

AROUNDTOWN

1 Referred to as the Olympics of magic, the 24th FISM

(International Society of Magical Societies) **World Championships of Magic** happens only every three years, and, you got it, this year it's in Beijing. From 26-31 July hundreds of magicians will battle it out for the major prize. There are six categories of magic: Manipulation, General Magic, Micromagic, Close-up Card, Parlor Magic and Stage



Illusions. The Netherlands, the USA, France, Germany and Japan usually put on the most spellbinding performances, but China hasn't failed to dazzle the judges. At the last championships in 2006 at Stockholm, China's Dai Binchun took out the Manipulation title.

The event couldn't be held in a better location, the **China National Convention Center**. Originally the main press and broadcasting centre during the 2008 Olympic Games, the Convention Center has been repurposed and opens this month for the first time in its new role, and FISM World Championships of Magic is its first listed event.

Not only a competition, there will also be special performances, conventions and workshops, as well as stalls with every magical imaginable. Five-day spectator tickets are available for RMB 3,000, or for a banquet and magic salon package for RMB 800.

To register, visit www.fism2009.org. Alternatively, for magic all year round, you can check out the shows at Beijing's only magic and comedy club at Goose n' Duck. From 8.30pm. Show and drinks for RMB 200 on Friday and Saturday, or half price from Monday to Thursday. Tel: 5928 3045. Web: www.gdclub.net.cn



2 Looking for better souvenirs of Beijing to take home or decorate your pad with? Beijing Postcards has recently set up shop in Beijing on Nanluogu Xiang. Danish owners Simon Rom Gjerøe and Lars Ulrik Thom have collected old photos of China from around the years 1890-1940, and reproduced

them to create beautiful black and white postcards, calendars, notebooks, bags and more. If you're after a genuine antique map of China or Asia, you'll find that here, too. 85-1 Nanluogu Xiang (next to Beijing Downtown Backpackers Hostel). Tel: 135 0109 8794. Web: www.beijing-postcards.com



3 Few areas in Beijing are invulnerable to Beijing's swinging wrecking ball of progress. Last month it took a big, terminal swing at Super Bar Street,

home to expat-favourites Biteapitta, Afro Arena and Tim's Texas Roadhouse, to name just a few - it seems all for the cause of yet another upscale shopping area. The restaurant owners didn't get much of a heads up to organise themselves, and most have been thrown into limbo, hastily having to pack their belongings into storage and search for new venues. As yet there's no word on where the likes of Tim's and Biteapitta will re-emerge as they're still on the hunt for the right places. (Photo courtesy of Beijing Boyce.)



4 It's party time at Tuanjiehu water park, with its manmade beach of real sand around a pool, water slides, wading pools and pagodas. Until 1 September, every Friday and Saturday night from 7.30pm to 11pm it's the **"Along Came Victoria"** Summer Beach Music Festival. Swim, splash, drink, enjoy the barbecue and listen to the sounds of some of Beijing's hottest DJs. Entry RMB 35. (Park is located by the north-east exit of Hujialou subway station on Line 10.) Tel: 6467 0620, 130 0122 2903 or 139 1130 5012.

时间: 2009年6月5号至2009年9月1日的每周五、周六: 19点到22点

2009 遇见维多丽娅
夏季沙滩音乐季

谁是谁多丽娅? 等你来揭晓答案

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