

MAGICAL PERFORMANCE

Louie Foxx performs his magic show at the Les Schwab Stage

Louie Foxx's magic and comedy show is sure to draw crowds to the Les Schwab stage.

A budding magician at the age of five, Foxx said comedy and magic go hand-in-hand.

"The interesting thing about magic is the natural reaction people have to a trick is laughter — a reaction to the unexpected," Foxx said.

When describing his show Foxx said he will be bringing his flea circus to the Umatilla County Fair. Just thinking about a flea circus forces a giggle.

"I have trained fleas to do simple circus tricks like fly from trapeze to trapeze," Foxx said. And how does one see a flea circus?

"Through a magnifying glass," he said.

Each show is unique because each audience is different, Foxx explained. While some tricks he uses regularly, like turning a cup of water upside down or finding coins in unusual places on an audience member, he said he also incorporated "weird" cowboy tricks like slicing a banana with a bullwhip.

Foxx said card tricks are part of his repertoire, but he usually does those when he's doing a roving show. Being among spectators as opposed to a stage has its advantages.

"During roving shows I get to mingle with people at the fairgrounds and do smaller tricks," Foxx said. "It's a good chance



for people to get involved and see magic happen right under their noses."

Magic is the only job Foxx said he's ever had and his wife jokes, "At this point, I'm otherwise unemployable."

Foxx said his favorite part of the show is when two members of the audience participate — one

"reading" the other's mind.

"It's the highlight because I don't do anything!" Foxx said.

Foxx said he encourages spectators to come early to the show to see the new material he is breaking in.

"I like to try out an idea I had for a trick earlier that day no one's seen yet," Foxx said.

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