stuff.co.nz National World Business Tech Sport Entertainment Life & Style Travel Motoring Log in Join **Southland Times** Google¹¹ Custom Search Anzac 2015 Opinion Culture Sport Business Contact us Win a \$20,000 home makeover... Bank better TSBBank Conditions apply. See TSB Bank for details. Arts Festival has something for everyone southland times headlines Brown backs Sopoaga for ABs Clash of the titans

CAITLIN SALTER Last updated 05:00, April 22 2015

Heil Sarjonen/supplied Thomas Monckton performs in The Pianist a solo, wordless circus piece being brought to Invercargill for the

For the next month, towns throughout the region will be abuzz with arty activities to suit the whole family. The festival programme is chock-full of theatre, dance, art

Esk St in Invercargill.

opening of the month-long event.

The 2015 Southland Festival of the Arts starts tonight with the first showing of Once on a Chunuk Bair.

Jon Trimmer and Helen Moulder perform in

Meeting Karpovsky, coming to Invercargill

with the Southland Festival of the Arts.

It's the day Southland art lovers have been waiting for.

Southland Festival of the Arts.

"I've known about it for a very long time because it's been on the horizon for so many months, so it's exciting that it's finally here."

Festival director Angela Newell said she was excited about the

exhibitions, comedy and a community arts project set to transform

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"We try and choose things that are a little different and of really high quality. They are definitely arts festival shows, they are quite special." One of the shows making sure no one in Southland misses out is the Sharu Loves Hats production of A Boy Wonder.

The hour-long comedy show, set in the South Island, sees a return to his Southern roots for

Available

now

"Many of these shows wouldn't come here on their own steam because it would be a risk for them.

Richards. Muns Rock The one-man show tells the story of an epic

Mother's Day Floral Bouquets Click here for deals To & Cs apply. Floral bouquets are countdown available in-store only from Friday 8 May 2015. Photos are indicative only. fantastical journey that is unique and different from what they have seen in the past." It was important the festival got out to all areas of the province and was accessible for all Southlanders, Newell said. "All the shows this year are very accessible and nothing is too weird. "There are things that people can go to that won't cost them money." The yarn bomb project, A Bit of a Yarn on Esk St, is an example of people being exposed to the creative world

without having to change their routine.

said.

HIGHLIGHTS:

READ MORE:

The Pianist - April 29, 7:30pm

Meeting Karpovsky - May 7, 7:30pm In Absentia - May 8 and 9, 7:00pm

Island residents will understand, the show is touring Southland, with dates in Te Anau, Lumsden, Tuatapere, Tokanui, Gore and Stewart Island. Co-producer Sharu Delilkan said the show was

suitable for the whole family.

battle to save the local legend, Jimmy's Pies.

Set in Roxburgh and full of references South

writer, performer and co-producer Ryan

"It's a high-energy show and it's very fast-paced. "People need to be ready to be on an amazing

The Southland Museum and Art Gallery is also hosting a free concert, The Strait Shooters.

In the dance world, the Java Dance presentation of The Wine Project explores use of space and aromas at Waxy O'Shea's on May 6. "Anything that's involved in the festival is of a high calibre and we believe it is worth people going to go see," Newell

throughout Southland, and runs until May 21. Information about the festival is available here.

The band is based in Wellington and Queenstown, hence the name, and offer a mix of funk, blues and soul.

The seventh annual Southland Festival of the Arts opens on April 22, with performances in Invercargill and

The Jews Brothers - April 30 to May 2, 7:30pm Pecha Kucha - May 1 and 2, 7:30pm The Wine Project - May 6, 8:00pm

A Bit of a Yarn - May 10 to 17 A Boy Wonder - May 15 to 21, 7:30pm

The Strait Shooters - May 10, 1:30pm and 3:00pm

Once on a Chunuk Bair - April 22 to 25, 7:30pm

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