



Shell Game

A Monthly Newsletter for the London Magic Community
February 2024

Volume 17, Issue 6

January's meeting

The January meeting was all about the *Classics of Magic*! We showed off some of our favourite versions of classic magic effects.

Mark Hogan started off with his take on a **Dani DaOrtiz** version of "Any Card At Any Number (ACAAN)", where he failed to divine a thought-of card and number, but the card was found at that number in the deck. **Al Coombs** followed up with a classic "Pick A Card, Any Card" effect where he didn't find the selected card, but the card he found (a Jack) was holding an image of the selection!

Steve Seguin joined in with a "Coins Across" effect where one coin jumped from his closed fist to his other hand. And **Andrew Olmstead** did a terrific "Magic Square" that wowed the members who had never seen one! Then **Kohl Strange** did a couple routines from a recent close-up gig he had – a *Card Under Finger* and a card prediction. **Peter Mennie** then showed his variation using **Larry Becker's** "Not So Magic Square".

Byron Berry performed a great version of "Coins Thru Table", which her ended with the classic "Bottle Thru Table"! Mike Fisher then gave us his take on **Richard Sanders** "Fiber Optics" using only one rope, and a wonderful "Cups and Balls" routine using only two cups!

Next Meeting:

Date: Wednesday, FEBRUARY 14

Time: 7:00 PM

Topic: STAGE MAGIC!

**Location: PALACE THEATRE (CHANGE IN LOCATION!)
710 Dundas Street, London**

Kohl Strange gave us the classic "*Chicago Opener*" (which Al immediately said he had to learn!). And finally **Peter Mennie** showed us a new "*Three Card Monte*" variation from **John Bannon** called "*Chop Shop*", where the Queen and the Jokers seen throughout the trick all turn into the four Aces!

Thanks to everyone for showing us some great classics of magic!

Mark Hogan

February's Meeting

I

DATE: Wednesday, FEBRUARY 14

TIME: 7:00 PM

**PLACE: PALACE THEATRE (NOTE THE CHANGE IN LOCATION!)
710 Dundas Street, London**

TOPIC: STAGE MAGIC!

On February 16, the club will be hosting the first of *3 magic shows* at the *Palace Theatre*. So for our next club meeting we will all meet at the *Palace Theatre*, check out the stages, and this will allow us to perform some magic that is meant for the stage.

You don't have to be one of the stage performers for the shows – just come on out, check out the *Palace Theatre*, and bring some magic that you can perform on the stage - we can all be your audience.

We Want Your Reviews and Tricks!

Please send any original reviews, magic tricks or routines to:

magic_london@yahoo.ca

News Of Interest



An important update on the club's public shows at the Palace Theatre (Steve Seguin)

Here's an update on the public shows that our club has organized with the Palace Theatre:

THE OLD EAST VILLAGE PALACE OF WONDERS! **The London Magician's Guild's 2024 Spring Cabaret Series**

Three evening salons of contemporary, adult, magic & illusion.

FRIDAY FEB 16 at 7:30 PM, in PROCUNIER HALL at The Palace Theatre
FRIDAY MAR 22 at 7:30 PM, in PROCUNIER HALL at The Palace Theatre

AND

FRIDAY APRIL 19 at 7:30 PM, LE GRAND SPECTACLE, on The Palace Theatre Main Stage

General admission seating, however, tickets are required.

All tickets are \$30 (Inclusive of fees).

PROMOTIONS:

SAVE \$5 on SINGLE TICKETS courtesy of OEV with code "OEVMAGIC" at checkout, makes your ticket \$25* (Regularly \$30, *incl fees).

\$90* MAGIC & WONDER FOUR PACK: Grab your friends and enjoy four tickets for the price of three, courtesy of the London Magic Guild. \$90*, Regularly \$120, *incl fees).

SAVE OVER 15% & SEE ALL THREE SHOWS FOR JUST \$75, courtesy of The Palace Theatre Arts Commons.

Get one general admission seat to all three shows for just \$75* (Regularly \$90, *incl fees).

The Palace Theatre:

<https://palacetheatre.ca/>

710 Dundas St., London, ON, N5W 2Z4

Performers:

Friday Feb 16: Steve Seguin, Andrew Olmstead, Leonardo Martins, Keith O'Brien

Friday, Mar 22: Andrew Olmstead, Mark Hogan, Mike Fisher, Ryan Joyce, Peter Mennie

Friday, Apr 19: Mike Fisher, Scott Hood, Al Coombs, Byron Berry, Mark Erhardt

Marketing:

Information announcing the series will be on their site.

Inserts advertising the shows will be in the programs of other shows at the Palace.

The Palace will do email blasts and arrange publicity (maybe interviews) on the radio.

Old East Village will also advertise the series.

Any word of mouth we can add will be appreciated.

Technical:

The Palace will provide someone to do lights and sound. I have told them that we will have no lighting cues and sound cues will be limited to pre-show music and maybe one or two simple cues. **If you need more than that, please let me know ASAP.** Peter has also offered to work sound/lights for two of the shows so that may give us more flexibility.

There will be no microphones in the Procuiner.

April's show is on the main stage, which is larger. **If you think mics will be needed, let's talk.**

Restrictions:

No fire. Period. That means no flash paper, no fire eating, no candles, no lighters, no matches.

Club Meeting:

February's club meeting will be in the Palace Theatre from 7:00-9:30. This will give you a chance to see the spaces.

Rehearsals:

I'm not sure if we need to do a full run-through of each show. I figure each act can be rehearsed on their own. Use the next club meeting if you want to try anything out in the space.

We need to address material – to make sure there is no duplication within each show.

Here's what I propose: The **emcee** for each show can coordinate with the performers for their night and make sure there is no duplication. The emcee will also need to get info from each performer for an introduction. Each group should also talk about what needs to be on stage (tables etc) and about clearing props/stage management.

Emcees:

I'm going to lean on each emcee to help organize their shows – coordinating material, rehearsals, making sure everyone knows how long their set is, etc. If that's a problem, let me know.

During the show, the emcee will start the show, welcome everyone, thank the Palace and OEV, introduce each act, mention the magic club, and fill time as needed. I suggest preparing one trick as an emergency. Beyond that, performing magic is optional.

Stage Management:

The worst thing between acts is to waste time clearing and setting the stage. There is no curtain to close while the stage is being changed. This is most important for the acts before the intermission.

I'm a performer who typically has a lot on stage so I will work on minimizing that and how to clear it quickly for the next act.

If anyone wants to volunteer (or knows someone to volunteer) to be a stage manager, that would be appreciated. The role is basically to help get props off and on between sets.

Programs:

There will be a simple printed program for the shows. If you are a performer, **please send Steve:**

- Your stage name
- A short bio
- Website (if relevant)

We will also use the program to advertise the club so no extra postcards are necessary.

Close-Up Magic:

I arbitrarily cancelled the close-up portion of the shows. There was too much uncertainty about how it would work and not that much interest.

However, the Palace is having a gala on March 22 from 9:30 pm onwards. **If you are interested in doing any performing at it, please let me know.** I will update the online sign-in sheet.

Other Shows:

There will be other shows going on at the Palace during our shows.

Other:

Any questions, suggestions, or concerns, email me at Steve_Seguin@hotmail.com



CAM survey of Canadian magicians

(Cammagic.com)

For those of you who are members of *CAM (the Canadian Association of Magicians)*, they have created a brief anonymous survey seeking your perspective on how CAM can better serve its members and the magic community.

To complete the survey, visit <https://www.cammagic.org/post/cam-survey-2024>.



Absolute Magic with Keith Brown and Friends

(Eventbrite.ca)

An enchanting evening of magic and wonder - all for a charitable cause! This captivating show is hosted by world-class magician **Keith Brown** and features acts as seen on **TEDx, CBC, Global, Rogers, CHCH, Canada's Walk of Fame**, and more!

You will laugh and have your mind blown. Expect the unexpected. See it to believe it!

Join us for an extraordinary night of entertainment, raising money for an extraordinary cause: *Family Service Thames Valley*. FSTV provides affordable mental health counselling and support to adults with a developmental disability. Every ticket contributes to renewing hope in our community. [Click here to learn more about FSTV.](#)

DATE: Saturday, March 16
TIME: 7:00pm (doors open at 6:30pm)
PLACE: Wolf Performance Hall, London, ON

Tickets range from \$30 to \$45. For tickets, visit:

https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/absolute-magic-with-keith-brown-friends-fstv-fundraiser-tickets-768407035127?aff=ebdssbdestsearch&keep_tld=1



Bill Abbott performing at the Magic Castle

(Bill Abbott)

The Magic Castle is the exclusive private clubhouse for members of *The Academy of Magical Arts*. Located in the heart of Hollywood, *The Magic Castle* is an exclusive private club and is only accessible to members and invited guests of guest performers only.

Bill Abbott will be performing three shows every evening in the *Parlor of Prestidigitation* from **February 5th to February 11th from 10:00 pm to 12:30 am**.

If you, or someone you know, is in Los Angeles during this time and would like to visit the *Magic Castle* during Bill's run, please connect at the link below to inquire about guest list availability.

The guest list numbers are VERY limited and is on a first come, first served basis. There are no guarantees.

This is Bill's third time performing at the *Magic Castle* and it is ALWAYS a must-see event if you're in LA!

If you are interested or know someone who is, email your request to bill@magichideaway.com

Dynamo is dead: Everything we know about the new special

(OneAhead.com)



Dynamo has announced his new live television special event where he will be "killed" and reborn after a daring buried alive.

Some of the biggest names in magic recently announced their most ambitious projects to date, like **David Blaine's** new television show *Beyond Belief* and **David**

Copperfield's plans to vanish the moon.

Dynamo just joined the party by wiping all his social media accounts clean and announcing that *Dynamo is dead*. Little context was provided initially, but now

it's clear that he plans to bury himself alive in a unique televised event that is bound to draw curious viewers across the UK.

The last time we saw **Dynamo** on a live televised special was in 2017 when he aired a live recording of his show at *London's O2 Arena*. This comeback live special will culminate in **Dynamo** burying himself alive, but the special was created for a bigger purpose. **Dynamo** is using the stunt to partner with other celebrities to talk about overcoming life-changing health complications.

The slate of celebrities set to feature in the special includes **Demi Lovato, Cara Delevingne, Coldplay, Steven Bartlett, and Tyson Fury**. All of these popular figures have struggled with their physical and mental health under public scrutiny, and the special will feature them speaking about their individual experiences.

Shell Game
Vol. 17, Issue 6
February 2024

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.

London Magicians Guild web site:
magiclondon.brinkster.net

London Magicians Guild e-mail:
magic_london@yahoo.ca