne and Patrick Wilson playing the couple trying to save their possessed, comatose son. The third chapter is written and directed by first-time director Leigh Whannell and focuses on the predicament of a teenager grieving for her late mother. Spookiness awaits...

Love is Strange

(USA) This isn't your average love story: John Lithgow and Alfred Molina play an older couple who have just gotten married after spending 40 years together. But when one of them loses his job, they're forced to sell their apartment and temporarily live apart. As George (Molina) moves in with neighbors, Ben (Lithgow) shares a bunk bed with his nephew in Brooklyn. With audiences singing high praises for the lead performances, this is not one to miss.

Opening



Fantastic Four

(USA) The reboot to the Marvel franchise sees a decidedly younger foursome: Miles Teller ("Whiplash") plays Mr. Fantastic, Kate Mara is the Invisible Woman, Michael B. Jordan is the Human Torch, and Jamie Bell ("Billy Elliott," "Snowpiercer") plays The Thing. Sorry fanboys: no naked Jessica Alba in this one. Opens Aug 6.

I Kissed a Girl

(France) Leading up to his wedding with his boyfriend of 10 years, Jeremie (Pio Marmaï) wakes up in the bed of a beautiful blonde woman. What does it mean for his relationship? Cue stock dodgy rom-com gags. Opens Aug 6.

To the Fore

(Taiwan/Korea/Hong Kong/China)

Wong Kam-po, eat your heart out. If you took Dante Lam's trademark brooding drama and slapped it right on the Tour de France, you'd get "To the Fore." It's a coming-of-age cycling drama starring Taiwanese heartthrobs Eddie Peng and Ethan Juan, about the camaraderie between four budding cyclists and their individual romances. Opens Aug 6.

Vacation

(USA) The fifth and latest National Lampoon Vacation film sees young Rusty Griswold now as a middle-aged dad (Ed Helms, "The Hangover"). Attempting to relive fond childhood memories of wacky family holidays, he takes his wife and kids on a cross-country drive back to his beloved theme park Walley World before it closes down for good. Buckle up for plenty of silly shenanigans and gross-out humor. Opens Aug 6.



Magic Mike XXL

(USA) Ladies (and gents), hang on to your shorts, because it's time yet again for shirtless, ab-tastic gyrating from the likes of Channing Tatum, Joe Manganiello and Matt Bomer. This time round, the legendary Kings of Tampa band together for one last hurrah at a stripper convention. Your heart will be aflutter thanks to the impeccable dance routines, bro banter—and did we mention the abs? **★★★**

Minions

(USA) The pesky yellow creatures from 2010's "Despicable Me" finally get their own spin-off movie. This time, the plot takes us way back before the minions were serving supervillain Gru. Having worked from the beginning of time for unsuccessful baddies such as T. Rex and Napoleon, they now seek out a new evil boss to worship lest they fall into deep depression. The search leads them to Scarlet Overkill, the world's first ever super-villainess.

Mission: Impossible – Rogue Nation

(USA) See review, left.

Need to Know

AMC Cinema, 2265-8933
www.amccinemas.com.hk

Broadway Circuit,
2388-3188
www.cinema.com.hk

Golden Harvest Cinema,
2622-6688
www.goldenharvest.com

MCL Cinema, 3413-6688
www.mclcinema.com

UA Cinema,
3516-8811
www.uacinemas.com.hk

The Metroplex, 2620-2200
www.metroplex.com.hk

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

Monster Hunt

(Hong Kong/China) Raman "Father of Shrek" Hui's latest project combines the star-studded likes of Jing Boran, Tang Wei and Sandra Ng with an array of animated monsters. Based on traditional supernatural stories from "Strange Tales from Liaozhai," the family-action-comedy-romance mixes too many oddly matched themes to make an impact. ★★

Paris Holiday

(Hong Kong) A Louis Koo summer rom-com! A freshly jilted Lee Chun-kit (Koo) runs away to Paris to start a new life. In his new apartment, he meets his new roommate, a manic pixie dream girl budding artist (Amber Kuo) who has also recently had her heart broken. Sparks inevitably fly, but is it really the best idea to pine after your roommate?



Red Amnesia

(China) A dizzying new suspense thriller from Wang Xiaoshuai, one of the forerunners of the "Sixth Generation" of Chinese filmmakers. A widow is plagued by angry anonymous phone calls, but no one believes in her plight—except for her recently dead husband, whom she continues to talk to. Strange events cause her to unearth memories which she's repressed for over 40 years. It's said to be a metaphorical comment on the continued "collective amnesia" of China.

Terminator: Genisys

(USA) Arnie returns as the Terminator in the fifth movie of the series—in all his CGI glory. In this rebooted timeline, the future of the past is once again in question. Resistance leader John Connor (Jason Clarke) sends Kyle Reese (Jai Courtney) back in time to protect his mother, Sarah Connor (Emilia Clarke, "mother of dragons" herself)—who this time around is a skilled fighter with a Terminator on her team. The movie franchise may be old, but the story and magnetic performances make it far from obsolete. ★★★★

The Tribe

(Ukraine) Not only are you transported to a bleak Ukrainian winter in this film, it's also Category III-rated and shot completely without subtitles... or dialogue. Sergey is the new kid at a boarding school for the deaf, but he stumbles upon the Tribe, a student gang behind a prostitution ring. Hazed into the group, Sergey begins to rise up the ranks... until he finds himself falling for one of the girls. It's filled with enough impressive long takes to make any film geek blush and the storytelling is an experimental success in itself. But if graphic violence, nudity and total silence ain't your thing, maybe go catch something else. ★★★★



What We Do in the Shadows

(New Zealand) Jemaine Clement of comedy rockers Flight of the Conchords directs and stars in this mockumentary about three age-old vampire flatmates who try to cope with the woes of modern day life. When a freshly turned fledgling vampire joins the house, the three try to show him that being undead ain't so bad after all.



The Young and Prodigious T.S. Spivet

(USA) This good ol' fashioned adventure story is based on Reif Larsen's 2009 novel. A 10-year-old science prodigy and budding cartographer wins an award for inventing a perpetual motion machine. He secretly embarks on a cross-country trek from his family's ranch in Montana to Washington DC to receive the prestigious prize—with a dark secret in tow. Thanks to director Jean-Pierre Jeunet ("Amélie") and frequent collab partner Guillaume Laurent, you've got fantastic, dreamy cinematography and a script that makes your heart swell. ★★★★

Special Screenings

BC Sundays: Hipster Couple Edition

This month's Sunday specials at Broadway Cinematheque seem to have taken on the theme of painfully cool couples dealing with a whole lot of indie-tinged angst.

"Celeste and Jesse Forever" (Aug 9) sees Andy Samberg and Rashida Jones as a couple who married young but are growing apart. Inexplicably, mid-August we get "Chef" (Aug 16)—a food truck romp as Jon Favreau finds himself through selling Cubano sandwiches—a budding relationship with food, perhaps? August finishes off with "Greetings From Tim Buckley" (Aug 23)—starring Penn Badgley as a young Jeff Buckley under the shadow of his famous father; and "What If" (Aug 30)—a Daniel Radcliffe rom-com about fighting the dreaded friend zone. Through Aug 30. Screenings are around noon. Broadway Cinematheque, Prosperous Garden, 3 Public Square St., Yau Ma Tei. \$65.

Film Festival



CineFan SIFF 2015

Cinephiles, get your cash ready: The annual Summer International Film Festival returns this August. Featured films include Hou Hsiao-hsien's latest offering, "The Assassin," which won him best director at Cannes this year. Starring Shu Qi, it's an arty first foray into the martial arts genre for the director. Stay tuned as well for a filmmaking masterclass from Malaysian director Tsai Ming-liang (1992's "Rebels of the Neon God") on Aug 8-9. Aug 11-25. Various screening locations. www.cinefan.com.hk.

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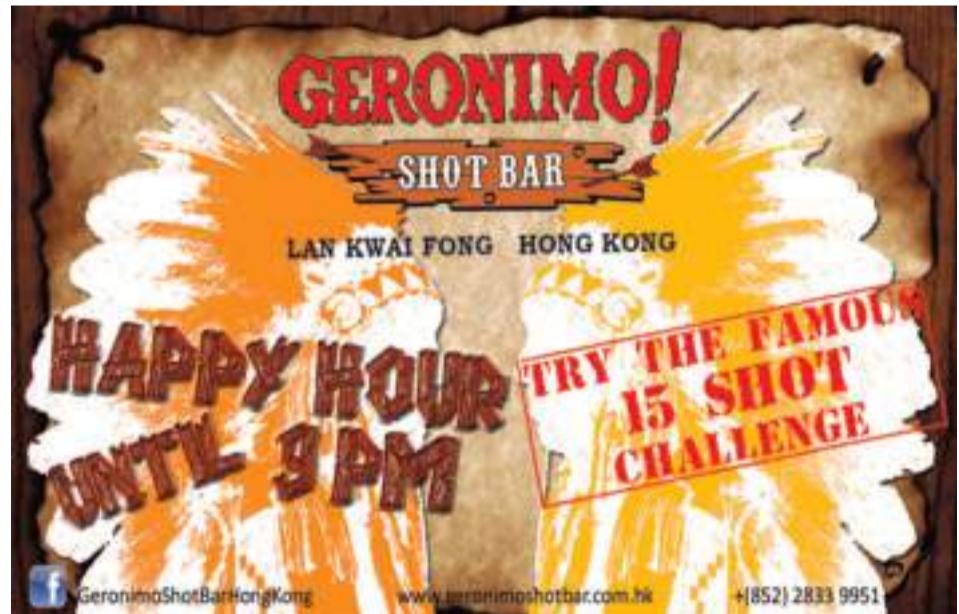
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Leo (Jul 23-Aug 22): "What are the best things and the worst things in your life, and when are you going to get around to whispering or shouting them?" This question was posed by Leo author Ray Bradbury in his book "Zen in the Art of Writing: Essays on Creativity." Even if you're not a writer yourself, you will benefit from responding to his exhortation. It's one of the best things you could possibly do to activate your dormant creativity and intensify your lust for life. This is one of those times when working with your extremes is not only safe and healthy, but also fun and inspirational. So do it, Leo! Get excited and expressive about the best and worst things in your life.

VIRGO (Aug 23-Sep 22): It's time to leave behind the golden oldies. You'd be wise to tiptoe away from tradition, and give the ghosts of the past one last kiss goodbye, and wean yourself from nostalgia for the good old days. Frankly, my dear, you've got numerous appointments with the future, and it would be a shame to miss them because you're mucking around with memories. In the coming weeks—for that matter, in the coming months—you're most likely to thrive if you become an agent of change. And the most important thing to change is your relationship to the person you used to be.

LIBRA (Sep 23-Oct 22): In Indonesia, the term *gotong-royong* is defined as the "joint bearing of burdens." In practice it means that you and I and our allies get together voluntarily to help each other achieve a shared goal. It may also be an agreement to provide mutual aid: I help you do what you need to have done, and you help me with my task. *Gotong-royong* also implies that we enjoy working together. The emotional tone that we cultivate is affection and care. By sharing a burden, we lighten the load that each of us has to bear. I bring this to your attention, Libra, because it's the *gotong-royong* season for you and yours. Be the ringleader who initiates and sustains it.

SCORPIO (Oct 23-Nov 21): In one of his poems, Jack Gilbert mentions "the incurably sane," who are "uncrippled by beauty" and "unbutchered by love." When I read those lines, I felt a surge of protest. Is there a single person on the earth who fits that description? No! I was miffed by such starry-eyed idealism. Later, though, as I studied the astrological omens for you Scorpios, my attitude softened. I realized that the coming weeks may be a time when many of you will at least temporarily be incurably sane, uncrippled by beauty, and unbutchered by love. If you're one of these lucky ones, please use your blessed grace to spread an abundance of blessed grace everywhere you go.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22-Dec 21): If you're not skirting the edges of the forbidden zone, you're playing it too safe. If you're not serving as a benevolent mischief-maker for someone you care about, you're shirking your duty. Your allegiance should be with X-factors and wild cards. You will thrive to the degree that you cultivate alliances with mavericks and instigators. Are you shrewd enough to mess with

time-tested formulas? Are you restless enough to rebel against habits that stifle your curiosity?

CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 19): How to be a Capricorn, according to my Capricorn reader Sadie Kennedy: When you are younger, take yourself too seriously. Look and act older than you actually are as you serve what's most practical. Sacrifice fun and frivolity, working doggedly to achieve the goals you yearn for, until you reach some level of accomplishment. Then realize, as if struck by a thunderbolt, that fun and frivolity have practical value. Begin to age backwards like Benjamin Button as you balance work with play and discipline with leisure. Enjoy the fruits of your intense efforts as everyone tells you how relaxed and supple and resilient you are becoming.

AQUARIUS (Jan 20-Feb 18): Cracking open the shell of a soft-boiled egg is a tricky task. You must be firm enough to break the shell, but sufficiently gentle to avoid making a mess. If you live in Germany, you have access to a metal instrument that provides just the right measure of soft force. It's called an *Eierschalensollbruchstellenverursacher*, translated as "soft-boiled egg shell cracker." Your assignment in the coming weeks is to cultivate a talent that is metaphorically similar to an *Eierschalensollbruchstellenverursacher*. I believe you will need that blend of sensitivity and power on numerous occasions.

PISCES (Feb 19-Mar 20): Americans often regard Cuba as impoverished and backwards. There is an element of truth in their prejudice, primarily because the U.S. has imposed a stifling embargo on the Caribbean nation for over 50 years. That's why, for example, many Cubans drive cars that were manufactured in the 1950s. But I wonder how my fellow citizens would respond if they knew that in some ways Cuba's healthcare system is better than America's. The World Health Organization recently congratulated Cuba for being the first country on earth to eradicate the transmission of syphilis and HIV from mothers to babies. Can you identify a metaphorically similar situation in your personal life, Pisces? Are there people you regard as inferior or undeveloped who could teach you an important lesson or motivate you to grow? Now is a perfect time to benefit from their influence.

ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 19): Charles de Lint is a novelist whose stories are influenced

by folklore, myths, and science fiction. In his book "Yarrow," a wizardly character named Toby is skilled at conjuring. He can make small objects appear and disappear, for example. But Toby yearns for more. "I want to be magic," he says. "I want to be a friend of elves and live in a tree. I want to marry a moonbeam and hear the stars sing. I don't want to pretend at magic anymore. I want to be magic." If you have ever wished for a comparable upgrade, Aries, now is an unusually favorable time to work on it.

TAURUS (Apr 20-May 20): An imaginative Welsh man named Liam Bennett has developed a "dausage," which is a blend of a doughnut and sausage. One of his most requested treats is pork meat stuffed with strawberry jelly. Even if this novel blend doesn't appeal to your taste buds, it serves as a good prompt for my advice: The coming weeks will be a favorable time to expand your notion of what types of nourishment are fun and healthy for you. I mean that in the metaphorical as well as the literal sense. Experiment with new recipes, both with the food you provide your body and the sustenance you feed your soul.

GEMINI (May 21-Jun 20): In the woods, living matter isn't segregated from the decaying stuff. Rotting tree trunks are host to teeming colonies of moss. Withered stems of ferns mingle with cheerful saplings. Audacious mushrooms sprout up among scraps of fallen leaves. The birds and beetles and lizards and butterflies don't act as if this mix is weird. They seem to be at peace with it. I suspect they thrive on it, even exult in it. That's the spirit I suggest you adopt as you enjoy the paradoxical mélange of your life in the coming weeks, Gemini. Celebrate the mysterious magic that emerges as you simultaneously fade and flourish, decline and increase, wind down and rise up.

CANCER (Jun 21-Jul 22): Here are some tips on being the best Cancerian you can be: 1. Cultivate your sensitivity as a strength. Regard your emotional vulnerability as a superpower. 2. Nurture yourself at least as much as you nurture others. 3. Learn to know the difference between your golden hunches and the glimmering delusions that your demons stir up. 4. Be kind, but don't be exorbitantly nice. 5. Remember that others' unhappiness is rarely your fault or responsibility. 6. Keep reinventing the way you love yourself.

HOMEWORK: Would it be possible to turn one of your liabilities into an asset? How? Testify at FreeWillAstrology.com.

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SAVAGE LOVE

Dan Savage

Does a person who acts loving only when high on weed really love you? My live-in boyfriend of three years acts sweet, loving, and caring when he's high, but when the weed runs out, he's mean, angry, hurtful, and horrible to be around. I've asked him when he's stoned to still act like a loving person without the weed, but of course that never happens. He just dismisses that he's mean and hurtful, and blames me for why he's angry. I'm so confused! Without weed, he's intolerable. Should I just make sure he's always well stocked with his drug? He's a relatively functional stoner, even though technically it's not allowed at his job. I've told all my friends he is no longer the mean asshole he was when I wanted to leave him (but didn't), and now I've convinced everyone that he transformed back into the amazing catch I always knew he was. So basically, in order to save face over not leaving him (and now I can't for financial reasons), I burned the bridges. —Tensions Highlight Concerns That Relationships Aren't Perfect

Someone who can be nice only when he's high isn't someone you should be fucking, living with, or starting a grow-op on your roof for, THCTRAP, he's someone you should be dumping, dumping, and dumping.

And to be clear: Your boyfriend's problem isn't weed, THCTRAP, your boyfriend's problem is that he's an asshole. And the fact you're covering for him—the fact you can't go to your friends for help because you worked so hard to convince them he's not an asshole—is a very, very bad sign. If being with someone isolates you from the support of your friends, that's not someone you should be with.

Does he love you? Maybe he does, maybe he doesn't—but even if he does, do you want to be loved by someone who treats you like shit when he isn't fucked up? No, you don't. My advice: DTMFA.

But let's get a second opinion, shall we?

"It's not unusual for people to complain that they feel a little cranky when they run out of weed," said Dan Skye, editor-in-chief of *High Times* magazine. "I know a lot of people who prefer to be high all the time—but if his personality is that different when he runs out of weed, this woman's boyfriend has problems other than not being high."

Now, there are people out there who self-medicate with pot—in good ways, not bad ways.

"I know many people who have dumped their pharmaceuticals for pot," said Skye, "because pot is a better substance for easing their pain and anxiety. There are no side effects, it's good at easing pain, and it even eases some severe medical conditions. There are people out there who are high all the time, I know hundreds of them, and they are perfectly functional, responsible human beings. We are hardwired as humans to hook up with this plant, and some people do so in profound ways. It makes them feel better, it makes them more compassionate and more creative—it makes them better human beings."

But Skye doesn't think your boyfriend is one of those people, THCTRAP.

"If this guy is such a prick when he's not high, I'd get rid of him," said Skye. "Putting your girlfriend in a position where she feels like she has to become your dealer—that she has to supply you with pot—is not acceptable."

She turned me into the pretty girl's fat little friend years ago and then ran off to sunnier places. Now she's back. She has tried to rekindle a relationship, but she expects me to be like I was years back. I'm treating myself to a weekend away and thought about treating her too in the hopes things go to the next level. I guess I'm hoping she

will give if she gets. Am I an idiot?
—Married, Optimally Nookied, Only Good Guy Problems

So you're one of those good guys I've heard so much about, huh? One of those good guys who thinks all his female friends are secret sex workers—i.e., girls who will give once they get? If that's how good guys feel about their female friends, I'd hate to hear a bad guy's inner monologue.

Don't spend your "good guy" money on this girl, GGP, because she's not going to fuck you. If she didn't want to fuck you after she paid Dr. Moreau to turn you into her fat little friend, she doesn't want to fuck you now. The odds of her wanting to take things "to the next level" once you get her alone for the weekend are worse than the odds of "President Rick Santorum."

My advice: Do not invite this woman to go away with you under false pretenses (it's a friendly trip!) so long as you're nursing false hopes (she'll fuck me someday!). Invite someone else, go alone, or blow whatever money you would've spent on this pretty girl on a pretty local sex worker instead.

I'm a man who is married to a woman. In our 12-year relationship, our sex life hasn't ever been really active, but after being married, my wife's sex drive decreased noticeably. She had promised things would improve once we tied the knot. She explained that her upbringing was conservative and she felt guilty about having sex before marriage. But marriage didn't help. We've gone to couples' therapy, only to abandon it because she doesn't feel any progress, and our pantry has barely used natural remedies for low libido. Our library has workout DVDs collecting dust after she said she felt too fat to be attractive. Currently, she can last having sex for nearly half an hour before feeling exhausted and stopping, regardless of me reaching orgasm or not. On the other hand, we enjoy each other's company and we've got each other's backs whenever things are rough, so I can't say she's uninterested in me. I can't remember the last time I had fulfilling sex. Whenever I bring it up, she breaks down, saying she's not enough for me. My need for sex is killing me. —Unsexed Grumpy Husband

Maybe your wife's religious upbringing ruined sex for her and her for sex.

Maybe your wife is one of those low-to-no-libido women who sex therapists and counselors whisper about: a woman with no desire for sex, a woman whose marriage is hanging by a thread, a woman who sincerely wants to save her marriage—but nothing seems to help, her marriage collapses, and she winds up divorced. And three months after the divorce, the woman who was weeping to her therapist about the possibility that she might be asexual? She wants to fuck every cute bartender, personal trainer, and waiter she sees. Turns out she wanted sex all along. She just didn't want it with her husband, or she didn't want it with *only* her husband, and her newfound freedom to fuck other people—freedom that might have saved her marriage—reawakened her libido.

Maybe your wife is asexual.

Here are your non-divorce options, UGH:
(1) You can get sex elsewhere without her okay, aka "cheating." (2) You can ask your wife for permission to get sex elsewhere, aka "not cheating." (3) You can resign yourself to a sexless marriage, aka "cheating inevitably."

P.S. Never once has a conflict over too little sex in a long-term relationship been solved by a marriage ceremony.

On the Lovecast, Dr. Vy Chu on some nastiness that can happen to one's bottom: savagecast.com.

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

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Coffee Book
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Café Deco
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The Peak Lookout Restaurant

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Gourmet Coffee
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Island Shangri-La
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ZELO Bar & Restaurant

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Alliance Francaise
Amour Salon
Anglo-Chinese Florist
Arts Centre
Assaggio Trattoria Italiana
Bar 109
Berliner
Big Apple
Blue Goose
Castello del Vino
Classified
Cosmos
Coyote Bar & Grill
Delaney's
DiVino Patio
DRAGONFLY @ Novotel
Ebeneezers
Grand Hyatt Hotel
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Marriott Properties
Maya
Maya Café
MIX
Moon Izakaya
Old China Hand
Oliver's Super Sandwiches
Outback Grill
OVO - Queen's Road East
OVO - Wanchai Road
Paisano's
Piccolo Concepts
Pizza Express - J Residence
Pizza Express - Wing Fung St
Pomme
Quemo
Slim's
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Starbucks - Great Eagle Centre
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Tamarind
Thai Delight Restaurant & Bar
The Charterhouse Causeway Bay

The Doghouse
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Fitness First
Outback Steakhouse
Park N Shop - Kornhill Plaza
Pizza Express
Ruby Tuesday
Starbucks - Cityplaza
Starbucks - Hoi Kwong St.
Starbucks - Kin On Mansion
Starbucks - Kornhill Plaza
Starbucks - Stanhope House
The News Room
Yo Bago
Yo Mama

NORTH POINT/ FORTRESS HILL

Harbour Plaza Hotel
Starbucks - Electric Road
Starbucks - Kerry Centre
Starbucks - King's Road

SAI WAN HO

Berliner
Jack's Terrazza Ristorante
Starbucks - Eastern Hospital

POK FU LAM

Delaney's Pub
Patisserie Les Amis
Prompt
Starbucks - Cyberport Concourse
Starbucks - Cyberport IT Street
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T Hotel

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Starbucks - China HK City

Starbucks - Elements

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Starbucks - Harbour Crystal Centre

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Starbucks - Star Avenue

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Starbucks - HKUST

Starbucks - Chan Man St

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King's Belly
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Starbucks - Citywalk
Starbucks - Discovery Park
Starbucks - Luk Yeung Galleria
Starbucks - Tai Po Market MTR
Starbucks - Tsuen Wan Plaza

LANTAU

Berliner
Café Duvet
Caffe Ritazza
Dymocks
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FIRST PERSON



Photo: Kirk Kenny / studiozag.com

“Magic found me—
I never found magic.”

Musician and magician **Harry Wong** is affectionately known as “Harry gor gor,” or “Brother Harry,” for his prolific work as a children’s entertainer. He is the son of 60s children’s TV host and puppeteer Calvin Wong. He tells Andrea Lo about being influenced by his father, why he can’t define his career—and reveals that he’s actually an introvert.

I grew up in Hong Kong. I went to England to study and graduated with a degree in music education and commercial music.

I remember telling my parents I hoped they didn’t mind that I didn’t want to be a lawyer or doctor.

My dad is my biggest influence. Sons usually don’t want to follow in their father’s footsteps, but you end up becoming influenced by them.

He worked in music education and used to be a children’s TV host, and I’m doing the same thing—but I’m crazier than he was.

He is my best PR. He has kept all my media clippings and posters. He has more than I have!

One day, after 20 years of doing live TV, my dad was told that he didn’t have to go in again the next week.

That was the moment I understood the reality of this business: You’re as good as your last show.

Magic found me—I never found magic.

When my father was doing children’s TV, a lot of magicians would sell their props to him.

I saw where he kept his stash of props. I couldn’t wait for him to leave the house so I could discover the secrets behind them.

I took this fake finger with me to school and pretended I had chopped mine off. All the girls screamed.

I felt great, then I got detention.

I came back to Hong Kong in 1984 and became a music teacher at the French International School. It was crazy because I had to teach every single kid!

RTHK was looking for a pair of hands to mime piano playing [in a program] as the host couldn’t play. I was that pair of hands. Then they realized this pair of hands also did magic and puppets.

I hopped into an RTHK van and they took me to Shek O—that was where the piano was located.

Everything was a bit wacky. But that’s how it all started.

When it comes to music, people always say it’s 5 percent talent and 95 percent sweat. I would say that is only the first step. After you put in the 95 percent sweat and you realize other people are putting in 100 percent, then talent is also important.

When you want to move someone, sometimes just one note will do that. That has to come from somewhere aside from your skills.

I chose a very humble instrument, the recorder. I love it, because it’s simple.

When I was absolutely crazy about it, it was easy for me to put in 10 hours of practice a day.

It's fascinating to communicate with children. They immediately know how genuine you are.

The most difficult part of working with children is the parents. Very often, children are not a problem when their parents aren’t there.

My biggest setback was my first marriage. It was unsuccessful and I really hit a ditch. I’m supposed to be a family man and be good with children.

No one wants to fall down, but it’s about being able to climb up again. You feel like you’re gaining power. You see the world differently.

I was 24 the first time I got married. I felt I had to do everything. When you’re 30, you start to think about whether you want to work for others or start something on your own. At 40, you try to make it perfect.

Before I turned 50, I tended to think that life was about taking. But it’s about giving. When you’re giving, you’re actually receiving a lot more.

I don't talk at home. I read a lot. I’m actually a very introverted person.

I still haven't really got one precise career. How would you define me?

I'm a CEO, magician, musician, entertainer and teacher.

I'm also a qualified hypnotherapist. I have never thought of using it clinically. I think people kind of identify me already [as a magician].

My favorite and least favorite thing about Hong Kong? It’s like asking me to choose ice cream. I would have strawberry today, chocolate tomorrow and vanilla the day after. I accept things and I love anyone I come across, even that guy who was honking at me for no reason.

I have no plans to leave for good, although I definitely have plans to leave. That’s one of the beauties of Hong Kong—you can leave it any time you want.

Hong Kong is Hong Kong. I can’t not like it—it’s my home.

If you can find peace in yourself, you realize anything is manageable. There is no problem that can’t be solved.

NEED TO KNOW...

Harry Wong began his career in children’s TV in 1986. As well as being Hong Kong’s sorcery stalwart and an accomplished recorder player, he has also worked extensively in the arts. Catch him at Magic at the Fringe, Aug 12, 8:30pm. Fringe Club, 2 Lower Albert Rd., Central, 2521-7251.

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