

THE SPIRIT OF HIGH SOCIETY

HONG KONG TATLER

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Lo & Behold

HOTEL DESIGNER
AND FILMMAKER
KATHERINE LO
ON ARCHITECTURE,
ENVIRONMENTALISM
AND FAMILY TIES

THE
DESIGN
ISSUE

FEATURING

JAMES KINOSHITA
ALAN LO
TOYO ITO
MARCEL WANDERS
KENGO KUMA

JANUARY 2014 HK\$45



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15 WED

CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL

The fifth festival sees local and international artists perform a series of world-class concerts, overseen by artistic director and internationally renowned violinist Cho-liang Lin. Various venues; 7pm, 8pm; until Jan 23. www.pphk.org



19 SUN

PHOENIX LIVE

The Grammy-winning group from France rose to fame in 2009 with their fourth album, *Wolfgang Amadeus Phoenix*. Their one-night Hong Kong performance features hits from their entire repertoire, including the latest album, *Bankrupt!* Hall 10, AsiaWorld-Expo; 7pm; \$780. www.hkticketing.com



23 THU

SARAH BRIGHTMAN

The only artist to have topped the Billboard dance and classical music charts simultaneously, Sarah Brightman plays just one night in Hong Kong on her world tour to promote her recently released album, *Dreamchaser*. AsiaWorld-Expo; 8pm; \$580-\$1,180. www.hkticketing.com

24 FRI

SPRING BALLET DELIGHTS

The Hong Kong Ballet presents a series of short ballets chosen to complement each other and showcase its talented dancers. The programme begins with Michel Fokine's *Les Sylphides* and ends with a piece by choreographer Jorma Elo. Cultural Centre Grand Theatre; various times and prices; until Jan 26. www.hkballet.com

TittleTattle



HIGH-T WITH...

Florent Nédélec

THE RENOWNED FRENCH ARCHITECT TALKS TO *TITTLE TATTLE* ABOUT HIS SAI WAN PROJECT, SET TO BECOME THE TRENDIEST RESIDENCE IN TOWN

TITTLE TATTLE: *When did you realise you wanted to pursue architecture as a career?*

FLORENT NÉDÉLEC: I became interested in architecture very early in life. My father worked in the field and had his own practice. Later I became interested in architecture again because I wanted to be a naval architect and design sailboats. Since the only school that offered a naval design class was the school of architecture, I applied and was accepted. I ended up designing buildings instead and found it was a huge passion for me.

TT: *How would you describe your signature style?*

FN: Modern, timeless, simple and holistic. I like minimalist shapes, thoughtful detailing and high-quality materials. I am not into unnecessary ornamentation. I want everything in my designs to have a practical use or express a meaningful idea.

TT: *What drew you to the Eight South Lane project?*

FN: The combination of my bohemian lifestyle, insights from travelling the world and my having designed a couple of notable buildings in Hong Kong have all contributed to my overall design knowledge. I accepted this commission because I believe my design can make a positive contribution to this neighbourhood.

TT: *What type of living environment are you striving to create for future residents?*

FN: We strived to design a comfortable set of residences in a building that incorporates multiple uses. Eight South Lane is not only a place to sleep; it is also a place to meet people, relax, exercise, and discover new arts and trends.

TT: *What aspects of culture do you think are particularly important to this project?*

FN: The explosion of

CULTURAL TASTEMAKER

Eight South Lane is the latest project of entrepreneur Adrian Cheng (pictured below). He envisages Western District's Sai Wan becoming a hip, cultural neighbourhood, the perfect location for a boutique residential property designed with creative, free-spirited and nomadic young urbanites in mind. The project is a union of business, creativity and Cheng's innovative vision.



communication technologies in the past 20 years has changed how people live and interact with the world, especially the younger generation. They travel the world and often work remotely from home. Eight South Lane is designed with the lifestyles of those people in mind.

TT: *Adrian Cheng intends the residence to be a haven for free-spirited global nomads. Would you describe yourself as such?*

FN: Yes, 100 per cent. I certainly feel unconstrained by convention. Our jobs have become location-independent and we connect to people in real time across the globe. As people travel the world, they also need a place to restore themselves and feel at home again.

TT: *Do you have any advice for aspiring architects?*

FN: Do what you love, follow your dreams and never give up on your own aspirations.