



It's been half a decade since they split, but the sight of **Jolin Tsai** (蔡依林) and **Jay Chou** (周杰倫) together still has the power to send the media and fans into a frenzy.

Tsai made a surprise appearance on Sunday at the end of Chou's last concert in Taipei before the Mando-pop prince's world tour. Their sultry duet seemed designed to titillate fans and make them nostalgic for the days when the pair were known as the "Double-Js" (雙J). During Tsai's short appearance, the crowd chanted "Get back together!" (復合) over and over again. But Chou has adamantly denied that the reunion with Tsai is romantic, insisting that the two are "just friends."

When asked by reporters if he was worried fans outside of Taiwan would be disappointed that Tsai wasn't accompanying him on the world tour, Chou said, "Not at all, this is our home," which prompted a surprised gasp from the crowd.

"I meant, our *hometown!*" Chou quickly clarified. The Jay-Jolin pas de deux was only a couple of minutes long, but it dominated the gossip pages for several days. Fans who had gone to Chou's previous two shows in Taipei were upset that they paid the same amount for tickets, but missed Tsai's surprise appearance. Even **Patty Hou** (侯佩岑) — host of TV talk show *Azio Superstar* and the woman who got between the Double-Js in the first place — wanted a piece of the action. Chou left Tsai for Hou in 2005, but the relationship floundered the following year. When Hou, who has since married, saw footage of her ex and his ex dancing, she exclaimed "How amazing! Everyone must be going crazy!" Hou then publicly extended an invitation to Tsai to appear on *Azio Superstar*.

The ruckus also gave *Next Magazine* yet another excuse to ogle Tsai's chest. The gossip magazine headlined a story "When Jay Chou says 'come back to my side,' Jolin Tsai shrinks," a cheeky reference to a lyric from Chou's new song *Long Time No See* (好久不見), which fans have speculated was meant as a peace offering to Tsai.

Jolin Tsai and Jay Chou: We're still "just friends."

PHOTO: TAIPEI TIMES



While noting that Tsai's weight loss may have been the result of a back injury she suffered last spring, *Next* also pointed out that most of the weight seemed to have been lost from her breasts, which once earned her the sobriquet "G Milk" (G奶, a reference to her supposed cup size). The singer is probably more of a 33C now, *Next* declared. "She's flat now," the tabloid mourned, ignoring the fact that Tsai's twins are still comfortably one letter away from A-cup oblivion.

**Lee Chin-liang** (李進良) probably wishes that his media problems could disappear as rapidly as Tsai's boobs supposedly have. Readers of *Pop Stop* will know that the alleged roving eye and legal problems of **Hu Gua's** (胡瓜) son-in-law have been a constant source of worry for the popular TV host. Lee's rap sheet includes charges of sexual harassment, an all-night party with two friends and three hostesses at a Taipei hotel, and being caught shepherding starlet **Mao Mao** (毛毛) to a Taoyuan hotel just days before his wedding to **Hu Ying-chen** (胡盈禎) last fall. Lee's reputation as a plastic surgeon was also dealt a major blow last fall when he was fined NT\$150,000 and ordered to stop working for three months by the Taipei Department of Health after illegally inserting silicone breast implants into a patient.

Throughout the various scandals, Lee's wife and father-in-law have stood by him — but the stress and media coverage appears to be taking a toll on Hu Ying-chen. When paparazzi intercepted the pair at the movie theater last week, Lee reached for his wife's hand, only to have Hu shake him off, the *Liberty Times* reported. A photo showed the storm-weathered duo sulking on an escalator, with Lee a few steps behind Hu. The incident must have cast a pall over what was supposed to be a family outing — Hu Gua, his longtime girlfriend **Ding Ro-an** (丁柔安) and his son and daughter-in-law were all in attendance.



The paparazzi is making life miserable for Lee Chin-liang.

PHOTO: TAIPEI TIMES

EVENTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Theater

Broadway musical **Jekyll and Hyde's** tour of Taiwan starts tonight at the National Theater in Taipei. It will then move to Tainan, Taichung and Kaohsiung. For more information, visit [www.kham.com.tw](http://www.kham.com.tw).

- National Theater, Taipei City
- Tonight at 7:30pm, tomorrow and Sunday at 2:30pm and 7:30pm
- Tickets are NT\$1,200 to NT\$5,800, available online at [www.kham.com.tw](http://www.kham.com.tw), by calling (07) 780-9900 or from 7-Eleven ibon and Family Mart (全家) FamiPort kiosks

In **Wu Liao** (吳聊) Chinese cross-talk (相聲) master Wu Jau-nan (吳兆南) returns to the stage with a stellar cast of comedians including Fan Kuang-yao (樊光耀), Hou Kuan-chun (侯冠群) and Ann Lang (郎祖筠).

- Taipei Zhongshan Hall (台北中山堂), 98 Yanping S Rd, Taipei City (台北市延平南路98號)
- Tomorrow at 2:30pm and 7:30pm, Sunday at 2:30pm
- Tickets are NT\$300 to NT\$1,200, available through NTCH ticketing or online at [www.artsticket.com.tw](http://www.artsticket.com.tw)

Divided into four parts and composed by five choreographers, Liao-mo-shi Dance Theater's (廖末喜舞蹈劇場) **Taiwan Women** (台灣) drew inspiration from the true love story of Hakka novelist Chung Li-ho (鍾理和) and his wife Chung Tai-mei (鍾台妹).

- 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)
- Tomorrow at 2:30pm and 7:30pm
- Tickets are NT\$350, available through NTCH ticketing or online at [www.artsticket.com.tw](http://www.artsticket.com.tw)

**Irma la Douce** (巴黎花街) by Godot Theatre (果陀劇場) tells the story of a laid-off cop who falls in love with a prostitute named Irma la Douce, after the pair meet at a seedy bar in 1960s Paris. The ex-cop becomes La Douce's pimp and gradually loses all sense of reality as he becomes increasingly jealous of her clients.

- 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 and Sunday at 2:30pm
- Tickets are NT\$500 to NT\$2,500, available through NTCH ticketing or online at [www.artsticket.com.tw](http://www.artsticket.com.tw)

**The Treasure Village** (又一村). Comedians Workshop's (相聲瓦舍) newest Mandarin stand-up production, is composed of two stories. In the first, the residents of a veterans' village, or *juan cun* (眷村), dream of getting rich by digging up ancient Chinese treasures, while the second story takes its inspiration from Ryunosuke Akutagawa's 1921 novel *In a Grove*.

- Novel Hall (新舞臺), 3 Songshou Rd, Taipei City (台北市松壽路3號)
- Tonight at 7:30pm, tomorrow and Sunday at 2:30pm and 7:30pm
- Tickets are NT\$300 to NT\$12,000, available through ERA ticketing or online at [www.ticket.com.tw](http://www.ticket.com.tw)

Classical music

**The King's Singers 2010** (2010國王歌手演唱會) presents the now-legendary a cappella group in a concert that ranges across the musical landscape, from works by William Byrd

to *Swimming Over London*, taken from its most recent album.

- Wednesday at 7:30pm
- National Concert Hall, Taipei City
- Tickets are NT\$500 to NT\$3,000, available from ERA ticketing or online at [www.ticket.com.tw](http://www.ticket.com.tw)

**NSO Chamber Music — Swinging Bach** (NSO室內樂系列 — 搖擺巴赫) has four members of the NSO performing with the Stacey Wei Jazz Quartet (魏廣浩爵士四重奏) in a concert of music taken from the works of JS Bach.

- Today at 7:30pm
- National Recital Hall, Taipei City
- Tickets are NT\$400, available from NTCH ticketing or online at [www.artsticket.com.tw](http://www.artsticket.com.tw)

**Tsuyoshi Tsutsumi and Kirishima Festival Cellisten** (日本國寶大提琴家) is a concert by one of Japan's most esteemed cellists, Tsuyoshi Tsutsumi, who will be performing with Takashi Asahi, principal cellist of the Japan Philharmonic Orchestra, Yunosuke Yamamoto, a former principal cellist with the Tokyo Symphony Orchestra, and Janet Chien (簡成玄), principal cellist with the Taipei Symphony Orchestra (台北市立交響樂團). The program includes Mozart's *Overture From "Marriage of Figaro,"* arranged for four cellos, Popper's *Suite for Two Cellos*, Bach's *Suite No. 1 for Solo Cello* and Haydn's *Concerto in C Major*.

- Sunday at 7:30pm
- National Concert Hall, Taipei City
- Tickets are sold out

Contemporary

Mando-pop artist **Tarcy Su** (蘇慧倫) performs tonight at **Legacy Taipei** as part of the venue's "urban female singers" series. Later on, Spiked and Perpetual Motion present AQUAhoooligan, a dance party featuring the UK's **Atomic Hooligan, Aquasky** and **MC Genesis**. [See the Vinyl Word.] Tomorrow it's pop punk group **Circus** (Circus 樂團) and rappers **Free Expression** (自由發揮). Female crooner **Emi Fujita** of Japan, who enjoys a following for her renditions of easy listening classics, appears at the venue on Sunday. Taiping reggae rocker **Matzka** performs with fellow Puyuma Aboriginal and songstress **Jiajia** (家加) on Wednesday.

- 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 8pm tonight and tomorrow, 7pm Sunday, 8:30pm Wednesday
- Entrance fee is NT\$800 tonight (NT\$650 in advance) for Su's show and NT\$1,200 at the door for the dance party, NT\$600 tomorrow, NT\$2,200 or NT\$2,000 on Sunday and NT\$400 on Wednesday. Tickets available through ERA ticketing or online at [www.ticket.com.tw](http://www.ticket.com.tw) or [www.legacy.com.tw](http://www.legacy.com.tw) or at 7-Eleven ibon kiosks

Tonight **The Wall** (這牆) hosts experimental rock band **Skip Skip Ben Benand Slack Tide**. Japan's **D=Out**, a glam rock band, performs tomorrow night. Comedy rockers **Won Fu** (旺福) take the stage on Sunday. Wednesday is emo and pop-punk night with **Punkhoo** (胖虎), **Hotpink** and **Don't Turn Away** of Japan. On Thursday it's indie-rock bands **Touming Magazine** (透明雜誌), **Boyz and Girl** and **We Are So Sad** (傷心欲絕).

- B1, 200, Roosevelt Rd Sec 4, Taipei City (台北市羅斯福路四段200號B1). Tel: (02) 2930-0162.

HIGHLIGHT

BY TAYLOR BRIERE

**MacBeth** (馬克白) takes its brand of potent post-punk indie rock to Roxy Roots in Taipei tomorrow. Though still a relative newcomer to the music scene, the band has been winning fans with its playful, high-energy sound. Singer/guitarist Howie Yu (余昊益) offers a succinct description of his band: "A little pop but very cool." MacBeth relies heavily on familiar verse-chorus-verse rock 'n' roll knockout punches, but is doing that better than just about any other band in Taiwan. Expect lots of big rock guitar sounds and blustering synths set to quirky rhythms. The group's influences include Bloc Party, The Yeah Yeah Yeahs and Gang of Four, and the band cites Joy Division as its prime inspiration.



MacBeth, one to keep an eye on.

PHOTO COURTESY OF STANLEY CHANG KAI-WEI

MacBeth will be joined by Tip Toe Topic, a rock duo hailing from Belgium. Saar van de Leest delivers smooth vocals, keyboard and clarinet atop an eclectic mix of Elko Blijweert's drum loops and guitar. On the Net: [www.macbethband.com](http://www.macbethband.com)

- ▶ MacBeth and Tip Toe Topic at Roxy Roots, 90 Songren Rd, Taipei City (台北市松仁路90號)
- ▶ Tomorrow at 10pm
- ▶ Admission is NT\$300, NT\$200 of which can be used to purchase food or drink

- On the Net: [www.thewall.com.tw](http://www.thewall.com.tw)
- 9pm tonight, 7pm tomorrow and Sunday, 8pm on Wednesday and Thursday
- Entrance fee is NT\$400 tonight, NT\$1,500 tomorrow (NT\$1,300 in advance), NT\$500 Sunday, NT\$300 on Wednesday and Thursday. Tickets can be purchased online through [www.thewall.com.tw](http://www.thewall.com.tw) or [tickets.books.com.tw](http://tickets.books.com.tw)

Mando-pop group **Every Planet** (美味星球) takes the stage tonight at **Witch House** (女巫店). Tomorrow it's acoustic pop group **Digo** (硬漢迪哥). Indie groups **Deepest** (深層樂團) and **Liquid Punch** perform on Thursday.

- 7, Ln 56, Xinhsheng 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](http://www.witchhouse.org)
- Performances start at 9:30pm. Restaurant/bar open 11am to midnight Sundays through Wednesdays, 11am to 1am Thursdays through Saturdays
- Entrance fee for music shows is NT\$300

**RAY Band** (雷樂隊), a trio of veteran session musicians, plays power-rock originals and covers tonight at **Riverside Cafe** (河岸咖啡). Pop rocker **Misi Ke** (柯泱泱) and her band **D-Power** take the stage tomorrow. On Sunday it's an evening of fusion and acid jazz with **Hands Up Band** (分享器) and **Pezen** and **Banshouli** (伴手禮樂團). Monday is the venue's weekly open jam. Performing on Wednesday are popular funk and nu-metal band **Coach** (教練樂隊) and **La Petit Nurse** (小護士).

- 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](http://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 fee is NT\$400 tonight and tomorrow, NT\$350 on Sunday and Wednesday, NT\$150 on Monday

Tonight **Riverside Live House** (西門紅樓樓演藝館) hosts pop band **Tank** and veteran power-chord rock duo **Power Station** (動力火車). Singer and multi-instrumentalist **Suming** (姜聖明) of indie-rock band **Totem** (圖騰) performs tomorrow night to promote his new solo album. Indie-folk duo **katcandix2** (棉花糖) appears on Sunday. High-energy garage rockers **88 Balaz** (88顆芭樂籽) and **Rock N' Rap** (滾滾樂團) take the stage 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](http://www.riverside.com.tw)

- Shows start at 7:30pm tonight, 8:30pm tomorrow
  - Entrance fee is NT\$500 tonight, NT\$400 tomorrow, Sunday and Thursday. Tickets can be purchased online through [www.riverside.com.tw](http://www.riverside.com.tw)
- Japanese pop-punk band **Kingons** appears tonight at **Underworld** (地下社會). Joining them are local favorites **Children Sucker** (表兒) and **88 Balaz** (88顆芭樂籽). Tomorrow night metal bands **Bazooka** and **Brain Corrosion** take the stage. On Wednesday it's garage rockers **My Skin Against Your Skin** and punk girl band **BB Bomb**.
- 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](http://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
  - Entrance on Fridays and Saturdays is NT\$300, which includes one drink, NT\$100 on Wednesdays

**Roxy Roots** is holding a "surprise party" tonight. Belgian indie-rock duo **Tip Toe Topic** performs there tomorrow.

- 90 Songren Rd, Taipei City (台北市松仁路90號). Tel: (02) 2725-3932. On the Net: [www.roxy.com.tw](http://www.roxy.com.tw)
- Shows start at 10pm
- Entrance is NT\$300 on Fridays and Saturdays (NT\$200 credited toward food and drink). Free entrance on Wednesdays

**The Wall** (這牆) started programming regular live rock shows at Kaohsiung's Pier 2 Arts Center (高雄駁二藝術特區) last month. Appearing tonight are nu-metal bands **The Hindsight** (光景消逝), **Respect** (尊敬樂團) and punk group **Beright**. Tomorrow night it's **Bugs of Phonon** (響子蟲) and **Aphasia** (阿飛西雅).

- 1 Dayung Rd, Yancheng Dist, Kaohsiung City (高雄市鹽埕區大勇路1號). On the Net: [pier-2.khcc.gov.tw](http://pier-2.khcc.gov.tw) or visit [www.thewall.com.tw](http://www.thewall.com.tw) for a full schedule
- Shows start at 7:30pm
- Entrance fee is NT\$300 tonight and NT\$400 tomorrow

**The Mercury** (水星酒館) in Kaohsiung hosts **Half Mile Radius** tomorrow night.

- 46 Liven 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](http://mercurybar.blogspot.com)
- Show starts at 9pm tomorrow
- Entrance is NT\$200, includes one drink.

THE VINYL WORD

BY STEVE PRICE



ILLUSTRATION: TAIPEI TIMES

After just shy of eight years in Taiwan, five of which he's spent deejaying, **vDub**, aka Shawn Kidd, is flying the coop and moving to Vancouver to join his girlfriend while she attends culinary school. But it's an revoir and not adieu as he is keeping his options open, with a return on the horizon.

He plays at AQUA-hooligan tonight, alongside some of the UK's finest.

"First of all we've got **Genesis Elijah**, he's the MC for **Atomic Hooligan**, so it'll be interesting because he's gonna perform some of his new tracks, and then we'll have a good mix of Atomic and a little bit of hip-hop, a little bit of break beat," Kidd said in an interview on Wednesday evening. "I think he's gonna play a pretty good mash-up of all the stuff he's done over the past few years. And then **Aquasky**."

Though the full Aquasky outfit isn't coming (only Kieron Bailey), the lineup is strong. Genesis Elijah, dubbed "UK hip-hop's saving grace" by one effusive reporter, has worked with the likes of **Skinnyman**, **Kyza**, **Skriblah** and **Sway**, while Breakspoll International Breakbeat Award-winning DJ/producer duo Atomic Hooligan, comprising Terry Ryan and Matt Welch, have honed a reputation as consummate purveyors of electro, drum 'n' bass and break beats.

Taiwan veteran **Marcus Aurelius** is scheduled to play from 11pm to 12:30am, and vDub has the closing set.

"Originally I played a little bit of progressive, then got into break beats — then mixed it up with 80s indie electronica," Kidd said. "I got into a little bit more electro grunge stuff... I kind of split in half: I either do straight-up breaks and nu rave breaks, or I'll do electro, but really grungy stuff."

Spiked and Perpetual Motion present AQUAhoooligan, tonight from 11pm to 6am at Legacy Taipei, located at 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).

Admission is NT\$1,200 at the door, NT\$1,000 with a flyer or NT\$800 with a discount voucher that Kidd said would be available at Alleycat's Pizza's Huashan branch. NT\$1,000 tickets can be purchased through 7-Eleven ibon and FamilyMart (全家) FamiPort kiosks.

Aquasky, Atomic Hooligan and MC Genesis play in Tainan tomorrow at a warehouse party beside Tin Pan Alley restaurant. Tomorrow from 8pm to 8am at 15, Beimen Rd Sec 2, Tainan City (台南市東區北門路二段15號). Admission is NT\$600 at the door. Local DJs on the bill include **vDub**, **Naked**, **Subtle**, **Edify** and **Freaky Squeaker**.

On the Net: [www.atomichoooligan.com](http://www.atomichoooligan.com), [www.aquasky.co.uk](http://www.aquasky.co.uk) and [www.genesiselijah.com](http://www.genesiselijah.com)

And now, a job advertisement, one of the prerequisites for which is unconventional.

There is an exciting opportunity to contribute to the *Taipei Times*' Vinyl Word column.

If you're keen on sharing your experience, knowledge of music and thoughts, we want to hear from you. You don't need to be a Carl Bernstein or Helen Thomas, but an open-minded wordsmith who is passionate about music — and parties like there's no tomorrow.

To apply, send a resume, cover letter and four ideas for Vinyl Word columns to [features@taipeitimes.com](mailto:features@taipeitimes.com). Training will be provided. Only short-listed applicants will be invited for an interview.

Applicants must hold a valid work permit in order to receive freelance payment.

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