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**A To Z Of Well-Known Magicians**

**By Jim Kapowski**

There are many well-known, skilled magicians that you might not know about because even though they're well known, they haven't reached magician cult status. Most people know about the magician David Copperfield, but there are many more magicians equally skilled. So, take a moment to learn about other wizards of magic and expand your knowledge about magicians.

**Curtis Adams:** A magician who appeared at the age of 16 in the Young Magicians Showcase featured on Fox Television. He was born on October 12, 1984 and was one of the youngest magicians to perform in Reno, Nevada casinos.

**Criss Angel:** The only three-time magician winner of the Merlin Award from the International Society of Magicians. Angel is a skilled magician who did stunts like lying on a bed of nails while a Hummer drove over him.

**Ed Balducci:** A street magician who died in 1988 at the age of 82. He is a magician known for his gimmick-free trick of visibly rising several inches from the ground with his back turned to his audience.

**Derren Brown:** A British magician who practiced traditional close-up magic in the 1990s. Brown's claim as a magician is his "mind-reading" act. Brown claims aliens abducted him.

**Cardini:** Richard "Cardini" Pitchford was a magician with almost 50 years of performing tricks and illusions. He's one of the world's most imitated magicians, but no one to date has ever been able to completely duplicate his tricks. He was a magician known for his sleight of hand. Items were forever appearing and disappearing from his hands. He died in 1973.

**Tommy Cooper:** A magician and comedian known who was a member of the Magic Circle until his death in 1984. He collapsed while doing a live magician act that became his last.

**Paul Daniels:** A currently retired British magician who in 1983 became the first magician to ever receive the prestigious Magician of the Year Award by the Hollywood Academy of Magical Arts.

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**S.W. Erndase:** A magician and author whose real identity has never been figured out. Erndase is a magician who wrote a book in 1902 about card playing tricks.

**Ching Ling Foo:** The first Asian magician to achieve fame. He was a magician who did tricks like breathing fire and pulling a fifteen-foot pole from his mouth. He died in 1922.

**Lennart Green:** A magician known for his close-up card tricks. In 1991 this magician became the world champion of in close-up card magic.

**Paul Harris:** A magician known for pulling coins from mirrors. Many claim he is a magician with skills like a combination of Copperfield and Henning.

**Scott Interrante:** An American magician specializing in escape-artist tricks. He won awards from the International Brotherhood of Magicians.

**Ricky Jay:** A magician listed in the Guinness Book of Records as throwing a playing card 190 feet at 90 miles per hour.

**Fred Kaps:** A Dutch magician who died in 1980. He is a magician known for making a saltshaker create an endless supply of salt.

**Juan Tamariz:** A Spanish magician who in 1971 founded a school that has trained generations of Spanish magicians.

**Dia Vernon:** This Canadian magician was born in 1894 as David Frederick Wingfield Verner. This magician, who died in 1992, is known for fooling Houdini with one of his card tricks.

**Paul Zenon:** A British street magician who also performed in the bars and pubs in the U.K. This magician has written three books about magic, the most recent published in 2005.

Magic Magicians is an information site that contains articles, a directory and other Magician Resources. It can be found at:

<http://www.magicmagicians.com>

### **Wanted: Magician Job**

#### **By Preston Houer**

In the entertainment industry, there is a wide market for magicians. Many companies, events coordinators and organizers rely on magic to break the ice, heighten socialization opportunities and give enjoyment to their audience and clients.

If you are really serious about pursuing a career in the magic and illusion industry, you have to undergo

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three steps to become a better magician or entertainer.

1. Hone the proper attitude. In any industry, being street wise can get you somewhere in your career but having the right attitude can get you anywhere. Complacent, arrogant and ignorant magicians have no chance of surviving the magical world.

2. Development of one's performing persona. This is what an aspiring magician should work on. But most often having a strong personality can help one to get to the top. Usually, magicians are judged by how they deliver tricks with ample consideration on their stage presence.

3. Development of a show or act. There are three things you ought to do in developing your performance.

First, master your first set of techniques. But do not leave it to that. You must constantly reinvent yourself.

Second, cross examine the routines you mastered. Are they consistent with the persona you have created for yourself? You should match your routines (e.g. mental effects) with your serious magician persona.

Third, list or round up all the routines you have practiced and mastered. This will be your skeleton structure for your act/s. Now, think of ways to connect your routines to form a cohesive performance.

Magicians can be hired online as sites provide opportunities for them. Every state has their own groups of magician for different events. Customers often click on a website when looking for groups of magicians in their state. There are people who might be handling the magicians and contact them for you. They are categorized as low-end and high-end event coordinators. They are the ones who choose the set of magicians.

The low-end bookers for these magicians may not know exactly what you need unlike if you seek the expertise of high-end bookers. They will know exactly the kind of magicians you need.

So, would-be magicians can find jobs from companies offering such services to people. Aside from the common events that necessitate the entertainment provided by magicians, they also can do close-up shows that allow them to bring the magic right in front of smaller groups of audiences.

A magician should remember the investment he has to put in the profession like the time and effort for intensive practice, money and magical instruments. And most of all, a magician should possess an innovative mind to succeed in this field.

Preston Houer has been involved with the art of illusion and sleight of hand for over 30 years. Let Preston show you how to Have Fun With Magic. Visit His Site Today!

<http://www.have-fun-with-magic.com>

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