

The Illusionists 1903- Biographies

Rick Thomas- The Immortal

Rick Thomas is well known as one of the most successful illusionists working today, having completed five world tours covering over 50 countries. High honors include the coveted "Magician of the Year" by the Academy of Magical Arts and "Stage Magician of the Year" by the World Magic Awards. Thomas has performed for 15 years in his own show in Las Vegas and it went on to become the most successful family show in the history of Vegas. Thomas recently starred at the *Andy William's Moon River Theatre* in Branson, Missouri.

Rick has also been featured on numerous national television specials including the NBC specials "The World's Greatest Magic" and his own special on ABC that aired throughout Asia, performing the most intriguing and innovative grand illusions in the world with a style unlike any other magical entertainer.

By the age of 18, Thomas was already performing and headlining at the Disneyland Hotel in Anaheim, California. He went on to star on over 300 cruises on the finest cruise lines in the world, such as; *Royal Caribbean, Royal Viking, Princess and Crystal Cruise Lines*.

In the following years, Thomas honed his craft and landed his first long-term (5 years) professional engagement in Asia. Now, he is thrilled to be performing as "The Immortal" in *The Illusionists 1903*.

Charlie Frye- The Eccentric

Acknowledging America's rich vaudeville tradition, Charlie Frye & Company synthesize virtuosic skills and a passionate love of their art into something classic, yet undeniably fresh - something that astounds even as it entertains.

For the last twenty-odd years (some odder than others), Charlie and his wife Sherry have been delighting audiences worldwide with their singular blend of silent comedy, magic, juggling, slapstick, and acrobatics. Charlie is often compared to classic comedians such as Charlie Chaplin, Buster Keaton, Stan Laurel and Dick Van Dyke.

Together, they have thrilled audiences around the world - Australia, Africa, Europe, Asia - in many exotic venues. They have appeared before distinguished audiences such as the Royal family of Monaco and the Sultan of Malaysia. Besides being one of the world's most sought after American specialty acts, they are also in constant demand throughout the United States, where they were named Las Vegas' Specialty Act of the Year for their star billing in the *Folies Bergere*. Other prestigious appearances have included opening

for Liza Minnelli, starring in the internationally syndicated television special, "The World's Top Shows", and a featured appearance in Tom Hanks' film, "That Thing You Do."

"The Eccentric" never fails to keep audiences laughing and applauding all at once.

Jonathan Goodwin- The Daredevil

British Born Daredevil and Escape Artist Jonathan is widely considered one of the most creative, skilled, and frankly crazy stunt performers in the world. Goodwin has been hanged, buried alive, hung by his toes from helicopters, burned at the stake, attacked by sharks, and even sewn up inside a dead cow to name just a few of the terrifying and insane stunts his mother wishes he hadn't tried. Jonathan is an accomplished, knife thrower, archer, escape artist, fakir, martial artist, free diver, free climber, husband and dad.

Jonathan has starred in numerous TV series including "One Way Out" for Discovery Channel and "Dangerman: The Incredible Mr Goodwin" for the BBC. As well as his own Specials, "Deathwish Live", "How Not To Become Sharkbait" and "The Seven Stupidest Things to Escape From", Jonathan has been featured on *60 minutes*, and has been a guest on the *Jonathan Ross Show*, *Jimmy Kimmel* and *Paul O'Grady Live*.

Unlike the other performers in the show, Jonathan is not a magician or illusionist and everything you see him do is very, very real. He is "The Daredevil".

Mark Kalin- The Showman

Mark Kalin has been one of the most influential magicians of the last decade, bringing his amazing illusions to casino stages, performing arts centers, television shows, and his own experimental theatre in Reno, Nevada, "Magic Underground."

As a young man Mark's specialty was sleight-of-hand magic, but he later enlarged his act, with Jinger Leigh, to include tigers, panthers, and sensational, split-second marvels. They even presented the largest stage illusion of all time, vanishing an American Airlines Jumbo Jet at the Reno Hilton. They have been featured on numerous television shows, including NBC's "World's Greatest Magic," Fox TV's "Magic on the Edge," and "Entertainment Tonight."

Working together as Kalin and Jinger, the duo have developed a reputation for their mix of innovative illusions and their distinctive style. In 1998 they were awarded 'Magicians of the Year' from The Academy of Magical Arts (The Magic Castle), the highest honor in magic, recognizing their unique achievements and charismatic performances.

Jinger Leigh- The Conjuress

Jinger Leigh's unique blend of elegance and theatricality have redefined the role of the magician. A modern conjuress in a very ancient art, Jinger has earned fans around the world and was recently featured in the touring show, "Masters of Illusion Live!"

She began her professional career as a dancer when she was fifteen years old. She was one of the "Young Americans," and toured for companies like *Disney*, appeared on *Fuji Television*, and starred in Southern California dinner theater productions. She also toured with artists like *The Beach Boys*, *Tony Bennett* and *Cab Callaway*.

It was while working as a dancer in Guam that Jinger first met magician Mark Kalin. The results were magical, in every sense of the word, combining the arts of dance and illusion. Working together, as Kalin and Jinger, they appeared in their award-winning shows, *Carnival of Wonders* and *Before Your Very Eyes*, in their own Reno Theatre, "Magic Underground".

Thommy Ten and Amlie van Tass - The Clairvoyants

Thommy Ten and Amélie van Tass are innovative young celebrities in the world of mentalism. These European shooting stars have won international awards and presented their artful mind reading experience on numerous TV shows.

Their ability to reveal your thoughts will make you gasp in astonishment.....even fellow magicians are baffled! This enchanting couple are in demand worldwide and have just returned from a six month engagement in America where they performed over 300 shows.

You'll be entranced and delighted by how easily they connect with your innermost thoughts, but don't worry, as they say, "We like what you are thinking." They are "The Clairvoyant's".

Armando Lucero- The Maestro

Armando Lucero is a commanding stage presence before ever saying a word, taking the audience's heart and mind on a journey of mystery and wonder. He has been performing magic for the past 30 years, excelling in the art of close-up magic with his manipulation of cards and coins that even has fellow magicians baffled.

Armando has been likened to such greats as Marcel Marceau, David Copperfield and Charlie Chaplin, performing extensively on stage and screen worldwide. Such places include Japan, New Zealand, Europe, China, Korea, Mexico and the USA.

He has worked extensively in Las Vegas at Caesars Palace, Luxor, Excalibur, Bellagio, Venetian, Aladdin, Hilton, MGM Grand, Orleans, Monte Carlo, Mandalay Bay, Rio, Riviera, Paris, Stratosphere, Treasure Island, Tropicana, Mirage, Hard Rock, Harrah's, Palms, and New York-New York.

Armando has starred in productions such as "Mystique" and "Imagine", both Dick Foster productions, and "Classic Enchantment", Armando's one-man show. Additionally, he has performed at FISM (the Golden Globes of the magic community), Las Vegas Magic Invitational- Fechter's (an invitation only magic convention) and the famous *Magic Castle* in Hollywood, California.

Armando Lucero is "The Maestro".