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THE VENETIAN[®]
MACAO

times Extra

weekend Guide

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Thais' best friends

'Child angel' dolls are the latest craze in Thailand. They are blessed in temples and become Buddhist amulets - treated like pets by gamblers, gangsters and policemen. The dolls, mostly imports, cost anything from a few dozen to a few hundred dollars, with the blessings available on a similar sliding scale. **X3**



- MOVIES: HAIL, CAESAR!
- BOOKS: THE COWSHED BY JI XIANLIN
- MUSIC: COLD CHILLING: COMPTON BY VARIOUS ARTISTS
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- FOOD: CELEBRATE THE SEASON OF LOVE

DRIVE IN

Jake Coyle, AP Film Writer

IN 'HAIL, CAESAR!' A STUDIO FIXER'S FAITH IS TESTED



George Clooney portrays Baird Whitlock in "Hail, Caesar!"

The Coen canon reaches a crescendo — or rather a warped inversion of one — in "Hail, Caesar!" when the brothers assemble a quartet of religious leaders from various faiths before Josh Brolin's 1950s movie studio "fixer" Eddie Mannix. The scene plays like a theological joke: the Coen version of a priest and a rabbi walk into a movie studio. "Does the depiction of Jesus Christ cut the mustard?" asks Mannix, succinctly. His agenda is to gain their approval for Capitol Pictures' latest Bible epic, a sword-and-sandals movie led by the dimwitted star Baird Whitlock (George Clooney, looking particularly suited to golden age Hollywood). The question of how God should be portrayed in the film — a mere quibble amid the madcap machinery of a Hollywood studio — has been put off. An early reel of the movie leaves

a tiny gap: "Divine presence to be shot," reads the insert. It's something like a summation of Joel and Ethan Coen's films: Meaning is a missing frame, human folly is the star and only the dialogue is divine. "Hail, Caesar!" — part "Barton Fink," part "A Serious Man" — is by no means their best, but it's in some ways the Coens' most essential. Having long made playthings of old movie genres, their romp through vintage Hollywood here is literal. It's a loving satire and merciless ode to moviemaking, where hapless souls serve no higher power than the Hollywood machine. Their main character is the stone-face, fedora-wearing Mannix, a bruising studio executive who keeps the assembly line humming and its contracted stars out of the gossip pages. He's based on a real and mythic figure of the same name

who ruthlessly toiled for Louis B. Mayer's MGM. Brolin's Mannix, though, is a family man, trying to quit smoking and making constant guilt-ridden trips to his church confessional. Among the tasks before him, per orders from above, is squeezing the Western star and genuine cowboy Hobie Doyle (newcomer Alden Ehrenreich, who steals the movie with some of the best bad actor acting you've ever seen) into "Merrily We Dance," a prestige drama from director Laurence Laurentz (a terrific Ralph Fiennes), whose directions — to give "a mirthless chuckle" or pronounce the line "Would it 'twere so simple" — confound Doyle. The gulf between on-screen fiction and off-screen reality is comically vast, none more so than when star DeeAnna Moran (Scarlett Johansson), having just shot an elaborate Esther Williams-style aquatic

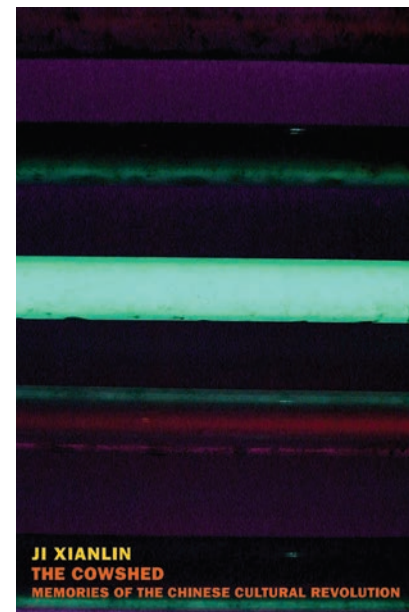
scene, jumps out of the pool, sheds her mermaid fin, lights a cigarette and bitterly retorts in a thick Brooklyn accent: "How am I? Wet." Moran is having a child with unknown paternity — another fire for Mannix to put out. Twin-sister gossip columnists modeled after Hedda Hopper (both played by Tilda Swinton) are threatening to report something ominous about Baird from an older film of his, "On Wings as Eagles." And aviation giant Lockheed is trying to lure Mannix away from the frivolity of Tinsel Town. But Mannix's biggest problem is finding Baird, who's been kidnapped from the set by a group of communist screenwriters who call themselves "The Future." It's the main thread of the film, but "Hail, Caesar!" isn't much occupied with main threads; there's too much fun to be had.

Let loose on a 1951 backlot, the Coens find a feast of satire and movie references that come almost too easily to them, and "Hail, Caesar!" slides toward becoming more a parade of inspired parodies than one of their more closely stitched odysseys. But as parade floats go, few could match some of the lengthy sequences of "Hail, Caesar!" like the dance scene, led by Channing Tatum in an "On the Town" riff, where a bar full of sailors sings and dances to "No Dames." Whatever strong-armed, money-driven system that spawns such gleeful absurdity can't be all bad. So when Mannix, with shades of Ned Beatty in "Network," supplies Baird his come-to-Jesus moment — "You have worth if you serve the picture!" he instructs — there is, naturally, irony. But there's also affection. As suggested by Mannix's rival opportunity (the Lockheed headhunter flashes a picture of an atom bomb test), there are worse things to believe in.

"Hail, Caesar!" a Universal release, is rated PG by the Motion Picture Association of America "for moments of mild language, violence and sensuality." Running time: 106 minutes. ★★☆☆

BOOK IT

'THE COWSHED' A STARK REMINDER OF DARK TIME IN CHINA



"The Cowshed: Memories of the Chinese Cultural Revolution" (New York Review Books), by Ji Xianlin

China doesn't make it easy for its people to openly discuss sensitive issues. Some were surprised, then, when a professor at one of the country's most prestigious universities published this memoir in 1998 of his abuse during the decade-long, deadly social upheaval known as the Cultural Revolution. This book is a short, clear read, and now it's in English. Ji Xianlin writes that he had waited years for someone to step up and explain for younger generations the chaos of the 1960s. Under Mao Zedong, youth turned on their elders and historical objects were smashed in a political frenzy that, to many, still makes no sense at all. What worried Ji was that so many of the perpetrators silently moved on with their lives as China opened to the world and transformed. "They are the cancer cells of our socialist society, and letting them off the hook for their crimes was a mistake," Ji writes in the preface. "Chinese society today appears peaceful and harmonious, and things seem to be going well. But our society is ethically hollow, local government is often corrupt, and many individuals are incompetent. If we trace these problems to their roots, we are likely to find them in the Cultural Revolution and in the people mentioned above." Back in the chaos, everyone was blinded by partisanship, Ji writes, himself included. In the swirl of the Peking University campus, the aging scholar eventually was targeted as well.

His memoir could use more context for readers who've never come across the Cultural Revolution, but his details bring the upside-down world into some focus: the mass denunciations while he stood looking at his feet, a wooden board with his "crimes" hung around his neck with steel wire. Being pelted with stones. Being forced to plant sweet potatoes on a collective farm until his fingertips bled. "My testicles became so swollen that I couldn't even stand up or close my legs," he writes. Allowed by his guards to report to a military clinic, he crawled two hours to reach it. But when he announced his political status, the doctor ordered him away. The swelling eventually eased. So did the chaos. Ji slowly was allowed a return toward normal life. The respected scholar of Sanskrit was given a job as a campus security guard. Thinking the post would be his lifelong fate, he quietly began a translation of the longest and most difficult text he could find, the Indian epic "Ramayana." With his tainted political status, no one would ever publish it, he decided. Even then, he didn't dare bring the text to work with him, where people might notice. Instead, he slipped translated bits of the text into his pocket every day and spent his hours thinking them into rhyming verse. "As I stared into space, no one could have known what I was thinking," Ji writes. It is the kind of self-protection that some in China continue even today.

Cara Anna, AP

TUNES

'COLD CHILLING: COMPTON' JUST SORT OF TEPID

California knows how to party. So goes the refrain on 2Pac's enduring rap favorite "California Love." That love is on display in the form of an homage on "Cold Chilling: Compton," an album of reimagined takes on West Coast rap classics. Musically, the release is polished. The vocals are carefully crafted and the lyrics are true to their origins. But songs like Snoop Dogg's "Gin and Juice," reworked by The Rooks, seem conflicted. The lyrics don't seem a solid fit for the mature, lush vocals. Moreover, the saxophone work is too lazy, even for the medium-paced song. Also lackluster: "Hail Mary" by Mackaveli (aka 2Pac). Pop song cover rendition spe-

cialist Dan Henig rattles off the appropriate verses, but it comes off dry and without the emotional punch that the staccato rap style of 2Pac might have injected. The best track is "Tha Crossroads" delivered by Los Angeles singer-songwriter Danelle Sandoval. The inventive minimalist arrangement of the Bone Thugs-n-Harmony hit with her sweet vocals feels just right, and she quickens the vocals in all the right places. Sandoval keeps just enough of the old-school flavor intact while adding her distinct approach. Her track is a gem, while most of the others sound like dull wedding band fodder.

Ron Harris, AP



Various Artists, "Cold Chilling: Compton" (PRMD)

NEWS OF THE WORLD

Grant Peck, Bangkok, AP

In latest fad, Thais treat 'child angel' dolls like pets

Mix one part superstition, two parts fashion, a dab of celebrity idolatry and a heap of media frenzy, and what do you get?

The "child angel" dolls, the latest craze in Thailand. They occupy a niche somewhere between Buddhist amulets, beloved by gamblers, gangsters and policemen for their reputed magical protective powers, and Furby dolls, adored by children for their cuteness.

They will, their adult owners affirm, bring you good luck, especially if you treat them like your own living progeny, taking them along on trips, treating them to meals and praying together at the temple.

While "luk thep" dolls, as they are known in Thai, have previously drawn only mild notice beyond the circle of their devoted collectors, they dominated the news this past week after a leaked memo from budget airline Thai Smile instructed staff to treat the dolls as if they were human passengers — provided, of course, their seats were paid for. The airline took note of the creepiness factor, suggesting the dolls best be seated as much as possible out of the sight of other passengers.

In short order, several restaurants announced similar doll-friendly policies. Police, meanwhile, warned the dolls could be used to smuggle drugs and busted one figurine in which 200 methamphetamine tablets were concealed.

What makes these dolls special is that they have been blessed by some Buddhist monks, who apply sacred markings to them, as they might with a new car or

AP PHOTO



A "child angel" doll is offered food by its owner Supavadee Tapmalai at a Japanese restaurant in Bangkok, Thailand

house. It's not a strictly Buddhist practice, and at least one temple reportedly banned the doll blessings, but easygoing Thais aren't fussy about blending Hindu ritual and other elements into their religion.

The dolls, mostly imports, cost anything from a few dozen to a few hundred dollars, with the

blessings available on a similar sliding scale. Some are customized by sellers, and owners invariably gussy them up, with jewelry and other accessories, in anticipation of, or thanks for, good fortune.

The dolls have elements of a hobby, a cult and a business. Mental health authorities, who

le cautioning against superstitious practices, acknowledge their therapeutic utility as stress reducers.

Kanuengnit Chotichanachai-phet, 31, adopted her first doll two years ago on the recommendation of a friend who said it would bring her luck, and named it "Pa Ruay" ("Being Wealthy").

Kanuengnit, with part-time jobs as an events hostess and golf caddy, believes Pa Ruay helped increase her income just three months after she adopted him.

Now she has five dolls, and enjoys dressing them up, and doing their hair — so much so that she does hair modifications on other people's dolls for 800-1,000 baht (USD22-28) apiece.

The dolls provide some of the same satisfactions as a pet — minus the messiness — but it is their supernatural aspect that draws more attention and debate.

■ **What makes these dolls special is that they have been blessed by some Buddhist monks**

Aside from the awkwardness of carrying them around in one's arms, they have much in common with traditional Buddhist amulets — coin-sized talismans with supposed magical powers that are usually worn around the neck.

Amulet collecting is a popular but old-fashioned hobby. Dolls are more popular with a younger, urban crowd, including celebrities and students.

It has been suggested that the dolls also have more macabre associations, or at least antecedents. There is an ancient black magic rite known as "kuman thong," which in its purest form involves taking a still born human fetus, drying it over a fire, and coating it with gold leaf. While stories emerge now and again of people trying to carry out the bizarre ritual, more commonly a kuman thong is reputed to merely contain a body part. But like luk thep dolls, they are supposed to be imbued with a child's spirit.

AP PHOTO



"Child angel" dolls sit on a chair in Bangkok



An employee of a clothing store eats lunch next to a "child angel" doll in Bangkok

PÁTIO DO SAL *salt*

WORLD OF BACCHUS

Jacky I.F. Cheong



LES VIGNERONS DE MANCEY CRÉMANT DE BOURGOGNE BLANC DE NOIRS NV

Bright lemon-yellow with pale golden reflex, the refreshing nose offers lime peel, green apple and fresh bread. With crispy acidity, clear minerality and fine mousse, the tangy palate delivers pomelo peel, starfruit and seashell. Medium-bodied at 12%, the invigorating entry carries onto a citrusy mid-palate, leading to a clean finish.



DOMAINE AGNÈS DEWÉ MERCEURY PREMIER CRU LES VELEYS 2011

Rich garnet with cardinal-ruby rim, the discreet nose presents raspberry, strawberry, sandalwood and iris. With bounteous acidity, fine tannins and palpable minerality, the measured palate supplies red cherry, redcurrant, rose tisane and geranium. Medium-bodied at 13%, the restrained entry transforms into a vivacious mid-palate, leading to a juicy finish.



DOMAINE PHILIPPE CHERON VOSNE-ROMANÉE LES BARREAUX 2012

Rich garnet with carmine-purple rim, the refined nose effuses raspberry, redcurrant, potpourri and sous bois. With rich acidity, silky tannins and chalky minerality, the stylish palate emanates cranberry, red cherry, bouquet garni and rose petal. Medium-bodied at 13%, the composed entry continues through a balanced mid-palate, leading to a long finish.



DOMAINE JEAN CHAUVENET NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES PREMIER CRU AUX ARGILLAS 2008

Rich garnet with cardinal-carmine rim, the perfumed nose exudes red cherry, plum, cocoa, balsam, sandalwood and violet. With spirited acidity, velvety tannins and structured minerality, the endearing palate oozes cranberry, raspberry, cinnamon, vanilla spice, rose tisane and lavender. Medium-full bodied at 13.5%, the floral entry evolves into a redolent mid-palate, leading to a lingering finish.

The Burgundian Heritage

The comparison and contrast between Bordeaux and Burgundy seem to have an uncanny power to constantly attract passionate arguments from both camps. This age-old topic is argued along the lines of grape varieties, wine styles, classification systems and predestined terroirs, each of which can be a battleground unto itself. Much attention has been paid to the classification systems, which concern administration and regulation, yet the social impact of legislation is often overlooked. Whereas Bordelais châteaux generally can acquire new vineyards, merge and demerge, provided that the new acquisitions are located within the same appellations, Burgundian domaines face significantly more constraints due to the region's complex demarcation of appellations, created centuries ago by the Benedictines and their spiritual offspring the Cistercians. Burgundian vineyards, lieu-dits and climats tend to be smaller than their Bordelais counterparts. The introduction of the Napoleonic Code further complicated the matter. By abolishing primogeniture (inheritance by the firstborn son), every male heir gained an equal right to the estate (assets). At roughly 50ha, Clos de Vougeot, a grand cru vineyard, was and is one of the largest. The property used to be wholly owned by the Cistercians, but was confiscated after the French Revolution and allocated to the people. As the original owners expired, the properties were as required by law passed on equally to their male heirs, resulting in today's fragmented situation in which Clos de Vougeot was owned by more than 80 persons, each with a tiny parcel. Due to the minuscule vineyard area and therefore production volume, many producers in Burgundy are family-owned smallholdings. Unable to launch marketing campaigns as large-scale Bordelais châteaux, négociants are particularly important stakeholders in the business landscape. In view of the numerous village-level, premier cru-level and grand cru-level appellations, if the Bordeaux en primeur campaign tests a merchant's business acumen, then the commercial operation of Burgundian wines would be the cornerstone of the merchant's knowledge.

To unearth the hidden gems of Burgundy, contact Mr Ross Chan of CCF Wines; W: www.ccfwines.com; E: rosschan@ccfwines.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
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



JADE ORCHID
Mon - Sun
11:00am - 3:00pm & 6:00pm - 11:00pm
Mezzanine Floor, Harbourview Hotel, Macau
Fisherman's Wharf
T: (853) 8799 6315 | (853) 8799 6316

FRENCH

寶雅座 AUX BEAUX ARTS

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



AFRIKANA
Monday to Sunday
6:00pm - 3:00am
Location : AfriKana, Macau Fisherman's Wharf
Telephone Number : (853) 8299 3678

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

WESTERN

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

THAI



NAAM
THAI RESTAURANT
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-Thur: 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
Macao Fisherman's Wharf
Edf. New Orleans III
Macao



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



PRAHA BAR
Monday to Sunday
8:00am - 1:00am
Mezzanine Floor, Harbourview Hotel, Macau
Fisherman's Wharf
Reservation Number : (853) 8799 6605

TASTE OF EDESIA

Irene Sam

FOOD

CELEBRATE THE SEASON OF LOVE

During the season of love, whether you are single or attached, Mandarin Oriental, Macau invites everyone to celebrate Valentine's Day with an abundance of heart-melting elements. The Forbes five-star Vida Rica Restaurant offers classic-meets-contemporary French cuisine made with the finest produce from around the world. It is indeed the perfect venue for intimate dinners with loved ones. Throughout February 2016, the ultra-talented Chef Dominique Bugnand presents a four- and a six-course degustation dinner menu highlighting delicacies such as oyster and Sturia caviar, pan-fried veal with potato leek ginger and light lime cream sauce, as well as raspberry sorbet, rose water panna cotta and fresh raspberry. The menus offer a choice of wine pairing featuring selected vintages from the world's top wineries. Couples who order the degustation menus are also entitled to a complimentary 30-minute extension on any 90-minute treatment or an upgrade to a spa suite at The Spa at Mandarin Oriental, Macau, as a great way to spice up their dates. On 13 and 14 February 2016, ladies enjoying the degustation menus will receive a special gift. Early celebrators who finish their dinner before 7:30pm will further enjoy an exclusive discount on the degustation menus.

Singles on Valentine's Day can have as much fun as couples. Parties of four people and above reserving Vida Rica Restaurant's private dining rooms for degustation menus on 13 and 14 February will receive a complimentary bottle of red or white wine, and a bottle of Champagne for parties of six people and more.



BEAUTY

Juvéderm 3+3

As the first signs of aging appear under the eye area, it is important that we find the appropriate solutions to target the loss of volume. Dr. Cynthia Wong at Life Medical Centre believes that the most exciting and effective treatment for this issue is now the Vycross from Juvéderm. "The skin around the eye area is very thin compared to that of the other areas of the face. Therefore, we need to treat it more care-

fully using the right product. The Vycross dermal fillers are very smooth and flow beautifully into the skin as it is injected. After it is integrated into the skin, there is no bumpiness whatsoever. The result is very natural. The exciting element is that we can now use specific fillers of various density to fill the appropriate areas," she says. Usually, the results last for a year and the treatment can be repeated.



WHAT'S ON



TODAY (FEB 5)
THE FUTURE OF CLASSICAL MUSIC

The Macau Orchestra co-operates with young music talents to perform superb music pieces allowing the audience to explore a new world of music. The programme includes Johann Strauss II: Overture to Die Fledermaus, Bao Yuan-kai: excerpt from "Chinese Sights and Sounds", Bizet: Selections from L'Arlesienne Suite and Li Huanzhi: Spring Festival Overture.

TIME: 8pm
VENUE: St. Dominic's Church
Admission with free ticket
ORGANIZER: Macau Orchestra
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2853 0782
<http://www.icm.gov.mo/om>



TOMORROW (FEB 6)
MONKEYS IN THE HOUSE

UNESCO-listed 'Historic Centre of Macau' centerpiece the Mandarin's House – Macau's largest residential property - provides the perfect backdrop for the annual Fai Chun calligraphy writing (visitors can receive a present) and traditional Lion Dance Performance welcoming in the Year of the Monkey. Meanwhile, Lou Kau Mansion, another 'Historic Centre of Macau' attraction, will host a performance by the Chinese Orchestra of Macau, inviting spectators to create seals and greeting stamps on traditional red Fai Chun paper.

MANDARIN'S HOUSE
FAI CHUN: 10am-1pm & 3pm-5pm (February 6-7)
LION DANCE: 3pm-4pm (February 8)

LOU KAU MANSION
CHINESE MUSIC PERFORMANCE: 11:30am-12:30pm & 3pm-4pm (February 8-10/2)
CREATIVE SEALED FAI CHUN: 10am-6pm (February 8-21, closed on February 15)

ADMISSION: Fee
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2836 6866
<http://www.icm.gov.mo>
ORGANIZER: Cultural Affairs Bureau
<http://www.mam.gov.mo>

SUNDAY (FEB 7)
VALENTINE'S DAY DELIGHTS

Valentine's Day and the Chinese Lantern Festival are the perfect time for romantics. The Taipa Houses-Museum and nearby attractions will hold the 2016 Macau Valentine's light show, with a dozen locations hosting installations (6pm-10pm);

February 7-29) and 3D Mapping Show (7pm-10pm/ every 30 minutes, last show at 9:54 pm; February 12-22). Recounting a romantic fairytale fanning the breeze of romance for couples eager to experience the Chinese and Western Valentine's dreamy festive vibes, this is also a time for children and adults who love fairytales!



For information about days and times please refer to the following link:
<http://en.macaotourism.gov.mo>
ADMISSION: Free
TOURISM HOTLINE: (853) 2833 3000
ORGANIZER: Macau Government Tourism Office



MONDAY (FEB 8)
KUNG FU PANDA ACADEMY

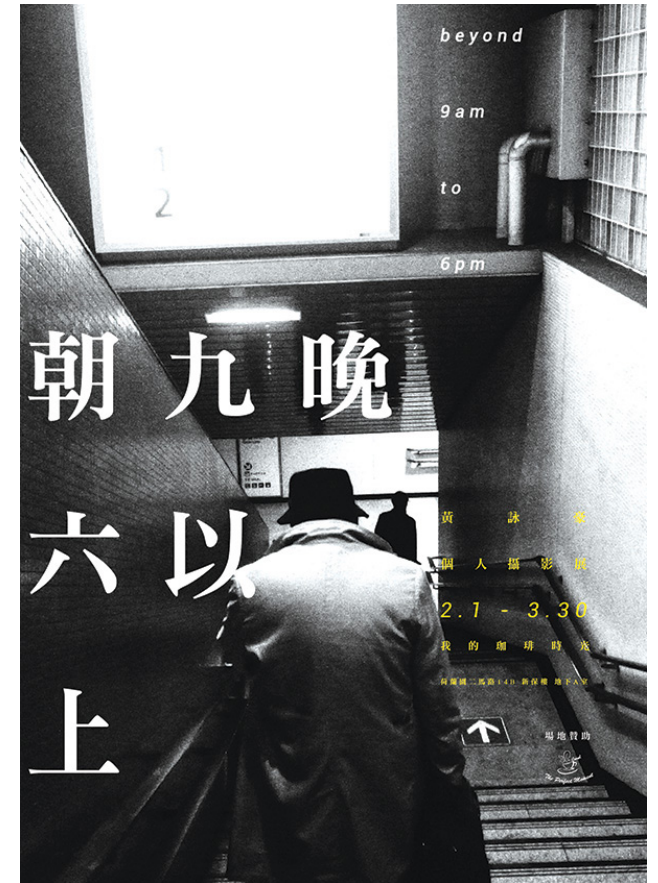
The course includes 'Prepare to be A Kung Fu Master', 'Kung Fu Courage Training', 'Respect - Mr. Ping's Noodle Shop', 'Focus - Leaps Training' and 'Diligence - The Final Test'. Upon completing all the challenges, participants will receive a Kung Fu Panda-themed goodie bag complete with water tumbler and coloring sheet, a Po fan, headband, and certificate. Of course, little Kung Fu Masters can meet and pose with Po and Tigress, and show off their new moves, too!

TIME: 11am-12:15pm (Mondays to Sundays, one session per day; Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays will extend sessions 2pm-3:15pm)
DATE: February 6-14, 2016
VENUE: Caspian Ballroom on Level 4, Sheraton Grand Macau Hotel, Estrada do Istmo. s/n Cotai, Macau
ADMISSION: MOP200 per child aged 4 to 12 (Complimentary entry for one adult and MOP100 for each additional adult)
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8113 0000
<http://www.sheratongrandmacao.com>
ORGANIZER: Sheraton Grand Macau Hotel, Cotai Central

TUESDAY (FEB 9)
CAFÉ SOCIETY

Need a quiet oasis where you can relax and read a book over a great cup of coffee and snacks? The Perfect Moment could be... perfect. Small exhibitions are occasionally held – right now a selection of Beyond 9am to 6pm Fernando Wong photography exhibition asks what this timeframe means to you – along with charity bazaars to help

individuals and families in economic difficulties. Meanwhile, the cafe is all about slowing down, thinking great thoughts and meeting new people!



TIME: 12pm-8pm (closed on public holidays)
UNTIL: March 30, 2016
VENUE: Rua de Abreu Nunes 14B Edf. San Pou R/C - A
ENQUIRIES: (853) 6307 3797
ORGANIZER: The Perfect Moment

PRIMITIVE FORM
- WONG HOI IAN CERAMIC ART EXHIBITION

'Primitive Form' Wong Hoi Ian Ceramic Art Exhibition, part of the 2016 Art troupe In-Residence Programme, reflects the artist's take on nature and botany.

TIME: 10:30am-6:30pm
(Closed on Mondays and public holidays)
UNTIL: February 27, 2016
VENUE: Calçada da Igreja de S.Lázaro, 10, Macau
ADMISSION: free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 4582



WEDNESDAY (FEB 10)
MONKEY BUSINESS

The route of the Parade for Celebration of the Year of the Monkeywends its way through some of the most evocative districts of the city, involving 1,338 local and international performers! The Parade revolves around a tale about the Monkey King spending Chinese New Year vacation with the Celestial Court in Macau. A multimedia opening show will also kick off the Parade for the first time, promising an extravaganza of light and 3D effects. Catch Cultural Performances of the performance

groups from different countries and places at various locations, fireworks display plus the Parade Float Exhibition at Sai Van Lake Square and Tap Seac Square for those very special up-close photos!

TIME: 7:30pm-10pm (February 10)
ROUTE: from Macau Science Centre to Sai Van Lake Square

TIME: 8pm-9:30pm (February 13)
ROUTE: from Rua Norte do Patane to lao Hon Market Garden

PARADE FLOAT EXHIBITION

TIME: 10pm-5pm (February 10-13, 2016)

VENUE: Sai Van Lake Square

TIME: 10pm-6pm (February 13-21, 2016)

VENUE: Tap Seac Square

FIREWORKS

TIME: 9:45 pm, Macau Tower seafont (February 10, 2016)

TOURISM HOTLINE: (853) 2833 3000

ORGANIZER: Macau Government Tourism Office

CO-ORGANIZER: Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau, Cultural Affairs

Bureau, Sports Bureau

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



THURSDAY (FEB 11)

SHINING CLEAN – EXHIBITION OF YONGLE PORCELAIN EXCAVATED FROM ZHUSHAN OF THE JINGDEZHEN OFFICIAL KILN AND MUSEUM

The Ming Dynasty marked the beginning of the golden age of Jingdezhen porcelain art. Lots of new crafting and decorative techniques emerged. Aside from inheriting the exquisite skills from the predecessors, the porcelain craftsmen even boldly brought innovation and reform, firing and creating Yongle sweet white, blue-white and underglaze red wares. This put an end to the situation in which Chinese porcelain mainly consisted of monochrome glaze and pushed porcelain decoration to a new era of underglazing, thus forming a distinguishing feature of Chinese porcelain.

The exhibits include: the five representative types of porcelain in the Yongle period, which are the white wares, blue-white wares, high-temperature coloured wares, high-temperature glazed wares and on-glaze wares. There are a total of 103 (sets) exhibits in all shapes and sizes. Through the repaired and restored wares, we can understand the shaping techniques and achievements of the porcelain in the Yongle period.

TIME: 9am-9pm

UNTIL: March 13, 2016

VENUE: Temporary Exhibitions Gallery of the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau Organizer: Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau, Cultural Affairs Bureau

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8988 4100 / 2882 7103

ORGANIZER: Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau

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

Sands WEEKEND



福臨金沙
SEASONS OF PROSPERITY
10天假期獻演

SEASONS OF PROSPERITY – A 3D LIGHT & SOUND SPECTACULAR

5-22 February (Every half hour from 6pm-10.30pm)

The Venetian Macao lagoon

See the 3D Light & Sound Spectacular “Seasons of Prosperity” and witness one of the world’s biggest light show events this holiday season. Chinese New Year is the central theme of this stunning show, which takes you on a remarkable journey through Chinese culture. It promises to be one of the most breathtaking shows you will ever see.



特色盆菜賀年禧
SHARE THE JOY OF CHINESE NEW YEAR
WITH A TRADITIONAL POON CHOI DISH

TRADITIONAL POON CHOI FOR CHINESE NEW YEAR

Daily Until 22 February

Canton, The Venetian Macao

Poon Choi reservations are available from 15 January and will be ready for pick-up between 4 February and 22 February 2016. Prices are MOP 1,580 for four people and are subject to a 10% service charge.

Orders: +853 8118 9930

Sands Rewards members can earn and redeem points and enjoy up to 25% off at Canton



共享北方滋味·
迎接如豐年
ENJOY A PROSPEROUS START TO THE YEAR
OF THE MONKEY AT NORTH

ENJOY A PROSPEROUS START TO THE YEAR OF THE MONKEY AT NORTH

Daily 4-22 February

North, The Venetian Macao

Savour authentic Northern Chinese dishes at North. Enjoy Lunar New Year delicacies from MOP128, plus 10% service charge.

Time: 11am - 11pm (Sunday-Thursday) | 11am - 1am (Fridays and Saturdays)

Reservations: +853 8118 9980



怦然心动
情人节
滋味
VALENTINE'S DAY
DINNER

VALENTINE'S DAY TO SAVOUR

14 February

Portofino, The Venetian Macao

On the most romantic day of the year, why not share a special Italian-themed menu in the surroundings of our signature Italian restaurant Portofino. A wine-pairing option is also available to enhance the moment.

Prices: MOP668+ per adult; MOP998 per adult with wine pairing

Reservations: +853 8118 9950



澳門金沙度假區

Sands

RESORTS
COTAI STRIP MACAO



ST REGIS
MACAO, COTAI CENTRAL
澳門金沙中心



FOUR SEASONS HOTEL
Macao, Cotai Strip



THE VENETIAN
澳門威尼斯人



PARISIAN
MACAO
澳門巴黎人



Sheraton
Macao
澳門喜來登酒店



CONRAD
MACAO, COTAI CENTRAL
澳門金沙中心康萊德酒店



假日酒店
Holiday Inn
澳門金沙中心
MACAO COTAI CENTRAL

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2/5/16 1:48 AM

WORLD OF WONDER

Exploring the realms of history, science, nature and technology

By Laurie Triefeldt



Lovebirds are small parrots from Africa.

VALENTINE'S DAY



The first valentine

There are many theories on how Valentine's Day began. The holiday may go back to ancient Roman times, when a festival called **Lupercalia** was held on February 15. Lupercalia was a fertility celebration honoring **Juno**, the Roman goddess of women and marriage. During the festival, women wrote love notes called **billets** and put them in a large jar or urn. Each man would select a note and pursue the woman whose name was on it.

Another theory is that Valentine's Day began with one or more early Christian saints. According to one legend, the Roman Emperor Claudius II (A.D. 200s) forbade all marriages, believing that single men made better soldiers. But a priest named Valentine broke the law and married many couples in secret. Another story tells of an early Christian named Valentine who befriended children. When he was imprisoned by the Romans for his faith, Valentine's little friends gave him notes and cards through his jail window. This may explain the tradition of exchanging cards on Valentine's Day. Most of the Christian stories agree that Valentine was killed by the Romans on February 14 around A.D. 269.

There is also an old English myth claiming that February 14th is the day the birds of spring choose their mates.

Romantic customs

The tradition of sending cards and poems on Valentine's Day may date back to England in 1415, when the French Duke of Orleans was captured and imprisoned during wartime. It is said that he sent his wife a love poem from the Tower of London on February 14.

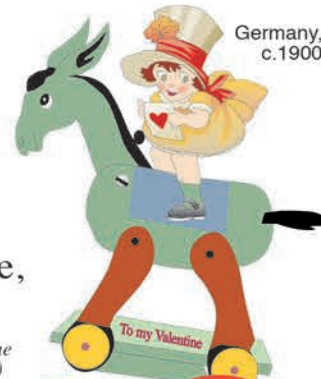
In the Middle Ages, some men gave their valentine gifts, and others would wear their valentine's name on their sleeve, which is probably where the saying "wearing his heart on his sleeve" originated.

The idea of sending love poems and notes became popular in the 18th and 19th centuries. People made their own valentines with verses copied from books sold especially for this purpose. People didn't begin to buy premade valentines until the mid-1800s.



I'm a little Valentine,
Red and white.
With ribbons and lace,
I'm a beautiful sight.
I can say "I love you"
On Valentines Day.
Just put me in an envelope,
And give me away.

(This rhyme may be sung to the tune of "I'm a Little Teapot.")



Germany, c.1900

Around the world

Today, Valentine's Day is celebrated in many countries. In the United States and Canada, children decorate their schools and homes with paper hearts. They make and exchange cards with family and friends. Some schools have classroom parties where valentines are given to the teachers and students. Dances are sometimes held for older students.

Gifts of candy in heart-shaped boxes, flowers and romantic cards are exchanged between husbands and wives or sweethearts. Many couples go out for a special romantic dinner.

In England, children sing valentine songs and exchange gifts of candy, fruit or money. In Italy, a great feast is held on Valentine's Day, and people often get engaged. China baskets filled with valentine goodies are hot sellers in shops.

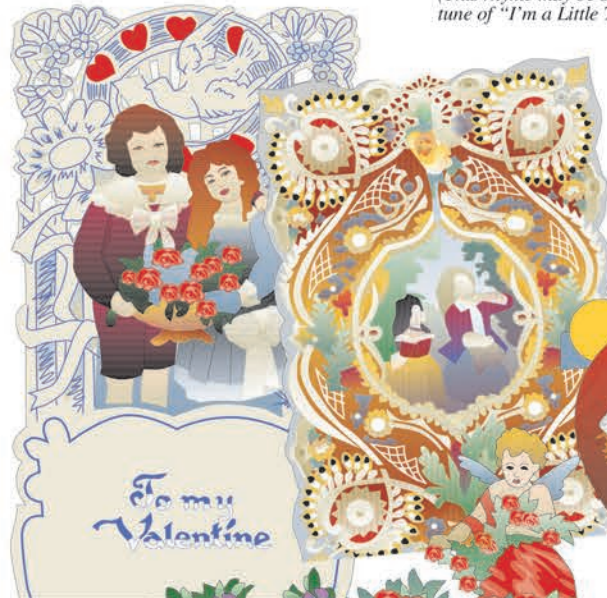
In Denmark, pressed white flowers called snowdrops are given to friends and lovers. An unsigned humorous valentine letter called a **gaekkebrev** (joking letter) is popular. If the woman guesses the name of the man who sent it, he is supposed to give her an Easter egg at Easter.

Germans and Austrians share the American tradition of giving roses and chocolates to wives and sweethearts.

In Spain, it is traditional for the wife to give a gift to her husband. The husband gives flowers.

Flowers

The language of flowers was developed in the 1600s in Constantinople and Persia. Flowers are symbolic of love blooming and waning. The red rose is very popular and was said to be the favorite flower of Venus, the goddess of love. Red is symbolic of strong emotions; yellow, of jealousy. Other flowers also have symbolic meanings. The forget-me-not represents true love. The periwinkle is used to express early friendship (blue) and happy memories (white). How you combined a bouquet could say quite a lot.



Germany, c.1900



U.S., 1930s-40s



1930s



U.S., c.1910

Did you know? Hundreds of years ago, children in England dressed up as adults on Valentine's Day and sang songs door to door.

Making valentines

Early valentines were handmade, painted with watercolors and ink on colored paper. Many of these techniques are still fun to use today.

Pinprick valentines: You can poke holes in paper with a pin to create the look of lace.

Cutout valentines: Cut out heart shapes. By folding paper over many times and cutting out small bits, you can make a lace design to glue on.

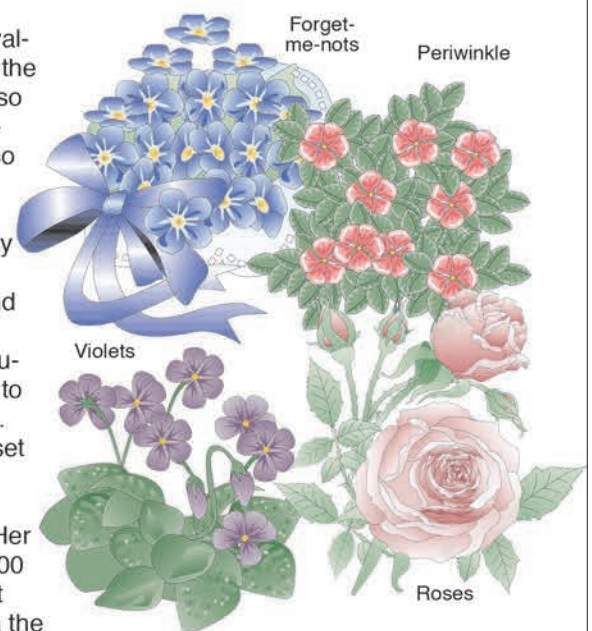
Acrostic valentines: Make a poem in which the first letters of the lines spell out the name of your valentine.

Rebus valentines: Write your valentine using small pictures instead of some words. (For example, an eye instead of I.)

Shell valentines: Lonely sailors of the Victorian era made valentine boxes decorated with hearts and flower designs made of sea shells. You could use pasta shells on paper or cardboard.

Commercial cards

People began to make and sell valentines on a commercial level in the mid-1800s. During this time, it also became affordable to mail valentines. (Previously, postage was so expensive that cards were almost always hand-delivered.) The British artist Kate Greenaway was famous for her valentines decorated with lovely children and gardens. In the 1830s, Esther A. Howland of Worcester, Massachusetts, became the first American to make mass-produced valentines. She hired a staff of women and set up an assembly line: One group glued on flowers, others added lace, and some painted leaves. Her sales amounted to about \$130,000 annually. Today, there are almost 2,000 greeting card publishers in the United States.



SOURCES: World Book Encyclopedia, World Book Inc.; Encyclopedia Americana, Grolier Inc.; Romantic Valentines, Dan & Pauline Campanelli



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