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HK

HK MAGAZINE NO. 1099 FRIDAY, JUNE 5, 2015 www.hk-magazine.com

LIVE
A
CARBON-
FREE
LIFE

This cover uses 95% less ink than usual and we've squeezed this issue into 30% fewer pages—for more magazine recycling tips turn to p.8-11.



RTL CBS
ENTERTAINMENT HD
FIRST AND EXCLUSIVE
now TV CH 517



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

BEAUTY THE BEAST & SEASON 3

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MERS Obstacle Course

Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) made its first appearance in Hong Kong last week, thanks to an infected South Korean man who flew through the airport and made his way to Huizhou by bus. Think you've got what it takes to leapfrog moral obligations and government obstacles while carrying a deadly disease? Use this quiz to find out:

So you have a runaway fever, cough, headache, chills, sore throat, runny nose, and feel nauseous.

You should:

- a. Go to the doctor—there's nothing a small sack of antibiotics won't shift.
- b. Call your mom: she'll know what to do!
- c. Get on Asiana Airlines Flight OZ723 to Hong Kong, potentially infecting people in close proximity... so basically everyone in economy.

Assuming you've gone with the obvious choice, "C," you've now safely landed in Hong Kong. When you get off the plane and make your way towards customs, a concerned nurse stops to take your temperature. When she notices that you have a fever you:

- a. Feel grateful—finally some sympathy. Everyone on the plane just kept complaining whenever you sprayed the cabin with phlegm.
- b. Call your mom: she'll know what to do!
- c. Assure the meddling nurse that you feel fine despite your fever. Press on into the crowded streets of Hong Kong. Now if you can only find that bus to Huizhou...

Success! You've avoided the snooping nurse but this fever keeps climbing up the mercury.

There's only one thing to do. Clearly, you should:

- a. Do a round of shots in LKF—you read somewhere that alcohol kills germs.
- b. Call your mom: she'll know what to do!
- c. Wipe the sweat from your feverish brow and move along. You have a bus to catch to Huizhou!

You hear news of a miscreant who hopped on a plane en route to Huizhou, potentially infecting dozens of others with MERS. Oh, no, they're onto you! You should:

- a. Check into a five-star in Huizhou and get some much-needed (and deserved!) R&R till it all blows over.
- b. Call your mom: she'll know what to do!
- c. Turn yourself in and face criminal prosecution for failing to declare a medical condition on arrival and endangering dozens of lives. But let's be honest: it'll be much less of a bureaucratic hassle to just hop on another plane and get the hell out!

Who's in charge?

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A cleaner, greener Hong Kong



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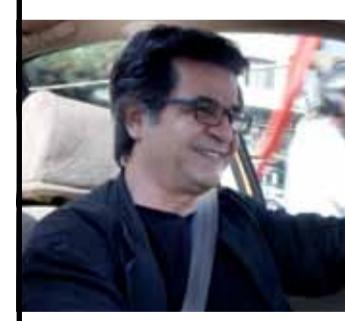
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MAILBAG

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

Dear Mr. Know-It-All,

What's the story behind the Noonday Gun? — Powder Monkey

The venerable Noonday Gun is the kind of thing that we locals tend to forget about, marooned as it is on the other side of the highway from Causeway Bay. But it was immortalized by Noel Coward in his 1931 song "Mad Dogs and Englishmen":

In Hong Kong they strike a gong and fire off the Noonday Gun... To reprimand each inmate who's in late... But mad dogs and Englishmen go out in the midday sun!"

But singalongs aside, the Noonday Gun has a history of its very own. Its first location was a little to the south of where it stands now, in East Point—now Causeway Bay. East Point was the earliest bit of land to be privately auctioned back in 1841, and Jardine Matheson snapped it up. The mighty trading hong had made its money by dealing an awful lot of opium to an awful lot of Chinese people, and so it had cash to spare and a business to grow. East Point became the center of Jardine's warehouses, and its trade—both in drugs and later in more morally sound enterprises—helped make Hong Kong what it is today.

It might surprise you to learn that having a lot of land and money is the kind of thing that goes to your head. And we might have that fiscal self-satisfaction to thank for the Noonday Gun.

The story goes that in the 1860s, the staff of Jardine's used to greet the big boss—the Tai-Pan, a term invented for the

firm's founder William Jardine—by firing off a 21-gun salute when he arrived in the harbor. This, as any elementary reading of naval fiction will reveal, is the type of respectful gesture reserved for the arrival of admirals and governors. No mere *merchant* deserves such a welcome.

An unimpressed British naval officer took umbrage and handed down an order: If the Jardine employees were so attached to their salutes, they could fire off a gun every day at noon to work off some of their trigger-happiness.

Is it true? Perhaps, perhaps not. It's possible that the gun was simply fired so that people could set their watches every day at noon, or simply to alert everyone when a Jardine ship arrived in the harbor. But that's not as good a story, is it?

These days, matters are a little different. Corporations don't kowtow to disgruntled naval officers. But the tradition of the Noonday Gun has continued, interrupted only by World War II: a final shot of colonialism in a decidedly, literally, post-colonial city.

In fact, you can fire the thing yourself if you'd like. Jardine offers a chance at the firing lanyard to anyone who donates \$33,000 to the Community Chest (www.commchest.org). Sure, it's a lot of money. But at least you know your watch will be accurate. And you get to fire a big gun!

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



Shau Kei Wan in a Million
Photo by Richard McHardy



Your whines, words and warbles:

"Time to head to the dark side."

Lantau Lovin'

Believe it or not, there's more to Lantau than the Big Buddha and cable cars. In our recent cover story [May 15, issue 1096] we shortlisted 33 awesome things to do on the island. Our Facebook readers are on board.

#34. Keep Lantau Clean

Castro Berenice

Buddhaland will be the next hotspot

Jeffrey Jones

Great list!

Mike Quirke

Just went there tonight. Food was really good. I liked the palak paneer even though it was a bit too spicy.

Margot Looman

Superbbbb.....very tasty south Indian food

Priyanka Sharma

New lunch place to try!!

Aure-Anne Tss

Time to head to the dark side.

Nikki Yeung

Talk the Talk

Our recent cover story on Hong Kong's dying dialects [May 22, issue 1097] resonated with a lot of our readers. One Twitter follower knows exactly what we're talking about.

@HK_Magazine Really interesting article—thanks! I speak #weitou and people always think I am a granny when they speak to me on the phone!

So-Shan Au, @soshanau



Write in and Win!

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



THE WEEK

SAT 6/13



THU 6/11



WED 6/10



Friday 6/5

Think Pink

Do some good and join **Hong Kong Dolphin Conservation Society**'s boat tour. Learn more about the species and what we can do to help our super smart aquatic pals. **9am-1:30pm. Meet at Tung Chung MTR exit C. \$250 per person; email veganbluefreedom@gmail.com.**

Saturday 6/6

Raise the Roof

Music and cultural festival **Roofest** is back for its summer edition. Expect to see an extensive lineup of DJs including legendary local mainstay Roy Malig. Shop for vinyls and illustrations, munch on popcorn and candy floss—all in a Kwun Tong industrial building. **3-11:30pm. Easy Building, 140 Wai Yip St., Kwun Tong. \$182 from www.eventbrite.hk. BYOB (no glass bottles).**

Sunday 6/7

Market Share

The **Sai Kung Sunday Market** brings all kinds of artisanal goodness—think wines, jams and cheeses as well as books. Unsure about venturing out in unpredictable weather? Don't worry—the market takes place indoors at the Hong Kong Academy. **11am-5pm. 33 Wai Man Rd., Sai Kung. Free.**

Monday 6/8

Oh Hey, Moët

Hit up Azure for **Rooftop Cinema By Moët and Chandon**, featuring a screening of TV series "Jo"—France's answer to "Law and Order." There's a pretty good happy hour to go with it too: \$100 gets you four drinks and a dozen canapés. **Happy hour 6:30pm onwards; screening 7:30pm. 30/F, 33 Wyndham St., Central, 3518-9330. RSVP azure@azure.hk.**

Tuesday 6/9

Need Read

Want to be the next JK Rowling... but don't have an audience aside from your mom? The Hong Kong Writers' Circle is hosting **Summer Reading** at Varga Lounge, where you'll have the opportunity to read a short excerpt of your literary creation. **7-10pm. 36 Staunton St., Central. RSVP at eventbrite.hk.**

Wednesday 6/10

Bia Hoi

Haven't been to new resto **Viet Kitchen** yet? Head there for happy hour: you'll get free snacks—like caramel chicken wings and a Vietnamese charcuterie plate—with any alcoholic drink purchase. There's also a \$188 "beer bucket" deal that includes six types of Vietnamese regional beers. Mot, Hai, Ba, YOOOO! **Through Jul 31, Mon-Sat, 5-7pm. Shop G04 & G06, G/F, Nexus Building, 41 Connaught Rd. Central, 2806-2068.**

Thursday 6/11

Willy Power

Events promoter All I Do is Party is bringing in DJ **Willy Monfret** to spin at Fly. Think his face looks familiar? Sharp-eyed hip-hop fans might have spotted him in Nicki Minaj's music videos. Now's your chance to get up close and personal... **10pm. 24-30 Ice House St., Central, 2810-9902. \$300 at the door, including two drinks and two shots.**

Friday 6/12

June Jams

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

Saturday 6/13

Ultra Sonic

From early days on South Beach back in 1999, the world's biggest dance music festival **Ultra** has made its way to Club Cubic. It's gonna be a mecca for EDM lovers. **8pm. 2/F, Hard Rock Hotel, City of Dreams, Estrada do Istmo, Cotai, Macau, (+853) 6638-4999. \$780-880 before Jun 9 from cubic-cod.com; \$880 at the door.**



DO THIS

High-Speed Romance

No luck on Coffee Meets Bagel? Go back to basics with events planner Bespoke Encounters, which is bringing us **A Serendipitous Night—The Date Game**, a speed-dating event open to 25- to 36-year-old singletons. You'll be served dinner while "friendly games" take place.

Jun 7, 7-10pm. Location in confirmation email. \$450, including dinner and a drink. Tickets from eventbrite.hk.

NEWS

Last Week In Reality

Sat 23

What a Phoney A man is caught smuggling 18 iPhone 6 Plus mobiles across the Shenzhen border, worth a total of \$160,000. China's customs officers say the man, who had a bicycle, looked suspicious with a nervous demeanor. While checking his bike, the officers find it has been modified to accommodate the mobiles. The man admits his guilt and the case is to be further investigated.



Sun 24

Tow of Terror A 59-year-old tow truck driver forgets to set up parking blocks before attaching a taxi cab in Ho Man Tin. She is standing next to the truck when it starts to slide forward. She chases the truck as it is rolling but trips and falls under the vehicle, which drags her along. She dies from her injuries.

Mon 25

Shop Hop A bag of 40 edible Chinese frogs is dropped onto the second-floor waiting area of Harbour City Ocean Terminal, frightening passersby. The bag is suspected to have been thrown from the third floor. Some of the frogs die on impact, some sit motionless in the bag, and some hop out. Guards are notified and the frogs are cleaned up. The incident is being investigated by the Organized Crime and Triad Bureau.



Tue 26

Crumby Luck In the early hours, three students aged 17 and 18 steal potato chips, bread and strawberries from an open-air Cyberport café. Security notices the café cabinet has been tampered with and call the police. The police spot the three eating and drinking at an al fresco dining area minutes away from the café. The owner of the café tells reporters he suspects the three to be intoxicated as there is an open bottle of whisky in the dining area. The three are arrested.

Wed 27

Acid Trip At 5am, a 25-year-old man is splashed with acid in Kennedy Town by his 48-year-old former lover. He is walking down the street when the woman throws acid at him. He runs into a convenience store to wash it off with water before being rushed to hospital. The victim's face and neck sustain serious injuries. The perpetrator is arrested.



Thu 28

Snake Your Claim A 3-meter-long Burmese python is spotted climbing up a 10-meter-long tree at an Ap Lei Chau residential estate. Residents call the police. A snake expert also arrives. Unable to reach the snake, the expert calls for firefighters to help. They shoot the snake out of the tree with a water cannon and the snake expert captures it. The expert believes the snake had just enjoyed a meal.

Fri 29

A Shoe-In While returning home to Wah Fu Estate after work at 4am, a 34-year-old man notices a boy, 15, hovering in a stairwell. As is his habit, the man takes off his shoes at the door. Later on, he notices the shoes are missing. He sees the boy holding them while walking around the complex two floors down, and confronts the boy. The boy claims he found the shoes in the trash. The man calls the police. The boy is still in the complex when the police arrive, and is arrested.

Illustrations: Ryan Chan

Talking Points

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



Iconic Theme Park Lai Yuen to Reopen

Nostalgia will be running high this summer: the beloved Lai Chi Kok Amusement Park, aka **Lai Yuen**, is set to reopen on the Central Harbourfront this coming June after shutting down in 1997. Starting June 26 and lasting for 70 days, the "Lai Yuen Super Summer 2015" pop-up will feature rides inspired by the original park and a high-tech mechanical version of **Tino the elephant**, an icon of Lai Yuen. Entry into the park will be free, but rides and games will require tokens available for purchase. Duncan Chiu, chairman of Lai Yuen Amusement Park, says he will consider building a permanent park depending on the public's reaction.

Our take: It's like childhood all over again!

Hackers Force Alliance to Shut Down Website

After numerous hacker attacks, political group **The Hong Kong Alliance in Support of Patriotic Democratic Movements in China** has temporary closed its website. Lee Cheuk-yan, secretary of the Alliance, tells Apple Daily that the decision came after continuous hacking attempts leading up to June 4. That wasn't the only reason, though—Lee added that the hacking also affected the Hong Kong Professional Teachers' Union's website, which shares a server with Alliance. The group's social media channels and the Alliance-run June 4th Museum website remain live.

Our take: Who votes for more hacker regulation?

HKBN Launches Free Wi-Fi for Mainlanders

Hong Kong Broadband Network and Hang Seng Bank have created a **free Wi-Fi hotspot network specifically targeted at mainland Chinese tourists**. The app is only available in simplified Chinese and can only be accessed with a mainland Chinese SIM card. The access period is two hours per day, but can be renewed by connecting to a different network (for example, at a hotel or coffee shop) in between. Many netizens disapprove of the move, arguing that it is discrimination to exclude Hong Kong citizens as well as other tourist groups. Hang Seng Bank says the service is targeting mainlanders because it is a large pool of potential customers.

Our take: Stay tuned for virtual Occupy Wi-Fi protests.

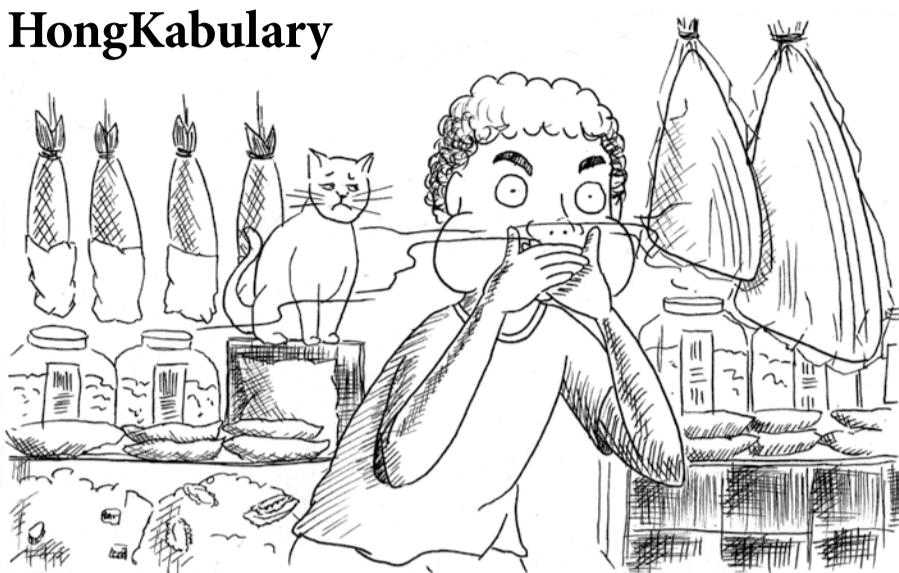
Quote of the Week

"Grandma sucks the chicken feet bones, and then gives it to you to eat. Tam Yiu-chung, this is your mother's favorite food."

Tam Tak-chi, a representative of People Power, offers up a metaphor for the voting process of the government's universal suffrage proposal, which would shortlist pre-approved candidates. During a Legco meeting, Tam Tak-chi says that Hong Kong people will only get leftovers after the nominating committee has chosen the candidates. After several references to his mother, Tam Yiu-chung asks attendants to remove Tam Tak-chi from the room for "swearing."

UPFRONT

HongKabulary



Dried Heaving (draɪd hɪvɪŋ), n.

Walking through the dry seafood smells of Sheung Wan and Sai Ying Pun when you have a raging hangover.

"Why did we have to have morning-after brunch in Sai Ying Pun? I was dried heaving all the way here."

Caption This

HONG KONG—Men in traditional Chinese lion dance costume take part in the annual Cheung Chau Bun Festival in Cheung Chau. (KY Cheng/SCMP)



Lion Dancers Mess Up Choreography, Sentenced To Time Out

Fugitive Baby Formula Smugglers Hide In Safe, Furry Haven To Evade Police

UNIMPRESSED COPS HAVE FALLEN FOR 'LION BEHIND YOU' LINE ONE TIME TOO MANY

Fast Facts

Green City

How is Hong Kong reducing its carbon footprint?

- Redistributing leftover food from hotel brunches to hungry ghosts.
- Moving all incinerators and waste facilities into international waters.
- Throwing a trash to treasure bazaar; watching hipsters pay \$300 for empty polystyrene lunch boxes.
- Building new public housing units out of upcycled Vitasoy cartons.
- Passing a city mandate for everyone to wear teeny tiny green shoes.

Street Talk



Dr. Simon Chau is the founder of Greenwoods Raw Cafe, the first fully raw restaurant in Hong Kong. He tells Adrienne Chum about his experience as a raw vegan.

HK Magazine: How did you get involved in vegetarianism and raw veganism?

Dr. Simon Chau: I became a vegetarian 30 years ago. There was no real reason, just a kind of calling. I was in England, working on my doctorate, and one day I thought, "I don't need meat, so maybe I should try giving it up."

HK: Was it hard to give up all that food?

SC: Giving up meat was no problem. Giving up milk and eggs was far more difficult, because they are everywhere. I founded the Hong Kong Vegetarian Society 20 years ago, but since then realized there's a better way, and that is to eat raw. To eat raw means you don't eat anything heated above 41°C: that means no noodles, rice, cappuccino or tiramisu. Four years ago I decided to go totally raw, and never looked back. My life totally transformed.

HK: What kinds of things happen to you when you go raw?

SC: If you successfully go raw, all kinds of health problems can improve. I've seen successful raw foodists sometimes look 30 years younger than their age! You are full of energy, and you need to sleep much less. Also you feel very light and happy every day, with a sense of fulfillment.

HK: How long does it take for the effects to manifest?

SC: It depends on so many factors, like how positive you are and how much rest you have. If you sleep late or don't exercise it defeats the purpose. And it also depends on your health in the first place: whether you have support, medical advice or guidance. Typically it takes years to complete the transition.

HK: What is the most difficult thing about maintaining this lifestyle?

SC: There are physical challenges, for example the process of detoxification and your cravings: I miss cheese, yogurt, milk tea and bread! Also I don't take caffeine, MSG or salt—all these are stimulants without which you can feel a little low. Then there is social pressure: people ask you all kinds of questions.



HK: What food do you miss most?

SC: Indian curry. We are selling a version of it which is not totally raw, because it is made up of several ingredients. It is possible to eventually make a totally raw curry.

HK: Why did you decide to open the restaurant?

SC: We are a non-profit business. We only opened to provide a place where people could try raw food and hopefully begin to eat greener, more holistically and spiritually. What I discovered is that when you change your diet you change your thinking. And when that happens, you change your habits and your fate. By influencing the eating habits of people, I think we are contributing to the wellbeing of the nation. That's our aspiration.

Want to try out a raw meal?

Visit Greenwoods Raw Cafe, 13/F, 2 Carnarvon Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, 3428-2416, www.greenwoodshk.org.



BE A ZERO HERO

Is it too late to reverse global warming? Probably. But even if solar flares and mega tsunamis threaten life on Earth, you should still be separating your recyclables.

Evelyn Lok counts the ways you can live a cleaner, greener, carbon-free life right here in Hong Kong.

Zero-carbon: The Holy Grail in the quest to save our planet from climate change. It may not come as a surprise, but Hong Kong has a ways to go on the path to zero carbon. The current state of the city's annual carbon emission levels are at about 5.2 tons per person, according to the World Bank's 2010 report. In 2011, Hong Kong's Environmental Protection Department's evaluation saw an increase to 6 tons. Just for comparison: Singapore clocks in at 2.7 per head.

When measuring emissions, the Hong Kong government doesn't take into account several factors, such as production or transit, meaning the official numbers may be vastly underestimated. Private carbon auditor Catherine Touzard suggests that the reality may be a few tons more per person. "Hong Kong's footprint is mainly energy production and consumption, but there are a lot of embodied emissions [from every step of the production process] in the products we use," she says. Offsetting carbon footprints—aka the greenhouse gas emissions dispelled into the atmosphere by organizations, events or people—is one way to slow the process. But how can you personally reduce your carbon footprint?

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

Coinciding with World Environment Day, the Green Council has organized "Green Day" on June 5. Supporters are encouraged to wear green, and activities include discounts at organic or vegetarian restaurants citywide. See www.greencouncil.org for more info.

GREENHOUSE GASES

Need a high school science recap? Accumulated greenhouse gases—carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide and ozone—block the sun's radiation from escaping the atmosphere, which in turn heats up the planet. And not in a sexy, smoldering kinda way.

HK Cares

Instead of tossing this issue in the trash, you can use HK Mag to...



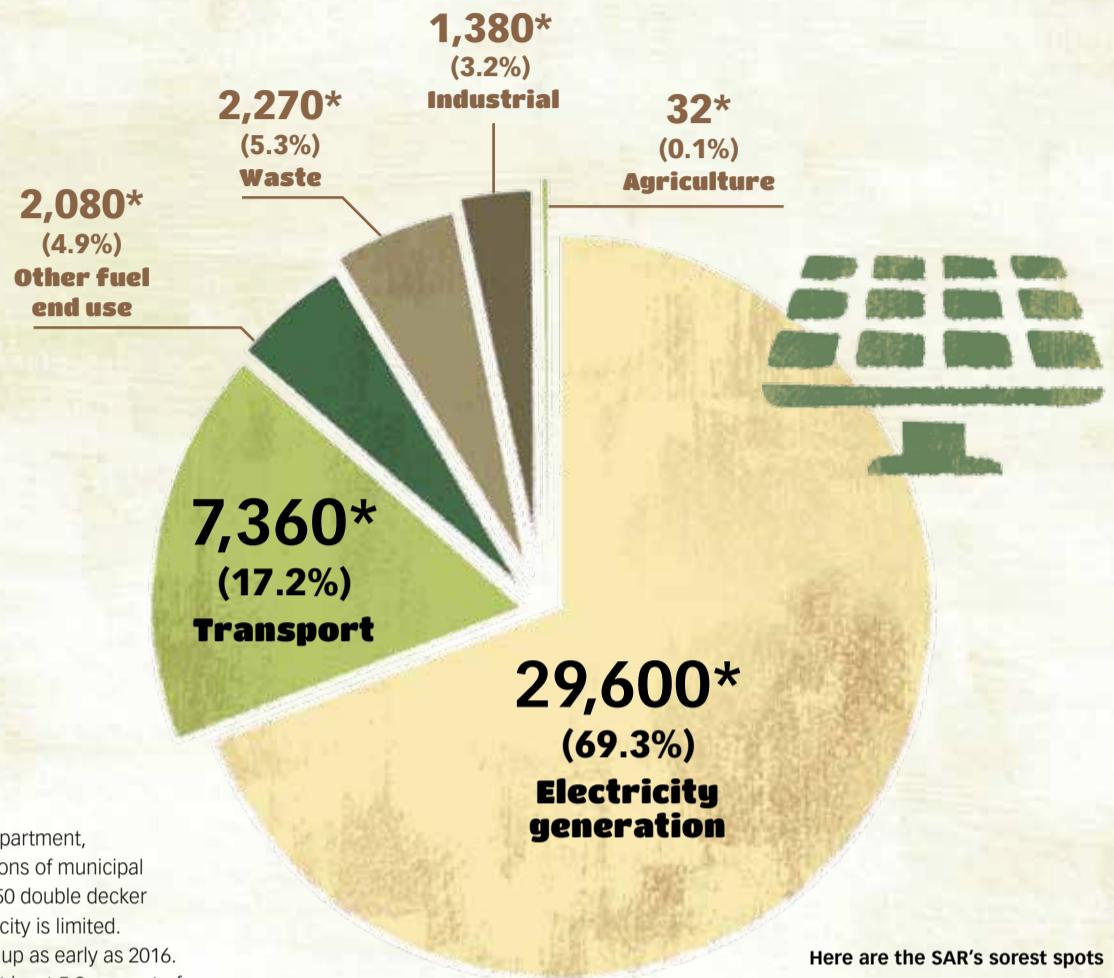
Pick up after
your dog.



Craft
a cunning
lampshade.



Wrap a
pretty present.



Here are the SAR's sore spots when it comes to CO₂ emissions, according to the Environmental Protection Department.

*Measured in kilotons of CO₂

1. Recycle Your Trash

According to the Environmental Protection Department, Hongkongers dispose of an average of 9,000 tons of municipal solid waste per day. That's the equivalent of 750 double decker buses being carted off to landfills, where capacity is limited. Hong Kong's three landfills are expected to fill up as early as 2016. Emissions from our waste also contribute to at least 5.3 percent of the city's carbon footprint.

The government says it has a plan, which started with plastic bag levies and will eventually include a system that charges citizens for waste disposal by weight, according to District Councilor and Designing Hong Kong CEO Paul Zimmerman. To address overflowing landfills, the government plans to build several more incinerators to deal with sludge and sewage, as well as burn household waste before sending the remnants for burial.

But there are many flaws with the plan. "The problem with the burners is that they're put on one island, the landfills are in other locations, and the facilities for separation are elsewhere, so it's all over the place," explains Zimmerman. "From a waste logistics point of view, it doesn't make any sense."

The government's added infrastructure and levies aside, waste management should really start at home. "People should make it easy for the cleaners and the old ladies to pick recyclable materials out of your waste," says Zimmerman. "In your kitchen, separate your waste into what is likely to be recyclable—make sure it's washed and clean, and put it in a box. The cleaner it is, the easier it is for people to separate."

The hardest thing to recycle? Glass. And it shows in the numbers: the recycling rate of glass bottles in Hong Kong remains just under 10 percent. Luckily, Green Glass Green (www.greenglass.org.hk), an NGO headed by April Lai, is one of the major independent groups working to recycle glass—bringing a team to collect bottles from F&B outlets in SoHo and surrounding areas. It currently has nine stations throughout Hong Kong, including Wan Chai's Luard Road Refuse Collection Point (Corner of Luard and Johnston roads). In 2014 alone, GGG recycled just over 1,000 tons of glass bottles. Everything collected is sent to Tistone, a company that recycles the glass into eco-bricks that are used primarily for government-funded projects.

Do Your Part

Recycle Everything

HK Recycles collects your recyclables for a subscription starting from \$39 a week. Materials collected—which can be all types of metal, uncontaminated plastic and paper, plus all kinds of glass—go to upcyclers who turn all that trash into something reusable.

www.hkrecycles.com.

Donate Old Furniture

Don't let that old dresser go to the landfill! **Green Dot Home** collects used furniture in reasonable condition directly from your home, or you can deliver it yourself to its warehouse in Kowloon Bay.

Unit 4, 2/F, Kam Hon Building, 8 Wang Kwun Rd., Kowloon Bay, 2328-3901,
www.green-dot-home.com.hk.

Plant Some Trees

Join Lantau reforestation group **Ark Eden**'s tree-planting day in tandem with World Environment Day on June 6, 9:20am at Mui Wo (register by 3pm on June 5

latest, jasmine@arkedenonlantau.com, 6110-9293), or its next big community tree plant on June 27.

www.arkedenonlantau.com.

Don't Waste Leftovers

Planning a get-together or a big banquet dinner and anticipating huge amounts of leftovers? Donate them to charity: **Friends of the Earth** will put you in touch with the right people.

foodwaste.foe.org.hk.

Donate Your Electronics

The St James' Settlement organizes a **Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment** (WEEE) recycling program that collects most major household electronics. Repairable appliances are fixed and either sold for charity or donated to the needy, while other parts will be dismantled and recycled.

1/F, 85 Stone Nullah Lane, Wan Chai, 2795-7038, weegogreen.sjs.org.hk.

Sculpt an elaborate papier-mâché mantelpiece.

Fold an origami dragon.

Keep your seat dry at the races.



Shield your face from the sun.



2. Shop with a Conscience

Next time you go on a shopping spree—be it for skincare and cosmetics or furniture and home supplies—be sure to keep old Mother Nature in mind. Granted, it's more expensive to shop with a conscience, but using only eco-friendly or sustainably produced products is one small step towards shrinking your carbon footprint.

"It's hard enough as it is in Hong Kong because you have to import everything," says Angela Wong of Little Things in Life (ltlhk.com), an online store selling organic and all-natural skincare and cosmetics. "We choose brands that use 100 percent post-consumer waste, or recyclable glass."

When shopping, try to avoid more elaborately packaged items and opt for something simple and minimalistic. The lighter it is, the better for the environment: Not only does a light-weight package use fewer resources, but it also cuts down on fuel emissions during shipping.

Do Your Part

Shop Recycled

An abbreviation for Eco Lifestyle, **ECOLS** carries worldwide brands sustainably created or made from recycled resources.

www.ecols.com.

Shop Green

Pre-loved furniture doesn't have to be all mug-circled coffee tables and frayed armchairs. Check out **Go Green Shop**, where all the donated furniture is in good condition.

Unit 4, 2/F Kam Hon Building, 8 Wang Kwun Rd., Kowloon Bay, 2328-3901, www.gogreenshop.com.hk.

Buy Bamboo

Bamboa makes top-notch homeware and textiles purely from locally grown

bamboo. It's not only sustainable: bamboo is the fastest growing plant on earth and it releases 30 percent more oxygen than trees. A portion of every purchase at Bamboa goes to environmental projects that help nurture biodiversity.

www.bamboahome.com.

Redecorate Responsibly

Next time you freshen up the flat, use a non-toxic paint such as **Eico Paints**, manufactured purely using geothermal or hydropower energy in Iceland or Sweden. It's then transported to Hong Kong using unfilled spaces on existing shipping routes. It's durable and long-lasting, which means less waste and repainting in the long run.

www.eico.hk.



Go into the woods at ECOLS



Eico is out to paint the town green



Get your weekly fix from Homegrown Foods



ECOLS keeps it so fresh and so green, green

3. Eat Local

Around 90 percent of Hong Kong's food supply is imported, predominantly from the mainland. Imported food racks up a huge carbon footprint before it even reaches your plate due to emissions spent in transit. But refrigeration and transport aren't the only causes: high levels of carbon are also a result of production methods—think farming-induced deforestation, processing frozen foods, cultivating off-season crops and more.

So if you want to go green, you can start by becoming a locavore. "If you're buying locally, you can go straight to the farmer. Local usually means it's seasonal, easier to grow and nutritionally better for you because it's not exposed to as many bacteria or toxins during transit," says Sonalie Figueiras, co-founder of wellness guide Green Queen (www.greenqueen.com.hk).

As cattle is one of the world's major methane emitters, Touzard also recommends lowering your intake of meat. She says, "Cattle is probably second on the list—about 18 percent of all world emissions—so try to use more vegetarian recipes."

Do Your Part

Grow Some Plants

Currently on a residence at non-profit arts space Spring Workshop, urban farmers at **HK Farm** can teach you about starting your own mini-farm on your rooftop. Take produce and seedlings home with you for free!

Spring Workshop, 3/F, Remex Centre, 42 Wong Chuk Hang Rd., Aberdeen, 2110-4370, www.springworkshop.org.

Green Grocer

Founded by Todd Darling, owner of F&B outlets Posto Pubblico, Linguiini Fini and Stone Nullah Tavern, **Homegrown Foods** is an online grocer that supplies organic

produce, groceries, eggs, and organic meat from Australia. It also provides fruit and vegetable box subscriptions delivered straight to your door.

www.homegrownfoods.com.hk.

Morning Grocery Run

Need to cook dinner but stuck at work? **Jou Sun** will deliver market veggies and locally sourced groceries to your door in less than three hours. The outfit also carries fair trade soaps and delicious nut butters made by women at the St James' Settlement.

1 Hing Wan St., Wan Chai, 2219-2192, www.jousun.com.



Fashion a cool hat.



Make a paper plane.



Pen an epic love letter.

PERKS

Sponsored Feature

4. Travel Responsibly

The second-largest contributor of carbon emissions, after electricity generation, is the city's transport. And while up to 90 percent of trips are made on public transport, an increase in privately owned vehicles is a detrimental trend.

"Hong Kong used to have very few individual cars but this ratio has been rising without any constraints," says Touzard. "Focusing on public transport is the only way to lower the carbon footprint." And with more cars comes more traffic. And with more traffic? Greater carbon emissions and increased levels of toxic air. "The highways are not congested in Hong Kong. What's congested is people queueing to get off the highways all over town," explains Zimmerman. "All of that congestion has a public health impact."

One solution is to make Hong Kong more pedestrian- and cyclist-friendly. Aside from being better for the environment, walking and cycling are also better for your body. "Cycling and walking as forms of transport are two sides of the same coin—they're both individual mobility," says Martin Turner of the Cyclist Association. A greener solution that means you can skip the gym? Count us in.

Do Your Part

Use Public Transport

You heard the experts: get walking or take the MTR.

Be an Infrequent Flyer

As a form of transportation, airplanes emit a huge amount of greenhouse gases per passenger mile—plus they travel a greater number of miles in general, making them the biggest culprit in racking up a carbon footprint. If you have to fly, longer haul is more fuel efficient than short hops. Jonesing for a break? Indulge in a staycation, such as Sha Tin's **Hyatt Regency**, which is currently offering a romantic getaway that includes \$600 credit for dining and minibar, as well as roses, red wine and chocolates.

Hyatt Regency, 18 Chak Cheung St., Sha Tin, 3723-1234.

Share Your Wheels

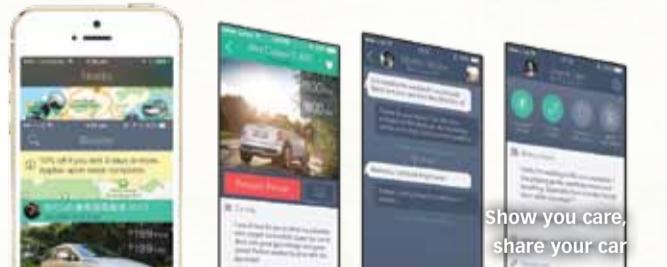
In space-starved Hong Kong, owning a car is both a financial and logistical burden. Enter **Carshare**, a website and app that allows you to rent cars when you want or lease out your own vehicle. This summer, try out a BYD electric car, available for \$199 per day for members.

www.carshare.hk. App available on iPhone and Android.

Buy Carbon Credits

If you can't do any of the above, the last resort is to offset your carbon footprint by calculating your average emission output and buying credits that support regional NGO offset projects. Hong Kong-based **Carbon Care Asia** supports projects such as a wind farm in Ningxia and rehabilitating deforested land in Northwest Sichuan.

www.carboncareasia.com.



OUR HERITAGE IS YOUR HEALTH

Kiwi Manuka™ UMF® Manuka honey is sustainably harvested from New Zealand's remote Manuka forests. Our Ethical Honey Harvest program "Manuka Originz™" ensures economic returns from our product sales are shared directly with the Manuka forest owners, thereby benefiting the communities who occupy these remote forestlands.

35 Ko Shing Street, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong
9382 2295 | www.kiwimanuka.com.hk



Italian Market 2015

Don't miss a little taste of Italy right here in Hong Kong, as the Italian Chamber of Commerce introduces the traditional Italian market for the third year.

Over two days, Italian Market 2015 will present the best food, wine, handicrafts and quality produce direct from Italy. Kick back in the restaurant area or with live entertainment to enjoy some of the most mouthwatering Italian specialties.

6 June, 2-9pm; 7 June, 12-8pm. Cyberport – The Arcade, Ocean View Court & Sea View Terrace, 100 Cyberport Road, Pok Fu Lam.
ICC members free; guests HK\$50.
For tickets email icc@icc.org.hk or go to www.eventbrite.hk.



Woodland raises \$241,028 for Nepal Earthquake

The Woodland Group of Pre-Schools has been working with the charity First Steps Himalaya for many years to provide education for underdeveloped villages in Nepal. In light of the recent earthquakes, Woodland organised fundraisers in each of their nine pre-schools across Hong Kong and managed to raise \$241,028 to aid emergency relief and rebuild destroyed school buildings.

Woodland Pre-Schools – fulfilling every child's potential
www.woodlandschools.com | 2559 4855 | enquiry@woodlandschools.com



Rigby & Peller

Known for its luxurious lingerie, Rigby & Peller believes that brides should feel nothing less than gorgeous on their wedding day. From that first date to the wedding night, it is every woman's dream to look and feel perfect upon entering that new stage of life. Apart from elegant makeup to bridal gown and prom dresses, an added touch of elegance is the lingerie trousseau that lends an air of confidence to the bride. Rigby & Peller understands that every woman is unique and deserves a bespoke service tailored to the needs of each individual.

Shop 310, Landmark, 15 Queen's Rd. Central, 2877-5655,
www.rigbyandpeller.com.

Dark is the Night: Charlie Toller

Photography by [DRKRMS]

Design by C&W HK

Presented by



In Michelangelo Antonioni's *Blow-Up*, the photographer Thomas played by David Hemmings brought the world of glamour photography and the underbelly of 1960s Soho's Carnaby Street nightlife into a vignette of dark intrigue and mystery. Times may have changed from the analogue to digital media today, but the subterranean after-hours cultures of cities around the world remain a fascination for the creative set.

Charlie Toller, a music and events British wunderkind also began his career in Soho, London. Soon enough, he moved to Hong Kong and launched Brandbeat, as a producer of events, social media and digital content. While the enterprise focuses on the business side of communicating, behind-the-scenes conversations with photographers Inga Beckmann and Callaghan Walsh soon turned the dialogue on promotions and exposure into constructing a creative platform for local photographers.

The DRKRMS project (it reads 'Darkrooms') started as a project on how to engage with Hong Kong's photography talent and a celebration of the city's nightlife and cultures after dark. From not knowing much photography a year ago, Charlie discovered and developed a keen interest in the medium. "I'm not a photographer but I know a few different things on working with people and brands — making things happen!" he said.

"DRKRMS is about a process; the idea of building communities and working with a team of diverse people. We worked with an interactive company, a technology crew, people on sound, and many others. It's all about harvesting technologies, partnering with different personalities over many industries." DRKRMS culminated in an interactive event that combined visuals, music and multi-media presentations.

"I'm really more a concept person," said Charlie. "It's how my brain works. I'm into the strategies." Many of Charlie's college friends went into finance. "I would probably have gotten into that field career-wise — if I weren't doing what I'm doing now — and probably hated it."

MADE OF MORE®

The process of developing a photograph in a darkroom is more than a chemical process — it is a sublime moment to indulge in — and so is the 256 years of heritage and beer brewing of GUINNESS®, and the process of pint pouring and enjoying a perfect pint of the stout. The brand's positioning, "Made of More®", celebrates the attitude shared by the brand and its drinkers - getting more out of life by putting more in. The synergy between GUINNESS® and DRKRMS is perfect: it is where craftsmanship and passion comes to life.

Celebrating the Made of More® spirit in both a sophisticated and fun way, GUINNESS® launches a new smartphone app featuring a Virtual Perfect Pint Challenge, where you can learn to pour a perfect GUINNESS® digitally, earning points in the process. Register and log-in and you have the opportunity to win prizes. You can also find the latest news, pop-up GUINNESS® campaign locations and much more in the app.





Green is the New Black

Back for its fifth edition, the **EcoChic Design Awards** is accepting entries until August 15 for sustainable fashion designs that showcase innovative ideas about reducing and reusing textile waste—like this denim number by 2013 winner Xinyan Dai. Put on by Redress, an NGO focused on cleaning up the fashion industry, the competition challenges emerging designers from across Asia and Europe. From the pool of candidates, 10 go on to the grand final fashion show at HKTDC Fashion Week in January 2016. What's in it for the winner?

A capsule collection of sustainable designs for Shanghai Tang.

Enter at www.ecochicdesignaward.com before August 15, 2015.

Farm it Out

Want to kick the city grind and get back to some slower-paced, rural roots? These restaurants will give you a taste of wholesome, fresh-from-the-farm dining. **By HK Staff**

Down on the Fama

G.O.D. makes a foray into the foodie sphere with **Sohofama** in PMQ and takes the term "farm to table" pretty literally. A collaboration with the guys behind Locofama, the restaurant is all about chemical-free Chinese cuisine, using locally sourced premium ingredients—many of which come from its own mini farm and outdoor garden, as well as its farm in the New Territories. The dishes here are filling and flavorful, with highlights including chili sauce clams and a succulent slab of free range Bellota pork. Come to think of it, everything is pretty darn good—even the service.

Unit SG09-SG14, G/F, Block A, PMQ, 35 Aberdeen St., Central, 2858-8238, sohofama.com.

Meat Your Maker

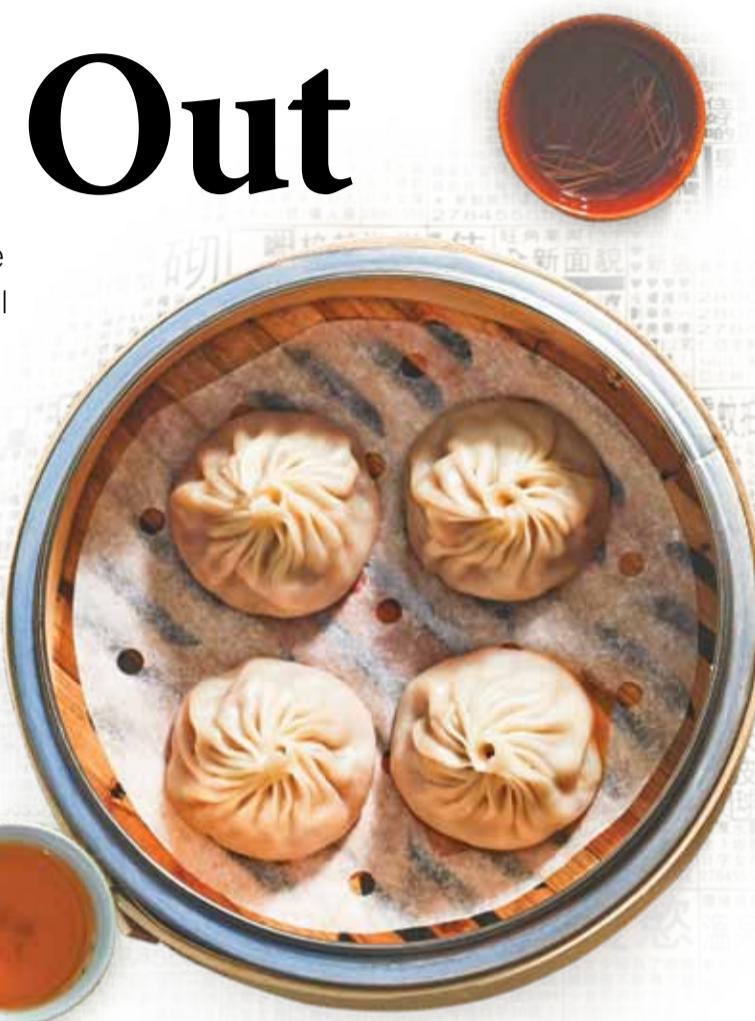
As the name suggests, you'll find your favorite surf and turf at **Fish & Meat**—all with a rustic, farm-fresh approach. Most of the dishes here are meant to be shared, and you can count on honestly sourced and fresh ingredients. In addition to making pasta fresh in its kitchen every day, Fish & Meat also shakes up refreshing cocktails, like the Farm House Jam, made with homemade blueberry jam, Ice Fox vodka and prosecco.

1-2/F, 32 Wyndham St., Central, 2565-6788, www.fishandmeat.hk.

IPC You Later

IPC Food Lab takes healthy eating and food safety to a whole new level, by researching, growing and cooking the vegetables it sells. The two ambitious founders bought an industrial building in Fan Ling in order to set up indoor farms, a research center, a restaurant and more. Its highly specialized farm nurtures the notoriously difficult-to-grow almond mushrooms and black garlic, which are just some of the unique, top-quality ingredients you can find on IPC Food Lab's affordable menu. Check out the new restaurant in Central (38A Caine Rd.), but visit the headquarters to get the full experience.

IPC Centre, 26 On Lok Mun St., Fanling, 2676-6900, www.ipcfoodlab.com.



So Nur-ishising

Chef Nurdin Topham gives his dishes a healthy spin at **Nur**, a Privé group restaurant on Lyndhurst Terrace. There is only one option here: a nine-course tasting menu (\$1,188), which includes lots of veggie-based plates that beautifully balance flavors, textures and nutrition. Inspired by French Chef Raymond Blanc and "New Nordic" cuisine, the restaurant is devoted to seasonally driven menus and a locavore mentality—the chef even plucks fresh herbs from the restaurant's terrace garden.

3/F, 1 Lyndhurst Terrace, Central, 2871-9993, www.nur.hk.

The Fini Line

Todd Darling is a restaurateur who puts fresh, organic produce at the heart of all of his restaurants—a lineup which includes Stone Nullah Tavern and Posto Pubblico. Recently relocated to SoHo, **Linguini Fini** is one of the best bets for pasta in Hong Kong, and is still very much about the nose-to-tail and farm-to-table ethos, using all of its produce from local organic farms sourced by Darling's other venture, Homegrown Foods. Executive Chef Vinny Lauria cooks up homemade Italian food that's been commanding lots of fanfare—think homemade pasta, spicy sausage and nose-to-tail Bolognese pork.

49 Elgin St., Central, 2387-6338, www.linguinifini.com.



NEW AND NOTED

with Adele Wong



New dishes at Stone Nullah Tavern

Made in the USA

Stone Nullah Tavern has completely revamped its menu, switching from new American dishes to classic American staples like (yolk-topped) mac 'n' cheese, wood-grilled pizzas, giant racks of glazed ribs, and even more gigantic slabs of T-bone steak. Enjoy alongside the biggest, most addictively seasoned cocktail shrimps you'll ever have; thoroughly marinated Caesar salads, and all sorts of other 'Murican treats like clam chowder and buffalo wings. You'll also notice

that prices have gone down a notch to match the new casual no-frills menu.

East End Meets West Side

K-Town's latest digs is **Shoreditch** (18 Catchick St., Kennedy Town, 2242-3777), sharing the same name as London's East End 'hood and backed by the guys behind Hebe One O One in Sai Kung. The sweeping open space, brightened up by touches of graffiti-esque art on the walls, offers a concise menu of western (vaguely British) dishes,

from crab cake starters to meat-centric mains. Despite its setup as a casual diner, there's a heavy emphasis on drinks, with the majority of the menu devoted to wines, cocktails and beers. Now that's a lot more British...

Stationed on Staunton

The Black Sheep group forges ahead with **Stazione Novella** (52-56 Staunton St., Central, 2559-0559), an all-day Italian diner serving coffee and pastries for breakfast; panini and bruschetta for lunch; and a dizzying selection of Tuscan wines, cocktails, and prosecco until the late, late hours.

Just up the street, where La Marmite once stood, is **The Drunken Duck** (44 Staunton

St., Central, 2803-0050) by the Enoteca group. At TDD, the bird is marinated in a spice mix, amped up with a bit of Tsingtao, then fire-roasted for maximum impact. The menu at this two-story space is mostly sharing style, with a mish-mash of influences from around the world. Get your fix of Scotch eggs, pork belly confit, Thai beef curry and onion bhajis, all in one place.

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

RESTAURANT REVIEWS

Burger Circus ★★★★☆

Burgers. 22 Hollywood Rd., Central, 2878-7787.



If you've ever wanted to have burgers in an old-timey circus train-like setting, this is it. Inspired by 19th century, all-American diners, Burger Circus has taken up a cozy, prominent shop on Hollywood Road that's great for casual grub and late-night dining.

HIT Burgers here were decently sized for the price (\$75-88), but for a circus-themed joint, there aren't too many surprising tricks. We ordered the Circus Burger: a solid 5oz

burger with fresh veg and crispy bacon, but the tart and watery Circus sauce failed to impress. The Magician's Maytag Blue came with a blue cheese dressing for a much-needed kick. While a tad on the steep side, the Apple Pie à la mode (\$88) was all-American comfort in a hefty, generously filled slice.

MISS The watery sauces are a problem: Our meal was a complete dribbling mess well beyond the norm. The Cinnamon Roll shake (\$78) had an appetizing vanilla fragrance but was way too saccharine, overpowered by Fireball Cinnamon whiskey.

BOTTOM LINE A charming setting for a reasonably priced and decent-tasting burger. Open 24 hours over weekends, it's a good trick to pull from your sleeve when you're craving comfort food in the early hours.

Open Mon-Wed, 9am-midnight; Thurs-Sun, 24 hours. \$\$

All of our reviews are independent and anonymous!

Kokomi ★★★★★

Japanese. Shop 002, LG/F, Pacific Place, 88 Queensway, Admiralty, 2386-1255.



Roka is no more, but in its place is Kokomi by the Maxim's group. The space is posh and modern, giving off the same vibes as sister restaurant Kikusan at the Landmark.

HIT You can't go wrong with miso cod, and the one at Kokomi is no exception: the fish was creamy, sweet and umami all at once. The salt grilled chicken wings were more peppery than savory, but just as juicy and delicious. We also

liked the cold tofu with crispy potato shavings on top, which was a creative play on textural contrasts. The milky and refreshing coconut pudding (think Asian crème brûlée) with pineapple ice cream was all sorts of yum.

MISS Dishes from the teppanyaki section fared far worse. The beef fried garlic rice was under-seasoned and blah, while the assorted vegetables tasted smoky and greasy—as if they had spent too much time on the grill.

BOTTOM LINE There's plenty of things to love about Kokomi, but the teppanyaki station isn't one of them.

Open daily 11:30am-11pm. \$\$

Ratings

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

Price Guide

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

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.

WHAT'S ON

CULTURE + NIGHTLIFE + FILM



Watch Your Waste

Hong Kong Cleanup and Ecozine are joining forces for **"Zero Waste Week,"** which challenges schools, individuals and enterprises to make a pledge to decrease their waste. They'll also be putting on a series of events to spread awareness about the city's waste management problem, including a themed happy hour and a Global Zero Waste Summit with a lineup of over 20 local and international speakers. Want a little fresh air? There's also an eco-friendly weekend bazaar in Cyberport with plenty of wholesome, good-for-the-planet fun.

Jun 7-14. Various locations. See www.facebook.com/ZerowasteWeek for more info. Make a pledge: www.ecozine.com/zerowasteweek.



HK PICKS



Dance x Multimedia

The LCSD once again presents a new series of multimedia dance arts this summer. Three shows this season begin with "Encoded" from Australia's Stalker Theatre Company (Jun 5-6), an aerial dance performance presented against a shimmering starry backdrop. To follow in mid-June, will be an abstract theatrical dance production "Refugees of the Septic Heart" (Jun 19-21) by the UK's Tom Dale Company. The series concludes with a heart-thumping cross-genre production by iLuminate, second runners-up at America's Got Talent 2011, who will perform in lit-up costumes (Aug 21-23). Jun 5-Aug 23. www.lcsd.gov.hk/CE/CulturalService.

Dance



The Legend of Mulan

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

Arts Festivals



Chinese Opera Festival

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

Need to Know

Theater & Arts

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

Photo: Susan Diesner



Yuja Wang Triptych

Beijing-born pianist Yuja Wang returns to share her electrifying talent with the Hong Kong Philharmonic, with this triptych of concerts in June. Known for performing in glamorous and daring outfits—but even better known for her virtuosic ability—she'll be playing three different programs across each evening. Starting with nationalistic odes from Beethoven and Mozart on the first evening, Wang then shows off a fiery program on the second night with Russian composers Scriabin and Balakirev, before ending on a powerful, emotive note from Brahms, Debussy, and Ravel. Jun 12-13, 16, 19-20, 8pm. Concert Hall, Cultural Centre, 10 Salisbury Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui. \$120-680 from www.urbitix.hk.

The Sound of Music

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



Singin' in the Rain

Hot off the trail of "The Sound of Music," "Phantom of the Opera" and "Mamma Mia" last year, Lunchbox Theatrical Productions presents the SAR with another catchy song-and-dance spectacle straight from the West End. Never seen it? The beloved umbrella-touting, rainboot-splashing Hollywood musical—arguably the best of them all—follows three performers in the thick of the transition between the silent film and talkie era. The current production will be recycling 12,000 liters of water per performance: so prepare to get splashed. All Amex cardholders can get advance tickets starting from Apr 28 and tickets open to all on May 7. Sep 25-Oct 11. Lyric Theatre, Academy for Performing Arts, 1 Gloucester Rd., Wan Chai, 2584-8500. \$445-1,125 from www.hkticketing.com.

Theater

Comédie Ballet: The Bourgeois Gentleman

A Molière masterpiece is brought to life in its original intended form of a comédie-ballet (a play interspersed with music and dance), with music by Molière's frequent collaborator Jean-Baptiste Lully. The satire pokes fun at the pretentious, social-climbing middle class and the snobbish aristocracy, focusing on protagonist Monsieur Jourdain, who is conned by a young man posing as the Sultan of Turkey. The play is in French, with English and Chinese surtitles. Through Jun 5, 7:30pm. Grand Theatre, Cultural Centre, 10 Salisbury Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui. \$120-480 from www.urbitix.hk.



Russian National Orchestra

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



Doubt: Re-run

With the success of its first run last May, Candice Moore of Sweet and Sour Productions brings Pulitzer Prize-winning play "Doubt" back to Hong Kong. The play is all about the uncertainty and suspicion surrounding a Catholic priest who may or may not be molesting a small child. It was famously taken to the silver screen by Meryl Streep and Philip Seymour Hoffman—which earned Streep an Academy Award nomination to boot. The production boasts the same excellent cast as last year's run, so grab tickets while you can. Through Jun 6, 8pm; Jun 6-7, 3pm. HK Rep Black Box Theater, 8/F, Sheung Wan Civic Centre, 345 Queen's Rd. Central, Sheung Wan, 3103-5930. \$280 from www.urbitix.hk.

Musicals

Legally Blonde: The Musical

Everyone's fave lawyer bombshell Elle Woods will be bading and snapping all over the Shouson Theatre this June. Local theater mainstay Face Productions is taking on Broadway's "Legally Blonde: The Musical" with a cast of local ladies, as they retell the story of carefree blonde Elle Woods becoming a hotshot lawyer at Harvard through hard work, confidence, and the power of friendship. Jun 4-6, 8pm. Jun 6-7, 3:30pm. Through Jun 6, 8pm; Jun 6-7, 3:30pm. Shouson Theatre, Arts Centre, 2 Harbour Rd., Wan Chai. \$220-395 from www.urbitix.hk.

Classical

Midsummer Night's Dream at IFC

It's not quite the Puck around you might have guessed at first; local live music stalwart Innovation Productions is popping up to perform one-hour programs at IFC specifically for the after-work crowd, through mid-June. Stop by to hear a harp nocturne trio or a Spanish-infused Baroque performance or two. The performances will take place on the first floor atrium, near Club Monaco (Shop 1039). Jun 5-7, 12-13, 6pm. IFC Mall, 8 Finance St., Central, 2295-3308. Free.



Photo: Agnes Bun

Western District: Das Konzert

Contemporary classical darlings Western District will be playing a night of German masters, with a program ranging from the 1600s until the present day (that's lots of Hans Zimmer). Doors open at 9pm. Jun 6, 9:30pm. Fringe Club, 2 Lower Albert Rd., Central, 2521-7251. \$150-180 from Fringe Club, including a drink.



Photo: Felix Broede

The Incomparable Jerusalem Quartet

One of the world's most popular string quartets, The Jerusalem Quartet first impressed Hongkongers when they visited for the 2013 Hong Kong International Chamber Music Festival. They'll be playing a concert program that spreads from Mozart to Bartok. A particular highlight is Schubert's "Death and the Maiden," their recording of which won an ECHO Klassik Award as the "Best chamber music recording of the year (19th century, strings)." Specific! Jun 9, 8pm. Concert Hall, City Hall, 5 Edinburgh Place, Central. \$80-480 from pphk.org.

Photo: Hagen Hopkins

ARTS

Exhibitions

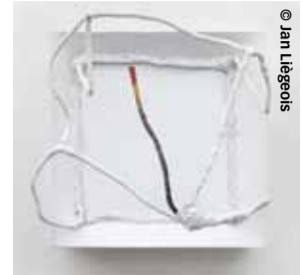


Beyond the Sound: New Media Art Exhibition

Le French May presents its very first sound art exhibition, featuring 14 works by Hong Kong and French artists. Artists such as Cedric Maridet, Samson Young and Edwin Lo will each create immersive soundscapes, whereas Pierre Bastien, Bertrand Lamarche and Phoebe Hui's work investigates the materiality of sound through tangible objects. Through Jun 8. Comix Home Base, 7 Mallory St., Wan Chai, 2824-5303.

Sadaharu Horio

Fresh from showing off his sensational "art vending machine" performance at Art Brussels (in which he stayed in a wooden hut, making spontaneous works of art for one Euro each), Kobe native Sadaharu Horio comes to Hong Kong with a collection of works at Axel Vervoordt Gallery. Often painted on banal objects such as string or discarded pieces of wood, each piece is created in short bursts of intense energy—serving to highlight his philosophy of art and life, which is all about capturing the present. Through Jul 9. Axel Vervoordt Gallery, Unit D, 15/F, Entertainment Building, 30 Queen's Rd. Central, 2503-2220.



Guts

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

2+2

Two pairs of studio-sharing artists round out the roster for this exhibition at EC Gallery. Friends Zhang Xiaoli and Sam Cheng Tan-shan settled down in a studio in Kwai Hing, and are both interested in the traditional "gongbi" Chinese painting styles—Zhang is inspired by the idea of interlocking Lego bricks, while Cheng mainly paints consumer products. CC Ling Pui-size and Bosco Law Ka-nam share a working space in Tsuen Wan, and while Ling creates mixed media works based on an ink painting aesthetic, Law works on intricate pencil drawings. Jun 10-Jul 9. EC Gallery, G/F, 72A Hollywood Rd., Central, 2519-6178.



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Designed by fluid

NIGHTLIFE

Edited by **Andrea Lo**

andrea.lo@hkmagmedia.com

Twitter: @andreas_lo



Open Bar Frites



The buzz: Two years after its original location closed, beloved Belgian beer hall Frites has reopened in a 7,000-square-foot space in The Wellington, a brand new building in Central. Run by the Concept Creations group—which also brought us the likes of Souvla and Tapeo—Frites is a casual joint to hit up after a long day at work for a spot of European-style food and, of course, an excellent selection of draught beer.

The decor: Ever been to church? That's what Frites feels like—but way more fun. The massive space comes equipped with several outdoor terraces, and the interior is decorated with plenty of dark wood pew-like booths and cushy leather seating. While the view over Millennium Plaza is admittedly not that exciting, the sliding doors do give the place an airy, welcoming feel.

The drinks: Frites boasts the biggest selection of Belgian beer in Hong Kong, so be ready to go to town. Start things off with a Palm Belgian Amber (\$60), which makes for light and easy drinking. Then go on to the Lindemans Kriek (\$70)—a sweet and tart cherry beer normally drunk as an aperitif. A standout was the Tripel Karmeliet (\$90): brewed using a recipe that goes all the way back to 1679, it lends itself to an extra foamy, aromatic head.

Why you'll be back: If you were a fan of the old Frites, you'll love the new space even more. Be sure to bring a group of people and share dishes such as roast chicken with corn puree or mussels swimming in a moreish laksa base, served with frites of course. Don't forget to order the steak tartare, an old favorite and staple at the original location. **Andrea Lo**

1/F, The Wellington, 198 Wellington St., Central, 2217-6671.



HK PICKS



Noughts and Exes: The Final Show

Hong Kong's indie darlings Noughts and Exes are disbanding! The indie folk-pop band originally burst on to the scene in 2007, gaining traction in 2011 with a second album "The Start of Us." Two years later they became the first Hong Kong band to release an album through a Kickstarter campaign. Over the years, they became mainstays on the scene and one of the city's best-loved indie bands. Sadly, they're now saying goodbye. Luckily for fans—or maybe just to prove this isn't a Yoko situation—they're coming together for one last hurrah at the Vine Centre. See them now, or never... until the reunion tour, that is. Jun 6, 8pm. Vine Centre 2, 29 Burrows St., Wan Chai, 2573-0793. \$180 from [www.ticketflap.com](#); \$220 at the door.

Concerts

David Guetta

Davy G returns to Hong Kong, once again. One of the biggest names in the music industry, Guetta has produced countless singles and remixes, including "Sexy Bitch," "Titanium" and "Turn me On," while also selling 6 million albums worldwide. Do: Bring your neon glowsticks. Don't: Talk about how you prefer Tiësto. Jun 14, 8pm. Hall 10, AsiaWorld-Expo, Chek Lap Kok. \$580-880 from [www.hkticketing.com](#).



Blur

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

OK Go

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

Gigs

Fleshgod Apocalypse

What's with all these bands with gruesome names hitting up Hidden Agenda recently? Italian technical death metal five-piece Fleshgod Apocalypse is performing for one night only. After which... well, it's the Fleshgod Apocalypse, obviously. No one wants to gig in weather like THAT. Jun 5, 8:30pm. Hidden Agenda, Unit 2A, Wing Fu Industrial Building, 15-17 Tai Yip St., Ngau Tau Kok. \$300 from [www.ticketflap.com](#); \$380 at the door.



The Red Stripes

OK La! Single Launch Party

Get your hair greased and your lapels lengthened, then head over to Orange Peel to see ska band extraordinaire The Red Stripes get their skank on. The 10-piece is launching its debut single, "OK La!" Jun 6, 9pm. Orange Peel, 2/F, 38-44 D'Aguilar St., Central, 2812-7177. Free.

Underground Jager Show

The Underground is adding shots to the mix at its upcoming indie gig. You'll get a free shot of Jäger, after which you can catch local funk-rock and Britrock-inspired band the Miners; modern rock band Stereo is the Answer; bluesy band Tri-Accident; and Verorigin, a brand new five-piece. Jun 6, 9:30pm. Backstage Live, 1/F, Somptueux Central, 52-54 Wellington St., Central, 2167-8985. \$120 from [tickets.undergroundhk.com](#); \$150 at the door.

Happy Mondays

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

Nightlife Events



The Dapper Club

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



W Hotel Shock Wave:

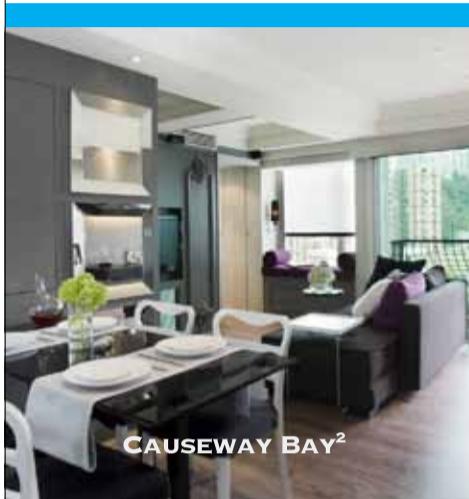
#PoseWhenever Pool Party

The notorious W Hotel summer pool parties are back. This time, they come with the cumbersome title Shock Wave: #PoseWhenever Pool Party. Splash around on the 76th floor pool and gawk at the half-naked beautiful people all around you. At the kick-off party on June 6, Barcelonian pop band Josep is set to perform, while the after-party at Woobar goes from 11pm until late. Jun 6; Jun 27; Jul 18; Aug 1; Aug 22, 8pm. W Hotel, 1 Austin Rd. West, West Kowloon, 3717-2222. \$400 before June 6 or \$500 at the door, including one drink at the pool and one at the after-party. \$950 for "WIP" tickets before June 6 or \$1,100 at the door, including free-flow drinks and champagne until 1am. Tickets from [www.w-hongkong.com/en/shockwave](#).



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Edited by Evelyn Lok
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Taxi ★★★★

(Iran) Docu-drama. Directed by and starring Jafar Panahi. Category IIA. 82 minutes. Opened May 28.

After being sentenced to a 20-year-ban from filmmaking in home country Iran, revered film auteur Jafar Panahi had no choice but to start producing clandestine films, first while he was under house arrest and now in plain sight. For his most recent (non) film "Taxi," Panahi took to the streets of Tehran, driving a cab armed with a hidden dashboard camera and documenting his conversations with passengers.

The docu-drama is Panahi's third clandestine project since 2008, when he was sentenced to house arrest for creating films perceived by Iran's censors to express an anti-government sentiment. His two previous projects took a slightly different approach: 2012's "This is Not A Film" featured the director solo, talking to the camera about a movie idea while trapped in his home; and 2014's "Closed Curtain" was about a screenwriter who goes into hiding with his beloved dog when the Islamic government banned the ownership of dogs in 2014.

"Taxi" finally sees him interacting with other people again, in a revealing and human way. As an approachable Tehran cabbie, Panahi manages to show two sides of Iranian society—poignant, dark truths and lighthearted, everyday life—in a way that's neither self-indulgent nor self-pitying. The 82-minute film is like a roadmap of modern Tehran society, where the recorded taxi encounters float between funny conversations with a diverse, wacky set of passengers and serious revelations on the issue of censorship and free speech.

Who's riding in Panahi's taxi? There's a disbarred human rights lawyer discussing the injustice of a woman punished for attending a men's volleyball match; an illegal DVD vendor who recognizes Panahi for once buying the esteemed Iranian movie "Once Upon a Time in Anatolia"; and a petty thief staunchly supporting the government's corporal punishment system. The characters are played by everyday people from all walks of life, all of whom are uncredited to protect their identities.

Thanks to the subjects' mixed backgrounds, we see massively divided views on everything from school to superstition, Sharia law to cinema. Despite being disguised in casual car banter, it's hardly noticeable that the dialogue is staged, thanks to incredibly natural performances.

Panahi's filmmaking prowess shines through in many ways, particularly in how the movie never once feels claustrophobic or tedious, given the constraints of filming purely within a vehicle. As passengers enter and leave the taxi, the conversation flows seamlessly and the technical edits are largely unnoticeable—creating the feel of an almost one-take movie.

One particular breath of fresh air comes in the form of Panahi's sass-mouthed kid niece, whom he picks up from school. Recounting her filmmaking lesson, she tells her uncle about avoiding "sordid realities" in movies so that they can be "distributable" in Iran. It's clear where Panahi stands on state-sanctioned censors, but aside from an amused smile, he stays quiet.

Revealing a spectrum of realities, "Taxi" is definitely worth your time if you're looking for an immersive understanding of the sensitive issues at play in modern Iran—or just want to come along for the ride. **Evelyn Lok**

Coming Soon



Jurassic World

(USA) The infamous dino-park opens once again in this long-awaited fourth installment, with Spielberg on the executive producing side. This time, Chris Pratt steals the show as velociraptor trainer Owen Grady, with Bryce Dallas Howard as park operations manager. Pushed to boost visitor attendance, the park concocts a hybrid creature, the Indominus Rex—a blend of all your worst reptilian nightmares. What could possibly go wrong? It's up to Grady and the team to outsmart the beast before becoming a delectable din-dish. Opens Jun 11.

Force Majeure

(Sweden) This drama-slash-comedy won a string of awards last year, including the Un Certain Regard Jury gong at Cannes. When a Swedish family goes on holiday at a ski resort in the French Alps, an avalanche turns their vacation topsy turvy as the mother vies to keep the whole family safe... but the father instead runs for the hills. Opens Jun 11.

Night Flight

(South Korea) A most unconventional *bildungsroman* comes our way: Three childhood friends find their relationship terribly shaken at the onset of high school. As a covert romance slowly bubbles between two of the boys, the jealousy incited in the other results in violence. Opens Jun 11.

Need to Know

AMC Cinema, 2265-8933
www.amccinemas.com.hk
Broadway Circuit,
2388-3188
www.cinema.com.hk

Golden Harvest Cinema,
2622-6688
www.goldenharvest.com
MCL Cinema, 3413-6688
www.mclcinema.com

UA Cinema,
3516-8811
www.uacinemas.com.hk
The Metroplex, 2620-2200
www.metroplex.com.hk

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

Opening

'71

(UK) A young British soldier (Jack O'Connell) is left behind enemy lines at the height of "The Troubles" in Northern Ireland. Injured, he must find his way back to his unit before the enemy finds him first. Opened Jun 4.

Danny Collins

(USA) Al Pacino is the aging Danny Collins, a world-weary rock star who is inspired to change his life for the better after he receives a lost letter penned to him by the late John Lennon. Based on true events. Opened Jun 4.

San Andreas

(USA) Dwayne Johnson smashes in on this Hollywood disaster epic as a search-and-rescue helicopter pilot who must save his daughter in the midst of a magnitude 9 earthquake along the San Andreas Fault. Seems like questionable timing, in light of recent events... Opened Jun 4.

Continuing

Imprisoned: Survival

Guide for Rich and Prodigal

(Hong Kong) Ever wondered what sort of antics go down at Stanley Prison? The cast behind "Due West: Our Sex Journey" returns to bring a Hong Kong Golden Forum story of life behind bars to the big screen—allegedly based on true events. Which means, obviously, plenty of seedy, Category III-rated business.

Mad Max: Fury Road

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

Midnight Diner

(Japan) Master of portraying delicate family relationships, Matsuoka Joji helms this movie set at an after-hours diner. Manned by an old man referred to as "Master," the lives of countless quirky characters coincide as they descend on the tiny eatery in the dead of night. If that doesn't catch your attention, the ample food porn just might.

Pitch Perfect 2

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

The Search

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



Spy

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

Taxi

(Iran) See review, left.



Tokyo Fiancée

(Japan/France) A French Japanophile meets a Japanese Francophile and embarks on a whirlwind romance. Imagine all the cultural quirks of both countries (and their equal fascination with nudity) mashed together, in what makes for a tender, yet at times perplexing, foray in the navel-gazing adventures of a naive 20-something. ★★

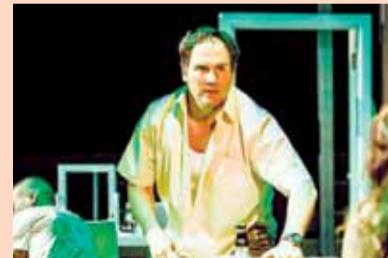
Tomorrowland

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

Tracers

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

Special Screenings



National Theatre Live: A Streetcar Named Desire

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

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GEMINI (May 21-Jun 20): Nobel Prize-winning physicists Wolfgang Pauli and Niels Bohr were both amused at how counterintuitive their innovative theories seemed. Once Pauli was lecturing a group of eminent scientists about a radical new hypothesis. Bohr got out of his seat in the audience and walked up to the front to interrupt his colleague. "We all agree that your theory is crazy," Bohr told Pauli. "The question that divides us is whether it is crazy enough to have a chance of being correct. My own feeling is that it is not crazy enough." Pauli defended himself. "It is crazy enough!" he said. But Bohr was insistent. "It's not crazy enough!" he argued. I'm going to pose a comparable query to you, Gemini. Are your new ideas and possibilities crazy enough to be true? Make sure they are.

CANCER (Jun 21-Jul 22): You've wandered into an awkward phase of your cycle. Missed connections have aroused confusion. Disjointed events have led to weirdness. I've got a suggestion for how you might be able to restore clarity and confidence: Make a foray into a borderland and risk imaginative acts of heroism. Does that sound too cryptic or spooky? How about if I say it like this: Go on an unpredictable quest that will free your trapped vitality, or try a mysterious experiment that will awaken your sleeping magic. P.S. For best results, ask for help every step of the way.

LEO (Jul 23-Aug 22): *Gesamtkunstwerk* is a German word that can be translated as "total art work" or "all-embracing art form." It refers to a creative masterpiece that makes use of several genres. The 19th-century composer Richard Wagner had this in mind when he produced his opera cycle *The Ring of the Nibelung*, which included orchestral music, singing, theater, and literature. I'm invoking the spirit of *Gesamtkunstwerk* for your use, Leo. The coming weeks will be an excellent time to synthesize and coordinate all the things you do best, and express them with a flourish.

VIRGO (Aug 23-Sep 22): *Defender* was a popular video game that young people played in video arcades during the 1980s. Fifteen-year-old Steve Juraszek was profiled in *Time* magazine after he racked up a record-breaking 16 million points while playing the game for 16 hours straight. But when his high school principal found out that Juraszek had skipped classes to be at the arcade, he was suspended. I'm wondering if there may soon be a similar development in your own life, Virgo. Will you have to pay a small price for your success? You should at least be prepared to risk an acceptable loss in order to accomplish an important goal.

LIBRA (Sep 23-Oct 22): People I meet are sometimes taken aback by the probing questions I ask them. Recently an acquaintance said to me, "Why don't you feel driven to talk about yourself all the time, like everyone else?" I told him the truth: "Being curious is just the way I was made. Maybe it's because of my Mercury in Gemini, or my seventh-house sun, or my three planets in Libra." I suspect that you are due to go through a phase similar to the mode I'm so familiar with. If it doesn't happen naturally, I suggest you

coax it out. You need to be extra inquisitive. You'll benefit from digging as deeply as you dare. The more information you uncover, the better your decisions will be.

SCORPIO (Oct 23-Nov 21): I love to watch an evolved Scorpio get his or her needs met by helping other people get their needs met. It's thrilling to behold the paradoxical Scorpio assets in action: the combination of manipulativeness and generosity; the animal magnetism working in service to the greater good; the resourceful willpower that carries out hidden agendas and complex strategies designed to make the world a better place. I expect to see a lot of this idiosyncratic wisdom from you in the coming weeks.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22-Dec 21): "Would that life were like the shadow cast by a wall or a tree," says the Talmud. "But it is like the shadow of a bird in flight." That's a lyrical sentiment, but I don't agree with it. I've come to prefer the shimmering play of light and dark is more interesting to me than the illusion of stability. I feel more at home in the unpredictable flow than in the stagnant trance of certainty. What about you, Sagittarius? I suggest that in the immediate future you cultivate an appreciation for the joys and challenges of the shimmering dance.

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

AQUARIUS (Jan 20-Feb 18): Lessons in luck are coming your way. Will they help you attract more luck? Maybe. Will they show you how to make better use of your luck? Maybe. A lot depends on your ability to understand and love the paradox of luck. I've assembled a few enigmatic teachings to prepare you. 1. "Luck is

believing you're lucky." - Tennessee Williams. 2. "It is a great piece of skill to know how to guide your luck even while waiting for it." - Baltasar Gracián. 3. "Sometimes not getting what you want is a brilliant stroke of luck." - Lorii Myers. 4. "The harder I work, the luckier I get." - Samuel Goldwyn. 5. "You've got to try your luck at least once a day, because you could be going around lucky all day and not even know it." - Jimmy Dean. 6. "Go and wake up your luck." - Persian proverb.

PISCES (Feb 19-Mar 20): The word "boudoir" means a woman's bedroom. But hundreds of years ago, it had a more specific definition. It was a room where a well-bred girl was sent when she was pouting. "Boudoir" is derived from the French verb *bouder*, which means "to sulk." If it were in my power, Pisces, I would send you to the sulking room right now. In fact, I would encourage you to sulk. In my opinion, a good long sulk would be just the right prescription for you. It would trigger brainstorms about how to change the soggy, foggy conditions that warranted your sulking in the first place.

ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 19): The Persian scholar Avicenna was so well-rounded in his knowledge that he wrote two different encyclopedias. Even as a teenager he was obsessed with learning all he could. He got especially consumed with trying to master Aristotle's *Metaphysics*, which did not easily yield its secrets to him. He read it 40 times, memorizing every word. When he finally understood it, he was so excited he celebrated by giving out money and gifts to destitute strangers. I suspect you will soon be having an equivalent breakthrough, Aries. At last you will grasp a truth that has eluded you for a long time. Congratulations in advance!

TAURUS (Apr 20-May 20): When it's rush hour in Tokyo, unwieldy crowds of commuters board the trains and subways. They often need help squeezing in. Railway workers known as *oshiya*, or pushers, provide the necessary force. Wearing crisp uniforms, white gloves, and neat hats, they cram the last stragglers into each car. I foresee the possibility of you being called on to perform a metaphorical version of the service these pushers provide. Is there a polite and respectful way for you to be indelicate in a worthy cause? Could you bring light-hearted tact to bear as you seek an outcome that encourages everyone to compromise?

HOMEWORK: I dare you to bestow a blessing on a person you've considered to be beneath you. Testify at FreeWillAstrology.com

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SAVAGE LOVE

Dan Savage

I'm a 35-year-old divorced man. I've been on plenty of dates since my marriage ended, but I invariably get asked this question on or before date No.2: "Why did you get divorced?" This is where everything goes to shit. I'm honest: "We got divorced because I cheated on my wife. A lot." This usually catches my date off guard because I'm "not the kind of guy I'd have thought could do that." But I can hardly get past date No.2 after this, because this information is "too much to handle." Sometimes my dates will admit to having cheated too. Not even other cheaters are interested in seeing me again. I was a good husband and father for seven years. But after four sexless years of marriage, I strayed. Crying myself to sleep every night took its toll, and I self-medicated with casual sex with attractive women. Two years and 20 women later, I got caught. I don't hide the facts; I own my mistakes. I've grown and learned from my mistakes. But it's hard for most women to see past "cheater." In my mind, anything less than complete honesty would validate the belief that I'm still a lying cheat. But complete honesty is kicking my ass and ruining potential relationships.

- *Forthright About Cheating, Then Silence*

I'm going to give you the benefit of the doubt, FACTS, and assume that mistreatment, neglect, and stress didn't extinguish your wife's libido. (You weren't shitty to your wife, right? You were helping with the kids, right?) I'm also going to assume that you made a good-faith effort to address the sexless state of your marriage before you began self-medicating with all those beautiful women. (You sought counseling and got medical checkups, right?) And I'm going to allow for the possibility that your wife may have married you under false pretenses, i.e., she wasn't into sex or you or both, but she wanted marriage and kids and figured you would do. (I'm going to allow for that because that shit happens.)

These favorable assumptions—of the kind typically extended to persons seeking advice in a format like this—don't exonerate you of all responsibility for cheating on your wife. But if they're accurate, FACTS, they do put your cheating in a particular guilt-mitigating context.

And that's what you need to do when you answer that question about why your marriage ended: *Put your cheating in context*. Most people intuitively understand that wedding vows aren't sexual suicide pacts and are capable of feeling sympathy for those who find themselves in sexless marriages. But instead of emphasizing the context in which you cheated—the emotional dynamics of your marriage, those long sexless years—you're emphasizing the breakneck pace at which you cheated and the quality of the pussy you landed.

"I cheated! A lot! With 20 beautiful women!" is one telling of the truth, FACTS, but it's not the most flattering telling of the truth (for you) or the most comforting telling of the truth (for your date). Instead of saying, "I cheated with 20 women, all of them babes. I banged the living shit out of each and every one of them!" which makes you sound more boastful than remorseful, try saying something like this: "After four sexless years of marriage, I strayed. It was the wrong thing to do, but I was desperate. The cheating ended my marriage, which obviously needed to end, but it's not something I ever want to do again." Omit the detail about the number of women you cheated with while emphasizing your determination to avoid making the same mistake in your next committed relationship. Tell your date that you are looking for a strong sexual connection (and other things) with someone you can communicate with about sex (and other things). Because you're not a cheater—not anymore.

I'm a 36-year-old heterosexual female who has been reading you for the better part of 20 years. That's why when my formerly lovely husband descended into a hellish depression that turned our 10-year marriage into a loveless, sexless, miserable thing that I didn't recognize, I knew what I had to do. I couldn't get out for various financial, personal, and practical reasons, so I began an emotionally fulfilling, sanity-saving affair with a married man in the same situation. My emotional and sexual needs are getting met for the first time in years. The problem is that when we are together, my mind goes to how much I wish we could both chuck our marriages and be together all of the time, and I feel more miserable in my marriage because I can't help comparing the two men in my life. Do you have any advice for keeping from mentally going to "happily ever after" when you are trying to stay balanced in marriage-saving-affair land?

- *Secret Affair Necessary Escape*

An affair doesn't come bundled with the same crap that a marriage does, SANE, so your time with Happy Affair Man isn't burdened by mental and/or physical health crises, just as it's not roughed up by ever-festerling conflicts about money or chores or kids or all of the above. So let's say you left Depressed Husband Man for Happy Affair Man, and he left his wife for you. How long would it be before you and Second Husband Man were facing down some similar crap or brand-new crap? Probably not long. You might be happier, but you won't be happily-ever-after happier because no one ever is. The subject is moot, of course, if you're not in a position to end your marriage and Happy Affair Man isn't either.

I have been in a gay relationship for almost six years, and we are getting married in September. We are both predominantly tops, so we've been having threesomes for the majority of the time we've been together. About eight months ago, we had a threesome with someone who has since become a good friend. I have developed a strong bond with our third. My fiancé is not an overly affectionate person, and while I've had issues with that in the past and overlooked it, these past months have shown me how much I long for physical affection. My fiancé is threatened by the two of us showing affection. I reassure him as best I can, but nothing I say makes him feel less threatened by my wanting to have alone time with our third. I do not want to give up the bond I have with our third, and I have zero intention of leaving my fiancé. If we could help him get more comfortable, it could be a perfect situation for everyone, with all of our needs being met.

- *Sincerely Perplexed Lad In Triad*

Seeing as your third sounds like a better match for you than your fiancé in several important ways—bottom to your top, more physically affectionate—I'm wondering why you wouldn't want to dump the fiancé to run off with your third. Your fiancé is probably wondering the same thing. Unless your fiancé is willing to enter into a polyamorous triad, SPLIT, you'll probably have to pick one or the other. And seeing as how you employ "we" in your last sentence—in reference to you and the third, not you and the fiancé—it sounds like you've already made your choice.

On the Lovecast, Dan chats with Seattle author Jason Schmidt about his memoir, *A List of Things That Didn't Kill Me*.

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

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FIRST PERSON

Anson Chan is one of the most influential women in Hong Kong. She has held a number of major posts in government, including Chief Secretary from 1993 until her retirement in 2001 and continues to play an active part on the political scene. Having taken part in the TEDxWanChaiWomen talk last month, she tells Andrea Lo about her beliefs, women's rights and her thoughts on happiness.

I was born in Shanghai. I came with my family to Hong Kong in 1948.

My father died when I was very young.

My twin sister and I are the only two girls in a family of six boys. The two of us felt we had to stick together to fight off the boys.

I spent a year working as a clerk at Queen Mary Hospital before going to university.

One day I opened the newspaper and saw an advertisement for an administrative officer in government. In those days, a starting salary of \$12,000 was very attractive—despite being 75 percent of a man's pay.

I joined the Hong Kong government and have not looked back since.

In those days, you always felt you had to work doubly hard just to prove yourself.

When I got married, I was required to resign from my post and apply to be re-employed on temporary terms.

A dozen of us decided to establish a trade union. We achieved parity of pay in five annual installments starting from 1970 and we got fringe benefits in 1982.

There are some very deeply rooted prejudices. There is still exploitation of girls and women. These are issues that need addressing if we are talking about allowing girls and women to realize their full potential.

Women with influence and power can do a great deal to move the issue forward.

I was approached to participate in the TEDxWanChaiWomen conference. I'm attracted to their objective: to spread ideas and spark change that will lead to better lives for people all over the world.

Hopefully, the audience learned something from each of the speakers, particularly about how to make the world better and empower women through sharing our experiences.

I'm too old to run for Chief Executive—even if I was acceptable to Beijing.

I feel that I am doing my bit to protect the home that we all love.

NEED TO KNOW...

Anson Chan began her career in government in 1962. Over the years she has been behind numerous developments in Hong Kong, including the construction of the Chek Lap Kok Airport. The "Daughter of Kwok-A" incident in 1986 was a widely debated case that saw Chan authorize the Social Welfare Department to break into a home to liberate a child suspected of being abused. In April 2013, she launched Hong Kong 2020, a political group advocating for universal suffrage by 2017. The TEDxWanChaiWomen conference took place on May 31 and included distinguished personalities including Women's Foundation CEO Su-Mei Thompson. Visit www.tedxwanchai.com for more info.

Hong Kong people are ready for genuine universal suffrage. If we don't resolve this problem, I think Hong Kong is going to become increasingly difficult to govern.

In a speech, John Tsang said that if the constitutional package is not passed, then Martin [Lee] and Anson Chan cannot retire.

My reply to John is: "If you want to see us enjoying retirement, it's easy—give us a set of genuine universal suffrage proposals."

I can't say that there was one turning point that helped shape who I am.

If I had to mention one, I suppose it was the problem I got into with the press and the community when I was Director of Social Welfare [over the "Daughter of Kwok-A" incident].

For months, the press hounded me. I was compared to the world's four worst dictators!

For married women, it is difficult to juggle different hats. You want a reasonably satisfying career; you are somebody's wife; you are a mother. You need to have a sense of priorities.

I wanted to go to Tuscany and learn to cook. One of these days, I will get there.

Throughout my career, I've been called many things—"Hong Kong's Conscience"; "Iron Butterfly"; "Canary in the Mine." I like the nickname "Chan Sei Man" [meaning 40,000, the nickname refers to the mahjong tile that resembles a grin] best. It's something that reflects my personality.

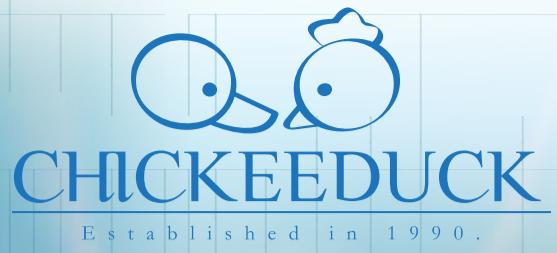
Most people think that I'm such a strong character and everything in life has been plain sailing, apart from the fact that my father died when I was young.

I remember crying because I did not achieve the degree status that I thought I deserved from HKU. When I was passed over for a promotion, I also cried.

Happiness is realizing your potential. Ultimately, it is the capacity to love and be loved. You're not going to be loved unless you do right by the people around you.

"Happiness is the capacity to love and be loved."





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