

# Magician Strykes Up the Local Interest

His hands move fast but steady, and his humor takes onlookers by surprise. Cards fly, coins appear out of nowhere, and people leave his shows slightly dazed but forever intrigued by his amazing ability to do magic. "Stryker," a magician born in New York, is now well-known and sought after in Orange County.

Born Justin Stryker Langdon, he first discovered his love for magic when he worked at Disneyland at the age of 19. While there, Stryker witnessed a magician doing card tricks for an audience and was blown away. From that moment on, he bought magic books and taught himself how to do sleight-of-hand tricks. "I got hooked on magic and just wanted to learn everything I could about it," he says. He even attended a magic class at California State University, Fullerton, where he furthered

his study of magic and auditioned to become a member of the Magic Castle in Hollywood. The Magic Castle is a well-known establishment that only accepts magicians who pass their audition process.

Stryker currently works at Café Tu Tu Tango at The Block at Orange. He says he enjoys doing close-up magic at restaurants and other venues because people remember that type of feat the best. At Café Tu Tu Tango, Stryker's specialty is close-up magic. He performs card tricks, coin tricks and any other tactile tricks that engage his audience. He has worked at the restaurant for three years and also works for Zoë Production Company and Newport Rib Company. Besides restaurant work, he performs at special events and corporate parties. Last year, Stryker provided entertainment for the Santa Ana Chamber of Commerce's annual Christmas party, and has performed at several other Santa Ana engagements.

An entertainer for 15 years,



Stryker uses his middle name as his stage name because it is most memorable. He says people usually remember his name and his sense of humor, which he describes as one of his most unique and distinctive attributes. Stryker says one of his favorite magic tricks to perform is a card trick called "thought of card to pocket," which he usually uses as his opening trick. He says that with this trick, an audience member names any card in

a deck they want to see, but when the magician shows them the deck, their card is not there. Then the magician pulls the card they chose out of his pocket. Stryker says that with this trick, people take him more seriously as a magician. "The best thing for me to do is hit them fast and hit them hard," he says of his magic tricks.

For more information about Stryker and to contact him, visit his website at [www.up-close.net](http://www.up-close.net) or call 714-926-4769. ■