Introduction

Martin Lewis is yet another of the talented Brits who we have been fortunate enough to lure to our side of the Pond. A very successful full-time professional magician, he did not get involved in magic until he had reached his majority — in spite of the fact that his father was the multitalented magician, magic inventor, builder and dealer, author, and artist, Eric C. Lewis.

Martin’s wake-up call, came following his family’s move to Los Angeles, at the Magic Castle in Hollywood where his lineage got him instant acceptance and friends and the magic he saw fanned his interest into the flames of near fanaticism. Typical of his earlier acceptance of other interests, he threw himself into a study of magic, theory, sleights, techniques, theatre, music, and showmanship.

When his father was commissioned by Dr. Robert Albo to illustrate and help write The Oriental Magic of the Bambergs, and to build some of the Okito apparatus for Albo, the family moved to Oakland, and Martin and his father frequented the now defunct Magic Cellar of Earthquake McGoon’s in San Francisco. Martin was hired as a close-up performer and began to learn to entertain and interact with his spectators. He also learned to perform stand-up magic on McGoon’s small stage.

He tarried behind for a while when his family returned to Los Angeles, then decided to broaden his horizons by working cruise ships: Princess, Holland American, Royal Viking, Cunard, Norway, Regency Cruises. He’s been an opening act for Debbie Reynolds, Robin Williams, Ricky Nelson, Harry Anderson, and Helen Reddy. He’s performed in the Follies Bergere at the Tropicana in Las Vegas, Could It Be Magic at Harrahs in Reno, and in Breaking Loose at Harrahs in Tahoe. He’s appeared on “The John Davidson Show,” “The Mike Douglas Show,” “Studio 12 (in Tokyo), and on CNN News.

His book, Martin’s Miracles, written and illustrated by his father, was published by Mike Cavney’s Magical Productions, and he’s lectured in Austria, Belgium, England, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Spain, Switzerland, and across the United States. He revitalized his late father’s magic production company, Magikraft Studios, producing a small number of extremely well-made products: “Technicolor Prediction” reviewed in these pages in the March issue is the latest release. However, his performing and lecturing career has taken precedence. Thank goodness, for he will be a featured act and lecturer at our “Shuffle Off to Buffalo Convention 2000” in July.

We are delighted to feature him here in his first One-Man Parade. PRW