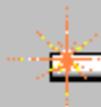


David Blaine's Street Magic - REVEALED

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Ace Shaker

This trick was performed on David Blaine's second special where he asked a spectator sign a card, the card was shuffled into the pack and it was made to re-appear between two cards held by David.

I've seen a couple of published versions but neither seemed to have the 'Blaine' feel to them. Here's my improved version, all credit to David Blaine.

Working.

Fan through the deck and remove the two red Aces pass the two cards to a spectator keeping them face down, place the cards between their palms, fix the spectator with a steely look, saying *"We'll need these special cards later"*.

The spectator seems mesmerised ! Fan the deck face down and ask a second spectator to touch a card (you're feeling generous).

Cut the chosen card to the top and square up the deck. Turn over the chosen card and display it with a flourish -a' la Blaine. Hand your new assistant a marker pen and allow them to sign the face of the card, turn the card face down then shuffle it into the pack (now control it back to the top).

Now for some distraction

You ask, *"Do you think you will recognise your card if you see it again ?" "Yes ?"*, fan the cards face down and ask them to touch their card !! (try not to laugh) Close the fan and ask *"Who holds the two special cards ?"* (pause) *"Please show everyone the two cards"* At this point (while everyone is looking at the two Red Aces) drop your hands and palm the chosen card into your right hand, then hand the deck to the second assistant (the deck and palmed card are both held in the right hand).

Try not to sweat - you're on your own now - ask for the two Aces, as you take them (left hand) bring the right hand across and add the palmed card. Flex the packet a few times to remove the bend from the palmed card.

Transfer the cards to a Biddle Grip (right hand), bottom spread the face card and display the faces of the Red Aces, one in each hand, the right hand holds a double (the chosen card is hidden behind the Red Ace).

Bring the two(?) Aces back together face down (now sandwiching the chosen card), bottom spread the face card about half an inch, hold the cards (face down) between the fingers and thumb of the right hand (the chosen card is now hidden beneath the top Ace)

Ask the second assistant to hold the pack out in front (they tremble in anticipation). Now you start to shake the two (?) cards over the deck using a fast side to side action.

"I will now command the chosen card to rise to the top of the deck", you say in a tone fit to raise the dead and scare away the faint hearted.

Ask your assistant to shake the deck a couple of times and after a little bye-play say (in the same commanding tone) "*I feel STRONG magic*", still shaking the cards relax your grip and allow the chosen card to 'materialise' between the Aces.

Gasps of amazement !!! They love you !! Pick up the money, make your exit.....



Card in the Window

This, as with much of the Blaine repertoire, is a variation of an old routine - Card in a Picture Frame. David has given it his own unique 'twist'.

Effect:

In this effect David Blaine finds a chosen card by throwing the deck of cards at a cafe' window. As the cards fall to the ground the chosen card is seen to be sticking to the cafe' window - closer examination and the card is found to be stuck to the inside of the window !

Preparation.

You require two matching cards (backs and face), one of these cards has to be secretly positioned beforehand, in the place you intend to magically produce the 'chosen' card, ie; inside the cafe' window.

Working:

With the first matching card positioned you are ready to 'force' the second card on your willing victim !

Have the card memorised and returned to the deck - shuffle the deck and control the 'forced' card back to the top. You could at this point ask your audience if they believe in 'Mind over Matter' or the likelihood of their card materialising in some other place ' etc, etc.

Palm-off the twin card and toss the whole deck at the window.

As your audience turns to see the results of your incredulous deck tossing behaviour, pocket the palmed card.

Magnificent !, now they also find that the card is on the inside of the window !!!!



Two Card Monte'

EFFECT:

Two Red Aces placed between a spectators fingers are 'switched' then 'switched back'.

The assistant turns the cards over to reveal two Black Queens !!!

The Set Up

At the top of the deck have the two Red Aces on top of two Black Queens.

Working.

Have an assistant make an upright fist, take the first Red Ace (showing it first) put it between the first and second fingers (where it remains). Now take the second Red Ace (also showing it) quickly stab it in and out of the two fingers (above the first Ace), saying "*I just switched them*", [you haven't] quickly push the Ace in and out again now saying "*Now I've switched them back*" [you haven't] Saying "*I'll show you what I did*", slowly demonstrate, this time you slowly and deliberately exchange the two cards (one for the other) twice. Adding your own bit of patter, eg; "*Which do you think is on top ? Ace of Hearts or Ace of Diamonds ?*".

Once done, ask your assistant to examine the faces of the two cards (Red Aces).

Repeat the fast 'switch move' ONCE - without the slow exchange, then ask the assistant which card they think they are holding, pause, then ask them to look at the card (Red Ace) .

While they are answering and looking, hold your hands low (still looking at the assistant) and slip the Red Ace you are holding to the bottom of the deck and take the first Black Queen from the top.

You are now ready for the next step.

Repeat the 'switch move' ONCE - with the slow exchange, this time actually exchanging the Black Queen for the Ace held by the assistant. Now ask the assistant "*Without Looking - which card are you holding*" - as they are now holding a Black Queen. While they are answering slip the Ace you are holding to the bottom of the deck and take the second Black Queen from the top. Say again "*I'll show you again what I did* "

Repeat the Double 'switch move' completely as described in the first paragraph.

Demonstrating how you switched the two cards, now they are left holding two Black Queens in their hands.

Ask again "*Which card do you think is on top ?*".

With a bit of by-play re-enforce the idea that they are holding Aces-Hearts/Diamonds.

Now for the crunch...

Ask your assistant to examine the two cards, revealing - Two Black Queens !!!

For an alternative version see my [Mystical Red Aces](#)



The Un-Dead !

Our intrepid street performer approaches a passer-by....

"Let me show you something strange", "It's bizarre !"

He reaches towards a car windscreen and removes a dead fly... holding it carefully on the palm of his hand he shows that the fly is indeed dead. The performer asks the passer-by to cup his hands around the fly, after a moment or two the fly comes to life and flies off..... SHREEEEEEK !!!

Preparation.

Now, you are going to need a supply of Bluebottles for this, I suggest you make this a summer trick as there will be a ready supply of Bluebottle maggots at your local fishing tackle shop. The maggots can be encouraged to pupate at different intervals by keeping them at different temperatures.

Alternatively you could try swatting one, but in my experience they don't take too kindly to this sort of treatment !!

Take a pupating maggot in small glass jar (easier to keep an eye on it), when a fly emerges, place it in the freezer compartment of your fridge for about 15 minutes, this should send it into a comatose state, ready for your performance.

You will need to check the revival time so that it coincides with your performance, the general consensus of opinion is 10 minutes.

Performance hints...

You might also try cupping your hands around the helpers hands and breath into their hands, the extra warmth will encourage a speedier fly revival !!

Note: If the helper doesn't want to hold the fly - have them cup their hands around yours. This great party trick so long as no one spots your bottled fly in the fridge !



Divulge Nothing !





Voodoo Spirit Writing

A willing volunteer selects and removes a card from a fanned deck, it is memorised before being returned, the deck is then shuffled by the volunteer.

The magician remarks that he can sense the presence of a Voodoo spirit in the room and will endeavour to use this spirit to locate the chosen card !

"I'm going to try something, I've never done this before, It's bizarre"

The deck is then placed on a table, a piece of blank green paper is folded and momentarily placed on top of the deck.

The magician continues to build up the voodoo atmosphere by asking the volunteer to hold the paper to his forehead and to visualise his chosen card. The magician then takes the paper and sets fire to it with the cigarette lighter. The flaming paper is held over the magicians hand and allowed to burn as he mumbles some barely audible magical words, the flame is then carefully blown out.

The magician now places the ash of the burnt paper onto his forearm. The ash is slowly rubbed onto the skin.....

the name of the selected card now appears on the magicians forearm ! WHOOOOOO !!! , spooky or what ? ;-)

Preparation.

In advance of performing this trick you must write the name of a card on your left forearm with soft wet soap, (say the 3 Diamonds) It is best just to draw the symbol of the suit rather than the word, you will also need to experiment with different soaps and with the amount of time you can allow before the soap dries and won't stick to the ash !

A piece of 'spooky' green paper, about 3 x 3 inches. Coloured paper is best as it produces a black ash.

You will also need a cigarette lighter in your right hand pocket.

Method.

Force a known card (3 Diamonds) onto a spectator, have it returned to the deck then follow the effect as written above.



The Changing Card

(Variation)

The basis of this card trick is Alex Elmsley's classic 'Between the Palms' .

Aldo Columbini also has a fine variation (more complex, but beautiful) please seek it out and try it.

Effect:

A selected card placed between the spectators palms magically changes into a different card !

Working:

Have the assistant select a card and replace it in the deck. Control the card to the top, now Double Lift the top two cards.

Show the face card announcing that this isn't their card "*This isn't your card - is it ?*", the answer should be "*No*".

Slight distraction:

Ask your assistant to hold out a hand. Which ever hand they hold out say "*Not that one, this one.*" and lift up their other hand ! (smile as you do it).

While that little byplay was taking place you should have replaced the Double on the top of the deck.

Now push the top card over with your thumb and place it on the outstretched palm in front of you, ask your assistant to cover the card with their other hand.

After a couple of attempts to find their card in the deck - and failing !, ask what their card was.... make a 'magical' pass over their hands and ask them to look at the card they hold.

They should be suitably surprised to find that they are now holding the selected card.

Don't forget to use suitable patter (a' la Blaine) "*Can I show you something that transcends the mind ?*"



The Changing Cards

(Another 'Between the Palms' variation and to my mind this one is more impressive.)

The deck is fanned and a card is freely selected by a spectator (say, 2 C). The magician asks that the card be shown to the other onlookers. The deck is cut and the selected card is returned to the deck. The cards are shuffled and the top card is revealed, it is seen to be the chosen card, the 2 of Clubs!

But the trick is not finished !

The spectator is asked to hold out a hand (palm up), the card is placed on their palm. The spectator is now asked to sandwich the card with their other hand.

The deck of cards are once again shuffled.

The top card is now shown and it is made clear that it is not the chosen card (say, 10 H).

The magician now slowly passes the 10 Hearts back and forth over the spectators hands, while doing this the magician asks the spectator to name the card in his hands (2 C) "*Say the name of your card*", at the same time he reminds the spectator of the card he is holding "*I say the name of my card out aloud - 10 of Hearts*".

After a few passes the magician turns the card he is holding to reveal the 2 of Clubs - it has changed from the 10 of Hearts to the 2 of Clubs !

The spectator is asked to reveal the sandwiched card "*Say the name of your card again* ", it has also changed, from the 2 of Clubs to the 10 of Hearts!!

The magician has magically exchanged the two cards !!!

Set-up.

You will need two identical cards on top of the deck (10 H).

Method.

With the two identical cards on the top of the deck, have a card freely selected.

The card is returned to the deck - the deck is apparently cut for the return of the card.

What David Blaine does is to remove just the top card and offer the whole deck for the spectator to replace his card on ! (attention will be focused on the chosen card - "*Please show the card to everyone.*")

The right hand (held at an angle) returns the 'top half' (single card).

The appearance is of a deck being cut and the card being lost in the middle - this is what the spectators subconsciously expect to happen. They won't consider the possibility of a single card being lifted !!

Use a false shuffle or cut to retain the 'top stock'.

Position Check: You should have on top of the deck - 10 H / 2 C /10 H .

Double lift the top two cards to show the chosen card (2 C).

Ask the spectator to hold out a hand (replace the double on the deck and adjust the height of the hand), place the actual top card (10H) face down onto their palm.

False shuffle again (retaining 'top stock'), double lift the top two cards to show a 10 of Hearts , announcing "*This is not your card is it ?*" as you wait for a reply drop the hands slightly and replace the double, take the actual top card (2 C) and pass it back and forth (face down) over the

outstretched hands of the spectator.

The rest is pure showmanship !



Thought Card - Found !



David approaches a passer-by and asks that they hold a pack of cards and to merely think of any card that is in the pack.

"Are you thinking of one ?" - "Not the Ace of Spades !" - "Think of another ."

"OK - got one ? - Yes ? - OK, I want you to visualise your card turning around, can you do that ?"

"What's the name of your card ?"

The spectators announces his 'Thought card' - *"The 5 of Diamonds"*.

David takes the pack from the spectator and removes the deck - fanning the cards face up he comes to one face down card.

***"What was your thought card ?"* asks David again.**

***"The 5 of Diamonds"* replies the spectator.**

The spectator takes the face down card and turns it over - it is the 5 of Diamonds !!

Requirements.

A special deck of cards known as an **Invisible Deck**.

In this deck the cards all have 'roughing fluid' applied to their backs.

There are various set ups but the cards are generally arrange in 'pairs'

eg; back to back, face-up face-down, red to black and odd to even, the value of the pairs making a total of 13.

There is more to it than this but this gives you the gist of this gaffed deck.

What the magician must do is to memorise the combinations and pairs so that he is able to locate the 'pair' of the 'Thought card'. He must also remove the deck from the box so that the 'thought card' is face down (half the deck will also be face down with their paired cards).

Sounds complicated but it is relatively easy once learned.

As the cards are being fanned a squeezing pressure must be applied and maintained to the deck so that the back to back 'pairs' do not separate.

Once the 'pair' to the thought card is located the pressure is released and the face down 'Thought card' is pushed forward.

Notes: See - page 335 of Encyclopedia of Card Tricks - 'A Super-Reverse Problem' by Judson Brown .



Twisting Arm Illusion

Anyone that has seen this will surely have figured it out almost immediately - all that is required is a little lateral thinking. Here's my explanation anyway !

Approaching a passer-by David says "*Excuse me can I show you something ?*" "*It's strange*", "*Look*" "*I can't understand it*", at this point he squats down and places two hands flat on the

ground with the fingers pointing directly towards each other.

"Look " "Hmmm ?" "No, Come around here". Asking the 'helper' to come around to the left side of his body.

Still seeming unsure he says *"OK, do this with me"* lifting his left hand clear of the ground, leaving just his right hand in contact with the ground. *"Put your hand on the ground like mine."* indicating the position of his right hand which is pointing directly to the left.

"Now do this" - David starts turning his hand anti-clockwise. After a few moments the 'helper' finds that he cannot move his hand any further but David continues to turn his hand around - around - and around, until it has passed through an impossible 360 degrees!

David stands up, rubs and massages his shoulder - the helper is speechless.

The 'Secret'.

As David asks his helper the come to the other side he lifts his right hand up slightly and turns it clockwise through 360 degrees and replaces it on the ground in that position. All that is required now, is for David to 'unwind' his arm. Adding suitable sound effects.

This effect is best done wearing a baggy sleeved garment.

As I perform this trick I keep my left hand around my back and at a suitable moment, click my fingers loudly and make a jerking movement with my right shoulder and uttering a low "Aaarrgh !"

It's a 'killer' !!

Try to keep a straight face !



Regurgitated Card

The cards are held out in order that a spectator may make a free selection. The card is duly memorised (also shown to any other bystanders). The card is then returned to the deck.

The magician now holds the deck behind his back (both hands), after a moment or two of thought the magician brings out the deck and flourishes the top card declaring it to be the card selected by his new assistant !

But it is not the selected card !!

He returns the deck behind his back. Once again he brings out the deck - this time he blows on the cards - then he removes the top card and declares this card be the one selected.

But it is not the selected card !!

The magician again brings the deck up to his mouth and almost swallowing the deck gives a bigger blow !

Once more he removes the top card and offers it as the selected card.

But once again it is not the selected card !!

Looking slightly despondent he lowers the deck to his side - almost immediately his stomach starts to convulse as if he is about to vomit !

He reaches towards his mouth and removes something, it's a folded card - he opens it up - shows it to his helper - who now declares it to be the selected card - success !!

Method.

Once a card is selected it is controlled to the bottom of the deck by means of a false cut or shuffle.

The cards are taken around the back of the magician where he removes the selected card and folds it first into quarters then when he takes the deck around his back again he completes the folding and hides the folded card beneath the deck.

When the deck is taken up to his mouth for the second time he then inserts the folded card into his mouth ready for the final production !





The Phone Card

By AndyMagic

This effect was shown to me by Andy long before I saw the Blaine 'Regurgitation'.

The performance follows the method described above the major differences being that only the right hand comes forward to produce the selected card. After the third failure the right hand brings forth the deck and places it on the table (if you have one). The folded card is palmed by the left hand which reaches either into a bag or pocket to produce a mobile phone.

The folded card is held beneath the phone as the distraught magician rings for help....

"Hello - is that Debbie ?", "Could I speak to Paul please", pause, "Hi, Paul." "That trick you sold me hasn't worked !"

The magician now pauses briefly as if receiving instructions from Paul *"Hmm ...yes...yes.."*

"Yes, I'm on my mobile"

At this point the magician carefully removes the rear battery cover from the phone and there 'inside' the phone is a folded card - he offers it to the volunteer who finds that it is the chosen card !!!

"Thanks Paul"

Take a bow.



Floating Dollar Bill

A Dollar bill is crumpled in the hands - the bill is then seen to float and move above the hands.

Now, if you live in Haiti you may well be superstitious by nature and such an effect could leave a lasting impression

Method.

The bill is made to float by means of 'Invisible Thread' which is 'fixed' to both hands



Coin into a Bottle

As seen on the Paul Zenon Show

An ordinary glass bottle is casually displayed before some spectators.

One person is asked to hold the ends of the bottle firmly and horizontally. They hold the bottle out in front, in full view.

The magician shows a coin at his finger tips and explains that he will make the coin pass into the bottle !!.

As the helper holds the bottle firmly the magician raps the coin hard on the base of the bottle - immediately the coin is heard to enter the bottle and it can now be seen inside the bottle !!!

The coin has passed through the glass !!!!!

Requirements.

A suitable glass bottle. and a 'folding coin'.

Method.

As the magician passes the bottle to the helper he explains that they should "*Hold it firmly, like this*" at this moment he secretly places the folded coin in the neck of the bottle.

When the magician hits the base, the impact shock releases the folded coin into the body of the bottle.

At this moment (attention will be on the bottle) the magician palms the 'real' coin.

The folding coin may be removed by shaking the bottle sharply - the coin is immediately swapped for the real (palmed) coin. The coin and bottle are then handed out for examination.



Biting a Coin in Half

A coin is bitten in half, then with a wave of the hand it is restored !

Get yourself a 'folding coin', from any good Magic Supplier.

See 'Links' page.



Tax Disc thro' Car Windscreen

As seen on the Paul Zenon Show

A passer-by is asked to examine a Tax disc within a car windscreen.

A hand is placed over the position of disc, from beneath the hand a tax disc is slowly pulled out !

The magician removes his hand to show that the tax disc inside the windscreen is missing ! At the same time he gives the tax disc to the passer-by to examine.

Method.

I have heard a couple of theories as to how the tax disc is 'vanished', but the most plausible is this. The disc on the inside the windscreen is pulled from its position by an accomplice. The accomplice is positioned at the rear of the car and pulls the disc clear by means of a fine thread.



The Pop-Up Card

(Fruit Loops)

Incorporated into David Blaine's 'Ambitious Card' routine.

A signed card is placed into the centre of the deck - with a snap of the fingers the cards returns to the top.

The card is again placed into the centre of the deck, another snap of the fingers and once more the card returns to the top.

The magician now takes the end of the face-up signed card and proceeds to bend it almost double, he turns the bent card face down, cuts off the bottom half of the deck and holds the deck at eye level where the bent card can be clearly seen on top. Still holding the cards at eye level the magician places the cut portion on top of the bent card, sandwiching it at the centre.

The magician holds his right hand above the cards, a snap of the fingers and the bent card passes

up through the deck and pops-up on the top, it is displayed and seen to be the signed card !

Method

Fan the deck face-up and have your volunteer select a card by touching it.

As you close the fan, cut the deck one card below the chosen card and take that portion to the top (bottom).

Turn the deck over and Double Lift the top two cards displaying the chosen card. Have the chosen card signed on the face. Turn the 'double' over.

Openly lift off the top card and have the volunteer cut off half of the deck - place the chosen (?) card onto the bottom portion and ask the volunteer to place his half of the cut deck on top.

Ask the volunteer to snap his fingers - turnover the top card to show that the signed card has returned to the top !

Place the signed card to one side.

You now have two problems..

One: You must lose the card in the centre again.

Two: at the same time you must control the chosen card to a position second from the top (in order to perform the Pop-Up card effect).

Both problems can be solved with one move.....

Hold the deck in the dealing position with a little finger break under the top card. The deck is then held (left hand) with the deck almost at right angles to the floor, in this position use the left thumb to split the deck halfway saying "*That looks like about halfway doesn't it ?*" The break held by the little finger should be hidden by the base of the thumb.

Pick up the signed card and bring it in from the rear, giving the appearance of returning the card at the halfway split - it is actually returned into the break held by the little finger - beneath the top card. [This move requires much practice in front of a mirror.]

Once the card has been returned, the hands/cards are brought back to a level position.

Have the volunteer snap their fingers and with some flair and a riffle, 'double lift' the signed card

and place it out-jogged (face-up) on top of the deck.

Take the outer-end of the face up ('double') signed card with your right hand and bend it almost in half, then turn the 'double' bent card face down (leaving it bent).

The right hand now cuts the deck (Biddle grip) and the left thumb openly slips off the top bent card onto the bottom portion of the deck as the right hand (with the top portion) is withdrawn to the right.

The right index finger must keep pressure on the bent signed card which is on top of the half held in the right hand.

Hold the left hand portion at eye level where the bent card can be clearly seen. Still holding the cards at eye level, place the right hand portion on top of the bottom half, sandwiching the bent card in the centre.

The left hand thumb and index finger must now take control the deck and hold down the bent signed card, ensuring that it doesn't pop-up prematurely.

The magician holds his right index finger above the cards and asks the volunteer to snap his fingers, at that moment the magician releases the pressure on the top card and up it Pops !!

Turn the card over, to reveal, once again, the signed card.

* For an alternative handling see The Pop-Up Card, p285, Expert Card Technique.



Disappearing Coin

A coin is placed on the back of a helper's hand.

David indicates that the helpers should "*Watch the coin*" by pointing to it.

David then waves his hands to and fro above the hand with the coin on it.

On the second wave the coin disappears !!

Method.

The disappearance of the coin is achieved with the aid of a device known as 'The Raven' and can be obtained from good Magic Suppliers.



Mind Probe

Our intrepid magician goes forth onto the unforgiving streets.

A passing female is asked to take part in a simple experiment...

"I'll riffle the cards before your eyes - watch - think of one card."

The cards are duly riffled - faces towards the helper.

"Have you a card in mind ?"

"Yes"

Our Magician concentrates intensely.

"You could have chosen any one of 52 cards"

"You are thinking of a red card..... it's a low number..... a three.

The card you are thinking of..... is..... the 3 of Diamonds!"

"Whow, yes yes yes !!!"

* * *

To perform this miracle of mind reading you will require a 'short card'.

You must shorten any card by about 1 mm.

Place the short card in front of the card which you want to force on your helper.

The 3 of Diamonds is a good card to use as a force card as it easily visible and not difficult for the helper to get a 'fix' on it.

The cards are riffled at eye level and quite close the helpers face. The force card and the short card should be positioned about 2/3 into the deck.

The cards should be riffled very fast (so their faces appear blurred). When the short card is reached the riffle is paused for an almost indiscernible moment - just long enough for the helper to fix on the force card (3D).

The riffle continues at speed.

With a little performance the helpers mind is read and 'their' card is revealed by the magician.

This feat of magic requires much practice and it is useful if the helper is a little scatter brained or slightly drunk ! You don't want some bright eyed smart alec to pre-select a card thereby ignoring your riffle !!

Good luck with it.



Kundalini Rising



Said (by some) to be the best Rising Card effect available.

I believe Kundalini Rising is the Rising Card effect that David Blaine used in his show.

A deck of cards is shuffled by your volunteer and cut into two halves. Your volunteer then selects a card from the half he/she chooses. After memorising the card, it is replaced, all the cards are then returned to the box.

The box is returned to the volunteer, after a moment or two you ask them to relax their grip. As they relax and slowly loosen their grip, their chosen card starts to rise from the deck, and may jump out at the finish !

There are other Rising Card effects available from UK magic suppliers but I believe Kundalini Rising is only available in the USA.

There are different ways of achieving the rising card effect, so shop around - or make your own !

