

GIGS

Live Is So Much Better With Music – Eason Chan Charity Concert
Hong Kong pop star Eason Chan will be holding two free online concerts tomorrow in support of the Hong Kong Live Performance and Production Industry Association.
WHERE: Watch it at facebook.com/hklppia or youtube.com/hklppia
WHEN: Tomorrow, 6am & 5pm
ADMISSION: Free
INFO: facebook.com/hklppia

CHARITY

ChildAid 2020 – Virtually Yours
The 16th edition of ChildAid, the fund-raising concert organised by The Straits Times and The Business Times, is going online this year. Viewers will enjoy a 360-degree immersive video experience and 8D technology for a better audio experience. The concert will feature home-grown musicians such as ChildAid alumnus and singer Nathan Hartono; jazz maestro Jeremy Monteiro; singer-songwriters Jasmine Sokko and Benjamin Kheng; and international stars such as saxophonist CC Lee from China, drummer Krishna Kanhaiya and jazz pianist Joey Alexander, both from Indonesia. The show aims to raise funds for The Straits Times School Pocket Money Fund and The Business Times Budding Artists Fund.
WHERE: Facebook & YouTube pages of The Straits Times & The Business Times
WHEN: Wed, 8pm
INFO: facebook.com/officialsph

Orbis Online Charity Auction
Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, Orbis, an international non-profit that fights avoidable blindness, had to cancel its fund-raising gala. It is now holding a five-day online auction, which started yesterday, to support its global eye-care programmes. Auction items include a 1994 ballot sheet signed by late South African leader Nelson Mandela and a record signed by legendary rock band The Rolling Stones.
WHERE: www.accelevents.com/e/orbisauction
WHEN: Till Mon, noon

Singtel-Singapore Cancer Society (SCS) Race Against Cancer 2020 (Virtual Edition)
Instead of paying registration fees, participants earn a spot in the virtual race by setting up a fund-raising campaign. All donations will be eligible for 250 per cent tax deduction.
WHERE: Set up the fund-raising campaign at raceagainstcancer.org.sg
WHEN: Registration & fund-raising period till Sept 18
INFO: raceagainstcancer.org.sg

Singapore Red Cross ‘Counting On You’ Facebook Live Event
Catch the final instalment of this event live, which will be hosted by media personality Royce Lee. The four-part series celebrates the contributions of blood donors in Singapore and sheds light on blood donation in a fun and interactive way.
WHERE: facebook.com/sgredcross
WHEN: Sun, 8pm
INFO: bit.ly/2BOFPSF

TALKS

Public Talk: Advance Care Planning & Advance Medical Directive
The online talk explains two concepts – advance care planning and advance medical directive – with the aim of promoting early end-of-life preparation.
WHERE: View it at facebook.com/lifepointshongkong
WHEN: Wed, 10.30am - noon
ADMISSION: Free

CLASSES

Introduction To Brush Pen Copperplate Calligraphy Virtual Workshop
Eterate Calligraphy's online beginner workshop will provide participants with knowledge of calligraphy terminology and the tools to get started on the skill.
WHERE: View it at Zoom Space
WHEN: July 18, 2 - 4.30pm
ADMISSION: \$136.92
INFO: E-mail workshop@eterate.co or go to sistic.com.sg/events

Baking For A Living: Cookies Class
Want to turn your hobby into a career? Learn how to bake like a professional in this one-day cookie baking class and make coconut macaroons, orange butter cookies, peanut butter cornflakes and peanut butter oatmeal cookies. This class is eligible for SkillsFuture credit.
WHERE: SSA Culinary Institute, 01-00/04-01 LTC Building A, 10 Arumugam Road **MRT:** MacPherson
WHEN: Aug 5, 9am - 5pm
ADMISSION: \$208.60
INFO: ssaculinary.institute

SPORTS

Razer SEA-Invitational 2020: Playoffs & Finals
Held online, the Razer SEA-Invitational is the year's largest South-east Asian e-sports tournament and will feature 10 South-east Asian nations competing in three of the most popular games in the region.
WHERE: Watch it at Sistic Live Stream
WHEN: Till Sun, various timings
ADMISSION: Free
INFO: sistic.com.sg/events

FESTIVALS

Healthy Living Festival By Sunrider
Attend wellness talks and fitness sessions in this virtual festival helmed by doctors, nutrition experts, wellness advocates and certified fitness trainers.
WHERE: Register at bit.ly/2VZ65Ax
WHEN: July 20 - 24
ADMISSION: Free
INFO: facebook.com/SunriderHealthyLiving

Music Picks

Eddino Abdul Hadi **Music Correspondent recommends**



UNHEARD: AN ONLINE CHARITY CONCERT
A group of female singer-songwriters across various genres are performing for Unheard, an online concert to raise funds for underprivileged women.
The line-up features home-grown acts such as Miss Lou, Annette Lee, Marian Carmel (above) and Amni Musfirah as well as Malaysian singer Cheryl K and West Africa-born Eva Sita. Organised by Vine Music Studio and home-grown music label Where Are The Fruits, the gig supports Daughters Of Tomorrow, a charity organisation that provides career skills training and technology access to local women hit hard by the Covid-19 pandemic.
WHERE: facebook.com/vinemusicstudiosg and instagram.com/vinemusicstudiosg
WHEN: July 18, 9pm



PHOTOS:
CHUFFMEDIA,
COLUMBIA, DEAD
OCEANS, MARIAN
CARMEL/FACEBOOK,
PHOEBE BRIDGERS/
FACEBOOK,
POLYDOR/VERTIGO
BERLIN/COLUMBIA



ALTERNATIVE POP/ROCK WOMEN IN MUSIC PT III
Haim
★★★★☆
With their third album Women In Music Pt III, Los Angeles sister trio Haim offer deft re-imaginings of retro pop and rock styles – a bit of Fleetwood Mac, a sprinkle of Prince and a dash of Tom Petty.
(Above, from left) Este, Alana and Danielle Haim skilfully navigate life's ordeals with sun-kissed melodies and stylish grooves in the follow-up to their 2017 album, Something To Tell You.
I Know Alone and Up From A Dream are quarantine anthems that capture the feeling of not wanting to deal with the outside world, while Man From The Magazine recounts real-life anecdotes of having to put up with sexism and misogyny despite all the band's accomplishments. And while tracks such as FUBT depict toxic relationships, the folksy Hallelujah and sunny Summer Girl offer much-needed doses of radiance.



INDIE/ALTERNATIVE POP PUNISHER
Phoebe Bridgers
★★★★☆

On her sophomore album Punisher, Los Angeles singer-songwriter Phoebe Bridgers (above) plumbs emotional depths, marrying poetic imagery with lush soundscapes.
Expanding on the folk palette of her debut album, Stranger In The Alps (2017), the songs are embellished with dense instrumentation. Strings, horns and various types of guitars enhance the poignancy of the lyrics.
Tracks such as I See You ("Cause I don't know what I want/Until I f*** it up") address depression, while the title track touches on the dread of meeting your idols. Graceland Too ("I would do anything you want me to") and Savior Complex are reflections on caring for self-destructive people.
While Bridgers is nimble at exploring melancholy and dread, she does not always dwell on sadness.
Culminating in a clamorous crescendo that features a stellar cast of guest musicians such as indie rock group The Yeah Yeah Yeahs' Nick Zinner, I Know The End closes the album on a cathartic high.



AMERICANA/BLUES ROUGH AND ROWDY WAYS
Bob Dylan
★★★★★

Intricately woven and filled with vivid lyrical wordplay, American music icon Bob Dylan's latest album Rough And Rowdy Ways is a lot to unpack.
His 39th studio release is his first since 2012's Tempest to comprise original songs. His last three releases were all made up of traditional pop covers.
My Own Version Of You is centred on a Frankenstein-like premise of creating a person part by part and contains references to literature (Shakespeare) and American writer John Steinbeck), classic mob movies (Scarface and The Godfather), flamboyant entertainer Liberace and religious figure St John The Apostle.
The 79-year-old Nobel Prize in Literature winner contemplates mortality in the slow and sombre tunes, I've Made Up My Mind To Give Myself To You and Black Rider.
"I'm a man of contradictions, I'm a man of many moods," he declares in the mellow opening track I Contain Multitudes.
He is no phoney either, as he states in the gnarly blues of False Prophet ("You don't know me, darlin'/You never would guess/I'm nothing like my ghostly appearance would suggest").
A number of songs sprawl – Murder Most Foul is an almost 17-minute rumination on the assassination of United States president John F. Kennedy and its lasting repercussions on American pop culture.