Time Out
Hong Kong

Preview

Time Stamps: The Forgotten China

Back in the day *Photos from 1902*

Visual Arts Centre *Opens July 23. Passageway at Central Plaza starts Tuesday 30*

It's remarkable what uncanny coincidences can befall two Italians born over a century apart. Four years ago, Giuliano Sassoon discovered 50 photographs of China in an attic in Turin, Italy. They had been gathering dust for a while. The snapshots were taken by his great-granduncle during a 1902 military expedition.

Fast forward 100 years, and Italian Shanghai, resident adventurer and author, was preparing for his own journey east, propelled by an "inner energy". Armed with a motorcycle and camera, this spirit took him across the breadth of China.

Coincidence was it turned out Shanghai and Sassoon had a mutual acquaintance who was able to bring them together after hearing their stories. On meeting, the obvious thing to do was compare the photos. Coincidence twice despite Shanghai having no awareness of Sassoon's journey 100 years before, the composition and subject matter in their photos look rather alike. Digital manipulation was involved. These incredible similarities are what inspired the joint exhibition.

Between their visits, China underwent change that took it from imperialism to capitalism, it had survived Mao's Cultural Revolution, and emerged from colonisation and at least four major wars. However, as Shanghai points out, "Every country can change, evolve and modernise, but deep inside, each culture retains its identity and DNA". The exhibition, if anything, is testimony to that.

The displays are also a credit to modern photo restoration. The old prints now in pristine quality. With 'change' the buzzword often attached to China, it's refreshing to find an exhibition that reveals how much the nation has stayed the same. Jillian Xin

Events

How to use this listings

Events in this section are listed by category. Events are in English unless otherwise stated.

★ Denotes an event we particularly recommend.

FREE means admission is free.

How to be listed

Listings cannot be taken over the phone but should be sent by post: Lily Fi, 12/F Leighton Rd, Wan Chai, Hong Kong to be received by noon on Tuesday **two weeks** before publication. Admission prices, times, venue details, and contact phone number and/or email address must be included.

Festivals and Fairs

★ **Asia Society Summer Film Series 2009** *Space 1, LKF/SOHO Arts Centre, 2 Markham Rd, Wan Chai 2522 0028; www.asiasociety.org. Until Sun 2. 2522 2021. Aug. Society members' screening India Elena from across India, this year's festival includes The Shell from China, Cyprus, Kite Road from Jordan, Tandoori Love from Switzerland, The Witch of the Wind a Dead from Japan, and Brass from the Philippines.*

★ FREE **Hong Kong SAR Establishment Day March** *Victoria Park, Causeway Bay. Wed 1. 2846. A public holiday since the handover in 1997, comes with an annual protest rally calling for democracy and national venting for just about any issue. In tradition, the march begins at Victoria Park and ends at the Central Government offices. Get your sandwich boards ready.*

★ **I Shot Hong Kong** *The Grand Cinema, Elements, 1 Austin Rd West, Kowloon. 2619 3322; www.elementsgroup.com. Wed 1-Sun 2. This amateur film festival will present 20 works ranging from animation to music video to short films with one thing in common – Hong Kong as a backdrop. Category winners will be announced during this five-day event.* **See Film Feature, p78.**

International Arts Carnival *Various venues. 2299 1364; www.hkiac.com. Fri 3-19 Jun. This month-long carnival kicks off with an opening parade and a wide range of events including dance, music, theatre, visual arts, and a special children's programme. Highlights include Cirque Eloize's Saltimbanques, Ballet Hong Kong's Cinderella, Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra's Ancient Melodies, Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra's Mahler's Symphony No 2 and Hong Kong Ballet's Swan Lake. Some events are free, others have a charge. Tickets are available from the Hong Kong Ticketing Agency (2734 9009; www.hkticketing.com). Some events are sold out, so book early.* **See Kids Preview, p78.**

Exhibitions & Tours

★ FREE **Art Sunday** *Various venues; www.artsunday.com.hk. Sun 2. 11am-2pm. Central and Sheung Wan galleries and restaurants are working together to bring the community free access on the first Sunday of every month. Swing by the galleries and see the cross-section of the art being showcased, and have a free lunch and snacks while you're at it.*

FREE **Exhibition of Chinese Painting and Calligraphy** *Cultural Arts Centre, 14 Kowloon Rd, Central. 2523 2406. Sun 28-Wed 1. 11am-8pm. Free. Selected works showcasing the classic Eyes of China – the pine, plum flower, bamboo, orchid and chrysanthemum.*

FREE **Invisible: Academy Department of Theatre Design Graduation Exhibition** *Academy Studio Theatre, APA, 1 Gloucester Rd, Wan Chai. 2584 8222; www.hkapa.edu. Jun 23-Jul 3. 11am-7pm. Graduating students exhibit set and costume design, scenic art, prop making and costume technology. Learn the process from conceptualisation to realisation.*

★ **FREE Lost Things** *Epoch Coffee Bar, 12-14 Wing Fung St, Wan Chai, 3525 1570; www.mobartgallery.com. Until 18 Sep, Sun-Thu 7.30am-11pm; Fri & Sat 7.30am-midnight.* American urban artist, Emily Eldridge, revisits nostalgic moments from her childhood with plywood and cardboard paintings. Part of the mobile MobArt Gallery.

★ FREE **Time Stamps: The Forgotten China** *Central Plaza, 18 Harbour Rd, Wan Chai. 2832 2483; www.welcomegallery.com. Tue 30-Oct 25. Fifty original photographs of 1902 China were found in Turin, in the family house of Luigi Piovano, a Captain of the Italian military expedition that in 1902 travelled to China during the Boxer Uprising. Photographer Italian Shanghai went to China to recreate these photographs with a digital twist. See Preview.*

The Shift *Accounting for the world's health, Organisation, 45 million people worldwide suffer from depression.*

Museums

★ **A Farewell to Sails** *Maritime Museum, Murray House, Stanley. 2813 2322; www.hkmaritimemuseum.org. Tue-Sun & public holidays 10am-6pm; closed Mon. $20 (HK$10 concessions). A collaboration with the Åland Island Maritime Museum in Finland, this exhibition commemorates the Grain Race of clipper and boats travel from Australia to Europe.*

★ **Golden Age of Enchaire** *Heritage Museum, 1 Man Lung Rd, Sha Tin. 2180 8188; heritage.museum. Mon, Wed-Sat 10am-6pm; Sun & public holidays 10am-7pm; closed Tue. $10 ($5 for students and OAP). The exhibition presents the most artful and innovative leather creations from 1947-1997, an era proclaimed as the golden age of enchaire. Part of La French Tales, and sponsored by the London V&A and Christian Dior.*

Hong Kong Geology: 3000 *Science Museum, 2 Science Museum Rd, Tsim Sha Tsui. 2732 3232. Academy museum. Mon-Wed, Fri 1pm-6pm; Sat, Sun & public holidays 10am-9pm; closed Thu. $10; free on Wed. 2. Free entry and Hong Kong. This is a geological history of Hong Kong, SAR and built structures, landscape, minerals, rocks and fossils.*

Shanghai Metropolis: Material Culture of Shanghai and Hong Kong *Museum of History, 100 Chatham Rd South, Tsim Sha Tsui. 2724 9042. Museum consumers. Until Aug 23. Mon-Sat 10am-6pm; Sun & public holidays 10am-9pm; closed Thu. $10 ($5 concessions). Free on Wed. The Museum of History has teamed up with the Shanghai History Museum to present items documenting three two greatest port cities of China's modernisation.*

Participation

The Black Night *City LIT, Cin Ming Bldg, 2 Chi Ming Terrace, Central. Including 2/F Wed 24. 8pm-2am. 2810 0000 (Cantonese). Wed 24, 8pm-2am. Includes Cantonese speaking, visually impaired, this event will have black out games that simulate what it's like to be blind. Dress code is black.*

Talks

A Conversation with Jimmy Lai *Foreign Correspondents' Club, 2 Lower Albert Rd, Central. 2521 1511. Wed 24. 11.30am lunch, 12.30pm speech. $180 ($120 FCC members). The founder of Apple Daily and Next Media will be speaking as part of FCC's 80th Anniversary speaker series. Moderated by Steve Vines. Lunch included.*

FREE **Architecture Talk** *HK Architecture Centre, 4 Pak Sha Rd, Central. 2832 2240; www.architecture.hk. Fri 2. 7pm. The architects of SLAB (A*

Lost Things *Artist Emily Eldridge says you lose everything when you're young*