THE FALL OF URBAN VILLAGES
SUMMER SCHOOL

ACTIVITY BASED LEARNING IN ENGLISH!
LEARNING ENGLISH THROUGH PLAY!

Date: July 3rd-28th
(4 weeks)
Time: 9.00am-4:00pm
Activity-based programme
3-6/7-11/12-14 year old

July 3rd - 7th 2017
July 10th - 14th 2017
July 17th - 21th 2017
July 24th - 28th 2017

Fee: 2350 RMB week (Includes lunch and snacks)

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Deadline for applications: Monday 5th June 2017
A Great Undertaking  Becoming Global Citizens

Objectives: Prepare students to be confident, multi-lingual, empathetic, and entrepreneurial global citizens

Parents workshop

Best Practices & New Knowledge of International Education

Sunday, May 7th
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China is often cited as a land of juxtapositions, and nowhere is that more apparent than within its urban villages. Shadowed by the high-rises that define the modern skylines of Shenzhen and Guangzhou, urban villages cling to a more traditional way of life, where children play together in narrow lanes, mahjong games spill onto the street and front doors are left open.

Though not particularly aesthetic, these neighborhoods are the heart and soul of a city – a place where fresh graduates, entrepreneurs and working-class migrants can afford to rent a home.

As local governments look to modernize their cities, however, urban villages face an imminent threat of being demolished to make room for grander, more luxurious versions of home. How much time do these villages have and what will happen to their residents when they are destroyed? Find out on p40.

In City, we’re showcasing the top 14 photographs from our first-ever That’s PRD smartphone photo competition held last month. Voted by you, our readers, as the best images in a variety of genres, these photos capture everything from Zhujiang New Town at dusk to the Yao ethnic minority group in northern Guangdong. See the full collection on p12.

Elsewhere in the magazine, we explore the oddities of Shenzhen’s zoo (p21), introduce the best acts in this year’s highly anticipated Festival Croisements (p34) and consult Jamie on the quandary of dishonest yis (p52).

It’s an entertaining issue, and one that will hopefully keep you company this month whether you’re exploring a new coffee shop, on a long flight home or sprawled out in front of the AC.

Stay cool, PRD!

Jocelyn Richards
Editor-in-Chief
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Dr. David Tei, American Family Physician, USA
Dr. Kal Wan, China
Dr. Ryan Ran, China

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WORLDWIDE’S FIRST W FASHION WEEK

FUTURISTIC WAVE

05/08 - 05/12

The first worldwide W Fashion Week Season 2 is where fashion brands and up-and-coming designers are proud to showcase their unexpected collections. Held from May 8th to 12th, 2017. This year, the theme of the W Fashion Week was futuristic and sometimes bizarre high fashion looks to envision a future of metallic artificial hair and dresses that dispense actual cocktails, accordion-like protective headgear and outfits that would fit right in on an alien runway.
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Blurt
For expat parents living in China, finding an educational institution that accommodates both their offspring’s unique talents and interests, and their own parental expectations, can be difficult.

While admittedly Guangzhou offers no shortage of high-quality schools and training centers, the newly opened Affiliated Foreign Language School of South China Normal University sets itself apart with its commitment to second – and even third – language acquisition and a technology-driven syllabus.

The global nature of the institution’s International Education Programme is undeniable, with elements modeled after some of the world’s leading educational bodies, including MIT’s computer science program, Stanford University’s approach to character growth, the Cambridge English curriculum, Harvard University’s maker-space, nature schooling elements from Denmark and a Guangzhou-based approach to mathematics and Mandarin.

The school’s language program is designed to ensure all students are at a level of Mandarin Chinese comparable to those pupils in the government-run school system. During children’s primary years in the school they are exposed to a prospectus that is comprised of 50 percent English and 50 percent Chinese.

Once students graduate from the primary level, they will move to the IEP middle school, which offers optional classes in French, Spanish and Korean, among other languages. The Affiliated Foreign Language School of SCNU extends its internationalized language teaching beyond the confines of the classroom with established partnerships with IEP campuses in the UK, Spain and Germany, where students can study and visit.

To accommodate such an ambitious language division, the school has assembled an international roster of specialized, field-focused faculty, with teachers hailing from the United States, Canada, the UK, Australia, Russia and South Korea, among other countries.

Dynamic and multifaceted, The Affiliated Foreign Language School of SCNU’s focus on computer technology starts in the first grade and plays an evolving part in the students’ education until the ninth grade.

The tech training starts basic, according to school administrators, and progresses to the point where students should have a grasp on HTML, Java and other web-coding languages, and be able to design their own websites and apps. According to the head of IEP primary Jakub Peciak, school faculty strive to give students “the skills to be successful in the 21st century.”

In their quest to create technology-competent young adults, The Affiliated Foreign Language School of SCNU uses a range of tools, including cutting-edge computers and programs, and even 3D printers.

Over the course of their stay at the school, students will be expected to undertake a number of unique projects utilizing tech – from computer-assisted design to building full-on prototypes.

Although many parents may be unfamiliar with much of the new tech introduced to their children, school faculty run weekend seminars aimed at giving parents an introduction to what their children are learning and providing them with the support they need at home.

For more information please scan the International Education Programme QR code:

2 Kexue Dadao, Science City, Huangpu District, Guangzhou 广州市科学城科学大道2号
tel 020-32051995
www.scnufl.com
iep@scnufl.com
Free Fallin’
BASE jumpers take on Shenzhen, p10

Behind the Concrete
P10

Chinese Urban Dictionary
P11
Have you ever looked at those rows of seamlessly aligned shared bikes and wondered who – or what – is responsible for such precision? Well, inquisitive reader, this month we have your answer: some random guy.

It’s kind of a letdown, we know. We had expected teams of slick night crawlers trained to get those bikes into formation faster than Beyoncé. But alas, it’s just a man. On a street. Who happens to sound a bit like a Chinese Schwarzenegger.

“I have no time for talk,” he barks when we first meet, sweat dripping from his furrowed brow and onto overworked, meaty biceps.

It’s 3pm on a sweltering Friday afternoon and the mission is clear: move 50 Mobikes from the back of a truck onto a strip of pavement outside of Taojin Metro Station. The catch? Schwarzenegger’s sidekick has parked their truck illegally and, to our man-on-the-street’s great distress, directly under a traffic camera. The pressure is wearing on him, but he manages to ask where we’re from between frenzied trips to his truck.

“Ha, America,” he growls, displeased. “If you took me to America right now I wouldn’t even have time to look around!”

Clearly. We tell him we’ll follow up later on WeChat. And before you ask, yes – we did do some shameless Moments snooping (as only the best investigative journalists do) – and discovered that our protagonist, ‘Gufeng,’ enjoys playing with Chinese bamboo rats in his spare time. So there you go.

The sub-contractor Gufeng works for is hired by a number of different bike-share companies, but he personally only hauls Mobikes and Ofoos around the city and between various storage facilities.

He’s tried out every model of every shared bike in Guangdong, and seems partial to the “little yellow ones,” though he claims they “all have advantages.”

A typical day starts at 9am and ends at 5pm, though he might be back out at 8pm if there’s still work to be done, and occasionally finishes the job early, by 3pm.

Gufeng has only taken one day off this year, to “pay respects to his ancestors on Qingming Jie,” at his home in Conghua.

It’s a physically trying career but pays surprisingly well: approximately RMB10,000 a month. Gufeng claims that’s because “the dangers associated with driving are great.”

Are there any other frustrations associated with the job?

“I’m happy every day,” Gufeng insists. He considers the recent explosion of shared bikes and growing competition a positive thing that “motivates” him and is “an inevitable step towards improvement in any industry.” Touché.

His only complaint?

“Because Mobikes have solid-core tires, the shock absorption isn’t great. Also on the older versions you can’t adjust the seat, which could injure taller people.”

Our thoughts exactly, Gufeng, our thoughts exactly.

**THE DIRTY DETAILS**

**Monthly salary:** RMB10,000 and up  
**Days per week:** 7  
**Hours per day:** 8-10

Man on the Street is a monthly feature where we talk to someone doing an everyday job, in order to get an insight into the lives of normal Chinese people.
Random Number

392

... is the number of meters three BASE jumpers plunged when they leapt off a rooftop crane in Shenzhen this past March. The video, which was allegedly filmed by a 16-year-old Australian based in Hong Kong, accumulated more than 9,000 views on YouTube within just two days. Scan here to watch the jump.

Random Number

3.2

... is the number of feet the South China Sea or Pearl River would need to rise to destroy the entire city of Canton. Canton has more to lose from climate change than any other city on the planet, according to a recent article in The New York Times that cites a World Bank report. Shenzhen is ranked 38th on the same list, which measures risk as a percentage of gross domestic product.

City Snapshot

Street-Side Seamstress

“I love walking through Guangzhou with my camera to capture the rawness of its streets and its people,” says Milka Leuterio (@streetsnatch on Instagram). “In this photo, an older Chinese woman is working alongside the street repairing and altering clothes. Her shop is a narrow ‘under-stair space’ hardly large enough for her to turn around in, and her sewing machine occupies a place on the sidewalk.”

Behind the Concrete

Jinlun Guild Hall

Real estate companies in China have long been known to copy architectural styles from the West, but one skill they don’t often get credit for is their ability to move completed structures, brick by brick, from one location to another - sometimes just a few meters away.

Ever since a 400-square-meter house in Huizhou, Anhui province was relocated to Salem, Massachusetts in 1997, China has been the world’s expert in transporting established buildings.

A CNN article published this past March also named Guangzhou’s Jinlun Guild Hall among China’s most famous repositioned structures. It ranks second place in the history of grab-and-go construction, apparently, for being moved a distance of 80 meters.

Originally located on what is now Kangwang Nan Lu in Liwan District by Shangxiajiu Pedestrian Street, Jinlun Guild Hall was built in 1723 to resemble a typical Cantonese ancestral shrine. Crafted with brick and wood, it features a pottery ridge crest on the roof similar to that of Chen Clan Ancestral Hall.

The only remaining guild hall in Guangzhou today, Jinlun was originally an assembly place for an esteemed silk weaving guild in Guangzhou. In 2001, when construction to widen Kangwang Lu began, the hall was moved northwest approximately 80.4 meters and elevated 1.85 meters. The entire process took about three years, and was completed in August of 2004.

289 Kangwang Nan Lu, Liwan District, Guangzhou

289 Kangwang Nan Lu, Liwan District, Guangzhou

289 Kangwang Nan Lu, Liwan District, Guangzhou
“Where are you from?” is often the first thing we ask when trying to learn more about someone. However, for some folks, it is the only question needed to work you out.


Literally meaning ‘map cannon,’ ditupao is the act of attacking individuals or groups purely based on where they are from. It’s the figurative act of shooting a map with a cannon and indiscriminately ‘killing’ all in any given region.

In a vast country like China, you can’t blame people for assuming homogeny among those who grew up in the same place. If you are from Henan, you may expect different social norms than someone from Guangdong. If you are from Dongbei, you may have a higher tolerance for guanxi than someone from Shanghai.

But as various parts of the country – and the world – become more integrated, stereotyping becomes increasingly problematic. The province Henan suffers so much from ditupao that its workers are routinely discriminated against by employers due to their ‘reputation’ for dishonesty.

Another thing about ditupao is this: cannons can be fired at any point on any map, no matter the size and no matter how zoomed in – or out – it is. For example, you can aim your cannon at a part of the country (Shanghai? Stingy and calculating!), zoom in and aim at a district of Shanghai (Pudong? Tuhao!), and then zoom way out and aim at half the earth (you’re from the southern hemisphere? Lazy!).

A common joke goes: “I hate two kinds of people: those who fire ditupao and those who are from Anhui.” We may all be tempted to simplify things by saying “I’ll never deal with those from Henan again,” but humans are best not reduced to dots on a map. Mia Li
Our first That’s smartphone photography contest drew hundreds of competitive submissions that captured everything from rolling green hills in Inner Mongolia to ethnic minority groups in northern Guangdong. The 14 photos featured here were voted by you, our readers, as the best images in a variety of genres. A special thanks to Huawei for equipping our top winners with P10 smartphones and to everyone who joined in our first photo contest!

Winners of the 2017 That’s PRD Smartphone Photography Contest

Su Zhenjie
China travel
First-place winner

Sandy Bergeron
People
Second-place winner
John Eas
Architecture
Finalist

Mio Hu
Architecture
Finalist

Sorasak Bunrod
Architecture
Finalist
Max Bradshaw
Local travel
Finalist

Grace Guan
China travel
Finalist

Eric Mehlbrech
China travel
Finalist
Serena Shih
Local travel
Honorable mention

Kevin Lee
Local travel
Finalist

Daniel Ma
Local travel
Finalist
Sue Francis
People
Honorable mention

Dominique Lila
People
Finalist

Christian Saavedra
People
Finalist

Have awesome photos to share? Connect with us on Instagram (@thatsprd) by tagging #thatsprd for a chance to be featured on our feed and in the City Snapshot column of our magazine.
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Need more summer school information? summerschool@uisgz.org / +8620 8720 2019
Stranger Things
The bizarre extravaganza that is Shenzhen Fashion Week, p22

GTFO of China
P20

Panda-monium
P21
A MODEL LIVING SPACE

Timing Home’s Ideal Interiors
By Tristin Zhang

If you are fascinated by the trend of minimalism, then a neat and artsy living space is what you’ll ultimately strive to maintain. To succeed, however, a certain amount of daily attention is crucial – i.e. picking up clothes off the floor – as is making a consistent effort to cultivate your taste. In other words, you’ll need to bridge the gap between what you envision for your interior and what your room actually looks like, which is typically much harder than it sounds.

Enter Timing Home: a cafe, home decor shop, reading area, art gallery, meeting hall and, above all, ‘living space experience.’ Owned by Guangzhou-based real estate company Times Property, Timing Home strives to sell an ‘idea’ of home. Sound implausible? Not if you are purchasing an abode where you plan to spend the rest of your life. Design is key, and Timing Home hopes to spark the imagination.

Once in the shop, customers are greeted by a bleached-white display stuffed with random items like tableware, furniture, a microwave and even a typewriter. It’s a kind of glorified, avant-garde Ikea, and the spacious cafe also serves as a venue for salons, art exhibitions, academic forums and business meetings, among other events.

Wander off to the reading area, and you might delight in flicking through books on home decor and design recommended by experts in a variety of fields.

There’s also a section featuring model homes, where you can peer into elaborate, well-arranged and detail-oriented floorplans that make the most of the limited area granted to most Chinese apartments.

Two model homes are exhibited, one 95 square meters and the other 115, both comfortably compact. U-shaped kitchens echo the economical design, with just enough room for most two-door fridges in the market. The 95-square-meter space manages to squeeze in three bedrooms, a living room, two washrooms, a kitchen and a balcony.

“We utilize every centimeter of the space,” explains Luo Ying, manager of Timing Home. “All of our apartments face south, which guarantees plenty of sunshine and good ventilation.”

If you’re in the market for neat trinkets, check out the small collection of items that start from RMB20. A portion of the profits will allegedly go to a charity foundation run by Times Property to help the underprivileged.

6/F, Grandview Mall, 228 Tianhe Lu, Tianhe District, Guangzhou 广州市天河区天河路228号正佳广场6楼 (020-8383 1888)
Huawei P10

This month we were able to get our hands on Huawei’s newest flagship mobile: the highly anticipated P10.

With previous experience using the Huawei P9, our editors quickly adapted to the new model, which keeps all the best qualities of its predecessor (like the frontal dual Leica camera) while committing to some welcome tweaks.

Among the most notable updates is the repositioned fingerprint reader or home button. It’s been moved to the front of the phone, following leading models by Apple and Samsung.

Flights are updated every second, so if you don’t see a cool deal in the morning, there’s still a chance you could GTFO by dinner-time.

Hopper is available on iOS and Android devices. GTFO is available on iOS devices only – note it’s not the same ‘GTFO’ app on Google Play that lets you “get the F#$& out of conversations,” though that’s also pretty cool.
They were a media sensation. Though small, and identically dappled, the arrival of the black-and-white pigs at Shenzhen Safari Park was covered by CCTV, the Shenzhen Television Station and Hong Kong’s South China Morning Post. Why? Their DNA has been adjusted, rendering them pet-sized for life.

A short jaunt in Shenzhen Safari Park – which we can safely call a ‘zoo’ – leads to a concrete paddock, where the pigs are asleep in all their genetically modified glory.

Though not snatching headlines with their tiny, cloned snouts, the 300-or-so other species kept at the zoo are just as interesting. From oryxes to alligators, the zoo offers views of 10,000 beasts and birds – many in open-air enclosures – throughout a 2-million-square-meter complex located in northern Shenzhen.

Established in 1993, wide concrete boulevards lead from ‘Ape Village’ to ‘Penguin Island,’ necessitating comfortable shoes for a day of walking.

The undeniable stars of the show are located in the western area, where pandas Yuan Zhou and Jiao Qing reside. The 6-year-old bachelors live in an open-air enclosure, and during our visit one poses atop a rock, before flopping off to the squeals of a gaggle of smartphone-wielding patrons.

Like most animals in the park, the pandas look clean and happy, though a show of bear cubs on bikes is something we wish our RMB240 tickets hadn’t gone towards.

If you have high hopes of spotting a particular fauna, call ahead: on our trip, parts of the park were closed off, perhaps explaining a lack of crowds during the weekday afternoon visit.

Like the pigs, a golden-plumed bird resembling a certain head of state has also been a draw for the zoo. Sadly, as it remained in its coop, all we saw of the golden pheasant was a large statue in its likeness in front of the park’s gates.

Those looking for some action can attend the nine shows, which are held most days. From the ‘Tiger Jumping Show’ to Mongolian-themed horse stunts and, oddly, an evening motorcycle and car stunt show, all are included in the ticket price.

The Shenzhen Safari Park is worth a visit for anyone interested in seeing animals that most don’t realize are even in Shenzhen – just be prepared to walk for about four hours through the sprawling complex. SG

How to get there:

High-speed trains go from Guangzhou East to Shenzhen. From there, ride the Shenzhen Metro Line 7 to the Xili Lake stop.
Early this spring, fashionistas were out in force in Shenzhen, primping, posing and wearing everything from cloak to costume in Shenzhen Fashion Week’s more than 70 shows. Our Shenzhen-based digital editor Bailey Hu was on the ground to witness the surreal spectacle, which she recounts below.

“Don’t step on the white carpet!” a suited staff member snaps.

It’s our first fashion week event, and we’re learning that the scene isn’t as effortlessly glamorous as the promo photos show. For one, the ‘catwalk’ is a carpet stretching the length of the room.

A cell phone ringtone overhead startles before we realize it’s part of the soundtrack, a prelude to a bland pop-rock tune on a five-minute loop.

Audience members file in, filling up the general seating and two rows of VIP seats on
either side of the carpet. Some wear pointy-toed heels and artfully-ripped jeans, but almost all the cameramen and some VIPs are wearing plain t-shirts.

Our observations end when the lights dim and the show starts.

The models shamble out one by one, their mouths all bound or gagged. Each holds a smartphone, pretending to be so preoccupied that she ‘accidentally’ bumps into the next model. At the end of the catwalk, instead of striking a pose, the models fake taking a selfie or checking their texts.

Near the end of the show, they line up to face both sides of the room and photograph the people photographing them, poking fun at the rehearsed, silly nature of Fashion Week itself.

Outside, we ask to take a picture of an off-duty model. She sashays towards us as if she were on a catwalk, gesturing and smiling at an imaginary audience. She’s in a parking lot.

Nearby, a group of chic, chubby-cheeked kids pose for a photo in front of a Shenzhen Fashion Week sign. Despite identical t-shirts reading ‘Little Swan Kids Model Club,’ they look unhappy, or maybe they’re just practicing their pouts.

Leaving the heat behind, we enter an air-conditioned venue to see a fur-themed show. Loud bass thumps in the background and the expressionless models have whited-out eyebrows.

There’s something hypnotizing about the colorful tufts of fur on their coats, dresses and shoes. Under muted electric lights the material has a soft, almost metallic sheen. Highlights ripple through the fur as the models make figure eights around two pillars.

Afterwards, we spot a man in a shiny green blazer and fedora with matching green hatband walk away from the venue. He was giving orders to the models earlier – he might even be the designer.

Shenzhen Fashion Week teases with the chance of witnessing something groundbreaking or rubbing shoulders with the could-be famous.

We think about going after the fedora-hatted man to ask some questions, but we’re out of time. Instead, we hail a cab and prepare to return to the real world.
Kanye’s iconic sneaker collection, Adidas Yeezy, has inspired a new generation of athletic, thick-soled kicks. Want to get the look without lining Mr. West’s pockets? Here are some alternatives.
FOR HIM

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Black Kinyou Low Sneakers
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STARRY STA
How One Man Shot for the Stars.
Since the age of 20, Yunnan native Yu Dongrui has immersed himself in the world of photography and stargazing, traveling around China and beyond to capture dramatic images of constellations, night skies and breathtaking natural landscapes in places like Nepal, Myanmar, India and Switzerland.

The world-renowned photographer is also the recipient of the 2016 WildChina Explorer Grant. Yu used his prize money to launch a project titled ‘Finding Yunnan’s Lost Stars’ – a collection of 10,000 photos that form a star map for his home province. Speaking to us from Iceland, the 25-year-old shares the beginning of his ‘star-studded’ journey, and his hope for building a dark sky reserve in Yunnan. >>
I was still in high school; a bunch of friends and I were hanging out in this villa on a mountain," says Yu, recalling that pivotal moment when he fell in love with stars. "By the time we walked outside for some fresh air after a few drinks, it was already late at night. I looked up, and saw a sky full of stars, among which was a belt-shaped constellation. I was half-drunk at the time, but I still clearly remember how mesmerizing it was, and thought to myself, "How awesome would it be if I could capture this on camera?"

And he did just that a few years later. The self-described zhaiyao (宅男, a socially awkward and introverted young man) purchased his very first camera, and traded in his favorite videogames for a new hobby – traveling and photographing shiny stars and night skies along the way.

Coming up with the concept for his 2016 project, 'Finding Yunnan’s Lost Stars,' for the WildChina Explorer Grant was a very natural and easy process. "I was basically doing something that I love (shooting night skies and stars) at a place that I call home. Besides, creating a star map for Yunnan also gave me a good opportunity to get to know my home province a little better," Yu explains.

The biggest challenge that he faced while pursuing this project was both physical and psychological. Yu sums it all up in one sentence, "I was sleep deprived the whole time.” For almost an entire month, the photographer stayed up all night to shoot but had a hard time sleeping during the day. He credits his strong willpower as the sole reason for being able to complete the journey.

Enduring extreme weather conditions out in the wild for hours or even days to capture the best frames is part of the daily lives of professional landscape photographers like Yu. On this trip around Yunnan, however, he was able to enjoy a few relaxing moments between shots. "I remember this one night where I was lying on a grass field by a lake near Puzhehei, just staring at the sky, taking in all the stars above and enjoying a beer. It was a perfectly serene night that’s very rare for me, especially when I’m on assignment."

For Yu, the ultimate goal of 'Finding Yunnan’s Lost Stars' is much bigger than satisfying his own curiosity. It’s a stepping stone to establishing a dark sky reserve (an area that’s kept free of artificial light pollution for people to promote astronomy) in Yunnan for generations to come. "At the moment, we’re still in the early stages of communicating with the local government and lobbying for their support. [A dark sky reserve] is still a very new concept in China so we have to be very patient," he explains. "There’s a lot of work left to be done, and it could take some time; Rome wasn’t built in one day.

To see more of Yu Dongrui’s work, visit ydr.artron.net
This Mother’s Day...

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Festival Croisements
Franco-Chinese artistic collaborations
you won’t want to miss, p34
HIGH TONE
French Dub Masters Take Up a Residency in China
By Erica Martin

High Tone has stood out since their founding in 1997 thanks to their hypnotic brand of bass-pounding dub performed live with a full band. They’re also known for fruitful collaborations with musicians from around the world, including an acclaimed project with Sichuan-born musician Wang Lei back in 2005 called Wangtone. This month, High Tone returns to China for a week-long residency in Chengdu, where they’ll collaborate with a group of local musicians before embarking on a China tour. We caught up with the band before they set off.

“Dub music is part of an important underground culture linked by reggae, and we love this.”

Could you clarify the difference between High Tone and your other project, Dub Invaders?

High Tone is our band; we play on stage with visuals and lights, a sound engineer, bass and drums, a keyboard, a DJ, a guitar and a sampler. It’s our first formation from 1997. Dub Invaders is the same people, but we play on a sound system, not onstage, and each musician has his own tracks with a different set-up. It’s not a band, but a collective.

Tell us about your upcoming residency in Chengdu. How will these collaborations play into your next album?

We are going to Chengdu to meet Chinese traditional musicians to integrate their music into our next album. We have contacts in China for finding some people who are interested in working with us. We hope that good ideas will emerge from this meeting.

What can we expect for your concerts in Shanghai and Guangzhou?

We expect that people will be here at the show like the last time and ready to dance! We will be with our special guest, [reggae performer] Shanti D from France, and maybe one guest from China, but we don’t know just yet.

Sat May 20, 9pm; RMB80 presale, RMB100 at the door. SD Livehouse, Hua Cheng Wang Shi Art Zone, Bldg. No. 7, 132 Gongye Dadao Bei, Haizhu District, Guangzhou. (WeChat: SDlivehouse)
SINO CELEB

Stephen Chow

Born in Hong Kong in 1962, Stephen Chow is one of China’s most notable and versatile film directors and actors. He is especially known for inserting himself into the lead role in his films. While Western audiences may be more familiar with Jackie Chan, Chow Yun Fat and Jet Li, Stephen Chow’s star eclipses them all in Hong Kong and many Asian countries.

Chow was raised by his grandparents in a government-sponsored housing project, but by the time the 90s rolled around, he had secured a string of television roles and was set to act in a series of films that would anoint him as a bankable star on the mainland. Comedies including the parodies All for Winner and From Beijing With Love coupled with the crime film Final Justice made him a runaway success in Asia.

It was not until 2001’s Shaolin Soccer, directed by and starring Chow himself, that he became known to Western audiences. 2004’s Kung Fu Hustle, where Chow again pulled double duties acting and directing, was also a crossover hit and solidified Chow’s status in the pantheon of Chinese male stars.

Kung Fu Hustle is still the 11th-highest-grossing foreign film of all time at the Hollywood box office. Not content to rest on his laurels, Chow directed and produced the 2016 blockbuster film, The Mermaid, which became the highest-grossing film of all time in China.

The reasonably friendly trade talks between Trump and Xi Jinping last month may have an unexpected benefit for China-based film buffs. Several think tank analysts have reported that it’s likely China will increase its quota on imported films in 2017-18. The quota has been officially set at 34 films since 2012, and last year 38 foreign films entered the market, several of which were part of a cultural exchange and therefore didn’t count toward the quota. China is already the world’s biggest movie market after North America, so an increased two-way film exchange would seem to benefit everyone.

Bu Hao

Chinese film network giant Alibaba Pictures Group reported several weeks ago that they sustained a staggering USD141 million loss in profit during 2016. APG released homegrown films like Soul Mate and Ferry Man, and helmed the China releases of Hollywood films like Star Trek Beyond, but their net losses were still nearly double that of the previous year. New APG chairman and CEO Yu Yongfu, who took over the role this past December, says he plans to focus on Internet content to close the gap in 2017.
One of the best new albums to come out of Shanghai in 2017 so far is *Grim*, the debut release by math rock duo Foster Parents. The songs aren’t actually grim at all; they’re nimble and technically impressive with an undertone of nostalgia, but not the kind that takes itself too seriously. Listening will make you feel like a kid eating a peanut butter sandwich and wondering about the complexities of life. Find it at fosterparentsmusic.bandcamp.com

LeTV is now streaming the first season of *American Crime Story*, a true crime serial by the creators of *American Horror Story* that’s been garnering rave reviews. Season One explores the infamous OJ Simpson case. The star-studded cast includes Cuba Gooding Jr. as OJ; John Travolta and Nathan Lane as lawyers for the defense; and Sarah Paulson as lead prosecutor Marsha Clark. Streamable at tv.lev.com/us

Published for the first time in English this May, *Notes of a Crocodile* is a seminal novel by Qiu Miaojin, a Chinese cult icon who is revered in her native Taiwan thanks to her writing on queer culture and relationships. A postmodern mix of diary entries, vignettes and satirical stories, *Notes of a Crocodile* won the China Times Literature Award when it was first published in 1995, and has been translated from Chinese by Bonnie Huie. Find it on amazon.com for Kindle.
Now in its 12th year, the Festival Croisements is bigger and better than ever, with 216 Franco-Chinese artistic collaborations slated to debut this spring in 30 cities across China. From May 6 to July 9, the Pearl River Delta and surrounding cities will play host to visiting dance and theater troupes, cutting-edge musicians, film festivals, award-winning exhibitions and more. Here are the hottest acts you won’t want to miss.

**Maï Lucas Visual Arts**

A French photographer who captures the look of youth on streets the world over, Maï Lucas previously worked as an assistant of visionary British photographer Nick Knight before branching off to pursue her own style. Prior to this exhibition, she undertook a several-week-long residency in China to meet and photograph young Chinese people and familiarize herself with their lifestyle.

May 13-31, Wandun Warehouse, Zintang Loft, Zintang Creative Park, 7 Xian Lu, Shawan Town, Panyu District, Guangzhou 广州市番禺区沙湾镇雪熙西路7号新昵望创意园万通仓

**High Tension Visual Arts**

Reuniting eight winners of the Marcel Duchamp Prize – the highest award for young French creators – this exhibition demonstrates the vitality and diversity of the French contemporary art scene. Each artist is strongly committed to their approach to today’s world, taking a sensitive and sometimes critical approach to new developments in the circulation of information, technology, modernization and more.

Jun 4-Jul 23, 10am-6pm; RMB10. Times Museum, Times Rose Garden, Huangbian Bei Lu, Baiyun Dadao, Baiyun District, Guangzhou

**Seeds Dance**

Described as a kind of ‘visual poetry,’ Seeds, created by Californian-born choreographer Carolyn Carlson, is a joyful ode to Mother Earth and a call for environmental awareness. The dance, which shifts between reality and imagination through dazzling projected animations and vibrant choreography, is both a visual feat and provocative statement.

May 14-31, 8pm/10.30am; RMB80-280. Xinghai Concert Hall, 33 Qingbo Lu, Ersha Island, Yuexiu District, Guangzhou

**Music Day Music Festival**

On June 24 and 25, Shunde will host several groups new on the French music scene – Feloche and King Krab – as well as locally-based bands Cat Machine, Fat Space and Mysterain. If you can’t make it to Shunde for the live festival, you can catch this mix of French and Chinese talent on PPTV.com, which will be streaming the concerts live.

Jun 24-25, 7:30-10:30pm; free entry. Shunfeng Mountain Park, Nanguo Dong Lu, Shunde District, Foshan 佛山市顺德区南国东路顺峰山公园

**Heavy Fingers Saxophone**

Three guys rocking out on the sax? Yes please. Comprised of Jacques Ponthus, Arno Jourdy and Manuel Fillat, this trio has become a reference in the world of French saxophone since the group was created in 1993. Their shows typically mix a bit of humor with jazz, classical, reggae, salsa and blues.

May 27, 8pm; Guancheng Cultural Weekend, Guancheng Cultural Square, 2 Xiangyang Lu, Guangcheng District, Dongguan 东莞市莞城区向阳路2号 东莞市莞城文化广场

May 28, 3pm. Mission Hills, 1 Gaofu Dadao, Longhua New District, Shenzhen 深圳市龙华新区高尔夫大道1号观澜湖

Jun 2-3, 8pm/10:30am; RMB80-280. Xinghai Concert Hall, 33 Qingbo Lu, Ersha Island, Yuexiu District, Guangzhou 广州市越秀区二沙岛晴波路33号
14th Panorama of French Cinema Film Festival

This year’s film fest combines the best of contemporary French cinema and pays special tribute to the great Isabelle Huppert, with *Elle* by Paul Verhoeven, a double winner at the Golden Globes 2017, and *L’Avenier* by Mia Hansen Love, Silver Bear winner for Best Director at the Berlin International Film Festival 2016. Two celebrated animated films will also be showcased.

June. Imax Palace Cinema, IGC, 222 Xingming Lu, Zhujiang New Town, Tianhe District, Guangzhou 广州市天河区珠江新城兴民路222号天汇广场百丽宫影城

Poetry Dance

Don’t be fooled by the placidness of its name – *Poetry* is a duet for two dancers set to the electric guitar solo ‘Trash TV Trance.’ It’s an incredibly expressive hybrid work, woven with spectral harmonies and wild riffs. Dancers Maud Le Pladec and Julien Gallée-Ferré play with the repetitive essence of the sound while slipping in and out of it, marrying its endless metamorphosis.

Jun 4, 8pm; Price TBC. The Grand Theatre of Longgang Culture Center, Longgang District, Shenzhen 深圳市龙岗区龙岗文化中心大剧院

Great French Comedies Film Festival

Twelve classic French comedies will tour Shenzhen Broadway Cinemas this July, including the inestimable Louis de Funès (*Don’t Look Now… We’re Being Shot At!*), Jean-Paul Belmondo (*That Man from Rio*), Jacques Tati (*The Big Day*), Thierry Lhermitte (*The French Minister, Little Indian, Big City*) and Guillaume Gallienne (*Me, Myself and Mum)*.

Jul 7-16. Shenzhen Broadway Cinemas, Coco Park, 269 Fuhua San Lu, Shenzhen 深圳市福田区福华三路269号购物公园百老汇影城

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Every band has their own story, but if you tracked the progress of all the world’s best indie bands, some patterns might start to emerge. First comes the period of raw energy and potential, followed by the acclaimed breakout album, followed by a change in the band’s sound (usually by introducing electronic elements) and accusations of selling out. By their seventh, eighth or ninth album, the band either makes a high-profile comeback with a new fan base, or they fade into obscurity.

The 27-year story of German indie rockers The Notwist shares some of these tropes (a breakout album, a move from rock toward electronica), but thanks to a knack for reinvention and a virtuosic musicality, they’ve maintained a creative edge, solidifying their status as a perennial underground favorite.

Starting off in 1989 with a noise rock album that vocalist and guitarist Markus Acher tells us was influenced by “American post-hardcore bands like Moving Targets, Dinosaur Jr. and Pitchfork,” they went on to make a name for themselves by unrolling a dramatically new aesthetic with each passing album. “With every record, the influences got more… experimental,” says Acher. “With every record, the influences got more… experimental,” says Acher.

The band’s fifth album, Neon Golden, which dropped in 2002, is their iconic breakout album. An elegant, emotional record that is regularly named one of the best indie records of all time, Neon Golden veers through spare folk guitar to poppy hooks to a few moments of the droning electronica that the band would explore further in 2014’s Close to the Glass. It’s all flavored with the nostalgic melancholy of Acher’s lyrics. “We always try to keep a certain edge to everything we do, which doesn’t mean it has to sound distorted or loud,” says Acher. “It just has to have a certain element of confusion in every song. Something that doesn’t seem to fit at first.” This is an apt description of the not-quite-placeable appeal that carries through all of their music.

The Notwist’s most recent album, 2016’s Superheroes, Ghostvillains + Stuff, was recorded live, complete with crackly audial imperfections and audience cheers. Releasing a live album was a natural step for the band, as their concerts are a thrill to watch thanks to their earnest energy and impulsive experimentation onstage. The YouTube recording of their set at 2014’s Pitchfork Music Festival Paris provides a prime example. Despite touring extensively throughout their career, this month will mark the group’s first tour in China.

“So I’m very happy it’s happening now.” He liked Chengdu rockers Hiperson and Beijing psych-rock band Chui Wan when he saw them on tour in Munich, and is looking forward to meeting more Chinese bands this month.

In addition to their expansive, genre-crossing music, The Notwist is known for the unique lyricism of Acher, who writes and sings in English rather than German. His simple, unusual word choice and syntax often give the songs a surreal beauty. “As English is spoken in so many countries all over the world by non-native speakers, there are many forms of English that are very interesting and poetic,” Acher says, referring to a phenomenon that any expat or resident of an international community is familiar with. “I think it’s a limitation, but also an opportunity to write in a language that’s not your native one,” he continues. “I like it somehow. It’s abstract and emotional; a poem right away.”
PART concert, part lecture, part movie screening, the fourth Tomorrow Festival will rely on experimental music’s past to cast an avant-garde eye to the future. Beginning May 17, the five-day event will host some of the most experimental musicians Shenzhen has ever heard.

Known for constructing his own instruments – and at one point building a mechanical, touring orchestra – French artist Pierre Bastien’s original trumpeting and artful use of the nail violin will kick off the performance section of the fest, which will be hosted in B10 Live.

A day later, band Blurt’s tensile guitars and tribal drum patterns will be on show, as singer Ted Milton hums and growls into a microphone in between blowing “his sax to shreds.”

Oft cited as a severely underrated guitarist, Marc Ribot’s show on the 20th will explain why the Financial Times hailed his “blistering form and stingy attack.”

Speaking on the same day, music expert Dr. Alan Cummings will look at why Japan saw an experimental music revolution in the 1960s and 1970s, when Japan’s top indie artists of today began developing.

Rounding out the festival will be a screening of Paris/Berlin: 20 Years of Underground Techno, which looks at the music genre’s evolution from Chicago’s underground scene to its flowering in the adoptive cities of Paris and Berlin.

Those interested should head down to the OCT-Loft’s Old Heaven Bookstore May 17, where tickets and prizes will be raffled off. Attendees will also get a firsthand look at how German-company Dada Machines turns household objects into musical instruments.

See B10live.cn for ticketing information. B10 Live, Bldg C2, North District, OCT-Loft, Wenchang Jie, Nanshan District, Shenzhen (0755-8633 7602)
To find success as a writer in any given field is a precious rarity; to find success in more than one is a feat of near mythic proportions. Australian writer Geraldine Brooks began her career as a journalist working as a correspondent for the Wall Street Journal where she spent six years reporting from conflict areas around Egypt, Eritrea, Iran, Israel, Jordan, and elsewhere. This led to her first book, a clear-eyed and compulsively readable piece of narrative journalism called *Nine Parts of Desire*, which profiles the Muslim women Brooks met while working abroad.

Such a strong debut might have pushed Brooks farther down a path toward journalism as a lifelong career, but she soon began writing fiction instead as “an experiment” because she had a young child and wanted to avoid the kind of writing job that required “long, open-ended, news-driven travel.”

The most difficult part of writing fiction, she discovered, was sustaining a narrative – something she’d already grappled with as a journalist writing *Nine Parts of Desire*.

“I struggled for months, learning how one sustains a long narrative, how to bring the reader along with me on an extended journey,” says Brooks about her first book. “Once I learned that lesson, the shift to fiction was rather easier.”

That experiment became her celebrated first novel, *Year of Wonders*, a chronicle of a tiny English village dealing with an outbreak of plague in the 1600s. It’s told in first person, a tactic Brooks has favored in her later novels as well.

“I enjoy finding the right voice to tell a particular story,” she says. “When possible, I do this by diving deeply into letters and journals of the relevant period, listening to the way people of that time and place expressed themselves, their vocabulary, their figures of speech.”

This knack for realistic inner monologue is part of the magic of her second novel, *March*, a lyrical, sumptuously written chronicle of the Civil War and retelling of the classic novel *Little Women* from the perspective of March, the girls’ absent father. *March* won the 2006 Pulitzer Prize for Literature; though the Pulitzer is limited to Americans, Brooks gained dual citizenship just a few years prior to publishing the book.

Now at work on her next novel, Brooks will make her way to China for a series of book talks with Australian Writers Week. Her last visit to China was 11 years ago with her son, but she’s well-read in Chinese literature and is a fan of Mo Yan and Ha Jin.

As she prepares for the trip, she’s currently “reading and loving” Liu Cixin’s *The Three-Body Problem*, which has sparked her interest in Chinese sci-fi.

Perhaps because she was originally comfortable drawing on real life to form a narrative as a journalist, Brooks has focused on historical fiction as a novelist, choosing to reanimate characters from the past whose stories speak to her. It was likely her experiences as a journalist that helped convince her reality has enough narrative intrigue to fill an eternity’s worth of novels.

“The past is full of implausible stories – things that if you made them up out of whole cloth, no one would credit as true. And yet, they happened,” Brooks says. “These are the stories that seem to grab hold of my imagination.”

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Geraldine Brooks: From Journalist to Novelist, May 16, 7pm. United Bookstore, 4/F, GTLand Winter Plaza, 85 Huacheng Dadao, Tianhe District, Guangzhou. (020-3788 7572)

“The past is full of implausible stories – things that if you made them up out of whole cloth, no one would credit as true”
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By Bailey Hu
Additional reporting by Sky Thomas Gidge, Jocelyn Richards and Tristin Zhang
Drone photos by NK Chu and Daniel MH Chun
Imagine living in a maze of a neighborhood where buildings 10 stories tall crowd so closely together that their residents dwell in perpetual shade.

Your apartment window, set with steel bars, is little more than a meter away from the building next door; if it weren’t for the frosted glass, you’d be able to see directly into the room across the alley.

Going outside and looking up, you’d glimpse the sky only in the narrow strips between buildings. But it’s better to keep your head down anyway – in the summer, air conditioners hung outside windows have a habit of dripping on unwary pedestrians.

This is life in the chengzhongcun, literally ‘villages within the city.’ In the Pearl River Delta they stand as a symbol of the rapid, sometimes uneven, development that’s taken place over the last four decades.

The neighborhood described above is a relatively nice one; in less well-kept areas, buildings are shorter and even more closely spaced together.

In a place like Baishizhou Village in Shenzhen, clumps and tangles of wires crisscross overhead in alleys, sometimes drooping low enough to touch. In Xiancun, the last remaining ‘eyesore’ of Liede, Guangzhou, heaps of trash fill the narrow cracks between apartments, a breeding ground for rats.

But despite all that, urban villages are not the depressing slums they might resemble. After meals, you can catch housewives huddling around doorways, holding babies and chatting. In nearby, narrow lanes paved with concrete, children play. Square mahjong tables are a common sight in ground-floor living rooms that open onto the street. Besides the obvious, they’re useful for drinking tea or playing cards with neighbors.

Inside what looks like the most stifling of settings is a flourishing, lively community. But it rests on an unstable foundation.

For years now, urban villages have been targeted by redevelopment policies that don’t value the neighborhoods’ inherent strengths. The unique buildings and networks of alleys in today’s urban villages are at risk of being lost forever, and their vibrant communities of migrants forced to search for new shelter in the city.
The current crisis shows just how far urban villages have come in a short time. Only four decades ago, much of the area that’s now prime real estate was undeveloped, rural land. Villagers residing in small-town Bao’an County (renamed Shenzhen City in 1979) or what is now Guangzhou’s central business district couldn’t have imagined their collectively owned land might one day be so desirable that selling could guarantee a life of luxury.

The villagers’ current situation is due to a historical anomaly. In accordance with the national ‘reform and opening up’ policies that started in 1978, local governments bought land to prepare for urbanization. But the villagers were expensive to compensate and move. In the end, they were allowed to keep their property even as cities sprang up all around them.

Their land, still classified as ‘rural,’ fell outside city regulations on construction. Villagers were able to raise dozens of short, closely clustered apartment buildings and rent them out to migrants for a tidy profit. As affordable housing became increasingly harder to find, the ‘villages’ took on an important, even integral role in the city.

Now, well-off former villagers and their descendants have the freedom to live wherever they want. Some choose to stay in their ancestral homes, but it’s migrants who currently make up most of the urban villages’ population. They also stand to lose the most from their impending destruction.
SHENZHEN

Baishizhou

On a weekday afternoon, we come across a group chatting in the space between two low-lying row houses, remnants of late 50s construction. It turns out that all 10—seven women and three men—are relatives who hail from Bazhong, Sichuan.

One member of the family came to Shenzhen a decade ago, and the others trickled in afterwards. Many of them took up residence in Tangtou, one of the five villages that make up the Baishizhou area.

The atmosphere is friendly, as if we’d stepped into a neighbor’s living room on a social visit.

Do they like living in an urban village? Would they prefer somewhere else?

The answers come in bits and pieces as multiple family members join in.

A gated xiaqu neighborhood would “definitely be more comfortable,” but the “low prices” of the urban villages still win out.

One of the women, 28, says her work situation is “not steady.” She considers her current home, which costs RMB1,000 a month, “expensive.”

It’s not easy living in Shenzhen, she tells us. A fellow migrant recently died on the job while working for a soldering company. It’s unclear whether his employer will compensate the family.

She knows this area of Baishizhou will be torn down, but not when. Her family has no set plan for that day; they’ll deal with it as it comes, she tells us. BH

Apartments start at: RMB500 (studio)

Hubei Village

A canopy hangs above Hubei Village’s street market, coloring the sunlight that lands on slabs of meat spread across wood tables. Vendors swat flies while calling out to passing friends in Hakka or the Chaozhou dialect—in Mandarin-speaking Shenzhen, this is an outpost of eastern Guangdong migrants.

“Some say ‘knock it down,’ others say ‘save cultural relics,’” says nine-year-resident Ding Jian Wei, 35. “This is a question for the government.”

But recently others have taken to answering: “save it.”

Founded in 1466, Hubei’s alleys are laid out in the traditional pattern of three-by-eight, causing preservationists, photographers and the general public to weigh in on the side of saving the area, or at least part of it.

The smell of garbage mixes with incense as 20-year-resident Chen Bao, 67, stands in his shop and explains how Hubei survived Shenzhen’s modernization.

“There are a hundred families that own houses in the area. But they’ve gone to England, America, all those places.”

Developers want to buy out the current owners—none of which live in Hubei, according to Chen—but have been hamstringed by squabbles over compensation.

Though, for Chen, most of Hubei can go without fuss: “If they do knock it down, I can go live with my daughter. I just won’t be able to see my old neighbors again.”

But he sees a red line.

“It’s impossible to tear down the ancestral temple,” he says. “If they do? Well, I wish them luck!” SG

Apartments start at: RMB1,000
After more than a decade of planning and negotiations, in 2013 high-rise office buildings and apartment complexes were raised on what used to be the Western half of Gangxia Village.

The smaller, eastern part of Gangxia still stands, a tall ring of buildings surrounding a dense collage of low-lying roofs. Here, we find a few middle-aged men hanging out in front of a small liquor and smoke shop.

One of them is a Gangxia villager. The other two are migrants; one owns the dry goods store next door. The other, who hails from Fujian and has lived here for 20 years, points out his home across the street.

During the day, he tells us, he's most often found sitting in front of the smoke shop. How does he like Gangxia?

"It's okay here," he tells us between puffs of a cigarette. The area is familiar to him, as are nearby shop owners and residents. He does business for a living, although he doesn't specify what kind. He estimates East Gangxia will be torn down as well in around 20 years. But for now, he doesn't seem particularly worried about the prospect: "If we want to leave, we'll leave." BH

Apartments start at: RMB1,100 (studio)
Gazing down from the 17th floor of a nearby hotel, Shipai – Guangzhou’s largest and oldest urban village – seems to stretch for miles, dwarfed by a ring of towering skyscrapers hugging its perimeter.

At 8pm on a Saturday night, 28-year-old Lu Qing has just delivered his last batch of phone screen protectors. He turns from the well-lit Tianhe Lu onto a crowded lane in Shipai that’s never known the warmth of natural sunlight. To an outsider, it could be a dungeon, but to Lu, it’s home.

Shipai boasts the highest land price of all urban villages in Guangzhou. Like Lu, most residents here work in the IT industry, at computer cities in Gangding and Tianhe South.

Just 30 years ago, the area of Shipai was a sea of vegetable patches and tile-roofed houses dating to the Qing dynasty, which were torn down, one by one, by residents like Dong Xiaobo and transformed into seven-story concrete buildings packed with 20 studio apartments.

Dong explains he followed the example of his relatives, who all flattened their historic homes to construct extra rooms that could be rented out to migrant workers.

The number of rebuilt houses continued to multiply between 1981 and 1998, creating what would become Guangzhou’s largest urban village.

Apartments start at: RMB500-600/month (studio)
A team of teqin, or special duty officers, enters the village when we do. They’ve been hired to keep order in Xiancun in the time before its demolition. When we enter, it’s not hard to see why.

Inside, the alleys are so narrow that sunlight cannot penetrate all the way to ground level, making it dark as night. Eighty percent of the buildings have been gutted, and most residents have already moved out.

The few remaining villagers have taken up the hobby of watching their homes be destroyed from a lookout point atop a pile of debris on the other side of a manmade pond.

One towering apartment complex has already been constructed where a portion of Xiancun used to lie, a 40-something migrant worker tells us. He won’t be given a room there, of course, since he merely rented in Xiancun and could never afford a new apartment in central Liede, but he understands why the village is being demolished.

“You have to admit, it’s ugly,” he says, squinting at men in red hardhats across the pond. “I know why they have to tear it down, but that just means I’ll have to find another place to live, like Shipai.”
Despite their less-than-pristine appearance, urban villages often occupy desirable locations. Chengzhongcun like Shenzhen’s Gangxia or Guangzhou’s Xiancun are even in central districts where shiny new office buildings and skyscrapers provide a sharp contrast.

To the local government and developers, urban villages may seem like eyesores, to be wiped out and replaced by more impressive, cosmopolitan structures. Even parts of Shenzhen’s Hubei Village, with its rare 500 years of history, are scheduled to be torn down to make way for a giant shopping mall.

Redevelopment plans vary between villages. Sometimes, they’re delayed due to complex negotiations over villagers’ compensation or land ownership rights. But after plans for redevelopment have been made, they’re rarely brought to a complete halt.

In Guangzhou’s Liede Village, for every square meter of property they owned, villagers were promised an equivalent amount in the new luxury apartments to be constructed in the area. Even property that violated regulations (any building higher than four stories) was compensated, at RMB1,000 a square meter. In the end, all of Liede was demolished, including an 800-year-old ancestral hall.

In Shenzhen’s Dachong Village, 168 families agreed to a government payout of more than RMB100 million in exchange for their land. Those who refused to sell had their property taken anyway when the district government exercised its right of eminent domain. The migrants were evacuated from the area, and almost all buildings razed to the ground.

In Baishizhou, Shenzhen, redevelopment is underway. One section of the area has already been torn down, and businesses lining a main road are being pushed to leave.

Residents of some places, such as Shenzhen’s Dafen Oil Painting Village, will most likely escape this fate. Dafen is a rare success story among urban villages; not only does it support a prosperous arts industry, pumping out a large percentage of the world’s oil paintings, but over the years it’s also become a major tourist attraction.

According to Mary Ann O’Donnell, an artist and scholar whose work on urban villages began more than two decades ago, there are also other exceptions: sometimes, a village’s location simply isn’t valuable enough to attract the government’s attention.

There are signs that official opinion on urban villages may be shifting. Although they’ve been featured in previous exhibits, this year marks the first time that the Shenzhen and Hong Kong Bi-City Biennale of Urbanism/Architecture, a large-scale event open to the public, will focus on urban villages as its main topic.

But even if the biennale brings more awareness, there’s no relief in sight for villages already targeted by redevelopment plans, and the migrants who make homes and run businesses there. The price hike that follows demolition and reconstruction effectively forces many of them to look elsewhere for a place to live or work.

As urban villages are torn down, cities lose some of their most vibrant neighborhoods. At the same time, the rare places that can provide working-class migrants with refuge or the chance to pursue a better future will only become harder and harder to find.
A DRONE'S EYE VIEW OF XIASHA VILLAGE, SHENZHEN

Check out the 'handshake buildings' and lively public spaces of an urban village from a new perspective. To watch the video, follow the three easy steps below.

IN 3 EASY STEPS...

1. Scan the QR code and download the That's AR app
2. Use the That's AR app to scan the image above
3. Watch the photograph come to life
COMMUNITY

Night and Day
Two converse personalities talk life in the PRD, p51

Dear Jamie
P52

Bluesox Baseball
P52
One is a dark-haired, dirty-mouthed partier who “gets people fat” by working for Mazing app. The other is blonde, buff, healthy and gets people fit with the K2Fit program. Known respectively as ‘Bad Kara’ and ‘Good Kara,’ these two independent women are, indisputably, the definition of polar opposites. And yet both have effected positive change in the community, whether by hooking PRD expats up with workout plans, recommending the best bars in town or just giving us solid advice on life.

This month, we pulled Good Kara (Kara Wutzke) and Bad Kara (Kara Schroeder) aside to see just how different they are – at least when it comes to hangover snacks and celebrity crushes.

What’s your ideal Saturday?

“Bad Kara” Schroeder (KS): Getting as much sleep as possible, having brunch with friends, taking a nap, then going out with friends for an event or party and seeing how crazy everyone gets.

“Good Kara” Wutzke (KW): I like my current Saturday routine! Sleep in – well, until 6.40am – coach Bootcamp at 7, then coffee with the K2Fitters afterwards. Brekkie at home with the fam, gym time in the arvo and then an early dinner at an outdoor seating venue, with a movie to end the night.

Motto you live by?

KS: “If you keep one foot in yesterday and one foot in tomorrow, you piss all over today.”

KW: “Be healthy, be fit, be strong!”

Craziest thing most people don’t know about you?

KS: People think I’m always out having fun but in reality, I can’t even get a date!

KW: I love junk food. I just choose not to eat it very often.

You’re hungover. What’s for breakfast?

KS: Something greasy. Nachos are the best!

KW: I can’t remember the last time I woke up with a hangover. But likely, I would’ve grabbed mac ‘n’ cheese.

That one must-have item you always bring traveling?

KS: A Bluetooth speaker. I can’t function without music.

KW: Workout gear!

Definition of a solid workout?

KS: Solid? Does running around Guangzhou and Shenzhen in high heels count?

KW: Whatever you can do to get that heart rate up and challenge your body. If you consistently work hard at something, whether it’s weight-training, running or yoga, then you know you’re progressing.

Alcoholic drink of choice?

KS: Pisco sour. I mean, if I’m looking to get tipsy, I guess anything with alcohol works for me.

KW: Vodka soda with heaps of fresh lime.

If you could ‘get with’ one famous person who would it be?

KS: Clint Eastwood. He may be older than dirt now, but he’s still got it!

KW: Shakira. We meet up once a year.

Best part about living in South China?

KS: If I end up doing something crazy, no one is surprised anymore so no one cares. There’s so many wonderful people to meet and become friends with, and most people are supportive of one another.

KW: All the people I get to meet from all over the world, in all different industries, from all walks of life. I’m a coach with friends who are diplomats, lawyers, pilots, teachers, business owners, journalists, soccer players, the lot. It’s amazing!

What do you most admire about the other Kara?

KS: Good Kara is buff and I can send her to beat up my enemies! Just kidding! I really admire her for building such a fantastic program to motivate people to be healthy.

She’s also very, very caring and kind and even though she’s ‘good,’ I’ve caught her being bad a couple of times, which makes her even more likeable!

KW: Bad Kara isn’t that bad. She’s extremely kind and full of life which makes you want to be around her.

She’s always smiling, laughing and spreading that gift to others. She goes out of her way to help people and has the best first name ever.

Globes painted to look like baseballs shed light on a red diamond on the floor. A giant wooden carving of a bat protrudes from the reception desk. There are shelves stacked with equipment and three astroturfed practice spaces.

This is the headquarters of Shenzhen’s premier baseball group, the fittingly-named Bluesox.

Outside the ‘academy,’ about 100 adults play regularly in the group, forming multiple teams that participate in outdoor, in-city tournaments.

Bluesox also has social events like dinners and group trips, with organizer Tim Cui calling it more of a lifestyle than purely a sports group.

Cui, who started playing baseball in the first grade in Shenzhen, lived in the US for eight years before returning to Asia and making baseball, and the brick-and-mortar academy, his full-time job.

Although Shenzhen’s baseball scene is small, Cui is determined to change that. Bluesox offers classes for adults and children (taught in English with Chinese translation).

“We just need to show them the sport and they love it,” he says of newcomers.

Monthly membership for adults, including access to weekly events, costs RMB300-500. For more information, visit www.blsxsport.com or add them on WeChat: bluesoxsports.

Dear Jamie,

I have an ayi who has come to clean weekly for about a year. Recently, something perturbing has been happening. She cleans while we are away and each time I come home the shower is wet, and it contains long, black hairs and the shampoo bottles are noticeably lighter. It is obvious she is taking advantage of our home amenities.

That being said, she is an excellent housekeeper. She is also cheap and reliable. I have no idea how to approach the situation without making our dear ayi lose face.

Help us Jamie-wan-Kenobi, you are our only hope.

-Pilfered in Guangzhou

Dear Pilfered,

Your problem has a brand-name solution: Nair. The favored hair remover of ornery teenagers, plop a bottle of Nair down in the shower and wait for the wayward housekeeper to do the deed herself – though you’ll still end up with black hair in your drain. After this balding episode, she might stop showering entirely!

Don’t feel like possible jail time? Then fire her. Honestly, her face level is the least of your concerns. You’re paying her to clean and she is singing rub-a-dub from the laowai’s tub. That’s not only disrespectful, it’s borderline theft.

-Jamie

Got a problem? Just, sort of, ball it up, into a tight black thing and bury it deep, deep inside where it festers unacknowledged until you explode in a blaze of rage and regret. Or ask Jamie at jamieinchina@outlook.com!

The Consul General of the Republic of Poland is celebrating the 226th anniversary of its May 3rd Constitution Day this month, a watershed moment in Polish-Lithuanian history that brought positive reforms to the Commonwealth and promoted political equality.

On June 6, the French Chamber of Commerce and Industry in China welcomes the 2017 Sino French Business Forum from 2-8pm at Sofitel Guangzhou Sunrich. An important platform for exchange between French and Chinese companies, the forum will feature table discussions on topics such as the environment, energy, architecture and design, high-tech, agribusiness, nuclear energy and more. French and Chinese cultures will also be showcased through a fine selection of French wine, accompanied by traditional Chinese dishes.
TAKE FIVE

Dr. Bernadette P. Carmody

Director of the American International School of Guangzhou Dr. Carmody is dedicated to creating a stimulating environment for students that positively impacts the community at large. This month, she shares the school’s greatest development in 35 years and describes what she likes most about South China.

This year marks AISG’s 35th anniversary. What’s been the greatest change since then?

I think our Innovation Initiative, launched this year, is the single biggest example of change within the school to date. Our students are developing the skills needed to thrive in a rapidly-changing, digital environment. Whether it is building a prosthetic hand for a child with a disability, competing in robotics championships around the world or designing and printing 3D plant cells, the Innovation Initiative is providing our students with a phenomenal platform for creativity and real-world learning!

Any other exciting developments?

Our theater is due to open on May 23 so I’d say that’s another new and very exciting opportunity for our Visual and Performing Arts programs as well!

Every school has a unique identity or personality. How would you describe that of AISG?

I believe the heart of AISG is reflected in our refreshed mission statement: nurturing future-ready individuals to aspire, achieve, and contribute. We challenge students to strive for academic rigor, provide them with opportunities to discover their potential and passions, and encourage them to give back to their community.

How much does an ‘American’ mindset play into that identity?

We are an internationally-minded school guided by American values and principles. We also understand the importance of being happy. Positive social interactions between adults and students, and amongst students themselves, promote better learning and better behavior.

What do you like most about living in Guangzhou?

There is an amazing synergy between the old and the new in South China that is fascinating. Within a short walk from our apartment, my husband and I can be wandering through a wet market or searching out siu mai from a street-side vendor. One of our favorite things to do is to take our visitors on cruises along the Pearl River. Standing on the deck of the boat delighting in a traditional tea ceremony with the neon skyline of Zhujiang New Town in the background provides a magnificent juxtaposition.
In a world and age where billions of people have taken both their personal and professional lives online, one needs to be conscious and mindful of one’s digital footprint.

What, you may ask, is a digital footprint? A Facebook post or an Instagram photo, a comment on a friend’s blog, a video you uploaded on YouTube just because it was funny, a Skype call, a Snapchat that was recaptured on a phone camera, a tweet you had to make – all of these leave an eternal trail that can be seen, searched or tracked, as well as stolen or shared many times over. In a nutshell, almost anything and everything on the Internet leads to the creation of a digital identity, known as your digital footprint.

Whether it’s passive (data uploaded without the owner’s knowledge) or active (self-created and uploaded by the owner) is not relevant. The crux of the matter is that almost anyone with access to the Internet has an online presence. This impacts your reputation and how you are perceived as a person and/or professional, with everyone from teachers to potential employers often judging you and your lifestyle via your ‘online resume’ – i.e. your chosen social media platforms.

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Of course, there are ways to protect your reputation and boost your digital presence by staying on top of what’s being said about you online, such as by setting up alerts and so on. But don’t get carried away – you don’t have to act like your own PR manager.

Just keep in mind that you can never fully erase your digital footprint, so watch out for posts that are not positive. For sites you can control, you can delete posts and pictures. But for those you can’t, all you can do is try to ‘bury’ sites so they don’t pop up in the first few pages of a search.

Want out? It’s possible, but the flip side is that if you suddenly decide to go offline, you cease to exist in a world where folks are judged both personally and professionally on their number of followers, online engagement or influence. Employers often check an applicant’s online profiles to see if they are an appropriate fit for their company, and some are even hired as a result.

Understanding privacy policies of sites, untagging yourself where and when necessary, avoiding the sharing of personal issues and photos, thinking twice before you tweet, and asking for permission first if others are in the post, is key to ensuring your digital footprint remains positive.

As technology continues to evolve, use this modern-day enabler fittingly, as it can offer you a wealth of opportunities with no side effects as long as you act and engage responsibly, and clean up as you go along.

Remember, you are eternally what you post...
FORGET THE SHEEP
4 Tips for a Better Night’s Sleep
By Selena Wood

How many hours do you get a night? If it’s less than seven, you may be at risk for a range of health problems, from obesity and heart disease to impaired immune function or even depression. Adults between the ages of 18 and 64 need seven to nine hours a night according to the National Sleep Foundation, but most people operate on five to six.

If you’re trying to get more rest but have trouble falling asleep, the following tips might help you secure some much-needed shut-eye.

Keep a Sleep Diary
Track your sleeping habits by writing down the time you go to bed and when you wake up. Note whether you took naps, how soundly you slept and how you felt upon waking. Knowing your sleep habits will help you better communicate insomnia problems to a doctor and gain new insights into your sleep patterns.

Try Listening to Soothing Podcasts
Did you know there’s a podcast specifically designed to help you fall asleep? ‘Sleep with Me’ features bedtime stories that get progressively more boring until you can’t focus any longer. It sounds amusing, yes, but many people swear by it. Listening to Icelandic music – the lyrics of which are incomprehensible to most – is also a tried-and-true method.

Eliminate Noise and Light
Guangzhou was recently named the noisiest city in the world. If construction or garbage men are keeping you awake at night, invest in a pair of ear plugs. Be sure also that your room is cool and dark. Buy curtains designed to block out the sun – it’ll help you stay asleep longer in the morning.

Keep Your Devices in Another Room
Unless you’re listening to a soothing podcast or music, consider keeping all of your devices (laptop, tablet, phone) in another room to help train your body that beds are reserved solely for sleeping. It sounds simple, but can be the difference between tossing and turning all night long and drifting peacefully into dream.
That’s PRD Smartphone Photography Contest Awards Ceremony
(Supported by An URBANATOMY Event thëtë and urbanfamily )

After months of planning, the That’s PRD Smartphone Photography Contest successfully came to pass with an awards ceremony at Sky Hall on Party Pier on the evening of April 7. The occasion saw photos by the winners of the contest exhibited at the hall, DJ Tangen playing electrifying beats, as well as delicious treats sponsored by Zapatas and Feel More Bagels and an array of drinks by Vikings, Goose Island, Pearl River Beer, Fuji Water. The evening also saw two winners take home a Huawei P10 smartphone, sponsored, of course, by Huawei.

AmCham Spring Ball
(Supported by thëtë and urbanfamily )

Themed ‘Musical Fantasy,’ the AmCham Spring Ball gala kicked off with a cocktail reception in the lobby of LN Garden Hotel, Guangzhou, where guests experienced the charm of renowned theater worldwide. The song ‘On the Street Where You Live’ served as the prelude of the performances in the Grand Ballroom. While the whole party brimmed with musical shows, bunches of roses were presented to all female guests. Renowned Broadway star Brad Little’s rendition of The Phantom of the Opera main score was a highlight of the event.

European Chamber of Commerce Annual Gala
(Supported by thëtë )

The European Chamber held its sixth annual gala dinner themed ‘Fashion through Time’ on April 8 at the LN Garden Hotel, Guangzhou. Throughout the evening, numerous performances and interactive programs invited attendees to explore the evolution of fashion over time. Guests were greeted by an engaging cocktail reception followed by a set dinner. A catwalk featured fashionable wears from various decades, while the ‘Best Dressed’ award encouraged guests to get on stage and flaunt their smart attire.
British Chamber of Commerce Holds 6th Women in Business Forum
(Supported by that’z and urbanfamily)

Organized by The British Chamber of Commerce Guangdong and supported by the Culture and Education Section of the British Consulate-General, this year’s Women in Business Forum was held to great success on March 31 at Marriott Hotel Nanshan, Shenzhen. With a healthy mix of nationalities and industries, more than 250 guests convened to share their experiences working in different fields. Five industry forerunners shared stories about overturning traditional concepts to achieve their dreams. Generous sponsors ranged from local English media to health care providers and the Marriott Shenzhen Nanshan.

HealthTech AmCham HK Delegation Visits HarMoniCare in Shenzhen

On March 29, an AmCham Hong Kong delegation, including Chairwoman Tara Joseph, visited Shenzhen HarMoniCare Women and Children’s Hospital. They were warmly welcomed by Chen Wei, the vice president of HarMoniCare Medical Group, and other leaders from the hospital, who discussed the current medical situation and strategic cooperation in the near future. More than 30 chief representatives from Walgreens Boots Alliance, MetLife Limited and Aon Hong Kong Limited were present.

2017 Easter Community Event
(Supported by that’z and urbanfamily)

Easter Sunday saw an ‘eggs-ellent’ family-friendly party with attendance from 150 guests. A nonprofit event, the gathering saw children partake in arts and crafts, bubble football, drone flying, tai chi lessons and more. Numerous vendors also attended, displaying their products at the Abnet Market. Everyone enjoyed a buffet, with free-flow German beer and wine. Food and drinks sold at the market included French homemade pate, grocery items and essential oils, cosmetics, T-shirts and more.
As part of the Innovation Initiative, AISG’s tech coach, Jenelle Kresak, and middle school science and math teacher Tami Cutter helped students to combine their knowledge of science, technology, art and math to create 3D replica printed cells. The process they followed to that used by doctors to test techniques for surgeries.

Together, all Hilton hotels in Guangzhou held a special ‘Chocoholic’-themed afternoon tea event on April 12. Participating hotels included Hilton Guangzhou Tianhe, Hilton Guangzhou Baiyun, Hilton Foshan, DoubleTree by Hilton Guangzhou and DoubleTree by Hilton Guangzhou Science City.

The British School of Guangzhou’s production of Sweeney Todd, The Demon Barber of Fleet Street last month was a resounding success. Students performed the popular musical thriller to a packed theater over three nights.

Wines of Argentina, an organization promoting Argentine wines globally, launched the seventh edition of World Malbec Day. With the slogan ‘Malbec, the heart of Argentina,’ the event took place in cities around the world and at Four Seasons Hotel Guangzhou on April 21. As Argentina’s ‘Flagship grape,’ Malbec integrates the DNA of the country and occupies 35 percent of all hectares planted in Argentina. It has given a vigorous character to the vitiviniculture of the country over the last 20 years.
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72 New Bars

A monthly insert for May 2017
WHAT'S ON IN MAY 2017

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PRICELLA AHN
NANSHAN SPORTS CENTER

MON MAY 22
FIGHT CAMP
FUBAR BREWPUB

SUN MAY 28
HK PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
SHENZHEN CONCERT HALL
SAT MAY 13
THE KING’S SINGERS
Shenzhen Concert Hall
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SAT MAY 13
SPRING FLING
Secret Spot Hotel
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A8 Music Mansion
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Vista-SK Intl. Medical Center
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EAT & DRINK

Bowling Us Over
A Shenzhen take on a Hawaiian taste, p70

Meat Matters
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Behold, the giant tiger prawn! From mighty mandible to prepossessing posterior, 300 million years of evolution have made this crustacean uniquely fit to dart through the not-so-deep waters of the world. They’re also great with coconut curry.

**Ingredients:**

**For the prawn**
- Ginger and garlic paste
- Lemon juice
- Turmeric powder

**For the coconut curry**
- 100ml coconut oil
- 150ml coconut milk
- 1 red onion, sliced
- 2 tomatoes, diced
- 1 yellow bell pepper, diced
- 1 green bell pepper, diced
- 2 tbsp ginger paste
- 2 tbsp garlic paste
- 1 tbsp lemon juice
- 10 pieces fresh curry leaf
- 10g dry red chili
- 5g mustard seed
- 2 tbsp turmeric powder
- 2 tbsp cumin powder
- 2 tbsp Kashmir chili powder

**Method:**

**Preparing the prawn**
1. Leave head and tail, but remove outer shell.
2. Marinate with all ingredients for at least ten minutes.

**Cooking the curry**
1. Heat the cooking pan and add coconut oil. Wait until there is faint smoke then gently add the curry leaves, mustard seeds and dry red chili.
2. Once the mustard seeds start to crackle, add the sliced onion. Fry until golden brown, then add the ginger and garlic paste.
3. Mix all of the dry spices with water to create a smooth paste.
4. Add the paste into the onion mixture in the pan. Saute gently until the spices release an aroma.
5. Add diced tomatoes and pepper and saute.
6. Add the prawn into the pan, adding a little water as required and saute gently so that it absorbs the spices.
7. Add the coconut milk into the curry and simmer until the prawn is cooked to a golden color.

This recipe is courtesy of Chef Paul Rajdeep of the St. Regis Shenzhen, 5016 Shennan Dong Lu, Luohu District, Shenzhen 深圳市罗湖区深南东路5016号 (0755-8308 8888)
We’re digging:

Magma keepin’ on keepin’ on, sans music but mixing drinks to balance the beer-heavy street; Taste Moment’s mystifying moniker and fresh (vegetable) vision of French food; Poké-Doké sporting a ‘secret’ match and mix poke bowl menu; Shenzhen setting scene for DIY-iPhone media hoopla; the city’s Chinglish crackdown – anglophones will not ‘carefully slip’!

We’re done with:

The RMB37 million smuggled meat seizure scandal; two whales’ regrettable wash-ups; the dolphin-decapitating handiwork of a few Zhuhai men; crowds and crowds, meaning a Bay Park weekend app-bike ban and a beach RSVP requirement.

Lam’s Seafood

Nothing quite caps off a day like a steaming bowl of seafood noodle soup, and Lam’s Seafood does it in spades.

Though the menu is in Chinese, there are plenty of pictures – just smile and point to the dish you want, like the majestic RMB148 ‘king lobster’ that’s served on a throne of noodles.

More modest choices include the RMB48 oysters or the squid and shrimp dish (RMB38).

The ‘signature seafood noodles’ (RMB33) comes with an assortment of shrimp, squid, dried fish and shellfish.

There’s also a similar-tasting ‘seafood vegetable soup rice’ (RMB35) option that substitutes rice for noodles.

As a rule, portions are generous with all noodle orders served in gluton-sized bowls.

The soup is brewed with chicken and flavored with seafood, giving it a mild taste, a perfect pairing with the restaurant’s succulent shrimp or slightly salty clams.

Despite the cutey stuffed decor and jellyfish lanterns hanging from the ceiling, things get graphic once you set to work on your food: shrimps come with heads and clams inside the shell – ditto for the lobster.

Cocktail

The Paloma

Unlike the main liquor involved, the origin of this month’s cocktail is unclear. One story holds that in hot and humid Tequila, Mexico, a bartender known for mixing drinks with a large knife invented the paloma, or ‘the dove.’

Wherever the drink came from, the destination is the same. The paloma is now one of Mexico’s favored vehicles for Tequila. Cool, refreshing and easy enough to whip up on a languid summer’s day this Central American drink will get you through the PRD’s hottest months.

Ingredients

60ml 100-percent agave blanco tequila
30ml fresh pink grapefruit juice
15ml lime juice
7.5ml agave syrup
Grapefruit soda

Method

1. Shake all ingredients with ice then strain into a highball glass filled with ice.
2. Top with grapefruit soda.

This recipe is provided by our friends at Shenzhen’s Providence Cocktail, 2/F, Paradiso Apartments, 82 Furong Lu, Futian District 福田区福荣路82号金域蓝湾2楼 (186 6538 3106)

Oldie but Goodie

A more hands-off experience can be found with the ‘beef sirloin fried rice’ (RMB28), a solid, not-too-greasy choice.

Still hungry? The seasoned soft tofu (凉拌豆腐) is served cold and makes for a wallet-friendly side at RMB6.

If you’re like us, though, a single stomach-filling bowl is enough to elicit a stumble home for some deep-sea slumber.
WE TRIED IT

Cremia Ice Cream

KFC may not seem like a place Chinese foodies would rave about, but that’s exactly what happened last August when Cremia ice cream cones appeared at KFCs for a limited time in six Chinese cities. They returned to Shenzhen late last December, and the frozen treat is still available at select stores.

What’s so special about Cremia? According to the official website, it’s the product of a Japanese company’s quest to make ‘high class’ soft serve. They used high-fat milk and cream, then paired the result with a fancy cone.

After sampling, we can confirm that Cremia tastes very different from soft serves we’ve tried before. There’s no artificial flavoring; just the taste of pure, whole dairy.

It’s like drinking condensed milk from the can (not that we would know from experience), only less cloyingly sweet.

But the best part is the cone. The buttery cookie is delicate but not brittle, rich but not overpowering. It’s a perfect complement to the ice cream. Or anything. If we could, we’d order a stack of cones to take home.

At RMB25 a pop, Cremia is roughly five times the price of regular KFC soft serve. But it’s still cheaper than, say, Haagen-Dazs, so why not try this ‘high class’ treat while you still can?

Spend the Day with Your Mom and With Us!

No plans for Mother’s Day this year? Well you do now! Because we are cordially inviting you (yes! YOU!) to join the Urban Family team and the amazing at Shenzhen HarMoniCare Women & Children’s Hospital to a morning of activities, food and refreshments and sightseeing at Nantou Ancient City and Guandi Temple.

When: Saturday, May 13, 10.30am-1pm
Price: Adults RMB100, Children for free.
Capacity: Seats are limited, up to 30 families.

Advanced reservation is required.
For more information and booking details, please contact Mr. Cosmo by phone or WeChat (138 0988 9279) or send an email to 315719728@qq.com.
Where: Shenzhen HarMoniCare Women & Children’s Hospital, Nantou Ancient City, No.12018, Shennan Road, Nanshan.
Gong Cha is officially dead.
The popular milk cap tea shop known for its addictive – if not nauseating – cream-topped brews has, at long last, been assailed by the explosive popularity of Hey Tea.

To say Hey Tea has a cult following might be an understatement. In the last few months, it’s gone from a small street-side shop in Jiangmen, Guangdong to a sought-after nationwide sensation.

The most confounding thing about Xi Cha (喜茶), as it’s known in Mandarin, however, is how long people are willing to queue for it: nearly two hours, in most cases.

But is Hey Tea really that good or are people just trying to look cool by posting photos with its ultra-slim cup?

We decided to find out.

To attempt to understand the mindset of a typical Hey Tea enthusiast, we ventured deep into classic chou doufu-consuming mallrat territory: China Plaza in Guangzhou. There, on the sixth floor, lies a celestial Mecca of Hey Tea.

On our way up a series of winding escalators, we spot droves of others who have made the pilgrimage: three boys in school tracksuits posing giddily with their prize; a dazed woman clutching an assorted six-pack to her heart; a couple silently slurping the remains of their two-hour wait.

It’s approximately 3.23pm when we step into the line that snakes around the front of the shop and down a long corridor of the mall. Hey Tea personnel shuffle about offering cups of water on trays, ostensibly to avoid a lawsuit. Passersby enjoy asking how long we’ve been waiting and then shaking their heads incredulously at our response.

Though the line is long, the entire process has been streamlined to a T, such that by the time we reach the checkout counter (at 4.11pm), we’ve already seen a menu and had our order recorded on a piece of paper. A team of three cashiers then confirm our order and complete the transaction in seconds.

At 4.32pm, we finally get our hands on a cool cup of Hey Tea, making the total wait time one hour and nine minutes – significantly shorter than we’d anticipated going in.

We order the most popular flavor: Jinfeng Chawang (金凤茶王) with a full cheese cap (not the reduced fat version) for RMB23.

There’s specific instructions for how one should drink Hey Tea (because of course), which suggest that instead of using a straw first, you should open the top flap to swig both layers – the cheesy top and the tea – simultaneously.

Being avid Gong Cha fans, however, we have a habit of saving the best – i.e. the cream cap – for last, and do the same this time.

The first few sips bring pure, sweet, flowery tea (Hey Tea allegedly uses high-quality tea leaves and ingredients, one reason, a girl in line tells us, why they’re so popular). The tea itself is undoubtedly a step up from Gong Cha’s.

About halfway through, we start to taste a hint of the salty cheese. It’s subtle at first, and seems to complement the tea surprisingly well.

Towards the end of the drink, however, our sips begin to summon something sinister: thick, cloying globs of salty cheesy cream. The sensation is like taking a bag of movie theater popcorn and dumping the liquid butter straight into your mouth. Not good.

Next time we’ll follow Hey Tea’s instructions and drink the cheesy top first with the tea.

So anyway, is Hey Tea really that amazing or does the appeal lie in saying that you tried it?

We’ll let you determine that – by ordering via WeChat, of course. Did we mention you can do that too?

1) Shop L1-203, Coco Park, Futian District 福田区福田二路 Coco Park L1-203号 (3688 3096); 2) 2/F, Lutan Plaza, 2/F, Hai’an Cheng, Nanshan District 南山区海岸城二层露天广场天利名城2楼 (8659 0906)
The days of ‘Coco Park’ being code for a night of clubbing are over. Not because the clubs are gone – they’re still trafficking in high decibel delights – but because some of Futian’s finest eateries have chosen the area to set up shop.

With a neighbor like Bus Turkish Grill, which sports a red exterior adorned in bus-like LED and faux vent, Tora Kui plays it humble, tucked behind a sliding glass door we miss on first pass.

Behind door, and up a single-stone step is the tastefully dim interior of a Japanese-style roast meat joint, known as a yakiniku. Think upscale Korean BBQ, each table sporting a charcoal well over which food is roasted on a grill, either by diners or attentive staff.

Never-frozen Australian meat hangs in a fridge, just behind where cuts are seasoned before being presented with simple garnishing.

There is bar-style seating for lone diners, but Tora Kui is undeniably better with friends, with a VIP backroom and wide, polished wood tables throughout the restaurant.

Betting its name on quality, Tora Kui hasn’t skimped on caliber product, as the RMB118 beef tendon attests. It is slightly marinated, salted and soft enough to almost warrant an inner-mouth melting cliche. Almost.

The RMB88 beef ribs come salted and with a choice of sweet or sour sauce set for dipping, though most meats require nothing other than a few minutes cooking, having arrived prepped by the chef.

We’re told several times that Tora Kui has the best ‘organs’ in town, a draw for tripe-hungry Japanese diners, but perhaps a body-part too far for our readers. If you’re feeling particularly carnivorous, the RMB88 plate of salted beef tongue is deliciously succulent, though a bit fatty.

Fans of Korean barbecue will want to check out Tora Kui, a welcome addition to Coco Park’s growing reputation as a fine dining destination.

Price: RMB250
Who’s going: Japanese expats, Korean BBQ fans
Good for: groups of friends, high-quality meat
Xiangmi Lake North’s trendy 1979 district – home to golf castles, cafes and a Chinese medicine museum – has added a brilliant new dining spot to the menu. Run by the practiced hand of Chef Greg Delbost, Taste Moment’s interior appeals to modern Chinese customers with a row of indoor seats facing the gleaming open kitchen and a small outdoor area that almost offers a glimpse of the area’s namesake Honey Lake.

The menu emphasizes fresh ingredients and modern French cooking techniques, serving up the kind of food you expect from a chef with over 15 years’ experience.

Our entree arrives at the table, a colorfully presented eggplant compote surrounded by grilled zucchini (RMB98). The light summer vegetable dish has a hint of olive oil used to balance the flavor of a topping slice of Parma ham.

There’s a lot to praise about Taste Moment, which makes it surprising that something as small as the organic vegetables are such a highlight, particularly the sweet baby carrots used in the main dishes.

The slow-cooked beef cheek (RMB148) is marinated for 12 hours, creating a dish that is buttery, fork-tender and comes complemented by a robust red-wine sauce.

Continuing with the French influences, the herb-crusted New Zealand lamb rack (RMB298) is roasted to a medium, the buttery herb and breadcrumb crusting matched with zucchini cooked to the point of crunch.

Taste Moment is part of a bigger movement of high-end modern food leaving the confines of five-star hotels and entering the realm of monthly nights out. Fresh ingredients, staff drilled to a fine dining standard and prices that won’t break the bank make the restaurant possibly one of Shenzhen’s best.

Price: RMB200-500
Who’s going: foodies, nouveau riche, hot dates
Good for: Instagram food posts, French cuisine

1/F, Bldg 1, Block A, 1979 Cultural and Creative Park, 1011 Qiaoxiang Rd, Futian District 福田区侨香路1011号1979文化创意园A区1栋1层 (8295 6173)
International School of Nanshan Shenzhen

Address: 11 Longyuan Road, Nanshan District, Shenzhen, China
Tel: 26661000 | Email: admissions@isnsz.com
Website: www.isnsz.com
Before you ask, it’s poh-kay doh-kay. And no, this new restaurant in Futian’s Intown wasn’t named after a certain animated TV series. Instead, it’s focused around a Hawaiian classic: poke.

Well, more or less. Co-founder Lilo Liu admits that concessions were made to local tastes. Raw seafood is cut into bite-size pieces versus the larger chunks of fish in island versions, and everything comes served over white rice.

The poke bowls all look tidy, with seafood and vegetables arranged into separate piles, fitting the vibe of the small shop, where the color scheme is bright and the slogan ‘Poké makes my day everyday’ is inscribed on a wall in pink neon lighting.

Thankfully, the food lives up to its appearance. It’s also very reasonably priced for the CBD: a belly-warming bowl of miso soup is RMB18, including the tofu and seaweed. The RMB48 classic Hawaiian poke bowl’s salmon and mango make a blissful pairing, although the wakame seaweed can be overpowering.

Liu tips us off to the secret menu: to customize a bowl, all you need to do is talk to a waiter, although most customers only catch on after a few visits. Liu recommends a modified Togarashi teriyaki tuna poke bowl (RMB58) that trades salmon for tuna, adds extra avocado and gets topped off with ‘smoking hot sauce.’

The bowl isn’t as ‘smoking’ as we expect, but it’s still flavorful; deep-fried, crispy wonton skins complement a healthy helping of vegetables.

For beverages, we try the Maui sunrise soda (RMB28). After stirring, it yields a burst of passionfruit sweetness along with crunchy seeds. Poké-Doké also has craft beer: in the fridge we spot brews like Immortal IPA and Blood Orange Pale Ale (both RMB38).

As we sip our soda and listen to a ukulele-heavy pop soundtrack, we find ourselves drifting off to a happy place. Maybe not a tropical paradise, but for Shenzhen, it’s close enough.
CARTA × curbi × CURTIS

FRI 5TH MAY 2017

SIGMA TOURING | ☘ CHEMICAL ARTISTS

RESERVATION: 0755-2348 1542

ADDRESS: 深圳市福田区福华一路88号中心商务大厦三楼
3/F, Central Commercial Building, 88 Fuhua 1 Road, Futian District, Shenzhen
Tucked on the 23rd floor of the Hilton Shenzhen Futian, past a Sichuan-style restaurant where diners are serenaded by guzheng, sits Mr. Wong.

The single floor, two-story space features illuminated shelves stretching to the ceiling behind the bar and wide, cozy furniture that doesn’t take itself too seriously in an area large enough to toss a baseball.

Floor-to-ceiling windows allow a view of the city as mixologist Sasha Osta whips up his creative libations.

So invested in cocktails is Osta that he describes them as having a soul, each being unique in time and space, with the bartender’s steady hand the main ingredient. (“You were there. That moment. The first and last time,” reads a photo he sends over WeChat, a maxim about the ephemeral nature of mixed drinks.)

Most popular are the oldie-but-goody Long Island iced tea and mojito (both RMB78 plus 15 percent service charge), but, if you ask, Osta has something much more fascinating up his sleeve: the coffee-based three ace (RMB88), a mix of Jack Daniels, blueberry liquor and a cup of espresso. It’s served in a margarita glass that arrives at your table set in a bowl of burning Chinese herbs and coffee beans. The presentation is as intense as the first sip, which reveals a competition of flavors backed by a coffee kick.

Toning it down a bit is the Mr. Wong on a vacation (RMB88), which is based mainly around freshly squeezed orange juice, Grey Goose and a liberal dose of mango syrup. It arrives on a bamboo platter with seashells, a smattering of sand-simulating brown sugar and a huge shrimp nested on the glass’s rim.

Newly opened and relatively undiscovered, Mr. Wong is a good place to go for window-side seating and a quiet tipple. Those looking for a bit more action can head there after 9:30pm Thursday to Saturday when a professional singer takes the stage.

Price: RMB88
Who’s going: creative cocktail aficionados
Good for: wide windows, comfortable seating
CAVE CLUB
Firing Up the Underground
By Sky Thomas Gidge

Shenzhen has an uncomfortable relationship with independent music. It’s tolerated for a bit, and then the hammer falls, wrapping a venue’s DJ deck or drum set in enough red tape to make a Christmas-themed bondage film.

Cave Club, of course, wants to change that – mainly by being a sanctioned bar in area where house music is unlikely to upset the neighbors.

Located in a part of Futian that seems to have more storefronts flanked by scaffolding than not, you can find Cave Club down a long set of illuminated stairs.

It’s obvious some money went into outfitting the wide, single-floor space, though furniture is uniformly black and minimalistic. All of it is lit by undulating LED lights spider webbed across the ceiling above metal industrial barrels refitted to serve as high tables.

Two types of customers are in the club’s crosshairs – those who spend at least RMB2,000 for prime seating on weekends, and those that hand over RMB100 for five gin and tonics and don’t mind standing around DIY furniture.

Patrons are welcome to order a bottle of whisky with a four-digit price tag, but those of more humble means can opt for the negroni (RMB58), its crisp taste evidence Cave Club hasn’t skimped on sweet vermouth and Campari.

If you’re looking for a show (and to briefly set your table on fire), the Lamborghini is your ride. For only RMB58, flaming liquid is poured down precariously stacked glasses, flavoring the sweet substances held in chalices below.

Flaming furniture aside, the most alluring thing about Cave Club is its potential to become a nexus of underground music.

Though it will take a taxi ride to arrive from central Shenzhen, the location is an asset as the parking garage next door is unlikely to file a noise complaint.

Future events will see the pricey tables pushed to the side, creating an open space punctuated by subwoofers and perfect for the underground dance party vibe.

Add to this some behind-deck talent with connections to the area’s top DJs and you might, just might, have a recipe for subterranean success.

Price: RMB100
Who’s going: in-the-know EDM fans, those who enjoy fruit platters
Good for: literally underground music

Editor’s note: as of print time, Cave Club is set to close at the end of April.

STELLA ARTOIS PRESENTS
Musibase Club

Independent and original, Musibase Club isn’t your average late-night hangout. For one, it’s been around since 1999, an eternity by Shenzhen standards. For another, its main focus isn’t one people normally associate with the city, or even the province; in a sea of EDM nightclubs, Musibase chooses to go with live rock music.

Acts take place nightly and have garnered the bar an impressive reputation. After all, over its 18 years of history, Musibase has played host to over 1,000 bands and solo musicians, practically seeing a whole generation of Chinese rockers take stage.

Past performers have come from Beijing, Hong Kong and Taiwan; also, Germany, Brazil, Finland, Norway and Australia. They include the father of Chinese rock, Cui Jian, who also called Musibase Club “South China’s best live music bar, at the forefront of anti-mainstream music.”

Musibase certainly looks the part, with graffiti-like murals painted on concrete walls both inside and outside. An antique gramophone adorns one counter indoors. A retro sculpture of a soldier carrying a Chinese flag springs out of a wall, while another part of the bar is plastered in photos of the musical acts that have visited over the years.

But the main attraction is always the stage: equipped with a drum set, mic, keyboard and plenty of strobe lights, it’s the centerpiece of the bar and the source of many a raucous night.

Through a decade in which much of Shenzhen, and its nightlife, have changed dramatically, the club has stuck to its tried-and-true formula: good old rock ‘n’ roll.

Price: RMB100
Who’s going: Chinese rockers, weary shoppers
Good for: a break from buying winter clothes, chatting with friends, dessert

Musibase Club, 1019 Shangbu Nan Lu, Futian District 福田区上步南路1019号 (8363 3533)

WWW.THATSMAGS.COM | MAY 2017 | SZ | 73
**Sander Kleinenberg DJ**

Whether it’s producing, remixing or DJing, Sander Kleinenberg has been building credibility on all fronts for over two decades. Draw-dropping remixes of top pop acts have kept him in the spotlight and original tracks like ‘My Lexicon’ and ‘The Fruit’ have made a lasting impact on the scene.

Sat May 6, free entry before 10pm; RMB120 presale at Shark Futian, RMB200 at door. Pepper Club, 2/F, Shopping Park, Fuhua Lu, by Yitian Lu, Futian District 福田区福华路购物公园二楼 (8387 9899)

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**Ken Ishii DJ**

Ken Ishii debuted in 1993. That year he was first place on the UK’s NME magazine’s techno chart, which led to worldwide recognition. In 1995, the highly praised album Jelly Tones was released. Ken is regarded internationally as one of the best Japanese DJs and a techno pioneer.

Sat May 13, RMB100 presale at Shark Futian, RMB150 at door. Pepper Club, 2/F, Shopping Park, Fuhua Lu, by Yitian Lu, Futian District 福田区福华路购物公园二楼 (8387 9899)

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**The King’s Singers A cappella**

Acclaimed for their energy and charm, The King's Singers work is synonymous with excellence. Performing to hundreds of thousands of people each season, the group tours regularly to Europe, North and South America, Asia and Australia.

Sat May 13, 8pm; RMB80-280. Shenzhen Concert Hall, 2016 Fuzhong Yi Lu, Futian District 福田区福中一路2016号 (8870 6020)

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**Secret Spot Spring Fling Show**

Come celebrate the time of the Taurus at the beach with live music, awesome DJs, great food and beer specials. Transportation is included with the price of the ticket.

Sat-Sun May 13-14, 4pm-3am; RMB880 early bird RMB120 regular RMB150 day of. Secret Spot Hotel, Block 2, Hesou Cun, Longgang District 龙岗区西涌鹅卵石二区 (yoopay.cn/event/springfling, 138 2611 9355)

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**Marc Ribot Show**

Marc Ribot, who the New York Times describes as “a deceptively articulate artist who uses inarticulateness as an expressive device,” has released over 20 albums under his own name over a 30-year career. He also works regularly with Grammy Award winning producers.

Fri May 19, 9.20pm-10.20pm; RMB880 presale RMB100 at door includes earlier show. B10 Live, North District of OCT-LOFT, Nanshan District 南山区华侨城创意文化园北区B10现场 (b10live.cn, 8633 7602)

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**Blurt Gig**

In 1979, Blurt was formed in Stroud, Gloucestershire, England. Though tagged as post-punk, no wave, experimental art rock or jazz-rock, the trio is practically impossible to pigeonhole, with high tensile guitars and tribal drum patterns.

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**Tez Cadey DJ**

At only 23-years-old, Tez Cadey has been setting trends in electronica and deep house since 2011, with albums like Para EP and Juventi Rewind. His DJ career saw him remix ‘Summertime Sadness’ to great acclaim with ‘Seve’, being his most recent hit song.

Sat May 20, 8pm; RMB880, 2/F, A8 Music Mansion, 1002 Keyuan Lu, Nanshan District 南山区科园路1002号A8音乐大厦2层 (en damai.cn, 8870 6020)

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**Mikami Kan Gig**

Mikami Kan is a Japanese underground folk singer, poet and actor. It was in the 1970s that Mikami Kan exploded like a hand grenade onto the Japanese music scene. He published several high quality albums under Columbia Records, establishing his name as a unique folk singer. Over the years, Mikami’s music has touched plenty of styles such as folk, blues, rock ‘n’ roll, free improvised and enka.

Sat May 20, 9.20pm-10.35pm; RMB880 presale, RMB100 at door. B10 Live, North District of OCT-LOFT, Nanshan District 南山区华侨城创意文化园北区B10现场 (b10live.cn, 8633 7602)

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**Priscilla Ahn Concert**

Priscilla’s otherworldly voice matches the folk-pop sound that she is known for. She will perform songs from her new album La, La, Lo, which is geared towards children and inspired by Ahn’s son.

Sat May 20, 8pm; RMB100-480. Nanshan Cultural & Sports Center, 62 Nantou Jie, Nanshan Da Dao, Nanshan District 南山区南山东道62号 (en damai.cn, 400 610 3721)

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Poké-doké Drink Combo Deal

The Hawaiian dish has landed in Shenzhen. Poké-doké insists on fresh ingredients, all matched with specific sauces, and now you can throw some craft beer into the mix. One poke bowl paired with a craft beer will see a discount of 20 percent. That means a RMB86 combo of meal and drink will cost only RMB68 if you show staff this text.

Mon May 1-14, all day; 20 percent off. Poké-doké 1/F, Intown, Fuhua San Lu, Futian District (156 2616 8816)

Malt Whisky and Cocktails Specials Deal

The wide selection of whisky and arsenal of cocktails are being served up on set menus for a limited time only. The cocktail set menu for two costs only RMB268, while the whisky menu for one costs RMB128.

Daily May 1-31, 6pm-10pm; various prices. Social, 95/F, 5016 Shennan Dong Lu, Luohu District (2223 9485)

Pig Roast Buffet

Pig out on George and Dragon’s iconic ‘pig in the box’ buffet. All you can eat roast pig with garlic mashed potatoes, macaroni and cheese, baked beans and other filling munchies.

Fri May 12, 6pm; RMB118. George and Dragon, 3 Taizi Lu, by Minghua Lu, South District (2669 8564)

Ashram Concert

The energy between this group’s musicians has earned them inclusion on compilation album Intimations of Immortality and drawn media attention to their unique sound. Ashram is signed to the French label Prikosnovenie.

Fri Jun 2, time TBD; RMB180-680. Shenzhen Concert Hall, 2016 Fuzhong Yi Lu, Futian District (400 610 3721)

Pavel Vernikov Recital

Born in Odessa, Vernikov studied in the Moscow State Tchaikovsky Conservatory where he gained an international reputation as a virtuoso violinist. He has since appeared at venues like Carnegie Hall as well as the Kennedy Center in New York.

Sat Jun 3, 8pm-late; RMB180-580. Shenzhen Concert Hall, 2016 Fuzhong Yi Lu, Futian District (400 610 3721)

Kousuke Atari Vocalist

Kousuke Atari is a Japanese singer. He is a self-trained musician, and performs in the island style from his hometown. His music has been used extensively in popular manga television shows.

Sun May 28, 8pm; RMB180-480. Nanshan Culture Sports Theater, 62 Nanshan Da Dao, Nanshan District 凤山区南大道南头街62号 (en.damai.cn, 8320 8858)

Pavel Vernikov Recital

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Sat Jun 3, 8pm-late; RMB180-580. Shenzhen Concert Hall, 2016 Fuzhong Yi Lu, Futian District (400 610 3721)

Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra Concert

The orchestra has stood the test of time and is bringing world-class music to the Shenzhen side of the border to mark 20 years since Hong Kong returned to mainland China administration.

Sun May 28, 8pm; RMB80-580. Shenzhen Concert Hall. 2016 Fuzhong Yi Lu, Futian District (en.damai.cn, 400 610 3721)

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Sun May 28, 8pm; RMB80-580. Shenzhen Concert Hall. 2016 Fuzhong Yi Lu, Futian District (en.damai.cn, 400 610 3721)
**The Chicanos Revolution** Art show

The title of this show gives a hint to the rule-breaking and unexpected changes you will see in the most recent pieces of artist Ceet’s work. Moving away from his traditionally simple characters, his latest canvases will force viewers to seek out the ‘impressions’ of the chickens. Don’t miss this opportunity to witness the next generation of his art come to life. Reserve in advance by phone.

Sat May 13-Jun 13, open by reservation; free. Jardin Orange, B22, SoFun Land, 133 Tangxing Lu, Nanshan District 南山区塘兴路133号集悦城B区22栋 (8600 8690)

**Snow White Multimedia Show** Live action

Challenging traditional presentation, DT Theater has revived this classic work with new technology. This event offers a unique stage piece integrating spectacular visual effects, original music and excellent performances. Show is in both English and Chinese.

Sat May 20, 10:30am and 3:30pm; RMB100-960. Shenzhen Shekou Fenghua Theater, Cultural Square, Shekou, Congyuan Lu, Nanshan District 南山区蛇口公园路四海公海对面 (en.damai.cn, ponypiao@damai.cn)

**The Ugly Duckling** Play

Classic stories The Ugly Duckling and The Tortoise and the Hare are brought to life through electroluminescent puppetry at this stunning show, which also relies on moving sculpture and dance.

Sat May 27, 3pm and 7:30pm; RMB80-300. Longgang Culture Center, Longcheng Square, Longgang District 龙岗区龙城广场东侧 (en.damai.cn, ponypiao@damai.cn)

**Health and Wellness Fair** Fair

The fourth Shenzhen Health and Wellness Fair will bring classes, nutritious food and vendors of healthy goods and services to connect with those interested in a wholesome lifestyle. Attending will be speakers and vendors from Hong Kong, Macau and Zhuhai.

Sat May 6, 10am-4pm; free. Vista-SK International Medical Center, 4/F, Nanshan Software Industry Base, Xuefu Lu by Keyuan Lu, Nanshan District 南山区科园路软件产业基地4栋 C座4层 (en.damai.cn, ponypiao@damai.cn)

**10th Café Créa Crafts Market** Fair

This charity-focused fair will see crafts sold by creators big and small. Organized by the French association Shenzhen Bienvenue, this initiative groups high quality creators in a welcoming place where you can share a coffee.

Thu May 18, 9:30am-4:30pm. Maan Coffee, Zhongtai Arts Division, 4076 Dongbin Lu, Nanshan District 南山区蛇口东滨路4076号中泰艺术名庭一栋2楼 (www.shenzhenbienvenue.com, 8666 8168)

**Fight Camp at FuBar** Boxing

Project 0/1’s Fight Camp is now open to the public. Come to FuBar to enjoy a beer and burger after training with Xpat’s fighter Jake as he prepares for Shenzhen’s next White Collar Fight Night!

Mon May 22, 7pm; price TBD. FuBar Brewpub, 101-5 Haichang Lu, Shekou, Nanshan District 南山区蛇口海昌路101-5 (fitshike.com, 159 8949 4364)
American-style Medical Treatment
Shenzhen HarMoniCare Women’s & Children’s Hospital

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**HONG KONG & MACAU CALENDAR**

**MAY 8-11 MON-THU**

**HOFEX Tradeshow**, 10.30am-6.30pm (Mon-Wed), 10.30-5pm (Thu); free with registration. Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre (www.hofex.com). Celebrating its 30th anniversary, HOFEX, Asia's leading food and hospitality tradeshow, is set to take people from the food and hospitality industry as well as attendees from all kinds of fields on an extraordinary culinary journey. This tradeshow is bringing the world's most comprehensive selection of food and drink, hospitality equipment and supply products to Hong Kong.

**MAY 12-13 FRI-SAT**

**Tango With Piazzolla**, 8pm; HKD120-380. Hong Kong Cultural Centre (www.hkphil.org). Tango dancers performing Astor Piazzolla’s saucy new tango will join the Hong Kong Philharmonic. Considered the world’s foremost tango composer, his musical creations are infused with elements of jazz and modern classical music.

**MAY 18-31 MON-SUN**

**West Side Story**, 7.45pm (Tue-Fri), 2pm and 7.45pm (Sat), 1pm and 6pm (Sun); HKD455-1,195. Lyric Theatre (www.westsidestoryhk.com). Returning to Hong Kong for the first time in five years, this legendary musical is coming. An outstanding international cast will electrify audiences with their passionate high-energy dance routines and astounding vocal range in classic songs. It’s simply a masterpiece that should not be missed.

**MAY 19-21 FRI-SUN**

**Affordable Art Fair Hong Kong**, 12pm-9pm (Fri), 11am-7pm (Sat-Sun); HKD160. Hong Kong Exhibition Centre (affordableartfair.com). The fifth Affordable Art Fair Hong Kong will bring 320 local and international galleries together to offer artwork ranging from HKD1,000 to HKD100,000 for everyone from first-time buyers to long-term collectors to enjoy.

**MAY 26-28 FRI-SUN**

**Village People**, 8pm; MOP380/580. The Venetian Macao (www.venetian-macao.com). Celebrating its 40th anniversary, American disco group Village People is touring the world with their famous tunes, fabulous choreography and signature outfits modeled after Native American and cowboys to construction workers and bikers. Joining the group is Australian’s pop group Bjorn Again. The concert will be a night of nostalgia and great music of the ’70s.

**MAY 14 SUN**

**Creative Postcard Workshop**, 11am-4.30pm; free with registration. Macao Museum of Art (www.mam.gov.mo, 853-8791 9814). Cyanotype, invented in 1842 by British chemist and photographer John Herschel and popular in the 19th century, is a photo-developing technique that allows the transfer of an image onto paper or other mediums by utilizing sunlight to preserve the image. After being processed with cyanotype, exposed images appear bluish. In this workshop, participants will use the technique of cyanotype to craft their own postcards.

**MAY 24-27 WED-SAT**

**10th World Supermodel Production and International Fashion Week**, 7.30pm/8pm; MOP150-800. Macau Tower (www.macaucticket.com). With a business theme, the 10th World Supermodel Production and International Fashion Week, taking place at Macau Tower, will showcase the latest fashions and feature the world’s leading fashion designers. Top-level models will compete for the titles of World Supermodel and World Teen Supermodel.

**ALL MONTH TUE-SUN**

**Thriller Live**, 2pm/5pm/8pm; MOP180-280. The Parisian Theatre, The Parisian Macau (www.parisian-macao.com). This electrifying concert, organized as a tribute to the King of Pop, will feature a 90-minute, intensive explosion of rock, soul, pop and disco music. ‘Thriller Live’, produced by London’s West End, is celebrating its eighth year and has been applauded by audiences in over 30 countries.

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**JUN 3 SAT**

**Sting 57th and 9th Tour**, 8pm; HKD588-1,288. Hong Kong Convention & Exhibition Centre (www.hkconventioncity.com). An English musician, singer and songwriter, Sting is touring to promote his new album “57th and 9th.” Returning to Hong Kong for the first time in five years, this legendary figure will play old hits along with material from his new album.
Hilton Shenzhen Shekou Nanhai Laundry Attendant Wins ‘Light and Warmth’ Award

Bill Hao, a team member in the laundry department at the Hilton Shenzhen Shekou Nanhai, has been awarded the 2016 CEO Light and Warmth Award with a USD10,000 net cash bonus. On March 24, leaders from Hilton and the owning company came to Eden Garden to honor and celebrate Bill’s outstanding performance.

“To be able to meet Bill today and be part of the celebration of his achieving this amazing honor will be a special memory for me,” said SVP Operations GCM Bruce McKenzie. “You make every team member in greater China incredibly proud. I hope you enjoy the party.”

Bill Hao, who is profoundly deaf, joined the laundry section of the hotel’s Housekeeping Department in April 2015 and in 2016 he began training other deaf recruits.

Kempinski Hotel Shenzhen Celebrates Its 120th Anniversary

Kempinski Hotels celebrated 120 years of delivering rich and meaningful experiences to its guests with an ‘Ignite the Night’ series of festivities designed to enchant and delight guests. The anniversary celebration guest appreciation party was held at Kempinski Hotel Shenzhen as a symbolic nod to Kempinski Hotel’s heritage.

The event began with the European Food Festival Opening Ceremony, where the hotel’s professional culinary team presented a sumptuous authentic feast with a wide selection of European food.

After the food festival, guests were escorted to the lounge for the anniversary lighting ceremony cocktail party. A dance performance by the sales team was a highlight of the event.

Residence G Shenzhen Opens New Lifestyle Serviced Apartment and Hotel

Award-winning Asian hospitality group GCP Hospitality, renowned for its fashionable hotel brand Hotel G, launched Residence G Shenzhen with a soft opening March 25.

The property is complete with a two-floor dynamic community hub, the ‘G Club.’ Part restaurant, part community center, G Club is the first space of its kind in a hotel or residence in Shenzhen’s Nanshan District. Residence G Shenzhen will cater to the needs of business travelers as well as families looking for a modern hotel or fully equipped serviced apartment with an ideal location. The complex will host 178 stylish rooms and serviced apartments ranging from studios to three-bedroom residences.

The rooms and apartments feature modern European design, range from 32 to 174 square meters and combine functionality with high-tech style including complimentary high-speed Wi-Fi.

Venice Raytour Hotel Shenzhen Launches Digital Integrated Marketing

On April 18, The Venice Raytour Hotel Shenzhen ‘Service Butler’ WeChat officially launched. The ‘Service Butler’ optimizes the mobile service of the original WeChat functions. It enriches and perfects the online service system of The Venice Raytour Hotel Shenzhen and includes access to guests’ frequently used room service, in-room dining, concierge, reservations, customer satisfaction survey, leisure and transportation. Now guests have the ability to submit service needs at their fingertips.

Meanwhile, the WeChat micromart now features loaded packages for hotel restaurant outlets and hotel rooms, offering customers exclusive prices.

Kerry Hotel, Hong Kong Opens on April 28 in Hung Hom Bay

The new Kerry Hotel, Hong Kong is 16 stories tall and the first to open on the Kowloon waterfront since 1995. It will inspire lifestyle pursuits with its outdoor living spaces, distinctive dining options, business and meeting services as well as family activities. The fourth Hong Kong property of the luxury hotel group Shangri-La Hotels and Resorts is centrally located with 546 rooms and will be the city’s first urban resort.

Providing plenty of natural daylight, the hotel’s interior features multi-level podium space with extensive outdoor landscaped gardens that connect seamlessly to public areas.

A special introductory offer is running until July 31 that sees guests get a choice of a complimentary upgrade to the next room category or complimentary breakfast buffet for two, or 20 percent off the best available rate.

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Bill Hao, who is profoundly deaf, joined the laundry section of the hotel’s Housekeeping Department in April 2015 and in 2016 he began training other deaf recruits.
**FEATURED: CRAFT BEER BARS**

**TAPS Brewpub (Coco Park)**
- 132, 8/F, B Building, Shopping Park, Fuhua Lu, Futian District (2669 6587)

**Bionic Brew**
- A1-F10203, Shangye Building, Jie by Shehe Lu, Nanshan District (186 6587 4574)

**Foam Heaven**
- Shop 6B, 1/F, Shangye Buxing Jie, Baishizhou, Nanshan District (186 2229 1474)

**622 Beer Warehouse**
- Shop 6B, 1/F, Shangye Buxing Jie, Baishizhou, Nanshan District (186 2229 1474)

**The George & Dragon**
- The quintessential British pub; good draft beers, ales, stout, cider, hearty pub food with BBQ’s, screening non-stop sports, secluded beer garden. Your home away from home. www.george-dragon.com

**RESIDENCE**

- Savills Residence Dainin Shenzhen Bay, 1168 Houshan Road, Nanshan District, Shenzhen (2685 6688)
- Somerset Grandview Shenzhen, 1088 Wanghai Lu, Nanhai District (8255 7048)
- Foam Heaven, Shopping Park, Fuhua Yi Lu, by Zhongxin Er Lu, Nanshan District (2669 8564)
- The George & Dragon, Building 76, Shuiwei Wu Jie, Futian District (1300 2375 4717)

**FOOD & DRINK**

- **Phở Nam**
- **George & Dragon**
- **Bionic Brew**
- **Foam Heaven**
- **622 Beer Warehouse**

**SERVICED RESIDENCE**

- Savills Residence Dainin Shenzhen Bay, 1168 Houshan Road, Nanshan District, Shenzhen (2685 6688)
- Somerset Grandview Shenzhen, 1088 Wanghai Lu, Nanhai District (8255 7048)

**BUSINESS SERVICES**

- European Union Chamber of Commerce
- French Chamber of Commerce in South China (CCIQ)
- German Chamber of Commerce
- The American Chamber of Commerce in South China
- The British Chamber of Commerce, Shenzhen Sub-Chamber
- The British Chamber of Commerce, Shenzhen Sub-Chamber
- The American Chamber of Commerce in South China

**CLASSIFIEDS**

**JOBS OFFERED**

- Mobile Game company business development position
  - A NA 4x4 listed Shenzhen based mobile game company iDreamSky is looking for an expat for one business development position, native English speaker and fluent in Mandarin a must, well versed with mobile games or business negotiation experience a plus. Responsible for looking for Western games suitable for the Chinese market and contacting the game developers. Our office is located in Nanshan district, Shenzhen. If interested, please send resume to Evan at email: evan.liang@idreamsky.com

**MOVING & SHIPPING**

- AGS Four Winds is leading international moving company offers a full range relocation, moving, and storage services. Our global network of over 300 offices worldwide plus 40 years experience in the moving industry, we know your concerns and have the ability to serve you anywhere in the world.
  - We are FAIM & ISO 9001-2008 accredited, members of the FAIM and FIDI.
  - Contact us for FREE survey and quotation:
    - Tel: +86755 2665 6139 / +8620 8363 3735
    - Email: manager.guangzhou@agsfourwinds.com
  - Website: www.agsfourwinds.com

- Rayca Moving & Transportation Services
  - With 10 years experience, Rayca provides international, domestic, local moving services & pet relocation service. We can effectively move you anywhere at competitive prices! You move, you save!
  - Service hotline: 400-048-9099
  - Website: www.raycatrans.com
MINIKOR
Introduces Grilled Short Rib Steak

Minikor’s grilled short rib steak has crispy skin on the outside, with tender, juicy meat within. A delicate flavor, yet each bite goes down with a crunch, leaving your taste buds hopping with joy. The dish continues with a salad that complements the meat’s aftertaste perfectly.

L01-B01, Coco Park, 269 Fuhua San Lu, Futian District (0755 8277 7321)

NOVA CLUB
Innovative Club Hits Shenzhen Scene

Nova Club is a new entry in the nightlife scene that’s setting out to make its name with an ‘innovative’ electronic music sound and a lineup of world-class DJs.

117 Coco Park North, Mintian Lu, Futian District (0755 8277 7321)

MUINE
Introduces Vietnam Snack Platter

Muine’s Vietnam snack platter is a true tour of this culinary paradise. Spring rolls are an eternal favorite, but Muine has elevated them to a new level with fish sauce dip. Muine has also introduced beef and chicken lemongrass skewers, crabmeat balls and sugared shrimp.

L2-203, Coco Park, Fuhua San Lu, Futian District (0755 8271 2527)

BLUE ITALIAN RESTAURANT
Introduces Delicacy Sampler Deal

Enjoy seven classic, traditional dishes in one special set at Blue Italian Restaurant. Included are foie gras, Australian beef, Parma ham and tiramisu. Chef Nino coordinates the fully authentic dining experience, which costs RMB398 per person per set. Offer not valid on Mondays, Fridays and Saturdays.

3/F, The Venice Hotel, 9026 Shennan Lu, Nanshan District (0755 8277 7321)

We've got vouchers to give away. Each voucher is good for a roast pork dish or an egg and cheese kimbap. For a chance to win, please follow our official WeChat account ThatsShenzhen and tell us why you should win.

We've got vouchers worth RMB100 to give away. For a chance to win, please follow our official WeChat account ThatsShenzhen and tell us why you should win.

Hey ladies! We've got vouchers redeemable for free-flow cocktails for a whole night. To win, follow WeChat ThatsShenzhen and send a message telling us why you should win.

We've got a voucher for a weekday dinner buffet for two to give away. For a chance to win, please follow our official WeChat account ThatsShenzhen and tell us why you should win.

We've got vouchers to give away. Each voucher is good for a roast pork dish or an egg and cheese kimbap. For a chance to win, please follow our official WeChat account ThatsShenzhen and tell us why you should win.
URBAN MOMENTS

Do you have party pictures to contribute? Send them to us at editor.prd@urbanatomy.com and we’ll run the best.

Wiwek @ Dazzle Club, 14th April

AC Slater Night @ Club Sector, 20th April

Major Lazer @ Face Club, 9th April
May is a month of ups and downs for you. Maintain a sense of normalcy by establishing a routine. We suggest starting every day with congee and ending it with niurou fan. Speak only Cantonese under a full moon.

Pisces 2.20~3.20
You’re feeling creative this month, so carve out time to express yourself. Consider taking a painting class, or singing loudly in a public park. Do not ride the Shekou Line, or misfortune will befall you.

Capricorn 12.22~1.20
You’re going through a stressful, anxiety-ridden time. Try some TCM or cupping, or, well, just ask one of the old ladies who hangs out in your neighborhood courtyard - she’ll know what to do. Follow her advice and your troubles will go away by the 16th.

Virgo 8.24~9.23
You’re in a fighting mood this month. Haggle your rent down, ask for a raise, or challenge the Laoshenzhen in your apartment block to a ping-pong match. Wear purple on the 19th or your favorite snack stall will vanish.

Libra 9.24~10.23
You will accomplish whatever you set out to achieve this May - as long as you set really easy goals. Vow to read one chapter of a book, or to go on one run at Huanggang Park. Turn around three times before boarding Line 11.

Libra 9.24~10.23
You’ve been bad lately, and now it’s time to repent. Climb on top of a really tall thing - the Ping’an Center, for example - and look out over Shenzhen while thinking about your choices. Drink snake baijiu on the 4th and you will find love. Maybe.

Gemini 5.22~6.21
You’ve been searching, questioning, looking for answers. Perhaps you’ll find those answers in a book at left in the metro. Or maybe you won’t - we don’t actually know. Only enter subway stations from the south.

Leo 7.23~8.23
Your advice from the stars this month is toilet-specific: When using the bathroom anywhere in Longgang District, do not flush your toilet paper. How many times do we have to tell you to put it in the trash?

Scorpio 10.24~11.22
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Aries 3.21~4.20
Tell that special someone how you really feel with a romantic, smelly boat ride off Dapeng or a long walk past all your favorite CBD construction sites. Wear a face mask on the 15th for good luck.

Cancer 6.22~7.22
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Sagittarius 11.23~12.21
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Taurus 4.21~5.21
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Pediatrics Department International Children’s Day Promotions
1st May - 30 June

Well-Child Visit 0-6 yrs
Special Promo 198 RMB
Valued at 680 RMB
- Overall Physical Examination
- Vision Screening
- ASQ Evaluation for Growth, Nutrition and Development
- Pediatric Doctor Health Advice/Guidance and Vaccination Recommendations

Child Dental Package
Special Promo 228 RMB
Valued at 800 RMB
- Dental Examination
- Teeth Cleaning for Kids
- Full Mouth Fluoride Coating
- One Kids Toothbrush

Family Medicine
Pediatrics
Ob/Gyn

Dental Clinic
Psychiatry & Psychology
Chiropractic & Physio

Specialists
Pharmacy
Laboratory

Imaging
Outpatient Surgery
Health Check-ups

INSURANCE DIRECT BILLING

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VISTA-SK INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

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www.vista-sk.com
Lvl 4, Bldg 4C, Shenzhen Software Industry Base Xuefu Rd, Nanshan District SHENZHEN PRC.
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