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"A love song to opera" *The Times*

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The first half is performed in French with English and Chinese surtitles

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FIRST PERSON
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and firebrand
Ann Chiang

Winter is Coming

Two of Hong Kong's "missing" booksellers have come out of the woodwork this week. Chinese authorities have confirmed that they are holding both Gui Minhai and Lee Bo.

Gui has been paraded on state television, claiming that he cut short his holiday in Thailand in order to turn himself in to authorities over a fatal drunk driving incident in 2003. Thai authorities say they have no record of him leaving the country. Lee has also insisted he is helping the authorities with their inquiries.

Meanwhile (part 1), Chief Executive CY Leung has said that he would consider quitting the United Nations Convention Against Torture if it was necessary to halt the flood of "fake" refugees claiming asylum in Hong Kong.

Meanwhile (part 2), a whirling vortex of freezing air is apparently bound for the city, a cold front which media have pounced upon as the harbinger of a blizzard that will force the city to its knees.

It's the **perfect storm**.

How so? Follow this logic, if you DARE:

The cold weather will have the city's residents even more wrapped up in their fur coats than ever before. Even the usually blithe Northern European expatriate may deign to throw on a light sweater.

With everyone wrapped up and a blizzard rolling in, it's the perfect cover for state security agents to breeze in with the implements of abduction hidden under their coats. Raging snowstorms will provide them with the ideal conditions to whisk dissidents back over the border before anyone notices.

And with CY willing to throw human rights away just to quash a handful of refugee claimant issues that would be better dealt with by just... *dealing with it*, it's obvious that no one's going to make a fuss over a few disappearances: Just call them "fake" refugees and everyone's happy.

Admittedly, this pretty much appears to be happening already, well before the fall of that first snowflake. But think of the optics! When Fox or Warner Bros. decides to shoot Oscar-bait epic "2016: The Fall of Hong Kong" starring Leonardo DiCaprio and Michelle Yeoh (it's always Michelle Yeoh), the whole thing is going to look way better if it takes place in the middle of a freakish snowstorm, isn't it?

Ice in the sky, blood on the snow... We can't wait.

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Mr. Know-It-All's

— Guide to Life —

Dear Mr. Know-It-All,

Someone told me that during Chinese New Year, I can balance an egg on its end! Is this true? — Egghead

Yes. Although not for the reasons you might think. The tradition isn't linked to Chinese New Year, but to *lap chun*, the first "solar term" in the Chinese calendar and beginning of spring. It falls on February 4-5, running through February 18-19. The belief is that during this auspicious period, a fresh chicken's egg can be stood on its end, unsupported. The theory goes that at this time of year the moon and earth are in exactly the right alignment, the celestial bodies generating the perfect balance of forces needed to make it possible.

A 1945 story in the American magazine LIFE reported on the rise of egg balancing among the expatriate community of Chongqing, who appear to have been keen for something to take their mind off the tedium of war. The author of the piece writes that, "On Feb. 21 the regular weekly press conference talked about currency stabilization, postwar planning and the Communist problem, then moved on to the hostel lawn to stand up eggs." Albert Einstein was apparently skeptical. It's from there that the tradition spread to the US, where the phenomenon is centered around the vernal equinox, March 20—presumably because no one told the Americans that the Chinese start of spring is a couple of months earlier.

Truth is, of course, that eggs are no more or less likely to be able to balance on their ends during *lap chun* than at any other time of year. Differences in gravitational forces are infinitesimal. Egg shells are in fact quite rough, meaning that multiple points along on shell can touch a flat surface at any one time, allowing them to balance relatively easily.

But it's a self-fulfilling tradition, isn't it? The only time that you're likely to spend the time and effort on trying to get an egg on its end is during *lap chun*, precisely the time you believe it's possible. So every time you succeed, you're just perpetuating the myth.

Do you know the story of Columbus' egg? The legend goes that Christopher Columbus had returned to Europe after having discovered the Americas. At a party one evening, a group of nobles accosted him and told him that his discovery of the Americas was no great feat: Any one of them could have done it. Columbus said nothing, but took an egg and challenged them to make it stand on its end. No one could do it—at which point Columbus took back the egg and tapped it on the table, flattening its tip so it would stand. His point: Once you've done something, anyone can do it.

Or maybe he was just doing it at *lap chun*?



Photo: LIFE Magazine

My Perfect HK

This week in My Perfect HK:

As the temperature dips (and everyone runs around claiming that it's going to snow), remember that Hong Kong's homeless population has to sleep rough no matter how cold it is. Homelessness is on the rise in Hong Kong but you can help: Get involved by volunteering your time with Sunshine Action (sunshine-action.org), which helps the homeless, or donate food or money to the People's Food Bank, which feeds street sleepers and the poor. Head to foodbank.sjs.org.hk to find out more.

Letters

"If you want people to join you on the 'road' you need to adjust the 'belt'."

Adoring Fans

Responses to our interview with Hong Kong-born Hollywood actor Byron Mann ("First Person," January 15, issue 1129):

"In Hollywood, every actor has their own trailer, with unlimited food... In Hong Kong, your choice is between lunch boxes and lunch boxes." He sounds like a brat, complaining about food? Just do the fucking acting that ur paid to do.

Erin Pun

Saw him in the Big Short. So handsome he took my breath away! I will definitely be looking for his movies!

Rayna Avery

Who r u?

Chanel Gold

Policy Schmolicy

A letter from a reader about CY Leung's policy address and its emphasis on China's "One Belt One Road" strategy.

Dear Hongkongers,
I'm all for a stylish "belt" and smooth "road" ahead, but it feels like CY the CE doesn't quite see (or hear) you. The CE doesn't mention recycling once in his speech, yet all landfills are drowning in rubbish and, somehow, people still think it's ok to burn plastic. I'm sorry your (over) working hours aren't standardized, and that families still live in cage homes. It's a pity you cannot choose your own leader despite

having the highest collective IQs in the world. It's mind-boggling Carrie Lam thinks improving the economy will magically improve roadside and regional air pollution. It's farcical the CE thinks adding (even) more Wi-Fi will "connect" everything and everyone, when all it will really do is create more socially awkward "device zombies" with deteriorating interpersonal communication skills (but since CY loves Beijing's roads, can he at least designate a "device zombie" walking lane like on the mainland?).

CY: If you want people to join you on the "road" you need to adjust the "belt" you're tightening around Hongkongers, because it's not fitting properly.

Nick Anderson

We're Not Just For Expats, Dude

We talked about the sense of community generated during TVMost's awards ceremony, when people gathered with a projector on Sai Ying Pun's Centre Street to watch the show ("My Perfect HK," January 15, issue 1129). A Facebook commenter objected:

Why is an English language media bothering to report something that means absolutely zero to English speakers?

Jeremy Porter

For them to start getting interested in what's happening in real hong kong, possibly?

Lynda Clegg

#PrivateEyeHK



Say Cheese

Photo by Rogan Coles (editorial.argent.photos)

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

Hooray
Bar and Restaurant

CREATE YOUR LOVE ♥ SHARE YOUR MOMENT



Enjoy Romantic Dinner

Draw your love and win a pair of Jan Logan's ring at Hooray

Promotion Period: 12 – 14 Feb 2016

a) Couples having dinner at Hooray can draw their own ring, the best design will be selected by Jan Logan and be produced as the Valentine's Day gift for the winner couple. Ring valued at around HKD\$12000.

* 10 consolation prizes - free of production cost for 10 couples who place orders at Jan Logan based on their own design.

b) Enjoy 10% off discount at Jan Logan with any receipt on dinner at Hooray.

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T&C

1. The receipts to redeem discount at Jan Logan must be from 12-14 Feb 2016. Discount effective before 15 May 2016
2. The sketch for the ring design must be given to Hooray staff upon settling check.
3. Winning design may be subject to change due to limitations on production and materials supply.
4. Materials for the ring design will be determined based on budget of production.
5. Result for best ring design will be announced on Hooray's Facebook on 28th Feb 2016.
6. Winner for the ring design will be informed by Jan Logan directly.
7. The ring will be produced in Jan Logan's workshop in Australia. Production time will take 3 weeks.
8. Hooray and Jan Logan reserve the right for final decision in case of any dispute.

Hooray
Bar and Restaurant
www.jcgroup.hk



**Picture for reference only

THE WEEK



Saturday 1/30

It's No Picnic

Don't let the name fool you: **Picnic in the Park** is more than just that. Twenty-six live bands are rocking out at Siena Park in Discovery Bay. You'll get great tunes with alfresco dining and of course a few drinks, all in a good cause: The bands are playing for the Hong Chi Children's Home and the Hong Kong Student Aid Society.

Jan 30, 10am-9:30pm. Siena Park, Discovery Bay, picnicinthe parkhk.com.

Friday 1/22

Swing, Swing, Swing

Lindy hop the winter blues away at the **Hong Kong Swing Festival** for your dose of live bands, classes and performances, and of course, plenty of swing dancing. There're still 20 spots available on the door for Friday night's event at Dansinn (8pm-2am, 8/F, 9 Des Voeux Rd. West, Sheung Wan. \$200 at the door), but don't miss other social dances in the schedule.

Jan 22-24, hkswingfestival.com.

Saturday 1/23

Beat the Hunger

Ever wished your boozy brunch came with a side of better tunes? Blue Butcher's got your back with **Meats and Beats**, a party brunch featuring the DJs at Sol Passion Music. **11am-4pm brunch with free-flow drinks, \$650; 2-4pm free-flow drinks only, \$280. Reserve at events@maximalconcepts.com or 2613-9286.**

Sunday 1/24

Bogan Bash

It's Australia Day, so what better way to celebrate than with a barbie at The Butchers Club's **Southside Market Long Lunch**? BBQ meats, grilled seafood, burgers—including mini versions of their new "Cashed Up Bogan" burger—as well as other food from the likes of U-Hang, Bagoes, Tai Tai Pie Pies and more. Face painting and live music also on the docket.

Noon-5pm. \$550 from ticketflap.com; \$250 for kids, free for kids under 8.

Monday 1/25

Blues or Bloom

Treat yo'self, it's Monday: **Lily & Bloom's** had a brand new menu makeover, serving up New American with a local twist. Think market-fresh grilled fish, chilled abalone with yuzu vinaigrette and more. Our pick? the epic lobster mac and cheese, tossed tableside in a wheel of parmesiano before serving. HNGGGHHHHH.

5/F & 6/F, LKF Tower, 33 Wyndham St., Central, 2810-6166.

Tuesday 1/26

Maya Calendar

Maya Lin, the American artist and architect best known for designing the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington D.C., opened her first Hong Kong exhibition this month. Check out installations from her latest series, which explore mankind's interaction with nature.

Through Mar 12. Pace Hong Kong, Unit 15C, 15/F, Entertainment Building, 30 Queen's Rd., Central, 2608-5065.

Wednesday 1/27

Fast Crabs

Who needs Happy Valley when you can race teeny tiny crustaceans at The Walrus? Their **Wednesday night crab racing nights** are back, where you'll have the chance to win rounds of drinks, oysters, and more. Not a winner? No worries—it's happy hour prices all night.

10:30pm. 64 Staunton St., Central.



Thursday 1/28

Grab a Handful

Fly club is a big kid now: Celebrate its **5th anniversary** together with American DJ and record label boss Tittsworth on the decks, serving up dance beats all night. **G/F, 24-30 Ice House St., Central, 2810-9902. Invite-only before midnight; thereafter \$200 from ticketflap.com, \$250 at the door; both include two drinks and two shots.**

Friday 1/29

I Wanch It That Way

The Wanch's 90s-themed party **Smells like 90s** returns with four SAR stalwarts—Shatalene, The Peel Collective, After-After-Party and Milk and Cookies (aka Shepherds The Weak)—covering their favorite 90s guilty pleasures. Free drinks to the one dressed in the best 90s outfit—so get those baggy cargos and jelly shoes out now.

9pm, The Wanch, 54 Jaffe Rd., Wan Chai, 2586-1621.

Star-spangled Aprons

Binge-watching Food Network not improving your culinary prowess? Pick up a few knife skills and recipes from the Michelin-starred chefs at the InterContinental's **"Cooking with the Stars"** classes. You'll get to chop alongside the top chefs at Spoon, Yan Toh Heen and Nobu, plus the hotel's top pastry masters.

Selected Saturdays 10:30am-2:30pm, next dates

Feb 6 and Mar 5. From \$1,488 per adult, including meal, official certificate, apron and recipes. Call 2313-2323 or email fb.hongkong@ihg.com for more.

Coming Up



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Last Week In Reality

SAT 9

Smash and Bag At 6:30am, a group of thieves enters a Tsuen Wan mall and breaks into a luxury handbag store. They smash the glass window with a hammer and grab 40 designer handbags worth more than \$2 million. Police say that it is clear that the thieves are professionals: They had timed the theft for when the security guards changed shifts, and the entire burglary took only 3 minutes.

SUN 10

Drag Race A man shares on Facebook a photo of a balding man taking part in a charity run for Diabetes Hongkong. The man is dressed in a backless one-piece women's swimsuit. Netizens comment that even if he loses, at least he'll win attention. Another points out that women's swimwear is more likely to reduce drag and increase the man's speed.



MON 11

Foul Mouth A 45-year-old sales manager is convicted of using obscene language in a pleasure ground. The incident occurred last April, when the man lit a cigarette in Kowloon Park. A woman passing by reminded him he could not smoke in a public park but the man swore loudly at the woman, berating her until she called the police. After having his name taken by police, the man returned to the scene to swear at the woman once more. He is fined \$900. When leaving the court the man says that he will not smoke in public parks again, and will only swear secretly, "in his heart."

TUE 12

Bank Bust At 2am, a passbook update machine at a 24-hour Bank of East Asia branch on Hennessy Road in Wan Chai is found wrecked, with its compartment open and the components scattered onto the ground. Police find an empty beer can outside the branch and say they suspect it had something to do with the case.

WED 13

Phoney Argument In the early morning a couple is kissing in a park in Wong Tai Sin when they see a man standing nearby, appearing to be using his phone. Suspecting that he is filming them, they question the man. While they are arguing, the couple grabs the man's phone and also takes the chance to steal his wallet, before fleeing the scene. The victim calls the police from a nearby shop, who find the man's phone case in some planters nearby. The man is sent to the hospital with minor injuries.



Illustrations: Ryan Chan

THU 14

Take Note A netizen posts a photo to Facebook of a fake \$1,000 note, which is actually a Zimbabwean note disguised as a Hong Kong currency. The note has "Hong Kong Standard Chartered Bank" and "One Thousand Hong Kong Dollars" stamped in Chinese over the golden note. The poster of the photo explains that his mother works as a cashier at a grocery shop in Sheung Shui and received this note from a mainland customer. She refused the note, but was able to take a photo of it first. ZW\$1,000 is worth HK\$21.50.

FRI 15

Scam Jam A 23-year-old man falls victim to a moneylending scam in Macau. Over the Christmas holiday the man, who studies in the UK, went to a casino in Macau with his friend and gambled away \$50,000. When leaving, he was persuaded to sign a contract to join a VIP club, which promised him free gambling chips, hotel stays, a private driver and helicopter rides. When arriving in Hong Kong he was threatened by three men who demanded that he pay \$1 million for the VIP services. The scammers harassed the student and his family, even throwing red paint on the door of their apartment. The police have arrested three men and are looking for two other accomplices. Looking back, the gambler admits that his actions were not rational.



Quote of the Week

"I think the court should let us both go—the police should spend more time on finding Lee Bo."

"Long Hair" Leung Kwok-hung tells the Eastern Court that an obstruction case against him and a fellow activist should be dropped and police should investigate the case of "missing" bookseller Lee Bo instead. The court was not convinced.

Talking Points

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

CY Leung Kissing Ass Again

Chief Executive CY Leung delivered his 2016 Policy Address last week. In it, **he used the phrase "One Belt One Road" (一带一路) 48 times**. "One Belt One Road" is an economic development strategy initiated by the Chinese government that echoes the ancient Silk Road network of trade routes to Eurasian countries. **CY's emphasis on the national policy over local issues has seen him come under fire from commentators**. Even Regina Ip criticized CY, saying that he put too much effort into hard-selling the national policy. Satirical channel TVMost host Dong Fong-sing posed for a photo of himself **wearing a bra with one nipple exposed** alongside the text "one covered, one exposed" (一戴一露) which is a homophone for the initiative.

Our take: Is it too much to expect a local official to pay attention to local issues?

McRefugees on the Rise

At the end of last year City University's City-Youth Empowerment Project carried out a count of the city's homeless population, finding that there are **1,614 homeless people in the city, a 17% rise from 2013**. The organization interviewed 641 homeless people that night: Half said that high rents had forced them into homelessness, with 49 percent having slept on the street for more than 10 years. The number of **homeless people taking shelter in 24-hour McDonalds, known as "McRefugees," has increased from 57 in 2013 to 256**. A representative from the St. James' Settlement charity explained that many **"McRefugees" are more resistant to talk to social workers than street sleepers, which makes it harder to reach out to them**.

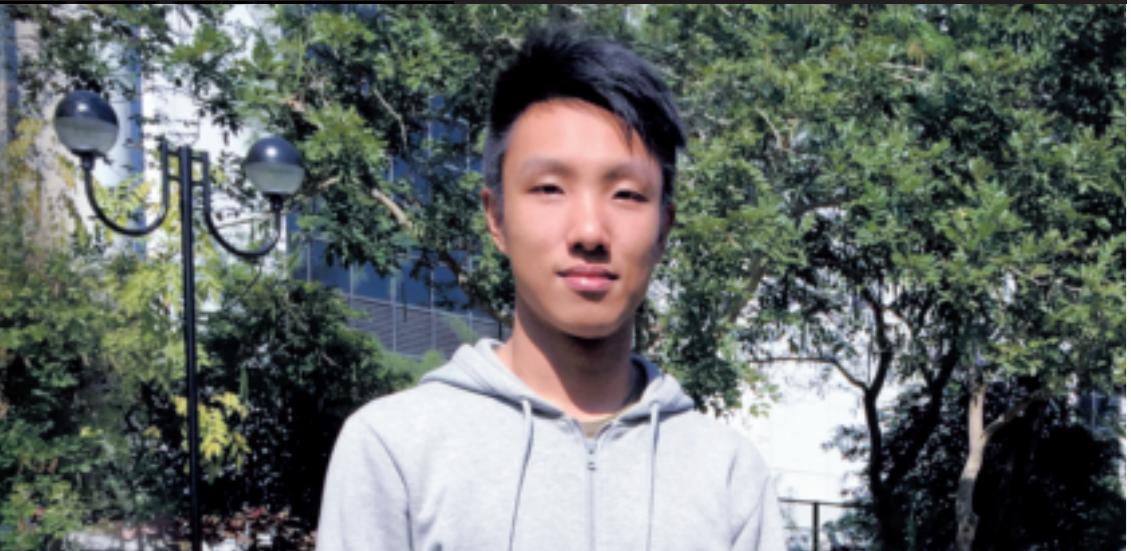
Our take: It's bad enough to be in McDonald's for 20 minutes, let alone to live there...



Illustration: Elaine Tang

Street Talk

Alex Kwan is the founder of FreeSth, an online platform that aims to reduce waste by making it easier for people to give away their second-hand items. He tells Kate Lok about the origin of Hong Kong's materialistic nature, and the weirdest items that have been exchanged on his site.



HK Magazine: What's the idea behind FreeSth?

Alex Kwan: FreeSth is an online platform for people to give away belongings that they don't want anymore. The idea behind it is to encourage people to make good use of their own items and reduce waste. Hong Kong is such a materialistic city, and the problem is we don't realize that we have an abundance and we don't really need to spend money on things. Most people just give in to what companies try to sell us. But there are so many things that we can reuse or pass on to people.

HK: What did you do before starting FreeSth?

AK: I used to work for the MTR as a support engineer. Back then I always had this feeling that I wasn't accomplishing anything and my work was not making a positive impact on the world. I quit my job in May 2014. I just felt like it was time for me to try something new and adventurous while I still could.

HK: How did you start out?

AK: It all began from an idea I had to start an online business, but I was still unsure of what to do. I started by focusing on developing an Android app. I taught myself how to write an app and all that stuff, but the target audience was limited, so the app didn't go far. But I knew that I wanted to target audiences on a virtual platform. So at the beginning of 2015 I learned how to create my own website, and that was how I started.

HK: Who was your first member and what did they list?

AK: It was most probably me or my girlfriend. We shared some of our clothes. Now I have more than 7,000 users on the platform, and I've just released an iPhone app.

HK: What is the weirdest thing that's been listed?

AK: This happened quite recently: A man posted a fish he caught himself [pictured, below right], and wrote "freshly caught, same day pick-up." I never thought people would want stuff like that, but eventually somebody did pick it up.

HK: Is there anything you refuse to take?

AK: Pills and supermarket collection stamps. I ban people from giving away pills on the website for obvious reasons: I don't want people to be giving out unauthorized medication. People might find it weird, but I don't allow the sharing of supermarket collection stamps because I think it encourages wasteful consumer patterns. Collecting stamps itself is wasting paper, and supermarkets usually aren't able to give away all the merchandise, which ends up in the dump. Discouraging this phenomenon is one of the things that inspired me to create this platform.

HK: What memorable items have been listed?

AK: During Christmas, a member shared some homemade cookies on the website, which I thought was a really generous idea. There are also people who collect the bits and bobs that they have obtained from FreeSth and

repackage them into something useful and share it back on the platform. I appreciate that in a way I have helped create communities among members of my platform.

HK: Do people criticize you for using people's cast-offs?

AK: No, I'm lucky enough to have never received such criticism. Even if I did I wouldn't mind, because it means that I have a very different set of values from those people.

HK: What business tips do you have?

AK: Perseverance is everything, and be prepared to be involved personally every step of the way. I started the business solely on my own, I did everything myself. It helps when you are more hands-on with your own business.



Got something to give away? Go to freesth.com or download the iPhone app (free, Chinese only).

Blowing Water

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

cai3

saang1

zyu1

juk6

砌生豬肉

"BUILD RAW PORK"

"To frame somebody, fabricate evidence." Saang zyu comes from the English word "charge" [with a crime]. Associations with a corrupt Hong Kong Police Force in the 1960s created the sense of a false accusation.

HongKabulary



Weedwatchers (wi:d wətʃərs), n.

The touts on Nathan Road who try either to sell you drugs or knockoff watches, depending on how old you are.

"Hey, wanna buy some hash? Oh, sorry, sir. Copy watch?"

"Oh man, do I look that old and uncool?"

Branding the City

Can you sum up our city in a symbol? **Xavier Ng** charts Hong Kong's history through its evolving logos.

Hong Kong has always been one-of-a-kind: the culture, the history and the diversity have helped shape it into an incomparable city. So how do you sell that to the rest of the world?

With a logo, apparently. Our government started working on a new logo for the city shortly after the handover in 1997. It needed an image that would reinforce the city's international image at a time when all eyes were on the brand new SAR, something that would allay fears of immediate integration into mainland China. "At that time, much attention was focused on the return of Hong Kong to China and it was the ideal time to shape a visionary, unique identity for Hong Kong," says Brett Free, Deputy Director of Information Services for the government.

In 2001 they came up with the slogan "Asia's World City" and a logo—a flying dragon made up of the Chinese characters for Hong Kong (香港), while also incorporating the letters "HK" (Can't see it? It helps if you squint and turn your head sideways. Kind of). "It was intended to represent Hong Kong's continuing link with an historical and cultural icon. At the same time, the modern rendering of the 'flying dragon' also symbolizes the meeting of East and West that is a defining characteristic of Hong Kong," says Free. The cost of this exercise? \$9 million.

In 2010 the logo got a controversial revamp, initiated by then-Chief Executive Donald Tsang. The visual identity was given "a more contemporary look while maintaining the virtues of the original dragon logo" says the government. How? With the addition of three colorful ribbons to the logo. The blue and green ones symbolize blue sky and a sustainable environment, while the red one is a silhouette of Lion Rock, representing the "can-do" spirit of Hong Kong people.



That'll be \$1.4 million, please...

How much to design, develop and add those three ribbons? An additional \$1.4 million of taxpayers' money, a sum widely criticized as a waste of cash. While Free believes it was money well spent, the question remains: Does this logo capture the spirit of Hong Kong?

We're not sure if one symbol can actually represent an entire city, which is why we've taken a closer look into some of the city's most visible logos: The branding that's evolved with the years—and the logos that have never changed...



1957-1973: Old school



1973-1982: What the 70s thought the future looked like



1982-1988: Money, money, money



1988-2007: Our favorite

ATV

Established: 1957

The Brand: Its current woes notwithstanding, this broadcaster has been in Hong Kong for more than half a century. Originally named Rediffusion TV, Asia Television (ATV) was Hong Kong's very first TV channel, as well as the first Chinese-language channel in the entire world. Even though the company has been in turmoil in recent years and its future is uncertain, there really was a time when they produced quality programs instead of running old shows on loop...

The Logo: A total of five logos have graced TV screens in the past 59 years. The company started off in 1957 with a ball of exploding electromagnetic radiation, representing how information was quickly transmitted. The channel went free from 1973 onward, commemorated with a new rectangular logo that looked (sort of) like a TV.

In 1982 the company changed its name to ATV, with Chinese and English channels renamed "ATV Gold" and "ATV Diamond" respectively (see? It's not just a mainland

thing). To match the names, the company's logo was changed to a Chinese coin. Luckily that didn't last long, and the logo was changed into the iconic loop in 1988, when new owners Lim Por-yen and the New World Group took over. This classic logo was used for 20 years, until it was changed again (thanks to yet another new owner) in 2007. This time the logo was inspired by the letter A and the infinity symbol, intended to represent Asia and its infinite creativity.

What of the future of ATV? Jeff Wong, senior manager (PR & publicity) at ATV, tells us that the company is coming up with another new logo which will be unveiled shortly. This is to complement the new direction of the company (again, it has a new owner), given that its broadcasting license will expire in April this year. "It's not like the company is going to close down," says Wong. "We have already submitted our application for a new free-to-air TV license, and we are planning to develop a satellite TV channel, as well as going digital."



亞洲電視
ASIA TELEVISION LIMITED

2007-Present: New look coming soon



1946-1971: Globetrottin'



1971-1994: G'day, Swire



1994-2014: Swoosh



2014-Present: Swoosh, pt.2

Cathay Pacific

Established: 1946

The Brand: The flag carrier of Hong Kong, Cathay Pacific has long been a symbol of the city to international travelers. Celebrating its 70th anniversary this year, the airline has become the third largest in the world.

The Logo: The first logo was a globe showing a map of Asia, symbolizing the carrier's coverage. Bought by the Swire Group two years after it was founded, for a long time the carrier used the Swire logo to accompany the name "Cathay" on their planes, alongside a simple green-and-white-stripe livery.

Not until 1994 did the brand introduce the now-iconic "brushwing" design. "The brushwing suggests a bird in flight, and the use of a calligraphic brush-stroke showed Cathay Pacific's roots in Hong Kong," says Ruairidh Smeaton, Manager (Brand) at Cathay Pacific. In 2014 the airline had yet another revamp, ditching the corporate green and red background and setting the wing free. "Centered around our timeless brushwing icon, we sought to simplify, clarify and beautify. The brushwing no longer sits constrained inside a box, and has been gently harmonized and set free," Smeaton adds.



CATHAY PACIFIC

"I'm free!" says the brushwing post-revamp



A bottle of Vitasoy cost just six cents back in 1940



After more than seven decades, the Vitasoy logo has barely changed

Vitasoy

Established: 1940

The Brand: Vitasoy started out making soy milk for those who couldn't afford actual milk in the 40s, and grew into the city's beverage giant. It makes a huge number of signature Hong Kong drinks, including their famous lemon and chrysanthemum teas. The brand also popularized soy milk in the west, bringing Hong Kong flavors to Europe and America since the 70s.

The Logo: For the past 76 years, Vitasoy has used a logo stylized from the Chinese name of the brand. There have been subtle changes to do with how the strokes of the Chinese characters link together, but the overall look and feel has remained the same, even after a major revamp of the brand in 2008.

Can You Draw These Logos?

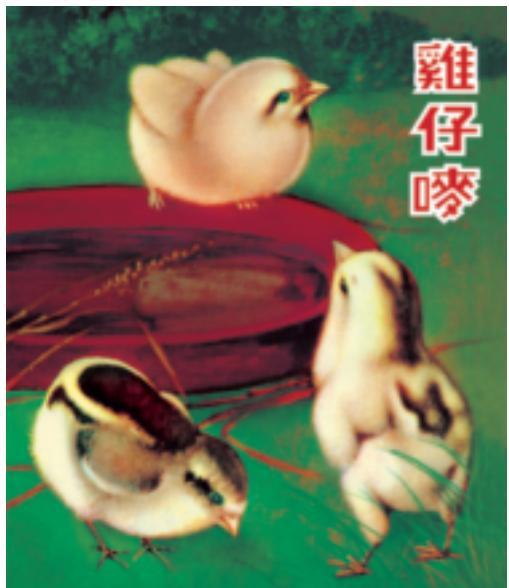
Try to draw these legendary Hong Kong brands from memory! Answers on the next page. No peeking.

1. TVB

2. ParknShop

3. Trappist Dairy

4. Wing On



The brand started with three adorable fluffy chicks in 1953

Chicks

Established: 1953

The Brand: This home-grown underwear brand dates back to the heydays of textile manufacturing in Hong Kong, when the city was full of factories and "Made in Hong Kong" garments spread across the world. The manufacturing industry may have moved to the mainland, but this brand continues as a household name for quality undergarments.

The Logo: The backstory of the brand began in the 50s in socially unstable times, when the Chun Au Knitting Factory wanted to bring a little warmth to the poor of Hong Kong. They used a painting of three adorable little chicks to show what the brand wanted to bring to society: one pecking at the grains on the ground to symbolize warmth and prosperity, one calmly sitting down to symbolize peacefulness and quality of life—and one looking up, hoping for a better future.

The brand's logo has been evolving ever since, with the latest version launched in 2013 in time for the company's 60th anniversary. The new design is a single piece of thread in a soothing, modern green—but the chick is still looking up towards a better future for all.



2013: New younger edge, same old chick

HSBC

Established: 1865

The Brand: When we talk about Hong Kong history, you can't miss this banking giant. The bank rose to lead Asian finance by the early 1900s: It operated across China, was the first bank in Thailand and helped set up the banking sector in Britain's Asian colonies. The bank continues to play an important role in the city's financial sector, despite moving its global headquarters from Hong Kong to London just before the handover.

The Logo: The current hexagon logo was created in 1983, just in time for the bank's international expansion. Before that the bank used a more complex coat of arms, with an illustration of trading ships in the harbor—the opium ships it once handled perhaps, which could be the reason for the redesign. You can still see the crest on old HSBC bank notes, which are rarer but still circulate. The current logo, designed by world-renowned designer Henry Steiner, was a development from the bank's house flag, a variant of the Scottish cross of St. Andrew. HSBC says the logo resembles a red hourglass, as well as a tangram puzzle, which is intended to symbolize versatility and diversity.



The most global icon on this page

For Queen and country! Or profit, whatever

Star Ferry

Established: 1888

The Brand: You haven't been to Hong Kong if you haven't taken a ride on the Star Ferry. And you're not a Hongkonger if you haven't debated whether it's worth paying the extra 50 cents not to smell the diesel engines. Founded by Dorabjee Naorojee, the Star Ferry was one of the very first forms of public transportation in Hong Kong, and has served the city for more than a century.

The Logo: The three-colored Star Ferry logo has been used since the very beginning. It symbolizes a dancing star in the harbor, with the blue representing the sea and the red representing the dawn. The star in the middle? That's the shining, energetic Star Ferry, of course. But that's not all. Naorojee was a Parsee, and the five-pointed star is said to be a symbol of his Zoroastrian faith: The same star that guided the wise men to Jesus.



天星小輪
The "Star" Ferry

The Zoroastrian star represents brightness and purity

I See What You Did There...



SPCA

A dog hugging a cat in negative space: You can tell a designer got their way.



CLP (China Light & Power)

The letters CLP form the character "中", i.e. "Center" or "China."



Bank of China

The character "中" is hidden inside an ancient "cash" coin.



Crocodile

Look familiar? Flip it and it looks awfully similar to international clothing chain Lacoste. Similar enough that it's been the subject of multiple lawsuits...



1991-2000: 90s in a nutshell

2000-2007: Cleaner, but boxed in

2007-2015: The bubble appears (and is widely copied)

2015-Present: Hello, ladies

HK Magazine

Of course, we couldn't miss out on the one and only. The iconic, the very much aesthetically pleasing, the logo of all logos: OURS! With 25 years of history, HK Magazine has been the best thing in Hong Kong since 1991 (we never said we were humble). Throughout the years, our logo has changed, evolving from a more boxy 90s style into a more modern look. Well, we like it, anyway.

Answers:

1.



2.



3.



4.



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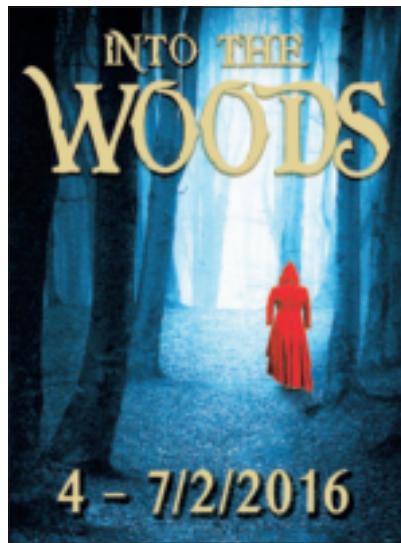
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Tony Awards Best Musical – Into the Woods

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Tap-dance show "Office Mad Man"

R & T (Rhythm & Tempo)'s latest production "Office Mad Man" is an original tap dance show with newly composed music, in which the dancers depict the politics of the office - a cruel battlefield that many of us work in. The office is presented as a place where people must fight for position and emotions run high. (February 19 - 21; \$160, \$200)

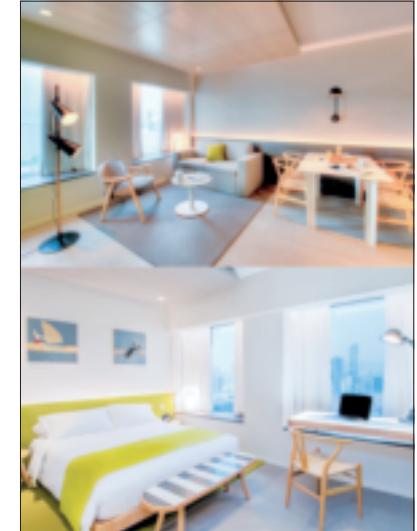
Theatre, Sai Wan Ho Civic Centre
 Enquiry: 2268-7323



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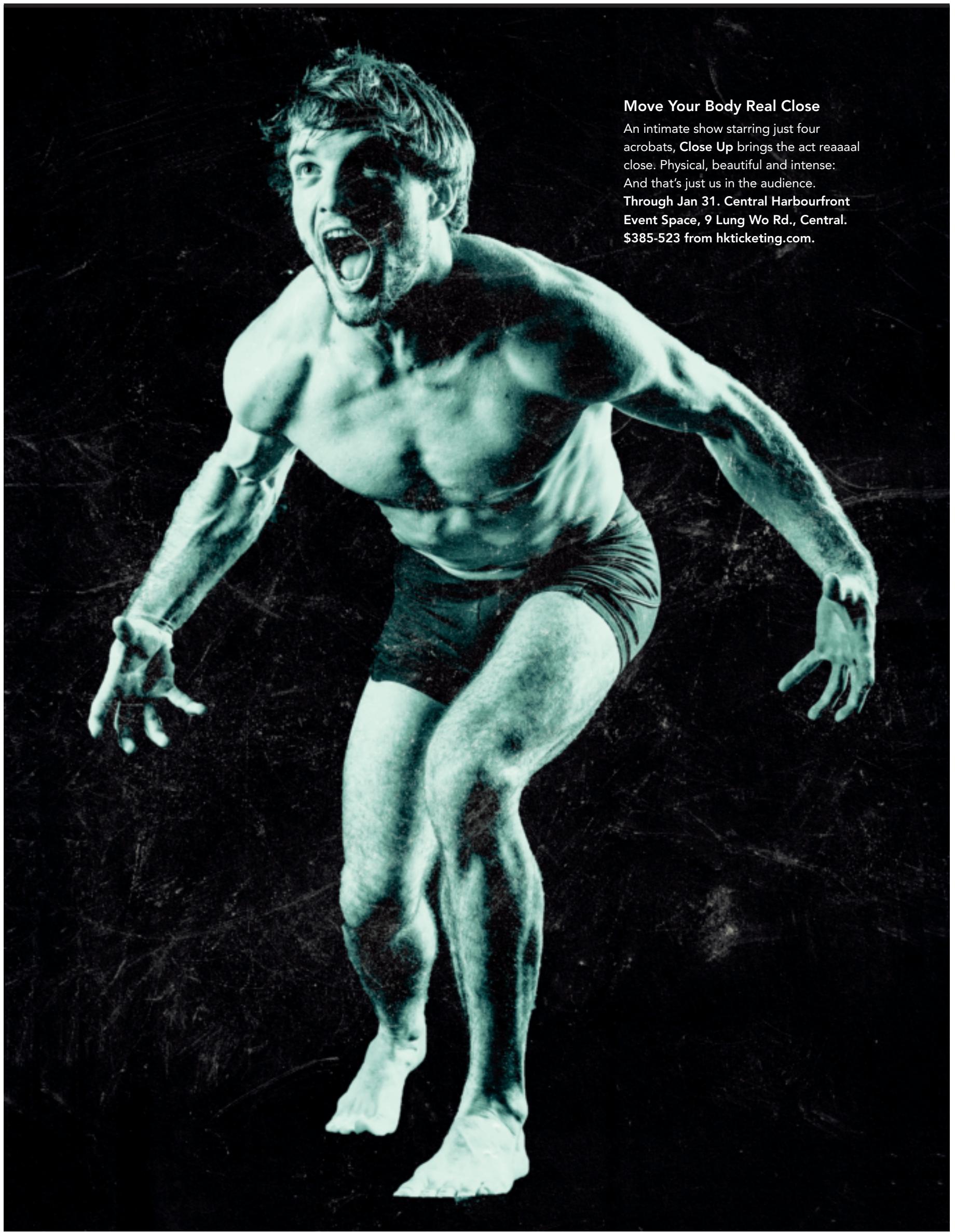


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www.hkphil.org



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Through Jan 31. Central Harbourfront Event Space, 9 Lung Wo Rd., Central.
\$385-523 from hkticketing.com.

FASHION

LOOKBOOK

Edited by Zoe Chan

Blogger & Stylist at normalchic.com | Instagram @zoe_normalchic



Bad Weather Blues (and Yellows)

The weather's been pretty depressing the last few weeks, and people tend to switch back to black & grey in rainy cloudy weather. Fight the darkness with a few more colors, like this joyful yellow and elegant blue look. Here I'm wearing a Kookai top, brightened up with a bright yellow J.Crew skirt and a fun Kate Spade bag. Bad weather? Make yourself brighter to compensate!

Striped blue top, \$780 from Kookai

Straw beehive bag, \$3,300 from Kate Spade



Spray Flower scarf,
\$820 from Cath Kidston



Lemon sorbet Michel skirt,
\$1,150 from J.Crew



Nina shoulder bag,
\$2,990 from Agnès b.



Bibi aqua suede flats,
\$2,725 from Sophia Webster @ fwrd.com

Kookai, Shop 514, Times Square, 1 Matheson St., Causeway Bay, 2923-7937.

J.Crew, Shop 1026-1028, IFC, 8 Finance St., Central, 2628-5611.

Kate Spade, Shop 105, Pacific Place, 88 Queensway, Admiralty, 2116-4998.

Cath Kidston, Shop 285, 2/F, City Plaza, 18 Tai Koo Shing Rd., Quarry Bay, 2715-5738.

Agnès b., Shop 629, Times Square, 1 Matheson St., Causeway Bay, 2506-3628.

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



ESCAPE ROUTES

Edited by Daniel Creffield
daniel.creffield@hkmagmedia.com



Bloomin' Marvelous

Japan's famous sakura cherry blossoms are more than just the country's national flower and a pleasant backdrop for a selfie session. Deeply symbolic, they also represent destiny and karma, and can be found throughout the country's arts and culture, as well as on stationery and kitchenware. While many assume that the blossoms bloom exclusively in spring, it actually varies throughout the country and year to year: so now's the time to start planning if you hope to catch some flower power in 2016.

Where can you catch the real thing? Pretty much everywhere, depending on the month: The subtropical islands of Okinawa can see them as early as January, while on the northern island of Hokkaido it's frequently not until May that the fabulous fronds reveal themselves. In between, Tokyo, Kyoto and Osaka are in flower from around March. Milder weather will also see an earlier blooming.



Fall for Fuji in sakura season

Go Gold

All Japan Tours' most popular sakura experience is the **Golden Route Japan Cherry Blossom Special Tour**, which takes place March 27-April 10. Taking in hanami, or flower viewing/picnicking spots in gardens and parks famous for their blossoms, the trip begins at Osaka Castle, which boasts more than 4,000 cherry trees, before a visit to the gardens and temples of Kyoto, followed by a day at Hakone with its hot springs and views of Mt. Fuji, plus a guided tour of Tokyo.

The tour costs US\$2,198 (\$17,140) per person, including five nights western-style and one night Japanese-style accommodation (double or triple occupancy). Also included are airport transfers, coach transfers, bullet train ride, tour guide, daily breakfast and some other meals, entry to sites and activities. You'll need to organize your own flight to Japan. Book before January 31 to save US\$50 (\$390).

alljaptours.com.

Budget Blossoms

There are some good deals to be had on a first come, first served basis through **Zuji**, who has partnered with the **Japan National Tourism Organization** to launch a bundle of promotional offers, including 10 percent off hotel prices, free roaming data SIM card, free three-day rail pass and even free selfie sticks (if you're a university student).

As part of Zuji's recent "Search, Discover and Share" campaign, the company is particularly keen to promote less visited destinations but where there are still good hanami opportunities, instead of pushing the more obvious cities. One of these is Takamatsu in Shikoku, the smallest of Japan's major islands and famous for its 88-temple Buddhist pilgrimage route. In addition to the blossom action, the surrounding area offers historical gardens, hot spring spas, hiking trails, the stunning Oboke Gorge, whitewater rafting and Takamatsu Castle, built in 1590 (wasn't that an 80s Japanese game show?) The rail pass deal means you also can travel around the region at your leisure.

China Airlines operates flights to Takamatsu from around \$2,152 before tax, while hotels such as the 3.5-star Hotel Bokaiso offer nights from \$529. Book using American Express for a further 15 percent cash rebate.

zuji.com.hk.

Off the Beaten Blossom

It's not only Japan that calls the cherry blossom its own. While not offering official sakura tours, **Flight Centre** has flights and accommodation deals to Seoul and Taichung, and you'll have to sniff out the blossoms for yourself when you arrive. It shouldn't be too challenging: they're brightly-colored, fragrant and everywhere. However, the travel company does have some tips for the best hanami hangouts.

In Seoul, head to the Yeouido Cherry Blossom Festival at Yeouido Hangang Park (this sounds like a pretty good bet to us), Seokchon Lake, Kyunghee University, Seoul Grand Park in Gwacheon, Seoul Forest, and the palaces of Changgyeonggung, Gyeongbokgung and Changdeokgung. To catch Taichung's beautiful blooms, check out Yangmingshan National Park, Wuling Farm and Alishan Forest.

For Seoul packages start from \$4,299 per person, and include return Korean Air airfares and three nights at the Millennium Seoul Hilton in a deluxe room. To Taichung packages start from \$2,959 per person, including return Dragonair airfares and three nights at Freshfields Resort & Conference. Prices exclude taxes.

Flight Centre also offers flights and accommodation packages to Osaka, Kyoto and Tokyo, starting from \$6,199 per person.

flightcentre.com.hk.



Auspicious Delicious

Eat your way to health, happiness and prosperity in the Year of the Monkey with these fortune-friendly foods, says **Leslie Yeh**

Pastry Heaven

If you love your **pastries**, you're in luck: The many layers of flaky dough in traditional dim sum like egg custard tarts and Yunnan ham pastries are meant to symbolize increasing abundance in the year to come. And the cute round shapes? A symbol for family reunion and togetherness.

Get Lucky: Newly appointed 3-Michelin-starred **T'ang Court** at The Langham welcomes the Year of the Monkey with an array of delectable dim sum, featuring delicate baked pastries filled with bird's nest, crab meat and Yunnan ham, and golden-fried goose liver and shrimp dumplings. Other dishes such as steamed egg white with bird's nest, or sautéed sliced lobster with crab roe and kale, shower you with good luck and good eating in the new year.

CNY menu available Feb 8-14. 1/F & 2/F, The Langham
Hong Kong, 8 Peking Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, 2132-7898.



Goose liver and shrimp dumplings at The Langham



Berry Good Luck

You can't celebrate Chinese New Year without a selection of sweet, dried fruits and berries. **Longan fruit** and **goji berries** are two of the most celebrated snacks during this time of year: The Chinese term for longan sounds similar to the word for "valuable" or "noble" while gojis are said to have natural healing and anti-ageing properties, in addition to their auspicious red color. Longans and goji berries are typically served together on a "Tray of Togetherness" with other goodies like candied coconut or kumquat, or can be brewed with red dates for a soothing tea. **Get Lucky:** The 3-tiered Chinese lacquered basket (starting from \$608 for two people) at The InterContinental's **Lobby Lounge** is teeming with good fortune foods, starting with chicken pastries and abalone tarts on the first tier, followed by puff pastries on the second tier, and traditional sweets with dried longans and goji berry madeleines rounding out the savory-sweet meal.

Available Feb 6-14. G/F, InterContinental Hong Kong, 18 Salisbury Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, 2313-2183.



Lucky lobster at the Hyatt

Flying Fish

Known as a "**Prosperity Toss**," *lo hei* or *yu sang* is traditionally a Chiu Chow-style raw fish salad consisting of strips of raw fish tossed together with different types of vegetables and condiments. Since the Chinese word for fish, *yu* (魚), is a homophone for abundance (餘), this dish has come to be associated with prosperity and vitality. Where does the good luck originate? From tossing the shredded ingredients into the air (*lo hei* means "mix up") while yelling out various "auspicious wishes" for the new year.

Get Lucky: The **Chinese Restaurant** at the Hyatt Regency Hong Kong is serving up its own version of the "Prosperity Toss" this year, substituting fried lobster for fish mixed with assorted vegetables in a potent sesame sauce (\$488). For more rowdy dish-tossing, join **Ho Lee Fook's** CNY banquet (Feb 7-10, \$468) with colorful *yu sang* platters to usher in luck for the new year.

Hyatt Regency Hong Kong, 18 Hanoi Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, 2311-1234.
Ho Lee Fook, G/F & L/G, 1 Elgin St., Central, 2810-0860.

Celebrate the new year with a prosperity toss at Ho Lee Fook





Crysal Jade's hand-pulled "la mian"

Oodles of Noodles

With a 4,000-year history, it's no wonder **noodles** are a symbol of longevity. During the new year, it's good luck to consume long, uncut noodles as a way of promoting long life and prosperity. Whether served boiled with soup broth or fried on a plate, the longer the better when it comes to this fortuitous food.

Get Lucky: While noodles are found on practically every street corner in Hong Kong, one of the best places to get fresh, hand-pulled noodles is at **Crystal Jade**. Choose from eight types of "la mian"—from ultra-fine "Dragon Beard" noodles to hand-sliced thick noodles—in everything from beef noodle soup to dan dan mian.

Various locations including Shop P416-418, 4/F, World Trade Centre, Causeway Bay, 2915-6988.



Plenty of Pudding

One of the most traditional foods eaten over CNY, **puddings** have evolved from classic flavors such as water chestnut, taro and osmanthus, to a number of unconventional variations that seem to get further outside the box every year. Whether you're after a sweet or savory pudding, a slightly fruity bite or something more rich and earthy, you're sure to find variations around the city that will appeal to your pudding preferences. The go-to pudding for gifting? Sticky-sweet boxes of classic *neen gou* new year's cake to send some good luck vibes along to loved ones over the holidays.

Get Lucky: With puddings near and far, we're partial to the **Kowloon Shangri-La**'s three variations this year. The Kyoto Uji matcha and red bean pudding draws inspiration—and ingredients—from dessert shops in Japan, while the Hawaiian purple sweet potato pudding celebrates the natural sweetness of Hawaiian spuds. The third pudding is a must for Koreaphiles—with light Korean brown sugar and melon seeds making for a slightly burnt, soft-textured sweet.

Puddings start from \$258 for 1.16kg, 20 percent discount on orders before Jan 24. Kowloon Shangri-La, 64 Mody Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, 2721-2111.

A matcha made in pudding heaven at the Shang



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What comes after

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康樂及文化事務署
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

DINING

Edited by Leslie Yeh

leslie.yeh@hkmagmedia.com



Arctic abalone

Forgotten Era

Boasting artfully prepared traditional Chinese dishes in a setting reminiscent of the glamorous "roaring" 1920s, the latest dining destination at the buzzing D2 Place is drawing in the crowds, and for good reason. Although the rooftop patio is only open to members, the **Greater China Club** (Unit A, 10/F, D2 Place, 9 Cheung Yee St., Lai Chi Kok, 2743-8055) leaves the keys at the door, with non-member food prices a slight cut above member prices but well within reason for this elevated standard of cooking. Executed by chef Chan Wai-teng—formerly of three-Michelin-starred The Eight in Macau—dish after dish impresses, from stewed diced beef shin served Sichuan-style to fatty Iberico pork char-siu and a sensational abalone starter emerging from billows of dried ice. The club is now taking bookings for their CNY banquet (starting from \$4,888 for six): a gastronomic parade of the kitchen's signature hits.

RESTAURANT REVIEWS

Arashiyama ★★★★☆

Sushi. G/F, 11 Minden Avenue, Tsim Sha Tsui, 2622-2095.



We moved on to fatty yellowtail sushi (\$35 for one) and scallop sushi (\$28 for one)—again, both were faultlessly fresh and as smooth as butter. Out of curiosity, and because we were feeling a bit risqué, we ordered the grilled mirin puffer fish (\$68)—it came with a light whipped mayonnaise and tasted a bit meaty, almost like preserved pork (and thankfully devoid of lethal poison). We topped off the meal with tempura and hot udon (\$108), with a fluffy batter complementing the udon's light broth.

■ **MISS** The beef skewer (\$88) was three regretful mouthfuls of fat and the chewy, flavorless meat that came with the stone rice pot (\$118) was best reserved for a guilty cha chaan teng dish.

■ **BOTTOM LINE** A laidback, hidden Japanese eatery where you can take your time savoring wonderfully fresh sashimi and well-executed hot dishes to pair.

**Open daily noon-3pm,
6-11:30pm. \$\$**

Ratings

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

Price Guide

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

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NEW AND NOTED

Fish Food

With sushi-yas proliferating the city like cha chaan tengs these days, it takes some clever cooking and knife-handling skills to stand out from the pack. With a new head chef, **Kishoku** (5/F, Zing!, 38 Yiu Wa St., Causeway Bay, 2893-0333) has found a winning formula to keep diners coming back, introducing more uncommon ingredients like junsai lily buds and cod milt (that's sperm, for the uninitiated) in a reinvented omakase menu. A handful of inventive appetizers and hot dishes draw attention beyond sashimi, including the aforementioned cod milt in a squid ink sauce (don't knock it before you try it) and fresh Kobe snow crabs dipped in ginger vinegar. Of course, the fish inevitably steals the show: White filefish shines in a marinade made from its own liver, and the signature toro sashimi is the highlight of the meal, melting lusciously between crisp sheets of premium Maruyama nori seaweed.



London House ★★★★☆

Gastropub. G5, Tsim Sha Tsui Centre, 66 Mody Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, 3650-3333.



Not since the Battle of Britain has a place named "London" faced such an uphill struggle: Walking into Gordon Ramsay's British pub on a Sunday afternoon, we were met by harassed-looking waiters, hungry patrons calling out for their long-awaited meals, and the manager who warned that our food would take at least 45 minutes. There should have been a "Keep Calm and Carry On" poster on the wall. With fear of starvation settling in, we armed ourselves with cocktails and bar nuts to brave the wait: Luckily and somewhat miraculously, our food arrived well within time and put our fears at rest.

HIT We expected nothing less than near-perfect fish and chips at a Ramsay restaurant, and this version did not disappoint: two succulent hunks of Atlantic cod, beer-battered and fried to a golden crisp (\$198). The barbecue chicken wings (\$108) had a delicious soy and honey-glazed crispy coating which we happily devoured. The shepherd's pie (\$198)—another cornerstone of British pub grub—was classic to a T: a flavorful stew of ground lamb, onions and carrots buried under a crust of golden, buttery potatoes.

MISS Our side of mushy peas turned out slightly soupy.

BOTTOM LINE An alfresco patio and satisfying pub grub make this a solid destination for weekend grazing, although be prepared for a bit of kitchen chaos. If only Gordon Ramsay were here to sort it all out...

Open Mon-Fri noon-11pm; Sat-Sun 11am-1am. \$\$

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.

Tastes of Home

One of the largest food festivals to hit Hong Kong is gearing up for its inaugural run in March, and the line-up is looking pretty tasty. Food fanatics, take note: **Taste of Hong Kong** will host 12 of Hong Kong's best restaurants in a four-day lineup of eating and drinking from Mar 10-13, with early bird tickets on sale now (from \$108 on weekdays and \$138 on weekends, ticketflap.com/tasteofhongkong). Who are the iron chefs hitting the Central Harbourfront kitchen stadium? Heavyweights include Aberdeen Street Social, Amber, Arcane, Chino, Duddell's, Serge et le Phoque, Tin Lung Heen, Tosca, Yardbird and Ronin, with other outlets and stalls to be revealed in upcoming weeks. The Michelin-star-studded lineup (eight in total between the restaurants) will dish up live cooking demos, interactive masterclasses, artisanal food tastings and of course, signature dishes washed down with glassfuls of champagne and wine. We can't wait.

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Antony Sher



Alex Hassell



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Programme details and artists are subject to change.

Please refer to HKAF website for details and conditions of sales.

What comes after

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The Hong Kong Arts Festival is made possible with the funding support of



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康樂及文化事務處

CITY STROLL

Tseung Kwan O

Literally meaning the "General's Bay," Tseung Kwan O got its name all the way back in the Ming Dynasty, when the government sent a famous general to the bay to fight the pirates of the South China Sea.

The neighborhood has been mocked with the nickname "streetless town" because of its interconnected malls and residential complexes, allowing you to walk from one end to another without setting foot at ground level. But there's more to this neighborhood and it's not just about the malls—despite the area's prominent landfill, Tseung Kwan O has its beauty.



13 The Lane

Tired from all that wandering? Take a load off at The Lane, a mall right outside Hang Hau MTR station with plenty of snacking options. Pick up some J&G crispy Taiwanese fried chicken and wash it down with a Gong Cha bubble tea before you press on.

**15 Pui Shing Rd., Hang Hau,
Tseung Kwan O, 2997-3239.**



14 Leung Kee 良記

While we're on the snack binge, Leung Kee in Po Lam is a small shop selling nothing but home-made dumplings. Their signature pan-fried dumplings are crispy on the outside, juicy with minced pork and assorted veggies on the inside.

**Shop A117, G/F, Well On Shopping
Arcade, 9 Yuk Nga Lane, Tseung Kwan O,
2702-2826.**



15 Beverly Cycle

Another great way to get around in Tseung Kwan O: Grab a bike at Beverly Cycle and start spinning. TKO's over-13km-long cycling track takes you around Po Lam, Hang Hau, Tseung Kwan O and Lohas Park. Bike rental costs \$20-\$25 per hour or \$90-\$100 per day.

**Shop 61A, King Lam Market, King Lam
Estate, Tseung Kwan O, 2217-7313.**



16 Fishing Heya

Opened last year, Fishing Heya is the first and only Japanese buffet restaurant in Tseung Kwan O. Devour some very fresh sashimi, tempura, robatayaki and more for \$208-\$248 each—and remember to booze it up with free-flow Japanese beer and sake.

**G19-20, Phase III, Metro City Plaza,
Tseung Kwan O, 2650-0006.**



17 Hang Hau Man Kuk Lane Park

This Chinese-style garden sits right in the middle of Tseung Kwan O, with ponds, bridges and artificial waterfalls to give urbanites a break and a breath of fresh air in this building-packed district. It also has an outdoor bowling green—so bring those lawn bowls and get to work.

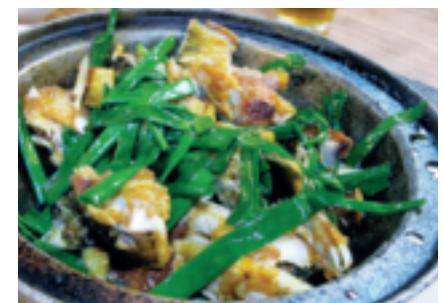
Man Kuk Lane, Tseung Kwan O.



18 Hop Sze Kitchen 合時小廚

A restaurant frequented by TVB starlets and celebrities, Hop Sze is one of the oldest restaurants in Hang Hau Village, dating back to even before the development of Tseung Kwan O as a new town. The place is famous for their wok-fried and claypot dishes. Try the wok-fried fish head served in a claypot—the perfect winter dish.

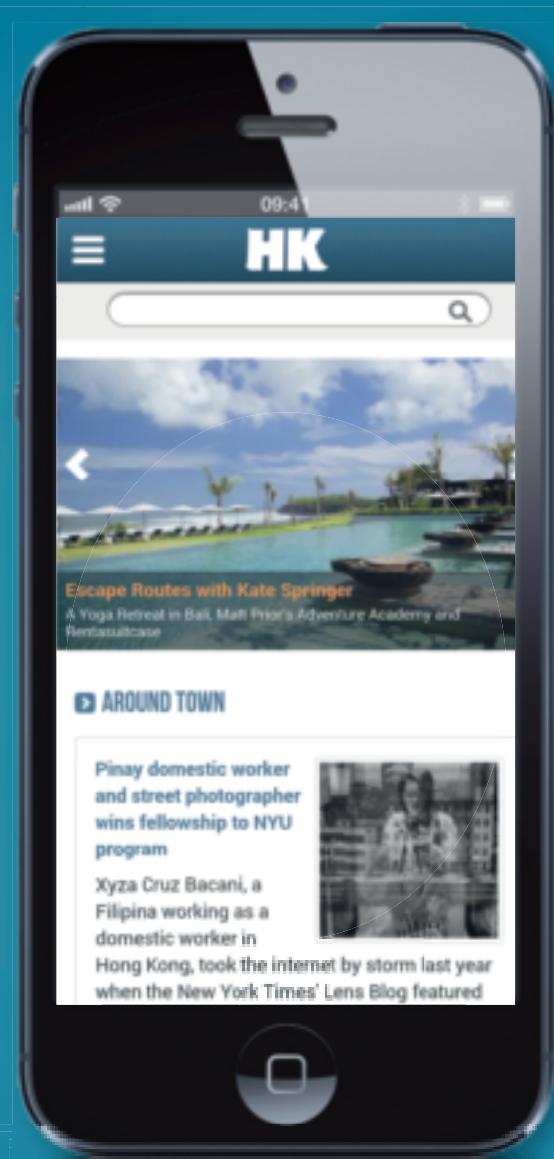
**G/F, 5 Hang Hau Village, Tseung Kwan O,
2719-6862.**



Check back next week for more awesome things to do in Tseung Kwan O!

HK

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CULTURE

Bianco

Get ready for some serious circus action: The UK's NoFit State Circus brings Hong Kong audiences a one-of-a-kind experience. You'll stand right in the center of the performance, as the circus showcases their jaw-dropping skills all around—and above—you. Feb 17-21, 8pm; Feb 20, 2:30pm. Queen Elizabeth Stadium, 18 Oi Kwan Rd., Wan Chai. \$380 from urbtix.hk.



HK PICKS

Classical



Guzheng Recital by Qu Yun and Sun Zhuo
Inaugurating the Nan Lian Garden Music Series, guzheng virtuosi Qu Yun and Sun Zhuo are staging a guzheng duo recital inside the serene Nan Lian Garden in Diamond Hill. It's an out-of-Hong Kong experience, where you'll listen to classic guzheng music while gazing at a picturesque Chinese garden. All it needs is a bunch of guys doing kung fu in the background. Jan 23, 2:30pm. Xiang Hai Xuan Multi-purpose Hall, Nan Lian Garden, 60 Fung Tak Rd., Diamond Hill, 2329-8811. \$240 from urbtix.hk.



A Concert of Chaozhou Music
Wondering what Chiu Chow (aka Chaozhou in Putonghua) music sounds like? The Hong Kong Chiuchow Music Ensemble is here to fill you in. This part of southeast China has a distinctive musical style, with unique instruments including Chaozhou gongs and drums. It's cultural and then some! Jan 30, 8pm. Yau Ma Tei Theatre, 6 Waterloo Rd., Yau Ma Tei, 2264-8108. \$120-180 from urbtix.hk.



Bach to the Future
Tired of boring old Baroque? Contemporary classical group Western District gives it a modern spin at this show which explores everything from standards to the avant-garde, featuring works from J.S. Bach, Henry Purcell and satirical creation PD.Q. Bach. Jan 29, 9pm. Fringe Club, 2 Lower Albert Rd., Central, 2521-7251. \$180-200 from Fringe Box Office or at the door, including one drink.

Bach – The Six Brandenburg Concertos
Harpsichordist Benjamin Bayl plays and directs this performance of all six of Bach's Brandenburg Concertos in one go, alongside the Hong Kong Philharmonic. It's Brandenburgtastic! Feb 5-6, 8pm. Concert Hall, City Hall, 5 Edinburgh Place, Central. \$180-480 from urbtix.hk.

Comedy



Steve McGrew
Steve "Mudflap" McGrew is in town to celebrate Takeout Comedy's ninth anniversary all weekend: This high-energy southern comic is a regular at comedy clubs all over the US, and he draws on his past experiences to poke those funny bones. Through Jan 23, 9pm. TakeOut Comedy, B/F, 34 Elgin St., Central, 6220-4436. \$250-300. takeoutcomedy.com.

Russell Howard

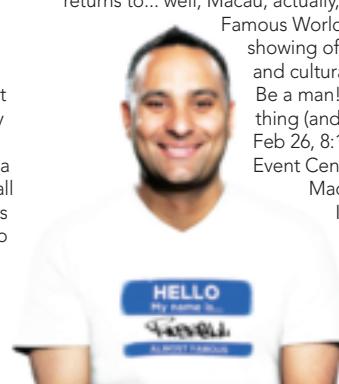
One of the UK's hottest comics, Russell Howard brings the funny to the Udderbelly Festival. In 2011, he became the youngest comic ever to sell-out London's largest arena. Expect the same here, only the venue's a lot smaller. He's famous, but he's not Eason Chan. Through Jan 23, 9.15pm. Central Harbourfront Event Space, 9 Lung Wo Rd., Central. \$595-683 from hkticketing.com.



Piff the Magic Dragon: Breakfast at Piffany's
America's Got Talent finalist Piff the Magic Dragon comes straight from Vegas with his pal, Mr. Piffles (the adorable chihuahua) to show off hilarious AND amazing magic tricks, with a side order of grump. Feb 8-10, 9pm. Central Harbourfront Event Space, 9 Lung Wo Rd., Central. \$385-523 from hkticketing.com.

Russell Peters Almost Famous World Tour 2016

He's back! Canadian funnyman Russell Peters returns to... well, Macau, actually, for his Almost Famous World Tour. He'll be showing off his quickfire wit and cultural observations. Be a man! Do the right thing (and book tickets)! Feb 26, 8:15pm. Studio City Event Center, Studio City Macau, Estrada do Istmo. \$680-1,580 from hkticketing.com.



Dance



Flawless

Get yo' body movin' with Flawless: The British dance troupe comes to the Udderbelly to show off their hip-hop, breakdancing and acrobatic moves. Having previously danced alongside Madonna and Queen Bey, they're now here to dance with you, lucky things. Feb 2-14, various times. Central Harbourfront Event Space, 9 Lung Wo Rd., Central. \$385-523 from hkticketing.com.



Office Mad Man

Some say the office is like a battlefield: Why not turn it into a dance floor? Hong Kong dance group R&T (Rhythm & Tempo) presents this tap show featuring original music, which depicts the cruelty of office politics via dance moves. What's tap for "my boss hates me and my co-workers never want to have lunch with me"? Feb 19-20, 8pm; Feb 21, 3pm. Sai Wan Ho Civic Centre, 111 Shau Kei Wan Rd., Sai Wan Ho, 3184-5777. \$160-200 from urbtix.hk.

Musical

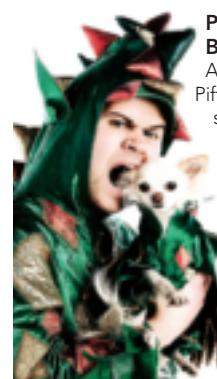
Jersey Boys

Currently playing in London's West End and on Broadway, this smash hit musical tells the remarkable story of 1960s group Frankie Valli & the Four Seasons—four boys from the wrong side of the tracks who became one of the most successful, most falsettostastic groups in music history. Apr 13-May 1, various times. Grand Theatre, Cultural Centre, 10 Salisbury Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui. \$395-1,095 from lunchboxticketing.com.

Opera

The Ring Cycle Part 2 – Die Walküre

Richard Wagner's epic Ring Cycle saga continues with "Die Walküre." In the second part of the opera, our hero Siegmund is being pursued by his enemies when he comes across the beautiful Sieglinde... Performed by the HK Phil, directed by Jaap van Zweden. Jan 23, 3pm. Concert Hall, Cultural Centre, 10 Salisbury Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui. \$280-880 from urbtix.hk.



Piff the Magic Dragon: Breakfast at Piffany's
America's Got Talent finalist Piff the Magic Dragon comes straight from Vegas with his pal, Mr. Piffles (the adorable chihuahua) to show off hilarious AND amazing magic tricks, with a side order of grump. Feb 8-10, 9pm. Central Harbourfront Event Space, 9 Lung Wo Rd., Central. \$385-523 from hkticketing.com.

The Met: Live in HD: Verdi's Otello

Catch some singing Shakespeare on the big screen. The Met: Live in HD brings Verdi's adaptation of "Otello" to Hong Kong. Set in Cyprus in the late 19th century, Moorish commander Otello (sung by Aleksandrs Antonenko) is deceived by the villain Iago, causing him to question the virtue of his innocent wife Desdemona (Bulgarian soprano Sonya Yoncheva). Spoiler: It doesn't end well. Jan 31, 3:40pm. AMC Pacific Place, 1/F, Pacific Place, 88 Queensway, Admiralty, 2844-8900. \$180-210 from hkticketing.com.

Theater

We're Going on a Bear Hunt

Take the kids on a hunting trip without going outside (although technically you still have to drag them to the Udderbelly). Adapted from the picture book of the same name, this show takes families on a bearly grand adventure with catchy songs and interactive scenes. Through Jan 24, various times. Central Harbourfront Event Space, 9 Lung Wo Rd., Central. \$385-523 from hkticketing.com.

Briefs

The larger-than-life Briefs boys are in town for a show to make your eyes pop and jaws drop. The extravagant and acrobatic boylesque combines comedy with nudity—the two best things in life, right? Jan 26-28, 9pm; Jan 29-30, 9:15pm. Central Harbourfront Event Space, 9 Lung Wo Rd., Central. \$355-443 from hkticketing.com.

Exhibitions



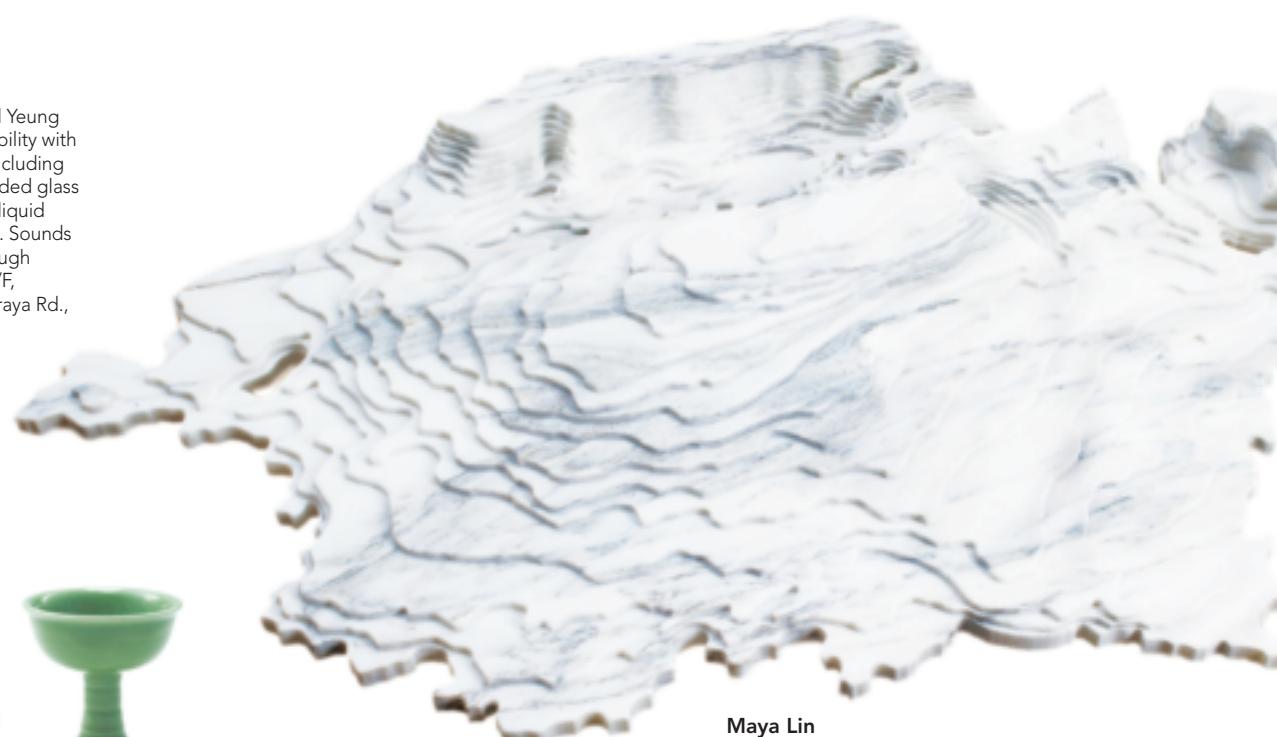
In Peril

Hong Kong-based artist Jovial Yeung examines fragility and vulnerability with her captivating installations, including "Revenge," in which a suspended glass heart is filled with a deep-red liquid and covered with black thorns. Sounds like a bad breakup to us. Through Apr 2. Mur Nomade, 1606, 16/F, Hing Wai Centre, 7 Tin Wan Praya Rd., Aberdeen.



Of Mist and Lushly Green: Longquan Celadon from Song to Ming Dynasties

Sun Museum features emerald green Longquan Celadon ceramics, dating all the way back to the Song and Ming Dynasties. With over 2,000 years of history, these Chinese antiques still have a lush green glaze. What's your coffee mug going to look like two millennia from now? Jan 26-Apr 23. Sun Museum, 4/F, SML Tower, 165 Hoi Bun Rd., Kwun Tong, 2690-6790.



Maya Lin

American architect and artist Maya Lin combines technology and cartography to render fleeting elements of the natural world into works of art, turning waves and rivers into 3D sculptures. Go check out her first Hong Kong solo exhibition at Pace Gallery. Through Mar 12. Pace Gallery, Hong Kong, Unit C, 15/F, Entertainment Building, 30 Queen's Rd. Central, Central, 2608-5065.

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NIGHTLIFE

OPEN BAR FOXGLOVE

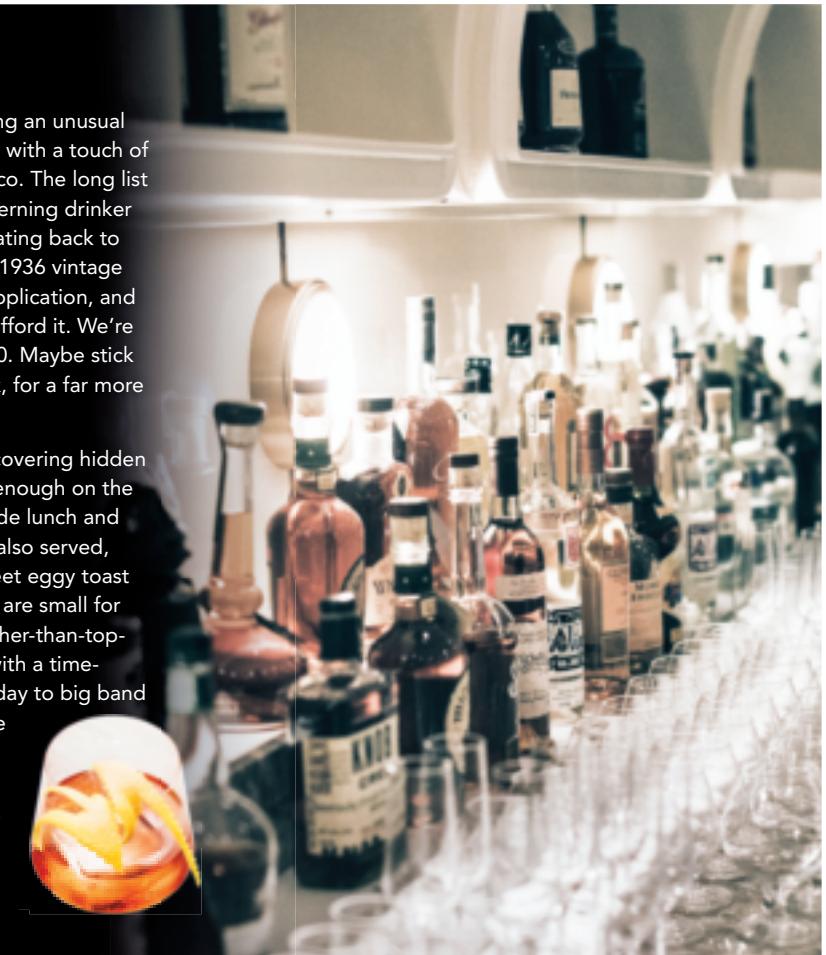
The buzz: The trio behind Sheung Wan's stamp-shop-camouflaged-bar Mrs. Pound has brought us yet another speakeasy concept, this time hidden behind an umbrella store on Duddell Street. Press the right switch on the right umbrella and a shelf will slide away, opening up into a spacious, old world traveler's den.

The décor: Just like Mrs. Pound, Foxglove has a convoluted fictional backstory: apparently, rich globetrotter Frank Minza created this bar as an ode to his travels around the world. The main lounge is inspired by a vintage first class airline interior complete with curved ceiling, ample blue leather, and marble and bronze fixtures. The private room, which takes after a fancy train cabin, is a delicious red and dark wooden nook seating 32 people, and can even house a live band for special occasions. The bathrooms? Retro luxury nautical, of course.

The drinks: The tome of a drinks list encompasses everything from old world cocktails to prohibition staples to more modern signatures. We tried the golden era classic Tonka Smash (\$150), made with tonka bean-infused Buffalo Trace bourbon, blood orange and Jerry Thomas bitters. It's then stuffed to the top with mint leaves and also has some of the bean grated on top to finish, giving the drink its distinct smoky, vanilla-like perfume of tonka. The prohibition-era

La Femme (\$140) is served in a flute, using an unusual but delicious red bell pepper-infused gin with a touch of yuzu and kaffir lime, topped with prosecco. The long list of cognacs and spirits will make any discerning drinker happy, with some rare selections even dating back to the 30s, such as the Mortlach whisky—a 1936 vintage aged 50 years in the cask. It's price on application, and if you have to ask... you probably can't afford it. We're not kidding—a shot sets you back \$3,840. Maybe stick to some Speyside's Finest Old Malt Cask, for a far more economical \$620 per glass.

Why you'll be back: Everyone loves discovering hidden gems, and at Foxglove there's certainly enough on the lengthy menu for multiple visits. Alongside lunch and dinner, posher-than-thou bar snacks are also served, like the \$268 lobster roll—served on sweet eggy toast rather than regular ol' brioche. Cocktails are small for the price, although you're paying for higher-than-top-shelf liquors and a rich ambience here, with a time-traveling playlist ranging from Billie Holiday to big band covers of "Mr. Brightside" before the live jazz hits the stage on Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights at 9:30pm. Reservations recommended. **Evelyn Lok**
2/F, Printing House, 6 Duddell St., Central, 2116-8949, fb.com/foxglovehk.



Clubs

Mister P Album Launch Party

Hipster house connoisseurs, take note: homegrown DJ Mister P is celebrating the launch of his newest album "5" with a night at the highest bar in the world. Jan 23, 10pm. Ozone, 118/F, The Ritz-Carlton, 1 Austin Rd. West, West Kowloon, 2263-2270. \$150 at the door, includes one Belvedere drink.

FuFu: Soichi Terada

A longtime cornerstone of Japanese house scene and also the man behind soundtracks for games such as the "Ape Escape" series, Soichi Terada will cook up some glitzy 8-bit-tastic tunes with a side of soul at Mahalo. Jan 29, 8pm. Mahalo Tiki Lounge, 29/F, QRE Plaza, 202 Queen's Rd. East, Wan Chai, 2488-8750. \$150 from ticketflap.com, includes one drink; \$300 at the door with two drinks.



General Ludd

Hong Kong's own Fragrant Harbour label has invited Glaswegian tribal house duo General Ludd to play at Bassment—expect a mix of everything from Brazilian to hip hop to Ethiopian beats. Jan 29, 11pm. Basement, LG/F, 13 Lyndhurst Terrace, Central, 2815-0868. \$100 from eventbrite.com, \$150 at the door; both include one drink.

Concerts

Diana Krall

The "Look of Love" jazz crooner is performing a one-night-only gig in Hong Kong as she tours her latest studio album, "Wallflower." Get ready for classics from the 60s onwards, and an all-new number composed by Paul McCartney, "If I Take You Home Tonight." Jan 24, 8pm. Hall 10, AsiaWorld-Expo, Chek Lap Kok. \$480-880 from hkticketing.com.

The Vamps

Not to be confused with the 60s Aussie all-girl rock band of the same name, boyband The Vamps first started off as a YouTube sensation and further exploded on the UK pop scene when they supported a McFly show in 2013. The foursome are playing Hong Kong in early 2016, and are accompanied by The Tide, an American teen group that they've just signed to their own record label. Teen-tastic! Jan 28, 8pm. Hall 10, AsiaWorld-Expo, Chek Lap Kok. \$488-888 from hkticketing.com.



Gigs

Cicada

Ready for some calming post-holiday tunes? Taiwanese instrumental band Cicada (so named because people tend to know cicadas by their sound, and not their appearance) headlines at Hang Out this January, supported by acoustic guitar duo WoodyWoody, Hong Kong hard rock foursome Andy is Typing, and indie singing sister duo Tse Chin-tung and Tse Chin-lui. Jan 23, 7:30pm. Hang Out, 1/F, Youth Outreach Jockey Club, 2 Holy Cross Path, Sai Wan Ho, 2622-2890. \$180 from tiny.cc/hk-cicada; \$200 at the door.



The Underground: Girls with Guitars

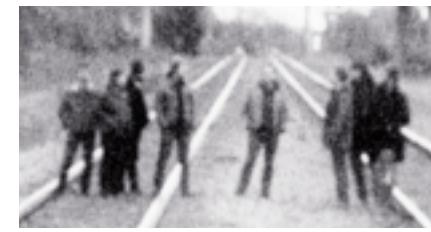
Continuing on from The Underground's popular gig series featuring Hong Kong's best female musicians, they're bringing the girls to the AIA Great European Carnival, from talented teen singer-songwriter Dixie Lynne, to modern pop sisters Maki and Gaby, pop-rockers Once, grunge outfit Dark Himaya and Teenage Girls. Disclaimer: They're not actually teenagers. Jan 27, 6pm. Central Harbourfront Event Space, 9 Lung Wo Rd., Central, 9486-4648. Free with admission to the AIA Great European Carnival. tgec.asia.

The Underground Presents: Back to its Roots Festival

Round the month off with a visit to the AIA Great European Carnival and get a taste of the best in Hong Kong bands while you're at it. The lineup includes Jing Wong, Soler, Nowhere Boys, The David Bowie Knives, Black Coffee and more. Jan 30-31, 4pm. Central Harbourfront Event Space, 9 Lung Wo Rd., Central, 9486-4648. Free with admission to the AIA Great European Carnival. tgec.asia.

Death Cab For Cutie

Indie heroes Ben Gibbard et al. are playing in Hong Kong. Are you going to be the type of smug fan who says you knew them before "Transatlanticism," and you're still following them up to their latest album "Kintsugi"? Or maybe you're just an MK jai who's stumbled on the show at MacPherson Stadium... Mar 1, 8pm. MacPherson Stadium, 38 Nelson St., Mong Kok. \$490 from ticketflap.com.



Godspeed You! Black Emperor

Lift your skinny fists like antennas to heaven, because Canadian post-rock giants Godspeed You! Black Emperor are heading back to Hong Kong after their sold-out show in 2013. They'll be touring their 2015 album "Asunder, Sweet And Other Distress." Yeah! Canada! Mar 11, 8pm. MacPherson Stadium, 38 Nelson St., Mong Kok. \$470 from ticketflap.com.

Nightlife Events

Malt Masters 2016

Find the perfect dram at this two-day whisky showcase at the Conrad, featuring selections from more than 50 distilleries. There'll also be masterclasses for you to nose deeper into whisky appreciation, as well as classes on cigar and food pairing. Feb 27-28. Conrad Hong Kong, 88 Queensway, 2521-3838. \$800 per day from gormei.com.



Mermaid Night

Feeling like a quiet night of drinking? Wan Chai seafood hotspot Fishsteria is teaming up with Cliché Records to launch a mellow drinks night where you'll be serenaded by live violin and chill beats by DJ Miya. \$278 gets you 3 signature cocktails, \$588 gets you a dozen oysters and a bottle of Chablis wine, while \$1,288 gets you a bottle of Louis Roederer bubbly and a dozen oysters. Jan 27, 8pm. Fishsteria, G/F & 1/F, 109-111 Queen's Rd. East, Wan Chai, 2343-8111.

PDT Pop-up Bar

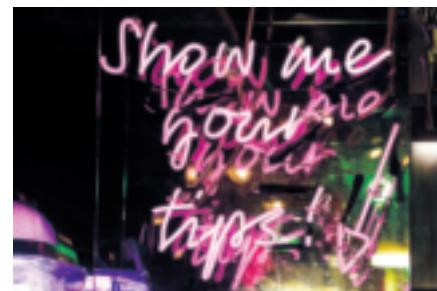
The Shell at MO Bar will be given a makeover this season to recreate legendary New York speakeasy, PDT (Please Don't Tell). Just like the New York original, you'll enter the bar through a secret entrance via a phone booth from MO Bar, and you'll find three of PDT's top bartenders—founder Jim Meehan, current GM Jeff Bell and veteran bartender Nick Brown—whipping up a list of 12 classic PDT and new Hong Kong-inspired cocktails. Through Jan 30. MO, The Landmark Mandarin Oriental, 15 Queen's Rd. Central, Central, 2132-0077.

Edited by Evelyn Lok
evelyn.lok@hkmagmedia.com



Ladybeard (Gigs Postponed to April)

Dressing up as a pigtailed 5-year-old, six-foot-tall Aussie wrestler and "kawaii-core" pioneer Ladybeard returns to Hong Kong for this gig. Known for his metal covers of Cantopop and his Japanese pop-metal band Ladybaby (formed together with two cute Japanese teens), Ladybeard's return is unmissable if you're after something a little more... alternative. Ladybeard's January gigs have been postponed to April due to illness. Apr 16, 9pm; Apr 17, 3:30pm. Focal Fair, 28/F, Park Avenue Tower, 5 Moreton Ave., Causeway Bay. \$250 from [undergroundhk.com](#); VIP tickets \$450 with access to meet and greet.



Ponty Hour

The Pontiac's happy hour is here: Get slashed prices on beers, wines, house pours and signature cocktails including the Kissy Kissy, Hobnail, and She. Mon-Sat, 5-8pm. The Pontiac, 13 Old Bailey St., Central, 2521-3855.



Uni, Sushi & Sake Nights

Keep the sake flowing at The Mira Hotel's Room One every Tuesday and Wednesday. This boozy deal includes a uni rice bowl and unlimited sushi served in bento boxes, and you get to choose from a list of seven sake cocktails. Or, you know, have them all... 7-10pm. Room One, G/F, The Mira Hong Kong, 118 Nathan Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui, 2315-5888. \$288.



Meats and Beats

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Our Brand is Crisis ★★★

(USA) Political Satire/Drama. Directed by David Gordon Green. Starring Sandra Bullock, Billy Bob Thornton, Anthony Mackie. Category IIA. 107 minutes. Opened Jan 21.

"Our Brand is Crisis" has definitely got pedigree. Loosely based on Rachel Boynton's 2005 documentary of the same name about the dirty side of political campaign tactics, and with big names like George Clooney and Grant Heslov wearing the producer's hats, you might have expected "Our Brand is Crisis" to follow in the same vein as the duo's previous hard-hitting efforts, like "Argo" or "The Ides of March." Instead this political drama gets a middlebrow Hollywood makeover, a sweet condensed milk can of entertainment for those who don't really care too much for the intricacies of politics, but want something to make them think for an afternoon before turning back to their social media feeds.

"Our Brand" is inspired by the real-life 2002 Bolivian presidential elections in which the unpopular candidate (in the film, Pedro Castillo, played by Joaquim de Almeida) hires a American political consulting firm to help him win the public's favor. Sandra Bullock stars as "Calamity" Jane Bodine, expert campaign strategist who is plucked from a self-inflicted retirement after a series of losses to lead Castillo to victory.

In the beginning, Jane is bored and complacent at the sight of a bored and complacent candidate—an upper-class man who doesn't care much for the public's opinion. As a result the plot spends time on unnecessary side events like Jane's altitude sickness and mediocre TV-spot filming, or Jane's relapse into cigarette addiction. It doesn't pick up the pace until the latter



half of the film, when Jane's longtime opponent Pat Candy (Billy Bob Thornton) is introduced as the political consultant for Castillo's rival, and her thirst for competition—and to actually win this time—returns.

Everyone loves a good competition, which is what makes the film so entertaining: What dirty tricks are up each strategist's sleeves? How is Candy going to smack the latest attack back? Will Jane rise above the setbacks and finally win the game this time? And what is that snazzy tune playing in the upbeat montage as Jane and Pat duke it out round by round?

Given Bullock's ferocity and authority and her comic timing, "Our Brand" is good fun for the most part. But it becomes clear that this is a war between the two, and the competitive fire begins to spiral out of control. At a moment when Castillo is responding to a sensitive question about his family on

television and he tears up, Jane and her team are whooping and high fiving behind the scenes. You realize there's no real integrity in politics, just pure marketing.

But that's hardly a new revelation. As Calamity Jane sells Castillo's brand, so does the movie hard-sell the message that politics is dark. It is dark. But after we learn that lesson, where do we move from there? Wherever string-pullers like Jane and Pat go, it's all the same battle anyway.

Heavily marketing cynicism, "Our Brand is Crisis" talks up the controversies of political manipulation and public lies. But in an attempt to massage Jane (and the audience's) consciences, it settles for a happy ending that ironically leaves us pretty unsatisfied. Still, as a movie that will coast you through the afternoon and leave you with enough to think about until your next Facebook update: it's enough. **Evelyn Lok**

Coming Soon

An ▾

(Japan) Opening the 2015 Cannes Film Fest was Naomi Kawase's delicate ode to nature and food, "An," named after the soft sweet red bean filling of a dorayaki pancake sandwich. Sentaro, a man with a mysterious past, recruits the eccentric 76-year-old Tokue to help out at his stall, where sales soon begin to skyrocket thanks to Tokue's careful cooking. Opens Jan 28.



Les Aventures d'Anthony
(China) Zhou Xun's first film from the producer's seat, "L'Aventures d'Anthony" is a story about a 20-something's experience of leaving his hometown of Dalian to study in Melbourne, while his soulmate Ying also leaves for Japan. Long distance always sucks! Opens Jan 28.

Opening

The Big Bee

(Japan) Set in 90s Japan, the Big Bee is a state-of-the-art military helicopter that's remotely hijacked on the day of its launch and flown above a nuclear power plant. Full of explosives and with only eight hours before fuel runs out, how will Japan get itself out of this sticky situation? Opened Jan 21.

The Big Short

(USA) Do you know what a subprime loan is? If you're still scratching your head at what really went down during the 2008 financial crisis, "The Big Short"—aka 2016's "The Wolf of Wall Street" sans drugs—is your best bet to catch up. Ryan Gosling, Steve Carell, Christian Bale and Brad Pitt play the banking bros who predicted the whole crisis—and bet against it, earning millions. Opened Jan 21.



Concussion

(USA) Will Smith is Dr. Bennet Omalu, the man who discovered the sports-related brain trauma disease CTE, which leads to brain deterioration similar to Alzheimer's. "Concussion" is the dramatic retelling of his crusade to alert all quarterbacks... Convincing acting from Smith, but the story development is too slow and weak to score a touch-down. Opened Jan 21. ★★

Dirty Grandpa

(USA) Zac Efron, an uptight lawyer (in what world would that work?), is about to marry his boss's daughter, but he's taken on a whirlwind road trip through Florida with his sleazy grandfather (Robert De Niro). Probably exactly what you'd expect from a movie titled "Dirty Grandpa." Opened Jan 21.

Our Brand is Crisis

(USA) See review, above. Opened Jan 21.



House of Wolves

(Hong Kong) This CNY comedy's written by frequent Stephen Chow collaborator Vincent Kok, so expect heaps of *mo lei tau* nonsense: It stars Francis Ng Chun-yu as a con-man who's pretending to be an ALS patient, and Ronald Cheng as a village leader. Both fall in love with a girl who's new to the village. Opened Jan 21.

Tag

(Japan) Two buses of high school girls are destroyed while en route to a field trip—with the mysterious murderers still gunning for sole survivor Mitsuko. Yet more grindhouse gore from genre master Sion Sono—featuring the death of a hundred scantily-clad high-school chicks. Opened Jan 21.

Continuing

100 Yen Love

(Japan) "100 Yen Love" is not your average tender Japanese love story: It's a dirty, stark peek into the life of Ichiko, a 30-something misanthrope still living with her parents who finds solace in... boxing?

The 5th Wave

(USA) There's nothing like a film about the obliteration of planet Earth to start 2016 off right: Chloë Grace Moretz stars as a high school kid who desperately tries to save her younger brother as multiple (five) waves of alien attacks destroy the human race. Bet she wishes she could "Carrie" herself out of this pickle.

Daddy's Home

(USA) The second comedy collab between Will Ferrell and Mark Wahlberg since 2010's detective action-comedy "The Other Guys," Hollywood pits mild-mannered stepdad (Ferrell) against bad boy biological father (Wahlberg) in the ultimate fatherhood one-up competition.

Dheepan

(France/Sri Lanka) Inspired by the medieval literary work "Persian Letters," in which two Persian aristocrats write about their journey through France, "Dheepan" is the tale of three Tamil refugees who flee the Sri Lankan civil war to come to France. Apt for our times and deeply moving, the film won the Palme d'Or grand prize at the 2015 Cannes Film Festival.

Ip Man 3

(Hong Kong) Donnie Yen returns as Wing Chun legend Ip Man. This time, the grandmaster duels it out with none other than Mike Tyson himself, who plays a property developer who has his eyes set on land occupied by a local primary school. Obviously, the tightly executed action balances out the dubious plot. ★★★★



Joy

(USA) The annual David O. Russell movie starring Bradley Cooper and Jennifer Lawrence. We follow J-Law as she plays a fictionalized version of Joy Mangano, divorcée, matriarch and founder of the business dynasty behind the Miracle Mop. J-Law (who received an Oscar nom for her role), bangin' tunes and silliness: Can't go wrong. ★★★★

The Little Prince

(France) Could there be a more perfect Christmas film than Antoine de Saint-Exupéry's heartrending tale of a mysterious young boy from a tiny asteroid? Although done up in CGI-style, the updated retelling of the story and its ensemble voice cast (Rachel McAdams, Jeff Bridges, Marion Cotillard and more) surely won't disappoint.





Edited by Evelyn Lok
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Mojin: The Lost Legend

(China) A 3D fantasy blockbuster starring Shu Qi, Huang Bo and Angelababy, "Mojin" is the second film adapted from successful web novel series "The Ghost Blows Out the Light," telling of a trio of grave robbers who venture deep underground in search of the ultimate treasure.



The Revenant

(USA) Alejandro Iñárritu's latest has Leonardo DiCaprio playing famous 18th century fur-trapper Hugh Glass, who is brutally mauled by a bear during a snowy expedition and left for dead by his men. No doubt gunning for an Oscar, DiCaprio goes to ultimate lengths through the chilling winter for revenge... Aside from great acting, the stunning cinematography makes this a must-see—even if it is slow and drawn-out. ★★★★

Salut d'Amour

(South Korea) A light Korean rom-com featuring a courtship between two geriatrics. Meanwhile, a property developer struggles to get the final signature needed to approve a redevelopment project. There's probably some kind of moral here about liking old things.

Secret in Their Eyes

(USA) Two FBI agents are at a loss after Jess's (Julia Roberts) teenage daughter is found murdered. Thirteen years later, Ray (Chiwetel Ejiofor) finds a lead that might just solve the case. The original 2009 film on which the story is based (it won the Best Foreign Film Oscar) might just be turning in its grave...

Sherlock: The Abominable Bride

(UK) It's TV's "Sherlock" on the big screen! The world's best sleuthing partners get a special episode to kick off the year. Sherlock (Benedict Cumberbatch) and Watson (Martin Freeman) return to the Victorian era to solve the case of a bride seeking revenge. Filled with fan service, but an overly meta plot gets in the way of the fun. ★★★

Star Wars: The Force Awakens

(USA) J.J. Abrams takes the reins for this first part of the sequel trilogy to the legendary space opera. Set 30 years after the fall of the Empire in "Return of the Jedi," a new military dictatorship has assumed rule. Brilliant fun, even if it's basically just a remake of "A New Hope." ★★★★

Steve Jobs

(USA) Danny Boyle's Steve Jobs biopic chronicles the story of the father of Apple from his first launch of the Macintosh in 1984 to his departure and later return to Apple, plus his personal struggles along the way. Written by "The Newsroom" screenwriter Aaron Sorkin, it's two hours of fantastic rapid-fire dialogue and tension that'll leave you in awe—and a little bit exhausted. ★★★★



Special Screening

All's Well Ends Well [Extended Version]

Clifton Ko's cult classic "All's Well Ends Well" is perhaps the best movie around if you want to gear up to Chinese New Year: Family dysfunction, mahjong banter and terrible pranks abound as three brothers try to win the favor of their father. This screening is an extended version which includes a 10-minute firefighting scene starring Leslie Cheung which has never been shown in Hong Kong theaters. Jan 30. The Grand Cinema, 2/F, Elements, 1 Austin Rd. West, West Kowloon, 2196-8170.

Film Festival

Hong Kong Independent Film Festival

The HK Indie film fest returns with a selection of distinguished arthouse flicks and thought-provoking screenings. The program is led by a focus on the seminal work of the late Chantal Akerman, Belgian film director and daughter of Holocaust survivors. There'll also be a spotlight on works surrounding the Umbrella Movement in Hong Kong, as well as resistance movements in the region. Cinephiles who like Japanese films (or who really like sitting on their ass) can look forward to screenings by Ryusuke Hamaguchi, particularly his latest release: The 317-minute-long drama "Happy Hour." Hamaguchi will be in Hong Kong for Q&A sessions and a free film masterclass (entry with any Hamaguchi screening ticket stub) held after the screening of "Touching the Skin of Eeriness" (Jan 26). Jan 24-Feb 5. hkindieff.hk.



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AQUARIUS (Jan. 19-Feb. 18): The birds known as mound-builders are born more mature than other species. As soon as they peck themselves out of their eggs, they are well-coordinated, vigorous enough to hunt, and capable of flight. Right now I see a resemblance between them and many of you Aquarians. As soon as you hatch your new plans or projects—which won't be long now—you will be ready to operate at almost full strength. I bet there won't be false starts or rookie mistakes, nor will you need extensive rehearsal. Like the mound-builders, you'll be primed for an early launch.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You are not purely and simply a Pisces, because although the sun was in that astrological sign when you were born, at least some of the other planets were in different signs. This fact is a good reminder that everything everywhere is a complex web of subtlety and nuance. It's delusional to think that anyone or anything can be neatly definable. Of course it's always important to keep this in mind, but it's even more crucial than usual for you to do so in the coming weeks. You are entering a phase when the best way to thrive is to know in your gut that life is always vaster, wilder, and more mysterious than it appears to be on the surface. If you revere the riddles, the riddles will be your sweet, strong allies.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): The next four weeks could potentially be a Golden Age of Friendship... a State of Grace for Your Web of Connections... a Lucky Streak for Collaborative Efforts. What can you do to ensure that these cosmic tendencies will actually be fulfilled? Try this: Deepen and refine your approach to schmoozing. Figure out what favors would be most fun for you to bestow, and bestow them. Don't socialize aimlessly with random gadabouts, but rather gravitate toward people with whom you share high ideals and strong intentions.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): On a clear day, if you stand at the summit of Costa Rica's Mount Irazú, you can see both the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. It's not hard to get there. You can hop a tourist bus in the nearby city of San José, and be 11,200 feet high two hours later. This is a good model for your next assignment: Head off on a stress-free jaunt to a place that affords you a vast vista. If you can't literally do that, at least slip away to a fun sanctuary where you'll be inspired to think big thoughts about your long-range prospects. You need a break from everything that shrinks or numbs you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): A filmmaker working on a major movie typically shoots no more than four pages of the script per day. A director for a TV show may shoot eight pages. But I suspect that the story of your life in the near future may barrel through the equivalent of 20 pages of script every 24 hours. The next chapter is especially action-packed. The plot twists and mood swings will be coming at a rapid clip. This doesn't have to be a problem as long as you are primed for high adventure. How? Take good care of your basic physical and emotional needs so you'll be in top shape to enjoy the boisterous ride.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): The city of Paris offers formal tours of its vast sewer system. Commenting at an online travel site, one tourist gave the experience five stars. "It's a great change of pace from museums full of art," she wrote. Another visitor said, "It's an interesting detour from the cultural overload that Paris can present." According to a third, "There is a slight smell but it isn't overpowering. It's a fascinating look at how Paris handles wastewater treatment and clean water supply." I bring this up, Cancerian, because now is a favorable time for you to take a break from bright, shiny pleasures and embark on a tour of your psyche's subterranean maze. Regard it not as a scary challenge, but as a fact-finding exploration. What strategies do you have in place to deal with the messy, broken, secret stuff in your life? Take an inventory.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): "When I look at a sunset, I don't say, 'Soften the orange a little on the right hand corner, and put a bit more purple in the cloud color.'" Pioneering psychologist Carl Rogers was describing the way he observed the world. "I don't try to control a sunset," he continued. "I watch it with awe." He had a similar view about people. "One of the most satisfying experiences," he said, "is just fully to appreciate an individual in the same way I appreciate a sunset." Your assignment, Leo, is to try out Rogers' approach. Your emotional well-being will thrive as you refrain from trying to "improve" people—as you see and enjoy them for who they are.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): The future is headed your way in a big hurry. It may not be completely here for a few weeks, but even then it will have arrived ahead of schedule. Should you be alarmed? Should you work yourself into an agitated state and draw premature conclusions? Hell, no! Treat this sudden onrush of tomorrow as a bracing opportunity to be as creative as you dare. Cultivate a beginner's mind. Be alert for unexpected openings that you assumed would take longer to appear.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): More than one-third of all pregnancies are unintended. The two people involved aren't actually trying to make a baby, but their contraceptive measure fails or isn't used at all. According to my analysis, you heterosexual Libras are now more prone to this accidental experience than usual. And in general, Libras of every sexual preference must be careful and precise about what



seeds they plant in the coming weeks. The new growth you instigate is likely to have far-reaching consequences. So don't let your choice be reckless or unconscious. Formulate clear intentions. What do you want to give your love to for a long time?

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): I was a rock musician for years, which meant that I rarely went to bed before dawn. I used to brag that my work schedule was from 9 to 5—9 p.m. to 5 a.m., that is. Even after I stopped performing regularly, I loved keeping those hours. It was exhilarating to be abuzz when everyone else was asleep. But two months ago, I began an experiment to transform my routine. Now I awake with the dawn. I spend the entire day consorting with the source of all life on earth, the sun. If you have been contemplating a comparable shift in your instinctual life, Scorpio—any fundamental alteration in your relationship to food, drink, exercise, sleep, perception, laughter, love-making—the next few weeks will be a favorable time to do it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You Sagittarians are often praised but also sometimes criticized for being such connoisseurs of spontaneity. Many of us admire your flair for unplanned adventure, even though we may flinch when you unleash it. You inspire us and also make us nervous as you respond to changing circumstances with unpremeditated creativity. I expect all these issues to be hot topics in the coming weeks. You are in a phase of your cycle when your improvisational flourishes will be in the spotlight. I, for one, promise to learn all I can from the interesting detours that result from your delight in experimentation.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Capricorn world-changer Martin Luther King Jr. was arrested and sent to jail on 29 different occasions. His crimes? Drawing inspiration from his Christian faith, he employed nonviolent civil disobedience to secure basic civil rights for African Americans. He believed so fiercely in his righteous cause that he was willing to sacrifice his personal comfort again and again. The coming months will be a favorable time to devote yourself to a comparable goal, Capricorn. And now is a good time to intensify your commitment. I dare you to take a vow.

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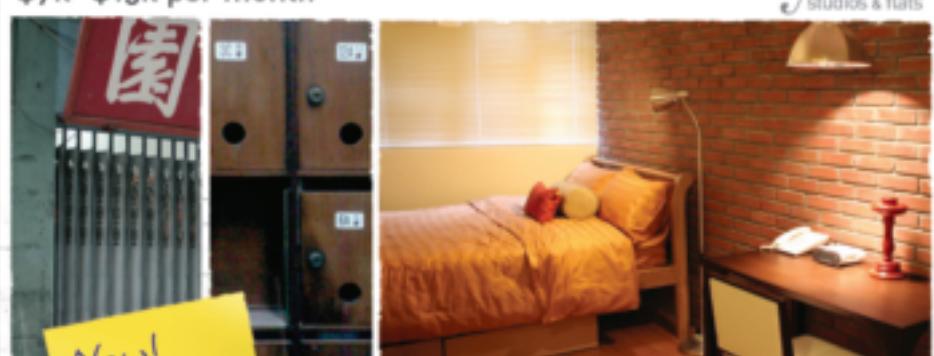
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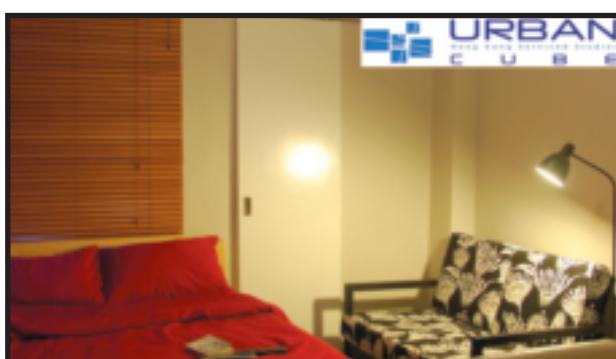
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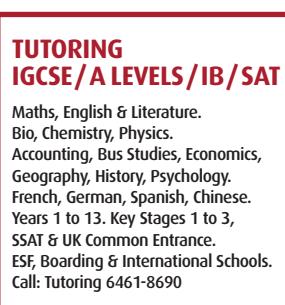
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SAVAGE LOVE

Dan Savage

I am no longer sexually active, but I have a significant collection of sex toys from earlier years. I'm thinking of getting rid of most of them, and it seems such a waste for them to end up in the landfill. What's an environmentally responsible way to dispose of dildos? I wish there was a place I could donate them where they could be used again. Many of them are quality silicone types, they've never been used on a person without a condom, and they've been thoroughly cleaned. I'd be happy to donate them to impoverished dildo users in need, if only I knew where to send them.

- Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Your question comes up frequently, RRR, and there really isn't a satisfactory answer.

In Seattle, where I live, a community tool bank recently opened in my neighborhood—but they don't collect and lend the kind of tools you're looking to donate. I've heard about dildo graveyards in other cities (spots in parks where people bury their used sex toys), but burying sex toys isn't environmentally responsible. And while high quality dildos can be cleaned and safely reused, most people are pretty squeamish about the idea. Which is odd, considering that we routinely reuse actual cocks that have been enjoyed by others—so why not the fake ones?

But even if I can't tell you what to do with your dildos, RRR, I can tell you what *not* to do with them: Do not ship your used dildos to the anti-government militia currently occupying a federal wildlife refuge in rural Oregon. After militia members asked supporters to send them supplies—via the US Postal Service—their spokesperson complained bitterly about all the dildos they were getting in the mail. So if you decide to put your used dildos in a box and send them somewhere, RRR, please make sure the address on the box doesn't read: Bundy Militia, c/o Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, 36391 Sodhouse Lane, Princeton, OR, 97721.

I understand that monogamy is not something people are good at—and that's fine. In fact, most of the people I know are in healthy poly or monogamous relationships. Here's the thing: I'm monogamous. Not the "I'm attracted to other people but won't act on it because it makes me uncomfortable or believe it's wrong" kind of monogamous, but the "I genuinely have ZERO desire to fuck anyone but my partner" kind of monogamous. Fantasizing about others is fun, so is looking, so is porn and role play. There's a world of deliciously kinky, weird, and wonderful sex stuff I'd LOVE to explore until my sexy bits fall off. But I want to do those things with one partner and one partner only in a monogamous, intimate relationship. Here's the kicker: I'd like my partner to feel the same way. I don't want someone to enter into a monogamous relationship with me if in their heart/groin they'd genuinely like to fuck other people. Am I a lost cause? Surely I can't be the only genuinely monogamous person there is? I'm 31 and still turn heads, but I worry my quest for a partner who feels as I do is impossible and a waste of my time.

- One 4 One

You value monogamy, you want a monogamous commitment, and you want someone who feels the same. That great, O4O, and you have my full support. But you do acknowledge that fantasies about others can be fun, as can looking, as can porn (watching others) and role play (pretending to be others). So while you may wanna fuck other people—hence the looking and fantasizing and role playing—you have no desire to actually fuck other people.

If you're having a hard time finding partners who want what you want—a monogamous commitment without the stress of maintaining the monogamous pretense/facade/fraud, i.e., pretending they don't at least think about fucking

other people—either you're living in some sort of poly parallel universe where nonmonogamy is the default setting or you're not giving others the same benefit of the doubt you've given yourself. You wanna fuck other people and you don't seem to think that disqualifies you from making, honoring, and genuinely wanting both a monogamous commitment and a monogamous sex life. (The two don't always go hand in hand.)

If you're breaking up with people for admitting to the same things you've admitted to in your question—you might *think* about fucking other people, but you don't want to *actually* fuck other people—then you're the reason your quest to find a partner has been so frustrating.

I'm 33, blah blah blah, and live in a big city. I've been dating an age-appropriate person for a year and a half. Everything seemed fine (great sex, common interests and hobbies, similar work ethic, we even talked about raising children), but my partner is so damn angry and full of hate. Mostly it manifests itself in racism, and I really don't like it. He says that I "don't understand," like he's gone through experiences that would justify wholesale prejudice against entire groups of people. The passing of David Bowie has accentuated these differences between us. I want to live better and brighter, to love more, but my boyfriend just keeps hating. He's unrelentingly racist. I shouldn't have children with him—right? Better to be 33 and alone—right? This racist stuff is a deal breaker—right? DTMFA—right?
- Racist Anger Gradually Ends Relationship

Right.

My best female friend is marrying her boyfriend in March and wants to go on a gay bar crawl on the night of her bachelorette party. She says it won't be a problem because, as a bi woman, she's part of the LGBT community too and because gay people can get married now. As a gay man, Dan, do you oppose bachelorette parties in gay bars? - Queer And Questioning

I oppose bachelorette parties in gay bars—or anywhere else, QAQ, and I feel the exact same way about bachelor parties.

A few weeks ago, you answered a letter from **Seeks Discreet Call Service**, a woman in an open marriage who was having Tinder hookups in hotel rooms while traveling for work. She was concerned about her safety and wanted to have someone check in on her, but she couldn't tell her partner about her hookups (DADT arrangement) or her friends (she's not out about her open marriage). She specifically asked if there was an app that might help, and you told her there wasn't an app for that. You were wrong, Dan! There are actually several apps. PCWorld published a roundup of a few of them a couple of years ago ("5 Personal Safety Apps That Watch Your Back," by Amber Bouman), and there's an app called Kitestring (kitestring.io) that has gotten some glowing reviews. The gist is that you use the app to set a timer, and when it goes off, you have to alert the app that you are okay. Otherwise, the app automatically contacts emergency services or a predetermined contact and lets them know you are in trouble at your location. So technology does have a solution for SDCS's problem!
- Technological Enhancements Can Help

Man, I really blew that response—so thanks to TECH and everyone else who clued me in to Kitestring, StaySafe, Watch Over Me, bSafe, and all the other apps out there that are exactly what SDCS was looking for.

On the *Lovecast*, Dr. Robert Garofalo on parenting a trans kid: savagecast.com.

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Having decided to take up the challenge, Orrico has devised his latest masterpiece: Picnic on Forbes, picturesquely set in the heart of Kennedy Town.

The concept is simple, but pure genius. After all, what could be better in the frenetic hustle and bustle of a 24/7 city like Hong Kong than to be able to get away from it all and relax in the tranquil setting of a picnic in a French café?

Picnic on Forbes was inspired by Orrico's burning desire to create a top-quality eatery that serves good, simple and casual meals in a cool and relaxing atmosphere.

"Since moving to Hong Kong, I have wanted to work on something that pays homage to the French café," enthused Orrico. Picnic on Forbes is that heartfelt tribute.

And as you would expect, it comes with the same pedigree as the other two restaurants in the Nomad Group, Upper Modern Bistro and On Dining Kitchen & Lounge.

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Also bound for Studio City in February is the American duo Kalin & Jinger. They debut on February 11 and will be performing through to mid-May.

The two new acts form part of the stunning House of Magic show, which sees four acts in three shows under one roof all for the price of a single ticket. What a bargain!

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Monsieur Chatte
Ola
Park N Shop - Kennedy Town
Pizzeria Jacomax
Quintessentially
Shelter Lounge
Starbucks - 50 Connaught Road
Starbucks - Golden Phoenix Court
Starbucks - Hotel Ibis
Starbucks - Kwong Fat Hong Building
Starbucks - Shun Tak Centre
Tacobocha

Teakha
The Press Room
The Beautywave Skin Care
The Lot
Three Monkeys
Waffling Beans

MID-LEVELS

Blessing Garden Phase I
Chicken on the Run
Coffee Book
Dymocks - Bonham Rd.
Il Bel Paese
Ladies' Recreation Club
Lime @ Soho 38
Loft10
Mier Serviced Apartments
Peak Café Bar
Seymour
The Phoenix
YWCA English Speaking Members Department

PEAK

Bubba Gump
Cafe Deco
Starbucks
The Peak Lookout Restaurant

ADMIRALTY

Brick Lane
Dan Ryan's
Gourmet Coffee
Grappa's Ristorante
Great
Island Shangri-La
Lab Concept
Metropolitan Café
Ruth Chris
Starbucks - Pacific Place
The British Council Library
UFC Group

WANCHAI

151 Gloucester Road Property Management Company Ltd
Academy for the Performing Arts
Agave
Amour Salon
Alliance Francaise
Arts Centre
Asian Tiger Mobility
Assaggio Trattoria Italiana
Bar 109
Berliner
Big Apple
Castello del Vino
Classified (Wan Chai)
Cosmos Book Ltd.
Coyote Bar & Grill
Divino Patio
DRAGONFLY @ Novotel
Ebeneezer's
Grand Hyatt Hotel
Harbour road café
Hotel Indigo
IAFT
Island Property
Joe's Billiards & Bar
Loplus @ Hennessy Serviced Apartment
Marriott Properties (International) Ltd.
Maya
Moon Izakaya
Mr. Taco Truck
Oliver's Super Sandwiches
Outback Grill
OVO
OVO Limited
Paisano's Wan Chai
Pizza Express - Wing Fung St.
Pizza Express - Ship St.
Pomme
Quemo
SIP Sun Hung Kai Centre
Slim's
Spring Learning
StarCrest
Starbucks - 4346 Queen's Road East
Starbucks - Gloucester Rd
Starbucks - Great Eagle Centre
Starbucks - Hopewell Centre
Starbucks - Sun Hung Kai Centre
Starbucks - WanChai Tower
Starbucks - Wsqaure

Thai Delight Restaurant & Bar
Tamarind
The Charterhouse Causeway Bay
The Doghouse
The Flying Pan
The Hive
The Queen Victoria
The Tonno
The Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club
The Wanch
The White Stag
VIM Pilates Studio
Xperience
Yo mama

CAUSEWAY BAY

18 Grams
A La Maison
Aluminium
Brecht's Circle
Brookfield Global Relocation Services HK Ltd.
Brunch Club & Supper
Buddy Bar & Café
Café Corridor
Café Rivoli
CitySuper
Classified (Tai Hang)
Crowne Plaza Hong Kong Causeway Bay – Connections
Dickens Bar
Englishtown
Fleur de Sel
Hotel Pennington
Inn Side Out
Isabella Bistro & Bar
Island Seafood & Oyster
Jrink
Lanson Place
Little Burro
Mackie Kitchen
Madame Foster Deli
Mau I Business Centre Ltd - Eton Tower
Mau I Business Centre Ltd - Radio City
Mini Hotel Causeway Bay
Mr. Steak
Otto Restaurant & Bar
Outback Steakhouse
Page One
Roof Bar
Rouge
Starbucks - 50 Leighton Rd.
Starbucks - Causeway Bay Plaza 2
Starbucks - Hysan Place
Starbucks - Lee Garden 1
Starbucks - Tin Hau
Starbucks - Tiung Lo Wan Rd.
Starbucks - Windsor House
The Herbivores
The Sky Bar
The Warren
Watson's Wine Cellar
Wired Café
W's Entrecôte
Yo mama

HAPPY VALLEY

Classified
El Grande - Happy Valley Bar & Grill
Hong Kong Cricket Club
Hong Kong Football Club
Il Bel Paese
Jaspas
Movieland (3) - Happy Valley
Park N Shop - Happy Valley
Saint Germain
Starbucks - Le Cacet
The Jockey

QUARRY BAY/ TAIKOOSHING

East Hotel
Park N Shop - Kornhill Plaza
Pizza Express
Ruby Tuesday
Starbucks - Cityplaza
Starbucks - Hoi Kwong St.
Starbucks - Kornhill Plaza
Starbucks - Taikoo Shing
The News Room
Yo bago
Yo mama

NORTH POINT/ FORTRESS HILL

Cheung Chuk Shan College
Harbour Plaza North Point - Lobby
Fitness First - Fortress Hill
Para Site
Starbucks - AIA Tower
Starbucks - Fortress Hill
Starbucks - Kerry Centre

SAI WAN HO

Berliner Soho East
Chaiwanese
Jack's Terrazza Ristorante
Madera Café
Starbucks - Eastern Hospital

POK FU LAM

Delaney's Pub
HKUSU Student Union
Lee Hysan Hall Students' Association, HKUSU
Patisserie Les Amis
Prompt
Starbucks - Cyberport
Starbucks - Cyberport 3
Starbucks - HKU Library
Starbucks - HKUSU T Hotel

AP LEI CHAU/ ABERDEEN

Aberdeen Marina Club
Alisan Fine Arts Limited
Bowls Café Limited
Flex HK
GCX
K Academy (English Language Learning Centre)
Movie Express
Tequila Kola
TREE
Shambala/ Café Piatti
Sift
Spring Workshop
Starbucks - Marina Square
Starbucks - One Island South Y. Art Education

REPULSE BAY/ TAI TAM/ STANLEY

Beachside Bookstore
Classified (Stanley)
Chez Patrick Deli - Stanley
El Cid Caramar
Hong Kong International School
King Ludwig Beer Hall
Lucy's
Mini Hotel Stanley
Ocean Bay
Park N Shop - Parkview
Pickled Pelican Stanley
Pizza Express
Seafront
Smuggler's Inn, Stanley
Spices
Starbucks - Stanley Plaza
Taste
The American Club
The Boat House
Victoria Recreation Club

TSIM SHA TSUI

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

JORDAN/YAU MA TEI/MONG KOK

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

SHATIN

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

SAI KUNG

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

OTHER NEW TERRITORIES

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

LANTAU

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

Gateway Apartments

Gaylord Indian Restaurant
Greyhound Café
Harbourside Restaurant
Hotel Icon
Jimmy's Kitchen
Joia Ristorante
K11 Art Mall
Kowloon Cricket Club
Kowloon Shangri-la Hotel & Deli Kool

La Villa Restaurant & Bar
Langham Hotel Main Street Deli
Lobby Cafe - Sheraton Hotel
Mega Hospitality Intl
Morgan Stanley
Namo
Ned Kelly's Last Stand
Nomads
Outback Steakhouse - TST Centre
Pacific Club
Page One
Papi
Pierside Bar, The Royal Pacific Hotel and Towers
Pizza Express - 35 Ashley Rd.
RA Restaurant & Lounge
Regal Kowloon Hotel
Ritz Carlton - Concierge
Ruth's Chris
Starbucks - 102 Austin Rd.
Starbucks - Albion Plaza
Starbucks - China HK City
Starbucks - Elements
Starbucks - Empire Centre
Starbucks - Gateway Arcade
Starbucks - Harbour Crystal Ctr.
Starbucks - I Square
Starbucks - K11
Starbucks - Knutsford
Starbucks - Mirror Tower
Starbucks - Ocean Terminal
Starbucks - STAR HOUSE B/F
Starbucks - The Sun Arcade
Stormies
Swindon Books
Tequila Jack's
The Doghouse
The Grand
The Swiss Chalet
Tiffanys New York Bar
Triple O
W Hotel
Weinstube
Wired Café
Wooloo Mooloo

KOWLOON TONG

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

HUNG HOM

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

KOWLOON BAY/ KWUN TONG/ KOWLOON CITY

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

HK GIVEAWAYS

It's week three of our January giveaways, courtesy of your favorite magazine! A stay at the Mandarin Oriental, Hong Kong is still up for grabs, and we've got the winners of dining vouchers for the Greater China Club. Not lucky this month? Better luck next time!

WIN
A NIGHT AT
THE MANDARIN,
WORTH
\$10,150!



Win a suite stay at
Mandarin Oriental,
valued at \$10,150!

The **Mandarin Oriental**, Hong Kong needs little introduction. One of the world's finest hotels, it offers the most elegant and enjoyable hospitality experience imaginable. But for one lucky reader, imagining won't be necessary.

We have a **one-night weekend stay in a Studio Suite** up for grabs. We're talking Chinese elm paneling, silk matting, bathrooms of travertine stone and Chinese marble and a pedestal bath, as well as the latest technology, breakfast and classic afternoon tea for two at the Clipper Lounge. Rose petal jam, anyone?

If you fancy a chance to live the high life, here's how. If you were reading for the last two weeks, you should have already found an *italicized word* in an article on the Spotlight page of both issues. Now you have to do the same with this issue! Once you've got all three, include them in a paragraph of no more than 30 words about what a stay at this iconic property would mean to you. Go to hk-magazine.com/hk-giveaways to submit your entry before **10am on January 25, 2016**. The best, most romantic entry will win the prize.

Can't wait to win? Chinese New Year packages run from Jan 29-Feb 14. Alternatively, go for a five-course sunset Valentine's Day meal at two-Michelin-starred Pierre (Feb 13-14), or the "Romantic Suite" package (Feb 12-14): a luxurious spa session for two.

Good luck! The winner will be announced on January 29.

Congratulations to the lucky winners of dining vouchers!

Congratulations to Maiyo Hood and Ricky Leung, who have both won **dining vouchers worth \$2,500 each at the Greater China Club**.

Maiyo says she's looking forward to the "spicy, sweet, tangy tropical oasis of Thai flavor firecrackers," while Ricky's all about "the way flavours rub up against each other to elevate all your senses."

Your voucher gets you a meal of either Thai or Cantonese food, cooked by chefs formerly of Michelin three-star restaurants.

Congratulations, again, guys—and bon appetit!



WE HAVE
WINNERS!

FIRST PERSON

“I’ve said wrong things sometimes. I’ll apologize when I do.”

Businesswoman and DAB lawmaker

Ann Chiang Lai-wan is well known for her no-nonsense personality and her fierce attacks on pan-democrats in Legco. The daughter of industrialist Chiang Chen tells Isabelle Hon about growing up in a wooden shack, married life and what she thinks about kids.



Photo: Kirk Kenny / studiozag.com

I was born and raised in Hong Kong.

In 1949, like many other refugees, my father came here from mainland China.

My family was poor. I was born in Tiu Keng Leng, where most mainland refugees lived.

Then we moved to a wooden house on a rooftop in Diamond Hill, before moving to Tai Hom Village and living in a stone house with a metal roof. That's where my father started his business.

I have seven siblings and I'm the second eldest. My elder sister got married young and left Hong Kong. So even though I'm the second daughter I had to take care of my five sisters and one brother.

My father started his mechanical manufacturing business from scratch. By the 70s, we could finally afford to live in a building.

I was a naughty child. I walked for an hour to my elementary school in Wong Tai Sin because the school bus driver complained about me punching him in the head while he was driving.

My five sisters were always bullied by other kids. I had to protect them. That's why I've been intimidating ever since I was young. When other kids stole our bags, I would chase them and beat them up.

When I was young we had to share a single soft drink bottle between us. To drink a whole bottle myself was my dream.

At that time, my needs and hopes in life were very basic. I didn't think much about the future.

Things got better and I had the chance to study abroad. I went to college in Canada.

I studied psychology in college, hoping to become a psychiatrist. There were many cases of juvenile delinquency in Hong Kong. I wanted to do something for society.

After I graduated my father asked me to come home and help with our family business. After about 10 years, his business was back on track and became a listed company.

My love life was simple. I had a few relationships. But I was always the one who left.

There was no point to getting married as I was used to protecting myself.

I could take care of myself physically and materially. Marriage would be an extra burden for me.

I met my husband when I was 40. We started out as friends. It was comfortable chatting to him.

He was very serious about the relationship.

He told me that I was the one he'd searched for for 40 years. I felt like there was a halo around me. I fell in love immediately.

There were other boys approaching me, of course. But he drove them all away.

Two months after we met, we decided to get married. We went to my father and asked for his permission—he told us to wait two years.

I was thinking, “Come on, daddy, I’m already 40!”

Many friends have said we look very much alike. Husband and wife are always complementary to each other. He offsets my shortcomings; I give him a feeling of home.

He is very rational. Sometimes while I'm being emotional, he calms me down and helps to solve the problem. It's good to have him to think from another side.

But we have a common trait—we never hold a grudge.

He understands me so well. He knows what I want even before I say it.

I started my own business in 1992, covering shopping malls and telecommunication.

I joined the DAB in 2005, hoping to help with local affairs. I proposed several major policies—one of which was life planning education.

When young people prepare for college, they may not know that their major will affect their future.

Many of them take four years to realize they studied something they didn't like—and so enter a career they have no interest in.

The life planning policy is to help young people understand different career fields, understand their own personalities, and understand what the market needs.

I'm planning to propose a “baby fund” to the government, where all babies would have funds reserved for college tuition, buying a flat or medical emergencies.

The anti-government camp has always criticized the pro-Beijing parties. But at least we are creating something.

What have they done for society, except oppose things?

I'm not saying all policies from the government are correct—they are wrong at times. I will criticize them if there's something wrong.

But I do it in a mild manner, because my goal is to make things better.

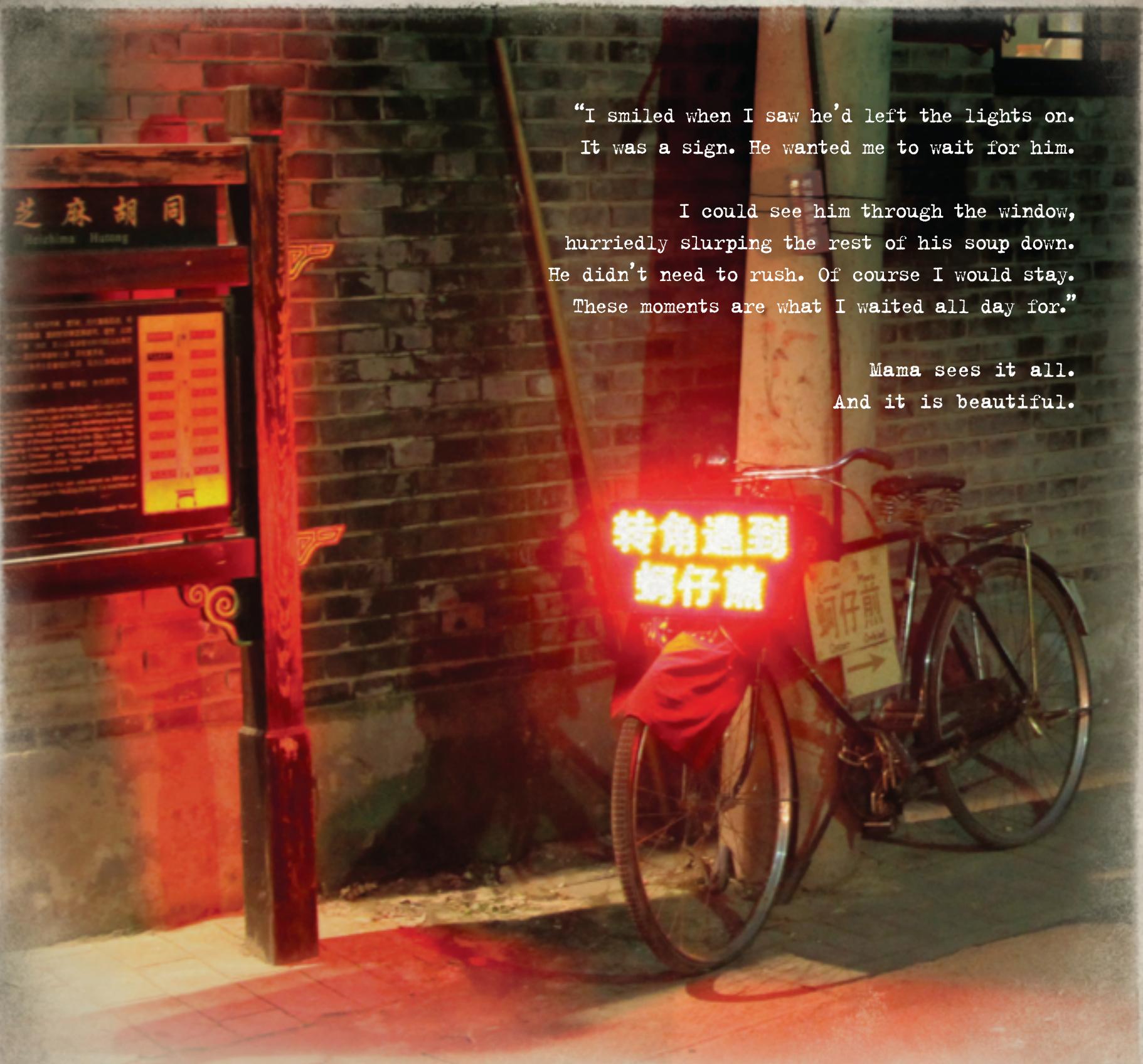
I've said wrong things sometimes. I'll apologize when I do.

Some young people may have different political views from me.

But everything I do is for their own good—like my psychiatric practice, which is also for helping young people.

I like all youngsters, from the bottom of my heart. I don't hold a grudge against anything they do.

Just like a mother and her children—she would never lay the blame on them.



"I smiled when I saw he'd left the lights on.
It was a sign. He wanted me to wait for him.

I could see him through the window,
hurriedly slurping the rest of his soup down.
He didn't need to rush. Of course I would stay.
These moments are what I waited all day for."

Mama sees it all.
And it is beautiful.

The dish: Steamed snapper with
black bean leek shitake mushrooms
and green shallots.

The aroma of ginger and sesame rises
from the gently steamed pearly snapper
melting into the texture of shitake.

Escape the grind and head to Mama San.
Open from 12 noon.



1/F, 46 Wyndham Street

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T 2881 8901

www.diningconcepts.com

Mama San Restaurant & Bar

AIA

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FLAWLESS



2-14 FEB

BRIEFS



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