

(Extract from Airline Inflight Magazine)

JAZZY HONGKONG

Asia's leading jazz city hits all the right notes. Groovy, baby!

Interest in jazz is growing steadily in Hong Kong's Chinese community, but, like many of the things that make the city interesting, it is an import, and has traditionally been dependent on the expatriate population for its survival.

Americans, Britons, Canadians, Filipinos, French, Italians, Japanese, Scandinavians and more are all important players on the scene.

One of the venues that regularly presents live jazz is Italian restaurant **Grappa's Cellar** in Central. Here, on the first Wednesday of each month, a Hong Kong institution takes the bandstand.

The Victoria Jazz Band (VJB) has held down a Wednesday evening residency in one Central restaurant or another for decades, and although few of the original members are left in the line-up, its tradition continues. The band plays a popular repertoire of mainstream and swing jazz to a loyal and enthusiastic following.