



MOVIES: SILENCE
 BOOKS: THE PRINCESS DIARIST BY CARRIE FISHER
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2016 YEAR



IN REVIEW

DRIVE IN

Lindsey Bahr, AP Film Writer

SCORSESE'S 'SILENCE' IS A GORGEOUS, TEDIOUS JOURNEY



Andrew Garfield (left) and Shinya Tsukamoto in a scene from "Silence"

Martin Scorsese's "Silence" is not an easy film to watch. At times it's grotesquely violent, at others tediously slow. But it is a full and worthy cinematic experience that is bold, thought provoking and utterly singular. That it's also a nearly three-decade effort from one of our living greats is just an interesting factoid in the

end — plus, we've been here before a few times over with Scorsese's passion projects. Scorsese and screenwriter Jay Cocks ("The Age of Innocence") adapted "Silence" from Shusaku Endo's 1966 novel of the same name. Set in the 17th century, the film follows two Portuguese Jesuit priests, Father Rodrigues (Andrew Garfield) and

Father Garrpe (Adam Driver) who journey to Japan to try to find their fellow missionary, Father Ferreira (Liam Neeson), who has been rumored to have renounced his faith. It's an acutely dangerous mission, which Father Valignano (Ciaran Hinds) tries to dissuade Rodrigues and Garrpe from pursuing. In the years af-

ter the Shimabara Rebellion, Christianity in Japan was practiced only in secret — iconography and texts were confiscated and the known and even suspected devout were tortured and killed. But, driven by faith and duty Rodrigues and Garrpe might as well not have a choice in the matter at all. They can't even fathom not going, though,

and thus they do.

The two men have to sneak into the country with the help of a semi-trustworthy scoundrel who is still reeling from his own crisis of faith. Japan (really, Taiwan where they shot) even looks uninviting. Shot by Rodrigo Prieto with production design from Dante Ferretti, the gray skies seem ready to close in on the mountains and subdued landscapes, and below, the dark sea thrashes violently against the shore. When they arrive, their series of trials begin. They preach to local villagers desperate for an organized religion they've been forbidden from, they give away every cross and rosary they have and wonder whether the impoverished townspeople cherish the objects more than the meaning behind them, and they watch as authorities come through and ravage the towns looking for Christians to test.

Rodrigues and Garrpe separate for their safety and we continue to follow Rodrigues through the Japanese countryside as he encounters more dire displays of Japan's utter and complete intolerance for Christianity. In one of the more powerful sequences, three older men are hung from crosses positioned deep in the ocean's waters — the thrashing waves killing them slowly for their refusal to apostatize. An increasingly haunted Rodrigues looks on from a hiding spot.

Garfield carries the film and Rodrigues' agony on his slight shoulders — his secondfilm about faith in a single season, following Mel Gibson's "Hacksaw Ridge." But it is Japanese actor Issey Ogata who steals the show as an older samurai who not only tells Rodrigues what's what but provides some of the funniest and disturbing moments in the film. It's a tonal departure, but a welcome one in what can be a bit of a slog.

It's a much more traditional and subdued film than the knowingly provocative "The Last Temptation of Christ." There's no Peter Gabriel guitar and nothing that is likely to enrage or inspire protests. But it does pick at doubt in a spiritually similar way. Rodrigues knows what his faith requires, and yet it continues to be tested and challenged by the physical and political realities of where he's inserted himself. Do the peasants, so grateful for his teachings, actually believe? Or are they looking for a way to the afterlife? What good, he's forced to wonder, is he actually doing there? "Silence" is as much about colonialism and intolerance as it is faith and conviction. While I'm still not sure what Scorsese wants the audience to think by the time the screen goes to black, the questions raised nonetheless feel modern and resonant.

"Silence," a Paramount Pictures release, is rated R by the Motion Picture Association of America for "some disturbing violent content." Running time: 161 minutes. ★★★★★

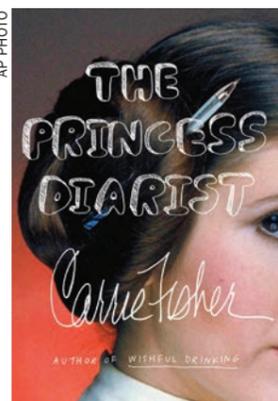
BOOK IT

FISHER'S 'THE PRINCESS DIARIST' DOESN'T DISH ENOUGH

I've spent so many years not telling the story of Harrison and me having an affair on the first "Star Wars" movie that it's difficult to know exactly how to tell it now," Carrie Fisher announces on page 49 of her brisk but vague new memoir, "The Princess Diarist."

"Excellent, here we go," any solid fan of the real "Star Wars" movies (certainly not the prequels) will think, settling in for the literary equivalent of an ice-cream sundae of the more offbeat flavors.

But Fisher, who accepts that she will be known as Princess Leia until the end of time, lets the reader down. Having waited 40 years to publish what one expects to be a dishy tell-all about the romance behind the iconic movie of a generation (that generation moulmfully sandwiched between the baby boomers and millennials), the actress, writer and raconteur only offers a few wisps of the goods. Fisher blames her hazy recall of



"The Princess Diarist" (Blue Rider Press), by Carrie Fisher

the behind-the-scenes affair with Harrison Ford on the potent marijuana they smoked on their lost weekends between scenes. She also decides that "with uncharacteristic reservation and scruples that I quash any details" of their first weekend together. Sex is private, she says.

No problem, but she also draws the curtain over the interes-

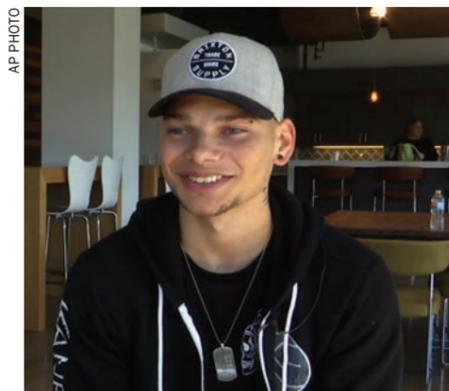
ting bits: their chemistry, their conversations, her point-blank impressions of a man poised to become one of Hollywood's biggest stars.

Or maybe we're supposed to believe, as she insists, that Ford just didn't talk a lot when they were together. In any case, we are left with a few interesting glimpses wrapped around excerpts of the diaries Fisher says she kept while shooting "Star Wars" and recently discovered. Even the diary bits are not very revealing, being the moody musings, including poetry, of a young woman on the cusp of 20 years old. It's clear from the final two chapters of the book, one of them titled "Leia's Lap Dance," that Fisher published this book with making money in mind. Her closing meditation on fame leaves Ford and the affair far behind. However, many "Star Wars" fans will read this book anyway or likely did so the instant it appeared.

Cara Anna, AP

TUNES

KANE BROWN TURNED FACEBOOK LIKES INTO A COUNTRY MUSIC CAREER



Kane Brown pictured during an interview in Nashville

As a kid, Kane Brown and his mother used to sing together as pretend "American Idol" contestants.

But when Brown actually tried out for the show years later, he kept getting rejected or stereotyped. "They told me they didn't need another Scotty McCreery," Brown said. "I tried out for 'X Factor' and they put me in a boy band and I ended up quitting."

So the 23-year-old singer from the Tennessee-Georgia border near Chattanooga turned to Fa-

cebook to find an audience for iPhone videos of himself singing covers of songs like "Check Yes or No," by George Strait, a video that's been viewed 11 million times.

"I had like 3,000 friends on Facebook," Brown said. "I felt like if they thought I was good enough, they would at least help me share my videos a little bit. One day it went viral."

Brown turned those popular Facebook videos into a dedicated fan base that propelled him to a No. 1 debut on Billboard Top Country Albums chart in December. He had the best country debut in two years in a genre where fans still primarily discover new artists through the radio. He's had three songs in the top 5 of Billboard's Country Digital Songs Sales, but he's only had one song crack the Top 40 for country airplay. Showcasing his deep baritone voice, Brown's revealing self-titled album is mostly autobiographical with songs about his deep love for his grandparents, his struggles with racism and growing up without a lot of money. One of the standout tracks on the album, "Learning," starts off with his experience of being beaten as a child by a stepdad.

"I was honestly nervous about even putting it on the album, but it had such a personal message to me," Brown said. "I just want to help kids that are going through bullying or racism."

Kristin M. Hall, AP

WORLD OF BACCHUS

Jacky I.F. Cheong



PINZALE BRUNELLO DI MONTALCINO 2007

Rich garnet with carmine-maroon rim, the aromatic nose provides blackberry, black cherry, liquorice, bay leaf and balsam. With bounteous acidity and fine tannins, the elegant palate supplies morello cherry, raspberry, cinnamon, tea leaf and wild mushroom. Medium-bodied at 14%, the poised entry persists through a silky mid-palate, leading to a long finish.

PINZALE BRUNELLO DI MONTALCINO 2008

Rich garnet with chestnut-rosso corsa rim, the fragrant nose offers blackberry, red cherry, cinnamon, liquorice and cedarwood. With abundant acidity and rich tannins, the composed palate delivers bilberry, morello cherry, bay leaf, nutmeg and sous bois. Medium-bodied at 14%, the fleshy entry continues through an urbane mid-palate, leading to a lingering finish.

The Vinous Bel Canto II

(Continued from "The Vinous Bel Canto" on December 2, 2016)

Tuscany's indigenous grape variety goes by different names in various places, e.g. Sangiovese in Chianti, Prugnolo Gentile in Vino Nobile di Montepulciano, Sangiovese Grosso in Brunello di Montalcino Brunello or Nielluccio in Corsica. The most common name, Sangiovese, originates from Latin Sanguis Jovis, literally "the blood of Jove". This variety was purportedly cultivated by the ancient Etruscans, but the name Sangiovese, notably "pagan", first appeared in the late 16th century. Indeed, without the humanist movement of the Renaissance, any names suspiciously pagan, such as Sangiovese or The Birth of Venus by Sandro Botticelli, could well be construed as heresy.

Highly terroir-expressive, late-ripening and high-yielding, Sangiovese is more often than not part of blends such as Chianti and Vino Nobile di Montepulciano. Brunello di Montalcino, however, is the spiritual home of single-varietal Sangiovese. The local clone, called Sangiovese Grosso, benefits from relatively elevated terrain that offers the perfect balance between diurnal temperature variation and warmth essential for maturity. Situated some 30km south of Siena with the hilltop town of Montalcino as its centre, the climate of Brunello di Mon-

talchino is notably Mediterranean, as it is merely 30km away from the coastline. Although viticulture and winemaking have existed in Brunello di Montalcino since time immemorial, it was not until after the Risorgimento that Brunello di Montalcino began to produce single-varietal Sangiovese with extended barrel maturation. In older times, field blends were often more popular. Since it attained the DOC and DOCG status in 1966 and 1980 respectively, the number of producers has increased from a dozen to nearly 200 today. Thankfully, most are quality-driven, family-owned smallholdings.

Brunello di Montalcino is one of the most extensively aged wines of Italy. By national legislation, Brunello di Montalcino cannot be released until five years after the harvest, or six years for Riserva; at least two years must be spent in oak, plus at least four months in bottle, or six months for Riserva. Rosso di Montalcino is basically declassified Brunello di Montalcino, and it can be released for sale merely 18 months after harvest. The traditionalist style prefers maturation in large Slavonian oak casks, which imparts little oak flavour, hence resulting in more reserved wines. The modern style makes use of French barriques, leading to more approachable wines.

To be continued...

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FOOD & BEVERAGE

Richard Vines, Chief food critic at Bloomberg

WHAT THE WORLD'S TOP CHEFS LIKE TO EAT AT HOME

AP PHOTO



Ferran Adria

The world's greatest chefs are just like us: They don't like to take their work home with them.

When it comes to home cooking, it turns out that the culinary stars behind dishes such as blackberry risotto with game-meat sauce, lico-rice-braised sweetbreads, and chocolate hay would prefer something quick and easy, or else have someone else do the cooking.

"People have to understand: Fernando Alonso or Lewis Hamilton drive an F1 car, but you can't drive the same when you're on the road," said Ferran Adria, the chef who was behind the pioneering El Bulli in Spain. And don't expect food to come out perfectly arranged. "At home, I never plate anything," said Jean-Georges Vongerichten, whose dishes at Jean-Georges in Manhattan often come highly

decorated. We asked chefs to share what they like to eat at home.

WHY BOTHER WITH A PROPER MEAL?

Michel Roux Jr. (Le Gavroche, London): "I'm addicted to cheese, preferably a 24-month Comté made from the spring pastures, with home-made bread."

José Andrés (Minibar, Washington DC): "A glass of gazpacho in summer and a plate of lentil stew with chorizo in winter." Eric Ripert (Le Bernardin, New York): "I usually just snack at home and might only cook on Sundays because I'm at Le Bernardin the rest of the week. In the morning, I have two cookies with my coffee (decaf) and a yogurt. I always have some dark chocolate, spicy chorizo and goat-cheese Camembert in the fridge."

BREAKFAST, BASICALLY

Daniel Boulud (Daniel, New York): "I like to make 'submarine eggs' - eggs in a hole inside a nice, buttery brioche - with my wife Katherine on Sunday mornings. Katherine's mother always made them when she was a kid and it's a tradition that we continue with our son."

Tom Kerridge (Hand & Flowers, Marlow, England): "A flavor-packed omelette, full of things like olives, chorizo, anchovies and lots of cheese. It's high-protein, hugely tasty and quick and easy to make."

Jason Atherton (Pollen Street Social, London): "A simple bacon sandwich. It is a treat these days with HP Sauce, good butter and amazing sourdough."

OTHER PEOPLE'S COOKING

Karam Sethi (Gymkhana, London): "My wife Tanya's Lucknowi food: kakori kebabs, galouti kebabs, qormas and biryanis. It's the heartiest and most satisfying food in the world."

Pierre Koffmann (Koffmann's, London): "Soup made by my wife, Claire. She is a very good cook. Any soup will do."

Anne-Sophie Pic (Maison Pic, Valence, France): "Sun-

day chicken made by my mother. It is cooked very slowly in the oven with tarragon. It is my 'Madeleine de Proust,' our family tradition that has been around for many years." Atul Kochhar (Benares, London): "Every Punjabi boy loves his mum's rajma, a red-kidney-bean stew, and I'm no exception. My mother is 80 now, and, though she's pleased to have a son who's a chef, she claims her version is still much better than mine."

CHEFS WILL ALWAYS EAT CHICKEN AND PASTA

Fergus Henderson (St. John, London): "The dish I cook at home with amazing regularity is tomato pasta. It never fails, never disappoints, and it is impossible to grow tired of its soothing powers. Slurp, slurp, aahhh. My kids and I are mostly made up of tomato pasta. It's amazing that they grew fingers and not tomato-spaghetti hands." Jean-Georges Vongerichten (Jean-Georges, New York): "I love one-pot meals. That is the way I grew up in Alsace, things like a simple chicken or a stew." Clare Smyth (Gordon Ramsay, London): "Roast chicken or spaghetti bolognese. These are my two comfort go-to dishes at home. It is a nostal-

gia thing for me." Daniel Humm (Eleven Madison Park, New York): "Lately, I find myself turning to pasta, whether it's spaghetti carbonara, tagliatelle with lemon and Parmesan, or simply a tomato sauce." Pierre Gagnaire (Pierre Gagnaire, Paris): "Maybe a classic roasted chicken with vegetables au gratin or a risotto. During summer, it could be a nice tomato salad. Some whole fish cooked en papillote."

KEEP IT SIMPLE

Andoni Luis Aduriz (Mugaritz, Gipuzkoa, Spain): "I do love to cook vegetables. In addition, I have a six-year-old son who I try to educate for each of the products we have in each of the seasons: vegetables, fish and meat." Mauro Colagreco (Mirazur, Menton, France): "I like to pick fresh vegetables from my garden and cook them in a simple way to make the most out of them: an excellent extra-virgin olive oil, and a slice of a good bread,

to go with them." Enrique Olvera (Pujol, Mexico City): "After all the traveling, what I like the most about getting back home is to eat food that is simple and comforting, like soups and stews, accompanied, of course, by freshly made tortillas." Ferran Adria (ex-El Bulli, Roses, Spain): "I cook the same as everyone else: vegetables, fish, the usual stuff."

THAT'S MORE LIKE IT

Yoshihiro Narisawa (Narisawa, Tokyo): "Put abundant grated daikon and spinach in ichiban dashi and boil it. Make shabu shabu (Japanese hotpot dish) with thinly sliced pork loin. Add seasonal mushrooms and vegetables (whatever I like) and serve with several sauces: sesame, soy with red peeper, pepper with yuzu etc." Elena Arzak (Arzak, San Sebastian, Spain): "A perennial favorite is squid with a slow-cooked onion marmalade, which is a traditional summer dish in San Sebastian."



Elena Arzak

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JANUARY

■ Hong Kong's police department classified the disappearance of the co-owners of a bookstore as a missing-person case. The disappearance of Lee Bo, a major shareholder of Causeway Bay Books, which specializes in material critical of the Communist Party of China, was reported missing by his wife January 1. Later, local activist Jason Chao claimed that a similar case could occur in Macau.

■ After a year behind bars, Alan Ho and others suspected of being involved in a prostitution ring operating inside the Hotel Lisboa were finally brought before the Court of First Instance. Ho, the nephew of Stanley Ho, was at the time of the arrests the executive director of the Hotel Lisboa. Another five staff members from the same hotel joined him in the "dock."



■ Thousands of Madonna fans converged in the Studio City Event Center to see the Queen of Pop's debut performances in Macau as part of her worldwide "Rebel Heart Tour."

■ The Macau Customs Service was reported to have denied entry to 15 Taiwanese citizens holding passports with "Republic of Taiwan" stickers attached. The stickers continue to be considered to be a politically controversial and sensitive matter.



■ The former Prosecutor General, Ho Chio Meng, was arrested in connection with a suspected case of corruption that was investigated by the Commission Against Corruption. Ho Chio Meng had been the region's top prosecutor from the handover until 2014 when he assumed the role of deputy prosecutor. In February 2015, he was appointed as coordinator of the Committee on Criminal and Legal Studies.

MARCH



■ Pro-democracy candidate Alvin Yeung of the mainstream Civic Party won a Hong Kong by-election while a rival from a radical pro-independence group arrested on riot charges placed a surprising third in a vote seen as an indicator of political tension in the city.

■ The Secretary for Administration and Justice, Sonia Chan, reveals her understanding that a potential extradition treaty with neighboring Hong Kong could be applied retroactively for sentences that are still valid. No extradition treaty was agreed upon in 2016, postponing its discussion again for the future.



■ Alan Ho was released from prison after receiving a sen-

ce of 13 months (which was served during his time in custody), for one crime of prostitution exploitation. The judicial system found Ho guilty of being aware of the activities and knowingly allowing them to continue to operate in the hotel.

■ A Hong Kong publisher of books critical of Chinese leaders returned to the city from the mainland after having disappeared while crossing the China-Hong Kong border in October 2015. Cheung Chi Ping met with Hong Kong police and asked them to cease inquiries into his disappearance.

■ Macau's Human Resources Office reported that the number of non-resident workers in the territory stopped growing in March, marking a slight decrease of 0.37 percent from the number in February, but almost no change from January's figures. The figure bottomed out at approximately 181,000 people.

APRIL

■ A Macau court ruled that Asian American Entertainment Corporation, a former business partner of Las Vegas Sands, could proceed with a lawsuit seeking billions of dollars in damages for breaking the terms of their former partnership agreement. Macau's Court of First Instance had earlier denied Las Vegas Sands a motion to dismiss the lawsuit.



■ An MDT investigative report unearthed that a 35-year-old Kenyan athlete won the 2014 Macau International Marathon while she was banned for doping. Flomena Chepchirchir Chumba was revealed to have been under a ban issued by the International Association of Athletics Federations.



■ An online petition signed by 6,877 people was submitted to the Chief Executive's Office calling for the preservation of the green area of Coloane Hill. The petition, called "Our Land, Our Plan," opposed a residential project planned for the site. The petitioners also demanded the release of the environmental impact assessment to disclose the decision-making process

behind the authorization of the building permit.



■ The application criteria for Air Macau's "Macau Local Cadet Program" came under fire after one of the requirements stipulated that candidates must be "Macau permanent ID card holders with Macau SAR passports," effectively excluding all residents not of Chinese nationality. The requirement was later amended.

MAY



■ Greyhound rights advocates and animal lovers in Europe staged demonstrations across the continent calling for the MSAR government to close the Macau (Yat Yuen) Canidrome. The demonstrations came shortly after local animal rights group, Anima Macau, challenged a representative of the company to a public debate over the merits of keeping the track open.



■ A donation from the Macau Foundation to the mainland's Jinan University worth RMB100 million was heavily criticized after it was suggested that the Chief Executive's roles as the president of the Council of Trustees of the Macau Foundation and vice chairman of Jinan University Council represented a conflict of interest. New Macau Association called for the resignation of Chui Sai On, while the Commission Against Corruption assessed that there was no wrongdoing.

■ The Education and Youth Affairs Bureau and the Macau Meteorological and Geophysical Bureau had their credibility publicly questioned after a series of decisions relating to weather warnings were dubbed 'wrong calls' by the public. On May 9, the education bureau cancelled classes in a haphazard fashion on account of a rainstorm warning for what ultimately transpired to be a mild weather day.

■ A bill widely seen as a milestone in preventing and tackling

domestic violence was approved in the Legislative Assembly, marking the conclusion of a controversial debate that lasted for several years. The new law categorized domestic violence as a public crime.



■ Safety concerns were raised at the end of May after components of the Taishan nuclear plant, which is being constructed less than 80 kilometers west of Macau, were discovered to have been made in mainland China, rather than in France as was previously thought.

JUNE

■ Sheldon Adelson ended a six-year legal fight with the former head of his Macau casinos whose allegations of "outrageous and illegal" demands by the billionaire Las Vegas Sands Corp. chairman prompted a U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission investigation. A confidential settlement was reached between Steven Jacobs and the company according to a June 1 statement issued by Sands China.



■ The annual June 4 candlelight vigil in Senado Square which commemorates the Tiananmen Square Incident in Beijing in 1989 reported fewer participants this year than in previous years. New Macau Association leader Scott Chiang blamed a general "ignorance of history" for the low turnout and the fact that youngsters are "more concerned with where to go during the weekend."



■ The head of the Cultural Affairs Bureau's Department of Cultural Heritage, Leong Wai Man, admitted in a press conference that there were four endangered heritage sites in Macau potentially at risk of collapse. The announcement came two weeks after the partial collapse of the roof of Saint Augustine Church following heavy rain.

■ The government announced its plans to relocate the First Notary Office from the historical Holy House of Mercy building in Senado Square. Local architect Carlos Marreiros and the current president of the Holy House of Mercy, António José de Freitas, decried the decision saying it would be detrimental to the charitable organization's revenue.



■ Former U.N. General Assembly President John Ashe died following a weightlifting accident prior to his testimony in a bribery case implicating Macau billionaire Ng Lap Seng and the former diplomat on criminal charges. Ashe died awaiting trial. The official cause of death was "traumatic asphyxia [...] while lifting a barbell on a bench."

JULY

■ The enforcement of the Land Law by Macau authorities was criticized by individuals from a variety of professions, all of whom claimed that the government was acting in an "unfair" way. Developers, investors, lawmakers, lawyers and real estate professionals said that they considered the current law enforcement to be "harming the image of Macau" as well as the interests of those investing in the development of the territory.



■ The Judiciary Police director Chau Wai Kuong reported a surge in gaming-related crimes in the first half of 2016, mostly relating to usury and illegal detentions due to the non-payment of gaming debts. Almost 1,900 people were unlawfully detained in gaming-related incidents between June 2015 and May 2016.



■ The Commission Against Corruption released an investigative report on the land exchange case related to the site of the Iec Long Firecracker Factory. The report documented

the finding that the concession had not adhered to correct procedures and was therefore void, meaning the holder of the land plot had no legal right to it. It also ruled that no compensation from the MSAR government was due.

■ In a meeting between the director of the Gaming and Inspection Bureau, Paulo Martins Chan, and the Canidrome (Yat Yuen) company, representatives of the government presented the greyhound racing facility with an ultimatum: close down or relocate to another site. The Canidrome was informed that it would have just two years in which to procure a new space.

AUGUST



■ A tourist bus with 46 passengers on board crashed against a building on Rua da Entena, close to the Kiang Wu Hospital, leaving 32 passengers injured and three in a serious condition. The driver was allegedly outside of the vehicle trying to resolve a smaller traffic accident when the bus, which did not have its brake fully applied, started to roll down the road.



■ New Macau President Scott Chiang was arrested following the hoisting of a black banner on Hotel Estoril that denounced Secretary Alexis Tam as a "heritage killer." Chiang later denounced the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture as an "ignorant and arrogant official" not suitable to be in charge of preserving the city's heritage.

■ A Macau student at the National Taiwan University went on trial at the Taipei District Court for allegedly torturing a beloved stray cat to death in December 2015. The student, surnamed Chen, had previously tortured another cat earlier in May of that year, and was expelled from the university after the second incident.

■ Uber threatened to close down its Macau operations by early September due to hefty fines given to its drivers unless the company could reach an agreement with the government on its legalization. Popular support for Uber over the weeks following the announcement led to the company revoking the threat and continuing to

operate in the territory.

■ Macau reversed its 26-month slump in gaming revenue, growing by a meager 1.1 percent, according to the Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau.

■ Wynn Palace, the company's second local property, opened on August 22. Speaking to reporters, Wynn described the new property as the "most beautiful" in the world, and said that its diversity of offerings has already begun to reverse earlier government opinions that the operator had not been doing enough to develop their non-gaming segment.

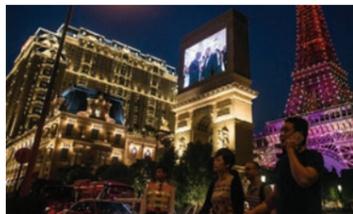
SEPTEMBER

■ The Korea Football Association said that a World Cup qualifier match between South Korea and Syria would not be played in Macau as previously scheduled, due to the failure of the Korean association and the Macau Football Association to reach an agreement.



■ Barry Bland, whose Motor Race Consultants company had coordinated Macau's Guia Circuit Formula 3 event since 1983, announced his withdrawal from the Macau Grand Prix.

■ The Macau International Airport set a new record in August as it reached over the 630,000 passenger traffic and hit the 5,000 aircraft movement mark for the first time.



■ The Parisian Macao, the latest addition from Sands China to the company's portfolio in Macau, opened its doors. With the completion of The Parisian, Sands finished developing all its land in Macau, bringing its total investment in the city to between USD13 billion and USD14 billion.

OCTOBER



■ Most lawmakers voted against a proposal delivered by lawmaker Ng Kuok Cheong that aimed to force the government

to initiate political reform for eventual universal suffrage in the election of the Chief Executive. Some accused Ng of trying to make Macau's legislators "hostages" to his private interests.

■ A woman who was raped and almost murdered by her colleague survived the traumatic attack after a passing motorcyclist discovered her body dumped in a garbage station in Fai Chi Kei. The 25-year-old assailant from mainland China was arrested the morning after upon his return to Macau.

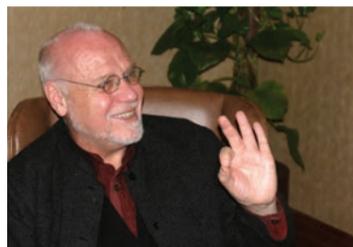
■ Macau's gaming recovery picked up speed in October, registering an 8.8 percent year-on-year increase that beat analysts' predictions and marked a third month of consecutive growth. The gross gaming revenue for the month stood at MOP21.8 billion according to the Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau.

NOVEMBER



■ Two newly elected pro-democracy lawmakers in Hong Kong defied an order barring them from taking their oaths after being previously disqualified for insulting China, sparking unruly scenes in the HKSAR's legislature. Beijing's intervention in November, preempting a pending Hong Kong court ruling, decreed that the oaths could not be retaken, setting a precedent that would be later adopted in Macau.

■ November saw the eighth failure to pass a Trade Union Law in the Legislative Assembly, with 12 lawmakers voting in favor of the bill and 15 against it. Although rejected again, the bill seemed to gain broader support from lawmakers this time. Questions of how a trade union should be defined and whether the bill might jeopardize Macau's economy dominated the discussion.



■ Marco Müller announced his resignation from the first edition of the International Film Festival and Awards Macao, just one month before it was due to launch. The Macau Government Tourist Office cited "differences of opinion" as the reason, while other sources

confirmed to the Times that Müller's relationship with local organizers had always been tense.

■ António Felix da Costa was "a happy boy" after he won the Macau Grand Prix for the second time. The Portuguese driver burst into tears at the podium while being cheered by Portuguese fans. The winner added that his victory closes his participation in the F3 race, although he hopes to return to Macau "many times."

■ Macau continued gaming revenue gains in November, posting the strongest growth in almost three years to advance the industry's recovery. Gross gaming revenue rose 14.4 percent year-on-year to MOP18.8 billion, marking the biggest increase since February 2014.

DECEMBER



■ While Pearl Horizon pre-buyers continued to protest outside the Polytec Group's headquarters and repeatedly called on the government to intervene, Secretary for Transport and Public Works Raimundo do Rosário announced that several land plots reclaimed by the government will be put out for public tenders in 2017, with priority given to the construction of public and affordable housing.

■ Decisions made by the Court of Final Appeal ruling against appeals and petitions by the defense of the former Prosecutor-General Ho Chio Meng worried top lawyers in the territory, Jorge Menezes and Jorge Neto Valente. Ho continues to stand trial on accusations of corruption.

■ Ho Chio Meng accused the current Secretary for Administration and Justice, Sonia Chan, as well as her predecessor, Florinda Chan, of pressuring him to hire their relatives when he was the prosecutor-general. After the scandal broke, Sonia Chan denied that she had exerted pressure but admitted that her relative was indeed hired.

■ Two sons of lawmaker Pereira Coutinho were arrested after being found in possession of 1 kilogram of cannabis worth an estimated MOP500,000. The lawmaker denied that the arrests of his son impaired his ability to serve in his role and said it would not affect his bid for the Legislative Assembly next year.

WHAT'S ON



TODAY (DEC 30)

THREE COLOURS - NORWICH PUPPET THEATRE (ENGLAND)

Three Colours' sensory adventure will take you high up in the sky and diving down in the deep blue sea to let you discover nature's amazing beauty! The Norwich Puppet Theatre magically transformed colourful lights into enchanted nature, triggering children's creativity through stunning projections. Kids above two years old will be swimming with the fish, hopping around with green frogs and gazing into the cracking red of a bonfire. Families are invited to join a unique theatre experience conceived to inspire and relax both kids and parents!

TIME: 5pm & 7:30pm (December 30, 2016)
11am, 3pm & 5pm (December 31, 2016)
11am, 3pm & 5pm (January 1, 2017)
Venue: Macau Cultural Centre, Avenida Xian

Xing Hai s/n, Nape
ADMISSION: MOP180
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2870 0699
[http:// www.ccm.gov.mo](http://www.ccm.gov.mo)
TICKETING ENQUIRIES: (853) 2855 5555
<http://www.macauticket.com>



TOMORROW (DEC 31)

17 HAPPY GATHERING- LEXUS 2017 JSTV NEW YEAR'S EVE CONCERT

Reading like a who's who of talent from China, Taiwan and Hong Kong, the hugely popular show will feature a host of A-list stars. The show will include Hacken Lee, Joey Yung, William Chan, JJ Lin, Yoga Lin, Wilber Pan, Tan Jing, Kris Wu, Xue Zhiqian, Liu Meilin, Zhang Bichen, SNH48 and more. The countdown concert has been the most widely watched show on New Year's Eve in the mainland and something of a tradition for the past eight years. It is the first time it will be broadcast live from Macau, an acknowledgement of the world-class facilities offered by Cotai Arena, a state of the art venue that has also hosted superstars from around the world.

TIME: 7pm
VENUE: Cotai Arena, The Venetian Macau
ADMISSION: MOP180, MOP380, MOP780, MOP1080, MOP2017
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2882 8888
<http://www.venetianMacau.com>



MINISTRY OF SOUND NYE COUNTDOWN AFTER PARTY SHAUN FRANK WITH DELANEY JANE

Record label giant Ministry of Sound Ministry of Sound, is coming to Macau to welcome the new year in exciting style. One of the hottest electronic dance music production teams in the world, DJ/producer Shaun Frank and vocalist Delaney Jane first worked together on "This Could Be Love" with US DJ Borgeous, and Dutch EDM producer Oliver Heldens' "Shades of Grey", which shot to no. 1 on the Beatport charts, announcing their collective arrival on the electronic music scene.

TIME: 11pm
VENUE: Cotai Expo, The Venetian Macau
ADMISSION: MOP288
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2882 8888
<http://www.venetianMacau.com>



SUNDAY (JAN 1)

FLOWER VESSELS FROM THE PALACE MUSEUM

This exhibition is divided into three units with six themes, including (1) usages: "Offering Sacrifice with Fragrant Flowers" and "Leisure Time Enjoyment" in which vessels for planting in ceremonies such as Buddhist praying and ancestors worship are displayed; (2) styles: "Flower-Arrangement and Potted Landscapes" and "Appreciation of Antiquities Innovation", in which vessels of different textures for flower-arrangement and potted landscape, and relics used in Qing imperial palace are displayed; (3) tastes: "The Great Emperor Qianlong" and "The Elegant Empress Dowager Cixi", in which the calligraphies and paintings handwritten by Qianlong and Cixi, poems in praise of flower vessels made by imperial orders and flower vessels used in "Da Ya Zhai - Elegant Studio" and "Ti He Dian - Hall of State Harmony" are displayed.

TIME: 10am-7pm (No admission after 6:30 pm, closed on Mondays)
UNTIL: March 12, 2017
VENUE: Macau Museum of Art, Av. Xian Xing Hai, s/n, NAPE
ADMISSION: MOP5 (Free on Sundays and public holidays)
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814
<http://www.mam.gov.mo>



MONDAY (JAN 2)

EXHIBITION "TRACES AND VISION - LONGZHOU 'SHEHUO' FOLK PERFORMANCES, PHOTOGRAPHY BY WU XIAOPENG"

The exhibition features a total of 60 works by the famous Chinese photographer Wu Xiaopeng. The show displays the folk customs of Longzhou 'Shehuo' in Shaanxi Province. Wu Xiaopeng visited dozens of villages across Longzhou in Shaanxi Province in recent years to capture images of the quaint Shehuo activities. This profound historical and cultural folk custom, of which Shaanxi Province is one of the representatives, was inscribed in the National List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in 2006. Rather than pursuing the visual aesthetics of the images, Mr. Wu showcases his endeavour to capture the villagers' spiritual demeanour and present the customs of indigenous communities.

TIME: 9am-9pm
UNTIL: January 8, 2017
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>



TUESDAY (JAN 3)

EXHIBITION "SAILING FOR DREAM -WORKS BY KWOK WOON"

This exhibition features Kwok Woon's most important works from the 1980s, 1990s and later years, which is a significant period in his artistic career. Kwok Woon dared to innovate, produce works by gathering materials with local characteristics throughout Macau and expanding, through the exploration of creative materials, the possibilities of creation. By means of painting, mixed materials and art installations, among other media of expression, he revealed his artistic vision as well as his perception and reflections on different cultural crossroads.

TIME: 10am-7pm (Closed on Mondays)
UNTIL: April 23, 2017
ADMISSION: Free
VENUE: the Navy Yard No.1, located at Rua de S. Tiago da Barra

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8988 4000
ORGANIZER: Cultural Affairs Bureau
<http://www.icm.gov.mo/en>



WEDNESDAY (JAN 4)

INK WASH OF THE FORBIDDEN CITY – PAINTINGS BY CHARLES CHAUDELLOT

In conjunction with the grand annual exhibition co-hosted by the Palace Museum, namely The Magnificent Palace – Imperial Architecture of the Forbidden City, the Macau Museum of Art is holding the current exhibition themed Ink Wash of the Forbidden City – Paintings by Charles Chaudelot, showcasing 81 ink wash paintings depicting the scenery of the Palace Museum in the hope that Macau residents can admire the architectural beauty of the Forbidden City comprehensively through various art expressions.

TIME: 10am-7pm (no admission after 6:30pm, closed on Mondays)
UNTIL: April 16, 2017
VENUE: Macau Museum of Art Gallery of Special EXHIBITIONS 2/F / Av. Xian Xing Hai
ADMISSION: MOP5 (Free admission on Sundays and Macau public holidays)
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814
ORGANIZERS: Cultural Affairs Bureau, Macau Museum of Art
<http://www.mam.gov.mo>



THURSDAY (JAN 5)

A SCULPTURE - YANG XIAO HUA

A sequel to the artist's 'Water Series', the sculpture 'Connection with Water' is composed by three water droplets of different sizes and water ripples. The three droplets in the upper part of the structure represent Macau, Zhuhai and Hong Kong, while its ripple-shaped foundation alludes to the fact that the Pearl River connects Macau, Zhuhai and Hong Kong. The work is superbly finished with stainless steel, with its surface polished, implying the burgeoning prosperity of the three places following the completion of Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge.

TIME: 10am-7pm (No admission after 6:30 pm, closed on Mondays)
UNTIL: January 8, 2017
VENUE: Macau Museum of Art, Av. Xian Xing Hai, s/n, NAPE
ADMISSION: MOP5 (Free on Sundays and public holidays)
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814
<http://www.mam.gov.mo>

Sands WEEKEND



NEW YEAR'S EVE CONCERT

7pm, 31 December 2016 (Saturday)
Cotai Arena, The Venetian Macao

Join us for an unforgettable New Year's Eve concert featuring superstars Hacken Lee, Joey Yung, JJ Lin, Yoga Lin, Wilber Pun, Tan Jin, William Chan, Kris Wu and more, taking the stage at the Cotai Arena, The Venetian Macao, for Jiangsu TV's legendary New Year extravaganza "17 Happy Gathering - LEXUS 2017 JSTV New Year's Eve Concert".
Tickets: From MOP/HKD180, call reservation +853 2882 8818
cotaiticketing.com



**RENE LIU «RENEXT»
2017 WORLD TOUR MACAO**

8pm, 7 January 2017 (Saturday)
Cotai Arena, The Venetian Macao

Popular Taiwanese singer and actress Rene Liu will bring her highly anticipated Rene Liu «Renext» 2017 World Tour Macao to the Cotai Arena. The main theme of the tour is "I dare", with Liu stating that she wants to show her fans the importance of taking the initiative and showing courage in their day-to-day lives. With this in mind, as well as delivering her usual high-quality onstage performance, she has stepped out of her comfort zone to design both the lighting and sound effects.
Tickets: From MOP/HKD380, call reservation +853 2882 8818
cotaiticketing.com



EIFFEL TOWER'S GRAND ILLUMINATION SHOW

Daily until 1 January 2017

The Eiffel Tower's Grand Illumination Show will feature two Christmas programmes based on seasonal hits "Jingle Bell Rock" and "All I Want for Christmas is You", featuring amazing animation and with the spectacular backdrop of our very own Eiffel Tower.
Show times: 6:15pm to 12 midnight (every 10 minutes)



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Shoppes at Parisian has more than 170 luxury and lifestyle boutiques. Here you can stroll along boulevards named after many of the French capital's famous shopping districts, such as the Champs Elysee, to enjoy a unique shopping experience. Shop at Shoppes at Parisian now to earn exclusive hotel stay, dining and massage offers at The Parisian Macao, allowing you to become part of Paris!

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MOP20,000	One night in a Deluxe Room at The Parisian Macao
MOP8,000	A dinner buffet for two at Le Buffet

*Terms and conditions apply.



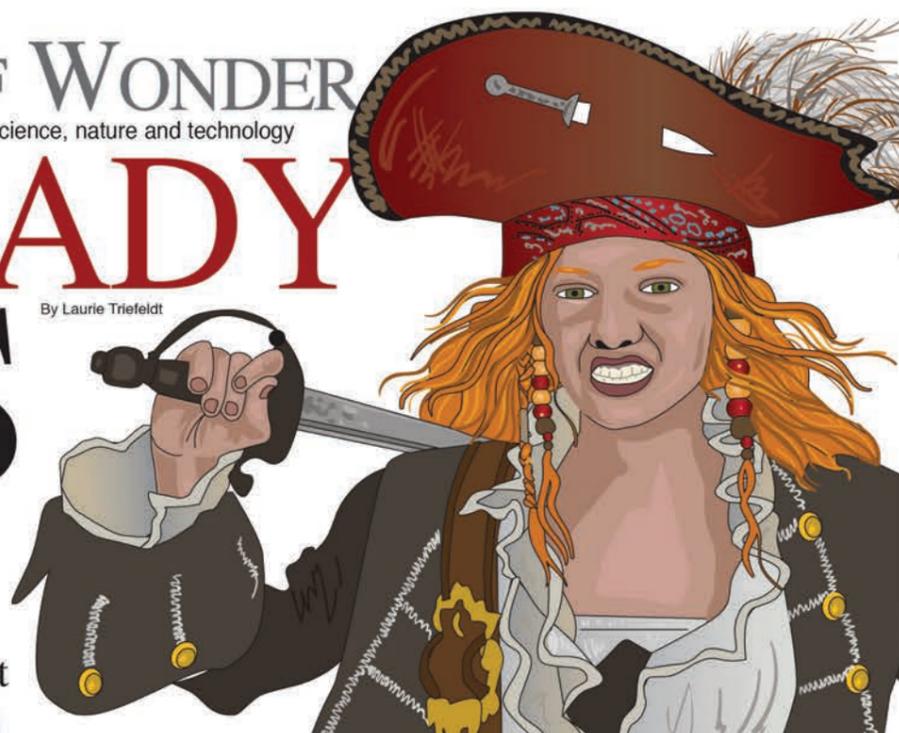
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FAMOUS LADY PIRATES

By Laurie Triefeldt



The golden age of piracy began in the early 1500s and ended in the 1700s. For 200 years, pirates plagued the seas, attacking foreign powers and merchant ships. It was a violent and dangerous life dominated by men, but a few remarkable women made their mark in this brutal and potentially profitable world.

Jacquette Delahaye

Delahaye was from Saint-Domingue in what is now Haiti. She was the daughter of a French man and a Haitian woman. According to legend and tradition, she became a pirate after the murder of her father. One of the tales told about this legendary character is that she faked her own death to escape enemies on her trail and that she lived as a man for many years. When she returned to living as a woman, she became known as "back from the dead red," a tribute to her striking red hair.

As a pirate, she led a gang numbering in the hundreds. In 1656, she and her gang took over a small Caribbean island, which they called a "freebooter republic." She later died in a shootout on this island.

Mary Read (c. 1690-1721)

Mary Read, also known as Mark Read, was born in London, England. As a small child, she was dressed as a boy and brought up as a son by her mother. While just a teen, she became a foot-boy aboard a man-of-war. She married one of her messmates, but when her husband died, she took up her male disguise once more. Mary shipped out on a Dutch vessel bound for the West Indies, but the ship was stopped by pirates, and Mary (as Mark) decided to join the crew.

Eventually, Mary came under the command of Capt. "Calico Jack" Rackham, where she met Anne Bonny, Rackham's companion. Anne Bonny was also dressed as a man, but she flirtatiously revealed her sex to Mary, who revealed that she too was a woman.

Mary would go on to fall in love and marry a fellow pirate. But shortly after her marriage, Mary and the entire Rackham crew were captured and tried for piracy and sentenced to hang. Both Mary Read and Anne Bonny were pregnant at the time, and their executions were delayed until after they gave birth. However, Mary died of a fever while in prison.



Anne Bonny (c. 1700-c. 1782)

Anne was born in Ireland, but her father moved the family to Charleston, South Carolina. At age 16, Anne threw caution to the wind and married James Bonny, a small-time pirate. Married life did not suit Anne, and she took up with the pirate "Calico Jack" Rackham. Anne enjoyed dressing and acting like a man — drinking and fighting. It is said she would encourage the crew to greater bloodshed and violence. In 1720, the British Navy attacked Rackham's ship, the *Revenge*, and captured the entire crew. Rackham was hanged, but Anne's father paid a large ransom and brought her back to Charleston, where she safely gave birth to Rackham's child. Eventually, Anne settled down and married Joseph Burleigh. The couple had eight children, and Anne lived a long life — well into her 80s.

Ching Shih (1775-1844)

Also known as Capt. Cheng I Sao, Ching Shih took over her husband's pirate operation when he died. She made her adopted son, Cheung Po Tsai, captain of her fleet. Reputed to be very beautiful and equally brutal, Capt. Sao personally commanded more than 300 ships and 20,000 to 40,000 pirates. She appointed subordinates to command a fleet with more than 1,500 vessels and 180,000 men. Her pirates robbed towns and plundered ships along the coast of the South China Sea. When the Chinese government offered her amnesty in exchange for peace, she accepted. Her pirates were allowed to keep their riches and were given military jobs. Ching Shih went on to buy a casino and brothel, where she and her second husband lived happily ever after.

Sayyida al Hurra (1485-?)

Sayyida al Hurra was the daughter of an important Muslim family who were forced by the Spanish to flee their home in Morocco in 1492. Eventually, Sayyida married the King of Fez, Ahmed al-Wattasi. With revenge in her heart against the Christians who had forced her from her home, she turned to piracy and ordered her fleets to attack Christian ships. Already very wealthy, she became a powerful and feared force on the Mediterranean Sea, and some called her "Queen of the Mediterranean." Sayyida negotiated with the Spanish and Portuguese governments for the freedom of captives held by her pirates. In 1542, she was overthrown by her son-in-law, and she disappeared from history.

SOURCES: World Book Encyclopedia, World Book Inc.; <http://www.piratesinfo.com>; <http://historylists.org>

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