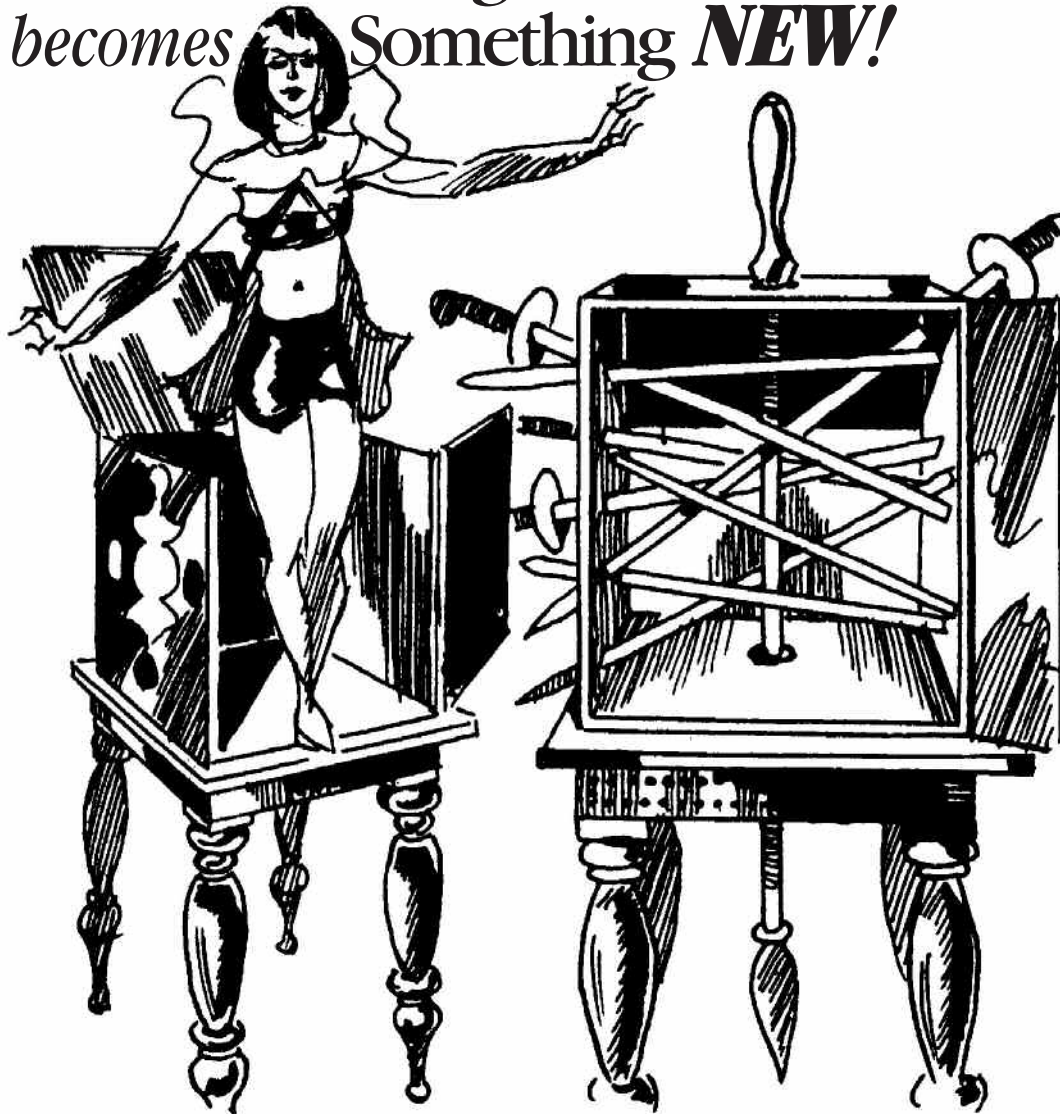


DAVID SEEBACH'S **BACKSTAGE**

2006 SPRING EDITION

Something **OLD**
becomes Something **NEW!**



Sometime this Spring David Seebach will
Unveil and Premiere a Brand-**NEW** Mystery!
(based on a very **OLD** idea)

Reproduced here is a line drawing used to advertise the Sword Cabinet Mystery to magicians over sixty years ago. It appeared in the catalog of the Thayer Studio of Magic. Thayer's became Owen Magic Supreme later and continues to fabricate props and illusions for performers worldwide.



After the sold-out January 7, 2006 performance at Hartford's Schauer Center, David Seebach signed autographs in the lobby.

photo by Nichole Piotrowski

Seebach at KIDSfest; April 8th & 9th

"Wonders of Magic"
at Sunset Playhouse in May

FEATURING
MAGIC
you can do

The **MAGICAL**
SPELLING BEE

Keeping
Current with

WONDERS
of **MAGIC**
UP • TO • DATE
N E W S

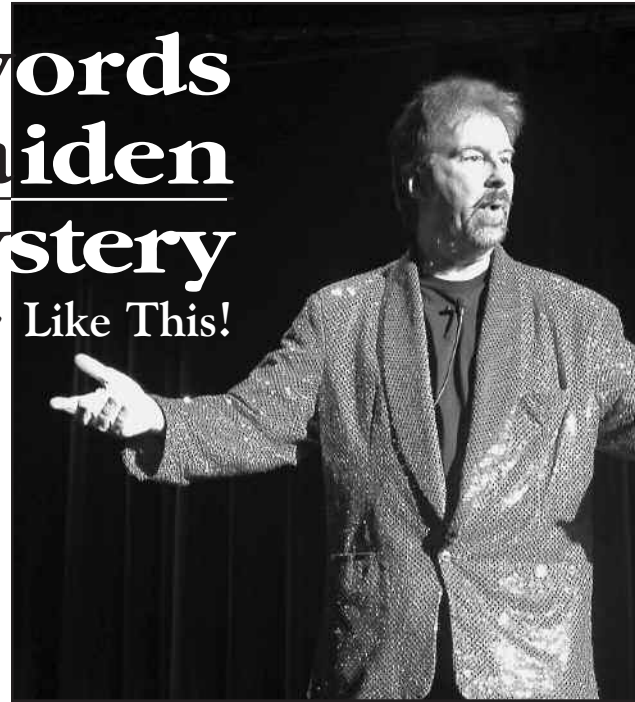
VISIT US
ON THE
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www.davidseebach.com



Sharp Swords + A Beautiful Maiden = A Puzzling Mystery

You've Seen It Before, But Never Like This!



The concept of placing a lovely lady into an enclosure and then plunging a number of swords through it is absolutely centuries old. It was performed in Asia with a child and a wicker basket, often augmented with thick, red dye to simulate blood. Of course, it isn't magic if the victim does not emerge unharmed.

The *Hindu Basket Act* is still performed worldwide and has been in David Seebach's repertoire since the late 1960s.

But, last summer, Seebach commissioned California's Owen Magic Supreme to fabricate one of magic's classic illusions for him in a slightly antique manner.

By the 1920s performers in vaudeville had begun putting their assistants into rectangular, wooden cabinets and then thrusting swords through, until the enclosure resembled a pincushion. Removing the swords, the woman emerged unharmed and the audience wondered, "How did they do that?"

These early props featured intricate ---almost gaudy--- stenciled designs in bold colors. The cabinets were mounted on two-foot-long legs, each elegantly hand-turned and lacquered.

Today, the popular models available to magicians are low to the floor and starkly plain with only industrial metal for trim.

David Seebach, however, had a different idea.

"There are new movies, books and music all the time, but most are forgotten in a short while," Seebach explained. "A few, though, become classics like *Casablanca*, *Catcher in the Rye* and the songs of the Beatles. The same is true in magic. Magicians' publications have ads every month for new props and routines. Most

are quickly forgotten. But not *Sawing A Woman in Halves*, the *Levitation*, and the *Sword Cabinet*."

Owen Magic had not built a traditional *Sword Cabinet* in decades. Seebach demanded that the classic, gaudy paint design be used. The original stencils were unusable and new ones had to be hand cut. The illusion will also feature the old-style hand-turned legs with bright red, black and gold lacquer. The only metal will be in the swords.

"There's a reason this is called *show* business," Seebach explained. "I'm not crazy about the sleek, minimalist movement in magic."

So, is the antique look the only feature to set this new act apart from others?

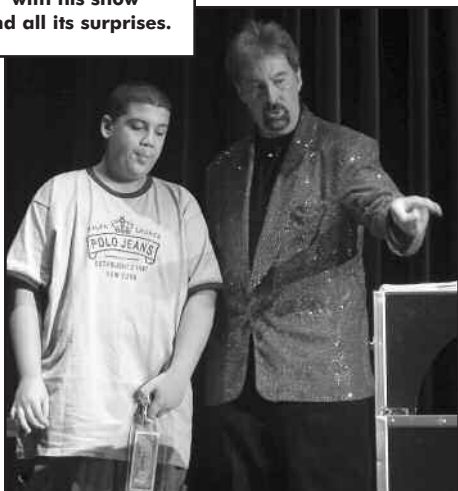
"Anyone watching an act like this ---if given the opportunity--- would want to peek inside and see what happens to the young lady," Seebach said, knowingly. "I'm going to give them that opportunity!"

The craftsmen at Owen Magic have worked slowly for months to create an old-fashioned act, but in a way never seen before.

In the 1920s the props were quite spacious and, perhaps, not very baffling for a modern, more knowledgeable audience. Owen Magic is constructing a much smaller cabinet, just big enough for the assistant to squeeze into.

And, after piercing it with all those gleaming swords, David Seebach will open it up and...

Milwaukee's Lincoln Centre for the Arts is an annual stop for David Seebach. Only the top students are rewarded with his show and all its surprises.





BACK STAGE

'Want to See the Sword Cabinet for Yourself?

Check Out These Upcoming Shows Open to the Public

KIDSFEST;

April 8th & 9th; WI State Fair Park

This is the 3rd annual metroPARENTS' KIDSfest, presented by Wauwatosa Savings Bank, at the new Expo Center at Wisconsin's State Fair Park. Admission is free to all and features booths and exhibits for both children and parents. There will be lots to learn and plenty of hands-on activities for everyone. You'll see exhibits from camps, museums, theaters and visit with local celebrities. KIDSfest also features non-stop entertainment with David Seebach's "Wonders of Magic" scheduled for 12:30 pm on Saturday, April 8th and 1:45 pm on Sunday, April 9th. David Seebach has been a featured performer at every KIDSfest and has been voted "Favorite Children's Entertainer" by metroPARENTS' readers. For more information call 414/259-1884 or go to metroparentmagazine.com.



KIDSfest 2005 was a big success and David delighted the huge crowds with his onstage humor and wizardry.



It's the lovely cast of a previous Sunset Playhouse fund-raising edition of the "Wonders of Magic"

David Seebach's "WONDERS OF MAGIC" in concert at Sunset Playhouse; May 5th, 6th and 7th



David Seebach first performed on the stage at Elm Grove's (WI) Sunset Playhouse in 1969. And, he performed an illusion with some swords! He has returned often to stage fund-raising shows at this popular suburban Milwaukee theater. In 1998 he staged the first of five benefits that have become very popular. Every ticket for each show in 1998 was sold before opening night!

Seebach changes the show every year as he selects a unique mixture of sleight-of-hand, humorous audience participation, classical magic and spectacular illusion. He is joined onstage by two lovely assistants. They'll take turns floating, being divided in sections, appearing and disappearing.

Sunset Playhouse is an intimate theater where even the furthest seat is close to the stage. Of course that means seating is limited. You'll want to contact their box office now and reserve your seats for one of 2006's four performances. They are scheduled for Friday, May 5th, at 7:30 pm; Saturday, May 6th at 2:00 and 7:30 pm; and Sunday, May 7th, at 2:00 pm. Tickets are \$16 each with children 12 and under admitted for half-price at the matinees. Groups of fifteen and more may qualify for special prices. Call the box office at 262/782-4430.

David Seebach hopes you'll join him and his assistants for his sixth special fund-raising benefit for a theater that has been dear to him since he was eighteen years old.

THE MAGICAL SPELLING BEE

MAGIC YOU can do!

(Ss-sh
remember
it's a secret)

Ss-sh, Ss-sh, it's a secret. This clever effect with an ordinary deck of cards is credited to the prolific Martin Gardner, author, mathematician and magician.

After a card has been freely selected and returned to the pack, the spectator is asked whether the chosen card was red or black. The magician spells the color, dealing a card facedown to the table with each letter. Next, the spectator names the suit and the same procedure follows, spelling and dealing. Finally, the magician inquires if the value was odd or even and the answer is spelled out and dealt, too. The spectator names the selected card and the magician turns up the card in his hand after the spelling and it's the selected one!

This requires very little sleight-of-hand, but a good memory. The selection is fair and free, but as the card is looked at and shown around the performer must silently count off 13 cards from the top of the deck and then 'cut' the deck exactly at that point so the card is replaced there and is now the 14th from the top of the facedown pack.

There are only eight possible combinations of answers to the questions and, with one exception, they all end on the 13th or 14th card.

For instance, RED-HEARTS-EVEN would use 13 cards, all dealt to the table. When the spectator then identifies the card as, say, the Eight of Hearts, the magician turns the 14th card up; it's the Eight of Hearts.

BLACK-SPADE-EVEN uses 14 cards. So, when spelling and arriving at the letter 'N', the magician would hold that final card in his hand and not lay it down. The spectator names his card, say, the Ten, and the performer turns over the card still in his hand, the Ten of Spades!

Note, though, that Hearts and Clubs must be spelled plural and Spades and Diamonds must be spelled singular. So, after finding out the suit's color, ask, "Is it a Heart or a Diamond?" Then, spell it appropriately (singular or plural).

There's just one more rule: RED-HEARTS-ODD uses only 12 cards. So, in this case only, after spelling and dealing the cards, take the next one (#13) in your hand, facedown, and, using it as an example, say, "You freely selected a card like this from a deck that you shuffled. You returned it to the pack." At this point just shove it somewhere into the remaining cards in your hand as if demonstrating what has transpired. "What was your card?" Their answer might be the Three of Hearts. Turn over the next (14th) card; it will be theirs.

Here are the formulas; learn them and you can do this at anytime with any deck. Remember, it's a secret!

RED-HEARTS-ODD	12	BLACK-CLUBS-ODD	13
RED-HEARTS-EVEN	13	BLACK-CLUBS-EVEN	14
RED-DIAMOND-ODD	13	BLACK-SPADE-ODD	13
RED-DIAMOND-EVEN	14	BLACK-SPADE-EVEN	14

WONDERS OF MAGIC

UP TO DATE NEWS

David Seebach's
WONDERS OF MAGIC
is a member of
VISIT Milwaukee

- **Joe Monaco, of Kapco**, selected the "Wonders of Magic" as entertainment for their post-Christmas Holiday Party in January at the **Blue Heron** in West Bend (WI).
- An adult, overnight sleep-in was held at Milwaukee's **Black Holocaust Museum** to raise funds for organ donation. **Dasha Kelly** turned to David Seebach to entertain the crowd in the 'wee' hours of a cold Saturday morning in February.
- Intimate, one-on-one close-up magic and a brief stand-up performance were both part of an elegant wine tasting in early March at the **Milwaukee Club**. **Cathy Davies** invited David Seebach to entertain her guests.
- **Paul Olsen, of Olsen's Mills**, turned to David Seebach and his three-person "Broadway" repertoire for his annual company party at **Pine Ridge Farms** in Wautoma (WI). This was Seebach's second appearance for the firm.
- The spring Cub Scout Blue & Gold Banquet is a standard stop for David Seebach. He's performed for scout groups for almost four decades. On March 19th he was at **Pewaukee Elementary School** (WI) for their troupe. **Greg Blau** made the arrangements.
- Students at Romeoville's (IL) **Hermansen School** will be treated to an after-school "Wonders of Magic" performance on March 29th. Lake Geneva's **Class Act Agency** booked the date.
- Once again David Seebach will entertain **Franklin** (WI) **High School** students at their post prom on Sunday morning, April 2nd, at 1:00 am. The students enjoy Seebach's mind-boggling close-up magic, sitting right with the magician after their big dance. As always, **Mike Kropp** invited Seebach to appear.
- Elementary school students of **North Cape School**, in Franksville (WI) will enjoy the "Wonders of Magic" school assembly performance on April 11th. This is another **Class Act Agency** appearance.
- CPAs celebrate the end of tax season with parties after the customary IRS filing deadline. **Julia Geerdts, of Winter Kloman Motor & Repp**, has invited David Seebach to join the accountants at Delafield's (WI) **Fishbone Restaurant** for some fun and magic on April 17th.
- "If it doesn't say Bell on the side," is how Milwaukee's **Bell Ambulance** well-known slogan begins. For their employee appreciation party at the **Comedy Cafe, Jim Lombardo** invited David Seebach to entertain the crowd. All the fun is on April 19th. The magician/EMT partnership is the result of an almost 20 year friendship. **Bell Ambulance** is always on hand at the Modjeska Theatre for Seebach's Halloween scare-fest, "Illusions in the Night" for the blood curdling **Buzz Saw Illusion**.
- **Stoffel Equipment Co** will host an Awards Night at Milwaukee's **Sheraton North Hotel** on April 29th. Seebach has been asked to present his "Cabaret" show for about one hundred guests by **Pat Tiarks**.
- **American Music Contractors** of Illinois has once again recommended the "Wonders of Magic" for one of their clients. On April 30th Seebach will present the "Nightclub" repertoire for graduating roofers in Burr Ridge (IL).
- **Greendale (WI) High School's** post prom begins at 11:30 pm on May 20th at the **Showtime Cinema** and David Seebach has been invited to return and perform for the teens on their big night with perplexing close-up magic. **Mary Postotnik** arranged the late-night appearance.
- An evening of magical entertainment is planned for Milwaukee's **St Rose Catholic Urban Academy** on May 31st at 6:30 pm. David, and a lovely assistant, will appear as a result of an invitation to perform by **Yazmene Thoma-Miller**.

Summer picnics are perfect occasions for sparkling magical entertainment that will captivate youngsters and amaze and delight adults. When you want First Class entertainment, you'll want the "Wonders of Magic" with David Seebach.

What do the **Wisconsin & Southern Railroad**, Milwaukee's **Model "A" Club** and **Onyx Services** know? They realize that only the first folks to call can secure a preferred holiday date for David Seebach's "Wonders of Magic". All three have reserved December 2006 show dates. Don't be disappointed. Call our office at 262/252-3333 now or read more about our shows on the web at www.davidseebach.com.