



# Society of Memphis Magicians



International Brotherhood of Magicians Ring 16  
June 2018 [www.ring16.org](http://www.ring16.org)

## A Few Words from the President

*Jeff Day - President*

### IN THE BEGINNING ... AND ON TO THE FUTURE !

**MAGIC** has a very long history. It's said that the first known performance of conjuring as a form of entertainment was recorded in the Westcar Papyrus 1700BCE (now in the State Museum, East Berlin). Simon the Sorcerer and Simon Gitta, a Samaritan magician who has been referred to as the founder of post-Christian Gnosticism, was said to have fallen to his death while levitating or, to be more precise, when he stopped levitating too soon. Then there was the Acetabularii. From the year 50-300CE, they were a group of conjurers who specialized in the art of the cups and balls. They traveled throughout the continent and performed for large crowds and private demonstrations for royalty. The name Acetabularii literally means "vinegar cups", which makes sense in this case.



In the early 1900's, there was a group that performed a mysterious, yet comedic, theater magic show. They were LeRoy, Talma, & Bosco, also billed as "The Comedians de Mephisto Co.".

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## Notes from the VP

*Bill Canaday - Vice-President*

The year, if you can believe it, is almost half-way over. We still have a lot going on though. Tom Vorohahn will be coming here in August; we had him before, and if you have not heard, this time he will be covering material from the legendary Nick Trost. This mini-lecture is getting great reviews, and it will be good having Tom back here with us. We have some more possible lectures on the way, and I will be going over these with you at our meeting next week. Don't forget to make plans now, and get your Magic/Mentalism together, as our Annual Auction is coming at our July Meeting! Also, at the Orpheum, The Illusionists will be back, June 8-10. Great show, and you will enjoy that, also! Looking forward to seeing you next week at our meeting. Hope you and yours had a great and safe Memorial Day Weekend, and as we start summer, a full, safe, and Magical summer to you and yours!



### Ring 16 June Meeting

**Tuesday June 5th - 7pm**  
**Memphis Botanic Garden**  
**Theme: Playing Cards & Coins**  
**...and Mentalism**

### Upcoming Lectures

**Tom Vorohajan - August 17**  
**Greg Wilson - Monday, October 1**

**(President - From page 1)**

Servais Le Roy was a Belgian magician who founded this group with the intent to entertain audiences with light-hearted comedy. The magic that was introduced became a sensation and the combination was intoxicating. Bosco was a rotund man who slayed theater-goers with his comedy. The character, Bosco, was originated by Imro Fox, and was played by no less than nine actors, one being Le Roy's nephew, Gene Le Roy. Servais Le Roy was suave and surprised the audience with his masterful illusions. But, by far the most intriguing, was Talma (LeRoy's wife, Mercedes Talma), who hypnotized onlookers with her coin manipulations. During this time in magic, women usually did not hold such a high status. However, Talma's skill level was beyond what most men were capable of doing.

Today, there is currently a group of some of the most accomplished magicians performing in theaters. One group that is coming to Memphis on June 8th (Orpheum Theatre) is "The Illusionists". This group is composed of magicians **An Ha Lim** (The Manipulator), **Jeff Hobson** (The Trickster), **Jonathan Goodwin** (The Daredevil), **Colin Cloud** (The Deductionist), **Kevin James** (The Inventor). If you did not get a chance to see them last year, I encourage you to get your tickets and take in this very entertaining show. They bring comedy, mystery, wonder, and thrilling escapism ... all packed in a little over 90 minutes.



<https://orpheum-memphis.com/event/the-illusionists-2018>

Magic from centuries ago has continued to endure, even into the 21st century. Take the time to enjoy



## May Open Magic Photos

*Grayson Smith & Larry DuFrene*



