



## **MAGICIAN REVEALS HIS SECRETS AS PART OF NEW ZEALAND FRINGE FESTIVAL**

**WELLINGTON**, 25 November 2012 - As part of the 2013 New Zealand Fringe Festival, magician Mike Kmiec lets audiences have a look behind the conjurer's curtain. His new show, *The Secrets of Magicians*, appears from 27 February to 2 March at the Fringe Bar. However, instead of exposing the secrets of how magic tricks are performed, Kmiec exposes the secrets of the people that perform them.

"I've always wondered why a person would willingly engage in an art form that embraces falsehood," says Kmiec. "It seems to go against the traditional view of art as truth-telling, and yet it uses this contrast to entertain."

Produced, written, directed, and performed by Kmiec, *The Secrets of Magicians* tells the story of what drives someone to practice prestidigitation by mixing description, deception, and anecdote.

Kmiec hopes the show dispels common thoughts about magic, and magicians. "So much about magic these days focuses on fooling people, on how the magician knows more than the audience. I've never enjoyed that confrontational attitude. We all know there's no such things as mind-reading or levitation. Magicians are only human, and since magic happens in the heads and hearts of other humans who experience it, why not work towards that astonishment together?"

Kmiec, a Wellington-based magician, considers himself an obsessive hobbyist and researcher in the world of magic. Recently, he has written several scripts for the episodic vaudeville/burlesque Red Light Revue based in Hollywood, California, and is a magician member of the Academy of Magical Arts. *The Secrets of Magicians* is his first one-man show.

*The Secrets of Magicians* premieres at the Fringe Bar in Wellington during the 2013 New Zealand Fringe Festival. It opens 27 February and runs through 2 March 2013, at 8.30pm. Ticket prices range from \$10 to \$18. Tickets are available online at <http://www.eventfinder.co.nz/>.

For more information:

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