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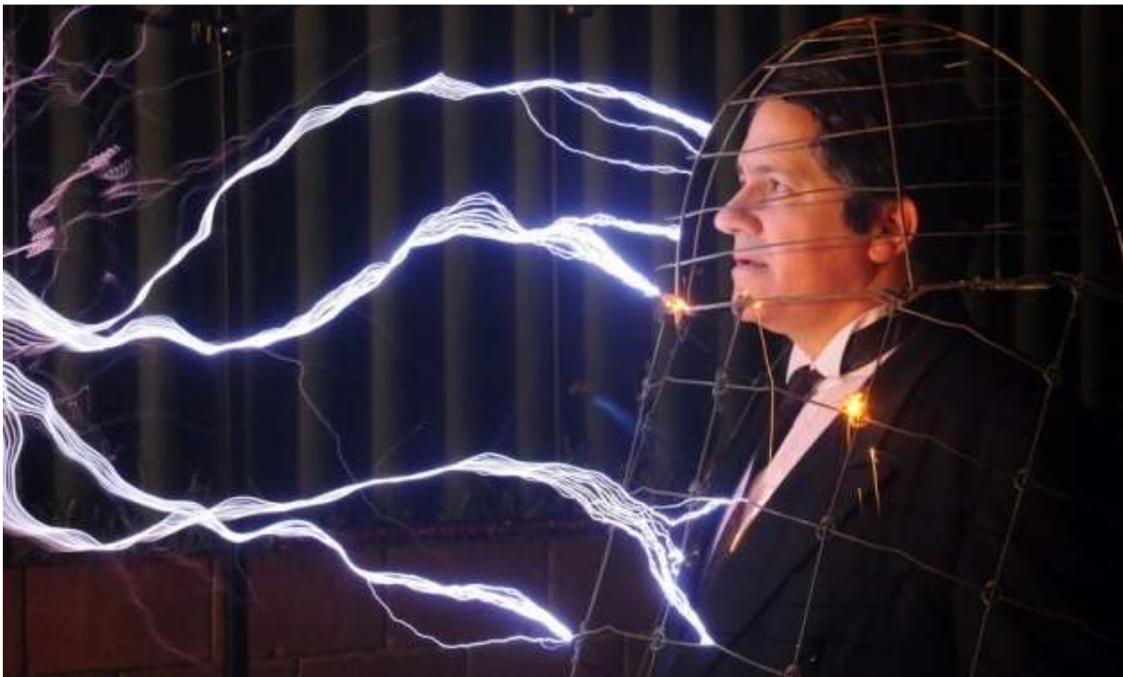


Conditions apply, entries close 5pm AEST 30/7/11. 1 entry/vote per person. NSW Permit LT/PS/11/4339, ACT Permit TP/11/2002 VIC Permit 11/1048 SA Permit T11/992

Death defying electricker

JANE HAMMOND, The West
Australian
July 1, 2011, 3:00 am

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Using a wire cage and giant Tesla coil, Bunbury's "Dr Electric" Peter Terren will illuminate the Perth Town Hall tonight in a lightening display using 200,000 volts of electricity.

The death defying "electricker" will mark the opening of an expo celebrating the legacy of Serbian inventor Nikola Tesla, a little known scientist described by his followers as the father of the 21st century.

Dr Terren will use a coil invented by the scientist to boost mains power to 200,000 volts in a bid to create lightening bolts that will zap his wire-framed cage.

The eccentric Bunbury doctor recently appeared on national television performing a similar stunt for Australia's Got Talent, where he made it through to the second round of the competition.

More than 1.2 tonnes of artefacts and inventions direct from the Tesla Museum of Belgrade have been shipped to Perth for the two-week long Nikola Tesla Expo, part of the Perth Winter Arts Festival.

Co-founder of the Tesla Forum, the WA group dedicated to promoting the dead scientist, Branislav Grbovic said the expo was designed to increase awareness about the genius of Nikola Tesla and promote the study of science.

The Perth-based group is one of the biggest Tesla fan clubs in the world and has provided Tesla inspired inventions to local universities and SciTech. The group has also been successful in getting two streets in Perth named after the great scientist.

Mr Grbovic said Tesla's alternating current induction motor was considered one of the ten greatest discoveries of all time.

Tesla had over 1500 inventions and 700 patents. His work included the radio, wireless communications, fluorescent lighting, remote controls, vertical take-off aircraft and bladeless turbines.

"Tesla's recognition is fairly modest considering the achievements he made," Mr Grbovic said.

Dr Terren's display will take place on the lawn outside the town hall at 7pm tonight, weather permitting.

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