

Screaming is in her blood

Tai Ai-ling (戴愛玲) is not just a pop princess who has inspired numerous tributes on Taiwanese TV's talent-show circuit, she is also real-life royalty.

Dubbed the "Iron Lung Princess" (鐵肺公主), Ai — who performs tomorrow at Taipei's Y17 Youth Activity Center (青少年育樂中心) — put her name on the map with her potent delivery of *The Right One* (對的人), a ballad featuring her highly acclaimed screaming vocals (吼叫唱腔).

"I was born with this voice. It comes from my Aboriginal blood," Tai said in an interview on Tuesday. "I sang in this screaming vocal style even before I became a career singer."

Tai was discovered by Keith Stuart, the vocalist for Diplomacy Band (外交樂團) and a well-known pop-producer based in Taiwan. Because of his influence, her early work was focused on a hit-the-high-note vocal style, with Stuart composing the melody to *The Right One*. Her latest three albums, however, have explored more subtle vocal territory. On *Jumping Pain* (跳痛), released this May, she broadens her musical palette by flirting with rock, rap and electronica and reveals a rare emotional poignancy in *Just Another Look at You* (只要再看你一眼), a breathtaking duet with fellow crooner Roger Yang (楊培安).

"I'm not just capable of being explosive. I can be sweet or sad, too," Tai said. "The more I live life... the more I am able to convey more complex emotions."

The Aboriginal diva also known as "Princess Ai" will perform the third and final leg of her Tai Ai-ling Jumping Pain, To Love Bravely tour (戴愛玲【跳痛·勇敢愛】巡迴演唱會) tomorrow at the Y17 Youth Activity Center. In addition to her own trademark power ballads, she will tackle rock songs by Faye Wong (王菲)

and A-mei (張惠妹), as well as dance numbers by Lady Gaga and Kylie Minogue.

Tai inherited her princess title from her mother in the matriarchal Paiwan tribe (排灣族), and her next project may pay tribute to her native tongue. "Singing a song in Paiwan is not a question of whether but when," she said. "I want to do a concept album in the vein of A-mei's *A-mit* (阿密特), a cohesive album that can showcase the rocker in me."

"I also want to hold more stadium concerts to treat my fans," she continued. "I love performing live so much that if I'm enjoying it and if the audience loves it, I just can't stop. I'll go on singing and singing."

PERFORMANCE NOTES

WHAT: Tai Ai-ling Jumping Pain, To Love Bravely tour (戴愛玲【跳痛·勇敢愛】巡迴演唱會)

WHEN: Tomorrow at 7pm

WHERE: Y17 Youth Activity Center (青少年育樂中心), 10F, 17, Renai Rd Sec 1, Taipei City (台北市仁愛路一段17號10樓)

ADMISSION: NT\$600 to NT\$1,000, available through 7-Eleven ibon kiosks or at www.tickets.com.tw

ON THE NET: princessai.pixnet.net/blog



PHOTO COURTESY OF SONY MUSIC

Tai Ai-ling, the "Iron Lung Princess."

EVENTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Theater

Performed under the 12th Taipei Arts Festival (第十二屆台北藝術節), **Stifters Dinge** by German avant-garde director and composer Heiner Goebbels is part music, part art installation and part theater.

■ Taipei Brewery (台北啤酒工場347成島倉庫), 85, Bade Rd Sec 2, Taipei City (台北市八德路二段85號)

■ Tonight at 4:45pm and 7:45pm, tomorrow at 2:45pm and 7:45pm and Sunday at 2:45pm

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

A collaboration between Xin Xin Nanguan Ensemble (心心南管樂坊) and French director Lukas Hemleb, **Feather** (羽) is a contemporary nanguan (南管) opera based on a Chinese myth about celestial bodies. [See story on Page 13.]

■ Experimental Theater, Taipei City

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

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

To celebrate its 10th anniversary, What's Young (青少年表演藝術聯盟) presents ***UCK·F*CK·FU*K·FUC*** (花樣年華青少年), which tells the story of a group of young adults who stage a play that they first tried to produce 10 years earlier while they were in high school. The play is part of the What's Young Drama Festival (花樣年華青少年戲劇節).

■ Crown Art Center Theater (皇冠小劇場), 50, Ln 120, Dunhua N Rd, Taipei City (台北市敦化北路120巷50號)

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

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

www.artsticket.com.tw

Taipei Philharmonic Theater's (愛樂劇工廠) musical **A Love Story About Shanghai and Taipei** (雙城戀曲)

presents the tale of two lovers separated by events beyond their control in 1949 when the Chinese Nationalist Party (KMT) fled to Taiwan after losing the Chinese Civil War. The lavish production includes plenty of golden oldies from the 1940s to the 1960s.

■ National Theater, Taipei City

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

■ Tickets are NT\$400 to NT\$2,500, available through NTCH ticketing or online at www.artsticket.com.tw

Choreographed by Yu Neng-sheng (余能盛), **The Door** (門) is Chamber Ballet Taipei's (台北室內芭蕾舞) newest production. Guest performers include Nadja Saidakova from the ballet of the Damstadt Staatstheater and Richard Szabo from the ballet of the Vienna State Opera. [See story on Page 13.]

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

■ Tonight and tomorrow at 7:30pm, Sunday at 3pm

■ Tickets are NT\$400 to NT\$1,500, available through available through NTCH ticketing or online at www.artsticket.com.tw

Classical music

Dialogues Among the Magical Woods (魔幻森林的對話), part of the Music Forum Weekend Concert Series (十方樂集週末音樂會系列), presents the Sylvanus Quartet performing a program of works including Handel's *Trio Sonata in B-flat Major*, Schumann's *Drei Romanzen* and Jeffrey Rathbun's *Three Diversions for Two Oboes*. The

performance culminates with a new work, *The Wood Between the Worlds*, composed for the quartet by American composer Phil Salathe, who took inspiration from the **Chronicles of Narnia** by C.S. Lewis.

■ Today at 7:30pm

■ Forum Auditorium (十方樂集音樂劇場演奏廳), 4, Ln 187, Minzu W Rd, Taipei City (台北市民族西路187巷4號)

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

Lost in Wonderland Children's Concert (兒童樂園2 — 2010絃夢藝緻音樂逍遙遊) is a family concert of easy-listening classics and music taken from well-known Disney cartoons and the **Harry Potter** films performed by a string trio.

■ Sunday at 2:30pm

■ Taipei Philharmonic Orchestra and Maestro Henry Mazer Music and Culture Center (台北愛樂管絃梅哲音樂文化館) at B1, 7, Jinan Rd Sec 1, Taipei City (台北市濟南路一段7號B1)

■ Tickets are NT\$250, available through NTCH ticketing or online at www.artsticket.com.tw

Shock Concert Band (震撼·I·地球) performs its 25th anniversary concert this weekend with music on a theme of the environment, including work by local composers and selections from classics such as Gustav Holst's *The Planets Suite*. The concert features French horn soloist Liu Tsu-fu (劉子甫).

■ Sunday at 2:30pm

■ Howard International House (福華文教會館), 2F, 30, Xinsheg S Rd Sec 3, Taipei City (台北市新生南路三段30號2F)

■ Tickets are NT\$300 and NT\$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. No shows are scheduled this weekend as of press time. On Wednesday, it's **Come on! Bay Bay!** (來吧! 焙焙!), whose indie-pop sound is along the lines of Belle and Sebastian, and another indie-pop group, **Miss Silk Stocking** (絲襪小姐).

■ 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)

■ Shows start at 8:30pm

■ Admission is NT\$500 on Wednesday (NT\$400 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

Tonight, Hong Kong Canto-pop singer **Denise Ho** (何韻詩), aka HOCC, makes her Taiwan debut at **The Wall** (這牆).

No shows are scheduled tomorrow as of press time. On Sunday, newcomer band **Goosander** (川秋沙) opens for post-rock band **Sorry Youth** and Hoklo-singing indie rockers **Windmill** (風籬坊).

■ **Mafanjo** (瑪非安喬), 13 High and aspiring pop singer **Shara Lin** (林逸欣) take to the stage on Wednesday.

■ 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, Sunday and Wednesday

■ Entry tonight is NT\$500 (NT\$400 in advance), NT\$400 on Sunday and Wednesday (NT\$300 in advance). Tickets can be purchased online through www.thewall.com.tw or tickets.books.com.tw

Tonight **Witch House** (女巫店) hosts post-rock band **Cicada** and **Shine Lin** (林暐), lead singer of long-standing indie band **The Peppermints**. Arrive early tomorrow to get a seat for iconic Hoklo folk singer **Chen Ming-chang** (陳明華) and his **Tamsui Tour Band** (陳明華與淡水走唱團). Indie rockers **Yoz Tiger** (包子虎) appear on Thursday.

■ 7, Ln 56, Xinsheg 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

Tonight is "fusion jazz night" at **Riverside Cafe** (河岸密室), featuring a group led by owner and session guitarist **Geddy Lin** (林正如).

Tomorrow, Mando-pop singer **Yvonne Chang** (張涵雅) takes to the stage. On Sunday, it's new age/smooth jazz band **Bearland** (貝爾藍德) and the **Hands Up Band** (分享樂隊). 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 ground rules for the open jam, visit the venue's Web site

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

Tonight at **Riverside Live House** (西門紅樓展演廳), it's pop rock and Mando-pop performers **Color Band**, **Hsiao Hung-ren** (蕭顯仁) and **Red Flower** (紅花樂團). **Skyline Jazz Band**, whose repertoire includes bossa nova, soul, funk, fusion and R'n'B, appears tomorrow. On Thursday, Mando-hip-hop performer **Manchuker** (滿人), takes to the stage.

■ 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

■ Admission is NT\$400 tonight and tomorrow and NT\$300 on Thursday. Tickets can be purchased online through www.riverside.com.tw/livehouse or tickets.books.com.tw

Tonight **Underworld** (地下社會) hosts Japanese thrash metal band **Pastafasta**, **Sleaze** and punk band **Inhuman Species** (非人物種). Tomorrow it's upbeat punks **Punkhoo** (群虎樂團), with **The Hoyo** as the opening act. On Wednesday, it's up-and-coming bands **Youth Banana** (台灣香蕉) and **3D Square** (立體方塊).

■ 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

Earl Hines II Jazztet plays tonight at **Sappho de Base**, the late night lounge bar and hangout for musicians from Taipei's jazz and blues scene.

Tomorrow, **Coromandel Express** performs a "musical masala" of jazz. On Tuesday, it's **Grace's Jazz Trio**. On Wednesday, it's an evening of French chanson and other European folk music with expat group **Faubourg 116**. The venue's open jam is on Thursday, hosted by **Rocky and The Barfly**.

■ 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

■ All music shows begin at 10pm, except for Wednesday, which begins at 9:30pm

■ Entrance is NT\$100 tonight and tomorrow and Wednesday, free on other nights

EZ5 Live House hosts Mando-pop singers backed by a live band every night. Highlights for the week ahead include songstress **Julia Peng** (彭佳慧) 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: 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 **Roxy Roots** hosts veteran blues/garage rockers **Celluloid** (黃瀾瀾). Tomorrow expat hip-hop group **Dr Renculous Lipz and The Skallyunz** and **DJ Subtle** take to the stage for the venue's Chinese Valentine's Day celebration. On Wednesday it's funk and R'n'B with **Groove Department** (韻律部).

■ 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 drinks)

The Wall (這牆) programs regular live rock shows at Kaohsiung's Pier 2 Arts Center (高雄駁二藝術特區). Tonight's lineup features indie rockers **Macbeth** (馬克白) and **Green!Eyes**. Heavy metal bands **Hekate** and **Dying Chelsea** perform both tomorrow and Sunday afternoon.

■ 1 Dayong Rd, Yancheng Dist, Kaohsiung City (高雄市鹽埕區大馬路1號). On the Net: pier-2.khcc.gov.tw, www.thewall.com.tw

■ Shows start at 7:30pm tonight and 4pm tomorrow

■ Admission is NT\$300 tonight and NT\$600 tomorrow

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

■ On Fridays, minimum charge of one drink, dancers receive a free drink coupon. On Saturdays, minimum charge is NT\$300

THE VINYL WORD

BY MARCUS AURELIUS

Since nine is the highest single digit, in Chinese culture it connotes good fortune, longevity and happiness. With partly clear skies forecast for tomorrow night, Cube Productions, the promotion group that is putting on Summer Aquarian for the ninth year, is feeling lucky.

For DJs like **Minijay** (邱永杰) who have never played at Summer Aquarian, the excitement is building. "Summer Aquarian is a world-class event," he said. "It is a rare opportunity to enjoy the sun, beer, the sea and music, with thousands of people."

Overall 26 DJs are on the bill at Summer Aquarian, which features three stages: hip-hop, house and rave. Organizers expect the party at Jongjiao Beach (中角沙灘) in Jinshan Township (金山) to draw 7,000 revelers.

Simon Pereira, AKA **DJ Al Burro**, knows what to expect because he's dipped his toes in the Summer Aquarian waters before. "Last time I was there I loved the atmosphere because so many people in one place were all trying to get away from the pressures and cares of everyday life. I always go for the music. I love good music, and the DJ lineup says to me that this is going to be a great night."

Another experienced Summer Aquarianite is Yoshinori Nagano, who has recently changed his DJ moniker to **The Sonic Kid**. He has attended since 2003 and said, "I look forward for it every year. It represents total freedom and the best combination of summer, music and all that is pure and fun! I can't wait!"

"The thing that makes Summer Aquarian so great," said Henry Wade Jr, aka **DJ Fyah B** of Black Reign Sound System, "is the energy of the people and the great location." He added: "I'm ready to mash up the damn place."

Braggadocio is always served in overabundance from the hip-hop stage, and this year will be no exception. **Chinese Rapper DOM** (帥老外) does double duty as he DJs for an hour early and emcees a live hip-hop show later. "I'm bringin' the heat with this one," he said. "Big show, big stage, so I'm gonna do it big. Other rappers are going to need to rethink how to do a show after this one. I'm combining lots of elements of hip-hop culture into one big performance that is sure to leave people talking."

Admission to Summer Aquarian at Jongjiao Beach is NT\$800 at the door (customers receive two empty garbage bags and can get a NT\$200 refund by filling them with garbage and returning them). Presale tickets are NT\$500, available at 7-Eleven ibon and FamilyMart FamiPort kiosks or online at www.ticket.com.tw/points/ticket_points.asp. For more information (in Chinese and English), including how to get to Jongjiao Beach by bus or taxi, go to summer-aquarian.blogspot.com.

HIGHLIGHT

BY DAVID CHEN



Unknown Species, an indie rock festival, takes place this weekend in Tamsui.

PHOTO COURTESY OF UNKNOWN SPECIES FEST

Some of Taiwan's best indie, punk and metal bands are performing this weekend at the **Unknown Species Festival** (未知物種), which takes place outdoors at Tamsui Farm (淡水休閒農場) all day tomorrow and Sunday.

Performers include electro-rock band **Go Chic**, which made a splash abroad with appearances at South by Southwest and Fuji Rock, shoegazer rockers **Boyz and Girl**, who have just released an excellent debut album, and thrash punk band **Pastafasta** of Japan.

The band lineup also features other favorites from Taiwan's indie scene, including garage rockers **My Skin Against Your Skin**, expat post-rock group **Collider**, psychedelic rockers



Flat Club (假文藝青年俱樂部) and metal band **Brain Corrosion**. Tamsui Farm is located a short walk from Zhuwei MRT Station (捷運竹圍站). The festival's Web site has a video that shows the way.

► Unknown Species Festival from 11:30am to 11:30pm, tomorrow and Sunday at Tamsui Farm (淡水休閒農場), 1, Ln 12-3, Mincyuan Rd, Tamsui Township, Taipei County (台北縣淡水鎮民權路12-3巷1號)

► Tickets are NT\$1,000 (NT\$800 in advance) per day and NT\$1,300 for both days. Advance tickets can be purchased until the end of today at White Rabbit Records (小白兔唱片), 1-1, Ln 21, Pucheng St, Taipei City (台北市浦城街21巷1-1號), or online through tickets.books.com.tw



Chinese Rapper DOM, larger than life.

PHOTO COURTESY OF SUMMER AQUARIAN