

Wu-Fang-Sing. M.L.I.M.C.




## Wonders of the East.

By Wu-Fang-Sing. M.L.I.M.C.


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## PREFACE

In presenting this, my second book on magic, 1 do so in the hopes that the contents will be as welcomed as those published in my first book, "THE ORIENTAL TEMPLE OF MAGIC."

In response to very many requests, I have included herein, my "FLAG TROPHY" effect. This is the exact version ! performed at many of the largest Coronation gatherings last year.

I also wish to take this opportunity of recording my appreciation for the countless number of letters I have received from fellow-magicians who. have now incorporated the "Mongolian Table" (as published in my first book) in their acts, and in conclusion, I shall at all times be pleased to render what assistance I can to any reader in difficulties on magical matters.

## SUCCESS BE YOURS,

Wu-Fang-Sing, M.L.I.M.C.


A Leeds Inner Magic Cirde's publication

## The State Library of Victoria <br> "ALMA CONJURING COLLECTION" I-UZIT RABBIT VANISH

The effect I am about to describe, has always been one of my favourite features. The vanlsh is clean, snappy, and takes but a second to prepare for the stage.

EFFECT. An assistant ehters carrying an oblong box, and stands centre stage. A ratbit which has just been produced, is placed within the box, a pistol shot, is fired, the front and back doors lower disclosing an empty shell box, leaving no possible clue as to the whereabsuts of the rabbit. or whatever live stock you wish to vanish.

SEC.RET. The trap into which the rabbit is put, is an ordinary $V$ trap, its door fltted with a selflocking catch. Thls trap is fitted into the bottom of the box, with the deepast end facing the front Fitted on the front door, is a small stop which prevents the trap from moving until desired.

It will at once be observad, that when the front door is opened, is will give cover for the trap. In my model, this doar is spring-hinged to ensure that its pace, upon opening, will be a little quicker than that of the back door.

The trap and both doars all move at the same moment.

There is no fear of the audience seaing

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the falling trap, as this is amply blotted out by the opening doors, more so, if the front opens slightly in adance of the other.

Upon a given signal, the assistant has only to release the doors, which automatically allows the trap to lower under the box, any noise of the falling trap is covered by the fall of the doors.

CONSTRUCTION. The box is made of three ply'vood, with $3 / 16$ ths sides and bottom, my model measures $10 \times 9 \times 9$ inches, the trap is $8 \times 8$ inches. In drawings 1 have omitted to give measurements but have reduced each to one tenth of the exact size of my model.

The front and back doors are hinged at the bottom and are $10 \times 9$ inches, and are released by slightly moving a metal pivotal bar on one end of the box. In the edge of each door is a protruding pin, which engages a slot on each end of the bar. A small hole is drilled centrally arid screwed to the side of the box.

The trap can easily be concealed by paint ing a panel effect insida the box,

The only fault I have with thls effect is, the box cannot be taken to pisces at the end.


## EZ-EE PACKING CASE ESCAPE

At the offset, let me hasten to tell ycu, l am not an escapologist, neither am 1 too conversant with their methods of escape, arid the evolutior, of this idea, was to me iccidental. Some years ago, ! accepted an engagement at a South Yorkshire floter show, and less than a week prior to the date, I was asked if I could include some publicity effect to create still more interest in the Show.

I requested a local packing case manufacturer to make for me, a realiy strong and and unprepared packing case, I told him I wanted 2 proper strong job, oze that would stand lisoking at, and employ no:hing but the strongest screws and good timber not less than one inch thick, in fact I had not the slightest objection to the case beling iron hooped.

Needless to say, this caused quite a lot of talk, and incidentally, far more admission tickets sold The Committee put the case on show, prior to the date, and invited examination.

On the morning of the show, the case had been placed into a tent in readiness, 1 alsa dis covered that I was the only person, except "of course, my three assistants, to have arrived on
18.)

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the spot. Taking full acivantage of this, we vary quickly started to prepare the cise.

To my delight, I fourd that the erds were made from five piecss of one inch weod, which were screwed to two upright battens, each board was held by five screv/s at each end, the boards of course, ran horizortally. I remcied the top four beards, then ty meins of a groovirig plane, I cut a groove down the inside of sach hatten, these grooves do nct rur the full lergth of the batten, but started about four inches from the top and bottom. The grocves are lalf an irch deep, also half an linch wide.

Four screw eyes are screxped into each groove in such a position that nould be taken by the boards when replaced.

For the purpose of explanation, we will refer to the boards as follows: No. 1 board being the top, then No. 2 for the second and Vo. 3 for the third, No. 4 for the fourth and No. 5 for the bottom board.

About one inch from the ends of boards 3 and 4, I fitted two square screw hooks, care being taken to see they will engage in the screw eyes in the grooves when the boards were replared This may sound misleading, but if you follow the sketches everything will be quite plain. These

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Boards are serply teld to the battens by means of the serew hocks and eyes, the grooves allowing for these to be sunken, and therefore concealed.

Into each of the tcp edges of boards 2 and 3 , cut two mortice slots. these stiould be 4 inches long, 2 inches deep, and a quarter of an inch wide. Inta each of the bottom edges of boards 1 and 2, two more mortices exactly as before are also cut, and ines these slots swinging metal tongues are fitted. It must be noted that these boards are not provifed with hooks or eyes, Board $I$ is non replared on to the bartens by means of the original screws, to complete the job.

Boards 4 and 3 are hooked to the battens in their positions, to befollowed by board 2 which is the key board.

The two pieces of clock spring are pushed between the boards to move aside the metal tongues.

(10.)

## CASKET OF ALLAH DOVE VANISH.

Since the publishing of my first book, The Oriental Temple of Maçic, I have received quite a number of letters frcm magicians asking me when 1 intended to pullish this effect, as it had been expected in my first bock. In row doing so, I hopa readers will find it as useful as I have.

## EFFECT

Standing centre stage is a low stool. the drape is raised, to show that nathing is being concealed under the stool, also the top is less than one inch in thickness, Suspended by a rope from the roof is a highly colourad box, this box is now slowly lowered onto the stool. The lid is removed, and six doves just pruduced, are placed ore by one into the box, the lid replaced The box is now raised inco mid-air, a crash of the gong, the box is slowly lowered into the arms of an assistant. The box is taken to pleces and each section shown boith silles, and passed to a second assistant, leaving no trace as to the whereabouts of the doves.

Truly a spectacular effect, very suitable for those Oriental acts who are looking out for something away from the beaten path.

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## SECRET.

The box is maje in six sections, lid, botrom and four sid=s. The lid is made from five plywood the sides are frames mlade from one inch square deal, and in order to save weight, ara covered with silk or satin. The bottom is also made of flue plywood, but has a square trap in the centre and hinged as a lift up door. If you cut out this trap with a fine fratsaw, it will be easily concealed. In my model, I use the letter S, to mask this trap: In the edge of the box bottom four screw eyes are fixed, to which, short ropes are attached, These terminate at a large metal ring, on which it can be hasked to the fly line.

The top of the stool is faked by cutting out a slightly smaller trap, than that in the bottom of the box, a lift up door, made from threeplywood is then fitted.
A flat bottom bag is fastened by its top, to the inside edge of the cut out, The sides of the bag are made from fine netting, and the plywood bottom must be a tight fit into the cut-out in the stool top. Owing to the small space required, when the trap is collapsed, the trap bottom can be pushed into the stool cut out, thereby concealing the trap within the thickness of the stool top.

## WONDERS OF THE EAST.

When the doves are placef irito the bex, they are put through the toxtcitemirapints the stool and as soon as one bird restson the tag bottom it will open out the trap. When all the dovas are safely within the stool trap, the lid is closed, to be followed by the lid in the tox boticm. Personally, I do not advise the meve of taking off the stool during presentment, as this will, in my opinion, attract attention.
The stool is collapsable, by means of its legs being hinged so as to fold under the top. The drape is made from velveteen.

CONSTRUCTION.
At the top and bottom edges of each side section, short dowels are fitted. and holes are drilled in the lid and bottom to take same. Screw hooks and eyes will hold the sides firmly, when the lid is removed during the presentment.

(13.)


The trap has been drawn smaller for clearness, actually, this should take up almost the full area of the stool top.

## THE LUNG HI RABBIT PRODUCTION.

At all Children party bookings, I always make a special feature of producing, at least, one rabbit, and it is surprisir.g how many Hosts still ask me to include 'Percy' in their booking:. Percy, is the name I give to all my rabbits, and it seems to have becume a per name with the children.

## EFFECT.

An assistant enters, carrying a tray, on which a box is attached. ine b.Jx is removed from the tray, and shuwn to be empty, indeed 2 child may even bs permitted to lave a good look inside. The box is now hosked onto the tray, and both placeo oits a table. The box lid is lifted, and ost cume; the raboit, to the delight of all the guests, botn young and.old.

## SECRET.

The bottom of the box is hinged to fold inside the box, and cais is dune, afier snowing the bux to ve empty, and before repracing it on the tray. Ine tray is wew olajonaily, ano is faked by having an i.wier bux fixed to a panel in the centre of the tray.

## WONDERS OF THE EAST.

This panel is proviced with a lift up door, and is masked by painting contrasting ceiclirs on the tray.
Eacn side of the box is fitted with two screw eyes, and the thay with four squale hcoks to accept these screw eyts. The itasurifor theseare to prevent the tox moving duing the loading of the inner box.
After showing the box enipty, the bottcm is pushed upwaro into the bex. and rests inside the front of the ciox.

It is noir piactd on the tray, whilst same is in 2 slanci.is p.osition, taking care t.at the huoks engage in we tige in the side oi we bux. The assistanc has orily tu move the tray torvards his body when the imaer bux un the tray buttom will be loaded wito the box proper.
If you do noc like this way of laading, the assistant may hold the tray by the buttoun edge ifa his right arm in a pastion t.adt ine inner bux rests 0,1 his forearm. vinea the נטא has ben sately atcactied ta the rray, ne mere!y lowers it to a leved posision, wien nis iurea.:n will luad in the initer cox, whinteyer wa/ you veitre. the sray is nuw placed $0, i$ an ordinary caute and you are ready far the cidinax.


## WONDERS OF THE EAST.

## CONSTRUCTION.

The box is made of plywood, and provided with a lift up lid. My model measures $10 \times 8$ $X 8$ inches, the tray is made of five-plywood and measures $20 \times 14$ incies. A punel $8 \times 6$ inches is cut out of the centre of the tray and two narrow pieces of cill are screwed to the underside of the cut out, to form a ledge to hold the inner box from faling through the tray, This panel is now made inio the lid of an inner box and a lift up lid is cut out and hinged the same way as the lid of the outer box. The inner box measures $7 \times 5 \times 6$ inches deep, this allows for the top of the box to be larger than the inner box and will give easy loading.

The tray is held diagonally, the inner box being at the back, ready to be loaded through the tray into the outer box.

## COVE FOCD FORNULA

I have cften been asked, how do you marage to keep your tids in such ine cordition That is truly a secret, tur tle focd yoll give them plays a very impcitant part in their health. it is curious, that, in the seething ocean of tooks on nagic, one would read so little, if any atali

Cf the hundreds of magical books in the gigantic library of The Leeds Inner Magic Circle, can one fird even the slightest hint on the feeding of doves. I hope this formula will be of use to many of my readers.

28 parts of Hemp seed
28 parts of Darri
28 parts of first size Chick food
7 parts of white Canary seed
4 parts of white Millit
5 parts of red Milllt

## A USEFUL ACEESTORY.

Some time ago, I witnessed a well known magician perform THE EVOLUTION OF MAN. (Wilford Hutchinson. ), and although the effect was very good, and brought good applause, the performer lost much of the effect by the time taken to pin, by means of large drawing pins, cards of different shapes, to the display board.
After the performance $\mid$ was given an interview with the performer, who told me, he was quite aware of the clumsiness, but as yat had not been able to solve the dificulty of quickly attaching the cards to the board.
I offer my suggestions in the hope that it may be of use to readers, who wishing to perform such effects, have not done so because of the above mentioned difficulcy

In the first place, the display board should be made from felt or velvet. At the top and the bottom of the material, nail a wooder lath, this must slightly protrude at the sides. Two further laths are now cut for the sides, and a small hole is drilled near the end of each lath, and small nuts and bolts are fitted to form a frame Care is taken to see that the material is taut before the final adjustment is made. Rings can be fitted on

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the top iath, and fly lines could be hooked to same. to hold the board in position. For packing purposes, the side laths can be removed and the material rolled round the top lath. The whole structure is capable of being quickly assembled ready for use.

To the top corners of the cards, small sharp hooks made from ordinary pins are fitted the shaft of the pin is bent at right angles to preyent the hook turning, small gum labels will firmly hold the pins in position

Where it is necessary to superimpose a card partly over another, small slits are cut in the first card irito which the hooks of the second card engage.

(21.)

## THE DOVE OF WANG POO

Long before I was born, Magicians performed "The Bird in the Cage" effect, but as times alter, so do magical effects. The main features of this version are thin top and bottom, no spring blind, and no covering needed during presentment.

EFFECT: Standing on a metal tripod at the back of the stage is a small square bird cage, in which a dove is seen. The performer takes out the dove, and causes it to vanish, a pistol shot is fired and the dove reappears in the cage again.

SECRET: Black art is the principle used, and it: is assumed that the performer has his black back cloth in position on the stage. If you look at the sketches, you will observe that two wooden flaps are spring-hinged near to the back of the cage. These flaps are hinged, one to the top, and the other to the bottom. They are covered with black velvet, and dummy wires, or lengths of silk twine are fixed to the velvet to represent the back bars of the cage. Running in a small hole drilled into the top and the bottom of the cage is a steel rod, which is capable of being removed by means of a stage: pull and a pivotal bar under the cage. To this rod a small hook is soldered, which engages in a screw-

eye fixed in the top flap. A duplicate dove is behind the B.A. flaps. To prevent the tripod moving, a small'screw-eye is screwed into the stage immediately below the pivotal bar, and through this eye the stage pull runs, to an assistant off-stage. Owing to the rapidity of the movement of the flaps, no covering cloth is needed during the presentment.

CONSTRUCTION. My model measures IOin. square, the four wire sides are joined together, the corner rods acting as hinges. Suitable corner rods may be purchased from wireless dealers; these are threaded to fit terminal nuts. At the top and boitom on the sides a strip of brass or tin is provided to which the wires forming the cage are soldered. The top and bottom of the cage is three-plywood, with a length of strip-wood nailed around the edges. In the sketches the pivotal bar to move the releasing rod is shown in an upward position; this is wrong, it should have been shown in a downward position. If you follow the suggestion as given, the cage can be collapsed for packing purposes after your show. The corner rods protrude from the cage top and bottom ard nuts are fitted to hold the cage secure.

## "WF' FRAG TROPHY.

This is one of the effects I specially built for my various Coronation bookings, and the applause it received gave me great satisfaction. At the offset, let me warn you, it is a very costly effect to build, and you will require three assistants in addition to a good stage. Any reduction in the size or quantity of the flags will utterly ruin the whole effect.

EFFECT.-The performer enters the stage, bare of the usual appointments except one solitary metal tripod, which is stood centre stage. Three assistants are in attendance, one is standing at the back, and one at each side of the stage. The performer begins by showing his hands to be empty, then produces several sireamers of tri-coloured ribbons. These are waved to and fro, then collected into large loops, from which he produces three sets of sprays of flags. These are fitted one on the top of each other, and placed into the clip on the tripod. In rapid succession, he now produces four large flags, which are pullod into mid-air by means of fly lines, then as a final, a very large Union Jack is produced, which fills the entire back of the stage.

REQUIREMENTS.-The three sprays of flags are the usual FLAG TROPHY effect sold by all magical dealers; mine is a Davenport. The four large flags each measure four yards by two yards; I use the Red Ensign, White Ensign, Blue Ensign and the Flag of South Africa. A metal ring is attached to one of the top corners of each of these flags. The final flag measures six yards by three yards, and a metal ring is attached to each of the two top corners. The tri-coloured streamers are ribbon one inch wide and five yards long, one end of each streamer is attached to the corner of the three silks, red, white and blue. The tripod is of the usual music stand variety, fitted with a strong spring clip, to hold the base of the largest of the three sprays. The three assistants each have two loading pockets in their costumes; these pockets start at the chest and run under the coats to the armpits; the mouths of such pockets are concealed by means of braiding. Six fly lines are correctly fitted, so that the flags may ba pulled into a pre-determined position on the stage.

WORKING.-The streamers are rolled into neat rolls, and placed in the centre of the silks, which have been pleated, and the whole is rolled into a
compact ball and secured by a piece of gum strip paper. The three sprays of flags have their respective flags pleated, and each spray is placed side by side, and a length of gum strip paper is placed round them to make a compact parce!. To one of the sprays of the largest set, a thin wire loop is fitted; this loop protrudes at the top of the parcel, and is allowed to rest outside the performer's loading pocket. The large flags are pleated lengthways, then pleated the opposite way; gum paper strips are placed around each to keep in position whilst in the various assistants' pockets; the metal rings attached to the corners are left outside each bundle in a get-at-able position.

The assistants each carry two flags (i.e., the No. I assistant has in his left pocket the Red Ensign, and in his right pocket the Blue Ensign; the No. 2 assistant has the White Ensign in his left pocket, and the South African flag in his right; the No. 3 assistant carries the large Union Jack in his left pocket.) The bundle of flag sprays is carried by the performer in a pocket which runs perpendicular at the front of his costume, the wire loop attached to the largest spray is allowed to protrude outside his pocket, the bundie of streamers is carried under his armpit.

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The performer begins by showing each hand to be empty, first the left and then the right. When showing the right hand to be empty, he pulls up the right sleeve with his left hand, and slightly turning right, gets possession of the streamers. Bringing both hands together, he breaks the paper strip and the streamers unroll. Wave these about until they are fully unrolled, then collect into large loops, taking care such loops are large enough to give cover when procuring the bundle of flags from the pocket. Afier some practice you should have no difficulty in securing the bundle of flags during the actual looping of the ribbon streamers. The paper strip is broken and the largest of the sprays of flags is produced and passed to the No. I assistant, to be followed by the second spray. Whilst the third spray is being produced, the No. I assistant, who is standing behind the flag sprays, takes the Red Ensign out of his pocket, and holds it behind the flags in such a position that when the performer passes him the third spray, he may take the large flag from his hand under the cover of the looped streamers which he holds. The streamers (looped) are again waved about and the
red flag is produced. At this juncture the $N, 2$ assistant comes forward with the end of the fly line, and quickly hooks the snap hook to the ring on the corner of the flag, and whilst the flag is being pulled into position he repeats the move of the No. I assistant [i.e., takes out the white flag and holds it behind the red flag, ready for the performer to get it). This is repeated with the Blue Ensign and the South African flag. When the South African flag is being pulled into its position the No. 3 assistant takes out of his pocket the large Union Jack, and passes it to the parformer - under the cover of the moving flag. The No. I and No. 2 assistants each bring the end of the final pair of fly lines and hook sama to the Union Jack; a signal is given, and the climax is reached. After some practice your assistants should be able to pass you the flags without being seen, or any undue movements.

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