

Star Tribune



Heal heal rock 'n' roll!

Music doesn't get much more personal or purposeful than it does for songwriter **Diedrich Weiss**, a former Bloomington Kennedy High School state hockey champ and member of the alt-rock band Push on Junior, who has struggled for decades with mental illness. Weiss bounced back from a suicide attempt 15 years ago with music as a crutch, and now he dedicates money from CDs to mental-illness organizations and performs for patients at Fairview Southdale's psych ward and other hospitals.

One sweet footnote to his story is his music is pretty damn compelling, with traces of Richard Thompson and Jeff Buckley and an obviously deep emotional well in his solo acoustic songs. He's performing a public concert titled "Public Songs for Private Use: A Celebration of Transformation" at the Jungle Theater on Saturday (7:30 p.m., \$10, 2951 Lyndale Av. S., Mpls.).