## Silks at Your Finger Tips



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BY
JACK CHANIN


## Dedicated to my little Daughter

## ARLENE

## J. C. GRAND FINALE

## By JACK CHANIN

Author of
"Hello Sucker" (The Three Shell Game)
The original book on the Three Shell Game
"J. C. Silk" (Color Change Supreme)
"Seven in One"
"Further Adventures of Seven in One"
"J. C. Cigar Magic" (Cigar Manipulations)
"Ball-O-Tube Mystery"
"J. C. Rope Trick"
J. C. Cigarette Routine and others.


> To all my Friends in Magic:

Due to the fact that my many friends in the world of magic have made the sales of all my other books successful beyond my fondest hopes I have been inspired to place a book on the market that will furnish the magician, both professional and amateur alike, with a beautiful silk act. Therefore I hope that this, my latest attempt, will meet with the approval of my many friends. I have performed this silk act many times and have received numerous requests to put it in print. I am certain that if the reader of this book will apply himself to the contents and study the illustrations corefully he will have at his command not only a beautiful act but one that he will be more than proud to present any place and under any conditions. The possibilities for adding to this act and making it still more spectacular are unlimited. Within these pages you will find added suggestions that I have used myself and found to be practical, that if used will make this beautiful silk act a miracle in the eyes of any audience.

This act is really a magician's dream and is one surprise after another, ending up in a spectacular finish. The continuity of this act is what will bring you the much desired rounds of applause, which after all is said and done, leads only to success.

At any time that I com be of assistance to you in this act do not hesitate to write me at my home address-4052 West Girard Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa., and I will be more than glad to assist you in any way possible.

In closing this, let me not only wish you the greatest of success, but I hope that some day I may have the pleasure of sitting in an audience and seeing you present this act.

## FRANK LANE \& CO. BOSTON, MASS.

To all my Friends in Magic:
At Jack's request, I am writing a little "ad lib" frontispiece for his new book on silks. And I would be remiss if I did not say in earnestness that it is a distinct pleasure for me to be singled out to do this, and I'll tell you why. I met Jack at the convention in Albany a few years back. Late the last night, it was hot, and muggy, one of those days that you might like, but personally I'd rather do a show for five dollars. Well, Bob Weill and I were walking around with nothing in particular on our minds . . . we even had left our hats in our rooms . . . and we wandered into Jack's room, where he was displaying his wares . . . and although it was one o'clock in the morning, and the stickiest night we'd had for a long time, Jack kept us in $\alpha$ state of uproar for two hours, and although I have trained myself not to laugh aloud, as most of my work is dry, deadpan stuff, my training was forgotten and I enjoyed myself most thoroughly for one hundred and twenty very fast minutes. Jack, beside being very funny and original, is also one of the cleverest boys with his hands I've ever seen. He is originator of literally hundreds of "moves". To see him do the pea and shell trick is a classic. And although I haven't seen the manuscript of this new book of his, I heartily will recommend it, knowing as I do the quality of his other books and works. To me, Jack Chanin is one of the boys who, when we speak of ability, is at the top, and I go on record now of wishing him sincerely everything that is good, in his magic work and life.

FRANK LANE

Boston, Mass., Nov. 23, 1939.

## Silks at Your Finger Tips

## Effect

Both hands are shown unmistakably empty at start of trick. Magician reaches out into air and produces a silk. Hands are now shown empty with the exception of silk just produced. Performer closes empty hand and starts pulling out silks until he has magically produced a dozen. Placing these silks on table or in pocket he once more shows his hands empty and closes hand into a fist once more and reaches in and pulls out about 30 yards of different colored ribbons. After placing ribbons aside he displays a small silk. After showing hands empty again he shakes the silk a little and like a flash it changes into a beautifully colored rainbow silk $36^{\prime \prime} \times 36^{\prime \prime}$. He then reaches under silk and produces a beautiful bouquet of flowers. Magician throws large silk over arm and puts flowers on table. He makes grab in air and has another large $36^{\prime \prime} \times 36^{\prime \prime}$ rainbow silk on the tips of his fingers. After displaying this he reaches into air with other hand and another large silk is produced. He then takes his bow and walks off.

## Requirements

The requirements for this beautiful act are as follows:

1 Glass hanky ball, 2 inch.
1 Thumb tip.
10 pieces of colored ribbon, $1 \frac{1}{2}$ yds. in length.
1 doz. $10^{\prime \prime}$ silks of different colors.
$336^{\prime \prime} \times 36^{\prime \prime}$ silks.

## Preparation

Get one dozen small 10 " silks and load a 2 -inch glass hanky ball with the silks. Be sure that silks are twisted or interlocked at corners so that they will come out easy as Fig. l. It is a good idea to put strips of $1 / 4^{\prime \prime}$ adhesive tape over glass ball to make it easier to handle. You will find that a 2-inch ball is not hard to handle if you follow these instructions.

Now get 10 different 1 inch wide silk ribbons, each one $11 / 2$ yds. in length. There are several grades of silk ribbon, so be sure you get the thinnest grade you can, so as to take less space.

Arrange ribbons so that when pulled out of hand the colors will show up to the best advantage. Now take a pencil and start rolling ribbon on end of pencil. As you come to the end of each ribbon be sure to pull tight so that it makes a taut, even roll. Fig. No. 2 shows how it is rolled on pencil and Fig. No. 3 shows how beginning of second ribbon is placed at the end of the first ribbon. Continue this until roll is complete. Remember each ribbon must be pulled taut so as to make a good, small, tight roll. Now tie a thread around the roll so as to hold it together. By all means do not use a rubber band. I cannot emphasize this point too strongly, as rubber bands have a tendency to pull ribbons together too close and they will not come out properly.


You can make up roll the proper size to suit your hand. A 2 -inch roll is not unusual, and I personally use a $2^{1 / 2}$-inch and often a 3 -inch roll. Now take out pencil and pull the end out a little on each side of roll as illustrated in Fig. 4.


Now for the large 36 -inch silks. Take two small beads and place each bead in a small piece of silk and twist it around and sew it on opposite corners of large silk as in Fig. No. 5. Figs. Nos. 6 and 7 show clearly how to fold large silk, always keeping the two beads on the outside fold. Now fold over about 4 inches of the end opposite the buttons toward the middle. Next come back to the end again and continue to roll in a tight roll all the way up to the buttons. Tuck everyhing in except the buttons and place small rubber band around bundle. Be sure you place rubber band alongside of buttons and not

between them, as they must be perfectly free to grasp. See Fig. No. 8. Use a small rubber band and be sure not to double it, as it becomes too tight this way and silk will not open.

Second large silk is prepared slightly different as follows:

It is laid flat on table and folded from $A$ to $B$ as in Fig. No. 9. Dotted lines here should make this perfectly clear. Now fold again as in Fig. No. 10. Fold once more A on B as in Fig. No. 11. Next take left end of silk and bring to center as in Fig. No. 12. Fold silk until only about $1 \frac{1}{4}$ inch, and roll same into tight package as per Fig. No. 13. Note how rubber band is placed around silk in Fig. No. 13.


The third large silk is rolled the same as silk No. 2. Now silks No. 2 and No. 3 are vested as per Fig. No. 14. Dotted lines show silks under vest. Large silk No. 1 is placed in left coat pocket. Now place a glass ball containing load of small silks in right hand trousers pocket. Also tuck a small, red silk in thumb tip and place in lower right vest pocket. Now place roll of ribbons in right hand coat pocket. You are now set to do the act.


Thumb tip containing small red silk is gotten on right thumb from out of vest pocket. Now both hands are shown empty. Carelessly show both hands empty and make pretense of picking something from the air with right hand. Look at right hand as if it really contained something and close left hand into fist at this point and reach over with right hand and insert thumb tip from right thumb
into left fist at same time pulling out red silk from tip. Now the empty thumb tip is in left hand. Simply point with left hand to the hanky just produced. Now take silk and push it into thumb tip again and remember to keep left hand closed. Don't, under any condition, show this hand empty yet because it is supposed to contain red silk, but red silk is in reality back in tip that is now on right thumb. Now place right hand in right trousers pocket and leave tip in pocket and palm ball, at same time removing small red silk that you had placed in corner of pocket. Study Fig. No. 15 for arrangement.


To the audience it looks as if you have a red silk in closed fist of left hand and another one that you just took out of trousers pocket. Now open left hand and show it empty. Now take silk from right hand and show it as per Fig. No. 16A. Fig. No. 17

and 17 A shows how ball is placed in left hand while carefully pulling silk up. Study these illustrations.


Positions of hands should be as in Fig. No. 18 as this move is finished. Now throw red silk over left arm and start producing silks from glass ball and throwing them over left arm, always remembering your last silk, as you must not pull the last one clear from the ball. Now stroke hanky hanging from left hand a couple of times and on the second stroke simply take empty glass ball from right hand as Fig. No. 19. Don't remove this last silk completely from left hand yet but leave it hanging there and keep hand closed. Now with right hand pick up all silks off of left arm and place them in right coat pocket with the now empty ball and at same time get possession of roll of ribbons in right hand that is at once brought out of pocket and remove the last silk that was left hanging from left hand.

Now open left hand and show it empty. To load ribbons in left hand repeat the same moves as in loading small silks. Now start producing from left fist and throw over left arm. After last ribbon is produced, show both hands empty. Now remove ribbons from left arm and place in left hand coat pocket. Keep the small silk in right hand and shake slightly. As ribbons are placed in coat pocket, palm large silk from this pocket into left hand while right
hand is shaking small silk. Fig. No. 20 shows how large silk is palmed in left hand. Now left hand comes over and with back of hand toward audience removes small silk from right hand, and right hand is shown empty. Left hand now contains small silk that is kept moving slightly and it also contains the large silk in its palm. Left hand can be shown from both sides if you keep it moving and at the same time keep gathering small silk together until it is in a sort of small ball.

At this point bring left and right hands together with backs of both toward audience and get hold of one button in each hand and spread hands apart when large silk will unfold perfectly. Small silk of course remains in left hand, rolled up and out of sight in the left hand. This is a beautiful and surprising effect which works perfectly.

Throw this silk over the shoulders like you would a robe and turn around for a second and display silk. As you continue your turn making a complete circle you have ample time to steal second large silk from under left side of vest with your right hand. As you face audience you take off the large silk from shoulders and place on chair along with the small silk. Now look into air as if you see something and whip out second large silk from right hand. Be sure to hold onto button. Now for the third silk. Throw silk just produced over right arm and display it. Under cover of this silk reach under vest with left hand and palm the third large silk. Now whip silk out and display same as silk No. 2. You then take $\alpha$ bow.

Fig. Y shows a variation of the production of the small silks from the glass ball. This should be done rapidly. As the right comes over to stroke silk in left hand the fingers of right hand grasp corner of silk protruding from glass ball and draw same out with a downward movement of right hand.

A good idea is to cut small silks from corner to corner as shown by dotted lines in Fig. No. 9, just using Part "A". This allows a larger load. Fig. J shows correct way to hold ball.

If you wish you may use special clips known as body load clips under edge of coat as per Fig. C.

To make another nice finish if you own a flagstaff, remove flag and substitute a large silk in its place.

You can produce five or six of these silks if you so desire by following the same instructions.

You may also produce fish bowl, bouquet of flowers, etc., from under silks if you wish. However, as the act has been described, it is a beautiful and mystifying silk act and easy to do.

I use six large silks, a fish bow! and a bouquet of flowers. I use the new silks that are on the market that have the pictures on such as a rabbit coming out of a hat, a Chinese dragon, etc.

You will find it best to use the finest silks you can get as they pack much smaller and it would really be a detriment to magic to use poor silks on such a beautiful effect. This is a complete silk act and will really get the money if presented as I have described it.


Fig. Z shows my lightning production after producing the first $36^{\prime \prime}$ silk, stroke a few times with hand and second $36^{\prime \prime}$ silk makes its appearance.

This is accomplished by having a silk with a zat-gut loop on the end up your sleeve as shown in Fig. Z. The first silk produced is held in right hand and second silk is in left sleeve as per illustration. Stroke silk twice with left hand and on second stroke эngage thumb of right hand in loop and bring right hand down rapidly and separate hands. Now bring hands together and separate silks.

If you want to use three silks, have one in right sleeve and repeat moves the same. Silks may be carried in sleeves during other productions without interfering with rest of the act.


In closing I would like to say that I have found this routine a sure applause getter and I hope all my friends in magic who purchase this have as much success with it as I.
J. C.

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