

Kalamunda Reporter

Community

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LESMURDIE

Matthew gets the drop on excitement

Julian Wright

INSPIRED by the atmosphere of fantasy and art created by Cirque du Soleil, Lesmurdie resident Matthew Pope decided at a young age he wanted to wow audiences too.

Matthew (16) started circus training at 11.

His acrobatic skills will be on show in the latest performance by Kinetica Circus Arts as part of the Perth Fringe Festival next month.

Described as an explosion of energy, the Kinetica tells the story of psychiatrist John McGray, who wakes and goes about his usual routine until one day, a streak of colour invades his life and transforms his world into a kaleidoscope of perpetual movement and colour.

Naming the Death Drop on The Cloudswing as his favourite trick to perform, Matthew said he liked to give audiences something to gasp about.

"It's a crowd pleaser, where I drop head first from a height," he said.

"It combines potential death and drops.



Nobody drops in quite like circus performer Matthew Pope.

Picture: Louise White www.communitypix.com.au d393975

"What more could you want?"

Matthew said the best aspect of performing in a circus was seeing the looks on people's faces "when we demonstrate almost superhuman feats."

"It makes all the hard work worth it," he said.

Matthew trains for at least two hours three times a week.

"It increases when doing a show like Kinetica, which can mean rehearsing for five hours up to three times a week in the lead-up to the show," he said.