



# times Extra

weekend Guide

Macau Daily Times | edition 2235 | 23 January 2015

Travelog | Tokyo

# A café with an owl

In Japan, cat cafes are just the start. You can actually hang out in rabbit cafes or have coffee in Tokyo with two goats. And you're not limited to domestic animals. You can also spend an hour at a cafe holding a great horned owl... X9



- MOVIES: 'THE HUMBLING'
- BOOKS: RUSSIAN TATTOO BY ELENA GOROKHOVA
- MUSIC: ANOTHER DAY, ANOTHER TIME: CELEBRATING THE MUSIC OF 'INSIDE LLEWYN DAVIS'
- WINE: THE FRANCO-GERMAN CROSSROADS
- FOOD: CHAMPAGNE WISHES AND CAVIAR DREAMS
- TECHNOLOGY: MICROSOFT SHOWS OFF WINDOWS 10 AND 'HOLOLENS'



## In Macao.

FINAL INSTALMENT ON X6-7

tea leaks by talkers

DRIVE IN

Lindsey Bahr, AP Film Writer

PACINO BRISTLES WITH COMIC ENERGY IN 'THE HUMBLING'

Al Pacino delivers his best performance in years in "The Humbling," a tragicomic look at a veteran stage and film actor on the edge of a nervous breakdown. That description might seem like an unwelcome invitation for another ham-fisted late-era Pacino bit, but, from the opening shot, it's clear that the infamously over the top actor is trying something different: subtlety. It's just a shame "Birdman" had to come out first. There's probably only so much audience thirst for stories about hallucination prone, past-their-prime actors, but Pacino fans (and skeptics) would be

remiss to skip this one, even if "Birdman" is the superior film. Adapted from Philip Roth's 2009 novel, "The Humbling," directed by Barry Levinson ("Rain Man"), introduces audiences to Axler as he limply applies makeup and recites Shakespeare to himself in the mirror. Not only is Axler worried he's lost his talent, after 50 years of acting, he's also become increasingly unable to distinguish reality from his imagination, a recurring theme that is used to disorient the audience throughout. After a brief delusion, where he thinks he gets locked out of the theater and indifferent

security guards refuse to let him in, Axler takes the stage, mumbles a few lines, and promptly swan dives into the orchestra. The stunt gets him thrown into a recovery center where he is forced to confront the state of his life and mental health for the first time. When he's released to his Connecticut mansion, which, even after 14 years of residency, looks as though he's just moved in, he contemplates suicide by shotgun ("Hemingway must have had longer arms," he says after it fails) and dallies the days away till he gets an unexpected visit from Pegeen ("Frances Ha's" Greta Gerwig), the young les-



Al Pacino as Simon Axler, Dan Hedaya as Asa, and Dianne Wiest, as Carol, in the film, "The Humbling"

bian daughter of his old theater friends (Dianne Weist and Dan Hedaya). Pegeen, who harbored a longtime schoolgirl crush on her parents' famous friend, quickly and improbably seduces him and the two begin a fraught relationship. She pushes him to get back to work. He buys her expensive things to try to make her look more feminine. It's as cynical and unsentimental as anything else in the film and never veers into uncomfortable territory thanks in part to the fact that Pacino's Axler doesn't seem to take Pegeen's affection and interest as a given. Gerwig's Pegeen is a thirty something in arrested development who we always believe is in control of the situation. She's the kind of effervescent dream girl that another movie might imagine as an unmotivated artist's savoir and muse.

Here, the "muse" is a self-absorbed brat who leaves a path of destruction after every relationship. Pacino and Gerwig, representing both the old and new guard of Hollywood, have a fun and easy chemistry when they're not actually being intimate (those scenes are few and far between). But, the overlong film luxuriates on these two for far too long and at the expense of the much stronger supporting performances and cameos. Weist and Hedaya, horrified to learn of their daughter's new relationship, share a few wonderful bits with Pacino, while Dylan Baker delivers what has to be one of the best Skype performances ever seen on film as a skeptical therapist. But it's Pacino's film through and through and he breathes life into every moment, whether he's taking a pratfall,

telling a suburban housewife that he does not want to murder her husband, or struggling to find a comfortable sleeping position. In fact, "The Humbling" exists because of Pacino, who acquired the rights after reading the book. Roth's book, he said, seemed close to his own life in some ways. Both Pacino and Levinson have had a number of stinkers in recent years. Shot on a shoestring budget over the course of 20 days, sometimes in Levinson's own home, "The Humbling" is not quite a renaissance, but the scrappy effort sizzles with wit and energy more often than it falters.

"The Humbling," a Millennium Entertainment release, is rated R by the Motion Picture Association of America for "sexual material, language and brief violence." Running time: 129 minutes. ★★☆☆



Greta Gerwig, left, as Pegeen Mike Stapleford, and Al Pacino as Simon Axler

BOOK IT

'RUSSIAN TATTOO' IS WORTHWHILE READ

In 2011, memoirist Elena Gorokhova described her coming-of-age in St. Petersburg, then known as Leningrad, and her decision to marry an American to emigrate to the U.S. In her second book, "Russian Tattoo," she picks up where that story left off and provides readers with a fascinating glimpse into what it meant to fit into American society after growing up behind the Iron Curtain. She's disoriented, confused and utterly overwhelmed by seemingly ordinary and simple choices — shoes, food, salad dressing — after growing up in a land with few options. "All that meat — chopped in pieces for your convenience. ... It was easier to shop in Leningrad: lines always led to the food available at the



"Russian Tattoo" (Simon & Schuster), by Elena Gorokhova

moment, eliminating the necessity of making a choice." Her marriage of convenience fails to blossom and, instead, turns ugly and falls apart. But Gorokhova quickly meets and falls in love with Andy, who

becomes her husband and the father of her daughter. While the "Andy" section is a sweet account of a loving relationship, it's the "Sasha" section where things get muddled. When her grandchild arrives, Gorokhova's mother moves in with the family, leaving her daughter to balance her own troubled past with her ideas about parenthood. Gorokhova's attempt to unravel the complicated relationships among her, her mother and her daughter falls short. One gets the sense that the author herself hasn't had enough time to reconcile her feelings about the too-recent past. Overall, though, it's an easy and worthwhile read.

Kim Curtis, AP

tTUNES

ALBUM CELEBRATES MUSIC OF 'INSIDE LLEWYN DAVIS'

Fans of the Coen brothers' amused, affectionate portrait of the 1960s Greenwich Village folk scene — and of banjo-playing, guitar-plucking Americana in general — will relish this recording of a 2013 New York concert celebrating the music of the movie "Inside Llewyn Davis." Produced by the Coens and their musical collaborator T Bone Burnett, the show brought together '60s folk veterans with younger musicians who have reworked the rich seams of 20th century American folk, bluegrass, country and blues. Gillian Welch, the Avett Brothers, Conor Oberst, the Punch Brothers and Lake Street Dive all perform, along with stars of the film including Oscar Isaac and Carey Mulligan, and rockers Elvis Costello and Jack White.



Various artists, "Another Day, Another Time: Celebrating the Music of 'Inside Llewyn Davis'" (Nonesuch)

The result is a highly enjoyable mixed bag. A few of the 34 tracks on this two-disc set evoke the strait-laced brand of folk the Coens' sent up (Joan Baez delivers the least raunchy "House of the Rising Sun" imaginable), but overall this is a feast of relaxed artistry and

low-key emotion. It's a set of songs — both standards and originals — exuding loneliness, longing and love. There is some cherishable singing: Welch's laconic drawl on "Will the Circle be Unbroken?"; the Avett Brothers' plaintive strains; the sweet, Simon & Garfunkel-esque vocal harmonies of duo the Milk Carton Kids; and the powerhouse voice of North Carolina singer Rhianon Giddens, equally effective on a blues standard and a storming Gaelic song. Other standouts include Keb' Mo's take on Bob Dylan's "Tomorrow is a Long Time" and Decembrists' singer Colin Meloy's version of "Blues Run the Game," a fine song by semi-forgotten '60s folkie Jackson C. Frank.

Jill Lawless, AP

## jack black



**Li Gang**, the director of China's Government Liaison Office in Macau has downplayed the impact of the mainland's drive to stamp out corruption on gambling revenue, saying "extremely few" corrupt mainland officials had gambled in the city. "The consecutive months of declines in the gross gaming revenues can be put down to several causes such as the slowdown in the growth of the mainland economy, the anti-corruption campaign in the mainland, more casinos opening in neighboring regions...as well as natural adjustment," Li said bringing some common sense to the 'diversified' analysis we've been bombarded with lately in a frenzy of "excuses" for the slowdown of our major industry. He also insisted on diversification, saying basically that the gov't must work 24x7 on it. But in a remark that may have caused some shivers in (targeted?) casino bosses, Mr Li also said the Macau government should collect public opinion on the gaming industry as part of its mid-term review of the casino operators.

Just months before the opening of the Parisian in Cotai, the city heard with surprise on Friday 16 that **Edward Tracy** is to retire from his executive positions at Sands China, namely as President and CEO, effective March 6. The staff arrived that day to work at the Sands properties and were mostly sad and shocked with the sudden turn of events. Mr Tracy is an engaging personality and, as he did in the past, he lives in the property he manages in order to be, as he puts it, "available 24x7" to both staff and clients. With 28,000 employees and 100,000 visitors a day, together with an array of on-going non-gaming activities to manage, "Tracy's are tough shoes to fill," as an observer told the Times last week. More so in times of change toward a less-gambling dependent economy, which has been Tracy's vision ever since he set foot in Macau. The next card to be dealt by Adelson must be a sound one.



Secretary **Raimundo do Rosario** was given probably the worst hand to play: from traffic to housing and the light rail... The Audit Report published this week about the LRT project's total "derailment" in terms of schedule and budget didn't come exactly as a surprise to the public. But, boy, a "massive" budget deviation from the already inflated MOP14 billion estimate and a "severe delay" in the Taipa section of more than 300 days, are still... news! Mr Rosario will have to be almost a magician to make a u-turn and put the LRT and the whole transport system in the city on the right path. For now, he has put relevant LRT sites working 24x7! Which may buy him some trouble with already stressed residents.

PC

## times square by rodrigo



rodrigo Macau Daily Times

## in others' words

[Macau is] the wildchild of China – a playground of the East, a release from the otherwise restrictive People's Republic parents who live nearby.

BEN CURTIS, Special envoy, Daily Mirror

## tea leaks by talkers

### MIRROR, MIRROR

Foreign envoys tend to make errors. It's only human. Says the Mirror this week in a very expensive, sorry, extensive article on Macau: "There are 33 casinos in this neon-lit city but that is certainly not all it has to offer as the wildchild of China and a playground of the East." 33? Unless the Mirror rep knows something we don't, we have 35 casinos, according to DICJ. Now, as for Macau being the wildchild, well, wild yes, he may have a point, but not so much of a...child. Ask nephew Alan.



### SORRY CHAN



The Official Gazette mistakenly published last week that the suspended IACM official Lei Wai Nong has "extended his appointment for two more years as director of the Printing Bureau." According to the Secretary for Administration and Justice, Lei is still under suspension, as the known graveyard court case (in which Lei was ruled innocent) is not over yet. Secretary Sonia Chan apologized to the public, saying that the error might have been made due to IACM workers being "overburdened." That explains it. That, or perhaps nowadays enemy number one: the copy-paste.

### GRAY EXPLOITS

Talkers wondered why staff in some restaurants look a little tired. Sure, there's a need for some overtime hours, but 6 years? When you're 71, it's fair to expect retirement soon but Palacio Lisboa Food Court cherish their employees so like adoptive children that they don't want to let them go - anywhere: working 9 hours a day, no days in lieu of public holidays, no transportation allowance home after night shifts, it's an (in)tense relationship. After working for the company for a decade or more, employers get to feel part of the furni... family. Talkers think the new domestic violence law might cover their plight. Depending upon their patron financially, as they do, it's a courageous 105 who took legal recourse, appealing to the Labor Affairs Bureau, as they did. But then, it might just be determined a case of mild abuse.

### BLOGOSCOPE

"The Zahid Controversy: Who Is Paul Phua?" by malaysiandigest.com "These past few weeks one name which was previously unknown has been propelled into the limelight - Paul Phua. The Malaysian citizen who is currently being accused of operating an illegal soccer gambling ring in Las Vegas caused quite a stir, when reports surfaced that Home Minister Datuk Seri Zahid Hamidi sent the FBI a letter clearing the man from any involvement with the 14K triad. But the question on most Malaysians' minds is actually who is Paul Phua?"



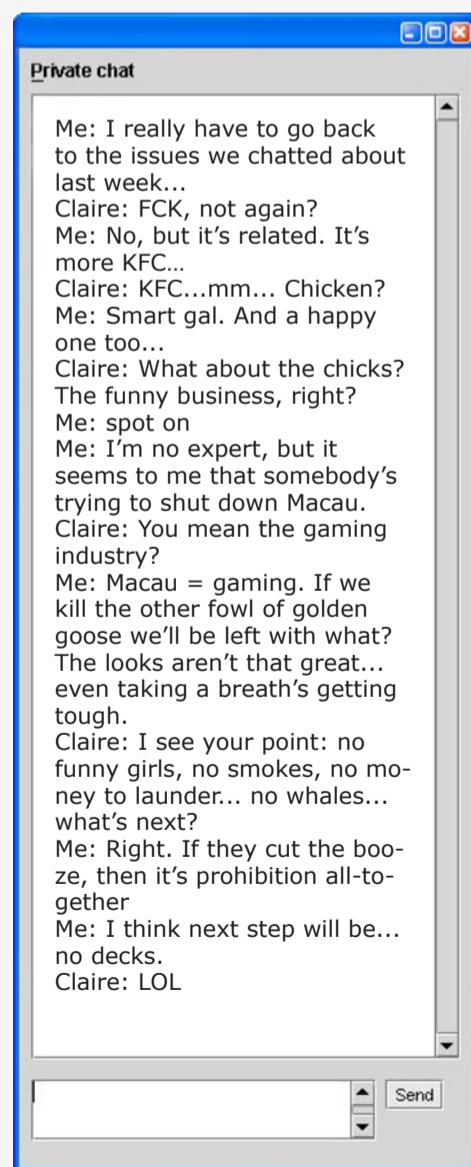
### PINTS 'N ALL



Irish Minister Harris came to town, and with Consul Peter Ryan and our well-known expat Niall Murray, they meant business. Niall announced that in the upcoming St Patrick's Day celebrations we'll have Gaelic music and dance (embedded into the Venetian's Carnevale event). Talkers welcome the Irish army with open arms. Especially because, we've heard, the pints are on Niall! Mooray!

### ONE PINT FOR 550

Speaking of pints, the most exquisite and expensive German brew, The World of Neuschwansteiner is about to be in a bar near you. Again, Talkers are very open to the initiative brought to town by His Highness Prince Leopold of Bavaria who recently visited Macau on a commercial tour. Since you may have trouble ordering "a pint of Neuschwansteiner, please", here's help: neu [as in boy] shvan [as it looks] shtainer [as in miner]. "Neuschwansteiner is a lot easier to drink than it is to pronounce," wrote the guys at LifeStyleAsia. Well, at HKD550 a pint, easy for you guys to say...



TALKERS@MACAUDAILYTIMES.COM

**WORLD OF BACCHUS**

Jacky I.F. Cheong



**DOMAINE BECHTOLD  
SUSSENBERG  
RIESLING 2010**

Bright citrine with light golden reflex, the fragrant nose offers bergamot, grapefruit and Japanese pear, decorated by citrus blossom. Underpinned by vibrant acidity and articulate minerality, the vivacious palate delivers lemon peel, apricot and ume, infused with fine herbs. Medium-light bodied at 12.5%, the invigorating entry continues through a vivacious mid-palate, leading to a stylish finish.



**DOMAINE BECHTOLD  
GRAND CRU ENGELBERG  
PINOT GRIS 2012**

Pinkish citrine with intense golden reflex, the potent nose radiates bergamot and lime, complemented by fresh earth and white smoke. Buttressed by piercing acidity and steely minerality, the evocative palate emanates apricot and mirabelle, imbued with white pepper and fresh herbs. Medium-full bodied at 14%, the scented entry evolves into an exuberant mid-palate, leading to a lingering finish.



**DOMAINE BECHTOLD  
OBERE HUND  
GEWURZTRAMINER 2011**

Rich citrine with bright golden reflex, the candid nose exudes grapefruit, white cherry and lychee, adorned with rose petal. Braced by plentiful acidity and clear minerality, the spicy palate effuses green apple, apricot and ume, augmented by white pepper. Medium-full bodied at 13.5%, the expressive entry carries onto a stimulating mid-palate, leading to a redolent finish.



**DOMAINE BECHTOLD  
OBERE HUND PINOT NOIR  
2012**

Deep ruby with cardinal-purple rim, the charming nose provides cranberry, blackberry and morello cherry, embellished by violet. Supported by lively acidity and silky tannins, the attractive palate supplies redcurrant, red cherry and plum, enriched with rooibos tea. Medium-bodied at 14%, the tangy entry persists through a melodious mid-palate, leading to an elegant finish.

**The Franco-German Crossroads**

Alsace (or Elsass in German) is perhaps the focal point of Franco-German relations, itself having changed hands for no less than 6 times in history, a unique record unmatched by any other region in the world. The name Alsace / Elsass derives either from the Old High German Alisaz or Elisaz (literally: foreign domain), or from Ellsasz (literally: seated on the Ill), both referring to the region's location along the westernmost tributary of the Rhine.

Neighbouring Germany and Switzerland, Alsace might be a medium-sized région of France, of which there are 27, but its GDP per capita is second to only Île-de-France. The distinctive Alsatian dialect is still widely spoken in the region which has perhaps the highest concentration of Michelin-starred restaurants in the world. Essentially the child of Germany and France, Alsace is renowned for its architecture, gastronomy and wine.

Combining the French AOC and grand cru systems with elements of the predominantly Germanic single-varietal practice, Alsace has 51 grand cru vineyards, even more than mighty Burgundy. Riesling, Gewurztraminer, Pinot Gris and Muscat Blanc à Petits Grains are the 4 noble varieties, along with the ever-improving Pinot Noir, Pinot Blanc and Sylvaner et al.

Enjoying a warm and dry climate, Alsace does not attach as much importance on must weight or residual sugar level as its German cousins in its wine classification system. In fact, the Alsatian tradition tends to convert all sugar into alcohol, interpreting and expressing the characteristics of grape varieties in a usually dry (except, of course, the Vendange Tardive, Sélection de Grains Nobles and Quintessence de Grains Nobles), full-bodied and powerful way.

Despite its exemplary quality, age-worthiness, character and food-friendliness, Alsatian wine remains very reasonably priced, a fact not overlooked by oenophiles and gourmards, but who knows for how much longer?

Available at Cottage Vineyards; Contact: Ms Ada Leung; W: www.cottagevineyards.com; E: adaleung@cottagevineyards.com

Jacky I.F. Cheong is a legal professional by day and columnist by night. Having spent his formative years in Britain, France, and Germany, he regularly writes about wine, fine arts, classical music, and politics in several languages

**RESTAURANTS**

**CANTONESE**



**GRAND IMPERIAL COURT**  
11:00 - 04:00 - Mon - Sun  
T: 88022539  
Level 2, MGM MACAU



**IMPERIAL COURT**  
Mon - Friday  
11:00 - 15:00 / 18:00 - 23:00  
Sat, Sun & Public Holidays  
10:00 - 15:00 / 18:00 - 23:00  
T: 8802 2361  
VIP Hotel Lobby, MGM MACAU



**JIN YUE XUAN**  
101, 1/F, Galaxy Hotel™  
Galaxy Macau™  
T: 8883 2200  
10am - 3pm / 5:30pm-11pm



**KAM LAI HEEN**  
Grand Lapa, Macau  
956-1110 Avenida da Amizade, 2/F  
T: 8793 3821  
11am-3pm / 6pm - 10pm  
(Close on Tuesday)



**PAK LOH (CHIU CHOW)**  
G56a, G/F, Galaxy Macau™ Casino  
Galaxy Macau™  
T: 8883 2221  
11am - 11pm

**SHANGHAI**

**CATALPA GARDEN**  
Mon - Sunday  
11:00 - 15:00 / 17:30 - 23:00  
Hotel Royal, 2-4  
Estrada da Vitoria  
T: 28552222

**FRENCH**

**寶雅座  
AUX BEAUX ARTS**

**AUX BEAUX ARTS**  
14:00 - 24:00 Tue - Fri  
11:00 - 24:00 Sat & Sun  
Closed every Monday  
T: 8802 2319  
Grande Praça, MGM MACAU

**GLOBAL**

**Belon**  
貝隆

**BELON**  
31/F, Banyan Tree Macau  
Galaxy Macau™  
T: 8883 6090  
6pm-12am Bar & Oyster  
6pm-11pm Dinner  
Tuesday Closed

**CAFÉ BELA VISTA**  
Grand Lapa, Macau  
956-1110 Avenida da Amizade, 2/F  
T: 87933871  
Mon -Thurs  
06:30 am - 3:00 pm / 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm  
Fri - Sunday  
06:30 am - 10:00 pm



**DIM SUM LUNCH**  
28/F, Hotel Okura Macau  
Galaxy Macau™  
T: 8883 5099/6368 4808  
11:00am - 2.30pm



**VIDA RICA (RESTAURANT)**  
2/F, Avenida Dr Sun Yat Sen, NAPE  
T: 8805 8918  
Mon - Sunday  
6:30am - 14:30pm / 18:00 pm - 23:00pm



**MORTON'S OF CHICAGO**  
The Venetian(r) Macao-Resort-Hotel  
Taipa, Macau  
T:853 8117 5000  
mortons.com  
• Bar  
Open daily at 3pm  
• Dining Room  
Monday - Saturday: 5pm - 11pm  
Sunday: 5pm - 10pm

**ABA BAR**

**ABA BAR**  
17:00 - 02:00 Tue-Sun  
Closed every Monday  
Grande Praça, MGM MACAU



**MGM PATISSERIE**  
09:00-21:00 Daily  
T: 8802 2324  
Main Hotel Lobby, MGM MACAU



**ROSSIO**  
07:00 - 23:00 Mon - Sun  
T: 8802 2385  
Grande Praça, MGM MACAU



**SQUARE EIGHT**  
T: 8802 2389  
24 hours  
Level 1, MGM MACAU

**ITALIAN**

**LA GONDOLA**  
Mon - Sunday  
Praia de Cheoc Van, Coloane,  
next to swimming pool  
T: 2888 0156  
11:00am - 11:00pm



**TERRAZZA**  
201, 2/F, Galaxy Hotel™  
Galaxy Macau™  
T: 8883 2221  
Mon - Sat: 6pm-11pm  
Sunday Closed

**JAPANESE**



**NAGOMI LOBBY LOUNGE & BAR**  
G/F, Hotel Okura Macau  
Galaxy Macau™  
T: 8883 5116  
10:00am - 11:00pm

**ASIAN PACIFIC**



**SPICE GARDEN**  
G23, G/F, East Promenade  
Galaxy Macau™  
T: 8883 2221  
12pm-3pm / 6pm - 12am  
Weekend & PH: 12pm - 12am



**TASTES OF ASIA (14 STALLS)**  
G43, G/F, East Promenade  
Galaxy Macau™  
T: 8883 2221  
10am-12am

**PORTUGUESE**

**CLUBE MILITAR**  
975 Avenida da Praia Grande  
T: 2871 4000  
12:30pm - 3:00pm / 7:00pm - 11:00pm

**FERNANDO'S**  
9 Praia de Hac Sa, Coloane  
T: 2888 2264  
12:00pm - 9:30pm



**GOSTO**  
G21, G/F, East Promenade  
Galaxy Macau™  
T: 8883 2221  
Mon - Fri: 12pm-3pm / 6pm-11pm  
Sat, Sun & PH: 12pm - 11pm

**O SANTOS**  
20 Rua da Cunha, Taipa Village  
T: 2882 5594  
Wednesday - Monday  
12:00pm - 3:00pm / 6:30- 10:00pm



**NAAM**  
Grand Lapa, Macau  
956-1110 Avenida da Amizade, The Resort  
T: 8793 4818  
12pm - 2:30pm / 6:30pm - 10:30pm (Close on Mondays)



**SAFFRON**  
G40, G/F, Banyan Tree Macau  
Galaxy Macau™  
T: 8883 6061  
7am - 11pm

**KOREAN**



**MYUNG GA**  
G27, G/F, East Promenade  
Galaxy Macau™  
T: 8883 2221  
11am - 11pm

**BARS & PUBS**



**38 LOUNGE**  
Altrira Macau,  
Avenida de Kwong Tung, 38/F Taipa  
Sun-Thu 5:00pm - 2:00am  
Fri, Sat and Eve of public holiday:  
5:00pm - 3:00am



**THE MACALLAN WHISKY BAR & LOUNGE**  
203, 2/F, Galaxy Hotel™  
Galaxy Macau™  
T: 8883 2221  
Mon - Thu : 5pm-1am  
Fri - Sat, PH & Eve: 5pm-2am  
Sunday Closed



**D2**  
Macau Fisherman's Wharf  
Edf. New Orleans III  
Macau



**LION'S BAR**  
Tuesday to Sunday  
7pm - 5am  
(Close every Monday)  
Tel: 8802 2375 / 8802 2376

**VIDA RICA BAR**  
2/F, Avenida Dr. Sun Yat Sen, NAPE  
T: 8805 8928  
Monday to Thursday: 12:00 - 00:00  
Friday: 12:00 - 01:00  
Saturday: 14:00 - 01:00  
Sunday: 14:00 - 00:00

**VASCO**  
Grand Lapa, Macau  
956-1110 Avenida da Amizade, 2/F  
T: 8793 3831  
Monday to Thursday: 6:30 pm - 12:00pm  
Friday to Saturday: 6:00pm - 02:00am  
Sunday: 6:00pm - 12:00 midnight

**TASTE OF EDESIA**

Irene Sam

**FOOD**

**CHAMPAGNE WISHES AND CAVIAR DREAMS**



Sitting at the bar near the piano at Belon, Banyan Tree Macau's signature restaurant, I have my eyes fixed on my glass of champagne. Breathing lightly, I gently touch the marble table, moving my fingers slowly towards the glass of champagne. My eyes are hypnotized, fixed on the bubbles ascending happily upwards. I envy their untamed freedom, the ability to defy gravity, exuding a cheerful attitude, weightless and carefree, indifferent and detached from the trivialities of life. Such is the beauty of champagne. On a lovely evening, there is no better way of enjoying it than pairing it with some Russian caviar recommended by Chef de Cuisine

Robby Setiawan. Neither am I a Russian princess nor English royalty, but tonight, we have chosen to start our meal with caviar from the Russian sturgeon, or *Acipenser gueldenstaedtii*.

The existence of the Russian sturgeon dates back to the time of the dinosaurs, 250 million years to prehistoric times. A giant fish that can grow longer than a human at two and a half meters, it is native to the Black Sea, the Sea of Azov and the Caspian Sea and has been a part of Middle Eastern and Eastern European diets for a majority of human's history. To avoid affecting the taste of the caviar, it is served with several mother of pearl spoons. Dark and shiny as black pearls, the caviar is slightly salty on the tongue, finishing with a creamy, fishy aftertaste on the palate.

"The classic way to eat the caviar is to put it on the side on the back of your hand, the



body temperature will warm it up a little bit and bring out the flavors," Chef Robby explains. "The taste is beautiful. It simply just melts in the mouth, and with a sip of champagne, the creaminess comes in. In return, the caviar enhances the crispiness of the champagne, a wonderful combination," I say. Caviar is indeed a symbol of luxury, prosperity and wealth. One of the qualities of good

caviar is that it should not be excessively dry or salty. It should consist of small spheres that can be easily separated from each other. I feel privileged to be savoring it while listening to a pianist playing classic jazz tunes on the piano alongside the bar, serenading an extraordinary evening with memories of remarkable tastes that will linger in my mind for a long time to come.

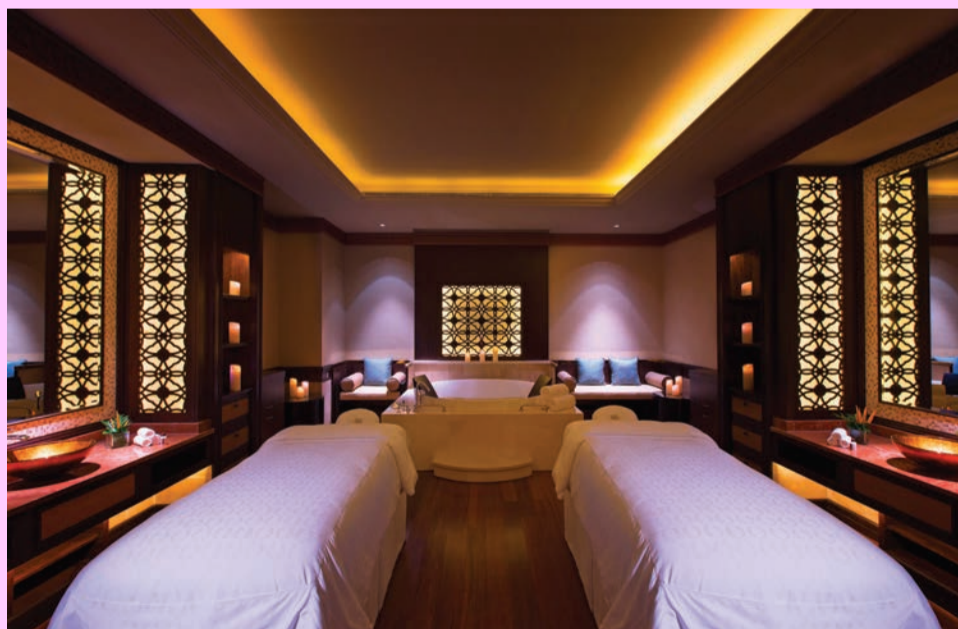
**SPA**

**SHINE TOGETHER**

On Valentine's weekend this year, why not escape with your significant other to Sheraton Macao Hotel, Cotai Central? A soothing

spa journey within an intimate Couples Suite at the Shine Spa for Sheraton is the perfect way to spend Valentine's. From February 6 to February 15, couples

are welcome to choose from two indulgent Valentine's Spa Journeys – the Candle Massage or Lava Bamboo. Each spa journey includes a lavish 90-minute body massage of either drizzling candle wax or warm bamboo sticks. And following on from their treatments, couples are welcome to enjoy a leisurely Shine Spa Bath experience with strawberries and a bottle of bubbly. For guests who wish to bring their spa experience home or treat their loved one to a special gift, the Shine Spa for Sheraton is offering a variety of gift sets such as the "Elemental Shine Spa Gift Set" inclusive of a Shine Spa bathrobe, Elemental Bath Oils and Elemental Teas. For men, the Shine Spa offers the "Germaine de Capuccini Men's Facial Gift Set" featuring Scrub and Age Resist products from Germaine De Capuccini. Designed for him and her, the spa is also offering a luxurious "Elemental Roller Oil Collection" gift set of six oils exclusive to the Shine Spa.



# In Macao.

BY CHARLES A. GUNNISON

PRESS OF  
COMMERCIAL PUBLISHING CO.  
34 CALIFORNIA ST., S.F. (1892)

CONTINUED FROM 16 JANUARY

## III

The government of Macao derives its greatest revenue from the licensing of gambling houses, and these form one of the principal attractions in the city to the European from Hong Kong as well as the native Portuguese and Chinese. Whatever fault the visitor finds, on moral grounds, with these houses he must admit the fact that they are quiet and orderly, while the picturesqueness of the life within them and that peculiar glamour which varnishes all that pertains to a great gambling hall where fortune shows herself directly face to face with us, has a charm which hides the immorality from even the most straight-laced Puritan.

One of these houses was the favourite and nightly resort of Dom Pedro, where he played high or low according to the state of his finances at the moment. Dom Amaral, though himself a devotee of the fan-tan table, observed with fear this controlling passion of his son which he believed would some day destroy the comfortable fortune he had amassed with so many years of labour.

Adams would have certainly preferred to spend the whole evening in the family circle, but Dom Pedro urged him with so much, and such unusual kindness to accompany him to the gambling house that he consented, and at about eleven o'clock the two young men left the Praya and walked into the town beneath the soft lights of the oil lamps. The streets were deserted as usual, here and there a policeman, hooded like a pilgrim, sauntered leisurely along, or the Chinese watchman with drum and clapper woke the echoes of the lonely ways warning thieves of his approach.

The only illuminated houses were fan-tan houses and these presently became numerous; now and then music was heard but not of a very seductive kind. Into one of the largest and most gaily decorated houses, Dom Pedro and Robert Adams went, climbing to the second floor by stairs bordered with shrubs in huge Chinese pots.

The main playing room contained several tables or counters arranged along the walls, behind which sat the croupiers; at one of these Dom Pedro stopped. On the table was a plate of metal divided into quarters of about a foot square by deep cut lines crossing it, each square being marked in Chinese characters indicating one, two, three and four. The croupiers rattled a pile of bright brass coins, with square holes in them, called cash; then as Dom Pedro made a sign that he was about to play, the croupier drew away a part of them under a bowl and Dom Pedro placed his wager on number three. The croupier with a bamboo wand then counted out the remaining cash one at a time in sets of four, until finally there were but three left; this being Dom Pedro's number, he won the stakes.

"In good luck to-night," he said, turning to Adams, "Try if this is a lucky day for you." Robert Adams placed his money on the same square which Dom Pedro had won from, and again the croupier counted the remainder slowly, having drawn away some of the cash under the bowl, four at a time until but two remained and Adams' stake became part of the bank. "Lucky in love, unlucky at play" he said with a laugh, "I shall bet no more to-night." Dom Pedro's face darkened but in silence he continued winning at every count.

Above the table was a square hole in the ceiling opening into an upper room where those could sit who did not wish to be seen, and were thus able to let their bets down in a little basket and with the same draw up their winnings. This upper room being purposely kept in half light enabled its occupants to see those below without being seen themselves.

Dom Pedro's luck was astonishing and quite a crowd of onlookers gathered about. Robert Adams growing weary of the play in which he took no interest, left, saying that he would walk slowly as far as the ruined cathedral of St. Paul and on his return step in again. As he stepped back from the table he looked up toward the opening in the ceiling where were two women with faces wrapped in black silk robes, which showed only the eyes; as the eyes seemed fixed upon him he raised his hat. The action seemed to cause the women considerable consternation, for both hurriedly sprang back from the rail and in doing so one let fall, upon the table below, the basket with a bit of paper and several Mexican dollars which rolled about the room. Everyone looked up laughing at the accident but no one from above claimed the money. Adams left the room glad to be in the fresh air under the clear, starlit sky.

No more lonely or picturesque ruin ever existed than the church of St. Paul; though human habitations crowd close upon it, they are however the houses of Chinese and make the Christian edifice seem the more solitary. The church is of that favourite style of architecture so common in new and old Spain, which always brings to the mind of the wanderer in foreign lands the name of good San Xavier.

The half moon had risen high enough to illuminate the whole front as Adams climbed the



broad, massive steps to the paved space before it. Leaning against the heavy balustrade he enjoyed the picture. The shadows were deep and through the sightless windows shone a few silver stars. The magnificent front of solid granite with graceful scroll-work and carved outline, blackened here by smoke and there by age, with vines and trees growing from crevices, stood in wondrous beauty.

The detail showed clearer than by day; the panels in high relief, of full rigged ship, the double dolphin and the skeleton seemed too fragile to have stood through earthquake and typhoon and the conflagrations of war for more than two hundred years. The exquisite frieze composed of many unconventionalized flowers extending across the front, wherein the artist and worker had been one, was a petrified garland. This scene was a revelation to Adams for often as he had viewed and sketched the ruin, he had never been there by moonlight when its beauties were enhanced and its defects hidden. He could see plainly each Chinese character upon the carved scrolls and the words "Mater Dei" above the doorway.

Slowly the shadows crept along, making the six broken saints in their niches seem alive; slowly the shadows upon the ruin crept along, but a swifter shadow suddenly came forward from the steps and Adams having forgotten, in the entrancing scene the murderer and thief who lurk in all Macao's corners, turned as he heard a soft step, just in time to receive in his right arm the upward blow of a dagger aimed at his side. He lost his balance falling backward down the steps, striking his head upon a heap of broken roof-tiles where he lay insensible. As he fell, a woman's scream pierced the night. There was hurried tramping of sandaled feet, as of a dozen or more coolies. The shriek was again heard and then all was silent and the plaza empty.

## IV

Sleepy Macao the day after the attempted assassination of Robert Adams was treated to a sensation such as had not been its experience since the memorable day in 1848 when the old Governor de Amaral lost his head at the Porta de Cerco. Murder, attempted or accomplished, could not have stirred them up to such an extent, for that was too common an occurrence, but the mystery of the event was the cause. Priscilla Harvey and her maid with one of Dom Amaral's most trusted men servants had disappeared as completely as though the earth had swallowed them.

Robert Adams, since the night of the attack had not recovered his senses, and lay in the house of Dom Amaral apparently between life and death. The surgeons from Sam Januarius hospital had decided that to save him, the amputation of his arm would be necessary, for the dagger which had cut it had been poisoned.

In the midst of this trouble, Priscilla's absence was discovered, and Macao was alarmed. Men were sent from the Governor's house in all directions to search the public houses, the fishing boats, and every possible place within the small territory. Word was sent to Taipa. While the officials were thus employed, private parties of searchers went over the entire peninsula looking among the rocks and copses of the Estrada and even the Parsee Tower of Silence was



examined, but all in vain. The fan-tan house proprietor told of two unknown women with a Chinese servant who had visited his house, but when they had left he did not know. No more was learned though the search still continued, for large rewards were offered by Dom Amaral as well as by the Governor.

Dom Pedro directed the movements, taking greatest interest in all that seemed possible to form a clue, and did not rest for nearly forty-eight hours. Days soon formed a week but no news came, and Macao began to drowse again. Detectives from Hong Kong came, made the usual fuss and reached the usual conclusions of their kind, that it was a mysterious event.

Contrary to all predictions Robert Adams, having become convalescent and the surgical operation by which he had lost his arm having proved successful when having heard the awful news, did not have a relapse into the fever but seemed with a determination to become more rapidly strong, and in five weeks was able to be about. He, of all Priscilla's friends, was most hopeful. To his mind vividly came the scene at the Ruins of St. Paul and that last sound he had heard. Adams' first walk was to the scene of his attempted assassination and Madam de Amaral, who was much broken with grief at the terrible event, accompanied him in her chair, Dom Pedro going with them.

It was the month of May and the heat being oppressive Madam d'Amaral after viewing the scene was carried home and the two young men walked on to the Marcos garden. "I have a clue Dom Robert," said Dom Pedro as they seated themselves beneath a broad banyan tree from which a view of St. Paul's ruin could be had. "There began your troubles," he said pointing, "and there this morning I received a paper which will I hope lead to a solution of this mystery." He handed Adams a bit of Chinese paper on which was written in Portuguese, "Come to the Praca de Luiz de Camoens at 8 A.M. to-morrow; follow the guide who meets you, and the lady Priscilla will be found." "I do not trust anonymous communications," said Adams, "but we must clutch at a straw now." "Nor do I," replied Dom Pedro, "and I will go with you; we will go well armed." Adams glanced down at his own empty sleeve and a cruel smile passed over the face of Dom Pedro as he noticed his comrade's pain.

The 22nd of May will be long remembered in Macao and never forgotten by the family of de Amaral. Early in the morning Robert Adams was up and impatiently waiting for Dom Pedro, who appeared a little before eight o'clock and the two, after a hurried breakfast, went to the Praca de Luiz de Camoens where a Chinese sailor met them. They followed him to the shore where a sampan was waiting in which they seated themselves and were soon gliding rapidly toward a huge junk of fine build which lay at anchor some distance beyond the Portuguese man-of-war, in the direction of Taipa. The tide was very low and the vessel did not seem far from shore.

The Sampan reached and made fast to the junk, and Adams followed by Dom Pedro climbed upon the deck.

Quick as a flash Adams' arm was seized and bound to his side while Dom Pedro stepped before him. "Fool!" he cried, "you have stepped into the trap with little trouble. It was I who stabbed you, Dom Robert, it was I, who took the bride who rightfully belonged to me, as it is I who will use you for my own good till I may throw you away. You of Northern blood are fools."

"I thought you my friend, Dom Pedro, and I thought you a man," was the only reply.

Every appointment of the junk was of exquisite finish, such as is seldom seen, and kept scru-

pulously clean. The men at work on deck, with usual Mongolian nonchalance, went about their business without giving the least notice to the events occurring. "The lady Priscilla waits you in the cabin," said Dom Pedro. "She knows my plans and though I shall not intrude upon you I have a Chinese on guard who will kill you if any attempt is made to free you. Enter." Adams stepped toward the cabin at the stern, where the usual shelf-like arrangements of a junk had been transformed into a cabin suited to European taste, with comfort and luxury. Adams entered and the door was closed. By it stood a guard with drawn sword; in the farther corner sat a woman at a table with her face buried in her hands.

"Robert, as you love me stay where you are. Do not move a step, but sit down where you are." Her voice was so full of pleading that Adams forgot his first impulse and obeyed her. "I know all that has occurred dear Robert, your sacrifice and pain and the pain of all my friends during these sad weeks. Do not move toward me or you will be killed. I will not look up, dare not look up. On that Sunday, which now seems so long ago, when I bid you good-night at the library door, when you and he went to the fan-tan house, I followed you with his valet and my maid, for I had been fearful of his intentions toward you, and when his valet told me that he had seen him secrete a dagger in his coat that morning, and when I found one missing from the case, I had my fears confirmed. We followed and sat in the floor above you and tried to call your attention. When I won at the table at last I put in a warning note and then overturned the basket. You did not see the paper but he did, and read it. For the rest, you were followed at once by him, and we as quickly as possible followed both, but only in time to see you fall and to be seized and carried away in a closed chair to the yellow house in the Marcos square where, till yesterday, I have been confined to the court and inner rooms, with only my maid as company and a daily visit from him at which I learned the news of your progress toward recovery. Last night we were removed to this vessel, and I have expected your arrival with hope and fear. His idea is to force a marriage with me by threats against your life, or to sail for Hainan or Formosa and accomplish his designs where law and justice for us are unknown."

Hurried cries from the deck and a call at the door in Chinese were heard and the guide sheathing his sword rushed from the cabin. In a moment the lovers were together. The bonds which held Adams' arm were cut and Priscilla pointing to the little window cried, "Robert, God is with us!" With his one arm encircling Priscilla they looked from the window. Apparently a strong gale had suddenly sprung up from the south east and rain was falling in torrents; the wind continued to increase though the rain passed by, but in the distance appeared a dark tower of water slowly moving toward Macao, rushing with bending, changing outline from water to sky. The gale became fiercer and the tumult on deck increased. Immediately from Taipa came the sound of cannon and it was answered by Macao with her heaviest ordnance as if a battle were raging, and, indeed it was a terrible battle, one between man and the elements, but man was victor and the water spout was broken. The force of the tornado however had yet to reach its climax and for fully five minutes swept over the terrified city and bay with fearful power. Sampans and junks were hurled like egg-shells upon the shore, where but for the low tide, thousands instead of hundreds of lives would have been sacrificed. The men-of-war and the river steamboats did good service, for the course of the tornado, was so restricted that though but a hundred yards from its limit of violence they were untouched. Dom Pedro's junk with others was torn from its moorings and overturned, but not before Adams and Priscilla had jumped from the deck. Even in the awful confusion and the terror of the first plunge which carried them below the surface of the angry waves, she kept her hand clasped upon the empty sleeve of her recovered protector. Being both good swimmers they assisted each other with that knowledge of the water and the trust which all coast born people have in the mother sea. A boat from one of the war vessels picked them up and in a short time they were both beneath the roof of good Dom d'Amaral, and rumor with unusual tread, but suited to Macao, slowly announced the fact of Priscilla's return.

Dom Pedro weak, and with a broken arm, was also carried to the house of his father and none but the principal actors in the tragedy understood the mystery.

Priscilla had returned in the midst of the tornado, and that was all. The unfortunate young woman was completely prostrated by the terrible experiences through which she had lately passed and lay as if lifeless. The physicians dreaded an attack of fever would follow, and their worst fears were realized. Several weeks went by in anxious watching by the sick woman's bedside when at last the fever turned and she gradually grew better. Nothing was said of the occurrences which had brought the illness about, and Priscilla remembered nothing of them apparently, for she asked for no one and seemed happy and content to be left with her Chinese ama. When she had recovered strength enough to be carried into the court-yard it was with joyful expectancy that Adams went to greet her, yet his heart sank with sorrow when he saw the marks of the great suffering in her face and a terrible desire for revenge seized him, which became the dominant passion of his life.

The saddest part of this tale may be given in a few words. Priscilla Harvey never regained her reason, though she found pleasure in all the beauties of nature and her life was happy during the two years before her death. Dom Pedro went to Hong Kong and soon disappeared. Robert Adams remained in Macao taking charge of the d'Amaral foreign business. He was the daily companion of the unfortunate Priscilla in all her walks and it was but a year after her death, when I visited my uncle Robert in Macao, when the tragic event occurred which is narrated at the beginning of this history.

My uncle is near my own age and we are more like brothers and have been together, since the death of Dom Pedro at Camoen's Grotto. The Courts of Macao exonerated Adams and though the good Dom d'Amaral would willingly have had him remain in the house at Macao it was not pleasant to think, that, even justified as he was, he had killed the only son of his host.

It was early in the morning when we left the drowsy city; the sun had just touched the windows of Sam Januarius, and as the river boat dropped into the stream, the church of Our Lady of Guia received its morning salutation. The period had come to this story of love and loss, and the book closed.

Perhaps it is just as well not to work, or play, or read except in "the library of the grasshoppers" as do my own good, sleeping friends in Macao.

THE END

**SCREEN PEOPLE**

**HOLLYWOOD**

**Tourists get knockout photo of Stallone atop 'Rocky' steps**



A group of tourists who ran up the "Rocky" steps in Philadelphia got a knockout photo at the top — a selfie with Rocky himself.

Peter Rowe said he and two friends had just finished racing up the staircase at the Philadelphia Museum of Art last weekend when they saw Syl-

vester Stallone.

"He said to us, 'Man, you guys are fast. You're making me look bad!'" Rowe said on Tuesday.

Stallone then posed for a selfie with the trio, putting up one fist. "Look tough, guys!" he said, according to Rowe.

Stallone made the art museum's steps famous in his first turn as fictional boxer Rocky Balboa, who used them as part of his training regimen. Thousands of people now visit the steps each year to re-create the run and to take pictures with a Rocky statue, which originally was a prop in "Rocky III."

Rowe's friends, Jacob Kerstan and Andrew Wright, were visiting him from Azusa Pacific University in greater Los Angeles.

**DRAMA**

**Anne Hathaway heading to the stage this spring**



Anne Hathaway will be playing something a little different this spring — an Air Force fighter pilot in a one-woman stage show.

The Public Theater said yesterday that the Academy Award-winner will star in George Brant's play "Grounded" starting April 7. It's about a pilot who is reassigned

to operate a military drone.

Visionary director Julie Taymor, behind the beauty of "The Lion King," will direct.

Hathaway, who won an Oscar in Tom Hooper's "Les Misérables," returns to the Public for the first time since she played Viola in a 2009 Shakespeare in the Park production.

**CRIME**

**Man shot by police was actor Mark Wahlberg's hometown friend**



A man fatally shot in an armed domestic confrontation with police was a hometown friend of actor Mark Wahlberg, who helped him get small movie roles.

Wahlberg and Paul Campbell, whose mother was found dead, had been friends in Boston's Dorchester

neighborhood, The Boston Globe reported. Campbell had a scene in "The Fighter" as a crack addict acting out a legendary boxer's moves in the ring. He had bit roles in "Ted" and "American Hustle."

Police said they were called Monday to the Weymouth house Campbell shared with his mother and fired shots when they found him in an agitated state, holding at least one knife. They found his mother's body on the steps, apparently stabbed.

The Globe said court records showed that Campbell, 49, had a history of arrests for drug possession, drunken driving and assault and that his defense attorney said in a 1997 filing he had a heroin addiction.

**sciTech**

**MICROSOFT SHOWS OFF WINDOWS 10 AND 'HOLOLENS'**



Microsoft's Joe Belfiore, left, smiles as he tries on a "HoloLens" device with colleagues Alex Kipman, right, and Terry Myerson

Microsoft yesterday took the wraps off a new version of Windows — and a new wearable 3D gadget it calls the HoloLens.

The company showed the new headset, which lets users view and interact with three-dimensional images, at an event where it also revealed new features coming to the company's flagship operating software.

Executives said Windows 10 is designed to embrace the way people use computers today — offering a familiar experience as they switch back and forth from personal computers to tablets, smartphones and other gadgets such as gaming consoles or even holographic projectors.

While it's designed to let apps work in similar fashion on all those devices, Windows 10 will also come with a new Web browser that will be closely integrated with Cortana, the company's voice-activated answer to Siri. Microsoft is expanding Cortana to serve as a search engine and personal assistant, capable of answering questions and responding to commands such as "Play music" on desktop and laptop computers, as well as mobile devices.

And in a break from past practice, Microsoft announced that Windows 10 will be released later this year as a free upgrade for anyone owning a computer or gadget that's currently running Win-

dows 8.1 or 7, the two previous versions of the software.

Microsoft is making a big bet that Windows 10 will help it regain ground the company has lost to the mobile computing boom. Windows has long been the dominating operating software for desktop and laptop computers, but that business has suffered as more people have begun using smartphones and tablets. Microsoft tried to reach those users by emphasizing touch-screen features in its last update, Windows 8, but many traditional PC users found it jarring and difficult to navigate.

Hoping to win back a larger audience, Microsoft is promising Windows 10 will provide a familiar experience to users on across devices, and a common platform for software developers to create apps that work on all of them.

"Windows 10 is built for a world in which there are going to be more devices on the planet than people," CEO Satya Nadella told reporters and industry analysts at Microsoft's headquarters. He said Microsoft wants to "enable that seamless cross-over, across devices as you move around at home and at work."

Rivals including Apple and Google have also been working toward that goal, by making apps that, for example, save files or photos created on a PC and let the user retrieve them on a smartphone. But analysts say new features in Windows 10 could give Micro-

soft an edge.

For example, Microsoft executives showed new versions of the company's Word app, its Outlook email service and a photo-storage app that look and act similarly on different screen sizes. They also promise to synchronize files so that changes made on one device would appear when the app is opened on another gadget.

Windows 10 will be used in Microsoft's Xbox gaming systems as well. A new Xbox app for computers running Windows 10 will give gamers one place to find messages, video clips and games they have played on multiple devices. Microsoft gaming executive Phil Spencer also suggested programmers may eventually use Windows 10 to create other apps for TVs tied to an Xbox console.

As for the company's new hologram device, executives did not say when it will be available for sale. But they talked about using it for games as well as more serious purposes, such as helping a surgeon visualize a new operating technique or showing someone how to perform plumbing repairs. Nadella said it will be priced to appeal to both consumers and businesses.

And there won't be a Windows 9. Microsoft has skipped ahead in naming the next version, from Windows 8 to Windows 10, as though to put more distance between them.

**Brandon Bailey, AP Technology Writer**



## TRAVELOG



Owls at Fukuro no Mise, which means Shop of Owls, in Tokyo

## IT'S A HOOT HANGING OUT WITH OWLS AT THIS TOKYO CAFE

In the U.S., hanging out in a cafe with animals is such an exotic concept that people can't get enough of it. A pop-up cat cafe in New York last year had lines down the block. Online reservations for another Manhattan cat cafe are almost fully booked more than two months ahead.

But in Japan, cat cafes are just the start. You can hang out in rabbit cafes or have coffee in Tokyo with two goats. And you're not limited to domestic animals. You can also spend an hour at a cafe holding a great horned owl.

Judging by how complicated it was to get a reservation at Tokyo's Fukuro no Mise ("Shop of Owls,"), the owl cafes there are just as much of a hoot there as cat cafes are here.

To get a spot, visitors are supposed to line up an hour before Fukuro no Mise opens. But when I showed up an hour early, I was lucky to get the last seat for a session two hours later. There are no refunds on the 2000 yen (USD17) fee. If you're late, you lose your slot.

Inside, I was given a list of detailed English instructions. For example, only touch the owls on the head or back. And while the owls are very tame, "they can't be potty trained like dogs. So please be generous when they potty on you!" The woman in charge also gave a long talk and demonstration in Japanese before allowing each guest to hold a bird.

The owls come in various sizes and species, from tiny to quite large, including a great horned owl with large sharp claws and impressive beak. Each bird has a tether around one foot, which you hold

in your hand as they perch on your arm. Sleek and clear-eyed, the owls seem calm despite the fact that the small room is crowded.

The attentive staff will place the owl on your shoulder or head if you like (I declined in light of the warning about the lack of potty-training). Staff can also help if your owl starts to flap. Raising your hand in the air usually settles them down, but apparently I was holding my arm wrong, so a worker repositioned it. If you've had enough and want to just watch everyone else's owls, they'll relieve you of the bird.

Photography is forbidden in some of the oddest places in Japan, but this isn't one of them. No flash is allowed (and no video) but posting a shot of yourself on social media holding an owl is clearly a goal for many visitors.

Unlike some other animal cafes in Japan, this place is only nominally a cafe. There's no food but a small drink is included (alcohol costs extra). The drink arrives covered in plastic wrap, decorated with a magic marker illustration of an owl. But no one pays attention to their beverage until the final activity, which involves distributing souvenirs. Each item is held up and guests raise their hand if they want it. If too many people raise hands, winners are chosen by playing rock-paper-scissors, which seems to be the same in Japan as it is in the U.S. Souvenirs included a photo book, cell phone charms, chopsticks and a cloth decorated with owls. If owls aren't enough to satisfy your longing to commune with birds of prey, there's also a Falconers Cafe in Mitaka, the

same area of Tokyo as the Ghibli Museum. When it's not busy, the only birds there will be the owner's, four Harris hawks and a peregrine falcon that can't be petted, only watched. But hawk owners also come to the shop with their birds, and some may allow you to touch them. This one's a proper cafe, with dishes on an English menu named after raptors, including Harris Curry and Eagle Ginger pork.

There are other owl cafes in Japan. All have different hours and procedures, so it's best to have a Japanese speaker help navigate websites and make calls. Fukuro no Mise also had limited and somewhat erratic hours, so you'll want to check its website — also in Japanese — for current information: <http://profile.ameba.jp/fukurounomise/>.

And while the cafe is off the beaten tourist path, it's easy to find from exit 10 of Tokyo Metro Tsukishima Station - just cross and head up the street lined with oddly pruned trees and you'll see its storefront on the right, covered with posters in Japanese and English explaining the reservation system. Once you have your reservation, if there's time, you can head up to the next cross street and stroll an old shopping street with lots of monjayaki restaurants. Monja is the Tokyo version of okonomiyaki, the meat, seafood and vegetable pancake that's cooked on a griddle on your table.

The cafe suggests English speakers come on Fridays when they have English-speaking staff, but I had no difficulty on a different day.

Linda Lombardi, AP, Tokyo

## SCREEN PEOPLE

## NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK

## New boy bands can learn from us



New Kids on the Block are ready to take new boy bands on the block to school.

The Boston-based veteran group, which announced a summer tour with TLC and Nelly this week, said contemporary boy bands should check out their live concerts to learn from the experts.

"As far as boy bands, you know, we dance, we perform. I mean, I hate to sound like an old fogey, but these kids don't know what they're missing nowadays because we got to sing and dance for our supper, you know what I mean, and we love to do that," Joey McIntyre, 42, said in an interview Tuesday at Madison Square Garden in New York City.

"So maybe a few kids could come to the show and see how it's done." The Main Event tour kicks off May 1 in Las Vegas. Tickets go on sale Jan. 31.

## ART

## Supreme Court won't take up looted art at Norton Simon



A New York woman who has been fighting for years over ownership of two Renaissance masterpieces seized by the Nazis during World War II won a legal round this week when the U.S. Supreme Court refused to grant a hearing on a California museum's effort to keep her lawsuit

from proceeding to trial.

At the center of the fight is "Adam and Eve," a pair of life-sized oil paintings by German Renaissance artist Lucas Cranach the Elder. They have hung in Pasadena's Norton Simon Museum for more than 30 years and were appraised at USD24 million in 2006.

In court papers dating to 2007, Marei Von Saher says the paintings were seized by the Nazis after her Jewish relatives fled Holland during the Holocaust. The Norton Simon says it legally acquired the works in the 1970s from the descendant of Russian aristocrats who had them wrongly taken by the Soviet Union in the 1920s.

"The Norton Simon Art Foundation remains confident that it holds complete and proper title to 'Adam and Eve,' and will continue to pursue, consistent with its fiduciary duties, all appropriate legal options," the museum said in a statement.

## TUTANKHAMUN

## Beard of Egypt's King Tut hastily glued back on with epoxy



The blue and gold braided beard on the burial mask of famed pharaoh Tutankhamun was hastily glued back on with epoxy, damaging the relic after it was knocked during cleaning, conservators at the Egyptian Museum in Cairo said this week.

The museum is one of the city's main tourist sites, but in some areas, ancient wooden sarcophagi lay unprotected from the public, while pharaonic burial shrouds, mounted on walls, crumble from behind open panels of glass. Tutankhamun's mask, over 3,300 years old, and other contents of his tomb are its top exhibits.

Three of the museum's conservators reached by telephone gave differing accounts of when the incident occurred last year, and whether the beard was knocked off by accident while the mask's case was being cleaned, or was removed because it was loose.

They agree however that orders came from above to fix it quickly and that an inappropriate adhesive was used. All spoke on condition of anonymity for fear of professional reprisals.

"Unfortunately he used a very irreversible material — epoxy has a very high property for attaching and is used on metal or stone but I think it wasn't suitable for an outstanding object like Tutankhamun's golden mask," one conservator said.

MDT/Agencies

## WHAT'S ON

**TODAY (JAN 23)**

RETURN TO THE ORIGIN – RESTORING MAM'S COLLECTION

Compared to art creation, restoration is primarily a behind-the-scenes undertaking. Visitors generally do not understand much about the basic knowledge and process of calligraphy and painting restoration. Return to the Origin - Restoring MAM Collection will display five restored paintings collected by MAM, supported by text information and images of the restoration process, in order to let visitors to have a more profound grasp of the relevant knowledge of restoration in an easy-to-understand approach. Exhibits include drawings Double Eagles and Sparrow by Lin Liang, a painter from Guangdong, China during the Ming dynasty plus the historical painting Macau Panorama, depicting the appearance of the Ruins of St. Paul's before the conflagration. Without exception, these abovementioned works had been seriously damaged and were undisplayable, yet they Return to the Origin following 'treatment' by calligraphy and painting restorer Mr. Lu Zongrun.

TIME: 10am-7pm (Closed on Mondays, no admission after 6:30 pm)

UNTIL: March 8, 2015

VENUE: Macau Museum of Art, Av. Xian Xing Hai, s/n, NAPE

ADMISSION: MOP5 (Free on Sundays and public holidays)

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

ORGANIZER: Macau Museum of Art

<http://www.mam.gov.mo>

**TOMORROW (JAN 24)**

DANCING ON THE STRINGS

In the first chamber music concert of this concert season, the Macao Orchestra presents a wide range of string music: the vivid and relaxing Simple Symphony by Benjamin Britten, The Lark Ascending by Ralph Vaughan Williams, a work of pastoral character, and the peaceful and lyrical Serenade for Strings by Czech composer Josef Suk. In this musical evening, the Orchestra invites the audience to enjoy the artistic charm of folk music.

TIME: 8pm

VENUE: Dom Pedro V Theatre

ADMISSION: MOP80, MOP100

ORGANIZER: Macau Orchestra

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2853 0782

<http://www.icm.gov.mo/om>



DJ NOODLES PRESENTS AT CLUB CUBIC

Even at such a young age, DJ Noodles has gained many titles for herself including 2006 DMC Taiwan Champion, First Female Finalist in DMC History, Top 13 of the 2006 DMC World Final. "Black Eyed Peas Taipei concert opening DJ. With over 10 years experience, DJ Noodles has performed with many well-known legendary acts, such as DJ Q-Bert, DJ Kentaro, DJ Jazzy Jeff, DJ Premier and Naughty By Nature & also shared the stage with Steve Aoki, Diplo and many other pioneers of Indie Dance Music.

TIME: approx. 12am midnight onwards

VENUE: Club Cubic, City of Dreams, Estrada do Istmo, Cotai, Macau

ADMISSION: MOP250

RESERVATION: <http://www.cityline.com>

ENQUIRY: (853) 6638 4999

ORGANIZER: Club Cubic, City of Dreams

**SUNDAY (JAN 25)**

Kick Back with 'Star Voices'

Enjoy late-night fun? A new concert series, 'Star Voices', adds a tasty element to Macau's many evening entertainment options. A line-up of 12 groups of Macau singers will perform on the last Sunday evening of each month, with music ranging from R&B to jazz to pop. In January, Pou Pun brings his Fusion music to Macau as well. Cheers!

TIME: 10pm

VENUE: Whisky Bar, Star World Hotel, Avenida de Amizade

ADMISSION: minimum consumption of MOP98 per guest (plus 10% service charge and 5% tax)

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8290 8698

ORGANIZER: Macau Artistes Association

<https://www.facebook.com/macauartistes>

**MONDAY (JAN 26)**

HAND PAINTED PORCELAIN – FROM HEAVEN TO EARTH: EAST-WEST RITUALS BY ARLINDA FROTA

An exhibition of Arlinda Frota's works painted on porcelain - coffee cups, saucers and teapots – her career as an artist building bridges between two great

areas of culture and civilization, East and West. Art pieces decorated with birds, butterflies and flowers. What are the artist had in mind refers to coffee (West) and tea (East), driving people's attention to symbolic references of heaven and multicolored butterflies, different birds and wonderful feathered phoenixes, flowers of hidden gardens, as expressions of dreams and liberation.



TIME: 2pm-7pm (closed on Sundays)

UNTIL: February 7, 2015

VENUE: Creative Macau, G/F Macau Cultural Centre Building, Xian Xing Hai Avenue

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2875 3282

ORGANIZER: Center for Creative Industries

<http://www.creativemacau.org.mo>

**TUESDAY (JAN 27)**

MALAYSIAN CONTEMPORARY PAINTINGS EXHIBITION OF LEE KIAN CHONG

The artist's rural upbringing and interest in photography, Eastern aesthetics and Western modern art deeply informs his contemporary paintings. He also has a great yearning to explore the 'unknowable' via abstract expression. As renowned French architect Paul Andreu put it: "Art is not a search for the source of creation but rather to explore the unknown." Lee's paintings revolve round three major themes: the Malaysian countryside, the essence of life, and the universe. Seventeen of his coloured ink works are on display for public appreciation.

VENUE: Taipa Houses-Museum

Time: 10AM-6PM (CLOSED ON MONDAYS, EXCEPT PUBLIC HOLIDAYS)

UNTIL: March 15, 2015

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2882 7103

ORGANIZER: Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau

<http://www.iacm.gov.mo/scrweb>



**WEDNESDAY (JAN 28)**

EXHIBITION (FOAM TIP BY ARLINDA FROTA AND TRANSMUTATION BY CAROL KWOK)

The exhibition shows 77 hand-painted porcelain pieces. A Macau resident, Arlinda Chaves Frota has travelled in Europe, Africa and Asia where she lived for several years including China, Korea and Indonesia. She created works in all those different locations. Throughout those various cultures and arts, she learned the delicate strokes, enhancing the mystic quality of each piece of porcelain. Carol Kwok's "Transmutation" is a series of 9 photographs. A Macau-born artist, she emigrated to San Francisco, California at the age of 16, where she continued her education and graduated in Fine Arts - Photography. Upon graduation Carol worked in Los Angeles, San Francisco and New York. She briefly worked as a portrait photographer in Beijing, China. She then returned to Hong Kong and started her own studio and worked with both international and local advertising agencies. Her work subsequently took her to London for around eight years.

TIME: 12pm-8pm (Closed on Tuesdays)

UNTIL: March 31, 2015

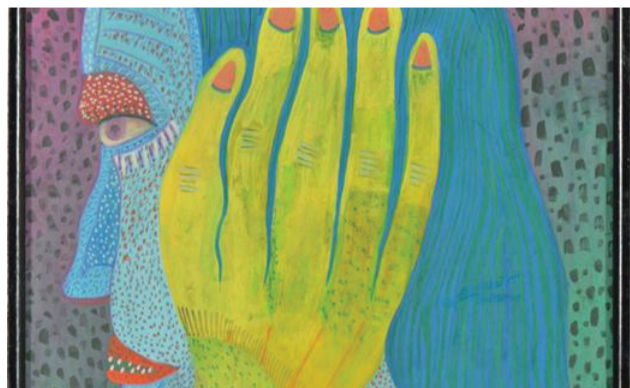
VENUE: SIGNUM Living Store, Rua do Almirante Sérgio, no. 285, R/C, Macau

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2896 8925

ORGANIZER: SIGNUM Living Store

<http://www.signum.mo>



**THURSDAY (JAN 29)**

19TH AND 20TH CENTURY PORTRAIT OIL PAINTINGS - MAM COLLECTION

Portraiture, in general, refers to an interpretation and record of oneself or a specific individual image created by a human being, which employs three dimensions or two dimensions, such as sculpture, painting, image production, etc., and takes the form of head, bust, half-length, full-length, etc. So far the earliest portraiture can be dated back to the painted Egyptian stone statues of c. 200 BC.

19th and 20th Century Portrait Oil Paintings - MAM Collection showcases 26 portrait paintings - mainly realistic, with a small number featuring impressionism, expressionism and modern art - from these centuries assembled by the Macao Museum of Art. Of these portraits, eight were produced by the 19th century painter Lam Qua and his studio, while 18 were painted by fourteen foreign and Chinese artists.

TIME: 10am-7pm (Closed on Mondays, no admission after 6:30 pm)

UNTIL: December 31, 2015

VENUE: Macau Museum of Art, Av. Xian Xing Hai, s/n, NAPE

ADMISSION: MOP5 (Free on Sundays and public holidays)

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

ORGANIZER: Macau Museum of Art

<http://www.mam.gov.mo>

**Sands WEEKEND**



**SHOWDOWN AT SANDS - ZOU SHIMING'S FIRST WORLD TITLE CONTEST**

**7 March, Saturday, 5:30pm**

**Cotai Arena**

Chinese boxing hero and three-time Olympic medallist Zou Shiming is undefeated in his professional career and is now stepping up to his first world title attempt. He challenges Amnat Ruenroeng, undefeated International Boxing Federation (IBF) flyweight world champion, for the belt. In addition to this main event, Hong Kong's Rex "The Wonder Kid" Tso is in a title eliminator fight, KK Ng "The Macao Kid" puts his undefeated record on the line and the "Dalian Destroyer" IK Yang joins this exciting line-up.

Tickets: HKD/MOP 180, call reservations +853 2882 8818



**<THE AGE OF MOKNIFICENCE> KAREN MOK CONCERT WORLD TOUR 2015 - MACAO**

**30-31 January, Friday to Saturday, 7:45pm**

**The Venetian Theatre**

Hong Kong star Karen Mok is set to wow Macao audiences for the very first time. Billed as a theatrical concert, it incorporates plenty of audience interaction and participation, and with dazzling special effects, magnificent costumes and exciting choreography, the show promises a Broadway-style musical experience.

Tickets: HKD/MOP 380, call reservations +853 2882 8818



**PENGUINS UNDERCOVER ICE WORLD WITH THE DREAMWORKS GANG**

**Daily 11 am-8pm, until 8 March**

**Cotai Expo Hall F, The Venetian Macao**

Take an unforgettable journey this winter with the Penguins of Madagascar and their entourage of fabulous and funny friends. Our DreamWorks stars invite you to join them on their global adventure. This year's Ice World is the most spectacular yet, with a host of colourful new characters, vibrantly brought to life by dazzling light and stunning sound effects.

Tickets: HKD/MOP 120, call reservations +853 2882 8818



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**Sands RESORTS COTAI STRIP MACAO**



# World of Wonder

EXPLORING THE REALMS OF HISTORY, SCIENCE, NATURE AND TECHNOLOGY  
By Laurie Triefeldt

# SPAIN



Once one of the wealthiest and most powerful of nations, this sunny land of sweeping plains and rugged mountains has also known poverty and struggle. It is steeped in history and is famous for its castles, food, flamenco dancing, wine and bullfights.

"Castilla" means "land of castles." The word "Alcázar" comes from the Arabic word for "castle."  
Segovia's Alcázar was rebuilt in the late 1800s after a fire destroyed the original keep. The Walt Disney World Castle in Florida was inspired by this castle.



## Just the facts

- Total area** 195,364 sq. mi. (504,645 sq. km)
- Population** 46,704,314
- Capital city** Madrid
- Agriculture** Barley, hogs, milk, olives, oil, rice, potatoes, sheep, beets, tomatoes, wheat, wine
- Manufacturing** Automobiles, chemicals, food products, iron and steel, machinery, ships, shoes, textiles



## Ancient history

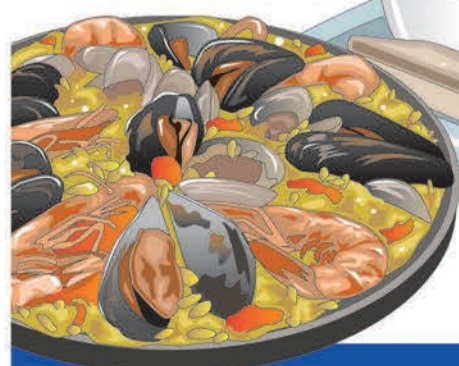
The ancient Romans called early Spain **Hispania**. While in the region, they founded cities and built public baths, aqueducts, theaters, arenas and roads. The **Moors** ruled Spain for 700 years and called it **Al-Andalus**. Moorish palaces were often decorated with colorful tiles and delicate stone carvings.  
When the Moors left Spain in 1492, the empire began to expand and become rich and powerful. The country grew to control Mexico, Cuba, Puerto Rico, most of Central and South America, the Philippines, parts of Africa, the Canary Islands, large areas of Europe and parts of North America.

## Famous people

**El Cid** was a just and fearless knight of Castile who helped defeat the Moors and became master of Valencia.  
The great Spanish writer **Miguel de Cervantes** wrote a famous story about **Don Quixote**, a knight who tilted at windmills he thought were giants. You can still see giant windmills on the dry plains of Castile-La Mancha.  
Many famous painters came from Spain. Among them are: Diego Velázquez (1599-1660) and Francisco Goya (1746-1828), who was known for his war paintings. Two great 20th-century artists are Pablo Picasso (1881-1973), who pioneered Cubism, and the Surrealist painter Salvador Dalí (1904-1989).



The Third of May 1808, by Francisco Goya



**Paella** is sometimes thought of as the national dish of Spain. This Valencian rice mixture is often made with seafood, but it can be made with many other ingredients.

**Tapas** is a selection of appetizers or snacks often served in Spanish cafes and bars. Served hot or cold, these delicious tidbits are made in great variety.

For many Spaniards, the art of **bullfighting** (toreo) is an important ancient ritual.



SOURCES: World Book Encyclopedia, World Book Inc.; Madrid In Your Pocket, Michelin Publications; https://www.cia.gov; www.lonelyplanet.com/Spain; www.andalucia.com; www.flamenco-world.com



Spanish baroque guitar with 10 pegs

## Flamenco

The province of **Andalusia**, in the south of Spain, is the birthplace of **flamenco music**. Traditionally, flamenco has belonged to gypsies and the poor. But as flamenco has become popular around the world, it has been mixed with other kinds of music and dance. Flamenco in its truest form is an expression of deep emotion, like terrible sadness or great joy.  
Traditionally, red is the favorite color of flamenco dresses, because red seems to evoke fire and passion. Polka dots are a popular fabric design.  
Shawls and fans are sometimes used as a flamenco accessory — an extension of the arms and upper body.  
The flamenco guitar, or **Spanish guitar**, is smaller and lighter than a modern classical guitar. Most flamenco guitars have push-pegs (like a violin) for tuning.

