



OFFICIAL WEBSITE:
WWW.OAKLANDMAGICCIRCLE.COM
OMC Discussion Area:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/thevirtualomc>

April 2008

The Oakland Magic Circle meets at Bjornson Hall, 2258 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland, California on the first Tuesday of every month.

Presidents message

Get your old magic out of storage, Northern California's Largest and Finest Magic Auction and Flea Market is going to be April 1 at Bjornson Hall. Bring your checkbook, change, singles and fives to help make change. Doors open at 6:30 pm.. Tables are first come first served.

May is Movie night at the Bjornson Bijou. Come see magicians of yesteryear! See Al Flosso, The Banana Man, a John Scarne news reel, Harry Blackstone Sr. interviewed by Edward R. Murrow, and much more. The show will last about an hour and afterwards, be prepared to present your favorite parlor trick.

June will be the Annual Lloyd Jones Interclub Close up competition. See ya all at the flea market and auction.

Oakland Magic Circle

Minutes of Meeting 4 March 2008

Following a teach-in on rope magic by Kim Silverman, the meeting was called to order at 8:05 PM by President Scott Alcalay. First readings for membership were given for Cheryl Ferguson (Pockets the Clown), Houston Davenport (Mr. Patches) and Leo Wang. Treasurer Manya Casto reported that despite the high cost of the Installation Banquet it only showed a loss of about \$154. Also reported was that the management of Bjornson Hall plans to raise the monthly rent from \$45 to \$60, and to \$400 on nights featuring "special events". Fred and Manya have requested to meet with management to protest the \$400 fee. Discussion followed regarding sending newsletters by email if possible to save mailing costs. Mark Tarses discussed the April first Auction and Flea Market. Mark also had made a DVD of the recent

Bay Area Backroads featuring the Bay Area magic scene and presented it to the OMC Library. Scott announced that the May 6th meeting will be movie night, using film owned by Scott and equipment loaned by Kim. Under Good of the Order Gary Meyer showed the new Houdini DVD set and Movies by Melies. Information will be posted on the OMC web site. Cheryl discussed the Steve Bender lecture on Friday 18 April (BayAreaStars.com) or (408)468-0931 for details. Kim, President of S.A.M. Assembly 94 in Palo Alto, announced that their annual auction has been postponed to Monday 12 May. He will bring details to the May OMC meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM, followed by a special guest performance by Kent Gunn of his dynamic cups and balls routine.

Byron Walker

Secretary, OMC

Impromptu Night at the OMC

4 March 2008

That was the theme for the March OMC meeting. Scott brought some materials from Starbucks to help us out. He led off with his great straw penetration Mark Tarses was fresh from a Chinese restaurant so did some magic with chopsticks. Steve Nelson tried to vanish a quarter by tapping it with a pencil but vanished the pencil instead. He followed this with a rope penetration. Gary Meyer caused one of the Starbucks straws to move in a mysterious way. Fred Casto demonstrated his favorite restaurant effect, the great flipping toothpick. Cheryl Ferguson distributed cosmetics to the audience and then matched lipsticks. Houston Davenport caused some blank business cards to be printed by magic. Byron Walker demonstrated his dangerous card trick. Leo Wang showed the jumping straw and a napkin trick. Kim Silverman demonstrated some magic of the hands. Bob MacKenzie showed us the number 16 trick from the January Linking Ring. Leo closed the impromptu night

with a series of card effects.

Byron Walker

Secretary

From the OMC Librarian, David Samant

At the last meeting, Gary Meyer very generously donated two movies to the OMC library--The Illusionist and The Prestige. These are both very good magic-themed movies and they came out within months of each other in 2006.

The Illusionist is one of my favorite movies and it is, in my opinion, a true masterpiece of storytelling. The movie is very low-key and quiet, which is a very refreshing change. Edward Norton plays Eisenheim, a magician in Vienna in the turn of the century. He falls in love with a woman who is high above his own social standing, and he attempts to use his magical powers in order to win her over. I'm tempted to give away the end because it's so brilliant, but I won't. Although the story is fictional, the main character is very loosely based on magician and supposed clairvoyant Erik Jan Hanussen, who performed a mindreading and hypnosis act in Berlin, did clairvoyant readings for Hitler and taught him crowd-control techniques, and was murdered by the Nazis in 1933. This movie flows from beginning to end without a single flaw in my opinion. Pure storytelling, great acting and absolutely beautiful photography.

Around Town

THE PANDORA EXPERIMENT by Christian Cagigal

FRI/SAT 8pm MAR 14 - APR 12 EXIT Stage Left Tickets: \$12 - \$20 sliding scale at the door and \$20 online. Reservations: 415-673-3847.

Master Magician & Illusionist Christian Cagigal returns.

"The Pandora Experiment" is inexplicable theatrical magic

EXIT Theatre brings back acclaimed magician and illusionist Christian Cagigal to reprise his latest show, The Pandora Experiment, presented by EXIT Theatre and Zeitgeist Artworks. Cagigal's previous work at the EXIT has delighted both audiences and critics. The Pandora Experiment is an intimate evening of

close-up magic, mind-reading, and theater guided by award-winning magician and illusionist Christian Cagigal. "It's not a mere series of 'tricks,' but a real experiment that dares you to take a peek, and then think inside the box," Cagigal presides over the dark and intimate EXIT Café with "a music box, toys with souls, an oft told tale...and you."