



Shell Game

A Monthly Newsletter for the London Magic Community
March 2011 Volume 6, Issue 7

February's meeting

Man, it gets cold in February! When it hits the "minus double digits", it's time to stay inside and keep warm! And that's what most people did in February. The turnout was low, but it was still an enjoyable night for those who wanted to see some "Magic on a Dime". The focus was magic where you didn't have to get pre-approval from your neighbourhood banker!

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, March 9 7:30PM

Topic: SILKY SMOOTH MAGIC with JON AKREY!

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

March's Meeting

DATE: Wednesday, March 9

TIME: 7:30 PM

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

Topic: SILKY SMOOTH MAGIC with JON AKREY!

Let's face it – few of us do a lot with silks! But let's also face it – silks are one of the most visual items that you can perform with!

Silk magic is also one of Jon Akrey's favorites, and he has volunteered to present an evening where we will learn to perform some of his favourite silk magic. Don't worry if you have no silks – there will be some available.

It's important that you BRING A THUMB TIP!!

So come to the club meeting in March and learn to perform some silk effects that just may make their way into your shows!

Upcoming lecture – May 4

Jon Allen

For more info on Jon, visit:

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

News Of Interest

IBM Ring 22 (Detroit) presents Aaron Fisher lecture - March 17

(John Luka)

The 2002 publication of Aaron's critically acclaimed book, *The Paper Engine: Tension, Focus & Design in Card Magic* cemented his reputation as one of today's most influential thinkers and writers in card magic.



A professional entertainer specializing in corporate events, nightclubs and bar magic, Aaron's spends his non - performing time on his other passion - helping magicians around the world perform better card magic. Over the last ten years, Aaron's taught literally thousands of magicians around the world at lectures, workshops and one on one. Over the last three years, his DVD's have earned him the reputation as not only one of the best sleight of hand artists working, but also one of the best magic teachers working today.

Tell us about the Lecture?

Most Aaron Fisher lecture attendees come away truly surprised and inspired by how much magic they just learned. The last twenty years have taught Aaron a secret most magicians are thrilled to discover - doing great magic isn't about mastering knuckle-busting sleights. Rather, successful performers focus on handling the simplest concepts really well. As you will discover during this exciting evening, approaching your sleight of hand this way will not only make it more fun to practice, but light years more successful in actual performance.

Part Lecture/Part Teach-in

Aaron's hands on approach to the traditional magic lecture allows you to come away with the new magic in your 'bones'. Be sure to bring a deck of cards to this lecture. You'll have opportunities to learn simple, powerful concepts along with Aaron during the talk. These won't be 'hard core' sleights. Rather, simple concepts and approaches that will literally transform the way you approach your magic.

What kind of magic will I see and Learn?

Over the last decade performing all over the world, Aaron has honed this lecture to provide just the right combination of powerful effects, easy to grasp concepts and simple props you'll really enjoy using over the course of this powerful evening of top notch magic, you'll be fooled and amazed by some of Aaron's most powerful effects. You'll be thrilled and pleased when you discover how easy these effects will be for you to learn yourself.

Panic - perhaps the most surprising, easy to perform vanishing deck effects you'll ever witness. It's become a favorite in the repertoire of working performers all over the world.

The Revolution Change - This visual transformation is so easy to learn, you'll literally grasp it yourself within five minutes.

Helter Skelter - You'll learn a powerful new method for the color changing deck so easy a 12 year old could do it.

The Graduate - Aaron's new approach to the slow-motion ambitious card has been a close-kept secret for a decade. Many experts agree, this is the finest method for the effect ever conceived.

The Nowhere Pass - This powerhouse feature has received rave reviews from performers all over the world. You'll see first hand why some moves are not nearly as difficult as you've been lead to believe.

Search and Destroy - One of the strongest impromptu card tricks you can perform. You'll learn about the power you can only achieve when the magic happens in the spectators hands.

The Gravity Half Pass - No Aaron Fisher lecture would be complete without a discussion of this technique. Aaron's shifts and passes are considered the gold standard by experts all over the world. If you've ever wanted to see what this sort of card magic can really look like, you won't want to miss it.

Date: Thursday, March 17, 2011

Location: Royal Oak Community Center 3500 Marais, Royal Oak MI Room 6 (North of 13 Mile Road, between Crooks & Main)

Admission: \$15.00

For more information on Aaron Fisher, visit <http://www.aaronfishermagic.com>

We Want Your Reviews and Tricks!
Please send any original reviews, magic
tricks or routines to:
magic_london@yahoo.ca

North American Championship of Magic - July 13-16

(CAM newsletter)

The Society of American Magicians will be hosting the North American Championship of Magic as an integral part of its annual four day convention to be held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, from July 13th - 16th, 2011.

In addition to its stellar line-up of gala shows, lectures and other popular events for young and old magic enthusiasts, the convention will be holding up to six magic contests to accommodate the 50 contestants who will be selected to compete for the title of North American Champion of Magic. Multiple winners across six categories of magic will be guaranteed a position if they wish to compete at the FISM World Championship of Magic to be held in Blackpool, England, in July 2012.

All contest applicants must be a member of either the Society of American Magicians, the International Brotherhood of Magicians, the Canadian Association of Magicians or the Academy of Magical Arts. They must submit an application plus a DVD of their act by April 15, 2011 to be reviewed for an acceptable quality level by a preliminary judging panel that will decide the final acts for the competition.

Contestants selected for the competition are required to be registered for the convention. A full description of contest rules, fees, requirements and procedures is available on the S.A.M. Website (www.magicsam.com).

See the brochure on the next page for more information.

CLASS ACT

WHO

*will be crowned the 2011 North American Champions of Magic?
will win the S.A.M. People's Choice Award for stage and close-up?
will share in some of the \$10,000 cash and prizes available?
will win one of the eight performing contracts already committed?
will be the 15 winners who automatically qualify to compete
in the 2012 FISM World Championship of Magic?*



IF YOU WANT TO WIN CASH, PERFORMING CONTRACTS, A UNIQUE CRYSTAL TROPHY, OR JUST THE GLORY OF BEING NAMED THE BEST IN MAGIC, YOU HAVE TO ENTER.

Here's how:

- * Register for the 2011 S.A.M. Convention and complete a separate contest entry form.
- * Make payment for convention and contest registrations at the same time.
- * Submit a DVD of the act you will present before April 15, 2011. Your DVD will be evaluated by a pre-selection committee and you will be notified by email by May 15 if your act is selected for the competition.
- * All contestants must be a member of either the S.A.M., I.B.M., C.A.M., or A.M.A. - or can join while getting their DVD and application together.
- * Complete Contest Rules and Entry Forms may be downloaded from www.magicsam.com.

REGISTER NOW

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNTS EXPIRE ON MARCH 7

S.A.M. National Conference • Pittsburgh, PA • July 13 - 16, 2011

Registration Fees	till Mar. 7	After Mar 7	After June 7
SAM Member/spouse/SYM Parent	\$220	\$260	\$300
SYM Member/SAM Member's child (7-17)	\$130	\$160	\$200
Non-member: must pay additional dues: adult: \$65*, \$45 paperless ; SYM: \$20			
* Postal surcharge may apply for non-USA residents		Saturday night Banquet \$70	

Hotel: Wyndham Grand Pittsburgh Downtown • \$109/night - 600 Commonwealth Pl, Pittsburgh, PA 15222
Toll free number to call for reservations: 1-877-999-3223 and mention Society of American Magicians
For online reservations, http://www.wyndham.com/groupevents2010/pitwg_sam/main.wnt

Register for the convention online at www.magicSAM.com
or mail to: Anne Weidhaas, 15225 Pleasant View Dr, Colorado Springs, CO 80921
Call: Phone (719) 637-9965 Email: samregistrat@yahoo.com



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CAM Convention combines with PCAM Convention

(CAM newsletter)

In July of 2011, the Canadian Association of Magicians (CAM) and the Pacific Coast Association of Magicians (PCAM) will be joining together to jointly host their annual convention under the guidance of the Vancouver Magic Circle.

This is shaping up to be a truly historic event, and Vancouver is beautiful at this time of year, so plan to attend. Check out the web site at magicianconvention.com for details.



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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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