

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Note: Photos available at <http://mccallumtheatre.com/index.php/media>

**THE ILLUSIONISTS
LIVE FROM BROADWAY
McCALLUM THEATRE**

Saturday – January 28 – 4:00pm and 8:00pm

Sunday – January 29 – 2:00pm and 7:00pm

Palm Desert, CA – *The Illusionists – Live from Broadway™* comes to the McCallum Theatre for four performances Saturday, January 28, through Sunday, January 29.

On the heels of a highly successful multi-city tour and run on Broadway, the world's best-selling touring magic show, *The Illusionists - Live From Broadway™* will play the McCallum Theatre as part of its current North American tour to more than 50 cities.

The Illusionists - Live From Broadway™ is produced by Simon Painter, Tim Lawson and MagicSpace Entertainment. Conceived by Simon Painter, the show's creative team also includes executive producer Tim Lawson, director Neil Dorward and creative director Jim Millan.

Full of hilarious magic tricks, death-defying stunts and acts of breathtaking wonder, *The Illusionists* has shattered box office records worldwide and thrilled audiences of all ages with a mind-blowing spectacular showcasing the jaw-dropping talents of seven of the most incredible illusionists on earth.

Creative Producer Simon Painter said, "We can't wait to bring this electrifying show to the McCallum Theatre for a truly entertaining experience for the whole family. *The Illusionists* is the most non-stop and powerful mix of outrageous and astonishing acts ever to be seen on the live stage."

The seven stars, each a master in their own field, are:

- **The Manipulator - Yu Ho-Jin** is considered a rising superstar in the world of magic, Yu Ho-Jin was recently named the 2014 "Magician of the Year" by Academy of Magical Arts and was the first Asian to win the Grand Prix at the Fédération Internationale des Sociétés Magiques, also known as the "Olympics of Magic."
- **The Anti-Conjuror- Dan Sperry** is described as Marilyn Manson meets David Copperfield, Dan combines the art of magic with the macabre and is one of the top-10 most Googled people, thanks to a legendary "America's Got Talent" appearance.
- **The Trickster - Jeff Hobson** is the epitome of glamour and showmanship. Don't be fooled by his innocent appearance; Jeff has audiences laughing long after the curtain goes down.

- **The Escapologist – Andrew Basso** is Italy's star escape artist, Andrew considers Houdini his hero and is fast becoming one of the world's most popular illusionists. He is the only person in the world to perform Houdini's famous Water Torture Cell with absolutely no covers.
- **The Inventor – Kevin James** is known for innovative illusions, is an inventor, comedian and collector of the strange and unusual. Kevin is one of the most prolific inventors of magic in the world and has created some of the most celebrated illusions of the last century.
- **The Weapon Master – Ben Blaque** has established himself as America's foremost master of the crossbow after appearing four times on "America's Got Talent." He performs incredibly dangerous acts of dexterity using highly powerful crossbows to shoot various objects supported by his assistant.
- **The Deductionist - Colin Cloud** is one of the greatest thought readers of all time and a psychic savant known as a real-life Sherlock Holmes. Don't play against him in a game of poker – he's never lost.

Simon Painter (Creative Producer) is a visionary creative theatrical producer who hails from London. Simon started his career on stage as a classical violinist and performed the lead role for *Spirit of the Dance* in Las Vegas. The first show he produced, *Le Grand Cirque*, smashed box office records at the Sydney Opera House, selling over 40,000 tickets in 10 days. His two subsequent productions, *Aerial Dreams* and *Adrenaline* also broke records in Sydney and across the world and achieved critical acclaim. In 2010, Simon had five versions of *Le Grand Cirque* playing concurrently. In late 2010, Simon joined forces with Australian producer and close friend Tim Lawson and began assembling the greatest magical minds from a wide spectrum of disciplines. His production of *The Illusionists* has already performed to record breaking crowds in theatres and arenas across the globe including Australia, Mexico, Latin America, South America, Europe, Asia and the Middle East. In addition to *The Illusionists – Live From Broadway*, Simon's current projects include *Le Noir (The Dark Side of Cirque)* and *Illusionists 2.0*, both of which are currently playing extensive international tours.

Tim Lawson (Executive Producer) is the CEO of TML Enterprises, servicing Australia and international territories with first class musicals and family entertainment with productions spanning across over 100 cities in 20 countries. Australasian theatrical touring credits include *Sweet Charity*; *Buddy – The Musical*; *Jolson* starring Rob Guest; *Spirit of the Dance*; *Oh! What A Night*; *Fiddler on the Roof* starring Topol; *It's A Dad Thing!*; *Weary – The Life of Sir Edward Dunlop*; *Shout! The Musical*; *Brave Men Run In Our Family*; *Jekyll and Hyde* starring Brad Little; and *The Rocky Horror Show* narrated by Richard O' Brien. Tim's award winning production of *A Chorus Line* transferred to the prestigious London Palladium, and his production of *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* recently completed a 13 month tour. With partner Simon Painter, credits include *Le Grand Cirque*; *Ariel Dreams*; *Adrenaline*; *Le Noir – The Dark Side of Cirque*; *The Illusionists*; and *The Illusionists 2.0*, all enjoying record breaking success and extensive international arena and theatrical touring.

MagicSpace Entertainment is headed by Lee D. Marshall, Joe Marsh, John Ballard, Steve Boulay and Bruce Granath and has been producing and presenting national

tours, Broadway shows, concerts and museum exhibits worldwide for over 35 years. Consistently one of the top promoters in the world, MagicSpace Entertainment typically produces and presents more than 350 events worldwide per year. Recent Broadway credits include *The Illusionists - Witness the Impossible* (Broadway & West End); *Donny & Marie – A Broadway Christmas*; *American Idiot*; and *RAIN - A Tribute to the Beatles on Broadway*. National tour credits include *The Illusionists – Live From Broadway*; *Lord of the Dance* created by Michael Flatley; Jamie Hyneman and Adam Savage starring in *Mythbusters – Unleashed*; *Alton Brown Live*; *Mannheim Steamroller Christmas* by Chip Davis; *Donny & Marie Christmas*; *RAIN – A Tribute to the Beatles*; *The Magic of David Copperfield*; *Circus 1903 – The Golden Age of Circus*; *Jesus Christ Superstar*; *A Chorus Line* and national concert tours by Janet Jackson, Cher and Fleetwood Mac to name just a few. Touring museum exhibitions produced include “Jurassic World: The Exhibition,” “Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs” exhibition, “Titanic: The Exhibition,” “Diana – A Celebration,” and “St Peter and the Vatican: The Legacy of the Popes” exhibition. MagicSpace Entertainment has offices in Park City and Salt Lake City, UT. www.magicspace.net

Performance times for the *The Illusionists – Live from Broadway* are Saturday, January 28, at 4:00pm and 8:00pm and Sunday, January 29, at 2:00pm and 7:00pm.

Tickets for these performances range from \$47 to \$107, depending on performance time and seating. Tickets are available at the Theatre’s website at www.mccallumtheatre.com or by calling the McCallum Theatre Box Office at (760) 340-ARTS. The McCallum Theatre, located at 73000 Fred Waring Drive, Palm Desert CA 92260, accepts payment by cash, personal check, VISA, MasterCard, Discover and American Express.

*The McCallum Theatre Box Office, its phone center and website, are the **only** authorized outlets for tickets to performances presented at the Theatre. Tickets purchased from any other sources, such as brokers or secondary market websites, are purchased at consumer’s own risk and cannot be guaranteed as valid.*

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