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NO. 1116

HK?

HK MAGAZINE FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2015 HK-MAGAZINE.COM

Q: What is this?



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COVER STORY
Just how Hong Kong
ARE you really? Prove it

8



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TECH
Our new tech
section: We'll be
droning on and on



16

DISH
It's hairy crab
season, so get
your hirsute
crustaceans here

Q: What is this?

15

TRAVEL
Going green
for Thailand's
Wonderfruit



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FILM
In "Hong Kong
Trilogy," Chris
Doyle documents
a surreal Occupy



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FIRST PERSON
Trading blows with
boxer Rex Tso

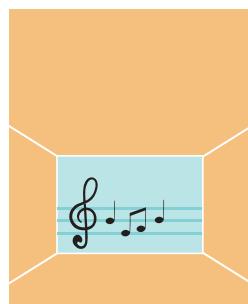


37

GIVEAWAYS
We've got a
winner for our big
contest—and more
prizes, too



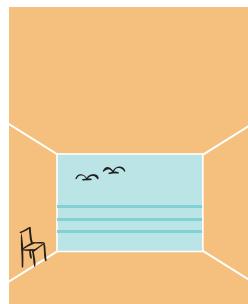
a) Musical notation.



Send Regards!

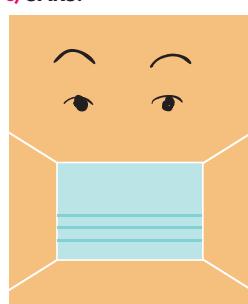
Professor Johannes Chan was denied the post of pro-vice-chancellor of Hong Kong University this week, after a drawn-out confirmation process resulted in the HKU Council blocking him from the post. Chan suggested that the process had been politicized because of his close links to Occupy Central founder Benny Tai. Reasons cited for the denial included Chan's failure to "send regards" to council member Lo Chung-mau, who had collapsed when student protesters stormed an earlier meeting. Sounds plausible to us, as this cautionary song for Chan proves...

b) The view from a
Repulse Bay balcony.



If you'd like to be appointed
To the posting of your dreams
A single thing gets you anointed
Under every true regime:
Send regards!

c) SARS.



It doesn't matter what your thoughts are
Your skills, talents or expertise!
Who really cares if you would go far?
Who cares if you'd do it with ease?
Just send regards!

If you want a job that's better
You needn't craft your résumé.
Spend no time on cover letters
Throw that reference away—
Just send regards!

You could be a larcenist
Stealing from the truly poor:
You could be an arsonist—
Or worse still, hail from Singapore.
Just send regards!

Seems all else will be discarded
When your regards have been imparted:
Opponents won't be broken-hearted
As long as they are well regarded—
So send regards!

Not a fan of Xi Jinping?
Send regards!
Trying to tell off Li Ka-shing?
Send regards!
Hate the Hong Kong-Zhuhai bridge?
Send regards!
Want universal suffrage?
Send regards!

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HOME



Mr. Know-It-All's

— Guide to Life —

Dear Mr. Know-It-All,

You see the signs and hear the announcements all the time: Why aren't metallic balloons allowed on the MTR?

We've all tittered over the signs and announcements banning metallic balloons from the MTR. After all, it feels like another of those spurious instructions that Hong Kong is so happy to throw at us, another example of rules for the sake of rules.

But there's actually a reason why metallic balloons aren't a good idea on our underground. You see, it all goes back to the way that the MTR is powered. Most subway systems around the world use a third-rail system, in which power is transmitted along an additional rail on the tracks. It's fine, but it's also limited: You can get a comparatively lower voltage on it, which means slower speeds for your train—and less powerful air-conditioning. Also, there's a giant metal strip filled with electricity running along the ground, which means if anyone falls or wanders onto the track and touches it, they've got a good chance of fatally electrocuting themselves.

The MTR runs its cables overhead, just as the trams do. That means it can carry higher voltages, and it's also out



of the way of all but the most enterprising of suicidal trespassers. But those overhead power cables have their downside—and here's where the metallic balloons come in.

Metallic balloons are almost always filled with helium, allowing them to float. But of course, hand a child a floaty balloon and one thing is guaranteed—they'll let go. Metallic balloons run the risk of drifting into the tunnels, where their conductive surfaces are likely to short-circuit the power lines.

Seems implausible? It's not. The ban came into place in 1996, when a Minnie Mouse balloon floated into a tunnel on the Island line at rush hour. The resulting short circuit halted all trains between Admiralty and Quarry Bay for an hour and a half, affecting 100,000 commuters. Metallic balloons shorting out power lines still cause delays every year, even after the introduction of the full-height platform screen doors. And when you're working with what's probably the most efficient, delay-free public transport system in the world, you can see why you'd get a little draconian about potential delays.

Another MTR mystery cleared up. Although understanding why the no-metallic-balloons rule is in effect doesn't really help to explain rules banning musical instruments, or that announcement saying you should stand on both sides of the escalator. When it comes to those, your guess is as good as mine.

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

— Metal Head



This week in My Perfect HK:
What does it take to be a Hongkonger? If you listen to the government (and who doesn't?) it takes 7 years of living in the city. Listen to localists, and you'd better be able to trace your lineage to the first fisherman to cast a line into Tolo Harbour. If you ask us, we'd say this: We're a city of immigrants. If you want to—really want to—call yourself a Hongkonger, there's a good chance that you already are.

Letters

"I use jor 20 mins sin clear understand sai"

Work in the Shaft

In our interview with filmmaker Christopher Doyle ["Trilogy Tales," Sep 25, issue 1115], Doyle exhorted people not to work in "the bloody fiscal tower, the big penis in the sky. Don't go work in a penis." Facebook readers liked the phrase...

He is right, all those towers are phallic symbols of the worst kind.

Nick Morgan

If you have to go to work in a penis tower, IFC isn't bad.

Traci Tong

Turning Hongkongese

Our interview with lyricist and 100Most founder Lin Rixi, aka Roy Tsui, was very popular ["First Person," Sep 25, issue 1115]. Tsui posted the interview to his Facebook page, writing in a satirical Hong Kong English. His Facebook commenters joined in. If you don't understand—sorry, we're not going to help.

all people sor 9 know, my english is good good. this fong ask is about something i repeat and repeat 100000 times in other fong asks. nothing special, but in english, so it's special. if u have many many many time can waste, read la seven head.

Lin Rixi

Waste green point 9 know english ah! U knife 1900 lines! Black face!

Alvin Jim

I use jor 20 mins sin clear understand sai,
really ho seven head

Vanessa Siu

wa hongkongish is so difficult to learn loh.
i really yum ging you.

Juliana Wong

What 柒 you said?



Eric Mak

#PrivateEyeHK



Ghost Festival Smoke

Photo by J Chan (facebook.com/yourstoryteller)

Need to get something off your chest? Got an amazing photo to share?
Write us! letters@hkmagmedia.com



Friday 10/2

Butcher's Block

The Butchers Club Burger had so much fun the last time that they're hosting **Block Party 2**, which includes live music, lots of sliders, free Kopparberg cider for the ladies and 2-4-1 Peroni for the gents.

6pm. G/F Rialto Building, 2 Landale St., Wan Chai, 2528-2083.

Saturday 10/3

Fiestas Before Siestas

La Paloma has just launched a new **Spanish Brunch** menu for some good ol' fashioned family fun: Kids under 8 get free lunch, while adults can booze out on free-flow cava or Estrella while tucking into tapas and a main of paella, suckling pig or wagyu right before siesta time.

Weekends, 12-4pm. 1/F, SoHo 189, 189 Queen's Rd. West, Sai Ying Pun, 2291-6161. \$298 per person, plus \$188 for free-flow.



Sunday 10/4

Lean Green Scene

Taikoo Place and Honestly Green have banded together for the **Tong Chong Street Sunday Market**, a place where farmers' markets, culinary entrepreneurs and hungry participants can gather and share food. Bring an appetite! **Every Sunday through Dec 27, 11am-5pm.**

Taikoo Place, Tong Chong St., Quarry Bay.



Monday 10/5

Pub Pranks

Everyone's favorite British xenophobe, **Al Murray the Pub Landlord**, is back in the SAR to celebrate the best of British. Wait—weren't we trying to decolonize, or something? **8pm. Rotunda 3, 6/F, KITEC, 1 Trademart Drive, Kowloon Bay. \$488-788 from www.hkticketing.com.**

Wednesday 10/7

Soul Suckers

At the **Para Site International Conference**, artists and curators from around the world come together to examine the very nature of art exhibitions themselves. How arty is THAT? **Oct 6-8. Sunbeam Theatre, 432 King's Rd., North Point. Free tickets from www.eventbrite.com.**

Thursday 10/8

Wine and Dine

Join the third year of the **Telford Annual Wine Fair** to find out how to tell a fine wine from a finer wine. They're hosting master classes, tastings and a VIP dinner, so do your best not to get too drunk. **Public tasting 6-9pm, \$200; Masterclass 3-5pm, \$400, \$600 for two; Dinner 7:30-10pm, \$788 per person, \$1,500 for two. Sheraton Hotel, 20 Nathan Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui. Smart Casual. RSVP at ray_lau@telford.com.hk or 2315-6591.**

COMING UP

Do it for the Kids

The weather's cooling down, which means that outdoor sports aren't as sweaty and disgusting as before. This year's **Taikoo Place Aquathon 17.3** takes you across the island in a 17.3 km race with open water swimming, trail running, and road running. Proceeds go to Beam International Foundation, a medical charity that provides free surgeries for underprivileged children in China. **Nov 14. \$500 for individuals, \$600 for relays from www.revolution-asia.com.**



Tuesday 10/6

Belly Brewin'

It's **Beer Week**, which means your beer belly's about to grow. The week is full of great deals and craft beer events, all capped off with the craft beer heaven that is Beertopia (Oct 9-10). **Oct 2-10. Bars everywhere, beerweek.hk.**



Friday 10/9

Jus Us

Fufu brings in house DJ **Jus-Ed** to new wine bar and music venue MyHouse for a night of underground beats. **11pm-6am, MyHouse, 202 Queen's Rd. East, Wan Chai, 2323-1715. \$100 from www.ticketflap.com/jused or \$200 at the door, includes one drink.**

Saturday 10/10

Vroom Vroom

Hongkongers may love their Lambos and Porsches, but **Hong Kong Classic** brings back the old school with classic cars and motorcycles from the mid 1900s. Gearheads will be all over the rare whips on show, such as a 1953 Aston Martin DB2. There's also plenty of vintage fun and shopping for everyone else, plus race car simulators for those Initial D types.

Oct 10-11, opens at 11am. Central Harbourfront Event Space, 9 Lung Wo Road, Central. \$80 from www.hkticketing.com, free for under-12 and seniors.



Last Week In Reality

SAT 19

Ginseng Fraud A Taiwanese couple buying ginseng at a dispensary in Mong Kok is offered a price of \$700 per catty. The couple want to buy one catty with cash but the shop insists on taking a credit card, offering a pack of ginseng tea as a complimentary gift.

As the man pays by card, the shopkeeper rushes him to enter his PIN, covering the screen with his hands. Checking the receipt, the couple discovers that they have paid \$11,110 instead of \$700. The shopowner says that ginseng is weighed by the tael, not the catty, and says the couple should have read the price more carefully. The couple call the police, who refer them to the Consumer Council.



SUN 20

Hot Prices At midnight, a group of 11 have a meal at a hot pot restaurant in Kowloon City.

They are charged \$5,800 for the meal. Surprised at the high cost, they refuse to pay and leave. Two waiters try to stop them from going, but are assaulted by one of the group. The group had apparently ordered beer as well as food, but the restaurant refuses to disclose the order. Police arrest five of the group after the incident, charging one with assault.

MON 21

Gloat Note The results of the Mark Six Mid-Autumn Festival are announced, with one ticket winning half of the \$90 million jackpot. On the same night, a photo circulates online of a notice posted on to a shopfront. It reads "I have won the lottery and I am closing the store to go on holiday to the U.S. I am going to buy a house for retirement. Hehe. I am not lying."

TUE 22

Midnight Hour A man calling himself "Midnight Kiss" is charged in court with eight counts of burglary and one of attempted burglary. The name derives from singer Alan Tam's classic Cantopop tune of the same name. The man's name is similar to Alan Tam's name, but he had always wanted a Japanese-sounding name, so he adopted to the four-character nickname "Midnight Kiss" instead. The case is adjourned, pending further police investigation.



WED 23

Sssssutra A three-foot-long rat snake is found hiding in a cottage on the grounds of a Buddhist temple in Tuen Muen. Police call in expert "Snake King Lau" to capture the serpent. As the "Snake King" goes to work, monks in the temple gather around the cottage and chant sutras. When the snake is captured, the monks request that it not be killed. The snake is released into the wild.

Illustrations: Ryan Chan

THU 24

Toothy Bite A woman buys a box of salmon sushi from a chain store to take home. She bites on something hard and discovers three false teeth inside the sushi. She calls the manager of the shop to complain, but the manager insists that all staff wear face masks and no one employed wears false teeth. A spokesperson for the Food and Environment Department says that they have inspected the store and are satisfied with its hygiene conditions.



FRI 25

Boozy Burglary A 40-year-old man returns to his apartment in Fortress Hill in the morning after spending the night drinking. He presses the wrong button on the elevator and ends up on the 35th floor, three floors below his home. He finds the door is unlocked and enters: The man who lives in the flat wakes up to find him asleep on the kitchen floor, and calls the police. More than 20 police officers in six police vans, and a patrol dog, arrive on the scene before the misunderstanding is cleared up.

Quote of the Week

"View from Cheung Kong over, or should I say transcending, Hong Kong Chief Executive residence Government House"

British Consul General to Hong Kong and Macau Caroline Wilson tweets a photo of Government House mocking Liaison Office director Zhang Xiaoming's statement that the post of Chief Executive "transcends" the three branches of government.



Talking Points

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

New App sees Dick Pics on the Rise

Social media app "17 - Your Life's Moments," which first launched in Taiwan three months ago, recently arrived in Hong Kong and has come under fire for **hosting obscene content**. The platform is similar to Instagram, but with an additional **live video broadcast function**—and **users can earn money** if their posts are liked and shared. Hong Kong users have been **livestreaming photos and videos of their penises, broadcasting footage of themselves masturbating**—and livestreaming footage of La Liga football matches, all in the name of profit. As of press time, the app has been taken off Google and Apple's app stores. The app's founder, Taiwanese actor Jeffrey Huang, says **new monitoring software has been introduced** to prevent unwanted behavior.

Our take: It is a truth universally acknowledged that internet + humanity = dick pics.

Hong Kong's Classic Goldfinch Restaurant Closes

After 60 years in business, **Causeway Bay's legendary Goldfinch Restaurant has suddenly closed**. The restaurant was famous not only for its steaks, but also for its **1960s-style décor**, including its emerald-colored walls and leather seats. A popular haunt of Hong Kong artists and directors, it was **featured in Wong Kar-wai's classic films "2046" and "In the Mood for Love."** There are rumors that the restaurant is only closed for renovation, while others say that due to internal strife some of the restaurant's shareholders have decided to leave in order to open a new venue. Many loyal customers visited the restaurant on its final day of business, **bemoaning rising rents**: On Lan Fong Road where the restaurant stood, at least four shops are still vacant.

Our take: Another one bites the dust... again.





Street Talk

Meet master modeler **Dio Wong**, who specializes in making prototypes of "figures"—wildly popular Japanese anime figurines. He tells Joanne Lee about sculpting the perfect figure and turning art into engineering.

HK Magazine: What was your first figure?

DW: I bought a few [manga] figures such as from "Urusei Yatsura" and "Fist of the North Star." At the time there were very few human figures—only robots were available. I found them in a magazine and thought they were fascinating.

HK: What exactly does a master modeler do?

DW: Every product has a prototype. Master modelers are like product designers—we design and sculpt 3D figures from 2D comics. Master modelers and figurine sculptors are different—it's like the difference between interior designers and renovators. Master modelers need to have a background knowledge of art as well as the production procedure. We teach ourselves.

HK: Why become a master modeler?

DW: I love making figures. I started studying it in Form 1. My family had a factory—not a toy one, but they knew about manufacturing. My mother said the figures I had bought were made of silicon. She told me there were many chemical stores on Bonham Strand, and to ask them about materials and molding.

HK: What kind of figures do you enjoy making the most?

DW: I do not limit my interests to specific figuring—I like making figures that have great capacity for creativity. People who ask me to design a figure should expect something

new. I don't like working under too many restrictions. It makes me feel I'm a figure sculptor instead of a master modeler.

HK: What are you up to right now?

DW: We are working on Hong Kong comic figures. This year is the 20th anniversary of [Fung Chi-ming's 23rd comic] Ba Dou (霸刀) so I am sculpting some figures for it. I sculpted its characters 20 years ago, but I have not modelled their grown-up versions. I am also currently working on the Street Fighter series.

HK: What is the hardest part of your job?

DW: Master modelers need to have a balance of both the art and engineering knowledge. In the past, Hong Kong's toy industry was mainly a process industry as figures sculpted in foreign countries couldn't be produced directly, and local engineers needed to break down figure parts during the manufacturing process. They didn't have an art background so they didn't know what could and couldn't be omitted. Since most figures I design are for mass production, I need to come up with art pieces that can actually be produced—it turns from a matter of art to a matter of engineering.

HK: What's it like to work in the Japanese figure market?

DW: Model kits dominated the industry at first, but now mass-produced PVC figures have taken over.

Trendy characters and epic characters are popular among figure lovers. There are more restrictions because of copyright issues in the Hong Kong figure market. The Hong Kong market mainly produces "Q-version" [cute mini] figures while the situation in the Japanese market is better—we can work more on figures made according to the body proportions.

HK: Which piece of work are you most proud of?

DW: My work involves a wide variety of figures, so it's hard to decide which one I am most proud of. But I think my early work, like the Ba Dou series, is quite good.

Check out www.dio.hk to find out more about Dio Wong's work.



Blowing Water

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

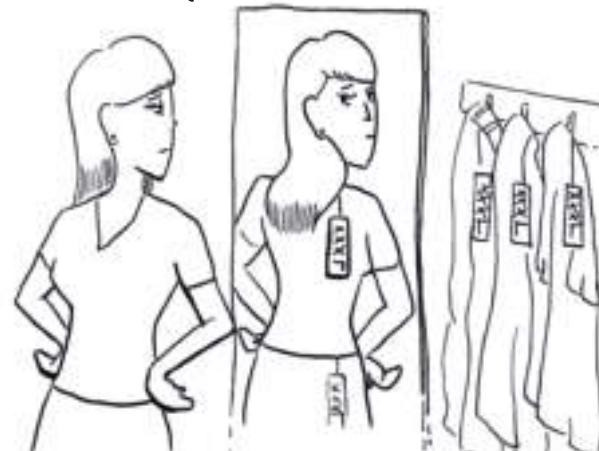
tsau² yau⁴ yu²

炒魷魚

"FRIED SQUID"

"To be fired." Term originating from when workers were given lodging by their employers. When fired, they would roll up their belongings in their bedrolls, which would look like the curled edges of fried squid.

HongKabulary



Immigflation (imigfleɪʃn), n.

Moving to Hong Kong and discovering that your clothing sizes have gone from XS to XL overnight.

"Hi, do you have this dress in—"

"Sorry, we don't carry hippo sizes."

"Damn you, immigflation!"

THE HONG KONG CITIZENSHIP TEST

If you live in Hong Kong for 7 years, you automatically get citizenship. But it doesn't matter if you were born in Mong Kok or Monrovia: the question is, are you a true Hongkonger? Take this test to find out.
Invigilator: **Adam White**

Rules of Examination

- Keep your eyes on your examination paper at all times.
- You may drink one (1) beer per round.
- Strictly no Google.

Name ()

Years in Hong Kong

Date

Part 1 – Easy Questions for Gweilos

Provide the answers to these simple questions about Hong Kong.

1. Which flower appears on the Hong Kong flag?
2. How many districts does the SAR have?
3. When was the New Territories (i) ceded to the British, and (ii) for how long?
4. How many days did Occupy Central run for?
5. Who was the first Governor of Hong Kong?
6. What is the tallest mountain in the SAR?
7. Which article of the Basic Law deals with anti-subversion legislation?
8. What tourist attraction is known as the “Rice Bowl”?
9. What was the first road in Hong Kong?
10. Which nationality makes up the largest minority group in Hong Kong?
11. How long is a term of office for the Chief Executive?
12. What percentage of Hong Kong is protected country park land?

1. _____
2. _____
3. (i) _____ (ii) _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____

(12 marks)

Part 2 – Know Your Nicknames

13. Match the famous face to their nickname:



(i)



(ii)



(iii)



(iv)

“Tai Pan”

“The Conscience
of Hong Kong”

“Wah Zai”

“689”

(4 marks)

Part 3 – Medium Questions for HK Kids

14. How much does a stick of siu mai cost at a street food stall, on average?
15. What is the genre of Stephen Chow “nonsense” movies called?
16. What is the average size of a Hong Kong apartment?
17. How much is Li Ka-shing worth?
18. Where does the term “tai-pan” originate?
19. Who is the current Miss Hong Kong?
20. What is a “yuen yeung”?
21. Hong Kong is home to Asia’s most expensive apartment.
(i) What is it called, and (ii) how much did it cost?
22. Which Chief Executive starred in a Christmas canto-rap video on YouTube?
23. How do you indicate to a taxi driver that you wish to cross the harbor?
24. How many pandas are there in Hong Kong?

14. _____
15. _____
16. _____
17. _____
18. _____
19. _____
20. _____
21. (i) _____ (ii) _____
22. _____
23. _____
24. _____

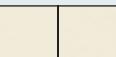
(11 marks) 

Part 4 – Cantopop Faces

25. Match the following 80s/90s Cantopop stars to their faces:

- A. Jacky Cheung
B. Anita Mui
C. Paula Tsui
D. Sam Hui
E. Roman Tam



(5 marks) 

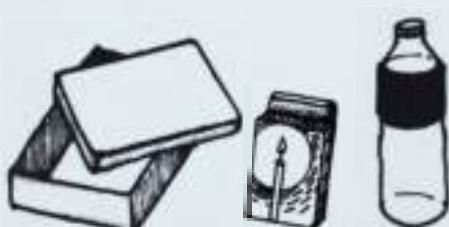
Part 5 – Image Association

Explain the meaning of each set of three images.



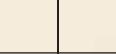
26. _____

27. _____



28. _____

29. _____

(4 marks) 

Part 6 - Hard Questions for Mong Kok Princesses

30. What is the starting fare for a taxi (i) in Central, (ii) the New Territories, and (iii) on Lantau?

(i) _____ (ii) _____ (iii) _____

31. Why does the Hong Kong flag contain five stars?

32. How many people died of SARS in Hong Kong?

33. What culinary phrase in Cantonese means “talking on the phone for a long time?”

34. Name the “Four Heavenly Kings.”

35. What does a catty weigh in grams?

36. How do you indicate the number six with one hand?



37. What do you do when someone pours you a cup of tea at yum cha?

38. Name the last three governors of Hong Kong.

39. Name an amphibian endemic to Hong Kong.

40. What does “hea” mean?

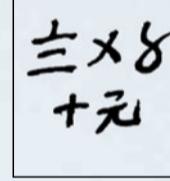
41. What percentage of Hongkongers live in public rental housing?

42. How many outlying islands are there in the SAR?

43. Aside from the Democratic Party and Civic party, there are seven other pan-democrat parties with a seat in Legco. Name three.

(i) _____ (ii) _____ (iii) _____

44. In the wet market, a sign next to the lobsters reads:
What does this mean?



15 marks)

44. These are “Suzhou numerals” and they indicate a price of \$84.50. The top row reads “845” while the bottom row indicates the value of the first number.

Democracy and People’s Livelihood, Neighborhood and Workers’ Service Centre, Neo Democrats.

43. Labor Party, People Power, Professional Commons, League of Social Democrats, Association for

42. 263. Within five is acceptable.

41. 29.1 percent.

40. Lazy, can’t be bothered / to chill out.

39. There are two: Sir David Akers-Jones, Sir David Wilson, Chris Patten.

38. From older to newer: Sir David Akers-Jones, Sir David Wilson, Chris Patten.

37. “Kowtow” by tapping two fingers on the table two or three times.

36. Hand held horizontally, thumb and little finger outstretched like the “hang loose” hand sign.

35. 60.7482g, but 604g or 605g is fine.

34. In no particular order: Andy Lau, Jacky Cheung, Aaron Kwok, Leon Lai.

33. Bo dieen wah juk, “cooking telephone congee”, in reference to the length of time it takes to make congee.

32. 299.

31. To correspond to the Chinese flag, and therefore (according to the Basic Law Drafting Committee)

30. Central: \$22, New Territories: \$18.50. Lantau: \$17.

29. Sadly, these are all linked by reality in Hong Kong.

28. These are the elements of bo lop, or “wax burning”, in which mooncake tins of burning wax are

urned into a giant fireball with the addition of water.

27. These are all color-based nicknames for currency: ting hei (貳毫), “green cent”, is \$10 thanks to its red color

and gun ngeun (貳分), “golden ox,” is \$1,000.

26. These are the elements of da stu yun, or “villain hitting”, a traditional form of cursing your enemies.

Part 4

(i) “Tai Pan”
(ii) “Wah Zai”
(iii) “Wh Zai”
(iv) “689”
(v) “Hong Kong”
(vi) “The Conscience of Hong Kong”

24. Four: Ying Yim, Le Le, An An and Jia Jia.

23. Wave your arm in a “down-and-under” motion.

22. Donald Tang, starting opposite MC Jin.

21. (i) Opus Hong Kong on Stubbs Road.

20. A half-coffee, half-tea drink served in a cha chaan teng.

19. Luisa Mak.

18. Meaning “top class” or “big shot,” the term originates from the heads of the trading houses in 1800s Hong Kong. William Jardine was the first to

17. US\$24.5 billion (HK\$189 billion).

16. 484 square feet.

15. “mou lei tau.”

14. \$7.

13. The Bauhinia.

12. 40 percent.

11. Five years.

10. Indonesia.

9. Queen’s Road.

8. The Peak Tower.

7. Arctic 23.

6. Tai Mo Shan.

5. Sir Henry Pottinger.

4. 79 days.

3. (i) 1898.
(ii) 1881.

2. 18 districts.

1. The Bauhinia.

How did you do?

Part 1	Part 2	Part 3	Part 4	Part 5	Part 6	Total Marks
12	4	11	5	4	15	51

0-5 You are... Foreign Forces You are in Hong Kong in order to twist the city to your nefarious purposes. But never fear—Chief Executive CY Leung has your number. 	6-20 You are... F.O.B. Oh dear. You've only just arrived in Hong Kong, haven't you? You probably think that Wyndham Street is this amazing little street with all these cool secret bars. You probably think that the Jumbo Floating Restaurant is authentic and you've just started to rave about this awesome nabe called Sai Ying Pun. Oh, and you'd never go to the "Dark Side." It's scary there. Don't worry, incipient Hongkonger! We may have a long way to go yet, but stick close and you'll be filing for permanent residency in no time. 	21-39 You are... A Hong Kong Kid You're a Hongkonger for sure. You'd rather skip the bars for a cheap bowl of wonton noodles and you know there's more to life than Central and Western district. You even took part in Occupy—well, you went down and took some photos for Instagram, anyway. 	40-50 You are... Grassroots Until Die You're so Hong Kong, you can trace your family back to before the British showed up. You believe in Hong Kong independence, you've never eaten a meal that doesn't contain spam and instant noodles and you think that the Heung Yee Kuk is a totally objective group which is just looking out for all Hongkongers. See you at karaoke! 	51 You are... CY Leung?! Who could know the city and be more in touch with its people than the Chief Executive, who got Chief Secretary Carrie Lam to fill out this test for him? Well done, Mister Executive!
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Water Wonderful World

Aussie painter and curator Jasper Knight has returned to the SAR with **Jumbo Kingdom**, his second solo show in Hong Kong. Named after the floating restaurant in Aberdeen, it's a series of bright, drippy paintings of Hong Kong's waterside life depicted using bold, Mondrian-esque colors.

Through Oct 10. The Cat Street Gallery, 222 Hollywood Rd., Sheung Wan, 2291-0006.



GADGETS

TECH HEAD



Edited by Adam White

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

Phantom Flight

The first time I ever flew a drone, I flew it straight into a wall. I'm not much better at it these days, but that doesn't mean I won't take every single opportunity I get to mess around with one. Shenzhen company DJI are just about the only name in drones these days, and recently I checked out their new entry-level **Phantom 3 Standard** model. This quadcopter may be for beginners but it still comes with most of the bells and whistles, including a camera that shoots stabilized 2.7K video and 12MP photos, livestreaming footage straight to your tablet or phone. They're stable and surprisingly easy to fly, although the half second or so lag in the transmission time takes some time to get used to. I can't wait to take one on my next junk trip.

Pst... A while ago, I also got a few minutes to play with the pro-level Inspire 1 model. It's a lot more responsive and has way more features, but it also costs \$29,000 more. Also, it's loud, sleek and genuinely terrifying when it's flying towards you.

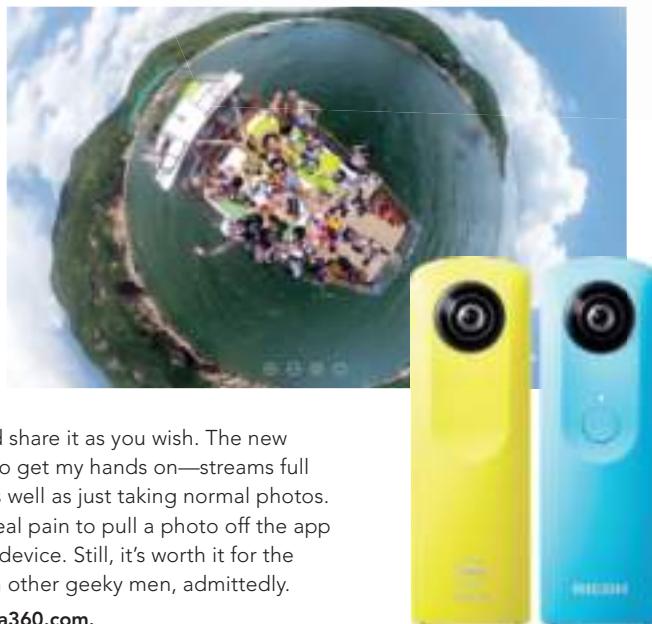
DJI Phantom 3 Standard, US\$699 (\$5,400) from www.dji.com.



Theta Male

Another excellent toy: the **Ricoh Theta** 360-degree camera. This little device comes with a fisheye camera on either side, and it takes two pictures in one and stitches them into a single whole, sending it straight to your smartphone. The photo goes right to a phone app and you can pan, zoom and share it as you wish. The new **Theta S**—which I'm dying to get my hands on—streams full HD video to your phone, as well as just taking normal photos. The main limitation? It's a real pain to pull a photo off the app and onto any other kind of device. Still, it's worth it for the interest it generates... from other geeky men, admittedly.

From US\$300 (\$2,300), theta360.com.



Welcome Committee

Newly launched in Hong Kong: the **Netatmo Welcome**, a Wi-Fi enabled home security camera with built-in face recognition. How does it work? You download the accompanying app and place the (admittedly rather sleek looking) camera facing your door. The camera will automatically recognize the various faces of your household, and you can set up various notifications to be sent straight to your phone, depending on who's doing what. Want an alert when your SO gets home, or someone tries to steal your TV? Easy, and everything's recorded in full 1080p video.

\$1,899 from stores including www.jselect.hk, smartliving.hkt.com and www.nobletimehk.com.



NEW APP CORNER

iPick

This new Hong Kong food app is like if you stuck Openrice, Instagram and Facebook in a room, turned off the lights and came back half an hour later to catch them going at it like bunnies. The app builds a food-based social network: Friends and (literally) tastemakers post their top dishes and reviews, plus you can search for new restaurants and invite friends straight from the app. In our foodie-obsessed city, chances are it's gonna do well...



Free on iOS and Android.

Happn

So you're on the MTR and your eyes lock for a second with a super-cute girl/guy/granny. But you're late for work, they're listening to a podcast and you never find the opportunity to strike up a conversation. Instead you're just two ships passing in the night, always wondering what might have been. Well, Happn has just been released in the SAR to try to save you from yet another what-if situation. If you cross paths with another person with Happn installed, the app will tell you—and if you like the look of each other (again), you can get in touch. Basically, it's like Tinder for people who physically move. And that can only be a good thing.

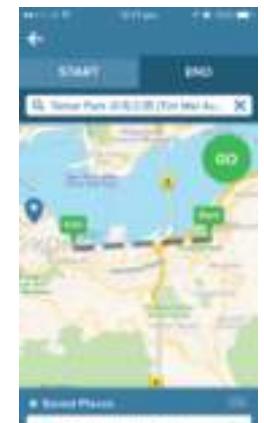
Free on iOS and Android.



Citymapper

The Hong Kong iteration of the city transport app launched about a month ago, and it's all about making getting around the city easier. What makes it different from regular old Google Maps? Real-time public transport updates, for one, as well as notifications to your phone when it's time to get off your bus or tram. Coverage is pretty good so far, although there are no red minibus routes listed yet. Although we don't blame them for that: When it comes to red minibuses, if you don't know—you don't deserve to ride.

Free on iOS and Android.



Edited by Daniel Creffield
daniel.creffield@hkmagmedia.com



ESCAPE ROUTES



Something for everyone at Wonderfruit



Fabulously Fruity Festival

Festivals are usually brilliant fun wherever they are held, but whoever came up with the idea of holding **Wonderfruit** in the party capital of the world is a genius. Other people obviously agree, which is presumably why the eco-friendly festival is returning to Pattaya for the second time from December 17-20.

Wonderfruit is a four-day arts and music festival taking place in Pattaya, 150km southeast of Bangkok. There's not just music on its four stages: we're also talking arts, food, health and wellness, workshops, nature experience and more. And with a strong emphasis on sustainability, it's not going to be your usual environment-destroying festival either.

More importantly, it looks like a total blast.

A variety of accommodation is available, including boutique camping, hotel packages and more. Individual adult tickets for the whole event are THB5,500 (\$1,775), family tickets (two adults and two teens) are THB14,300 (\$3,000), party pass (six adults) is THB28,050 (\$6,000).

December 17-20. The Fields at Siam Country, Pattaya, 50 Moo 9, Bang Lamung, Pong, Chonburi 20150, Thailand, wonderfruitfestival.com.



Imperial Palace Seoul

Packages of Special K

Intrigued by the land of kimchi and K-Pop, but still haven't made it over? Or looking for an excuse to top up on depleted K-power? Either way, **Preferred Hotels** has launched a new "Seoul Searching" hotel package is offering up to 20 percent savings for a three-night stay, 25 percent savings for a five-night stay, and 30 percent savings for a seven-night stay at six hotels across South Korea.

There's always tons going on in Seoul at the throbbing shopping and entertainment districts of Gangnam, Myeongdong and Apgujeong, as well as Asia's largest underground shopping center COEX Mall for plenty of retail therapy. If K-pop culture isn't your thing (how could it not be?), then check out more traditional delights in the Gyeongbokgung and Changdeokgung Palaces, or the old-school feel of Bukchon Hanok Village, Insa-dong, and Namdaemun Market.

Featured hotels include Kensington Hotel Yoido, centrally located in Seoul's business district and close to Seoul's Yido Park and Hangang River, and Imperial Palace Seoul, which offers upscale accommodation in Gangnam, Seoul's fashion and cultural district.

Meanwhile, if you're looking to get outside Seoul consider the Shilla Stay Ulsan, which opened in July. Ulsan, South Korea's industrial hub, could be renamed Hyundai City, as it contains the world's largest automobile assembly plant and shipyard, both operated by the manufacturing giant. But it's not all heavy industry, and boasts beautiful coastlines and the doorway to the Yeongnam Alps, one of South Korea's most beautiful nature parks.

From US\$85 (\$660) per night, preferredhotels.com/seoulsearching.



The Pottinger's Gradini restaurant

Do it in the Name of Culture

Looking for a reason to spend a night of luxury, wining and dining in the historic heart of Central? If you are (and why shouldn't you be), boutique hotel **The Pottinger Hong Kong**'s first anniversary might present the ideal opportunity.

The hotel's anniversary 'Suite Elegance' packages offer a night for two in the Pottinger Suite, the property's top-level accommodation, including a welcome bottle of champagne and amenities such as a powder room and kitchenette. (A powder room??)

The elegant interiors of the property, which is sited on Hong Kong's oldest historic stone slab street, are complemented by subtle oriental design, emphasized by photographer Fan Ho's atmospheric depictions of Central in the 1950s and 60s.



The Pottinger Suite features work by renowned photographer Fan Ho

Guests also get an in-suite evening dining experience with food from the hotel's Italian restaurant Gradini, along with breakfast in the restaurant the following morning. What's on the menu? Goose foie gras terrine with port wine jelly and Gradini's signature rigatoni with Tuscan sausage kick things off, followed by either pan-fried Chilean sea bass with sea urchin cream sauce or the roast lamb loin with pistachio crust, followed by tiramisu del pasticcere.

**'Suite Elegance' in the Pottinger Suite, \$9,688; Studio Suite \$5,388 (with slight variations).
2308-3188, www.thepottinger.com.**

Hair of the Crab

Shanghainese hairy crab season has begun! Help yourself to these Chinese delicacies.

By Justin Heifetz and Evelyn Lok



What's so special about hairy crabs?

Hairy crab season runs in the ninth and tenth lunar months, from October through to the end of the year. These seasonal treats are prized for their clean, sweet flesh and rich, flavor-packed roe: The females mature earlier, while the males get most tasty towards the end of the season. The most prized varieties come from Yangcheng lake in eastern China, and fake versions are widely sold on the mainland.

Go to Tao Li on these hairy crabs

Steaming into Tradition

Specially selected crabs from Jiangsu will be gracing plates at the New World Millennium Hong Kong Hotel from this month until the end of December. At **Tao Li**, head chef So Kei-pak is preparing steamed Jiangsu hairy crab with perilla leaves paired with Zhenjiang vinegar, which is about as traditional as it gets. And it's not all about taste—So brags that hairy crabs are high in nutrition, chock full of protein, amino acids and calcium. The menu at Tao Li also has a number of crab roe dishes, from deep-fried crispy rice topped with hairy crab to braised egg white dumplings with hairy crab roe.

2/F, New World Millennium Hong Kong Hotel,
72 Mody Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui East, 2313-4225.

A Royal Feast

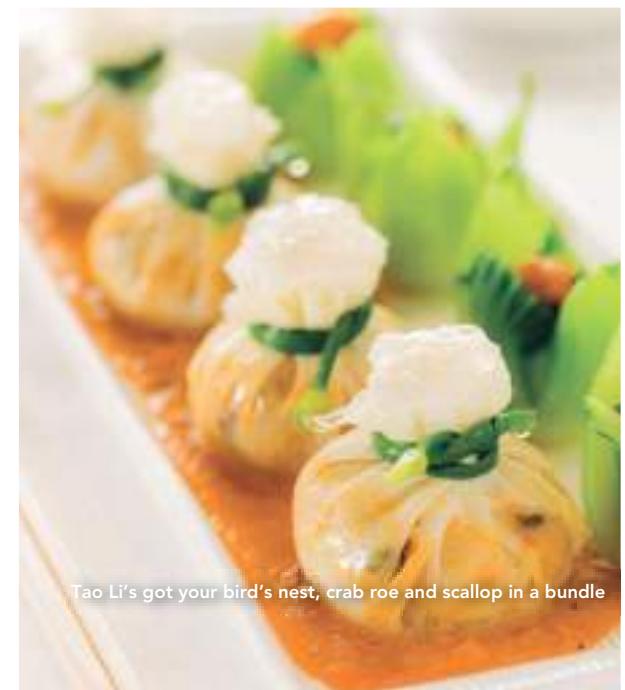
The Royal Plaza Hotel's **Di King Heen** is cooking up their hairy crab set menu once again this October (\$628 per head), which features two 4.5 tael (170g) male crabs from the venerable Taihu lake west of Suzhou. If you're after a runnier, flavorsome roe you can upgrade to two females for an additional \$130. The rest of the menu features a deliciously cholesterol-busting seven courses, all including various forms of crab roe: from xiaolongbao to jumbo tiger prawns doused in crab roe and gold leaf, before rounding off with dessert (strawberry cake—no crab here). Not feeling quite that into roe? You can also order all of the dishes a la carte. Available daily, Oct 1-Nov 15. Di King Heen, Royal Plaza Hotel, 3/F, 193 Prince Edward Rd. West, Prince Edward, 2622-6161.

Relative Claws

From the middle of this month to mid-November at The Hyatt Regency in Tsim Sha Tsui, **The Chinese Restaurant**'s head chef Lo Kwai-kai will showcase a series of hairy crab dishes. Lo's plates play on both autumn and traditional Chinese cooking, offering hairy crab on pumpkin and also hairy crab dumplings. Diners can also order Cantonese-influenced dishes, which include a braised egg noodle and fried rice. Of course, you can just go all out and order a steamed whole hairy crab on its own. 3/F, 18 Hanoi Rd., Hyatt Regency Hong Kong, Tsim Sha Tsui, 3721-7788.

From Lake to Plate

The W's **Sing Yin** is already serving up their autumn menu of hairy crab dishes. Executive Chef Raymond Wong is cooking up Yangcheng Lake crabs for an interesting array of plates ranging from braised bean curd with hairy crab roe to casserole of vermicelli with hairy crab roe. Of course, there's also the steamed hairy crab as is—or have it cooked with Chinese wine and soy sauce. Don't miss the braised local green lobster with hairy crab roe for a little twist on the standard dishes. 1/F, W Hotel, 1 Austin Rd. West, West Kowloon, 3717-2848.



Tao Li's got your bird's nest, crab roe and scallop in a bundle



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The Chinese Restaurant's crab roe with a crunch



Royal roe at the Royal Plaza

Crab at Home

Don't want to go for the multi-course extravaganza?
Serve up some hairy crab and make it at home with this
simple recipe from Chef Lo Kwai-kai of the Hyatt Regency,
who has been with the Hyatt since 1990.

Steamed Hairy Crab

Ingredients:

- 1 whole hairy crab, approx. 240g
- 1 dried perilla leaf
- 4 tbsp Zhejiang black rice vinegar

Directions:

1. Keep the crab refrigerated until ready to cook.
2. Wash the crab with running water and let it dry (keep it bound).
3. Prepare boiling water and a steaming plate.
4. Place the crab upside down on the steaming plate, putting the perilla leaf on top.
5. Steam on a high heat for 20 minutes.
6. Serve with Zhejiang black rice vinegar.



DINING

adele.wong@hkmagmedia.com
Twitter: @adelewong_hk



Go wild with DiVino's game menu

Game On

DiVino (G/F, 73 Wyndham St., Central, 2167-8883) will be going wild with a game menu from October 5 to 31 to celebrate autumn and the relatively cooler weather. The dishes aren't gonna be too hardcore, and diners will be given a taste of the hunt via

purposefully paired combinations. For instance, you'll get to sample deer ragout with handmade, black pepper-scented tagliatelle; or pigeon with risotto and foie gras; or wild boar quashed between chestnut pancakes. Take advantage of this one-time menu by booking in advance.

RESTAURANT REVIEWS

China Beach Club



Barbecue/Mediterranean. 18 Tung Wan Tau Rd., Mui Wo, 2983-8931.



instead opted for moussaka (\$175) which ticked all the right boxes, overflowing with beautifully seasoned minced lamb, tomatoes, eggplant and melted cheese. It was irresistible, so we didn't. Whole spring chicken (\$175) was perfectly roasted and the Cajun chicken strips (\$65), were crisp and tangy and served with a sour cream dip. The house apple crumble is legendary but we just couldn't manage it.

■ **MISS** There's nothing not to like here. While prices may have risen over the past couple of years, generous portions and sheer quality mean it's still one of the best bargains around.

■ **BOTTOM LINE** With awesome grilled meats and seafood, there's something for everyone at CBC. Come hungry.

Open daily 10am-midnight. \$\$

With a large upstairs terrace offering fabulous views of the bay, a funky, laid-back space and generous portions of great food, this al fresco bar and grill is one of Lantau's best-kept secrets. Housed in the old Lifesaving Association building, the current owners have been serving up Mediterranean and BBQ since 2002.

■ **HIT** The house specialty surf and turf (ribeye steak and king prawns) is legendary but we've had it before, so

Ratings

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

Price Guide

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



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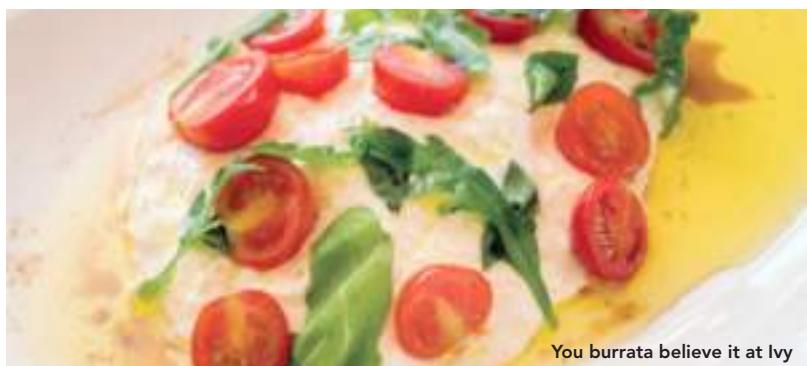
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HK

NEW AND NOTED



Sizzled, seared and served at Ivy



You burrata believe it at Ivy

Southern Hospitality

The flavors of the French Riviera can now be enjoyed at **Ivy** (Shop 2075, 2/F, IFC Mall, 8 Finance St., Central, 2382-4028), part of the Gaia group's expanding collection of establishments. Located in the high-traffic IFC, Ivy offers up seafood dishes like grilled lobster and slow-cooked salmon, plus other grain-centric, seafood-focused specialties that are generous on the herbs and spices. The space is long and classy, with hardwood floors and marble-textured tables—not quite the

same as going to Cote d'Azur itself, but as close in spirit as you'll get, short of hopping on a plane.

Chow For Now

And with these two pieces of news, I sign off from HK Mag and say goodbye to an amazing, talented team. Thank you readers for all the love, the hate, and the nonchalance during the past five years! Keep stalking me on Instagram @adelewong_hk—if you must.

Club Bonito ★★★★★

G/F, Lai On Building, 2 Water St., Sai Ying Pun, 2858-0300.



This little Sai Ying Pun tapas bar on Water Street is one of those places we keep meaning to pop into—so we did.

HIT The happy hour deal isn't bad: \$98 gets you an alcoholic drink and a plate of tapas from the small but authentic menu. A rich, buttery, eggy tortilla was the pick of the bunch. Calamari in "American sauce" wasn't bad either—an earthy tomato sauce with plenty of paprika.

MISS A portion of jamón Iberico was tiny—perhaps understandable, as it's not cheap—but it was also regrettably dry. It should have been sliced to order. Fresh clams were fried with garlic, chili and cubes of jamón (\$128). Sadly it was unbelievably salty, and nine fairly small clams didn't scream good value. Signs all over the shop proclaimed that they took Visa, Mastercard, EPS, Octopus, and exact cash only—no change given. But when all prices work in \$8 increments—\$48, \$58, \$98 and so on—you've either got to order five or 10 dishes to hit a round number. "Hope you understand" said the sign, and the lovely serving staff. We didn't.

BOTTOM LINE Some good Spanish bites, but a bizarre charging system does Club Bonito no favors.
Open Tue-Sun 4pm-2am. \$\$

Our Policy

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

Telford

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QR QUINTANA ROO

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Monday-to-Saturday: 11am-7:30pm Sundays: 1pm-6pm

CITY STROLL

Star Street Precinct, Wan Chai

Wandering around our city on foot is the best way to discover its secrets: a delicate little antiques shop, a dim sum resto tucked away in a back alley, a hipster café so cool even the owners haven't heard of it yet. Each month we set out on a treasure hunt to find the city's most interesting sights and sounds. This month: Star Street.



Stars, Sparks... and Bodies

Star Street Precinct was the earliest burial ground assigned to the non-Chinese population of Hong Kong, remaining so for almost 50 years. In 1890, Star Street became home to the Wan Chai Power Plant, the first electricity generating station in Hong Kong. In honor of the region's new street lights, the streets of the area were renamed "Sun," "Moon" and "Star" Streets, the "three luminaries" which are named in classical Chinese text the "Three Character Classic."

1 KAPOK

The Sun Street branch of this Hong Kong chain is the most hipster of all its locations, which is saying a lot. Browse carefully curated, design-led clothing, bags, shoes, accessories and books. Then order a flat white from the coffee shop and start telling everyone about how Slavoj Žižek's new book just isn't up to his usual standards.

G/F, 3 Sun St., Wan Chai, 2520-0114, www.ka-pok.com.



2 WDSG SPEAKEASY

A dimly lit stairway leads down to this big basement space that rocks the 1920s speakeasy feel, with antique leather sofas and beautiful wooden furniture. It's half cutting-edge clothing, half bar, where you can order a beer from Hong Kong's own Moonzen craft brewery and try to get into the secret room hidden behind the bar. But don't let on that we told you about it...

B/F, 9 St. Francis St., Wan Chai, 2528-3800.



3 IGLOO HOMEWARE

Hyper-clean lines and clean wood is the order of the day at this Japanese/Scandinavian store. It's so trendy, there's even a white bicycle outside. On the inside it's all about the warm, simple, sleek look, with a touch of 50s charm. We're big fans of the multi-wood chopping board, because why not?

26 Sau Wa Fong, Wan Chai, 2520-0580,
www.igloohk.com.



4 ÜBER TUNIQUE

This shop stocks funky, fresh accessories that don't break the bank. It's an eclectic collection that ranges from boho chic to more elegant, refined pieces, and nothing that's going to have you crying over your credit card bill. Unless you buy the whole shop...

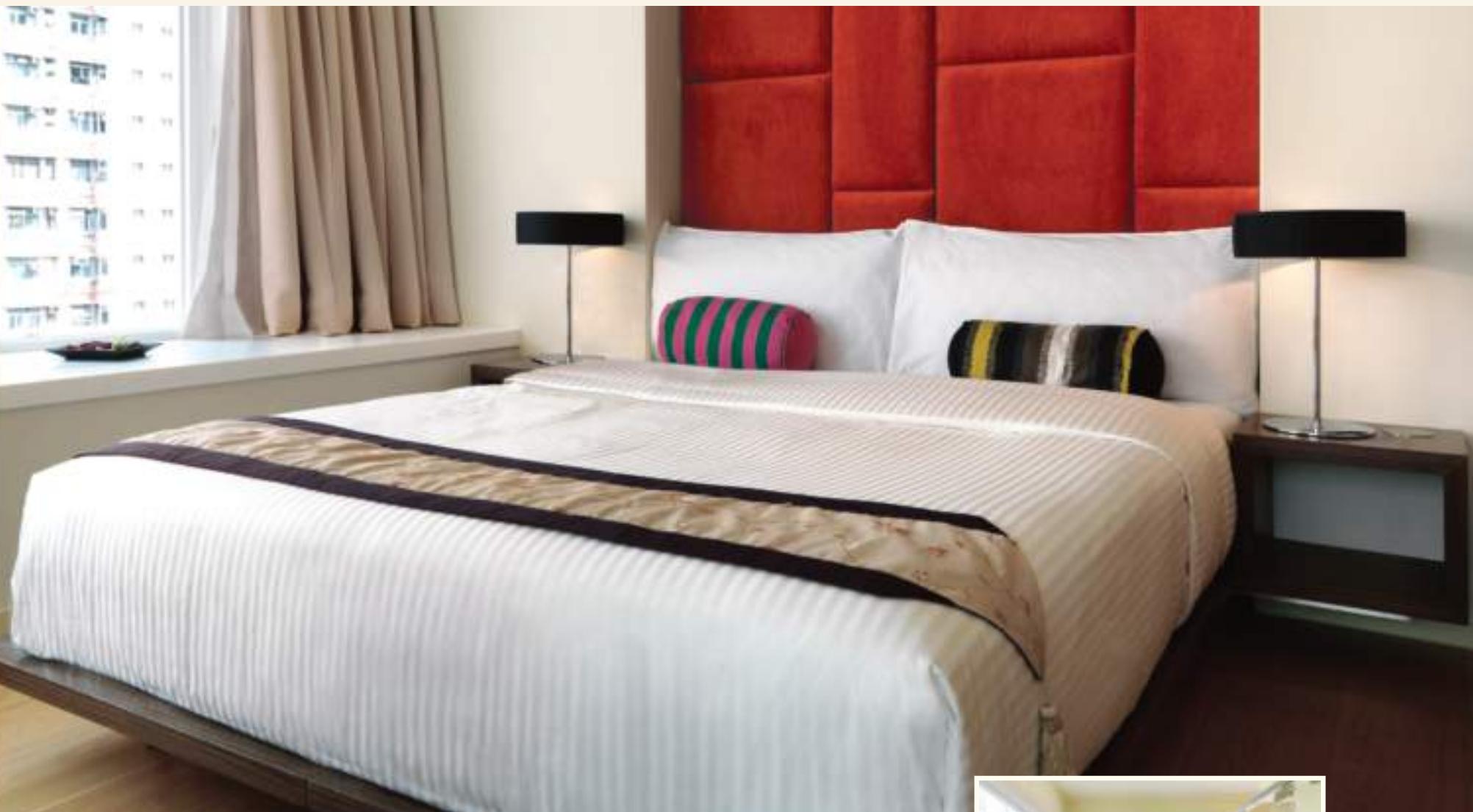
3 St. Francis St., 2896-0020, www.tunique.com.



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CULTURE

UPCLOSE: NICK WALKER

Photo: Aisha Moon Johnson / Moon Ming Photography



Bristol native **Nick Walker** was at the forefront of the UK's street art community in the 1980s, being one of the first to incorporate stencils in his pieces. His iconic "Gentleman Vandal" character and cheeky commentaries on global affairs have seen him hailed as Banksy's mentor. Walker's latest work— influenced by his visit to Hong Kong last year—is showcased at Above Second Gallery through October. Evelyn Lok sat down with Walker ahead of the show, and chatted about street art in its early days, Hong Kong and—of course—Banksy.

isn't anything: the time you're born, the train you're taking, mass, calculations.

HK: What struck you about the scenes you painted in Hong Kong?

NW: I just love the dilapidation of the buildings: The windows are crazy beautiful. The multilayered signage in the streets, just one after the other. [These pieces] were very labor intensive too. It's all one stencil. My stencils usually last a few uses, but these [of Hong Kong scenes] are one-off and unique.

HK: Are most street artists opting to do commissioned walls now?

NW: A large majority are: If you think of a large scale mural, you have to stand and paint for at least 7-8 hours. You can't do that illegally! The way it's changed is that people now find walls for you. That element of risk is all gone now, and does change the essence of street art a bit. Now you can just rock up to a wall as long as the owner's there or you've got a bit of paper that says you've got permission. If you're a street artist, the best gallery in the world is the street. It's more immediate.

HK: Some people refer to you as Banksy's mentor.

What do you say?

NW: I generally don't think about that. We both outwardly say we're inspired by the same artists—e.g. "3D," aka Robert Del Naja, the Massive Attack frontman, who started using stencils before me. With [Del Naja], we'd been painting together in the 80s in Bristol. Banksy wasn't in the scene at the time. The first time I watched the guy paint, he had very very Warholian imagery: a Marilyn Monroe changing into Margaret Thatcher. After working with him on a project, I went away and started playing with [stencils] around '92. With Banksy, you can go, "Oh, it should've been me!" But at the end of the day I'm doing what I'm doing; I'm not a household name by any means but Banksy's been opening doors for other artists. The genre is getting stronger and stronger.

Check out "Entropy" through Oct 24, Above Second Gallery, 9 First St., Sai Ying Pun, 3483-7950.

Music Festivals



The Joy of Music Festival

World class performers will fill your nights with music at the Joy of Music Festival this year: Award-winning pianists Federico Colli, Giuseppe Andaloro, Ilya Rashkovskiy, Jinsang Lee, and internationally acclaimed guitarist Álvaro Pierri and friends will be giving recitals, while the Logos Chamber Group will be performing with the pianists. Check out a morning talk on music production by Andrew Walter (Oct 17), a mastering engineer at Abbey Road Studios, or a seminar by film score composer Henry Lai (Oct 18). Oct 12-18, 7:30pm; Oct 17-18, 10:30am. Concert Hall, City Hall, 5 Edinburgh Place, Central. \$20-250 from www.urbtix.hk. More information at www.chopinsocietyhk.org.

Classical

Phantoms of the Orchestra

This collaboration between Metropolitan Youth Orchestra of Hong Kong and the Magic Circle Mime is a family-friendly concert that blends classical music with mime, so expect a few surprises and lots of fun. Oct 10, 8pm. Tsuen Wan Town Hall Auditorium, 72 Tai Ho Rd., Tsuen Wan. Oct 11, 3pm. Concert Hall, Cultural Centre, 10 Salisbury Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui. \$200-400 from www.urbtix.hk.



Ruan Lingyu's "The Goddess": A Silent Film Concert

"The Goddess," a silent film by actress Ruan Lingyu, screens in Tsuen Wan with a live accompaniment from the Singapore Chinese Orchestra. It's all about a mother who prostitutes herself to provide for her son and pay for his education, but the family is ostracized from society. They're preparing to flee for a chance at a new life, when things go really wrong... Oct 17, 8pm. Tsuen Wan Town Hall Auditorium, 72 Tai Ho Rd., Tsuen Wan. \$160-360 from www.urbtix.hk.

Singapore Chinese Orchestra

The Singapore Chinese Orchestra makes their debut appearance in Hong Kong with a traditional work transcribed for Chinese orchestra, along with a Tan Dun work, a symphonic poem by Liu Yuan with lyrics by Wang Yiyuan and more. They'll also be playing with tenor Warren Mok, soprano Wu Bixia and huqin soloist Li Baoshun. Lah. Oct 18, 8pm. Concert Hall, Cultural Centre, 10 Salisbury Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui. \$200-450 from www.urbtix.hk.

The Great Ladies of Song

Award-winning singers Patti Austin, Janis Siegel and Elisa Chan Kit-ling are getting together as a trio for two nights of hot hot scat, if you know what we mean. Oct 19-20, 8:15pm. Academic Community Hall, Hong Kong Baptist University, 224 Waterloo Rd., Kowloon Tong, 3411-5182. \$380-880 from www.cityline.com.



Penderecki & Shostakovich

Modern composer great Krzysztof Penderecki comes to Hong Kong as HKU Music's resident guest composer this year. As part of the World Cultures Festival 2015, he'll be conducting the Hong Kong Sinfonietta in a program that includes Shostakovich's ("Shostie" to his friends) 15th Symphony and his own Violin Concerto No. 2, "Metamorphosen" with James Cuddeford on the violin. Oct 24, 8pm. Concert Hall, City Hall, 5 Edinburgh Place, Central. \$140-320 from www.urbtix.hk.

Mandolin Virtuoso Avi Avital & The Cologne Academy Chamber Orchestra

Mandolinist Avi Avital and the 14-member Cologne Academy Chamber Orchestra perform a program that includes Baroque classics from Bach and Vivaldi, and modern classics such as Bartok's "Romanian Folk Dances" and De Falla's "Danse Espagnol." Avital's the first mandolin player to get a Grammy nomination, so you can trust he's real good with his fingers. Nov 2, 8pm. Concert Hall, City Hall, 5 Edinburgh Place, Central. \$80-480 from www.phphk.org.

Musicals

Singin' in the Rain

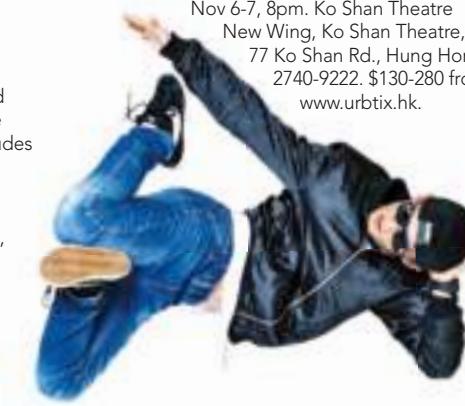
Hot off the trail of "The Sound of Music," and "Phantom of the Opera" and "Mamma Mia" last year, Lunchbox Theatrical Productions presents the SAR with another catchy song-and-dance spectacle straight from West End. The beloved umbrella-touting, rainboot-splashing Hollywood musical—arguably the best of 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. Through Oct 11. Lyric Theatre, Academy for Performing Arts, Wan Chai, 2584-8500. \$445-1,125 from www.hkticketing.com.

Dance

Ablaze!

Hailing from Seoul, Jinjo Crew is the first b-boy team to win five major international competitions. Ablaze! brings the street to the stage, and Jinjo is six-stepping over to Hong Kong for the World Cultures Festival to show off their moves.

Nov 6-7, 8pm. Ko Shan Theatre New Wing, Ko Shan Theatre, 77 Ko Shan Rd., Hung Hom, 2740-9222. \$130-280 from www.urbtix.hk.



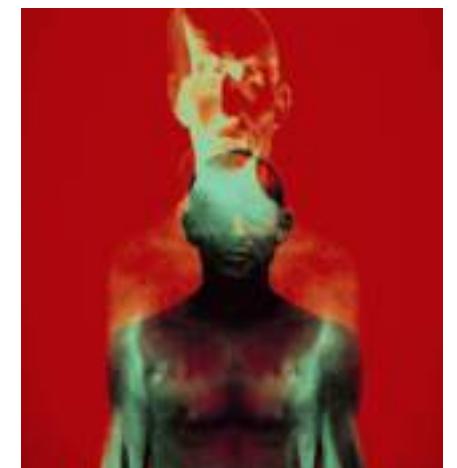
Theater

The Human Voice

Going through a breakup? This might help: Lara Fabregas, founder of Ellipsis Theatre, is performing Jean Cocteau's "The Human Voice" as her maiden production. It's a monologue in which woman talks on the phone with her ex-lover, who's getting married in the morning. A portion of ticket sales will go to the Hong Kong Adventist Hospital Foundation. Oct 5-6, 15, 8pm. Fringe Club, 2 Lower Albert Rd., Central, 2521-7251. \$250 from www.ticketflap.com.

Love Pings

One woman, seven men, and a lot of pings from her phone: "Love Pings," by American director Kate March, is all about finding meaningful connections in the Tinder age. A woman explores her relationships through texts, social media, online messaging, and live meetups. Can e-love exist? Or is she just another one of those Hot Girls In Your Area? Oct 8-10, 7:30pm. Fringe Club, 2 Lower Albert Rd., Central, 2521-7251. \$350 from www.hkticketing.com.



Fish in the Hand

Part of the Boundless Multimedia Series, "Fish in the Hand" combines Cantonese opera, drama, dance and contemporary chamber music to present the fear and humiliation of William the veterinarian. It's a performance straight from the deepest, darkest part of his mind, the part he keeps hidden away. Creepy! In Cantonese with English subtitles. Oct 9-10, 8pm; Oct 11, 2pm. Theatre, City Hall, 5 Edinburgh Place, Central. \$180-240 from www.urbtix.hk.



Edited by Adrienne Chum
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Exhibitions

Image Courtesy of the Artist and Pearl Lam Galleries



Pittura

Pearl Lam Galleries at Soho 189 presents Pino Pinelli's first solo exhibition in Asia. "Pittura," which is Italian for "the act of creating a painting," is an exhibition with two colors, red and grey. It focuses on exploring and challenging the uses and limitations of paint in space. Works span from the 1970s to the 2000s to document Pinelli's changing reflections of what painting means to him. Through Oct 13. Pearl Lam Galleries SoHo, Shop 1, G/F & 1/F, SoHo 189, 189 Queen's Rd. West, Sheung Wan, 2857-1328.



The Road: Photography Exhibition

One year after the Umbrella Movement, Tse Ming Chong retells his walk on Harcourt Road from Central to Causeway through 10 pairs of photographs taken on his journey. The exhibition stands as a first-person account of the social movement and captures the time our perpetually moving city stood still. Through Oct 10. Karin Weber Gallery, G/F, 20 Aberdeen St., Central, 2544-5004.



Dwelling

Taiwanese artist Yuan Goang-Ming's solo exhibition at the Hanart TZ Gallery showcases his use of video, photography, and installation to ask questions about what "home" really is, what "ruins" are, and what it means to survive—both politically and environmentally. He embodies the human presence in his works without having actual humans in the pieces, and uses real-world imagery to create surreal settings. Through Oct 17. Hanart TZ Gallery, Room 401, Pedder Building, 12 Pedder St., Central, 2526-9019.

Image Courtesy of the Artist and Hanart TZ Gallery



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NIGHTLIFE



HK PICKS

Drink For Good

Drink for a good cause at this charity event, organized by local charity HandsOn Hong Kong. Drink for Good is a one-night event which sees over 50 bars and restaurants in Central, SoHo, Wan Chai and Tsim Sha Tsui donate \$5 for each drink ordered. The money will go towards helping children with special needs and funding programs which address social issues in the city. Establishments taking part range from beer halls such as Frites to hotel bars like The Envoy, as well as longtime favorites Staunton's and Lily and Bloom. Oct 8, 6pm. Visit www.drinkforgood.org for list of participating bars and restaurants.

Clubs

Tiesto at Club Cubic

Dutch deck master Tiesto needs no introduction: He's one of the best, most sought-after DJs in the world. He's back for round two at Club Cubic and it's looking like the hottest party of the fall. If only because of the sheer heat generated by a club full of people jumping up and down. Oct 2, 10pm. Club Cubic, 2/F, Hard Rock Hotel, City of Dreams, Estrada do Istmo, (+853) 6638-4999. \$580-980 from www.cubic-cod.com.

KimKat

LA natives Kim Lee and Katrina Nova make up DJ duo KimKat. The two opened for Steve Aoki in 2013... and he's here mid-October too. Hair flip reunion! Oct 10, 11:30pm. Club Cubic, 2/F, Hard Rock Hotel, City of Dreams, Estrada do Istmo, (+853) 6638-4999. \$250 from www.cubic-cod.com; RSVP at (+853) 6638-4999 or rsvp@cubic-cod.com.



Cream Tours: Paul Van Dyk, Cosmic Gate, Christina Novelli, Bz Li

Dance your butt off at this celebrity DJ fest (it's the night before Chung Yeung Festival): The first Cream Tours event in Hong Kong brings EDM god Paul Van Dyk, German trance duo Cosmic Gate, UK's Christina Novelli and Hong Kong's own Bz Li to the Kai Tak Cruise Terminal. Oct 20, 9pm. Kai Tak Cruise Terminal, Kowloon City. \$480-1,280 from www.hkticketing.com.

Lil Jon

Lil Jon is ready to Turn Up at Levels. What, were you hoping for a quiet Tuesday night in? Oct 20, 11pm. Levels, 2/F, On Hing Building, 1 On Hing Terrace, Central, 2811-1568.



Darius at Vibes

Some fresh Parisian blood comes our way: DJ-slash-producer Darius brings his own particular brand of up-tempo disco funk and house to Vibes. Oct 23, 9pm. Vibes, 5/F, The Mira Hong Kong, 118 Nathan Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, 2315-5999. \$150 from www.themirahotel.com, includes one drink.

Gigs



Songs For Children Presents: The Garden

20-year-old twins and runway models Wyatt and Fletcher Shears are fashion house YSL's muses, and they're also rising fast in the alt music world. The band brings their mix of punk and electro to Hong Kong, as well as presumably quite a lot of designer clothing. Oct 8, 8:30pm. Orange Peel, 2/F, 38-44 D'Aguilar St., Central, 2812-7177. \$250 from [pelago.events](http://www.pelago.events), includes one drink.

Victor Wooten

Five-time Grammy-award winning bassist Victor Wooten is coming to Hong Kong. The Tennessee native has been playing since age six—opening shows for Curtis Mayfield with his family band, before becoming a founding member of Bela Fleck and the Flecktones. Get ready to have your mind blown. Oct 26, 8:30pm. Musiczone, KITEC, 1 Trademark Drive, Kowloon Bay. \$450 from www.cityline.com.



Nightlife Events

Disco Naps at Vibes

Those hungry for more (and lazier) unzing on a Sunday can be satisfied at Vibes' new chill-out party, which will welcome indie dance maestro Bit Funk to the decks to satisfy your soul. Oct 11, 5pm; Nov 15, 5pm. Vibes, 5/F, The Mira Hong Kong, 118 Nathan Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, 2315-5999. \$60 for a drink; \$100 for two.

Halloween Parties

The Ghosts of Wan Chai

Get spooked at this Halloween bash at The Pawn. Rumor has it "the ghostess of Wan Chai" will be making appearance in its halls... or is that just a reference to all the gweilos? Price includes canapés, Halloween makeup and participation in a lucky draw. Oct 30, 5pm. The Pawn, 62 Johnston Rd., Wan Chai, 2866-3444. \$288-488 from www.eventbrite.com; table packages start from \$3,888.



Turtle in the Hat Halloween

This event touts itself as Hong Kong's most ridiculous Halloween party—presumably because you'll be ruining all that fake blood by downing Butcher's Club noms left and right. There'll be a Dracula vs. Frankenstein boxing match, live reggae courtesy of The Red Stripes and two hours of free-flow everything, including a spit roast on the roof all night. Oct 31, 8:30pm. Butchers Club Deli, 16/F, Shui Ki Industrial Building, 18 Wong Chuk Hang Rd., Wong Chuk Hang, 2884-0768. \$900-1,000 from www.ticketflap.com.



The Haunted Room

The Mira's Room One gears up for the return of its Halloween party, complete with a five-hour open bar and Halloween themed shots. There'll be sexy zombie dancers moving to tunes by Cliché Records' resident DJs. Sexy zombie dancers! First they'll blow your minds... then they'll eat them. Oct 31, 9pm. Room One, G/F, The Mira Hong Kong, 118 Nathan Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, 2315-5888. \$358 from tiny.cc/hk-thehauntedroom2015, \$398 at the door; table packages start from \$1,888.

Zuma Presents: Zombie Prom

This Halloween, Zuma is going old school—the lounge will play host to a terror-filled prom night, where a zombie prom king and queen will be crowned. Come in your best zombie gear and a makeup artist will be on site to make you look EXTRA undead. DJ Mistrezz C and Seth Gutierrez will provide the beats. We're gonna request "Monster Mash." Oct 31, 10pm. Zuma, 5-6/F, The Landmark, 15 Queen's Rd. Central, Central, 3657-6388. \$500 from next.fatsoma.com; \$650 at the door, both include two drinks; \$350 at the door after 2am with one drink.

Edited by Evelyn Lok
evelyn.lok@hkmagmedia.com



Oktoberfesten

Happy Valley Oktoberfest

Head on over to Happy Valley's weekly races this month for live traditional German tunes, lots of beer quaffing and a whole host of Oktoberfest games: Play "Hold the Beer" (i.e., how many pints can you hold in your hands?) or sign up for a speed-drinking contest for a chance to win awesome cash prizes. Oct 7, 14, 22, 7pm. Happy Valley Racecourse Recreation Ground, Causeway Bay. \$10 at the door for access to public enclosure.



Marco Polo German Bierfest

Kick up your heels with Die Notenholber band, flying in from Germany to host the Marco Polo German Bierfest for its 24th anniversary this year. As is traditional, expect lots of chicken dancing, Alphorn-blowing and Erdinger. Make sure to get there early: Between 6-7pm, if you buy a glass of beer by Octopus card you get another for free. There's also a lucky draw to win two round-trip business class tickets to Germany—for yet more Oktoberfest shenanigans, of course. Oct 16-Nov 7, 6pm. Marco Polo Hongkong Hotel, Harbour City, 3 Canton Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, 2113-0088. \$150-280 from www.hkticketing.com.

Oktoberfest at the China Coast Bar + Grill

Going on holiday this month? Get in some authentic German brews at the Regal Airport Hotel's China Coast Bar + Grill before you catch your flight, with bottles starting from \$78. Wash it down with traditional Bavarian eats, while witnessing (or taking part in) a German pronunciation game to win some prizes. Real Germans, stay out of this. Oct 2-11. Regal Airport Hotel, Hong Kong International Airport, 2286-8888.

MGM Macau Oktoberfest

Raise your stein at the MGM Macau's 12-day Oktoberfest, which will be hosted by the Högl Fun Band complete with beer garden vibes and flowing Spaten Oktoberfest beer. There's also Franziskaner non-alcoholic beer for those who hate fun may be allergic. Oct 15-25. MGM Macau, Avenida Dr Sun Yat Sen, 8802-1888. \$130 MOP from www.mgmmacau.com/mgm-oktoberfest, includes one drink.



HK PICKS

Alive Not Dead Halloween

The Alive Not Dead crew returns once again with the city's sexiest Halloween bash, featuring a lineup of international and local DJs. Costumes mandatory. Oct 31, 10pm. Armani/Privé, 2/F, Chater House, 8 Connaught Rd. Central, Central, 3583-2828. \$600 from www.alivenotdead.com/halloween, \$800 at the door before 1am; both include two drinks. \$400 after 1am with one drink.

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Hong Kong Trilogy: Preschooled Preoccupied Preposterous ****

(Hong Kong) Semi-documentary. Directed by Christopher Doyle. Starring Connie Yuen, Thierry Chow, Lip Ching-man, Vodka Wong, Kevin Lau, Selene Cheung, To Wun, South Ho, Kevin Sherlock. 85 minutes. Category I. Opened September 28.

"Hong Kong Trilogy" is annoyingly difficult to describe: It's part-documentary, part-identity introspection, part-surrealist ramble. The man behind it is filmmaker Chris Doyle, best known as the man who gave Wong Kar-wai's films their distinctive look. When Occupy hit in September last year, Doyle took to Kickstarter to crowdfund a film about the young and old of Hong Kong.

The "Hong Kong Trilogy" is a series of three loosely connected vignettes. "Preschooled"—which was actually shot as a short film before Occupy and the Kickstarter project took off—looks at children in the city who bounce from school to tutors and back, ignored by their largely absent parents and raised by their helpers. "Preoccupied" looks at the people and the community that grew around the Umbrella Movement, specifically at the Occupy site at Admiralty as it developed and was taken down. "Preposterous" is a more lighthearted look at the elderly of the city, who go speed dating around town. It's narrated entirely by Hongkongers, who also play themselves—or cinematic versions of themselves, at least. We follow them around the city as they discuss their hopes for themselves, and for Hong Kong.

The three threads are loosely linked by a series of characters who float through each other's lives. There's the girl in the red cap who carries holy water around the city, trying to save the souls of the SAR. There's the adorably chubby and lonely Vodka Wong, who may live on the Peak but can't fit in: His never-there parents aren't helping. There's artist Maoshan Connie, who sketches the Occupy sites, and Thierry Chow, youthful feng shui master who keeps the tradition alive in a modern time. There's South Ho, artist (and sometime HK Magazine photographer) who starts an urban garden in



Admiralty. Then there's Doyle's friend Kevin Sherlock, playing a disheveled half-shaven gweilo who's constantly in search of beer. He's dressed... well, exactly like Chris Doyle.

The best section of the movie is its Occupy segment, in which Doyle takes the time to document all that was best about those 79 days: The sense of togetherness, fellowship and community that many won't have seen unless they were there at the time. It's a truly valuable piece of filmmaking because almost no one else has chosen to do this, and certainly no one close to Doyle's stature as a filmmaker.

Doyle has said that he set out to make a film that works by associations and parallels, allowing his interviewees to tell the story for him. And the film is constantly playing with this level of reality and unreality, as the interviewees/actors engage in stylized conversations and interactions, with their own voices running underneath. But messages emerge, and beyond documenting Occupy "Hong Kong Trilogy" explores the struggles that creative Hongkongers face, in all corners of the city.

With Doyle behind the lens it's a given that the film is impeccably shot. The visuals are effortlessly creative and evocative, redefining bits of Hong Kong that we've all seen a hundred times before. The film's free-flowing narrative structure makes even the unreal feel real, but it can also be a liability, often feeling more like three separate shorts rather than a single cohesive whole. Moments of surrealism work and fall flat in equal measure.

The final section, "Preposterous," starts weaker—it's light-hearted but feels too much of a departure from what's come before, and the elderly characters feel shallower than their younger compatriots. But at the end Doyle gathers the disparate strands of all three parts together into a single scene. All of his real/unreal interviewees/characters come together for that most Hong Kong of activities: a beachside BBQ. It's a piece of Hong Kong Fellini, the movie's cast coming together in a communal celebration of the people of Hong Kong. That was the real lesson of Occupy, and Chris Doyle keeps it alive in "Hong Kong Trilogy." **Adam White**

Coming Soon

Amy

(UK) Opening the Life is Art Film Festival in September, "Amy" pieces together the definitive story of Amy Winehouse from her rising talent as a teen, through her emotional struggles with fame, controversy and love, all the way to her untimely death four years ago at the age of 27. Opens Oct 8.

I Am Somebody

(China) Set in Zhejiang province's Hengdian, dubbed "The Hollywood of the East" as it's home to the monumental Hengdian World Studios, a group of young extras chase their dreams to become the next big thing. Directed by former Shaw Brothers actor Derek Yee Tung-sing. Opens Oct 8.

Pan

(UK/USA) Joe Wright ("Atonement," 2012's "Anna Karenina") takes on this retelling of the beloved story of the boy who never grew up. Peter is a 12-year-old who escapes a London orphanage and finds himself in the magical world of Neverland. Look out for Hugh Jackman as Blackbeard and Rooney Mara as the, um, Indian princess Tiger Lily. Opens Oct 8.

Saving Mr. Wu

(China/Hong Kong) Police are on a high profile case when Chinese celebrity Mr. Wu (Andy Lau) is kidnapped by thugs disguised as the police. It's based on the real-life kidnapping of Wu Ruofu, who also stars. Could it be? A Chinese meta-meta-crime thriller? Opens Oct 8.

The Walk

(USA) Moving on from 2008's gripping documentary "Man on Wire," Robert Zemeckis ("Back to the Future") brings Philippe Petit's 1974 daring tightrope dance across the Twin Towers to the screen, in full IMAX glory. Joseph Gordon-Levitt plays Petit, because of course he would. Opens Oct 8.

We Are Your Friends

(USA) Zac Efron is Cole, a 20-something at the crossroads in his life, struggling with his dreams of becoming a universally recognized DJ. A douchey Zefron character with a hint of (b)romance—so what else is new? Opens Oct 8.

Opening



Dark Places

(USA) After the success of last year's "Gone Girl," Gillian Flynn's second novel gets its screen time this year. Charlize Theron is Libby Day, a woman who confronts the traumatic memories of seeing her family murdered as she revisits her brother, who was incarcerated for the crime—and who may turn out to be innocent. Opens Oct 1.

Hong Kong Trilogy: Preschooled, Preoccupied, Preposterous

(Hong Kong) See review, above. Opened Sep 28.

Hotel Transylvania 2

(USA) The sugary monster cartoon is back with a sequel. Dracula (Adam Sandler) is worried that his half-human grandson isn't showing enough of his bloodsucking tendencies, and enlists his spooky friends to put the boy through vampire boot camp. Opened Oct 1.

The Martian

(USA) Calling it: It's "Interstellar" part two as Jessica Chastain and Matt Damon return in this space drama. During a mission on Mars, a team of astronauts leaves Mark Watney (Damon) behind after a fierce storm hits, presuming him dead. Mark must find his own way to survive on scarce supplies, while the team brew up their own mission to bring him back. Opened Oct 1.

The Transporter Refueled

(France) The fourth in the Luc Besson-penned "Transporter" franchise is here. Jason Statham is replaced by Ed Skrein (who played Daario Naharis in "Game of Thrones") as Frank Martin, a mercenary-turned-messenger who transports parcels for questionable characters. When former prostitute Anna robs a bank and kidnaps Frank's father, Frank is forced to pull all his old mercenary tricks back out of the hat. Opens Oct 1.



Veteran

(South Korea) In this cop thriller directed by Ryoo Seung-wan ("The Unjust"), a detective follows a longstanding corruption case targeting the third-generation heir to a major conglomerate—only to have him slip between his fingers each time. Opened Oct 1.

Continuing

American Ultra

(USA) Jesse Eisenberg is Mike, a small-town slacker who spends his days getting baked with his girlfriend (Kristen Stewart). But he's actually a top-secret deadly CIA sleeper agent, with skills that he doesn't even know exist. Soon he finds himself the target of a rival program gunning to wipe him out. It's much like a wacky, stoner version of "Bourne." Great fun, but stumbles with maintaining its genre. **★★★**



Edited by Evelyn Lok

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The Beauty Inside

(South Korea) Could you fall in love with someone who became someone else every day? Woo-jin suffers from that exactly: He transforms every day into a totally different person; a man, a woman, even a foreigner (no! Not a foreigner!). Can he muster up the courage to confess his feelings to the woman he loves? And is this what it's like when you get rhinoplasty in Seoul?

Everest

(UK) A story based on the 1996 Mount Everest disaster, in which eight climbers of two expeditions were caught in a blizzard and perished during their attempts to reach the summit. "Everest" sees two star-studded entourages attempt the same: one led by Jake Gyllenhaal as Scott Fischer, and another by Jason Clarke playing Rob Hall. This ain't gonna end well.

Guia in Love

(Macau) Sam Leong Tak-sam is behind this sweeping (or sappy?) romance set in our sister SAR. Ka-sing and Kai-kwong are two best friends who look back over 45 years of being in love with the same girl. Now Kai-kwong is a powerful Macau tycoon, and they look at the romances of the next generation.

The Intern

(USA) 70-year-old widower Ben Whittaker (Robert De Niro) rebuffs retirement and decides to intern at an online fashion site, headed by the stressed but sincere Jules Oshin (Anne Hathaway—finally likable again). With Nancy Meyers ("The Parent Trap," "Something's Gotta Give") taking us through conversations on experience, growing old, trust and marriage, it's a cheesy feel-good flick of the best kind. ★★★★

Irrational Man

(USA) In Woody Allen's latest bit of neuroticism, Joaquin Phoenix takes the lead as a troubled philosophy professor who believes he's hit rock bottom. While getting involved with a faculty member (Parker Posey) and his best student (Emma Stone), he discovers his true purpose for living—deciding to take morality into his own hands after hearing the misdeeds of a corrupt judge. A humdrum and unconvincing rehash of all the typical Woody Allen stylings. ★★



Love & Mercy

(USA) Paul Dano and John Cusack play the younger and older Brian Wilson, the musical mastermind behind The Beach Boys. It's a tale that divulges the darker side of the band's sunny sounds, cementing Wilson's status as one of the most respected music makers of the century, and is a cathartic, heartfelt story told well.

★★★★

Northern Limit Line

(South Korea) This real-life story is set during the 2002 World Cup in South Korea. As the country is swept up in football frenzy, the North Korean navy begins to attack, silently encroaching on the Northern Limit Line. It's here where the South's unassuming Chamsuri 357 patrol boat is docked...

Office

(Hong Kong) Johnnie To directs this corporate musical dramedy. Chow Yun-fat is the chairman of a billion-dollar company about to make his mistress and CEO (Sylvia Chang) a major shareholder. It's an entertaining representation (and satire) of corporate culture, if you can look past the distracting swings into Putonghua singing. ★★★

Film Festivals

Hong Kong Lesbian and Gay Film Festival

The longest-running LGBTQI film festival in Asia returns. Catch films such as "Freeheld," starring Julianne Moore and Ellen Page as a couple fighting for equal rights in state pension benefits, and "Boulevard," which features Robin Williams' last on-screen role. As is with tradition, there's also bags of international short films categorized into boy, girl or queer topics. Through Oct 10. Various screening locations. Tickets from www.cinema.com.hk and www.amccinemas.com.hk.

Chinese Documentary Festival

The eighth iteration of the annual Chinese Documentary Festival returns this September, with screenings of more than 30 works from China, Taiwan, France and Hong Kong. Don't miss Tsang Tsui-shan's "Flowing Stories" (Sep 27), about the notion of home in the lives of Hong Kong indigenous villagers who live abroad. Through Oct 5. Various locations. \$70 from www.urbtix.hk. More info from www.visiblerecord.com.



"Nowhere Boy" at Freespace Happening

Special Screening

Freespace Happening

With the West Kowloon Harbourfront partially closed for construction in the coming months, the annual Freespace Fest has taken on a smaller scale of events taking place every second Sunday of the month, through March 2016. This October, expect a two-day open air cinema and live music affair. Biopics "Nowhere Boy" and "Marley" about John Lennon and Bob Marley will be screened, while local music makers Eman Lam and Pong Nan, Jing Wong and Hong Kong's own Nowhere Boys will also perform. Insufferable hipsters, the WKCDAs hasn't forgotten about you: Look forward to a vintage-themed market and DIY workshops galore. Oct 10-11, 1pm. West Kowloon Cultural District, West Kowloon. Free.




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LIBRA (Sep 23-Oct 22): The 20th century's most influential artist may have been Pablo Picasso. He created thousands of paintings, and was still churning them out when he was 91 years old. A journalist asked him which one was his favorite. "The next one," he said. I suggest you adopt a similar attitude in the coming weeks, Libra. What you did in the past is irrelevant. You should neither depend on nor be weighed down by anything that has come before. For now, all that matters are the accomplishments and adventures that lie ahead of you.

SCORPIO (Oct 23-Nov 21): A windbreak is a line of stout trees or thick bushes that provides shelter from the wind. I think you need a metaphorical version: someone or something to shield you from a relentless force that has been putting pressure on you; a buffer zone or protected haven where you can take refuge from a stressful barrage that has been hampering your ability to act with clarity and grace. Do you know what you will have to do to get it? Here's your battle cry: "I need sanctuary! I deserve sanctuary!"

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22-Dec 21): Your fellow Sagittarian Walt Disney accomplished a lot. He was a pioneer in the art of animation and made movies that won numerous Academy Awards. He built theme parks, created an entertainment empire, and amassed fantastic wealth. Why was he so successful? In part because he had high standards, worked hard, and harbored an obsessive devotion to his quirky vision. If you aspire to cultivate any of those qualities, now is a favorable time to raise your mastery to the next level. Disney had one other trait you might consider working on: He liked to play the game of life by his own rules. For example, his favorite breakfast was doughnuts dipped in Scotch whisky. What would be your equivalent?

CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 19): October is Fix the Fundamentals Month. It will be a favorable time to substitute good habits for bad habits. You will attract lucky breaks and practical blessings as you work to transform overwrought compulsions into rigorous passions. You will thrive as you seek to discover the holy yearning that's hidden at the root of devitalizing addictions. To get started, instigate free-wheeling experiments that will propel you out of your sticky rut and in the direction of a percolating groove.

AQUARIUS (Jan 20-Feb 18): Have you made your travel plans yet? Have you plotted your escape? I hope you will hightail it to a festive playground where some of your inhibitions will shrink, or else journey to a holy spot where your spiritual yearnings will ripen. What would be even better is if you made a pilgrimage to a place that satisfied both of those agendas—filled up your senses with novel enticements and fed your hunger for transcendent insights. Off you go, Aquarius! Why aren't you already on your way? If you can't manage a real getaway in the near future, please at least stage a jailbreak for your imagination.

PISCES (Feb 19-Mar 20): Pablo Neruda's "Book of Questions" consists entirely of 316 questions. It's one of those rare texts that makes no assertions and draws no conclusions. In this spirit, and in honor of the sphinx-like phase you're now passing through, I offer you six pertinent riddles: 1. What is the most important thing you have never done? 2. How could you play a joke on your fears? 3. Identify the people in your life who have made you real to yourself. 4. Name a good old thing you would have to give up in order to get a great new thing. 5. What's the one feeling you want to feel more than any other in the next three years? 6. What inspires you to love?

ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 19): The next seven weeks will NOT be a favorable time to fool around with psychic vampires and charismatic jerks. I recommend you avoid the following mistakes, as well: failing to protect the wounded areas of your psyche; demanding perfection from those you care about; and trying to fulfill questionable desires that have led you astray in the past. Now I'll name some positive actions you'd be wise to consider: hunting for skillful healers who can relieve your angst and aches; favoring the companionship of people who

HOMEWORK: Send testimonies about how you've redeemed the dark side to: Sex Laugh, uaregod@comcast.net.

are empathetic and emotionally intelligent; and getting educated about how to build the kind of intimacy you can thrive on.

TAURUS (Apr 20-May 20): You may have seen websites that offer practical tips on how to improve your mastery of life's little details. They tell you how to de-clutter your home, or how to keep baked goods from going stale, or why you should shop for shoes at night to get the best fit. I recently came across a humorous site that provides the opposite: bad life tips. For instance, it suggests that you make job interviews less stressful by only applying for jobs you don't want. Put your laptop in cold water to prevent overheating. To save time, brush your teeth while you eat. In the two sets of examples I've just given, it's easy to tell the difference between which tips are trustworthy and which aren't. But in the coming days, you might find it more challenging to distinguish between the good advice and bad advice you'll receive. Be very discerning.

GEMINI (May 21-Jun 20): On a windy afternoon last spring I was walking through a quiet neighborhood in Berkeley. In one yard there was a garden plot filled with the young green stems of as-yet unidentifiable plants. Anchored in their midst was a small handwritten sign. Its message seemed to be directed not at passers-by like me but at the sprouts themselves. "Grow faster, you little bastards!" the sign said—as if the blooming things might be bullied into ripening. I hope you're smart enough not to make similar demands on yourself and those you care about, Gemini. It's not even necessary. I suspect that everything in your life will just naturally grow with vigor in the coming weeks.

CANCER (Jun 21-Jul 22): "I am rooted, but I flow," wrote Virginia Woolf in her novel "The Waves." That paradoxical image reminds me of you right now. You are as grounded as a tree and as fluid as a river. Your foundation is deep and strong, even as you are resilient in your ability to adapt to changing circumstances. This is your birthright as a Cancerian! Enjoy and use the blessings it confers. (P.S. If for some strange reason you're not experiencing an exquisite version of what I've described, there must be some obstacle you are mistakenly tolerating. Get rid of it.)

LEO (Jul 23-Aug 22): Should I offer my congratulations? You have corralled a gorgeous mess of problems that are more interesting and provocative than everyone else's. It's unclear how long this odd good fortune will last, however. So I suggest you act decisively to take maximum advantage of the opportunities that your dilemmas have cracked open. If anyone can turn the heartache of misplaced energy into practical wisdom, you can. If anyone can harness chaos to drum up new assets, it's you. Is it possible to be both cunning and conscientious, both strategic and ethical? For you right now, I think it is.

VIRGO (Aug 23-Sep 22): Let's say you have walked along the same path or driven down the same road a thousand times. Then, one day, as you repeat your familiar route, a certain object or scene snags your attention for the first time. Maybe it's a small fountain or a statue of the Buddhist goddess Guanyin or a wall with graffiti that says "Crap happens, but so does magic." It has always been there. You've been subconsciously aware of it. But at this moment, for unknown reasons, it finally arrives in your conscious mind. I believe this is an apt metaphor for your life in the next week. More than once, you will suddenly tune in to facts, situations, or influences that had previously been invisible to you. That's a good thing! But it might initially bring a jolt.

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SAVAGE LOVE

Dan Savage

I've been dating this guy for almost two months. It's been pretty good, except the sex isn't really the best. I have this other male friend who has had a crush on me. Long story short: My friend made a move on me the other night. I told him I couldn't, and he knew why, but to be honest, I was insanely turned on by his forwardness. He apologized, but a week later we hung out, and I told him that it really intrigued me, and we ended up having crazy cool sex—satisfying in all the ways the guy I'm dating isn't. I haven't told the guy I'm seeing about this and I don't plan to. But I feel guilty. I keep rationalizing that we have never had a talk about exclusivity, and I therefore have no obligation to him. I want to keep fucking my friend, but I also enjoy dating this other guy. Am I an asshole? Am I obligated to disclose that I'm not interested in monogamy with him?

– Too Many Intrigues

Are you an asshole? That can't be ruled out, TMI, but I can't make a determination with the limited data you've provided. One asshole move—and cheating on Mr. Two Months was definitely an asshole move—does not an asshole make. We know this because while everyone is guilty of the occasional asshole move, not everyone is an asshole. Assholes are made when asshole moves come one right after the other, and an ever-thickening layer of asshole moves hardens into total assholery.

Anyway, while you might not have had a conversation with the guy you're currently dating/cheating on about exclusivity, you wouldn't feel guilty about what/who you did if you didn't think Mr. Two Months was operating under the assumption that you two were exclusive. So the cheating was an asshole move and your rationalization, as you seem to be aware, is a pile of self-serving bullshit that's equal parts transparent and unnecessary. Because as much as you like hanging out with Mr. Two Months, the sex hasn't been good for you and you haven't been good to him. Don't negotiate a nonmonogamous agreement. End it.

I am a 23-year-old straight male who has a pattern of getting into long-distance relationships that become semi-long-term relationships before I get depressed by the monotony of it all and wind up breaking up with the person. I resolved that in the relationship I'm currently in—nine months and counting—I would keep it casual, which resulted in it turning into an open mono/poly relationship, meaning I'm poly and she's monogamous. She is great, cute, and intelligent, and there is nothing destructive or dishonest about our relationship. I just find myself not wanting to talk to her every day, and the weekly Skype calls feel like a chore. We have a great time when we visit each other, but I only feel like catching up when I see her in person. Is this the price I have to pay to keep her happy?

– Not An Asshole

I've read that young people don't make phone calls anymore—talking on the phone is for olds (full disclosure: We olds hardly speak to each other on the phone anymore, either)—so I'm surprised your young-and-mono GF wants to hear your young-and-poly voice on a daily basis. I think you should propose a young-and-fun compromise: texting instead of phoning during the week and a Skype/masturbation session on the weekend.

I'm a straight 28-year-old female, in a relationship with my boyfriend for two years. We live together, and on the weekends we care for his kid. We are very much in love and have a supportive, happy

relationship. I've always had a hard time being monogamous. In every relationship, I tend to get a wandering eye around the two-year mark. Recently I went by myself to see a friend's band and ended up meeting a man I had an insane chemistry with. We spent the whole evening together and wound up making out before I literally ran away. The next day, stone cold sober, I called him, drove to his house, and we fucked like crazy. It was animalistic and intense, and I felt like a fucking porn star. It was awesome. My boyfriend and I have sex that I truly enjoy, and I usually get off, but he struggles to be dominant, rough, or talk dirty, which are things I really get off on. He says he's too self-conscious to be dominant in bed. This stranger did all the things I wish my boyfriend would do. To test the waters, I casually mentioned an arrangement where we could sleep with other people, and he said he wasn't into it. If I'm happy in my relationship, and the sex we have is consistently good, sometimes amazing, is that enough? Am I giving up on an aspect of my sexuality if I stay with him, or am I just looking for excuses to fuck other people?

– Likes It All Rough

A loving and supportive partner, a happy relationship, and good sex that occasionally tips into the amazing column—yeah, most people would tell you that's not only enough, LIAR, it's a better relationship than the one they're currently in, recently left, or ever hope to find. But the fact that most people would like to trade places with you isn't relevant, LIAR, because what you have with your boyfriend isn't enough for you. You want love, happiness, stability, and the freedom to fuck other guys—and you would want that freedom even if your boyfriend was capable of dominating you in the sack just the way you like.

Seeing as you know this about yourself—seeing as you know that monogamy isn't for you (see: the wandering eye at 24 months, the fucking that other guy at his place)—making a monogamous commitment you know you can't keep is an asshole move. So here's what you're gonna do: Tell your lovely, loving boyfriend that nonmonogamy is a non-negotiable. You are willing, of course, to negotiate with him about the form your open relationship might take, but you must make it clear to him that a closed relationship is a recipe for disaster—because sooner or later, you will cheat on him.

If he fights on that point, LIAR, if he tells you that he's sure you're capable of being monogamous, then you can tell him that by "sooner or later" you meant "last week, with this dude I met in a bar."

I think your answer to BFF last week missed an essential piece of information. She refers to herself as engaging in "drunken" threesomes and hookups. I think she needs to examine her own behavior, not that of her roommate and FWB, and the fact that her relationships seem to be fueled by the effects of her alcohol consumption. I'm guessing her letter was fuzzy for a reason. It was probably written in a drunken haze. Nothing you say will get through to her unless you address her use of alcohol.

– Alcohol Not The Solution

Full disclosure: I was drinking when I wrote my response to BFF. So just as it's possible that alcohol played a role in the drama BFF described, it's possible I neglected to point that fact out because I was a little drunk myself.

On the Lovecast, Dan chats with trans pioneer luminary Kate Bornstein: listen at savagelovest.com.

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

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SPOTLIGHT

The latest news and deals from our partners



Photos: Kirk Kenny / studiozag.com

Europe's Best-Kept Secret is the Ideal Spot to Get Away from it All

Albania may not be the first place you think of when considering a holiday or retirement home, but it's rapidly becoming a popular destination for smart investors.

The attractions of a Mediterranean climate and scenic locations along the Adriatic coastline make the country a haven for holidaymakers, as well as those looking to enjoy life in the sun once they've called time on working nine to five.

The magic of Albania is a well-kept secret known only to a handful of travelers who recognize it as one of Europe's hottest alternative tourist spots. It offers a rich tapestry of cultures and an intriguing historical past.

Tirana, the capital, is literally at the heart of Albania. The city is host to a vibrant nightlife, while the countryside attracts those more at home in wild mountainous terrain. Around a quarter of Albania's population of 3.2 million live in the city. With buildings painted in bold reds, blues and yellows, it's a colorful base for unashamed consumerism

and fun, while eyecatching grand boulevards remain to remind you of the country's chequered past.

Among the many changes that have followed the fall of the communists in the early 1990s has been a massive expansion of new building as the country looks to the future.

A host of new development projects are ongoing, including the Long Hill Residence—a managed compound offering fully furnished modern living, complete with plenty of green space, dining and drinking options, swimming pools and more. It might be the right time to see for yourself what this country has to offer.

www.albania.al

A Cut Above the Rest

The arrival of Michelin-starred chef Sammy Ho Pui-yung as executive chef at Hotel Icon's Above & Beyond has taken the exquisite restaurant to all-new heights.

A hidden gem tucked away on the 28th floor of Hotel Icon in the heart of bustling Tsim Sha Tsui East, the restaurant affords stunning panoramic views of the Hong Kong skyline from the floor-to-ceiling windows. It's the perfect vantage point for the daily evening light shows in Victoria Harbour—and fireworks displays, of course.

Above & Beyond is a culinary destination where elegant, award-winning interiors designed by Terence Conran & Partners are a fitting backdrop to the sumptuous Cantonese cuisine—and the view. Two private dining rooms are ideal for those looking for a more intimate experience, while a diversely stocked wine room and a spectacular range of fine whiskies provide a special touch.

The seasonal menu changes four times a year and allows wine pairing on demand, including a weekend brunch deal that for just an additional \$68 per person ensures a free-flowing supply of red or white throughout your meal.

Chef Ho's honest and distinctive approach to cooking stems from a passion for using age-old cooking methods, real Chinese spices and traditional flavoring,

and the freshest seasonal ingredients. With new dishes available offering authentic Cantonese and Chinese regional cuisine, deliciously exciting times lie ahead at Above & Beyond.

**28/F, Hotel Icon, 17 Science Museum Rd.,
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HK GIVEAWAYS

We've got a winner for our big giveaways competition! And here's a preview of even more amazing goodies to win—our next competition starts next week. Pick up a magazine, or spend the next month regretting it...

WE HAVE A
WINNER!



Congratulations to the lucky winner of a romantic getaway for two to beautiful Albania and the Balkans, worth more than \$50,000!

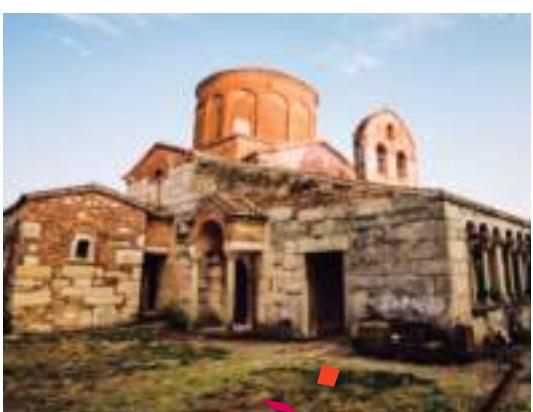
Davide Gualco is the lucky winner of our two-week trip for two to Albania and the Balkans! Davide picked up the magazine every week to find the words "tantalizing," "intriguing" and "chaotic," before putting them into a poem describing what he felt about Hong Kong.

Here it is:

*Mirror mirror on the wall
It's Hong Kong the best of all
Less chaotic than Shanghai?
Tantalizing anyway!
More intriguing than Beijing?
Please don't tell to Xi Jinping!*

Congratulations, Davide, and enjoy your holiday! Can we come with you?

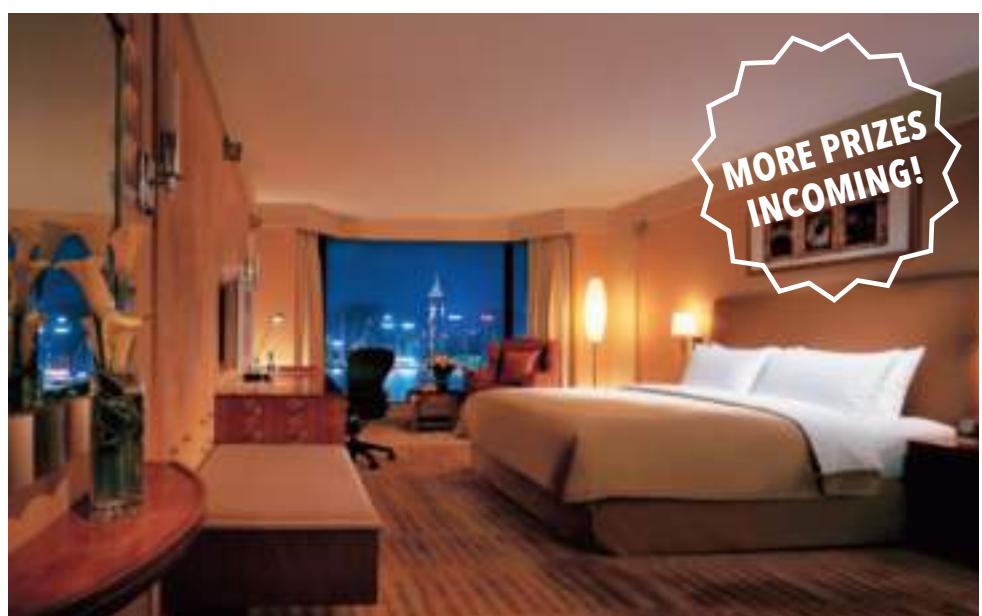
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Want to win more stuff?

Of course you do. Next week kicks off our next round of giveaways, including a two-night staycation at the fabulous Kowloon Shangri-La including dinner at Angelini, worth over \$11,000. If that's not worth picking up your favorite magazine for, we don't know what is.

Want a chance to win? Check HK Magazine next week to find out how!



FIRST PERSON

“Every day you skip is one more day your opponent gets to train.”



Featherweight Rex “The Wonder Kid” Tso is Hong Kong’s first professional boxer, with a record of 18 fights—and 18 wins. The undefeated champion started boxing professionally at 24 and has won multiple Super Flyweight titles in the last four years. He tells Adrienne Chum about pulling on the gloves, the sacrifices he makes for training, and his toughest match ever.

I grew up in Tuen Mun. I have three older brothers.

Boxing ran in the family. When I was little, around 5 or 6 years old, my father began teaching me about boxing.

I didn’t get into any fights at school. In fact, I wasn’t really a fan of boxing when I was young, because I was very lazy and exercise was hard work. I felt that if I had to train for two hours, that was too much.

Besides, in boxing you get hit by people, and I didn’t like that. I liked playing basketball and computer games instead.

But since boxing was a family exercise, and my dad and brothers did it, I did a bit too.

I was bad at school, so when I left I couldn’t find work. I did some manual labor, like goods transport, but I didn’t really care for it much. I didn’t really have a goal in life.

When I was 18 or 19 I joined Def Boxing as a trainer. It wasn’t until then that my interest in boxing grew, as I had more time to train.

My coach Jay wanted to host a professional boxing match: He put a lot of time into bringing boxing into Hong Kong. We had a boxer from Africa who would participate, but he also wanted a local to join, so he asked me to try.

That was a very special opportunity, so I said sure, why not?

But with the match looming, I got really nervous: I had been so lax before, so how could I handle a professional match?

Jay said he’d send me to the Philippines to train for a month before the match, to improve my technique. But if I wasn’t in good enough shape, the trainer could send me back on the first day. It scared me into getting in shape for that month.

I wasn’t even sure if I was ready for the training. But I saw the match getting closer and closer, so I did everything the coach told me to do.

When I got in the ring, everything I’d learned came easily. Since then, I’ve understood that if I put in the effort, I can improve.

That night there were more than 300 people watching, and when they all got up to celebrate my victory, the feeling was something I had never felt before. It was amazing. I loved it. And I began to love boxing.

For the first year and a half, money was difficult. The gym was trying to put some matches together, but not many people in Hong Kong really care about boxing, so we didn’t have that support.

We had to go to other countries for matches. We didn’t have an income, but we had to get our name and reputation out there and win some matches, or we’d never get anywhere.

The most difficult match I faced was my eighth, which was against a Kyrgyzstan boxer for the WBC Asia Continental belt. This was my first battle for a belt, and my opponent was much more experienced than I was. The fight was 12 rounds, which was the most I had ever experienced.

Before I had only fought four-round matches. Most boxers gradually go from four to six to eight to 10 to 12 rounds, so it was a huge jump for me.

The first few rounds were really bad. I was controlled by my opponent the whole time, and every time I threw a punch, I gave him an opening, which he punished.

At the fifth or sixth round I thought: “He’s too experienced; there’s no way I can win like this.”

So I decided to use my strength and stamina to fight back. When he hit me with one punch, I hit him with three. After a while his face and both his eyes were swollen, and my right eye was swollen.

But at the end of the 10th round, his eyes were so swollen that they were just lines on his face—he couldn’t open them. The referee stopped the fight to protect his safety and I got the title.

Since becoming a professional I’ve learned how important discipline is. If you just exercise for health, resting one day to go out with friends is alright. But you can’t do that when you’re preparing for a match. Every day you skip is one more day your opponent gets to train.

I love eating and I want to eat everything! But I have to control my diet very strictly. After cutting weight [losing weight before a match] so many times, I know that even if I have a little time to eat a more relaxed diet, I can’t let myself go too much. The more you have to cut the more it sucks!

On the final days before a weigh-in, I can’t even drink water: When I’m thirsty, I can only gargle it.

I love rice too, and have to have it every day. If I don’t eat rice, I don’t feel full.

But I do miss ice cream. I love all the flavors!

Sometimes I stand in the doorway of snack shops and just look at the food.

NEED TO KNOW...

Rex trains at Def Boxing with coach Jay Lau Chi-yuen. He most recently defeated Australian Olympian Brad “Pocket Rocket” Hore for the WBC Asian Boxing Council super flyweight title. Learn to punch like a pro at Def Boxing, 124 Connaught Rd. Central, Sheung Wan, 2840-0162.

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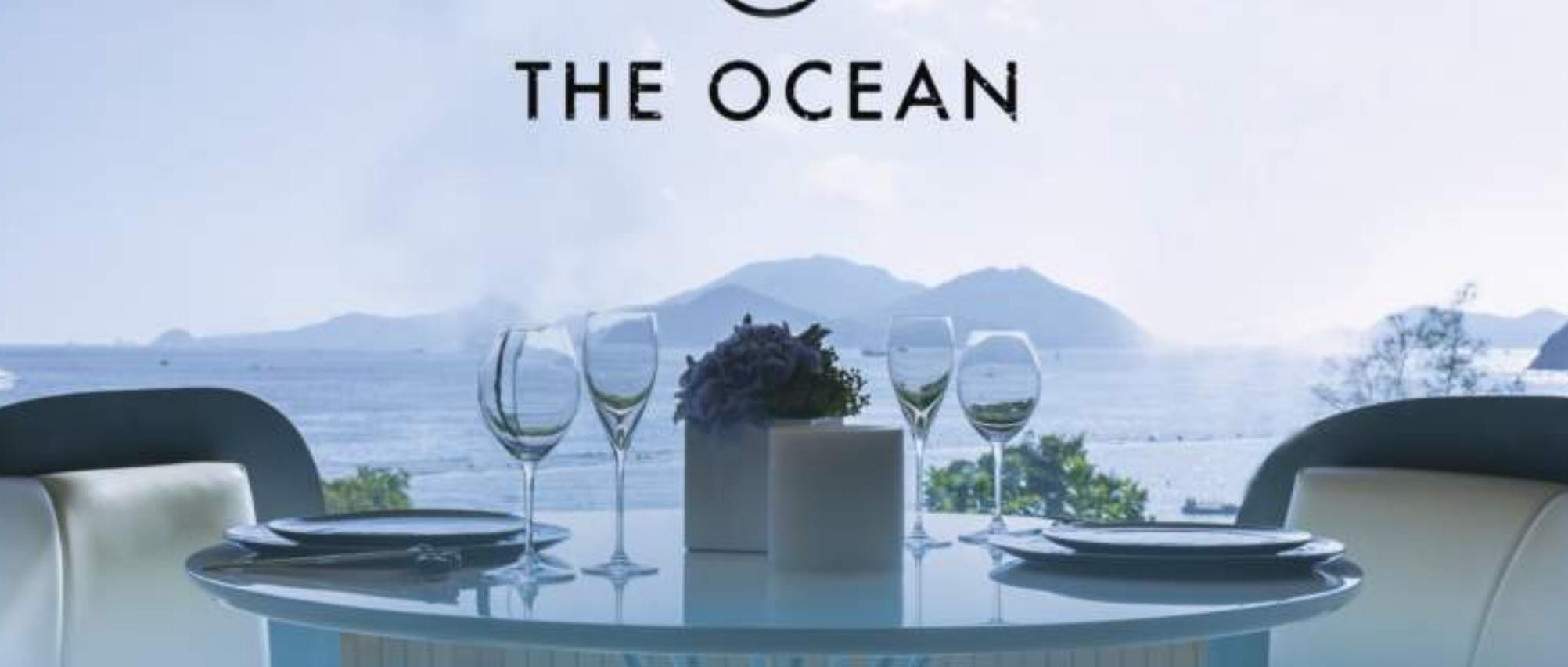
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