



How Bill Clinton Managed to Hurt Hillary's Campaign

The Strange Saga Of Indonesia's Mud Volcano



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TIME

Korean Concerto

Musical diplomacy is fine, but Kim still sets the tempo

BY BILL POWELL



AMUSE BOUCHE

Private Views

FOR SOME REASON BEST known to its interior designers, Singapore's new Privé restaurant, which boasts a prime waterfront location, chooses to completely block its sea views with either cherrywood paneling or gloomy, thick grey curtains. But that's about the only thing amiss in this modish 88-seat restaurant, situated on shipyard turned posh marina Keppel Island.

The brainchild of F&B maestro Michel Lu—who



Privé A room without a view, but the menu, created by Tony Bilson, is excellent

also owns the fashionable downtown establishments Hacienda, Cicada and Superfamous—Privé features the culinary flair of top Australian chef Tony Bilson. Hailed as the godfather of modern Australian cuisine, Bilson is the restaurant's consulting chef and has created dishes such as sautéed frog legs with smoked eel mousseline, slow-cooked confit of Tasmanian ocean trout, roasted bone marrow risotto with veal jus, and foie gras-stuffed chicken breast. He's also in town every two months to give master classes and create special menus.

Privé's wine list is decent enough, but beverage-wise it's the impressive and lengthy selection of single-malt whiskeys that really stands out. Of course, you'll probably want to enjoy your postprandial Scotch at the bar next door, so that you can take in the sea view in all its glory. Don't feel bad about it though—Lu owns the bar, too. For more information, visit www.prive.com.sg. —BY JOAN KOH



CHECK IN

The Small Screen

A KIMONO-CLAD LADY KNEELS OVER A *ryureidana*, or tea-ceremony table, whisking up a frothy green creation. So far, so Kyoto. But as she glides across the sleek all-white reception area to a funky soundtrack, avoiding the leather cube chairs, it's clear this isn't a venerable *ryokan*. Welcome to Hotel Screen, which bills itself as the city's first boutique hotel.

Until recently Kyoto's visitors had to choose between traditional inns, business hotels and the big chains. Now Hotel Screen, part of the studiously hip Design Hotels group, is proving that small and ultramodern can carve a niche in Japan's old imperial capital.

Individuality is at the heart of this hotel's vision, with each of the 13 spacious

bedrooms being the work of a different designer. In the all-white room 403, Sam Liu has draped a profusion of muslin from the ceiling, separating sitting and sleeping areas with gently billowing fabric. Approaching room 201, guests take in kimono designer Jotaro Saito's embroidery, which covers the curved external wall, before stepping into a dramatic suite of red lacquer furniture and mottled black walls.

Located just minutes from the Imperial Palace, Hotel Screen pays homage to its roots, with ancient elements given a modern twist—like the *wagasa* (paper umbrellas) converted into delicate lobby lampshades. But it won't satisfy traditional *ryokan* fans, and it doesn't come cheap. Instead, this clever concoction of old and new is perfectly pitched at the growing number of design-driven travelers, who demand contemporary styling with their traditional culture and are prepared to pay for it. Rooms start from around \$430. www.hotel-screen.com —BY KATE GRAHAM