Art Review:

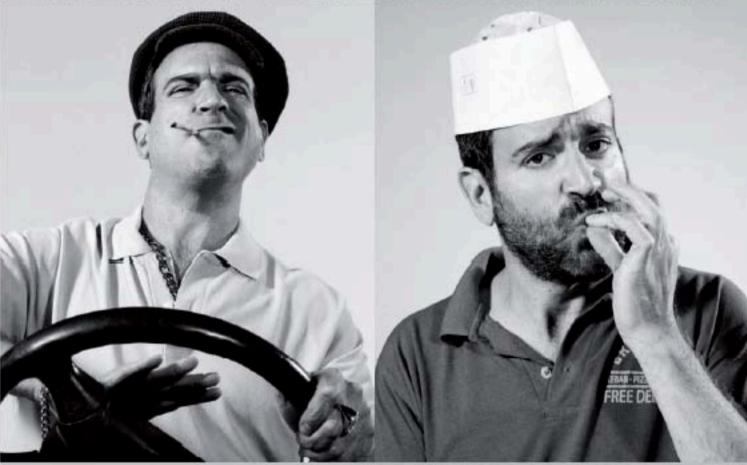
The piece truly kicks in when audiences accept the absurd premise that I am a local Chanaian' - Doug Fishbone

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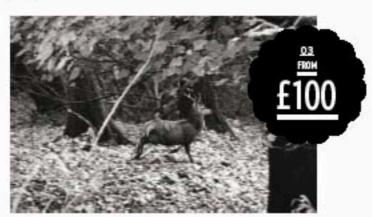


CONSUMED

The pick of things you didn't know you really needed. Words OLIVER BASCIANO









Robert Moog, who died five years ago age seventyone, is one person who can definitively be labelled a music pioneer. A very early version of the keyboard-led synthesizer that bears his name was demonstrated at a conference in 1964, and the instrument - or tool, as its inventor preferred to think of it - became ubiquitous by the end of that decade. Celebrating its enduring appeal through talks, workshops, screenings and gigs (including Devo, pictured) is Moogfest in the good doctor's birth town of Asheville, North Carolina.

www.moogfest.com

Alex Katz's exhibition at London's National Portrait Gallery (on until 21 September) provides a reminder of how much expression, sense of personality and circumstance the artist is able to convey in his colour-blocked subjects. The lack of detailing is reminiscent of fashion sketches, and indeed the artist gives as much weight to the dress of the sitter as he does to her face. Neptune Fine Art is offering an edition by the New York artist, in which we see Ulla, a lady of seeming icy glamour, striking a pose.

www.neptunefineart.com

In an edition of 60, this framed photographic print by Alexander and Susan Maris takes its title, The Pursuit of Fidelity, from their exhibition at Edinburgh's Stills (through 24 October), which in turn references the caption from a fifteenthcentury tapestry of a pair of lovers following a stag: 'we are hunting for fidelity and if we find it we would rather live in no dearer time'. Here, running between symbolic myth and photographic realism, the artists likewise capture a fleeing stag, a sense of fictional reenactment pervading.

www.stills.org

The London Design Festival offers up some entertaining highlights: robotic arms, from an Audi car plant, are being installed in Trafalgar Square for public play; an exhibition of graphic artist Barney Bubbles (he of many a Hawkwind LP's artwork) at Chelsea Space; and Finnish food and design coming together in a temporary restaurant. There's stuff to buy too - including these rather nice wine decanters appropriately titled Minaret. They form part of an exhibition by design duo Hamilton Turksov at the Mint boutique.

www.londondesignfestival. con