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# THE WAND

ORGAN OF THE SRI LANKA MAGIC CIRCLE

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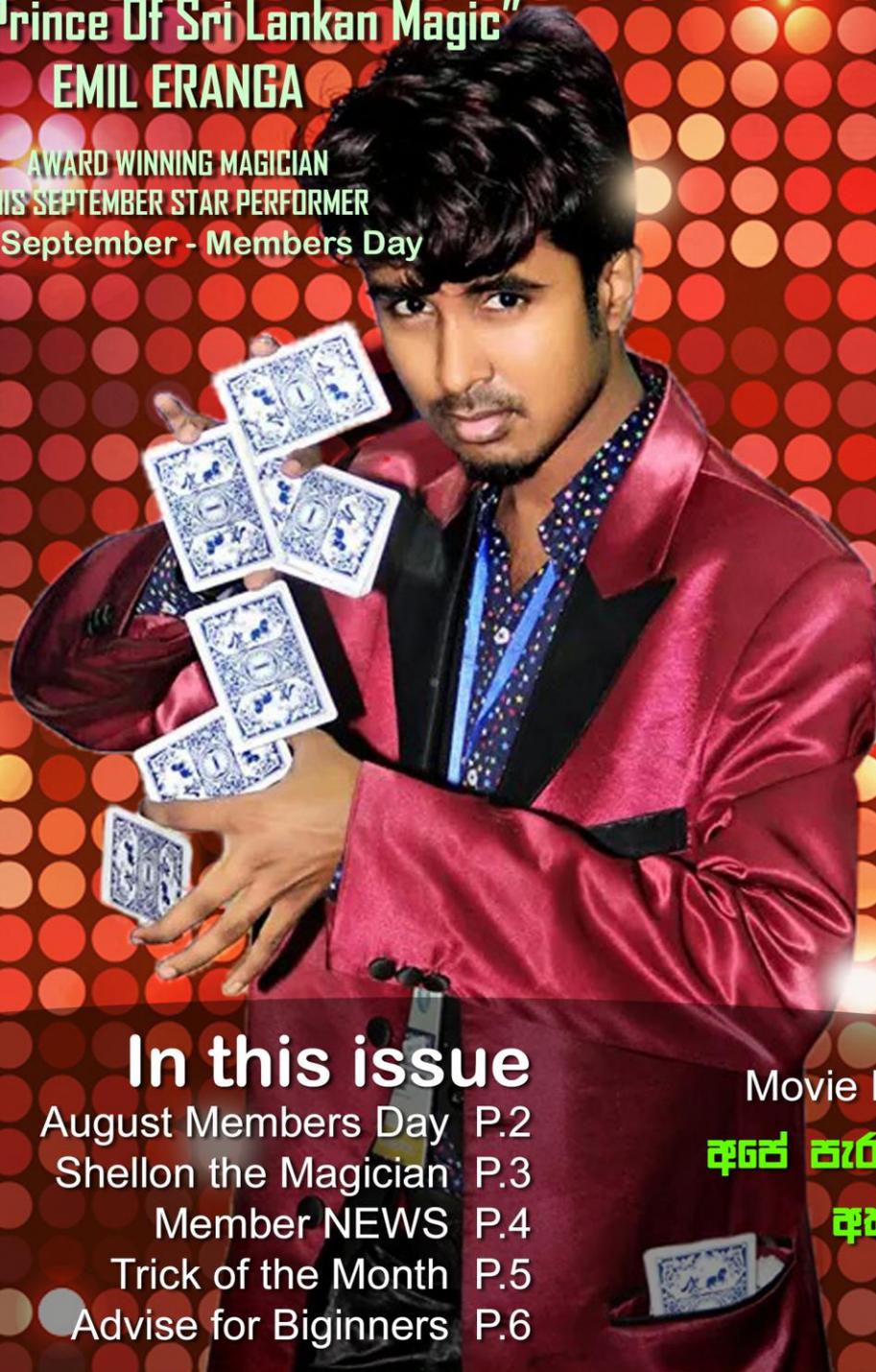
September 2015

The Official Guardian of Magic

"Dream Prince Of Sri Lankan Magic"

**EMIL ERANGA**

AWARD WINNING MAGICIAN  
THIS SEPTEMBER STAR PERFORMER  
27th September - Members Day



## In this issue

- August Members Day P.2
- Shellon the Magician P.3
- Member NEWS P.4
- Trick of the Month P.5
- Advise for Beginners P.6

Movie Review P.7

අපේ පැරැන්නෝ P.4

අත්දැකීම් P.5

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Sri Lanka

The monthly get together of the SLMC for the month of August 2015 was held at the "Vishmithapaya" on 30/08/2015 commencing at 10.00 am. The following Members were present. **Ajith Fernando, Amarasiri Wijesinghe, Anuradha Perera, Asanka K. Pathirana, Chandrasena Gamage, Chenul Perera, Chrisantha Silva, Devsiri Fernando, Emil Eranga, Gayan Wickramage, Hiran Seneviratne, Joy de Silva, K. A. D. Pushpa, Lalindra Amarasekera, Lilani de Mel, M.D. Kamal Shantha, Priyantha Gamage, RajithaRatnapala, Rohan Jayasekera, Ronald de Alwis, Shelton Jayasekera, Suranjith De Soysa, Terry Amerasekera, Thusitha Jayasekera, V.R. Jayasekera, W.S. Boteju, Yasas Gunaratne.** The notice of absences was received from **H. D. N. Gunasekera.**

The GS welcomed the members and invited the President Rohan to address the gathering.

The President Rohan started his speech informing the improvements that are being made to the "Vishmithapaya". The ground floor of the building is now equipped with an air-conditioning unit. He explained the improvements and proposed layout of the downstairs and upstairs. He thanked the members who supported so far and requested all members to extend their support to fast track the process of making this premises to a place of international standards.

**President Rohan, Past President Joy, and Member Lilani De Mel donated Rs. 5000/ each, for the improvement work of the building.**

### Unveiling the Portrait of Past President:

The highlight of the day was the unveiling of the portrait of the immediate Past President Mr. Joy de Silva by the President Mr. Rohan Jayasekera. The gathering greeted Joy, who was also present at the monthly get-together.



During the member performances, Gayan entertained the audience with a mental trick.



After unveiling Past President Joy de Silva's Portrait.



Chenul Perera

It was the time for the Star Performer. This month's Star Performer was Chenul Perera who was the winner of 'Young Magician 2015'. He performed Card routines, silk magic and various vanishing acts.



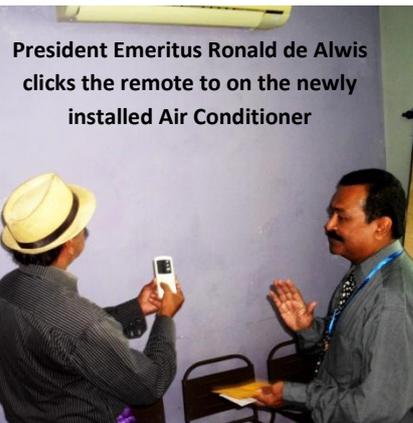
Yasas

FISM Italy 2015 –Yasas Gunaratne, who attended 'FISM Italy 2015' in Italy from 6<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> July, made a presentation to share his experiences at that event. The event is also known as Olympics of Magic and this is year it was '26<sup>th</sup> World Championship of Magic'. Yasas said that the event is a golden opportunity to network with world class magicians and he shared some of his experiences with the magicians Paul Daniels and Yuri Geller. The event consist lectures and contests. Yasas shared videos of the finals of Card magic and mental magic contests. He suggested that SLMC should send contestants to the next FISM that will be held in 2017. VP Chandrasena Gamage thanked Yasas for sharing such valuable information with our members.

A new member Mr. Trevin Hannibal administered his oath by the President Rohan Jayasekera.

The treat for the day was sponsored by Chenul Perera. The proceedings of another exiting day came to an end around 1.00 pm.

*-Chrisantha-*



President Emeritus Ronald de Alwis clicks the remote to on the newly installed Air Conditioner



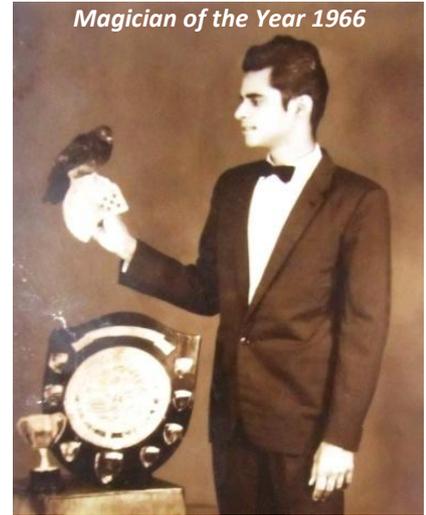
Secretary Crisantha Silva accepting donations by Rohan, Lilani and Joy.



New member: Trevin Hanibal.

## “Shelton the Magician”

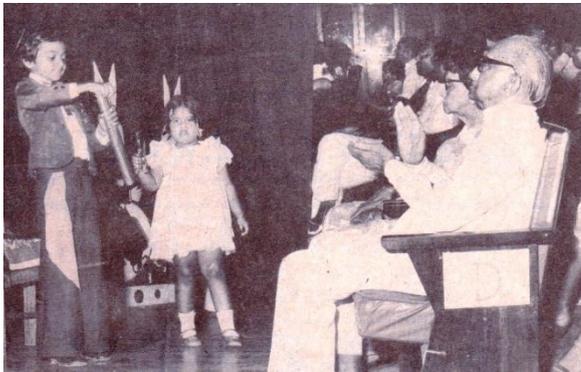
There was a time that Sri Lanka Magic Circle (SLMC) used to organize quarterly public shows at the popular venues of the city. These shows featured the elite of the magicians of the day. As a new comer in 1979, I was in the front row of the open air theater at ‘Vihara Maha Devi Park’ to witness such a show. Young looking, small made magician came on stage displaying a long length of rope. With rhythmic movements to the background music and blowing cigarette smoke he separated rope in to several loops. Then he asked the audience for a currency note. I was prompt to lend him a ten rupee note, which he inserted into his money printing machine and rotated the handle. Alas....! Came out was a blank piece of paper, I thought I lost my ten rupee.....!. He was brilliant in cards fanning. Gozinta boxes and the Zombie were the other items that impressed me. It was my first encounter with “Shelton the Magician” or Shelton Jayasekara, the 4<sup>th</sup> most senior and Honorary Life Member of SLMC today.



Let me start this narration with an incident Ronald told me. Recently when Ronald was indisposed he called Shelton and offered a paid show that he was booked by a reputed firm. Thanking Ronald, Shelton turned-down the offer saying that it falls on the Sunday; the monthly training session of the SLMC was scheduled for. He didn’t want to cancel or postpone the session, disappointing the enthusiastic youngsters; even though, the number was few. This is Shelton; who prepares to forego monetary gains keeping his word and duty ahead. (Shelton does these classes on voluntary basis without a financial burden on the Circle.)

Shelton was born on 5<sup>th</sup> February 1940 at Mahawatta, a village near Matara. he had his education at St.Thomas College, Matara and Richmond College Galle. He too was smitten by the ‘Magic Bug’ after witnessing street magicians under the “Pacha Gaha”. Then he became an assistant to the only stage magician of the area Mr.George Ratnasamy (‘Georgia Pasha’), who founded the Matara branch of the Sri Lanka Magic Circle.

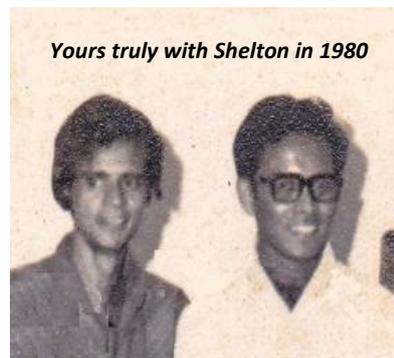
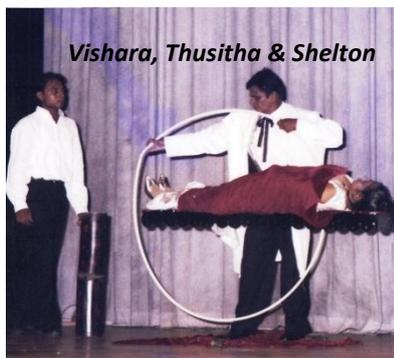
Shelton joined the Central Bank in 1963 and moved to Colombo where he made close contacts with seniors to develop his magical powers. Shelton was an accomplished musician as well. He started his own musical group “The Strangers” with few friends. He was the manager and the lead guitarist. They were the runners up in the ‘Beat Groups Contest’ held in 1965. Shelton married to his long time sweet heart ‘Thusitha’ in 1972 and blessed with a son and a daughter; Vishara & Udari.



Vishara was the youngest magician those days. What a charming sight to see young Vishara comes on stage with his chubby sister. I remember Vishara commenced the act with his pet item colour changing hanky; yellow to red & red to yellow. At the age of 8 Vishara became the 3<sup>rd</sup> runner up at the Magician of the year contest, beating several seniors. Next year the senior magicians of the council passed an age limit (above 18 years) for the contest. (The Young Magician contest started two decades later.) Today Vishara, a Mechanical Engineer, is out of Magic and lecturer the undergraduates at the Open University of Sri Lanka. Thusitha was Shelton’s enduring assistant throughout and became a magician herself. She won the Mudaliyar Amarasekara challenged shield in 2013.

<< [Vishara & Udari at the Mudaliyar Amarasekara felicitation show in 1982]

At the ripe mature age of 75 Shelton has hardly anything to achieve in the field of Magic. He took into Magic as a kid of 12 years. He was a founder member of the Matara branch of the SLMC in 1960 and joined the mother body in 1965. Won the Gate Mudaliyar ACGS Amarasekara challenged shield at his first attempt, becoming the “Magician of the year -1966” and adjudged the winner of the “SLMC Open Contest” in 1970. He had served the SLMC in many capacities science 1967; Committee Member, Treasurer, Secretary, Entertainment Secretary, Vice President and culminating as the President for 2006-2007. Decorated “Kalabooshana” in 2007; the highest honor an artist could receive from the State. Widely travelled in Europe and Asia and won the trophies at international convention contests. He was honored by the overseas magical institutes, such as College Magique de Bourges, France; and the International Magic

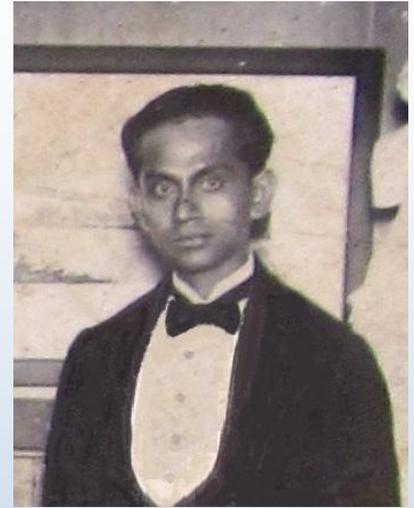


Academy of India. Today he is the Senior Vice President having the responsibility of ‘Training’ under his wing. Shelton devotes most of his time to groom the future Magicians of the nation.

**Shelton Jayasekara is an asset to the Sri Lanka Magic Circle.**

### Vivien Abeyratne විවියන් අබේරත්න

Vivien A.E.Abeyratne was a founder member of the Association of Ceylon Magicians (ACM) who continued to be a magician till his last. Ronald recalls his memory of Vivien, who used to come on stage dressed in a white suit. In 1940s during the WW II and in the absence of their President Mudaliyar Amarasekara, the Ceylonese magicians continued to do their part to keep the Magic alive in the country. This group consisting Linden De Alwis, Simon Perera, T.G.R.Gunawardane, Herbert Gonzal used to visit Vivien on weekends and discussed magic ideas and demonstrated their new findings. Ronald too had the privilege of accompanying his father to these gatherings. Vivien was a lawyer by profession and resided at No.7, Chapel Lane, Wellawatta. Their rendezvous was the Paiva’s Restaurant, Bambalapitiya.



Piya says that he had the opportunity to meet Vivien with Major Bartholamusz in 1960s. Even though Vivien was in poor health at the time he had his bag of props at the bed side.

වෘත්තියෙන් නීතිඥවරයෙකු වූ විවියන් අබේරත්න ලංකා මායා ශිල්පීන්ගේ සංගමයේ ආරම්භක සාමාජිකයෙකි. මුදලිඳු අමරසේකරයන් රටින් බැහැරව සිටි දෙවන ලෝක යුද්ධය සමයේදී සංගමය සහ මැජික් කලාව අඛණ්ඩව පවත්වාගෙන යාම සඳහා කටයුතු කළ ලිත්ඪන් ද අල්විස්, ටී.ඊ.ආර්.ගුණවර්ධන, සයිමන් පෙරේරා, හර්බට් ගොන්සාල් ඇතුළු කණ්ඩායමේ කෙනෙකි. විවියන් සෑම විටම සුදු පැහැති ඇඳුමින් සැරසී වේදිකාවට පැමිණීමට මායා ශිල්පියකු බව එකල ළමා විශේෂ පසු වූ රොනල්ඩ් තම මතකය අවධි කළේය.

1960 දශකයේදී අසනීපව එක්කැන්ව සිටි අවධියේ පවා මැජික් බැගය තම ඇඳ අසලම තබාගෙන සිටි බවට එකල රයිසන් බර්තෝලමියුස් සමග විවියන් හමුවීමට ගිය අවස්ථාවන් සිහිපත් කළ මේජර් පියතිලක මා සමග පැවසීය.

## S L M C MEMBER NEWS

- ♣ **Raffle Draw**  
IPP Joy de Silva informed that the raffle draw he initiated to help the welfare activity of the circle will be held at this month’s Get-together. **Please return the counterfoils & money before 10.30 a.m. on 27<sup>th</sup> September.**
- ♣ **“Vishmithapaya” Building Project**  
Now the A/C facility is there. Next step is to put up the stage and dressing room, which is to be completed soon.
- ♣ **Magician of the Year-2015 & Master Magician-2015 Contests.**  
Above contests scheduled to be held in October is postponed until the new stage at “Vishmithapaya” is ready. Let us open the new theater with the contests in honor of our past leaders Gate Mudaliyar ACGS Amarasekara & Ranapala Bodhinagoda.
- ♣ **NEW MEMBER:** Mr. Trevin Hannibal of 21/7, Nissansala Place, Sri Rahula Road, Katubedda; joined the Circle. He is the current President of IBM Ring 139. ‘The Wand’ welcomes Trevin.

“ 1960 වසරේදී පමණ ශ්‍රී ලංකා මැජික් කවයේ ශාඛාවක් මාතරදී ඇරඹුණි. ‘මැජික් උණ’ උත්සන්න අවස්ථාවේ විසි හැවිරිදි තරුණයකු වූ මා එම ශාඛාවේ ආරම්භක සාමාජිකයකු වීමි. කොළඹ පැවති ශ්‍රී ලංකා මැජික් කවයේ දර්ශන සහ රැස්වීම් සඳහාද අප සහභාගි වූ බැවින් මව් සංගමයේ ශිල්පීන් ද දැන හඳුනාගෙන සිටියෙමි.

වරක් මව් සංගමයේ ශිල්පීන් දෙදෙනෙකුගේ මැජික් සංදර්ශනයක් මාතරදී පැවැත්වෙන බවට දැන්වීම් පළවී තිබුණි. දර්ශනයට සෑහෙන වේලාවකට පෙර ශාලාවට ගිය මා වේදිකාව පිටුපසදී ඔවුන් හමුව කතාබහක යෙදුනේ, වෙනත් පළාතක හිතවතුන් තම නගරයට පැමිණි විට කෙරෙන සුභද පිළිගැනීමක් ලෙසිණි. එහිදී ඔවුන් අතර සිටි තරුණ ශිල්පියා ම වෙතින් ඉල්ලීමක් කළේය. එනම් නරඹන්නන්ට නොදැනෙන ලෙසට ඔහුගේ රහස් සහායකයකු (secret confederate) වශයෙන් කටයුතු කිරීමටය. නවකයින් ලෙස අප සෑම විටම ජ්‍යෙෂ්ඨ ශිල්පීන් වෙත සහාය දැක්වීමට සෑදී පැහැදී සිටි බැවින් දෙවරක් නොසිතාම මම එයට එකඟ වූයෙමි.

ඔහු මගේ සාක්කු සහ ඇඳුම් අතර විවිධ දේ සැඟවීය. හකුලා තැබිය හැකි දුනු සහිත (spring) සර්පයින්, පළතුරු සහ එළවළු වර්ග, බිත්තර, ලණු, ලෝන්සු, මල් පොකුරු මෙන්ම කාන්තා ඇඳුම් ද ඒ අතර විය. නරඹන්නන් අතර වාඩිවී සිටින ලෙසටත් සහායට කෙනෙකුට ආරාධනා කළවිට වේදිකාවට පැමිණෙන ලෙසටත් මට උපදෙස් ලැබිණි.

මැජික් ශිල්පියාට සහාය වීමේ උද්‍යෝගයෙන් සිටි මා නරඹන්නන් අතරින් කෙනෙකුට වේදිකාවට ආරාධනා කළ අවස්ථාවේ ඒ සඳහා ඉදිරිපත් වීමි. පළමුව වෙනත් අංගයක් සඳහා මගෙන් උදව් ලබාගත් ඔහු හදිසියේම මගේ කම්සය තුළින් ලණුවක් අදින්නට විය. මදින් මද, ප්‍රේක්ෂකාගාරය තුළ පුදුමය මෙන්ම සිනහව උපදවමින් ද මා භාසායට ලක් කොට විවිධ කතා කියමින් ද සැඟවූ දේ එකින් එක පිටතට අදින්නට විය. මැජික් වෙනුවෙන් මා තුළ තිබූ ලැදියාව සහ ගෞරවය නිසාම මගේ නගරයේදීම, මා දන්නා හඳුනන බොහෝ දෙනා ඉදිරියේදී මම සිනහවට ලක්වීමි, ලජ්ජාවට පත්වීමි.

මා වඩාත්ම අපහසුතාවයට පත් කළ හේතුව වූයේ මා සිත් දිනා සිටි යුවතිය තුසිතා ද එදා තම යෙහෙළියන් සමඟ නරඹන්නන් අතර සිටීමයි.

ඒදින එම සංදර්ශනය ඉදිපත්කළ ශිල්පීන් දෙදෙනා නම් ‘Professor Dalvo Sr. & Dalvo Jr.’ ය. මා සිනහවට ලක් කළේ Dalvo Jr. නොහොත් රොනල්ඩ් ද අල්විස් ය.”

මෙම සිදුවීමට මුහුණ දුන්නේ කවරුන්දැයි සිතා ගැනීම ඔබට අපහසු නැත .....

**Trick of the Month** by HDN Gunasekara 

**Easy to do Mental Trick**

මෙවර ඉදිරිපත් කෙරෙන්නේ මනස මූලික වූ මැජික් අංගයක් සඳහා පහසුවෙන් යොදා ගත හැකි සරළ, එහෙත් ඉතා ප්‍රභල වූ ගණිතමය රහසකි. විසිත්ත කාමරයේ දී හෝ කාර්යාලයේ දී ඥාති හිත මිතුරන් අතර දී අත්හදා බලන්න.

අවශ්‍ය දේ දින දසුනක් පමණකි. අදාල මාසයේ දින දැක්වෙන පිටුව වෙත කෙනෙකුගේ අවධානය යොමු කරන්න. එක් ලක්ෂයක් වටා ඇති ඕනෑම කොටු හතරක සඳහන් අංක හතර සිතට ගෙන ඒවා එකට එකතුකරන මෙන් දැනුම් දෙන්න. පිළිතුර කුමක්දැයි විමසන්න. පිළිතුර ලද සැනින් දින දසුනේ ඔහු සිතා ගත් දින හතර කොටුකර පෙන්වන්න.

රහස ඉතා සරළය. මතෝමයෙන් ක්ෂණිකව විසඳීමට හැකි ගණිතමය ගැටළුවකි. ඔහුගේ පිළිතුර හතරෙන් බෙදා හතරක් අඩුකරන්න. එවිට ඔබට ලැබෙන්නේ ඔහු තෝරාගත් අංක හතරෙන් කුඩාම අංකයයි.

8	9	උදාහරණ:- <b>8 + 9 + 15 + 16 = 48</b> <b>48 ÷ 4 = 12</b> <b>12 - 4 = 8</b>
15	16	

දින දසුනේ එක ලඟ ඇති ඕනෑම අංක හතරක් සඳහා මෙම සූත්‍රය වලංගු වේ. ක්ෂණිකව ඔබට කුඩාම අංකය සොයාගත හැක. වඩා වැදගත් වන්නේ ගණිතමය ගැටළුවක් විසඳීමට වඩා, සිත් කියවීමේ හැකියාවකින් කෙරෙන බව අන් අයට දැනෙන අයුරින් ඉදිරිපත් කිරීමයි.

# Advice For Beginners

By Jay Sankey

[www.sankeymagic.com](http://www.sankeymagic.com)



Jay Sankey gives some of his best tips, advice and inspiration for new magicians:

- ✓ Practice Makes Perfect: before you show anyone a trick be sure to practice it at least a few times. Much better chance of performing it well!
- ✓ Never repeat a trick: I don't mean never show a trick more than once to anyone, just to the same audience! If you repeat the trick, they will have a much better chance of figuring out the method
- ✓ Be an entertainer, not a trickster: people only like being fooled when you make it FUN. Don't just try to "fool them" (i.e. make fools of them) but try to ENTERTAIN them.
- ✓ Fewer the words the better: most magic can speak for itself so be sure to keep your script or words to a minimum. Then practice those few sentences until you know them by heart.
- ✓ Only show your magic to people who like magic! As wonderful as it is, not everyone likes magic. Also, you want people to be polite and supportive of what you are doing! They will also make for the best audiences!
- ✓ Avoid the "the hand is quicker than the eye cliché" and perform your magic SLOWLY. This will take a lot of practice because you might be a little nervous, but you will be able to do it with enough experience. Slower is clearer and much more magical.
- ✓ Don't be a pest. As excited as you are about magic, try not to "burn out" your friends or family by showing them a trick every single day. Instead, try to show them magic only once or twice a week and wait for a time that works for them, not just you!
- ✓ Learn everything you can about magic. You can find books about magic in your local library and there is lots of information on-line. You can also purchase magic tricks, books and dvds from your local magic dealer.
- ✓ Don't reveal the secret to a trick! This hard not to do because it's fun to show the cool trick behind the magic. Also, friends and family will often push you to tell them, but don't. They will be disappointed and think less of the marvelous magic you do.
- ✓ Mirror practice: spend time on a regular basis practicing your tricks in front of a mirror so you can see how the tricks will look to your audience. This will teach you a great deal about performing magic.
- ✓ They will look where you look. This is a key to theatre. The audience will look at whatever you look at. So when you are doing a secret move, don't look at your hands. Instead, look at your audience.
- ✓ Surprise is one of the golden keys. Don't tell the audience what you are going to do before you do it or you increase the chances of getting caught. It also lessens the drama of any story you are telling.
- ✓ Knowing the secret doesn't make you a magician. This is very important to remember. Anybody can learn a trick, but only a real magician can PERFORM a trick.
- ✓ Every trick should have a magic moment, some moment when you snap your fingers or wave your hand or when the magic is supposed to have JUST happened. That makes for good theatre.
- ✓ You don't have to be funny! You can be serious, silly, witty, funny, thoughtful or anything you want when you present your magic! If you don't feel comfortable trying to be funny, don't worry, just be yourself!!!
- ✓ Make everything look as natural as possible. No suspicious moves or awkward gestures. It will be more deceptive and more pleasing to the eye.
- ✓ There's only one way to get good: perform, perform, perform! The more people you perform for, the better you will get - and FASTER!
- ✓ Everybody gets nervous. It's only natural. But don't let that stop you from sharing your magic with friends and family. With more experience, your nerves will disappear!
- ✓ Make the magic yours! Develop your own presentations and even the way you go from one trick to another. Bring your own unique style to your magic.
- ✓ Get the audiences involved as much as possible. Shuffle the cards, think of a number, examine a prop, etc. The more they get involved, the more they will care about what you do!
- ✓ Don't just practice, rehearse! Rehearse mean that, instead of just doing the moves over and over, you add the words too! Pretend there is a real audience in front of you and slowly perform EVERY aspect of the trick!
- ✓ Don't make the magic look too easy to do! Take a lesson from professional jugglers and acrobats. Whenever you can, try to make what you do look HARDER THAN IT REALLY IS. People will be all the more impressed!
- ✓ Believe in your magic. When you pretend to make a coin vanish, try to really BELIEVE that you really made it vanish. Belief is like yawning- it's contagious!
- ✓ Get a magic buddy! Not only can you watch this show together, you can learn a lot by watching each other and rehearsing together!

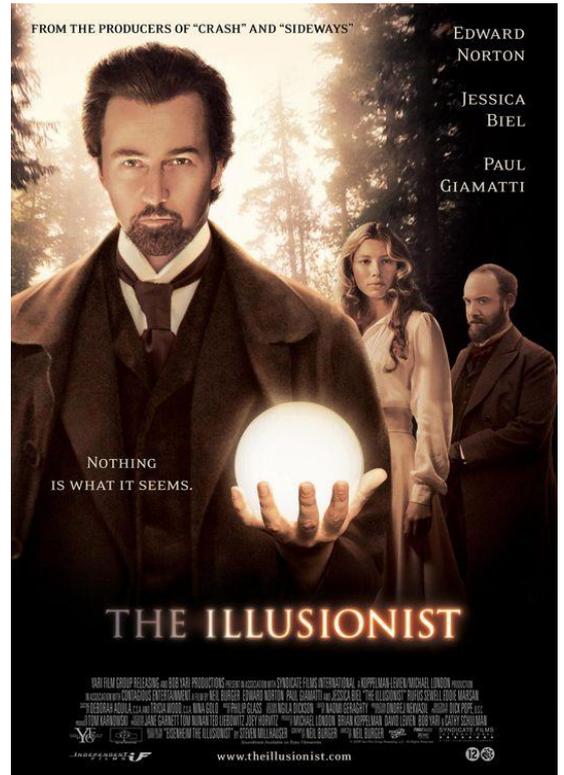
*By Jay Sankey*

# THE ILLUSIONIST



Produced under the direction of Neil Hamburger in 2006 introducing Edward Norton as the protagonist along with Paul Giamatti and Jessica Beil. It is said to be based on Steven

Millhauser's novel. The background, design and pace of the movie is wonderful as it's a love story with few superb performances by the talented cast. But the performance of great ideal magician is done by Eisenhiem played by Norton who uses his ability to secure the love of a woman far above his social strength.



The cinematography is excellent and the plot of the movie is made up very perfectly with a couple of surprises. The Illusionist is considered to be one of the

best movies to explore the talents of stage magicians. The magical plot advice for the movie was given by James Freedman, Michael Weber, Ricky Jay and Scott Penrose.

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