

POP  
STOP

The fallout from the battle of the boobs being waged by sex kittens **Shushu** (舒舒) and **Yaoyao** (瑤瑤), real name Kuo Shu-yao (郭書瑤), continues this week with *Next Magazine* (壹周刊) entering into extended speculation about how Shushu, real name Tseng Ya-ling (曾雅鈴), obtained her 32E bazoorkas.

The National Communications Commission (NCC) had voiced its disapproval when the pair gave a comprehensive rundown of their cha-chas on national television.

Seeing as young men across the country seem to have achieved unrivalled levels of excitement from watching Shushu get to grips with a pneumatic drill while wearing a sexy workman's outfit and low-slung tank top in an ad for the Internet role-playing game *Prophecy Online* (預言Online), *Next's* line of inquiry appears immaterial.

Whether Shushu's turn in the advertisement is more or less sexually suggestive than rival Yaoyao's now infamous ad for *Kill Online* (殺Online) — in which her breasts are shown swaying as she straddles an undulating exercise machine — is open to question, but both have been pulled from public broadcast for the present. Shushu's ad has been taken down from buses.

Fortunately, for those bent, in the spirit of objective research, on determining the relative merits of Shushu and Yaoyao's ads for themselves, they are still available on YouTube.

Yaoyao's agent has accused Shushu of being a cheap knockoff of the original jug jiggler, but *Next* magazine helpfully quotes Shushu's agent rebuffing allegations of breast enhancement.

"I've felt her tits, and they're soft, not hard," the unnamed agent is quoted as saying.

The maelstrom of publicity has seen Shushu lose a contract to open the season for the Uni-President Lions. Yaoyao opened the season for the La New Bears on March 29.

Yaoyao has responded to the brouhaha by saying that she will now keep her woofers under wraps and work on cultivating a cute and vivacious image.

This does not, however, preclude the publication of a photo album later this year in which Yaoyao dons nurse and sailor costumes.

"As to how much cleavage will be shown, we'll keep that to a minimum," her agent is quoted as saying. "You can't



Above: Yaoyao, the original. Top: Shushu, the contender.

PHOTOS: TAIPEI TIMES

really specify the number of inches of cleavage shown in the contract."

Staying with the theme of exhibitionists, a new face is likely to capture major paparazzi attention if the reported relationship between porn star **Maria Ozawa** and local actor **Bryant Chang** (張睿家) takes off.

Ozawa, who visited Taiwan to attend Spring Scream last weekend, has a role in *Invitation Only* (絕命派對), billed as Taiwan's first slasher horror film.

Chang has a starring role in the film, which is scheduled for release on April 17.

The star of such hardcore fare as *Shemale Orgy Gangbang Rape* and *Enema Clyster Large Jet Best Collection* for Japan's DAS porn production house, Ozawa's visit was much anticipated, and according to *Next*, super-stud **Ethan Ruan** (阮經天) had publicly expressed an interest in meeting her.

The magazine quoted Ruan as stating that he hoped his girlfriend would not be jealous, but there were things Ozawa could do that his girlfriend couldn't.

Ruan reportedly got a slap on the wrist from his handlers at SetTV (三立) for making inappropriate comments and any meeting between the two was nixed.

In response to the publication of photos showing Chang and Ozawa getting up close and personal, the porn star would not commit herself beyond saying that Chang was a nice boy who was very considerate.

— COMPILED BY IAN BARTHOLOMEW



## Night trippers

If you couldn't make it to Spring Scream or if you did but didn't get enough, don't worry. A few of the international acts are sticking around and you can see them at two venues in Taipei this weekend.

Tonight Bliss hosts After the Scream, with post-rock soundscapes from instrumental band Collider, the hard rock of Doublewide, Gross Fugue's multimedia electronic rock, The DoLittles' progressive rock and The Pinetop Surgeons — the odd band out in this mix — playing bluegrass. The night finishes up with French reggae/dub selector Zion Selectah.

It will be interesting to see how the crowd reacts to such an unusual mix of genres.

Gross Fugue's last show at VU Live House (地下絲絨) was sadly under-attended, given the band's high-energy performance, which features a stand-up bass that is played with a bow to elicit a variety of sounds and effects, guitar, vocals, visual media and highly eccentric lyrics.

Tomorrow Japan's Skunkrice plays its driving heavy electronic rock at VU Live House for the Asian Rock Festival. They share the bill with KbN, Collider and South Korea's Nevada 51.

Skunkrice's music is darker and deeper than standard club fare. But with catchy, gritty bass lines and an industrial hard-core meanness, it is made for dancing.

The band was established four years ago by T2low



Stinky, scary and scintillating.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF SKUNKRICE

(Shinichi Wakide), but didn't get "serious and busy" until Sin (Shinichi Kosuge) and Kojiro (Takashi Sasaki) joined the group a year ago, T2low said. They tour extensively to "show people that Japan is not just samurai, sumo and geisha," he said.

T2low cites Nine Inch Nails and The Prodigy as influences, but he's into "anything that sends a message of people living hard and moving to the next level."

He chose the band name Skunkrice because rice is a staple in Asia and is "a big part of our lives." As for the skunk part, T2low said he's "kind of cute but stinky," just like the animal. "There's another meaning for skunk but [I] don't think you can put that in the newspaper," he added.

Nevada 51's sound is self-described as "rock with a conscience." The band, which was first formed by high school classmates in 1997 under the name FID (Fighters in Destiny) but changed to Nevada 51 just before they graduated in 1999, plays music in support of various causes, especially anti-war events.

The group's moniker references Area 51 in Nevada and the band members' interest in UFOs and the paranormal. Influenced by Red Hot Chili Peppers and Limp Bizkit, it's no surprise that Spring Scream organizer Jimi Moe described the outfit as performing "really fun, poppy rap like Blink 182."

Underground experimental group KbN has been playing unique electronica for over a decade now. And Collider's music has a moving, hypnotic quality that would put the dance floor to sleep were it not for the way the music spirals up in intense crescendos.

— ALITA RICKARDS

## PERFORMANCE NOTES:

**WHAT:** After the Scream  
**WHERE:** Bliss, 148, Xinyi Rd Sec 4, Taipei City (台北市信義路四段148號)  
**WHEN:** Tonight from 10pm  
**ADMISSION:** Entry is free with proof of entry to Spring Scream, or NT\$200 (includes one drink) without

**WHAT:** The Asian Rock Festival  
**WHERE:** VU Live House, B1, 77, Wuchang St Sec 2, Taipei City (台北市武昌街二段77號B1)  
**WHEN:** Tomorrow from 11pm  
**ADMISSION:** NT\$350, includes one drink

## PERFORMANCE NOTES:

**WHAT:** Once, Upon Hearing the Skin Tone (膚色的時光)  
**WHEN:** From today through April 26 at 2:30pm on Saturdays and Sundays and 7:30pm from Tuesdays to Saturdays  
**WHERE:** 6F Performance Hall, EsLite Xinyi Store (誠品信義店6F展演廳), 6F, 11 Songgao Rd, Taipei City (台北市松高路11號6樓)  
**ADMISSION:** NT\$600, available through NTCH ticketing or online at [www.artsticket.com.tw](http://www.artsticket.com.tw)  
**ON THE NET:** [www.wretch.cc/blog/eslitestage](http://www.wretch.cc/blog/eslitestage)

## Theater

Cloud Gate Dance Theatre's (雲門舞集) second company, Cloud Gate 2, is celebrating its 10th anniversary with its annual **Spring Riot** (春門) tour, which begins today at Taipei's Novel Hall and will next month visit Hsinchu, Taichung and Kaohsiung. This year's lineup includes *Island of Silence* (鐵默之島) by Gu Ming-sheng (古名仲) and Lin Huai-ming's (林懷民) *Waiting for Spring Wind* (望春風).

► Novel Hall (新舞台), 3-1 Songshou Rd, Taipei City (台北市松壽路3-1號)

► Today, tomorrow, Wednesday and Thursday at 7:30pm, Sunday at 2:30pm

► Tickets are NT\$300 to NT\$1,200, available through NTCH ticketing or online at [www.artsticket.com.tw](http://www.artsticket.com.tw)

In **Hypnotism Show — A Mysterious Odyssey** (催眠秀) by 2F Theater (2F劇團), children who once believed in fairy tales and Santa Claus discover when they grow up that people need to be hypnotized to find life bearable.

► Guling Street Theater (牯嶺街小劇場), 2, Ln 5, Guling St, Taipei City (台北市牯嶺街5巷2號)

► Today at 7:30pm, tomorrow at 2:30pm and 7:30pm and Sunday at 2:30pm

► Tickets are NT\$350, available through NTCH ticketing or online at [www.artsticket.com.tw](http://www.artsticket.com.tw)

Ping-Fong Acting Troupe's (屏風表演班) 2002 **The Aurora Borealis** (北極之光) returns to Metropolitan Hall for 10 performances starting tonight. The

theme of this star-studded, big-budget production that covers the last 20 years of Taiwanese history is first love over three generations and the promises and commitment that run through it.

► Metropolitan Hall (城市舞台), 25, Bade Rd Sec 3, Taipei City (台北市八德路三段25號)

► Tonight at 7:30pm, tomorrow and Sunday at 2:30pm and 7:30pm

► Tickets are NT\$600 to NT\$3,000, available through NTCH ticketing or online at [www.artsticket.com.tw](http://www.artsticket.com.tw)

In **O Sabbe Dharmakaya**, Mia Hsieh (謝鎮雅) from A Moving Sound (移動劇場) turns to the story of her mother, who was separated from her parents after coming to Taiwan in 1949. What begins as a family history becomes a monument to a collective tragedy.

► Performing Arts School 36 (表演36房), 156-1, Muxin Rd Sec 2, Taipei City (台北市木新路二段156-1號)

► Tonight at 7:40pm, tomorrow at 2:40pm and 7:40pm

► Tickets are NT\$450, available through NTCH ticketing or online at [www.artsticket.com.tw](http://www.artsticket.com.tw)

U-Theatre brings its six-part ode to its Laoquanshan (老泉山) home, **The Mountain Dawn** (入夜山嵐), to Kaohsiung tonight for two performances. The production is a contemplative reflection on the tranquil life on the mountain.

► Kaohsiung Cultural Center's Chih-teh Hall (高雄市立文化中心至德堂), 67 Wufu 1st Rd, Kaohsiung City (高雄市五福一路67號)

► Tonight and tomorrow at 7:30pm

► Tickets are NT\$400 to NT\$2,000, available through NTCH ticketing or online at [www.artsticket.com.tw](http://www.artsticket.com.tw)

## Classical

**The First Taipei International Lyricism in 20th Century Music Festival** (第一屆台北國際二十世紀美好音樂節) presents a series of concerts featuring 20th century composers that runs until Wednesday. Tonight's concert includes works by Bruno Maderna, Egon Wellesz, Wilhelm Grasz and Ernst Toch. Tomorrow's program lists works by Berthold Goldschmidt, Ernst Krenek, Karol Rathaus and Hans Gal. Sunday's concert will feature works by Boris Blacher, Julius Burger, and Samuel Barber. Further information can be found at [www.taipei-festival.org](http://www.taipei-festival.org).

► Today and tomorrow at 7:30pm and Sunday at 3pm

► Taichung Chungshan Hall (台中中山堂), 98 Suyesi Rd, Taichung City (台中市學士路98號)

► Tickets are NT\$300 to NT\$1,000, available through ERA ticketing or online at [www.ticket.com.tw](http://www.ticket.com.tw)

**Essence — Piano Duo Concert of Excellent Pianists in Taiwan** (當代精粹 — 經典台灣名家雙鋼琴之夜) is part of the 2009 Taiwan International Piano Festival (2009台灣國際鋼琴藝術節). The concert showcases emerging and established local pianists who will perform a program that includes Mozart's *Sonata for Two Pianos in D Major, KV. 448*, *Babier's Souvenir, Op. 28*, *Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue*,

Shostakovich's *Concertino, Op. 94* and Mussorgsky's *Picture at an Exhibition*. More information can be obtained at [www.proartist.com.tw](http://www.proartist.com.tw).

► Tuesday at 7:30pm

► National Concert Hall, Taipei City

► Tickets are NT\$250 to NT\$2,500, available through ERA ticketing or online at [www.ticket.com.tw](http://www.ticket.com.tw)

In **Humanity in a Time of Confrontation** (樂在戰火蔓延時), the Taipei Symphony Orchestra (臺北市立交響樂團) performs with guest conductor Peter Gulke and soloist David Grimal on violin. The program will include Penderecki's *Threnody to the Victims of Hiroshima*, Lutoslawsky's *Concerto for Orchestra* and Tchaikovsky's *Violin Concerto in D Major, Op. 35*.

► Today at 7:30pm

► National Concert Hall, Taipei City

► Tickets are NT\$200 to NT\$800, available at NTCH ticketing or online at [www.artsticket.com.tw](http://www.artsticket.com.tw)

tomorrow night as **VU Live House** hosts **Skunkrice**, an industrial dance band from Japan, expat post-rock group **Collider**, electronica outfit **KbN** and South Korean rock and hip-hop band **Nevada 51**. [See story above.]

► B1, 77, Wuchang St Sec 2, Taipei City (台北市武昌街二段77號B1). Tel: (02) 2314-1868

► Show begins at 11pm

► NT\$350 entrance fee includes one drink

Indie-electronica group **The Shine** and **Shine and Shine and Shine** (閃閃閃閃) holds a concert tonight at **The Wall** (這牆) to celebrate the release of its debut album. Also appearing this evening are DJ **F Dragon** (水果龍) and electronica group **Unfamiliar Friends Party** (不熟的朋友). Late night, the electronica sounds continue with industrial dance band **Skunkrice**, emotronic/

breakcore outfit **DynaTAC**, DJ **Debra** and **Spykee Fat**. [See Vinyl Word.] Tomorrow comedic indie-rock band **Wonfu** (旺福) takes to the stage.

► 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.thewall.com.tw](http://www.thewall.com.tw) for more information

► Shows start at 8:00pm and 11:30pm tonight and 9pm tomorrow

► Entrance fee is NT\$400 tonight and NT\$450 tomorrow

Indie pop act **Radicalo** takes to the stage tonight at **Witch House** (女巫店). Tomorrow night, it's folk-pop singer **Jasmine** (假死貓). On Thursday the venue hosts a couple of newcomers:

electronica-rock band **Dianzibiao** (電子婊樂隊) and **Marine** (馬林).

► 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](http://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

**Uno and Friends** a jazz group led by pianist Uno Wu (烏野黨), plays at **Riverside Cafe** (河岸留言) tonight.

**Hsu Chia-ying** (徐佳瑩), a winner from a previous season of the *One Million Star* (超級星光大道) pop idol show, performs tomorrow, with Indie-folk duo **katncandix2** (棉花糖) opening. On Sunday post-rock/emo band **Orangegrass** (橙草) and indie-electronica group **Nylas** split the bill.

► 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](http://www.riverside.com.tw) for more information

► Show starts at 9:30pm tonight, 9pm tomorrow and Sunday

► Entrance fee is NT\$400 tonight and Sunday, NT\$450 tomorrow, includes one drink

From tonight until Monday, **Riverside Live House** (西門紅樓展演館) hosts alt-folk songstress **Cheer Chen** (陳綺貞). All shows are already sold out.

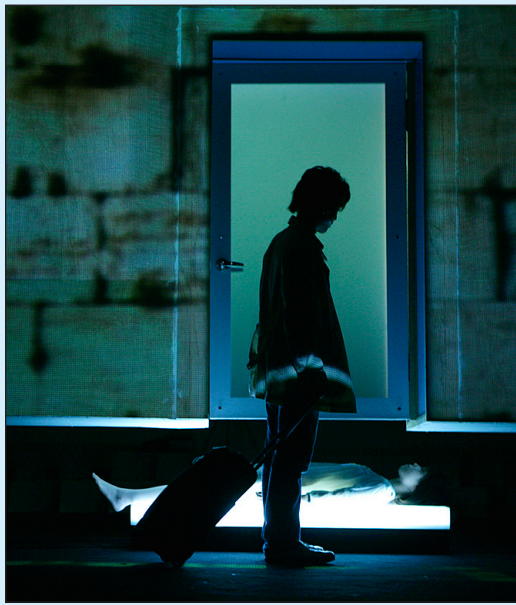
► 177 Xining S Rd, Taipei City (台北市西寧南路177號). Call (02) 2370-8805 or visit [www.riverside.com.tw](http://www.riverside.com.tw) for more information

► Shows start at 8:30pm

► All shows are sold out

House regulars **Jazz Your Mind** plays tonight at **Sappho de Base**. Tomorrow **Blues Vibrations** play surf rock, jam band and blues music.

On Tuesday **4 Peace Ensemble** plays jazz fusion music with Japanese tabla player **Waka**. On Wednesday



In *Once, Upon Hearing the Skin Tone*, audiences are invited to solve a murder mystery that involves 12 performers, 40 settings and Cheer Chen's music.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ESLITE

## Murder most foul

Known for his playful experiments with theatrical forms and languages, theater director Wang Jia-ming (王嘉明) teams up with songstress Cheer Chen (陳綺貞) and composer and music producer Chen Chien-chi (陳建騏) for his latest work *Once, Upon Hearing the Skin Tone* (膚色的時光), a mystery thriller musical about love and the atrocities and madness it entails.

For Wang, a sense of violence and death belies the seemingly sweet surface of Cheer Chen's music, a contrast that he uses to comment on lovers' passions and desires.

Wang uses a stage divided in half by a wooden wall as a device that obscures the actors behind it. This enables the director to exaggerate the work's suspense and mystery.

Audience members sat on either side of the wall can only gather clues as to what is happening on the other side.

"The idea of creating a dual stage is closely related to the voyeuristic and possessive nature of love. We want to be an omniscient seer and know everything about our lovers, but that's not possible," said Wang. The format greatly increases the logistic complexity of coordinating actors, live projections and music.

The play begins with an optometrist taking the audience back to a scene in which he is murdered. Twelve performers, including many seasoned stage actors such as Fa, Betsy Lan (藍貝芝) and Mo Zi-yi (莫子儀), traverse the play's 40 settings, which include a clinic, food stall, gym, bar and Egyptian hotel.

Pieces of the plot fall into place as each character reveals his or her secrets and thoughts through murmurs, monologues and song.

In the skilled hands of Chen Chien-chi, Cheer Chen's songs have been adapted to various styles ranging from Broadway, Indian ballads to a cappella numbers.

For those interested in seeing both sides of the story, ticket-holders can obtain a 25-percent discount for a second viewing.

— HO YI

## [ EVENTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT ]