



# Shell Game

A Monthly Newsletter for the London Magic Community  
February 2011

Volume 6, Issue 6

## January's meeting

When was the last time that you put together a new show? That experience can be daunting, but we were shown at January's meeting and can be simple and even ... fun!

Peter Mennie lead us through the process he uses to create a new show, which he does several times a year. Each of us brought a list of tricks that we could perform and some Post-It notes. That's all we needed to construct our own show.

Peter lead us through the technique he employs to build a new show – and explained the reasoning why effects belong in specific places in a show's program. Using the Post-It notes, we organized our own tricks into categories, and then selected effects from those categories to build our own show.

The result was that each person created their own show, where the flow of the program made sense and the transitions between effects were straight forward. Changing the show in the future becomes a matter of fitting other tricks from the same categories into those slots in the program.

It was a lot of fun to see your own show take shape before your eyes in a matter of minutes!

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, February 9 7:30PM

Topic: MAGIC ON A DIME!

Beal Secondary School  
525 Dundas Street, London  
T-253

Peter offered his reasoning as to his selection of categories and program flow. There was lots of good discussion about this – but in the end, it was difficult to knock the process. The results spoke for themselves – I think

everyone came away with the framework of a whole new show that they wouldn't have come up with by themselves.

Many thanks to Peter for sharing his knowledge and experience with creating shows with us!

Mark Hogan

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## February's Meeting

DATE: Wednesday, February 9

TIME: 7:30 PM

PLACE: Beal Secondary School, 525 Dundas Street, London  
T-253

Topic: MAGIC ON A DIME!

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We all know it – magic can be expensive! The latest gimmicks ... the latest gadgets ... can run you a pretty penny. But it doesn't have to be that way. As our contribution to these recessionary times, this month's meeting is all about magic that doesn't cost you an arm and a leg!

Dig into your "bag of tricks" and show us any effects where the props, gimmicks, etc. aren't going to break the bank. Perhaps these are items you can find around the house. Or perhaps you can find them at a dollar store. Or maybe it's an expensive gimmick, but you made your own version that's does fills the need for a lot less.

So come to the club meeting in February, bring some effects that won't break the bank, and learn some new effects that won't put you in the poor house!

Upcoming lecture – May 4

Jon Allen

For more info on Jon, visit:

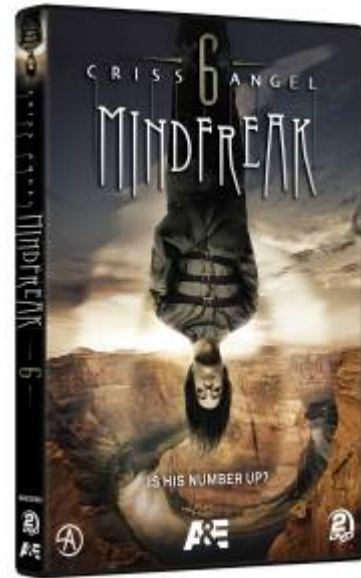
<http://www.close-upmagician.com/>

# News Of Interest

## Review of Criss Angel Mindfreak Season 6

(Jim Halderman, EDGE Contributor)

It's easy to be cynical about magicians and illusionists but even the hardest of cynics will be more than a little impressed with the illusions that sexy illusionist Criss Angel pulls off in the sixth season of his MindFreak series. Six episodes arrive on this DVD and fans of Angel's (and illusionists, in general) will find this to be a must-have for their DVD collection.



Angel makes no bones about the fact that his act is filled with illusions so there's none of the age-old hocus-pocus feel about what he does and you'll find yourself constantly trying to figure out how he did each illusion.

In the sixth season, some of Angel's illusions include him driving off a cliff at the Grand Canyon and landing in a steel cage. The car? Gone. He also likes to use innocent bystanders who may or may not be in on the trick. But when you see him make a scorpion disappear only to have it come out of a woman's mouth after he kisses her is beyond creepy. One final illusion that had my mouth hanging open in shock was the 'Grand Canyon Box Drop' where he was hung and handcuffed in the box and had to escape before the box shattered on the rocks below. Somehow, Angel did it. Truly amazing!

Extras include some inside scoop on a group of easier tricks that are on a smaller scale for Angel. There are also extra illusions that were not seen in the sixth season that originally aired on the A&E network.

We Want Your Reviews and Tricks!  
Please send any original reviews, magic  
tricks or routines to:  
[magic\\_london@yahoo.ca](mailto:magic_london@yahoo.ca)

## Bidder finds nothing in famous magician's storage unit

(Nancy Chen, KSBY-TV)

A man is feeling like he's seen magic after some treasures he was hoping to get had already vanished.

Claude Yarbrough and his wife Charlotte lived on the Central Coast and performed magic around the world as 'The Pendragons'. Yesterday, the contents of their storage units in Arroyo Grande went to the highest bidder.

A Northridge man bought eleven crates for \$3,700 without being allowed to look inside them beforehand--and they turned out to be empty.

"I took a chance to bid on it, and hopefully something good is going to come up," said Ezat Darabi, who said he was prepared to spend \$5,000 on the unit.

Todd Plastino, a managing partner at Fortress-Secure Mini Storage, the storage facility, said he had been hoping for more. "A lot of these people turn around and resell the items so I was hoping there would be something good for them, but apparently most of the cases from what I've been told are empty," Plastino said.

Still, it wasn't a total loss. Darabi says the crates themselves are worth between \$500 to \$700 each, so he plans to sell them to a magician in Cincinnati.

COMING SOON:  
MAGIC DAY at McCulloch's Costume & Party  
Supplies

(Details to follow!)

## Aldo Colombini's Farewell Tour Announced

We have spent the last few days in much discussion regarding the future. We are happy that healthwise we are now ok, however this year has taught us many things and we have come to a major decision.



We have decided that the time has come for us to spend as much quality time together as we can. We do this with a heavy heart as we have had so much fun and joy travelling and meeting old friends and new but the time has come for change.

We are announcing the COLOMBINI'S FAREWELL TOUR OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA. This will be the last time the Colombinis will lecture in the continental US and Canada (we reserve the right to appear at conventions). After this we will not lecture again.

There will be a special reduced fee of \$250 for the lecture plus one nights hotel accom. The lecture period will start April 1st 2011. All products will be \$10 as usual but there will also be special edition full color "Last Tour" Lecture Notes available for \$25.

After the end of the tour we will stay home based and will continue to produce DVD's, books and tricks. All enquiries to be directed to [acmagic@mindspring.com](mailto:acmagic@mindspring.com) for available dates.

We hope that we do not disappoint too many people with this news and we hope to see many of our friends and newcomers on this tour.

All our love always  
Rachel & Aldo

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Vol. 6, Issue 6  
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Concept by: Steve Seguin

The Shell Game is a free newsletter sent to members of the London Magicians Guild and other people in the community interested in magic.

Opinions expressed do not reflect the views of the London Magicians Guild.

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