

Monday 7 September 2015



Sydney Opera House presents in association with Tim Lawson and Simon Painter

## The Illusionists 1903

“Very entertaining, beautifully directed, gorgeous to look at and above all, brilliantly performed” - *The Australian*

“Jaw dropping” - *New York Daily News*

“THE ILLUSIONISTS 1903 transports the audience to the glory days of magic” –  
*Broadway World*

“If you want to be amazed then this is an astonishingly good night out” - *Adelaide Now*

“A well-delivered, authentically engrossing, magical homage full of delicious hocus-pocus” - *In Daily*

The world masters of magic are bringing spectacle to Sydney, with their latest and most stylish production yet, **The Illusionists 1903**, coming to the **Sydney Opera House Concert Hall** for a strictly limited season from **19 to 28 December 2015**.

Featuring brand-new, world-class Illusionists handpicked from across the globe, **The Illusionists 1903** promises to transport the audience back to the golden age of magic, the time of Houdini and the Magic Circle, when conjurers were superstars.

This new show is one for the adrenaline lovers, showcasing some of the greatest and most dangerous illusions ever built. Jaw-dropping big tricks featured in **The Illusionists 1903** include a deadly bullet catch, amazing levitation and unbelievable mind-reading. Witness this all-star cast as they try and get one-up on each other performing some of the most sophisticated tricks in the book.

**The Illusionists 1903** also unveils magical arts drawn from a treasure trove of long-forgotten mysteries. Explore the true art of magic in exquisite, turn-of-the-century grandeur at this larger-than-life production from the acclaimed creative team behind international mega hits *The Illusionists* and *The Illusionists 2.0*. Discover first-hand the spectacles that transformed stage entertainment over 100 years ago.

Come with us these school holidays on a journey back in time, and watch in awe as the impossible is recreated live on the Sydney Opera House Concert Hall stage.

## The Illusionists 1903 – The Characters

### **The Eccentric**

Rooted in history as a part of the famed vaudevillian variety shows of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, "The Eccentric" marries physical comedy with virtuosic skill and mastery, showcasing world-class juggling and sleight of hand in an act that keeps audiences laughing and applauding all at once.

### **The Immortal**

"The Immortal" is the ultimate connoisseur of golden age magic, specialising in illusions which have stood the test of time. His montage of turn-of-the-century grandeur includes the greatest levitation act in the world.

### **The Conjuress**

A mistress of the occult and master of the mystical, "The Conjuress" highlights all that was beautiful and breathtaking during the Golden Age of Magic. Her mesmerising and peaceful presence provides the perfect counterbalance to the more boisterous characters of the age.

### **The Showman**

The "voice" of "1903", "The Showman" lives for the accolades of the crowd. Performing classic showstoppers such as the infamous and deadly bullet catch, his charisma and panache charm the audience, embodying what gave golden age magicians their meteoric rise to fame and popularity.

### **The Escapologist**

Recreating the most iconic stunt in the history of magic, "The Escapologist" performs Houdini's death-defying, turn-of-the-century escape from the "Water Torture Cell". Yes, he will be bound, shackled and submerged in water, with audiences witnessing the same near-death experience that enthralled patrons wherever the Great Houdini performed.

### **The Clairvoyants**

No journey into the 'Golden Age of Magic' would be complete without "The Clairvoyants". These mentalists of the early twentieth century penetrate deep into the hearts and minds of even the most firm skeptic.

### **The Charlatan**

"There's a sucker born every minute" may have been a phrase coined by P.T. Barnum, but "The Charlatan" has made this his mantra. Don't be fooled by his simple, folksy demeanor, or you are likely to miss his tricky ways.

## Tickets on sale Monday 14 September 2015

**Venue:** Concert Hall, Sydney Opera House  
**Season:** Saturday 19 – Monday 28 December 2015  
**Performances:** 3pm & 7pm every day, except 11am only on 24/12, and no show Christmas Day  
**Prices:** Adults from \$74.90, Children from \$44.90. Group & Family discounts available  
**Bookings:** [sydneyoperahouse.com](http://sydneyoperahouse.com) or 9250 7777

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