Ring Report #170 "The Bev and Alouise Bergeron Ring" # SAM 99

September 24, 2022 | Archived Famulus



Our September 21, 2022 meeting was conducted by President Ryan Stiner, and he began announcements about the magic attractions and magic performances in the Orlando resort area.

The rest of the meeting was a lecture by South African magician, Trevor Duffy. His lecture was full of magic that was practical ,easy to perform and a nice variety of effects. It's clear that Trevor performs regularly for lay audiences. The routines were all well-conceived, had nice touches, clear premises, and surprise endings.



Trevor did an excellent job of not merely explaining the routines, but also the "whys" of routine. The "whys" included his thought process, psychology, performance tips, and misdirection. He had excellent advice on what to do if a trick fails or a volunteer is a problem. It was, "keep on going" and make the audience feel good. "They only remember how they feel and not what you did".

Trevor opened with a torn and restored bill. He borrowed the bill and had the serial number noted. He folded it and it turned upside down and he tore it in two. When folded and refolded, the borrowed bill was restored. It was a clever way of doing the classic "bill switch" but with a different and powerful effect. He followed with a coin appearing in a flash of flame and

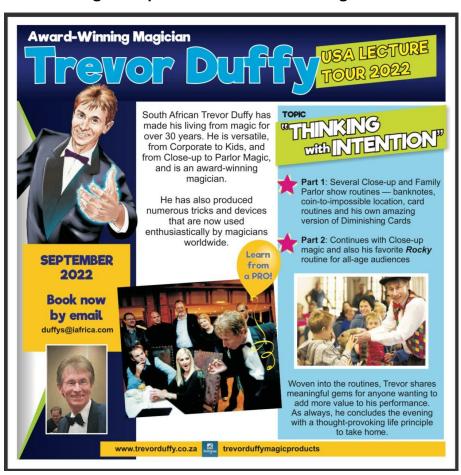
an excellent stack of coins-across effect with a jumbo coin finale. He used a practical match striker that he designed and sells. Next was a unique signed Card-to-wallet.

He is noted for his "Phil" Card trick where all the cards have a human name, and the volunteer selects "Phil" which matches Trevor's prediction. He showed a card-deck sleeve-dropper, that he created, for a startling appearance of the Invisible Deck. It was followed by a superb Diminishing Cards, which he uses as a children's trick.

His "Six Card Repeat" had a unique ending where after all the counting and discarding, he still had fourteen cards! He continued with a signed English penny in small box routine that greatly improved the presentation of the Lippincott Box.

He used a business card to apparently slash a volunteer's wrist and in spite seeing "dripping blood" no harm was done.

He concluded with a children's show pleaser, Rocky Raccoon appearing in a fire pan and vanishing in a flip over box with a screaming sucker finish.



His last inspirational bit was to affirm that everyone has gifts and talents and a call to bring them out of you. He quoted the poet Maya Angelou about the sadness of singers who "die with their song still in them".

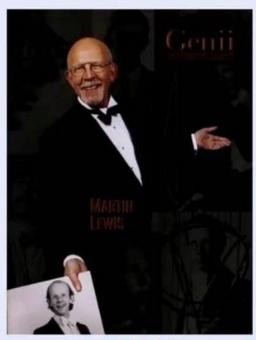
He said one of his life's goals was to help magicians use their gifts and talents.



Dennis Deliberations ... Ring # 170, Assembly #99 "The Bev and Alouise Bergeron Ring"

Sad to report the death of Martin Lewis, known as the creator of "Cardiographic" and many other great effects.

Martin Lewis



Cover of Genii 2002 September

Martin James Lewis

Born September 1, 1947

Northampton, England

Died August 26, 2022 (age 74)

The new King Charles III is a member of the prestigious Magic Circle, after having successfully auditioned for the entry exam back in 1975. Here he is pictured performing the famous Cups and Balls routine, complete with magic wand in hand.

The cups he used for his entry examination belonged to his Great-Uncle on his mother's side, Lord Mountbatten. They are on display in the Magic Circle Museum. It was Lord Mountbatten who was influential in the new King's passion for magic.



The Magic Circle says that ,in the case of Prince Charles entry into the Magic Circle, no skill level or performance standards were lowered.

Siegfried and Roy's fantastical 'Little Bavaria' compound in Las Vegas, which housed magicians' menagerie of animals and was 'opulent' – it is now set to be DEMOLISHED and turned into apartments

- The 100-acre Las Vegas compound once owned by the legendary magicians Siegfried and Roy is set to be demolished to make way for a 334-unit apartment complex
- The home dubbed 'Little Bavaria' by the German American immigrants featured multiple mansions, an aquatic park, a private chapel, and a massive complex to house white tigers and lions
- The sale comes after Siegfried Fischbacher's death from pancreatic cancer in May2021, following the death of his lifelong 'best friend' and showbiz partner Roy Horn's, aged 75 from COVID in 2020
- The luxury estate was home to the master illusionists and their menagerie of animals for over 30 years; the pets had virtual run of the place with their own Olympic-sized pool and air-conditioned houses
- Though they were life partners, Siegfried and Roy slept in separate sleeping quarters

 and came together in an authentic Bavarian style cottage that served as the
 centerpiece of the property
- The homes were decorated with priceless artifacts such as a clock owned by Napoleon, gold candelabras that were a gift from Liberace and a jewel-encrusted sword that is said to have once belonged to Genghis Khan





He was a big FISM winner a few years back and who can forget his energetic dove act?

The award-winning, internationally famous Canadian magician *Greg Frewin*:

Although we are still a few months away from announcing our Guest Speaker line-up for the Conference, we are delighted and excited to announce our Guest of Honor.

Ron Urban, master performer, producer, showman and entrepreneur. If you are not lucky enough to be part of the generation who saw Ron Urban in his prime, you are in for a treat. Prepare to make friends with a remarkable man and his "family".

From his teens until retirement, Urban traveled the globe performing in the most luxurious places on earth. He pioneered Theater on Ice, produced show segments for Holiday on Ice, had his own ice shows, worked seasons at major amusement parks and established Rent-A-Rink, where his company installed ice rinks anywhere, even at the White House.

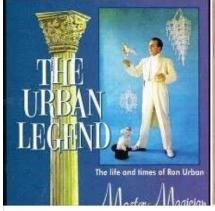
His career encompassed performing in supper clubs, night clubs, cabarets, dinner theaters, and spectacular casino productions. His travels took him around the world to all the first-class locations, many of which no longer exist. Urban deserves great recognition, not only in the world of magic but in so many other aspects of show business. He was a consummate performer, a first-class attraction with an unusual act and someone who worked constantly throughout the world.

You will be amazed at his drive and determination, his many shows, and a legacy that serves as an example that could well be followed by many young performers today. Ron Urban and his gracious wife Monica brought colorful, dignified theatrical performances to the world. His life is not only the story of a world-traveling entertainer but also a lesson in determination, the importance of a strong work-ethic, the constant effort to make wishes come true, and the zeal it takes to become a famous personality in show business.

Films of his many performances will be shown at the Conference, and he will be delighted to sign a copy of his bio book for your collection.

Hope to see you at the Florida Magic History & Collector's Conference, Feb. 3-5. It's Florida...make it a vacation!









Almost everyone, in Florida, who is friend of IBM Territorial leader, Scott Humston, was at his massive 50th birthday party in Mt. Dora.



This is worth watching again (and again)! The late Barclay Shaw performed this live in Vegas 1988.

David Nixon's father was a lawyer whose hobby was magic and who took David to watch many English performers

In 1938 he joined the Magic Circle. He also became an accomplished double bass player and performed with a local band.

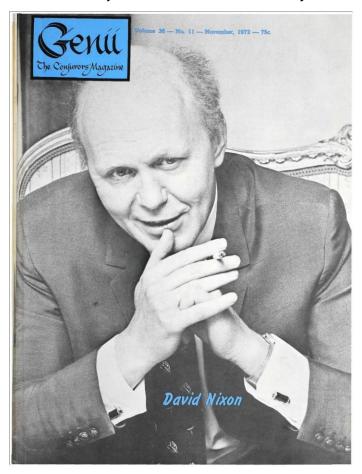
With the advent of the Second World War Nixon joined the organization that was set up to provide entertainment for British troops.

He had been prevented from serving in a front-line role as a result of suffering from pneumonia when he was a teenager.

David Nixon has been recognized as an influence on future UK magicians as diverse as Wayne Dobson, Jerry Sadowitz and Paul Daniels.

Nixon has a long run with a magic show, in prime time, on British TV.

Nixon died of lung cancer. He was a heavy smoker and was first diagnosed with cancer in 1976. He died just short of his 59th birthday in 1978



Anita Harris, singer and actress, worked with magician David Nixon for eight years in the 1970s on his TV specials in England.

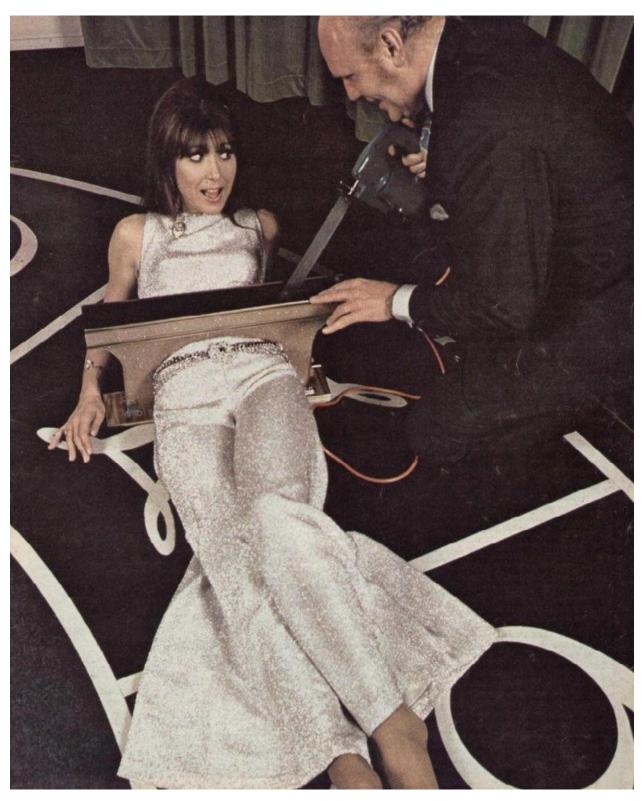
She looked a bit like Marlo Thomas and acted with just enough vulnerability and humor to be an excellent assistant for Nixon.

I thought she was an attractive and an ideal magic assistant for Nixon and she always acted like she was surprised and enjoyed helping him.

Here Nixon is using Anita in the "Dizzy Limit" Girl Vanish in the net.







Here is Anita Harris with English magic comedy legend ,Tommy Cooper.



Enchanting but also sad. I love the old theater and packing crates and set up.

This is the late Granville Taylor, of England, who performed as *Faust the Magician* and toured an illusion show all over the world for many years.

Faust was a stage assistant to the Australian illusionist and escapologist, MURRAY, in 1951, and to THE GREAT LYLE in 1953. Faust then toured extensively, including 7 tours of Japan with his own big illusion show and company of 23 dancers/stage assistants, featuring the original illusions of David Devant, De Biere, The Great Lyle, Amac, Murray, Chris Charlton, Ali Bey, and Cingalee. Show includes over 35 items made by Jan Martin (Martinkevitch), including the only illusion ever he made: The Aerial Suspension. Granville published a book

about Martin, The Master Magical Mechanic, and another book, his autobiography, "The Evolution of Faust". In his final years he had an attic workshop where he made his own equipment, including flowering Rose Bushes, an Orange Tree, and replicas of some of Martin's equipment and a Flea Circus. Re-created De Biere's 1930's act



Former stage assistant to the Australian illusionist and escapologist, MURRAY,in 1951, and to THE GREAT LYLE in 1953. I have toured extensively, including 7 tours of Japan with my own big illusion show and my own company of 23 dancers/stage assistants, featuring the original illusions of David Devant, De Biere, The Great Lyle, Amac, Murray, Chris Charlton, Ali Bey, and Cingalee. Show includes over 35 items made by Jan Martin (Martinkevitch), including the only illusion ever he made: The Aerial Suspension. Recently I published a book about Martin, The Master Magical Mechanic, and another book, my autobiography, "The Evolution of Faust". I have an attic workshop where I make my own equipment, including flowering Rose Bushes, an Orange Tree, and replicas of some of Martin's equipment. Just finished making a Flea Circus. Re-created De Biere's 1930's act

Like I have said before, I don't understand why Stu MacDonald needs this "Richard Preston" retro character but this

is still a great routine that can be found in Mark Wilson's Course in Magic. It is a simple and effective paper napkin tear.

Thank you to Ring member Pat Hanna for this tip!

A blast from the past! Enjoy the whole show.

William H. McIlhany and Todd Karr of The Miracle Factory offer you a free viewing of \"Festival of Magic,\" a revolutionary magic television special from 1957. This video belongs to the world as a record of some of the world's greatest magicians on this show. The original, unique transfer was made by William H. McIlhany from a 16mm kinescope

And to think that we used to laugh at Kohl and Company! (I still do).

I am beginning to perform this way! I am blaming it on age. I am now a "senior citizen" magician.

Much of Kohl's humor came from, Earl Canapp, a Baltimore magician, who did an "old act". He had a hilarious bit with

his finger was too weak and an exaggerated effort to lift the Zombie Ball. Magicians knew he was struggling to raise the ball.

The late Al Cohen, Washington, DC magic shop owner, also had a classic old character that he played, Purnell Zorch.

He would come out with a half dozen "pulls" hanging down on elastic from the back of his suit coat.

Kalanag's multi-phase levitation masterpiece from 1960.

Paul Curry's "Out of this World"

If there are 3 card tricks you can do, this should be one of them. It is a classic.

This is pure cueing and one of the greatest examples of volunteer control that I have seen.

Ricky Dunn published a manuscript "Zapped" that is this classic electric chair routine that Paul does so well.

Classic Denny Haney. He was at our Florida Convention in 2000.

When he has passed on, we lost a bit of classic magic.

What and who is behind the Tony Hassini IMS "Merlin Awards"?

You will probably find Tom Stone's Investigative Report shocking and interesting.

https://www.tomstone.se/en/magic-world/the-merlin-award



Dennis