



Performing Lines WA

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media release

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## Get it off your chest at Perth Festival's Beck's Music Box this summer!



Pictured: James Berlyn Photographer: Otilee Lamb

If you could tell your deepest darkest secret without being identified, would you? Should you?

Get it off your chest this February at Beck's Music Box with Tawdry Heartburn, a six-foot-five nail technician, palmist and Manic-Curist of secrets.

**Tawdry Heartburn's Manic Cures** is a free one-on-one interactive performance, installation and web-work devised and performed by James Berlyn.

Surrounded by varnish, typewriters and things unsaid, Tawdry will professionally paint and polish your nails while inviting you to consider divulging a secret via his collection of mechanical "gossip" machines.

Anonymous secrets or regrets may be hand-written or typed, then placed in Tawdry's secret box. At the end of each night, the box is emptied and contributions are added to the ever expanding Wall of Secrets for passers by to read. They are later added to [aworldofsecrets.com](http://aworldofsecrets.com), a website documenting secrets disclosed at past performances.

Tawdry's mission in life? To achieve a world without secrets, to un-furrow the brows of millions and heal the consternation caused by unspoken truths - one set of nails at a time.

**Tawdry Heartburn's Manic Cures** is produced by Performing Lines WA.

**Where:** Beck's Music Box, The Esplanade, Perth City

**When:** February 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21, 26, 27, 28 (7 – 12pm Fri & Sat, 6 – 11pm Sun)

**How to book?** Manic Cures is free by appointment on the night (no pre-bookings).

Beck's Music Box is a ticketed venue with FREE entry after 10pm, subject to capacity.

**More info:** [www.aworldofsecrets.com](http://www.aworldofsecrets.com) / [www.performinglineswa.org.au](http://www.performinglineswa.org.au) / [www.perthfestival.com.au](http://www.perthfestival.com.au)

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## About James Berlyn

[www.aworldofsecrets.com](http://www.aworldofsecrets.com)

James Berlyn is an award-winning performing artist and teacher of twenty years experience. A Pratt Scholarship winner, James graduated with a BA in Dance from the Victorian College of Arts in 1987.

He has performed with numerous Australian dance and theatre companies including 2Dance Plus, Fieldworks, Sidetrack and Perth Theatre Company. As an independent artist, James has written, choreographed and performed numerous one man shows which have been performed at Australian festivals including the Melbourne Fringe and Perth's Artrage. His works have been directed by Paige Gibbs, Ross Coli, Jim Hughes, Adrian Barnes, Sally Richardson and Simon Clarke. He performed regularly in cabaret for SGL Mardi Gras's *Club Bent* in Sydney and at *Putting On An Act* in Perth. He was awarded the Swan Gold Best Actor Award for Theatre in Perth in 1993.

James latest work *Tawdry Heartburn's Manic Cures*, inspired by Frank Warren's *Post Secret* project, premiered in February 2009 at The Blue Room's *25 Summer Nights* festival. It later won the jury prize for the most innovative show at *Putting An Act 2009* at the Perth Institute of Contemporary Art. This year, James has been invited to perform *Tawdry Heartburn's Manic Cures* at the Australian Performing Arts Market (APAM) in February, Adelaide.

## About Performing Lines WA

[www.performinglineswa.org.au](http://www.performinglineswa.org.au)

Performing Lines WA produces the work of James Berlyn and other selected West Australian independent dance and theatre artists through the Managing and Producing Services (MAPS) initiative of the Australia Council and the Department of Culture and the Arts. Performing Lines WA supports the production and touring of new West Australian work nationally and internationally, and provides a range of services from financial management to marketing and audience development.

**James Berlyn is supported by Managing and Producing Services (MAPS) which is an initiative of the Department of Culture and the Arts and the Australia Council for the Arts. *Tawdry Heartburn's Manic Cures* is produced by Performing Lines WA.**



## About the UWA Perth International Arts Festival

Founded in 1953 by The University of Western Australia, the Perth International Arts Festival is the longest-running international arts festival in Australia and Western Australia's premier cultural event. The Festival has developed a worldwide reputation for excellence in its international program, the presentation of new works and the highest quality artistic experiences for its audience. For over 50 years the Festival has welcomed to Perth some of the world's greatest living artists and now connects with over 300,000 people each year.

Shelagh Magadza is the Artistic Director 2008-11.

Visit [perthfestival.com.au](http://perthfestival.com.au) and follow the links to Beck's Music Box After Parties for full program details. Also check out [www.myspace.com/perthfestival](http://www.myspace.com/perthfestival)

**Please note: After Parties are FREE from 10pm  
Free entry is subject to capacity; ticket holders have priority entry.**

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