

BY NOAH BUCHAN

THEATER

All to play for

Elvis Anber, left, Tinus Stander, center, and Mandy Roveda, right, star in *Art Control*.

PHOTO COURTESY OF TAIPEI PLAYERS

THEATER NOTES:

WHAT: Taipei Players, An Evening of Shorts II**WHEN:** Sunday at 4pm and 8pm**WHERE:** APA Studios, 6F, 152, Zhonghua Rd Sec 1, Taipei City (台北市中華路一段152號6樓)**ADMISSION:** NT\$300 in advance or NT\$400 at the door, includes a drink**DETAILS:** Tickets are available at both Toasteria locations and can also be purchased by e-mailing taipeiplayers@gmail.com or contacting Sarah (English) at 0938-437-161 or Klaira (Chinese) at 0968-749-739

Taipei Players returns to the stage on Sunday after two successful runs earlier this summer. The nascent expat theater troupe will perform two shows — each featuring five short performance pieces, or “shorts” — at APA Studios in Ximending (西門町).

“Doing shorts encourages more people to come out because there is more variety in the works presented,” said Mandy Roveda, Taipei Players’ co-founder and director of three of

this weekend’s five works. “Also, people have different schedules. It’s easier to schedule more people in shorter spurts of time.”

Scheduling rehearsal time, however, is far from the troupe’s only concern. Bliss, the original venue planned for An Evening of Shorts II, closed down last month, leaving Taipei Players scrambling for a new location. They eventually settled on APA Studios, a space that they could rent out at the last minute while remaining within their limited budget.

“But we had to borrow chairs [for the audience to sit on] from a temple,” joked the troupe’s other co-founder, Sarah Zitrer.

Taipei Players formed late last year in response to the lack of English-language theater in Taipei. It was also an opportunity for Zitrer and Roveda, both acting school graduates, to do what they love most.

“We copied the idea ... from Seoul Players,” Roveda said, referring to a similar theater cooperative in South Korea that she was part of before moving to Taiwan last year. “They’ve been around for 10 years or so. I thought that it was so amazing that there is a constant theater group ... and we thought, hey, we can do that here,” she said.

As with previous Taipei Players’ performances, Sunday’s lineup is heavy on

comedy. Roveda will direct Katie Partlow, Zitrer and Daniel Munns in Mary Gallagher’s humorous *Perfect*, the story of two women discussing the flaws of the perfect man.

“My boyfriend,” said Roveda, when asked to describe her perfect man.

Audience members can expect the unexpected in *Art Control*, a comedy about a hungry woman’s attempts to acquire vinaigrette for her salad, written by Carter W. Lewis and directed by Roveda.

Brandon Thompson, meanwhile, will direct two shorts written by Sam Sheppard. *Hero in His Kitchen* is a story about friendship while *Repeat* wittily examines the choices people make in their lives and the consequences that often ensue. Both works feature Thompson and Munns.

The evening ends with *Claire*, a monologue written by John Kuntz and performed by Klaira Wu (吳青樺). This closing short examines an actress’ inability to distinguish between illusion and reality.

With this being the third installment of performances by Taipei Players, I asked Roveda and Zitrer what the future holds.

“We are going to do longer productions at the end of the year,” Zitrer said. “In the new year we will start on a full-length show. It’s gonna be a big one,” Roveda added.

EVENTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Theater & dance

Japanese choreographer Jo Kanamori and his dance troupe Noism make their Taipei debut with *Nina* as part of the National CKS Cultural Foundation’s Window on Japan series. In this contemporary dance production, five female performers are first seen being manipulated by their male counterparts before they begin to break away from their objectified bodies.

■ National Theater, Taipei City
■ Tonight and tomorrow at 7:30pm, Sunday at 2:30pm
■ Tickets are NT\$400 to NT\$2,000, available through NTCH ticketing or online at www.artsticket.com.tw

2009 Kuandu Arts Festival (2009 關渡藝術節) continues this weekend with a series of dances and performances including Dark Eyes Performance Lab’s (黑眼睛跨劇團) rendition of Scottish playwright David Harrower’s *Blackbird* (today, tomorrow and Sunday), which raises questions about morality through the tale of a pedophile and his victim, and solo performances *Ulysses* (tomorrow and Sunday), by French choreographer Maxime Lannarelli, and *Solos* (today, tomorrow and Sunday), by Israeli choreographer Arkadi Zaides. On the Net: kdarts.tnu.edu.tw/festival.

■ Performances are being held at the Taipei National University of the Arts’ (國立臺北藝術大學) Dance Theater (舞蹈廳) and Huang Shan Theater (荒山劇場), 1 Xueyuan Rd, Taipei City (台北市學園路1號)

■ Tickets are available through NTCH ticketing or online at www.artsticket.com.tw

■ For complete information on performance times, venues and ticket prices, see the festival’s program (Chinese only), at kdarts.tnu.edu.tw/festival/file/0910_small.pdf

Adapted from *Aalst* by Belgium stage director Pol Heyvaert and writer Dimitri Verhulst, **Play Reading #1 — Blind Love (讀劇檔案#1 — 殺了我的孩子)** tells the chilling story of the murder of two young children by their parents. The original script is based on a real event that took place in Aalst, Belgium, in 1999.

■ *EsLite Xinyi Store* (誠品信義店), 11 Songqiao Rd, Taipei City (台北市松高路11號)

■ Tonight and tomorrow at 8pm
■ Tickets are NT\$400, available through NTCH ticketing or online at www.artsticket.com.tw

Fox Tales (狐仙故事) by Guoguang Opera Company (國光劇團) is a heartbreaking story of love between a human woman and a male fox spirit that spans two lives.

■ 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 at 2:30pm and 7:30pm and Sunday at 2:30pm
■ Tickets are NT\$400 to NT\$1,500, available through ERA ticketing or online at www.ticket.com.tw

The Puppet & Its Double Theater (無獨有偶工作室劇團) teams up with theater director Baboo and up-and-coming stage actor Derrick Wei (魏鶴展) to present **Der Schonste Moment**, a one-man show that’s a rendition of German writer Michael Cornelius’ novel of the same title.

■ Experimental Theater, Taipei City
■ Tonight at 7:30pm, tomorrow at 2:30pm and 7:30pm and Sunday at 2:30pm
■ Tickets are NT\$500, available through NTCH ticketing or online at www.artsticket.com.tw

Classical music

The Sound From an Ancient City — Flautando Koin (科隆木笛四重奏演奏會), a German flute quartet made up of Susanne Hochscheid, Ursula Thelen, Kerstin de Witt and Katharina Hess, begins their three-city Taiwan tour this weekend.

■ Tomorrow at 7:30pm (Kaohsiung), Sunday 2:30pm (Taichung), Wednesday 7:30pm (Taipei)
■ Kaohsiung Cultural Center’s Chih-teh Hall (高雄文化中心至德堂), 67 Wufu 1st Rd, Kaohsiung City, (高雄市五福一路67號); Taichung Chungshan Hall (台中市中山堂), 98 Syueshuh Rd, Taichung City (台中市學士路98號); National Concert Hall, Taipei City
■ Tickets are NT\$300 to NT\$1,000 for Kaohsiung and NT\$300 to NT\$1,200 for Taichung and Taipei, available through ERA ticketing or online at www.ticket.com.tw

NSO Classic — The Triumph of the Spirit (NSO精選 — 那心那魂的凱旋) presents the National Symphony Orchestra (國家交響樂團) under guest conductor Lu Shao-chia (呂紹嘉) performing a program including Vaughan Williams’ *Fantasia on a Theme by Tallis*, Falla’s *The Three-Cornered Hat*

Suite and Shostakovich’s Symphony No. 5 in D Minor, Op. 47.

■ Sunday at 2:30pm
■ National Concert Hall, Taipei City
■ Tickets are NT\$400 to NT\$1,500, available through NTCH ticketing or online at www.artsticket.com.tw

Stoungers Taiwan Tour (德國人聲重唱Stoungers巡迴音樂會) brings the innovative German a cappella group to Taiwan for a mixed program including pop classics by John Lennon, Prince and U2, as well as self-composed works.

■ Wednesday at 7:30pm
■ Chungcheng Hall of the National Chiao Tung University (交通大學中正堂), 1001 Dasyue Rd, Hsinchu City (新竹市大學路1001號)
■ Ticket are NT\$150 to NT\$400, available through ERA ticketing or online at www.ticket.com.tw

Contemporary

Tonight at **The Wall (這牆)**, punks **Fire Ex (滅火器)** are throwing a concert to celebrate the release of their latest CD, *Men of the Sea (海上的人)*. Tomorrow night folk rocker **Finn** takes the stage. Later in the evening Dance Rock Taipei presents Daaaanaaance Rock Vol. 7 featuring DJs **Kyoko, Masayasu, Spykkee Fat and Dino**. On Sunday the venue hosts young indie bands **Ride to Where (騎去哪)** and **Gayung (假勇)** and post-rock group **Spycho**. On Tuesday Hong Kong pop singer **Eason Chan (陳奕迅)** takes the stage for a sold-out show.

■ B1, 200, Roosevelt Rd Sec 4, Taipei City (台北市羅斯福路四段200號B1). Tel: (02) 2930-0162. On the Net: www.thewall.com.tw
■ Music shows start at 8pm tonight, 8pm and 11pm tomorrow and 8pm Sunday
■ Entrance fee is NT\$400 tonight, NT\$400 tomorrow (NT\$600 for two tickets) for Finn and NT\$700 (NT\$500 in advance) for the DJ shows, and NT\$300 on Sunday. Tickets for Eason Chan’s show are sold out. Tickets can be purchased online by visiting www.thewall.com.tw or tickets.books.com.tw

Witch House (女巫店) hosts indie singer **Huang Pei-yu (黃培育)** tonight and indie band **Mis This (這位太太)** tomorrow. Folk singer **Chang Jie (張頌)** makes an appearance on Thursday.

■ 7, Ln 56, Xinheng S Rd Sec 3, Taipei City (台北市新生南路三段56巷7號). Tel: (02) 2362-5494. On the Net: 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

Aashti (絲路樂團) plays Balkan folk and gypsy music tonight at **Riverside Cafe (河岸留聲)**. Tomorrow it’s an evening of Mando-pop with singer **Raymond Chang (張晉橋)** and **Motianren (摩天人樂團)**. On Sunday folksy Mando-pop singer **Mia (鈺婷)** appears with her backing band, splitting the bill with **No Name**. The venue’s weekly open jam is on Monday.
■ 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). Tel: (02) 2368-7310. On the Net: www.riverside.com.tw
■ Shows start at 9:30pm tonight and 9pm tomorrow, Sunday and Monday. Open jam starts at 9pm. For a list of standard songs and ground rules, visit the venue’s Web site
■ Entrance fee is NT\$400 tonight and tomorrow, NT\$350 on Sunday and NT\$150 on Monday

UPCOMING

BY TAYLOR BRIERE

Go Chic, go Britney.

PHOTO COURTESY OF GARRET CLARKE



Go Chic plays at **Underworld (地下社會)** on Oct. 23. The band was founded in 2007 by once-upon-a-time high school classmates Sonia Lai (賴思勻), Ariel Cheng (鄭恩齊) and Sarah Wen (溫一珊). Originally an all-girl band, its lineup now includes male drummer Winston Lee (李昀聰). Though the group’s early influences include straight-up rock bands such as The Stone Roses and The Libertines, its heart now lies in the indie-electro movement. Go Chic’s high-energy performances and synthesizer-infused dance rock sound have drawn comparisons to

Le Tigre and CSS. With tongue planted firmly in her cheek, vocalist Zheng describes the group’s sound as that of a “Britney Spears tribute band.” Go Chic plans to release its debut album, *I’m Confused*, sometime before the end of this year. Alternative rock band **Twice a Week** opens.

► 8pm, Oct. 23 at Underworld (地下社會), B1, 45 Shida Rd, Taipei City (台北市師大路45號B1)
► Admission is NT\$300, which includes a drink
► On the Net: myspace.com/gochictheband

Indie-rockers **Feng Lai Fang (風賴坊)** and post-rock group **Sorry Youth** play tonight at **Underworld (地下社會)**.

Tomorrow the venue hosts grunge rockers **The Capelin (柳葉魚)**, post-rock-ish group **Sun of Morning (晨曦光團)** and **Bugs of Phonon (響子蟲)**. Performing on Wednesday are indie-rock band **Passionate Winker (激情睫毛)** and **KZ**, an alt-rock group with some catchy melodies.
■ B1, 45 Shida Rd, Taipei City (台北市師大路45號B1). Tel: (02) 2369-0103. On the Net: www.upsaid.com/underworld
■ Music shows run from 9:30pm to 11:30pm on Fridays and Saturdays and 9pm to 11pm on Wednesdays. Underworld is open daily from 9pm, closed on Mondays. Happy Hour on Tuesdays and Thursdays before midnight
■ Entrance is NT\$300 tonight and tomorrow and includes one drink, NT\$100 on Wednesday

Jo Jo Ma Quartet, a group led by saxophonist **Joseph Marchione**, appears tonight at **Sappho de Base**. Tomorrow surf-rock and blues trio **Blues Vibrations** takes the stage. **Emo Jazz Trio** performs Tuesday, and on Wednesday **Tammy and the Five Notes (五分熟樂團)** plays funky jazz. On Thursday **Ginger Men** plays fusion jazz.
■ B1, 1, Ln 102, Anhe Rd Sec 1, Taipei City (台北市安和路一段102巷1號B1). Tel: (02) 2700-5411. On the Net: www.sappho102.biz
■ Music shows begin at 10:30pm on weekends, 10pm on weekdays. Sappho is closed on Sundays and Mondays
■ Entrance is free

Every Wednesday night at the **Cosmopolitan Grill** there’s an open mic hosted by keyboardist Andrew

Page, with the music mainly covering blues and jazz. All are welcome to participate, and participants receive 20 percent off drinks.

■ 1F, 218 Changchun Rd, Taipei City (台北市長春路218號1樓). Tel: (02) 2508-0304. On the Net: www.cosmo.com.tw
■ 8:30pm to 11pm on Wednesday
■ No entrance fee

EZ5 Live House hosts Mando-pop singers backed by a live band every night. Highlights for the week include beloved female singer **Tiger Huang (黃小琥)**, who performs two sets every Monday, and male crooner **Huang Chung-yuan (黃中源)**, who appears every Friday.
■ 211, Anhe Rd Sec 2, Taipei City (台北市安和路二段211號). Tel: (02) 2738-3995. On the Net: www.ez5.com.tw
■ Music shows run from 9:45pm to 12:30am
■ Entrance fee (includes two drinks) ranges from NT\$600 to NT\$850, depending on the performer

Tonight, **89k** in Taichung hosts blues-rock trio **Three Day Bender** and jazz-rock outfit the **Dawid Vorster Trio**. Tomorrow **FOD fest**, or the **Friends of Daniel Pearl Festival** from the US, presides over an evening of music. [See story on Page 13.] Musicians of all styles and genres are encouraged to bring their instruments and participate.
■ 21 Daguang Rd, Nantun Dist, Taichung City (台中市南屯區大觀路21號)
■ Shows start at 10pm
■ Entrance is NT\$300

Tonight **Roxy Roots** hosts the **Blurred Bros**, a blues duo featuring singer **DC Rapier**, and guitarist **Aki “the Flame” Ikeda** of **BoPoMoFo (ボポモフォ)**. Tomorrow night the venue features live experimental electronica music from **Chill Da Dog and KbN**. [See Vinyl Word.]
■ 90 Songren Rd, Taipei City (台北市松仁路90號). Tel: (02) 2725-3932. On the Net: www.roxy.com.tw
■ Shows start at 10pm
■ Entrance is free

The Other Side has simplified its pricing policy — NT\$300 for everyone except Wednesdays, when women get in free. The nightclub is hosting a tattoo party tomorrow: those with tattoos pay half-price for entry, and there will be a lucky drawing for a free tattoo. Wednesday is ladies night; DJs spin indie rock.
■ B1, 20, Songshou Rd, Taipei City (台北市松壽路20號B1). Tel: (02) 2723-3257. On the Net: www.roxy.com.tw
■ Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 10pm until 4am
■ Entrance fee is NT\$300, except on Wednesdays for women, who get in free

THE VINYL WORD

BY QUEEN BEE



Jerry Aseret plays tomorrow at Roxy Roots.

PHOTO COURTESY OF WEN JING

Underground club night Bass Kitchen launches in Taipei this weekend. Not to be mistaken with God’s Kitchen, Bass Kitchen is also a British brand, but its music is not even close to trance. The night, founded by the up-and-coming Taiwanese DJ **MiniJay** and two English mates, has resulted in a string of quality events in Bristol, England, since it exploded onto the British scene in October of last year. With MiniJay’s return to his hometown, Bass Kitchen will now take place in both cities. The Vinyl Word sat down with MiniJay to find out what’s cooking.

Vinyl Word: Tell us a little bit about yourself.

MiniJay: I’m 29 years old. I went to England four years ago to study computer science and digital music. I got my first DJ gig playing at a small outdoor festival organized by my friend DJ Chamber, and it turned out to be a real blast with overwhelming feedback. So after that, me, Chamber and another friend called Dr Fish started throwing parties together.

VW: What was Bass Kitchen like in the beginning? And what’s it like now?

M: Honestly, the night didn’t go off until after about 10 events. But we kept on promoting it and branding, doing stuff like putting up posters all over the place, making our logo T-shirts and hosting Bass Kitchen radio shows, and now we’re organizing DJ competitions. It really worked. Now we’ve got a decent size of followers and have been working with well-known clubs and DJs in the UK.

VW: What kind of music is Bass Kitchen all about?

M: Bass Kitchen doesn’t stick to only one genre, just like a kitchen would usually serve a variety of ingredients. Our music ranges from deep house and minimal techno to break-beat and drum ‘n’ bass.

VW: How are you going to approach audiences here?

M: I noticed that the music people are playing at most clubs in Taiwan hasn’t changed much over the past four years, and people still hear the same anthems everywhere. That’s something I’d like to change. The music at Bass Kitchen will definitely be something most people here have never heard before. There are lots of outstanding but underrated local DJs out there so I’d like to begin to promote these talented artists and meanwhile infuse the party with creative elements I’ve learned in Europe. It’s going to be a long road, but I’m prepared.

Bass Kitchen, tomorrow from 11pm to 5am at China White, 2F, 97-101, Dunhua S Rd Sec 2, Taipei City (台北市敦化南路二段97-101號2樓). The lineup: studio wizard **Jerry Aseret** (aka Kotoswitch) will be serving up a techno set with his new singles and remixes (check out myspace.com/kotoswitch for a preview), with support from DJs **NDU**, **MiniJay** and **DataBass**. Admission is NT\$350.

If IDM, minimal techno, dubstep, drum ‘n’ bass, abstract hip-hop and trippy music float your boat, sail over to Roxy Roots tomorrow where KbN plays a live techno set and new IDM band Chill Da Dog makes an appearance before midnight. Afterwards, the 420 Project DJ crew — **Either/Or**, **Charles**, **Shorty** and **Illenblow** — takes over until 4:20am. Tomorrow from 10pm until 4:20am at Roxy Roots, 90 Songren Rd, Taipei City (台北市松仁路90號). Admission is free.

HIGHLIGHT

BY DAVID CHEN

Mando-pop singer **David Tao (陶喆)** is in Kaohsiung tonight to kick off a mini-tour in support of his latest album, *69 David Tao (69樂章)*. The shows, which are being billed as the DT in Space — The Rock and Talk Show, take place in Taichung tomorrow, Hsinchu on Sunday and Taipei on Oct. 23 and Oct. 24. The album title refers to Tao’s birth year, 1969, as well as the rock sound he favors over his typical R’n’B sound on the new album. On a recent blog entry, the Los Angeles-based singer-songwriter riffs on the 1969 theme, waxing nostalgic over the first moon landing, 1960s counterculture, Woodstock and the Beatles, ending with a cryptic query for fans: “Where were you in 1969? Where are you, today?”
► David Tao in Concert
► 7:30pm tonight at Kaohsiung Cultural Center’s Chih-teh Hall (高雄



David Tao is bringing the spirit of 1969 to Taiwan.

PHOTO: TAIPEI TIMES

市立文化中心至德堂), 67 Wufu 1st Rd, Kaohsiung City, (高雄市五福一路67號); 7:45pm tomorrow at Chung Hsing University Hsunch Auditorium (台中中興大學惠孫堂), 250 Guoguang Rd, Taichung City (台中市國光路250號); 7:45pm Sunday at Hsinchu County Stadium (新竹體育館), 2, Guangming 6th Road, Sec 1 East, Hsinchu City (竹北市光明六路東一段2號); 7:45pm Oct. 23 and Oct. 24 at Taipei International Convention Center (台北國際會議中心) 1, Xinyi Rd Sec 5, Taipei City (台北市信義路五段1號)
► Tickets are NT\$800 to NT\$4,200, available through ERA ticketing or online at www.ticket.com.tw