

Campus Community News

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Oct, 2007

Unwelcome Changes at CUHK

It is with some concern, that CCN has learned of recent changes in various university policies that appear to have a detrimental effect on individuals and our community at large. First, we have an incident of exclusionary practice at the University Swimming Pool (see page 2 for details), whereby a family was denied access to the safe area of the pool. Second, the new policy on payment of bus fares for the student buses, where a \$3 charge is levied for all non-holders of the CU Link card, irrespective of their relationship with the Chinese University (see page 3 for full report).

Whilst the University may consider these policies necessary, their blanket implementation without consideration of the needs of the wider community must be questioned. Is it fair that a worker in one of the university's canteens has to pay \$3 for a bus ride that a professor gets for free, because the professor has a CU Link card? Is it right that spouses and families should be summarily denied access to facilities (even putting their safety at risk) that are part of their partners' terms of service and that they have paid for? How do these policies reflect upon the university's image as a place to live and work?

On the one hand, the university appears to be alienating the families of its teaching staff with exclusionary practices and on the other, depriving the low paid workers who help keep the place running of affordable transport within the campus, in dubious pursuance of financial gain. We would suggest that these actions reflect quite poorly on the university and that such policies may be a factor in future staff employment and retention of current staff.

At the very least, the university should comment on these issues and we hope that a revision of these policies would be considered. It is unfair to expect our lowest paid workers to pay a premium for the privilege of travelling to their jobs, just as it is unacceptable to treat the family members of our staff as unwelcome interlopers. The university is, first and foremost a seat of learning but it is also a community and it is time to act like one.

Inside this issue: P2 – Letter to the Editor; P3 – Campus transport problem; P4 – Art Museum News; P5 – P8 Arts Calendar; P9 –Ho Sum, “Do Good, Feel Good”; P10 – University Notices; P11 & P12 – Classified Ads.

Letter to the Editor

University swimming pool: spouse and dependents not so welcome

My six-year-old, her friend and I went to the swimming pool for some after school fun on Thursday 6th Sept, about 5pm. When we entered the pool we were unaware that the *whole shallow end* had been cordoned off as "swimming lesson zone." A swimming instructor, together with a life-guard immediately came over to "shoo" us away with facial and hand gestures. "Swimming lesson going on; do not stay here." I protested that my children cannot really swim and I cannot possibly supervise them when my feet cannot reach the bottom of the pool. I asked to borrow a kickboard for one child but my request was disregarded, both lifeguard and instructor choosing instead, to insist that we move to the deeper sections of the pool. I felt that our lives were put at risk at the orders of the lifeguard and instructor.

It is clear that the university swimming pool is there for teaching purposes and that the [students] have priority. We may not be "priority" users, but surely the role of lifeguards is to ensure safety rather than to compromise the safety of one group in favour of another? Besides, if the *whole shallow end* of the pool was to be unavailable, we should have been given prior warning, particularly at the point of entry. We paid our admission fees, complied with other pool regulations and then access to the safer, shallowest section of the pool was brusquely denied. I write in the hope that future pool users will not be subject to unnecessary risk and disappointment. I believe communication with potential users can be improved by, for instance, sufficient prior notice, including notices to the residences, on the web and verbal warning to users at the point of entry.

I wish to make two further suggestions. There may be demand for hours other than those currently offered (10 30am to 6 15pm with about an hour's break for lunch). Would the pool administrators consider extending opening hours to the early morning and later in the evening for swimmers who prefer to swim before or after work/class and when no lessons are being held? Also, if there is a large number of non-swimmers (or, not very confident swimmers) would you consider installing some sort of support to temporarily raise the pool floor for a larger section of the pool?

Yours sincerely,
Chiew-hong Ong

Letters to the Editor may be sent by email to gilliankew@yahoo.com or by mail to Mrs. Frances Storey, Residence 14 Flat 12A, CUHK. Please note that letters may be edited for clarity and space and that the opinions expressed are those of the authors, not necessarily of this publication. All letters must include the author's contact details for verification purposes only

On-Campus Transport Problem – by Joan Tsui



Have you been caught being asked to pay \$3.00 for taking the school bus lately? As of September 1st, family members of CU staff, workers or subcontracted enterprises on campus, such as restaurants, bookshops, hair salons, construction sites... etc have to pay \$3.00 per ride on campus school buses.

According to Glen Ng, student representative in the Campus Transport Consultative Committee, the decision to charge bus fares was forced onto the committee in mid August, when they were asked only to execute the policy, no questions asked. Ng has since organized the “**Take the Bus, No Identity Check**” campaign, which has managed to collect more than 2000 signatures in the last two weeks. The movement is still running. Interested and concerned parties can check their site at www.cuhk.edu.hk/freeriderpetition/. Ng estimated that income generated from this policy reaches more than \$500,000 per annum. “Assuming three-quarters of the 400 plus workers employed by these subcontracted enterprises take the school bus on a daily basis, this would add up to \$1,800 a year per head.” Ng could not comment on the policy’s effect on families living on campus, since there is no number count of family members using the school bus. He has, however, received phone calls complaining that children have to pay \$3.00 per trip.

Amelia Wong, convener of the Campus Transport Consultative Committee, concedes that the committee serves as a body for consultation and advice in transport matters. “The decision was passed onto us by the Administrative Affairs Committee, and there were no strong views or feelings against it at the August meeting.” She explains that the UGC has not allotted separate funding for campus transport, and the hilly landscape at our university calls for additional expense to serve the campus community. She did, however, add that the policy may change again in October.

Campus Community News will keep you posted.

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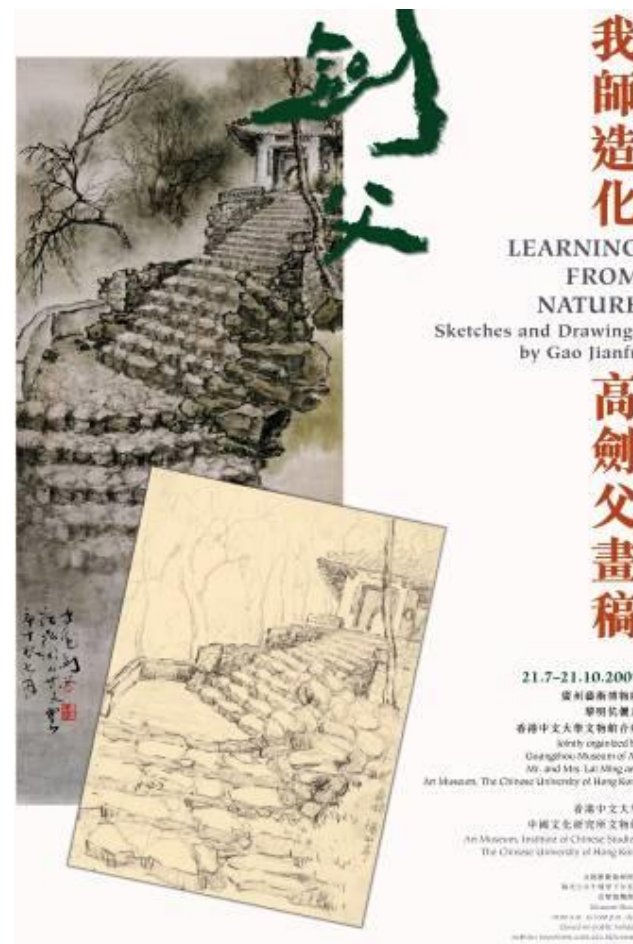
University Art Museum in October

LEARNING FROM NATURE: Sketches and Drawings by Gao Jianfu

Venue: West-wing Galleries, Art Museum
Jointly organized with Guangzhou Museum of Art and Mr and Mrs Lai Ming

This exhibition will end on 21 October 2007

Gao Jianfu (1879-1951) was the founder and the most representative painter of the Lingnan School. The Guangzhou Museum of Art has collaborated with Mr. and Mrs. Lai Ming, and the Art Museum, CUHK to present this special exhibition with the artist’s finest sketches selected from their collections. As a whole these works show his



mastery of different art languages and skills from the East and the West, as well as the artist’s ability to incorporate and manipulate ancient and modern techniques.

Forthcoming Exhibitions:

Ethereal Elegance: Porcelain Vases of the Imperial Qing. The Huaihaitang Collection - 11 November 2007 – 30 March 2008, East-wing Galleries, Art Museum

Feast by a Wine Table Reclining on a Couch: The Dr. S. Y. Yip Collection of Classic Chinese Furniture III - 11 November 2007 – 30 January 2008
West-wing Galleries, Art Museum [For details see next issue of CCN](#)

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Arts Calendar - Charlotte Weiss

WARNING! (read this only if you're prepared to give 10 minutes of your precious time to appreciate the Hong Kong Arts Scene!)

October always seems to be one of the biggest months of the year in Hong Kong for the performing arts. In addition to numerous events listed below, October and November bring the 2nd biggest major event sponsored by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, *The Mediterranean Arts Festival*, which runs from 19 October until 18 November. This "alternate" year (non-Asian) festival features performances from countries around the Mediterranean basin and is quite varied in its scope. In addition to the feature events, there are many free ones listed in the brochure. Here are a few highlights; however, tickets have been on sale for awhile so some may have limited seating with high prices. Contact URBTIX (2734-9009) for availability and pick up the beautiful brochure with a veiled woman on the cover for listings of all events.



•19-21 October

The Italian Feast, a scrumptious performance of Baroque music and dance with beautiful costumes and masks, "à la carnival" of Venice -- Cultural Centre Grand Theatre

•3 November

Dhafer Youssef -- Divine Shadows, inspired by Sufi mysticism, this Tunisian singer who has lived in France since 1990, is very hot on the world music scene. I heard his recordings several times this summer on a Canadian (CBC) radio station and I was totally captivated by his music -- City Hall Concert Hall

•14-15 November

The Whirling Dervishes, a Sacred Ritual, Turkey; I've attended one of these dance/traditional music events before and it was truly amazing in a mystical way -- Shatin Town Hall (14th) and City Hall (15th)



Arts Calendar (cont...)

ON CAMPUS:

•In October – look for posters on campus for events sponsored by the Music Department. (most concerts are at Lee Hysan Hall, 7:30pm)

(tickets available for following events at URBTIX outlets or by advance reservation at 2734-9009 - tickets must be picked up within 3 days of booking)

In Shatin Town Hall:

Gu Wenlei

•13 October

Pan Asia Symphony Orchestra featuring Gu Wenlei on violin

•14 October

Puppet City: A Korean Fantasy by Hyundai Puppet Theatre (Korea)

•19-21 October (8:00pm on the 19th & 20th and 3:00pm on the 20th and 21st)

The Love Story of Sam & Sally, Music Theatre (in Cantonese)

•26-28 October (7:30pm on the 26th & 27th with a matinee on the 28th at 2:30pm)

Arlecchino, Servant of Two Masters, Piccolo Teatro di Milano (part of the *Mediterranean Arts Festival*)



At Other Venues:

•2 October

Sound the Trumpet, Allen Vizzutti, trumpet, City Chamber Orchestra of Hong Kong, at City Hall Concert Hall

•5 October

Birthday Rhapsody, Cristina Ortiz, piano, Hong Kong Sinfonietta, at City Hall Concert Hall

(Note: this Sinfonietta "birthday party" features one of the world's great pianists as well as the Grainger String Quartet, and a fantastic programme of music)



•11-15 October

AIDA, Verdi's Opera in 4 Acts (performed in Italian with Chinese & English surtitles), Opera Hong Kong, Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra and Opera Hong Kong Chorus at Cultural Centre Grand Theatre (Note: this star-studded event is SOLD OUT so if you got your tickets early, lucky you!)

(More Arts Next page...)

Arts Calendar (cont...)

•12-13 October

From Ancient to Modern, as East meets West, a Cosmopolitan Symphony, part of HKCO's 30th Anniversary, Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra, at City Hall Concert Hall

•17 October

Shanghai Quartet, at City Hall Concert Hall

•19 October

Jazz Up: Eriko Ishihara & Quartet, at City Hall Concert Hall

•21 October

Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra, at City Hall Concert Hall

(Note: "One of the world's top baroque orchestras" (Gramophone) will present an intriguing programme which includes a pipa player and Inuit throat singers in some non-standard as well as Vivaldi's versions of *The Four Seasons*)

•26 October

Guitar Extravaganza, Slava Grigoryan and Leonard Grigoryan, guitar, Hong Kong Sinfonietta, at City Hall Concert Hall

(Note: another brilliant concert created by Yip Wing-sie, the Sinfonietta's music director that features two guitar concertos)

•26-27 October

He Hui returns, Lu Jia, conductor, Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra at Cultural Centre Concert Hall

(Note: another *Mediterranean Arts Festival* event with world-renowned soprano, He Hui and Lu Jia, the Shanghai-born conductor who was recently appointed Music Director of Italy's *Arena di Verona*)

•30 October

Encore Series: Flute Recital by Sir James Galway, at Cultural Centre Concert Hall

(tickets available for the following event at *HK Ticketing (31-288-288)* or at www.hkticketing.com or at all Tom Lee Music retail outlets)

•7 October

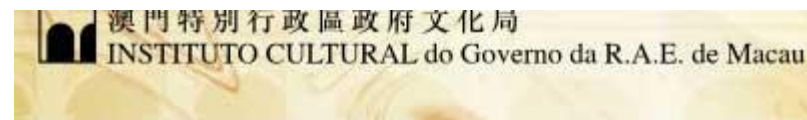
The Grainger Quartet, a Chamber Concert, at the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts Concert Hall



(More Arts Next page...)

Arts Calendar (cont...)

SPECIAL NOTE: If you've managed to read through this massive list of events going on in Hong Kong and you find absolutely nothing to whet your appetite, *Macau's International Music Festival* is also on in October. For further information on dates and booking, see: www.macauticket.net for reservations; www.icm.gov.mo for festival website or phone the ticket hotline in Hong Kong at 2380-5083.



ALSO: *UK 2007 Film Festival (Reel Books)* is on from 5-21 October at various venues.

See www.britishcouncil.org.hk/ukff07 for complete listings and ticket info.

FINAL (!) NOTE: Advance booking for tickets for the Hong Kong Arts Festival begins on 17 October and will run until 24 November. Be advised that "the early bird gets the worm" and when you're dying to go to something in March, you'll wonder why you didn't take advantage of the pre-booking as the big shows are sometimes completely sold out during the advance ticketing period.

END



Ho-Sum- "Do Good, Feel Good"

What is Ho-Sum?"

"Ho-Sum" is Cantonese and literally translates into "good heart". A registered non-profit organisation and a member of the Hong Kong Council of Social Services, Ho-Sum works to involve people in volunteering and increase awareness of charities in Hong Kong. The people at Ho-Sum hope to harness the power and reach of the internet, "to benefit the whole process of volunteering". Their website, www.Ho-Sum.org is designed to be a user-friendly online meeting place for volunteers and credible charities in Hong Kong. Charities describe their services and post projects to recruit volunteers. Interested volunteers can search for charities and projects. The service is provided free of charge. To date, there are 326 local charities listed on the site, covering a wide spectrum of interests and activities.

How you can help.....

Volunteering - Ho-Sum needs more volunteers, real people to help wherever they can.

Donating – Donations can be made by cheque, PPS and credit card. Details are available on the Ho-Sum website.

Gifts – Your unwanted items could be useful to others. Ho-Sum can take them off your hands and make sure they go to a worthy recipient. If you run a charity, you can be listed on Ho-Sum's site and become one of the many beneficiaries of Hong Kong peoples' generosity.

To learn more, visit their website at www.Ho-Sum.org or contact them using the information given below.

Ho-Sum Organisation Limited,
17B, 17/F Hilltop Plaza, 49 Hollywood Road,
Central, Hong Kong.

Telephone: + 852 2549 2010 Fax: + 852 2549 2045

Email: enquiry@ho-sum.org



Notices



University Health Centre Influenza Vaccination Campaign

In view of the threat of a potential human influenza pandemic and H5N1 avian flu in the world, the WHO has called for countries to get prepared. Influenza vaccination is one of the most effective means in preventing 'ordinary influenza' and its complications.

Date: 11 and 12 October 2007 **Time:** 9:00 am - 5:30 pm
Venue: 1/F University Health Centre **Cost:** \$70 (Vaccination fee included)
Details: http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/uhs/en/news/fluvac_071011.pdf
Enquiries: 2609 6428

Chinese University Women's Organization



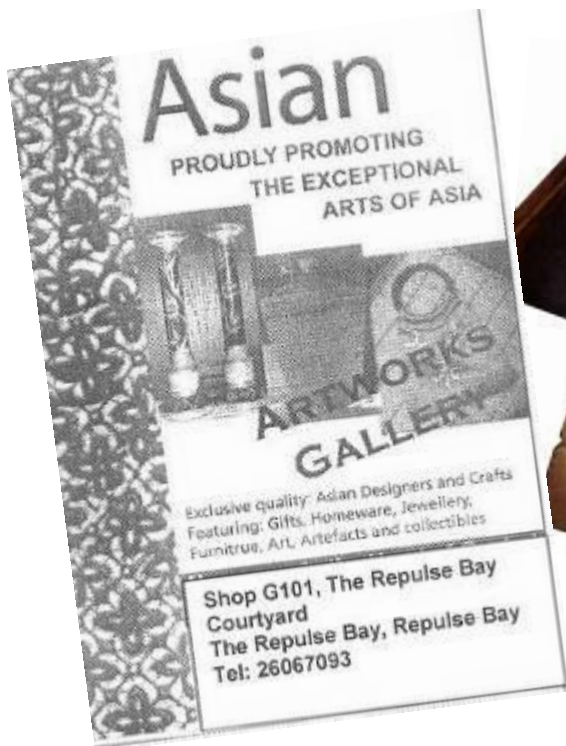
- A "genuine coffee morning" will be held on Friday Oct 5th from 10 30am ---- with a coffee master from Starbucks who will talk about coffees and related issues
- Interest groups for the new term include:
 - Pilates on Mon and Tue AM (call Judy Luk 9386 2904)
 - Bridge Thurs PM (call Joan Tsui 9353 1944)
 - Mahjong Wed AM (call Joan Tsui 9353 1944)
 - Joy Luck Club Thurs lunch (call Serene 9217 5910)
 - Mandarin table Mon lunch (call Judy Luk 9386 2904)

Happy Halloween



Just a quick reminder to all those ghosts and goblins out there on Oct 31st – have fun collecting your candy but remember to thank the candy-givers. For older revellers, keep your Trick or Treat visits within reasonable hours (do not call after 10pm) and keep the noise down. For accompanying parents, we suggest you take along a few treats to hand out on the way.

Classified Advertisements



Just one of our own lamp designs.....solid old teak pillar base from a Madurese Home

Call for articles and letters – let us know what you think, what's on, what interests you. Send submissions, with contact details for verification purposes only, by mail to Mrs. Storey, Residence 14 Flat 12A, CUHK or by email to The Editor, Gillian Kew at gilliankew@yahoo.com and don't forget that CCN is also available at <http://www.gilliankew.org/newsletter.shtml>

Want to Advertise? Mail ads to Mrs. Storey or email them to the Editor (details above). It's just \$50 per commercial ad and personal ads are absolutely free. Please send all submissions by Oct 19th for the November issue.

Campus Community News Committee – Gillian Kew (Editor) Stella Hazlett; Nerissa Ngan; Frances Storey; Joan Tsui; Charlotte Weiss

Classified ads

perm n cut (free treatment) 電髮 + 剪髮	358 up
colour n cut (free treatment) 染髮 + 剪髮	330 up
highlights n cut (free treatment) highlight + 剪髮	396 up

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