

Al Capone's Vault - The Magic Version



For those either too old or too young to remember, Al Capone's Vault was a TV Special aired in 1986, hosted by Geraldo Rivera. Here's the promo:

The two hour special was greatly hyped as potentially revealing great riches or bodies on live television. This included the presence of a medical examiner should bodies be found and agents from the Internal Revenue Service to collect any of Capone's money that may be discovered. When the vault was finally opened the only things found inside were dirt and several empty bottles including one Geraldo claimed was for moonshine bathtub gin. Despite the ending the special became the most-watched syndicated television special with an estimated audience of 30,000,000. " Wikipedia

Does this sound more than a little like the hype surrounding so many magic tricks and the pre-release comments on the Cafe approach that number it seems. This was brought to mind while reading the massive thread on a new product called Linked. At this point I'm not sure whether Linked isn't just an elaborate scam " it really smells, but that's not my point here. I began thinking about over-hyped products that really stunk.

I'm not talking about just bad, I'm talking about wallpaper peeling " gas mask required stinkers. Remember this:

*For centuries rumours have blossomed: tales of gurus, shamans, mystics and the secret powers of the mysterious "Third Eye" have fascinated the populous. But, can the myth's reality actually be demonstrated? Now, **Ben Harris** brings this fantastic mystery to life"creating a unique, freaky and visually-arresting effect"one slick enough for even the most savvy of today's street-wise*

performers.

HOLE IN THE HEAD has been one of the art[™]'s most closely guarded secrets of recent times—it has fooled, amused and delighted some of magic[™]'s biggest names. Using no mirrors or reflective devices and no stooges, **HOLE IN THE HEAD** is a radical and visual NEW PLOT—an exciting piece of street-theatre that simply **MUST** be experienced live! What[™]'s more, it[™]'s 100% practical! This is a one person—do anywhere—illusion.

In effect, the performer gathers a crowd around himself in a brightly lit, sunny spot. Discussing the amazing legend, he offers to open his own —Third Eye— allowing the sun to shine right through his head. As this would be too dangerous to observe directly, he suggests that everyone focus attention on his shadow. After some concerted effort, a small blob of light appears in the centre of his shadow head. Amazingly, this blob of light then grows larger at his command. To prove that it is no mere optical illusion and that the light does indeed pass through his head, a spectator is asked to wave her hand behind the performer[™]'s cranium. Incredibly, when she does this, the actions are reciprocated in the shadow head—her fingers are clearly visible in the shadow hole! **THE CONCLUSION IS INESCAPABLE—THE SUN IS INDEED SHINING STRAIGHT THROUGH A HOLE IN THE PERFORMER[™]'S HEAD!** The process is now reversed and the hole slowly closed. **YOU CAN PERFORM THIS STUNNER VIRTUALLY ANYWHERE THE SUN SHINES.** Complete with bonus handlings and clever ideas by Paul Harris and Michael Weber. **YOU CAN EVEN OPEN A SPECTATOR[™]'S OWN —THIRD EYE—!**

“Bravo! Mind expanding magic, in every sense of the word!”

- MICHAEL AMMAR

“The rumors are true: Ben Harris does have a hole in his head. And it's surrounded by a brain filled with clever ideas, of which this one is delight.”

- Max Maven

—Truly a wonderful thing... a totally original breakthrough plot.—

- PAUL HARRIS

—...situational, astonishing and a devilishly clever piece of magic —the best effect I[™]ve seen in a long time!—

- JOSHUA JAY

“Something that’s never been done before using a method that’s never been used before” very cool!

- RICHARD KAUFMAN

“Fooled me... you could probably start a religion with this!”

- GARY KOSNITZKY

“Just remarkable, I love it!”

- RICHARD OSTERLIND

Open your “Third Eye” and let the sun shine through!

Certainly something that ranks right up there with the classic *Silver Shifter*.

Nominations are now open for the all time winner. Either comment here or I can be reached at intenselymagic@gmail.com

Take care.....

