Rising Mando-pop star shares tales of love

his past month marks a watershed period for rising Mando-pop star Shadya (藍又時). In addition to releasing her highly acclaimed second album Composition No. 2 Album

— Love in London (二號創作專輯 — 倫敦的愛情), the singer-songwriter also received a nomination last week for Best Newcomer at this year's Golden Melody Awards. Next Thursday, Shadya will also hold a mini concert titled 2010 Listen to Shadya (2010聽聽 — 藍又時) at Riverside Live House. The concert takes its name from a track on her most recent album, but will also include work from her first album.

Over the past two years, Shadya has come to be known as the intimate and emotive voice that sings tales about fragile love. In Composition No. 1 — Album Secret (一號創作專輯 — 秘密) in 2009 and Love in London this year, Shadya croons about the treasures and treacheries of modern love in a sparse, understated style that strikes a chord with many fans.

Shadya first stepped onto the scene for singing the hit theme song *I Was Once Too Young* (曾 經太年輕) for the award-winning TV drama *The* Hospital (白色巨塔) in 2006.

"Director Tsai didn't know who I was," said Shadya in a phone interview with *Taipei Times* earlier this week. "He simply heard my voice in another song and decided this was the voice he wanted.

The momentum from that success propelled Shadya to release her first album. For *Love in*



London, Shadya, who hasn't traveled to London in real life, weaves together tales of everyday love projected against her romanticized vision of

"I embarked on this theme because (producer)

Yuan Wei-jen (袁惟仁) suggested I write songs based on the theme of a city," said Shadya. "I thought, what better city to do this than London? I've always been fascinated by British culture."

Not formally trained in music, Shadya learned

Shadya builds cities in her mind.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ARTMUSE ENTERTAINMENT

PERFORMANCE NOTES

WHAT: 2010 Listen to Shadya (2010聽聽

WHEN: June 3, 8:30pm Thursday

WHERE: Riverside Live House (西門紅樓展演 館), 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

ADMISSION: NT\$500

ON THE NET: www.wretch.cc/blog/shadya

to play piano and write songs entirely by herself. "I bought a printed piano keyboard and practiced playing on the paper at first," Shadya reminisced. "Because I didn't receive formal education in piano, I still can't read music scores that well these days. But I am able to listen to a song and play it on the piano directly."

Shadya, who wrote all the songs for her two albums, claims inspiration comes from an observant mind. "I don't look for inspiration; it

comes to me. What I do is I observe the things in my life," Shadya said. "For example, I read a book and decided to write a song titled Prologue (序)."

Is Shadya's description of romance a reflection of her life? "If every love song required a romance to get written, life would be too busy," Shadya chuckled. "I have had very few romantic experiences actually. You can count them on one hand."

Shadya is also a respected songwriter who has written tunes for heavyweights such as Rene Liu (劉若英), Sandy Lam (林憶蓮) and Kelly Chen (陳慧 琳). "I would love to write songs for A-mei (張惠 妹) some day too," she said.

During her behind-the-scenes years, Shadya also worked as a professional demo singer recording demos for artists such as Coco Lee (李 玟) and S.H.E.

"When I record a demo. I try to create the emotions and moods so that the potential singer can be attracted to record that song," she explained.

Contrary to her image as an austere, quiet performer, Shadya is an avid dancer and loves hip-hop and jazz dancing. She doesn't rule out tackling a dance number in the style of Jolin Tsai's (蔡依林) Dancing Diva (舞孃) someday.

"I would like to sing some dance songs when the time is ripe for a breakthrough," she said. "One day when I can hold a concert in the Taipei Arena, I will certainly entertain the audience with singing and dancing."

Theater

In Sun Son Theatre's (身聲劇場) The Drango Chasers (尋龍記), three

young warriors follow a dragon into a world of myths, legends and magic. Like the company's previous productions, the piece is a captivating fusion of modern theater, dance, chanting and world music.

- Bamboo Curtain Studio (竹圍工作室), 39, Ln 88, Jhongjheng E Rd Sec 2, Tamsui Township, Taipei County (台北
- 縣淡水鎮中正東路二段88巷39號) ■ Tonight at 7:30pm, tomorrow at
- 2:30pm and 7:30pm, Sunday at 2:30pm ■ Tickets are NT\$400, available through NTCH ticketing or online at www.

Dark Eyes Performance Lab's (黑眼睛跨

artsticket.com.tw

劇團) Jump! Big Girl (跳舞吧!胖女 **葱!**) is composed of three comic pieces by three theater directors including Hung Hung (馮馮). The three heroines in the plays are a girl from outer space, a nicotine-addicted mother played by film actress Lu Yiching (陸弈靜) and a big girl who

- dances to find love. ■ Wenshan Theater (文山劇場). 32 Jingwen St, Taipei City (台北市景文街 32號)
- Tonight at 7:30pm, tomorrow at 2:30pm and 7:30pm, Sunday at 2:30pm
- Tickets are NT\$600, available through NTCH ticketing or online at www. artsticket.com.tw

Suzhou Ballet Company (蘇州科文芭蕾 舞劇團), a young professional ballet troupe from China, brings its new production **Romeo and Juliet** to Taipei this weekend. In this production Suzhou Ballet, noted for making original works, fuses Sergey Prokofiev's ballet with modern dance and traditional Chinese performing arts.

- Novel Hall (新舞臺), 3 Songshou Rd, Taipei City (台北市松壽路3號)
- Tonight and tomorrow at 8pm
- Tickets are NT\$500 to NT\$2,000, available through NTCH ticketing or online at www.artsticket.com.tw

Taichung Improv is back with another night of uncensored comedy in Taipei. The show is comprised of short, comedic sketches that are made up on

- Comedy Club, B1, 24 Taishun St,
- Taipei City (台北市泰順街24號B1) ■ Tomorrow at 4pm and 10:30pm
- Tickets are NT\$350 and NT\$300 in advance (includes one drink), available at the door or through tickets.books.com.tw

Andy Warhol once said: "I want everybody to think alike. I think everybody should be a machine." Against Again Troupe's (再拒劇團)

- American Dream Factory (美國夢 工廠) starts off with this quotation, and
- asks if the American dream is as pretty as it appears to be. ■ Guling Street Avant-Garde Theatre (牯
- 嶺街小劇場), 2, Ln 5, Guling St, Taipei City (台北市牯嶺街5巷2號). ■ Tonight at 7:30pm, tomorrow at
- 2:30pm and 7:30pm, Sunday at 2:30pm ■ Tickets are NT\$450, available through NTCH ticketing or online at www.

Classical music

A Tribute to Hung I-feng (寶島洪聲 — 向台灣歌謠創作大師洪一峰致敬音樂

會) is a concert of the many now-classic popular songs written by Hung I-feng (洪一峰). Composed over the course of several decades, the songs are a history of Taiwanese popular music in miniature. The music has been arranged for orchestra and will be performed by the Evergreen Symphony Orchestra (長 榮交響樂團).

■ Today at 7:30pm

artsticket.com.tw

■ National Concert Hall, Taipei City ■ Tickets are NT\$500 to NT\$1,500, available through ERA ticketing or online at www.tickets.com.tw

Fantasia, Nostalgia, Aria Variata (花月憶時夢) is a recital by Chinese opera diva Wei Hai-min (魏海敏) of popular songs of the last century. She will be supported by a group of outstanding local musicians drawn from both Western symphonic and Chinese classical traditions.

- Tomorrow at 7:30pm
- Tainan Municipal Cultural Center Performance Hall (台南市立文化中心演 藝廳), 332, Jhonghua E Rd Sec 3, Tainan City (台南市中華東路三段332號)
- Tickets are NT\$500 to NT\$2,500, available through NTCH ticketing or online at www.artsticket.com.tw

2010 NCTU Chamber Music Workshop in Concert 42 (交大室 内樂坊2010公演) will present a new

take on a program that includes Schumann's Piano Quartet in Eb Major, Op. 47, Bruch's Eight Pieces for Clarinet, Viola and Piano, Op. 83 and Castiglioni's Consonante.

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

<u>HIGHLIGHT</u> lijie

BY **DAVID CHEN**

Lijie Yang, who goes by her first name Lijie, is an up and coming American singer-songwriter who will be in Taipei for a run of shows next week. The 29-year-old, who was born in China and moved to the US at the age of 5, got her start playing open mics and small clubs in Los Angeles, and has been a consistent finalist in past editions of the UK Songwriting Contest.

Lijie's soulful, sultry vocals and storyteller's lyrics will appeal to fans of Sarah McLachlan and Tori Amos. She appears at **Witch House** on Thursday and **Roxy Roots** next



Up-and-coming American singer-songwriter Lijie performs in Taipei next week.

Friday. For additional dates and details, search for "Lijie in Taipei this June" on Facebook

- ▶ Lijie performs on Thursday at 9pm at Witch House, 7, Ln 56, Xinsheng S Road Sec 3, Taipei City (女巫店台北市新
- 生南路三段56巷7號) ▶ Admission is NT\$300
- ▶ On the Net: www.lijiemusic.com

HIGHLIGHT

BY **NOAH BUCHAN**

After seven months of tough regular season play, the Chinese Ice Hockey League (CIHL) enters into its finals tonight with the Sababa Bears squaring off against the topseeded Taipei Tigers in best of three action. The game begins at 10:15pm.

For the league-leading Bears, offense is the key, with leading point and goal scorer Mal Turner looking to add to his totals with the help of local speedsters Mike Lin and Eric Shen. The Bears will be looking to attack the Tigers' end and establish an up-tempo game. The Tigers will respond with a less formidable attack, but are very strong defensively starting with the CIHL's top goaltender, Mario Beaulac. The punters' line is marginally in the Bears' favor at this point, but the outcome is by no means set.

▶ Chinese Ice Hockey League finals at Taipei Arena (台北巨



Frank Beloch, left, of the Taipei Tigers gets the cross-ice pass away as Sababa Bears' Mal Turner, right, applies back pressure.

蛋), tonight at 10:15pm and tomorrow at 10:45pm. Sunday at 9:45pm if necessary

Admission is free

▶ On the Net: www.cihl.com.tw/international

Orchestra 25th Anniversary Concert (拍普拉闊 Pop Live — 台北 燮樂管弦樂團 25週年糸列音樂會) sees Thursdays through Saturdays

the Taipei Philharmonic performing under conductor John van Deursen and with pianist Ulf Johansson Werre for a program than ranges from music by the Beatles arranged by Robert Lowden, Elgar's Pomp and Circumstance March, and I Believe, the theme song for the

Pop Live — Taipei Philharmonic

- 2010 Winter Olympics. ■ Wednesday at 7:30pm
- National Concert Hall, Taipei City
- Tickets are NT\$350 to NT\$2,500, available through NTCH ticketing or online at www.artsticket.com.tw

Contemporary

Legacy Taipei, located in a former warehouse at Huashan 1914 Creative Park (華山1914), hosts top Taiwanese pop performers and international acts **Angie Hart** of Frente! arrives tonight for the Taipei stop of her Asia tour. **Sound** Bits, a party featuring DJs and digital and multimedia artists, is tomorrow.

- Huashan 1914 Creative Park (華山 1914), Center Five Hall (中五館), 1, Bade Rd Sec 1, Taipei City (台北市八德
- 路一段1號) ■ Show start at 8pm tonight and tomorrow.
- Tickets are NT\$1,200 for tonight's show, NT\$800 for tomorrow's show, available through ERA ticketing, online at www.ticket.com.tw or www.legacy. com.tw, or at 7-Eleven ibon kiosks

French DJ DatA appears tomorrow night at **The Wall (這牆)** along with DJ Freaky Squeaker and BB + Soundsquash + Al Burro. Sla 万k Tine and Doodle are on the bill for Wednesday night.

- 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
- Shows start at 11pm tomorrow and 8pm on Wednesday ■ Tickets are NT\$800 tomorrow and
- NT\$300 on Wednesday. Tickets can be purchased online through www. thewall.com.tw or tickets.books.com.tw

Frida Li (利得彙) performs tonight and **Green!Eyes** performs tomorrow at Witch House (女巫店) ■ 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 Music shows begin at 10:30pm games open 11am to midnight Sundays tonight and tomorrow through Wednesdays; 11am to 1am

■ Entrance fee for music shows is

Jazz performer **Tony Tung** (董舜文) and friends are on tonight at Riverside Cafe (河岸留言).

Tomorrow's show features **Green Lee** (李匯晴), Annie Fan (范安婷), Yi-en Chen (陳以恩) and Pia Wu (吳蓓雅). Zenkwun (神棍) and Apay (季欣霈) appear on Sunday. Monday is openjam night.

- 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 all other nights. For a list of standard songs and ground rules for the open jam, visit the venue's Web

■ Admission is NT\$400 tonight and tomorrow, NT\$350 on Sunday and NT\$150 on Monday

Waa (魏如萱) appears tonight at Riverside Live House (西門紅樓展演 館) 1976 performs a "mini concert"

- tomorrow night ■ 177 Xining S Rd, Taipei City (台北市西 寧南路177號). Tel: (02) 2370-8805. On
- Shows start at 8:30pm
- the Net: www.riverside.com.tw ■ Entrance fee is NT\$500 for both shows. Tickets can be purchased online

through www.riverside.com.tw/

livehouse or tickets.books.com.tw

Black Summer Days and Funky Brothers (放客兄弟) perform tonight at Underworld (地下社會). BB Bomb (BB彈) and 88 Balaz (88顆芭樂籽)

- appear tomorrow. ■ 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. Underworld is open daily from 9pm, closed on Mondays. Happy hour on Tuesdays and Thursdays before midnight
- Entrance is NT\$300, which includes one drink

Sappho de Base, a late-night lounge and jazz venue, hosts the Earl Hines II Jazz Jazztet tonight and Jo Jo Ma Quintet tomorrow night.

■ 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

■ Entrance is NT\$350

Ska band Mary Bites Kary performs tonight at Roxy Roots with Mafianjo. Latin rockers Giros Band appear

- 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 NT\$350 on Fridays and Saturdays (NT\$200 credited toward food and drinks)

EZ5 Live House hosts Mando-pop singers backed by a live band every night. Highlights for the week include Julia Peng (彭佳慧), a major draw who appears every Tuesday, and male crooner Shin Lung (辛隆), who

- performs every Saturday. ■ 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.

Taipei Swing holds dance socials on Friday nights at Capone's, with live music from blues band **BoPoMoFo** (ク タロC). Dancers of all levels are welcome, and beginner's lessons are offered while the band takes a break. Saturday is Salsa night with live music

- from Latin on Fire. ■ 312, Zhongxiao E Rd Sec 4, Taipei City
- (台北市忠孝東路四段312號) ■ Live music from 9pm to 11:30pm on
- Fridays, 8pm to 11:30pm on Saturdays ■ Minimum charge of one drink on Fridays (dancers receive a free drink coupon) and NT\$300 on Saturdays

Thorn in Eyes (刺瞳), Masquerader, Method, Roughhausen and State of **Emergency** play tonight at **VU Live**

- House. ■ B1, 77, Wuchang St Sec 2, Taipei City (台北市武昌街二段77號B1). Tel: (02) 2314-1868. On the Net: www.velvet-
- underground.com.tw ■ Tonight's show starts at 7pm. ■ Entrance fee is NT\$450

Post-rockers **Understory** (地下歲月) appear tomorrow night at The

Mercury (水星酒館) ■ 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 ■ Show starts at 9:30pm ■ Entrance is NT\$200

BY CHUNZHEN CHIN



Hooker, above, and Reaz:on (not shown) celebrate State of Sound's first birthday tonight at Luxy.

hile performing on stage one night, house MC Lin Mu-hsiang (林睦祥) is joined by two rather tipsy ladies who, after several tumbles, ricochet into the turntables. The buzzing party at Twiice nightclub turns dead silent. "That was definitely a little awkward, but then again a lot of crazy things happen here and it's great fun,"

laughs Lin. Besides the craziness that goes on here, what makes the club. a fairly new establishment in Taipei, stand out from other nightspots is its warm, cozy atmosphere. "A key policy is that staff have to be very friendly and welcoming, like

hosts entertaining friends in their own home," says Lin. The philosophy behind the name Twiice is that the admission cost provides double value for the money. The upper floor, or B1, is lavishly adorned with English-style decor while the lower level is decked out in Chinese furnishings. "As a major expat hub, we hope our foreign customers will enjoy both the local way of partying as well as what they might be used to back home," explains Lin. "We want foreigners to taste a fresh audio and visual

experience in our oriental-style zone." Every week the bartenders put on special bar shows that they first research and practice at home. Another regular entertainment feature is the dance shows that keep everyone entertained. There's also the "party queen" dance competition every Wednesday, Friday and Saturday.

Continuing the tradition kept by the former management when the club was named 9%, the bar is also hyping its wide range of quality drinks. "Unlike some all-you-can-drink clubs, our bartenders spend a lot of time perfecting their mixing skills on a weekly basis," says music organizer Li Yu-chung (李煜崇). He highly recommends the Cocaine cocktail.

The music here is also something to write home about, says Li. "Most of the DJs I invite are well experienced in the business so you can always expect a certain standard." Currently you'll mostly hear hip-hop and pop, but they want to make their mark on the club scene and compete with clubs where international DJs often spin.

Twiice is open Tuesdays to Sundays from 10pm to 4am.

Address: B1, B2, 222 Jinshan S Rd Sec 2, Taipei City (台 北市金山南路二段222號B1, B2). Tel: (02) 3322-6162. On the Net: www.facebook.com/pages/twiice-Night-Club. Average cover charge is NT\$600. There's something special to celebrate at Luxy tonight as State of Sound holds its first birthday bash starting at 10pm. Headlining the show will be the only Taiwanese DJ to

have played at the Love Parade in Berlin, Reaz:on. Joining him is **Hooker** (real name Dominik Tyliszczak), who says partygoers should expect to hear a concoction of house, electro and tech, which will be "upbeat, and not too dark. "It's music people will find easy to enjoy but also with a bit of depth." Also contributing to the celebrations tonight are **Genetically Modified Beats and Burn Electric.** A State of Sound tonight from 10pm to 4am at Luxy,

5F, 201, Zhongxiao E Rd Sec 4, Taipei City (台北市忠孝東 路四段201號5樓). Call (02) 2772-1000 or 0955-904-600 for reservations (English service available). On the Net: On the Net: www.luxy-taipei.com. Admission is NT\$600 at the door, including two drinks.