

POP STOP



A topless Zhang Ziyi (章子怡) has been warming up winter for the blogosphere...

Zhang Ziyi, "a disgrace to the Chinese people"?

Wang Lee-hom (王力宏) for the top spot in G-music's sales charts for the final week of December...

But Wang's label, Sony, doubted the accuracy of the charts. A company representative offered a sore response...



Fans aren't happy with A-hsin's New Year's Eve performance.

Others in the Chinese-language press dutifully regurgitated the posted blog comments, which included remarks to the effect of "get a room," "disgusting foreigner," "oh my, they're not even married," and "what a disgrace to the Chinese people..."

Gold Typhoon, shot back with more numbers: number one in mobile phone ring tones and nine other sales charts...

— COMPILED BY DAVID CHEN



Canadian indie-pop band Stars play at The Wall in Taipei on Monday night.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF STARS AND WHITE WABBIT RECORDS

Star turn

Described across the Internet as "beautiful, eloquent indie pop," the music of Montreal-based group Stars resonates with underground music fans in Taiwan.

Three of Stars' members are part of Broken Social Scene, which performed in Taipei in March of last year, and the two groups share a liking for ornate pop arrangements and quirky sounds...

PERFORMANCE NOTES:

WHAT: Canadian indie-pop band Stars, live at The Wall WHEN: Monday at 8pm WHERE: The Wall (這牆), B1, 200, Roosevelt Rd Sec 4, Taipei City...



— DAVID CHEN

TOP FIVE MANDARIN ALBUMS

DEC. 26 TO JAN. 1

- 1 Alan Luo (羅志祥) and Trendy Man (潮男正傳) with 37.8% 2 Mayday (五月天) and Poetry of the Day After (後青春期的詩) with 34.62% 3 Wang Lee-hom (王力宏) and Heart Beat (心·跳) with 14.99%



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

EVENTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Theater

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

春牛通, looks at the significance of the coming Chinese zodiac. Plum Wine Factory (烏梅酒廠), Huashan Culture Park (華山創意文化園), 1, Bade Rd Sec 1, Taipei City...

Classical music

Piano Music From Formosa — New Piano Compositions by Taiwanese Composers (大音希聲 — 2009新台灣音樂鋼琴作品發表會) showcases recent works by 10 Taiwanese composers.

Highlight

The world-renowned Cirque du Soleil is coming to town with its production Alegria, which starts next Wednesday and runs until Feb. 22.



The "Tamir Duo" are part of Alegria, a production by Cirque du Soleil, which is making its first appearance in Taiwan in a month-long run of shows.

The Eight Generals (八家將) The work will be performed by the Taipei Chinese Orchestra (台北市立國樂團), conducted by Lee Ying (李英) and feature soprano Mewas Lin (林惠珍).

Contemporary Tonight at VU Live House it's an evening of minimal techno with Ear Worm German Sound (耳朵蟲德國之聲).

in advance at the venue Tonight at Witch House (女巫店). Come on! Bay Bay! (來吧! 媽媽!), which has an indie-pop sound similar to Belle and Sebastian, takes to the stage.