



# Ring Events

THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF MAGICIANS

## Derrick Chung and Steph Lac Lecture at Ring 17 (Toronto, Ontario, Canada)

On February 20, while most people were watching the Four Nations Face-Off hockey game, fifty members of Ring 17 (Toronto, Ontario, Canada) were watching an excellent lecture by Derrick Chung and Steph Lac. Each of them showed us several items. Derrick started with a trick based on Vernon and Cervon's "Devil's Elevator" (which can be found in *The Cervon File*). Derrick produced the ace through the Five of Hearts, then added four black cards and apparently demonstrated how he could second, centre, and bottom deal the red cards only to have them appear atop the cards in his hands. During this he provided a tip on the Biddle Steal.



Derrick Chung.



Steph Lac.

Next, Dan Stapleton and I helped Derrick demonstrate a variation of a Gordon Bean trick called "Spot On." We each rolled a die, secretly noted the numbers rolled, and were then shown cards one at a time until we each saw a card that was at our respective rolled numbers. The cards were mixed and Derrick was still able to determine our thought-of cards. Following this trick, he showed us a clever false mix and something

called the Oink Shuffle.

Club member Theo helped with the next trick. He selected a card and then chose three other cards and all four cards ended up being a four of a kind. We were reminded of an Alex Elmsley take on the riffle force. After a person says stop, just toss the cards above the break into the other hand. It was also a good reminder of the gold that lies within the Elmsley books.

Next, Ari and Pierre assisted with the "Couple's Trick" wherein one person thinks of a card and the other divines it. This effect is based on a Steve Mayhew idea. During the break it was great to see Mark Lewis and Ariel Frailich sharing their knowledge with some of the younger members.

Steph Lac is a premier gaff maker. He was referred to as being similar to Q from the Bond movies. He showed a trick called "C C Rider" (colour changing) where the selected card was the only one with an odd-coloured back. While there are several ways to accomplish this, none of us had ever seen it done via the Svengali Principle. It should be noted that this method allows the deck to be seen as having all red or all blue backs.

James Harrison assisted Steph with the next item called "WSOP" (World Series of Poker). Cards were selected at random from a face down spread and somehow the spectator found a Royal Flush! This was based on poker deals by both Marlo and Gardner. The final item Steph showed us was a "Do as I Do" with two decks. He then concluded by showing us the various types of Stripper Decks he manufactures including Belly



*Steph and James Harrison.*



*Steph and Theo.*



*Lecture sales.*

Strippers, Negative Strippers, and Double Wedgies. He also showed us some cool items for dice. One was called the “Sure Shot” Dice Box which works on the same principle as the classic Flash Dice trick but uses a square box instead of a rectangular

one. He was also selling Whip Cups for dice which allow you to control how the dice roll even though they are being shaken in the cup. Both recommended the book *Fast Jack: The Last Hustler* by John Farrell.

*David Sutherland*

## **Ken Trombly Shows Promotional Posters from Magic’s “Golden Age” for Ring 50 (Washington, DC)**

Ring 50 (Washington, DC) member Ken Trombly, proprietor of [www.magicposters.com](http://www.magicposters.com), lectured on March 5 with PowerPoint pictures of dozens of magic posters from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, which he said, “was the golden age of magic and also the golden age of stone lithography.”

Trombly discussed the process of producing the posters, which acquired their colorful and artistic esthetic after the invention of stone lithography made the use of several colors on each poster possible. He showed a range of pre-lithography black and white “broadside” announcing shows by several

of the eighteenth and early nineteenth century magi. But the contrast with the “Golden Age” lithographic prints, concentrated between about 1890 and 1910, was stark.

“Golden Age” magic shows were publicized at that time through promotional posters (often thirty inches by forty inches in dimension) and much smaller “window cards” (miniature posters placed in store windows), which have become collectors’ items over the decades, now fetching dozens of times their prices scant decades ago. “Circus, Wild West, and magic posters are popular and collected,” Trombly said, while



*Photos by Todd Eisenstadt.*