hot ticket

the best of the week ahead

FILM Starting over

After his mother's death, Oliver (Ewan McGregor, pictured) is shocked when his father (Christopher Plummer) reveals he is gay. With four failed relationships of his own under his belt, Oliver questions the meaning of love in Beginners. From Thursday, Dendy Cinemas.

FESTIVAL Hats in the air

The Gympie Music Muster (from Tuesday to Sunday) features Montgomery Gentry, Kasey Chambers, John Williamson, Troy Cassar-Daley and Ash Grunwald among a stellar lineup. Single day pass \$120. www.muster.com.au

DANCE Cuban heels

Ballet Revolución fuses classical and modern dance with hip-hop, complete with a hot Cuban band playing contemporary Latin hits. An extra performance has been added to the tour: next Saturday at QPAC Concert Hall, South Bank. www.qpac.com.au

MUSIC Don't miss out

Fresh from his performance at last month's Splendour in the Grass, Liam Finn launches his new album FOMO (Fear Of Missing Out) at The Zoo, Fortitude Valley. One of Rolling Stone's Artists to Watch of 2007 is worth another look (and listen). Next Saturday, 8pm.



jukebox

Prisoner of Society The Living End, 1997

An early hit is both blessing and curse for a new band. In the case of Melbourne rockabilly punks The Living End, the success of their breakout double A-side Prisoner of Society / Second Solution (Australia's best-selling single of the 1990s, from the EP of the same name) proved a hard act to follow. It was an archetypal angry young man's up-yours anthem, in the tradition of The Who's My Generation or any number of the British punks that came after them: "We don't need no-one like you / To tell us what to do ... I'm a brat / And I know everything / And I talk back / 'Cos I'm not listening / To anything you say ..."

But within a decade, songwriter Chris Cheney felt he'd outgrown the youthful aggression of his biggest hit. It had made him a prisoner, the irony compounded by the band's raucous cover of On The Inside, theme song from 1970s TV soap Prisoner, included on the same EP. "It was a double-edged sword," Cheney said in 2008. "We stopped playing Prisoner of Society live and it wasn't missed. It put us on the map, but ever since I've been trying to prove my worth as a songwriter. Perhaps [dropping it] was the best thing that could've happened." The Living End play The Tivoli, Fortitude Valley, on Sept 1 (Sept 2 show sold out).

WEBLINK www.thelivingend.com



new toy

retro call

How do you turn diehard Luddites into instant technophiles? This plug-and-chat iPhone cradle with old-fashioned handset will put them in mind of landlines from days of yore. \$50 www.adhgifts.com.au

[cool]chaser

TOP SIDE



Brown Dog Furniture Company uses reclaimed timbers from around the world in striking pieces such as its red wine-stained French oak vats. This Sabine side table (measuring 1500mm x 450mm x 700mm) is \$2500 at www.browndogfurniture.com or phone (07) 3369 7144.

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