



HK MAGAZINE

FRIDAY, JULY 1, 2016

HK-MAGAZINE.COM

NO. 1152

**PHEW, WOTTA SCORCHER!**You could fry a dumpling
on the sidewalk**LANCÔME VETS NEW EXECS**

Denise Ho applies

**JACKIE CHAN BUYS PET BIRD**Names it
“Thrush Hour”**CE ANNOUNCES STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN**Pan-Dems: “It’s just
another white elephant”**ONE BELT,
TWO SYSTEMS**Style tips for looking
good for China**VACANCY
CHIEF EXECUTIVE****Politician sought for high-paying top job
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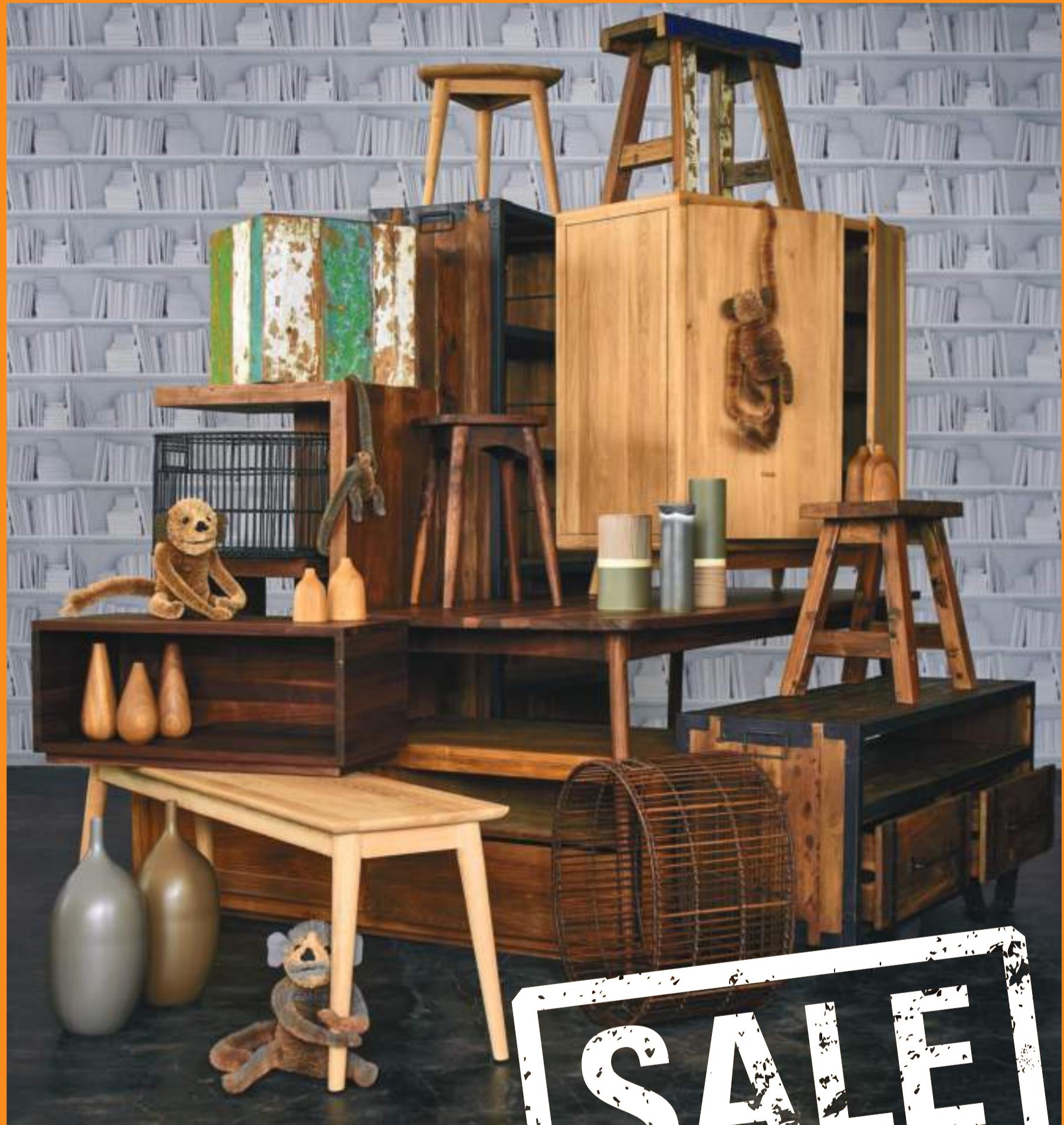
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Localists: We want to Brexit too****HOUSE PRICES PLUMMET**Just kidding, they’re
still ridiculous

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COVER STORY

ERROR: CYbot is malfunctioning!

08

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Hongxit!

The UK's recent vote to "Brexit" from the European Union is stirring the city's localists into a passionate fervor. We got an early look at a flyer they've been passing around the streets of Mong Kok.

Hongkongers, Arise!

A new, shining utopia is upon us. The UK's referendum on the European Union has resulted in a "leave" vote. The people of that tiny nation stood up and said: "we want out!"

We take inspiration from their noble example! We want to be free to make exactly the same sort of ridiculous, uninformed decisions our former colonial master just made!

The establishment will tell you that we don't send tens of millions to help Beijing manage the upkeep of the state.

The establishment will tell you that we don't have an infrastructure that could cope with being independent.

The establishment will tell you that our immigration problems are more to do with how efficiently we can screw domestic helpers out of a paycheck than anything else.

But we believe that the people can rally around our one, unifying foible: our dislike of mainlanders!

In an independent Hong Kong, all things are possible and your dreams automatically become reality. Your every personal problem will be solved, overnight!

Bad relationship? **Hongxit!** Credit card bills? **Hongxit!** Excessive mildew on your walls? **Hongxit!**

To usher in this brave new era, we're proposing a points-based system for immigration into Hong Kong. Anyone wishing to live in the city will need:

- A talent in an area in which Hong Kong is lacking, such as singing Mandopop or making delicious xiaolongbao.
- A passing grade in a Cantonese aptitude test.
- To own fewer than 2 LV suitcases.
- Alternatively, they can just be westerners.

Should we fail in this endeavor, we propose that on July 1, SAR Establishment Day, Hong Kong island is severed from the bedrock and motored out into the Indian Ocean. There we can hang out with the Maldives until they, and our hopes, sink beneath the waves.

Take back control! **Hongxit!**

Who's in charge?

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MEMBER OF:



HOME



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

Dear Mr. Know-It-All,

Why does that building in Repulse Bay have a hole in it? — Holey Holly

This is Hong Kong trivia 101, the kind of fact you trot out to impress newcomers to the city. Yes—it's for feng shui purposes, to allow the "dragon" on the mountain to pass through towards the sea. But here's the truth: the current Repulse Bay development is a boring building compared to what once stood in its place—the Repulse Bay Hotel.

For once upon a time, from 1920-1982, the Repulse Bay Hotel was the city's finest resort: A refined, colonial escape from the stuffy city. Guests included Noël Coward, Marlon Brando and Peter Sellers, while the hotel became the romantic backdrop to Hollywood spectacles such as "Love is a Many Splendored Thing."

Ernest Hemingway was a guest in the 1940s with his wife Martha Gellhorn, when the two arrived in Asia to report on the war in China. The hotel's Bamboo Bar may be no more, but the Verandah restaurant lives on with a touch of that colonial gentility. You can still imagine Hemingway hanging out under the high ceilings, calling for another martini or three. In fact—you can do it yourself.

One of the most notable appearances of this Hong Kong institution is in Eileen Chang's novella "Love in a Fallen City," set mainly in the Repulse Bay Hotel around the time of the fall of Hong Kong to the Japanese in World War II. Chang's description of the approach to Repulse Bay holds up wonderfully:

"Cliffs of yellow-and-red soil flanked the road, while ravines opened up on either side to reveal dense green forest or aquamarine sea. As they approached Repulse Bay,

the cliffs and trees grew gentler and more inviting. Returning picnickers swept past them in cars filled with flowers, the sound of scattered laughter fading in the wind."

Catch the 6X to the Southside today, 70 years later, and the experience is much the same.

The Repulse Bay Hotel was demolished in 1982, after 62 years of operation, to make room for all-new luxury apartments. The latter-day Repulse Bay complex sits awkwardly on top of the replica colonial-style buildings beneath, the feng shui hole far less of an icon of Hong Kong identity than the buildings that once stood in their place. Next time someone asks about the feng shui dragon, tell them about the Repulse Bay Hotel instead.



Photo: SCMP

Letters

"Question was useless."

Card-Carrying Members

Responses on Facebook to last week's Mr. Know-It-All column ("Why are there no debit cards in Hong Kong?" June 24, issue 1151), in which we explained that while EPS is widespread, Visa Debit cards are rarely found in the city.

When Brits say 'debit card' we mean 'Visa Debit'... this is the root of the confusion that always surrounds this debate in my opinion. EPS is a debit card but it's nowhere near as flexible as Visa debit... I have a Hang Seng Enjoy Visa Debit card so there is at least one available in HK...

Tony Bryant

1) Everyone has an Octopus card.
2) Everyone also has a credit card/EPS/UnionPay. So why would one need another card?
Question was useless and (no) answer irrelevant :)

Patrick Kosiol

Totally disagree. If you travel outside of HK, particularly outside of Asia, most places don't recognise UnionPay or EPS. People shouldn't be forced to own a credit card to make a payment outside of HK. Retail banking here is unbelievably backward and not fit for a city that claims to be the financial capital of Asia.

Shaun Cunningham

Essentially HK banks are trying to tell every person who wants a debit card to apply for a credit card instead. For me, I don't mind the small difference. But some people prefer not to delay payment or to have to deal with separate

cards, accounts etc. That's up to them, but HK should at least be up front about having the option to get a debit card rather than persuading people otherwise.

Karen Chiang

Debit cards are called EPS in hong kong.

Jeffrey Li

Those are not the same debit cards as you have in Europe. I had a debit card which you can use both online and offline. In Hong Kong for online purchases you have to apply for a credit card.

Narmi Rafi Rah

Not the entire Europe. The Netherlands' debit card system is also a bit flawed as in Hong Kong. You cannot use their Maestro "debit cards", which dominate the country, online for international purchases (only offline when the merchants accept Maestro, basically only select areas of the world; and online local Dutch shops). In this regard, Hong Kong's debit card system is on par with "western" standards. Besides, our Octopus card system is so much better than many countries in Europe.

Philip Chau

EPS cannot make online purchases, cannot pay for a meal at a restaurant, cannot pay for a hotel, rent a car, book a flight... but go ahead. Tell me all about how it's the same thing.

Ben Olmsted

so why is there no EPS in europe?

Jan Ching Ching

#PrivateEyeHK



A Big Thanks To All My Fans

Photo by Jeremy Greenberg (Instagram: @jeremyhgreenberg)

Need to get something off your chest? Got an amazing photo? Write us! letters@hkmagmedia.com. Letters are printed as-is (unless they need fixing).



This week in My Perfect HK:

Take a moment this week to reflect on the bravery of **firefighters Samuel Hui Chi-kit and Thomas Cheung Yiu-sing**, who perished while fighting the 108-hour-long Ngau Tau Kok blaze. An official funeral for Hui on July 22 will be open to the public, accompanied by a vigil the night before at the Universal Funeral Parlour in Hung Hom. The Fire Services Department is calling for donations for the firefighters' families: visit hkfsd.gov.hk to donate.



Tuesday 7/5

We Never Go Out of Style

Looking for some style inspo? Check out more than 1,200 exhibitors from 16 countries around the world at the 23rd annual **Hong Kong Fashion Week**. On Tuesday, catch two fashion parades, a seminar in sustainable fashion, and more.

Jul 4-7. Hall 1 & 3, HKCEC, 1 Expo Drive, Wan Chai, hktdc.com. Free.

Friday 7/1

March Through Time

A tradition since the Handover in 1997, the city's residents gather for the **annual July 1 march**. It's the last year of CY Leung's current term, and organizers are predicting high numbers. Don't let the people march by without you.

3pm. Victoria Park, 1 Hing Fat St., Causeway Bay.



Saturday 7/2

Getting Crafty

The best kind of beer is craft, and the best kind of craft beer is free. The good people at Craftissimo are taking this to heart for their **block party**: They're tapping four kegs of Gweilo beer and handing out fresh pints from their Sheung Wan location.

5-9pm. Shop D, G/F, Tai Ping Building, 22-24A Tai Ping Shan St., Sheung Wan.

FREE BEER!

Sunday 7/3

Disco Down Dog

The cool thing about The Yoga Room's **silent disco yoga** is that you're outside, enjoying the breeze and the gentle guidance of a certified instructor, while the wireless headsets allow you to get into the zone without the distraction of the strained grunts and labored exhalations of those around you.

6:15-7:30pm. Sun Yat Sen Memorial Park, Sheung Wan. \$150 from eventbrite.hk

Monday 7/4

Dixie Dining

If you think America's culinary offerings exclusively comprise heaping plates of fried stuff and burgers, then you haven't been to the South. Taste the great state of Louisiana at the newly opened Parish restaurant—on July 4 they're throwing a **Cajun-style seafood boil party** with bottomless crab, shrimp, lobster, jambalaya, pecan pie and more.

The Parish, 44 Staunton St., Central. \$388 per person, reserve at 2803-0050.



Wednesday 7/6

The Last Race

Racing season takes a break over the blistering months, so don't miss the happiest **Happy Wednesday** of the year this evening. Can't make it? No worries: The next season starts in September.

From 4:45pm. Happy Valley Racecourse, Happy Valley. \$10 at the door.

Thursday 7/7

All American

Stone Nullah Tavern is stretching the weekend back a day with **Breakin' Bacon Thursdays**, offering all-you-can-eat bacon and southern fried chicken, bourbon cocktails and resident DJ Mic McGirk spinning soul and hip-hop every week. We'll be there, turning "all-you-can-eat" from basic marketing copy into a challenge.

10pm-late. Stone Nullah Tavern, G/F, 69 Stone Nullah Lane, Wan Chai. \$170.

Coming Up

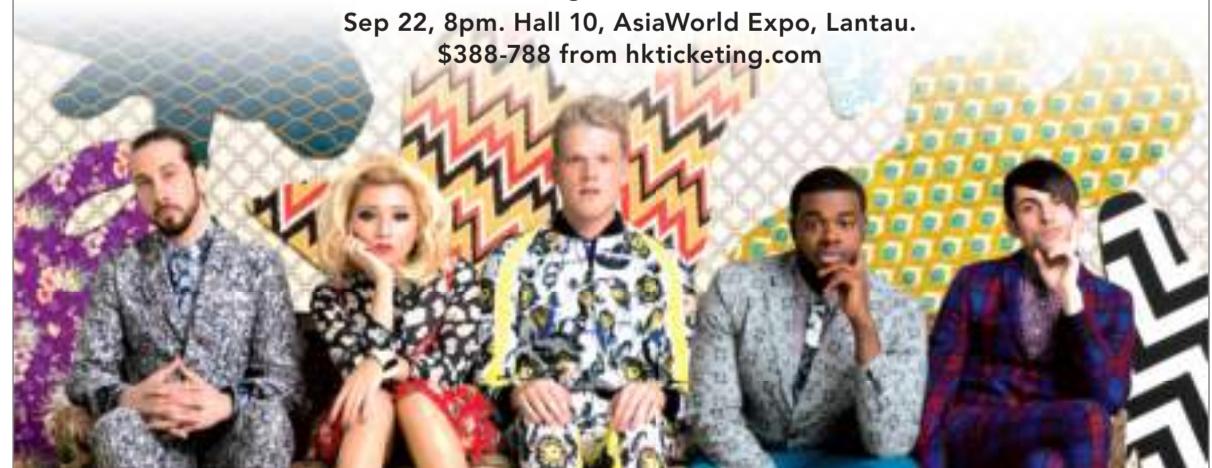
Viral Voices

The world's biggest a cappella group is traveling the world again.

Since their debut on the American talent show "The Sing-Off,"

Pentatonix has risen from relative obscurity in Texas to taking over the Internet with their pop covers and original hits, winning two Grammy Awards in the process. Get your tickets for their show in September before they sell out—it's gonna be aca-MAZING.

Sep 22, 8pm. Hall 10, AsiaWorld Expo, Lantau. \$388-788 from hkticketing.com



Edited by Stephanie Tsui
stephanie.tsui@hkmagmedia.com



Last Week In Reality



SAT 18

Baby Steps A woman holds a young boy close to the opening of a rubbish bin so that he can urinate into it. A passerby takes a photo of the pair and uploads it to Facebook. Netizens commend the woman for making sure the boy urinated into the bin and not onto the pavement.

SUN 19

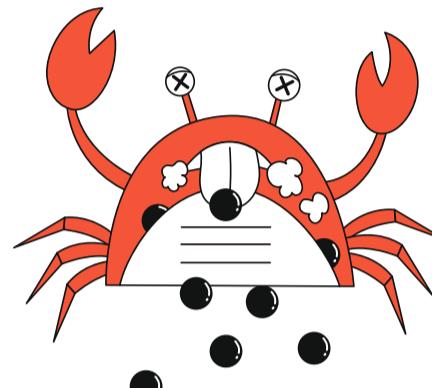
Mind Your Own Business A video of yet another bus altercation racks up thousands of views on social media. A woman passenger demands to know why the driver only opened one half of the double doors for her, demanding his staff ID number so she can complain. A passenger tells the woman to just look at the plaque next to the driver, but she says she can't see it. He replies, "You must be blind!" and the couple start arguing instead. The driver tries to intervene, without success.

MON 20

Wobbly Run At around 10am, a taxi driver is driving towards Mong Kok along Prince Edward Road East when he sees a naked man jogging past his taxi in the opposite direction. Other motorists slow down to avoid hitting the man.

TUE 21

Birthday Suit A photo uploaded to Facebook goes viral: A middle-aged man is seen resting against a railing in Chuk Yuen, completely nude. Police arrive and escort the man to a nearby taxi. Netizens speculate the man is a taxi driver who simply couldn't stand the summer heat.



WED 22

Gifts with Purchase A woman opens up a live crab she bought from a Tsuen Wan wet market and finds 10 metal balls under its shell. She takes a photo of the discovery and uploads it to Facebook. Netizens jokingly chime in, claiming to have found phones and laptops in fish they bought from the market.

THU 23

Sexual Healing The District Court is hearing a case against a man accused of duping a woman into performing sex acts with him. Prosecutors claim the man posed as a feng shui and astrology expert, saying he could mend the woman's relationship with her estranged boyfriend if she had ritualistic sex with him. He also allegedly asked the woman to send him sexually explicit photos to increase the effectiveness of the rituals. The trial continues.

FRI 24

Slippin' and Sliderin' At around 8am, a turtle the size of a hand falls from a Tuen Mun residential building. Police pronounce it dead at the scene and return the carcass to its owner, who claims that the turtle lost its footing.

Quote of the Week

"It's customary to take photos of ourselves on site. In all their reports, district councilors and legislators include photos of themselves on site visits."

Kwun Tong district councilor Cheung Ki-tang of the DAB tells HK01 why, during a site visit, he and three other district councilors posed for a picture in front of a burning storage facility in Ngau Tau Kok. The blaze took 108 hours to put out and claimed the lives of two firefighters.

Talking Points

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

Agency Charges Helper \$15K

An employment agency licensee has been fined \$9,000 by the Eastern Court for **charging an Indonesian domestic helper agency fees amounting to more than 30 times the legal limit**. The agent coerced the helper into borrowing \$13,300 to cover the fee, which, plus interest, meant she had to pay \$15,000 to the loan shark. Agencies can only charge **10 percent of a helper's salary, in this case \$411**, as an intermediary fee. The Federation of Asian Domestic Workers Union spoke out against the court's ruling, saying the \$9,000 fine would not be an effective deterrent against such behavior by agencies. The maximum fine possible for such an offense is \$50,000.

Our take: As if domestic workers don't have a hard enough time as it is.

MTR Raises Fares, Again

The MTR Corporation has **raised fares for the seventh year in a row**, despite earning a \$13 billion profit last year. Passengers will have to pay on average **2.65 percent more for almost every journey**: Only four percent of all trips have been spared from the fare hike. **Fares on 80 percent of all trips** have been raised by up to \$0.30. The greatest increase is **\$1.50 for the trip from Disneyland Resort to Lo Wu or Lok Ma Chau**, which now costs \$55.30 using an Octopus card. Meanwhile, MTR passengers will get a 10 percent discount on any second trip they take within the same day, until October 31.

Our take: How many same-day trips do we have to take to break even?

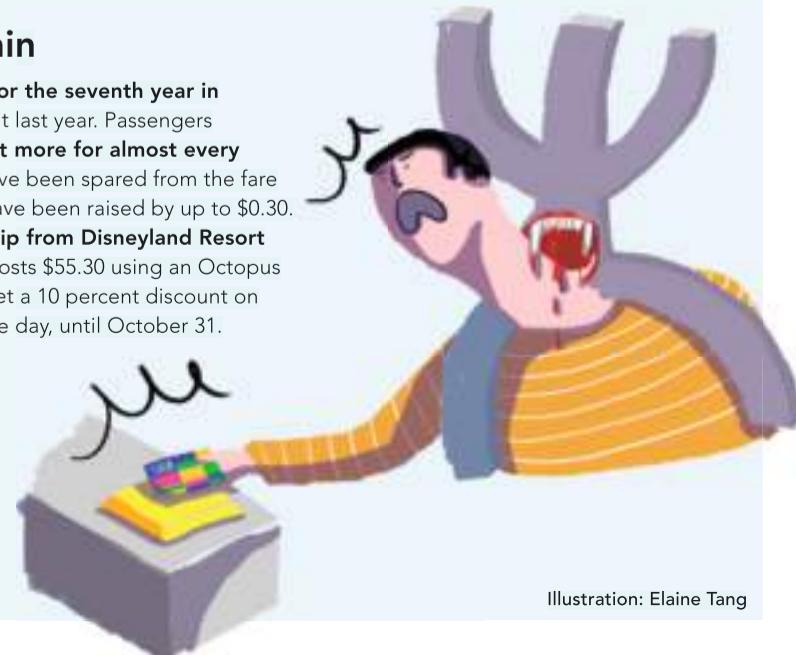
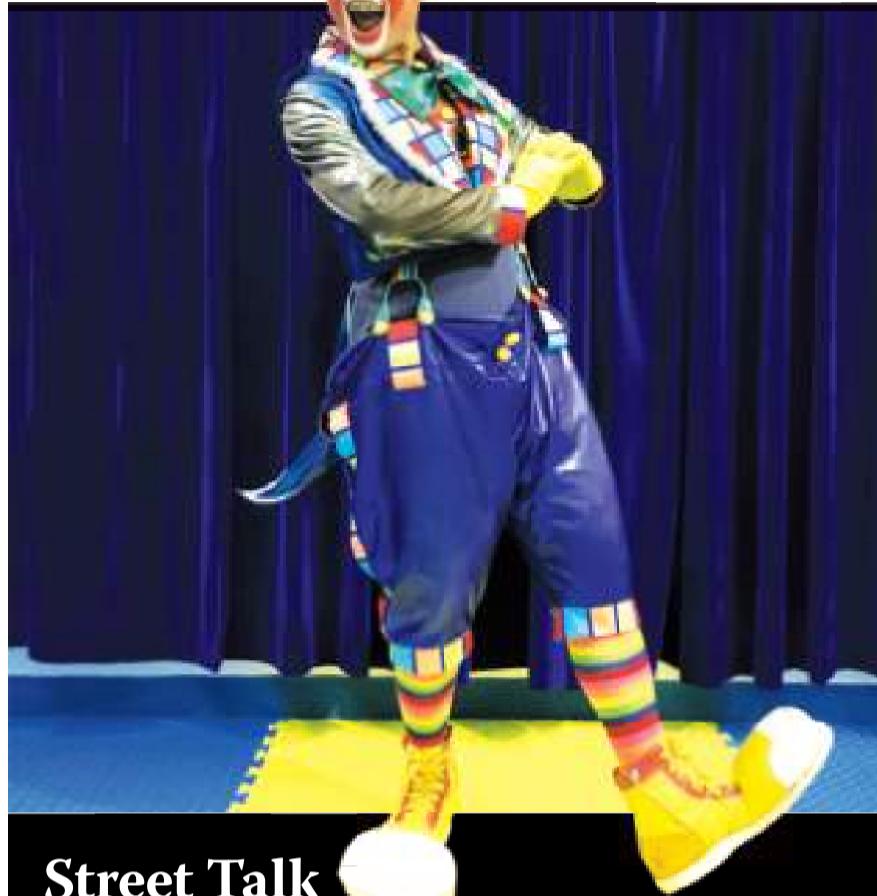


Illustration: Elaine Tang



Street Talk

Kenneth Kong works full time at a logistics company. But six years ago, he created his alter ego **Clown Sound Sound**—a balloon-twisting, magic-making clown whose complex balloon creations of Gundam robots and Chinese deities have won him international accolades, including first place in the World Clown Association's balloon competition. He tells Jonathan Chan how clowning has changed him, and whether he worries about other people stealing his tricks.

HK Magazine: How did you get into clowning?

Kenneth Kong: I didn't want to at first. It seemed like a lowly job that required wearing makeup to hide who you are. But I fell in love with balloon art when my mentor on a magic course showed me some tricks. I wanted to get better at it and learn more about clown culture.

HK: What makes a good clown?

KK: I used to think clowning was easy, but it's difficult trying to maintain a calm and cheerful persona. If you have lots of emotional baggage, you won't be able to perform well. I have to keep telling myself I'm Clown Sound Sound and that I have to let go of my bad moods, and ignore the fact that I'm performing in 40-degree weather or in a messy and noisy environment. It's about focusing and enjoying the performance. The makeup process alone takes a long time to learn and perfect, so clowning is a big project that goes beyond dressing up and performing. But I like being a performer and being recognized for what I do. You may think I'm successful because I've won awards, but my success took years of experience. It didn't happen overnight. To me, putting on a good show is already a success.

HK: Are children ever scared of you?

KK: Of course! But children are also scared of "normal" folks. I've learned to work around it, for example, by walking past them without greeting them, to draw them in. A negative atmosphere or crying can spread to other kids, but the same thing happens with a positive atmosphere.

HK: Are girls interested in you because of your work?

KK: Maybe if you're a magician, yes—but not if you're a clown. If a girl expressed interest, I would assume that she likes my clown persona, not the real me. As clowns, we try not to show our makeup-free faces because they might disappoint both children and adults. Most of my clients don't know my real face.

HK: Are your parents supportive of your career choice?

KK: Yes, they are—to the extent that they want me to be Clown Sound Sound all the time instead of the real me! Being a clown has changed me a lot. I used to be more mischievous, but after starting my clowning career, I began volunteering at elderly homes, orphanages and hospitals. I find getting satisfaction from life easier now that I've met many people who have been separated from their loved ones: Lonely elderly people, and unfortunate children. I've become a more grateful person because of this, and want to use my ability to bring happiness to others. When I see the smiles on my audiences' faces, to me that's more than enough.

HK: Do you worry about people copying your tricks?

KK: Earlier this year, I helped my students prepare for some clowning competitions. My friends kept telling me I was being stupid because my students might surpass me, but I wanted them to do well and share the same excitement I felt when I won my first award.

HK: What's up next for Clown Sound Sound?

KK: In August, I'll be heading to Japan for a competition where I'll try to make a balloon pug in five minutes. In a previous competition, I came first for making a [Three Kingdoms-period general] Guan Gong-inspired balloon art piece in 12 minutes. Most people think of animals and Disney characters when it comes to balloon art, but I prefer to draw inspiration from action figures and people, like Gundam figures or the Chinese god of longevity. At this stage, many of my peers are working hard to buy flats and set up their own families, but this isn't what I want. I don't have any future goals—I just want to continue clowning.

Tired of boring old balloon animals?
Check out Kenneth's creations at
facebook.com/KennethKong2007

Blowing Water

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

pek3 paa3
劈炮

"THROW CANNON"

"Resign." Comes from the image of a policeman throwing his firearm onto his boss' desk when he quit.

HongKabulary



"What do I wear in bed?
Why, Eau de DEET, of course."

Eau de DEET (əʊ də diɪt), n.

Abandoning your regular perfume/cologne for the smell of mosquito repellent until summer is over.

FIXING THE CHEF

With a year of his service period term still to go, the Chief Execubot has fallen into disrepair. But never fear! Our top team of CYbernetics experts will take him from creaky rustbucket to well-oiled political machine. By **HK Staff 2.0**

ARMS

Error! Attached to puppet strings.

The fix: Deny access privileges of remote operator.

LEGS

Error! CYbot either runs away from everything or is rooted to the spot.

The fix: A squirt of WD40 should get CYbot turning up where he's supposed to. Beware of making him even oilier.



BRAIN

Error! CPU fried, possibly from faulty logic programming or external virus.

The fix: Add multi-core processor that can handle more than one task.

EYES

Error! CYbot's vision is faulty; incapable of scanning for future threats.

The fix: Upgrade perception elements to detect potential issues before they arise.

NOSE

Error! Unable to detect dangerous levels of air pollution.

The fix: Install air filtration system and PM2.5 meter.

MOUTH

Error! Voice module produces incomprehensible gibberish.

The fix: Swap out China-made voice box for Made-in-Hong Kong unit.

HEART

Error! Not present.

The fix: Compassion software can provide a virtual workaround for lack of empathy.



BUT SERIOUSLY...

According to the UN, Hong Kong ranks a miserable 75 out of 157 places surveyed in the world happiness rankings—just one spot ahead of Somalia. Here are six things we think CY could do in his last year to put a smile back on people's faces.

1 Spend that Surplus

Hong Kong is fabulously wealthy, but the divide between rich and poor has never been wider. Every year the government grossly underestimates its multi-billion-dollar budget surplus, money it squirrels away for a rainy day. Spending that cash is the best way to leave us with a happier society.

2

Cull the White Elephants

In April, HK Magazine reported that the government is spending the best part of \$1 trillion on white elephant projects—enormously expensive construction projects that deliver few benefits to us. Cutting back on these would free up funds (see no.1) to make the city a better place.

3

Go Green or Go Home

Hong Kong lags far behind other world cities when it comes to environmental action. According to the Clean Air Network, air pollution is continuing to worsen. To tackle it, the government must enforce more rigorous targets. Meanwhile, public faith in recycling programs must be restored—or maybe even just created in the first place.

4

Fix Housing

Property prices in the city are infamously ludicrous, and whether buying or renting we're paying more per square foot than almost anyone else on Earth. The Chief Executive could make it a priority to divert cash to public housing, alleviating the strain on young families and low earners.

5

Sell China

This isn't an easy one, but it is an area where a small amount of effort could pay out considerable dividends. If CY could pitch a good case for closer ties with the mainland—without using propaganda-packed jargon like "One Belt, One Road" and while defending rule of law—he'd get a lot more of us on-side. Our advice: start with the money argument.

6

Connect with the People

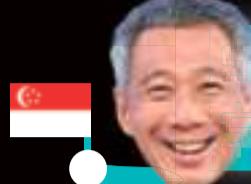
CY has introduced a variety of populist initiatives, yet he still suffers from the lowest popularity ratings of any Chief Executive. Analysts have attributed this to his apparent aloof demeanor. If CY could demonstrate a human side, he might rise in the public's estimations—which could in turn improve public confidence in city authorities. Achieving that in the space of a year, however, could be a tall order.

HERE TO SERVE

CY Leung is the second highest-paid political leader in the world...
Is he worth it?

Lee Hsien Loong

Prime Minister of Singapore
Responsible for: 5.5 million people



\$13.8m

Leung Chun-ying

Chief Executive of Hong Kong
Responsible for: 7.3 million people



\$4.5m

Barack Obama

President of United States of America
Responsible for: 324 million people



\$3.1m

Angela Merkel

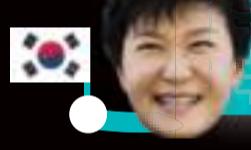
Chancellor of Germany
Responsible for: 80 million people



\$1.9m

Park Geun-hye

President of South Korea
Responsible for: 50 million people



\$1.5m

Tsai Ing-wen

President of Taiwan
Responsible for: 23 million people



\$1.4m

Xi Jinping

President of the People's Republic of China
Responsible for: 1.4 billion people



\$173,000

PLUS THREE FINANCIAL BIGWIGGS:



\$3.9 million

Jim Yong Kim
President of the World Bank



\$3.6 million

Christine Lagarde
Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund



\$1.6 million

Janet Yellen
Chairman of US Federal Reserve

All salaries in HKD



CHIEF FOR A DAY...

We went out on to the streets to ask people: If you were CE for a day, what would you do to make Hong Kong a better place?

CHILD'S PLAY

"I don't know about politics, but as a mother I can see that kids are so stressed out—think of the TSAs! If I was CE I would build more recreational facilities, like parks and pools, to give Hong Kong kids a real childhood."

Laura, 36, mother

SHOW ME THE MONEY

"I would give out money, just as the government did in 2011 with tax rebates. It would be a short-lived happiness, but it'd be something."

Ms. Wong, 26, clinical research assistant

MAKING HISTORY

"To us the main thing that is hindering Hong Kong's happiness is that there is such a huge split of opinion on every issue, mainly political. Making Chinese history a priority in schools would show people how to resolve the present by looking back to the past."

Mr. and Mrs. Liu, 70, retired couple

JOB FOR THE BOYS (AND GIRLS)

"I'd create more diverse job opportunities, because right now young people are restricted to so few choices. I'd put more resources into developing science, technology, sports and the creative industries."

Jacky, 23, student

PENSION PLAN

[Angrily] "If only the current CE would think about this question. We need better pensions systems to provide a secure, stable retirement for all people. Even the mainland does this better than we do!"

Mrs. Hung, 60, florist

TAXBACK

"I'd make alterations to the tax system so that something went back to ordinary taxpayers—like increasing rates on rich companies and businessmen—and I'd put that money into improving the health care system."

Samuel, 21, student

HK MAGAZINE'S 10 CONTENDERS FOR CE WHO WOULD YOU VOTE FOR?



1. Andy Lau

Entertainer

Pro: Never ages.

Con: We don't know why.



4. Leon Lai

Entertainer

Pro: Much-loved singer.

Con: Can't really sing.



7. Chow Yun-fat

Actor

Pro: Made "Hard Boiled" with John Woo; charming; debonair.

Con: Shoots first, asks questions never.



8. Leung Chai-yan

Daughter of CY

Pro: Expert on social media.

Con: Maybe too expert on social media.



9. Peter So Man-fung

Feng Shui master

Pro: Geomancing abilities will put the city into profit.

Con: Feng shui a debatable science at best.



10. Carrie Lam

Current Chief Secretary

Pro: Experienced, steady hand.

Con: Really, really boring.



3. Mrs McDull

Famous Cartoon Mum

Pro: Strong authority figure, beloved by all of Hong Kong.

Con: Fictional; a pig.



6. Angelababy

Model

Pro: Really, really ridiculously good looking.

Con: Neither an angel nor a baby, a clear case of false advertising.

*Ladies,
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Piotr Illich Tchaikovsky Peter Farmer Harvey Santos

Lighting Design Leo Cheung Live Accompaniment Hong Kong Sinfonietta® Benjamin Pope

Artistic Director
Madeleine Onne

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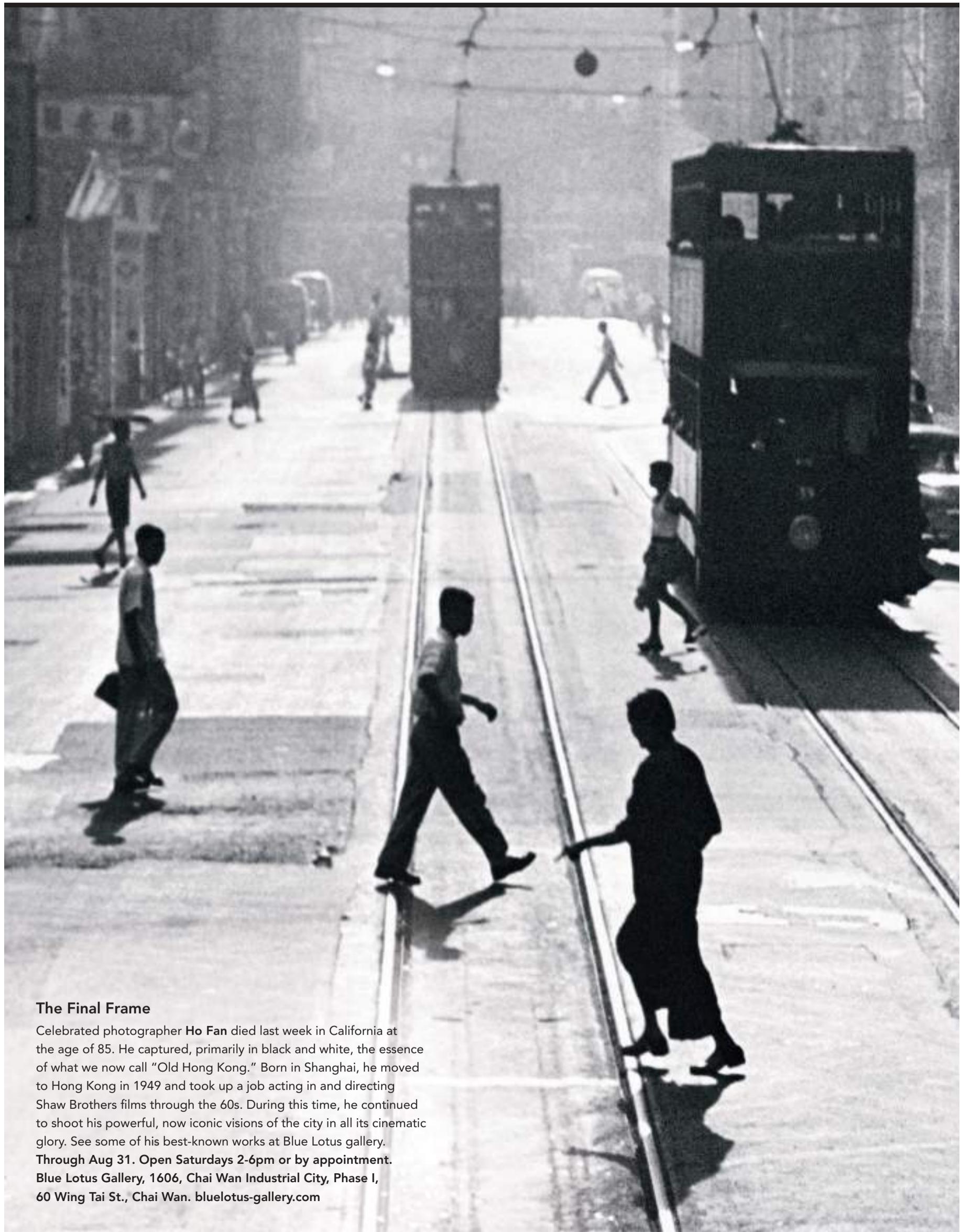
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The Final Frame

Celebrated photographer **Ho Fan** died last week in California at the age of 85. He captured, primarily in black and white, the essence of what we now call "Old Hong Kong." Born in Shanghai, he moved to Hong Kong in 1949 and took up a job acting in and directing Shaw Brothers films through the 60s. During this time, he continued to shoot his powerful, now iconic visions of the city in all its cinematic glory. See some of his best-known works at Blue Lotus gallery.

Through Aug 31. Open Saturdays 2-6pm or by appointment.
Blue Lotus Gallery, 1606, Chai Wan Industrial City, Phase I,
60 Wing Tai St., Chai Wan. bluelotus-gallery.com

GOOD LOOKS

A Shore Thing

Summer is finally in full swing, and it's time to show off all those hours you've spent at the gym. But shopping for the right beach outfit can be stressful. Here are a few tips on choosing the right items to turn your beach entrance into a runway show!

Sunny Disposish

Wearing a **straw hat** will block out UV rays and help you stay fresh, plus you'll be getting a lot of compliments with this sweet look!

Straw hat, \$970 from Tasteless Hats @ Kapok, Shop HF10-12, G/F, PMQ, 35 Aberdeen St., Central, 2858-8170, ka-pok.com



String Me Along

This is definitely the highlight of today's look: the sexy bikini! This bright yellow one's from Hong Kong brand **Mer Culture**. Have fun with it and go wild with mismatched bikinis in different prints and colors, or why not rock a one-piece suit?

Saraha Bird Wrap Halter Top, \$450, and Zaafran String Tie Bottom, \$350 from Mer Culture, merculture.com



Lapiz of Luxury

Show your playful side with some **colorful jewelry** featuring natural stones to match the tropical vibes.

Lapiz Lazuli ring, \$3,000; Turquoise, yellow fossil, and Mother of Pearl drop earrings, \$3,500 from Carmen Chan Jewelry, carmenchanjewelry.com

Got a great fashion tip or street style shot? Tag us on Instagram @HK_Magazine!

Throwing Shades

Don a pair of shades to go with your swimsuit and of course to protect your eyes from the extreme Hong Kong sun... but mainly to nail that beach vibe. These sunnies from **Police** are the perfect combination of elegant and beach-appropriate.

Neymar JR1, \$1,900 from Police @ zalora.com.hk

Shorts Fuse

You must get a pair of **Mazu's** swim shorts! With a very comfortable fit, this Hong Kong brand is an ideal pick for the beach. Check out this pair called "The Junk Twilight" which uses an old fishing junk boat motif, representing Hong Kong's maritime history.

The Junk Twilight, \$1,400 from mazuswimwear.com



Cap'n Cool

A **light cap** is essential. It might not cover you completely from the sun, but it will cover that messy, sandy hair when you come out of the water.

Organic canvas trucker cap, \$413 from Norse Projects @ Kapok



Edited and styled by Rafael Raya Cano

Instagram @RafaelRayaCano | rcano.co



Head to Toe

Heels or shoes are impractical on sand, but how about a pair of dainty barefoot sandals for the ladies? There are plenty of styles on Etsy, handmade with beads, crochet or bling. This pair's from **Sloane Studio**, based in Hong Kong.

\$360 from sloanestudio.etsy.co

Abstract Art

After a full day of tanning, reading and enjoying the sun, put on one of these beautiful handcrafted kaftans from **Kaprice**. With its breezy and lightweight material, it's the perfect cover-up for the seaside. The only thing you need is a cocktail in your hands and you'll be sorted for the sunset hour!

\$2,400 from Kaprice, kaprice.hk

Totes Chic

Ladies, you're going to need a big bag to fit all your beach essentials. This tote bag from **Mischa** is definitely the best choice. Colorful, elegant and handy!

Yet Set Tote, \$1,592 from Mischa, mischadesigns.com



Milk and Honeys

Ready to hit the bars looking chic and sunkissed? Get your hands on this fine lightweight linen shirt from **Milk Shirts**.

Linen safari shirt, \$1,124 from Milk Shirts, milkshirts.com



Haviana Nights

You can't go wrong with a pair of **Havaianas**! They're perfect for the beach and after-hours drinks by the water. Get plain but brightly colored ones to easily match your outfit.

Red flip flops, \$178, [Havaianashk.com](http://havaianashk.com)



GADGETS

TECH HEAD

Edited by Adam White

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



All About that Basslet

If you're the kind of person who goes clubbing and positions yourself so close to the sound system that you can feel your skull vibrating, then you'll love the **Basslet**. This new Kickstarter project is essentially a small, sexy wrist-mounted square subwoofer. When you play music, the Basslet vibrates in time, delivering the kicks, the hi-hats, the big drums and more straight to your wrist—and from there to your whole body. Sounds wild, right? The project is already fully funded on Kickstarter, but you can still order it at a discount for estimated delivery in December 2016.

€139 (\$1,185) from lofelt.com



Carousell, Sell, Sell

A relative newcomer to Hong Kong is **Carousell**, the brainchild of three Singaporean developers. It's a community marketplace app that's super simple to use: You download it, snap a photo of what you want to sell, set a price and hey presto: It's listed for sale. Other users can check out what you've got, and if they like it you can chat within the app to arrange a meetup. It's fast and easy, especially in a city as small as ours. Having recently hit 100,000 listings in Hong Kong, there's a lot of dross mixed in there—from iffy clothes to a box of pencils (yes, really)—but there's also some gold to be found, from vintage clothing to camera gear. And of course, half of the fun is in the looking. Check it out and grab a bargain. Or maybe a box of pencils.

Free from Google Play and App Store, carousell.com



Spirit Mediums

Camera nerds, lean in now. Swedish camera king Hasselblad has just launched a new digital camera that's set to revolutionize the market. The **Hasselblad X1D** is a tiny mirrorless camera that somehow manages to fit a full 50MP medium-format sensor into a camera body that's smaller than most every DSLR out there. That means stunning quality picture that also beats most every DSLR out there—all weighing in at a comparatively svelte 725g. Thanks to NASA there are 12 Hasselblads currently sitting on the Moon, where they've captured some of the most iconic images in history. If they'd weighed as little as the X1D, maybe they would have made the trip back as well. The X1D isn't remotely cheap—the body is a hair under \$70k, and the lenses cost around \$18k each—but that price is half what you'd be paying for any of the other Hasselblad models, putting it squarely in the "extremely rich amateur" category. The X1D goes on sale in late August.

hasselblad.com/x1d



A Room with Askew

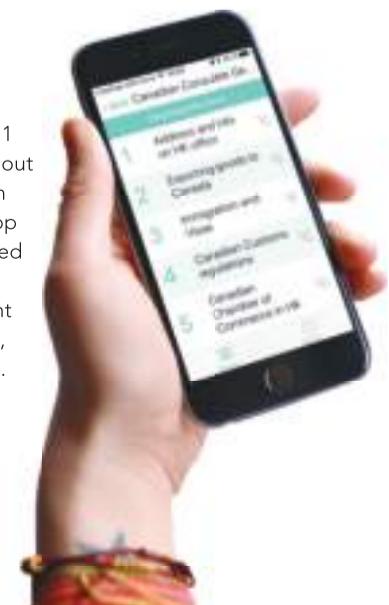
This isn't a new game, but it IS a recommendation if you've got a tablet and you're looking for something to occupy those fingers: **The Room** series. No, it's not a tablet version of the notoriously bad 2003 movie of the same name. It's a series of three beautifully made, gently cerebral, often creepy puzzle games. The gameplay is simple: you're presented with an ornate box full of switches, cogs and levers, and you have to open it, step by step. But that description defies the intricate complexity of each puzzle box, half mechanical and half magical—and the sense of achievement as you peel away another layer of brass and mahogany. The first two games were pretty great, but this third iteration nails the eerie atmosphere and delicate, convoluted multi-step constructions. You should get them all.

\$15 for **The Room** and **The Room Two**, \$38 for **The Room Three** from Google Play and App Store.

Just Press Skip

If you're a normal human being, you loathe Hong Kong's relentless, interminable automated phone hotlines. Press 1 for Cantonese, 2 for Putonghua, 3 for English, 1 to talk about billing, 2 to access account details, 3 to get bounced from menu to menu until you give up... Enter **Skipmenu**, an app that cuts all that tedious touch-toning out of your life. Need to call your bank? Instead of Googling the number and sifting through 10 minutes of a voice reading out irrelevant options, you just open up the app, choose what you want, hit dial—and you're connected straight to a human being. Well, almost. The hold music as you wait for someone to pick up on the other end? That's not going anywhere.

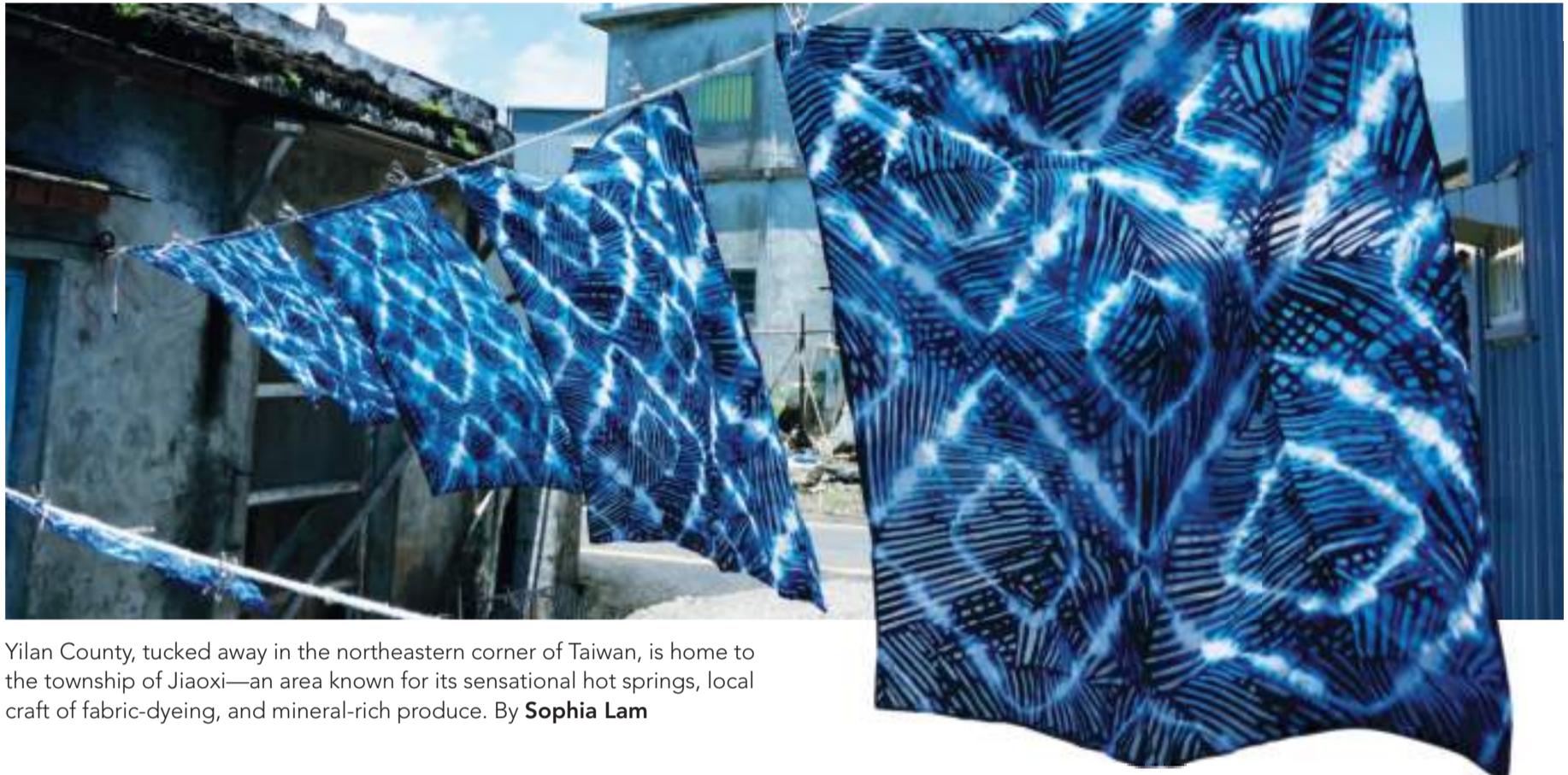
Free from Google Play or App Store, skipmenu.com





Compiled by Sophia Lam
sophia.lam@hkmagmedia.com

ESCAPE ROUTES



Yilan County, tucked away in the northeastern corner of Taiwan, is home to the township of Jiaoxi—an area known for its sensational hot springs, local craft of fabric-dyeing, and mineral-rich produce. By **Sophia Lam**

Dip Into the Blue

Drive 15 minutes from the Jiaoxi train station through a stretch of green paddy fields and you'll find yourself at the doorstep of a humble-looking village house. **Jiaosifarmer**, managed by Mr. Shi and his wife, is made up of a work shed and a little farm at the back that grows indigo plants.

Call in advance to book an indigo-dyeing workshop, where the master himself guides you through the lengthy processes of bundling up the fabric, dipping it in dye, and squeezing it dry before repeating the whole thing again. By the end of the day you'll bring home a bright sapphire scarf and a slice of traditional artistry from Taiwan.

22 Lin Wei Rd., Jiaoxi Township, Yilan, (+886) 935-202952, jiaosifarmer.blogspot.com

Food to Share

A 15-minute walk from the train station will take you to **Chili Hunters Creative Museum** (61 Jiaoxi Rd. Section 5, Jiaoxi Township) where you can have your fill of all sorts of nibbles made of... chili pepper. All products are ranked from a mild level one to the fiery level seven that sets your tongue ablaze. If you dare, try the strawberry chili ice cream, but be warned: even the slightest lick is an explosion of fire and ice.

Tread along Jiaoxi Road and in no time you'll stumble upon **Cake Nobel** (68 Jiaoxi Rd. Section 4, Jiaoxi Township). Foodies have made the strawberry pannacotta swiss roll (\$36) one of the must-eats in all of Taiwan—and who could possibly resist fresh strawberries and buttery cream wrapped in an airy sponge cake? Save some space for their fluffy longan cupcakes, studded with the sweet dried fruit.



Make Your Own Fruit

Wander further from Jiaoxi for Yilan's local brand of glace fruit at **Agrioz**, a factory which collects fresh kumquats from local farmers before marinating them with maltose and sugar. Yilan's rainy and humid weather makes it perfect for the tart-sweet citrus, which is traditionally stirred in with honey for a quick fix for sore throats. Enroll in a 20-minute DIY candied kumquat workshop (\$36) in Agrioz's kitchen studio, where you'll squash, shake and sugar dozens of tiny kumquats with the help of their instructors.

Take bus 755 at Yilan Train Station. 33 Meizhou 2nd Rd., Yilan City, Yilan, (+886) 3-928-5758.

Save Your Soles

In a town where thermal springs bubble up everywhere, you can always find a tub of hot water for those worn out feet. Roll up your pants and join the local residents in the free foot baths in **Tangweigou Hot Springs Park**, a collection of mist-cloaked hot spring tubs in the thick of verdant shrubs and grilled fish stalls right in the city center of Jiaoxi.

If hot mineral water isn't enough to remedy sore feet, pay for some fish to nibble on the skin on your heels next door at No. 9 Coffee Shop (\$19). **99-11 Deyang Rd., Jiaoxi Township, Yilan.**



Getting There

From Taipei Bus Station, take Kamalan bus 1915 to Jiaoxi Station. The ride takes about 65 minutes.

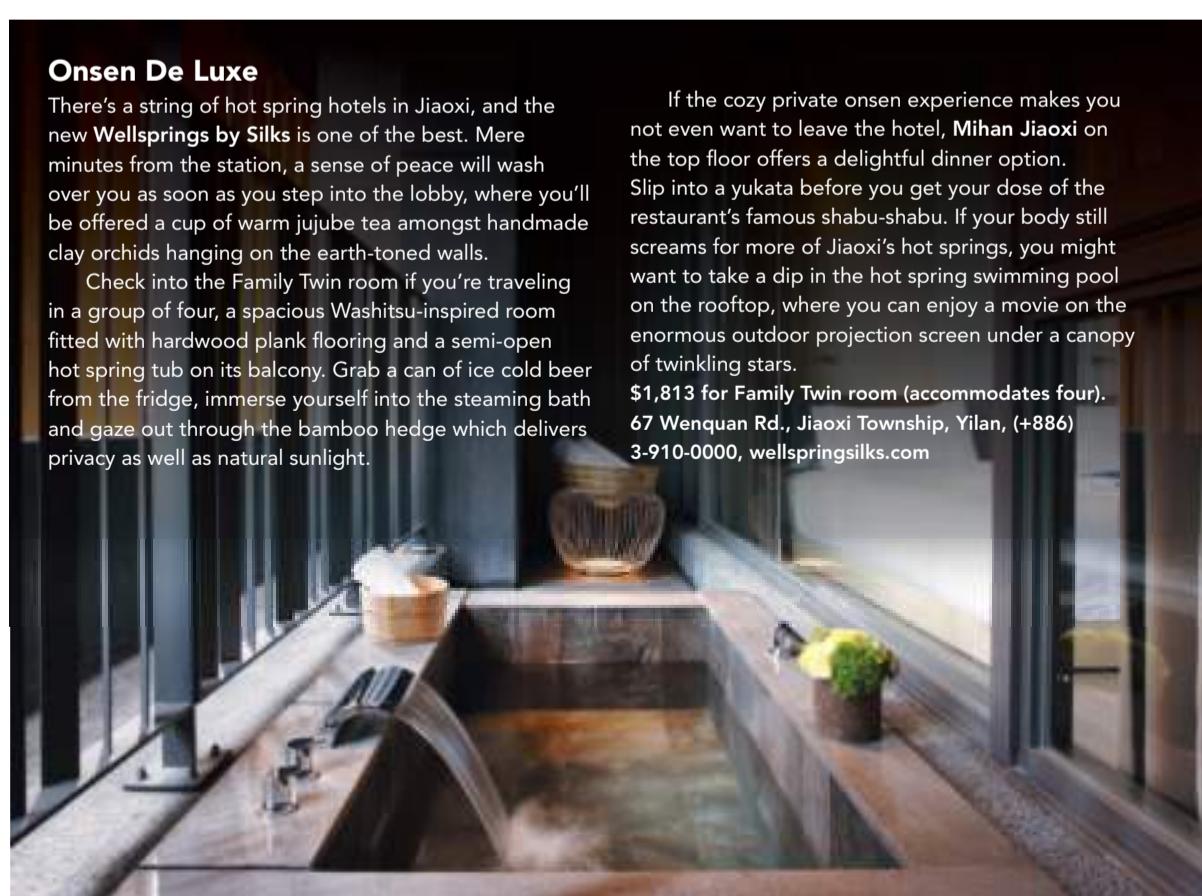
Onsen De Luxe

There's a string of hot spring hotels in Jiaoxi, and the new **Wellsprings by Silks** is one of the best. Mere minutes from the station, a sense of peace will wash over you as soon as you step into the lobby, where you'll be offered a cup of warm jujube tea amongst handmade clay orchids hanging on the earth-toned walls.

Check into the Family Twin room if you're traveling in a group of four, a spacious Washitsu-inspired room fitted with hardwood plank flooring and a semi-open hot spring tub on its balcony. Grab a can of ice cold beer from the fridge, immerse yourself into the steaming bath and gaze out through the bamboo hedge which delivers privacy as well as natural sunlight.

If the cozy private onsen experience makes you not even want to leave the hotel, **Mihan Jiaoxi** on the top floor offers a delightful dinner option. Slip into a yukata before you get your dose of the restaurant's famous shabu-shabu. If your body still screams for more of Jiaoxi's hot springs, you might want to take a dip in the hot spring swimming pool on the rooftop, where you can enjoy a movie on the enormous outdoor projection screen under a canopy of twinkling stars.

**\$1,813 for Family Twin room (accommodates four).
67 Wenquan Rd., Jiaoxi Township, Yilan, (+886) 3-910-0000, wellspringsilks.com**



Summer Kaiseki

Japanese haute cuisine gets a summer makeover with Hong Kong's top kaiseki sets—the multi-course tradition which celebrates fresh, seasonal produce. By **Leslie Yeh**

Up In the Clouds

Perched neatly on the 101/F of ICC, **Inakaya**'s summer kaiseki is an orchestration of vibrant colors and intricate flavors designed to pop on your palate. Headed by chef Nozawa Masayoshi, who brings to Hong Kong 20 years of experience studying the art of kaiseki cuisine in Tokyo, Inakaya's set dinner takes guests on a journey through the aromas of the season, from the seasonal fatty grilled ayu fish, to conger eel stewed in tea or traditional steamed sea eel meant to restore energy and vitality. For something a little more robust, don't miss the assorted deep fried platter with tanaba crab and almond, scallop roll and kisu fish roll in Kyoto tofu skin.

Shop A, 101/F, ICC, 1 Austin Rd. West, West Kowloon, 2972-2666.

Seasonal Steaming

Drawing inspiration from Kyoto with its Japanese embroidered doorway, natural color palette and tableware sourced from Japan, **Gin Sai** is a serene temple to experience the art of Japanese dining. The kitchen is helmed by head chef Ogawa, who previously sharpened his knives at Hana Kitcho in Kyoto as well as the Michelin-starred Wagyu Kaiseki Den. The specialty here is *seiromushi*—a method of steaming fresh ingredients without any seasoning, used to showcase the excellence of the ingredients, from Kurobuta pork to A4 wagyu beef and seasonal vegetables. Experience the simple beauty of *seiromushi*, then delve deeper into the robust flavors of Japanese cuisine in robatayaki, tempura and sukiyaki throughout the omakase kaiseki menu, topped off with an array of French-Japanese desserts.

\$560 tasting menu. Shop 3-7, G/F, The Oakhill, 32-38 Cross Lane, Wan Chai, 2574-1118, ginsai.com.hk

Seeing Stars ▼

A gem from Japan's food capital Osaka, **Kashiwaya**'s artistic and seasonal menus have earned it recognition around the world, including the coveted three-Michelin-star status. This summer, you can sample chef Atsushi Takahashi's seasonal kaiseki in a seven-course lunch (\$1,000) or ten-course dinner (\$2,300-4,000) menu, with premium ingredients including octopus ocellatus from Hyogo prefecture, fat greenling from Aomori prefecture, and pen shell clam from Kyushu. The meal is punctuated by an environment that's just as stunning, with sliding doors, shoji paper screens and a Japanese-style waiting room creating a relaxed and tranquil haven to experience the finest in Japanese haute cuisine.

8/F, On Lan St., Central, 2520-5218, jp-kashiwaya.com

DIY Kaiseki ▶

Traditionally kaiseki is left up to the chef to showcase the foods that are at the prime of their season, but at **Nadaman** in the Kowloon Shangri-La you can choose your star ingredient, with several kaiseki sets on the menu (from \$880 per person) including beef shabu shabu, sushi kaiseki, tempura kaiseki and wagyu steak kaiseki. If you want to go the conventional (and most premium) route, opt for the Choricho Omakase (\$1,680) which leaves your meal entirely in the chef's capable hands. This month, chef Takao Kojima is focusing the kaiseki around two beautiful ingredients: hamo pike eel (traditionally eaten by Japanese in July) and Kyoto Kamonasu eggplant.

Lower Level II, Kowloon Shangri-La, 64 Mody Rd., East Tsim Sha Tsui, 2733-8751.



Smoking Den ▲

You have to be pretty confident in kaiseki to name your restaurant after it—and that's just what the chefs at **Wagyu Kaiseki Den** are: skilled and precise artisans of their craft. Time-consuming, laborious preparations are the norm here, and the long open kitchen allows you to watch the chefs at work, churning out such dishes as sweet corn tofu with caviar, crabmeat with taro stems in a fish broth, and charcoal-grilled sea bream with shiitake mushrooms and yuzu for the summer tasting menu. Of course, you can't miss out on the wagyu, with the premium A5 quality beef stored in giant bronze lockers behind the chefs, just waiting to be thinly sliced and grilled over charcoal for smoky, melt-in-your-mouth beefy heaven.

From \$1,880 per person. 263 Hollywood Rd., Sheung Wan, 2851-2820, wagyukaisekiden.com.hk

Ueda It

One of the more affordable places to go for kaiseki in town, **Ueda** shines when it comes to clean and simple flavors ramped up with some interesting ingredient combinations and creative twists. You'll be hard-pressed to find another place in the city to enjoy a 13-dish kaiseki course for \$980, while still getting your fill of premium imported ingredients such as kinki fish, lobster, foie gras, abalone and wagyu beef. For the summer season, dine on light and delicate dishes such as stewed chicken in white miso sauce, sliced stewed eel in a tangerine dressing, and potato tempura with a matcha and mirin dipping sauce.

3/F, Stanley 11, 11 Stanley St., Central, 2327-4482.

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NEW AND NOTED



The eye-catching dessert pavlova at Jerry Maguire

Save Room for Dessert

The current cocktail-dessert craze is full steam ahead, and the latest to jump on the bandwagon is **Jerry Maguire** (23 Lan Fong Rd., Causeway Bay, 2881-5008), opened by Paul Kwok, a veteran of the hospitality industry who was involved in the launch of Play, Volar and Finds, to name a few. The warm, wood-paneled and brightly lit space (necessary for those Insta shots) with its retro pink neon sign is cozy and inviting, with private sections including a back room and a small backyard. There are a few savory items to start, from slow-cooked beef tenderloin (\$158) to stuffed chicken wings (\$98) but of course the sweet spot is in the desserts and cocktails. With pastry chef Ediwhah Tang at the helm, desserts are sure to draw the requisite "oohs" and "aahs" around the table, with imaginative creations such as the Choco Late with chocolate lava pudding and Nutella soil, and the signature Jerry Maguire Cheesecake Crunch—a field of crunchy biscuits, free-form smears of Baileys hazelnut cheesecake, and dark chocolate frozen foam. Continue your romp through this adult candy store with kooky cocktails including the Alice The Wonderland (\$198) with rum, midori, elderflower syrup, pineapple juice, and a spun sugar web giving a whimsical cotton candy effect.

Bindaas, Done That

Love curry, but don't want an Indian dinner that leaves your insides rumbling into the next morning? It seems **Bindaas** (LG/F, 33 Aberdeen St., Central, 2447-9998) has cracked the code with their new summer menu. Modern takes on Indian street food reign supreme here, like the tokri (\$88), a fried potato basket covered in cool yoghurt, lentil dumplings and pomegranate seeds. The new miniature dosas stuffed with cheese and chutney (\$98); the dahi ke kebab yogurt patties (\$108); and the beef galawati patties with mint granita (\$148) are also safely addictive. The chargrilled "dum" lamb chops (\$158) are incredibly flavorful, fantastic on their own or with mustard and chutney. We can't guarantee you'll be beached-whale-syndrome-free after you round out your meal with baskets of fresh naan and delicious desserts, but for small bites over cocktails with live acoustic 80s-90s classics in the background, we're singing Bindaas' praises.

Yan Toh Heen

It's all about detoxing from the heat at **Yan Toh Heen** (InterContinental Hong Kong, 18 Salisbury Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, 2313-2323) this summer with the **five-year Mandarin Zest Pu Er**, the fragrant focal point of this season's tea pairing menu (through Aug 31; \$888 for lunch pairing, \$2,688 for dinner pairing). The beautiful tea is made by stuffing natural red mandarins from the village of Tian Ma in Guangzhou with aged pu er (or "bo lei") tea leaves, then smoking them over a lychee wood fire before being placed in a drying room to age for five years. The reward of this cumbersome process is in the complex and subtle aroma of the product, harmoniously infusing pu er tea tones with the scent of citric acid. Drink in the pleasant richness of the tea in between bites of golden stuffed crab shell with crabmeat, wok-fried wagyu beef with maitake mushrooms, lobster with spicy salt, and fried rice wrapped and steamed in a lotus leaf.



Teatime at Yan Toh Heen

RESTAURANT REVIEWS

Home Eat To Live ★★★★☆

Vegetarian. Shop G01 & 101, Nexus Building, 77 Des Voeux Rd., Central, 2777-4777.



This new vegetarian venture by Mana co-founder Christian Mongendre offers a cozy café downstairs with takeaway meals and a restaurant upstairs churning out flatbreads, salads, rice bowls and vegetarian burgers. The environmental agenda is evident through eco-friendly packaging and a zero-waste policy supported by a meticulous recycling and composting system.

HIT Home Eat to Live dispels the myth that vegetarian eating is less flavorful and robust than non-veggie dishes, with a range of protein-packed comfort food dishes.

The Northern White Rhino burger

(\$98 à la carte/\$128 for combo with pickles, salad, sweet potato fries and aioli) is made with a patty made from mixed grains and pumpkin, topped with a slice of halloumi, the king of all grillable cheeses. The resulting mouthful is substantial, while infused with light flavors that don't leave you feeling heavy or overly full. We loved the superfood-stuffed Ivory-Billed Woodpecker earth bowl (\$128), a generous portion of purple rice, quinoa, kale, fermented cabbage and adzuki beans, drizzled over with seaweed dressing and tahini.

MISS Healthy food = less booze. The Scarlet Cocktail with cachaca, dry vermouth, beetroot, red apple and lemon, was briny from the beetroot, and not worth the \$118 price tag.

BOTTOM LINE Unpretentious fare for both vegetarians and vegans, incorporating accessible flavors and all the comforts of home.

Open Mon-Sat 10am-10pm. \$\$

QMO ★★★★☆

Mediterranean. G/F, 4 Ship St., Wan Chai, 2836-0699.



Spanish restaurant Quemo has relocated and rebranded to QMO, apparently standing for "Quiriosity Meets Obsession," with a menu that takes inspiration from up and down the Mediterranean.

HIT Off the bat, QMO gets major points for serving up healthy sized portions: The lunch set costs \$138-268 for two to four courses, but you could easily share one four-course set between two people and leave sufficiently sated. Dishes here can best be described as standard yet well-executed—nothing will blow you away, but for the price and portion-size, we can't really

complain. Linguine was cooked al dente with a dozen or so plump clams and zucchini in a light dressing. The risotto was comfort in a bowl—individually separated grains that still retained their chewy texture, simmered in a umami-laden broth and topped with raw mushroom shavings. The sole fillet was tender and came topped with a romesco sauce, while the roasted chicken (two chicken thighs) were also cooked beautifully and would satisfy any poultry lover.

MISS The Caesar salad was the biggest disappointment: the chicken was chewy, the croutons stale, and the cherry tomatoes didn't belong there. The sauce tasted like the bland bottled variety: we would have liked some nuance from chopped anchovies or an acidic squeeze of lemon.

BOTTOM LINE For familiar, well-rounded flavors and enough food to quell a raging appetite, we'd happily give QMO a second go.

Open daily 11:30am-2:30pm,
5-10:30pm. \$\$

Ratings

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

Price Guide

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

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.

Pooled Resources

It's too hot to think about being anywhere that isn't an air conditioned room or submerged in sweet, sweet chlorinated water. Luckily for all of us, Hong Kong's got a pool for every necessity: rooftop or water-level, outdoor or indoor, lap-ready or party perfect. By **Jessica Wei**



Cutting the Cordis ▾

Whether your definition of "wellness" is marathon-lapping an 18-meter pool first thing in the morning, or lounging, cabana-style with a cocktail in hand watching the sunset, **Cordis Hong Kong** has all your needs in mind. Their heated rooftop pool on the 42nd floor offers stunning views, a relaxing jacuzzi, an underwater speaker system and fiber optic lights (primed, of course, for a party), cabanas, and a splash bar offering drinks and snacks.

Cordis Hong Kong, 555 Shanghai St., Mong Kok. 3552-3388. Day pass \$350 on weekdays, \$450 on weekends.



Floatin' on the Ritz ▲

The acrophobic might want to sit this one out, but for those who seek a swim in the clouds, the **Ritz Carlton**'s 118th-floor indoor infinity pool has wall-to-ceiling windows looking over Victoria Harbour, plus a back wall and ceilings paneled with 144 LED screens projecting coral reefs and clear blue skies. But at that height, don't look up—look out.

Ritz-Carlton Hong Kong, ICC, 1 Austin Rd. West, West Kowloon. 2263-2270. Day pass \$700.

It's Fun to Swim at the YMCA

People in Hong Kong have loved the indoor pool at the **Chinese YMCA** for as long as people in Hong Kong have loved indoor pools in general—the first of its kind in the city, it was built in 1918 and remains a neighborhood favorite. It's less crowded than your average public pool, much easier on the wallet than a hotel and housed in the handsome and historic complex on Bridges St.

Chinese YMCA, 1/F, 51 Bridges Street, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong. \$30 for a yearly registration fee, \$40 per visit.

Sai Kung Swimmers

More than just kid-friendly, the colorful New Territories splash spot that is the **Sai Kung Public Swimming Pool** offers a 50m pool with a lap lane as well as a play pool with waterslides and kiddie waterfalls and sweeping views of the surrounding sea and mountains.

Sai Kung Public Swimming Pool, Wai Man Rd., Sai Kung. \$8 on weekdays, \$19 on weekends and public holidays. Monthly ticket \$300.

Grand Waters

Looking for a poolside oasis but too lazy to step off the island? The **Grand Hyatt**'s outdoor pool has you covered. Floating 11 floors above the Central Harbour, this 50-meter pool offers al fresco dining, lush gardens and a waterfall. And when your fingers start to prune, just slip on your runners and take a jog around the Hyatt's 400m jogging path.

Grand Hyatt, 1 Harbour Rd., Wan Chai. 2588-1234. Day pass \$550.



Wet at the W ▲

At this altitude, you don't even need to be in the water to love the landscape—but just for extra measure, here's a pool. At a whopping 692 feet above ground, the **W Hong Kong**'s ultra hip swimspot is definitely the coolest place to chill out, gaze at the expansive landscape from your throne in the jacuzzi or worship the sun. Yes, there's a poolside bar—but that poolside bar offers lounge chair service so you don't even need to interrupt your chill to get a drink.

W Hong Kong, 1 Austin Rd. West, West Kowloon. 3717-2222. Weekend daypass \$390, includes two standard drinks.

Park Adventures

Kowloon Park Swimming Pool has every kind of pool you need for a decent workout, and a sprawling leisurely lagoon-like pool outdoors. Indoors, there's the Olympic-sized main pool, two training pools and a diving pool, while the casual splashers can relax in the sunbathing area, or hang out in their three large outdoor pools—while kids can get in on the fun in the paddle pool.

Kowloon Park Swimming Pool, 22 Austin Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui. \$8 on weekdays, \$19 on weekends and public holidays. Monthly ticket \$300.

Compiled by Jessica Wei

jessica.wei@hkmagmedia.com



UPCLOSE: CATHY LEE



After four years in Central, PubArt Gallery is closing its doors after one final exhibition, "Eat The Art." Gallery founder **Cathy Lee** tells Jessica Wei about this last show and her plans for the future.

HK Magazine: When did you start PubArt Gallery?

Cathy Lee: I studied fine arts at university, but after graduating, I went into finance. Five years ago, I felt that it was time to move on to something I really enjoyed. I found a place in Central, and felt like it was a good place to start my business.

HK: What role do you think PubArt Gallery has played in Central's art galleries?

CL: In Hong Kong, there are not many places who are willing to exhibit local artists and support them as we did. I don't really interfere with the artists' ideas—in fact, I always ask the artists to think outside of the box about what they can deliver to the audience. There are some galleries who schedule time for local artists, but PubArt Gallery is inspired by the artists. We have the passion to fully support them.

HK: So why are you shutting down the gallery?

CL: I'm leaving Hong Kong! The PubArt Gallery isn't totally shutting down, only the physical site. In the future, maybe I'll come back and participate in art fairs or hotel shows as the gallery again, instead of just holding a place.

HK: Why did you choose the theme of food for your last exhibition?

CL: I am a vegetarian, and I published my own cookbook last year. I started writing about food and putting together recipes about two or three years ago. Gradually, I was inspired by raw ingredients—cooking with vegetables, I started seeing similarities between art and food. When you eat something natural, just like when you look at artwork, it connects to your soul. You start to think about what the role of the human in the world is.

HK: What's the message you want to leave people with in this show?

CL: We want people to think about food and art: Do you need art the way you need food? Or do we ignore the needs of our souls? If you find that art is something you need, I want to ask how you can support the artists. A lot of local artists are not full-time artists, and they find it difficult to do their art. Some have already left the market. People should think about whether or not they can support them [either] financially or simply by showing them that they love the work. I really have to thank all the artists who participated. These 15 artists have participated in my previous shows in these last four years and have really supported me a lot.



"Nature's Blessing" by Ayumi Adachi

HK: What's next for you?

CL: I'm focusing on my cookbook. I have my column and I'm planning on writing two books. After I move to a new country, I'll settle down and see if I should continue PubArt somewhere else. I don't really have a clear plan in the future for PubArt—I'm trying to put everything online now. If you're interested in local art, you can find and buy it online. It's sad that I have to shut it down, but I think it will come back in another way.

PubArt Gallery's final show "Eat the Art" runs through Jul 23, on Tue-Sat, noon-7pm. PubArt Gallery, G/F, 7B Chancery Lane, Central, pubart-gallery.com

Classical

Arcadi Volodos Piano Recital

Russian piano virtuoso Arcadi Volodos returns to Hong Kong for a recital chock-full of German classics, such as Schumann's "Papillons," Brahms' "3 Intermezzi" and one of Schubert's final sonatas, "Piano Sonata No. 20 in A." Known for his interpretation of Romantic compositions, Volodos has recorded Schubert sonatas and Rachmaninov solo pieces, as well as a Gramophone Award-winning album devoted to Catalonian composer Federico Mompou. Jul 26, 8pm. Concert Hall, City Hall, 5 Edinburgh Place, Central. \$180-400 from urbtix.hk.



Upbeat: Igudesman & Joo with the Hong Kong Sinfonietta

Two classically trained musicians, violinist Aleksey Igudesman and pianist Hyung-ki Joo, have come together with the Hong Kong Sinfonietta to prove to audiences young and old that classical music can be accessible, rollicking, and even—gasp!—fun. With a repertoire that blends music, comedy, theater and pop culture, they play their way through pop covers on classical instruments and even perform a twist on an old Wagner chestnut: only theirs is called "Ride of the Oy Veykyries." Jul 4-5, 8pm. Concert Hall, City Hall, 5 Edinburgh Place, Central. \$160-420 from urbtix.hk.

Lost and Found: The Harvest of Sorrow

Hong Kong soprano Amanda Li sings a program of American and European songs that fall under the theme "Lost and Found: The Harvest of Sorrow." Accompanied by pianist Timothy Kwok, the program includes works by Quilter, Korngold, and Rachmaninov, and other folk songs, and Kwok will be playing solo pieces by Liszt and Rachmaninov. Jul 3, 8pm. Theatre, City Hall, 5 Edinburgh Place, Central. \$120-160 from urbtix.hk.

Masterworks:

Ashkenazy and Behzod Play Prokofiev

Two generations of virtuosic piano playing come together for Prokofiev's dynamic and much beloved Piano Concerto no. 3. The legendary pianist and conductor Vladimir Ashkenazy takes the baton, while Behzod Abduraimov, one of the brightest young pianists of his generation, makes his return to Hong Kong to join him on the keys. In the second half, Ashkenazy will lead the orchestra for Elgar's Symphony no. 1. Don't miss this meeting of two brilliant musical minds. Jul 1-2, 8pm. Concert Hall, Cultural Centre, 10 Salisbury Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui. \$280-680 from urbtix.hk.

Sunwook Kim Plays Brahms

Since winning the Leeds International Piano Competition in 2006 at the age of 18, becoming the competition's first Asian winner—and its youngest in 40 years—Korean pianist Sunwook Kim has played with the world's leading orchestras and graced internationally renowned stages such as the Wigmore Hall, Salle Pleyel and Beethoven-Haus in Bonn. He comes to Hong Kong to lead the Sinfonietta with German conductor Alexander Liebreich in Brahms' Piano Concerto No. 1 and Schumann's Symphony No 3, "Rhenish." Jul 9, 8pm. Concert Hall, City Hall, 5 Edinburgh Place, Central. \$140-340 from urbtix.hk.

Kenneth Weiner Flute Recital

Kenneth Weiner is a flutist with more than 20 years' experience teaching and playing in cities all over Asia and the US. He'll be playing with Hong Kong-based pianist Lai Bo-ling, playing pieces by French composers Chédéville, Devienne, Gaubert and Godard. Jul 1, 8pm. City Hall, 5 Edinburgh Place, Central. \$80 from urbtix.hk.



Comedy

Jimmy Carr in Hong Kong

One of the biggest comedy names to come out of the UK, Jimmy Carr makes his Hong Kong debut in August. The host of TV panel show "8 Out of 10 Cats" and frequent guest on "QI," he's legendary for his brash, cheeky humor.

Guaranteed in the show: offensive one-liners, rude anecdotes, and way too many jokes about his knob (but that's why you're going, isn't it?). Aug 25, 8pm. King George V School, 2 Tin Kwong Rd., Ho Man Tin. \$488-888 from hkticketing.com.

Dance



2016 Asia International Dance Championships

800 of the best professional and amateur Latin and Ballroom dancers are gathering for the spectacular 2016 Asia International Dance Championships. In a daylong event that encompasses competitions for youth, pro, amateur and pro-am Latin and Ballroom, there'll be no shortage of dynamic performances and dazzling costumes for dance lovers to take in. Jul 28. 9am daytime session; 7:30pm evening session. Grand Hall, HKCEC, 1 Expo Drive, Wan Chai. \$190-1,800 from asainternational.net.

Theater

The Tiger Lillies Perform Hamlet

Hamlet gets a rock musical update as British cult band The Tiger Lillies teams up with Danish contemporary theatre troupe Theatre Republique to retell the story of the young, tormented Danish king and the rain of blood which ensues as he comes to terms with who really killed his father. Balancing touches of cabaret, opera and gypsy music and the multimedia expertise of Theatre Republique, this stage adaptation is set to be an unforgettable experience—at least far more so than Mel Gibson's version. Sep 9-10, 8pm; Sep 11, 3pm. Kwai Tsing Theatre, 12 Hing Ning Rd., Kwai Fong. \$180-420 from urbtix.hk.

Jeeves and Wooster in Perfect Nonsense

PG Wodehouse's lovable characters, Bertie Wooster and his valet Jeeves, come to life on the stage in their new play—and play-within-a-play—"Jeeves and Wooster in Perfect Nonsense." There's a mishandled matchmaking, a silver cow creamer gag, and other classic Woosterian hijinks. Sep 13-25. Drama Theatre, Academy for Performing Arts, 1 Gloucester Rd., Wan Chai. \$450-650 from hkticketing.com.



Markets

Hong Kong Book Fair

Now in its 27th year, the HKTDC Hong Kong Book Fair draws together a high-profile group of international and Hong Kong-based novelists, historians and journalists, including Hong Kong-born award-winning poet Sarah Howe; author and journalist Simon Winchester and fiction writer and documentary filmmaker Hannah Rothschild. There will be more than 550 cultural events, including author sessions, cultural tours and book store activities. Jul 20-26. Hong Kong Convention Centre, 1 Expo Drive, Wan Chai. \$10 before noon, \$25 thereafter at the door.



15 Chinese artists look back on art since 1989
tiny.cc/that-has-been

Exhibitions



"At the beginning of the end" by Sarah Choo Jing

Flights of the Mind

Artist Sarah Choo Jing has taken a voyeuristic view of the interactions and goings-on on Hong Kong's public transport system, with a fixed gaze on the isolation between each individual through photography and painting. She writes of this project: "Loneliness, I began to realize, was a populated place: A city in itself." Through Jul 24. Art Projects Gallery, Unit S510, 5/F, PMQ, 35 Aberdeen St., Central. artprojectsasia.com.

Intimate Embraces

Inspired by the voluptuous bodies and pearl-white complexions of Tang Dynasty-era beauties, leading Chinese contemporary artist Pang Yongjie has created simple and elegant figures using a limited color palette. He shapes his forms by applying thick layers of paint to the canvas with a palette knife, and as a result the works seem minimalistic from a distance, but look almost three-dimensional up close. Jul 7-Sep 9. Fabrik Contemporary Art, 1102, Nam Wo Hong Building, 148 Wing Lok St., Sheung Wan. fabrik-gallery.com.



The Inferno

Kicking off K11 Art Foundation's new project to promote emerging Hong Kong artists, Hong Kong artist AMA's solo exhibition "The Inferno" is a self-exploration and personal journey through darkness. Inspired by the first of Dante Alighieri's poetic trilogy "The Divine Comedy," AMA illustrates her past experiences with alcoholism through paintings, poetry and music. Through Jul 19. Chi Art Space, 8/F, New World Tower 2, 18 Queens Rd, Central, Central. k11artfoundation.org.



Hollywood Stills

Australia-born, Los Angeles-based artist Paul Davies depicts Southern Californian landscapes by taking photos of modern architecture and nature, creating stencils from his images, arranging them in various combinations and finally painting them onto a canvas. What we see is a reproduction of reality, but hidden under layers of his own process and color, muddling the line between actuality and artifice. Through Jul 9. The Cat St. Gallery, 50 Tung St., Sheung Wan. thecatstreetgallery.com.



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OPEN BAR SEAFOOD ROOM

The buzz: We've been hearing a lot about the fresh seafood at the aptly named Seafood Room, but do their drinks match up to the dishes? The first foray into Asia for Bulldozer Group—which manages upscale venues all across the UAE, Russia, Ukraine and Kazakhstan—this multi-story venue aims to be the center of attention, with everything from caviar and champagne nights to the bragging rights of having one of Hong Kong's most exceptional rooftop views.

The décor: The main dining room is decked out with a sea theme, all greens and blues in the artful wall panels and seashell decorations, and made to feel even more spacious through the use of huge mirrors. Lines get sleeker and cleaner on the terrace and upstairs on the rooftop deck, with wide sofa seats making the space equally inviting for daytime or nighttime drinking. And while the bar area seats pairs comfortably, upstairs is where you'll want to sit to drink in the fantastic view.

The drinks: Aside from classics and an elaborate wine and spirits list, the signature creations at Seafood Room—all priced at \$138—share a loose maritime theme. The Gillardeau is the bar's most playful drink, with a presentation reminiscent of an oyster: a slightly savory Ketel One vodka jelly with champagne foam, which you slurp with a spoonful of grenadine and tomato "sauce."

The Lavender Ramos was an unusual highlight: an easy to drink, milky cocktail made with Tanqueray 10, heavy cream, soda and orange flower water. Tasting like calpis and garnished with a sprig of lavender, it brings to mind the Hokkaido seaside in a glass. The Spectre—inspired by James Bond—is a light, quenching pineapple-based tiki drink in a black tropical cup, and is the safe bet for less adventurous palates. If you're feeling plucky you might want to try the Kill the Kraken—one tiny but deadly hot Kraken rum drink that's spicy on the tongue with the rounding mouthfeel of anise and fennel syrup, and sweet on the nose with vanilla. You'll want to sip this one slow.

Why you'll be back: The view and the chill rooftop vibes upstairs. Enjoy it with a glass of something bubbly and ice cold, paired with the fresh oysters or other decadent bites on offer such as the sea urchin and caviar blinis (\$180). Smooth premium shishas made with fresh fruit bowls are also available (from \$630). Seafood Room has just introduced "Tunes-day Caviar Nights" every Tuesday from 7pm, offering caviar and champers or Belvedere pairing sets starting from \$200. **Evelyn Lok**
26/F, 535 Jaffe Road, Causeway Bay,
3708-9668, seafoodroom.hk



Clubs

Cashmere Cat at Volar

The legendary Norwegian DJ and turntablist is set to hit up Volar in August, so start blasting those remixes of Lana Del Rey ("National Anthem") and Jeremih, that Ariana Grande collab ("Adore"), and of course, his EP "Mirror Maru" to gear up for the big event. Aug 18, 10pm. Volar, B/F, 38-44 D'Aguilar St., Central, \$250 from ticketflap.com/cashmeremcat, entry before 12:30am with two drinks, thereafter with just one. \$300 at the door before 12:30am, \$350 thereafter; both with two drinks.

The Claptone: Golden Summer Tour

Get your fix of deep house for America Day from German DJ Claptone—known for wearing a bird mask and white gloves on set. Jul 4, 10:30pm. Dragon-i, U/G, The Centrium, 60 Wyndham St., Central, \$200 at the door.

Gigs

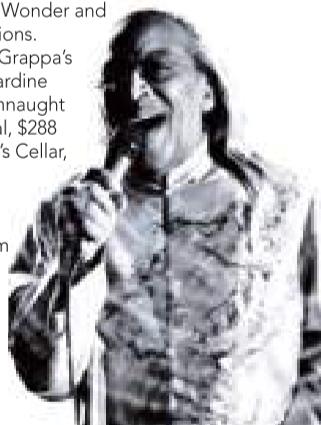


YourMum Presents: Birdy

Ever since making her name with a cover of Bon Iver's "Skinny Love," young English singer-songwriter Birdy's been putting out number one albums and songs on YA films such as "The Hunger Games" series and "The Fault in Our Stars." Don't miss her sultry pipes during her Asian tour this summer. Jul 26, 8pm. Musiczone, KITEC, 1 Trademart Drive, Kowloon Bay, \$420 from ticketflap.com/birdy.

Bobby Taylor Returns

Motown legend and Jackson 5 producer Bobby Taylor hits up Grappa's Cellar en route to the Kota Kinabalu Jazz Festival, performing classics as well as paying tribute to Marvin Gaye, Stevie Wonder and The Temptations. Jul 16, 8pm. Grappa's Cellar, B/F, Jardine House, 1 Connaught Place, Central, \$288 from Grappa's Cellar, includes one drink. A la carte dinner available from 6:30pm.



The Underground Presents: Heavy #15

The Underground's metal gig series moshes into its 15th iteration. On the bill: a taster of the best Hong Kong hard rock, opening with Psycho Skull, followed by a guaranteed raucous set by Weeper, then metalcore outfit Mensheng 門生, and rounding off the night with a touch of Nepalese nu-metal from Intellectual Morons. Jul 7, 8pm. Orange Peel, 2/F, 38-44 D'Aguilar St., Central, \$90 from Orange Peel or undergroundhk.com, \$120 at the door; both include one drink.

YourMum Presents: Yumi Zouma, Yukilovey and Merry Lamb Lamb

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

Music Festivals

Sónar Electronic Music and Arts Festival in Hong Kong

Barcelona's legendary electronic music and arts festival will be making its Asian debut in Hong Kong next year. Expect a top-notch festival lineup with local, regional and international DJ talents across six different stages, and immersive digital art displays all around. Workshops, demos and talks will keep any electronic music geek sated for days. More details to be announced in the coming months. Apr 1, 2017.



Wong Chuk Hang's Best Happy Hour at Above

The best happy hour deal in the artsy Southside nabe will have you sitting high up on Ovolo Southside's rooftop bar Above: just \$180 for two hours free flow beer, wine, sodas and juices. There's a free aperitivo spread too, with select appetizers Mondays and Tuesdays and a decadent mac and cheese station on Wednesdays-Fridays. Tack on \$100 for an additional hour of boozin'. Free shuttles are offered back to Admiralty after 9pm every Friday. Mon-Fri, 5-9pm. Jul 2, 2:30pm. Above, 23-24/F, Ovolo Southside, 64 Wong Chuk Hang Rd., Aberdeen, \$180 per head.



Hoegaarden: The Gaarden is Open

If your go-to draught is the citrusy Belgian brew that is Hoegaarden, then Lee Tung Avenue's Hoegaarden summer pop-up is all for you. It's serving up the classic wheat beer as well as icy Hoegaarden cocktails, which are paired with beery canapés conceived by Invisible Kitchen. Live music performances and citrusy scent sprays will complement the whole shebang and cover all the senses. Jul 1-3, noon-10pm. Lee Tung Avenue, 200 Queen's Rd. East, Wan Chai.

Cool down with the
summer's best pool parties:
tiny.cc/hk-poolparties2016

Edited by Evelyn Lok
evelyn.lok@hkmagmedia.com



The Pontiac: Red, White and Rainbow Celebration

Celebrating American independence and world equality (and of course, gay pride), The Pontiac brings back its Red, White and Rainbow party with plenty of dance performances, drinks deals and awesome tunes. Expect a drag show, Aviation American Gin hunks, and a Hawaiian luau. Money raised from donations will go towards local LGBT organizations. Jul 3, 3pm. The Pontiac, 13 Old Bailey St., Central. Drag/Americana-inspired costumes encouraged.

Pacha Macau Presents: Summer Love Pool Party

Superclub Pacha Macau continues to host its series of tropical themed pool parties at Studio City's massive outdoor pool (fitting 1,800) this summer, and the second headliner this summer is Dutch DJ R3hab, known for his original bangers, remixes and collabs with the likes of Beyoncé, John Legend and Calvin Harris. The pool events will continue into the night with an after-party at Pacha, after 10pm. Jul 2, 2:30pm. Level 3 Outdoor Pool, Studio City Macau, Estrada do Istmo, Cotai, Macau, \$350 early bird tickets to \$450 from studiocity-macau.com. Admission and after-party, cabana and hotel stay packages available.



Outlook Festival 2016 Hong Kong Launch Party

Ahead of the eighth iteration of the largest bass music culture festival in Europe, Hong Kong celebrates with a launch party with the official promoters: The launch party tours 90 clubs in five continents before the big event, bringing with them some of the best underground dancefloor beats on the planet. The initial line-up includes British drum and bass producer Dom & Roland and Bass Music China founder Saiyan. Jul 16, 4pm. Whitehead Barbecue, 1950 Whitehead, Ma On Shan, \$200-380 from ticketflap.com/outlookfestivalhklaunch.

HK PICKS

Hip Hop Anonymous Fridays at Linguini Fini

Get ready to get waist-deep in some all-you-can-eat pizza and PBRs at Linguini Fini's unbelievably good Friday night deal. Resident DJ McGirk will be on the decks spinning hip hop as you eat and drink yourself into a cheesy, beautiful pizza stupor for just \$158 per head. Happy Friday indeed. Fridays, 10pm-late. Jul 3, noon. Linguini Fini, 49 Elgin St., Central, \$158 per head.



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The Handmaiden ★★★★

(South Korea) Period Drama/Thriller. Directed by Park Chan-wook. Starring Kim Tae-ri, Kim Min-hee, Ha Jung-woo. Category III. 145 minutes. Opened Jun 30.

Good Korean movies tend to head in one of two directions: Sweet, tearful romances starring impossibly beautiful actors, or savage displays of the ugliest and darkest of human emotions—also starring impossibly beautiful actors. In this latest work from auteur Park Chan-wook (“Oldboy,” “Snowpiercer”), the filmmaker who has single-handedly affirmed a sense of cut-throat intensity unique to Korean cinema, you’d no doubt expect the latter.

But in “The Handmaiden,” Park takes his interest in the taboo and twisted and demonstrates that he can turn his hand to sweet romance too—albeit an unconventional one.

Park takes Welsh writer Sarah Waters’ Victorian-era crime novel “Fingersmith” and shifts it to 1930s Korea under Japanese colonial rule. Petty thief Sook-hee (fresh-faced Kim Tae-ri), is sent by a con artist who calls himself Count Fujiwara (Ha Jung-woo) to work as a handmaid for wealthy heiress Lady Hideko (Kim Min-hee). The idea is that Sook-hee will convince her to elope with the Count. Once they’re married, they can send Lady Hideko into the madhouse, after which the conspirators can escape with her massive fortune.

With his name firmly in the spotlight after his “Vengeance” trilogy (“Sympathy for Mr. Vengeance,” “Oldboy,” and “Sympathy for Lady Vengeance”), Park’s work is well known for the revenge fantasies and taboo sexual tension that suffuse all his films. But his stories always manage to be full of surprises, and “The Handmaiden” is no exception.

For audiences unfamiliar with the source material



(“Fingersmith” refers both to pickpocketing and female masturbation), “The Handmaiden” has a few long lesbian sex scenes, running the gamut from a seemingly innocent bath scene to what develops into a full blown R-rated session—that admittedly seems a touch too long and verges on the pornographic. While that shouldn’t be a highlight to draw in audiences (but probably will be), it’s good to note that the depiction of female sexuality in the film is very powerful—with two mesmerizing female leads, no less. Sexuality can be a release of repression or ownership, but also an expression of friendship and love.

Every move and line of dialogue is purposeful, referencing itself again and again to bring whole new layers of meaning to what seems at first like a simple phrase. We get a playfully tangled, multi-sectioned plot that pans over many delicious twists—shifts in timeline to show secret double dealings

between unlikely characters, for instance. Each character gets a fair share of their point of view, either with easy shifts in camera angles to signal a change in viewpoint, or with long, sensuous close-ups that add to the effect of the actors’ emotive gazes. Park handles the changes in character perspective so skillfully and effortlessly that it delivers plenty of room for mystery and magic to happen. Characters are never exactly what they seem, and you’re always hungry for more.

“The Handmaiden” wowed critics at this year’s Cannes Film Festival, if not for its complex plot and characterization, then for its lush, detailed setting that’s a facade for darker themes. If you watched “Oldboy” and couldn’t get it out of your head, or if you’ve been intrigued in the past by Park Chan-wook’s fantastic framing, boundary-free storytelling and for his ability to always have one last trick up his sleeve, this latest dose of the filmmaker’s work won’t disappoint. **Evelyn Lok**

Coming Soon

Cold War 2

(Hong Kong) Following up 2012’s smash hit of the same name, cop thriller Cold War 2 revisits Sean Lau (Aaron Kwok) and Waise Lee (Tony Leung) and their squad of big names as they continue to balance police protocol with another terrorist attack. Starring Chow Yun-fat as the main antagonist. Opens July 8.

Fire At Sea ▾

(Italy) This Berlin Film Fest Golden Bear award-winning documentary by Italian filmmaker Gianfranco Rosi (“Sacro GRA”) presents the lives of townspeople living in Lampedusa, a small fishing village off the coast of Italy, juxtaposed with the trials and traumas of refugees passing through it as their main transit route to reach Europe. Opens July 7.

Man Up

(UK) Simon Pegg and Lake Bell are the leads of this rom-com which starts with the cutest of meet-cutes: a mistaken woman on a blind date, a perfect date, the heartfelt reveal, an unanticipated reaction, and in between, high-flying highs, desperate lows, and a drunken meltdown to boot. Opens July 7.

Opening



The Secret Life of Pets

(USA) What happens to our favorite furballs when we leave the house every day? From hidden rivalries to conspiracies by stray animals to overtake humans and their beloved pets, the life of a domestic animal might be more dramatic than you think. Louis C.K., Ellie Kemper (“Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt”), and “Modern Family” actor Eric Stonestreet star in this new release from the company who brought us “Despicable Me.” Opened Jun 30.

The Legend of Tarzan

(USA) In this live-action, non-Disney version of Tarzan, played by Alexander Skarsgård (TV’s “True Blood”), returns back to the Congolese jungle with his wife Jane Porter (Margot Robbie, “The Wolf of Wall Street”) after a life of aristocracy in London—but what lies there may be more sinister than he’s expecting. Also starring Christoph Waltz, everyone’s favorite villain. Opened Jun 30.

The Handmaiden

(South Korea) See review, above. Opened Jun 30.

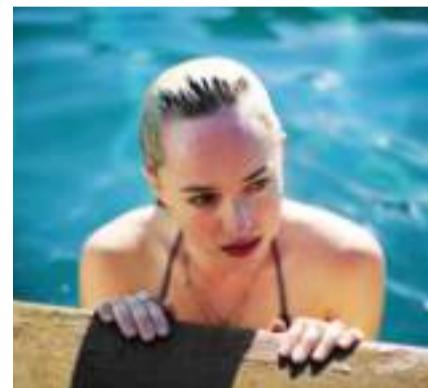
Continuing

Alice Through the Looking Glass

(USA) In this sequel to Tim Burton’s 2010 hit Johnny Depp, Mia Wasikowska, Anne Hathaway and Helena Bonham Carter find themselves once again in Wonderland. It’s another visual stunner and an enjoyable film, despite the drawn-out storyline and Disney cheesiness. ★★★

A Perfect Day

(Spain) Spanish director Fernando León de Aranoa’s first English film centers on a group of aid workers (Benicio del Toro, Tim Robbins and Mélanie Thierry) who have to retrieve a corpse from a well at the end of the Yugoslav Wars. A darkly whimsical film with strong performances from Del Toro and Robbins, though it’s marred by its 2D female characters. ★★★★



A Bigger Splash

(Italy/France) Rock star Marianne Lane (Tilda Swinton) and her photographer boyfriend (Matthias Schoenaerts) escape to a remote island on holiday. But when they’re joined by her ex Harry (Ralph Fiennes) and his daughter, played by Dakota Johnson, things start to heat up. Despite moments of slightly iffy writing, this gorgeous movie holds up to the complexities of its source material. ★★★★

The Conjuring 2

(USA) Paranormal investigators Ed and Lorraine Warren travel to north London to investigate the 1977 Enfield Poltergeist. Brace yourself for Madison Wolfe’s all-too-real performance of a possessed girl, the inevitable jump scares, and a confusing mix of supernatural creatures. ★★★

Fifty Shades of Black

(USA) Not an official sequel to “Fifty Shades of Grey”—you’ll have to wait until 2017 before Mr. Grey will see you again—but a spoof starring Marlon Wayans (“White Chicks”), Kali Hawk (“Bridesmaids”) and Fred Willard (“Anchorman”). Unfunny and offensive is right: Fifty shades of fucked up that we wouldn’t recommend to anyone. ★★★★★ (No Stars)

Independence Day: Resurgence

(USA) The sequel to 1996’s “Independence Day” brings former President Whitmore (Bill Pullman) and scientist David Levinson (Jeff Goldblum) back together, along with a new generation of unreasonably beautiful scientists and pilots including our very own Angelababy. What’s different from the last one, you ask? Well, they killed off Will Smith’s character because he’s too expensive, plus the entire fight with the grotesque aliens is silly and corny. ★★

The Jungle Book

(USA) The beloved 1967 Disney cartoon gets a CG/live-action makeover and they’ve packed the screen with star A-listers. Bill Murray voices Baloo, the lovable bear; the Bengal tiger baddie, Shere Khan, is played by Idris Elba. This remake won’t replace the original, but with stunning jungle landscapes and heartwarming characters, it comes close. ★★★★



The Man Who Knew Infinity

(UK) Dev Patel and Jeremy Irons star in this biopic of Srinivasa Ramanujan, a mathematician who quickly rises from his poor Tamil Brahmin family in Madras to become one of the most brilliant innovators of formulas and theorems in pre-war Cambridge, with the help of an English professor (Irons). Stand-out performances and strong source material take this cookie-cutter biopic to the next level. ★★★★





Edited by Evelyn Lok
evelyn.lok@hkmagmedia.com



Now You See Me 2
(USA) Following up 2013's "Now You See Me," a band of professional magicians/bank robbers is goaded into their biggest heist yet by tech genius Walter Mabry (Daniel Radcliffe). Magic buffs will be dazzled by the tricks, but the rest of us will be more intrigued by the Macanese backdrop, plus a not small cameo by pop star Jay Chou. ★★★

Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Out of the Shadows

(USA) The Ninja Turtles are back, and this time they've got their work cut out for them: First they've got to defeat mutant nemeses Bebop and Rocksteady, and then join April O'Neil (Megan Fox) and Vern Fenwick (Will Arnett) to defeat an alien invasion led by supervillain Krang (Fred Armisen).

Triple 9

(USA) In this action-packed thriller, dirty cops work with the Russian mob (headed up by Kate Winslet!) for a heist that involves setting up the death of a rookie cop (Casey Affleck) in order to pull attention away from their dirty dealings. But when the rookie's uncle (Woody Harrelson) gets involved, their plan hits a snag. A riveting summer flick with strong performances by Winslet and Chiwetel Ejiofor. ★★★★

Warcraft: The Beginning

(USA) From lowly computer game to one of the biggest franchises on the planet, Warcraft has brought the high-fantasy world of Azeroth to the big screen. And lucky for you, gamers, you'll just need to shell out for the price of the ticket instead digging yourself further into debt with virtual armor, Cenarion hatchlings, Hoods of Hungering Darkness...

New York New York
(China) Set in Shanghai in the early 90s, "New York New York" follows two young lovers, one whose greatest ambition is to going to New York at any cost (Du Juan) and the other who just wants to protect her (Ethan Juan). This debut by director Dong Luo is a richly aestheticized Shanghai love story in the tradition of Wong Kar-wai's ill-fated romances.



The Nice Guys
(USA) Writer and director Shane Black ("Kiss Kiss Bang Bang") is back with another winding tale of mystery in the neo-noir shadows of gritty porn-addicted, disco-driven 1977 Los Angeles. Ryan Gosling and Russell Crowe play a mismatched pair of misfit PIs looking to uncover the truth behind the death of an adult film star and the disappearance of a young girl.



"Repast," Setsuko Hara Forever

Film Festival

Setsuko Hara Forever

Often compared to Greta Garbo, Setsuko Hara was a quiet and powerful force in Japanese cinema throughout the 40s-60s, before entering into life of seclusion in 1963, the same year her longtime collaborator Yasujiro Ozu died. But through films such as "Tokyo Story" and "The End of Summer" she embodied the idealized Japanese woman of her time: compassionate, elegant, patient yet principled. Cinefan is screening seven of her most notable films through July. Through Jul 31. The Grand Cinema, 2/F, Elements, 1 Austin Rd. West, West Kowloon; Hong Kong Film Archive, 1/F, 50 Lei King Rd., Sai Wan Ho, cinefan.com.hk. \$65-85 from urbtix.hk

Special Screening

Simulated Vehicles

Stephen Eastaugh, the first artist to live in Antarctica for 11 consecutive months, is screening "Simulated Videos," a digital travelogue of his journeys at the Earth's two poles at Experimenta, Hong Kong's independent video and installation art space. His videos are inspired by the Japanese haiku form, working in landscape images as well as imagistic lines of words to communicate his experience. Jul 2, 6pm. Experimenta, 99 Wellington St., Central, experimenta.hk

Listings compiled by Jessica Wei

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Outshine: Strong Muses Pop Out

The aces travel to Idea-topia, playing with infinite flows of brain waves and gamboling out of the box. Strange as it may sound, this programme is going to break the mold this summer. E-Side Dance Company will kick off its Contemporary Dance Series with Outshine, a showcase involving four adept, yet distinctive choreographers: Fan Luo, Yuh Egami, Noel Pong, and Li Yongjing. With each choreographer's bravery and determination, ideas sprout, grow, and blossom.

July 8 - 9, 2016 (Fri - Sat) 8pm at Theatre,

Ngau Chi Wan Civic Centre

Tickets available at URBTIX. For details,

follow us on Facebook: E-Side Dance



"We're All Smurfs!" Art Exhibition @ Harbour City

This summer, the Smurfs will embark on an Asian Art Tour and their first port of call will be Harbour City!

35 Smurfs at 1-metre-tall are living happily in the enormous "We're All Smurfs!" village. World Premiere of original Smurf artworks would be also hosted at "The Smurfs House of Stories" Exhibition. Together with Special-Edition figures and other activities, everyone can enter the world of The Smurfs.

Location: Harbour City, Tsim Sha Tsui

Date: 13 July – 9 Aug, 2016

M+ Screenings: This is Now – Film and Video After Punk

Next month, "M+ Screenings: This is Now" presents six screenings of UK artists' films and videos created between 1978 and 1985 – years that saw an explosion in alternative and independent moving image production. These screenings – featuring work by Isaac Julien, John Maybury, Grayson Perry and Cerith Wyn Evans – revisit a key cultural period in the UK and reflect on the impact of this works on Internet video and artist filmmaking today.

Tickets on sale now at cinema.com.hk and the Broadway Cinema box office.

Date: July 8 - 10 Venue: Broadway Cinematheque



FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

ROB BREZSNY

CANCER (Jun 21-Jul 22): Once upon a time, weren't you the master builder who never finished building your castle? Weren't you the exile who wandered aimlessly while fantasizing about the perfect sanctuary of the past or the sweet safety zone of the future? Didn't you perversely nurture the ache that arose from your sense of not feeling at home in the world? I hope that by now you have renounced all of those kinky inclinations. If you haven't, now would be an excellent time to do so. How might you reinvest the mojo that will be liberated by the demise of those bad habits?

LEO (Jul 23-Aug 22): In accordance with the astrological omens, I have selected three aphorisms by poet James Richardson to guide you. Aphorism #1: "The worst helplessness is forgetting there is help." My commentary: You have the power to avoid that fate. Start by identifying the sources of healing and assistance that are available to you. Aphorism #2: "You do not have to be a fire to keep one burning." My commentary: Generate all the heat and light you can, yes, but don't torch yourself. Aphorism #3: "Patience is not very different from courage. It just takes longer." My commentary: But it may not take a whole lot longer.

VIRGO (Aug 23-Sep 22): You may not know this, but I am the founder and CEO of Proud To Be Humble, an acclaimed organization devoted to minimizing vanity. It is my sworn duty to protest any ego that exceeds the acceptable limits as defined by the Geneva Convention on Narcissism. However, I now find myself conflicted. Because of the lyrical beauty and bighearted charisma that are currently emanating from your ego, I am unable, in good conscience, to ask you to tone yourself down. In fact, I hereby grant you a license to expand your self-love to unprecedented proportions. You may also feel free to unleash a series of lovely brags.

LIBRA (Sep 23-Oct 22): The next 28 days will not be a favorable period to sit around passively wishing to be noticed. Nor will it be a good time to wait to be rescued or to trust in others to instigate desirable actions. On the other hand, it will be an excellent phase to be an initiator: to decide what needs to be done, to state your intentions concisely, and to carry out your master plan with alacrity and efficiency. To help ensure your success during the next 28 days, make this declaration each morning before breakfast: "I don't want to OBSERVE the show. I want to BE the show."

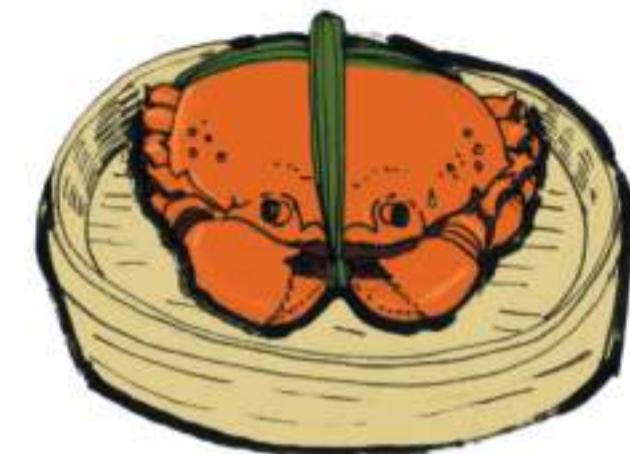
SCORPIO (Oct 23-Nov 21): "In life, as in bicycling, pedal when you have to, coast when you can." So says author James Lough, and now I'm passing on his advice to you—just in time for your transition from the heavy-pedaling season to the coasting-is-fun phase. I suspect that at this juncture in your life story you may be a bit addicted to the heavy pedaling. You could be so accustomed to the intensity that you're inclined to be suspicious of an opportunity to enjoy ease and grace. Don't be like that. Accept the gift with innocent gratitude.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22-Dec 21): "When a jet flies low overhead, every glass in the cupboard sings," writes aphorist James Richardson. "Feelings are like that: choral, not single; mixed, never pure." That's always true, but it will be intensely true for you in the coming weeks. I hope you can find a way to tolerate, even thrive on, the flood of ambiguous complexity. I hope you won't chicken out and try to pretend that your feelings are one-dimensional and easily understandable. In my opinion, you are ripe to receive rich lessons in the beauty and power of mysterious emotions.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 19): Pop artist Andy Warhol said that in the future, everyone would be famous for 15 minutes. His idea had a resonance with the phrase "nine days' wonder," which as far back as Elizabethan times referred to a person or event that captured the public's fascination for a while. You Capricorns are entering a phase when you're far more likely than usual to bask in the spotlight. Between now and September 2017, I bet you'll garner at least a short burst of glory, acclaim, or stardom—perhaps much more. Are you ready for your close-up? Have you prepped for the influx of attention that may be coming your way?

AQUARIUS (Jan 20-Feb 19): One of my readers, Jay O'Dell, told me this story: "After my cancer surgery, a nurse said to me, 'You may as well try magical thinking. Regular thinking hasn't helped.' I said to the nurse, 'Well, why the hell not?' That was seven years ago." In bringing O'Dell's testimony to your attention, I don't mean to suggest you will have any health problems that warrant a strong dose of magical thinking. Not at all. But you may get wrapped up in a psychological twist or a spiritual riddle that would benefit from magical thinking. And what exactly is magical thinking? Here's one definition: The stories that unfold in your imagination have important effects on what actually happens to you.

PISCES (Feb 18-Mar 20): Let's talk about X-factors and wild cards and strange attractors. By their very nature, they are unpredictable and ephemeral, even when they offer benevolent breakthroughs. So you may not even notice their arrival if you're entranced by your expectations and stuck in your habitual ways. But here's the good news, Pisces: Right now you are not unduly entranced by your expectations or stuck in your habits. Odds are high that you will spy the sweet twists of fate—the X-factors and wild cards and



strange attractors—as they float into view. You will pounce on them and put them to work while they're still fresh. And then they will help you hike your ratings or get the funding you need or animate the kind of love that heals.

ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 19): During winter, some bears spend months hibernating. Their body temperatures and heart rates drop. They breathe drowsily. Their movements are minimal. Many hummingbirds engage in a similar slowdown—but they do it every single night. By day they are among the most manic creatures on earth, flapping their wings and gathering sustenance with heroic zeal. When the sun slips below the horizon, they rest with equal intensity. In my estimation, Aries, you don't need a full-on immersion in idleness like the bears. But you'd benefit from a shorter stint, akin to the hummingbird's period of dormancy.

TAURUS (Apr 20-May 20): "Dear Dr. Brezny: A psychic predicted that sometime this year I will fall in love with a convenience store clerk who's secretly a down-on-his-luck prince of a small African country. She said that he and I have a unique destiny. Together we will break the world's record for dancing without getting bitten in a pit of cobras while drunk on absinthe on our honeymoon. But there's a problem. I didn't have time to ask the psychic how I'll meet my soulmate, and I can't afford to pay \$250 for another reading. Can you help? - Mopey Taurus." Dear Mopey: The psychic lied. Neither she nor anyone else can see what the future will bring you. Why? Because what happens will be largely determined by your own actions. I suggest you celebrate this fact. It's the perfect time to do so: July is Feed Your Willpower Month.

GEMINI (May 21-Jun 20): Of all the concert pianos in the world, 80 percent of them are made by Steinway. A former president of the company once remarked that in each piano, "243 taut strings exert a pull of 40,000 pounds on an iron frame." He said it was "proof that out of great tension may come great harmony." That will be a potential talent of yours in the coming weeks, Gemini. Like a Steinway piano, you will have the power to turn tension into beauty. But will you actually accomplish this noble goal, or will your efforts be less melodious? It all depends on how much poised self-discipline you summon.

HOMEWORK: For one week, pretend to already be something you're on your way to becoming. Report results to Truthrooster@gmail.com.

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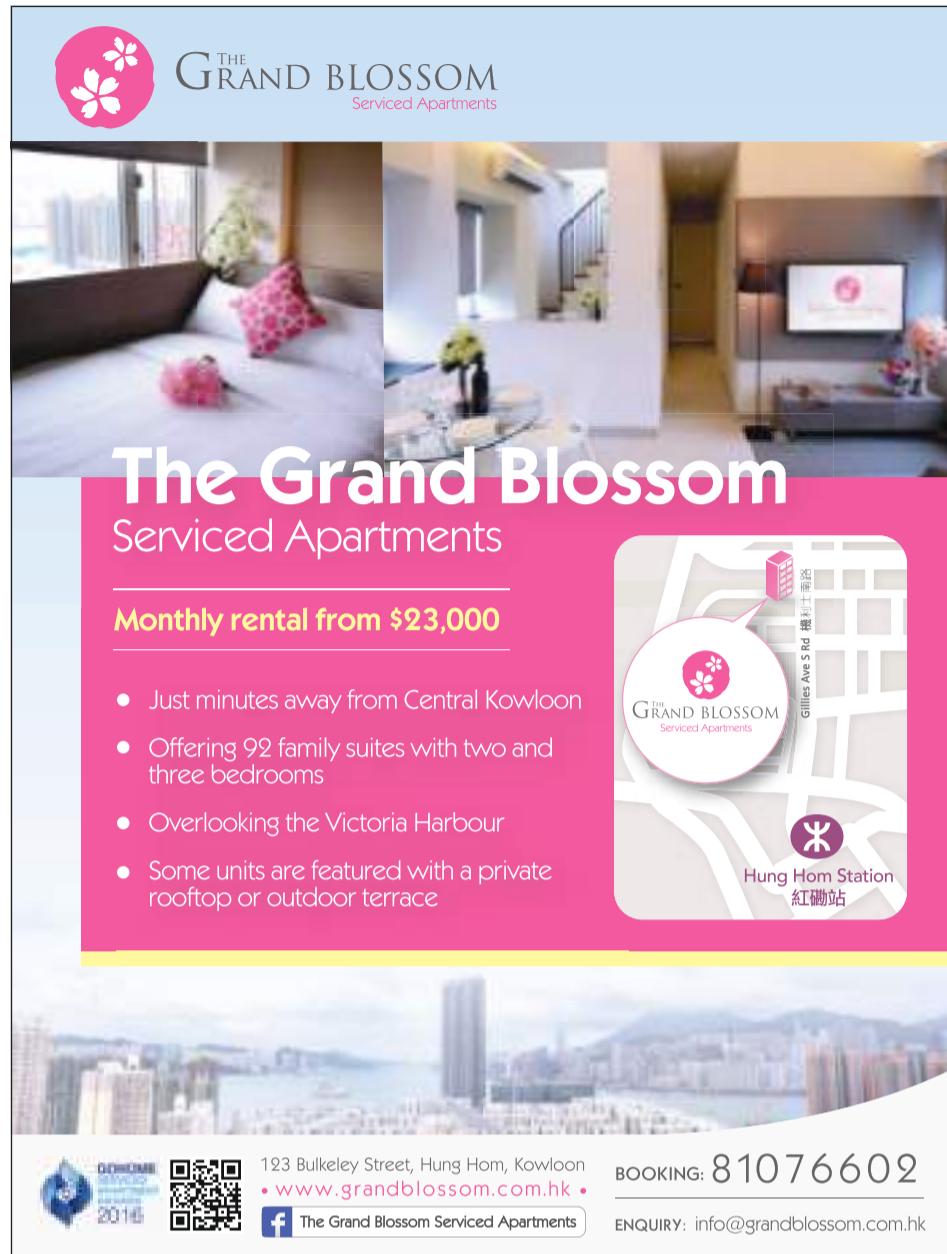
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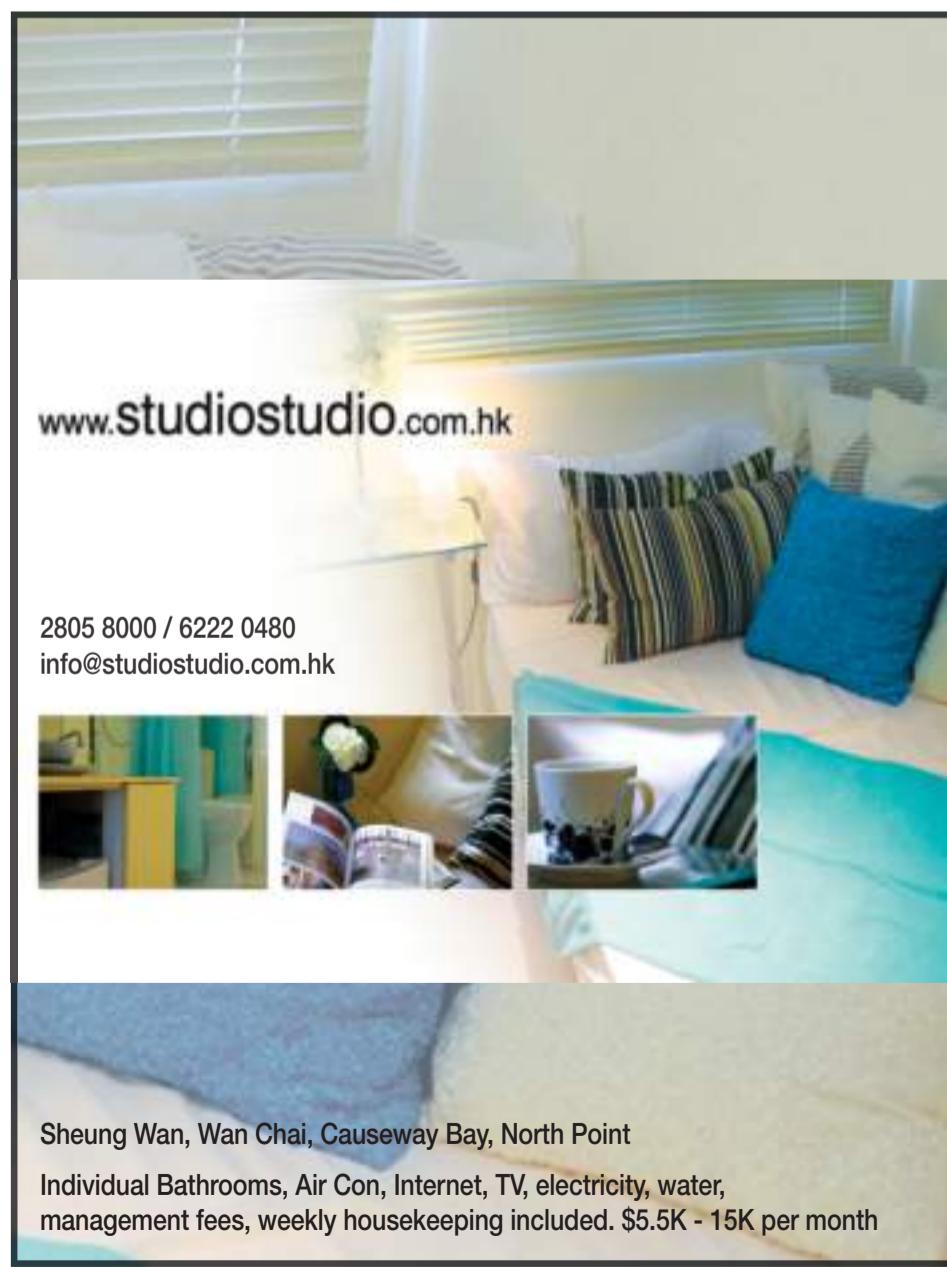
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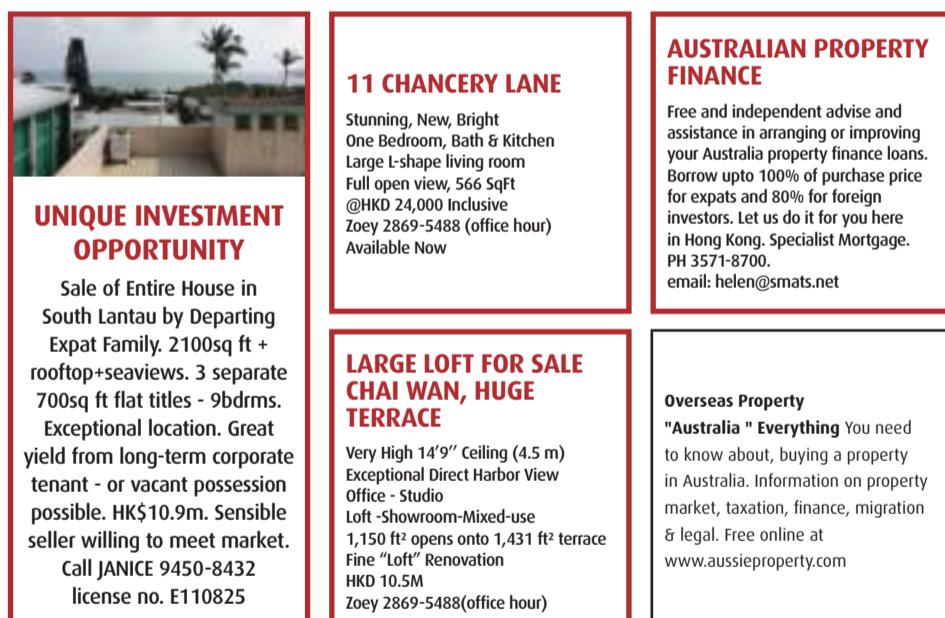
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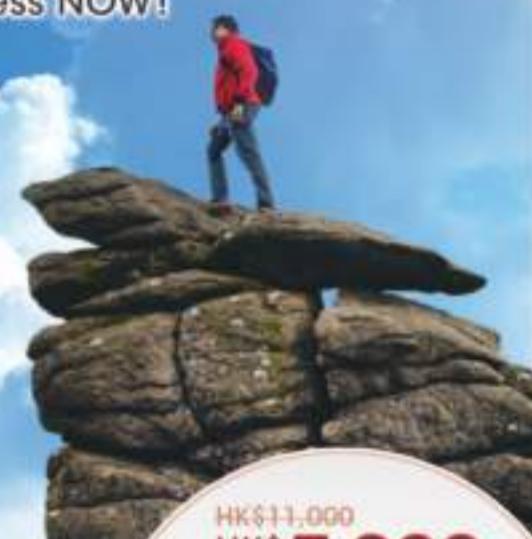
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SAVAGE LOVE

Dan Savage

Is it a super douchey move to pretend to be a lesbian to avoid unwanted male attention? I'm a straight single woman in my mid-thirties and a very plausible lesbian in terms of sartorial stereotypes. Occasionally a guy will hit on me in an awkward or creepy way and I'll trot out a line about "not being into men." Most recently I used this pose when a courier broke down in my driveway and I invited him in for a glass of water while he waited for the tow truck. It was really uncomfortable and a little threatening when—after establishing that I lived alone—he asked me out. I guess I use this as an excuse so as not to hurt their feelings, but also to shut the conversation down as quickly as possible if I'm feeling vulnerable. Is this a harmless white lie, or a major cop-out that would offend actual lesbians? Can you suggest some better strategies for when you're feeling cornered by a dude you're not interested in?

—Lady's Entirely Zany Identity Enquiry

"I'm not offended by this," said someone I thought was an actual lesbian. I shared your question with this person—a woman I thought was an actual lesbian—because I wasn't offended by it either, but wanted to check with an actual lesbian just to be safe. Turns out my friend doesn't identify as a lesbian, but as a woman-who-loves-women-but-does-not-identify-as-a-lesbian-because-she-sometimes-finds-the-odd-dude-hot. So for the record: my friend is speaking for the WWLBDNIAALBSSFTODH community here—which often intersects/sexts with the lesbian community—and not the lesbian community. "But even though I'm not offended by it, I have to say I've found the 'I'm into women' line to be totally ineffective," said my not-a-lesbian friend. "The creeps I've used it on get even more riled up after hearing that line. Sometimes I check out and start ignoring these creeps as if they're wallpaper, but that can rile them up too. Same with a polite 'I'm not interested.' The only success I've had with warding off creeps is by actually yelling at them, asking them if they'd like to be treated the way they're treating me, and if their mothers, sisters, et cetera, would appreciate that treatment." My not-a-lesbian friend—who, as it turns out, identifies more strongly with the term "bisexual" than she does WWLBDNIAALBSSFTODH—has also had some luck with the lose-your-shit strategy (e.g., screaming, yelling, and waving your arms around like a crazy person). "You kind of have to treat these people like bears at a campsite," said my not-a-lesbian friend. "You have to make yourself big and loud and scary so they don't get closer. Because they will get closer."

I have a difficult question. A dear young friend has recently started being a stripper for work. I won't lie: it tears me up. All I feel is sadness and worry—such a nice soul for what I feel is a not-so-nice environment. I really hope I'm wrong. Is there any way in which this can be okay? My thoughts are that no matter how strong a woman is, no one can forget what they see or have to deal with. I worry for the sake of a nice person getting her ass handed to her too often and potentially breaking beyond repair. My gut emotion is that it doesn't matter how well you handle these situations—what matters is the fact that you see too much ugliness, too often, and get to a point where you forget that there are actually nice humans out there. I guess my question is: How well can anyone handle this?

—My Endangered Lady

I suspect she's handling it better than you are, MEL. And I would recommend minding your own business, backing the fuck off, and Googling "white knight syndrome." But if your conscience requires you to say something, say something that opens

up a conversation, rather than something so larded with shame, fear, and judgment that it shuts the conversation down. Instead of saying something like "Oh my God! What were you thinking?!" You'll be shredded emotionally and sexually! You could break beyond repair!, try something like, "Stripping isn't something I would feel comfortable doing myself. But I'm your friend, and if you need to talk with someone about your new job—if you need to decompress or vent—I'm here for you."

I've been lying to myself. I told myself that stability and friendship were more important to me than sex. I've been with my husband for twelve years, and we've been married for five of those. We were best friends, and I was already in love before we started dating and before we ever had sex. I should have known in the beginning that we weren't sexually compatible, but I chose to ignore it (or I chose stability and friendship). I chose my best friend, and have been suffering ever since. Luckily, I listen to your advice on a regular basis, and I've started having more open conversations about my feelings and my wants and needs. About a year ago, my husband and I decided to open our relationship. This was all my idea, and I'm not sure he's fully into it. We agreed to a "don't ask, don't tell" policy, and a month ago we finally acted on it. I met someone in an open relationship and had sex with them. It was amazing—everything about it. In the end, I didn't feel guilty, but I did want to tell my husband. I still feel the need to get his approval, but I also know that he doesn't want to hear it. If he gave me the go-ahead, even though everything was my idea, should I feel guilty, or just happy for finally getting what I needed from someone? Are there baby steps I can take to tell my husband these things, or do I just keep them to myself? I feel like this is saving our marriage, but society probably just looks at me like a cheating whore.

—Feelings Are Insanely, Terribly Hard For Unsure Lovers

You have your husband's approval to do what you did, but his approval was contingent upon *you not telling him* what you did. Honor the commitment you made to your husband, FAITHFUL, by keeping your mouth shut. You'll doubtless have conversations in the future about your relationship, and about monogamy, and you can ask him if he wants to stick with "don't ask, don't tell." If he says yes, continue to keep your mouth shut.

I'm a (mostly) straight guy in his mid-twenties. For as long as I can remember, I've loved wearing women's lingerie. It turns me on, but it also makes me feel comfortable. I've never worn women's clothing in public, but I've recently been wearing it more and more around my house. It just feels right! Side note: I've also recently been obsessed with being pegged by my female partner, and I love the reversal of roles. Would I be considered genderqueer, genderfluid, or what? And would I be considered part of the LGBT community?

—Frequently Excited Miss

Genderqueer and genderfluid aren't kinks, FEM, they're identities. And I don't know what you mean by that parenthetical "mostly" you dropped in there before "straight." If it means you're attracted to dudes—regardless of whether you've ever acted on that attraction—you would indeed be considered part of the LGBT community, under the "B" designation. But if all you meant was, "My cock gets hard when I wear panties and think about getting my ass pegged by my girlfriend," then you're just another kinky straight guy.

On the Lovecast, dating historian Moira Weigel. savagecast.com.

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HK

The List

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From now until the end of 2016, the offer also includes daily breakfast for two adults and two children (aged below 12), 20 percent discount on food and beverages at the hotel's signature Flint Grill & Bar and Man Ho Chinese Restaurant, as well as late check-out at 3pm to make the most of the vacation. Prices start at just \$2,450 per room per night.

Conveniently located in the prestigious Pacific Place complex in Admiralty, the JW Marriott is just a stone's throw from all the major attractions of the city, and is connected to the rest of town by the MTR, only a two-minute walk from the hotel.

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Simply quote "2MP" when making enquiries or bookings and enjoy a wonderful summer with your family without setting foot outside this amazing city.

jwmarriothongkong.com



Shrek It Up at The Venetian Macao

Need something green and hilarious to see in the summer? Hop on a ferry with your family and head to Macau for a great time with everyone's favorite ogre!

Based on the Oscar-winning DreamWorks Animation film, Shrek the Musical comes to Macau for the very first time as part of its first ever international tour. Playing at The Venetian Theatre at The Venetian, the lovable green ogre will be rescuing a feisty princess on stage right in front of your eyes.

Also appearing: A hilarious and ridiculously talkative donkey, a short villain with a shorter temper, a cookie with attitude and over a dozen other fairytale misfits will be around to make sure you have a great time.

Want a Shrek-y experience beyond the theater? DreamWorks has teamed up with the Sands Cotai Central, where guests can meet Shrek and his friends up close at the Shrekfast character breakfast, as well as the All-Star parade with other DreamWorks characters.

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

KOWLOON TONG

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

HUNG HOM

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

KOWLOON BAY/ KWUN TONG/ KOWLOON CITY

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

JORDAN/YAU MA TEI/MONG KOK

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

SHATIN

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

SAI KUNG

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

OTHER NEW TERRITORIES

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

LANTAU

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

HK GIVEAWAYS

July is here and so are more of our phenomenal prizes! This month, we've got an ass-kicking staycation at the JW Marriott Hotel Hong Kong, make-up from Benefit Cosmetics and tickets to the super-fun "Shrek the Musical." Enter NOW!

WIN 2 NIGHTS
AT JW MARRIOTT
WORTH
\$10,390!



Win a two-night staycation at the JW Marriott Hotel Hong Kong!

Swelter season is here, so it's time to give yourself a much deserved staycation!

The **JW Marriott Hotel Hong Kong** in Admiralty is a capital choice thanks to its unbeatable accessibility, classic elegance and heart-warming hospitality.

Want to stay at this luxurious hotel? We've got a **two-night weekend stay for two in a Deluxe Room**, plus a breakfast buffet at JW Café and weekend brunch at Flint Grill & Bar up for grabs! After a tiring week of work, check into an awesome room with a 90 degree panoramic view of the city, and treat yourself with a sumptuous breakfast and brunch spread. The total value of this city break? \$10,390.

Here's how to win yourself this top-notch weekend:

In this and the next two issues, you'll find an *italicized* word in the main Spotlight page article. Once you've got all three, include them in a paragraph of no more than 30 words about what you'd do with a staycation at JW Marriott. Go to hk-magazine.com/hk-giveaways to submit your entry before 10am on July 18, 2016.

The winner will be announced on July 22. Good luck!

WIN MAKEUP
WORTH
\$3,920!

Win an Eye Makeup Set from Benefit Cosmetics!

They say the eyes are the window to the soul. To make sure your soul shines throughout the night, Benefit Cosmetics is here to help with **eight sets of Gimme Brow Brow-Volumizing Fiber Gel and Stay Don't Stray Eyeshadow Primer** (each set valued at \$490) to give away.

Brush on fuller-looking brows that match your coloring with the Gimme Brow gel, then make your concealer and eyeshadows stay put with the Stay Don't Stray primer. Need some more makeup in your life? Tell us the funniest thing that's happened to you when you blinked!

Go to hk-magazine.com/hk-giveaways to submit your entry **before 10am on July 11, 2016**. Winners will be announced on July 15.



WIN TICKETS
WORTH
\$4,128!



Win Tickets to see "Shrek the Musical" at The Venetian Macao!

Want to meet everyone's favorite green ogre in person? The Venetian Macao is bringing "Shrek the Musical" to our sister SAR, and we've got **three pairs of A reserve tickets plus round-trip Cotai Water Jet ferry tickets** up for grabs (each set valued at \$1,376)!

Want to win? Tell us about your favorite Shrek character at hk-magazine.com/hk-giveaways before 10am on July 11, 2016. Winners will be announced on July 15.

FIRST PERSON

Spanish magician **Jorge Blass** is one of Europe's top illusionists. He's performed around the world for a decade and a half, and he sits down with Xavier Ng to talk about his magical career, working with David Copperfield, and his love for his hometown of Madrid.

I started learning magic when I was 12 years old.

I love how magic can transform people. This is the most amazing thing about magic: You can transform people from being bored to happy. We create the fantasy.

I did my first performance when I was 15, I was very nervous.

After that, I studied psychology at university, and then I combined my studies at university with my performances.

I got a very prestigious award when I was 19 years old. It was the Golden Magic Wand of Monte Carlo. Prince Rainier presented me with the award.

This was the start of my international career: I started to perform in other countries. I traveled to Las Vegas, and there I met [Las Vegas legends] Siegfried & Roy.

I kept performing and improving my magic: When I was 20 I started to perform professionally.

I'm 36 now, so I've been doing magic professionally for 16 years. I look young because of wine—Spanish wine keeps you very young.

I've been to 40 countries, all over the world. But I love Madrid even more than before.

I would love to come to Hong Kong to perform. It's not planned yet, but I hope very soon I can come back with a full theater show.

I'm a good friend of [Taiwanese magician] Lu Chen. I think he's one of the greatest magicians in Asia. Maybe we can teleport to each other!

When you travel to other countries, you discover new experiences, new cultures, but I think that helps you understand how good your own country is.

Madrid is amazing, and has so many things that are magical. My house is right in front of the Royal Palace, I open my window every day and I see the Palace. It's beautiful.

I love to travel but I always want to come back, because in Spain we have a very good way of life. Everyone really has a very nice quality of life.

It's different from other countries: In Madrid, we have an hour and a half to have lunch. The companies all stop to have lunch. Not a quick one: one with first course, second course, dessert—and it's very cheap.

It's the way of life, but it's still productive. When I go to New York, to Vegas, sometimes it's difficult.

I think we Spanish people are efficient, but we work to a different time schedule.

A few months ago, my cell phone rang. I took it and I heard, "Hi, David Copperfield here." I was amazed. How did he get my number? He's THE magician.

"With magic, we can bring people together."

He wanted to perform a trick I invented. It's a trick combining social media with magic.

I fused the two together to create an illusion: He saw that video on YouTube and he called me. So now he will be performing my trick in his show.

I traveled to Vegas to teach him my trick—it was impressive, me teaching magic to this guy!

It's a trick about social media. It's teleportation—you choose a friend from your Facebook page, and I'll make that friend appear in the theater.

It's about technology and human relations. I talk about how amazing technology is, we can communicate with each other, we can text and email, but there's no touching.

With magic, we make your friend appear, and you can hug that friend in the theater. It's a very special moment we create. It's a very emotional and spectacular trick.

We magicians represent people's dreams on the stage. People would love to fly, for example, so we magicians fly onstage. People would love to multiply money, so we make that dream come true.

It's a fantasy, but it's a fantasy that people love to believe.

To create new material, new magic, I study people, I study human desires, what people really want.

With magic, we can bring people together. It's all about people, their desires, their wishes, and to make them come true.



NEED TO KNOW...

David Copperfield describes Jorge as "an innovative thinker who brings the art of magic to a whole new level." His social media trick will be part of Copperfield's show later this year. Jorge was in Hong Kong to promote his hometown of Madrid; check out jorgeblass.com for more.





Hong Kong
Sinfonietta
香港小交響樂團

"Great naturalness... infectious energy."

Gramophone

"Playing with absorbing concentration and nuance."

The Times



Piano

Sunwook Kim

Winner, Leeds International Piano Competition 2006

9.7.2016

(Sat) 8pm

HK City Hall Concert Hall

\$340 \$220 \$140

Sunwook Kim Plays Brahms

Programme

Brahms **Piano Concerto No 1 in D minor, Op 15**

Schumann Symphony No 3 in E-flat, Op 97, "Rhenish"

Tickets at URBTIX

2111 5999 | www.URBTIX.hk

Programme Enquiries:

2836 3336 | www.HKSL.org

For ages 6+

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

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Hong Kong Sinfonietta is the Venue Partner of the Hong Kong City Hall

Music Director/Conductor
Yip Wing-sie*

* Stepping in for incapacitated Alexander Liebreich



Sunwook Kim's performance of
Brahms Piano Concerto No 1



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2016/2017 Season 樂季

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