

Mordecai's Journal



www.ctmagic.org

June 2021



CCMA Officers
President: Brad Beady
Vice President: Roger Cisowski
Secretary: Dana Ring
Treasurer: Soll Levine



SAM 21 Officers
President: Brad Beady
Vice President: (currently open)
Secretary: Dana Ring
Treasurer: Soll Levine



IBM Ring 278 Officers
President: Roger Cisowski
Vice President: Jason Abate
Secretary: Rick St. Pierre
Treasurer: Soll Levine

Meetings:

Second Monday of every month except December

Rockledge Grille

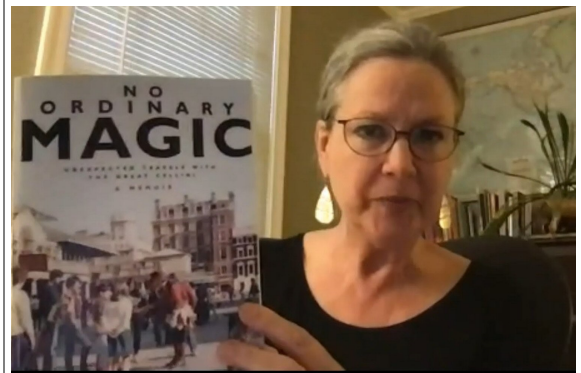
289 South Main Street
West Hartford.

(I-84 exit 41)

June Meeting: Backyard Picnic

We celebrate the return of summer and the (pleeease!) end of COVID with our first in-person meeting in months. Weather permitting, we'll meet in **Jeff Leitz's** backyard for a picnic. (211 Fern St in West Hartford, CT). Join us on at Jeff's on **June 14th** starting at 6PM for food and 7PM for the business of magishing.

When Last We Met



Eileen McFalls, with her book.

Some photos from the book:



Minutes of May Meeting

12 May 2021 7:00PM

8 members attending virtually,
1 guest

For our May Zoom meeting, we had a talk by guest **Eileen McFalls**, who has written a book "No Ordinary Magic" about her time with magician **Jim Cellini**, who has a Hartford connection. Eileen regaled us with stories of how they met and how she started as his assistant as they toured the US and Europe during the 1980's.

From The President's (Self-isolated) Change Bag

Hey everyone!

Thanks to everybody who joined our May meeting and a special thanks to Eileen McFalls for sharing her experience traveling the world as a street performer and companion to Jim Cellini. You can check out her memoir *No Ordinary Magic* at www.noordinarymagic.com. An extra special thanks to Soll Levine for his service as Treasurer to the club for 11 years.

With the sun showing its face more, and less restriction on social gatherings, we are going to host a CCMA June Picnic at member **Jeff Leitz**'s house in West Hartford. We held a similar picnic in July of 2019 to rave reviews and this one will be no different. Members who feel comfortable attending are welcome, we just ask that we adhere to the state regulations (masks, distancing, you know the deal). Please RSVP to the impending Google invite and sign up to bring something through this [Volunteer Checklist](#).

See you at the June picnic!

– Brad



New Orleans and New York

More Photos



Jim Cellini performing all over the country.



And internationally—England, The Netherlands

The Secret Compartment

This is the sixth (*sixth?!!*) installment of the Secret Compartment series where we look at magic on various forms of digital media. This installment we will look at another very niche series of performances by Luis Peiedrahita, a Spanish performer, stand-up comedian and one of my favorite magicians. He performs mostly in Spanish and has a recurring segment on the popular program El Hormiguero (The Anthill). He is primarily a coin worker, but he explores all aspects of magic and is constantly pushing some magic boundaries, especially for TV. Here are three of my favorite performances:

[The Glass Table](#) – In this performance with guest celebrity Kylie Minogue, Luis performs a signed coins through glass table. For those of you who aren't familiar with coin tricks, there is a fairly standard approach to the coins through table, but not so much *signed* coins through table let alone signed coins through a *glass* table. This is all not mentioning the truly insane finale of the trick where the *signed coin is stuck inside the glass table*. It is truly a wonderful performance.

[With Derek Delgaudio](#) – This one is sort of a cop-out, but for a week, Luis had Derek Delgaudio (before he was cool with his smash show In & Of Itself, and book Amoralman) on to do a series of card tricks. The methods that Delgaudio uses are also quite innovative and along the same line of thinking that Luis puts into his magic. In their last appearance on the show together, they perform a coincidence effect that wraps the entire week's performances together in a very satisfying way. I've seen this approach be used by several magicians on other talk shows, namely [Dan White on Fallon](#).

[Bubble Wrap](#) – In this performance with a slew of celebrities (with one Andrew Garfield whom, funny enough, I saw at the Magic Castle), Luis performs a matrix style coin effect. But much like the glass table, the cover cards usually used in this standard trick he has replaced with clear bubble wrap. He doing the last coin into Garfield's hand really sends him over the edge and it's great to see. He later went on to explain this effect and several of the other effects he has performed on the show in his book, [Coins and Other Fables](#).



And
Switzerland



One of the rare photos of Eileen herself, since she did most of the photography on the road. This is at Sacré Coeur in Paris, in 1985.

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