

Stars of **MAGIC**

presents

JOHN SCARNE'S CLASSIC BALL ROUTINE

Photographic Interpretation by GEORGE KARGER

Edited by GEORGE STARKE

The great Nate Leipsig said: "Scarne is the most expert exponent of table magic I have ever seen in my life."

John Scarne, one of the world's foremost sleight of hand artists, gives you a pet routine which he has developed over a period of many years. He has used it with great success. It has outstanding entertainment value, having been thoroughly audience-tested.

Many amateurs, even professional magicians, hesitate to learn tricks which depend upon sleight-of-hand. The reason probably is that the instructions are often vague and insufficient.

Now by means of 22 clear photographs of Scarne's hands in action, taken by the famous photographer George Karger, you will easily be able to learn and perform this miraculous effect. Scarne has so simplified the moves that you will require little practice.

After you have mastered this effect you will find you have a magical gem which can be performed sitting or standing, surrounded by people, and without employing anything except a few little balls, your hands, and a bit of personal showmanship.

EFFECT

The effect is a bewildering series of magical appearances and disappearances of small balls. Starting out by taking a pinch of ashes from an ash tray, you cause ball after ball mysteriously to materialize, multiply and vanish. At the end of the routine, the balls become ashes once again.

REQUIREMENTS

Four little balls and an ash try. You can use balls about $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in diameter made of cork, rubber, paper, cotton, etc.

INSTRUCTIONS:

ABBREVIATIONS

L.H. — Left hand; R.H. — right hand; T. — thumb; F. — finger.

Three balls are in right coat pocket. While the R.H. rests on table with a ball finger-palmed at base of 4th and 5th Fs., L.H.T. & 1st F. reach over to ash tray and secure a pinch of ashes (=1).

L.H. 1st F. shows ashes, and as both hands come together L.H.T. & 1st F. (#2) slide ball diagonally across fingers of R.H. so that ball comes into view at tips of T. & 1st F. of both hands (#3). Ball is immediately turned a few times by T. & 1st F. of both hands, placed on table and the hands casually shown to be empty (=4).

R.H.T. & 1st F. pick up ball (#5), T. rolls ball down into base of last two Fs. (#6) as ball is apparently placed in L.H. (=7). L.H. is closed as if holding ball. Turn palm down and rub tips of 1st and 2nd Fs. against the T. in a circular motion so that ball evaporates and vanishes as hand is turned palm up and shown empty (=8).

R.H. goes to pocket, finger-palms a 2nd ball and brings out 3rd ball visibly between R.H.T. & 1st F. Place this ball openly on table.

R.H. is curled into a fist with fingers on table, and R.H.T. pushes ball into the T. crotch and into fist (=10). R.H. rotates T. and Fs. in circular motion and squeezes 1st ball out of thumb crotch (#11). R.H. repeats the rotary motion and 2nd ball pops out of thumb crotch (#12). 3rd ball is retained finger-palmed.

R.H. picks up one ball and actually places it at base of fingers of L.H., which is held palm up, and then does likewise with 2nd ball, so that ball between L.H. 4th & 5th Fs. is ready to be finger-palmed (=13). At this point, R.H. is palm down and L.H. is palm up showing the two balls.

Both hands come together, each making a half turn at the same time, so that R.H. is now palm up and L.H. is palm down; and in doing so, L.H. apparently places the two balls in R.H., but really drops only one. The other ball, which is between 4th & 5th Fs., is retained in L.H. finger-palmed. Now R.H. shows the two balls in the palm. (You have given the impression of transferring two balls from L.H. to R.H.)

R.H. places both balls on table and you ask spectator: "Which ball seems larger?" When he indicates the ball, pick it up with R.H. and say: "That's right, this one is really two balls." [In order to make two balls out of one ball, R.H. picks up "larger ball" and comes underneath other ball finger-palmed in L.H. (#14) and this R.H. ball pushes the other ball along the fingers on the inside of L.H. until the two balls appear at finger tips. (#15).] Both balls are then pulled apart and placed on table so that you now have three balls in a line.

R.H. picks up middle ball and apparently places it in L.H. Show ball has vanished from L.H. (Same moves as #5, 6 & 7.)

R.H. reaches into coat pocket, produces the ball and places it on table. However, in going to pocket, you have secured a 4th ball in finger-palm position.

R.H. picks up two balls, one at a time, and actually places them at roots of Fs. of L.H. (#16). L.H. turns palm down as R.H. turns palm up, and you apparently drop two balls into R.H., but really drop only one (=17). Show the two balls in R.H.

R.H. comes over and above L.H. and openly drops the two balls, one at a time, into opening of L.H. fist (=18). and R.H. 1st F. pushes each ball into fist.

R.H. picks up third ball on table, really places it in pocket and shows hand empty. L.H. goes through rotary motions of squeezing out one ball at a time until three balls pop out of the hand (#19).

The three balls are lined up on table, and hands are shown empty. R.H. picks up one ball and apparently places it in L.H.: R.H., with this ball finger-palmed, picks up 2nd ball, apparently placing this one too in L.H. (=20). R.H., with two balls finger-palmed, picks up 3rd ball (=21) and openly places it in pocket, at the same time dropping the two finger-palmed balls into pocket.

L.H. T. rubs against 1st two fingers and reaches over into ash tray securing a bit of ashes on 1st F. Hand is then turned over in a flourishing manner to show that balls have vanished and have been magically changed back again into ashes (=22).







