

MACCIC

SEEN *Lite*

Issue 11

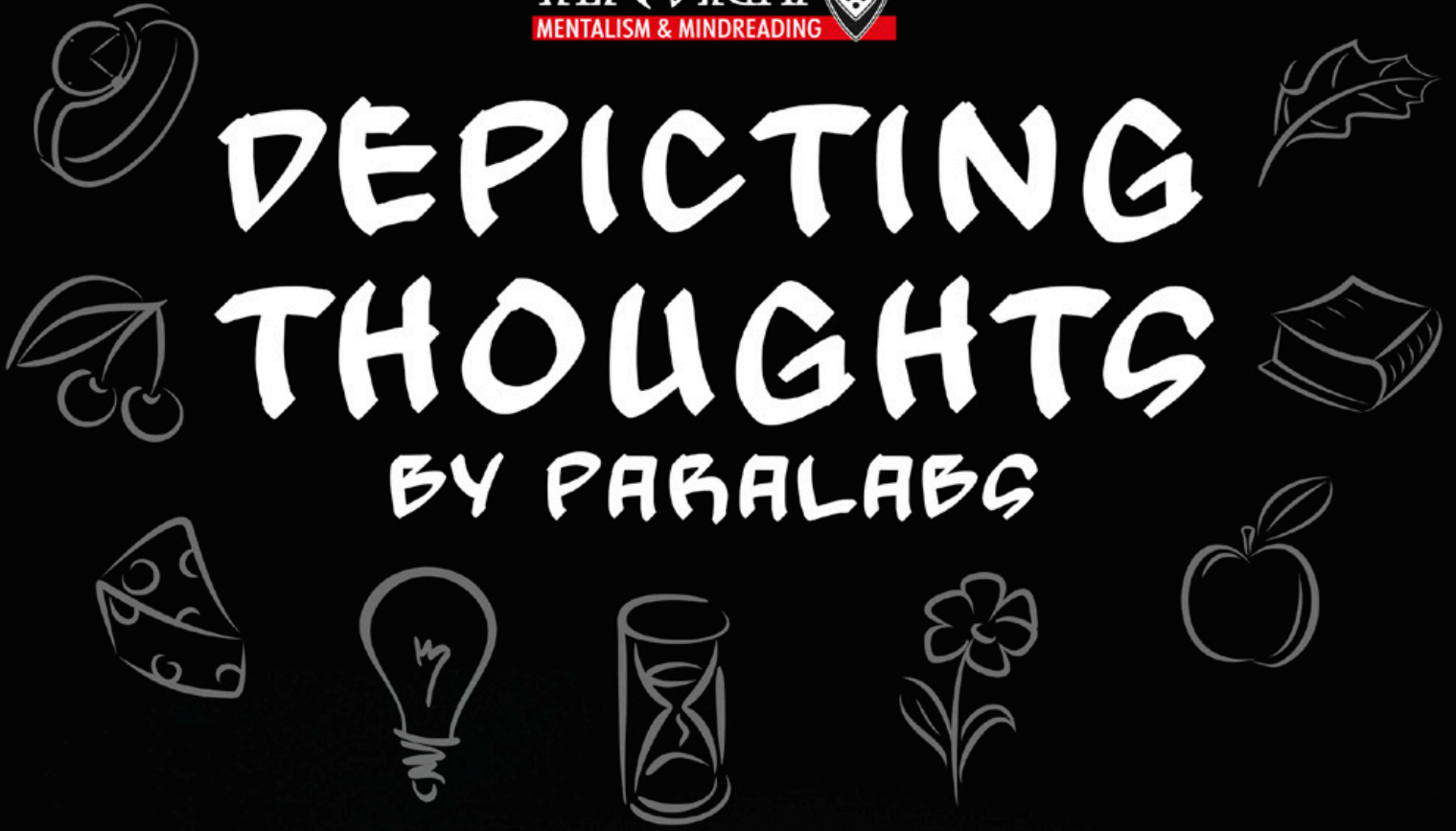


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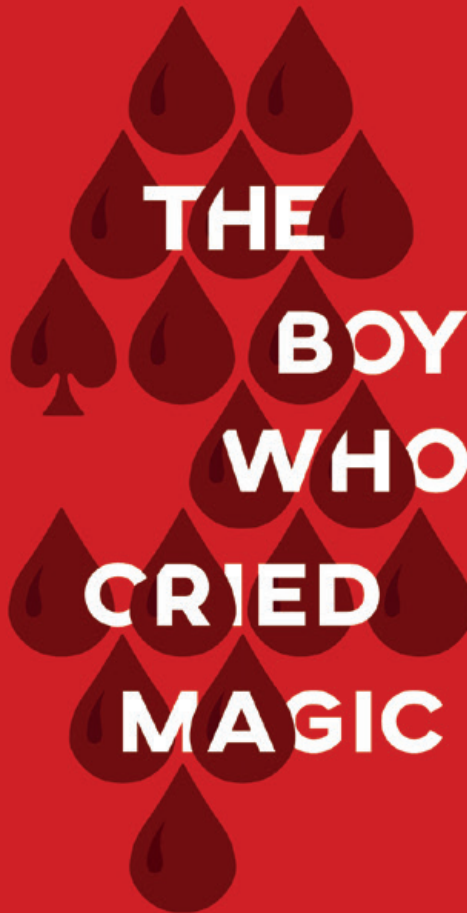
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Issue 11 of our free taster download version of Magicseen is based on the contents from the main January 2021 issue (#96), and to that end we are delighted to offer you the full feature on cover star Gaetan Bloom. The French maestro has been a creative and performing powerhouse for many years and we are thrilled to get the chance to chat with him.

We also had a fascinating 'letter' from Romany who described how COVID had affected her performing life, and in a similar vein, Luca Volpe took us behind the scenes of his new online show Luca's Lounge. It's really interesting to learn how top pros cope with the unexpected turn of events caused by the pandemic.

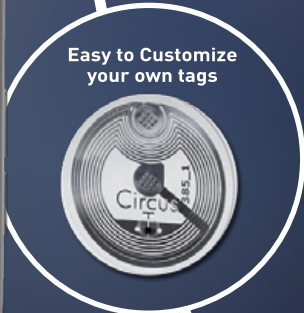
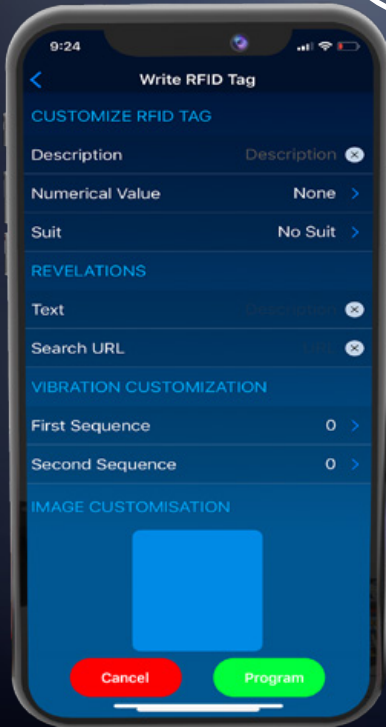
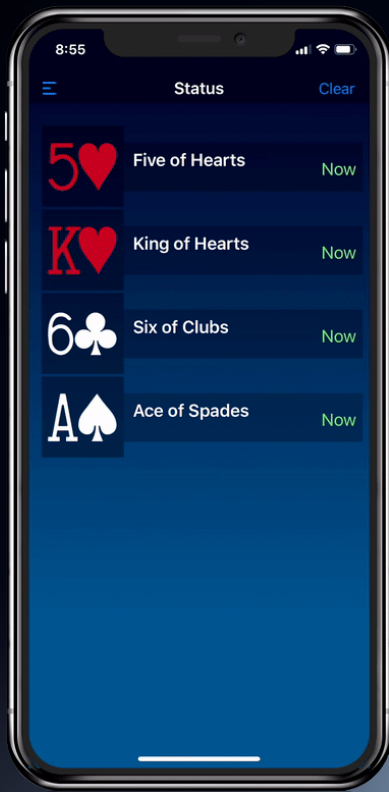
This edition of Lite also offers you instruction for how to make a balloon elephant, this taken from the Masterclass, you get to read the Letters page and see what our readers are thinking about currently, and we also share In The Phonebox, where we get to talk to actor Joel Courtney, who is most courteous, although a bit surprised, to be contacted by a magic magazine! Finally, we collect together some of the product reviews to help you with your potential buying choices.

We really hope you enjoy this edition of Magicseen Lite. Of course, it's not quite the same as getting your teeth into the full version, but you can rectify that easily by taking out a printed copy or download subscription right now! We offer 6 month, 1 year and 2 year sub periods, so why not join us?

Mark Leveridge

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GAETAN BLOOM

LE FAISEUR DE MIRACLES!




Oh, Gaetan Bloom the miracle worker! When we think about the true giants of magic, then Gaetan Bloom is not only up there with them, but he's probably creating their effects, too! Let's hope this sensational Frenchman lives a long and wonderful life - and let's hope that when he eventually passes away he'll leave his brain to medical and magic science!

It's Christmas, and we've enlisted the help of the one-and-only Rafael (last issue cover star) to be our guest interviewer. We're so lucky at Magicseen to have such friends. Take it away Rafael!


So Gaetan, how will you be spending Christmas? And do you actually enjoy it? "I will be spending Christmas with my wife and with my sons and my granddaughter," says Gaetan, "as this year we don't want to take any risks so will be keeping it small instead of the big family reunion we usual have."

"I love the idea of 'Santa Claus' and as a child I wanted to be like him. I like the feeling of Christmas that you experience as a child which is very magical with Santa flying around with his reindeers and dropping presents down the chimneys."

What have you been doing during lockdown? "I have been reading a lot, building and rebuilding new and old props and I've also made a little theatre in my garage."

A man with grey hair, wearing a black fedora-style hat with a brown band, a dark grey jacket, a dark scarf, and a striped tie. He is looking upwards and to the right with a slight smile, and his arms are crossed. The background is dark and out of focus.

**I WOULD LOVE TO
RECREATE SOME
UNIQUE MAGIC
EFFECTS FROM
DAYS GONE BY
AND PERFORM
THEM IN MY HOME
THEATRE...**



**"I HAVE BEEN
READING A LOT,
BUILDING AND
REBUILDING NEW
AND OLD PROPS..."**

"I've also been filming the material from my books 'Full Bloom' with Alexandra and Dominique Duvivier for their new magic streaming channel and every week I have a creative Zoom session with my friends Kevin James, Adrian Soler and Rafael Van Herck which is the highlight of my week and a good way to stay creative. I realise now more than ever that I have a good life. Imagine the people who are stuck in a tiny apartment with lots of people living with them or the many people who are stuck all alone..." Gaetan also reveals that he did a lot of nice cooking but that hasn't been good for his weight!

Have you coped OK with the situation? What has been the most difficult aspect for you personally? "The most difficult has been not to be able to perform live shows. I miss the personal contact and the interaction with the audience and I miss seeing them without a mask so I can see them smile and enjoy my show."

Have you had time to think about the future and your performing plans might be? "Yes, I would love to recreate some unique magic effects from days gone by and perform them in my home theatre, such as a version of the Hooker Card Rise or some of Robert-Houdin's creations. I'd also like to build some of the ideas I have in my notebook like the self working magic tricks which are like art installations whereby the spectators push a button or pulls a string and the magic happens without them knowing how it works. I created several tricks like this for the Renault car exhibition on the Champs Élysées, but I'd like to create and build more of these, as they're such fun !

Gaetan tells me he also has several wooden automata kits which are waiting to be constructed. He says they've been packed in boxes for too long and he can't wait to play with them and see them in action.

These days, Gaetan lives in a small, countryside village called Aavernes, which is about one hour from Paris. I ask who he thinks are the future stars of French magic ? "Stars ? I don't know... Eric Antoine is the current star... and considering new underground guys, I would say Arthur Chavaudret and also Noham Gannier... just talking about close-up..."

What's the best advice you can give to someone starting out in magic? "When French magicians would ask me this in the past I would always reply with: learn English as most of the magic books are in English. These days a lot of magic books are translated into French but not all books - and especially not the old magic books - and these are the books that contain the hidden gems waiting to be discovered, so I recommend reading old books. A good example is Robert Houdin's book on card conjuring which contains nothing but great effects.

"Perform your show on the streets is another piece of advice I like to give to budding magicians as performing on the streets helps you to grow as a performer and you learn how to captivate an audience as they will walk away if you don't manage to entertain them. There is an overabundance of new tricks and every day new tricks appear on the market. My advice to the new generation is to stick to a few tricks and master these instead of buying the trick of the day."

Not everyone is capable of creating original effects, so what would you say to those who have to use marketed effects in their shows? "Well, first, if you really want to invent new tricks, the most important thing, for me, is to be curious. Curious about everything, not just magic. Have you ever opened up an electrical switch to see how it works? If so, you're on the right track!

"Not being able to create original effects is fine, a good example is Fred Kaps who would perform marketed tricks in his own unique style and made them his signature pieces! The most important thing is to practise and play with the effect until you have mastered it and then make it your own.

"It's like cooking: first you follow the recipe and then you start to experiment and add your own touches. That's why it's good to study the classics in magic as they are classics for a good reason and they are a good foundation to start building upon."

Gaetan has been at the top of his profession now for more years than he'll thank me for mentioning. I ask him what three memories from his incredible career come to him straight away? "Definitely performing at the Crazy Horse in Paris. I had the pleasure of seeing George Carl, Milo and Roger, Señor Wences, and Mac Ronay perform there when I used to visit this cabaret as a spectator. From then on, I knew it was my dream to be on that stage some day. And I did it, thanks to Kevin James. It became a reality in 1993 and I stayed there for 15 years.

"Visiting the Magic Castle in Hollywood was another highlight as I had heard so much about it and when I was finally able to visit it for the first time in 1981 not only did the 'open sesame' bookcase open but also a new world opened for me. It was there that I met and saw some of the most influential magicians of my lifetime like Dai Vernon and Albert Goshman... Which brings me to my third highlight and that is meeting so many great people who became close friends."

Looking back then, how has the magic world changed in the last thirty years or so, and has it changed for the better? "Well, the world is getting smaller thanks to the internet which makes life easier and everything we need is merely a click away - but the danger is that we stop thinking too soon, as in the past you had to wait for several weeks before a package arrived and you only had a drawing in the catalogue instead of the trailers you now have these days. Thinking about the trick you ordered before it arrived was and is a good thing for sparking your imagination.

"THE MOST DIFFICULT HAS BEEN NOT BEEN ABLE TO PERFORM LIVE SHOWS. I MISS THE PERSONAL CONTACT AND THE INTERACTION WITH THE AUDIENCE AND I MISS SEEING THEM WITHOUT A MASK SO I CAN SEE THEM SMILE AND ENJOY MY SHOW."



Gaetan with
Ken Brooke



"And even if the trick arrived and was not up to your expectations you had time to think about it beforehand and in your fantasy you knew what it should look like and then it's up to the magician to improve it and to make this fantasy a reality!"

Gaetan reveals that in his early days he used to save up his money and visit the magic shop at 145 Wardour Street, London – and that's where he met Ken Brooke. "I used to spend all weekend there and every visit was not only a pure joy, but also the nicest way to meet the top people in the business. They were all visiting the place, and Ken was friends with the best.

"Some of the people I got to know through Ken were Fred Kaps, Paul Daniels, Paul Stone, Johnny Paul, Johnny Thompson, and Tommy Cooper."

Also favourites of Gaetan were Ali Bongo, Pat Page, Terry Seabrooke, David Berglas, Wayne Dobson, David Britland and Eric Mason who wrote beautiful books. More contemporary British performers he admires include Luke Jermay, Colin McLeod, Kieron Johnson and many more.

Who should feature in the next issue of Magicseen? I've put Gaetan in the spot of guest editor! Says Gaetan, "Otto Wessely would be perfect or Jean Merlin, Dominique and Alexandra Duvivier, Stefan Leyshon, also Kevin James, Adrian Soler or you, Rafael. No, you have just featured on the cover!!!

"It would also be nice to see one of the old timers on the cover as they have a lifetime of experience and very interesting things to say. We often forget about these people and only remember them when it is too late, unfortunately."

Gaetan has devised so many effects over the years, and his output has been incredibly creative. Has he got one invention which is very special to him? He laughs and tells me that's like asking which is his favourite child!

"Let me name a few: I like my version of the Gypsy Thread as it is a very personal piece and I like that you are clean before and after. From a commercial point of view I like the Intercor as the possibilities are endless and I like my "Escorial 3 Card Monte" as it has a wonderful story how it came about...

"I was working in Spain with my good friend Juan Tamariz. We spent many magic evenings together in his village, El Escorial. During one session, we were working on the use of mylar mirrors in mentalism. I was playing around with a piece of thin mylar when suddenly an idea came to my mind. I remembered an old Charles T. Jordan effect using a gimmicked card in which the gaff was made with cigarette paper. Jordan's gimmick was not easy to handle, but I was always sure that there was some potential use for it. A few minutes later, I made my first Escorial Monte card using the same principle but with a thin mylar mirror instead of the cigarette paper.

"Looking for a mentalism effect, I had discovered a useful gimmick that opened the door to many visual effects..."



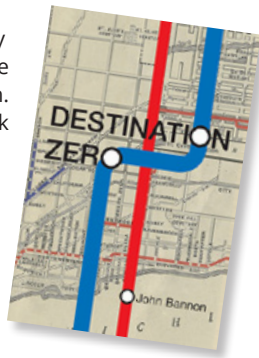
From left to right: Ali Bongo, Paul Stone, Paul Daniels, Gaetan Bloom, Siegfried Fischbacher

QUICKIES WITH GAETAN...



Last book you read?

'Technique and Understanding' by Jim Steinmeyer. Next in line will be 'Destination Zero' by John Bannon. The books I find myself going back to are the Will Goldston books as they are very inspiring and full of clever magical contraptions. These books look and feel like what a magic book should be like and the fact that you have to unlock the book to find out the secrets, adds to its appeal.



You've worked as a consultant for many top performers - any in particular spring to mind?

One of the projects I consulted on was the act of Christian Fechner who won first prize at FISM in 1979. This led to a lifelong friendship and he asked me to consult on several of his movies as he was a film producer, screenwriter and

director. He wanted the magic to happen for real on the set, so the actors could show their real reactions to the magic instead of adding the effects in post production. I also consulted on various theatre plays and I helped a lot of magicians over the years which I still do as part of the French magic team.

Fav movie or TV series

Columbo and Jonathan Creek

What did you have for breakfast?

English breakfast and not French toast like one would expect.

What has been the secret to your success?

What success?





ROMANY WRITES!

If you had told me in February, as I floated lazily in a warm pool by the side of the ocean in Fiji, that the world was about to change in every imaginable way, I would have assumed that you had imbibed a smidge too much happy juice.

At midnight, after I'd taken off my costume and packed away props, one of the organisers of a women's retreat where I was working, yelled at me to come and have a swim. A splash really, with a drink in one hand and a toe on the bottom of the pool. Ten of the organisers were already floating about in the pool in their underwear. Someone had torn their clothes off and jumped in and since we were the only clients at the resort and couldn't be bothered to return to our chalets to find our swimsuits, the rest of us got down to our smalls and leapt in too.

I remember being supremely happy and relaxed. I had flown halfway around the world to perform at a retreat for 150 women in Fiji plus try out my brand-new keynote speech. I joined in with art and dance workshops and loved the swimming with dolphins trips. The sea a few metres from my chalet was deep turquoise and full of brightly coloured fish.

In the tiny island resort, my stage was a scruffy little raised platform by the bar. Not much light and the fans which were meant to keep the place cool, didn't.

But what can you do? I was setting out my props when one of the guests walked past.

"Can I say something?" she asked.

"Sure," I replied.

"That looks crap." She was Australian. "Why don't you do it by the side of the pool in front of the beach?"

We went outside to look.
Which is how I found myself performing under a Fijian full

moon and palm trees, with the inky backdrop of the night sky and ocean to a happy, whooping crowd of women, half of whom were in the pool. I got tied up by two strong Fijian men and the sound-woman got my music cues wrong each time which made the show hilarious. That was my last show.

A week later, my gigs for the entire year, cruise work, parties and corporate events were cancelled. Without this income, I couldn't afford to live in my large Brighton house and quickly rented a tiny cottage in Cumbria. I dismantled my home theatre and magic workshop and hired a decorator to make my theatre space neutral and rented out the whole house.

Suddenly I could see sheep from my front windows and it was all very quiet.

Then the Buddhist centre where my husband now lives and volunteers, announced that it was locking down too. My options were not to see my husband during lockdown or go live with him and four monks in their tiny cottage and volunteer as a full time gardener. Which I did. For three months, I hacked down bushes, mowed huge lawns and bossed my gardening team of trainee Buddhist teachers about. The weather was sunny and without the stress of showbiz I enjoyed myself. Whoever said 'a change is as good as a rest' is right.

In May I returned to my own cottage and intended to get back to magic. Except there still weren't any gigs. The government told us to pivot so I spent my time promoting my book, *Spun Into Gold - The Secret Life of a Female Magician*, with the goal of finding a million readers. Suddenly I was busy with blogs, articles, podcasts, interviews and Zoom talks. My book sales went up, slowly.

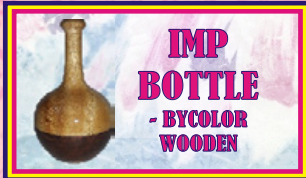
Now I'm working on a showreel for my new career as a keynote speaker for 2021. Of course, I'll do magic if asked, or combine the two. Since we have no idea what the new entertainment world will look like, I'm re-booting as instructed. It's still super weird though isn't it?

This December I have no gigs at all. Not one. Nothing for 2021. But I do have a marvellous, magical book for you to enjoy, one that our friend Anthony Owen said, "Romany is handing you her sunlight, take it." It's about following a dream and never giving up and you'll know most of the magicians in it. I'm proud to say it's got 300 five star reviews on Amazon sites combined and it might be your cup of tea, glass of splash or precisely the inspiration that you need to hear right now.

For now, I'm trying to embrace what's new while not giving up on my lifelong dream of making people laugh and wonder. I hope you won't either. This new world is going to need us and our magic more than ever. Onwards!

Spun Into Gold - The Secret Life of a Female Magician is available as a signed copy or ebook from www.romanymagic.com
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EITHER.... OR?

We are all faced with choices in magic, so we asked one or two well known magicians to select between two magical options and explain their decision! This time we put Andy Nyman on the spot...

- 1. Electronic mentalist aids....low tech solutions?**
Low tech every day of the week. They never let you down.
- 2. Close up....stand up?**
Mmm. Stand up - doing the cabaret set I always did.
- 3. Gaffed decks....regular decks?**
Gaffed. I love a blank deck, would miss the reaction they get.
- 4. Intimate audience numbers.... large scale shows?**
Intimate. I've never worked big shows, so used to love the intimate rooms. My absolute favourite was playing the Parlour at the Magic Castle.
- 5. Tamariz stack....Aronson stack?**
Neither. SI Stebbins - no messing around.

IN THE PHONE BOX



Hey! This is the bit where we send the editor into a traditional English phonebox and ask him to call someone interesting and ask them all about magic – even if they're not interested in the subject! This issue we speak to Joel Courtney, the brilliant young actor who shot to fame as the star of sci-fi movie Super8. What do you mean, you haven't seen it?? It's a JJ Abrams flick! Joel also starred in The Kissing Booth, and The Kissing Booth2.

MS: Hi Joel, how are you doing?

JC: Good. Really good thanks. Where are you from?

MS: Magicseen Magazine, Europe's number one magazine for magicians and mentalists...

JC: (pause) Oh, that's cool, I guess!

MS: So from your pause, I guess you're not on our subscribers list?

JC: (laughs) I've never actually heard of your magazine, but that doesn't mean it's not a cool publication, eh?

MS: We can dream. Are you a fan of magic?

JC: I've never performed it. No, that's not strictly true. Every kid has had a magic kit for Christmas haven't they? I remember having a trick that had half-a-ball in a cup or something, and it kept disappearing. Not exactly David Blaine stuff, but I remember being impressed by it.

MS: I still perform that!

JC: (laughs) I'm not a magician, but a couple of my friends are into magic. I'm into the Rubik's Cube. On the set of Super8 I spent, hours, days working on it. I found it to be a great way of relaxing. My friend Joey King, who was also in Super8 showed me how to master it. I've seen a magician on TV do tricks with a Rubik Cube which were awesome.

MS: Who do you think would win in a fight: Teller or David Copperfield?

JC: Hmm, that could be a close one. I'd expect that to go the distance. Maybe Copperfield on points.

MS: Thanks Joel

JC: My pleasure. Thank you.

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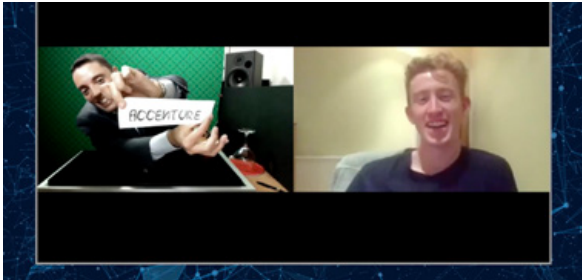
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HAVE YOUR SAY

If you have anything you would like to tell us, whether it's about the magazine or anything magic related, please email: grahamhey@magicseen.co.uk



ZOOM FOREVER? NO THANK YOU

Dear Magicseen,
I've heard many magicians say that they think shows on Zoom are the future, but I disagree. Nothing will ever replace the live feeling of a show. Think of the atmosphere, the anticipation, the lights, sound, the buzz of the crowd. Also, it's the meeting of friends, going for a drink first and generally looking forward to the evening. If Zoom beats that, then it's a very sad day for magic and entertainment in general.

I have seen a magic show on Zoom and it was OK, but you can't get away from the fact you are basically watching a TV screen. Yes, I agree it makes life a lot easier for many performers. No props to lug around, no expensive petrol and no travel time. But just as Zoom isn't quite the same for the viewer, it can't be the same for the performer either. Is the convenience of doing a Zoom show anywhere near as satisfying as the adrenalin rush of a show? What about meeting people afterwards and having a chat. Live performing is about so much more than someone standing on a stage.

L.N via email.

A SPECIAL EFFECT

Dear Magicseen,
I'm looking for a really good, key effect that I could put into a stand-up corporate show. Yes, I'm getting my act ready for after we've conquered the virus - if that ever happens. Anyway, I'm looking for something with laughs, and that could be a feature piece. I have found that there are not that many great stand-up pieces around which deliver on all fronts: funny, strong, audience participation etc. I thought perhaps you could recommend an effect for me to think about.

Best wishes,

Gerry Dyson, East Ham

Dear Gerry, we had an ask around a few of our reviewers and one effect kept springing to mind. Check out Echo by Wayne Dobson, it's in his book The Definitive Collection, but

we think you'll be able to find it easily and try Wayne's own website. Basically, this is an effect where you get someone to help you and they have to repeat what you say. It's crammed full of great little gags and Wayne himself used it on TV and in his act for years. It's a winner!

TV MAGIC SHOWS VANISH

Dear Magicseen,

Where are all the magic shows on TV these days? Apart from Penn & Teller: Fool Us, the schedules have been very sparse with magic over the last year or two. Does Magicseen have any inside info on new shows coming up?

Paul Simpson via email

**Yes we do have news of magic shows in the pipeline, but if we reveal all before we're supposed to, bang go all our exclusives! Sit tight Paul!*

MENTALIST DOUBLE ACT

Dear Magicseen,

I recently found a copy of a book called The Piddingtons. It's a terrific book about a pair of magicians in the 1950s. Back then, the Piddingtons ignited fierce debates across Britain, as they demonstrated what appeared to be genuine telepathy for the BBC. The book is un-put-downable! I highly recommend this to your readers. I'm still pinching myself for picking up this second-hand book for £2 in a charity shop!

Sarah J. via email

Hi Sarah, if you go to thepiddington.com you can read theories from some big names about how they perfected their mindreading 'skills'. You can also add your own theories, too!

RAFAEL, THE KING

Dear Magicseen,

I was really pleased to see Rafael gracing the last issue of Magicseen.

Over the years I have had the pleasure of seeing him perform at several magic festivals and his show are always impeccable. He is such a professional and he keeps getting better and better. Great interview, keep up the good work!

Geoff Walters,

Essex, via email

WHAT?

Dear Magicseen,

Rafael? Bloody marvellous!

S. Hamson via email





LUCA'S LOUNGE!

It seems the whole world is doing Zoom magic shows at the moment, but some magicians got in there right at the beginning and have put together top-quality online experiences! Italian star Luca Volpe tells us how he developed his Zoom show and tells you what you need for success using his experience and wit! Graham Hey asks the questions on a Zoom call.

Tell us about when you first got the idea to do online shows...

First let me tell you Graham that I really understood the potential of the online world after I organised the first virtual mentalism convention. That was an event, the first one in the world, which involved the biggest names in mentalism - from Banachek to Guy Bavli, Richard Webster and many others.

It was 24 hours of mentalism where they all shared ideas and routines for free to help performers worldwide in these difficult times. This event was not easy to organise but it helped many in the magic community. In fact my good friend Renato Cotini and I are working alongside Danny Archer to organise the greatest mentalism convention MINDVENTION, which is normally held in Las Vegas, but this coming year it will be held online from the 16th to the 18th January.

So... all this is to show you that I really believed in the potential of the online platform and I have to be honest, I was able to see it ahead of time, in fact I was the first Italian mentalist to actually have my online mentalism show - called E-Mentalism - ready without even having planned the structure of it! But I thought that was the right moment to take action and to offer an alternative to all my past and new clients.

How did you select the effects?

I am a strong believer that an online mentalism show needs to be structured as a proper theatre show. I mean, taking some tricks from the drawer and putting them together is not the way to go. Also, mentalism is not so easy to perform online, you can easily fall in the trap of always doing prediction effects - and that is very limiting, so finding the right sequence of routines and effects takes time and thought. Actually, I have been consulting with

many other performers to help them build their online shows. It also depends on the kind of clients you have: corporate? Family shows? Online shows and tickets? Everything needs to be structured in the right way, considering the type of clients you are going to perform for.

Did you work with anyone else on the show?

No, I do everything myself and that is not easy, you need to control many things during the show but once you have all the technical knowhow, then it's easy to do.

How did you set it up technically? Did you know anything about 'Zoom'?

I have a great passion for technology and video producing, so I was lucky that I already knew how to implement high quality video in my online show. I had to buy some extra tech, like the Atemi Mini ProSwitch which is a really useful video switcher where you can connect up to 4 HDMI sources and can do so many other things such as fades, audio control and much more, this tool really saved my life! I had only used Zoom a few times in the past, but I had to learn a lot about it - and I actually think that it's the best platform to perform an online show. It provides possibilities such as adding people to the spotlight which means that all the audience sees it in their main screen, showing you and the chosen person performing. Basically, it's like seeing the spectator on stage with the performer and is really cool. In fact, I only do shows on Zoom! When a client contacts me, I arrange the meeting, I give them all the info and I am ready to go!

I also I have special shows for companies which also contain a Mystery Box that they get delivered to their home. Inside are tools that they need to take part in my show!

How did you structure the show?

Like a proper show! I always try to involve all the audience as soon as I start, and then I divide the routines so that my show has a nice flow through it. I have predictions, an intuition experiment, a memory feat and more. Of course, I always try to add more visual elements through video. I try to create an experience which goes beyond the standard trick. As I said, it's really important to find the flow in the routines and try to be as original as possible. I created some of the routines in the show, and others, such as ICON ESP, has been created by John Morton and myself. It's a great ESP matching routine that can also be customised with any kind of design, it's a killer routine that never fails to astound. I also have my closing routine which I created especially for my show and some other bits and pieces, so I have made a big effort to be original and avoid performing tricks right out of the box.

How did you decide on lighting, what to wear, the 'set' etc...

Lighting is very important, at least two sets of video lights are good to have - there are plenty on Amazon! But it all depends on the environment in which you perform. I do the show in Italy using a green screen, but when I'm at my studio in the UK I use my library as a backdrop which is nice and tidy and which also gives that feeling of elegance and culture. To reflect my "Italian style" there are also some crystals on the shelf to provide a touch of mystery! I wear my suit (of course from Hugo Boss - it's the only brand that fits me perfectly lol) and nothing underneath... just kidding, but I can tell you that I don't have my shoes on when performing!

How do the audience react?

Of course being used to performing for very big crowds and hearing thunderous applause is a lot different to performing online... but if you are good enough to involve



LUCA VOLPE
SIX



ARE YOU READY TO UNLOCK YOUR MIND?

them in the show with great energy, it really doesn't matter if you are on a stage or not, they will react great! You only need to be quick enough to unmute them all so you can hear their reaction!!

The shows are not made by the tricks but by the performer. You are the main focus for them and you need to be able to keep them engaged throughout the show. I had young magicians with not much experience asking me to design an online show for them, but I told them that if they have no experience in connecting with people in live shows, it will be very difficult for them to work online. You need to take care of many variables, anything can happen and you need to be fast enough to think on your feet.

What are the main difficulties? (Distractions etc)

The online show is not easy to control. When you realise that you are at the mercy of the electric company, this is already scary! What happens if the light goes off? Or internet goes down? These are variables that you can't control, so I always have a disclaimer in my contract where I tell them that in case of some technology difficulties we are going to move the show to another date etc... It's very important to have a disclaimer like this it will save your @ss....!

So there are several things to consider and while this is in the back of your mind, you also need to keep their attention... you do this firstly with your personality, because as I said, you are the main focus and not the tricks. You need to be energetic and get their attention in the first second you start the show, because if they like you from the start then they are hooked! It's easy for them to get distracted - maybe the dog jumps on the sofa, the postman comes, the house sets on fire! (Well honestly only the ladies catch fire with me... lol just kidding!) so, you need to be good to keep their interest for at least 30 to 45 minutes (which is the normal duration of an online show).

How do you keep their attention?

No long routines, no complicated stuff they have to do such as calculations etc. Just be quick and to the point and use your personality to engage them.

Any difference in your performing style online?

No, I think we need to keep our personality in any kind of situations, people come to see the performer and then the tricks.

Do you hear the applause etc?

Yes as I said above there is an option to unmute them all but one thing that I always do, before the final kicker in the show is, I tell all of them to unmute themselves so I can feel their energy. This is a good thing to do as you start to let them in for the final moment of the show.

You have a new online show premiering in December - tell us about that...

Yes it's called SIX and is a themed show where I am going to explore the Six Mental Faculties of the human brain. It's based on a scientific fact, so people can actually Google it! It has been a very hard show to structure - in fact the choice of the routines had to be made based on the theme and each mental faculty. Also I had a lot of people with me, like my graphic designer Marco Praticò, who helped me with all the visual stuff in the show (logo, video etc...) It's a really cool show that will be officially launched in 2021 so I suggest all of you get tickets to assist with the premiere, it will be fun!

How can you get a ticket?

Tickets for the premiere are only 20USD and they can be purchased at <https://www.theforumvirtualtheatre.com>

Do you think online shows are here to stay? How busy have you been?

I have been very busy, it's unbelievable the feedback and work I got with online shows. I have been performing for big companies such as Accenture, Aviva, Banca Sella, Perrigo and many others. I seriously think that online shows will not end. Actually, people have discovered a new way to be entertained. People love the luxury to have a performer on "demand"! Instead of Netflix, Prime or Disney, now people can actually book a show for their family and be part of it! This is cool!

How do you promote your shows?

I do a lot of promotion from my social media (actually if you want to follow me on Instagram it's @lucavolpeofficial) and also I have two agents, one in Italy and one in the UK. The agents, Luca and Kate, are unbelievably good, they are always ready to help and are very professional. I think that for us as entertainers we need to be surrounded by people we trust, and I am very lucky to have them in my team.

I would like to close this interview with a message to everybody out there: this has been a very difficult year, but don't let difficulties stop you, but make sure you transform challenges into opportunities!

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THE SHOUTOUTS

Here are some special 'extra' announcements from a few of our regular advertisers



CARD-SHARK..

Here we are, bringing another year to an end; that we all probably want to forget ASAP. We congratulate all of you who got through it with minor impacts. Our biggest changes were the lack of convention traveling and spending time with other magicians and our friends. However, we were very busy working on new collaborations and amazing effects.

In this issue, you will see the advertisement for our newest

item produced with Paralabs called "Depicting Thoughts." Not just a "picture card deck"! This is an amazing tool from the greatest minds in German Mentalism. Make sure to visit www.card-shark.de/ad/PLDT and watch the video. We invited Rainer Mees from Paralabs into our Card-Shark Studio to explain some of the uses of this amazing tool.

We are also very close to several new releases, and some might even be released before Christmas:

- The Vibrant Color Deck Series:
Our Large Index Phoenix Decks

now in Four Exciting New Colors! (Also Available in a Very Limited & Numbered Collector's Edition!)

- Visa Versa by Michel Huot: A travel related deck of cards, printed with countries from around the world. The chosen country will show up reversed inside the card case! (Zoom-Friendly)

- Beat the Devil with Henry Evans: Give your spectator the power to locate any named card in the deck! No magnets, No stooges & No Threads (Zoom-friendly).

Many other effects will be released in the beginning

weeks and months of 2021 as well!! Make sure to join us for our weekly Live-Stream on YouTube every Monday at 7pm British time (8pm German time) We always invite interesting guests, talk about magic related topics and let you participate in the newest ideas of Card-Shark. YouTube Channel: CardSharkGermany

The whole team at Card-Shark wishes you a Merry Christmas, and a Great and Happy 2021 that will outperform the past 12 months!

ILLUMINATI MAGIC

Second Sight, by Illuminati Magic, is the smallest, fastest, and most sensitive RFID reader available and can detect playing cards up to 110mm. A simple vibration sequence tells you the suit and value of the card instantly. It is fully programmable, allowing you to assign custom voice messages, text messages, and images. You get the information in plain English via a hidden Bluetooth earpiece.

The RFID tags may be hidden virtually anywhere; playing cards, boarding passes, drink cups, postcards, and even business cards.

At only 75 x 35mm, it's incredibly small, with a range that allows you to detect the cards with a single gesture! Features include: An RFID reader/writer, 54 RFID Playing cards (purchased separately).

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NEO MAGIC SUPER BUNDLE..

Hi everyone, Vinny here from Neo Magic. I hope that you are all keeping well and looking forward to the year ahead. I just wanted to quickly tell you about a SUPER BUNDLE available via our website, which is incredible value as you are able to mix 'n' match 4 different effects for only £49.99! This can include our world famous book test Mystify, along

with a couple of packet tricks like Colourful Kings/Chace and even a mentalism effect like Connected. As always, everything comes with FREE delivery worldwide and if you subscribe to the mailing list, I will send you a code for a great trick that I know you will love. Until then, wishing you all the best for the year ahead, Vinny and Shina (www.neomagic.co.uk)

BLACK HART

Night of the Demon is a storytelling effect where a stack of Magician tarot cards all turn one by one into The Devil. This is

a great visual effect accompanied by a dramatic presentation. There is NO sleight of hand. You will receive the special tarot cards, which are laminated for long-life, a set of illustrated instructions and the presentation, with script by The Black Hart.

A group of magicians gather to raise a demon but they get far more than they bargain for. Instead of a mere demon they raise The Devil himself, with dire consequences for them all! Now with larger size Tarot cards. <http://www.blackhart.co.uk/nightofthedemon.html> Only available from Black Artefacts.

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BALLOON ELEPHANT

By Wolfgang Riebe

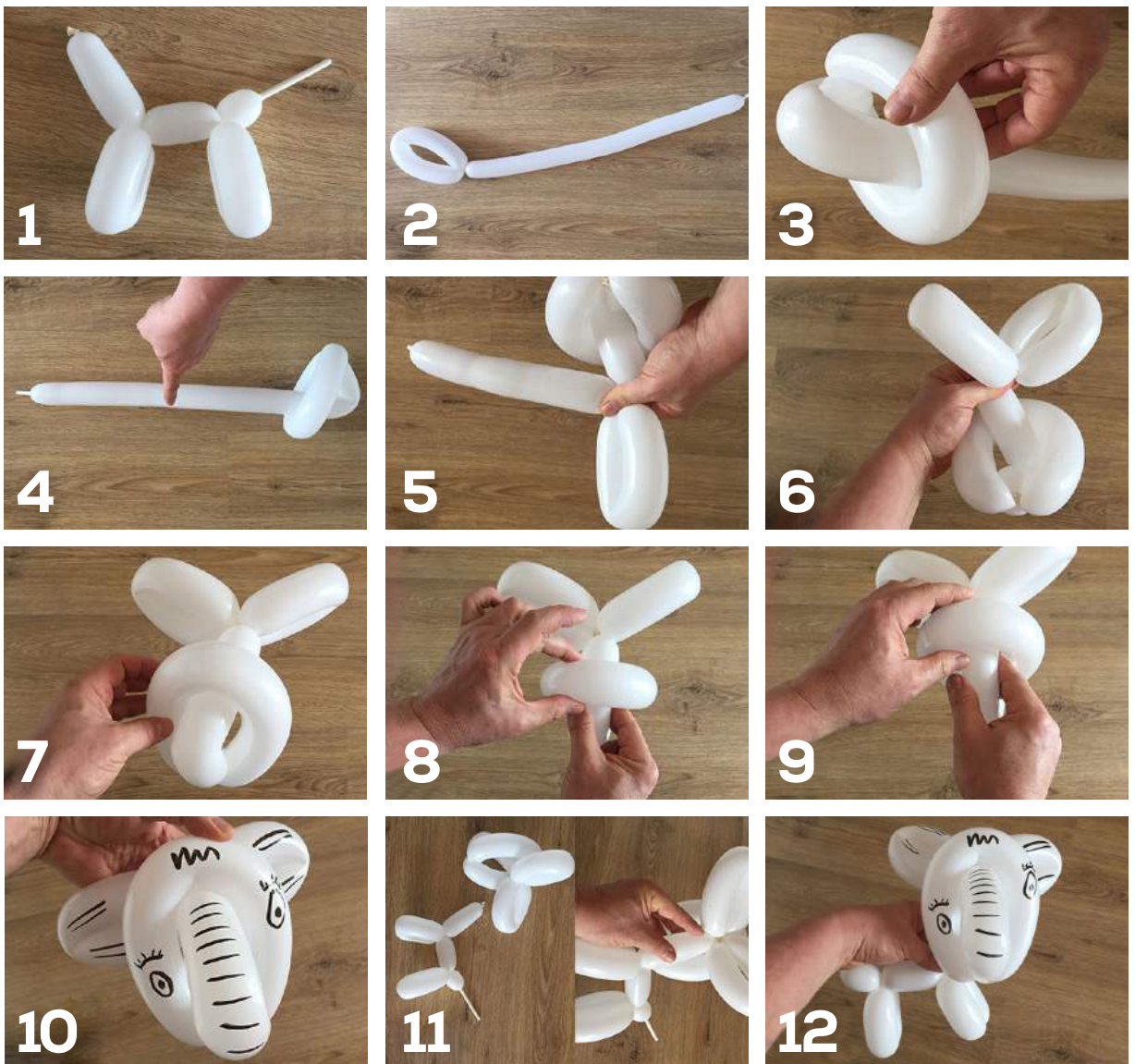
Extracted, with permission, from The Complete Works book.

REQUIREMENTS:

Two 260A modelling balloons, preferably of the same colour. You will also need a good, thick-point, black permanent marker.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Blow up the first balloon as if you are going to make a poodle, but leave quite a long section, about 10cm, deflated.
2. Make a standard dog without a head, as in Fig. 1.
3. Inflate the second balloon, leaving 2cm deflated, and make a loop in it as in Fig. 2.
4. Now pull the remaining section through the loop to make the trunk. Fig. 3.
5. With the remaining section, you will now have to make the ears. Divide the remaining section in half and twist two ears, one from each half as in Figs. 4 - 7.
6. Pull the trunk through the first loop to line up the ears. Figs. 8 - 9.
7. At this stage, the elephant balloon is not recognisable. It will be once you have drawn the face on it, as in Fig. 10. Attach the head to the body and line everything up as in Figs. 11 - 12.
8. The face is simple to draw, yet it adds so much to the balloon. This must be one of the most effective balloon animals ever, and it always gets a reaction from the audience.



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THE REVIEWS

WE TAKE A LOOK AT **WHAT'S HOT** AND **WHAT'S NOT**



A LETTER TO SANTA

George Iglesias

Available from any Murphy's retailer or dealers contact www.murphysmagic.com

Price: £80.00

Six years ago George Iglesias marketed his version of a classic bit of adult stand up nonsense called A Trip To Cancun, in which a bikini clad woman displayed on a poster gradually loses what clothing she's wearing, leading to an unexpected comedy finish. In these PC times, perhaps not the best plot to include in your act!

Better was the launch of A Trip To The Circus, which was aimed at a family audience, and now, probably the best of the three, he has released A Letter To Santa. In this version a child gets to choose one present from a selection of six nicely printed on thin laminated cards. Each picture has been designed on the back to look like a letter in an envelope.

The chosen gift card vanishes as the magician promises to send it to Santa in time for Xmas. Bringing out a large folded poster, the performer unfolds it to reveal a colourful picture of Santa, complete with hat and trademark belt, holding a letter card in his hand while standing

next to Rudolph, who is looking resplendent with his bright red nose.

Folding the poster, the child is invited to reach into the poster and bring out the letter. However instead he comes out with a red sponge nose! Opening the poster reveals that Rudolph has now lost his all important feature.

The poster is closed again and the child reaches in for the letter only to emerge this time with Santa's hat. Opening the poster reveals a bald headed Santa. Finally, the child tries a third time and on this occasion removes Santa's belt. Unfolding the poster reveals Santa looking mightily embarrassed with his trousers around his ankles and Rudolph having a good laugh at his expense. The correct present letter card is also found inside showing that Santa did receive it. This effect is aimed, I would suggest, at the 3-6 age range. It's magically a bit weak, but the young kids will enjoy the way the items keep coming out of the folded poster and the subsequent changes in the pictures.

The props are well made. When folded, the poster measures about 45cm x 34cm (18" x 13") and is made from hard wearing materials. The pictures are very colourful and attractive looking and would be seen even from a stage. You are supplied with the sponge nose and Santa's hat and belt, as well as two sets of nicely produced picture cards (10cm x 8cm) showing coloured illustrations of the various Xmas presents.

The instructions come via the now familiar online Vimeo video, this lasting 19 minutes, in which George takes you through the extremely simple handling.

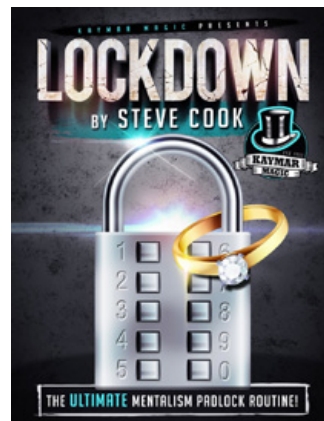
Strangely this does not include a performance trailer, even though he has produced one for online sales promotion.

If you entertain pre-school or early years children, this bright, colourful routine could be a winner. Of course, George has released it in time for this year's festive shows, but since most

people won't be doing any in December 2020, a routine that is as time sensitive as this, may have come a year too early. **ML**

WHAT'S HOT: lovely, easy to do effect for young children using bright, colourful props

WHAT'S NOT: not very magical
Rating: 75%



LOCKDOWN

Steve Cook

Available from www.kaymarmagic.com

Price: £22.99

Steve Cook is synonymous with creating strong commercial magic and his latest release - Lockdown - is no exception. There have been many padlock effects on the market over the years but I think this is one of the best available.

A padlock is introduced and a spectator's ring is fastened onto it. Stating you have forgotten the number to unlock the padlock you hand the spectator a set of 10 cards, each with a different single digit number printed on them. The cards are shuffled and dealt into two piles. The spectator eliminates one of the piles, and then one further card leaving just 4 cards. The cards are laid out in order and the 4 digit number tried on the padlock. It does not

work. You state that the numbers are correct but just not in the correct order. The spectator re-arranges the cards, inputs the new number and, bingo, the lock opens releasing the ring.

You are supplied with the padlock, the 10 cards (with plastic case), a cloth bag along with online tuition by Kaymar Magic's Liam Montier who does a great job running through the explanations.

The method is ridiculously clever and very easy to do. The 10 cards supplied are also marked should you wish to use them for other effects. There's no magician's choice or multiple outs, no clever wordplay. What more do you need?

This is a perfect effect for both close-up and parlour and takes up virtually no pocket space. If you use the cards there is a small reset of the cards but the time needed is minimal. With a little thought though you could actually perform Lockdown without the cards should you wish to.

Lockdown is Steve Cook at his best and I would highly recommend this. It's also available at a great price too. **PS**

WHAT'S HOT: commercial magic at its best. Great price.

WHAT'S NOT: nothing to report
Rating: 90%



TOASTER (DOWNLOAD)

Max Lukian

Available from
www.vanishingincmagic.com

Price: £9.00

Here's a visual card move specifically for sandwich type effects. In its most basic form, a card is selected and returned to the middle of the deck. The top

two cards are removed, two Aces or Jokers for example, and these are held side by side overlapping each other. Suddenly a card appears between them sticking out for half or more of its length which, as you've guessed, is the chosen card. It's a very visual and magical appearance and looks great. Alternatively, the card could shoot into the air from between

the two cards. I prefer the static appearance.

This download is simply about the technique for making the chosen card appear in between the other two cards. It involves a sudden finger movement coupled with a grip and is therefore slightly tricky. It has to be done perfectly to achieve the sudden magical appearance. Any less and it will look exactly what it is with no magical quality, so you will need to do it perfectly every time.

I've found that some types of card moves require a 'knack'. This is one. You can either do it or you can't. It's well explained on the 12 minute video including one handed and two handed versions and Max tries to give you all the information you need to be able to perform it, although I thought an under-the-cards

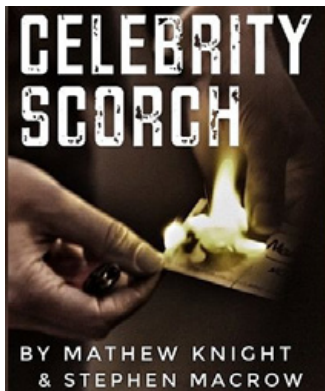
view of the work going on would have helped. He also explains the set-up and handling for the basic sandwich effect.

Needless to say, after half an hour I was not even getting close. For those more used to the 'card shot' type of moves you may have no trouble at all, in which case you will have a useful magical card appearance to add to your arsenal. **PP**

WHAT'S HOT: visually magical. Requires a knack technically.

WHAT'S NOT: no leeway for error, relies on 100% perfect execution.

RATING: 60%



CELEBRITY SCORCH!

Mathew Knight & Stephen Macrow

Available from any Murphy's retailer or dealers contact
www.murphysmagic.com

Price: £48

If I wanted someone calming, Zen-like and in no hurry what-so-ever to talk me off of a cliff edge, Mathew Knight would be that guy! Presenting a 42-minute video, his laid-back style gives plenty of detail as he covers presentations, explanations and further thinking for the effect.

But what is the effect? A spectator is asked to choose a number from

a Top 100 list of celebrities. At this stage, the number is written on a small piece of white card, along with the celebrity name and signed by the participant. This piece of card is then half covered with a small piece of (flash) paper. Set alight, the flame (which more often than not causes more reaction than the trick using it) magically appears and upon fading, a scorch mark in the shape of the chosen celebrity now covers the other half of the card. Nice.

Yes, it's our old tried and trusted friend, the Out To Lunch principle.

Inside the package, you receive a batch of blank white business card size pieces of card, two white rubber bands, a quality made metal stencil featuring two celebrity faces and printed instructions, along with the link to the video download. You will learn the simple method to create the scorched cards yourself which takes a few seconds to do.

The white rubber bands are aesthetically pleasing with the white cards, but the purist may opt for classic brown rubber bands. In the further thinking

segment of the video, Mathew shares a magnetic concept eliminating the use of the rubber bands. However, while fun to play with, I'm not convinced the handling would be as innocent as using the bands.

For those who don't have Nick Einhorn's Digital Force Bag, another digital force is offered which will take a while to create but once done, you have it ready for life or until your phone runs out of battery/gets up-graded. For the non-smartphone users, methods are offered for the force of celebrity using playing cards and other novelty decks.

The choice of celebrity is well thought out to have maximum appeal to audiences young and old.

The final signed and scorched card makes a wonderful and memorable souvenir. My only reservation is that with half of the card clearly burned, it may allow a particularly savvy spectator to guess the method. That said, given the reaction magicians already doing this on social media receive, this could be unjustified.

Mathew discusses different presentation ideas and plants the seed for further creative solutions you may wish to explore. He also looks at the different types of flash paper available. It's refreshing to hear full credit for the evolution of the effect and he suggests other dealers and suppliers who you may wish to visit for further additional resources and props.

There is a small set-up but with enough pre-prepared cards, you could effectively re-set this between tables. The souvenir is so unique, for repeat performances at the same gig, you may want to explore a higher number of celebrity faces to force than the two supplied. **JF**

WHAT'S HOT: it literally is. It uses fire, flashes and appears to be something truly unique. It doesn't feel like a card trick. High interest value!

WHAT'S NOT: At nearly £50, perhaps a tad pricey given the range of methods available to achieve similar effects

Rating: 75%



CONNECTED

Dani DaOrtiz

Download – running time 90 minutes

Available from
www.vanishingincmagic.com

Price: £22.50

Vanishing Inc. have produced three downloads in their “Connected” series, focusing on material suitable for live performance over Zoom. The Dani DaOrtiz 90 minute volume features six card tricks, most happening in the spectator’s hands with their own pack.

Dani DaOrtiz is an utterly charismatic performer able to engross and transport a large theatre simply with a pack of cards. A knowledgeable magician / director friend described him as a “creator of joy”. A problem for students of his material is to separate out the thinking and

psychology from the force of nature that is his presentation. Just as Slydini inspired a whole generation of performers to sit at a table and adopt strange Italian mannerisms and modes of speech, many young performers have taken to uttering “I don’t care.....it’s your life” every time they have a card selected.

At first glance this download appears to showcase Dani’s cheek and confidence, carried into a Zoom setting, with apparently spur of the moment instructions and chaotic events leading to minor miracles. However there is a lot of material here well within the reach of mere mortals and Dani takes care to highlight some really powerful techniques that tamper with the spectator’s perception, and in true Tamariz style, leave an impossible memory.

The first routine “Mirror Ambitious” uses an apparent false start, instantly erased from memory, to allow a thought of card from the magician’s deck to appear on the top of the chaotically mixed spectator’s deck.

In “Ritual Zoom” the spectator thinks of a number and remembers the card in his deck at that position. After chaotic mixing by the spectator the magician reverses time to take the card back to the original position. “Oil And Water (in the spectator’s hand)”. This is an extraordinary routine using eight alternating red and black cards with an apparently very fair set of moves mirrored by the performer and spectator, yet the spectator’s cards separate.

Many of these routines have been adapted from Dani’s core repertoire, often simplified and arguably strengthened. In “Any Card Spelled”, after inviting the audience to remember a card from the spread, the performer deals cards face down while the spectator mentally spells the card and calls stop on the final card, which of course matches the selection.

“Business Zoom Cards” is an uninspiring title for a self working

prediction which is lifted to an entertaining and dramatic revelation, thanks to clever scripting, control of chaos and tension building. Finally “Interactive Chaotic Prediction” involves all spectators in a classic DaOrtiz sequence of choosing a card, then apparently randomly mixing it with three others, turning some over, transferring bunches to the bottom, including the spectators making different decisions according to the month they were born, favourite colours etc – finally all participants are left with their chosen card the only one reversed in their fan. This is brilliant routineing.

Although mechanically largely “self working” these routines need plenty of study and rehearsal to fully master, personalise and turn into miracles. All of the information needed is here. **CP**

What’s Hot: strong, technically undemanding, card magic, lifted to miracle class by clever routineing and scripting. Many generally applicable principles

What’s Not: apparent self working status could mislead less experienced performers, routines need confidence and spectator control for full success

Rating: 80%



KINETIC MENTAL DICE (3 DICE SET)

Marc Antoine

Available from
www.dodymagic.com

Price: £370 approx (\$495)

Available as a one or three dice set, Kinetic Mental Dice is Marc Antoine’s offering to the electronic mentalism world.

In the deluxe edition I have here you are supplied with three induction rechargeable dice

(white, red and black), wireless charging base, magnet and plastic clip, thumper and 2 USB cables - all contained within a custom made plastic case.

The dice supplied look and feel like regular dice and are very well made. You would never know that they had amazing technology housed within them. The thumper supplied works very well and its vibration can be adjusted to suit. It also has two settings depending on what you need it to pick up on for each of the different routines.

Many routines are possible with the Kinetic Mental Dice such as: Simply knowing which numbers have been rolled, Which Hand routines, sensing the colours, email Predictions and more...

The dice also pairs with Apple Watches and the Turner Watch. If you do not own a Turner Watch then it’s well worth the investment for use with the dice. The routine taught in the online tuition really is brilliant. The Apple Watch can be used to peek the numbers rolled if you don’t want to rely on the thumper.

The more I play around with the dice the more it makes me smile. I particularly like the routine where you send a prediction email to a spectator. They confirm they have received the message but do not read it. The three dice are rolled until the spectator is happy with the numbers. When they open up the email the prediction photo shows the exact numbers rolled by the spectator.

It’s very clever even when you see how it works :-)

The set is not cheap but for a working pro the possibilities are endless and it’s certainly worth the investment. The dice can be used for single routines or as part of a larger routine. The old cliché ‘You are limited only by your own imagination’ really does apply here.

Other similar sets are available from other manufacturers but Kinetic Mental Dice is one of, if not the best, out there. **PS**

What’s Hot: Well made product with endless possibilities

What’s Not: Quite expensive for the hobbyist mentalist

Rating: 85%



ANDREW FROST DOWNLOAD BUNDLE

Andrew Frost

Available from
www.vanishingincmagic.com
Price: £18.00

In this download bundle Andrew Frost teaches four sleight of hand techniques with cards and two

effects. You get a detailed tutorial on Paul Curry's Turnover, Frost's own very deceptive false cut and a two card transposition utilising Troy Hooser's Slip Change and Frost's own one handed reversal.

Frost is an excellent teacher. He demonstrates how the moves should look in real time which gives you a clear idea of what you are trying to achieve. The following explanations are detailed, well paced and comprehensive. He re-caps essential information but there is no extraneous verbiage or confusing diversions.

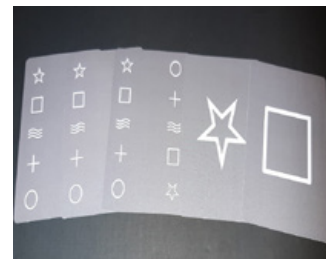
I particularly liked his attention to the small but essential details that are difficult or impossible to get other than by direct instruction. There is the same clarity in the way the video has been filmed, with clear close ups

showing how the cards are held and manipulated. There are also occasional and helpful shots showing how things look from the performer's perspective. In total you get just short of thirty minutes of instruction.

None of these moves could be described as easy or self working and will need practice but all are quite within reach. Frost gives some good advice on how to practise, and how to adapt your practice to your specific capacity and situation. If you want to learn any of these techniques the download is good value for money and an excellent way to extend your card skills. **SB**

WHAT'S HOT: very well taught and easy to follow

WHAT'S NOT: nothing
RATING: 85%



BLACKCAT ESP CARDS

Black Cat Magic

Available from
www.blackcatmagic.co.uk
Price: £25.00

If you are a fan of ESP magic effects and need a new set of cards then look no further than Black Cat Magic's ESP cards.

Printed in grey on 100% PVC plastic the cards are highly durable and will last 40 times longer than a standard card stock if looked after properly. The cards can be wiped down with a damp sponge if they become dirty or marked.

Two sets of the 5 cards are supplied. While the faces have the standard 5 ESP symbols printed on them the back design has been cleverly marked. The markings are very easy to see and read even from a reasonable distance. The backs have a subtle one way design too which you can use to your advantage if required.

Both sets of 5 cards are printed in grey with white symbols. I think I would have preferred it if the second set of 5 cards were a different colour which would make it easier to identify the two sets quickly.

A few handlings with the cards are included but there are endless resources available should you require more ideas.

This is a great set of cards. Highly recommended. **PS**

WHAT'S HOT: extremely durable with good marking system.

WHAT'S NOT: would have been nice to have been supplied with a different colour for the second set
RATING: 85%



THE PEPITO CHANGE

Biz

Available from
www.bigblindmedia.com
Price: £9.99

In the Pepito change a single card, protruding at an angle from the tabled half deck, instantly changes as the remainder of the deck is tapped on top. It can be used as a colour change or card revelation. Card magician Biz has combined Ravelli's Pop-Out Move with a simultaneous second process that moves and squares the protruding card. The result is

instantaneous and very visual. If desired it can then be repeated to give a series of changes, though this is more difficult.

What you get is a series of short downloads totalling about nineteen minutes. There is a very clear explanation of three different ways to get ready for the Pop-Out Move. Similarly the method to simultaneously square the second card is well described. Individually the various stages are not excruciatingly difficult to learn, but to be effective, timing and rhythm are key to success. It is one of those moves which relies as much on knack, feel and timing as exquisite technique.

The whole move takes only a few seconds to perform. It could be used as an effect in itself, for example producing a chosen card, but can clearly also

be incorporated into a longer routine. The multiple changes, as Biz suggests, are showy rather than having a practical application other than perhaps as a web upload. For all practical purposes you do need a table, though it is suggested that, with care and co-operation, it could be done in a spectator's hand.

The Pepito Change is a neat flashy revelation/change. If you don't want to use the whole sequence it is quite possible to use the download as a way of just learning the Pop-Out Move. **SB**

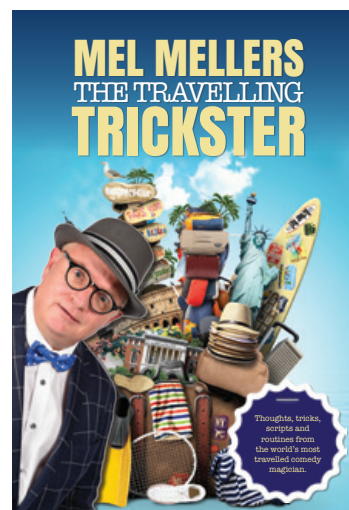
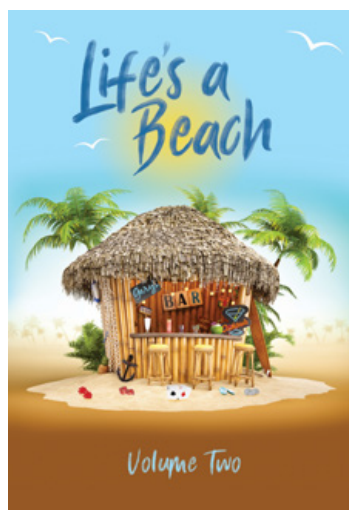
WHAT'S HOT: visual instant card or colour change, even if you don't use it in performance quite fun to learn for your own pleasure

WHAT'S NOT: not got a wide application
RATING: 50%

ONE LINERS

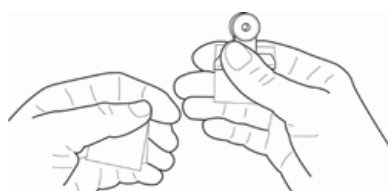
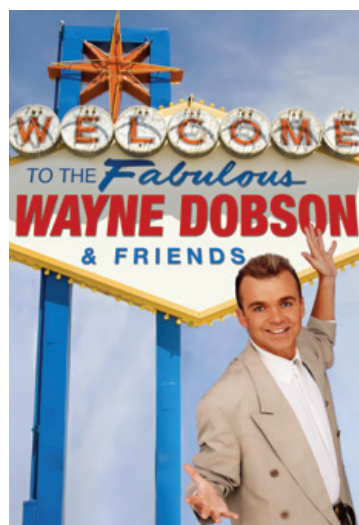
"The worst time to have a heart attack is during a game of charades." – **Demetri Martin**

"I have the world's largest collection of seashells, you may have seen it, I keep it scattered on beaches all over." – **Unknown**

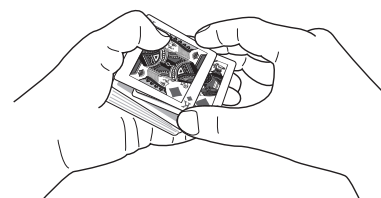


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'Eugene Burger'
(Photo credit Michael Caplan)

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www.thepeek.co.uk

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