

Magic Roadshow

December 2014

Welcome to a new issue of the **Magic Roadshow**. I hope you find something in this issue that strikes your fancy and makes you want to grab a deck of cards, or a couple of coins, or a corn cob... or whatever makes your magic special.. and furiously practice with unabridged joy.

The Christmas season is almost upon us, and I want to sincerely wish each of you a **MERRY CHRISTMAS** and a **HAPPY NEW YEAR!** I know some of you prefer to call it the Holiday season.. and that's perfectly OK, but I'm sticking with what I know. I hope every single one of you has a Blessed December, and all your wishes come true. I wish I could print out thousands of copies of the Roadshow and knock knock knock at your door.. hand delivering your copy, getting to know you, whilst sitting a spell and talking magic. That, for me, would be the Best Christmas of all.. (Oh, I hope you don't mind if I bring my family. Naturally, they would have to be a part of my trek.. My wife, Carolyn, our six children, our sixteen grandchildren, our five great-grandchildren, and our spoiled cat..)

2015 will be a brand new year, and with that comes the hope of fresh resolutions and new beginnings. I don't know about you guys, but my wish next year is too actually watch the almost 40 dvds I've stockpiled the past couple years. They are a reflection of time itself... making me aware of all the 'good intentions' I've had, and proof of the tasks left undone. I truly admire those of you who can put the outside world aside and 'make' yourselves sit down and work on your magic.

Look for something special in this issue from my buddy, Paul Lelekis, and our benefactor, Jeff Hobson. Both have generously shared magic from their repertoire, and I hope you like it as much as I did..

Let me know if I can assist you with your magic.. Questions? Comments? [EMAIL ME](#)



Using only the 10's through Ace's set up the cards so that all are in the same suit order. (photo R1) If the 10's are in CHSD order, then do the Jack's, Queen's, King's and Aces in this same order. This is the only important part. Assemble the cards for display not mentioning the suit order to your audience. This could be the only "tell" when the spectators try to re-create the effect. Remember being casual is the key to this effect. I simply state, "I'm only going to use the high cards for this demonstration . . . 10's through Aces." I give the audience a "casual" glance at the cards, close the spread, and place them on the table. "Have you ever played poker?" I ask one of the spectators. This was the only "patter" that Red used to begin this trick. Regardless of the answer, I ask him or her to give the deck a "straight cut". I mirror a hand motion of cutting the cards as I say this. I want to establish to the spectator to cut the cards just once, without actually stating it, which might cause suspicion.

I have had some "smart" folks try to triple cut the cards. This, of course, would ruin the trick. If I think that I could have a problem with someone, I simply keep the cards in my hand and extend my arm toward the spectator asking them to "cut some cards off of the pack and place them on to the table". After they do, I then place the rest of my cards on top of the cut cards on the table. This establishes what I want to happen to the others who will now assist. I don't say much at this point other than to pass the cards to the next spectator. I look them in the eyes. They should get the idea that they are supposed to cut the cards. If not, I simply say, "And you?" This minimal patter builds a bit of suspense and anticipation and I'm sure Red is smiling right now as I relive the memory of his effect.

After I have had the cards cut three or four times, I look around and say, "Anybody else?" If I don't get a response, I say to the first person who cut the cards, "Do you want to cut again?" Again, this is said very casually as if to give the impression that we could do this all day long. I never state that the cards are mixed. That would defeat the tone set for the effect.

After everyone is settled, I take the cards and put them under the table to do the "dirty work". The action of putting the cards under the table should immediately cause suspicion but again, is sidetracked by the casual - or minimal - presentation. I don't look at my hands as they go beneath the table or say anything about what I have just done but continue the trick with a few simple questions directed toward the spectators. Immediately, I look at the second spectator who cut the cards and say, "Did I ask you if you played poker?. . . No? . . . Well do you?" To another spectator I

ask, “Do you know what makes up a good hand in the game?” During these questions I execute the following moves to separate the cards.

The packet of cards is held in dealing position in the left hand. The first card is gripped or pinched between the first finger tip and thumb of the right hand. The left hand then pushes three cards between the right first finger and middle finger tips. (photo R2) The left hand then comes back to the top to push off more one card and is pinched, again, between the first finger and thumb of the right hand. (photo R3) Now the left hand goes back underneath to push three more cards to be pinched between the right first and second fingers. (photo R4)

This process is repeated three more times until the cards are exhausted.

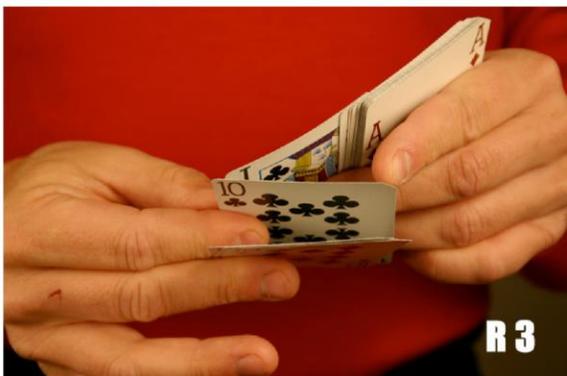
When you are finished, you should have five cards pinched between the first finger and thumb of the right hand and the balance of the cards below being pinched between the first and second fingers. With your left hand, grab the balance of the cards. If you are practicing this for the first time, look at the five cards remaining in your right-hand fingers. If you are easily entertained, you’ll be surprised to find you have a royal flush. To continue the performance explanation, you will now bring only your right hand with these five cards, face down, up from underneath the table. Do not look at the cards but simply place them on the table in front of the first person that cut the cards saying, “Here. . . this hand is for you. . .don’t look yet.” Now, dip the right hand beneath the table again to join the left hand with the balance of the cards.

Repeat the whole process of separating cards except you will pinch only two cards between the right first and second fingers. Then, bring the next, separated stack of five cards above the table, as before, and put these cards in front of another spectator. Once again, the right hand goes below the table to perform the final separation of the cards simply pushing only one card between the thumb and first finger and then between the first and second fingers.

You can now take the two, separated stacks, one into each hand, and bring them to the tabletop. Put these stacks in front of two more spectators. This process is lengthy to explain in words but only takes a few seconds when executed in a real time and with some practice. The end result is that you have quickly separated the ‘mixed-up’ cards into four piles that now lay in front of four spectators. You have done this without any apparent work or thought.

I now ask one the spectators, “Do you know what the best hand in poker is?” Regardless of the answer, I say, “Turn over your cards,” while motioning to do so to all four people. After a few moments of awe from the card holders, I “casually” say, “Hmmm, it looks like you’re all winners”.

A few additional tips: You’ll find, with practice, that you can keep the “noise” from the cards to a minimum so that little or nothing will be heard from under the table that may indicate you’re counting the cards. I have also done this effect while strolling and tablehopping if the conditions are so that you can do the counting behind your back without attention being focused from casual passerby’s. You can also, if standing, put your hands behind your back under your jacket if at all paranoid.



Jeff Hobson offers a FREE Magic Video Theater where he posts rare and vintage videos, interviews and has great lectures available. To access this private video page, just sign up at: <http://www.HobsonsChoiceMagic.com> and click on "Special Offers"

Jeff also has a NEW professional magic lecture available as a streaming, online rental. See the trailer at:

<http://www.HobsonsChoiceMagic.com>

Paul Lelekis' Red/Black Separation Shuffle - Video Tutorial

Paul told me the back story behind the Red/Black Separation Shuffle, and, although he didn't develop this, he did create a subtlety that makes the shuffle both easier and faster...

"One can't understand how STRONG this shuffle is until you perform it for either laymen or magicians. I've performed this shuffle many times for magicians, whenever I do lectures - AFTER my lecture! Then it always causes a big stir! In the late 1990s I was lecturing at a club in (I think) St. Pete, and there was one young magician (maybe 21 or 22) who acted like a heckler! He "knew" everything!

He made a bunch of unnecessary comments about what he thought was a "better sleight" to use here and there - but I ignored him. Then I performed the Red/Black Shuffle at dinner after the lecture and he JUMPED UP and yelled "No Way!! How did you do that?" I didn't tell him..."

<http://youtu.be/bp20lQrkJm8>

You can view ALL of Paul's ebooks, all 18, at Lybrary.com .. They are, undoubtedly, one of the best values in all of magic.. Many are now considered underground classics...

<http://lybrary.com/paul-a-lelekis-m-163788.html>

Be sure to check out Paul's definitive work on the Business of Table Hopping. Maybe my favorite of all his many ebooks. If you want to earn a steady income with your magic, this is the ebook for you....

<http://www.lybrary.com/the-business-of-table-hopping-p-408936.html>

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What is the Art of Magic ? - TEDx Talk by Dr. Lawrence Hass

Lawrence Hass, magician and philosophy professor, recently gave a TEDx Talk on magic at the prestigious TEDxSMU event in Dallas. Titled "What is the Art of Magic?" It also features him performing two of his signature effects.

Dr. Hass is the Associate Dean of Jeff McBride's Magic & Mystery School, an award-winning author of essays and books for magicians, and the Founder and Publisher of Theory and Art of Magic Press. To learn more

about him, please go to: <http://www.LawrenceHass.com>.

His talk is now available for viewing at:

<http://youtu.be/MFuYf19C6IM>

ANYTHING. All you do is click the link and watch the movie. Everything will stream online just as a Youtube video would... in fact, some are hosted on Youtube.

The Story of the Guitar - Free - A three part documentary reveals how the guitar came to “dominate the soundtrack of our lives.”

http://www.openculture.com/2012/08/story_of_the_guitar.html

The Confessions of Robert Crumb - Free - A portrait of the artist scripted by the underground comics legend himself

http://www.openculture.com/2013/03/the_confessions_of_robert_crumb.html

Pink Floyd: Live at Pompeii - Free - Director’s cut. Features Pink Floyd performing six songs in the ancient Roman amphitheatre in Pompeii, Italy.

http://www.openculture.com/2012/04/pink_floyd_live_in_pompeii.html

Johnny Cash: The Last Great American - Free - Documentary profiling the life of legendary country music star, who died in 2003.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=xjxFdTTy1hU

Buckminster Fuller: Thinking Out Loud - Free - Documentary on the inventor/visionary/thinker R. Buckminster Fuller, produced and directed by four time Academy Award nominees Karen Goodman and Kirk Simon.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_8NGNhDxzzw&feature=youtu.be&t=17s

It’s Good to be Alive - Free - The story of former Brooklyn Dodger catcher Roy Campanella. Directed by Michael Landon, starring Louis Gossett Jr

https://archive.org/details/Its_Good_To_Be_Alive

My Best Friend’s Birthday - Free - First film directed by Quentin Tarantino. Some good rockabilly fun.

http://www.openculture.com/2012/04/imy_best_friends_birthdayi_quentin_tarantino_1987_rockabilly_debut.html

The Short Films of Louis CK - Free - A collection of nine short films created by the comedian between 1993 and 1999

http://www.openculture.com/2013/04/the_surreal_short_films_of_louis_ck_1993-1999.html

Freaks - Free - Todd Browning's famous pre-code horror film about sideshow performers. Cast mostly composed of actual carnival performers.

<https://archive.org/details/freaks1932>

Night of the Living Dead - Free - George A. Romero's Night of the Living Dead is the urtext of the modern zombie movie

http://www.openculture.com/2012/11/watch_night_of_the_living_dead_the_semi_nal_zombie_movie_free_online.html

Metropolis - Free - Fritz Lang's fable of good and evil fighting it out in a futuristic urban dystopia. An important classic. An alternate version can be found here.

http://www.openculture.com/2012/07/imetropolis_restored_watch_a_new_version_of_fritz_langs_masterpiece.html

Game Over: Kasparov and the Machine - Free - About the famous match between chess legend Garry Kasparov and Deep Blue, a chess-playing computer created by IBM.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FBzI7y8VNCA>

The Land Where the Blues Began - Free - Alan Lomax takes you into the Mississippi Delta, into to the heart of the Blues. <http://www.folkstreams.net/film,109>

The Dream of a Ridiculous - Free - Wonderful animation of Dostoevsky's story by Oscar-winning Russian animator Alexander Petrov.

<http://www.openculture.com/2014/08/dostoevskys-the-dream-of-a-ridiculous-man-animated.html>

<http://NewsGrowth.com>

Magic News - The #1 site in the world for ever-changing magic news. Updated daily.

<http://MagicNews.org>

That does it for this issue. I hope you found something to help your magic studies along. Remember, if you have something you would like to share with the magic community, send it to: <mailto:rick@magicroadshow.com>

"May my next issue find you well.."

Rick Carruth / Editor

Senior Professor - Camelard College of Conjuring of Chemmis, Egypt

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