Craight Karges' magick flair comes to Truman

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Whether it is by predicting the thoughts of his audience or finding locks across the stage, onstage or off, Craig Karges has been defying logic and mystifying crowds for approximately 30 years. The “Extraordinist,” as he describes himself, has been performing and how his unique show was formed.

Craig Karges performs his famous floating table, with plenty of laughter along the way. Karges has been featured on many popular shows, including the Tonight Show, Access Hollywood Live, America’s Got Talent, The Ellen DeGeneres Show and several other high-end corporate and university events, including college shows I do some of my favorite shows. Some of the high-end corporate shows can be some of the most fun, the college shows can be some of the most fun, and I also do theatres as well, and those are really enjoyable. So it's really that mix, and I enjoy mixing shows within within each engagement. I see myself as a visual performer with a strong verbal influence.

SUB Georgian Room. The Index interviewed Craig Karges to hear how he became interested in performing and how his unique show was formed.

The Index: When did you first become interested in performing?

Craig Karges: I did performance since I was 13 years old. I started as a magician and started doing stage shows around college campuses when I was 13. To be a part of the theatre and psychological aspects of what I do. I combined it with the magic when I was 14 and started doing the type of performance I do now. I used my way through the university by doing shows, graduated and hit the road.

INDEX: How did the idea come about for you to perform mixed media?

Craight Karges performs his famous floating table trick in the audience. He claims every piece is not part of act.

Craig Karges: Really, with my contact with someone, I read them, I recognize the way they think and act, and I learn what people are thinking and doing. I just start calling out personal readings from your audience.

I, of course, I've had all kinds of stall happen. I do a Wild Card routine when someone comes up out of the audience and I open up my eyes with surgical tape and pen to my eyes, and wrangle cloth around that. Then and there, I get the audience to perform for me.

INDEX: What kind of advice would you give to someone looking to get into performing with large crowds?

If I have a degree in broadcast speech and journalism, I make sure I want to college and make sure I get a degree. And I think of all the professionals I've learned from the best and the brightest, and that's what I do. So everyone needs to get in a show or field that's what they really want to do, but you haven't really to involve yourself in it, and start doing it the way that you want to do.

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