

Clockwise from top: Country Boys, Ciacia, Panai, Good 4 Nothing, Mojo, and Girl and the Robots perform at this weekend's Rock in Taichung Festival.

Lower left: A scene from last year's Rock in Taichung Festival.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF ROCK IN TAICHUNG AND WINDWIN CO

FESTIVAL NOTES

WHAT: Rock in Taichung

WHERE: Taichung City Fulfillment Amphitheatre (台中市文心圓滿戶外劇場), 289, Wunsin Rd Sec 1, Taichung City (台中市南屯區文心路一段289號) WHEN: Tomorrow and Sunday from 2:30pm to 10pm,

ADMISSION: Free

ON THE NET: www.rockintaichung.com

Taichung: rock center

aichung is putting on a free outdoor rock festival this weekend, with around 90 bands slated to perform on four stages at Wensin Park (文心森林公園) tomorrow and Sunday.

Prominent indie performers from Taiwan, Japan and South Korea are featured at the third annual Rock in Taichung (搖滾台中樂團節), which is sponsored by Taichung's Bureau of Cultural Affairs.

Highlights for tomorrow include Japanese pop-punk group Mix Market, and Start of the Day, a band that mixes emo, techno and postrock. They appear on the park's main stage, the 6,000-seat Fulfillment Amphitheatre (文心圓滿戶

Featured acts on Sunday include indie-pop artist Ciacia (何欣穂) with electro-pop band The Girl and the Robots (女孩與機器), rock trio Green!Eyes and Japanese emo outfit Good 4 Nothing.

The smaller stages promise to be just as lively, said musician Nuno Chen (陳信宏), who helped organized the festival program.

One successful aspect of last year's festival was that each of the four stages attracted "a lot of people," he said. Chen said more than 60,000 people in total attended last year's twoday festival.

As with last year's event, each stage presents a specific theme. The Attack Stage (衝擊舞台) generally caters to bands from Taichung's indie scene, which favors punk and heavy metal. Alien Avenge (異族亡魂) is among the list of metal bands performing tomorrow. Sunday is for the punks, with an all-day lineup that includes hometown favorites Damnkidz, as well as

popular Taipei groups Children Sucker (表兒) and 88 Balaz (88顆芭樂籽).

Social activism is the theme tomorrow at the Garage Liberation Stage (車庫解放舞台), with a series of locally produced documentaries screening throughout the day. There will also be performances by Aboriginal singersongwriter Panai, who is known for her antinuclear activism in Taitung, and folk rock group Country Boys (農村武裝青年), who sing about environmental issues.

Chen touts this stage as one of the unique features of Rock in Taichung, noting that

many music festivals are wary of bands mentioning political issues.

"But this thinking isn't right," he said. "A lot of rock 'n' roll looks at things in society, environmental problems, societal problems. So if you restrict rock bands and tell them 'You can't do this or that,' that would be a strange thing."

In addition to live music, there will be food courts and an arts and crafts market, which will be set up in the grounds of Wensin Park.

As of press time, organizers say the event will proceed even if it rains, but it's best to check the festival Web site for the latest updates.

SELECTED HIGHLIGHTS

TOMORROW **E**

Panai (巴奈) 4:10pm, Garage Liberation Stage (車庫解放舞台)

Aurora 6:20pm, Energy Stage (能量舞台) Story Seller 7pm, Energy Stage (能量舞台) Alien Avenge (異族亡魂) 7:30pm, Attack Stage

Coach (教練) 8pm, Jump Stage (跳躍舞台) Country Boys (農村武裝青年) 8:05pm, Garage Liberation Stage (車庫解放舞台) La Petit Nurse (小護士) 9pm, Jump Stage

Start of the Day 8:50pm, Energy Stage (能量舞台) Mix Market 9:30pm, Energy Stage (能量舞台)

Green!Eyes 5:40pm, Energy Stage (能量舞台) Ciacia (何欣穗) and The Girl and the Robots (女孩 與機器) 8pm, Energy Stage (能量舞台) Zenkwun (何欣穗), 5:30pm, Jump Stage (跳躍舞台)

SUNDAY

Queen Suitcase (皇后皮箱) 7pm, Jump Stage (跳躍舞台)

Damnkidz 7pm, Attack Stage (衝擊舞台) Good 4 Nothing 8pm, Energy Stage (能量舞台) Children Sucker (表兒) 8:30pm, Attack Stage 88 Balaz (88顆芭樂籽) 9:10pm, Attack Stage (衝擊舞台)

For a full schedule and information on the bands, visit the festival Web site www.rockintaichung.com

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introduction is

Taichung-based

deejaying experience

under his belt, JJ

EVENTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Theater

Decode 2010 (亂碼2010) by Ku & Dancers (古舞團) probes the subconscious. The score was composed and will be played by Claudia Howard

■ Experimental Theater, Taipei City ■ Tonight at 7:45pm, tomorrow at 2:45pm and 7:45pm and Sunday at 2:45pm

Oueen from Chicago.

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

The **Xinbei City International Arts** Festival (2010新北市藝術節) ends

with two performances by the Melbourne-based Tom Tom Crew that show off the performance art group's signature mix of circus routines, acrobatics, drumming and hip-hop.

- East Riverside Plaza (鬼岸廣場), Bitan Sindian, Taipei County (台北縣新店碧潭)
- Tomorrow and Sunday at 7:30pm
- Free admission

Born of a collaboration between artist Chen Chun-ming (陳俊明) and Jelly Fish Bloc, a group composed of artists from Taiwan, Thailand, France and Spain, and billed as an interdisciplinary interactive performance, **Hold Down** integrates installation art, digital sound and performance to explore the human body as a field of contest.

- Barry Room, Taipei Artist Village (台北 國際藝術村百里廳), 7 Beiping E Rd, Taipei City (台北市北平東路7號)
- Tonight at 7:30pm, tomorrow and Sunday at 2:30pm
- Tickets are NT\$150 at the door

Set up in 2008 by local fire dancers to promote their pastime, the **Taiwan** Fire Festival (台灣火舞祭) comprises a lineup of individual performances and group shows by popular troupes such as the True Spin Fire Group (TS火舞團), Orange Fire (橘火舞團) and Kundalini. An outdoor art fair and fire dancing workshop will be held before tomorrow evening's performances. For more information, log on at

log.roodo.com/taiwan_fire_festival ■ Museum of Contemporary Art's plaza (台北當代藝術館廣場), 39 Changan W Rd, Taipei City (台北市長安西路39號)

- Performances run from 7:30pm to
- Tickets are NT\$400 for the workshop, free admission for the performances

Adapted from the renowned Singaporean playwright Kuo Pao Kun's (郭寶昆) The Spirits Play (靈戲), The Mother Hen Next Door (隔離的大母雞) by EX-Theatre Asia (EX-亞洲劇團) explores political repression, war and death in the form of a fable about a giant hen that can't stop eating and winds up devouring its own torso, neck

- and head. ■ Taipei County Arts Center (台北縣藝文 中心演藝廳), 62 Jhuangjing Rd, Banciao City, Taipei County (台北縣板橋市莊敬路
- Tuesday and Wednesday at 7:30pm, Thursday at 7pm and 8:30pm
- Tickets are NT\$350, available through NTCH ticketing or online at www. artsticket.com.tw

Classical music

Timeless Love Concert (時空情人音 樂會), part of the 2010 Taipei Arts

Festival (2010臺北藝術節), brings together two highly respected artists from two vastly different musical traditions: Wang Xinxin (王心心), one of the most respected practitioners of the ancient Chinese nanguan (南管) musical style, and Chien Wen-pin (簡文 彬), who was responsible for molding Taiwan's National Symphony Orchestra (國家交響樂團) into an international powerhouse. In Timeless Love Concert, Wang and Chien, who will serve as pianist, will perform with tenor Tilman Lichdi. The program includes arrangements of classical Chinese poetry and music, as well as a Chinese translation and arrangement of Schumann's

■ Today and tomorrow at 7:45pm, Sunday at 2:30pm

Dichterliebe.

- Zhongshan Hall (台北市中山堂), 98 Yanping S Rd, Taipei City (台北市延平南
- Tickets are NT\$1,000, available through NTCH ticketing or online at www.artsticket.com.tw

Les Parapluies de Cherbourg (秋 水伊人) is a piano recital by Wang Chao-

huan (王兆歡), who will perform a program that includes Beethoven's Sonata No. 23, Op. 57 and Chopin's Ballade No. 1, Op. 23 and Scherzos No. 1 and No. 2.

- Sunday at 2:30pm
- Taipei Philharmonic Orchestra and Maestro Henry Mazer Music and Culture Center (台北愛樂暨梅哲音樂文化館) 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

Kiss of Time — Tracy Janis Tu Violin Recital (時光之吻 — 涂鳳玹小 提琴獨奏會) presents local violinist Tracy Janis Tu (涂鳳玹) in a performance of the "best loved melodies in history" by Ponce, Kreisler, Saint-Saens, Elgar and Wieniawski. She will be accompanied on piano by Yuriko Morota.

- Tomorrow at 7:30pm
- National Recital Hall, Taipei City ■ Tickets are NT\$400 to NT\$800, available through NTCH ticketing or online at www.artsticket.com.tw

ATS 2010 SECOM Annual Concert (ATS2010中興保全年度音樂會) sees the Academy of Taiwan Strings (台灣絃

樂團), which is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year, presenting a program of music that includes Bach's Air on the G String, Mozart's Serenade in G Major, KV525 "Eine Kleine Nachtmusik," the first movement of Tchaikovsky's Serenade for Strings Op.48 in C Major, and the second movement of Schubert's String Quartet in D Minor "Der Tod und das

- Madchen." ■ Monday at 7:30pm
- National Concert Hall, Taipei City
- Tickets are NT\$400, available through ERA ticketing or online at www.ticket.

Contemporary

Legacy Taipei, located in a former warehouse at Huashan 1914 Creative Park (華山1914), hosts top Taiwanese pop performers and international acts. The venue presents pop singer **Shino** Lin (林曉培) tonight and folk singersongwriter **Huang Jie** (黃玠) tomorrow. On Sunday, it's The Next Big Thing, a concert program featuring indie bands Yiding Yikou ($- \exists - \Box$), The Tic Tac, No. 7 Cyan and Orangegrass (橙草樂 **Lin** (林依霖) shares the bill with rock

- group io. ■ 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
- Shows start at 8pm tonight and tomorrow, 7pm on Sunday and 8:30pm

■ Entrance is NT\$500 tonight, NT\$600 tomorrow (NT\$500 in advance), NT\$200 on Sunday and 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

Rapper **Soft Lipa** (蛋堡) performs tonight at The Wall (這牆). Tomorrow night the venue hosts J-pop singers Misato Watanabe and Mizca. On Sunday, another set of Japanese performers take to the stage: screamo/

metal band **Heaven in Her Arms** and indie rock group Balloons, whose sound owes much to Dinosaur Jr.

- 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 and 7:30pm Sunday ■ Entrance is NT\$500 tonight (NT\$400
- in advance), NT\$1,600 tomorrow and NT\$1,000 on Sunday (NT\$700 in advance). Tickets can be purchased online through www.thewall.com.tw or tickets.books.com.tw

Rock in Hose Burlesque puts on a new show tomorrow night at Pipe, an Italian restaurant located near the riverside section of Taipei Water Park (台 北自來水園區) in Gongguan (公館). The group shares the bill with expat rock and punk groups **Divebomb** and **The** Deadly Vibes, The Tear Jerks, a band from South Korea, and indie synth rockers The Looking Glass.

- 1 Siyuan St, Taipei City (台北市思源街
- Show starts at 11pm ■ Entrance fee is NT\$400, includes one

Tonight Riverside Cafe (河岸留言) hosts Timeless Fusion Project (無限 融合黨), a fusion group led by pianist Fred Lui (呂聖斐). Tomorrow is poppunk band Inquiry 104 (查號104) and pop-rap group Cool Silly (傻酷樂團). On Sunday, jazz combo **Brussel Van Taipeh** takes to the stage. The venue hosts its weekly open jam 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 all other nights. For a list of standard songs and ground rules for the open jam, visit the venue's Web site
- Entrance is NT\$400 tonight and tomorrow, NT\$350 on Sunday and NT\$150 on Monday

Tonight Riverside Live House (西門

紅樓展演館) hosts indie rockers Love Manana (愛的大未來) and rising Mando-pop star Hsiao Yu (小字). Tomorrow it's **Tseng Yu-chia** (曾昱嘉), the champion singer from the Super Idol (超級偶像) TV talent show.

- 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 tonight and ■ Entrance is NT\$450 toniaht.
- tomorrow's show is NT\$500. Tickets can purchased online through www. riverside.com.tw/livehouse or tickets. books.com.tw

Tonight **Underworld** (地下社會) hosts dance rock DJ crew First Row **Kidz** and indie rock group **Macbeth**

(馬克白). Tomorrow indie bands Brain Roller and Roxymoron take to the stage. Later on it's Spike, the punk rock dance "party of the year" featuring DJs Dizzy, Steve, and Ah-Chang (阿強) of 88 Balaz (88顆芭樂 籽). On Wednesday, it's up-andcoming bands Laifushu (籟福樹) and

- No Money No Honey. ■ 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 midniaht

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

Flaneur Daguerre, a jazz quartet that plays everything from Bach to Bjork and Ornette Coleman to the Ramones, performs tonight at Sappho de Base. Tomorrow, it's blues and surf rock with the Blues Vibrations. On Tuesday, Roger's Jazz Trio takes to the stage and on Wednesday it's an open jam hosted by TNT. Thursday's performance is by electric jazz outfit I Have a New

- Band Now. ■ 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 tonight and tomorrow and 10pm on all other nights
- Entrance is NT\$200 tonight, NT\$150 tomorrow, NT\$100 on Thursday, free on other nights

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) 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

Tonight at **Roxy Roots**, it's pop-rock group Rubber Band. Tomorrow night expat group Space Funk takes

- to the stage. ■ 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 fee for music shows is NT\$300 (NT\$200 credited toward food and drinks).

Taipei Swing holds dance socials on Friday nights at Capone's, with live music from blues band **BoPoMoFo** (ク タロロ). Dancers of all levels are welcome, and beginner's lessons are offered while the band takes a break. On Saturday, drummer **Abe Nbugu** Kenyatta leads a band playing music from his hometown of New Orleans.

■ 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 Wall (這牆) programs regular live rock shows at Kaohsiung's Pier 2 Arts Center (高雄駁二藝術特區). Indie-pop favorites Tizzy Bac perform tonight and tomorrow

- 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 ■ Entrance is NT\$500 for each night

BY QUEEN BEE



"Analogue lover" DJ JJ, left, with Robert Hood. PHOTO COURTESY OF DJ JJ AND ROBERT HOOD

describes himself as an "analogue lover," so it's not surprising that he still insists on spinning vinyl.

VW: What did you do before you became a DJ? JJ: I was a student. I started deejaying when I was really young and then became a resident at a disco pub called KK

in the early 90s, which was the biggest club at that time.

VW: What kind of music did you spin?

JJ: At that time, the music all the DJs were playing was very similar, which was Billboard Top 40 songs. A few years later, I met DJ @llen, Gravity and Lim Giong (林強) and started getting into electronic dance music. @llen helped me organize a few electronic dance music parties at KK before I left KK, but the music didn't really appeal to a mainstream audience. And that's why I decided to guit being a commercial DJ and focus on playing electronic dance music exclusively.

VW: How did you start getting into techno?

JJ: I was influenced by Jeff Mills a lot. I was blown away after listening to one of his mix CDs. His way of manipulating, cutting and pasting music was amazing. He made the music sound so fresh, and made me realize how interesting techno could be.

VW: So you're still spinning vinyl?

teach them?

: Yeah. It's nothing to brag about, though. Playing vinyl is just my personal preference. I like the way it sounds, and it makes me feel comfortable.

VW: What do you think about the DJ scene right now?

JJ: A lot of Taiwanese DJs have very good skills. But it's a pity that many of them like to follow trends and play what everyone else is playing. It'd be better if they could think more independently and try to express their own ideas. The scene really needs more variety in terms of music.

VW: We heard that you have many students? What do you

JJ: I do. Lots of kids who come to my record shop become my students. Besides how to mix records, I also teach them all the technical stuff about turntables, mixers and sound systems. I teach them everything I know basically, and it's

VW: How was the Robert Hood gig last weekend?

JJ: It was very successful, I think. Even though there weren't that many people and the promoter might have lost money, lots of techno heads showed up and the vibe was great. I could feel that most people who were there that night were totally into the music, and that's all it matters.

VW: Have you ever thought about relocating to China like DJ

@llen and some other veteran Taiwanese DJs have? II: Not really. For one thing, I'm "pan-green" [a person who believes Taiwan and China have different identities]. And also I think I should become more established in my homeland and try contribute something to my country first. For now, I'm quite content with teaching and deejaying while trying to help build the dance music scene.

DJ JJ plays this Tuesday from 8pm to 10:30pm at the Taipei Biennial (台北雙年展) opening party at the Taipei Fine Arts Museum (TFAM — 台北市立美術館), 181, Zhongshan N Rd Sec 3. Taipei City (台北市中山北路三段181號). Admission: free.

HIGHLIGHT

BY **DAVID CHEN**

The National Concert Hall's (國家音樂 廳) summer jazz season continues tonight with a performance by American saxophonist Joshua

Redman, 41, broke onto the scene almost 20 years ago when he won the Thelonius Monk International Saxophone Competition. Today the Berkeley-born, Harvard graduate is one of the most highly acclaimed saxophonists in contemporary jazz, and has toured or recorded with Chick Corea, Brad Mehldau, Pat Methany and his father, the late, renowned saxophonist Dewey Redman. The younger Redman has recorded more than a dozen albums, several of which have been nominated for Grammy awards. He performs tonight with Matt Penman on bass and Greg Hutchison on drums.

the venue or through NTCH ticketing **Redman** and his trio. or online at www.artsticket.com.tw

▶ Joshua Redman Trio, tonight from 7:30pm, at the National Concert Hall(國家音樂廳), 21-1 Zhongshan S Rd, Taipei City (台北市中山南路21-1號) ▶ Admission: NT\$1,200 and NT\$1,600 (all other seats sold out), available at

> On the Net: www.joshuaredman.com



American saxophonist Joshua Redman performs tonight at the National Concert Hall as part of the venue's

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE NATIONAL CONCERT HALL



summer jazz program.