

Omicron delivers another uncertain holiday season to pandemic-weary Americans



Delaney Washburn, 18, uses a backhoe excavator for digging graves next to a funeral site at the Kirtland Fruitland Cemetery in Kirtland, New Mex-

Dec 16 (Reuters) - Americans face an uncertain and anxiety-filled holiday season for the second consecutive year, as the highly contagious Omicron variant threatens to intensify an already alarming surge of COVID-19 cases.

Public health officials have voiced deepening concerns about the rising number of infections, warning that hospitals - still fighting the effects of the Delta variant - could find themselves stretched beyond their limits if the two variants combine to create a fresh wave.

Maine set a record for the number of hospitalized COVID patients on Wednesday, a day after Michigan hit a new high. New Jersey recorded its highest number of cases on Thursday since mid-January, at the peak of last winter's surge.

Over the past month, new cases have risen nearly 40% to a seven-day average of 121,000 new infections per day, according to a Reuters tally. That represents more than half of the level at this point in 2020, days after the first coronavirus vaccine was

approved for emergency use.

Deaths have risen 18% since mid-November to an average of 1,300 lives lost a day. COVID hospitalizations have risen about 45% over the last month.

Dr. Anthony Fauci, the top U.S. infectious disease expert, said on Thursday that the Omicron variant would soon dominate infections.

"We've seen that in South Africa, we're seeing it in the UK, and I'm absolutely certain that's what we're going to be seeing here relatively soon," said Fauci, who will meet with President Joe Biden Thursday afternoon to discuss the government's response.

In South Africa, the United Kingdom and Denmark, the number of new Omicron infections has been doubling every two days.

Britain recorded nearly 80,000 new cases on Wednesday, its highest single-day total since the pandemic began, and officials there have warned that hospital admissions could soon hit record levels because of Omicron's transmissibility.

Preliminary data suggests Omicron may be more contagious than Delta but less likely to cause severe illness, though much remains unknown. Research also indicates that the two-dose vaccine regimens have vastly reduced protection against Omicron but that a third booster dose restores much of the vaccine's efficacy.

In New York City, the percentage of people testing positive for COVID-19 doubled in three days, according to Dr. Jay Varma, a senior public health adviser to Mayor Bill de Blasio.

"Um, we've never seen this before in #NYC," he wrote on Twitter, adding that the only explanation is Omicron's ability to evade both natural and vaccine-induced immunity.

The surge has prompted worried Americans to reconsider holiday travel plans for the second consecutive year. Experts have said vaccinated individuals can travel safely as long as they wear masks and avoid unnecessary risks such as large crowds and indoor gatherings.

After months of planning a trip to Florida to see his parents for Christmas and his

mother's birthday, Kalaya'an Mendoza of Queens, New York, told Reuters he was forced to cancel it when he learned that several people at an event he attended on Monday had tested positive.

"I'm a little bit wrecked," Mendoza, 43, said in an interview on Thursday. "It feels like 2020 all over again. I had to weigh my very intense Filipino need to be with family with their care and safety."

Mendoza, who has not seen his parents since December 2019, said he was angry at how little progress the U.S. government had made on fighting the pandemic while spending billions of dollars this year on other items, such as the military.

"I remember watching my neighbors get carted away in body bags at the start of this pandemic, and two years in, we shouldn't be here," he said.

The increasing caseload has wreaked havoc on efforts by companies to return to normalcy, including postponing plans to bring workers back to the office. Citigroup Inc (C.N) has told New York-based employees that they can work from home through the holidays, people with knowledge of the matter told Reuters on

Thursday. [read more](#)

The United States leads the world in daily infections, accounting for one in every five cases reported globally. The country has seen more than 800,000 deaths and 50 million infections since the pandemic began.

At least 36 states have reported confirmed Omicron cases, CDC officials said on Wednesday.

The National Hockey League and the National Basketball Association have canceled several games this week after COVID-19 outbreaks hit several teams.

The National Football League has not yet announced any postponements after nearly 100 players were placed on the COVID-19 reserve list, including more than a dozen Cleveland Browns, who are scheduled to play the Las Vegas Raiders on Saturday.

WEA LEE'S GLOBAL NOTES

12/16/2021

We Send Our Love To Mayfield, Kentucky



When the tornado outbreak across eight states hit, many were left with only the clothes on their backs. Overall, at least 88 people were killed in the violent storms in the Midwest and South. At least 50 tornado reports were made across eight states.

Kentucky First Lady Brittainy Beshear announced a toy drive for children in the state and said, "They've lost everything including their

homes and maybe even someone they love. With your help we can make this season a little easier for those who are hurting by donating a toy book or gift card to bring them some hope and joy during the holidays."

Today we are joining her mission and have prepared some toys and gifts and brought them to the Gallery Furniture store to let them bring these toys to Kentucky.

My wife and I went to graduate school at Lamar University located in Beaumont, Texas. We had our host family that really gave us so much support and warmest love. The City of Beaumont, like the City of Mayfield, Kentucky, that now needs our love, gave us

many good memories.

Today we are here to make this land our home. We wanted to contribute to our community however we could.

Our love and blessings go out to those people who are suffering because of this tragedy.



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Acrobatic superheroes greet the children hospitalised in the paediatric ward of the San Paolo hospital in Milan, Italy. REUTERS/Flavio Lo Scalzo



Doctor Ruxandra Divan, rests in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) for COVID-19 patients at "Hopitaux Civils de Colmar" in Colmar, France. REUTERS/Yves Herman



Paul Heinz Suarez Gamarra, locally known as the Peruvian Santa Claus, stands in a ladder basket of the local volunteer firefighter brigade, as he hands out presents to young coronavirus patients at a hospital, in Lima, Peru. REUTERS/Sebastian Castaneda



People sift through debris after a fuel truck exploded killing dozens of people amid reports that nearby residents had attempted to take fuel from the vehicle before it exploded, in Cap Haitien, Haiti. REUTERS/Ralph Tedy Erol



U.S. President Joe Biden stands with Dane Maddox, 7, in a neighborhood devastated by an outbreak of tornadoes that passed through several states, in Dawson Springs, Kentucky. REUTERS/Evelyn Hockstein



A drone picture of an overturned truck next to debris in the Mayfield Consumer Products candle factory in the aftermath of a tornado in Mayfield, Kentucky. REUTERS/Adrees Latif

How Do We Prevent Future Pandemics?



There are 1.7 million 'undiscovered' viruses in mammals and birds, 827,000 of which could infect humans. (Image: Unsplash/Mika Baumeister)

KEY POINTS

- Human activity is to blame for COVID-19, say 22 international experts.
- But we can prevent future pandemics by better protecting Earth's natural resources.
- There are 1.7 million 'undiscovered' viruses in mammals and birds, 827,000 of which could infect humans.
- But it's not too late to change course and rebuild our defences.
- Experts say switching our efforts to prevention would reduce the threat.

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

The good news: we can prevent future pandemics. But only if we take steps to protect the environment and restore its natural defences, according to an international group of 22 leading scientists. "There is no great mystery about the cause of the COVID-19 pandemic – or of any modern pandemic," said Dr Peter Daszak, chair of the panel which was convened by the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES). COVID-19 is the sixth global health crisis since the flu pandemic of 1918 and "its emergence has been entirely driven by human activities," the report says, adding

that there are 1.7 million "undiscovered" viruses in mammals and birds – up to 827,000 of which could infect people. "The same human activities that drive climate change and biodiversity loss also drive pandemic risk through their impacts on our environment. Changes in the way we use land, unsustainable trade, production and consumption disrupt nature and increase contact between wildlife, livestock, pathogens and people." This contact allows viruses to cross over between species and spread more rapidly around the world.



This is how pandemics start and spread – and their frequency is increasing, say scientists. (Image: IP-BES)

Prevention is better than reaction

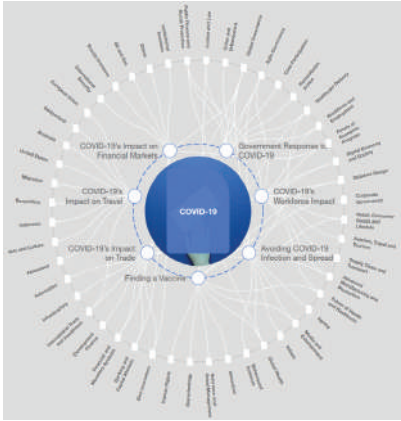
The group says that, rather than tackling pandemic outbreaks after they occur, we should be acting now to prevent them through greater conservation efforts and ending the overexploitation of Earth's resources. "The overwhelming scientific evidence points to a very positive conclusion," said Daszak. "We have the increasing ability to prevent pandemics – but the way we are tackling them right now largely ignores that ability." Daszak says the fact that human activity has brought about such a rapid change in the natural environment proves we also have the ability to make change in the right direction – but "our approach has effectively stagnated".

Global action needed

Forecasting that the global cost of the COVID-19 pandemic may already be as high as \$16 trillion, the IPBES report calls for the creation of a high-level intergovernmental council on pandemic prevention to coordinate a global action to prevent future outbreaks. If no action is taken, the report says future pandemics will happen more often, spread faster and kill more people than COVID-19. The panel says the economic cost of the current pandemic is 100 times the estimated cost of preventing it by protecting nature. They call for "changes to reduce the types of consumption, globalized agricultural expansion and trade that have led to pandemics. This could include taxes or levies on meat consumption, livestock production and other forms of high pandemic-risk activities," the report says. The UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) forecasts that by 2030

global meat consumption per head will reach 45.3 kg, almost double the level in the mid-1960s. Although COVID-19 lockdowns have reduced air pollution, a recent study warned that increased poverty caused by the pandemic could lead to more environmental damage as people return to activities like wildlife poaching and clearing forests for crops to survive.

COVID-19 – Connected To The World



COVID-19 threatens to become one of the most difficult tests faced by humanity in modern history. As the pandemic has spread it has taken lives, stirred anxiety and political drama, overwhelmed health systems, and triggered potentially lasting geopolitical change. The International Monetary Fund says the global economy faces a critical juncture, and Oxfam International has warned that half a billion people could be pushed into poverty as a result of the crisis. Around the world, desperate efforts are underway to contain what has become a profoundly disruptive outbreak.

The World Economic Forum's recent report, Vision Towards a Responsible Future of Consumption, called on consumer industries to encourage sustainable consumption, reducing environmental impacts and developing a circular economy, reusing resources to reduce waste. They call for "changes to reduce the types of consumption, globalized agricultural expansion and trade that have led to pandemics. This could include

taxes or levies on meat consumption, livestock production and other forms of high pandemic-risk activities," the report says. The UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) forecasts that by 2030 global meat consumption per head will reach 45.3 kg, almost double the level in the mid-1960s. Although COVID-19 lockdowns have reduced air pollution, a recent study warned that increased poverty caused by the pandemic could lead to more environmental damage as people return to activities like wildlife poaching and clearing forests for crops to survive. The World Economic Forum's recent report, Vision Towards a Responsible Future of Consumption, called on consumer industries to encourage sustainable consumption, reducing environmental impacts and developing a circular economy, reusing resources to reduce waste. (Courtesy weforum.org)



Covid-19 Response Continues

To Snarl The World Economy

Gates Foundation Warns About Future Pandemic Threats



Melinda and Bill Gates
Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, whose advice guided much of the global response to the Covid pandemic, has seemingly washed its hands of one virus while warning the world isn't prepared to deal with the next big pandemic. The foundation's annual report, released last Tuesday, bemoaned the poverty increases wrought "by Covid-19" – omitting that much of the damage linked to the virus stemmed from economic shutdowns imposed by governments which were often taking their advice from the Gates Foundation and associated entities. However, the report ultimately put an optimistic spin on the damage, noting things could have been much worse. Childhood vaccinations had only dropped half as much as predicted, and some wealthy countries' economies were already on the rebound, it noted. The mRNA vaccine companies were seeing the light and investing in Africa and other impoverished areas of the world, the report added, after presumably realizing how much economic opportunity awaited them there.

Placing its well-known vaccine evangelism front and center, the foundation's report credited extensive vaccine infrastructure (much of which it has helped fund over the preceding decades) for the world's success in fighting the virus, even as the companies behind the headline-grabbing mRNA formulas



have admitted they do not prevent Covid-19 transmission and might require additional booster shots. But the report mostly treated Covid-19 as a thing of the past, all but declaring victory over the virus and calling attention to the need to step up long-term infrastructure investments so as to be prepared for the next pandemic. Many countries are still knee deep in Covid-19 cases, while others have kept the virus under control but had their economies wrecked or given up many freedoms in the process.



Ironically, the foundation warned readers against such efforts to move on from the recovery effort, writing of the "very real risk that high-income countries and communities will begin to treat Covid-19 as another epidemic of poverty: Not our problem." However, high-income countries – specifically the English-speaking Five Eyes nations – have shown no sign of growing weary of the social controls Covid-19 has allowed them to introduce, indicating the virus (or at least fear of it) may hang

around for a good while yet. (Courtesy rt.com) **Related**

Vaccine Politics
The West Will Hoard 1.2bn Doses Of Spare Vaccines By Year's End, Analysis Says, While Pressure Mounts To Share With Poor Countries And Outshine China

The supply of Covid-19 vaccines that rich Western countries have secured for themselves is so big that it can cover their possible needs by a large margin. So it's time to share some with the poor and curb China's diplomacy. This appears to be the message coming on Sunday from leading Western media outlets, which report on an analysis of Covid-19 vaccine production capacities and supply contracts released by the London-based analytics firm Airfinity.



Empty vials of AstraZeneca/Oxford vaccine, donated to Kenya by the UK. (Photo©REUTERS / Baz Ratner)

Rich nations have some 500 million doses that they can safely redistribute today. The number will increase to 1.2 billion by the end of the year and to 2.2 billion by the middle of 2022, the company estimated. That is a conservative evaluation based on the assumption that the US, the UK and the EU vaccinate 80% of their own populations, including children over 12, and launch booster shot programs. The notion that rich countries have to choose between protecting their own people from Covid-19 and helping out nations that don't have the money and political clout to secure vaccine supplies is now "a false dichotomy," Airfinity chief Rasmus Bech Hansen told Bloomberg. "You can do both." The looming "glut of vaccines," as The Economist described it, is a product of rapidly increasing production capacities. This year, the global production is expected to reach 12 billion doses, with the same amount produced next year by June. Rich nations can feel safe about their needs being met, Airfinity said. So the moment has come for the West to show moral leadership and vaccinate the world, former British prime minister Gordon Brown wrote in The Mirror.



"It's time to act to end what has become a moral outrage and we must act now," he said, directing his call on the leaders of the US, the UK, Germany and France. "Only Biden, Johnson, Merkel and Macron can bridge the growing divide between the world's vaccine rich and vaccine poor."

"These leaders are holding all the cards. They have the monopoly on vaccine orders." US President Joe Biden, UK Prime Minister

Boris Johnson, German Chancellor Angela Merkel and French President Emmanuel Macron will discuss vaccine redistribution with leaders of other G7 nations at a meeting of the group, which may happen as soon as September 20, according to The Economist. Washington is expected to try and lead a Western effort "in sorting out the global vaccine supply." America's "early vaccine nationalism allowed China to project itself as a benevolent global leader by sending an abundance of vaccines overseas," the British magazine remarked. "A geopolitical win for America would be especially useful after the debacle in Afghanistan." Airfinity estimates that the global supply of redistributed vaccines will be dominated by Western-made shots, with Pfizer/BioNTech's comprising about 45% of the stockpile and Moderna's taking up some 25%. The Economist assessed that it was "fairly clear" that Western "mRNA vaccines are widely seen as the most effective and desirable around the world, whereas Chinese vaccines are seen as an inferior product that works less well."

"By supporting American mRNA manufacturing, the government can also help these vaccines win in the competitive market to come."

The glaring inequality in vaccine distribution is partially to blame for the poor performance of COVAX, a UN-backed donations-driven vaccine-sharing initiative. It has managed to buy and ship only 230 million doses this year, compared to its target of 1.3 billion delivered by the end of 2021. Billionaire Bill Gates, who is a leading driving force behind COVAX, is a vocal opponent of opening up vaccine patents, a move that its advocates argue would have greatly benefited the poorer nations by making the jabs cheaper and more readily available. Gates' position is shared by Merkel and Macron. Biden's June promise to consider patent waivers has so far produced no concrete results.



Vaccine manufacturers and people like Gates, who support Intellectual Property (IP) protections for inoculations, claim factors such as the shortage of proper production capacities in the developing world and logistical bottlenecks are holding back the global vaccination effort. Lifting patent protections won't fix that and may make the rollout slower, not faster, they argued. Meanwhile, as of April, nine individuals linked to Big Pharma became billionaires on the back of the vaccine rollouts while eight others, who

were already above the cap, saw their wealth grow significantly. (Courtesy rt.com) **"Vaccine Producers Could Have Funded Jobs For All Of Africa, Instead Shareholder Payouts And Sluggish 'Charity' Efforts Are The Priority."**

The three largest producers of Covid-19 vaccines could have funded the entire cost of vaccinating Africa with the money they paid stockholders this year – and vaccine-sharing charity COVAX isn't bridging the gap, analysis shows. Pfizer, Johnson & Johnson, and AstraZeneca, the three top producers of Covid-19 vaccines, could fund the vaccination of the entire continent of Africa, some 1.3 billion people, vaccine advocacy group the People's Vaccine Alliance revealed on Thursday.

Or rather, they could have funded all those jabs if they hadn't spent that money to pay out \$26 billion in stock buybacks and dividends to their shareholders. The vaccines have largely been sold to wealthy countries, netting Pfizer/BioNTech and fellow mRNA vaccine producer Moderna a whopping \$33.5 billion, and many of the recipient countries bought so many extra shots that their citizens are – in the case of Canada, at least – expected to be covered as many as five or more times over.



Many of the frontrunner companies promised to pick up the cost of vaccinating less wealthy nations in the early days of the vaccine research, a promise which helped secure funding from governments and charitable initiatives. However, touting their unusually charitable behavior in the early days of vaccine purchasing and development has largely evaporated now that the moneyed West has its supplies locked down and third world countries are finally able to get in line for theirs. Pfizer and its colleagues are starting to talk about upping their prices again – "once we get beyond the pandemic environment," in the words of chairman Albert Bourla. Given that infection and death rates for Covid-19 in Africa never reached the level of a "global disaster," early on in the epidemic, it seems they're plotting to gouge the entire continent for a medicine it doesn't need nearly as badly as other countries, except in the eyes of the WHO. Given the continent's familiarity with less expensive drugs like chloroquine – a familiar and comparatively safe remedy for malaria – many doctors had already been using that off-patent formulation rather than twiddling their thumbs and watching patients die for months awaiting the arrival of the much-lauded Western miracle vaccine. (Courtesy rt.com)

王公之泪，总督之笑

英印帝国野心下的赤裸生命

对中文世界的读者来说，《王公之泪》提供的这段历史画面是众多出版物中所少见的。无穷无尽形如草芥的小人物，种族主义的血腥野蛮，然后是带着文明使命感的暴力和虚伪，混杂着一些人性的善从中偶尔露头。这就是芒特笔下的英印帝国图景。

在印度加尔各答的殖民时代中心威廉堡（Fort William）附近，坐落着英殖时代的诸多纪念碑建筑。这里曾是东印度公司统治印度的心脏。各类纪念馆和博物馆里，至今还悬挂着殖民时代的油画供人参观。

在那些洋溢异国情调的形形色色画作中，既能看到诗圣泰戈尔的先祖们穿着欧式服装的肖像，也会有反映英国统治者享受殖民地生活的斑斓油彩。画布上的英国人看起来常常是养尊处优：他们乘坐着印度仆人抬着的轿子或由后者牵引的大象；在炎热而漫长的南亚夏季，有仆人为他们驱动力风扇、奉上水果；他们穿着盛装出席华丽的舞会和种种庆典，接受印度王公的问候；还有人取得了某场战争的胜利凯旋……

然而，在2015年出版的《王公之泪》作者斐迪南·芒特笔下，英印帝国的早期殖民者们是另一种形象。这些东印度公司的员工和职业军人，与其说是站在印度人头上趾高气扬享着福的殖民统治者，不如说更像是一群亡命之徒和喘不过气的市井小民。在殖民体系下，尽管他们比他们所统治的印度人要拥有多得多的特权，但他们的生命依然脆弱而赤裸。

这本名为《王公之泪》的历史题材非虚构作品，多少有些文不对题，兴许叫做《东印度公司之泪》要来得更合适一些。毕竟，芒特笔下的故事主线，围绕着三个在19世纪上半叶参与殖民统治的苏格兰家族——洛家族、沙比亚家族和萨克雷家族。至于印度本地王公们的故事，芒特所采引的资料也基本都来自英国人的记载。主角到底是谁也就一目了然了。

01主角光环下的“小人物”
书的一开篇，芒特就提醒读者，他是英国前首相大卫·卡梅伦的亲戚。而卡梅伦和他一样，是一个在殖民时代印度经营过多年的家族——苏格兰的洛（Low）家族的后代（这也是他写作这本书的动力）。如今他们也都是苏格兰出身的贵族家庭。然而回到殖民时代，他们的祖先最开始只是一个为东印度公司

服务的“小人物”：后来官至上将的约翰·洛最开始时只是东印度公司的公司武装中的一名基层军官。其后从后勤官一路做到地区代表，最终成为英帝国在南亚次大陆的最高级别军事顾问之一。

尽管如此，在成为东印度公司的资深官员之前，约翰·洛在数十年的时间里一直背着沉重的债务，越积越多无力清偿。芒特提醒人们，这才是那时候大多数殖民地英国人的状态。

与之类似，在《王公之泪》中，许多如今历史中记载的大人物都被写成了“小人物”。比如，格外有趣的是，新加坡殖民史上的英国英雄人物莱佛士（Stamford Raffles），在芒特笔下被以贬义口吻写成了一个充满野心和诡计的“亚洲矮化版拿破仑”。作者不吝惜任何词汇来贬损这位在新加坡和东南亚的开明殖民官员，甚至莱佛士的名著《爪哇史》也被芒特认为“借鉴了其他学者的成果”，以至于属于“无耻”的抄袭。莱佛士的社会改革也被贬低：“同样的对征服的渴望，同样的公共宣传的才华，同样大肆鼓吹自己扫荡了自己所征服的国家的旧弊端，同样对人道代价熟视无睹”。

德里的英国统治者梅特卡夫则被芒特描述为一个怀着皇帝梦的乡绅，竭尽全力在德里装成一个帝王的样子。更不用说那些在殖民史上一直被诟病的总督们——在阿富汗惨败的奥克兰勋爵被嘲讽为带有一种神经质般的恐惧感；而致力于将印度“英国化”、并为1857年大起义埋下伏笔的边沁信徒达尔豪西勋爵的形象，则比简明印度历史中记载得还要残酷和虚伪。

印度兵变期间，英国人在当地还是获得了一些盟友的支持，如锡克人、旁遮普人和廓尔喀人。02忠诚与贪欲：英国人的友谊值多少钱？

达尔豪西勋爵在1853年末痛失爱妻，在丧妻的十天中，他在写给东印度公司董事会的信件中称妻子的去世是“全能的上帝给了我沉重的打击”，但他仍会“努力屈服于他的严苛意志”，然后保证除非自己的健康状况不允许，他会按照承诺一直待到“1854年4月”。但悲痛并未让他放松权力之手。他得意于自己规划的孟买铁路、恒河运河与现代化的电报线路，因此对那些横亘在现代交通和通讯设施之间的土著邦国愈加心生不满。表面上，他指控这些土著邦国

的王公阻碍了“进步”，但实质上，一如作者所指出的那样，他的目的是吞并土地，“致力于移除这些扎眼的障碍，将地图的很大一块涂成大英帝国的粉红色。这粉红色从仰光一直延伸到旁遮普，少数例外就是若干驯顺的‘傻瓜权贵’的残余领土”。

达尔豪西勋爵在吞并奥德国国时的手段凶狠而诡诈。他刻意宣扬奥德国王统治下内政荒疏，民不聊生，对英国充满敌视，而他内心相当清楚，调查报告的结论恰恰相反：“无论是胜利之时还是灾祸之时，英国人都找不到比奥德国王更忠诚的朋友了”，奥德的内政不仅不荒疏，比起英国在印度的统治反而更加宽仁，没有一个目击证人找到证据，说奥德有走投无路的农民越境逃入英国省份，“奥德没有人憧憬英国的政府体制，大多数情况下是因为听说英国的法庭极其严酷”。达尔豪西自己也发现阻碍自己吞并欲望的最大问题是这些土著王公的行为无可指摘，“奥德国王不肯冒犯我们，不肯与我们争输，不管我们怎么踢他打他，他就是不肯造反。”他最终只能霸王硬上弓，采用专断的手段废黜国王，吞并其领土。当国王在卸去一切武装的宫殿里，接到达尔豪西勋爵专横的信件时，他哭泣起来，脱掉头巾交到英国军官的手上——“瓦季德·阿里·沙是最后一个看清了英国人的友谊值多少钱并为此哭泣的王公”。

早期的印度殖民确实更像是亡命之徒的事业，甚至，芒特站在当代人的角度，一直试图搞明白：为什么英国人要来到这样一个万里之外的、随时可能丧命的地方，而且一待就是许多年甚至许多代人——何况，在印度，他们随时可能死于热带疾病、死于帆船海难，又或者出席一场远征，然后在阿富汗边境的山脉中被价值十卢比的火枪击中，一枪毙命。在《王公之泪》中，除了作为主人公的约翰·洛，其他角色很少能得以善终。

03卑劣与高尚：矛盾的殖民事业

在印度被英国殖民的历史上，存在着两个关键节点。一是18世纪末，在统治了孟加拉近五十年后，印度总督康瓦里斯勋爵治下的英印政府大力改革了早年公司的经营模式。如《王公之泪》一开篇所揭示的，这场改革伴随着“维多利亚式”的道德观的崛起。在那以前，英国在印度的殖民是一项颇为不庄重的事业。东印度公司的官员们依靠腐败致富，和本地人通婚，养育欧亚混血儿，

再把他们带入殖民官僚机构。18世纪末19世纪初的改革试图废除这一切，然后把整个公司官僚化和正规化。接下来的一百年间，英国人带着家眷来到印度，住在和印度人保持距离的大宅里，上喜马拉雅山疗养，和本地女性结婚不再被鼓励，混血儿则被逐出帝国机构。英国的管理模式带到次大陆，英语替代了原先在东印度公司内部通行的波斯语，英国的直接统治逐渐替代土邦国王的间接统治。

1857年则是另一个关键的节点，19世纪初以来积累的掠夺模式失效了，印度士兵掀起的大起义席卷北印度。起义最终被镇压，东印度公司的统治也因此被伦敦终结。英国国王开始兼任印度皇帝，统治中心也从加尔各答迁往德里。伴随着这一切的是当今南亚历史的开始：印度兵的主要来源从恒河流域转移到了西北部的旁遮普；穆斯林和印度教徒的矛盾开始被放大；分治印度的方案逐渐在英国人的推动下浮出水面。

《王公之泪》所描述的，正是这两个节点之间的半个世纪。读者跟随着芒特笔下约翰·洛在东印度公司的服役经历，得到的是一个鸟瞰视角：1800年到1857年的半个多世纪里，英国是如何在印度及其周边扩张征服欲望的？这其中又是哪些人哪些力量鼓动起了历史的战帆？其间，英国人输掉了在阿富汗的战争，打开了东方帝国的大门，攻打巴达维亚又交还给了荷兰人，在印度内部，他们一次次压制各个土邦的不满，镇压东印度公司印度土兵的小规模起义，平息军官对待遇的不满，然后不断搜刮他们控制的土地上的能够搜刮的资源。芒特书写的可贵之处在于，通过挖掘大量的书信、笔记和文献，他在带着读者回到



《王公之泪：印度的兵变、金钱与婚姻》，（英）斐迪南·芒特著，陆大鹏 刘曜译，甲骨文·社会科学文献出版社，2021年4月版

历史的同时，也鲜活地呈现了这些为东印度公司服务的小人物们负债累累又常常短促的人生。

芒特作为殖民地官员家族的后裔，对殖民本身怀着矛盾理解。在一些段落中，能够看到芒特试图为英国在印度留下的政治遗产辩解几句。比如在写到约翰·洛的回国旅程时，他忍不住开始大段大段讨论起了英国在一个世纪后的最终撤离。他解释说尽管英国的离开导致了印巴分治的悲剧，但缓慢的撤退也为印度留下了更多的治理能力；又比如，在描绘英军镇压1857年大起义时，芒特忍不住把一些高尚的溢美之词赋予了作战的英军官兵——读者读到这些地方时，也许会在心里画上一个大大的问号。

在芒特笔下，约翰·洛成为了一个怀着高尚道德情操的主角。他同情因为待遇问题而叛变的基层军官、同情被公司和殖民地政府不断剥夺权力的印度王公。尽管他忠诚执行着各种殖民使命，却有诸多的不情愿。相比之下，其他殖民地官僚则要么野心勃勃，要么贪欲无穷。

这多少有些过于挥霍霍洛家族的主角光环了，以至于显得他们和同时代的其他人物格格不入。

話劇《李白》三十載 濮存昕：我在塑造李白，李白也在塑造我



北京人藝話劇《李白》上演了本輪最後一場演出，同時也迎來了30歲生日。從1991年12月10日首演到現在，一共237場演出，主演濮存昕、龔麗君一場不落從二三十歲演到五六十歲，這部戲不僅成為人藝的經典，也成為他們生命中重要的一部分。

下午五點，距離演出還有兩個多小時，首都劇場後台像往常一樣漸漸熱鬧起來。後台走廊裏的小桌子上，人藝“神水”金銀花茶已經沏好，咖啡機啟動起來，飄出濃郁的咖啡香，一個粉絲們專為《李白》三十年制作的大蛋糕上印著劇組的合影，粉絲們送來的向日葵閃耀著金色的光芒……

導演唐烨，主演龔麗君、王剛當天都在參加北京人藝青年演員考核評審，早早就來了。濮存昕則是五點多到了劇院，照例還是有好幾個記者在等著採訪。

“不要讓我喊什麼口號，談藝術還是可以的。”濮存昕說他不怕採訪，不怕說戲，就怕說那些套話、大話。《李白》對於他來說無疑是極為重要的一部戲，也是一出說不完的戲，“時隔一年再演這個戲，還是常演常新，這個新就是從世俗生活中進入藝術創作，準備好在台上舍我其誰地去創作，將生活中的事全部忘掉。”

有人說他現在演《李白》是那種“輕舟已過”的狀態。他說，年輕的時候總是使勁兒去演，現在演不出汗了，說來就來。“我之所以能夠深入李白的精神境界，因為有過類似的痛苦，做知青時坐在山頭上、麥垛上放牧，能一天一句話都不說，那種多少天都不說話的日子我過過，所以李白在長江邊的那種生活我能體會。我在塑造李白，李白也在塑造我。”

一邊的唐烨說：“濮哥，你現在坐在那兒喘氣兒都像是李白在喘氣兒。”唐烨說，濮存昕三十多歲演李白，要努力去找六十歲的感覺，那時候他連小組長都沒當過，李白想入仕的心境很難深刻領會，現在他當過副院長，又是中國劇協主席，也經歷過順利和不順利的時刻，那種心路歷程會移植到李白身上，對角色也會有新的解讀。

如今六十多歲的濮存昕比劇中李白的年齡都大了，心境上接近了，可手腳不如年輕時那麼靈活了。在他化裝間的沙發扶手上，擺著成卷的繃帶。演《雷雨》的時候濮存昕的腳就崙了，一直沒好，演《李白》前都要給腳踝纏上繃帶。全劇最後，月亮升起時，李白有個將腿擡得高高的，緩緩踏進月影裏的動作，如今改成一轉身踏進去。唐烨說，有一次演出完濮存昕問她月亮是不是變大

了，“可以想見那幾步對他來說有多麼不容易。”

“何處覓詩魂？向塗山、采石、青蓮、碎葉，提什麼脫靴捧硯好飄然，只怕是出仕歸隱終難決……”大幕還未拉開，蘇民導演朗誦的開場詩響起，一下子就把觀眾拽進了李白的世界。濮存昕說，這一輪的第一場演出，大家都說他超常發揮。“我一直在捕捉李白的真，那種不管對錯都要的真，但那個真也不是天天都有，那天我聽到父親的吟誦，一下就進入狀態了。”父親的朗誦既像是一把鑰匙，引著他走進李白的世界，又像是一把標尺，對他的表演提出要求，“那個聲音一出來就是一個審美標準，讓你不能懈怠。”

已在這部戲裏和濮存昕合作了整整三十年的龔麗君，也是濮存昕最默契的搭檔，“我們倆商量做些什麼調整的時候，不用說得特別具體，在台上他改了，我就能馬上給出反饋。”沒有自己的戲時，龔麗君就站在台側看台上的“夫子”，“他一做動作，我的心就揪起來了。”因為腳疼，李白原本有個向後硬撐的動作改成了晃一下，等燈光暗了再躺在地上，原本全下的臥魚兒也只能做一半，但龔麗君覺得這並不影響這部戲的成色，“李白的感覺已經融入他的血液，他現在是收著演，收得很有內容，傳遞的東西更深刻，更符合啓宏老師筆下的李白。”

最後謝幕時，濮存昕一襲白袍，帶著眾位演員們向觀眾三次鞠躬致意，觀眾席裏響起無數的叫好聲。濮存昕特意邀請導演上台與觀眾見面，面對熱烈的掌聲，唐烨提議把掌聲獻給該劇編劇郭啓宏、導演蘇民，以及眾多如今無法到場的北京人藝老一輩藝術家，“是他們共同創造了《李白》。”

濮存昕說：“三十年前我們演的並不太好，是觀眾一直掏錢買票給我們交學費，237場都是觀眾陪伴我們支持我們進步，希望觀眾將來繼續支持我們。”至于大家最關心的《李白》還會不會再演的問題，他表示，明年沒有演出計劃，後年再說吧。

古力娜紮新片《不要忘記我愛你》定檔 劉以豪助陣大家期待嗎？

日前迪麗娜紮新片《不要忘記我愛你》發布定檔預告宣布定檔，預告中盤點了男女主角“愛意流露”的浪



漫時刻。據悉該片由黃真真導演，娜紮、劉以豪領銜主演，張歆藝、馬志豪和張揚等主演。講述了一對勇敢而堅定的情侶，他們用愛情保鮮記憶，把相愛的每一天都過得像相戀第一天般甜蜜。

演員陣容：

古力娜紮是中國內地影視女演員，被稱為“新疆四大美女之一”。電視劇代表作包括《武神趙子龍》、《仙劍雲之凡》、《擇天記》、《無與倫比的美麗》和《風起霓裳》等。電影代表作包括《愛我就陪我看電影》、《縫紉機樂隊》、《為國而歌》和《真·三國無雙》

等。劉以豪是中國台灣男演員，電視劇代表作《我的靈界男友》、《台灣往事》、《種菜女神》和《我們不能做朋友》等，主演的電影只有一部《逆轉勝》。這部電影是古力娜紮和劉以豪首次合作，兩人CP感十足看劇照都覺得非常甜。

幕後團隊：

影片由黃真真導演和編劇，林小強監制。黃真真是中國香港導演和編劇，1993年赴美國紐約大學深造，1999年回香港籌備攝制及導演現代女性紀錄片《女人那活兒》。電影代表作包括《見習黑玫瑰》、《六壯士》、《女人本色》、《完美嫁衣》、《傾城之淚》和

《閨蜜》系列等。林小強監制作品包括《高舉愛》、《巴黎假期》、《危城》、《掃毒2天地對決》和《拆彈專家2》等。

影片風格：

愛情是人類永恒的話題，愛情元素是電影中的空氣清新劑，幾乎所有電影都有或多或少的愛情元素，只是有些電影占的篇幅多有的占的篇幅少，有一些電影愛情元素是電影主題，因此這一類電影被稱為愛情片。絕大多數愛情電影都和青春元素緊密結合，近年比較優秀的愛情電影包括《我在時間盡頭等你》、《悲傷逆流成河》、《你的婚禮》和《盛夏未來》等。

電影《突破口》 定檔12月17日 真實還原 解放鄧縣戰役風貌



由張玉中執導、何雲龍主演的電影《突破口》正式宣布定檔於12月17日在全國上映，影片改編自1948年解放鄧縣（今河南鄧州市）的真實戰役，劇組盡最大程度真實還原解放鄧縣時期的風貌，並多次前往當地檔案館查閱歷史資料，在中國共產黨成立100周年之際，回顧歷史，緬懷先烈。

1947年6月，劉伯承和鄧小平率領晉冀魯豫解放軍橫渡黃河，挺進大別山，開辟了中原戰場。解放戰爭也由戰略防禦轉入戰略進攻，當時為了鞏固和強化大別山根據地，劉鄧首長及時決定在河南、湖北邊界開辟桐柏根據地。而在這片土地上，地方反動武裝強大，尤其是電影中的關鍵地區——鄧縣，所以拔掉這顆“鄧縣”的釘子，對於穩固大別山根據地起了至關重要的作用。“突破口”更深的含義即為，國民黨司令“丁大牙”守城無果後懊喪的一句話道出了真諦，“王世祥槍殺百姓的那一刻，這場仗就有了結局。共產黨在我之上，民心才是真正的突破口。”

電影《突破口》劇組拍攝布景方面，最大程度真實還原解放鄧縣時期的風貌，劇組多次前往當地檔案館查閱歷史資料及一本畫冊。這本畫冊什麼名頭？據當地媒體報道：“時任鄧縣文化館館長陳付德告訴記者，文化館派從小熟悉鄧州城，有美術功底的王國道，為連環畫創作組，畫出1948年的鄧州城。他經常和三位畫家一起實地走訪，在他自己記憶的基礎上，多方求證。力保準確可信。”電影執行制片人王利鵬在採訪時講到，檔案館為電影拍攝給予非常大的幫助，是布景、後期制作等工作的主要依據。另外影片在完善劇本的過程中查證了鄧州文史，依據歷史對歷史人物與創作出的人物進行布局與推演。張玉中表示：“探究歷史，拼接碎片，摒除概念和圖解，通過個性化的人物塑造和真實可感的故事還原劉鄧大軍挺進大別山後‘立足’過程中的壯舉是本片的主旨。”電影《突破口》中，演員何雲龍所扮演的郭文庚，展現了角色人物的複雜性，他的選擇與處境，串起了整個故事的起承轉合，就如他所說，“要在真實歷史的界面上，進行深度挖掘，以增加人物的厚度。”

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邱澤許瑋寧首公開戀愛細節 希望婚禮簡單溫馨

近日，邱澤、許瑋寧宣布結婚喜訊，二人從銀幕情侶變成人生伴侶，成就了一段佳話。12月14日，新婚夫妻接受台媒採訪，公開了一些戀愛細節。

台媒：婚訊公開時的甜蜜合照，瑋寧手上的大鑽戒閃瞎了許多人，婚戒是你們一起去挑選的嗎？

邱澤：我偷偷套過她的飾品發現，我的大拇指戒圍剛好是她無名指的戒圍，所以我買戒指時她並不知道，希望給她驚喜！

台媒：求婚一定很浪漫吧？

邱澤：求婚細節我們就暫時保留，未來有機會再跟大家分享。

台媒：鑽戒多大呢？

許瑋寧：鑽戒是男生的一份心意。具體就不細說了。

台媒：回想起來，兩人之前好像經常公開打情罵俏啊，像邱澤拿台北電影獎影帝時特別謝謝他的女主角！是不是濃情蜜意已經到情不自禁的地步？還是，也算是一種預告呢？

許瑋寧：沒有預告啦！（笑）

我們在工作上面的互動，其實都算是蠻正常、自然的。

台媒：婚訊公開之後，應該收到很多人的祝福和關心吧，可以分享一下成為人夫夫妻的心情？

邱澤：每天可以有人一起吃飯，覺得很幸福。

許瑋寧：真的太多的祝福和關心，很謝謝大家，不過訊息太多了，結果我手機壞了一整天。

台媒：從戀愛到結婚，你們真的是保密到家，大家難免好奇，你們這麼快閃婚的原因？

邱澤：我們都到適婚年紀了，彼此都覺得，對方是那個對的人，所以就結婚了！也讓長輩們不用再為我們的終身大事操心。

許瑋寧：覺得這份幸福是最好的消息。也想分享给大家。

台媒：邱澤是衆多女粉絲眼中的男神，瑋寧也是很多男人心目中的女神，在邱澤眼中，邱太太吸引你或打動你的是哪一點？

邱澤：她很善良，對長輩非常孝順。我跟她在一起時，

我會覺得很安心。

台媒：真正認定彼此是一輩子的伴侶，是哪一時刻呢？是什麼樣的情景？

許瑋寧：其實是日常生活中的相處。覺得跟彼此在一起的時候很心安，然後我們彼此都很珍惜相處的時間，所以就決定了。

台媒：大家好期待你們的婚禮，請問會辦婚宴，接受大家的祝福嗎？

邱澤：的確有辦婚禮的計劃，我們倆的共識是希望婚禮簡單而溫馨，一切都還在計劃中。

許瑋寧：有辦婚禮的打算，也要看後續工作之後再討論，希望簡單溫馨，也讓長輩放心。

台媒：婚後，兩位有討論過演藝工作會有什麼計劃或改變嗎？

邱澤：我會更努力工作，因為現在有老婆要照顧。

台媒：那是不是懷孕了，雙喜？

許瑋寧：沒有沒有，後面還有工作要進行中。



李靚蕾2年前孤單出席志玲婚禮 王力宏「夫妻情變時間點」？



金曲歌王、音樂才子王力宏跟老婆李靚蕾，今更爆出，兩人早已辦妥離婚手續，低調結束8年婚姻。回看兩人婚變時間點，發現王力宏跟李靚蕾各過各的已有好長一段時間，王力宏近年獨自一人往返美國、台灣工作，身邊皆不見老婆身影。就連2019年，「台灣第一名模」林志玲的世紀婚禮，也只有女方一人出席。

據了解，王力宏的IG自2019年情人節曬恩愛後就沒再提到老婆，而李靚蕾的IG最後一次看到王力宏身影也在2019年8月，大讚王力宏她心中「最慈愛的肌肉人爸爸」。2019年11月17日，林志玲跟老公AKIRA在台南老家舉辦盛大婚禮，圈中藝人都是邀請有私交的好友，王力宏夫妻也受邀出席，但當天王力宏因故未出席，僅有李靚蕾孤單跟一對新人合照。

李靚蕾開心發文：「終於等到這一天，好為你們開心，Congratulations dear 志玲 & Akira，永浴愛河，早生貴子。」只見她穿著超貼身的寶藍色低胸禮服襯托出曼妙水蛇腰，加上胸前呼之欲出的北半球，性感風情完全不輸旁邊、穿著超仙粉色禮服的新娘林志玲。當時也不乏人遺憾王力宏未到場，這也是夫妻倆近年少數有機會公開同框的場合，還是破局。

據報導，近來圈內盛傳王力宏離婚，經紀人回應，「據自己的了解，並沒有離婚一事」，不過報導指出，此事追本溯源可能是他本人親口向身邊親友提到恢單，「否則不會有此異口同聲之妙」，報導也指出，李靚蕾2016年生下第二胎後，夫妻倆就傳出想離婚，但李靚蕾意外懷上第三胎，一切只好暫緩，如今卻再沒有轉圜餘地。

陳湘琪嘆婚姻太難 自己沒勇氣

52歲陳湘琪今年以《修行》再度問鼎金馬影后，雖然與獎座失之交臂，但她15日受訪時表示，對於自己有被討論到最後一輪相當開心，謙虛說「能入圍就很感謝了」，也分享金馬結束後的禮拜一，她回歸日常到校教課，班上40位大一學生特別為她訂做了上面有金馬造型的大蛋糕，讓她感動到當場落淚。

她在片中飾演得知丈夫外遇的中年婦女，不過戲外的她至今未婚，昨談到王力宏離婚一事，她不禁感嘆婚姻真的是個難題，「我還不敢結婚，婚姻有它的價值在，但不容易，我不敢冒然，因為有看到它的現實面，當然一定會有憧憬，但勇氣還不夠」，也說雖沒和王力

宏合作過，但自己滿喜歡對方，「他給人的感覺很舒服，很清新也很有正向能量」。

《修行》將於明年1月14日上映，電影中有場她「尬尬尬」連喊30秒的靈修畫面，令人印象深刻，陳湘琪笑喊：「奇怪，怎麼大家都喜歡這段。」並透露這是開拍前和導演錢翔在身心工作坊學到的，是印

度某教派紓解壓力及消除晦氣的方式，自己也覺得很有意思，但私下沒在家特別做過。

此外，她也分享金馬典禮結束後劇組慶功宴上，跟導演李安敘舊，她搞笑爆料「導演每場都跑一輪可能沒機會吃到東西，到了我們這場，他才坐下來喝碗熱呼呼湯，還說『餓死了』」。

陶晶瑩搭高鐵巧遇大咖男星 偷拍他「一路唬爛」網全笑翻

藝人陶晶瑩（陶子）和李李仁為了帶女兒到美國辦理就學，在7月時低調飛往美國，日前剛度過16週年結婚紀念日，小巨蛋演唱會確定在明年7月30日舉辦。陶晶瑩剛結束客串戲劇的工作，搭乘高鐵時巧遇沈玉琳，便拿起手機偷拍對方，並爆料他「一路在唬爛」，笑翻網友。

陶晶瑩時常在社群平台分享生活瑣事，昨日在IG透露剛結束了一個戲劇的客串，並在限動直呼「演戲很好玩」，沒想到搭乘高鐵時，竟發現坐在右後方的是沈玉琳，她偷偷拿起手機捕捉對方的樣貌，並爆料：「他不知道我偷拍他，聽他一路虎蘭（唬爛）好好笑！」

照片中，沈玉琳戴上黑色口罩，一眼就認出是他，而沈玉琳相當專注在跟身旁的人聊天，完全不知道自己被偷拍。照片PO出後，至今已吸引超過9.8萬人按讚，不少網友紛紛留言表示：「後座乘客應該頭很痛。」、「他的聲音應該超好認」、「玉琳哥一開口都金句欸」、「哈哈現場聽

應該會笑炸」、「應該要錄下來，因為想聽他又唬爛什麼」、「照片有聲音」、「一路上都有笑話好聽真開心」

陶晶瑩透露，沈玉琳談話內容提

及「家庭要和諧就要在家裡當個龜孫子」，本尊隨後也在底下留言：「沒在虎蘭（唬爛）啦！在分享人生。」陶晶瑩加碼爆料：「你旁邊的那個大奶妹到底是誰？」互動相當逗趣。





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稱與李靚蕾永遠會是一家人

王力宏認 生活思想不協調 婚變

香港文匯報訊 綜合中央社報道，台灣著名藝人王力宏和妻子李靚蕾8年婚姻證實畫下句號。王力宏15日在社交平台坦言兩人對未來生活方式有不同想法，決定分開生活，目前已提出離婚申請，但永遠會是一家人。不過，據台灣媒體引述消息指，兩人關係“冰封三尺，非一日之寒”，由於李靚蕾強勢介入王力宏的事業，引起夫婦間摩擦，而壓垮兩人婚姻最後一根稻草涉及婆媳關係。



●據傳李靚蕾因懷上第三胎，押後了與王力宏的離婚計劃。



●王力宏替李靚蕾慶祝33歲生日後，兩人便沒有在社交平台上作互動。



▶王力宏曾形容能與李靚蕾結婚如買中彩券。

我們願意付出一切的代價



●王力宏曾在演唱時引體向上跟李靚蕾接吻，成為經典一幕。

近變消息，近兩年在社交平台上更鮮有互動。15日傳出兩人婚變消息，王力宏同日下午在社交平台上親自回應兩人婚姻狀態，他表示：“在這些年婚姻當中我做得不足的地方太多了，也感到遺憾。現在我們對未來的生活方式有不一樣的想法和規劃，所以決定分開生活。雖然已提出申請，但是我們永遠會是一家人”。他還強調，兩人私生活很簡單、很單純，懇求外界給予隱私與空間，不要打擾家人，謝謝大家關心，也不會再回應任何媒體。

社交平台欠互動見端倪

關於婆媳關係，據知情人指，王力宏早年的全部事業收入都是由媽媽掌管，但婚後老婆開始介入，兩個女人之間的矛盾開始出現，而據指李靚蕾因為不懂娛樂圈裏面的一些潛規則，所以她插手王力宏的事業後，令老公錯失了很多的演藝機會，夫婦兩人在公在私太密切，公私難分，亦難免產生摩擦問題。兩人婚後曾不吝公開

放閃，生日、聖誕節等重要節日，都會看到一家五口放閃、慶祝的照片。但近年來兩人卻鮮少同框、互動，夫妻最後一次晒恩愛已是2019年6月。李靚蕾替王力宏慶祝父親節，直呼“最慈愛的筋力人爸爸”；王力宏則是替李靚蕾慶祝33歲生日。

王力宏2013年和小10歲的李靚蕾無須警宣布步入禮堂，令外界相當驚訝，兩人並在2014、2016年喜獲兩女，2018年又添一子。李靚蕾是圈外人，擁有哥倫比亞商學院MBA高學歷背景，並曾就職於美國金融巨擘“摩根大通”。由於雙方家人是故交，彼此早已相識多年，曾被外界視為門當戶對。但有消息指，李靚蕾2016年生完第2胎後，夫妻倆其實就傳出想離婚，但李靚蕾當時懷上第3胎，離婚計劃因此暫緩，但要發生的事始終會發生，有台灣媒體報道稱，王力宏今年11月底和李靚蕾已經辦妥離婚手續。而據粗略估算，王力宏身家逾30億新台幣，目前仍未知兩人如何分配這筆巨額財產。

中環海濱跨年騷 郭富城壓軸登場

香港文匯報訊（記者 李思穎）由new TV主辦“2021美麗的夜香港跨年演唱會”將於12月31日晚在中環海濱活動空間舉行，繼早前公布邀請到11個單位歌星，包括林子祥、李克勤、周慧敏、任賢齊、草蜢、杜德偉、泳兒、菊梓喬等落實演出，15日主辦單位公布成功邀請郭富城（城城）擔任壓軸表演嘉賓，與現場觀眾一齊熾熱倒數迎2022年，並將作全球直播。換言之，壓軸嘉賓並非早前傳聞的古巨基。

new TV總經理陳影彤表示：“非常難得亦榮幸邀請到郭富城參加今次重磅加盟跨年倒數晚會，希望呈獻一個最強的倒數晚會予大家，與全港市民載歌載舞齊歡倒數開心迎接2022！”

城城也很開心參加今次跨年晚會：“電影工作是比較緊密，但是我仍然努力騰出檔

期參加演出，因為很難得今年可以留在香港和家人及朋友一起倒數跨年，到時我也將會全力以赴演出，送給大家開心悅目的歌舞，迎接新一年。”

據悉，這個跨年演唱會預計耗資3,000萬元製作，透過這次活動，主辦方希望為香港復甦作一個起點，為加強氣氛，整個演唱會的門票收益扣除成本後將予以一個份額捐贈給“香港現場演出及製作行業協會”，幫助疫情期間沒有工作和收入的業內人士。



○城城近來忙於拍戲。



○城城曾在尖沙咀開騷為娛樂業界籌款，今年除夕再次在維港兩岸演出。

林子祥開騷後 一定要飲汽水

香港文匯報訊（記者 李思穎）林子祥（阿Lam）將於明年3月假亞博館開騷，門票16日發售。向來不上網的阿Lam被考網絡用語時，不停放“笑彈”，年逾70歲的他依然可愛，絕對不是“老懵懂”，阿Lam更自爆完騷後獨門養聲方法，原來是“飲汽水”！



○林子祥表示為開騷會減少飲紅酒。

阿Lam分享他被測試網絡用語的影片，他坦言自己“唔上網”，所以對那些用語一無所知，當被問到代表“永遠的神”的“YYDS”是什麼，他直言“鬼知咩”。問他1314（一生一世）、520（我愛你）這些簡短網絡密碼時，阿Lam竟反問：“一生一死？唔易擰？要計數㗎，我由細到大數學最差，唔合格，唔識計。”一向說話陰聲細氣又“一嚟嚟”，當問他“1999”（說話一嚟嚟）的意思時，他就聰明估到：“係咪話我講嘢‘一嚟嚟’？”他自己估完都忍俊不禁。

說到“1216”又是什麼意思，70歲的阿Lam並無“老懵懂”，即刻招積回答：“呢個我知！係我演唱會賣飛日子！我記得，大家都要記得啦。”首次於亞博館開騷的阿Lam表示：“今次會唱晒所有經典歌曲！”至於造型會靚仔定有型風格？阿Lam笑說：“只會照舊著自己覺得舒服的衫，唔討人厭就好。”

至於養聲和keep fit，他幾十年來都是用同一個方法：“食好少好少嘢，飲少一點紅酒，我有時鍾意晚餐飲少少，不過都唔多，但係飲咗喉嚨就會好似有嘢卡住。”問到阿Lam有何開騷前小習慣，阿Lam表示沒特別，反而開騷後一定要飲汽水，因為唱完歌會好口乾，飲汽水就會補返，絕對不似其他歌手，又煲中藥、又煲湯。

馮允謙鬼屋拍攝心慌慌

香港文匯報訊（記者 阿祖）歌手馮允謙（Jay Fung）新碟於14日推出，唱片包裝成“血包”，而唱片封面更於香港著名鬼屋拍攝。今次拍攝地點選在神秘感十足的土環高街，Jay Fung在傳說鬼屋舊址前拍攝時心裏很害怕：“我來到才知道是鬼屋，如果一早知道我肯定Say No，但現在太遲啦！”他自嘲細膽怕鬼，就算在門外拍攝都心驚膽顫。

挑戰Jay Fung膽量的還有在香港駕駛，他笑說：“我17歲在加拿大已考到車牌，但回來香港好少開車，因為道路和泊車位都好狹窄，其他車又快，所以好驚，加上朋友都笑我太禮讓，其他車都走了我仍未出到大路，所以我不敢在香港揸車。”

話雖如此，Jay Fung揚言會好好練習，並考慮買車代步，放假時帶父母遊車河。

●馮允謙穿着黑色大褸，坐上黑色古董車進行拍攝。



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