

Our September meeting was a lecture by Magick Balay, who is a long time demonstrator at Fantasma Magic in the big town, NYC.

Magick started off the lecture by showing a short DVD of him performing some of the tricks that he does as well as his thoughts on performing magic. He then enlightened and entertained us with the following items.

He started things off with his Bill Switch. His folds are a little different from the original \$100 Bill Switch and his performance is really smooth. He borrows a one dollar bill and turns it into 4 quarters. He then hands the spectator the Mis-made bill to examine, takes it back, and changes the 4 quarters back into their bill, which he returns to the spectator.

He followed that with his Pen Thru Bill. Magick uses the Doug Edwards pen and said that the pen that Gregory Wilson uses for Recap also works.

Next up was Magick's ITR work. He moved a spoon lying on the table. He also moved his eyeglasses which were lying on the table. He causes the lemon on the edge of a person's glass to fall into the glass. He also showed how he used the ITR to perform the Psychokinetic Touching Routine. He borrowed a quarter and floated it in mid air as it was spinning and did the same thing with a borrowed ring. He made a rose from a cocktail napkin and then proceeded to float it. He made a hook in one of the petals, so when he asked the spectator to pick up the floating rose and smell it, the spectator unknowingly disconnected the rose from the thread.

He made use of the Flip stick move to vanish a pen and his glasses. He also used the move to make it look like he broke the arm of his sun glasses. He also made it look like he was breaking his finger by bending it back and snapping the fingers of his other hand to make the cracking sound.

Next was Bent Spoon work. He used the old gag of apparently bending a spoon by pressing the bowl of the spoon against the table. It really looked good. He performed the old gag of disconnecting his thumb and then vanished his thumb using a thumb tip. He used the thumb tip to vanish a pen (which Bob Elliott showed him). He also used the thumb tip to make a popping noise as he removed the tip from his thumb.

Magick closed with some card tricks. He had someone pick a card. He made a fist, showed the inside and the person said there was nothing in Magick's fist. Then a little (empty) hand appeared from his fist and as a finale the little hand was holding a tiny duplicate of the chosen

card. The mini hand is the one that Michael Ammar uses and the move is the one you used when you make a mouse appear between the opening of the forefinger and thumb of your fist.

He called this the Mini Magician. He then performed a pretty color change in which a random card rises and then visually changes into the selected card.

He had a card selected, returned to the deck, and asked for 3 chances to find the card. He put 3 cards face down on the table. He stood all 3 cards vertically on the table – the outer two he was holding with his fingers, while the middle card was apparently balanced on its narrow end. He eliminated the 2 outer cards by letting them drop face up onto the table and revealed the middle card to be the selected card.

As a closer, he performed Lennert Greene's version of the Rainbow Deck (all the backs of the cards are different) with a triple climax – the faces of the two prediction cards (i.e. 4H and 4D) matched the faces of the two selected cards (i.e. 4H and 4D); the backs of the two prediction cards matched the backs of the two selected cards, and, finally, he turned the rest of the deck face up to show that the faces of all the cards were the same (i.e. the deck was made up entirely of the Seven of Spades).

Magick was entertaining, educational, and informative and I would recommend his lecture to any club looking for a lecturer.

Bob Lusthaus