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HK MAGAZINE NO. 1100 FRIDAY, JUNE 12, 2015 www.hk-magazine.com



# A RED HOT HONG KONG SUMMER

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## Hong Kong Morality Tales

We're in a lyrical mood this week, so we present some morality tales for uniquely Hong Kong situations.

There was a lonely mainland youth  
(Abandoned by his folks, in truth)  
Who came to Hong Kong with his granny  
Was hid in every nook and cranny  
Until a politician got her way  
and brought him to the light one day.  
And then, it seems, the whole damn nation  
Piled on with their vituperation:  
"Go back to Shenzhen whence you came!  
You mainland scum, you are to blame!"  
And so, with consciences intact  
They went back to their tiny flats.

**The Moral:** A child abandoned to perdition  
Is nothing more than ammunition.

A Canadian with some Hong Kong ties  
Scaled Kinabalu close to sunrise  
At the top he dropped his gear  
To show the world his unclad rear!  
Authorities, they took exception  
To this Facebooked indiscretion.  
They said: "The spirits of the land are shocked!"  
And blamed an earthquake on his cock.

**The Moral:** If you are seismically blessed  
Then make the earth move... but in bed.

The Chinese FA's promo fliers  
For the World Cup qualifiers  
While well intended, on the whole  
May have shot just wide of the goal.  
They say the team, it has no equal  
With "Black skin, yellow skin and white skin people."  
Diversity's an equalizer:  
But wording choices should be wiser.  
Some comfort floats right through the ether:  
At least it isn't bloody FIFA.

**The Moral:** In most things, on a general basis  
Just ask a friend: "Wait, is this racist?"

The use of English is declining  
In governmental texts, we're finding  
Officially, we're all bilingual  
But often there's a language single.  
You may fear that politicians  
Are gaining tongue-tied inhibitions  
Just to prove to Beijing masters  
That British rule's put out to pasture.  
But here is what you have forgot:  
Politicians, they are polyglots!  
They speak fluently in every nation:  
Their native tongue is obfuscation.

**The Moral:** A little Hong Kong English primer  
To assist language decliners.  
Learn two short words and you'll go far:  
All you need is "OK, laaaaa..."

## Who's in charge?

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Don't get your body bikini-ready, just get a bikini



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Hong Kong's best boozy brunches.  
\*Hic\*



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## FIRST PERSON

Talking sensitivity and lifeguarding with Pakho Chau



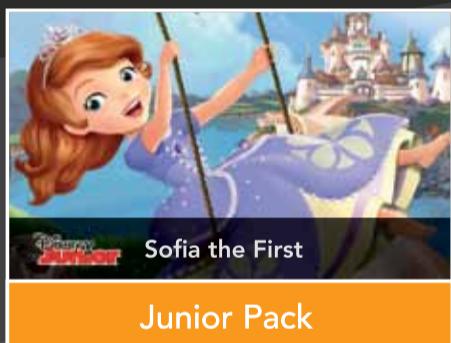
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# MAILBAG

## 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.

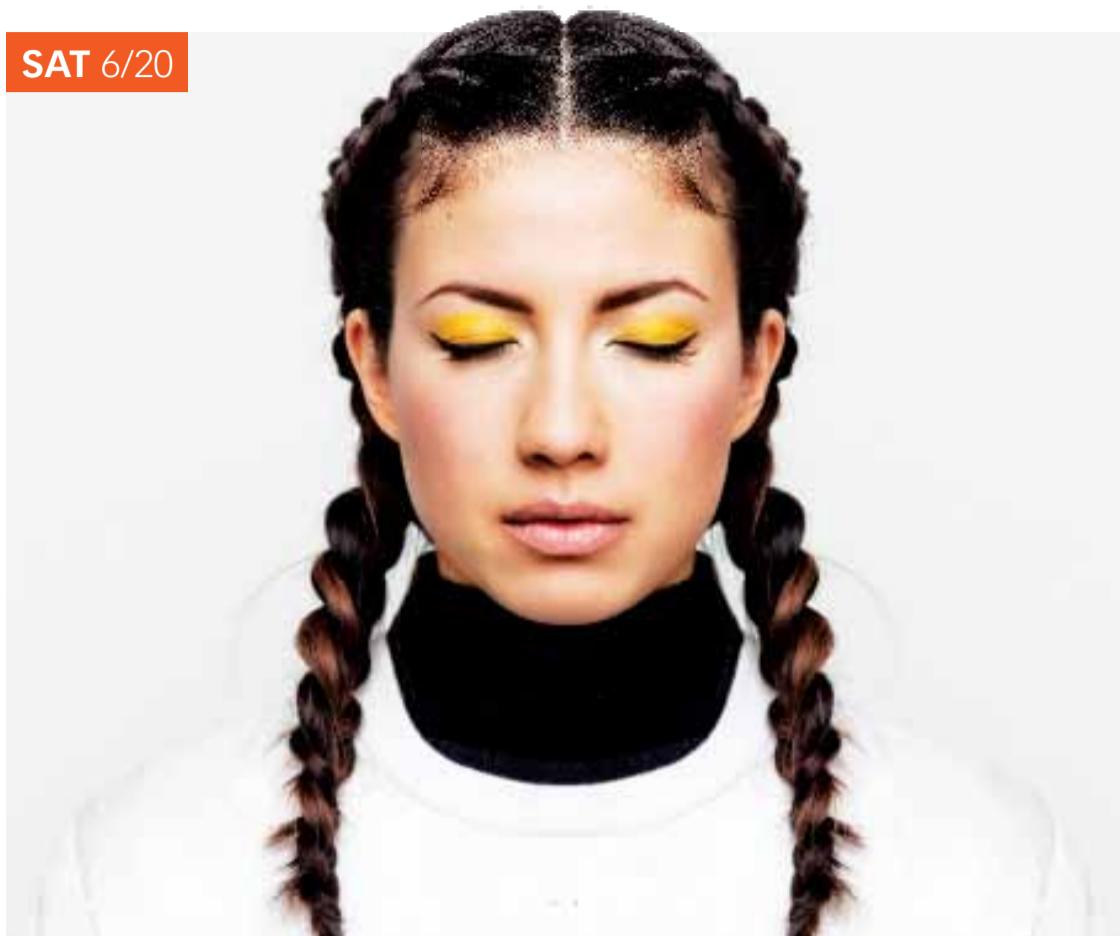
### Write in and Win!

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.



# THE WEEK

SAT 6/20



SUN 6/14



SAT 6/13



Catch the Deer Tracks at Backstage Live

Friday 6/12

## Indie Extravaganza

After a six-month break, indie gig space Musician Area is making a comeback with the **June June June Music Party**. The gig features a lineup of up-and-comers like rock band Alphabetical, gothic metalheads Amnesia and melodic rock five-piece Peri M. **8-11pm. Room C, 8/F, Morlite Building, 40 Hung To Rd., Kwun Tong. \$100 at the door.**

Saturday 6/13

## Swede Escape

Check out **Swedish Showcase** at Backstage Live, featuring folk-pop three-piece Twiggy Frostbite, electronic duo The Deer Tracks and singer-songwriter Adora Eye. **8:30pm. 1/F, Sompotueux Central, 52-54 Wellington St., Central, 2167-8985. \$220 from [www.wegottickets.com](#); \$240 at the door.**

Sunday 6/14

## In the Moment

Head to **Mart in the Moment**, a new market on the rooftop of an industrial building in the middle of Kwun Tong. Shop for locally made items like crafts and accessories, organic soaps and cookies. A veritably wholesome way to spend your Sunday. **Jun 13-14, 1-7pm. Rooftop, 3/F, New East Sun Industrial Building, 18 Shing Yip St., Kwun Tong.**

Monday 6/15

## Make a Case

Hipster favorite **Kapok** is teaming up with custom phone case brand Casetify for a pop-up featuring a selection of Hong Kong photos from Instagram (where else?). Plus, there's a customizing service for your Apple Watch bands... assuming you're all early adopters.

**Through Jun 30, 11am-8pm. Shop HG10, G/F, PMQ, 35 Aberdeen St., Central. Free entry.**

Tuesday 6/16

## Art of Italy

As part of the Made in Italy Festival, **Ol x Art Cocktail** is a shindig showcasing a selection of works by Italian artists displayed at Gaia Ristorante. Besides checking out the art, you'll also get to try out the Italian dishes on offer. Win-win! **7-9pm. G/F, Grand Millennium Plaza, 18 Queen's Rd. Central, Sheung Wan. \$320 from [www.eventbrite.hk](#).**

Wednesday 6/17

## Golly Molly

Head to Fringe Club for "**R.A.W.**," a musical put on by local musicians and actors that delves into topics surrounding society and morality. Who knows, you might just learn something. **Jun 17-20, 8:30-10pm. 2 Lower Albert Rd., Central. \$240 at the door, including a drink.**

Thursday 6/18

## Wine Not?

Aussie winery **Redheads Studio** is putting on a wine dinner at the Steak House at Intercon. It's a mouthwatering five-course feast, with the likes of slow-cooked Iberico pork belly paired with a 2014 shiraz. Hard to argue with food and wine. **6:30pm. LG/F, InterContinental, 18 Salisbury Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, 2721-1211. \$1,388 per person; email [marketing@bacchusfinewines.asia](#).**



Friday 6/19

## It's Bed Time

It's not a Friday night unless a club puts on something with a suggestive name. Head to Play for **In Bed With Play**, where the theme is "suits and sleepwear." No, sorry, beds not included. **10pm-5am. 1/F, On Hing Building, 1 On Hing Terrace, Central. \$200 at the door for ladies and \$300 for gents.**

Saturday 6/20

## Great Expectations

Hong Kong-bred, London-based indie folk singer **Emmy the Great** ventures back to her hometown once again for a gig. This time, she's singing at the indie label Love Da Records' venue in San Po Kong. Don't miss the show... it's gonna be Great. **8pm. Unit A, 14/F, Chiap King Industrial Building, 114 King Fuk St., San Po Kong. \$180 at the door.**

Photo: Dickson Lee/SCMP



## COMING UP Boatloads of Fun

Tuen Ng Festival is almost here—which means tons of muscular men lots of merriment at **Dragon Boat Carnivals**

around town. See the dragon boat races at various locations, including Victoria Harbour, the Tsim Sha Tsui East waterfront and Stanley. Only in it to socialize? Head to Beerfest, which coincides with the festival every year, for a spot of day-drinking.

**July 3-5. Beerfest, UC Centenary Garden, Tsim Sha Tsui East. Free.**

# CHEERS TO THE BEST OF BRITISH

**British ale, cider, crisps and nuts from M&S  
offers a delicious start to the summer**

**B**ritish ales are regarded as some of the finest examples of beer making in the world. Made for hundreds of years around the British Isles, ale is a natural product brewed using malted barley, hops, yeast and water, although ingredients such as fruit, wheat and spices are often used.

A champion of quality British food and drink, Marks & Spencer has been selling traditional, British ales for years. Many have been recognized in competitions such as the prestigious International Beer Challenge 2014, where Staffordshire IPA took a Bronze, Bottle Conditioned Sussex Golden Ale, Norfolk Bitter and Cornish IPA all achieved Silver place, and Cambridgeshire Golden Ale won a Gold.

With a range brewed exclusively for M&S at breweries around the UK, a 'buy two get one free' offer means you now have the chance to sample a wider choice of these exclusive British ales:



**Somerset Traditional Cider 500ml/\$32**  
Smooth, with a lightly spicy undertone and a fruity, floral bouquet.

**Bottle Conditioned**

**Cornish IPA 500ml/\$38**

A pale gold, refreshingly beer with citrus aromas and a light malt finish, this is a smooth and enticing full-flavored beer.

**Bottle Conditioned**

**Sussex Golden Ale 500ml/\$38**

This is a light golden beer with a distinctive clean citrus aroma.



**Bottle Conditioned**

**Norfolk Bitter 500ml/\$38**

Malty, with a fruity character and a dry finish, it has a lovely balanced hoppy malty character.



**Vintage Pear Cider 500ml/\$36**

This refreshing, dry, fruity cider made with pears from Kent uses 100% high quality pressed pears fermented in traditional oak vats to give a refreshing and delicate pear cider.



**London Porter 500ml/\$36**  
Using seven malts to create a historic recipe from 1750, this has a sweetish, caramel flavor followed by a smoky maltiness.

**Organic Scottish Beer with Heather Honey 500ml/\$38**  
This blond style beer is brewed with Highland heather honey to give a refined flavor with a hint of sweetness.

**Cambridgeshire Golden Ale 500ml/\$36**  
A sublime bitter finish with a subtle bitterness that lingers beautifully.

**Staffordshire IPA 500ml/\$32**  
A natural preservative made this beer ideal to be shipped on the long journey to colonial India, which is how it got the name India Pale Ale. Selected blend of hops give this ale bitterness but lovely citrus notes.



M&S also has the following craft beer available in late June:

**British Clipper IPA 300ml/\$28**, a rich, complex beer with all the earthy, peppery notes of a classic IPA.

**Island Hopper Pale Ale 300ml/\$28**, a refreshing beer made with two specially selected hops.

**Battersea Rye 300ml/\$28**, a bold, spicy beer with a lovely coppery brown color and a subtle rich fruit aroma.

As well as delicious drinks, M&S is introducing a new range of crisps and nuts. These include:

**Crisps 150g/\$45**

Pork, Sage & Scrumpy Cider Hand Cooked Crisps

Free Range Chicken Mustard & Worcester Sauce Hand Cooked Crisps

Scottish Langoustines with Dill & Lemon Hand Cooked Crisps

Salt Marsh Lamb & Mint Hand Cooked Crisps

**Nuts 200/220g/\$58**

Scottish Heather Honey & Mustard Roasted Cashews

St Clements Cashews & Almonds

West Country Cheddar, Chive & Caramelised Onion Jumbo Peanuts & Cashews



# NEWS

## Last Week In Reality

Sat 30

**Curious Cat** A cat gets trapped between a wall and a column of pipes in an alleyway in Sheung Wan. It yowls loudly, and a security guard calls the police. Staff from the SPCA arrive and attempt to pull it out, but the cat resists. It traps itself deeper between the pipes but a handler manages to rescue it. The cat is sent to be checked at the SPCA and a spokesperson says it will be released.



Sun 31

**Road Rager** A 41-year-old man making his way towards Sha Tin drives over a toll booth divider, hits the curb and flips his car. He was driving home after two sleepless nights at work, followed by a party. During the party, he had two glasses of champagne, but police confirm his blood alcohol content was still under the legal limit. He is taken to the hospital for light injuries to his arms and waist.



Tue 2

**Dangerous Digits** A 47-year-old man is chatting with his friend on a Wan Chai street when he is approached by a stranger who asks to borrow his phone. He lends the phone, and after three minutes, asks the man to hurry up. The stranger berates the phone owner and runs off with the device. Ten minutes later, he returns with four friends and physically assaults the owner of the phone. The group disappears by the time the police arrive, and the victim is taken to the hospital. As of press time, the perpetrators are still at large.

Wed 3

**House Slitherin** At around 6:30am a 57-year-old security guard in a Tseung Kwan O residential estate hears a rustle in the flower beds. He pokes them and discovers a meter-long green snake moving through the sunny patches of the garden. Worried that the snake could be poisonous, the guard calls the police, but the snake is gone by the time they arrive. The bright green bamboo snake is the SAR's most common venomous snake.



Thu 4

**Long Way Out** An Apple Daily reader complains about an incident that occurred on the 30X bus following a serious car crash earlier in the week. After getting on the bus at HKU bound for Queen Mary Hospital, the bus driver loses her way and heads to a dead-end road inside a residential estate. The passenger asks to be dropped off so she can take a taxi, but the driver says she must wait until the terminus to alight. After 20 minutes of confrontation between driver and passenger, security guards at the estate ask the bus to leave and the passenger is eventually allowed to disembark.

Fri 5

**Cow Tow** Motorists in Sha Tau Kok see two calves lying on the ground at 1am and notify the police. The two calves are suspected to have been hit, leaving one dead and the other severely injured. An SPCA staff member inspects the injured calf and deems the injuries too severe, and it is put down. A herd of 20 cattle is seen roaming in the area. Police find a truck mud-guard, which they believe to have been part of the vehicle that hit the cattle.

Illustrations: Ryan Chan

## Talking Points

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



Raymond Chan photo: Sam Tsang/SCMP

## Homophobes Hit the MTR

A video documenting **two women on the MTR shouting homophobic slurs and curses at Legco member Raymond "Slow Beat" Chan** went viral last week on YouTube ([tiny.cc/hk-slowbeat](http://tiny.cc/hk-slowbeat)). One woman calls him a **beggar** and **says he does not have a penis**. When a bystander asks the women to stop swearing because there are children on the train, they yell and curse at her as well. **Chan is considering lodging a complaint with the Equal Opportunities Commission** and has since spoken out about the incident on the radio. He is Hong Kong's **first openly gay politician**.

**Our take:** The best thing about Hong Kong is how inclusive it is.

## CCTV Found in School Toilets

Parents have discovered **closed-circuit television cameras in the washrooms of 17 kindergartens** run by the Hong Kong Society for the Protection of Children. Placed at the entrance of the washroom, the cameras peer over the sinks. Many **parents disapprove of the cameras, arguing that young children need privacy** and expressing concern about who has access to copies of the videos. The **HKSPC says the cameras are for the children's safety** and that the schools do not keep copies of the tapes.

**Our take:** At what point does it become the Society for the Overprotection of Children?

## Survey Investigates Anti-Immigrant Sentiment

A recent survey conducted by the Hong Kong Institute of Education's Isabella Ng Fung-sheung of over 1,000 new Hong Kong immigrants has found that **many feel discriminated against by local Hongkongers**. The report found that only **10 percent of immigrants think of themselves as Hong Kong people**, and the majority of respondents **believe they will not find success in Hong Kong**. While 50 percent of immigrants actively communicate in Cantonese, Ng suggested that many **do not try to assimilate and interact with locals regularly**, making them an easy target of discrimination. Ng has called on the government **to support the immigrant community** with better education and to set up social and charitable organizations.

**Our take:** Remember what we just said about inclusive Hongkongers?

## Quote of the Week

"Is CY Leung ill? I've never seen someone who is wrong all the time. And after he's wrong, he's wrong again."

Legco member and League of Social Democrats chairman "Long Hair" Leung Kwok-hung takes a jab at the Chief Executive during a Housing Affairs Committee meeting on the Home Ownership Scheme. Long Hair said that those eligible for the scheme did not have the funds to buy houses, and that CY blames everything on the lack of land.

**RTL CBS  
ENTERTAINMENT HD**  
**FIRST AND EXCLUSIVE**  
**NOW TV CH 517**



A promotional photograph of Matt Bomer and Ginnifer Goodwin. Matt Bomer, on the left, has dark hair and a beard, wearing a dark t-shirt. Ginnifer Goodwin, on the right, has long brown hair and is wearing a light-colored zip-up jacket over a dark top. They are standing in a dimly lit, rustic setting with wooden beams.

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THE BEAST &  
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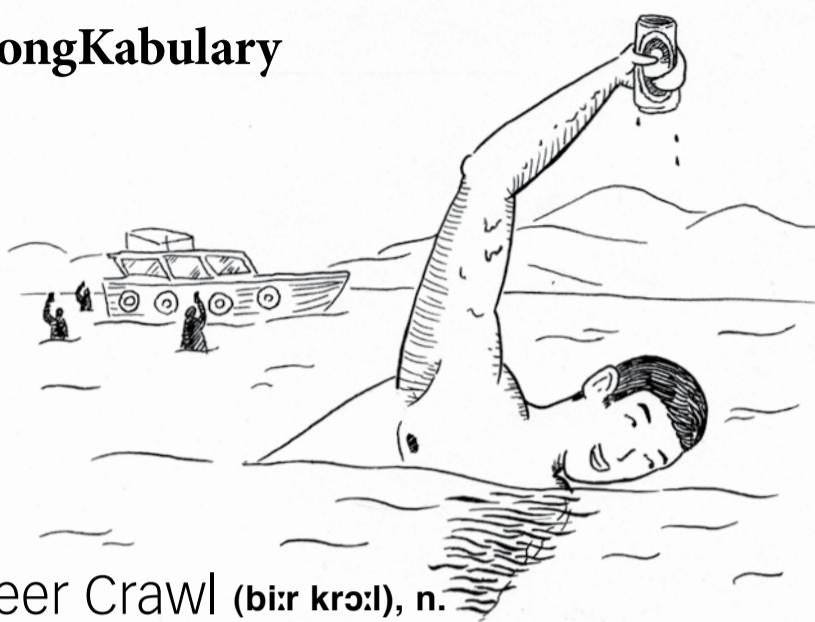
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# UPFRONT

## HongKabulary



### Beer Crawl (*bi:r krɔ:l*), n.

Swimming stroke used on junk trips which keeps your can of beer above head height to prevent seawater incursions.

*"Careful with your Tsingtao! You'll get sea in it."  
"Don't worry, I have an Olympic gold in the 20m beer crawl.  
Or I would have, if I hadn't been drunk."*

Submitted by Mat Gallagher

## Caption This

HONG KONG—Sword fighting students get some hands-on training. (Bruce Yan/SCMP)



Victorious Nut Shot Always Hilarious

Fake-Swords-in-Squash-Court Land Not A Big Hit At Disney

MISGUIDED OTAKU: TRUST ME, CHICKS THINK WE'RE AWESOME

## Fast Facts

### Language Lab

The government has been accused of neglecting the use of English in its official communiqués. How are we improving our English?

- Using the word “communiqué” more.
- Improving spelling and grammar to instantly make you’re reading experience better.
- Taking Beijing’s lead by reinterpreting language to mean just what we want it to mean.
- Using the word “cum” in everything, just like the government.
- 轉用中文。

## Street Talk



At just 26 years old, jockey **Derek Leung** has 160 Hong Kong wins under his belt and is in the running for the Hong Kong Jockey Club's Most Popular Horse and Jockey of the Year. He talks to Adrienne Chum about life in the saddle.

#### HK Magazine: How'd you get interested in jockeying?

**Derek Leung:** When I was 14, my dad took me to Tuen Mun to try riding. I realized I really liked horses. A year later I saw an ad for the Jockey Club and decided to try it out. Hong Kong doesn't have a lot of local jockeys, and I was presented with a rare opportunity. I worked hard and was gradually able to find success. Horse racing can be dangerous, but when my family saw I was serious about the sport, they fully supported me.

#### HK: What was your first race like?

**DL:** It was in New Zealand. I was excited but very nervous because it was my first time. I had been training, but that was nothing like a real race. You don't get so close to that many horses when you practice. I was racing against experienced jockeys. I didn't do well, but I learned a lot from it.

#### HK: What's the hardest thing about being a jockey?

**DL:** Staying light. Every day I weigh myself—a jockey in Hong Kong must stay between 113 and 133 pounds. I'm 113 pounds. Being lighter means I can ride more horses, because some can't carry heavier jockeys. Everybody loses weight differently: I cook my own food and don't take supplements.

#### HK: What do you eat?

**DL:** I eat many small meals throughout the day and try to include more protein and calcium. In the morning I eat eggs, beans, turkey, congee—things that are light but filling. At night my dinners tend to be fish or white meat. I love eating fried food but I can't. Usually I can control my cravings, but once in a while I'll sneak something in.

#### HK: Do you ride the same horse every race?

**DL:** Local jockeys don't ride the same horse every time. Jockeys and horses are trained separately, and we don't see each other when we aren't riding them. This is very different from many other jockeys elsewhere—some come from families with stables and raise their own horses. In fact, pretty much every race [here] is on a different horse. That means that with each race, I have to adjust my riding style to fit the horse's personality. Sometimes I don't have time to get a feel for each horse, so I have to improvise during the race.

#### HK: How is racing in Hong Kong different than other places?

**DL:** Hong Kong is a leader in equestrian racing, but every summer I go to race in other countries to gain more experience and exposure to other styles. I've been to New Zealand, Australia, France, and Singapore. Every course is different, and you don't always get to run through the course before racing. Many are not as predictable as Hong Kong courses.

#### HK: What's coming up for you?

**DL:** It's my first time participating in the Most Popular Horse and Jockey of the Year competition. I'm trying to get more votes by performing better, to give local jockeys more publicity. This summer I will be going to the UK to practice jockeying there. There is no guarantee I will get to race in the UK, but I hope I do well enough that they let me.

**The Jockey Club's Most Popular Horse and Jockey of the Year competition will run online through June 24. Visit [tiny.cc/hk-derek](http://tiny.cc/hk-derek) for more info.**



# Mexican Beef Best for Flavor

Quality comes first when it comes to Mexican Beef; that's why it is one of the world's most sought after food products.

Many people may think first of beer and tequila, but the cattle sector in Mexico is the third largest exporter of agrifood products. And Hong Kong is ranked third on the list of buyers, behind only the United States and Japan.

So why choose Mexican Beef?

The answer is simple. Mexican Beef is always of the highest quality. It's juicy and full of flavor thanks to a careful feeding process which leaves it marbled through with white fat. It is the perfect size, as well: Not as large as typical oversized cuts. Instead Mexican beef is well-proportioned for balanced nutrition and portion control, and much better suited to the Hong Kong market. It is little wonder that Mexican beef is so popular among the city's discerning diners.

Rigorous preparation is at the heart of the product and is the key to its success.

From the outset only the best is good enough. When it comes to feeding a feedlot system is used, based on diets monitored by nutritionists who specialize in animal feeding. The unique Mexican Beef flavor envied around the world is achieved by using specially selected grain, mostly corn, while the experts who carefully supervise the feeding process ensure it has a positive effect on the color, taste, marbling and quality of the final product.

The condition in which the livestock is reared also plays an important part in producing a quality end product. Mexico is proud of its sanitary record of never having suffered a case of BSE, commonly known as Mad Cow or Foot and Mouth Disease.

And to guarantee only the very finest Mexican Beef is available for export, the production process is awarded quality certification. Indeed, veterinarians from each country exported to are invited to endorse Mexican beef quality.

Formed in 2007, the Mexican Beef Exporters Association (more commonly referred to simply as Mexican Beef) is a non-profit organization comprised Mexican companies focused on beef exports and product promotion.

Mexican Beef takes pride in providing full flavored and high-quality beef to the global market at competitive prices, providing the right size cuts of beef and marbling products that modern consumers demand.

In these very environmentally conscious times, Mexican Beef is also resolute in its determination to ensure its beef is produced using the latest in green technology, minimum food wastage and maximum recycling practices.

This environmental awareness runs at the heart of Mexican Beef production and results in an ecologically minded company with compassion for its livestock, a philosophy that is reflected in caring for the cattle, which spend the majority of their lives wandering paddocks. Superior feed and open-air conditions produce a superior product of tasty, juicy and tender beef with an affordable price tag that is readily available here in Hong Kong.

[www.facebook.com/MexicanBeef](http://www.facebook.com/MexicanBeef)

[@MexicanBeef](http://@MexicanBeef)



# RED HOT HONG KONG SUMMER

## JUNE

From summer shopping bazaars to pool parties, June promises to sizzle.

### Ride the Wave

The notorious W Hotel summer pool parties are back. This time, they come in the form of **Shock Wave: #PoseWhenever Pool Party**. Splash around on the 76th-floor pool and gawk at all the half-naked, beautiful people all around you. The after-party at Woobar goes from 11pm until late and you can get your thirsty little mitts on free-flow booze all night if you plump for "WIP" tickets (\$950-1,100).

**Jun 27; Jul 18; Aug 1; Aug 22, 8pm. W Hotel, 1 Austin Rd. West, West Kowloon. \$400 in advance or \$500 at the door, including one drink at pool and one at after-party. Tickets from [www.hkclubbing.com](http://www.hkclubbing.com).**

### Russia Into It

Go anywhere near the world of Russian orchestras and you'll have heard of **Mikhail Pletnev**. The celebrated conductor and pianist returns to Hong Kong with the Russian National Orchestra to conduct Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 5. Go on and get cultured.

**Jun 24, 8pm. Concert Hall, Cultural Centre, 10 Salisbury Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui. \$200-650 from [www.urbtix.hk](http://www.urbtix.hk).**

### Run for the Hills

Classic musical **The Sound of Music** graces the Hong Kong stage. 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, various times. Lyric Theatre, Academy for Performing Arts, 1 Gloucester Rd., Wan Chai, 3759-7617. \$395-995 from [www.hkticketing.com](http://www.hkticketing.com).**

Summer has landed and it's sure to be a scorcher. Make the most of it with 25 sporting, shopping, art and nightlife events to fill your calendar from now through August. By **HK Staff**

淘氣小木馬



### Guetta It Done

Ready your glowsticks, party people: Davy G is hitting up the Hong Kong stage this June. One of the biggest names in the music industry, **David Guetta** has produced numerous singles and remixes, including "Sexy Bitch," "Titanium" and "Turn me On"—selling 6 million albums worldwide. Do: Bring your neon glowsticks. Don't: Talk about how you prefer Tiesto.

**Jun 14, 8pm. Hall 10, AsiaWorld-Expo, Chek Lap Kok.**

\$580-880 from [www.hkticketing.com](http://www.hkticketing.com).

### Jazz it Up

Nothing says Paris like an accordion! Rising star jazz duo **Vincent Peirani** (accordion) and **Emile Parisien** (soprano sax) are in the SAR for a one-night-only show. The program pays tribute to Duke Ellington, Sidney Bechet and Henry Lodge, and the duo will also be playing a few original tunes.

**Jun 16, 8pm. Theatre, City Hall, 5 Edinburgh Place, Central.**

\$180-380 from [www.urbtix.hk](http://www.urbtix.hk).

### Fair Thee Well

The **JCCAC Handicraft Fair** is back again this June, bringing together dozens of artisan stalls in an effort to promote the creative arts in Hong Kong. It's a great way to snap up handmade crafts, sneak a peek into artists' studios and even catch a rooftop movie screening.

**Jun 20-21, 1-7pm. Jockey Club Creative Arts Centre, 30 Pak Tin St., Shek Kip Mei.**

### Woo Woo

Woobar joins hands with whisky brand Chivas and luxury watch company Hublot to bring you the **Dapper Club**, a series of parties running through summer. Go for the showcase of new, shiny watches but stay for the whisky-focused open bar and free-flow cheeses, cold cuts, sweet treats and savory snacks.

**Jun 22; Jul 17; Aug 14, 8:30pm. Woobar, W Hotel, 1 Austin Rd. West, West Kowloon, 3717-2222. \$300 per person.**



## Just Park It

Hong Kong's beloved **Lai Yuen Amusement Park**, which closed down in 1997, makes a comeback for a pop-up carnival event. Back in the day, the amusement park was home to an iconic Lai Yuen Castle, a zoo of exotic animals (including the beloved elephant Tino), swimming pools, fairground rides and Hong Kong's first-ever skating rink. At this summer's carnival, expect some animal appearances, throwback attractions and an ample dose of good old nostalgia.

**Jun 26-early Sep (TBC). Central Harbourfront Event Space, Central, [www.laiyuen1949.com](http://www.laiyuen1949.com). Free admission; game tokens from \$10 each.**



## Mulan Rouge

The Hong Kong Dance Company brings "**The Legend of Mulan**" back to the Hong Kong stage. Originating in the 5th century, the classic folktale is about a courageous peasant girl who disguised herself as a man to go into war in her ailing father's place, invariably befriending a fire-breathing lizard while singing about her reflection. Just kidding: This is based on the real tale, not the Disney deal.

**Jun 12-14, 7:45pm; Jun 13-14, 3pm. Grand Theatre, Cultural Centre, 10 Salisbury Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui. \$100-320 from [www.urbtix.hk](http://www.urbtix.hk).**



## Great Opera-tunity

The annual **Chinese Opera Festival** will be celebrating the traditional craft of Peking and Kunqu opera forms: it opens with a staging of three plays to introduce the lesser-known art form of Shanghai-style Peking Opera, which requires more demanding acting and rhythm. Other shows to look forward to include an introduction to Hunan-style Qi opera, known for its acrobatic feats, and Dacheng opera stories, characterized by bouts of fire eating and spitting!

**Jun 19-Aug 2. Grand Theatre, Cultural Centre, 10 Salisbury Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui. \$120-420 from [www.cof.gov.hk](http://www.cof.gov.hk).**

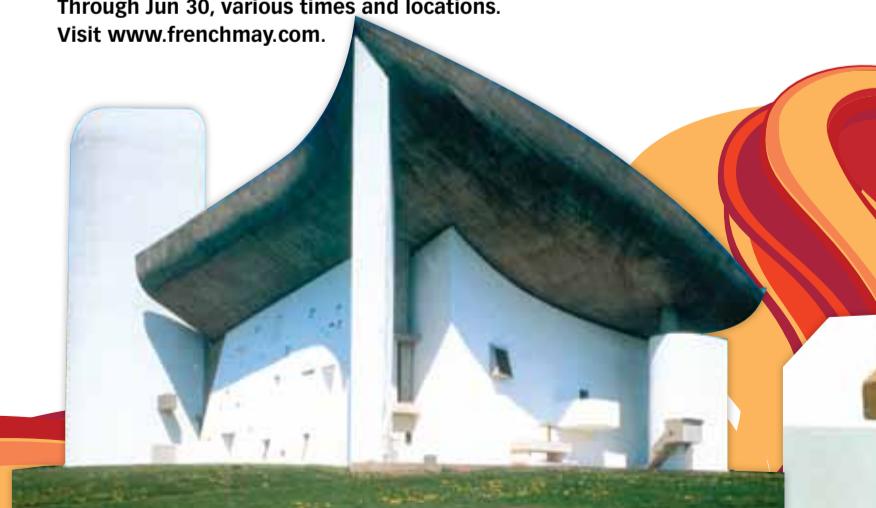


## May, Oui

Despite its name the annual Francophile festival **Le French May** continues this month, bringing over 120 acts, exhibitions, films, and a host of foodie promotions to town. This year's festival celebrates the 500th anniversary of the reign of Francis I, who established the style of the French renaissance. Don't miss "On the Way to the Front" (Jun 19-20), a Mask Theatre collaboration between Asian People's Theatre Festival Society and Théâtre de l'Ordinaire, or "Bruno Barbey—China Since 1973," a collection of the Magnum photographer's images of China.

**Through Jun 30, various times and locations.**

Visit [www.frenchmay.com](http://www.frenchmay.com).



## JULY ♀

July will have you breaking a sweat: suit up for a race or two or laze around in the sun while all the pro volleyballers and dragon boaters do their thing.

### Join the Carnival

This July Victoria Harbour will see hordes of international dragon boat teams duking it out for glory in the world famous **Hong Kong Dragon Boat Carnival**, which has been held since 1976. Alongside the event will be the annual **San Miguel BeerFest**, where spectators can enjoy ice-cold tipples as they cheer on their favorite teams.

**July 3-5. East Tsim Sha Tsui Waterfront; UC Centenary Garden, East Tsim Sha Tsui. Free.**

### Change of Art

The annual **International Arts Carnival** descends once again on the SAR, 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, featuring the music of Emmy Award-winning composer Nathan Wong.

**Various events between Jul 10-Aug 16. [www.hkiac.gov.hk](http://www.hkiac.gov.hk).**

### Jumping Jax

The annual charity open-water swimming, running and paddling competition is gearing up for its 11th edition. The **Jax Shek O Challenge** is a 2.2km swim from Big Wave Bay to Shek O Back Beach—but if swimming's not for you, why not try the 8.5km run from Big Wave Bay that loops up into Shek O Country Park and down into Shek O? Alternatively there's a 9km paddling option that takes you out around the headland. Try one of these solo, or team up for the "trisolothon" to take on all three events. Once you're done, there'll be beach sports, music and food on Shek O Back Beach.

**Jul 11, 2pm. Big Wave Bay, Shek O. \$430 from [www.openwaterasia.com](http://www.openwaterasia.com).**

### Jolly Volley

The big balls are out for the **FIVB Volleyball World Grand Prix** (Fédération Internationale de Volleyball). World champions USA will go head-to-head against China, Japan and Thailand for the prestigious title and a share of the US\$165,000 prize pot. Six matches will be played across three days (July 16-18) at the Hong Kong Coliseum. And no, there aren't any skimpy costumes. Get your brain out of the gutter.

**Jul 16-17, 6:30pm; Jul 18, 5:30pm. Hong Kong Coliseum, 9 Cheung Wan Rd., Hung Hom. \$80-650 from [www.urbtix.hk](http://www.urbtix.hk).**



\*Imagine yourself chillin' with Imagine Dragons

### Blurred Lines

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." Start listening to it on loop now, so you can sing along to all the lyrics at the concert.

**Jul 22, 8pm. Grand Hall, HKCEC, 1 Expo Drive, Wan Chai. \$480-880 from [www.hkticketing.com](http://www.hkticketing.com).**

### Ready, Set, Go

LA-based, YouTube-born pop band **OK Go** has been staying relevant(ish) with a string of awesomely mind-bending music videos. They're back on the Hong Kong touring scene with a live concert at Musiczone. Go see them for nostalgia's sake, if nothing else. Can't make it in person? Queuing up their latest music videos on YouTube isn't a bad fallback plan.

**Jul 24, 8pm. Musiczone, KITEC, 1 Trademart Drive, Kowloon Bay. \$450 from [www.ticketflap.com](http://www.ticketflap.com).**

### Game On

Comic enthusiasts, make some room on your bookshelves: **Ani-Com & Games** is coming to town this July, bringing with it a goldmine of limited edition graphic novels, as well as collectible figures, video games and even some stage performances. Be sure to brush up on your manga vocab before you go, or risk looking like Shinji Ikari on a date. Geddit?

**July 24-28. HKCEC, 1 Expo Drive, Wan Chai, 2344-0415, [www.ani-com.hk](http://www.ani-com.hk).**

### Any Given Day

UK alt-rock band **Happy Mondays** defined the "Madchester" scene of the 80s in the UK. Despite disbanding multiple times over the years, they've been able to pull through and come together for a gig at KITEC. But annoyingly, you'll have to settle for a Tuesday appearance.

**Jul 28, 8pm. Rotunda 3, KITEC, 1 Trademart Drive, Kowloon Bay. \$545-650 from [www.wegottickets.com](http://www.wegottickets.com).**



# AUGUST ♀

August is sure to blaze on by: spoil your ancestral spirits, gear up for the International Film Festival and lie to your friends about going to see "Pinocchio."

## The Nose Knows

Jiminy Cricket! Get ready to watch some noses grow—the world premiere of "Pinocchio" is hitting the Hong Kong stage this August. Performed by The Hong Kong Ballet, your favorite fairy tale classic comes to life thanks to renowned Swedish choreographer Pär Isberg. Watch to see if the naughty Pinocchio will follow his conscience and become a real boy, or just lie non-stop like the rest of us.

**Aug 28-30, various times. Grand Theatre, Cultural Centre, 10 Salisbury Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui. \$140-1,000 from [www.hkballet.com/201516](http://www.hkballet.com/201516).**

## Talkin' Bout a Revolution

The first two Splash 'n' Dash races from Revolution Asia have already come and gone but ocean swimmers should keep their schedules open for a few more events coming up this summer. There's the **Ocean Swim Series** at various beaches around Hong Kong (registration opens Jun 15), and **EAST Aquathon 16.3**—an individual or relay race that combines trail running, road running and open-water swimming. Start training now!

Stay tuned at [www.revolution-asia.com](http://www.revolution-asia.com).

## Take One

As one of the city's biggest platforms for filmmakers and industry professionals, the **Hong Kong Summer International Film Festival** runs throughout the month. But you don't have to work in the industry to go. Showcasing more than 30 films, the festival provides celluloid-lovers with the newest and best of film from across the globe.

[cinefan.com.hk](http://cinefan.com.hk).

## Enter the Dragon

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, dragon darlings.

**Aug 23, 9pm. AsiaWorld-Arena, Sky Plaza Rd., Chek Lap Kok. \$288-788 from [www.hkticketing.com](http://www.hkticketing.com).**

## Ghosts with the Most

Ready those paper Louis Vuittons and tricked-out Alphards: the **Hungry Ghost Festival**, aka Yu Lan Festival, is on the horizon. It's the time of year when relatives burn offerings and faux money for ancestors to use in the afterlife—because every spirit deserves a shiny new BMW. Look out for traditional Chinese opera shows on bamboo stages, which is a highlight of the festival.

**Aug 28. Around town.**

## Let Yourself Go

Even if you're a grown-ass adult, it's hard not to be at least a tiny bit excited about Hong Kong Disneyland's new "**Frozen**" Village. Too proud to be seen surrounded by kids? Just let it go and head over for special musical performances by Queen Elsa, Princess Anna and Kristoff, as well as a whole host of freezing activities such as toboggan rides and snowman building.

**Through August 30. Lantau Island. Standard entry fees apply: \$499 adults. [www.hongkongdisneyland.com](http://www.hongkongdisneyland.com). ■**



Sponsored Feature

## BEST KEPT BEAUTY SECRET

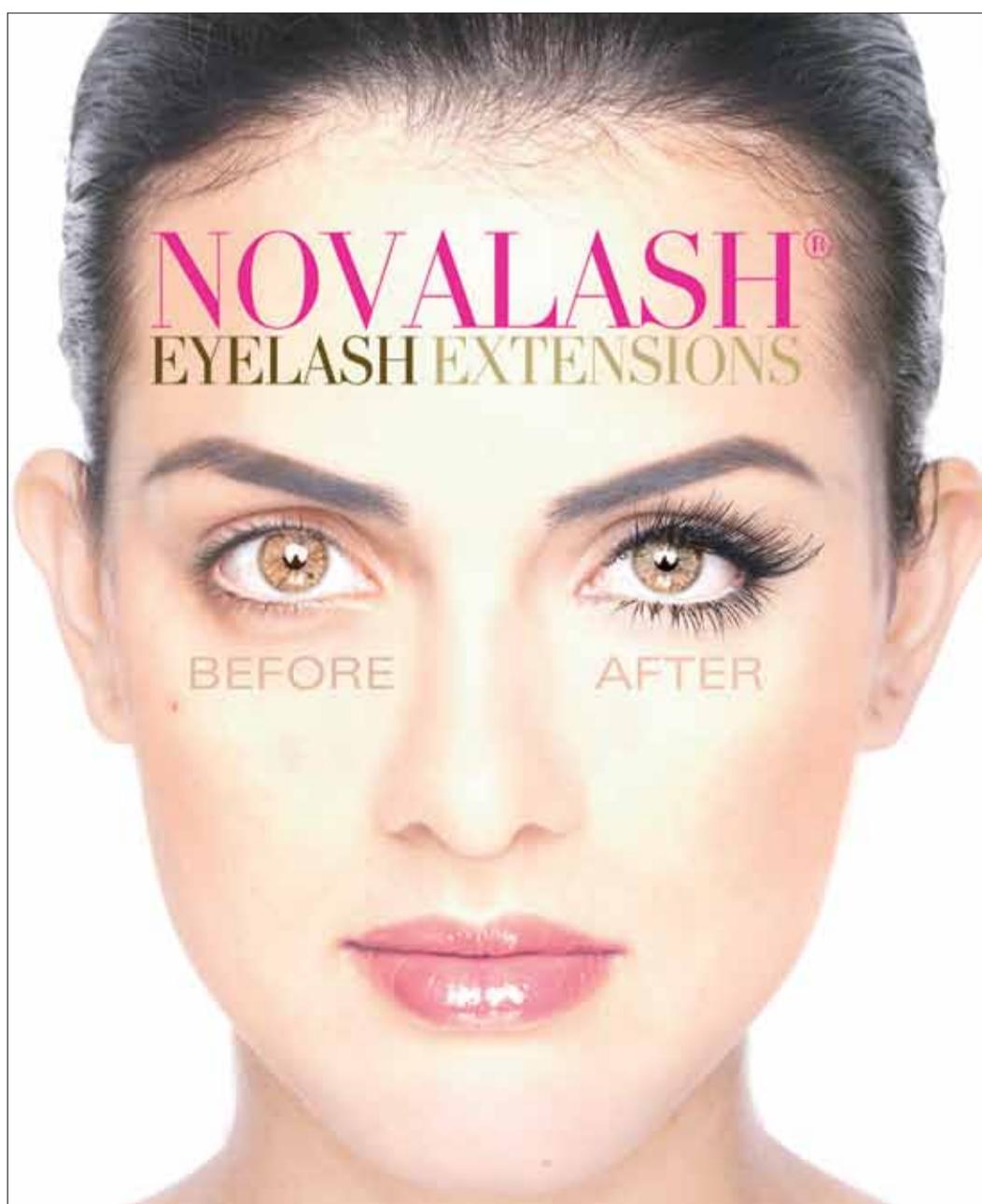
*Long luscious lashes morning and night without the fuss of mascara*

NovaLash Signature Studio offers the highest quality lash extension services available from the U.S. right in the heart of Hong Kong. Award-winning, long-lasting, medical-grade lash extension adhesives along with stringent safety standards have earned NovaLash its reputation as "the healthiest" professional eyelash extension system on the market.

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# PERKS

SPONSORED FEATURE



## GOOD NIGHT OAT FOLLOW-ON CEREAL MILK

Let your baby have a good night sleep!  
All natural from Sweden, Alvita-plus 2in1 cereal milk formula just launched in Hong Kong!  
Our follow-on milk with added oats, is specially formulated for bedtime, to give your baby a cosy feeling of satiety, delaying the next feed.  
(from 6 months and up)

Bumps to Babes stores  
Pedder Street, Horizon Plaza, Stanley Plaza Store  
<https://www.alvitaplus.com>



## Evolution Asia Yoga Conference 11-14 June

Asia Yoga Conference returns in its 9th year with a stellar array of world-class presenters, offering over 160 classes for all bodies and minds. In addition, there are more than 20 community events including classes – complimentary, open to the public, no registration required, and for all levels. Don't miss the chance to shop for the finest yoga fashion and products in the Convention Foyer at special discounts.

Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, Wanchai (Phase 1/ Old Wing) [www.asiayogaconference.com](http://www.asiayogaconference.com)  
Main Conference 8am-7pm; Exhibition 9am-8pm



## Summer School at FAST

Summer School at FAST - No more traffic jams, running from course to course.  
Our summer course offers an all in one day program that is uniquely designed to cater to the academic and developmental needs of students age 12 -17.  
Morning sessions include: Math, Science, Mandarin and Literature  
Afternoon sessions: Guitar lessons, song writing, and Graffiti fun

We are in Central, contact us to book an appointment.  
Ph: 2976 -9963 Email:[info@fordedu.com](mailto:info@fordedu.com)



## Yan Gallery's contemporary ink paintings exhibition

An amazingly fantastic solo exhibition, "Ocean Odyssey" will feature the best contemporary ink paintings by famous artist Yu Lanying. Born in Taiwan and educated in the US, she uses traditional media of ink and colour on rice paper in depicting incredibly dreamy and breathtaking views of the undersea world. Established by Fong Yuk Yan, Yan Gallery and is one of the oldest galleries in Hong Kong.

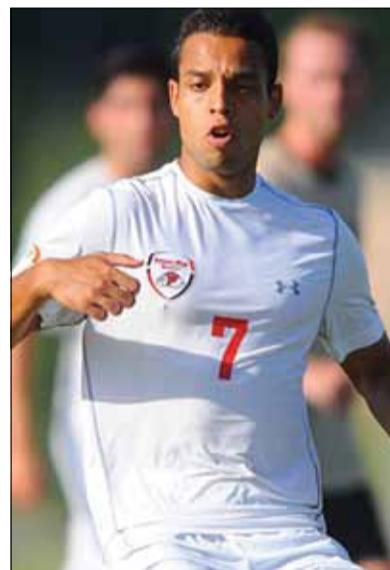
Shop 207, L2, Ocean Centre, Harbour City, Tsim Sha Tsui  
12 June – 2 July 2015  
11:00am – 10:00 pm



## Paperclip Serviced Office & Startup Academy

The future of workspaces has arrived in Hong Kong with the launch of Paperclip - Hong Kong's newest Serviced Office with a dedicated Co-work space and a Startup Academy.  
Office spaces don't have to be boring or lonely. Come find out why we're so special. We also look forward to seeing you at our many workshops and events.

3/F, Nam Wo Hong Building, 148 Wing Lok Street, Sheung Wan, [www.papercliphk.com](http://www.papercliphk.com)



## Become a university athlete on scholarship

Are you a talented athlete that wants to compete and train with the best university athletes in the world? If yes, you can do that while pursuing a reputable university degree with a sports scholarship in the U.S. Come join the elite Hong Kong student-athlete group that leads in their sport, classroom, and community.

15 Langham Place, Mong Kok, [www.affinityed.com](http://www.affinityed.com)



## Creative Talent connects at Macau Mixer

The International Academy of Film and Television Hong Kong is focused on educating, inspiring and connecting the industry entertainment network. Join us for a glass of wine on the 25th June 2015, 7pm - 9pm at Cathedral Cafe, Run De Se San Malo, Macao, China and meet likeminded creative talent. Tickets available on the door \$50.

Contact: [Lorna@iaft.net](mailto:Lorna@iaft.net) / 5808 3443 to register



## Take a Closer Look at CAIS

Christian Alliance P.C. Lau Memorial International School teachers encourage children to explore their world in a caring, creative atmosphere. As they grow, the world opens to our students through AP classes, Discovery Days trips and a medal winning athletics program. Grads advance to universities in North America, the UK and around the world.

+852 2713 3733  
[www.cais.edu.hk](http://www.cais.edu.hk)  
[www.fb.com/CAIS.HK](http://www.fb.com/CAIS.HK)

## Swim Sisters

Junk season has officially started! Still trying to get your bikini wardrobe sorted? Check out this season's offerings from **Sukigi Swim**, a Hong Kong collab between sisters Suki and Gigi Chan. Their shapes are really flattering, especially the high-neck tops (although the medium bottoms do come up on the small side) and the colors really pop. But these aren't just runway bikinis—they're made to fit really well so you can swim, run and exercise in them too. So no worrying about spilling out while splashing around on your next junk.

**Free shipping in Hong Kong. Suits from US\$99 (\$767), [www.sukigiswim.com](http://www.sukigiswim.com).**



## ESCAPE ROUTES with Kate Springer



Skytop Adventure Rapids makes a splashy debut

Macau celebrated some big news earlier this month: the **JW Marriott** and **The Ritz-Carlton** opened with a bang, hoisting their flags side by side in a new section of the Galaxy complex. The sister brands share some facilities, such as the new Promenade mall, a spa by ESPA and the massive Skytop Adventure Rapids. Both properties are of the up-market variety, but JW Marriott is catered more towards families, with a lobby stairwell that looks straight out of "Frozen." The Ritz-Carlton seems to be made entirely of white marble and aims to be the area's most indulgent address. After all, it is an all-suite hotel: rooms range from 915 to

5,038 square feet and all come with luxurious bathtubs that look like they could easily fit a party of five.

These luxury openings are just the start of a new Macau: the Cotai area will look completely different three years from now, with another Wynn, MGM, The Roosevelt and more in the works. But if you're like me and prefer Macau's more European side, visit now before all the peaceful enclaves are replaced with booming casinos.

**JW Marriott** from \$1,388 'til Aug 31; **Ritz-Carlton** from \$4,888 'til June 30. **Galaxy Macau, Cotai**, [www.galaxymacau.com](http://www.galaxymacau.com).



Tumi's new vintage collection



Wild about the wilderness

### Sock it Tumi

To ring in its 40th birthday, **Tumi** has rolled out a commemorative luggage line with a throwback, vintage feel. Of course, it's not at all old and musty—the limited-edition collection is called "1975," named after the year Tumi launched, and is made from a gorgeous, caramel-colored, full-grain American leather, similar to what the company used in its early days. The collection includes a variety of 1970s-inspired styles, like a classy carry-on, briefcase and rucksack.

**Shop 142, Pacific Place, 88 Queensway, 2918-4688, [www.tumi.com](http://www.tumi.com).**

### Born to be Wild

Have friends in town? Check out **Wild Hong Kong**, a new eco-adventure tour company. As the name suggests, the focus is on the city's "wild side," which actually makes up 70 percent of the territory. Most tour options explore off-the-beaten trail destinations—including historical hikes, secluded waterfalls and adventurous kayaking—and custom packages are available too.

[www.wildhongkong.com](http://www.wildhongkong.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.

## A WOOLLOOMOOLOO STEAK IS JUST IN TIME FOR FATHER'S DAY SET LUNCH AVAILABLE ON JUNE 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>

### LET US GRILL FOR DAD THIS FATHER'S DAY!

Dine in with dad and indulge in a sizzling feast with a glass of wine or refreshing beer. Menu is available on Father's Day weekend, June 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> from 12pm to 3pm.

### 4-Course Scrumptious Lunch

HK\$380 per guest

### Kids Menu

HK\$188 per child under 10 years old

\*Prices are subject to 10% s.c.

Level 27 & 28 Soundwill Plaza II - Midtown, 1 Tang Lung Street, Causeway Bay  
Level 21 The ONE, 100 Nathan Road, Tsim Sha Tsui  
[www.wooloo-mooloo.com](http://www.wooloo-mooloo.com)

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# The Breakfast Club

There's nothing like a boozy Hong Kong brunch, and we've got the hottest spots in town to eat it all up and drink it all down this summer. By **Andrea Lo** and **Dan Creffield**



Zuma on over



Peppers and patatas bravas at Boqueria



Stuff your boca at Boqueria's brunch



Get a fresh start at Blue Butcher



Blue Butcher does more than meat

## Get in the Ozone

**What's the deal?** Never had brunch at sky-high **Ozone**?

You're in luck—the highest bar in Hong Kong has just launched a new promotion in collaboration with Dom Perignon. It's the Ritz-Carlton after all, so you can expect a sumptuous spread including deep-fried brioche with lobster, zucchini, asparagus and sesame mayonnaise; plus wagyu beef burgers topped with foie gras ganache. Since that's not indulgent enough, there's also a buffet of sashimi, cheeses and cold-cuts. Prefer a bowl of wonton noodles and a Tsingtao? Maybe move along.

**Sunday, noon-3pm. \$1,180, including free-flow champagne. 118/F, Ritz-Carlton, ICC, 1 Austin Rd. West, West Kowloon, 2263-2263.**

## Fresh Off the Boqueria

**What's the deal?** Tired of all the rip-off prices in Central? Do your wallet a favor and hit up **Boqueria** for the Super Fin De Brunch—one of the best-value boozy brunches in town. Alongside a buffet of salads, cured meats and cheeses, stuff your face with Spanish classics like paella and a selection of seafood. Our favorite part? The suckling pig, served from a cart. Did we mention there's a DIY sangria station?

**Weekends, noon-4pm. \$476 including free-flow Estrella beer and sangria station; \$576 also including free-flow Cava, wine and Bloody Marys. 7/F, LKF Tower, 33 Wyndham St., Central, 2321-8681.**

## Zoom, Zoom, Zuma

**What's the deal?** **Zuma**'s Baikingu brunch showcases the restaurant's Japanese izakaya style of informal eating and drinking, with dishes that are meant to be shared. Kick things off with your choice of Bellini, house wine, champagne or sake—then move onto the starters. "Authentic but not traditional" contemporary dishes place an emphasis on quality ingredients and simple presentation. Fill up on a wide range of appetizers—think shiso udon and seafood tempura—or save room for the wagyu, tenderloin and cod dishes from the robata grill.

**Weekends, two sittings: 11am-1pm; 2-4pm. \$590 including wine, champagne, sake, beer, Pimm's and Bloody Marys. 5-6/F, The Landmark, 15 Queen's Rd. Central, 3657-6388.**

## Sing the Blues

**What's the deal?** As you might have guessed, **Blue Butcher's** brunch is all about the meat, serving up the likes of dry-aged, bone-in roasted prime rib and a signature dry-aged Black Angus burger. But you're getting ahead of yourself: For starters, there's a full buffet that counts a foie gras station among its many indulgences. Still have room for more? Fill your other stomach at the Belgium waffle station.

**Sunday, noon-3:30pm. \$570 including free-flow prosecco; \$670 including free-flow Veuve Clicquot. 108 Hollywood Rd., Central, 2613-9286.**

## Hang at Hutong

**What's the deal?** If you think brunch is all about eggs and bacon, think again. **Hutong**'s Feng Wei Chinese free-flow brunch comes with a selection of Northern Chinese-style appetizers and dim sum. The mains are made-to-order and include Hutong's signature pork belly rolls grilled with shallot and green pepper, and Beijing-style lobster. Wash it all down with free-flow Veuve or a selection of specially created tea cocktails. Not enough to satisfy you? There's also live traditional Chinese entertainment... and let's not forget the resto's incredible view of the harbor.

**Weekends, noon-3pm. \$598, including free-flow champagne and cocktails; 28/F, 1 Peking Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, 3428-8342.**

## Add a Watermark

**What's the deal?** The awesome view at **Watermark** is just an added bonus—in addition to free-flow wine and beer, expect a full buffet with starters, desserts and an impressive range of mains. Look for carved roast sirloin, order an omelet in the egg corner or get elbow-deep in the white wine mussels, which come highly recommended.

**Weekends, 11am-3pm. \$388 on Saturdays, \$438 on Sundays. Additional \$100 for free-flow house wine, sparkling wine and beer. Shop L, Central Pier 7, Star Ferry, Central, 2167-7251.**

## NEW AND NOTED with Adele Wong



### Asian Twist

Forget dim sum—try a Cantonese-style brunch instead. **Lai Bun Fu** (5/F, 18 On Lan St., Central, 2564-3868) now offers a \$368 brunch menu that comes with a basket of appetizers, a choice of main, followed by a bowl of fried rice or noodles and a daily dessert. Among other options, start with deep-fried crab claws or foie gras-topped prawn toast, then dive into stir-fried crabmeat with egg whites or Angus brisket in curry sauce before mellowing down with a bowl of e-fu noodles. The brunch is available every Saturday 11:30am to 3pm.



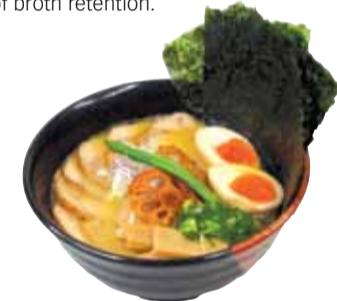
### Scarlett Fever

French café-slash-winebar **Scarlett Café** (G/F, 2 Austin Avenue, Tsim Sha Tsui), which already boasts chains in Bangkok and Beijing, is now in operation in Tsim Sha Tsui. The all-day space offers waffles and pancakes for breakfast and burgers and charcuterie for lunch. At night dig into tapas and charcuterie to go with the varied selection of French wines.

### Souped Up

Ramen chain **Ramen Torihana Hei** (Wah To Building, 22-30 Cross Lane, Wan Chai, 2366-1332) has set up shop serving *tori paitan*—or chicken broth—noodles swimming in a 10-hour, slow-cooked soup base. Each bowl of broth is made with half a kilo of chicken bones and a

healthy dose of house sauce (seaweed, sake, sea salt combo), for those who like their flavors intense. The ramen is made with Japanese flour and is supposed to be super absorptive in terms of broth retention.



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

## RESTAURANT REVIEWS

### Rustico ★★★★☆

Spanish. Shop G01, G/F, D2 Place, 9 Cheung Yee St., Lai Chi Kok, 2742-4511.



were used to, the meat was still tender and juicy. Our roasted chicken thigh (part of set lunch, \$145) was moist and paired with flavorful herb-topped potatoes. Service was diligent.

**HIT** We had a pan-fried fish main (part of set lunch, \$165) with a moist, chunk of white fish meat served alongside a thick mango-based sauce. While the fish was firm and tasty, the sweet and tangy sauce was strange and did not really match.

**BOTTOM LINE** With a cutesy design and affordable prices, Rustico is a good neighborhood venue for those looking for a slightly upscale meal without trekking to a major district.

**Open daily noon-11pm. \$\$**

A quaint little Spanish retreat at D2 Place in Lai Chi Kok, Rustico tries its best to replicate the rustic countryside with brick facades, red wood furniture and iron window grilles.

**HIT** We went for a set lunch and enjoyed a generous portion of beef carpaccio slices topped with arugula and parmesan. Although the slices were thicker than we

All of our reviews are independent and anonymous!

### Le Cornet Belge ★★★★★

Belgian. 63 Elgin St., Central, 2661-9078.



were a few other Belgian touches, like the sparkling Lipton ice tea (yes, apparently) and imported Jupiler beer.

**MISS** We ordered three of the signatures but all were sold out. Our chicken burger combo (\$90) was a wet, soggy mess within moments. The French fries tasted dry and unseasoned. Though there was a long row of sauces, the staff didn't offer any of them. When we inquired, only three were available—none of which impressed. Our Bitterball appetizer (\$25), deep-fried beef roux balls, didn't arrive until we chased them. They tasted over-fried and bland. The staff turned off all the lights while we were still eating, just before 9:30pm on a weekend.

**BOTTOM LINE** Le Cornet Belge's fried snacks, burgers, sandwiches and poor service miss the mark by a long mile.

**Open daily noon-9:30pm. \$**

### 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.

### 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

# WHAT'S ON

CULTURE + NIGHTLIFE + FILM



## On the Barbey

Following its inaugural exhibition of Elliott Erwitt's work last year, the F11 Photographic Museum has invited yet another grand master to decorate its walls. **Bruno Barbey**, considered one of the most powerful living photographers of the 20th century thanks to his documentation of political and historical turning points, will be exhibiting a full selection of works entitled "China Since 1973." An associated program of Le French May (still going strong all summer), the exhibit captures the spirit of a country that's both reeling from the Cultural Revolution and steadily evolving.

Through Jul 15. F11 Photographic Museum,  
11 Yuk Sau St., Happy Valley, 6516-1122.

Bruno Barbey, Shanghai, 1980

# ARTS

Edited by Evelyn Lok  
evelyn.lok@hkmagmedia.com



## HK PICKS



### Lied Ballet

Mendacious drama in the form of pliés? Not quite: for all you uncultured fools out there, Thomas Lebrun's dance company is in town to perform a traditional three-act rendition of "Lied Ballet"—pairing German *Lieder* music from the Romantic period with dance. Jun 19-20, 8pm. Y-Theatre, Youth Square, 238 Chai Wan Rd., Chai Wan. \$120-280 from [www.urbtix.hk](http://www.urbtix.hk).



## Arts Festivals



### Chinese Opera Festival

The annual Chinese Opera Festival hits Hong Kong once again this June. Celebrating the traditional craft of Peking and Kunqu opera forms, the festival opens with a staging of three plays to introduce the lesser-known art form of Shanghai-style Peking Opera, which has a much more demanding style of acting and rhythm. Other shows to look forward to include an introduction to Hunan-style Qi Opera, known for its acrobatic feats, and Dacheng opera stories, characterized by bouts of fire-eating and spitting! Jun 19-Aug 2. [www.cof.gov.hk/2015/en](http://www.cof.gov.hk/2015/en).

### 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 for the little kiddies 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).

## Classical



### The Grace Notes: Viva La Musica

The Grace Notes, the a cappella arm of the Hong Kong Women's Choir, will be performing a list of hot Latin numbers to raise funds for Sailability ([www.sailability.org.hk](http://www.sailability.org.hk)), a charity in Hong Kong that gives the disabled community an opportunity to learn how to sail or take part in water-based activities. Jun 12, 9:30pm. Fringe Club, 2 Lower Albert Rd., Central, 2521-7251. \$220 from Fringe Club, includes one standard drink. [www.thkwc.org](http://www.thkwc.org).

### 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 talent—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 12-13, 16, 19-20, 8pm. Concert Hall, Cultural Centre, 10 Salisbury Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui. \$120-680 from [www.urbtix.hk](http://www.urbtix.hk).

# Harlan's

Bar and Restaurant

Reservations: 2972 2222 | [hostess@harlans.com.hk](mailto:hostess@harlans.com.hk)  
Level 19, The ONE, 100 Nathan Road, Tsimshatsui, Kowloon, Hong Kong

## 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

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**COPLAND** Fanfare for the Common Man    **MASCAGNI** Cavalleria Rusticana: Intermezzo

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# ARTS

## Récréation de Le Chat Noir

Vocalist Florence Cheng and pianist Cynthia Chan will be bringing the Parisian cabaret to the Fringe Club this June. Inspired by "Le Chat Noir," a famous 19th-century cabaret in Montmartre, the duo will be performing a range of salon-style music ranging from Debussy to Erik Satie. Jun 13, 9:30pm. Fringe Club, 2 Lower Albert Rd., Central, 2521-7251. \$200-220 from Fringe Club, including a drink.

## Vincent Peirani & Emile Parisien

Nothing says Paris like an accordion! Rising star jazz duo Vincent Peirani (accordion) and Emile Parisien (soprano sax) are in the SAR for a one-night-only show. The program pays tribute to Duke Ellington, Sidney Bechet and Henry Lodge, and the duo will also be playing a few original songs. Jun 16, 8pm. Theatre, City Hall, 5 Edinburgh Place, Central. \$180-380 from [www.urbtix.hk](http://www.urbtix.hk).

## So Sondheim!

The Kassia Women's Choir presents a mix of favorites by none other than Broadway musical mastermind Stephen Sondheim. It'll be a program of showtunes from across the board, including the likes of "West Side Story," "Into the Woods," and gems from "Gypsy." It's an opportunity to do a little good too, as \$5 from every ticket goes to Christian Action's Chungking Mansions Service Centre. Jun 17-18, 8pm. Sheung Wan Civic Centre, 345 Queen's Rd. Central, Sheung Wan. \$180-220 from [www.urbtix.hk](http://www.urbtix.hk).

## Good Music at the Fringe with James Cuddeford

The Hong Kong 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.

## HK Phil: Denim Classics

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

## Happy Go Lucky Big Band

Kenny Matsuura of The Flying Machine Revival Quartet and the HGL Big Band take over the Fringe Dairy for a night of slick classical jazz. Expect all things Duke Ellington. Take it as read that this gig means a whole lot—After all, it don't mean a thing if you ain't got that swing. Jun 27, 10pm; Sep 26, 10pm; Dec 19, 10pm. Fringe Club, 2 Lower Albert Rd., Central, 2521-7251. \$150 in advance from Fringe Club; \$180 at the door.

## Comedy

### Melbourne International Comedy Festival Roadshow

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

## Dance



### The Legend of Mulan

Returning right after its successful tour performance in New York last March, the Hong Kong Dance Company brings "The Legend of Mulan" back to the Hong Kong stage. Originating in the 5th century, the classic folktale is all about a courageous peasant girl who disguised herself as a man to go into war in her ailing father's place, invariably befriending a fire-breathing lizard while singing about her reflection. Just kidding: This is based on the actual tale, not the Disney deal. Jun 12-14, 7:45pm; Jun 13-14, 3pm. Grand Theatre, Cultural Centre, 10 Salisbury Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui. \$100-320 from [www.urbtix.hk](http://www.urbtix.hk).



### 365 Ways of Doing and Undoing Orientalism

The CCDC will be performing its critically acclaimed show in Hong Kong, after highly successful runs in the US, Australia and Italy. The show questions how society defines "the east", which has been conventionally represented by ideas and symbols such as chopsticks, calligraphy, dragons and martial arts. Jun 26-27, 8pm. Kwai Tsing Theatre, 12 Hing Ning Rd., Kwai Fong. \$140-250 from [www.urbtix.hk](http://www.urbtix.hk).

## Musicals

### The Sound of Music

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

## Exhibitions



### Peter Steinhauer: Surface Unseen

Longtime Hong Kong resident and prolific photographer Peter Steinhauer is known for capturing the cocoon-like scaffolding of skyscrapers in the SAR. His latest exhibition places a lens on the quotidian aspects of Hong Kong that are so easily overlooked. Through Jun 27. Contemporary by Angela Li, G/F, 248 Hollywood Rd., Sheung Wan, 3571-8200.

### Made in Hong Kong: Our Cities, Our Stories

What transformed the humble fishing town of Hong Kong into the Asian financial hub we know today? The Maritime Museum presents one impressive multimedia exhibition that combines a huge amount of artifacts, interviews, photography, film and music. It's a great opportunity to engage in our city's history, revisiting the successes and pivotal moments that brought about our home. Through Sep 4. Hong Kong Maritime Museum, Central Ferry Pier No. 8, Man Kwong St., Central, 3713-2500. Free. [www.hkmaritimemuseum.org](http://www.hkmaritimemuseum.org).



### Decade Reconstructed

Part of the WKCD's ongoing digital art initiative "Decade" ([www.yourdecade.com.hk](http://www.yourdecade.com.hk)), which chronicles the last 100 years of Hong Kong history through archival footage and music, "Decade Reconstructed" brings together performers and composers to resurrect slices of Hong Kong history in the form of "sonic narratives" based on films in a public performance. Jun 19, 8pm. Multimedia Theatre, Room M1060, 1/F, Run Run Shaw Creative Media Centre, City University of Hong Kong, 8 Tat Hong Avenue, Kowloon Tong. \$60-110 from [tiny.cc/hk-decadereconstructed](http://tiny.cc/hk-decadereconstructed).



### Yoshitomo Nara: Life is Only One

A household name in the contemporary Asian art world, Yoshitomo Nara is exhibiting his first-ever major show in Hong Kong at the Asia Society this summer. It's a chance for you to get a glimpse into the inner world of the elusive artist, recognized for his cartoonish pop art characters of innocent-looking children, often brandishing small weapons or speaking provocative phrases. Through Jul 26. Asia Society Gallery, 9 Justice Drive, Admiralty, 2103-9511.

## The FDA cleared hair transplant system has arrived Hong Kong!

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23.6.2015

Tue 7pm

Works by Bach, Mozart,  
C P E Bach, Luciano Berio and  
Roger Smalley

\$150 (including a drink)

The Fringe Club – Fringe Dairy

(2 Lower Albert Road, Central)

Admission age: 6 or above

Hong Kong Sinfonietta reserves the right to change the programme and artists

### EAST WEST MINIATURES

21.7.2015

Tue 7pm

Works by Debussy,  
Isang Yun, Orlando Gibbons,  
James Cuddeford and  
HK composer Charles Kwong

Details & Online Tickets:  
[www.HKSL.org/Fringe](http://www.HKSL.org/Fringe)



### LIVING EUROPEAN MASTERS

18.8.2015

Tue 7pm

Works by Beethoven,  
Krzysztof Penderecki and  
György Kurtág



[www.HKSL.org](http://www.HKSL.org)

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# NIGHTLIFE

## HK PICKS



### Shazza Music Presents Brewdog Rocks

Longstanding local events organizer Shazza Music is teaming up with Scottish craft beer brewery 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.

## Clubs



**Dennis Ferrer**

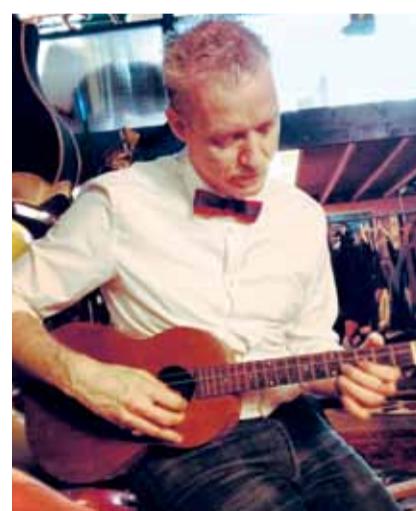
Finally, a DJ with a normal name! DJ and producer Dennis Ferrer is going to bring signature techno sounds and remixes to Volar. You get two free drinks if you show up early, but remember: Volar is only fun after 2am. Jun 12, 10pm. Volar, B/F, 38-44 D'Aguilar St., Central, 2810-1510. \$350 before 12:30am; \$400 thereafter, both include two drinks.



**Kartell**

Ozone is cooking up a series of hot summer parties. First stop? A French Riviera-style event with producer Kartell, a major force in the French house music movement. He spins funky house tracks as well as groovy, dance-friendly tunes. Berets optional, dance moves mandatory. Jun 13, 10pm. Ozone, 118/F, The Ritz-Carlton, 1 Austin Rd. West, West Kowloon, 2263-2263. \$200 at the door, including a Belvedere drink.

## UPCLOSE Chris Barron



Lead singer of the Spin Doctors and solo performer **Chris Barron** talks 90s parties with Dan Creffield ahead of his gig at the Finance Live charity event.

**HK Magazine:** The Spin Doctors was one of the biggest bands on the planet in the early 1990s. What was it like?

**Chris Barron:** It was really something of a whirlwind. There were flights, parties, buses, vans, passports, friends—and a million gigs!

**HK:** When you made it big, did you get to meet any of your musical heroes?

**CB:** I've been lucky to meet many. When we opened for the Rolling Stones I got to hang out with them on a number of occasions: I was at Keith Richards' birthday party, a Super Bowl party in Brazil with Mick Jagger, and at the end of the tour, Charlie Watts gave me a hug.

**HK:** How about your songs—what informs them?

**CB:** I've spent a long time working on writing skills, but I've always had something of an intuitive feel when it comes to songs. I try not to analyze my stuff thematically. If I do, I get self-conscious—instead I just work ideas that I find interesting.

**HK:** You had a 50-50 chance of ever talking or singing normally again after being diagnosed with vocal cord paralysis. What would you have done instead?

**CB:** Perhaps flower arranging? Or knitting? The truth is, I had nothing to fall back on and I was terrified.

**HK:** What's a perk of performing solo?

**CB:** In a band you have a group of people who often disagree, which can make decisions difficult and cumbersome. However, it means you don't have to make every single decision. When you're solo, you have to decide on everything: the music, the packaging, the promotional materials.

Edited by **Andrea Lo**

andrea.lo@hkmagmedia.com

Twitter: @andreas\_lo



### Skratch Bastid

Canadian Skratch Bastid (yes, really) made his start 10 years ago as a teenager in Halifax, competing in DJ battles around Canada. He has gone on to perform more than 100 shows a year all over the world, playing everything from hip-hop and funk to disco and rock. Jun 13, 10pm. Fly, 24-30 Ice House St., Central, 2810-9902. \$200 at the door, includes two drinks and two shots.

### Cliché Records vs Fresh Off the Boat Asia

It's a nightlife promoter mashup: Cliché 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 (pictured) join forces with Ball's DJ Lady Flic to play a funk, soul, hip-hop and disco set. Plus, Cliché's lineup of Miya, Gregzo, Sneak Peak and Rifain will be playing French house, disco and funk. Jun 19, 11pm. Kee Club, 6/F, 32 Wellington St., Central, 2810-9000. \$165-220 from [www.ticketflap.com](http://www.ticketflap.com).



## Gigs

### Planetrox China Final 2015

Indie band competition Planetrox China is back and this time the final's going down at Orange Peel. Brought to you by The Underground HK (helmed by none other than the fairy godmother of the Hong Kong indie scene, Chris B), this is the regional arm of a global contest that aims to gather the best bands from around the world—before taking them to Quebec, Canada to play at alternative music festival Envol et Macadam. In the finals, see Bamboo Star, Horizon, Stereo is the Answer, Seasons for Change and Wan Chai Warriors on stage. The audience controls 25 percent of the vote, so show your support! Jun 13, 9pm. Orange Peel, 2/F, 38-44 D'Aguilar St., Central, 2812-7177. \$150 from [undergroundhk.com/events/tickets](http://undergroundhk.com/events/tickets).

But you can do it all exactly the way you always wanted to, without any opposition. After years of being in a band, though, you may miss a little bit of that opposition...

### HK: You took part in the Eurovision Song Contest in Norway in 2012—how did that come about?

**CB:** I have a side project with three Norwegian rock stars from the 90s called The Canoes. We were drinking a bunch of beers and canoeing on a lake near the cabin of one of the guys and we thought, wouldn't it be stupid to have a band called The Canoes? About a year later we were on television on the Eurovision Song Contest and also making a record...

### HK: What's the Finance Live event about?

**CB:** Finance Live is a music and networking event for the Hong Kong finance industry. They donate any profits to a local underfunded charity, which is very cool. The producer, Steve Bernstein, is a friend and invited me to participate, which I am excited to do.

Don your best "rock concert casual" and see Chris Barron perform at Finance Live. June 18, 6pm-midnight. Grappa's Cellar, Jardine House, 1 Connaught Place, Central. \$300 at the door, including buffet.

### Tribute to Ka-kui

This month marks the 22nd anniversary of the death of Wong Ka-kui, frontman of legendary Hong Kong rock band Beyond. To remember Wong, Musician Area is putting on a tribute gig that will feature four local bands covering Beyond's tunes. Jun 13, 7:15pm. Musician Area, Room C, 8/F, Morlite Building, 40 Hung To Rd., Kwun Tong. \$50 at the door, including a non-alcoholic drink.



### No Omega

Swedish post-hardcore and screamo band No Omega is set to perform at Hidden Agenda for one night only. Their tagline is "If the music is loud we won't hear the sound of the world falling apart," so Taylor Swift fans might wanna skip this one. Jun 14, 8:30pm. Hidden Agenda, Unit 2A, Wing Fu Industrial Building, 15-17 Tai Yip St., Ngau Tau Kok. \$120 at the door.



### Happy Mondays

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

## Nightlife Events

### Rooftop Cinema By Moët and Chandon

Moët and Chandon is putting on a Rooftop Cinema series of French screenings at Azure. On June 15, it's "The Line," set in small-town France during WWII as its residents face an increasingly uncertain future. 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; free screening at 7:30pm. Jun 15 & 22, 6:30pm. Azure, 29/F, LKF Hotel, 33 Wyndham St., Central, 3518-9688.



### Zuma Supper Club

Ever had to leave da club because you were too hungry to dance? For your next pre-game session, head to Zuma's recently launched Supper Club happy hour, which offers free-flow house pours and snacks for two hours. These ain't just crackers and peanuts: you'll be stuffing your face with Zuma's signature maki rolls, wasabi peas and cassava chips. It beats Tsui Wah at 3am, doesn't it? Does it? Saturdays, 10pm-midnight. Zuma, 5-6/F, The Landmark, 15 Queen's Rd. Central, 3657-6388. \$400 per person.

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## Midnight Diner ★★★★

(Japan) Drama. Directed by Joji Matsuoka. Starring Kaoru Kobayashi, Joe Odagiri, Saki Takaoka, Mikako Tabe, Kimiko Yo. Category I. 120 minutes. Opened May 28.

It's often in those wee hours between midnight and daybreak when interesting things start happening. While the world's more predictable people have already slipped into sleep, the oddballs and distraught souls are out, finding solace in the night. In "Midnight Diner" we peek into these telling moments, as the characters—mistresses, strippers, transvestites, retired folk and shy salarymen—congregate at Midnight Diner, a tiny cafe in the middle of Tokyo that's only open from midnight to 7am.

"Midnight Diner" captures the sobering quietness of the night through the inconsequential chatter between the customers who meet at the cramped eatery. The opening sequence weaves through tired city lights and back down a dark alleyway where Master, the diner's owner, sets up shop: It's beautiful and calming, helped along by a baritone voice crooning the film's nostalgic theme song.

The story is told through chapters, each named after a dish on Master's short menu. The first chapter begins with excited and mysterious chit chat between the customers, provoked by a mysterious urn that was left behind by a patron. As the chapters unfold, each storyline is paired with a traditional Japanese comfort food: we see a shunted mistress of a dead rich man bemoan her grief over cheesy Napolitan spaghetti; a destitute girl with a mysterious past eats grated yam on rice before she begs for a job; a man whose marriage proposal was rejected takes comfort in Japanese curry. And of course, we eventually learn what has happened to the owner of the urn.

The storyline might be familiar to some: "Midnight Diner" was adapted from an award-winning manga by Yaro Abe, which ran as a live-action TV series before hitting the big screen this year. While the episodic style might have worked on TV, it doesn't transfer as naturally to film. The chapters add to the sentiment of late-night storytelling, but at the same time leave the viewer wanting for more depth from each character. The film is all too aware of its fan base, and loyal viewers of the series will definitely get a kick out of all the reprised roles from the TV series, from the shop's regulars to Kaoru Kobayashi returning as the taciturn, easygoing chef. But without any context from the show, the film begs for more background and character development, particularly when it comes to Master, whose motivations for creating this nighttime destination remain unclear.

Nothing much really "happens" in "Midnight Diner"—it's a collection of secondhand stories that we observe as outsiders, just lighthearted hearsay and gossip. Occasionally we may venture outside to see what each of the characters get up to during the day, but always they reconvene at the diner to share their tales. If you're after heavy drama or revelations, you might want to look elsewhere. The film is all about the simple comfort of food, paired with late-night musings that lead nowhere in particular. Perhaps it's the anonymity and frenetic pace of a crowded city that makes the intimacy of eating with strangers at a small diner so appealing, and so beautiful to watch. **Evelyn Lok**

## Coming Soon



### 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 "The Last Five Years." 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. Opens Jun 18.



### SPL II

(Hong Kong/China) It's a long-awaited sequel to 2005's triad smash "Sha Po Lang" (or "Kill Zone") which featured winning trio Sammo Hung, Donnie Yen and Simon Yam. Sadly, Yen and Hung do not 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 behind a notorious crime ring. Opens 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. Opens Jun 18.

## Opening



### Force Majeure

(USA/Sweden) Ask most kids who their hero is, and they'll likely pick their dad. In these modern times, it's often because they can make a mean pancake, reprogram the TV or master the barbecue. But can an everyday hero live up to the expectations when his family is out of the suburbs and thrust into peril? In Force Majeure, 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. After a misstep, his insecurities and shortcomings come gushing out in a flood of fear, failure and doubt. Exploring human and family relationships, "Force Majeure" shines a spotlight onto the male role in modern society. Sharply written, beautifully filmed and ably acted, "Force Majeure" makes for deliciously dark, uncomfortable viewing. And of course it begs the question—what would you do? Opened Jun 11. ★★★★ **Dan Creffield**

### 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 becoming a delectable dino-dish. Opened Jun 11.

### 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. Opened Jun 11.

## 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) Al Pacino is the aging Danny Collins, a world-weary rock star who is inspired to change his life for the better after he receives a lost letter penned to him by the late John Lennon. Based on true events.

### 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) See review, left.

### 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. ★★★★

### 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.

## Need to Know

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### 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 where 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, 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



### National Theatre Live: A Streetcar Named Desire

Continuing in this season of National Theatre Live, the venerable American stage masterpiece is screening at Broadway and AMC theaters through to July. In this edition, Gillian Anderson (Scully from TV's "The X Files") casts a bewitching, award-winning performance as Blanche DuBois, the disillusioned spinster who has just moved to New Orleans to live with her married younger sister Stella and Stella's husband, Stanley. Jun 20; 28; Jul 4, 8pm; Jun 21; 27; Jul 11, 3:40pm. Broadway and AMC cinemas. \$200.



### 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. Starring a young Dustin Hoffman as a recent grad who spends his aimless summer getting seduced by a foxy older family friend, but ends up falling for her daughter, all to the wondrous music of Simon and Garfunkel. 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" (Jun 14, 8pm; 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). Jun 13-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 and families exiled from the Himalayan Kingdom of Bhutan, to 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

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**GEMINI (May 21-Jun 20):** I think it'll be better if you don't engage in much sacrifice, compromise, or surrender in the next two weeks. Normally they are valuable tools to have at your disposal, but for now they may tend to be counterproductive. Judging from the current astrological omens, I suspect you need to be more commanding than usual, more confident in your vision of how to take action with maximum integrity. It's time for you to draw deeper from the source of your own power, and express it with extra grace and imagination.

**CANCER (Jun 21-Jul 22):** You will soon be escaping—or maybe “graduating” is the right word—from your interesting trials and tribulations. In honor of this cathartic transition, I suggest you consider doing a ritual. It can be a full-fledged ceremony you conduct with somber elegance, or a five-minute psychodrama you carry out with boisterous nonchalance. It will be a celebration of your ability to outlast the forces of chaos and absurdity, and an expression of gratitude for the resources you've managed to call on in the course of your struggle. To add an extra twist, you could improvise a rowdy victory prayer that includes this quote adapted from Nietzsche: “I throw roses into the abyss and say: ‘Here is my thanks to the monster who did not devour me.’”

**LEO (Jul 23-Aug 22):** I propose a Friends Cleanse. It would be a three-week-long process of reviewing your support team and web of connections. If you feel up for the challenge, start this way: Take inventory of your friendships and alliances. If there are any that have faded or deteriorated, make a commitment to either fix them or else phase them out. Here's the second stage of the Friends Cleanse: Give dynamic boosts to those relationships that are already working well. Take them to the next level of candor and synergy.

**VIRGO (Aug 23-Sep 22):** After Walt Whitman published *Leaves of Grass* in 1855, he made sure it would get the publicity he wanted. He wrote anonymous reviews of his own book and submitted them to several publications, all of which printed them. “An American bard at last!” began the glowing review that appeared in one newspaper. According to my reading of the astrological omens, Virgo, you now have license to engage in similar behavior. You will incur no karma, nor will you tempt fate, if you tout your own assets in the coming weeks. Try to make your bragging and self-promotion as charming as possible, of course. But don't be timid about it.

**LIBRA (Sep 23-Oct 22):** If you carry out the assignments I recommend, you will boost your charisma, your chutzpah, and your creativity. Here's the first one: Try something impossible every day. Whether or not you actually accomplish it isn't important. To merely make the effort will shatter illusions that are holding you back. Here's your second assignment: Break every meaningless rule that tempts you to take yourself

too seriously. Explore the art of benevolent mischief. Here's the third: Clear out space in your fine mind by shedding one dogmatic belief, two unprovable theories, and three judgmental opinions. Give yourself the gift of fertile emptiness.

**SCORPIO (Oct 23-Nov 21):** In the 16th century, roguish French author Francois Rabelais published a comic novel entitled “*The Life of Gargantua and of Pantagruel*”. In the course of his satirical story, a learned teacher named Epistemon takes a visit to the afterlife and back. While on the other side, he finds famous dead heroes employed in humble tasks. Alexander the Great is making a meager living from mending old socks. Cleopatra is hawking onions in the streets. King Arthur cleans hats and Helen of Troy supervises chambermaids. In accordance with the Rabelaisian quality of your current astrological aspects, Scorpio, I invite you to meditate on the reversals you would like to see in your own life. What is first that maybe should be last? And vice versa? What's enormous that should be small? And vice versa? What's proud that should be humble? And vice versa?

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22-Dec 21):** There's no better time than now to ask the big question or seek the big opening or explore the big feeling. People are not only as receptive as they will ever be, they are also more likely to understand what you really mean and what you are trying to accomplish. Which door has been forever locked? Which poker face hasn't blinked or flinched in many moons? Which heart of darkness hasn't shown a crack of light for as long as you can remember? These are frontiers worth revisiting now, when your ability to penetrate the seemingly impenetrable is at a peak.

**CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 19):** The core of your horoscope comes from the poem “*A Color of the Sky*” by Tony Hoagland. Imagine that you are the “I” who is saying the following: “What I thought was an end turned out to be a middle. What I thought was a brick wall turned out to be a tunnel. What I thought was an injustice turned out to be a color of the sky.” Please understand, Capricorn, that speaking these words might not make total sense to you yet. You may have to take them on faith until you gather further evidence. But I urge you to speak them anyway. Doing so will help generate the transformations you need in order to make them come true.

**AQUARIUS (Jan 20-Feb 18):** Sidney Lumet was an American director who worked on 50 films, including 14 that were nominated for Academy Awards, like “*Network*” and “*Dog Day Afternoon*”. Actors loved to work with him, even though he was a stickler for thorough rehearsals. Intense preparation, he felt, was the key to finding the “magical accidents” that allow an actor's highest artistry to emerge. I advocate a similar strategy for you, Aquarius. Make yourself ready, through practice and discipline, to capitalize fully on serendipitous opportunities and unexpected breakthroughs when they arrive.

**PISCES (Feb 19-Mar 20):** “It is not only the most difficult thing to know oneself, but the most inconvenient one, too,” said American writer Josh Billings. I agree with him. It's not impossible to solve the mystery of who you are, but it can be hard work that requires playful honesty, cagey tenacity, and an excellent sense of humor. The good news is that these days it's far less difficult and inconvenient than usual for you to deepen your self-understanding. So take advantage! To get started, why don't you interview yourself? Go here to see some questions you could ask: <http://bit.ly/interviewyourself>.

**ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 19):** “To look at a thing hard and straight and seriously—to fix it.” Aries author Henry James said he wanted to do that on a regular basis. He didn't want to be “arbitrary” or “mechanical” in his efforts. I invite you to make this perspective one of your specialties in the coming weeks, Aries. Pick out a tweaked situation you'd like to mend or a half-spoiled arrangement you want to heal. Then pour your pure intelligence into it. Investigate it with a luminous focus. Use all your tough and tender insight to determine what needs to be transformed, and transform it.

**TAURUS (Apr 20-May 20):** Drug expert Jonathan P. Caulkins estimates that Americans are stoned on marijuana for more than 288 million hours every week. A UN report on global drug use concluded that Canadians consume weed at a similar rate. Among Europeans, Italians are number one and the French are fourth. But I encourage you to avoid contributing to these figures for the next 12 to 14 days. In my astrological opinion, it's time to be as sober and sensible and serious as you ever get. You have the chance to make unprecedented progress on practical matters through the power of your pure reasoning and critical thinking.

**HOMEWORK:** Name two ways you think that everyone should be more like you. [FreeWillAstrology.com](http://FreeWillAstrology.com).

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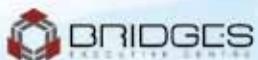
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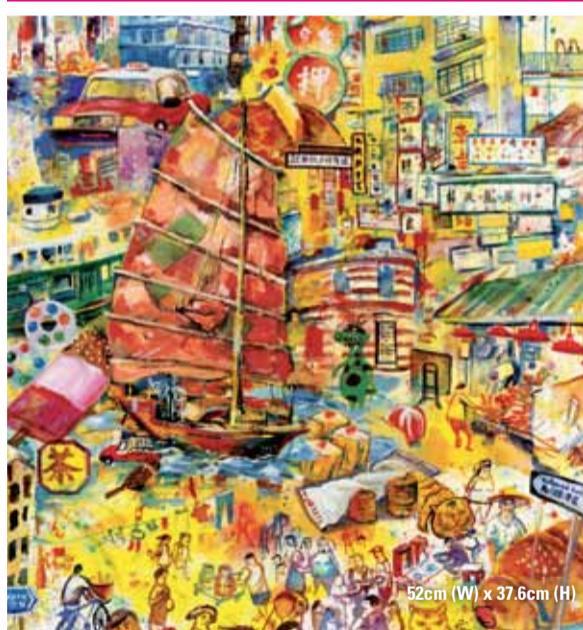
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## SAVAGE LOVE

Dan Savage

**Congrats to Caitlyn Jenner on her big reveal and lovely Vanity Fair cover! But I am having a crisis of conscience. On one hand, I support a person's right to be whoever the heck they want to be. You want to wear women's clothing and use makeup and style your hair? You look fabulous! You want to carry a pillow around with an anime character on it and get married to it, like a guy in Korea did? Congrats! You want to collect creepy lifelike dolls and push them around in a stroller, like a woman on Staten Island does? Great! But I'm confused where we draw the line. When a thin person believes they're "fat" and then dangerously restricts their food intake, we can have that person committed. Most doctors won't amputate your arm simply because you feel you were meant to be an amputee. But when a man decides that he should be a woman (or vice versa), we will surgically remove healthy body parts to suit that particular desire. Of course, we modify/enhance/surgically alter other body parts all the time. I guess I'm confused. Could you shine some light on this for me? I want to be less conflicted about sex-reassignment surgery.**

**- No Surgery For Me**

Gender identity, unlike marrying a pillow or pushing a doll around in a stroller, is not an affectation or an eccentricity or plain ol' batshittery. Gender identity goes to the core of who we are and how we wish to be—how we fundamentally need to be—perceived by others. Take it away, Human Rights Campaign:

"The term 'gender identity,' distinct from the term 'sexual orientation,' refers to a person's innate, deeply felt psychological identification as a man, woman, or some other gender, which may or may not correspond to the sex assigned to them at birth... Transitioning is the process some transgender people go through to begin living as the gender with which they identify, rather than the sex assigned to them at birth. This may or may not include hormone therapy, sex-reassignment surgery, and other medical procedures."

Unlike people who have healthy limbs amputated (which some doctors will do, if only to prevent people with "body integrity identity disorder" from amputating their own limbs) or thin people starving themselves to death because they think they're fat, transgender people who embrace their gender identities and take steps toward transitioning are almost always happier and healthier as a result. That said, transitioning is not a panacea. Just as coming out of the closet isn't the end of a gay person's struggles or troubles, transitioning—which may or may not involve surgery and/or hormones—won't protect a trans person from discrimination or violence, or resolve other personal or mental health issues that may exist.

You seem pretty concerned about the surgical removal of healthy body parts. To which I would say: Other people's bodies—and other people's body parts—are theirs, not yours. And if an individual wants or needs to change or even remove some part(s) of their body to be who they are or to be happy or healthy, I'm sure you would agree that they should have that right. Again, not all trans people get surgery, top or bottom, and many trans people change everything else (they take hormones, they get top surgery) but opt to stick with the genitals they were born with. (The ones they were born with tend to work better than the ones that can currently be constructed for them.) But unless you're trans yourself, currently sleeping with a trans person, or about to sleep with a trans person, NSFM, it's really none of your business what any individual trans person elects to change.

For me, it boils down to letting people be who they are and do what they want. Sometimes people do things for what can seem like silly and/

or mystifying reasons (marry pillows, grow beards, vote Republican), while sometimes people—sometimes even the same people—do things for very sound and serious reasons (come out, alter their bodies, vote Democrat). Unless someone else's choices impact you in a real, immediate, and material way—unless someone wants to marry your pillow or wants to surgically alter your body or wants to persecute you politically or economically—there's no conflict for you to resolve.

Accept that you won't always understand all of the choices that other people make about their sexualities or gender identities—or their partners or their hobbies or their whatevers—and try to strike the right balance between minding your own business and embracing/celebrating the infinite diversity of the human experience.

I'm a 23-year-old man. I left an abusive relationship a year ago, and I'm currently in therapy dealing with the fallout. This abusive relationship really affected me negatively. On the one hand, she was the first person I was ever really intimate with. And when I say intimate, I mean pretty much everything you can think of—holding hands to kissing to intercourse to kinky sex. I identify very strongly as a submissive man, but she coerced me to be way more dominant than I actually am, among other shitty things she did to me. This has made me even more desirous of expressing myself submissively in bed, because I never really got to be who I actually am. How can I explore my submissive desires in a place that doesn't really have much in the way of BDSM-related meet-ups, munches, clubs, etc? How do I meet a Dominant who is respectful and kind? I may need more time away from relationships to recover and get my life in order, but being a submissive is more and more at the forefront of my mind.

**- Seeking A Dominant**

If you don't live someplace with kinky clubs and social organizations—no classes, no munches, no dungeons—you have three options.

1. Look for kinky people in your area on kinky dating sites. Mention that you're looking for kinky friends, too, not just dates or lovers, because a kinky friend could invite you to a private party in your area.

2. Date women you've met on non-kinky sites or in non-kinky venues and roll out your kinks in good time. I've been to lots of kink events, SAD, and I've met two kinds of people there: people who were always kinky and people who fell in love with someone kinky and then fell in love with kink. You know from personal experience that being coerced into playing a certain role is no fun—it can even tip over into abuse—so your mission is to find one of those women who loves being Dominant but won't realize it until she falls in love with a submissive guy.

3. Move someplace that has kinky clubs, social organizations, and BDSM-related events and play parties.

**Your advice to FACTS, the guy who cheated on his wife, was spot-on as usual. He should not tell a woman on a first date about the number of women he cheated on his ex-wife with before his divorce. You might also let him know to not mention the "crying myself to sleep every night" bit, either. But then, I am just a middle-aged gay man—so what do I know?**

**- Just Saying**

Middle-aged gay men—what do we know about anything?

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Our company was established since 1994.

1) Part-Time Models  
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Products Image Representatives/  
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- Requirements: Stylish/Cool/Smart/  
Elegant/Sweet/Camera Face

2) Baby & Kids Models (Age: over  
3 months to 15 years old)  
Baby & Kid Products Image  
Representatives/Press Conferences/  
Photo shooting for Newspapers and  
Magazine/TV Commercials  
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Camera Face/Twins

3) Singer  
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If you are interested, please contact  
Ms. Leung at [2740 9059](tel:27409059) or email us  
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# FIRST PERSON



Photo: Kirk Kenny/studioz8.com

"I am a sensitive person. I attach feelings to things around me."

Cantopop darling **Pakho Chau** made his start in the music industry in 2007. He has released nine albums and boasts multiple accolades, including the prestigious Male Singer Gold Award at the Ultimate Song Chart Awards earlier this year. The singer-songwriter talks to Isabelle Hon about insisting on learning to play the piano, his former modeling career—and why people think he's too sentimental.

**My father** is a retired businessman and my mother is a housewife. I have two brothers—and I'm in the middle.

**I loved music** and was surrounded by it while growing up. My father had a hi-fi sound system and my neighbor played the piano.

**I was a** happy kid, but I wasn't simply handed what I wanted—my parents usually gave stuff out as a prize after I had achieved something.

**They taught me this:** If you want something, you have to try your best. They also punished me when I was wrong.

**I studied at** a local school in Sai Kung, where I played basketball competitively.

**My parents gave me** a lot of freedom. I could hang out with any friends and play as many sports as I wanted.

**I was a** part-time swimming coach and lifeguard every summer. I would earn around \$16,000 per month, which was quite a lot for a student at the time.

**My mom refused** to let me play the piano because she thought I'd give it up easily. But after I kept begging her, she finally gave in.

**It eventually paved** the way for my music career. I started to write songs and play the guitar too.

**When I was** 18, I became a model for [model agency] StarzPeople.

**It was very** common at the time for a model to turn into a singer, but I didn't switch industries directly. I worked as a music engineer before pursuing a music career.

**I was working** in a recording studio, and basically had to start from the bottom—I bought toilet paper, fixed cables and tuned guitars. Later on I started to take part in music production and to sing TVC jingles.

**It was a** great opportunity. I learned about music production, met more people in the field, and eventually had a chance to audition and got to launch a singing career.

**My song,** "There's Only One Thing I Won't Let You Do," was for a friend who was suffering from cancer for a second time. We have been good friends for a long time. We played basketball together and he's the one who taught me to play the guitar.

**I am a** sensitive person. I attach feelings to things around me. Things are all alive to me, just like in "Toy Story."

**I love to** express myself through writing. Some praise my work, while others criticize me and say I'm overly sentimental. But everyone has their own way of expressing themselves.

**People can address** me however they want. Some call me *fei zhai* [fat boy], but obviously I'm not fat. I don't mind.

**I usually keep** my love life under wraps. And I think communication is the most important thing between couples.

**I think** [actress] Carina Lau is awesome. Career-wise she's a powerful woman, but in love and relationships she's very soft.

**People find me** cheerful, but I had a nine-month setback in my life. Before getting into the entertainment field, I was confused and didn't know what was going to happen.

**I was still** a model and wanted to be a singer, but I had huge problems with my skin. Every day I woke up with tons of acne that was bleeding all over my face. I was really depressed.

**But I didn't** let it get me down. I kept on practicing the guitar at home and working in the studio.

**My motto is:** You only live once, so keep going.



## NEED TO KNOW...

Pakho Chau, 30, released his first album in November 2007. In 2013, he established online clothing shop XPX by Punk Hippie, offering clothes and accessories, while also designing products. He recently collaborated with skincare brand Kiehl's to design a bottle cap for its new product, Rare Earth Deep Pore Cleansing Masque. Shop XPX at [www.punkhippie.com](http://www.punkhippie.com).

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