

The whole nine yards. PHOTO COURTESY OF FRIENDLY DOG



omorrow in Xinyi District (信義區), winter will be banished. Friendly Dog (友善的狗), the team behind Kenting's highly successful spring-break event — Spring Wave Music Festival — is throwing 2009 Taipei New East Party Life: Spring Wave (春浪 台北). And not only is this new urban outdoor party going to take place in Taipei's most cosmopolitan district, the venue also boasts a capacity of more than 3,000 people and the bill includes three of dance music's hottest acts, Lange, Infusion and Miss Nine.

The Vinyl Word caught up with Friendly Dog's director Sheng Kuang-yuan (沈光遠) to find out why he's undertaking such an ambitious project.

Vinyl Word: What's so special about Spring

SGY: Since 2006, we've been doing the party in Kenting. Kenting is the most beautiful holiday destination in Taiwan and it's all because of that. It's a great thing for those who go there for vacation to be able to participate in a party like Spring Wave, which combines elements of nature and electronic dance music.

VW: You're a pop producer. Have you always been into electronic dance music? **SGY:** Actually, I wasn't into electronic dance music until after throwing these [Spring Wave] parties.

VW: Taipei has never held an outdoor party like this before. How much time did it take for you to plan? What kind of difficulties did vou encounter?

SGY: It took us about 4 months to plan. The biggest difficulty was finding an outdoor venue in Taipei's most high-end neighborhood and then negotiating with Taipei City Government to get approval to hold the party until 3:30am.

VW: Why did you choose Lange, Infusion and Miss Nine?

SGY: Spring Wave has always emphasized the quality of the music and sound system. We wanted to find someone who could represent trance, so we found Lange. And through a friend of mine, we found Infusion — a rock/ electronic dance music act. We also wanted to find a female DJ who plays good music so we got Miss Nine. And, of course, there should be someone who could best represent Taiwan, so we got SL [劉軒, aka Xuan].

VW: Aside from the music, what else can partygoers expect?

SGY: Our creative stage theme — with the special visual effect, it will look as if the DJs are surrounded by drops of water, light and shadow. In addition, throughout the night there will be dance performances every 40 minutes, not to mention the alfresco VIP booths and the fine food and drinks. It's going to be a good time, I promise. [In case of inclement weather, large tents will be available.]

VW: Will you take Spring Wave to any other cities?

SGY: Next year we'll have the fifth Spring Wave in Kenting, and we're also planning on doing it in Beijing.

2009 Taipei New East Party Life: Spring Wave (春浪台北), tomorrow from 9pm to 3:30am at A10 square beside Shin Kong Mitsukoshi in Xinyi District, Taipei City (台北 市信義新光三越旁A10廣場). Tickets are NT\$900 presale, available at 7-Eleven, or NT\$1,100 at the door. On the Net: www.spring-wave.com. For more information, call (02) 2356-9888.

This interview and has been edited and condensed

EVENTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Theater

After a performing career that has spanned 60 years, Taiwanese opera legend Liao Chiung-chih (廖瓊枝) is bowing out with **The Virtuous** Mother of General Tao Kan (陶侃

賢母), which was tailor-made for the star. Three generations of local performers join Liao in the story about the filial General Tao Kan and his mother during the Jin Dynasty.

■ National Theater, Taipei City ■ Tonight and tomorrow at 7:30pm,

Sunday at 2:30pm ■ Tickets are NT\$600 to NT\$5,000, available through NTCH ticketing or online at www.artsticket.com.tw

Creative Society Theatre Company (創作 社劇團) presents Touch Me, If You Can (愛錯亂), a romantic comedy about

a writer, college professor, stand-up comedian and spiritual guru.

■ Experimental Theater, Taipei City

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

■ Tickets are NT\$550, available through NTCH ticketing or online at

www.artsticket.com.tw

Taiwan Bangzi Company's (台灣豫劇團) Bond (約/束) is a bangzi opera (梆子) (otherwise known as Henan opera or yu

opera) adaptation of Shakespeare's *The* Merchant of Venice. Wang Hai-ling (王海 玲) plays Shylock, which requires the opera diva to shift between different role types ranging from sheng (生), or leading male, to *chou* (丑), the clown.

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

■ Tomorrow at 7:30pm, Sunday at 2:30pm and 7:30pm

■ Tickets are NT\$300 to NT\$1,200, available through NTCH ticketing or online at www.artsticket.com.tw

A local rendition of Australian playwright Andrew Bovell's award-winning play of the same title, **Speaking in Tongues** tells of the oddly intertwined fates of nine characters, including two wives, each of whom cheats on her husband

with the other's spouse. The play is directed by theater veteran Michael Li

■ Eslite Xinyi Store (誠品信義店), 11 Songgao Rd, Taipei City (台北市松高路

■ Tonight, tomorrow and Tuesday to Thursday at 7:30pm, Sunday at 2:30pm ■ Tickets are NT\$600, available through NTCH ticketing or online at www.artsticket.com.tw

The Taipei Dance Circle (光環舞集) stages the final performance of its island-wide **Silence Dance** tour in Chiayi County tomorrow night. The nine-part dance piece centers on the troupe's artistic director Liou Shaw-lu's (劉紹爐) reflections on the global ecological crisis.

■ Chiayi Performing Arts Center (嘉義縣 表演藝術中心演藝廳), 265, Jianguo Rd Sec 2, Minsyong Township, Chiayi County (嘉義縣民雄鄉建國路二段265號)

■ Tomorrow at 7:30pm ■ Tickets are NT\$200, available through NTCH ticketing or online at www.artsticket.com.tw

Classical music

Lang Lang — Rhapsody Charity Concert (郎朗·狂想—慈善音樂會) brings the world-renowned Chinese concert pianist Lang Lang (郎朗) to Taiwan to perform with the Taipei Symphony Orchestra (台北市立交響樂 團) and the Taipei Chinese Orchestra (台 北市立國樂團) under conductor En Shao (邵恩). The program includes Rimsky-Korsakov's Capriccio Espagnol, Op. 34, Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue, Chung Yiu-kwong's (鍾耀光) Blessing for All (萬 民祈福) for symphony orchestra and Chinese orchestra and The Yellow River Piano Concerto (黃河鋼琴協奏曲)

arranged by Chung Yiu-kwang. ■ Wednesday at 7:30pm

■ Taipei Arena (台北小巨蛋), 2, Nanjing E Rd Sec 4, Taipei City (台北市南京東路 四段2號)

■ Tickets are NT\$1,000 to NT\$3,000, available through ERA ticketing or online at www.ticket.com.tw

HIGHLIGHT

BY TAYLOR BRIERE

Lily et Coco (哩扣) plays at Underworld (地下社會) tomorrow night in Taipei. The group was founded in April 2008, but it practiced Lily et Coco appears tomorrow night at for more than a year before its first show this May, so it's still a newcomer to the scene. The group includes Yu Hsiang-chu (游翔竹) from Space Cake on bass and Go Chic drummer Winston Lee (李昀璁). Their sound is definitely post-rock, with members citing bands such as Yo La Tengo, Sonic Youth and Toe as major influences. Keyboardist Eustoma Wu (巫慕涵) sets this band apart from others sailing the swelling sea of Taiwanese post-rock by lending its songs a clear, strong melodic

component to sit atop the churning

fuzz-and-delay-drenched textures of



guitarist James Hsieh (謝政恩). The result is something both edgy and pleasant, at times melancholic and at others triumphant. Lily et Coco will be joined tomorrow night by the energetic noise band She Bang-a (死蚊子).

▶ 9pm tomorrow 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:

Underworld. PHOTO COURTESY OF LILY ET COCO

myspace.com/lilyetcoco

Pipa Superstars in Taipei (琵琶巨 **星在台北**) is a series of two concerts

featuring the Taipei Chinese Orchestra (臺北市立國樂團) under Shao En (邵恩) performing with noted pipa (琵琶) soloists. In the first concert today, the soloist is Chang Chiang (張強), who won the 2009 Taipei Folk Music Competition in the *pipa* category. On Sunday, six other young pipa soloists will perform with the orchestra.

■ Tonight at 7:30pm and Sunday

at 2:30pm ■ Zhongshan Hall (台北市中山堂), 98 Yanping S Rd, Taipei City (台北市延平南

■ Tickets are NT\$200 to NT\$1,000, available through NTCH ticketing or online at www artsticket com tw

2009 Taiwan Connection Music

Festival featuring Hu Nai-yuan (胡乃 元) and the Taiwan Connection Chamber Orchestra (TC室内樂團) begins another tour of Taiwan this Sunday in Yuanlin, followed by a concert in Jhongli on Thursday and finishing up in Taipei on Dec. 11. The program includes Haydn's Symphony in G, No. 94, "Surprise", Mozart's Symphony No. 40 in G Minor, K. 550 and Beethoven's Violin Concerto in D Major, Op. 61.

■ Today (Yuanlin) and Thursday (Jhongli) at 7:30pm

■ Yuanlin Performance Hall (員林演藝 廳), 99, Ln 2, Jhongjheng Rd, Yuanlin Township, Changhua County (彰化縣員 林鎮中正路二巷99號) and Jhongli Arts Center (中壢藝術館), 16 Jhongmei Rd, Jhongli City, Taoyuan County (桃園縣中 壢市中美路16號)

■ Tickets are NT\$200 to NT\$1,000, available through NTCH ticketing or online at www.artsticket.com.tw

Contemporary

Indie band **Echo** (回聲樂團) brings its stylish electro-rock to **The Wall (這牆)** tonight. Post-rockers **Peppermint** (薄荷葉) hold a release party for their third CD tomorrow. On Sunday nouveau folk band Chun Zhi Band (江春枝) opens for Hakka singer-songwriter **Lin** Sheng-xiang (林生祥) and guitarist Ken Ohtake (大竹研). Wednesday's lineup includes rockers Five in the Morning (清晨五點), Neon, the alt-rock group led by charismatic singer/ songwriter Jun Lee (李昀熹), and $electronic a \ rock \ group \ \textbf{Frande}.$ ■ 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 tomorrow,

7pm Sunday and 8pm Thursday ■ Entrance fee is NT\$400 tonight, NT\$600 tomorrow (includes CD), NT\$300 on Sunday and Wednesday. Tickets can be purchased online by visiting www.thewall.com.tw or tickets.books.com.tw

Brother Fifth (搖滾點唱機五哥), which is composed of two fingerstyle guitarists and a drummer, takes the stage tonight at Witch House (女巫店). Amis folk-rock musician Chalaw and his band Passiwali (巴西

瓦里) appear tomorrow night. ■ 7, Ln 56, Xinsheng 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 ■ Entry for music shows is NT\$300

A group of jazz regulars performs tonight at Riverside Cafe (河岸留言) for Electric Bass Music Show IV. Taiwan's "little prince of R 'n' B," Afalean Lu (盧學 叡), takes the stage tomorrow. Also appearing are Misike (柯泯薰) and D-Power. Folk-pop singer Europa Huang (黃建為) performs on Sunday, and

Monday is the venue's weekly open iam. ■ B1, 2, Ln 244, Roosevelt Rd Sec 3, Taipei City (台北市羅斯福路二段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 and Sunday. 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, tomorrow and Sunday and NT\$150 on Monday

Tonight Riverside Live House (西門

紅樓展演館) hosts Tuan Hsu-ming (段 旭明), a singer featured on the TV reality show Super Idol (超級偶像). The venue hosts a different singer from the program for the next three Fridays. Mando-pop singer **Shadya** (藍又時) appears tomorrow night, and on Sunday local shredder **Marty Young** and his band play instrumental rock. On Thursday it's folk rock from Miss Dessy and indierockers Miss Stocking (絲襪小姐).

■ 177 Xining S Rd, Taipei City (台北市西 寧南路177號). Tel: (02) 2370-8805. On the Net: www.riverside.com.tw ■ Shows start at 8pm tonight, 8:30pm tomorrow, Sunday and Thursday ■ Entrance fee is NT\$500 tonight, NT\$450 tomorrow, NT\$500 on Sunday

and NT\$400 on Thursday. Tickets can purchased online through www.riverside.com.tw/livehouse or tickets.books.com.tw Girl-punk band **Hot Pink** opens up

for Japanese emo band **Don't Turn** Away tonight at Underworld (地下社會). Tomorrow noise band She Bang-a (死蚊子) shares the bill with post-rock electronica band Lily et Coco. [See Highlight.] ■ 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, which includes one drink, NT\$100 on Wednesday

Earl Hines II Jazztet performs tonight at Sappho de Base. Appearing tomorrow are New Orleans drummer and vocalist **Nbugu** Kenyatta and friends. On Tuesday there's an open jam session with the venue's "jazz friends," and on

Wednesday it's bossa nova music from the Bossarela Trio. The Jason Hayashi Trio plays on Thursday.

■ 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. Closed on Sundays and Mondays

■ Entrance is free

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, Julia Peng (彭佳慧), a major draw who appears every Tuesday, and male crooner Huang Chung-yuan (黃 中原), who performs 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: visit 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

The Mercury (水星酒館), a new club that opened a few months ago in Kaohsiung, features live performances by indie bands. On the bill for tomorrow night is acoustic folk-pop group The

Angles (角落). ■ 46 Liwen Rd, Zuoying Dist, Kaohsiung City (高雄市左營區立文路46號). Tel: (07) 550-8617. On the Net:

mercurybar.blogspot.com ■ Shows start at 9:30pm ■ Entrance is NT\$100

Tomorrow at Taichung's **89k**, Paiwan singer Matzka and his rock-reggae band **DeHot** take to the stage,

followed by DJ outift Colour Wolf. ■ 21 Daguan Rd, Nantun Dist, Taichung

City (台中市南屯區大觀路21號)

■ Shows start at 10pm ■ Entrance is NT\$300

Roxy Roots, a bar and restaurant dedicated to reggae and blues, hosts

Matzka and his rock-reggae band **DeHot** tonight. Tomorrow it's expat rockers New Hong Kong Hair City and blues band The Green Machine.

■ 90 Songren Rd, Taipei City (台北市松 仁路90號). Tel: (02) 2725-3932. On the Net: www.roxy.com.tw

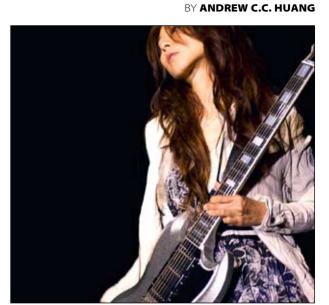
■ Show starts at 9:30pm tomorrow ■ No entrance fee

Franz and Friends (城市舞台藝文沙

龍), an upscale restaurant and performance space in Taipei's East District (東區), hosts music shows every night. The music tends to play it safe, ranging from wistful love songs and opera to lounge jazz. Weekly highlights include **Denise Juan** (阮丹 青), a former pop singer turned piano teacher and television presenter, and her band **Sunshine Costa**. They play tonight. Tomorrow it's Buona Sera, featuring soprano Chang Hsiao-ni (張曉倪).

■ B1, 25, Bade Rd Sec 3, Taipei City (台北市八德路三段25號B1). Tel: (02) 2579-0558. On the Net: www.franzandfriends.com.tw

■ Minimum charge of NT\$300 on Fridays and Saturdays, on other nights there's a one-drink minimum



Cheer Chen performs tomorrow night at Kaohsiung Arena.

Bringing Cheer to Kaohsiung

ans of Cheer Chen (陳綺貞) in southern Taiwan are in for a big treat tomorrow night, when the indie songstress-turned star performs at Kaohsiung Arena for the second leg of a promotional tour for her new album Immortal (太陽).

One of the most popular and respected singersongwriters in Taiwan, Chen is known for folk ballads with catchy melodies and poetic lyrics delivered in her trademark honey-sweet voice. Her signature songs include Meanings of the Journey (旅行的意義), Lonely Still (還是會寂寞) and Tell Me (告訴我).

Tickets for Chen's 2007 A Piece of Summer concert were snatched up in a frenzy by fans within four hours, setting a record for the fastest ticket sales for a major concert in Taiwan's history. Footage from her highly acclaimed 2005 concert Attitudes of Flower (花的姿態) was released as a live album.

Chen started her career by selling demo tapes in Kenting and has released five studio albums, two greatest hits albums, five singles and three limited-edition demo albums over the past decade. She tends to avoid media attention in favor of connecting directly with her audiences through live performances on school campuses, in pubs

and at music festivals. Several of her songs have been featured in Taiwanese movies such as Blue Gate Crossing (藍色大門) and Miao Miao (渺渺).

In 2003, she played the pivotal role of the blind girl in the musical Subway (地下鐵), adapted from the work of Taiwan comic book master Jimmy (幾米).

College-pop favorite Crowd Lu (盧廣仲) appears with Chen tomorrow as a special guest.

PERFORMANCE NOTES:

What: Cheer Chen 2009 Kaohsiung Arena Concert Immortal (陳綺貞 2009 高雄巨蛋演唱會太陽), with special guest Crowd Lu (盧廣仲)

WHERE: Kaohsiung Arena (高雄巨蛋), 757, Boai 2nd Rd, Kaohsiung City (高雄市博愛二路757號) **ADMISSION:** Tickets are NT\$800 to NT\$2,800, available through

ERA ticketing or online at www.ticket.com.tw ON THE NET: cheerego.com

WHEN: Tomorrow at 7:30pm



Getting down and dirty.

Growing CONTINUED FROM P14

"Horse is different from TNUA [Taipei National University of the Arts] because with Wu-kang we'll play, try everything together. At TNUA the choreographer will tell you to what to do, but here we all try together, we

PHOTO COURTESY OF CHEN CHANG-CHIH

have to think more," Chang said. The 24-year-old Hung, who appears to have taken on the role of the prankster, said he basically had two jobs with Horse: The first is to lower the age of the group

and the second is to keep the energy levels up. Yang said there are benefits to getting older, even

for a dancer, such as becoming more relaxed on stage. "This piece has some meaning about transition, about comparing two generations, getting together to become something or become competitive. One interesting thing is that the older ones, we aren't scared of performing solos, we are just ourselves. They [the younger ones] are more inside themselves when they dance, they are so focused on movements, afraid of doing it wrong.'

Growing Up has proven to be a transition piece for the company in terms of theater space as well. They are moving up and out to NTUA's Experimental Theater in Guandu, where they are removing some of the seats to extend the stage out into the audience. With an audience on three sides, coming up with a set design was a challenge.

"We were going to have a weird set, but we want to keep it simple," Chen said, without going into more detail except to say dirt would play a role, though not the truck-full they originally planned to use.

For the music for the 70-minute piece, Horse will be using a soundscape created by French sound artist Yannick Dauby, who worked with the troupe on last

year's Bones. Growing up is always hard, but one thing you can always be sure of with a Horse performance: there will definitely be a lot of fun along the way.