

## French romantic comedy “Larger Than Life” to be staged in May

Renowned local theatre director Tang Shu-wing will direct the play "Larger Than Life", a contemporary French comedy brimming with romance and humour during Le French May.

The story revolves around Julien, a middle-aged playboy, who receives a charming female robot named Chloé as a 40th birthday gift from his friend François. Chloé becomes Julien's ideal woman after she is programmed with relevant memories and sentiments. Julien falls in love with her unexpectedly, and everything is going well until she brings up the idea of ... having a baby.

Under the direction of Tang Shu-wing, the cast of "Larger Than Life" includes the famous television actress, Mandy Wong, veteran actor Guthrie Yip and the multi-talented Joe Wong. Together, they will perform a supernatural love story. Artificial intelligence (AI) continues its rapid development. Indeed, the meanings of the interactions between humans and AI may be beyond imagination.

"Larger Than Life" (to be performed in Cantonese with English and French surtitles) is presented by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department. The performances will be staged at 8pm on May 13 to 15 (Thursday to Saturday) and at 3pm on May 15 (Saturday) at the Theatre, Hong Kong City Hall. Tickets priced at \$220 to \$420 are now available at URBTIX ([www.urbtix.hk](http://www.urbtix.hk)). For telephone credit card bookings, please call 2111 5999. For programme enquiries and concessionary schemes, please call 2268 7325 or visit [www.lcsd.gov.hk/CE/CulturalService/Programme/en/theatre/programs\\_1101.html](http://www.lcsd.gov.hk/CE/CulturalService/Programme/en/theatre/programs_1101.html).

A post-performance talk will be held on May 14 (Friday) and after the May 15 (Saturday) matinee. Members of the audience are welcome to stay behind to join.

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## Import of poultry meat and products from areas in Poland suspended

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department announced today (April 1) that in view of a notification from the General Veterinary Inspectorate of Poland about outbreaks of highly pathogenic avian influenza in Å»uromiÅ»,ski District of Mazowieckie Region and MiÅ™dzichodzki District of Wielkopolskie Region in Poland, the CFS has instructed the trade to suspend the import of poultry meat and products

(including poultry eggs) from the above-mentioned areas with immediate effect to protect public health in Hong Kong.

A CFS spokesman said that according to the Census and Statistics Department, Hong Kong imported about 13 500 tonnes of frozen poultry meat and about 39.08 million poultry eggs from Poland last year.

"The CFS has contacted the Polish authorities over the issues and will closely monitor information issued by the World Organisation for Animal Health and the relevant authorities on the avian influenza outbreaks. Appropriate action will be taken in response to the development of the situation," the spokesman said.

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## Appointments of Housing Authority members

The Chief Executive has re-appointed 10 serving members and appointed two new members to the Hong Kong Housing Authority (HA) from April 1, 2021, for a term of two years.

The re-appointed members are:

Mr Wilson Or Chong-shing  
Professor Chan Ka-lok  
Ms Melissa Kaye Pang  
Miss Vena Cheng Wei-yan  
Dr Miranda Lou Lai-wah  
Mr Shiu Ka-fai  
Mr Anthony Chiu Kwok-wai  
Dr Billy Mak Sui-choi  
Mr Lau Chun-kong  
Ms Clara Chan Yuen-shan

The new members are:

Dr Ted Suen Yiu-tat  
Mr Chris Ip Ngo-tung

Seven members will retire from the HA on April 1, 2021. A spokesman for the Transport and Housing Bureau said, "We wish to thank the retiring members for their remarkable contribution over the past years."

The retiring members are:

Mr Cheung Tat-tong

Dr Lo Wai-kwok  
Mr Alan Lui Siu-lun  
Mr Horace Cheung Kwok-kwan  
Mr Kwok Wai-keung  
Professor Joseph Lee Kok-long  
Mr Andrew Wan Siu-kin

The membership of the HA from April 1, 2021, is as follows:

Chairman

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Secretary for Transport and Housing

Vice-chairman

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Director of Housing

Non-official members

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Mr Wilson Or Chong-shing  
Professor Chan Ka-lok  
Ms Melissa Kaye Pang  
Miss Vena Cheng Wei-yan  
Dr Miranda Lou Lai-wah  
Mr Shiu Ka-fai  
Dr Johnnie Casire Chan Chi-kau  
Mr Raymond Chan Yuk-ming  
Ms Cleresa Wong Pie-yue  
Ms Cissy Chan Ching-sze  
Mr Anthony Chiu Kwok-wai  
Dr Billy Mak Sui-choi  
Mr Lau Chun-kong  
Ms Clara Chan Yuen-shan  
Ms Serena Lau Sze-wan  
Mr Alan Man Hoi-leung  
Ms Ann Au Chor-kwan  
Dr Ted Suen Yiu-tat  
Mr Chris Ip Ngo-tung

Official members

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Permanent Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Treasury)  
Director of Lands

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# Labour Department reminds foreign domestic helpers to comply with social distancing measures

The Labour Department (LD) today (April 1) again reminded foreign domestic helpers (FDHs) to comply with social distancing measures announced by the Government.

An LD spokesman said, "According to the Prevention and Control of Disease (Prohibition on Group Gathering) Regulation (Cap. 599G) and the Prevention and Control of Disease (Wearing of Mask) Regulation (Cap. 599I), a person who participates in a prohibited group gathering of more than four persons in public places or fails to wear a mask in accordance with the requirement may be charged a fixed penalty of \$5,000. During the Easter holidays (from April 2 to 6), the LD will conduct mobile broadcasts in multiple languages at popular FDH gathering places across the territory to call upon FDHs to comply with the relevant requirements. On April 4 and April 5, the LD will, in collaboration with the Hong Kong Police Force, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, the Home Affairs Department and the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, conduct joint operations at Central, Tamar Park in Admiralty, Victoria Park in Causeway Bay and Lai Chi Kok Park. Relevant departments will take enforcement action against those who still refuse to abide by the regulations after repeated reminders.

"We remind FDHs to strictly observe the requirements and appeal to them to avoid gatherings (including in boarding facilities), food sharing and other social activities on their rest days and stay at home for rest as far as possible to safeguard their personal health. We also encourage employers and FDHs to discuss rest day arrangements, so as to minimise the health risk of participating in social activities."

Employers are reminded that they must not compel their FDHs to work on a rest day. An employer who compels his or her FDH to work on a rest day without the agreement of the FDH, or fails to grant rest days to the FDH, is in breach of the Employment Ordinance and is liable to prosecution and, upon conviction, to a maximum fine of \$50,000.

All FDHs in Hong Kong can now get vaccinated for COVID-19 free of charge. For booking and details, please visit the designated website of the Vaccination Programme ([www.covidvaccine.gov.hk](http://www.covidvaccine.gov.hk)). The Government appeals to FDHs to get vaccinated as soon as possible to protect themselves and others.

Should FDHs and their employers have any enquiries on employment matters, they may contact the LD through the dedicated FDH hotline at 2157 9537 (manned by 1823), by email to [fdh-enquiry@labour.gov.hk](mailto:fdh-enquiry@labour.gov.hk) or through the online form on the dedicated portal ([www.fdh.labour.gov.hk](http://www.fdh.labour.gov.hk)).

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## CHP investigates 13 additional confirmed cases of COVID-19

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health (DH) announced that as of 0.00am, April 1, the CHP was investigating 13 additional confirmed cases of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), taking the number of cases to 11 481 in Hong Kong so far (comprising 11 480 confirmed cases and one probable case).

Among the newly reported cases announced, 11 are imported cases and two are local cases with unknown sources.

The first case with unknown sources involves a 23-year-old man (case number: 11476) who developed a cough and diarrhoea on March 28. He consulted a private doctor on March 29 and his sample submitted on the same day tested positive. He is a decoration worker and last went to work on March 27.

The second case with unknown sources involves a 56-year-old woman (case number: 11477) who developed shortness of breath on March 29. She went to a community testing centre for testing on March 30 and tested positive. She is a restaurant staff member and last went to work on March 31.

A total of 127 cases have been recorded in the past 14 days (March 18 to 31), including 52 local cases of which 16 are from unknown sources.

The CHP's epidemiological investigations and relevant contact tracing on the confirmed cases are ongoing. For case details and contact tracing information, please see the Annex or the list of buildings with confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the past 14 days and the latest local situation of COVID-19 available on the website "COVID-19 Thematic Website" ([www.coronavirus.gov.hk](http://www.coronavirus.gov.hk)).

Meanwhile, the CHP reminded those who had visited specified venues under the Prevention and Control of Disease (Compulsory Testing for Certain Persons) Regulation (Cap. 599J) to receive COVID-19 nucleic acid testing according to the compulsory testing notice. The Regulation also requires all household members of close contacts of confirmed cases to undergo a COVID-19 nucleic acid test within a specified period according to compulsory testing notices published in the Gazette. The public are also urged to seek medical attention early if symptoms develop and undergo testing as soon as possible.

The Government has launched the COVID-19 Vaccination Programme. Members of the public are encouraged to get vaccinated. Details of the programme can be found at the designated website ([www.covidvaccine.gov.hk](http://www.covidvaccine.gov.hk)).

The CHP called on members of the public to avoid going out, having

social contact and dining out. They should put on a surgical mask and maintain stringent hand hygiene when they need to go out. The CHP strongly urged the elderly to stay home as far as possible and avoid going out. They should consider asking their family and friends to help with everyday tasks such as shopping for basic necessities.

The spokesman said, "Given that the situation of COVID-19 infection remains severe and that there is a continuous increase in the number of cases reported around the world, members of the public are strongly urged to avoid all non-essential travel outside Hong Kong.

"The CHP also strongly urges the public to maintain at all times strict personal and environmental hygiene, which is key to personal protection against infection and prevention of the spread of the disease in the community. On a personal level, members of the public should wear a surgical mask when having respiratory symptoms, taking public transport or staying in crowded places. They should also perform hand hygiene frequently, especially before touching the mouth, nose or eyes.

"As for household environmental hygiene, members of the public are advised to maintain drainage pipes properly and regularly pour water into drain outlets (U-traps). After using the toilet, they should put the toilet lid down before flushing to avoid spreading germs."

Moreover, the Government has launched the website "COVID-19 Thematic Website" ([www.coronavirus.gov.hk](http://www.coronavirus.gov.hk)) for announcing the latest updates on various news on COVID-19 infection and health advice to help the public understand the latest updates. Members of the public may also gain access to information via the COVID-19 WhatsApp Helpline launched by the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer. Simply by saving 9617 1823 in their phone contacts or clicking the link [wa.me/85296171823?text=hi](https://wa.me/85296171823?text=hi), they will be able to obtain information on COVID-19 as well as the "StayHomeSafe" mobile app and wristband via WhatsApp.

To prevent pneumonia and respiratory tract infections, members of the public should always maintain good personal and environmental hygiene. They are advised to:

- Wear a surgical mask when taking public transport or staying in crowded places. It is important to wear a mask properly, including performing hand hygiene before wearing and after removing a mask;
- Perform hand hygiene frequently, especially before touching the mouth, nose or eyes, after touching public installations such as handrails or doorknobs, or when hands are contaminated by respiratory secretions after coughing or sneezing;
- Maintain drainage pipes properly and regularly (about once a week) pour about half a litre of water into each drain outlet (U-trap) to ensure environmental hygiene;
- After using the toilet, put the toilet lid down before flushing to avoid spreading germs;
- Wash hands with liquid soap and water, and rub for at least 20 seconds.

Then rinse with water and dry with a disposable paper towel. If hand washing facilities are not available, or when hands are not visibly soiled, performing hand hygiene with 70 to 80 per cent alcohol-based handrub is an effective alternative;

- Cover your mouth and nose with tissue paper when sneezing or coughing.

Dispose of soiled tissues into a lidded rubbish bin, then wash hands thoroughly; and

- When having respiratory symptoms, wear a surgical mask, refrain from work or attending class at school, avoid going to crowded places and seek medical advice promptly.