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Boston

CHINA'S

From Newbury Street to the Seaport, big-money Chinese buyers are spending millions. Are we cashing in or selling out?

TOWN



THE CULTURAL TO-DO LIST

Matthew Reed Baker's guide to this month's events.

01 WED 02 THU 03 FRI 04 SAT 05 SUN 06 MON 07 TUE 08 WED 09 THU 10 FRI 11 SAT 12 SUN 13 MON 14 TUE 15 WED 16 THU 17 FRI 18 SAT 19 SUN 20 MON 21 TUE 22 WED 23 THU 24 FRI 25 SAT 26 SUN 27 MON 28 TUE 29 WED 30 THU 31 FRI



FINE ARTS

Fiber: Sculpture 1960–Present

October 1, 2014–January 4, 2015

If you liked this summer's yarn-bombing of the Mass. Ave. Bridge—during which kaleidoscopic woven art blanketed the railings spanning the Charles River—you'll love this colorful retrospective at the ICA, which showcases the range of contemporary fiber art.

The medium was popularized in the 1960s, when artists around the world began crafting abstract sculptures from such materials as combed wool, jute, sisal, and even mop heads, goat hair, and metallic lace. The resulting pieces, with their variegated hues and textures, are impressive.

The ICA explores the history of this relatively unheralded art form with works by 33 artists—from cascades of color by Sheila Hicks to African-influenced geometric forms by Xenobia Bailey to ghostly webs by Ernesto Neto. The pieces themselves may cover a diverse range of subjects, but all are woven and knotted from man's oldest, most utilitarian materials. → *The Institute of Contemporary Art*, 617-478-3100, icaboston.org.

COMEDY

Lena Dunham

October 2

The creator of the hit TV comedy *Girls* just released her first book, *Not That Kind of Girl*, in which her hilarious confessional essays about family and dating read like a cross between David Sedaris and Nora Ephron. This month Dunham brings her book tour to the Wilbur, where she'll discuss

it with *The Liars' Club* author Mary Karr. → *The Wilbur Theatre*, 617-248-9700, thewilbur.com.



ROCK MUSIC

Sound of Our Town

October 4

The Boston Music Awards aren't until December, but organizers are already promoting the event with this free show featuring such Bay State–bred acts as the Both, Eli “Paperboy” Reed, and Speedy Ortiz. → *The Lawn on D*, lawnond.com.

BOOK

Scribe, by Bob Ryan

Out October 7

In contrast to colleagues like the polarizing Dan Shaughnessy or the nationally focused Peter Gammons, sportswriting legend Bob Ryan has managed to stay both

widely loved and fiercely local since joining the *Globe* in 1968. His new memoir, *Scribe*, is an acerbic, enlightening history of big sports moments over the past 40-plus years. → *Bloomsbury*, \$27.

DANCE PARTY

Electric Bounce House

October 16

EDM may stand for “electronic dance music,” but these days it really just means Top 40. And at UMass Lowell's Tsongas Center, 103.3 AMP Radio is hosting three of today's biggest hitmakers: Zedd (the Grammy-winning “Clarity”), Calvin Harris (Rihanna's “We Found Love”), and Duke Dumont (international chart-topper “Need U”). → *Tsongas Center*, 866-722-8780, 1033ampradio.com.

THEATER

Ether Dome

October 17–November 23

Set at Mass General in 1846, this new play by Elizabeth Egloff explores what happened after William T. G. Morton performed the first public medical operation with anesthesia in the hospital's surgical amphitheater. Spoiler alert: It changed the face of modern medicine forever. → *Huntington Theatre Company*, 617-266-0800, huntingtontheatre.org.



MUSICAL THEATER

The Magic Flute

October 21–26

Mozart's fantastical opera about the trials of true love in a land of sorcerers and child spirits gets a major makeover by the Isango Ensemble. The South African troupe, which draws most of its performers from the townships around Cape Town, has transposed Wolfgang Amadeus's score to an orchestra of marimbas. The production comes to Arts-Emerson after winning an Olivier award when it ran in London. → *Cutler Majestic Theatre*, 617-824-8400, artsemerson.org.

BALLET

Swan Lake

October 30–November 16

Boston Ballet opens its season with the world premiere of Mikko Nissinen's overhaul of the Tchaikovsky classic. The production features a new prologue, an update of the iconic choreography, and even fresh costumes and sets by Robert Perdziola (who also worked on the new *Nutcracker*). → *Boston Opera House*, 617-695-6955, bostonballet.org.

