



WITH MYSTIC EDITOR SERENE CONNEELEY

He has his critics, but medium John Edward's Australian tour, which starts next week, sold out in a few hours. As host of the TV show *Crossing Over* and author of books like

One Last Time and *After Life: Answers from the Other Side*, John has brought hope and solace to millions of people who respect and admire what he does.

He began working in a hospital, but slowly realised that his psychic gifts could bring healing to more people.

'I do feel this is my purpose,' he says. 'There are two things I'm supposed to do in my life – teaching and healing. And it didn't matter what field I chose, I think I'd always straddle both subjects.'

There was a time, depressed by the constant criticism his work attracts, he considered giving up and going to vet school. But the gratitude of the people he does readings for convinced him that passing on messages from the other side to those who have lost a loved one is what he is supposed to be doing.

And John is continually touched by the power of the experiences.

'I wasn't shocked people have found the messages so universal, because I know how people relate to it. Whether you're at a live gig or in the gallery of the TV show or watching it at home, you're able to identify with the message. And if it can happen to them it makes you think it can happen to you too.'

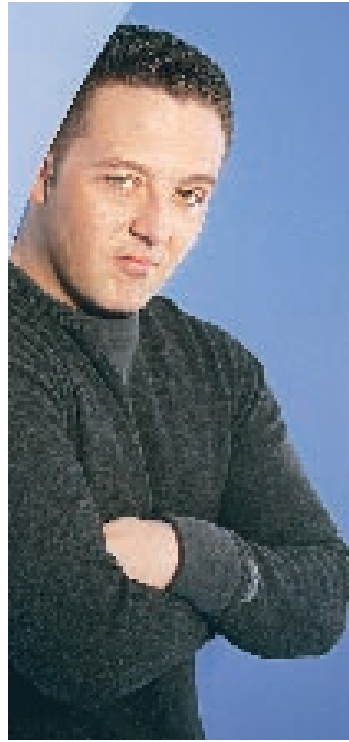
'When a parent comes through and offers a message I can understand, I feel it's as much for me as it is for them.'

As a teenager John realised he had psychic ability, and he spent his last few years of school doing readings and predicting futures at psychic fairs.

Then he noticed he could see people who were no longer alive, and slowly realised what this meant for the people they were coming through for.

'I wasn't scared, I was just inquisitive, I wanted to explore it. And finally I got what it meant for people to hear from someone who had died. It didn't mean that for me, because at that point I hadn't had anyone that close to me die.'

'But then my mother passed, and everything immediately shifted for me, and I had a big gaping hole at the age of 19 that I didn't know how to fill.



THE SIXTH SENSE

International medium John Edward brings his message of healing *Down Under*

'It was really tough. But this work filled that – it helped me to move through it.'

It's also helped a lot of other people work through their grief. But John insists that he is just the instrument through which those who have crossed over work, and he is uncomfortable with fame.

He remains modest because he knows everyone has psychic ability. He says people on the other side are always trying to communicate with us and let us know they are OK and they love us – we just have to learn to read the signs.

'Dreams are the number one way that people come through,' John reveals.

'Keep a dream journal and record them all, even ones that don't seem relevant. And it's important that if you've had an experience of any kind to date it and write it down. If you put things on paper it's very hard to rationalise it away and think you're imagining it.'

He says that everybody has psychic ability, we just have to develop it.

'We all have the ability – I don't see it as a gift. Some have it developed naturally more than others, and not every person will develop at the same

rate. It's like we don't all have the same proclivity for music or art, but it doesn't mean we can't enjoy that activity, even if we're not Barbra Streisand or Picasso.'

'It takes years of study, practice and dedication to become a professional psychic, but the purpose of developing your psychic abilities is to live a more fulfilling life – not to predict the future or connect with someone's grandma.'

He has produced a two-CD set, *Unleashing Your Psychic Potential* (Hay House, \$24.95), to help people develop their intuition and psychic ability.

'Everyone has it. Just think how many times you knew who was ringing you – and I don't mean with the help of caller ID,' the fast talking New Yorker grins.

How long will he keep communicating with the dead for the benefit of those who have lost loved ones?

'Until I check out – whenever that is. I don't think this is something one stops, and even if I did "retire", I'm positive I wouldn't be sitting under a palm tree.'

'And if I was, my palm tree would have a phone attached to it and I'd be doing phone readings around the world!'

PICTURE UNIVERSAL TELEVISION

WIN TICKETS!

John Edward's Brisbane show sold out in 15 minutes, and most of the other states within an hour. Extra shows were snapped up just as fast. But we have **25 money can't buy double passes** to give away! For your chance to win, just tell us in 25 words or less why you would like to see John on his *After Life* 2004 tour. Send it on the back of an envelope with your name, address and daytime phone number to **New Idea/John Edward Competition**, PO Box 100, Eastern Suburbs MC, NSW 2004, by last mail February 20, 2004.

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY 1. Entry is open to all residents of Australia over 18 years, except employees of the promoter. 2. Competition closes February 20, 2004 at 5pm. Winners will be the entries selected, having regard to skill and originality, at the promoter's premises on February 23, 2004 at 11am. 3. Total prize value is \$4000 as at January 19, 2004 and includes 25 x double tickets to see John Edward worth \$160 a pair. Allocation of prizes is as follows: the best entry from WA residents will win a double pass to the show in Perth on Saturday February 28, 2004; the best five from SA residents will win a double pass to the show in Adelaide on Sunday February 29, 2004; the best 10 from Victoria residents will win a double pass to the show in Melbourne on Tuesday March 2, 2004; the best entry from Queensland residents will win a double pass to the show in Brisbane on Thursday March 4, 2004; and the best eight from NSW residents will win a double pass to the show in Sydney on Sunday March 7, 2004. Transport to and from show is winner's responsibility. Ticket does not guarantee a reading. Prizes are not transferable, exchangeable or redeemable for cash. 4. Chance plays no part in determining the winner. 5. Winners will be notified by phone and mail. 6. The promoter shall not be liable for any loss or damage whatsoever suffered, including but not limited to direct or consequential loss or personal injury suffered or sustained during the course of prize winning trips or in connection with the redemption of and/or use of any other prizes. 7. Promoter is Pacific Publications Pty Ltd, 35-51 Mitchell Street, McMahons Point, NSW 2060 (ABN 16 097 410 896).

For information about John Edward's CDs, books and tour: www.hayhouse.com.au.