

MUSIC

All event listings are accurate at time of press and subject to change

For venue details, see directories, p71

Send events to listings@thebeijinger.com by Apr 12

Apr 1

Self Sound Orchestra, Empire of the Golden Egg
Experimental rock for gloomy Thursday. RMB 30, RMB 20 (students). 9pm. D-22 (6265 3177)

Apr 2

Mamer, Wu Junde, Song Yuzhe, Zhou Laoer
Uyghur musician Mamer joins up with fellow folkies. RMB 50, RMB 40 (advance, students). 9pm. Mako Live House (5205 1112)

Apr 3

Arrows Made of Desire, Kodiak Island, jrg_one, Richard Todd
Tag Team Records launch a new cassette, with a classic rock and experimental session. RMB 45. 10pm. 2 Kolegas (6436 8998)

Bai Shui

He pays the capital a rare visit with original folk songs from Sichuan. See photo, this page. RMB 50, RMB 40 (advance, students). 9pm. Mako Live House (5205 1112)

Kaiser Kuo, Yang Meng, Kou Zhengyu, Xia Tian

Members of metal band Spring Autumn go acoustic in the courtyard. RMB 50, RMB 40 (advance). 9pm. Jiahong Hu Liveshow Bar (6401 4611)

No Name Trio

Django Reinhardt covers and all. RMB 30. 9.30pm. VA Cafe & Bar (5844 3638)

Olafur Arnalds

Neo-classical musician from Iceland defines his sound on keyboards and strings. RMB 100, RMB 70 (advance), RMB 50 (students), RMB 150 (VIP). 9pm. The Star Live (6425 5677)

Sulumi, Brain Failures, Bigger Bang!, Re-TROS, DH&Chines Hellcats, New Pants, DJ Shen Yue, Ozi

Electronica, punk rock, disco punk, swing dance, post punk, and DJ sets ... just as much as you can take on a Saturday night. RMB 120, RMB 80 (advance). 9pm. Yugong Yishan (6404 2711)

Four Five

Industrial metal soldiers release their studio debut. RMB 40, RMB 30 (students). 10pm. 13 Club (8261 9267)

Apr 4

Bai Shui

Sichuan folk concert in the campus. See photo, this page. RMB 40-50. 7pm. Peking University Hall (6275 1278)

Excess Luggage

Norwegian trio wraps up their second China tour in Houhai. Free. 9.30pm. East Shore Live Jazz Cafe (8403 2131)

Katun Luc, Ubuli

Berlin classical guitarist Katun Luc collaborates with Xinjiang percussionist. RMB 30. 9.30pm. VA Cafe & Bar (5844 3638)

Mamer & Friends

Uyghur folk in a siheyuan'r. RMB 40. 9pm. Jiahong Hu Liveshow Bar (6401 4611)

The Gray, New Perfume, Pork, Arrows Made of Desire, Nucleus
Beijing bands pay tribute to Kurt Cobain. RMB 50. 8.30pm. MAO Livehouse (6402 5080)

Apr 5

Charity Concert for Yunnan

Xiao He, Zhou Yunpeng, Zhang Weiwei and Shanren... Beijing's all-star folkies sing for the droughty Yunnan. RMB 70, RMB 60 (advance,

students). 8pm. Mako Live House (5205 1112)

Apr 6

Liu Yue, Xia Jia, Bei Bei

A jam session with some of China's finest jazz musicians. RMB 50, RMB 40 (advance). 9pm. Jiahong Hu Liveshow Bar (6401 4611)

Apr 7

M'beewan

Reggae, Rock, Dub, Rap and Soul – bit much for a Wednesday night? Free. 9pm. Salud, Nanluogu Xiang (6402 5086)

Apr 9

Acid Live

Electro jazz group joined by guest musicians to celebrate the band's anniversary. RMB 80, RMB 60 (advance). 9pm. Yugong Yishan (6404 2711)

Bigger Bang!, The Reason, The Double Harvestman

Electro punk vs. emo rock. See who's tough enough to win the stage. RMB 40, RMB 30 (students). 10pm. D-22 (6265 3177)

Kodiak Island

Electronic rockers live in concert. RMB 30. 9.30pm. Obiwan (8322 1231)

Apr 10

Buyi, Nucleus, Wu & The Side Effects
The "Made In Ningxia" series continues with grunge, indie rock and blues. RMB 40, RMB 30 (students). 10pm. 2 Kolegas (6436 8998)

Reflector

China's ska punk forefathers return to the stage. RMB 60. 9pm. The Star Live (6425 5677)

Unsafe, Flyx, Cold Case, Hell City

Punk rock never takes a break in Wudaokou – just look at all the graffiti. RMB 40, RMB 30 (students). 10pm. D-22 (6265 3177)

Wang Wen, Maze

Post-rockers Wang Wen drop their new album. RMB 60, RMB 50 (advance, students). 9pm. MAO Livehouse (6402 5080)

Apr 11

Lamb of God

Heavy metal legends arrive at Yonghegong. RMB 350-550, RMB 790 (VIP). 8pm. The Star Live (6425 5677)

Li Daiguo

East meets West with pipa, viola and mbira. RMB 40. 9.30pm. Jiahong Hu Liveshow Bar (6401 4611)

Apr 13

Lamb of God

See Apr 11 listing. RMB 300-500, RMB 790 (VIP). 7.30pm. The Star Live (6425 5677)

Apr 14

Michael Dallin Project

Michael Dallin tells you about mellow rock. Free. 9pm. Salud, Nanluogu Xiang (6402 5086)

Apr 14, 21, 28

Dawanggang

Song Yuzhe and friends play collected and self-composed songs as part of their regular folk gigs. RMB 30. 9.30pm. 2 Kolegas (6436 8998)

Apr 15

Black Cat Bone

Beijing's blues cats pay a rare visit to Haidian. RMB 30, RMB 20 (students). 9pm. D-22 (6265 3177)

Apr 16

Afrokoko Roots

Beijing's Afrobeats collective



Apr 3 & 4: Bai Shui

Killing me softly with a folk song. See listings, this page.

In an ideal world, we were supposed to meet Jimmy Page, Lady Gaga and the Black Eyed Peas at the **Show of Peace** concert at the Birds' Nest this month. But surprisingly, they decided to move it to October 10 (great – remember Modern Sky last year?). We also heard that **Bob Dylan** would sing for us in April, and felt even more shocked to learn that his show has been postponed (indefinitely) as well.

This won't affect the mood for metal though, as **Lamb of God** (the metal band) is scheduled to hit **The Star Live** twice, on April 11 and 13, and according to *Kerrang!*, they are still "a band firmly on top of their game." Another musician who's playing two shows in a row is less famous but highly recommended: Sichuan folk singer **Bai Shui** (see photo, above) brings his traditional instruments and soulful melodies to our gloomy capital. Catch him at **Mako Live House** (Apr 3) and **Peking University Hall** (Apr 4).

Remember Mojave 3? I have this strange admiration for anyone from 4AD, probably because Chinese music magazines juxtaposed them against all major labels, back when I first got into Western music. To be fair, though, **Neil Halstead** does have a voice that makes radio presenters speak with a creepy intonation after playing his songs. Starting from April 16 at **Yugong Yishan**, he's on the road for a China tour across six cities. Good luck with that.

Post-rockers **Wang Wen** pay a visit from their hometown Dalian on April 10; they'll be celebrating the release of their new album at **MAO Livehouse**. And Tag Team Records releases its monthly limited-edition cassette, *Reverse*<<<*Polarity*, at **2 Kolegas** on April 3, featuring **Arrows Made of Desire, Kodiak Island, Jackson Garland** and **Richard Todd**. Another release takes place on April 18 at **Three Shadows Photography Art Centre** in Caochangdi, where **Xiao He, Shouwang** and **The Offset: Spectacles** play outdoors to support **Matthew Niederhauser's** book launch of *Sound Kapital*.

World music shines at 2 Kolegas as experimental folk group **Dawanggang** sets up camp there to perform every Wednesday, starting April 14. On the avant side, *guzheng* experimenter **Wu Fei** works in concert with folksy master **Xiao He**, saxophonist **Li Tieqiao** and sound artist **Yan Jun**; watch them improvising on April 18 at **Star Theater** (near Xuanwumen).

D-22 celebrates its birthday on April 30 (with **P.K.14, The Molds, Ourselves Beside Me** and **24 Hours**), and so does **Obiwan** (with **Jess Meider**). This reminds us that outdoor music festivals will fill the month of May: Midi in Haidian, Modern Sky Strawberry in Tongzhou and the faraway Zebra Festival in Chengdu ... Are you ready to, you know, rock and low? *Wang Ge*

The Greed of Man 大时代 AV Okubo AV 大久保



There are, like, a billion punk bands in Wuhan – when it's hot and humid, you need a way to let off steam. The problem is that one minute you stand up to The Man, and then you get bored and begin to mock him with the music alone. AV Okubo's debut is just like that – intense yet quirky. The album opens with upbeat disco punk and bouncy basslines, then gets edgy in "Dazibao" when vocalist Lu Yan reads from Chairman Mao's manifesto. This guitar-driven old-school punk eventually turns into an '80s disco party. Lyrically, it only takes four songs to get from the power struggle of "They whisper in your ears, saying don't forget to die for me" ("Old Game") to "I want The Smurfs ... feeling so high" ("I Want The Smurfs"). How cynical can you be? *Wang Ge*

7 Deadly Sins UNiXX



Who would have thought Wigan and Hong Kong could sound alike? Alternative rockers UNiXX pay decent homage to The Verve's northern soul of psychedelic rock shoegazing on *7 Deadly Sins*. Having started out as a band addicted to noisy guitars and heavy basslines overlaid with a vocal easily confused with Suede-era Brett Anderson, UniXX have developed into a dark combination of lo-fi proto-punk

and '90s indie rock. They even tried a bit of Bristol Sound – luckily the trip-hop experiment only exists in "7 Deadly Sins," which almost sounds like early Massive Attack, but disjointedly composed and badly recorded. Skip that one, seriously – letting the title track almost ruin the album even a little bit is the last thing you want. *Wang Ge*

Heligoland Massive Attack



After seven years of anticipation, Massive Attack's fifth studio album has emerged. Despite the breakups, make-ups, side projects and debt that transpired before *Heligoland* saw the light of day, the album maintains the Bristol duo's melancholic despair and ominous mischief. Favored collaborator Horace Andy appears on two thoroughly promoted tracks ("Girl I Love You" and "Splitting the Atom"), but the album's real highlights

are the Martina Topley-Bird-featured "Psyche," and "Pray for Rain" with TV on the Radio's Tunde Adebimpe. *Lisa Liang*

Soldier of Love Sade



It was always the voice, that velvety alto with the endless echo, at the heart of the music. Unfortunately, on *Soldier of Love*, it's the instrumentals carrying the voice. Almost as if feeling a need to catch up with the times, Sade's first album in ten years contains more than one reference to war, but the intense drum line and screaming guitars of the album's title track are a few fields left of the usual Sade sensuality. Only "Morning Bird" shows

a brief glimmer of the Sade that used to be: lonesome, magnetic and beautifully despondent. *Lisa Liang*

throws a funky party. RMB 60, RMB 50 (advance). 9pm. MAO Livehouse (6402 5080)

Latyr Sy, Ekber Turdi, Hoochie Coochie Gentleman
Senegalese percussionist jams with Uyгур singer/guitarist and Beijing's blues gentlemen. RMB 50. 9pm. Tiny Salt Coffee Club (5900 0969)

Lonely China Day
Drop that coin for the Chinese Radiohead. RMB 49.9. 10pm. 2 Kolegas (6436 8998)

Neil Halstead
The Mojave 3 frontman sings his folk to our city. RMB 100, RMB 80 (advance). 8pm. Yugong Yishan (6404 2711)

The Redbucks
Bluegrass echoes in hutongs. RMB 40. 9pm. Jiang Hu Liveshow Bar (6401 4611)

Xiao He, Matthieu Ha
Folksy improviser jams with a Parisian kindred spirit. Price TBD. 10pm. D-22 (6265 3177)

Apr 17

Arrows Made of Desire, RandomK(e)
Rockers unplug their guitars and go acoustic. RMB 40. 10pm. Obiwan (8322 1231)

Birdstriking, The Molds, B-Side Lovers, Wu & the Side Effects
Post-punk, rockabilly and blues-rock. RMB 40, RMB 30 (students). 10pm. D-22 (6265 3177)

Hanggai
Beijing's long-term Mongolian band performs home tunes. RMB 40, RMB 30 (students). 10pm. 2 Kolegas (6436 8998)

Purescence, Perdel, The Tumbleweed
Alternative rockers from Manchester, supported by local Brit-pop lovers. RMB 140, RMB 120 (advance). 9pm. MAO Livehouse (6402 5080)

Apr 18

Hell Savior, Noiz Mob, Blut Thirsty, Dengel, G.O.U.M
Thrash metal supported by gothic rock. RMB 40, RMB 30 (students). 8pm. 13 Club (8261 9267)

Xiao He, Shouwang, The Offset: Spectacles
Folkster and alt rockers support the book launch of Matthew Niederhauser's *Sound Kapital*, with photo projections on display. Free. 8.30pm. Three Shadows Photography Art Centre (6432 2663)

Apr 22

Jil Caplan
French singer-songwriter covers the classics. Tickets available at Alliance Française. Free. 8pm. CD Jazz Cafe (6506 8288)

Slap, Sound Fragment, Nanwu
Folk rock encounters Brit-pop. RMB 60, RMB 50 (advance). 9pm. MAO Livehouse (6402 5080)

Apr 23

ETC, Wu Fei, Xiao He, Li Tieqiao, Yan Jun
Musicians turn daily routine sound into music pieces. RSVP at etc.startheater@gmail.com. RMB 80, RMB 50 (students). 8pm. Star Theater (6601 6549)

Liquid Architecture
French electro rock band launches their China tour. RMB 120, RMB 100 (advance). 9.30pm. MAO Livehouse (6402 5080)

Ourself Beside Me, The Offset: Spectacles, Wanderlust, Ice Seller
Garage trio takes the alt-undergrounds, joined by alternative rockers from Tianjin. RMB 40, RMB 30 (students). 10pm. D-22 (6265 3177)

S.A.Ws, Unregenerate Blood, The Falling, Last Chance Of Youth, Final Message

Metal heats emo core. RMB 50. 9pm. 13 Club (8261 9267)

Apr 24

DH & Chinese Hellcats, SUBS, Steely Heart, 24 Hours
Sing that swing and rock that garage. RMB 50, RMB 40 (students). 10pm. 2 Kolegas (6436 8998)

ETC, Wu Fei, Yan Jun
Sub Jam experimental session at 798 on a Saturday afternoon. RMB 50, RMB 25 (students). 4pm. UCCA (8459 9269)

Peaches, Dr. Feelgood, Pet Conspiracy
Who doesn't love Peaches? Just see Clubhouse, p72. RMB 260, RMB 200 (advance). 9pm. Yugong Yishan (6404 2711)

Apr 27

Birdstriking, White
April "Zoomin' Night" ends post-punk and experimental rock. RMB 30, RMB 20 (students). 9pm. D-22 (6265 3177)

Apr 28

Jess Meider
Beijing-based New Yorker sings her acoustic compositions. Free. 9pm. Luce (8402 4417)

Apr 29

The Inspector Cluzo, Wu & the Side Effects
French funky rockers meet Wu Kejia and his band of brothers. RMB 30, RMB 20 (students). 9pm. D-22 (6265 3177)

Apr 30

Jess Meider
Obiwan starts its birthday with New York songstress. RMB 40. 9.30pm. Obiwan (8322 1231)

P.K.14, Ourself Beside Me, 24 Hours, The Molds
Maybe Mars celebrates D-22's four-year birthday. Price TBD. 10pm. D-22 (6265 3177)

Every Thu

Liu Yue Guitar Trio
Jazz lines read by classic guitar. Free. 9.30pm. East Shore Live Jazz Cafe (8403 2131)

Every Fri

Xia Jia Piano Trio
Jazz pianist operates on his keyboards. Free. 10pm. East Shore Live Jazz Cafe (8403 2131)

Every Sat

Liu Yuan Saxophone Quartet
China's jazz forefather keeps the Houhai shores smooth. Free. 10pm. East Shore Live Jazz Cafe (8403 2131)

May 1-3

Modern Sky Strawberry Music Festival
Xiu Xiu, Does It Offend You, Yeah?, Pet Conspiracy and Re-TROS ... Beijing's eastern suburb welcomes its biggest event of the year. RMB 80 (per day), RMB 180 (three days, limited 3,000, register at www.mlive.me). 1-9.30pm. Tongzhou Canal Park (8952 3044)

May 1-4

Midi Festival
"China's Woodstock" keeps rocking after a decade. This year it's back to Beijing for outdoor fun on four stages: British punk heroes Sham 69 returns to China, joins bands/artists from more than ten countries, as well as local acts including Free The Birds, X.T.X, Muma & Third Party, Xiao He, Xie Tianxiao, Brain Failure, SUBS and many more. Tickets at 6417 7845, 400 610 3721 or www.piao.com.cn. RMB 80 (per day), RMB 240 (four days). 1-10pm. Haidian Park (6285 0569) www.midifestival.com