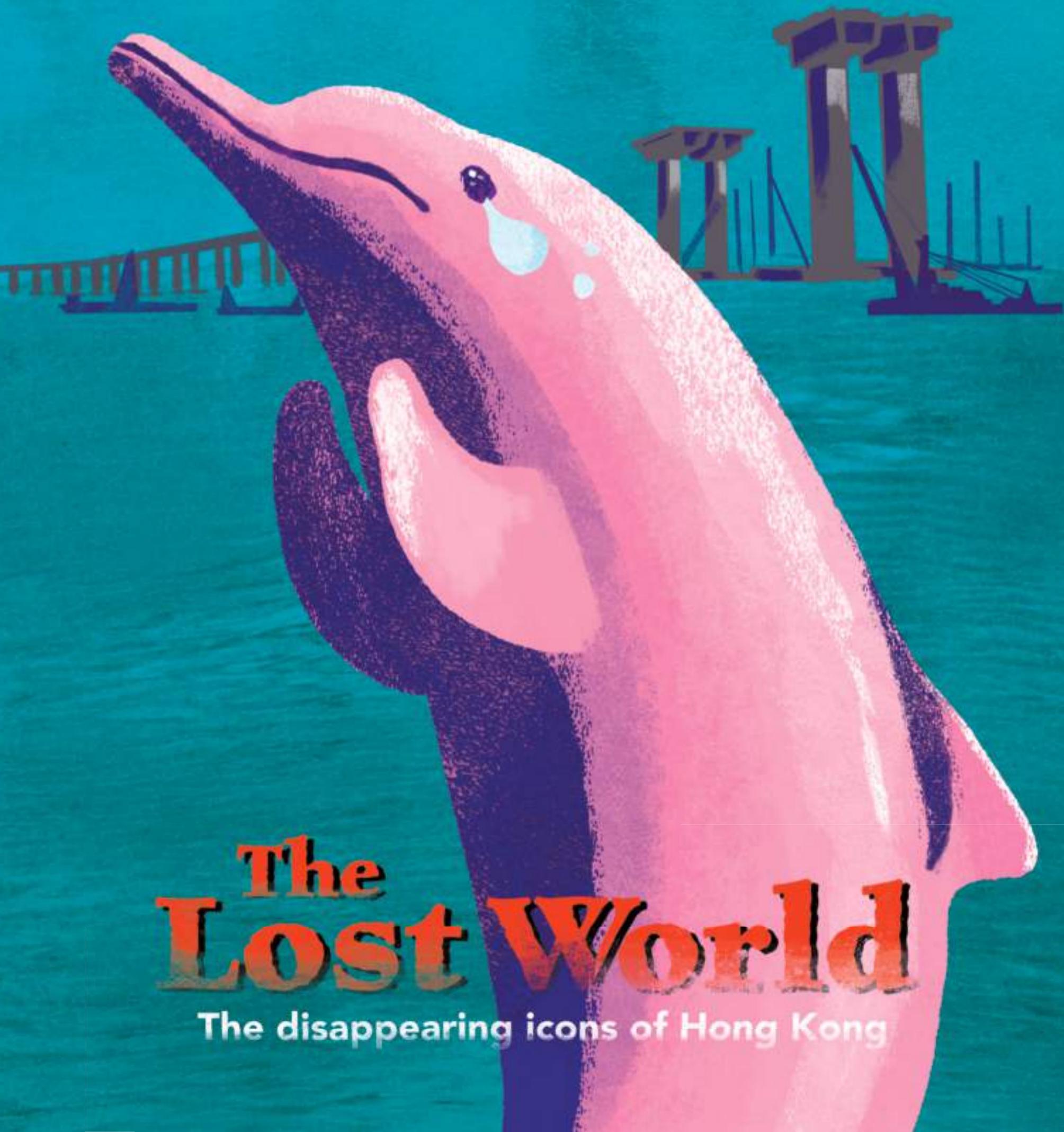


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COVER STORY

Dolphins, real politicans: all no more

08



12

STREET LIFE

Hong Kong's mis-translated roads



17

TRAVEL

Tokyo after dark includes this strapping lad

18

DINING

Become a pastafarian with the city's best carbs



38

FIRST PERSON

Producer Alex Fung on what's right with Cantopop



37

GIVEAWAYS

We've got 100,000 Asia Miles up for grabs! That's enough for two round-trip tickets to Sydney—or city tours, hotel stays, killer tech and more

Legco Nursery Rhymes

The recent Legislative Council elections were more of a shake-up than anyone expected, with the new guard trouncing the old—the new Legco will have an amazing 26 new lawmakers. But how young are these new kids? Young enough that the easiest way to explain them is with nursery rhymes...

Mary Had a Localist

Mary had a localist,
Its fleece was white as snow
A copper sprayed it with teargas
And now it's in Legco.

Long Hair, Long Hair

Long Hair, Long Hair, quite contrary
How do your luscious locks grow?
"With silver hairs and rebel airs,
and shouting in Legco."

Regina Ip, the "Queen of Votes"

The "Queen of Votes"
She gave poor quotes
All on election day.
The knave of votes
He spread these quotes:
She got elected anyway.

There Was a Crooked Man

There was a crooked man, and he walked a crooked mile.
He found a crooked dollar against a crooked stile.
He bought a crooked cat, which caught a crooked mouse,
And they all lived together in a taxpayer-funded house.

Lavender's Blue

Lavender's blue, dilly dilly,
Lavender's green.
When I am Chief, dilly dilly,
You shall be Foreign Liaison to Macau.

Old Mother Hubbard

Old Mother Hubbard
Went to the cupboard
To find herself some votes
When she got there
The cupboard was bare
Because the electoral system has no meaningful effect on our governance.


Who's in charge?

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MEMBER OF:



HOME



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

Dear Mr. Know-It-All,

Why are there so many different kinds of mooncakes? — Moon Boy

The traditional Cantonese mooncake contains salted duck egg wrapped in lotus seed paste in a thin, lard-based crust—and of course, the whole family fights over who gets the slice with the most egg.

But there are other kinds of mooncakes from other areas of China. Beijing-style and Chiu Chow-style mooncakes, for example, have a light and flaky crust. Suzhou-style ones have a rich, flaky crust and come in both sweet and savory varieties, normally salt-and-pepper pork.

Given that the average mooncake contains about 1,000 calories, even hardiest of Hongkongers have decided they can't really get away with eating these delicious little calorie bombs year on year. And so gradually, other (somewhat more) healthy alternatives have emerged to complement the traditional Cantonese style.

There have, therefore, been three phases of mooncake development in our city. Phase one: the traditional mooncake. Phase two consisted of the two major game-changers: the custard and the snowy mooncake.

Created in 1986 by chef Yip Wing-wah at the Peninsula's Spring Moon restaurant, the custard mooncake incorporates a rich, eggy filling into a lighter pastry, served in a smaller cake—making them lighter and easier for one person to eat. The Pen's mooncakes have proved ludicrously popular, regularly selling out their preorders months in advance.

Then there's the snowy, or snow-skin, mooncake.

Launched by Tai Pan Bakery in 1989, these have a mochi-esque skin made of glutinous rice, surrounding a lighter fruit or bean paste filling. Served frozen like ice cream treats, they might have been seen as reactionary at the time, but they reached full acceptance and popularity in the 2000s, and they're now a generally accepted alternative to the traditional variety—though your granny might not agree.

Phase three is where it gets creative—also known as "every brand out there trying to jump on the mooncake bandwagon." That's why you'll get a multitude of confusing new mooncakes: from Starbucks' own varieties to endless chocolatiers' efforts... most of which are actually just round chocolate tarts.

But who are we to argue with a winning shape? When it comes down to it, a mooncake is what you make of it. And as long as it makes for a good time with family and an empty plate—then a mooncake it is.



Golden, delicious... and calorific



This week in My Perfect HK:

For the past 5 years Chan Cheuk-ming, aka "Ming Gor," has been distributing free meal boxes to the city's homeless, poor and disadvantaged. For the whole of this month we're running #FreeHKmeals, a campaign calling on all HK Magazine readers to visit Ming Gor (his char siu's pretty good) and pay it forward by sponsoring a meal voucher for someone less fortunate—for just \$24. Visit Pei Ho Counterparts at 278 Tai Nam St., Sham Shui Po, to do your bit—tag it #FreeHKmeals to spread the word.

Letters

"Trump has not been overtly racist."

Great, Again?

This response to our satirical editorial "Your Legco Ballot Paper" (Sep 2, Issue 1161) about the Legco elections is... well... it's something.

Of course, the ballot was only poking fun at all the parties. But saying the fictitious "Make Hong Kong Great Again Party" is synonymous with "Overt Racist" is obviously a stupid reference to Trump. Trump has not been overtly racist. His proposal to crack down on illegal immigration is the right thing to do. Even illegal Chinese immigrants should not be excused. Yes, many of our own kind, from both HK and the mainland, immigrate to the U.S, overstay their visas, and even manage to collect government benefits. Is this fair?

And Trump was never called a racist until he dared to run for President against the Democrats. He is very well known in the New York/New Jersey area. He may be a ruthless businessman and a bit argumentative, but he's no more racist than any of your white friends.

John Chiu

[For the record, Donald Trump has a well documented history of racism. See tiny.cc/hk-trumpracist for more.—Eds]

#FreeHKmeals Love

Last week we interviewed Sham Shui Po philanthropist "Ming Gor" ("First Person," Sep 2, Issue 1161), encouraging everyone to take part in our #FreeHKmeals campaign—see above, right. Facebook readers were keen to get involved:

What a selfless and good hearted person he is!
Jose Chan

This man has been a godsend to so many... God bless him!
Nancy Garlow Englehart

What a good man! So rare these days.
Kristin Newton

Hey HK Magazine - can you help Ming Gor and your readers by helping to setup an online platform that we can use to donate? I want to sponsor meals and would gladly donate money online... I'm sure I'm not alone. Make #FreeHKmeals campaign a solution everyone can join and support. HK needs more angels on the street like Ming Gor x
Emma Hammonds

[Stay tuned! Ming Gor tells us that he's got an exciting new donation mechanism coming soon. We'll make sure everyone finds out when it happens.—Eds]

#PrivateEyeHK



Color Me In

Photo by @quest4dm via Instagram



Friday 9/9

Dancing Queens

Start polishing your contouring skills: **Drag Domination** is the city's biggest-ever gathering of drag queens in one club. This event features performances (#werq), lip sync battles and the crowning of a new Queen.

9pm. Orange Peel, 2/F Ho Lee Commercial Building, 38044 D'Aguilar St., Central. \$140 from eventbrite.hk; \$160 at the door, both include one drink.

Saturday 9/10

Bringing All the Boys to the Yard

Making the most of these late summer vibes, resident Hong Kong ice cream oracles

Emack & Bolios are teaming up with Australian craft brew label Little Creatures for a **good old fashioned block party**, capped off with a silent disco with DJ Re:Flex and New York-based Sound Off on the decks.

3-6pm. Emack & Bolio's, 26 Cochrane St., Central. \$100 from blockparty.pelago.events, ticket includes a signature cone with two scoops, a Little Creatures craft beer and entry to the silent disco

Sunday 9/11

What's the Happie-Haps?

The first **FreeSpace Happening** of the year is focused on the theme of "Diaspora," and they've organized a full afternoon of unique performers, including Sheng-Xiang & Band, Taiwanese folk-rockers who sing in Hakka, as well as literary events and a local handicrafts market.

2-7pm. Nursery Park, West Kowloon Cultural District, West Kowloon. Free.

Monday 9/12

I Do Like Mondays

Hong Kong indie duo and sonic equivalent of a lovingly hand-knitted tea cozy **My Little Airport** will be bringing their gentle, politically probing folk hits to MacPherson Stadium for a three-night stint.

Sep 12-14. MacPherson Studio, 38 Nelson St., Mong Kok. \$350-450 from cityline.com and Macpherson Box Office.

Tuesday 9/13

Treat Yo'Self

HK Magazine is officially 25 years young, and we're celebrating this very happy occasion with Lee Gardens.

For the entire month of September, **go the HK way** at 16 outlets in Lee Garden Two, Hysan Place and Lee Theatre, which are offering tailor-made Hong Kong-style delicacies and exclusive discounts to you lovely, loyal HK Mag readers. You're most welcome.

September. Check out tiny.cc/hk-treats for details.



Wednesday 9/14

I Am the God of Fire

Back in the 1800s, Tai Hang villagers staved off a plague and a typhoon by performing a fire dance for three straight days and nights. The tradition has continued to this day with the **Tai Hang Fire Dragon Dance**, in which villagers light a long, incense-studded dragon and parade it through the streets. Make sure to get there early for a good view, as places go quick.

Sep 14-16, 8:15-10:30pm. Tai Hang (vantage point on Wun Sha St.)

Thursday 9/15

Show Me the Mooney

Get ready to marathon-eat some mooncakes: The **Mid-Autumn Festival** is upon us. Get yourself a lantern and join the throngs down at Victoria Park, where people gather to celebrate, admire the moon and play with candles in mooncake tins.

Friday 9/16

Art & Soul

A gathering of more than 80 exhibitors from around the world, the **Asia Contemporary Art Show** is the place to find new works, admire emerging artists, and canoodle with the most culturally enlightened—or at least those who think they are.



Sep 16-18. Conrad Hong Kong, One Pacific Place, 88 Queensway, Admiralty. \$220 for two-for-one pass in advance from ticketflap.com/acasfall2016; \$220 per person at the door.

Saturday 9/17

Hong Kong Outing

In their bid to bring the 2022 Gay Games to Hong Kong—which would be the first Gay Games to be held in any Asian city—**Out in HK are holding a fundraising event** at Orange Peel packed with performances by LGBTI artists, poets and musicians from Hong Kong and beyond.

8:30-11:30pm. Orange Peel, 38-44 D'Aguilar St., Central. \$161.50 from eventbrite.com; \$180 at the door.

Coming Up

Paint The Town Pink

The city's biggest LGBTI event, **Pink Dot**, is hitting West Kowloon Nursery Park at the end of the month. This year's theme? "Love Wins." They've got a day full of carnival activities from community organizations around Hong Kong, and a free concert in the evening featuring Cantopop heavy-hitters Anthony Wong, Denise Ho and C Allstar.

Sep 25, 1-8pm. Nursery Park, West Kowloon Cultural District, West Kowloon. Find out more at pinkdot.hk

Edited by Stephanie Tsui
stephanie.tsui@hkmagmedia.com



Last Week In Reality

SAT 27

Morning Stroll At around 11 in the morning, MTR employees find a man in his 60s pacing back and forth on the southbound track at Sheung Shui station along the East Rail Line. He refuses to move back to the platform. After some persuasion, five employees escort the distraught man back to safe ground. He is sent to hospital with minor injuries.

SUN 28

Turtle Recall A family and a Taoist priest are seen throwing a bag of objects off the pier at Anglers' Beach in Tsuen Wan. Soon after, dozens of terrapins—specifically, red-eared sliders—begin climbing out of the water. Lifeguards row out to search for more of the freshwater species, returning with buckets of them. More than 240 are rescued. A similar incident is later reported in the same district at Approach Beach, this time involving farmed barramundi as well as terrapins.



MON 29

Happy Chopper A photo uploaded to Facebook goes viral: A woman asks her domestic helper to divide a tub of ice cream into two portions. The helper lays the tub down on a chopping board and slices it in half. Impressed by the perfectly cut dessert, netizens praise the helper's carving skills.



TUE 30

Tough Cookie At around noon, a 61-year-old woman is crossing the road in Sau Mau Ping when a double-decker KMB bus runs over her foot. Crying out in pain with her foot stuck under the wheel, the woman manages to call the police on her own phone. Fire services arrive to free her, and she is taken to hospital.

WED 31

Let It Go The High Court rejects a 40-year-old man's appeal to recover \$6,200 worth of cash and belongings—including a mattress—from his ex-girlfriend following their breakup. The man filed the appeal after a failed claim at the Small Claims Tribunal. Although he paid only \$500 for the mattress in a sale, the man told reporters he wanted to claim its original price of \$5,000 because he queued 12 hours for it. He now plans to lodge another appeal through his ex-lover's church.



THU 1

Inoffensive Weapon At 8am an employee at a store in a Mong Kok industrial building finds what he believes to be a machine gun in the stairwell. He calls the police, who determine the "gun" to be a plastic replica, and hand the case over to building management.

FRI 2

Not Buying It A man is arrested at a Standard Chartered branch in Tsim Sha Tsui after repeatedly demanding up to \$60,000 in "compensation" on the basis that he was offended by the "blasphemous" presence of the qilin—a Chinese mythical creature—on the \$100 notes issued by the bank. Prior to his arrest, he had also threatened to "ruin the bank's reputation." An investigation is underway.

Quote of the Week

"Some candidates who have shown clear opposition to my re-election were not elected."

Chief Executive Leung Chun-ying insists that the results of the recent Legislative Council elections, in which a new generation of activists was elected, actually demonstrate the electorate's disapproval of the filibustering tactics of pan-democrats—not dissatisfaction with the Chief Executive.

Talking Points

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

Hong Kong: 44th Best for Expats

The latest Expat Insider survey has ranked Hong Kong the **44th top destination for expats**—a fall of 18 places from last year. Taiwan topped the list. The survey, published by expatriate networking website InterNations, polled 14,300 expats across 191 countries. With the average expat working 48.5 hours a week, the city ranked **59th for work-life balance**, but earned 24th place for job satisfaction. 72 percent of expats view the cost of living negatively, compared to 61 percent last year—**Hong Kong was ranked second in the 2015 Cost of Living Rankings** by human resources firm Mercer. The city also fell from 37th last year to 48th in terms of "Ease of Settling In." When the survey was first conducted two years ago, Hong Kong was ranked 10th.

Our take: If you've still got a housing allowance, why are you complaining?

Rainbow Logos at HKU Criticized

A concern group dedicated to "family values" is threatening to organize protests and petitions against the University of Hong Kong if it refuses to **remove the rainbow logo posted on its gender-neutral bathrooms**. Roger Wong, convenor of the anti-gay-rights Family School Sexual Orientation Discrimination Ordinance Concern Group, said some parents had expressed concern that the **rainbow logos would promote LGBT values on campus**. Wong said that his group is not against unisex toilets, but that the rainbow logo was an "inappropriate" use of public money advocating values that challenge "mainstream" views on gender and sexuality. Meanwhile, a spokesperson for HKU says the gender-neutral toilets are part of the university's effort to **nurture an inclusive culture on campus**.

Our take: Rainbows are amazing! More rainbows please!



Illustration: Elaine Tang

Street Talk

Three years ago, Belgium-born-and-raised graffiti artist **Cara "Caratoes" To** left her job at an advertising company to discover her Hong Kong roots. Today, when she's not painting walls across the globe, she's surprising international artists with the art Hong Kong has to offer. She tells Stephanie Tsui about falling into the trap of materialism and her struggles with gender bias.



Photo:Tiger Beer

HK Magazine: Have you always been an artist?

CT: I've always enjoyed drawing. I got into graffiti while working in post-production for an advertising company in Amsterdam. I'd been living the way my parents and society told me to, and even did two years of biochemistry in university before switching to game design. I decided to stop waiting for someone to show me how it's done, and fulfil my childhood dreams. I quit my job and moved to Hong Kong, where my parents are from. It was partly to discover my roots, and also to put myself through a personal boot camp to hone my skills.

HK: What do your parents think of what you do?

CT: My parents are super traditional. One of the reasons I started painting alleyways was because they told me not to. I wanted to do things people say girls can't do. They would call me a "gwei mui" and say I was going to marry a "gweilo" like it was a bad thing. I was confused, because in Belgium, we lived in a tiny village and we were surrounded by white people all the time. It was as if I had to choose to be either Chinese or Western. I wanted to be Chinese, but I also wanted to hang out with my white friends. But after moving here, I started understanding where my parents came from. They don't know about computers, so while I was studying game design they didn't understand what I was doing. But now they get what I'm doing because it's visual. Walls have helped me communicate with them better.

HK: Do you ever feel held back by commercial work?

CT: With commercial work I try to push set themes as hard as I can. When Tiger Beer told me about the concept of turning pollution into ink for the "Tiger Beer Air-Ink" campaign, it appealed to me because it's so relevant to Asia. It's really cool that someone had the idea to take dirt out of the air and make it into something we can use, turning it into a message: Global warming is real, and the ink reflects the amount of dirt in the air. Making a wall pretty isn't my sole responsibility—it's also my chance to put a message on a wall for everyone to see in their own time.

HK: Do people look at your art differently because you're a woman?

CT: The art world is a man's world. One time I was painting a wall in Richmond, Virginia. This guy walked up and asked who painted the wall. My friends told him it was me, but he just didn't buy it. Now, when people ask me who the artist is, I tell them "you just missed him," because I want them to see my art for what it is, and not a "girl's work." A part of me wants to speak up, because how many stories written from the male perspective have portrayed women unfavorably? But would speaking up rob me of other opportunities to travel and work on projects because people might think I'm "whiny"?

HK: How do you view your relationship with Hong Kong now?

CT: I only came back for two months last year, but now I come back more. At the end of the day, I want to represent Hong Kong: International artists are surprised by the quality of work here, because they see Asia as a place for rip-offs. It's insulting. I've taken it upon myself to speak up for Hong Kong. I'm proud to be a Hongkonger.



See more of To's creations at facebook.com/caratoes

Blowing Water

Cantonese slang: To chat, bullshit.

gun¹ jam¹ bing¹

觀音兵

Guanyin Soldier

Definition: A pathetic man who will do anything for a girl. Also means "one who has been friendzoned."

Origin: A soldier for the goddess Guanyin would be totally loyal and obedient.

HongKabulary



"Don't talk to me. I'm on a really bad LegComedown right now."

LegComedown (lɛdʒkʌmdaʊn), n.

The elation of electing new voices to Legco, which soon subsides into the reality that not much will change.

ENDANGERED SPECIES

There was great news for giant pandas this week: The patch-eyed goofballs are no longer an endangered species, thanks to years of concerted conservation efforts. Here in Hong Kong, however, we're having a little more trouble with our own endangered icons... By **HK Staff**

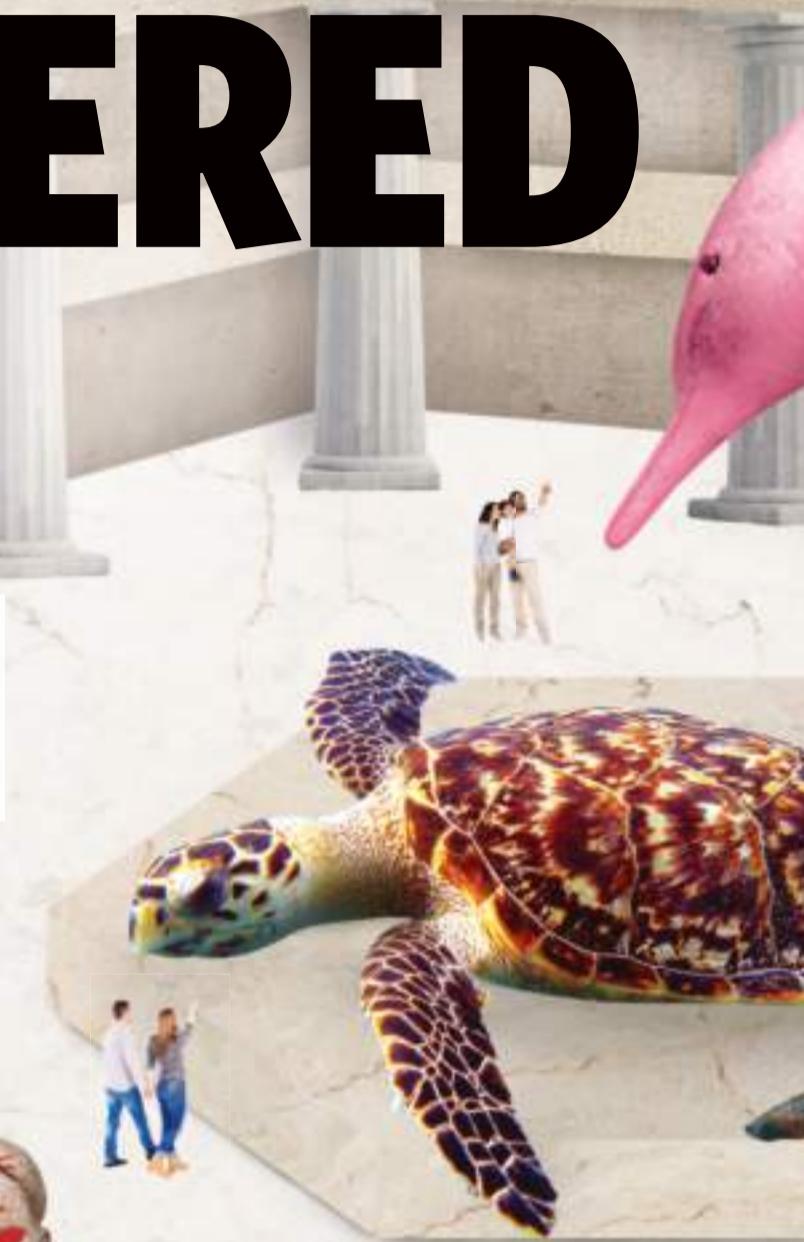
Dim Sum Trolleys

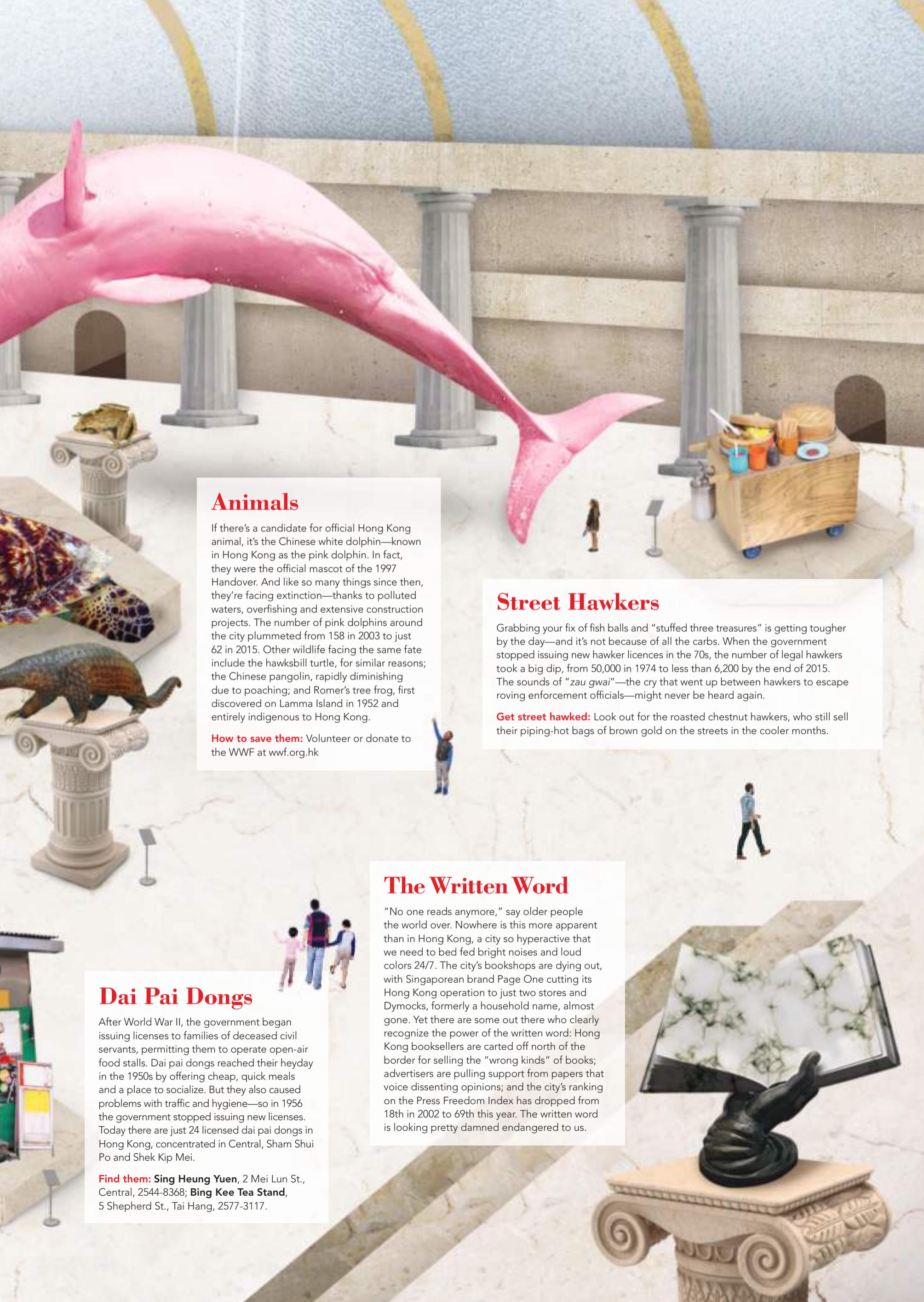
In the late 1960s, Hong Kong restaurants began serving dim sum with the trolleys used in Western fine-dining, because servers found traditional trays and platters too heavy to handle. The trolleys were later fitted with heating elements to keep food warm. But thanks to the space trolleys take up, they're now a dying breed, disappearing in favor of the often baffling dim sum order sheet.

Get trollied: Lin Heung Tea House, 160-164 Wellington St., Central, 2544-4556; London Restaurant, Good Hope Building, 612 Nathan Rd., Mong Kok, 2771-8018.

Good, Decent Politicians

Is there a good man left in politics? With the passing of the legendary Szeto Wah in 2011, are there any truly honorable men or women left? The Martin Lees and Anson Chans aren't in Legco any longer, and their replacements seem far more interested in bickering, filibustering and vetoing than trying to fix the problems Hong Kong faces. Meanwhile, the civil servants we thought to be at least OK turn out to have been crooked—take former Chief Secretary Rafael Hui, convicted of misconduct and accepting bribes. Perhaps our new crop of young, upstart Legco members can bring some honor back to politics? Sure, and pigs have a habit of taking wing...





Animals

If there's a candidate for official Hong Kong animal, it's the Chinese white dolphin—known in Hong Kong as the pink dolphin. In fact, they were the official mascot of the 1997 Handover. And like so many things since then, they're facing extinction—thanks to polluted waters, overfishing and extensive construction projects. The number of pink dolphins around the city plummeted from 158 in 2003 to just 62 in 2015. Other wildlife facing the same fate include the hawksbill turtle, for similar reasons; the Chinese pangolin, rapidly diminishing due to poaching; and Romer's tree frog, first discovered on Lamma Island in 1952 and entirely indigenous to Hong Kong.

How to save them: Volunteer or donate to the WWF at wwf.org.hk

Street Hawkers

Grabbing your fix of fish balls and "stuffed three treasures" is getting tougher by the day—and it's not because of all the carbs. When the government stopped issuing new hawker licences in the 70s, the number of legal hawkers took a big dip, from 50,000 in 1974 to less than 6,200 by the end of 2015. The sounds of "zau gwai"—the cry that went up between hawkers to escape roving enforcement officials—might never be heard again.

Get street hawked: Look out for the roasted chestnut hawkers, who still sell their piping-hot bags of brown gold on the streets in the cooler months.

The Written Word

"No one reads anymore," say older people the world over. Nowhere is this more apparent than in Hong Kong, a city so hyperactive that we need to bed fed bright noises and loud colors 24/7. The city's bookshops are dying out, with Singaporean brand Page One cutting its Hong Kong operation to just two stores and Dymocks, formerly a household name, almost gone. Yet there are some out there who clearly recognize the power of the written word: Hong Kong booksellers are carted off north of the border for selling the "wrong kinds" of books; advertisers are pulling support from papers that voice dissenting opinions; and the city's ranking on the Press Freedom Index has dropped from 18th in 2002 to 69th this year. The written word is looking pretty damned endangered to us.

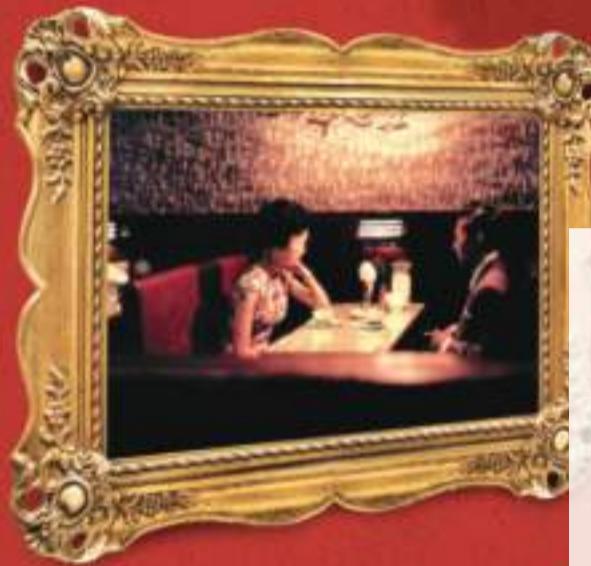
Dai Pai Dongs

After World War II, the government began issuing licenses to families of deceased civil servants, permitting them to operate open-air food stalls. Dai pai dongs reached their heyday in the 1950s by offering cheap, quick meals and a place to socialize. But they also caused problems with traffic and hygiene—so in 1956 the government stopped issuing new licenses. Today there are just 24 licensed dai pai dongs in Hong Kong, concentrated in Central, Sham Shui Po and Shek Kip Mei.

Find them: Sing Heung Yuen, 2 Mei Lun St., Central, 2544-8368; Bing Kee Tea Stand, 5 Shepherd St., Tai Hang, 2577-3117.

Music Venues

Hong Kong has few spaces for bands and gigs. The government has ruled that industrial buildings cannot be used as gigging venues, and absurd rental rates elsewhere are prohibitive. But there are glimmers of light amongst the gloom: Indie music haven **Hidden Agenda**, which announced it would close its Kwun Tong venue in October, has launched a crowdfunding campaign to finance a new venue and get around Lands Department restrictions—check out facebook.com/hiddenagendahk for details. A few other determined souls are also soldiering on—for example **Focal Fair**, a Causeway Bay joint that opened last year to host independent acts. 28/F, Park Avenue Tower, 5 Moreton Terrace, Causeway Bay; facebook.com/focalfair



Winter

Hong Kong winters have been getting so mild that, before long, we won't have any opportunity to wear our Burberry scarves and boots with da fur. The Hong Kong Observatory's predictions about the effects of climate change on the city in the 21st century make for disturbing reading:

- Cold days (12°C or below) will become a thing of the past, going from 21 days per year to less than one. At least we won't have to worry about White Walkers.
- Very hot days (exceeding 33°C) will double, from 11 days to 24.
- Sea levels are rising between 2.4 and 2.7mm per year.
- In general: warmer, wetter, more extreme.

[Learn more at hko.gov.hk](#)

\$100 Cocktails

Whatever happened to the \$100 cocktail? Seems like around 2008 we blinked—and all of a sudden a dirty martini was \$150. Yes, you can blame rising rents for upping prices. But you can also blame a credulous drinking public. All bars have to do is throw in a slightly more premium ingredient and BOOM: That'll be \$200 for your gold-leaf-infused weirdly shaped glass of pretentiousness, please.

Where to get a \$100 cocktail: Happy hours are your best bet. We're big fans of The Optimist's **Optimistic Hour**: Well-crafted cocktails from \$48, daily 3-7:30pm. Check out p.18 for more details. Can't sneak out of work early? Maybe you deserve to be paying \$200 for a crappy vodka lime soda. 239 Hennessy Rd., Wan Chai, 2433-3324.



百雀鴉
Cafe de Goldfinch

Soy Sauce Restos

One of the most memorable scenes from Wong Kar-wai's classic "In the Mood for Love" features Tony Leung and Maggie Cheung dining at an old steak house. The sequence was shot at Goldfinch Restaurant in Wan Chai, and this style of eatery was a mainstay of 60s and 70s Hong Kong. Now, one by one, they're closing down—Goldfinch closed in September 2015, and Louis' Steak House in March 2016.

Still want a taste? A few restaurants remain: Check out **The Prime Steak Restaurant**, 1/F, 218-220 Sai Yeung Choi St. South, Prince Edward, 2380-3938; **Boston Restaurant**, 3 Luard Rd., Wan Chai, 2527-7646.



Wet Markets

Sure, there's still a wet market in every neighborhood. But slowly and surely, these icons of Hong Kong life are being squeezed out of our lives. The city's most famous—Graham Street Market in Central—may still be around, but it's a shadow of its former self thanks to the Urban Renewal Authority, which closed a huge chunk of it to be developed into luxury flats. Across the rest of the city, rising rents and the convenience of the supermarket means that wet markets are struggling. There's only one way to reverse this situation: shop at your local market more.



Which Endangered Species are You?

Ever wondered which of our many fast-disappearing animals you share kinship with?
Take our quiz to find out!

1) You are in line to vote in the Legco elections when someone insists that you vote for their candidate. You...

- a) Refuse, but then discover that your ballot has been filled in already.
- b) Hesitatingly agree. If someone else believes it so strongly, they must know what they're talking about.
- c) Break down into floods of tears. You weren't ready for this level of emotional conflict.

2) You match with someone on Tinder, but after a few messages they stop replying. You...

- a) Repeatedly point out that you're the best looking thing in the ecosystem. They block you.
- b) Accept that you're going to occupy the friendzone for life.
- c) Panic. How are you ever going to have kids at this rate?

3) After a Sunday champagne brunch, the bill arrives and everyone makes to split it evenly... but you didn't get any alcohol. You...

- a) Make sure everyone knows that you object. You end up paying anyway.
- b) Put in extra money just so no one makes a fuss.
- c) Weep at the injustice of it all.

4) You receive a rude response to an Instagram photo you took. You:

- a) Refuse to acknowledge the comment, whipping up a social media storm in which so many people report your photo as inappropriate that Instagram deletes it.
- b) Take it down immediately. The rude commenter forgets you ever existed.
- c) Hide for the next six weeks until it all blows over.

How Did You Do?

Mostly a)



You are a pink dolphin! You're a cause celebre, but no matter what, you never seem to catch a break.

Mostly b)



You are a Romer's tree frog! Unique, friendly, but often overlooked.

Mostly c)



You are a giant panda! Once, you were endangered, but now you're just vulnerable.

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23 September, Friday
6:30pm - 9pm
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24 September, Saturday
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Lost Highways

Janet Sun seeks out Hong Kong street names where the English and the Chinese don't quite match up...

Queen's Road 皇后大道

[wong4 hau6 daai6 dou6] Streets named after royal personages regularly get lost in translation. "Queen" in English can be the wife of a king, or the female ruler of a kingdom. Queen's Road, built in the mid-19th century, was named for Queen Victoria. But instead of using the Chinese phrase for "queen" in the sense of "sovereign ruler" (which would have been *neoi wong*, 女皇), translators rendered the name as *wong hau*, meaning "king's consort." Victoria would not have been amused...

[daai6 koeng4 gaa1] North Point Power Station, which was decommissioned in 1978, gave Power Street its English name. However, the Chinese name describes a different type of power: The words *daai* (大) and *koeng* (強) mean "big" and "strong," respectively, and have no connection with electricity.

Power Street 大強街

Fir Street 松樹街

[cung4 syu6 gaa1] Numerous Hong Kong streets are named after tree species found around the city, most chosen by British officials during colonial times. The name in English refers to the fir tree, but the Chinese translation does not match, and instead reads "Pine Tree Street."

Pine Street 杉樹街

[caam3 syu6 gaa1] Another in the series of streets named after trees, Pine Street's situation is a reversal of the case above: In Chinese, Pine Street is called "Fir Tree Street." Confused yet?

Sycamore Street 詩歌舞街

[si1 go1 mou5 gaa1] Rather than using the wrong tree species, here the Chinese translated the street name directly from its pronunciation. In doing so, the translator came up with rather a nice name: *Si go mou* means "poems, singing and dancing."

Lascar Row 摩羅街

[mo1 lo1 gaa1] "Lascar" in British English refers to the Indian seamen who served in the British Merchant Navy: In the past, many Indian sailors bunked in this area, and the British thus named it "Lascar Row." The Chinese at the time thought that Indians were "Musselmen" (Muslims from the Middle East), and adopted the spoken Cantonese word *mo lo* (摩羅), a term denoting Muslims (like "moor"), into its name.

[ceon1 jyun4 gaa1] When British officials named this street in Wan Chai, the "spring" referred to a water spring. The translator, though, understood "spring" to be the season. The Chinese name, therefore, is "garden in spring season."

Rednaxela Terrace 列拿士地臺

[lit6 naa4 si6 dei6 toi4] "Rednaxela" is neither a proper English word nor a name of someone famous, but was created by Chinese sign writers owing to a fundamental misunderstanding around letter order. Traditionally, words in Chinese are read from right to left, while English is read from left to right. If you read "Rednaxela" backwards, it becomes "Alexander," which is believed to have been the intended name of the terrace.

238 THE GRILL

An authentic Dutch dining experience in town



238 The Grill, as pronounced “two, three, eight”, is a cozy, relaxed and intimate restaurant offering grill dishes. Head Chef and owner Patrick Verhoeven, together with his wife Anne Engels, started this restaurant in Hong Kong all because of their passion.

238 The Grill doors are opened from 12:00 until late. It serves pasta, several bites, salad, burger and a 3-course set lunch for HKD \$125. Some dishes got a Dutch twist. Their dinner menu is one of the best Dutch food you can find in town. One of the classic Dutch dishes is bitterballen. This deep fried beef meatballs is made with minced beef, garlic, mustard and a layer of crunchy breadcrumb on top. Traditionally, it is served with mustard. Delicious, crunchy and savory, no one will deny it has to go with Dutch beer - Heineken. When you bite through the crust, the hot filling matches just right with cooling effect of beer.

Another signature cuisine from Dutch is Gouda cheese. Head Chef Patrick Verhoeven creates a pasta with aged Gouda cheese, black truffle and rocket salad.

Location: G/F, 238 Hollywood Road, Sheung Wan, HK. Tel: 2517 7322

These two strong flavor – Gouda and truffle strike a perfect balance without overwhelming each other. The creamy sauce smells incredible and goes well with Heineken draught beer. In specific, the rocket bring out the beautiful hops and floral flavor in the beer. “It is a popular dish in 238 The Grill. Customer will complain if we take it out from the menu!” said Anne Engels, managing director.

On top of the pasta, you cannot miss out the fresh mussels. “We use fresh mussels that are directly imported from Netherlands.” said Anne Engels. Toasted with a little bit of white wine, the mussels taste very fresh and tender. A kiss from ocean is probably the best description.

Another dish for dinner idea is a pan-fried plaice with saffron sauce and mixed vegetable. Again, the fish is freshly imported from Netherlands. “In my kitchen I use the best ingredients, to create mouth watering bites.” says Patrick Verhoeven. This is a special item that you may need to request to order, which means it is not in the standard menu.

The fish is crispy and goes fantastic with the cheesy saffron sauce. A sip of draught beer clears the palate for the next dish. Furthermore, a steak & fries 238 gram of USDA prime rib eye steak is definitely a highlight of the night. Fries and Heineken beer, is just a pair of twins. This is a perfect place to enjoy Dutch food and of course, Dutch beer.



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If These Walls Could Talk...

Photographer and gallery owner Ernest Chang turns his lens on the iconic Blue House in Wan Chai for this exhibition at The Stallery. His images dig into the everyday details of a past life, capturing peeling wallpaper, found photos and rusted beams. To unveil this new collection, The Stallery is hosting a block party with the help of adjacent bar Tai Lung Fung. Proceeds from sales of prints will go to charity programs supporting the Blue House and the Wan Chai community.

Sep 10, 3-11pm. The Stallery, G/F, 82A Stone Nullah Lane, Wan Chai, thestallery.com

GADGETS

TECH HEAD



Just Kickin' It

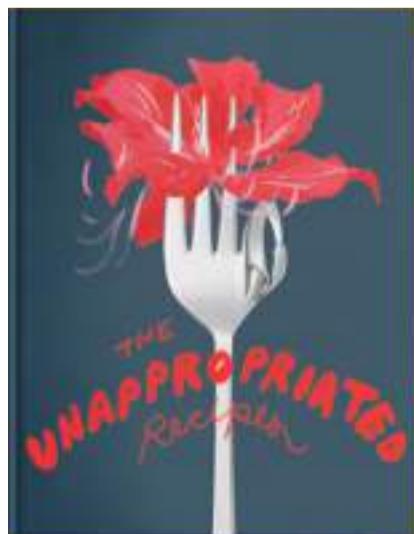
Crowdfunding platform **Kickstarter** has officially launched in Hong Kong. That means it's easier than ever for Hongkongers to get their ideas funded, without having to get around annoying restrictions like getting their projects registered overseas. And it seems to be taking off, with Hongkongers leaping in to sign up and get things moving.

What's top of the Hong Kong Kickstarter? One thing worth looking out for is a cookbook from longstanding arts group Para Site. The gallery is aiming to raise \$80,000 for "**The Unappropriated Recipes**," a collection of creative, mostly inedible Hong Kong-specific recipes. Ever

wanted to learn how to fry egg whites and yolks separately, "One Country, Two Systems"-style? Now you can. The book is \$200, with estimated delivery in March 2017.

Alternatively, check out the **URI LED lightbulbs**, a collection of awesome-looking bulbs which trace thin lines of lights around the glass. They're eco-friendly and look great, with an average lifetime of 15,000 hours. Prices start at \$380, with estimated delivery this December.

kickstarter.com



Edited by Adam White

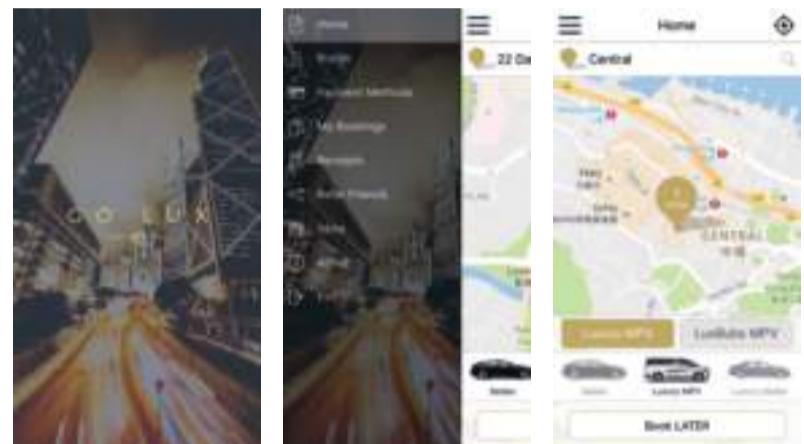
adam.white@hkmagmedia.com | Twitter/Instagram: @adamawhite



Lux Fix

Uber has just announced that it's stopping its taxi and van services to concentrate on its core ride-sharing services—a bit annoying if you're just trying to catch a ride in the rain. But here's an alternative if you're looking to travel in style: **Go Lux**, a Hong Kong ride-share service that's all about keeping things classy. You can book a ride online or via app, and unlike Uber you can book ahead of time, instead of having to wait for an available car as and when you need it. The cars are Teslas, Mercs or BMWs—or, if you want to roll full tycoon-style, Toyota Alphards. There's no surge pricing, and rates are about the same as an UberBlack. Prices start at \$120. There's also a pretty good deal on airport transfers: prices start at \$525 to Hong Kong Island.

go-lux.com.hk



I Get Around

If you've spent any time on Facebook of late, you'll know that 360-degree shots are all the rage. But it's hard to pull off: those panoramas on your phone never work out that well. Enter Shenzhen company **Insta 360**. Their **Nano** (pictured, right) and **Air** models, for iPhone and Android devices respectively, will solve all your problems. This little camera plugs straight into your phone's charging port and then serves up lovely 360-degree photos and video. The Nano costs \$1,699 with a built-in battery pack. Meanwhile the much smaller Air lacks a battery but will cost less, and will be available from November.

insta360.com



Fly High

Something to get excited about: the **PowerUp FPV** paper plane. Sure, it has a silly name, but it's more than just a regular fold-and-throw. The kit consists of a camera and a couple of propellers, which you strap to your own paper plane, then hook up to your smartphone. Slot your phone into the provided Google Cardboard VR headset, and the PowerUp gives you a first-person view from the plane in flight—which you then control with movements of your head. How awesome is that? And of course, every time you get bored of your plane's design—just scrap it and fold another. The PowerUp FPV is available for pre-order now for US\$200 (\$1,551), and will start shipping in November.

poweruptoys.com



ESCAPE ROUTES

TOKYO AFTER DARK

Tokyo's a fascinating city—from the owl and bunny cafés to the pink-plastered Harajuku girls, there's always something exciting and oftentimes eccentric to experience in The Land of the Rising Sun. But while Tokyo by day is more temples and zen-like saunters through the park, at night is when the seedy underbelly of the city starts to reveal itself. Here are the best ways to explore this eclectic city after dark.

By Sophia Lam and Leslie Yeh



Photo: Shiranai via Flickr, macho29.com

Alleyway Bar Hopping

Hidden between the shiny high-rises of Tokyo's metropolis, yokochos—or old-school alleyways filled with dive bars and eateries—are some of the best places to get a taste of the local cuisine without blowing your budget. These backstreets boast some of the finest street food in Tokyo, and are often open well into the night for nocturnal souls and post-party revelers. Rub elbows with Japanese salarymen at **Golden Gai**, one of the most buzzing yokochos in the city, which boasts more than 200 pubs and drinking dens packed within just a couple of blocks. Each bar has its own unique character and vibe, and you can be sure to find plenty of cheap sake and beer to wash down plentiful plates of yakitori, soba and sushi.

Shinjuku-Sanchome Station, exit B3 or E1. 1 Kabukicho, Shinjuku, Tokyo.



Your Beefcake is Served

Labeled "100% Fair Trade Macho" and nicknamed the "reverse Hooters," Tokyo's **Macho Cafe** delivers exactly as it promises—macho waiters dressed in little white vests with bare chests peeking through. Join the fangirls (or guys) as they woo and scream while waiters crush cans, or empty a tube of whipped cream onto pancakes with a single manly squeeze. But the real deals are the "side dishes": enjoy a merry-go-round of six packs and triceps with "Wall of Muscles" (\$299), where a tight circle of buff waiters closes in on you while flexing in a ritual-like dance.

Opens sporadically, check machocafe.wixsite.com/macho-cafe for dates. 1/F, J's Court, Nakano-ku, Nakano, Tokyo, (+81) 3-5778-4958.



Go Cosplay Clubbing

Tokyo's intriguing anime and cosplay culture comes alive at night, when costumed revelers make their rounds around the city's club circuit, dressed in everything from samurai armor to sailor suits. Ever wanted to go clubbing in a full Harry Potter get-up? **Mogra** in Akihabara district is the place to do it: Established in 2009, this club is all about otaku—anime, manga and video game nerd—culture, presenting an alternate reality of nerd electro, glow sticks and "anison": dance-mix versions of anime songs.

3-11 Akihabara, Taito-ku, Tokyo, club-mogra.jp.



Adventures in Robot Land

Post-apocalyptic warrior princesses, giant bobble-headed monsters, and synchronized para para synchronized dancers combine to create an outlandish, psychedelic experience at the **Robot Restaurant** in Tokyo's Kabukicho red light district. While you'll be joining a throng of other tourists, the experience is one that can't be missed, simultaneously captivating, disconcerting and mind-blowing all at once. Ever wonder what it's like to be high on drugs without actually ingesting a substance? Robot Restaurant is the place to find out.

\$553 from viator.com. B2F, 1-7-1 Kabukicho, Shinjuku, Tokyo.



Pressing the Right Buttons

If the deafening electro pop tunes and fleeting fluorescent lights in Tokyo's run-of-the-mill game arcades are making you giddy, **A-Button** offers a great alternative. Everything about this quaint gaming bar, from its brick walls to the yellow porch lamp, screams vintage: humbly sitting at a street corner in Akihabara (gaming central) a few blocks away from the noisy arcades, A-Button is buried under heaps of nearly extinct consoles and classic game controllers—some of which date back to the 70s. Order a bottle of Yebisu black beer (\$52), plop down in front of an original Nintendo Famicom and click the night away in this otaku's paradise.

Open 8pm-4am, closed on Mondays. 1-13-9 Taito, Taito-ku (Akihabara Station), (+81) 3-5856-5475. a-button.jp

Spend the night:

In the midst of Tokyo's head-spinning urban whirlwind, find respite at **Palace Hotel Tokyo**, an iconic landmark in the city recently given a facelift from a three-year renovation. Located in the central Marunouchi district, the 290-room building's most iconic feature is the wide moat that winds its way around the hotel, with the sprawling Imperial Palace Gardens on the other side. Rooms follow an earthy color palette, and feel luxuriously cozy without being ostentatious, while 10 F&B outlets offer food and drinks that rival Tokyo's best.

At night... Stroll through the Imperial Gardens themselves, which remain open at night for visitors to meander the stone bridges and tree-lined walkways. With few visitors to the courtyard after sunset, this is one of the few places to feel the still heart of the city, as its pulse beats all around you.

1-1-1 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, (+81) 3-3211-5211.



The Palace Hotel is an urban retreat

House of Carbs

Beach season's over, so what are you waiting for? Grab a fork and dig into the ultimate comfort food as we count down eight of the best pasta dishes in Hong Kong. By **Leslie Yeh**



1 ▶ Squid Ink Linguine with Sea Urchin Fish & Meat

Wrapped around in a bundle vaguely resembling a bird's nest, the squid ink linguine at Fish & Meat unfolds into delicious, black strands of smooth al dente noodles, with red carabineros prawns, sea urchin and salmon roe lending a salty, oceanic pop to every forkful. It's simple yet stunning, and proves what can be done when just a few key ingredients are left to shine.

\$385. 2/F, 32 Wyndham St., Central, 2565-6788.



4 ▶ Maccheroni with Blue Lobster Ragout

8 ½ Otto e Mezzo Bombana ▲

More refined but just as comforting as the other contenders on the list, chef Umberto Bombana's homemade maccheroni with blue lobster ragout features creamy lobes of sea urchin complementing sweet chunks of lobster, and a quenelle of raw diced crustacean adding another dimension to the dish. The rustic pasta tubes are, as expected from a three-Michelin-starred chef, faultless—cooked all the way through yet still toothsome to the bite.

\$420. Shop 202, Landmark Alexandra, 18 Chater Rd., Central, 2537-8859.



5 ▶ Radiatore alla Vodka Linguini Fini

A jazzed up version of penne alla vodka, which traditionally contains vodka, heavy cream and tomatoes, Linguini Fini's take on the dish substitutes radiatore, "radiator"-shaped pasta with ruffled edges and grooves that are perfect for catching the thick, tomato-based sauce. The addition of spicy 'nduja, or spreadable salami, and a layer of melted mozzarella puts this pasta over the top.

\$149. 49 Elgin St., Central, 2387-6338.

6 ▶ Capellini with Golden Garlic Mercato ▲

A newcomer to the Italian scene with a somewhat lighter take on the cuisine, Mercato's pastas are all made in-house, with fresh ingredients driven by seasonality. While the rigatoni and meatballs is a classic crowd-pleaser, we're more enamored with the capellini, a thin variety of pasta that stands up well against flavors like garlic and lemon. Mercato's version has all the comfort without the heavy cream, with fresh ricotta creating a smooth coating, and golden garlic and jalapeno adding an extra kick.

\$108 small portion, \$128 large. 8/F, California Tower, 30-32 D'Aguilar St., Central, 3706-8567.

2 ▶ Mac 'n' Cheese Stone Nullah Tavern ▾

Stone Nullah Tavern's infamous mac 'n' cheese is a near-perfect bowl of carbs and not much else—save a sprinkling of chives. The aged white cheddar cheese sauce takes on another layer of creaminess once the organic egg yolk is broken over the macaroni, resulting in the ultimate mash-up of cheesy carbs. Add on black truffle, pickled jalapeno or homemade bacon for an extra charge (\$10-30).

\$128. 69 Stone Nullah Lane, Wan Chai, 3182-0128.





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7 Butternut Ravioli 208 Duecento Otto ▾

Butternut squash lends its natural sweetness to a simple filling in chef Mick Bolam's paper-thin ravioli, with grated chestnut, nutmeg and pecorino rounding out the flavors of fall. For large groups, also go for the wagyu Bolognese pappardelle and lobster fettucini, or the porcini and wild mushroom risotto which is finished off in the kitchen's latest toy—a giant Parmesan wheel used to infuse creamy cheese into every bite.

\$178. 208 Hollywood Rd., Sheung Wan, 2549-0208.

8 Liquid Parmesan Ravioloni Pirata ▾

Homey Italian restaurant Pirata's "liquid" ravioloni sounds much too tempting not to try, and indeed the dish is just as delicious as you'd expect. The "liquid" portion comes from the melted parmesan sauce that gushes out of the hearty-sized ravioloni; together with the meaty ragu and fried sage, the combination is up there with the best.

\$180. 29-30/F, 239 Hennessy Rd., Wan Chai, 2887-0270.



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Ka-chun Hui



Ryo Kato



Chun-long Leung



Justyne Li



Lin Li



Jonathan Spigner

In alphabetical order of surnames
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Hong Kong Ballet is financially supported by the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
Hong Kong Ballet is a Venue Partner of the Hong Kong Cultural Centre

Artistic Director
Madeleine Onne
藝術總監：歐美蓮

Dancer: Jie Shen | Photographer: Tim Wong

hkballer.com

DINING



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NEW AND NOTED



Not your average pancake stack at The Optimist

Go On, and Be Happy

If you work or live anywhere in the Wan Chai area, you're probably already familiar with **The Optimist**'s happy hour (Mon-Sun 3-7:30pm, 239 Hennessy Rd., Wan Chai, 2433-3324), where you can enjoy their killer cocktails and bar bites—think ham croquettes, beef sliders and eggplant fries—for \$48 each. But it's not just the bar vibes that the ground floor space has going for it—awash in greenery, shades of turquoise and an open window façade for people gazing, the street-level venue is perfect for all-day dining, from 11:30am-6pm daily. If the asador-grilled steaks on the second floor are too heavy for you, go light at the bar with crostini and vegetable crudités (\$85), shrimp tempura (\$95) and octopus with chickpeas (\$120) for sharing; or Spanish-inspired eggs including omelette with chorizo (\$55) and huevos rotos, "broken eggs" (\$80). Top it off with the buttermilk pancakes (\$65) which are some of the best we've had in Hong Kong—golden brown on the outside, gooey on the inside, and dotted with a handful of plump, sweet berries.

RESTAURANT REVIEWS

Picoso ★★★★☆

Mexican. Room 101, 1/F, Elite Industrial Centre, 883 Cheung Sha Wan Rd., Lai Chi Kok, 2743-8004.



Those commiserating over the lack of a good, sub-\$60 taco in Hong Kong can stop complaining. Venture beyond the horrendously overpriced Central joints and seek out Picoso in Lai Chi Kok, a humble shack that's slinging burritos and tacos at a fair cost.

■ **HIT** We ordered a feast for two that probably could have served four, and ended up spending less than \$150 a person. To start, the spicy roast corn (\$38) boasted crispy corn kernels liberally smothered in a chipotle aioli and shaved Parmesan cheese coating: a flavor bomb, and not one for the diet hounds. The smoky BBQ pulled pork nachos (\$78)

were weighed down with a good amount of toppings—pulled pork, refried beans, jalapenos, corn, cheese, sour cream and pico de gallo—although we failed to detect any smoke in the pulled pork and the cheese could have been more evenly spread. Baja fish tacos (\$64 for 2) are one of those perfect, all-in-one-bite recipes and Picoso's version did not disappoint. It had two substantial crispy fried fillets topped with creamy guacamole, chipotle aioli and cotija cheese, with relief coming from pickled red onions and a squeeze of lime.

■ **MISS** The steak fajitas lacked the sizzling snap from the grill and the caramelized peppers and onions that normally make for a juicy, flavor-packed bite. At \$118, they were also one of the most expensive items on the menu.

■ **BOTTOM LINE** A fuss-free shack that waves the banner for cheap and easy Mexican fare while taking the essentials to heart.

Open Mon-Sat 11:30am-9:30pm. \$

Ratings

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

Price Guide

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

Edited by Leslie Yeh
leslie.yeh@hkmagmedia.com



Decisions come stuffed in a bun at Lobster Central

Surf 'n' Turf Rolls

There's been a lot of debate about who does the best lobster roll in Hong Kong, but while most stick with the spiny crustacean as the central ingredient, **Lobster Central** (Shop E, G/F, 50 Stanley St., Central, 3565-6725) is taking it a step further to include scallops, shrimp, crab, and even pulled beef as the main event. Their assembly is pretty fool-proof: a split-top bun, pan-fried in butter, and stuffed to the brim with fresh, chilled seafood whipped together with mayo and more melted butter. Their lobster roll is already one of the best around (it's modeled off the original Luke's Lobster in New York, mind you), but we won't say no to the pan fried scallop roll (\$118) stuffed with six large scallops, poached and pan-fried in butter to order; or the pulled beef short rib roll (\$108) with a quarter pound of slow-cooked beef. All of their rolls are finished off with a sprinkling of "secret seasoning"—and yes, it's a closely guarded secret.

Meet Me at Ab Street

A hot spot for casual group dinners and Friday date nights, **Aberdeen Street Social** (G/F, PMQ, 35 Aberdeen St., Central, 2866-0300) is upping their game with a new menu for both lunch and dinner. Served upstairs and in the more laidback ground floor bar, the new focus is primarily on chilled crustaceans and premium cuts from the grill, while staying true to the spirit of Jason Atherton's contemporary British cuisine. From the à la carte menu, dine on sole meunière, swimming in a burnt butter sauce with potatoes, capers and lemon (\$345); a whole-dressed brown crab with brown crab mayo, apple and coriander (\$200); and a 10oz grass-fed Angus ribeye steak (\$280) with a selection of sides. The "Lunch Social" set menu (\$238 for two courses; \$288 for three) also includes new offerings such as leek and potato soup with 63-degree egg and sea bass with baked potato purée and roasted celeriac.

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visit hk-magazine.com!

Buenos Aires Polo Club ★★★★☆

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



BAPC takes over the space where Boqueria used to be, but instead of a light, open dining room, it's much more like its sister restaurant Carbone upstairs: all small rooms with dark wood paneling, enlivened by polo mallets and paintings of polo scenes. The concept here is an Argentinian parrilla grill, and meat takes pride of place.

HIT A provoleta (\$128) cheese starter was as good as we've ever had in Buenos Aires itself: A superb combination of fontina and provolone bubbling away in a cast iron pan. It was perfect smeared over crunchy French bread—as was the excellent chicken liver pate with crispy

chicken skin (\$88). A 16oz Chateaubriand (\$598, serves two) was encased in a salt crust before being cooked, and then split open at the table, leaving behind a wonderfully tender, juicy hunk of meat. Desserts really had the wow factor: Dulce de leche ice cream wrapped in marshmallow (\$98) came with a small tray of charcoal that was set alight, so you could toast your marshmallow over the flames. It was pure theater. Meanwhile, a flan with goat's cheese (\$108) was a mix of sweet and salty that blew our minds.

MISS Due to its salt crust, the steak was unavoidably a bit too salty—especially when paired with the over-seasoned fries provenzal (\$98). An heirloom tomato salad was flavorful but frankly too small for \$98.

BOTTOM LINE With prime cuts of Argentinian meat, superb service and surprisingly innovative desserts, Buenos Aires Polo Club is one not to be missed.
Open Mon-Fri noon-2:30pm, Sun-Thu 6-11pm, Fri-Sat 6pm-midnight \$\$\$

Our Policy

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



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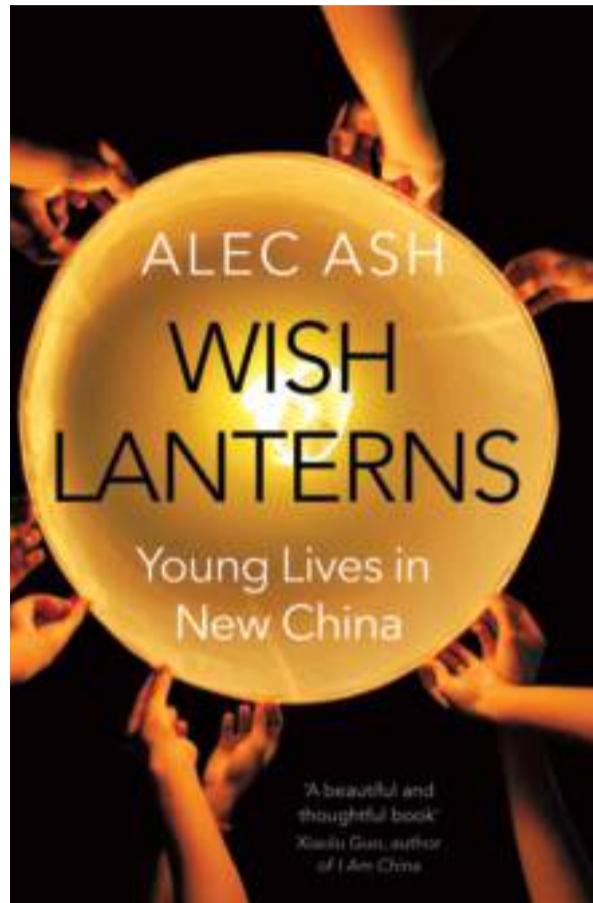


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Compiled by Jessica Wei
jessica.wei@hkmagmedia.com



BOOK REVIEW



Wish Lanterns: Young Lives in New China

Picador, 2016 ★★★★

Living in Hong Kong, it's easy to think of China as that monolithic dragon; the giant north of the border full of "locusts" and hostile dictators. It simplifies the narrative, makes the whole vast country easier to hold in your head.

But that's not how it works, is it? China is home to more than 320 million people in their teens and 20s, those with no memory of revolutions, of Mao or Tiananmen Square. They're just trying to make a place for themselves in the world.

"Wish Lanterns" follows six of them, young Chinese millennials growing up in a frantically modernizing China. Alec Ash, a Beijing-based writer and journalist (and, full disclosure, friend of mine) spent years with these six, befriending them and delving into their dreams.

There's Dahai, son of a military officer who finds himself stuck in a low-paying state job. His only solace is the internet, the only place he can express his anger—via euphemisms and workarounds, of course. He styles himself a "penis hair," netizen slang for "loser."

There's Xiaoxiao, a vintage store owner and barista who's always dreamed of the wider world. Or Fred, the intellectual daughter of a Communist Party official, whose politics shift across the spectrum as she spends time in Beijing, New York and Taipei.

There's Snail, the yokel from Anhui province whose parents manage to send him to university—where he gets

addicted to World of Warcraft. Or Mia from the conflict-torn Xinjiang province, a super-smart fashionista (and ex-skinhead).

And then there's Lucifer, the flamboyant singer with an unassailable, universal dream... to be a superstar.

Ash has clearly taken the time to get to know these people, and they've opened themselves up to him. What emerges are nuanced portraits of six very different people, not the pencil-sketch caricatures you might expect from a China book written by a *laowai*.

In Hong Kong, we're all so used to being down on China, and seeing its people as an unenlightened mass. But of course that's not true. These six people are struggling, questioning and seeking their own equilibria. Above it all, the specter of marriage looms, in the form of anxious parents hoping for a traditional kind of happiness. In the meantime, these millennials are looking for the kind of peace that (hopefully) begins to descend as your 20s come to an end.

Ash unpacks these lives delicately, showing us hopes, fears and failures: snapshots not of teeming "locusts" over the border but of young people trying hard to succeed in a country that's changing almost as rapidly as they are. To succeed in the face of tradition, of history, of their parents: They're joining China in a quest to find a place in the world.

Adam White

Concerts



Lea Salonga: Disney & Broadway Magic

Lea Salonga, a Filipina singing star who has graced stages from the West End to Broadway, and supplied the singing voice for not one but two Disney princesses (1998's "Mulan" and Jasmine from "Aladdin" in 1992), makes her way back to Hong Kong. Joining forces with the HKPhil, she'll be performing Disney hits and Broadway classics, conducted by her brother, Gerard Salonga. Sep 30-Oct 1, 8pm. Concert Hall, Cultural Centre, 10 Salisbury Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, hkphil.org. \$280-780 from urbtix.hk

Classical and Romantic Journey

Guest conductor Lio Kuokman and Korean-born violinist Dami Kim will lead the Pan Asia Symphony Orchestra in a performance of Romantic period and 20th century classical works. Highlights include Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue," Suite no. 1 from Bizet's "Carmen," Beethoven's "Romance in F," and Bernstein's "Overture to Candide." Sep 23-24, 8pm. Sha Tin Town Hall, 1 Yuen Wo Rd., Sha Tin; Auditorium, Yuen Long Theatre, 9 Yuen Long Tai Yuk Rd., Yuen Long. \$100-180 from urbtix.hk



Bridging the Glorious Dynasties of Ancient China and Hong Kong

Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra is using music to form a sonic link between the Zhou, Qin, Han and Tang dynasties and present-day Hong Kong. They have commissioned composers of different backgrounds to compose works that speak to each era: Malaysia-born Chew Hee Chiat is inspired by the rites and music of the ancient Zhao; China's Cheng Dazhao reflects on the toppling of a powerful regime; Lao Luo from Germany follows the Han envoy Zhang Qian as he heads west to uncover the Silk Road. Sep 23-24, 8pm. Concert Hall, Cultural Centre, 10 Salisbury Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui. \$100-390 from urbtix.hk



HK Ballet Annual Choreographers' Showcase

Now in its third year, this showcase gives ballet fans a glimpse into the best new talent to come out of Hong Kong. This year's presents works by Jun Chen, Principal Dancer of the Hong Kong Dance Company, Justyne Li, a returning Hong Kong Ballet dancer, Lin Li, a graduate of the Beijing Dance Company, and other esteemed dancers. The last two showcases opened to sold-out audiences, so don't wait too long to snag a ticket. Sep 23-24, 8pm; Sep 25, 3pm. Studio Theatre, Cultural Centre, 10 Salisbury Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, hkballer.com. \$180-280 from urbtix.hk

Classical

Hong Kong International Piano Competition

The fourth annual Hong Kong International Piano Competition rounds up 35 pianists in an 18-day, four round competition, interspersed by performances, presentations and talks by jury members including preeminent Austrian pianist and composer Stefan Vladar, and critic Bryce Morrison. Sep 26-Oct 13. Concert Hall, City Hall, 5 Edinburgh Place, Central. Day pass \$50-200; Pass to one of four competition rounds \$200-300 from info@chopinsocietyhk.org



Hibernia—Máiréad Nesbitt

Renowned Celtic fiddler Máiréad Nesbitt and her cast of Irish musicmakers will be storming their way to Hong Kong City Hall for a performance of Irish rhythms and dance. Nesbitt cut her teeth with the RTE National Concert Orchestra playing classical, as well as Michael Flatley's Lord of the Dance and David Kavanagh's Celtic Woman. Presented by the City Chamber Orchestra of Hong Kong. Sep 20-21, 8pm. Concert Hall, City Hall, 5 Edinburgh Place, Central, \$200-400 from urbtix.hk

National Day Celebration

To commemorate the 150th birthday of Sun Yat Sen, the Hong Kong Philharmonic Chorus, along with conductor Zhang Guoyang, soprano Song Yuanming, tenors Zhang Xueliang and Yang Yan and baritone Yuan Chenye are holding a celebration the day after the Mid-Autumn Festival. Instead of "Happy Birthday," they're performing the Sun Yat Sen Symphonic Suite and the "Yellow River Canata" by Xian Xinghai (known as "the People's Composer"). Sep 16, 17, 8pm. Concert Hall, Cultural Centre, 10 Salisbury Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, \$120-380 from urbtix.hk

Dance

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

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



2nd Stage 2016

An initiative by the CCDC Dance Centre to give previously performed dance pieces a second chance, this year's performances showcase the talents of young Hong Kong choreographers. Joseph Lee and Felix Ke take the stage with a heartfelt duet and solo pieces drawn from their own experiences. Sep 9, 8pm; Sep 11, 3pm, 8pm. CCDC Dance Centre, G/F, 110 Shatin Pass Rd., Wong Tai Sin, \$80; reservations can be made by calling 2328-2905 or by email at dc@ccdc.com.hk

Musicals



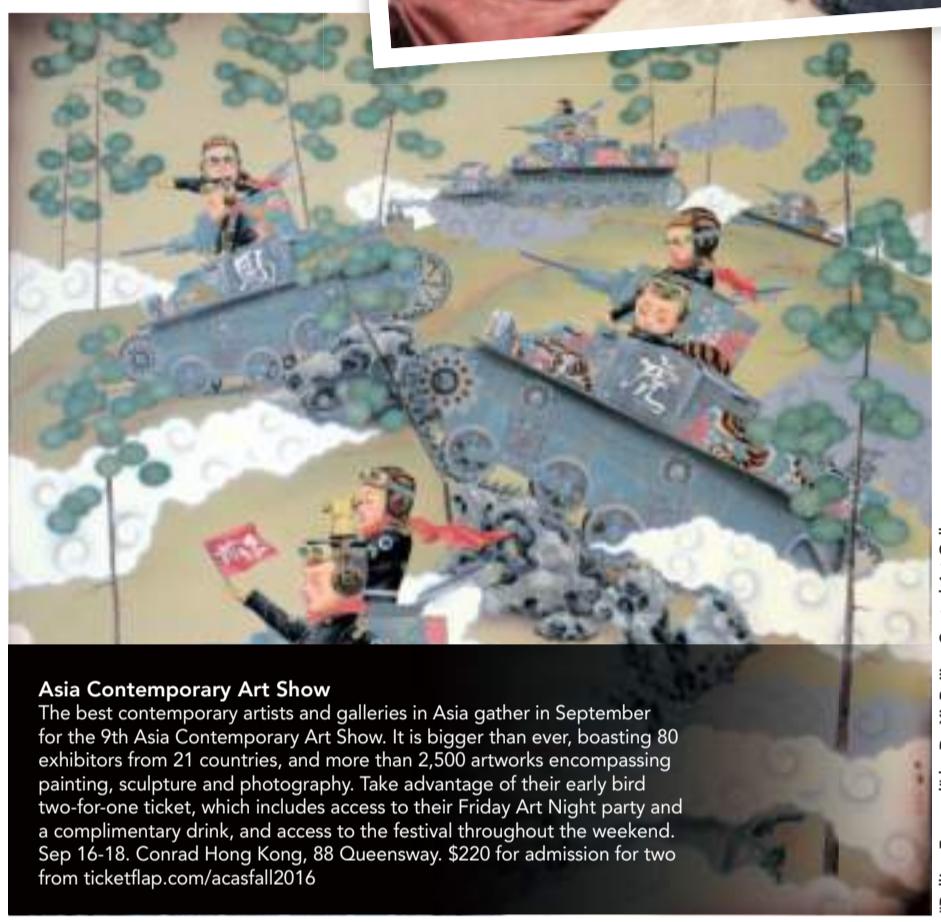
Stomp

After touring the world for 25 years, and staging over 20,000 performances in more than 53 countries, Stomp is coming to Macau. The eight-piece performance group turns everyday items—bin lids, plastic bags, lighters; everything, including the literal kitchen sink—into an explosive percussive symphony. Combining dance and rhythm, this show is a can't-miss! Sep 23-Oct 9, Venetian Theatre, The Venetian, Estrada do Istmo, Cotai, Macau, venetianmacao.com. \$180-780, 20 percent off if booked before Aug 10 from hkticketing.com



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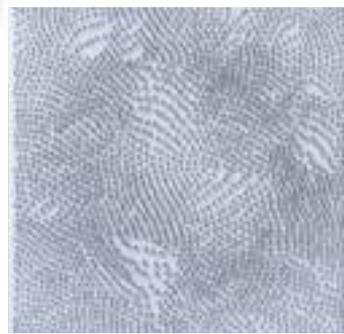
Arts Festivals



Asia Contemporary Art Show

The best contemporary artists and galleries in Asia gather in September for the 9th Asia Contemporary Art Show. It is bigger than ever, boasting 80 exhibitors from 21 countries, and more than 2,500 artworks encompassing painting, sculpture and photography. Take advantage of their early bird two-for-one ticket, which includes access to their Friday Art Night party and a complimentary drink, and access to the festival throughout the weekend. Sep 16-18. Conrad Hong Kong, 88 Queensway. \$220 for admission for two from ticketflap.com/acasfall2016

Exhibitions



Kim Chanil: Line

See Kim Chanil's meticulously created three dimensional pieces up close. His process involves painstakingly filling the canvas with small black paper pieces layered with oil paint and pigment powder to create highly textured panels that, from a distance, look like constellations of dots, and up close, reveal themselves as heavily studded terrain. Aug 20-Sep 23. The Muse at Hotel Stage, Basement, Hotel Stage, 1 Chi Wo St., Jordan

Pure Evil at Above Second

Pure Evil is the alias of Charles Uzzell Edwards, the Welsh street artist and founder of Pure Evil Gallery in London. He will be exhibiting his work at Above Second gallery. His best-known series, "Nightmare," depicts mega celebrities such as the Queen and Elvis Presley stenciled in bright spraypaint, tears forming small pools on the ground, dripping off the canvas. His Hong Kong show features a few homegrown celebs: Perhaps we'll be treated to a fluorescent rendering of Bruce Lee shedding a single, enduring tear. Sep 1-Oct 1. Above Second, 9 First St., Sai Ying Pun, above-second.com



"Edgewalker" by Kim Myoung-Jin, Galerie GAIA, South Korea, Room 4319



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OPEN BAR SUNTORY BAR MASTER HOUSE

The buzz: Seems like everyone's trying to run the opposite direction of generic beer these days. The owner of long-standing premium whisky and cigar club Kinlonz 1492 in Lan Kwai Fong has teamed up with Suntory Beer Company to bring us Hong Kong's first concept bar by the Japanese beer and spirits giant. And while a commercial conglomerate is behind it, this joint focuses on serving its more rarified line of Premium Malt's beer (yes, that's an apostrophe; no, we don't know why) and its Hong Kong-exclusive varieties.

The décor: Taking over the narrow two-story space that used to be Rockabilly and The Irish Priest, the ground floor is dimly lit, dominated by a long, minimalistic wooden bar with sturdy navy leather chairs. The bartender takes utmost care in the cleanliness and presentation of everything, using only filtered water to clean the specifically shaped glasses that contain the different brews. Upstairs is a more casual space, with tables for larger groups and softer music to make for easier conversation.

The drinks: Known for its pilsner-style beers, the OG signature here is the Premium Malt's Pilsner (\$80 for 380ml): With twice-roasted

malts, light on the hops, and poured with a 7:3 ratio of beer to head, it's very, very smooth. For something even more exclusive (and Master House is the only place you can drink this in Hong Kong), you'll want to order the Premium Malt's Master's Dream (\$130 for 380ml)—made with "diamond" barley roasted three times for what Suntory says is a more layered flavor. Another exclusive is the Premium Malt's Aroma (\$100 for 380ml)—the aroma in question being a hoppy one. Non-beer-drinkers can be kept happy with a range of quintessential Japanese highballs (from \$80), made with whiskies from Yamazaki, Hakushu, Hibiki, Laphroaig and more.

Why you'll be back: With premium Japanese beers also comes classic Japanese hospitality and insane attention to detail. You'll be well taken care of here. This ain't no booze and peanuts-on-the-floor-type place, and with the average Hong Kong beer drinker turning their nose up at Hoegaarden in favor of craft, rare or alternative brews, Master House is worth a visit. **Evelyn Lok**

G/F, 12 Lan Kwai Fong,
Central, 2703-9300.



Clubs

Delta: Peter Van Hoesen

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

Concerts

Against the Current: In Our Bones World Tour

Against the Current plays what's billed as "intelligent pop songs." The pop rock trio from Poughkeepsie, New York made it big on YouTube before breaking into the gig scene. They're back in Hong Kong to tour their latest album, "In Our Bones." Sep 16, 8pm. MacPherson Stadium, 38 Nelson St., Mong Kok, \$450-750 (VIP with meet-and-greet) from cityline.com.



Earth, Wind and Fire Live

American funk R&B legends Earth, Wind and Fire bring their enduring hits to Hong Kong for the first time, almost five decades after they formed. Sing along as the trio, winner of nine Grammys, brings down the house at AsiaWorld Expo with smash hits like "September" and "Boogie Wonderland." Sep 24. Hall 10, AsiaWorld-Expo, Airport Expo Boulevard, Chek Lap Kok, 2584-7722. \$680-\$1,680 from hkticketing.com/events/LTEARTH0916

Flo Rida at Pacha Macau

Shawties, get ready to get low: The one, the only Flo Rida is shooting into Pacha Macau for the party of the year. Since his debut studio album in 2008, the rapper's been turning out banger after banger, collaborating with the likes of Jason Derulo, Kesha (#FreeKesha), Sia, Sean Kingston and more. Don't worry, you're not having a stroke—that smell is just Flo lighting the roof on fire. Sep 10, 10pm. Pacha Macau, Studio City, Estrado do Istmo, Cotai, Macau, MOP350 from ticketflap.com/florida; MOP400 at the door, includes one drink.

Gigs

YourMum Presents: Yumi Zouma, Yukilovey and Merry Lamb Lamb

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

▼ Studio & Cliché present: Kartell

Bob to Kartell's groovy beats as he kickstarts this showcase of funky French house tracks and intricate remixes as the clock strikes 12. Founder of his own label, Roche Musique, and one of the archetypal producers of the French house movement, Kartell will be spinning the mesmeric tunes that have made him a stand-out in the flourishing Parisian electronic scene. Oct 21, midnight. Studio, 1/F, On Hing Building, 1 On Hing Terrace, Central, studioclub.asia. \$150 and \$200 from kartell.pelago.events, \$250 at the door; reserve a table by emailing reservations@studioclub.asia



Happy Hours



Rosé All Day with Chez Patrick Deli

From now till Sep 30, order a regular bottle of AIX 2015 Rosé (\$428) at Chez Patrick Deli and enjoy a complimentary upgrade to a magnum bottle (pours 10 glasses). Relish the summery flavor of the pale peachy fizz from the 130-year-old Maison Saint Aix winery nestled in the south of France. Pair the pink sundowner with light eats like the deli's steak tartare on the terrace at their Star Street edition, or share with friends al fresco at the seaside branch in Stanley. Thu-Sun. 3 Star St., Wan Chai; Shop 5, Brim 28, 1/F, Causeway Centre, 28 Harbour Rd., Wan Chai; Shop 5-6, G/F, Stanley Plaza, Stanley, chezpatrick.hk

Champagne River at Champagne Bar

Reminiscent of Paris in the 1920s (or at least, how we imagine it might have been), Grand Hyatt's Champagne Bar is the best place to cozy up with your bae on a Friday night. Their Champagne River features a free-flow experience of five different Champagnes. Set off on your odyssey along the bubbly river with a brut glass of Fleury Blanc de Noirs, then ride the Champagne tide with Jacquesson Cuvée n°737, Champagne Nicolas Deneux and Lancelot Royer, finally ending with a berry Alfred Gratien Rose. Also new to the bar is award-winning vocalist Avis Ellis, who will be performing jazz tunes from 7:15-11:45pm. Mon-Sat, 7:30-9:30pm. Grand Hyatt's Champagne Bar, Lobby, 1 Harbour Rd., Wan Chai, 2584-7722. \$438.

Music Festivals

Road to Ultra Hong Kong

The single-stage spin-off to the world-famous EDM festival brand Ultra reaches the city's shores this fall. Expect top international headliners from the electronic dance music scene: Aussie duo Knife Party and UK trio Nero. It'll be a mix of genres all day and night, with support from Carnage, Galantis, Jauz, Marshmello and Thomas Jack. Plus, Hong Kong audiences will be the first to check out the brand new Nursery Park in West Kowloon. Sep 17, noon-10pm. Nursery Park, West Kowloon Cultural District, Austin Rd. West, West Kowloon, hongkong.roadtoultra.com, \$2,200 (VIP) from hongkong.roadtoultra.com, \$1,480-2,580 at the door.

Nightlife Events

Bottomless Brunch Party

Do you ever hit the club solely because you're anticipating the glorious taste of post-clubbing food? It can't just be us... Bungalow's first ever day party is the best of weekend hedonism: Wine and dine on unlimited brunch dishes and drinks from 12-3pm, and the party continues on with beats by DJ JFung from 3-6pm. Sep 10, noon. Bungalow, Shop 2, G/F, The Centrium, 60 Wyndham St., Central, 2584-7722. \$288 for free flow brunch, add on \$268 for two hours Veuve Clicquot, \$188 for daiquiris.



Beertopia 2016

The number of self-proclaimed Hong Kong beer geeks has ballooned in the past couple of years, partly thanks to Beertopia, which is returning for its fifth iteration this fall. This year features a pop-up cocktail bar by The Woods, with exclusive craft beer cocktails. The festival will be serving beers from 13 Hong Kong breweries and from 500 labels all over the world, plus themed areas and even a shisha garden. Nov 18-19. Central Harbourfront, Central. \$235-445 from beertopiahk.com, includes one bottle or glass of beer.

Grab your tickets now for
Road to Ultra on Sep 17!
Check below for details

Mexican Independence Day Party at Agave
Celebrate Grito de Dolores at Agave Wan Chai, with a dose of Mexican food and wayyyy too much tequila. Two of the city's most popular DJ's, Chris Polanco and DJ Eric, will be on the decks. Don't miss their signature nachos, loaded with melted cheese and tomato salsa, or the grilled chicken breast and cactus served in hot stone bowls with cilantro rice and soft corn. And of course, liquor up on a tequila, mezcal or margaritas from an assortment of over 180 varieties—the largest collection of its kind in Hong Kong. Sep 15, 10pm. Agave Tequila Y Comida, Shop C&D, G/F, Beverly House, 93-107 Lockhart Rd., Wan Chai. Free Entry.

Cé La vi's First Anniversary

Nestled on the top three floors of California Tower, Cé La Vi is turning one, and you're invited to its birthday party—for

FREE! Starting from September, the bar presents a month featuring top DJs at their weekend party events. Kicking off the party we have DJ Ta-shi, a current jury member of the DMC Competition, who will be playing a mixed bag of hip hop, R&B, reggae and all sorts of new and old school tunes. Next up you'll get a lineup of eargasmic performances by DJ Antwone, DJ Shortee Blitz, DJ Ellie and DJ Lucky. Save the date for some serious club nights. Sep 2, 10, 16, 17, 24. Cé La Vi, 24-26/F, California Tower, 32 D'Aguilar St., Central, hk.celavi.com



Amalfitana 1st Annual Mid-Autumn White Party

Tired of boring old mooncakes loaded with lotus seed paste? Absorb your Mid-Autumn calories at Amalfitana's first ever Mid-Autumn White Party. Pig out on a three-hour free-flow of Amalfitana's signature pizzas, and dance it all off again to DJ Anil Ahuja's hot tracks till late. Spice up the party with free-flow drinks packages. Sep 15, 7-10pm. Amalfitana, Shop 105, G/F, The Pulse, 28 Beach Rd., Repulse Bay. 2388-7787. \$598 (adults) and \$198 (age 5-17) from ticketflap.com/amalfitanawhiteparty, or email info@amalfitana.hk. Dress code: White.

HK PICKS

Zoukout Live Edition
Zoukout, Singapore's definitive dance festival, brings the party with their Live Edition at the inaugural 2016 Formula E ePrix in Hong Kong. Get down with a night of high-energy EDM and chart-topping artists, including multiple Grammy winners Nelly and Ne-Yo, as well as Dutch DJ and producer Nicky Romero. Whoop it up with pumping tunes, premium bottle service, and intimate proximity to the headliners next to the starting line of the ePrix race course. Show starts at 5:30pm. Oct 7, 5:30-10:30pm. Central Harbourfront Event Space, 9 Lung Wo Rd., Central, zoukout.com/2016/zohk. \$1,780 from ticketflap.com/zoukouthk; VIP tables start from \$25,000, reserve by emailing jean.wan@gentinghk.com

Compiled by Sophia Lam

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FILM

War Dogs ★★★★

(USA) Biographical Comedy/Drama. Directed by Todd Phillips. Starring Jonah Hill, Miles Teller. Category IIB. 115 minutes. Opened Sep 1.

What's more American than stories about crooks hustling to get rich, à la "The Wolf of Wall Street"? Stories about crooks hustling to get rich by profiteering from guns and war. Or so we see in "War Dogs," Todd Phillips' film based on the true story of young'uns Efraim Diveroli and David Packouz, who made their fortunes in the mid-noughties as international arms dealers during the Iraq War. Equipped with the bro-humor—minus the debauchery—of Phillips' "The Hangover" but with weightier subject-matter, we're taken on the rollercoaster ride of the duo's notorious success and inevitable comeuppance.

Everyone loves a rags-to-riches story. Narrating through the fourth wall, David Packouz (Miles Teller) is the protagonist who's down on his luck: He's a lowly masseur living in Miami Beach with his pregnant girlfriend, serving the city's richest while trying and failing to hustle and sell expensive Egyptian cotton sheets to old folks' homes. At a family funeral, he chances upon his childhood buddy Efraim Diveroli (Jonah Hill), who invites him to join his business sourcing and selling arms to the US government. It turns out that in the weapons business, even the smallest cogs in the wheel can earn big coin, so David puts away the massage table and straps in for what seems to be an innocuous path to millionaire status.

In dissecting something as politically complex as the nefarious business dealings connected with the Iraq War, it's not hard to draw comparisons with Adam McKay's "The Big Short" and the way it explains the financial crisis. Compared to other films in Phillips' oeuvre, this is serious stuff: The introductory



lesson on gray market arms dealing is well paced and fun, tricked up enough with fast cuts and entertaining analogies that the weekend movie-going crowd will hardly notice they've inadvertently learned something.

Jonah Hill's packed on the pounds again for this role, and it adds to the character's compellingly douchey attitude: Selfish, misogynistic and a scrooge, recalling Hill's bully act in "Superbad." It's uncommon to find Hollywood celebs who can ace that onscreen annoyingness and still earn respect for it. Conversely, ever since Miles Teller captured the limelight in "Whiplash," he seems to have been typecast as the loser character trying to catch a break: It doesn't feel like anything new from him at all.

It's easy to predict how the two eventually reach their downfall, but half the fun is in the anticipation, and the rest is very satisfying to watch. And we're left with a word of caution at the end: the real Diveroli and Packouz have already served their time in prison, and their company is set to be allowed to do business again in just a couple more years.

So what's more American than the American dream? Letting crooks back in the game—and from "The Wolf of Wall Street" to "War Dogs," the slightly douchey Jonah Hill comedies about it that ensue. If you're not averse to that, watch on. **Evelyn Lok**

Coming Soon

Bridget Jones's Baby

(UK) Everyone's favorite desperate singleton is back. Now 40-and-a-bit, Bridget Jones (Renee Zellweger) has just broken up with Mark Darcy (Colin Firth)—and she meets a charming American called Jack Qwant (Patrick Dempsey). Just one problem: She's pregnant... and she doesn't know which one's the father. Oh, Bridget... Opens Sep 15.

Julieta ▾

(Spain) Based on three short stories by Alice Munro, Pedro Almodóvar's latest is about Julieta, who recalls the steps which led to her estrangement from her daughter Antía, as she waits for her to get back in touch. Woman-centered melodrama? Sounds like Almodóvar's back on top again. Opens Sep 15.

Nine Lives

(USA) Kevin Spacey is presumably badly in need of a little extra rent money as he stars in this film as a workaholic billionaire who neglects his family life... until he's magically turned into a cat. By Christopher Walken. Ugh. Opens Sep 15.

Storm

(Hong Kong) Louis Koo stars as an ICAC investigator who witnesses the murder of a suspect, but he won't disclose details of his investigation to the cops. When a crime syndicate starts ordering hits on Jockey Club employees, he's got to set his differences aside to catch the baddies. Opens Sep 15.

Sully

(USA) Clint Eastwood directs Tom Hanks as Captain Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger, the real-life hero pilot who landed his crippled plane on the Hudson River right in the middle of New York—but his reputation is soon called into question. Wait, isn't this exactly the plot to "Flight"? Opens Sep 15.

Opening

At Cafe 6

(Taiwan/China) Adapted from the popular Taiwanese novel, "At Cafe 6" is a light hearted coming of age film about a group of high school students who are deeply in love and trying to figure out how to continue their lives after graduation. Opens Sep 8.

Happiness

(Hong Kong) In this new film by Andy Lo, a lost man finds himself in Hong Kong, rejected by his father and mourning the death of his mother. He befriends a reclusive and temperamental auntie, but their relationship deepens after she is diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimer's. Opens Sep 8.

Florence Foster Jenkins

(UK) Based on the charmed life of a Gilded Age-era New York socialite (Meryl Streep) whose aspirations of becoming a famous opera singer were not to be held back by anything—not even her total inability to carry a tune. Directed by Stephen Frears ("Mrs. Henderson Presents," "High Fidelity") and also stars Hugh Grant and Simon Helberg. Opened Sep 9.

The First Monday in May

(USA) Documentarist Andrew Rossi ("Page One") takes audiences into one of the most glamorous celebrations of the year, the Met Gala, and the most attended fashion exhibit in the history of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Opened Sep 8.

Continuing



Ben-Hur

(USA) A remake of the masterful 1959 historical epic that nobody asked for, the 2016 version starring Jack Huston ("Boardwalk Empire") and Morgan Freeman brings 3D digital technology to the Biblical age and features a Jewish prince who spends his time sometimes epically chariot-racing and mostly pandering to Christian viewers.

The BFG

(UK/Canada/USA) Steven Spielberg brings the beloved Roald Dahl novel about a bullied gentle giant to the big screen: Young orphan Sophie (Ruby Barnhill) is snatched from her bed into a land where roam behemoth troglodytes hungry for "human beans." It's a cinematic feast for the eyes, and a rollicking romp into the Giant Country of our childhoods. ★★★★

Call of Heroes

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



Genius

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

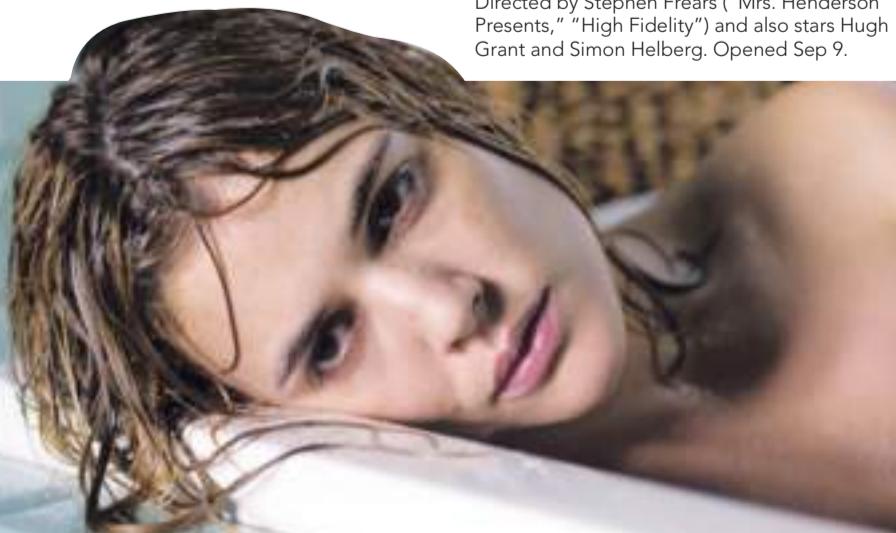


A Hologram for the King

(UK/USA/France) Tom Hanks is a post-recession salesman peddling holographic tech to a pre-Arab Spring government. He just about manages to hold up this lackluster shamble through the desert, which may have been intended as a rumination on the pressures of old age and responsibility—but turns out to be a succession of shots of our protagonist looking glum in a series of different rooms. ★★

Jason Bourne

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



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

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

Nerve
(USA) A new teen techno-thriller has all eyes (and phone-lenses) on Emma Roberts and Dave Franco as the pair play a highly elaborate game of truth or dare via camera app for money. Directed by Henry Joost and Ariel Schulman ("Catfish"), "Nerve" tries to highlight the impact of technology on our society but plot holes and weak characters leave it falling flat.

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

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

Star Trek Beyond

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

Suicide Squad

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

Train to Busan

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

War Dogs

(USA) See review, above.



Weeds On Fire

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

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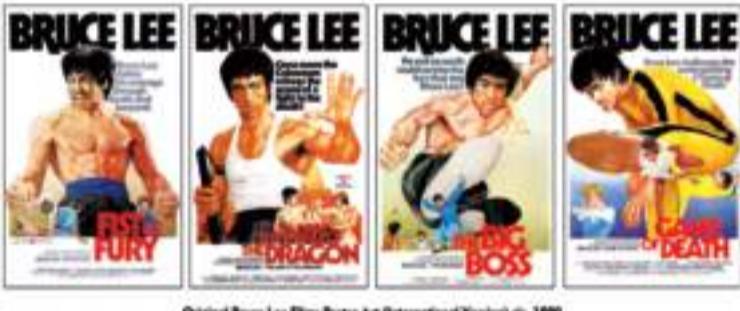
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Design & Painted by Yuen Tai-yung

See Yuen Tai-yung's art in "The Posterist"

Film Festival

The Posterist

Presented by Movie Movie's Life is Art Film Festival, "The Posterist" by Hui See-wai is a documentary and tribute to the artist Yuen Tai-yung, who, over the course of his 75 years and the golden era of Hong Kong blockbusters, handpainted more than 200 movie posters. The film weaves the director's personal history into that of the artist—Yuen painted 17 posters for movies directed and starring his father, Michael Hui, and his uncles, the legendary Hui Brothers. Sep 7, 9:45pm; Sep 17, 6pm. Broadway Cinematheque, Prosperous Garden, 3 Public Square St., Yau Ma Tei; Palace IFC, IFC Mall, 8 Finance St., Central, \$85 from www.cinema.com.hk.

Sundance Film Festival: Hong Kong

The Sundance film fest is back in Hong Kong with a selection of hits from this year's festival as well as indie productions from Hong Kong. Opening film "Swiss Army Man" stars Daniel Radcliffe as a flatulent, life-saving corpse. Other highlights include "Captain Fantastic," about a family forced to reintegrate into society after years living in isolation, and Hong Kong documentary "She Objects" by emerging filmmaker Nicole Fan, which discusses Hong Kong's pervasive culture of sexism. Filmmakers will also take part in post-screening Q&A sessions; check the website for more details. Sep 22-Oct 2. The Metroplex, G/F, E-Max, KITEC, 1 Trademart Drive, Kowloon Bay, hk.sundance.org.

Listings compiled by Jessica Wei

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FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

ROB BREZSNY

VIRGO (Aug 23-Sep 22): Is "Big Bang" the best term we can come up with to reference the beginning of the universe? It sounds violent and messy—like a random, accidental splatter. I would much prefer a term that suggests sublime elegance and playful power—language that would capture the awe and reverence I feel as I contemplate the sacred mystery we are privileged to inhabit. What if we used a different name for the birth of creation, like the "Primal Billow" or the "Blooming Ha Ha" or the "Majestic Bouquet"? By the way, I recommend that you consider those last three terms as being suitable titles for your own personal life story in the coming weeks. A great awakening and activation are imminent.

LIBRA (Sep 23-Oct 22): The last few weeks have been fraught with rich plot twists, naked dates with destiny, and fertile turning points. I expect there will be further intrigue in the near future. A fierce and tender decision at a crossroads? The unexpected arrival of a hot link to the future? A karmic debt that's canceled or forgiven? In light of the likelihood that the sweet-and-sour, confusing-and-revelatory drama will continue, I encourage you to keep your levels of relaxed intensity turned up high. More than I've seen in a long time, you have the magic and the opportunity to transform what needs to be transformed.

SCORPIO (Oct 23-Nov 21): In the coming days, you will have more than your usual access to help and guidance. Divine interventions are possible. Special dispensations and charmed coincidences, too. If you don't believe in fairy dust, magic beans, and lucky potions, maybe you should set that prejudice aside for a while. Subtle miracles are more likely to bestow their gifts if your reasonable theories don't get in the way. Here's an additional tip: Don't get greedy. Use the openings you're offered with humility and gratitude.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22-Dec 21): When my daughter Zoe was growing up, I wanted her to be familiar with the origins of ordinary stuff that she benefited from. That's why I took her to small farms where she could observe the growth and harvest of organic food crops. We visited manufacturing facilities where cars, furniture, toys, and kitchen sinks were built. She saw bootmakers creating boots and professional musicians producing songs in recording studios. And much more. I would love it if you would give yourself comparable experiences in the coming weeks, Sagittarius. It's an excellent time to commune with the sources of things that nurture you and make your life better.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 19): Unless you were brought up by a herd of feral donkeys, the coming weeks will be an excellent time to embark on your second childhood. Unless you're allergic to new ideas, the foreseeable future will bring you strokes of curious luck that inspire you to change and change and change your mind. And unless you are addicted to your same old stale comforts, life will offer you chances to explore frontiers that could expose you to thrilling new comforts.

AQUARIUS (Jan 20-Feb 19): These days, my dear, your eccentric beauty is even more unkempt than usual. I like it. It entertains and charms me. And as for your idiosyncratic intelligence: That, too, is messier and cuter and even more interesting than ever before. I'm inclined to encourage you to milk this unruly streak for all its potential. Maybe it will provoke you to experiment in situations where you've been too accepting of the stagnant status quo. And perhaps it will embolden you to look for love and money in more of the right places.

PISCES (Feb 18-Mar 20): I'm giving you an ultimatum, Pisces: Within the next 144 hours, I demand that you become at least 33 percent happier. Fifty percent would be even better. Somehow you've got to figure out what you can do to enhance your sense of well-being and increase your enjoyment of life. I'm sort of joking, but on the other hand I'm completely serious. From my perspective, it's essential that you feel really good in the coming days. Abundant pleasure is not merely a luxury, but rather a necessity. Do you have any ideas about how to make this happen? Start here: 1. Identify your four most delightful memories, and re-enact them in your imagination. 2. Go see the people whose influences most thoroughly animate your self-love.

ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 19): Two seven-year-old girls showed me three tricks I could use to avoid taking myself too seriously and getting too attached to my dignity. I'm offering these tricks to you just in time for the letting-go phase of your astrological cycle. Trick #1: Speak in a made-up language for at least ten minutes. Example: "Grofty hulbnu wivgeeri proot xud amasterlius. Quoshibojor frovid zemplissit." Trick #2: Put a different kind of shoe and sock on each foot and pretend you're two people stuck in a single body. Give each side of you a unique nickname. Trick #3: Place an unopened bag of barbecue-flavored potato chips on a table, then bash your fist down on it, detonating a loud popping sound and unleashing a spray of crumbs out the ends of the bag. Don't clean up the mess for at least an hour.

TAURUS (Apr 20-May 20): In accordance with the astrological omens, I suggest you spend less energy dwelling in profane time so you expand your relationship with sacred time. If that's of interest to you, consider the following definitions. PROFANE TIME happens when



you're engulfed in the daily grind. Swarmed by a relentless flurry of immediate concerns, you are held hostage by the chatter of your monkey mind. Being in SACRED TIME attunes you to the relaxing hum of eternity. It enables you to be in intimate contact with your soul's deeper agenda, and affords you extra power to transform yourself in harmony with your noble desires and beautiful intentions.

GEMINI (May 21-Jun 20): About 1.7 million years ago, our human ancestors began using primitive hand axes made from rocks. This technology remained in use for over 60,000 generations before anyone invented more sophisticated tools and implements. Science writer Marcus Chown refers to this period as "the million years of boredom." Its slow pace contrasts sharply with technology's brisk evolution in the last 140 years. In 1880, there were no cars, planes, electric lights, telephones, TVs, or Internet. I surmise that you're leaving your own phase of relatively slow progress, Gemini. In the coming months, I expect your transformations will progress with increasing speed—starting soon.

CANCER (Jun 21-Jul 22): Prediction #1: You will attract truckloads of good luck by working to upgrade and refine the way you communicate. Prediction #2: You will tickle the attention of interesting people who could ultimately provide you with clues you will need to thrive in 2017. #3: You will discover secrets of how to articulate complicated feelings and subtle ideas that have been locked inside you. Prediction #4: You'll begin a vibrant conversation that will continue to evolve for a long time.

LEO (Jul 23-Aug 22): You know you have a second brain in your gut, right? (If not, read this: <http://bit.ly/secondbrain>.) During the past three weeks, I have been beaming telepathic instructions toward this smart part of you. Here's an edited version of the message I've been sending: "Cultivate your tenacity, darling. Build up your stamina, sweetheart. Feed your ability to follow through on what you've started, beautiful. Be persistent and spunky and gritty, my dear." Alas, I'm not sure my psychic broadcasts have been as effective as I'd hoped. I think you need further encouragement. So please summon more fortitude and staying power, you gutsy stalwart. Be staunch and dogged and resolute, you stout-hearted powerhouse.

HOMEWORK: Look in the mirror and tell yourself an edgy but fun truth you've never spoken. If you care to share, write Truthrooster@gmail.com.

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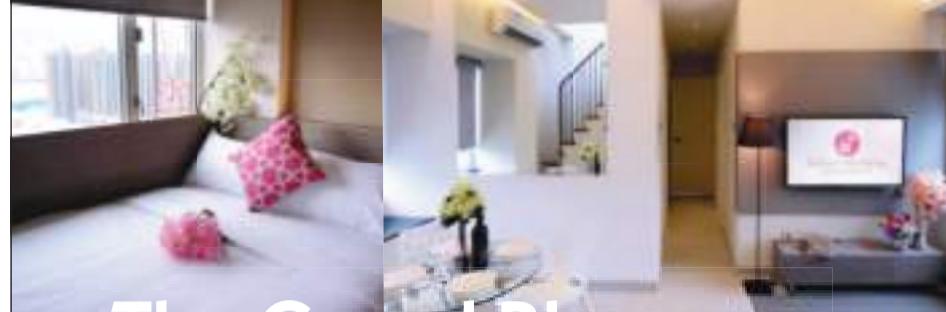
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SAVAGE LOVE

Dan Savage

My husband left the picture recently, and I'm now a single mom supporting an infant in Toronto. I work a retail job and am drowning financially. I hooked up with a guy I met on Tinder, and I didn't warn him that I'm still nursing because I didn't even think of it. Luckily, he really got off on it—so I was spared the awkwardness of "Eww, what is coming out of your tits?!" Afterward, he joked about there being a market for lactating women in the kink world. My questions: If I find someone who will pay me to suckle my milk, is that prostitution? And if I advertise that I'm willing to be paid, can I get into trouble for that? The possibility of making some money this way is more appealing every day.

—Truly In Trouble

"Allowing clients to suckle her breasts is, of course, sex work," said Angela Chaisson, a partner at Toronto's Paradigm Law Group. "But sex work is legal for everyone in Canada, new moms included. The new sex work laws here—the 2014 'Protection of Communities and Exploited Persons Act,' an Orwellian title for a draconian piece of legislation—prohibit sex work close to where minors might be. So if she's engaging in sex work close to kids, she is risking criminal charges."

No one wants sex work going on around minors, of course—on or around minors—so that's not what makes the 'Protection of Communities and Exploited Persons Act' an Orwellian piece of bullshit.

Laws regulating sex work in Canada were rewritten after Terri-Jean Bedford, a retired dominatrix and madam, took her case to the courts. The Supreme Court of Canada ultimately ruled—unanimously—that criminalizing sex work made it more dangerous, not less, and consequently the laws on the books against sex work violated the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. But instead of decriminalizing sex work, Parliament made it legal to *sell* sex in Canada but illegal to *buy* it, aka the "end demand" approach to stamping out sex work.

"By making a sex worker's body the scene of a crime," writes sex worker and sex-workers-rights activist Mike Crawford, "the 'end demand' approach gives cops full license to investigate sex workers, leaving sex workers vulnerable to abuse, extortion, and even rape at the hands of the police."

Chaisson, who helped bring down Canada's laws against sex work, doesn't think selling suckling will get you in trouble, TIT. "But Children's Aid Society (CAS) would investigate if they felt there was a child in need of protection," said Chaisson. "So the safest thing would be for her to stick to out calls only and to keep the work away from kids and anywhere they might be."

To avoid having to worry about CAS or exactly where every kid in Canada is when you see a client while still making some money off your current superpower, TIT, you could look into the emerging online market for human breast milk. There are more ads from breast milk fetishists (204) at OnlyTheBreast.com ("Buy, sell, or donate breast milk with our discreet classifieds system") than there are from new parents seeking breast milk for their infants (159). Good luck!

My husband and I have a pretty good sex life considering we are raising three kids, we both work full time, and I'm going to school. We have sex four to five times a week, sometimes daily. Before we married, it never occurred to me to check what he was looking at online. Now I can't stop. I know he looks at porn and masturbates. I never check his phone or his Facebook or anything like that, just what he has googled. How can I let go and be more confident and believe that, regardless of his personal habits, he still wants me? He says it's not

personal, it's when I'm not available, and it's a good way to take a nap. I trust him and don't think he's doing anything wrong, but how do I feel okay with it?

—Sees Problems On Understanding Spouse's Electronics

You don't have a good sex life, SPOUSE, you have a great sex life. You two are raising three kids, you're getting sex on an almost daily basis, and at least one of you is getting *naps*? You're the envy of all parents everywhere. It'll put your mind at ease if you remind yourself now and then that no one person can be all things to another person—sexually or in any other way—and that the evidence your husband still wants you is running down your leg four to five times per week. Now please pass the paper/tablet/phone to your husband, SPOUSE, I have something to say to him.

Hey, Mr. SPOUSE, here's a handy life hack for you: CLEAR YOUR FUCKING BROWSER HISTORY. Use the "private browsing" or "incognito" setting in your web browser, and spare your wife—and yourself—future scrutiny and smut shaming.

Via text I asked my (gay) husband of 10 years if he had any sexual fantasies he hadn't shared with me. He replied, "I want to cheat on you." I was out of town when we had this text exchange. He wrote the next morning to apologize. He said he was tipsy when I texted him and didn't mean what he said. I explained that I wasn't upset but turned on. If he wanted to sleep with other people, he could, provided it was someone safe and not someone in our social circle. The idea of being cheated on, frankly, appeals to me. (That makes me a gay cuckold, correct?) I even told him I jerked off about it already. He did not react the way I expected. He got upset and said he thinks about cheating on me only when he's drunk and he would never want to do it in real life and he's angry that I would want him to. Advice?

—Chump Under Cloud Keeping Silent

Years ago, my then-boyfriend cheated on me while I was out of town. He didn't like my reaction when he confessed ("Was he cute? Can we have a three-way?") and got angry at me for not being angry with him. We wound up having a fun threesome with the other guy shortly before we broke up for other reasons, CUCKS, and I suspect the day will come when your husband fucks someone else—if he hasn't already—with your permission, which means it'll be cuckolding, not cheating. Just apologize for now, roll your eyes when he's not looking, and bide your time.

And speaking of gay cuckolds...

Way, way back in 2008, a reader asked why I described cuckolding as a straight male fetish. "The cuckolding fetish is the boner-killing lemons of straight male sexual/paternal insecurity turned into deliciously perverted bonerade," I responded. "Gay sex doesn't make babies, only messes (which is all straight sex makes 99.98 percent of the time). Which may explain why, as a general rule, gay men aren't as threatened when our partners are 'taken' by other men."

But gay cuckolding has emerged as a porn genre over the last few years—right after marriage equality was achieved in the United States (*hmm*)—and now sex researchers David Ley and Justin J. Lehmler are looking into it. So if you're a gay cuckold—an experienced gay cuck or just someone who fantasizes about it—please take a few minutes to fill out this anonymous survey in the name of both science and your kink: tinyurl.com/gaycuck.

Listen to my podcast, *Savage Lovecast*, every week at savagecast.com.

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THE SAVAGE LOVE GLOSSARY

Need to update your sexual lingo?
Here's what you need to know.

Savage-isms

GGG Good, giving and game. Someone who works to be *good* in bed, *giving* to their partner, and *game* to try anything (within reason).

DTMFA Dump The Mother Fucker Already.

CPOS Cheating Piece of Shit.

Santorum "The frothy mixture of lube and fecal matter that is sometimes the byproduct of anal sex."

Gender Identity

LGBTQI Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Intersex.

Transgender People with a gender identity different from their assigned sex.

Transsexual Transgender people who want to transition permanently to the gender they identify with.

Cis/Cisgender Those with a gender identity that matches their assigned sex.

Queer Term for all those who are not heterosexual or cisgender.

Genderqueer Gender identities that are not exclusively masculine or feminine.

Intersex Having sexual characteristics of both males and females.

Sexy Sex

Poly Polyamorous: Engaged in relationships with multiple sexual partners.

BDSM Bondage, domination, sadism and masochism.

Vanilla "Conventional" sexual behavior that does not include bondage, kink or fetishism.

Kink Unconventional sexual practices.

FWB Friends with Benefits: fuckbuddies.





A Taste of Mexico at Conrad's Garden Cafe

Think Mexican cuisine is just tacos and fajitas? Think again, because the vibrant cuisine has so much more to offer. The nation has one of the world's most vibrant gastronomic cultures, and the charm of Mexican cuisine goes far beyond ever-tempting guacamole and fiery habaneros.

To experience the lesser known, captivating dishes of Mexico's gastronomic culture, the Conrad Hong Kong's Garden Cafe is working with award-winning chef David Cetina from Sep 8-18 to present a special buffet spread. His refined take on the food of Mexico's Yucatán region isn't just a treat for the taste buds: It also sheds light on the traditional roots of the Latin American nation.

The hotel is working with the Consulate General of Mexico in Hong Kong to celebrate Día de la Independencia—Mexican Independence Day—on Sep 16. For this happy occasion, chef Cetina is serving up a colorful lineup of culinary delights, serving earnest dishes employing simple, quality ingredients cooked with skill and attention.

Expect authentic dishes including tender, succulent suckling pig marinated in special Yucatán spices, and panuco, a tantalizing cousin of the taco which combines

shredded turkey, beans, tomato and lettuce on a golden fried tortilla. Hailing from the colonial city of Valladolid in Eastern Yucatán, escabeche is another time-tested favorite, with chicken or turkey cooked in a peppery blend of spices called recado para escabeche.

On top of all the Mexican delights, Garden Cafe's signature sashimi carving show and the bombe Alaska show are also sights to behold. At 7:30pm every night, a 25kg Pacific yellowfin tuna is brought out into the dining area and carved into sashimi. Meanwhile, a 15-inch igloo of meringue is flamed until warm, with slices brought to guests afterwards. After your meal, head for a nightcap at Garden Cafe Terrace: From Sep 8-10, award-winning Mexican mixologist Héktor Monroy will show off his lineup of innovative cocktails.

Book through the hotel's Hungry Tuesday site for discounted prices of \$543 per adult and \$367 per child Mon-Thu, and \$607 per adult and \$383 per child Fri-Sun and public holidays.

conraddining.hungrytuesday.com

Fujiyama Mama Hits The Peak

Looking for fun dining at the Peak? Check out Fujiyama Mama, a brand new concept at The Peak Tower, for some playful Japanese bites paired with amazing harbor views. Named after Wanda Jackson's top hit song, the restaurant is all about a fun-filled dining experience.

The restaurant offers one of the best views in the city, overlooking Victoria Harbour. Perfect for bringing out-of-town guests to show them Hong Kong from a bird's eye view, Fujiyama Mama is also great for romantic celebrations, or even family gatherings—any occasion is better when the view's this good.

With a creative "international-Japanese" menu, Fujiyama Mama offers an array of traditional Japanese delicacies including jet-fresh sashimi and sushi, rolls, robata and okonomiyaki, with a dash of western influence. The izakaya-style restaurant also serves Japanese staple dishes such as donburi, miso soup, curry and noodles, all made with quality imported ingredients like sea urchin, flatfish, crab, wagyu beef and more.

Pair your meal with a few drinks: Fujiyama Mama's beverage menu includes a range of sake, shochu, umeshu and beer, as well as the creative bespoke Cider Rita, which diners can customize from scratch.

epicurean.com.hk



Take Fashionably Chic Tea at Dalloyau

Fashionistas and foodies, pay attention: 300-year-old royal French patisserie brand Dalloyau has made its signature desserts and afternoon tea even more alluring by working with renowned fashion brand Roger Vivier.

The two powerhouses join forces this fall for a fashionably chic "Fall Collection" afternoon tea experience, available from now through Oct 10. Combining fashion with gourmet dining, this special tea set (\$536 for two) extracts stunning design elements from Roger Vivier's latest Autumn-Winter Collection, incorporating them into meticulously crafted, scrumptious French treats.

The set consists of iconic pieces such as an "RV"-badged truffle opera cake, originally created by Dalloyau in 1955, raspberry mousse shortbread inspired by RV's Rose'n Roll series, hazelnut praline creme cake decorated with the Viv' Micro Diamond Cut, and tofu choux decorated with the brand's XXL Houndstooth pattern.

dalloyau.hk



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Prompt
Starbucks - Cyberport
Starbucks - Cyberport 3
Starbucks - HKU Library
Starbucks - HKUSU
T Hotel

AP LEI CHAU/ ABERDEEN

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

REPULSE BAY/ TAI TAM/ STANLEY

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

TSIM SHA TSUI

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

GATEWAY APARTMENTS

Gaylord Indian Restaurant
Greyhound Café
Harbourside Restaurant
Hotel Icon
Jimmy's Kitchen
Joya Ristorante
K11 Art Mall
Kowloon Cricket Club
Kowloon Shangri-la Hotel & Deli Kool

LA VILLA RESTAURANT & BAR

Langham Hotel Main Street Deli

Lobby Café - Sheraton Hotel
Mega Hospitality Intl
Morgan Stanley
Namo
Ned Kelly's Last Stand
Nomads
Outback Steakhouse - TST Centre
Pacific Club
Page One
Papi
Pierside Bar, The Royal Pacific Hotel and Towers
Pizza Express - 35 Ashley Rd.
RA Restaurant & Lounge
Regal Kowloon Hotel
Ritz Carlton - Concierge
Ruth's Chris
Starbucks - 102 Austin Rd.
Starbucks - Albion Plaza
Starbucks - China HK City
Starbucks - Elements
Starbucks - Empire Centre
Starbucks - Gateway Arcade
Starbucks - Harbour Crystal Ctr.
Starbucks - I Square
Starbucks - K11
Starbucks - Knutsford
Starbucks - Mirror Tower
Starbucks - Ocean Terminal
Starbucks - STAR HOUSE B/F
Starbucks - The Sun Arcade
Stormies
Swindon Books
Tequila Jack's
The Doghouse
The Grand
The Swiss Chalet
Tiffany's New York Bar
Triple O
W Hotel
Weinstube
Wired Café
Wooloo Mooloo

JORDAN/YAU MA TEI/MONG KOK

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

SHATIN

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

SAI KUNG

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

OTHER NEW TERRITORIES

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

KOWLOON TONG

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

HUNG HOM

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

KOWLOON BAY/ KWUN TONG/ KOWLOON CITY

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

LANTAU

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

HK GIVEAWAYS

It's the second week of our September giveaways and our two fabulous prizes are still up for grabs! We've got a hefty 100,000 Asia Miles, and a one-year Club Horizon Family Card from Le Meridien Cyberport waiting for you. Get entering NOW!

WIN 100,000
ASIA MILES
(THAT'S 2 TRIPS
TO SYDNEY)!!



Win 100,000 Asia Miles!

Who in Hong Kong still hasn't signed up as an Asia Miles member? Offering life-rewarding experiences through a comprehensive range of earn-and-redeem choices, Asia Miles has been Asia's leading travel and lifestyle reward program since 1999.

This month, they've been generous enough to offer one lucky reader a hefty **100,000 Asia Miles**. What can you do with 100,000 miles, you ask? You can use them to redeem flight tickets to 1,000 destinations on 24 airlines—among others, it's enough for a **pair of economy class round-trip tickets between Hong Kong and Sydney!**

And not only can you use them to redeem air tickets—you can also get hotel, car-rental and experience awards to make any trip even more awesome.

Prefer to stay in Hong Kong? Use the miles to redeem a wide range of entertainment awards, including **concert tickets, gourmet and wine experiences** at top-notch hotels and restaurants, as well as **electronic and home appliances and state-of-the-art gadgets**.

Got your attention? Check out hk-magazine.com/hk-giveaways every week this month for further instructions—we'll be unveiling the steps week by week.

The winner will be announced on September 23. Good luck!

Win a Club Horizon Family Card from Le Meridien Cyberport!

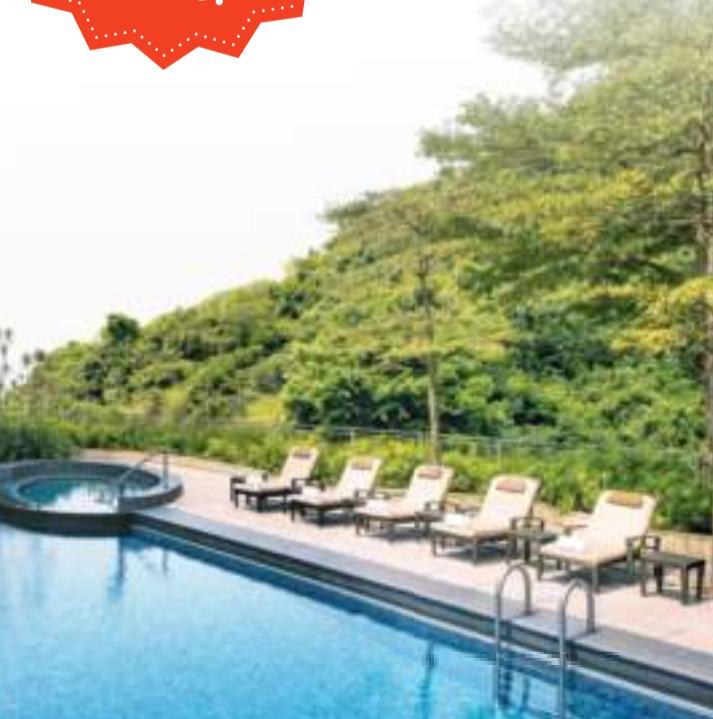
Want to live like you're on a perpetual vacation, enjoying amazing hotel facilities all the time? You don't have to spend big bucks and get yourself a hotel room for a year: Le Meridien Cyberport's Club Horizon is the way to go.

Thanks to the guys at Le Meridien Cyberport, this month we're giving away a **Club Horizon Family Card** (worth \$11,988) to one lucky reader! With this **year-long membership** for two adults and two children, your whole family can check out a huge range of hotel facilities and privileges, including access to the amazing pool, fully equipped gym, year-round discounts on food, beverage and accommodation—as well as 31 gift certificates offering everything from complimentary wine and cake to **overnight stay packages**.

Want to win? Go to hk-magazine.com/hk-giveaways and let us know how you plan to use your Club Horizon membership at Le Meridien Cyberport. Submit your entry before 10am on September 19, 2016.

The winner will be announced on September 23. Good luck!

WIN
CLUB HORIZON
MEMBERSHIP,
WORTH
\$11,988!



FIRST PERSON

“People who say Cantonese music is dead are just selectively deaf.”



Alex Fung is the singer-songwriter-producer who's brought a breath of fresh air to the city's music mainstream, thanks to his work with singers including Ivana Wong and Joey Yung. His latest album is a collection of instrumental 90s Cantopop classics. He tells Xavier Ng how Cantopop isn't dead and how to break into an industry by cold calling.

I was born and raised in Hong Kong. I started learning to play the piano when I was around 3, because my dad loves music.

At around 5 or 6 I started joining competitions and performances. My dad was very proud and wanted to show off my musical talent.

For a while, I hated music. So I tried my best to finish all the piano exams—when I was in Form One I already had my Performance Diploma. I felt great after the exam—because I didn't have to keep learning classical.

I was very rebellious when I was around 12 or 13—I stopped playing or listening to music.

Then by chance I heard a song by Radiohead. And then I heard songs by Portishead. I was like “Wow, music can be like *this!*” That's when I fell back in love with music.

I was planning on going to Boston's Berklee College of Music to study, but just before I flew there, I came down with a pleural effusion caused by tuberculosis. I had to go to the hospital every single day for nine months.

Because of that, I stayed in Hong Kong and randomly picked something to study: I ended up studying electronic engineering at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology for one year. Yeah, it was totally out of nowhere.

When I could finally go [to Berklee], I got to learn all the music that I love: a little bit of jazz, a little bit of acid jazz, a little bit of funk, a little bit of alternative rock—and I also learned how to produce music.

I didn't think I'd come back [to Hong Kong]. I started working in New York—I was going to stay there. But I felt guilty for leaving my parents behind, and I thought they would feel like they'd lost their son. Because of them, I came back.

I didn't know anyone from the record companies, so I had to cold call from the Yellow Pages, looking for [legendary music agent] Paco Wong.

I got through to his secretary and she was OK with me sending over my resume and demo. One week later, Paco called and asked to meet me. That's how I broke into the industry. That was the year 2003.

I was asked to write all these “K songs” [songs aimed at karaoke]. I didn't know how to write these songs. After a while, I started questioning myself: Am I good enough to be here?

Luckily I met [Cantopop singer] Ivana Wong, who also has passion for music, passion for something different—passion for what we think real music is.

Through a friend from college, I met [producer and singer-songwriter] Hanjin Tan and we formed a production team called The Invisible Men.

We started by creating hip hop music for Edison Chen, then later Ivana's less mainstream Cantopop, and then recently, music for Joey Yung. We want to bring a new sound to Cantopop.

There's a lot of treasure inside Cantopop. When I was young I was too self-indulgent and arrogant to understand or appreciate it. I didn't open my ears and listen to the music with an open heart.

That's how I came up with my new album, “Chapter II—Stars of My Universe,” to bring together Cantopop songs that I've been listening to since I was a kid, no matter if I liked them or not. I want to reintroduce them to people.

The people who say Cantonese music is dead are just selectively deaf. Cantonese music is not just Cantopop. We have Cantorock, we have Canto indie rock, we have Canto EDM too. People don't know because they don't care.

We're half-dead because of these people. With less support and resources, it's harder to make better music.

Am I angry? Yes, a bit. I still believe we have a great future. For a city so tiny, with seven million people, we have so much talent.

Why can't we just open ourselves up and stop criticizing Cantonese music? Let's really listen and really watch what's going on in Hong Kong. There's a lot of beautiful things happening.

I chose to do cover songs [on the new album] because they can bring collective memories back to people—it's not just my own experiences or sentiments.

If you buy my album on iTunes, there'll be a digital booklet with three full music scores included. Why? Because I don't believe music is only for the masters or professionals.

I hope that people who are learning instruments can jam with my music, or with their classmates. As a father, I think education is really important. I hope I can help promote music education.



NEED TO KNOW...

Alex Fung's second album “**Chapter II—Stars of My Universe**” contains instrumental versions of popular 90s Cantopop songs, including Hacken Lee's “Farewell to Campus” and Tat Ming Pair's “Stone Age.”



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