

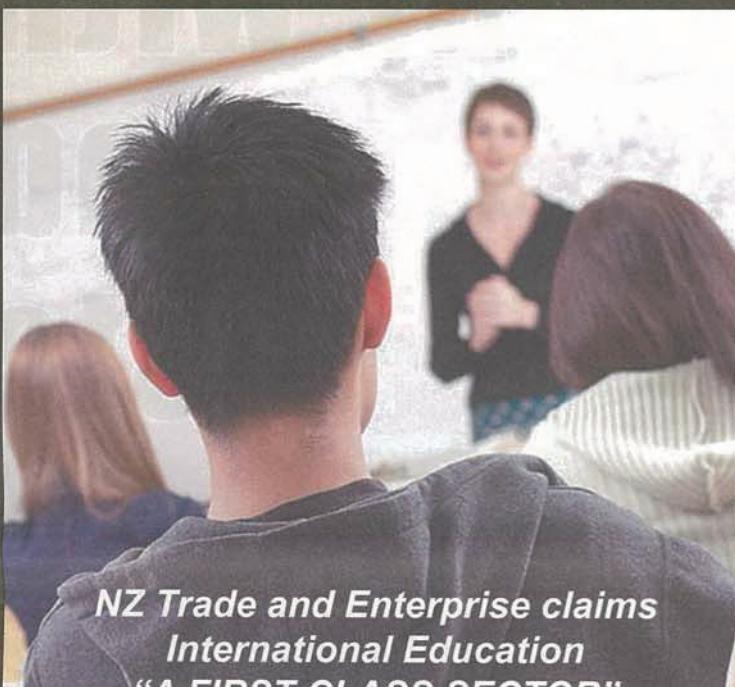
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NEWS FROM A FRESH PERSPECTIVE

**Auckland September 10, 2007**



**NZ Trade and Enterprise claims  
International Education  
“A FIRST CLASS SECTOR”**

# OH, REALLY?

**Encounters with racism, bad experiences  
with ghetto education providers and failure  
to make Kiwi friends, many international  
students leave NZ with a bad taste.  
YAHAN WU reports on pgs 2 and 3.**



**These cakes  
will send  
you over  
the Moon**

Pg 7

**The sweet,  
sweet taste  
of Loli-Pop  
fashion**

Pg 16

## Inside



Can they  
bring home  
the Cup?

Pg 5



Eat with your  
fingers at this  
spiced rice  
paradise

Pg 9



Dare you take  
up the Wushu  
challenge?

Pg 15

## My Kiwi View

**BRIAN O'FLAHERTY**  
How comfy are you in your  
own skins?

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## Editor Says

**LINCOLN TAN**  
Give international students a real  
Kiwi experience

Page 2



# Sweet, sweet taste of Loli-Pop fashion

By Yahan Wu

KNEE length skirts with a petticoat underneath. Socks or stockings pulled up over the knees housed in child-like shoes completed with a sweet, serene smile and probably, an umbrella.

Japan's street wear has always been known to be quite provocative and this year's Japanese Loli-Pop exhibition at the Auckland Museum will give people a taste of this so-called underground fashion.

The museum will be open for all who wants to take a glimpse of the Japanese Gothic Lolita phenomenon from Sep 15 to Nov 18.

Auckland Museum will explore the origins of gothic and Lolita, its significance in Japan's pop culture, the fashion's history and relationship with music, the use of "Pullip" dolls and New Zealand's growing fascination with the street fashion.

This is an exciting exhibition

for those into fashion and "otaku" and it runs alongside the opening of the Museum's new Arts of Asian Gallery.

Curator Kathryn Hardy Bernal, lecturer in Contextual and Theoretical Studies at AUT says that the exhibition aims to explore the relationships between the Loli-Goth and popular culture.

Having started in the seventies, its rise to prominence and media attention occurred by the late nineties around the time of Japan's economic instability, leading some in the field of psychiatry observing its relation to deep anxiety and a longing for childhood security.

Purveyors of this culture also disassociate it with an obvious reference to Vladimir Nabokov's novel, noting that they're looking "cute" and "elegant" rather than overtly sexual.

Ashleith Quayle, 17, organized a Loli Fest in April this year (although only four people turned

up), and said that "being doll-like" is just so much different than other fashions. It's also very elegant."

"We mostly wear it in the city and people just look at us and smile and give us a nod."

Other garments are either dresses in one or more pieces, or, made to be worn over a blouse. Lace-trimmed headresses, mini-top hats worn to one side, and intricate old-fashioned jewelry are some favored accessories for Lolitas.

The exhibition will feature a visual framework which is incorporated by two photographic series taken on the streets of Tokyo documenting current incarnations of Gothic & Lolita in Japan. This is supported by images of local Loli-Goths, contributing to the New Zealand context of the exhibition.

Exhibition runs from: Sep 14 – Nov 18, Tamaki Gallery, Auckland Museum. Exhibition Free with Donation



Left: Bevan Chuang and curator Kathryn Hardy Bernal

Local government elections 2007

## Asians in the Elections



Would their ethnicities work for or against them?  
Interviews with mayoral candidate Peter Chan and community board candidates Peter Young, Johnson Li and more...

A special report, iBall Sep 24

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