

Issues 51 through 60..

Magic Roadshow

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Street Magic's #1 free newsletter for magicians, street performers, restaurant workers, close-up artists, and mentalists, with subscribers in over sixty countries worldwide.



Hello All..

Welcome to another issue of Magic Roadshow. I'm glad you've taken the time to share a part of your day with me.

First, many thanks to all the new subscribers who have signed up since the last issue. You are responsible for keeping things going around here... I don't know where all of you found the Magic Roadshow, but you're doing so at a daily double-digit rate.

Never hesitate to EMAIL ME, with any special request, rants, raves, or remarks. I WILL answer, unless you're wanting Criss Angels cell phone number or personal email address. I promise you- I don't have it.

THANKS to all of you who purchased memberships to CardSleights. I have received one favorable comment after another during the past two weeks. I've also sent out a bunch of complementary copies of EASY MENTALISM, the ebook, to subscribers who signed up at CardSleights. If you bought a copy of Astounding Secrets -or- signed up for CardSleights, and didn't receive a free ebook, let me know please..

There's about 1200 of you guys who haven't positioned yourself on my Magic Roadshow Readers map. It's free, and it gives me a chance to see where my readers are located. Post your picture IF you want to...
<http://www.frapppr.com/magicroadshow>

I have syndicated all the new posts to my blog, Magic Bullets from the Magic Roadshow. Now, you can go to this link, enter your email address and click 'subscribe', and you will receive an email with my complete post whenever I publish a new article to the blog.. It's simple, there's No Spamming, and you can unsubscribe from the feed at any time. All subscriptions are handled thru Feedblitz, and remember, you WILL NOT receive any emails from Feedblitz, or anyone else, other than the new post themselves.
<http://www.feedblitz.com/f/?Sub=70161>

I started back to work two weeks ago, after four and a half months of rest and rehab. I didn't realize how good a shape I must have been in before my accident.. because I can't hold a candle to what I used to do work-wise. Many THANKS to all of you who wrote me regularly to inquire and offer your encouragement. It really meant a lot to me...

In This Issue

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Erdnases' Expert at the Card Table - Download

the next room or a taxi dispatcher. I usually request a corded mike. I also prefer a handheld mike over a lavalier. You have more flexibility in how you use your voice with a handheld mike. When you speak softly or turn your head, the handheld mike gives you better sound because you can position it exactly where you need it.

3. With a lavalier microphone, attach it where nothing will rub on it, either clothing or jewelry. Experiment with the perfect place to hook it up for optimum sound. Wear clothing which will accommodate a clip-on power pack. Be careful wearing a lavalier mike when holding something close to the body or hugging someone. It can create a megaphone effect and give you feedback. Also, don't wear it to the men's room or ladies room while it's turned on!

4. With a handheld microphone, practice speaking and holding a mike at the same time. Learn to naturally transfer it from one hand to the other. It normally looks best to grip the mike with the whole hand and not with just the fingers. And for most mikes, hold it near the top of the mike and not at the bottom where the antenna is often located. If a mike cuts in and out, you may be holding it too close to the bottom and blocking the signal.

5. With either type of mike, learn where the on/off switch is. If there is a power switch or a standby switch, find out how they work. Know how to work the switches without looking at them or in the dark. If there is a battery, start your talk with a new battery and have a spare one handy. Know how to replace it.

6. Do a live test of the mike before the program. Have an assistant walk the room to check the volume setting. Look for feedback spots. These are usually under and in front of speakers. Avoid these areas during your talk or performance.

7. Before you are introduced, watch the speakers who are on the program before you. How well is their microphone projecting? Is there something you could learn from their handling of the mike?

8. When it's time for you to take the platform: You've already tested the mike. Don't tap on it. Don't blow into it. Don't say, "Is this thing on?" Or, "Can you hear me?" Just start talking. If you've done your preparation right, it'll be working just fine. If not, you'll know soon enough. It's a good idea to have a room monitor who can watch for things which aren't just right and who knows how to fix the situation.

9. When using a microphone, energize your voice. That means to speak normally but with energy. Don't speak into the mike, speak past it. Let the microphone overhear your conversation. Speaking into the mike often causes your Ps to "pop" in the mike.

10. If you get feedback during your talk, try reversing whatever physical action you were doing just before the feedback started. For example if you were moving forward and then you started to get feedback...move backward. The feedback will usually stop. In addition to feedback caused by a nearby speaker, you can also get interference if there is another live microphone in the room. The unused mike should be turned off.

11. If you are using a microphone which is in a fixed position, perhaps on a mike stand or attached to a lectern, imagine that you're attached with a string between your nose and the mike. If you're going to look to the right while speaking, rather than turn your head to the right, you need to first move your body to the left since you're tethered with an imaginary string to your microphone. This gimmick keeps the microphone in front of you at all times.

12. If you are using a microphone stand which needs to be adjusted for height, have someone adjust it for the proper level before you are introduced. Practice adjusting the stand ahead of time, just in case you need to do it in front of the audience. If you're not careful, some stands can separate into two parts! Once you start speaking, it's a nice touch to remove the mike from the stand so you can walk around. Place the stand behind you so it isn't between you and the audience. As you wrap up your talk, move the stand back in front of you, and replace the mike before you say your final words. You'll look like a pro.

13. When using a mike fixed on a gooseneck attachment, if you're going to move the mike, do it while you are speaking. The sound of your voice will help cover any squeaking noise resulting from the gooseneck.

14. If you belong to a Toastmasters club or give talks at your workplace where you can practice with a microphone...do it. You want the sound system to become a natural part of you and that comes only with practice.

My friend, John Kinde, of whom I'm very jealous because he gets to live and work in Las Vegas, provides Keynote Programs on humor, teambuilding and customer service. He also presents workshops and coaching on humor, presentation skills, and improv skills for business. John is the author of a

series of audio and video learning tapes. You will find more humor and performance skills articles for speakers, comedians, and magicians at <http://www.HumorPower.com>.

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Put Your Magic Web Site on Top

Now that Google has completed work on their directory, and the public a large has access to literally thousands of magicians web sites worldwide, it's time for you to develop your web site. (if you don't have one already).

Unfortunately, magicians tend to be magicians, and not marketers. Many don't have a clue as to what needs to be a part of their sites. So, they build ONE site to cover it all.

One site.. magician, childrens performer, balloon artist, mentalist, corporate performer, anything and everything tossed together on one site. This. ladies and gentlemen, is where magicians and successful marketers part ways - almost from the beginning.

The web is about information. Not any information, but 'specific' information. And that information has to compete against other similar information for the surfers interest.

I'm not going to get into all the specifics of creating a web site. It could take volumns. But I am going to get into the specifics of the DETAILS of marketing yourself on your web site.

People want information, and they want relevancy. If I'm looking for a doctor to surgically repair my tunnel carpel, then I'm going to a surgeon who specializes in wrist surgery. I'm NOT going to a general practioner, or a plastic surgeon. I want someone who 'specializes' in servicing patients with needs similar to mine.

Business men and women are often faced with the same situations. They need someone to perform a hour of walk-around at a company event, or they need someone to entertain children with magic or balloon art at a

company picnic. Money is NOT the primary concern, a GOOD performance that will make the EVENT PLANNER look competent IS the primary concern.

Go back and read that last sentence again.

The Planner, put in charge of finding a magician for a corporate gathering of sales reps from around the South, goes on the internet and enters 'magician south carolina'. Among the results are listings like this:

"One man show, featuring, magic, clowning, stilt walking, wizard, story teller, master of ceremonies. Long time magician. Your event, party, trade show, fair or festival will be better if you call."

"Corporate Magician _____ performs close-up magic and clean comedy magic shows for corporate and private events and trade shows."

Put yourself in the Planners place. Who do YOU call if you're in charge?

Now, I'm not saying you can't wear the different hats of a wizard, clown, magician, comedian, and public speaker. But instead, you cannot let the client SEE YOU wearing the hat of a half dozen different performers. Psychologically, it has an effect on the Planner, and it's not a good one.

Do yourself a major favor and dump the 'jack of all trades' web site and develop a series of smaller web sites, each showing a different specialty. If you target the keyword 'corporate magician', and develop a web site explaining why you would be the perfect choice for someone looking for a corporate magician, then you have a great big leg-up on your competition, not to mention that your site, zero'ed in on the search term 'corporate magician' WILL rank higher than most of the 'general practioners'..

Now, develop another site for 'childrens magician', another for 'gospel magician', another for 'balloon artist', another for 'motivational speaker'... and on and on..

You can easily develop one site a week. And I'll let you in on a little secret - Google, at least for the time being, is treating sub-domains much the same way as primary domains. In other words, you don't have to buy a domain for each of your services. Go to one of the major domain sellers and get a good, general domain name - like 'yourname.com'. Then, set up a series of sub-domains on your web site. NOT web pages - sub domains..

Your URL should look something like this: www,mentalist.rickcarruth.com, or www,corporatemagician.rickcarruth.com, or

www,extremeballooning.rickcarruth.com., with each url featuring your primary keyword. Then, develop the rest of your site around this keyword, being careful not to use it to extremes, but certainly using it enough so Google knows exactly what your site is about.

Sites with the word 'balloon' or 'mentalists', for example, as part of the domain name WILL be listed ahead of sites with 'magic' as part of the domain name and featuring balloon or mentalists in the text or meta tags of the site.

Google will index these sub-domains just as they would primary domains, treating each one as a separate entity. That's great for you, and your billfold, not to mention your customer base.

Since Google and Yahoo take months to index new sites, the sooner you can get your new sites up, the sooner you can start to benefit from your new-found exposure and marketing techniques.

R.Carruth

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X-RATED

You're going to need two props... an outdated paperback book, and a dried-out felt tip pen. if you don't have an empty one.. you can dry one out by leaving the top off and laying it on the dash board of your car or in a window sill for a couple of days.

Ask your chosen assistant to place the book behind their back and open the book somewhere around the middle. Ask them to fold the first half of the pages under the bottom cover so they will be forced to write on the right-hand page..

Now, ask them to take the marker and make a large "X" on their chosen page.

Once done, have the book closed and layed on a table out of your reach, and ask them to give you the pen... Tell your assistant about your great mental powers and your ability to remotely 'view' events of your choosing..

Personally, I have a small silver carrying case with a notebook inside that I keep on a small table near me. I open the case and take out a notebook. I also secretly dish the dried-out pen, thanks to the cover provided by the lid of the case, and pick up another one exactly like it from inside.. only this one actually writes.

Do this quickly... don't fumble around inside the case (or drawer, or whatever) and give anyone reason to wonder what you're doing in there !

After sufficient build-up, I write a word on my pad and hand the pad to my assistant. I ask them to open the book and find the page on which they marked their X.

I tell them that I want them to look at the point at which the two lines intersect in the middle of the page and read aloud the word. Of course.. it will match the word I wrote on the pad, since I put the X in the book long before the beginning of the trick....

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Double X Rated

You can also do this effect with a pack of cards. Before the effect begins, write a prediction on a piece of paper, fold it up, and give it to your spectator to put in their pocket until the end of the effect. Write another prediction on a second piece of paper and give it to a second spectator to pocket.

Have spec #1 place the cards behind their back, mark the face of a chosen card with an 'X', and return it to the deck. Have spec #2 take the deck, place it behind their back as well, and draw a circle about the size of a fifty cent piece on a chosen card. (Of course, their pen is a dried out marker..)

Instead of predicting a word as above, you have predicted the cards on which they will put the X and the 0 on the little folded notes given to the spectators. Naturally, you have two cards pre-marked with an X and a 0 in the deck, and you have wrote the two cards values on a piece of paper and given it to the spectators to place in their pockets.

Once they are finished marking the cards, ribbon spread the deck showing that only one card has an X and one has a 0 on their face. Remove the cards from the deck, give them to the spectators who marked the cards, have each spectator remove the folded notes from their pockets, and reveal that you have successfully predicted the cards on which they would put their 'mark'.

Another variation is.. before-hand, put an X through both the face and back of the same card. Have your assistant shuffle the deck, put it behind their back, and put an X on the face of any one card. Shuffle the deck. Put the deck behind their back again, and put an X on the back of any chosen card.

Have them shuffle the cards and lay the deck on your table. Have them look through the deck and find the card with the X on the back. They will be perplexed to discover that the same card is also the only card in the deck with an X on the face as well !

Using the dried marker and pre-marked cards, you can get as sophisticated as you want. You can get really creative with this simple, but powerful, technique.

R.Carruth

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Brother to Brother

Here's a little card magic I developed several years ago, inspired by the CD "Van Zant". Recorded in 1998 by Johnny and Donnie Van Zant, brothers of Lynyrd Skynyrd's former lead singer Ronnie. One of the tracks "Bother to Brother", was about the close relationship shared by brothers...

This is a good little impromptu effect that can be performed anytime, anywhere, without any setup.

Have two spectators each select a card at random from anywhere in the deck. Instead of holding the deck, give them the deck and give them a totally free choice of any card to convince them that there is no forcing whatsoever.

Once the cards are selected, have the deck returned to you. Then, casually cut the deck about the center and ask each spec to place their chosen card on top of the bottom half. Replace the top half, catching a pinkie break, then cut the deck bring the two chosen cards to the top of the deck.

Once done, shuffle the deck several times, keeping the two chosen cards on top of the deck. Perform one last shuffle, allowing all the cards to interlock, including the top two. Visually make sure the two top cards interlock smoothly. At this point, the two chosen cards should be either the first and third cards on top, or the second and forth cards on top.

If you have an extra card or two on top, and the chosen cards happen to be, say, third and fifth.. simply show the top card (or two) and say "this isn't your card is it?", and casually stick them in the middle of the deck to get the two chosen cards into the proper position..

Give the deck to one of the spectators and ask them to deal the cards into two piles alternating the deal between the stacks. Once several cards have been alternately dealt tell the dealer that he can stop any time he chooses.

Since cards one and three are the bottom two cards in one pile, and cards two and four are the bottom two cards in the other pile.. you know which pile contains your target cards.

Now.. ask the other spec to "pick a stack". If they choose your target stack, good.. Ask them to put the other stack back on the deck. If they choose the other stack, say " good choice ", and ask them to gather that stack and put it back on the deck (magicians choice) . Either way.. you are left with only your target stack on the table.

Ask one of the specs to deal the stacks into two stack, just as they did earlier, until all the cards are dealt. At this point, since your two target cards were the bottom two on the stack, they will now be the top card on each stack. This may sound complicated, but it is completely self-working.

Ask spec one to touch a stack, and ask spec two to touch a stack. Remind them of the processes you have gone through, including the shuffling and dividing into two stacks. Then the elimination of one stack.

Now, ask them to name their cards aloud. After they do.. have them turn the top two cards over to reveal the two chosen cards. Fifty percent of the time, they will have overturned their own card. This will add to the mystery.

The fifty percent of the time they pick the other specs card, smile and remind them of the name of the trick .." Brother to Brother ", and compliment them on helping their 'Brother' find their chosen card. This will make it appear as if finding the other specs card was intended all along..

R.Carruth

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The Real Work on Restaurants and Bars

I just got this DVD in the mail yesterday. I bought it, paid for it out of my pocket, didn't ask for a review copy - or any of that nonsense. After all, if you believe in a product, you have to put your money where your mouth is..

As my father used to tell me, and no finer words have been uttered.. " Talks cheap.."

I will review this DVD.. in time. But I ordered it because I've already heard the 'inside' story. One well known magician who has this product told me, straight up, that someone could literally develop an entire repertoire from the 15 tricks featured on this two hour DVD. To quote from the web site:

Over the past 20 years Jay has held contracts as the "house magician" at over a dozen different restaurants and bars. Now on this very special DVD Jay shares with you the real work on both the art and the business of making a very good living performing in these exciting venues.

Jay also teaches you 15 of his all-time favorite restaurant and bar effects, many of which he is sharing for the very first time. Learn incredibly commercial magic and mentalism with playing cards, coins, bottle caps, creamers, sugar packets, crayons, drinking straws, wine corks and business cards!

To make this DVD even MORE valuable, Jay also shares with you the real work on approaching tables, choosing routines, selling yourself to management, restaurants vs. bars, inspiring tips, openers and closers, being a team player, scripting effects, performing for "regulars" and a great deal more!

With 15 outstanding routines and over 2 hours of priceless information learned over hundreds of nights of real-world performing, this DVD truly is THE REAL WORK ON RESTAURANTS AND BARS.

Watch the video...

<http://www.ellusionist.com/cart/?aid=1086>

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What to Do?

I have a problem and I need your input. The Magic Roadshow is going on a diet. After publishing fifty issues with an average of eight resources in each issue, the problem is this.. That's a total of about 400 resources I've pointed you toward, and I'm running out of resources !

Magic on the web is NOT growing at the rate I'm publishing links...

So, starting next issue, I will publish articles and effects as usual, but, there will only be about two new resource sites in each issue and a past resource from the archives. This is STILL more than you get in any other newsletter, but I'm going to have to pace my resources a little better in the future.

Let me know what YOU think, and please send links to any valuable sites you've found. Keep in mind also that I will be glad for any of you to send in original articles related to magic. .. EMAIL ME ..

Rick C.

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Magi-Que 2006

Barron and Athena Stringfellow are presenting their annual three day Magi-Que Friday August 25th from Noon thru Sunday August 27th in Horton, Kansas. Bring The Kids/Parents...Bring A Tent...Bring A Side Dish!!!

Barron and Athena are even providing the ribs..

It's A FREE Magical Get Together! It's a Magic Swap & Sell Meet, A Bar-B-Que and It's Magic Shows ALL Combined! If you are Swapping or Selling, Please bring a Table.

Barron's Magi-Que is not associated with any magic organization and welcomes everyone with an interest in magic.

If you are interested or simply want more info, Barron has put together a pdf file and would be glad to send you what information you need if you contact him at:

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Horton, Kansas 66439
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Fax : (785) 486-3724

E-MAIL: barronofmagic@yahoo.com

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Magic Trick Reviews

How often have you bought a dud..? I mean a really sorry trick that is only barely legal under the 'truth in advertising' clause. I know I have.. and nothing sets me off more than getting hoodoo'd.

Magic Trick Reviews is a new site, set up to help direct users toward tricks that are actually worth the price... to quote their site...

"We review the most popular magic tricks as well as great tricks that have been overlooked by most people. There are several dominant magic sites on the internet, and for the most part, they are dominant because they offer

great values for the money. But there are also smaller, lesser known sites that offer private and little known tricks that can absolutely bring your audience to its feet. We cover both ends of this spectrum.

For the most part, our reviews focus on close-up, street magic. While the large stage illusions are spectacular in their effects, they are also spectacular in their cost and set-up time. There is something very special about close-up magic that fascinates both young and old. "

I'm sure more and more effects will be added as the weeks progress. Be sure to visit.

<http://www.magictrickreviews.com/>

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The Amazing Joe Joe

JoeJoe is a true street magic professional... one of those guys who actually makes a living performing on the streets. It's not a wish, or a sideline.. it's his vocation.

Having traveled well over twenty thousands miles from coast to coast, performing in towns and cities all along the way, JoeJoe is the consummate pro who works day in and day out, rain or shine.

I'm not going to call JoeJoe a 'DeadHead', but he has performed at over one hundred Grateful Dead concerts through the years.

I first met JoeJoe several years ago working at one of the magic shops in Myrtle Beach, S.C. Since, I've met him at the SCAM convention in Columbia S.C., and again at the Barefoot Landing shopping complex in Myrtle Beach last summer.

Barefoot Landing is a wonderful complex of shops and restaurants literally built on a boardwalk type structure over a costal marsh. Made to resemble an old fashioned fishing village, thousands and thousand of visitors flock there daily for the combination of shopping, dining, and entertainment.. (Dick's Last Resort, Crab House, Damon's, House of Blues.. among others)

For the last four years JoeJoe has had his own 'spot' at Barefoot Landing and entertained visitors from around the country. Monday thru Friday at seven and eleven, JoeJoe performs a unique form of street magic that includes illusions, something that's VERY difficult to pull off up close.

Maybe you can't get to Myrtle Beach this summer to watch JoeJoe work, but that's no excuse...

He has his own blog, which is one of the few magic blogs I read regularly, detailing the daily struggles and victories of performing both FOR the public and IN the public. JoeJoe has numerous photos and videos on his site to give you an idea of what street magic is all about..

To quote from his blog about the level of 'talent' on "America's Got Talent"....

Watch this show and you will see that the established entertainment world has absolutely no understanding of "talent" what-so-ever. Just look at the rift between the judges and the audience ... David Snapplehoff even asked the audience "are you watching the same thing I am?". He can't even imagine how a person would be entertained by someone juggling - because he is looking for 'entertainment' ... not talent.....

I remember about 10 years ago I auditioned for the "One" show at the Alabama Theater. They called me last ... these idiots actually started breaking down the video equipment as I started my audition! I was pleasantly pleased that after the first minute they were impressed enough to stop me, set the cameras back up, and have me start over so the producers would be able to see the tape.

That's because my act is good - solid and tight. You have to be good to street perform. Make no mistake about it - when people go to the Palace Theater, they will sit in their seats the entire time. It doesn't matter how bad the performer is, they will politely clap no matter what happens. I don't have that luxury! If I am not funny, people will walk away. If I do not deliver the goods, my bills will not get paid. If I do not entertain, my career is over.

If you can't go in-person, then take a virtual trip to Barefoot Landing and visit with JoeJoe..

<http://www.joejoeonline.com/blogger/>

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Erdnases' Expert at the Card Table - Download

You can download your free version of Erdnases' classic ebook at this link..

<http://www.301url.com/erdnase>

If you have a problem, let me know and I will send you the ebook as an attachment

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THE RUBBER EGG

Soak a raw egg in a cup filled with vinegar for at least twenty- four hours. Turn it over once or twice so that the entire egg is evenly soaked. It will feel like rubber and will actually bounce when dropped a short distance.

Drop it too far though and it will break. After your friends feel it and declare it to be a fake egg, cut it open to reveal the yolk and white inside.

From the eBook.. ASTOUNDING SECRETS

Editors note..

I once saw a guy prepare an egg this way.. After gathering a crowd, he put the egg on top of a glass beer bottle and pressed the egg firmly enough to create an air tight seal inside the bottle. Then, he took a cigarette lighter, lit it and put it under the bottle. As the inside of the bottle warmed, the egg was literally 'sucked' into the bottle. Everyone insisted that it wasn't a real egg, so he got a pencil and punctured the egg inside the bottle, breaking it open to reveal the white and yoke. ;-)

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That's all for now.. but I'll be back soon enough..!

If you know of any magic related resources on the web, share it with me so I can share it with others..

Again, If I can help you with your magic, Email Me

Remember to visit some of my other sites at:

<http://www.StreetMagic.info>

<http://www.MagicRoadshow.com>

<http://www.Mentalists.info>

<http://www.StreetMagicSecrets.info>

<http://www.BellaOnline.com/site/shareware>

<http://www.StreetMagic.info/blogger.html>

And if you have a web site, visit my latest blog at:

<http://www.AdSenseSecrets101.blogspot.com>

May my next issue find you well...

Rick Carruth... editor/publisher

Magic Roadshow

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Street Magic's #1 free newsletter for magicians, street performers, restaurant workers, close-up artists, and mentalists, with subscribers in over sixty countries worldwide.



Hello All...

Welcome to another special issue of Magic Roadshow, magic's premier free newsletter. First, I want to thank all the new subscribers who have taken time to sign up for our newsletter. I hope you find something useful in every issue!

If you have any questions or comments Email Me..

My apologies for not getting this issue out 'quite' on time. I like to stick to my schedule, it keeps me honest. I have a gazillion distractions at the moment, and I'm trying to remain focused on everything. I've accepted a position as an operations manager with a national company specializing in pharmaceutical deliveries. The demands on my time at the moment are extreme, as they have sent a manager from New Orleans to work with me until I can get things up and running. If you don't get an immediate answer to an email, I'm NOT ignoring you, it's just that my mind has not caught up to my body, or vice versa..

THANKS again to all of you who purchased memberships to CardSleights. I continue to receive very favorable comments about the site and it's voluminous content. I will continue to send out complementary copies of EASY MENTALISM, the ebook, to subscribers who signed up at CardSleights.

If you bought a copy of Astounding Secrets -or- signed up for CardSleights, and didn't receive a free ebook, let me know please.. I'll continue to send free ebooks out to all who sign up..

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Si Who? (Will H. Coffrin)

Many magicians are familiar with the Si Stebbins Stack, which is a cyclic method of stacking a deck of cards. Although there are many different types of stacks available, Stebbins stack has established itself as the most popular of all stacks based on its ease of use and actual use by so many magicians.

For those of you who have never used a stacked deck, you're missing out on one of magics greatest secrets. Simon Aronson, for example, has long baffled other magicians with his use of both stacked decks and memorized decks, (which is highlighted in an article following this one.)

The number of tricks you can perform with either a stacked deck or a memorized deck are mind boggling. Alain Nu loves to ask an audience member to name a card, and another to name a number from one to fifty two. He then counts down to that number in a deck to reveal the named card.

From Ellis and Websters highly popular Magic Fakers(
http://www.magicunlimited.com/your_say.htm) web site comes a comment from Doug Dymont ...

"Si Stebbins did not invent the Si Stebbins System; he just popularized it. He first did so in 1896 under the name of Wm. Vino, and again in 1898 under his own name. Howard Thurston published the same system in 1901, calling it "The Thurston System". In Stebbins' book, an increment of three is used, but in real life, he himself was using an increment of four. The "increment of three" version predates Stebbins by many years, though, having first been published by Gaspar Cardozo de Sequeira in his "Thesouro de Prudentes" (Portugal, 1612).

This was long believed to be the first such approach to a full deck stack. Recently, though, it was discovered that the oldest source (which turns out to be an "increment of four") is a book called "Giochi de Carte" by Horacio Galasso, published in Venice in 1593!"

From J P Jacquard's Easy Mentalism, is this straight-forward effect using a Stebbins stack.

I'll Name that Card in One..

You produce a normal deck of playing cards and ask a spectator to cut the deck anywhere they like. They remove the card they've cut to without letting you see it and concentrate on its design. After a few moments concentration, you announce the exact card they've chosen. You have read their mind!

You'll need a normal deck of cards but you need to arrange them in a special order. Mentalists refer to this as a stacked deck. One of the easiest methods of stacking a deck is the Si Stebbins system. In this system, each card has a value; a jack is valued 11, a queen 12 and a king 13. All the other cards take their respective value, with an ace valued 1. The suits are also arranged in the order clubs, hearts, spades, diamonds. The easiest way to remember this is by the word 'chased':

Clubs Hearts Spades Diamonds.

Start with any club, then for the next card in the stack add 3 to its value and make it a heart. For the next card, add 3 again and make it a spade. For the next card, add 3 again and make it a diamond.

When you're adding 3 to 11, 12 or 13, subtract 13 to get the value of the next card. The system repeats like this until the whole deck is stacked.

For instance, if you started with the 3 of clubs (3C), the stacked order would be:

3C, 6H, 9S, QD, 2C, 5H, 8S and so on.

Place the cards face up as you stack them. When displaying the deck to your spectator, make sure you fan them and let them see the faces. Don't make a point of this – just fan them as you say "normal deck of cards". Whatever you do, don't say "As you can see, they're in no particular order!"

Statements like this should be implied non-verbally. This is important later on, if the spectator tries to 'reconstruct' the trick and work out how it was done. If they can remember you casually spreading the cards, they'll discount any theories about the deck being in a special order or perhaps all the same card.

Put the stacked deck face down on the table and invite a spectator to cut the deck anywhere they like. Get them to place the top half of the deck face down next to the bottom half. Invite them to take the top card from the bottom deck and keep it secret. Pick up the bottom half of the deck, place it on the top half and then pick up the whole deck.

You now need to glance at the bottom card on the deck and there are a couple of ways of doing this.

You can either put the cards back into their box, casually glancing at the bottom card as you do so.

Better still, hold the deck in front of you, as if demonstrating to the spectator how to hold their card.

Either method will need a simple verbal misdirection such as "Now hold your card up, still keeping it secret and concentrate on the design." As they concentrate, ask them to look into your eyes. Pretend you are looking for subtle psychological clues as to the value of their card. Look at micro-movements in their facial muscles also. All you need to do to name their card is work out the next one in the sequence.

So if the bottom card was the ace of hearts, their card is the four of spades. Rather than just simply naming their card, increase the drama and effect of mind-reading by revealing it bit by bit. The color first, then whether it is a low, high or picture card.

Then name the card in full. To really play with the system, you can subtly suggest that you are about to read the wrong card. For instance, if the spectator's card is the nine of clubs, you might reveal it in the following way:

"OK, its a black card, yes?" Look for visual confirmation.

"I'm getting an 'i' ... 'i' ... five ... a five? No, sounds like five – its a nine, yes?"

"Definitely not a spade so it must be the nine of clubs!"

Another method of revealing the chosen card is to draw it on a notepad. Keep your drawing hidden, then invite the spectator to turn around their card and announce the design. You can then flip over your notepad, revealing the same design.

This is a terrific routine and with a little thought, the Si Stebbins stack can be used for many other mind reading effects. What's more, the stack is instantly ready to use again simply by putting the spectator's chosen card on top of the deck face down.

After revealing these first two effects, I want to address something you might be feeling...

Disappointment.

If you're disappointed to discover you're not divining the chosen card by reading body language or subtle facial expressions, get used to it! This is the way all mind reading illusions work.

If it were genuinely possible to read a person's innermost thoughts, feelings or memories in that way, then the performer would be decades ahead of the greatest psychologists in the field. It is all an illusion. You need to sell the idea to your audience and volunteers through your performance.

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Memories are Made of This
Simon Aronson

Here's a nice pdf, published by Simon, detailing his method of memorizing a deck of cards. Without going into the specifics, I will tell you that it is extremely do-able for the average magician. Despite the fact that many magicians protest memorizing a deck as being time consuming or too difficult, doing so can open a world of card magic, performing a variety of card tricks, unattainable via any other method.

As the ebook is Simon's property, I'm not going to actually 'give' it to you, but instead direct you to his web site where you can download the pdf file in his magicians section..

<http://www.simonaronson.com>

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Doug Dyments "Introduction to Full-Deck Stacks"

Read Doug's excellent essay breaking down the two different primary stacks. The 'sequential stack', representative of Si Stebbins stack, and the 'memorized deck', as featured in the work of Simon Aronson, among others.

Doug also explains in detail the difference between rote memory, mnemonics, rule-based, and algorithmic memorized decks, and offers a comparison chart detailing the ease or difficulty of each method.

To get a real grasp on this 'stacked deck thing', go to Deceptionay and read Doug's essay..

<http://www.deceptionary.com/aboutstacks.html>

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Holey Ambition
Courtesy of David Forrest.

Effect: A signed card continually rises to the top of the deck. For a finale, the card is left outjogged in a small packet and the rest of the deck is placed inside the card case. The case is placed on top of the small packet and the performer draws attention to a hole cut in the front of the case. With a snap of the fingers the signed card appears on top of the deck, everyone* gets to see it arrive through the hole in the case! A very visual final phase for any ambitious card routine!

You will receive two detailed PDF's with instruction on how to make the simple gimmicks and teaching the required handling.

David is giving this valuable info away to draw attention to his other magic available through Full52 Productions. Visit the url below to both download the magic and watch a video performance of 'Holey Ambition..'

http://www.full52.com./Hol_Amb.htm

(from issue# 23 of the Magic Roadshow)

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The Real Work on Restaurants and Bars

Over the past 20 years, jay Sankey has held long-term contracts as the "house magician" in over a dozen different restaurants and bars. Now, on "the Real Work on Restaurants and Bars" Jay shares with you the REAL WORK on both the art and the business of making a very good living performing in these exciting venues..

Aside from some very original magic, Jay shares his ideas on aproaching tables, choosing routines, selling yourself to management, restaurants vs. bars, inspiring tips, openers and closers, scripting effects, and a great deal more..

With 15 great routines and over two hours of priceless information learned the hard way, this dvd truly is the REAL WORK..

Check it out... I did

<http://ellusionist.com/cart/?aid=1086>

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John, Bob, Edward, Claude, and Ricky - The Best Line-up Ever?

It's your birthday... OK, maybe it's not your birthday.. but play along with me. I'm planning a surprise party for you down at the local inn. Your family will be there, a few of your closest co-workers will be there, and maybe even a couple of magicians from your local assembly, although I've not asked them to perform.

I am providing the entertainment, and what an entertaining night it will be. I've invited five of my 'friends' to perform, although a couple will be there in spirit only.

The line-up would put ANY convention to shame. John G. Boyce will open the entertainment with an amazing display of card magic. In rapid succession, Bob Gurtler Jr. and then Edward Doe will take the stage with their respective styles of magic and mystery. Claude Yarbrough will perform with his beautiful wife, and then Ricky Potash will bring you back to earth with a mesmerizing lecture and performance.

John, Bob, Edward, Claude, and Ricky? Who are these guys?

I'll tell you this; you would instantly recognize any and all of these legends if you knew their REAL names. Some of you may even recognize these performers by their stage names.

Visit [Magictricks.com](http://www.magictricks.com) library of real names to discover the 'real names' of many of magic's top performers.

<http://www.magictricks.com/library/realname.htm>

No... I'm not going to leave you in the cold as to John, Bob, Edward, Claude, and Ricky. What if YOUR birthday celebration included the following:

Andre Kole - Bob Gurtler Jr.
Al Koran - Edward Doe
Jonathan Pendragon - Claude Yarbrough
Jean Hugard - John G. Boyce
Ricky Jay - Ricky Potash

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David Blaine Secrets

I know every magician in the world has a copy of David Blaine's Magic Secrets. Huh? YOU don't have a copy? Where you been the last three years? Do you believe they're STILL selling this on eBay?

Every magician in the world knows all David's secrets.

I don't actually have this ebook on my site anymore. At one time I had a little web site selling this ebook, and if you entered "David Blaine Secrets Revealed" in Google, I had one of the top three sites. I sold the dickens out of this book.

Then, it bacame passe' to sell this ebook, so I took it down...

Looking at it now, I actually see three effects that I have used regularly through the years.. The arm twisting routing, the two card monte, and Voodoo ash... You can download the pdf version freely at web sites around the world. But, just in case you've been in a darkened cave for the last three years.. here you go..

http://www.freeinfosociety.com/pdfs/misc/david_blaines_magic_revealed.pdf

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The Encyclopedia of Card Shooting

Holland's Marc van Venrooij has put together an excellent site on the art of card shooting. Many magicians, including David Blaine, Greg Wilson, and Lennart Green, use card shooting to add a nice flourish to their effects. When visiting Marc's site, look under some of the pictures to find links to video's displaying the different techniques being described. In Marc's words...

"After reading dozens of books, I saw Gregory Wilson on one of his great tapes (my favourite Magician together with Lennart Green) performing a card shooting routine. Gregory Wilson is one of the few magicians I know, who realy performs cardshooting tricks. Watch his video "Card Stunts" and you will be an addict soon. Together with all the information from books,

videotapes and practice, I found other methods and variations myself for shooting a card."

"I do not claim that I invented the moves but I didn't find them somewhere else yet, so I hope that I'm original. Some techniques are inspired by moves of other magicians like Lennart Greens flourish Z-cut which is a great start to shoot a card out of the deck. Finally I want to point out that these methods are not tricks and are not a basis for a card trick act. They are just flourishes to support a trick. Moves like these are often considered as "showing off" parts of magic."

Go to Marc's site and master the art of card shooting... I did (sort of..)

<http://www.homepage.mac.com/marcvv/master.html>

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T.A. Hamilton Productions Trick of the Month

I've held onto this link for months. Sometimes I run across a site that I feel, in the larger scheme of things, will be worth more to me somewhere down the road. Maybe I can adapt a trick or two and publish them in the Roadshow. Maybe I can write an article based around something I read on the site. Or, maybe I can just 'put it out there' and let you determine it's worth.

Any way I look at it, Mr. Hamilton's site features 12 strong effects, each of which you could add to your repertoire with pride. Some are original, others are works inspired by well known magicians. But, unlike typical sites, you can tell that thought and effort have gone into selecting these card tricks.

See what you think..

http://www.tahamilton.com/11_Museum_of_the_Weird/trick_of_the_month_menu.htm

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Marked Cards: The Gamblers' Crimp

This from Arnold Snyder's Blackjack Forum Online:

"Marked cards have been part of blackjack and poker since the beginning of the games. Crimping is one of the oldest ways of marking cards. To avoid being ripped off in a marked card scam in a casino or poker game, read this article to learn how card cheats mark cards, how to detect marked cards, and how marked cards scams work in blackjack and poker games today."

Have a good look at different methods used by cheat's to mark cards. With the wild popularity of poker, Texas hold-em, and online gambling, this is a good thing to know.

As a magician, marking cards are very valuable to us as well... just for a different reason..

<http://www.blackjackforumonline.com/content/crimp.htm>

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Are you TIRED of being Number#2 ?

Are you TIRED of hearing how much so-and-so makes each week ?

Do you need someone to show you EXACTLY how to perform many of the TOP effects being used by the TOP street magic, close-up, and restaurant workers in the country?

Are you ready to earn your 'PhD' in Magic ?

Read On.. <http://www.301url.com/ellusionist>

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Expert at the Card Table - Download link..

For all of you who are new subscribers, here's the link to download your free copy of Expert at the Card Table. It's in a zip file and can be easily downloaded to your desktop - or wherever you chose..

If you encounter any problems with the download email me and let me know.. I'll send it to you via email ..as an attachment.

<http://www.301url.com/erdnase>

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Where's Your Sense of Humor

Did you hear about the magician who spent half a day trying to throw a yoyo away?

Did you hear about the magician who walked into target... and missed?

Q: How do you get the magician off of your doorstep ? A: Pay for the pizza.

Q: What is the difference between a magician and a large pepperoni pizza ?
A: The pizza can feed a family of four.

Q: What is the difference between a magician and a trampoline ?
A: You take your shoes off to jump on a trampoline.

When I was eight years old, I told my mom, "I want to be a magician when I grow up !"
She just looked at me and said, "Make up your mind, son, you know you can't do both."

Q: What is the difference between a savings bond and a magician ?
A: One of them eventually matures and makes some money.

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Email Me with your request, rants, and raves. I love to hear from you, just to know that my newsletter is making it to it's intended destinations.

If you have a suggestion for a resource, let me know what you've found. And, if you have a magic related article, send it to me (no attachments please) and let's see if we can't send your ideas to readers around the world. If it needs a little editing for spelling or because english isn't your given language, don't worry... I'll take care of that...

Forward this newsletter on to others, if you have friends you think may be interested. I enjoy watching my subscriber count rise each issue.

Street Magic Blog... <http://www.streetmagic.info/blogger.html>
Street Magic Bullets.... <http://www.streetmagic.info>
Magic Roadshow..... <http://www.magicroadshow.com>

May my next issue find you well...

Rick Carruth / editor-publisher

Magic Roadshow

August 15th, 2006 Issue# 53

Rick Carruth editor/publisher (C) 2006 All Rights Reserved

Street Magic's #1 free newsletter for magicians, street performers, restaurant workers, close-up artists, and mentalists, with subscribers in over sixty three countries worldwide.



Hello All

Welcome to another issue of Magic Roadshow. Since you guys have been subscribing in droves, I must first thank each of you for taking your time to visit with us.. I hope you enjoy the Roadshow enough that you will tell your friends.

My time has been stretched thin the past couple of weeks, but putting this issue together was a breeze. I ran across several great resources early in my search, and the rest was downhill.

I want to thank Kirsten Anderberg and Carson Kahn for their contributions to this issue. Everything goes so much smoother when others do my work ;-)

I would like to hear from you... good or bad. EMAIL ME anytime..

THANKS again to all of you who purchased memberships to CardSleights. I continue to receive very favorable comments about the site and it's voluminous content. I will continue to send out complementary copies of EASY MENTALISM, the ebook, to subscribers who signed up at CardSleights.

If you are reading this issue online and would like to subscribe free... Click Here

** The percentage of readers who have 'tagged' themselves on my Frappr map has reached about one in fifteen, as of Aug. the 14th...

Remember.. this is a painless process, very simple, and all you need to be added is your email and zip code, or country..
<http://www.301url.com/readers>

In This Issue

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Card Tricks Now - Plenty of instructions

High Five - One of my private effects

Justin Miller's Magical Onslaught - The hottest magician in the world tells all

Card Trick Planet - forty different tricks and mental effects

The Russian Hustle - Derren does his 'magic'

Magic Terms - Bookmark this site, even if it is mine..

Criss Angel 'Over 18' Video - Why was Carson perplexed? Why are YOU perplexed?

Expert at the Card Table - Your download link

-Don't think of yourself as an ugly person, just a beautiful monkey

-Only those who can see the invisible can do the impossible!

Whatever you can do or dream you can, begin it. Boldness has genius,
power, and magic in it. Begin it now.

-- Goethe



How to Pick a Spot for Busking By Kirsten Anderberg

What makes a good spot to perform on as a street performer, or "busker?" There are several layers to that question. I will address the interpersonal human etiquette side of performing spots, or "pitches," as they are called in street performer lingo, in another article. This is about the actual physicality of choosing street performer spots. For a successful show, one needs a spot where traffic passes, to gather a crowd. But the spot must also not interfere with the businesses around you, or police will be invoked.

Obviously, the spot needs to be situated in a way that the sidewalk is maintained as a functioning passageway, while the area around the spot must have the capacity to hold an audience. You need to think, "Could this spot hold about 30 people without interrupting sidewalk flow or access to the doorways of the surrounding businesses?" This may sound difficult, and looking for good spots does consume a lot of street performers' time, but it can be done. You'll find a set back doorway of a closed business. Or some placement of planters, benches and payphones that you can exploit as some kind of street performer feng shui.

The next consideration is sound, the noise around you. Setting up next to loud construction work is not a good idea, for example. I used to busk on the Santa Cruz Mall, and this electric band would play for the outdoor seating in front of the Cooper House. I was in the middle of a great set, with a great crowd, when this loud amplified music drowned me out! From then on, I never played around lunchtime, which sucked. That one band took up six plus blocks of airspace, never thinking how many buskers that put out of commission, I am sure.

You also do not want to perform too close to another busker as to distract from their act. Some businesses blare radios out of their establishments to attract customers, and sometimes they will turn them off while you play music, if you ask. If you can have a good working relationship with other buskers and the merchants, that can minimize having a relationship with the police. It is usually merchants who call the police on buskers.

The acoustics of a spot matter, too. An awning or wall behind you can help amplify a voice naturally. Performing in an open intersection, such as when streets are shut down for street fairs, can wear out a voice really quickly, whether you juggle or sing, as either way, you are still talking, usually, to a large audience with no acoustics, basically. I found the ocean at the Venice Boardwalk in Los Angeles would suck the sound out and make repeating sets harder and harder, in a way I did not experience at places like Seattle's Pike Place Market which has a ceiling and walls around nearly all of its busker spots. I found a voice will bounce off an awning, as if amplified, if you aim your voice correctly from underneath it.

This issue of cover is not only important for acoustics, but also for weather-related reasons. Standing under the beating sun, for 8 hours a day, over 2 days, with no cover, at a street fair is not good. Fried to a crisp, bright red performers are common after events such as the University Street Fair or the Fremont Street Fair in Seattle during the summer. The Fremont Street Fair is notorious for sunburning buskers, as there are few trees along the main or side streets, except where the canal is, where no one busks.

There is also the issue of sun in people's eyes. Sometimes you have two choices, the sun is in your eyes, or it is in the audience's eyes. Other times, such as when you are playing with a wall behind you, the direction of the wall determines who gets sun in their eyes. People are less likely to stay and tip with sun in their eyes, making them squint or hold visors up to see the act.

Another reason to notice whether your audience space, or at least you, are under cover is in the event of rain. If you are dry performing, but your audience is getting soaking wet, that won't work. If it looks rainy out, or is raining, you need to procure a spot large enough to cover you, and approximately 30 people as a potential audience, without interrupting business or traffic flow.

The two weirdest places I have busked were in an elevator and a parking lot. I wanted to see Neil Young's show at the Catalyst in Santa Cruz, but I had no money for a ticket. My friends were all leaving for the show, and I said I was going to busk out front and someone would give me a ticket. They said I was crazy. I played out front of the Catalyst a bit and this guy told me I should come out back, and play in the parking lot, where Neil's bus was... and there was a party.

So, I went back there with this guy, and he sort of introduced me, and I played some music. In the middle of my rendition of "I've Got A Black Magic Marker," to the tune of Black Magic Woman by Santana, Neil leaned out of

his bus and told me to come into the bus. When I got in there, we joked a bit and he asked me if I wanted to open the show. I said sure, and so my friends' jaws dropped when Crazy Horse introduced me on the stage. I lived in a school bus then, with no phone, no address. I did not try to lay some promo package on Neil, I had no business card. I just entertained him one night on the street, no more, no less, and I like the simplicity in that.

The other really bizarre spot I usurped was with my partner in crime, Linda Schierman, when we were a feminist duo called Raw Sugar. We were trying to busk the line waiting for the Backstage club in Seattle to open, for a Phoebe Snow concert. The Backstage crew came out and told us to leave the property. Then the Backstage guy went back inside the club that was not yet opened, and the crowd begged us to stay. So we backed up into the elevator and played from there, even collecting tips in the elevator! When the Backstage guy came back, the crowd warned us, we hit the button for another floor and were gone. A few minutes later, our elevator landed back on the floor with the line of people, and as the doors opened, the crowd cheered! We performed some more, people were buying our tapes out of the elevator, the guy would come back, we would leave again. It was hilarious, sort of a group anarchy that the Backstage never knew about.

So never blow a chance to seize the moment like Raw Sugar and the elevator. You can find places with acoustics, protection from sun and rain, with space to hold an audience without blocking traffic or commerce if you learn what to look for. You can find good pitches by watching for pitches other successful buskers frequent. Also, if people know quality buskers will be in a certain spot, they may frequent that spot. Building a clientele on a certain spot is actually quite common in busking. And thus, buskers can get very territorial about the pitches they work. All in all, finding and working good pitches is part of the art and finesse of busking. It is something buskers learn to fine tune their eyes for, and it gets somewhat easier with experience.

"My main interest is street performing.. aka busking, as it is not documented properly for some unknown reason, thus I aim to document part of that culture. I also want to leave a road map for others who would like to start busking."

<http://users.resist.ca/~kirstena/pagebusking.html>

Also, check Kirst's buskers blog at..

<http://users.resist.ca/~kirstena/pagebuskerblog.html>

You can contact Kirsten at kirstena@resist.ca

editors note: Kirsten's busking page and her blog both contain a wealth of information for buskers. Check it out... Rick

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The Knife Thru the Jacket..

This effect, although having been performed for many years, was first published by Joe "Ballard" Taylor - as best as I can tell.

The magician takes a jacket from a spectator, and casually hangs it on the back of a folding chair. The chair should be facing the magician, with the back of the chair facing the audience. This way the back of the jacket, when draped over the chair, will be facing the audience as well. The chair, of course, must have either slats or an opening in it's back for the knife to pass thru..

Magician takes a large knife, generally a butcher knife, and has it verified as being the real thing. Announce that you are going to spare the jackets owner the trauma of seeing a knife thrust thru his jacket as you reach for a piece of newspaper, about 12 inches by 12 inches, with a one inch or so fold in the top of the newspaper facing the magician and not visible to the audience.

Standing to the right of the chair, as the audience see's it, magician holds the paper with his left hand, fingers at the top with three fingers on the outside of the paper and the index finger and thumb pinching the fold with the thumb on the underside of the fold.

The paper is held above the jacket as the magician takes the knife, holds it up again for the audience to see, and places it behind the jacket, out of sight of the audience, and presses the handle of the knife into the jacket and announces that he is going to pass the knife through the jacket at precisely that point.

The audience is to assume the point of the knife is pressing into the jacket, but for the benefit of the jackets owner, it's better to use the handle. You can also easily tilt the knife downward and use your finger to poke the jacket, asking the audience if they can see the point almost protruding thru the jacket.

The magician then raises the knife from behind the jacket as he begins to lower the paper. The knife, concealed by the paper, is raised until the point of the knife makes contact with the underside of the fold in the newspaper at a spot where you can then pinch the point of the knife with your index finger and thumb, secretly transferring the knife to your left hand and held behind the newspaper by it's point. You can push downward on the fold so the knife is not actually parallel to the floor, but in a more handle-down position, helping conceal the knife behind the newspaper.

The paper is lowered until it's about mid-back of the jacket, then moved toward the jacket , pressing the handle of the knife into the jacket so the magician can then grasp the handle through the fabric with his right hand.

Now, in a simultaneous move, the magician pulls back on the knife with his right hand and then thrust it forward, at the same time pushing the newspaper onto the point of the knife. The knife is pushed as far as possible thru the newspaper without giving away the secret, then the magician brings his right hand around front and pulls the knife the rest of the way thru the newspaper.

After apologies are made, the magician reveals the unharmed jacket...

Note: the size of the newspaper can vary depending on the size of the knife. It needs to be large enough to conceal the knife.. but small enough so you can see 'jacket' completely around the paper when the paper is held at mid-back. The illusion, of course, is that you did not secretly pass the knife either around, over, or under the jacket under concealment of the newspaper.

This effect, although having been performed for many years, was first published by Joe "Ballard" Taylor - as best as I can tell - on MagicDan's web site.. http://members.aol.com/_ht_a/MagicDan/

R.Carruth

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Final Table Poker.. Free Video's

Well, the WSOP final table is history, and Jamie Gold walked away with over eleven million dollars in winnings. The good thing is... it's not too late for next year. Phil Gordon's "Final Table Poker" dvd and web site is the perfect tool for the poker players amongst my readers.

Why am I listing it as a resource? Because you can go to ExpertInsight web site and read about Phil's dvd, but you can also go to the web site and view several chapters of the book for free.

View 'Domination', the 'Gap Concept', and 'Odd's and Out' video's with a click. In a rather unique twist, Phil has made the remainder of the chapters available for \$0.99 cents each. You can literally pick and choose your subjects, download what you need, and then go out and kick ace..

"Get inside my mind and listen in on my thought process as I play at a final table against Chris Ferguson and other world-class players. Most importantly, you'll see and hear how I make winning decisions in No Limit Texas Hold'em tournaments."

- Phil Gordon

[Final Table Poker DVD](http://www.expertinsight.com/?aff=255)

Bill's Blog

And if Phil Gordon's site isn't enough, you can meander on over to Bill's. Bill's Blog is one of the most popular poker blogs in the world, full of mystery and wonder, and edited by one of the world's greatest self-proclaimed poker players..

"Well, even at an early age I knew I was destined to become the world's best poker player. As a child I was an egotistical sociopath prone to delusions of grandeur so thoughts of this nature were quite common. In fact, at one time I had my sights set on becoming supreme ruler of the universe but I figured that would be a lot of work and even as a child I was pretty lazy so I dropped that idea entirely. Still, as I grew older and my delusions of grandeur matured into illusions of grandeur I stayed true to my poker calling."

Check it out.

<http://www.billrini.com/>

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Card Tricks Now

Everyone knows how I feel about sites that feature free stuff.. especially if it's about cards, card tricks, and manipulations. Card-Tricks-Now features it all.. Their video section is primarily videos of performers like Criss Angel, but the remainder of the site has some really helpful information..

To quote from their site...

"The site includes magic that needs no special skills at all, some that need a few pieces of simple equipment, such as a handkerchief or a pen and paper, and others that require mental conjuring skills such as false shuffles, glides, double lifts and palms, all of which are described in Learn the Basics."

Although most of the tricks don't require sophisticated sleight of hand, there are a number of tricks that require the following: Overhand Shuffle, Overhand Shuffle, Contol The InJog, The Run, The UnderCut, The Glimpse, The Glide, A False Cut, Palming a card, The Elmsley Count, The BackSlip, and the Backslip Force. Detailed instructions guide you through the steps necessary to complete each move..

<http://www.card-tricks-now.com/>

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~ High Five ~
R.Carruth

This is one of my 'personal' effects, with a special tip of the hat to Annemann, and I shouldn't tell ANYONE this secret, for any amount. But here goes..

Have a spectator take a deck of cards and shuffle until his hearts content. Then, have him spread the deck, face down, on the table. Ask him to very carefully, taking his time, pick one card from the face down pack and keep it's value hidden from everyone, including himself.

Now, produce five identical envelopes. The type of envelopes used, ideally, should be the type that normally come with gift cards or Hallmark cards, as these are usually about equal in height and length. You can use normal business envelopes if you can't readily locate the Hallmark type. Just make sure you can't see through the envelopes.

Fan the envelopes and ask the spectator to select any one. Then, have the spectator secretly look at his card, place it inside the envelope, and seal it.

Now, ask the spectator to push four indifferent cards from the deck. You now take a card, put it in an envelope, seal it, and repeat until all the cards are fairly sealed in envelopes.

Hand the five envelopes to the spectator, ask him to inspect each envelope to make sure there are no markings whatsoever on any of the envelopes. Ask him to thoroughly mix and then stack the envelopes, one upon the other, to form a stack of five.

Once done, you will pick up each envelope, hold it to your forehead, and sit it to one side until all five envelopes have been 'mentally scanned'. At the right moment, you will pick from among the five envelopes the ONE containing the spectators card...

Secret:

Quite simple actually. Watch the spectator carefully as they put their selected card in the envelope. If they put the card inside the envelope laying on it's side, you put your four cards in the envelope standing up... and vice versa. With the right envelopes, it's easy to tell by feel which envelope contains the one 'odd' card when it's placed to your forehead...

Be creative. That's the key to a great performance. For instance, you can give the spectator a pen or Sharpie and ask them to write the name of a deceased pet on the face of the card. As you hold the cards to your

forehead, channel the pet to help you find the card. Or, ask them to write the name of a deceased President.

Start with six envelopes, five white and one blue. Tell the spectator what you're going to do, then hand the spectator the blue envelope to put their card in. A little comic relief...

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Justin Miller's Magical Onslaught

I know most of you are familiar with Justin Miller, both through his magic and an interview we published a few issues ago.

Justin is a busy guy. Besides being one of the nicest guys in all of magic, and one of the best teachers, Justin has multiple effects coming out this year in conjunction with Brad Christian and Ellusionist. I can't say what the others are, but I can say what two are; 'Army of 52', which uses a new gaffed deck and extremely creative thinking, and 'Silver Dream'. in which three half dollars visually disappear into thin air.

Army of 52 -

"Gaff cards allow you to do tricks where cards are: shot, aged, flipped, zipped, fallen, faded, ripped and stuck, box printed, blank, creepy, blacked out, swirled, thumb printed, smudged, inked wrong, mis-made, tagged, transferred, erased, added to, too high, shifted, shattered, fractioned, blurred, and skeletal."

"There's no way to do all that without having specially printed cards. But, strangely, spectators don't really think about the fact that the card MUST have been specially printed just for this trick."

"In test after test, we have proven that they think the magic 'just happened'. This one "fault" in the thinking of the normal spectator allows you to exploit their thinking and push normal card tricks to the edge of bizarre."

You MUST watch the video.. <http://www.ellusionist.com/cart/?aid=1090>

Silver Dream-

Three half dollar coins visually, individually disappear into thin air. The handling is fluid and perfected-- it has been tested in every conceivable audience situation over the past 12 years.

Finally a DVD has been created that teaches it all - everything revealed, in elite Ellusionist quality. Each fine point has been examined and spoken for, with nothing left out.

Includes extensive, rare lessons on sleeving, with little known tips and subtleties. You think you know sleeving? When you see this, you'll realize you know nothing.

What's the best part? Justin makes this as easy as it can possibly be.

Watch THIS video.. <http://www.ellusionist.com/cart/?aid=1089>

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Card Trick Planet

Here's another site that features a variety of card magic; both card tricks and mental magic. Although technically a blog, Card Trick Planet has approximately 40 different tricks posted by users. Everything is easy to find, just check the nav bar at the bottom of the page..

Examples of the tricks available:

Jumping Aces - Easy Pick - The Similar Pair - Easy Eights - Four Islands - Whispering Deck - Magic Slapping - Three Chances - Paper and Predictions - Haphazard Cards - Opposite Decks - Nice and Easy - Mind Reader

<http://card-magic.blogspot.com/>

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The Russian Hustle

Watch as Derren Brown pulls a "Russian Hustle" on a unsuspecting gentleman on the streets of London. What's a Russian Hustle? Well.. I know what it is, I just don't know why it is.

Under the guise of asking directions, Derren quickly confuses his victim, and walks away with his wallet and watch, although no pickpocket techniques were used..

Not actually magic or mentalism, this is a good study in psychology and the human psyche.

See what YOU think..

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=StURw6ocDWA&NR>

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~ List of terms commonly used in Magic ~

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Angles - The lines of vision of people sitting at certain position in the audience which enable a secret to be spotted. Usually extreme left or right or behind. If a trick is "angly" it can only be done with limited audience viewpoints. (e.g. The Balducci levitation which can only be viewed a 45 degrees view between side and behind angles.)

Bikes - USPCC Bicycle pattern cards commonly used by card magicians.

Black Art - Magician's term for an optical principle and the tricks accomplished by it. The principle is that an object that is the color black is invisible against anything else that is also black.

Burn - Staring at the magician's hands without averting the gaze, no matter what misdirection is thrown at him.

Copper and Silver (C/S) - An effect using two coins of contrasting metals which change place, as in Scotch and Soda .

Centre tear - Special way of tearing up paper used in mentalism so that the centre piece, which contains the message, is retained by the magician.

Chop cup - Cup with secret magnet used with a magnetic ball which can be made to vanish or appear at will using the magnet.

Cold (deck) - Switching in a stacked deck.

Confederate (also Stooze, Shill, Plant) - Audience member who is actually planted as part of the act to act in a cooperative manner.

Change - Changing one card (or object) for another.

Charlier Cut - One handed flourish cut or pass.

Check out the complete list on my web site (and bookmark it for future reference) at:

<http://www.StreetMagic.info/terms.html>

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'Over 18' Criss Angel Video

Carson Kahn was so amazed by this video that he actually wrote ME and asked me to explain how it's done. Unfortunately, when I developed this trick for Criss, I was sworn to secrecy and told that if I ever revealed it to another soul that two goons in a black Cadillac would pull in my driveway, knock on my door - or not - and proceed to alter the configuration of my semi-good knee.

The version I submitted for the show was identical to this one, except Criss was not to swallow the marked coin, and it was not to materialize seemingly creeping down his forearm, under his skin, and then cut out with a dull pocket knife..

Other than that.. my handling was IDENTICAL to Criss' handling...

At the moment I'm debating whether to release my version on video. I've already contacted four companies capable of doing my version justice. YouTube and Putfiles both said they would be glad to produce it. I'm still waiting to hear from Ellusionist and Penguin - as their interest will drive the bidding thru the roof..

<http://tinyurl.com/jjchx>

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Are you TIRED of being Number#2 ?

Are you TIRED of hearing how much so-and-so makes each week ?

Do you need someone to show you EXACTLY how to perform many of the TOP effects being used by the TOP street magic, close-up, and restaurant workers in the country?

Are you ready to earn your 'PhD' in Magic ?

Read On.. <http://www.301url.com/ellusionist>

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Expert at the Card Table - Download link..

For all of you who are new subscribers, here's the link to download your free copy of Expert at the Card Table. It's in a zip file and can be easily downloaded to your desktop - or wherever you chose..

If you encounter any problems with the download email me and let me know.. I'll send it to you via email ..as an attachment.

<http://www.301url.com/erdnase>

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I wish I could go on and on, but I think I've 'revealed' enough... for now.

You know, I think I have you guys figured out. The more I print, the more you want. If I publish four resources, you aren't happy unless I publish five. If I publish nine, you want ten...

So, from now on, I'm going to publish five, tell you it's four, and when you protest I'm going to tell you to go back and count again..

And you guys thought you could out-smart me...

I hope you found something in this issue to assist you in some way. If you have any request, rants, raves, or whatever, EMAIL ME

Remember to visit some of my other sites at:

<http://www.StreetMagic.info>

<http://www.MagicRoadshow.com>

<http://www.Mentalists.info>

<http://www.StreetMagicSecrets.info>

<http://www.BellaOnline.com/site/shareware>

<http://www.StreetMagic.info/blogger.html>

And if you have a web site, visit my latest blogs at:

<http://www.AdSenseSecrets101.blogspot.com>

<http://www.MadMarketing101.com>

May my next issue find you well...

Rick Carruth - editor/publisher

Magic Roadshow

September 4th, 2006 Issue# 54

Rick Carruth editor/publisher (C)2006 All Rights Reserved Worldwide

Street Magic's #1 free newsletter for magicians, street performers, restaurant workers, close-up artists, and mentalists, with subscribers in over sixty seven countries worldwide.

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Hello Friends

It's that time again. I've put together another newsletter full of free resources for street magic performers, close-up workers, mentalists, and magic enthusiasts in general. You certainly don't have to be a professional to enjoy the Roadshow...

First, let me thank all the new subscribers who've signed up since the last issue. You guys are the reason for this publication, and I sincerely hope you find something here to benefit you and your brand of magic. If you like it, tell a friend.. If you don't.. tell me.

I hope all of you who celebrate Labor Day had a great one.. I should apologize for the Roadshow being a couple of days late, but I can't. I did it on purpose. With the American holiday, Labor Day, being this weekend, I needed to wait until a night before a work day to send it out. It's just a marketing thing.. Plus, newsletters send out over a weekend are much less likely to get opened.

If you have AOL, there's a good chance that you're NOT reading this. For some reason, the past three issues have been blocked, to some degree or another, by AOL. They are a perfect example of an ISP that wants to 'control' what you read, even if it's something you signed up for and requested. Oh well... (If you are getting this through AOL, drop me an email and let me know..)

Email Me ..

Be sure to read the article "Questions Anyone ??" IF you would like a chance to get a free copy of the classic ebook "Royal Road to Card Magic". We're starting a new feature at the Roadshow that I want you to be a part of..

If you bought a copy of Astounding Secrets -or- signed up for CardSleights, and didn't receive a free ebook, let me know please.. I'll continue to send free ebooks out to all who sign up..

There's still a gob of you guys who haven't positioned yourself on my Magic Roadshow Readers Map. It's free, and it gives me a chance to see where my readers are located. If you have time, post a picture, and you will find yourself in the Roadshow one day soon..

<http://www.frapp.com/magicroadshow>

I have syndicated all the new posts to my blog, Magic Bullets from the Magic Roadshow. Now, you can go to this link, enter your email address and click 'subscribe', and you will receive an email with my complete post whenever I publish a new article to the blog.. It's simple, there's No Spamming, and

you can unsubscribe from the feed at any time. All subscriptions are handled thru Feedblitz, and remember, you WILL NOT receive any emails from Feedblitz, or anyone else, other than the new post themselves.
<http://www.feedblitz.com/f/?Sub=70161>

In This Issue:

- (1) Between a Rock and a Hard Place - Steve Owen gets it right... again.
- (2) Magic Reviews - Caleb Wiles Calls 'em as he see's 'em..
- (3) Questions Anyone ? Your chance to 'Ask a Pro'
- (4) The Card From The Pocket - One of magic's classic effects
- (5) CardTricks1 - New name, same great site
- (6) The Power of Suggestion - Carson Kahn's psychic mystery
- (7) The Floating Banknote - Combining Mike Bornstein & PubTricks
- (8) Gregg Webb Free Magic Ebook - Two strong effects from a magic guru

Never seem more learned than the people you are with. Wear your learning like a pocket watch and keep it hidden. Do not pull it out to count the hours, but give the time when you are asked.
Lord Chesterfield (1694 - 1773)

Disbelief in magic can force a poor soul into believing in government and business.
Tom Robbins (1936 -)



Between a Rock, and a Hard Place.
Steve Owen

For those of you that managed to keep awake to the end of my last article 'I'm not a magician' I'm making another attempt at putting a beginners slant on our magic, art, craft, entertainment? I'm still not sure what to call it! So now is the time to switch the kettle on, empty the dustbins (sorry trash cans) and go ahead and clean out those drains... You have been warned!

Like most newcomers to any subject, hobby or sport, I love my newfound interest. My enthusiasm for learning takes over my thoughts at work and my life at times, as I strive to better my handlings, learn more and build a decent repertoire of effects. Sometimes my eagerness spills over to those close to me, along with books, DVD's and cards; and a thumb tip my son discovered in the kitchen. Luckily for me he'd worked out what it was for and knows how to keep 'the secret'. Had my partner discovered it, well, I'd be seeking professional help by now, after a long and lengthy police interview on why I keep Feke body parts in my house. Did you notice the spelling?

I want to demonstrate my new skills and have them tested by those around me. Did you see anything? What did you think of the effect? and yes a storyline would be nice. Laypeople don't call it patter! I always resist asking 'did I flash anything?' It avoids regular visits to the aforementioned police station. You see, I don't want to sound like a rank novice amongst my peers; I don't want others to see my naivety and my flaws. I want to be accepted by all and to fit in and to be accepted as a performer and magician. To do this I quickly learn all the skills that I can find, I read and read, practice and seek any advantage that will demonstrate my commitment to my new found interest.

We all act like human sponges at the start of something new, absorbing everything that comes before us. Regardless of whether it's good or bad. I think this is true of any interest or pastime, isn't it?

So what is wrong with that? Well nothing, nothing at all, and I should know, been there, done that. It is part of how we learn and advance and it helps us separate the 'wheat from the chaff'.
But, it does have its drawbacks.

Years ago, far too many to be exact; I was involved in motorcycle trials riding up to national level. This is the branch of motorcycling that relies on balance, skill and nerve and involves riding over manmade or natural

obstacles, cars, waterfalls, tyres and the like. You may have seen this on TV at some point, if not I suggest you watch it, just once!

In the early years I spent my time practicing, I just loved to practice, I loved the repetitive nature of it all, learning a new manoeuvre or technique and doing it until it was flawless and became second nature, (does this sound familiar to you?) I loved reading and learning all I could. I would make short courses up and make them as difficult as possible, to challenge myself, riding them for hours on end, none stop. I would try and rub shoulders with the top guys, just on the off chance some of their skills rubbed off on me, listen intently at any snippet of information they gave out freely (come on, we've all done it). I would read the weekly motorcycle press from front to back cover, inside out and then read it again, upside down and backwards. If I saw a new move or technique I would quickly go out and practice that there and then. I was absorbed.

After a while though, it dawned on me that this was all well and good, but I gained little from it in terms of improving my overall riding style, sure I had a vast array of skills at my disposal, and I had all the fundamental knowledge, the history and the opinions, but I just wasn't getting any further up the results board. I lacked a solid foundation and to help me get this I needed to practice more efficiently.

This was brought home to me one Saturday afternoon whilst out practising. I had devised a hideous little practice course that included a vertical rock step which had to be ridden over. I had spent many months trying to do this very small but technical piece and had failed at every attempt. I knew it could be done, I had faith in that. I knew how it could be done but I just couldn't do it. I had broken numerous handlebars and chains along the way and had sworn that many times in frustration that I still go to confession to this day on the strength of it. That afternoon I realised this, I was never going to do it until I was ready. It was as simple as that.

I was trying to learn too many difficult skills at one sitting instead of learning each individual skill and then learning how to put them all together, to build a solid foundation on to which I could add more blocks. This little rock outcrop had highlighted this. But the most important thing I learnt was this; I had reached my saturation point in terms of riding. I didn't have sufficient basic skills to execute the harder skills. I had been neglecting them in favour of learning the latest techniques.

I would never come up against this kind of obstacle in my arena. Never! Yet I was neglecting some of the basic riding skills that everyone should learn,

like balancing for example, or to put it in magical terms, controlling the card or having an out.

I left that rock, and it was a long time before I attempted it again.

So what prompted me to abandon this quest, besides another set of broken handlebars? Well, I came to realise that everyone has his or her time and place, and that rock step wasn't mine. I was trying things I didn't need too, had no use for and were beyond my capabilities at that time. I was a club level rider attempting something that would have taxed the best. I would often ride past the rock during subsequent practice sessions and wonder if I should try it again. I never did though.

So what's all this got to do with magic I hear you ask? Well consider this, the SECOND sleight that I learned was the Mercury card fold and like my trials riding days I have reached a point where I have absorbed far too much magic theory and practice, too quickly and to the point that I'm haemorrhaging skills and knowledge at a far greater rate than I can control. I have enough effects and DVD's to last me a lifetime, I cannot keep up with the written word I reel off the internet almost on a weekly basis. As for chat rooms and forums, well they deserve an article all by themselves. (Watch this space!)

I cannot contain what I have learnt so far because I have reached my limit, I like to call this aptly 'the sponge effect'. I am forgetting things I should know and be doing by second nature by now. My foundations are not solid enough to perform good magic. I am no longer on the learning plateau but actually feel like I'm going backwards, yes I'm in that place right now. (I'm sure most of us have experienced this at some point in our lives. No, you haven't? I'll move on then.)

However, having said that, I accept this though and am willing to move with it, it's part of my learning process isn't it?

It's also part of why I have adopted a 'back to basics philosophy' right now.

So what of the rock step I hear you wonder. Well, some time later I set out one afternoon with the purpose of tackling that rock. It had to be a Saturday! I knew I could do it, and I knew I was going to do it that day. I just knew, even though I hadn't gone near the blessed thing for over twelve months. As I started to ride the route for the first time, I already knew the outcome. I tried it my pre requisite three times to check that that first time wasn't just a stroke of luck. Three attempts. Three successes.

I never tried it again, after that, never. It was my time.

Years later having switched from motorcycles to mountain bikes I was riding nearby and stumbled across that rock, all over grown and looking less intimidating than it once did. I sat down for a moment and smiled to myself, and remembered the lesson I once learned from it. All things come to those who wait, goes the cliché.

So what is my rock now?

Since you ask, it's performing in public. I get the shakes and the dry throat. I've already competed in a close up competition (I came last, before you ask) and given a very impromptu and bland demo in a local restaurant. I'm in my hard place right now, I know I can do it and I know I'll be good at it and give a good show, but I also accept that it's just not my time yet, not yet, and that I accept.

I'm in the process of refining my handlings; more practice. Reducing the number of effects and sleights that I'm learning; less buying and less watching, and concentrating on putting together a smaller and altogether more magical show, patter included.

When I'm ready I'll know, and so will you.

Steve Owen
UK

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Magic Reviews

Caleb Wiles describes his site as "A site dedicated to reviews of current magic products..". Although technically a blog, Caleb has structured his site to serve as a resource center for magic enthusiasts looking for honest answers to one of magic's most endearing questions... " does it suck.."

Effects are a dime a dozen... Good effects are a true rarity. Caleb helps readers sort through the maze of effects available to magicians and offers honest opinions intended on helping his visitors decide if a particular effect is worthy of their dollars.

I read Magic Reviews... you should too..

Here is a list of the recently reviewed effects:

- Nate Kranzo: Things With Cards
- Steve Mayhew: Angels May Shuffle But The Devil Still Deals
- Paul Wilson: Absolute Zero Evolution
- Daniel Garcia: Next
- David Regal: Premise, Power, and Participation Vol. 4: Regal Stands Erect
- Marty Grams: The Art of Card Splitting
- Peter Duffie: England Up-Close
- Nathan Kranzo: The Heat of the Desert Lecture Notes
- Joshua Jay: Pro Carrier Wallet
- Underground-Collective.com: Cheetah's Handbook Volume 2

<http://www.magicreviews.blogspot.com/>

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Questions Anyone ??

(Get a FREE copy of the classic eBook ' Royal Road to Card Magic ')

My associate editor, David Breth, is one of the top magicians in the country, period. David is a renown professional entertainer who is commonly seen performing in venues from coast to coast. In recent months, David has performed for customers as diverse as the Disney Corp. in Florida and the Smithsonian Museum in Washington DC. Customers frequently fly David untold miles to perform at corporate functions.. or a birthday party. David is as comfortable in front of a room full of children as a room full of Fortune 500 corporate executives.

And if all this wasn't enough, David was recently named to the USA Today Entrepreneurs Panel as an 'Entertainment and Marketing Expert..'

In talking with David recently about what type of articles we wanted to write, it was suggested that David's unique talents would best be served helping readers directly with their specific problems. What this means for you is this...

..submit your questions - and have one of the magic industries top professionals answer it. Simple....

All you need to do is this.. send your magic related question to Rick@Magicroadshow.com and I will forward them on to David for consideration for publication in the Roadshow. The number of questions answered each issue will depend on the length of the answers.

(I can promise you that David will NOT answer questions related to revealing magic secrets sold worldwide. So, if you want to know how the RAVEN works or the secret to the Sealed Soda Can, you'll have to get those answers elsewhere.)

** As a special incentive, I will send a copy of the 400 page CLASSIC ebook 'Royal Road to Card Magic' to the sender of EACH question that we answer in the Roadshow. If your question isn't answered in the next issue, feel free to resubmit it for consideration. If you're outside the US, don't worry about your english or spelling, as your question may be edited or corrected for brevity and/or clarity..

R.Carruth

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The Card From The Pocket

(A C.O.Williams classic, with a little help from R.Carruth)

This is one of those classic effects that many of todays popular effects are based upon. Many magicians have a natural fear of palming, and avoid tricks that involve palming at all cost. It's simply a matter of confidence. And the Card From the Pocket is the perfect effect to help gain the confidence you need to make palming an integral part of your routining.

Give a deck to a spectator and ask that it be shuffled until no one could possibly know the location of any card. Turn your back to the spectator and ask that they think of a number, any number, between two and twenty. Once done, have them count down to that number card, look at it, remember it, and place the deck back together.

Turn around and remark to the spectator that there is no way that you could possibly know their card, as you did not touch the deck after it was shuffled by the spectator. Ask for the deck and place it behind your back. Put both hands behind your back and appear to be in deep concentration. I like to ask the spectator to think of their card as I stare into their eyes.

Take the bottom card off the deck, this being the 52nd card as the spectator held the deck. Bring the deck around to the forefront in your left hand, and a single card, formerly the bottom card, held face down in your right hand.

Comment that with any luck, you have correctly removed from the deck the chosen card, and that you are going to put it in your pants pocket until the 'magical moment'. Take your right hand and the selected card, thrust it into your trouser pocket, and announce " It's done.."

Now, the dirty work. In your pocket, put the card in the palm position, and bring your hand, and the palmed card, out at the same instant that you look your spectator directly in the eyes and ask "Would you say your card was a high card, low card, or somewhere in the middle?" Asking a question as you look them in the eyes will instinctively make them look at you as well. This provides just enough cover for you to rejoin the card in your right hand with the TOP of the deck held in your left hand.

Tip: Instead of placing the single card on top of the pack, place the pack UNDER the single card. If the spectator happens to look away from your gaze, they will look at the 'movement', and the movement in this case will be the hand with the deck, and NOT the hand with the palmed card.

All you've really done to this point is remove a card from the bottom of the pack, and replace it on top of the pack.

Now, ask the spectator to name the number he thought of. Lets say he chose twelve. Deliberately and fairly flip eleven cards onto the table, note that the twelfth card should be the chosen card, unless the card you have in your pocket is the chosen card. Lay the twelfth card on the table, face down, and ask the spectator to please check the card and see if it's their chosen card.

As his focus' is on the card on the table, push the top card slightly to the right and palm it. Since you put an additional card on top of the deck, the spectators card actually became the thirteenth card in the deck, the very card that you are about to palm and place into your pocket.

In the same instant that the spectator remarks that the card on the table is NOT his, you put your right hand, with the palmed card, into your trouser pocket, release it, re-grip it with just your thumb and forefinger, and bring it out of your pocket to show the world that you DID correctly remove the spectators card from the deck and place it 'In The Pocket'.

The palming involved in this effect is well covered with a little patter and misdirection. The true key to this effect is in the timing... combining your palm move with natural movement and speech. I have no doubt that you can do this with a little practice. Once this effect is mastered, you're ready for a whole new world of card magic.

R.Carruth

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CardTricks1

CardTricks1 is the former CardSleights.com that I've advertised the past several issues. I recently ran across CardTricks1 and thought.. "Wow.. this sure looks alot like CardSleights", and upon close inspection found that it WAS Cardsleights, with a new name.

It seems they have changed the name, but can be accessed using either url for the next little while...

"As a member you will have access to all the information on the site and all updates for an entire year, you can even download and keep everything you want. All written sections can be viewed online or downloaded as ebooks which can be viewed on any windows PC with internet explorer. The videos can be downloaded in windows media format (.wmv) and played with windows media player."

"As a member you will find sections covering basic techniques, self working card tricks, the overhand shuffle, the riffle shuffle, false cuts, transfer cuts, the glide, the glimpse, key cards, the hindu shuffle, forcing, flourishes, multiple lifts and more. There are card tricks to learn along with every technique and you will find regular updates."

The latest update (29th August) was a section on advanced double/multiple lifts including
1 hour 15 mins of video..

Visit CardTricks1 (<http://301url.com/cardsleights>)

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The Power of Suggestion... Free PDF

It's amazing when readers take the time to put together great little pdf's and send them to me for inclusion in the Roadshow. It's really a way to take your magic and share it with hundreds of other magicians throughout the world. What better way to earn a reputation among your peers?

Carson Kahn is a wonderful young magician who is an active participant at the Magic Roadshow, and I only wish I had fifty or sixty more just like him. What newsletters I could publish!

The Power of Suggestion is partially Carson's creation, and partially an ageless effect that is just as baffling today as it was a number of years ago. In fact, most 'new' effects are based on classic principals that are reworked into effects that our audience members have never seen, as it makes little difference to our audience, as long as it's entertaining...

Download your PDF HERE
<http://www.streetmagicsecrets.info/PowerOfSuggestion.pdf>

Simply right click, then click 'save as', and save it to your desktop.. or your favorite location. I like to save all new files to my desktop, then drag and drop them, after I've had time to read them, into any of several different folders I have for storing magic files...

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The Floating Banknote.. free video instructions

(from Issue 35 of the Magic Roadshow)

I keep a file on my desktop titled "magic roadshow stuff". It's just an accumulation of stuff that I have run across on the web and hope to use some day. The recent passing of Mike Bornstein brought to mind Mikes famous "Mike Bornstein's Original Floating Dollar Bill Levitation". I sat down and wrote up a description of the Floating Note effect in notepad and moved it over to my 'stuff' file, intending to use it in the next issue of Magic Roadshow.

That was several months ago and I kept intending to publish it, but for whatever reason I wasn't quite happy with my description of Mike's effect.

This issue rolled around and I said, "OK, this is it. It's time to edit the Floating Note and run it in the newsletter. No more procrastinating.." .

Well, I received an email from PubTricks the other day and they were offering me a free download, just for the heck of it.. Not one to turn down a freebie, I checked it out and, lo and behold, it was Mike's Floating Note.

I guess I don't have to edit my description after all.. I just send you directly to the video and instructions for constructing your own Floating Note..

<http://www.streetmagic.info/floatingnote.html>

If you liked this effect, check out some of the other effects PubTricks has to offer..

<http://www.streetmagic.info/Pubtricks.html>

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Gregg Webb Free Magic eBooks

Thanks to Elene for this valuable resource site.. Gregg Webb has a nice site featuring both pay-for and free magic ebooks. The free section periodically features different pdf files aimed toward the card workers among you.. To quote from his web site, the two free pdf file are:

The Reynolds-Webb Challenge Part 2

This time, a great double card prediction using an envelope. Also includes details on how to enter the challenge for a chance to win a FREE set of Gregg Webb's new dice trick "Making Your Point."
(Requires Acrobat Reader)

The Reynolds-Webb Challenge

Several solutions posed for the problem of cleanly performing an impossible card to table. A card that has been in plain sight during the entire trick is revealed to be the spectator's signed selection.
(Requires Acrobat Reader)

Check out these two free effects:

Visit Feenx <http://feenx.net/freetrick.html>

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I encourage you to send any resources my way. If you know of a site that has a free ebook or a wide assortment of magic related material, let me know. I'm sure all the other readers will appreciate it..

I hope you have a great Labor Day, and I'll see you again in two weeks. Remember, if you have any questions, request, or comments.... Email me.

RIP - Steve Irwin.. the 'Crocodile Hunter'... later mate! He may not have been a magician, but he sure was an entertainer..

Please don't forget to visit some of my other sites.. see what's new -

- <http://www.streetmagic.info>
- <http://www.magicroadshow.com>
- <http://www.streetmagic.info/blogger.html>
- <http://streetmagicsecrets.info>
- <http://www.bellaonline.com/site/shareware>

May my next issue find you well..

Rick Carruth editor/publisher



Magic Roadshow

September 19th, 2006 Issue# 55

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Street Magic's #1 free newsletter for magicians, street performers, restaurant workers, close-up artists, and mentalists, with subscribers in over sixty three countries worldwide.



Hello Readers

Welcome to a new issue of Magic Roadshow. First, lets thank all the new readers who have signed up for the Roadshow since the last issue. You will

find your download link to Expert at the Card Table further down in the newsletter.

I have a number of interesting finds for this issue. I think even you guys, magicians who have become accustomed to dozens of links to valuable free resources, will agree that this issue is 'special'.

Look for an interview in the next issue with one of the most creative minds in all of magic. The door has been opened, I've been invited inside, and now I need to prepare my questions... Who is it? You'll have to wait, I'm afraid.

Don't forget to 'place yourself' on our Frappr map. Who knows..You may even discover a fellow reader in your own back yard..
<http://www.frappr.com/magicroadshow>

Remember folks, if you have any request, questions, or just want to chat, Email Me..

Sorry I'm a little late, but not by much. My oldest daughter, Leslie, was married this past weekend, and I spent Friday and Saturday doing 'wedding things'. Leslie and her new husband, Jeff, had one of those weddings that most couples dream of: Beautiful church in the mountains, harps and violins and flutes and guitarist, friends from around the country in attendance, a reception in an inn that was the summer home of F.Scott Fitzgerald, Elanore Roosevelt, and Thomas Wolfe, food that I can't even pronounce, and thousands of dollars of alcohol that I didn't drink one drop of... honestly. (But I did eat enough food to make up for it...)

Leslie and Jeff.. may your future together be bright and bold! ... John and Jamie, Happy Birthday!

Now, on with the Roadshow...

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"Glory is fleeting, but obscurity is forever."

- Napoleon Bonaparte (1769-1821)

"If you can't get rid of the skeleton in your closet, you'd best teach it to dance."

- George Bernard Shaw (1856-1950)

"I think there is a world market for maybe five computers."

- Thomas Watson (1874-1956), Chairman of IBM, 1943

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How to Use Free Special Reports to Fill Your Calendar

As a professional magician, be it full or part time, you need shows. To get shows, we must have people see our advertising material. There are two basic ways to do this:

The first is to use passive advertising. Things like the yellow pages and handing out business cards. You place your advertising and you wait for someone to call.

The second is active advertising, where you pursue the sale. This can be through cold calling, emails or direct mail. Many magicians now use direct mail. Sadly, most use it ineffectively. To be effective, direct mail must be sent to qualified buyers. The best are those who have requested information. Direct mail also must be repeated. It often takes several mailings before a prospect contacts you for a show. Direct mail can also be expensive.

I am a big believer in having a newsletter for past clients that is sent by direct mail. Something solid in your clients' hands to keep you on their mind. Sending newsletters just to information seekers can be very expensive though.

Email is the great solution. Used properly, it can generate tons of leads from qualified prospects. Spam is right out. Do not just blanket mail a list of emails. It is no more effective (and probably less so) than direct mailing a list from the yellow pages.

You need to create interest and get the right people to contact you.

Offering special reports is a great way to generate leads from qualified prospects. Your free report(s) should be offered on your website, on your business card and in all your advertising. Your reports should have specific interest and real information to your prospect.

Doing school assemblies, a free report offering "Ten Mistakes Not To Make When Scheduling Educational School Assemblies," could draw a response from the right people. Or, offer "The School Principals' Secret To Motivating Students." Including things like special reward programs, mentor programs and of course, scheduling your show.

If I was a restaurant magician, I would offer a free report, "Ten Ways To Build Customer Satisfaction," including of course, a top rate red-haired magician. You can offer your report in one of three ways:

- 1) Offer a free report on a subject and give a phone number. When the prospect calls the number, get their name, address and phone number and mail them the report.
- 2) Have a website they can go to to get the free report, and submitting their contact info directs them to a "secret webpage" with their free report.
- 3) Have your website have an autoresponder. The prospect enters their info including email address. They then receive your report via email. If you are adding them to an email list you will be emailing to, make sure that is clear.

With a good autoresponder, you can not only collect their information and get the report right back to them, but you can schedule follow-up emails to them. The follow-up emails should have good information in them, plus promote your business as well. Make all your emails interesting and worth reading.

Do not try to sell or book shows in your email. Have links to your sales pages in the email, but use the email to establish yourself as a professional and an expert.

Many marketers offer courses for free. They use the autoresponder to send a different chapter of the course every few days. When a prospect signs up for your free course on "Using Magic To Build Your Business," they are inviting you to send them a series of emails.

The most valuable property of any business is their customer lists. You need to gather the names and emails of prospects. You need to acquaint them with your name and qualifications. Offering free reports and courses can help you build your business quickly and inexpensively.

If you have questions on using free reports or autoresponders, please feel free to email me.

Thank you and God bless.

Dennis Regling
<http://magic.bellaonline.com>

Personally, the best autoresponder I have found, at the best price is:
<http://www.aweber.com/?214408>

One of the original autoresponder providers, is one of the best with reliable service at very affordable rates. This is the best option if you really want a professional autoresponder that costs low! Also, if you hook up with any other free autoresponder or paid services and later on if you want a switch to Aweber, you can't import your list to Aweber unless with double-op-in again! So if you are new and starting fresh -- start with Aweber.

Free autoresponders are available, but be prepared to have them put advertising in your emails. Two of the best are:

Free Autoresponders:
<http://www.getresponse.com/>
<http://responsebot.com>

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Ask a Pro..

This week begins the first of a series of questions, submitted by readers of the Roadshow, and answered by David Breth. For those of you who don't know David, he is a full time professional working out of the Baltimore area. David is regularly flown around the country, at his clients expense, to perform at anything from high dollar birthday parties to corporate events to institutions like the Smithsonian museum.

Now, YOU can ask David any question that you would like an honest, professional answer to..

If your question is selected as one of the questions answered, then YOU will receive a free copy of one of the classic books, in ebook form, in all of magic; The Royal Road to Card Magic...

Don't miss your chance to add a copy of this classic to your library. Email your question to:

Rick@magicroadshow.com

David..

What does it take to reach the level of Magic Entertainer/Performer that you're at? What would be the logical steps for someone who has been doing magic for a year on reaching such a goal?

Regards
Carlos

David

Aside from practice and misdirection, what do you feel are the most important factors to becoming a successful magician?

Thanks,
Tom

PS, A little background for the question. I've recently performed my first stage show and realized it's not as easy as many magicians make it seem. I'm trying to find out the true secrets to success in magic.

Tom,

Hi Carlos and Tom,

Great questions.. Same answer!

This answer depends on several factors. What type of magical entertainer do you want to be? Children, adult, religious, corporate, restaurant, etc. ?

Though the process is similar, you first need to write a business plan. Once you have this you must have a great show and a good resource of marketing materials.

The first thing is your show has to be great!

You can get the gigs, but if your show is predictable, lacking the wow factor and your getting caught due to lack of proper preparation, then you need to pick up the "get a clue phone" cause it is ringing very loud and the caller on the other end is suggesting that you better prepare your showmanship before you market yourself as a professional.

Second, you need to be a savvy marketer. You need more than just fancy advertising and a slick well polished show. You can have the ultimate show and your phone does not ring because you lack the proper arsenal to hit your target customers.

Do you have a local magic shop you can hang out in? Do you belong to a fraternity like the International Brotherhood of Magicians, the Fellowship of Christian Magicians, or are there other magicians in your area that you can not only hang out with but attend the fraternity meetings, join the local clubs, etc. Then ask those that are there to observe your performances (may be one trick or a whole act).

Now, with this said, I will also say that you **MUST** be open to criticism (take it all with a grain of salt), but if the majority of those who watch, inform you to keep your day job, well you may consider going back to the drawing board and come back and present the same effect again.

Let those watching you know that you really do want to be hit hard, no fluff, just tell you the way it is. This will be hard to take at first, but my friend this will set you apart, way, way, way apart from the rest of the pack –
Guaranteed!

First of all, you need a really great show.

Since you are a children's performer this does not give you the license to be half hearted and cheap in your showmanship, dress, mannerisms, business mindset, props and marketing materials.

Give a great show!!

As you probably know, there are guys who feel they have to drag in tons of grand illusions, big heavy, bright colored props, etc., etc. They may mean well but do not allow the props to be the entertainer, pack small and play big!

This will strike controversy, but sit back and observe and you too will see this to be correct: Children are not as tuned into "the magic" (like adults), as much as they love to laugh and have a great time. When performing for children who are nine and above the "magic" becomes a reality, the wow factor really kicks into play - but for younger children let them have a great time by making them laugh. pack small and play big!

Always have one or two tricks to fry the adults in the middle of your show. This always goes over well, they enjoy the effects and see your skills should be noticed.

Attire

What you wear is important, I have attended many shows with children's entertainers and their clothing yelled "I do not care, I am not a real professional, I am only a part time children's entertainer."

Get yourself a good pair of black dress slacks, a pair of comfortable dress shoes and a button up or polo shirt.

Dress sharp. First, you never know who is in the show who may consider booking you. A clean cut, well dressed individual will get the bookings in the upscale neighborhoods! And the pay is great!!. I am not saying to wear a suit, but do not wear your worst either. Always have your clothes dry cleaned and your shirts heavy starch. A stained, unironed shirt/pants is simply unacceptable.

Same with the props you use, invest in your business - it is worth it!!! Do not buy items because they are cheap and the company offers free shipping. Do not buy knock off's either!!!

Marketing Materials

Second, you may have a great show but you also need to be a savvy marketer (there are several marketing courses for magicians. I will recommend one that I personally used which helped catapult my shows to an entire new level. If interested, I will get this information to you.

Email me at David@DavidBreth.com

Thanks..
David Breth

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Whit Haydn Performance Video's

Mentioning Whit Haydn in one of the answers above reminded me of this series of wonderful effects, recorded at the Magic Castle, as Whit entertains a room full of admiring fans.

Watch these video's and study the style and timing. If you question how a magician can take an effect and turn it into an opportunity to entertain, instead of simply 'perform magic', then crank up the speakers and watch each video a few dozen times.

You DO NOT have to download these video's to watch them. Just click and enjoy..

Six-Time Magic Castle Award Winner: "Magician of the Year" in Close-Up, Stage,.. Whit Haydn at the Magic Castle, Hollywood.. December 2005, WC Fields Bar

"The Chicago Surprise", "The Phoenix Aces", "The Ambitious Card", "The Rising Card", "Winged Silver",

"The Shell Game", "Cards to Pocket", "The Red Silk Mystery", "The Mongolian Pop-Knot",

"The Chinese Linking Rings", "The Torn & Restored Newspaper", "Whit on Tonight Show with Jay Leno"

http://www.whithaydn.com/video_clips.htm

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CardTricks1 - Balloon Modeling Update

For all of you who have signed up for admission to the CardTricks1 (formerly CardSleights) site, they have now added over two hours and thirty minutes of new material dealing exclusively with Balloon Modeling. This is in addition to the hours and hours of video on card sleights.

For those of you who utilize balloons as part of your act and/or a separate act, you can access detailed video's and pdf files for the following:

Balloon Twists And Techniques, Dog, Giraffe, Elephant, Mouse, Flying Mouse, Rabbit, Broad Sword, Cutlas, Flower, Swan, Bird On Swing, Bird, Heart, Butterfly, Teddy Bear, Cat, Tiger, Monkey, Palm Tree, Monkey In Tree / Teddy On Heart, Snail, Pig, Airplane, Helicopter, Man, Motorbike, Mermaid, Adding Color To Basic Models (Parrot Example), Dinosaur, Hats, Rocking Horse, Rainbow, and Umbrella..

Never overlook an additional source of income!

<http://www.301url.com/cardsleights>

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The Magic Roadshow Readers Guide to the REAL Criss Angel

(A video series..)

Who is Criss Angel?

Do you think you really know him from his Mindfreak series? Here are a series of video's produced by A&E that attempt to answer the questions " Who is Criss Angel, how does he train, who are his influences, and how did he get started?"

Each video is self-loading and there is nothing to download..

Meet Criss Angel - Houdini: The Inspiration... (2:51)

"Criss shares his personal insights about the most famous magician in history and how this terrific showman and self-promoter really connected with his audience.."

Meet Criss Angel - Training (3:22)

"Criss talks about training as a lifestyle of body, mind and spirit and the challenges of entertaining an audience thru street performances.."

Meet Criss Angel - What Is Magic (1:36)

"What does magic mean to Criss? Watch as Criss defines magic as that moment when he connects with someone on an emotional level.."

Meet Criss Angel - Magic Beginnings (2:30)

"As a young boy Criss is inspired by his Aunt and gets bit with the magic bug. But first, he gets interested in music and started playing the drums. Watch to learn how music, artists, and movies inspired him to do magic.."

Meet Criss Angel - My Family and... (3:10)

"What values and qualities cultivated and allowed the young son of restauranteurs to grow as a performer? Watch as Criss shares his thoughts on his dad, one of the most influential role models in his life.."

Access all the video's at:

http://www.aetv.com/video/home/index.jsp?subcat_id=criss_angel

Toothpick Trick..

And just in case you missed Criss' performing the Toothpick Trick, and the solution, here's another video for you..

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-bWGwsOPPwQ>

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Elliot's Magic Corner

Elliot K. Jorpeland, aka 'MagicGuy', has created a web site with several popular handling ideas for a couple of magic's more popular effects. He's combined text, photo's, and video to explain his handling for all the effects, with the exception of 'Show Off', which is a video demonstration only

Visit Elliot and learn the secret to:

Muscle Pass - How is it done?
Thoughts on Muscle Pass

Pen Through Anything
Thoughts on Pen Thru Bill

Joker Ambitious - card magic

Video clips of 'Muscle Pass', 'Pen Through Anything', and 'Show Off.."

<http://www.royal.no/elliott/>

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La Magie Cabaret

Carson Kahn loves bills that float and notes that fold. So much in fact that he has set up a web site with both video and written text instructions for the classic 'Self-Folding Bill' and the 'Floating Note'.

Also included is a word doc. titled 'Mind Reading', and a link to my favorite book of magic, Mark Wilson's Complete Course in Magic..

Check it out. Many a magician have paid good money for this information in the past...

<http://tinyurl.com/fvvpl> Click Here

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Unlocking the Real Secrets of Magic

I recently received notice from my Irish friend, Gary McCaffrey, that he has put together a package of many of the greatest works ever put between two covers. I'm talking about works that I refer to EVERY week to help me uncover a "new" effect.

How would you like to receive electronic copies of:

Expert at the Card Table, Bobo's "Modern Coin Magic", The Royal Road to Card Magic, Anneman's "Mental Miracles", Jean Hugard's excellent "Encyclopedia of Card Tricks", and Tarbell's Original Course in Magic.. all sixty courses. (Worth WAY more than the cost of the entire package!)

And this is a Partial List !

These may be in modern electronic form, but they are true classics of magic that should be a part of every magicians library - and can be for LESS than the cost of one typical magic dvd. All I ask you to do is click the link and have a look... you may get a little "bonus" just for looking...

Click Here

<http://www.magictricks101.com/?id=carruth00>

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The Hubble Deep Field: The Most Important Image Ever Taken

Folks, this is REAL magic. This is creation type magic. This is magic from darn close to cthe moment of conception for all of space.. as we know it.

Yes, I have a slightly cerebral side that loves the mysteries of life. And I have a warm spot in my soul for the post rock, pre Enigma music of Pink Floyd..

Combine the Hubble telescope and Pink Floyd in a six and a half minute video and you have.. voila!

-- The Hubble Deep Field --

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mcBV-cXVWFw>

Rock Music 101

Side note: Maybe two miles from where I sit is a small wooden house with slat board siding that was the home of Pink Anderson. Pink was a local legend in the music community throughout the forties, fifties, and sixties here in Spartanburg.

Known for his carolina blues, similar in style to Blind Boy Fuller, Pink rarely left the Spartanburg area, aside from a couple of recording sessions in Atlanta, Ga., and a stint as a performer with a traveling medicine show.

Floyd Council, another blues artist from the Carolina's, Raleigh-Durham in fact, never had the pleasure of recording with, or, as far as anyone can tell, playing with Pink Anderson.

Despite their relative obscurity, they still managed to influence Syd Barrett (the recently deceased founder of Pink Floyd) who read their names on a sleeve note by Paul Oliver for a 1962 Blind Boy Fuller LP.

"Curley Weaver and Fred McMullen, Pink Anderson or Floyd Council -- these were a few amongst the many blues singers that were to be heard in the rolling hills of the Piedmont, or meandering with the streams through the wooded valleys."

Juxtapositioning the first names of Pink Anderson and Floyd Council, Syd immortalized these two piedmont blues singer/guitar players in the name of his new band..... Pink Floyd.

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FRAUD !

Yes, today, Wednesday the 20th of September at 12:00 PM sharp, 'E' releases the long awaited Daniel Garcia video. " FRAUD ". If you haven't seen the video, now's the time..

<http://www.301url.com/ellusionist>

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Well folks.. that's all for now, and it's been my pleasure...

Email Me with your request, rants, and raves. I love to hear from you, just to know that my newsletter is making it to it's intended destinations. Last issue 304 AOL users didn't receive their newsletter. They know better than the subscriber what the subscriber should be reading.. or NOT reading..

If you have a suggestion for a resource, let me know what you've found. And, if you have a magic related article, send it to me (no attachments please) and let's see if we can't send your ideas to readers around the world. If it needs a little editing for spelling or because english isn't your given language, don't worry... I'll take care of that...

Forward this newsletter on to others, if you have friends you think may be interested. I enjoy watching my subscriber count rise each issue.

Don't forget to visit my blog at...
<http://www.streetmagic.info/blogger.html>

Street Magic Bullets.... <http://www.streetmagic.info>
Magic Roadshow..... <http://www.magicroadshow.com>
StreetMagicSecrets.... <http://www.streetmagicsecrets.info>

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Kranzo video's

Nice Box - Classic card to box with a flash!

Ask a Pro

Slight of Cards

Card to Wallet... (without the Card and the Wallet)

Flydini video - Steve Martin at his best

Made in Japan - Free effect

Annemann Bullet Catch - rare video

"If we were all given by magic power to read each other's thoughts, I suppose the first effect would be to dissolve all friendships"
Bertrand Russell (English Logician and Philosopher 1872-1970)

"Sometimes I don't want to see the puppeteers, sometimes I just want to see the magic.."
Unk.



Nathan Kranzo Interview

Funnyman and magician supreme, Nathan Kranzo has literally toured the world, displaying his unique brand of magic.

A featured performer at Hollywoods Magic Castle, Nathan has had his magic on display on the TV series The Virtual Magician, which aired in over forty countries, and served as magic and technical consultant to some of the biggest names in magic.

You've seen Chris Korn perform Nathan's effects on Mondo Magic. And if you watched Penn & Tellers Off The Deep End... yep, Nathan was a consultant there as well..

1) Tell us about your introduction to magic and your early years.

I remember my first real magician but probably my first introduction into magic was my grandfather. He was quite the prankster. Didn't really know magic but played a lot of practical jokes and gags.

(2) Who were your influences and did you have a mentor?

Early on it was Jim Pavlica. He was a loval guy who is and was very talented and well read. He kinda showed me my first real sleight of hand.

(3) If perfect practice makes perfect, then how do you practice. Do you involve mirrors or video's. Is there any particular routine to your practice?

Yes. Mirror's, video, other people. Nothing beats the camera other than a live person to give you feedback. Both are priceless to improve your craft.

(4) How long would you work on an effect before adding it to your routine? How long would you work on an original effect before releasing it to the public?

It come be three years or three days depending on the effect. The great thing about having a regular place to perform is you get to test out new material instantly and you also need a place to "be bad" or work out kinks.

As far as releasing an effect is concerned I try and research everything about it even remotely related. Sometimes the research take longer then working on the actual effect.

(5) Cards or Coins? Which do you prefer and why?

I started with cards and spent quite a bit of time with card magic. Most people call me a coin guy. I really don't perform much coin magic but what I do perform has taken me years and is very polished.

Peopl have an inherent interest in money so it's always good to know some coin magic.

(6) Which three card sleights and coin sleights do you consider absolutely essential?

Cards - top change, palm, force

Coins - Fingerpalm, French Drop, Retention Pass

(7) An effect like 'Stick 4' from "Things with Cards" uses a gaffed card. What are your thoughts on gaffed cards and/or decks, and do you use gaffs in any of your performances.

I love gaffs. Gaffs combined with great sleight of hand can be deadly. COMbining methods and techniques is always the best way to conceal the method. I use gaffs whenever they help me achieve a more magical moment.

(8) I watched Chris Korn perform your effect, 'Bande Du Soleil', on Mondo Magic, and was really impressed. (For the uninformed, there's a video on your web site). Tell me something about the creative process of developing a new effect like this. Do you seriously brainstorm, or is it more of an idea or effect slowly morphing into another effect.?

In this case it was years of having the idea in my head before actually trying it. I shot myself down in my minds several times thinking "this wont' fool anyone, it will be obvious..."

But I'm glad I did it! It took a little refining the the basic idea was always there.

(9) 'Fire Coins', one of my favorite effects in all the world of magic. The production, vanishing, and then re-production of the three coins, in the midst of fire, is so original it's ridiculous that one mind could fathom this effect. Is there a history behind it, and where did you come up with the idea..?

Yes the vanish sequence is inspired by some of Troy Hooser and Homer Liwag's work. The idea of adding a lighter to enhance the vanish of the coins is something I've always played with ever since I got my first coin gaffs. The idea of the matches was inspired by Derek Dingle. The routine is really a combination of several great ideas strung together. It all fell together after years of playing with different effects and moments with the coins and fire.

(10) Restaurant magic is a favorite topic with my readers. How would you go about approaching a restaurant? Tips or Salary.. and why?

No way working for tips only. Just my opinion.

The best way to get a restaurant is to first off actually be good and have something to offer to the restaurant! Getting the meeting can be difficult but I usually offer one night for free as a trial and after that you can usually sell the idea no problem. Look for non-chain restaurants as they don't have corporate to answer to.

I have a lot of ideas on how to land a restaurant that will be in an up-coming project. :)

(11) One of my most-asked questions is: From the time you approach a table until you're finished at that table, what is your general routine? How many effects do you perform?

Anywhere from 5 seconds to much longer depending on the situation. The general rule of thumb is AFTER the order and BEFORE the food. That window can be small if you have approached the table just before the food arrives. It's good to have routines that are quick and modular. Either they are fast and don't take much time, or each phase of the routine is strong enough to end on if need be.

12) Do you find card tricks easier or harder to perform in a restaurant than coin magic, and do you use utility devices? (thumb tips, coin benders, wallets, thumb writers, etc.)

I use any utility device necessary! No mercy. :)

I think coins are easier as they involve money (something of interest) where as cards can be intimidating and set pre-conceived thoughts about card tricks. Everyone knows one card trick and they usually think that's all you know.

(13) If I approached you after one of your killer lectures and told you of my desire to be a full time professional magician, what bit of information would you send me home with?

It's all about entertainment. You don't need many effects, you don't need much props. IF you are entertaining they will like you. Work on how to entertain an audience by watching comedians, actors, and musicians etc.

Making them laugh and care about what you are doing is much more important than having an invisible pass.

(14) For each hour you spend practicing your magic, how long do you spend performing marketing related task? Do you use an agent?

I have several agencies that call me but don't have an agent per sey. It doesn't matter how good you are if nobody know's how to contact you or what your act is about.

I spend more time on marketing than I do actually practicing at this point. That wasn't always true.

Marketing is very important.

(15) I know your travels have taken you across the country and around the world to places in Europe and Asia. What group or country responds most

favorably to your magic, and if you weren't rooted in Michigan, where would you like to go back to?

Japan was great. I love the people, food, culture, everything was great. They really love magic and react great to astonishment.

(16) I know you served as a consultant on "Off the Deep End". Aside from years of establishing your reputation as a world-class magician, how do you go about getting the title of 'consultant' for Penn & Teller?

Luck. :) Actually my friend Michael Weber was working with Penn and Teller and Michael suggested my effect for their special.

(17) Subscribers who sign up for your newsletter often get fr'ee PDF's that other magicians would charge an arm and a leg for. Are you a really rich guy who doesn't need our cold, hard cash?

Heheh...

Actually I just really appreciate all of my fans and people who support my magic. It is my way of re-paying them.

(18) Personally, I feel mentalism will be the next 'big' thing in magic. What percentage of your stand up and stage performance utilizes mentalism/mental magic? Do you ever work it into a restaurant routine?

My stage show is about 50/50. I have always loved mentalism but always had difficulty pulling it off because i'm not a REAL serious performer. My character is humorous and that can be difficult in mentalism. BUT it isn't impossible. I have spent that last few years trying to equal out that balance of comedy and mental routines.

Most of the material I perform in my act was worked out in the restaurant in some way. Some of the effects are too big to perform or just rely on too many people for you to duplicate it in the restaurant. Luckily most of them CAN be scaled down and rehearsed in the restaurant environment and I'm lucky to have that.

(19) Creative license allows me one dumb question per interview. You've been to Chicago to lecture. You're headed back out I-94 toward Kalamazoo and one of those lake effect blizzards strands you at a cheap motel. Only problem is... you have to share the room with three magicians who were headed west. Who are you shackled up with and why?

I'd be shackled up with Sean Bagunia because he lives nearby and I would probably be giving him a ride home. The other two would be Lee Asher and Aaron Fisher.

We always seem to end up in crazy situations and chances are someone would either end up in the hospital, or jail that night.

(20) Last but not least.. I could hardly wait to ask you to confirm the rumor I've heard through the magic underground that you're releasing an effect called BOX MONSTER that's going to... well, to use an old cliché, blow everyone away. Why should I want it, and when can I get it?

You should want it because it is one of the strongest effects possible with a deck of cards. Here is what the dealer's add would look like:

Borrow ANY deck of cards. Two cards are selected. Both cards are separately shuffled back into the deck in a very open and fair manner. The cards are placed inside the box.

You snap your fingers and the box pops open by itself. This looks so cool....

You snap your fingers again and the first selection slowly rises out of the deck where it can immediately be handed to the person who chose it.

The deck is spread on the table...and with one last snap of the fingers, one card slowly crawls out of the spread revealing itself (this is the part that scares people). The card is turned over and of course it is the second selection. The deck can be handed out for immediate examination.

Clean. Strong. Scary. Practical.

It is a monster. AND it will be available before Christmas.

The ads just came out in this month's Genii and Magic magazines. You can watch online for a teaser or go to <http://www.hismagic.com> and sign up for

my newsletter. Not only will you receive free effects and other great information BUT you will also be the first to know the release date and ordering info for my new effect Box Monster.

...Nathan, thanks for the great interview. I appreciate it, and I know my readers do too.

I encourage you to go to Nathans site and sign up for his newsletter. Unlike many magicians who use newsletters strictly to sell their products, Nathan gives away killer free pdf's to his subscribers.

http://www.hismagic.com/?page_id=21

Get a quick look at Nathan performing three different effects on these youtube video's...

Invisible Elasticity 2

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4nusfXC9-yY>

The Big Push

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sOvE6EMr96w>

Credit Card Vanish

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ddEuj6SmnS0>

Nice Box - Classic card to box with a flash!
Nathan Kranzo

Nathan has graciously offered this free effect to readers of the Roadshow. It's a pdf file, and you can right click and 'save as' to your desktop.

A card is freely selected from a shuffled deck in use. The card is lost in the deck and the nearby card box is tossed into the air. As it hurls back towards the Earth it lands in the deck sandwiching itself right in the middle of the cards. With a snap of the fingers the box squirts back out of the deck and into the air where it is caught in the right hand. The box is shaken and there is something inside. You pull out the signed selection to their amazement.

http://www.hismagic.com/magic/Nice_Box.pdf

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Ask A Pro

Now, YOU can ask David Breth any question that you would like an honest, professional answer to..

If your question is selected as one of the questions answered, then YOU will receive a free copy of one of the classic books, in ebook form, in all of magic; The Royal Road to Card Magic...

Don't miss your chance to add a copy of this classic to your library.

Email your question to: Ask a Pro

David

If I am presenting a magic trick surrounded by many people, what are the factors to take note of while carrying out acts of misdirections and not be suspected?

Thanks
Mason

Mason,

Great question. The answer to this is not "what are the factors to take note of while carrying out acts of misdirection."

Mason, the true factors have to be taken note of long prior to attempting to carry out any acts of misdirection. You have two factor to consider when you are preparing to perform for a 'live' audience.

Practice

Rehearsal

Practice is what you do from the moment you read the book, watch the DVD, take the trick from its package and read the instructions that came with it. Webster's unabridged dictionary defines practice as:

prac·tice (prkts)

v. prac·ticed, prac·tic·ing, prac·tic·es

v. tr.

1. To do or perform habitually or customarily; make a habit of: practices courtesy in social situations.
2. To do or perform (something) repeatedly in order to acquire or polish a skill: practice a dance step.
3. To give lessons or repeated instructions to; drill: practiced the students in handwriting.
4. To work at, especially as a profession: practice law.
5. To carry out in action; observe: practices a religion piously.

The above definition typed speaks loads of valuable advice to you, me and all that desire to become the best performer they can be. Practicing your craft is vital, this is where you want to lock yourself in your quiet place and do just as Daniel Webster suggests in his dictionary To do or perform (something) repeatedly in order to acquire or polish a skill: practice a dance step.

In other words, practice the "move", technique, your banter so that you do it verbatim every time and without the slightest hint of reservation!!!

Rehearsal is defined this time from Noah Webster's unabridged dictionary as:

Rehearsal n 1: a practice session in preparation for a public performance (as of a play or speech or concert); "he missed too many rehearsals"; "a rehearsal will be held the day before the wedding"

Rehearsal on the other hand is the visual and audible effect from the practice you so feverishly employed. To attempt to execute a 'move' or even a self-working 'trick' without proper practice will show in diverse situations. The flip side is also true that if you are walking out into the real world and are going to perform without rehearsing what it is you have been practicing

is merely a trick, or even a puzzle that receives a question mark from your audience, bewilderment, and or they walk away confused, due the fact you just presented something that was so mechanical in the working of it that the real reason for doing what you were doing (behind your back, etc.) leaves a really foul taste in their mouth.

Those that try and perform a 'magical' feat without adequate practice, not only make them selves look foolish and ill prepared, but give the real workers, the professionals a 'bad' name as well. If you are not willing to invest your valuable time into the beautiful art form we call magic do not show it to others and give me a bad name.

This said to be sure not to be detected while performing make sure that you place the much needed time into practice and rehearsal!!!

David Breth

<http://www.magictainmentshow.com>

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Slight of Cards

Slight of cards features several different effects, displayed on video and aimed toward magic newbie's. You can access the following video's:

The Card Roll

The roll lets you switch cards face up to face down with 1 finger

Simple Color Change

Change a card in your hand to a different color and suite!

Riffle Shuffle

Learn to shuffle cards, riffle style!

Mind Flipping

Magically flip a card in a deck with your mind!

<http://www.slightofcards.com/>

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Do YOU have the tools to become the magician you truly want to be? Do you have the absolute World Class instructions that turns wanna-be's into professionals. If you have the will-power, I have the way...

Click Here (<http://www.301url.com/streetmagic>)

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Card to Wallet... (without the Card and the Wallet)

This is just like the card to wallet effect, but without the card or the wallet. Huh?

Don't ask questions guys, just do as I say. Take a small, blank piece of paper and write the name of your favorite card on it. Now, take this piece of paper and put it in a card box, along with a deck of cards. Make sure to put the paper in the box so the deck can be removed and the paper left in the box unseen.

Have a small piece of double-sided tape on one side of the card box. Now, you're set to perform.

Remove the deck from the box, leaving the paper in the box. Set the box casually to one side, as if it has nothing to do with the trick. You don't want anyone paying any attention whatsoever to the box. You can now flip through the deck in order to remove the jokers, and bring the card you've wrote on the paper to the top. Or, you can already have the chosen card on top of the deck. Either way, you can now shuffle the deck a couple of times, leaving the top card in place.

Spread the deck and ask the spectator to remove one card from pack and place it on top of the pack without looking at it. Openly set the deck on the table.

Tell the spectator that you have made a prediction, and that with any luck, your prediction will match their chosen card, as you pick up the card box and set it on top of the deck with the double-sided tape down. Make SURE you set the box on top of the deck very squarely. Talk for a moment or two about the odds of what you are about to do, or talk about the weather or the Dallas Cowboys... whatever.. just talk!

Reach down with your left hand and pick the box up with two fingers by pinching it on the sides, near the top flap. Bring it straight up, carrying the top card off the deck.. stuck to the double sided tape. Quickly move it into the palm of your right hand and close your fingers around the box, both concealing and securing the card that's attached to the box.

Open the flap with your left hand and let the prediction slide out. Hand the prediction to the spectator as you set the box to one side or drop it in a pocket. By verbally focusing on the prediction and asking the spectator to focus on the prediction you are taking the box out of the equation.

Now, allow the spectator to both open the prediction and turn over the top card of the deck, which, of course, will match your prediction.

You can just as easily use a wallet for this effect, if you want. Or, use a book in which you've placed your prediction. If you use a book, you can place the book on top of the deck without making any mention of the prediction. Once the book is on top of the deck, THEN explain what you are about to do, open the front cover of the book and remove the prediction, and then lift the book (and the top card) with one hand and set it to one side. The size and weight of a book makes this is a super easy method...

RCarruth

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Flydini

My friend, James Bower, recently sent me this wonderful little video of Steve Martin performing onstage as FLYDINI.

Why Flydini?

Watch and it will be evident. Did you guys realize Steve Martin used to be a magician of sorts in his earlier days? One of his first jobs in Hollywood was at Disneyland in the Magic Shop on Main Street, USA. He still maintains a love of magic and the 'bizarre'...

Although the video is really more about entertainment than magic, you can learn much by watching Steve as he performs without uttering a single word...

<http://vids.myspace.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=vids.individual&videoid=692924268&n=2>

To get a look at Steve's slightly bizarre side, check out this widely distributed cartoon video of Steve Martin as MortoMagician

<http://www.funnyheck.com/mortomagician.html>

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Made in Japan

This is a nice little free effect provided by 5fingermagic. Watch as a prediction of a chosen card, written in Japanese on the back of a card box, magically changes to the correct card with a little jiggle of the box.

Click on the Quicktime or Windows Media Player icons to watch the effect, and then click 'Free Solution' to view the solution..

<http://www.5fingermagic.com/>

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Annemann Bullet Catch

No one has had the influence on the world of mentalism as that of Theo Annemann. Although he only lived to his mid thirties, his influence has surpassed that of any other mentalists. I dare say that he has sold more books in the past twenty years than during the span of his lifetime, and he passed in the 40's!

Here is a historic video of Annemann performing his renown bullet catch in New York state. Although you won't discover any deep dark secrets here, this is a good video to add to your collection..

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OehGgeNLqZg>

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Expert at the Card Table - free download

Here's the download link for new subscribers..

<http://www.301url.com/erdnase>

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Bless you for making it this far.. I sincerely hope you've taken something of value with you. I know I learn something from each newsletter, simply through the process of scouring the web, looking for resources...

If you know of any magic related resources on the web, share it with me so I can share it with others..

Again, If I can help you with your magic, Email Me

Remember to visit some of my other sites at:

<http://www.StreetMagic.info>

Don't forget to [email me](#) for whatever reason. Actually, you don't need a reason.. just email and say "Hi".

Thanks to all of you who have purchased those super-cheap memberships to my favorite teaching site,

CardSleights, now known as CardTricks1 (<http://www.301url.com/cardsleights>) and

bought my

favorite off-the-wall ebook Astounding Secrets

(<http://www.StreetMagic.info/astounding.html>).

Remember, if you bought either, and want a free copy of Easy Mentalism, let me know and it's yours...

I have syndicated all new posts to my blog, Magic Bullets from the Magic Roadshow. Now, you can go

to this link, enter your email address and click 'subscribe', and you'll receive an email with my complete

post whenever I publish a new article to the blog.. It's simple, there's No Spamming, and you can

unsubscribe from the feed at any time. All subscriptions are handled thru Feedblitz, and remember, you

WILL NOT receive any emails from Feedblitz, or anyone else, other than the new post itself.

<http://www.feedblitz.com/f/?Sub=70161>

On with the Roadshow..

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My Best Free Semi-Magical Tool for Magicians

Being an editor/writer of sorts, I'm always on the lookout for any tool that will help me compose my

humble articles. Now, I realize that many of you may not be writers, or even like writers for that

matter, but don't, for a moment, let that stop you from reading this article.

What I'm going to share with you is a tool that is so useful that if the extent of your editing is typing a

heading on a report and safely storing it in a file, then you STILL need this tool.

Google, being the little juggernaut they are, can't be content with simply having the number one search

engine and the number one web based email server. No, they have some little guy named Trevor,

sitting in a cramped southwest ground floor office, who feels that developing a method for sharing, editing, and storing your documents should be of importance to the average internet user, and that Google, again, should be at the forefront. Give the little guy a raise and a corner office. WRITELY is Google's latest web based tool to show the possibility of dominating a market. And why should the average magician give a hoot about Google's new tool/toy ? Read on... Writely can best be described as a web based word processor - on steroids. Developers have took heed of the business trend that allows small groups of workers to work together on projects, with each employee having the ability to alter and/or edit documents for the collective good of the group. File sharing has always been problematic. Google email provided users with the ability to swap large files back and forth. But you had no way of seeing the 'latest' version, unless someone took time to mail it to you. But Rick, you know magician's don't share.. at least not their 'good stuff' anyway. With Writely, everyone, and I mean everyone with an email address, can sign up for the newly released beta version and share documents instantly, edit documents from any location with internet service, and store your documents in a secure enviroment that backs itself up every ten seconds. Collaboration is in real-time, so the right hand always knows what the left is doing. You can store your documents online and grant access and editing privileges to anyone in your circle of family, friends, and co-workers. And the type of documents you can upload and store is not limited to the conventional text documents. Writely stores all documents in html. What this means to you is - you can upload Microsoft Word documents, OpenOffice, RTF, HTML, and the normal text documents, and all will be securely stored, and can be edited, in the Writely editor. OK guys.. pay attention, here's the payoff.. Documents can be 'saved as' in a number of different ways. You can save a document to HTML and upload it to the web. You can save a document as a .zip file. And the kicker - you can create documents with the online editor, then convert the document to PDF and save it to your desktop. Onced saved, the converted document will retain ALL THE LINKS AND IMAGES of the original document. All you magician-types out there who have not sprung for a PDF converter are actually going to benefit from hesitating. Since many of the magic documents out there are compiled in a PDF format, you can now write your essays, notes, effects, etc's.. and save them as a PDF to share or sell to the magic community at large.

Yeah, there are free converters to be found if you search the web, but they don't convert your url's and images so they're readable in the PDF document. Links can be seen with these converters, but they aren't clickable. And what good would an ebook detailing your effect be if you couldn't show readers a few images?

Like any good WYSIWYG editor, the Writely editor will allow to to perform all the usual functions, including indentation, bulleted lists, coloration, table functions, image importation, and url conversion.

Then, save your document as a PDF file, and you will automatically create your own PDF's with

imbedded links, color, and images.

If you prefer to create documents in Microsoft Word, you can upload your document to Writely, then

save as a PDF doc. - and voila, you're in business..

Oh, there are many other reasons for signing up for Writely, but I will allow you to discover your own favorite reasons.

Writely will perform with most browsers, including Firefox, but will not support Netscape 4, Opera, IE 5

(Mac) or IE 4 (Windows).

<http://www.writely.com>

RCarruth

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How To Double Your Income As A Performer

by Dennis Regling

As a performer, we only have a limited number of days we can perform each year. We also find that the

fees we can charge are sometimes limited by our market's ability to pay.

The question comes then, how can we increase our income without taking more time away from our families.

David Copperfield has a secret. It's called BOR which stands for Back Of the Room merchandising. After

his shows, David Copperfield sells T-shirts and other souvenirs. This has been used by singers for years at their concerts.

Whether you are a magician, clown, speaker or other performer, most gigs will provide you an

opportunity to sell product after your presentation. Motivational speakers sell their books and tapes.

Clowns may sell animal balloons. Singers sell CD's and shirts.

As a magician, you can sell magic kits, autographed pictures, T-shirts and books. Ideally, the

merchandise will be personalized for you. You may sell a magic kit, but how much better if your picture

is on the box. If you wish to sell a book of magic tricks, write it yourself or use an instant author

program. Autographed pictures are great, and better yet if you personally sign them after the show.

Magician Greg Friesing in Niagara Falls charges his guests to have their picture taken with his tiger. Do you use a rabbit in your act? Get a digital camera with a docking port and you can sell and print pictures of your audience members with the bunny. You can staff the BOR table yourself, with your people, or let your host provide workers in exchange for a small percentage of sales. To increase sales, be sure to casually mention the BOR products during your show. Don't give an elaborate sales pitch, just let them know they will be available. Also, if you are pitching T-shirts, be sure stage hands and other staff all have a shirt to wear. You can also sell your BOR on your website. The key to success in all sales is to take maximum advantage of selling opportunities. You may even find you make more money at the BOR table than performing at some gigs. Good luck, and if you have questions, send them my way. Be sure to tell your magic friends about this newsletter.

For more information on BOR, go to: <http://bor.bigbig.com>
Dennis Regling, captdenno@yahoo.com
<http://www.bellaonline.com/articles/art43741.asp>

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~ Ask a Pro ~

(Remember to send in your questions and receive a FREE copy of Royal Road to Card Magic)
My question for David is... What is his favorite type of magic? (close-up, mentalism, stage)
What first got him started in magic?

Thanks
Zac

Hi Zac

Thanks for the question! Rather than detail my 'details' again, Rick featured an interview with me in the Roadshow about a year ago. You can get all the answers by following this link and Rick will send you a copy of Royal Road to Card Magic as well..

<http://www.streetmagic.info/eMagic27.html>

Hope this helps.

David

You can visit David at his site: <http://www.DavidBreth.com> or

<http://www.magictainmentshow.com>

and find out more about his parties and close-up shows by visiting <http://www.tower-belair.com>

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Smoke and Mirrors..

I'm sure many of you are familiar with Angelo Stagnaro's popular "Smoke & Mirrors" ezine. For those of you who aren't a subscriber, Angelo edits a free monthly ezine featuring at least two different effects and a wide variety of magic related announcements from around the world.

Currently mailed out to 4500 magicians on six continents, Smoke & Mirrors has featured the work of such luminaries as Alain Nu, Jarle Leirpoll, Scott F. Guinn, Aaron Smith, Guillaume Singer, Carl Andrews, Ed Solomon, Mike Bornstein, Paul Gordon, Gene Poinc, Don Drake and Peter Marucci. I've been a subscriber to Angelo's popular ezine for over two years and look forward to each issue with youthful anticipation. Sign up and you will too...

The easiest way to sign up is visit Angelo's site at: <http://www.kismetmagic.com> and click on the 'latest issue' link at the top of the page.

Smoke & Mirrors is a Topica list, and subscribers will be emailed an announcement weekly.

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Remote Show Control with a Laptop

Jeff Haas has put together a great little site detailing how a magician, or any performer in fact, can

construct a self-made system for cueing your own music. The system can be used to provide sound

effects as well. You can assemble a system that rivals an expensive factory made system at a fraction

of the cost. All that's required is:

A laptop

a remote control of a specific type detailed by Jeff

software to convert your CD tracks to MP3 (free),

Software to play your MP3's (WinAmp)

A cord

A small bag of connectors

The remote can be kept in your pocket and used to prompt your sound whenever you're ready. I've

read through the site and not only is the system easy to construct, but practical as well.

You can check it out at..

<http://members.tripod.com/remotelaptop/index.html>

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Wizards Magic Chest

Bill Davis, the founder of Bill Davis Magic, is a master magician with over 25 years of experience. He

has taught many children and adults magic over the years, and prides himself in having a unique

teaching style that allows children and adults to quickly learn the art of magic so they can perform just

as well as the most seasoned professional.

Bill incorporates his unique teaching style into the instructions presented with each magic trick

manufactured and distributed by Bill Davis Magic, which allows all aspiring magicians to easily master

these amazing effects.

<http://www.wizardsmagicchest.net>

PS.. When ordering, tell Bill, in the comment box, that you heard about him in the Magic Roadshow and

receive FREE shipping on all orders..

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Derek Merdinyan's MagiComic

Derek has a comic. Specifically, a MagiComic, which is his unique way of sharing an effect with his audience. In this one, he takes an effect first popularized by Jay Sankey-John Bannon-John Kennedy, and adds his own twist.

"Nailed", the impaling of a selected card on a large spike, isn't an easy effect, but it's a good one..

View this issue of MagiComic exclusively on Putfile..

<http://www.putfile.com/derekmerdinyan/>

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Ten Card Tricks - Free eBook

Although there are a couple of ebooks out there titled 10 CARD TRICKS, and I think I offer or have

offered most at one time or another, I have never offered this one in the past. Most of the effects are

aimed toward the beginner, but don't let that stop you.

Remember, it's always been my contention that most of the great effects are simple card tricks that

have been dressed in an extra coat of zeal and transformed into small works of art.

Inspiration comes in many forms and almost always begins as a simplistic vision.

You can download it as a zip file here..

<http://www.streetmagicsecrets.info/TenCardTricks.zip>

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Ghost Whisperer Crystal Ball

I've featured this effect in the Roadshow in the past, and I'm going to feature it again now.

Although it

is totally mathematically based, until you grasp the principle it seems as if it's a minor miracle. I had a

very well-versed magician try this recently and it took four divinations for the 'secret' to hit home.

You don't appreciate the effect until you've done it at least twice. Once you realize that you're not

getting the same answer over and over, it becomes a little more mystifying.

Ghost Whisperer crystal ball

http://www.cbs.com/primetime/ghost_whisperer/crystal_ball.shtml

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Are You a Mind Reader?

Have you ever tried to guess what someone else is thinking? If the answer is yes, then you should think

of yourself as a wannabe mind reader. It's true that there are many people who have this ability but it's

good to know that most of the mind readers work by illusion and suggestion. In case you'd like to be a

mind reader, you should be aware that it will take some time and work but you can succeed. Magicians

are famous for knowing what others are thinking. Actually it's one of their most famous tricks to be a

mind reader.

This trick is frequently used. They blindfold the magician and with the help of his assistant they go to a

member of the audience and do the trick. Firstly, they tell him to show an object in his pocket and ask

the magician what the object is. The magician answers "A comb" or any other subject that the audience member is holding. This might seem breathtaking but in fact it is simple and the magician is not a mind reader, not even close to it.

This is just a trick because people carry certain things in their pockets - money, driver's licenses, combs and the like. All the magician has to do is make a list of all the common items and then think of a code with his assistant. For instance, she might say "what is this man holding" when the member of the audience has a comb in his pocket, or "what is in her hand" when it is a coin, "Can you guess what it is?" for a driver's license and etc. The so called mind reader should have a good memory and that's it!

He doesn't need any other special abilities, certainly not magic ones. This whole thing is just one trick

and it can be easily learned by anyone who is a good memorizer.

Mind reading is also frequently used by street magicians. The magician gathers a crowd and picks one

of the audience. He asks this man to write down the name of a loved one on a piece of paper and put it

in a sealed envelope. Then the so called mind reader tries to guess the name by touching the envelope

and guess what? He succeeds! The whole crowd believes the magician is a truthful mind reader.

However, the magician is just a smart con artist, not a mind reader. He has someone in the crowd to

help him. This person reads the name written and tells it to the magician by certain gestures and

signals. Everyone is looking at the magician and the sealed envelope, so this isn't very hard. There is a

special code for each letter. And again there is no mind reader, just a magician with its tricks.

In conclusion, if you feel like being a mind reader, all you have to do is find a trusted helper; you don't

need any other ability. Doing such tricks is not difficult at all, it just takes good technique and some

practice. Once you know what you are doing, then you are ready for a performance in front of a large

crowd.

Morgan Hamilton offers expert advice and great tips regarding all aspects concerning entertainment.

Get the information you are seeking now by visiting Mind Reader ..

<http://www.yourentertainmentsite.com/entertainment/entertainment/are-you-a-mind-reader.html>

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Unlocking the Real Secrets of Magic (AD)

(plus free ebook just for looking)

I recently published notice from my Irish friend, Gary McCaffrey, that he had put together a package of

many of the greatest works ever put between two covers. I'm talking about works that I refer to EVERY

week to help me uncover a "new" effect.

Get complete electronic copies of each of these classics..

Erdnase "Expert at the Card Table"

Bobo's "Modern Coin Magic"

The Royal Road to Card Magic

Anneman's "Mental Miracles"

Jean Hugard's "Encyclopedia of Card Tricks"

Tarbell's Original Course in Magic.. all sixty courses. (Worth WAY more than the cost of the entire

package!)

And this is a PARTIAL List !

These may be in modern electronic form, but they are true classics of magic that should be a part of

every magicians library - and can be for LESS than the cost of one typical magic dvd. All I ask you to do

is click the link and have a look... you'll get a little "bonus" just for looking...

Click Here ==> <https://paydotcom.com/r/3943/carruth00/176483/>

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Nathan Kranzo's Box Monster (AD)

- Nathan gave you guys a heads up in the last issue. Well, the Monster has arrived -

"The spectator selects two cards from the deck-- there are no forces. With no funny moves, the cards

are placed back in the center of the deck. The deck is then placed back into the box. The box is closed."

"With no false movements, the card box visibly snaps open and one card is then seen to slowly, visibly

rise up out of the deck."

"Your hand grips the card gently and pulls it out of the deck. The card is slowly turned over - it's the

first card they selected. You bring the cards down to the table and spread them from right to left."

"Then, one card begins to slowly move OUT of the spread, towards the spectator -- while on the table.

You've never seen anything like this. And neither have they-- it's plain eerie. The card moves out of a

spread on the TABLE."

Everything is included except a regular deck of cards..

Watch the video ==> <http://www.ellusionist.com/cart/?aid=1186>

=====

A little girl had been shopping with her Mom in Target. She must have been 6 years old, this beautiful

red haired, freckle faced image of innocence. It was pouring outside. The kind of rain that gushes over

the top of rain gutters, so much in a hurry to hit the earth it has no time to flow down the spout. We all

stood there under the awning and just inside the door of the Target.

We waited, some patiently, others irritated because nature messed up their hurried day. I am always

mesmerized by rainfall. I got lost in the sound and sight of the heavens washing away the dirt and dust

of the world. Memories of running, splashing so carefree as a child came pouring in as a welcome
reprieve from the worries of my day.
The little voice was so sweet as it broke the hypnotic trance we were all caught in "Mom
let's run
through the rain," she said.
"What?" Mom asked.
"Let's run through the rain!" She repeated.
"No, honey. We'll wait until it slows down a bit," Mom replied.
This young child waited about another minute and repeated: "Mom, let's run through the
rain,"
"We'll get soaked if we do," Mom said.
"No, we won't, Mom. That's not what you said this morning," the young girl said as she
tugged at her
Mom's arm.
This morning? When did I say we could run through the rain and not get wet?
"Don't you remember? When you were talking to Daddy about his cancer, you said, 'If God
can get us
through this, he can get us through anything!'"
The entire crowd stopped dead silent. I swear you couldn't hear anything but the rain. We
all stood
silently. No one came or left in the next few minutes.
Mom paused and thought for a moment about what she would say. Now some would laugh
it off and
scold her for being silly. Some might even ignore what was said. But this was a moment of
affirmation
in a young child's life. A time when innocent trust can be nurtured so that it will bloom into
faith.
"Honey, you are absolutely right. Let's run through the rain. If God let's us get wet, well
maybe we just
needed washing," Mom said.
Then off they ran. We all stood watching, smiling and laughing as they darted past the cars
and yes,
through the puddles. They held their shopping bags over their heads just in case. They got
soaked. But
they were followed by a few who screamed and laughed like children all the way to their
cars.
And yes, I did. I ran. I got wet I needed washing.
Circumstances or people can take away your material possessions, they can take away your
money,
and they can take away your health. But no one can ever take away your precious
memories..So, don't
forget to make time and take the opportunities to make memories everyday. To everything
there is a
season and a time to every purpose under heaven.

Till next time...

Rick Carruth / editor

Magic Roadshow
November 3rd, 2006 Issue# 58
Rick Carruth / editor (C)2006 All rights reserved

Street Magic's #1 free newsletter for magicians, street performers, restaurant workers, close-up artists, and mentalists, with subscribers in over sixty four countries worldwide.



Hello All..

Welcome back to the Magic Roadshow! I like to spend my first few moments of each issue offering a sincere Welcome to all the new subscribers who took the time to sign up since the last issue. If I can help you guys and ladies in any way, let me know..

Up front.. this issue is about effects and videos. Video is the future of the internet. It WILL NOT replace the written word, books and magazines did not cease with the advent of TV, but it will firmly establish it's place and define your viewing for the remainder of our generation..

Operating on the internet is a crap shoot. Trying to stay one step ahead of the masses is a never ending process. I initially addressed this issue in this column, then decided it was a little too much info to lead off the newsletter, and moved it to the end. If you make it that far.. give it a read.

I really wanted to get this issue out on the first day of the month, but I wasn't totally confident with my material. I felt things needed 'tweaking' a little before I mailed it out. Now, most of you guys will receive this issue on Friday, which is a terrible day to send out an email.

So, don't be surprised if you see another 'notification' about Monday or Tuesday that a new issue has been mailed. If I do send out a second notification, I'll include some sort of bonus to make it worth your time to open it..

Remember.. if you like the Roadshow, tell others. If not, tell me... EMAIL ME

I have more commentary at the bottom, but for now... on with the Roadshow.

In This Issue

Times 5 - A nice table trick

Cigarette from Thin Air (video) - Politically incorrect, but effective

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Free Course in Magic - Coin magic and bill effects

My Book Test - Corinda devised it, I tinkered with it

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Performance of the Week - How good is your Japanese

CNN/Money Report.. Getting Started in the Magic Business

John Kinde's Las Vegas Tips - Why pay for great info

Alpha and Omega - Our Place on the Web

"If you want to be creative, stay in part a child, with the creativity and invention that characterizes children before they are deformed by adult society."

-Jean Piaget

"Even if you are on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there."

-Will Rogers



Times 5

Here's a nice little effect that can be performed as a table trick. You produce from your pocket two or three quarters and a sharpie. Ask the audience to search their pockets and help you garner five coins total. Quarters work well, if you can get five alltogether. If not, borrow nickle's to go with the quarters. Regardless, make it appear as if you are casually trying to gather five coins for a trick.

Once the coins are on the table, begin openly marking each coin with a symbol of some sort. You can number them one thru five, or draw five different symbols, such as a square, a circle, a triangle, a wavy image, and a hexagon. Whatever is easier for you.

Take the five coins and either put them in a small glass or give them to a spectator to hold while you take a piece of paper a make a prediction. On the paper write your prediction and fold the paper and give it to a second spectator to hold. Now, you're ready to begin...

After establishing that you are psychic, since your grandmother was a gypsie, tell the spectator holding the coins that you are going to eliminate the coins in as fair a manner as possible. Ask him to shake the coins in his hand/in the container and pour them onto the table. Any coin that does not have a symbol showing is eliminated and removed from the effect. Have the spec pick up the remaining coins and repeat the process, again eliminating any coins without a symbol.

Once all the coins are eliminated, except one, pick up the coin and show it to the spectators, asking them if they can see that the symbol on the coin is a "whatever it may be".

Ask the spectator holding your prediction to open it - and reveal it to the rest of the spectators. It will match the sole remaining coin.

This effect works well with the proper patter, which is the difference between "Magic" and "just another trick"...

One of the coins you remove from your pocket is pre-marked with a symbol. It goes without saying that the audience is not allowed to see this. In your hand you can prevent anyone from seeing this coin, as you position them to be marked. You will also position the marked coin so you know exactly which one it is once you begin marking them.

The secret, of course, is to mark the marked coin with an identical symbol on the side the audience sees. This will be the only coin that, over time, never has a blank side showing, thus never eliminated. Make sure when marking the coins that you put some marks on the front and some on the back (heads and tails sides) so the audience is accustomed to seeing coins with marks on both sides...

Although it's not necessary, I like to have a second coin in my other pocket with a mark on one side. While the spectator is tossing the coins, I remove the coin from my pocket and keep it palmed in my left hand. After I've shown the remaining coin to the audience, and during the moments when the attention is focused on the spectator opening the prediction, I switch the two coins and drop the coin with marks on both sides into my trouser pocket. Now, any of the spectators can examine the coins without fear of discovery. If one of the spectators gave me a quarter, I make it a point to return the chosen coin to them, so it can be casually seen to have a mark on one side only.

Feel free to use more than five coins, but I wouldn't use less than five. Also, if you want to stretch the effect into a longer effect, use a small point marker and thirteen coins. Mark each coin with one of the numerical numbers of a deck of cards; A,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,J,Q,K. Use your favorite force to force a card and then reveal the numerical value of the card with your coins. There are many other possibilities. Use your imagination..

This basic principal has been around for many years and I cannot contribute it to any one magician.

=====

Cigarette from Thin Air (Video)

Lets see just how politically incorrect we can get. Cigarette effects, much like those popularized by excellent magicians like Tom Mullica, have fallen by the

wayside as the political tone makes it difficult to earn wide spread attention. But, I'm one of those that believes that there is a time and a place...

If you happen to perform in a bar or pub, this may be just what you're looking for..

Although the video was not professionally shot, it serves to get the point across. After watching it, you will know how to produce a cigarette from thin air. This may not be an effect in and of itself, but it is a cool way to produce a prop or simply produce a cigarette to impress a small audience.

This is an ideal example of what I referred to earlier when I spoke about the power of video and the future of the web. Look for more and more of this type of video's as the popularity of services such as YouTube, just purchased by Google, stretches it's arms and encompasses every aspect of Life-Magic-Entertainment. Now, you don't have to be a writer to get your point across.. You only need to have access to a video camera. (And who doesn't ?)

<http://youtube.com/?v=drBw1qHuBoE>

=====

Lit Match from Thin Air (Video)

What good would producing a cigarette be without the ability to produce a lit match. Are you actually going to magically produce a cigarette, and then dig in your pocket for a pack of matches? That's lame..

Actually, magicians frequently use fire during a performance, either to ignite flash paper, light a candle, burn a billet in an ash tray, or humor their pyromaniac self..

Here's an interesting nine minute video, detailing how one performer produces a lit match from virtually nowhere.

Since these video's are courtesy of YouTube, don't expect great production values. But you CAN expect to watch the video and learn a secret perhaps you didn't know beforehand..

<http://youtube.com/watch?v=ZQpYZym8LRA>

=====

Do What You HAVE To Do...

Do YOU have the tools to become the magician you truly want to be? Do you have the absolute World Class instructions that turns wanna-be's into professionals. If you have the will-power, I have the way...

Click Here

<http://www.ellusionist.com/cart/?aid=732>

=====

Houdini Goes Undercover (maybe..)

This month's MUM magazine features a cover story about the ever-popular Houdini, and how he became America's first "Superstar". I can't argue with that. But the stories go on reveal how certain folks think Houdini was actually working as a 'secret agent', perhaps working in conjunction with the British Intelligence.

Houdini was always in and/or about a jail or federal building. The thought is, Houdini could not have persuaded so many officials to allow him access to their facilities without a little influence from someone.

Because of his superstar status, Houdini toured the world, dined with dignitaries from every type of government, from the rich and free to the impoverished, and no doubt saw and heard information that, no matter how insignificant, may have been of value to certain other governments, primarily the United States and Great Britain. In return for his cooperation, Houdini may have been granted favored status that helped clear the red tape and open doors to the venues he needed to knock his competition in the dirt..

All is fair in love and magic..

<http://conjuringarts.org/news/newyorksun.shtml>

<http://apnews.myway.com//article/20061028/D8L1SJC80.html>

=====

Free Course in Magic

Here's a nice site, courtesy of Johnny Gentle, with some good instructions on various methods of vanishing single coins and multiple coins. Although this is the free version of a complete video course offered by Johnny, the instructions and effects, particularly the bank note effect, are very thorough..

To quote from the web site:

"The first video section is devoted to various methods of Vanishing a single coin or several coins. - Changing a coin from one denomination to another, where you can actual double your money or vice versa. - You can borrow a £2 coin and with a squeeze, change it into a 2 pence coin - always gets a laugh. In the USA, that would probably be changing a silver dollar into 10 cents."

Check it out..

<http://www.magicalsecret.com/lesson1.html>

=====

My Book Test

Mentalism 'book test' are a dime a dozen. Well, not actually a dime a dozen - I saw one on eBay last week for \$250.00 - but they ARE plentiful, although not cheap. I'm going to add my contribution to the fold, although my

contribution is not actually mine, but that of Corinda, from his "Thirteen Steps to Mentalism". I'm not going to quote Corinda, and I am going to add a couple of twist not seen in the original..

What I like about this particular effect is that it plays big or small, depending on where you're performing. You can perform it at a dinner table or in front of a crowd of hundreds. Either way - it's very effective.

First, inform your audience that although you try your best to be a decent kind of guy/lady, you cannot be trusted when it comes to revealing the results of an effect on which you're staking your reputation. Admit that you realize the paradox in your statement, but to limit your temptation to fudge, you're going to select a member of the audience to serve as the "Keeper of the Text". Give that audience member the book you intent to use for your book test. It doesn't matter what book you use, and popular and/or well known books work better than lesser know or obscure ones.

Take a piece of paper, whatever size you wish, and write three words on it, unseen by the audience. Fold the paper and place it to one side. If you're performing on stage, you can write your words on a much larger poster board or the back of a chalk board. The only requirement is that your action assures the audience that your prediction cannot be tampered with before it's revealed.

Pick up a second piece of paper, show it blank on both sides, and clip it to a clip board. Inform the audience that you are going to write three questions on the paper that they, the all-knowing audience, will answer. Write the following on the paper:

(A) Select a page number: _____

(B) Select a line number: _____

(C) Select 3 consecutive numbers between 1 and 12: _____

Once done, you're ready to hand the clip board to a random member of the audience and ask them to fill in the first blank. Now, encourage them to pass the clip board to another audience member, and then another, until the clip board is some distance removed from the first audience member. Ask that audience member to fill in the second blank. Repeat the process until you get the clipboard into the hands of the third audience participant. Ask them to write in three consecutive numbers between one and twelve, such as one, two, and three, or ten, eleven, twelve.

Giving this example to the audience member is a good thing, as they may have a little trouble with the word 'consecutive'. I'm not 'dumbing down' audience members, but when you put some folks in the spot light they get a little limpy..

Ask the third participant to take the paper off the clipboard. Ask them to fold the paper into until it's about the size of a pack of matches, and then clip it to the clipboard and pass it back to you. Assure them that you cannot possibly see the answers on the folded paper.

While the paper is being folded, you should casually slip your off-hand into your trouser pocket. Once the clip board is on its way back, palm a piece of paper that looks suspiciously like the folded paper on the clip board, that has been patiently waiting in your pocket since you put it there before your performance began..

What's on it? The page number, line number, and consecutive numbers of your prediction.

It's now time for the little bit of 'dirty work'. Assume the secret slip is in your left hand. Take the clip board in your right hand as it's passed back and turn to walk to a table or some point where you're going to lay the clip board. Turn and face the audience, clip board held in front of you about waist high and left hand at your side.

Reach up with your left hand and quickly pull the slip from the clip board. Since you're facing the audience, this little move is primarily hidden by the clip board. Don't look down. Look at the audience. As soon as you have removed the slip it goes into the palm of your hand on top of the secret slip. Believe me, as long as you've used the same paper to create both slips, no one will notice the dual slips in the palm of your hand.

Lay the clip board down and walk to the spectator chosen to hold the book. Although this next move may sound awkward.. it's not. Reach into the palm of your left hand with your right forefinger and thumb and pull the slips toward the tips of your left hand forefinger and thumb, enabling you to pinch the slips with your thumb and finger tips. Again, by holding the slips tightly, no one will notice the two slips.

Now, we need to separate the two slips. This is accomplished with one simple move. Lay the slips into the right palm. This puts the secret slip on top and makes it simple to then reach into the palm with the left finger tips and pick up the secret slip and hand it to the spectator.

The audience saw you reach out with an empty right hand and take the clip board. They saw you reach up and pull the slip off the clip board with your left hand (sort of..), and they saw the slip at the tip of your left fingers as you, I hope, gestured with your empty right hand as you talked to the audience and the spectator with the book. They have NO reason to suspect a switch as you place the slips in your empty right hand and then reach back with your left hand and remove the secret slip.

As soon as you removed the secret slip, your right hand, palming the audiences' slip, should naturally fall to your side. I'm not going to discuss ditching this slip, as you don't have to, although you can certainly find ample opportunity to do so before your predictions are revealed..

Ask the spectator with the book to please open the slip, look up the page number, line number, and three selected words, and read those three words aloud. If you wrote your prediction on a poster board or chalk board, you can now recap the series of events and reveal your answer to the audience. If you wrote your prediction on a piece of paper, I would have gingerly hand it to an audience member, recap, and ask them to unfold it and read it aloud..

One of the keys to good mentalism is to NOT treat effects like this as sleight of hand. The audience is not expecting sleight of hand, so don't make it appear that you are performing sleight of hand. Be casual, comfortable, and confident, and the audience will respond in kind..

R.Carruth

=====

Speaking of Switches.. (Video)

Magicians have the 'classic palm' and the 'double lift'. Mentalists have the 'billet switch'. Yes, there are many others, but nothing has been written about quite as much as the billet switch.

To quote a popular dictionary.. "Archaic.. a written note, short letter, or the like." And that's exactly what a billet is.. a small note.

Here are four nice billet switches for your enjoyment. These are not reveals, but performances. If you watch each video with the knowledge that a billet

switch is taking place you do not need an explanation. Simply deduct in which hand the secret billet is hidden, and watch as the switch takes place. None of these are very sophisticated, but each has been practiced until they look very natural and straight forward.

Simple as they may be, I can promise you that if you want to duplicate the moves, and DON'T take the time to practice them extensively beforehand, you WILL fail to impress...

One Handed Billet Switch

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IyIOKwLxxUU&mode=related&search=>

One Handed Forward Move

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k8N8c2iWuCg&mode=related&search=>

The Transparent Glass Switch

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9yVZAIv8RH4&mode=related&search=>

The Tear Up Switch

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dvYUS9NUMNc&mode=related&search=>

=====

Performance of the Week (Video)

This great little video shows several impressive effects, displayed by the same Japanese performer. His name? I don't have a clue. But I do know good magic when I see it. His misdirection is excellent, his double lift's smooth, and his commentary... well, it 'looks' good..

The balloon swallowing effect is my personal favorite. I've seen it before, but it never fails to impress others..

Again, this clip goes to show the power of video. Despite the fact that we are from different cultures and fail to speak the same language, I 'understand' everything the performer wants me to know, and I 'see' exactly what he wants me to see... and I'm entertained in the process..

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aDe0QPboP_8

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~ CNN/Money Report.. Getting Started in the Magic Business ~

I first published this resource almost two years ago, and it's still as informative today as it was then. It was part of a series of articles dealing with making a living in a variety of different occupations and the earning potential of each. One of the occupations reviewed was, of course, that of a MAGICIAN.

NEW YORK (CNN) - From Harry Houdini's death-defying escape numbers to Harry Potter's magical battles against the dark forces, magicians have been a source of entertainment and intrigue for all generations. Their ability to pull objects out of thin air and then - abracadabra - make them disappear again has inspired awe among audiences for as long as magicians have been pulling white rabbits out of top hats.

But being a successful magician requires more than just a fancy wand and a deck of marked cards. It takes years of practice, patience, energy, and above all, a true passion for the craft. Throw in a talent for showmanship and a willingness to take a few risks and you just might have what it takes to become the next David Copperfield.

Read one magicians story...

http://money.cnn.com/2001/07/02/sbstarting/q_magic

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John Kinde's Las Vegas Tips

My Las Vegas buddy, fellow editor, and Roadshow contributor, John Kinde, has extended his Las Vegas Tips web site. If you're planning on going to

Vegas to hob-nob with the superstars of Magic, visit John's site, print it out, and take it with you. I promise you'll save money, enjoy your stay more, and write John a thank you note when you get back..

John, editor of the popular John Kinde's Humor Power newsletter, is a professional speaker, magic lover, and Las Vegas resident who's put together the perfect web site for Vegas visitors. He knows where to eat, the best buffets, what shows are the best value, and what tourists attractions are worth your time and money..

And best of all, John loves to help others.. that's why there's nothing to buy when you visit John's site. This is simply a GIFT from one entertainer to another...

Here's just a very small sample:

Sights to see:

Top of the Stratosphere Tower. Recommend the view at night. Revolving restaurant. Dinner is high price. Lunch menu is under \$20. About \$8 to take the elevator if you are just going for the view.

Fountains at Bellagio. Free. Best seen at night. Also visit the Atrium just off the lobby while you're there.

Fremont Street Experience. Millions of light bulbs illuminate a four-block long canopy. Downtown. Free.

Antique Car Show at Imperial Palace. Very impressive. \$7.

Liberace Museum, \$12. If you are a Liberace fan, you will enjoy it. 1775 East Tropicana. 702-798-5595. Three afternoons a week Wes Winters plays A Musical Tribute to Liberace, at the Museum, excellent, \$15. Free shuttle service.

Art Museums at Bellagio and Venetian, about \$15.

Venetian. Check out the hotel registration lobby and the gondolas in the shopping mall.

Silverton. Free aquarium shows. Incredible sporting goods store.

And many more...

<http://www.humorpower.com/lvtips.html>

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Erdnases' Expert at the Card Table - Download

You can download your free version of Erdnases' classic ebook at this link..

<http://www.301url.com/erdnase>

If you have a problem, let me know and I will send you the ebook as an attachment..

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Anneman's "Mental Miracles"
Jean Hugard's "Encyclopedia of Card Tricks"
Houdini's "Paper Magic"
The Fitzkee Trilogy
202 Methods of Forcing
Tarbell's Original Course in Magic.. all sixty courses.

"Tarbell's Course is worth WAY more than the cost of the entire package!"
R.Carruth / Magic Roadshow

<http://paydotcom.com/r/3943/carruth00/176483>

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Alpha and Omega - Our Place on the Web

Operating on the internet is a crap shoot. Trying to stay one step ahead of the masses is a never ending process. In 2001-2003 I was heavily into internet marketing and selling info to other potential marketers. I edited another newsletter, the eBiz Beacon, and sent out thousands of emails to interested readers worldwide. In late 2003 I saw the end of email marketing on the horizon and had to step back and make some serious decisions about my future on the web.

A marketing company from Washington DC expressed an interest in purchasing my newsletter and mailing lists, and I jumped..

The Magic Roadshow was brewing in my imagination, as I already had a couple of magic related web sites selling magic ebooks. So, in early 2004 I went from being listed among the top 250 internet marketers in the world.. to having a magic related ezine with one subscriber - my wife.

Knowing souls told me that I couldn't do it. They said that using emails to promote a venture was dead, dead, dead.. That I couldn't get them around the spam filters.. That subscribers wouldn't open them.. That web users were determined to find whatever info they wanted via search engines and that I had nothing to offer..

Fifty eight issues later I have more subscribers than I could have possibly imagined. They come from around the world.. They've signed up to receive emails.. They DO open their emails, and they DO follow the link to the newsletter. (Which was my way of beating the filters and driving visitors to my site simultaneously).. And they DO defy the logical internet protocol about permission based marketing.

What the other knowing souls failed to account was that some people simply enjoy free stuff! I do... And that's what inspired the Magic Roadshow.

I subscribed to various newsletters, read them, got tired of all the peripheral junk and offers that I had to tolerate, unsubscribed, and subscribed to some more.. Through it all, there was one that I regularly opened and read without fail... The Cool Tricks and Trinkets Newsletter (<http://www.tricksandtrinkets.com/index.htm>) Oh, there was an ad or two, just as there is in mine, but the basic premise was - scour the web, find the

most interesting links, and give them to others. In each issue I would find at least one link that I was compelled to bookmark.

And when I was trying to decide on a format for the Roadshow, CT&T served as my roadmap. My philosophy became - give my readers as much as possible, from as many different sources as possible, and DON'T send out a bunch of really annoying emails..

I try to limit my ads to a couple in the body of the Roadshow and a couple of small image ads. You guys click 'em, and I'm eternally grateful, they pay the Roadshow's bills, but that's NOT what the Roadshow is about.

It's about being the #1 magic-related information site on the web.

Are we there yet? I doubt it.. But that's not a proclamation for me to make. I'll leave it to you guys to make that call. In fact, I'll even leave it to you to define 'magic related information'.

And for the record, I'll give you a hint where the internet is headed in the next few years. Can you spell V-I-D-E-O ? This issue features six different video's aimed at teaching you a new effect via video, just to prove my point...

If any of you have resources you would like to share with others, a favorite link or file, or if you would like to write an article or share an effect, feel free to send it to me. I welcome your contributions.. EMAIL ME ..

To position yourself on the 'Roadshow's Frappr World Map' with other readers from around the world....
<http://www.frappr.com/magicroadshow>

To view a sample chapter of our best selling magic-related ebook 'Astounding Magic', click <http://www.StreetMagic.info/astounding.html>

To watch sample video's from our favorite teaching web site CardTricks1.. click
<http://www.301url.com/cardsleights>

Remember to visit some of my other sites at:

<http://www.StreetMagic.info>

<http://www.MagicRoadshow.com>

<http://www.Mentalists.info>

<http://www.StreetMagicSecrets.info>

<http://www.BellaOnline.com/site/shareware>

<http://www.StreetMagic.info/blogger.html>

<http://www.MadMarketing101.com>

May my next issue find you well..

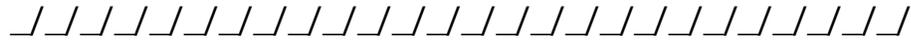
Rick Carruth / editor

Magic Roadshow

Nov.15th, 2006 Issue# 59

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Street Magic's #1 free newsletter for magicians, street performers, restaurant workers, close-up artists, and mentalists, with subscribers in over sixty four countries worldwide.



Hello All

Welcome to the latest issue of Magic Roadshow. I'm grateful for all the new subscribers who have taken time to sign up since our last issue. I hope you find something of interest in every issue.

One week till Thanksgiving... Can you believe it? It's been quite a ride this past dozen months. 2006 has definitely not been a boring year in my household. Like last year, there's been a couple of life-altering events.. one that almost cut short publication of the Roadshow, and another that has given me time to stretch each issue out to it's current size. When I look back at those first several issues, and how short they were, it almost makes me jealous!

Unless I get a wild hair (hare) and decide to send out a mid-issue email, this is my wish for you a Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving!

My friend, Dennis Regling, has forwarded an article I'm sure you'll find interesting. Dennis always gets into the finer details of being a successful magician, and has done so again with this article.

I've included a couple of detailed effects that I've played around with the past few weeks. I honestly think you'll like them as much as I do -if- you take the time to work them out..

And.. there's the usual assortment of magical resources I've found on my journey around the web. I hope you find something that makes you wonder how you've lived without it till now!

Remember.. if you have an effect or article you would like to share with several thousand like-minded magicians and street performers, send it today. And, as always, if you enjoy this issue.. tell others. If not.. tell me.

EMAIL ME

In This Issue

Show Posters That Sell Tickets - Dennis Regling

- A) SCANNER - Very visual card magic
- B) Snap Change - Video
- C) Uri Geller Promo Video - Not Bad, not bad at all..
- D) Uri Geller Bio Videos - 30 minutes of .. Uri
- E) Card Tricks Site - 8 Magic effects
- F) MIND MIRROR - Excellent mental magic
- G) CardWorker - Mick Ayres gem
- H) US Playing Card Co. - Tons of gaming info online
- I) Expert at the Card Table - Download for members
- J) Rising Card Revealed - Video - No strings or bands required
plus.. Roadshow resource page..



Show Posters That Sell Tickets

When doing public magic shows, the key to success is great promotion. One of the simplest and most common promotional pieces is the show poster.

However, it is easy to make a beautiful poster that shows all the great things you do and still have an empty auditorium. Unless your poster is created with the right motivation, it will fail.

The poster is not about you. If you can grasp that, you can then start designing your poster. Again, it is NOT ABOUT YOU. It is about what your audience will receive by attending and how they may buy tickets.

As with all marketing, you need to focus on the customers' needs or desires. What is in it for them. The purpose of the poster is to fill seats.

With this in mind, posters should:

- grab attention
- promote your show
- give the performance details
- result in sold tickets

Grab attention: Your poster needs to immediately grab the eye and stop traffic. If no one looks at your poster, no one buys tickets. Use color and unusual pictures. Have a headline that encourages folks to read the rest of the poster.

If the headline is "The Amazing Waldo" or "Magic Show," it will grab little attention. However, if it says, "You Will Believe," or "See A Lady Cut In Half," that might catch an eye. The reader has to ask themselves, "I will believe what?" or they will be shocked by a mental image of a mutilated torso.

Better is an unusual picture. Many magicians of old used caricatures of themselves surrounded by little devils. This shocked the Puritan mindset of the early 1900's. It required a closer look.

Give passerbys a reason to stop and read the poster.

Promote your show: Your poster needs to not only tell a little more about the show, but create emotions and curiosity that motivate the reader to want to see the show. Rather than list the effects being done, describe them in a picturesque manner. "Hear The Roar of The Lions," "See The Magician heat Death," "Thrill To The Dance of The Cobra," and "What Is The Secret of Houdini's Trunk?" Make the show something folks feel they don't want to miss.

Give the performance details: Tell the prospect When, Where, and How to attend the show. Show location, show times, ticket agents, and other important details must be on the poster in large letters.

The spectator, previously unable to find his card in the deck, assumes that the card just inserted through the phone will be his. He's wrong..

For the first time, the magician asks the spectator to name his card. The spectator replies, lets say, " ten of hearts ". The magician hands the spectator the scanned card, still upside down, and the spectator is allowed to turn over the ten of hea..., Huh? All the spectator finds is a blank card. No ten, no hearts, no nothing...

The magician asks the spectator, " Remember the name of this effect? ", and the spectator replies.. " uh.. SCANNER ". And the magician hands the spectator the cell phone and ask him to look inside. There, on the screen... is a photo of the Ten of Hearts..

Yes, I see a bunch of inquisitive magical minds churning.

Since there are a number of possible ways to accomplish this effect, I'm not going into great detail. My personal method is to import an image of a playing card into my cell phone. There are many different ways to accomplish this, far more ways than I have space. If you aren't sure how, ask your kids.. You can import more than one image and have the ability to perform this effect more than once at the same event.

With a cards image in your phone, you're ready to force that card onto your spectator. You can put it on the bottom of the deck and perform a simple Hindu Shuffle force, or whatever force you're comfortable with.. Catch a pinkie break and bring the forced card to the top of the deck. Now, you can take this effect in any one of several different directions...

Personally, I palm the top card, the selected card, off the top of the deck as I hand the spectator the deck and ask him to look for his/her card. I put both hands into my pockets, looking for my cell phone, which is in my right pocket. The selected card, in my right hand, is dumped into the right pocket as I bring the cell phone out. The left hand palms a blank faced card that is in my left pocket.

After the spectator is convinced that their card is no longer in the deck, I ask them to square up the deck and hand it back to me. I set the cell phone in my right hand on the table and open my right palm, allowing the spectator to put the deck into the palm of my hand. My left hand remains casually at my side.

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MIND MIRROR

Special Thanks to Jack McMillen and Danny Archer for the workings to this nice mental magic card effect. When I'm looking at effects to complement my meager routines, one of my first requirements is that the effect contain a 'twist' of some sort. The proper twist will cover a multitude of ineptness..

'Mind Mirror' will require a simple stack. Get all of the cards of one suit to the top of the deck. They don't need to be in any particular order. All you need to know is the suit and value of the top card.

Personally, I use a faro shuffle, and I will shuffle the deck a time or two even though the top thirteen cards are in place. I simply shuffle deep enough to avoid changing the order of these cards. If done casually enough, no one will noticed what you're doing.

Ask the spectator to close their eyes and visualize the face of a clock. Tell them that you will not try to influence them in any way, but you want them to select one number on the face of the clock. Once done, hand the spectator the deck and ask them to please follow your directions as you turn your back toward them.

Ask them to 'quietly' count off, and put on the table, one card after another until they have put down a number of cards equal to their selected number. (eg... If they selected a six, they will put six cards face down on the table.). Now, ask them to look at the top card of the DECK, and tell them they can show it to others as well. Once done, put it back on top of the deck, pick up the six cards on the table, and put them back on top of the deck as well..

Turn around, point to the deck, and ask them to cut the deck so the top cards will be buried somewhere in the middle. Ask them to cut the cards a second time, and then a third. Ask them if they are convinced that you could not possibly know the location of the selected card.

(If you are not sure that the spectator will perform a simple cut, then you can perform the first cut, complete it, and then ask the spectator to cut the cards a second and third time. Once you've shown the spectator how you want them to cut the cards, chances are they will follow your example.)

" I've watched you cut the cards and I'm convinced that you have buried the card so deep into the deck that there's no way I could possibly know where it is... but that isn't good enough. I was thinking about this effect as I was on the way here tonight and it brought to mind a book I recently read about Houdini."

"You know, Houdini earned his reputation by going a step farther than any other magician in his day. And, I decided that if this effect was to be truly Houdini-like in it's effect on my audience that I was going to have to add a little extra twist..."

" I'm sure you've seen magician's have a card put into the deck, have the deck cut, and the magician magically find the card. Well, what you probably don't know is.. cutting the deck doesn't actually change the position of the chosen card, in relation to all the other cards, as much as you think. The only thing that really stirs the brew is this..."

And you pick up the deck and perform a riffle shuffle..

"That's what Houdini would do.. But I'm not sure if even Harry would do this.."

And you pick up the deck and perform yet a second riffle shuffle..

" I haven't seen the face of a single card. Actually, aside from my two shuffles, I didn't touch the deck during this effect. You performed all the important moves.."

Turn the deck face up and ribbon spread the deck onto the table.

" I'm going to slowly move my finger up and down the length of these cards, and as I do I'm going to look at your face for the slightest hint, the slightest indication, that I am close to your card."

Move your finger the length of the ribbon spread and watch the spectator intently. They won't give you any indication of the chosen card, but when you spot the card that was on top of the deck before the trick began, the spectators card will be the next card - of the same suit - to the RIGHT of that card.

Now, with the proper patter, reveal the identity of the chosen card..

Thanks to the folks at LearnMagicTricks.org for the video.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DFq6Gy8Wung>

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That's all.. for now. Look for another packed issue in two weeks. Really now.. who else sends out a newsletter every two weeks with all the resources and info found in Magic Roadshow?

If you know of another, please let me know..

Questions? Rants? Raves? Comments?

Email Me

To position yourself on the 'Roadshow's Frappr World Map' with other readers from, literally, around the world....

<http://www.frappr.com/magicroadshow>

To view a sample chapter of our best selling magic-related ebook 'Astounding Magic'.. <http://www.StreetMagic.info/astounding.html>

To watch high quality sample video's from our favorite teaching web site CardTricks1..

<http://www.301url.com/cardsleights>

Remember to visit some of my other sites at:

<http://www.StreetMagic.info>

<http://www.MagicRoadshow.com>

<http://www.Mentalists.info>

<http://www.StreetMagicSecrets.info>

<http://www.BellaOnline.com/site/shareware>

<http://www.StreetMagic.info/blogger.html>

<http://www.MadMarketing101.com>

May my next issue find you well..

Rick Carruth / editor



Magic Roadshow

December 3rd, 2006 Issue# 60 !!

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Street Magic's #1 free newsletter for magicians, street performers,
restaurant workers, close-up artists, and mentalists, with subscribers in over
sixty four countries worldwide.



Hello All

First and foremost, I want to welcome all the new subscribers who have joined the Magic Roadshow since the last issue. I hope you'll find something among our resources that serves you well..

I don't know about the rest of you, but it's sort of like Christmas around my home. I know it's almost a month away, but it's starting to show.. Here's wishing all of you a "Happy Holiday Season", wherever you may be.

I'm not going to make this intro long.. it's 5 AM and I've been working on the Roadshow for hours. I'm determined to get to bed before the sun comes up. After all, you guys don't read the Roadshow to listen to me ramble..

If I can help you, answer your questions, or respond to your complaints..
EMAIL ME

If you get a chance, visit our various resources found at the bottom of the newsletter. I'm sure, beyond a doubt, you'll find something of interest..

Without further ado..

In This Issue

- 01) Magic and the Theory of Learning - Todd Landman
- 02) Cyril's Fishy Card Trick - Video
- 03) Tricks Gone Terribly Wrong - Video
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Rather, we fall sideways, stumble forward, stop, start, and finally somehow move forward without falling off. And then we see Greg Lemond or Lance Armstrong! The same goes for the first time we try to serve a tennis ball, fire an arrow at a target, shoot a rifle, hit a golf ball, or play a game of chess.

Being conscious of our incompetence either frustrates us into giving up or spurs us on to more practice. Once you practice each move in an effect and join them together, you become consciously competent, where you still need to think about each move as it is performed, but you can perform the effect. You are still thinking about the phases of a routine, the sleights, the patter and its links to the moves, and the end result that you are trying to achieve. At this stage, you are not quite a natural performer of the effect, but you can move through a routine and perform the effect adequately.

Hebert Simon spent a lot of time researching the idea of 'bounded rationality' in which he knew that the human brain can only consciously process so much information at one time. We need shortcuts, or what the cognitive psychologists refer to as 'chunking' or what the neuro-linguists call 'meta-programmes' in which chunks of information are processed at once. A chess master thinks in collections of moves to counteract an attack or to control a section of the chess board. Rarely do the masters think in terms of sequences of individual moves, which is why it took so long for the computer programmers to invent 'Deep Blue'. Does Pete Sampras think about each and every shot, or does he 'feel' the shot as it comes to him? He engages in some form of cybernetic feedback in adjusting his shot to the conditions of play: the court (clay, hard court, and grass), his opponent, the weather, his own body, etc.

Richard Osterlind has written about this. For example, the 'haunted key' is a lovely effect where a key mysteriously turns itself over in your hand. Constant practice of this effect will produce an ability in you to actually 'will' the key to turn over. For me, the classic palm feels its way into my performances. I can comfortably palm six half dollars and release them one by one. When a student asks me how that is done, I find it very difficult to explain. Your hand will develop a feeling for palming coins after multiple iterations and a maturing of the hand muscles. In this way, the ability to palm is much like the development of a musician's embouchure.

Once you have practiced over and over again, the moves to any effect, particular sleights, or ways of delivering performances should come as second nature, and then you have moved to the final stage. Once you have reached the final stage, you are unconsciously competent in your craft. Jazz musicians become liberated after years and years of practice. They learn

their major scales, minor scales, the cycle of fifths, the cycle of fourths, the modal substitutions, playing horizontally and vertically over the harmonic structures of tunes, and then one day, they stop thinking about what they are doing. They begin to feel the music, anticipate what comes next, and push themselves to the next. People who saw John Coltrane perform claimed that he was a musical shaman.

We have the ability, through hard practice, to move through these phases of learning. To learn our scales, which for Osterlind include perfected performances of the cups and balls and linking rings, even if we never perform them in public. Mastering the classics of magic and mentalism lets us move onto higher levels of performance and learning.

Spend time with a deck of cards, a few coins, some billets, some billiard balls, some cups, and other elements of our craft. Reflect on the skills you need, practice the moves until they become second nature; keep something from your collection close to hand, and wake up every day thinking about how you will continue to learn your craft. May we all be unconsciously competent one day!

Todd Landman's Politics Magic and Jazz is undoubtedly one of my favorite blogs, on any level. Seeping with intellectual thought and maturity, Todd offers his insights into both magic and magic related products with equal poise.

Visit both his blog and web site:

<http://drtoddlandman.blogspot.com/>
<http://www.metaphysical-magician.com>

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Cyril's Fishy Card Trick

I SO enjoy watching Cyril perform. As far as I'm concerned, he's the top magician in the world, for the moment at least. Someone is going to have to step forward and show me a gob of impressive magic to convince me otherwise..

In this inventive effect, Cyril, standing in the middle of a restaurant, has a selected card signed and returned to the deck. He turns, tosses the cards against an aquarium, and the selected card is stuck to the glass after everything else falls to the floor. Of course, the spectator cannot peel the card from the glass as it's on the inside of the tank.

Most magicians would take their bows, but not Cyril. He goes to the back side of the aquarium to show that the card on the glass has the spectators signature on the back of the card. Under cover of a small towel, Cyril reaches thru the glass and removes the card from the far wall of the tank. Water leaks out as he retracts his arm thru the glass and then 'seals' the hole, leaving no evidence of the penetration.

<http://www.glumbert.com/media/cyril>

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Tricks Gone Terribly Wrong.. (video)

The first time I watched this video I couldn't believe what I was seeing. Oh, I've seen magicians perform the classic " hide a spike under a cup and slam your hand on all the cups that don't have a spike under it... and make it as dramatic as possible..". I watched on TV as Chris Korn put a spike through his palm on Mondo Magic. I've heard tales of other magicians suffering less-than-desired results with this effect. And I watched the first magician on this video slam his hand onto a knife blade and shock his audience as he bloodied the stage.

But..

I have NEVER seen an act as totally irresponsible as the second part of this video. I cannot imagine a magician being so confident with his performance of this effect that he is willing to bring a spectator on stage and use HER hand to slam the cups. I don't have to tell you what happens.. Unbelievable..

<http://www.glumbert.com/media/magictrick>

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Pen Penetration thru Rubber Band

I've performed this little effect for friends for a number of years, then, I'll forget about it for awhile and something like this video will come along to remind me. Although a little more difficult, angle wise, to perform that crazy mans handcuffs, it's very similar and uses a pen for the penetration instead of another rubber band..

<http://www.301url.com/penetration>

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StackView

I know some of you guys are rather cerebral in nature, and take to effects or sites that require a certain level of thought. StackView is just such a site.

Stackview, and the accompanying guide, are both downloadable. You don't go to the site and play. You download the program and then explore the possibilities of a stacked deck. To quote from their site:

"StackView is a computer based simulation tool for magicians to explore and learn various aspects of controlling a stacked deck of cards. The software does not teach you any magician's principles; it is assumed that you are familiar with various card techniques, or that you have the resources to learn them elsewhere. It does however allow you to discover new possibilities with your card knowledge in a full featured simulation environment."

StackView is free of charge, and is available on the Download page

<http://www.stackview.com/index.html>

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John J. Fabjance's Magic Management

Mr. Fabjance has developed a web site full of interactive magic that you will find extremely entertaining. Although I, and probably you, understand the basis of MOST of these effects, there are a couple that even I have to think twice about...

Food tricks, several card tricks, domino effects, a mentalism effect with cards you can print out and save, a clock trick, a mystery adder, and a coin trick are all designed to perplex the unknowing.

Last.. but certainly not least.. Mr. Fabjance has a magic shop page that features a number of tricks you can personalize to give away as promotions or bigger magic sets you could easily resell as a back-end product after your performances.. If you don't understand the power of back-end, or Back of Room sales, and what it can mean to your bottom line. (See issue 57 of the Magic Roadshow)

<http://www.magicmgmt.com/gary/welcome2/>

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An Undeniable Truth

I have a problem with most standard self-working card tricks. Try as I might, I can't convince my spectator's that they've just witnessed a small miracle. Many self-working card tricks look like just that.. something that would have happened without any magic from me. Here's a really nice effect that possesses the perfect combination of amazement and impossibility to leave your spectators totally bemused..

This effect is a type of poker deal and requires you to deal five hands.. one each to four different spectators and one to yourself.

Begin by shuffling the deck thoroughly and fairly, then asking a spectator to cut it to their hearts content. Start on your left and deal five hands of five cards each. Once done, ask each spectator to pick up their hand, look at it, and MENTALLY pick out one card. Now, ask them to shuffle their packet so thoroughly that no one has a clue where their card lies in the five card stack. Ask them to lay their hand back on the table, face down, when they're convinced their cards are well mixed.

Pick up the hand to your immediate left and put it on top of the deck, face down. Proceed around the table and pick up each of the other hands, in order and one at a time, and put them on top as well. Finish by putting your hand on top.

From left to right, deal out five stacks of five cards, just as you would deal five poker hands. These stacks are controlled by you and not dealt to the spectators. Pick up the first stack to your left, fan it open, and show it to the four spectators. Ask if any of the spectators see their card in your hand. If they do, they are only to say "yes".

Let's say the spectator second from the left see's his/her card. If you close the fan and, holding the cards with the backs up, count down two cards, that will be the card that the second spectator mentally selected. If the fourth spectator said they saw their card, their's will be the fourth card down. Just remember to hold the hand with the 'backs up' and not 'face up'. If no one saw their card, you can drop the hand on top of the deck as it won't be needed any longer.

Once the spectator(s) have told you they saw their card, close the fan, turn it upside down, and put it under the table. Thumb down to the number that matches the spectator and take that card out of the hand and toss it toward the spectator, still face down. Ask them to not look at it yet..

Work you way thru all the hands, or until you have found all the necessary cards, and put all the remaining cards onto the top of the deck. Not each hand will have a spectators card, and some hands may have multiple spectators cards. But regardless, the location of the card in the face down hand will always match the position of the spectator.

You can do this blindfolded..

Now, all that's left to do is ask the spectator's, in turn, to name their mentally selected card and turn over the card in front of them, revealing the perfect match.

It's the thorough shuffling of the mentally selected card into the hand that throws the spectators off. Without the shuffling, this could have passed for just another self-working mathematical trick.

I've given you the basic workings, and you can easily use this principle to develop your own 'reveal'.

"Thanks" to Frank Garcia and George Schindler for the idea..

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Houdini and the Library of Congress

What does Houdini and the Library of Congress have in common? Apparently, more than you think.. The Rare Book and Special Collections Division and the Prints and Photographs Division of the Library of Congress combined to form a collection of extremely rare Houdini items and photos that detail the life of America's first Superstar.

Think about it.. Houdini has been gone for eighty years. Yet everyone knows of Houdini. His influence seems to never wain, even with the turn of a new century and the never-ceasing progression of performers like Vernon, Henning, Copperfield, Blaine, and Angel.

The Man was a born marketer. He knew how to focus the spotlight on his performance alone, even as the rest of the magic community did their best to collectively copy his act and steal his thunder.. Uh, let me rephrase.... TRY to steal his thunder.

From the Library of Congress site:

"The Houdini component of the American Variety Stage Collection comprises 143 photographs and 29 related items of personal memorabilia that document the career of Harry Houdini, the legendary magician and "Genius of Escape Who Will Startle and Amaze." Collection materials have been drawn from the Rare Book and Special Collections Division, and the Prints and Photographs Division of the Library of Congress, and date from 1886 to the years following Houdini's death in 1926."

"The mission of the Library of Congress is to make its resources available and useful to Congress and the American people and to sustain and preserve a universal collection of knowledge and creativity for future generations. The goal of the Library's National Digital Library Program is to offer broad public access to a wide range of historical and cultural documents as a contribution to education and lifelong learning.

The Library of Congress presents these documents as part of the record of the past. These primary historical documents reflect the attitudes, perspectives, and beliefs of different times. The Library of Congress does not endorse the views expressed in these collections, which may contain materials offensive to some readers."

<http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/vshtml/vshdini.html>

John Tudor

I want to thank my friend, John Tudor, for the Houdini link. I would never have found it without his direction.

As mentioned in the last issue, Uri Geller chose YouTube to publish his promo video to.. Now I find that John actually beat Uri to it. Here's the link to John's slick video. Professional wanna-be's, sit down and take notes..

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PErjDjXDtbU>

<http://www.TudorMagic.com>

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The Web Site Some Magic Companies Don't Want You To Find..

What if I could STOP YOU from buying magic that sucks? You would be Happy.. A couple of magic companies would be Mad. They would be so mad, in fact, that they would want to block you from visiting this special site.

For complete details, go to Magic Cleaver and watch the demo video.

<http://www.MagicCleaver.com>

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~ A Five-Step Marketing Plan for Magicians ~
R.Carruth

If you are to succeed in the 'business' of magic, and it IS a business if you entertain thoughts of performing full-time, you MUST do this:

(1) Treat your Career as a Business.

Yes, it's a business and you are the president of the company. You can no longer think of yourself as simply a magician. You can introduce yourself to others as a magician, but you must be able to wear different hats at different times of the day. When you walk out on that stage.. you're a magician, but the rest of the time you're the owner of your own business.. the boss.. the president.. the big kahuna.

(2) Define your Performance.

Why is your performance worthy of the attention of those seeking a magician? What make's your performance different and unique? Can I flip through the phone book and find dozens of other performers who will fill the bill as well as you?

This could easily be a two or three part question, but I'm going to keep it simple... Every magician needs a 'selling point', and your selling point is what separates you from the rest of the performers. Your selling point helps define who you are. You can't sell a corporation on hiring you to entertain at their sales conference by stressing that you're a great childrens magician, close-up artist, illusionist, balloon artist, yada yada.. You MUST be prepared to present yourself as a great corporate performer, offer proof that you're great, and convince the hirer that you're going to make him or her look great.

Same applies if you're a children's performer. I promise you, the childs parents don't want to spend money on a poor performance. They want to see their little darling's eye's light up when you perform. And its your job to convince the parents that YOU are a professional performer who makes children's eye's light up every week. Define yourself, and once you do, you'll find that it's much easier to be a big fish in a small pond than jack-of-all-trade's in a great big pond..

(3) Define and Determine your Market

Where are you going to find your customers? If you haven't defined yourself, how the heck are you going to define your market. And don't even say ' Oh, I'll perform anywhere, anytime, for anybody.' Maybe you will... But never develop that mindset.

Imagine yourself as a salesman for a floor tile company, and as you prepare to walk out of the office on your first day, your boss stops you and ask what's your plan for the day. And your answer? "Oh, I thought I would go down to main street and go store to store. Maybe I'll stop a few folks on the sidewalks too, and see if they need tile." Before you can take another ill-advised step your boss is going to have you by the collar, leading you back to the conference room.

He's going to explain to you that most stores on main street are owned by investment companies or landlords, and talking to the store proprietors is basically a waste of time, unless you're on a fact-finding expedition. He's also going to tell you that most folks don't install their own tile, the contractor's do that.. And that the largest sales are going to come courtesy of corporate accounts via maintenance supervisors. He's going to give you a phone book and tell you that you're not to leave the office without two or three appointments with individuals who actually have the authority, ability, and desire to replace their tile..

Maybe all this sounds a little silly, but I'm trying to make a point here.. By determining your market, you're going to maximize your ability to actually get a gig. By determining where you're going to perform, and who you need to talk to about performing those venues, you're saving yourself days of needlessly handing out business cards at the mall.

(4) Make a Marketing Plan.

This is simply the above step taken one step further. After determining your market and who you need to talk to, you now draw up, and I mean physically draw up, a plan. "Today I'm gong to contact all the city and county libraries and see who sets up the performing schedules for artists and performers. Then, I'm going to set appointments starting next Monday. Tomorrow, I'll contact all the school administrative offices and get the names of superintendents I can send a performance package to, and I'll hand deliver those packages if necessary.."

Include both weekly and monthly goals. As good salesmen say.. " Plan to work, and work your plan."

(5) Reach Out..

Good businessmen travel in social circles. They belong to country clubs, professional organizations, city and community organizations. They belong to the Chamber of Commerce. Did you know that in most cities, you can call the city or county administrative offices and volunteer to serve on county panels? You may find yourself on the council for the aging, or the school volunteer service's board. Service one night a month may open a lot of doors for your career.

If you're a school administrator, doesn't it make sense that you would gladly set up an appointment with a performer/magician who also happens to be on the County School Oversight Committee?

Write articles. Send them to the Magic Roadshow. Become a 'published author' or authority on magic. Hey, there's nothing wrong with telling future clients you've had your articles read, literally, around the world..

Know the value of your work, and never let others cut you short. When was the last time you convinced a doctor or dentist to reduce their bill, or operate pro bono?

Remember.. it's YOUR career, and you are a professional, a performer, and a businessman 24 hours a day. Walk and talk like a professional.. and others will start to treat you like one..

R.Carruth

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My Dilemma - My Solution

I receive letters and emails, literally, from around the world wanting me to teach them HOW to succeed in Magic. Now, there's two problems with that... One, I'm not that good a teacher. And Two, I have a friend who is, without a doubt, among the top couple of teachers on the globe.

If you're SERIOUS about learning magic and street magic, I have someone I want to introduce you to..

http://www.301url.com/powerful_magic

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Play It Again, Sam

It's amazing how far computer games have progressed. But have you ever felt the urge to take a trip back in time and relive the games of the eighties and nineties? Well now you can.

We have 232 DOS games in our archive that can be downloaded for free. The games are shareware, freeware, playable demos and full versions that are released as freeware or into the public domain.

<http://www.dosgamesarchive.com>

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Erdnases' Expert at the Card Table - Download

You can download your free version of Erdnases' classic ebook at this link..

<http://www.301url.com/erdnase>

If you have a problem, let me know and I will send you the ebook as an attachment..

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That's all.. for now. Look for another packed issue in two weeks. Our Next issue will be our last before Christmas, so I'll see what kind of gift I can get for you this year. Last year I gave away a collection of hypnotism ebooks, six different one's if I remember correctly. I have in mind what I hope to give away this year. I'm probably going to upset someone when I do, but they'll probably forgive me... some day.

Questions? Rants? Raves? Comments?

Email Me

To position yourself on the 'Roadshow's Frappr World Map' with other readers from, literally, around the world....

<http://www.frappr.com/magicroadshow>

To view a sample chapter of our best selling magic-related ebook 'Astounding Magic'.. <http://www.StreetMagic.info/astounding.html>

To watch high quality sample video's from our favorite teaching web site CardTricks1..

<http://www.301url.com/cardsleights>

Remember to visit some of my other sites at:

<http://www.StreetMagic.info>

<http://www.MagicRoadshow.com>

<http://www.Mentalists.info>

<http://www.StreetMagicSecrets.info>

<http://www.BellaOnline.com/site/shareware>

<http://www.StreetMagic.info/blogger.html>

<http://www.MadMarketing101.com>

May my next issue find you well..

Rick Carruth / editor
