

Legerdemain Digest

RING 313 - THE JOHN FEDKO RING

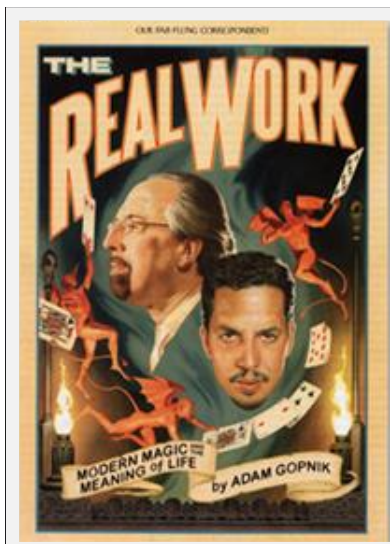
UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

Mark your calendars for January 25, 2011. Jamy Ian Swiss will demonstrate how he earned the reputation of "**Honest Liar**." Yes, our first lecturer for 2011 is the Jamy Ian Swiss.

An acclaimed master of the challenging art of sleight of hand, Jamy Ian Swiss has performed magic throughout the United States for presenters ranging from Fortune 500 companies to the Smithsonian Institution. He has lectured to magicians in 13 countries and made numerous television appearances in the United States, Europe and Japan, including U.S. appearances on CBS 48 Hours, PBS Nova and the PBS documentary *The Art of Magic*, and Comedy Central.

A gifted sleight-of-hand artist who possesses, as the Washington Post once wrote, "a finely tuned sense of the absurd," Swiss was born in Brooklyn, New York and today makes his home in nearby Manhattan, having appeared along the way in performances from Hollywood's Magic Castle to Caesar's Palace on the Las Vegas Strip to the Ginza District of downtown Tokyo. His wildly eclectic resume includes stints as a marketing consultant, telecommunications firm owner, and wild animal handler. His greatest passion, though, is sleight-of-hand magic, and there are few practitioners who can match his skill and enthusiasm. Swiss blends contemporary comedy with bravura technical mastery to create a truly unique show that appeals to almost any audience. He has been called magician, comedian, artist; Swiss himself prefers the phrase "Honest Liar."

Swiss was a featured performer on the 1998 PBS documentary, **The Art of**



Magic, and he is co-author of the companion book of the same title. He served as a comedy writer and chief magic consultant for Penn & Teller's Sin City Spectacular, a weekly television variety show on the FX network, for which he also co-produced the Penn & Teller segments. He created, produced and performed in the documentary special, "Cracking the Con Games," for the Discovery Channel. Currently engaged in developing, producing and writing additional projects for television, he is slated as Head Writer and Associate Producer of the new high-tech series, "**The Virtual Magician**" starring Marco Tempest.

As a partner in Magical Nights Inc, he is the co-producer of Monday Night Magic, New York City's longest running Off-Broadway magic show, named New York's Best Magic Venue by *TimeOut NY*, and Best Kept Secret by *New York Press*. A founder of the **National Capital Area Skeptics** and contributor to **Skeptic magazine**, Swiss lectures to scientific, academic and university audiences about deception and the paranormal on "The Illusion of Psychic Powers."

Bio via www.jamyianswiss.com

Admission is free to everyone who has paid up dues for 2011, all others will pay a \$10 guest fee.



REMINDER: Pay your Ring 313 membership dues! Keep your membership current.

PAST EVENTS

By Philip Henderson

The meeting began with a somber note as we were informed of the passing of long time member Mr. Prentice Taylor on December 16, 2010. We shall perform a Broken Wand Ceremony at our January 25, 2011. President Brown then called John Fedko forward to administer the Oath of Office for the incoming Officers and Directors for 2011. The Oath was taken by Jay Leslie, President; Kent Kwan, Vice-President; Philip Henderson, Secretary; Chris Wynkoop, Treasurer; Jim Greene, Sergeant-at-Arms; Annie Young, Newsletter Editor and Junior's Program Leader; Diane Tamura, Newsletter; Michael van Horn, Raffle Coordinator; John Fedko, Director at Large; Todd Reis, Director at Large; and Kevin Brown, Immediate Past President. The members congratulated the new officers and directors for 2011.

Jay Leslie introduced the lecturer for the evening, Mr. Paul Green. All the proceeds from the sale of raffle tickets were donated by Paul to the Ring, raising more than \$300 for the Ring. Thank you Paul. Green advised us that too many performers failed to do magic because they do not understand the perspective of their audiences. Paul himself loves to watch good magic, that helps to keep his mind tuned to that of the layman. He asks magicians he trusts to watch him perform. He relies on their judgment to help him improve his performance, especially when he is changing or adding to his repertory of effects.

Green demonstrated several versions of the Professor's Nightmare. He showed how slight variations make the effect a delightful and magical effect for the performer and his audience. Green emphasized that his goal was to have fun with the audience rather than to make fun of them. Deftly tossing the ropes from one hand to the other, he demonstrated a mastery of this classic effect.

Green reminded us that as magicians we focus on the magical methods, while audiences are only able to see the magical effect. When we master the method, all that is left for the audience is pure magic. When asked why he carried the smallest magic bag you have ever seen, Green replied that he could work with what was in his pockets and the small bag for 90 minutes straight without repeating a trick. One of the advantages of close up magic is that you can travel light. When asked how to handle hecklers, Green advised not to fight with them. You can't win in a fight with hecklers because when you do win often the audience turns against you. When asked about advertising his services, Green admitted that he does not have a cool web presence; instead he relies on word of mouth. In addition, a large percentage of his work is repeat assignments in corporations, cruise ships, schools and the families.

Green showed us several effects including, Don't look now, The cocktail napkin of death, One more chance, Double deal force, a curious paper fold and cut, and he concluded his presentation with a demonstration of the power of the Classic Force. Paul Green is famous for using this method to get spectators to make a "free choice." Green recommended that you practice this force at every opportunity, especially when you do not need a forced card. When you don't need a forced card, you are more relaxed about the method. When you relax, then it is easier to do. So much of mastering the classic force is overcoming fear of failure. Green concluded his lecture by telling us that every moment that he is working as a magician he is happy. His goal with performing is "to put smiles on the faces of his audience."

A message from our President.



I would like to take this time to thank everyone who is part of 313 and made it one of the biggest magic clubs anywhere. Together we can continue developing our love of the art and the connection that makes us magicians.

We are in the process of contacting clubs within a hundred square miles so we can all co-ordinate lecturers if possible. I also plan to ask a few talented performers at the Magic Castle if they would come lecture and share their knowledge.

Here are a few questions you can answer by calling, Emailing or telling other board members.

1. Do you want to continue the picnic, if so, Gary is still open to holding it at his home but thought someone else may want a turn.
2. What subjects do you want to see on lecture nights?
3. Would you be interested in having short workshops, before the meetings, which teach various coin, card and rope tricks & routines?
4. If anyone has some time to help on the newsletter please contact Annie at ring313.editor@gmail.com Any comments or suggestions you may have are welcome.

Thank you and lets make this a good year.

Jay Leslie, 714.847.5311 jleslie@hbquik.com

RING313.ORG

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Newsletter Editor
3422 Ramona Dr
Santa Ana, CA 92707



Questions? Comments? Corrections? Ideas? Magical articles? E-mail the editor at Ring313.editor@gmail.com

Magic Calendar

Regular meetings are held at the Irvine Ranch Water District building, 15600 Sand Canyon Avenue, Irvine.
Directions and a map are available at www.Ring313.org.

Tuesday, Jan 25, 2011	7PM	Ring 313 Gen Mtg — Lecture: Jamy Ian Swiss
Tuesday, Feb 8, 2011	7PM	Ring 313 LITE Mtg—Knowlwood's, Irvine
Saturday, Feb 12, 2011	2-4PM	Ring 313 Junior's Meeting — Jay Leslie Workshop
Tuesday, Feb 22, 2011	7PM	Ring 313 Gen Mtg — Crimped Cards Workshop
Tuesday, March 8, 2011	7PM	Ring 313 LITE Mtg—Knowlwood's, Irvine

PAY YOUR DUES!!

Your Ring 313 Officers and Board Members

Maintenance Mode. Contact information coming soon!