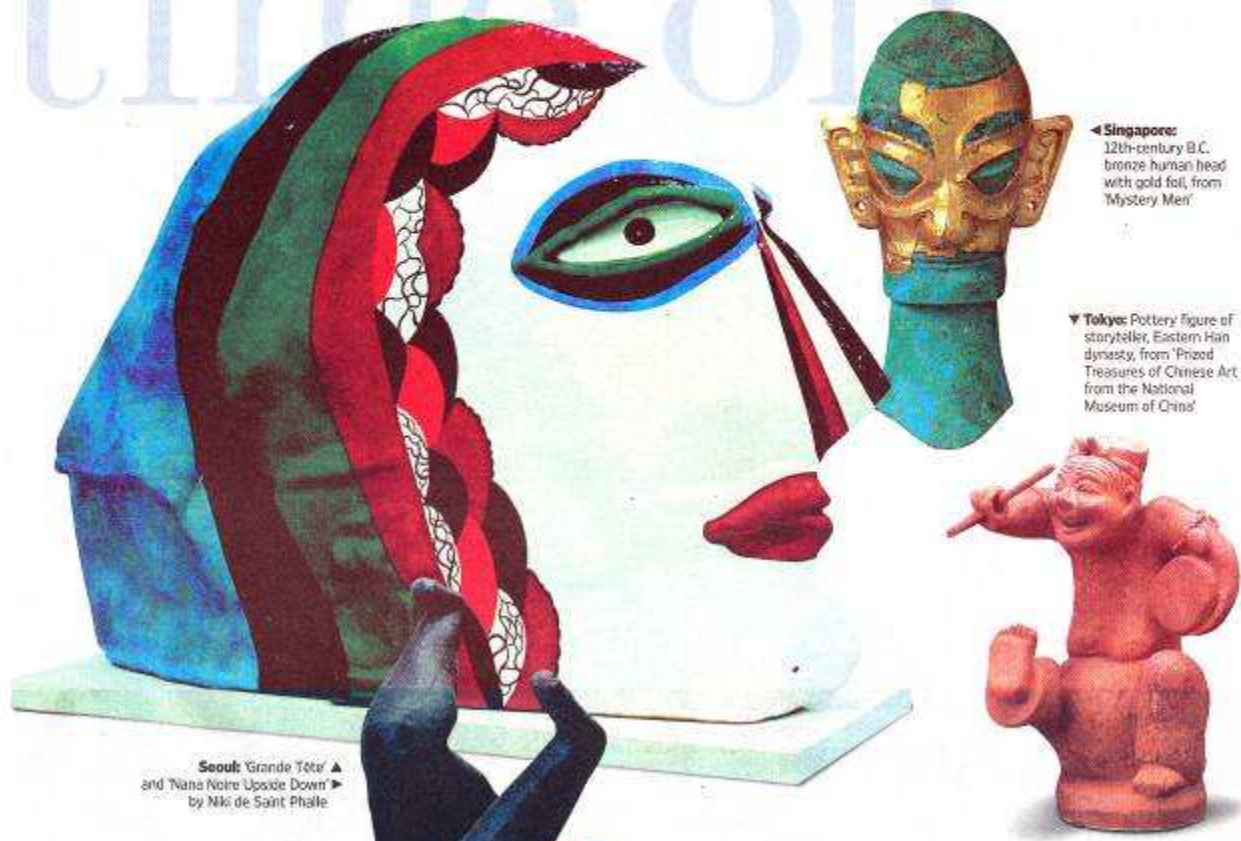


**Publication:** Asia Wall Street Journal  
**Date:** Jan 19 - 21 2007  
**Headline:** Time off (Mystery Men: Finds from China's Lost Age)

by Blythe Yee

# time off



Seoul: 'Grande Tête' ▲ and 'Nana Noire Upside Down' ► by Niki de Saint Phalle

◀ Singapore: 12th-century B.C. bronze human head with gold foil, from 'Mystery Men'

▼ Tokyo: Pottery figure of storyteller, Eastern Han dynasty, from 'Prized Treasures of Chinese Art, from the National Museum of China'

Singapore: (clockwise from top left) Niki de Saint Phalle's 'Grande Tête' and 'Nana Noire Upside Down'; Mystery Men; Pottery figure of storyteller, Eastern Han dynasty; Prized Treasures of Chinese Art, from the National Museum of China

## Hong Kong concert

Wagner Gala: All Wagner, all the time. Soprano Elizabeth Connell, who has made her name with muscular portrayals of Teutonic, horned heroines like Isolde and Brunnhilde, will be the soloist with the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra, led by Edo de Waart. The program includes excerpts from "Tannhauser," "The Twilight of the Gods" and "The Mastersingers of Nuremberg." It's big.

Hong Kong Cultural Centre, 10 Salisbury Rd., Tsim Sha Tsui; Jan. 26 and 27, 8 p.m.  
 Admission: HK\$100 to HK\$400.  
 ☎ 852-2111-5999  
 Web: www.hkpo.com

## Theater

1984: Tim Robbins directed this adaptation of the George Orwell classic about thought control, bleak societies, propaganda, oppression and other sinister political situations. Presented by The Actors' Gang, a California ensemble known for tackling gritty subject matter and for reinterpreting literary classics. In English with Chinese surtitles.

Lyric Theatre, Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, 1 Gloucester Rd., Feb. 28 to March 4, 8 p.m., March 3 and 4, 3 p.m.  
 Admission: HK\$180 to HK\$450.  
 ☎ 852-2111-5999  
 Web: www.artsfestival.org

## Seoul exhibition

Niki de Saint Phalle: This 20th-century French artist got her start after being hospitalized for a nervous breakdown, only to find that painting and art were therapeutic. More than 70 of her pieces feature in this

retrospective, including works from her celebrated "Nanas" series, colorful papier-mâché female bodies.

National Museum of Contemporary Art, Korea, 427-701, San 58-4, Makgye-dong, Gwacheon-si, Gyeonggi-do; to Jan. 21, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday to 6 p.m., closed Monday.  
 Admission: 1,000 won.  
 ☎ 82-2-2188-6000  
 Web: www.moca.go.kr

## exhibition

Van Gogh to Picasso—Masterworks from the Cleveland Museum of Art: While the museum in Cleveland renovates, it's sending some of its top pieces on a grand tour of Asia. Seoul is the latest city to receive this collection of 19th- and 20th-century masterworks, with Renoir, Rodin, Matisse and Modigliani represented.

Hangaram Art Museum, Seoul Arts Center, 700 Seocho-dong, Seocho-gu;

to March 28, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
 Admission: 13,000 won.  
 ☎ 82-1588-7890  
 Web: gogh.chosun.com

## Singapore concert

Good Vibrations Singapore: The Aussie music fest comes to Singapore for the first time, showcasing a barrage of high-decibel performers. The biggest names on the program would be the rap-punk crossover legends the Beastie Boys; other acts include reggae group the Bushmen, Singaporean rockers Electrico and renowned hip-hop crew Jurassic 5.

Fort Canning Park, Feb. 19, 4 p.m.  
 Admission: S\$40 to S\$80.  
 ☎ 65-6348-5555  
 Web: www.goodvibrationsfestival.com.sg

## exhibition

Mystery Men: Finds from China's Lost Age: Elaborate bronzes, jade carvings, ceramics and oracle bones dating all the way back to the Shang dynasty (1,600-1,027 B.C.) are on display in this exhibition. Part of this trove of artifacts was first uncovered by a farmer in Sichuan province in 1929, but it wasn't until the 1980s that archaeologists really hit pay dirt and made important finds.

Asian Civilizations Museum, 1 Empress Place; to April 15, Monday 1 p.m. to 7 p.m., Tuesday to Sunday 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday to 9 p.m.  
 Admission: S\$8.  
 ☎ 65-6332-2982  
 Web: www.acm.org.sg

## Taipei concert

Plácido Domingo: Fresh off the premiere of Tan Dun's "The First Emperor" at the Met

in New York comes one-third of the world's most hyped opera trio for a solo concert in Taiwan. The program includes works by Leoncavallo and Massenet.

National Chiang Kai Shek Cultural Center, 21-1 Chungshan South Rd.; March 3, 8 p.m.  
 Admission: NT\$1,500 to NT\$12,000.  
 ☎ 886-2-3393-9999  
 Web: www.ntch.edu.tw

## Tokyo concert

Scissor Sisters: More camp than soldiers' barracks and more fiery than a flamé, this cult New York five-piece—whose style might be described as disco/glam rock and whose performances include a great deal of falsetto and lycra—is terribly enjoyable. Expect everything from Queen and Elton John pastiches to a hilarious cover version of Pink Floyd's ever-so-serious "Comfortably Numb."

Zepp Tokyo, Palette Town, Aomi 1, Koto-ku; Jan. 25, 7 p.m.  
 Admission: 6,500 yen.  
 ☎ 81-3-3444-6751  
 Web: www.smashjpn.com

## exhibition

Prized Treasures of Chinese Art from the National Museum of China: Art and artifacts dating from 4,000 B.C. to the 10th century. Lots of very old and historically important trinkets, such as a bronze axe from the 13th century B.C. and painted pottery from 3,000 B.C., are on loan from the National Museum of China.

Tokyo National Museum, 13-9 Ueno Park, Taitoh-ku; to Feb. 25, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., closed Monday.  
 Admission: 1,300 yen.  
 ☎ 81-3-5777-8600  
 Web: www.tnm.jp