

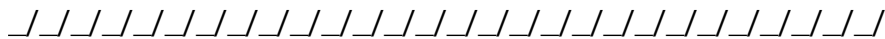
Roadshow 89

Magic Roadshow

May 5th, 2008 Issue# 89

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Street Magic's #1 free newsletter for magicians, street performers, restaurant workers, close-up artists, and mentalists, with subscribers in over seventy countries worldwide.



Hi All

Well, it's been a little longer than normal since the last issue, but, I've been really busy. That's the only excuse I can offer.. ( see below ) I think I've done a decent job of making up for it with the contents of this issue. I hope you agree.

If you are new to the Magic Roadshow, then I want to Welcome you and encourage you to express your opinion, email me with comments, criticism, rants or raves.. and submit articles and/or effects you would like to share with other magicians around the world.. I hope you find something in each issue that helps grow your magic. Oh.. and don't forget you free downloads at the end of this issue..

EMAIL ME

I'm going to give you something in this issue that's actually a copyrighted effect of mine, complete with the patter that makes it work. When you're performing for the public it takes more than a simple 'pick a card' trick to keep their interest. It takes a storyline, something to draw them into the effect, to make it memorable. It is extremely effective if you can develop a storyline that challenges your audience to question whether or not your 'story' is real. This is a little tidbit that not many pro's will tell you, but I can guarantee you it will work. If you begin your patter with a far-fetched science fiction story you stand to lose your audience's attention at the beginning because of the 'BS' factor. Their thinking " OK..OK.. lets get on with the trick.."

Derren Brown is a great example of someone who is a master of making his audience question the source of his effects. When he performs an effect and begins to tell you the psychological reasons behind it's success, you wonder if you are, in fact, watching a magic trick or a mental or psychological anomaly. I like to call this 'dual imaging'.. You have created two 'mysteries' of sort. One, the effect itself. And Two, the story behind the effect. Is it real? Am I being told a tall tale, or, am I seeing a great example of NLP at work. ??

If you can tie your effect to real people, real places, real events, then your 'wow' factor

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increases exponentially. David Copperfield's effect using the video of Orsen Wells is another great example. Think of it as a mystery within a mystery. I could write an entire article about dual imaging, and probably will one day, but enough for now..

Back to the being late thing.. Some of you may find it interesting that it takes me two full days to put together the contents of the Roadshow. That's IF I'm lucky. Then, it takes another full day to actually write out the content, expanding the resources and articles as I go. Sometimes, as was the case with this issue, it takes two days to complete the content, spell check, make editorial changes and corrections, and just generally get everything ready for the final step. I'm sure everyone is aware that this is a web page you're reading.. and not an email. I have to actually create a web site for each issue. If you look at the source of this page you'll see that everything is written in HTML. That means that once I've written the new issue I then have to re-write it in HTML, create the web page and images, publish everything to the web, double check all the links and images and then re-publish if something is awry.. That takes another full day. Then, I email your notification with the link to this site... and hope for the best.

My problem of late is not having a series of four days during which I can put together an issue. I work on the Roadshow for a day, then, I'm on the road or buried in paperwork for a few days, then back to the Roadshow for a day and then back on the road... My apologies. I hope to see a light at the end of the tunnel soon - and I sincerely hope it's not another train..

On with the (Road) Show...

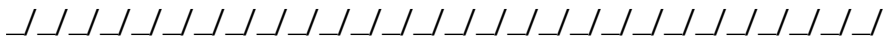
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The Destroyer - A Special Effect from your Editor

( I was very reluctant to publish this effect. Card Tricks are a dime a dozen, but card effects, with my complete routine, are harder to come by.. Since I'm late publishing this issue, I wanted to do a little something special for you.. Let me know how this works for you.. )

I approached a table with three thirty'ish guys. They looked as if they worked together and had stopped by the restaurant for dinner and drinks. Two still had on ties, and the third, although tieless, wore a business jacket. I could hear their laughter three or four tables away and knew approaching their 'spot' could be a challenge.

"Hello gentleman". I smiled. I knew to keep things simple and go straight into an effect before they had time to offer an objection. You know how guys together, without balance from their feminine half, can be..

Two nodded and one said "hi"..

"The management wants to make your wait as painless as possible, and that's my job.. so if I may, I would like to show you something that fooled the heck out of Peyton and Eli last week.. "

Of course, I failed to mentioned that was Peyton Smith and Eli Swartz, a couple of the waiters, but if you want to get a table-full-of-guys attention in a hurry... drop Peyton and Eli's name. ( or MJ, Lebron, or Tiger...)

I took a pack of Bee's out of my jacket, opened it, took out the slightly worn deck, layed the card case on the table, and begin to perform an overhand shuffle, keeping the top two cards in place.

"Any of you guys ever heard of Andrew Von Schellenbach?"

I looked around the table for a response, but only saw three heads slowly nodding back and

forth.

"Andrew was a neighbor of mine when I was growing up. I knew him only as a kindly gentleman who loved to work in his yard, cook beef brisket on a bar-b-que grill, and perform card tricks for my little buddies and myself. Although I didn't know it at the time, he worked for the federal government on what was called the 'Philadelphia Experiment'. As I understand it, he and a team of other scientists were responsible for trying to develop a method of making objects disappear based on some theory first presented by Einstein. Rumour has it that they made a ship vanish.. but the government would never admit it."

"Anyway, Mr. Schellenbach taught me how to play chess. He taught me a deep appreciation of Einstein and his life's work. And he also taught me dozens of card tricks, which was his passion after retirement. He taught me one effect in particular that he called 'the Destroyer'. I didn't understand the significant's of the name until I was in college and had the opportunity to learn a thing or two about the 'Philadelphia Experiment'. Maybe it was understanding the significants of the event that finally enabled me to perform this effect as Andrew had intended for it to be performed. For nine years I struggled to perform it.. And finally one day in the fall, right after my twenty-third birthday and one year after I educated myself about Mr. Schellenbach's experiment, it clicked.. Let me show you what I learned. "

I performed several rapid overhand shuffles, again leaving the top two cards undisturbed. "Someone tell me when to stop.."

The guy to my immediate left said "Stop".. and I squared the deck, lifted the top card, and asked them to look at it and remember it.. I placed the top card back on the pack, had a second thought, and placed the card on the table, face down of course.. and then put fifteen or twenty cards on top of it, picked up the whole pile, and then dropped the pile back on top of the remainder of the deck.

"I remember Mr. Schellenbach would bury the card in the middle of the pack. Of course, at this point only you guys know the value of the card. I didn't ask, and I don't want to know.." I commented, as I casually turned the deck in my hands from front to back to front to back..

At a moment when the deck was face up I said.." Gentlemen.. I'm going to thumb through the deck, faces up, and I would like for one of you to tell me when you see your card. Now, I may be thumbing a couple of cards at a time, so you don't have to tell me your card.. just that you SEE your card... OK? When I showed Peyton and Eli, neither one could pick out their card when they saw it again.. Makes you wonder how they make the big bucks doesn't it..?"

I begin to fairly thumb through the deck, spreading two or three cards at a time, showing them all the cards. The guys watched closely and I could tell their interest had peaked, since I had subconsciously issued a challenge and pitted their abilities against those of Eli and Peyton...

After thumbing completely through the deck, nary a word had been spoken by my three

compadres..

" No one saw the card?"

All three nodded 'no', and the guy to my left said " Run those by again.." So, I did. Once again I thumbed through the deck, left hand to right hand, this time dropping the cards onto the table two or three at a time as I took them into my right hand.

"Anyone see it this time?" I blurted.. I knew the answer, but I wanted to hear it from them. Again.. my buddies only nodded their heads 'no'. I casually picked the cards off the table and squared them up, turning them face-down in my left hand.

" In the Philadelphia Experiment, the destroyer that supposedly vanished from the Philadelphia port didn't simply become invisible, as planned. It vanished - and was then seen almost immediately a hundred or so miles off the Virginia coastline. Somehow it actually became invisible AND teleported from it's original location to another location many, many miles away.."

I pointed toward the card case laying on the table.. " You gentlemen know that we haven't touched that card case since the beginning of this effect. Would one of you open it and look inside? But.. before you do, let me ask - what was your card?"

The guy sitting to my right said " Six of Hearts", took the case and opened it. He wasn't sure what to do so I asked him to look inside and take whatever was inside out, and show it to his pals.. He did.. and he was holding the Six of Hearts.

" Wooooo...!"

All three gave out a friendly hoot and looked at me, grinning from ear to ear. I had three new friends, but I also had them on the hook, and I wasn't quite ready to let 'em off..

I layed the deck on the table and reached for the Six of Hearts. Jason (I later learned) handed me the card and I slowly and deliberately dropped it on top of the deck, gently squared it up with my right hand, and pressed my right forefinger onto the middle of the top card, as if holding the top card down.

" This is the part that, for nine long years, I couldn't perform. The ship involved in the Philly Experiment was only seen briefly off the coast of Virginia and then, mysteriously, it vanished yet again and reappeared back in the Philadelphia port.! That explains this..."

Moving my finger from the top of the deck, I picked up the top card of the deck, held the back toward Jason and his buddies, and then slowly turned it around to reveal a Jack of Diamonds. I turned it front and back a couple of times to convince them the Six had literally vanished right from under my finger.

I dropped the Jack/Six back on the top of the deck, flipped the deck onto it's back, and did a very informal ribbon spread, revealing one card in the middle of the deck upside down. I

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reached for the upside down card and removed it.. slowly turning it around to reveal the Six of Hearts. I dropped it back on the table and said...

"The similarities between the Philadelphia Experiment and Andrews effect were eerie - the destroyer was in the port at Philly, disappeared, appeared hundreds of miles away, vanished a second time, and then reappeared in the port at Philly. In Andrews effect, the original card begins somewhere in the middle of the deck, it then vanishes, reappears in a card box some distance away, vanishes a second time from the top of the deck, and returns to it's original location somewhere in the middle of the deck."

"Unfortunately for many of the sailors on the Philadelphia ship, their lives seem to have been turned upside down by the vanish and teleportation, check it out on Wikipedia when you get home, and I'm guessing that explains why the Six of Hearts is always found back in the middle of the deck... Upside Down...."

Jason and his two buddies invited me to join them for dinner. I couldn't, had to work you know, but I now enjoy their friendship, and they make it a point to request me, front and center, at their table every time they come to the restaurant...

How To:

The hardest part of this effect is remembering the patter.. Everyone who knows me knows that I certainly don't mind using a little bit of double-sided tape every now and again.

Begin with a deck, two identical cards, and one card with a little piece of double stick tape on it's back. Put one of the duplicates on the bottom of the deck ( the Six of Hearts in this case ), the other Six on top of the deck, and the card with the double stick tape on it's back ( the Jack of Diamonds in my example ) on top of the Six. Believe me, in a restaurant enviroment with restaurant lighting, it's HARD to see a little bit of tape on the back of a card..

Be sure to prep the double stick tape beforehand. Stick your finger on the double stick tape a number of times to reduce the stickiness. Your going to have to separate a couple of cards in short order and you don't want to struggle or make a 'pop'.

Put everything in the card case and you're ready to perform.

When removing the deck from the case at tableside, leave the bottom Six in the card case. Sit the case to one side and you're set for the reveal later on..

Begin a series of shuffles that leaves the two top cards undisturbed. The overhand shuffle works well, although I personally perform a modified faro shuffle that leaves these two cards in place. When you're ready, you can perform a false cut, or, simply mix the cards and ask one of the patrons to tell you when to stop.

Perform a double lift and show them the Six of Hearts. Ask them to remember the Six, as

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this is their selected card. Drop the cards back on top of the deck, and then almost as an after-thought, pick up the top card (the Jack of Diamonds w/ the double stick tape on it's back) and drop it on the table. Drop the Six on top of the Jack and then two and three cards at a time on top of those until you've got twenty or so in a little pile. Pick up the pile.. square it up nicely, and give the center of the little packet a nice squeeze to adhere the Six to the Jack. ( This is when you comment that Andrew usually buried the card deep into the middle of the pack..) Drop the packet back on top of the rest of the deck and you're set to show that the Six has vanished from the deck..

Although everything is not completely self-working to this point, it's darn near close..

While showing the Six as vanished.. I thumb the cards from hand-to-hand and drop them onto the table in small segments. I look for the Jack of Diamonds, with the Six stuck to the back, and make sure to drop it in such a way as to be able to spot it as I'm gathering the cards from the table. I make sure the Jack/Six goes back on top of the deck.

Now, it's time to reveal the 'other' Six in the card case. While pointing out the case on the table, and during the patron opening the case and revealing the Six, you hold the deck between your hands, partially concealed, and gently 'twist', don't pull, the top card (the Six), until it releases from the Jack. Now, I hold the Six with the right thumb and forefinger and give the rest of the deck in my left hand a quarter turn. I slide the Six onto the bottom of the deck.. UPSIDE DOWN. Now, most of the dirty work is done.. all I need to do is give the deck a cut by dragging a packet of cards out of the middle of the deck, leaving the top card (the Jack) in place.. and putting the packet out of the middle on the BOTTOM of the deck, which of course moves the upside down Six into a position in the middle of the deck. This move is easy, as the patrons are all watching the card case being opened.. Do this with confidence.

The remainder of the effect is straight-forward. Lay the deck on the table as you reach from the Six that was in the card case. Drop this Six onto the top of the deck, on top of the Jack with the double stick tape, casually square the deck with your right hand, and press your finger onto the center of the deck as if trying to prevent anything from escaping .

I continue with my story, and at the right moment, I take the 'top' card and show it to be the Jack of Diamonds. Don't simply flip it over, or someone might grab for it.. and I don't think you want your patrons inspecting this double..

Hold it, show it, and then drop it back on the top of the deck as you pick up the deck and flip it over in preparation for the ribbon spread. Now, they see the upside down card in the middle of the spread and all the attention is focused there. They've now forgotten about inspecting the Jack.

They saw the Six vanish from the deck. They saw their chosen card, the Six, appear in the card case. They saw you drop this Six on top of the deck. Then, they saw it vanish from the top of the deck while you held it down with your finger. The next time they see it, it's upside down in the deck.. Personally, I've found this to be a strong effect, considering the lack of complicated sleights. A small bit of double stick tape can do wonders..

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Now that you know the method, take a deck of cards and read back over the narrative, mentally performing the effect as you read. You'll see that it's really simple to perform. It's important that you tell the story in a serious and matter-of-fact manner. It shouldn't sound rehearsed.. just a natural telling of a story from your younger years. Good Luck.. and definitely let me know how this works for you.

The Philadelphia Experiment in Wikipedia..  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philadelphia\\_Experiment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philadelphia_Experiment)

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### VH-1's Magic Show - "Celebracadabra"

In the premiere episode of VH1's new celeb-reality series, Celebracadabra, meet seven wanna-be celebrity magicians -- 80s film icon C. Thomas Howell, Pussycat Doll Kimberly Wyatt, comedian Hal Sparks, singer Carnie Wilson, Celebrity Fit Club host ANT, rapper Chris "Kid" Reid, and actress Lisa Ann Walter.

The celebs will get teamed up with professional magicians, like Jeff McBride and Silly Billy, who'll coach them for their first challenge - Street Magic. Since the first episode will have passed before you read this, I can tell you that one of magic's top producers get the boot in week one. Now, six of the seven will move on to week two, where they will have to master the rigors of childrens magic.. If you missed any of the episodes, look at the VH1 schedule and you will probably be able to catch a repeat at some point during the week.. New shows premier Sundays at 9pm EST.

I'm sure past shows are re-run throughout the week. Also, check the VH-1 website for video's..

April 27th - Introduction/Street Magic  
May 4th - Children's Magic  
May 11th - Comedy Magic  
May 18th - Strolling Magic  
May 25th - Cabaret Magic  
June 1st (pre-empted)  
June 8th - Escapes  
June 15th - Road to the Finale  
June 22nd - The Finale  
June 22nd (also) - Magician's Special

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<http://www.vh1.com/shows/dyn/celebracadabra/series.jhtml>

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The Late Show with David Letterman - Magic Week

Look for the following magic stars this coming Monday-Friday, May 5th-9th, at 11:35 p.m on CBS

Magicians who are scheduled to perform...

Monday, May 5th - Lance Burton

Tuesday, May 6th - Mac King

Wednesday, May 7th - Dirk Arthur

Thursday, May 8th - Steve Wyrick

Friday, May 9th - Penn and Teller

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Gospel eMagic - Inexpensive Downloadable ebook and one Free downloadable ebook -  
"A Theology of Gospel Magic"

Andrew David is an ordained priest in the Anglican church. he has been performing magic in ministry and as a professional for many years. He has performed Gospel magic on the streets, youth clubs, embassies, churches, hospitals, schools, prisons, homes and palaces.

Writes Andrew.. "I discovered that the use of magic tricks in preaching has opened up doors in places where I would never have imagined being invited to. From private homes through to palaces, from prisons to embassies, schools to discos, God has used Gospel Magic to connect with a wide range of people."

"I am so excited by this discovery I want others to know. This is written for all those who are in some form of Christian ministry or other. Besides pastors and preachers, I include youth workers, children's ministers, evangelists, elders, schools workers, and any walk of life where you are seeking to communicate the Gospel to others."

"This book is designed to get you going with minimum of props and expertise. Most of the items you can make yourself. One or two items are easily available through your local jokes and party novelty store. Every trick in the book is accompanied by a spiritual application to use in your message with Bible verses suggested."

[http://www.urlfreeze.com/streetmagic/magic\\_ebook/](http://www.urlfreeze.com/streetmagic/magic_ebook/)

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### Top 100 Magic Sites..

What are the top 100 magic related sites on the web? Martin's Magic has compiled a site full of prospects. I can tell you that the rankings are not totally accurate, as the 'voting' gets a little out-of-sinc sometimes.. but the main importance of this site is all the links to many of the top sites on the web. The 100 top sites is actually a list of over 200 sites, ranked in importance by viewers votes.

I've had this site bookmarked for at least a couple of years, and refer back to the list periodically to pick up links to sites I probably wouldn't know about otherwise, especially new sites..

I think StreetMagic.info is around 110 or so. Click the 'vote' button while you're there.. it's painless and nothing is required of you. If you have a site on the list, let me know and I'll submit a vote for you as well..

<http://www.martinsmagic.com/?html=top100>

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Discover the Magic Tricks and Secrets of a professional in the privacy and comfort of your own home... Each effect is taught in a clear video format, downloadable, so you can watch it over and over until you've mastered the effect. Get one FREE magic trick just for visiting. NO obligations....

[http://www.urlfreeze.com/streetmagic/magic\\_trick\\_videos/](http://www.urlfreeze.com/streetmagic/magic_trick_videos/)

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### David Blaine Interview

I hope many of you got a chance to see David Blaine on Oprah, set the world record for holding one's breath.. Here is a nice, compact interview with David after-the-fact..

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Q & A - TIME Talks to David Blaine

"He performs less than once a year on average, but David Blaine's is the most harrowing of jobs. The master magician-cum-"endurance specialist" has earned worldwide renown by pushing the limits of the human body. He's buried himself alive for a week, been frozen in ice and, on Wednesday, set a world record by holding his breath for more than 17 minutes. TIME interviewed the Guinness Book of Records' newest entrant about the genesis of his death-defying feats, what it feels like when your body starts eating itself for sustenance, and what stunts are next on his slate."

<http://www.time.com/time/health/article/0,8599,1736857,00.html?iid=sphere-inline-sidebar>

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#### Coin Magic Video's

I have posted two really nice coin manipulation video's to Street Magic Bullets. Each is a professionally made video, not your typical annoying juvenile video, that is straight-forward and extremely watchable..

#### The Retention Vanish

One of coin magic's basic moves. The Retention Vanish is used to set up many different effects. Master this and you are one building block closer to being a very good coin manipulator..

<http://streetmagic.info/2008/04/retention-vanish.html>

#### The Back Palm

Nice video of the Coin Back Palm. This isn't easy. Although you can do the move within the first few times, it will take you awhile to get to the point where you are comfortable enough to perform it with confidence. It's really more of a motor skill than a sleight, in that you will learn to do this move through repeating it over and over until it's second nature.. Keep at it and you will be rewarded..

<http://streetmagic.info/2008/04/back-palm-video.html>

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HAMMER BLOW CARD - A Nice Card Effect from Harold Brosious

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SETUP: A card that you want to force is placed on top of the deck. A duplicate card that has been cut in half to resemble a jagged, broken board, is placed about 10 cards up from the bottom of the deck.

### WORKINGS:

Force the top card onto a spectator. Ask a second spectator to play the part of the magician and locate the chosen card. Have them turn away as the card is being forced. After the card is forced ask them make a fist. Then, ask them to hit the middle of the top card on the deck with the heel of their fist. Tell them that IF they strike the deck properly they will break every single card in the deck with the exception of the chosen card. Warn them however, that if they hit your thumb instead of the deck.. something unexpected will happen!

Hold the deck tightly, on each end, with your thumbs on top of the deck. Ask them to hit the deck when you count three. As they are about to hit the deck, move your hands so that they hit your thumb. Yell! Loudly! Then say I told you that something would happen. I screamed! Ask them to kiss your thumb to make it better. DO NOT allow them to actually do it, just tell them you're kidding..

Now tell them they're about to discover what REALLY happened when they mis-hit the deck. Tell them that since they hit your thumb, the force wasn't great enough to break the deck... only the chosen card.

Hold the deck to your ear, shake it gently, and state that you can hear the broken card inside. Then say that you will show them what happened. As the left hand holds the bottom of the deck and the right thumb riffles the outer end of the deck, bring both arms up quickly. Half of the duplicate chosen card will fly out. Turn the deck half way around and repeat the above action to make the other half of the card fly out.

When both halves are gathered, they reveal the chosen card and a big hand is given to the spectator for locating it.

Hal Brosious

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Have Something to Say... Free Dale Carnegie eBook

Far too many magician's step on stage with a pocketfull of tricks.. and nothing to say. Dale Carnegie spent a lifetime trying to teach the average man how to succeed onstage or in front of an audience. Although his works doesn't deal directly with magic, there is nothing better to help prepare you for presenting your magic than Mr. Carnegie's words.. Here is a free download containing about 260 pages of thoughts, tips, and tricks that are just as

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relevant today as the day he wrote it.. An unbelievable number of articles are written and published every year based on this (e)book..

"The trouble with many speakers is that they go before an audience with their minds a blank. It is no wonder that nature, abhorring a vacuum, fills them with the nearest thing handy, which generally happens to be, 'I wonder if I am doing this right! How does my hair look? I know I shall fail.' Their prophetic souls are sure to be right."

"It is not enough to be absorbed by your subject--to acquire self-confidence you must have something in which to be confident. If you go before an audience without any preparation, or previous knowledge of your subject, you ought to be self-conscious--you ought to be ashamed to steal the time of your audience. Prepare yourself. Know what you are going to talk about, and, in general, how you are going to say it. Have the first few sentences worked out completely so that you may not be troubled in the beginning to find words. Know your subject better than your hearers know it..."

Right on! Brother Dale...

<http://manybooks.net/titles/carnegieda16311631716317-8.html>

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Nexus Radio

What does the esteemed editor of the Magic Roadshow listen to when he pecking away at a newsletter? Nexus Radio..

Nexus Radio is a free full featured radio player for listeners who want to record their favorite radio content for playback on their PC, or any portable device that supports MP3s. With over 7000+ radio stations and support for thousands more, Nexus Radio features a wide array of music genre's. My favorite feature is the 'record' button, that allows you to save a song, or group of songs, to download later to your computer or mp3 player.

Search through a rich variety of radio stations with a straightforward interactive guide that can be updated daily with more content than XM and Sirius radio combined.

<http://www.nexusradio.com/downloads/nexusradio/>

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Free Downloads for New Subscribers

