

# FFFF 2003

By Robin Dawes

Guest of Honor,  
Meir Yedid and  
Obie O'Brien

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DIGITAL MAGIC



Abbreviated, for full report see: [http://insidemagic.com/artman/publish/article\\_339.shtml](http://insidemagic.com/artman/publish/article_339.shtml)

Ok, it always happens the last full weekend in April, and so it did this year. Somehow, I did not receive the review until this month. Past International President and Head Forker Ronald "Obie" O'Brien is imploring, beseeching, pleading, ok, begging me to include something here even though the review is so late.

Since there is nothing worse than a petulant, pouting past president, here is a partial review. Patrick Page, England's revenge for Jay Marshall, kicked off the convention with a typical "this is what works" lecture Wednesday evening. At 11:00 a.m. Thursday, Argentina's Ray Ben lectured, substituting for France's Yves Doumergue hospitalized after an

auto accident. Hope to see him next year. Summary of both lectures: Short guys do great magic.

A "Teach-A-Trick Session followed that afternoon with Roger Klause, Professor Rem, Roy Cottee, Hank Moorehouse, Karl Norman, Marc De Souza, Craig Dickson, Tom Jones, Howie Schwarzman, and Scott Wells. The first Diploma Performance\* (Obie MC, subbing for Mike Hilburger)) featured Steve Dobson, Greg Frewin, Mathieu Bich, Camilo, Steve Duperre, and John Lucas. A lecture by France's Jean Jacques Sanvert followed.

That evening Guest of Honor Meir Yedid lectured on his published and unpublished magic. He doesn't do any-

\*Diploma Performance: First timers perform for a B.A. degree, later for a Master's or Doctor's degree (the third time). Diplomas are presented after the Saturday night's show.

thing bad or badly. David Williamson reprised his "vanish" from a washroom with only one way in or out. Amazing!

Friday featured Page's Workshop on "Solid Thru Solid." Participating were: Page, Neighbors, Eng, Regal, Willmarth, Schwarzman, Tappan, Robert K. Miller, Bongo, Swadling, Craven, Williamson and Carney. Pavel lectured next with his usual visual ingenuities.

The second DP (Garrett MC) gave us Patrick Drake, Lance Pierce, Bob Escher, Mike Stratman, Trixie Bond, Nick Sacco, Duane Laflin, Etienne Morenceau, Jason Juliano, Frank Truong, Michael Bairefoot, Michael Tallon and Doug Gorman (standing "o" for their synchronized Cups and Balls).

The Friday evening (second) show (Obie MC) featured Brian Ochab, Ali Bongo, David Regal, Jim Cellini, Jay Scott Berry, Rey Ben, Terry Lunceford, Jean Jacques Sanvert, Pavel, Richard Pinner, Michael Vincent, and Boris Wild.

Jim Celini presented a late night lecture on establishing one's self as a street magician. He closed with his Linking Ring routine to a standing "o."

Saturday morning Boris Wild presented his new lecture featuring his marked, stacked deck plus. It was an entertaining lecture of solid, professional material.

David Stone presented the Saturday afternoon lecture. His philosophy of making magic relevant applied to approaching a table was a real "A-HA!" moment for many of us.

The Final DP (Willmarth MC) began with Tyler Erickson, then Philip Young, Allan Nackan, Garrett Tomas, Rolando Santos, Ran Sweigart, Camille Ghastine,



*John Carney survived (barely) David Williamson's attempt to pull him through the board.*

Phil Messina, Tony Eng (tore up the room), Jack Chancellor, Richard Hatch, Nicholas Anthony, and Pablo Kusnetzoff.

Saturday evening began with presentations to Guest of Honor Yedid who received a framed invitation from Willmarth, a plaque from O'Brien, a Swiss watch from Roland Meister, a letter of congratulation from Maven, and a crystal wand (made by master craftsman Vic Trabucco) from Herb Zarrow.

Meir was the first performer on the evening show (O'Brien MC) presenting his "vanishing fingers" act to a standing "o." He was followed by Frederick Sharpe, Eric DeCamps, David Stone, Oscar Munoz, John Carney, Rocco, Nicholas Einhorn, Bob Sheets, Henry Evans, vent Michael Robinson (with Terrence), Bebel, a David Williamson riot (with Regal and Carney assistance), and a Steve Beam monologue (and card trick) closed the very long but great show.

David Stone was selected as the MVP and next year's Guest of Honor will be the one and only Pat Page.