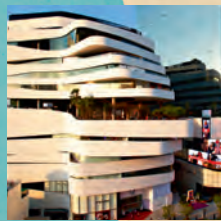


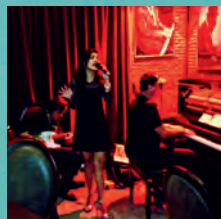
FAH T HAI

YOUR PASSPORT TO THE NEW ASIA



SHOPPING HAVEN

In March, brand new luxury mall EmQuartier finally threw open its doors and by the end of May over 1,000 leading international and top Thai brands were being showcased. It's a jaw-dropping shopping space, replete with waterfalls, gardens and a vaguely sci-fi design. *Read more on page 97*



NIGHT MOVES

A sultry new jazz bar has opened in the capital on Sukhumvit Soi 11, proof that the city's love for this genre is not slowing down. Wolff's Jazz Bar features local and visiting musicians along with excellent comfort food inspired by the "deep south" and a great choice of top-shelf booze. *Read more on page 95*

SHUFFLING THE DECK

Phuket is home to eateries of just about every description, from purveyors of oysters by the beach to stir-fried noodle hawkers. Now there's an easy way to cut straight to the winning venues. Phuket Secrets is the newest in a global series of 18 listing apps. Using the listing, you can call or email the eatery of your choice, get directions and – attention, foodies! – keep notes on your meal.

Find it on the Apple App Store



phuket

chiang mai

ARTIST'S RETROSPECTIVE

In July, highly acclaimed Chiang Mai artist Navin Rawanchaikul cuts the ribbon on an exhibition spread across three venues – Chiang Mai gallery DC Collection, O.K. Studio, his current workspace and home, and his family's fabric shop. The exhibition explores the artist's relationships through works in a wide range of media: grand portraiture and paintings, sculptures, comic books and video installations. navinproduction.com



bangkok

pattaya



RAINY DAY REMEDIES

The monsoon season has arrived and the wellness experts at Dusit Thani have the perfect solution if your beach break has been interrupted by a few hours of drizzle. The team at the hotel's Pattaya spa have created an indulgent three-hour Monsoon Sanctuary programme to counter any "energy imbalance" the grey skies may have caused you, which includes a number of skin remedies to negate the effects of extreme humidity. dusit.com



LUXE NEW DIGS

The 141 rooms at the new Sheraton Hotel at Chaweng Noi feature the contemporary style that the brand is well known for. But best of all are the private balconies with lovely garden and sea views. Another drawcard at the hotel is the new Blue Monkey Bar, serving up a sophisticated mix of wines, beers and cocktails. *Read more on page 107*

koh samui

meet our team



Ehrin Macksey

The photographer of our Phnom Penh architecture story found a very different city to the one he experienced on his first trip there a decade ago. "The streets are no longer clay and high rises are going up. Cambodia wants to skip time waiting in line for the future, but in so doing they forget the old things. It's sad to see so little protection of the city's architectural legacy." *Page 22*



Rachna Sachasinh

For this writer, a trip to the far north of Laos to trace the roots of its famous silk industry was a necessary pilgrimage. While working on her piece on the master weavers of the Houaphan region, she learned that these women are resilient, creative, smart and spirited. "This journey was a bit like time travel – I found places where many aspects of life remain untouched by modernity." *Page 43*

THE GUIDE

Thailand

Bangkok's green thumbs; artist's Chiang Mai guide; quirky Phuket street; chef's table in Koh Samui

BANGKOK

Art of the city

Thailand's contemporary art scene is in full bloom. Here's our selection of the best new shows in Bangkok

OFF THE WALL

(Above) "Magnolia", a striking image from *Gushing out my Confessions*

CAFFEINE HIT

If you're on a cycling day trip over to the Thonburi side of the Chao Phraya River, head to Appresso Café for the best flat white in town. There's also barista classes and training in latte art. facebook.com/appresso.cafe



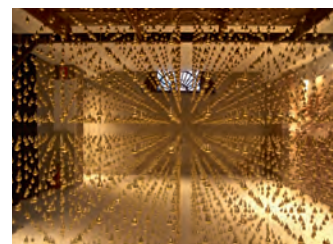
MISSING LINKS

Until late October, the Jim Thompson Art Center team is hosting a two-part series of moving images from the region. Both feature video art and short films along with a range of installations, thus allowing audiences to engage with and immerse themselves in the works on display. The exhibits explore the modernisation of South-East Asia through complex video and sound displays, with the artists pondering themes of identity, prosperity and where the broken links lie. jimthompsonartcenter.org



THE 4TH BANGKOK TRIENNALE INTERNATIONAL PRINT AND DRAWING EXHIBITION

Art aficionados are invited to check out this year's international print and drawing exhibition, launched by Silpakorn University in 2003, at the Bangkok Art and Culture Centre. A total of 94 prints and 55 drawings, chosen from an initial selection of 2,315 works from 56 countries, are on display until 2 August. There's also a workshop run by the university's graphic arts department where participants can learn monoprint techniques. en.bacc.or.th



BRAND NEW 2015

Every year since 2004, Bangkok University's "Brand New" project has chosen the brightest and most innovative young arts graduates to take part in what is, for many, their first solo shows. The selected artists exhibit work at Bangkok University Art Gallery and WTF Gallery in July and August. Over the past decade, the event has unearthed some major talent, including Arin Rungjang, who was this year invited to present his "Golden Teardrop" work in the Thai pavilion at the 55th Venice Biennale. fb.com/BrandnewArtProject

CHIANG MAI

My town

Born and based in Chiang Mai, visual artist Sutthirat Supaparinya has been a witness to considerable change over the years. She guides us to her favourite spots in this art-centric city



EAT+DRINK: During the day I look for green spots to chill out in with good food and delicious cakes. With this in mind, **Café de Oasis** (202/9 Moo 1, Route 4307) is my current favourite. After sunset, if I have friends in town I always take them to the less touristy, authentic Thai restaurants for proper northern-style dishes. **Khum Vieng Yong** (99/9, Baan Suan Natakung, Khlong Chonprattan Road) is my top pick. It serves seasonal dishes like *kau hed tob* (roasted black mushrooms) and *gang pak waan*, a sweet and spicy fish soup. The place is charming, decorated like a little culinary museum! In the buzzy

area between Warorot Market and the famous Night Bazaar, I often head to the rustic **Street Pizza** (86-88 Thapae Rd) for thin crust, Naples-style pizza. For drinks with a view, I hit the fifth-floor rooftop bar at **Hotel Yayee** (fb.com/hotelyayee).

SHOP: I live close to the trendy **Nimmanhemin**, or “Nimman”, neighbourhood, which is the art-and-design area. Soi 1 is a good place to start as there are a host of design shops to check out. I love the high-quality Lanna and Laotian ikats, cottons and silks at **Adorn with Studio Naenna** (studio-naenna.com).

DO: **Nimman** is also a good place for cafés, bars, restaurants and little art galleries. One of my little-known favourites is **Home Made** ice creamery on Soi 5: ring the bell at the gate of a private villa and you'll soon be greeted by a seller who'll scoop out various tropical flavours like durian and coconut. To check out what artsy events are on in town, visit fb.com/smartconversation. **Gallery Seesacpe**, **C.A.P Studio** and **Lyla Gallery** usually

have excellent work on show. It's also worth biking out of town to **Huey Tung Tao** (hueytuengtao.com). It's one of the most relaxing spots in the city – stretch out inside a bamboo hut within sight of a large lake and mountains and enjoy papaya salads, grilled chicken and sticky rice with a cold drink. Swimming is allowed in some sections of the lake – for me, it's the perfect place to lollygag in the summer months. atelierorange.info



BANGKOK

Shopbop: EmQuartier

The much-hyped, glittery EmQuartier finally opened in late March in Sukhumvit's business district. It's Bangkok's newest shopping mall and the second of a clutch of malls that are set to make up the multi-million baht “EM district”. By the end of May, over 400 fashion labels – including Thai favourites like Fly Now, Greyhound, Kloset and Soda – had been put on display in its swish boutiques. Our favourite “zone” is the Helix Quarter, which opened in May and sports a striking spiral staircase, lagoons and a cascading “rainforest chandelier”. Here you'll find stores like **ANOTHER STORY**, which offers a curated selection of indie products. There's stationery, tech accessories, teas, aromatherapy products, leather shoes and fashion – from Bangkok brands (Studio Hole, Ssab Thailand) and international names (Ancient Greek Sandals, Luckies of London) as well as a gallery, hipster café and a florist. themdistrict.com

Did you know?

LAMPANG

Wat Pong Sanuk is an outstanding example of Lanna-Burmese art in the northern province of Lampang. Recent renovations to the temple have earned the site a UNESCO “Award of Merit” for heritage conservation.