

# BEIJING that's

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A collection of bizarre artifacts from the DPRK

**THE FINAL COUNTDOWN**  
Our pick of this year's 10 best Chinese albums

# 2017 China's Year in Review



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DECEMBER 2017

**ONE FOR THE BOOKS**  
The massive library that turned out to be fake

# EVERYTHING BEIJING EVERY. SINGLE. DAY.



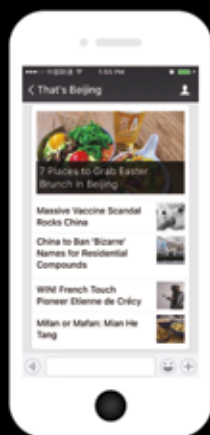
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My 2017 was a lot like Beijing's 2017. I moved into the hutongs. Shortly thereafter, the construction crews moved in too. I watched as they surrounded our home with scaffolding. I listened as they drilled through the walls (early) in the morning. And then one day, they were gone – and my little alleyway was changed forever.

This year threw a lot of bricks at us – I'm speaking literally and figuratively – and you can read about all them in this month's cover story, *2017: China's Year in Review*, which includes everything from a map of the year's bricked-up hutongs (p. 51) to a calendar of all that happened in Chinese hip-hop (p. 46). It was the best of times, it was the worst of times – it was another year in Beijing.

Say what you will about our turbulent city, but Beijing has always been a fantastic place to meet the writers and intellectuals leading conversations on East Asia. Flip to our City section (p. 6) for Nicholas Bonner's guide to the DPRK artifacts in his new book *Made in North Korea*, followed by a fascinating interview with journalist Lenora Chu about her book *Little Soldiers: An American Boy, A Chinese School and the Global Race to Achieve*.

Elsewhere in the magazine, Justine Lopez takes us off the beaten path in Bali (p. 24), Erica Martin picks the best Chinese albums of the year (p. 32) and Dominique Wong explores the city's best new bars and restaurants (p. 59).

Happy Holidays,



Noelle Mateer  
Editor-in-Chief

We're giving away tickets to some of the very best Beijing parties, openings, shows and talks all month, alongside free meals, drinks, discounts and prizes. All you have to do is scan the QR code below, follow us on WeChat and keep an eye out for your chance to win. You'll get some other great stuff on your phone too.



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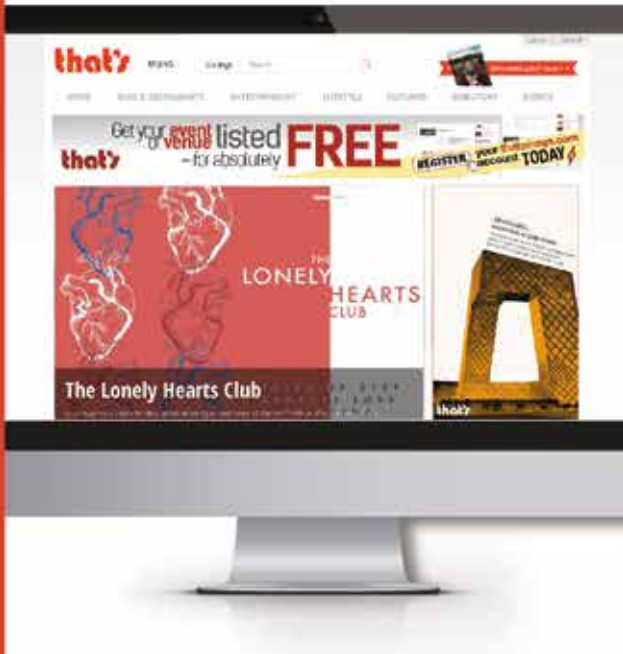
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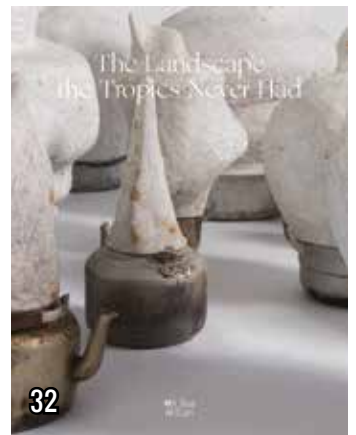
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A look at the dizzying highs and spectacular fails that made 2017



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# WILL BLUEGOGO'S DOWNFALL CHANGE THE FUTURE OF SHARED BIKES IN CHINA?

by Justine Lopez



Beijing-based bicycle-sharing company Bluegogo has announced its imminent bankruptcy. The news was followed by shock and anger from users of the blue bikes, who were suddenly unable to retrieve their deposits. Thus an important question in China's bike-sharing boom was raised: how can these companies repay their customers?

As the third-largest bike-sharing company in China, Bluegogo was once worth RMB925 million (USD140 million) and had a fleet of 600,000 bikes. The service reportedly had anywhere from 11 to 20 million users, each of whom was required to put down a RMB99 deposit to register.

But after just one year in operation, Bluegogo now reportedly owes more than RMB200 million to employees and technicians, as well as an additional, unknown sum of users' deposit money.

Although the bike-sharing service had been experiencing financial issues since June, news broke on November 15, when numerous media outlets reported that Bluegogo was not only facing bankruptcy but that its CEO, Li Gang, had been missing in action for months and employees had stopped being paid.

On November 16, Li published an open letter in which he apologized for the company's actions and announced that Bluegogo had been handed over to Sichuan-

based Biker. In the letter, Li promised to pay employees "as soon as possible" and refund user deposits once "technical integration" is completed.

Bluegogo isn't the first shared bike company to abruptly shut down for financial reasons – though it is certainly one of the biggest. Among this year's bike-sharing casualties are Chongqing-based Wukong, Beijing-based companies 3vBike and Coolqi, and most recently, Wuhan's government-backed bike-rental service.

The trend has forced authorities to address the issue of consumer protection regarding bike sharing in China. In August, new regulations were issued requiring companies to place deposits in separate bank accounts, presumably so they don't (mis)use the money.

According to Tech in Asia, Ofo stores all client deposits in CITIC Bank, and Mobike puts deposits in a separate account at China Merchants Bank. However, many shared bike companies only partially implement this strategy, and some ignore it altogether.

No one knows how Bluegogo handled deposits. But the fact that the deposits are not immediately being refunded is cause for concern. According to China Plus, the vice-CEO of Bluegogo was quoted in February as saying the company did use some deposit

money for business operations.

Coolqi is another failed shared bike company that was suspected of questionable financial practices. Once the third largest of its kind in China, with 1.5 million users and 1.4 million bikes, the company came under intense scrutiny after their CEO was dismissed in September. Like Bluegogo, the company suddenly ceased refunding its hefty RMB298-per-person deposits.

On November 20, Coolqi made the controversial announcement that it would no longer issue deposit refunds in Beijing. Instead, all users must physically turn up at the company's offices in Chengdu to retrieve their money.

The Ministry of Transport and authorities from the People's Bank of China and the National Reform and Development Commission met last month to discuss bike-sharing deposits. Though whether stricter rules and regulations will be put in place as a result is yet to be seen.

# MADE IN

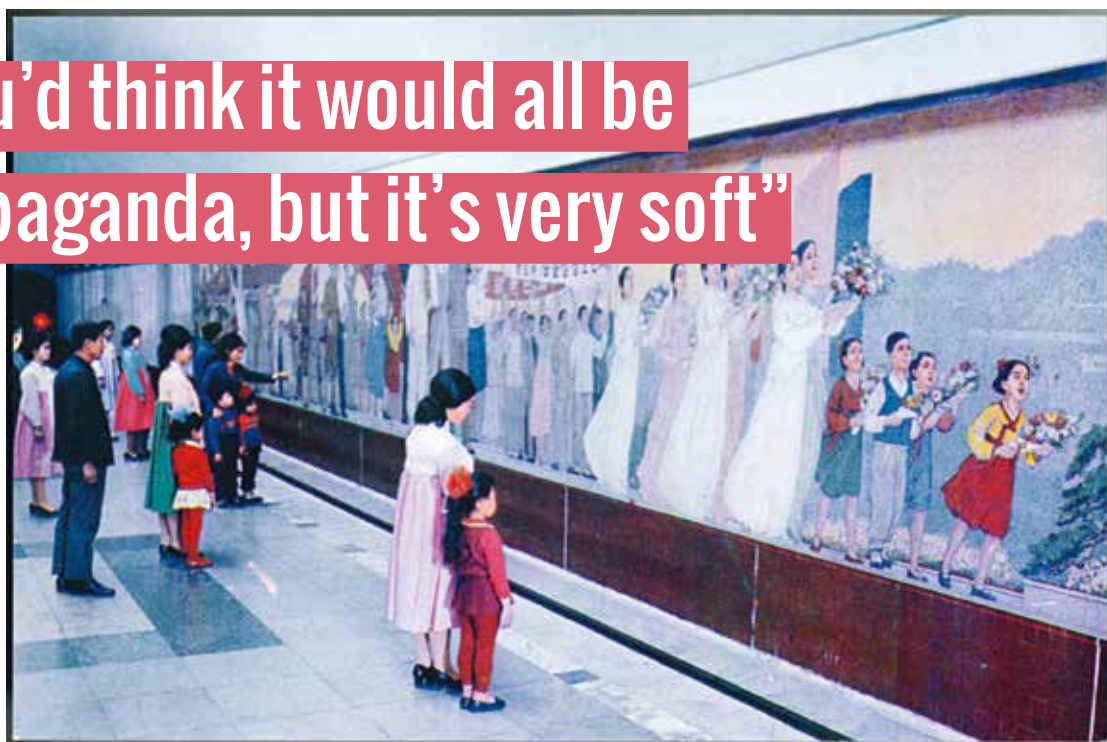
# NORTH KOREA

Nicholas Bonner has published a beautiful book of knick-knacks.

But these aren't just any candy wrappers and postcards. They're ephemera from the Hermit Kingdom itself, collected by Bonner over years of traveling to North Korea with his company, the Beijing-based Koryo Tours.

Bonner sits down with **Noelle Mateer** to talk DPRK design, then guides us through his new book, *Made in North Korea: Graphics From Everyday Life in The DPRK*.

**“You’d think it would all be propaganda, but it’s very soft”**



**That's Beijing: How did this collection start?**

**Nicholas Bonner:** I used to be a countryside ranger in the UK, and every year, I'd take kids outside. As soon as we'd finish walking around, I'd ask them to turn out their pockets, and they'd have all this *stuff*. I think it's an innate thing, as human beings, to collect things.

Because I'm trained as a landscape architect and I used to teach design, I immediately notice something that's different. I've been going to North Korea since '93, and I'm drawn to graphics, so I collect them. The great thing my friend [*Midnight in Peking* author] Paul French said is that it's the best use of a load of rubbish under someone's bed turned into a book ever [*laughs*].

Now it's a carefully curated collection. But basically it was by coincidence. I had all these boxes, and always said I should do something with them. [Co-writer Simon Cockerell and I] are the two people who have visited North Korea the most in the world...

**Really?**

Oh yeah, yeah, yeah. No doubt. No one else has been going in and out every month for the last 25 years! And Simon's been doing it since the early 2000s.

**So, where did you find these things? And were people OK with you taking them?**

Sometimes gift shops – quite a high percentage of this is for tourists – then some other shops as well. In North Korea you're with two guides at all times, but we've known ours for years. When we ask if we can go in a shop and

have a look, they understand.

It's not illegal to collect graphics. It's just that North Korean tour guides don't like things being taken that they think is going to show their country in a bad light. Once you explain to them the value of a graphic and how beautiful it is, they may not quite understand, but then you get your, "OK then, off you go."

**You collected throughout the '90s, then stopped in 2002. Why that time period?**

I started collecting in 1993, but some of this is from earlier. There would be piles of postcards from the '60s and '70s, because there had been no tourists. Or there would be goods like chocolate boxes that hadn't been sold, that were past the sell-by date, but I'd keep them anyway.

I stopped around 2002, when there was an economic change in North Korea. It was their first steps towards some sort of market reform, and it coincided with new products coming in from China and the rest of the world. Before then, it was all hand-drawn and hand-designed, no Photoshop.

When things are collected during a certain period of time, it becomes a study of North Korea in its own right, almost like an ethnographic study, because each piece is quite loaded. There's a lot of information in it.

**How would you describe the aesthetic of these items?**

Their use of color is very rich. Those pinks, yellows and blues that you see on Korean traditional dresses – those are Korean colors, and that's historic. There are traditional mo-

tifs and colors mixed in with socialist realism, so it's not as cold you'd expect.

Also, at that time in North Korea, there really wasn't competition. There were different brands – for cigarettes, for example – but it wasn't competition. So [product design] was linked to history and identity instead.

**What do people find most surprising about North Korean design?**

You'd think it would all be propaganda, but it's very soft. It shows a side of Korea that we [at Koryo Tours] know, because we're always going in and out, but that surprises other people.

Sometimes the big surprise is it's so... banal. That banality links you to normal life in North Korea.

**How have people responded to the book? Have you shown it to North Koreans?**

In North Korea, they find it bizarre. When you get a North Korean looking at it, they just go, "Oh I remember that as a kid." So it's great to show it to North Koreans, because they just laugh.

**How would items made today look different?**

Same as in the West, or as in China. It's all become homogenized, globalized – and it's very modern. The shops are full of shiny things. A book of that is not quite as interesting.

Turn the page for Nicholas Bonner's descriptions of items within his book ▶

# LIFE & STYLE

## FACT OR FICTION

The beautiful Tianjin library full of fake books, p22



New Openings  
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A Trip to Bali  
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Knitwear  
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# NANCY TONG

## Founder, Sister Hulu

interview by Noelle Mateer, images by Oscar Holland

Nancy Tong goes by Sister Hulu (*Hulu Mei*). A play on a 1980s Chinese cartoon about a talking *hulu* (or bottle gourd), the name is both fun and entirely appropriate – Tong transforms the traditional Chinese gourds into humorous, memorable characters with paint. We caught up with Tong ahead of Christmas market season. Are these the perfect Christmas gift? *You* decide.

### What inspired you to begin working with *hulu*?

Around four years ago, I was walking by a house with a bunch of *hulus* growing out front, when a man from inside came out and asked me ‘Do you like my *hulus*?’ He showed me a huge collection, many of which he had carved into buddhas, religious symbols, characters and the like. You see these *hulus* all the time, inside homes and taxis, and no one eats them – they’re just there. I became interested in how people use them as a medium.

### Can you tell us about the process of making these?

Yeah, I mean, I’m kinda sitting in my room alone with all these gourds [*laughs*]. But I start by buying them from a local lady, a vendor. The *hulu* I buy are in the ‘bargain’ box of deformed and undesirable ones. The expensive ones are very symmetrical – sometimes people even shape their *hulu* with molds – but I actually try to go for the more deformed ones.

### Does the shop owner know what you’re doing with them?

She knows I paint them. We’re WeChat friends, and she gives me the thumbs up emoji sometimes.

### How many do you think you’ve made at this point?

Probably over a hundred. There is a huge growing demand for these things – when I



left [Beijing three years ago, before returning in 2016], there would maybe be a Christmas market every year, but now there are so many of these markets popping up every weekend.

### What’s the reaction to your *hulu* been like?

Most of my customers are actually young Chinese people, which I’m really excited about. It shows people are still interested in their local culture. I think a lot of young Chinese look outwards for their dose of culture, so seeing locals take to my *hulu* is cool.

### We love your Instagram account. @beijingquilts, where you post photos of quilts hanging up in the hutongs. What’s the story behind it?

I take pictures of older quilts I see in the hutongs [because] I like the idea of a now-older person receiving a quilt when they got married and keeping it for years. Many older

people have these items from their youth that they don’t ever think about replacing. People today will get married and simply go shopping afterwards to stock up on utilities. It seems like hand-making something, as a ritual, is totally gone.

### Do you have any more projects planned for the future?

I’m collecting used and unwanted textiles for a quilting project.

I’ve been wanting to do a community project for a while now, and I’d like to get people together to discuss the meaning behind this – the disposable products and the rapid pace of replacement that our society pushes us towards. I want others to think before they throw something away.

Check out Tong’s *hulu* at: The Beijing Flea Market, Sat Dec 9, noon-6pm, Pop-Up Beijing (see [thatsmags.com/beijing](http://thatsmags.com/beijing) for details). Follow Tong’s projects on Instagram at @beijingquilts and @sisterhulu.

# STYLE RADAR

## UNDER THE LENS

### Rap it Up

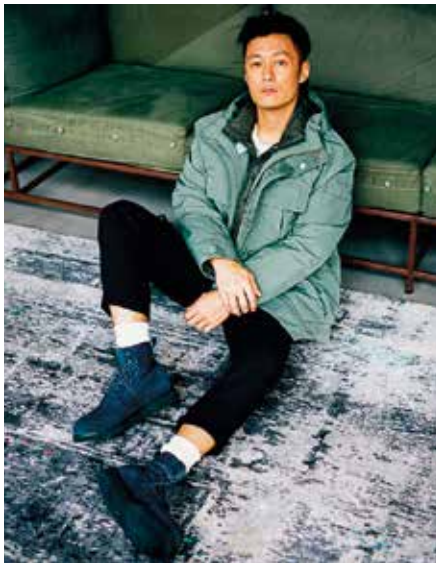
Now that hip-hop has entered the Chinese mainstream (thanks to *The Rap of China*), adidas has begun collaborating with Chinese rappers to boost the brand's street cred. After collaborating on Higher Brothers' music video for 'Nomadic' over the summer, adidas dropped a second music video called 'Swag It Out,' featuring young hip-hop talents Al Rocco, Angel Mo, PQ, M80, DoubleX2, Rigel Davis & Fader One.

[https://v.qq.com/x/page/r0506kxeure.html?ptag=iqiyi\\_mv](https://v.qq.com/x/page/r0506kxeure.html?ptag=iqiyi_mv)



## COVET

### Suede Madness



Hong Kong actor Shawn Yue's streetwear label MADNESS has already worked with international brands like A Bathing Ape, VANS and Carhartt over the years. His latest collaboration, with Timberland, which debuted in late November, features the 'Type-MD01,' a pair of dark navy boots made with weather-resistant suede. Available on the MADNESS online store and at their Beijing shop.

[www.mdhsonline.com](http://www.mdhsonline.com)



## OVERHEARD

*"She's just a wanghong [Internet famous], not a real model anyway"*



...comments one netizen on Weibo after it was announced that Gigi Hadid would no longer take part in the 2017 Victoria's Secret Fashion Show in Shanghai. Ever since Hadid announced in September that she'd be one of the Angels at the show, Chinese social media users had been petitioning for the 22-year-old star's removal from the lineup – earlier this year, she posted a controversial video mocking Asian people on her Instagram account. Another angry commenter writes: "She doesn't even have a proper runway walk, maybe it's for the best that she's not coming." While four other Angels were denied visas to China, Hadid gave no official reason for canceling her attendance.



## All Dressed Up

While some say Melania's dress was a good use of fashion as diplomacy, others disagree. "Westerners tend to think Chinese style should be loud," said Hong Kong designer William Tang on Melania Trump's outfit during her visit to Beijing last month. The US First Lady wore a black qipao-inspired dress with flowers, phoenix embroidery and pink fur sleeves – which was "over-embroidered" for Tang's taste.

## SCENE&HEARD



### HONOR 23

Does Beijing need more fancy sneaker shops? No. Do people even go to fancy sneaker shops in the Internet age? Apparently. But even if Honor 23's concept is unoriginal, its execution is ace – gold shelving and floor-to-ceiling mirrors bring the swag, and a dark, sleek entranceway makes us feel like we're entering a speakeasy (for Jordans). It should also be noted that they're selling an incredibly lifelike statuette of Dennis Rodman for RMB1,800 (and ones of other players who *aren't* friends with Kim Jong Il for the same price). Overall, Honor 23 adds a tiny dose of cool to Taikoo Li – and if you don't know why '23' is the chosen number, then what are you doing here?

Daily, 10am-10pm; 2/F Taikoo Li South, 19 Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯北路19号三里屯太古里南区2/F



### REHOME

The CBD is for closet hipsters: professionals who crave the #vanlife, if only they didn't have to work weekends. Replace 'van' with 'bicycle' and you have ReHome, a cafe-cum-bicycle-and-homeware store. Here you will find bikes, bike accessories and bike magazines, as well as non-bicycle goods, like T-shirts and gardening tools. Brands are mostly Japanese, and include Standard Supply and Fil Melange. Whether the shop is worth wandering around Jianwai SOHO for, simply ask yourself: Do I need a detachable coffee cup holder for my bicycle? Do I enjoy handmade cashew drinks in light-filled rooms with minimalist decor? If the answer is 'yes,' welcome to ReHome.

Mon-Fri, 9am-7pm, Sat-Sun, 10am-8pm; 1501 Jianwai SOHO West, Chaoyang 朝阳区建外SOHO西15号1501



# EYE OF THE STORM

The Controversy Behind a Futuristic Library in Tianjin

words by Dominique Wong, images by Ossip van Duivenbode

**Project name**  
Tianjin Binhai Library

**Location**  
Binhai, Tianjin

**Building area**  
33,700sqm

**Designer**  
MVRDV

**The brief**  
Tianjin Urban Planning and Design Institute commissioned design firm MVRDV to create a modern structure that would be part of a master plan to create a new cultural district for the city of Tianjin. Located in Binhai New Area, east of urban Tianjin, the five-level library is comprised of reading areas, an auditorium, meeting rooms, offices, computer and audio rooms and two rooftop patios. Upon opening, the library's striking design – a central sphere surrounded by walls of terraced bookshelves – received universal praise on the Internet. However, on closer inspection, it turns out there's less to the building than meets the eye – most of the books, it turns out, are fake.

▲ A giant sphere in the middle of the atrium anchors the space and functions as an auditorium.







▲ The floor-to-ceiling 'bookshelves' include cutout areas such as meeting rooms. However, due to the building's tight construction schedule – it took three years from first sketch to opening – MVRDV's original idea of upper bookshelf access, through rooms placed behind the atrium, was made impossible. The design firm remains hopeful their vision may yet be realized. In the meantime, printed aluminum plates that *look* like books occupy the shelves instead. Hardly a "book-lover's dream," as the media initially called it.



◀ Visitors peruse books along terraced steps wrapped around the interior. Since the library's opening, most of the real books on display have been moved to traditional reading rooms behind the atrium walls. The choice was a bureaucratic one, according to the library's deputy director, Liu Xiufeng. "We can only use the hall for the purposes for which it has been approved, so we cannot use it as a place to put books," the director told Yahoo. Library spokesperson Zhou Shuting said it was a decision made by local authorities, rather than design firm MVRDV.

▶ From the outside, the building looks like an eye, with its oval opening and spherical 'iris.'



# THE GREAT ESCAPE

## A Travel Blogger's Guide to Off-the-Beaten-Path Bali (Just in Time For Winter)

words and images by Justine Lopez

I'll be honest: When I first visited Bali in 2014, I wasn't all that impressed. Like most tourists, I followed the well-trodden path: I sipped Bintang in party-centric Kuta Beach, shopped in the malls of ritzy Seminyak and got my *Eat Pray Love* on in Ubud. And while I could see the appeal of these places, they simply weren't my style. I wanted more nature, more adventure, more authenticity.

But something kept drawing me back. In the past four years I've visited the island six times, spent a total of seven months there, and thoroughly explored 10 different areas of Indonesia's most popular island – all the while writing about it on my travel blog, Travel Lush.

Bali is the perfect getaway from smoggy Beijing, and as it turns out, it is entirely possible to escape the hordes of tourists.

Here are a few of my favorite, less-visited areas of the island.



## NUSA PENIDA

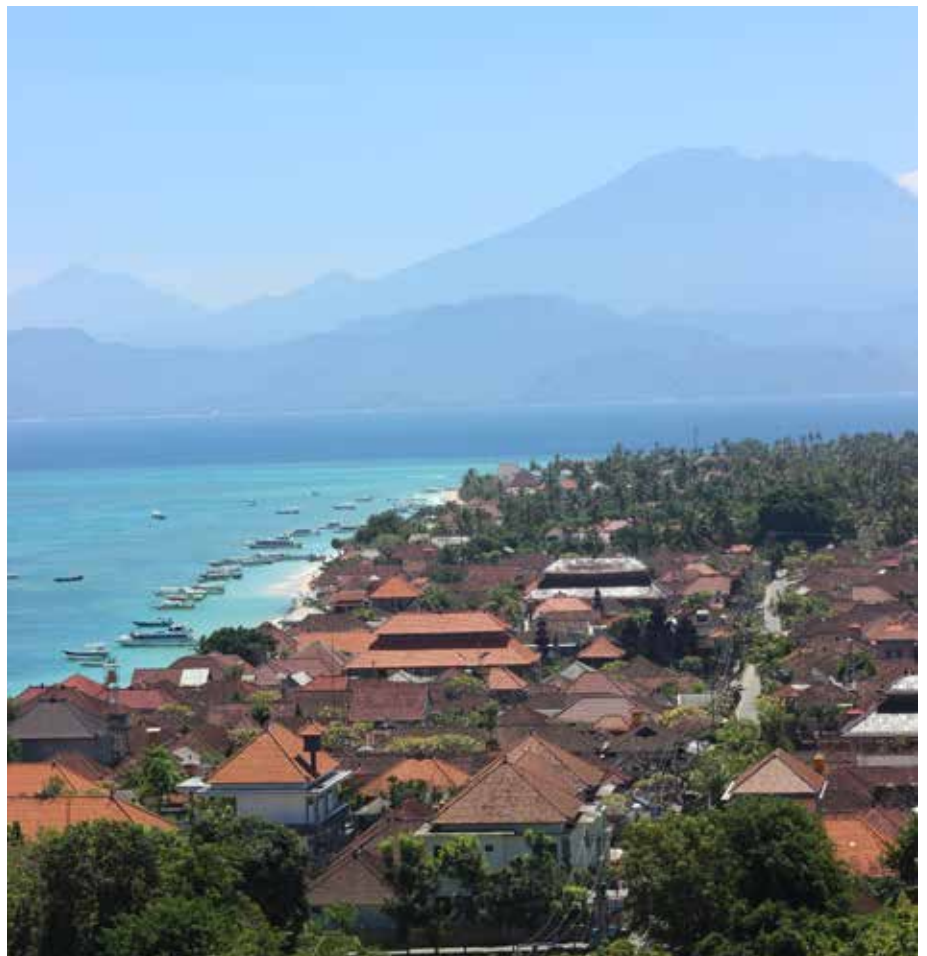
**Location:** Off the coast of Southern Bali.

**Who's going:** Nature lovers, divers, adventure seekers.

**Why:** Hidden beaches and waterfalls, stunning vistas and cliffs, excellent diving and snorkeling.

Nusa Penida is a blissfully undeveloped island a 30-minute boat ride from Sanur, one of Bali's biggest resort towns. Despite being close to Bali's tourist-clogged beaches, Nusa Penida is surprisingly chill. If you ask me, this is Bali's best kept secret, though the word is trickling out. The island is roughly 200sqm, so rent a motorbike (there are no taxis here). Scooting around the island is half the fun of traveling to Nusa Penida, but it's not always easy. The roads are crude, and you will inevitably get lost. But those who do take the plunge will be rewarded with the turquoise waters of Atuh Beach, the stunning natural landscapes of Broken Beach and Angel's Billabong, the natural pools at Temeling Waterfall, and the world-class diving and snorkeling at Crystal Bay. And the best part is you'll likely only see a handful of other tourists the entire time.

**Pro tip:** Know how to ride a scooter. The roads are rough and accidents are common.



## AMED

**Location:** On the coast of Northeast Bali.

**Who's going:** Divers, snorkelers, French families.

**Why:** Volcano views, epic offshore snorkeling, WWII shipwreck sites.

Tourist infrastructure has only cropped up in the last two decades in Amed, but it is definitely on its way. While the area is dotted with resorts, guesthouses and seafood restaurants, the vibe is still incredibly relaxed compared to Bali's better-known beach towns. Amed proper consists of a handful of tiny fishing villages that extend along 14km of stunning coastline. Drive up the coast and you'll see black sand bays, countless fishing boats and unreal vistas thanks to Mount Agung, Bali's largest volcano. Veer inland and you'll spot the greenest of rice terraces framed by mountains that reach so high they're ringed by clouds. The perfect day in Amed consists of snorkeling right offshore at Jemeluk or Lipah Bay, lounging on one of the many black sand beaches and watching the sun sink behind Mount Agung at Sunset Point.

**Pro tip:** Rent a motorbike and take a drive inland. Most tourists just stick to the coast, but the mountainous terrain and hillside rice terraces make for some of the most stunning scenery in all of Bali.



## BUKIT PENINSULA

**Location:** Southern Bali.

**Who's going:** Surfers, beach bums, adventure seekers.

**Why:** World-class surf spots, abandoned beaches, Hindu temples.

Most tourists that head to the Bukit Peninsula make a beeline for Uluwatu Temple, an 11th-century temple perched on a cliff 70 meters above the water. While I highly suggest it, the Bukit Peninsula is also home to some of the best coastline in Bali, which is too often overlooked. The peninsula has incredible surfing spots at Suluban, Balangan and Padang-Padang to name a few. There are also picturesque and near-deserted beaches that are well worth hiking to, including Green Bowl and Nyang Nyang. Anyone looking for something a bit offbeat should take a ride to Melasti Beach. It boasts otherworldly manmade rock formations and breathtaking views of the ocean. An added perk is that barely anyone makes the effort to go here. So you'll likely have the place to yourself.

**Pro tip:** Monkeys abound on the Bukit Peninsula, so watch where you leave your stuff.

## CANGGU

**Location:** Southern Bali (10km east of Seminyak).

**Who's going:** Surfers, digital nomads and a lot of hipsters.

**Why:** Great surf spots for all levels, Hindu temples, street art, restaurants and cafes.

If Balinese cities had a superlative contest, Canggu would be voted the coolest kid in school. Yes, Canggu is touristy and popular, but it is also a more mellow alternative than Seminyak and Kuta. Canggu is known for its numerous surf spots, long stretches of beaches, green rice paddies and up-and-coming street art scene. Canggu is also becoming one of the top destinations for digital nomads in Southeast Asia. Hence the emergence of ultra-hip coffee shops, organic and vegan-friendly cafes and dreamy (and affordable) villas. It's no wonder that so many people come to Canggu and decide to just stay and set up shop. It's Bali's next big thing, but for now, it's refreshingly laid back.

**Pro tip:** Canggu has an impressive street art scene and the epicenter of it is at AllCaps Store.





45R, RMB5,330  
45rpm.jp



H&M, RMB899  
hm.com



Burberry, RMB7,300  
burberry.cn



Beams, RMB1,450  
beams.co.jp



Zara, RMB359  
zara.cn

FOR HIM

# KNIT PICKING

Stay Warm and Stylish  
Through Beijing's  
Coldest Months

compiled by Dominic Ngai



45R, RMB4,500  
45rpm.jp



Zara, RMB499  
zara.cn



Burberry, RMB10,500  
burberry.cn

FOR HER

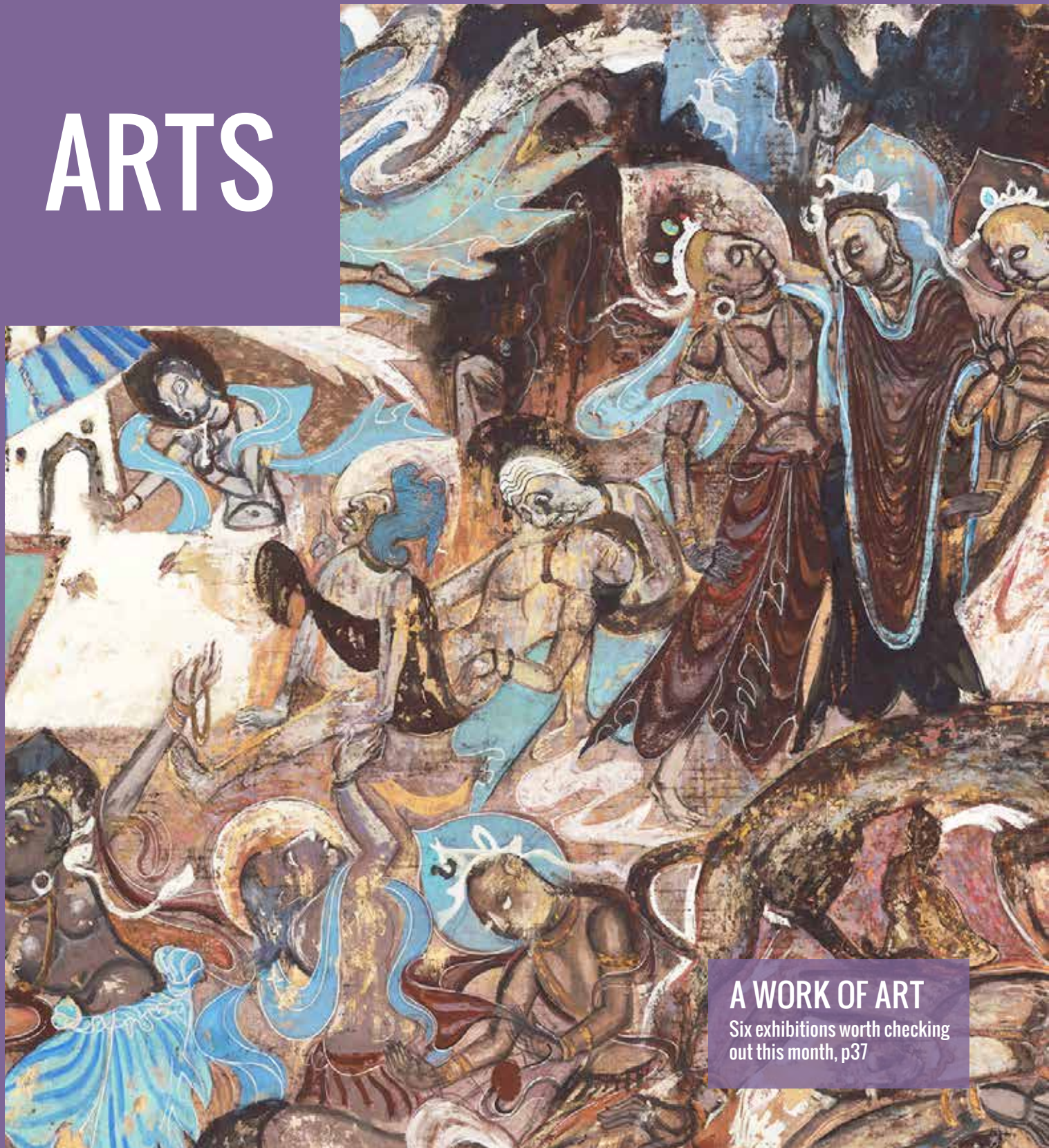


Beams, RMB540  
beams.co.jp



H&M, RMB799  
hm.com

# ARTS



## A WORK OF ART

Six exhibitions worth checking out this month, p37



Albums of the Year  
p32



Bombino  
p34



Wang Feng  
p36

# NAZEEM HUSSAIN

## The Australian Comic and Activist on his China Debut

interview by Erica Martin



One of Australia's leading comedians, Nazeem Hussain created and stars in *Legally Brown*, a bold and hilarious mix of sketch comedy, hidden camera work and stand-up that satirizes the experience of being Muslim in Australia. He also tours his sharp and socially aware stand-up across the globe, and recently became a correspondent on *Bill Nye Saves the World*. We caught up with the comic before his China debut to find out what to expect.

### What was it like working with Bill Nye?

Being cast on *Bill Nye Saves the World* happened out of nowhere. It was a total surprise. I was on tour in the UK, and towards the end of that trip, I was getting ready to go to Spain for a holiday with my wife – and all of a sudden Bill Nye's people got in touch, and we had a couple of quick phone interviews. They'd watched all of my stuff online, and a week later they sent a 13-person film crew to film with me in Northern England.

I've always been a fan of Bill Nye – so getting to meet him, let alone work alongside him, has been a total trip out!

### How is writing and performing for TV different than stand-up?

Writing for TV is a lot more formulaic than writing for stand-up. Stand-up is a conversation between you and an audience, so you don't want to make it sound like you've memorized some script. Having said that, a

lot of the time I'll have a punch line or two memorized, and I'll figure out how to get there on stage.

### Why is it important to you to connect the personal and political in your comedy?

Politics is personal, for me anyway. I feel I have grown politically, or resonated with a political ideology, when it is personalized or comes from someone's lived experiences.

I think if I want to make a political point or joke to an audience, it's more interesting for the audience if I can explain how it directly relates to me, or someone I know, so that we're not disconnecting the ideas from lived realities.

### How and when did you realize that you wanted to focus on comedy full-time?

I was working in tax at a large professional services firm, and juggling comedy on the side. I'd frequently leave my jacket on my seat and run to the ABC [Australian Broadcasting Corporation] down the road to do an interview or a photoshoot. During the Melbourne Comedy Festival, I'd leave work in my suit, run down to Melbourne Town Hall and change backstage in to a T-shirt and jeans. I was a Batman of comedy of sorts.

The decision to leave full-time employment was made for me when *Legally Brown* was commissioned on SBS. I decided to just quit and fully commit. It was nerve-wracking,

not knowing if I'd survive being a full-time performer, but thankfully, things have been good so far.

### What's the most difficult part about doing social experiments and hidden camera work on *Legally Brown*?

Staying in character is actually the hardest thing for me. I'd find most things hilarious, and would have to disguise my laugh with a loud cough or a weird sneeze. Having my director in my ear laughing too didn't help. A lot of the time, the director was also telling me to step back or run if things started to look dangerous, so that was helpful, too!

### What are you looking forward to about performing in China?

I've never been to mainland China, and I've always wanted to go. I'm super excited about being there – doing comedy makes this trip ten times more exciting. I've heard great things about the stand-up scene in China, so I'm really looking forward to the shows. I've done shows in Sri Lanka, Singapore, Malaysia and Hong Kong – and audiences in Asia are really appreciative and savvy with their comedy.

Sun Dec 10, 9pm; RMB150 (advance), RMB180 (door); The Bookworm (see Listings for details)

# COLLAGE

COMING SOON



## Darkest Hour

Gary Oldman stars as Winston Churchill in this WWII-era biopic. The film centers on Churchill's early days as Prime Minister, chronicling several major decisions he made early in his fight against Nazi Germany, but also focuses on his personal life, and his relationship with his wife. While reviews of the film have been mixed, Oldman has earned universal acclaim for his depiction of Churchill, with some critics going so far as to name him a frontrunner for the Best Actor award at this year's Oscars.



## 47 Meters Down

This aquatic horror film tells the true story of two American women vacationing in Mexico who must battle for survival after a diving exhibition goes horribly wrong. The two women, played by Mandy Moore and Claire Holt, are viewing sharks underwater in a diving cage when the cage's rope supports snap, dropping them 47 meters to the ocean floor among man-eating sharks. Tense scenes of heavy breathing in oxygen masks and shark chase sequences ensue. *47 Meters Down* received mixed reviews, but it is currently the highest-grossing American indie film of 2017.

TRANSCRIBED

“Life rushes forward like a carnival, which makes me deeply worried”

Novelist Mo Yan, in a talk that fell on Singles' Day, speaks about modern China, saying that technology offers him “no sense of achievement,” and that he only learns “one-fifth of the functions of a phone” before the next one comes out. The novelist, famed for his fantastical, allegorical novels set in the Shandong countryside, became the first Mainland writer to win the Nobel Prize in Literature in 2012. Mo Yan's pen name translates to ‘don't speak’ and his most recent novel was 2009's *Frog*.



## Hao

At their Firestone Literary Awards ceremony last month, the Tianjin Writers Association unveiled a snarky commentary on plagiarism with their inaugural ‘White Lotus Award.’ Named for an Internet slang term for an insidious person who feigns innocence when confronted, the pseudo-prize was given to a novel-turned-TV show called *The Princess Weiyoung*, which is considered one of Chinese literature's most glaring examples of plagiarism. The audience burst into laughter when the Association announced the award, and the RMB9,999 cash prize was donated to charity.



## Bu Hao

WeChat platform Yiqi Paidianying recently released their ranking of the 100 highest-paid actors in China, a list that highlights the gender disparity in salaries for China's biggest stars. The top of the list includes expected names like Jackie Chan, Chow Yun-fat and Andy Lau (Nos. 1-3). The highest-ranking actress is *Tiny Times* star Yang Mi at No. 14. Despite being some of the most famous faces on the Mainland and beyond, female megastars Angelababy and Zhang Ziyi landed at No. 30 and No. 34, respectively.





# THE PLAYLIST

**'You Are The One' (2012)**

A Place to Bury Strangers

This goth-punk track is spliced with disconcerting noise, insistent drumming and a finale that sounds like glass-bending.

**'Change' (2015)**

Louisahhh

Over a sparse yet layered electronic soundscape, the Paris-based DJ says she's trying to 'ch-ch-ch-change,' to which we reply: please, don't.

**'Roots' (2012)**

Héctor Oaks

Booming drums and accordion noises on loop - it's techno-heavy, and we mean *heavy*, but, damn, it sounds good.

**'The End of Summer' (2011)**

Amber

The highs, lows and nostalgic yearnings of the last days of summer are distilled into blissed-out post-rock.

**'Uh' (2009)**

Fujiya & Miyagi

A funk-pop track with a bassline that'll have you sliding onto the dance floor, or re-watching the show it was memorably featured on - *Breaking Bad*.

**'Will He' (2017)**

Joji

YouTube personality 'Filthy Frank,' called Joji, is a serious musician now. Here, the musician combines low-tempo piano and R&B.

Our favorite tracks from artists playing in Beijing this month. For full nightlife and gig listings, visit [www.thatsmags.com](http://www.thatsmags.com)

**GIG POSTER OF THE MONTH**

Celebrate the most festive holiday of the year at Mogu Xmas. The event will feature as many different genres of artists as the types of mushrooms you see on the gig poster.

Sun Dec 24, 8.30pm; RMB55; Mogospace, 66 Jiaoda Donglu, Haidian 海淀区交大东路66号 (6224 9830)

蘑菇空间  
MOSU SPACE

蘑菇空间圣诞不插电音乐会  
12.24 MUGUSPACE  
MOGUXMAS

海淀区交大东路66号 电话 62249830 暨美超市往里50米

# THE FINAL COUNTDOWN

The Best Chinese Albums of 2017

by Erica Martin

# 1.

## Re-Tros - *Before the Applause*

The first album in eight years from this Beijing-via-Nanjing trio is well worth the wait. Frontman and guitarist Hua Dong told *That's* in April that the then-upcoming album would feature a "remodeled" sound, and the result is a riveting collection of exploratory songs. The album's lynchpin is its second track 'Hailing Drums,' a 9-minute monster that's accurately named thanks to its hailstorm of percussion. The band takes a lot of risks throughout (one track consists entirely of clapping and a cappella vocals), with sounds that span punk, synthpop and techno.



# 2.

## Chui Wan - *The Landscape the Tropics Never Had*

The third album from this psych-rock quartet explores a wide range of sounds and influences, from African folk traditions to Flying Lotus. The resulting music is difficult to classify, but undeniably appealing with its explorative, refractive psychedelia that's also restrained and tightly composed. Working with Animal Collective's producer Rusty Santos, the band creates a cinematic, sprawling atmosphere of noise rock that reveals a confidence in their aesthetic after three albums of tinkering.



# 3.

## Faded Ghost - *Moon Mad*

This meditative record is an unforgettable debut from Faded Ghost, who finally revealed the extent of her talent as a solo artist after years of impressive collaborations and work under her vocalist moniker ChaCha. Featuring field recordings that the Guizhou-born musician amassed during her travels, the album consists of immersive soundscapes that move through rain sounds, meditative chants, up-beat moments of bass, and ghostly synths. Dreamlike melodies and otherworldly vocals combine to evoke a sense of wonder and intercultural communion.



# 4.

## Higher Brothers - *Black Cab*

This was the year of Higher Brothers. Their debut release this summer was so hot that the group has been selling out shows nationwide ever since. Released through American music company 88rising, *Black Cab* shines thanks to its bouncing tracks, relatable subjects like sex, convenience stores and video games, and most importantly, the members' own swaggering personas. The acerbic track 'Made in China' is their most viral hit, but we prefer 'WeChat' for its off-kilter beat and brilliant refrain, which translates to: "I don't open WeChat to listen to your bullsh\*t."



# 5.

## Hai Qing - *The Flesh*

An inspired mix of art rock and traditional Mongolian instrumentation, *The Flesh* is an impressive debut album from Shanghai-based Mongolian musician Hai Qing. Born in Inner Mongolia, Hai studied throat singing and classical guitar as a child, but later fell in love with the psychedelic aesthetic of 1970s art rock bands. He combined these influences on *The Flesh*, and the resulting songs hum with originality and intrigue. The potent hybrid he created is on vibrant display in the standout 'Fanggezi' a swaggering blues guitar track dripping with attitude.



## 6.

**Howie Lee -  
Homeless**

One of Beijing's best-known electronic musicians, Howie Lee says that *Homeless* is meant to evoke "the sound of traditional China, dragged kicking and screaming into the electric age." Vocals include what sound like screaming pixies, spiritual chanting and distorted elements of Lee's own voice. The album is a rare work of harsh and experimental electronic music that remains addictively listenable throughout.



## 7.

**Gate to Otherside -  
Dragon Bus  
Terminal**

Gate to Otherside are a new band comprised of veteran Beijing musicians, including former members of Carsick Cars and a current member of Birdstriking. This explains the strength of their debut album, which vibrates with life and pushes at the boundaries of psych-rock. The scratchy guitar and vocals have an undertone of earnestness, and the songs are loose, occasionally gleeful and occasionally dark, but always with a freewheeling, psychedelic bent.



## 8.

**Chill Terrific &  
Wootacc - illtac**

Scrappy, boundary-pushing MCs Chill Terrific and Wootacc rap in a combination of Mandarin and Cantonese on *illtac*. The standout track 'taitle!!' is deeply catchy, with a funk-based backing beat and energizing vocals. The MCs' label, Groove Bunny Records, has elevated the prefecture-level city of Jinhua, Zhejiang province, into an enclave of forward-thinking hip-hop.



## 9.

**Foster Parents -  
Grim**

Shanghai duo Foster Parents' debut release has revitalized the city's live music scene. The songs on *Grim* aren't actually grim at all; they're nimble and technically impressive, with an undertone of nostalgia. Quirky vocal samples and a hypnotically dexterous use of looping makes for a fully fleshed-out work that only gets more interesting after repeat listens.



## 10.

**Perfect Handstand -  
Perfect  
Handstand**

This quartet from Chongqing explores an elegant poppy soundscape on their self-titled debut. Buoyant vocals veer from indie to synthpop, with enough layers and variety to make for a well-rounded debut album. Though they appeared to pop up out of nowhere, Perfect Handstand is associated with online label and music collective Star Distribution, which supports a vast range of genres and locales, outside the typical circuit.





## BOMBINO

### The Guitarist on Sparking Conversations with Music and 'Tuareggae'

by Erica Martin

Bombino is a virtuosic blues guitarist from the Tuareg region of Niger, but his name derives from a different continent altogether: it's based on 'bambino,' the Italian word for 'baby.'

"It was the nickname given to me when I was a teenager playing in Haja Bebe's band in Agadez," Bombino explains. "His band was the best in the region, and I was half the age of the rest of the musicians. This is why they called me *bambino* – I was the group's baby. It's funny, because one of the best audiences for me outside of Niger is in Italy, so there must be a connection there!"

Bombino first picked up the guitar at age 10, when his family was living in exile in Algeria due to the Tuareg Rebellion in the early 90s. He credits this tumultuous period with cementing his creative focus on themes of empowerment and hope for the Tuareg community.

"Tuareg music stresses solidarity with our people, preservation of our culture and also suffering," he says. "These were very relevant for me, even as a child at the time. When you are away from home, there is a greater importance on practicing culture, and preserving culture, so that it does not vanish." Bombino first garnered international at-

tention with 2011's *Algadez*, an album named after his hometown that brims with soaring blues guitar and his distinctively warm, raspy vocals. The record caught the ear of Dan Auerbach of The Black Keys, who teamed up with Bombino to produce the guitarist's next album, *Nomad*.

Bombino then explored a new direction entirely, partnering with David Longstreth of the Dirty Projectors to produce 2016's *Azel*, which explores a hybrid genre Bombino invented with his band: Tuareggae.

"Tuareggae is exactly what it sounds like: a blend of Tuareg traditional music and reggae," he says. "We take the reggae rhythm on the drums and the bass and add Tuareg melodies and rhythms on the guitar. It makes me feel good, and makes me want to dance, so we started naturally flowing into some reggae grooves on stage."

This potent pairing of musical traditions has led to Bombino's most innovative songs yet – from the languid, breezy 'Iwaranagh (We Must)' to the toe-tapping 'Timtar (Memories).'

Bombino sings exclusively in Tamasheq, the Tuareg language spoken along with its sister languages of Tamajaq and Tamahaq by approximately 1.2 million people across West Africa.

"It gives me the most freedom," he says. "But more important than that, for me, is continuing to speak and sing in this language in front of the world. I am an artist responsible for protecting the Tamasheq culture, and our language is an essential part of that."

Even so, Bombino likes to make English and French translations of his work available. "If I am just singing in my language and there is no opportunity for someone who speaks another language to understand what I'm saying, then there is no communication," he says. "For those who are interested, I want them to be able to understand all the words in my songs."

This desire to sustain a dialogue spills over into Bombino's excitement for his debut China tour this month, for which he'll be visiting five cities around the Mainland in one week.

"China is a country that has always been mysterious to me, as I have not had an opportunity to learn very much about it," he says. "I look forward to seeing a new lifestyle and culture, one that I have never been exposed to. I am excited to talk to people there, share experiences and have a real exchange."

Sat Dec 12, 8pm; RMB120 (advance), RMB140 (door); Yugong Yishan (see Listings for details)



# JERSEY BOYS

## The Broadway Smash Hit Debuts in Beijing

by Zoey Zha

Few musicals get heads nodding and toes tapping like *Jersey Boys*. The Broadway smash hit chronicles the story of Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons, a singing troupe that rose to fame in the '60s, known for their shiny suits, slicked-back hair and smooth crooning.

Hit songs like 'Big Girls Don't Cry,' 'Walk Like a Man' and – one of the greatest love songs of all time – 'Can't Take My Eyes Off You' propelled the group to the top of the charts and sold hundreds of millions of records worldwide. The Tony Award-winning musical *Jersey Boys*, which debuts in Beijing this month, tells their story.

It begins in Newark, New Jersey, a rough area where, as character Tommy DeVito tells the audience, there are only three ways to break out of poverty: enrolling in the military, joining the mob or... singing.

Frankie Valli was a talented Newark resident with an ear for music, but it wasn't until he met songwriter Bob Gaudio that he found the 'Four Seasons sound.' Matt Blaker, the



West End-trained actor who plays Gaudio, says the scene where the four singers come together is "a raw and brilliant moment for the four of us."

"In the show, you'll witness Frankie's whole life story, as you can see him grow up from a 16-year-old boy to a 67-year-old man," says Luke Street, who plays Valli. "I'm only 24, so this has been an enjoyable challenge for me to portray his development as a person."

Hailing from a small town in the southwest of England, Street says that he discovered his love for music before moving to London to pursue a career in the performance arts, just like the four 'Jersey Boys' did in Newark.

The Four Seasons' story *may* be less relatable to those in China. But the songs get heads nodding and toes tapping in any language.

Sat Dec 30- Sat Jan 13, 7.30pm (weekend matinees, 2.30pm); RMB199-1,299; Beijing Tianqiao Performing Arts Center Building, 9 Tianqiao Nan Dajie, Xicheng 西城区天桥南大街9号



# THE UNTOLD STORY OF CHINA'S BIGGEST ROCK STAR

...And the English Filmmakers Who Documented It

by Jocelyn Richards

In less than 24 hours after going live, *Existence*, a documentary that charts the story of China's biggest rock musician, Wang Feng, had racked up 1.25 million views on iQiyi. Netizens everywhere weighed in with comments, many moved by the film's rare insight into a famously private celebrity.

From their home in Guangzhou, producers Tom, Maxwell and Jacob Sanderson – three brothers from York, England – watched the numbers climb. To them, it was their reward for three years documenting China's rock-and-roll legend – a project they wouldn't have dared to imagine before.

"We arrived here nine years ago with a suitcase. We didn't know anyone, and we had a crap camera," says Tom. "But to now be navigating the Chinese music industry and dealing with Wang Feng and [his movie star wife] Zhang Ziyi on that level... it's like a dream."

The trio started out by founding their own film production company, SLA Studios, in 2011, splitting a meager salary and a one-bedroom apartment three ways until the business gained momentum. Their passion for music inspired them to focus on filming festivals, concerts and events all across China, which is what led them to Wang Feng, in 2014.

"He was doing a show at the Bird's Nest in Beijing, and we were filming the sound team because it was a huge operation, the logistics of filling a 70,000-person stadium with music," explains Max. When members of Wang Feng's crew saw what the Sandersons had filmed, they asked to work with them on the spot.

The initial agreement held that SLA Studios

would film Wang Feng's national tour, 10 shows total, and create a standard concert movie. But Max – who would become the chief writer and director of *Existence* – quickly discovered the story went deeper than that.

"We went to the first show in Shijiazhuang and it wasn't like what I'd imagine a rock band to be, backstage. It was so well behaved," he recalls. "And Wang Feng seemed like a pretty serious and highly professional guy, so I thought, I have to do something on him."

"We met his mum for coffee – no cameras, just to talk – and she just burst into tears, telling us loads of stuff. We realized we had a really good story."

But turning the project into a film about his whole life, instead of just the tour, would mean funding part of it themselves. And there was no guarantee Wang Feng was ready to share his intimate past with the world.

Still, the Sandersons gave it a shot. It took a while – up until the first cut – for them to gain Wang Feng's trust. "He's quite reserved," Max says.

Gradually, and with support from Onsite Post Production House in London, the Sandersons pieced together a narrative of the real Wang Feng: an introverted kid turned rebellious rocker, always caught between his blossoming individuality and the pressure to conform.

At its core, the film was a summary of his life. But for Wang Feng, it brought clarity.

"He was like, 'These guys understand me completely – I've never been able to look at myself in this way,'" says Max, of Wang Feng's

initial reaction.

Interviews with immediate family members, including his wife, high-profile Chinese actress Zhang Ziyi, and bandmates, friends, and mentors, humanized the story, as local audiences were shown a more relatable side of the megastar.

For non-Chinese audiences, *Existence* legitimizes the idea that China could have a Springsteen of its own – not just a talented impersonator.

"Wang Feng's story is more 'rock-and-roll' than that of most rock artists in the West," Max says. "You hear his songs talking about 'breaking free' and all that stuff, and it's like, isn't that the definition of rock?"

Tom adds that while there may not be much desire for Chinese music internationally, there is a market for people interested in the stories of Chinese artists. *Existence* is uniquely crafted to target both wider international audiences and local audiences. It's a new concept for sites like iQiyi, and one SLA Studios plans to continue developing.

"It would be great to create a five-part series, kind of like *Hip-Hop Evolution* on Netflix, with stories from China," says Tom. The team is already discussing a second film featuring DJ Youdai, who is interviewed in *Existence* and who knows "pretty much everyone" in the music industry in China.

While that will likely be their next adventure, the Sandersons also have another goal: to get Wang Feng on BBC Two's *Later... with Jools Holland* – and make him famous worldwide.

*Existence* is available to stream on iQiyi.com.

**Hu Xiaoyuan, 'Grass Thorn'**

Through Feb 10; Beijing Commune



**Group exhibition, 'Le Printemps de Pekin'**

Through Dec 15; Ying Space



PICK OF SIX

ART

EXHIBITIONS

For gallery information visit [www.thatsmags.com/beijing](http://www.thatsmags.com/beijing)



**Group exhibition, 'A Separation'**

Through Dec 31; Gallery Yang



**Group exhibition, 'Luminous Shadows'**

Through Jan 19; INK Studio

**Han Wuzhou, 'A Thousand Years of Good Life'**

Through Jan 7; MOCUBE



**Wen Yipei, 'Static Shadow'**

Through Dec 13; Tong Gallery



# A Q&A WITH...

Jens Peter Corder,  
General Manager,  
China World Summit Wing, Beijing



*We catch up with new General Manager of Beijing's iconic China World Summit Wing.*

**You've worked all over Asia. Which places would you recommend for travelers?**

It's hard to single out one place. India was magnificent from a cultural point of view – every day was colorful. Fuzhou, an ancient and cultural city, feels laid-back compared to other capital cities in China, thanks to its surrounding mountains and tea plantations. Then, of course, there is Tianjin, where I was before moving to Beijing. With its winding river, old concession areas, ancient streets and historical regions, Tianjin is a great city to explore on foot.

**What changes will you bring to China World Summit Wing, Beijing?**

It has always been my dream to lead an iconic hotel, and the masterpiece that is China World Hotel, Beijing does indeed fulfill that dream. However, I learned long ago that hardware and material luxuries alone do not make for a great hotel. With this in mind, I will focus on bringing inventive and fun food and beverage offerings, great catering concepts, and a focus on guest experiences.

**People from around the world come and stay in China World Summit Wing, but why should Beijingers visit the hotel?**

I hope that the tagline 'experience life at the peak of Beijing' really resonates with Beijingers. China World Mall, which houses the China World Summit Wing, has offerings to suit the whole family, including a cinema, great concept stores, ice skating and more. Coupled with the hotel's iconic views over Beijing, our many bars and restaurants, CHI, The Spa, and a 25-meter sky pool, China World Summit Wing is both a destination for a quick escape and also a place to proudly show off to visiting friends.

**What constitutes good hospitality?**

Hospitality from the heart! Hotel stay experiences, especially in luxury establishments, are all about service – knowing your guests, and being able to dial into what it is that makes their senses tick; from personalization to anticipation, and importantly, discretion.

China World Summit Wing, Beijing  
No. 1 Jianguomenwai Avenue, Beijing  
(86-10) 6505 2299

# A CLASSIC(AL) NEW YEAR

Ring in 2018 at the China World Summit Wing New Year Concert

Beijing is a little quiet over the New Year period (it is a public holiday, after all). But not so at China World Summit Wing, Beijing, who for the past four years have partnered up with the EOS orchestra for a classical New Year concert.

The Summit New Year Concert 2018, a live performance at China World Summit Wing's summit ballroom, continues the tradition. Comprised of renowned musicians such as conductor Yongyan Hu, pianist Tong Shen, violinist Xiaoyu Yang, soprano Lvwa Ke and baritone Guodong Feng, the EOS orchestra will perform dazzling renditions of classical-music from composers like Franz von Suppé, Edvard Grieg and Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky.

As well as world-class musicians, the evening also features a cocktail reception and gala dinner.

After a (maybe) booze-filled New Year's Eve the night before, it's only fitting that your New Year's Day is a little classier. China World Summit Wing New Year Concert 2018 makes this a cinch.



Mon Jan 1, 5.15-9pm; RMB380, RMB788, RMB1,088 (concert); RMB2,008 (includes cocktail, gala dinner and concert); RMB4,688 (two tickets, including cocktail, gala dinner, concert and one night stay in Executive Room); China World Summit Wing, Beijing, No. 1 Jianguomenwai Avenue, Beijing; (for tickets call 8571 6998)



# CITY SCENES

Fashion designer fends off children threatening a pillow fight on the catwalk, after showing the Amelie Wang 2018 S/S Collection at Mercedes-Benz China Fashion Week.



Lotus flowers bloom into beautiful serviced apartment executives at the grand opening of Ascott Riverside Garden Beijing.



House band perform despite being just meters away from the surface of the sun, at Centro's 14th Anniversary Party.



Men hold a pink ribbon to mark the opening ceremony of Habitat, in Parkview Green.



Artist's series of specially-designed Zippo lighters are on fire, at the Zippo X YOU Art Exhibition.

2017

A vibrant, pop-art style background. The top half features diagonal rainbow stripes (blue, purple, orange, yellow) against a white background. Below this, there are several stylized clouds with black outlines and grey dots. In the center, a large yellow speech bubble with a black outline contains the year '2017' in a bold, white, sans-serif font with a thick black outline. The bottom half of the image features diagonal blue stripes and more dotted clouds.

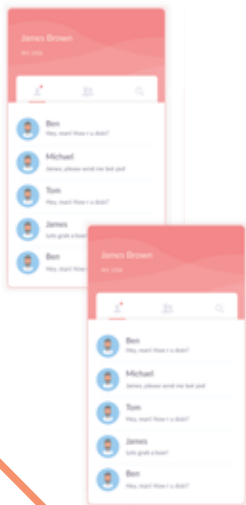


# CHINA'S YEAR IN REVIEW

# SOCIAL

9 NAUGHTY TOPICS BANNED IN GROUP CHATS

While it's no surprise that the Chinese government is monitoring our social media activities, the Cyberspace Administration of China (CAC) issued new regulations in September to "better develop China's online environment, protect the legal rights of Chinese netizens, online organizations and safeguard national security and public interest," according to *China Daily*. Along with these new regulations is the Public Security Bureau's list of nine topics banned on online group chats. Effective October 8, sharing things like politically sensitive information, violent or pornographic content could lead to fines or police detention. Think twice before you send off that racy WeChat sticker



7 MOST POPULAR STORIES OF 2017 ON THATSMAGS.COM

## WHEN SKIES ARE GRAY

China's poor air quality is an ongoing problem, but just how bad is it? According to a recent study by the Energy Policy Institute at the University of Chicago, the pollution can take an average of 3.5 years off people's lives. If you live in Tianjin, where, according to the study, the smog problem is the worst in the nation, it can shave 7.1 years off.



## BIKE SHARE MANIA

First came orange Mobike, then came the yellow Ofo. Now there's a bunch of other providers that make up China's rainbow-colored bike share craze. The two-wheeled bubble, however, began to show signs of a burst in mid-November when China's third largest bike-sharing startup Bluegogo ceased operations (see p. 7 for more info).



## CHINA GETS TRUMPED

Last month, all eyes were on Beijing when President Xi Jinping met with US President Donald Trump during the latter's three-day visit to the Chinese capital. The lavish visit included an exclusive tour of the Forbidden City with the wives, Peking opera performances, meetings, and plenty of photo ops in between. @realDonaldTrump even managed to tweet across the Great Firewall, too!



# MEDIA



## 'MCDONALD'S' NO MORE?

In China, McDonald's is no longer called *Maidanglao*. Since October 12, the official Chinese company name has been changed to *Jingongmen*, which literally means 'golden arches.' Chinese customers are apparently not lovin' the change. Some say it sounds like a Peking duck restaurant's name. Internet users, however, poked fun at the name by making memes of other company name changes that would literally reflect their company's logo (like 'Green Bubble' for WeChat).

## SACRE-BLEU (CHEESE)!

China-based cheese lovers had a tumultuous autumn. First, came news that imported soft cheeses like Brie, Camembert, Roquefort, blue cheese and goat cheese would be temporarily banned from the Middle Kingdom. A few weeks later, the ban was lifted and cheese lovers could go on with their lives again.



## HOLD THE (I)PHONE

New iPhone releases used to be big deals in China, when flocks of fans and scalpers would line up for hours outside Apple Stores to get their hands on the hottest new device. This, however, didn't happen for the iPhone 8 release on September 22. According to photos on social media, there were more barricades and security guards than actual shoppers at Apple Stores across the country.





## LEWIS HAMILTON

The Brit recorded his fifth victory in the Chinese Grand Prix, sending him on his way to his fourth Drivers' Championship. He also managed to avoid spraying his prize bottle of bubbly directly onto the face of one of the F1 grid girls, as he had done in 2015. Which was nice.



## GUANGZHOU EVERGRANDE

Evergrande won their seventh consecutive Chinese Super League title with two games to spare. Ironically, it was the team's bitter city rivals Guangzhou R&F who secured them the title with a 2-1 win over second-placed Shanghai SIPG. Congratulations to Evergrande and their fans. But seven years, seriously?! Give someone else a chance, would ya?

## ROGER FEDERER

Sure, there was the small matter of winning the Shanghai Rolex Masters, his second Shanghai crown and sixth title of 2017. But Federer also made the most of the city – riding on the Shanghai Metro, meeting up with Yao Ming, and doing an impromptu dance-off with Mickey Mouse on court. Dad dancing with the Disney icon. Living. The. Dream.



## TIANJIN QUANJIAN

The Chinese Super League newcomers clinched a place in the 2018 AFC Champions League with a dramatic 2-1 win over champions Guangzhou Evergrande in the very last game of the season. The bad news for Tianjin is that Evergrande were so impressed by what they saw, they decided they wanted Quanjian's CSL Manager of the Year Fabio Cannavaro back. And back he went.



# SPORTS

## UCLA BASKETBALLERS

Three bad ballers were caught shoplifting from a Louis Vuitton store next to their Hangzhou hotel. One of them, LiAngelo Ball, is the younger brother of Los Angeles Lakers star Lonzo Ball and son of outspoken basketball sneaker entrepreneur LaVar Ball. Together, the family is the subject of reality show *Ball in the Family*. Now listen



Ball boy, you've let UCLA down, you let Donald Trump down, but most of all... you've got some great material for your show.

BAD YEAR  
DOWN



GOOD YEAR UP

## CHINA TABLE TENNIS

The World Table Tennis Championships were held in Düsseldorf, Germany over the summer. Guess who won four of the five gold medals? Bet you can't. Have a stab



at it anyway though. OK, it was China! China, winning at table tennis?! We know, we couldn't believe it either. Unprecedented. One for the books.



## CHINA FOOTBALL TEAM

Victory against South Korea in March, after Marcello Lippi had been brought in as head coach, had Chinese fans daring to dream they could make the World Cup. After all, the Italian had not only won the World Cup itself in 2006, but also brought glory upon China when he won the AFC Champions League with Guangzhou Evergrande in 2013. It was not to be, as a 1-0 defeat to Iran meant no Russia next summer for Team China.



## CARLOS TEVEZ

A big flop is what the Argentine star has been at Shanghai Shenhua. Literally. Shenhua boss Wu Jingui declared in September that he would not pick the former Manchester United and City forward because he was overweight. Tevez, who is on a contract worth a reported GBP32 million a year, managed just four goals all season. That's eight million pounds per goal.

## NICK KYRGIOS

The 22-year-old Aussie man-baby walked off court at the Shanghai Rolex Masters after losing the first set of his match to American Steve Johnson on a tiebreaker, having a tantrum at the umpire in the process. This coming after last throwing a match against German Mischa Zverev while asking an umpire, "Can you call time so I can finish this match and go home?" You go home Nick. You go home and never come back, you hear?



## ETHIOPIAN MARATHON RUNNERS

The 2017 Wuxi Marathon took a strange turn when the two leading runners missed a turn 100 meters from the finish line. Two Ethiopian runners, Chala Lelisa Debele in yellow and Gardisa Birhanu Shumie in red, who were comfortably leading, failed to spot a 90-degree left turn at the end of the course, continuing going straight and leaving Khalid Kamal Yaseen of Bahrain, who was initially in third place, to steal in for a cheeky win.

## ARTS

## 2017 THE YEAR IN HIP-HOP

Quote of the year:

**"CAN YOU EVEN FREESTYLE?"**

A loose translation of 'Ni you freestyle ma?' a term coined by *The Rap of China* judge Kris Wu while he grilled a contestant after a performance early in the season. The internet just about exploded in response, with an outpouring of memes mocking the pop star, including several compilation videos proving that, Wu, in fact, cannot even freestyle. Hip-hop fans around China poked fun at the show for being too hokey and commercial, but *The Rap of China* was essential to catapulting hip-hop to mainstream popularity in the country, pulling several underground artists (including Chongqing rapper GAI, who won first place on the show) out of obscurity and clearing the way for them to become superstars.



## MAY

Chengdu rap group Higher Brothers drop their debut album, *Black Cab*.

## AUGUST



Chengdu rapper MC Fat Shady, another *The Rap of China* contestant, drops the music video for his track 'Gua Laowai' ('Stupid Foreigner'), which immediately goes viral.

Chinese-American rapper MC Jin, who made history in the US back in 2002 when he became the first Asian-American rapper signed to a major record label, is eliminated from *The Rap of China*, where he had entered under the pseudonym HipHopMan.

## JUNE

Asian-American music company 88rising debuts a video in which Western rappers like Migos react to Higher Brothers' song 'Made in China.' The video tops a million views in a less than a week.

Reality TV show *The Rap of China* debuts on iQiyi.



Popular Shanghai rapper Al Rocco is dismissed from *The Rap of China* in the first round for rapping in English. He proceeds to pen a diss track against the TV show.

Higher Brothers embark on their first major China tour, selling out most dates.

## SEPTEMBER

The season finale of *The Rap of China* airs. Chongqing rapper GAI is announced as the winner along with PG One, and is immediately signed to a major label.



## OCTOBER

A crescendo of fawning media coverage of hip-hop in China culminates in a *New York Times* story titled: 'With Dreadlocks, Rhythm and Flow, China Embraces Hip-hop.'

## NOVEMBER

Pharrell becomes the unwitting face of Singles' Day by performing the 'hip-hop' song 'Double 11' onstage with none other than Kris Wu for the Singles' Day Gala at Shanghai's Mercedes-Benz Arena.

An 88rising tour, featuring superstar Rich Chigga and Higher Brothers, sells out all dates throughout China within hours.





# 2017 ARTS APPROVAL MATRIX

## HIGHBROW



◀ Celebrated filmmaker Jia Zhangke debuts *Pingyao Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon International Film Festival*, China's answer to Sundance



▲ Netflix green-lights its first Chinese language series, *Bardo (Baidushen)*, a jailbreak thriller with a supernatural twist.

Marvel Comics teams up with NetEase to create the first Marvel series centered around Chinese superheroes



◀ Feminist Indian film *Dangal* becomes a major box office success in China



◀ Zhang Ziyi announces that she'll be joining the *Godzilla* franchise in a starring role



▲ Despite rave reviews from critics, *Blade Runner 2049* is a major box office flop in China



▲ *The Great Wall* flops overseas and loses USD75 million, putting future US-China co-productions in jeopardy



▲ The live-action remake of Disney's *Mulan* gets delayed until at least 2019



◀ After becoming China's highest grossing film of all time, *Wolf Warrior II* sparks controversy by being named the nation's official Oscar contender

HAO

BU HAO



◀ Shenzhen-based drag queen Sister Tomato becomes a viral hit after an impromptu photoshoot in a grocery store

Weibo user and Photoshop wizard Qinghongzaolegebai creates epic images of *Game of Thrones* characters as street vendors and shop owners



▲ Xiamen Foreign Language School flawlessly re-enacts *La La Land's* opening scene



▲ A troupe of minions go rafting at a park in Hunan province as part of a *Despicable Me 3* publicity stunt, totally creeping out local park-goers

▶ Justin Bieber gets banned from China for 'bad behavior'



▲ At long last, the Unicode Consortium releases dumpling and chopsticks emojis



◀ At a festival in Shanghai, A\$AP Rocky drops his mic and storms offstage when the police turn off the power during his show

## LOWBROW

# LIFE & STYLE

## FASHION ICON



Fashion photographer Zhou Wengang and his signature red beanie are often spotted outside of Fashion Weeks in Shanghai, Beijing and Shenzhen, where he shoots well-dressed passersby.

### How do you pick who to photograph?

It's sometimes about the overall look, or it could also be one piece or item that catches my eye. Basically, he or she has to stand out from the crowd.

### What has been your most memorable experience while covering Fashion Weeks?

When I was covering Shanghai Fashion Week a few seasons ago, a car hit me while I was chasing down someone for a shot. Luckily, I walked away unscathed!

### What do you like most about street fashion photography?

I see it as a way to document the different styles seen on the streets of China. Many people who have never been here think that Chinese people don't really know how to dress. I want my photographs to prove them wrong.

### What are some of the most noticeable trends this year?

There are a lot of oversized silhouettes on dresses, coats, shirts and trousers these days.

### Have you noticed any differences in style between China's cities?

In general, I think Shanghainese people are more daring and high-energy in the way they dress, while Shenzhen is

simpler, less flashy. Beijing, on the other hand, is slightly more mature and conservative, but I actually get the best photos there. I think it's because there are many leading art institutions in and around the city, so the people there have an inborn sense of fashion, as well as an understated charm that's quite unique.

### Is there a meaning behind the bright red beanie you always wear?

Red is my favorite color – it's the color of the Chinese flag and it's also very festive. I've become very attached to my red beanie, and I've been wearing it every day for the last two years.

Follow Zhou Wengang's work on his official WeChat account: [wengangstreetsnap](#)



... because you probably don't work for FedEx.

## 4 HATS FROM FASHION WEEK YOU MIGHT NOT WEAR...



... because it looks like a satellite dish.

## SINGLES' DAY, DOUBLE DIGIT

No one goes looking for a boyfriend on Singles' Day anymore. November 11 is all about shopping for things you don't need. For e-commerce giant Alibaba, the annual shopping extravaganza generated a whopping RMB168.2 billion in sales – a 39-percent increase from 2016. Rock on, Jack Ma.



## VICTORIA'S SECRET FASHION SHOW

Even international supermodels have trouble getting into China. Shanghai hosted this year's Victoria's Secret Fashion Show, and four models, including Gigi Hadid, were denied visas. Miguel and Harry Styles provided the entertainment, after Katy Perry was also denied a visa. Stars, they're just like us.



## GETTING OFF THE STREETS

This year saw many crossovers between luxury brands and street fashion labels. But the craze over Louis Vuitton's collab with Supreme hit another level. After pop star Luhan was seen wearing a limited-edition hoodie from the collection, its price on eBay rocketed up to RMB165,000 – 30 times the original price.



## ALL THE WORLD'S A BLOG

Brands are obsessed with KOLs, or Key Opinion Leaders, who have millions of followers across different social media platforms. High profile brands Jaeger-LeCoultre and New Balance, for instance, tapped internet sensation Papi Jiang to head up their advertising campaigns this year.



.... because it looks like you're one of the dwarves on an off-Broadway production of *Snow White*.



... because paper mache should stay in grade 3 art class.



# FOOD & DRINK



## A TALE OF TWO CITIES

### BEIJING AND SHANGHAI SWAP BARS AND RESTAURANTS

Beijing and Shanghai are two very different rival cities, but this year, they learned to share. Here are some beloved F&B joints that made the jump (across enemy lines).

#### TO SHANGHAI

##### **MOKA BROS**

How has Shanghai gone this long without power bowls set to bumping house music?

##### **TRIBE**

The clean, green, healthy-eating machine won over the discerning Shanghai crowd.

##### **HATCHERY**

The food incubator that never stops hatching announced its first Shanghai branch, due early 2018.

#### TO BEIJING

##### **BOXING CAT**

The craft beer brewery (that was bought out by AB InBev) punched above its weight with a Beijing pop up – and right beside its northern competitor Jing-A.

##### **SPROUTWORKS**

Love it or loath it, “fit fam” life is trending in Beijing. Thankfully, the Shanghai build-your-own-salad brand makes it bearable.

##### **INFRAROUGE**

An iteration of Shanghai nightlife staple Bar Rouge, the hip spot serves such good cocktails, it makes us wanna chill in Taikoo Li North all night, every night.

## WHERE YOU SHOULD EAT, BASED ON YOUR TASTE IN MOVIES

Answer one simple question and not only will we tell you *where* to eat, we'll tell you the horrifying reason why.

What's your favorite film genre?

#### **THRILLER**

Line up at Hey Tea. Does the idea of a two-hour wait for dinner make you froth with anticipation? Are you anxious around strangers? The majorly hyped milk tea chain, which opened in Beijing this year, offers all of the above thanks to its infamous, sometimes four-hour-long lines.

#### **COMEDY**

Go to your local fruit shop and buy jujubes and bananas. Eat both together. This gross-out buddy comedy was dubbed China's first 'viral flavor combination,' after over 40,000 netizens shared the special 'recipe' online.

#### **DOCUMENTARY**

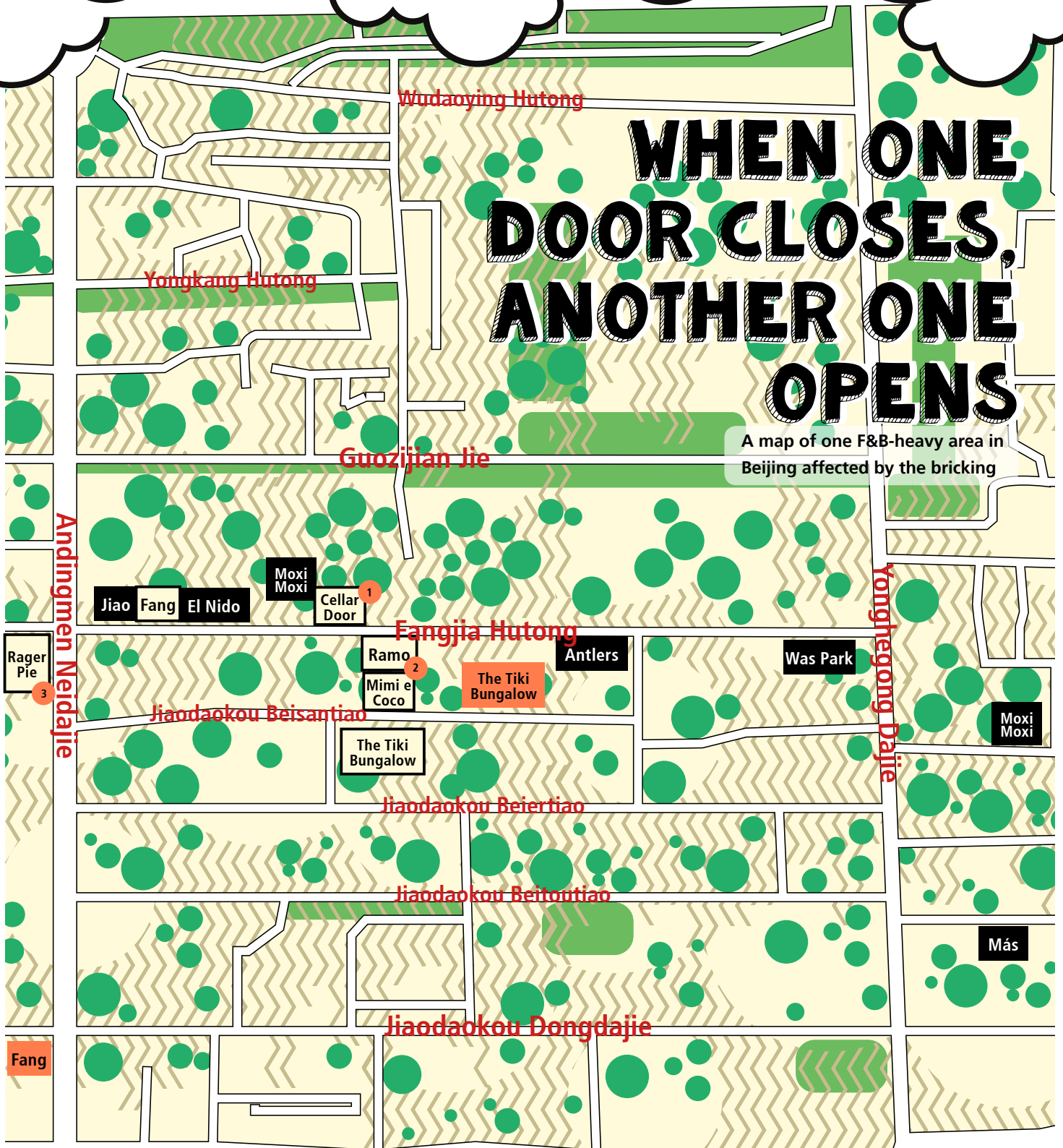
Try The Lancet BBQ. A Beijing doctor-run *chuan'r* joint made headlines in October after its promotion went viral: Customers who'd had an academic paper published in a scientific journal in the past five years were eligible for a discount.

#### **BANNED FILMS**

Visit Le Fromager de Pekin. Cheese-lovers lost their collective sh\*t earlier this year after a temporary 'soft cheese' ban was put in place in China due to bacteria issues. The ban has since been lifted.

# WHEN ONE DOOR CLOSSES, ANOTHER ONE OPENS

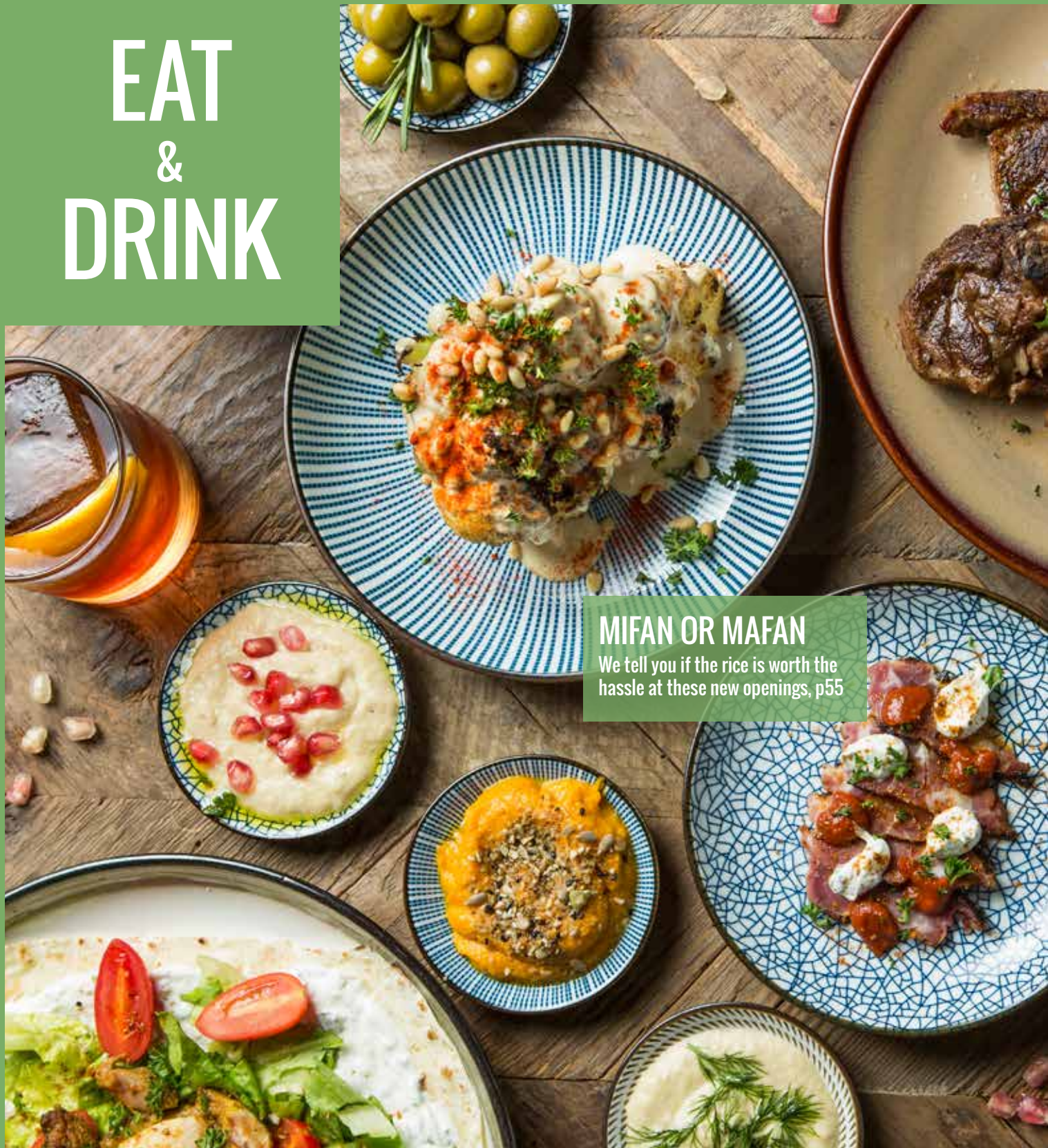
A map of one F&B-heavy area in Beijing affected by the bricking



- New locations not pictured:
- 1 Bldg 4, 29 Jiaodaokou Dongdajie, Dongcheng 东城区交道口东大街29号4号楼
  - 2 9-2 Jiangtai Xilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区将台西路9-2号
  - 3 Now called Hutong'er Pie, 35 Zhangzi Zhonglu, Dongcheng 东城区张自忠路35号

closed moved new

# EAT & DRINK



## MIFAN OR MAFAN

We tell you if the rice is worth the hassle at these new openings, p55



Vegans in China  
p56



Ramo in Lido  
p59



Bistro 3  
p60

# GETTING MODERATELY DEEP WITH...

## A Dumpling Server

interview by Yuka Hayashi



This month, we meet Mr. Si at Xiao Heng Dumplings, where he sells *jiaozi* to hungry workers coming in from the office towers above the shop.

### How are you feeling today?

I'm doing good! It's nice to meet you. I'm pumped for this interview!

### What's the first thing you thought when you woke up this morning?

I thought, oh, I gotta get to work, can't be late 'cause don't ever want my salary cut! [Laughs.]

### What is your idea of the perfect day?

A day in which I can head to bed straight after work and just sleep.

### Who is your best customer?

People who are loyal to our restaurant, who always come here to eat.

### Who is your worst customer?

People who always complain, no matter what.

### Which living person do you most admire?

Me, myself! I mean, if you don't admire yourself, how can you admire someone else?

### When and where were you happiest?

I think I had my happiest time back when I was traveling in Shanghai. The city had this energizing vibe, and everyone was super fashionable. Also it wasn't dry like it is here in Beijing, and I like that.

### Which talent would you most like to have?

I'd like to have strong management skills, because that's important for almost any job.

### What do you consider your greatest achievement?

Simply being able to enjoy my life.

### If you could change one thing about your life, what would it be?

I'd like to be a little more punctual, like one of those super career-driven employees. I've always felt that a habit like that is good for one's inner self, and one's well-being. But I don't think I'm a career-crazy dude.

### What is your most treasured possession?

A souvenir from the Beijing Olympics in 2008. It's a cute little golden coin with panda on it.

### What trait do you most value in a person?

Their morality. Having a strong sense of morals is important to me.

### What do you most dislike?

I hate fighting, verbally – it can really mess with your head. That's why I'm always the one who apologizes first.

### What is your motto?

Achievement is everything. You can make any change that you are dreaming of.

### What always makes you laugh?

Family reunions over Chinese New Year. I'm

very attached my family, and I miss them a lot because I only get to see them once or twice a year.

### What's the most surprising thing that's happened to you?

When I went to Japan and was surprised by how clean everything was there! I loved it.

### Which era of Beijing's history would you most like to have lived in?

The Ming and Qing dynasties, because Beijing was very prosperous then, and that was when Tiananmen and the Forbidden City were built.

### Who is your hero?

My father. He's always been very strict, but also very caring. When I was little, he taught me calligraphy and manners – and all sorts of things that I could have never learned in school.

Mr. Si works at Xiao Heng Dumplings, B1 Ginza Mall, 48 Dongzhimen Wai Dajie, Dongcheng

# GRAPEVINE

## SNACKS IN THE CITY

Here's a roundup of things we've tried this month – for journalism, for research, for you, readers.

**Bottega's** new brunch is for pigging out on pigs. The *porchetta*, juicy with thick, crispy skin, is the gorgeous brainchild of new chef Marco (but don't worry, Paulo's still in the kitchen making pizzas).

**TRIBE's** fun new menu is naturally purple and healthily fishy. Get the Mighty Mackerel & Arugula Salad to see what we mean.

**Obentos** now has one of the best poke bowls we've had. And we've had a lot of poke bowls.

We're not huge soup people (who is?!), but **Village Café's** Tom Kha Gai has us singing a different tune. Can more soups have a coconut base, please?

**EQUIS** has launched 'Social Nights' on Tuesdays, with the aim of making weekdays just as fun as the weekends. It is almost *too* social, in that we could barely handle ourselves around that much Champagne and beautiful people. Have more self control than us, or plan on being late to work on Wednesday.

**Hutong'er Pie** now delivers to the capital of Hebei province. If you don't know what the capital of Hebei is, shame on you. Baidu it.

**Migas** (Sanlitun) has a new brunch concept, La Granja Farmer's Brunch, and we've been told to expect 'pigs, chickens and drinks.' Not sure what that means, other than a good time. (Brunch at Migas is always a good time.)

On a final, sadder note – we wished **Xian's** Craft Container goodbye (for now) as it popped down for winter, which is not the greatest season in Beijing to be drinking craft beer on a patio, we've been told. But better news – Xian will be hosting our very own *That's Beijing* Golden Fork Restaurant Awards this month. Stay tuned for our list of winners on [thatsmags.com/beijing](http://thatsmags.com/beijing). **NM**

## News Bite: Ridiculous Hot Pot Edition



**Xiabu Xiabu is in hot water.** The hot pot chain is in the news after diners filmed live cockroaches scampering across their tables at the restaurant's location in Chaoyangmen U-Town Mall. Then, things got worse when two intrepid *Beijing Today* reporters caught the store manager as he posed as a customer denying the incident ever took place. In a final, stunning display of brazenness, he responded to being called out by saying that all of U-Town is infested with cockroaches. Well, that's reassuring.

At least Haidilao, China's mightiest hot pot chain of all, responded to its own sanitation scandal more professionally – by installing cameras monitoring the kitchens, and even allowing customers to check them out for themselves. We see no such future for Xiabu Xiabu Chaoyangmen. Next time you go for hot pot, cook your meat... very well.



**In a marketing strategy we'll term "sure, why not," Chongqing promoted its famous cuisine with... a 13-ton hot pot.** At the 9th China Chongqing Hot Pot Food Festival (a real event), organizers unveiled a meter-high pot, around which 56 people could eat. The pot was divided in half between two different broth flavors – but good luck reaching over to the other side to dip your *yangrou* in the non-spicy kind. We have many questions: What happens to the stuff in the middle? Do people get extra-long chopsticks? Will this thing ever be used again? Alas, we'll just have to go to the 10th China Chongqing Hot Pot Food Festival to find out.. **NM**



MIFAN/MAFAN

We Tell You  
if the Rice is  
Worth the  
Hassle



## PUTIEN

Michelin! Everything is Michelin! We've lost count of the number of places that have touted their connections with the little red book (of restaurants). But Putien, whose original location in Singapore sports one star, is still a welcome addition to the capital. Its elegant, satisfying Fujian cuisine is taking over the city, and its newly minted third location sits proudly in Taikoo Li. Lunch sets are a bargain.

Daily, 10am-10pm; 3/F, Taikoo Li South, Gongti Beilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区工体北路太古里南区3/F (6417 5171)



## KOWLOON ICE HOUSE

Kowloon Ice House has all the hallmarks of a traditional Hong Kong tea restaurant: laminated menus, fluorescent lighting and, most importantly, tasty snacks like pineapple buns and egg tarts. There's also *char siu* (barbecued pork) and macaroni and ham soup – classic. Is Kowloon as good as fellow Hong Kong restaurant Honolulu Cafe, just down the road? No. But it is a cheap and colorful addition to Taikoo Li South.

Daily, 10am-10pm; 3/F, Taikoo Li South, Gongti Beilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区工体北路太古里南区3/F (8435 3691)

## TEL AVIV

No, we are not reviewing the Israeli city of Tel Aviv (though if you're a travel agent with a spare pair of tickets, hit us up). Tel Aviv is the latest concept by Hatchery, and while it isn't made by any Israelis – it's made by the Australasian team behind Beijing's 'culinary incubator' – it's a valiant take on Middle Eastern cuisine. Bread and dips (you better believe there's fresh hummus) are the perfect light sharing plate – and roasted lamb brings the heft.

Daily 10am-late; Hatchery, 88 Dongsi Jiutiao, Dongcheng 东城区东四九条88号 (6594 0188)



## SUCH A CAFÉ

If there is one trend that gives us hope about the hutongs' future, it's the steady stream of hip AF coffee shops opening therein, undeterred by rampant brickings that have pushed out their boozier counterparts. Such a Café is such a café, and its Zhangzizhonglu location makes it the best spot to sip lattes before catching a show Yugong Yishan (if that's a thing).

Daily, 11am-8pm; 39 Zhongjianzi Hutong, Zhangzizhonglu, Dongcheng 东城区张自忠路中剪子巷39号



# PLANTING THE SEED

## The Growth of Western-Style Veganism in China

by Dominic Ngai

On a chilly Saturday afternoon in November, 60 people are gathered at TRIBE Shanghai for a talk organized by Vegans of Shanghai, a grassroots outreach platform that started off as a WeChat group in the summer of 2016.

Of the attendees, only seven are vegans – strict vegetarians who consume no food that comes from animals and who abstain from using animal products such as leather. A term coined by the UK-based Vegan Society co-founder Donald Watson in 1944, veganism has in recent years been gathering steam in the West, with public figures like Al Gore, Ariana Grande, Natalie Portman and Venus Williams all adopting the diet.

At the event, speakers from animal welfare advocacy groups talk about gruesome industrial farming practices, including how dairy cows experience multiple forced impregnations throughout their lifetime in order to produce as much milk as possible, and how hens spend their whole lives locked inside a cage with the length and width of an A4 paper to lay eggs.

But just how practical is it to live as a vegan in China, a country where meat eating is so ingrained in its culture?

Though no official statistics are available, 50 million people in China are believed to be vegetarian or vegans. While the number may seem substantial, it's only about four percent of the population – a minuscule proportion compared to India, where nearly 30 percent of its citizens observe a meat-free diet.

Originally from India herself, Vegans of Shanghai (VoS) founder Samyuktha 'Eve' Thyagarajan has lived in five cities and countries since going vegan in 2013. But in China, she finds preaching the benefits of Western veganism especially complicated.

"There's a fine line between trying to raise awareness in veganism and being disrespectful to someone who's not a vegan. Food choices are part of someone's cultural and personal identity. You can't just go up to a Chinese person and tell them eating pork is bad," she says.

Even within the vegetarian community, Eve explains, talking about the cruelty of practices in the dairy and egg industries can raise



## “You can’t just go up to a Chinese person and tell them eating pork is bad”

eyebrows. But that may be changing – her VoS WeChat groups have grown to include well over 1,000 English- and Chinese-speaking vegans (though the majority are English-speaking expats).

Veganism has a very different history in China, where many Chinese Buddhists adopt a diet called *jingsu*, in which items like garlic, chive and onion are off-limits. This can be easily confused with the words for vegetarian (*sushi*) and vegan (*chunsu*, or ‘strict vegetarian’), which describe a more Western style of abstaining from meat.

Western-style veganism originates not from Buddhism, but from lifestyle choices – people largely choose it for their health, the environment or animal rights. China’s lack of animal welfare laws makes it difficult to push the latter reason beyond rhetoric. But Xu Lei, the co-founder and COO of Veg Planet, believes in educating the Chinese public about meat reduction with a softer approach. Veg Planet’s WeChat, which has over 300,000 followers across China, shares articles about vegetarianism, but also hosts cooking classes and pop-up dinners. It’s a non-intimidating entry point to vegetarianism.

Erica Huang, the founder of Beijing’s Farm to Neighbors (F2N) market, follows the more flexible vegetarian diet Veg Planet often advocates. A self-proclaimed ‘flexitarian,’ Huang follows a plant-based diet with the occasional inclusion of meat. She is now pushing an “eat less meat” campaign at F2N.

“Many vegetarian and vegan organizations were apprehensive about partnering with us on the ‘eat less meat’ campaign, because it’s in a gray area,” she says. “Groups promoting a [fully] plant-based diet didn’t want to be a part of it. But I’m a big promoter of that gray area, because the very absolute, black-and-white tactic isn’t all that effective.”

One way to ease into veganism is ‘veganizing’ restaurants – a term VoS uses to mean getting non-vegan restaurants to add vegan options to their menus.

“It’s not all that easy to add vegan options on a menu,” says Michael Dobrowolski, marketing manager at Slow Boat. Dobrowolski has been a vegan for 15 years and runs classes and pop-ups on the side. “A whole chain of things has to be adjusted for that to happen, the most important of which is to train and educate the kitchen staff [about the concept of veganism]. It’s still a work in progress, but this is happening more and more.”

“To push veganism into the mainstream in China, we need the support from the mainstream media, high profile spokespeople, and more studies from the medical or nutritionists community,” concludes Veg Planet’s Xu Lei. “I believe that most people would like to see the positive side of things.”



# VIN VIE

## Stay Sanlituned

words and images by Noelle Mateer

I have always wanted an excuse to write about Vin Vie. For years, Beijing chefs and food writers have told me that it's their favorite place to eat, but how on earth am I supposed to write about something that is just, like, consistently nice? I can't write a review that reads "BREAKING: 10-year-old restaurant is STILL good."

Then they opened a new branch.

Vin Vie part deux is South Sanlitun, just down the road from Haidilao and an adult store named SEXY TOWN. But before we dive in here, let's make sure you're not confusing Vin Vie with Vin Vino (a wine bar in Maizidian) or InVino (a wine bar in Gongti). 'Vin' is the Latin root for 'vine.' 'Vie' is French for 'life.' 'Vino' is Latin for 'wine.' 'In' is English for 'in.'

But I digress. Nan Sanlitun Lu is Sanlitun in the same way that rows of public squat toilets are part of Jingshan Park. This is the bowels of Sanli, a long-forgotten strip of ancient establishments like Q Bar and Beer

Mania. It's a neighborhood that harkens back to a time long before craft breweries and Moka Bros. A time as long ago as... 2010.

Vin Vie, to some extent, fits the part. It's homey in a way that makes it seem like it's been around for years. Bookshelves full of wine bottles line the walls, and a brick fireplace befitting of an English country manor takes center stage. The quiet room is host to a handful of tables and one bar, lit just a tad too brightly.

But you, my friend, are here for the food, which is French and Japanese with a smattering of Korean and even Spanish influences (there are small plates). This, not the decor, nor the menu that reads 'Wine Rist,' is why chefs flock to this place. Our Vin Vie style seabream carpaccio (RMB48) peeks out from underneath carefully picked niblets of beet and pickle. The grilled rice ball with spicy cod roe (RMB15) is, whether intentionally or not, a high-end reinterpretation of those rice snacks wrapped in seaweed that 7-Eleven sells. It is much better than the

7-Eleven version (and I *love* the 7-Eleven version). Tiny bites, like the chicken-and-corn meatball (RMB45), are impressive in their creativity – yet comfort food nonetheless. Even our bowl of edamame (RMB35), is pan-fried and spiced to perfection.

The menu is a 10-page affair with everything from pork paté to Japanese sukiyaki, and every dish we try is excellent. It all makes for a surprisingly elegant dinner in a less-than-elegant part of town – until a fight breaks out, that is. Towards the end of our dinner, three men launch into a screaming match. Then, just when the loudest of them is about to storm out, he regroups, and says the most Sanlitun thing of all: "I'm gonna smoke this cigarette. And then I'm gonna buy you guys more drinks."

Daily, 6pm-2am; 1/F, 29 Zhongfang Dongli, Baijiazhuang Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区白家庄路中纺东里29号楼1层 (6593 6593)

# RAMO

## Pies on the Prize

words by Dominique Wong, image by Wang Huiwei

Way back in 2014 – OK, not that long ago, but that’s like, 29 in dog years – Ramo opened its doors and floor-to-ceiling windows to the teeming hipster masses of Fangjia Hutong. The restaurant’s blend of pizza pies and pop art was a hit. But then, earlier this year, Ramo’s beautiful windows were bricked over (as were its neighbors’, see p. 51) and it closed not long after.

So, what’s a Fangjia restaurant to do? Find another hutong spot and risk getting on the wrong side of construction, again? (RIP, MoxiMoxi.) Relocate and rebrand somewhere close? (Hi, Nina.) No, no, Ramo literally looked the other way – way up north, to Lido.

Ramo’s new location is more Wangjing South than 798 Art District. But what seems like an off-brand move actually works surprisingly well. It’s a major size upgrade – two floors and an outdoor patio – but the character remains the same. The colorful space is pet-friendly – during our visit, we spot a Siberian husky chilling outside.



The menu has expanded to include handmade pasta, and the clientele has expanded to include small children. There’s both a ball pit for kids and a bar upstairs for adults – the Lido version of Ramo’s old bar Mimi e Coco, which also shut down.

The restaurant’s pizza and flatbreads are now made with imported flour and cheese, which sounds – and tastes – legit. Our Parma ham and rocket pizza is solid. We order a large because, well, obviously, and also the

only other option is small. That’s right: no more pizza-by-the-slice for you. We also order the juicy classic beef burger. And the barbecue wings. And pickles.

This order-everything-off-the-menu strategy works well, and we advise you to do the same. Nobody has to know (mainly because Ramo is so much further away).

Daily, 11am-11pm; 9-2 Jiangtai Xilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区将台西路9-2号 (6436 1299)

# TINY TAPROOM AND IZAKAYA

## Big Brews

words and images by Noelle Mateer



If we were to say a new bar serves ‘beer from Wuhan,’ would that even register with you? Do you know anything about Wuhan’s craft beer scene? Do you know anything about Wuhan? Do you even know which province Wuhan is the capital of? Bonus prize to whomever emails [bjeditor@urbanatomy.com](mailto:bjeditor@urbanatomy.com) with the answer.\* But hey, regardless of your Wuhan know-how, we’re here to tell you: There’s a new bar that

serves beer from Wuhan. The bar is Tiny, and this is huge.

Tiny Taproom and Izakaya is the latest to join Beijing’s craft beer scene, and it serves beer from Wuhan’s Bubble Lab, which you can’t get anywhere else in the capital. Fine, OK, the name ‘Bubble Lab’ sounds more like a tween lip-gloss brand than that of a craft brewery – but these are serious

beers. (We applaud both Tiny and Bubble Lab for their rejection of masculine-leaning names.) We in Beijing like to think we live in the craft beer capital of China – and, for the most part, we do – but Wuhan’s small scene is a credible threat to our title. The Bubble IPA is one of the best in the city. So get off your high horse, beer nerds – Bubble Lab makes brews on par with the best ones in Beijing.

Tiny, while small, isn’t exactly tiny. The taproom – which was shut out of its original location by, you guessed it, bricks – now hosts a cozy dining room, serving Japanese snacks and sukiyaki. The location is just behind the new Shang building, of Bottega and Q Mex fame, a part of town that is, dare we say, up-and-coming? Yet despite being meters behind two restaurants full of expats, Tiny has yet to penetrate the *laowai* scene (this is a good thing).

This is why, no offense, we kind of don’t want to tell you about it. Sorry readers, but sometimes you f\*ck things up. Tiny is too casually cool to swallow up your drunken masses. But hey – we make this magazine for you, not us. So, fine. You know the drill. Address details below.

Daily, 6pm-1am, 1/F, Class Hotel, 19 Xinyuanxili, Chaoyang 朝阳区新源西里19号格纳斯大厦1/F \*There is definitely no prize for this.



## BISTRO 3

### Slicker than Your Average

by Dominique Wong

Look at the food and drink reviews on these pages: All Sanlitun-based. Mostly Sanlitun-based. You get the idea – if you're in the area, you've got options. And yet, you probably still end up at your old haunts. We are creatures of habit, after all.

But if your fave bar happens to be Infusion Room – and it is many Beijingers' fave bar – it's easy to check out Bistro 3, as the Courtyard 4 newbie sits right beside it and even shares the same cocktail menu.

Even if you're *not* into speakeasies like Infusion Room, Bistro 3 is worth trying. The door opens automatically, *without* a password, and the dining experience would be singular even for non-drinkers.

We appreciate the cozy atmosphere – the space includes just a handful of tables, so you're more likely to catch your neighboring table's dinner conversation than have to shout across the table. This intimacy also provides us with ample opportunity to judge our neighbors' meals (perhaps we should have ordered the roast sheep).

Ordered a la carte or via set menu, the European-style fare offers something for everyone. (Except vegetarians, who'll have to make do with a couple of appetizers.) Each dish is elegantly presented and most hit the mark. Our favorite appetizer is the saliva chicken (RMB70), mouthwatering sous-vide chicken breast. Our main is average (again, should've ordered the sheep) but dessert impresses: the rice tea (RMB45), oolong tea ice cream atop a bed of nuts and a side of puffed rice, is fantastic.

Perhaps what's best about this place is that it all comes with a side of world-class mixology – Infusion Room's own show-stopping cocktails. This isn't your average bottle-of-wine-with-dinner joint. Perhaps the best part, then, is staying for cocktails afterwards.

Wed-Mon, 6-10.30pm; D Lounge upper level, Courtyard 4, Gongti Beilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区工体北路四号D Lounge 2层 (6415 9837)



## ONE THIRD

### Welcome to the Club

by Noelle Mateer

Look, we'm not gonna tell you our salaries or anything, but we don't normally hang out in places where the first item on the menu is RMB65,888.

But some people do. A lot of people do. And hell, maybe even we will now (although we'll be ordering from a different page of the menu).

One Third has all the trappings of a notorious Gongti club – a prime location on Gongti Xilu, metal detectors and squads of security guards at the entrance, hot girls parading around Champagne bottles, lit up with LED lights.

But it's also different. The drinks menu here is world-class, with holdovers from the owners' days at former cocktail institution BBC (Bottle, Boot & Cigar). The club's expert bartenders serve barrel-aged, well, everything – barrel-aged Hemingway Daiquiris (RMB110), barrel-aged Vieux Carrés (RMB130), barrel-aged Negronis (RMB90). Our barrel-aged Old Fashioned (RMB90) is excellent – as is our Coppertone Girl (RMB100, surprisingly not barrel-aged).

We're more used to sipping these kind of drinks to a subdued jazz soundtrack, not blaring EDM. But hey – after a couple whiskeys, the weirdness of it fades away.

Daily, until late; 6 Gongti Xilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区工体西路6号 (6553 5568)





# CAPITAL SPIRITS BAR AND DISTILLERY

## When Two Become One

words and images Dominique Wong

Fact: If a *laowai* says their favorite liquor is baijiu they're either a) lying or b) have been to Capital Spirits Bar and Distillery, where the eponymous spirit is the distilled Chinese liquor.

If the name sounds familiar, it's because the new bar is a mash-up of two popular hutong bars that were bricked over during the local government's 'beautification' campaign.

But Capital Spirits and The Distillery are back – now, together. The new location is just across from the old 'D,' and considering the two were owned and operated by the same dudes, the merge makes a lot sense. Now, when your friends visit Beijing, you only have to stop at one place, where you can grab a Baijiu Sour (RMB40) for them and a martini (RMB60) for you. Everybody wins.

However, if you don't at least try *one* of the baijiu-based cocktails, you're doing it wrong. They truly are a work of art. Picking the right one is tough – nobody wants to end up with a baijiu cocktail they don't like, no matter how much they dig baijiu – but luckily, Capital Spirits offers tasting flights (RMB30-180 per flight). Sample different types of baijiu, pick your favorite, and the bartender will recommend a cocktail to suit.

If that sounds like too much work, you can't go wrong with the Maotai Coco Cream (RMB60), which is best described as coconut-chocolate milk, with a casual dash of Maotai.

On the distillery side, the lip-smacking house gin (RMB50) comes in four varieties, including Chrysanthemum Monkey, named after the year it was made, and Uncle Karl's, named after, well, someone's uncle named Karl.

Drink decided, you can chill in either the main bar space, or in a second, more private room, across the courtyard. The team is working on an upstairs terrace, too.

Altogether, it's an exciting start, yet the bar's enduring appeal comes down to its lack of gimmickry. Sure, it's "the baijiu bar," and also "the gin bar," but mostly, it's just a damn fine place to spend an evening.



Sun-Thu, 7pm-midnight, Fri-Sat, 7pm-2am; 16 Xinsi Hutong, Dongcheng 东城区辛寺胡同16号 (6409 3319)



### ● DJ Snake / Electronic

You may not know DJ Snake, but we'd be shocked if you didn't recognize the hook from 'Let Me Love You,' his collab with Justin Bieber that topped the charts all last summer. But the French trap, pop and EDM producer's got more under his belt (most notably, 'Turn Down For What') that he'll be strutting at Sir Teen this month.

Sat Dec 9; RMB280-380; Sir Teen, 6 Gongti Xilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区工体西路6号 (8821 9999, tickets available via weidian.com)

### ● Feloneyzy & Stevie Whisper / Electronic



Good month for Serbian DJs in Beijing (see box on Tijana T, above): Antidote is bringing in two stars of the Belgrade underground for their first-ever Asia performance. Both Boiler Room veterans, the men hail from their city's infamous Klub 20/44. Expect a night of eclectic and forward-thinking club music.

Fri Dec 8; tickets TBD; Dada (see Listings for details)

### ● Tijana T / Electronic



Globe-trotting Serbian DJ Tijana T has played on stages at major festivals and top nightclubs across Europe – and now she's bringing her critically-acclaimed techno to Lantern, her first-ever China show. Support comes from Lantern stalwarts Weng Weng, BB Deng, Nigls and more.

Sat Dec 9; RMB80 (door), RMB60 (presale)

### ● A Place to Bury Strangers / Rock



NYC-based noise rockers A Place to Bury Strangers found A Place to Play in Beijing at Yugong Yishan. The trio are known for a sound that blends shoegaze, psychedelia and garage rock, and have opened for the likes of Nine Inch Nails and MGMT. This is your chance to experience the sound that the *Washington Post* once called: "the most ear-shatteringly loud garage/shoegaze band you'll ever hear."

Thu Dec 14; RMB150 (door), RMB120 (presale); Yugong Yishan (see Listings for details)

### ● Sami T (Mighty Crown) / Electronic



Coming from Japanese reggae soudsystem Might Crown, Sami T is bringing his custom reggae sounds to Dada just in time for a pre-Christmas dance party.

Sat Dec 23; tickets TBD; Dada (see Listings for details)

### ● Machinedrum / Electronic



Ever since his first independent release in 1999, Machinedrum has been a major influencer in American electronic music. His genre-shifting style and clever, conceptual sounds have led him to innovate both as a solo artist and in group projects such as Sepalcure, JETS and Dream Continuum.

Sun Dec 10; tickets TBD; Dada (see Listings for details)





## ● Slow Boat Family Day Holidays

Celebrate the holiday season at Slow Boat's fun-filled, family-friendly day. Expect cookie decorating, holiday crafts, a tasty brunch and the release of Slow Boat's Safe Harbor Christmas Ale. Price includes brunch for both parent and child, a pint of Christmas Ale or coffee, and access to the craft station. Families with children of all ages are welcome. Non-profit organization Bread of Life Bakery is a partner of the event.

Sat Dec 9, 11:30am-4pm; RMB150 (per parent); Slow Boat Sanlitun Brewpub, 6 Sanlitun Nan Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯南路6号 (6592 5388; register via <https://yopay.cn/event/12748579>)

## ● Tropicalismo Party



Every Saturday Migas Sanlitun transforms into a sultry paradise with new party night 'Tropicalismo.' Join the fun-loving crew for an evening (and early morning) of dope music, including Latin trap, Mambo and Spanish classics, palm trees, mojitos and rum. Migas puts on the heat – you just need to get your booty on the d-floor, as DJ Joyce & Friends spin tracks from Spain and Latin America.

Saturdays, 10pm-late; free entry; Migas Sanlitun (see Listings for details)

## ● ICVS Christmas Party / Holidays



The holidays aren't just for humans. Treat the special animal in your life to a fluffy good time at International Center for Veterinary Services' (ICVS) Christmas party. Expect presents and treats, including a specially catered feast, with help from Penny's Food Studio, Beijing's premier gourmet pet food company (our editor-in-chief can attest that Penny's is legit, see *That's Beijing*, Oct 2015). Partygoers can also take part in a raffle draw, with all proceeds donated to ICVS' non-profit humane animal welfare programs. ICVS helps stray, rescued and rehomed animals in Beijing with a range of programs including adoption, surgeries and vaccinations. Note: All pets that attend must be fully vaccinated, with cats in carriers and dogs on leash.

Sat Dec 9, 2-5pm; ICVS, 13-16 Rongke Ganlan Chengshang Jie, Futong Xi Dajie, Wangjing, Chaoyang 朝阳区望京阜通西大街融科橄榄城商街13-16号 (RSVP by Dec 9 to [reception@ICVSASIA.com](mailto:reception@ICVSASIA.com))

## ● The King of Peking / Film



Forget box office cinema, head down to The Hutong instead for a special film screening of *King of Peking*. Featured at the Tribeca 2017 Film Festival, the comedic drama is set in 90s Beijing and follows a former film projectionist who, along with his son, starts a pirate movie company. The film examines themes of morality and father-son relationships. Try not to feel nostalgic at the cool 90s visuals and the 'good old days' of Beijing setting. The screening will be followed by a 30-minute Q&A session with director Sam Voutas and producer Melanie Ansley. An Australian native, Voutas was raised in Beijing in the 80s and 90s.

Wed Dec 13, 7-9.30pm; RMB50 (RMB40 for The Hutong members); The Hutong (see Listings for details)

## ● Art in Hospitals Volunteering



Launched two years ago by Professor Lili Tang, Art in Hospitals seeks to comfort patients through the gift of music. Peking University Cancer Hospital is looking for volunteers who'd like to share their musical passions with patients and staff at the hospital. If you can play piano, violin, accordion or other, have some time to spare, and are keen to make a difference, get in touch with the contact below.

Daily; Peking University, 1 Yiheyuan Lu, Haidian 海淀区颐和园路1号 (contact Eva Wang, 139 1041 0111, [www.bjhacf.org/en/](http://www.bjhacf.org/en/))

## ● Christmas Barbecue at the Great Wall Holidays



Beijing Experience is holding an exclusive BBQ at the foot of the Badaling Old Great Wall, just before Christmas. Visit an old section of the wall, enjoy live music and chow down on Casti Uruguayan beef, craft sausages, imported and local beers, mulled wine, and dessert by Hutong'er Pie. The venue is a private indoor room, though participants can also go hiking. Price includes transportation, meals and drinks and entrance to Badaling Old Great Wall. Book before Dec 14.

Sun Dec 17, 8.30am meetib; RMB499 (adults), RMB399 (kids); Badaling Old Great Wall (for more info and booking, add WeChat ID: 130 7113 9166)



### ● Holy Hot Fish Challenge Dining

Christmas Eve is spicy this year at MoMo Café, where you can celebrate by challenging your taste buds with a spicy fish-eating contest. The first one to finish an entire half-kilo of tuna will be awarded the grand prize of the evening: a two-night stay in a Deluxe guest room, with breakfast for two, at the Courtyard by Marriott Beijing Northeast. Other dishes from the buffet are also available, as are activities for the little ones.

Sun Dec 24; Momo Café, Courtyard by Marriott Beijing Northeast, 101 Jingmi Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区京密路101号 (5907 6666)

### ● La Granja Farmers Brunch Dining



Migas has debuted a new tummy- and heart-warming brunch just in time for winter. Inspired by farming villages in Spain, La Granja Farmers Brunch will be serving rustic Spanish breakfast dishes with a creative twist. Enjoy your huevos and wine – this is one meal that ought to last a long time.

Weekends, 11.30am-2.30pm; Migas (Sanlitun, see Listings for details)

### ● Christmas Dinner at JW Marriott Holiday



JW Marriott Hotel Beijing Central is doing Christmas right with not one, but two Christmas dinner options.

Enjoy a specially crafted set menu at Casalingo, their award-winning Italian restaurant, for a high-end holiday experience. Or go crazy with all-you-can-eat seafood, including lobster, sashimi, crabs and shellfish, at JW Kitchen.

Christmas just got merrier.

Mon Dec 25, 5.30-11pm; JW Marriott Hotel Beijing Central; Seafood Buffet Dinner at JW Kitchen, RMB688 per couple; Christmas Set Menu at Casalingo, RMB1,588 per couple of RMB888 per person (or more information or to book, call 6391 6361)

### ● Christmas at FEAST Holiday



Christmas isn't complete without a feast. So this year, Feast will have the roast with the most at their Christmas Eve dinner and Christmas Day all-day buffet. Their bountiful buffet will be complimented with festive dishes including traditional roast turkey, roast lamb leg, baked salmon, oysters, lobster and more.

Sun Dec 24, 5.30-10pm, RMB488/person; Mon Dec 25, noon-9pm, RMB388/person; Feast, Food by EAST (see Listings for details)

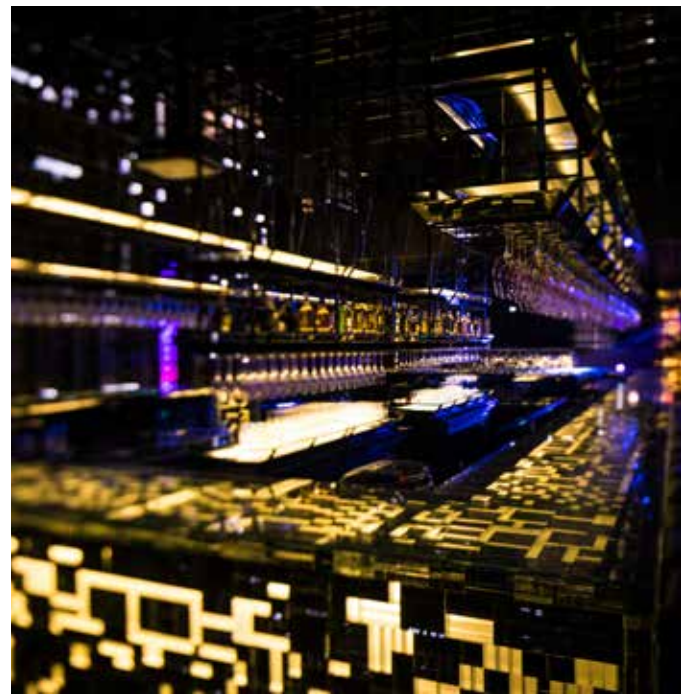
### ● Truffle Season / Dining at Opera Bombana



Forget Thanksgiving – truffle season is the late-Autumn meal of your dreams. Opera Bombana does it like nobody else, with a custom menu created by Executive Chef Marino D'Antonio using the finest Italian truffles. This year's menu features homemade tagliolini with butter and parmesan, whipped organic Japanese egg and risotto with cheese and seasonal mushrooms. Each dish comes sprinkled with truffles, which are shaved in front of you by the Chef himself. A one-of-a-kind dining experience not to be missed.

All month; Opera Bombana (see Listings for details)

### ● Social Nights / Drinking



Weekdays are the new weekends. At least at EQUIS, they are – the glitzy bar and club has launched 'Social Nights' on Mondays and Tuesdays to get the beautiful people of Beijing out and boozing during the week. Sip cocktails as you tap your feet to the musical stylings of DJ Foxy J, be wowed by Argentinian-born magician Mirko Callaci (seriously, he's good), and enjoy special deals on packages of Champagne and oysters. (Then call in late to work the next day.)

Every Monday and Tuesday; EQUIS, 5/F The Four Seasons Hotel Beijing, 48 Liangmaqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区亮马桥路48号北京四季酒店5/F (5695 8880)



## ● Kooza: Cirque du Soleil Acrobatics

If you haven't been to *Cirque du Soleil* before, you haven't lived. Seriously, though, the show's acrobatic performers' death-defying stunts and beautiful costumes are wonderful. And *Kooza* ain't clowning around (despite the main characters being, well, clowns), as it explores themes of power, identity and fear. Follow protagonist 'The Innocent' as he encounters surreal characters in a bizarre world.

Fri Dec 15-Sat Dec 23, Fri Dec 29-Sun Feb 11; RMB280-1,980; Chaoyang Park 朝阳公园 (tickets via [www.cirquedusoleil.com/kooza](http://www.cirquedusoleil.com/kooza))

## ● A Doll's House Theater



First performed in Copenhagen in 1879, Henrik Ibsen's *A Doll's House* is regarded as a masterpiece. The play is notable for its strong main character, Nora, who through her actions, questions the traditional roles of men and women in 19th-century marriage. It touches upon themes of love, money, reputation and social status.

Fri Dec 8-Fri Dec 22, 7:30pm; RMB180-380; Multi-functional Theatre of NCPA, 2 Xi Chang'an Jie, Xicheng 西城区西长安街2号 (tickets via [sales@theatrebeijing.com](mailto:sales@theatrebeijing.com))

## ● Room 39 / Exhibition



A photography exhibition inspired by artist Zheng Jing's experiences during an artist-in-residence program at Lichterfelde Prison in Berlin, Germany, *Room 39* examines different ways that nature, the human body and architecture undergo reform.

Zheng spent 57 days living in the eponymous prison room. Measuring 3.36 meters by 2 meters, and including a metal window high up on the wall, the room's dark and claustrophobic conditions led the artist to wonder what kind of person occupied such a room and what crime he or she committed to be sent there. To find out the answers to these questions, Zheng met one of the prison's former prison guards, Stefan, who told him: "We sat here, chatted and chatted, and suddenly 12 years had gone by."

Through Sun Jan 7, Tue-Sun, 10am-6pm; MOCUBE, 798 Art District, 2 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区酒仙桥路2号798艺术区 (5978 9376)



## ● Hutong Heroes Vol. 3 Stand-up



Comedy Club China and the US China Comedy Center team up for a night of 'I can't believe they went there' laughs. Hosted by David Jacobs and set in a charming hutong courtyard, the stand-up evening includes comedy by Jennifer Hsiung, Jonny Whinna and Lucila San Martin.

Sat Dec 2, 8-10pm; RMB50; Project Pengyou Courtyard, 65 Xiaojingchang Hutong, Dongcheng 东城区小经厂胡同65号

## ● Crime and Punishment Film screenings



Media company Hugoeast and Ullens Center for Contemporary Art (UCCA) present a series of weekly movie screenings, held every Friday. The event showcases critically acclaimed films from all around the world. This month the theme is 'Crime and Punishment,' and includes the following films: *Aibou 4: The Move IV* (Dec 8), *Paulina* (Dec 15), *Clean Hands* (Dec 22) and *Glory* (Dec 29)

Fri Dec 8-Fri Dec 29, 7:30pm; RMB30 per ticket (RMB20 for UCCA members), RMB100 per set ticket, includes four films (RMB60 for UCCA members); UCCA (see Listings for details)

# LISTINGS

Expensive.....¥  
 Expense Account .....¥¥  
 Highly Recommended .....\*  
 Top Ten .....\*\*

## OPEN DOOR



## V SPORTS

### V-ery Nice

OK, fine - winter in Beijing is not the best time for sports. It's cold, it's polluted, it's windy - and unless your sport is ice-skating on Houhai, you're probably gonna be pretty miserable out there. Fortunately for Beijingers, V Sports has all the blood-pumping action and big screens indoors - plus a bangin' menu of classic American grub.

This winter, fuel up on V Sports' pork ribs, organic baby back ribs imported from Spain and marinated for 48 hours in a house blend of 15 spices. Try them in all three styles - BBQ, honey or Sichuan (for the spice lovers). No matter the flavor, their mouth-watering meat is bound to fall right off the bone.

For something a bit south of the border, the Mexican Burger, featuring imported Australian beef on a sesame-seed bun, is bound to please. It's a juicy and tasty classic burger, with a Mexican twist - toppings include jalapeno, a crisp tortilla round and ancho chile sauce.

But there's even more for meat lovers - at V Sports' own Steakhouse, you can choose your cut of beef from Ribeye, Sirloin, T-Bone, Filet or Boneless Short Ribs, grilled exactly how you like it. Sound like a deal that's too good to pass up? Become a Steakhouse member, and enjoy 50 percent off each day of the month that ends in 8. Winter just got warmer.

Daily, 9.30am-late; Gongti North Gate East Side, Chaoyang 朝阳区工人体育场北门内侧 (5293 0333)

## RESTAURANTS

### The Hot One Hundred

About This guide represents our editors' top 100 picks, and includes some *That's Beijing* advertisers. Restaurants rated(\*) have been personally reviewed by our experts, and scored according to the cuisine, experience and affordability.

### CHINESE

#### Contemporary & Mixed Cuisine

##### 8 Qi Nian 祈年8号 (Cantonese/Sichuan)

The New World Hotel's flagship restaurant has classic Chinese cuisine in abundance, as well as some vitality-restoring medicinal soups. (Their decent wine list is just as effective.)

> Mon-Fri 11.30am-2.15pm, 5.30-9.30pm, Sat/Sun 12-2:45pm, 5.30-9.30pm; 2/F, New World Hotel, 8 Qianian Dajie, Dongcheng 东城区祈年大街8号新世界酒店2层 (5960 8822)

##### Din Tai Fung 鼎泰丰 ¥ (Taiwanese)

This Taipei-based franchise impressed Ken Hom enough to call it one of the best 10 eateries in the world, back in 1993. Famous for its dependably delicious *xiaolongbao* or little steam buns. Book ahead, there's always a long wait.

> Daily 11.30am-2.30pm, 5-10pm, weekends 11.30am-10pm; 24 Middle Street, Xinyuanxili, Chaoyang 朝阳区新源西里中街24号 (近渔阳饭店) (6462 4502) > Additional branches in Shin Kong Place; Parkview Green; Grand Pacific Mall Xidan; Modern Plaza Zhongguancun; see www.dintai fung.com.cn for details

##### Jing Yaa Tang 京雅堂 (Chinese, Peking Duck)

Resembling something between a nightclub and a theater, the Opposite House's basement restaurant proves to be more than just style over substance with their range of expertly prepared classic dishes.

> Daily 12-10.30pm, B1/F, The Opposite House, Sanlitun Bei Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路11号院1号楼瑜舍酒B1楼 (6410 5230)

### Peking Duck

##### The Horizon 海天阁 (Cantonese Beijing Duck) \*\*

Kerry Hotel's Chinese restaurant has widened its predominantly Cantonese and Sichuan horizons to include dim sum, double-boiled soups and Peking duck - and the roast bird here really is fabulous.

> Daily 11.30am-2.30pm, 5.30pm-10pm 1/F, Beijing Kerry Hotel, 1 Guanghua Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区光华路1号嘉里中心1层 (8565 2188)

##### Honglu 红炉



Quality Peking duck on the cheap? Oh yes, it's possible - thanks to Honglu. The popular restaurant serves traditional Beijing food with a stylish twist (which is exactly why it's so crowded at lunchtime).

> Daily 11am-9.30pm, Sanlitun: Daily 11:00am-10:00pm, 60 Meters Of No. 6 Building Sanlitun South Road Chaoyang 三里屯店: 朝阳区三里屯南路6号楼南侧60米 (6595 9872; 6593 8970) Raffles: Daily 11:00am-10:00pm, 5 Floor Of Raffles shopping center Dongzhimen Dongcheng 来福士店: 东城区东直门来福士购物中心5层 (8409 8199; 8409 8234)

##### Country Kitchen

The name 'Country Kitchen' may sound like a diner, but a diner this is not. Rosewood

Beijing's resplendent Northern Chinese restaurant serves elegant Hebei fare unlike you've ever had. Excellent peking duck is on offer as well.

> Daily 11.30am-2.30pm and 5.30-10.30pm; 3F Rosewood Beijing, Jing Guang Centre, Huijialou, Chaoyang 朝阳区呼家楼一号京广中心北京瑰丽酒店3层 (6597 8888)

##### Da Dong 大董

Among the city's most famous haunts, Da Dong guarantees slick cuts of Beijing-style roast duck and delectable wrap fillings. The venue's a class act and the plum sauce is hard to follow.

> Daily 11am-10pm; 22 Dongshisitiao, Dongcheng 东城区东四十条甲22号 (5169 0328); see www.dadong-gdadong.com for more locations

##### Duck de Chine 全鸭季 ¥ \*

Good duck is meant to show your guests how wonderful you are, as much as the food. Duck De Chine does that in spades, with fantastic presentation of its crispy, succulent duck (RMB188).

> Daily 11.30am-2.30pm; Courtyard 4, 1949 The Hidden City, Gongti Bei Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区工体北路4号院 (6501 8881); 98 Jinbao Jie, Dongcheng 东城区金宝街98号 (6521 2221)

##### Xihe Village Restaurant and Bar

> Mon-Fri Lunch: 11am-2.30pm; Dinner: 5-9pm; Sun: 11am-9pm, 59-33, 3/F, South Area of Sanlitun TaikooLi, 19 Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路19号三里屯太古里南区三层59-33(6417 6082)

### Shanghai

##### Shanghai Min 小南国

Many swear this chain has the best Shanghai-style *hongshaorou* north of the Yangtze. The jury's out, but its popularity remains.

> 0505, 5/F Raffles City Mall, 1 Dongzhimen Nan Dajie, Dongcheng 东城区东直门南大街1号来福士购物中心5楼0505号铺 (400 820 9777) > Additional branches in Financial Street; Jinbao Jie; Oriental Plaza; Sanlitun Soho; Xinyuan Nan Lu (see www.online.thatsmags.com for details)

##### Wang Jia Sha 王家沙

Modern Shanghai cuisine - popular with Hong Kong celebrities - famed for its crab-meat dumplings. Try the spiced-salt ribs (RMB62) for a bit of Adam action.

> Daily, 51-30a Taikoo Li Sanlitun (on the third floor of 1st shop) 朝阳区三里屯路19号院太古里1号楼3层 51-30a号商铺 (6416 3469)

### Sichuan/Hunan

##### Chuan Ban 川办 \*

This bright, modestly decorated dining hall is frequently cited as Beijing's best Sichuan restaurant.

> Mon-Fri 7-9am, 10.50am-2pm, 4.50-9.30pm; Sat-Sun 7am-10pm; 5 Gongyuan Toutiao, Jianguomennei Dajie, Dongcheng 东城区建国门内贡院头条5号 (6512 2277, ext. 6101)

##### Karaiya Spice House 辣屋 \*

Bold and fiery Hunan cuisine in the most serene of restaurant interiors. Don't miss the dry roasted duck with a dozen spices and stir fried bullfrog with shiso leaves and ginger. Peanut milk is there to soothe the palate: you'll need it.

> Daily 11:30am-2pm, 5.30-10pm; 3/F, Sanlitun Taikoo Li South, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯太古里19号院南区三层59-30 (6415 3535)

##### South Memory 望湖园

This restaurant chain is the Hunan staple in the capital. The trademark *shilixiang niurou* (fragrant beef), *duojiao shuangse yutou* (dual-colour spiced fish head) and meltily tender frog dishes are among the favorites with locals.

> Daily 11am-10pm; 2/F, 230-232, Fenglian Plaza, 18 Chaoyangmen Wai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区朝外大街18号丰联广场2楼230-232号 (6588 1797); see www.southmemory.com for more locations

##### Yu Xin 渝信川菜

Open since 1993, Yu Xin's authentic Sichuan dishes have earned a local fanbase. Their *liangfen* - a jelly-like substance cut into chunky strips and dressed in an addictive spicy sauce - hits the spot. The rustic, intimate setting of bamboo cubicles and soft, friendly service complete the experience.

> Daily 11am-10pm; 5A Xingfu Yicun Xili, Chaoyang 朝阳区幸福一村西里甲5号 see www.yuxin1997.com

for other locations.

## Yunnan

### Dali Courtyard 大理院子 \*

If you like authentic Yunnanese food, you'll have to trust the staff; there's no menu, it all just arrives in an intimate courtyard setting. The price (RMB120/person) matches the rustic ingredients.

> Daily 12-2pm, 6-10.30pm; Gulou Dong Dajie, 67 Xiaojingchang Hutong, Dongcheng 东城区鼓楼东大街小经厂胡同67号 (8404 1430)

### Lost Heaven 花马天堂 (Yunnan, SE Asian)

An emphasis on Yunnan characterizes this menu's fresh journey through the SE Asia passage, with a grandiose yet dark teak interior.

> Daily noon-2pm, 5pm-10.30 (bar open till 1am). Ch'ien Men 23, 23 Qianmen Dongdajie, Dongcheng 东城区前门东大街23号 (8516 2698)

### Middle 8 Restaurant 中8楼 \*



An oasis at the top of Taikoo Li, Middle 8 is the go-to destination for fresh authentic Yunnan cuisine. The restaurant, stylish yet understated, has plenty of flavorful well-priced dishes and a killer view to boot.

> Sanlitun: Daily 11am-10pm, Taikoo Li Sanlitun South South Area F4, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯太古里南区4层 (6415 8858); Indigo: Daily 11am-10pm, Jiuxianqiao Road No.20 Indigo F2, Chaoyang 朝阳区酒仙桥20号颐堤港2层 (8420 0883); Zhongguancun: Daily 11am-10pm, Zhongguancun Plaza Pedestrian Street, No.17, Haidian 海淀区中关村广场步行街17号 (5172 1728); Fenglan: Daily 11am-10pm, Xizhimen North Street No.32 Maples International Center Blok B, 1 Floor, Haidian 海淀区西直门大街32号枫蓝国际中心B座1层 (6223 5583)

### Youyun

> Daily, 10am-11pm, 63 Baokeng Hutong, Beixinqiao, Dongcheng 东城区北新桥八宝坑胡同63号 6407 2050 / 185 1092 0709

### Yun'er Small Town 云洱小镇

Folksy and affordable Yunnanese fare on Beiluoguxiang. Fragrant dishes including the jasmine bulbs with scrambled eggs, lemongrass shrimp and banana leaf wrapped bolete mushrooms will keep us crawling back.

> Daily 10am-11pm, 84 Beiluoguxiang, Dongcheng 东城区北锣鼓巷84号 (8404 2407)

## Dumplings

### Baoyuan Jiaoziwu 宝源饺子屋

Famous for their rainbow of dyed dumplings, Baoyuan have their *jiaozzi* (six, under RMB10) wrapped in a larger *yanbao* silver-tingot shape, with creative vegetarian options and authentic Sichuan food.

> Daily 11am-10pm; north of 6 Maizidian Jie, Chaoyang 朝阳区麦子店街6号楼北侧 (6586 4967)

### Mr Shi's Dumplings 老石饺子馆

Since receiving a *Lonely Planet* recommendation the prices have risen and the walls are covered in backpackers' scribbles, but the fantastic dumplings – boiled and fried – are still fantastic.

> 74 Baochao Hutong, Gulou Dong Dajie, Dongcheng 东城区鼓楼东大街宝钞胡同74号 (8405 0399, 131 6100 3826)

## Regional

### Crescent Moon (Xinjiang) \*

Roast mutton enthusiasts go over the moon at this reputable Xinjiang Muslim restaurant. Eastern European and Central Asian influences are evident throughout, with peppery and cumin-spiced dishes living up traditional Chinese favorites.

> Daily 10am-11.30pm; 16 Dongsi Liutiao, Dongcheng 东四六条16号 (6400 5281)

### Hejia by NUO Hotel

Featuring modern Ming elements with inspired paintings from Xu Wei, a painter, calligrapher and food and wine connoisseur, the quintessentially authentic house of agriculture produces, Jia Chinese restaurant serves exquisite traditional Cantonese

specialties in their purest form with chefs hailing from Hong Kong. Using the freshest ingredients from NUO's very own green farms, NUO Hotel Beijing provides an alternative green gourmet option in town.

> Mon-Fri: 11.30am-2pm, 5.30-10pm; Sat-Sun: 11am-2.30pm, 5.30-10pm; 1/F, NUO Hotel Beijing, 2A Jiangtai Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区将台路甲2号北京诺金酒店一层 (5926 8281)

### Da Gui (Guizhou)

Guizhou's famed hot-and-sour cuisine nestled into a charming traditional alleyway. Munch happily into pickled greens and don't miss the salty-sweet deep-fried black sesame balls. They're sensational.

> Daily 10am-2pm, 5-10pm; 69 Daxing Hutong, Jiadaokou, Dongcheng 东城区交道口大兴胡同69号 (6407 1800)

### Makeye Ame (Tibetan)

Determined to prove that Tibetan cuisine consists of more than just yak-butter tea, the Beijing branch of this nationwide chain serves up nomadic classics such as curried potatoes and roast lamb.

> Daily 10-midnight; 11A Xiushui Nanjie, Jianguomenwai, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国门外秀水南街甲11号 (6506 9616)

### Xinjiang Red Rose (Xinjiang) \*

One of Beijing's most famous Xinjiang restaurant, Red Rose serves some of the tenderest lamb skewers around, matched by enormous servings of classics like *dapanji* (a chicken, potato and pepper stew), *latiaozi* (noodles with a spicy tomato sauce) and *nang* (baked flatbread).

> Daily 10.30am-11pm; Inside 7 Xingfuyuan, opposite Workers' Stadium North Gate, Chaoyang 朝阳区工人体育场北门对面幸福一村7巷内 (6415 5741)

## WESTERN

### Fine Dining

### Barolo ¥¥ (Italian) \*

Average Italian abounds in Beijing: not here, though. Quite the opposite, in fact, meaning Barolo is as well-regarded as the Piedmont wine it is named after.

> Mon-Sun 11.30am-2pm, 6pm-10pm. Ritz Carlton Hotel, China Central Place, 83A Jianguo Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国路83号华贸中心丽思卡尔顿酒店内 (5908 8151)

### Maison Flo ¥¥ (French) \*

Marble slabs, mosaic floors and brass fittings establish the Parisian bona fides; dishes like snails (RMB78), oysters (RMB48 each) and steak tartare (RMB158) confirm. The grandeur is matched only by the service, and the prices reflect the authenticity of the experience.

> Daily 11am-midnight; 18 Xiaoyun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区霄云路18号 (6595 5135)

### The Georg \*\*

This hutong mansion has an elegant restaurant, leather-couched lounge area, sleek bar and sick location near Houhai. But most importantly, it has some of the most thoughtful, innovative cuisine in town. Go for a dinner you won't forget.

> 10.30am-midnight (dinner 6-10.30pm), closed Mondays; 45 Dongbuyuqiao Hutong, Dongcheng 东城区东不压桥胡同45号 (8408 5300)

### Héritage ¥¥

A French country-style chateau in the heart of Beijing. A chef de cuisine with Michelin star restaurant experience and an extensive wine cellar make this Sofitel Hotel restaurant one of the best French dining experiences in town.

> 6F Sofitel Wanda Beijing, Tower C, Wanda Plaza, 93 Jianguo Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国路93号万达广场C座索菲特酒店6层 (8599 6666)

### TRB (Temple Restaurant Beijing) ¥¥ \*\*

Setting is everything here, especially if it's fashioned inside a restored Buddhist temple. The bold contemporary European cuisine is fitting in majesty and the service alone is worthy of worship.

> Daily 11.30am-2.30pm, 6-10pm; 23 Songzhushi Temple, Shatan Beijie, Dongcheng 东城区沙滩北街嵩祝寺23号 (8400 2232)

### Mio ¥¥

Glitzy Italian fare at the Four Seasons, with a mobile Bellini cart, wheeled straight to your table. The Chef crafts a superb squash tortellini by hand, and pampers diners with desserts like the deconstructed tiramisu.

> Daily lunch 11.30am - 2.30pm, dinner 5.30pm - 10.30pm, Four Seasons Hotel, 48 Liangmaqiao Lu, Chaoyang, 朝阳区亮马桥路48号北京四季酒店 (5695 8888)

### Grange Grill \*\*

Located in the Westin Beijing Chaoyang, Grange Grill serves up some of the city's best steak, seafood and grill offerings. The restaurant's welcoming decor provides a

## OPEN DOOR



## THE ENGLISH TEAROOM

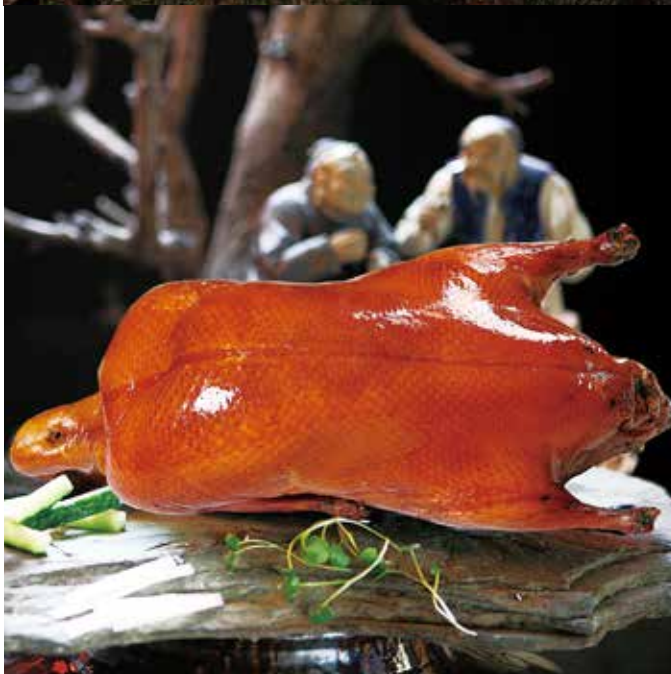
### Fit for a Queen

The English Tearoom is always a royally good time, but this month, the Shunyi restaurant is upping the ante with new dishes for the holiday season. As any Brit worth her salt should know, mince pies are as English Christmas as it gets – and The English Tearoom is here to help you celebrate UK-style. All month, they'll be churning out delicious, freshly-baked mince pies (RMB25) for you and your family to enjoy.

But that's not all – The English Tearoom is debuting two new hearty breakfast platters to keep you warm this winter. The Full Monty (RMB108) features two English breakfast sauces, two slices of back bacon, two free-range eggs, baked beans, toasted English muffins, black pudding, grilled mushrooms, fresh fruit, and, phew – we swear we're almost done here – your choice of coffee or tea. If that doesn't fill you up, we don't know what will.

The new English Assorted Platter (RMB168), meanwhile, is a high-end take on England's typically homier fare, featuring homemade truffle bread, garlic prawns and, of course, the obligatory breakfast sausages. We dare you to leave The English Tearoom hungry. Merry Christmas, Shunyi. The English Tearoom (see Listings for details)

## OPEN DOOR



## HONGLU

### Northern Delights

Honglu is a regular staple of our lunchtime diet thanks to its warm atmosphere and tasty dishes – plus the fact that it's within walking distance from *That's Beijing* towers. But Honglu offers more than just the Peking duck it specializes in (though we definitely always get the duck). We sampled a few of their new dishes on a recent visit and were impressed at the unique flavors and methods on display. Take the Beijing-style vinegar braised bass (RMB79), for example: a whole white fish drenched in tangy sauce. Another solid addition to the menu is the pork leg (RMB69). With meat that positively falls off the bone, plus a garlic dipping sauce accompaniment, the pork leg is pretty special. For something light and healthy, we love the gourd and scrambled eggs (RMB29). Each dish is unabashedly 'Beijing,' just like Honglu itself.

> Honglu (see Listings for details)

## LISTINGS

relaxing atmosphere to enjoy a cocktail or a glass of fine vintage from the extensive wine collection. Be sure to try the 'luxurious oyster feast,' where you can enjoy the delicacy raw, grilled or with cheese.  
> Lunch: Mon-Fri 11:30am-2:30pm, Sat and Sun 11:30am-3pm; Dinner: Daily 5:30-10:30pm; The Westin Beijing Chaoyang 7 North East Third Ring Road, Chaoyang 东三环北路7号 (5922 8888)

### Contemporary Western

#### Chi (Organic, Fusion)

Hutong set-menu dining par-excellence, with organic ingredients all locally sourced. From the owners of neighboring Saffron.  
> Daily, opens 10:30am, last order 9:30pm, 67 Wudaoying Hutong, Dongcheng 东城区五道营胡同67号 (6445 7076)

#### COMBAL 番 by Tiago

>127-129, 1/F, Tower C, Cofco Plaza, 8 Jianguomen Neidajie, Dongcheng District 东城区建国门内大街8号中粮广场C座一层127-129单元 (6528 2280)

#### Lin's Dining Lounge



> Daily 11am-10pm, 2/F, New Grand Dynasty Hotel, 58 Maizidian Jie, Chaoyang 朝阳区麦子店街58号新大饭店二层 (6500 6766)

#### Feast (Food by East)

Bustling café with a philosophy of 'Simple things, done well'. International favorites, using freshest ingredients, cooked on the spot.

>Daily 6am-10:30pm, 2/F, EAST Beijing, 22 Jiuxiangqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区酒仙桥路22号东隅酒店2层 8414 9820

#### C Pearl (Oysters, Seafood) ¥ \*

This slick oyster restaurant imports fresh shells from Canada, South Africa, France, USA and more – and they are well worth the price. The fries are the best we've had in Beijing, beer and wine selection also excellent.

> Tue-Sun 5:30pm-2am; 14-2, Bldg 14, Shunyuanli, Xinyuan Jie, Yansha Qiao, Chaoyang 朝阳区燕莎桥新源街顺源里14号楼14-2号 (5724 5886)

#### Alfie's ¥ (British)

What's all this about, then? British gastro-pub classics, (like pukker fish and chips, RMB188), a swanky gentleman's club interior, and located in a chic modern art gallery-cum-mall. That's what, mate.

> Daily, 11:30am-2:30pm, 5:30-10pm, brunch served on weekends; Parkview Green, 9 Dongdaqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区东大桥路9号芳草里L1-22 (5662 8777)

#### Bistro B

Rosewood Beijing's exquisite French restaurant is the sort of place chefs like to eat. Expect lavish luxury.

> Daily, 11:30am-2:30pm and 5:30-10:30pm; 1F Rosewood Beijing, Jing Guang Centre, Hujialou, Chaoyang 朝阳区呼家楼一号京广中心北京瑰丽酒店3层 (6536 0066)

#### Caribeño (Latin)

Heavy Cuban influence, but there are dishes from all over the Latin continent here. The Ropa Vieja (shredded beef on potato) is excellent – as are the Mojitos.

> Daily 11:30am-9:30pm, 1/F, China Overseas Plaza, 8 Guanghua Dongli, Chaoyang 朝阳区光华东里8号中海广场北楼1层 (5977 2789)

#### Grill 79 (Steak)

With views this good, Grill 79 would probably make it onto the list even if the food was terrible. It's something of a bonus then that the kitchen is superb, and supported by one of the most extensive wine lists in town.

> Daily 6:30-10:30am, noon-2pm, 6-10pm, 79/F, China World Trade Center Phase 3, 1 Jianguomenwai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国门外大街1号国贸大酒店79楼 (6505 2299 ext 6424)

#### Miss K Cafe (Xing Fu Cafe)

Whether it's a rainy morning or a sunny afternoon, relax with your favorite novel and a cup of freshly brewed coffee. Experience a quiet moment of serenity amid the hustle and bustle of Beijing.

>Daily, 8am-8:30pm; 1/F, Tower A, East Gate Plaza, Dongzhimen, Dongcheng 东城区东直门东环广场A座一层幸福咖啡馆 (6418 1096)

#### JF Royal Teahouse

>Daily 10am-9:30pm; B215 China World Trade Center Tower 3, Jintong East Road, Chaoyang Beijing 北京市朝阳区国贸商城区域3 地下二层B215 (8535 1625)

#### Mosto (European, South American) ¥ \*

A perpetually busy lunch and evening spot, thanks to chef Daniel Urdaneta's skill for modernising South American-style dishes like ceviche and risotto in his open kitchen.  
> Sun-Thu noon-2:30pm, 6-10pm; Fri-Sat noon-2:30pm, 6-10:30pm, 3/F, Nali Patio, 81 Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路81号那里花园3层 (5208 6030)

#### The English Tearoom 英国茶房

>Daily 10am-9:30pm, 101, Bldg 10, North area of Xiangyun Town, 9 Antai Dajie, Shunyi 顺义区安泰大街9号院中粮祥云小镇北区10号楼101 (8047 9661 / 8047 9661); Daily 10am-7pm Creativity Garden, 1 Shunhuang Lu, Sunhe xiang, Chaoyang 朝阳区孙河乡顺黄路甲1号创意园内 (8459 4407)

#### Sizzler

Sizzler invented 'casual dining' in Australia when it introduced the first soup, salad, pasta and fresh fruit concept. Since those pioneering days, it has expanded its 'classic grill' to include, not only steak and seafood, but also delicious chicken dishes, BBQ ribs, combination meals and burgers. 'Variety' and 'freedom to choose' set Sizzler apart from other dining experiences. At Sizzler customers are free to control the volume, nutritional balance and variety of each meal by ordering from the grill and helping themselves to our famous soup, salad, pasta and fruits.

>All stores open daily, 10am-10pm; Wangfujing Oriental Plaza Store 王府井东方广场店 (8518 6315); Chongwenmen Glory Mall Store 崇文门国瑞购物中心店 (6714 0399); Wangjing Capital Mall 望京凯德购物中心店 (6471 3876); Waniu BHG 万柳华联商场店 (8258 9405) Wan Shoulu Crystal Capital Mall 万寿路凯德晶品店 (6826 086); Xizhimen Capital Mall 西直门凯德购物中心店 (5830 2199); Sanlitun Shimao Gongsan 三里屯世贸工三店 (8400 4014); Changying Paradise Walk 常营龙湖天街店 (8539 0438); Tianjin Joy City 天津大悦城店 (8728 1620)

#### Tomacado

Tomacado is indeed a mash-up of 'tomato' and 'avocado' – and while you'll certainly find these ingredients on the menu, you can also expect pleasant drinks, light soups and heartier main courses from this charming café. Fowers are also available for sale.

> Daily 10am-10pm (Lunch start from 11am, Only afternoon tea served on Mon-Fri 2:30-5pm), No. 19/20, B1/F, Jia Ming Center, 27 Dongshanhuo Beilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区东三环北路27号嘉铭中心地下一层19/20号 (6500 3354)

#### VIC

Not to be confused with the notorious nightclub of the same name, this VIC is the Sofitel Beijing's casual dining restaurant. All the major world cuisines are in attendance here – make sure you pay special attentions to the French-inspired breads and pastries – as is the customary Sunday champagne brunch.

> Sofitel Wanda Beijing, Tower C, Wanda Plaza, 93 Jianguo Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国路93号万达广场C座索菲特酒店6层 (8599 6666)

#### Yi House (Contemporary Western)

Nestled in the confines of 798, Yi's great tasting brunch is bettered only by their wide range of cocktails. Sundays offer jazz brunches with lobster and champagne.  
> Daily 11am-3pm, 6pm-12am; 2 Jiuxiangqiao Lu, 798 Yishu Qu, No.1 706 Houjie, Chaoyang 朝阳区酒仙桥路2号院798艺术区706后街1号 (6436 1818)

#### Wood

>Daily 10:30am-11pm, Lakeside Gourmet Street, Solana, 6 Chaoyang Gongyuan Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区朝阳公园路6号蓝色港湾南边湖畔美食街 近南边地面停车场 5726 8255

#### Stuff'd (Contemporary Western)

The concept of Stuff'd is to simply stuff one kind of food in another. From sausage calzone pizzas (RMB68) to scotch eggs – it all works. On-site micro brewery a bonus.  
> Wed-Mon, 11:30am-2:45pm, 6-10pm, 9 Jianchang Hutong, Dongcheng 东城区前门胡同9号 (6407 6308)

### Café/Deli/Sandwich

#### Café Zarah (Café) \*

A smart new interior and menu for this longstanding café has propelled it from hipster hangout to Gulou institution. Large, airy and with a terrace for summer, the only downside is it's always packed.

> Daily 9:30am-midnight, 42 Gulou Dongdajie, Dongcheng 东城区鼓楼东大街42号 (8403 9807)

#### Domain 域

A blend of café, business center and

lounge, it has a gentle buzz all of its own. For privacy, Domain also provides workstations equipped with computers and ipads. >Daily 7am-8pm, 2/F, EAST Building, 22 Jiuxianqiao Lu,Chaoyang 朝阳区酒仙桥路22号东隅酒店2层 (8414 9830)

Café Flatwhite



Hailing from New Zealand, Café Flatwhite uses fresh and healthy ingredients in its tasty selection of sandwiches, pizzas, salads and brunch options, all served alongside some of the best coffee in Beijing.

> Open Daily, Mon-Fri 8am-9pm, Sat-Sun 9am-9pm; 798 Dashanzi Art District Store: D09-1, No.4, 798 Dashanzi Art District, Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区酒仙桥路4号 798艺术区D09-1 (5978 9067 / 13051771436); Jianguomenwai Media Center Store: No.13 Bldg, Jianguomenwai DRC, 1 Xiushui Street, Chaoyang 朝阳区秀水街1号建国门外外交公寓13号楼1层北角 8532 2633 ; Jianguomenwai DRC Store: Building 7-11, 1 Silk Street, Chaoyang 朝阳区秀水街1号建国门外外交公寓7-11 (8532 2633 / 18701092189); FFCStore:107, B1/F, Fortune Financial Center, 5 Dongsanhuan Zhonglu, Chaoyang District 朝阳区东三环中路5号楼财富金融中心1层107 (6596 9108); China Central Mall Store:1315, China Central Mall, Chaoyang District 朝阳区华贸中心写字楼三层 L315单元 (8588 7978)www.cafeflatwhite.com, cafe-flatwhite@hotmail.com, WeChat username: Cafe-Flatwhite

Awfully Chocolate



完美巧克力蛋糕的首选新加坡品牌. Born in Singapore, made by hand, using the finest ingredients.

>Daily 9am-10.30pm, 1) Sanlitun: Opposite to BHG, B1/F, Southern area of Taikoo li, Sanlitun, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯太古里地下一层华联超市对面 (8468 3802); 2) Indigo: B1/F, Indigo Mall, 18 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区酒仙桥路18号颐堤港湾地下一层 (8426 0917); 3) Joy City Chaoyang: 5/F Joy City Chaoyang, Qingnian Lu, Chaoyang BeiLu, Chaoyang 朝阳区朝阳北路青年路朝阳大悦城二号楼悦界区 (8582 2677); 4) Raffles City: B1/F, Raffles City, Dongzhimen, Dongcheng 东城区东直门来福士地下一层 (8409 8038)

Element Fresh (Contemporary Western)

Chain of restaurants and one of the longest running with quality ingredients and good service. One of the mainstays in Beijing.

> Daily Mon-Fri 10am-11pm, Sat-Sun 7am-11pm. 833, Building 8, 19 Sanlitun Taikoo Li South, Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路19号三里屯太古里南区8号楼833 (6417 1318)

MOKA Bros (Contemporary Western) \*

Power bowls, salads and wraps are the kind of fare on offer at this trendy Nali Patio space, which also has a great selection of cakes and pastries if you're feeling more indulgent.

> Sanlitun: Sun-Thu 11am-10:30pm, Fri/Sat 11am-11:30pm, B101B Nali Patio South, 81 Sanlitun BeiLu Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路81号B101B南楼 (5208 6079); Solana: Solana Lakeside Dining Street, 6 Chaoyang Park Road, Chaoyang 朝阳区湖畔美食街朝阳公园路6号院蓝色港湾 (5905 6259)

Riccì

Named after a 17th century Italian Jesuit (duh), this creative café has a funky, kooky-meets-organic vibe and serves up some of the best casual western food in town, and a great brunch at the Wudaokou location (Chaoyang branch closed weekends).

> 1/F, Building D, Tsinghua Science Park, 1 Zhongguancun Donglu, Haidian 海淀区中关村东路1号院清华科技园D座1楼 (8215 8826 )

The Rug (Contemporary Western, Organic) \*

With ingredients supplied by local organic farms like Dahe and De Run Wu, and an emphasis on sustainability, this café's wide ranging menu has something for everyone, especially green types, bored foreign moms and freelance Macbook types.

> Mon-Fri 7.30am-10:30pm, Sat/Sun 9.30am-10:30pm; Bldg 4, Lishui Jiayuan, Chaoyang Gongyuan Nanlu (opposite Chaoyang Park South Gate), Chaoyang 朝阳区朝阳公园南路丽水嘉园4号楼(朝阳公园南面对面) (8550 2722) > Additional location in Sanlitun Nan Jie (see online.thatsmags.com for details)

TRIBE \*

Salads, wraps and sandwiches, and noodle and grain bowls are as tasty as they are holistic, and there are more superfoods in one single dish than we even knew existed. Come hungry, leave basking in the warm glow that comes from knowing that you are eating well. Kombucha is the icing on the (organic, locally-sourced) cake.

> Daily 8am-10:30pm, 1/F, Building 3, China View Plaza, 2A Gongti Dong Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区工体东路甲2号中国红街大厦3号楼1层大入口南侧 (8587 1899)

Wagas (Contemporary Western)

Quality eats with minimal pretension. This stylish, no-fuss Shanghai rival to Element Fresh offers some of the best and most affordable Western lunch options in town. The zesty carrot-and-zucchini cake is a crowd pleaser.

> Daily 8am-10pm; 58-33, 3/F, Bldg 8, Taikoo Li South, 19 South Sanlitun Street, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯太古里南区三层 (6416 5829) > Additional locations in The Kerry Centre, Raffles Mall Dongzhimen (see www.thatsmags.com for details)

American/BBQ/Grill

Eudora Station 亿多瑞站

> (Near Lidu place) No 6, Fangyuanli Chaoyang 朝阳区 芳园西里6号(丽都广场对面)(6437 8331, 6437 8334)

Home Plate BBQ \*

Scruffy looks and laid-back staff belie the popularity of this entry-level brick-smoker barbecue joint, that blossoms in the sunny months. Pulled-pork sandwiches are the favorites, followed by baby-back rib racks. Beer and bourbons are taken care of, too.

> Daily 11am-10pm. 35 Xiaoyun Lu courtyard (20m north of Xiaoyun Lu intersection, first right), Chaoyang District 朝阳区霄云路35号院霄云路路口, 往北走20米, 到第一个路口右转(5128 5584) > Additional location in Sanlitun Nan Jie (see www.thatsmags.com for details)

NOLA

N'Orleans finds a dark-wood home in the leafy embassy area, with a jazz soundtrack, shrimp and grits, gumbo, fried chicken, jambalaya and decent-enough po'boys – yes'm. Excellent Cajun snacks, craft beers and cocktails also make NOLA a popular watering hole.

> Mon-Fri 8am-11pm, Sat-Sun 10.30am-11pm. 11A Xiushui Nanjie, Chaoyang 朝阳区秀水街11号 (8563 6215)

The Big Smoke \*

Taking the Home Plate BBQ concept and upsizing was a gourmet masterstroke. Full menu evenings only (also delivers rotsisserie chicken via Uncle Otis).

> Daily Mon-Sat 11am-midnight, Sun 11am-10pm. First Floor, Lee World Building (opposite Frost Nails), 57 Xingfucun Zhong Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区幸福村中路 57 号楼利世楼 (6416 5195, 6416 268, www.uncle-otis.com)

The Works \*

New York native-owned, Manhattan-style restaurant, tucked in amongst the skyscrapers of CBD: you can't get more Big Apple than that.

> Daily 12pm-10pm, Central Park Tower 1, Suite 101, No. 6 Chaowai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区朝外大街6号新城国际1号楼101 (6533 6380)

Burgers

Blue Frog

Blue Frog is pleased to introduce a creative new Drinks Menu. As the new year begins, this new menu will wake up everyone's taste buds with a bevy of specialty and original cocktails, mocktails, shots, beer, wine and healthy drinks inspired by popular ingredients.

> All open Daily 10am-late; 52-30, Level 3, 52 Tower, 19 Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路19号三里屯太古里南区三号楼52-30 (6417 4030); No.167, 1/F, 18 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区酒仙桥路18号1层167号 (8426 0017); No.125, 1/F, Bldg 1, Sanfeng(North), Chaoyang 朝阳区三丰北里1号楼1层125号 (8561 2665); Unit 15-16, 1/F, Bldg AB, Ocean International Center, 10 Jintong Xilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区金桐西路10号远洋光华国际中心AB座一层15 16单元 (8590 3168)

OPEN DOOR



NYONYA KITCHEN

Fresh off the Boat

Nyonya Kitchen is a Beijing legend. The family-operated restaurant is known for its fresh and flavorsome takes on Malaysian cuisine, as well as its welcoming atmosphere. Right now we're enjoying a few of Nyonya Kitchen's new winter menu items, like the curry fish head. Cooked in a rich curry soup – made with a special blend of spices including lemon grass, cardamom, star anise and cinnamon – the fish head packs quite a punch. We also love the pandan leaf wrap chicken – delightful pieces of marinated boneless chicken wrapped and fried in pandan leaves. Last, but certainly not least, is the Tom Yum seafood soup. A classic sour-spicy dish full of prawns, mussels, calamari and mushrooms, the tom yum soup keeps us warm and satisfied.

> Nyonya Kitchen (see Listings for details)

Mexican/Tex Mex

Taco Bar

Rising from the ashes of its deceased hutong location, the new Taco Bar is hip, popular and able to produce some of the most authentic Mexican fare in town. Only RMB45 for three and great cocktails to complement.

> Tue-Thu 5:30pm-1am, Fri-Sat 5:30pm-2:30am, Sun 11am-1am; 1/F, Unit 10, Electrical Research Institute, Sanlitun Nan Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯南路机电研究院内10号1层 (6501 6026)

Palms L.A. Kitchen and Bar \* (Korean-Mexican fusion)

Tucked away near Gulou, this hip little hutong concept is truly one of a kind in Beijing. Quesadillas with kimchi and bibimbab with melted cheese and hot sauce. Guess what? It works. Killer range of classic Cali' cocktails, too.

> Daily 11:30am-midnight (closed Mondays); 14 Zhangwang Hutong, Dongcheng 东城区旧鼓楼大街张旺胡同14号 (6405 4352)

Q Mex Bar & Grill

> Sanlitun Courtyard (across from Salsa Caribe, nearby Bookworm), Chaoyang 朝阳区工体北路4号院机电研究院餐饮街内 6585 3828

Steak

Morton's of Chicago (American) ¥¥\*

Meat so tender the knife falls through it: ritzy Morton's deserves the worldwide praise. Expensive, but where else are you going to get steak this good? (Try the RMB550 set menu if you want to save cash) > Mon-Sat 5:30-11pm, Sun 5-10:30pm; 2/F, Regent Hotel, 99 Jinbao Jie, Dongcheng 东城区金宝街99号丽晶酒店二层 (6523 7777)

O'Steak

At well-cooked steak in Beijing isn't all that rare anymore, and here we have affordable but quality cuts. Don't be fooled by the Irish sounding name, it's an authentic French bistro – not a Guinness in sight.

> Daily midday-midnight, Xingfu: No.55-7 Xingfucun Zhonglu, opposite of April courtmet, Chaoyang 朝阳区幸福村中路55-7杰作大厦底商绿叶子超市斜对面 (8448 8250); Central Park: No.4103 building 20, Central Park, No.6 Chaowai Avenue, Chaoyang 朝阳区朝外大街6号新城国际20号楼103 (6533 6599); shunyi: No.11-102 Shine Hills, No.9 Antai Avenue,

Shunyi 顺义区后沙峪安泰大街9号祥云小镇南门 11号楼 102 (8048 5080)

29 Grill (Contemporary Western) \*

Top-notch steak, along with just about every other cut of meat found in the barnyard in this well-priced meat-eaters' mecca. > Mon-Fri lunch: 11.30am-2.30pm; Mon-Sat dinner: 6-10.30pm (closed Sundays); Conrad Beijing, 2/F, 29 North Dongshanhuan, Chaoyang 朝阳区东三环北路9号2层 (6584 6270)

Italian

Annie's ¥\*

Now a certified Beijing refining institution, Annie's serves up the city's most reliable Italian fare. Delivery is free anywhere between Lane 5 and the Fifth Ring Road (call for delivery prices outside this area), and can be ordered in English between 10.30am and 10.30pm from www.annies.com.cn. Alternatively, drop in to your local branch.

> All open Daily: 10.30am-11pm; Beijing Riviera: opposite west gate of Lane Bridge Villa, Shunyi 朝阳区来广营东路5号长岛澜桥别墅西1对面向古城一楼 (8470 4768); Lido: Jiantai Lu, opposite United Family Hospital 朝阳区将台商业街4号楼2楼和隆家医院对面 (6436 3735); Wangjing: 2/F, beside the Daimler Tower, LSH Plaza, 8 Wangjing Jie 朝阳区利星行广场A座戴姆勒大厦裙楼2层近望京商业区 (8476 0398); Chaoyang Park: West Gate of Chaoyang Park 朝阳区朝阳公园西门南侧 (6591 1931); Sanlitun: China View Building, opposite East Gate of Workers' Stadium 朝阳区工体东门对面中国红街一楼 (8587 1469); Ritan Park: Ritan High Life, 3F, north of Ritan Park 朝阳区神路街39号日坛上街3-108号 (8569 3031); The Place: East of the Place, south of Central Park 朝阳区金桐西路10号远洋光华国际中心A座1层 (8590 6428); Guoma: Ruisai Business Building (south of Guoma subway) 朝阳区东三环南路200号瑞赛大厦商务楼1层 (6568 5890); Sunshine 100: Guanghua Lu, opposite Sunshine 100 Building 朝阳区光华路100公面对面世贸南门 (858 9836)

Assaggi ¥\*

This fine Italian spot in the leafy embassy district has one of Beijing's best terraces for summer dining. The tagliata steak is worth a return visit.

> Daily 11:30am-2:30pm, 6pm-11:30pm. 1 Sanlitun Beitiaojie, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯北街1号 (8454 4508)

Bene ¥\*

Chef Ricci will have you singing like a soprano with his pork ravioli and prize-winning tiramisù. Excellent set menus (RMB588) and

**extensive wine selection.**

> Daily 11am-2:30pm, 5:30-10:30pm. Sheraton Beijing Dongcheng, 36 Northeast Third Ring Road, Dongcheng District 东城区北三环东路36号(5798 8995)

**Bocca Della Verita**

**Good-value homestyle Italian is the order of the day at this little-known spot in Beixinqiao.**

> Dinner: 5-10pm; Lunch: 10am-3pm; 3/F, 277 Dongzhimen Nei Dajie, Dongcheng 东城区东直门内大街277号 二楼 雍和宫大街和北新桥头条交叉处的四层商业楼三楼 (6455 3832, 1391 0969 240)

**Cepe**

**In a city inundated with Italian offerings, Cepe manages to stand out thanks to its attention to the smallest detail – everything from the vinaigrette to the Parma ham is import quality, and the wine is superb.**

> Daily 11:30am-2:30pm, 6-10:30pm. The Ritz-Carlton Financial Street, 1 Jinchengfang Dongjie, Jinrong Jie, Xicheng 西城区金城坊东街1号北京金融街丽思卡尔顿酒店大堂 (6601 6666)

**Florentina 翡冷翠意大利餐厅**

**Florentina serves authentic Italian fare in low-key, yet elegant surroundings. Cuisine is high-end, the environment is relaxed. A beautiful outdoor terrace makes this place a godsend for Lido residents.**

> Daily 11-late (Kitchen serves until 10pm), 1/F, Bldg 2, No. 6 Yard, Fangyuan Xilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区芳园西路6号院2号楼1层(8431 0027)

**Mercante**

**Old World family charm in an intimate hutong setting. Time (and, occasionally, service) flows with a rustic menu from Bologna offering an assortment of homemade pastas and seasonal mains.**

> Tue-Sun 6-10:30pm. 4 Fangzhuanchang Hutong, Dongcheng 东城区方砖厂胡同4号 (8402 5098)

**TIAGO Home Kitchen**

**Even the most exacting palettes are delighted by TIAGO, whose team prepares globally sourced ingredients and sustainably grown produce. TIAGO's dining experience is distinctly Italian, but its menu also offers such classics as Australian steaks and Boston lobster – plus a wide selection of salads, pizza, pasta and desserts.**

> Indigo: Daily 11:30am-10pm, Shop L173, Indigo Mall, 18 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区酒仙桥路18号颐堤岸购物中心L173商铺(6438 8772); Chaoyang Joy City: Daily 11am-10pm, 5F/50/6F, Chaoyang Joy City, 101 Chaoyang Beilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区朝阳北路101号朝阳大悦城5F/50/6F(8558 3892)

**Opera Bombana**

**Head chef Umberto Bombana boasts three Michelin stars to his name, earned at his wildly successful Hong Kong restaurant Otto e Mezzo. He's the only Italian chef to do so outside of his native land, and certainly the only to have opened a restaurant in Beijing.**

> Daily, 12pm-10:30pm; LG2-21 Parkview Green Fangcaodi, 9 Dongdaqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区东大桥路9号侨福芳草地下2层21号 (5690 7177)

**Pizza****La Pizza**

**Among the upper echelons of Beijing pizzerias is this Sanlitun goldfish bowl with a wood-fired oven and Neapolitan masters. Further branches in Solana and pasta/salad/mains-buffet restaurant in Sanlitun 3.3**

> Sanlitun Branch: daily 10:30am-3pm, 6-11pm. 1/F, 3.3 Mall, 33 Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路33号3层服装大厦西北角底商(5136 5582); Solana Branch: SA-48, 1/F, Bldg 3, Solana, 6 Chaoyang Park Road, Chaoyang 朝阳公园西路6号蓝色港湾3号1层 SA-48 (5905 6106) > SOHU Shangdu Branch: SH1112, SOHO Shangdu, 8 Dongdaqiao Lu, Chaoyang District 朝阳区东大桥路8号SOHO尚都 SH1112号(5900 3112); La Pizza Buffet: 4F, Sanlitun 3.3 Mall, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯3.3服装大厦4层 (5136 5990)

**Tube Station**

**Nowhere does gigantic toppen-laden pizza quite like Beijing, and these guys claim to be the biggest in town.**

> Sanlitun 3.3 Branch: Mon-Fri 10am-10pm, Sat/Sun 10am-11pm, delivery Mon-Thu 11:30am-10:30pm, Fri-Sun 11:30am-11pm 3/F, 3.3 Building, No. 33 Sanlitun Beilue, Chaoyang 三里屯北街33号3层服装大厦3层3008号 (5136 5571, delivery 8989 177) > Additional branches in Gongti, Beida, Beita, Yancun, Solana and Weigongcun, see www.on-line.thatsmags.com for details

**German****Drei Kronen 1308**

**Authentic (truly – when they say 1308 they mean it) displays of armour and brewing kits draw regular evening crowds for the superb pork knuckle and heavy-duty helles (pale lager), wheat and dark beer (brewed on-site).**

> Daily 11am-2am. 1/F, Bldg 5, China View, Gongti

Donglu, Chaoyang 朝阳区工体东路中国红街5号楼1层(6503 5555)

**Hacker-Pschorr Brauhaus**

**If you're looking for authentic German fare and, most importantly, German-style beer, then you can't go wrong with Hacker-Pschorr Brauhaus. Made from centuries-old recipes – and in accordance with the 1516 German Beer Purity Law – the brews here are some of the finest in Beijing. Prost!**

> Room 3, Building 3, No. 12, Xindonglu Chaoyang 朝阳区 新东路12号院3号楼31门(5323 3399)

**Paulaner Brauhaus**

**The grand old man of Beijing brauhaus, Paulaner delivers the Teutonic goods in the hands of lederhosen-clad staff from the provinces. It can be pricey but is usually worthwhile, especially during Oktoberfest.**

> Daily 11am-1am. Kempinski Hotel, 50 Liangmaqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区亮马桥路50号凯宾斯基饭店 (6465 3388 ext. 5732)

**Brotzeit German Bier Bar & Restaurant**

**博琛德国啤酒餐厅 Brotzeit offers its customers a unique experience with authentic German cuisine and world famous German beers in a casual environment. Coupled with its contemporary setting and unique brand appeal, Brotzeit is distinct from the traditional-style German restaurants still seen in Germany and other parts of the world.**

> Daily 11am-late; F109, Grand Summit, bldg 5, 19 Dongfang Donglu, Chaoyang 朝阳区东方东路19号楼(DRC外交办公大楼)一层F109 (8531 5166, www.brotzeit.co)

**Spanish****Agua**

**Occupying the high end of Nali's Spanish invasion, Agua excels with reasonably priced classics like suckling pig, chorizo and jamon. Winner of the 2014 Golden Fork Editors' Pick for best restaurant.**

> Daily Midday-2pm, 6pm-10pm. 4/F, Nali Patio, 81 Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路81号那里花园 (5208 6188)

**Casa Talia by Tiago**

>Daily 11:30am-9pm, 01B, 4/F, Raffles City, 1 Dongzhimen Nan Dajie, Dongcheng 东城区东直门南大街1号来福士购物中心4层01B 8409 4009

**Niajo**

**With homely Mediterranean influences and a charming management, Niajo is prime Sanlitun smart-casual dining. Order the paella (their star dish) together with some tapas and be automatically transported to Spain (minus the constant sunshine).**

> Daily noon-10:30pm. 3/F, Nali Patio, 81 Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路81号那里花园3层 (5208 6052)

**Migas**

**The boys at Migas have turned a concept bar into a thriving Mediterranean restaurant, bar and party venue, and one of summer's rooftop destinations.**

> Daily 10am-3pm, 5pm-late. 6/F, Nali Patio, 81 Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路81号那里花园6层 (5208 6061)

**Asian****Indian****Indian Kitchen**

**The go to curry house among Beijing's homesick Indian community, this ever popular no-nonsense restaurant has built up a solid reputation thanks to its wide range of quality dishes and particularly friendly service. Looking good after a recent renovation and very available on JinShiSong online delivery.**

> Daily 11am-2:30pm, 5:30-11pm, 2/F 2 Sanlitun Beixiaojie, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯北街2号2楼 (6462 7255)

**Raj**

**Tucked away in dusty old building just underneath the drum tower, this curryhouse**

may look Chinese but everything on the menu is authentic Indian, especially the rather fine naan.

> Daily 11am-2pm, 5pm-11pm, 31 Gulou Xidajie Dongcheng 东城区鼓楼西大街31号 (6401 1675)

**Ganges**

**Conveniently located above popular Irish sports bar Paddy O'Shea's, this solid Indian curry house provides the perfect post-match culinary accompaniment. Or put another way: it's what you'll be craving after eight pints of beer.**

> Daily 11am to 10:30pm; Dongzhimen Branch: 2/F, 28 Dongzhimen Wai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区东直门外大街28号2层 (6417-0900) > Additional branch in Sanlitun, see online.thatsmags.com for details.

**Japanese****HAGAKI 叶书**

**Serves up a selection of signature maki rolls, as well as classics like tonkatsu, tempura and udon, Hagaki specializes in Californian-inspired Japanese cuisine and has a lively sushi bar.**

>Daily 11am-2:30pm, 1/F, EAST Beijing, 22 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区酒仙桥路22号东隅酒店1层 8414 9815

**Hatsune** (California Japanese)

**As much a California roll joint as true Japanese, Hatsune is now an old favorite among the sake-swilling, sushi-swallowing set, though less so among sashimi purists.**

> Daily 11:30am-2pm, 5:30-10pm; 2/F, Heqiao Bldg C, 8A Guanghua Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区光华路甲8号和平大厦C座2层 (6581 3939) > Additional locations in Sanlitun Tai Koo Li South; Kerry Centre Mall (see www.online.thatsmags.com for details)

**Inagiku**

**This Beijing branch of one of Tokyo's oldest and most celebrated restaurants is as near to perfection as you're likely to find. Deceptively simple yet finely crafted, the handmade Inaniwa udon (RMB80) is not to be missed.**

> Daily 11am-3pm, 6-10:30pm; Rm 315, 3/F, Park Life, Yintai Centre, 2 Jianguomenwai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国门外大街2号银泰中心悦生活3层315室 (8517 2838)

**Sake Manzo**

**The barmen here are serious about their sake. Boasting one of the best stocked drinks cabinets in town with over 60 different sakes on offer, this super-cool little eatery is the perfect place to unwind after a hard day's toil. The sashimi is fresh to the cut, and the beer-marinated chicken is out of this world. One of the very best and least appreciated restaurants in town.**

> Daily 6pm-midnight. 7A Tuanjiehui Beisantiao, Chaoyang 朝阳区团结湖北三条甲7号(6436 1608)

**Yotsuba**

**It doesn't come cheap (tasting menu RMB1,000), but what would you expect from some of the best sushi in town? Buttery and meaty fatty tuna sashimi is a cut above.**

> Dongcheng: Tue-Sun 11:30am-11pm. Sanlitun branch: 2 Sanlitun Bei Xiaojie, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯北街2号 (6464 2365); Lido branch: 2F, No.9-3, Jiangtai Xilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区将台西路9-3号2层 (8420 0998)

**Sui Ka**

**Is this what after-work hangouts are like in Japan? We're not sure, but we hope so: This charming izakaya nails it when it comes to sake selection and fried delights to munch alongside it.**

> Daily 5pm-1am, Ichibanqai First Avenue Food Court, Zaoying Nanli, Maizidian, East 3rd Ring Road, Chaoyang 朝阳区东三环农展馆北路旁都苑东侧一层底商一番街内 (137 1692 7543)

**South-East Asian****Greyhound Café (Modern Thai/Fusion)**

**Greyhound Café originated in Bangkok offering Thai food with a twist and served in a fashionable surrounds. Perfect for Taikoo Li Sanlitun then.**

> Daily 11am-11pm, S1-308, Building 1, Sanlitun Road 19, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路19号1号楼 S1-308 (6416 3439) > Additional branch in Shin Kong Place (see online.thatsmags.com for details)

**Cafe Sambal (Malaysian)**

**When it comes to Malay-style food in a hutong, nowhere does it better. Admittedly, it's something of a niche category, but then so is the food on offer. The spicy Kapitan-style chicken is pricey, but worth it.**

> Daily 11am-midnight. 43 Doufuchi Hutong (just east of Jiugulou Dajie), Xicheng 西城区豆腐地胡同43号旧鼓楼大街往东走(6400 4875)

**4Corners (Vietnamese, Fusion)**

**The definitive hutong bar/restaurant? Chef**

Jun Trinh took a break from his celebrity TV work to host this part-Vietnamese venue, serving up steaming bowls of pho with zesty, fresh rolls, as well as a great bar with frequent live indie performances.

> Tue-Sun 11am-2am, 27 Dashibeil Hutong (near west end of Yandai Xiejie), Xicheng 西城区大石胡同27号烟袋斜街西口附近 (6401 7797)

**Purple Haze (Thai)**

**Given Beijing's lack of white sand beaches and backpacker bars, Purple Haze has to make do for the best Thai experience in town. Has all the classics like veggie spring rolls (RMB40), papaya salad (RMB46) and curries (RMB44-180) – but our pick's the seafood pad Thai (RMB45).**

> Daily 11am-11pm, 55 Xingfu Yicun, Chaoyang 朝阳区幸福一村55号 (6413 0899)

**Nyonya Kitchen (Malaysian, Nyonya)**

**This chain specializes in Nyonya style cooking – ostensibly Malaysian but with a mix of Chinese, South-East Asian and European influences resulting in lots of bold flavors and bright colors. The interiors are just as loud as the flavors – this place is colorful – and we love it. Nyonya goes beyond the requisite laksa and satay.**

> NL5008, 5/F, North Phase, Bldg 17, China World Mall, 1 Jianguomenwai Dajie, Chaoyang District 朝阳区建国门外大街17号楼国贸商城北区5层 NL5008 (8415 0863)

**Malacca Legend**

**Malaysia food with a view, this spacious and airy restaurant sits on the banks of Shunyi's Roma Lake and at a new unit in the heart of the city at The Place, making a great spot for their beef rendang or green curry prawns.**

> Daily 11am-10pm; 6 Roma Lake: 6 Luodong Lu, Luogezhuang Village, Hoshayu Town, Shunyi 顺义区后峪镇罗各庄村罗马湖东北三路6号院 (8049 8902); Signature: Shop L203, 2/F, The Place, 9 Guanghua Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区光华路9号世贸天阶2层L203 (6587 1393)

**Makan Kitchen**

**A unique restaurant offering varied Southeast Asian flavors and Chinese cuisines. Tuck into a buffet featuring regional Asian stations, a dedicated fresh juice bar and live stations to whet your appetite. With a beautiful private dining room for functions or meetings in comfort and style, Makan Kitchen is the perfect venue for a relaxing get-together or a delightful weekend brunch.**

> Mon-Fri, Breakfast: 6-10am, Lunch: 11:30am-2:30pm, Dinner: 6-10pm; Sat-Sun, Breakfast: 6-11am, Lunch: 12-2:30pm, Dinner: 6-10pm; 2/F, Main Tower, Hilton Hotel, 1 Dongfeng Lu, Dongsanhun Beilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区东三环北路东方路口1号北京希尔顿酒店2层 (5865 5020)

**Singapore Seafood**

> China World Shopping Mall Branch: Daily 11am-10pm, NL4010, North Area of China World Shopping Mall, 1 Jianguomenwai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国门外大街1号国贸商城北区NL4010 (8595 0251/8595 0361); Parview Branch: Daily 11am-10:30pm, 1/F, Tower C, Parkview Green, 9 Dongdaqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区东大桥路9号侨福芳草购物中心C座1层(东大桥地铁站) (8518 8811)

**Susu (Vietnamese)**

**The first step is finding it. Follow that up with a dreamlike renovated courtyard, extensive wine list and a listing of top-notch Vietnamese curries, banh mi sandwiches, stews, soups and la Vong fish.**

> Tue-Sun 11:30am-11pm; 10 Qianliang Hutong Xixiang, Dongcheng 东城区钱粮胡同西巷10号 (8400 2699)

**Korean****Ai Jiang Shan**

**This upscale seafood restaurant proves that chargrill and composure can go together. Their RMB58 bibimbap lunch is an absolute bargain.**

> Daily 11am-10pm, Sat and Sun until 9:30pm; 5/F, LG Twin Towers (East Tower), 12 Jianguomenwai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国门外大街乙2号双子座大厦东塔5层 (5109



6036/6037) see www.thatsmags.com for other locations)

## Vegetarian

### Lotus 莲花空间

> China World Shopping Mall Branch: NL4006, North Area of China World Shopping Mall, 1 Jianguomen Wai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国门外大街1号国贸商城北区NL4006 (8527 4868); Financial Street Branch: Daily 11am-9pm, L220, 2/F, Seasons Place Mall, 2 Jinchengfang Jie, Xicheng 西城区金融街2号金融街购物中心2层东侧L220 (6622 0515)

### Tianchu Maoxiang (Asian)

Like many arrivals to Beijing, this place started out in Wudaokou and it's since made a successful migration to Chaoyang. Great range of veggie fare, reasonably priced and they offer cooking classes as well.

> Daily 10am-10pm; 19 Rm 0260, 2/F, Bldg D, Chaowai SOHO, 6B Chaoyangmenwai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳门外大街乙6朝外SOHO座2层0260 (5900 1288)(see www.online.thatsmags.com for details)

### Veggie Table (Western, Asian) \*

Proving that Beijing-style vegetarian cuisine is by no means the exclusive preserve of Buddhist monks and sappy Jack Johnson fans, this superbly honed eatery offers some of the very best sandwiches – vegetarian or otherwise – found anywhere in the city.

> Daily 10.30am-11.30pm (last order 10.30pm); 19 Wudaoying Hutong, Dongcheng 东城区五道营胡同19号 (6446 2073)

## BARS

### TOP 40 BARS AND CLUBS

About This guide represents our editors' top 40 picks, and includes some *That's Beijing* advertisers. Bars rated(\*) have been personally reviewed by our experts, and scored according to the cuisine, experience and affordability.

### Arrow Factory

The newest craft beer taproom on the block, Arrow Factory is a rustic hideaway brimming with good Anglo-Scandinavian vibes (courtesy of the brew-masters) and the brand's distinctive Chinese brewed ales. A winning combination

> 38 Jianchang Hutong, Dongcheng District 东城区箭厂胡同38号 (6407 6308)

### 8-Bit

Drinking alongside multiplayer retro gaming – why didn't anyone do this sooner? Megadrive, Super Nintendo, N64... some real gems make up an ever-growing collection. Draft Kirin goes for a reasonable RMB25 a glass.

> Daily 1pm-2am; 13 Belluoguxiang, Dongcheng 东城区北锣鼓巷13号 (159 1025 6538)

### China Bar 中巴

Top views from the 65th floor and flash drinks are the attractions on offer at this hip hotel bar.

> Sun-Thur 5pm-1am, Fri-Sat 5pm-2am, 65/F, Park Hyatt, 2 Jianguomenwai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国门外大街2号柏悦酒店65层 (8567 1838/40)

### El Nido \*

The first hutong hang-out to patent the fridge-full-of-cheap-imports formula, El Nido inspires a loyal following, particularly in summer. The roast leg of mutton place next door is one of the best locally.

> Daily 6pm-late, 59 Fangjia Hutong, Dongcheng 东城区方家胡同59号 (158 1038 2089)

### First Floor

First Floor is like that friend who's too popular to properly enjoy their company. At weekends, it gets aggressively full, with regulars and the passing tourist trade all baying at the bar. A good place to meet new friends, perhaps.

> Daily, 4pm-late, Sanlitun Beixiaojie, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯北小街 (6413 0587, first.floor@beijing.com)

### Great Leap Brewing 大跃啤酒 \*

The bar that began the whole Beijing microbrewing frenzy (yes, frenzy) specializes in idiosyncratic, local-style brews (RMB25-40) with intriguing flavors – their Sichuan peppercorn ale was memorably good. Reservations used to be recommended for their original hutong brewhouse, but the opening of a wildly popular new pub on Xinzhong Lu has shifted most drinkers there instead.

> Gulou: 5pm-late, Tue-Fri, 2pm-late Sat-Sun 2-10pm, 6 Douliao Hutong, Dongcheng 东城区豆角胡同6号 (5717 1399); Sanlitun: Daily 11:30am-2pm; Sun-Thur 5pm-midnight, Fri/Sat 5pm-1am, B12 Xinzhong Street 新中街乙12号 (6416 6887, www.greatleap-brewing.com)

### Heaven Supermarket

A purgatory of bottles, bongos and bedraggled English teachers, Heaven sells the cheapest alcoholic takeaways in town. You can also hang around and appreciate the afterlife (clientele) if you want. Caveat: the food is straight from Hell's own kitchen.

> Daily 11-4am, 14 Xindong Lu (next to The James Joyce), Chaoyang 朝阳区新东路14号 (6415 6513)

### Hidden Lounge \*

Although frustrating to find, Hidden Lounge rewards the intrepid with good art-work and comfortable seating, suggesting a Kasbah, plus well-made drinks at great prices (wine from RMB100 a bottle, mix drinks from RMB25). You'll probably have to call them to find it, though.

> Daily 6pm-1am, Room 101, Bldg 8, CBD Apartments, Shuangyuayuan Nanli Erqu, Chaoyang 朝阳区双花园南里二区CBD公寓8号楼101层 (8772 1613)

### Jane's & Hooch 雅 \*

Acclaimed by some foreign press as one of the best bars in the world (cough), this not-so-plain Jane has been at the vanguard of the South Sanlitun gentrification. It serves RMB60-80 measures of your favorite Prohibition-era hooches in a fanstastic speakeasy atmosphere, with attentive staff and unimpeachable cocktails.

> Daily 8pm-2am, Courtyard 4 Gongti Beilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区工体北路4号院 (6503 2757)

### Jing-A Taproom \*\*

In just a few years, these guys developed from shady guerrilla brewers to upstanding publiquans with their own range of souvenir T-shirts. Their bar is a peach: a bricks-and-mortar taproom, which is large, warm and sociable, and has up to 16 different beers on tap.

> Building B, 1949 The Hidden City, Courtyard 4, Gongti Bei Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区工体北路4号院

### Mao Mao Chong \*\*

The cocktails at Mao's – such as their sublime 'Mala' Mule, a Sichuan peppercorn-infused vodka drink that's a long way from Moscow – are unique infusions using local ingredients and know-how. Grungey without being grimey, Mao's eschews flash while still keeping it real. And those pizzas.

> 12 Banchang Hutong, Jiaodaokou, Dongcheng 东城区交道口南大街街厂胡同12号 (6405 5718, www.maomaochongbeijing.com)

### Mesh 麦

Whether it's an early evening cocktail or a late-night infusion, Mesh's moody interior and underground soundtrack draws the bright young things (and on LGBT Thursdays, quite a few old things, too).

> Daily 5pm-1am, Building 1, 11 Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路11号院1号楼 (6417 6688)

### Maggie's 麦

A notorious sausage fest (we refer, of course, to the hot-dog stand outside), Maggie's has been providing its special comforts for so long, it's practically a time-honored Beijing brand – although it's also a bastion of Mongolian culture.

> Sun-Thur 8pm-4am, Fri-Sat 8pm-5am, Ritan Park South Gate, Chaoyang District 朝阳区日坛公园南门 (8562 8142)

### Parlor

Learn a few quotes from *Gatsby* before heading to this 20s Shanghai-style speak-easy and you'll fit right in.

> Daily 6pm-2am, 39-8 Xingfuercun, Chaoyang 朝阳区新东路幸福二村39-8 (8444 4135)

### Mai Bar \*

Understated hutong hideaway with a long list of some of the best cocktails in town.

> Daily 5pm-late, 40 Beiluoguxiang, Dongcheng 东城区北锣鼓巷40号 (6406 1871)

### Revolution \*

Sanlitun doesn't really do hipster bars but if it did, this cramped ode to Maamorabilia would be it. The East may be red but their cocktails (RMB45) are fit for a Chairman.

> Daily, 12pm-late, west of Yashow, Gongti Bei Lu, 朝阳区工体北路雅秀市场西侧 (6415 8776)

### The Brick

A Cheers-style atmosphere ensures you'll find this neighbourhood drinking hole-in-the-brick-wall faux dive bar either cliquy or inclusive. The heavy-duty cocktails (including the devastatingly boozy RMB80 Terminator) are probably needed for the bizarre Wednesday pub quiz.

> Daily 4pm-late, Unit 2-11, Bldg 2, Tianzhi Jiaozi, 31 Guangqu Lu (northeast corner of Shuangjing Qiao), Dongcheng 朝阳区双井桥东北角广渠路31号院2之新子2号楼底商2-11 (134 2616 6677)

### The Irish Volunteer

Everything – from the red-faced owner to the grub – is authentically Irish: tinged

with alcoholism, doggerel and drunken regret. A good place to down a pint and a pizza before heading into town, then.

> Daily 9pm-2am, 311 Jiangtai Lu (opposite Lido Hotel East Gate), Chaoyang 朝阳区将台路311号 (6438 5581)

### Slow Boat Sanlitun Brewpub \*\*

his popular microbrewery is a Beijing classic (if haven't tried Zombie Pirate Pale Ale Yet, then what are you doing?). Quality ales that change depending on the season, a massive three-story space and some of the best burgers in town round out the deal.

> Daily, 11am-late; 6 Nan Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区南三里屯路6号 (6592 5388)

### Glen 彦

Experiences can vary at Glen (we've endured poor service and drinks that are scandalous at the price), which is located in a decidedly downbeat compound. But whisky lovers have been known to swear by its selections and dark, intimate atmosphere. See for yourself.

> Daily 6.30pm-2am, 203, 2/F, Taiyue Suites Hotel Beijing, 16 Nansanlitun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区南三里屯路16号泰悦豪庭2楼203室 (6591 1191)

### Glen Classic 彦

Tucked away in the grounds of Face hotel, Glen Classic is a Japanese-owned whisky bar where discerning drinkers can sink into an arm-chair, glass in hand, and while away the hours. Huge range of whiskies and rums are personally selected by expert owner Daiki Kanetaka – let him recommend you something special.

> Mon-Sat, 7pm-2am, reservation required, minimum spend RMB200, Face Hotel Courtyard, 26 Dongcaoyuan, Chaoyang 朝阳区工体南路东草园26号 (6551 6788)

### Trouble Bar

Beijing's leading venue for imported craft beers. Stocks a large draft selection and an even larger selection of bottles. Also does a nice line in creative cocktails, if brews aren't your thing. Conveniently located next to Gung-Ho, hosts a full-sized foos-ball table, darts, and plenty of TV's to accommodate any event, meetings, and gatherings.

> 2-101, China View Building, 28 Gongti Donglu, Chaoyang (Next To Gung-Ho) 朝阳区工人体育场东路乙之2号中国红街2-101叫板比萨隔壁 (8590 0390, troublebar@gmail.com, www.trouble.bar)

## 10 Best Livehouses

### Dusk Dawn Club (DDC) 黄昏黎明俱乐部

Great little livehouse near Meishuguan with a focus on jazz, folk and indie rock. Craft beer and whisky means you won't get bored of the drinks list quickly.

> Tue-Sun 1pm-2am; 14 Shanlao Hutong, Dongcheng 东城区美术馆后街山老胡同14号 (6407 8969)

### School Bar 学校酒吧 \*

Crap drinks and regular, unscheduled fights: no wonder the cool kids adore this alternative livehouse/ DJ bar, founded by Beijing and Shanghai rock n' rollers.

> Daily 8pm-late, 53 Wudaoying Hutong, Chaoyang 朝阳区五道营胡同53号 (6402 8881, 6406 9947)

### Jianghu 江湖酒吧

This former Qing Dynasty courtyard home is exactly where you'd take that friend from out of town to prove you're cool. Its cozy atmosphere is also its downfall – any show with under 40 people and you're stuck looking through the windows. Hip and casually familiar, the jazz and folk bookings keep things low-key enough for the get-home-for-the-babysitter crowd.

> 7 Dongmianhua Hutong, Jiaodaokou Nan Dajie, Dongcheng 东城区交道口南大街东棉花胡同7号 (6401 5269, site.douban.com/jianghujubar, jincanzh@gmail.com)

### Hot Cat Club 热力猫

A true stalwart of the Beijing scene, Hot Cat is the type of hard-working venue that helps cement a city's music scene.

> Daily 10am-late, 46 Fangjia Hutong (just south of Guozijian Jie), Dongcheng 东城区方家胡同46号 (6400 7868)

### The Post Mountain 后山

Built into a man-made hill in the center of the MOMA Complex, this new addition to Beijing's growing livehouse empire is The Hobbit meets Manhattan. With as much vibe as a sterile modern-art gallery. Its imported sound system and ramped floor makes for decent sound and sightlines.

> Bldg 18, MOMA, 1 Xiangheyuan Lu, Dongzhimenwai, Dongcheng (next to MOMA Cinematheque) 东城区东直门外香河园路1号当代MOMA园区18号楼北老江艺电影中心北侧 (8400 4774)

### Temple 坛 \*

Probably the manliest venue in town, this

dimly lit and unventilated space is owned by rockers (Gao Xu, Gao Jian and Clement Burger) and known for late sets of hard rock, punk and ska, with weekend gigs and DJ sets every fortnight. It offers a long drinks menu, with plenty of cheap pastis and shooters, but you'll probably stick to the RMB15 draught.

> Daily, 7pm-late, Bldg 8, 206 Gulou Dong Dajie, Dongcheng 东城区鼓楼东大街206号B楼202 (131 6107 0713)

### Yugong Yishan 愚公移山 \*

We've lost more body weight than we'd care to remember in YY's mosh pit. Fortunately, almost all the acts – usually hip-hop DJs, emo rocks and obscure indie outfits from across the globe – were worth it. The upstairs bar area is a refuge from the sweat glands below.

> Daily 7pm-late, 3-2 Zhangzhong Lu (100m west of Zhangzhong Lu subway station), Dongcheng 东城区张自忠路3-2号 (6404 2711)

## Sports Bars

### The Local \*

Formerly Brussels, this beery bar has come into its own, with large (yet strangely unobtrusive) screenings of sports and political events, a pub quiz, quality fare and a nice selection of draughts and cocktails. Try the Bourbon Street Ice Tea – you won't need another.

> Daily 11-2am, 4 Gongti Beilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区工体北路4号院 (6591 9525)

### Paddy O'Shea's \*

An entire Irish-themed pub, which could easily be transposed, untouched, from a back alley in Limerick and gently deposited in central Beijing. With plenty going on, including pub quiz and sports.

> Dongzhimen: Daily 10am-late, 28 Dongzhimenwai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区东直门外大街28号 (6592 6290); Sanlitun: 2/F, Tongli Studio, Sanlitun Back Street 三里屯北路43号同里二层 (6415 0299)

### V Sports

Spacious, comfortable, huge screens and no rowdy drunken cretins, V Sports makes a claim for the champion of Beijing sports bars.

> Daily 5.30pm-6am, Gongti North Gate East side, Chaoyang 朝阳区工体北门内东侧 (5293 0333)

## Nightclubs

### Chocolate

It's impossible to discuss Chocolate without mentioning gold leaf, dwarves, cabaret dancers and oddly-friendly Russian women. Timed right, a visit can be raucous fun, with bottles of spirits from around RMB200, cocktails under RMB50 (including the absinthe-based Flaming Armageddon) and regular floor shows.

> Daily 7pm-6am, 19 Ritan Beilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区日坛北路19号 (8561 3988)

### Dada \*

It hasn't been on the Beijing scene for too long, but already Dada is the hippest hangout in town. Their cosy Gulou confines under rock house Temple offer an intimate place to nod along to an eclectic range of all things electro from the best names of the underground scene.

> Daily 9pm-late, Rm 101, Bldg B, 206 Gulou Dong Dajie, Dongcheng 东城区鼓楼东大街206号B栋101室 (183 1108 0818)

### Lantern \*

Founded by now-defunct Acupuncture Records, Lantern is a beacon of light in the strip of truly ghastly nightclubs and bars known as 'Gongti.' Serious about its music, it also makes good drinks and attracts international electronic DJs.

> Thurs-Sat 9pm-6.30am, 100m north of Worker's Stadium West Gate, Chaoyang 朝阳区工人体育场西门向北100米 (139 119 77989)

### MIX

A bit like a trip to the Forbidden City, Mix is one of those places in Beijing you have to experience before you leave. Not much is forbidden in this underground hip-hop disco palace and if you don't leave with hook-up in tow then you're doing something very wrong.

> Daily 8pm-6am, Inside Worker's Stadium North Gate, Chaoyang 朝阳区工人体育场北门外 (6506 9888, 6530 2889, 150 1138 2219, mixclub@sohu.com)

### The Bar at Migas \*

A place to dance and prow, perhaps, rather than a drinks destination, TBAM, as no one calls it, focuses on upscale local DJs to get the party started. Good-enough cocktails range from RMB55-70 but mostly it's about the music, man.

> Sunday to Wednesday 6pm-2am, Thursday to Friday 6pm-late, 6/F, Naili Patio, 81 Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang District 朝阳区三里屯路81号 (5208-6061)

LISTINGS

**Vics** Separated at birth from its identical twin brother, Mix, this is the definition of Gongti sweatbox meat-market chic at its very finest. The Chinese love it — as do moody Russians and jaiilab students — helping Vics to become one of the most infamous clubs in the capital. > Daily 8:30pm late, Inside Worker's Stadium North Gate, Chaoyang 朝阳区工人体育场北门内 (5293 0333)

Hotel Bars

**Atmosphere ¥¥** Beijing's highest bar, on the 80th floor of the 1,082-ft China World Tower, offers 300+ swanky cocktails from RMB65 with 360-degree views of the 700AQI PM2.5. > Mon-Fri noon-2am, Sat and Sun noon-4am, 80/F, China World Summit Wing, 1 Jianguomenwai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国门外大街1号北京国贸大酒店80 (6505 2299 ext. 6433)

**Centro ¥** Although it's no longer quite the go-to place for beautiful people it once was, Centro still draws a cute crowd with its nightly jazz performances, spacious and recently renovated lounge areas and classic drinks like the blue-cheese martini. > Open 24 hours. 1/F, Kerry Hotel, 1 Guanghua Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区光华路1号北京嘉里大酒店1层 (6561 8833)

**MEI** One of the livelier hotel bars in town, MEI has a nightly band, serves creatively delicious cocktails and overlooks the CCTV 'trousers.' Don't leave without trying the rightfully delicious Panjiayuan Bramble. Mon-Wed 6pm-2am, Thu-Sat 6pm-3am, Sun 5pm-midnight; 5F Rosewood Beijing, Jing Guang Centre, Huijialou, Chaoyang District 朝阳区呼家楼一号京广中心北京瑰丽酒店3层 (6536 0083)

**O'Bar** With both a fantastic cocktail menu and one of the finest terraces in the city, NUO Hotel's O'Bar is a sure bet for classy evening drinks in the city. > Sun-Thurs: 6pm-1am; Fri-Sat: 6pm-2am; 2 Jianguai Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区将台路甲2号 (5926 8888)

**Xian 仙** Bold multi — element bar Xian on the ground floor mixes a pub, whiskey bar, live music venue and games room into one vibrant entertainment hotspot. > Daily 5pm-2am, 1/F, EAST Beijing, 22 Jiuxiangqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区酒仙桥路22号东隅酒店1层 (8414 9810)

BEAUTY & FITNESS

**Black Golden Tanning Studio** 古铜日晒中心 Beijing's hardly the best place to pick up a natural tan. When it finally reaches the warm summer, the sun's rays struggle to penetrate the smog. Thankfully, Black Golden Tanning Studio is on hand to give you that golden glow with its quick, safe and effective technology. With a membership card, enjoy a 50-minute session for RMB400 and come away with natural, healthy-looking color. > Sanlitun: 11am-9pm, 2/F, Bldg 3, Sanlitun SOHO, Gongti Bei Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区工体北路三里屯SoHo号楼2层217 (5785 3711, jusonghao@hotmail.com); Wangjing: 11am-9pm, Rm T5, 3/F, BOTAI International Building, 36 Guangshun Bei Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区望京广顺北大街36号博泰国际商业广场3层T-5 (8472 2855)

**Alona Pilates Studio** Pairing up traditional Pilates with an innovative, full-body workout, Alona Pilates offers classes designed to tone and whip you into shape fast. It also provides a personalized experience for all its students, regardless of fitness, strength and flexibility levels. > Daily, 7:30, late, 5/F at Heavenly Spa by Westin, 1 Xinyuan Nanlu, Chaoyang 朝阳区新源南路1号威斯汀酒店5层 (139 1029 0260, www.alonapilates.com)

**Narcisse Beauty Brands Encompassed** One of a kind! A 600 m<sup>2</sup> brand-new concept of beauty salon — Narcisse, encompassed with professional brands on skincare, manicure and hair removal. Not only can we guarantee to give you the highest quality of products and treatments, but also an impressive one-stop beauty experience. Brands inside Narcisse: **Youngfo: Facial Cleansing Center** Clean Out What's Deeply Buried In Your Skin **10+10: Minimal-Design Nail** Chic Workaholic's Luv! **Edelweiss: Laser Hair Removal** Latest Technology, Safe&Permanent Deep Facial Cleaning — 880rmb/once

> 10.30am-10.30pm, Bldg. 1, No.6 West Fangyuan rd, Chaoyang (inside Narcisse Beauty Brands Encompassed) 朝阳区芳园西路6号院1号楼水仙美容品牌集合店内 (5365 9418)

**Daisy's Beauty Salon** Since 2001, Daisy's beauty salon has catered to thousands of Beijing expats and locals and is renowned for its premium waxing services and imported wax that smells like hot chocolate. If waxing isn't your thing, the salon also specializes in an array of other treatments including IPL Facial Rejuvenation and lifting, a 90-minute treatment that uses a laser to stimulate collagen production and soften lines. Laser and IPL permanent hair removal treatment is also proving popular and effective. > Daily, 10am-8.30pm, Rm301, Building B, Sunshine100 International Apartment, Guanghua Donglu, Chaoyang 朝阳区光华东路2号阳光100国际公寓B座301室 (5100 0556 / 0557, www.daisysbeautysalon.com)

**Beijing Hikers** Want to experience the wild, unrestored Great Wall, away from the tourist masses? Or do you just want to get out of the city for some exercise? Beijing Hikers offers hikes in the countryside of Beijing every week all year round. Hikes for all fitness levels! Regular hikes are priced from RMB380, with discounts for members. Cost includes hiking guide, transportation, tickets, food and water. We've also got adventures all over China. > For more information, visit www.beijingshikers.com

**Shang Xia** > L118 & 119, L1 China World Mall, China World Trade Center 1, Jianguomen Waidajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国门外大街1号中国国际贸易中心国贸商城1楼 L118 & 119 (6505 3446)

**Lily Nails**

A long-time favorite among locals and expats alike, Lily Nails is much more than a nail spa; they eyelash services, of pampering treatments and waxing too. > U Town store: Daily 10am-22pm, Shop 19B, 4/F, U town Plaza, Chaoyang 朝阳区悠唐购物中心一期4层19B号 8561 5875; Fulllink store: Daily 10am-22pm, Shop 29/B1, Fulllink Plaza, Chaoyang 朝阳区丰联广场B1-29 6588 3633; Yansha store: Daily 10am-22pm, 09/B1, Ping An International Finance Centre, Chaoyang 朝阳区平安国际金融中心商业B1层9号 5601 9664; WDK store: Daily 10am-22pm, Shop16/F4, WDK Shopping store, Haidian 海淀区五道口购物中心4层1415号 6266 6070; Heshenghui store: Daily 10am-22pm, Shop B1-19, Heshenghui Mall, Chaoyang 朝阳区合生汇B1层19号 5601 9664; Pingan store: Daily 10am-22pm, Shop 09/B1, Ping An International Finance Centre, Chaoyang 朝阳区平安国际金融中心商业B1层9号 8444 2483; Taiyangong store: Daily 10am-22pm, Shop B1-09, CapitaMall Taiyangong, Chaoyang 朝阳区太阳宫凯德购物中心B1-15A号 8443 0619; WeLife store: Daily 10am-22pm, WeLife store, Shop B1/F, WeLife Shopping store, Chaoyang 朝阳区远洋未来汇购物中心B1-116号 8588 6896; Wanlun store: Daily 10am-22pm, Shop 19/F4, Wanlun BHG, Haidian 海淀区华联万柳购物中心4层 8258 9517; Hongmei store: Daily 10am-22pm, Shop 3824-1, Shanghai 上海市长宁区老外街虹梅路3824-1号 021-6215 5192

HAIR SALONS

**Blow+Bar** This salon is equipped with more than shampoo — the team here provides haircuts, dye, updos, hair treatments and more. With prices for almost everything listed under RMB1,000, Blow+ is a haven of reasonably priced good taste in Sanlitun's 3,3 Mall. They have champagne and a well-stocked bar, so bring your friends and make a night of it. > 3/F 3,3 Mall, 33 Sanlitun Lu, Sanlitun, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路3号3层3/F (for appointments, call 5136 5432) **Catherine de France** Awarded best expat salon in 2014/ 2015, with a trained team of international and local stylists, colorists and beauticians, this salon welcomes all ages and budgets in

a modern and relaxed atmosphere for a wide range of hair and beauty treatments, include manicure, pedicure and waxing. WeLa, SP, INOA, TIGI Language: French, English, Spanish, Chinese, Russian. > East Avenue BLD Ground Floor, No.10 Xindong Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区新东路10号逸盛商首层 (8442 5120, 135 2147 3492, eastavenue@catherinedefrance.com, Wechat: CDFSalon, www.catherinedefrance.com)

Laurent Falcon

As China's first REAL French hair salon we promise each and every one of our customers that we'll treat your hair like it's our own. We use only the finest imported products to guarantee that your experience with us is as relaxing and professional as possible. Come in and meet our specialist stylist and visit our facilities. Your hair deserves a true touch of French sophistication. Man cut 115RMB up; Women cut 165RMB up; Color 500RMB up; Highlight 610RMB up. > SanLiTun salon: No.43 Building, SanLiTun BeiJie South, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯北街南43号楼 (6409 4243, 1350 137 2971); GuoMao Salon: 209, 2/F, Phase 3 China World Shopping Mall, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国门外大街1号国贸商城北区3L209 (8535 1002, 1314 667 9913) Catherine de France

Sport

**Broadwell International Tennis Academy** Located inside Chaoyang Park's Tennis Center, this indoor club boasts a complete state-of-the-art air-supported structure for all-weather year-round indoor tennis, with an advanced lighting system and controlled climate. Ideal for peeps looking to perfect their service and batting a few balls. > Nongzhan Nanlu, Chaoyang 朝阳区农南路1号朝阳公园网球中心 (400 6406 800 / 6595 8885, www.broadwell.cn1)

**California Fitness Beijing Club** California Fitness Beijing's Group X program is among the best in the region, and with membership you have access to over 150 weekly Group X classes and a team of professional personal trainers in Asia. Your membership also includes free towel usage and a fitness assessment. > South Tower, L4, 9 Guanghua Lu, Chaoyang (4008 100-988, www.californiafitness.com)

**Cycle China Inc.** 北京非常之旅 Cycle China provides organized cycling and hiking tours in and around Beijing as well as longer tours throughout China. Some of their more popular tours take cyclists through the Olympic Green, Tian'anmen Square, and Beijing's traditional hutongs. > 12 Jingshan East Street, Dongcheng 东城区景山东街12号 (6402 5653, 139 1188 6524)

**Heyobics** "Sweat like a Swede!" they say with annoyingly smug grin and toned abs. The only fitness craze worth following in Beijing, Heyobics is all about a punishing full-body workout set to pumping beats — not forgetting the fluorescent spandex. Differing classes for all abilities, check online for the full schedule.

> www.heyobics.com, info@heyobics.com **Yihe 42° Hot Yoga** 2 locations in Beijing: the best Yoga for Beginners! No previous experience necessary — and if your body is a bit stiff — that's okay! Yihe knows it can be a little intimidating to begin your journey into Yoga, so they are available to answer any questions you may have. It's a great workout for the body and calming for the mind. Call them today on (5905 6067, 8599 7395) > Daily 10am-8pm. 3/F, No. 2 South Building, Blue Castle, Dawang Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区大望路蓝堡国际中心南写字楼2座3层 (8599 7395/96, www.yih42.com); 3/F, Bldg. 14, Solana, No. 6 Chaoyang Gongyuan Xilu Chaoyang 朝阳区朝阳公园西路6号,蓝色港湾14号,三层 (5905 6065/67, www.yih42.com)

HEALTH SERVICES

**American-Sino OB/GYN/Pediatrics Services** 北京美华妇儿医院 > 18 anyuan road, chaoyang district, Beijing 北京市朝阳区安苑路18号 (8443 9666, bj.americansinobgyn.com)

**Beijing International Medical Center (IMC)** Established in 1993, the International Medical Center-Beijing counts on an expert team of foreign doctors, offering a wide range of medical services, including family medicine, psychological services, dental, ob/gyn, pediatrics and TCM. Drop-in services for travelers; x-rays and ultrasounds are also available. English, Farsi, Japanese, Chinese, Arabic and Russian spoken. > 24hours. Room S106/111 Lufthansa Center, 50 Liangmahe Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区亮马桥路50号燕莎中心写字楼1层S106 (6465 1561/2/3, 6465 1384/28, www.imclinics.com)

**Amcare Women's & Children's Hospital** With a zero waiting-time policy, top-quality inpatient facilities, home visits, night services and transportation assistance, Amcare provides a trustworthy experience. English-speaking services include pediatrics, gynecology and obstetrics. > 9 Fangyuan Xilu, Chaoyang District 朝阳区芳园西路9号 (6434 2399, 24hr hotline 800 610 6200, www.amcare.com.cn)

**Beijing United Family Hospital and Clinics** 北京和睦家医院 > Wi-Fi internet. Lido, Emergency Room is open 24/7/365, Mon-Fri, 8:30am-5pm; 2 Jianguai Road, Chaoyang District, 朝阳区将台路2号. (5927 7000 / 5927 7120 Emergency Hotline); United Family CBD Clinic 美国嘉家海外诊所. Mon-Sat, 9:30am-6:30pm, Suite 3017, Building AB, Vantone Center, 6 Chaowai Street, Chaoyang, 朝阳区朝阳门外大街6号万通中心AB座2层3017室 (5907 1266); Jianguomen Health and Wellness Center and 和睦家建国门保健中心. Wi-Fi internet, Mon-Sun 8:30am-5pm, 21 Jianguomen Dajie, B1, The St. Regis Residence, St. Regis Hotel 朝阳区建国门外大街21号北京国际俱乐部酒店 (8532 1221 / 8532 1678 Immigration Clinic); Shunyi Clinic and 和睦家顺义诊所. Wi-Fi internet, Mon-Fri, 9:30am-5:30pm, Sat and Sun, 9:30am-4:30pm. Pinnacle Plaza, Unit 806, Tian Zhu Real Estate Development Zone, Shunyi District, 顺义区天竺开发区荣祥广场806号 (8046 5432); Shunyi District Clinic 顺义牙科诊所. Wi-Fi internet, Mon-Sat, 9:30am-7:30pm, Pinnacle Plaza, Unit 818, Tian Zhu Real Estate Development Zone, Shunyi 顺义区天竺开发区荣祥广场818号 (8046 1102); Liangmahe Clinic 亮马桥诊所. Wi-Fi internet, Mon-Fri, 8:30am-5pm, 2nd Floor Grand Summit, 19 Dongfang East Road 朝阳区东方东路19号1号楼会所2号 外交人员公寓区直官16号 (5927 7005 www.ufh.com.cn, patientservices@ufh.com.cn)

**Raffles Medical International SOS and Raffles Medical Group** have formed a joint venture to enhance and expand the services of its China Clinics. From March 30 the International SOS clinics in China will be branded and operated by Raffles Medical with expanded services to all patients and privileged access for International SOS members. Patients of the clinic will continue to have access to the same doctors, the same facilities and same level of high quality care. Raffles Medical Group is a leading medical provider in Singapore and has been operating for 40 years with over 100 clinics and hospitals in Asia. The joint venture is committed to maintain the high standard of quality with a focus on innovative and expanded clinical services and excellent patient care. > Suite 105, Wing 1, Kunsha Building, No.16 Xinyuanli, Chaoyang 朝阳区新源里16号昆莎中心1座105室 (6462 9112/ 6462 9100, www.internationalosos.com)

**OASIS International Hospital** OASIS International Hospital specializes in serving the expatriate community with the latest world-class technology and a broad range of services, all in a pristine facility designed to provide patients with the utmost comfort, care and privacy. > Mon-Fri, 8:30am-5:30pm; Sat-Sun, 8:30am-12:30pm; 24 Hour Emergency Bldg C1, 9 Jiuxiangqiao Beilu Chaoyang 朝阳区酒仙桥北路9号C1栋 (400 876

2747, 5985 0333, www.oasishealth.cn)

**Beijing HarMoniCare Women and Children's Hospital** 北京和美妇儿医院  
> Wi-Fi available. Chaoyang; 2 Xiaoguan Belli, Beiyuan Lu 北苑路小关北里甲2号 (6499 0000, contact@hmcare.org, en.hmcare.net)

**Hongkong International Medical Clinic, Beijing** 北京港澳国际医疗诊所  
> Dongshihitao; 9/F, Office Tower, Hongkong Macau Center-Swiss Hotel, 2 Chaoyangmen Bei Dajie 朝阳门大街2号 港澳中心瑞士酒店办公楼9层 (6553 9752, 6553 2288/2345/6/7; service@hkclinic.com; www.hkclinic.com)

## DENTAL

### PrettySmile Dental

If you are looking for professional and comfortable dental care, PrettySmile Dental is highly recommended by many patients. The clinic is standing out because of the professional team, all doctors are from the dental hospital of Peking University and most of them got professional training in USA. The strictest sterilization processes and high-end imported equipment and materials all help guarantee the highest quality of all dental services.  
> Mon-Fri, 9:30am-6pm (closed Thu); 5-105-1, Building 5, Sanlitun SOHO Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯SOHO 5号商场1层5-105 (5785 3689/5785 3898, www.prettysmiledental.cn, psd3898@163.com)

### Joinway Dental

A reputable and trusted dental practice, Joinway Dental provides the perfect combination of cutting edge technology and comfortable treatment, while maintaining the strictest sanitary and sterilization processes. The clinic uses high-quality imported materials, and its professional, US-trained staff offers a personalized and private service.

> Mon-Sat, 9am-6pm; 11D, Building D, Oriental Kenzo Plaza (Ginza Mall), 48 Dongzhimen Wai Dajie, Dongcheng 东城区东直门外大街48号东方银座D座11D (8447 6092/93, mobile:1326 181 6708, joinway@dentalcn.com, www.dentalcn.com)

### Arrail Dental

Affiliated with the University of Pennsylvania, Arrail Dental has access to top-class equipment. Its well-trained staff, multiple locations across town and excellent facilities make it one of the best dental providers in Beijing. English-speaking staff. Dental services including examinations, whitening, root-canal treatment, orthodontics and implants.

> Rm 201, the Exchange-Beijing, 1188 Jianguo Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国路乙118号国贸桥东南角京汇大厦201室 (6567 5670); Rm 208, Tower A, CITIC Building, 19 Jianguomenwai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国门外大街19号国际大厦A座208室 (6500 6473); Rm 308, Tower A, Raycom Info Tech Park 2 Kexueyuan Nanlu, Haidian 海淀区中关村科学院南路2号融科资讯中心A座308室 (8286 1956); Rm 101, Bldg 16, China Central Place, 89 Jianguo Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国路89号华贸中心公寓16号楼101室 (8588 8550/6070); 1/F, Somers' Fortune Garden, 46 Liangmaqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区亮马桥路46号燕莎东侧盛捷福苑1层 (8440 1926)

### SDM Dental 固瑞齿科

The full spectrum of dentistry. Services include teeth cleaning, root-canal treatment, porcelain crowns, dental implants, orthodontics, cosmetic dentistry, fillings, pediatric dentistry, extraction, teeth whitening and veneers. Credit cards accepted.

> Mon-Fri 9am-8pm. NB210, 2/F, CBD, Guomao, China World Shopping Mall, 1 Jianguomenwai Dajie 建外大街1号国贸商城地下2层 (6505 9439/3193, www.sdmdental.com); Mon-Fri 9am-8pm. Olympic Area, F-0186B, Sunshine Plaza, 68 Anli Lu (east of Sunshine Plaza) 亚运村安立路68号阳光广场东侧 (6497 2173, 6498 2173); Mon-Sun 10am-19pm. L807-08, Euro Plaza, No.99 YuXiang Road, Shunyi 北京顺义区天竺镇裕翔路99号悦陆广场L807-08号 (8046 6084); Mon-Fri 9am-8pm. FC222, 21st Century Hotel, 40 Liangmaqiao Lu, Sanyuanqiao 亮马桥40号21世纪饭店2层 (6466 4814, 6461 2745); Mon-Fri 9am-8pm. 4076B, 4/F, New Yansha Mall, Yuanda Lu, Haidian 远大路金燕莎购物中心Mall4层4076B (8859 6912/13); Mon-Sun, 10am-7pm, Rm 5, 3/F, North Tower, China Overseas Plaza, 8 Guanghua Dongli 北京朝阳区光华东路8号中海广场北楼3层05号 (5977 2488)

### United Family Shunyi Dental Clinic

The Beijing United Family Dental Clinic in Shunyi is a satellite of the main hospital in Lido (which has its own dental clinic onsite). A comprehensive range of services are at hand, including restorative dentistry and cosmetic dentistry. Call ahead for all appointments.

> 818 Pinnacle Plaza, Tianzhu Real Estate Development Zone, Shunyi 北京和颐家医院牙科诊所, 顺义区天竺开发区荣祥广场818 (8046 1102)

### Vista Medical Center 维世达诊所

> 24hours. Wi-Fi internet. 3/F Kerry Center, 1 Guanghua Lu 光华路1号嘉里中心商场3层 (8529

6618, vista@vista-china.net, www.vista-china.net)

### Beijing New Century Harmony Pediatric Clinic

> Shunyi, K-01, Building No.19, Harmony Business Center, Liyuan Street, Tianzhu Town 天竺镇丽苑街和和商业中心19号楼K-01 (6456 2599; harmonyped@ncich.com.cn, www.ncich.com.cn)

### Beijing Passion International Medical Center

This full-service international clinic provides 24-hr general medical care and a patient-centered attitude. Beijing Passion International Medical Center is equipped with the latest in medical technology and is designed to support the comfort, safety and privacy of patients.  
> 24hours, B1/F, Borui Building, 26 Dongsanhuan Beilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区东三环北路26号博瑞大厦B1层 (6517 7667, www.passion-international.com)

### Parkway Health Clinic

> Mon-Sat, 10am-7pm; CBD, 1-2/F, Vantone Center, 6 Chaowai Street 朝阳门外大街甲六号万通中心A座一二层 (4000 662-882, 24hrs; enquiry@parkway-health.cn; www.parkwayhealth.cn); No.101-201, Beijing link, block2, No.6 Yuan, Jing Shun Dong Street, Chaoyang 朝阳区京顺东街6号院2号楼北京Link101-201室

### IDC Dental

> Daily: 9am-6pm, Room 209, Bldg 7, Richmond Park Clubhouse, Fanyuan Nanli, Chaoyang 朝阳区芳园里丽都水岸会所209 (6538 8111, info@idcdentalbj.com)

## EDUCATION

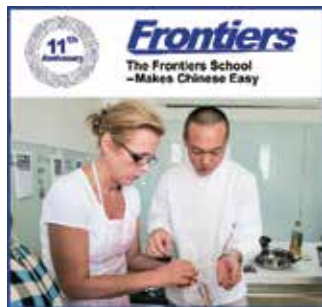
### Mandarin Schools

#### Gloria Chinese School

Focusing on teaching Chinese, making sure your improvements, organizing task-based, practical activities and providing 180-day student visa.

> R202 East Building, No.78 Maizidian Street, Chaoyang 朝阳区麦子店街78号一幢二层202室 (6500 8201, WeChat:1381 186 4656, www.gloriachinese.com)

#### The Frontiers School



Join the friendly and professional team at Frontiers, who've been teaching Mandarin for 11 years.

> 3/F, Bldg 30, Dongzhongjie, Dongzhimenwai, Dongcheng 东城区东直门外东中街30号3层 (6413 1547, www.frontiers.com.cn, frontiers@frontiers.com.cn)

#### Hutong School

Learn Mandarin with Beijing's best Mandarin school, Hutong School. Our experienced teachers will customize your classes and help you learn in a fun environment.  
> Room 1501, 15/F, Zhongyu Plaza, A6 Gongti Beilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区工体北路甲6号中宇大厦1501室

#### Beijing Mandarin School

Established in 1998, Beijing Mandarin school is the city's top institute for teaching spoken and written Mandarin as a second language, more than 5,000 students from over 66 countries and more than 80 companies and embassies have successfully learned with us each year. Also recognized and recommended by BBC News as one of the most professional Chinese language school. Also awarded as the 'That's the Best Mandarin school in Beijing' by 'The Beijing magazine.'

> E-Tower School (Guomao Area): Room 904-905, 9/F E-Tower building 数码01大厦904-905 (6508 1026/1126); Guangming Hotel School (near US embassy): Room 0709, 7/F, Guangming Hotel (near US embassy) 光明饭店7层0709室美国大使馆附近 (8441 8391, info@beijingmandarinschool.com, www.beijingmandarinschool.com, Skype ID: beijing-mandarinschool1998, Wechat: BIMS-Etower)

#### The Bridge School 北京桥汉语言学校

> The Bridge School Head office, Room 503, 5/F, Guangming Hotel, 42 Liangmaqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区亮马桥路42号光明饭店5层503室 (186 1244 1282 Grettchin)

#### Beijing Juncheng Language School 北京君诚语言学校

> 1) Room 208, 1 Panjiapo Hutong, Chaoyangmenwai, Dongcheng District 东城区朝阳

门外潘家坡胡同1号东城区职工大学208办公室 (6525 9932/6526 7539) 2) Gucheng Village, 15 Huoshu Lu, Houshayu Town, Shunyi District 顺义区后沙峪镇火沙路中段15号 (8049 0307)

#### The Bridge School

##### 北京桥汉语言学校

> [(The Bridge School Head office) Room 503, 5/F, Guangming Hotel, 42 Liangmaqiao Lu, Chaoyang District 朝阳区亮马桥路42号光明饭店5层503室 (15321793321 Grettchin)

### International Schools

#### Canadian International School of Beijing

##### 北京加拿大国际学校

Located in the Third Embassy Quarter of downtown Beijing, the Canadian International School of Beijing (CISB) opened its doors in September 2006. This world-class facility offers an internationally recognized Canadian & IB PYP, IB MYP and IB DP education. The Canadian International School of Beijing develops the whole child in an environmentally sensitive school within a kind, caring community to become a citizen of the world.

> 38 Liangmaqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区亮马桥路38号 (6465 7788, www.cisb.com.cn)

#### Springboard International Bilingual School 君诚国际双语学校

Springboard International Bilingual School is a place where children, staff and parents work in partnership to enable all their students to realize their full potential. They are offering a stimulating and full international curriculum as well as an exciting after school program, which will include Kung Fu, calligraphy, health and fitness and football.

> 15 Gucheng Duan, Huoshu Lu, Houshayu Town, Shunyi 顺义区后沙峪镇火沙路古城段15号 (8049 2450; www.sibs.com.cn, office@sibs.com.cn)

#### The British School of Beijing 北京英国学校

The British School of Beijing, established in 2003, has campuses in Shunyi (primary & secondary) and Sanlitun (primary). BSB offers an enhanced English National Curriculum to 1,500 expatriate students, aged 1 to 18, beginning with Early Years Foundation Stage, Primary, Secondary, IGCSE exams in Year 10 and 11 and the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma programme in Year 12 and 13. Admission & Fees: RMB102,993-246,057. Contact our Admissions team to arrange a school tour.

> Mon-Fri, 8am-4:30pm, South Side, 9 An Hua Street, Shunyi 顺义区安华街9号南侧 (8047 3558, www.britishschool.org.cn, admissions@britishschool.org.cn)

#### Western Academy of Beijing

##### 京西国际学校

The Western Academy of Beijing (WAB) is a creative and innovative IB World School built upon a solid foundation of core values and our mission to Connect, Inspire, Challenge; Make a Difference. Our students exemplify these values through their awareness of the world around them, service to others, can-do spirit and commitment to excellence. WAB graduates are accepted into world-class colleges and universities across the globe.

> 10 Lai Guang Ying Dong Lu, Chao Yang 朝阳区来广营东路10号 (5986 5588)

#### Beijing City International School

##### 北京乐成国际学校

Located in Beijing's Central Business District, Beijing City International School (BCIS) lives by its motto: "Empowering and Inspiring through Challenge and Compassion." This non-profit, independent co-educational day school offers an international curriculum under the International Baccalaureate (IB) World School system and is authorized to teach all three IB programs (Primary Years, Middle Years, and Diploma Programme).

> 77 Baizivan Nan'er Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区百子湾二路77号 (8771 7171, www.bcis.cn)

#### La Maison Montessori de Pekin

##### 北京中法双语蒙氏儿童之家

The first bilingual French-Chinese Montessori kindergarten in Beijing, it welcomes children between ages 2 to 6 years old. The kindergarten is located in a beautiful courtyard in the hutongs. Schedule: Monday to Friday: 8:30am to 3:30pm. After class activities also offered.

> 50 Dongsi Shitiao, Dongcheng 东城区东四十四条50号 (131 2025 0341/8401 3974; lamaisonmontessoridep@gmail.com; www.lamaisonmontessoridep.com)

#### Beijing Mandarin School

Established in 1998, Beijing Mandarin School is the city's top institute for teaching spoken and written Mandarin as a second language, more than 5,000 students from over 66 countries and more than 80 companies and embassies have successfully learned with us each year. Also recognized

and recommended by BBC News as one of the most professional Chinese language school.

> E-tower School (Guomao Area): Room 904-905, 9/F E-tower Building E数码世界9层904-905 (6508 1026/1126); Guangming Hotel School (Embassy Area): Room 0709, 7/F Guangming Hotel (near US Embassy) 光明饭店7层0709室 美国大使馆附近 (84418391, info@beijingmandarinschool.com, www.beijingmandarinschool.com, Skype ID: beijing-mandarinschool1998)

#### Harrow International School Beijing

北京哈罗国际学校 www.harrowbeijing.cn Harrow International School Beijing prides itself on its high academic standards, a close-knit school community, a rich extra-curricular activity program and the quality of its pastoral care provision. Leadership skills are promoted school-wide, with a range of enrichment activities to help students develop teamwork and creative thinking skills, as well as independence and responsibility. Students graduating from Harrow Beijing have won places at a range of universities across the world including Princeton, Yale, Oxford and Cambridge.

> Address: 287, Hegezhuang, Cuigezhuang County, Chaoyang 朝阳区崔各庄乡何各庄村 287号 (8610 6444 8900 Ext. 6900 Fax: 10 6445 3870, enquiries@harrowbeijing.cn)

#### Yew Chung International School

##### 耀中国际学校

Located in downtown Honglingjin Park since 1995, Yew Chung International School of Beijing (YCIS Beijing) offers a truly international curriculum for children of foreign nationals in China. The school follows the National Curriculum for England but also integrates an extensive Chinese language and culture program, allowing foreign nationals to get the best out of their time in China. YCIS Beijing is one of only five schools in China accredited by three separate accreditation organizations and has a 100 percent pass rate within the IGCSE and IB programs. In addition, YCIS Beijing is the only international school in China to receive the Cambridge Award for Excellence in Education from the University of Cambridge International Examinations.

> Honglingjin Park, 5 Houbailizhuang, Chaoyang 朝阳区后八里庄5号红领公园 (8583 3731, www.ycis-bj.com)

### Kindergartens

#### House of Knowledge International Kindergarten (HOK)

House of Knowledge International kindergarten (HOK) has locations in both Shunyi and Chaoyang. Both locations offer a Kindergarten program for children aged 10 months to 6 years (Pre-school). Students are treated as competent learners and the school emphasizes critical thinking and collaboration skills, in an environment where children "Learn to Learn". In addition, the Shunyi location also has a elementary school starting from grade 1 in September 2014.

> Quanfa Gardens Campus: North gate of Quanfa compound, 15 Maquanying, Chaoyang District 朝阳区马泉营15号泉发花园北门 (6431 8452, www.hokschools.com); Victoria Gardens Campus: 15 Chaoyang Gongyuan Xilu, Chaoyang District 朝阳区朝阳公园西路15号维多利亚花园公寓 (6538 2624, www.hokschools.com)

#### EtonKids International Kindergarten

##### 伊顿国际幼儿园

> LidoRoom C103 Lido Country Club, Lido Place Jichang Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区将台路机场路都广场 (6436 7368, www.etonkids.com); 3/F, Block D Global Trade Mansion Guanghua Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区光华路世贸国际公寓D座3层 (6506 4805); Southwest corner of Beichen Xilu and Kehui Lu, Chaoyang District 朝阳区北辰西路与科荟路交汇处西南角 (8437 1006); Kehui Lu, Chaoyang, Beijing 朝阳区科荟路大屯里社区 (8480 5538); Bldg 19, Central Park, 6 Chaowai Dajie Chaoyang 朝阳区朝外大街6号新城国际19号楼 (6533 6995); Palm Springs International Apartments 8 Chaoyang Park Nanlu Chaoyang 朝阳区朝阳公园南路8号棕榈泉国际公寓 (6539 8967); Bldg 21, Guangqu Jiayuan, Guangqumen-wai, Dongcheng 东城区广渠门外广渠家园21号楼 (6749 5008); Baoxing International Phase 2, Wangjing Chaoyang 朝阳区望京宝星园国际社区二期 (8478 0578); Block 1, Arcadia Villas, Houshayu Shunyi 顺义区后沙峪罗环岛北侧天北路阿凯迪亚庄园1区 (8047 2983); 20A Xidawang Lu, Chaoyang District 朝阳区西大望路甲20号首府社区内 (5870 6779)

#### Beanstalk International Bilingual School

##### 青苗国际双语学校

> Kindergarten: 1/F, Tower B, 40 Liangmaqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区亮马桥路40号B座一层 (6466 9255); Primary School: Block 2, Upper East Side, 6 Dongsihuan Beilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区东四环北路6号阳光上东二区 (5130 7951); Middle & High School: 38 Nan Shiliu, Chaoyang 朝阳区南十里居38号 (8456 6019)

# CLASSIFIEDS

## ACCOMMODATION

### Ascott Beijing

>No.1088 Jianguo Road,Chaoyang District,Beijing 北京市朝阳区建国路乙108号 (6587 0888)

### Ascott Raffles City Beijing

Located in Dongzhimen, one of the most vibrant areas, Ascott Raffles City is near the second embassy district, which is rich in cultural heritage and is only a 15 minute drive to The Forbidden City. Other nearby leisure attractions include Food Street (Gui Jie) and Sanlitun nightlife district.

> No.1-2 Dongzhimen South Street Dongcheng District Tel: 8405 3888

### Ascott Raffles City Chengdu

> No. 3, Section 4, South Renmin Road, Wuhou District, Chengdu 610041, China Post code: 610041,Telephone:(86-28) 6268 2888 ,Facsimile:(86-28) 6268 2889 ,GD5 Code: AZ, Reservations Telephone:400 820 1028 (China toll-free) ;(86-512) 6763 1021 Email:enquiry.china@the-ascott.com

### Ascott Riverside Garden Beijing

With a stunning east-meets-west architecture, the residence provides spacious studios, stylish one-bedroom apartments as well as unique two-bedroom penthouses and luxurious three-bedroom premises. The lifestyle amenities and unparalleled recreational facilities offer the residents various options for relaxation and entertainment

> No.33A Zhou Zhuang Jiayuan Dongli, Chaoyang District, Beijing Telephone Number: (86-10) 8783 1666 Website: www.ascottchina.com Email:enquiry.beijing@the-ascott.com

### Beijing Kerry Residence

Whether you're a single business executive or a busy family, Beijing Kerry's fully-furnished 1, 2 and 3-bedroom apartments will feel just like home. As well as enjoying all the comforts of modern living – including a well-equipped kitchen, entertainment systems, high-speed broadband and much more – residents are just moments away from the Kerry Centre's shopping mall and sports facilities. The rest of the CBD is on your doorstep too.

>1 Guanghua Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区光华路1号 (8535 6888, www.beijingkerryresidence.com)

### Lee Garden Service Apartments

A newly renovated high-end premier living residence in a central location next to the shopping and cultural sites of Beijing's Wangfujing, suites range from studios to 4-bedroom apartments (60-610sqm in size) and are tastefully furnished with specially selected materials.

> 18 Jinyu Hutong, Wangfujing, Dongcheng (100m East of Sun Dong An Plaza) 东城区王府井金鱼胡同18号 (新东安东侧100米); 24hr front desk: 6525 8855; Fax: 6525 8080, general.manager@lgapartment.com, www.lgapartment.com)

### FraserSuite CBD Beijing

The ultimate luxury in apartment living, Fraser Suites CBD Beijing epitomizes style and comfort, that surpasses the service level of many Beijing hotels. The 357 Gold-Standard Beijing apartment features contemporary concepts designed for luxury living.

> 12 Jintong Xilu Chaoyang District Beijing Tel: 5908 6000

### GTC RESIDENCE BEIJING

One of the top residences in Beijing, GTC Residence is located beside the third ring road with 5 minutes' walk to subway line 5, 10 minutes' drive to Hou Hai. It is also within easily reach of CBD, embassy area, Financial Street and other urban

commercial, shopping and recreation areas. Fully equipped apartments with impeccable quality offer you a cozy living system and will meet all of your requirements for room decoration, furniture, electric appliances etc...

Unique sky garden with golf practice field and barbecue area is another symbol of GTC Residence.

> sales@gtrresidence.com, website: www.gtrresidence.com Tel:56756666

### Lusongyuan Hotel

A traditional compound of quadrangle composing of 5 courtyards which lies in the "hutong" area of Beijing. The hotel building is famous for its imperial living taste of the Qing Dynasty with a history of nearly 170 years. The original owner of this large private house was the Grand General Senggerinchen, who lived here while he carried out top official duties, such as defense minister.

> Tel: (86 10) 6404 0436, Fax: (86 10) 6403 0418 , Address:No.22 Banchang Lane, Kuanjie, Dongcheng District 东城区宽街板厂胡同22号 www.the-silk-road.com, E-mail: webmaster@the-silk-road.com

### Marriott Executive Apartments

Ideally located in the center of Wangfujing area where the prestigious business, commercial, entertainment, and shopping center of Beijing. The Imperial Mansion, Beijing – Marriott Executive Apartments reflects an exceptional level of luxury.

> Gate, No. 1 Xiagongfu Street, Dongcheng District Tel: 6564 9999

### The Millennium Residences of the Beijing Fortune Plaza

The Millennium Residences of the Beijing Fortune Plaza is located in the heart of the Beijing CBD which bears the most momentarily potential of development and value elevation. While 25 minutes away from the Beijing International Airport, the Millennium Residences is walking distance from nearly all Embassies.

> 7 Dongsanhuan Zhonglu Chaoyang District. Tel: 8588 2888

### Oak Chateau Beijing

Oak Chateau Beijing has 236 stylish and contemporary fully serviced apartments from studio, one-bedroom, two-bedroom, three-bedroom and four bedroom suites available, measuring 64 to 260 square meters. There is a 24-hours guest reception, and housekeeping is offered twice a week.

Nestled within the landscaped gardens of the Ocean Express commercial and residential complex, Oak Chateau Beijing is very close to the third Embassy Area and shopping and dining services at the Beijing Lufthansa Center. There are only 19 kilometers to the Beijing Capital Airport. >北京市朝阳区东三环霞光里66号远洋新干线D座 邮编 100027 Block D, Ocean Express, 66 Xiaoguang Li, Third East Ring Road, Chaoyang District, Beijing 100027, P.R.C Tel: (86-10) 84465888 Fax: (86-10) 84465999 Email oak.chateau@oakchateau.com Website: www.oakchateau.com

### Oakwood Residence Beijing

Oakwood Residence Beijing offers 406 fully equipped luxury apartments ranging from studios to four bedroom penthouse and terrace apartments, all exquisitely furnished in elegant and stylish decor. Each apartment is fitted with a state-of-the-art air purification and air conditioning system which ensures 99.9% pure, triple filtered air, so you can trust in Oakwood and breathe easy.

> No. 8 Dongzhimenwai Xiejie, Chaoyang District, Beijing 100027, China reschaoyang@oakwoodasia.com Website: www.oakwoodasia.com/resbeijing Tel: 5995 2888 Fax: 5995 2999

### Oakwood Residence Damei Beijing

The only serviced apartment in the city that

has its own in-house supply of natural hot spring water supply. Expansive city views are available from floor to ceiling windows with the apartments situated from level 23 to 35 in the building complex.

The 171 stylish contemporary serviced residences range from studios to three-bedroom apartments and offer an elegant range of amenities and facilities to ensure each resident's stay is comfortable and well taken care of.

Building No.1 Damei Center, 7 Qingnian Road, Chaoyang District Beijing北京市朝阳区青年路7号达美中心1号楼 Tel: 86-10 8585 2211 (8:30am-5:30pm) 86-10 8585 2888 (5:30pm-8:30am) Fax: (86-10) 8585 2666 website OakwoodAsia.com

### THE WESTIN EXECUTIVE RESIDENCES

The Westin Executive Residences at The Beijing Financial Street offer an array of world-class cuisine options and Westin's signature amenities designed to elicit personal renewal. Just 40 minutes from the airport, the Westin Executive Residences provides direct access to Beijing's business, entertainment and shopping district and close proximity to cultural landmarks such as The Forbidden City and Tiananmen Square. Each apartment is also fitted with contemporary furnishings, fully equipped kitchens, state-of-the-art appliances, home entertainment system and LCD flat screen televisions.

> Email: reservation.beijing@westin.com Website: www.westin.com/beijingfinancial Tel: 6606 8866

## BUSINESS CENTER

### Regus Serviced Office 雷格斯服务式办公室

- Flexible office leases from 1 day to 1 year
- Quick and easy to set up for 1-200 people
- Prices from RMB180 per month
- Find more on Regus.cn
- Tel: 400 120 1207

>> BEIJING (20 LOCATIONS) <<

### Lei Shing Hong Plaza [New]

北京利星行广场 5/F, Tower C, Lei Shing Hong Plaza, No.8 Wangjing Street, Chaoyang District

北京市朝阳区望京街8号利星行广场C座5层

### Sun Dong An Plaza [New]

北京新东安广场 7/F, Office Tower 2, Sun Dong An Plaza, No.138 Wangfujing, Avenue, Dongcheng District

北京市东城区王府井大街138号新东安广场写字楼2座7层

### Zhongyu Mansion [New]

北京中宇大厦 6/F, Zhongyu Mansion, No.6 North Workers Stadium Road, Chaoyang District

北京市朝阳区工体北路甲6号中宇大厦6层

### Diplomatic [New]

北京亮马桥外交办公大楼 17/F, Tower E, Liangmaqiao, Diplomatic Office Building, 3rd Embassary District, Chaoyang District

北京市朝阳区第三使馆区亮马桥外交办公大楼E座17层

### Kerry Centre - South Tower [New]

北京嘉里中心-南楼 10/F, South Tower, Kerry Centre, No.1 Guanghua Road, Chaoyang District

北京市朝阳区光华路1号嘉里中心南楼10层

### Landgent Building [Coming Soon]

北京乐成中心 5/F, Block A, Landgent Center, No.20 East Middle 3rd Ring Road, Chaoyang District

北京市朝阳区东三环中路20号乐成中心A座5层

### China World Tower 3

北京国贸三期 15/F, China World Tower 3, No.1 Jianguomenwai Street, Chaoyang District

北京市朝阳区建国门外大街1号国贸中心3座15层

China Central Place

### 北京华贸中心

9/F, Tower 2, China Central Place, No.79 Jianguo Road, Chaoyang District

北京市朝阳区建国路79号华贸中心2号楼9层

### Lufthansa Centre

北京燕莎中心 C203, Lufthansa Centre, No.50 Liangmaqiao Road, Chaoyang District

北京市朝阳区亮马桥路50号燕莎中心C203

### Kerry Centre

北京嘉里中心 11/F, North Tower, Kerry Centre, No.1 Guanghua Road, Chaoyang District

北京市朝阳区光华路1号嘉里中心北楼11层

### Pacific Century Place

北京盈科中心 14/F, IBM Tower, No.2A North Workers Stadium Road, Chaoyang District

北京市朝阳区工体北路甲2号IBM大厦14层

### Parkview Green

北京侨福芳草草地中心 15/F, Office Building A Parkview, Green, No.9 Dongdaqiao Road, Chaoyang District

北京市朝阳区东大桥路8号芳草地办公楼A座15层

### China Life Tower

北京中国人寿大厦中心 5/F, China Life Tower, No.16 Chaoyangmenwai Street, Chaoyang District

北京市朝阳区朝阳门外大街16号中国人寿大厦5层

### China Life - West

北京中国人寿大厦-西 5/F, China Life Tower, No.16 Chaoyangmenwai Street, Chaoyang District

北京市朝阳区朝阳门外大街16号中国人寿大厦5层西

### IFC

北京财源国际中心 10/F, IFC East Tower, No.8 Jianguomenwai Street, Chaoyang District

北京市朝阳区朝阳门外大街8号财源国际中心东座10层

### Prosper Center

北京世纪财富中心 6/F, Tower 2, Prosper Center, No.5 Guang Hua Road, Chaoyang District

北京市朝阳区光华路5号世纪财富中心2号楼6层

### Financial St. Excel Centre

北京金融街卓越中心 12/F, Financial Street Excel, Centre, No.6 Wudinghou Street, Xicheng District

北京市西城区武定侯街6号卓越国际金融中心12层

### NCI Centre

北京新华保险大厦中心 15/F, NCI Tower, No.12A Jianguomenwai Street, Chaoyang District

北京市朝阳区建国门外大街甲12号新华保险大厦15层

### Taikang Financial Tower

北京泰康金融大厦 23/F, Taikang Financial Tower, No.38 East Third Ring Road, Chaoyang District

北京市朝阳区东三环北路38号泰康金融大厦23层

### Zhongguancun Metropolis Tower

北京中关村欧美汇大厦 7/F, Metropolis Tower, No.2 Dongsan Street, Zhongguancun Xi Zone, Haidian District

北京市海淀区中关村西区东三街2号欧美汇大厦7层

### Servcorp

Smart businesses understand that flexibility is the future of the workplace. They choose the world's finest Serviced Offices to grow their businesses, run critical projects and give their people flexibility. Level 26 Fortune Financial Center, 5 Dongsanhuan Zhonglu, Chaoyang District

东三环中路5号财富金融中心26层 [Servcorp.com.cn; tel: 5775 0310; fax: 5775 0350]

Need flexible and affordable ready workspace to enhance your business or register a representative office for your temporary projects in Beijing? We have the perfect solution. Located within a Grade-A building in the popular Lufthansa Business Area, our work-spaces provide you, or your

company, with the ideal business identity, and most importantly, come with the most competitive rates to minimize your cost and risks.

> Gateway Plaza, Tower A, Suite 16D, NE 3rd Ring Road, Chaoyang 朝阳区东三环北路霞光里18号佳程广场A座16D T:010-84400606 M:15910782518 Cynthia LU

#### CSO (Singapore) Beijing Business Center

We have 10 years experience in managing serviced offices in the Asia and Pacific region, and our headquarters is in Singapore. CSO Beijing is our first business center in China. We are mainly providing fully renovated and equipped offices to clients for immediate use, and all the serviced offices can be used as incorporation purpose, and we offer maximum flexibility and complete smart office system to help our clients save cost. We also provide virtual offices, meeting room and conference room, video conferencing, incorporation services and many other services.

Level 6, Sun Palace Building, Taiyanggong, Beijing Ms. Stephanie Yan, Mobile: 18210080591, Email: sales.beijing@corporateso.com, Website: www.csochina.cn, Tel: 86 10 64697000

### BEAUTY SERVICES

#### Black Golden Tanning Salon Sanlitun Branch Grand Opening

Black Golden Tanning Salon is the only five-star China flagship store by Ergoline. As the 2011 model of Ergoline Esprit 770's, to bring a continuous tanning effect 25% above standard machines with unique aquacool and aroma functions, we provide customers with the safest and most comfortable tanning space.

> Open time: 11:00-21:00 Sanlitun SOHO Branch 2nd Floor Building 3, Sanlitun SOHO, Chaoyang District Tel: 57853711; Wangjing Branch Add: Room T5 3rd Floor, BOTAL International Building, No. 36 North Guangshun Street, Wangjing, Chaoyang District, Website: www.bjtanning.com Tel: 84722855

#### LA BELLEZA

La Belleza means Beauty and Aesthetics in Spanish. Professional hair-designers from Hong Kong, Korea and China gather here. LA BELLEZA is the hairdressing salon for you with its pleasant atmosphere, excellent service, and finest products.

New haircut! Good mood! Excellent life! Add: F4 No.408, Jinbao Place. Jinbao Street No.88, Dongcheng District, Beijing, China. Website: www.labelleza.com.cn Tel: 010 8522 1626

#### MegaSun Tanning Salon

As the only flagship store for this popular German tanning salon, megaSun Tanning will provide for each client the finest sun tanning experience.

Our center has prepared the newest functional 7900 alpha and pureEnergy chamber systems, combined with easyCare optical testers. At megaSun, enjoy our professional UV and tanning services. > 8 Dongdaqiao Road, sShangdu SOHO North Tower, Rm. 2302 Chaoyang District, Beijing Website: www.imegasun.com e-mail: 1019771453@qq.com Sina Weibo: @麦肤堂 Tel: 5900-2236/2238

### STORAGE

#### China Self Storage Co. Ltd

As a member of SSA and SSAUK, China Self Storage Co. Ltd. introduces an international industry standard to professionally developed Self Storage for private, family and business. Safe, clean, air-conditioned, 24h access, flexible size. To learn more, visit www.selfstorageinchina.com. To make a reservation, contact 400-600-6378 info@selfstorageinchina.com.

Jin'an Building, Tianzhu Garden West Rd., Shunyi District, Beijing.

#### Koala Ministorage

Koala Ministorage is the first professional self-storage provider in Beijing. To learn more, visit our website www.koalaministorage.com. To make a reservation, call us toll free at 400-017-8889, email us at questions@koalaministorage.com, or visit one of our stores.

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#### Beijing First Choice Car Rental Service Co., Ltd

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  - \*Native drivers with good English
  - \*More information please contact
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Fax: 6504 7256  
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In order to enable clients benefit from the increasing globalization of the world's economy, TMF Group offers a comprehensive range of corporate administrative outsourcing services in 67 countries across the globe. With a genuine global network and qualified staff, TMF group provides an array of accounting, corporate secretarial and HR administrative outsourcing services.

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Tel: 65330533-860

### FURNITURE

#### Crossover

Crossover Center Flagship Store, is mainly marketing international super home furnishing brand products.

Our agent brands include Poltrona Frau, Cassina, Fritz Hansen, Moroso, Cappellini, Timothy Oulton, Tom Dixon etc, over 20 international super home furnishing brands.

Our products are covered with all of fields in daily-life home furnishing, including furniture, furnishing, lighting, dining, and office supplies etc.

Website: www.crossovercenter.com  
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Tel: 5208 6112/6113 Fax: 8610-5208 6123

### HOUSEKEEPING

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JNY Home Service was established in 2007, supplying foreign families with English speaking/non-English Speaking nannies(maids), either daily or live-in.

As a part of our service, we make sure all references and ID cards are thoroughly checked to guarantee the safety and health of your family.  
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Healthy, reliable, experienced, English-speaking housemaid/nanny. Free agency and 24-hour English service. Medical and Accident insurance covered. EXPATS Life Group also serves with Mandarin, car leasing, English-speaking driver, Chinese driving license, vehicle registration. service@expatslife.com  
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### REAL ESTATE AGENTS

#### JOANNA REAL ESTATE RELOCATION SERVICE

We are one of China's leading real estate agencies boasting an extensive database of high-end properties for rent. We have helped thousands of expatriates find their homes as well as hundreds of companies re-locate their employees. Once we have found your ideal home we will be on hand to deal with any post move issues and our dedicated after sales team will be contactable 7 days a week to help you with any queries you have throughout your stay in our country.

> For more information please contact us: Email: paulquin@joannarealestate.com.cn Website: http://beijing.joannarealestate.com.cn/ (Tel: 84585667; 13501358971)

#### Replus-Benchmark

"Replus-Benchmark" is one of the leading real estate agencies and relocation service provider for expatriates in Shanghai, Beijing, Guangzhou, Chengdu and Shenzhen.

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  - Buying and Selling Property Service
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Website: www.replus-benchmark.com  
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Tel: 84467119 Fax: 84467577

#### Silk Road Travel Management Ltd.

Silk Road Travel is a pioneer in organizing Silk Road tours and other classic routes in China. Founded in 1997, we are specialized in tailor making travel packages that allow travellers to truly experience the local cultures and explore the amazing heritages. Whether you are a small group of 2-9 persons or a corporate group, our professional staff will tailor make the tour programme based on your needs.  
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www.the-silk-road.com

#### TUI China

An affiliate of World of TUI, the world's leading tourism group, TUI China was established in late 2003 as the first joint venture with foreign majority share in the Chinese tourism industry. Its headquarters are in Beijing whilst its operations reach deep into the far corners of China. World of TUI generated approx. 50,000 predominantly western tourists to China yearly and provides M.I.C.E services for renowned companies worldwide.

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We provide exceptional Italian food supported by a friendly and professional international team, ready for every occasion.

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Let's talk about your event and let us tailor a special service for you and find personalized solutions!

Our service experience let us cater for different events, both casual or high-end, from cocktail or wedding receptions, tea time, BBQ, business lunches/diplomatic events for embassies and private dinners right at your home.

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We offer a full range of catering and event planning services for all types of business and personal functions that are tailored for you. The best service, at your service. Contact Jacopo Tomé at 137 1794 0458 jacopo.tome@gptinternational.com

#### Zone de Comfort

With our professional service, you can focus 100% on your event at Zone de Comfort, every single assignment is unique for us. Our experience helps us understand your objectives with thorough planning, and of course, exquisite food with elegant presentation. In the past 5 years, we have handled numerous catering projects covering diplomatic/business functions for embassies, high-end cocktail receptions for luxuries brands, automobiles and month-long hospitality center services. Find out more from our Website: www.zdc-catering.com



Tianjin reviews,  
events and information



● **Poetish Arts**



As of last month, Tianjin's coolest event is back and better than ever. Poetish is like a 'stand-up' for artists. It showcases creative expression in different forms, whether it is through poetry, music or arts. Each month has a different theme, with the last one fittingly called 'Revival.'

Tue Dec 12, 8.30-11pm; free; WE Brewery, 4 Yiheli, Xi'an Dao, Heping 和平区西安道怡和里4号 (186 3088 8114)

● **Richard Clayderman Piano**



If you're looking for a classy rather than boozy Christmas Eve, check out a performance by renowned French pianist Richard Clayderman. According to Wikipedia, Clayderman is "popular in Asia" and has also been noted by the *Guinness Book of World Records* as "the most popular pianist in the world." Fingers crossed the musician plays some tunes from his Christmas albums.

Sun Dec 24, 7.30pm; RMB980-1,680; Tianjin Concert Hall, 88 Jianshe Lu, Heping 和平区建设路88号 (tickets via piao.damai.cn)

● **The Last of the Mohicans Musical Performance**



Social media sensation Alexandro Querevalú (a YouTube video of the performer gained 6.3 million views, and the musician is also popular on Weibo) will take your breath away. Born in Lima, Peru, the Native Indian instrumentalist plays a range of wind instruments, including different types of panpipes.

Sun Dec 10, 7.30pm; RMB180-450; Jinwan Grand Theater, Bldg 4, Jiefang Beilu, Binjiang Dao, Heping 和平区解放北路津湾广场4号楼 (tickets via piao.damai.cn)

● **Ye Men'er Theater**



What happens when you despise the opposite sex but are forced to find a partner in order to save your family business? A comedy-drama about a young woman who takes over her late father's theater, *Ye Men'er* examines themes of deception, gender stereotypes, love and loss.

Thu Dec 21-Sat Dec 23, 7.30pm; RMB80-1,080; Binhu Theater, Huanhuzhong Dao, Hexi 河西区环湖中道

● **Rap Night / Parties**



Dalian hip-hop collective Bando is in town for a killer party at Round 2, featuring performances by not one, not two, but 10 different rappers. If you're a fan of Higher Brothers, of GAI, of, well, any dope beats, roll through for a night of unforgettable Chinese hip-hop at Tianjin's most forward-thinking nightclub.

Sat Dec 9, 9pm-late; RMB80 (door), RMB60 (presale); 84 Chengdu Dao, Heping 和平区成都道84号负一层 (189 0212 3456)

● **Christmas Eve Dinner at Wanda Vista Tianjin Holiday**



Celebrate Christmas with your friends and family at Wanda Vista Tianjin. On Christmas Eve, the hotel's Café Vista will be putting out a feast of holiday dishes, including roast turkey, honey-glazed ham and festive desserts. What's more, you can enjoy free-flow soft drinks, imported wine and Budweiser throughout. A band will perform to put you in the holiday spirit, and you can even enter a lucky draw and play casino games.

Sun Dec 24, 5.30-9.30pm; RMB588/adult, RMB288/child; Café Vista, 1/F Wanda Vista Tianjin, 486 Bahao Lu, Da Zhi Gu, Hedong 河东区大直沽8号路486号 (020 2462 6888)

# COOKINGCARE

Tianjin's Health Food Haven



CookingCare truly cares about cooking. The restaurant and health food store in Hedong district's Kerry Centre is dedicated to promoting organic foods, balanced diets and all-around nutrition. How? With its own line of healthy oils, including coconut oil, flaxseed oil and organic vegetable oil, CookingCare starts all of its recipes with a nutritious base. Try their delicious salads and light mains to see what we mean.

But CookingCare is more than an eatery – it's a community space for anyone interested in well-being in Tianjin. The shop regularly organizes salons dedicated to the discussion of the culinary arts and health lectures from local experts. What's more, CookingCare's own team of dietitians is available to help you craft a meal plan that suits you – whether you're an athlete looking to get fit, or a patient suffering from a chronic disease.

And while, sure, CookingCare is serious about health, they're also down to have fun: Their space is available for work parties and birthday parties, where you and your friends can celebrate over guilt-free food.

All in all, CookingCare offers a singularly forward-looking approach to health that's rarely seen in smoggy Tianjin – and we couldn't be more excited about it. Plus, CookingCare will launch warm salad this season – don't miss it!

Store 1305, B1 Kerry Centre, Hedong 大王庄嘉里汇购物中心B1035

# CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS AT THE ST. REGIS TIANJIN

Enjoy the Hotel's Holiday Spirit and Hospitality

Are you feeling homesick during the festive season? Are the cold winds of the north blowing your Christmas spirit away? The St. Regis Tianjin is here to cheer you up!

Stop by the restaurants and lounge, all perfectly located overlooking the Hai River. At Promenade restaurant, an army of Nutcrackers are waiting for you with a traditional-themed Christmas dinner buffet. If you are looking something more exclusive, Chef Johnny Wang is inviting you to the Riviera restaurant for an unforgettable Christmas set dinner menu. St. Regis Lounge and Bar is offering Christmas-themed afternoon tea if you looking for a mid-day treat. Live music entertainments, Santa appearances and a Christmas lucky draw will create the Christmas spirit you and your loved ones looking for.



The St. Regis Tianjin, 158 Zhangzizhong Lu, Heping 和平区张自忠路158号 (for more information and reservations, call 022 5830 9999, or visit [thatsmags.com/tianjin](http://thatsmags.com/tianjin) for complete event listings)



# TIANJIN



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That's Beijing

# Horoscopes

Finally, a horoscope that understands your life in Beijing.

by Dominique Wong and Noelle Mateer



## Sagittarius

11.23-12.21

If you travel over Christmas, your Chinese boss will send you multiple 60-second voice messages on WeChat that may or may not contain the words 'laowai' and 'fired.' Book tickets anyway.



## Capricorn

12.22-1.20

Something unexpected will happen to you on New Year's Eve (if your birthday falls on this date, give or take five days, the likelihood it is something bad increases). Do not accept any taxi fapiao.



## Aquarius

1.21-2.19

It's ball season and you've spent over RMB3,000 on tickets for you and your friends. Only one problem - you'll come down with a horrible flu the day of, and will need to find a replacement. Accept all invitations to 400-member group chats in anticipation of this day.



## Pisces

2.20-3.20

You forgot to renew your passport and will be stuck in Beijing over the holidays. Go to Guijie instead, but beware of the restaurant with the longest line and only drink Yanjings with your spicy fish.



## Aries

3.21-4.20

You will get caught in a windstorm while chasing down your Baidu Waimai order. You will never find the deliveryman. One week later, a box of shrimp dumplings and fried rice will appear on your doorstep. Accept it.



## Taurus

4.21-5.21

On Christmas Eve, your air purifier will break, and you'll have to Skype your family back home while wearing an air mask. This will be depressing as sh\*t. Sorry.



## Gemini

5.22-6.21

One of the old dudes that hangs out in your neighborhood will offer you a pet cricket. Accept this gift, and feed your cricket well. One day he will grow into Beijing's best fighting cricket and be valued in the thousands (of RMB).



## Cancer

6.22-7.22

If you don't stop showing up late to work, your coworkers will transpire to get you fired. The solution? Buy a real bike. 'I couldn't find any Mobikes' is no longer an acceptable excuse for tardiness.



## Leo

7.23-8.23

Be careful not to shout too many rounds at your Christmas office party - everyone knows you're generous, but all that holiday shopping (for yourself) at Parkview Green has left you too poor to function.



## Virgo

8.24-9.23

Nobody will turn up to your 'Virgo Mary' party - it's not you, it's your cold AF hutong house. Which, by the way, is going to get bricked in January, so you better start looking for an apartment now.



## Libra

9.24-10.23

Your current love interest is thinking about moving to an apartment outside the Fifth Ring Road. Do not let them do this - going long-distance this early in the relationship is a terrible idea, and we both know you never leave Dongcheng.



## Scorpio

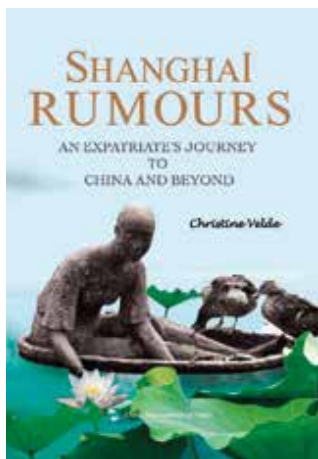
10.24-11.22

You "forget" to buy presents for your significant other for the third year in a row. Ice-cold, Scorpio, ice-cold. She responds by telling you to go jump off a bridge into Houhai.

## SHANGHAI RUMOURS

### An Expatriate's Journey to China and Beyond

Written by Christine Velde



*Shanghai Rumours* explores a 10-year period in the life of 'Kristen,' an Australian expatriate in Shanghai. Living in a foreign country is a transformative experience, which brings opportunities for discovering new things about other cultures and oneself. However, living abroad presents many challenges. *Shanghai Rumours* emphasizes the importance of the freedom to choose and create one's life, to take risks and to live outside the box.

This literary memoir explores the reasons why the Australian protagonist, and others from Australia, Europe and the UK choose to live and work in a very different culture from their own,

and the challenges they face in China.

Although there have been discussions about challenges of East to West migrations, few have written about the difficulties of moving from the West to the East. Yet these migrations are becoming more frequent due to globalization and advancements in technology. *Shanghai Rumours* helps to shed a light on this subject.

This book illustrates the experiences of both Chinese and Western expatriates and their contributions to life and work in Shanghai. Philosophical and literary themes such as loss, attachment to place, freedom and transformation are highlighted throughout, along with photos depicting the daily life and history of Shanghai. Poetry was considered integral to the writing of the memoir because it provides a more layered and visual meaning than prose alone could express.

Interviews were carried out with expatriates (strategists, entrepreneurs, artists, architects and writers) in Shanghai and Hong Kong during May 2012, and are reported in narrative form to include events and people that shaped the city. These stories reveal what it's like to live there as Westerners, and how this experience transforms them on a personal level.

For Velde, writing this memoir was a cathartic process that helped her see the experience of living abroad in a new light.



## 24 SOLAR TERMS FAIRY TALE

### A Talking Picture Book

Translated and Edited by Berenice Zandonai

Two years ago, Chinese friends of French writer Berenice Zandonai sent her some illustrated postcards about the 24 solar terms in Chinese culture, and she was immediately inspired by their fantastic story. By following the journey of the young protagonist, she felt like she traveled through the four seasons and felt the magic of each change in the weather throughout the year.

After sending some of these postcards to her friends in France, she decided to search for the entire collection, and managed to contact Jorsir, a young and talented Chinese illustrator who created the postcards and proposed to translate the content into English.

Later, the two of them decided to make these beautiful illustrations of 24 solar terms into a Chinese-English bilingual picture book, so that people around the world could learn more about traditional Chinese culture and the wonderful stories behind the different seasons. Thanks to the help of China Intercontinental Communication Press, the book is now available in both Chinese-English and Chinese-French versions.

To Purchase these books, please call

☎ 010 8200 5927

# HELP SAVE THE LAPTOP

Your laptop needs help. Most of the world's laptops are made in the Yangtze River region. But the pressure of global demand has left the region's natural resources stretched and unable to cope. In partnership with the Chinese government, WWF helped create a sustainable development model for the region, which is home to the iconic giant panda, as well as some 480 million people. Together, we are revitalizing an ecosystem that can support both people and nature. Help us look after the world where you live at [50.wwfchina.org](http://50.wwfchina.org)



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