

the press

Log in

art and stage

more from stuff

paid content

about this content



sponsored

Expert tips if you're thinking of painting your exterior



Beer, wine festivals and specialist food expos continue South



What's on: Event highlights in Ōtautahi Christchurch



How a quake-born Canterbury brewery beat Guinness - twice



3 Flattering Dresses To Make Your Mornings Easier

Jacqui E



Christchurch: Unsold SUVs of 2020 For A Fraction Of Their

SUV Deals | Search Ads

Recommended by

ADVERTISEMENT

Advertise with Stuff

Free Theatre books gym time

Abbie Napier · 05:00, Sep 16 2014

ADVERTISEMENT



Advertise with Stuff

THEME NIGHTS: Ubu Nights are taking place every Friday night at the Arts Centre in Christchurch - live performances and guests can enjoy drinks and plates of food.

When George Parker heard The Gymnasium at the Arts Centre was up for grabs, he knew Free Theatre could make it special.

The space was originally pitched as a hospitality venue but the professional theatre company now has two years in the area to prove itself.

First on the performance schedule is Ubu Nights.

Parker and the Free Theatre team have set up The Gym as a combination performance venue.

There is professional lighting, set against a backdrop of exposed brick where all the strengthening is visible. The gym floor is still there with markers for basketball and holes in the door from archery practice.

The venue is raw and unique.

ADVERTISEMENT

most popular

- 1 [Omicron outbreak would send NZ into red traffic light setting - PM](#)
- 2 [Covid-19: Whole country will move to red in event of Omicron community outbreak](#)
- 3 [Covid-19: Positive case in Palmerston North possibly Omicron](#)
- 4 [Covid-19: Jacinda Ardern urges Labour caucus to stay humble ahead of Omicron update](#)
- 5 [Covid-19: MIQ worker contact tests positive, possible Omicron case in Palmerston North](#)
- 6 [Blackmailer threatened to post topless photo if woman didn't add him on Facebook](#)

- 7 Quiz: Morning trivia challenge: January 20, 2022
- 8 Judge tells unvaccinated defendant he refuses to accept 'nutcase views'
- 9 Transmission Gully: Stormwater system behind ongoing delays in motorway opening
- 10 Destiny Church pastor Derek Tait has a vaccine pass despite his vows

ADVERTISEMENT

For Ubu Nights there is no stage, as such. There are tables made from cable reels and old wooden chairs. There is a bar and a food truck parked outside and the audience comes and goes as it pleases.

Ubu Nights are a way of bringing together many elements and performers. Each night has a theme, with food and performance to match.

Last week, Ubu was all about tango and Argentinian cuisine. This week, it is all about David Lynch film and music, with a menu to match.

There will be six Ubu Nights in total before a production is staged before Christmas. In the next two years, the space will host a wide range of alternative performances.

"Of course, it's all on the smell of an oily rag," Parker says.

Free Theatre at The Gym has access to some funding to make its vision work.

"There'll be a hell of a battle with old Christchurch saying we can't do this or that but it's a battle worth having," Parker says.

While Ubu Nights are free entry, Parker says the "free" in Free Theatre is more about a theatre free to stage whatever performance it wants.

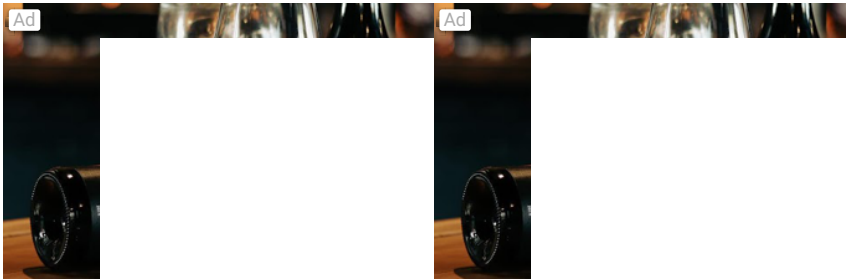
Ubu Nights are on Fridays. The bar is stocked with Black Estate wine and Cassels and Sons beer. Eftpos is available.

Doors open around 6pm but visitors can come and go as they please.

Advertise with Stuff

For weekly info on the Ubu Nights theme and menu, see the Free Theatre Christchurch Facebook page.

THE PRESS | TE MATATIKA



Cascade
Live music e

Cascade
Live music e

paid content

about this content



Worried your child has fallen behind? Try this new 1-1 tutoring service
Cluey Learning

Historic Figures Who Lived Long Enough To Be Photographed
Crowdyfan

3 Luxurious Sleepwear Ideas For Her
Peter Alexander

Choosing the right sunscreen can be confusing, here's what you need to...
www.aia.co.nz

Doctors Baffled: This Is What Detoxification Through The Feet Really Brings
health4-you.com