



Lose yourself in magic...

Edinburgh International Magic Festival

1<sup>st</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> July 2016

## **MagicFest Announces 7<sup>th</sup> Magical Year Programme and Launches a New MagicFair at Summerhall**

Seekers of wonder and amazement are invited to 'lose themselves in magic' this summer as the Edinburgh International Magic Festival celebrates its 7th magical year as the UK's biggest festival of innovative and cutting-edge magic, 1<sup>st</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> July.

Edinburgh will sparkle with an enchanting programme of world-class magic events, unforgettable performances, and jaw-dropping stunts from some of the greatest illusionists, mindreaders and accomplished magicians from around the world.

- Three day MagicFair at Summerhall – a brand new multi-space experience with family events and late night sessions
- Matinee performance added to MagicFest Gala at the Festival Theatre
- Magic School, Secret Room and Magic à la Carte Dinner
- Grand Prix World Magic Champion Hector Mancha joins MagicFest line-up
- The legendary Juan Tamariz ('El Maestro') performs live for the first time in Scotland
- Show premieres from Kevin Quantum, Colin Cloud, BBC's R. Paul Wilson, and debut performances at the Festival from Vincent Gambini and David Gerard
- Korean magic company from the world's only magic college, featuring the Asian Champion of Magic
- City centre Magic Hunt for children and adults, and FREE magic performances at Krispy Kreme stores in the run up to the Festival

Kevin McMahon, Artistic Director of MagicFest, commented... *'This year we have arguably one of the greatest living legends in magic, Juan Tamariz, and one of the greatest up-and-coming stars, Hector Mancha, both featuring at the Festival. It's our biggest line-up to date with the launch of MagicFair, free entry for under 7s, and the addition of a matinee performance at the Gala Show, allowing us to share magic and its top stars with more people than ever before. Watch out for surprises around the city too!'*

**MagicFair: 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> July | Summerhall | From £12**

**Morning - all ages | Afternoon 7+ | Lates 16+**

This year's MagicFest launches with a brand new three day MagicFair at Summerhall – a multi-room experience enticing visitors to lose themselves with a full spectrum of magic performances and watch up to 10 live shows all with one ticket across morning (10am-2pm), afternoon (2-6pm) and lates (7.30-11.30pm) sessions.

Family oriented morning sessions offer free entry to under 7s, who can enjoy Magic School workshops, wand-crafting, treasure hunts and six different live shows, while afternoon sessions offer visitors of all ages a mixture of close-up, theatrical, and stage magic with performances from Jango Starr, Gary Dunn and Tricky Ricky.

Evening sessions are more adult themed with late night horror magic from Luke Eaton in the Anatomy Room, a special VIP performance from BBC's 'The Real Hustle' star R. Paul Wilson, and mind-experimentation with sell-out Scottish mind-reader Colin Cloud in 'Psyche' – a 20 minute, fully interactive and potentially life changing conceptual experiment held in the Dissection Room.

Between shows, festivalgoers can explore the Ribbon Maze, Magic & Circus Shop, Sam the Scam Banco Booth and enjoy spontaneous close-up magic, comedy, illusions and sleight of hand with food, drink and music in the open-air courtyard.

**Magic and Variety Gala Show: 8<sup>th</sup> July | Festival Theatre | From £14 | Age 5+**

Due to incredible popularity, a matinee performance has been added to this year's MagicFest Gala, which brings the festival to a splendiferous finale at the magnificent Festival Theatre on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July.

Believers and sceptics will be blown away by this two and a half hour variety of breath-taking performances from world champion illusionists, mindreaders, masters of the impossible and confounding magicians from Scotland and around the world. Highlights include South Korean Digital Time Traveller Hun Lee; Alchemist Young Min Kim, who deconstructs matter with the touch of his hand; Scotland's mindreading equivalent to Sherlock Holmes and sell-out act Colin Cloud; Spanish magic world champion Hector Mancha; and mind-dizzying hula hoop artist Miss Polly Hoops. Funny, heart-warming, thrilling and always delivered with forensic attention to detail, visitors will leave feeling befuddled yet satisfyingly amazed!

The recipient of the Great Lafayette Award 2016, which honours magicians who have excelled in live stage performances, will also be announced during the evening Gala.

**Magic School & Workshops: 4<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> July | Quaker Meeting House | £80/18 | 7-10**

The most mysterious summer school in the world! This 4-day course or 2.5 hour workshop will bring-out the inherent magic talents of budding young wizards, under the supervision of Head Master Gary James. Magic School students will learn, create and perform their own magic tricks, with each day focussing on a different area of magic and performance, from levitation to vanishing card tricks, with a graduation ceremony and magic show for family on the final day.

**Magic à la Carte: 7<sup>th</sup> July | Tigerlily | £50 | Age 16+**

Diners with a taste for the unexplainable can whet their appetite for mystery with a delicious three course meal in the glamorous setting of Tigerlily on George Street, complimented by private table-side performances from TV magic consultant Lewis Barlow, former Scottish Close-up Magician of the Year, Billy Reid and four times Scottish champion Michael Neto leaving guests' brains baffled and taste buds tickled.

**Secret Room: 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> July | Lauriston Castle | £20/£18 conc | Age 10+**

Returning to Lauriston Castle after three years of sell out shows, The Secret Room transports its guests back in time to explore hidden passages and clandestine laboratories with three of Scotland's finest magicians - Chris Dinewoodie, Drew McAdam and Michael Neto – as they animate the castle's mysterious and colourful past with stories, performances and illusions.

**Special Performances and One-Off Events:**

**Juan Tamariz: 9<sup>th</sup> July | George Square Theatre | From £16 | Age 10+**

Renowned Spanish magician Juan Tamariz (nicknamed *El Maestro* for being arguably the most influential contemporary magic magician in the world) joins MagicFest to perform a live public show for the first time ever in Scotland. Juan, who has appeared on the biggest stages around the world, will seduce the audience into his world of wonder through misdirection, manipulation and befuddling card tricks, for which he is best known.

**Kevin Quantum: 4<sup>th</sup> July | Scottish Story Telling Centre | £13/£11 conc | Age 7+**

Magician/scientist hybrid Kevin Quantum presents his brand new show "Illuminations" – a showcase of stunning light-based illusions, including the slowing of time using flickering beams, floating will-o'-the-wisps above audience members' heads and, for the first time ever, the creation of a rainbow live on stage! The Magic Circle magician tutored by Penn & Teller will leave onlookers questioning... where does science end and magic begin?

**Colin Cloud: 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> July | Summerhall Dissection Room | £18/£16 conc | Age 12+**

Showgoers are advised to not think about anything they wouldn't want Colin to know or reveal as the 5-star forensic mindreader attempts to survive a lethal injection, inviting the audience to join him after the show on the streets of Edinburgh in search of the life-saving antidote.

*Colin commented... 'Every year I work incredibly hard to write, create and perform the most astounding and impactful experiences I'm capable of and, after six successful years, I'm looking forward to sharing what I believe is my strongest and most daring work yet. I'm also truly excited to have the world debut of my brand new show 'Exposé' at the Edinburgh International Magic Festival.*

**R. Paul Wilson: 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> July | Summerhall Anatomy Room | £13/£11 conc | 12+**  
Star of BBC's 'The Real Hustle' and world-renowned magician, R. Paul Wilson is a leading authority on con games, cheating and the art of deception. 'Impossibilia' takes his audience on a tour through Paul's repertoire of conjuring curiosities, scams and impossibilities, with stories and demonstrations gathered from a lifetime of study and passion for the art of magic.

**Vincent Gambini: 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> July | Summerhall Red Theatre | £11/£9 conc | Age 12+**  
Award-winning magician Vincent Gambini presents 'This is not a Magic Show' – part performance-lecture, part deconstructed magic tricks – breaking down sleight-of-hand, revealing the secrets of misdirection and its invisible mechanics and its clichés.

**David Gerard: 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> July | Summerhall Cairn Theatre | £11/£9 conc | Age 10+**  
Magic adventurers are invited to become a player in America's leading mindreader David Gerard's 'Game Night' – a one-of-a-kind mix of board games and mystery arts making use of Monopoly and Ouija Boards. Mixed with mental gymnastics and cunning wit, Gerard creates a truly thrilling experience his fans will remember long after the show is over.

**FREE Events at Krispy Kreme: 19<sup>th</sup> (Braehead Store) and 26<sup>th</sup> June (Edinburgh Store)**  
In the run up to MagicFest, free 'Magic Moment – Close-Up' magic performances will take place at the intu Braehead Glasgow (Sunday 19<sup>th</sup>) and Hermiston Gait Edinburgh (Sunday 26<sup>th</sup>) Krispy Kreme stores at 1pm, offering visitors a trick with their treat and a tour of the 'Doughnut Theatre to see exactly how Krispy Kreme doughnuts are made.

A Magic Hunt, which challenges children and adults to follow a map to collect clues and solve puzzles, will also take place across the city centre (date TBA).

- ENDS -

For further information, images and interviews, please contact Gary Anderson at  
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## Notes to Editors

### Images:

High res images are available to download here <https://goo.gl/1uSImF>

### Tickets:

Online - [www.magicfest.co.uk](http://www.magicfest.co.uk)

By Phone - 0131 226 0006

In person - Fringe Box Office, 180 High Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1QS

There are NO additional booking fees for MagicFest tickets 2016

MagicFair VIP tickets include goody bag worth £30, option to pre-book up to 6 events in advance, signed festival programme, t-shirt, self-working magic trick, Krispy Kreme doughnut, and exclusive VIP event with R. Paul Wilson.

**Social media:**

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**Sponsors and supporters:**

Principle Partner: Krispy Kreme for 3<sup>rd</sup> year | Venue Partner: Summerhall | Technical Sponsor: NL Productions | Event Partner: Edinburgh Museums & Galleries | Sponsors: Ideas, Central Car Auctions, Café 1505 and Cascade | Charity Partner: Kiran's Trust

**About Edinburgh International Magic Festival:**

The Edinburgh International Festival is a not-for-profit organisation founded and managed by husband and wife Kevin and Svetlana McMahon. Since conception in 2010, MagicFest has welcomed over 34,000 visitors and has grown to be the UK's biggest festival of innovative and cutting-edge magic, has consulted for the National Theatre of Scotland and has broken a Guinness World Record. MagicFest is leading the charge in the newly developing market of Magic Festivals appearing around the world, and aims to be the world leader in programming and producing innovative, cutting edge magic.

**Kiran's Trust**

Kiran Martin died at the age of 18 from a brain tumour in 2008. Kiran was one of these very creative, fun loving and magical people you meet every now and then, and she will never be forgotten. Kiran's Trust was founded on her birthday, 9th October, in 2009, as way of giving thanks for her life and celebrating the creative arts and sports, which she held dear. The Trust recognises this passion in other young people and provides support to help them advance in further education and participation in these areas.