



New York's 'Naked Cowboy' to run for mayor 紐約「赤裸牛仔」參選市長

A New York busker who calls himself "The Naked Cowboy" and entertains crowds of tourists in his underwear in Times Square year round, launched a bid to run for mayor.

"No one knows how to do more with less than yours truly, and that's the kind of thinking I plan on sharing with my fellow New Yorkers when you elect me," said Robert Burck, announcing his bid to challenge Mayor Michael Bloomberg for office.

The long-haired, tattooed Burck has become a Times Square feature and made an official announcement at his regular **haunt** last week.

Dressed in nothing but a cowboy hat, boots, and a pair of white underpants emblazoned with the words "Naked Cowboy," Burck earns about US\$1,000 a day with his busking.

Bloomberg, a billionaire and Wall Street whiz, intends to run for re-election as mayor hoping for a third four-year **term**.

He has already spent millions of dollars on his campaign, including a blizzard of television commercials, while his only real challenger, the little-known city **comptroller**, William Thompson, has struggled to be heard.

Burck, meanwhile, intends to mobilize his popularity with New Yorkers and use his daily Times Square platform to ensure that when the votes are tallied in November the cowboy **boot is firmly on the other foot**. (AFP)

一位自稱「赤裸牛仔」、一年到頭都穿著內褲在時代廣場娛樂遊客的紐約街頭藝人，宣布要競選紐約市長了。

羅柏·柏克說：「除了敵人在下之外，沒人知道要怎麼用更少的資源做更多的事，於是我本著和我親愛的紐約同胞分享的出發點，希望你們將票投給我。」他宣佈將挑戰現任市長麥可·彭博，投身競選市長。

留著長髮、身上有刺青的柏克已經成為時代廣場上的知名人物，上週他在定期出沒的地點宣佈了要參選的消息。

只戴著牛仔帽、穿著靴子和上面繡有「赤裸牛仔」字樣的白色內褲在街頭賣藝的柏克，日收入約一千美元。

華爾街起家的億萬富翁彭博也將參選連任，期望能第三度當選四年任期的紐約市長。

他已經為了競選活動投入上百萬美元，其中包括大量電視廣告；而他唯一真正的對手，是沒沒無名的紐約市主計長威廉·湯普森，他還在努力打響知名度。

同時，柏克打算利用他平常在時代廣場的表演平台和紐約客搏感情，以確保等到十一月選舉時整個選情可以豬羊變色。
(法新社/翻譯：袁聖豐)

Above: Robert Burck, a.k.a. the "Naked Cowboy," sings while standing on a small clear patch of concrete in the middle of Times Square on March 2, 2009. PHOTO: AP

上圖：三月二日，別名「赤裸牛仔」的羅柏·柏克站在紐約時代廣場中央一小塊乾淨的水泥地上高歌。

照片：美聯社

TODAY'S WORDS 今日單字

1. **haunt** /hɔnt/ n.

常出沒的地方 (chang2 chu1 mo4 de5 di4 fang1)

例：As soon as he got back from his vacation, Leo immediately headed back to his old haunts.

(李奧一度假回來，立刻就跑回老地方去。)

2. **term** /tɜ:m/ n.

任期 (ren4 qi2)

例：The president left office after serving two four-year terms.

(總統兩任四年任期屆滿後便卸任下台。)

3. **comptroller** /kən'trɒlə/ n.

主計長 (zhu3 ji4 zhang3)

例：The advert stated that all candidates for the position of comptroller must have an accountancy degree and at least 10 years relevant experience.

(這個公告聲明，所有參與主計長職務遴選的候選人都必須具備會計學學位，和至少十年的相關工作經驗。)

IDIOM POINT 重要片語

the boot is on the other foot 情況徹底翻轉

When a situation has radically changed so that somebody who was weak has become powerful, we can say that **the boot is on the other foot**. In the article, the Naked Cowboy hopes that he can depose Michael Bloomberg and ascend to power in the mayoral election.

Example: "In the past, we often had to plead with the marketing department to use their computers, but since the company restructuring, **the boot has been on the other foot**."

當情況徹底改變，原本弱勢的人轉而成為有影響力的人時，我們就可以說「the boot is on the other foot」。文章中提到，赤裸牛仔希望能擊敗麥克·彭博，贏得紐約市長選舉。

例如：「過去我們常常低聲下氣地向行銷部借用電腦，不過自從公司重組後，情況完全顛倒過來了」。