

THE SPIRIT OF HIGH SOCIETY

HONG KONG TATTLEB

*Untold
STORIES*

*Our Former
Editors Spill
the Beans*

BIG SHOTS

*50 Years of Iconic
Hong Kong
Photography*

*The
400th
issue*

EXCLUSIVE: ANSON CHAN ON HER VALUES, MAKING HISTORY AND HER PASSION FOR PEOPLE POWER

JUNE 2010 HK\$45



CALENDAR

June 2010

9 WED

I AM THE WIND

A collaboration between two French dance companies, Eolipile and Zahrbat, this cutting-edge contemporary dance piece is a fusion of kung fu and hip hop. The companies will perform an engaging mix of solos and duos over two nights, with a different programme each evening. At the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts Drama Theatre. Until June 10, 8pm; Tickets: \$160-\$280. www.hkticketing.com and www.frenchmay.com



10 THU

ALIX OF BOHEMIA

Currently showing in London, New York and the Hamptons, Alix of Bohemia produces small runs of hand-finished garments. The electric colour palette of the textiles and mix-it-up mentality of the current collection underscore her free-spirited approach. The Cat Street Gallery collaborates with the designer to present her first ever trunk show in Asia. At the Cat Street Gallery. Until June 12. www.thecatstreetgallery.com

11 FRI

ISSERLIS

Performing in collaboration with the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra as part of Le French May, highly acclaimed cellist Steven Isserlis is known for his on-stage intensity and perfect phrasing. The recent winner of Gramophone magazine's Instrumental CD of the Year award, he performs a programme of Berlioz, Debussy and Ravel. At Hong Kong Cultural Centre, Concert Hall. Until June 12, 8pm; Tickets: \$160-\$420. www.urbtix.hk



TittleTattle



KEY MOMENT

On June 17, Katya Grineva will play for one night only at the Culture Centre Concert Hall. Grineva will play one short and one longer piece of Marcel Tyberg's, as well as works from Schubert, Liszt and Chopin. "Each of Marcel Tyberg's sonatas are 40 minutes long and 100 pages each, but I'm just playing the finale in Hong Kong," Grineva notes. "I would love to eventually come back and present his entire works, but I thought it would just be too much. So first, I wanted people to have a taste of his music." For tickets, call +852 2521 2238.

THE FAMED MOSCOW-BORN PIANIST AND CARNEGIE HALL REGULAR COMES TO HONG KONG TO PERFORM THE REDISCOVERED SONATAS OF LOST AUSTRIAN WORLD WAR II COMPOSER MARCEL TYBERG

TITTLE TATTLE: *It must be an honour to be the first pianist chosen to perform Marcel Tyberg's music. How did you become familiar with his work?*

KATYA GRINEVA: Actually, his sonatas aren't even published yet. Marcel Tyberg died in a concentration camp, but before he was taken, he gave all his original handwritten music to a friend of a man who quite recently gave it to me. This person saw me play in Moscow when I was very young, was impressed and, later, when I debuted at Carnegie Hall, asked me if I would be willing to play it.

TT: *What's his music like?*

KG: It's very romantic – though it's very different from anything else in that category.

It's almost a bit tortured, like emotions that wanted to come out over time but were suppressed. When I play his music, I feel like I have an orchestra behind me. It's very powerful.

TT: *How do you bring out the emotions of his music when you're performing?*

KG: The best thing about a concert is that I never actually know how it's going to come out. I prepare, rehearse, but I get inspired by whatever connection I have with the audience. Something moves through me, and it becomes almost free-form.

TT: *When did you start playing the piano?*

KG: I was five. I already knew I

wanted to be a concert pianist when I was little. I would go to concerts with my mother, and I felt like I was on holiday – my heart would open. I felt like I was flying.

TT: *You made a name for yourself with Mozart, debuting in America with his Concerto No 27. Why Mozart?*

KG: I love Mozart concertos: they're so simple and complex at the same time, but also pure and very lyrical. Also, they're romantic, which suits me very well.

TT: *Where else would you like to play where you haven't yet?*

KG: I would like to play on a spaceship and go to the moon.

TT: *Wouldn't it be nice to be the first pianist to perform on the moon?*

TT: *You really are a romantic.*