

MEDIA RELEASE: 9 November, 2017

## SALUTE TO PLEASURES LOST IN THE DIGITAL AGE

**Yevgeny Grishkovets (Russia)**

### **Farewell to Paper**

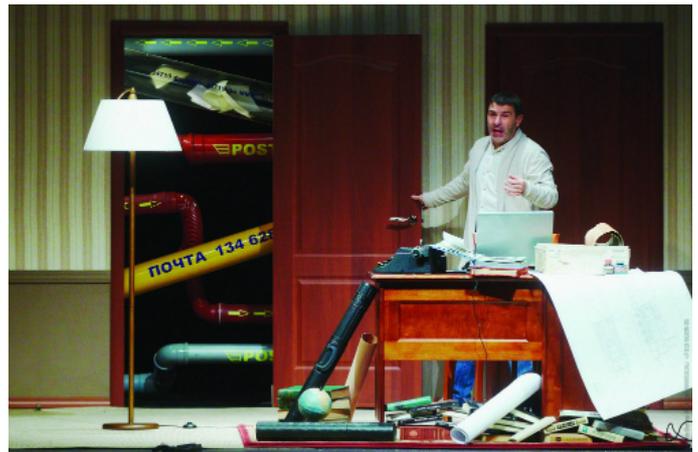
AUSTRALIAN EXCLUSIVE

***Farewell to Paper*** is a charming one-man show that takes a trenchant, hilarious look at many of the things we've left behind in our headlong rush into the digital age.

When was the last time you sent someone a letter (no, not an email, a message written with ink on paper and mailed in an envelope)? Do you remember that maps were once extremely inconvenient fold-out posters that took forever to read, rather than a fool-proof app on your smartphone? Will the next generation even know how to hold a pen?

Paper, and everything it represents, gets a passionate send-off by acclaimed poet and director **Evgeny Grishkovets** in his irresistible new show. Brimming with explosive creativity and biting humour, ***Farewell to Paper*** explores a development that affects us all, even if we rarely pause to consider its implications.

Alone on stage and swamped by a deluge of paper, Grishkovets laments our fading relationship to the physical, in a world where every aspect of our lives is turning digital at a dizzying pace. Highlighting the absurdities of contemporary life with ravishing panache, ***Farewell to Paper*** elicits nostalgic reflection and lots of laughter.



**Festival Artistic Director Wendy Martin** said: 'In this beautiful and funny solo work, Yevgeny Grishkovets sits at his desk, surrounded by an old, ramshackle typewriter, books and stacks of paper.

'He wistfully reflects on obsolete words like telegram and manuscript, on childhood memories of ink stains and blotting paper and the sensual delight of receiving a hand-addressed envelope from a loved one whose scent remains imbued in the letter inside.'

The multi-talented **Evgeny Grishkovets** – author, poet, musician, actor, playwright, theatre director – ranks amongst Russia's most stimulatingly inventive contemporary artists. His witty solo performances, such as *How I Ate A Dog*, frequently tour Russia and Europe, and his exceptionally popular writings have been published as plays, novels and collected stories.

**WHAT: Farewell to Paper**

**WHERE:** Heath Ledger Theatre

**WHEN:** Feb 16-18

**BOOKING DETAILS:** 08 6488 5555 or [perthfestival.com.au](http://perthfestival.com.au)

**Tickets:** \$25-55

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### ***Perth Festival***

*Founded in 1953 by The University of Western Australia, Perth 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 64 years the Festival has welcomed to Perth some of the world's greatest living artists and now connects with hundreds of thousands of people each year.*

*Wendy Martin is the Artistic Director 2016–19.*