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HK MAGAZINE NO. 1101 FRIDAY, JUNE 19, 2015 [www.hk-magazine.com](http://www.hk-magazine.com)

# LATE NIGHT BITES

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## Conspiracy Corner

Hong Kong localist groups have been quick to distance themselves from an alleged bomb plot this week, claiming that the plan may have been a conspiracy to smear them ahead of Legco's electoral reform vote. Looks like it's time for another edition of Conspiracy Corner...

An alleged plot to **blow up the legislature**, foiled at the very last minute? Sounds familiar to us. How does that old line about the **Gunpowder Plot** go? "Remember, remember, the Fifth of November / For gunpowder, treason and plot." It's true that "Remember, remember the 17th of June" might not trip so lightly off the tongue, but could this plot be Hong Kong's very own **Guy Fawkes Night**?

After all, it's suspicious timing. This Sunday is the **Dragon Boat Festival**. Legend has it that dragon boat races take place in order to scare away the fish who would otherwise eat the body of the poet and minister **Qu Yuan**, who drowned himself in protest against the massive governmental corruption of the day. Seems like *someone's* trying to tell us *something*.

The Dragon Boat festival is also the time when we all eat glutinous rice **zong**, which sticks around in the stomach for days. Know who else has been offered a dangerous meal? "**Long Hair**" Leung Kwok-hung, who claims that a mystery person offered him a huge sum to support the government in the electoral reform vote. Although if the Chinese government really is trying to *bribe Long Hair* then they're even more ignorant of Hong Kong politics than we thought.

Meanwhile, the **MERS virus** is still terrifying Hongkongers, who remember SARS all too well. While MERS is a very hard disease to catch, South Korea has nonetheless dropped off the destination list of many a Hong Kong tourist. But what else has dropped in Hong Kong? The **level of discourse**, obviously. **CY Leung** is taking advantage of this alleged bomb plot to warn the public that there's a slippery slope between peaceful protest and blood in the streets, although he seems to have forgotten that most of the blood during Occupy came from protesters.

Could the entire bomb plot affair be a conspiracy to throw the opposition into disrepute, tarring them all with a **single terrorist brush**? Perhaps. But there's one last curious point to bear in mind. In England the Fifth of November is commemorated by the burning of an effigy of Guy Fawkes, the man who tried to destroy a country. In Hong Kong the only effigies burning are those of CY Leung. Coincidence or conspiracy? You decide...

## Who's in charge?

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New and delicious?  
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We meet Vicky Lau, Asia's Best Female Chef 2015



# MAILBAG

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

Dear Mr. Know-It-All,

Why does Chinese culture count in 10,000s instead of 1,000s?

It seems odd to pick such an unusual number.

- Ten Thousand Island Dressing

It seems unusual to you, perhaps. Chinese doesn't think by the millions, but by *man* (萬) the 10,000. There's actually an English word for it, too: "myriad." Most commonly used these days to imply a diverse range, the word comes from the Ancient Greek "myriades," as this unit of measurement was commonly used by ancient Mediterranean cultures as well as the Chinese. In fact, it was originally the highest known number in the west, until Archimedes (of bathtub fame) improved on it by creating the "myriad-myriad," or hundred million, when he tried to work out how many grains of sand you could fit into the universe. We all have to have a hobby.

Chinese language, too, works in terms of myriads. So 1 million is a-hundred-ten-thousand in Chinese, *baht man*. Your rent doesn't cost you \$22,000 a month: it costs *yi man yi*, two-ten-thousand-and-two. And just as you'd use a million of something to denote an inestimably large number in

English, in Chinese this falls to the *man*. And so the Great Wall is known as the *man lei cheung sing* (萬里長城) or "ten-thousand-mile-long wall." *Man sui* (萬歲) means "10,000 years," and is used to wish exalted persons a long, long life. If you're watching TVB period dramas you'll often see emperors greeted *Man sui, man sui, man man sui!*—"May you live 10,000 years, 10,000 years: 10,000 upon 10,000 years." Not a bad lifespan for a ruler. Filtered through to Japanese, *man sui* became *banzai*, and was adopted as an imperialistic war cry during World War II.

There are 10,000 sayings which use the word *man*, but one of the finest seems as if it were invented for Hong Kong. It's *man ga dung for* (萬家燈火)—"The lights of 10,000 homes." What could be a better idiom for our city at night, its innumerable windows lit by innumerable lights? Look around you this evening and you're bound to see it: 10,000 flames lighting 10,000 souls in the SAR.

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

## #PrivateEyeHK



Reclamation Street Reading  
Photo by Rogan Coles



## Your questions, concerns, compliments:

"Watching a movie in theaters should be accessible to all, right?"

### Going to Regionals

Forget predictable Sichuan and Shanghainese, we sought out surprising regional Chinese restaurants [May 22, issue 1097]. Our Facebook readers were hungry for more.

### Lan Kwai Lessons

In our cover story "The Complete History of Lan Kwai Fong" [May 29, issue 1098] we wrote about problems affecting the area, including drug dealing.



I write to you from Justice Centre Hong Kong, a non-profit organization that works to protect the rights of refugees. I was alarmed by your words that many drug dealers in Lan Kwai Fong "appear to be African refugee claimants."

It would be great to know on what evidence you base such a claim and indeed what, in your opinion, constitutes "refugee appearance"? Is it skin color? Is it perceived continent of origin?

At Justice Centre, we deal with some of the most vulnerable and traumatized refugees who have fled from serious forms of persecution, including torture and rape, in African countries such as Somalia, Central African Republic, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Rwanda and Democratic Republic of Congo.

To suggest that drug dealers in Lan Kwai Fong "appear to be refugees" without providing evidence is dangerous. It undermines the very real needs of refugees seeking protection here and compounds the trauma, racism, prejudice and discrimination that they already face.

### Aideen McLaughlin

Director of External Relations  
Justice Centre Hong Kong

*HK Magazine would like to clarify that the phrase "appear to be African refugee claimants" was in no way intended to apply to physical characteristics. We regret any offense caused.*

### Write in and Win!

Got something to say? Write us! Our letter of the week gets an HK Magazine notebook, umbrella (pictured) and copy of "Historical Hong Kong Hikes," total value \$470.





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# THE WEEK

FRI 6/26



THU 6/25



WED 6/24



Friday 6/19

## Auto Pilot

Events promoter DJ Revolution joins forces with Steve Aoki's record label Dim Mak Records to bring us Toronto-based **Autoerotique**, who's set to spin signature electro, techno and house beats at Bungalow.

11pm. Shop 2, G/F, The Centrium, 60 Wyndham St., Central, 2623-7868. \$150 from [www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com).

Saturday 6/20

## Great Expectations

Hong Kong-bred, London-based indie folk songstress **Emmy the Great** ventures back to her hometown for a gig. This time, she's singing at indie label Love Da Records' super-hipster venue in San Po Kong.

8pm. Unit A, 14/F, Chiap King Industrial Building, 114 King Fuk St., San Po Kong. \$180 at the door.

Sunday 6/21

## Wine Jammin'

The two best things in life come together at Orange Peel's **Wine Music Jam**. An open mic event encouraging budding musicians to perform, there'll be different varieties from Kiwi wine importer Wine 'n' Things.

3-8pm. 2/F, Ho Lee Commercial Building, 38-44 D'Aguilar St., Central. \$80 at the door, including one tasting glass.

Monday 6/22

## The Livin's Easy

If you've been outside at all in the last few weeks, you'll have noticed that it's summer. Sticky, sticky summer. Today is this **Summer Solstice**, which marks the longest day of the year. Just means there's more time for day-drinking...

Tuesday 6/23

## Take a #Selfie

Take some time out from selfie-taking and check out "**100 Self-Portraits of Hongkongese**" at PMQ. What's in store? You guessed it—a selection of selfies taken by 100 Hongkongers. HongkongERS. Not ESE. How many times do we have to say it?

Through Jun 26, noon-8pm. Room S201, PMQ, 35 Aberdeen St., Central.

Wednesday 6/24

## A Good Trade

Catch a charity film screening of 1983 classic comedy "**Trading Places**," starring Dan Aykroyd and Eddie Murphy as a banker and street hustler who swap lives. The event benefits Hagar International, which helps women and children across Asia who have suffered abuse.

6:30-10:30pm. Frites, 1/F, The Wellington, 198 Wellington St., Central. \$500 from [www.eventbrite.hk](http://www.eventbrite.hk), including food and drink.

Thursday 6/25

## Flippin' Awesome

Want to re-live those carefree college days? Head to **Flip Cup Thursdays** at Play. Arrive in a team of five and get ready to compete against 15 other teams. Then pass out and wake up with a murderous hangover. Ah, carefree college days! 10pm. 1/F, On Hing Building, 1 On Hing Terrace, Central.

Friday 6/26

## Flashback Friday

Hong Kong kids will remember the Lai Chi Kok Amusement Park, aka Lai Yuen, which closed down in '97. It's back this summer as the "**Lai Yuen Super Summer 2015**" pop-up, with rides inspired by the original park and plenty of kitsch details. Move over, Disney! Jun 26-Sep. Central Harbourfront. Free entry; Game tokens from \$10.

Saturday 6/27

## Free Booze!

Cider brand Somersby is putting on **#ThatWeekendFeeling**, featuring a pop-up truck in Causeway Bay offering free apple cider for all! You can't say no to that. Unless you've reached #peakhashtag, in which case you might have more of a problem. Jun 27-28, noon-8pm. Excelsior Plaza, 24-26 East Point Rd., Causeway Bay. Free.



## COMING UP

### Can You Hear the Music?

If you haven't caught "**The Sound of Music**" yet, this weekend's your last chance. Coming straight from the West End's Palladium Theatre, the international tour of this old-school Rodgers and Hammerstein production has teamed up with the HK Youth Arts Foundation to cast Hong Kong children to play the Von Trapp kids. You'll be 16 going on 17 all over again.

Through Jun 21. Lyric Theatre, Academy for Performing Arts, 1 Gloucester Rd., Wan Chai. \$395-995 from [www.hkticketing.com](http://www.hkticketing.com).

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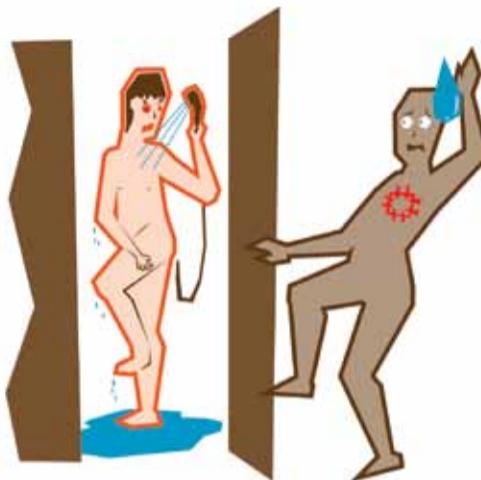
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# NEWS

## Last Week In Reality

### Sat 6

**Voyeur Inspection** A video goes viral of a group of Housing Authority inspectors who visit a public housing unit to ensure that there are no pets in the flat. One inspector opens the door to the washroom, where a tenant is showering. The inspectors apologize, but the tenants do not accept the apology and berate them, saying that they are constantly harassed by the Housing Authority. They partly name two of the inspectors online.



### Sun 7

**Old Dogs** At around 1am, three men aged 44, 54 and 63 get into a fight in a Yau Ma Tei dance bar, breaking a glass. A shard hits a 60-year-old man at a neighboring table, prompting him to join the fight. All four are arrested for fighting, and the 60-year-old is taken to hospital for head and eye injuries. One of the arrested men strikes a pose for an Apple Daily photographer from the inside of the police van.

### Mon 8

**Burn Baby Burn** A newspaper delivery man spots a boy, aged around 12 or 13, setting fire to a capsule machine with an improvised flamethrower in front of a bookstore in a Tseung Kwan O mall. The boy flees when confronted. The owner of the bookstore says that in 20 years he has never had a grudge or quarrel with people, and does not know why anyone would commit arson outside his shop. As of press time, police are still searching for the boy.

### Tue 9

**Pans Labyrinth** A man goes to Tsz Wan Shan to see his ex-wife and they have an argument. As the quarrel heats up, the man picks up a 12-inch knife, and his ex-wife backs away. The man goes to the kitchen and throws an iron pan, a broom, and some utensils out the window, causing residents to flee. The man locks himself in the flat and police break in an hour later to remove him.



### Wed 10

**Snap Chats** A 31-year-old Fujian man appears in court for an incident last month where he secretly snapped two photos of a prostitute after she showered. She caught him in the act, took his phone and found the photos. She then called the police. In court, the man's lawyer says that the man was not familiar with Hong Kong law and did not know that taking photos of someone without their consent was against the law. He is fined \$6,000.

### Thu 11

**Robofail** An engineering team from Hong Kong University enters its bipedal robot, Atlas, into a competition in California. It falls onto its face two seconds into the competition. Atlas has had issues with walking before: The \$15 million model broke its right leg two years ago while trying to walk during a demonstration, requiring it to be sent to the US for repairs. Atlas places 25th out of 25 robot competitors.

### Fri 12

**Do As I Say** An Oriental Daily reader submits a photograph of a maintenance worker at the entrance to the Labour Department offices. He is standing on the top step of a ladder without safety harnesses, a spotter, or any other safety measures. The Labour Department is responsible for the Occupational Safety and Health Ordinance. The department has launched an investigation into the incident.

Illustrations: Ryan Chan

## Talking Points

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



Photo: K.Y. Cheng/SCMP

### SAR Football Fans Boo Chinese Anthem

During last week's Hong Kong vs. Bhutan World Cup qualifying match at Mong Kok Stadium, SAR football fans erupted in boos at the sound of the Chinese national anthem. The game was livecast on the mainland, with jeering intact. Mainland netizens responded with angry comments, with many calling the fans "Hong Kong dogs." Hong Kong won the game 7-0. The SAR and China face off on September 3.

**Our take:** Ah, the beautiful game...

### Mainland Students Complain About Only Getting As

HKUST students have complained to Apple Daily that a group of business students from the mainland have filed grade disputes with the university, saying that they are dissatisfied with their grades because they scored full marks on their exams but did not receive an A+ as their final grade. The syllabus for the Management Science course states that 40 percent of the grade is based on quizzes, 50 percent on exams, and the remaining 10 percent on class attendance, with specific rules regarding tardiness, absences and in-class web browsing. A spokesperson from the HKUST Business School said the incident is being looked into.

**Our take:** Testing isn't everything, is it?

### Students Throw out of Korean Classroom for Wearing Face Masks

Two Hong Kong girls studying abroad at Sungkyunkwan University in Seoul were ejected from a course for wearing face masks as a precaution against MERS. When their professor asked them to remove their masks, the girls pointed out that the Hong Kong government had advised them to do so, angering the professor. He berated them, saying that wearing masks was impolite and he did not want them bringing their sensitivities into the classroom. A university spokesperson said the two parties have since resolved their differences.

**Our take:** Is it impolite to take health precautions? Or is it more impolite to assume that every Korean has MERS?

## Quote of the Week

"Hong Kong is very miserable right now: It's like North Korea, with only one station to watch."

Democratic Party chair and Legco member Emily Lau criticizes the state of Hong Kong television. Speaking at a meeting of the Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting, Lau said that Hong Kong's free-to-air television licenses are unfairly handled and that freedom of the press is dwindling. She pointed out that even the mainland has dozens of TV channels.



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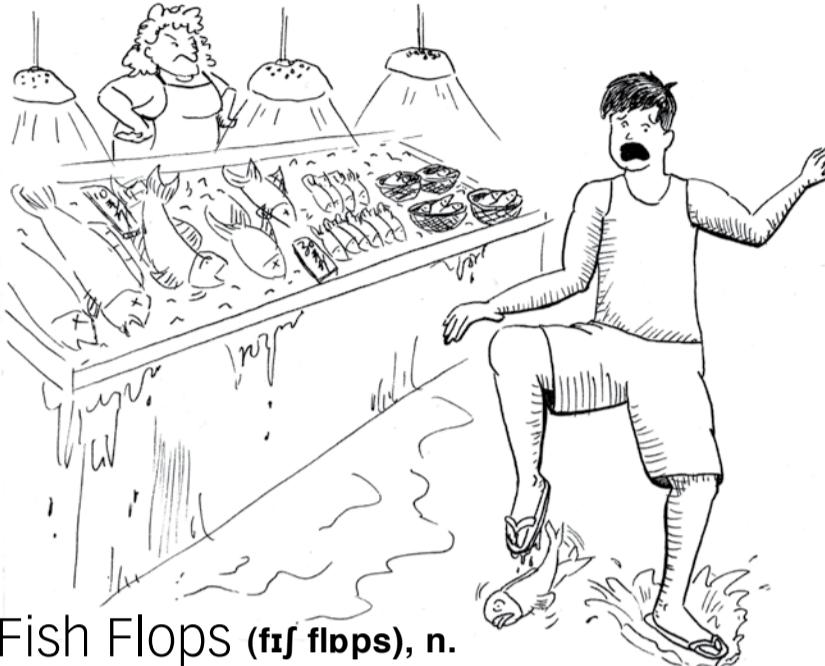


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# UPFRONT

## HongKabulary



### Fish Flops (fish flops), n.

Walking through a wet market in sandals.

"Ugh. I was wearing fish flops and now I've got pig blood and carp intestines all over my legs."  
"That's hot."

## Caption This

HONG KONG—HSBC employees protest staff lay-offs. (Felix Wong/SCMP)



## Fast Facts

### FILTHy Lucre

Hong Kong is the fourth most expensive city in Asia for expats. What are they spending their money on?

- Nightly gross (144) of Jägerbombs.
- Drugs (Coltalin Cold & Flu).
- Drugs (Coltalin Cold & Flu, smooshed up to look like cocaine).
- High-priced escorts who were affordably priced escorts before the exchange rate took a hit.
- Totally average western meals for \$800 a head.

## Street Talk



**Yara Kostetzer** is the founder and manager of Brazucas, the Brazilian Dragon Boat team. She tells Adrienne Chum about getting the team together and dancing like it's Carnaval.

**HK Magazine:** What got you started in dragon boating?

**Yara Kostetzer:** It was my fourth year in Hong Kong, and I wanted to do something more related to Hong Kong and Chinese culture. I wanted to meet more people by doing sports, not by going out to Lan Kwai Fong. I thought that sports were a better way to meet people from different backgrounds—especially in Hong Kong.

**HK:** Why a Brazilian team?

**YK:** My first year when I was on the international team I thought: "This looks like the Brazilian Carnaval!" It was so nice to see people competing and having a party at the same time. The next year we spread the word among the Brazilians and we managed to start our first team.

**HK:** Was it hard at first?

**YK:** It's always difficult in the beginning because people don't want to sacrifice their Saturday to go all the way to Stanley for practice. Every year it is a challenge to put the team together, but in the end we have the team, we start practicing. We have more women than men; it's always harder to get the men. I think they like to party so they don't want to come to practice on Saturdays.

**HK:** Are you confident this year?

**YK:** Yes. Last year we got to the Gold Plate Finals, but this year we want to try to win the cup. Even if that's not possible, we are still happy with the Plate. But my team needs at least one trophy, otherwise we get very demotivated. We always try to get a trophy—any trophy is good for us.

**HK:** Ever had any boating mishaps?

**YK:** Our first year, we almost didn't make it to the start of the race because we were singing and dancing before getting on the boat. Someone said, "Brazucas, you should be there! You are last!" We had to paddle back for the race. We were really tired!

**HK:** Do you ever brag to people that you're a Brazilian national athlete?

**YK:** Oh yeah! Sometimes I say I'm a very famous singer in Brazil and I'm just spending some time in Hong Kong because nobody knows me. People believe me—just at the beginning. Brazilians, they are full of stories to tell, stories that are not true.

**HK:** What are your costumes like?

**YK:** This year we are going to have a bird costume. It is red, blue and yellow. I was trying to find something that was yellow and green—the Brazilian colors—but I couldn't find one. We are going to wear the bird head while paddling. My team is not very happy because it is so hot! My plan is to wear the head for the whole day and we can put on the wings for the costume competition. They are not very good for paddling because they inhibit our arm movement.

**HK:** How do you prep for the race?

**YK:** We are always singing and dancing when we go to the races. We sing Brazilian songs, Carnaval songs. We also have a song for our boat: we sing it every day for practice and on race days.

**HK:** Do you drink at the races?

**YK:** We've ordered some cachaça to make Caipirinhas and drink them after our last race, or maybe after lunch. Afterwards we're going to the promenade to drink with everyone.

**HK:** Pre-race drinking, huh? Risky.

**YK:** We try to control that, but we have many people visiting our tent. I think we can have a little bit. People get very stressed when they get in the boat, so it's a good way to relax.

**Watch the Sun Life Stanley International Dragon Boat Championships on Jun 20. Races start 8am near Stanley Main Beach.**



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Be the change. Volunteer.



Did you know that 32.5% of ethnic minority children in Hong Kong live below the poverty line?<sup>1</sup>

**You can change that.** Volunteer with HandsOn Hong Kong to support our programs in serving underprivileged women and children, migrants, ethnic minorities, refugees and asylum seekers. Our programs include helping out at temporary shelters for women migrant workers, assisting migrant mothers to adapt to life in Hong Kong, teaching minority/refugee children and escorting ethnic minority families on outings.

**Every act counts. Do your part to be the change for a better Hong Kong.**  
Volunteer at [handsonghongkong.org](http://handsonghongkong.org)

#CountMeInHK #HandsOnHongKong



HandsOn  
HONG KONG

# Late Night Bites

So it's the middle of the night, you've been drinking for five hours, and you're STARVING.

Want to find the best nocturnal noms? Read on. **By HK Staff**

Open  
Late...



## Sunny Side Up

The modest and slightly run-down **Sun Hing Chang** specializes in freshly boiled fish congee, and there's a lot of fish on the Chinese-only menu—fish belly, fish bone, fish tail, fish jaw, fish head, even fish mouth. Not a fish lover? Classic congee condiments such as pork liver and beef are available as well. The service and surrounds aren't going to wow anyone, but if you're after a bowl of satisfying, tasty congee to soak up the booze: This joint gets it right.

**Open:** Daily 6-1am.  
**Shop:** 23 Ning Po St., Jordan, 2783-8539.

## Hor Fun

HK Mag favorite **Hor Hor Deem** (可可店) is a K-Town mainstay that's particularly popular with HKU students, thanks to its unbeatably low prices. Choose from classic Cantonese snacks like curried fishballs and really excellent cheung fun served with peanut and chili sauces. There's no English sign, but you won't miss it—it's usually packed.

**Open:** Daily 4pm-3am.  
**Address:** 136-142 Belcher's St., Kennedy Town, 2818-3658.

## Get Sum

Recently opened **Sum Yeh Loi Chiu** (心夜來潮)—which translates poetically to "satisfying a craving for Chiu Chow food late at night"—is a Mong Kok hotspot that's open until 3am. Munch on chilled seafood, ranging from sea urchin to baby oysters to crab brimming with orange roe. The signature *choi cha* puts a modern spin on Chiu Chow rice soup: It's made with a clear vegetable tea and topped with sliced mushroom and peanuts.

**Open:** Daily 6pm-3am  
**Shop:** A, G/F, Skyline Tower, 18 Tong Mi Rd., Mong Kok, 6737-8676.



## Amazake Grace

It's hard to find a place that will take care of your entire night, from pre-game down to the wee hours—when all you want to do is stuff your face with food. Enter **Amazake**, a bar and restaurant sandwiched between three nightclubs: Play, Levels and Dizzi. On Fridays and Saturdays it's open until 3am, so hit up Amazake for a killer late night menu of ramen bowls, fried chicken, and pork gyozas—and maybe just another cocktail or three.

**Open:** Thu 6pm-1:30am, Fri-Sat 6pm-3am.  
**Address:** G/F, On Hing Building, 1 On Hing Terrace, Central, 2537-7787.

## Just Wing It

Tired of snacking on kebabs after a night in Wan Chai? Next time head to **Wing Wah Noodle Shop**. These hand-kneaded egg noodles are springy, light and full of texture. Choose from wonton, dumplings, beef tendons, fishballs or barbecued pork as accompaniments.

**Open:** Daily 11pm-1am.  
**Address:** 89 Hennessy Rd., Wan Chai, 2527-7476.

## Nice to Meat You

Fresh, fat abalones, large prawns, razor clams and crabs, all dunked in a bubbly congee hotpot. Have all this and more for just \$190 per head at **Nice Congee Workshop** (靚粥工房). Staunch carnivores won't be disappointed either, as an array of sliced meats plus meat- and fishballs are also available. Have your hotpot, then drink the insanely flavorful and comforting congee at the end. It's popular, though—you'll have to book a couple of weeks in advance. Unless you're going at 1am, that is.

**Open:** Daily 11am-2am.  
**Shop:** 1A, 24 Shanghai St., Jordan, 2377-3813.



**Open  
Really  
Late...**

### Kebab King



In Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs, in the small print somewhere between "safety" and "self-actualization" it says "beer and kebabs." That's where **Ebeneezer's Kebab & Pizzeria** comes in. Kebabs, curries, pizzas, biryani, fish and chips... you know the drill. With 15 branches citywide, it's accessible, inexpensive and just might be the key to functioning in the morning.

**Open:** Daily 10am-6am.

6 Lan Kwai Fong, Central,  
2114-0555, [www.ebeneezers.com](http://www.ebeneezers.com).

### Goobne Gracious Me



For a (slightly) healthier alternative, **Goobne Chicken** is the Hong Kong outpost of a popular Korean chain serving up crispy oven-baked chicken, rather than the deep-fried kind. Up for some adventurous dishes? Goobne offers a Black Pepper Chicken, which is in fact slathered in a fiery, pitch-black pepper sauce. Top it off with a few of the diner's signature beeritas or cideritas. Alternatively, if you're looking for a milder end to the evening, opt for some easy egg and spam mari rolls or a fishcake medley in broth.

**Open:** Mon-Fri 5pm-4am, Sat-Sun noon-4am.

2/F, The Hart, 4 Hart Avenue,  
Tsim Sha Tsui, 2311-0001.

### Changwon, Chang 'Em All



This old-timer has been serving up traditional Korean favorites since before "My Love from the Star" crashed the K-wave into full effect; before Korean Fried Chicken and certainly before the new-fangled "chimney-style" Korean barbecue joints got popular. At **Changwon Korean**, you can have your fill of classic dishes: from Korean barbecue and kimchi pancakes to bean paste noodles, spicy rice cakes and more. Wash it all down with a cold glass of Hite or three, until five in the morning.

**Open:** Daily noon-5am.

Shop G, 1 Kimberley St., Tsim Sha Tsui,  
2368-4606.

### Here Comes the Sun



Not to be confused with Sun Hing Chang in Jordan (see left), **Sun Hing Restaurant** is a great late-night dim sum spot in Kennedy Town, with a clientele of elderly K-Town residents and drunk hipsters. The spot opens at 3am, making it an ideal haunt after a long drinking session. Grab a seat and then help yourself to all the dim sum favorites: Make sure to leave room for their excellent *lau sa bao*, aka custard buns.

**Open:** Daily 3am-4pm.

Shop C, 8 Smithfield Rd.,  
Kennedy Town, 2816-0616.

### Small Fry



Don't underestimate the name: you'll be getting big spice here at **Little Chilli** so you'd best brace your tastebuds. One of the house specialties is chili fried rice—made with diced spam, scrambled egg, bacon and spring onion, it's dotted with red hot chili peppers for that super addictive tang. Other Sichuan classics are also must-tries, including "water cooked" beef or fish—which is actually boiled in hot chili oil—and dan dan noodles in a smooth, buttery, peanutty broth.

**Open:** Daily 11am-5am

33 North Point Rd., North Point,  
2571-9822.

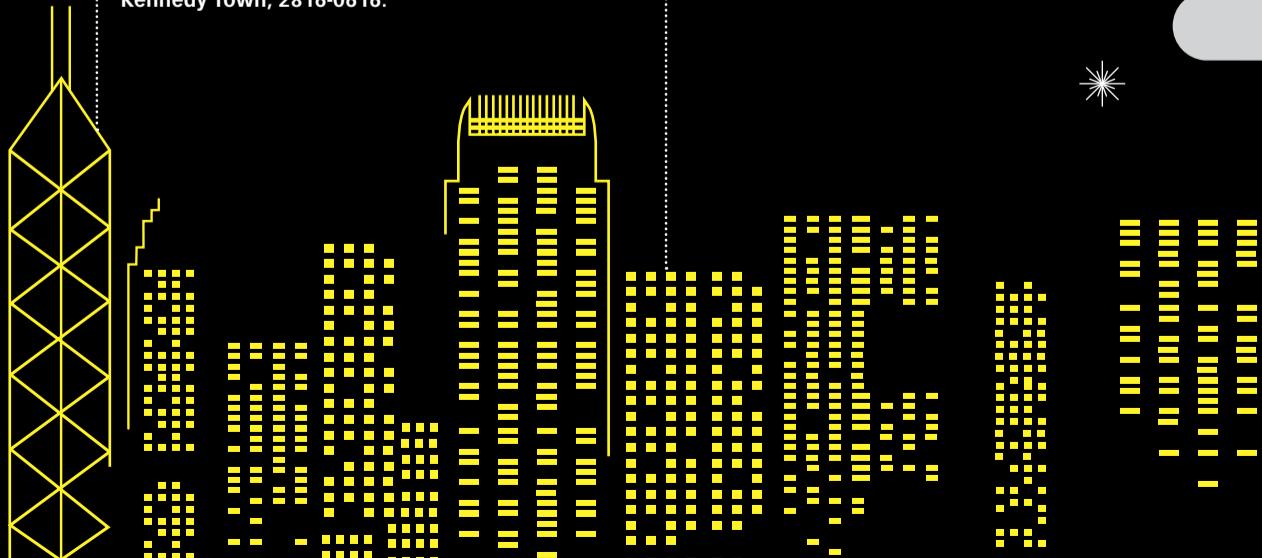
### Some Like it Hof



It's late, you're tired, you've probably been drinking. What better solution for your woes than a heaping plate of hot crispy Korean Fried Chicken at one of the city's top poultry purveyors? **Chicken Hof & Soju** was one of the first to bring the K-trend to Hong Kong. Depending on how much you want your mouth to burn, you can have it plain, marinated in soy sauce, tossed in sweet and spicy sauce or with a moreish barbecue sauce. Alternatively, there are plenty of other bar bites available, from mixed seafood noodles to a cheese-filled egg roll topped with ketchup and mustard.

**Open:** Daily noon-5am.

Various locations, including Shop C, G/F,  
Wah Fat Mansion, 405-419 Lockhart Rd.,  
Wan Chai, 2176-4598.





## Open All Night...

### Join the Circus

**Burger Circus** has a low-key and familiar feel, with comfort food to match. On weeknights the burger joint and dessert expert is open 'til midnight, but on weekends you can fill up on boozy milkshakes, burgers, jalapeño poppers and more 24 hours a day. Or 24 hours a night, more likely.

**Open:** Mon-Wed 9am-midnight,  
Thu-Sun open 24 hours.

22 Hollywood Rd., Central, 2878-7787.

### Say Wah?

Dating back to 1967, **Tsui Wah** is perhaps the most emblematic of all late-night Hong Kong eateries. With its no-frills, cha chaan teng roots, it's the classic post-LKF destination. Go for the Malaysian chicken curry and to check out the throngs of exhausted partiers in the cold, fluorescent light of half-day. A warning: the kitchen switches to simpler noodle-based dishes at 3am.

**Open:** 24 hours  
G-2/F, 15-19 Wellington St., Central,  
2525-6338, [www.tsuiwah.com](http://www.tsuiwah.com).



### Lap of Honor

A cha chaan teng is a cha chaan teng, right? Yes and no: You can expect the same fare in most, but some just seem to have a little extra buzz about them. **Wah Lap** is definitely in this camp. Regarded as Tai Po's top 'teng (as evidenced by its expansion into premises next door), everything it does exudes quality, from its curry beef brisket to its dumplings, bakery items and more. Reasonable prices and entertaining staff add to the mix. But wait: are you only in Tai Po because you all got so drunk you decided to go to China?

**Open:** 24 hours  
48 Po Heung St., Tai Po, 2656-8788.

### Pan Out

If a big fat fry up is the only thing that's going to get you through the next day, then snag a seat at the **Flying Pan**. With branches in SoHo and Wan Chai, Flying Pan dishes out all the usual brunch staples in epic portions. For an all-American meal, don't miss the deviled eggs, Belgian waffles, eggs Benedict, peanut butter banana milkshakes and bottomless coffee. And don't forget: it's one of the best late-night eavesdropping spots in all of Hong Kong.

**Open:** 24 hours

**Two locations including 3/F, 81-85 Lockhart Rd., Wan Chai, 2528-9997, [the-flying-pan.com](http://the-flying-pan.com).**



### Next of Kin

Partying out in Sham Shui Po? Seek out this venerable cha chaan teng, famous for its beef and egg sandwiches. **Kin Kei** also serves celebrated fried noodles, French toast and pork knuckle. It's popular and constantly crowded during the day, so one perk of going in the middle of the night is that you might not have to wait in line.

**Open:** 24 hours  
38 Kweilin St., Sham Shui Po, 2386-2748.



## Dog Gone It

Open 24hr

"Dog noodles" or *gau zai fun* was a popular Shun Tak streetside snack in the 60s and, no, it has nothing to do with cooking up poor Fido. The name derives from the unique shape of the dish's thickly rolled rice flour noodles, which resemble a mutt's tail. It's also said to originate from the way *gau zai fun* also sounds like "ration noodles"—this filling, inexpensive dish was used to feed the hungry during the second Sino-Japanese war. Cooked in a clear broth, the noodles are topped with chopped mushrooms, preserved vegetables, dried baby shrimps, garlic, and just a touch of tasty pork lard. At **Block 18 Dog Noodles** (十八座狗仔粉), don't forget to get a side of its famed massive duck leg, which is cooked in imitation shark's fin soup—equally good on its own.

**Open:** 24 hours

**27A Ning Po St., Jordan.**



## Roll With It

Open 24hr

Rightly renowned for its Shanghai-style *ci fan* glutinous rice rolls, **Shanghai Hong Kong Noodle Shop** is clearly not bothered about protecting an ancient secret recipe—its staff make the sticky treats right at the front of the shop. Sticky rice is wrapped tightly around a *yau za gwai* donut, pork floss, pickle and Sichuan pickled mustard, all served piping hot. Soft, sticky, crunchy and sour—light snacking this isn't, but your stomach will thank you for it the next morning.

**Open:** 24 hours

**29 Jardine's Bazaar, Causeway Bay,  
2576-1343.**



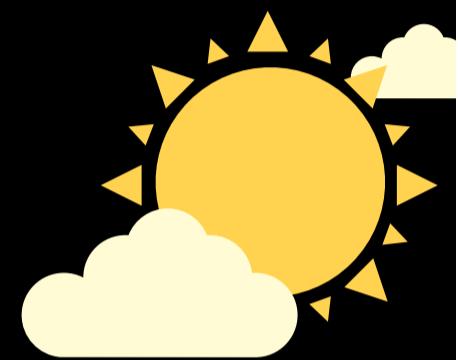
## Bowl Over

Open 24hr

Having been open for around a year, you might have thought the queues for this Hakata-style tonkotsu ramen joint might have subsided. Think again—crowds are still clamoring for the single item on **Ichiran**'s menu that continues to keep its 36 booths packed day and night. The signature red sauce is made with a secret blend of more than 30 spices, and the rich pork bone broth and succulent char siu conspire to create something special. Then again, maybe everything tastes special at 6am.

**Open:** 24 hours

**440 Jaffe Rd., Causeway Bay, 2152-4040.**



OK, that's enough. Go to sleep, already...



# Harlan's Bar and Restaurant

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Level 19, The ONE, 100 Nathan Road, Tsimshatsui, Kowloon, Hong Kong

# PERKS

SPONSORED FEATURE



## HK Phil Denim Classics

Join the HK Phil (9pm, 26 & 27-6-2015, Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall) in informal style for a concert of the very top of the classics chart. From Pachelbel's Canon in D to Barber's Adagio for Strings, these are pieces the orchestra rarely plays. We're putting them together at last – just for Swire Denim.

For more details <http://bit.ly/1AqoSxa>  
Programme enquiries 2721 2332



## Beijing Club is back!!!

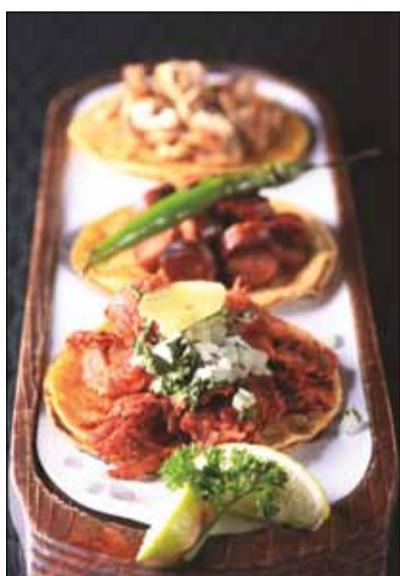
Magnum Entertainment Group proudly announces - Beijing is re-opening on 19th June Friday with its glory history. It comes back and continue the legendary position!

People get ready for the ceremony, salute to our legend! Save the date and join our party to make your own sparkling history! Leave us your best memories.

Plus we have got many party in this summer, here comes the DJ Line Up!

Check this out, hottest DJ in the hottest Club

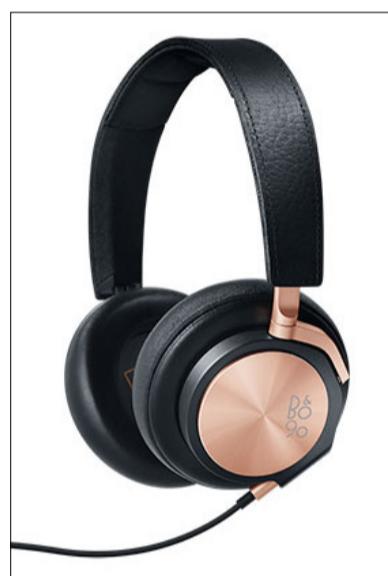
4,5/F California Tower, 32 D'Aguilar Street, Central, H.K  
RSVP: 2111 8110



## "Movie x Dining" Rewards @ The Arcade, Cyberport

Kick off the warmer weather with The Arcade, Cyberport's dining and movie double rewards programme between May 1 and July 31. Movie goers can present same day Broadway Cyberport movie ticket stubs to enjoy exclusive dining rewards and diners can present their same day dining receipts to enjoy a \$10 regular priced movie ticket discount at the Cyberport cinema!

Address: The Arcade, Cyberport,  
100 Cyberport Road, Hong Kong  
Tel: (852) 3166 3111



## Bang & Olufsen 90-year special edition

This BeoPLAY H6 iconic headphone comes with black cowhide and soft lambskin leather and all aluminium details are elegantly completed with a Rose golden touch. It rests softly and comfortably on your head, bringing a true sense of everyday luxury. This exclusive "Love Affair Collection" contains six other products from the current designs to match any style and any age.

Tel: 2918 0007  
[bang-olufsen.com](http://bang-olufsen.com)  
IFC | Causeway Bay | Festival Walk  
New Town Plaza | Elements\*  
\*Elements store to be opened by 1-July



## Learning Curve Training + Research

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Is the dragon the only symbol of the Orient? Is a woman wearing cheongsam necessarily Chinese? What else can be drawn from the colour red if the West generally considers it as representing the East?

Willy reverses the imagination by playing with typically "oriental" elements. How many "ways" do you agree and disagree with 365 Ways of Doing and Undoing Orientalism? Come explore the "Orientalism" with us in the theatre!

26-27.6.2015 Fri & Sat 8pm \$250, \$180, \$140  
Auditorium, Kwai Tsing Theatre MTR Kwai Fong Station  
URBTIX Ticketing 2111 5999 [www.urbtix.hk](http://www.urbtix.hk)  
More Programme Details [www.ccdc.com.hk](http://www.ccdc.com.hk)



## Venture Studios is joining paws with the Hong Kong Dog Rescue at the hugely popular Pet Expo this month

If you would like an opportunity of enjoying a Venture photography experience with a professional Venture photographer, whilst supporting the Hong Kong Dog Rescue, do join us at the Pet Expo 2015 on 19th – 21st Jun at HKCEC. (Booth no.: PE 11)  
Come with your furry friends and have fun!

Venture Studios –  
Central HK (Tel : 2885 6262), TST Kowloon (Tel : 2377 4888)  
<http://venturephotography.com.hk>



## Ocean Fresh Seafood Buffet Delights

It's seafood season at Bistro-on-the-Mile, but instead of preparing one lavish seafood selection for you, we've prepared seven! One for every day of the week – every week! From fresh Australian Oysters on Monday, to sumptuous South Africa Abalone on Sunday and everything in between, we've got a world of ocean-fresh seafood delights lined up for you all week.

1/F, Bistro on the Mile, Holiday Inn Golden Mile, 50 Nathan Road, TST, 2315 1118



## Identity Crisis

If you're looking for something a little more idiosyncratic than the usual Ikea offerings, then make a beeline to **ID Store**. The shop's latest collection includes all kinds of surreal and surprising accents, like the Christian Lacroix tableware collection—inspired by French Surrealism in the 1920s, in which multiple artists worked on a single canvas.

\$800, set of four coasters. **Christian Lacroix Love What You Want Collection.**  
Shop 227, 2/F, Prince's Building, 10 Chater Rd., Central, 2523-3006.

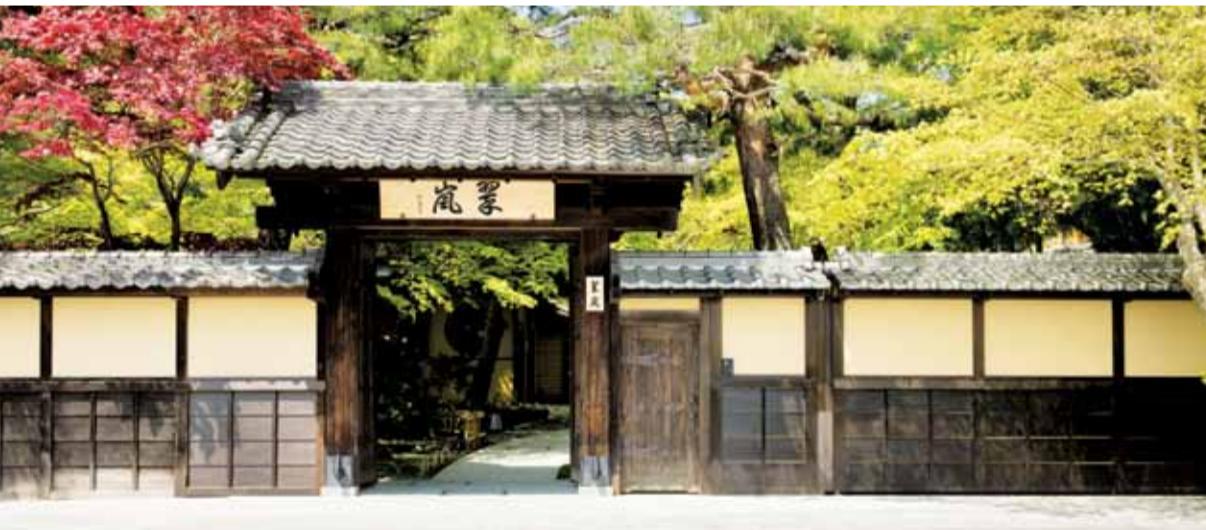
## ESCAPE ROUTES with Kate Springer



### Golden Ticket

It's a big year for **Singapore**: the little island nation is turning 50 and will be celebrating all year long. The summer schedule is packed with events put on by the city's top cultural centers, like the National Library, ArtScience Museum and Museum of Independent Music. Not to mention the entire Jubilee Weekend from August 7-10 that's devoted to the golden birthday: if you're around the Marina Bay area, check out the floral "Singapore Story" at Gardens by the Bay, the Marina Barrage outdoor picnic, a parade, and free performances at the Theatres on the Bay. Come October, Singapore's National Museum will unveil a long-awaited revamp with more immersive and modern exhibits that chronicle the city state's road to independence. Who says there's nothing to see in Singapore?

**Learn more at [www.singapore50.sg](http://www.singapore50.sg).**



### Suiran to Please

Kyoto is best worth a visit for its beautiful bridges, geishas and cherry blossoms. But the lack of international hotels means most travelers opt for a rustic ryokan, or Japanese inn, which can often be a little too barebones with not much more than a rollaway tatami straw bed. Now there's a splurge-worthy option: enter 39-room **Suiran**, a recently opened Starwood Luxury Collection hotel that mixes the authentic experience with luxury surrounds. Located on the grounds of a world heritage site, the Tenryuji Temple, Suiran has great views of the Arashiyama hills (best known for its famous Bamboo Grove) as well as a pretty, leafy riverside location. The place keeps up with Kyoto culture, albeit taking it for a fancy spin with ryokan-inspired rooms, calming neutral tones and open-air bathtubs.

**From JPY60,000 (\$3,849). 12 Susukinobaba-cho, Kyoto, Japan, (+81) 75-872-0101, [www.luxurycollection.com/suiran](http://www.luxurycollection.com/suiran).**

**Psst...** To coincide with World Ocean Day on June 8, **Google Street View** ([tiny.cc/hk-googleocean](http://tiny.cc/hk-googleocean)) veered off course and into the ocean to bring netizens some pretty awesome underwater experiences. From American Samoa to the Chagos Islands, you can take yourself on a virtual voyage through shipwrecks, schools of fish and pods of whales. There are 41 Street View dives from 21 countries, including The Philippines, Australia, Indonesia and more.



### Get Your Kicks

For all you aspiring ninjas out there, mark your calendar for the upcoming **Ninja Camp**, running June 27-July 3. It's not exactly martial arts training, though—it's more like a week-long fitness retreat, with an itinerary packed full of surfing, canyoning, free-diving, CrossFit, yoga, swimming, nutrition consultations, gourmet meals, massages and a little poolside lounging for good measure. It all goes down at Ninja Villa in Bali, a gorgeous property with rice paddy views, a big pool and sun deck. In the upcoming June program, most of the fitness activities are led by RokFit athlete Taylor Rank, while the food and nutrition input comes from New York-based organic restaurant Culinary Farmacy. If you can't make the June session but Ninja Camp sounds up your alley, there are a few more retreats through October in far-flung locations such as Guatemala, New Zealand and Iceland.

**From \$4,700, all-inclusive, 12 ninjas per camp.**  
[Ninjacampbali.com](http://Ninjacampbali.com).

**Where are you heading for your next adventure? I want to know! Email me at [kate.springer@hkmagmedia.com](mailto:kate.springer@hkmagmedia.com) or tweet @KateSpringer and #hktravels.**



# AMAZING HK\$7 STOPOVER IN THE LION CITY



To celebrate Singapore's national day, Singapore Airlines is offering some great deals to promote travel via the Lion City.

Singapore Airlines, in partnership with Changi Airport Group, has put together a unique offer as part of a limited time promotion to celebrate Singapore's 50th Birthday (SG50).

The SG50 package is specially designed to showcase the many highlights of a stay in the Lion City, offering travellers the opportunity to enjoy the vibrant sights and sounds of Singapore courtesy of a stopover at a giveaway price.

The offer includes accommodation, return airport transfers and admission to 15 major attractions, including Alive Museum, Gardens by the Bay, Sentosa Island, Singapore Philatelic Museum and many more. It's the perfect way to explore the cosmopolitan city en route to your final destination.

Among a wide range of enticing packages is the special SG50 stopover deal for travellers out of Hong Kong. It allows visitors to spend their first night at selected Singapore hotels for just HK\$7, on a twin-sharing basis.

To take up this amazing offer you must book your Singapore Airlines ticket before June 30 and travel before July 15; beyond these promotional dates the first night price will still start from only HK\$300 per person on a twin-sharing basis.

With seven daily flights to Singapore, Singapore Airlines offers convenient connection to most major cities in Australia, Europe, west Asia, and Southeast Asia. In addition, SilkAir, the regional wing of Singapore Airlines, operates 350 flights connecting holiday goers to 49 exotic destinations in 12 countries from the Singapore hub, including Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, the Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam and more.

When it comes to impeccable in-flight

service, Singapore Airlines is always at the top of the list with frequent travellers. The image of the smiling face of the "Singapore Girl" epitomises the Asian grace and top-quality hospitality synonymous not only with the airline, but also its style and elegance.

But it's much more than first-class in-flight service that makes a Singapore Airlines experience one to remember.

For example, a recent innovation that adds to the feel-good factor on flights is the introduction of Premium Economy Class. It starts with a seat specially designed with your comfort in mind. Offering a 38-inch seat pitch, with a 8-inch recline for extra relaxation, the new seats provide up to a generous 19.5-inch width.

And if that doesn't make you want to sit back, relax and enjoy the flight, the fact the seat is in a separate cabin in a spacious 2-4-2 configuration with a 13.3-inch full-HD touchscreen monitor for your added convenience should seal the deal.

You can live it up by taking advantage of a special "Premium Economy Book The Cook" menu or pick from a choice of three main courses and enjoy your choice of drinks, including champagne, throughout the flight. Furthermore, there's priority check-in and boarding and increased baggage allowance. You can also earn 110% frequent flyer miles based on miles flown.

To those travelling in Business, First, Suites, or simply with eligible frequent flyer programme status, get your exciting trip off to a flying start! Hong Kong travellers can sample the newly refurbished, state-of-the-art Singapore Airlines SilverKris Lounge at Hong Kong International Airport.

Officially opened in February, the new lounge, which follows the "Home Away From Home" concept, provides premium customers with comfort chairs in a relaxed seating area and three shower suites. Visitors are greeted by a customised batik design screen as they enter the lounge.

Find out more at [singaporeair.com](http://singaporeair.com)

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THIS OUT**

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# 852 DINING

NEW AND NOTED  
with Adele Wong



### Tongue-Thaied

Sai Ying Pun boasts yet another new restaurant: **Thai Na** (124 Second St., Sai Ying Pun, 2803-2331), opened by former five-star hotel chef Tom Saranit. TN serves, as you'd guess, authentic Thai fare, from grilled meat skewers to soupy beef ball noodles. The cozy, hipster interior is covered with mural art and intense red walls. Dishes include grilled fish, curries and kway teow (fried noodles).

### You're In For a Shoku

**Shoku** (Shop 109, The Pulse, 28 Beach Rd., Repulse Bay, 2808-2333) finds its beat with a *binchotan* (white charcoal) grill, dishing out smoked fish, prawns and other sizzling treats in a bright and colorful environment. And because the venue is right by the beach, there is a whole range of cooling cocktails on offer.

## RESTAURANT REVIEWS

### DK Cuppa Tea Cafe ★★★★☆

Vegetarian café. 19 New Market St., Sheung Wan, 2386-3588.



DK Cuppa, which started out in SoHo, now has a branch in Sheung Wan offering vegetarian dishes and desserts made mostly from fresh, raw ingredients. The cozy café is tucked away on a quiet cul de sac close to Western Market.

**HIT** We were happy with all of our light, healthy options: our lunch set (\$98) came with six dishes of marinated salads, potato

and bell pepper sides, and fruits. We'll be honest and say that we don't believe any of the combos were technically difficult to execute, but sometimes all one needs is a minimally processed, nutrient-rich meal. And on that front, DK delivers. We topped it off with a frosty rose-flavored cheesecake for dessert that tasted refreshing, sweet and guilt-free all at once.

**MISS** Even though there weren't many options available, the photo-based menu was still quite confusing to navigate. The lack of choice means that if you're not craving raw veggies and fruits, you probably won't be able to find anything else to sate your appetite.

**BOTTOM LINE** A refreshing contrast to the trendy fast food joints that run rampant on Hong Kong Island, DK Cuppa is a saving grace for the modern-day diet.  
**Open daily noon-8pm. \$\$**

#### 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



Atelier Vivanda



Thai Na



Thai Na

### C'est La Vie

The former chef of ritzy Tenku Ryugin, Hideaki Sato, has opened **Ta Vie** (Shop 3, 2/F, The Pottinger, 74 Queen's Road Central, 2668-6488) at The Pottinger in Central. Chef Sato will be dabbling in French cuisine with a strong Japanese influence, and using Asian ingredients as a focal point.

### Bon Vivanda

Akrame's chef-owner Akrame Benallal is bestowing Ship Street with a second resto venture. **Atelier Vivanda** (9A Ship St., Wan Chai, 2109-1768) is also

an import from Paris, but unlike its brother restaurant, AV is more about casual dining and lots of butchered meats rather than fancy fine dining. Beef, chicken, duck, veal, pork, in all their glorious preparations, will be available to the diner along with various traditional potato sides.

Email me at [adele.wong@hkmagmedia.com](mailto:adele.wong@hkmagmedia.com) or follow me on Twitter: @adelewong\_hk.

All of our reviews are independent and anonymous!

## The Saint ★★★★☆

**British.** 55 Elgin St., Central, 2522-2646.



In place of McSorley's in SoHo is another British-style gastropub: The Saint. If you're too lazy to venture outside of SoHo or simply fancy a G&T with your pub grub, then this is a safe bet.

**HIT** Bone marrow (\$128) with bacon and onion marmalade, parsley salad, roasted forest mushrooms and toasted sourdough bread was pretty good value. We liked the

bacon-wrapped boar Scotch egg (\$98)—a sizeable chunk that had runny egg oozing out. Watercress and pea shoot salad (\$98) with mulled apple, cheddar cheese and crispy ham was a pretty good palate cleanser. Our G&T, made with Boodles Gin and Fever Tree tonic (\$98), was well balanced and went well with the meal.

**MISS** The seared flank steak (\$178) with confit potatoes and oven-dried tomato contained pockets of cold pieces. The bone marrow pieces weren't evenly sized—one was much larger than the other two. Visiting on a weeknight, the resto was stone dead and lacking atmosphere.

**BOTTOM LINE** Though it'd be a letdown for more adventurous diners, The Saint delivers decent British bar fare without any surprises.  
**Open Sun-Thu noon-midnight, Fri-Sat noon-2am. \$\$\$**

### 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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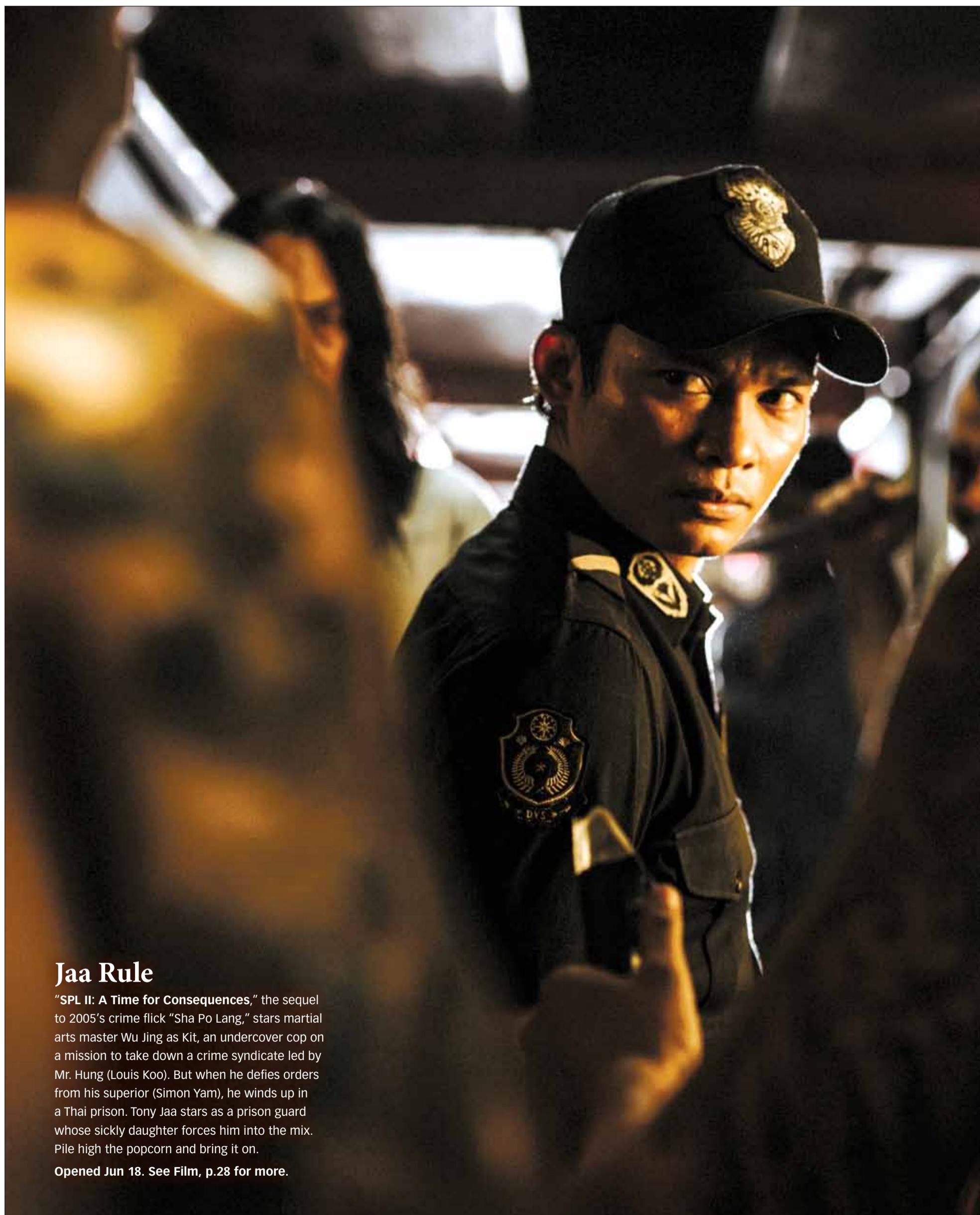
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# WHAT'S ON

CULTURE + NIGHTLIFE + FILM



## Jaa Rule

"**SPL II: A Time for Consequences**," the sequel to 2005's crime flick "Sha Po Lang," stars martial arts master Wu Jing as Kit, an undercover cop on a mission to take down a crime syndicate led by Mr. Hung (Louis Koo). But when he defies orders from his superior (Simon Yam), he winds up in a Thai prison. Tony Jaa stars as a prison guard whose sickly daughter forces him into the mix. Pile high the popcorn and bring it on.

Opened Jun 18. See Film, p.28 for more.



## UPCLOSE Cora Yim



Fox International Channels has recently announced plans to make several original Hong Kong-based miniseries in Cantonese, English and Putonghua. Is Fox set to become the new Asian TV powerhouse? Evelyn Lok speaks to Senior Vice President **Cora Yim** about what's in the pipeline.

### HK Magazine: So, what have you got coming up?

**Cora Yim:** "Guilty As Sin" is currently in the pre-production stage. The story will take place in Hong Kong, in these past couple of decades since the handover. The tone is aimed to be similar to "Fight Club." It won't be about things like characters asking if you've had your dinner. It will use [more complex] narrative structures such as flashbacks and crossed timelines. For the English-language production, it will be an action genre series, similar

to "24." We are looking for non-Chinese talent: Especially as it will have more of an English-language and Putonghua emphasis.

### HK: Why here, why now?

**CY:** What's very interesting about Hong Kong in these past decades, as a society, is that it's a place where a lot of stories happen. Even international studios are paying more attention to Hong Kong, such as with "Transformers" and "Batman." Our main product is locally produced movies. And for

high-concept, cinematic productions, Hong Kong's creative talents are excellent. For example, Johnnie To, Wai Ka-fai, Wong Kar-wai—they all started out in TV a long time ago. I personally really appreciate Hong Kong filmmakers as they are efficient and skillful, and have mature storytelling abilities.

### HK: What's the difference between western and Hong Kong TV?

**CY:** If you look at American series, they are in general more cinematic. The stories are more innovative. Hong Kong's storytelling [in television] is more traditional. It's quite a big problem. Characters, story, and even dialogue tend to be very stereotyped. We hope to lend a stronger filmmaking hand to the production process.

### HK: What gap do you hope these productions will fill?

**CY:** Generally, television companies may want to cater to a more family audience, or make the plots very obvious. Everyone is concerned by the tastes of their TV audiences. But nowadays it's not like that—for example a lot of local housewives watch Korean and even American dramas. People may be underestimating their audience. For us, our film channel is regional—so our potential creative space is a lot greater.

### HK: What's so hard about putting together a quality show?

**CY:** In the Greater China area, we don't have many versatile writers, and these talents are in great demand. Especially in Hong Kong, our writers

in TV and film are generally quite narrow-minded. It was better before, back in the 90s. There were a lot of opportunities back then, where up to 200 films would be made a year—nowadays it's 50 a year. Today, there's also a concern to write topics for mainland audiences, not just Hong Kong. Naturally [producers] find mainland writers instead, as they need to cater to those tastes. Hong Kong writers lack the practice and opportunity, so it's a vicious cycle. That's also why we can't film too much at the same time: it takes a long time to develop the story, and to find the right talents to work on it.

### HK: What kind of TV do you watch?

**CY:** I love watching American shows—"House of Cards," "The Walking Dead," "The Newsroom," a lot of these types of shows. They're well written, well acted and you can watch them many times. These are the kinds of shows I would want to film. In Chinese-language productions, it's uncommon to see humanity or societal issues being covered. It doesn't have to be too heavy, but there is a lack of these topics being talked about in TV. As the media, you do have the social responsibility to get people inspired—whether to be encouraging or uplifting, or to review social and personal problems—this is what needs to be done.

**Stay tuned for "Guilty As Sin" by Fox International Channels, expected to air spring of 2016. One of its platforms, Star Chinese Movies, has just acquired 860 hours of classic drama from ATV, ranging from "My Date With A Vampire" to "Central Affairs." Catch them on NowTV channels 139 and 140.**

## HK PICKS



### The Oxford Gargoyles: Blame It On My Youth

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

## Classical

### Yuja Wang Triptych

Beijing-born pianist Yuja Wang returns to share her electrifying talent with the Hong Kong Philharmonic, with this triptych of concerts in June. Known for performing in glamorous and daring outfits—but even better known for her virtuosic ability—she'll be playing three different programs across each evening. Starting with nationalistic odes from Beethoven and Mozart on the first evening, Wang then shows off a fiery program on the second night with Russian composers Scriabin and Balakirev, before ending on a powerful, emotive note from Brahms, Debussy and Ravel. Jun 19-20, 8pm. Concert Hall, Cultural Centre, 10 Salisbury Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui. \$120-680 from [www.urbtix.hk](http://www.urbtix.hk).

### Good Music at the Fringe with James Cuddeford

The HK Sinfonietta's Concertmaster James Cuddeford steps out of the concert hall for this chamber music series at the Fringe Club Dairy. This month's program is inspired by Bach. Jun 23, 7pm. Fringe Club, 2 Lower Albert Rd., Central, 2521-7251. \$150 from [hksl.org](http://hksl.org), includes one drink.



Photo: Thierry Cohen

### Russian National Orchestra

The Russians are in town this summer: its legendary National Orchestra is playing two concerts under the baton of its founder and artistic director Mikhail Pletnev. Playing a mixed bill of classic Russian composers such as Rachmaninov and Tchaikovsky, there'll also be Arutiunian's famous Trumpet Concerto, played by trumpet god Sergei Nakariakov, who published his first solo CD at age 15. What did you do when you were 15? Jun 24-25, 8pm. Concert Hall, Cultural Centre, 10 Salisbury Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui. \$200-650 from [www.urbtix.hk](http://www.urbtix.hk).

### HK Phil: Denim Classics

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

### Romer String Quartet

Named after the Hong Kong native species of Romer's tree frog, the Romer String Quartet features players who were all born and raised here—and presumably brought together by their love of endemic amphibians. The group will play a range of classical pieces, from Haydn to Ravel to Malecki. Jul 3, 8pm. Theatre, City Hall, 5 Edinburgh Place, Central. \$120-160 from [www.urbtix.hk](http://www.urbtix.hk).

### HK Phil: Nightingale & Firebird

Closing the season with a bang, the Hong Kong Philharmonic performs some powerful Russian staples. Highlights include Stravinsky's "The Firebird Suite" from his legendary ballet, Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto, as well as "Song of the Nightingale," which imagines China's imperial court from western perspectives. Orientalism ho! Jul 3-4, 8pm. Concert Hall, Cultural Centre, 10 Salisbury Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui. \$120-400 from [www.urbtix.hk](http://www.urbtix.hk).

### Nir Felder Trio

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



Photo: Phillip Knott

## Musicals

### The Sound of Music

The classic musical graces the Hong Kong stage this June. Coming straight from the West End's Palladium Theatre, the international tour of this old-school Rodgers and Hammerstein production has teamed up with the HK Youth Arts Foundation to cast Hong Kong children to play the Von Trapp kids. You'll be 16 going on 17 all over again. Family ticket packages for two adults and two children can be had from \$1,888. Through Jun 21. Lyric Theatre, Academy for Performing Arts, 1 Gloucester Rd., Wan Chai, 2584-8500. \$395-995 from [www.hkticketing.com](http://www.hkticketing.com).

### Singin' in the Rain

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

## Arts Festivals

### International Arts Carnival

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

## Need to Know

### Theater & Arts

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

# ARTS

## Exhibitions



**Qiu Deshu: Night and Day**

Curated by Philip Dodd, the former director of London's Institute of Contemporary Arts, "Night and Day" is an ambitious retrospective of the past 40 years of painter Qiu Deshu's career. As one of the seminal experimental Chinese ink artists of the 1980s, Qiu was influenced by prevailing abstract expressionists such as Jackson Pollock in his early years, and eventually developed the unique "fissuring" technique for which he is recognized today. Through Jul 21. Pearl Lam Galleries, 601-605, 6/F, Pedder Building, 12 Pedder St., Central.



**Aaron Kai: Vices**

Returning for his second show in Hong Kong, Hawaiian post-pop artist Aaron Kai presents a collection of new works themed around the city's summer debauchery. Inspired by everything from junk parties to rooftop bars to nightlife nabes he experienced on previous trips to the SAR, "Vice" is full of bold paintings so bright they're impossible to ignore. A statement on how irresistible bad life choices are, perhaps? Through Jun 20. Above Second, 9 First St., Sai Ying Pun, 3483-7950.

**Guts**

Organized alongside Asia Week 2015—a weeklong string of Asian art events, lectures and seminars in Hong Kong—Chinese new media artist collective Liu Dao (Island6) brings us a new series of works. Entitled "Guts," it's a show themed around bravery. Known for their part-painting, part-animated LED sculptures and their unique brand of cheeky humor, Island6's pieces all depict scenes of derring-do, of trusting your gut instinct. Through Aug 10. Island6 Hong Kong, 1 New St., Sheung Wan, 2517-7566.



**Zhang Xiao: About My Hometown**

Blindspot Gallery's latest show features a collection of photography and mixed media by the award-winning Chinese artist Zhang Xiao. In the six-distinct series, you'll notice a move from observing life in contemporary China to a more personal reflection upon his return to his hometown, Yantai. Through Jun 27. Blindspot Gallery, 15/F, Po Chai Industrial Building, 28 Wong Chuk Hang Rd., Aberdeen, 2517-6238.



**iLuminate** (USA)

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23<sup>rd</sup> August 2015 (SUN) 3pm

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Edited by **Andrea Lo**

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Twitter: @andreas\_lo



## Best Bar Bites

Sate both your thirst and your hunger at these watering holes. By **Andrea Lo**

### Ozu

Japanese sake bar Ozu has been an HK Mag favorite ever since it opened its doors last year. Pretty much everything on the menu will have you salivating. Hit up the spot during happy hour (daily, 4-8pm)—most cocktails and Japanese-style nibbles start at just \$50. Our favorites are the edamame tossed with garlic, chili and a splash of olive oil (\$40); zucchini fries served with honey mustard (\$50); and Karaage popcorn chicken with parmesan mayo (\$60).

**Pair it with a...** Jatini (\$60 during happy hour): sake, Chambord, black and red raspberries, pineapple and lemon.

**Shop G6, 1 Hollywood Rd., Central, 5244-1417.**



### Topiary

Pretending to be healthy? We don't blame you—it's junk season, after all. Topiary has guilt-free low-alcohol "shim cocktails" and vegetarian nibbles. But in this case, vegetarian doesn't equal boring. Try the skinny boy pizza (\$148), piled high with spinach, eggplant, porcini mushroom, olives and baked cherry tomato. The super-moreish tonkatsu sandwich surprise (\$78), is made with French toast, a deep-fried veggie patty, wasabi coleslaw and drizzled in teriyaki sauce. Yum.

**Pair it with a...** Summer Interns Are Here (\$118): Gosling's Gold Rum, Tia Maria, Bailey's and cream.

**3/F, Hilltop Plaza, 49-51 Hollywood Rd., Central, 2866-6485.**

### Rummin' Tings

Rummin' Tings continues to bring the best of the Caribbean to Hollywood Road. Alongside your rum cocktails, order a round of bar bites to share. We're fans of the chicken curry and *dahl puri roti* (roti filled with curried split peas, \$80) and sticky island ribs, drenched in Caribbean BBQ sauce (\$120).

**Pair it with a...** Calypso Punch (\$110), consisting of Bacardi Oakheart rum and crème de cassis—refreshing, but not too sweet.

**28 Hollywood Rd., Central, 2523-7070.**



### Assembly

Knutsford Terrace bars are all kind of cookie-cutter, so we're glad to see Assembly bringing something different to the table. Cocktails are good value here, but it's the pulled pork poutine (\$108) that has us returning time and time again. It's exactly as delicious as it sounds: generous succulent pulled pork with gooey, melted cheese piled on top of crispy, golden fries.

**Pair it with a...** Porch Climb (\$85), made with Akashi blended whisky, lemon, lime and orange juices, plus syrup and a purée of mixed berries.

**G-1/F, 6 Knutsford Terrace, Tsim Sha Tsui, 2723-6588.**

### Havana

Despite opening two years ago, Havana remains relatively hidden and little-known. The Cuban-themed bar not only does great classic island-inspired cocktails, but there's a ton of light bites and mixed tapas too: think grilled baby artichokes (\$85), fish cakes (\$78) and Greek dolmades (\$78). Chill on the huge outdoor terrace and chow down.

**Pair it with a...** Just Peachy Mojito (\$75)—simple but satisfying, and under a hunnit to boot.

**4/F, The Plaza, 21 D'Aguilar St., Central, 2851-4880.**



Assembly

### HK PICKS



#### Handover Hallelujah

The Wanch's annual Handover Hallelujah live music festival returns for its sixth year. It's an indie band extravaganza, featuring more than 70 local artists and bands. Over the course of seven nights, catch back-to-back performances from the likes of Dark Himaya, and Tango & Snatch—plus many more. The best part? Everything's completely free. Visit [tiny.cc/hk-handover](http://tiny.cc/hk-handover) for complete lineup. Jun 25-Jul 2, 8pm. The Wanch, 54 Jaffe Rd., Wan Chai, 2586-1621. Free.

### Clubs

#### Magnetic Soul 10-Year Anniversary

#### Summer Series Part 1 with Dave Owen

Events promoter Magnetic Soul is 10 years young, and it's celebrating with a series of parties this summer. First up, hit Social Room to see US drum 'n' bass DJ-producer Dave Owen drive the decks. Jun 19, 11pm. Social Room, 3/F, Won Hing Building, 74-78 Stanley St., Central. \$100 from [www.ticketflap.com](http://www.ticketflap.com); \$150 at the door, both include a drink.

#### Cliche Records vs Fresh Off the Boat Asia

It's a nightlife promoter mashup: Cliche Records and Fresh Off the Boat Asia are coming together to put on this DJ extravaganza at Kee. See local favorites Angus Wong and Subcoat join forces with Bali's DJ Lady Flic (pictured) to play a funk, soul, hip-hop and disco set. Plus, Cliche's lineup of Miya, Gregzo, Sneak Peak and Rifain will be playing French house, disco and funk. Killer mashups all round. Jun 19, 11pm. Kee Club, 6/F, 32 Wellington St., Central, 2810-9000. \$165-220 from [www.ticketflap.com](http://www.ticketflap.com).



#### Zeng Feat. DJ Mykal

Head to Macau's Club Cubic for the Zeng party feat. Taiwanese DJ Mykal, aka Lin Che-yi. In 2007, he dropped an album featuring remixed tracks by the likes of the Killers, U2 and Limp Bizkit. Expect remixed throwback hits and some original tunes too. Jun 25, 11:30pm. Club Cubic, 2/F, Hard Rock Hotel, City of Dreams, Estrada do Istmo, Cotai, (+853) 6638-4999. Free for ladies; \$250 at the door for gents.

### Concerts



#### Blur

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



#### OK Go

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



#### Imagine Dragons

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

## Gigs



### Shazza Music Presents Brewdog Rocks

Longstanding local events organizer Shazza Music is teaming up with Scottish craft beer company BrewDog to bring us this indie gig at Backstage. See folk-funk band Hedonia, electro-pop newcomers Polykeeper, pop-rockers See What You See, plus up-and-coming punk-rock comedy act After-After-Party (pictured). Your ticket includes a bottle of BrewDog beer, so at the very least there's a quality cold one in it for you. Jun 19, 9:30pm. Backstage Live, 1/F, Somptueux Central, 52-54 Wellington St., Central, 2167-8985. \$120 from shazzamusic.com; \$150 at the door.

### Soundtoy

Chinese indie rock band Soundtoy hits Hidden Agenda to launch their new album, "Midas Touch." Jun 20, 8:30pm. Hidden Agenda, Unit 2A, Wing Fu Industrial Building, 15-17 Tai Yip St., Ngau Tau Kok. \$180 from www.ticketflap.com; \$220 at the door.

### XXX Presents Indietronics/Pop/ Experimental

It's a smorgasbord of indie music at this XXX gig. See Beijing-based one-man-band Thruoutin, aka Brad Seippel, break out his heavily sampled electronica; Lantern Festival, a technicolor pop solo project by Jonny Clement Brown; and Deer, a locally based Mexican band playing trip-hop, rock and slow electronic sounds with English and Spanish lyrics. Jun 20, 11pm. XXX Gallery, B/F, 353-363 Des Voeux Rd. West, Sai Ying Pun. Price TBA.



### Teenage Riot

Guitar-swinging, 90s-inspired Teenage Riot started out as a cover band then went on a 10-year hiatus after its second practice session. In 2013, the band made a comeback with all-original tunes. Catch them at the gig at Hang Out, supported by pop five-piece Salad Kowloon and Guangzhou shoegazers Yourboyfriendsucks. Jun 21, 7pm. Hang Out, 1/F, Youth Outreach Jockey Club, 2 Holy Cross Path, Sai Wan Ho, 2622-2890. \$169 in advance; email harbourrecords@gmail.com.



### Chui Wan

Beijing experimental psychedelic four-piece Chui Wan is doing a China tour, and naturally there's a stop at Hidden Agenda. Catch legendary local alt-rockers The Yours as a supporting act. Jun 21, 9:30pm. Hidden Agenda, Unit 2A, Wing Fu Industrial Building, 15-17 Tai Yip St., Ngau Tau Kok. \$220 at the door.



### Rooftop Cinema By Moët and Chandon

Moët and Chandon winery is putting on a Rooftop Cinema series of French screenings at Azure. On the last one on June 22, stay tuned for "Chefs," the story of a convict whose probation officer finds him a job at a restaurant. There's a pretty good happy hour to go with it too: \$100 gets you four drinks and a dozen canapés. Happy hour from 6:30pm onwards; screening at 7:30pm. Jun 22, 6:30pm. Azure, 29/F, LKF Hotel, 33 Wyndham St., Central, 3518-9688.

### W Hotel Shock Wave: #PoseWheneve Pool Party

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

## Nightlife Events

### The Dapper Club

W Hotel's sexy Woobar joins hands with whisky brand Chivas and luxury watch company Hublot to bring us the Dapper Club, a series of parties taking place over the summer. What's in store? There's an open bar with 12 different kinds of whiskies, plus a showcase of new, shiny watches—but more importantly, there are free-flow cheeses, cold cuts, sweet treats and savory snacks. Who can say no to free-flow snacks? Jun 22, 8:30pm; Jul 17, 8:30pm; Aug 14, 8:30pm. Woobar, W Hotel, 1 Austin Rd. West, West Kowloon, 3717-2222. \$300 per person; call to book.



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### Bunk Puppets (Australia)

# SHAMP JUICE!



Photo: Andrew Wuttke, Matt Murphy

### Sai Wan Ho Civic Centre Theatre

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### North District Town Hall Auditorium

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19.7 | 2:30pm & 5pm

\$120, \$160

### The Quatuor Beat (France)

2012 Public Award,  
Young Audiences  
Music Awards (YAMA), Brussels  
Special Jury Award,  
Berlin Junge Ohren



### Hong Kong City Hall Concert Hall

1.8 | 7:30pm

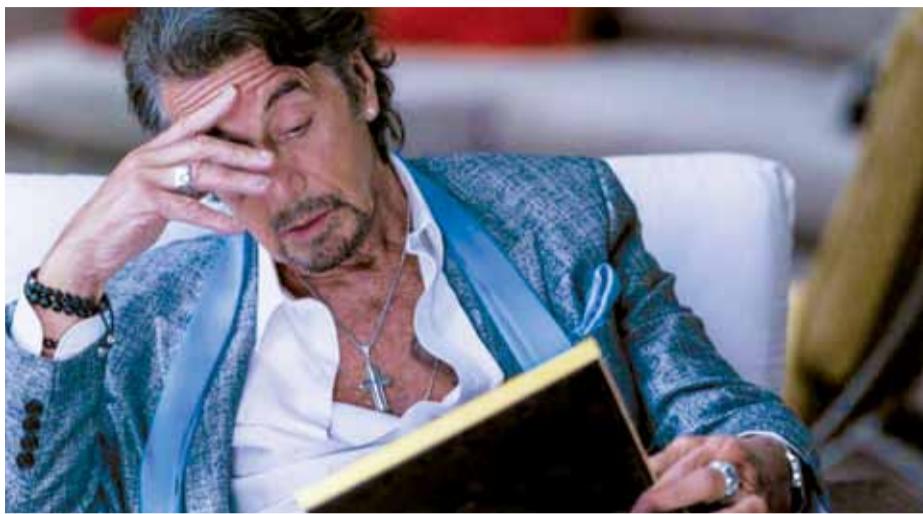
\$140 - \$260

### Sha Tin Town Hall Auditorium

2.8 | 7:30pm

\$120 - \$240

Photo: Ugo Ponte, Emmanuelle Vial



## Danny Collins ★★★★

(USA) Drama/Comedy. Directed by Dan Fogelman. Starring Al Pacino, Annette Bening, Bobby Cannavale, Jennifer Garner. Category IIB. 107 minutes. Opened Jun 4.

It is the 70s, and precocious folk musician Danny Collins is terrified to be on the cusp of fame and fortune. But jump forward 30-odd years, and he has become a world-weary one-hit wonder who sells out campy stadium concerts filled with grey-haired groupies. On his birthday his manager presents him with a long-lost letter from John Lennon himself, which tells him to "stay true to yourself," and advises him not to get swept away by fame. It sets Danny wondering: What if he'd received those very words when he needed them the most? What would he have changed? The letter ignites a spark in Danny to start writing his own music again after decades of selling out. He decides to hole up with his Steinway at a highway-side Hilton in New Jersey to finally pen an original tune—making new friends as he reevaluates his past.

Yes, "Danny Collins" is no groundbreaking story, but it's also not your average midlife crisis redemption tale either. While the plot is largely predictable, it's the charming performances all round that manage to capture and lift the story into something surprisingly lovely.

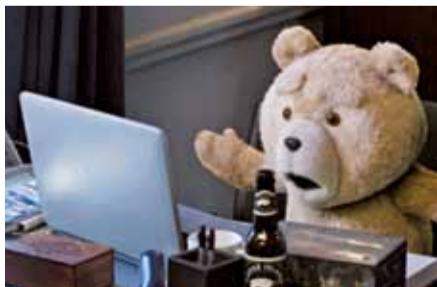
As the opening titles claim, "Danny Collins" is "Kind of based on a true story, a little bit"—the real-life Lennon letter went to British musician Steve Tilston. But after that, fiction takes over. Al Pacino is an excellent and refreshing version of a washed up old geezer still caught up in his 70s rock star ways. Between parading around in his fake tan, hanging out with bikini-clad young women and helping himself to the stash of drugs kept in his necklace, he's self-deprecating yet good-natured, quite aware of the reality of his superficial world.

He meets Mary (Annette Bening), the hotel manager and a recent divorcee. Their witty repartee never feels scripted, nor is this a forced romantic pairing. While it begins with an onslaught of flirtation against Mary's no-nonsense demeanor, it soon breaks down into an honest, relatable, even aspirational kind of friendship. Thankfully, writer and first-time director Dan Fogelman ("Tangled," "Crazy Stupid Love") holds off on the romance: the level of chemistry between the two is at that precise level of banter needed for the characters, nothing more.

Aside from Danny's road to creative atonement, he also attempts to rekindle his relationship with his estranged son Tom (Bobby Cannavale, who these days plays the rough-edged, blue-collar man with sad eyes to a T). Danny does this by attempting to win over Tom's wife (Jennifer Garner) and young daughter (Giselle Eisenberg, a hyperactive sweetheart you'll instantly root for) with gifts and money. Tom looks on, reluctantly giving in for the sake of his family.

"Danny Collins" is a pretty simple, clichéd storyline, but it's not your mundane tale of redemption. Each character has years of built up habits, vices and fears, and this comes through strongly in the dialogue and performances. These are real characters, not thin caricatures. And just as in real life, the ending is never as perfectly planned as the thought experiment in your head. What would we change if we could go back? Not much about this movie. **Evelyn Lok**

## Coming Soon



### Ted 2

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



### Far from the Madding Crowd

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

### Infinitely Polar Bear

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

### Court

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

## Opening

### Flowers of Taipei: Taiwan New Cinema

(Taiwan) Directed by Chinlin Hsieh, protégé of Taiwanese New Wave leader Hou Hsiao-hsien, "Flowers of Taipei" investigates how Hou and a small group of Taiwanese filmmakers set out to change Asian cinema forever. From Wang Bing to Olivier Assayas to Ai Weiwei, the documentary also asks some of the biggest regional filmmakers about how Taiwan influenced the cinematic landscape. Opened Jun 18.

### The Last Five Years

(USA) Hot off the release of "Pitch Perfect 2," Anna Kendrick stars in this big screen adaptation of the 2001 Broadway musical of the same name. It's about the marriage between Cathy, a struggling actress, and Jamie, an up-and-coming writer. Their individual perspectives are told through song in opposite chronological order, only intersecting at the wedding. It's gotta be good if Kendrick is singing. Opened Jun 18.

### SPL II

(Hong Kong/China) The long-awaited sequel to 2005 triad smash "Sha Po Lang" (or "Kill Zone") which featured winning trio Sammo Hung, Donnie Yen and Simon Yam. Sadly, Yen and Hung don't return in this brand spankin' new story, in which Yam plays a new character, Uncle Wah, a cop supervising an undercover operation to catch Hung (Louis Koo), the leader of a notorious crime ring. Opened Jun 18.

### Twenty

(South Korea) Three Korean heartthrobs (Lee Jun-ho of boyband 2PM, Kang Ha-neul and Kim Woo-bin) star in this romantic comedy/coming-of-age epic as three best bros who make their way through life as they hit the big 2-0. Opened Jun 18.

## Continuing

### HK PICKS



### '71

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

### Danny Collins

(USA) See review, left.

### Force Majeure

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



### Jurassic World

(USA) It's been 22 years since the infamous dino-park opened and it's back again in a long-awaited fourth installment, with Spielberg on the executive producing side. This time, Chris Pratt steals the show as velociraptor trainer Owen Grady, with Bryce Dallas Howard as park operations manager. Pushed to boost visitor attendance, the park concocts a hybrid creature, the Indominus Rex—a blend of all your worst reptilian nightmares. What could possibly go wrong? It's up to Grady and the team to outsmart the beast before they become a delectable dino-dish.

### Mad Max: Fury Road

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

### Midnight Diner

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

### Night Flight

(South Korea) A most unconventional bildungsroman comes our way: Three childhood friends find their relationship terribly shaken at the onset of high school. As a covert romance slowly bubbles between two of the boys, the jealousy incited in the other results in violence.

### HK PICKS



### Pitch Perfect 2

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

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### San Andreas

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

### The Search

**(French)** Michel Hazanavicius' "The Artist" French remake of the 1948 Swiss film of the same name was in competition for the Cannes Palme d'Or last year. The bleak drama stars Bérénice Bejo ("The Artist," "The Past") as Carole, an EU delegation head who helps a small boy orphaned during the Second Chechen war.

### Spy

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

### Taxi

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

### Tokyo Fiancée

**(Japan/France)** France and Japan have always had a keen cultural fascination with each other. "Tokyo Fiancée" shows us a whirlwind romance picturing exactly that: a French Japanophile who meets a Japanese Francophile when she moves to Tokyo. Imagine all the cultural quirks of both countries (and their equal fascination with nudity) mashed together, in what makes for a tender, yet at times perplexing, foray into the navel-gazing of a young adult. ★★



### Tomorrowland

**(USA)** Brad Bird is behind this kooky Disney adventure about Frank, a jaded former child genius who meets Casey, a science-loving teen, as they discover a mysterious place in the fabric of space and time dubbed Tomorrowland. It's probably just an excuse to give the Disneyland area a back story, but hey—it worked for "Pirates of the Caribbean," didn't it?



### Tracers

**(USA)** Taylor Lautner makes a comeback from his "Twilight" werewolfing to play a New York bike messenger who's just pissed off the local Chinese mafia. He's rescued by a beautiful girl named Nikki, and inadvertently finds himself in the world of parkour. Upgrade!

## Special Screenings

### CineFan: The Graduate

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

### CineFan: Orson Welles, The Magnificent Magician

Check out a retrospective program of legendary film, theater and radio wizard Orson Welles, with all his greatest classics on show. Don't miss "The Lady from Shanghai" (Jul 12, 6:45pm), his iconic noir murder mystery; "The Trial" (Jul 19, 5pm), Welles' take on the Kafka novel that divided critics; and, of course, "Citizen Kane" (Jul 5, 5:30pm), his cinematic debut and the movie perennially considered to be one the best films of all time. Want to know more about the auteur? Catch a free screening of Chuck Workman's 2014 biography of the man, "Magician: The Astonishing Life and Work of Orson Welles" (Jun 20, 2:30pm). Through Jul 19. Agnès B. Cinema, Hong Kong Arts Centre; The Grand Cinema. \$65.

## Film Festival



### UNHCR Refugee Film Festival

Hosted by the UN's Refugee Agency, the 8th Refugee Film Festival returns this year with seven movies: all documenting refugee stories from across the globe. Protagonists range from victims of the Sudanese Civil War, families exiled from the Himalayan Kingdom of Bhutan, two Syrian sisters making a life-threatening journey to seek asylum in Turkey, and more. Jun 19-25. Broadway Cinematheque, Prosperous Garden, 3 Public Square St., Yau Ma Tei. \$80.

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# FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

## ROB BREZSNY



**GEMINI (May 21-Jun 20):** Before E. Annie Proulx became a Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist, she wrote a series of how-to books, including a dairy foods cookbook and an instructional text on making your own hard cider. But the manual of hers that I especially want to call your attention to right now is "Plan and Make Your Own Fences & Gates, Walkways, Walls & Drives." It might be inspirational for you to read it. You're in a phase when it makes perfect sense to create new paths for yourself to travel on. This will allow you to forgo at least some of the paths that others have built and that can't actually take you where you need to go.

**CANCER (Jun 21-Jul 22):** I'm getting itchy to see you blow your own cover. I would love you to come all the way out of your hiding place, even if just for a while, and see what happens if you make full disclosures and brave displays. My hope is that you will close the gap between the real you and the images that people have of you. Does that sound interesting? Or have you become so fond of being a big riddle that you can't imagine any other way to be? Maybe I can tempt you to be more self-revelatory if I add this: Taking your disguises off even briefly will enable you to discover intriguing secrets about yourself. And then once you put your disguises back on, you will seem more mysterious than ever.

**LEO (Jul 23-Aug 22):** A new cycle will begin for you after your birthday. Between now and then you will be wrapping up the current cycle. I invite you to do so with a flourish. Don't just wait around passively for the themes of the last 11 months to fade away or go to sleep. Instead, set an intention to bring them to a climactic close. Schedule a splashy graduation or a grand finale. Plan a cathartic party or a celebratory rite of passage. Take a playful leap of faith or try that magic trick you've been saving for the perfect moment. Or all of the above!

**VIRGO (Aug 23-Sep 22):** "I'm tired of all this nonsense about beauty being only skin deep," said author Jean Kerr. "That's deep enough. What do you want, an adorable pancreas?" In accordance with the current astrological omens, Virgo, you should feel free to play around with that impish idea. Just for now, appreciate and enjoy the surfaces of things. Make decisions based on first impressions and instant analyses. Give your attention and energy to what looks appealing to you, and don't think too hard about stuff that presents a boring appearance.

**LIBRA (Sep 23-Oct 22):** Now is a favorable time to wish upon a star. In other words, you can enhance the likelihood that your wish will come true if you choose this phase of your cycle to enlist the assistance of a higher power. It's your duty to make sure, however, that you wish upon the right star. Pick a higher power that can truly help you with your wish, not necessarily one that has worked for other people's wishes. Here's another crucial detail: Be precise in formulating your wish. No foggy thinking or sloppy language allowed!

**HOMEWORK:** Test this hypothesis: By giving up a useless "valuable" you don't really need, you'll ensure the arrival of a real valuable that you do need.

**SCORPIO (Oct 23-Nov 21):** If you are fully committed to being both honest and kind, you will have more power to heal other people than you've had in a long time. You will have a resemblance to a magic potion or a wonder drug. Here's a caveat, however: The therapeutic influence you have to offer might be scary to those who aren't ready to be cured. The solutions you propose could be disruptive to anyone who is addicted to his or her problems. That's why I advise you to be discerning about how you share yourself. P.S. The medicine you are generating is not too potent for your own use. It's exactly what you need to transform limitation into liberation.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22-Dec 21):** Each of us has at least one pesky ghost or nagging demon that occupies a dark corner of our psyches. It may have been there for years, or we might have picked it up more recently during a phase of temporary insanity. In any case, most of us can benefit from conducting a periodic banishing ritual. Now would be prime time for you to do just that. Ready? With your imagination, draw a clockwise circle of your favorite-colored light on the floor or ground. Next, identify an image that makes you feel happy and safe, and visualize four versions of it at the four cardinal points, hovering three feet above your circle. Then say this: "I dissolve any hex and banish any pest that has been draining my energy. I purge any wasteful emotions, unsound ideas, and trivial desires that I may have grown attached to." To put the seal on your magic, laugh for two minutes.

**CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 19):** By my estimation, 97 percent of the population is chronically starving for the pleasure of being listened to with deep empathy and focused intelligence. Very few of us enjoy the prolonged and undivided attention of a receptive ally on a regular basis. It's rare to be in the presence of a person whose sole agenda is to be innocently curious about you. Your assignment, Capricorn, is to go on a quest to remedy this shortfall. Figure out how you can get the skillful listening you're missing. (P.S. One way to prime the magic is to offer yourself up as a skillful listener to others.)

**AQUARIUS (Jan 20-Feb 18):** At this year's Grammy Awards ceremony, British singer Sam Smith won in four categories. His tune "Stay with Me" was named Song of the Year. In one of his acceptance speeches, Smith expressed

appreciation for the difficult muse who inspired the song. "I want to thank the man who this record is about, who I fell in love with last year," he said. "Thank you so much for breaking my heart, because you got me four Grammys." I invite you to come up with a comparable expression of gratitude, Aquarius. What experience that seemed like tough luck at the time has actually turned out to be a blessing? Now would be a perfect time to acknowledge and relish and make full use of the unexpected grace.

**PISCES (Feb 19-Mar 20):** The Bay of Fundy is a branch of the Atlantic Ocean between the Canadian provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. It's renowned for its tidal range. When high tide comes, the water may be as much as 53 feet higher than what it is at low tide. The shift back and forth happens twice a day. I'm wondering if in the coming weeks your emotional ebb and flow will have a similar variability. According to my reading of the astrological omens, you could experience both very high highs and very deep depths. Please note that when I say "depths," I don't mean sadness or despair. Rather, I'm talking about a profound ability to feel your way into the heart of things.

**ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 19):** Would you like to stop pushing and struggling for a while? Is there a clenched attitude you would love to let go of? Do you wish you could take a break from having to give so much and try so hard and be so strong? Then do it! Now would be a good time to take a sabbatical from any situation that feels too demanding or frustrating. You wouldn't incur the wrath of the gods or the twists of karma if you sneaked away to indulge in some recreational frivolity. For the foreseeable future, "relax" and "surrender" are your words of power.

**TAURUS (Apr 20-May 20):** Theologian Karl Barth speculated that when the angels get together to praise and honor God with music, they perform the compositions of Bach. But when they are playing for each other, they are more likely to choose Mozart. I guess that's because Mozart's stuff is loose and free and inventive compared to Bach, who's formal and sober and systematic. Mozart is more for parties, while Bach is for serious occasions. I'm seeing the coming days as a time when you, like the angels, should be especially willing to express yourself in very different ways, depending on the audience.

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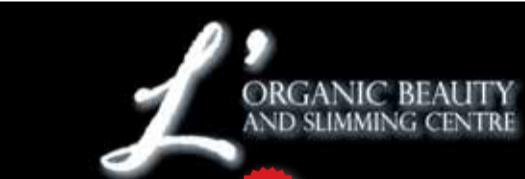
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## SAVAGE LOVE

Dan Savage

My boyfriend and I both spent a lot of time masturbating when we were young, and pretty much trained our brains to come only one way. He can only come from masturbating furiously, or sometimes from a marathon of jackhammer sex. A few years before I met him, I toned down the masturbating to retrain my brain and pussy and tried a bunch of new things, and I can now come from different acts and positions. It wasn't easy, but I am so happy with this versatility. I'm starting to get annoyed that he isn't working harder to overcome this jackhammering reliance. It hurts, it's super boring, and it makes me feel like I might as well be an inflatable doll. We've talked about it, and he says he'll masturbate less, and that does help (read: Now it's a half hour of jackhammering instead of hours), but I'm still eager for more variety—and to be able to walk after sex and ride a bike the next day. For what it's worth, about half the time he just lets me come buckets and then gives up on himself. Can you recommend anything that would help him? Since I know firsthand this can be overcome and I accommodate him as much as possible, I think I'm being reasonable, but I'm sure you'll tell me if I'm not.

— Hoping A Massive Masturbator Eventually Retrains Exacting Dick

Here's how you retrain his dick: Your boyfriend stops doing what he's always done—no more masturbating or fucking in the style to which his dick has become accustomed—but he keeps on having sex and he keeps on masturbating. But he is not allowed to revert to jackhammering away at your pussy or his fist if he doesn't get off. If he doesn't come, he doesn't come. Eventually his dick, in desperation, will adjust to newer, subtler sensations, and he'll be able to get off without jackhammering.

Or not.

Some guys can retrain their dicks—and some women can retrain their pussies—but some people have carved too deep a groove into themselves and their junk. Other people really do require intense stimulation—jackhammers and death grips and powerful vibrators—to get off, and they have to figure out how to incorporate that intense stimulation into partnered sex without destroying their partners' orifices. But the only way to find out if your boyfriend's dick can be retrained is to try and retrain it. The fact that masturbating less cut his jackhammering down from hours to half an hour is a positive sign.

Oh god, Dan! Help! How do I get over my jealousy over my bisexual boyfriend, who now wants to act on his urges for women? We've been together and had a happy gay life for 15 years, open with men for only three of those years. He has integrity, and he says he would never cheat on me, but he's getting to the point where he is gonna hook up with women, whether I am okay with it or not. There's more to it, though. He is perfect in every facet of his life. A perfect person and a gift to the world, so any woman would be crazy not to want him for herself. We are deeply in love, but I'm afraid of a woman's ultimate intention for a guy like my partner.

— Jealousy Annoys Gay Guy

Gay and bi men are just as interested in having partners who are perfect in every facet of life, JAGG, and yet you trust your boyfriend to fuck other guys and come home to you. You'll just have to trust your gift-to-the-world boyfriend to do the same with women: fuck a woman now and then but come home to you after. The "ultimate intention" of whatever woman your

boyfriend fucks should concern you less than your boyfriend's ultimate intention. Does he ultimately intend to stay with you? Or would he ultimately prefer to be with someone else? If he wants to stay with you—and he's likelier to wanna stay if being with you doesn't mean he never gets to have sex with a woman ever again—then you'll have to trust that your same-sex relationship is strong enough to withstand a little opposite-sex hooking up.

I'm a 25-year-old heterosexual female, and I've been in a long-term friends-with-benefits relationship for a little more than four years. My FWB partner and I have recently decided to move from being FWB to actually dating. The issue is that we've both become so accustomed to the late-night sexting-and-hookup routine that going on dates seems awkward and forced. It doesn't help that neither of us has been in a relationship before, so we both feel a little in the dark on how to navigate this. I really do like the guy (and our sex life is amazing), but I'm not sure how to move past the in-between phase we've found ourselves in. Have we been in FWB-land too long to come back?  
— Lost In Datingland

Dating is what people do before entering into a relationship—or it's what most people used to do—and you two are already in a relationship. It was a FWB relationship, yes, but it was still a relationship. And people in relationships don't typically go out on dates. So, yeah, the reason going out on a date with your boyfriend feels awkward is because you're not dating, LID, not at this stage. You're *together*. So be together: Go places, do things, have dinner, see friends, go home, sex amazingly. Spend more time together, build on what you've already established, (i.e., the emotional and sexual connection that carried you through the last four years), and stop stressing about performing the roles of "boyfriend" and "girlfriend."

Recently, while masturbating, as I was approaching climax, I had a sharp pain in my abdomen. It felt like my intestine wanted to burst through my abdomen, kind of like a hernia. It really sucked and it ruined my orgasm. This has happened a handful of times in the past. I mentioned it to my doctor once, and I tested negative for a hernia. I'm a 52-year-old male in reasonably good shape; I've been going to the gym on the reg for the past few months. This sucks in that when my wife and I play, part of it involves my wife putting me in four-point restraint, masturbating me, then tickling me post-orgasm. It would really suck for this to happen while tied up and has me concerned about our sex play. Advice, an explanation, or a good theory would be welcome.

— Gut Ruins Orgasms, Addling Nerves

I would advise you to speak to your doctor, GROAN, but I don't think you should worry about this too much. And I would theorize that you tense a particular muscle or set of muscles when you masturbate and every once in a great while this muscle group revolts and spasms painfully; your return to gym-going may have contributed to your most recent spasm.

So long as your doctor gives you the all clear, GROAN, I don't think you should stop going to the gym—or masturbating or letting your wife tie you to the bed. Risking the occasional spasm, however painful, seems a reasonable price to pay for regular orgasms and adventurous sex.

On the Lovecast, the hype around the "female Viagra"? Don't believe it: [savagecast.com](http://savagecast.com).

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

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# FIRST PERSON

"I don't want to please everyone. I want to do something interesting."



**I was raised** in Hong Kong. I grew up living with my grandfather, who is a foodie from Chiu Chow province. Most of the meals cooked at home were a mix of Cantonese and traditional Chiu Chow cuisine.

**I would always** hear stories about how dishes were made and the differences in the variety of vegetables.

**I went to** boarding school in the US. I wasn't used to the food—all of a sudden I was having salads instead of cooked vegetables. That was a cultural shock. I didn't learn to cook until then.

**When I was** studying in New York, food TV shows had just become popular—I would watch hours of shows on the Food Network. I would often attempt these recipes.

**As a** graphic communications graduate, I spent several years learning how visual cues like color or texture can be used to trigger a memory or spark the imagination.

**Before I set up Tate**, I was doing freelance graphic design. I had some experience in running a business.

**It took about** half a year from the inception of Tate until it was up and running.

**At the beginning**, I wasn't used to reading reviews. I would get quite upset.

**I'm past that** now. Even McDonald's, which everyone loves—people criticize it.

**I don't want** to please everyone. I want to do something interesting. I understand fully that some people won't like it. I'm fine with that.

**Women have made** great strides as cooks, but there are few working in professional kitchens.

**This could be** due to the fact that chefs aren't valued for their craft, or it could be because women are discouraged from pursuing this career because of the physical conditions of working in a professional kitchen.

**People think that** cooking is physically more challenging for females, but you learn to adapt. Instead of carrying a huge pot of stock, I'll divide it into smaller portions to reduce the load. You're always finding shortcuts to make it easier.

**Regardless of gender**, the dining industry is tough for anyone.

**Aside from the** pressure, you're always striving for precision and consistency. This leads to long hours and sacrificing your personal life.

**I can't think** of any factor that would make this harder for women—other than the fact that being in charge tends to scare some boys away.

**Over the last** few years, though, I've seen an increasing number of female chefs

**Vicky Lau** is the founder and chef behind Tate Dining Room and Bar. She has been named Veuve Clicquot Asia's Best Female Chef 2015, an award under the prestigious Asia's 50 Best Restaurants program. She tells Andrea Lo about growing up with traditional foods, working in a male-dominated field and gives her views on celebrity chefs.

working in traditional Chinese kitchens. At Tate, we have a female-to-male ratio of 3:1. Female chefs are well regarded in Hong Kong.

**A chef is** the median between where the food is grown and the customer.

**The job of a chef** has been glorified a little bit. Some people walk out like they're rock stars. I don't really agree with that.

**Maybe things have** shifted. Maybe the fashion world has died down and food has come up to be the more fashionable and innovative industry. That's how I feel the whole idea of the celebrity chef has come about.

**I'm not planning** on opening more restaurants, but I might move to a different location. I need a bigger kitchen!

**Hong Kong is home**, but I'm open-minded. I think it's important for a person to adapt to whatever changes you have in front of you.

**It's hard to say** if I'd be as successful elsewhere. There are so many countries. If you threw me into Fiji it might be a little harder.

**My favorite thing** about Hong Kong? I like that it is a culture that has a lot of traditions, but it also has the "new" mentality.

**People are practical** in Hong Kong. They tend to forget to do the things that they

really like. Not to blame the people of Hong Kong—it's a society-wide thing.

**I wish** I had gone to more countries to learn about different foods. I'm trying to do that now, but I don't have as much time.

**One of my** dream jobs has always been to be a photojournalist. I really like James Nachtwey. I watched a documentary on him and I'm very moved by how he documents war zones and different situations.

**The power of** uniting a lot of people is an important lesson to learn in the F&B business.

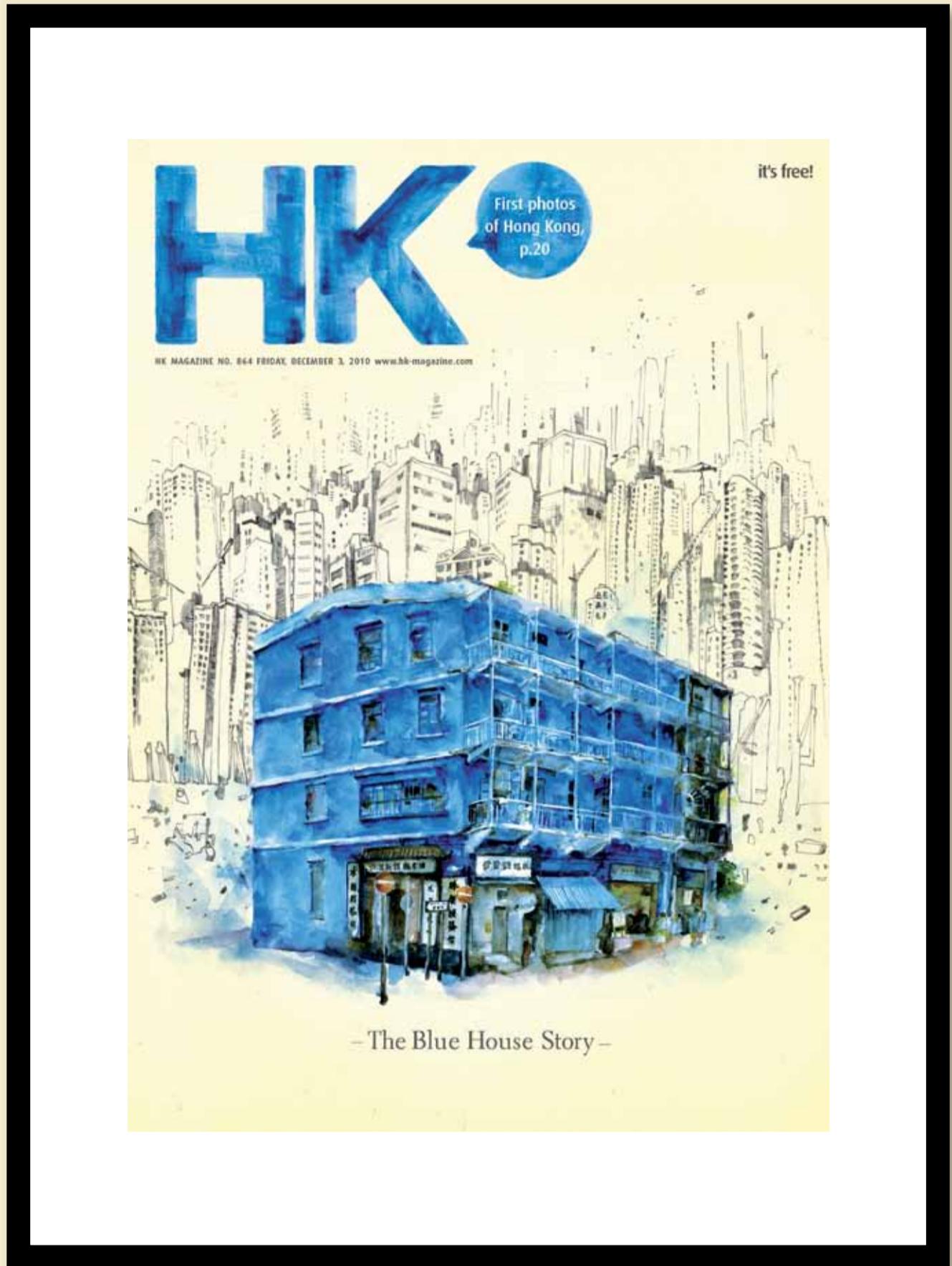
**You can actually** achieve a lot more if you hire people who are smarter than you.

**Some people linger** around the past and worry about the future too much. But for me it's about the present.

## NEED TO KNOW...

After starting out as a graphic designer, Vicky Lau underwent a stint at Bangkok's Le Cordon Bleu culinary institute. Following a spell cooking at Cépage in Wan Chai, she went on to open Tate Dining Room in 2012, gaining acclaim for her themed "Edible Stories" tasting menus.

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