From: newsletters@sfnewmexican.com
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Art

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Music & Performance

**Opera without opulence: Director R.B. Schlather on minimalism**

An age-old story of love and fidelity, Così fan tutte follows two couples engaged to be married. The Santa Fe Opera's new production takes the audience to a somewhere (or is it a nowhere?) far from 18th-century Naples.  [Read more](#)

**From Camper to Cracker and back again: Frontman David Lowery**

"Rock music is essentially a hybrid type of music that incorporates elements of folk and blues and country and gospel and whatever, like that. Camper [Van Beethoven] has a broad palette of styles that it incorporates. We get into the Eastern European stuff, all the surf stuff that was heavily influenced by Middle Eastern music," said frontman David Lowery. Lowery brings his two bands, Camper Van Beethoven and Cracker, to The Bridge at Santa Fe Brewing, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, July 18.  [Read more](#)

**Human expression: Cellist Joseph Johnson**

Joseph Johnson steps outside his orchestra roles this weekend in a pair of solo concerts that will test his instrumental voice: 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, July 13, at SITE Santa Fe and 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, July 14, at Las Puertas Event Center in Albuquerque.  [Read more](#)

Culinary Arts

**Getting fortified: Dining experiences before the opera**

Love. Lust. Bromance. Duplicity. Death.  [Read more](#)
Books & Lectures

"Very Nice" by Marcy Dermansky

It's gospel in the publishing business that readers want light, enjoyable fare this time of year, and Very Nice, Marcy Dermansky's fourth novel, fits the bill. Read more

Columns

Star Codes, July 12-18

Slow down. If life gets hectic, sit still, if just for a minute. Summer's heat and five planets in retrograde ask us to take our time and think things through. Catch up and reconnect with the past, work on old projects, and handle life right here, right now. Read more

Movies

The write stuff: "Toni Morrison: The Pieces I Am"

The appeal of this stirring documentary is the pleasure it affords in spending of a couple of hours in the world of the great Toni Morrison, her friends, and her literary legacy. Read more

Country girl: "Wild Rose"

Music drama, R, 101 minutes, Center for Contemporary Arts, 3 chiles Read more