

# 25 years

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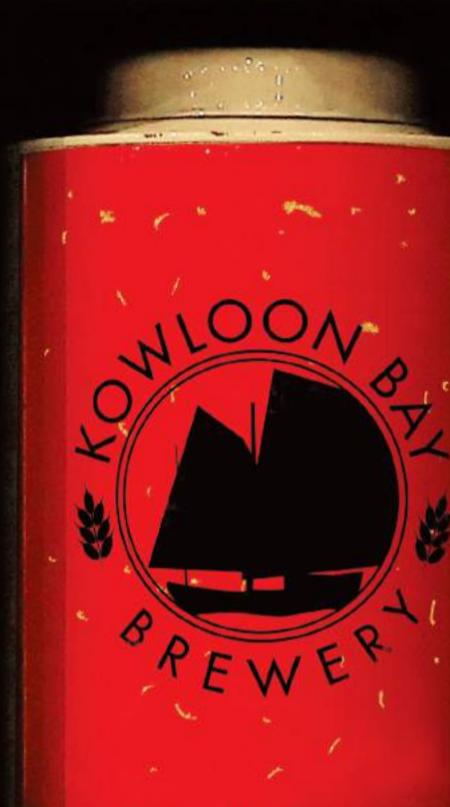
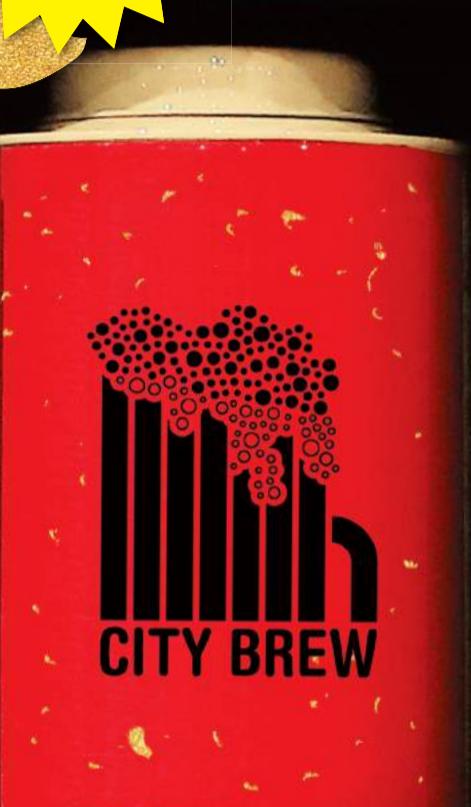


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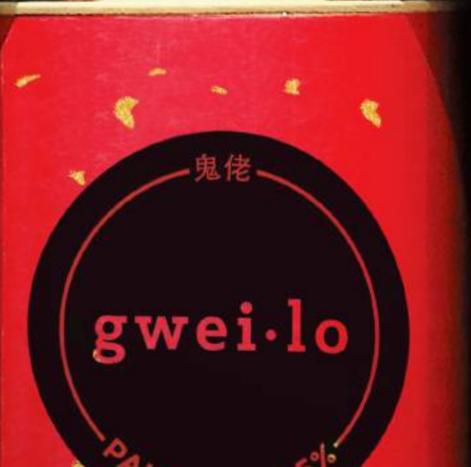
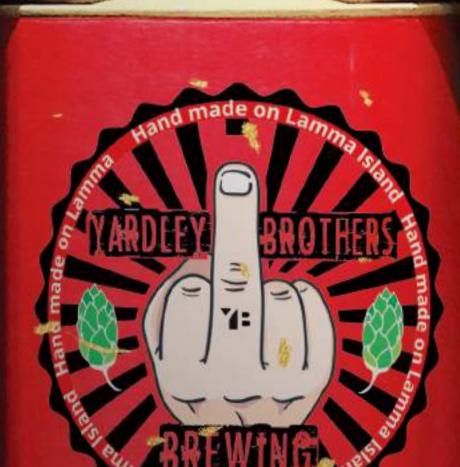
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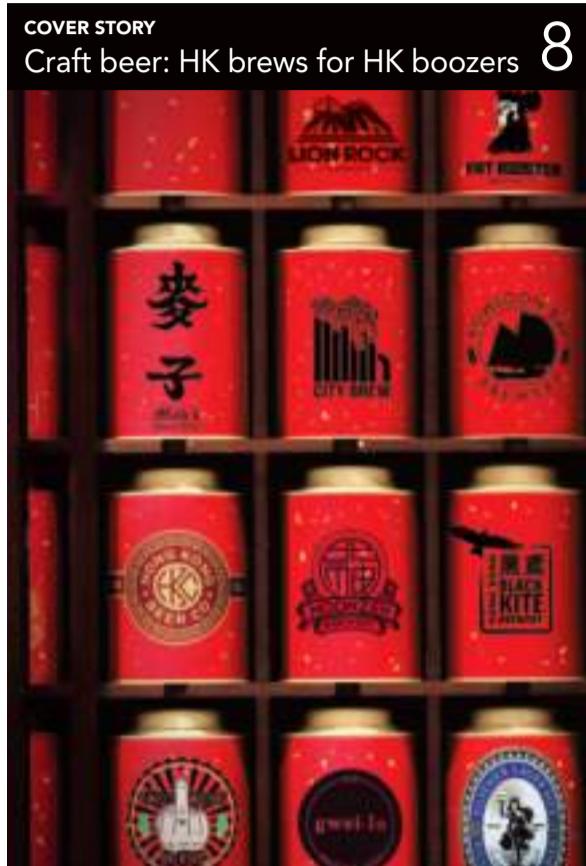
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**14 GADGETS**  
Samsung's new S7 Edge takes a helluva photo



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Treat mom to the perfect meal this Mother's Day



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"Hardcore Henry" ain't that hardcore



**37 GIVEAWAYS**  
Win a two-night staycation at the East Hong Kong!



## Poor People Math

The government made a U-turn this week on its proposal to revise the city's poverty line. It had planned to include subsidies given to public housing tenants in its calculations, which would have drastically reduced the number of people classed as living under the poverty line from 960,000 to 640,000—by 33 percent. There might be a future in this kind of poverty-based math, so we've set a few problems for you to answer. No cheating, and remember to show your working.

- 1) If Kelvin has \$200 in his bank account and his wife Apple has \$160 in hers, how many ties from Stanley Market, each worth \$30, can they afford to buy?
- 2) Two MTR trains are traveling in parallel along a stretch of track. Train A is travelling at 80kph but stops at every station, while Train B is travelling at 70kph but only stops at every other station. It takes 2 minutes to travel between stations and you are travelling to a station 12 stops away. Which train should you get on?
- 3) You host a dinner party at your house. There are six attending guests who all work for the government. How do you divide the cake you baked into proportions that will feed everybody?
- 4) Alvin is a lawyer making X dollars a month. Darvis is a street sweeper who makes  $X/20$  per month. Under the new metric, what will Darvis live on?
- 5) Currently, 15 percent of the city lives under the poverty line. The government's revised system would have altered this to 10 percent of the city's population instead. Explain how this can be made to happen. You may use long division of the city's populace or the calculus of fear. You may not use integration.

### The Answers

- 1) None, because all that money has to go on rent and food and the government wants to kick them out of their subsidized housing.
- 2) Save the money and get the minibus instead.
- 3) Divide it according to revised socioeconomic status, so everyone else gets one sixth of the cake and you get to lick the crumbs off the plates after they've gone home.
- 4) Almost nothing, but he'll still be above the poverty line.
- 5) Submit your completed answer to: CY Leung, Esq., Government House, Upper Albert Road, Central, Hong Kong S.A.R.

### Who's in charge?

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\$25 Beer, Thanks to HK Magazine!

HK Magazine turns 25 this year, and so to celebrate we've partnered with the LKF Group to offer you \$25 happy hour beers all through this month and next. Head to [promotions.hk-magazine.com/25years](http://promotions.hk-magazine.com/25years) to sign up for an SMS code that gets you \$25 drinks at 19 of LKF's best bars. Now go make us proud.

Look us up!



The List

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# HOME



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

Dear Mr. Know-It-All,

### What was the first beer in Hong Kong? – Punky Brewster

Naturally, beer appeared in Hong Kong as soon as the British did. By 1844 pubs began springing up in the colony, selling beer imported from the UK. But towards the end of the 19th century, British ales—which don't travel all that well—began to be replaced by European and American lagers instead. The Japanese Kirin beer made its appearance in Hong Kong as early as 1901, and it's still in our 7-Elevens today.

As far as Hong Kong breweries go, it wasn't until 1907 that the Imperial Brewing Company started producing beer for the Hong Kong's thirsty masses, based out of Happy Valley. But it wouldn't be Hong Kong without a bit of healthy competition, and the Imperial Brewing Company was followed a year later by the Oriental Brewery in Lai Chi Kok. The Oriental Brewery had state-of-the-art facilities and the much larger operation soon drummed Imperial out of the market, leaving it to go head-to-head with beers brewed in Japan, the Philippines and China—specifically Tsingtao beer, brewed on the German-colonized peninsula of Qingdao by the Anglo-German Brewery (the name was changed in 1915 to the Tsingtao Brewery when the two countries went to war).

But the Oriental Brewery—tagline, "The Beer that's Brewed to Suit the Climate"—suffered, and by the end of 1912 it went into liquidation. The brewery was bought by the same family that had founded the San Miguel Brewery in 1891 in the Philippines, and all that state-of-the-art brewery equipment was shipped off to Manila.

And so for another 21 years the city labored on without a brewery. It wasn't until 1933 that Parsee

Hongkonger JH Ruttonjee opened another brewery in Sham Tseng. After a few financial troubles it finally became a successful brewery. Taken over by the Japanese during the Occupation, the brewery was returned to Ruttonjee before finally being sold to the San Miguel corporation in 1948. San Miguel brewed beer in Sham Tseng until 1994 when it moved to Yuen Long, where it operates to this day. The city's longest-lasting brewery: San Mig. Think of that next time you turn up your nose at a bottle.

And what of that classic Hong Kong beer, Blue Girl? It's marketed like a European import, and Hongkongers will all be familiar with the ads, full of statuesque blue-eyed blonde-haired Blue Girls, as that Foreigner tune warbles underneath: "I've been waiting for a girl like you / To come into my life / I've been waiting for someone new / To make me feel alive." But of course, Blue Girl isn't remotely European. It's actually owned by the Hong Kong company Jebsen & Co... and it's brewed in South Korea. What better sign that the age of imported European beer is over?



The San Miguel Brewery in Sham Tseng, 1973

Photo: Chu Ming-hoi/SCMP

My Perfect  
**HK**

This week in My Perfect HK:

Coming up: Smile Asia Week

which runs from May 2-8. It's a week to raise funds for Smile Asia, a charity which brings medical assistance to children born with cleft lips or palates, helping them to smile. This year the Ritz-Carlton Hong Kong has created a special Valrhona chocolate banana cake available for \$358, and it's donating proceeds to Smile Asia. Pick one up for Mother's Day on May 8 from [smileasiaweek.org](http://smileasiaweek.org)

## Letters

### "It's THE BEST city in the world ❤"

#### The Crying Game

Responses on Facebook to our Crybaby Issue (April 15, issue 1141), in which we told people to stop complaining and pointed out that it was the best city on earth.

I love Hong Kong a lot. Just hate the fact that vested interests control Hong Kong and prevent positive change. Instead, they make it much harder for the people. Other than that, it's a wonderful place. And no, I don't need any bars or beer ;)

Stephan Ortmann

Funny how you say it's the best city on earth but even locals jump at the chance to be a flight attendant to get the hell out of dodge. Not that I don't agree with you.

Joe Vazquez

Flight attendant? Hahaha....kidding us?  
Christine Ho

Complaining about the lack of American amenities in HK is like complaining about the lack of Chinatowns in the US...

Jeffrey Tam Tsz Yeung

You mentioned clipping nails on transport. That's all.

Chrissy Carini

It's THE BEST city in the world ❤  
Jenna Milne

I LOVE Hong Kong x  
Carol Allman

#### Good Luck With That

Last week's Blowing Water (April 22, issue 1142) was "baau yi naai," meaning "to keep a mistress." A couple of Facebook readers were interested...

Ngo yu [I want]  
David Ong

Ngo Do Yu 🍻 [I also want]  
Ken Iwaki

## #PrivateEyeHK



Shophouse Shutters

Photo by Gordon Sanders (Instagram @gordonsand)

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



**Saturday 5/7**

## Eyes White Shut

An annual tradition spanning five continents, **Diner en Blanc** is all about finding new, classy ways to enjoy a city's public spaces. It's a gathering of hundreds of guests, all dressed in white and toting their own white tableware and picnic basket. After dinner, they blend into the night, taking with them any evidence that they were ever there. **Secret time and location.** \$286 plus \$62 membership fee at [hongkong.dinerenblanc.info](http://hongkong.dinerenblanc.info)

**Friday 4/29**

## Free Burgers!

The city's favorite burger franchise is expanding (yet again) with a location opposite One Island East, and they're celebrating with double block parties. **The Butchers Club Burger** will be giving out 200 free burgers between noon and 2pm, and 800 more free burgers after 6pm. Time to start planning your cheat day... **Noon-2pm; 6pm. G/F, Westland Gardens, 12 Westlands Rd., Quarry Bay. Free.**



**Saturday 4/30**

## Milkin' It

The hippest and most scenic flea market in the city has rolled up to Central and they're setting up shop below the observation wheel this weekend. At **Milk Mart III**, expect indie performances, craft beer, dope kicks, vintage finds and lots and lots of gaucho pants.

**Apr 30-May 2, 2-11pm. Hong Kong Observation Wheel, 33 Man Kwong St., Central. Free.**

**Sunday 5/1**

## Lazy, Hazy, Crazy Daze

Pass a lazy Sunday lounging terrace-style to the ethereal beats of Berlin's Alex Niggemann and Central sprawling all around you. The Rewind team and Armani/Privé are organizing this totally hangover-proof eighth installment of their popular **Lazy Sunday** sessions. **3pm. 3/F, Chater House, 8 Connaught Rd., Central. \$100 at [rewindalex.pelago.events](http://rewindalex.pelago.events); \$150 at the door.**

**Monday 5/2**

## Naval Gazing

Today's a public holiday, so pull on that stripey top, don those boat shoes and head over to the **Hong Kong Gold Coast Boat Show**. The biggest boat show in Asia features 75 yachts with a combined value of \$1 billion, plus plenty of food and family fun. Come for the last day to see the Cardboard Boat Charity Regatta (3pm), in which competitors in DIY cardboard boats will help raise funds for the Children's Cancer Foundation.

**Apr 30-May 2, 11am-5pm. The Gold Coast Yacht and Country Club, 1 Castle Peak Rd., Castle Peak Bay. \$20.**

**Tuesday 5/3**

## Use What Your Mama Gave You

If your heart is made up of that warm, soft material which lends itself to gratitude for the woman who underwent unbearable pains to extricate you from her body after nine months of gestation, then book a table already. **Mother's Day** is Sunday, May 8, and plenty of places are offering mom-worthy treats, from Invisible Kitchen's edible flower bouquets to afternoon tea at the Hyatt Regency.

**See p.20 for more.**

**Wednesday 5/4**

## Keep On Truckin'

Food trucks have finally rolled into Hong Kong and PMQ is throwing a bash. The inaugural **Food Truck Festival** features four mobile eateries staffed with top Hong Kong chefs and their teams as well as 15 other booths selling lifestyle products, drinks, and other concessions.

**See p.22 for more. 8-10pm. PMQ, 35 Aberdeen St., Central. \$30 admission, \$10 per food token.**

**Thursday 5/5**

## Piñata Party

This **Cinco de Mayo**, Brickhouse is throwing down with a real Mexican fiesta. Expect the occasional free taco or round of tequila, plus a live DJ, piñatas, and a costume competition with \$2,000 in bar credit up for grabs. **7pm. Brickhouse, G/F, 20A D'Aguilar St., Central.**



**Friday 5/6**

## Nohant Nocturnes

Composer Frederic Chopin produced some of his greatest masterpieces while staying with his lover, the French novelist George Sand, at her family estate in Nohant in central France. In **Chopin, Nohant's Years** piano virtuoso Yves Henry plays a selection of tunes written then, capturing the sounds of a tumultuous affair in the French countryside. **8pm. Asia Society Centre, 9 Justice Drive, Admiralty. \$280-380 from [ticketflap.com](http://ticketflap.com)**



## Full Disclosure

Ever since **Disclosure's** debut 2013 album "Settle" was released, the British electronic/house duo has been leading the EDM wave and producing unstoppable singles with such pop heavy-hitters as Lorde, The Weeknd and Sam Smith. They hit

**Hong Kong in August at the AsiaWorld Expo: You'll want to be there.**

**Aug 12, 8pm. Hall 10, Asia World-Expo. \$580-880 from [hkticketing.com](http://hkticketing.com)**

## Last Week In Reality

SAT 16

**Drunk Dial** A man orders a late-night snack and a couple of drinks at an eatery at Long Ping Estate mall in Yuen Long. After his meal he goes to the bathroom, but succumbs to the alcohol and falls asleep. Waking up at around midnight, he realizes that the restaurant has closed for the night and he has been locked in. He calls the police, and he is rescued by the Fire Services Department.

SUN 17

**Careful Where You Stick It** In a Yau Ma Tei flat, a nine-year-old boy sticks his little finger into the hole of a metal bathroom amenity holder. He is unable to pull it out, and the finger swells. The boy's mother panics and seeks help from their building's security guard, who calls the police. Firemen and paramedics arrive at the scene. The boy, who has remained calm throughout the ordeal, is taken to hospital to have his finger extracted.



MON 18

**Trippin' Tram** On Facebook, a netizen posts a photo of a pair of mushrooms growing on the wooden window frame of a tram. Opinions are split on whether the fungi are of the lingzhi or truffle variety, while other netizens are concerned that they could be potential health hazards to curious children. Hong Kong Tramways attributes the growth of the mushrooms to humid weather and has since removed the fungi.

TUE 19

**K-Fever** Airport security finds a 21-year-old woman without a boarding pass near the boarding gate of a plane bound for Seoul, and they notify the police. Security footage reveals that the woman had managed to bypass three airport security checkpoints before entering the restricted area. The woman had intended to fly to the South Korean capital to try to catch a glimpse of her favorite stars outside national public broadcaster KBS.

WED 20

**Frank Abag-fail** A 43-year-old woman is sentenced to 13 months in jail, suspended for two years, for fraud. For over a year, she had been working as the CEO for an education services company, with a monthly salary of \$88,000. During the last few months of her employment, the company realized that her English language and management skills were substandard. With the help of a private investigator, the company discovered that the woman's letter of recommendation and her qualifications had been fabricated. The judge suspended her sentence because all three of the woman's children are in need of special care and attention.



THU 21

**Duelling Videos** Two smartphone videos—one filmed by a bus driver and another by his passenger—go viral. The simultaneous videos capture a heated exchange between the two men that starts when the passenger asks the driver why he is late. "What's wrong with needing to pee?" the bus driver asks in return. The two men continue to argue. At one point, the driver dares the passenger to hit him and lodge a complaint. The passenger lodges the complaint, and the driver is fired.

FRI 22

**Light Rail Taxi** Photos of a five-seater taxi driving into the Tuen Mun Ferry Pier Light Rail station go viral. The driver appears lost as he drives along the rail track, almost crashing into traffic barriers before a Light Rail employee points him in the right direction. Some netizens suggest that the taxi is actually Light Rail's newest luxury carriage, while others speculate that the taxi driver was living out his childhood dream of being a train driver.



## Quote of the Week

**"Very few people will benefit from this program. But if you reduced fares, that'd benefit a few million."**

Veteran actress Liza Wang, who was invited to conduct the MTR Corporation's "Happy Birthday · Happy Journey" lucky draw, urges MTR Corporation chairman Frederick Ma during the event to consider reducing fares instead of simply offering one-day passes and special discounts to winners of the draw.

## Talking Points

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

### HKZM Bridge Claims Eighth Life

The Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge construction project has seen its eighth fatality since construction began five years ago. **A 35-year-old Thai construction worker died after falling 15 meters into the sea.** It is suspected that a crane had crashed into the railing to which the worker was harnessed, causing a part of it to break off and fall away with the worker still attached. His colleagues undid his harness and ferried him to the pier before paramedics took him to North Lantau Hospital, where he was pronounced dead. **Authorities are investigating the cause of the accident.** The day before the death, another construction worker was hospitalized after he injured his finger while transporting construction materials.

**Our take:** Rest in peace.

### Ming Pao Sacks Editor

Ming Pao Chief Editor Chong Tien Siong has fired Executive Chief Editor Keung Kwok-yuen, ostensibly as part of cost-cutting measures. This came hours after the paper published a front-page report analyzing the Panama Papers and the prominent Hong Kong politicians and businessmen named in the documents. The dismissal has raised concerns about press freedom in the city, prompting three Ming Pao columnists to submit blank columns in protest.

Other groups protesting the decision include the Human Rights Monitor, the Hong Kong Journalists Association and the Ming Pao Staff Association. In February 2015, Chong was criticized for replacing at the last minute a front page story on confidential documents concerning the Tiananmen Square massacre.

**Our take:** Declining press freedom or general ineptitude? It's tricky to separate the two.



Illustration: Elaine Tang



## Street Talk

Think of yourself as a cat person? Not as much as retired teacher **Beth Wong**, who lives with more than 60 stray cats in her Tuen Mun village home, fostering them until they get adopted. She talks to Stephanie Tsui about what keeps her going in spite of the physical and financial burden.

**HK Magazine:** Why live with so many cats?

**Beth Wong:** I was living in an ivory tower when I was inspired by the volunteers who feed and care for stray cats out of their own pockets. I had no idea there were so many strays out there that needed help. After retiring in 2007, I started adopting stray cats. There were about a dozen at the time, and that number just kept growing. Some of the cats were too friendly, and I was worried they would be tortured by strangers. Some were sick or injured, so I took them in to nurse them back to health. Others were helpless kittens. With a couple of friends, I formed a charitable organization, which makes it easier for us to get deals from wholesale pet product manufacturers and suppliers. We also get donations, which we distribute to volunteers along with the discounted pet products.

**HK:** What's it like living with all these kitties?

**BW:** I don't have space—I sleep on whatever surface I can find. My "bed" is made of two boxes with a wooden plank on top. Those two boxes are for my books because I've given away all three of my bookshelves. The cats needed more space, you see, and I don't have time to read anyway. As long as I'm awake and not in the shower, I'm taking care of the cats. There are 15 litter trays which I clean at least twice a day. I mop the floor at least four to five times a day, but no matter how many times I clean the floor there are always hairballs lying around. I refill their food and water bowls throughout the day, but it's harder than it sounds because I have to mix supplements into their food to make sure they stay healthy. When the cats do get sick, they can be terrible to deal with. Sometimes, my volunteers and I have to ambush them to capture them just so we can take them to the vet.

**HK:** Does it ever become too much?

**BW:** I'm tired to death, physically and mentally. But I've never thought of giving up. When the cats give me a hard time, I just scold them. Even when I'm ill, when I'm throwing up and

everything, I always go back to caring for them right after. I think to myself, "What would happen to the cats if I'm not around?" That's why I persevere. I try not to take in any more strays now: I'm trying to get all of the cats I have here adopted. People donate to my nonprofit organization for stray cats, but caring for the strays can still get pretty expensive: When the donations run out, I have to foot the remaining medical bills myself. Just over the past six months, I've spent \$100,000 on medical fees for the cats.

**HK:** What else have you given up for these strays?

**BW:** I used to love reading, watching films and travelling. I went to the Hong Kong International Film Festival every year. But all of that ended when I started adopting stray cats in 2007. The last movie I saw at the cinema was "Shaolin," five years ago. And my trip to Langkawi about 12 years ago was the last trip I've been on. As a primary school teacher, I travelled pretty much every summer holiday because of the pressure at work, but that was nothing compared with the pressure I face now!

**HK:** Have you ever gotten in trouble for keeping so many strays?

**BW:** Recently, someone complained to the authorities that I was also keeping stray cats in an industrial building unit. So my volunteers and I had to figure out how to move them and try to get people to adopt the strays—more than 40 of them. Not all of them got adopted, and we're keeping the remaining 20-something cats at a secret location. Some people disagree with what I do, but I don't mind. I'm content knowing that I can give these strays a future by helping them find loving homes.

**Beth Wong's nonprofit organization, the Treasure Life, Be Kind to Animals Association, supports the welfare of stray cats. Find out more about what you can do for the strays at [facebook.com/TLBKTA](http://facebook.com/TLBKTA)**

## Blowing Water

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

sik6      ziu1      laa1  
食 禁 啟

"GO EAT BANANA"

"Get lost." "Banana" is a euphemism for "penis."

## HongKabulary



### Ninth Circle of Hellcome (nainθ sərkɪ pəv hɛlkʌm), n.

The interminable queue after work at the supermarket, in which two glacially paced cashiers are faced with a queue of 40 exhausted office drones.

*"Forget fajitas. I was stuck in the Ninth Circle of Hellcome for 90 minutes. Let's just get takeout."*

# Brewed in Hong Kong

They call it *gweilo leung cha*—“gweilo herbal tea”—thanks to beer’s cooling properties. But this hoppy brew is for more than just gweilos. **Evelyn Lok** and **Adam White** drink ‘til they drop in city’s craft breweries.

## HOW TO MAKE A HONG KONG BEER



### Zero to Hero: A History of Hong Kong Beer

From thirsty desert to a boozy oasis: In the short space of just four years, Hong Kong's gone from lager-obsessed city to bubbling craft beer central. In the beginning, there was none. Or maybe just a handful: think bars serving craft beer like The Globe in SoHo, or the Hong Kong Brewhouse in Lan Kwai Fong. In terms of local brews, there was just Hong Kong Beer Co., which “was not so creative back then, they only made one generic lager,” says Jonathan So, the founder of Beertopia. The city's craft beer festival has gone from some 1,200 visitors in its 2012 inaugural event at Western Market, to around 13,000 at last year's event at the Central Harbourfront.

A little later came the now-defunct Typhoon Brewery, a passion project created by a Cathay pilot operating from Lantau Island, making British-style ales. But the opening of Young Master Ales, the revamp of

the Hong Kong Beer Co. and the launch of Beertopia—all within a year of each other—sparked off a craft beer renaissance. Today there are more than 10 craft breweries in Hong Kong, from little homebrew setups to larger warehouse operations.

“The local breweries are being embraced—they’re all doing very well, better than what anyone expected,” says So. “Obviously we don’t grow the hops and malts here, but people are trying to make beers with Hong Kong honey or chili or ginseng, which is pretty neat.”

What does So hope is next? “To see people realize there’s good beer out there other than mass market lagers: you don’t have to go to a specific branded ‘beer bar’ any more.” If doing our part means ordering another pint of brewed-in-Hong Kong beer, we’re on board.

## 1 Black Kite Brewery

**Established:** Brothers David and Daniel Gallie started selling beer in May 2015.

**Ethos:** Easy on the palate. "Our core beers (golden, wheat, pale, IPA, amber and porter) were designed to be well balanced and easy to drink, but they're also playing around with different flavors and styles with special brews."—David Gallie, co-founder.

**Signature Brew:** The IPA (5.7% ABV), which is citrusy, fruity, and slightly floral. If you're lucky, you can nab a bottle of their limited 'Oh, Bacon!' smoked beer, made with smoked malt.

**Brewery Visits:** None scheduled, but weekday visits can be arranged. They haven't started opening up on weekends (yet).

11B Derrick Industrial Building,  
49 Wong Chuk Hang Rd., Wong  
Chuk Hang, blackkite.hk



## 2 Hong Kong Beer Company

**Established:** Originally founded in 1995 as the South China Brewing Company; reborn in 2013 when the brewery changed hands and brought on award-winning brewmaster Simon Pesch.

**Ethos:** Accessible beer for all comers, especially newbies. "We see ourselves as pioneers in the South China craft brewing industry. We feel like we are making bold strides towards educating the market without brewing one-dimensional beers."—Simon Pesch, brewmaster.

**Signature Brew:** The Hong Kong Beer (5.1% ABV), a fresh and hoppy amber ale, with citrus and floral notes to balance out its malted body.

**Brewery Visits:** By appointment, email info@hkbeerco.com for details. Unit 5A, G/F, Wah Shing Centre, 5 Fung Yip St., Chai Wan, 2580-2360, hkbeerco.com



## 3 Gweilo Beer

**Established:** Founded by Brit homebrewer Emily Jebbitt and fellow craft beer enthusiast Joseph Gould in July 2014.

**Ethos:** Bringing fresh, exciting beer to the city. "A name that was fun, catchy, local to Hong Kong and that made craft beer approachable was the aim. Once the tagline 'A Redefining Beer' was decided, 'Gweilo' seemed perfect as it has undergone a redefinition of its own."—Emily Jebbitt, co-founder.

**Signature Brew:** English "session" ales with a hint of local flavors and tropical fruit: try the IPA (4.8% ABV) and the Pale Ale (4.5% ABV). A wheat beer called "Gweilo Wit" launches soon.

**Brewery Visits:** None: Gweilo Beer's recipes are contract-brewed by the HK Beer Co. gweilobeer.com



## 4 Fat Rooster

**Established:** Longtime Hong Kong resident James Dwyer began producing Fat Rooster beer in Wong Chuk Hang in 2014.

**Ethos:** More Hong Kong beer for all. "We wanted to give people the choice and access to great, locally produced beers."—James Dwyer, founder.

**Signature Brew:** The Fat Rooster IPA (4.5-5% ABV) is a light golden/copper ale with an intense, full hop bitterness, characteristic of American IPAs. With the focus on the hops, it's a medium-bodied beer with a subdued malt profile. Has a powerful citrusy, flowery aroma and flavor, with a dry finish and a lasting hop bitterness that leaves you wanting more.

**Brewery Visits:** None currently. fatrooster.hk



## Lion Rock Brewery



## THE BREWERIES YOU NEED TO KNOW



## Young Master Ales



## Black Kite Brewery



## 5 City Brew

**Established:** City Brew started out in December 2014 teaching homebrewing, before branching out into selling beer in September 2015.

**Ethos:** Infusing Hong Kong personality and flavor into its beers. "We hope to make the craft brew scene more colorful and more full of variety by making a beer that belongs to Hongkongers."—Koey Chan, founder.

**Signature Brew:** The Gong Lui "Tough Lady" IPA and the Gong Nam "Gentlemen" Stout (both 7% ABV). The Gong Lui is opinionated, layered, and a bit of a challenge. Peppercorn and citrus peel make it spicy with a zesty finish. The Gong Nam uses the mellow ingredients of Chinese medicine and desserts: longan and red dates.

**Brewery Visits:** By appointment only. City Brew also holds regular brewing classes (Cantonese only).

101C, Wah Tat Industrial Centre,  
8 Wah Sing St., Kwai Hing,  
5448-0530, citybrew.hk



## 6 Kowloon Bay Brewery

**Established:** September 2015 by Ging Van and Mike Bardill.

**Ethos:** Good, classic brews for everyone. "While infusing local twists to traditional beers offers something unique to the region, we feel expats miss good, locally produced, preservative-free traditional beer styles. As for Hong Kong locals, it's time for them to experience why beer got so popular in the western world."—Ging Van, co-founder.

**Signature Brew:** The American IPA (7.4% ABV), intensely hopped with citrus, fruit and floral tones. They've also just launched the city's—and probably Asia's—first gluten-free beer.

**Brewery Visits:** By appointment. Drop them a line at ging.van@kowloonbaybrewery.com.

Unit 12, 10/F, Block B, Hi-Tech Industrial Centre, 491-501 Castle Peak Rd., Tsuen Wan, 2559-8218, kowloonbaybrewery.com



## 7 Lion Rock Brewery

**Established:** This Kwai Chung brewery opened in September 2015.

**Ethos:** It's all about the Lion Rock Spirit. "We emphasize Hong Kong people's industrious nature, perseverance and spirit of solidarity, which has existed from the 50s until now. We brew our beer so that people can feel this."—Terence Chan, founder.

**Signature Brew:** The 獅子山下 Lion Rock Pale Ale (5.2% ABV) delivers a complex yet refreshingly fruity taste, with notes of mandarin, passion fruit, peach, gooseberries.

**Brewery Visits:** Tours are at 11am every third Saturday of the month and cost \$150. Reserve via Facebook or email info@lionrockbeers.com.

Unit 2, 14/F, Man Shing Industrial Building, 307-311 Castle Peak Rd., Kwai Chung, facebook.com/lionrockbeers



## 8 Mak's Brewery

**Established:** February 2015 by Lo Tak-chi and cousins Mak Po and Mak Ho-lun.

**Ethos:** Hong Kong beers for Hong Kong palates. "At the very beginning, there were a few local breweries but the founders were foreign. They did a good job of brewing beer, but the flavor was not suitable for local people: Some were maybe too hoppy and some were too strong. So we hope to brew craft beer with a local flavor."—Mark Mak, co-founder.

**Signature Brew:** The Longan Pale Ale (5.5% ABV), brewed with dried longan, wolfberries and preserved fruits.

**Brewery Visits:** Yes, email hey.bro@maksbeer.com for details.

Room 1603, Block 2, 166-168 Texaco Rd., Tak Fung Industrial Centre, Tsuen Wan, 6174-7740, maksbeer.com



## 9 Moonzen Brewery

**Established:** Beginning of 2014 by husband-and-wife pairing Laszlo and Michele Raphael. Named for the Chinese "moon sun" door gods.

**The Ethos:** Moonzen combines Chinese ingredients with craft brew techniques. "We want to explore new frontiers in brewing using ingredients and stories that are inspired by the rich tapestry of Chinese culture."—Laszlo and Michele Raphael, founders.

**Signature Brew:** The Yama Sichuan Porter (8% ABV). Named for the King of the Underworld, this porter boasts smoky, cherry malts with a touch of mala Sichuan peppercorn and chili.

**Brewery Visits:** Moonzen has just moved to a new brewery in Kwun Tong and will start tasting tours this summer.

[moonzen.hk](http://moonzen.hk)



BEER BARS &  
BOTTLE SHOPS



### \$25 Beer, Thanks to HK Magazine!

HK Magazine turns 25 this year, and so to celebrate we've partnered with the LKF Group to offer you \$25 happy hour beers all through this month and next. Head to [promotions.hk-magazine.com/25years](http://promotions.hk-magazine.com/25years) to sign up for an SMS code that gets you \$25 drinks at 19 of LKF's best bars.

## 10 Yardley Brothers Beer

**Established:** March-April 2014 by brothers Luke and Duncan Yardley on Lamma Island.

**Ethos:** All about the attitude. One of the logos is (literally) a middle finger: "It's a fuck-you to generic, commercially-led watered-down shite. We're not really a commercially-led enterprise. Our goal is to make some really interesting and challenging beers. We've got a real belief in the craft and we're trying to make something as good as we can."—Luke Yardley, founder.

**Signature Brew:** The Hong Kong Bastard imperial IPA (7.2% ABV)—so named because it's the "illegitimate brewchild" of Hong Kong. This very heavily hopped IPA surprises with some tropical notes of citrus and pineapple, around a malty core.

**Brewery Visits:** Yardley Brothers is right now kitting out a new brewery and tap room in Kwai Hing, which will open to the public in June.

[facebook.com/YardleyBrothersBeer](http://facebook.com/YardleyBrothersBeer)



## 65 Peel

Brand new gastrobar with only locally brewed beers on tap.

**65-65A Peel St., Central.**

## Captain's Bar

The Captain's Bar at the Mandarin is a Central institution, and it's also got a custom-brewed Young Master Ales beer—served in their distinctive pewter mugs.

**Mandarin Oriental, 5 Connaught Rd., Central, 2825-4006.**

## Craft Brew & Co

Neighborhood craft beer bars with regularly rotating beers from all over.

**SoHo:**  
17 Old Bailey St., Central, 2885-0821.

**SYP:**  
36 High St., Sai Ying Pun, 2559-0498.

**K-Town:**  
27-31 Catchick St., Kennedy Town, 2246-8782.

## Kowloon Taproom

With 11 taps rotating every couple of weeks, this open-fronted bar is a sorely needed TST watering hole.

**G/F, Astoria Building, 24-38 Ashley Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, 2861-0355.**

## Little Beer Room

Does what it says on the tin: Diminutive and full of good beer, with 20 rotating craft beer taps.

**Shop 1, 15 Bridges St., Central, 2799-4899.**

## 11 Young Master Ales

**Established:** December 2013 by Rohit Dugar, investment banker turned-brewer.

**Ethos:** Young Master pushes the envelope by seeking out new styles and flavors, from barrel-aged beers to smoked or sour brews. "Our goal is to help define an authentic identity for the local brewing movement in Hong Kong. We make truly distinctive beers that are either a take on a traditional style or a completely new innovation."—Rohit Dugar, founder.

**Signature Brew:** Dugar says that they're not defined so much by a signature beer as by variety. Take the Cha Chaan Teng Gose (4% ABV): This sour beer is inspired by cha chaan teng classic the *ham ling chut*: salted 7-Up. The sour beer is mixed with sea salt, coriander seeds and salted lime for a refreshing summer brew.

**Brewery Visits:** Saturdays from noon-5pm, with more planned for summer.

**Unit 407, 4/F., Oceanic Industrial Centre, 2 Lee Lok Street, Ap Lei Chau, youngmasterales.com**

Coming soon...

## Hitachino Nest

In December 2014, homebrew shop HK Brewcraft co-founder Chris Wong teamed up with the Japanese Kiuchi Brewery—which has been making sake for two centuries and Hitachino Nest beer for 20 years—to help set up a brewery in Hong Kong to meet the demands of the Asian market.

The brewery is still under construction, and but is slated to start accepting brewery tours in July.

[hitachino.cc/en](http://hitachino.cc/en)



## The Globe

The big daddy of good beer in Hong Kong still has one of the best selections in town.

**Shop A, G/F, Garley Building, 45-53 Graham St., Central, 2543-1941.**

## The Roundhouse

25 craft beer taps, with a strong selection of local as well as international craft brews. The new Wan Chai outlet serves up Southern fried chicken too.

**The RoundHouse Taproom:**  
62 Peel St., Central, 2366-4880

**The Roundhouse Chicken + Beer:**  
29 Amoy St., Wan Chai, 2866-3330.

## TAP – The Ale Project

Offers a wide range of Hong Kong beers, particularly Young Master brews.

**15 Hak Po St, Mong Kok, 2468-2010**

## Tipping Point Brewing Co.

This gastropub and microbrewery rocks the experimental brews with a regularly changing roster of tipplers.

**79 Wyndham St., Central, 2868-2892**

## Trafalgar Brewing Company

This pub has four house beers, all brewed on-site.

**Shop 10, 1/F, Brim28, 28 Harbour Rd., Wan Chai, 3102-9438.**

## WOFT

Not one, but two craft beer places in Mong Kok? Now you KNOW it's getting popular.

**G/F, 7-8D Yim Po St., Mong Kok, 2116-1786.**

## The Bottle Shop

Longstanding Sai Kung beer joint.

**G/F, 114 Man Nin St., Sai Kung, 2791-1600.**

## HK Brewcraft

Homebrew store that stocks everything you need to craft your own ale. Also sells beer and runs workshops.

**4/F, 15 Cochrane Street, Central, 5925-2739.**

## Craftissimo

Stocks craft beers from all over the world.

**Sheung Wan:**  
Shop D, 22-24 Tai Ping Shan St., Sheung Wan, 6274-3130.

**TST:**  
Shop 166, 1/F, Tsim Tsui East,, Peninsula Centre, Mody Rd, 6274-3130.

## The Tramline Liquor Co.

Mostly international beers, with a few Hong Kong brews too, including very limited-edition Young Master beers.

**78 Catchick St, Kennedy Town, 2387-1230.**

## The Artist

Brewed-in-Belgium beer specially for the Artist, the selling point here is that you can customize the label with your own photos or images. Also does the same with chocolate. Offers next-day delivery.

**7A, Genesis, 33-35 Wong Chuk Hang Rd., Wong Chuk Hang, 2658-8818, mrtheartist.com**

## CRAFT VS. COMMERCIAL BEER:

### What's the difference, really?



CRAFT

- All real, no filler: uses high-grade barley and the correct hops for the flavor sought.
- Shelf life is shorter, but always served fresh
- A "community" product, best served fresh and local
- More inventive and passionate about using interesting brewing methods and local ingredients
- Gets you drunk



BORING

- Shortcuts on ingredients, using inferior barley and hops, plus chemically treated water
- Uses ingredients such as corn syrup to prolong shelf life
- Made overseas in huge factories
- Mass production, made to suit tastes of the masses
- Gets you drunk

### Alternatively...

7-Eleven sells two Tsingtaos for a dirt-cheap \$14.90. Is it a fine craft brew? Nope. Will it get you drunk? **Yup.**



Thailand's Temple of a Million Bottles: your Chang can make a difference

### Six (Almost) Interesting Beer Facts

Facts to impress or bore your friends with as you work your way through a pint or four.

- 1) A pint of craft beer averages around **250 calories per pint**, or 1/10th of your recommended daily caloric intake if you're a man—and 1/8th of it if you're a woman. Normal lager has fewer calories—but as craft beer is strong, you drink less of it, making it *almost* a healthy option.
- 2) The strongest beer in the world is Snake Venom, made by Scots brewery Brewmeister. It clocks in at **67.5% ABV**, or, "way too much."
- 3) Until 2013, **beer was not considered alcohol in Russia**. All drinks under 10% ABV were classified as "foodstuffs."
- 4) The Wat Pa Maha Chedi Kaew, also known as the **Temple of a Million Bottles**, is a Buddhist temple in northeast Thailand constructed from over 1.5 million empty Heineken and Chang beer bottles.
- 5) About **40 percent of the world's Guinness** is brewed and sold in... Africa.
- 6) After physicist Neils Bohr won the 1922 Nobel Prize, **Carlsberg gifted him a house right next to their brewery**—with a pipeline running free beer straight into his home.

Disclaimer: Please drink responsibly. We're not your parents.

Sponsored Feature

## BEST KEPT BEAUTY SECRET

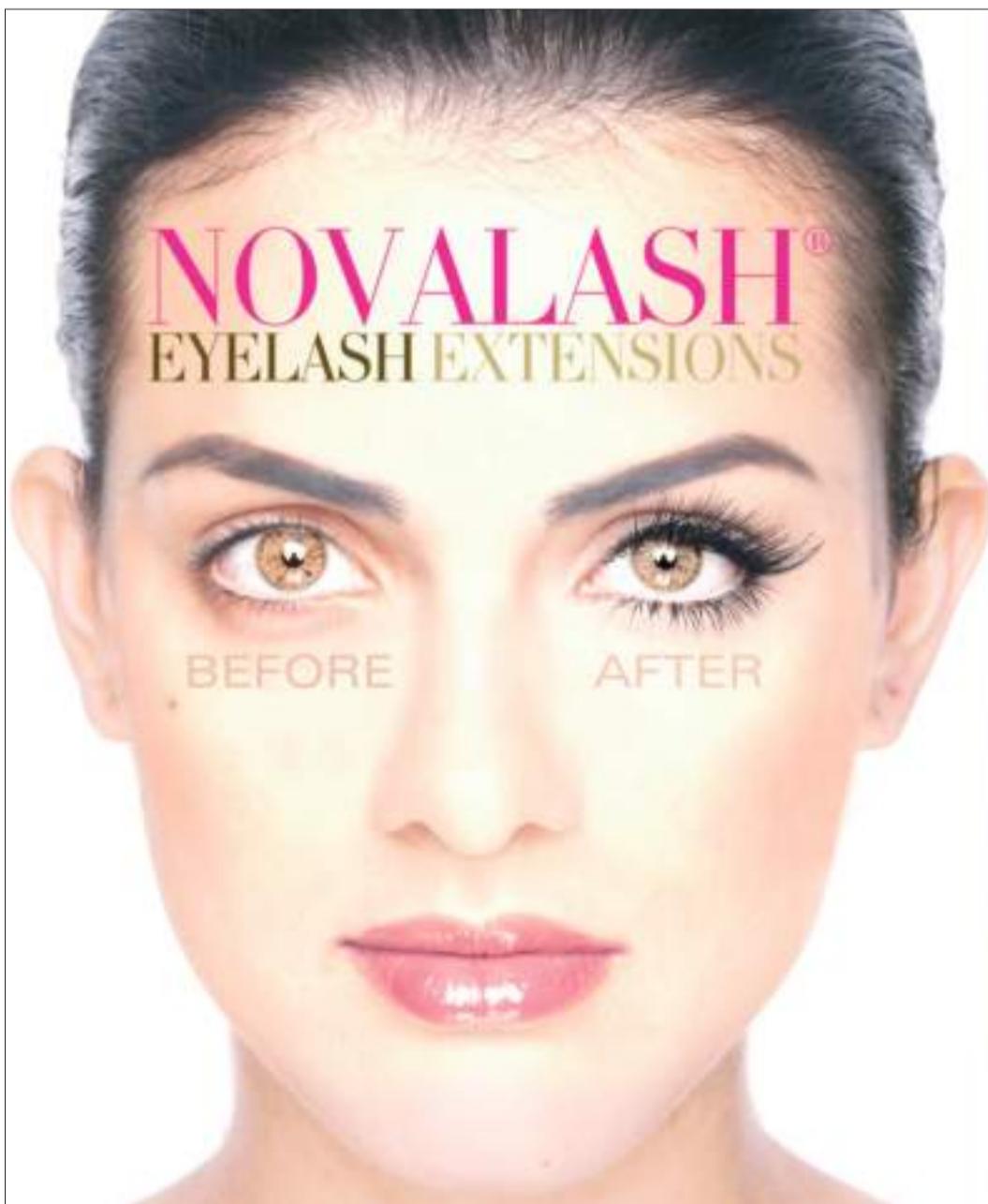
*Long luscious lashes morning and night without the fuss of mascara*

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

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10/F, One Lyndhurst Terrace, Lyndhurst Tower,  
Central, Hong Kong [www.novalash.hk](http://www.novalash.hk)



# GOOOOOD SECRET MOVIE

18<sup>+</sup>

2016 MAY 14, 7:30PM  
SECRET MOVIE  
SCREENING

SOUTHORN STADIUM, WANCHAI



TICKETING  
[orgasmo2016.com](http://orgasmo2016.com)

### Paper Point

Oi! Gallery has invited seven Hong Kong artists to share their North Point-inspired thoughts and impressions in paper form. **7-Paperholic** showcases paper as an artistic medium, from pulp painting to paper installations, including this screen print of the bustling Chun Yeung Street wet market by Rex Koo.

Through Jul 24. Oi!, 12 Oil St., North Point.



Detail from "A Day and Night of Chun Yeung Street: II" (2016) Rex Koo, screen print

# GADGETS

Edited by Adam White

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

## TECH HEAD



### Edging Your Bets

A few weeks ago I finagled Samsung into sending over one of their new **Galaxy S7 Edge** phones to check out. This phone has a gorgeous, crisp 5.5-inch screen that keeps on going: the display actually curves at the edges and around the side of the phone, meaning there's no bezel at all. It gives a wonderfully immersive feel whenever you're using the phone. You can swipe in from the edges to bring in a series of panels which act as shortcuts to apps, contacts or even just to a compass.

But what really blew my mind was the S7's 12-megapixel camera, which is nothing short of excellent. It's just as good as anything you'd get in a standalone point-and-shoot, and it takes crisp, clear shots with a lightning-fast autofocus. The camera's low-light capabilities are formidable too, shooting high-quality

shots in situations that would make my iPhone 5 throw a fit.

I stress-tested the S7 Edge with about as stressful a test as you could think up in Hong Kong—I took it to the Sevens, where it was my main camera and lifeline the entire weekend. A huge battery life served me well, and when Samsung made this phone waterproof they weren't kidding—it lived through a genuine Hong Kong downpour on Sunday while shooting away, and I ended up with nothing worse than very, very moist shoes.

It's not all brilliant—Samsung's proprietary TouchWiz interface is a bit of a pain to get your head around and the phone comes bloated with unnecessary apps. But the S7 is a genuinely excellent piece of kit. I want one.

**32GB model, \$5,998 from phone stores. [samsung.com](http://samsung.com)**

### Nice Rice Price

Chinese smartphone and TV makers Xiaomi are apparently bored with making stuff-with-a-screen. So they've decided to branch out a little into homeware, under the brand "Mi Ecosystem." The latest addition to the brand is the **Xiaomi Mijia induction Heating Pressure Rice Cooker**. This elegant white cube isn't just any boring rice cooker: It comes Wi-Fi enabled. That means it will—oh yes—hook up to your phone via a smartphone app. You can use the app to set up your ideal cooking time, but what's really good is you can scan the barcode of the rice packet in question, and the app will look it up in a database to find the ideal cooking time and pressure needed to create the perfect bowl of rice for that particular brand.

Normally when I'm cooking rice I just throw in about a finger's depth of water and wait till the cooker switches from "cook" to "warm"—but that was before I knew that there are better, more civilized ways. The cooker is available in China right now for RMB999 (\$1196), which is at least the quarter the price of its Japanese rivals. Look for it in Hong Kong soon. I'm considering a trip to Shenzhen just to pick one up.

[xiaomi-mi.com](http://xiaomi-mi.com)



### Leatherheads Unite

If you're often overcome by the tyranny of too much in your wallet, Aussie leatherworkers Bellroy have launched a new line of leather smartphone cases for iPhone 6 and 6 Plus, with slots for three cards on the back that you can just swipe out of the case when necessary. The **Bellroy 3 Card Phone Case** is slim, useful and best of all, it looks really really good. Only question in Hong Kong is, of course: Where are you gonna keep all your business cards?

**\$510 from Kapok, G/F, Shop HG10-12, PMQ,  
35 Aberdeen St., Central, 2858-8170,  
or from [zixag.com](http://zixag.com)**



### Bagged and Tagged

Studio Banana Things, the design studio that made the Ostrich Pillow—you know, that silly-looking napping pillow you literally slip over your head—has just launched a new project on Kickstarter: the **Owlbag**, which bills itself as "one bag, many bags." It's essentially a reversible bag with a selection of pockets and sacks which hook up to it in a variety of different ways, allowing you to configure it for everything from "I'm a hipster on his way to the coffee shop to work on my screenplay" mode to "I'm a hipster on the way to the gym to work out as I contemplate my screenplay" mode.

Optional extras include a built-in power bank and a "proximity beacon" that hooks up to your phone via Bluetooth to warn you if you've just walked off and left your bag behind. As of press time the project is just over half-funded on Kickstarter with only a few days to go. The retail price for the bag is US\$249 and the Kickstarter price is US\$149 (\$1,160), so get in now if you're interested. [kickstarter.com/projects/ostrich-pillow/owlbag](http://kickstarter.com/projects/ostrich-pillow/owlbag)



## ESCAPE ROUTES

Compiled by Sophia Lam  
sophia.lam@hkmagmedia.com

The summer holidays are just around the corner, which means it's time to jet out from the 'Kong and fill up your family scrapbook. We've vetted five kid-friendly itineraries for a stress-free holiday.

### Go Knee-Deep in Thailand

We all know how troublesome it gets when kids want to do different things during a family trip. The **Family Getaway** package at the **Dhara Dhevi Chiang Mai** is here to help, with a four-day, three-night stay at the picturesque resort, rounded out with an array of kids' activities.

Wake up to beams of sunlight pouring through your floor-to-ceiling terrace doors in the thoughtfully decorated Colonial Suite with a view of the lush gardens from the roomy balcony. The little ones will love riding the resident water buffalo and venturing knee-deep into the in-house rice paddies, while moms relax during the complimentary 60-minute spa at the Dheva Spa and Wellness Centre. At the Lanna Kids Club, juniors can learn traditional Thai dances, paint paper umbrellas, and perfect their high-flying Muay Thai kicks.

No need to fuss over where to eat at night: The package includes a gourmet dinner for four at Le Grand Lanna restaurant, where you'll savor the sweet, sour and spicy range of Thai cuisine.

**Parent Perk:** Babysitters are available onsite so parents can take a break.  
**\$1,450 for a family of four, four days and three nights. Through Sep 30,**

[dharadhevi.com](http://dharadhevi.com)



Hot work at the Dhara Dhevi Chiang Mai



Pool your resources in Bali

### Get Cultured in Bali

Think Bali is just sun-drenched beaches and cobalt waters? Dive deep into the age-old traditions of one of the world's most intricate cultures at the **Belmond Jimbaran Puri**, settled on the serene oceanfront of Jimbaran Bay, south Bali.

The **Family Package** fits four in the two-bedroom deluxe pool villas, with traditional aesthetics such as a wooden terrace lined with lotus ponds juxtaposed with modern amenities and a high-tech entertainment system. Enjoy a buffet breakfast every morning before embarking on the day's adventures, including a full-day tour of the magnificent islands.

Kids can also take egg painting and wood carving workshops, while parents learn traditional Balinese massage techniques in a 90-minute class. At night, bunk down in a plush king-sized bed—but not before soaking in a warm aromatic bath in the privacy of your own villa.

**Parent Perk:** Book a babysitter for the kids while you enjoy a fruity cocktail at the hotel bar as the sun sets.

**\$7,563 per villa per night, belmond.com**

### Dive Underwater in Sri Lanka

Who wouldn't love to take a deep plunge into cool waters underneath the baking sun? One of the biggest draws of the **Cape Weligama Resort** on the southern coastline of Sri Lanka is its stunning infinity pool, where you can swim and enjoy a drink while gazing out at the coast, skirted with thick jungles and stone temples.

Little swimmers under 12 can strap themselves in resort-provided inflatables before taking a dip in the shallower cove pool. If you want to explore outside the resort, take a five-minute walk to East Beach to go scuba-diving and banana boating. If you're lucky, you might even catch a glimpse of whales or dolphins bobbing up from the water's surface.

Back at the resort, the commodious Master Room 130 is a showstopper. Treat your body with a cleansing remedy in the suite's steam room before plopping down on dual queen-sized beds.

**Parent Perk:** Get your personal butler to organize a private BBQ party for you, so you can really get some lazing time in.

**\$3,428 per room per night from smithandfamily.com**



Whisk the family away to Cape Weligama Resort in Sri Lanka

### See the Circle of Life in South Africa

Get lost in the majesty of nature at **&Beyond's** nine-day, eight-night **Sabi Sand Safari and Table Mountain Tour**. During this unforgettable adventure, you and your family will get up at the crack of dawn to track down the Big Five—lions, leopards, buffalos, rhinos and elephants—at the Sabi Sand Game Reserve, where exotic animals roam the fenceless lands.

Travel back to 1920s South Africa during your stay at Kirkman's Kamp in Kruger National Park, the handsomely restored homestead of former ranger Harry Kirkman. On top of modern amenities there's a roaring fireplace in every room.

In the second half of the journey, you'll find yourself discovering the unique blend of old and new in Cape Town. Take a cable car to the top of Table Mountain for a breathtaking view, or board a ferry to Robben Island to visit the jailhouse which famously housed Nelson Mandela.

**Parent Perk:** &Beyond takes care of all the intermediate transfers, including an escort from Tambo International Airport at your arrival and the flight to Cape Town.  
**\$22,731 per person for nine days and eight nights, andbeyond.com**



# Anything For Mom

Treat the most wonderful mom in the world to a thank-you-for-being-you meal on Mother's Day, May 8, says **Leslie Yeh**

## ◀ Made-Up Moms

Pamper mom at **The Langham, Hong Kong**'s new afternoon tea in collaboration with Guerlain's "La Petite Robe Noire" makeup collection. The new spin-off brand introduces 20 lipstick shades and eight nail colors, with the bright tones inspiring an afternoon tea set that's just as girly and polished: The "Floral Headband" shade is represented by a chocolate shell encasing a strawberry and rose filling, while the "Coral Collar" is embodied by verbena jelly, white peach mousse and tangy yoghurt. Diners receive a Guerlain gift set and 20-minute treatment (a honey smile rejuvenating lip massage or a lipstick tutorial) at a Guerlain boutique, and moms on Mother's Day also get a gift set with lotion, serum and a 45-minute facial treatment. **May 8-July 31. Weekdays 3-5:30pm, weekends 2:15-6:30pm.** \$348 per person, \$598 for two. **Palm Court, The Langham, Hong Kong, 8 Peking Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, 2132-7898.**

## The Color Purple

If momma's craving traditional Chinese cuisine, head to **Shanghai Lo** for their Mother's day set available for four (\$2,288), eight (\$4,388), or 12 guests (\$6,888). Mouthwatering dishes such as Chinese Huadiao wine and smoked duck egg served with caviar, sautéed Shanghai-style river shrimp, black truffle and mushroom wrapped in beancurd, and tossed jellyfish with spring onion and sesame oil. And before you say that doesn't sound like a Mother's Day theme, they've also crafted a plate of edible flower buns shaped like purple rose petals for a bouquet that's worth its weight in carbs. **Through May 8. 1/F, The Tonno, 5 Tonnochy Rd., Wan Chai, 3125-3232.**



## The Great British Escape ▶

Skip out on the office early and sweep mom off for a mini getaway at the **Hyatt Regency, Sha Tin**, which has the perfect girly afternoon out: The Elemis Botanical Spa Treatment and afternoon tea combo includes a 25-minute British botanical body glow treatment, followed by a 55-minute "Garden of England Rose Restore Massage" for soothing aches and pains. Once you're both glowing and soft, head to the Café for a dainty afternoon tea set with assorted finger sandwiches, scones with clotted cream, mango panna cotta, rosemary walnut tarts and a rose and lychee mousse cake. If you want to stay and linger awhile (and who wouldn't), book a room and lounge around the pool or order room service for an extended staycation.

**Weekdays through June, \$1,368 includes treatment and afternoon tea set. Hyatt Regency, Sha Tin, 18 Chak Cheung St., Sha Tin, 3723-1234.**



## Cakes for Cake's Sake

Pick up one of these stunning creations to sweep Mom off her feet.

### Lady M

We're in love with the new cake creations from perpetual favorite Lady M, and your mom will be too. The Strawberry Mille Crepes cake features no fewer than 20 paper-thin crepes, layered with light pastry cream and sweet strawberries, while the Mimosa cake has mini vanilla sponge cubes with a smooth custard center.

**\$750, Shop 2096A, IFC Mall, 8 Finance St., Central, 2865-1099. ladymhk.com**





#### ▲ Simple Italian Pleasures

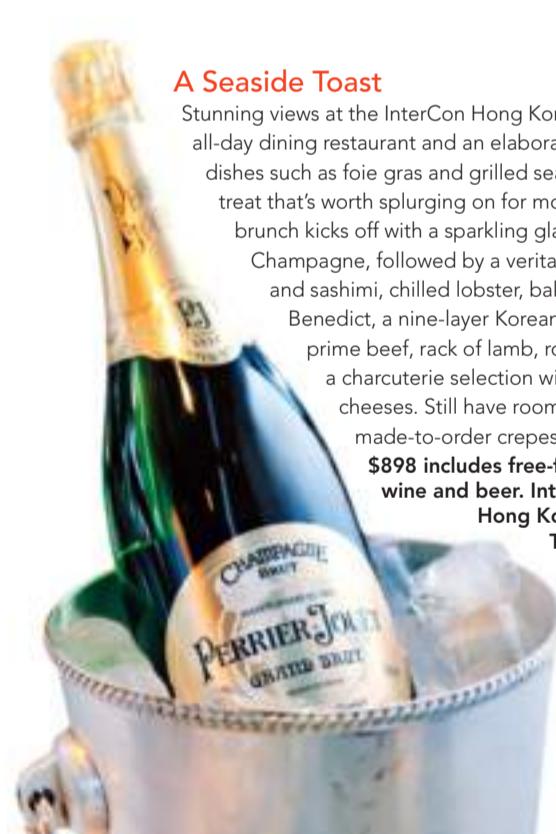
Shower your mom with Italian hospitality at **208 Duecento Otto**, with a newly launched buffet brunch just in time to win over any mother's heart—think bountiful platters of antipasti, seafood platters, salumi and Italian cheeses. After feasting on the semi-buffet, choose from a range of Italian mains including eggplant involtini with mozzarella and Parma ham, suckling pig with apple and vanilla purée, and charred asparagus with poached egg and polenta cake. End the meal on a sweet note with a homemade chocolate brownie or nutty frangipane tart.

**\$408, weekends until 3pm. 208 Hollywood Rd., Sheung Wan, 2549-0208, 208.com.hk**

#### A Seaside Toast

Stunning views at the InterCon Hong Kong's **Harbourside** all-day dining restaurant and an elaborate spread of dishes such as foie gras and grilled seafood make this one treat that's worth splurging on for mom. The Mother's Day brunch kicks off with a sparkling glass of Perrier-Jouët Champagne, followed by a veritable feast of fresh sushi and sashimi, chilled lobster, baked oysters, eggs Benedict, a nine-layer Korean seafood tower, prime beef, rack of lamb, roasted baby pig and a charcuterie selection with 12 kinds of French cheeses. Still have room? Don't miss the made-to-order crepes and chocolate fountain.

**\$898 includes free-flow champagne, wine and beer. InterContinental**  
Hong Kong, 18 Salisbury Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, 2721-1211.



#### Invisible Kitchen

For the practical mom who hates waste, gift an edible flower bouquet from Invisible Kitchen. The life-like flowers are meticulously crafted from dehydrated, raspberry-infused pineapple, while chocolate pops coated in raspberry powder deliver a sweet surprise.

**\$600. Available for delivery May 6-8 (free on May 7). invisiblekitchen.com**

#### Ms B's Cakery

Known for over-the-top creations, their Mother's Day specials are no exception. The Bloom Red combines a banana split sundae with pink sponge biscuits and red sugar carnations, or go for the Queen of Queens, a beetroot chiffon cake with layers of cherry jelly, raspberries and cream.

**From \$550 for a small cake, order two days in advance. 39 Gough St., Central, 2815-8303, msbscakery.hk**



Co-presenter



SINCE 1993

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"A superb pianist."  
Gramophone

"Adventurous and ingenious."  
The Daily Telegraph

Piano

**Michel Dalberto**

# Hong Kong Sinfonietta: Michel Dalberto Plays Mozart & Richard Strauss

Programme

**Haydn**

Symphony No 6 in D, "Le Matin"

**Mozart**

**Piano Concerto No 14 in E-flat, K449**

**Richard Strauss**

**Burleske in D minor for Piano & Orchestra**

Richard Strauss

**Death and Transfiguration, Op 24**



Music Director/Conductor  
**Yip Wing-sie**

**7.5.2016**

(Sat) 8pm

HK City Hall Concert Hall

\$380 \$260 \$150

#### Tickets at URBTIX

2111 5999 | www.URBTIX.hk

Programme Enquiries:

2836 3336 | www.HKSL.org

20% discount when you purchase full-price tickets to both concerts on 6 & 7 May 2016

For ages 6+

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

Hong Kong Sinfonietta is financially supported by the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

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

With the support of



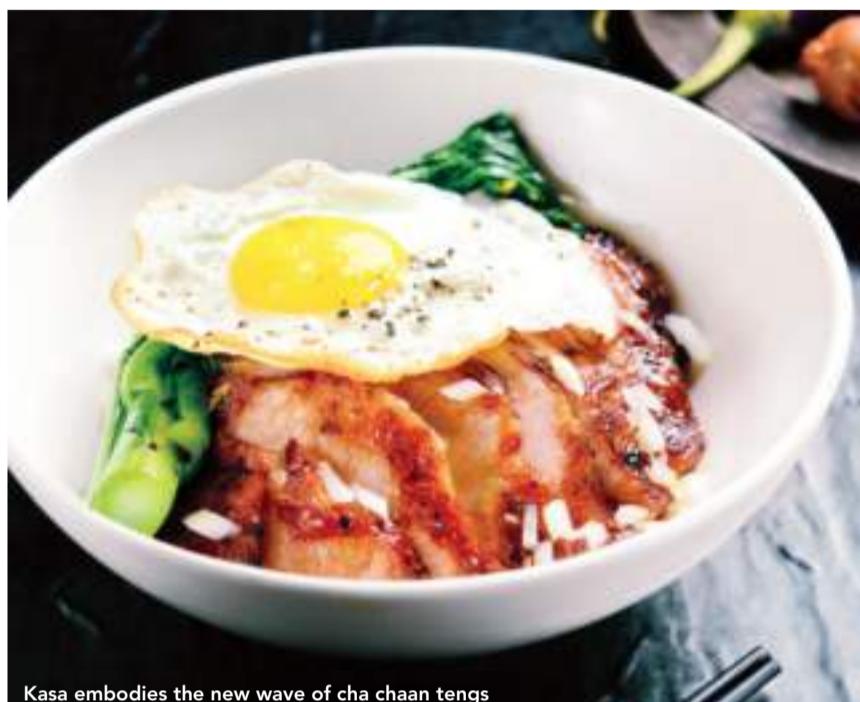
Exclusive sponsor



# DINING

Edited by Leslie Yeh

leslie.yeh@hkmagmedia.com



Kasa embodies the new wave of cha chaan tengs

## The New CCT

We've seen a few recent attempts at presenting Hong Kong's "modern CCT"—incorporating "throwback" aesthetics, updated versions of teahouse dishes, and western-style service—but one of the few that's worth its salt is **Kasa** (Shop 103, 1/F, Shui On Centre, 6-8 Harbour Rd., Wan Chai, 2659-9189). This hidden diner presents an eclectic mix of modern CCT-style dishes, with our favorites being the clay pot rice reconstituted into crispy arancini for a Chinese scotch egg (\$38), the braised beef short ribs (\$108) and the curry chicken with coconut milk (\$218)—a hearty pot of tender chicken, potato and onion in a fragrant yellow curry sauce. The tea set menu (all dishes \$48) includes options like scrambled eggs and corned beef, French toast and a molten duck yolk custard lava cake that hits the East-meets-West brief spot on. They've also just launched their own range of house-blend cold brew bottled coffees (so hipster).

## RESTAURANT REVIEWS

### Alma Portuguese Grill ★★★★★

Shop OT310, 3/F, Ocean Terminal, Harbour City, 17 Canton Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, 3188-3668.



delicious, but still good. The pork was juicy and tender, and the clams—while a bit overcooked—were flavored well with the mix of onion, garlic and fresh herbs. The potatoes were crispy but not exceedingly greasy and added an excellent comfort food dimension to this Portuguese dish that's hard to locate in Hong Kong.

■ **MISS** From the picture on the menu, the Algarve salad (\$60) promised us crisp, fresh cucumbers and tomatoes, but the bowl that arrived was mostly filled with wet lettuce and small bits of cucumber. The flaming chorizo (\$98) was also a bit of a disappointment—especially because the waiter made such a big deal of cooking it at the table, with some sweet pyrotechnic flair. It was greasy and tasted like *lap cheung*.

■ **HIT** The codfish potato croquettes (\$68) were on the money—light, fluffy and full of flavor that kept on delivering with a crispy, well-seasoned coating. We appreciated the sensible portion that whetted our appetites rather than filling us up prematurely. The Pork Alentejano (\$140)—our first main—wasn't quite as

■ **BOTTOM LINE** Alma offers a gorgeous setting to look over the harbor, but the food doesn't always live up to the scenery.

Open Mon-Sun 11:30am-11pm. \$\$

### Ratings

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

### Price Guide

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

A black and white photograph of violinist Vilde Frang. She is holding a violin and bow, looking slightly off-camera with a thoughtful expression. The background is dark and out of focus.

Violin  
**Vilde Frang**

**Hong Kong Sinfonietta**  
香港小交響樂團  
www.hksinfonietta.org

"Her virtuosity is second to none."  
*The Sunday Times*

"Startling emotional sincerity and inspired musical imagination."  
*The Strad*

"Frang has the knack of breathing life into every note."  
*BBC Music Magazine*

# Vilde Frang Plays Britten Violin Concerto

## Programme

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| Haydn          | <i>L'Isola Disabitata</i> Overture                |
| <b>Britten</b> | <b>Violin Concerto, Op 15</b>                     |
| Haydn          | Symphony No 96 in D, "The Miracle"                |
| Britten        | <i>Peter Grimes</i> : Four Sea Interludes, Op 33a |



**14.5.2016**

(Sat) 8pm

HK City Hall Concert Hall  
\$340 \$220 \$140

Conductor  
**Matthew Halls**  
Artistic Director, Oregon Bach Festival

**Tickets at URBTIX**  
2111 5999 | [www.URBTIX.hk](http://www.URBTIX.hk)  
Programme Enquiries:  
2836 3336 | [www.HKSL.org](http://www.HKSL.org)

For ages 6+  
Hong Kong Sinfonietta reserves the right to change the programme and artists

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**Good Music to Share**  
2016/2017 Season 樂季

## NEW AND NOTED



Kaiseki-ryori at Ueda

### Washoku For You

Finding a calm spot to sit for a relaxing and enjoyable lunch in Central where you're not herded in and out like cattle can be a bit like getting a cocktail in Sai Ying Pun for under \$100—a rare find these days. That's why we've pounced on **Ueda Washoku Lounge & Dining** (3/F, Stanley 11, 11 Stanley St., Central, 2327-4482), which sits smack dab in the middle of Central, yet still seems to offer its own calm, undiscovered haven for a midday break. The \$328 eight-course lunch omakase highlights the kaiseki-ryori tradition, with each element arriving all at once in its own beautiful tableware (as opposed to one-by-one at dinner), giving customers a chance to savor the meal and still make it back for their 2pm meeting. Highlights include shrimps cooked in salt water, slow-cooked roast beef, and eels wrapped in bean curd and fried up like tempura.

### Truck and Roll

Love food you can eat with your hands? Don't miss the **Hong Kong Food Truck Festival 2016** (May 4-8, PMQ, 35 Aberdeen St., Central, free admission), which rolls into town next week. The food trucks will be manned by four homegrown brands: fried chicken and waffles from **Boomshack**, a shop inspired by America's food trailer scene; **Homie Cookies**, debuting their new ice cream sandwiches; lobster rolls and XXL hot dogs from **A La Maison XXL Seafood & Grill**; and newbie **Superstar** serving Korean street snacks. Fill up on rice cakes and lobster rolls, then check out the other pop-ups to pick up Mother's Day gifts from handicraft brands, sip rosé from **Island Bar** and get your hands on **Boomf**'s designer marshmallows from none other than brother-of-royalty James Middleton, available for the first time in Hong Kong.

*For more in-depth reviews,  
visit [hk-magazine.com!](http://hk-magazine.com/)*

### Le Pain Quotidien ★★★★☆

Bakery/Café. Shop G40-41, The Avenue, Lee Tung Avenue, Wan Chai, 2520-1801.



With more than 235 locations around the world, bakery-restaurant Le Pain Quotidien has planted itself firmly in Wan Chai with a bakery, indoor dining room and alfresco terrace.

**HIT** On a nice day, it's best to snag a seat in the charming terrace with its wooden slatted ceiling and hanging green creepers. We started with the quinoa detox (\$118): a colorful array of bell peppers, avocado, shredded cabbage, fennel, pomegranate seeds and quinoa in a tin lunchbox, accompanied by slices of bread and green pesto on the side. It's definitely rabbit food, but a good healthy option

for weight-watchers. On the opposite end, the chicken stew (\$168) was hearty and filling, bubbling away with a creamy beer reduction coating tender pieces of chicken, potato wedges, and more of that LPQ bread for a carb-heavy punch.

**MISS** Our prosciutto and buffalo mozzarella tartine (\$128) arrived haphazardly assembled with no mozzarella and a tiny hair clinging to one of the kale leaves. The staff quickly gave us another one that was much more presentable, with generous toppings of meat and cheese, although the prosciutto tasted a little old. Passing by the bakery, our eyes bugged at the price of the bread: \$250 for a 1kg loaf of rye bread. Who in their right mind would spend \$250 on a loaf of bread?!

**BOTTOM LINE** The rustic boulangerie feel is charming, but disruptions in the quality of the food and sky-high pricing from the bakery have us wondering if LPQ might be more style than substance.

Open Mon-Sun 8am-9pm. \$

### Our Policy

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

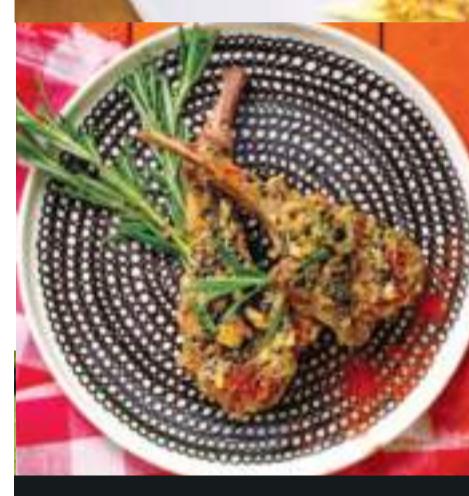
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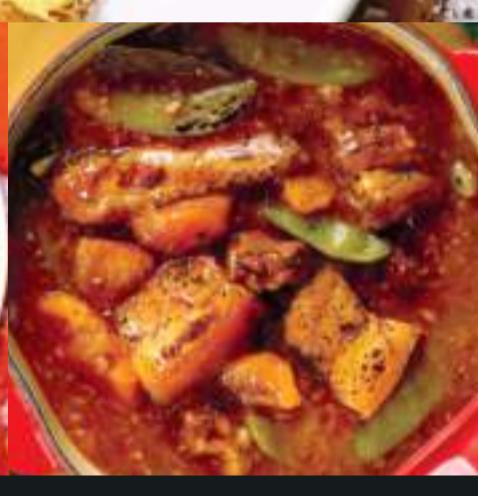
**English Beef, Lamb & Pork**

**Healthy · Natural · Tasty**

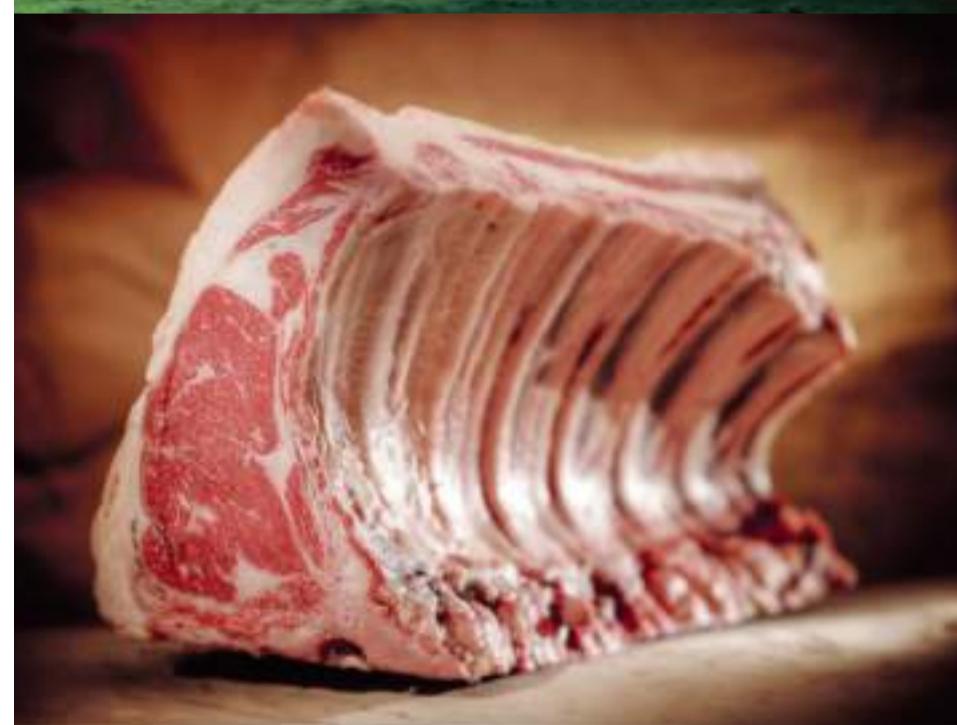
**29 April - 13 May**











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ifc mall, Level 1  
New Town Plaza 1, Level 2

# CITY STROLL

## Tin Hau

Tin Hau is the goddess of the sea, worshipped by fishermen for safety at sea and a bountiful catch. Neighboring the shopaholic Causeway Bay, in the last few years Tin Hau has gradually transformed into a foodie wonderland. But the district is still full of living history, if you're willing to look—and eat—a little further.



### 21 Tak Cheong Noodle

After a bargainous bite? These Chiu Chow-style fishball noodles are just \$24. The firm and peppery balls are best served with hor fun flat rice noodles for some textural contrast. Still hungry? The freshly made fish cakes are well fried and perfectly springy.

75 Electric Rd., Tin Hau, 2510-8783.



### 22 TUVE Hotel

This hidden gem of a hotel is all about minimalist chic—it's so minimalist, there isn't even a sign outside. But this super stylish design hotel revels in its aesthetic, pushing the light-and-shadow, black-and-white feel. The feeling extends to the hotel's Italian restaurant, Silver Room.

16 Tsing Fung St., Tin Hau, 3995-8899, tuve.hk



### 23 Violet Cake Shop

The buns and egg tarts at Violet are favorites among the area's residents. Everything comes straight out of the ovens at the back of the shop to be deposited on the counter, in front of an inevitable line of customers. Grab whatever's just come out.

94A Electric Rd., Tin Hau.



### 24 Forest's Collection

All clothes and bags in this dainty boutique are hand-made, and each piece is unique. Decorative owl statues sit in the windows, bringing curious eyes to bear on this bustling district.

Shop 8A, G/F, Kuisum Court, 37 King's Rd., Tin Hau, 2881-6920.



### Oh, Those Old School Days

Tin Hau is home to two of the oldest schools in Hong Kong: Queen's College and Belilius Public School.

Initially named the Government Central School and later Victoria College, **Queen's College** was the first public secondary school in the city, founded in 1862. Originally based on Gough Street and then on Aberdeen Street—where PMQ currently stands—the Japanese took over the building during the occupation in World War II to use as their army headquarters, until it was destroyed by Allied bombing. The school

reopened in Tin Hau in 1950, and the two cannons which now stand at the school entrance were salvaged from the Aberdeen Street debris.

**Belilius Public School** was the first bilingual school in Hong Kong. Set up in 1890 as a female counterpart to Queen's College, it was named after philanthropist and opium trader E.R. Belilius, who donated \$25,000 for the construction of the three-story building at the school's old site on Hollywood Road. Alumnae include Lee Sun-chau, one of the first women to practise western medicine in China, and actress Charmaine Li.



The original site of Queen's College on Aberdeen Street

Check back next week as we wander around another amazing area!

SPONSORED FEATURE



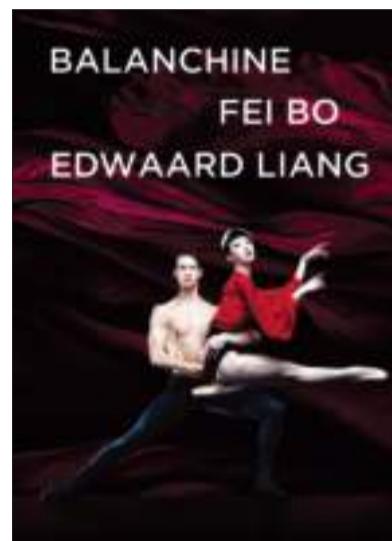
## Make Mother's Day A Special Day !

Mothers will be our guests-of-honour on Sunday 8th May with our Mother's Day Sunday Brunch at Bread Street Kitchen & Bar! Gordon Ramsay's restaurant serves a British European menu, featuring dishes from its London counterpart.

Bread Street Kitchen is a bustling, large and breathtaking space. A stunning mix of vintage and modern brought together by an ever-changing menu.

Reservations now available.

**Bread Street Kitchen & Bar,**  
Mezzanine Level, LKF Hotel, 33 Wyndham Street, Central, Hong Kong  
T : 2230-1800



## Hong Kong Ballet's Serenade and More

Hong Kong Ballet presents the 2015/16 season finale "Serenade and More", a mixed bill including Balanchine's "Serenade" featuring Tan Yuan Yuan (Principal Dancer, San Francisco Ballet / Guest Principal Dancer, Hong Kong Ballet), Fei Bo's "Over There" performed by guests from The National Ballet of China, and two world premieres respectively choreographed by Fei Bo and BalletMet's Artistic Director Edward Liang.

10th–12th June 2016. Grand Theatre, Hong Kong Cultural Centre.

Tickets : [www.urbtix.hk](http://www.urbtix.hk)  
Enquiries : [marketing@hkballer.com](mailto:marketing@hkballer.com)

## Café D Sunday Brunch Buffet

Café D brings you the endless traditional brunch favourites with FREE FLOW of House Red and White Wine at only HK\$260nett per adult. A dazzling array of appetizers and hot entrée, you can savor the authentic taste of Seafood selection and be delighted by the ultimate ocean-fresh sensation. Selection of favourite cheeses, and a series of desserts like Red Wine Poached Pear, Häagen-Dazs ice cream, just to name a few.

Lobby Level, Kowloon Harbourfront Hotel, 8 Hung Luen Road, Hung Hom Bay, 2186-9091.



## Suona and Guan Concert

Presented by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, "Our Music Talents Series: Suona and Guan Concert by Wu Chun-hei" will be staged in May.

Young suona and guan virtuoso Wu Chun-hei will show his superb skills by playing a variety of compositions and adding new elements to Chinese music.

May 22, Hong Kong City Hall  
Tickets : [www.urbtix.hk](http://www.urbtix.hk)  
Enquiries : 2268-7321

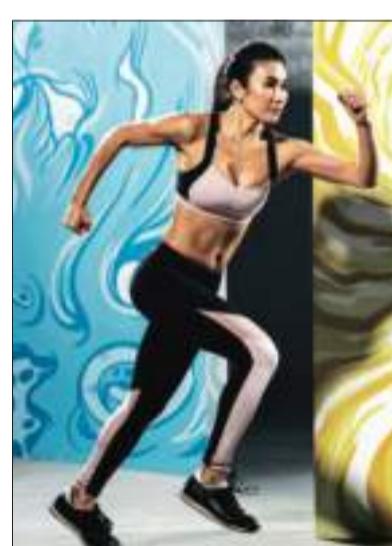


## Monet's paintings to go on display

The Impressionist master Claude Monet is regarded as one of the greatest landscape artists in the history of Western art. The exhibition entitled "Claude Monet: The Spirit of Place", will be held at Hong Kong Heritage Museum from May 4 to July 11. The exhibition features some of Monet's most emblematic paintings conserved in French public collections, showcasing his career through landscapes.

**Hong Kong Heritage Museum**  
<http://hk.heritage.museum>

Water Lilies/Claude Monet / 1907 / © RMN-Grand Palais / Daniel Arnaudet



## Pure Energy with Pure Apparel

Known for its stylish yoga outfits, the clothing brand from Pure Group has now extended its offering to include a dynamic range of innovative, high-tech gym wear for both women and men. The 'Energy' collection features premium, 4-way stretch fabric with Lycra fibre technology and moisture management, plus super-soft anti-odour materials with chafe-resistant flat seams.

Buy online at [be-pure.com](http://be-pure.com).

## Join the Animal Sponsorship Programme Now!

Hi guys, my name is Lazzie! I'm a female Mongrel currently living at the Wan Chai SPCA Adoption Centre as a long stayer. I want to thank our dedicated staff for taking great care of me and for your generous support which will help many other abandoned animals like me while we're waiting for our new homes.

Sponsorship Hotline : 2232-5510  
[www.sPCA.org.hk/asp](http://www.sPCA.org.hk/asp)



## Tom Lee Flash Sale | 29 Apr – 15 May

Tom Lee Music is going to launch a flash sale with exclusive discounts up to 50% off—valid for a limited time. It will feature bargains on a variety of renowned brands including Yamaha Digital Piano, Fender guitars, Yamaha headphones & audio gadget, etc. Stay tuned to our Facebook page for exciting news and deals!

Facebook : Tom Lee Music  
Enquiries : 2723-9932



## UPCLOSE: SAM FERRER

**Sam Ferrer** (third from left) is the double-bassist and founder of Shaolin Fez, an acid jazz side project by a few members of the Hong Kong Philharmonic. He chats with Jessica Wei about the band, the technical characteristics of acid jazz, and their upcoming unplugged session to raise funds for Save the Children.

**HK Magazine:** So, what is Shaolin Fez?

**Sam Ferrer:** The band is considered a bit of a spin-off from the Hong Kong Philharmonic. I conceived of it in part because of the pop concerts that we were doing at the Philharmonic. Some of the music, like our James Bond covers, were going over so well that I thought it would be great to get a small group together and get some of the music out to the clubs. In cities like New York and London, there are similar large live music projects, with very intricate arrangements that can only be done by professional musicians. But in Hong Kong, no one was doing it. Fortunately, because of my job with the Philharmonic, I was able to lure in musicians who normally don't do this sort of thing. It's a 13-piece group, which is quite huge for Hong Kong.



**HK:** What's the main difference between performing with Shaolin Fez versus the Philharmonic?

**SF:** I think my colleagues find it kind of refreshing. With the job, we do a fair amount of pop and light-hearted programming, but it's very different when you go to a club. It becomes a lot more personal. The problem with the concert hall is that there is an invisible veil between the stage and the audience, and you feel a bit removed. One of the reasons why I think it's good for us to get out into the clubs is to feel a connection with the audience, and it's good for the audience to feel that connection as well.

**HK:** So what's acid jazz, anyway?

**SF:** "Acid jazz" itself is a very loose term. Acid jazz doesn't

actually mean jazz, it means groove music with a little bit of jazz improvisation. We play plenty of music like that: when we do outdoor festivals or loud performances, our music is best described as acid jazz or R&B and funk. This upcoming unplugged show, though, will not have anything like that.

**HK:** Then what can we expect from your next show?

**SF:** Usually, more than half the music we play are original songs, and the styles vary wildly from funk and R&B and rock, to far more cinematic music. But this show has even more of a twist because we're getting rid of the drum set and we're focusing more on the symphonic arrangements. It's going to be more moody and atmospheric. We've done ballads in the past and they've gone over extremely well—so I thought it would be nice to put together a whole show of this kind of music.

**HK:** What's the charity side of this gig?

**SF:** We're launching a crowdfunding campaign the same night. It's a 45-day campaign to record, which we haven't done for over four years. We're an independent project, we don't have a record label, and recording a large group with real acoustic instruments is quite expensive. We're going to raise money to record an EP called "This Is Now Our Home." We'll donate 100% of the sales to refugee relief, specifically Save the Children's efforts in the Middle East. We thought: if people are giving to us just to give us the opportunity to record, the least we can do is be generous ourselves and donate the sales.

**Catch Shaolin Fez as they play two unplugged sets on May 5 at the Fringe Dairy, 2 Lower Albert Rd., Central. \$175 for 7pm show, \$200 for 9:30pm show. Donate to their crowdfunding campaign at [tiny.cc/hk-shaolin-fez](http://tiny.cc/hk-shaolin-fez).**

## Concerts



### Jazz Duet by Baptiste Trotignon & Minino Garay

French jazz pianist Baptiste Trotignon and Argentinian percussionist Minino Garay have a string of accolades as soloists, but since the beginning of their collaboration in 2011 they've set the French jazz world ablaze with their acoustic sets, delivering killer ballads, jazz and Argentinian tango. They're bringing their cool piano and hot Latin percussion to the Hong Kong stage for Le French May. May 12, 8pm. Theatre, City Hall, 5 Edinburgh Place, Central, 2016.frenchmay.com. \$180-380 from urbtix.hk.

### When Violin Meets Ballet

What happens when violin meets ballet? Pure magic. The Pan Asia Symphony Orchestra performs selected works by their music director and composer Yip Wai-hong, plus pieces by Chinese composers as well as Tchaikovsky's suites, "Swan Lake," "Sleeping Beauty" and "The Nutcracker"—all with a live ballet accompaniment. May 6, 7, 8pm. Auditorium, Sha Tin Town Hall, 1 Yuen Wo Rd., Sha Tin; Tsuen Wan Town Hall Auditorium, 72 Tai Ho Rd., Tsuen Wan. \$100-180 from urbtix.hk.



### Know Your Haydn

The Father of the Symphony gets his time in the spotlight. Yip Wing-sie, the music director and conductor of the Hong Kong Sinfonietta, will lead the audience through the life and music of Haydn, the prolific Austrian composer who was a mentor to Mozart and teacher to Beethoven. The Sinfonietta will play excerpts from seven of his symphonies, including the whimsical "Surprise" symphony. Apr 29-30, 7:30pm. Concert Hall, City Hall, 5 Edinburgh Place, Central. \$140-280 from urbtix.hk.

## Comedy

### 2 Tall 2 Skinny Stand-Up

The Fringe Upstairs is about to get a belly full of laughs thanks to two of Hong Kong's leading local comedians. Chris Musni and Gus Tate will each deliver two half-hours of their own brand of observational comedy: No small feat in a town of five-minute-long joke sets. May 13-14, 8pm. Fringe Club, 2 Lower Albert Rd., Central. \$100 from hkticketing.com.

## Dance

### La Partida

Flamenco dancer Adrian Santana returns to Hong Kong for a one-night performance of his new show, "La Partida" ("departure"). Santana depicts his personal experiences in both Spain and Asia, through the medium of dance. Performing in collaboration with both Spanish and Hong Kong dancers and musicians, this is looking like one multicultural passion-fest. May 14, 8pm. Youth Square Y-Theatre, 2/F, 238 Chai Wan Rd., Chai Wan. \$280-450 from ticketflap.com.



### Never-Never Land by Unlock Dancing Plaza

The newest dance work by Unlock Dancing Plaza explores themes of usefulness and uselessness in our rapidly developing society. The performance is a duet, choreographed and performed by artistic director Ong Yong Lock and Taiwanese dancer Chou Shu-yi. May 6-8, 8pm; May 7-8, 3pm. Kwai Tsing Theatre, 12 Hing Ning Rd., Kwai Fong. \$220 from urbtix.hk.



### Bliss: An Electro-Hip Hop Piece

Anthony Egéa's new dance performance takes place on a night out clubbing, and it combines a dizzying range of styles and dances, all set to an electro and hip-hop beat. Volar, better up your game. May 13-14, 8pm. Drama Theatre, Academy for Performing Arts, 1 Gloucester Rd., Wan Chai. \$180-380 from hkticketing.com.

## Theater



### Swan Lake on Ice

Don't worry: There are no ugly ducklings in this world-renowned ice capade. The cast of Swan Lake on Ice slides into Hong Kong to present acrobatic moves and drama alike, all on a frozen theater stage. Apr 27-May 8, various times. Grand Theatre, Cultural Centre, 10 Salisbury Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui. \$345-945 from urbtix.hk.

### Tiddler And Other Terrific Tales

Kids will love this rollicking journey through farm, sea and jungle, which brings to life colorful characters from Julia Donaldson and Axel Sheffler's best-selling books "Tiddler," "Monkey Puzzle," "The Smartest Giant in Town" and "A Squash and a Squeeze." Presented by the award-winning Scamp Theatre, "Tiddler and Other Terrific Tales" should bring a grin to the faces of audience members young and old alike. May 6-8, 11am, 2pm, 4:30pm. Drama Theatre, Academy for Performing Arts, 1 Gloucester Rd., Wan Chai. \$195-435 from hkticketing.com.



### 4.48 Psychosis

The play "4.48 Psychosis" was completed just months before its British playwright Sarah Kane's suicide, and was performed for the first time shortly thereafter. Her suffering resulted in a true-to-life interpretation of clinical depression that's now performed globally. Don't miss Bonnie Chan's self-directed performance at Theatre du Pif. May 12-15, 8:30pm. Studio Theatre, Cultural Centre, 10 Salisbury Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui. thtdupif.com. \$160-240 from urbtix.hk.

## Classical

### Michel Dalberto Piano Recital

With over 40 recorded albums to his name and an official claim to being the only living pianist to have recorded the complete piano works of Schubert, French pianist Michel Dalberto is the real deal. He brings his expertise to the Hong Kong City Hall Concert Hall stage, where he'll be playing selections from Franck, Debussy, Fauré and Ravel. May 6-7, 8pm. Concert Hall, City Hall, 5 Edinburgh Place, Central, 2016.frenchmay.com. \$140-340 from urbtix.hk.





# NIGHTLIFE

## UPCLOSE: CHARLIE LIM

Singaporean singer-songwriter Charlie Lim is known in his hometown as the "master of melancholy," pairing deeply introspective lyrics with melodies and production styles that recall his musical heroes Damien Rice, Jeff Buckley, St. Vincent and more. Heading to Hong Kong this May with his band The Mothership, Lim tells Evelyn Lok about stealing as the best form of art.



### HK Magazine: How did you get into playing music and songwriting?

**Charlie Lim:** I started piano when I was four years old—my mom gave me piano lessons—and I've been playing music ever since. I started learning how to improvise, playing by ear. Then I started to form bands and to write songs when I was 16.

**HK:** Your latest EP, "Time/Space," shifts from ragtime and big band through to indie folk and even electro and dance. What got you into all these genres?

**CL:** I really like Jeff Buckley and Damien Rice: Those were my influences growing up. I really like R'n'B and neo-soul too. I also really like more alternative music like St. Vincent and James Blake—those guys got me interested in production, and I thought I'd experiment. I was struggling really hard with trying to find my own sound, and on this EP I could go singer-songwriter on one side, and on the other just mess around on the computer. By having that structure, paradoxically, you get to do more things.

**HK:** Do you find it hard to stay unique amongst all your influences?

**CL:** These days, music is getting more homogenized, so it's hard to break away regardless. Everyone is moving towards the whole "bedroom production" thing. You try very hard to stand out but if you try too hard for the sake of doing so, you end up making pretty terrible music. It's a weird process: you have to internalize everything that has influenced you, and you need to go into your own cave and try to make sense of it. If it does sound like someone else, but you arrange it or combine it with a different idea... I have no issue with that. I'm very proud to say I'm very good at stealing ideas and combining them with others. That's what I think all good art should be.

**HK:** What would you say your music is about?

**CL:** My first EP, a lot of that was about infatuation. The second, "Time/Space," is a lot more cynical. I'd like to think that it's more grown up, and more realistic. With the first track, "Blah Blah

Blues," the idea was to poke fun at this victimization—essentially it's a satire of how I like to feel sorry for myself. A lot of the tunes are about finding your own voice, trying to make sense of the world. People can interpret it as a romantic relationship, but to me, a lot of it is my relationship with music and trying to make sense of doing music as a career.

**HK:** What can we expect from the show in Hong Kong?

**CL:** We have some songs from the old EP, but the whole live show experience is going to be quite different because I have The Mothership with me: It's a seven piece band. We're probably not making any money from this because I've decided to bring the whole band over! The arrangements of the songs will be the highlight of the show; the sound is quite full. We've been covering one of Radiohead's songs from the "In Rainbows" album, so that's pretty intense!

**HK:** We heard that you've been working with Hong Kong star Khalil Fong: What's the deal with that?

**CL:** He's a really cool guy, he invited me to stay at his place for a few days. We got to record some things, and had a few song ideas. I get the comparison to him a lot, because we kinda look alike, with the glasses, the skinny frame, the snide jokes on stage. And we both like similar styles of music. To me, that's a compliment and I'm cool with that. I hope to work more with him and confuse more audiences.

**See Charlie Lim and The Mothership on May 22, 7pm. Hang Out, 1/F, Youth Outreach Jockey Club, 2 Holy Cross Path, Sai Wan Ho. \$280 from charlielim.pelago.events; \$300 at the door.**

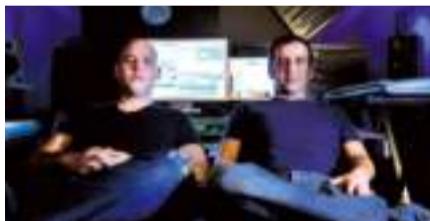
## Clubs

### Lil Jon at Pacha Macau

As the saying goes: Turn down for what? May 13, 9pm. Pacha Macau, Studio City, Estrado do Istmo, Cotai, Macau, MOP350 from pachamacau.com/en/events.

### Fly Presents DJ Krush

Tokyo DJ and producer Krush has been spinning hip hop since the late 80s, and those in the know may recognize him from Krush Posse, Japan's top 80s hip hop act. Krush heads to Fly this April to bring us his signature jazz and soul-influenced beats. Apr 30, 10pm. Fly, G/F, 24-30 Ice House St., Central, \$250 from ticketflap.com/buzzconcepts, \$300 at the door; both with two Red Bull drinks and two shots.



### Aly & Fila at Pacha Macau

Egyptian turntable sheikhs Aly & Fila were voted number one trance DJs in the Trance Podium Top 100 Awards over two consecutive years, and they're bringing their unique brand of trance to Pacha Macau. Apr 30, 9pm. Pacha Macau, Studio City, Estrado do Istmo, Cotai, Macau, \$150-200 from pachamacau.com/en/events, includes one drink.

### DJ Revolution Presents: Nervo at Bungalow

Aussie EDM sibling princesses Mim and Liv of Nervo—DJ Mag's highest ranking female DJs of 2013 and 2014—will be hitting the decks at Bungalow on Cinco de Mayo. Woo! May 5, 11pm. Bungalow, Shop 2, G/F, The Centrium, 60 Wyndham St., Central, \$250 from nervohk.eventbrite.hk, \$400 at the door.



### CID at Zentral

Following the February release of his latest remix EP "Love is Blind," Grammy-winning producer CID comes to Hong Kong for the first time. Support provided by resident DJs Yin, Tak and Kazu. May 12, 11pm. Zentral, 4-5/F, California Tower, 32 D'Aguilar St., Central, \$250 from fatsoma.com/hkclubbingcom, \$300 at the door; both include one drink.

### Joris Voorn at Tazmania Ballroom

Get your fix of Dutch tech house at Taz Ballroom this May from Amsterdam native Joris Voorn. May 13, 10pm. Tazmania Ballroom, 1/F, LKF Tower, 33 Wyndham St., Central, \$300 at the door.



## Concerts

### M83

If the concert promoters at YourMum haven't already burned a hole in your savings account with the exceptional lineups they've been bringing us over the past few months, they certainly have now. Space-age hipster pop crew M83 is set to hit Hong Kong stage this May, touring their first studio album in five years. May 4, 8pm. Star Hall, KITEC, 1 Trademart Drive, Kowloon Bay, \$480 from hkticketing.com.



### Super Junior Super Camp

K-pop gods Super Junior, all 57 of them (kidding: there are only 13, but seven of them are currently serving in the army), head to Macau's Studio City for a mini concert to meet the fans and to celebrate their 10-year career. For the superfans who care: Leeteuk, Heechul, Yesung, Kangin, Ryeowook and Kyuhyun will be making appearances. All tickets are seated. Will you be able to stay in your seat? May 28, 8pm. Studio City Event Center, Studio City Macau, Estrada do Istmo, Cotai, Macau, \$580-1,580 from aegticketing.com, studiocity-macau.com or hkticketing.com.



### Lily & Bloom x Little Burro Cinco de Mayo Fiesta

With two Central F&B powerhouses joining forces, it'll be hard not to have fun this Cinco de Mayo. Lily & Bloom's head chef Billy Otis and Little Burro owner Roger De Leon (also known as DJ Re:Flex) will be whipping up a Mexican-inspired feast complete with a pop-up taco stand at the LKF Tower eatery. Five special cocktails will be available as well, starting from \$120 for the Mexican Ribbon, a horchata- and tequila-based tipple. Re:Flex will be spinning from 10pm onwards. May 5. Lily and Bloom, 6/F, LKF Tower, 33 Wyndham St., Central.

## Nightlife Events

### Rewind Vol. #8: Lazy Sunday Sessions

The Rewind kids are back with their Sunday rooftop parties at Armani/Prive, this time featuring the house/techno DJ Alex Niggemann from Berlin, supported by Rewind's resident DJs. Best of all, it's a public holiday the next day: go for the tunes, stay for the beautiful people and chill party vibes. May 1, 3pm. Armani/Prive, 2/F, Chater House, 8 Connaught Rd, Central, \$100 from rewindaevents.com, \$150 at the door.

### Cinco de Mayo at Coyote and Caramba

Mexican resto-bar Caramba is kicking off a whole month of Cinco de Mayo celebrations at the SoHo (26-30 Elgin St., Central, 2530-9963) and Discovery Bay branches with a host of promotions. Get two-for-one Coronas along with lunch or dinner at Caramba, plus two-for-one lime margaritas between 6-9pm, all accompanied by a live Mariachi DJ performance. At Coyote, there'll be a range of boozy festivities, from a 3.5-meter beer bong to, of course, piñata time. May 1-31. Coyote Bar & Grill, 114-120 Lockhart Rd., Wan Chai, 2861-2221; Caramba, Shop G08A, Discovery Bay Plaza, Discovery Bay, 2987-2824.

## Gigs

### Gabriele Poso at MyHouse

Hailing from the sunny Mediterranean island of Sardinia, multi-instrumentalist Gabriele Poso is a master at percussion and the guitar. He brings a soulful, jazz and Afro-Latin influenced sound to MyHouse this April. Apr 30, 11pm. Free, register at ticketflap.com/gabrieleposo to enter lucky draw for a \$500 MyHouse dining voucher.

Edited by Evelyn Lok  
evelyn.lok@hkmagmedia.com



#### Allen Youngblood & Jazbalaya at DiVino Patio

Looking for some smooth tunes to wash down that after-work booze? Legendary jazz pianist and composer Allen Youngblood plays with this band on Thursday evenings from May 5 onwards at Wan Chai's DiVino Patio. May 5-Jul 28. Thursdays, 7-10:30pm. DiVino Patio, Shop 11, 1/F, Brim 28, Causeway Centre, 28 Harbour Rd., Wan Chai, 2877-3552.



#### Happy Hours

HK Magazine x Lan Kwai Fong

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It's HK Magazine's 25th anniversary, and we're showing our appreciation to our readers the only way we know how: with cheap drinks in Hong Kong's rowdiest area code. Make your happy hour a little bit happier with \$25 drinks at 19 of LKF's best bars. Head to our website, register for the promotion, and present the SMS confirmation at some of the city's booziest spots. Now go make us proud.

Through May 31.

Lan Kwai Fong, Central, sign up at promotions. hk-magazine.com/25years/LKFHH.



##### #JinChick Happy Hour at Jinjuu

You can now feast on even more hot Korean chick(en)s at Jinjuu's #JinChick happy hour, featuring four Hite beers with a double portion of their signature fried chicken for just \$300. Mon-Fri, 4-7pm. Jinjuu, UG/F, 32 D'Aguilar St., Central.



##### Champagne & Japanese Canapés Happy Hour at Dragon-i

D-i bites just got even fancier at their latest weekday Happy Hour offering, which includes a pairing of Japanese canapés with free flow Perrier Jouët Grand Brut for \$388. Wed-Fri, 5-9pm. Dragon-i, UG/F, The Centrium, 60 Wyndham St., Central.

HK PICKS

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##### Rosé Revolution

Rosé lovers can get their fix of pink bubbly on Mother's Day weekend at the return of the Rosé Revolution, a rosé wine festival making its first stop in Hong Kong before moving on to Singapore, Shanghai and Macau. Sip from 25 different types of rosé from international winemakers, wash it down with a sausage sizzle barbecue on the lawn, and do it all over again. Groups of four can get in on a yum cha group ticket offer, and VIP ticketholders get a premium rosé cocktail as well as VIP lounge access. May 7, 1-7pm. The Garden, Whisky@Stables, 1/F, Hullett House, 1881 Heritage, 2A Canton Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, \$200-450 from ticketflap.com/roserevolution2016hk; \$1,800 for four for dim sum and rosé at Loong Toh Heen with access to Rosé Revolution.

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## Hardcore Henry ★★★★

**Directed by Ilya Naishuller. Starring Sharlto Copley, Danila Kozlovsky, Haley Bennett, Tim Roth. 96 minutes. Category III. Opened Apr 21.**

**(Russia/USA)** The joy of playing video games is that you're in charge. Your actions shape your environment: you're the agent of change in the world. But in the best movies, you're a spectator of a crafted experience: you participate by witnessing art, not creating it. So what happens when you try to combine the aesthetic of games with the lack of control of film?

"Hardcore Henry" was shot almost entirely on a GoPro camera, mounted onto the head of its protagonist—so you see the whole movie through the protagonist's eyes. An innovative step forward in the art of filmmaking? Don't hold your breath.

The film stars—or maybe "you play"—Henry, who wakes up in a lab with no memories, no voice, no arm and no leg. But it's OK—he's being looked after by his loving wife Estelle (Haley Bennett), who explains (as she installs his missing limbs) that he's a recently upgraded cyborg who's missing his speech module. Before it can be installed, telekinetically powered baddie Akan (Danila Kozlovsky) shows up and kidnaps Estelle. Henry's thrust out into the big bad world, helped only by a schizophrenic and possibly immortal man named Jimmy (a ridiculously hammy Sharlto Copley, "District 9").

"Hardcore Henry" was shot in Russia by a Russian director, and the mood is hilariously post-Soviet, from the dilapidated sets to the music to the incredibly poor taste everyone has in sportswear. The novelty of the first-person perspective gets us through about 20 minutes of run time, and yes—it's an impressive technical achievement. But after that, the novelty wears off. Motion sickness isn't much of a problem, but the



film's action just doesn't feel sufficiently well-choreographed to work. The film's best moments don't come in the confusing gunfights, but rather in the parkour and climbing stunts that feel more like an extreme sports video than an action flick.

Truth is, watching "Hardcore Henry" is almost exactly like playing a first-person-shooter game—except there's no controller in your hand. In between nailing his shots, director Ilya Naishuller seems to have forgotten that you still need to have a story at the center of your movie. And "Hardcore Henry" doesn't have the narrative force of a movie: it has the structure of a video game. A bad video game. Henry is given a set of objectives one after the other, each in a different location. He's sent from waypoint to waypoint, told to retrieve items and then hand them in to his quest-giver. There are mini-bosses. There

are level-ups. There's a boss fight. It's video game 101.

It's frustrating, because there was so much potential in "Hardcore Henry." Potential to deliver some stunning, innovative action, sure—but also the potential to play with the art of storytelling, to immerse the viewer in a world, to make them feel like the protagonist, not just a ride-along participant in someone else's shoot-em-up. This isn't moviemaking; it's spending 96 minutes on YouTube watching someone else play "Call of Duty."

In 2012 Felix Baumgartner strapped a GoPro to his head and rode a balloon into the stratosphere. We watched, live, when he jumped off, breaking the sound barrier as he fell 39km to earth. We saw it through his eyes. When reality looks like that, "Hardcore Henry" starts to look distinctly softcore. **Adam White**

## Coming Soon

### Book of Love

**(China)** In the second installment of the phenomenally successful "Beijing Meets Seattle" franchise, its two leads Tang Wei and Wu Xiubo reprise their roles as star-crossed lovers—but this time they live in Los Angeles and Macao, respectively. Will they or won't they get together in the end? They probably will, but certainly not without some high-flying skyline porn. Opens May 5.

### The Himalayas ▾

**(South Korea)** Two South Korean mountaineers (played by Jung Woo and Kim In-kwon) are lifelong trekkers who must scale Everest to retrieve the body of a stranded teammate under ever more forbidding circumstances. Opens May 5.



### My Mother

**(Italy)** In "Mia Madre," a movie director on the verge of a nervous breakdown must balance her hectic life with her mother's illness and daughter's adolescence. This Italian film features John Turturro as a pain-in-the-neck American actor. Opens May 5.

### The Propaganda Game

**(Spain)** Little is known about North Korea, but much is speculated in the media about this hermit kingdom. With the guidance of Alejandro Cao de Benós, the only foreign employee of the DPRK government, Spanish director Álvaro Longoria (who produced "Che" starring Benicio Del Toro) delivers a unique and surprising documentary all about how information is manipulated—both inside and outside North Korea. Opens May 5 at the Broadway Cinematheque.

### Race

**(Canada/Germany/USA)** Jesse Owens was one of the greatest American track and field athletes in history, an African-American runner from Alabama who set three world records at the age of 26 and went on to win four gold medals in the 1936 Summer Olympics in Berlin—during the rise of Nazi Germany. This biopic stars Jason Sudeikis (SNL, "Horrible Bosses") and Stephan James ("Selma"). Opens May 5.

### Opening



### Captain America: Civil War

**(USA)** The gang's back together, and by "together," we mean, separated into two factions and in debate about whether a rag-tag group of ass-kicking, superhuman misfits with megawatt smiles (played by RDJ, ScarJo, Chris Evans—and literally every other A-lister below Clooney) should have more government intervention or less (why would anyone want less!?). Opened Apr 28.



### Mustang

**(Turkey)** A group of sisters in a conservative town live under strict house arrest by their grandparents: taken out of school, they're taught to sew, cook, and perform other domestic tasks as they wait for marriage. But as time wears on, the sisters start to plan their escape. Opened Apr 28.



### Anomalisa

**(UK)** This Oscar-nominated stop-motion flick follows an inspirational speaker who is bored with his cookie-cutter life—until he meets a woman (Jennifer Jason Leigh) who shakes things up. A complex meditation on humanity, but you can't help feeling tired watching every tiny mundane detail of human life. ★★

## Continuing



### 10 Cloverfield Lane

**(USA)** This loose sequel to 2008's "Cloverfield," herds Mary Elizabeth Winstead, John Goodman and John Gallagher Jr. into a post-apocalyptic bunker and dares them to consider an outside world where everyone is dead. A valiant effort with a lacklustre ending, this thriller keeps you at the edge of your seat without blowing you away. ★★★

### 45 Years

**(UK)** After 45 years of marriage, Kate and Geoff Mercer (Charlotte Rampling and Tom Courtenay) get a letter in the mail reminding them of a long-ignored fact from the past, and their relationship begins to take on a different tone.

### The Boy

**(USA/China/Canada)** Old tropes die hard for a reason, and that reason is that people will never not be freaked out by three things: dolls that come to life, mysterious messages on the wall written in blood, and deadpan British children. Horror veteran William Brent Bell ("Stay Alive," "The Devil Inside") directs this thriller starring Lauren Cohan ("The Walking Dead") as a nanny to an English family's porcelain doll, which goes, inevitably, from weird to murderous.

### Demolition

**(USA)** Director Jean-Marc Vallée (last year's runaway success "Wild"), tells the story of an investment banker (Jake Gyllenhaal) who is grappling with the death of his wife. In unlikely circumstances, he befriends a customer service rep (Naomi Watts) and her son.

### The Dressmaker

**(Australia)** Tilly Dunnage (Kate Winslet) is a couturier in the 50s who returns to her provincial Australian childhood home to take care of her ailing mother. Having been accused of murder as a child and exiled at an early age, she's back to find the truth and get revenge on her accusers, armed with... a sewing machine?



**Edited by Evelyn Lok**  
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## Need to Know

AMC Cinema, 2265-8933  
amccinemas.com.hk

Broadway Circuit,  
2388-3188  
cinema.com.hk

Golden Harvest Cinema,  
2622-6688  
goldenharvest.com

MCL Cinema, 3413-6688  
mclcinema.com

UA Cinema,  
3516-8811  
uacinemas.com.hk

The Metroplex, 2620-2200  
metroplex.com.hk

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

**Hardcore Henry**  
(Russia/USA) See review, opposite.



**In the Room**  
(Hong Kong/Singapore) Billed as Singapore's first erotic movie, "In The Room" spans six decades and centers around a single room in a Singaporean hotel and its various inhabitants: Six couples of all orientations and backgrounds. Stars Josie Ho as brothel madam who's all about the female empowerment.



**The Kid from the Big Apple**  
(Malaysia/Hong Kong/Singapore) A lot of people will recognize this story of an assimilated, second-generation Asian kid who goes back to the old country and deepens her cultural awareness of her roots. Stars legendary Shaw Brothers veteran Ti Lung as a conservative grandfather and Malaysian newcomer Tan Qin Lin as Sarah, the kid in question.

**Life**  
(Canada/USA) This biopic of James Dean by Anton Corbijn ("A Most Wanted Man") centers on Dean (Dane DeHaan) and photographer Dennis Stock (Robert Pattinson) and their unexpected friendship while they travel the USA shooting the now iconic Life magazine spread. A gorgeous film but ultimately lacking, "Life" seems better viewed in photos than on screen. ★★

**Marguerite**  
(France/Czech Republic) In the sumptuous era of Paris in the 1920s, one voice rings clearly and tunelessly out into aghast concert halls. It is that of Marguerite (Catherine Frot, "Haute Cuisine"), a wealthy socialite who has no idea how terribly incapable she is of carrying an aria yet insists on finding bigger and bigger stages to perform on.

**My Wife is a Superstar**  
(Hong Kong) Fame is a fickle mistress: One minute it's all red carpets and fancy gowns, the next you're hiding your reporter husband from the press because you've promised your studio boss you won't date anyone. This film reunites Annie Liu and Pakho Chau, who were last seen together in last year's "S For Sex, S For Secret."



"We Go to That Country", Salento International Film Festival

## Film Festivals

### Salento International Film Festival

The Salento International Film Festival once again finds its way to Hong Kong, and brings with it six features and three shorts from filmmakers across the world. Don't miss the opening screening of "We Go to That Country" (May 11, 7:50pm), about two enterprising young men in a small town filled with pensioners. May 11-15. The Grand Cinema, 2/F, Elements, 1 Austin Rd. West, West Kowloon, salentofilmfestival.com. \$55-90 from thegrandcinema.com.hk.

### Orgasmo

Gooooo Secrets is back with another secret cinema event, this time celebrating the mighty orgasm (the second coming, if you will). Looking to revive erotic film in Hong Kong, at Orgasmo an "unthinkable place" will be transformed into a pop-up cinema seating a thousand people. On the bill: a surprise steamy classic. To warm you up for the main event, French choreographer Alice Rensy will be performing a dance piece, apparently involving a few ropes. May 14, 7:30pm. \$200 from tiny.cc/hk-orgasmo; half of ticket sales will go to the Hong Kong Aids Foundation. Venue is at a secret location.

Listings compiled by Jessica Wei

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# FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

ROB BREZSNY

**TAURUS (Apr 20-May 20):** You're in a phase of your cycle when you'll be rewarded for your freshness and originality. The more you cultivate a "beginner's mind," the smarter you will be. What you want will become more possible to the degree that you shed everything you think you know about what you want. As the artist Henri Matisse said, if a truly creative painter hopes to paint a rose, he or she "first has to forget all the roses that were ever painted." What would be the equivalent type of forgetting in your own life?

**GEMINI (May 21-Jun 20):** "Am I still a hero if the only person I save is myself?" asks poet B. Damani. If you posed that question to me right now, I would reply, "Yes, Gemini. You are still a hero if the only person you save is yourself." If you asked me to elaborate, I'd say, "In fact, saving yourself is the only way you can be a hero right now. You can't rescue or fix or rehabilitate anyone else unless and until you can rescue and fix and rehabilitate yourself." If you pushed me to provide you with a hint about how you should approach this challenge, I'd be bold and finish with a flourish: "Now I dare you to be the kind of hero you have always feared was beyond your capacity."

**CANCER (Jun 21-Jul 22):** "We need people in our lives with whom we can be as open as possible," declares psychotherapist Thomas Moore. I agree. Our mental health thrives when we can have candid conversations with free spirits who don't censor themselves and don't expect us to water down what we say. This is always true, of course, but it will be an absolute necessity for you in the coming weeks. So I suggest that you do everything you can to put yourself in the company of curious minds that love to hear and tell the truth. Look for opportunities to express yourself with extra clarity and depth. "To have real conversations with people may seem like such a simple, obvious suggestion," says Moore, "but it involves courage and risk."

**LEO (Jul 23-Aug 22):** I watched a video of a helicopter pilot as he descended from the sky and tried to land his vehicle on the small deck of a Danish ship patrolling the North Sea. The weather was blustery and the seas were choppy. The task looked at best strenuous, at worst impossible. The pilot hovered patiently as the ship pitched wildly. Finally there was a brief calm, and he seized on that moment to settle down safely. According to my analysis of the astrological omens, you may have a metaphorically similar challenge in the coming days. To be successful, all you have to do is be alert for the brief calm, and then act with swift, relaxed decisiveness.

**VIRGO (Aug 23-Sep 22):** "Show me a man who isn't a slave," wrote the Roman philosopher Seneca. "One is a slave to sex, another to money, another to ambition; all are slaves to hope or fear." Commenting on Seneca's thought, blogger Ryan Holiday says, "I'm disappointed in my enslavement to self-doubt, to my resentment towards those that I dislike, to the power that the favor and approval of certain

people hold over me." What about you, Virgo? Are there any emotional states or bedeviling thoughts or addictive desires that you're a slave to? The coming weeks will be a favorable time to emancipate yourself. As you do, remember this: There's a difference between being compulsively driven by a delusion and lovingly devoted to a worthy goal.

**LIBRA (Sep 23-Oct 22):** "Everyone who has ever built a new heaven first found the power to do so in his own hell." That noble truth was uttered by Libran philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche, and I bet it will be especially meaningful for most of you during the rest of 2016. The bad news is that in the past few months you've had to reconnoiter your own hell a little more than you would have liked, even if it has been pretty damn interesting. The good news is that these explorations will soon be winding down. The fantastic news is that you are already getting glimpses of how to use what you've been learning. You'll be well-prepared when the time comes to start constructing a new heaven.

**SCORPIO (Oct 23-Nov 21):** "Zugzwang" is a German-derived word used in chess and other games. It refers to a predicament in which a player cannot possibly make a good move. Every available option will weaken his or her position. I propose that we coin a new word that means the opposite of zugzwang: "zugfrei," which shall hereafter signify a situation in which every choice you have in front of you is a positive or constructive one; you cannot make a wrong move. I think this captures the essence of the coming days for you, Scorpio.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22-Dec 21):** "We have to learn how to live with our frailties," poet Stanley Kunitz told "The Paris Review." "The best people I know are inadequate and unashamed." That's the keynote I hope you will adopt in the coming weeks. No matter how strong and capable you are, no matter how hard you try to be your best, there are ways you fall short of perfection. And now is a special phase of your astrological cycle when you can learn a lot about how to feel at peace with that fact.

**CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 19):** How do plants reproduce? They generate seeds that are designed to travel. Dandelion and orchid seeds are so light they can drift long distances through the air. Milkweed seeds are a bit heavier, but are easily carried by the wind. Foxglove and sycamore seeds are so buoyant they can float



on flowing water. Birds and other animals serve as transportation for burdock seeds, which hook onto feather and fur. Fruit seeds may be eaten by animals and later excreted, fully intact, far from their original homes. I hope this meditation stimulates you to think creatively about dispersing your own metaphorical seeds, Capricorn. It's time for you to vividly express your essence, make your mark, spread your influence.

**AQUARIUS (Jan 20-Feb 19):** "It is a fault to wish to be understood before we have made ourselves clear to ourselves," said philosopher Simone Weil. I hope that prod makes you feel a bit uncomfortable, Aquarius. I hope it motivates you to get busy investigating some of your vague ideas and fuzzy self-images and confused intentions. It will soon be high time for you to ask for more empathy and acknowledgment from those whose opinions matter to you. You're overdue to be more appreciated, to be seen for who you really are. But before any of that good stuff can happen, you will have to engage in a flurry of introspection. You've got to clarify and deepen your relationship with yourself.

**PISCES (Feb 18-Mar 20):** "I have never let my schooling interfere with my education," said writer Mark Twain. That's excellent advice for you to apply and explore in the coming weeks. Much of the time, the knowledge you have accumulated and the skills you have developed are supreme assets. But for the immediate future, they could obstruct you from learning the lessons you need most. For instance, they might trick you into thinking you are smarter than you really are. Or they could cause you to miss simple and seemingly obvious truths that your sophisticated perspective is too proud to notice. Be a humble student, my dear.

**ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 19):** The oracle I'm about to present may be controversial. It contains advice that most astrologers would never dare to offer an Aries. But I believe you are more receptive than usual to this challenge, and I am also convinced that you especially need it right now. Are you ready to be pushed further than I have ever pushed you? Study this quote from novelist Mark Z. Danielewski: "Passion has little to do with euphoria and everything to do with patience. It is not about feeling good. It is about endurance. Like patience, passion comes from the same Latin root: *pati*."

**HOMEWORK:** Describe how you've fought off the seductive power of trendy cynicism without turning into a gullible Pollyanna. [Freewillastrology.com](http://Freewillastrology.com).

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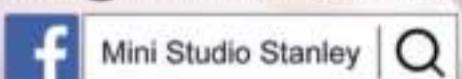
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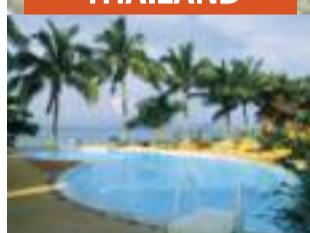
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## SAVAGE LOVE

Dan Savage

I am a trans man and I have no love life. But I did just hook up with a friend two nights ago. It was the first time I've had sex in more than a year. My problem is that it was a "one-time thing." I was hoping to be FWB at least. I'm furious with myself for giving that away for what amounted to a hookup, and thoroughly sorry for myself for it being a "one-time thing," because it nearly always is. I feel thoroughly unlovable and dejected right now. I was raised a Boston Irish Catholic, and I have PTSD from my parents being difficult. In a backward way, I hope the issue for others is tied to the fallout from my upbringing—because that's something everyone has problems with, and those things, while not entirely fixable, are manageable and not so visible. I worry it's not that, though. I worry my being trans is the first problem a potential partner sees. I am a man with a twat—a forlorn, underused twat at that.

– Not Often Picked, Everyone Not Interested Sexually

Buck Angel is a public speaker, a filmmaker, an activist, and a trans man, NOPENIS, who famously and fearlessly bills himself as "the man with a pussy." I passed your letter on to him because who better to answer a question from a man with a twat than the man with a pussy?

"Anyone who hasn't had sex in more than a year is going to find it scary to get back out there and start again," said Buck. "And starting again with a body that you might not be 100 percent comfortable with yet? That's even scarier. The first thing that NOPENIS needs to hear—and really believe—is that he is lovable. And he is, even if he doesn't know it yet."

The second order of business: You gotta stop beating yourself up over that one-night stand. Take it from Buck, your fellow trans man, and take it from me, your fellow Irish Catholic queer: You didn't do anything wrong, you didn't give anything away—hell, you were doing something right.

"Hookups can be important for understanding your body sexually," said Buck. "So NOPENIS shouldn't be mad at himself. We learn and grow from our experiences, even if they're bad ones. And here's what I learned from my first experiences in the gay men's world of sex: Hookups are the way it's done. I was not prepared for that because I'd had sex only with women before my transition. That was hard for me, too, at first. But what I learned was that I wasn't being rejected, even if it was only a one-night thing. I was being accepted in a way I wasn't used to."

Finally, NOPENIS, you've got to stop seeing your body and your twat as problems. It's the only body you'll ever have, and it's a body some will find attractive and some won't. Some guys will be attracted to your body (and you, ideally) for its differences—not attracted to your body (ditto) despite its differences.

"NOPENIS absolutely shouldn't count himself out just because he's trans," said Buck. "The world is different now, and many people are attracted to trans men sexually. He just needs to learn to love himself and to have sexual confidence, because people find that attractive. And he should continue to experiment and continue to embrace new experiences!"

For more Buck, go to buckangel.com. And you can—and should—follow Buck on Twitter @BuckAngel.

I have a friend who is getting married. She's cheated on every guy she's been with, including her last three husbands. This will be her fourth marriage. I'm sure she's fed the new guy a million reasons why her first three marriages didn't work out. She's obviously a sex fiend, but she's not kinky. And here's the punch line: I found her fiancé's profile on Fetlife, and he has some hardcore fetishes—

even by my standards! I'm sure his kinks are going unexplored within their relationship/engagement and that they will go unexplored once they're married, as my friend has been horrified during discussions of my attendance at BDSM events. I know your rule is generally to "stay the fuck out of it," but I have a rule that goes like this: "I would like to know that the person I'm dating is a serial cheater who's probably after me for my money." So do I warn the guy?

– Fucked Regarding Imperiling Ensuing Nuptials, Dan

Mind your own business, FRIEND, and do so with a clear conscience—because these two sound perfect for each other. He's on Fetlife looking for someone to diaper him, and she's probably cheating on him already. If your friend is still a dishonest, lying, heartbreaking cheat—if she's still making monogamous commitments she cannot keep—why stop her from marrying a man who is already cheating on her or is likely to cheat on her shortly after the wedding? To gently paraphrase William Shakespeare: "Let thee not to the marriage of true minds admit impediments."

Watching these two walk down the aisle will be like watching two drunk drivers speed around a closed racetrack. Maybe they'll crash, maybe they won't; maybe they'll die in a fire, maybe they'll get out alive. But so long as no one else is gonna get hurt, why risk your own neck trying to pull these fuckers over?

**My father is a friendly, kind, all-around good guy. We get along well and always have. But I now have to avoid all political discussions with him. He was always a bit socially conservative, but now he gets a lot of batshit crazy and simply dumb ideas from the scourge of our nation today: Fox News. How can we stop the dumbing down of our society by Fox News, Dan? We have to do something about this malady!**

– Anonymous

"Anonymous is right—Fox News is a malady, one that I've often joked is worse than Ebola," said the documentary filmmaker Jen Senko. "It destroys families and has torn apart the country. That's pretty powerful."

Here's what Senko did about it: She made *The Brainwashing of My Dad*, a terrific documentary exploring how Fox News and other right-wing media turned her mild-mannered, nonpolitical father into a ranting, raving, right-wing fanatic.

"We need to stigmatize 'Faux News,'" said Senko. "I make it a point when I walk into a restaurant or some other public place and they have on Faux News of politely asking them to turn it off. I write to news outlets when they try to emulate Fox and complain."

But how do you get your own dad to turn off Fox News?

"Speaking to loved ones is important but it's difficult," said Senko. "You have to approach them in a calm way, starting the conversation on neutral ground. Sometimes just getting them out of the house and away from the TV helps. There is a group called Hear Yourself Think ([hearyourselfthink.org](http://hearyourselfthink.org)) that focuses on deprogramming Fox News viewers. You will find plenty of advice there. But if you can sit down with your loved one and tell them you are concerned about their anger and their worry and you feel that Fox News is helping to generate that, it can be a conversation opener. You can also get them to try to watch our movie!"

Go to [thebrainwashingofmydad.com](http://thebrainwashingofmydad.com) and watch the trailer to learn more about Senko's terrific film. And you can—and you should—follow Senko on Twitter @Jen\_Senko.

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# SPOTLIGHT

The latest news and deals from our partners



## Green Is the New Black at East Hong Kong

With more and more health and environmentally conscious urban dwellers these days, going green is the go-to trend in the city. East Hong Kong has partnered with the World Wide Fund for Nature Hong Kong (WWF-HK) to offer something that's good for both your belly and mother nature.

Every Wednesday year-round, Feast (Food by East) takes away your guilt when you chow down on succulent seafood by offering a specially tailored menu that features only ocean-friendly seafood ingredients that have been approved by WWF-HK as coming from sustainable and traceable sources.

But going green doesn't mean you have to sacrifice when it comes to flavors and choices. At just \$498 per person, Feast serves a full array of jet-fresh seafood at its antipasti counter, including freshly shucked Australian and French farmed

oysters, wild-caught Boston and Canadian lobster, Dutch mussels, Canadian scallops and crab claws, and more.

Executive chef David Parkin has put a lot of thought into creating a menu that tastes good, but is also good for the ocean. With a selection of five dishes in rotation every two weeks, the menu highlights traditional fish and chips made with New Zealand ling fish caught in the wild, fish pie that's filled with a mix of fresh seafood, and a juicy tandoori Norwegian salmon fillet for some more exotic flavors.

The green experience doesn't stop there: Not only is the seafood sustainable and from traceable sources, East Hong Kong has also gone farm-to-table with their latest urban garden. The hotel is using crops from the

garden to make healthy and delicious dishes at Feast, as well as cocktails at Sugar.

Working with Rooftop Republic, an organization promoting urban farming and sustainable living in Hong Kong, chef Parkin wants to bring chemical- and pesticide-free produce to his restaurant for a healthier, greener dining experience.

[east-hongkong.com](http://east-hongkong.com)



## Calling for a Family Brunch on Alfresco Lane

Planning for your next family weekend outing but don't feel like going too far? Simply head straight to Tsim Sha Tsui's Alfresco Lane in Tsim Sha Tsui Centre and Empire Centre, a little urban oasis with a range of hip and cozy yet affordable dining spots serving cuisines from around the world, perfect for a chillaxed weekend brunch with family.

For world-famous bites and internet bragging rights, you can't miss London House by the one and only Gordon Ramsay. Chow down some traditional British pub grub including the full English breakfast (\$178) and hearty Sunday roast with Yorkshire pudding (\$178), all served by its friendly staff—and it's friendly on your wallet, too.

If you've got a carnivore deep inside you, head straight to Ruth's Chris Steak House. Serving only the finest Midwestern corn-fed beef, the steak house boasts original recipes and hearty, all-American flavors. Alternatively, get your meat fix at Brotzeit German Bier Bar & Restaurant, where you can go Bavarian-style and wash down their meaty

treats like the Bavarian platter (\$128) with some authentic German beer for a beautiful, boozy afternoon.

Planning ahead for a family gathering on Mother's Day next month? Give mom the best day possible at Spasso Italian Bar & Restaurant, which will be serving a bountiful buffet (\$388 for adults, \$228 for children) with five fully packed food stations offering seafood galore and heart-warming Italian specialties.

For some exotic Southeast Asian flavors, check out Namo Avant Thai, which will be serving a special harborside brunch for the occasion. The semi-buffet (\$238 for adults, \$138 for children) offers a range of innovative Thai specialties, promising a gastronomic treat for each member of the family.

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

## Make Your Next Meal a Healthy One with DiVino's New Menu

Mindful of an ever-growing health-conscious dining demographic, DiVino Patio has created a sensibly healthy and lighter—but still delicious—menu for conscious eaters to enjoy this spring, sourcing organic meat and vegetables and offering sugar-free and gluten-free options for eager diners.

"There has been a noticeable shift in the kinds of diets our customers are on and the types of food and ingredients they want to eat," remarks DiVino's Group executive chef Michele Senigaglia.

Among the plethora of new dishes is a hearty slow-cooked cuttlefish with Italian black rice and Bottarga di mugnone roe (a fancier name for Sardinian mullet roe, \$178)—a particularly exquisite dish and a customer favorite.

Next up, pan-fried swordfish steak with wild rocket, a lighter pesto

sauce, gaufrette potatoes, fresh fennel and sun-blushed tomatoes (\$188), seared to perfection.

Finally, the pièce de résistance: the Patio Burger (\$188), featuring a tender and juicy 7oz patty made from certified Fassone Piedmontese ground beef, a particularly lean and tasty breed of cow, along with crunchy lettuce, plum tomatoes, fresh goat cheese and caramelized tropea onions slathered in truffle mayo—fries included, of course.

Don't worry, DiVino hasn't neglected dessert: a tasty pistachio cake with five different kinds of chocolate will satiate your sweet tooth. Did we also mention that it's egg and gluten free? It's looking like one tasty, healthy spring.

[divinogroup.com](http://divinogroup.com)



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# HK GIVEAWAYS

It's the last week of April and while you think we might have given away all our prizes... we're not done just yet! We've got a whole range of goodies just for this special week: It's time for a FLASH Giveaway—get entering now!

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## Win a two-night staycation at East Hong Kong!

You might know it as a business hotel, but the East Hong Kong hotel in Island East isn't about business as usual. Within walking distance of Taikoo Place hub, the hotel is the perfect place to combine work with pleasure, offering stylishly designed rooms, delectable bites from Feast, and Sugar—one of the best rooftop bars in the city.

Thanks to their hospitality, you now have a chance to win an awesome staycation at this fantastic hotel. We've got a **two-night weekend stay for two in a Harbour View Suite**, which overlooks Victoria Harbour from its floor-to-ceiling windows. The stay is complete with daily breakfast for two at Feast for the perfect weekend getaway. Head straight to the hotel after work on Friday and kickstart your weekend with a blast. The total value of this prize? A very generous \$14,800.

Wanna win an awesome weekend getaway? It's really simple. Write us an acrostic poem with the letters "E," "A," "S" and "T" about your dream weekend retreat. Here's a quick sample:

*Every time I go far East  
All I do is drink and feast  
Seems real good if you have time  
To write a poem that can rhyme!*

Go to [hk-magazine.com/hk-giveaways](http://hk-magazine.com/hk-giveaways) to submit your entry before 10am on May 3, 2016.

Good luck! The winner will be announced on May 6.

## Win dining vouchers from Alfresco Lane in Tsim Sha Tsui East!

It's spring time and that means it's time to get out and about! And what better way is there to enjoy the weather than by savoring a scrumptious outdoors brunch?

Located in Tsim Sha Tsui Centre and Empire Centre, Tsim Sha Tsui East's Alfresco Lane is the go-to destination for a relaxing brunch with your loved ones, offering a full range of cuisines from around the world, all overlooking the picturesque Victoria Harbour.

This week, they've been kind enough to offer our readers **12 dining vouchers** to Ruth's Chris Steak House, London House, Spasso Italian Bar & Restaurant, Namo Avant Thai and Brotzeit German Bier Bar & Restaurant, for an amazing weekend brunch spread, with everything totaling a whopping \$5,800!

Want to win? Just go to [hk-magazine.com/hk-giveaways](http://hk-magazine.com/hk-giveaways) and tell us your favorite alfresco dining experience **before 10am on May 3, 2016**. Winners will be announced on May 6.

WIN  
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# FIRST PERSON

After growing up in France, **Stefan Wong** came back to Hong Kong and became a household name after participating in the first ever Mr. Hong Kong pageant in 2005. He tells Xavier Ng about the difference between living in France and Hong Kong, his showbiz career, and how he became a restaurateur.

**I was born in Hong Kong.** My whole family moved to France when I was 4 years old.

**I don't have** many memories of my life in Hong Kong before the move.

**It was the kind of** journey where you didn't know when you'd be back.

**It was hard to adapt.** Unlike Canada or Australia, France is less accepting of Chinese immigrants, and there were even fewer Hongkongers.

**We spoke a mix of** Cantonese and Putonghua at home. That's why I'm still working on my Cantonese.

**My mom wanted me** to learn some Chinese when I was around 11, but I didn't want to.

**I thought,** "What for? We moved all the way here, we're not moving back to Hong Kong."

**I skipped most** of my Chinese classes. Of course, now I regret it.

**I think my** French upbringing made me a more gentle, romantic person.

**I had many jobs** when I was in France—waiter, auto shop worker, house painter, carpenter... I even worked on a farm.

**That's the French spirit.** They love freedom and trying new things.

**I've always wondered:** If I grew up in Hong Kong, would my life have been the same? Would I still be in showbiz?

**I would probably** be very goal-oriented and proactive, maybe work in finance or something like that.

**When I grew up,** I really wanted to come back to Hong Kong, because there's still racial discrimination in France and the crime rate was high.

**I was young** back then and Hong Kong was a place full of chances and opportunities, as long as you were hard working.

**I loved it** when I got back. People were nice and the city's fast and vibrant. The pace was so slow in France. You had to wait even for "fast" food.

**I never really** tried to get into showbiz. It was all a coincidence.

**My colleagues said** I had good looks and I should join the Mr. Hong Kong pageant [in 2005]. It was the first male pageant on TVB.

**Pageants in France** are different. Taking part doesn't mean you'll become a TV or movie star. I joined just for fun. I was one of the finalists, but I didn't win.

**But then TVB** said they wanted to sign me as an artist.

**I was so surprised**—I used to watch their shows on tape in France, and now I got to act in them.

**At first** I was typecast as the playboy who came back from overseas, but now it's better.

**I had a lot of** opportunities when I first joined showbiz, but they came all at once—too quickly.

## NEED TO KNOW...

Check out Stefan's French bistro A La Maison XXL Seafood & Grill at 18 Jupiter St., Tin Hau, 2510-0123, or visit his food truck at the first ever Hong Kong Food Truck Festival. May 4-8. PMQ, 35 Aberdeen St., Central, [hkfoodtruckfestivals.com](http://hkfoodtruckfestivals.com)

"I've always wondered:  
If I grew up in Hong Kong,  
would my life have been  
the same? Would I still  
be in showbiz?"



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