

BY HO YI

EXHIBIT

'Losers' get their act together

Meeting with members of On Becoming a Loser (OBAL) is like experiencing a flashback to college life. Youthful eagerness and idealism are on a collision course with the cold, hard realities of the grown-up world.

Fifteen self-claimed "losers," mostly women, started OBAL in September. At the time they were in their final year of university at National Chengchi University's College of Communication (國立政治大學傳播學院).



"We had a school project called On Becoming a Designer, so we thought, 'Hey, we can call ourselves On Becoming a Loser,'" explains member Hung Wei-ting (洪瑋婷).

They were disillusioned with university life — classmates they didn't like, standards set by professors that they didn't agree with — and the losers felt compelled to make something happen purely for themselves.

The result is *Seesaw Seen*, a group show comprised of paintings, photography, audio and video installations and film screenings that runs until Sunday.

The exhibit reflects the restlessness of youth. In Pan Yu-ling's (潘昱玲) *Unfinished Paint* (油漆未乾) installation piece, for example, viewers will find drawings, doodles, a painted park bench and video images projected onto a wall to express the artist's feeling of incompleteness.

Some of the works on display are achingly private and intimate, such as the video installation *Some of Her Parts*, about the artist's lesbian lover undergoing surgery to remove her breasts to look more like a man, and *Sleepless* (睡不著), a documentary about the filmmaker's comatose father.

Seesaw Seen is being held at Wolong 29 (臥龍29,

Members of art collective On Becoming a Loser stage *Seasaw Seen* until Sunday at Wolong 29.

PHOTOS: HO YI, TAIPEI TIMES

EVENTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Theater

A collaboration between Tang Mei Yun Taiwanese Opera Company (唐美雲歌仔戲團) and Xiamen Gezai Opera Troupe (廈門歌仔戲劇團), **Unfading Love** (蝴蝶之戀) tells the love story of two *gezai* opera (歌仔戲) performers separated from each other for 38 years by the Taiwan Strait.

- National Theater, Taipei City
- Tonight at 7:30pm, tomorrow at 2:30pm and 7:30pm, Sunday at 2:30pm
- Tickets are NT\$500 to NT\$3,000, available through available through NTCH ticketing or online at www.artsticket.com.tw

Creative Society Theatre Company's (創作社劇團) acclaimed **He Is My Wife, He Is My Mother** (少年金銀男孟母) returns to the stage in Taipei this weekend. Inspired by a short story penned by best-selling Chinese author Li Yu (李漁) during the early Qing Dynasty, the work updates Li's cross-gender spectacle with a 21st-century sensitivity and wit. The play is performed in Chinese with English subtitles. [See story above.]

- 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
- Tickets are NT\$500 to NT\$2,000, available through available through NTCH ticketing or online at www.artsticket.com.tw

Based on Charles Perrault's fairy tale of the same name, **Thumbkin** by Societas Raffaello Sanzio from Italy is performed in front of audiences seated on beds as if they were listening to a bedtime story. The play is part of the ongoing 2010 Taipei Children Arts Festival (第十一屆台北兒童藝術節). For more information, visit www.taipeicaf.org.tw/bed.

- Zhongshan Hall (台北市中山堂), 98 Yanping S Rd, Taipei City (台北市延平南路98號)
- Tonight at 7:30pm, tomorrow and Wednesday at 10:30am, 2:30pm and 7:30pm, Sunday at 10:30am and 2:30pm, Tuesday and Thursday at 2:30pm and 7:30pm
- Tickets are NT\$200 for one and NT\$350 for two, available through NTCH ticketing outlets

As part of the **Xinbei City International Arts Festival (2010新北市藝術節)**, Strange Fruit from Australian and Italy's Teatro Due Mondì will bring *Spheres* and *Oriente*, respectively, to the Bitan (碧潭) area, right outside Xindian (Sindian) MRT Station (新店捷運站). Strange Fruit is internationally known for its fusion of dance, theater and circus featuring performers atop 5m-high flexible poles. Teatro Due Mondì is known for mixing street theater with clown acts. On the Net: www.xinbei-arts.com.

■ East Riverside Plaza (東岸廣場), Bitan, Sindian, Taipei County (台北縣新店碧潭)

■ Tomorrow and Sunday at 7pm

■ Free admission

Classical music

The **2010 Taipei International Choral Festival** (台北國際合唱音樂節) continues this week with three more days of performances. Tonight's concert is by the University of Louisville Cardinal Singers, performing under the baton of conductor Kent Hatteberg. Tomorrow the Yoon Hakwon Chorale from South Korea under the baton of founder Yoon Hak-won will be supported by the choir of the alumni of the Taipei Municipal Zhongshan Girls High School. A final concert on Sunday will feature both of the visiting groups in the Taiwan premiere of Mendelssohn's *Die Erste Walpurgisnacht Op. 60* featuring Chen Pei-Chi (陳珮琪), alto, Liao Chong-boon (廖聰文), bass, and Kong Siao-cheng (孔孝誠), tenor, and supported by the Festival Choir (節慶合唱團), the Taipei Philharmonic Chorus (台北愛樂合唱團) and the Taipei Philharmonic Youth Orchestra (台北愛樂青年管弦樂團). On the Net: www.tpf.org.tw.

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

Straits Philharmonic Orchestra Concert (海峽愛樂樂團兩岸巡迴音樂會) will feature the orchestra performing under the baton of former National Symphony Orchestra conductor Chien Wen-pin (簡文彬) and featuring soprano Dilber Yunus. The program includes Liu Hsueh-hsuan's (劉學軒) *The Stone Lion of the Sanxia Jushi Temple* (三峽祖師廟的石獅子), Kuo Wen-ching's (郭文景) *Mountain Sacrifice* (山之祭), composed in commemoration of the Wenchuan Earthquake, as well as Gliere's *Concerto for Coloratura Soprano* and Stravinsky's *The Firebird Suite*.

- Sunday at 7:45pm (Taipei) and Monday at 7:30pm (Taichung)
- National Concert Hall, Taipei City and Chungshing Concert Hall, Taichung (台中中興堂), 291-3 Jingwu Rd, Taichung City (台中市精武路291-3號)
- Tickets are NT\$500 to NT\$3,600, available through NTCH ticketing or online at www.artsticket.com.tw

Taiwan National Choir 2010 Concert — Romantic Love Songs, an Evening of Lieder (國立實驗合唱團2010音樂會 — 藝術歌曲之夜 — 浪漫情歌) presents the Taiwan National Choir, a group established to "help young vocalists develop their careers"

performing a program of lieder by Schumann, Brahms, Mahler and others.

- Tuesday at 7:30pm
- National Recital Hall, Taipei City
- Tickets are NT\$300 and NT\$400, available through NTCH ticketing or online at www.artsticket.com.tw

Contemporary

Tonight **Ian Brown** performs at **Legacy Taipei** as part of the iWinkle Rock Festival. Tomorrow is a full evening of pop, hard rock and metal from indie bands **Monkey Insane** (潑猴), **Dizzy Butterfly** (旋轉蝴蝶), **Mutaker**, **Chemical Monkeys** (化學猴子), **Overdose**, **Lazy Lady Mister Mouth** (曠哥) and **Respect** (尊敬樂團).

- Huashan 1914 Creative Park (華山1914), Center Five Hall (中五廳), 1, Bade Rd Sec 1, Taipei City (台北市八德路一段1號)
- Shows start at 8:30pm tonight and 6pm tomorrow
- Admission is NT\$1,800 tonight, NT\$700 tomorrow (NT\$500 in advance). Tickets can be purchased at ERA ticketing outlets, online through www.ticket.com.tw or www.legacy.com.tw or at 7-Eleven ibon kiosks

Indie rockers **Green!Eyes** and **Windmill** (風籟坊) perform tonight at **The Wall** [see story on Page 14]. Tomorrow night folk rockers **Stay Cool** take the stage. On Sunday Japanese glam rock band **NoGod** makes an appearance. On Thursday it's German group **Atari Teenage Riot** [see story on Page 13], pioneers of the digital hardcore sub-genre of electronica music.

- 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 8pm tonight and tomorrow, 7:30pm on Sunday, 8:20pm on Thursday
- Admission is NT\$400 tonight and tomorrow, NT\$1,500 on Sunday and NT\$1,500 (NT\$1,200 in advance). Tickets can be purchased online through www.thewall.com.tw or tickets.books.com.tw



Hey Girl! by Romeo Castellucci opens this year's Taipei Arts Festival.

PHOTO COURTESY OF TAIPEI ARTS FESTIVAL

known as the Taipei Beer Factory, 85, Bade Rd Sec 2, Taipei City (台北市八德路二段85號)

► Thursday at 7:30pm, Aug. 6 and Aug. 7 at 7:45pm, Aug. 7 and Aug. 8 at 2:45pm

► Admission is NT\$1,200. Tickets are available through NTCH ticketing or online at www.artsticket.com.tw

- 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
- Admission for music shows is NT\$300

Dark Eyes performs gypsy jazz tonight at the **Riverside Cafe** (河岸咖啡). Taiwanese songstress **Ting** (庭竹) and **The Little** appear tomorrow. On Sunday Mando-pop songwriter **Debbie Hsiao** (蕭寶碩) performs with New York jazz pianist **Alex Pryodny**. Also on the bill is Hong Kong pop singer **Kelly Poon** (潘嘉麗). Monday is the venue's weekly open jam.

- 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 round rules for the open jam, visit the venue's Web site
- Admission is NT\$400 tomorrow, NT\$350 on Sunday, NT\$150 on Monday

No shows are scheduled tonight as of press time at **Riverside Live House** (西門紅樓展演館). Tomorrow the venue hosts **Biung** (王宏恩), a Golden Melody Award-winning singer from the Bunun tribe who has just released a new album. On Sunday it's chanteuse **Waa Wei** (魏如萱), better known as **Waa** (娃娃). Fingerstyle guitarist pair **Woody Woody** performs on Thursday.

- 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 8:30pm tomorrow, 8pm on Sunday, 8:30pm on Thursday
- Entry is NT\$500 tomorrow and Sunday, NT\$400 on Thursday. Tickets can be bought online through www.riverside.com.tw/livehouse or tickets.books.com.tw

Tonight **Underworld** (地下社會) hosts an evening of theatrical tap dancing to rock music from **In Tap** (香踏聯合) and **Danceworks** (舞工場舞團), with a hip-hop set later on spun by DJ crew **Liugui** (六腳). Tomorrow popular indie-rock groups **Yoz Tiger** (包子虎) and **Boyz and Girl** split the bill. On Wednesday it's **Fairy Tale** (童話) and **Honeysuckle**.

- 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 for music shows is NT\$300 on Fridays and Saturdays, which includes one drink, and NT\$100 on Wednesdays

EZ5 Live House hosts Mando-pop singers backed by a live band every night. Highlights for the week ahead include Mando-pop songstress **Julia Peng** (彭佳慧) on Tuesday, renowned Aboriginal female singer **Samingad** (紀曉君) on Thursday, and male crooner **Shin Lung** (辛龍), 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
- 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 **Roxy Roots** hosts an evening of ska from **Skaraoke**. Tomorrow it's modern flamenco from **Alma Itana**.

- 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 for music shows is NT\$300 (NT\$200 credited toward food and drink)

The Wall (牆) programs regular live rock shows at Kaohsiung's **Pier 2 Arts Center** (高雄駁二藝術特區). Tonight features power-pop band **NPMC** (北衛) and upbeat punk rockers **Punkhoo** (胖虎). Tomorrow veteran indie-pop group **1976** performs. On Sunday acoustic folk group **Staycool** appears along with **The Girl and The Robots**.

- 1 Dayong Rd, Yancheng Dist, Kaohsiung City (高雄市鹽埕區大勇路1號). On the Net: pier-2.khcc.gov.tw, www.thewall.com.tw
- Shows start at 7:30pm
- Admission is NT\$300 tonight and Sunday, NT\$400 tomorrow

Taichung punk band **Hand Knife** (熱粉紅) performs tomorrow at **The Mercury** (水星酒館), a small club that hosts indie bands in Kaohsiung. Also appearing is local indie-rock band **Youth Banana**.

- 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
- Admission is NT\$200

Taipei Swing holds dance socials on Friday nights at **Capone's**, with live music from blues band **BoPoMoFo** (ㄅㄨ ㄇㄛ ㄇㄛ ㄈㄛ). Dancers of all levels are welcome, and beginner's lessons are offered while the band takes a break. Tomorrow there's light rock music from **Supernova**.

- 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). On Saturdays the minimum charge is NT\$300

Event

This Sunday, mixed martial arts fighters do battle at Luxy. Organized by the Pacific Rim Organization, the **PRO Fighting 4: 180** night is divided into eight battles, with fighters hailing from New Zealand, Taiwan, Canada, South Korea and Guam. The flyer promises "full-contact striking, powerful takedowns, joint locks, breathtaking chokeholds and action-packed fights."

- Luxy, 5F, 201, Zhongxiao E Rd Sec 4, Taipei City (台北市忠孝東路四段201號5樓)
- Doors open at 5pm on Sunday, fights begin at 6pm
- Tickets are NT\$1,000 for ringside seats and NT\$500 for standing. Both include one drink. Tickets are available online, by calling 0917-840-519 and at the door
- On the Net: www.luxy-taipei.com, www.profightingmma.com

THE VINYL WORD

BY MARCUS AURELIUS



DJ Saucey, a diamond geezer.

PHOTO COURTESY OF DOMINIK TYLISZCZAK

Citrus, Taiwan's longest-running house night, squeezes out its final serving of sexy house music tomorrow night at The Loft.

One of the four masterminds behind Citrus, Chris Sostad, aka **Saucey**, is moving to Canada next week and there is an agreement not to throw the parties without him.

Proud new dad Shuiuan Liu (劉軒), aka **SL** and **Xuan**, said the name for the night came to him while he was doing events in New York City in 2001.

Partying came to a halt after 9/11, so he returned to Taipei and searched online message boards for what was going on. Soon he was deejaying in the VIP room of @live and met a "kindred spirit" in Saucey.

"We immediately jived musically because I played soulful East Coast house and he played funky West Coast house," Liu said.

Their parties were intimate affairs at first. Then the pair teamed up with Dominik Tylicszczak, aka **Hooker**, and Shawn McClelland and Citrus caught fire.

"What started as 30 people in the VIP room soon turned into 1,000 in the main room," Liu said. "After one particularly amazing night, I looked at Saucey and told him, 'We've created a monster.'"

Longevity and creativity have been the two key elements for Citrus parties. Besides a slew of local talent, big names like **Jazzy Jeff**, **Dan**, **Steve Mac**, **Johnny Fiasco** and **Hipp-E** have graced the ones and twos for Citrus.

Liu says that the gang of four has always swum against the mainstream current of hip-hop and trance.

"We'd do a lot of stuff before its time," he said. "We did a *taike*-style (台客) party a few years before *taike* was hip."

Other themes included "pimp 'n' ho" parties, as well as the Ceelander nights at which contestants competed in dance-offs like in the movie *Zoolander*.

Hooker, who created many of the flyer designs for Citrus parties before he started deejaying at them, would be ecstatic if tomorrow's party turned out like his favorite Citrus night, a *Miami Vice*-themed do.

"I'm not exactly sure what happened at that one, but all the girls started stripping down into their bras, and even a few pairs of underwear were thrown at the DJs," said Hooker.

Hooker says Saucey will be severely missed from the music scene here.

He "added a funky sound, and people realized they could enjoy themselves without getting hard-edged music pounded into their heads," said Hooker.

Though Saucey is departing, Citrus may be resurrected in the future.

"We could fly Saucey back every once in a while to do another Citrus," said Hooker. "Anything's possible."

A "very" limited amount of free entry passes are available from Hooker (call 0916-751-251), or at tomorrow's Oasis pool party, which takes place from 1pm to 9pm at Taipei Country Club (台北鄉村俱樂部), 1 Qingyun Rd, Taipei City (台北市青雲街1號). On the Net: www.taipeicountry.com.tw, liquid-lifestyle.com/English/upcoming.shtml#oasis. Admission to the pool party is NT\$200 (women) and NT\$400 (men), which includes one drink.

Citrus, tomorrow from 10pm to 4am at The Loft, 6F, 201, Zhongxiao E Rd Sec 4, Taipei City (台北市忠孝東路四段201號6樓). Admission is NT\$600 at the door (includes two drinks).