



CHAMP: Balazs with trophy

Street food pack champ

STREET food is big in Greenwich – and one day billions of people around the world could be eating it from packaging designed by a student here.

Balazs Kovacs won a national contest for his “innovative, sustainable and environmentally-friendly” cardboard container (below).

Balazs said: “I intended to design something that is complementary to the food, provides a clean and comfortable experience for the consumer, affordable for the vendor and protects our environment.”

The Ravensbourne student was named Pro Carton UK Young Designer of the Year in a ceremony at the college, on Greenwich Peninsula.



WALKS IN GREENWICH PARK INSPIRED DEBUT NOVEL

FINDING LOVE & APPINESS!

IS it really possible to find love online?

Woolwich-based author Zoe May explores this question in her debut novel *Perfect Match*, which was published in January by HarperCollins.

Zoe was working as a copywriter and dating using apps like Tinder and Bumble when she had the daydream that inspired her debut.

She said: “I’d been on a ton of bad dates with guys who weren’t quite right for me and I got to the point that I just wondered, ‘What would happen if I was just completely honest about what I was looking for?’

“What would it be like if we all just stopped beating around the bush about we’re after and just created really honest, to-the-point dating profiles without caring whether we sounded superficial, weird or high-maintenance.”

“I never actually tried this approach, but my heroine Sophia does in *Perfect Match*!”

“After one too many glasses of wine, Sophia – with the help of her flatmate – creates a dating profile for a multi-millionaire with the face of Robert Pattinson and the body of Daniel Craig.

He must have a fluffy rescue cat, a penchant for Armani and a glamorous

BUY IT
Perfect Match by Zoe May is available online from Amazon, iBooks and Kobo for £2.99

London pad. “Sophia and her flatmate are just having a laugh,” Zoe says, “but a guy replies a few days later and meets all Sophia’s ridiculous criteria, but she can’t be sure whether she’s finally

lucked out and found her perfect man or if there’s a terrible catch.” *Perfect Match* took Zoe a year and a half to write, a process which she describes as “on and off” due to work commitments.

She often wrote in the cafe of Waterstones Greenwich and says she came up with most of her plot while

walking her dog Bella in Greenwich Park.

Zoe said: “When I was writing *Perfect Match*, in a way I had to give myself time to mature in order for my heroine Sophia to mature as well.

“I put a lot of the life lessons I picked up around dating into my novel, so that as I became a more well-rounded person, so did Sophia.”

One of these lessons, Zoe says, was the importance of “looking beyond first impressions.”

“I think one of the issues with dating these days, is that we all think we’re one swipe away from perfection, which makes it so easy to overlook really great people who could be right in front of us.

“We might meet someone for one date, and if we’re not immediately blown away, we simply swipe onto the next person.

“Modern dating culture creates a sense of disposability.

“But sometimes, you have to get past the obsession with lust at first swipe and love at first sight if you want to have a meaningful relationship.”



INSPIRED: Zoe and new novel

Perfect Match is published by HQ Digital (HarperCollins) and costs £2.99 from Amazon, iBooks and Kobo.

Zoe’s second novel How (Not) To Date A Prince is out on April 12, also published by HQ Digital (HarperCollins).

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