

# A NIGHT ON THE TOWN

**SNAP THIS:** Some 23 days, 60 venues and 110+ events and exhibitions, if you're a photography buff, don't miss the Auckland Festival of Photography. From the hard hitting to the whimsical, this year's festival is focused on control. Not long after the invention of photography, photographic evidence started to be become *de rigueur* in court cases; fast forward to the 21st century and with technological advances, the internet and social media, there's no getting away — in the private or public domain — from the presence and power of photography. As you look at the work of local and international photographers, take a moment to muse on that. *Auckland Photography Festival, various venues, Thursday-Friday, May 31-June 22*

**SAY WHAT?** Long before images had currency, language ruled supreme. Here's a drama, by Pulitzer-nominated playwright Madeleine George, that asks us to consider the nature of language. Does it connect us or do words leave us isolated? *Navi Collaborative* brings a story about a respected linguist, on a mission to record the world's dying languages, who discovers she's pregnant with a child she may not be able to communicate with. She turns to one of the last speakers of a soon-to-be-extinct language and a "talking gorilla" at the local zoo. *Precious Little, Basement Theatre Studio, Tuesday-Saturday*

**REVOLUTIONARY DANCE:** The power! The passion! It's so palpable you can almost

feel it set the dance floor on fire. Exquisitely trained, the dancers of *Ballet Revolution* effortlessly combine ballet with street dance, daring jumps and sleek moves to create a performance of sensational Latin energy and passion. The Cuban dance company returns to Auckland with the moves that have made them world famous. *Ballet Revolution, The Civic, Friday and Saturday*

**NIALL ONE:** If you're pop crazy, it's a safe bet you probably still mourn the demise of One Direction. Thankfully, some of the boy band have begun their own solo careers, and none other than baby-faced blond Niall



Niall Horan

Horan touches down in New Zealand this week. Traveling with the Flicker World Tour — the singer's first solo arena tour — Horan's shows are a vehicle for his impressive pipes and his solo pop sensibilities. And some pure One Direction nostalgia. *Niall Horan, Spark Arena, Friday (doors open 6pm, concert 8pm)*

**DANCE AWAY:** With the Kings Arms and Golden Dawn gone, Whammy Bar and Wine Cellar are now more than ever some of Auckland's most valuable institutions. The venues throw a celebration this weekend called *Borderline Music Festival*, with 25 bands to keep punters dancing over two whole nights. The lineup draws from a wide range of genres, including artists such as *Coco Solid, Polyester* and *Green Grove*. *Whammy Bar and Wine Cellar, Friday and Saturday*

**Dionne Christian and George Fenwick**