word mouth singapore



(Buzz) restaurant

Night at the Museum

Eating at Chef Chan Chen Hei's new private restaurant, hidden behind an exquisitely carved screen in the refur-

bished NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SINGAPORE, is like being a guest at a sixteenth-century imperial home. The intimate space is decorated with Chef Chan's personal collection of Ming and Qing dynasty antiques, but it's the classic Cantonese cuisine that's the real draw. The eight-course set menu, which can be customized in advance, includes Chan signatures like stir-fried diced beef with a zesty sweet-and-sour coating and simple crispy roast chicken, as well as—for the more adventurous—bird's nest soup infused with coconut and stir-fried shark's fin soup (93 Stamford Rd., No. 01-06; 65-6333-0073; lunch prix fixe, \$44-\$64 per person, with a four-person minimum).

A rising star of so-called urban vinyl—an art form born of the collectible action figures beloved by schoolboys—the artist known as Phu! has a loyal following in his native Singapore and exhibits his bespoke toys, made from recycled materials, in Asia, Europe, and the United States.



(Buzz) snack Singapore's Generation Y is going wild for FROLICK, a new chain of frozen yogurt shops with the motto

"We Stay Hard Longer—than Ice Cream."
It was founded by four friends who met in junior high and discovered "fro-yo" while in college in the United States. Customers choose from a variety of toppings, including berries and cookies, and get a cheeky, politically incorrect button with every scoop (241 Holland Ave. No. 01-02; 65-9642-7506; frolick.com.sg).

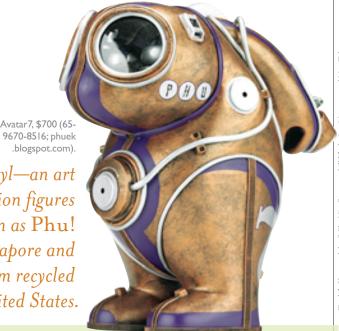




Flight Club

(Buzz) movie This month, the 1950s classic AIR HOSTESS (or Kong Zhong Xiao Jie) comes to Sinema Old School, a

new 130-seat movie theater set up by local filmmakers in a former Methodist girls' school that shows exclusively Singaporean films. Starring the legendary Ge Lan and shot in Singapore and Bangkok at a time when flying the friendly skies provided glamour and hope for a better life, the movie follows the lives of three stewardesses from hostess school through in-flight high jinks and musical numbers in their quest for husbands (11b Mount Sophia; 65-6336-9707; sinema.sg).



Top left: Photograph by Galilea Nin. From top: Still lifes by Jens Mortensen and

Peas with lavender tofu and yuzu pudding, anyone? Find mad genius recipes like this in Grant Achatz's ALINEA (Ten Speed, \$50).