

Bethanie House – Our architectural Heritage Preserved – by Joan Huang

While we in Hong Kong have learned to accept demolition and development as a daily occurrence, we should count ourselves lucky that Bethanie House, one of the city's most beautiful examples of French colonial architecture, has been preserved and restored, and has become the Landmark Heritage campus for the Academy of Performing Arts.

The site was recognized in 2008 by the UNESCO Asia Pacific Heritage Award under the Culture Heritage Conservation Programme. Situated amidst the verdant hills and dairy fields of Pok Fu Lam, the neo-Gothic-style construction was built by the Missions Etrangères de Paris in 1875. It served as a sanatorium for almost a century, where priests and missionaries from all over Asia were sent to recover from tropical diseases.

Its sister building, Nazareth became the mission's linguistics and printing headquarters in Asia. Between 1894 and 1956 it printed thousands of titles in dozens of Asian languages; contributing to the circulation of Bibles in the region. During the Japanese Occupation, the site was used as the headquarters for the Japanese military police.

While Nazareth was sold to the University of Hong Kong in 1954 and converted into a student dormitory "University Hall", Bethanie House served as a community centre for the French Foreign Mission until 1975. It was decided by the HK administration in 2003 that Bethanie should be restored, and massive architectural reconstruction was undertaken.

Bethanie's story has been documented in Alain Le Pichon's book, "Bethanie and Nazareth: French secrets from a British Colony". Pichon is a French historian turned banker turned professor at the Sorbonne, who has lived in Hong Kong for

more than 40 years.

Today, Bethanie House is open to the public, with daily guided tours in three languages (English, Cantonese and Putonghua). The site is composed of a main H-shaped building with its attendant chapel, a museum that will occupy the cellars and a theatre housed in the octagonal cowsheds.

While the grounds and the basement museum are both open to the general public, Bethanie Chapel, Sir Y K Pao Studio, and the Wellcome Theatre are only accessible as part of the official tour.

The Chinese University Women's Organization (CUWO) is planning a visit to Bethanie House in March. Details will be posted in the March issue of Campus Community News.

Update on campus concerns

- **The East Gate**

Discussions between the Security Unit, the Campus Development Office and various concerned residents over the problem of safety at the East Gate entrance are on-going, as a solution that offers safety for all users of the road is sought. CCN will continue to monitor the situation and report any decisions or progress made.

- **The loss of the Mobile Post Office**

Liaison between campus organizations, the business section of CUHK and Hong Kong Post are also on-going but there may be some light at the end of this particular tunnel. The joint representatives of the University remain committed to their campaign for a return of a full mobile postal service in the long term. An intermediate solution, whereby Hong Kong Post may provide a self-service kiosk for a trial period is also under consideration. This may not be ideal but it is a start. CCN will let our readers know when we hear of any firm decision on this matter.

Opportunities for Further Education at CUHK



Gender Studies 2009 – 10 Gender Studies is a multi-disciplinary programme, drawing on such diverse disciplines as psychology, sociology, cultural studies, anthropology, history and linguistics. Focusing on sex and gender, students will be led to see how this dimension of existence impacts on, and at the same time, is constructed by wider social, cultural, economic and political forces. Students will become sensitized to the subtle yet all-encompassing impact of sex and gender on the world around them.

Applications, MA, Mphil and PhD, are being taken now. The application deadline for Mphil and PhD Programmes is 28 Feb 09 and the deadlines for the MA Programme are 28 Feb 09 (1st round), 31 Mar 09 (2nd round) and 31 May 09 (3rd round). Detailed information is available at <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/gender> or from the Gender Studies Office, Room 111, Chen Kou Bun Building, CUHK during office hours.



MA in Chinese Studies 2009-10 - Flexible, 1yr programme taught and examined **in English**; designed to accommodate a wide range of interests and needs for graduate training in Chinese Studies. The curriculum is designed to enhance career potential and the bi-lingual environment values diversity and collaboration. Online application at <http://www2.cuhk.edu.hk/gss> (click drop-down programmes list / inter-faculty / East Asian Studies. **Priority to applications received before April 1st**. Information at the Centre for East Asian studies at Room 704 Hui Yeung Shing Building, CUHK Tel: 3163 4392; Email ceas@cuhk.edu.hk or visit their own website at <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/cea/>

A Chance to Relax on Campus



「思源館」供應特色咖啡、餐飲、啤酒及各類含酒精特飲
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歡迎校內單位、學生團體及校友租用「思源館」作研討會、講座、學生活動、校友聚會及私人派對

An ideal venue for departmental workshops, talks, students' activities, alumni reunion gatherings and parties

香港中文大學聯合書院鄭棟材樓地庫
L/G, T.C. Cheng Building, United College, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

星期二至五
Tue – Fri
下午五時至晚上十一時
5:00 – 11:00 pm

星期六、日及公眾假期
Sat, Sun and public holidays
下午三時至晚上九時
3:00 – 9:00 pm

Notices

Art Museum, Institute of Chinese Studies, CUHK

Exhibition, lecture and conference on ancient Chinese bronzes

Exhibition: Ancient Chinese Bronzes from the Shouyang Studio: The

Katherine and George Fan Collection:

Date: 28 February – 2 August 2009;

Venue: Art Museum, The Chinese University of Hong Kong;

Opening ceremony at 4:30 pm on Friday, 27 February 2009, hosted by Prof. Lawrence Lau, the Vice-Chancellor. Prof. and Mrs. George Fan, and Mr. Chen Kelun, Deputy Director, Shanghai Museum, will officiate at the ceremony.

Seventy ancient Chinese bronzes have been selected from the Shouyang Studio collection in New York. Together they illustrate the development of bronze art and technology from the Xia to the Western Han dynasties in China and provide a wealth of information for scholars and the public alike

Lecture (in Putonghua) - Ancient Chinese Bronzes from the Shouyang Studio and Related Issues

Speaker: Zhou Ya, Shanghai Museum; **Moderator:** Professor Jenny F. So, Director, Institute of Chinese Studies; **Date:** Saturday, 28 February 2009; **Time:** 3 – 4:30 pm

Venue: Lecture Theatre L1, Institute of Chinese Studies, CUHK

International Conference on Ancient Chinese

Bronzes

Date: Friday and Saturday, 17 to 18 April 2009; **Venue:**

Conference Room, Art Museum East Wing, CUHK;

Language: Putonghua; **Topics:** Papers will relate to the bronzes in the Shouyang Studio collection and other areas of research in this field.



The exhibition, the lecture and the conference are open to the public and admission is free.

Bookworms library – a reminder that the children's library, offering a wide selection of children's books, is open every Saturday except public holidays from 10am to 12 noon.

Chinese University Women's Organization (CUWO)

Pilates Classes: Stretch and tone your body.

Mondays from 10:45 to 11:45 and Thursdays from 11am to 12 noon

Fee: currently \$100 per class, and \$100 per month (to cover instructor's fee and room rent). For questions, call me Judy Luk at 2572 9094 or email

jimmluk@hotmail.com

Arts Calendar - Charlotte Weiss

What amazes me in Hong Kong is the depth and quantity of performances offered on the cultural scene. At this time of the year, we're in full swing of the Hong Kong Arts Festival, which began on 6 February and continues until 8 March; therefore this column is largely consecrated to it. However, look beyond to find other events that don't make up part of this festival – there is certainly something for everyone somewhere in town! For the arts festival, tickets can often be purchased at the last minute (check with URBTIX first!) for certain shows and some lower-profile performances are good value especially if you haven't paid attention to my warnings of booking well in advance for the "big" events. Here are listings of a few that still have seats available as of 7 February but this can change abruptly --you can always check before making a trip to your local URBTIX at 2734-9009 for ticket availability (useful posters indicating what events still have tickets are found at URBTIX outlets

in Shatin Town Hall, City Hall, and at the TST Cultural Centre). You can also refer to the Arts Festival's informative website for updates at: www.hk.artsfestival.org or phone URB TIX at 2734-9009.

•**Northern Sinfonia and Chorus**, 12-13 February at Cultural Centre Concert Hall -one of Europe's most exciting chamber orchestras and chorus in two different programmes with *Beethoven's Ninth Symphony* on the 12th (limited tickets) and *Haydn's Mass in B Minor* on the 13th

•**All Bach, HK Ballet**, 13-15 February at APA's Lyric Theatre -Hong Kong's own superb ballet company in an all-Bach programme –tickets are available only on Sunday, 15 February at 3:00pm (beware! the principle dancer, Faye Leung, was recently sacked and will not be performing – sad news indeed!)



Shenyang, Lieder recital (*Shubert and Wolf*), 17 February at City Hall Concert Hall

-winner of the 2007 BBC Cardiff "Singer of the World" in a lovely programme of 19th century music based on Goethe's poetry

•**Beijing Opera extravaganza**, 19-20 February at Cultural Centre Grand Theatre -a "lavish" rendering of different elements of Beijing opera with costumes, and stellar actors in two different presentations



•**Music about China 3** – *Guo Wenjing's World of Chinese Music*, Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra, 20 February at City Hall Concert Hall

•**Omar Sosa, Afreecanos Quartet**, 20 February at Cultural Centre Concert Hall -my pick of the best for world music, Omar Sosa represents many cultures and combines everything from jazz to salsa to West African traditional music

•**The Disinterested Governor**, *Yu Chenglong*, by Shanghai Peking Opera Troupe, 21 February at Cultural Centre Grand Theatre

•**Sergio Tiempo and the Hong Kong Sinfonietta Orchestra**, 24 February at City Hall Concert Hall -features Martha Argerich's protégé, Sergio Tiempo, on piano –the concert also has a world premiere of Samson Young's new work

•**Latvian National Opera presents: Handel's opera, Alcina** (tickets only on 25 February) and *Lady Macbeth of Misensk*, 27-28 February, 1 March at Cultural Centre Grand Theatre - this opera company is a living national treasure in Latvia, a Baltic state, where music is a very important part of society. *Lady Macbeth of Misensk* is billed as "a great 20th-century operatic masterpiece for adults only" so be forewarned

•**Amsterdam Baroque Orchestra**, 3-4 March at Cultural Centre Concert Hall -recipient of the prestigious BBC Music Magazine Awards, 2008, in two different programmes: Handel's *Water Music Suite* is featured in the first and an all Bach lineup on the second night (limited tickets)

ON CAMPUS (CUHK – all concerts at Lee Hysan Concert Hall in Esther Lee Bldg., Chung Chi College and a BLOCKBUSTER month):

•**12 February (7:30pm) Recital: The Manhattan String Trio**

•**26 February (7:30pm) Recital: Tim Wilson, flute & Angel Woo, piano**

•**12 March (8:00pm) Recital: Raymond Young, piano & Cheng Wai, piano**

•**17 March (7:30pm) AND 19 March Recital: Gustavo Romero, piano** (don't miss two recitals by this exciting pianist)

Additional events (non-Arts Festival) (tickets available for the following LCSD events at Urbtix outlets or by advance reservation at 2734-9009 unless otherwise noted)

AT SHATIN TOWN HALL:

- 11 March** *Pong Pong Live in March 2009*
- 13-15 March (7:30pm) and 14-15 (3:00pm)** in the Exhibition Gallery, *Family Fiesta: Jumbo Kids Theatre* (in Cantonese)
- 15 March (3:00pm)** in the Auditorium *Shen Wenyu Plays Rachmaninov*, Pan Asia Symphony Orchestra

AT TAI PO CIVIC CTR. AUDITORIUM:

- 21 February** *Family Fiesta: Harry Goh Goh: My Dad is a Magician 2* (a huge hit worldwide for all ages)



AT OTHER VENUES: (limited listing)

- 13-14 February** *Nodame Cantabile*, Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra at Queen Elizabeth Stadium (a Valentine's special with delightfully classical pieces.



- 18 February** *Why Saxophone? Saxophone Quartet Night Rach 3* with The Sax Pack (great name!!) at City Hall Theatre
- 19 & 22 February (3:00pm on the 22nd)** *Rach 3*, Joyce Yang, Piano, with Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra at Cultural Centre Concert Hall (Joyce Yang was the silver medalist at the 2005 Van Cliburn Intl. Piano Competition and will play the ever-popular and challenging 3rd Piano Concerto by Rachmaninov)

- 8 March (3:00pm)** *Haydn's Cello*, City Chamber Orchestra of Hong Kong at Tsuen Wan Town Hall (a long trip out to Tsuen Wan but an exciting programme that features Alendander Rudin on cello and as guest conductor)

UPCOMING EVENT:

- 29 March** *Encore Series: Evgeny Kissin, Piano* at Cultural Centre Concert Hall (Tickets go on sale 18 February for this incredible pianist who will be playing Prokofiev and Chopin. I heard him several years ago and would rank Kissin as one of the top five pianists playing to day)



CCN committee: Gillian Kew (Editor); Charlotte Weiss (Arts Editor); Anita Chan; Sonia McConville; Nerissa Ngan; Frances Storey; Joan Tsui; Please send submissions and advertisements (\$50 for business ads – other ads free), to Mrs. Storey, Residence 14, Flat 12A, or by email to gilliankew@yahoo.com, no later than Feb 20th 2009 for placement in the March edition. For back issues and links, visit <http://www.gilliankew.org/newsletter.shtml> (note that file size is large and the

On Valentine's Day - By Anita Chan

Love Birds, we miss the invisible you on Valentine's Day, where are you? For so long we have been feeding you with organic vegetables on our farm, now we are fending you off with nets. Please come on Valentine's Day, we will for love's sake, give you one more serving of the sweet and fresh veggies, and no more!



*Fancy we for the sight of you love birds, Though we have been dourly hurt!
Who dares? Who cares? But to tender and spare.*

Begging love birds to come once more is an irresistible passion on Valentine's Day. Our love birds on the farm are harbingers of organic foods; no matter what foods sprout from the ground, they are the first to taste; they are our models in choosing which foods to grow. Great, Valentine birds!

Hi Birdies, can you offer some ideas on choosing Valentine's gifts in organic ways? Diamonds and Tiffany's gift sets to make the ladies swoon? Or over-wrapped gift sets, the stock-in-trade of so many commercialized producers who see profits in a new light. "Hey", your birdsong seemingly cries, "Be organic! Be green!".

For love recipes, homemade chocolates, Valentine cooking classes won't come late!

Engraving love letters in our own hand, Lovers delve in a magical green gifts land!
Be inspired by great ideas of green sustainable gifts, what can be more environmental and meaningful in showing our hearts? A deep kiss? A love note? An oath? Yes, love birds, your message is clear – green as the evergreen, for a heavenly cause.

Christmas Kisses, New Year Wishes - based on events over Christmas and the New Year – by Anita Chan

The mulled wine uncorks our hearts for a new year,
Viruses-counteracted! Joy-flavored! Wishes for the year!
Cinnamon, lemon and warm touches of wine,
Together we form a picture of jolly life!

The graduation marquee harbors our minds wisely wide,
Scholar-versioned! Sociability-cushioned! Wishes thrive!
Jasmine, chrysanthemum and warm sips of tea,
Together we work for a reunion of many a worthy thee!

Mammoth Tree You fight to survive,
Erosion-resisted! Nature-affectionate! Wishes drive!
Buffer, barrier and a thin coat of whitewash,
Together we supply nutrients to the giant against its odds!

The campus fleet-footed transport brims over the ramp,
Petrol-watched! Engine-green artifice! Wishes overwhelm!
Foot-ride, noise-free ride and a cry of environmental wise,
Together we build a pollution-free campus CU-wide!

The grand Astronaut Day gleams with starry red flags,
Astronomy-leaped! Space-gearred tips! Wishes react!
National figures, exclusive few and a forum of wits,
Together we back the framing of infinite space kits!

Cont...

The December Homecoming Day makes the heyday,
Harmony-relayed! Smart matches-powered! Wishes wave!
Proliferating bestowals, sincere and eager hugs of the alma mater,
Together we drive away the cold wave of many solitary winters

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Tel: 2812 0850 <http://asianartworks.wordpress.com>

Strollers Needed - Long standing Hong Kong charity in Sham Shui Po is in need of two strollers for homeless children. If you would like to donate a used stroller please contact Anna at: sanchezana04@gmail.com

