

DAVID SEEBACH'S BACKSTAGE

2004 FALL EDITION

HALLOWEEN MYSTERIES ARE AFOOT

14th Annual
"Illusions in the Night"
set for two-weekend
run at haunted
**MODJESKA
THEATRE**
Magician predicts
New Thrills and
Surprises!

Friday, October 22nd
thru Saturday,
October 30th
8 Performances
with 3 matinees.
All Seats Reserved!
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for tickets

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David Seebach's signature illusion,
"Mysteries From the Devil's Chamber",
serves as the dramatic climax
to his popular Halloween attraction.

Photo by Pete & Jane Holzhauser

Milwaukee's **Big Halloween Event**

For fourteen years Milwaukee illusionist David Seebach has turned his attention each autumn to the south side's historic

Do you remember those dime store cardboard Halloween decorations of black cats, pumpkins, skeletons and owls? Vintage examples, produced by the Beistle Company, command high prices from collectors and antique outlets. The magician will use six of them, plus five young audience volunteers to stage a brand-new mystery that will delight the young ones and have adults scratching their heads in disbelief.

Michigan's Abbott's Magic Manufacturing Company has reproduced one of their classic 1930s stage illusions for Seebach for this year's show. Perhaps the most gaudily colorful prop ever designed, it's called the "Chests of Mystery" and it will be used to demonstrate how a magician might solve the dilemma of going to a costume party when he's all alone and without a suitable 'date'. This is a prime example of Seebach's ability to find a treasure from the past that contemporary magicians overlook or have forgotten about.

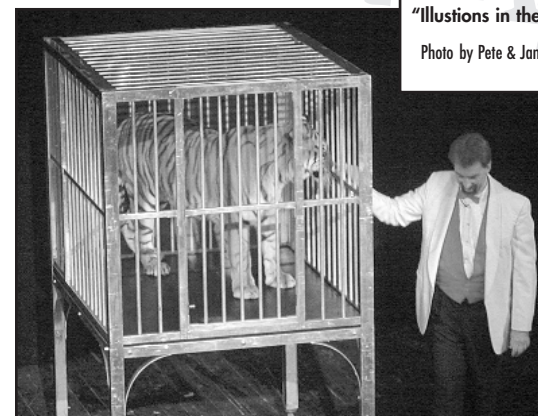
Tara and the Soldiers Return

The magician's beautiful tiger, Tara, was a big hit in the 2003 edition and so she'll make a return visit as will the seldom-staged mega-illusion *"The Battle of the Toy Soldiers."* This latter effect is very rare; in fact, there is no record of another magician presenting it. Grotesquely oversized toy soldiers, an imprisoned magician in a fortress stockade, an imposing cannon and a formidable General all figure into its execution, accompanied by familiar music from Bizet's opera "Carmen".

Modjeska Theatre on Mitchell Street and challenged himself to outdo his own track record of amusing and entertaining audiences who love Halloween-themed fun. And, if he can startle them with a well placed scare, so much the better.

"We always tease people about how scary this show is," Seebach explained, "but there are lots more laughs than anything else." The magician has become successful because of his sophisticated sense of humor and very light, entertaining style of delivery. He relishes the freedom afforded by Halloween of adding a spooky supernatural element to his presentation.

"I love to tell a story and weave a tale around the conjuring acts and I believe that is what I do best." For this 14th annual edition of his "Illusions in the Night" show, he plans on a look at witches. Seebach's attention will be toward storybook witches and the images we associate with them at Halloween. This is an all-new sequence that will incorporate several older illusions adapted for a new presentation.



Tara makes her magical entrance at 2003's "Illusions in the Night."
Photo by Pete & Jane Holzhauser



The fiery **Cremation** act is another seldom-seen stunner that is perfect for a waiting-to-be-thrilled Halloween audience.

Photo by Pete & Jane Holzhauser



Back Stage

Returns with New Surprises

Imagine planning your wedding, but being haunted by portents of dread and horrible nightmares. That's exactly what happened to a young Irish couple almost 100 years ago. Seebach will share this tale — and it's surprising ending — and then invite several spectators to participate in an associated complex feat of premonition.

Ghosts of the Modjeska

Milwaukee's Modjeska Theatre has long been regarded as the most haunted theater in America. Somewhere in the cavernous interior of the 70+-year-old building lurk spirits and phantoms that have frightened people for decades. Seebach promises to invite them to join YOU for the show. When the lights go out in the show's most anticipated sequence, it's unbelievable finalé, you'll *believe* as ghosts and things that go bump in the night materialize everywhere in a truly explosive finish to the program.

Stalwart audience favorites, like the ever popular "*Guillotine*" with its lucky (?) audience victim, the imposing "*Buzz Saw*" that visibly severs a beautiful assistant, the eerily haunting "*Levitation*" and a fiery "*Cremation*" all are again part of the repertoire.

Seebach and the Modjeska management invite you to take advantage of the first-class down-in-front cabaret seating with bar and snack service and have a Halloween party in a real haunted theater. Costumes are encouraged and group discounts are available.

The show opens on Friday, October 22nd, for an eight performance, two-weekend run. 7:30pm performances are scheduled for Friday and Saturday, October 22nd and 23rd, and Thursday, Friday and Saturday, October 28th, 29th and 30th. Reserved seat tickets are \$20 and \$25.

Special matinees with half-price admission for youth (16 and under) and seniors (60 and over) are scheduled for 2:00pm on Saturdays, October 23rd and 30th, and Sunday, October 24th.

Bell Ambulance To The Rescue!

As has become tradition at Halloween, Milwaukee's Bell Ambulance will assign two paramedics to be onstage during the chilling "*Buzz Saw*" sequence as Seebach's assistant is divided in halves by a huge, spinning circular saw. They'll have smelling salts for audience members who cannot withstand the suspense.

Remember, "*If it doesn't say BELL on the side, you've just been taken for a ride.*"

BELL AMBULANCE **414/264-BELL**

Discount Shopping at Halloween Express

Your 'one-stop-for-everything-Halloween' location is always **Halloween Express** and you qualify for an '**R. I. P. 10% Discount**' just by showing this copy of **David Seebach's BACKSTAGE** newsletter. **Halloween Express** offers everything for the season from masks, costumes and make-up to décor and special effects. There are three Milwaukee locations: at the Brookfield Fashion Center on Bluemound Rd; at Hwy 100 and Layton in Greenfield and at Southridge Mall on south 76th street.



The eerie **Asrah Levitation**, with its mysterious music and dramatic stage setting is always an audience favorite.

Photo by Pete & Jane Holzhauser

Christmas in October?

It's never too early to secure entertainment for any holiday affair that you're planning. Demand is always great for a few key dates and even David Seebach cannot be in two places at once. Avoid disappointment and reserve an appearance by David and his "*Wonders of Magic*" show for your special event.

There are shows for both adults and for children and even special, holiday-themed shows. David has created everything from a modest, solo presentation for small groups on a tight budget to elaborate stage acts with big impact that feature David and his lovely assistants. You can learn more at the

"Wonders of Magic" website, www.davidseebach.com, or by calling our office at **262/252-3333**.

GOT & CHA!

MAGIC YOU can do!

(Ss-sh
remember
it's a secret)

Ss-sh, it's a secret. Every magician knows that all it takes to disrupt a performance is one unruly spectator who has "seen it all before" and "knows how everything is done." This magic trick is just for that person!

The performer invites the wisecrack spectator up front to participate. He is handed a deck of cards facedown. He is instructed to immediately place the cards behind his back and remove any card from within the pack. Next, he's told to tightly close his eyes and bring the single selected card to his forehead, keeping the card's back to the audience. He is told to touch the card to his head and then place it in his back pocket.

He cannot and does not know what it is. Nevertheless, he is told to open his eyes and point to any other nearby spectator and ask that onlooker to name any card.

That person will name the card in his pocket!

All that is required is that both the top and bottom cards of the deck be reversed so what appears to be a face-down pack is actually a deck with fifty FACEUP cards. A deck with a white border on its back will make this more effective.

When he brings the card to his forehead, because of its reversed orientation, he will think its back is to the audience. Of course, that won't be the case. Everyone will see the card—and you should point this deception out silently—and then be able to name it moments later.

All that's needed is a little skill at mime to get everyone into the frame of mind to participate.

Remember, it's a secret!

WONDERS OF MAGIC

UP TO DATE NEWS



David Seebach's **WONDERS of MAGIC** is a member of the Greater Milwaukee Convention and Visitors Bureau

- A very big family reunion, held at Oakbrook's (IL) Oakbrook Hills Resort in July, contracted David Seebach to perform after dinner by making arrangements through Lake Geneva's (WI) **Class Act Agency**. The magic began with a Levitation act that drew loud screams from the very excited audience.
- **Class Act** also made arrangements for David to perform in Aurora (IL) on July 23rd for their outdoor picnic and barbecue.
- **Andre Bynum**, of **Bridgeman Foods** (Wendy's Restaurants), invited David Seebach to perform at their July 30th Mardi Gras-themed party at Milwaukee's Italian Community Center.
- David brought his "Wonders of Magic" stage show to a luncheon for Milwaukee's **Johnson Controls** on September 1st at the Pfister Hotel. **Jennifer Brogelman** invited Seebach to appear and selected the Nightclub repertoire that includes the all-new interactive audience-participation mind reading act based on the popular board game "Clue".
- David Seebach has been invited to perform for a youth group at Janesville's (WI) Hedberg Library on Friday, September 24th, at 7:00pm. This was another **Class Act Agency** booking.
- **Kindred Hospital's Stephanie Turks** planned their banquet for September 30th at Brookfield's (WI) Embassy Suites and selected the "Wonders of Magic" Cabaret program for their guests.
- On October 8th the students of **Plymouth (WI) High School** will attend a 1:00pm Pep Rally with magical entertainment provided by David and his assistant, Mellonie. It's rumored that the principal's head may wind up in the illusionist's traveling guillotine! Milwaukee's **ACA Music & Entertainment** agency arranged the appearance.
- Students at Morrison's (IL) **Southside Elementary School** will be treated to an assembly program of magic presented by David Seebach on October 26th. **Class Act** arranged the appearance.
- In addition to appearing at the Modjeska Theatre on Friday, October 29th, at 7:30pm. David will perform for 5th and 6th grade students at a school in Hoffman Estates (IL) with some seasonal Halloween magical routines. Once again, **Class Act Agency** booked this appearance.
- A major meeting for **Dean Health Plan**, to be held at Madison's (WI) Marriott West location, on Thursday, November 18th, will feature the elaborate "Wonders of Magic" Executive repertoire with multiple assistants and the surprise, magical appearance of their CEO onstage during the show. **Sherri Acker** and **Julie Stanek** worked with David to create a customized show. **Open Booking** is the agency that brought the magician and client together.
- **Security International** wisely planned their December 18th holiday party early and hired David Seebach in July. **Jackie Keller** arranged their gala, at Milwaukee's Clarion Hotel.
- Schools, civic groups, business events, private parties, social affairs... they're all made more memorable with live, professional entertainment. Contact David Seebach's "Wonders of Magic" at 262/252-3333 for information for your special event.
- Don't forget to check out the "Wonders of Magic" website at www.davidseebach.com.
- David Seebach's "Wonders of Magic" is a member of the Greater Milwaukee Convention and Visitors Bureau.