14 發光的城市 AROUND TOWN TIMES

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2008 • 7

Singer Stanley Huang

(黃立行) celebrated the success of his recent album We All Lay Down in the End (最後只好躺 下來) by bedding 30 fans, the Apple Daily reported this week. But unlike Edison Chen (陳冠希), who managed to tackle at least half as many women — and has the images to prove it — Huang appeared with all the admirers at once, and fully clothed. The scoop, of course, turns out to be a PR stunt. And it worked.

Pop Stop has learned where singers from CTV's One Million Star (超級星光大道) go when their shine wears off. Yoga Lin (林宥嘉), a first-generation winner of the talent show, took some time off from crooning last week to adjudicate a contest for models vying to become the spokeswoman for a brand of panty liners.

In an Apple Daily column headlined, "Strange old man chooses winner by staring at their derrieres (盯屁屁選妃 怪叔叔)," Lin appeared in a photograph with two scantily clad models boasting that the panty liners are of such high quality that unsatisfied users could return the product.

Meanwhile, pop idol Wang Lee-hom (王力宏) might be in love, according to a report in the Apple Daily. His supposed love interest is Japanese singer Uehara Takako (上原多香子), who it seems has caught on late to the celebrity trend of going out without wearing any underwear a la Britney Spears, Lindsay Lohan and Paris Hilton.

Wang and Takako were shooting a music video together when the daily's intrepid reporter snapped them lounging on a sofa, which revealed that Takako was knickerless. The gossip rag published the photo, but was unusually coy and censored the starlet's lower thigh.

While Wang may be falling in love, Hong Kong singer and actress Vivian Chow (周慧敏),



Above: What do Yoga Lin and a panty liner have in common Top: Stanley Huang was almost bedridden earlier this week.

41, is falling out of love. Or is that back in love?

The Canto-pop star's relationship with on-again, offagain boyfriend Ni Zhen (倪震), 44, reportedly ended earlier in the week amid rumors that the couple were to marry by the end of this year, according to Apple and the Liberty Times (the Taipei Times' sister newspaper). Pictures published in the former showed Ni playing tonsil hockey with 21-year-old Miffty Zhang (張 茆), a college student.

"I know that in everyone's eyes I'm not a very good boyfriend," he said in a message sent to the media. "I just want to be friends [with Chow]."

The Liberty Times, meanwhile, speculated that Ni openly two-timed Chow because he didn't know how to reject her marriage proposal to her face. Apple, for its part, said that Zhang must be very "open-minded" because she often hangs out at pubs and her blog features numerous pictures of her wearing skimpy clothing and bikinis.

"I can date whomever I want," Zhang reportedly said in response to media queries. "Besides, he's not married." Open-minded indeed.

Yesterday, however, the couple's big day appeared to be back on after Ni sent out another e-mail to the media, announcing that the pair would soon wed.

- COMPILED BY NOAH BUCHAN

A winter affair

eel like rockin' out tomorrow? Put on a coat. A host of bands are putting on My Herbal Romance 2, a free, daylong outdoor show at the windy Zhongshan Bridge Riverside Park (中山橋下河濱公園) near the Grand Hotel in Taipei.

The event is being organized by 10 indie bands, many of which frequently perform at Underworld (地下社會) in Taipei. Expect a back-to-basics rock and punk party - each of the bands chipped in to hire a sound company to run the PA system. The concert site is a public skating rink under a freeway overpass, and it's bring-your-own-beer. Ah-Chang (阿強), the lead singer of

the rock group 88 Balaz (八十八顆芭樂 籽) and one of the organizers, described the event as a "rock 'n' roll weiya (尾牙, year-end party)." The event was inspired by the

first Herbal Romance (named with reference to the band My Chemical

Romance), held a few months ago in the spirit of punk subversion. With a rudimentary sound system and drum kit, 88 Balaz and two other bands, Random (隨性) and Inhuman Species (非人物種), set up at a park one evening on Shida Road (師大路) and played to passersby for several hours. They hadn't obtained the proper permits, but no one complained and everyone had fun, said Ah-Chang, whose real name is Lee Chi-ming (李奇明)

He is no stranger to spontaneous doit-yourself rock parties, having served as one of the masterminds behind Trash Stage (爛舞台), a rock festival parodying the Formoz Rock Festival with its Wind, Fire and Mountain stages. The show, also held at the site of tomorrow's event, was welcomed as a free alternative to Formoz, where tickets cost NT\$3,000 for a three-day pass, and attracted a smaller but enthusiastic crowd of 300 people.

Concertgoers tomorrow will be treated to a variety of rock sounds. In addition to the punk-fused rock of 88 Balaz and the zany hardcore of Inhuman Species, the lineup includes nu-metal band Respect (尊敬樂團), funk rockers Dianzibiao (電子婊) and The Fake Literary and Artistic Teenage Club (假 文藝青年俱樂部, FLAT Club), a band that mixes Brit-pop and psychedelic rock. Also scheduled to play are Damnkidz, a punk band from Taichung.

Revelers at the Zhongshan Bridge Riverside Park in July. Tomorrow, 10 indie bands will gather at the same spot for a

PHOTO COURTESY OF 88 BAL

daylong rock festival called My Herbal Romance 2.

The quickest way to get there is to walk along a path and pedestrian bridge to the park, which starts at the Taipei Fine Arts Museum. Be forewarned that even though there's a dedicated pedestrian path, you'll have to walk across a bridge and along a busy freeway artery.

Ah-Chang has a YouTube video (balaz88.pixnet.net/blog/post/23838131) that shows the route. It's worth watching for those unfamiliar with the area.

– DAVID CHEN

BAND SCHEDULE:

3PM **OH!SERENA** tw.streetvoice.com/profile/home. asp?sd=497031

3:40PM FEED ME (餵我樂團) www.wretch.cc/blog/FEEDME4M

FLAT CLUB 4:20PM (假文藝青年俱樂部) www.indievox.com/flatclub

DAMN KIDZ 5PM damnkidz-tw.blogspot.com

5:40PM DIANZIBAO (電子婊) tw.streetvoice.com/profile/home. asp?sd=599150

6:20PM SIDEFFECT tw.streetvoice.com/profile/home.asp?sd=4479

RESPECT (尊敬) 7PM www.wretch.cc/blog/Respect2006

7:40PM 88 BALAZ (八十八顆芭樂籽) balaz88.pixnet.net/blog

8:20PM DANGZAI KONGZHONG (盪在空中) tw.youtube.com/user/Qkid1226

INHUMAN SPECIES 9PM (非人物種)

inhumanband.blogspot.com

FESTIVAL NOTES:

WHAT: My Herbal Romance 2 WHEN: Tomorrow from 3pm until 10pm WHERE: Zhongshan Bridge Riverside Park (中山橋下河濱公園). For directions, see the map at ratgroup.blogspot.com/2007/07/blogpost_24.html. For video directions, visit balaz88 pixnet.net/blog/post/23838131

Yule be in the mood for a little song and dance

 $D_{({\rm \ensuremath{\bar{m}}}{\rm \ensuremath{\bar{m}}}{\rm \ensuremath{\bar{x}}})}$ was a student and disciple of Taiwan's modern dance pioneer, the late Tsai Jui-yueh (蔡瑞月). She established her own company, the Grace Hsiao Dance Theater (蕭靜文舞蹈團), in 1985 both to perform her own works and to reconstruct and preserve those of her beloved teacher.

Their relationship was more than that of student-teacher; Tsai was the motherin-law of Grace's sister, Ondine Hsiao (蕭 渥廷), who is a dance teacher.

One of Tsai's traditions was to have a Christmas party for her students and their families, and the Hsiao sisters have kept this tradition alive since Tsai moved to Australia in 1983 (she died there in 2005).

Tomorrow night, the sisters are

she said. "Everyone is welcome." The party will be hosted by DJ Marcus Aurelius (another family connection; he's the nephew of Grace's husband David Maurice) and Huang Yiyun (黃亦筠)

The festivities begin with a dance performance by students of the Grace Hsiao Dance Theater, followed by jazz music by Mandy Gaines & Friends.

Two more bands will play, Beatbox and Jesus Rocks (搖滾主耶稣), and there will also be some caroling, Grace said.

"There was an 1875 Taiwanese hymn book with four Aboriginal songs and I'm going to sing one of them," she said.

In keeping with another tradition, there will also be a short foot-washing

ceremony. "In between [the bands], a minister

will wash some people's feet. It's a tradition from the Bible to inspire people to be kind to others ... " Grace said.



There's plenty of room at the inn for tomorrow's Tsai Jui-yueh Dance Research Institute Christmas Party. PHOTO COURTESY OF TSAI JUI-YUEH DANCE INSTITUTE

Mayday (五月天) and Poetry of the Day After (後青春期的詩)

- with 15.58 percent of sales
- Stanley Huang (黃立行) and We All Lay Down in the End

TOP FIVE MANDARIN ALBUMS DEC. 5 TO DEC. 11

- (最後只好躺下來) with 13.85%
- Judy Chiang (江蕙) and Jia Ni Lan Lao Lao (甲你攬牢牢) with 8.89%
- Jam Hsiao (蕭敬騰) and Jam Hsiao (蕭敬騰) with 3.949
- Rainie Yang (楊丞琳) and Rainie's Proclamation Not Yet a Woman (半熟宣言) with 3.44%

ALBUM CHART COMPILED FROM G-MUSIC (WWW.G-MUSIC.COM.TW). BASED ON RETAIL SALE

throwing open the gates of the rebuilt Japanese-style studio that was Tsai's base in Taipei for decades, the Rose Historic Site, for a three-and-a-half

hour Christmas party. "It's a tradition started by my teacher, Tsai Jui-yueh, 60 years ago," Grace Hsiao said in a telephone interview on Wednesday night.

"It's a party, not just for dance students or dance lovers, but for everyone to enjoy. All Taipei residents,"

"We also have a wishing tree. You can write a note, for peace on earth or whatever, and put it on the tree," she said.

"Usually we have 200 to 300 people, but after our big performance this year [the 2008 Tsai Jui-yueh Dance Festival 3, which was held a few weeks ago] and because my company is still down south on tour, I'm a little late in getting the

promotion out," she said. The studio is a great place to enjoy a performance under the stars. Chairs and bleachers are set up on the lawn, and the folding doors of the studio are pushed back so it can be used as a theater.

However, it is December, and while it's great to be outside when its sunny during the day, the temperatures can drop rapidly in the evening, so Grace said to remember to dress warmly. — DIANE BAKER

PERFORMANCE NOTES:

WHAT: Tsai Jui-yueh Dance Research nstitute Christmas Party **WHEN:** Tomorrow from 6:30pm to 10pm WHERE: Tsai Jui-yueh Dance Research Institute/Rose Historic Site (蔡瑞月舞蹈社), 4F, 40-1, Zongshan N Rd Sec 2, Taipei City 台北市中山北路二段40-1號4樓) **ADMISSION:** Free; for more information call (02) 2560-5724 or visit www.dance.org tw/modules/news/article.php?storyid=47

Theater

In The Drought Goddess (大神魃), by Ethan Chen Production House (野墨 坊), the Yellow Emperor (Huang Di, 黃 帝) banishes his daughter because he fears that she has become too powerful after she helps him win an important battle. [See story on Page 15.] The traditional opera, which is the second production in the New Idea Theater Festival (新點子劇展) and features beiguan (北管) and nanguan (南管) music, examines how the daughter copes with loneliness.

▶ National Experimental Theater, Taipei City

▶ Tonight and tomorrow at 7:30pm and tomorrow and Sunday at 2:30pm ▶ Tickets are NT\$500, available through NTCH ticketing

The Taipei National University of the Arts' (國立台北藝術大學) theater department will stage two short plays: For All Time, a one-act play by Rita Wellman that tells the tragic story of a group of women dealing with loss; and an adaptation of Rainer Werner Fassbinder's Bremer Freiheit, which is based on the life of 19th-century serial killer Geesche Gottfried. ► Taipei National University of the Arts

— Performing Arts Center (國立台北藝 術大學展演藝術中心戲劇廳), 1, Xueyuan Rd, Beitou Dist, Taipei City (台北市北投 區學園路1號)

▶ Today and tomorrow at 7:30pm and tomorrow and Sunday at 2:30pm Tickets are NT\$350, available through NTCH ticketing

Human Condition (人間條件),

Green Ray Theater's (緑光劇團) newest play, centers on the life of a 17year-old girl who rebels against her dysfunctional family's listless existence.

Sun Yat-sen Hall of the National Sun Yat-sen University Art Center (高雄中山 大學逸仙館), 70 Lienhai Rd, Kaohsiung City (高雄市蓮海路70號) Tomorrow at 2:30pm and 7:30pm

▶ Tickets are NT\$500 to NT\$2,000, available through ERA ticketing

The Little Matches Girl (賣番仔火 的小女孩) by Taiyuan Puppet Theater Company (台原偶戲團) tells the story of a greedy grandmother who forces her granddaughter to work in a factory that makes matches. The girl befriends a little boy and together they discover that the matches are alive. One night, a disaster threatens

the lives of both children and their match friends ▶ Nadou Theater (納豆劇場), 79 Xining N Rd, Taipei City (台北市西寧北路79號) Tomorrow at 3pm

▶ Tickets are NT\$200, available through NTCH ticketing

Classical music

2008 Christmas Concert — Santa Is Gone? (2008聖誕音樂會-聖誕老公公不見了) is a family concert featuring the Taipei Philharmonic Chamber Chorus (台北愛樂室内合唱團) the Philharmonic Theater Workshop (愛樂劇工廠) and the jazz orchestra of the Taipei Philharmonic (台北愛樂青 年管弦樂團附設爵士樂團) under the direction of Hsieh Shu-jing (謝淑靖) and conducted by Ku Yu-chong (古育仲). The program includes music from Polar Express and Christmas favorites such as

Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer, Silent Night and Frosty the Snowman. ▶ Today at 7:30pm and tomorrow 2:30pm

▶ National Concert Hall, Taipei City ▶ Tickets are NT\$400 to NT\$1,200, available through NTCH ticketing

Star Light, Dreams and Christmas Carols — Evergreen Symphony Orchestra Charity Concert (星燦.夢想.耶誕頌.長榮交 響樂團 — Xmas慈善音樂會) opens

with Anderson's Christmas Festival. Blind soprano Chu Wan-hua (朱萬花), who is also the Secretary General of the Arts Promotion Association for the Disabled (APAD) and longtime promoter of disabled musicians, will sing Moonlight Serenade (月光小 夜曲), Twilight on the Tamsui River (淡水暮色), When I Open My Heart (打開心内的門窗), The Green Island Serenade (緑島小夜曲) and other well-known Taiwanese folk songs. Blind clarinetist Chang Lin-fong (張 林峰) will perform in Weber's Clarinet Concerto No. 2. All proceeds from this concert will be given to APAD to help create more opportunities for disabled performers. The Evergreen Symphony Orchestra will be conducted by Gernot Schmalfuss. More information on the concert can be found at www.orchestra. evergreen.com.tw Thursday at 7:30pm

▶ National Concert Hall, Taipei City Tickets are NT\$500 and NT\$1,500, available through ERA ticketing

Hung Hsiao-chin 2008 Solo Obeo Recital (洪小琴2008年雙 簧管獨奏會) features young oboist

Hung Hsiao-chin (洪小琴) performing a program that includes Strauss' Oboe concerto, Skalkottas' Concertino for Solo Oboe and Piano Accompaniment and Pasculli's Concerto Sopra Motivi Dell Opera La Favorita Di Donizetti for Oboe and Piano. Hung will be accompanied by pianist Chen Yi-min (陳藝民). Today at 7:30pm

▶ Kaohsiung City Concert Hall (高雄市 音樂館演奏廳), 99 Hehsi Rd, Kaohsiung City (高雄市河西路99號)

Neo-sixties pop act Tahiti 80, an upbeat quartet from France who sing in English, perform tonight at The Wall. The repertoire has been touring in Asia to promote its recently released fourth album, Activity Center, and is especially popular in Japan, where the group's 2000 album Puzzle sold 50,000 units during the first six weeks after its release. Tahiti 80 is known for lead singer Xavier Boyer's innocently sweet falsettos and combining elements from classic 1960s pop, disco, 1970s AM radio, and French pop with a deft contemporary touch. To learn more about the band, visit www.myspace.com/tahiti80 ▶ The Wall (這檣), B1, 200, Roosevelt Rd Sec 4, Taipei City (台北市羅斯福路 四段200號B1). Call (02) 2930-0162 or

[EVENTS & ENTERTAINMENT]

Highlight

▶ Tickets are NT\$200, available through NTCH ticketing

Contemporary

Tomorrow night it's hip-hop and positive vibes at VU Livehouse, as Island Jam presents Hip Hop Winter Clash, with DJs Marcus Aurelius, Sofa King, and Mixter-T and Shaman, and Jamaican sound system Black Reign International. ▶ B1, 77, Wuchang St Sec 2, Taipei City (台北市武昌街二段77號B1). Tel: (02) 2314-1868 ▶ Tonight at 11pm NT\$350 admission includes one drink

Wu Bai (伍佰) and China Blue appear tomorrow night at Party Room at the



Tahiti 80 appears at The Wall tonight.

visit www.the-wall.com.tw for more information Tonight at 8pm Admission is NT\$1,200 in advance (tickets can be purchased at the venue) or NT\$1,400 at the door

month's Urban Simple Life festival, performs tomorrow. Japanese band Plastic Trees, whose sound ranges from hard-core rock to pop and also borrows from Britpop bands, plays on Sunday. On Wednesday, underground rockers The Chairman (董事長樂團) preside over a 1980s theme party and

▶ B1, 200, Roosevelt Rd Sec 4, Taipei City (台北市羅斯福路四段200號B1). Call (02) 2930-0162 or visit www.the-wall. com.tw for more information Starts at 8pm tonight; 8:30pm tomorrow (doors open at 8pm); 7pm on Sunday (doors open at 6pm) ▶ Tonight's show is NT\$1,200 in advance (available at venue). Shows tomorrow and Sunday are already sold-out. Tickets for the Christmas Eve show are NT\$400 in advance (available at venue) and NT\$500 at the door

ShantaaL (鼓動的曼陀羅) takes to the stage tonight at **Witch House** (女巫店), playing the sounds of India, Central Asia, the Middle East and Spain. Tomorrow it's solo act lan (芮唯) and indie folk outfit Daxiaojie (大小姐樂團) 7, Ln 56, Xinsheng S Rd Sec 3, Taipei City (台北市新生南路三段56巷7號). For more information, call (02) 2362-5494 or visit www.witchhouse.org Performances start at 9:30pm. Restaurant/bar with queer/feminist bookstore and large collection of board games open 11am to midnight Sundays through Wednesdays; 11am

to 1am Thursdays through Saturdays Entrance fee for music shows is NT\$300, includes one drink

Tonight at Riverside Cafe (河岸留 **=**) owner and highly sought-after session guitarist Geddy Lin (林正如) performs with his jazz trio. Afterwards,

Fusion Blanca (白融合) takes to the stage. The group features Jyotsna

Pang (彭靖惠) on vocals with a backing jazz group, an accordionist and scratch DJ. Performing tomorrow night is vocalist Peggy Hsu (許哲珮). B1, 2, Ln 244, Roosevelt Rd Sec 3, Taipei City (台北市羅斯福路三段244巷 2號B1), next to Taipower Building (台電 大樓). Call (02) 2368-7310 or visit www. riverside.com.tw for more information Shows start at 9pm tonight and tomorrow

▶ NT\$400 tonight and tomorrow

Sea Journey Jazz Combo (海洋知 音爵士樂團), a four-piece group with vibraphone, bass, drums and guitar, appears tonight at Sappho de Base, while The Montunos Latin Band spices up proceedings tomorrow night. The Sappho Jazz Band performs on Tuesday as usual, with an open jam afterwards. Chicago electric-blues band BoPoMoFo (クタロC) rocks the house on Wednesday, and on Thursday the Sappho Jazz Band is back to host an open jam to celebrate Christmas. ▶ B1, 1, Ln 102, Anhe Rd Sec 1, Taipei Citv (台北市安和路一段102巷1號B1). Call (02) 2700-5411 (after 9pm) or visit www. sappho102.biz for more information ▶ Performances begin at 10:30pm on weekends, 10pm on weekdays No admission fee

Tonight at **Tone 56 Live Bar** it's

New Orleans funk and rock powerhouse The Kenyatta Trio. Tomorrow DJ Shawl of South Africa spins tunes from "yesteryear to today's techno." ▶ 1F, 56, Minguan E Rd Sec 3, Taipei City (台北市民權東路三段56號1樓), near the corner of Fuxing North (復興北)

and Minquan East (民權東) roads. Tel: (02) 2517-3869 Music shows go from 9:30pm to

12:30am tonight and tomorrow, and 7:30pm to 9:30pm on Sundays No admission fee

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE WAL

Core Pacific City Mall, in the final show of a five-weekend run. The Taiwanese rock pioneer is currently promoting his latest album, Spacebomb (太空彈). ▶ Party Room, Core Pacific City Mall (京 華城), 12F, 138, Bade Rd Sec 2, Taipei Citv (台北市八德路四段138號12樓) Tomorrow at 9pm

Tickets are NT\$900, available through ERA ticketing or online at www.tickets. com.tw; also available at the door. Ticket price includes one drink. No assigned seating

The Wall (這牆) features three

major acts this weekend. Appearing tonight is French indie-pop and soul group Tahiti 80, which sings in English [see Highlight]. Alt-rock chanteuse Faith Yang (楊乃文), who sang a duet with Jarvis Cocker at this