

# Jewels in the cinema crown

Greenaway and Makhmalbaf. Two internationally acclaimed auteurs reveal very different approaches to filmmaking — one as art for art's sake, the other as an agent for social change — in exclusive interviews and through their latest movies reviewed in Extra Times. **X6-7**



- MOVIES: CLOUDS OF SILS MARIA
- BOOKS: ADULT ONSET BY ANN-MARIE MACDONALD
- MUSIC: INTO THE WILD LIFE BY HALESTORM
- WINE: THE LATINO-SLAVIC CROSSROAD II
- FOOD: IMPERIAL CUISINE AT JADE DRAGON
- TECHNOLOGY: ANALYZING MEDICAL DATA
- TRAVEL: EUROPEAN VACATION CHEAPER DUE TO EURO

jack black by Paulo Coutinho

times square by rodrigo

tea leaks by talkers

DRIVE IN

Jocelyn Noveck, AP

**BINOCHÉ, STEWART EXCEL IN ASSAYAS' MEDITATION ON AGE**

The aging actress has always been a deliciously potent subject for movies, from Norma Desmond in "Sunset Boulevard" to Margo Channing in "All About Eve" and way beyond.

It's clear why: The struggle to remain young and vital is so universal, yet especially urgent for a movie star. It's also because playing an aging star is such a wonderfully juicy role for — well, an aging star.

Which brings us to gorgeous Juliette Binoche, who, at 51, is hardly what we'd call aging — even if she looked her age, which she doesn't, we all know 50 is the new 30. Still, in "Clouds of Sils Maria," her luminous, expressive face becomes an ideal canvas for director Olivier Assayas to meditate on the interweaving forces of time, age, identity, self-worth, art, and oh, a few other things.

Assayas also makes excellent use of a compelling Kristen Stewart, moving yet further from her "Twilight" days (and slyly mocking them) as a cerebral, doubt-plagued personal assistant. Assayas completes his intriguing actress trian-

gle with young Chloe Grace Moretz as an of-the-moment Hollywood starlet who seeks more serious acting cred.

Binoche plays Maria Enders, a 40-something French actress who's found success both in serious European work and in Hollywood blockbusters (much like Binoche herself). "I'm tired of acting hanging from wires in front of green screens," she tells her assistant, Valentine (Stewart). "I've outgrown it." All the more reason, Valentine will argue, that Maria should accept an offer to star in a London revival of the play — and then film — that made her a star two decades earlier. In "Maloja Snake," named after a mystical Alpine cloud formation that signals bad weather, Maria once shone as the ingenue Sigrid, whose potent charms drive her older boss, Helena, to suicide.

But now, Maria's being asked to play not Sigrid, but Helena. She hates the character for her weakness and desperation. Making things worse, the actress who first played the role ended up dying soon after in a car accident, adding supersti-

tion to the mix.

But Maria realizes it's an opportunity she can't pass up — especially with the publicity that Jo-Ann Ellis (Moretz) will generate; a Lindsay Lohan type, she's a TMZ regular and utter catnip to the paparazzi.

So she agrees, and the lengthy middle section of the film finds her — hair now cut unglamorously short, with no more makeup or sleek gowns — huddled away to rehearse lines with Valentine in a remote Swiss Alps chalet, near where one can occasionally spy that eerie-but-beautiful cloud formation. In these increasingly intense scenes, the line often seems intentionally blurred between the two women's real-life interaction and the roles they're reading.

Amid all the subtext about aging, there's also an exploration of what constitutes art. Maria and Valentine check out Jo-Ann's latest Hollywood film, watching her zap an opponent with her superpowers, and then share a lively debate. "There's no less truth there than in a supposedly serious film," Va-

AP PHOTO



Kristen Stewart, left, and Juliette Binoche in a scene from "Clouds of Sils Maria"

lentine insists, to which Maria simply bursts out laughing. Assayas is purposely playing here with Stewart's "Twilight" history, and Stewart seems to enjoy playing along.

In another striking moment, we're treated to dramatic black-and-white footage of the Maloja Snake taken in 1924 by mountaineer Arnold Fanck,

contrasting with Assayas' own, stunning views from today (all the Alps scenery is breathtaking.)

In many ways, "Clouds of Sils Maria" is very similar to the mountain path that Maria and Valentine hike one morning, hoping to catch a peek at the ominous snaking clouds. It's winding, and it sure takes time

and patience, and it's not all that clearly marked. But by the end, you're left with quite a view.

"Clouds of Sils Maria," a Sundance Selects release, is rated R by the Motion Picture Association of America "for language and brief graphic nudity." Running time: 123 minutes. ★★★★★

BOOK IT

**NARRATIVE OF 'ADULT ONSET' FEELS INTENSELY PERSONAL**

Ann-Marie MacDonald's latest novel, "Adult Onset," tracks a week in the life of Mary Rose MacKinnon.

A famous author of YA novels, Mary Rose is stalled on starting the last book of a popular trilogy and taking care of her two young children while her partner, who is focusing on her career, is directing a play out of town.

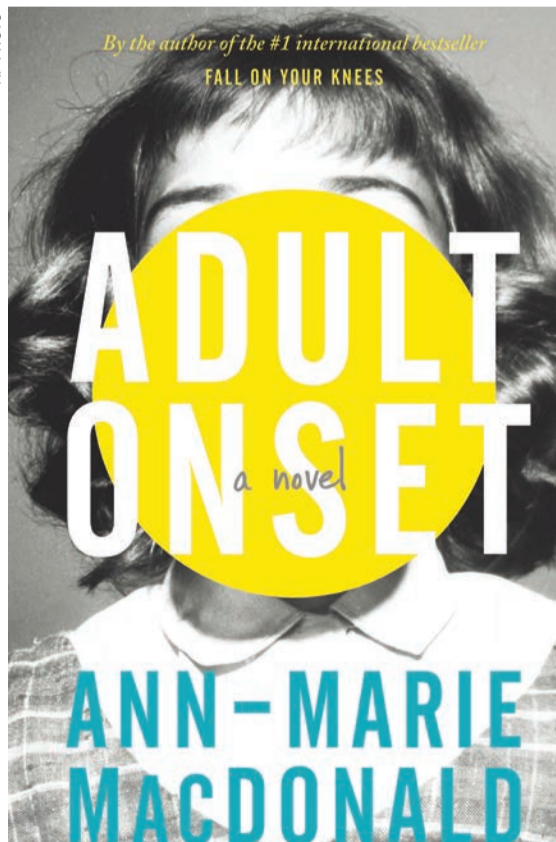
To that end, it's the most accurate description of solo parenting I've ever read, not so much juggling a number of tasks from the seemingly simple (answering one email) to crucial (keeping scissors away from a toddler) as trying to keep from drowning under them. MacDonald nails both the hilarity and the crippling anxiety of day-to-day life, revealing they're not necessarily mutually exclusive, as well as the internal struggle between needing help and believing one should be capable of handling all this without it.

The novel starts with an email from Mary Rose's father, which triggers the memory of a childhood bone injury. As her week progresses, Mary Rose comes to wonder how reliable her memories are, and her fear about what's behind this memory continues to affect her relationships with her parents, siblings and children.

The narrative feels intensely personal, and in fact MacDonald drew from her own experiences in writing "Adult Onset." Her writing is dizzying and brilliant and often disorienting, which beautifully supports the novel's themes, perfectly capturing how it feels to be unmoored and seemingly alone. Equally moving are flashback passages centering on Mary Rose's mother, herself suffering through postpartum depression.

Less effective are excerpts from Mary Rose's YA novels — they feel more like interruptions but do serve to bridge the transition between chapters and to break some of the rising tensions in the main story. Both the external and internal pressures build slowly yet stea-

AP PHOTO



"Adult Onset" (Tin House Books), by Ann-Marie MacDonald

dily for Mary Rose, and the novel wades into very dark territory, but ultimately bears a message of light and hope, remembrance and forgiveness.

Michelle Scheraga, AP

ITUNES

**HALESTORM DELIVERS TIGHT, YET VERY BASIC ROCK**

AP PHOTO



Halestorm, "Into the Wild Life" (Atlantic)

Grammy-winning rock band Halestorm is out with its third studio album, "Into the Wild Life," 13 tracks of edge-free power rock, spurred on Lzzy Hale's strong vocals — if anything else.

It's not that Halestorm doesn't have musical chops — it's there in spades and the band is varied, accomplished and tight, but the songs themselves are highly formulaic and rely on too many tired tricks of the big rock trade.

Hale's voice is the centerpiece, strong and raging at times, and gravelly and full of emotion at others. On "Dear Daughter," Hale plays it perfect while pitching individuality and perseverance to her "daughter" in the lyrics.

But mostly we've got Hale delivering vocal bombast. She screams on "Sick Individual," shrieks on "Mayhem" and comes on brass and bawdy on "Apocalyptic," an over-the-top track that is perhaps the album's best since it is so in sync with the band's aim.

Halestorm is powerful enough to play a big hit earworm song, but remains unlikely to pen one. "Into the Wild Life" isn't nearly as wild as it thinks it is.

Ron Harris, AP

## jack black by Paulo Coutinho



Secretary Tam appointed his adviser medical doctor **Kuok Cheong U**, this week as director of the Central Hospital and vice director of the Health Bureau to replace incumbent Dr Chan Wai Sin by early next month. The director-to-be is considered a guru in his field of medical imageology and is highly respected by his fellow physicians. Some observers say that Dr Kuok is on the ladder to climb to "number one" in the Health Bureau in town, as soon as current director Dr Lei Chin Ion steps down which is expected to be in less than a year. And from then on, Kuok will oversee the construction of the Islands hospital set to start in the last quarter of this year – another novelty that Alexis introduced this week.

The secretary-general of Caritas, **Paul Pun**, is against the idea of sending our elderly citizens to high-end nursing homes in Hengqin, saying that "it would not meet the imminent needs of Macau seniors." The move to the neighboring island, according to Mr Pun, would make them lonely and isolated, as the venues are outside Macau. "A sense of family" and belonging is what they actually need. Unless the land to install those facilities, which Dr Tam is talking about, would be seamlessly connected to the city and under Macau's jurisdiction, a "five minute" distance can quickly turn into a nightmare for family members.



Wednesday's blackout affected roughly 100,000 households, disrupting daily life in a city of towering buildings and casinos that never sleep. The outage was triggered by an "abrupt short-circuit" at a transformer substation located in the northern district of Canal dos Patos. The chairman of CEM's board **Bernie Leong** said that the massive blackout was a lesson from which to learn in order to upgrade their equipment and machinery. That is a very light (wrong word) approach to such a messy and potentially dangerous situation – the second blackout in just two weeks. Apparently, the proverbial "angel" that protects Macau (remember SARS?) was on duty again and nobody got hurt. But that was pure luck, out of a lousy hand.



## times square by rodrigo



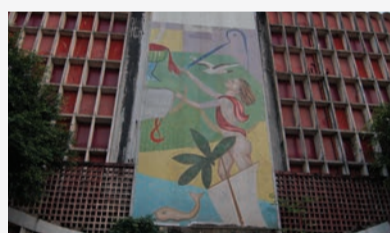
## in others' words

I promise that if I don't perform well, I shall resign.

SECRETARY ALEXIS TAM CHON WENG

## tea leaks by talkers

### THE AXIS OF CULTURE



Alexis Tam started his address at the AL on Monday with a big-bang announcement: the re-conversion of Hotel Estoril and its adjacent municipal swimming pool and other nearby locales into a cultural and entertainment center – a cultural hub at Tap Seac. Talkers likes the idea because, since the late 1990s we have been missing the very first western-style casino (opened by STDM in 1962). We still remember the days of Paris Nightclub, and some other obsolete features... Now, Hotel Estoril is gonna be the academy of music and dance, plus a center for creative industries. And with a warm-water swimming pool. Let's just hope the recovery of the building keeps the unique architectural trace of the old Estoril. Anyway, thumbs up! To put heritage buildings back to service is the way to go.

### WE LUV THE PEG!

The U.S. dollar hasn't been on a roll like this since Ronald Reagan sat in the White House and "Raiders of the Lost Ark" ruled the box office. Since June 30, the greenback has been up 28 percent against the euro, 18 percent against the Japanese yen and 40 percent against the Brazilian real. Not since 1981 has the dollar been so strong.



### BLOGOSCOPE

"The hour of no power" by worldgamingmag.com

A casino without power is a lot like a bar with no beer – useless. So there were no doubt a few raised eyebrows across Macau when the lights went out around 11am yesterday – the second blackout in just a few weeks. Of course, the properties all have backup power generators for exactly this sort of scenario with the Venetian among those to confirm that their generators kicked in quickly once the voltage dropped. Taipa, Coloane and about a third of the Macau Peninsula were affected. Still, it makes you wonder what could potentially go on during those precious moments of darkness when confusion would no doubt reign. And just how good are these generators? Macau's big properties use a lot of power and it would be interesting to know what impact a blackout has on surveillance cameras – not that the concessionaires would ever release that sort of information.

### ALVIN'S DIVERSIFICATION

Suncity Group Chairman Alvin Chau Cheok Wa was appointed a member of the Cultural Industries Council earlier this month. Talkers believes this is because good-old-Alvin is a brand name in Hong Kong's vibrant film and fashion scene. Suncity is one of the biggest casino junket operators. But according to the neighboring (also vibrant) "pink press" he is more than that. "Macau's biggest casino tycoon, Alvin Chau, has a reputation for being a womanizer and it's no secret that he generously showers his casual flings and lovers with extravagant gifts. However, Alvin isn't a bachelor. He is a married man whose wife, Heidi Chan is pregnant. But the couple has an arrangement that would be unacceptable for most women. Heidi reportedly accepts his infidelity but remains confident because she is his wife." That's creative!

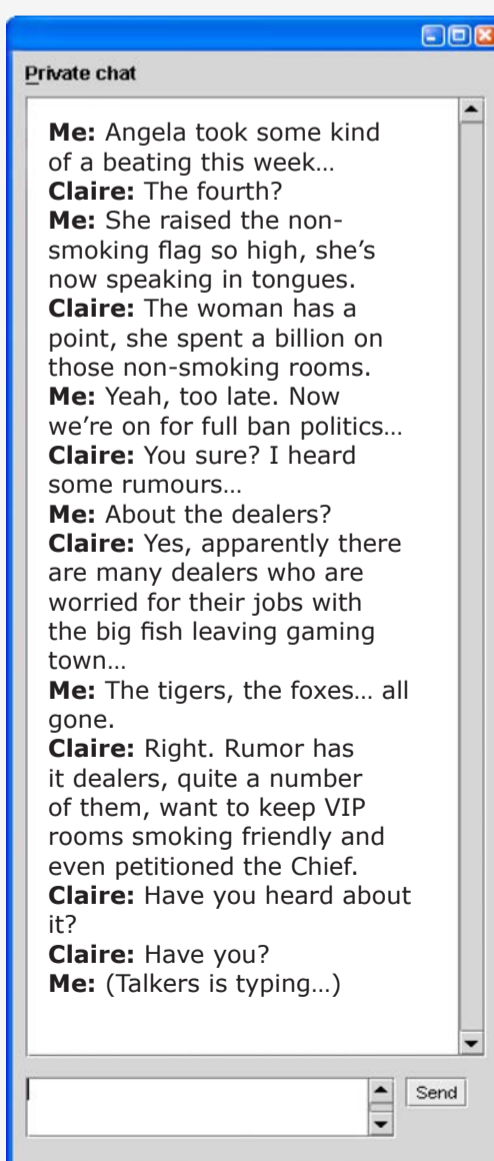


### DRONE ALONE



The government spokesperson's tea party this week was full of high-tech announcements. Victor Chan said the gov't is going all WeChat, Youtube and so forth. But the highlight of the event was the drone on the balcony, overlooking the inner harbor, taking wide, top, whatever-angle pics of the 60-strong guest list. Talkers looked and asked around, but couldn't confirm who was remote-controlling the flying bot. Suddenly someone whispered: it's a guy from the office of someone surnamed Wang...

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TALKERS@MACAUDAILYTIMES.COM

WORLD OF BACCHUS

Jacky I.F. Cheong



FAUTOR CABERNET SAUVIGNON 2009

Rich garnet with bright cardinal-ruby rim, the nose is attractive and floral, offering rose hip, cranberry, red cherry, nutmeg and geranium. Sustained by lively acidity and supple tannins, the palate is energetic and fruit-driven, delivering raspberry, redcurrant, plum, cinnamon and rose tisane. Medium-bodied at 13.5%, the expressive entry continues through a tangy mid-palate, leading to a vivid finish.



FAUTOR MERLOT 2009

Rich garnet with bright cardinal-carmine rim, the nose is alluring and fragrant, providing bilberry, black cherry, prune and mocha. Maintained by active acidity and juicy tannins, the palate is jubilant and redolent, supplying cassis, mulberry, damson and cigar box. Medium-bodied at 13.5%, the fleshy entry carries onto a rounded mid-palate, leading to a pleasant finish.



FAUTOR ILLUSTRIO REZERVA 2009

A blend of Cabernet and Merlot, matured for 18 months in French oak barrique and 12 months in bottle. Luminous with radiant carmine-ruby rim, the nose is aromatic and brooding, effusing plum, fig, blackcurrant leaf, cocoa, spice box and cigar. Buttressed by abundant acidity and silky tannins, the palate is multifarious and profound, emanating cassis, damson, allspice, coffea arabica, pot pourri and charcoal. Medium-full bodied at 13.5%, the succulent entry persists through an exuberant mid-palate, leading to a savoury finish. If tasted blind, one could mistake this for a classy Pauillac – at a fraction of its price tag.

The Latino-Slavic Crossroad II

(Continued from "The Latino-Slavic Crossroad" on 20 March 2015)

By 1914, Moldavia had become the winery, indeed the largest wine production area, of the Russian Empire. Just as Moldavian viticulture seemed to have entered its second golden age, it was badly hit by WWI, the Russian Civil War and WWII in the 31 years to follow. It was not until the 1950s, during the tenure of Nikita Khrushchev, that massive re-planting programmes were carried out in the Moldavian Soviet Socialist Republic (a.k.a. Moldavian SSR). In its heyday of, the Moldavian SSR accounted for 50% of all wines produced in Union of the Soviet Socialist Republics (a.k.a. USSR or Soviet Union).

In the late 1980s, viticulture in the Moldavian SSR suffered the same fate as in Bulgaria (then People's Republic of Bulgaria), as Mikhail Gorbachev aggressively curbed vines to combat rising alcoholism. Subsequent to its independence in 1991, Moldova became the first ex-Soviet state to establish a reputation for wine. Russian influence, however, seems to have survived the dissolution of the Soviet Union. Twice in the last decade, Russia banned Moldovan wines due to political disputes: first in 2006 over the breakaway state of Transnistria, then in 2013 as a protest to Moldova's plan to sign a draft association treaty with the European Union.

Moldova's political history may be severe, but its viticulture environment is much more benign. Located between the 46th and 48th parallels north, Moldova enjoys a temperate climate and plenty of sunshine hours, crisscrossed by streams flowing into Prut and Dniester. 5% of Moldova's total area is under vine, producing 25% of the country's export earnings. Moldova's wine industry is remarkably export-oriented, with more than 70% of vineyards planted with international varieties, while retaining some local and Caucasian varieties such as Fetească Albă, Fetească Neagră, Fetească Regală and Furmint. It is currently the 20th largest wine-producing country in the world, and home to the world's largest underground cellar – stretching for 250km with more than 2 million bottles.

Moldova comprises 4 wine regions: Balti (N), Codru (centre), Stefan Voda (SE) and Valul lui Traian (SW), literally Trajan's Wall, referring to the line of fortifications built under Emperor Trajan's reign in the region. Fautor is a leading producer from the said region, whose wines offer excellent value for money and convey a real sense of history.

To discover the hidden treasure of Moldovan wine, contact Mr Quinton Lee of Lok Va (Nova) Trading Company Ltd; E: quinton.lee@fuvai.com; T: +853 2852 2483

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  
10:00 - 23:00  
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

BEIJING KITCHEN  
Level 1, Grand Hyatt Macau  
Opening Hours  
11:30am - 24:00



KAM LAI HEEN  
Grand Lapa, Macau  
956-1110 Avenida da Amizade, 2/F  
T: 8793 3821  
11:00 - 15:00 / 18:00 - 22:00  
(Close on Tuesday)

SHANGHAI MIN  
Level 1, The Shops at The Boulevard  
Opening Hours  
11:00 - 15:00; 18:00 - 22:30

SHANGHAI

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

FRENCH



AUX BEAUX ARTS  
Tue - Fri: 18:00 - 24:00  
Sat & Sun: 11:00 - 24:00  
Closed every Monday  
T: 8802 2319  
Grande Praça, MGM MACAU

GLOBAL

HARD ROCK CAFE  
Level 2, Hard Rock Hotel  
Opening Hours  
Monday to Sunday : 11:00 - 02:00  
Sunday : 10:00 - 02:00

CAFÉ BELA VISTA  
Grand Lapa, Macau  
956-1110 Avenida da Amizade, 2/F  
T: 87933871  
Mon - Thurs  
06:30 - 15:00 / 6:00 - 22:00  
Fri - Sunday  
06:30 - 22:00

MEZZA9 MACAU  
Level 3, Grand Hyatt Macau  
Opening Hours  
Dinner: 5:30 - 11:00



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



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: 13:00 - 23:00  
Sunday: 17:00 - 22:00

ABA BAR

ABA BAR  
Tue-Sun: 17:00 - 24:00  
Closed every Monday  
Grande Praça, MGM MACAU



MGM PASTRY BAR  
10:00 - :00  
T: 8802 2324  
Main Hotel Lobby, MGM MACAU



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



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

ITALIAN

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

PORTOFINO  
Casino Level1, Shop 1039,  
The Venetian Macao  
TEL: +853 8118 9950

JAPANESE

SHINJI BY KANESAKA  
Level 1, Crown Towers  
Lunch 12:00 - 15:00  
Dinner 18:00 - 23:00  
Closed on  
Tuesday (Lunch and Dinner)  
Wednesday (Lunch)

ASIAN PACIFIC

ASIA KITCHEN  
Level 2, SOHO at City of Dreams  
Opening Hours  
11:00 - 23:00

GOLDEN PAVILION  
Level 1, Casino at City of Dreams  
Opening Hours  
24 Hours

GOLDEN PEACOCK  
Casino Level1, Shop 1037,  
The Venetian Macao  
TEL: +853 8118 9696  
Monday - Sunday:  
11:00 - 23:00

PORTUGUESE

CLUBE MILITAR  
975 Avenida da Praia Grande  
T: 2871 4000  
12:30 - 15:00 / 19:00 - 23:00

FERNANDO'S  
9 Praia de Hac Sa, Coloane  
T: 2888 2264  
12:00 - 21:30

O SANTOS  
20 Rua da Cunha, Taipa Village  
T: 2882 5594  
Wednesday - Monday  
12:00 - 15:00 / 18:30 - 22:00

WESTERN

FOGO SAMBA  
Shop 2412 (ST. Mark's Square)  
The Venetian Macao  
TEL: +853 2882 8499

THAI



NAAM  
Grand Lapa, Macau  
956-1110 Avenida da Amizade, The Resort  
T: 8793 4818  
12:00 - 14:30 / 18:30 - 22:30  
(Close on Mondays)

BARS & PUBS



38 LOUNGE  
Altrira Macau,  
Avenida de Kwong Tung, 38/F Taipa  
Sun-Thu: 13:00 - 02:00  
Fri, Sat and Eve of public holiday:  
15:00 - 03:00

R BAR  
Level 1, Hard Rock Hotel  
Opening Hours  
Sun to Thu:  
11:00 - 23:00  
Fri & Sat:  
11:00 - 24:00

BELLINI LOUNGE  
Casino Level 1, Shop 1041,  
The Venetian Macao  
CONTACT US:  
Tel: +853 8118 9940  
Daily: 16:00 - 04:00



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



LION'S BAR  
Thursday to Tuesday  
19:00 - 17:00  
(Close every Wednesday)  
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: 18:30 - 12:00  
Friday to Saturday: 18:00 - 02:00  
Sunday: 18:00 - 24:00

## TASTE OF EDESIA

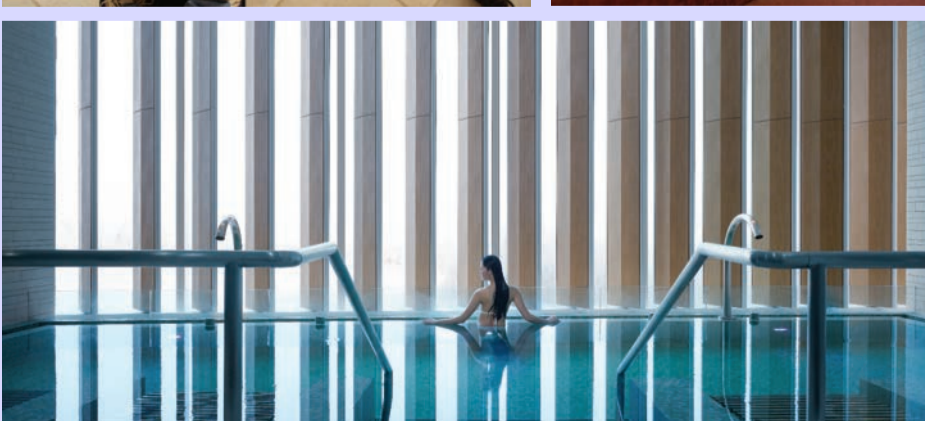
Irene Sam

### FOOD IMPERIAL CUISINE AT JADE DRAGON

Chinese culinary masterpiece Jade Dragon at Crown Towers, City of Dreams Macau will present three exclusive nights of Family Li Cuisine between May 8 and 10. The successor of the legendary Family Li cuisine hailed from Beijing, Mr. Li Xiaolin, will come to Jade Dragon and prepare the Family Li menu that has inherited the essence of the imperial food served within the walls of the Forbidden City during the Qing Dynasty, offering Macau locals and tourists an opportunity to enjoy the exquisite Chinese imperial cuisine.

With splendid and sophisticated décor, Jade Dragon is the perfect venue to launch the reputed Family Li menu. Guests are able to enjoy more than 20 different dishes from the Family Li Imperial Cuisine restaurant in Beijing, which was founded by Chef Li Xiaolin's father, Chef Li Shanlin. Family Li Cuisine inherits the cooking materials, recipes and cooking methods of the imperial kitchen in Empress Dowager Cixi's times (late Qing Dynasty) without any modern methods. One lunch and two dinner set menus are available at Jade Dragon from May 8-10, in which appetizers include Beijing smoked pork, sweet and sour pork rib and spicy beef; hot dishes include deep fried scallops in soya sauce, bird's nest in clear soup, well stewed shark's fins, and stir fired lobster fillets "Li's Family" style, and the meal will be finished with milk yogurt, fried egg custard and sweetened bird's nest soup with green beans and osmanthus, Empress Dowager Cixi's much-loved dessert.

Chef Li Xiaolin's great grandfather, Li Shunqing, was in charge of the Qing Dynasty's imperial kitchens in the Forbidden City, and had passed down the imperial recipes to his offspring. Family Li cuisine is a combination of Imperial Court cuisine and Beijing traditional cuisine, with the ingredient selection and cooking methods based on Empress Dowager Cixi's imperial menu. Family Li cuisine is usually in small portions, and each dish must be patiently cooked over a gentle fire. Under the helm of Li Xiaolin, the Family Li Imperial Cuisine restaurant has extended from Beijing to Shanghai, Tianjin, Taipei, Melbourne and Paris, receiving visits from a steady stream of politicians, socialites and celebrities from around the world.



### SPA DETOX RETREAT

Pamper your mom during Mother's day at MGM Macau's Six Senses Spa. Let her enjoy a journey with body brushing incorporating a Detoxifying Body Polish to exfoliate and improve skin regeneration. Continue with a Detox Body Massage to reduce water retention and eliminate toxins on areas of concern. The treatment completes with a choice of Back or Leg massage to restore a sense of well-being. Your mom will surely thank you for this.

A 2 hour 10 minute Package includes:

- 10 minutes Body Brushing
- 40 minutes Amala Detoxifying Body Polish
- 50 minutes Detox Body Massage
- 30 minutes A choice of Back or Leg Massage

# Film master classes by Greenaw

BY ROBERT CARROLL, HONG KONG

I doubt whether or not the famously controversial, in-your-face Peter Greenaway would have a very long conversation with idealist and humanist filmmaker Mohsen Makhmalbaf. The common ground would be narrow, but think of the differences! What sheer joy it would be to witness the interaction between these two most extraordinary individuals and renaissance men. The unashamedly art elitist, and very funny Englishman, Peter Greenaway is a painter turned auteur who is also a VJ and installation artist. Much to his credit, he's a highly vocal proponent of change and revolution in cinema, who wants filmmakers to either create a new visual language for film as art, or to simply move on.

Credit is also due to Iran's Makhmalbaf as a dedicated artist and a writer to boot, who is committed to championing the oppressed. A one-time child street pedlar who also believes in political and cultural revolution, he's an egalitarian who educated himself in prison before becoming a filmmaker on the coattails of his revolutionary credentials. He quickly evolved into a fierce critic of the Iranian government, fleeing his homeland and then surviving four assassination attacks from Teheran.

The two multi-award winning directors who are currently in Hong Kong to promote their latest films revealed very different attitudes to life and the execution of filmmaking in interviews with MDT. Greenaway is preoccupied with the idea of reinvention, the Seventh Art, cinema, and never losing his painter's eye while seeking to broaden his audience without sacrificing artistic principles. Makhmalbaf is also genuinely preoccupied with artistic integrity and reinvention but with a deeply contrasting modus operandi and perception of cinema's objectives.

Greenaway is most well-known for "The Cook, the Thief, his Wife and her Lover" a lavishly-textured, ingenious dark comedy ending in Cannibalistic revenge. However, that may soon change with his latest film. This film is one of a string of other art-knowledge-based films that have made it to the mainstream. Makhmalbaf is best known for his Cannes Film Festival winner, "Kandahar". I spoke to these two directors, who are special guests of this year's "Master Class" at Hong Kong International Film Festival; the other special guest, Portugal's Pedro Costa, declined to be interviewed. The two directors revealed significant details about their different approaches to cinema by discussing their understanding of the term "means" when used in the expression "means to an end".



Mohsen Makhmalbaf (right)

Here's Makhmalbaf: "Cinema is a means to an end, not the end itself. My films are (intended) to change culture and through that, to change lives, and through their lives, to change society. I make films to support (cultural) differences, to support humanity, and also to reduce the suffering of my audience. Capitalism has destroyed many things, not in terms of economy but only in terms of culture", he declares, bemoaning the uniformity that it brings. "Same airports, and restaurants, same dress, same language. We lost our differences (which) were

our riches. We became poor in this condition".

In contrast, Greenaway contends that "cinema is a means to an end rather than an end in itself. I hope I can understand [filmmakers who push] political and social [agendas]. I hope I can sympathize but film festivals like the last one in Germany have now become a sort of 'Amnesty International.' You give prizes to those people who are disenfranchised in some way; either those whose wives or children are in jail or those who've only got one leg or one arm. Should we be using cinema for those



The President



# Greenaway and Makhmalbaf



Peter Greenaway

particular reasons?"

Yet in spite of their differences, when the subject of the hijacking and demeaning of cinema by big money comes up, there's a surprising degree of agreement. Greenaway again: "I don't think Hollywood is really about cinema; it's about making money. American cinema is there to proselytize the notion of capitalism. Maybe the two worst things in the world recently are Hollywood and Soviet Realism; committee-made films which are organized propaganda in disguise".

Compare this to Makhmalbaf: "With blockbuster films, they spend a lot of money, use every source of technology and say nothing". He labels this a "cheap" approach; explaining this further by saying "it's MacDonaldisism in art, supporting violence, it's not about culture. We should talk about the big issues that involve human beings. We should talk about poverty and loneliness".

With their lofty thoughts, ideals of social justice, and cultural diversity on Makhmalbaf's side, and with the advancement of cinema as a definitive separate art on Greenaway's side, do they ever come down to Earth and find work-life balance? Yes, they do, especially when it comes to family. Both have drawn their families into their fields of work and both work with their spouses.

While Greenaway's two eldest children have become artists — one a sculptor, the other a jeweler by "osmosis" — Makhmalbaf has gravitated towards the world of filmmaking not only for his wife but also his three children, who are all film directors. They collaborate in various production roles in each other's films. For example in his latest film "The President", his wife co-wrote the script, his son was the designer and a producer, one daughter trained the five-year old child co-star actor and his other daughter edited the film. The fact that they work together professionally helps the family stay close on a personal level.

Greenaway regularly prepares art exhibitions with his opera director Dutch wife. "So there's a way we often find the opportunity to work together. This immediately removes the hard-edged responsibility, since we both understand what we are having is quality time. She completes her own projects...I make my feature films entirely on my own but there are opportunities for us to communicate."

But despite some common themes in these two men's lives, their paths could hardly have been more different. One came from a solidly middle-class English background, the son of an ornithologist, who spent his childhood following his father around in marshes in search of elusive rare birds. The other was the son of an impoverished, divorced and unsupported mother in Iran who was forced out on the street as a hawker to feed the family at just twelve years old.

At a glance, it seems that neither upbringing would have surely led to their current lives as filmmakers, but they have done and the world is certainly a richer place for it.

## reviews

Robert Carroll, Hong Kong

### GREENAWAY, MAKHMALBAF DEPART FROM PREVIOUS WORKS

The Amsterdam-based English auteur, Peter Greenaway is back with a witty and highly creative homage to one of the main founders of modern cinema, with the film "Eisenstein In Guanajuato" debuting in Berlin. Having received a nomination for the Golden Bear, this critically acclaimed film is superbly cast with scenes of unique playfulness that rethink the rules of cinema.

To understand Greenaway is to peel away the layers of an artist's knowledge and technical skills of one of the great masters of the "Seventh Art" as Canudo described cinema in the early 20th century. "He quotes his technical knowledge at ease with his ideas" says Hong Kong and Macau based artist Konstantin Bessmertny who thinks Greenaway's films display "an unprecedented level of visual sophistication to be an equivalent of 'perfect pitch' in music. Any still from his movies is a complete work of art".

Set in Mexico in 1931, the film traces "ten days that shook Eisenstein" as the protagonist describes his formative affair with his gay lover. Lavish sets which remain true to Greenaway's aesthetic style create beautiful mise-en-scenes, challenging the norms and limits of contemporary cinematography. The warmth with which the director portrays his declared idol comes across powerfully as Eisenstein becomes much more human than any previous portrayal of him. At once it is a triumph of sexual, emotional and cultural discovery for Eisenstein, and a tragedy as his dreams of making films in Hollywood and then Mexico collapse. Sex and death are recurring themes, with Greenaway portrayed in the City of the Dead Guanajuato.

In Mohsen Makhmalbaf's latest film, which opened the last Venice Festival, "The President", he successfully seeks the audience's sympathy for an unlikeable, deposed dictator on the run with his five year-old grandson and would-be heir. The film begins with a captivating example of the absurdity of out-of-touch power. The ageing President impresses his grandson by allowing him full control over the city's lights. The stunt backfires the second time, when the lights fail to operate, triggering a revolution that overthrew the hated despot. Even as events rapidly spiral out of control, his daughters and wife bicker over past resentments while seated in the presidential limousine, remaining oblivious to the surrounding mobs. The President drops them off at the airport, ignoring the ever-increasing danger.

Suddenly abandoned by his allies, the now deposed leader goes on the run with his grandson. A number of close shaves saved by clever thinking culminate in a thoroughly engrossing denouement.

Both films are a departure from their creators' previous works and more accessible and entertaining than many of their predecessors. This should bode well for both in terms of audience figures.



Eisenstein in Guanajuato



**SCREEN PEOPLE**

**PAMELA ANDERSON**

**Actress helps promote Phoenix jail's all-vegetarian meals**



Some inmates at the Maricopa County Jail did a double-take after seeing actress Pamela Anderson serving their lunches.

The former "Baywatch" star was in town yesterday to help promote Sheriff Joe Arpaio's all-vegetarian meal program.

Arpaio says cutting meat from the meals served to the more than 8,000 inmates has saved an estimated USD200,000 per year. The jail has been serving vegetarian meals for 16 months now. Inmates are served a peanut butter sandwich with oranges and some crackers for brunch and a hot meal comprised of different vegetable and soy dishes for dinner.

Anderson is a longtime vegan and a spokeswoman for the animal rights group People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals. She hopes the meal initiative stands as a model for prisons and jails across the country.

**MONTREUX**

**Lady Gaga, Herbie Hancock, Sam Smith to perform at Jazz Festival**



Lady Gaga and Tony Bennett will be going cheek to cheek at this year's Montreux Jazz Festival.

The pop diva and the legendary crooner are continuing their successful collaboration that saw them reach No. 1 on the Billboard 200 last year with an album of jazz duets.

Organizers say the 49th edition of one of Europe's most renowned music events will also feature the return of Chick Corea and Herbie Hancock, 36 years since they last paired up on the shores of Lake Geneva.

Santana, a Montreux regular, is also part of the two-week lineup along with Lenny Kravitz, Mary J. Blige, Dianne Reeves and this year's four-time Grammy winner Sam Smith.

The festival runs July 3-18.

**sciTech**

**TECHBITS**

**ANALYZING MEDICAL DATA,  
BREAKING SMARTPHONES**

AP PHOTO



Samsung Galaxy S6 smartphone is on display at a Best Buy electronics store in San Francisco

**Y**our smartphone could be a valuable tool for medical research — and for treating a variety of ailments.

IBM wants to use the power of its Watson computing system — which famously won TV's "Jeopardy" a few years back — to analyze mountains of data collected from individuals who use health-related smartphone apps, fitness bands and other gadgets. A new IBM business will provide Internet computing services for health-care companies and researchers to collect and analyze that data, along with information from patient treatment records and research trials.

By combining all that data, and then searching for trends and patterns, IBM believes researchers could gain new insights into treatment and prevention. The company promises the information will be "anonymized" to protect individuals' privacy and used only with their consent.

IBM is also working with other companies to use Watson's analytical prowess in new health services. Johnson & Johnson is developing "intelligent coaching" apps for patients recovering from surgery. Medtronic is creating programs to help diabetics monitor glucose and adjust their insulin treatment. Apple will let researchers use IBM's platform to analyze data from health apps on iPhones.

Apple already has software tools called HealthKit to help individuals track fitness and health data on their iPhones. This week, Apple launched ResearchKit for scientists to create more specialized apps for medical studies. ResearchKit had been limited to five pilot groups until now. Some of those apps gather data from iPhone sensors like the microphone, which can measure voice tremors caused by Parkinson's Disease, and

the accelerometer, which can measure changes in a walker's gait. Apple says 60,000 iPhone owners have already downloaded those apps and enrolled in medical studies.

Apple also announced that its annual developers conference will be held June 8 to 12 in San Francisco. That's when Apple typically previews the next versions of its Mac and iOS mobile systems.

**BREAKING PHONES ... ON PURPOSE.** Samsung's new Galaxy S6 phones proved durable in the face of drops and other pressures, according to SquareTrade, a provider of extended-protection plans for gadgets.

In SquareTrade's tests, which use robots to throw and drop various phones to ensure consistency, the S6 phones had great water resistance, even though they don't officially have those capabilities as last year's Galaxy S5 did. But the S6 phones lost points for having slippery glass backs. They slid farther than last year's plastic Galaxy S5 and the metal-back iPhone 6 when pushed, making them more prone to falling off the edge of a table.

A premium version of the S6, known as Edge, also lost points for bending under pressure, though the regular S6 did well, withstanding 110 pounds of pressure.

Samsung says any phone will break if you try hard enough, but its phones "are capable of taking some hits." The company says the metal frame, for instance, is designed to absorb much of the impact from any drops to protect the glass. Samsung posted video showing phones still working after drops. As for bending, Samsung says SquareTrade's tests apply more pressure than would be typical in a person's back pocket.

**BATTLING INTERNET RULES.** AT&T Inc. and four industry groups representing telecommunications, wireless and cable companies have filed lawsuits to overturn the Federal Communications Commission's new Internet traffic rules.

The FCC's rules are meant to uphold the principle of net neutrality — that Internet content should be treated equally and load at the same speed.

Many Internet providers say they don't want to block or slow content, but they don't want the stricter regulation that comes with the new rules. The FCC enacted them by placing Internet access in the same regulatory bucket as the telephone. Labeling Internet access as a telecommunications service, rather than an information service as it was before, subjects it to broader oversight by the FCC. With the rules, the agency will be able to hear and investigate complaints of unfair practices by Internet service providers from consumers and Web companies such as Netflix.

Federal courts had struck down the FCC's previous attempt at net neutrality rules, which kept Internet access regulated as an information service. The judges said then that the FCC had effectively treated Internet service providers as common carriers like utilities or phone service even though they were exempt from such treatment as an information service.

The lawsuits had been widely expected. Filing lawsuits this week are AT&T, CTIA, a wireless trade group; the cable trade groups National Cable & Telecommunications Association and American Cable Association; and the United States Telecom Association, an industry group that represents companies including AT&T and Verizon.

**Brandon Bailey, AP Technology Writer**



## TRAVELOG



Tourists listen to a guide as they stand in front of the Erechtheion temple during a visit to the Acropolis hill in Athens

## SUNNY HOLIDAYS

## EUROPEAN VACATION AS MUCH AS 25 PERCENT CHEAPER DUE TO EURO

Vacations in Europe have a new attraction: the euro's steep drop in value is making the continent much cheaper for tourists from across the world, especially the United States and China.

For American tourists, the dollar's strength translates into a discount of around 25 percent compared with this time last year. China's currency has risen some 20 percent against the euro over the past year.

And eurozone residents feeling the pinch from their sluggish economies are more likely to stay inside the bloc, where they won't feel the currency changes.

That means the ingredients are in place for "a great year for tourism" in Europe, says Nick Greenfield, head of tour operator relations at the London-based European Tour Operators Association.

The euro has fallen against many currencies in recent times, but its drop has been particularly pronounced against the dollar. The euro was trading at USD1.057 on Wednesday, having been as high as \$1.40 a year ago. Tim Cooper, a global economist at BMI Research in London, says his company expects the euro and dollar to reach parity later this year.

The European Central Bank's policies have been weakening the euro, while those of the U.S. Federal Reserve have been bolstering the dollar. The euro has also been dragged down by fears over Greece's debts and the bloc's muted economic growth.

U.S. bookings to some European countries have risen by up to 20 percent so far, European tourism offi-

cial and American travel companies report.

Lyssandros Tsilidis, president of the Hellenic Association of Travel and Tourist Agents, said Greece has seen a 15-20 percent increase in reservations from the U.S. — Europe's biggest long-haul market — compared to the same time last year. Spain saw a 12 percent increase in January and almost 19 percent in February. Officials anticipate more growth, which they attribute to the dollar's strength.

The exchange rate "certainly makes things easier to enjoy," said Bob Homeyer, a retired businessman from San Diego on vacation in Madrid with his wife. "We have had some fine meals for what worked out to be reasonable prices, and our visit to the Prado Museum worked out at 7 euros (\$7.48) each, which is a real bargain," he said outside the Madrid landmark.

Among individual cities, Paris is a top attraction, pulling some 10 million American tourists last year. Officials hope to make it 11 million this year — and "encourage them to spend more" while the exchange rate is favorable, says Francois Navarro, general manager of the city's tourism committee.

If trends hold, Navarro said, Americans could well return this year to the top spot among foreign tourists in the Paris area — for the first time in about a decade. "It'll be a big deal," he said.

But a new generation of Chinese tourists is shaking up Paris' forecasts, Navarro said. They're aged 25 to 40, travel alone, and spend on high-end hotels and restaurants, unlike the previous generation that wanted mainly to shop. And a Chinese visitor spends four times as much on average as

Americans.

The United States is also the biggest source of tourists for Rome, which recorded a 7 percent increase in American visitors in January, the latest figures available, compared with the same month last year.

U.S. tour company Liberty Travel says its New York City outlets are reporting a year-on-year 17 percent jump in bookings to Europe. That includes marked growth in travel to usually less-visited European cities, including Dublin, Amsterdam, Barcelona, Madrid and Athens, the company said.

Vacationers have a broad variety of options to choose from: the eurozone encompasses countries from Portugal to Finland and from Greece to Ireland.

Europe is now competing for American business with popular U.S. destinations, says Joseph A. Moscone, Booking.com's senior manager for public relations in the Americas.

The company compared room prices this year in Paris, Rome, Barcelona, Amsterdam and Berlin with last year's prices, using the euro-dollar exchange rate last month and in March 2014. It concluded that the average price in U.S. dollars for a night in a 4-star hotel in those cities is 21 percent lower, and down 17 percent for 5-star accommodation.

That means, Booking.com calculates, that for the price of seven days in Palm Springs, an American could spend 14 days in Barcelona.

Vacations in Europe are "not only affordable, but even a relatively inexpensive option in comparison to some pricier U.S. destinations," Moscone said in emailed comments to the AP.

Barry Hatton, AP, Lisbon

## SCREEN PEOPLE

## BILLBOARD CHART

### Tribute song for Paul Walker hits No. 1



Paul Walker is not only being remembered onscreen, but in music too: The tribute song for him, "See You Again," hit the top of the Billboard Hot 100 chart yesterday.

The song from rapper Wiz Khalifa and budding singer Charlie Puth is from the soundtrack for "Furious 7," the latest installment in the "Fast & Furious" film series that featured Walker.

Puth, 23, sings the emotional hook on the song. As he wrote "See You Again," the singer thought about a friend who died around the same time as Walker. From there, the words came easily.

## A CAPELLA

### College singers become unlikely stars on campuses



Their musical performances pack university auditoriums, though they play no instruments.

While universities have long nurtured the niche community of a cappella singers, the TV show "Glee" and hit movie "Pitch Perfect" helped create a new generation of fans that propelled the soulful, unaccompanied vocal sound into mainstream culture. Now, they're unlikely stars on campuses across the U.S.

Tomorrow, about 3,000 people will flock to New York to see eight groups compete in the collegiate championship of a cappella singings. The sold-out show at the Beacon Theatre is a far cry from the paltry crowd of 200 that watched the national finals more than a decade ago. "Now the larger world is seeing that it's awesome," said Amanda Newman, executive director of Varsity Vocals, the event's organizer. "Everyone's just over the moon. It wasn't a secret that we wanted to keep."

## CANNES

### Selfies are 'ridiculous and grotesque'



The 68th Cannes Film Festival will feature a lesbian love story starring Cate Blanchett, a Shakespearean tragedy with Michael Fassbender and films from cinema heavyweights including China's Jia Zhangke, Italy's Paolo Sorrentino and the United States' Gus Van Sant.

It won't feature a lot of selfies, if organizers have their way.

While stars including Charlize Theron, Natalie Portman, Rachel Weisz and Benicio del Toro will be welcomed on the red carpet at the French Riviera extravaganza, selfies and selfie sticks most definitely won't.

Announcing the festival lineup yesterday, Cannes director Thierry Fremaux called selfies "ridiculous and grotesque." "We're not going to ban selfies. We don't have police powers," Fremaux said. But he strongly urged festivalgoers to keep the red carpet a selfie-free zone.

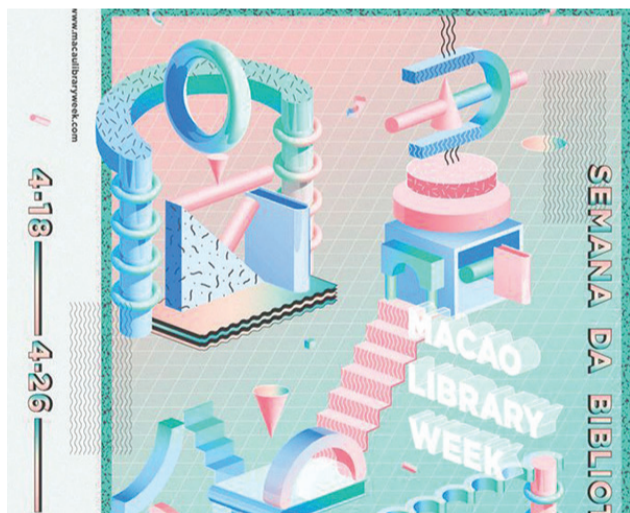
MDT/Agencies

## WHAT'S ON


**TODAY (APR 17)**  
 FROM THE NEW WORLD

20th century composers made many new attempts in the styles of chamber music. In this concert, the Orchestra presents an American-style evening: Summer Music by famous American composer Samuel Barber, followed by the American, a classical string quartet by Antonín Dvořák. Significantly influenced by American folk music, this work was composed by Dvořák whilst sojourning in America.

TIME: 8pm  
 VENUE: Dom Pedro V Theatre  
 ADMISSION: MOP80, MOP100  
 ENQUIRIES: (853) 2853 0782  
 ORGANIZER: Macau Orchestra  
<http://www.icm.gov.mo/om>


**TOMORROW (APR 18)**  
 MACAO LIBRARY WEEK 2015

'Reading•Market' Promotion Day invites visitors to exchange books, get involved in the Overdue Journals Charity, the recycling of old books, and hand-made book workshops, etc. A renowned Taiwanese writer will talk on 'Read this World' in a personal endorsement of the joy of reading. And do make time for the 'Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macau, 4•23 World Book Day Creative Competition 2015 Exhibition'.

'READING•MARKET' PROMOTION DAY  
 TIME: 10am-6pm  
 DATE: April 18-21, 2015  
 VENUE: Old Court Building

'READ THIS WORLD'  
 TIME: 3pm-5pm  
 DATE: April 19, 2015  
 VENUE: Sir Robert Ho Tung Library

THE 'GUANGDONG, HONG KONG AND MACAU, 4•23 WORLD BOOK DAY CREATIVE COMPETITION' 2015 EXHIBITION'

TIME: 10am-7pm (Mondays to Saturdays)  
 11am-7pm (Sundays)  
 DATE: April 25-May 17, 2015  
 VENUE: Sir Robert Ho Tung Library

ADMISSION: Free  
 ENQUIRIES: (853) 2837 7117  
 ORGANIZERS: Cultural Affairs Bureau, Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau, Education and Youth Affairs Bureau, Macau Library & Information Management Association  
<http://library.iacm.gov.mo>


**SUNDAY (APR 19)**  
 SHIWAN CERAMICS EXHIBITION

The most common motifs of the ceramic figurines were figures from legends, operas or novels. However, from the mid-19th century to the beginning of the 20th century, motifs diversified to include historical figures, national heroes, ordinary town folks, bust statues, nude statues and statues of foreign children. The innovative motifs and the skills learned from Western sculpture enriched the imagination and technique of the ceramic workers. Symbol of this 'thematic revolution' is, for example, the series of large-scale ceramic figurines created by Pan Yushu from the collection of the Macau Museum of Art.

TIME: 10am-7pm (Closed on Mondays, No admission after 6:30 pm)  
 UNTIL: August 2, 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>


**MONDAY (APR 20)**  
 YUEJU OPERA

Yueju, or Cantonese Opera, dates back more than 300 years. Distinguished by its bold performing skills, it is beloved throughout southern China, and free performances of this traditional art are

especially popular here in Macau. Yueju Opera is listed as one of UNESCO's 'Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity'.

DATE: April 20, 2015  
 VENUE: Macau Cultural Centre, Avenida Xian Xing Hai, s/n, NAPE  
 DATE: April 26, 2015  
 VENUE: Macau Cheong Hong Music Club–Art Activity Centre, Avenida do Almirante Lacerda, Edf. Industrial Hopewell 10  
 DATE: April 18, 21-22, 25, 2015  
 VENUE: Kam Pek Community Centre, No. 483, Avenida Almedia Ribeiro,  
 DATE: April 17-18 & 25-26, 2015  
 VENUE: Cinema Alegria, Estrada do Repouso No.85  
 TIME: 7:30pm  
 ADMISSION: Free  
 TOURISM HOTLINE: (853) 2833 3000  
[http://content.macautourism.gov.mo/uploads/mgto\\_shows\\_entertainment/Yueju\\_2015.pdf](http://content.macautourism.gov.mo/uploads/mgto_shows_entertainment/Yueju_2015.pdf)


**TUESDAY (APR 21)**  
 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY PORTRAIT OIL PAINTINGS – MAM COLLECTION

Portraiture, in general, refers to an interpretation and record of oneself or 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 a 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 Macau 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>

**WEDNESDAY (APR 22)**  
 HUMAN ROOTS

This exhibition seeks to confront Man through his roots in Nature via the display of extraordinarily powerful wood pieces by French contemporary sculptor Mickaël Obrénovitch, a leading proponent of organic sculpture. His pieces comprise 200-year-old teak tree roots rescued from a Java fire, symbolising Nature's fragility. The roots look as if they were gestating, waiting for the sculptor to spur their rebirth. The aspiration of Obrénovitch's abstract art is to trace the silhouette of life, and to provoke a dialogue between the ancient wood and Man.



TIME: 11am-7pm (Closed on public holidays)  
UNTIL: July 2, 2015  
ADMISSION Free  
VENUE: IAOHIN Gallery, Rua da Terceira No.39A  
ENQUIRES: (853) 2892 1908  
ORGANIZER: IAOHIN Gallery



**THURSDAY (APR 23)**  
THIS IS WHERE I WILL ALWAYS BE - WORKS BY NUNO SANTIAGO

Featuring 28 works from Portuguese artist Nuno Santiago's latest collection, this exhibition features his subtle, trademark abstract textures, showcasing works described as both majestic and mystical, inviting exhibition-goers to immerse themselves in the ambience they project. In addition to providing guided tours at set times throughout the exhibition period, the Gallery also facilitates audio description tours for the visually impaired. For detailed tour information, please check with the organizer.

TIME: 10am-7pm  
UNTIL: May 10, 2015  
VENUE: Tap Seac Gallery/ Avenida do Conselheiro Ferreira de Almeida, 95  
ADMISSION: Free  
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8399 6699  
ORGANIZER: Cultural Affairs Bureau  
<http://www.macauart.net/TS>

HOMAGE TO MASTERS WHO INSPIRED US  
—WORKS BY 10 HONG KONG AND MACAU ARTISTS

The creative journey is a long one and artists go through different development stages. This time we have invited, from Hong Kong, Wong Yan-kwai, painter, musician and movie art director and Liu Wai Tong, poet, writer and photographer; from Macau, Lio Man Cheong, a seasoned painter, Konstanin Bessmertny, a Russian artist living in the MSAR, Yuen Yi Lo, university professor, Lui Chak Keong, an expert in ancient architecture, Coke Wong Ka Long, sculptor, as well as several younger artists like Lai Sio Kit, Erik Fok and Vinsa Io Weng Si.

TIME: 12pm-7pm (Closed on Tuesdays)  
UNTIL: May 10, 2015  
VENUE: Ox Warehouse, corner of Avenida Do coronel Mesquita and Avenida Do Almirante Lacerda  
ADMISSION: Free  
ENQUIRIES:(853) 2853 0026  
ORGANIZER: Ox Warehouse  
<http://www.oxwarehouse.blogspot.com>

# Sands WEEKEND



**BACKSTREET BOYS IN A WORLD LIKE THIS TOUR LIVE IN MACAO**

**24 April, Friday, 8pm**

**Cotai Arena**

Backstreet Boys is a multiple award-winning and Grammy-nominated group, which has sold 130 million records worldwide. Backstreet Boys' first nine albums went gold or platinum in 46 countries. Backstreet Boys received a star on the legendary Hollywood Walk of Fame in 2013. Don't miss the best-selling boy band of all time!

Tickets: from MOP/HKD588, call reservations +853 2882 8818



**DISNEY'S BEAUTY AND THE BEAST- THE SMASH-HIT BROADWAY MUSICAL**

**13 June-26 July (No shows on 14 June or on Mondays)**

**Tuesday to Friday shows 8pm, Saturday and Sunday shows 2pm and 8pm**

**The Venetian Theatre**

Disney's Beauty and the Beast is one of the greatest and most adored musicals of all time. Based on the 1991 double Oscar-winning animated feature film, the smash-hit Broadway show is coming to Macao this summer to delight fans of all ages. The show will be performed at The Venetian Theatre daily, except on Mondays, and there will be an extra afternoon matinee show on Saturdays and Sundays. This is a family musical extravaganza you won't want to miss. Admission will only be granted to persons aged 6 and above. Performances are in English with Chinese subtitles

Tickets: From MOP/HKD280, call reservations +853 2882 8818



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**Until 31 May**

Fulfil your cravings with summer fashion by spending MOP500 and receive a MOP50 dining voucher with a Fook Ming Tong tea bag. When you spend MOP25,000 or more you'll be rewarded with a Georg Jensen special edition giftset and a bottle of wine.

Enjoy the promotion until the end of May!



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As a Sands Rewards Club member, enjoy up to 20% dining discounts at over 60 restaurants or enjoy up to 10% discounts for your favourite shows. Earn points when you purchase your favourite goods. Better still, use your points on dining, shopping, accommodation or enjoying a show. Join Sands Rewards Club for free now. Call +852 8118 1182 or e-mail: [inquiries@sands.com.mo](mailto:inquiries@sands.com.mo) for details of membership and start enjoying the benefits of your Sands Rewards Club card where every purchase is rewarded.



澳門金沙度假區

**Sands**  
RESORTS  
COTAI STRIP MACAO



# World of Wonder

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

# THE ITALIAN RENAISSANCE

In Italy, the 14th century marked the end of the Dark Ages and the beginning of the Renaissance. Scholars, scientists, leaders, writers, artists and inventors of the day turned away from the recent past and began to think in new ways. These people looked to the art and culture of ancient Greece and Rome for inspiration and created a movement that celebrated humanity and learning.

## The Dark Ages

The **Middle Ages**, also known as the Dark Ages, began in the fifth century and lasted through the 13th century. During this time, Europe often experienced wars, famines and deadly diseases. Medieval people were almost entirely focused on basic survival and God. Because life was so difficult, the people lost much of the world's past knowledge and culture. The Renaissance would usher in new ways of thinking about life and God.

## Rebirth

The word **renaissance** is French for "rebirth" or "revival." It is derived from the Latin word *rinascere*. "Renaissance" has been used to describe a number of cultural revivals, but it is usually identified with Italy and the 14th through 16th centuries.

## Humanism

The Renaissance began in Italy in the early 1300s. Trade had brought great wealth to Italy, and the political environment of Europe became more stable. Scholars studied Greek and Roman antiquities, seeking to revive the wisdom and beauty found in classical writing and art. They became interested in the study of humanity and started to question the world around them. The idea that mankind was beautiful and that society was good was called **humanism**. Renaissance painters and sculptors reflected these concepts by painting in a realistic manner that tried to bring man closer to God through beauty. By the late 1400s, Renaissance thinking had spread throughout most of Europe.

**Bronze David** by Donatello, c. 1140, was the first free-standing nude in Western art since antiquity.

SOURCES: World Book Encyclopedia, World Book Inc.; <http://www.history.com>; [www.italian-renaissance-art.com](http://www.italian-renaissance-art.com); <http://www.kidsdiscover.com>; <http://www.kidspast.com>



This illustration is based on a detail from a painting entitled "The Birth of Venus" by Sandro Botticelli, c. 1486.



This illustration is based on a detail of Michelangelo's fresco "The Creation of Adam" on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel (c. 1511). It shows the hand of God giving life to Adam.

*Florence was the birthplace of the Italian Renaissance.*

## Roles of women

Life for most women changed little during the Renaissance; they had few legal rights and were expected to focus on family and household. But some wealthy Italian ladies of this time were educated along with their brothers and would become spirited thinkers and rulers.

**Catherine de Medici**  
(1519 - 1589)

Decorative arch from a painting by Pinturichio, Baglioni Chapel, c. 1500.

Some biographers claim that the great painter and inventor Leonardo da Vinci and the brilliant sculptor and painter Michelangelo disliked each other, but there is little evidence that this was the case.

Leonardo did once note that sculptors were covered in marble, much like bakers were covered in flour.

**Michelangelo**  
1475 - 1564

Catherine de Medici became queen of France and the mother of three French kings.

**Cosimo Medici**  
1389 - 1464



**The dome of the Santa Maria del Fiore** dominates the skyline of Florence. Begun in 1296, this cathedral kept eight generations of artists and craftsmen working. The dome was not begun until 1420 because no one knew how to build one so big. Architect **Filippo Brunelleschi** solved the problem by designing two interior shells with interconnecting rib supports that help distribute the weight. Completed in 1436, the dome is a prime example of Renaissance architecture.

**Leonardo da Vinci**  
1452 - 1519



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