

The Centre for the History of Medicine

The Centre for the History of Medicine, situated in the Department of History, is a lively, inter-disciplinary community of scholars and students, committed to teaching and research in the area of the history of medicine and public health and its social and cultural contexts.

The Centre was awarded a second Wellcome Trust Strategic Award (£800k for 2008-14) to undertake a programme of research on the theme 'Situating Medicine: New Directions in the History of Medicine', which aims to investigate how the practice of medicine is related to wider intellectual, cultural, social, political and economic trends across a broad historical period and in different local, regional and national contexts.

We aspire to draw on our research to engage with the local community and the public at large with regard to medical, scientific and social concerns in the past and present, and to do so in creative and innovative ways.

Find out more about CHM's engagement work:

www.go.warwick.ac.uk/chm/outreach

Talking Birds

Since 1992 Talking Birds has been producing thoughtful, playful, resonant, mischievous and transformative meditations on people and place.

Our work, which we call Theatre of Place, is characterised by a distinctive blend of humour, music and visual flair in venues both conventional and unconventional across the UK and internationally – from the Queen Elizabeth Hall on the South Bank, to Kilkenny Livestock Mart; from a cavernous underground car park in Scarborough, to a decommissioned hospital in Coventry, to a giant aluminium whale which swallows up audiences one at a time.

Often our work is made collaboratively, connecting people and place in richly imaginative moments of identification and insight. Our projects invite people to explore a particular place of interest in a mediated way; weaving together its stories – real and imagined – to make accessible these neglected or forgotten spaces and stories, and encourage people to examine them in a new light.

www.talkingbirds.co.uk

[@birdmail](https://twitter.com/birdmail) [#tradeinlunacy](https://twitter.com/tradeinlunacy)

Talking Birds in association with the Centre for the History of Medicine presents

Trade in Lunacy

*Cure, containment, corruption:
a theatrical examination of 18th century private asylums*

shop front
theatre
39 city arcade

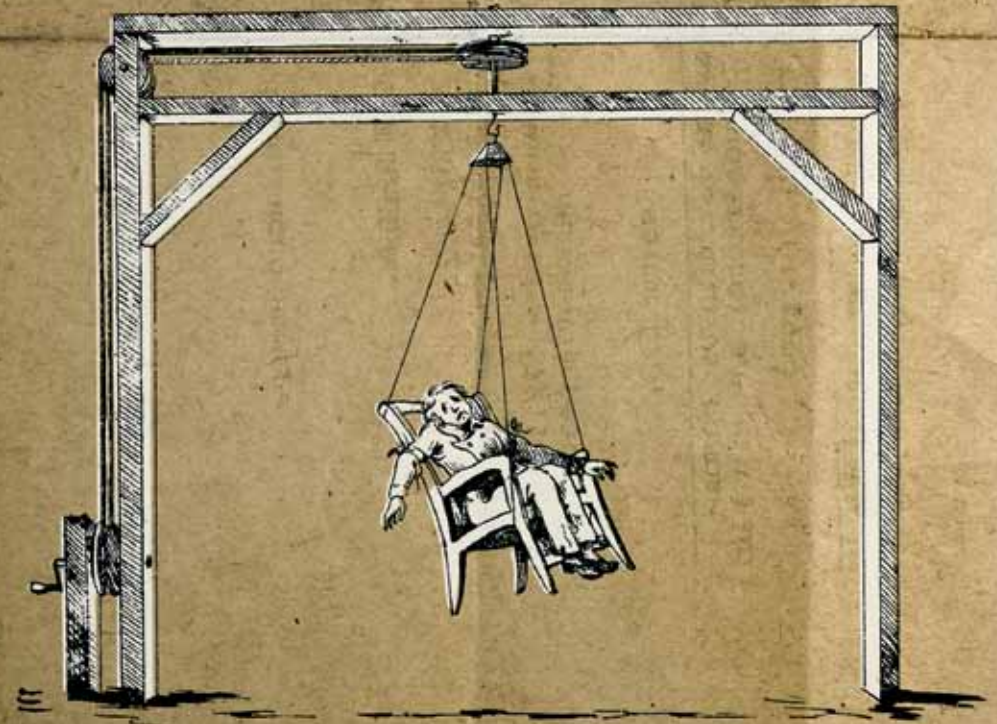


Image courtesy of Wellcome Library, London

Commissioned by Warwick Centre for the History of Medicine and Talking Birds.
Supported by Arts Council England and The Wellcome Trust.

*Welcome to an exciting new collaboration between
Warwick Centre for the History of Medicine (CHM) and Talking Birds:*

Trade in Lunacy

Devised by
The Company

Text and Direction
Peter Cann

Design
Janet Vaughan

Music
Derek Nisbet

Performers
Jill Dowse
Jake Oldershaw
Derek Nisbet

Historical consultant
Hilary Marland

Research Assistants
Jenny Crane
Jane Hand
Claire Sewell

Publicity Design
Pixeltrix

With thanks to
Theatre Absolute
Jeremy Longmore
Philippa Cross

Please be advised that this production may contain references to mental health issues and historical practices which may be considered sensitive.

Age guidance – 12 and over.

*Cure, containment, corruption:
a theatrical examination of
18th century private asylums*

A chamber theatre performance inspired by the practices of treating those diagnosed with 'diseases of the mind' in private houses set up by individual entrepreneurs to generate income and enhance claims to cure; this event builds on Hilary Marland's research into the history of mental disorder and its institutions (Warwick CHM).



Image: Wellcome Library, London

Following the 6.30 performance on the Thursday 27 June, an expert panel will discuss care and containment of mental illness in the past, and draw comparisons and connections with present day psychiatry.

Speakers*: Professor Hilary Marland (Warwick CHM); Peter Cann (Freelance Writer and Director); Elizabeth Hardwick (Warwick CHM, Consultant in General Adult Psychiatry); Dr Leonard Smith (University of Birmingham; Historian and Mental Health Social Worker)

*Chaired by Dr Roberta Bivins
(Warwick CHM)*

Professor Hilary Marland's (Founding Director of the Centre for the History of Medicine and convenor of 'Trade in Lunacy') main research interests focus on the social and cultural history of medicine and health, particularly in modern Britain. Her current research project on 'Madness, Migration and the Irish in Lancashire, c.1850-1921' (Wellcome Trust Funded) and earlier work on childbirth and insanity informs this intriguing insight into the 'private asylum'.

*Disclaimer - the attendance of panellists is subject to their availability, and this programme may therefore be subject to change.